

1 **Polyphasic classification of the gifted natural product producer *Streptomyces***  
2 ***roseifaciens* sp. nov.**

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20 Accession for the full genome assembly: GCF\_001445655.1

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23 **Abstract**

24 A polyphasic study was designed to establish the taxonomic status of a *Streptomyces* strain  
25 isolated from soil from the QinLing Mountains, Shaanxi Province, China, and found to be the  
26 source of known and new specialized metabolites. Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> was found to have  
27 chemotaxonomic, cultural and morphological properties consistent with its classification in the  
28 genus *Streptomyces*. The strain formed a distinct branch in the *Streptomyces* 16S rRNA gene  
29 tree and was closely related to the type strains of *Streptomyces hiroshimensis* and  
30 *Streptomyces mobaraerensis*. Multi-locus sequence analyses based on five conserved house-  
31 keeping gene alleles showed that strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> is closely related to the type strain of  
32 *S.hiroshimensis*, as was the case in analysis of a family of conserved proteins. The organism  
33 was also distinguished from *S. hiroshimensis* using cultural and phenotypic features. Average  
34 Nucleotide Identity and digital DNA-DNA hybridization values between the genomes of strain  
35 MBT76<sup>T</sup> and *S. hiroshimensis* DSM 40037<sup>T</sup> were 88.96 and 28.4+/-2.3%, respectively, which  
36 is in line with their assignment to different species. On the basis of this wealth of data it is  
37 proposed that strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> (=DSM 106196<sup>T</sup> = NCCB 100637<sup>T</sup>), be classified as a new  
38 species, *Streptomyces roseifaciens* sp.nov.

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40 Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> is an actinomycete isolated from a soil sample taken from the QinLing  
41 mountains in China. Many actinobacteria isolated from this niche turned out to be rich sources  
42 of bioactive compounds effective against multi-drug resistant bacterial pathogens [1]. Based  
43 on its genome sequence, MBT76 was positioned within the genus *Streptomyces* [2].  
44 *Streptomyces* sp. MBT76<sup>T</sup> is a gifted strain that produces various novel antibiotics and  
45 siderophores [2-5], its genome contains at least 44 biosynthetic gene clusters (BGCs) for  
46 specialized metabolites as identified by antiSMASH [6]. ]The importance of validly naming  
47 novel industrially important streptomycetes is often overlooked despite improvements in the  
48 classification of the genus *Streptomyces* [7-9] and adherence to the rules embodied in the  
49 International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes [10].

50 Actinobacteria are Gram-positive often filamentous bacteria that are a major source of  
51 bioactive natural products [11, 12]. The genus *Streptomyces*, the type genus of the family  
52 *Streptomycetaceae* within the actinobacteria [13], encompasses over 700 species with valid  
53 names (<http://www.bacterio.net/streptomyces.html>), many of which have been assigned to  
54 multi- and single-membered clades in *Streptomyces* 16S rRNA gene trees [7, 9]. Despite being  
55 the largest genus in the domain *Bacteria*, a steady stream of new *Streptomyces* species are  
56 being proposed based on combinations of genotypic and phenotypic features [14, 15]. It is  
57 particularly interesting that multi-locus sequence analyses (MLSA) of conserved house-  
58 keeping genes are providing much sharper resolution of relationships between closely related  
59 *Streptomyces* species than corresponding 16S rRNA gene sequence studies [8, 16]. Labeda  
60 and his colleagues observed correlations between certain morphological traits of  
61 streptomycetes and phylogenetic relationships based on MLSA data, as exemplified by the  
62 clustering of whorl-forming (verticillate) species (formerly *Streptovercillium*) into a single well  
63 supported clade. Similarly, the sequences of highly conserved proteins (SALPS) have been  
64 used to resolve relationships between morphologically complex actinobacteria, including  
65 streptomycetes and closely related taxa classified in the family *Streptomycetaceae* [17, 18].  
66 The aim of the present study was to establish the taxonomic status of *Streptomyces* sp.  
67 MBT76<sup>T</sup> using a polyphasic approach. The resultant data show that the strain forms the

68 nucleus of a novel verticillate *Streptomyces* species for which we propose the name  
69 *Streptomyces roseifaciens* sp.nov.

70 *Streptomyces* sp. MBT76<sup>T</sup> was isolated from a soil sample (depth 10-20 cm), collected  
71 from Shandi Village in the QinLing mountains, Shaanxi Province, China (34°03'28.1"N, 109°  
72 22'39.0"E) at an altitude of 660 m [1]. The soil sample (1 g) was enriched with 6% yeast extract  
73 broth [19] and incubated at 37°C for 2 h in a shaking incubator. 0.1 mL aliquots of 10<sup>-2</sup> to 10<sup>-4</sup>  
74 dilutions of the resultant preparations were spread over selective agar plates [1] supplemented  
75 with nystatin (50 µg/ml) and nalidixic acid (10 mg/ml), that were incubated at 30°C for 4 days.  
76 The colony of the test strain was subcultured onto Soy Flour Mannitol agar (SFM) [20]. The  
77 isolate and *Streptomyces hiroshimensis* DSM 40037<sup>T</sup> were maintained on yeast extract- malt  
78 extract agar slopes (International *Streptomyces* Project medium [ISP 2] [21]) at room  
79 temperature and as suspensions of spores and hyphae in 20%, v/v glycerol at -20°C and -  
80 80°C. Biomass for the chemotaxonomic and molecular systematic studies was cultured in  
81 shake flasks (180 rpm) of ISP 2 broth after incubation at 30°C for 2 days and washed with  
82 distilled water, cells for the detection of the chemical markers were freeze-dried and then  
83 stored at room temperature.

