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Bacterial assemblages of urban microbiomes mobilized by runoff waters match land use typologies and harbor core species involved in pollutant degradation and opportunistic human infections

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1 **1. Introduction**

2 Humans concentrate in urban settings, with half of the world population now living in cities. This proportion is likely to rise up to 70% in 2050, according to the World Health 3 4 Organization (2015), representing a population of six billions. Cities can be divided according to their main functional categories (hereafter termed morphotypes) as defined by their 5 6 commercial, residential and industrial activities (e. g. Revitt et al., 2014). These morphotypes 7 can then be subdivided according to their typologies which are defined according to variables such as: (i) land cover composition including green (e. g. parks) and blue (streams, lake) belts, 8 (ii) land use intensity, (iii) connectivity between impervious surfaces such as car parks and the 9 10 presence of urban drainage systems, roads and sidewalks, and (iv) other factors including industrial and commercial activities (Göbel et al., 2007; Revitt et al., 2014). These typologies 11 12 can generate shelters for, among others, several birds, rats, spiders, and favor the development 13 of particular microbiota (e. g. Marti et al., 2017; Aigle et al., 2021).

Ecological trends among microbial communities of urban biomes (conceptualized under 14 15 the term urban microbiomes) have been investigated for some typologies (see Gilbert and 16 Stephens (2018) for review). To illustrate, the bacterial taxa recovered from surface swabs or air samples from transit systems (e. g. Danko et al., 2021), soils of urban parks (Ramirez et 17 18 al., 2014), deposits and sediments from streets (Marti et al., 2017; Aigle et al., 2021) and 19 urban waters (McLellan et al., 2015; Voisin et al., 2018) were investigated through 16S rRNA (ribosomal RNA) and tpm (thiopurine methyltransferase) meta-barcoding (meaning DNA 20 sequence analysis of PCR products) approaches or metagenomics (meaning an exhaustive 21 22 sequencing of total bacterial DNA extracts). The diversity observed on city surfaces was found to be significantly different from the ones of agricultural soils and meadows (Ibekwe et 23 al., 2013). Skin-associated bacterial genera were significantly found among air samples of 24 transit systems during peak commuting hours, and relative humidity and air temperature were 25

inversely linked to the ecological richness of these samples as inferred from 16S rRNA metabarcoding profilings (Leung et al., 2014). Interestingly, an equilibrium between indoor and
outdoor air-borne microbial communities was observed in these systems e. g. Leung et al.
(2014); Robertson et al. (2013). Furthermore, the microbiome of urban deposits was found to
greatly evolve over time while pollutants were accumulating (Aigle et al., 2021; Marti et al.,
2017).

32 Urban microbiomes are expected to be structured around core and versatile opportunistic microbial groups. These would be representative of the main sources of microbial taxa 33 seeding a particular biotope, and being organized in efficient functional units by the 34 35 prevailing selective forces. Even though stochastic microbial distribution patterns likely led to some of the observed DNA imprints among these communities (e. g. Hao et al., 2016), one 36 can hypothesize that the principles of the r/K ecological theory (e. g. Song et al., 2017) can 37 38 apply to these biomes, and gradually lead to a selection of K-like specialists (best fit). In fact, a core urban microbiome for transit systems was recently reported, supporting this hypothesis 39 (Danko et al., 2021). Synurbic (defined as "living in the city") microbial species thus appear 40 to have been selected over time among urban biomes. However, on the short run, these urban 41 infrastructures are likely to represent transient opportunities for r-ecological strategists (at the 42 43 other end of this r/K gradient) which can grow rapidly, and efficiently colonize empty or disturbed habitats. These r-strategists are considered better fit for uncrowded microbiome 44 because of their fast growth rate (e. g. Song et al., 2017) and greater metabolic versatility. 45 These r-strategists have often been associated to human- and animal-opportunistic pathogens 46 (Vadstein et al., 2018). However, recent investigations have shown that the numbers of 47 virulence and antibiotic resistance genes can be more abundant among bacterial communities 48 growing under oligotrophic growth conditions than copiotrophic ones (Song et al., 2017). 49 These species could have selected virulence or defense genes to increase their competitivity 50

51 when resource supply rates are low. A better knowledge of these r/K gradients among urban 52 biomes could identify risky behaviors (e. g. chemical spills) or practices that can favor 53 undesirable opportunistic bacteria such as the human pathogenic ones.

Here, the incidence of land use specificities and human activities on core (K-strategists) 54 and versatile bacterial taxa (r-strategists) colonizing urban surfaces was investigated. To 55 address these issues, a long term experimental site, the Mi-plaine catchment of the Field 56 57 Observatory for Urban Water Management (OTHU) located in Lyon (France), was used. This catchment is an impervious area (impervious rate of 75%) drained by a separated stormwater 58 system made of detention and infiltration basins (SIS) located at the outlet, in order to avoid 59 60 flooding and allow a recharge of the connected aquifer (the one of Lyon) (e. g. Sébastian et al., 2014). 61

62 Main objectives of this study were to:

- 63 (1) evaluate similarities between sub-catchments based on their socio-urbanistic
 64 patterns, relative runoff volumes per rain event, and contents in classical bacterial
 65 indicators
- investigate relationships between sub-catchments' specificities and the numbers of
 core bacterial K- and versatile r-strategists recovered over urban surfaces (using
 runoff waters) through a 16S rRNA gene meta-barcoding approach allowing
 differentiation at the genus level
- investigate relationships in the numbers of core bacterial K- and versatile r strategists recovered over surfaces (using runoff waters) through a *tpm* gene meta barcoding approach allowing differentiation at the species level
- resolve co-occurrence networks between bacterial taxa inferred from the metabarcoding profilings, and identify keystone bacterial taxa indicative of sorting
 processes triggered by socio-urbanistic variables

3

76 2. Materials and Methods

77 **2.1.** Experimental site and its main socio-urbanistic features

78 The Mi-plaine urban catchment of the Lyon area (http://www.chassieu.fr/la_zone_industrielle_mi_plaine.html) was investigated in this study. 79 The selected watershed is part of the town of Chassieu, and covers a 210 ha which is 80 impervious at 75% (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). Roads are cleaned every week by a mechanical 81 82 sweeper. The watershed of Chassieu is divided into sub-catchments (Fig. S1) transferring their runoffs into the main rain water network and SIS of the catchment. These sub-83 catchments were used as references for the socio-urbanistic surveys and definition of 84 85 typologies, and for inferring relationships with the genetic structures of bacterial communities inferred from 16S rRNA and tpm DNA profilings (see section 2.3). 86

Socio-urbanistic and industrials surveys were performed over three periods (spring, 87 summer, and fall). Technical objects, traces and human activities over the study site that could 88 89 impact the urban microbiomes were recorded. The first series of surveys (n=3) allowed defining runoff sampling points (n=21) per sub-catchment according to the observed activities 90 and organizations shown in Table S1. Urbanistic features and objects separating private 91 properties (gardens and parking lots, buildings) were considered to define the area leading to 92 the observed runoffs at each sampling point (Table S1, and Fig. 2). Low concrete walls often 93 separated the private and public areas but sometimes porous delimitations (portal, shrubs, 94 lawn) were observed (Table S1). Economical and industrial activities at the sampling points 95 were identified and divided into categories for further analyses (Table S2a, b, c). Twelve 96 97 field surveys of the technical objects, traces and human activities completed these socioindustrial profilings of the watershed (Table S2). These surveys were performed over a 98 surface covering a 50 m diameter per sampling zone. These surveys were performed in the 99 100 morning, afternoon and at night, over 30-minute long sessions per point on working days and

101 considering peak hours (noon and evening, and n=3 were performed at night). This allowed
102 the identification of 54 variables representing objects and traces indicative of particular
103 behaviors that have impacted the selected sampling sites (Table S2).

