

1 Mapping Gene-Microbe Interactions: Insights from Functional Genomics
2 Co-culture Experiments between *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and
3 *Pseudomonas* spp.

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28 **Running title:** Gene-Microbe Interactions in the Budding Yeast
29

30 **Abstract**

31 Microbial interactions contribute to shape ecosystems and their functions. The interplay between
32 microorganisms also shapes the evolutionary trajectory of each species, by imposing metabolic
33 and physiological selective pressures. The mechanisms underlying these interactions are thus of
34 interest to improve our understanding of microbial evolution at the genetic level. Here we applied
35 a functional genomics approach in the model yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* to identify the fitness
36 determinants of naïve biotic interactions. We used a barcoded prototroph yeast deletion collection
37 to perform pooled fitness competitions in co-culture with seven *Pseudomonas* spp natural isolates.
38 We found that co-culture had a positive impact on fitness profiles, as in general the deleterious
39 effects of loss of function in our nutrient-poor media were mitigated. In total, 643 genes showed a
40 fitness difference in co-culture, most of which can be explained by a media diversification
41 procured by bacterial metabolism. However, a large fraction (36%) of gene-microbe interactions
42 could not be recaptured in cell-free supernatant experiments, showcasing that feedback
43 mechanisms or physical contacts modulate these interactions. Also, the gene list of some co-
44 cultures was enriched with homologs in other eukaryote species, suggesting a variable degree of
45 specificity underlying the mechanisms of biotic interactions and that these interactions could also
46 exist in other organisms. Our results illustrate how microbial interactions can contribute to shape
47 the interplay between genomes and species interactions, and that *S. cerevisiae* is a powerful model
48 to study the impact of biotic interactions.

49

50 **keywords**

51 Microbial interaction, Gene-species interactions, Bacterial-fungal interactions, Systems biology

52

53 **Introduction**

54 The microbiome era has brought upon the importance of prokaryote-eukaryote interactions.
55 Indeed, we have come to realize that animal and plant-associated microbiomes contribute to the
56 functions and health of their host, and thus to their evolution ([1-3](#)). On the microbial scale, the
57 subclass of bacterial-fungal interactions has also been deemed crucial to the functions of many
58 ecosystems, contributing to biogeochemical cycles, biotechnology, food production, as well as
59 plant, animal and human health and development ([4](#)). Thus, interactions between prokaryotes and
60 eukaryotes are fundamental to most ecosystem, yet much remains to be uncovered about the
61 molecular basis of interkingdom signaling ([5](#)).

62

63 Bacterial-fungal interactions could make excellent models to study prokaryote-eukaryote
64 interactions ([4](#)). Indeed, bacterial-fungal associations could be used to assess the evolutionarily
65 conserved molecular mechanisms between prokaryote and eukaryotic cells ([4](#)). A variety of
66 physical and molecular interactions have been reported between fungi and bacteria resulting in
67 different outcomes for each partner ([6](#)). High-throughput methods have been developed to identify
68 metabolites involved in these interactions ([4](#)), but less attention has been given to the genomic
69 elements involved. Moreover, little is known about the fungal counterpart of these interactions at
70 the mechanistic level ([7](#)).

71

72 The model yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* would be an ideal system to study the genes and
73 functions that underly bacterial-fungal interactions. Owing to multiple concerted efforts to
74 systematically screen deletion mutant phenotypes ([8](#)) and genetic interactions ([9](#)), a lot is known
75 about the metabolic and cellular function of the budding yeast genes. Yet over 700 of the ORFs

76 are still uncharacterized in terms of biological function (10). The cellular mechanisms underlying
77 the strategies used by *S. cerevisiae* to interact with other microorganisms in various conditions
78 remain largely unknown (11). Only three yeast genes (MAK32, MKT1 and ATF1) are annotated
79 with the ontology term “interspecies interaction between organisms” (10). Systematic surveys of
80 gene-microbe interactions are lacking and could provide new insight into these ORFs functions.
81 Moreover, a pangenome analysis of *S. cerevisiae* reports a strong functional enrichment for cell-
82 cell interactions for ORFs whose presence is variable in the population (12).

