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Expanding gene families helps generate the metabolic robustness required for antibiotic biosynthesis

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24 **Introductory paragraph**

25 Expanding the genetic repertoire of an organism by gene duplication or horizontal gene
26 transfer (HGT) can aid adaptation. *Streptomyces* species are prolific producers of bioactive
27 specialised metabolites with adaptive functions in nature and some have found utility in human
28 medicine such as antibiotics. Whilst the biosynthesis of these specialised metabolites is
29 directed by dedicated biosynthetic gene clusters (BGCs), little attention has been focussed on
30 how these organisms have evolved robustness into their genomes to facilitate the metabolic
31 plasticity required to provide chemical precursors for biosynthesis. Here we show that specific
32 expansions of gene families in central carbon metabolism have evolved and become fixed in
33 *Streptomyces* bacteria to enable plasticity and robustness that maintain cell functionality whilst
34 costly specialised metabolites are produced. These expanded gene families, in addition to
35 being a metabolic adaptation, make excellent targets for metabolic engineering of industrial
36 specialised metabolite producing bacteria.

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38 Introduction

39 A remarkable feature of specialised metabolite producing Actinobacterial genomes is the
40 annotation of multiple genes that encode the same putative biochemical function^{1,2}. This
41 expansion of gene families by gene duplication or HGT is thought to introduce robustness into
42 biological systems, which in turn facilitates evolvability and adaptation³⁻⁵. The expansion of
43 gene families results in relaxed selection following the gene duplication or HGT event, that
44 allows the accumulation of mutations which enable diversification of function to occur⁶. This
45 suggests that gene family expansion within genomes is a key driver of biological innovation
46 by facilitating adaptation⁷. The production of extensive specialised metabolites by certain
47 Actinobacterial lineages is thought to be a key adaptive response to life in complex, highly
48 competitive environments such as soil⁸⁻¹⁰ and, as such, may drive the expansion of primary
49 metabolic capability providing the metabolic robustness that facilitates the evolution of novel
50 biosynthetic functions.

51 Surprisingly many central metabolic enzymes are non-essential for survival due to genetic
52 redundancy through the presence of isoenzymes or alternative reactions. The redundancy
53 allows cells to adapt to a variety of habitats and dynamic environmental conditions through
54 provision of metabolic plasticity¹¹. Whilst this has been studied in the unicellular enteric
55 bacterium *Escherichia coli* and the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*¹², little attention has been
56 paid to organisms with extensive specialised metabolism. Gene families of Actinobacterial
57 developmental genes have been studied at the genetic level^{7,13,14} but little attention has been
58 paid to either primary or specialised metabolism¹⁵ and how the supply of biosynthetic
59 precursors is maintained during the adaptive response under challenging environmental
60 conditions.

61 In Actinobacteria, production of specialised metabolites is frequently growth phase dependent
62 and usually in response to nutrient starvation and during entry into sporulation¹⁶. This creates
63 a potential metabolic conflict for an organism, where declining availability of metabolites may
64 constrain certain cellular process in favour of others, such as reducing cellular pools of
65 metabolites that are used directly for specialised metabolites. Under these conditions it is likely
66 that genetic redundancy can promote robustness and plasticity that helps to maintain cellular
67 function in the face of perturbation^{17,18}.

68 Here we systematically examine the genetic redundancy within the genomes of specialised
69 metabolite producing Actinobacteria to understand how genetic robustness enables the
70 evolution of extensive specialized metabolism. Moreover, a detailed functional analysis of a
71 redundant pyruvate kinase gene pair from *Streptomyces coelicolor* A3(2) indicates that
72 biochemical diversification at the enzyme level facilitates the evolution of distinct physiological

73 roles which enables functionality during the metabolic reprogramming that is associated with
74 physiological differentiation.

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77 Results

78 Gene expansion events are overrepresented in specialised metabolite producing 79 Actinobacteria

80 To determine if gene expansion events in central metabolism occur with greater frequency in
81 specialised metabolite producing organisms, a database of 614 Actinobacterial genomes
82 spanning 80 genera was compiled. All genomes were retrieved from GenBank, and re-
83 annotated with RAST¹⁹ to ensure consistency of annotation across the database and were
84 then analysed in a bespoke bioinformatics pipeline based on EvoMining²⁰ (Supplementary Fig.
85 S1). It was hypothesised that, if precursor supplying pathways are a contributing factor to the
86 adaptive response of specialised metabolite production, then the enzymatic nodes
87 contributing to precursor supply should be overrepresented in the database (Table 1 and
88 Supplementary Table S1).

89 Expansion events were defined as cases where the number of enzyme family members per
90 suborder had a value equal or higher than the mean number of members per phylum plus its
91 standard deviation. The glycolytic pathway showed highest number of gene expansion events,
92 in the Streptomycineae and Catenulisporineae with 23.3% and 25.0% more genes encoding
93 glycolytic function than was average for that pathway in the phylum Actinobacteria respectively
94 (Table 1). Pseudonocardineae showed highest number of gene expansions in
95 gluconeogenesis (25% higher than the mean phylum value) and in the TCA cycle (28.3%
96 higher than the mean phylum value). This was also true for many amino acid biosynthetic
97 pathways. Where the main precursor is derived from 2-oxo-glutarate (Glu, Gln, Pro, Arg),
98 expansion was 20.1% more than the mean suborder value, with pyruvate derived amino acids
99 (Ala, Ile, Leu, Val; 31.3%), oxaloacetate derived amino acids (Asp, Asn, Thr, Met, Lys; 20.7%),
100 3-PGA derived amino acids (Gly, Ser, Cys; 24%) and E4P/PEP derived amino acids (Tyr, Phe,
101 Trp; 19.4%).