104 2.2. Runoff water samplings, and their main physico-chemical and microbiological 105 features

106 Three rain events (October 16 2014, March 25 2015, and September 17 2015) were considered in this study. Meteorological parameters for these events are shown in Fig. S1. 107 These rain events came from different geographical locations. The Canoe urban hydrology 108 computational platform (Chocat, 2013) was used to estimate runoff flow values and volumes 109 per sub-catchment during these events (Fig. S1). Runoff waters were collected just before the 110 111 grate inlet of each sampling site except for the outlet of the separated rain stormwater 112 drainage system (sampling point C23). Waters at the outlet were recovered from the inlet of the detention basin. One liter was collected per sampling point using a single-use manual 113 pump. Electrical conductivity, turbidity, pH, oxygen, and temperature were measured on site 114 using a multi-parametric probe (Horiba, Piscataway, USA) (Table S3). Samples were kept at 115 4°C until performing the microbiological analyses described below. Numbers of total 116 heterotrophic bacteria were estimated by plating serial dilutions of the runoff waters onto 1/10 117 diluted TSB amended with 1.5 % agar. Numbers of intestinal Enterococci and Escherichia 118 coli were estimated using the IDEXX most probable number methods named Colilert and 119 Enterolert (IDEXX, Westbrook, USA). 120

Microbial DNA extracts were produced from filtered water samples through 0.2 µm pore
size polycarbonate filters (Merckmillipore, Burlington, USA) by using the FastDNA SPIN®
Kit for Soil (MP Biomedicals, Carlsbad, France). Depending on the amount of suspended
matters, between 23 and 100 mL of runoff waters could be filtered. DNA concentrations were
measured using a Nanodrop ND1000 (Thermofisher, Waltham, USA). Triplicated qPCR

assays were applied on these DNA extracts using a Bio-Rad CFX96 qPCR device. These 126 127 assays used the Brilliant II SYBR Green low ROX qPCR mix (Agilent, Vénissieux, France). The CFX Manager 3.0 software (Bio-Rad, Marnes-la-Coquette, France) was used to estimate 128 129 the numbers of copies of targeted genes per ng DNA (or equivalent runoff volume). The human-specific HF183 Bacteroides qPCR assay was performed according to Seurinck et al. 130 (2005), and the assay for the 16S rRNA gene copies of Bacteria was performed according to 131 Park and Crowley (2006) using primers 338F and 518R. Melting T° was 60°C for all assays. 132 Linearized plasmid DNA containing 16S rRNA genes from the targeted DNAs were run as 133 standards using 10-fold dilutions of the plasmids. These plasmids were obtained from Marti et 134 135 al. (2017). Class 1 integrons (*int1*) were quantified using primers targeting the integrase gene. Presence of inhibitors in the DNA extracts was checked according to Marti et al. (2017). 136 When inhibition was detected, extracts were diluted 10 to 100 times using sterile ultra-pure 137 138 water until a positive PCR product could be obtained.

139 2.3. Meta-barcoding analyses of V5-V7 16S rRNA and *tpm* gene PCR products

140 2.3.1. PCR products and their MiSeq Illumina sequencing

The V5-V7 16S rRNA gene PCR products were generated using DNA primers 799F 141 (barcode + ACCMGGATTAGATACCCKG) and 1193R (CRTCCMCACCTTCCTC) 142 reported by Beckers et al. (2016). PCR amplifications were performed using the HotStarTaq 143 Plus Master Mix Kit (Qiagen, USA) using the following temperature cycles: 94 °C for 3 min, 144 followed by 28 cycles of 94 °C for 30 s, 53 °C for 40 s, and 72 °C for 1 min, with a final 145 146 elongation step at 72 °C for 5 min. PCR products and blank control samples were verified using a 2% agarose gel and the electrophoretic procedures described in Colin et al. (2020). 147 PCR products obtained from field samples showed sizes around 430 bp but blanks did not 148 show detectable and quantifiable PCR products. Dual-index adapters were ligated to the PCR 149 fragments using the TruSeq® DNA Library Prep Kit which also involved quality controls of 150

the ligation step (Illumina, Paris, France). Illumina V3 Miseq DNA sequencings were
performed by MrDNA services (Shallowater, Texas, USA). DNA sequences were paired-end,
and set up to obtain around 40K reads per sample.

The *tpm* DNA libraries were also sequenced by the Illumina MiSeq V3 technology but by 154 the Biofidal DNA sequencing services (Vaulx-en-Velin, France). PCR products were 155 generated using the following mix of degenerated PCR primers as reported in Aigle et al. 156 (5'-157 (2021): ILMN-PTCF2 P5 adapter tag universal primer ++GTGCCGYTRTGYGGCAAGA-'3), ILMN-PTCF2m (5'- P5 adapter tag + universal primer 158 + GTGCCCYTRTGYGGCAAGT-'3), ILMN-PTCR2 (5'- P7 adapter tag + universal primer 159 + ATCAKYGCGGCGCGGTCRTA-'3), and ILMN-PTCR2m (5'- P7 adapter tag + universal 160 ATGAGBGCTGCCCTGTCRTA-'3). The universal primer was 5'-161 primer + AGATGTGTATAAGAGACAG-'3. The P5 adapter tag was 5'-TCGTCGGCAGCGTC-'3. 162 163 The P7 adapter tag was: 5'- GTCTCGTGGGCTCGG-'3. PCR reactions were performed and verified as described in Aigle et al. (2021). PCR products obtained from field samples showed 164 sizes around 320 bp but blanks did not show detectable PCR products. Still, tpm harboring 165 bacteria being in low number among a bacterial community (about 2-3%), blank samples 166 were run during the Miseq DNA sequencing of the PCR products. Illumina Miseq DNA 167 168 sequencings of the *tpm* PCR products were paired-end, and set up to obtain around 40K reads per sample. Blank samples generated low numbers of tpm reads that were retrieved from the 169 dataset by the decontam procedure. The 16S rRNA and *tpm* gene sequences reported in this 170 work are available at the European Nucleotide Archive (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/ena) under the 171 accession #PRJEB33507. 172

2.3.2. Processing of meta-barcoding V5-V7 16S rRNA and *tpm* gene DNA sequences, and computation of diversity indices and taxonomic allocations

7

In order to select the bioinformatic processing packages for the construction of the 16S 175 176 rRNA gene and tpm contingency tables, raw reads were treated by both the Mothur (Schloss et al., 2009) and dada2 packages (Callahan et al., 2016). Regarding dada2 manipulations, 177 linker, barcode and primers were removed from the DNA reads by using the Trimgalore 178 (https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/trim_galore/). 179 v0.6.5 software The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for merged reads was used for the processing of the 16S 180 rRNA raw reads (https://benjjneb.github.io/dada2/bigdata_1_2.html) while the SOP for the 181 paired-end reads used for the 182 reads was tpm raw (https://benjjneb.github.io/dada2/bigdata_paired.html). Regarding Mothur, sequences were 183 184 treated according to the pipeline defined by Kozich et al. (2013). In both cases, raw sequences were discarded when they were: (1) shorter than 350 bp and longer than 400 bp for V5-V7 185 16S rRNA gene, and than 250 bp and 270 bp for tpm; (2) had few identities with reference 186 187 sequences of the database, (3) contained homopolymers longer than 8 bp, (4) contained ambiguous bases. Chimeric DNA sequences were detected and discarded using the 188 chimera.uchime command (Edgar et al., 2011). For Mothur, the number of sequences was 189 190 normalized between samples by performing a random resampling at n = 10783 for the V5-V7 16S rRNA gene reads and n = 8072 for the *tpm* reads. Operational Taxonomic Units (OTUs) 191 were defined at 97 % identity for the V5-V7 16S rRNA gene reads or 100 % (exact sequence 192 variants) identity for tpm reads. Contaminant OTUs which may come from the extraction kit, 193 or the 0.2 µm pore size polycarbonate filters were detected using the Decontam v1.8.0 194 package (Davis et al., 2018). The Decontam package was used on the OTU tables using the 195 DNA concentration method for the 16S rRNA gene datasets (Table S4). The tpm OTU 196 contaminants of the blank samples were identified by Decontam (Table S5). The R Decontam 197 198 package detected only 370 16S rRNA contaminant gene reads (representing 0.059 % of the total reads) distributed into 50 OTUs among the dataset (Table S5). These low numbers of 199

contaminant reads did not have any effect on the statistical analyses. The validated OTU 200 201 contingency tables are given in Tables S6 and S7. Diversity indices were computed from OTU and ASV (amplicon sequence variants), and by grouping the OTU (Table S8) and ASV 202 (**Table S9**) per genus. High goodness of fit (\mathbb{R}^2) and significant correlations were observed by 203 Spearman correlation tests using both types (OTU against ASV) of contingency tables (Fig. 204 S2). Dada2 16S rRNA gene ASV diversity indices were significantly higher than those 205 computed from the Mothur OTU dataset (Wilcoxon-test: p-value < 0.001). For the tpm 206 207 datasets, diversity indices were similar between the ASV/OTU datasets (Wilcoxon test, pvalue > 0.05). Spearman correlation tests confirmed the high positive correlations between 208 209 both datasets (Fig. S2). OTUs being found in higher numbers in both the 16S rRNA gene and tpm datasets, the following analyses were limited to the OTU contingency Tables. OTUs 210 211 taxonomic allocations were performed by comparison with the Silva database (16S rRNA 212 genes) or the "BD_TPM_Mar18_v1.unique_770seq" database (Aigle et al., 2021) and using the "Wang" text-based Bayesian classifier (Wang et al., 2007). Only classifications resolved 213 214 with a bootstrap above 80% were considered. Some functional inferences were made from the 215 taxonomic allocations using the Faprotax software version 1.2.1 (Louca et al., 2016).