83
84 The yeast genetic targets of some antimicrobial compounds produced by other organisms has been
85 studied using chemogenomic approaches including barcode sequencing (Bar-seq) (13, 14).
86 However, these approaches consider only one-sided effects of single molecules. Instead, co-culture
87 experiment may not only demonstrate interactions that are the result of specific antimicrobial
88 compound activity, but also indirect interactions that are metabolic in nature or that are the result
89 of cell-to-cell contact. Indeed, some *S. cerevisiae* strains have been shown to interact with bacteria
90 both indirectly by the production of antimicrobial peptides (AMPs), as well as by metabolic cross-
91 feeding and directly by physical contact (11, 15). Most of the interspecies interaction knowledge
92 at the genomic level in *S. cerevisiae* comes from transcriptomic co-culture experiments (16-19),
93 which does not allow to measure the impact on fitness as it captures only the expression level at
94 the moment of sampling. Combining bar-seq and co-culture experiments would thus allow to
95 measure the impact of complex biotic interactions and identify the fitness determinant involved.

96
97 To capture ecologically relevant interactions, natural models that simulate plausible encounters
98 are needed. Moreover, novel interactions make a relevant model system as they can occur when

99 cells meet in the context of an ecological succession where new niches are formed such as in foods,
100 fresh wounds, or newborn hosts (20). *Saccharomyces* yeast and *Pseudomonas* bacteria co-occur
101 in several environments and can form biofilms e.g., in kefir (21), olives (22), tree bark (23), wine
102 fermentation (24) and winery wastewater (25) and thus, make an ecologically relevant pairing.
103 Here we coupled co-culture and bar-seq experiments to study microbial interactions between the
104 model yeast *S. cerevisiae* and seven *Pseudomonas spp.* isolated from maple sap. Since *S.*
105 *cerevisiae* is not naturally found in maple sap (26), this pairing constitutes a novel interaction that
106 may reflect the diversity of mechanisms at play between new partners as well as evolutionarily
107 conserved pathways involved in interkingdom signaling.

108

109 **Results**

110 Seven *Pseudomonas spp.* strains isolated from maple sap, with different negative impact on fungal
111 growth on solid media against *S. cerevisiae* were used to investigate gene-microbe interactions
112 (Table 1). Sequences of the 16S rRNA and the RpoB genes classify them in the *Pseudomonas*
113 *fluorescens* complex of species.

114 We used these *Pseudomonas spp.* strains to perform a functional genomic co-culture experiment
115 with a prototrophic version of the *S. cerevisiae* deletion collection. The co-cultures were
116 maintained for four 24h growth cycles in a synthetic allantoin media (SALN) simulating maple
117 sap along with a control condition consisting of the *S. cerevisiae* deletion collection alone (Fig.
118 1a). Yeast growth at the end of each cycle remained around 10^7 cell/mL. Co-cultures with MJ005,
119 MJ006, MJ020 and MJ052 strains showed lower counts than the control after each cycle. MJ025
120 and MJ044 also had lower counts than the control at cycles 1 and 3. This difference indicates that

121 some level of competition or inhibition of yeast growth took place during the experiment. The
122 MJ060 co-culture did not follow the same trend, having higher counts after the first cycle, then
123 lower counts in subsequent cycles. Thus, this co-culture exhibited globally both positive and
124 negative interactions with the yeast deletion pool. After the fourth growth cycle, the fitness of each
125 yeast deletion strain was measured by barcode sequencing.

126

127 We estimated the absolute fitness of 4 285 deletion strains relative to the average of strains with a
128 pseudo-gene deletion as an internal wild type control in the pool (See methods, supplementary file
129 1). All fitness distributions in co-culture were significantly different from the pure culture control
130 (Kolmogorov-Smirnov Asymptotic Test, Prob > D+ <0.0001) (Fig1b). The dispersion of fitness
131 as estimated by the variance was narrower for all co-cultures than for the control (Dunnett's test,
132 P-value<0.01) indicating that the fitness was more homogenous among the deletion strains. The
133 co-cultures had a higher average fitness (ranging between 0.94 and 0.97) compared to the control
134 (0.93), but the difference was only significant for MJ005, MJ006, MJ020 and MJ052 (Dunnett's
135 test, P-value <0.05), meaning that in general the deleterious effects of loss of function were
136 mitigated in co-culture. The average fitness of the yeast deletion pool negatively correlated with
137 overall yeast growth in our experiments (Spearman P = -0.8548, P-value = 1.6e-28) reflecting that
138 stronger selective pressures on the yeast pool, either by competition or inhibition exerted by the
139 bacteria, yielded an overall fitter yeast population. When comparing the fitness profiles of each
140 co-culture and the control by hierarchical clustering, the grouping did not follow the average
141 fitness pattern, indicating that different mechanisms of interaction are also at play at the genetic
142 level (Fig. 1c).

