

Daliang Ning

Institute for Environmental Genomics

School of Biological Sciences

University of Oklahoma

101 David L Boren Blvd SRTC 2030, Norman, OK 73019, USA

Website: <https://sites.create.ou.edu/daliang> | Email: ningdaliang@ou.edu

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Y2WdGOkAAAAJ&hl=en>

GitHub: <https://github.com/DaliangNing>

A. Education

Postdoc	Institute for Environmental Genomics, Department of Microbiology and Plant Biology, The University of Oklahoma, Norman, USA	2012-2016
Postdoc	School of Environment, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China	2009-2012
PhD	Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tsinghua University, China	2009
BE	Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tsinghua University, China	2003

B. Appointment

2022.4-present	<i>Associate Director</i> Institute for Environmental Genomics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, USA
2016.6-present	<i>Research Scientist</i> Institute for Environmental Genomics, School of Biology Sciences (Department of Microbiology and Plant Biology before 2023), University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, USA
2021.4-present	<i>Affiliate Research Scientist</i> Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA
2020.6-present	<i>Responsible Editor</i> for Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering.
2021.3-2022.8	<i>Topic Editor</i> for Frontiers in Microbiology.
2017.11-2020.12	<i>Adjunct Research Scientist</i> State Key Joint Laboratory of Environment Simulation and Pollution Control, School of Environment, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

C. Research interests

- Microbial community assembly mechanisms, e.g., selection, competition, dispersal, ecological drift.
- Microbial ecology in environmental engineering and global changes.
- Global/continental microbiome: biogeography in different dimensions of diversity.
- Development of software/packages/tools for microbial ecology studies.

D. Publications

Till July 31, 2025: 101 peer-reviewed journal papers, 38 conference presentations, 6 invention patents.

H-index 46, i10-index 75, cited 13,330 times, 15 publications are top 1% highly cited.

Ranked as [Highly Cited Researcher in cross field](#) by Clarivate in 2024.

• Representative publications

- [1] **Ning D**, Wang Y, Fan Y, Wang J, Van Nostrand JD, Wu L, Zhang P, Curtis DJ, Tian R, Lui L, Hazen TC, Alm EJ, Fields MW, Poole F, Adams MWW, Chakraborty R, Stahl DA, Adams PD, Arkin AP, He Z & Zhou J. 2024. Environmental stress mediates groundwater microbial community assembly. *Nature Microbiology* 9, 490-501. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41564-023-01573-x> (top 0.1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [2] **Ning D**, Yuan M, Wu L, Zhang Y, Guo X, Zhou X, Yang Y, Arkin AP, Firestone MK, and Zhou J. 2020. A quantitative framework reveals ecological drivers of grassland microbial community assembly in response to warming. *Nature Communications* 11, 4717. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-18560-z>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [3] **Ning D**, Deng Y, Tiedje JM, Zhou J. 2019. A General Framework for Quantitatively Assessing Ecological Stochasticity. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 116:16892-16898. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1904623116>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [4] Wu L (co-first), **Ning D** (co-first), Zhang B (co-first), Li Y, Zhang P, Shan X, Zhang Q, Brown MR, Li Z, Van Nostrand JD, Ling F, Xiao N, Zhang Y, Vierheilig J, Wells GF, Yang Y, Deng Y, Tu Q, Wang A, Global Water Microbiome Consortium, Zhang T, He Z, Keller J, Nielsen PH, Alvarez PJJ, Criddle CS, Wagner M, Tiedje JM, He Q, Curtis TP, Stahl DA, Alvarez-Cohen L, Rittmann BE, Wen X, Zhou J. 2019. Global diversity and biogeography of bacterial communities in wastewater treatment plants. *Nature Microbiology* 4:1183–1195. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41564-019-0426-5> (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science).
- [5] Zhou J, **Ning D**. 2017. Stochastic Community Assembly: Does It Matter in Microbial Ecology? *Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews* 81. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mmmbr.00002-17>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)

• Manuscripts (preprint, in preparation, revision, or accepted)