216 **2.4. Statistical analyses**

Alpha diversity indices (Shannon, Simpson and Evenness) were computed using the Vegan 217 package v2.5-6 for Rv3.5.3 as well as Hellinger transformation. Spearman correlations were 218 computed using the R package Hmisc v4.4.0 and the correlation networks were computed 219 220 using the Igraph package v1.2.6. The adjusted Wallace coefficient analyses were performed at the UMMI web site of Lisboa University (http://www.comparingpartitions.info/). Chord 221 diagrams showing the relative abundance of 16S rRNA or tpm – based taxonomic allocations 222 were made using the "circlize" v0.4.6 package for R. Repartition biases were investigated 223 using the DESeq2 package v1.28.1 for R (Love et al., 2014). Co-occurrence networks and 224

keystone taxa were resolved using the fast greedy modularity optimization method of the Molecular Ecological Network Analyzes Pipeline (MENAp) and the Cytoscape software v3.8.0 (Deng et al., 2012). Simple linear regressions were computed using the R package ggpubr v0.4.0 and illustrated with ggplot2 v3.3.2. Confrontation between microbial datasets and the explanatory variables were also computed using a multilinear regression model described in **Fig. S8a**.

231 **3. Results**

3.1. Similarities in land-use and human behaviors between sub-catchments

Socio-urbanistic indicators were recorded over the Mi-plaine Chassieu catchment, and 233 were used to compare urban typologies and activities between sub-catchments (Table S2b; 234 235 Table S2c). Overall, 559 industries were recorded over the Chassieu Mi-plaine catchment 236 (Fig. 1). Most significant activities concerned retailing of specialized industrial materials (n = 63 companies), construction (n = 53), and metal transformation (n = 33) (e. g. Fig. 2). Hotels 237 offering up to 170 rooms, and restaurants welcoming up to 300 customers during service 238 hours, were found in this area. 139 companies distributed into 44 commercial sectors 239 impacted this catchment, and were involved in wholesale trading (n = 15), specialized 240 construction works (n = 10), financial services (n = 10), metal product manufacturing (n = 8), 241 rental and leasing (n = 7) and real estate (n = 5) (**Table S2**). 242

The "land use" dataset was converted into a frequency table (**Table S2c**). Spearman correlations were computed from this dataset to analyze co-occurrence patterns (**Fig. 3**). This led to the observation of recurrent significant associations such as those of (i) the chemical and plastic industries, (ii) the entertainment – related ones, and (iii) the building and metalwork industries. Similarities between these partitions per sampling point were tested by computing adjusted Wallace indices. These indices of relatedness between sites are indicated in **Fig. 1**, and led to the identification of two large groups termed I (C01, C02, C05, C06, C09, C13, C14, C17) and II (C22, C07, C19, C21, C15, C16), but five sub-watersheds showed specific urbanistic organizations as observed in **Table S2c**. Group I sampling points showed more industries involved in specialized construction works; these points were mainly found among quiet streets and dead ends. Group II sampling points were found distributed along a large avenue showing several rental and leasing services.

In order to go deeper in the understanding of variables impacting the urban surface 255 256 microbiomes, technical objects and social behaviors over the catchment were investigated, 257 and led to a dataset of 26 descriptors (Table S2b). Number of employees (total = 3421) and overall frequentations per sub-catchment were compared. Most significant movements over 258 259 the catchment were associated with gasoline engines with a total number of 3880 events involving these engines per day (n=3 surveys; total = 11640 events) (Table S2b). Soft 260 traveling modes such as walking (n = 308 events per day survey period) and cycling (n = 36)261 262 events per day survey period) were also frequent. Other technical objects mobilized at daytime and behaviors were observed such as high uses of portals (n=106 mobilizations per 263 264 day survey period), construction engines (n=63), lorry for horses (n=46), bus shelters (n=27) or cigarettes (n=18). Wastes were also frequently detected, and concerned feces (12 265 observations per day survey period), food-derivatives (n=9) or hygienic products (n=5) 266 267 (Table S2b). Chemical spills were observed including petrol and oil stains (n=58), clear fluid spills (n=6) or white spills (n=3). Spearman correlations were computed from these traces to 268 highlight relationships between all socio-urbanistic parameters including the economic and 269 industrial activities (Fig. 3). Interestingly, sampling points on streets with the highest numbers 270 of gasoline engines ("trucks, "cars", "2 wheels", "commercial vehicles" and "bus") were 271 correlated with restaurants and rental activities of group II (Spearman correlation tests; 272 273 p<0.05) (Fig. 3). Areas with the highest numbers of pedestrians and employees were

associated with higher numbers of wastes. Furthermore, quiet streets and dead ends showed
more fecal matters, and night activities such as prostitution (Wilcoxon test: p-value <0.05).

To avoid collinearity effects while performing statistical analyses between the socio-276 urbanistic and microbiological datasets, the following variables were selected (Fig. 3): (a1) 277 number of cars; also representing numbers of buses, commercial vehicles, motorized two 278 wheels and trucks, (b1) number of employees; also representing counts of cigarettes, 279 pedestrians and domestic wastes, (c1) number of freight lifts; also representing counts of 280 construction materials, liquid spills and bus shelters (Fig. 3). Analysis of these social traces 281 led to the identification of two sectors with high gasoline engines circulation (North-West and 282 South-East) (Fig. 1 and 2) which were termed "group III", and were composed of sampling 283 points C02, C03, C05, C06, C07, C08, C15, C16, C17, C19 and C22. These sectors were 284 associated with significantly higher numbers of trucks, cars, two-wheels, commercial 285 286 vehicles, non-motorized scooters, and buses, but also cigarettes, food and other wastes, employees and pedestrians, and restaurants (Wilcoxon test: p-value <0.05). Dead end (C01, 287 C14, C18 (no industrial or commercial activities)) and quiet streets (C09, C10, C11, C13, C20 288 or C21) were defined as group IV (Fig. 1 and 2) and were characterized by significantly 289 higher numbers of hygienic wastes, prostitution and fecal matters (Wilcoxon test: p-value 290 <0.05). 291

3.2. Variations in runoff volumes, physico-chemical monitoring and classical bacterial indicators between sub-catchments

Geographical origin of the clouds and rain events which led to the three runoff sampling campaigns investigated in this study are indicated in Fig. S1. Runoff waters were subjected to physico-chemical monitorings (Table S3). A PCA of these datasets was performed (Fig. S3).
PH values of the runoff waters of campaign 2 were higher, and their turbidity was lower, in most instances. Campaign 2 had the largest differences between the measured min-max values

for pH (pH 6.3 – 9.1). Lowest value was obtained from runoff waters recovered at site C14, 299 and appeared related to an industrial chemical spill. This pH shift was associated with a drop 300 in turbidity (lowest value recorded in this study) but an increase in conductivity (highest value 301 302 recorded), explaining the peculiar PCA ordination of this sampling point (Fig. S3). A negative correlation between pH and the presence of chemical industries was observed (C14, C2) 303 (Spearman correlation tests; p<0.05). High pH values were correlated to rental and leasing 304 activities such as those of group II sampling points (Fig. 3) (Spearman correlation tests; 305 p<0.05) (Fig. S4). High conductivity values were correlated to food catering activities 306 (Spearman correlation tests; p<0.05) (Fig. S4), which were positively correlated to the 307 number of food wastes on the streets (Fig. 3). Conductivity and turbidity values were 308 positively correlated with the numbers of cars, trucks, commercial vehicles and pedestrians 309 observed on the catchment (Fig. S5). Samples from campaign 2 had the lowest temperatures, 310 311 with an average of 8.5°C, while the runoffs had temperatures between 16-18°C for samples of the other campaigns (Table S3). Runoff flow values and total volumes were similar between 312 313 sampling campaigns 1 and 3 but campaign 2 had lower values (Table S3).

314 Concerning the bacterial indicators, runoffs from the watershed showed high level of heterotrophic bacterial plate counts ranging from 4.0 x 10⁵ to 1.8 x 10⁸ CFU (colony forming 315 316 units) per 100 mL (**Table S3**). These plate counts were positively correlated with sub-group b1 variables (employees, cigarettes, pedestrians, wastes, Fig. 3), and merchandise storage 317 (Fig. S6; Spearman correlation tests; p<0.05). E. coli and intestinal enterococci numbers were 318 high all over the catchment (Fig. 1; Table S3), and found to be correlated (Spearman 319 320 correlation test; p<0.05). Intestinal *enterococci* cell numbers were negatively correlated with group b1 variables but also merchandise storage and non-motorized scooters (Fig. S6, 321 Spearman correlation tests; p<0.05). E. coli and intestinal enterococci numbers were highest 322 among sites of group IV (dead ends, hygienic wastes, and fecal matters) (Wilcoxon test; 323

p<0.05), and were associated with a higher occurrence of HF183 DNA marker confirming 324 significant human fecal contaminations at these sites (Spearman correlation test; p<0.05) (Fig. 325 1, Table S3). Twenty-two samples over the three sampling campaigns were found positive to 326 327 HF183 by qPCR (**Table S3**). Relative ratios of HF183 marker (of human fecal contamination) over numbers of total bacterial 16S rRNA gene targets ranged from 3.1 x 10⁻⁶ to 3.7 x 10⁻³ (at 328 sampling point C23 which is the outlet of the watershed). The relative numbers of HF183 329 DNA targets were positively correlated with the mobilization of portals. This technical object 330 was mainly used among quiet places or secondary roads of group IV sites (Spearman 331 correlation tests; p<0.05). Presence of integron 1 (int1) was detected among 24 runoff 332 samples (Fig. 1). Relative *int1* counts over total 16S rRNA gene copies ranged from 6.2×10^{-7} 333 to 3.5 x 10⁻³ (at sampling point C23). Integron 1 was mainly detected among group III sites 334 associated with high counts of gasoline engines (Wilcoxon test; p < 0.05). 335