143

144 To characterize the impact of co-culture on deletion strain fitness while accounting for whole
145 population shifts, we used the residual difference of a linear fit to the control. We then performed
146 a functional enrichment analysis on the ranked residual fitness (Fig. 2, supplementary file 2). We
147 found significant ($FDR < 0.01$) enrichments for fitness loss and gain in each co-culture compared
148 to the control. A lower fitness in co-culture means that the deleted gene contributes to a function
149 under selective pressures, thus contributes to competition or avoidance of inhibition. Accordingly,
150 the top fitness decrease enrichment in most co-culture was related to specific resources, either
151 oxygen (MJ044, response to decreased oxygen levels), nitrogen (MJ020, MJ052 and MJ060,
152 allantoin catabolic process), carbon (MJ005, maltose metabolic process) or vitamin (MJ006,
153 nicotinamide nucleotide biosynthetic process), suggesting competition. The main carbon source in
154 our media was sucrose, a disaccharide that can also be the substrate of enzymes in the maltose
155 metabolic pathway. Conversely, a higher fitness in co-culture may be the result of relaxed selective
156 pressures, allowing the strains to recover fitness if the deleted genes contribute to a function that
157 is no longer necessary, or if their deletion allows to evade inhibitory mechanisms. Fitness gains
158 processes were enriched for mitochondrial gene expression (all co-cultures but MJ044) (Fig. 2).
159 Among the strains associated with mitochondrial gene expression in our data set (Supplementary
160 file 2), a few strains (14/83) actually improved their fitness relative to the wild type (>1) in co-
161 culture (Supplementary file 1), but the majority only partly recovered from the deleterious effect
162 of gene loss (Fitness <1), suggesting a general relaxation of the importance of mitochondrial
163 functions in co-culture. However, we also find a fitness gain enrichment for tRNA wobble uridine
164 modification in some co-cultures (MJ005, MJ020 and MJ060) that could represent the evasion of
165 inhibitory mechanisms, since the deletion of genes in this process is known to confer resistance to
166 microbial toxins (27).

167

168 An increase in fitness in co-culture compared to the control could be attributed to the indirect effect
169 of the metabolic impact of the bacteria on its environment, resulting in cross-feeding where the
170 bacteria release metabolites that complexify the nutrient-poor media used in our experiments.
171 Thus, we would expect an overlap with strains that are affected by media composition, for instance,
172 those that show a fitness difference between a defined synthetic media and a complex rich media
173 containing yeast extract such as YPD. To validate this assumption, we first defined a list of deletion
174 strains for which there was a significant fitness difference (Dunn test, FDR adjusted P-value < 0.05)
175 between a co-culture and the control and a minimum residual difference of $>|0.02|$ of the linear fit
176 to the control. In total, 643 yeast deletion strains were identified, including strains that were
177 specific to each *Pseudomonas* co-culture (Fig. 3a). In fact, most deletion strains were identified in
178 a single co-culture (364 out of 643 in total). We then compared these lists with the results obtained
179 by (28) in synthetic complete (SC) and complex media, either based on a fermentable carbon
180 sources (YPD) or requiring respiration (YPG). We found that indeed our candidates are enriched
181 for strains whose fitness is different between SC and YPD (Fisher's exact right test, P-value = $1.6e-$
182 18), but also between YPD and YPG (Fisher's exact right test, P-value = $2.6e-29$). Taken together
183 with the functional enrichments highlighted above, this result underscores the importance of
184 mitochondrial functions in our bacterial-fungal co-cultures. Moreover, the overlapping strains tend
185 to be identified in multiple co-cultures (Likelihood ratio P-value $1.6e29$) indicating that enrichment
186 of the media may be a common occurrence in co-culture (Fig. 3b).