- Shi ZJ, Xiao N, **Ning D**, Tian R, Zhang P, Curtis D, Nostrand JDV, Wu L, Hazen TC, Rocha AM, He Z, Arkin AP, Firestone MK & Zhou J. 2022. EcoFun-MAP: An Ecological Function Oriented Metagenomic Analysis Pipeline. In revision. (bioRxiv, <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.04.05.481366>)
- Deng S, Yang Y, Guo X, Wu L, Yuan MM, Zhang Y, Shi W, Zhou X, Cornell CR, Bates CT, Liu S, Liang Z, Lei J, Gao Q, **Ning D**, Wu L, Liu X, Luo Y, Tiedje JM & Zhou J. 2024. Submitted.
- Shi W, Tian R, Guo X, **Ning D**, Zhou X, Yuan M, Feng J, Zhou A, Fu Y, Xu G, Hu N, Mu D, Shi P, Fan X, Teng Y, Zhao X, Li Z, Liu J, Wu L, He Z, Nostrand JDV, Liu X, Luo Y, Tiedje JM, Yang Y & Zhou J. 2024. Submitted.
- Zhou J, Xiao N, **Ning D**, He Q, Leibold MA & Hastings A. 2024. In prep.
- Han S, **Ning D**, Zhou J, et al. 2024. In prep.

• Other publications

- [6] Zhu C (co-first), Wu L (co-first), Ning D (co-first), Tian R, Gao S, Zhang B, Zhao J, Zhang Y, Xiao N, Wang Y, Brown MR, Tu Q, Acevedo D, Agullo-Barcelo M, de Araujo JC, de Abreu Mac Conell ÉF, Boehnke K, Bond P, Bott CB, Bovio-Winkler P, Brewster RK, Bux F, Cabezas A, Cabrol L, Chen S, Etchebehere C, Ford A, Gómez JS, Griffin JS, Gu AZ, Habagil M, Hale L, Harmon M, Horn H, Hu Z, Johnson DR, Marcantini DG, Keucken A, Kumari S, Leal CD, Lee ZMP, Li Y, Li Z, Li M, Liu Y, Mendonça-Hagler LC, de Menezes FGR, Meyers AJ, Palmer A, Parameswaran P, Reginatto V, de los Reyes FL, Rossetti S, Sidhu J, Smith K, de Sousa OV, Stephens K, Sun C, Tooker NB, Van Nostrand JD, Wakelin S, Wang B, Weaver JE, West S, Woo S-G, Wu J-H, Wu L, Xi C, Yan T, Yang M, Young M, Zhang C, Zhang Q, Zhang W, Zheng W, Zhou H, Zhuang W, Ju F, Wells GF, Guo J, He Z, Nielsen PH, Wang A, Zhang Y, Chen T, He Q, Criddle CS, Wagner M, Tiedje JM, Curtis TP, Wen X, Yang Y, Alvarez-Cohen L, Stahl DA, Alvarez PJJ, Rittmann BE, Zhou J & Global Water Microbiome Consortium. 2025. Global diversity and distribution of antibiotic resistance genes in human wastewater treatment systems. *Nature Communications* 16, 4006. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-59019-3>
- [7] Fan Y, Wang D, Yang JX, **Ning D**, He Z, Zhang P, Rocha AM, Xiao N, Michael JP, Walker KF, Joyner DC, Pan C, Adams MWW, Fields MW, Alm EJ, Stahl DA, Hazen TC, Adams PD, Arkin AP & Zhou J. 2025. Modest functional diversity decline and pronounced composition shifts of microbial communities in a mixed waste-contaminated aquifer. *Microbiome* 13, 106. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-025-02105-x>
- [8] Su Y, Guo X, Gao Y, Feng J, Wu L, Lei J, Liu S, Gao Q, Zeng Y, Qin W, Shi Z, Liang Z, Ye Z, Yuan M, **Ning D**, Wu L, Zhou J & Yang Y. 2025. Warming stimulates cellulose decomposition by recruiting phylogenetically diverse but functionally similar microorganisms. *ISME Communications* 5. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ismeco/ycae152>
- [9] Zhang L, **Ning D**, Mantilla-Calderon D, Xu Y, Liu B, Chen W, Gao J, Hamilton KA, Liu J, Zhou J & Ling F. 2024. Daily sampling reveals household-specific water microbiome signatures and shared antimicrobial resistomes in premise plumbing. *Nature Water* 2, 1178-1194. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44221-024-00345-z>
- [10] Deng S, Jin R, Liang S, Liu F, Liu J, Lyu L, **Ning D**, Pan B, van Hullebusch E, Wang B, Wen X, Xiao K, Xu EG, Yang H, Ying Q, Zhan X, Zhao D, *Frontiers of Environmental S & Engineering*. 2024. Publication scope and priorities of FESE in an evolving world: An editorial update and perspective. *Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering* 18, 13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11783-024-1773-x>
- [11] Lei J, Su Y, Jian S, Guo X, Yuan M, Bates CT, Shi ZJ, Li J, Su Y, **Ning D**, Wu L, Zhou J & Yang Y. 2024. Warming effects on grassland soil microbial communities are amplified in cool months. *The ISME Journal* 18. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ismejo/wrae088>
- [12] Michael JP, Putt AD, Yang Y, Adams BG, McBride KR, Fan Y, Lowe KA, **Ning D**, Jagadamma S, Moon JW, Klingeman DM, Zhang P, Fu Y, Hazen TC & Zhou J. 2024. Reproducible responses of geochemical and microbial successional patterns in the subsurface to carbon source amendment. *Water Research*, 121460. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2024.121460>
- [13] Tao X, Yang Z, Feng J, Jian S, Yang Y, Bates CT, Wang G, Guo X, **Ning D**, Kempher ML, Liu XJA, Ouyang Y, Han S, Wu L, Zeng Y, Kuang J, Zhang Y, Zhou X, Shi Z, Qin W, Wang J, Firestone MK, Tiedje JM & Zhou J. 2024. Experimental warming accelerates positive soil priming in a temperate