84 The test strain was examined for chemotaxonomic and morphological properties known to be  
85 of value in *Streptomyces* systematics [7, 15]. Spore chain arrangement and spore surface  
86 ornamentation were determined following growth on oatmeal agar (ISP 3 [21]) for 14 days at  
87 28°C, by scanning electron microscopy on a JEOL JSM-7600F instrument [22]. Key  
88 chemotaxonomic markers were sought using standard chromatographic procedures; the  
89 strain was examined for isomers of diaminopimelic acid (A<sub>2</sub>pm) [23], menaquinones and  
90 polar lipids [24] and whole-organism sugars [23]. In turn, cellular fatty acids were extracted,  
91 methylated and analysed by gas-chromatography (Hewlett Packard, model 6890) using the  
92 Sherlock Microbial Identification System [25] and the ACTINO version 6 database.

93 Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> was found to have chemotaxonomical and morphological properties  
94 consistent with its classification in the genus *Streptomyces* [7]. The organism formed  
95 branched substrate hyphae that carried filaments bearing short chains of oval to cylindrical,

96 smooth-surfaced spores arranged in verticils (Fig. 1). Whole-organism hydrolysate of the  
97 strain was rich in *LL*-diaminopimelic acid, glucose, mannose and ribose, the isoprenologues  
98 were composed of octahydrogenated menaquinone with nine isoprene units (MK-9[H8]) (47%)  
99 and lesser amounts of MK-9[H6] (8%) and MK-9[H4] (3%). The polar lipid pattern consisted of  
100 diphosphatidylglycerol, glycerophospholipid, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylinositol, and  
101 an unknown compound, as shown in Fig. S1. The cellular fatty acids of the organism contained  
102 major proportions (>10%) of *anteiso*-C<sub>15:0</sub> (34.40%), and *anteiso*-C<sub>17:0</sub> (10.92%), lower  
103 proportions (i.e. <10%) of *iso*-C<sub>14:0</sub> (8.28%), *iso*-C<sub>15:0</sub> (5.11%), *iso*-C<sub>16:0</sub> (7.99%), *anteiso*-C<sub>16:0</sub>  
104 (2.54%), C<sub>16:1</sub> ω9 (2.84%), C<sub>16:0</sub> (5.64%), C<sub>18:1</sub> ω9 (8.93%), C<sub>20:11</sub> ω11 (4.53%) and summed  
105 features C<sub>18:2</sub> ω9,12/C<sub>18:0</sub> (8.81%).

106 A 16S rRNA gene sequence (1,416 nucleotides [nt]) taken from the genome sequence  
107 of *Streptomyces* sp. MBT76<sup>T</sup> (Genbank accession number: LNBE00000000.1) was compared  
108 with corresponding sequences of the type strains of closely related *Streptomyces* species  
109 using the Eztaxon server [26]. The resultant sequences were aligned using CLUSTALW  
110 version 1.8 [27] and phylogenetic trees generated using the maximum-likelihood [28],  
111 maximum-parsimony [29] and neighbour-joining [30] algorithms taken from MEGA 7 software  
112 package [31-33]; an evolutionary distance matrix for the neighbour-joining analysis was  
113 prepared using the model of Jukes and Cantor (1969) [34]. The topologies of the inferred  
114 evolutionary trees were evaluated by bootstrap analyses [35] based on 1,000 repeats. The  
115 root positions of unrooted trees were estimated using the sequence of *Kitasatospora setae*  
116 KM 6054<sup>T</sup> (Genbank accession number: AP010968) .

117 *Streptomyces* sp. MBT76<sup>T</sup> formed a distinct phyletic line in the *Streptomyces* 16S rRNA gene  
118 tree (Fig. 2; see also Fig. S2-S3). It was found to be most closely related to the type strains  
119 of *Streptomyces hirosimensis* [36, 37], *Streptomyces mobaraensis* [36, 38] and *Streptomyces*  
120 *cinnamoneus* [36, 39] sharing 16S rRNA gene sequence similarities with them of 99.37% (9 nt  
121 differences), (99.24%) (= 11 nt differences) and 99.17% (=12 nt differences), respectively. The  
122 corresponding 16S rRNA gene sequence similarities with the remaining strains fell within the

123 range 98.13 to 99.10%. The test strain was also found to form a distinct phyletic line in the  
124 analysis based on the maximum-parsimony and neighbour-joining algorithms.

