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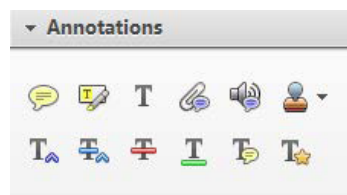


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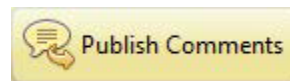


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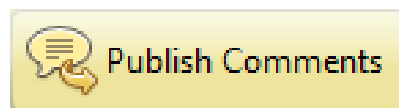
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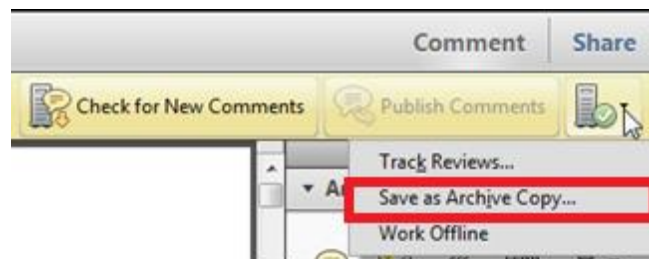
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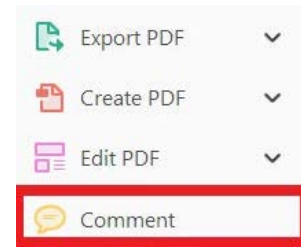
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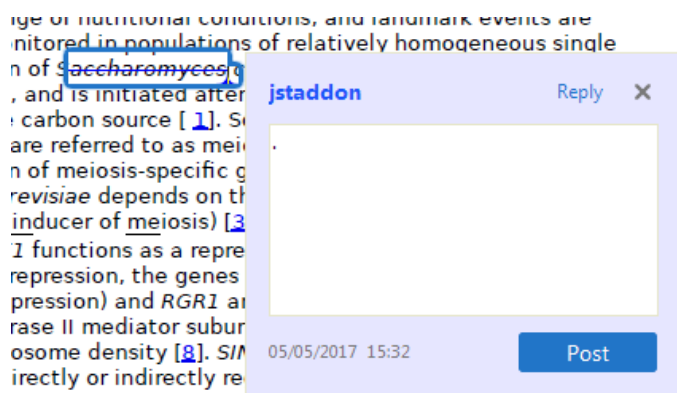


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
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- Click on .
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experimental data if available. For ORFs to be had to meet all of the following criteria:

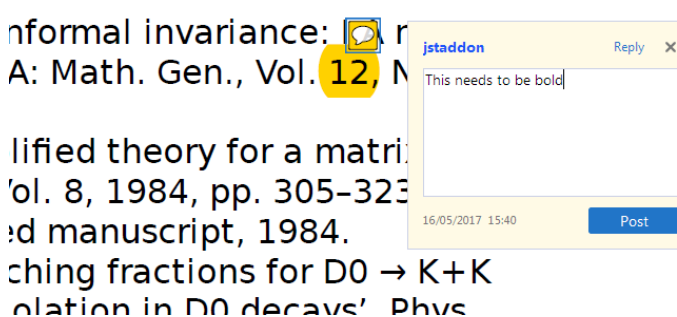
1. Small size (35-250 amino acids).
2. Absence of similarity to known proteins.
3. Absence of functional data which could not be the real overlapping gene.
4. Greater than 25% overlap at the N-terminus with another coding feature; over both ends; or ORF containing a tRNA.

3. **Commenting Tool** – for highlighting a section to be changed to bold or italic or for general comments.


  Use these 2 tools to highlight the text where a comment is then made.

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- Click on .
- Click and drag over the text you need to highlight for the comment you will add.
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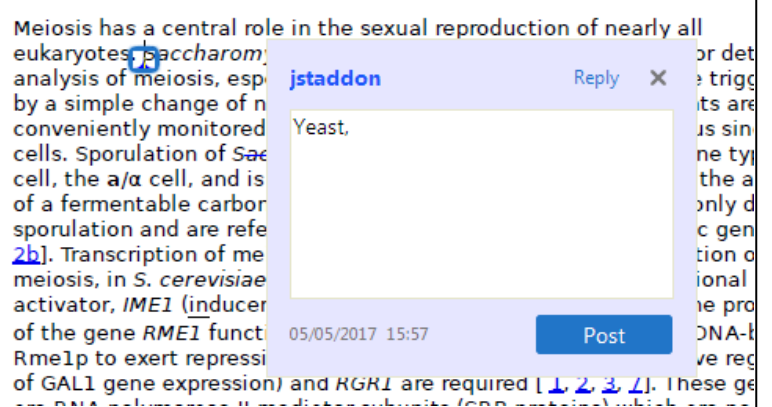


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chondrial preparator  
ative damage injury  
re extent of membra  
i, malondialdehyde (TBARS) formation.  
used by high perform

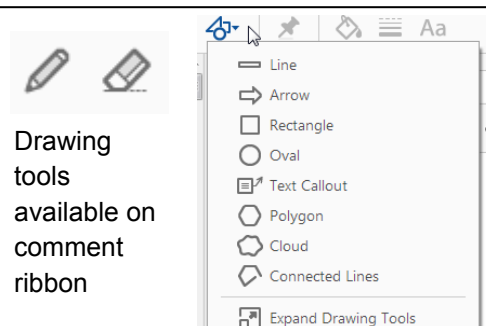
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- Select the stamp you want to use. (The **Approved** stamp is usually available directly in the menu that appears. Others are shown under *Dynamic*, *Sign Here*, *Standard Business*).
- Fill in any details and then click on the proof where you'd like the stamp to appear. (Where a proof is to be approved as it is, this would normally be on the first page).

of the business cycle, starting with the  
on perfect competition, constant ret  
production. In this environment goods  
extra costs should be set to zero for the  
he market. The model is determined by the model. The New-Key  
otaki (1987), has introduced produc  
general equilibrium models with nomin  
and real variables. Most of this literat

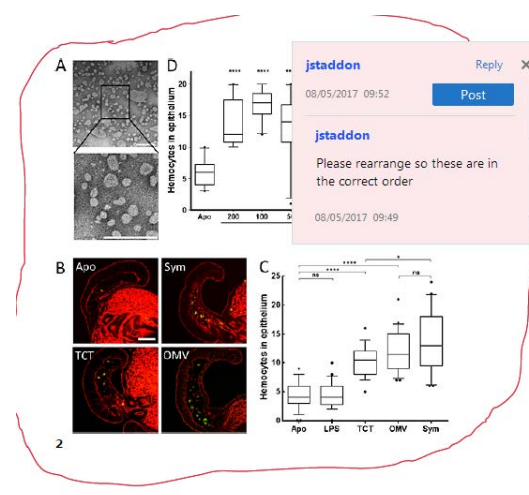


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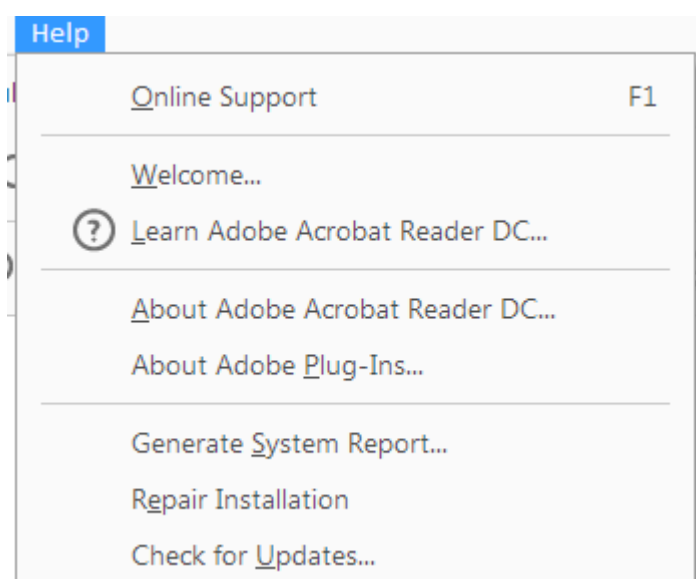
- Click on one of the shapes in the **Drawing Markups** section.
- Click on the proof at the relevant point and draw the selected shape with the cursor.
- To add a comment to the drawn shape, right-click on shape and select *Open Pop-up Note*.
- Type any text in the red box that appears.

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# Genomes of ubiquitous marine and hypersaline *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira* spp. encode a diversity of mechanisms to sustain chemolithoautotrophy in heterogeneous environments

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## Summary 49

Chemolithoautotrophic bacteria from the genera  
*Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicro-*  
*spira* are common, sometimes dominant, isolates  
 from sulfidic habitats including hydrothermal vents,  
 soda and salt lakes and marine sediments. Their  
 genome sequences confirm their membership in a  
 deeply branching clade of the *Gammaproteobacteria*.  
 Several adaptations to heterogeneous habitats are  
 apparent. Their genomes include large numbers of  
 genes for sensing and responding to their environ-  
 ment (EAL- and GGDEF-domain proteins and methyl-  
 accepting chemotaxis proteins) despite their small  
 sizes (2.1–3.1 Mbp). An array of sulfur-oxidizing  
 complexes are encoded, likely to facilitate these  
 organisms' use of multiple forms of reduced sulfur as  
 electron donors. Hydrogenase genes are present in  
 some taxa, including group 1d and 2b hydrogenases  
 in *Hydrogenovibrio marinus* and *H. thermophilus*  
 MA2-6, acquired via horizontal gene transfer. In addi-  
 tion to high-affinity *cbb*<sub>3</sub> cytochrome *c* oxidase, some  
 also encode cytochrome *bd*-type quinol oxidase or 77

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78 **ba<sub>3</sub>-type cytochrome c oxidase, which could facilitate**  
 79 **growth under different oxygen tensions, or maintain**  
 80 **redox balance. Carboxysome operons are present in**  
 81 **most, with genes downstream encoding transporters**  
 82 **from four evolutionarily distinct families, which may**  
 83 **act with the carboxysomes to form CO<sub>2</sub> concentrating**  
 84 **mechanisms. These adaptations to habitat variability**  
 85 **likely contribute to the cosmopolitan distribution of**  
 86 **these organisms.**

87

## 88 Introduction

89 Members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohab-*  
 90 *bus* and *Thiomicrospira* are common in sulfidic habitats  
 91 worldwide, present and often numerous at hydrothermal  
 92 vents, terrestrial hot springs, soda and salt lakes and  
 93 coastal sediments (Table 1; Kuenen and Veldkamp, 1972;  
 94 Jannasch, 1985; Brinkhoff and Muyzer, 1997; Kato *et al.*,  
 95 2009; Brazelton and Baross, 2010; Sorokin *et al.*, 2011).  
 96 These organisms, formerly classified in the genera  
 97 *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrospira* and *Thioalkalimicrobium*,  
 98 have been taxonomically reassigned based on a polypha-  
 99 sific analysis, including the 16S rRNA gene and 53  
 100 ribosomal protein gene sequences (Table 1; Boden *et al.*,  
 101 2017b). These obligate aerobes all grow chemolithoauto-  
 102 trophically on reduced sulfur compounds; some are also  
 103 able to grow on molecular hydrogen (Table 1). All fix CO<sub>2</sub>  
 104 using the transaldolase variant of the Calvin–Benson–Bas-  
 105 sham cycle (Kuenen and Veldkamp, 1972; Nishihara *et al.*,  
 106 1991; Muyzer *et al.*, 1995; Ahmad *et al.*, 1999; Brinkhoff  
 107 *et al.*, 1999b,c; Rainey *et al.*, 2001; Sorokin *et al.*, 2002;  
 108 Knittel *et al.*, 2005; Sorokin *et al.*, 2006; 2007; Hansen and  
 109 Perner, 2015; Zhang *et al.*, 2016).

110 *Hydrogenovibrio crunogenus* XCL-2 was the first mem-  
 111 ber of these genera to have its genome sequenced, and its  
 112 genome has some puzzling features (Scott *et al.*, 2006).  
 113 Low numbers of membrane transporters reflect its  
 114 obligately autotrophic lifestyle, although there are a surpris-  
 115 ingly high number of genes encoding methyl-accepting  
 116 chemotaxis proteins, and it was proposed that enhanced  
 117 capability of sensing, and motility toward, microhabitats in  
 118 which nutrients were available could compensate for this  
 119 species' ability to use rather few nutrients for growth  
 120 (Scott *et al.*, 2006). The capability of using reduced sulfur  
 121 compounds as electron donors is reflected by the pres-  
 122 ence of genes encoding the 'Sox' complex (*soxABCDXYZ*)  
 123 associated with the Kelly–Friedrich pathway and sulfide:-  
 124 quinone oxidoreductase (EC 1.8.5.4) (Scott *et al.*, 2006).  
 125 Likewise, genes encoding a [NiFe] hydrogenase suggest  
 126 the potential for growth on molecular hydrogen, although  
 127 the presence of this gas does not facilitate growth by this  
 128 strain under the provided conditions (Hansen and Perner,  
 129 2016).