336 3.3. Core K- and opportunistic r-strategists observed over urban surfaces (using runoff 337 waters) through 16S rRNA gene meta-barcoding analyses

338 - general features

Removal of chimeric sequences, short reads and a random resampling based on the lowest 339 number of V5-V7 16S rRNA gene reads (n=10783) recovered for a runoff water sample were 340 performed. This led to a dataset of 4 048 699 16S rRNA gene reads. These reads were divided 341 into 9155 OTUs. Rarefaction curves showed a plateau phase in the relation between the 342 number of reads analyzed and the number of OTUs observed per sample (Fig. S7a). Most 343 344 samples had between 700 to 1000 OTUs (Table S8). Shannon, Simpson and Evenness indices showed the samples from the 1st campaign to have a significantly higher diversity than those 345 of the 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} campaigns (Wilcoxon test; p < 0.05), and their content in 16S rRNA gene 346 copies per 100 mL were slightly lower (Table S3). These indices showed that samples from 347 group I (construction industries) (Fig. 1) had significantly more diversity than those of group 348

II (large avenue) (Wilcoxon test; p < 0.05) but not of groups III (high motor engines) and IV (quiet streets). NMDS analysis confirmed the significant relationships between the sociourbanistic groupings (defined in section 3.1) and the 16S rRNA gene meta-barcoding profilings. All four socio-urbanistic groups defined above were associated with significantly different profiles as computed from Adonis analyses using the Bray-Curtis dissimilarities between samples (**Fig. 4**).

355 - standard partition analyses

Runoff OTUs were affiliated to bacterial taxa using the Silva database in order to identify 356 the core K- and versatile r-like bacterial taxa thriving in the investigated urban system. Thirty-357 five phyla were inferred from the dataset (for more than 99% of the reads; Table S10). 358 359 Sample C14_2 (impacted by a chemical spill) harbored the smallest number of phyla (n=11). Sample C16_1 (group III, Figs. 1 & 4) showed the greatest number of phyla (n= 24). Nine 360 core phyla were found over the industrial catchment: Proteobacteria, Actinobacteria, 361 Bacteroidetes, Gemmatimonadetes, 362 Planctomycetes, Acidobacteria, Firmicutes, 363 Saccharibacteria and Armatimonadetes. Reads allocated to the Proteobacteria, Actinobacteria and Bacteroidetes represented in average 93.6 % of the dataset and varied 364 respectively from 39 % to 81 %, 0.70 % to 54 % and 2% to 49 % per campaign (Table S10). 365 *Proteobacteria* was the dominant phylum (showing an equivalent of 2×10^9 to 2×10^5 16S 366 rRNA gene copies per 100 mL; median value = $2,4 \times 10^8$) in all samples except C07_3 and 367 C08_3 which were dominated by Actinobacteria. It is to be noted that C07 and C08 are part 368 369 of the group III sites (Figs. 1 & 4) associated with high traffic of gasoline engines. In average, Actinobacteria were the second most dominant group over the catchment with 19.75 % of 370 relative abundance followed by the Bacteroidetes (15.48 %). However, Bacteroidetes were 371 372 more abundant than the Actinobacteria in 29 samples over 60 (Table S10). This dataset was characterized by a very low number of *Firmicutes* with scores ranging from 0.02 to 3.5% per 373

sample representing an equivalent of about 4 x 10^3 to 2.5 x 10^7 16S rRNA gene copies per 374 100 mL (median=1 x 10^6). Sample C14 2 (showing a toxic chemical spill) was again 375 characterized by unusual values with a very low relative number of reads allocated to the 376 Actinobacteria (0.7 %; highly sensitive to the chemical spill) but very high (more than 81%; 377 representing an equivalent of about 10⁸ 16S rRNA gene copies per 100 mL) for reads 378 allocated to Proteobacteria (likely more resistant to the chemical spill). Similar trends were 379 observed for sample C14_3 but this sample also showed the highest score for 380 Saccharibacteria (5.40 %) of the TM7 phylum which are related to obligate epibiont of 381 Actinomyces spp. (He et al., 2015). 382

383 Deeper analysis of these phyla showed a differentiation into 717 genera (Table S11). Twenty-eight of these genera including the *Pseudomonas* (representing an equivalent of about 384 3×10^3 to 3.8×10^7 16S rRNA gene copies per 100 mL; median=7 x 10⁵) were conserved 385 386 among all samples, representing almost 90 % of the total 16S rRNA gene reads, and were thus considered to be related to K-strategists. Fig. 5 shows the genera with a relative abundance 387 over 0.5 % over the dataset, and highlights those which were classified as core bacterial taxa 388 389 (in all samples) likely grouping K-strategists. The C14 sampling site was confirmed to be peculiar with high numbers of reads allocated to *Novosphingobium* (α -proteobacteria) (**Table** 390 S6; Table S11). C14 also showed high numbers of DNA reads allocated to the 391 Sulfurospirillum (E-proteobacteria) (5.61 %) and Paludibacter (Bacteroidetes) (11.6 %). 392 These latter enriched genera were considered r-like opportunistic strategists. 393

Distribution biases of the above genera against the behavioral (groups III or IV; **Fig. 2**) and industrial/commercial activities (groups I to II; **Fig. 1**) were investigated by DESeq2 (**Table S12**). Reads from *Novosphingobium* were found in significantly higher proportions in the runoff water samples from group I (construction industries) and IV (quiet areas) (DESeq2; p<0.05). Reads from *Actinobacteria* such as *Geodermatophilus, Marmoricola*, and *Dietzia*, and from *Methylobacterium* (α -proteobacteria) were found in higher proportions in samples from group II (large avenues) (DESeq2; p<0.05). Reads affiliated to *Bdellovibrio* were found in significantly higher proportions in the samples from group I (DESeq2; p<0.05), and those from *Roseomonas* and *Arthrobacter* in group III (DESeq2; p<0.05). Reads allocated to *Pseudomonas* and *Gemmatimonas* were in higher proportion among group IV samples (DESeq2; p<0.05). These strong relationships with particular socio-urbanistic patterns are indicative of the occurrences of K-like strategists over the catchment.

406 The sources of the above taxa were explored by comparing their relatedness with taxa in 407 higher numbers (i) among old urban sediments (Acidibacter, Haliangium) that had accumulated metallic trace elements and naphthalene, or (ii) among recent urban sediments of 408 a detention basin which had high chrysene contents (Aquabacterium, Paludibacter) according 409 to Marti et al. (2017). 16S rRNA gene reads allocated to taxa known to be enriched in old 410 urban sediments were in very low relative abundances among the sampled runoff waters 411 412 (Table S11). However, reads affiliated to taxa in higher numbers in recent sediments/deposits found in a detention basin (*Peredibacter*, *Aquabacterium*, *Paludibacter* and *Cloacibacterium*) 413 were recorded among the sampled runoffs, with relative abundances going from 0.20 to 3.4 %414 415 (Table S11). These taxa did not show distribution biases matching the socio-urbanistic parameters of the sub-catchments, and were likely to contain K-strategists. 416

417 - correlation network analyses

Co-occurrence patterns between numbers of 16S rRNA gene reads and their allocation to bacterial genera were further explored through multiple Spearman correlation tests (**Fig. 6a**), and were considered indicative of the occurrence of K-strategists. Statistics of the most significant networks are presented in **Table S14**, and the modules are shown in **Fig. 6a**. The largest module of correlated taxa was made of 17 genera mainly grouping *Actinobacteria* involved in hydrocarbon degradation (based on Faprotax and literature searches). Only two

genera from another phylum were recorded in this module and belonged to the Roseomonas 424 and *Methylobacterium* (α -proteobacteria). This module was in line with the above DESeq2 425 426 analyses which had previously shown positive relationships between some of these genera and the group II urban typologies (Fig. 1 and Fig. 3; large avenue with high numbers of 427 428 gasoline engines). The second largest module (Mod2) showed correlations between three 429 Bacteroidetes (Cytophaga, Flavobacterium and Pedobacter) and a connection between *Flavobacterium* read numbers and those allocated to *Pseudospirillum* (hydrocarbon degrader) 430 of the *proteobacteria* which were further connected to *Perlucidibaca*, and *Arenimonas* 16S 431 rRNA gene reads distribution patterns (Fig. 6a). These last three genera are known to harbor 432 bacterial species involved in oil / hydrocarbon degradation processes (Morais et al., 2016). 433 Module-EigenGene analyses highlighted several significant (p-value < 0.001) Spearman 434 435 correlations between the selected explanatory variables and the above modules (Fig. 6a). For 436 example, module 1 (Mod1) showed positive correlations with sub-group a1 (gasoline engines) variables represented by car numbers (ratio=0.45), and which contributed to the definition of 437 group III socio-urbanistic patterns (Fig. 2). Genera from Mod1 showed negative relationships 438 with hygienic wastes (-0.47) associated with group IV sampling sites located in more quiet 439 streets (Fig. 2 and Fig. 6a). Mod2 genera were positively correlated to higher uses of 440 441 construction engines (0.69) and freight_lift – like variables (0.49) of sub-group c1, and, as Mod1, were negatively associated with hygienic wastes (-0.46). 442