102 Focusing on the genus *Streptomyces*, which is renowned as being amongst the most talented
103 of genera in terms of specialised metabolite production, it was found that 14 enzymatic steps
104 from central metabolism (Glycolysis, TCA cycle, and amino acid metabolism) represented
105 gene expansion events, such that they are overrepresented in this genus compared to the rest
106 of the database. The following enzyme functions were found to be over-represented in the
107 genus *Streptomyces* compared to the whole Actinobacterial phylum: phosphofructokinase
108 (PFK), pyruvate kinase (PK), pyruvate phosphate dikinase (PPDK), malic enzyme (ME),
109 pyruvate dehydrogenase complex E1 (PDHC E1), chorismate mutase, acetylglutamate
110 kinase, diaminopimelate decarboxylase, aspartate aminotransferase, aspartate-
111 semialdehyde dehydrogenase, serine hydroxymethyltransferase, glutamine synthetase,

112 arginosuccinate lyase and methionine synthetase (Table S1). To investigate how gene
113 expansions in Actinobacteria are a potential prerequisite for increasing robustness in
114 specialised metabolism capability, the two pyruvate kinases from *Streptomyces* were
115 studied further due to their central role in carbon metabolism linking glycolysis,
116 gluconeogenesis and the TCA cycle.

117 **Pyruvate kinases in *Streptomyces* arose by gene duplication**

118 PK catalyses the terminal step of glycolysis, converting one molecule of phosphoenolpyruvate
119 to one molecule of pyruvate using ADP as the phosphor-acceptor resulting in the production
120 of ATP. PK therefore plays a key role in linking glycolysis and the citric acid cycle. Moreover,
121 it results in the formation of a direct precursor of Acetyl-CoA, which feeds directly into
122 polyketide specialised metabolites. A high resolution species level phylogeny of the
123 Actinobacteria was constructed using the β -subunit of RNA polymerase (RpoB)^{21,22} which
124 allowed the segregation of the phylum into three distinct phylogenetic branches: one
125 composed of Streptomycineae and Catenulesporinae, a second including Propionibacterineae,
126 Actinomycineae, Bifidobacteriales and Micrococcineae and the third one with
127 Micromonosporineae, Glycomycineae, Corynebacterineae, Pseudonocardineae, Frankineae
128 and Streptosporangineae (Fig. 1A).

129 A second phylogeny of the annotated PKs of the Actinobacteria was constructed. It indicated
130 that there is a high level of congruence with the RpoB phylogeny as expected for a central
131 metabolic enzyme (Fig. 1B). However, a bifurcating topology within the Streptomycineae
132 family was observed, which contained the two genes encoding the putative PKs. This topology
133 indicates that a gene duplication event occurred, which gave rise to two PKs within this group.
134 Analysis of 286 *Streptomyces* species showed that 281 species have duplicate copies of PK,
135 three species possess a single copy (*S. somaliensis*, *S. sp* NRRL F5135 and *S.*
136 *scrabrisporus*), two species have three copies (*S. olindensis* and *S. sp.* Ach505) and a single
137 species has four copies (*S. resistomycificus*). Interestingly, *S. sp* Ach505 and *S.*
138 *resistomycificus* had one copy of *pyk* in each main branch of the PK tree and additional copies
139 were found to be phylogenetically distant, suggesting that these copies were acquired through
140 horizontal gene transfer (HGT). Overall, 92 % (302 of 327) Actinobacterial genomes outside
141 of the genus *Streptomyces* encoded a single PK reinforcing the uniqueness of the duplication
142 in this genus (Fig. 1B).

143 To determine if the duplicate PKs annotated in the *Streptomyces* genome have pyruvate
144 kinase activity we used the two PKs from the model streptomycete, *S. coelicolor* A3(2), in
145 genetic complementation tests of PK mutants of *Escherichia coli*. *E. coli* also has two PKs: a
146 primary enzyme *pykF*, which is a Type I enzyme, regulated allosterically by fructose 1,6

147 biphosphate (FBP) and a distinct secondary Type II PK (*pykA*), regulated allosterically by
148 AMP²³. In *Streptomyces*, both PKs (Pyk1 and Pyk2) are Type I enzymes, homologous to PykF
149 of *E. coli* (40.6 % and 41.3 % identity respectively). To test for functional complementation, *E.*
150 *coli* mutants (Δ *pykA*, Δ *pykF* and a Δ *pykA* Δ *pykF* double mutant, Table S3) were tested, along
151 with the isogenic parental strain (*E. coli* BW25113) for their ability to grow under a range of
152 physiological conditions (Fig. 1C). In LB (for which PK is dispensable for growth) and M9 plus
153 acetate as the sole carbon source (where PK is also dispensable for growth), little difference
154 was observed in the specific growth rate (h^{-1}) of the strains (Data not shown). When the strains
155 were grown in M9 plus glucose as the sole carbon source (where PK is essential for growth)
156 the *E. coli* Δ *pykA* Δ *pykF* double mutant was unable to grow, but could be genetically
157 complemented with either *pyk1* (SCO2014) or *pyk2* (SCO5423) from *S. coelicolor*. The
158 individual *E. coli* Δ *pykA* and the Δ *pykF* mutants had reduced specific growth rates (around
159 50% of the isogenic parent strain) in M9 plus glucose. Genetic complementation with *pyk1* or
160 *pyk2* from *S. coelicolor* was able to fully restore growth of an *E. coli* Δ *pykF* mutant as expected.
161 The *E. coli* Δ *pykA* mutant could only be complemented with *pyk1* from *S. coelicolor*,
162 suggesting a much more limited physiological role for *pykA* in *E. coli* (Fig. 1C). These data
163 confirm that both *pyk1* and *pyk2* from *S. coelicolor* have retained PK activity following the
164 duplication event but suggests that each has diverged and evolved different physiological
165 roles.