The *H. crunogenus* XCL-2 genome suggests a depart- 130  
 131 ure from previous models of dissolved inorganic carbon  
 132 (DIC) uptake in autotrophic microorganisms. *H. crunoge-*  
 133 *nus* XCL-2 has a CO<sub>2</sub>-concentrating mechanism (CCM) 133  
 134 that facilitates growth under low DIC conditions (Dobrinski  
 135 *et al.*, 2005). Like the many species of the 'Cyanobacteria'  
 136 in which CCMs have been well characterized, *H. crunoge-*  
 137 *nus* XCL-2 can generate an elevated concentration of  
 138 intracellular DIC (Dobrinski *et al.*, 2005; Price, 2011). This  
 139 large pool of intracellular DIC drives carbon fixation by car-  
 140 boxysomes, intracellular microcompartments containing  
 141 RubisCO (ribulose 1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygen-  
 142 ase; EC 4.1.1.39) and carbonic anhydrase (EC 4.2.1.1;  
 143 Cannon *et al.*, 2010; Menning *et al.*, 2016). The ability to  
 144 generate intracellular DIC concentrations > 100-fold higher  
 145 than extracellular suggests active DIC uptake (Dobrinski  
 146 *et al.*, 2005), but genes orthologous to any of the DIC  
 147 transporters characterized in the 'Cyanobacteria' are  
 148 absent in the *H. crunogenus* XCL-2 genome (Menning  
 149 *et al.*, 2016). In *H. crunogenus*, DIC uptake is facilitated by  
 150 a novel two-component transporter. One subunit of this  
 151 transporter is a member of a 'domain of unknown function'  
 152 protein family (PFAM10070; Bateman *et al.*, 2002), while  
 153 the other subunit, which is predicted to be a transmem-  
 154 brane protein, belongs to a protein family that includes  
 155 proton transporters (PFAM00361; Mangiapia *et al.*, 2017).

*Hydrogenovibrio crunogenus* XCL-2 genome data also 156  
 157 predict a peculiar citric acid cycle, in which 2-oxoglutarate  
 158 dehydrogenase (EC 1.2.4.2/2.3.1.61/1.8.1.4) and malate  
 159 dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.3.7) are absent (Scott *et al.*, 159  
 2006). Malate:quinone oxidoreductase (EC 1.1.5.4) is  
 160 encoded in the genome (Scott *et al.*, 2006), is active in  
 161 membrane fractions (Quasem *et al.*, 2017), and could act  
 162 as a replacement for malate dehydrogenase. The 2-oxo-  
 163 glutarate:ferredoxin oxidoreductase (EC 1.2.7.3) activity is  
 164 absent, suggesting that this obligate autotroph may have a  
 165 wishbone-shaped 'citric acid pathway', with an absence of  
 166 interconversion of 2-oxoglutarate and succinyl-coA (Smith  
 167 *et al.*, 1967; Wood *et al.*, 2004). However, genes encoding  
 168 2-oxoglutarate decarboxylase and succinic semialdehyde  
 169 dehydrogenase are present, which could potentially close  
 170 the citric acid cycle by converting 2-oxoglutarate to  
 171 succinyl-CoA (Quasem *et al.*, 2017). 172

At the time of its sequencing, placing these and other 173  
 174 features of the *H. crunogenus* XCL-2 genome within an  
 175 evolutionary context was complicated by the absence of  
 176 genome sequences of close relatives among the basal  
 177 *Gammaproteobacteria* (Williams *et al.*, 2010). In order to  
 178 determine whether the peculiar aspects of *H. crunogenus*  
 179 XCL-2 described above are unique to the species, or are  
 180 typical for the lineage, the genomes of eleven additional  
 181 members of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thio-*  
 182 *microspira* were sequenced, representing the geographic,  
 183 habitat and phylogenetic breadth of these genera, and

**Table 1.** Members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira* with sequenced genomes.

Taxon	Basonym <sup>a</sup>	Habitat	Genome published	Electron donors <sup>b,c</sup>	Organic carbon oxidation or assimilation <sup>c,d</sup>	Opti-mum pH <sup>c</sup>	Opti-mum °C <sup>c</sup>	Opti-mum Na <sup>+</sup> (M) <sup>c</sup>
<i>H. crunogenus</i> XCL-2	<i>Thiomicrospira crunogenus</i> XCL-2	East Pacific Rise deep-sea hydrothermal vent (Ahmad <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	(Scott <i>et al.</i> , 2006)	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup>	-			
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. XS5	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. XS5	Red Sea deep brine-water interface (Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>H. thermophilus</i> JR2 DSM 25194	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. JR2	Northeast Pacific deep-sea hydrothermal vent	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>H. thermophilus</i> MA2-6	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. MA2-6	Mid-Atlantic deep-sea hydrothermal vent	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>H. halophilus</i>	<i>Thiomicrospira halophila</i>	hydrothermal vent (Muyzer <i>et al.</i> , 1995)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		7.5–7.8		1.5
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. WB1	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. WB1	Hypersaline lake (Russia) (Sorokin <i>et al.</i> , 2006)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup>				
<i>H. kuenenii</i>	<i>Thiomicrospira kuenenii</i>	Red Sea deep brine-water interface (Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	(Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>H. marinus</i> DSM 11271	N/A	Wadden Sea mud flat (Brinkhoff <i>et al.</i> , 1999a)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NG	6.0		0.42
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. Milos-T1	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. Milos-T1	Surface seawater near Japan (Nishihara <i>et al.</i> , 1991)	This work and (Jo <i>et al.</i> , 2014)	H <sub>2</sub> , S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NG	6.5	37	0.5
<i>Tmr. frisia</i> Kp2 DSM 25197	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. Kp2	Aegean shallow hydrothermal vent (Brinkhoff <i>et al.</i> , 1999b)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>Thiomicrohabdus</i> sp. Milos-T2	<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. Milos-T2	Northeast Pacific deep-sea hydrothermal vent	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>Tmr. arctica</i>	<i>Thiomicrospira arctica</i>	Aegean shallow hydrothermal vent (Brinkhoff <i>et al.</i> , 1999b)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup>				
<i>Tmr. chilensis</i>	<i>Thiomicrospira chilensis</i>	Arctic Ocean coastal sediments near Svalbard (Knittel <i>et al.</i> , 2005)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NG	7.3	11–13	0.25
<i>Tms. aerophila</i>	<i>Thioalkalimicrobium aerophilum</i> AL3	Chile continental shelf sediment (Brinkhoff <i>et al.</i> , 1999c)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NG	7.0	32–37	
<i>Tms. cyclica</i>	<i>Thioalkalimicrobium cyclicum</i>	Hypersaline lake (Russia) (Rainey <i>et al.</i> , 2001)	(Kappeler <i>et al.</i> , 2016)	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	A, NG	10		
<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. ALE5	<i>Thioalkalimicrobium</i> sp. ALE5	Hypersaline lake (US) (Sorokin <i>et al.</i> , 2002)		S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		9.5		0.3
<i>Tms. microaerophila</i>	<i>Thioalkalimicrobium</i> sp. ALE5	Hypersaline lake (Egypt) (Sorokin <i>et al.</i> , 2011)		S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	A, NG	9.5–10	25–28	0.4–0.5



**Table 1. cont.**

Taxon	Basonym <sup>a</sup>	Habitat	Genome published	Electron donors <sup>b,c</sup>	Organic carbon oxidation or assimilation <sup>c,d</sup>	Opti-mum pH <sup>c</sup>	Opti-mum <sup>13</sup> C <sup>c</sup>	Opti-mum Na <sup>+</sup> (M) <sup>c</sup>
<i>Tms. pelophila</i>	<i>Thioalkalimicrobium microaerophilum</i> N/A	Hypersaline lake (US) (Sorokin et al., 2007) Wadden Sea mud flat (Kue- nen and Veldkamp, 1972)	This work	S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , H <sub>2</sub> S, S <sup>0</sup> , S <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	A, NG	6.5–7.5	28–30	

**a.** Boden et al., 2017b.

**b.** PS, polysulfide.

**c.** Data from (Kuenen and Veldkamp, 1972; Jannasch et al., 1985; Nishihara et al., 1991; Muyzer et al., 1995; Brinkhoff et al., 1999a,b,c; Rainey et al., 2001; Sorokin et al., 2002; Knittel et al., 2005; Sorokin et al., 2007; 2008; 2011; Zhang et al., 2016; Ang et al., 2017; Quasem et al., 2017).

**d.** -, no assimilation of organic compounds, and no growth in the absence of reduced sulfur compounds; NG, no growth in the absence of inorganic electron donors; A, organic carbon assimilation.

genome comparisons among these organisms were expanded to include members of this lineage sequenced by other projects (Table 1).

**Results and discussion**

*Ribosomal protein supertree*

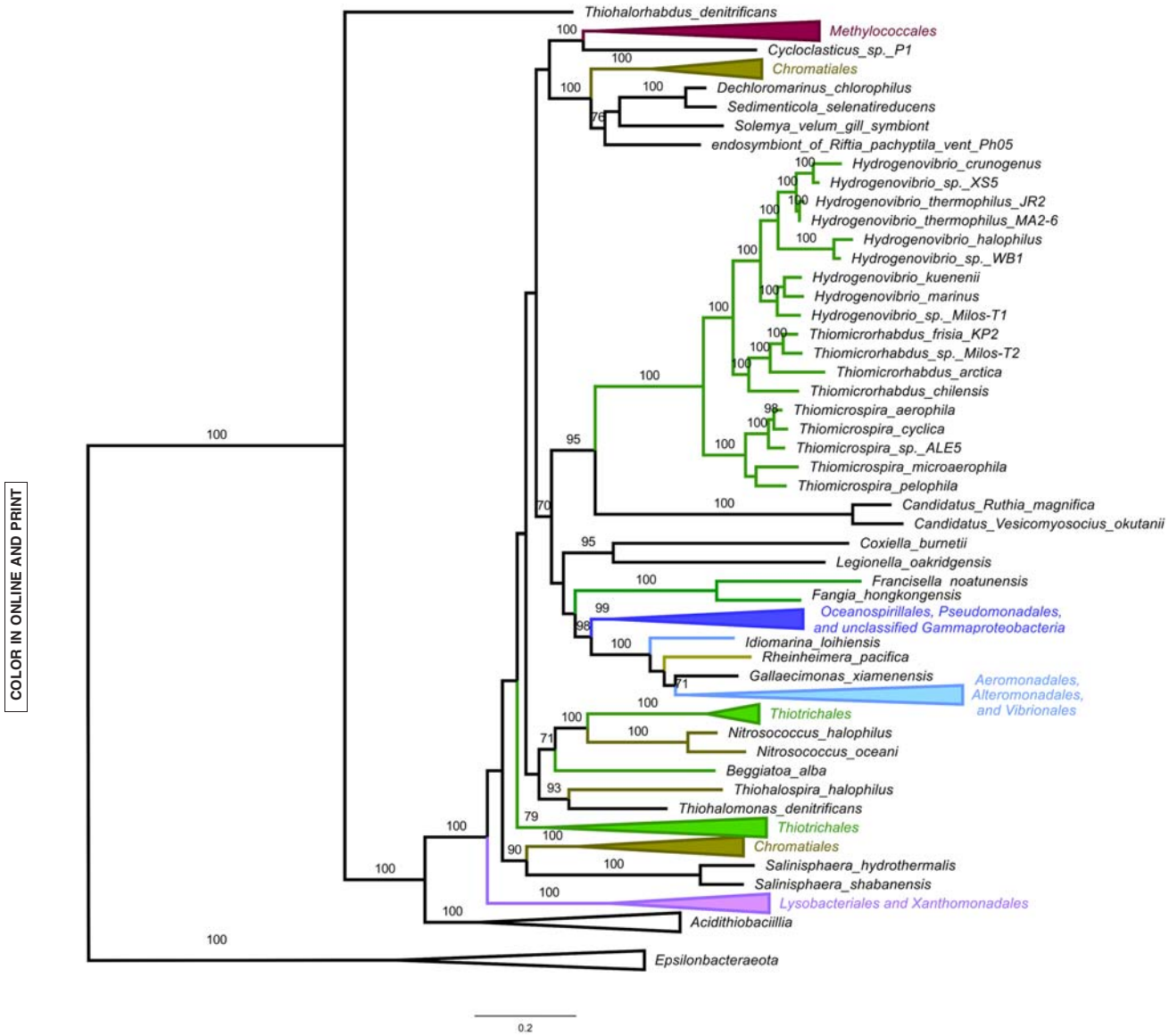
As previously described (Boden et al., 2017b), the supertree constructed from amino acid sequences derived from ribosomal protein genes places the genera *Thiomicrospira*, *Thiomicrocrorhabdus* and *Hydrogenovibrio* together in a well-supported clade (Fig. 1). Since *Thiomicrospira* sp. Milos T1, XS-5 and WB-1 fall within genus *Hydrogenovibrio*, and *Thiomicrospira* sp. Milos-T2 falls within the genus *Thiomicrocrorhabdus*, they will be referred to here with those genus designations (Table 1). As also previously shown (Boden et al., 2017b), on the basis of 16S rRNA gene sequence identities (100% vs. type strain I78) and genome-wide average nucleotide identities (96.5% between JR2 and MA2–6), *Thiomicrospira* sp. JR2 and MA2–6 are strains of *H. thermophilus* (values calculated relative to type strain I78), and will be referred to here as such (e.g., *H. thermophilus* JR2). *Thiomicrocrorhabdus* sp. KP2 is a strain of *Tmr. frisia* (99.5% 16S sequence identity with type strain JB-A2).

The order *Thiotrichales*, within which the genera *Thiomicrospira*, *Thiomicrocrorhabdus* and *Hydrogenovibrio* are circumscribed, is represented on the supertree by many well-supported clades, some of which are intermixed with clades of the *Chromatiales* (Fig. 1). This is also the case with many of the orders of the *Gammaproteobacteria* on this and other supertrees (Williams et al., 2010; Ramulu et al., 2014), suggesting that the taxonomy of the *Gammaproteobacteria* should be revised.