125 The partial sequences of five house-keeping genes: *atpD* (encoding ATP synthase F1,  
126  $\beta$ -subunit), *gyrB* (for DNA gyrase B subunit), *recA* (for recombinase A), *rpoB* (for RNA  
127 polymerase  $\beta$ -subunit) and *trpB* (for tryptophan synthase,  $\beta$ -subunit) were drawn from the  
128 full genome sequence of strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> and from corresponding sequences on the  
129 *Streptomyces* type strains used to generate the 16S rRNA gene tree (Fig. 3; sequences  
130 presented in Table S1). The multilocus sequence analysis was based on the procedure  
131 described by Labeda [40], the sequences of the protein loci of the strains were concatenated  
132 head-to-tail and exported in FASTA format, yielding a dataset of 33 strains and 2351  
133 positions. The sequences were inferred using MUSCLE [41] and phylogenetic relationships  
134 defined using the maximum-likelihood algorithm from MEGA 7 software [31, 33] based on  
135 the General Time Reversible model [42]. The topology of the inferred tree was evaluated in  
136 a bootstrap analysis as described above. Phylogenetic trees were also generated using the  
137 maximum-parsimony [29] and neighbour-joining [30] algorithms. Pairwise distances between  
138 the sequences of each locus were established using the two parameter model [43]. Strain  
139 pairs showing MLSA evolutionary distances <0.007 were taken to be conspecific as  
140 determined by Rong and Huang [44], a value that corresponds to the 70% DNA-DNA  
141 threshold recommended for the discrimination of prokaryotic species [45].

142 MLSA have clarified relationships between closely related streptomycetes, thereby  
143 reflecting the strong phylogenetic signal provided by partial sequences of single copy house-  
144 keeping genes [8, 9, 40, 44]. In the present study all of the verticillate-forming streptomycetes  
145 fell into a single clade that is sharply separated from associated clades composed of strains  
146 that form spores in straight, looped or spiral chains (Fig. 3). Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> and the type strain  
147 of *S. hiroshimensis* were found to form a distinct phyletic line supported by all of the tree-  
148 making algorithms and a 100% bootstrap value. It can also be seen from Figure 3 that these  
149 strains are at the periphery of a well-supported branch composed of an additional eight  
150 *Streptomyces* type strains that produce verticillate spore chains. The discovery that the strain

151 can be separated from its closest phylogenetic neighbours by MLSA distances well above  
152 0.007 threshold (Table 1) indicates that it forms a distinct phyletic line within the evolutionary  
153 radiation of the genus *Streptomyces* [16]. The results of this study underpin those presented  
154 by Labeda et al. [8] by showing that streptomycetes which produce verticillate spore chains  
155 form a recognizable group in the *Streptomyces* gene tree that can be equated with the genus  
156 “*Streptoverticillium*” [46, 47].

157 The SsgA-like proteins (SALPs) have recently been proposed as phylogenetic markers  
158 for the accurate classification of Actinobacteria [17]. Members of the SALP protein family are  
159 typically between 130 and 145 amino acids (aa) long, and are unique to morphologically  
160 complex actinobacteria [18]; they coordinate cell division and spore maturation [48, 49]. SsgB  
161 shows extremely high conservation within a genus, while there is high diversity even between  
162 closely related genera [17]. Genes encoding SALPs were drawn from the genomes of strains  
163 MBT76<sup>T</sup>, *S. cinnamoneus* (NZ\_MOEP01000440.1), *S. mobaraensis* (NZ\_AORZ01000001.1)  
164 and *S. hirosimensis* (NZ\_JOFL01000001.1) and from those of non-verticillate reference  
165 organisms, namely “*Streptomyces coelicolor*” A3(2) (NC\_003888.3), *S. griseus* subspecies  
166 *griseus* NBBC 13350<sup>T</sup> (NC\_010572.1) and “*Streptomyces lividans*” TK24 (NZ\_GG657756.1).  
167 A second BLAST search was undertaken based on a low cut-off value (e-value 10<sup>-5</sup>) to  
168 interrogate the genome sequence of “*S. coelicolor*” M145 (NC\_003888.3) to verify that the  
169 initial hits were *bona fide* SALPs. Sequences showing their best reciprocal hits against SALPs  
170 were aligned using MUSCLE [41] and trees generated using the maximum-likelihood algorithm  
171 with default parameters as implemented in MEGA 7 software [31], the robustness of the  
172 resultant trees was checked in bootstrap analyses [35] based on 1000 replicates.

173 The maximum-likelihood tree (Fig. 4) shows that all of the strains have genes that  
174 encode for the cell division proteins SsgA, SsgB, SsgD and SsgG [18, 48]. It is also evident  
175 that the SsgB-protein, which mediates sporulation-specific division in *Streptomyces* strains [49]  
176 encodes for identical proteins in both the verticillate and reference strains. The sequences of  
177 the SALP proteins, SsgA and SsgG, underpin the close relationship between the test strain  
178 and *S. hirosimensis* and separate them from the type strains of *S. cinnamoneus* and *S.*

179 *mobaerensis*. It is particularly interesting that the verticillate strains lack an orthologue of SsgE,  
180 which is fully conserved in non-verticillate streptomycetes. SsgE proteins are considered to  
181 have a role in morphogenesis and the length of spore chains in “*S. coelicolor*” [48]. Further  
182 comparative studies are needed to determine whether the absence of SsgE in the genomes  
183 of verticillate streptomycetes is correlated to their different mode of sporulation.

