



AbGradCon 2018

1
00:00:00,260 --> 00:00:11,869

[Music]

2
00:00:18,179 --> 00:00:15,150

my name is Larry McCarthy and I'm a PhD

3
00:00:21,870 --> 00:00:18,189

student in the Schmidt lab a few Baldr

4
00:00:24,390 --> 00:00:21,880

and our lab studies microbial diversity

5
00:00:28,109 --> 00:00:24,400

and communities at extreme high

6
00:00:30,750 --> 00:00:28,119

elevation and today I will talk to you

7
00:00:33,270 --> 00:00:30,760

about how some of these environments in

8
00:00:35,220 --> 00:00:33,280

particular the atacama volcanoes can be

9
00:00:37,710 --> 00:00:35,230

represented and can represent some of

10
00:00:39,690 --> 00:00:37,720

the best martian analogs here on earth

11
00:00:42,889 --> 00:00:39,700

and tell you about what we have found

12
00:00:45,380 --> 00:00:42,899

out of the life existing there through

13
00:00:48,060 --> 00:00:45,390

different approaches that go from

14

00:00:53,549 --> 00:00:48,070

microbial diversity community analysis

15

00:00:55,590 --> 00:00:53,559

to genomics so terrestrial analogs of

16

00:00:58,310 --> 00:00:55,600

the Martian surface of her insights on

17

00:01:01,560 --> 00:00:58,320

its available Abbot's ability potential

18

00:01:03,299 --> 00:01:01,570

and in the last decade extreme

19

00:01:05,580 --> 00:01:03,309

environments that were thought to be

20

00:01:07,800 --> 00:01:05,590

devoid of life have actually been shown

21

00:01:10,490 --> 00:01:07,810

to be populated by various levels of

22

00:01:13,140 --> 00:01:10,500

biodiversity supporting the notion that

23

00:01:16,649 --> 00:01:13,150

pretty much at least on earth the life

24

00:01:19,850 --> 00:01:16,659

always finds a way however we know that

25

00:01:21,770 --> 00:01:19,860

no analogue is a perfect lips or the

26

00:01:25,770 --> 00:01:21,780

representation of the Martian surface

27

00:01:28,710 --> 00:01:25,780

but we argue that high elevation cold

28

00:01:32,910 --> 00:01:28,720

desert soils are some of the best model

29

00:01:36,260 --> 00:01:32,920

systems for life on Mars surface so this

30

00:01:39,510 --> 00:01:36,270

type of Hilah vation cold deserts occur

31

00:01:41,580 --> 00:01:39,520

worldwide on mountain ranges between the

32

00:01:43,560 --> 00:01:41,590

upper boundary of land distribution and

33

00:01:45,390 --> 00:01:43,570

the lower limit of permanently

34

00:01:47,219 --> 00:01:45,400

ice-covered regions so that's

35

00:01:49,380 --> 00:01:47,229

represented in this picture where we

36

00:01:54,030 --> 00:01:49,390

have a relationship between latitude and

37

00:01:56,910 --> 00:01:54,040

elevation and they would occur in they

38

00:01:58,859 --> 00:01:56,920

would occur in this brown belt worldwide

39

00:02:01,620 --> 00:01:58,869

and some of the highest peaks are also

40

00:02:03,749 --> 00:02:01,630

shown as a reference so among these

41

00:02:05,999 --> 00:02:03,759

environments the most extreme are

42

00:02:07,800 --> 00:02:06,009

probably occur in the Dry Valleys and

43

00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:07,810

slope of the Andean volcanoes

44

00:02:13,830 --> 00:02:11,010

above 5000 meters of elevation so

45

00:02:16,589 --> 00:02:13,840

conditions that life has to face there

46

00:02:18,010 --> 00:02:16,599

is even more extreme than where we will

47

00:02:21,850 --> 00:02:18,020

find in the Atacama

48

00:02:23,590 --> 00:02:21,860

desert so microbial life has to come to

49

00:02:26,220 --> 00:02:23,600

cope with a complex interplay of

50

00:02:29,260 --> 00:02:26,230

parameters that go from high UV flux

51
00:02:31,720 --> 00:02:29,270
extreme 3 or no freeze-thaw cycles low

52
00:02:34,270 --> 00:02:31,730
atmospheric pressure and pH and soils

53
00:02:38,380 --> 00:02:34,280
and an extremely low nutrient content

54
00:02:41,350 --> 00:02:38,390
and water activity so the highest of

55
00:02:43,810 --> 00:02:41,360
this volcanoes is volcano yakko which is