166 Given that the PKs in *S. coelicolor* have diverged following duplication, we assessed the level
167 of selection imposed on the PKs of *Streptomyces* by calculating the ratio of non-synonymous
168 changes (dN) to synonymous changes (dS). Twenty PK sequences from 10 *Streptomyces*
169 genomes were chosen to calculate the dN, dS and dN/dS values. The dN/dS ratio for pairs of
170 *pyk* sequences for each of the genomes yielded dN/dS ratios ranging from 0.407 to 0.500,
171 suggesting that PKs in *Streptomyces* are under strong purifying selection (Table. S2). Such
172 high levels of purifying selection indicate that the duplication event in *Streptomyces* is likely to
173 be ancient and is consistent with the PK tree topology (Fig. 1B).

174 **The two pyruvate kinases in *Streptomyces* have distinct physiological roles**

175 To determine the roles played by the PKs in growth, development and antibiotic production, a
176 series of mutant *S. coelicolor* strains was constructed and genetically complemented (Table
177 S3, S4 & Fig. S2). Deletion mutants and transposon insertion mutants showed similar
178 phenotypes (Fig.S2) and all subsequent work was carried out with transposon insertion
179 mutants. Growth on nutrient agar showed no differences between the strains, except when an
180 additional copy of *pyk1* was present in WT *in trans* (Fig. 2A). During culture on solid minimal
181 medium with 1% glucose as carbon source, the strains showed no growth defects when

182 compared to wild-type (Fig. 2A). Interestingly, the *pyk1::Tn5062* mutant showed an increase
183 in specialised metabolite production (Fig. 2A, 2C & 2D). The strain *pyk2::Tn5062* was
184 marginally affected in growth and showed no over expression of specialised metabolites (Fig.
185 2A). No changes in growth rate were observed in rich medium (YEME medium) for the WT,
186 mutants or complemented strains (Fig. 2B). However, growth of the strains in this medium
187 showed an increase in production of coelimycin²⁴ and undecylprodigiosin (RED) in the
188 *pyk1::Tn5062* mutant (Fig. 2C) whereas a *pyk2::Tn5062* mutant showed reduced antibiotic
189 yields (Fig. 2C & 2D). These data suggest that each PK isoenzyme plays a distinct
190 physiological role in growth of *Streptomyces* and perturbation of central metabolism by their
191 deletion or addition affects specialised metabolite biosynthesis. This would suggest that either
192 the PKs are transcriptionally regulated to be expressed at key stages of the *Streptomyces*
193 lifecycle or are regulated at the post-transcriptional/translational level. To test this hypothesis,
194 we used semi-quantitative RT-PCR to examine the expression of the PKs from *S. coelicolor*
195 throughout growth, relative to the multiplexed vegetative sigma factor *hrdB*. We found that
196 both genes were constitutively expressed throughout growth (vegetative hyphae, aerial
197 hyphae and during sporulation) relative to *hrdB* (Fig. 3A). To further characterise transcription,
198 we used quantitative qRT-PCR at two time points during log and stationary phase during either
199 glycolytic growth (glucose as sole carbon source) or gluconeogenic growth (Tween as sole
200 carbon source) to analyse the expression levels of *pyk1*, *pyk2* and *hrdB*. Normalising
201 expression to *hrdB*, there was an expected decrease in *pyk1* expression on Tween compared
202 to glucose during the log and stationary phases of growth (3-fold and 8-fold respectively; Fig.
203 3A and B). Comparison of *pyk1* and *pyk2* during the logarithmic growth phase indicated that
204 *pyk2* had a 1.5-fold lower level of expression than in stationary phase versus log phase when
205 grown on Tween as the sole carbon source, with all other conditions showing no significant
206 changes in expression between *pyk1* and *pyk2* (Fig. 3Bi), suggesting that activity of PKs in
207 *Streptomyces* is likely to be controlled at the post-translational level. Expression of *pyk2* also
208 showed a decrease in expression on Tween compared to glucose during both phases, but the
209 change was not significant (Fig 3Bii).

210 **Pyk1 and Pyk2 in *Streptomyces* have key substrate affinity differences and specific** 211 **effector molecules**

212 In order to understand the biochemical control of the two PKs of *S. coelicolor*, we purified each
213 enzyme and studied their biochemical characteristics. Both Pyk1 and Pyk2 were activated by
214 the effector molecule AMP and they both showed Michaelis-Menten type kinetics for the
215 substrate ADP. For Pyk1, $S_{0.5}$ was 4-fold lower in the presence of 1 mM AMP (0.59 mM down
216 to 0.15 mM; Table 2), while V_{max} also increased 3.5-fold (from 21 U/mg to 73.3 U/mg). Pyk2
217 showed a five-fold increase of V_{max} in the presence of 1 mM AMP (from 1.2 U/mg to 6.7 U/mg).