Further computations using a multilinear regression model (described in **Fig. S8a**) were performed to confirm these relationships between the meta-barcoding, behavioral and organizational explanatory variables (**Fig. S8a**). Interestingly, this analysis showed that core genera likely harboring K-strategists had lower numbers of significant R² correlation values than those of the flexible r-like bacterial taxa (Wilcoxon-test: p-value < 0.001). Reads from seven r-like genera including *Thauera*, *Sulfurospirillum*, *Noviherbaspirillum*, hgcl_clade,

Novosphingobium, Microcella, and Phenylobacterium showed significant correlations with 449 the physico-chemical variables ($\mathbb{R}^2 > 0.1$). Number of reads of Sulfurospirillum were 450 negatively correlated with the pH values ($R^2 = -0.14$), and positively correlated with the 451 452 conductivity ones ($R^2 = 0.08$) (Fig. S8a), confirming an opportunistic development matching with the occurrence of a chemical spill at C14. Read numbers affiliated to Novosphingobium 453 also showed a negative relationship with the pH values. Thaurea read numbers were 454 455 negatively correlated to temperature and positively with turbidity. Several other significant relationships were detected but with low R² (Fig. S8c). 456

457 3.4. Core K- and opportunistic r-strategists observed over urban surfaces (using runoff 458 waters) through *tpm* gene meta-barcoding analyses

459 - general features

A high quality dataset of 910 048 tpm sequences was generated, re-sampled (n=8087), and 460 used to infer the effects of urban land use typologies and human behaviors on *tpm*-harboring 461 462 bacterial species. These tpm sequences were divided into 9 641 OTUs (exact sequence variants) (Tables S7 and S8). Rarefaction curves showed a plateau phase (Fig. S7b). Most 463 samples had between 150 and 300 tpm OTUs. Diversity indices have been computed and are 464 shown in Table S8. These diversity indices were compared with those computed from the 16S 465 rRNA gene meta-barcoding dataset through linear regression analyses. No correlations were 466 observed for the Shannon, Simpson and Evenness indices. In the same way, no significant 467 differentiation was observed between diversity indices computed from the three sampling 468 campaigns and the four socio-urbanistic groups of sampling points defined in section 3.1. 469

470 NMDS and RDA analyses of the Bray-Curtis dissimilarities between the *tpm* gene read 471 patterns were performed. Adonis analyses did not differentiate the *tpm* profilings according to 472 the groups of samples defined from the analyzed urban typologies and activities (groups I to 473 IV). However, RDA indicated a significant relationship between the ordinations and the

activities of group III sampling points such as high traffic of gasoline engines. Anova.cca and 474 475 ordistep tests confirmed the significance of the computed RDA model and relationships with traffic (p<0.01). To illustrate, the position of tpm Otu00135 affiliated to Pseudomonas 476 477 extremaustralis in the RDA plot showed higher read numbers among the runoff waters of group III samples. This OTU showed positive relationships with cars (and correlated variables 478 shown in Fig. 3) and the quantity of food wastes observed over the watershed. Similar 479 positive relationships on the RDA were recorded for tpm OTU00154 (a non-classified 480 Pseudomonas species). The goodness of fit test confirmed the significance of these 481 relationships. 482

483 - standard partition analyses

484 Taxonomic allocations at the genus level allowed a classification of 62 % of the *tpm* reads into 20 well-defined genera (Table S15). The genera inferred by the *tpm* meta-barcoding 485 approach represented on average an equivalence of 6.28 % (0.35 to 21.53 % per sample) of 486 the 16S rRNA gene dataset (computed from the shared genera between both datasets). Only 487 *Pseudomonas tpm* reads were recorded in all the runoff samples. They represented in average 488 35.79 % of the total tpm reads (from 0.21 to 75.93 %) (Table S15). Other tpm-harboring 489 genera were found among at least half of the runoff samples such as Herbaspirillum, 490 491 *Xanthomonas* and *Aeromonas* representing respectively 11, 5 and 0.8 % of the total *tpm* reads. These four genera were considered core *tpm*-harboring taxa circulating over the investigated 492 urban catchment likely harboring K-strategists (Table S15). 493

Relative abundances inferred from the *tpm* gene dataset showed the *Pseudomonas* to be fairly homogenous across the sampling points except for C16_S2 (0.21 %; group III variables associated with traffic of gasoline engines), C10_S3 (5.41 %; group IV variables associated with quiet streets) and C09_S1 (75.93 %; group I (construction industries) and IV). *Herbaspirillum* was not detected among the 3rd sampling campaign except for C05_S3 and

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C06_S3 but with a very low relative abundance (0.01 and 0.02 %), and a high one for C14_S3 499 500 (31.48 %) (Table S15). Interestingly, the pollution observed at C14 was associated with an enrichment in Herbaspirillum. C16_S2 (96.35 %) also showed an environmental burst in 501 502 Herbaspirillum tpm reads (Table S15). Xanthomonas tpm reads also had a heterogeneous distribution pattern with relative abundances going from 0 to 50% (Table S15). The 3rd 503 sampling campaign led to high relative abundances of Xanthomonas reads at C01 S3 (48.86 504 %), C03 S3 (33.81 %) and C07 S3 (20.72 %). Xanthomonas reads were not detected during 505 the 2nd sampling campaign except at C18_S2 but in low abundance (0.08 %). This approach 506 also led to the recovery of Stenotrophomonas (0.65 %), Shewanella (0.30 %) and Curvibacter 507 508 (0.2 %) *tpm* DNA reads (**Table S15**).

At the species level, more than 50 % of the tpm reads could be allocated to 78 well-defined 509 species (Table S16; Fig. 7). DNA reads from several species were recovered in more than 50 510 511 % of the samples such as Herbaspirillum aquaticum, Pseudomonas koreensis, Pseudomonas rhodesiae, Pseudomonas stutzeri, Pseudomonas anguilliseptica and Pseudomonas aeruginosa 512 513 (Fig. 7). These species were considered K-strategists. The most abundant species was Herbaspirillum aquaticum (Table S16). H. aquaticum tpm reads represented 31.32 % of the 514 total number of reads obtained from the C14_S3 sample. Pseudomonas koreensis was the 515 516 second most abundant species with an average relative abundance of 4.7 %, followed by Xanthomonas cannabis (3.85 %), Pseudomonas anguilliseptica-like (2 %), and Pseudomonas 517 aeruginosa (2 %) (Table S16, Fig. 7). Other tpm-harboring species showing more variable 518 distribution patterns like Aeromonas jadensis, P. putida, P. mendocina, P. pseudoalcaligenes 519 520 and P. fluorescens appeared r-like strategists taking benefits for their development of some specialized C-sources available over the catchment. These latter bacteria could, in fact, be 521 522 associated to hydrocarbon degradation as inferred from Faprotax analyses. It is to be noted that some of the above r/K-like taxa detected by the *tpm* meta-barcoding approach were found 523

to be well-known human, animal and plant pathogens e. g. A. hydrophila, P. mendocina, A. *caviae*, P. aeruginosa, P. syringae, Stenotrophomonas maltophilia, Xanthomonas axonopodis,
and X. cannabis. The latter species was the most common tpm-harboring phytopathogen
recorded in the samples, and was previously described to infect more than 350 plant species
including Cannabis sativa (Netsu et al., 2014).