184 Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> and *S. hiroshimensis* DSM 40037<sup>T</sup> were examined for cultural and  
185 phenotypic properties known to be of value in the systematics of the genus *Streptomyces* [15,  
186 50]. The cultural properties were recorded from tryptone-yeast extract, yeast extract-malt  
187 extract, oatmeal, inorganic-salt starch, glycerol-asparagine, peptone- yeast extract-iron and  
188 tyrosine agar (ISP media 1-7, [21]) plates following incubation as 28°C for 14 days. Aerial and  
189 substrate mycelium colours and those of diffusible pigments were determined by comparison  
190 against colour charts [51]. The strains grew well on all of the media forming a range of pigments  
191 (Table 2). In general, strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> produced a pink aerial spore mass, dark red substrate  
192 mycelia and pale brown diffusible pigments, black melanin pigments were formed on ISP 6  
193 agar. In contrast, *S. hiroshimensis* formed a white aerial spore mass, cream, pink or white  
194 substrate mycelia and, when produced, a brown diffusible pigment, it also formed melanin  
195 pigments on ISP 6 agar.

196 The enzyme profiles for the test strain and *S. hiroshimensis* were determined using  
197 API-ZYM kits (BioMerieux) and a standard inoculum corresponding to 5 on the Mc Farland  
198 scale [52] and by following the protocol provided by the manufacturer. Similarly, a range of  
199 biochemical, degradative and physiological properties were acquired using media and  
200 methods described previously [50]. Identical results were obtained for all of the duplicate  
201 cultures.

202 The full genome sequence of strain MBT76T (GenBank accession number  
203 GCF\_001445655) was elucidated using Illumina sequencing. The sequences assembled into  
204 18 contigs, giving a total genome size of 8.64 Mb with a G+C content of 72.1%, with an N50  
205 of 2,514,044 and a 200x genome coverage. The genome is predicted to encode 73 RNAs and  
206 7,598 proteins. Gene functions were distributed among different classes using the RAST



207 annotation tool (Fig. S4) [53]. A total number of 44 secondary metabolites are predicted by  
208 antiSMASH 4.2.0 [6], as shown in Table S2. Several genomic metrics are now available to  
209 distinguish between orthologous genes of closely related prokaryotes, including the calculation  
210 of average nucleotide identity (ANI) and digital DNA-DNA hybridization values [54, 55]. In the  
211 present study, ANI and dDDH values were determined from the genomes of strain MBT76<sup>T</sup>  
212 and *S. hiroshimensis* DSM 40037<sup>T</sup> using the ortho-ANInu algorithm from Ezbiotaxon [54] and  
213 the genome-to-genome distance calculator (GGDC 2.0) at <http://ggdc.dsmz.de>. The dDDH  
214 value between the genomes of the two strains was 28.4% ± 2.3 %, a result well below the  
215 70% threshold for assigning strains to the same species [45], the digital DNA G+C value  
216 recorded for strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> was 71.9 mol%. Similarly, a low ANI value of 88.96 was found  
217 between the two organisms, a result well below the threshold used to delineate prokaryote  
218 species [56, 57].

219 It can be concluded from the chemotaxonomic, cultural, morphological and  
220 phylogenetic data that strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> belongs to the genus *Streptomyces*. It can be  
221 distinguished from the type strain, *S. hiroshimensis*, its closest phylogenetic neighbour using  
222 genotypic and phenotypic procedures, notably by low ANI and dDDH values. Consequentially,  
223 strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> should be recognised as a new *Streptomyces* species for this we propose the  
224 name *Streptomyces roseifaciens* sp.nov.

225

#### 226 **Description of *Streptomyces roseifaciens* sp. nov.**

227 *Streptomyces roseifaciens* (ro.se.i.fa'ci.ens L. masc. adj. *roseus* rosy; L. pres. part. *faciens*  
228 producing; N.L. part. adj. *roseifaciens* producing rosy colour). Aerobic, Gram-stain positive  
229 actinobacterium which forms an extensively branched substrate mycelium that carries long  
230 straight filaments bearing at more or less regular intervals branches arranged in verticils. Each  
231 branch of the verticils produces at its apex short chains of 3-5 spores with smooth surfaces.  
232 Grows well on all ISP media. A red substrate mycelium, a pink aerial spore mass and a pale  
233 brown diffusible pigment are produced on oatmeal agar. Grows from 20-50°C, optimally at  
234 ~30°C, from pH 5.0 to pH 11, optimally at pH ~7, and in the presence of 2% NaCl. Produces

235 acid and alkaline phosphatase,  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin,  $\alpha$ -cysteine arylamidase, esterase (C4),  
236 esterase lipase (C8), *N*-acetyl- $\beta$ -glucosaminidase,  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -glucosidase,  $\alpha$ -mannosidase,  
237 naphthol-AS-B1-phosphatase, trypsin and valine arylamidase, but not  $\alpha$ -fucosidase,  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -  
238 galactosidase or  $\beta$ -glucuronidase (API-ZYM tests). Degrades casein, gelatin, hypoxanthine,  
239 starch and L-tyrosine. Glucose, inositol and sucrose are used as sole carbon sources.  
240 Additional phenotype properties are given in Tables 1 and 2. Major fatty acids are anteiso-  
241 C<sub>15:0</sub>, and anteiso-C<sub>17:0</sub>, the predominant menaquinone is MK-9 (H8), the polar lipid profile  
242 contains diphosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylinositol,  
243 glycopospholipid, and an unidentified lipid, the DNA G+C composition is 71.9 mol% and the  
244 genome size 8.64 Mbp. The genome contains 44 biosynthetic gene clusters many of which  
245 encode for unknown specialized metabolites.