218 $S_{0.5}$ decreased three-fold (from 0.27 mM to 0.09 mM; Table 2, Fig. S2). There were profound
219 differences in the PEP kinetics for both PKs, with both isoenzymes demonstrating Hill-type
220 cooperative binding kinetics with AMP. In the presence of 1 mM AMP, V_{max} of Pyk1 increased
221 five-fold (14.05 U/mg to 65.45 U/mg), $S_{0.5}$ decreased more than three-fold (3.49 to 1.05 mM)
222 and the Hill coefficient was approximately halved (from 3.7 to 1.8). For Pyk2 in the presence
223 of 1 mM AMP, V_{max} was 9.1 U/mg compared to 0.5 U/mg without AMP, with $S_{0.5}$ increased
224 from 1.3 mM to 8.6 mM. Under these conditions the Hill coefficient increased from 1.45 to 7.1
225 (Table 2). Further analysis demonstrated that Pyk1 has a much higher affinity for AMP ($S_{0.5} =$
226 0.01 mM), compared to Pyk2 ($S_{0.5} = 3.8$ mM), with a concomitant increase in V_{max} (8.2 U/mg
227 for Pyk1 compared to 1 U/mg for Pyk2, Fig S3C). The turnover rate constant (K_{cat}) for Pyk1
228 was >20 fold greater (4703 sec^{-1}) than that of Pyk2 (215 sec^{-1} ; Table 2). Interestingly Pyk1
229 was also shown to be highly stimulated by ribose-5-phosphate (Fig. S3). Intriguingly it is known
230 that flux through the pentose phosphate pathway increases during entry into stationary phase
231 in streptomycetes ²⁵ suggesting that Pyk1 activity is stimulated during periods of starvation
232 and during antibiotic production to rebalance reduced glycolytic flux and entry of substrates in
233 to the TCA cycle.

234

235 Discussion

236 Metabolic robustness is a key biological adaptation to coping with environmental perturbation
237 that enables an organism to persist in a given environment¹⁷. The ability of an organism to
238 adapt to dynamic and competitive environments requires minimization of the effects of
239 metabolic perturbations, which can be achieved through gene family expansion either
240 following gene duplication or HGT. During nutrient stress, intracellular concentrations of key
241 metabolic intermediates can fall which, when coupled with increasing demand during
242 specialized metabolite biosynthesis, may produce metabolic conflict in cells. PK occupies a
243 key position in carbon metabolism bridging glycolysis to the TCA cycle and plays a central role
244 in the generation of ATP and precursors for the synthesis of specialised metabolite precursors
245 (Acetyl-CoA, amino acids, organic acids etc)²⁶. Duplication may promote adaptation and
246 metabolic robustness through the evolution of altered substrate affinity and enzyme efficiency,
247 which in turn enables key cellular process to proceed during times of perturbation, enabling
248 specialised metabolite production and cellular growth to proceed, as we have demonstrated
249 here.

250 Enzyme family expansion in central metabolism is widespread in the Actinobacteria with the
251 Streptomycineae showing extensive enzyme family expansion in glycolysis. The duplication
252 of pyruvate kinase is ancient, and has permitted subsequent divergence of the gene pair to
253 evolve distinct physiological roles, where Pyk2 appears to function as a house-keeping PK,
254 with a higher affinity for PEP (when AMP is low) and Pyk1 exhibits strong activation as AMP
255 concentrations rise. An increased AMP concentration is a well-established starvation signal in
256 bacteria²⁷ and may serve to increase flux through the terminal end of glycolysis during
257 starvation to facilitate precursor supply for specialised metabolites. Moreover the PPP
258 intermediate, ribose-5-phosphate, stimulates Pyk1 activity providing a physiological link
259 between the PPP and the associated generation of NADPH which has established links to
260 specialised metabolite synthesis, including those overproduced by strains engineered in this
261 work²⁵. Disruption of *pyk1* in *S. coelicolor* lead to increased levels of coelimycin and
262 undecylprodigiosin when grown in rich medium (such as in industrial situations), but no
263 significant increase in the yield of the polyketide antibiotic actinorhodin, which may suggest
264 different metabolic control points affect biosynthesis of chemically similar specialised
265 metabolites. We also demonstrate that the duplication of the primary metabolic enzyme, PK
266 promotes metabolic robustness and influences the production of specialised metabolites.
267 Understanding the evolution of central metabolism in conjunction with specialised metabolism
268 can contribute to our fundamental understanding of the ability of Actinobacteria to produce a
269 plethora of useful molecules and can help inform on novel approaches to metabolic
270 engineering.

271 **Methods**

272 **Database generation and bioinformatics analysis**

273 The NCBI database (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/wgs>) was the source of
274 actinobacterial genomes having a minimum coverage of 25x and less than 30 contigs per
275 Mbp. To ensure a wide range of phylogeny, a selection of 614 species from 80 genera were
276 included. Each genome was re-annotated using RAST¹⁹ and the annotation files used to
277 determine the frequency of each functional annotation. The mean of occurrences of each
278 functional role was calculated per genus and examples which had a value equal or higher than
279 the mean plus its standard deviation were defined as a 'gene expansion event'. Each
280 candidate protein sequence was extracted from the actinobacterial genome database to form
281 a BLASTP analysis working database. The sequences were then aligned with MUSCLE
282 V3.8.31²⁸, alignments were scrutinised using Jalview V2.10.1³⁰ to ensure that at least 25 %
283 coverage with the query was achieved; if not sequences and expansions were discarded from
284 the working database. Phylogenetic analysis of the alignments was conducted using
285 MrBayes²⁹ V3.2.3 with trees visualised in FigTree
286 V1.4.2(<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/>). Sequences obtained from NCBI gene
287 database and aligned with ClustalW algorithm in MEGA V6.06³⁰ and the synonymous (dS)
288 and nonsynonymous (dN) changes were determined using the Distance Model Function with
289 Nei-Gojobori³¹ with Jukes-Cantor algorithm³² Bootstrap.