- grassland ecosystem. *Nature Communications* 15, 1178. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-45277-0> (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [14] Zheng Y, Wang B, Gao P, Yang Y, Xu B, Su X, **Ning D**, Tao Q, Li Q, Zhao F, Wang D, Zhang Y, Li M, Winkler M-KH, Ingalls AE, Zhou J, Zhang C, Stahl DA, Jiang J, Martens-Habbena W & Qin W. 2024. Novel order-level lineage of ammonia-oxidizing archaea widespread in marine and terrestrial environments. *The ISME Journal* 18. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ismejo/wrad002>
- [15] Zhang Y, **Ning D**, Wu L, Yuan MM, Zhou X, Guo X, Hu Y, Jian S, Yang Z, Han S, Feng J, Kuang J, Cornell CR, Bates CT, Fan Y, Michael JP, Ouyang Y, Guo J, Gao Z, Shi Z, Xiao N, Fu Y, Zhou A, Wu L, Liu X, Yang Y, Tiedje JM & Zhou J. 2023. Experimental warming leads to convergent succession of grassland archaeal community. *Nature Climate Change* 13, 561-569. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-023-01664-x>
- [16] Qin Y, Wu L, Zhang Q, Wen C, Nostrand JDV, **Ning D**, Raskin L, Pinto A & Zhou J. 2023. Effects of error, chimera, bias, and GC content on the accuracy of amplicon sequencing. *mSystems* 8, e01025-01023. <https://doi.org/10.1128/msystems.01025-23>
- [17] Cornell CR, Zhang Y, **Ning D**, Xiao N, Wagle P, Xiao X & Zhou J. 2023. Land use conversion increases network complexity and stability of soil microbial communities in a temperate grassland. *ISME J*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-023-01521-x> (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [18] Wu L, Yang Y, **Ning D**, Gao Q, Yin H, Xiao N, Zhou BY, Chen S, He Q & Zhou J. 2023. Assessing mechanisms for microbial taxa and community dynamics using process models. *mLife* 2, 239-252. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mlf2.12076>
- [19] Liang Q, Zhang J, **Ning D**, Yu W, Chen G, Tao X, Zhou J, Du Z & Mu D. 2023. Niche Modification by Sulfate-Reducing Bacteria Drives Microbial Community Assembly in Anoxic Marine Sediments. *mBio* 14, e03535-03522. <https://doi.org/doi:10.1128/mbio.03535-22>
- [20] Xu T, Tao X, He H, Kempher ML, Zhang S, Liu X, Wang J, Wang D, **Ning D**, Pan C, Ge H, Zhang N, He Y-X, and Zhou J. 2023. Functional and structural diversification of incomplete phosphotransferase system in cellulose-degrading clostridia. *The ISME Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-023-01392-2>
- [21] Shi K, Liang B, Feng K, **Ning D**, Cornell CR, Zhang Y, Xu W, Zhou M, Deng Y, Jiang J, Liu T, Wang A, and Zhou J. 2023. Electrostimulation triggers an increase in cross-niche microbial associations toward enhancing organic nitrogen wastewater treatment. *Journal of Environmental Management* 331, 117301. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2023.117301>
- [22] Wu L, Zhang Y, Guo X, **Ning D**, Zhou X, Feng J, Yuan MM, Liu S, Guo J, Gao Z, Ma J, Kuang J, Jian S, Han S, Yang Z, Ouyang Y, Fu Y, Xiao N, Liu X, Wu L, Zhou A, Yang Y, Tiedje JM, and Zhou J. 2022. Reduction of microbial diversity in grassland soil is driven by long-term climate warming. *Nature Microbiology* 7, 1054-1062. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41564-022-01147-3>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [23] Xiao N, Zhou A, Kempher ML, Zhou BY, Shi ZJ, Yuan M, Guo X, Wu L, **Ning D**, Nostrand JV, Firestone MK, and Zhou J. 2022. Disentangling direct from indirect relationships in association networks. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119, e2109995119. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2109995119>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
