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Microbial community assembly in an evolving ecosystem

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Acknowledgements

“Completing a thesis represents a coming of age not just scientifically, but also educationally and personally. It signals the passing of an intellectual milestone — from a student under the care of a supervisor to an individual who asks questions of their own” (The past, present and future of the PhD thesis, Nature, 2016)

In most acknowledgements, people start by thanking their co-workers and parents. I want to change that. I want to start by giving my thanks to you — for picking up this thesis and hopefully reading at least a few dozen pages to reach this final discourse. If that isn't completely true and you've gotten this far by merely flicking through the chapters, counting how many there are and tallying those that are published. That is also fine, and I salute you for such an effort in and of itself. But before I give thanks to those that made this book possible, please, take the time to flip back a few pages and read this thesis from the beginning, like a book should be read.

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Francisco Dini-Andreote

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