56
00:02:46,540 --> 00:02:43,820
also the highest archaeological site on

57
00:02:48,610 --> 00:02:46,550
earth so close to a summit some of the

58
00:02:50,560 --> 00:02:48,620
best the naturally preserved mummies

59
00:02:52,630 --> 00:02:50,570
have been found and they're really

60
00:02:54,130 --> 00:02:52,640
interesting on a microbiology

61
00:02:57,010 --> 00:02:54,140
perspective because they pretty much

62
00:02:59,340 --> 00:02:57,020
show no sign of decay after being very

63
00:03:03,240 --> 00:02:59,350

there for more than 500 years without

64

00:03:06,670 --> 00:03:03,250

preserving chemicals so this inspired

65

00:03:09,280 --> 00:03:06,680

our first expeditions to decide to

66

00:03:14,050 --> 00:03:09,290

address questions about the cold dry

67

00:03:16,810 --> 00:03:14,060

limits to life on Earth so a first

68

00:03:18,670 --> 00:03:16,820

analysis of the soils have shown that

69

00:03:21,700 --> 00:03:18,680

there's nearly undetectable levels of

70

00:03:23,770 --> 00:03:21,710

water organic carbon microbial biomass

71

00:03:25,900 --> 00:03:23,780

and the extracellular enzyme activity

72

00:03:28,540 --> 00:03:25,910

and it seems like only a very limited

73

00:03:31,330 --> 00:03:28,550

spectrum of bacterial and fungal images

74

00:03:33,430 --> 00:03:31,340

have been able to overcome the harshness

75

00:03:37,120 --> 00:03:33,440

of this environment and possibly

76
00:03:39,790 --> 00:03:37,130
functioning in the situ so when we look

77
00:03:42,220 --> 00:03:39,800
at the distribution of like the main

78
00:03:44,260 --> 00:03:42,230
phyla that we have in this environment

79
00:03:47,710 --> 00:03:44,270
we see that they're completely dominated

80
00:03:51,340 --> 00:03:47,720
by Laura flag sign up here and a tina

81
00:03:53,500 --> 00:03:51,350
bacteria so we are also below the dry

82
00:03:55,690 --> 00:03:53,510
limit of a photo on social fees there's

83
00:03:59,370 --> 00:03:55,700
no photo scripts I've ever been found at

84
00:04:02,380 --> 00:03:59,380
these elevations and they're probably

85
00:04:04,150 --> 00:04:02,390
the soils that have the lowest microbial

86
00:04:05,920 --> 00:04:04,160
diversity ever reported in the

87
00:04:07,810 --> 00:04:05,930
terrestrial system especially if we

88
00:04:12,040 --> 00:04:07,820

compare it to the Dry Valleys of

89

00:04:13,930 --> 00:04:12,050

Antarctica and Himalaya there are

90

00:04:16,659 --> 00:04:13,940

however some niches that are able to

91

00:04:19,060 --> 00:04:16,669

mitigate some of this environmental

92

00:04:21,729 --> 00:04:19,070

challenges for example fumaroles on

93

00:04:24,909 --> 00:04:21,739

volcanoes are able to provide water and

94

00:04:27,610 --> 00:04:24,919

warmth and the co2 through the gassing

95

00:04:31,540 --> 00:04:27,620

and we have seen that they support some

96

00:04:34,240 --> 00:04:31,550

way more complex communities especially

97

00:04:36,280 --> 00:04:34,250

like they form uh some a very peculiar

98

00:04:39,550 --> 00:04:36,290

math structure it's really close to the

99

00:04:41,770 --> 00:04:39,560

summit and it is evident from the

100

00:04:44,200 --> 00:04:41,780

rarefaction curves of our eukaryotic

101
00:04:47,440 --> 00:04:44,210
communities the fumarole supports a much

102
00:04:50,340 --> 00:04:47,450
more diverse community compared to the

103
00:04:53,590 --> 00:04:50,350
dry soils that are just surrounding them

104
00:04:53,950 --> 00:04:53,600
another Oasis is represented by the so

105
00:04:57,460 --> 00:04:53,960
called

106
00:04:59,560 --> 00:04:57,470
Nieves penitentes so these are ice

107
00:05:02,290 --> 00:04:59,570
structures that are pretty common uh

108
00:05:06,310 --> 00:05:02,300
along the high elevations of the Atacama

109
00:05:08,620 --> 00:05:06,320
and they periodically release meltwater

110
00:05:10,720 --> 00:05:08,630
around its soil so they're pretty much

111
00:05:12,760 --> 00:05:10,730