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- [26] Yang L, **Ning D**, Yang Y, He N, Li X, Cornell CR, Bates CT, Filimonenko E, Kuzyakov Y, Zhou J, Yu G, and Tian J. 2022. Precipitation balances deterministic and stochastic processes of bacterial community assembly in grassland soils. *Soil Biology and Biochemistry* 168, 108635. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soilbio.2022.108635>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [27] Sun J, Lin Z, **Ning D***(corresponding), Wang H, Zhang Z, He Z, and Zhou J. 2022. Functional microbial community structures and chemical properties indicated mechanisms and potential risks of urban river eco-remediation. *Science of The Total Environment* 803, 149868. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.149868>.
- [28] Cornell CR, Zhang Y, Ning D, Wu L, Wagle P, Steiner JL, Xiao X, Zhou J, and Bailey MJ. 2022. Temporal dynamics of bacterial communities along a gradient of disturbance in a U.S. southern plains agroecosystem. *mBio* 13, e03829-03821. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mbio.03829-21>.
- [29] Bates CT, Escalas A, Kuang J, Hale L, Wang Y, Herman D, Nuccio EE, Wan X, Bhattacharyya A, Fu Y, Tian R, Wang G, **Ning D**, Yang Y, Wu L, Pett-Ridge J, Saha M, Craven K, Brodie EL, Firestone M, and Zhou J. 2022. Conversion of marginal land into switchgrass conditionally accrues soil carbon but reduces methane consumption. *The ISME Journal* 16, 10-25. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-021-00916-y>.
- [30] Paradis CJ, Miller JI, Moon JW, Spencer SJ, Lui LM, Van Nostrand JD, Ning D, Steen AD, McKay LD, Arkin AP, Zhou J, Alm EJ, and Hazen TC. 2022. Sustained Ability of a Natural Microbial Community to Remove Nitrate from Groundwater. *Ground Water* 60, 99-111. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gwat.13132>.
- [31] Liu Y, Zeng M, Xie Z, **Ning D**, Zhou J, Yu X, Liu R, Zhang L, and Fang J. 2022. Microbial Community Structure and Ecological Networks during Simulation of Diatom Sinking. *Microorganisms* 10, 639. <https://doi.org/10.3390/microorganisms10030639>.
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- Xiao C, Yan Q, Zhou J, He Z, and He J. 2021. Environmental Water and Sediment Microbial Communities Shape Intestine Microbiota for Host Health: The Central Dogma in an Anthropogenic Aquaculture Ecosystem. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 12, 3298. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2021.772149>.
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- [38] Yuan MM, Guo X, Wu L, Zhang Y, Xiao N, **Ning D**, Shi Z, Zhou X, Wu L, Yang Y, Tiedje JM, and Zhou J. 2021. Climate warming enhances microbial network complexity and stability. *Nature Climate Change* 11, 343-348. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-021-00989-9>. (top 1% highly cited, Web of Science)
- [39] Ceja-Navarro JA, Wang Y, **Ning D**, Arellano A, Ramanculova L, Yuan MM, Byer A, Craven KD, Saha MC, Brodie EL, Pett-Ridge J, and Firestone MK. 2021. Protist diversity and community complexity in the rhizosphere of switchgrass are dynamic as plants develop. *Microbiome* 9, 96. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-021-01042-9>.
- [40] Shi W, Ma Q, Pan F, Fan Y, Kempher ML, **Ning D**, Qu Y, Wall JD, Zhou A, Zhou J, and Marshall CW. 2021. Genetic Basis of Chromate Adaptation and the Role of the Pre-existing Genetic Divergence during an Experimental Evolution Study with *Desulfovibrio vulgaris* Populations. *mSystems* 6, e00493-00421. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mSystems.00493-21>.
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• Patents

