

Phenotypic characterization of an international *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* reference panel: strains of cystic fibrosis (CF) origin show less in vivo virulence than non-CF strains

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1 **Phenotypic characterisation of an international *Pseudomonas aeruginosa***
2 **reference panel: Strains of cystic fibrosis origin show less *in vivo* virulence**
3 **than non-CF strains**

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27

28 **Abstract:**

29 *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* causes chronic lung infections in people with cystic fibrosis (CF) and acute
30 opportunistic infections in people without CF. Forty two *P. aeruginosa* strains from a range of
31 clinical and environmental sources were collated into a single reference strain panel to harmonise
32 research on this diverse opportunistic pathogen. To facilitate further harmonized and comparable
33 research on *P. aeruginosa*, we characterised the panel strains for growth rates, motility, virulence in
34 the *Galleria mellonella* infection model, pyocyanin and alginate production, mucoid phenotype,
35 lipopolysaccharide (LPS) pattern, biofilm formation, urease activity, antimicrobial and phage
36 susceptibilities. Phenotypic diversity across the *P. aeruginosa* panel was apparent for all phenotypes
37 examined agreeing with the marked variability seen in this species. However, except for growth
38 rate, the phenotypic diversity among strains from CF versus non-CF sources was comparable. CF
39 strains were less virulent in the *G. mellonella* model than non-CF strains ($p=0.037$). Transmissible CF
40 strains generally lacked O antigen, produced less pyocyanin, and had low virulence in *G. mellonella*.
41 Further, in the three sets of sequential CF strains, virulence, O-antigen expression and pyocyanin
42 production were higher in the earlier isolate compared to the isolate obtained later in infection.
43 Overall, full phenotypic characterization of the defined panel of *P. aeruginosa* strains increases our
44 understanding of the virulence and pathogenesis of *P. aeruginosa* and may provide a valuable
45 resource for the testing of novel therapies against this problematic pathogen.

46

47

48 INTRODUCTION

49 *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a Gram-negative bacterium that causes opportunistic infections
50 including burn wound infections, urinary tract infections, keratitis, otitis externa and respiratory
51 tract infections in susceptible individuals. *P. aeruginosa* is a major pulmonary pathogen in people
52 with cystic fibrosis (CF), contributing significantly to their observed decline in lung function and
53 morbidity, with over 50% of people with CF being chronically colonised by adulthood. Most of the
54 extensive research carried out on *P. aeruginosa* has focussed on selected strains (e.g. PAO1 or
55 PA14), several of which are genotypically distinct from the more abundant clinical strains (De Soyza
56 *et al.*, 2013). It has been widely demonstrated that *P. aeruginosa* is a highly diverse species
57 (Fothergill *et al.*, 2010; Mowat *et al.*, 2011). Given the diversity and adaptability of *P. aeruginosa* in a
58 broad range of environments, including non-clinical settings such as soil, lake water and plants,
59 research focusing on a single or very small number of strains may lead to conclusions that are not
60 relevant to the clinical scenario or the infection being examined. To address this, we collated an
61 international *P. aeruginosa* reference panel allowing better consolidation of research into the
62 pathogenesis of this organism (De Soyza *et al.*, 2013). Certain *P. aeruginosa* strains from CF patients
63 are genotypically indistinguishable from environmental strains despite the extensive differences in
64 habitats (Wiehlmann *et al.*, 2007). Therefore, the panel comprised 42 strains that were selected to
65 represent the diversity across *P. aeruginosa* and included strains from a wide variety of clinical and
66 environmental sources. In addition, strains from a range of geographical regions, transmissible
67 (epidemic) CF strains and representatives of sequential strains from early to late (i.e. chronic) CF
68 infection were incorporated into the panel (De Soyza *et al.*, 2013).

69 Several panel strains have been studied previously and specific virulence properties and other traits
70 have been examined in individual strains or compared across small groups of strains. Here, we
71 report the phenotypic characterisation of the panel, including growth characteristics, motility,
72 virulence in *Galleria mellonella*, production of alginate and virulence factors, including pyocyanin
73 and LPS; urease activity, biofilm formation, quorum sensing (QS), antibiotic resistance and phage
74 susceptibility. Our aims were to facilitate the future use of this panel for broad comparisons across a
75 wide range of phenotypes and to compare the strains of CF and non-CF origin for phenotypic
76 differences that depend on their particular niches.

77 METHODS

78 **Growth conditions.** The strain panel is available from the BCCM/LMG Bacteria Collection, Gent,
79 Belgium, (<http://bccm.belspo.be/about/lmg.php>) (Table 1) (De Soyza *et al.*, 2013). The original panel
80 comprised of 43 strains; however, strain NN2 was withdrawn from the BCCM collection and
81 excluded from this study due to inconsistencies in its taxonomic identity when it was shared across
82 the multiple laboratories who participated in the current research. Strains were routinely grown on
83 Tryptone Soya Agar (TSA; Oxoid Ltd., UK) overnight (16-18 h) at 37°C. Overnight broth cultures were
84 prepared by inoculating 3 ml Luria Bertani broth (LB; Oxoid) with fresh growth from a pure streak
85 plate. Cultures were grown for 16-18 h at 37°C, shaking at 150 rpm.

86
87 **Growth curve analysis.** Growth was examined on a Bioscreen C instrument (Labsystems, Finland) in
88 200 µl Mueller-Hinton broth (MHB) inoculated with approximately 10^5 cfu ml⁻¹. Growth in liquid
89 culture was monitored for 48 h at 37°C and turbidity measurements were taken every 15 min after
90 shaking the microplates for 10 sec. A scatterplot was used to visualise growth curves and the growth
91 parameters were analysed with the grofit package (Kahm *et al.*, 2010) using R statistical software (R-
92 Core-Team, 2013). Strains producing growth curves which could not be modelled accurately by
93 grofit (discordance between model and model-free-spline fits) were excluded. The distribution of
94 growth parameter data was examined with BoxPlotR (Michaela *et al.*, 2014).

95
96 **Virulence in the *G. mellonella* larva infection model.** Virulence was determined according to
97 published methods (Lore *et al.*, 2012), with some modifications. Wax moth larvae (Livefoods Direct,
98 Sheffield, UK) were stored at 15°C and used within 4 weeks. Overnight bacterial cultures in LB were
99 diluted 1:10 and grown to an OD_{600nm} of 0.4-0.8. Cultures were centrifuged and bacterial cells
100 resuspended in 10 mM MgSO₄ (Sigma-Aldrich) and serially diluted to 10⁻⁹. Each dilution was injected
101 (10 µl) into the hindmost proleg of healthy larvae (6 per group). The same volume of MgSO₄ was
102 injected into one group as a control. To preserve the mucoid phenotype of IST27, it and its non-
103 mucoid revertant were serially diluted directly from *Pseudomonas* Isolation Agar (PIA) plates prior to
104 infection. Bioburden was determined by plating 10 µl of each dilution onto LB agar and colonies
105 counted after 24 h. Injected larvae were incubated at 37°C for 24 h and LD₅₀ values determined using
106 log graph paper.

107
108 **Motility assays.** Agar concentrations were prepared by adding molecular biology grade agarose
109 (Severn Biotech Ltd., UK) to either LB or Basal Salts Medium supplemented with 0.4% (w/v) glucose
110 (BSM-G) and all agar plates were poured on an even surface. At least two biological replicates per

111 strain were performed for each assay (Rashid & Kornberg, 2000). Swimming motility was assessed
112 by inoculating the surface of a 0.3% (w/v) LB agar plate with overnight culture using a sterile
113 toothpick. Swimming plates were incubated overnight at 37°C for 16-18 hours. Media used to assess
114 swarming motility were 0.5% (w/v) LB agar and BSM-G agar. Swarming plates were surface
115 inoculated with growth from an overnight culture using a sterile toothpick, incubated at 30°C for 16-
116 18 h. The diameters of the swimming and swarming zones were calculated by taking an average of
117 two perpendicular measurements. Strains were scored as non-motile (diameter \leq 5 mm), motile
118 (diameter $>$ 5 mm and \leq 60 mm), or highly motile (diameter $>$ 60 mm) in swimming and swarming
119 assays.

120 Twitching motility was assessed using 1% (w/v) LB agar. Twitch plates were stab inoculated to
121 the base of the petri dish with an overnight culture. Following incubation for 16-18 h at 37°C, twitch
122 plates were dried and agar removed before zones of motility at the agar/petri dish interface were
123 stained with 0.5% (w/v) Coomassie brilliant blue R250 (Sigma-Aldrich) for 2 min (McMichael, 1992).
124 After removal of excess stain, diameter of twitching zones was calculated by taking an average of
125 two perpendicular measurements. Strains were scored as non-motile (diameter \leq 5 mm), motile
126 (diameter $>$ 5 mm and \leq 30 mm), or highly motile (diameter $>$ 30 mm).

127

128 **Auxotrophy.** Approximately 50,000 cells were spotted on either Mueller Hinton Agar (MHA) or
129 Davis Minimal Agar (DMA). The strains that grew on both media were considered prototrophs,
130 whereas those growing on MHA but not on DMA were considered auxotrophs and subjected to
131 further analysis. Identification of specific amino acid requirements was done using DMA
132 supplemented with: 1) single or multiple amino acids at concentrations of 20 $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$; or 2)
133 combinations of 19 amino acids at 20 $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ (Fluka, Switzerland) (Barth & Pitt, 1995). Control agar,
134 such as MHA and DMA without amino acids, was included in all tests; plates were incubated at 37°C
135 for 48 h.

136

137 **Production of N-acyl homoserine lactones (AHLs).** AHL production was determined using biosensor
138 strains *Escherichia coli* JB523 (Andersen et al., 2001) and *P. aeruginosa* QSIS2 (Rasmussen et al.,
139 2005) as previously described (Brackman et al., 2009). Supernatants of 24-h *P. aeruginosa* cultures
140 grown in MHB at 37°C were added to the biosensor strains and fluorescence (JB523 assay, λ_{ex} 475
141 nm; λ_{em} 515 nm) or absorbance (QSIS2 assay) was measured using an Envision Xcite multilabel
142 platereader (Perkin Elmer). For the JB523 assay, which produces green fluorescent protein [GFP] in
143 response to the presence of QS molecules, data were presented as background corrected
144 fluorescence values. These values were obtained by subtracting the fluorescence measured in the

145 sensor strain to which uninoculated MHB was added from the value measured for each strain. This
146 biosensor is most sensitive to 3-oxo-C6-homoserine lactone (HSL), C6-HSL and 3-oxo-C8 HSL. In the
147 QSI2 assay, growth was repressed by the presence of QS molecules (mainly 3-oxo-C12 HSL). For this
148 assay, the control to which 200 nM of 3-oxo-C12-HSL and C4-HSL (each) was added was set as “100%
149 QS” and the control to which no N-acyl-HSL or supernatant was added, was set as “0% QS”.

150

151 **Biofilm formation.** Each strain was loop-inoculated from agar slants into LB (5 ml) and cultured
152 overnight. Aliquots were diluted 1:100 in 10 ml of either MHB, LB or glucose-supplemented M63
153 medium (M63) composed of 0.02 M KH_2PO_4 , 0.04 M K_2HPO_4 , 0.02 M $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$, 0.1 mM MgSO_4 and
154 0.04 M glucose. After mixing, 150 μl of bacterial suspension were inoculated into 96-well plates, 10
155 wells per plate, per strain and incubated 37°C for 24, 48, or 72 h. Media were aspirated and the
156 wells washed thrice with PBS before staining with 0.1% crystal violet (CV) after which time the wells
157 were washed with PBS until washes were clear. The CV was solubilized in 70% ethanol and
158 absorbance measured at 570 nm.

159

160 **Pyocyanin production.** Pyocyanin was determined as previously described (Essar *et al.*, 1990) using
161 PB medium (Bactopeptone, MgCl_2 , K_2SO_4) to maximize pyocyanin production in liquid culture,
162 chloroform for extraction and subsequently HCl for re-extraction. The absorbance of the final
163 solution was measured at 520 nm.

164

165 **Phage typing.** Eight strictly lytic *P. aeruginosa* bacteriophages with sequenced genomes (Table S1)
166 were used: LUZ7, LUZ19, LBL3, and ϕKZ , from the collection of the Laboratory of Gene Technology,
167 KU Leuven, Belgium (Ceyssens & Lavigne, 2010), and newly isolated phages KT28, KTN6, KTN4, and
168 PA5oct from the Institute of Genetics and Microbiology collection, University of Wroclaw, Poland.
169 Phage typing was performed following previously published methods (Adams, 1959; Kutter, 2009).
170 Prior to phage sensitivity testing, bacteria were subcultured in TSB (Becton Dickinson, Cockeysville,
171 MD) for 4 to 6 h. To determine bacterial susceptibility to phage-mediated lysis, bacteria grown on
172 liquid TSB medium were transferred directly onto TSA. After drying, 10 μl of phage suspensions (10^4
173 PFU ml^{-1}) were applied and incubated at 37°C. The plates were checked for the presence of bacterial
174 lysis.

175

176 **Antibiotic resistance.** Minimum inhibitory concentrations were performed independently in two
177 separate laboratories using two broth dilution methods, a commercial antibiotic panel TRIOS
178 (Prague, Czech Republic), and Trek Diagnostics Sensititre (UK). Results were read at 24 and 48 h. In

179 the instances where there was complete disagreement between these methods, E test MIC's
180 BioMérieux (UK) were also performed. All results were interpreted following EUCAST guidelines
181 (EUCAST, version 3.1, 11.2.2013; http://www.eucast.org/clinical_breakpoints).

182

183 **Quantification of urease activity.** Individual strains were cultured overnight in Christensen broth
184 (gelatine peptone 1 g, D(+)-glucose 1 g, sodium chloride 5 g, disodium phosphate 1.2 g, potassium
185 dihydrogen phosphate 2 g, urea 20 g, phenol red 0.012 g in 1000 ml, pH 6.8) at 37°C with shaking.
186 Fresh Christensen broth was inoculated at a ratio of 1:100 (v/v) with overnight culture and re-
187 cultured as above. Cultures were centrifuged (3000 g, 15 min) and the absorbance of cell
188 supernatants at 560 nm measured in triplicate. Medium without urea was used as negative control.

189

190

191 **LPS extraction and analysis.** Overnight cultures were adjusted to an OD₆₀₀ of 2.0 in PBS (1 ml). Cells
192 were lysed in 2% SDS, 4% β-mercaptoethanol and Tris (pH 6.8) and boiled for 10 min. The lysates
193 were treated with proteinase K at 60°C for 2 h and stored at -20°C. LPS was resolved by
194 electrophoresis on 14% polyacrylamide/Glycine-SDS gels (Lesse *et al.*, 1990; Schagger & von Jagow,
195 1987) and visualised by silver staining (Marolda *et al.*, 1990).