290 **Growth and mutant construction in *Streptomyces***

291 Routine growth, spore generation and conjugation of *Streptomyces* strains were carried out
292 according to Kieser *et al.*,³³ Antibiotic titres were determined according to Gottelt *et al* ²⁴ for
293 coelimycin and Kieser *et al.*,³³ for RED and ACT. *S. coelicolor* gene knock-out mutants (Δ *pyk1*
294 and Δ *pyk2*) were constructed using PCR-targeted gene replacement with an apramycin
295 resistance cassette (*acc(3)IV*) using the Redirect system³⁴ and the primers reported in Table
296 S5. *S. coelicolor* transposon insertion mutants (*pyk1::Tn5062* and *pyk2::Tn5062*) were
297 constructed using Tn5062 mutagenised cosmids as described in Fernández-Martínez *et al* ³⁵.
298 Each cosmid was first verified by restriction analysis before being conjugated into
299 *Streptomyces*. All strains were verified by PCR and sequencing of the respective products.

300

301 **Interspecies complementation**

302 *E. coli* single mutants were from the Keio collection³⁶ of *E. coli* BW25113³⁶ and the double
303 mutant was constructed using Lambda Red recombination of *pykF* according to Datsenko and

304 Wanner³⁷. Complementation studies used the *Streptomyces pyk1* and *pyk2* cloned into
305 pET100_TOPO (Invitrogen).

306 *E. coli* growth curves were carried out in 250 ml flasks with a working volume of 50 ml of either
307 LB or M9 medium with 1% (w/v) glucose or 0.4% sodium acetate (w/v) as carbon source.
308 Flasks were inoculated from an overnight culture (1% v/v) including the appropriate antibiotics
309 and 1 mM IPTG to induce expression of the PKs. Growth was followed at OD₆₀₀ at 37°C with
310 shaking at 250 rpm. The specific growth rate was determined from the semi-logarithmic plot
311 of biomass concentration.

312 **Protein overexpression and purification**

313 The coding sequence of *pyk1* was codon optimised for *E coli* and amplified from the vector
314 pEX-K4 using the primers in Table 2. The native version of *pyk2* was used to amplify the
315 coding sequence using the primers in Table 2. Both coding sequences were cloned into the
316 pET100 TOPO vector (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions.
317 Overexpression of *pyk1* was in *E. coli* Origami B on LB with 1 % (w/v) glucose at 30 °C until
318 an OD₆₀₀ of 0.4 was reached and the expression was induced with 0.05 mM IPTG at 18°C
319 overnight. Pyk2 overexpression was in *E. coli* Rosetta using Auto Induction medium
320 (component per L: 10 g tryptone, 5 g yeast extract, 3.3 g (NH₄)₂SO₄, 6.8 g KH₂PO₄, 7.1 g
321 Na₂HPO₄, 0.5 g Glucose, 2.0 g α-Lactose, 0.15 g MgSO₄) grown at 37°C for 2 h and then
322 reduced to 18°C for overnight cultivation. Cells were disrupted by sonication. Pyk1 and Pyk2
323 were purified by nickel affinity chromatography using HisTrap TM FF crude (GE Healthcare)
324 with Binding Buffer (100 mM KH₂PO₄ pH7.2, 10% glycerol (v/v), 100 mM NaCl, 20 mM
325 imidazole). Tagged proteins were eluted with increasing imidazole concentration (Elution
326 buffer: 100 mM KH₂PO₄ pH7.2, 10% glycerol (v/v), 100 mM NaCl, 1 M imidazole). Fractions
327 (1 ml) were collected and the highest concentrations of protein were pooled.

328 Kinetic characteristics of each pyruvate kinase were determined using purified protein
329 samples according to the method of Bergmeyer et al.,³⁸ Assays to determine the enzyme
330 kinetics for each PK under each condition were carried out in triplicate and analysed using
331 GraphPad Prism using the Michaelis-Menten or Hill equation where appropriate.

332 **RNA extraction, semi-quantitative RT-PCR and qPCR analysis.**

333 Biomass of *S. coelicolor* came from liquid cultures and semi-quantitative RT-PCR was carried
334 out according to the method of Clark and Hoskisson⁷. Total RNA was used as template for
335 cDNA synthesis using a qPCRBIO cDNA synthesis Kit (PCR Biosystems). All cDNA samples
336 were diluted to a concentration of 10 ng/μl with each qPCR reaction containing 10 ng of cDNA
337 (1 μl) and were then mixed with 10 μl MasterMix (Kit 2x qPCRBIO SyGreen Mix Lo-ROX from

338 PCRBIOSYSTEMS), 2.5 μ l of each primer to a final reaction volume of 20 μ l using the Corbett
339 Research 6000 (Qiagen).
340

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437 **Acknowledgements**

438 We would like to thank the Scottish Universities Life Science Alliance (SULSA) for BioSkape
439 PhD funding to JKS, The Mac Robertson Travelling Scholarship awarded to JKS, and the
440 Natural Environment Research Council for Grant NE/M001415/1 to PAH. We would also like
441 to thank Professor Ian Henderson and Dr Faye Morris (University of Birmingham) for the gift
442 of the *E. coli* Keio collection mutants and Professor David Hodgson for helpful discussions.

443 **Legends.**

444 **Table 1: Percentage of primary metabolic pathway gene expansion per suborder and**
445 **pathways of central carbon metabolism.** (highest percentage of gene expansion for each
446 pathway is highlighted in yellow). **Legend:** GLY = glycolysis, GNG = gluconeogenesis, PPP =
447 pentose phosphate pathway, TCA = tricarboxylic acid cycle, AA = amino acids, 2OG = 2-oxo-
448 glutarate, PYR = pyruvate, OAA = oxaloacetate, 3PGA = 3-phosphoglycerate, R5P = ribose-
449 5-phosphate, E4P = erythrose-4-phosphate, PEP = phosphoenolpyruvate, NE = no
450 expansion.