- [1] Wang H, Zhao BS, **Ning DL**. *Halomonas xianhensis* A-1 which can degrade polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and its application. China. (Invention Patent, publication No. CN101838616A).
- [2] Wang H, Zhao BS, **Ning DL**. *Thalassospira xianhensis* P-4 which can degrade polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and its application. China. (Invention Patent, publication No. CN101838617A).
- [3] Wang H, Zhao BS, **Ning DL**. Method of screening polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons degrading bacteria. (Invention Patent, publication No. CN101838629A).
- [4] Wang H, **Ning DL**, Zhou LW, Pan RS, Sun H, Zhang XH. A system for river and scenic water purification. China. (Invention patent, Granted, ZL201210575971.X, 2014-04-09)
- [5] Wang H, Bai XK, **Ning DL**. Preparation and application of a complex that can inhibit release of nitrogen and phosphorus from sediment of river and lake. (Invention Patent, publication No. CN102399045A)
- [6] Wang H, Bai XK, **Ning DL**. Preparation and application of a complex that can inhibit malodorous black in surface water. (Invention Patent, publication No. CN102398936A)

• Conference Presentations

- [1] **Ning D**. Reasons and Chance: Quantifying Microbial Community Assembly Mechanisms. in International Forum on Advanced Environmental Sciences and Technology (iFAST) Microbial Ecology - James Tiedje Symposium (Norman, OK, Apr 4-6, 2022). **[Oral]**
- [2] **Ning D**. Delineating Ecological Processes Underpinning Microbial Community Assembly. in World

- Microbe Forum (the American Society of Microbiology [ASM] and the Federation of Microbiological Societies [FEMS], Online, June 20-24, 2021). [Oral]
- [3] **Ning D**, Fan Y, Lui LM, Michael JP, Fu Y, Nostrand JDV, Tian R, Wang Y, Walker KF, Dixon ER, Putt AD, Williams DE, Joyner DC, Lowe KA, Poole FL, Ge X, Thorgersen MP, Adams MWW, Chakraborty R, Wu X, Elias DA, Wilpiseski RL, Fields MW, Hazen TC, Zhou J, Arkin AP, and Adams PD. Physical size matters in groundwater bacterial community assembly. in 2021 Genomic Sciences Program (GSP) Annual Principal Investigator (PI) Meeting (U. S. Department of Energy Office of Science, Washington, DC, 2021). [Poster]
 - [4] **Ning D** and Zhou J. Temperature regulates continental-scale community assembly processes in forest soils. in The Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting (Virtual, Aug 3-6, 2020). [Oral]
 - [5] **Ning D**. Quantitative understanding of subsurface microbial community assembly mechanisms under a contamination gradient. in 2020 Genomic Sciences Program (GSP) Annual Principal Investigator (PI) Meeting (U. S. Department of Energy Office of Science, Washington, DC, Feb 24-26, 2020) [Oral].
 - [6] **Ning D** and Zhou J. Ecological drivers of grassland soil microbial community assembly in response to climate warming. in American Geophysical Union 2019 Fall Meeting (San Francisco, CA, Dec 9-13, 2019). [Poster]
 - [7] Zhou J, Wen X, Curtis T, He Q, **Ning D**, Yang Y, Wu L, Zhang B, and Ling F. Global Wastewater Microbiome: Diversity and Biogeography. in 255th American Chemical Society National Meeting (New Orleans, LA, USA, Mar 18-22, 2018). [Poster]
 - [8] **Ning D**, Deng Y, Tiedje JM, and Zhou J. Ecological stochasticity in groundwater microbial community succession: Application of a general quantitative framework. in The Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA, USA, Aug 5-10, 2018). [Oral]
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 - [10] **Ning D**, Shi Z, Zhang Y, Yang M, and Zhou J. High-throughput antibiotic gene array to profile microbial antibiotic resistance genes and community functional structure in pharmaceutical wastewater treatment system. in 4th International Symposium on the Environmental Dimension of Antibiotic Resistance (Lansing, Michigan, USA, Aug 13-17, 2017). [Poster]
 - [11] Gao S, **Ning D**, Yang S, Brandon AM, Luo S, Zhou M, Nostrand JDV, Yang J, Wu W, Criddle CS, and Zhou J. Characterization of gut microbial community structures of mealworms rapidly degrading polystyrene (PS). in American Society for Microbiology Microbe 2017 Meeting (American Society for Microbiology, New Orleans, LA, USA, Jun 1-5, 2017). [Poster]
 - [12] Zhou J, Wen X, Curtis T, He Q, He Z, and **Ning D**. Municipal Wastewater Microbiome Initiative of Global Water Microbiome Consortium. in The 16th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME 16) (The International Society of Microbial Ecology, Montreal, Canada, Aug 21-26, 2016). [Poster]
 - [13] **Ning D**, Xu D, Qin Y, He Z, Wu L, Nostrand JDV, and Zhou J. Microbial community structure, functions and assembly in microbial electrolysis cells. in The 16th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME 16) (The International Society of Microbial Ecology, Montreal, Canada, Aug 21-26, 2016). [Poster]