246 The type strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> (=NCCB 100637<sup>T</sup> =DSM 106196<sup>T</sup>) was isolated from a soil  
247 sample from the QinLing mountains, Shaanxi Province, China. The species description is  
248 based on a single strain and hence serves as a description of the type strain. The GenBank  
249 accession number for the assembled genome of *Streptomyces roseifaciens* is  
250 GCA\_001445655.1.

251

## 252 **Funding statement**

253 This project was supported by an EMBO Short-Term Fellowship (6746) awarded to LvdA, and  
254 by the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences (Newcastle University). LN is grateful to  
255 Newcastle University for a postdoctoral fellowship.

256

## 257 **Conflicts of interest**

258 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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401 **Table 1. MLSA distances between strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> and the type strains of closely related**  
 402 ***Streptomyces* species.**

Strain		MLSA (Kimura 2-parameter) distance										
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	<b>Strain MBT76<sup>T</sup></b>	-										
2	<i>S. abikoensis</i> AS 4.1662 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.056</b>										
3	<i>S. cuspidosporus</i> NRRL B-5620 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.097</b>	0.128	0.117								
4	<i>S. griseocarneus</i> NRRL B-1350 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.059</b>	0.121	0.067	0.075							
5	<i>S. hiroshimensis</i> NRRL B-1823 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.014</b>	0.114	0.084	0.070	0.063						
6	<i>S. kishiwadensis</i> NRRL B-12326 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.062</b>	0.106	0.093	0.080	0.068	0.107					
7	<i>S. lacticiproducens</i> NRRL B-24800 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.065</b>	0.106	0.089	0.090	0.083	0.112	0.078				
8	<i>S. lavenduligriseus</i> NRRL B-3173 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.055</b>	0.115	0.090	0.086	0.079	0.117	0.077	0.052			
9	<i>S. lilacinus</i> NRRL B-1968 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.038</b>	0.109	0.075	0.081	0.054	0.115	0.060	0.066	0.109		
10	<i>S. luteosporus</i> NRRL 2401 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.079</b>	0.106	0.080	0.084	0.092	0.104	0.066	0.088	0.117	0.074	
11	<i>S. mashuensis</i> DSM 40221 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.062</b>	0.106	0.093	0.081	0.069	0.107	0.001	0.078	0.104	0.060	
12	<i>S. sparsogenes</i> NRRL 2940 <sup>T</sup>	<b>0.100</b>	0.130	0.119	0.123	0.112	0.133	0.102	0.108	0.122	0.097	0.102

403  
404

Table 2. Growth and cultural characteristics of strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> and *Streptomyces hiroshimensis* DSM 40037<sup>T</sup> after incubation at 30 °C for 14 days.

Strain MBT76 <sup>T</sup>	Growth	Aerial spore mass colour		Substrate mycelium colour	Diffusible pigment
		spore	mass colour		
Glycerol- asparagine agar (ISP 5)	+++	Pink		Dark red	None
Inorganic salts-starch agar (ISP 4)	+++	Pink		Pink	None
Oatmeal agar (ISP 3)	+++	Pink		Red	Pale brown
Peptone-yeast extract- iron agar (ISP-6)	++	Pink		Grey	Black
Tryptone-yeast extract agar (ISP 1)	+++	Pink		Dark red	Pale brown
Tyrosine agar (ISP 7)	+++	Grey		Dark red	Pale brown
Yeast extract-malt extract agar (ISP 2)	+++	Pink		Dark red	Pale brown
<i>S. hiroshimensis</i> DSM 40037 <sup>T</sup>					
Glycerol- asparagine agar (ISP 5)	+++	White		Pink	None
Inorganic salts-starch agar (ISP 4)	+++	White		White	None
Oatmeal agar (ISP 3)	+++	Pink		Pink	Brown
Peptone-yeast extract- iron agar (ISP 6)	++	None		Grey	Black
Tryptone-yeast extract agar (ISP 1)	+++	White		Cream	Brown
Tyrosine agar (ISP 7)	+++	White		Pink	None
Yeast extract-malt extract agar (ISP 2)	+++	White		Cream	Brown

+++abundant growth. ++, very good growth

408 **Table 3. Phenotypic properties that distinguish strain MBT76<sup>T</sup> from *S.hiroshimensis***  
 409 **DSM 40037<sup>T</sup>**

Characteristics	Strain MBT76 <sup>T</sup>	<i>S. hiroshimensis</i> DSM 40037 <sup>T</sup>
Cultural characteristics on yeast extract-malt extract agar		
Aerial spore mass	Pink	White
Substrate mycelium	Dark red	Cream
Diffusible pigment	Pale brown	Brown
API ZYM tests:		
α-Chymotrypsin	+	-
β- Glucosidase	+	-
Lipase (C14)	+	-
α -Mannosidase	+	-
Trypsin	+	-
Degradation of:		
Xanthine	-	+
Growth on sole carbon source		
Sucrose	+	-
Fructose	-	+
Growth in presence of:		
3% w/v sodium chloride	-	+

410



411 **Legends for Figures:**

412 **Figure 1.** Scanning electron micrograph from a 14-day old culture of *Streptomyces* MBT76<sup>T</sup>  
413 grown on an ISP-3 agar plate showing the presence of smooth, round to cylindrical verticillate  
414 spores. A shows a full overview, the white and black arrows refer to the respective  
415 magnifications B and C. Scale bars 1 μM.