196

197 **Analysis of alginate production.** Overnight cultures inoculated with single colonies of either the
198 characteristic mucoid or nonmucoid phenotype, observed following 24-48 h of growth on PIA plates
199 at 37°C, were adjusted to an OD₆₀₀ of 2.0 in PBS. Alginate production was determined by ethanol
200 precipitation of the exopolysaccharide from cell-free supernatants and quantification of uronic acids
201 by the modified carbazole method using sodium alginate from *Laminaria hyperborean* as standard
202 (BDH Chemicals Ltd., Poole, England) (Knutson & Jeanes, 1968). Alginate production based on
203 bacterial growth on solid medium was also assessed using LB and PIA. Plates were inoculated with
204 100 µl of a cell suspension harvested during the exponential phase of growth and resuspended to
205 obtain a standardized OD₆₄₀ of 0.2 ± 0.02. After growth for 24 h at 37°C, cultures were scraped from
206 the plates, resuspended in 0.9% NaCl and harvested at 20,000 g for 10 min and supernatants used
207 for alginate quantification.

208

209 **Statistical analysis.** Unless otherwise indicated all statistical analyses were performed using Minitab
210 statistical software package (v15). The distribution of each quantifiable phenotype was determined
211 by plotting the mean data against the frequency in histograms. To confirm the data distribution
212 observed, an Anderson Darling Test for Normality was performed (p<0.05, considered non-

213 normal). Virulence, swimming, swarming on LB and BSM-G agar, AHL, alginate and pyocyanin
214 production, growth rate and biofilm formation on MH, LB and M63 media were all found to have
215 non-normal data distribution. Twitching motility and lag-phase phenotypes followed a normal data
216 distribution. In addition, the effect of source of the strain (i.e. CF versus non-CF), on phenotype was
217 determined using a general linear model for normally distributed data and Kruskal-Wallis analysis for
218 non-normal distribution. A total of 25 strains were in the CF group and 17 in the non-CF group,
219 including both environmental and non-CF clinical strains. To determine if strain source had an effect
220 on mean data variability, a test for equal variances was carried out by the F-test for normally
221 distributed data and by Levene's test in the cases of non-normally distributed data.

222 Principal component analysis.

223 Principal component analysis (PCA) was performed on all quantifiable phenotype data using Minitab
224 (Version 15). A total of 15 phenotypes were included: *in vivo* virulence, swimming motility,
225 swarming motility (BSM-G, LB), twitching motility, QS (QSIST, JB523), alginate production, pyocyanin
226 production, growth rate, lag phase and BF (LB, M63, MH), CF/ non CF were included in the analysis.

227 RESULTS

228 Growth curve analysis

229 The growth curves (Fig. S1) revealed considerable variability in the growth dynamics of each strain.
230 The majority of the strains reached their maximum optical density by 15 h and could be split into
231 two groups: one reaching a higher optical density (> 0.25) and the other reaching a lower density ($<$
232 0.20) (Table 1). This has been illustrated in greater detail in the boxplot in Fig. 1(a), which resolved
233 the maximum culture density data for the panel strains into two broad groups. According to this
234 analysis, only one strain (AMT 0023-34) was classified as having an intermediate maximum culture
235 density at 15 h, while the others fell into high and low culture density groups. The widely studied
236 PAO1 strain reached the highest culture density within 15 h (Fig 1(a)).

237 The grofit package for R statistical software was used to better model growth curve
238 parameters (length of lag phase, maximum growth rate and maximum culture density reached), up
239 to 30 h growth. Most of the transmissible strains (LES B58, LES 400, LES 431 and C3719), in addition
240 to NH57388A and Mil 162, had growth curves that could not be modelled accurately by grofit,
241 possibly because of their long lag phase and/or poorly defined exponential phase. Growth
242 parameters for the remaining 36 strains are displayed in Table 2S and boxplots summarise the
243 spread of the data (Fig. 1(b)). Outliers indicated in the boxplots are strain 968333S, which had a
244 longer lag phase (8.8 h) than the maximum value for all strains (upper whisker = 8.0 hours); 2192
245 and AMT 0023-34. The latter two strains had longer lag phases (8.0 and 7.9 h, respectively) than the
246 maximum value for CF strains (upper whisker = 7.48). In addition, strains 968333S, AUS52, AUS23
247 and UCBPP-PA14 reached a lower maximum OD (0.13, 0.16, 0.19 and 0.26, respectively) than the
248 minimum value for all strains (lower whisker = 0.29).

249

250 Autotrophy analysis

251 Only four auxotrophs were identified in the panel. The CF strain, AUS23 and bronchiectasis strain
252 968333S required histidine, while the transmissible strain LES B58 required methionine and CF strain
253 NH57388A required both isoleucine and valine. In addition, the transmissible strain LES 400 was an
254 apparent prototroph as it grew weakly on minimal medium, but grew abundantly in the presence of
255 threonine.

256

257 **Virulence in the *G. mellonella* model**

258 The majority of strains were virulent in *G. mellonella* with 31 strains showing LD50 values at 24 h of
259 less than 5 CFU (Table 1). Virulence was non-normally distributed (Anderson-Darling $p < 0.005$).
260 When strains that were isolated from CF sources were compared with those that were isolated from
261 other sources, the most striking outcome was that CF strains were significantly less virulent in this
262 acute infection model than strains that were not of CF origin (Kruskal-Wallis, $p = 0.037$) (Fig 2).
263 Furthermore, the CF transmissible strains showed considerably low virulence in *G. mellonella*, with
264 six of the eight transmissible strains showing LD50s greater than 650 CFU. Four of these strains (LES
265 B58, LES400, LES431 and C3719) were also those that had long lag phase or poorly defined
266 exponential phases. In contrast, transmissible strains DK2 and AUS23 showed LD50 values ranging
267 between 0.5-2 CFU. The earliest identified LES strain (LES B58) was the most virulent of the three
268 LES strains (LES B58, LES 400 and LES 431). The sequential CF strains (AA2, AA43 and AA44;
269 AMT0023-30 and AMT0023-34; AMT0060-1, AMT0060-2 and AMT0060-3) showed a reduction in
270 virulence over time of chronic infection (Fig 2), consistent with previous studies regarding niche
271 adaptation of *P. aeruginosa* to the CF lung environment (Bragonzi *et al.*, 2009; Lore *et al.*, 2012).

272

273 **Motility of *P. aeruginosa* strains**

274 Motility was variable across the panel with the majority of strains ($n = 38$) displaying at least one form
275 of motility (Table 1, Fig S2). The only observable general trend identified was a higher proportion of
276 CF strains were non-motile compared to those from non-CF sources. Four of the five non-motile
277 strains (LES 400, LES 431, C3719 and AUS52), and four of the five strains capable of only swimming
278 (LES B58, AES-1R, AMT 0023-34 and AMT 0060-2) were CF strains. Furthermore, two of the three
279 sets of sequential strains showed a loss in motility over time of colonisation; the early strain AMT
280 0060-3 showed more swarming, swimming and twitching motilities relative to the later strain, AMT
281 0060-02; while AMT 0023-30 showing more swarming and twitching motility relative to the later
282 strain, AMT 0023-34. Only two strains (IST 27 mucoid and IST 27N) demonstrated 'true' swarming,
283 indicated by the formation of finger-like projections radiating from the inoculation point (Fig. S2).

284

285 **AHL production**

286 AHL production was assessed using two biosensors with different sensitivities for various types of
287 AHLs (Fig. 3). Given that they are biosensors and are based on entirely different principles, they
288 inherently show some variation. Although a direct comparison of results obtained with the two
289 sensors used is difficult, some general trends emerge. Under the conditions tested, the panel shows
290 wide variation in the AHL levels produced. The supernatants of some strains showed very low

291 signals in both assays (e.g. C3719, AUS23, LMG 14084), while other strains were identified as
292 producers of high levels of AHLs by both systems (AMT 0060-3, IST 27 mucoid, IST 27N, 679, Pr335,
293 U018a, 15108/1 and TBCF10839). Strain 679 (isolated from urine) produced the highest levels as
294 determined by the QSIS2 assay, while RP1 (a CF strain) produced the highest levels in the JB523
295 assay. There was no correlation between AHL levels and the source of the strains. AHL levels did not
296 correlate with time of colonization in sequential CF strains, for example the early strain AA2 and the
297 late strain AA43 both gave low signals in the QSIS2 assay, while the signal from another late strain
298 (AA44) was much higher.

299

300 **Biofilm formation.**

301 Biofilm growth was compared in three media at three time points. All strains formed biofilm to
302 various degrees depending on medium and time (Table S3). Overall, the majority of strains were
303 generally good biofilm producers, including the majority of CF strains (Fig. 4). There was no
304 correlation between biofilm formation at 48 h and the source of the strains (CF v's non-CF), nor were
305 there any apparent differences in diversity between these two groups (Levene's test, $p=0.102$). The
306 strains could be divided into poor biofilm-formers ($A_{570} < 0.350$), intermediate biofilm-formers (A_{570}
307 0.350 to 0.950) and extensive biofilm-formers ($A_{570} > 0.950$). The only weak biofilm former among
308 the CF strains was LES 431, which agrees with a previous report (Carter *et al.*, 2010). Of the other CF
309 strains, seven were intermediate biofilm formers, and the rest were extensive biofilm formers. The
310 weakest biofilm-former among the non-CF strains was the water isolate, LMG 14084.

311 Time was an important parameter: rapid biofilm formers tend to detach over time, while
312 slow biofilm formers steadily increased biofilm biomass until day 3 (Table S3). Therefore
313 comparisons between the biofilm formation capacities of strains should take into account the strain-
314 specific kinetics of biofilm formation. Strains with lower biofilm formation generally produced low
315 or undetectable levels of AHLs, e.g. LMG14084, MI162, NH57388A, AA43, AES-1R, LES431, LES400,
316 PR335, LES B58). Further, strong biofilms were obtained for strains with relatively higher AHL levels
317 (e.g. IST27N, 968333S, AA44, KK1). However, this correlation was not always apparent, e.g. CHA
318 (strong biofilm, low AHL), AUS52 (strong biofilm, no AHL) and PA679 (moderate biofilm, high AHL),
319 indicating that other factors, in addition to AHL production or the presence of an active QS system,
320 play a role in biofilm formation of *P. aeruginosa* under these conditions.

321

322 **Pyocyanin production**

323 Pyocyanin is a major virulence factor of *P. aeruginosa* (Dietrich *et al.*, 2006) and its production was
324 variable across the panel (Table 1). Low pyocyanin was observed in 22 strains ($A_{520} < 0.1$) with 14

325 strains producing very low levels ($A_{520} < 0.05$). In contrast, nine strains showed comparatively high
326 levels of pyocyanin ($A_{520} > 0.3$) (Fig. 5). The pyocyanin levels in the sequential CF strains were lower
327 in the later strain than in the early strain, suggesting that *P. aeruginosa* down-regulates pyocyanin
328 production over time during chronic infection. Most of CF transmissible strains (excluding LES B58
329 and LES 431) produced negligible amounts of pyocyanin. The serotype 1 strains (Pr335, U018a, CPHL
330 9433 and 39177) showed very high levels of pyocyanin. There were no significant differences in
331 pyocyanin between CF and non-CF strains as determined by Kruskal-Wallis test ($p=0.220$), and both
332 CF and non-CF populations showed comparable variation in levels of pyocyanin production (Levene's
333 test, $p=0.237$). There was no clear correlation between pyocyanin and AHL levels, even though
334 pyocyanin is considered to be QS-regulated. Although many strains with very low levels of
335 pyocyanin production only produced low or undetectable levels of AHL and several strains that
336 produced higher levels of pyocyanin produced moderate to high levels of AHL, there were several
337 strains that showed high pyocyanin levels but with low AHL levels (AA2, LMG14084 and 1709-12)
338 and five that produced low pyocyanin, despite high AHL levels (PA968333S, IST27-N, RP1, KK1,
339 AA44).

340

341 **LPS characterisation**

342 LPS is a major virulence factor in *P. aeruginosa* and consists of lipid A, core oligosaccharide and the
343 highly variable long-chain O-polysaccharide (O-antigen) (Kocincova & Lam, 2011). Some *P.*
344 *aeruginosa* strains, including PAO1, simultaneously produce two types of structurally and
345 serologically distinct O-antigens in the same cell (A- and B- bands). The A-band is homopolymeric,
346 while the B-band is heteropolymeric and responsible for serotype specificity. In this study, the two
347 O-antigen bands of PAO1 were detected (Fig. 6), while UCBPP-PA14 lacks the O-antigen the A-band.
348 During CF chronic infections, the O-antigen portion of LPS is often lost (Smith *et al.*, 2006). Indeed,
349 strains LES B58, LES 400 and LES 431, recovered during CF infections, did not exhibit O-antigen as
350 shown previously (Winstanley *et al.*, 2009). Two other transmissible strains also lacked O-antigen,
351 C3719 and DK2, in contrast to AES-1R and AUS23 (Fig. 6). The LPS of the sequential strains AA2
352 (early isolate), AA43 and AA44 (late isolates) is complete and shows an identical O-antigen repeating
353 unit in all three strains. It is possible to distinguish the presence of a B-band in AA2 and AA43, but
354 not in AA44. The late strain AMT 0023-34 lost O-antigen production compared to the initial strain
355 AMT 0023-30 (Fig. 6). Strains Pr335, U018a, CPHL 9433 and 39177 belong to serotype O1 but show a
356 slightly different O-antigen banding pattern (Fig. 6). The strain Jpn1563 has been described as non-
357 typeable and lacks B-band. The LPS of strain 39016, 15108/1, 57P31PA showed complete structures,
358 with the production of both A- and B-bands, but the pattern is distinct from that of PAO1. Another

359 abundant strain, RP1, and non-CF strain 13121/1 showed B-bands only (Fig. 6). Two other non-CF
360 strains, 96833S and 679 showed no O-antigen while strain 2192 showed a low level production of O-
361 antigen side chains (Fig. 6). The CF strain TBCF10839 shows a complete molecule, including O-
362 antigen A- and B-bands. The clinical CF strains IST27 and IST27N have a similar LPS molecule. LPS of
363 these strains as well as of other clinical strains, C3719, DK2, AUS 52, AES-1R, AUS 23, RP1, 15108/1,
364 57P31PA, 13121/1, KK1, A5803, 968333S and 679 have not been previously reported.