The tpm reads allocated to P. aeruginosa human pathogens were recurrent in the runoff 529 tpm dataset. They were recorded in high numbers at C21_S2 (19.25 %; group IV), C07_S1 530 (10.36 %; group III), C22_S1 (10.06 %; group III) and C19_S3 (9.90 %; group III) (Table 531 S16). Conversion of these latter relative abundances into Pseudomonas 16S rRNA gene 532 copies according to **Table S3** indicated an equivalence of about 10⁴ *P. aeruginosa* 16S rRNA 533 gene numbers per 100 mL in these samples. These P. aeruginosa tpm reads were further 534 allocated to sub-lineages, and mapped over the urban watershed (Fig. S9). These reads (n = 535 536 5594) were divided into 72 OTUs, and 26 were allocated to the sub-clade PAO1 (n = 2273 reads), and 20 to the sub-clade PA14 (n = 214 reads). The *P. aeruginosa tpm* sequence types 537 538 were allocated to strain characterized by Multi Locus Sequence Typing (https://pubmlst.org/) (Table S17a) using the correspondence table reported by Colin et al. (2020). The tpm 539 OTU00592 (n = 181 reads) was found to match ST252 isolates from non-CF (cystic fibrosis) 540 infections; the one of OTU00987 (n = 85 reads) matched ST2123/ST226 strains respectively 541 isolated from CF patients and clinical environments; and OTU00072 (n = 1802 reads) 542 matched ST175/ST2042 found in urinary tract and blood infections. This significant 543 occurrence of *P. aeruginosa tpm* reads over the catchment led us to isolate the matching 544 545 bacterial strains during the third sampling campaign. More than 200 hundred isolates were collected, and their tpm sequences were sequenced after PCR amplification (Table S17b). 546 547 Most of the *P. aeruginosa* urban isolates harbored the *tpmG* type 12_15_17_18_35 which was found to be the most abundant among the *tpm* metabarcoding dataset. However, strains from 548

some other dominant meta-barcoding tpm sequence types were found more difficult to isolate. 549 550 Only 7 strains harboring the *tpmG* type 08 24 (matching Otu00056 which showed 2256 sequences) were obtained, and 2 showing the tpmG type 1 sequence (matching OTU021) 551 552 which showed 1878 sequences). It is to be noted that OTU numbers were attributed by using a larger tpm meta-barcoding dataset than the one reported in this study, and this explains the 553 lack of match between OTU code numbers and number of reads per OTU among the dataset 554 presented here. Interestingly, some strains harbored tpmG types not detected by 555 556 metabarcoding such as tpmG3, tpmG4, tpmG16-26, tpmG30 and tpmG34 (Table S17). The tpm reads allocated to P. syringae could also be further allocated at the level of pathovars 557 558 such as P. s. pathovar aceris (3875 reads distributed into 84 OTUs), P. s. panici (4 OTUs, 203 reads), P. s. japonica (3 OTUs, 167 reads), P. s. aptata (1 OTUs, 46 reads), P. s. maculicola 559 (1 OTUs, 26 reads) and P. s. pisi (1 OTUs, 7 reads). DESeq2 computations were performed to 560 561 evaluate changes in the *tpm* OTU patterns according to the urban typologies and activities. Otu00056 affiliated to P. aeruginosa (subclade PA14-like) showed significantly more reads 562 563 among group I (large avenue) than group II, and among group III (high gasoline engines) than IV. Otu00072 (subclade PAO1-like) reads were more abundant among samples from group 564 IV (those from dead ends) (Table S18). 565

566 The sources of tpm bacterial taxa among runoffs were explored by DNA sequence comparisons with previously reported sequence types recovered from urban deposits and 567 sediments accumulating at C23 (which is the detention basin of the experimental site 568 collecting the runoff waters) (Aigle et al., 2021). 17 OTUs from the runoff water datasets 569 matched at 100 % identity with tpm sequences from sediments. Runoff tpm of Otu00013 570 (unclassified Proteobacteria, n=5891 reads), Otu00027 (Gp DE, n=3791 reads) matched 571 572 respectively with ASV_17, ASV_32 found in old deposits containing high concentrations of poorly degradable pollutants including metallic trace elements (Cd, Cr and Ni) and 573

naphthalene (Table S19). 14 additional tpm runoff OTUs matched with sequences reported 574 among recently mobilized urban deposits and containing high chrysene concentrations. To 575 illustrate, Otu00002 (Pseudomonadaceae, n=11433 reads), Otu00016 (unclassified 576 577 Gammaproteobacteria, n=5291), Otu00026 (unclassified Gammaproteobacteria, n=4410), and Otu00028 (Proteobacteria, n=4388) sequences from runoff water matched Otu013, 578 ASV 38, ASV 51 and ASV 35 of Aigle et al. (2021) (Table S19). Otu00036 affiliated to P. 579 syringae pathovar aceris showed higher number of reads among old sediments containing 580 high concentrations of naphthalene, cadmium, chrome and nickel (Aigle et al., 2021). 581

582 - correlation network analyses

Co-occurrence networks computed by the MENA approach led to the identification of K-583 584 like bacterial modules (termed Mod-*tpm*) supported by Spearman Rho factors > 0.7 (**Table**) **S21; Fig. 6b**). Mod1-*tpm* showed significant (p-value < 0.001) positive correlations with the 585 relative quantities of faeces (0.42) and hygienic wastes (0.42) differentiating social behaviors 586 associated with group IV (Fig. 1). Mod2-tpm species were negatively correlated with faeces (-587 0.50), and Mod3-tpm species showed positive relationships with merchandise storage 588 activities (0.51) (Fig. 6b). The freight lift activities representing the c1 variables (Fig. 3) were 589 negatively related to Mod4-tpm (-0.90). Multiple linear regression analyses (performed as 590 described in Fig. S8a) were run to find r-like distribution patterns in the *tpm* dataset (Fig. 591 S10). Numbers of tpm reads allocated to several species were found correlated to physico-592 chemical parameters: (i) those of Xanthomonas hortorum and Pseudomonas amygdali were 593 594 negatively correlated to conductivity values ($R^2 = -0.023$ and -0.05), and (ii) those of *Pseudomonas sp.* Gp_BS were positively correlated to turbidity ($R^2 = 0.05$). 595

596 4. Discussion

597 Urban surface microbial communities are expected to be made of (i) opportunistic 598 colonizers (also termed r-strategists) coming from exogenous sources, and transiently taking

benefit of the nutrients available in these systems, and (ii) of core taxa (termed K-strategists) 599 600 adapted to the living conditions prevailing among the colonized catchment including high variations in temperature, water content, and chemical pollutants. The ecology of these core 601 602 and opportunistic taxa among urban biomes remain to be defined in order to avoid growth of undesirable species and hazards such as human exposure to pathogens. Furthermore, the 603 spread and impact of synurbic bacterial taxa over the earth need to be evaluated. The 604 605 Anthropocene era might be gradually leading to a major invasion of the earth's ecological 606 systems by these taxa. To evaluate these impacts, the core components of urban microbiomes need to be defined, and be tracked over other systems. 607

608 Field surveys were carried out to identify key socio-urbanistic variables impacting the investigated catchment and related microbiomes. This led to the identification of sub-609 catchments (sampling points) with common economical and industrial activities, leading to 610 similar social behaviors, that could be used as references to infer relationships with particular 611 bacterial taxa. More than 500 industries, and more than 10 000 observations were considered 612 613 to assess the main socio-urbanistic forces impacting the investigated urban catchment. This 614 catchment was found to be divided into two groups (termed I and II) of industrial / commercial activities, and two groups (termed III and IV) of social behaviors. Interestingly, 615 streets with high numbers of gasoline engines (group III sites) were significantly associated 616 with restaurants while areas with high numbers of pedestrians were associated with higher 617 numbers of wastes. Furthermore, quiet streets and dead ends showed more traces of fecal 618 matters, and night activities (group IV). Previous investigations have shown that traffic was a 619 620 major contributor of surface sediments and pollutants (Revitt et al., 2014). The above groups and panels of activities were used to investigate relationships with FIB, MST (microbial 621 622 source tracking) DNA markers, and DNA meta-barcoding datasets. All these datasets

623 confirmed the informative character of runoff waters to estimate bacterial diversity over sub-624 catchments, and identify K-bacterial strategists living in an urban catchment.

Relationships between socio-urbanistic features and runoff contents in classical bacterial indicators

Significant contents in FIB were observed all over the investigated catchment among the 627 runoff waters. These taxa (E. coli and intestinal Enterococci) were clearly core K-like 628 bacterial strategists because of recurrent fecal contaminations coming from multiple sources 629 including man, making available the appropriate C-sources for their survival and growth. 630 Their high values were in line with those of Paule-Mercado et al. (2016) which showed an 631 increase in FIB among urban settings, and related these increases to surface 632 633 impermeabilization. Group IV sub-catchments (quiet streets) showed the highest FIB numbers 634 in their runoffs, and were associated with the highest occurrences of HF183 MST DNA signatures indicative of human fecal matters. Group a1 variables grouping all sorts of gasoline 635 engines, and variables associated with merchandise storage areas were negatively correlated 636 637 to FIB contents of the runoffs. These results are in agreement with a previous study which showed road pollutants such as PAHs to be negatively correlated to FIB contents (Bernardin-638 Souibgui et al., 2018). Such pollutants were suggested to reduce their numbers (Ukpaka et a 639 al., 2014). In fact, only variables indicative of the occurrences of wastes and fecal matters 640 were found positively associated with high FIB contents in the runoffs. These observed high 641 contents of FIB in city runoff samples were not surprising, and similar trends had previously 642 been reported for other urban contexts (Ellis, 2004; Lee et al. 2020; Ahmed et al., 2010; Sauer 643 et al., 2011; Sidhu et al., 2012; Chong et al., 2013). However, the relationships between FIB, 644 urbanistic issues, and social behaviors were inferred for the first time. 645

646 Integrons of class I, previously shown to have an abundance positively correlated with the 647 ones of urban pollutants (Wright et al., 2008), were also observed in the collected runoff

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waters. These integrons can harbor resistance genes toward antibiotic, metallic elements and disinfectants. Class I integron DNA targets were detected in about 40% of the runoff water samples, and showed a higher occurrence among group III sites associated with high numbers of motor-engines generating petrol-related pollutants. As expected, the distribution of integron 1 genetic elements did not match the one of fecal pollutions, and confirmed that runoff waters DNA imprints can differentiate ecological trends between sub-catchments.