the only semi-permanent sources of water

112
00:05:15,250 --> 00:05:12,770
in this environment and again we've been

113
00:05:17,470 --> 00:05:15,260

able to see that they are able to

114

00:05:20,560 --> 00:05:17,480

support much richer communities and

115

00:05:23,290 --> 00:05:20,570

especially important is that we found

116

00:05:25,450 --> 00:05:23,300

photo trophes in the soils and the eye

117

00:05:27,780 --> 00:05:25,460

structures themselves compared to the

118

00:05:31,030 --> 00:05:27,790

dry soils where you would never find any

119

00:05:32,440 --> 00:05:31,040

photo trophes so the photo just found our

120

00:05:34,810 --> 00:05:32,450

mainly the form of algae and

121

00:05:37,090 --> 00:05:34,820

interestingly no cyanobacteria have been

122

00:05:40,510 --> 00:05:37,100

retreated from here so it means that

123

00:05:44,170 --> 00:05:40,520

penitentes and the fumaroles are the

124

00:05:45,550 --> 00:05:44,180

only structures that allow the presence

125

00:05:47,340 --> 00:05:45,560

of photo trophes in this type of

126

00:05:50,650 --> 00:05:47,350

environment

127

00:05:52,510 --> 00:05:50,660

another very harsh trait that has been

128

00:05:54,100 --> 00:05:52,520

completely under studied but it's very

129

00:05:57,070 --> 00:05:54,110

common in this high elevation

130

00:05:59,890 --> 00:05:57,080

environment is the extreme diurnal three

131

00:06:02,200 --> 00:05:59,900

cell cycle that occurs on the soils so

132

00:06:05,080 --> 00:06:02,210

as we can see temperatures can fluctuate

133

00:06:08,560 --> 00:06:05,090

starting from a - stand up to 30 degrees

134

00:06:10,810 --> 00:06:08,570

within a 24 hour cycle so daily

135

00:06:13,240 --> 00:06:10,820

temperature cycling across the freezing

136

00:06:16,600 --> 00:06:13,250

point is a key challenge for microbial

137

00:06:20,620 --> 00:06:16,610

growth and survival as it is known to

138

00:06:23,080 --> 00:06:20,630

cause multiple damages on a multiple

139

00:06:24,610 --> 00:06:23,090

level as it combines the stress of the

140

00:06:30,250 --> 00:06:24,620

cold with the reduction in water

141

00:06:32,080 --> 00:06:30,260

activity so the type of dry and cryo

142

00:06:34,870 --> 00:06:32,090

philic environments it was assumed -

143

00:06:37,240 --> 00:06:34,880

that the low biomass and diversity was

144

00:06:41,290 --> 00:06:37,250

mainly due to the lack of water however

145

00:06:42,910 --> 00:06:41,300

recent studies have challenged this by

146

00:06:44,310 --> 00:06:42,920

showing for example the nutrient

147

00:06:46,410 --> 00:06:44,320

additions in some

148

00:06:47,430 --> 00:06:46,420

periglacial soils in Peru and the

149

00:06:50,100 --> 00:06:47,440

Antarctic Dry Valleys

150

00:06:52,860 --> 00:06:50,110

have a much stronger effect than water

151
00:06:57,150 --> 00:06:52,870
additions on the community structures we

152
00:06:58,890 --> 00:06:57,160
know that microbial in that soils and

153
00:07:01,320 --> 00:06:58,900
you yaku have some of the lowest

154
00:07:04,080 --> 00:07:01,330
nutrients available so it is entirely

155
00:07:08,160 --> 00:07:04,090
possible at this point that microbial

156
00:07:09,720 --> 00:07:08,170
life happens in the soils only if when

157
00:07:11,250 --> 00:07:09,730
there is water availability also

158
00:07:14,460 --> 00:07:11,260
nutrients are available

159
00:07:16,680 --> 00:07:14,470
so given this premises I wondered how

160
00:07:20,940 --> 00:07:16,690
would these extra food communities

161
00:07:23,100 --> 00:07:20,950
respond if we partially elevated water

162
00:07:26,160 --> 00:07:23,110
and mutual limitations in this

163
00:07:29,760 --> 00:07:26,170

environment under the field the thermal

164

00:07:31,890 --> 00:07:29,770

fluctuation so we assumed that the

165

00:07:34,170 --> 00:07:31,900

communities law lay dormant for most of

166

00:07:36,750 --> 00:07:34,180

the time and only come to life pretty