451 **Table 2:** Kinetic characteristics of Pyk1 and Pyk2 for the substrates ADP, PEP and the
452 activator AMP

453 **Figure Legends**

454 **Figure 1:** Phylogenetic Analysis of RpoB and PK across 80 different actinobacterial genera
455 grouped and colour coded by family **(A)** Phylogenetic tree based on RpoB protein sequences
456 **(B)** Phylogenetic tree based on pyruvate kinase protein sequences. Grey circles indicate the
457 *Streptomycineae* **(C)** Specific growth rate of *E. coli* pyruvate kinase mutants ($\Delta pykA$, $\Delta pykF$
458 $\Delta pykA\Delta pykF$) and the complemented mutants with either *pyk1* or *pyk2* from *S. coelicolor* on
459 M9 Medium with glucose as carbon source. * p -value ≤ 0.05 ** p -value ≤ 0.01 *** p -value \leq
460 0.001

461 **Figure 2:** Phenotypic characterisation of pyruvate kinase mutants **(A)** Wild-Type and *pyk1* &
462 *pyk2* transposon mutants of *S. coelicolor* grown on nutrient agar and minimal medium with
463 glucose, with complemented strains with either *pyk1* or *pyk2* *in trans* and WT strains with
464 additional copies of *pyk1* or *pyk2* **(B)** Growth curve of *S. coelicolor* WT, pyruvate kinase
465 mutants and complemented strains in liquid YEME medium **(C)** coelimycin production yield
466 (absorption unit/mg biomass) and **(D)** undecylprodigiosin (RED) yield during growth in YEME
467 medium.

468 WT (●) and pyruvate kinase mutants (*pyk1* ■; *pyk2* ▼) and complemented strains (*pyk1*
469 complemented ▲; *pyk2* complemented ◆).

470 **Figure 3:** **(A)** Semi-quantitative RT-PCR of expression of *pyk1*, *pyk2* and *hrdB* throughout the
471 lifecycle of *Streptomyces coelicolor*. **(B)** Fold change expression of *pyk1* and *pyk2* normalised
472 to *hrdB* expression from three biological replicates measuring expression levels by qPCR on
473 growth in minimal medium with either glucose or tween as carbon source during log or
474 stationary phase comparing expression (i) stationary phase versus log phase and (ii) Tween
475 versus glucose. * p -value ≤ 0.05

476 **Table 1: Percentage of metabolic pathway gene expansion per suborder and pathway from central carbon metabolism.** (highest
 477 percentage for each pathway is highlighted in yellow). **Legend:** GLY = glycolysis, GNG = gluconeogenesis, PPP = pentose phosphate
 478 pathway, TCA = tricarboxylic acid cycle, AA = amino acids, 2OG = 2-oxo-glutarate, PYR = pyruvate, OAA = oxaloacetate, 3PGA = 3-
 479 phosphoglycerate, R5P = ribose-5-phosphate, E4P = erythrose-4-phosphate, PEP = phosphoenolpyruvate, NE = no expansion.

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Suborder/Pathway			GLY	GNG	PPP	TCA	AA derived from 2OG	AA derived from PYR	AA derived from OAA	AA derived from 3PGA	AA derived from R5P	AA derived from E4P/PEP
Enzymes in the minimum pathway			10	5	7	17	13	10	18	7	10	18
	Genera	Species										
Streptomycineae	3	303	23.3	8.3	4.8	8.3	11.9	11.1	10.5	16.7	NE	14.0
Catenulisporineae	2	3	25.0	12.5	42.9	25.0	21.4	16.7	13.2	25.0	10.0	15.8
Streptosporangineae	9	28	6.7	11.1	3.2	13.2	10.3	17.3	11.7	11.1	3.3	12.3
Frankineae	3	11	6.7	NE	23.8	NE	11.9	NE	8.8	11.1	10.0	8.8
Pseudonocardineae	16	57	10.6	25.0	17.0	28.3	20.1	31.3	20.7	24.0	17.5	19.4
Corynebacterineae	8	62	7.5	9.4	5.4	10.2	8.7	8.3	6.6	6.3	7.5	5.3
Micromonosporineae	9	19	20.0	13.9	15.9	16.7	14.3	18.5	21.1	13.0	23.3	13.5
Glycomycineae	1	3	NE	0.0	14.3	NE	7.1	NE	5.3	NE	NE	NE
Micrococcineae	17	74	6.5	5.9	5.0	5.5	4.6	2.6	8.4	6.9	3.5	4.0
Bifidobacteriales	1	3	NE	NE	14.3	NE	0.0	11.1	21.1	NE	10.0	NE
Actinomycineae	2	26	NE	NE	7.1	NE	0.0	NE	NE	NE	NE	5.3
Kineosporineae	1	1	20.0	NE	28.6	NE	14.3	NE	21.1	NE	20.0	5.3
Propionibacterineae	8	24	13.8	12.5	7.1	9.4	7.1	18.1	11.8	12.5	7.5	4.6

481 **Table 2:** Kinetic characteristics of Pyk1 and Pyk2 with ADP, PEP and AMP.