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- [15] **Ning D**, Deng Y, Wen C, Yan Q, Shen L, Qin Y, et al. Quantifying ecological processes underlying soil microbial community assembly in North American forests. in The 16th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME 16) (The International Society of Microbial Ecology, Montreal, Canada, Aug 21-26, 2016). [Poster]
- [16] **Ning D**, Wang J, Nostrand JDV, Wu L, Zhang P, He Z, et al. Disentangling ecological processes and drivers in subsurface microbial community assembly in a nuclear waste site. in American Society for Microbiology Microbe 2016 Meeting (American Society for Microbiology, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, Jun 16-20, 2016). [Poster]
- [17] **Ning D**, He Z, Weiser MD, Kaspari M, and Zhou J. Effects of Temperature on the Phylogenetic and Functional Structures and the Dynamics of Soil Microbial Communities. in American Society for Microbiology 114th General Meeting (American Society for Microbiology, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, May 17-20, 2014). [Oral]
- [18] Wang H, **Ning D**, Duan L, He Z, Xue K, Nostrand JDV, and Zhou J. Microbial Communities Driving Significant Nitrous Oxide Emission in a Highly Acidified Forest under Soil Moisture and Nutrient Gradients. in American Society for Microbiology 114th General Meeting (American Society for Microbiology, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, May 17-20, 2014). [Poster]
- [19] **Ning D**, Jia Q, Wang H, and Chen J. Metabolism pathway and P450s expression profiling in degradation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons by a white rot fungus. in The 14th National Conference on Environmental Microbiology (Chinese Society for Environmental Microbiology, Xiamen, China, Nov 25-28, 2011). [Oral]
- [20] **Ning D**, Huang Y, and Wang H. The phytoplankton community succession during the restoration of an urban river in the Yangtze Plain. in International Conference on Environment Simulation and Pollution Control (Chinese Society for Environmental Sciences, Beijing, China, Nov 24-25, 2011). [Oral]
- [21] **Ning D**, Wang L, and Wang H. Induction and function of cytochrome P450 in white rot fungi. in The 12th National Conference on Environmental Microbiology (Chinese Society for Environmental Microbiology, Wuhan, China, Nov 27-30, 2009). [Oral]
- [22] **Ning D**, Zeng B, and Wang H. Induction of cytochrome P450 by refractory organic chemicals in a white rot fungus. in China POPs Forum (Dalian, China, May, 2007). [Oral]

E. Projects

• Principal Investigator

- [1] Dimensions US-China: Collaborative Research: Quantifying the Impact of Eutrophication on the World's Grassland Soil Microbial Biodiversity and Functioning. US National Science Foundation (Award No. DEB-2129235), 2021-2026. [Co-PI]
- [2] Collaborative Research: MTM 2: Searching for General Rules Governing Microbiome Dynamics Using Anaerobic Digesters as Model Systems. US National Science Foundation (Award No. EF-2025558), 2020-2025. [Co-PI]
- [3] ENIGMA: From Genomes to Ecosystems: Systems-Level Mechanistic Understanding of Microbial Stress

Responses at Chromium Contaminated Sites. US Department of Energy (Award No. DE-AC02-05CH11231), 2019-2024. [Co-PI at OU]

- [4] Expression profiling and regulation of cytochrome P450s in degradation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons by a white rot fungus *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*. National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 31000066), 2011-2013. [PI]
- [5] Degradation function of cytochrome P450 and enzymic mechanism concerning both extracellular enzymes and P450s in PAHs metabolism by the white rot fungus. China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (No. 20090460302), 2009-2011. [PI]

• Senior Personnel

- [6] Microbes Achieve Resistance to MicroOrganism-influenced Rust (μ ARMOR): An Integrated Platform for Defeating Corrosion. US DARPA (Award No. HR00112320006), 2022-2026.
- [7] Risk evaluation and uncertainty analysis of volatile and semi-volatile organic pollutants in the industrial contaminated sites in China. China Environment Protection Public Welfare Program. 2011-2013.
- [8] Technology development and demonstration for water pollution control and water quality improvement in old urban area. The National Key Project on Water Environmental Pollution Control (No. 2008ZX07313-001), 2008-2010.
- [9] P450 inducement by POPs and its involvement in POPs biodegradation in white rot fungus. National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2005-2007.

