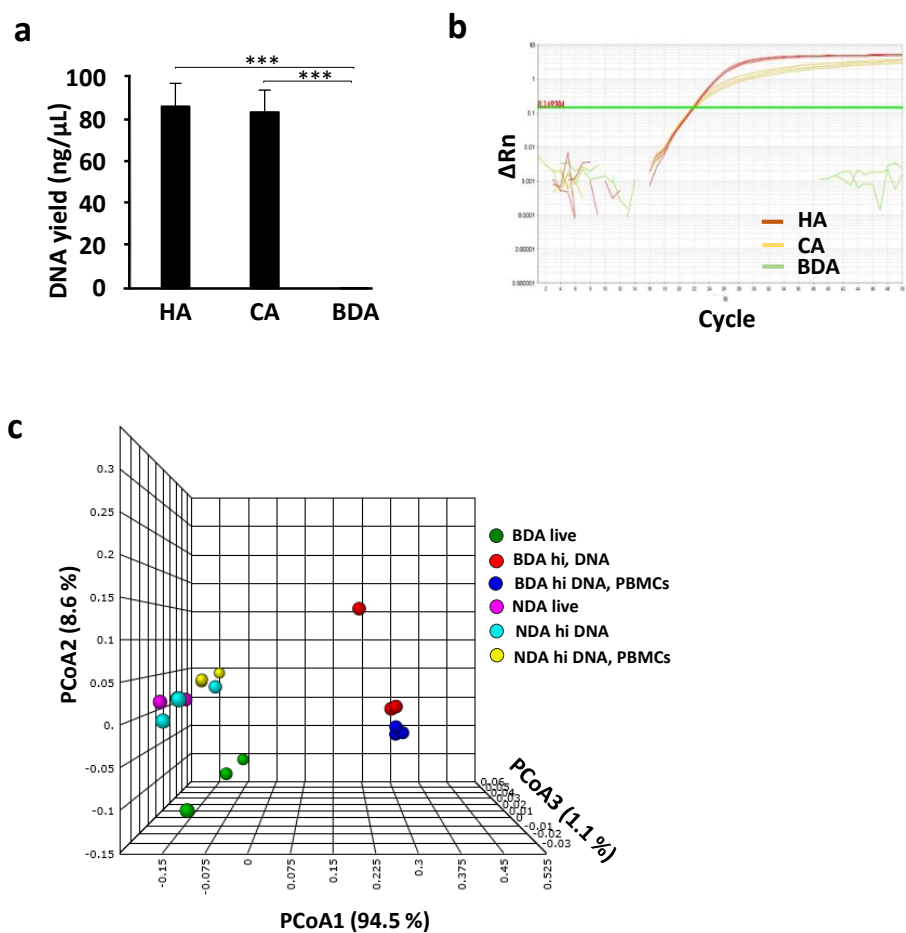


Supplementary Figure S2



Benzonase digest approach efficiently depletes dead bacteria and host DNA reads with no impact on microbiota composition. **a)** DNA yields from a skin mock community supplemented with 3×10^5 PBMCs/sample and processed with different extraction methods: HA (Human blood kit), CA (conventional approach for bacteria DNA extraction) and the BDA (benzonase digest approach). **b)** Real-time PCR plot of human DNA reads corresponding to the mock community supplemented with PBMCs extracted using different approaches. **c)** The principal coordinate analysis plot (PCoA) of β -diversity shows the ability of BDA to eliminate human DNA reads from PBMCs as well as DNA from heat inactivated bacterial cells (from *P. aeruginosa* and *P. mirabilis*) and free bacterial DNA (*B. simplex*). BDA (benzonase-digest approach), NDA (non-benzonase-digest approach). PBMCs (human peripheral blood mono nuclear cells). Live (mock community comprising living bacteria), hi (heat inactivated *P. aeruginosa* and *P. mirabilis*), DNA (free DNA from *B. simplex*)