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Substrate	Parameter	no AMP		1 mM AMP	
		Pyk1	Pyk2	Pyk1	Pyk2
5 mM PEP ADP	V_{max} (U/mg)	21.0	1.2	73.3	6.7
	$S_{0.5}$ (mM)	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1
	k_{cat} (sec ⁻¹)	941	39	4703	215
	k_{cat}/K_m (mM ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	1594	145	31359	2388
1.5 mM ADP PEP	V_{max} (U/mg)	14.1	0.5	65.5	9.1
	$S_{0.5}$ (mM)	3.5	1.3	1.1	8.6
	Hill Coefficient	3.7	1.5	1.8	7.1
	k_{cat} (sec ⁻¹)	350	18	4200	336
	$k_{cat}/S_{0.5}$ (mM ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	100	14	4000	39
AMP	V_{max} (U/mg)	8.2	1		
	$S_{0.5}$ (mM)	0.01	3.8		
	k_{cat} (sec ⁻¹)	423.7	42.0		
	$K_{cat}/S_{0.5}$ (mM ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	42373	11		

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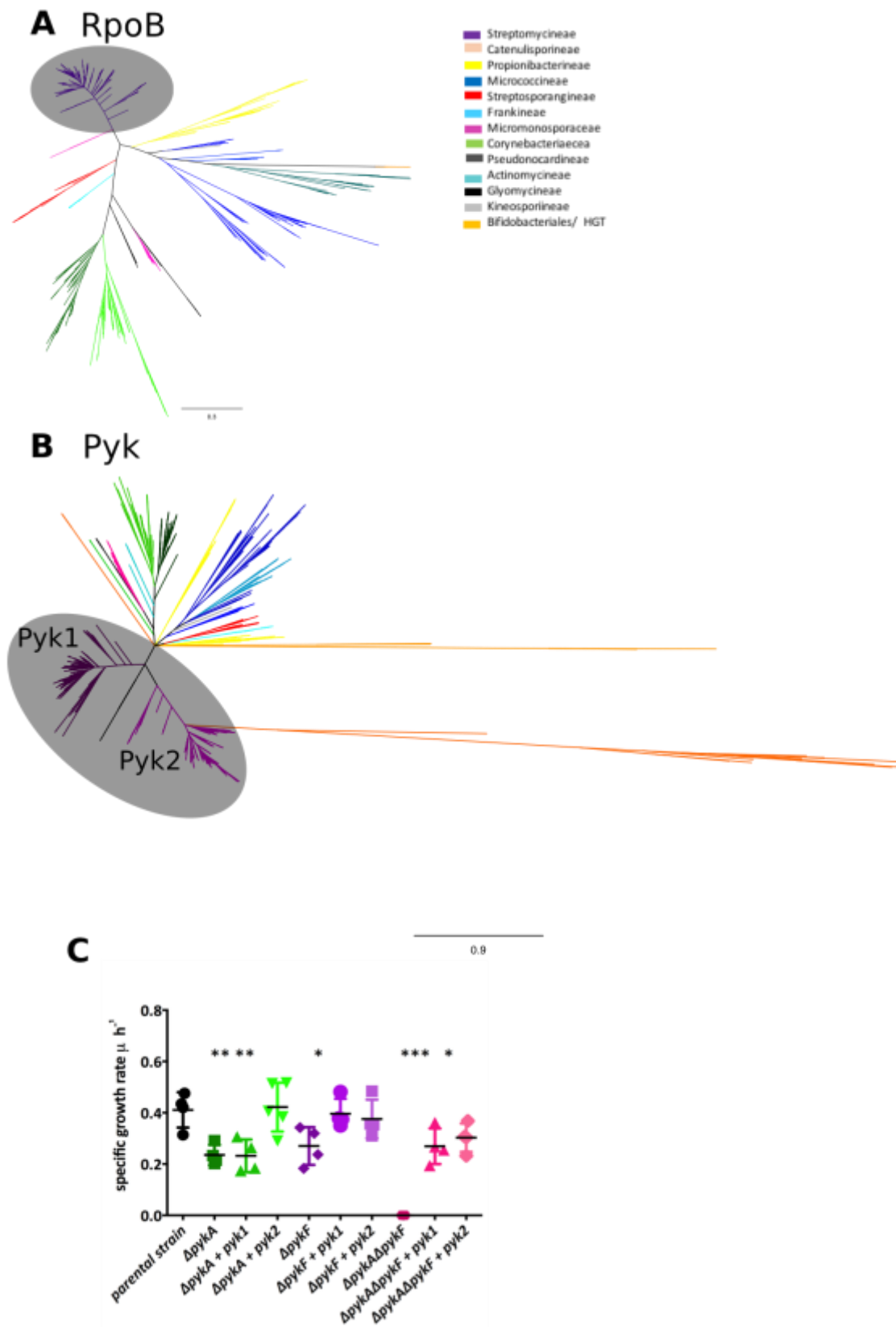
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499 **Fig 1.**