187

188 To further ascertain the extent to which the effects observed in co-culture were the result of direct
189 or indirect interactions, we retrieved the yeast fitness profiles in various maple sap samples from

190 a previous experiments using similar methods (29). Correlations between these maple sap fitness
191 profiles and co-culture results in our control media, which simulates sap, are strain dependent (Fig
192 4). MJ052, MJ044 and MJ060 show significantly higher correlations (Dunnett's Method, P-value
193 <0.0001) to maple saps than the control profile, while MJ006 and MJ020 correlations are
194 significantly lower (Dunnett's Method, P-value <0.0001). Thus, the effect of some co-culture on
195 synthetic sap can mimic to some extent the effects observed on natural maple sap. This further
196 supports the idea that the main impact of these strains on yeast fitness is indirect and metabolic in
197 nature. For other co-cultures however, the effects on fitness profiles across genes appear to diverge
198 from maple saps, indicating that other mechanisms may be at play, such as cell-cell interactions,
199 or that these isolates do not contribute to maple sap properties.

200

201 To assess if fitness effects were specifically triggered in co-culture, we measured the growth of 11
202 yeast deletion mutants in *Pseudomonas* spp. cell-free supernatants. Out of the 77 combinations
203 tested, 49 (64%) were coherent in their fitness effect sign (Fig. 5). Sign inconsistencies were
204 observed at least once for each deletion mutant and each *Pseudomonas* spp, however the *drs2*
205 mutant gave the most divergent results, along with MJ005 and MJ060. Notably, the *drs2* mutant
206 had a negative fitness in all co-cultures, but a fitness gain in all but one supernatant, indicating that
207 Drs2 could play a positive role in the direct or feedback interactions with *Pseudomonas*.

208

209 We hypothesized that some yet uncharacterized ORFs may be specifically involved in interspecies
210 microbial interactions and thus those would be revealed in our experiment. We found that
211 uncharacterized ORFs are underrepresented in our co-culture lists compared to verified ORFs
212 (Fisher's exact test right P-value=1.12e-7). Nevertheless, 43 strains deleted for an uncharacterized

213 ORFs show fitness differences in our co-culture experiments and nearly half of those (19/43) have
214 also been reported to be differentially expressed in *S. cerevisiae* when co-cultured with either
215 *Torulaspota delbrueckii*, *Candida sake*, *Hanseniaspora uvarum*, *Saccharomyces kudriavzevii* or
216 *Oenococcus oeni* (Figure 6). Given that the phenotypes assayed, the culture media and the co-
217 culture microorganisms were vastly different, the overlap of these findings suggest that these
218 uncharacterised genes may play a generic role in mediating interspecies interactions.

219

220 To assess the phylogenetic specificity of our gene-microbe interactions, we looked for enrichments
221 for homologs in other eukaryote species in our co-culture gene lists (Fig. 7). We found that six co-
222 cultures show such enrichments. Also, genes with homologs in the *Candida* genus appear more
223 frequently than expected by chance in most co-cultures (MJ006, MJ020, MJ025, MJ052 and
224 MJ060). Interestingly, MJ006 and MJ020 gene-microbe interactions are enriched for genes
225 conserved in both fungi and metazoan. Functional enrichment analysis of REACTOME pathways
226 using ranked fitness residuals reveal that deletion strains have a fitness gain in these two co-
227 cultures in pathways conserved in humans such as eukaryotic translation initiation (Supplementary
228 file 2). Thus, the mechanisms involved in these bacterial-fungal associations may extend to other
229 bacteria-eukaryote pairings.

230

231 **Discussion**

232 Interspecies interactions are an important ecological process, yet the qualitative and quantitative
233 impact of biotic interactions at the genetic level i.e., gene-species interactions remain largely
234 unknown. To characterize these effects in a model system, we studied a naïve interaction, where
235 partners have not met before, between *S. cerevisiae* and seven *Pseudomonas spp.* strains. In

236 functional genomic screen co-cultures, we observed mostly negative effects on overall yeast
237 growth. Different types of interactions can underlie these effects such as competition or inhibition
238 (amensalism). Based on the preliminary antifungal assays on solid media, yeast inhibition was
239 expected in most cases. Competition for resources was also expected because they are common in
240 carbon-rich environments (30). However, the positive effect of MJ060 after the first day of the
241 experiment was unexpected. Either mutualistic, synergistic or commensalistic relationships could
242 explain this result, but require further investigation to be distinguished. Because our data reflect
243 the net effect on fitness after several transfers and generations, this effect may be diluted in our
244 results.