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655 K-like bacterial strategists among urban surface microbiomes

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- Inferences from 16S rRNA meta-barcoding analyses

As indicated above, E. coli and intestinal enterococci were clearly demonstrated, in this 657 study, to be part of the K-bacterial taxa colonizing urban surfaces. DNA meta-barcoding 658 analytical schemes further confirmed the success of such fecal bacterial taxa over the city. In 659 fact, fecal bacterial DNA reads reported by McLellan and Roguet (2019) and Nover et al. 660 661 (2020) among the 16S rRNA meta-barcoding dataset could be tracked, and their distribution patterns were in line with the ones of the FIB and HF183 MST marker for human fecal 662 contaminations. The 16S rRNA gene reads from Bacteriodes, Cloacibacterium, and 663 664 Macellibacteroides showed a high prevalence over the catchment, and were found to be part of the core urban taxa likely harboring K-strategists. However, DNA sequence reads allocated 665 to fecal Arcobacter and the Ruminococcus showed more variations in their distribution 666 667 patterns, and these genera were considered to be part of the r-opportunistic taxa.

Overall, twenty-eight core genera likely harboring K-strategists were found conserved 668 among the sampling points of the catchment. Most of these genera had previously been 669 670 reported among other urban settings such as Blastococcus, Massilia, Flavobacterium, and Sphingomonas (McLellan et al., 2015; Marti et al., 2017; Leung et al., 2014; Robertson et al., 671 672 2013). Nevertheless, a few discrepancies in the bacterial taxa distribution patterns between those recorded in this work and other reports were observed. In fact, Spirosoma, Alkanindiges, 673 Rubellimicrobium, and Novosphingonium 16S rRNA gene reads were recorded all over the 674 investigated catchment but not always in the other urban settings. Conversely, some taxa had 675 been described as recurrent in other reports among the urban microbiome but here showed 676 more versatile r-like patterns as observed for Acidibacter, Psychrobacter 677 and *Propionibacterium.* This is in line with the hypothesis of a selection of specialized taxa by 678 certain urban morphotypes as suggested by Saxena et al. (2015). Here, the investigated 679

morphotype showed high industrial and economical activities with little green areas and no 680 681 residential zones. This morphotype was previously shown to be associated with a high occurrence of chemical pollutants and related microbial degraders through the analysis of 682 sediments and deposits transferred into the detention basin located at the extremity of the 683 catchment (Aigle et al., 2021; Marti et al., 2017). Correlation network analyses confirmed this 684 685 conclusion. The largest modules of correlated distribution patterns between genera (mainly 686 made of Actinobacteria) was associated to hydrocarbon-degraders. The most significant Klike actinobacterial taxa among these modules were *Modestobacter*, 687 Williamsia, Marmoricola, and Blastococcus, but also involved three Bacteroidetes (Cytophaga, 688 Flavobacterium and Pedobacter) and a *proteobacteria* (Pseudospirillum). This module was 689 positively correlated with variables of group II (large avenue) and III (high number of 690 gasoline engines), but was inversely correlated to group IV variables related to hygienic 691 wastes. It is to be noted that bacterial taxa previously recorded in high numbers among road 692 693 sediments/deposits (Peredibacter, Aquabacterium, Paludibacter and Cloacibacterium) by 694 Marti et al. (2017) were found among the sampled runoffs. The broad distribution pattern of these taxa confirmed their tropism for city surface habitats. 695

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Inferences from tpm meta-barcoding analyses

The tpm meta-barcoding marker allowed a deeper characterization of some of the K core 697 698 taxa down to the species level. Nine species were highly conserved over the catchment: Pseudomonas koreensis, Herbaspirillum aquaticum, P. rhodesiae, P. stutzeri, P. syringae, P. 699 anguilliseptica and P. aeruginosa. Interestingly, three of these species, P. stutzeri, P. 700 701 aeruginosa, and P. koreensis, were also part of the most common taxa observed in urban transit systems (Danko et al., 2021), confirming their synurbic status. Some of these K core 702 species were previously shown to use hydrocarbons as C-sources such as P. aeruginosa and 703 P. stutzeri. Moreover, P. koreensis was reported to degrade, among others, hexadecane, 704

engine oil, pyrene and phenanthrene (Bučková et al., 2013). H. aquaticum and P. stutzeri are 705 706 also known producers of polyhydroxyalkanoates and polyhydroxybutyrate storage molecules allowing survival under extreme growth conditions (Yan et al., 2008; Langenbach et al., 2006; 707 708 Timm and Steinbuchel, 1992) such as those occurring over road surfaces. H. aquaticum tpm reads were highest among the most polluted sites (those showing a drop in pH values). These 709 710 bacteria are known to be plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (Marques et al., 2015) but had 711 not been associated with urban pollutants, so far. Correlation network analyses were 712 performed with the tpm metabarcoding dataset to further evaluate the occurrence of K-like strategists, and revealed a large module of correlated species associated with hygienic wastes. 713

714 r-like bacterial strategists among urban surface microbiomes

715 Multilinear regression models and DESeq2 analyses highlighted r-like genera. Point source pollutions revealed by changes in pH values were related to environmental bursts of 716 717 Novosphingobium and Sulfurospirillum in the runoff waters of a few sub-catchments. These bursts were associated with an unusual drop in Actinobacteria (0.7 %). The BASOL database 718 719 of the French ministry of the ecological and solidarity transition (https:// basol.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/) indicated a recurrent pollution by trichloroethylene 720 and halogenated solvents in this area. *Sulfurospirillum* was previously found to be enriched by 721 722 organohalides, arsenate and selenite, and chlorinated ethenes (Luijten, 2003; Nijenhuis et al., 2005; Buttet et al., 2018). Similarly, Novosphingobium was previously found to be enriched 723 by phenol, aniline, nitrobenzene and phenanthrene (Liu, 2005; Sohn, 2004; Jiao et al., 2017). 724

RDA of the *tpm* meta-barcoding dataset also revealed r-like taxa such as *Pseudomonas extremaustralis*. In fact, one OTU of this species showed positive relationships with car numbers and the quantity of food wastes over the catchment. This species was previously shown to degrade phenols and alkanes (Tribelli et al., 2012). Other r-like *tpm*-harboring species likely taking benefits from the occurrence of hydrocarbon pollutants over the catchment were further detected by Faprotax analyses such as *Aeromonas jadensis*, *P. putida*, *P. mendocina*, *P. pseudoalcaligenes* and *P. fluorescens*. Furthermore, three OTUs showed a
distribution pattern indicative of an opportunistic development among old deposits containing
high concentrations of poorly degradable pollutants including metallic trace elements (Cd, Cr
and Ni) and naphthalene, and fourteen among recent deposits/sediments previously shown
enriched in chrysene content (Aigle et al., 2021).

736 Microbiological hazards associated with urban surface microbiomes

Previous reports suggested an increase in virulence gene loads among K-strategists from 737 highly selective systems (e. g. Song et al., 2017). Bacterial pathogens were thus searched 738 among the tpm meta-barcoding dataset, and their distribution biases were analyzed. The 739 740 following bacterial pathogens were recorded over the catchment: Aeromonas hydrophila, A. 741 caviae, Stenotrophomonas maltophilia, P. aeruginosa, P. anguilliseptica, P. mendocina, P. 742 syringae, P. amygdali, Xanthomonas axonopodis, X. hortorum and X. cannabis. The latter species, X. cannabis, was the most common tpm-harboring phytopathogen recorded in the 743 samples, and was previously described to infect more than 350 plant species including 744 Cannabis sativa (Netsu et al., 2014). However, most of these tpm-harboring bacterial 745 pathogens appeared to have r-like distribution patterns except P. aeruginosa and P. syringae. 746 747 Viable P. aeruginosa cells had previously been recorded among urban sediments of the detention basin of this catchment at about 10^5 CFU g dw⁻¹ (Bernardin-Souibgui et al., 2018). 748 Furthermore, P. aeruginosa was found to have a conserved distribution pattern in these 749 750 sediments, whatever their pollution content, through the *tpm* meta-barcoding approach (Aigle et al., 2021). This latter species was thus clearly part of the K strategists being able to survive 751 and grow over the city surfaces. Interestingly, variations in P. aeruginosa cell counts or of 752 their matching tpm DNA read numbers were not found correlated with the FIB dataset 753 suggesting distinct habitats over the catchment. 754