167

00:07:39,900 --> 00:07:36,760

much when there are pulses of water and

168

00:07:41,850 --> 00:07:39,910

the nutrients through snowfall events

169

00:07:43,920 --> 00:07:41,860

which are pretty infrequent in this

170

00:07:46,620 --> 00:07:43,930

environment and I only ended positions

171

00:07:48,570 --> 00:07:46,630

of organic matter from the atmosphere so

172

00:07:50,790 --> 00:07:48,580

the potential for this communities under

173

00:07:53,550 --> 00:07:50,800

occasional favorable conditions remains

174

00:07:56,790 --> 00:07:53,560

completely unknown to date so what I

175

00:07:59,250 --> 00:07:56,800

decided to do was to apply experimental

176
00:08:02,280 --> 00:07:59,260
water nutrient amendments in the street

177
00:08:05,490 --> 00:08:02,290
events to soil to soil micro systems

178
00:08:08,010 --> 00:08:05,500
micro cars and subject them to the

179
00:08:12,780 --> 00:08:08,020
freeze-thaw cycles that we see in the

180
00:08:15,570 --> 00:08:12,790
field so to do that I place the some

181
00:08:18,360 --> 00:08:15,580
soils that we collected above 6000

182
00:08:20,340 --> 00:08:18,370
meters on Union yahko in a temperature

183
00:08:22,620 --> 00:08:20,350
control chamber that is able to mimic

184
00:08:25,140 --> 00:08:22,630
that fluctuation in temperature that we

185
00:08:28,500 --> 00:08:25,150
see also in the field and we had a two

186
00:08:32,459 --> 00:08:28,510
type of treatment so we had microcosm

187
00:08:36,060 --> 00:08:32,469
that were exposed to water additions to

188
00:08:39,330 --> 00:08:36,070

simulate the snowfall events and then

189

00:08:41,760 --> 00:08:39,340

three stop blast water and nutrients to

190

00:08:43,140 --> 00:08:41,770

simulate also occasional aisle in

191

00:08:47,340 --> 00:08:43,150

depositions in this soil

192

00:08:52,100 --> 00:08:47,350

I also parsed out to be cumulative

193

00:08:54,870 --> 00:08:52,110

effect of multiple watering events by

194

00:08:58,020 --> 00:08:54,880

simulating three discrete snowfall

195

00:09:00,690 --> 00:08:58,030

events we also allow

196

00:09:02,310 --> 00:09:00,700

the soils to dry up to 90% before

197

00:09:06,290 --> 00:09:02,320

applying a new water addition so that

198

00:09:08,760 --> 00:09:06,300

they would simulate pretty much the the

199

00:09:12,830 --> 00:09:08,770

moisture conditions that are normally

200

00:09:15,930 --> 00:09:12,840

found in in this environment so after

201
00:09:19,110 --> 00:09:15,940
extracting our DNA doing the sequencing

202
00:09:22,800 --> 00:09:19,120
of the main 16s and 18s of the community

203
00:09:25,350 --> 00:09:22,810
analyzing them what we saw is that the

204
00:09:27,330 --> 00:09:25,360
community was significantly changing so

205
00:09:29,340 --> 00:09:27,340
in here we have a pickup PColP lot of

206
00:09:33,860 --> 00:09:29,350
the bacterial community and we see how

207
00:09:36,690 --> 00:09:33,870
the community significantly changes when

208
00:09:39,420 --> 00:09:36,700
treatments are applied both if it's just

209
00:09:41,750 --> 00:09:39,430
the water addition or water plus

210
00:09:46,230 --> 00:09:41,760
nutrient additions and the community

211
00:09:50,970 --> 00:09:46,240
increases each time more with every

212
00:09:54,930 --> 00:09:50,980
addition so which organ is are actually

213
00:09:57,690 --> 00:09:54,940

allowing of this shift so we looked a

214

00:10:00,150 --> 00:09:57,700

little bit and first of all we saw that

215

00:10:02,660 --> 00:10:00,160

the there is a response to water input

216

00:10:05,579 --> 00:10:02,670

even when nutrient limitations are not

217

00:10:07,530 --> 00:10:05,589

alleviated so this may mean that water

218

00:10:10,110 --> 00:10:07,540

availability allows this try adapted

219

00:10:14,370 --> 00:10:10,120

communities to at least respond to the

220

00:10:16,500 --> 00:10:14,380

very low nutrients that are available we

221

00:10:18,960 --> 00:10:16,510