365

366 **Alginate production**

367 Strains AMT 0060-2, CHA, IST 27, 968333S and 2192 produced the highest levels of alginate (Table 1,
368 Fig S3(a)) as expected. However, a few strains reported as being mucoid (AA43 and NH57388A) or
369 having upregulated alginate production (LES400) (Bragonzi *et al.*, 2006; Hoffmann *et al.*, 2005;
370 Salunkhe *et al.*, 2005), showed low levels of alginate. Growth of these strains on PIA plates did not
371 generate mucoid colonies, demonstrating that reversion of the mucoid phenotype has occurred
372 upon subculturing. Given that growth conditions affect stability of the mucoid phenotype and
373 alginate production, the alginate production of IST 27 and three other strains grown on either LB or
374 PIA plates was compared. The mucoid strains AMT 0060-2 and IST27 revealed increased alginate
375 production on PIA plates, while the non-mucoid strains produced low alginate amounts on PIA (Fig.
376 S3(b)). Mucoidy is important for virulence; overnight cultures of IST27 mucoid and IST27N strains in
377 LB showed comparable high virulence levels (LD50s of 0.37 and 0.36 for IST27 and IST27N,
378 respectively), while infection of the larvae with mucoid IST 27 from a PIA plate showed a substantial
379 reduction in virulence (mean LD50 of 412 CFU), while the virulence of the non-mucoid strain was
380 comparable with that observed when liquid broth was used (LD50 = 0.98).

381

382 **Phage Typing**

383 Phage typing was carried out using well characterized, genome sequenced, bacteriophages
384 belonging to various genus and with high lytic potency. Two phages represented small podoviruses
385 (LUZ7, LUZ19), three medium size myoviruses were from the *Pbunlikevirus* genus (LBL3, KT28,
386 KTN6) and three giant myoviruses (ϕ KZ, KTN4, PA5oct) were used (Table S1). Phages LUZ19, ϕ KZ,
387 KTN4 and PA5oct require type IV pili for host infection; LUZ7, KT28, KTN6 are LPS-dependent,
388 whereas LBL3 cannot infect either wild type or the PAO1 mutants (Drulis-Kawa and colleagues,
389 unpublished).

390

391 All eight phages combined infected 86% of tested *P. aeruginosa* strains (Table 2). Single phages from
392 the collection were sufficiently potent to propagate 23-46% of *P. aeruginosa* panel strains,
393 regardless of geographic and infection origin. The giant ϕ KZ phage was the most potent, whereas
394 the giant PA5oct infected only 10 strains. Three CF strains (2192, 1709-12, RP1) and two non-CF
395 strains (39016, 39177) were resistant to phage infection, while other three were only intermediate
396 susceptible to LBL3 phage activity (all epidemic LES strains). The analysis of phage typing in
397 sequential strains based on phage receptor specificity gave varying results. The early CF strain, AA2,
398 showed lower susceptibility to phage infection compared to late strains (AA43, AA44). In contrast,
399 the susceptibility to phages did not change during 96-month colonization by AMT 0023 strains; these
400 strains were infected by LPS dependent phages KT28, KTN6 and additionally by LBL3 phage. The
401 phage patterns were almost identical for the mucoid and non-mucoid pair IST 27 and IST 27N.

402

403 **Antibiotic resistance**

404 There was considerable variability in antibiotic susceptibilities within the panel (Table S4). As
405 expected, all strains were sensitive to colistin. With the exception of ticarcillin-clavulanic acid and
406 ofloxacin, proportionately more strains were susceptible than were resistant to the antibiotics
407 tested. In general, CF strains showed resistance to more antibiotics tested than non-CF strains, as
408 expected. Only five CF strains were susceptible to most, but not all antibiotics. Among these
409 susceptible strains, resistance was exhibited as follows: DK2 was resistant to ticarcillin-clavulanic
410 acid; AMT0023-30 and U018a were intermediate to aztreonam; RP1 resistant to piperacillin-
411 tazobactam and ticarcillin-clavulanic acid, while intermediate to aztreonam; the susceptibility of the
412 non-mucoid strain ISTN towards aztreonam was considered indeterminate. Its mucoid variant was
413 susceptible to all antibiotics tested. Not surprisingly, four of these susceptible CF strains were early
414 paediatric strains.

415

416 **Presence of the *ureC* gene and quantification of urease activity**

417 Many bacteria utilise urease to survive in acidic conditions or as a nitrogen source. It is essential to
418 colonisation of many bacterial pathogens, including *Helicobacter pylori* and *Pseudomonas* spp.
419 (Konieczna *et al.*, 2012). All strains produced urease, but it was variable and depended on culture
420 conditions (Fig. S4).

421

422 **Principal component analysis.**

423 In order to determine the degree to which the various virulence factors covaried, we carried out PCA
424 (Fig. S5). The top principal components, with Eigen values greater than 1.3 explained 56.7% of the

425 total variation in the phenotypes, which is relatively low. The first two principal components
426 explained 43.5% of the total variation in these phenotypes. Nevertheless, it did confirm a
427 correlation between low pyocyanin production and high LD50 (low virulence in *G. mellonella*). In
428 addition, strong biofilm formation in LB and M63 media was associated with low pyocyanin,
429 indicative of a trade off between these two phenotypes. Furthermore, an association between high
430 alginate production and low % QS JB523 could be inferred. These relationships are indicated by
431 vectors for the variables pointing in opposite directions on the PCA plot (Fig S5a). In addition, the
432 source of the strains (CF/ non CF), *in vivo* virulence, biofilm formation (in LB, M63) and alginate
433 production were positively correlated. We did not notice CF or non CF strains grouping together
434 based on scatterplots of these principal components (Fig S5a).

435

436

437 DISCUSSION

438 The international panel was assembled to reflect the diversity of sources and geographical origins
439 across *P. aeruginosa*, providing a useful resource for researchers investigating *P. aeruginosa*
440 pathogenesis or novel therapies against this organism (De Soya *et al.*, 2013). The variability in
441 phenotypes demonstrated in this study, highlights the diversity of the panel strains and *P.*
442 *aeruginosa* itself. Considerable genome diversity was previously documented in a series of chronic
443 CF strains (Mowat *et al.*, 2011). More recently, it was demonstrated that recombination events
444 were a key driver in *P. aeruginosa* diversity in CF infection (Darch *et al.*, 2015). We observed that
445 both CF and non-CF groups within the panel showed considerable phenotypic variability across the
446 parameters measured, highlighting that diversity does not appear to be exclusive to *P. aeruginosa*
447 isolated from cystic fibrosis patients.

448 A clear statistically significant difference between the CF and non-CF strains was the lower
449 virulence of CF strains in the *G. mellonella* model. This would not be unexpected as *G. mellonella* is
450 an acute infection model and during chronic colonisation, CF strains accumulate mutations in
451 virulence factors which may be important for acute infections (Cullen & McClean, 2015; Sousa &
452 Pereira, 2014). It has been demonstrated by others (Bragonzi *et al.*, 2009; Lore *et al.*, 2012) and also
453 in this study that *P. aeruginosa* strains show reduced virulence over time of colonisation, an
454 adaptation which reduces detection by the host. Since CF strains generally were less virulent, the
455 reduced virulence in *G. mellonella* may reflect an early adaptation during colonisation that would
456 enable long-term colonisation and chronic infection. Overall, the previously reported mucoid strains
457 were among the least virulent strains examined with 96833S, 2192 and NH573888A each showing
458 LD50 values between 500 and 250,000 CFU. LPS expression patterns also dramatically correlated
459 with virulence for the majority of low virulence strains; strains with LD50s greater than 650 CFU,
460 produced no, or very little, O-antigen. However, there are other factors at play in the virulence
461 mechanisms, as DK2 also showed no O-antigen expression, yet was considerably virulent in *G.*
462 *mellonella*. Virulence was independent of the serotypes represented in the panel with comparable
463 very low LD50 values being observed for serotypes 1, 11, 12 and 17.

464 PCA revealed associations between a number of phenotypes. Virulence in *G. mellonella* is
465 associated with high levels of pyocyanin (confirming the Spearman analysis). In addition, strong
466 biofilm formation was negatively associated with pyocyanin production, indicating that there may be
467 a tradeoff between these phenotypes. In addition, high alginate production negatively associated
468 with %QS, particularly as determined with the JB523 sensor.

469 The motility of the strains in the panel was highly variable. The major difference was
470 associated with the CF strains, which demonstrated a lack of motility characteristic of adaptation to

471 chronic lung infection (Mahenthiralingam *et al.*, 1994). In addition, although swarming motility has
472 been characterised for various *P. aeruginosa* strains (Overhage *et al.*, 2008; Rashid & Kornberg,
473 2000) and UCBPP-PA14 (Tremblay & Deziel, 2010), only two panel strains demonstrated a true
474 surface swarming phenotype. Swarming was highly dependent on growth media and conditions;
475 hence the variation in phenotype observed compared to published literature may have been due to
476 local test conditions. The growth of the panel strains was also quite variable. The transmissible
477 strains LES B58, LES 400, LES 431 and C3719, showed unusual growth curves and interestingly, these
478 four transmissible strains are also non-motile. Another transmissible strain, AUS 52, was among the
479 group of strains with low culture density and was also non-motile. In contrast, transmissible strain
480 DK2 was considerably motile and was grouped among the strains with high culture density. The
481 sequential strains AMT 0060-1, 2 and 3 and the AA2, AA43 and AA44 series each retained the
482 relatively high culture density despite time of colonisation, indicating that this attribute is not
483 altered over time of colonisation.

484 Previous studies on biofilm formation were performed on a small number of the panel
485 strains, but varied in the experimental parameters used, including culture media, time intervals
486 tested and substrata used (Carter *et al.*, 2010; Colvin *et al.*, 2011; Junker & Clardy, 2007; Kukavica-
487 Ibrulj *et al.*, 2008; Mikkelsen *et al.*, 2013; Mulcahy *et al.*, 2010; Zegans *et al.*, 2012; Zhang *et al.*,
488 2013). Our comprehensive panel strain analysis carried out over 3 days and using 3 different media
489 indicated that all strains in the panel could form biofilms. Swarming motility was previously shown
490 to be inversely related to biofilm forming potential (Verstraeten *et al.*, 2008); however no such trend
491 was observed in this study since certain non-swarming strains were poor biofilm formers while
492 others formed biofilms very well (Table 1 and Table 3S).

493 Pyocyanin production is QS-controlled, which was confirmed by PCA. Fluctuations in
494 pyocyanin production in a series of 40 LES strains were reported, with overproduction during
495 exacerbations in some CF patient strains and loss of pyocyanin during exacerbations in others
496 (Fothergill *et al.*, 2010). Down-regulation of pyocyanin production was associated with a mucoid to
497 non-mucoid switch (Ryall *et al.*, 2014). Consistent with this, the mucoid strain IST 27 produced more
498 pyocyanin relative to the spontaneous non-mucoid variant, IST 27N. The most virulent strains
499 produced the highest amount of pyocyanin and showed LD50 values in *G. mellonella* of less than 1
500 CFU at 24 h. The relatively low levels of pyocyanin in the LES strains and other CF strains, AUS 52,
501 AMT-0060 and bronchiectasis strain 968333S correlates to the relative low virulence of these strains
502 in *G. mellonella*. A strong correlation between pyocyanin production and virulence was confirmed
503 for the entire panel (PCA and Spearman rank correlation coefficient $R = 0.36$, $p < 0.02$). In contrast to

504 earlier studies (Hendrickson *et al.*, 2001; Sonnleitner *et al.*, 2003), these data indicate that pyocyanin
505 may contribute to virulence in the *G. mellonella*, as shown recently (Whiley *et al.*, 2014).

506 The mucoid phenotype is often reported as being unstable and non-mucoid variants can
507 emerge both during culture and in the CF lung through suppressor mutations. While investigating
508 the mucoid strain IST27, care had to be taken to ensure that the mucoid phenotype was maintained.
509 Culture in LB prior to virulence assays resulted in loss of the mucoid phenotype with a consequent
510 enhancement of virulence. In order to maintain the mucoid phenotype, it is important to cultivate
511 these strains in PIA.

512 Twitching motility is driven by extension, tethering and retraction of Type IV pili (Mattick,
513 2002). One of the late AMT-0060 strains (AMT 0060-2) showed both a lack of twitching motility and
514 a resistance to the type IV-dependent phage Luz19, in contrast to both AMT0060-1 and AMT0060-3,
515 confirming that type IV have been lost in this series. Interestingly, both CF late strains (AA43 and
516 AA44) did not differ in phage typing patterns from each other, which was confirmed by motility and
517 LPS characterization. Moreover, the phenotypic modification during persistence of infection did not
518 affect the activity of LBL3 phage in this series of paediatric strains. The presence of twitching
519 motility and identical LPS bands patterns confirmed the phage specificity to recognize type IV pili
520 and LPS elements. Despite this, three of the 16 non-twitching strains (968333S, NH57388A and
521 LMG14084) were susceptible to respectively four, three and two of IV-pili dependent phages (LUZ
522 19, ϕ KZ, KTN4 and PA5oct), indicating that they retained type IV receptors, though lacking the ability
523 to twitch. This could imply that although the type IV pili are present and act as phage receptors,
524 they may have lost the motility function. Alternatively, utilization of other receptors by phages
525 cannot be ruled out.

526 There are many strategies of bacterial resistance to phages, which may explain these results.
527 Bacteriophages are highly specific, usually infecting strains within a single bacterial species. The
528 specificity of interactions between phage and host cell surface receptors greatly influences the
529 bacterial host range (Sulakvelidze *et al.*, 2001; Weinbauer, 2004). *P. aeruginosa* receptors include
530 LPS, outer membrane proteins, oligosaccharides, capsule, type IV fimbriae, flagella and sex pilus
531 (Guttman, 2005). It should be stressed that the most common mechanism of bacterial resistance to
532 phage infection involves the lack, modification or masking of a target receptor, which blocks phage
533 adsorption on the bacterial surface and results in complete loss of the ability to generate virus
534 progeny. Moreover, bacteria can inhibit the phage cycle at other crucial steps of the propagation
535 process, as recently reviewed (Drulis-Kawa *et al.*, 2012; Labrie *et al.*, 2010). Overall, the phage
536 typing patterns were consistent with twitching motility and LPS analysis. The selected phages were

537 active against most of CF and non-CF panel strains and the typing patterns correlated with bacterial
538 cell surface elements presence such as IV-type pili and LPS structure.

539 The considerable antibiotic resistance across the panel was expected, with CF strains
540 generally showing resistance to more antibiotics than non-CF strains. The only antibiotic that all
541 strains were susceptible to was colistin, which remains a last-resort antibiotic for *P. aeruginosa*
542 treatment. Sensitivity to colistin is a hallmark of *P. aeruginosa* and consequently this antibiotic has
543 been used to distinguish *P. aeruginosa* strains from another CF associated pathogen, *Burkholderia*
544 *cepacia* complex, which can grow in the presence of the colistin.