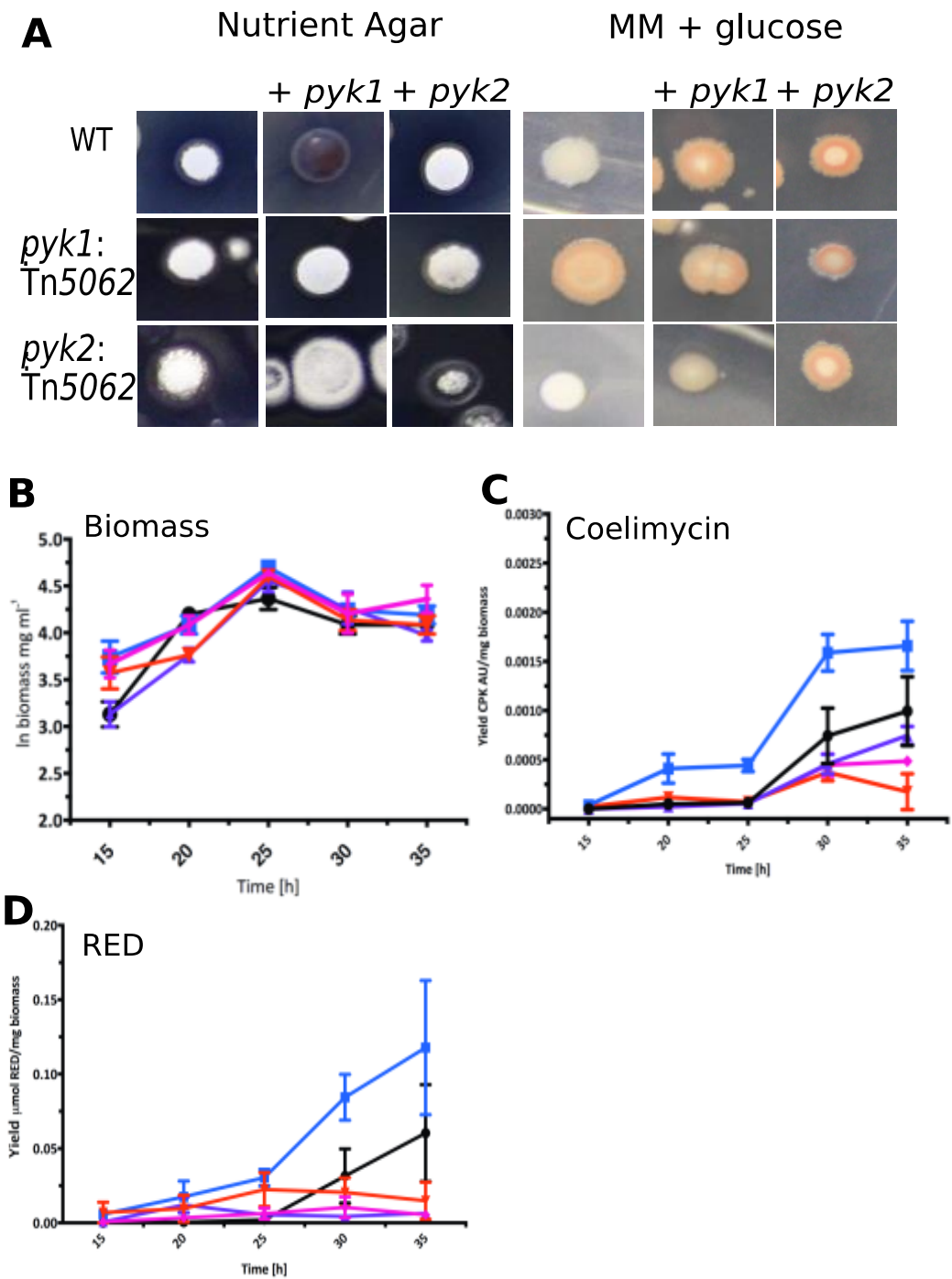


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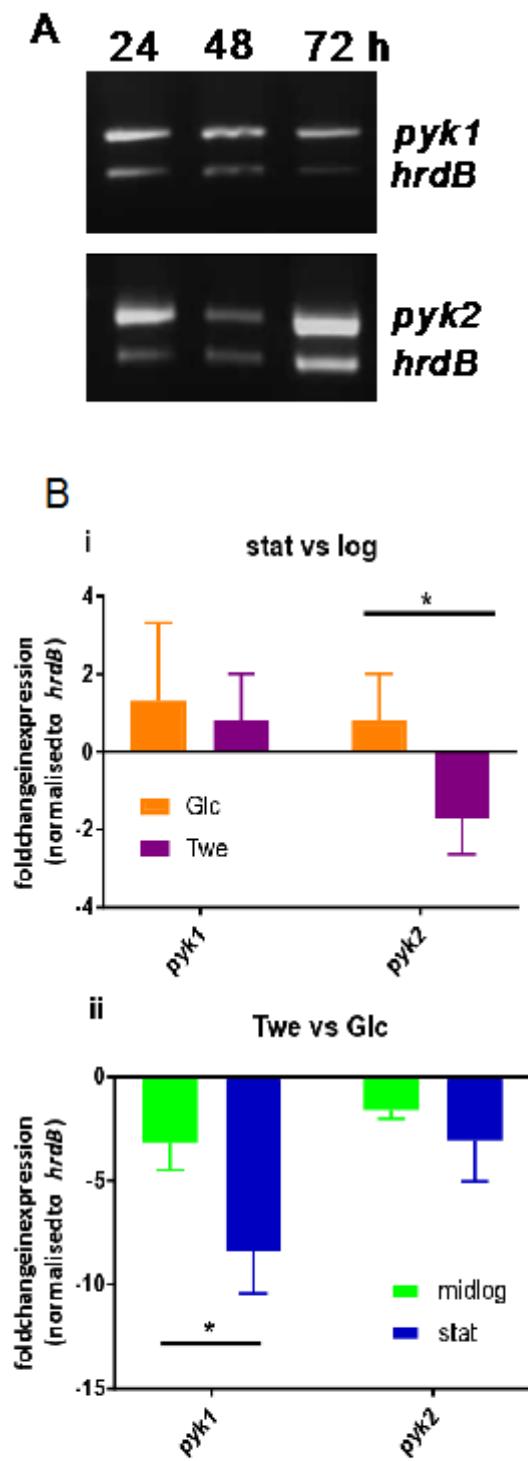
503 **Fig 2**



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506 Fig 3.



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