*Genome structures and general features*

Genome sizes among permanent draft and finished genome sequences of the genera *Thiomicrospira*, *Thiomicrocrorhabdus* and *Hydrogenovibrio* (2.1–3.1 Mb; Table 2) fall within the range of sizes of genomes of other free-living autotrophs from the phylum ‘*Proteobacteria*’ (1.7–10.1 Mb; Supporting Information Table S1). Their genomes are larger than those of the vertically transmitted chemolithoautotrophic symbionts of vesicomyid clams (1.0–1.2 Mb), which reflects genome reduction in the symbionts (Kuwahara et al., 2007; Newton et al., 2007; 2008). Their genomes are smaller than those from organisms with additional capabilities such as photosynthesis, denitrification or heterotrophic growth (Supporting Information Table S1). The rRNA operon copy numbers (3–4) are at the high range of what is observed in other autotrophic members of the *Gammaproteobacteria* (Supporting Information Table S1), which may help them to respond more quickly to

Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrothabodus, Thiomicrospira 5



**Fig. 1.** Maximum likelihood analysis of concatenated alignments of amino acid sequences derived from gene sequences encoding ribosomal proteins. Members of the order *Chromatiales* are indicated by olive-coloured clades and branches, while members of the *Thiotrichales* have green clades and branches. Bootstrap values > 70% from 200 resamplings of the alignment are shown, and the tree is unrooted. The scale bar represents the number of substitutions per site.

234 changes in their environment (Klappenbach *et al.*, 2000)  
 235 and to have higher maximum specific growth rates (Roller  
 236 *et al.*, 2016). Indeed, members of these genera are among  
 237 the first to appear in media inoculated from environmental  
 238 samples (K. Scott and R. Boden, unpubl. data).  
 239 Many members of *Hydrogenovibrio* and *Thiomicrothab-*  
 240 *odus* have large tandem repeats preceding a gene  
 241 encoding protein kinase (e.g., *Tcr\_0106*; Fig. 2). *Hydroge-*  
 242 *novibrio halophilus* lacks an ortholog to this protein kinase,  
 243 as well as the repeated regions. For those organisms  
 244 whose tandem repeat regions have been completely  
 245 sequenced, repeat lengths range from 279 to 393

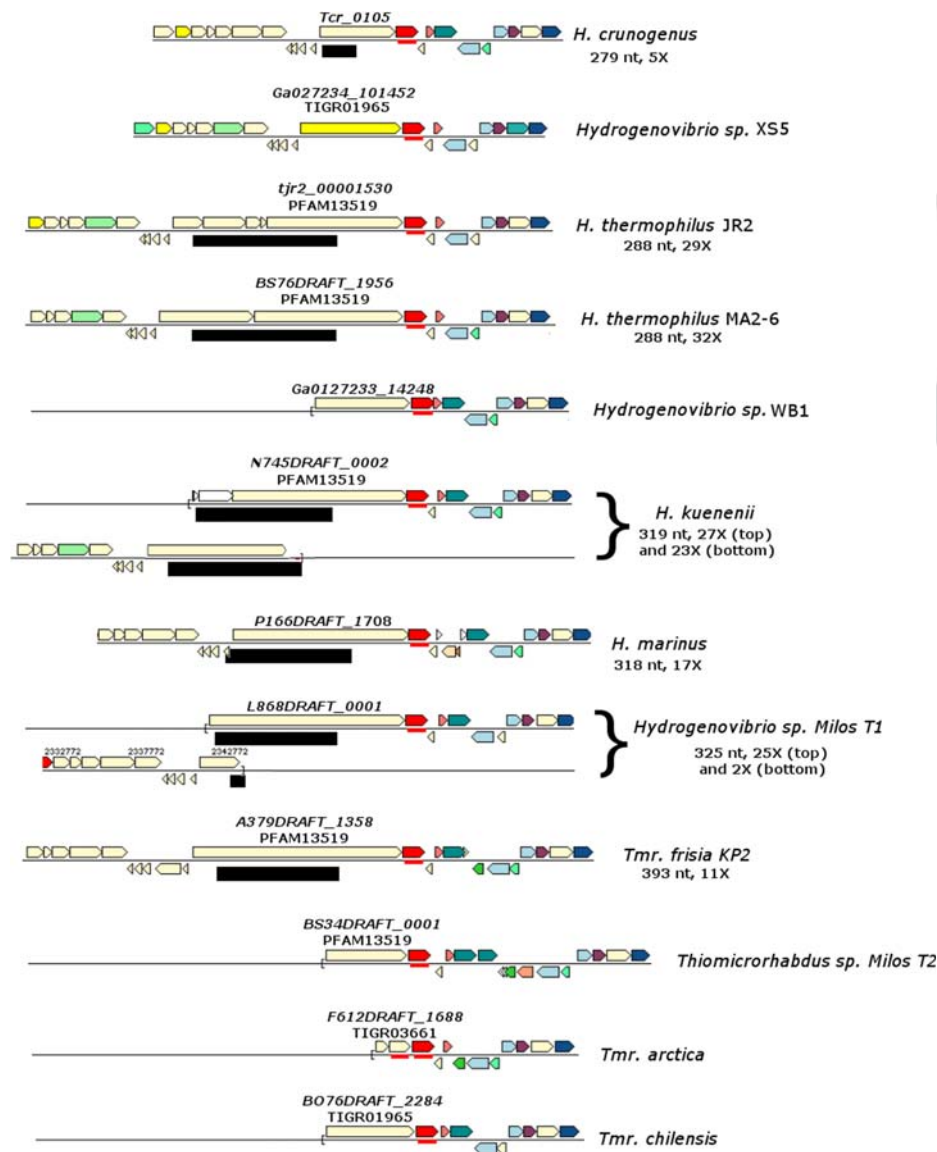
nucleotides in length, with 5 to >27 copies in tandem 246  
 (upper range is at the end of a contig; Fig. 2). Some mem- 247  
 bers of these two genera whose draft genome sequences 248  
 currently lack large tandem repeats are likely to also have 249  
 them; in these organisms, orthologs to the protein kinases 250  
 described above are present at the 5' end of their contigs 251  
 and the absence of tandem repeats may result from the 252  
 difficulties in sequencing and assembly of these regions 253  
 (Treangen and Salzberg, 2012). In other organisms, 254  
 repeated regions such as these are hotspots for genome 255  
 rearrangement that can serve to generate diversity of gene 256  
 products (if falling within a gene) or diversity in gene 257

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**Table 2.** Genome sequencing results.

Taxon	# Contigs	# Scaffolds	Average coverage (fold)	Estimated genome size (Mb)	Gene count	GC content (%)	# rRNA operons	tRNA count
<i>H. thermophilus</i> JR2	7	1	1031 <sup>a</sup>	2.6	2444	50	3	44
<i>H. thermophilus</i> MA2-6	1	1	224.8	2.7	2546	50	3	45
<i>H. halophilus</i>	3	1	3302	2.4	2238	55	3	45
<i>H. kuenenii</i>	2	2	96.1	2.5	2289	42	3	43
<i>H. marinus</i> DSM 11271	3	3	284.5	2.6	2554	44	4	45
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. Milos-T1	1	1	181.3	2.3	2253	44	3	44
<i>Tmr. frisia</i> Kp2	13	3	1455	2.7	2526	40	3	45
<i>Thiomicrothabodus</i> sp. Milos-T2	8	2	1000.3	2.6	2382	38	3	46
<i>Tmr. arctica</i>	8	6	631.6	2.6	2337	42	3	45
<i>Tmr. chilensis</i>	5	2	679.5	2.4	2285	48	2	43
<i>Tms. pelophila</i>	1	1	178.4	2.1	2040	44	2	41

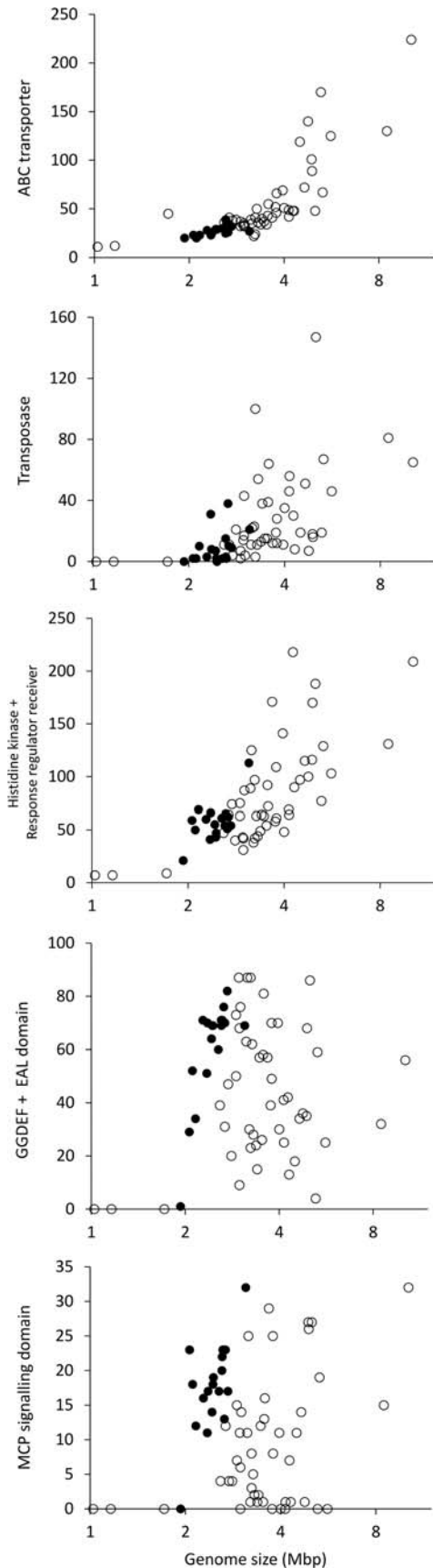
a. Illumina coverage; 454 coverage was 35.9-fold.



**Fig. 2.** Genome context for large tandem repeat regions. Genes are coloured by COG membership. Red genes encode protein kinase. Regions with large tandem repeats are indicated with black bars, and the size (in nucleotides) and number of tandem repeats is indicated next to the taxon name. Lines without genes indicate the ends of contigs. Locus tags and protein family membership for the large genes 5' to the protein kinase genes are indicated above the genes. PFAM13519— von Willebrand factor type A domain; TIGR01965—VCBS\_repeat; TIGR03661—type I secretion C-terminal target domain.

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*Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrothabodus, Thiomicrospira* 7



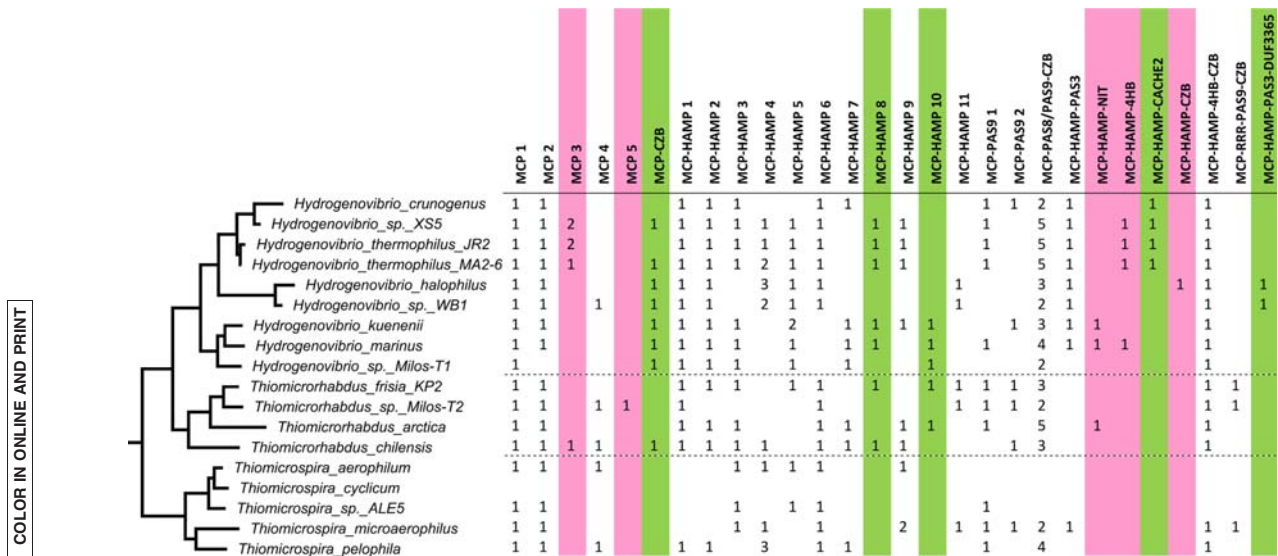
**Fig. 3.** Number of genes falling within selected Pfams in genomes of members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thiomicrospira* (solid black circles) and obligately or facultatively autotrophic members of the *Proteobacteria* (open circles). ABC transporter—members of Pfam00005; Transposase—members of Pfams 00872, 01527, 01609, 01797, 02371, 05598, 09299, 12762 and 12784; Histidine kinase + response regulator receiver—members of Pfams 02518 and 00072; GGDEF + EAL domain—members of Pfams 00990 and 00563; MCP signalling domain—members of Pfam00015.

regulation (if falling upstream of a gene; Zhou *et al.*, 2014). 258  
 Genes encoding large proteins (up to 4456 aa) have been 259  
 annotated upstream from the protein kinase genes, and in 260  
 many cases these large genes include the large tandem 261  
 repeats (Fig. 2). These genes are variously annotated as 262  
 Ig-like domain proteins or VCBS repeat containing proteins 263  
 and many fall within PFAM13519 (von Willebrand 264  
 factor type A domain) or TIGR01965 (VCBS repeat). Both 265  
 of these protein families include extracellular proteins 266  
 involved in cell adhesion. When the amino acid sequences 267  
 predicted from these genes are compared among the 268  
 organisms studied here, they align poorly due to very low 269  
 sequence similarities (~ 35%). Perhaps the tandem repeat 270  
 regions serve to introduce variability in adhesion-related 271  
 proteins, which could provide a mechanism for evading 272  
 phage and other predators. 273