245

246 Co-culture of *S. cerevisiae* with *Pseudomonas* spp. induced a decrease in fitness diversity and an
247 increase in average fitness which is indicative of the combined biotic selection forces at play. In
248 yeast, it was previously reported that gene loss is in general slightly deleterious in laboratory
249 conditions (31). Here, the co-culture with bacteria partly rescues the deleterious effects of gene
250 loss. We also observed that stronger competition or inhibition effects result in a higher average
251 fitness of the yeast population. Moreover, overlap with results from another study comparing
252 synthetic to complex media (28) suggest a metabolic effect via media complexification by the
253 bacteria. Taken together, these results point to nutrient cross-feeding interactions, that is when one
254 microorganism provides a nutrient to a partner, thus relaxing its metabolic burden (32). Moreover,
255 a significant overlap with results diverging between a fermentable (glucose) to a non-fermentable
256 (glycerol) substrate was observed. In fact, strains harboring deletion of genes encoding
257 mitochondrial functions appear to recover fitness in co-culture with the *Pseudomonas* strains. This
258 can be explained if these functions are no longer advantageous given the conditions available. For

259 instance, in addition to respiration, mitochondrial function contribute to heme synthesis and amino
260 acid metabolism in yeast (33). Meanwhile, the presence of exogenous co-factors such as heme can
261 influence respiratory metabolism (32). Also, cross-feeding can noticeably be predicted in
262 computationally designed media where amino acids are absent (34), such as in our experiment.
263 Alternatively, a fitness gain in co-culture could be explained if mitochondrial functions are the
264 target of an antimicrobial mechanism. For example, the *Pseudomonas* strains could produce
265 compounds that block oxidative respiration in the wild type, thus allowing deficient mutants to
266 recover fitness in the population. This particular mode of action has been observed for 4-hydroxy-
267 2-heptylquinoline N-oxide (HQNO) and pyocyanin produced by *P. aeruginosa* (35). We also
268 identified gene involved in tRNA wobble uridine modification as fitness determinants, which are
269 known targets of microbial toxins (27).

270

271 It is noteworthy that the effect on the overall yeast growth over the experiment is similar between
272 several co-cultures showing competition or inhibition, yet the resulting fitness profiles are quite
273 different. While it is expected that microbial interactions are condition-dependent (34), our results
274 show that the outcome is also species-dependent, even among closely related bacteria. In fact, we
275 find evidence of competition for different resources, either oxygen, nitrogen, carbon or vitamins,
276 depending on the *Pseudomonas* strain. Hence, even though the culture media is the same, the
277 bacteria do not impact the same genomic fitness determinants in yeast, meaning that these players
278 do not necessarily adopt the same game strategies. A similar conclusion was reached with lactic
279 acid bacteria that adopted different strategies in the face of interspecies competition (36).

280

281 Overall, the fitness patterns of loss and gain in our co-cultures imply some balance between
282 competition and cross-feeding. The MJ044 co-culture appears as the exception, where we find
283 evidence of competition for oxygen i.e., deletion of genes involved in the response to decreased
284 oxygen levels lead to decreased fitness in co-culture, but no fitness recovery for mutants associated
285 with mitochondrial gene expression. Altogether, these observations underscore the importance of
286 biotic selective pressures over environmental conditions. In a complex community, cells would
287 then be challenged by multiple selective pressures at the same time which could highly constrain
288 the evolutionary trajectory.