416

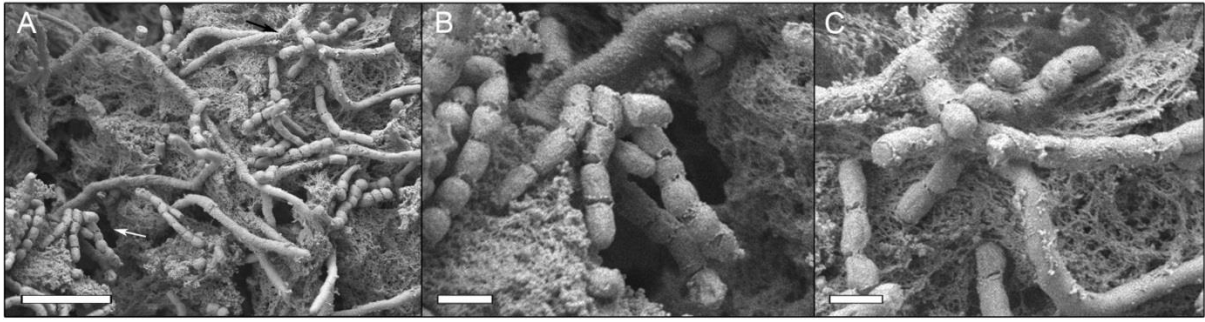
417 **Figure 2.** Maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences,  
418 showing relationships between isolate MBT76<sup>T</sup> and the type strains of closely related  
419 *Streptomyces* species. Asterisks indicate branches of the tree that were also recovered using  
420 the neighbour-joining and maximum-parsimony tree-making algorithms. Numbers at the nodes  
421 indicate levels of bootstrap based on an analysis of 1,000 sampled datasets, only values above  
422 50% are given. The root position of the tree was determined using *Kitasatospora setae* KM-  
423 6054<sup>T</sup>. GenBank accession numbers are given in parentheses. Scale bar, 0.005 substitutions  
424 per nucleotide position.

425

426 **Figure 3.** Phylogenetic tree inferred from concatenated partial sequences of house-keeping  
427 genes *atpD*, *gyrB*, *recA*, *rpoB* and *trpB* using the maximum-likelihood algorithm, based on the  
428 general time reversible model. The final dataset consisted of 2351 positions and 33 strains.  
429 Asterisks indicate branches of the tree that were recovered using the maximum-parsimony and  
430 neighbor-joining algorithms. Percentages at the nodes represent levels of bootstrap support  
431 from 1,000 resampled datasets with values with less than 60% not shown. *Streptomyces*  
432 morphology: <sup>a</sup>: verticillate spore chains. <sup>b</sup>: not determined <sup>c</sup>: *Streptomyces* with canonical  
433 (apical) spore chains.