Putative prophages are present in the *Tmr. frisia* and *H.* 274  
*marinus* genomes (Supporting Information Fig. S1). These 275  
 genome regions have G + C fractions that differ from their 276  
 hosts (in mol%:mol% – *Tmr. frisia* KP2 prophage:host 277  
 %GC = 44:40; *H. marinus* = 41:44), and they encode 278  
 many phage-related proteins (Supporting Information Fig. 279  
 S1). Perhaps the most tantalizing finding in the *H. marinus* 280  
 prophage genome is alluded to by *P166DRAFT\_0452-5*, a 281  
 retroelement diversity generating mini-operon first discovered 282  
 in *Bordatella* phage (Doulatov *et al.*, 2004). Diversity- 283  
 generating retroelements (DGRs) are a family of genetic 284  
 elements that function to diversify DNA sequences and the 285  
 proteins they encode (Medhekar and Miller, 2007). Using 286  
 an error-prone reverse transcriptase (*P166DRAFT\_0452*) 287  
 causes tropism switching that enables the phage to match 288  
 the diversity generation of the host (Doulatov *et al.*, 2004). 289  
 Thus, this phage has the putative capability to infect host 290  
 cells of nearly limitless diversity. Usually the recipient of 291  
 the diversity generation is genomically nearby, and in this 292  
 case it may be the ‘DUF3751: phage tail collar fibre 293  
 protein-short tail fibre protein gp12’ (*P166DRAFT\_0457*). 294

Certain gene families are particularly well-represented in 295  
 these genomes, when compared with other autotrophic 296  
 members of the phylum ‘*Proteobacteria*’ whose genomes 297  
 have been completely sequenced (Fig. 3; Supporting Infor- 298  
 mation Table S2). Based on membership in Pfams 299  
 (Bateman *et al.*, 2002), genes encoding ABC transporters 300  
 are abundant, though less so than in other autotrophic 301

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**Fig. 4.** Clusters of genes encoding proteins with methyl-accepting chemotaxis protein signalling domains are sorted by taxa. Numbers of genes from each cluster present in each genome are listed for each taxon. Gene clusters that are absent from genus *Thiomicrospira*, but present in the genera *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Hydrogenovibrio*, are shaded. Pink shading indicates clusters whose genes have no full length matches beyond these taxa, though some have many partial-length matches within them. Green shading indicates clusters with full-length matches in other members of *Gammaproteobacteria*. Gene clusters are named by Pfam domains present in their member's sequences: CACHE2—Pfam08269, Cache domain; CZB—Pfam13682, chemoreceptor zinc-binding domain; DUF3365—Pfam11845, Protein of unknown function; HAMP—Pfam00672, HAMP domain; MCP—Pfam00015, methyl-accepting chemotaxis protein signalling domain; NIT—Pfam08376, nitrate and nitrite sensing; PAS3—Pfam08447, PAS domain; PAS8—Pfam13188, PAS domain; PAS9—Pfam13426, PAS domain; RRR—Pfam00072, response regulator receiver domain; 4HB—Pfam12729, four helix bundle sensory module.

302 'Proteobacteria' with larger genomes (Fig. 3). Abundance  
 303 of these transporters is a bit puzzling, given the require-  
 304 ments for chemolithoautotrophic growth consist of rather  
 305 few nutrients, and also given this group's limited ability to  
 306 assimilate organic carbon (Table 1). *Hydrogenovibrio* sp.  
 307 Milos T1 and *Thiomicrothabodus* sp. Milos T2 have the  
 308 highest number of transposase genes of the genomes  
 309 sequenced here (Fig. 3), which is interesting as these two  
 310 organisms were isolated from the same habitat, but are not  
 311 particularly closely related (Brinkhoff *et al.*, 1999b). In  
 312 general, transposase gene frequencies are relatively low  
 313 (Fig. 3), which may reflect the tendency for smaller genomes  
 314 to contain fewer transposons (Touchon and Rocha, 2007).

315 Some gene families whose members facilitate sensing  
 316 and responding to the environment are abundant in these  
 317 genomes (Fig. 3). Genes encoding two-component regula-  
 318 tory systems (histidine kinase, response regulators) are  
 319 slightly elevated in abundance based on genome sizes,  
 320 but generally fall along an overall trend of increasing num-  
 321 bers with genome size (Galperin, 2005). Genes encoding  
 322 GGDEF and EAL-domain proteins are particularly abun-  
 323 dant in these taxa. In other organisms, these proteins  
 324 synthesize and degrade the second-messenger cyclic di-  
 325 GMP, which is involved in regulating motility, chemotaxis,  
 326 biofilm formation and other interactions with organisms'  
 327 biotic and abiotic environment (Römling *et al.*, 2013). The  
 328 abundance of GGDEF and EAL-domain proteins, as well

as methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins, should make  
 these organisms quite responsive to their spatially and  
 temporally variable habitats.

#### Methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins

Genes with MCP domains are very abundant in members  
 of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thiomicrospira*  
 (11–23 genes per genome; Fig. 3), particularly when com-  
 pared with other members of family *Piscirickettsiaceae* (0–  
 13 genes per genome, median = 4). The abundance of  
 genes encoding MCP-domain proteins may result from  
 inhabiting spatially and/or temporally variable sediment  
 and hydrothermal vent communities; organisms inhabiting  
 such environments tend to carry more MCP genes (Lacal  
*et al.*, 2010). The absence of such genes in *Tms. cyclica* is  
 striking, and it also lacks genes encoding motility-related  
 signalling and structures (*che* and *fli* operons), consistent  
 with this species' nonmotile phenotype (Sorokin *et al.*,  
 2002). Perhaps nonmotility reflects the relative stability of  
 the stratified hypersaline lake from which this species was  
 isolated.

MCP genes among the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomi-*  
*crothabodus* and *Thiomicrospira* fall into 28 clusters (Fig. 4).  
 Their predicted amino termini, which include their sensory  
 domains, likely responsive to a variety of ligands, are less  
 conserved than their carboxy termini, as has been noted

*Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus*, *Thiomicrospira* 9

**Table 3.** Electron transport-related components encoded in genomes from the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thiomicrospira*.

Taxon	SDH <sup>a,b</sup>	Sqr types	Sox	[NiFe]	[FeFe]	NDH	<i>bc</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>cbb</i> <sub>3</sub>	<i>bd</i>	<i>ba</i> <sub>3</sub>
<i>H. crunogenus</i> XCL-2		A, F	ABCDXYZ	1b		I	1	1		
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. XS5	1	A, F	ABCDXYZ			I, II	1	1	1	
<i>H. thermophilus</i> JR2	1	A, F	ABCDXYZ			I, II	1	1	1	
<i>H. thermophilus</i> MA2-6	1	A, F	ABCDXYZ	1d, 2b		I, II	1	1	1	
<i>H. halophilus</i>	3	A, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I	1	1		
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. WB1	3	A, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I	1	1		
<i>H. kuenei</i>	1	A, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I, II	1	1		
<i>H. marinus</i> DSM 11271	1	A, F	ABCDXYZ	1d, 2b	1	I, II	1	1		
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. Milos-T1	1	A, E, F	ABCDXYZ			I, II	1	1	1	
<i>Tmr. frisia</i> Kp2	4	A, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I	1	1		
<i>Thiomicrothabodus</i> sp. Milos-T2	3	A, F	ABCDXYZ			I	1	1		1
<i>Tmr. arctica</i>		A, F	ABCDXYZ			I	1	1		
<i>Tmr. chilensis</i>	4	A, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I	1	1		
<i>Tms. aerophila</i>	3	B, F	ABCDXYZ			I	1	1		
<i>Tms. cyclica</i>	1	B, F	ABCDXYZ			I	1	1		
<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. ALE5	3	B, F	ABCDXYZ			I	1	1		
<i>Tms. microaerophila</i>	4	B, E, F	ABCDXYZ	1b		I	1	1		
<i>Tms. pelophila</i>	2	A, B, F	ABCDXYZ		1	I	1	1		

**a.** Abbreviations: SDH, flavocytochrome *c* sulfide dehydrogenase; Sqr types, sulfide:quinone oxidoreductases A, B, C, D, E or F; DSR, dissimilatory sulfite reductase system; Sox, Sox/thiosulfate-oxidizing multi-enzyme system, ABXYZ (incomplete) or ABCDXYZ (complete); Sgp, sulfur globule proteins A/B or C; Sor, sulfite dehydrogenase; Soe, sulfite oxidizing enzyme SoeABC; APS red, adenosine phosphosulfate reductase; [NiFe], group 1b, 1d or 2b [NiFe] hydrogenase; [FeFe], [FeFe] hydrogenase; NDH, type I and II NADH:quinone oxidoreductase; *bc*<sub>1</sub>, cytochrome *bc*<sub>1</sub> complex; *cbb*<sub>3</sub>, *cbb*<sub>3</sub>-type cytochrome *c* oxidase; *bd*, cytochrome *bd*-type quinol oxidase; *ba*<sub>3</sub>, *ba*<sub>3</sub>-type cytochrome *c* oxidase.

**b.** Numbers indicate the number of copies of a particular complex that are encoded by the genome.

354 for MCPs in general (Wuichet *et al.*, 2007). Many of the  
 355 MCP genes carried by these taxa encode amino-terminal  
 356 PAS domains that might be involved in energy taxis, in  
 357 which the redox state of components of the electron trans-  
 358 port chain is sensed by redox-sensitive MCP proteins,  
 359 which results in motility to microenvironments with an opti-  
 360 mal concentration of reductant and oxidant. Organisms  
 361 capable of energy taxis often have large numbers of MCP  
 362 genes (Alexandre *et al.*, 2004), and this is the case for the  
 363 genera studied here. MCP genes with PAS domains com-  
 364 prise the largest of the 28 clusters (MCP-PAS8/PAS9-CZB;  
 365 Fig. 4). This cluster includes multiple genes from many of  
 366 these genomes. Phylogenetic analysis of these genes  
 367 does not cluster them by species, suggesting duplication  
 368 prior to divergence of these species (data not shown).  
 369 Eighteen of the clusters, including this large PAS domain  
 370 cluster, contain genes from genus *Thiomicrospira* and  
 371 either *Hydrogenovibrio* or *Thiomicrothabodus*, and likely  
 372 reflect the presence of these genes in the shared ancestor  
 373 of these three genera (Fig. 4). Ten clusters present in the  
 374 genera *Hydrogenovibrio* and *Thiomicrothabodus* do not  
 375 have full-length matches within genus *Thiomicrospira*. Five  
 376 of these clusters have full-length matches elsewhere in the  
 377 *Gammaproteobacteria* and appear to have been acquired  
 378 by the lineage leading to the genera *Hydrogenovibrio* and  
 379 *Thiomicrothabodus* subsequent to its divergence from  
 380 genus *Thiomicrospira*. The other five clusters of genes  
 381 absent from genus *Thiomicrospira* have many high-  
 382 similarity partial-length hits that fell within the genera

*Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thiomicrospira*. 383  
 Based on these observations, no genes appear to have 384  
 been horizontally transferred from distantly related organ- 385  
 isms. Perhaps this is because the MCP domain needs to 386  
 be sufficiently conserved to communicate with the other 387  
 components of the chemotaxis apparatus (e.g., CheW, 388  
 CheA; Wadhams and Armitage, 2004). 389

*Electron transport chains* 390

Similar to other chemolithoautotrophs (e.g., Dmytrenko 391  
*et al.*, 2014; Flood *et al.*, 2016), genomes from members 392  
 of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thi-* 393  
*omicrospira* encode a variety of complexes to introduce 394  
 electrons stripped from inorganic compounds into the elec- 395  
 tron transport chain, and to act as terminal oxidases. 396  
 Given that several genomes from within this clade of 397  
 microorganisms have been sequenced, they provide a 398  
 unique opportunity for illuminating how these complexes 399  
 were acquired. All 18 of the species examined carry the 400  
 genetic potential to oxidize reduced sulfur compounds via 401  
 sulfide:quinone oxidoreductases (EC 1.8.5.4; subdivided 402  
 into clades *sqrA*–*sqrF* and *sqrX*; Gregersen *et al.*, 2011). 403  
 All carry *sqrF*, while *sqrA*, *sqrB* and *sqrE* are distributed 404  
 less evenly among taxa (classified by comparison to 405  
 sequences in Gregersen *et al.*, 2011; Table 3). As a result, 406 T3  
 several taxa carry multiple sulfide:quinone oxidoreductase 407  
 genes, and this is also the case for other members of ‘*Pro-* 408  
*teobacteria*’ (Supporting Information Table S3). In 409