289
290 The fitness determinants in *S. cerevisiae* when grown in maple sap as a natural substrate have
291 previously been identified (37). The co-cultures were performed in an allantoin and sucrose based
292 synthetic culture media that has been shown to mimic maple sap properties in term of growth
293 parameters of a wild *Saccharomyces paradoxus* population (37). Our result show that some
294 *Pseudomonas* strain when co-cultured in this synthetic sap media can recapitulate to some degree
295 the effect on yeast fitness observed in natural maple sap samples. Commercial maple sap has been
296 used as a natural source of nutrient to study mold metabolism and development (38). However,
297 maple sap is unavoidably contaminated, mostly by bacteria and yeast during its collection through
298 complex networks of plastic tubing (26) and then sterilized before it can be sold or used as a culture
299 media. Therefore, maple sap is a natural vegetal substrate, but also to some degree a spent (or
300 fermented) culture media, which can explain in part its variation in composition. Thus, our results
301 illustrates the important contribution of biotic effects in natural environments, even if they are
302 indirect.

303

304 Allantoin is an ureide that can be used as a sole source of nitrogen by *S. cerevisiae* and peculiarly,
305 genes required for the degradation of allantoin (DAL) form one of the two metabolic genes clusters
306 found in its genome (39). Our experiments revealed that MGA2, which is localized next to the
307 DAL cluster contributes to yeast fitness in co-culture with all *Pseudomonas spp.* tested and that
308 this effect is mediated via a bacterial metabolite in at least five cases since exposition to the
309 supernatant of the bacteria is sufficient to reproduce the fitness defect in the mutant. The molecular
310 function of MGA2 is still unknown, but it is involved in transcription regulation in response to
311 hypoxia and iron starvation (10).

312

313 In contrast to MGA2, when testing for the effect of supernatant only, results for the DRS2 mutant
314 showed the most sign-inconsistency compared to the co-culture fitness competition. The lack of
315 supernatant effect indicates that the particular mechanism underlying the fitness effect on this
316 mutant is not mediated by a constitutively secreted metabolite. Our co-culture approach has the
317 potential to capture other mechanisms of action as well, involving an induction/feedback
318 mechanism, a physical contact, or even a higher-order interaction with other yeast in the deletion
319 pool. Indeed, DRS2 is annotated with response to pheromone triggering conjugation with cellular
320 fusion (10). Further experiments would be needed to discriminate between these possibilities, such
321 as co-culture in membrane-separated wells (40). Also, further interpretation of the effects observed
322 would be possible by incorporating genomic and transcriptomic information about the bacterial
323 competitors. For instance, most members of the *P. fluorescens* and *P. gessardii* phylogroups
324 possess the *HicA* gene, which encodes a toxin acting by inhibiting translation, while it is absent
325 from the *P. jessenni* and *P. koreensis* groups (41).

326

327 Our approach highlights genes for which a loss of function is compensated or aggravated in co-
328 cultures with bacteria. Some of these gene-microbe interactions may be specific to the model
329 microorganisms used, but others may extend to additional organisms where orthologs of the target
330 genes are present. On the one hand, some genes may play a role in unspecific interspecies
331 interactions like competition sensing. Indeed, we find interspecies interaction for 19 unknown
332 function genes in common with other studies ([16-19](#)). On the other hand, some interactions may
333 be specific to the organisms involved and depend on their life history. The r/k-selection is an
334 ecological theory that could help explain the different pattern of co-culture effects observed. In
335 this framework, r-strategist microorganisms are fast growing generalist thriving when nutrient are
336 plentiful, while k-strategist are competitors specialized for specific or limited resources ([20](#)). In a
337 similar interpretation, r-strategist would engage in generalist interactions, targeting broadly
338 conserved functions or genes, while k-strategist would have more specific interactions
339 mechanisms. Surprisingly, all except the MJ004 co-culture revealed gene-microbe interactions that
340 involve genes conserved in other eukaryotes. Genes conserved in the *Candida* genus were enriched
341 in these six co-cultures. The *Pseudomonas* strains that were used were all isolated from maple sap
342 were several groups of yeast can be found, including *Candida sake* ([26](#)). However, the
343 *Pseudomonas* strains may have been introduced in this environment at different times and may
344 have different life history traits that shaped their behavior in co-culture. For instance, we find that
345 MJ006 and MJ020 affects genes that are preserved among eukaryotes and enriched for eukaryotic
346 translation initiation. The significance of this result about how it relates to the life history of the
347 strain can only be hypothesized at this point. Because co-culture with these two *Pseudomonas spp.*
348 do not recapitulate growth in maple sap, it may be hypothesized that they were introduced in the
349 sap during collection by insects or human manipulations, but are not endogenous to the maple

350 phyllosphere, or that they simply are r-strategists. The various patterns of enrichment for conserved
351 functions reported here highlight that our approach could be used to answer questions about the
352 relationship between life history and the evolution of interactions mechanisms. It would also be
353 interesting to test if some gene-microbe interactions identified here are conserved in higher
354 eukaryotes. In this context our approach could be useful to study host-microbiota interactions on
355 a genomic level.