saw that one of the main orders that

222

00:10:22,020 --> 00:10:18,970

responded to multiple wiring events were

223

00:10:25,050 --> 00:10:22,030

was the Burkholder reality so this order

224

00:10:27,510 --> 00:10:25,060

is very widespread in cryo philocan

225

00:10:29,040 --> 00:10:27,520

oligotrophic environment so it may be

226

00:10:35,030 --> 00:10:29,050

able to function in situ and take

227

00:10:38,790 --> 00:10:35,040

advantage of this water and water in

228

00:10:41,400 --> 00:10:38,800

impulses we saw an increase in the

229

00:10:43,470 --> 00:10:41,410

action of mice italics especially when

230

00:10:45,960 --> 00:10:43,480

you're providing them with nutrients and

231

00:10:47,760 --> 00:10:45,970

with the first water addition there was

232

00:10:49,890 --> 00:10:47,770

an increase in chloro sort of bacteria

233

00:10:51,840 --> 00:10:49,900

so this group is interesting because it

234

00:10:53,640 --> 00:10:51,850

has a potential to do photosynthesis

235

00:10:59,130 --> 00:10:53,650

even if it's not demonstrated in our

236

00:11:00,690 --> 00:10:59,140

soil and we saw pretty much like a

237

00:11:03,420 --> 00:11:00,700

decrease in diversity

238

00:11:06,360 --> 00:11:03,430

after the third event for both type of

239

00:11:08,400 --> 00:11:06,370

treatments so this indicates probably

240

00:11:11,410 --> 00:11:08,410

that only a very minor part of the

241

00:11:13,180 --> 00:11:11,420

community would be active when

242

00:11:15,370 --> 00:11:13,190

conditions allow for that and the rest

243

00:11:18,490 --> 00:11:15,380

of the taxonomy that we see in this

244

00:11:20,290 --> 00:11:18,500

soils is probably due to just like IO in

245

00:11:23,410 --> 00:11:20,300

the position that they are dormant in

246

00:11:25,420 --> 00:11:23,420

the soil a similar pattern is shown for

247

00:11:28,510 --> 00:11:25,430

the eukaryotic community again we see

248

00:11:31,900 --> 00:11:28,520

that multiple simulated snowfall events

249

00:11:34,900 --> 00:11:31,910

and nutrient additions make the

250

00:11:38,320 --> 00:11:34,910

community change and this is especially

251

00:11:41,230 --> 00:11:38,330

more evidence for just like water

252

00:11:43,570 --> 00:11:41,240

additions and interestingly we see that

253

00:11:46,240 --> 00:11:43,580

freethought alone has an impact on the

254

00:11:49,330 --> 00:11:46,250

community as we see here our starting

255

00:11:53,410 --> 00:11:49,340

point cluster separately from our

256

00:11:55,240 --> 00:11:53,420

freeze-thaw alone treatment so it may be

257

00:11:57,100 --> 00:11:55,250

that some of this organizers are

258

00:12:01,000 --> 00:11:57,110

actually responding just to the

259

00:12:03,580 --> 00:12:01,010

FreeStore alone which microorganism

260

00:12:07,270 --> 00:12:03,590

again like a responding to this so the

261

00:12:11,470 --> 00:12:07,280

first and most interesting to us is the

262

00:12:14,140 --> 00:12:11,480

Cryptococcus so this is very relevant in

263

00:12:17,110 --> 00:12:14,150

our soil so it's one of the most

264

00:12:19,960 --> 00:12:17,120

commonly we found and we saw that it

265

00:12:22,840 --> 00:12:19,970

increases dramatically once you give the

266

00:12:25,240 --> 00:12:22,850

first water and water plus nutrient

267

00:12:27,430 --> 00:12:25,250

addition so it's possible that takes

268

00:12:31,270 --> 00:12:27,440

advantage like very fast of this water

269

00:12:33,550 --> 00:12:31,280

and nutrient impulses we see an increase

270

00:12:35,860 --> 00:12:33,560

in the thea mindsets these are other

271

00:12:38,470 --> 00:12:35,870

type of funds like they may not be as

272

00:12:40,090 --> 00:12:38,480

fast of responders but they are known to

273

00:12:42,250 --> 00:12:40,100

be well suited to low nutrient

274

00:12:45,760 --> 00:12:42,260

environments and then the most dramatic

275

00:12:48,790 --> 00:12:45,770

shift happened when just water was added