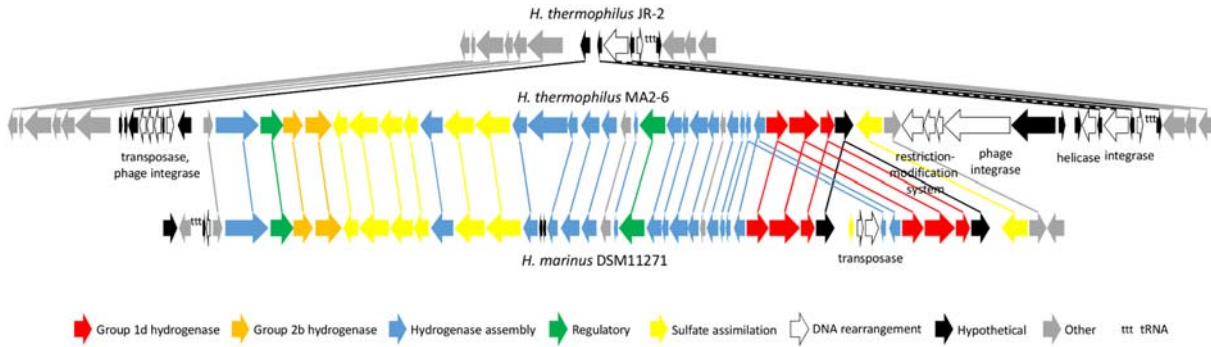
410 *Chlorobaculum tepidum*, genes encoding multiple forms of  
 411 this enzyme are differentially induced by sulfide concentra-  
 412 tions (Chan *et al.*, 2009); this may also be the case for  
 413 these organisms. Most of the members of *Hydrogenovi-*  
 414 *brio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira* also carry one  
 415 or multiple copies of flavocytochrome *c* sulfide dehydroge-  
 416 nase (SDH; EC 1.8.1.19; Table 3). These genomes  
 417 encode a particularly large number of copies of this  
 418 enzyme (up to 4); other members of ‘*Proteobacteria*’ typi-  
 419 cally carry fewer (1–2; Supporting Information Table S3).  
 420 Expression of these paralogs may be differentially induced,  
 421 as has been described above for *sqr* genes. Members of  
 422 the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thio-*  
 423 *microspira* carry genes encoding the complete thiosulfate-  
 424 oxidizing multienzyme system (‘Sox complex’, encoded by  
 425 *soxABCDXYZ*) associated with the Kelly–Friedrich path-  
 426 way, which can oxidize thiosulfate completely to sulfate  
 427 without the formation of any free intermediates in the cell  
 428 or locale. These genes are not collocated in a single  
 429 operon, similar to *H. crunogenus* (Scott *et al.*, 2006), sug-  
 430 gesting that they may be differentially regulated. Most of  
 431 the the ‘*Proteobacteria*’ surveyed here carry *soxABXYZ*  
 432 instead (Supporting Information Table S3); this ‘incom-  
 433 plete’ Sox complex may produce polysulfide or elemental  
 434 sulfur (Frigaard and Dahl, 2009). Given the possibility for  
 435 differential regulation of *sox* genes in *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thi-*  
 436 *omicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira*, their Sox complexes  
 437 may not always include SoxCD proteins, or could use alter-  
 438 native cytochromes to fulfill their role. The presence of *Sqr*  
 439 and SDH genes (and the potential to synthesize SoxAB-  
 440 XYZ systems) is consistent with elemental sulfur  
 441 production by these cells (Jannasch *et al.*, 1985; Brinkhoff  
 442 *et al.*, 1999a,c; Takai *et al.*, 2004; Knittel *et al.*, 2005).  
 443 Genes encoding sulfur globule proteins homologous to  
 444 those present in *Allochroamatium vinosum* are absent,  
 445 which may indicate that other proteins encase sulfur glob-  
 446 ules, as has been observed in (Hanson *et al.*, 2016), or  
 447 that the globules do not have protein coats.

448 Known pathways for sulfite metabolism are absent from  
 449 the genomes of members of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicro-*  
 450 *rhabdus* and *Thiomicrospira*, which distinguishes them  
 451 from other ‘*Proteobacteria*’ (Supporting Information Table  
 452 S3) and is consistent with an inability to use sulfite as their  
 453 sole electron donor (Brinkhoff *et al.*, 1999a,c; Rainey *et al.*,  
 454 2001; Sorokin *et al.*, 2002; Takai *et al.*, 2004; Knittel *et al.*,  
 455 2005). As has been noted for *H. crunogenus* (Scott *et al.*,  
 456 2006), members of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus*  
 457 and *Thiomicrospira* lack dissimilatory sulfite reductase  
 458 (DSR); this enzyme is common in photosynthetic sulfur  
 459 oxidizing bacteria, which use it to oxidize sulfide and ele-  
 460 mental sulfur to sulfite (Frigaard and Dahl, 2009). This  
 461 complex is also encoded in the genomes of many chemoli-  
 462 thoautotrophic members of ‘*Proteobacteria*’ (Supporting  
 463 Information Table S3). Its absence in *Hydrogenovibrio*,

*Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira* is consistent with  
 464 previous studies which noted that the DSR complex is  
 465 absent from organisms carrying genes encoding a com-  
 466 plete Sox complex that includes SoxCD (Frigaard and  
 467 Dahl, 2009; Gregersen *et al.*, 2011). Genes encoding  
 468 enzymes to oxidize sulfite directly (SoxAB, SoeABC) or  
 469 indirectly (dissimilatory APS reductase) are also absent  
 470 from their genomes, though these genes are common  
 471 among other ‘*Proteobacteria*’ (Supporting Information  
 472 Table S3).  
 473

474 The presence of genes encoding the Sox complex and  
 475 sulfide:quinone oxidoreductase in all sequenced members  
 476 of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira*  
 477 suggests that their common ancestor was a sulfur-  
 478 oxidizing chemolithotroph. All of them also carry genes  
 479 encoding NDH-1-type NADH:quinone oxidoreductase  
 480 (NADH dehydrogenase, EC 1.6.5.3), cytochrome *bc<sub>1</sub>* com-  
 481 plex (EC 1.10.2.2) and a *cbb<sub>3</sub>*-type cytochrome *c* oxidase  
 482 (EC 1.9.3.1), which facilitates growth under low oxygen  
 483 conditions (Pitcher and Watmough, 2004) and has been  
 484 purified and characterized from *Tms. aerophila* (Sorokin  
 485 *et al.*, 1999). The presence of a high-affinity *cbb<sub>3</sub>* cyto-  
 486 chrome *c* oxidase in all species examined suggests that  
 487 the common ancestor to these organisms was capable of  
 488 growth under low oxygen conditions as well.

489 Other components of electron transport chains are not  
 490 universally encoded by the genomes of these organisms.  
 491 Genes encoding hydrogenases are unevenly distributed  
 492 among *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomi-*  
 493 *crospira*. Among these are genes encoding four types of  
 494 hydrogenase (EC 1.12.1.; [FeFe], as well as [NiFe]  
 495 groups 1b, 1d and 2b) (Hansen and Perner, 2016). [FeFe]  
 496 hydrogenases are present in some of the taxa sequenced  
 497 here (Table 3), though absent from other members of the  
 498 ‘*Proteobacteria*’ that were examined (Supporting Informa-  
 499 tion Table S4). Genome contexts of these [FeFe]-  
 500 hydrogenase genes do not suggest a function for this  
 501 hydrogenase, or a direction to the catalytic activity (i.e.,  
 502 either producing or consuming H<sub>2</sub>). Group 1b [NiFe]-  
 503 hydrogenase genes are present in *H. crunogenus* (Scott  
 504 *et al.*, 2006) and *Tms. microaerophila* ASL8-2. Matches to  
 505 these genes largely fall within genomes of members of the  
 506 phylum *Epsilonbacteraeota*, and group 1b hydrogenases  
 507 are absent from the other *Gammaproteobacteria* queried  
 508 here (Supporting Information Table S4). In *Tms. microaer-*  
 509 *ophila* ASL8-2, as has been described in *H. crunogenus*,  
 510 the small-subunit-encoding gene includes an NADH-  
 511 binding domain; this, plus the absence of a *b*-type subunit-  
 512 encoding gene, suggests that the redox partner for this  
 513 enzyme could be cytoplasmic (Scott *et al.*, 2006). Hydro-  
 514 genases using NADH as the redox partner are often  
 515 reversible (Lubitz *et al.*, 2014), so the enzyme encoded by  
 516 these genes may function either to use H<sub>2</sub> as an electron  
 517 donor, or to produce this gas to maintain redox balance,



**Fig. 5.** Genome context and synteny of genes encoding and associated with hydrogenase enzymes in *H. thermophilus* MA2–6 and *H. marinus*. A region of the genome from *H. thermophilus* JR-2, which lacks hydrogenase, is provided for comparison, as it shows the likely site of insertion for this hydrogenase genomic island subsequent to the divergence of these two strains of *H. thermophilus*. Lines link orthologous genes.

518 which would be consistent with life in a highly variable envi- 556  
 519 ronment. Group 1b [NiFe]-hydrogenase genes are also 557  
 520 present in *H. crunogenus* TH55. Molecular hydrogen use 558  
 521 by this organism is suggested by hydrogen consumption F5  
 522 from culture headspace, and increased cell counts in the 559  
 523 presence of this gas, demonstrating chemolithoautotrophic 560  
 524 growth on molecular hydrogen (Hansen and Perner, 2015; 561  
 525 2016). Hydrogen use by *H. crunogenus* XCL-2 was not 562  
 526 detected under these or a variety of other cultivation condi- 563  
 527 tions, and there are no mutations in its hydrogenase or 564  
 528 hydrogenase-associated genes that explain this lack of 565  
 529 activity (Hansen and Perner, 2016). The function of the 566  
 530 group 1b [NiFe]-hydrogenase remains mysterious in *H.* 567  
 531 *crunogenus* XCL-2. 568

532 Genes encoding group 1d (oxygen-tolerant) and 2b 569  
 533 (sensory) hydrogenases are present in both *H. marinus* 570  
 534 and *H. thermophilus* MA2–6, and both are capable of 571  
 535 growth with hydrogen gas as the electron donor (Hansen 572  
 536 and Perner, 2016). Genes encoding group 1d hydroge- 573  
 537 nase are common among the members of 574  
 538 *Gammaproteobacteria* (Supporting Information Table 575  
 539 S4). For both *H. marinus* and *H. thermophilus* MA2–6, 576  
 540 genes nearby encode enzymes for assimilatory sulfate 577  
 541 reduction (subunits 1 and 2 of sulfate adenylyltransfer- 578  
 542 ase, thioredoxin-dependent adenylylsulfate APS 579  
 543 reductase; Bick *et al.*, 2000); perhaps this collocation 580  
 544 assists with the synthesis of iron sulfur clusters for 581  
 545 hydrogenase enzymes. Together, these genes liberate 582  
 546 *H. marinus* and *H. thermophilus* MA2–6 from any 583  
 547 requirement for reduced sulfur compounds either as 584  
 548 electron donors or biosynthetic substrates; indeed, both 585  
 549 strains grow on hydrogen gas in the absence of reduced 586  
 550 sulfur sources (Nishihara *et al.*, 1991, K. Scott, unpub- 587  
 551 lished). This ability could be an advantage as some vent 588  
 552 habitats are hydrogen-rich and sulfide poor (Kelley *et al.*, 589  
 553 2005). 590

554 The chromosome regions encoding the 1d and 2b 591  
 555 hydrogenases in *H. marinus* and *H. thermophilus* MA2–6 592

are strikingly similar; the order of the genes encoding 556  
 these hydrogenases and the many proteins needed to 557  
 assemble them are nearly identical (Fig. 5), despite a lack 558  
 of conservation of gene order in other genomes encoding 559  
 these hydrogenases. The predicted amino acid sequences 560  
 of the large and small subunits of these hydrogenases 561  
 share high sequence identities between these two species 562  
 (e.g., for 1d, 92% and 96% identical respectively). Given 563  
 the absence of group 2b and 1d hydrogenases in the other 564  
 members of genus *Hydrogenovibrio*, including species 565  
 closely related to *H. marinus* and *thermophilus* MA2–6, it 566  
 seems likely that these two taxa acquired these genes 567  
 independently via horizontal gene transfer. Given the simi- 568  
 larity in gene order and sequence, they both likely acquired 569  
 this hydrogenase gene cluster from similar organisms. 570  
 Phylogenetic analysis of the group 2b and 1d hydrogenase 571  
 gene sequences from genus *Hydrogenovibrio* places them 572  
 together on a long branch (data not shown), precluding 573  
 inference about the taxonomic affiliation of the donor 574  
 organisms. For *H. thermophilus* MA2–6, there are many 575  
 signs that acquisition of these genes was a relatively 576  
 recent phage-mediated acquisition, as the hydrogenase 577  
 gene cluster is surrounded by phage components (Fig. 5). 578  
*H. thermophilus* JR2, whose genome is otherwise synten- 579  
 ous with *H. thermophilus* MA2–6, lacks both these phage 580  
 components and the gene cluster, suggesting hydroge- 581  
 nase acquisition by *H. thermophilus* MA2–6 subsequent to 582  
 the *H. thermophilus* MA2–6/JR2 divergence. Hydrogenase 583  
 acquisition by horizontal gene transfer may be widespread 584  
 (Greening *et al.*, 2016). *Tmr. hydrogeniphilia*, a recently 585  
 isolated member of the genus *Thiomicrohabdus*, grows 586  
 chemolithoautotrophically on molecular hydrogen. *Tmr.* 587  
*hydrogeniphilia* is very closely related to *Tmr. frisia*, and is 588  
 the only member thus far of its genus to have this capabil- 589  
 ity demonstrated (Watsuji *et al.*, 2016; Boden *et al.*, 590  
 2017a). The ability to grow with hydrogen as the electron 591  
 donor is also observed in some species of 592



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593 *Acidithiobacillus*; the distribution of this trait does not  
594 suggest vertical transmission from the ancestral *Acidithio-*  
595 *bacillus* (Hedrich and Johnson, 2013).

596 The recent isolation of an organism falling within genus  
597 *Hydrogenovibrio* that can grow with ferrous iron as its elec-  
598 tron donor (Barco *et al.*, 2017) raises the possibility that  
599 the organisms sequenced here might also have this capa-  
600 bility. However, their genomes do not include homologs of  
601 the outer membrane proteins canonically associated with  
602 iron oxidization or reduction [Cyc2 (and associated alterna-  
603 tive complex III), MtoA, OmpB or OmcB; Liu *et al.*, 2012;  
604 2014; Barco *et al.*, 2015; Kato *et al.*, 2015]. Despite this  
605 absence of genetic evidence, it would be worthwhile to test  
606 these organisms for the ability to use ferrous iron as an  
607 electron donor, since mechanisms for iron oxidation have  
608 yet to be described for many organisms with this capability  
609 (He *et al.*, 2017).