545 Considering the diversity of *P. aeruginosa* isolates and that diversity has been shown within
546 patients (Darch *et al.*, 2015; Mowat *et al.*, 2011; Williams *et al.*, 2015; Workentine *et al.*, 2013),
547 single strains taken from a patient, such as LESB58 can only reflect the profile of one specific isolate
548 from one patient. That said, LESB58 is a single sub-type (or "strain") of the LES. More than one sub-
549 type was included in the panel to incorporate more diversity, but it not possible to capture all of the
550 diversity. LESB58 was our considered choice as the genome has been sequenced and it is a widely
551 studied LES representative. In summary, this panel demonstrates the remarkable diversity seen
552 across *P. aeruginosa* as a species. The panel includes several transmissible strains, which generally
553 show very low pyocyanin levels, low virulence and a lack of O-antigen or B-bands. Furthermore it
554 contains three sets of sequential strains which also show reduced virulence over time of
555 colonisation, reduced pyocyanin and reduced O-antigen expression. Finally, the population of CF
556 strains in the *P. aeruginosa* reference panel shows lower virulence compared with the remaining
557 strains in the panel.

558

559

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569

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733

734

Table 1. Summary table of phenotypes including growth density, virulence, motility, pyocyanin production and alginate production.

Strain designation	LMG number	Short Description*	Growth (Density at 15 h)	Virulence [†]	Swimming [§] diameter (mm)	Swarming diameter (mm) [§]		Twitching diameter (mm) [§]	Pyocyanin [‡]	Alginate +/-
						LB 0.5% agar	BSM-G 0.5% agar			
LES B58	27622	CF, transmissible	L	L	17.5	-	-	-	H	-
LES 400	27623		L	L	-	-	-	-	VL	-
LES 431	27624		L	L	-	-	-	-	VL	-
C3719	27625		L	L	-	-	-	-	H	-
DK2	27626	CF, transmissible, early isolate	H	L	53.5	19	12.5	12	L	-
AES-1R	27627	CF transmissible paediatric	L	H	51	-	-	-	VL	-
AUS23	27628	CF transmissible adult	L	L	52.5	-	-	9		-
AUS52	27629		L	H	-	-	-	-		-
AA2	27630	Early CF	H	H	67	11	10	24.5	H	-
AA43	27631	Late CF	H	H	67	15.5	9	25	VL	-
AA44	27632	Late CF	H	H	60	14.5	7.5	29.5	VL	-
AMT 0023-30	27633	Paediatric CF early	H	H	53.5	12	9	27.5	H	-
AMT 0023-34	27634	Paediatric CF late	L	L	53.5	-	-	-	VL	-
AMT 0060-1	27635	Paediatric CF late	H	L	46.5	15.5	8.5	12.5	L	-
AMT 0060-2	27636	Paediatric CF late	H	H	31.5	-	-	-	L	+
AMT 0060-3	27637	Paediatric CF early	H	L	61	24.5	14	12.5	H	-
PAO1* (ATCC 15692)	27638	Non CF	H	H	60.5	28	18.5	23.5	H	-
UCBPP-PA14	27639	Non CF	L	H	62.5	24	16.5	11	VL	-
PAK	27640	Non CF	H	H	60	12.5	10	17	VL	-
CHA	27641	CF	H	H	80	25.5	18	19.5	L	+
IST 27 mucoid	27643	CF	H	M	51.5	13.5	Swarming	5.5	L	+
IST 27 non-mucoid	27644	CF	H	H	72	21.5	Swarming	22.5	L	-
968333S	27645	Non-CF Bronchiectasis	L	L	-	-	-	-	VL	+
679	27646	Non-CF urine	H	H	57	13.5	17.5	-	H	-

39016	27647	Non-CF eye	H	H	75	22.5	11	30.5	H	
2192	27648	CF	H	L	Spread all over plate	11	21.5	-	H	+
NH57388A	27649	CF	L	L	7.5	9	8.5	-	VL	-
1709-12	27650	Non CF clinical	H	H	29.5	7.5	-	-	H	-
Mil 162	27651	Non-CF burn	L	H	62.5	-	-	-	VL	-
Jpn 1563	27652	Water	H	H	25	16.5	15	38	L	-
LMG 14084	27653	Water	H	H	58.5	14.5	-	-	H	-
Pr335	27654	Hospital environment	H	H	53.5	16	11.5	18.5	H	-
U018a	27655	CF	H	H	53.5	28.5	16.5	22.5	H	-
CPHL 9433	27656	Tobacco plant	H	H	66	13.5	7.5	11.5	H	-
RP1	27657	CF	H	H	65	26	8.5	15.5	VL	-
15108/1	27658	Non-CF ICU	H	H	61	34	17.5	14.5	VL	-
57P31PA	27659	Non-CF, COPD	H	H	68.5	31	14	14	L	-
13121/1	27660	Non-CF ICU	H	H	54.5	16	9.5	6.5	VL	-
39177	27661	Non-CF eye	H	H	48.5	15.5	8	19.5	H	-
KK1	27662	CF	H	H	74.5	17.5	11	21	L	-
A5803	27663	Community acquired pneumonia	H	H	55.5	14	10.5	14	H	-
TBCF 10839	27664	CF	H	H	67.5	36.5	32.5	-	H	-

736

737 * Full description in (De Soyza *et al.*, 2013). [†] Virulence summarised as “H” representing high virulence, LD50 <5 CFU; “M” representing medium virulence,
738 i.e LD50 >5<650 CFU and “L”>representing low virulence, LD50>650 CFU. [‡] Pyocyanin summarised as high > 0.1, low <0. 1 and very low <0.05; [§] Shading
739 designates “highly motile”.

740 Table 2: Phage typing of *P. aeruginosa* panel.*

Strain designation	Source	Phages							
		LUZ 7	LUZ 19	LBL 3	KT28	KTN6	φKZ	KTN4	PA5oct
LES 400	CF			+					
LES 431	CF			+					
LES B58	CF			+					
C3719	CF	+/-		+/-	+/-	+/-			
DK2	CF		+/-				+/-	+/-	
AES-1R	CF	+/-	+/-						
AUS 23	CF		+/-				+		
AUS 52	CF	+/-		+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-		
AA2	CF	+/-							
AA43	CF	+/-			+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-
AA44	CF	+/-			+/-	+/-	+/-		+/-
AMT 0023-30	CF	+		+/-	+/-	+/-		+	
AMT 0023-34	CF			+/-	+/-	+/-			
AMT 0060-1	CF		+/-	+/-					
AMT 0060-2	CF			+/-					
AMT 0060-3	CF		+/-	+/-				+/-	
PAO1*	CLIN	+/-	+/-		+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
UCBPP-PA14	CLIN			+			+/-		
PAK	CLIN	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	
CHA	CF	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-		+/-	+
IST 27 mucoid	CF	+/-	+/-			+/-	+/-	+/-	
IST 27N	CF	+/-	+/-		+	+/-	+/-	+/-	
968333S	CLIN	+/-	+/-				+/-	+/-	+
679	CLIN	+/-			+/-	+/-			
39016	CLIN								
2192	CF								
NH57388A	CF		+/-	+/-			+/-		+
1709-12	CLIN								
Mi162	CLIN	+/-							
Jpn 1563	ENV	+/-	+/-				+/-	+/-	+/-
LMG 14084	ENV		+/-				+		
Prr 335	ENV		+/-				+/-	+/-	
U018a	CF		+/-		+/-	+			+
CPHL 9433	ENV			+/-		+/-	+		
RP1	CF								
15108/1	CLIN		+/-				+	+/-	
57P31PA	CLIN		+/-			+/-			
13121/1	CLIN						+/-		
39177	CLIN								
KK1	CF	+		+/-		+/-			+
A5803	CLIN	+/-	+/-	+/-		+/-	+	+	+
TBCF10839	CF					+/-	+		

741 *Symbols: + indicates confluent clear lysis; +/- indicates confluent opaque lysis; empty boxes represent lack of
742 activity.

743

744 **Figure Legends:**

745 **Fig. 1. Growth of *P. aeruginosa* panel strains.** a) Maximum culture density reached at 15 h growth.
746 The distribution of the maximum culture density data at 15 hours growth were visualised using a
747 boxplot displaying median, upper quartile, lower quartile, maximum and minimum values. Data
748 points for each of the strains are included on the plot. The black brackets illustrate three broad
749 strain groupings (high, intermediate and low culture density) and the strain names are listed in order
750 (highest to lowest Max OD) to the right of the boxplot. b) Growth parameters at 30 h growth. The
751 distribution of the growth parameter data (length of lag phase, growth rate and maximum culture
752 density reached) were visualised using boxplots which display the median, upper quartile, lower
753 quartile, maximum and minimum values. Outliers are indicated by open circles. The 36 strains
754 included in the analysis have either been grouped together (All) or by isolation source (CF; CLIN;
755 ENV). Strain names have been included next to outliers. Each experiment was performed twice with
756 four technical replicates per strain.

757 **Fig 2. Virulence in *G. mellonella*.** Virulence was measured in terms of % survival of groups of 6
758 larvae in at least two independent experiments. The mean LD50 (the CFU that resulted in 50% killing
759 of the larvae) at 24 hours is presented +/- standard deviation.

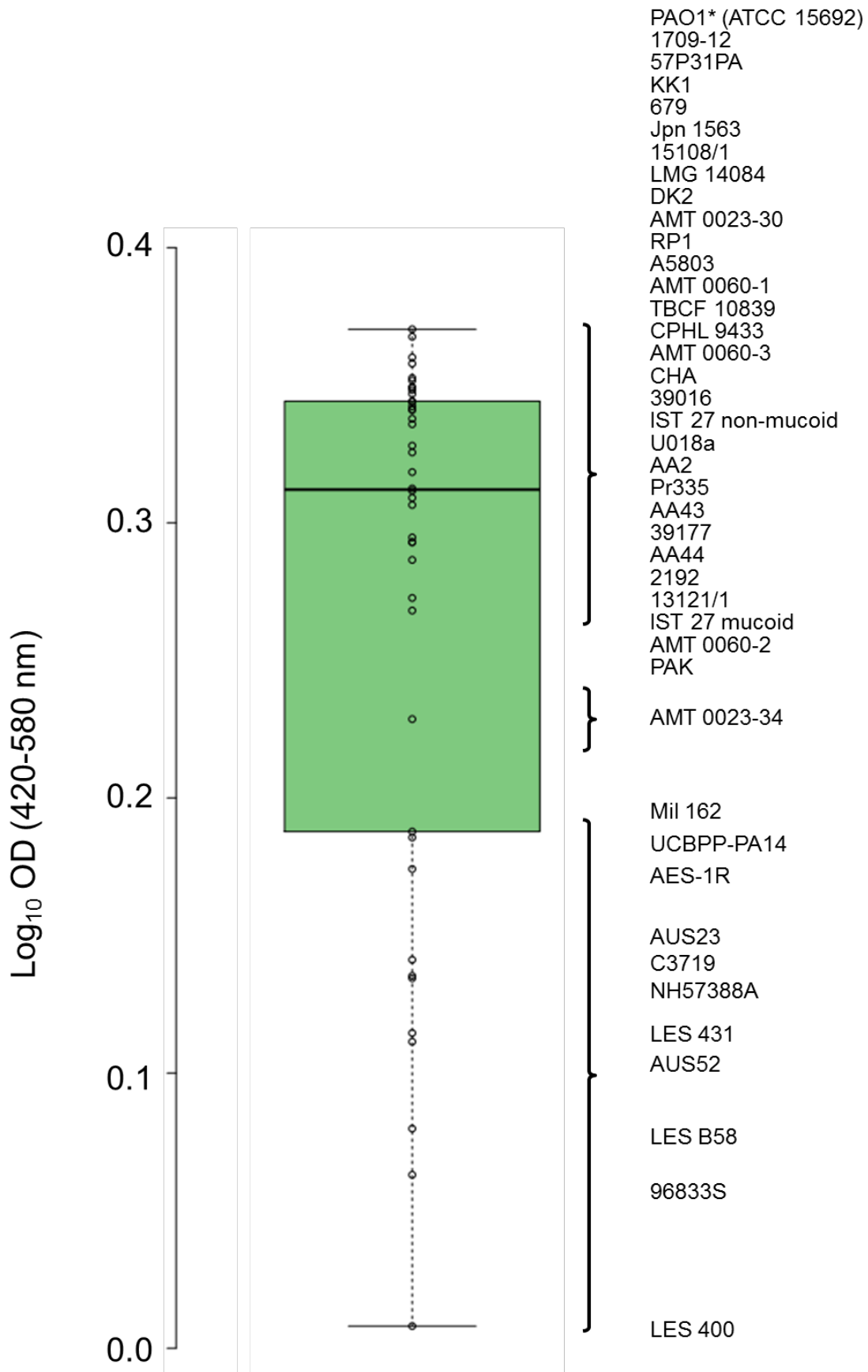
760 **Fig. 3. AHL expression.** Signal obtained using the *P. aeruginosa* QSIS2 biosensor (a) or the *E. coli*
761 JB523 biosensor (b) with supernatants from 24 h *P. aeruginosa* cultures. The results are presented
762 as mean +/- SEM of four independent replicates. *Significantly different from negative control ($p <$
763 0.05).

