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## ***Interactive comment on “High diversity of nitrogen-fixing bacteria in upper reaches of Heihe River, Northwestern China” by X. S. Tai et al.***

**X. S. Tai et al.**

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Dear M. K. Cheung: Thank you very much for your helpful suggestions. We will deal with them seriously in revised paper according to your comments. For the question 7 and 10, our reply is as follows: Phylogenetic dendrogram based on a comparison of the *nifH* sequences of clone libraries from shrub and meadow soils and some of their closest phylogenetic relatives. The tree was created using the neighbor-joining method. The numbers on the tree indicate the percentage of bootstrap sampling derived from 1000 replications. The tree is based on nucleotides. A total of 64 *nifH* clones of the unique RFLP patterns were sequenced and used for tree calculation. The representatives which most closely related to the *nifH* sequences in GenBank database were obtained by BLAST, coupled with the nucleotides of sequenced clones, the alignment

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was done with ClustalX (version 1.8). In case any questions arise, please contact me!  
Best wishes for you! Sincerely yours, X. S. Tai

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, 5015, 2013.

**BGD**

10, C1529–C1530, 2013

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