610 In addition to this diversity in mechanisms for input of  
611 reductant into the electron transport chains of these organ-  
612 isms, there is diversity in electron transport complexes as  
613 well (Table 3). All of these organisms carry genes encoding  
614 complex I (NADH:ubiquinone reductase, EC 1.6.5.3).  
615 Some members of *Hydrogenovibrio* carry genes encoding  
616 alternative (type II) NADH:ubiquinone reductase (EC  
617 1.6.5.9), which is common among 'Proteobacteria' (Mar-  
618 reiros *et al.*, 2016), though not among the autotrophic  
619 organisms surveyed here (Supporting Information Table  
620 S4). Type II NADH:ubiquinone reductase oxidizes NADH  
621 without directly contributing to proton potential, which may  
622 function to maintain cellular NADH/NAD<sup>+</sup> ratios (Kerscher  
623 *et al.*, 2008). In addition to the *cbb*<sub>3</sub> cytochrome *c* oxidase  
624 complex noted above, some members of *Hydrogenovibrio*  
625 also carry genes encoding cytochrome *bd*-type quinol oxi-  
626 dase (EC 1.10.3.10), while *Thiomicrothabodus* sp. Milos T2  
627 has *ba*<sub>3</sub>-type cytochrome *c* oxidase (EC 1.10.3.11; Table  
628 3). Biochemically characterized cytochrome *bd*-type quinol  
629 oxidases from other organisms, as well as *cbb*<sub>3</sub> cyto-  
630 chrome *c* oxidase, have high affinities for oxygen and  
631 facilitate growth under low-oxygen conditions (Pitcher and  
632 Watmough, 2004; Borisov *et al.*, 2011), which would be  
633 helpful in many of the habitats where these genera are  
634 found. Indeed, both of these complexes are quite common  
635 among autotrophic 'Proteobacteria', which should facilitate  
636 growth in low-oxygen habitats where reduced inorganic  
637 electron donors are present (Supporting Information Table  
638 S4). Alternatively, the cytochrome *bd*-type oxidase and *ba*<sub>3</sub>  
639 complexes may provide mechanisms for redox balance.  
640 The *ba*<sub>3</sub> cytochrome *c* oxidase from '*Aquifex aeolicus*'  
641 uses both quinol and ferrocyclochrome *c* as electron  
642 donors. Quinol oxidation by this complex may function to  
643 maintain redox balance when the quinone pool becomes  
644 excessively reduced (Gao *et al.*, 2012). It has also been  
645 suggested that the *bd* complex may function to minimize

oxidative damage when oxygen tensions rise (Poole and  
Hill, 1997; Ramel *et al.*, 2015).

Much of the diversity in electron transport chain compo-  
nents is present in the genera *Hydrogenovibrio* and  
*Thiomicrothabodus*, but not in genus *Thiomicrospira*  
(Table 3). The sequenced members of genus *Thiomicro-*  
*spira* were all isolated from sediment habitats and  
hypersaline and soda lakes, while many of the sequenced  
members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio* and *Thiomicro-*  
*rhabodus* were isolated from hydrothermal vent  
environments (Table 1). The additional electron transport  
chain components found in these organisms could function  
to maintain electron transport activity when oxygen ten-  
sions or sulfide concentrations vary; perhaps they lend  
these organisms a degree of 'redox versatility' that pro-  
vides an advantage in the extreme spatial and temporal  
heterogeneity of vent environments.

#### *Carboxylases, carboxysomes and associated transporters*

All of these organisms carry genes encoding the Calvin–  
Benson–Bassham (CBB) cycle; none carry genes encod-  
ing ATP-dependent citrate lyase (EC 2.3.3.8), or citryl-coA  
synthetase (EC 6.2.1.18)/citryl-coA ligase (EC 4.1.3.34),  
which are present in organisms using the reductive citric  
acid (Arnon-Buchanan) cycle for carbon fixation (Aoshima  
*et al.*, 2004a,b; Hügler *et al.*, 2007). Absence of a gene  
encoding sedoheptulose-bisphosphatase (EC 3.1.3.37)  
suggests that these organisms either have a bifunctional  
bisphosphatase, capable of acting both on fructose 1,6-  
bisphosphate as well as on sedoheptulose 1,7-bisphos-  
phate (Yoo and Bowien, 1995), or that they use the  
transaldolase variant of the CBB cycle (Strøm *et al.*, 1974;  
Boden *et al.*, 2017b). Other organisms lacking these  
enzymes have been found to carry pyrophosphate-  
dependent phosphofructokinase (EC 2.7.1.90), which is  
reversible and can act on sedoheptulose 1,7-bisphosphate  
(Reshetnikov *et al.*, 2008). This does not appear to be the  
case for the organisms studied here. Genes encoding  
pyrophosphate-dependent phosphofructokinase are often  
adjacent on the chromosome to genes encoding proton  
translocating pyrophosphate synthase (Kleiner *et al.*,  
2012); these genes are absent from the organisms studied  
here. It was originally suggested that enzyme from *H. cru-*  
*nogenus* might use pyrophosphate (Scott *et al.*, 2006);  
however, amino acid sequences predicted from phospho-  
fructokinase genes from this organism, as well as other  
members of *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrothabodus* and *Thio-*  
*microspira* are consistent with ATP as a substrate; they  
have a glycine residue at position 104, and a lysine at 124  
(positions relative to ATP-dependent enzyme from *Escheri-*  
*chia coli*), as do biochemically characterized ATP-  
dependent enzymes (Bapteste *et al.*, 2003).

## Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrorhabdus, Thiomicrospira 13

**Table 4.** Presence of genes encoding RubisCO, and enzymes for acetate assimilation and metabolism in the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrorhabdus* and *Thiomicrospira*.

Taxon	Form IAc <sup>a,b</sup>	Form IAq	Form II	AK <sup>c</sup>	PTA	OFOR
<i>H. crunogenus</i> XCL-2	1	1	1			1
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. XS-5	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>H. thermophilus</i> JR2	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>H. thermophilus</i> MA2-6	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>H. halophilus</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. WB-1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>H. kuenenii</i>	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>H. marinus</i>	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Hydrogenovibrio</i> sp. Milos-T1	1		1	1	1	
<i>Tmr. frisida</i> KP2	1	1	1			
<i>Thiomicrorhabdus</i> sp. Milos-T2		1	1			
<i>Tmr. arctica</i>		1	1			
<i>Tmr. chilensis</i>	1	1	1			
<i>Tms. aerophila</i>	1					
<i>Tms. cyclica</i>	1					
<i>Thiomicrospira</i> sp. ALE5	1					
<i>Tms. microaerophila</i>	1					
<i>Tms. pelophila</i>	1		1			

a. Form IAc = form IA carboxysomal RubisCO; Form IAq = form IA noncarboxysomal RubisCO; form II = form II RubisCO.

b. Numbers indicate the number of copies of a particular enzyme that are encoded by the genome.

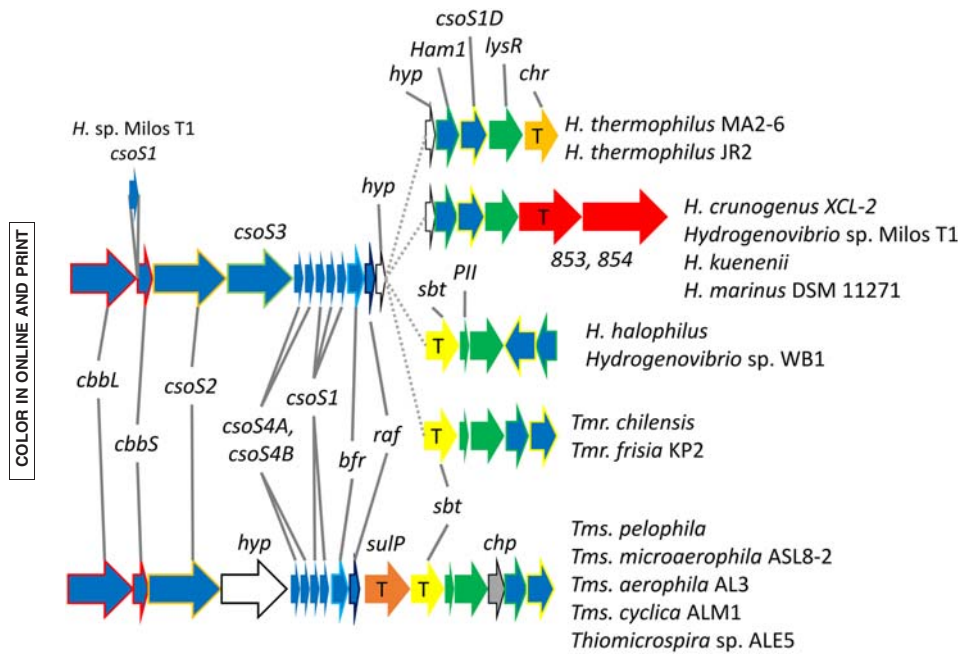
c. AK, acetate kinase; PTA, phosphotransacetylase; OFOR, oxoacid:ferredoxin oxidoreductase.

698 Many of these organisms' genomes encode multiple  
 699 RubisCO enzymes (form IAc, carboxysomal form IA  
 700 RubisCO; form IAq, noncarboxysomal form IA RubisCO;  
 T4 701 form II; Table 4; Supporting Information Fig. S2; Boden  
 702 *et al.*, 2017b). Two, and often three, genes encoding  
 703 RubisCO are present in genomes from members of *Hydro-*  
 704 *genovibrio* and *Thiomicrorhabdus* (Table 4); it is more  
 705 common among 'Proteobacteria' for genomes to include  
 706 one or two of these genes (Supporting Information Table  
 707 S5). RubisCO enzymes have very large differences in  
 708  $K_{CO_2}$  values and specificity for  $CO_2$  versus  $O_2$ ; noncarboxy-  
 709 somal form I enzymes typically have higher affinities for  
 710  $CO_2$ , as well as being more specific for  $CO_2$  (Badger and  
 711 Bek, 2008), while carboxysomal form I enzymes are  
 712 packed into carboxysomes as part of CCMs (Menon *et al.*,  
 713 2008). Encoding more versions of this enzyme may facili-  
 714 tate autotrophic growth in the presence of a broader range  
 715 of  $CO_2$  concentrations. For *H. marinus* and *H. crunogenus*,  
 716 it has been demonstrated that these RubisCO genes are  
 717 differentially transcribed in response to the concentration  
 718 of  $CO_2$  in the growth medium (Yoshizawa *et al.*, 2004;  
 719 Dobrinski *et al.*, 2012), and having multiple enzymes is  
 720 believed to facilitate stable rates of carbon fixation at a  
 721 broad range of  $CO_2$  and  $O_2$  concentrations (Tabita, 1999;  
 722 Badger and Bek, 2008).

723 Most genomes encode carboxysomal form IAc enzyme,  
 724 consistent with the presence of carboxysomes and  $CO_2$   
 725 concentrating mechanisms similar to what has been  
 726 described in members of the 'Cyanobacteria' as well as  
 727 *Hydrogenovibrio crunogenus* (Dobrinski *et al.*, 2005; Price

*et al.*, 2008; Boden *et al.*, 2017b). Carboxysome presence 728  
 has been previously verified via electron micrographs of *H.* 729  
*crunogenus* (Dobrinski *et al.*, 2012; Menning *et al.*, 2016), 730  
*H. marinus* (Yoshizawa *et al.*, 2004), *Tms. aerophila* 731  
 (Rainey *et al.*, 2001) and *Tms. cyclica* (Sorokin *et al.*, 732  
 2002). However, carboxysomes and CCMs are not inevita- 733  
 ble among these genera; *Thiomicrorhabdus* sp. Milos-T2 734  
 and *Tmr. arctica* lack carboxysomal RubisCO genes, as 735  
 well as genes encoding shell proteins and other compo- 736  
 nents of carboxysomes. It is possible that these genes are 737  
 encoded on portions of the genomes that remain to be 738  
 sequenced. Alternatively, these taxa may have alternative 739  
 mechanisms beyond CCMs for coping with periods of low 740  
 $CO_2$  availability. 741

742 Genomes of most members of *Thiomicrospira* encode  
 743 only carboxysomal RubisCO (form IAc) and not form II  
 744 (Table 4), confirming results from PCR-based assays for  
 745 these enzymes (Tourova *et al.*, 2006). Most of the mem-  
 746 bers of *Thiomicrospira* studied here were isolated from  
 747 alkaline hypersaline and soda lakes (Sorokin *et al.*, 2002;  
 748 2007; 2011). These habitats typically have high concentra-  
 749 tions of bicarbonate and carbonate, but their high pH (9–  
 750 10) likely renders  $CO_2$  scarce (Sorokin *et al.*, 2011). The  
 751 hydrothermal vent or sediment habitats from which all of  
 752 the other organisms in this study were isolated can have  
 753 quite high  $CO_2$  concentrations (e.g., Goffredi *et al.*, 1997),  
 754 which would make it an advantage for these organisms to  
 755 be able to repress carboxysome synthesis. In hypersaline  
 756 and soda lakes, noncarboxysomal form I RubisCO, or form  
 757 II RubisCO, which typically has a low affinity for  $CO_2$ , 757



**Fig. 6.** Carboxysome operon synteny among members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus*, and *Thiomicrospira*. 'T' marks genes that encode potential transporters. Gene abbreviations are: *bfr*—bacterioferritin; *cbbL*—RubisCO large subunit; *cbbS*—RubisCO small subunit; *chp*—conserved hypothetical protein; *chr*—chromate ion transporter family; *csoS1*, *csoS2*, *csos4A*, *csoS4b*—carboxysome shell proteins; *csoS3*—carboxysome carbonic anhydrase; *Ham1*—Ham1-domain protein; *hyp*—hypothetical protein; *lysR*—LysR-type transcriptional regulator; *PII*—PII signal transduction protein; *raf*—RubisCO assembly factor; *sbt*—sodium-dependent bicarbonate transporter family; *sulP*—sulfate transporter family; *853*, *854*—homologs to *Tcr\_0853*, *0854*.