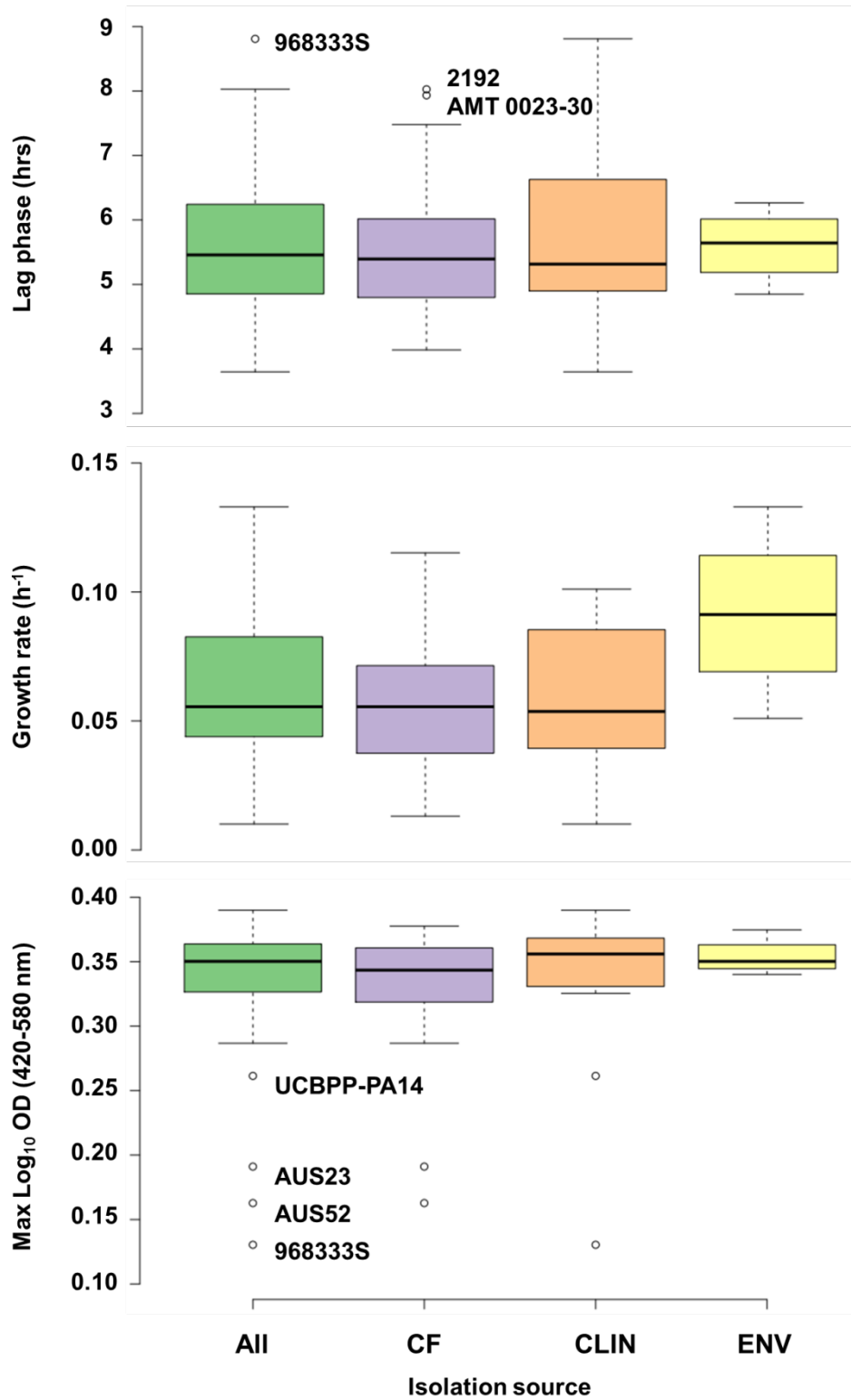
764 **Fig. 4. Biofilm formation as determined by crystal violet staining.** Results are presented as mean
765 maximal absorbance at A570nm for each strain (+/- standard deviation) from at least two
766 independent experiments. The medium that resulted in maximal biofilm formation together with
767 the timepoint at which this was registered is identified in parenthesis, where 1= 24 h, 2= 48 h and 3=
768 72 h).

769 **Fig. 5. Pyocyanin production.** Pyocyanin was extracted in chloroform, back-extracted in HCl and
770 measured at 520nm. The results are the means of at least two independent experiments performed
771 in duplicate \pm SEM.

772 **Fig. 6. LPS profiles following SDS-PAGE.** LPS was extracted from overnight cultures at OD₆₀₀ of 2.0
773 and separated on 14% polyacrylamide/Glycine-SDS gels. The majority of strains express smooth
774 forms of LPS and display a ladder profiles that are strain-specific.

775





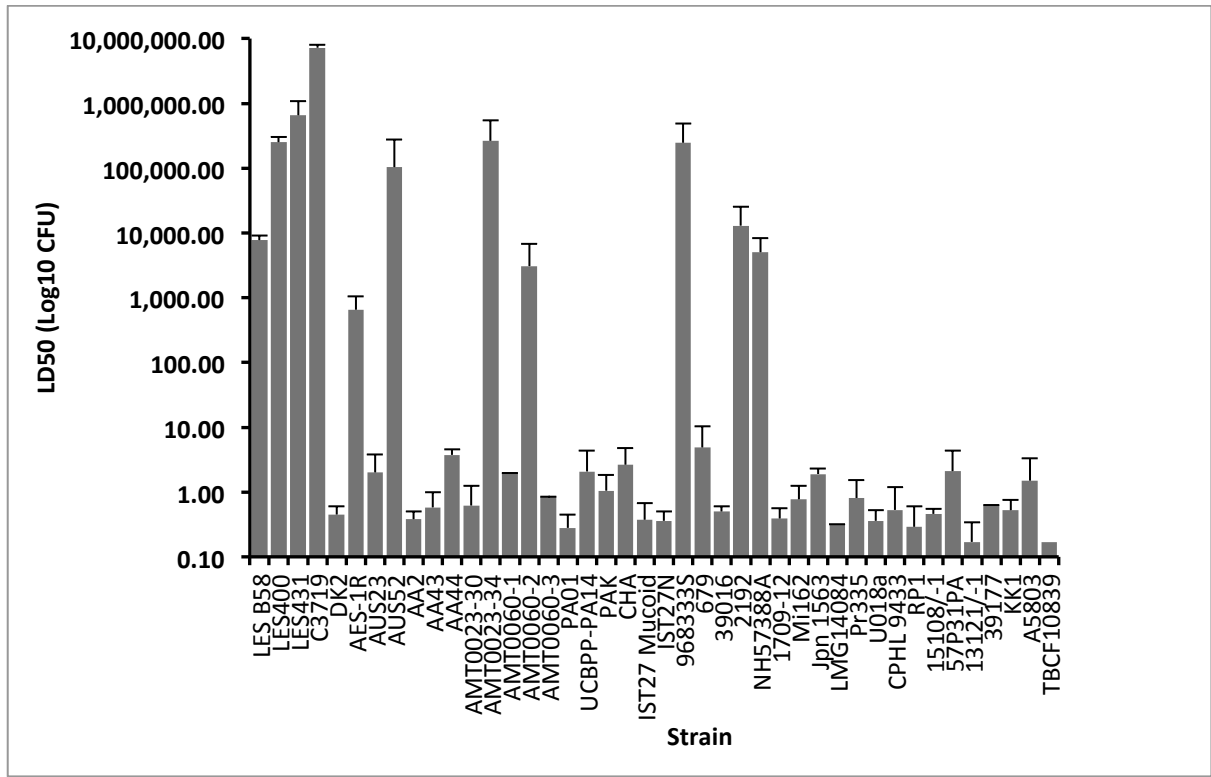
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783 **Figure 2**



784
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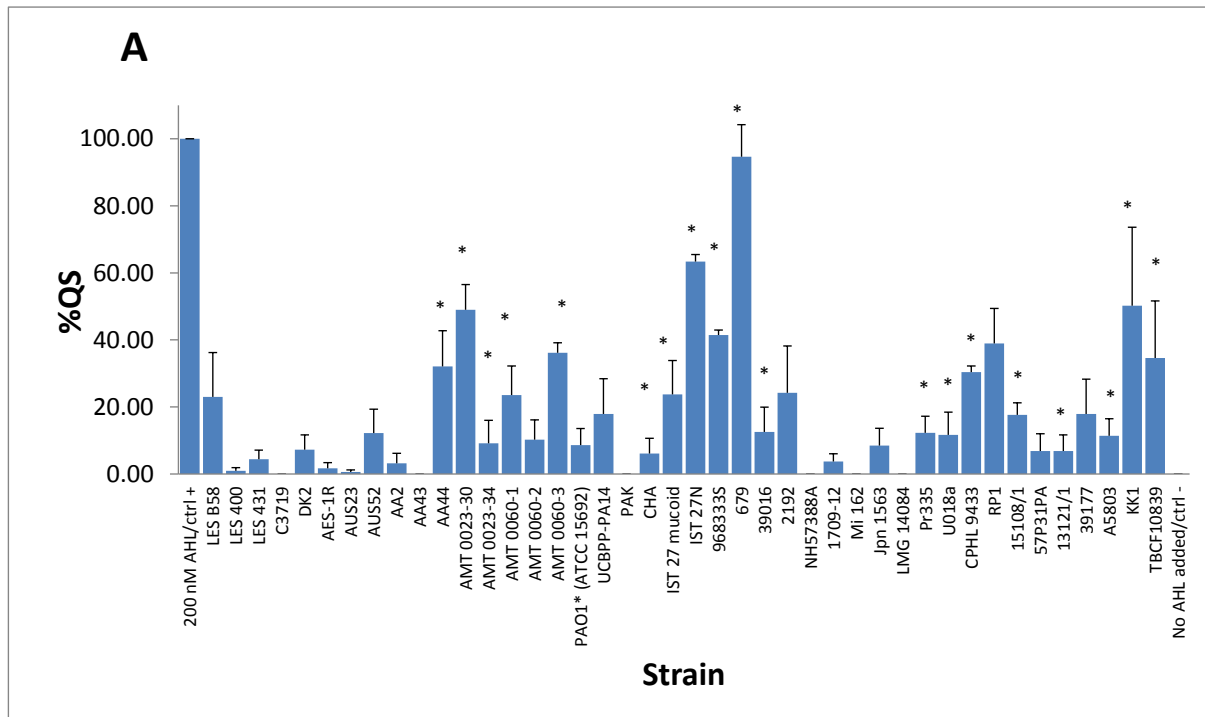
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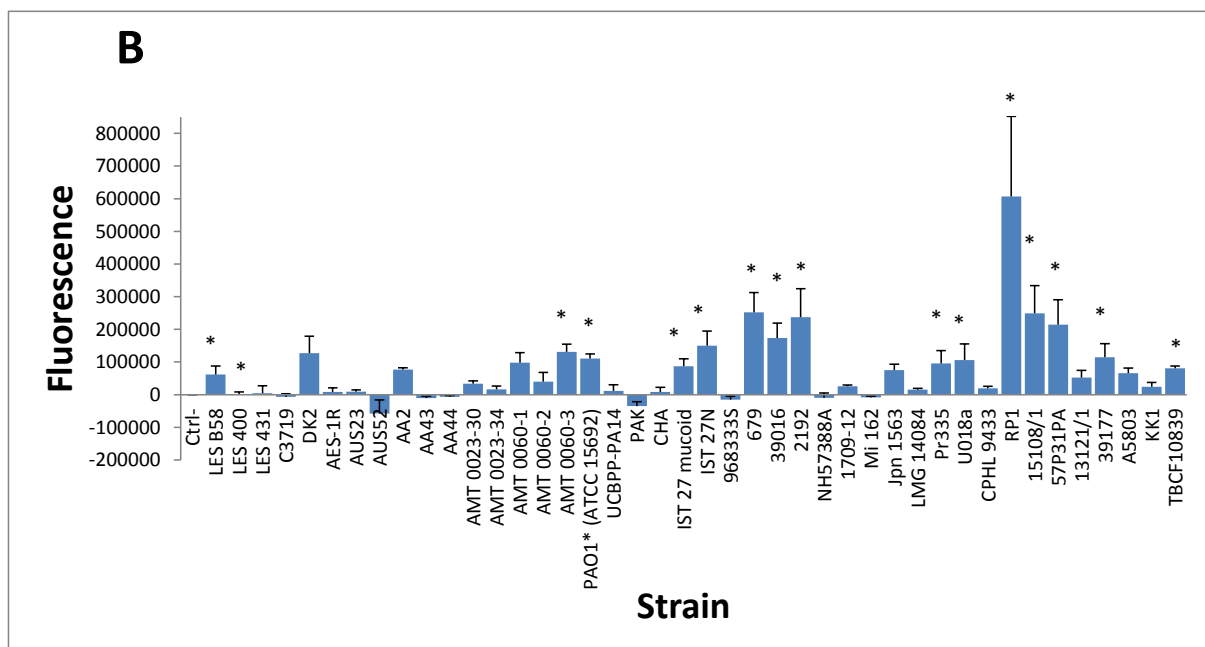
788 **Figure 3:**