• Participant

- [10] Cross-Kingdom Interactions: the Foundation for Nutrient Cycling in Grassland Soils. US Department of Energy (Award No. DE-SC0020163), 2019-2022.
- [11] Establishment to Senescence: Plant-Microbe and Microbe-Microbe Interactions Mediate Switchgrass Sustainability. US Department of Energy (DE-SC0014079), 2015-2021.
- [12] From Structure to Functions: Metagenomics-Enabled Predictive Understanding of Soil Microbial Feedbacks to Climate Change. U.S. Department of Energy (DE-SC0004601), 2013-2016.
- [13] Experimental Macroecology: Effects of Temperature on Biodiversity. US National Science Foundation (Award No. EF-1065844), 2011-2016.
- [14] Nitrous oxide emission and underlying mechanisms in the subtropical forests with high nitrogen deposition in China. State Key Joint Laboratory of Environment Simulation and Pollution Control Research Foundation. 2010-2012.
- [15] Biological conversion and degradation of typical POPs in environment. The Key project of National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2008-2011.

F. Service and Synergistic Activities

• Journal Editor

- Responsible Editor for *Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering*, an international journal published by Springer (impact factor 6.3 in 2023). Processed 198 manuscripts from Jun 2020 to Mar 2024.
- Topic Editor for *Frontiers in Microbiology*. Topic: Community Assembly Mechanisms Shaping

Microbiome Spatial or Temporal Dynamics. Processed 8 manuscripts since Apr 2021.

<https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/20916/>

• Reviewer

- Review one proposal for US National Science Foundation in Jan. 2020.
- Review five proposals and serve in a review panel for US National Science Foundation in May 2022.
- Review 32 manuscripts for 15 Journals, including Nature Climate Change, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS), ISME J, Ecology Letters, mBio, Environmental Microbiology, Applied and Environmental Microbiology, FEMS Microbiology Ecology, Environment International, Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology, Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering, Chemosphere, Journal of Hazardous Materials, Microbial Biotechnology, and PLoS One.

• Organizer

- **Coordinator** of Global Water Microbiome Consortium (<http://gwmc.ou.edu/>). 2014-Present. Coordinated with over 120 research groups in 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North, and South America, and collected over 3000 samples till now.
- **Principal organizer** of conference sessions
 - A symposium session of the Ecological Society of America 2024 annual meeting. Searching for rules governing community dynamics. Long Beach, California, Aug 4-9, 2024.
 - An inspire session of the Ecological Society of America 2019 annual meeting. Macro-view of microbes: Treasure and challenges in continental- and global-scale microbial ecology researches. Louisville, Kentucky, Aug 11-16, 2019.
 - An oral session of the Ecological Society of America 2017 annual meeting. Delineating the assembly mechanisms shaping microbial community structure: theoretical and practical perspectives of novel approaches. Portland, Oregon, Aug 6-11, 2017.
- **Organizing committee member** of the International Forum on Advanced Environmental Sciences and Technology (iFAST, <https://www.ou.edu/ieg/seminars>), an online forum featured with distinguished seminars from eminent scientists, since Sep 2020. Till Mar 2024, iFAST has held 85 seminars and 4 special symposiums and attracted >310,000 visits from >90 countries.

• Bioinformatician

- **Microbiome data analysis service**: for >44,000 samples of ~160 projects, including results from amplicon sequencing (e.g., 16S, ITS, AMF, 18S, amoA, nosZ, dsrA), GeoChip hybridization, transcriptome sequencing, and shotgun metagenomic sequencing, from Oct. 2012 to Dec 2024.
- **Developer** of R packages
 - NST: for ecological stochasticity estimation; downloaded 33,806 times from Jun 15 2019 to Mar 25 2025. <https://github.com/DaliangNing/NST>
 - iCAMP: for quantifying community assembly processes; downloaded 33,930 times from Sep 9 2020 to Mar 25 2025. <https://github.com/DaliangNing/icamp1>
 - Built >730 R functions with >127,000 lines of scripts.
- **Developer** of web-based pipelines
 - IEG statistical analysis pipeline (<http://ieg3.rccc.ou.edu:8080>): for various statistical analyses using microbiome data, e.g., biodiversity metrics, dimension reduction, dissimilarity test,

dispersion test, null model analysis to infer community assembly mechanisms, etc. A total of 232 users have run 19,243 jobs from Sep 2019 to Mar 2025.