276

00:12:50,920 --> 00:12:48,800

so we get one out of truck which is like

277

00:12:53,590 --> 00:12:50,930

an algae and new cloris RC know that

278

00:12:56,380 --> 00:12:53,600

starts becoming dominant and another

279

00:12:59,110 --> 00:12:56,390

group of fans I mostly do my seeds that

280

00:13:01,470 --> 00:12:59,120

again are well known that for being able

281

00:13:03,970 --> 00:13:01,480

like to withstand a lot of stresses and

282

00:13:06,010 --> 00:13:03,980

again like in the bacteria we see a

283

00:13:09,040 --> 00:13:06,020

significant decrease in alpha diversity

284

00:13:13,330 --> 00:13:09,050

with multiple water and nutrient

285

00:13:15,100 --> 00:13:13,340

additions so we saw that a Cryptococcus

286

00:13:16,720 --> 00:13:15,110

like becomes really dominant as soon as

287

00:13:19,750 --> 00:13:16,730

like he provided with a little bit of

288

00:13:22,150 --> 00:13:19,760

water and nutrients but interestingly it

289

00:13:25,030 --> 00:13:22,160

does so even when it's just exposed the

290

00:13:27,220 --> 00:13:25,040

tooth we saw dry condition so I'm

291

00:13:29,040 --> 00:13:27,230

maybe that it's partially active when

292

00:13:32,740 --> 00:13:29,050

there's an extremely low water content

293

00:13:34,840 --> 00:13:32,750

so we isolated this organism and

294

00:13:37,990 --> 00:13:34,850

cultured it and did a phylogenetic

295

00:13:39,639 --> 00:13:38,000

analysis and we saw that it's extremely

296

00:13:42,540 --> 00:13:39,649

closely related to another

297

00:13:44,590 --> 00:13:42,550

Cryptococcus from the Dry Valleys

298

00:13:46,590 --> 00:13:44,600

Cryptococcus trade money which is up

299

00:13:50,740 --> 00:13:46,600

there were tolerant and in the lytic

300

00:13:54,610 --> 00:13:50,750

type of Easton so cryptic Hachi have

301

00:13:56,710 --> 00:13:54,620

been found like many times in many

302

00:13:58,809 --> 00:13:56,720

glacial and extreme environments and

303

00:14:00,340 --> 00:13:58,819

given its ubiquity in the south of

304

00:14:03,490 --> 00:14:00,350

environments and the ability to

305

00:14:06,040 --> 00:14:03,500

withstand three spell cycles it may be

306

00:14:09,460 --> 00:14:06,050

an important functional component of

307

00:14:12,100 --> 00:14:09,470

this environment so what I did next was

308

00:14:14,199 --> 00:14:12,110

to try and figure out if the

309

00:14:16,180 --> 00:14:14,209

Cryptococcus was not just a surviving

310

00:14:18,490 --> 00:14:16,190

but if it was actively growing under

311

00:14:20,860 --> 00:14:18,500

this condition so what I did is that I

312

00:14:22,809 --> 00:14:20,870

set up called liquid cultures of it and

313

00:14:25,410 --> 00:14:22,819

I placed them in that same thermal

314

00:14:28,749 --> 00:14:25,420

chambers that allow fluctuations and

315

00:14:32,079 --> 00:14:28,759

incredibly it was able to grow despite

316

00:14:34,870 --> 00:14:32,089

freezing a solid every night so with a

317

00:14:36,189 --> 00:14:34,880

doubling time of about two days so this

318

00:14:37,990 --> 00:14:36,199

as far as we know is the first

319

00:14:40,449 --> 00:14:38,000

demonstration of growth of an organized

320

00:14:43,360 --> 00:14:40,459

during repeated extreme free cell cycles

321

00:14:45,400 --> 00:14:43,370

and it supports even more our original

322

00:14:48,069 --> 00:14:45,410

hypothesis that it has the capacity to

323

00:14:51,340 --> 00:14:48,079

grow during this free cell cycles in the

324

00:14:53,199 --> 00:14:51,350

environment mainly doing so when there

325

00:14:55,569 --> 00:14:53,209

is higher soil moisture which is

326

00:14:59,319 --> 00:14:55,579

provided by infrequent snowstorms in

327

00:15:01,269 --> 00:14:59,329

this environment the next question that

328

00:15:02,949 --> 00:15:01,279

we want to ask is which strategies does

329

00:15:04,809 --> 00:15:02,959

they used to survive this multiple