758 would function poorly and may explain the absence of  
 759 these forms of the enzyme among the members of *Thiomicro-*  
 760 *spira* isolated from these habitats. Consistent with this,  
 761 *Thiomicrospira pelophila*, the sole sequenced member of  
 762 its genus to encode form II RubisCO, was isolated from  
 763 coastal sediment, which is likely to have higher CO<sub>2</sub> con-  
 764 centrations, and grows optimally near neutral pH (Kuenen  
 765 and Veldkamp, 1972).

766 Carboxysome operons among these organisms differ  
 767 from those typically present in other chemolithoautotrophic  
 768 bacteria (Axen *et al.*, 2014) in that they lack *cbbO* and  
 769 *cbbQ*, encoding RubisCO accessory proteins, as well as  
 770 homologs to *parA*, which may play a role in carboxysome  
 771 positioning in other organisms. Among the organisms stud-  
 772 ied here, carboxysome operon structure is generally well  
 F6 773 conserved (Fig. 6). An intriguing deviation is that *Tms.*  
 774 *pelophila* and other members of *Thiomicrospira* lack  
 775 *csoS3*, encoding a carboxysomal carbonic anhydrase  
 776 (Cannon *et al.*, 2010). In its place are genes that are  
 777 unique to these taxa. *Tms. pelophila* gene *N746DRAFT\_*  
 778 *0321* and *Tms. microaerophila* ASL8-2 gene *NA59DRAFT\_*  
 779 *00206* have no homologs in IMG or NCBI non-  
 780 redundant protein databases. *Thicy\_1562*, *Thiae\_1973* and  
 781 *MZ34DRAFT\_1177*, which are the corresponding genes in  
 782 *Tms. cyclica* ALM1, *Tms. aerophila* AL3 and *Thiomicro-*  
 783 *spira* sp. ALE5, are homologous to each other. Given that  
 784 carbonic anhydrase activity is key to the functioning of car-  
 785 boxysomes in other organisms (Cannon *et al.*, 2010), its  
 786 potential absence in these taxa is puzzling. One possibility  
 787 is that the carboxysomal carbonic anhydrase for these  
 788 organisms is encoded elsewhere on their chromosomes.  
 789 Indeed, some of them do carry alpha carbonic anhydrase

genes (*Thiae\_1542*, *MZ34DRAFT\_1567*, *N746DRAFT\_*  
 790 *1499*, *NA59DRAFT\_02538*). Alternatively, the novel genes  
 791 present in the carboxysome operons of these organisms  
 792 may encode novel carbonic anhydrase enzymes. A third  
 793 possibility is that these carboxysomes function in the  
 794 absence of carbonic anhydrase activity, which would be  
 795 particularly surprising, given the presence of this enzyme in  
 796 all other carboxysomes characterized to date (Cannon  
 797 *et al.*, 2010).  
 798

Potential transporters are encoded 3' to the carboxy-  
 799 some operons and may play a role in dissolved inorganic  
 800 carbon uptake. These genes are quite diverse, encoding  
 801 proteins that are members of four evolutionarily distinct  
 802 transporter families (Saier *et al.*, 2014): major facilitator  
 803 superfamily SulP/BicA (MFS), HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>:Na<sup>+</sup> symporter  
 804 (SbtA), chromate ion transporter (CHR). The fourth con-  
 805 sists of a two-component DIC transporter in which one  
 806 subunit is a homolog of the NADH dehydrogenase chain  
 807 L (NDL). Members of three of these families have been  
 808 implicated in DIC uptake: two in the '*Cyanobacteria*'  
 809 [BicA (Price *et al.*, 2004), SbtA (Shibata *et al.*, 2002)],  
 810 and one in *H. crunogenus* [encoded by *Tcr\_0853* and  
 811 *Tcr\_0854*; Mangiapia *et al.* (2017)]. Some species carry  
 812 representatives of several of these transporter families  
 813 either downstream from the carboxysome operon or  
 814 elsewhere on the chromosome (Fig. 6). Since the car-  
 815 boxysome operon falls at the end of a genome scaffold  
 816 for *Hydrogenovibrio* sp. XS5, it was not possible to deter-  
 817 mine which, if any, potential transporter genes might be  
 818 present 3' to this locus.  
 819

If indeed genes from all four of these transporter families  
 820 encode DIC transporters, it is interesting that such a  
 821

822 diversity of transporters exists among these organisms. It  
 823 can be anticipated that transporters from different families  
 824 will differ from each other with respect to maximal rates  
 825 and affinities, and in symported/antiported compounds and  
 826 stoichiometries, providing advantages under certain  
 827 growth conditions. They are particularly abundant and  
 828 diverse among members of genus *Thiomicrospira*. Per-  
 829 haps the added transporters provide a selective advantage  
 830 in the extremely low CO<sub>2</sub> alkaline habitats from which most  
 831 of the members of *Thiomicrospira* were isolated (Sorokin  
 832 *et al.*, 2011), or compensate for a lack of carboxysomal  
 833 carbonic anhydrase in these species.

#### 834 Central carbon metabolism

835 All of the target genomes carry genes encoding the same  
 836 version of Embden–Meyerhof–Parnas glycolysis/gluconeo-  
 837 genesis and the citric acid cycle described for *H.*  
 838 *crunogenus*, lacking all NADH-specific dehydrogenases  
 839 (isocitrate EC 1.1.1.41, 2-oxoglutarate EC 1.2.4.2/2.3.1.61/  
 840 1.8.1.4 and malate EC 1.1.3.7) except pyruvate dehydro-  
 841 genase (EC 1.2.4.1/2.3.1.12/1.8.1.4; Quasem *et al.*,  
 842 2017). Instead, they carry genes less common among  
 843 members of the ‘*Proteobacteria*’: monomeric NADP<sup>+</sup> isoci-  
 844 trate dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.42; Yasutake *et al.*, 2002),  
 845 and malate:quinone oxidoreductase (E.C. 1.1.5.4; Quasem  
 846 *et al.*, 2017). It is possible that they have incomplete citric  
 847 acid cycles (Smith’s horseshoe), as is often the case for  
 848 obligate autotrophs (e.g., Boden *et al.*, 2016; Hutt *et al.*,  
 849 2017) that function primarily to provide biosynthetic inter-  
 850 mediates (Smith *et al.*, 1967; Wood *et al.*, 2004).  
 851 Alternatively, all of the genomes studied here encode  
 852 homologs of the genes of the 2-oxoglutarate decarboxyl-  
 853 ase/succinic semialdehyde dehydrogenase bypass  
 854 present in some members of the ‘*Cyanobacteria*’ (Zhang  
 855 and Bryant, 2011), so it is possible that they may be capa-  
 856 ble of catalysing a complete oxidative citric acid cycle.

857 Some of these organisms are capable of assimilating  
 858 exogenous organic carbon (Table 1), and their genomes  
 859 provide possible mechanisms for doing so. *H. thermophilus*  
 860 I78 and *H. crunogenus* TH-55 and L-12 (Takai *et al.*, 2004)  
 861 can assimilate acetate and other organic compounds  
 862 when inorganic electron donors are provided, as can *Tms.*  
 863 *pelophila* and *Tms. aerophila* (Kuenen and Veldkamp,  
 864 1972; 1973; Rainey *et al.*, 2001; Ang *et al.*, 2017). All  
 865 organisms sequenced here have genes encoding acetyl-  
 866 CoA synthetase (EC 6.2.1.1), which could facilitate assimi-  
 867 lation of acetate; some members of *Hydrogenovibrio* also  
 868 have genes encoding acetate kinase (EC 2.7.2.1 or  
 869 2.7.2.12) and phosphotransacetylase (EC 2.3.1.8; Table  
 870 4). These organisms lack the genes necessary for the  
 871 glyoxylate cycle, which, in the absence of a shunt between  
 872 2-oxoglutarate and succinyl-CoA would restrict the distribu-  
 873 tion of the acetate carbons to fatty acid biosynthesis and

#### Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrohabdus, Thiomicrospira 15

amino acids derived from 2-oxoglutarate (Wood *et al.*, 874  
 2004). However, these organisms also all carry oxoacid:- 875  
 ferredoxin oxidoreductase genes similar to those from *H.* 876  
*crunogenus*. *H. crunogenus* cell extracts have pyruvate:fer- 877  
 redoxin oxidoreductase activity (EC 1.2.7.10; Quasem 878  
*et al.*, 2017), suggesting that its oxidoreductase genes 879  
 encode pyruvate: ferredoxin oxidoreductase. Given the 880  
 amino acid sequence similarities of orthologs from other 881  
 members of *Hydrogenovibrio* (65%–77%, alpha subunits; 882  
 74%–78%, beta subunits), their oxidoreductases may also 883  
 act on pyruvate. If the acetyl-CoA were converted to pyru- 884  
 vate by this enzyme, it would circumvent the need for a 885  
 glyoxylate cycle. 886

#### Extremophile lifestyles 887

Two taxa sequenced here are extremophiles (Table 1), 888  
 capable of growth at high salinity (*H. halophilus*; up to 889  
 3.5 M NaCl, optimum 1.5 M; Sorokin *et al.*, 2006) or low 890  
 temperature [*Tmr. arctica*; down to –2°C, optimum 11°C– 891  
 13°C; (Knittel *et al.*, 2005)]. Many halophiles and psychro- 892  
 philes adapt to these conditions by accumulating 893  
 compatible solutes such as ectoine, glycine betaine, proline 894  
 or trehalose (Sleator and Hill, 2002; De Maayer *et al.*, 895  
 2014). Genome evidence suggests that the ability to syn- 896  
 thesize or transport of these molecules is a trait shared by 897  
 all of the organisms studied here, and not specific to the 898  
 two extremophiles. All sequenced members of *Hydrogeno-* 899  
*vibrio*, *Thiomicrohabdus* and *Thiomicrospira* have genes 900  
 encoding the enzymes necessary to synthesize ectoine 901  
 (diaminobutyrate-2-oxoglutarate transaminase, EC2.6.1.76; 902  
 diaminobutanoate acetyltransferase, EC 2.3.1.178 and 903  
 ectoine synthase, 4.2.1.108). This observation is consistent 904  
 with ectoine synthesis by *Thiomicrospira aerophila* when 905  
 cultivated at elevated concentrations of Na<sup>+</sup> (Banciu *et al.*, 906  
 2005). None carry genes encoding the enzymes necessary 907  
 to synthesize glycine betaine or trehalose; instead, the 908  
 genomes of *Tmr. arctica* and *Tmr. Milos T2* carry genes 909  
 encoding ABC transporters predicted to transport proline or 910  
 glycine betaine (*F612DRAFT\_1896–F612DRAFT\_1898*, 911  
*BS34DRAFT\_2245–BS34DRAFT\_2247*), and all genomes 912  
 studied here encode members of the BCCT betaine/carni- 913  
 tine/choline transporter family (Pfam02028); some 914  
 members of this family transport glycine betaine (Ziegler 915  
*et al.*, 2010). Neither *Tmr. arctica* nor *H. halophilus* appear 916  
 to have acquired or amplified compatible solute-related 917  
 genes to facilitate their psychrophilic or halophilic lifestyles. 918

The *Tmr. arctica* genome does have some aspects that 919  
 may be adaptive to psychrophily. Growth at low tempera- 920  
 ture requires that proteins are especially flexible (Feller, 921  
 2013), making them particularly sensitive to denaturing. To 922  
 facilitate correct folding of these proteins, particularly at 923  
 warmer temperatures, some psychrophiles elevate expres- 924  
 sion of prolyl isomerase and molecular chaperones 925

926 (Williams *et al.*, 2011); some also carry added *dnaJ* genes  
 927 (Riley *et al.*, 2008), presumably as added protection  
 928 against denatured protein aggregation and facilitate re-  
 929 folding (Han and Christen, 2004). The *Tmr. arctica*  
 930 genome carries slightly elevated numbers of both sorts of  
 931 genes relative to other members of its genus. *Tmr. arctica*  
 932 carries 14 genes belonging to prolyl isomerase PFAMs  
 933 00160, 00254, 00639, 13145 and 13616, compared with  
 934 12 in *Tmr. chilensis*, 13 in *Tmr. frisia* KP2, and 14 in *Tmr.*  
 935 *sp.* Milos T2 and 5 genes encoding DnaJ proteins, com-  
 936 pared with 2 in *Tmr. sp.* Milos T2, 4 in *Tmr. chilensis* and  
 937 5 in *Tmr. frisia* KP2.

938 The *Tmr. arctica* genome is unique among all of the  
 939 organisms sequenced here in carrying a chromosome  
 940 region encoding the enzymes necessary for extracellular  
 941 polysaccharide (EPS) synthesis. Other psychrophiles pro-  
 942 duce EPS when cultivated at the low range of their growth  
 943 temperatures; EPS also enhances their survival of freezing  
 944 (Marx *et al.*, 2009). In *Tmr. arctica*, the chromosome region  
 945 spanning from *F612DRAFT\_0075* to *F612DRAFT\_0094*  
 946 includes genes homologous to those involved in EPS pro-  
 947 duction in other organisms (*epsD-I*, *ExoZ*), encoding  
 948 glycosyltransferases, as well as genes encoding molecular  
 949 machinery necessary to translocate EPS to the extracellu-  
 950 lar milieu (flippase, beta barrel porin). It is important to  
 951 note, however, that the production of EPS-like substances  
 952 has been reported in a nonpsychrophilic sulfur-oxidizing  
 953 microorganism (Nunoura *et al.*, 2014); further study would  
 954 be necessary to determine the role of these substances in  
 955 *Tmr. arctica*.