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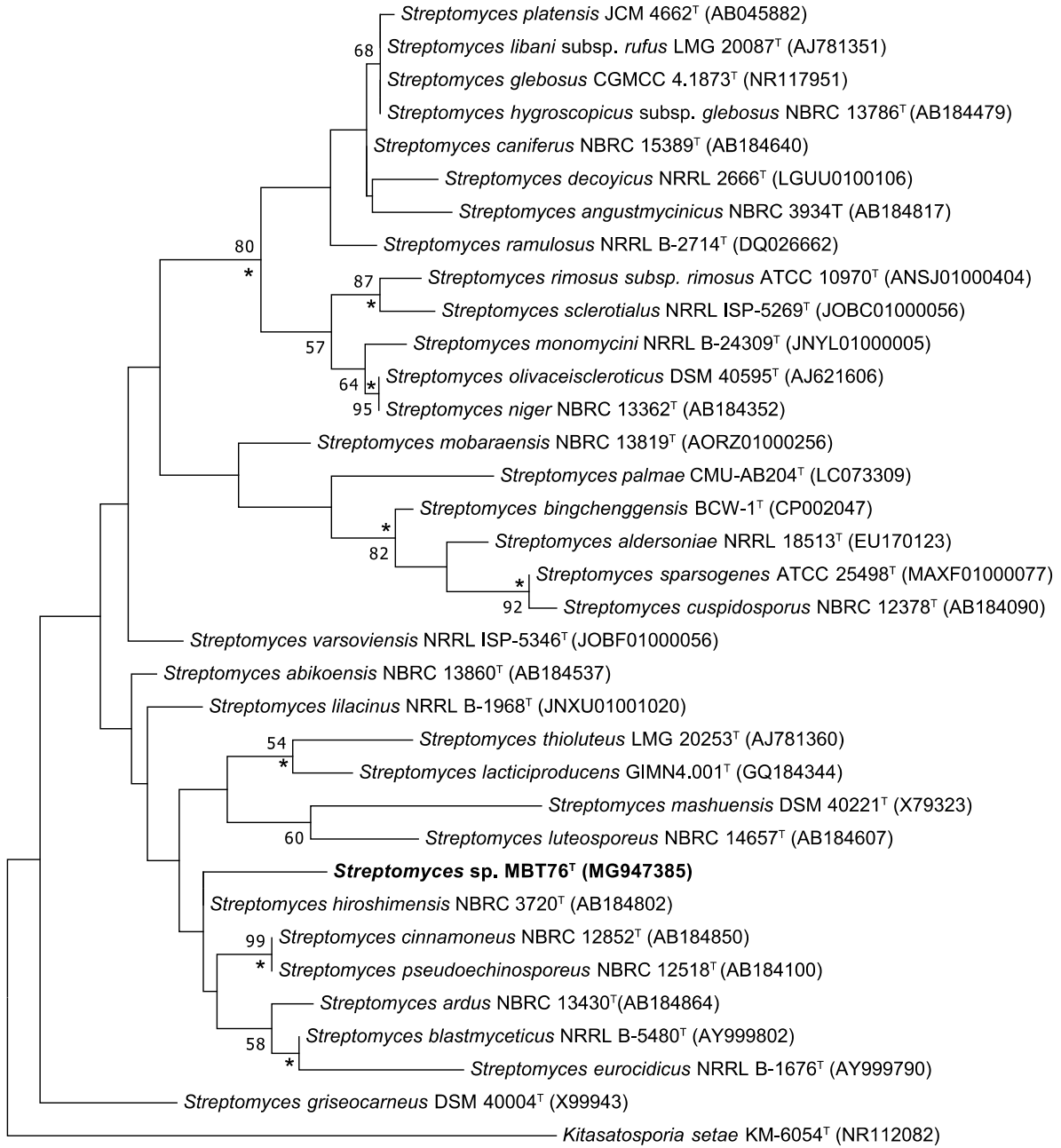
435 **Figure 4.** A composite maximum-likelihood tree showing the relationships between strain  
436 MBT76<sup>T</sup>, the type strains of *S. cinnamoneus*, *S. hiroshimensis*, *S. mobaraensis* and reference  
437 strains “*S. coelicolor*”, “*S. lividans*” and *S. griseus*, based on the sequences of SALP proteins.