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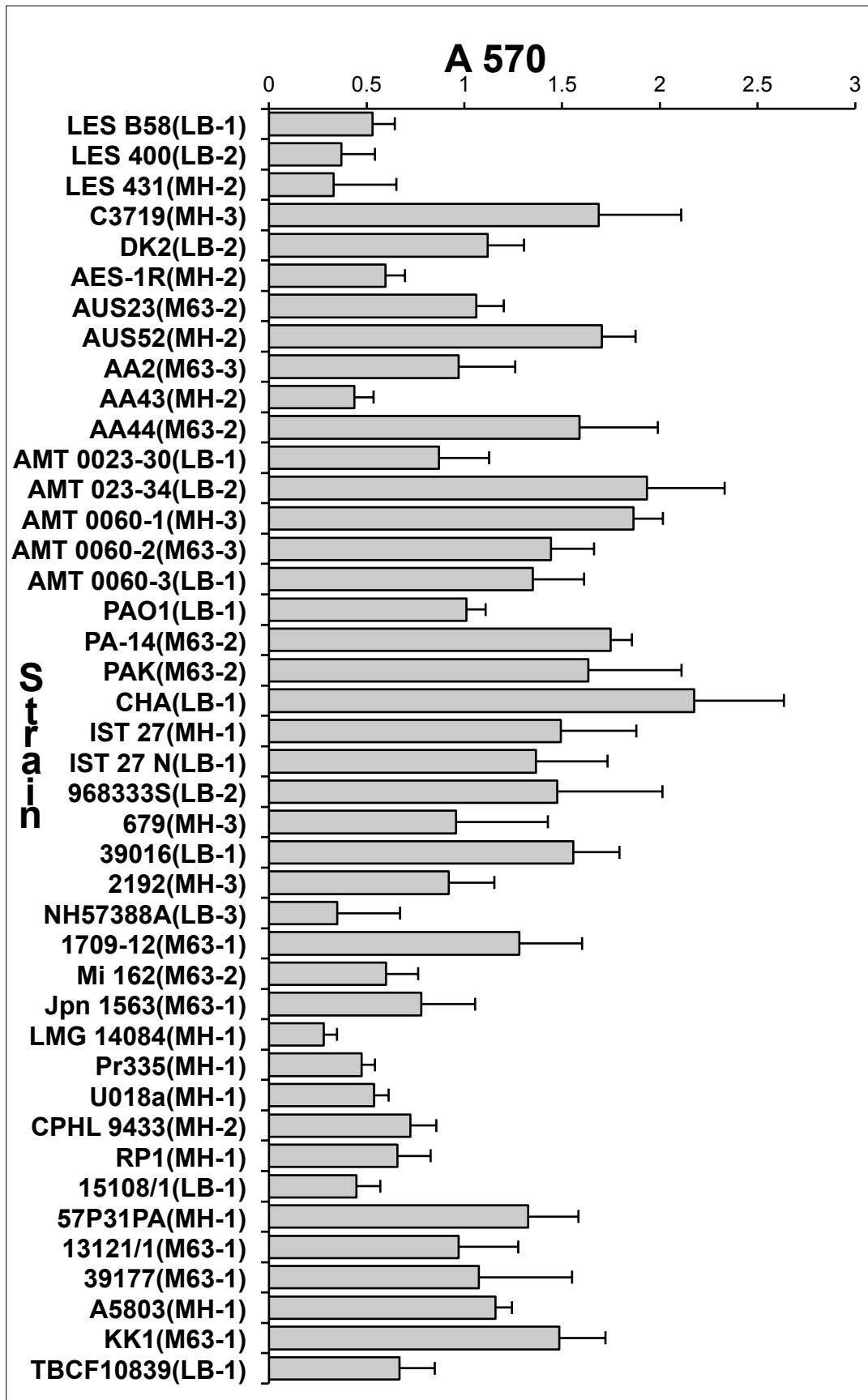
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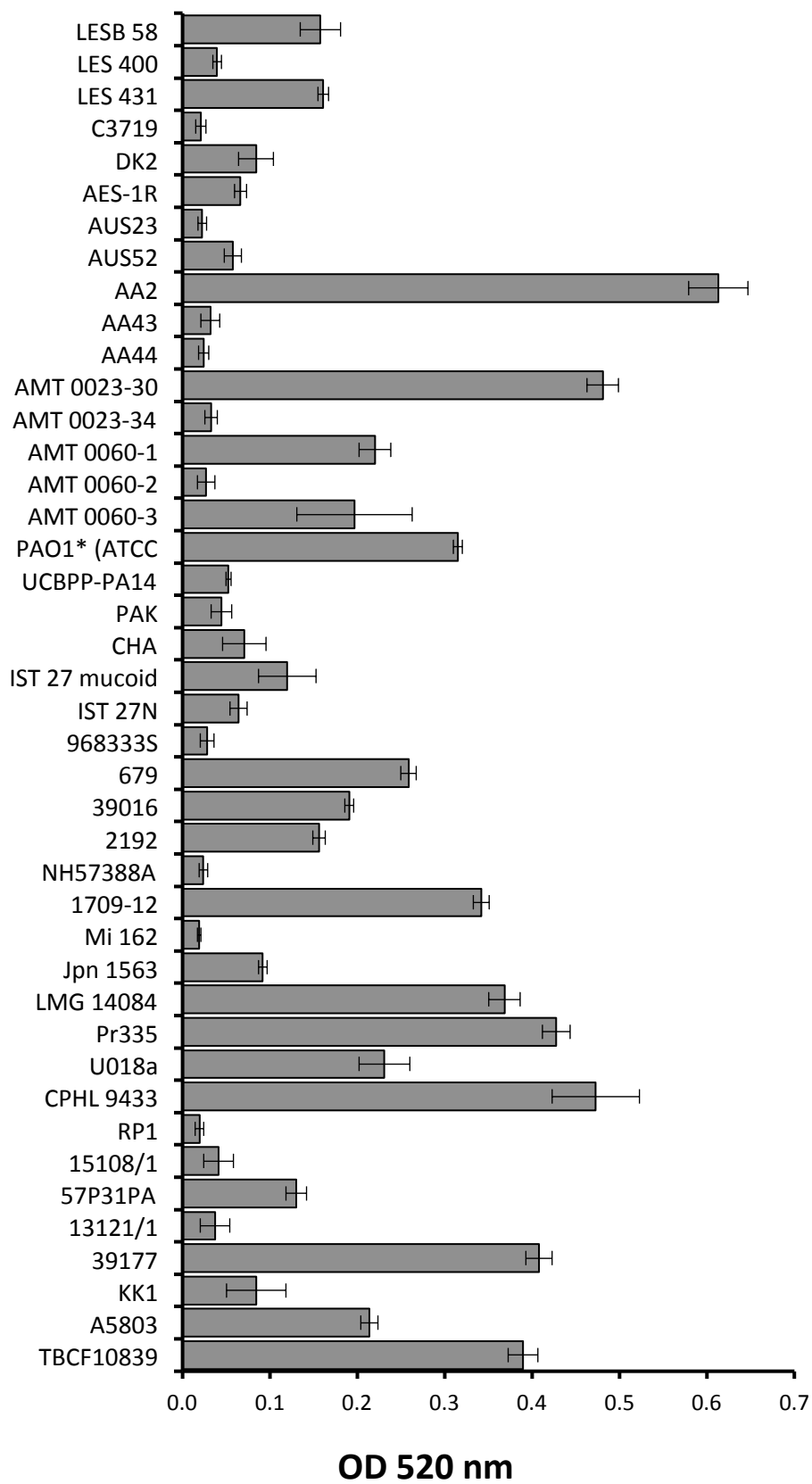
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794 **Figure 4**



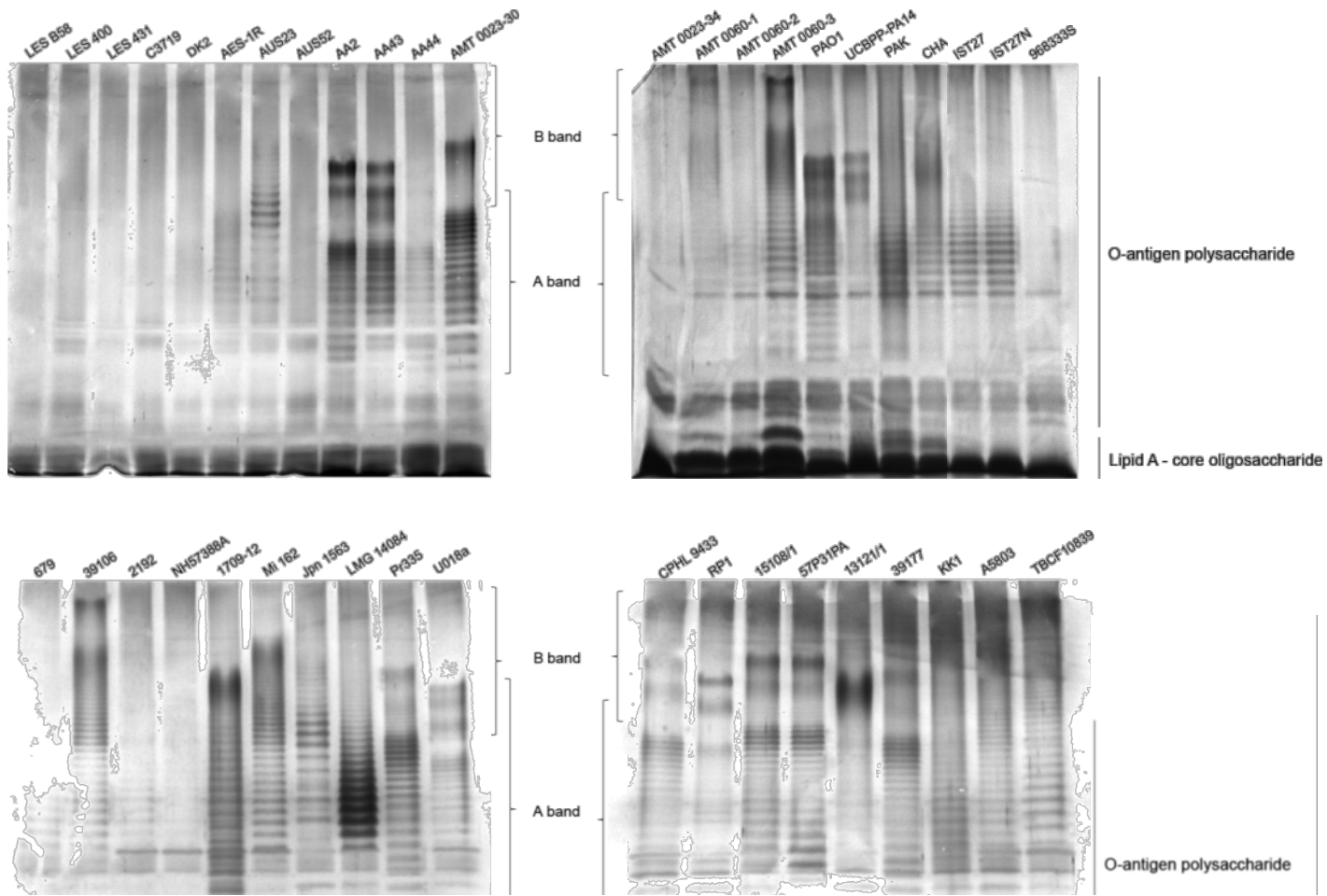
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796 **Figure 5**

797

798 **Figure 6**



800 **Supplemental information.**

801

802 Table 1S: Phage used for phage typing

803

Bacteriophage	Family	Description	Genome size (kbp)	GenBank Accession number
LUZ7	<i>Podoviridae</i>	<i>N4likevirus</i>	74.9	NC_013691.1
LUZ19	<i>Podoviridae</i>	<i>Phikmvlikevirus</i>	43.5	NC_010326.1
LBL3	<i>Myoviridae</i>	<i>Pbunalikevirus</i>	64.4	NC_011165.1
φKZ, ,	<i>Myoviridae</i>	<i>Phikzlikevirus</i>	230.3	AF399011.1
φKT28,	<i>Myoviridae</i>	<i>Pbunalikevirus</i>	66.4	KP340287
φKTN6,	<i>Myoviridae</i>	<i>Pbunalikevirus,</i>	66.4	KP340288
φKTN4,	<i>Myoviridae</i>	<i>Phikzlikevirus,</i>	279.7	pending
PA5oct, ,	<i>Myoviridae</i>	NovelGiant	287.2	Pending

804

805

806

807 **Table 2S. Growth parameters of 36 *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* international reference**
 808 **panel strains at 30 hours growth**

809

Panel #	Source	Strain	Growth rate (h ⁻¹)	Lag phase (hrs)	Max Log ₁₀ OD (420-580 nm)
5	CF	DK2	0.07	4.96	0.36
6	CF	AES-1R	0.02	6.76	0.30
7	CF	AUS23	0.02	3.98	0.19
8	CF	AUS52	0.01	5.50	0.16
9	CF	AA2	0.12	5.22	0.38
10	CF	AA43	0.10	5.81	0.34
11	CF	AA44	0.05	4.65	0.31
12	CF	AMT 0023-30	0.10	4.73	0.35
13	CF	AMT 0023-34	0.03	7.93	0.29
14	CF	AMT 0060-1	0.06	5.37	0.34
15	CF	AMT 0060-2	0.05	6.22	0.36
16	CF	AMT 0060-3	0.06	4.55	0.36
17	CLIN	PAO1* (ATCC 15692)	0.07	5.14	0.37
18	CLIN	UCBPP-PA14	0.02	3.64	0.26
19	CLIN	PAK	0.03	3.68	0.36
20	CF	CHA	0.04	4.86	0.34
22	CF	IST 27 mucoid	0.04	5.77	0.33
23	CF	IST 27 non-mucoid	0.05	5.80	0.33
24	CLIN	96833S	0.01	8.81	0.13
25	CLIN	679	0.10	6.74	0.35
26	CLIN	39016	0.05	6.52	0.37
27	CF	2192	0.06	8.03	0.37
29	CLIN	1709-12	0.07	5.76	0.38
31	ENV	Jpn 1563	0.05	6.26	0.35
32	ENV	LMG 14084	0.09	5.76	0.35
33	ENV	Pr335	0.10	4.85	0.34
34	CF	U018a	0.07	5.18	0.34
35	ENV	CPHL 9433	0.13	5.52	0.37
36	CF	RP1	0.08	4.60	0.37
37	CLIN	15108/1	0.05	6.92	0.33
38	CLIN	57P31PA	0.05	4.84	0.39
39	CLIN	13121/1	0.05	5.50	0.34
40	CLIN	39177	0.10	4.98	0.34
41	CF	KK1	0.06	5.42	0.36
42	CLIN	A5803	0.10	4.96	0.36
43	CF	TBCF 10839	0.07	7.48	0.37

810

811

812 Table 3S. Biofilm formation across the panel in MHB (A), LB (B) or M63 minimal medium
 813 (C) as determined by crystal violet staining at 24, 28 and 72 h. The values correspond to
 814 average absorbance (AV) and Standard deviation (STD).

815 **A**

Strain	MH-24h		MH-48h		MH-72h	
	AV	STD	AV	STD	AV	STD
LES B58	0.25	0.04	0.18	0.04	0.24	0.06
LES 400	0.17	0.06	0.24	0.07	0.34	0.17
LES 431	0.06	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.16	0.06
C3719	0.64	0.22	1.57	0.38	1.69	0.42
DK2	0.29	0.11	0.34	0.11	0.23	0.06
AES-1R	0.09	0.01	0.60	0.10	0.19	0.04
AUS23	0.30	0.15	0.46	0.28	0.16	0.14
AUS52	0.48	0.21	0.56	0.13	1.70	0.17
AA2	0.32	0.18	0.11	0.05	0.14	0.14
AA43	0.10	0.07	0.44	0.10	0.11	0.06
AA44	0.13	0.03	0.11	0.05	0.07	0.14
AMT	0.50	0.25	0.31	0.13	0.16	0.08
0023-30						
AMT 023-34	0.29	0.10	0.12	0.05	0.44	0.21
AMT 0060-1	0.66	0.15	1.62	0.16	1.87	0.15
AMT 0060-2	0.17	0.15	0.09	0.02	0.17	0.14
AMT 0060-3	0.43	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.14
PAO1	0.31	0.06	0.19	0.02	0.23	0.05
PA-14	1.46	0.38	0.74	0.17	0.43	0.16
PAK	0.58	0.22	0.34	0.12	0.23	0.13
CHA	1.10	0.59	0.54	0.23	0.28	0.09
IST 27 mucoid	1.49	0.39	0.48	0.09	0.17	0.04
IST 27 N	0.96	0.36	1.15	0.31	0.87	0.50
968333S	0.10	0.06	0.14	0.16	0.11	0.15
679	0.27	0.04	0.53	0.16	0.96	0.47
39016	1.38	0.27	0.22	0.06	0.16	0.13
2192	0.50	0.20	0.71	0.46	0.92	0.23
NH57388	0.03	0.01	0.13	0.06	0.24	0.29
A						
1709-12	0.97	0.34	0.43	0.09	0.26	0.07
Mi 162	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01
Jpn 1563	0.44	0.18	0.27	0.04	0.22	0.02
LMG 14084	0.28	0.07	0.11	0.01	0.04	0.00
Pr335	0.48	0.20	0.32	0.05	0.23	0.09
U018a	0.54	0.07	0.19	0.02	0.09	0.02
CPHL 9433	0.41	0.14	0.41	0.09	0.25	0.03