356

357 The molecular mechanism of a specific positive interaction between *S. cerevisiae* and
358 *Pseudomonas putida* in grape juice was revealed using a phenotypic screen with the yeast deletion
359 collection (7). The study identified the mode of action of a phenotypic change in *P. putida* induced
360 by the yeast, demonstrating the usefulness of the deletion collection to study specific microbial
361 interaction mechanisms. Here, we used the yeast deletion collection in a liquid competition assay
362 to reveal the fitness determinant involved in naïve interactions without a priori knowledge of their
363 impact. Thus, our approach is generalizable to other pairings. Given the plethora of tools developed
364 for *S. cerevisiae*, such as mutant collections (42-45), including humanized yeast (46), the approach
365 presented could find applications in the study of interactions with microorganisms of clinical or
366 technological importance such pathogens or biocontrol agents.

367

368 In conclusion, our study demonstrate that *S. cerevisiae* is an excellent model organism to study
369 biotic interaction at the genomic level and further our understanding of the evolution of these
370 interactions. Indeed, this type of bacterial-fungal interaction could be a useful model system to
371 analyze complex interactions (4) and complement other emerging co-culture approaches on model
372 microbiota (47) and experimental evolution of engineered interactions (48).

373

374 **Methods**

375 ***Pseudomonas* spp. strains**

376 *Pseudomonas* spp. strains were isolated from maple sap. Maple sap concentrated by membrane
377 processing were obtained from Quebec producers during the spring of 2016. Samples were kept
378 frozen at -20°C until analysis. The sap concentrates were centrifuged for 5 min x 915 g at 4°C and
379 the supernatant was extracted and sterilized by 0.2 µM filtration. Autoclaved water was added to
380 the pellets and 5 µL of each cell culture was plated using glass beads on sterile maple syrup media
381 (37) with or without chloramphenicol (12,5 µg/mL). After 5 days of incubation at 10°C, colonies
382 were streaked on Synthetic Allantoin (SALN) media (1.75 g.L⁻¹ of yeast nitrogen base, 1.25 g.L⁻¹
383 of allantoin, 2% sucrose and 2% agar). Stock cultures were prepared in SALN liquid media
384 (without agar) and with 20% glycerol (V/V), then stored at -80°C. Strains identification was
385 performed by sequencing the 16S rRNA subunit gene with universal primers and the RPO-B gene
386 with LAPS_F (TGGCCGAGAACCAGTTCCGCGT) and LAPS27_R
387 (CGGCTTCGTCCAGCTTGTTTCAG) primers (49).

388

389 **Antifungal assays on solid media**

390 For the seven *Pseudomonas* strains, two antifungal activity testing methods tests were performed
391 on *S. cerevisiae* (*hoΔ::KanMX*), a supernatant assay and a spot-test assay. First, all strains were
392 pre-cultured overnight (16h) in liquid SALN media at 22°C without agitation. For the supernatant
393 assays, the saturated *Pseudomonas* pre-culture were diluted at 1/1000 v/v in 65°C (SALN) media
394 (0.75% agar). This step killed the bacterial cells, which are sensitive to heat. Then, 5 µL of 10-fold
395 serial dilutions starting at 0.1 OD of *S. cerevisiae* culture were deposited on the solidified media.

396 Controls were done without *Pseudomonas* in the media and growth was visually compared
397 between the treatment and the control after 2 to 4 days of incubation at 14°C and 22°C. For the
398 spot-test assays, 50 µL of 0.5 OD *S. cerevisiae* culture were spread on solid SALN media (2%
399 agar) using sterilized beans. Then, 5µl drops of *Pseudomonas* cultures were deposited on the media
400 with concentrations adjusted at ½ and ¼ of the saturated culture. After 2 to 4 days of incubation at
401 14°C and 22°, *Pseudomonas* strains presenting an inhibition halo were considered having an
402 antifungal effect.