330

00:15:06,819 --> 00:15:04,819

challenges in this life limiting

331

00:15:10,090 --> 00:15:06,829

environment and especially how does it

332

00:15:15,490 --> 00:15:10,100

cope with free-stall so our plan is to

333

00:15:18,819 --> 00:15:15,500

use a combined strategy of both genomics

334

00:15:20,500 --> 00:15:18,829

and transcriptomics to figure out which

335

00:15:22,840 --> 00:15:20,510

genes allow survival and metabolic

336

00:15:25,329 --> 00:15:22,850

activity in this organism and the to

337

00:15:27,879 --> 00:15:25,339

analyze its genome by seeing if it has

338

00:15:30,129 --> 00:15:27,889

significant deviations from its men's

339

00:15:32,530 --> 00:15:30,139

fellow counterpart so what we did was

340

00:15:36,639 --> 00:15:32,540

culturing it an optimal temperature that

341

00:15:39,080 --> 00:15:36,649

we found it to be 17 degrees and or we

342

00:15:41,750 --> 00:15:39,090

extracted total DNA

343

00:15:59,840 --> 00:15:41,760

sequence it and started its general

344

00:16:13,370 --> 00:15:59,850

assembly and on rotation I'm sorry okay

345

00:16:15,590 --> 00:16:13,380

I'm merely done okay yeah so very

346

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:15,600

briefly like the jeans that we're gonna

347

00:16:23,180 --> 00:16:20,010

look for our metabolic gene so since we

348

00:16:25,220 --> 00:16:23,190

suspect this to be like versatile

349

00:16:27,230 --> 00:16:25,230

opportunity that is able to take

350

00:16:29,780 --> 00:16:27,240

advantage of whatever the atmosphere

351

00:16:36,520 --> 00:16:29,790

brings it on this high elevation we

352

00:16:39,080 --> 00:16:36,530

expected to have many degrading pathways

353

00:16:41,150 --> 00:16:39,090

we will look at genes associated with

354

00:16:42,920 --> 00:16:41,160

oxidant and the somatic stress we still

355

00:16:45,530 --> 00:16:42,930

don't know what kind of like stress

356

00:16:49,640 --> 00:16:45,540

signal is generated with with pre cell

357

00:16:51,680 --> 00:16:49,650

cycle cold adaptation genes genes

358

00:16:54,130 --> 00:16:51,690

necessary to complete meiosis to see if

359

00:16:57,560 --> 00:16:54,140

it's able to do with sexual reproduction

360

00:16:59,570 --> 00:16:57,570

and then G's that allow through with

361

00:17:02,710 --> 00:16:59,580

standfast temperature switches for

362

00:17:05,990 --> 00:17:02,720

example related to membrane fluidity and

363

00:17:07,730 --> 00:17:06,000

genes that allow it to live at water at

364

00:17:11,570 --> 00:17:07,740

a low water activity so we have to keep

365

00:17:15,170 --> 00:17:11,580

in mind that when there's low in this a

366

00:17:16,670 --> 00:17:15,180

freezing environment there is extremely

367

00:17:18,350 --> 00:17:16,680

low water activity so there are like

368

00:17:21,410 --> 00:17:18,360

very similar to hyper saline

369

00:17:25,120 --> 00:17:21,420

environments and the last step we'll do

370

00:17:27,980 --> 00:17:25,130

to do a transcriptomic analysis of

371

00:17:31,820 --> 00:17:27,990

specific time points within that thermal

372

00:17:34,040 --> 00:17:31,830

cycle so the idea is to grow it and

373

00:17:36,920 --> 00:17:34,050

sample at a different temperatures

374

00:17:40,030 --> 00:17:36,930

within the daily thermal cycle do a

375

00:17:42,320 --> 00:17:40,040

total RNA extraction and get its

376

00:17:44,360 --> 00:17:42,330

transcriptome sequence to find out which

377

00:17:46,910 --> 00:17:44,370

genes are up and down regulated under

378

00:17:49,250 --> 00:17:46,920

the free stress compared to optimal

379

00:17:52,549 --> 00:17:49,260

temperature and to see if it's active

380

00:17:54,710 --> 00:17:52,559

during the whole free soft cycle so

381

00:17:57,619 --> 00:17:54,720

all this work is relevant to the NASA

382

00:18:00,110 --> 00:17:57,629

Astrobiology roadmap because it aims to

383

00:18:01,970 --> 00:18:00,120