RP1	0.66	0.17	0.36	0.05	0.05	0.01
15108/1	0.29	0.07	0.35	0.16	0.14	0.05
57P31PA	1.33	0.26	0.22	0.07	0.16	0.03
13121/1	NT	NT	0.13	0.04	0.05	0.02
39177	NT	Nt	0.15	0.04	0.09	0.03
KK1(d1)	1.16	0.24	0.33	0.08	0.19	0.04
TBCF1083 9(d1)	0.47	0.13	0.10	0.04	0.11	0.06

816

817 B

	LB-24h		LB-48 h		LB-72 h	
	AV	STD	AV	STD	AV	STD
LES B58	0.90	0.30	0.21	0.06	0.11	0.03
LES 400	0.28	0.09	0.37	0.17	0.17	0.08
LES 431	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.06
C3719	0.19	0.09	0.18	0.05	0.52	0.14
DK2	1.47	0.33	0.91	0.21	0.69	0.12
AES-1R	0.85	0.28	0.36	0.04	0.15	0.04
AUS23	0.59	0.12	0.55	0.16	0.17	0.06
AUS52	0.63	0.23	0.33	0.15	0.21	0.06
AA2	0.52	0.17	0.11	0.04	0.15	0.04
AA43	0.07	0.03	0.19	0.06	0.06	0.06
AA44	0.11	0.03	0.47	0.13	0.11	0.06
AMT	0.87	0.26	0.45	0.14	0.16	0.10
0023-30						
AMT 023- 34	1.01	0.30	1.93	0.40	1.01	0.52
AMT	0.19	0.04	0.29	0.06	0.29	0.07
0060-1						
AMT	0.28	0.05	0.12	0.03	0.12	0.02
0060-2						
AMT	1.35	0.26	0.32	0.11	0.16	0.08
0060-3						
PAO1	1.01	0.10	0.21	0.06	0.13	0.07
PA-14	1.20	0.35	1.31	0.33	0.81	0.35
PAK	1.48	0.30	0.80	0.16	0.84	0.10
CHA	2.18	0.46	1.24	0.44	0.58	0.13
IST 27 mucoid	1.13	0.49	0.75	0.28	0.50	0.23
IST 27 N	1.37	0.37	1.06	0.38	0.78	0.46
968333S	1.45	0.54	1.48	0.37	0.54	0.45
679	0.82	0.42	0.37	0.28	0.23	0.15
39016	1.56	0.24	0.34	0.11	0.19	0.18
2192	0.47	0.19	0.45	0.11	0.26	0.16
NH57388 A	1.18	0.30	0.66	0.11	0.52	0.11
1709-12	0.88	0.07	0.26	0.07	0.13	0.03
Mi 162	0.15	0.07	0.22	0.10	0.11	0.04
Jpn 1563	0.41	0.09	0.63	0.11	0.40	0.07
LMG 14084	0.25	0.09	0.10	0.02	0.04	0.03

Pr335	0.47	0.07	0.33	0.08	0.23	0.05
U018a	0.42	0.07	0.14	0.03	0.12	0.03
CPHL 9433	0.22	0.07	0.72	0.13	0.66	0.12
RP1	0.23	0.06	0.38	0.07	0.27	0.03
15108/1	0.45	0.12	0.31	0.07	0.14	0.03
57P31PA	0.19	0.04	0.38	0.06	0.34	0.04
13121/1	0.58	0.04	0.12	0.01	0.13	0.07
39177	0.69	0.06	0.21	0.06	0.21	0.04
KK1(d1)	0.72	0.11	0.39	0.09	0.32	0.09
A5803(d1)	0.25	0.07	0.14	0.05	0.17	0.09
TBCF1083 9(d1)	0.67	0.08	0.38	0.09	0.19	0.06

818
819
820

C

	M63-24		M63-48		M63-72	
	h		h		h	
	AV	STD	AV	STD	AV	STD
LES B58	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.10	0.02
LES 400	0.22	0.04	0.19	0.05	0.13	0.03
LES 431	0.05	0.02	0.07	0.02	0.15	0.05
C3719	0.04	0.02	0.19	0.08	0.42	0.11
DK2	1.63	0.25	0.40	0.14	0.35	0.12
AES-1R	0.50	0.10	0.32	0.06	0.15	0.08
AUS23	0.30	0.09	1.06	0.14	0.49	0.09
AUS52	1.12	0.43	0.47	0.17	0.67	0.16
AA2	0.46	0.09	0.37	0.05	0.97	0.29
AA43	0.18	0.07	0.43	0.11	0.08	0.06
AA44	0.18	0.05	1.59	0.40	0.26	0.09
AMT	0.40	0.10	0.38	0.07	0.52	0.59
0023-30						
AMT 023- 34	1.32	0.28	1.43	0.80	1.05	0.40
AMT 0060-1	0.31	0.09	0.51	0.10	0.66	0.10
AMT 0060-2	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.17	0.33	0.05
AMT 0060-3	0.73	0.40	0.57	0.19	0.40	0.15
PAO1	0.44	0.10	0.34	0.04	0.37	0.10
PA-14	3.00	0.08	2.00	0.30	1.31	0.26
PAK	1.18	0.13	0.92	0.12	1.31	0.26
CHA	0.19	0.04	0.60	0.09	0.23	0.08
IST 27 mucoid	0.67	0.15	0.35	0.14	0.16	0.08
IST 27 N	0.93	0.08	0.61	0.11	0.38	0.12
968333S	0.10	0.07	1.03	0.17	0.86	0.16
679	0.53	0.23	0.72	0.47	0.53	0.42
39016	0.49	0.10	0.94	0.08	0.75	0.08
2192	0.47	0.07	0.44	0.16	0.56	0.17

NH57388	0.16	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.01
A						
1709-12	1.28	0.32	0.22	0.04	0.11	0.03
Mi 162	0.53	0.17	0.60	0.17	0.54	0.12
Jpn 1563	0.78	0.28	0.44	0.10	0.17	0.05
LMG	0.15	0.03	0.10	0.02	0.05	0.01
14084						
Pr335	0.37	0.13	0.41	0.14	0.25	0.10
U018a	0.31	0.10	0.27	0.09	0.24	0.12
CPHL	0.24	0.05	0.37	0.06	0.24	0.04
9433						
RP1	0.15	0.03	0.19	0.05	0.11	0.02
15108/1	0.35	0.17	0.29	0.05	0.26	0.08
57P31PA	0.15	0.02	0.19	0.04	0.18	0.04
13121/1	0.97	0.31	0.21	0.09	0.28	0.07
39177	1.07	0.38	0.21	0.10	0.17	0.05
KK1(d1)	0.70	0.14	0.44	0.07	0.18	0.02
A5803(d1)	0.95	0.19	0.60	0.12	0.57	0.16
TBCF1083	0.52	0.11	0.50	0.10	0.34	0.09
9(d1)						

821

822

Table 4S. Antibiotic resistance of the panel strains

	EUCAST Breakpoint																			
	S ≤	I	R >	4	4	0.5	1	16	16	8	8	8	8	2	0.5	4	8	1	16	Ticarcillin-clavulanic acid
				4	4	1	2 - 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 - 8	1	-	16	2	-	
				4	4	1	16	16	16	8	8	8	8	8	1	4	16	2	16	
	Genta micin	Coli stin	Oflox acin	Aztreo nam	Pipera cillin	Piperac illin- tazoba ctam	Cefoper azone	Ceftazi dime	Cefep ime	Cefop./ sulb	Merope nem	Ciproflo xacin	Tobra mycin	Amik acin	Levoflo xacin					
LES B58	R	S	R	R	S	R	S	R	R	S	Ind	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
LES 400	R	S	R	R	S	S	S	R	R	S	I	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
LES 431	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	I	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
C3719	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	S	Ind	R	R	R	R	R	R
DK2	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
AES-1R	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	R	R	S	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	R
AUS23	S	S	R	I	Ind	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
AUS52	R	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	R	S	R	R	R	S	R	R	S	R	S	S
AA2	S	S	S	S	S	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
AA43	S	S	R	Ind	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
AA44	S	S	R	I	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
AMT 0023-30	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
AMT 0023-34	R	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	Ind	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	S
AMT 0060-1	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	I	S	S	R	R	R	S	S	S
AMT 0060-2	S	S	R	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

AMT			I	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
0060-3	S	S															
PAO1*(S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
ATCC	S	S															
15692)			S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
UCBPP-			S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
PA14	S	S															
PAK	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
CHA	R	S	I	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
IST 27																	
mucoid	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
IST 27N	S	S	S	Ind	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
968333S	R	S	I	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	R
679	R	S	R	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	R
39106	S	S	I	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
2192	S	S	S	S	Ind	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
NH5738																	
8A	S	S	R	Ind	R	S	R	R	R	S	S	R	S	S	R	R	R
1709-12	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Mi 162	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	Ind	S	R	R
Jpn																	
1563	S	S	R	I	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
LMG																	
14084	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
Pr335	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
U018a	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
CPHL																	
9433	S	S	I	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
RP1	S	S	S	I	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
15108/1	S	S	R	I	S	R	R	S	S	R	I	S	S	S	S	S	R
57P31P																	
A	S	S	I	I	S	S	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
13121/1	S	S	R	I	R	R	R	8	S	R	S	R	S	S	R	R	R
39177	S	S	I	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R
KK1	S	S	S	I	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R

A5803	S	S	R	I	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	R	R
TBCF10			I	I												
839	S	S	I	I	S	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	R
PSA																
10662	S	S	NT	S	NT	S	NT	S	S	NT	S	S	S	S	S	S

Antibiotic susceptibilities are shown as follows: **S susceptible, R Resistant, I Intermediate, Ind indeterminate**, i.e there was no agreement between the two independent methods used, **NT Not tested**

Supplemental Figures:

Fig S1: Growth curves panel strains. The growth of the 42 panel strains in MHB at 37°C was monitored using the Bioscreen C to measure culture optical density over 48 hours. Each experiment was performed twice with four technical replicates per strain, per experiment.

Fig. S2. Swimming, swarming and twitching motilities. Representative images of the levels of swimming, swarming on LB agar, swarming on BSM-G agar and twitching motility exhibited by panel strains.

Fig. S3. Alginate production. a) Alginate production from cells grown in LB. b) Comparison of alginate production of selected mucoid and non-mucoid strains grown in LB agar (black bars) or PIA (grey bars). The results presented are the means \pm SD of at least two independent analyses using at least two independent cultures of the same strain.

Fig. S4. Urease Activity. Urease activity of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strains on Christensen broth in the presence of urea. Results represent the means of three independent experiments \pm SD.

Fig. S5. Phenotypic diversity of *P. aeruginosa* isolates. All quantifiable phenotypes were analysed using PCA. PCA reduced the 15 phenotypes and traits to ten principal variables and two dimensions, allowing multivariate data to be visualised on two co-ordinates. a) The lines represent vectors that indicate how the original variables relate to the x and y axis. Phenotypes on the same side of the plot are linked to each other, while those on opposite sides are opposed to each other, e.g. pyocyanin levels and LD50 in *G. mellonella*. b) scatter plot of the PC1 and PC2 comparisons indicating where strains cluster. Red circles represent CF isolates; grey squares represent non-CF isolates. There is no obvious clustering of CF versus non-CF strains based on principal components.

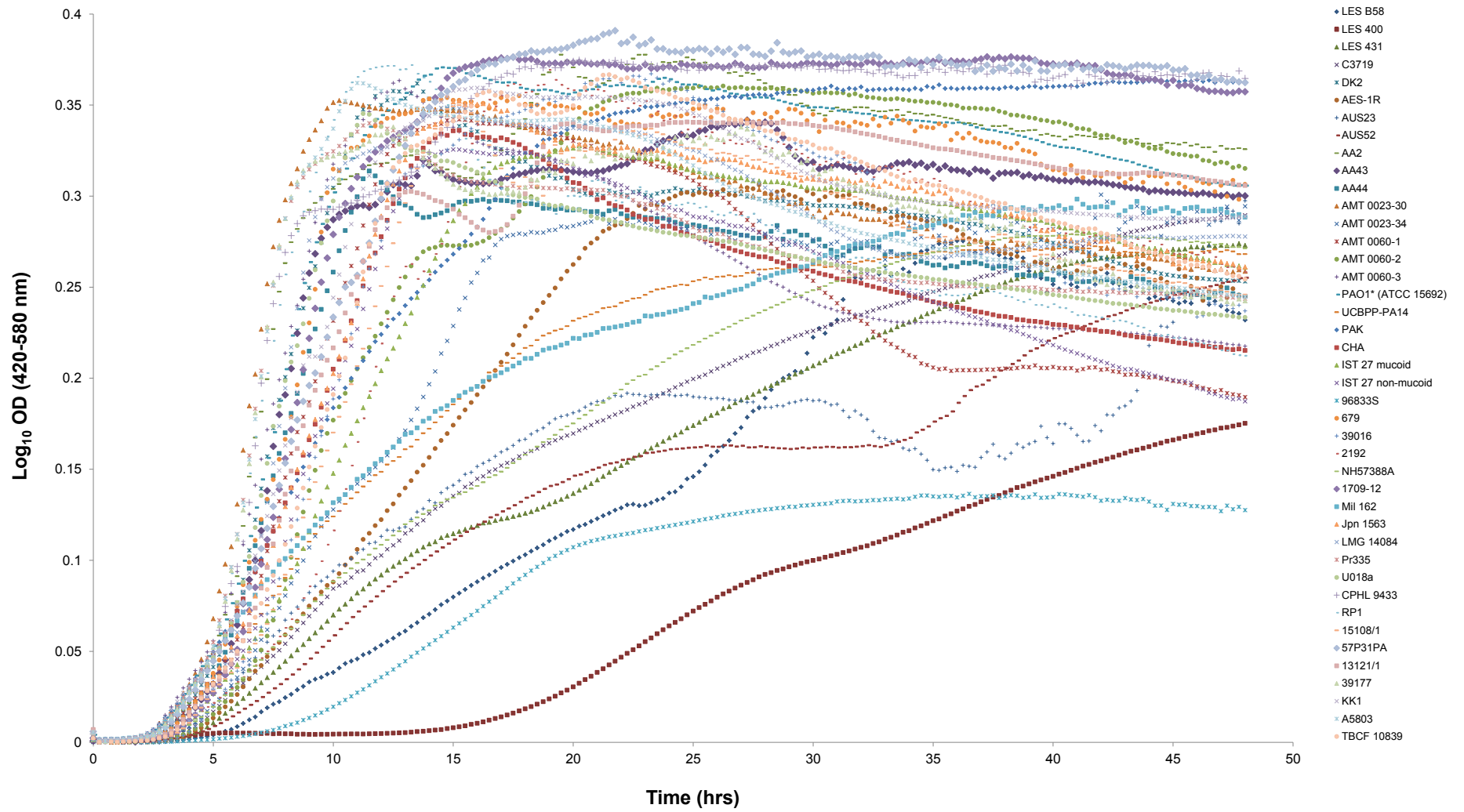


Figure S1.