956 In other respects, the *Tmr. arctica* genome does not  
 957 depart from other members of *Thiomicrohabdus*. When  
 958 all genes from this organism are translated and amino acid  
 959 frequencies are tallied, there are no differences in their fre-  
 960 quencies, relative to other members of *Thiomicrohabdus*;  
 961 the elevated frequencies of lysine or diminished frequen-  
 962 cies of proline, acidic or arginine observed in other  
 963 psychrophiles (Ayala-del-Río *et al.*, 2010) are not apparent  
 964 in this organism. Additionally, the fatty acid biosynthetic  
 965 pathways are predicted to be identical in all of these organ-  
 966 isms based on genome data, and all encode fatty acid  
 967 desaturase; any adjustments to maintain membrane fluid-  
 968 ity at colder temperatures likely occurs by differential  
 969 expression of fatty acid biosynthetic genes shared by all  
 970 members of *Thiomicrohabdus*, as has been observed for  
 971 *Shewanella* (Wang *et al.*, 2009).

## 972 Conclusions

973 Members of the genera *Hydrogenovibrio*, *Thiomicrohab-*  
 974 *dus* and *Thiomicrospira* all appear to have multiple  
 975 adaptations to maintain aerobic chemolithoautotrophic  
 976 metabolism in their heterogeneous environments. Rather  
 977 than being able to express multiple physiologies (e.g.,

denitrification, heterotrophy via diverse carbon sources),  
 they appear to have expanded their versatilities as chemo-  
 lithoautotrophs by sensing their environment with a large  
 arsenal of methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins and  
 responding to it via chemotaxis, as well as with an elabo-  
 rate array of proteins that communicate with the second  
 messenger cyclic di-GMP. They carry multiple complexes  
 for introducing electrons removed from inorganic com-  
 pounds into their electron transport chains, which  
 eventually arrive at multiple terminal oxidases. Multiple  
 RubisCO enzymes are present to facilitate CO<sub>2</sub> fixation at  
 a variety of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> tensions, and multiple transporters  
 are likely to facilitate CO<sub>2</sub> or bicarbonate uptake  
 when these substrates are available at a range of  
 concentrations.

## Experimental procedures

### *Genome sequencing, assembly and annotation*

Draft genome sequences were generated at the DOE Joint  
 Genome Institute (JGI) and LANL Genome Science Group.  
 The Pacific Biosciences (PacBio) technology (Eid *et al.*, 2009)  
 was used for *H. thermophilus* MA2-6, *Hydrogenovibrio* sp.  
 Milos-T1, *H. kuenei*, *H. marinus* DSM 11271 and *Tms. pelo-*  
*phila*. A PacBio SMRTbell™ library was constructed and  
 sequenced on the PacBio RS platform. The raw reads were  
 assembled using HGAP (version: 2.1.1; Chin *et al.*, 2013). Illu-  
 mina technology was used to generate draft sequences for *H.*  
*halophilus*, *Tmr. chilensis*, *Tmr. arctica*, *Thiomicrohabdus* sp.  
 Milos-T2 and *Tmr. frisia* Kp2. An Illumina standard shotgun  
 library and long insert mate pair library was constructed and  
 sequenced using the Illumina HiSeq 2000 platform (Bennett,  
 2004). All raw Illumina sequence data was passed through  
 DUK, a filtering program developed at JGI, which removes  
 known Illumina sequencing and library preparation artefacts  
 (L. Mingkun, A. Copeland, J. Han, unpubl.). Filtered Illumina  
 reads were assembled using AllpathsLG (Gnerre *et al.*, 2011).  
 The consensus was computationally shredded into 10 kbp  
 overlapping fake reads (shreds). The Illumina draft data was  
 also assembled with Velvet, version 1.1.05 (Zerbino and Bir-  
 ney, 2008), and the consensus sequences were  
 computationally shredded into 1.5 kbp overlapping fake reads  
 (shreds). The Illumina draft data was assembled again with  
 Velvet using the shreds from the first Velvet assembly to guide  
 the next assembly. The consensus from the second VELVET  
 assembly was shredded into 1.5 kbp overlapping fake reads.  
 The fake reads from the Allpaths assembly and both Velvet  
 assemblies and a subset of the Illumina CLIP paired-end  
 reads were assembled using parallel phrap, version 4.24  
 (High Performance Software, LLC). Possible mis-assemblies  
 were corrected with manual editing in Consed (Ewing and  
 Green, 1998; Ewing *et al.*, 1998; Gordon *et al.*, 1998). Gap  
 closure was accomplished using repeat resolution software  
 (Wei Gu, unpublished), and sequencing of bridging PCR frag-  
 ments with Sanger and/or PacBio (Cliff Han, unpublished)  
 technologies. The draft genome of *H. thermophilus* JR-2 was  
 generated using a combination of Illumina (Bennett, 2004)  
 and 454 technologies (Margulies *et al.*, 2005). Illumina librar-  
 ies were constructed as above. A 454 Titanium standard

1035 library and 2 paired end 454 libraries were also generated.  
 1036 The 454 Titanium standard data and the 454 paired end data  
 1037 were assembled together with Newbler, version 2.3-PreRe-  
 1038 lease-6/30/2009. The Newbler consensus sequences were  
 1039 computation ally shredded into 2 kb overlapping fake reads  
 1040 (shreds). The 454 Newbler consensus shreds, the Illumina  
 1041 VELVET consensus shreds, and the read pairs in the 454  
 1042 paired end library were integrated using parallel phrap, version  
 1043 SOS-4.24 (High Performance Software, LLC). Illumina data  
 1044 were used to correct potential base errors and increase con-  
 1045 sensus quality using the software Polisher developed at JGI  
 1046 (Alla Lapidus, unpublished). Possible mis-assemblies were  
 1047 corrected using gapResolution (Cliff Han, unpublished), or  
 1048 Dupfinisher (Han and Chain, 2006). All general aspects of  
 1049 library construction and sequencing performed at the JGI can  
 1050 be found at <http://www.jgi.doe.gov>.

1051 Genes were identified using Prodigal (Hyatt *et al.*, 2010),  
 1052 followed by a round of manual curation using GenePRIMP  
 1053 (Pati *et al.*, 2010) for finished genomes and draft genomes in  
 1054 fewer than 20 scaffolds. The predicted CDSs were translated  
 1055 and used to search the National Centre for Biotechnology  
 1056 Information (NCBI) nonredundant database, UniProt, TIGR-  
 1057 Fam, Pfam, KEGG, COG and InterPro databases. The  
 1058 tRNAScanSE tool (Lowe and Eddy, 1997) was used to find  
 1059 tRNA genes, whereas ribosomal RNA genes were found by  
 1060 searches against models of the ribosomal RNA genes built  
 1061 from SILVA (Pruesse *et al.*, 2007). Other non-coding RNAs  
 1062 such as the RNA components of the protein secretion com-  
 1063 plex and the RNase P were identified by searching the  
 1064 genome for the corresponding Rfam profiles using INFERNAL  
 1065 (Nawrocki *et al.*, 2009). Additional gene prediction analysis  
 1066 and manual functional annotation was performed within the  
 1067 integrated microbial genomes (IMG) platform (Markowitz  
 1068 *et al.*, 2014) developed by the Joint Genome Institute, Walnut  
 1069 Creek, CA (Markowitz *et al.*, 2009). Tandem repeats were  
 1070 identified using Tandem repeat finder (Benson, 1999).

#### 1071 *Ribosomal protein supertree*

1072 Representative taxa from the *Gammaproteobacteria*, the  
 1073 '*Epsilonbacteraeota*' (Waite *et al.*, 2017), and the *Acidithioba-*  
 1074 *cillia* were selected from the Integrated Microbial Genomes  
 1075 database (Markowitz *et al.*, 2014). Genes encoding ribosomal  
 1076 proteins were gathered based on membership in Clusters of  
 1077 Orthologous Genes (COG) and Protein FAMILies (PFAM);  
 1078 (Tatusov *et al.*, 2001; Bateman *et al.*, 2002). Large ribosomal  
 1079 subunits 8, 13, 26 and 29 and small subunit 13 were omitted  
 1080 from this analysis as many strains were missing them. Genes  
 1081 encoding the subunits were aligned independently using the  
 1082 MUSCLE algorithm (Edgar, 2004) as implemented in MEGA  
 1083 4.0 using default settings (Kumar *et al.*, 2008), alignments  
 1084 were concatenated via FABOX ([http://users-birc.au.dk/biopv/](http://users-birc.au.dk/biopv/php/fabox/)  
 1085 [php/fabox/](http://users-birc.au.dk/biopv/php/fabox/)), and refined with GBLOCKS using stringent crite-  
 1086 ria (Talavera and Castresana, 2007). Phylogenetic trees were  
 1087 constructed in PhyML 3.0 (Guindon *et al.*, 2010) using maxi-  
 1088 mum likelihood (ML) analysis of amino acid sequences. The  
 1089 best fit model of evolution, estimated using smart model selec-  
 1090 tion (SMS) in PhyML 3.0 (Guindon *et al.*, 2010) was  
 1091 determined to be the amino acid replacement model of (Le  
 1092 and Gascuel, 2008) with four categories using a discrete  
 1093 Gamma distribution ( $G = 0.884$ ) and a proportion of Invariant

#### *Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrorhabdus, Thiomicrospira* 17

sites ( $I = 0.143$ ; ' $LG + G + I$ '). The consensus tree was visual-1094  
 ized using FigTree (Version 1.4.3; Rambaut, 2016). 1095

#### *Comparing genome traits of Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrorhabdus and Thiomicrospira to other autotrophic members of 'Proteobacteria'* 1096 1097 1098

To identify traits that distinguish members of *Hydrogenovibrio*, 1099  
*Thiomicrorhabdus* and *Thiomicrospira*, these genomes were 1100  
 compared with those of other members of '*Proteobacteria*' 1101  
 that use the CBB cycle for carbon fixation. This comparison 1102  
 group was collected based on the presence of form I or form II 1103  
 RubisCO genes in their genomes, and demonstrated ability to 1104  
 grow with CO<sub>2</sub> as the major carbon source, as described in 1105  
 Quasem *et al.* (2017). To compare the distribution of electron 1106  
 transport chain components among these organisms, BLAST 1107  
 queries were undertaken, using genes encoding biochemically 1108  
 characterized enzymes (Brune, 1995; Gregersen *et al.*, 2011; 1109  
 Dahl *et al.*, 2013; Weissgerber *et al.*, 2014). BLAST hits were 1110  
 evaluated based on sequence similarities, phylogenetic analy- 1111  
 sis, and chromosome collocation (Supporting Information 1112  
 Table S6). To compare the distribution and forms of genes 1113  
 encoding RubisCO, all genes belonging to Pfam00016 (Ribu- 1114  
 lose bisphosphate carboxylase large chain, catalytic domain) 1115  
 were collected from these genomes, and aligned as described 1116  
 above. A preliminary neighbour-joining tree was used to iden- 1117  
 tify 'RubisCO-like proteins', which are not catalytically active 1118  
 as carboxylases (Tabita *et al.*, 2008); these sequences were 1119  
 removed from the alignment. The remaining sequences were 1120  
 re-aligned via MUSCLE, the alignment was refined via 1121  
 GBLOCKS, and phylogenetic trees were constructed as 1122  
 described above ( $G = 1.027$ ,  $I = 0.07$ ; ' $LG + G + I$ '). 1123

#### *Methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins* 1124

All genes encoding methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins 1125  
 were gathered from target genome sequences in IMG. These 1126  
 genes were identified based on the presence of a methyl- 1127  
 accepting chemotaxis protein signalling domain (PFAM 1128  
 00015), since this portion of these proteins is conserved (Alex- 1129  
 ander and Zhulin, 2007). Amino acid sequences predicted 1130  
 from genes were clustered via CD-HIT ([http://weizhongli-lab.](http://weizhongli-lab.org/cdhit_suite/cgi-bin/index.cgi) 1131  
[org/cdhit\\_suite/cgi-bin/index.cgi](http://weizhongli-lab.org/cdhit_suite/cgi-bin/index.cgi); Li *et al.*, 2001). Clusters were 1132  
 generated with 30%–90% sequence identity, and a sequence 1133  
 identity of 40% was chosen for clustering, as this value was 1134  
 high enough to produce clusters with sequences that aligned 1135  
 well over their full length. Representative sequences from 1136  
 each cluster were used as query sequences for BLAST 1137  
 searches of IMG to find homologous genes from other organ- 1138  
 isms beyond the genera *Thiomicrospira*, *Hydrogenovibrio* and 1139  
*Thiomicrorhabdus* whose sequences aligned well along their 1140  
 full length. 1141

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1762 **Supporting information**

1763 Additional Supporting Information may be found in the  
 1764 online version of this article at the publisher's web-site:

1765 **Table S1.** Genome data of autotrophic microorganisms  
 1766 from the 'Proteobacteria'.

1768 **Table S2.** Numbers of genes belonging to selected Pfams.

1769 **Table S3.** Inorganic sulfur-metabolizing systems encoded in  
 1770 genomes of autotrophic microorganisms from the  
 1771 'Proteobacteria'.

1789

*Hydrogenovibrio, Thiomicrorhabdus, Thiomicrospira* 23

**Table S4.** Electron transport chain components encoded in  
 1772 genomes of autotrophic microorganisms from the  
 1773 'Proteobacteria'. 1774

**Table S5.** Presence of genes encoding RubisCO in  
 1775 genomes of autotrophic microorganisms from the  
 1776 'Proteobacteria'. 1777

**Table S6.** Queries and criteria used to find sulfur metaboliz-  
 1778 ing complexes and electron transport chain components. 1779

**Fig. S1.** Annotated ORFs of *H. marinus* and *Tmr. frisia*  
 1780 KP2 prophages. 1781

**Fig. S2.** Maximum likelihood analysis of amino acid  
 1782 sequences predicted from genes encoding form II RubisCO  
 1783 (CbbM) and large subunits from form I (CbbL). The tree is  
 1784 rooted, and bootstrap values are from 1000 resamplings of  
 1785 the alignment. The scale bar represents the number of sub-  
 1786 stitutions per site. 1787

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