438

439 **Figure 1.**

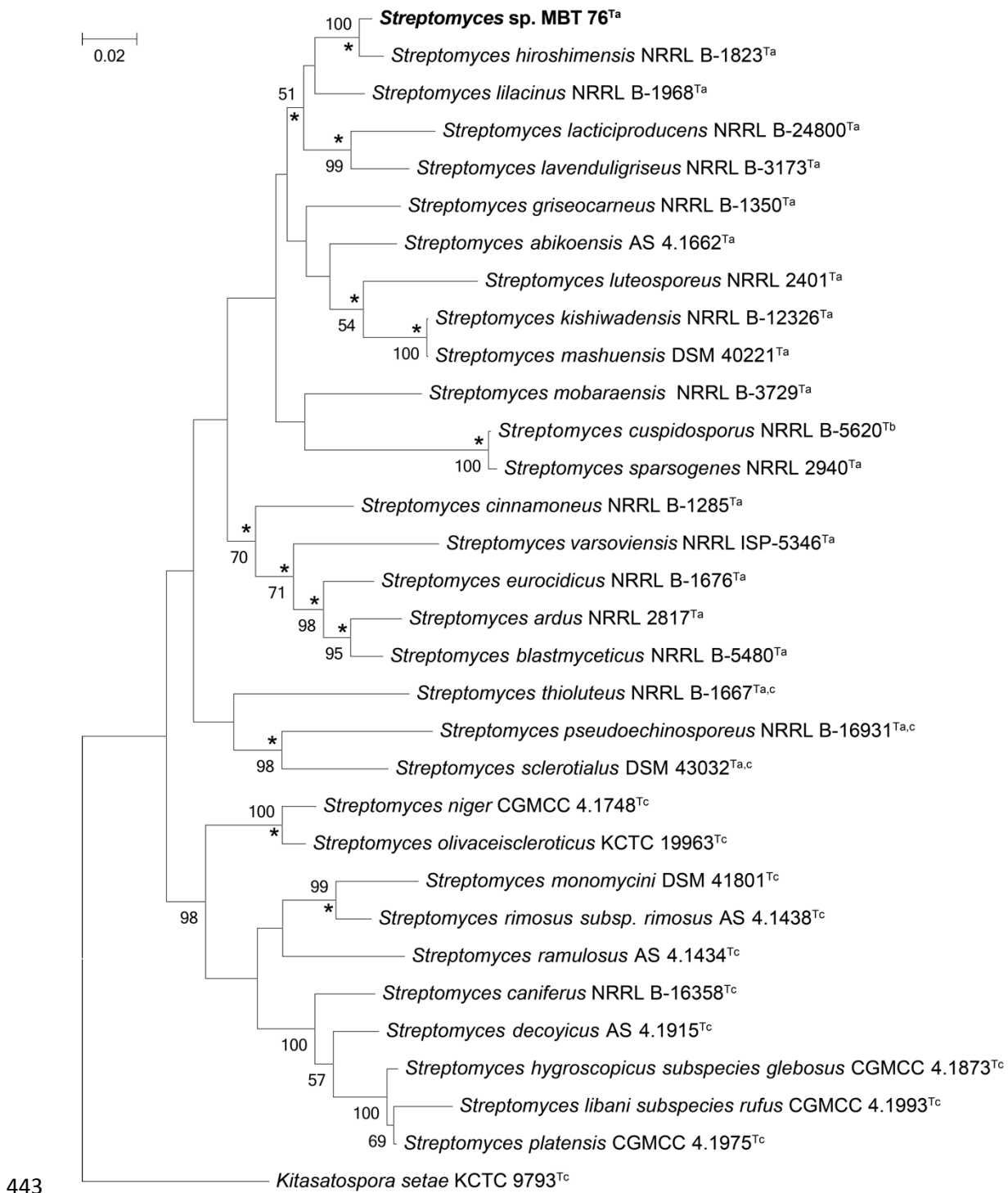
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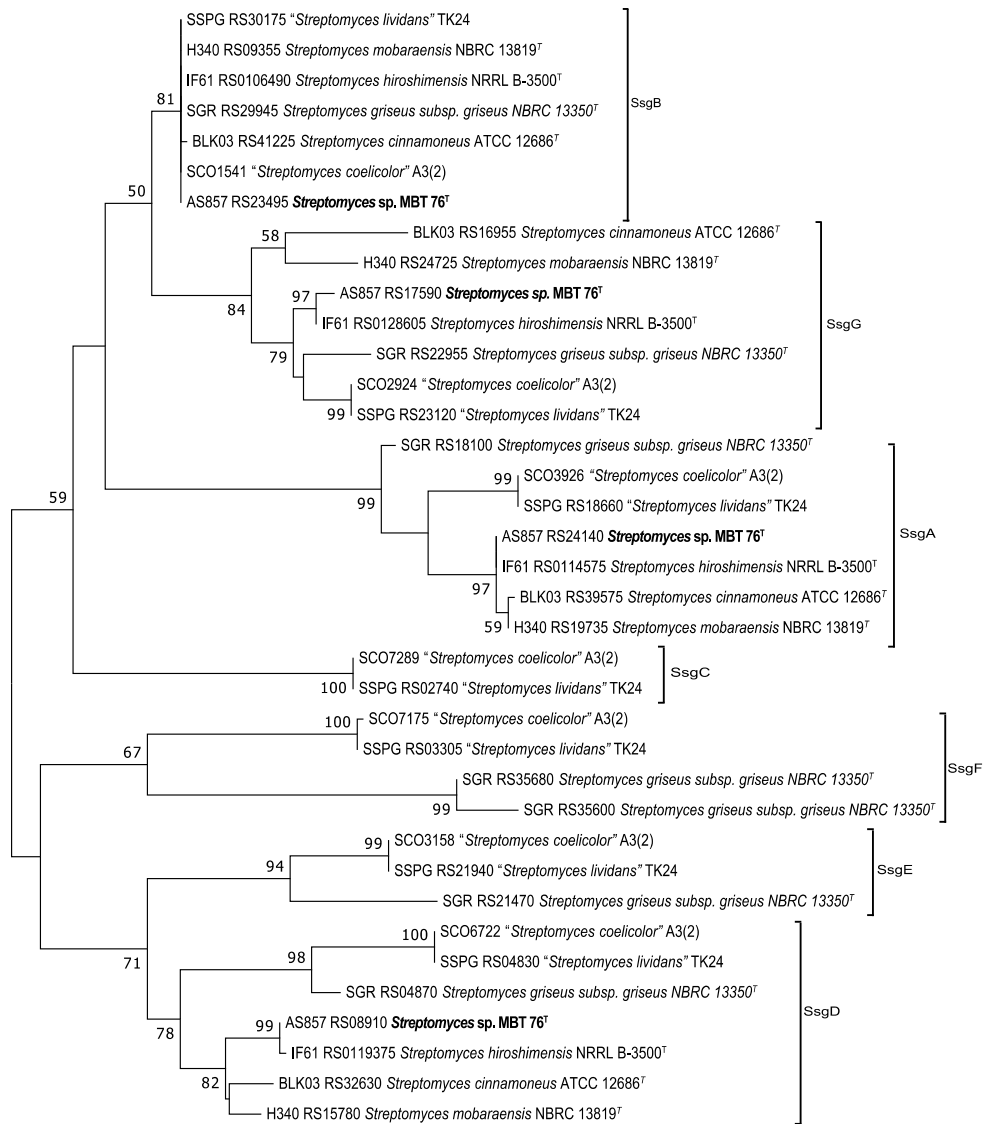
441

0.0050

442 **Figure 2.**



444 **Figure 3.**



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0.20

446 **Figure 4.**