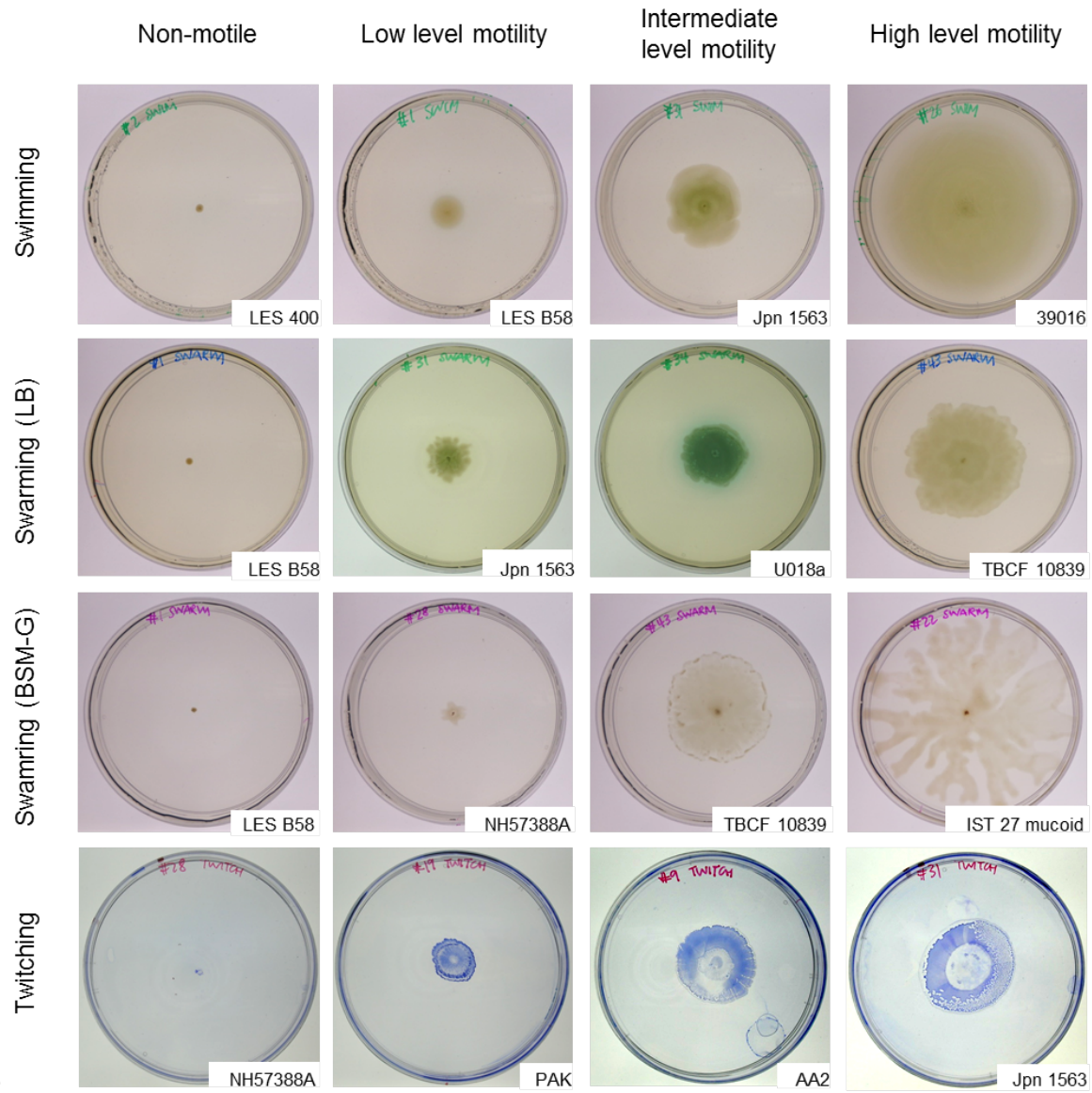


Figure S2

Fig. 3(a)

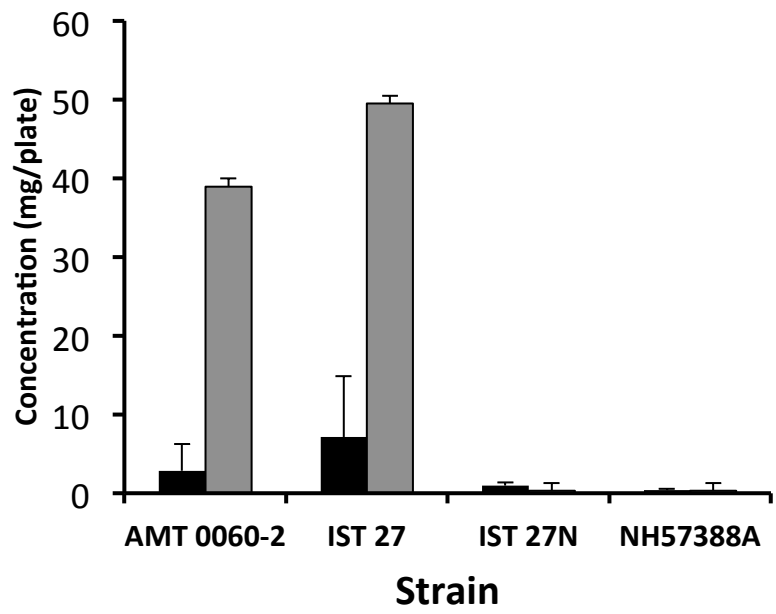
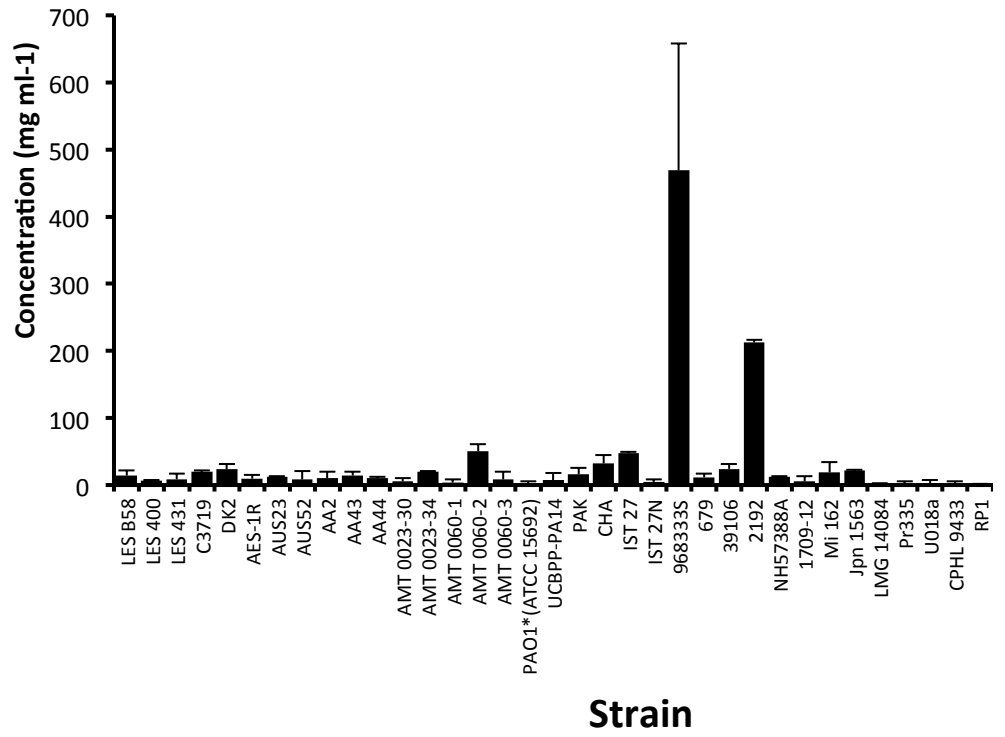


Fig. 3(b)

Figure S4

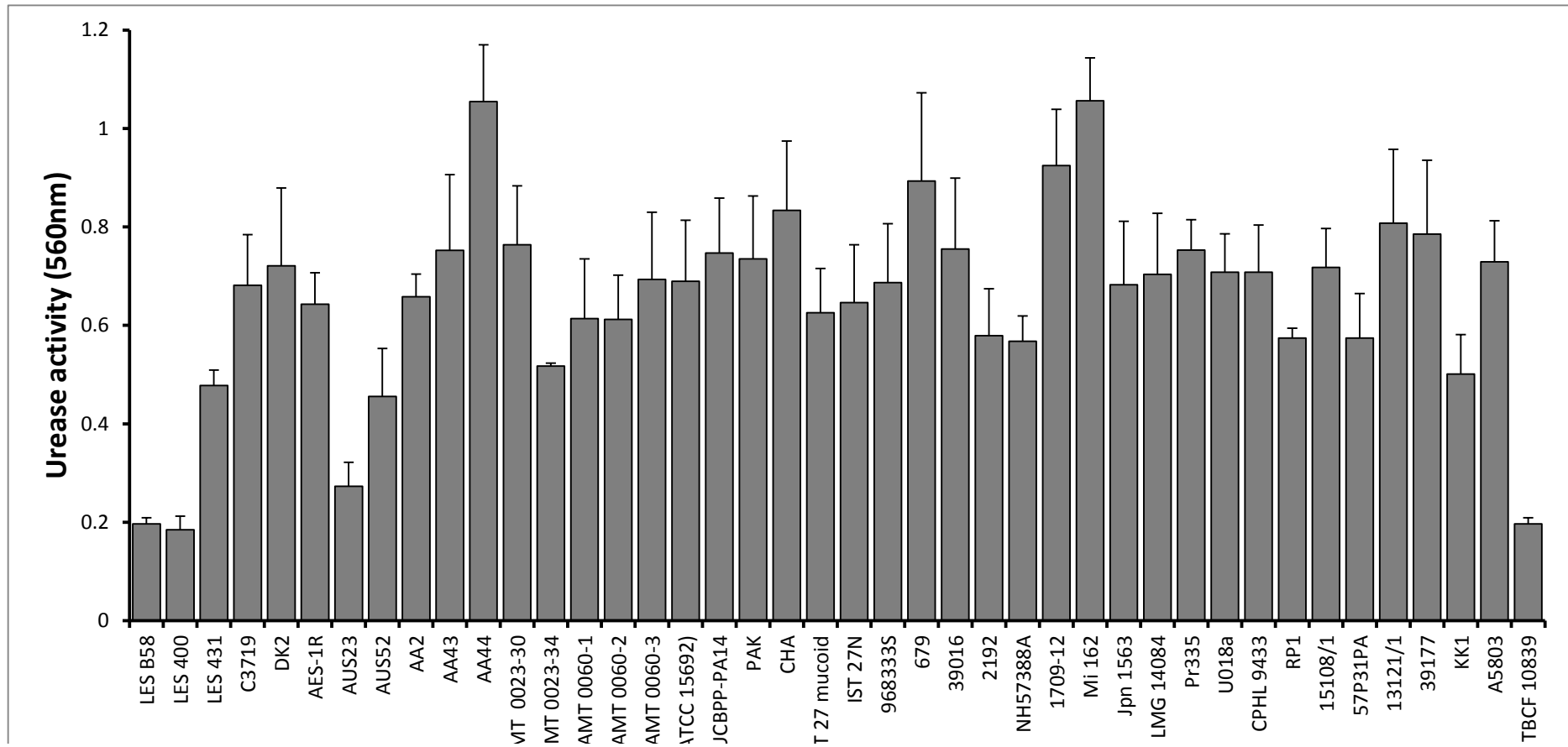
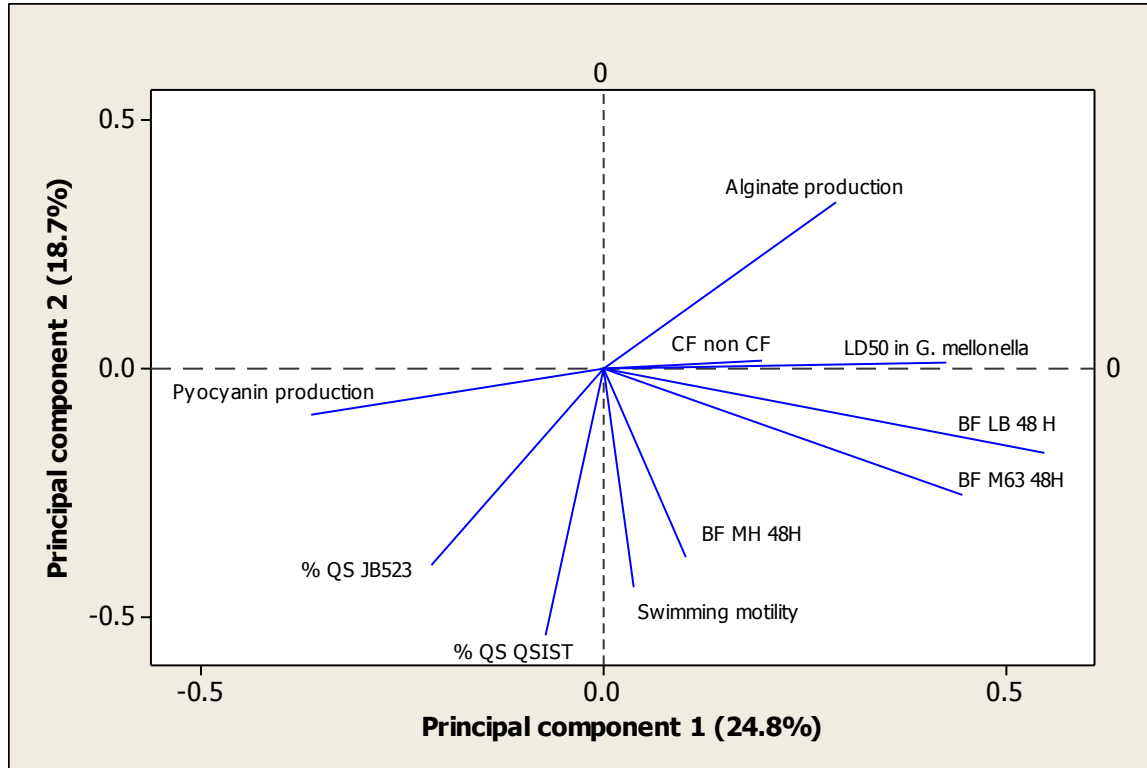


Fig S5

a)



b)