- IEG data management pipeline (<http://ieg3.rccc.ou.edu:8081>): for GeoChip and MiSeq sequencing data management, including microarray normalization, quality control, implementation of QIIME2, DADA2, and USEARCH, and constrained phylogenetic tree construction on galaxy platform. A total of 53 users from Jan 2020 to Mar 2025.
- **Maintainer** of web-based pipelines
 - Molecular ecological network analysis pipeline (<http://ieg4.rccc.ou.edu/mena>). A total of 9,191 users have uploaded 145,114 datasets and construct to 13,6987 networks from Mar 2011 to Mar 2025.
 - Microarray data management pipeline (<http://ieg.ou.edu/microarray>). A total of 233 users have analyzed 114,564 sample data from 2007 to Jul 2022 (discontinued).
 - Amplicon sequencing data analysis pipeline (<http://zhoulab5.rccc.ou.edu:8080>). A total of 127 users from May 2018 to Jul 2022 (discontinued).

• Teaching

- **Served as a committee member** of 2 PhD students at the University of Oklahoma since 2023. **Mentored** 2 graduate students and 5 undergraduate students (5 females) for their graduation thesis work at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, 2005-2012. Mentored 4 undergraduate exchange students at the Institute for Environmental Genomics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, US, 2016.
- **Teach assistant** and present one lecture for a graduate course: Advanced Topics in Environmental Genomics (2017, 2022, and 2024) at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, US.
- **Host and speaker** of workshops: Microbial Community Data Analysis Workshop Series, including 8, 10, and 12 workshops in 2017, 2018, and 2019-2020, respectively, about sequencing/microarray data processing, diversity assessment, statistical analysis, modeling, network analysis, community assembly mechanisms, and basic programming, at University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, US.
- **Teach assistant** of undergraduate courses: Environment Microbiology (2004) and Wastewater Treatment Experiment (2005) at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China.
- **Mentored** 2 high school students in 2022, 2 high school students and 1 undergraduate in 2024, 2 high school students in 2025, in the summer research programs; Hosted 11 high school students for lab tours and seminars about microbiome technologies.

• Invited Seminars and Lectures

- Is the eternal utterable or measurable: quantifying microbial community assembly mechanisms. Invited talks at Peking University, Beijing; Beijing Forestry University, Beijing; Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing; Institute of Urban Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xiamen, China, June 2024.
- Environmental Microbiome. Invited lecture for an undergraduate course at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, March 2024.
- Environmental Microbiome Research and Data Analyses. Invited virtual lectures for China Agricultural University, Beijing, China, 2022.
- Beyond the diversity: Microbial Community Assembly Mechanisms. Invited talks at School of Environment, Tsinghua University, Beijing; Research Center for Eco-Environmental Science,

Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing; Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing; School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China, 2018.

- Advance in Environmental Microbiology. Invited lecture for a graduate course about Microbial Chemical Reaction Engineering at the China University of Petroleum, Beijing, China, 2010-2011.

- **Awards and Honors**

- Research & Creative Activity Award in 2025, The University of Oklahoma.
- Highly Cited Researcher (top 0.1% in the world) in Cross Field in 2024, Clarivate.
- Annual Award for Excellence in Research Grants in 2021, The University of Oklahoma.
- Outstanding Editor in 2021, Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering.
- Annual Award for Excellence in Research Grants in 2020, The University of Oklahoma.
- Outstanding Editor in 2020, Frontiers of Environmental Science & Engineering.
- IEG 2015 Award. Institute for Environmental Genomics, University of Oklahoma.
- IEG 2014 Performance Scholarship. Institute for Environmental Genomics, University of Oklahoma.
- Young Investigator Oral Presentation. American Society for Microbiology 114th General Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. May 2014
- Haoran Jian Award for Excellent Paper on Environmental Microbiology. Chinese Society for Environmental Microbiology, Nov. 2011.