determine the physiological state of

384

00:18:03,619 --> 00:18:01,980

microbial cells that are found in

385

00:18:06,049 --> 00:18:03,629

extremely dry and temperature

386

00:18:08,779 --> 00:18:06,059

fluctuating environments to get more

387

00:18:10,549 --> 00:18:08,789

insight on the dynamics of survival of

388

00:18:13,220 --> 00:18:10,559

my keurig and its possibly on the

389

00:18:16,340 --> 00:18:13,230

surface of Mars and our work is the

390

00:18:19,430 --> 00:18:16,350

first to explore adaptations to external

391

00:18:21,470 --> 00:18:19,440

thermal fluctuation by analyzing the

392

00:18:22,999 --> 00:18:21,480

genome and transcriptome of what at this

393

00:18:27,080 --> 00:18:23,009

point can be called a poly external

394

00:18:31,460 --> 00:18:27,090

philic yeast so given its unique ability

395

00:18:33,799 --> 00:18:31,470

to withstand a lot of stressors it is a

396

00:18:35,690 --> 00:18:33,809

potential model organs of astrobiology

397

00:18:38,749 --> 00:18:35,700

and for stress resistance studies on

398

00:18:40,789 --> 00:18:38,759

eukaryotes so I want to thank the

399

00:18:43,310 --> 00:18:40,799

National Science Foundation's and the US

400

00:18:46,759 --> 00:18:43,320

Air Force which gave up the grants to be

401
00:18:48,820 --> 00:18:46,769
able to do this work and the Alpine and

402
00:18:51,710 --> 00:18:48,830
microbial Observatory which is my lab

403
00:18:53,629 --> 00:18:51,720
that has now become Arctic and Antarctic

404
00:18:55,700 --> 00:18:53,639
as well so if you're interested in

405
00:18:58,369 --> 00:18:55,710
looking at pretty pictures of all our

406
00:19:07,609 --> 00:18:58,379
sites and our work this is our website

407
00:19:08,149 --> 00:19:07,619
thank you thank you very much Laura we

408
00:19:16,309 --> 00:19:08,159
have time for

409
00:19:21,389 --> 00:19:19,589
right so I noticed in one of your slides

410
00:19:23,339 --> 00:19:21,399
you had something that you called plant

411
00:19:24,809 --> 00:19:23,349
material going down when you added water

412
00:19:27,239 --> 00:19:24,819
and nutrients and I was wondering if you

413
00:19:35,399 --> 00:19:27,249

could explain that a little bit oh sure

414

00:19:37,559 --> 00:19:35,409

so so when we look at this for example

415

00:19:41,989 --> 00:19:37,569

like we see that our untreated

416

00:19:46,019 --> 00:19:44,309

elevations have a lot of plant materials

417

00:19:48,779 --> 00:19:46,029

that we know it's not growing there but

418

00:19:50,399 --> 00:19:48,789

it's blown in so what we see is that

419

00:19:52,349 --> 00:19:50,409

there's a reduction of that plant

420

00:19:54,629 --> 00:19:52,359

material so we have two hypotheses about

421

00:19:56,249 --> 00:19:54,639

how that's happening so one is that

422

00:19:59,869 --> 00:19:56,259

Cryptococcus is actually taking

423

00:20:03,180 --> 00:19:59,879

advantage of that and like actually like

424

00:20:06,449 --> 00:20:03,190

degrading that plant material that is

425

00:20:08,639 --> 00:20:06,459

blown in we also saw that it has like a

426

00:20:11,459 --> 00:20:08,649

lot of genes that are able to degrade

427

00:20:14,009 --> 00:20:11,469

some plant compounds some plant derived

428

00:20:18,269 --> 00:20:14,019

compounds or the other option is that it

429

00:20:20,399 --> 00:20:18,279

will simply be degraded as a as a result

430

00:20:23,099 --> 00:20:20,409

of the free cell cycle itself because

431

00:20:25,680 --> 00:20:23,109

it's known to damage a lot of cells so

432

00:20:27,299 --> 00:20:25,690

it may be ethan alpha via the

433

00:20:29,219 --> 00:20:27,309

Cryptococcus or it may be just like

434

00:20:31,379 --> 00:20:29,229

degraded but in each case we suspect

435

00:20:33,149 --> 00:20:31,389

that it will you know make advantage of

436

00:20:36,869 --> 00:20:33,159

whatever new trend comes out of them

437

00:20:38,920 --> 00:20:36,879

okay thank you very much Lauren thank