Urban socio-urbanistic patterns associated with the distribution of the *tpm* sequence types 755 756 of P. aeruginosa and P. syringae were investigated at the sub-species level. This led to the first observation of P. s. pathovar aceris, P. s. panici, P. s. japonica, P. s. aptata, P. s. 757 758 maculicola, and P. s. pisi among urban runoffs. Otu00036 affiliated to P. syringae pathovar aceris previously showed higher number of reads among old sediments containing high 759 concentrations in naphthalene, cadmium, chrome and nickel (Aigle et al., 2021). However, 760 761 this latter OTU did not show any particular distribution biases over the catchment. Regarding 762 P. aeruginosa, using the correspondence table reported by Colin et al. (2020), the recorded tpm sequences could be attributed to PAO1- and PA14-like sub-clades and MLST groups 763 764 such as ST252 involved in non-CF (cystic fibrosis) infections, and ST2123/ST226 and ST175/ST2042 found in lung, urinary tract and blood infections. The PA14 OTU00056 765 showed a tropism for sampling sites with high numbers of gasoline engines, suggesting a use 766 767 of petrol-derivatives as C-sources. The above classifications were validated through the analysis of P. aeruginosa isolates obtained from runoffs. These analyses confirmed the 768 769 occurrence of bacterial pathogens among urban surface K-strategists. However, contribution 770 of their virulence properties in their establishment among urban surface microbiomes remains to be demonstrated. 771

772 **5.** Conclusions

Understanding the complexity of urban surface microbiomes requires (i) the identification of the sources of microbial taxa seeding these systems, and (ii) of the key selective forces triggering changes in their assemblages, and favoring the emergence of efficient functional units. Here, socio-urbanistic surveys were undertaken to better define these forces and sources. The surveyed variables led to significant groupings of urban typologies matching segregations observed among the microbiological datasets (FIB, MST, DNA meta-barcoding) generated from runoff samples. This was clearly indicative of well-established K-like

synurbic bacterial taxa over the catchment. The most significant selective forces explaining 780 781 the success of these K taxa were related to urban pollutants. A large module of co-occurring actinobacterial taxa involved in hydrocarbon degradation was resolved from the 16S rRNA 782 783 gene dataset. Among these K-like hydrocarbon degraders, bacterial pathogens were observed such as P. aeruginosa and P. syringae. These urban surface bacterial assemblages were also 784 found to be made of opportunistic r-like taxa. In fact, an industrial point source pollution 785 likely involving trichloroethylene and halogenated solvents was associated with a significant 786 787 re-shuffle of the microbiota, and a burst in Novosphingobium and Sulfurospirillum. The high impact of urban pollutants on these urban microbiomes was also further supported by the 788 789 observation of r-like *tpm*-harboring species known to play part in hydrocarbon degradation such as P. extremaustralis. 790

The generated meta-barcoding datasets presented here, and the investigated long – term experimental site, will be highly useful for studies to come on the evaluation of the ecological benefits associated with a reduction of gasoline engines over a city. The evolving state of the genetic structures of a surface urban microbiome is likely to be a very good indicator of the ecological benefits associated with such changes.

796 Credit authorship contribution statement

797 Rayan Bouchali: conceptualization, data curation, formal analysis, writing - original draft. Claire Mandon: conceptualization, data curation, formal analysis. Romain Marti: 798 799 conceptualization, data curation, formal analysis. Jérôme Michalon: conceptualization, formal analysis. Axel Aigle: formal analysis. Laurence Marjolet: data curation, formal 800 analysis. Sophie Vareilles: conceptualization, data curation. Gislain Lipeme-Kouvi: 801 conceptualization, data curation and analyses, writing - review & editing. Philippe Polomé: 802 803 data curation and analyses, writing - review & editing. Jean-Yves Toussaint: data curation, writing - review & editing. Benoit Cournoyer: conceptualization, data curation, formal 804 805 analysis, funding acquisition, project administration and supervision, writing - original draft, writing - review & editing. 806

807 Declaration of Competing Interest

808 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal 809 relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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1019 Figure captions

Fig. 1. Graphical representations of (A) the Mi-plaine catchment of Chassieu (Suburbs of 1020 1021 Lyon, France) and (B) of the adjusted Wallace inferences indicating organizational proximities between the observed industrial and commercial activities of this catchment. (A) 1022 Relative importance of shops, restaurants and industries in terms of number of employees was 1023 1024 indicated by a grey scale (dark values = high numbers). Runoff water sampling sites (C code) are numbered and positioned on the map. The outlet of the watershed is located at C23, and 1025 corresponds to a stormwater infiltration system (SIS). Industrial, commercial, and social 1026 activities and their traces are listed in Tables S1 and S2. These activities were analyzed over 1027 an area of 50 m of diameter around each sampling point. In (B), Adjusted Wallace inferences 1028 allowed to identify two large groups, I (brownish dotted lines) and II (dark green dotted lines) 1029 1030 of industrial/commercial activities. In (A), groups III (red background – high intensity area) and IV (blue background - low intensity area) were defined according to significant 1031 1032 relationships inferred from the behavioral variables. Representative sites of groups III and IV 1033 are shown in **Fig. 2**. **Fig. 3** indicates the main socio-urbanistic variables impacting these sites. Yellow circles in (A) indicate human fecal contaminations, yellow and green circles indicate a 1034 human fecal contamination associated with the presence of integron 1, and green circles of 1035 1036 integron 1. E. coli and intestinal enterococci were recorded among all sub-catchments (Table **S3**). 1037

Fig. 2. Representative urban typologies for the socio-urbanistic groups III and IV observed over the Mi-plaine catchment. Group III was illustrated by sampling point C19, and group IV by C18. See **Table S1** for a description of the other sampling points. Aerial views show the runoff water flow directions which led to a delimitation of the sub-catchment. Economical activities, traffic intensity, human behaviors and wastes recorded during the socio-urbanistic surveys are also indicated by symbols defined on the figure. Photographs (the yellow arrow indicates the direction of the selected view) illustrate the main typologies observed over the selected sub-catchments, and were taken from the sections indicated by dotted yellow rectangles on the aerial views. Position of the sampling code numbers (C18 or C19) indicated the point of collect of runoff waters. Human fecal contamination is indicated by a small yellow circle while the yellow/green circle indicates a human fecal contamination associated with integron 1.

Fig. 3. Spearman correlation tests exploring relationships between the repartition of industries 1050 and commercial activities, and of general descriptors of human activities, over the Mi-plaine 1051 urban catchment. Only Rho factors > 0.6 that linked significantly (p<0.05) these variables 1052 were considered to draw these networks. Green circles represent the surveyed industries; 1053 orange ones represent general descriptors of human activities. Variables in agreement with the 1054 definition of Group II (shown in Fig. 1) are circled with a plain line. Socio-urbanistic 1055 variables with high correlations are shown with dotted circles, and the selected representative 1056 1057 variables of these groups were circled with a plain line. The datasets are shown in Tables S2b, 1058 c.

Fig. 4. NMDS representation of the Bray-Curtis dissimilarity matrix (Table S13) computed
from the 16S rRNA gene OTU profiles (Table S6) of runoff water samples (except C14)
according to the groups of sampling points defined by the socio-urbanistic surveys. (a) group I
and II and (b) group III and IV. See Figs. 1 and 2 and text for a description of these groups.
Adonis statistical tests showed significant differentiation between 16S rRNA gene OTU
profiles of (a) groups I and II, and (b) groups III and IV, (p<0.01).

Fig. 5. Chord diagram showing the distribution of the 19 dominant 16S rRNA-inferred genera
(relative abundance > 0.5 %) among the runoff water samples from the investigated urban
catchment. Full dataset of taxonomic allocations is shown in Table S11. These genera

1068 grouped about half of the reads and almost 80% of those that could be allocated to well-1069 defined taxa. The average relative abundance (among the three sampling campaigns) is 1070 indicated for each genus. Genera in bold were affiliated to the core-microbiome (present in all 1071 the samples).

Fig. 6. Correlation networks computed from the fast greedy modularity optimization method 1072 1073 of the MENA pipeline for (a) the 16S rRNA gene inferred genera and (b) the *tpm*-harboring bacterial species. Only bacterial taxa detected in at least 25 (for the 16S rRNA gene dataset) 1074 or 10 (for the *tpm* one) runoff water samples were used to compute the correlation networks. 1075 Spearman correlations above 0.7 are presented. Global properties of the two networks are 1076 indicated in Tables S14 and S21. Module-EigenGene analyses were computed to highlight 1077 1078 relationships between 16S rRNA-based or tpm modules, and the physico-chemical or socio-1079 urbanistic variables. The significant correlation ratios between the modules and the explanatory variables are indicated in boxes. Only correlations over 0.5 (for the 16S rRNA 1080 1081 gene dataset) or 0.4 (for the *tpm* one) are shown. Asterisks indicate Spearman correlations pvalues < 0.001. Genera and specie showed in bold indicate taxa involved in hydrocarbon 1082 degradation. 1083

Fig. 7. Chord diagram showing the distribution of the 44 dominant *tpm*-harboring bacterial species (relative abundance > 0.1 %) among the runoff water samples from the Mi-Plaine catchment of Chassieu (**Table S16**). These species grouped 45 % of the *tpm* reads. Average relative abundances (among the three sampling campaign) of each *tpm*-harboring bacterial species are indicated. Species in bold were affiliated to the core-microbiome of the runoff water and had a prevalence >50%.

41



Figure 1. Bouchali et al.







Bouchali et al. Fig.4







Bouchali et al.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