403

404 **Cytometry**

405 Cell counts were obtained by flux cytometry in a Biorad flux cytometry Guava easyCyte 14HT
406 flow cytometer (EMD MILLIPORE Ltd, Oakville, ON, Canada). Counts were obtained from 5,000
407 events of serial dilutions of the co-cultures in a 96 deep-well plate. Size discrimination was for 10²
408 to 10³ nm for bacterial strains and 10⁴ to 10⁵ nm for *S. cerevisiae*.

409

410 **Co-culture functional genomic screen**

411 The yeast deletion collection used was obtained from (45). The functional genomic screen was
412 performed as in (37), with the following modifications: liquid assays were carried out in 4 mL of
413 SALN media in 24 deep-well plates at 22°C without agitation. Co-cultures between the *S.*
414 *cerevisiae* deletion collection and the seven *Pseudomonas spp* strains along with a control of the
415 deletion collection alone were performed in triplicate. The *S. cerevisiae* initial OD were adjusted
416 to 0.05 and the *Pseudomonas* / *S. cerevisiae* ratio were 1/50 for MJ025, MJ006, MJ060, MJ044
417 and 1/250 for MJ005, MJ020 and MJ052 strains. These ratios were set according to their growth
418 rate to allow sufficient yeast growth. After 24h incubation, 200 µL of co-culture were transferred

419 to 3.8 mL fresh media, for a total of four days. The cell counts were measured after each 24h
420 growth cycle. After four growth cycles, DNA extractions were performed individually on each
421 well. A total of 24 libraries, were then constructed by PCR using the primers listed in
422 Supplementary file 3. DNA extractions, PCR, library preparations and sequencing were performed
423 as in (29).

424

425 **Sequencing analysis**

426 Sequencing results were analyzed as in (37), at the Plateforme d'Analyses Génomiques of the
427 Université Laval (IBIS), with the following modifications: the sequence reads were mapped to the
428 reference using Geneious R9, with the following parameters: minimum overlap 113, word length
429 20, index word length 15, maximum mismatches per reads 6%, allow gap 4%, maximum gap size
430 2, and maximum ambiguity 16. We obtained 45 122 440 reads after size filtering and 91% of those
431 were assigned unambiguously. As we used the same initial deletion collection pool as in (29), we
432 used those sequencing results in our analysis. We used the 4 285 strains that had a sum of more
433 than 50 reads in the three initial pool replicates for further analysis. The absolute fitness was
434 obtained as in (28) using the average of six strains deleted for pseudogenes (YIL170W,
435 YCL075W, YIL167W, YIR043C, YIR044C and YCL074W) as the wild-type reference.

436

437 **Candidate lists enrichment analysis**

438 Statistical and multivariate analysis was performed in JMP13 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC). Dunn
439 tests comparing the fitness of each strains in co-cultures vs in the control *S. cerevisiae* culture were
440 performed to identify significant changes. Threshold for candidates were set at FDR adjusted P-
441 value<0.05 and a residual fitness of a linear fit to the control >|0.02|. Overrepresentation of Gene

442 Ontology and REACTOME pathways were tested using with the online tool of the String Protein-
443 Protein Interaction Networks database (<https://string-db.org>). The overrepresentation was
444 calculated using the ranked list of co-culture fitness residuals of a linear fit to the control.

445
446 Phenotypes for null mutants in the S288C genetic background retrieved from the Saccharomyces
447 Genome Database (10). Gene homologies between *S. cerevisiae* and other species were retrieved
448 from Yeastmine (50). GOSlim annotations were retrieved from the Saccharomyces Genome
449 Database (10). Fitness results from (28) were obtained for the strains of the auxotroph deletion
450 collection grown in various culture media. Since no replicates were available except for YPD, we
451 simply compared our candidate genes to those that show a fitness difference $>|0.02|$ between
452 conditions. Overrepresentation of candidate genes was tested with Fisher's exact test and FDR-
453 adjusted P-values are reported.

454

455 **Supernatant growth experiments**

456 We selected yeast deletion strains (DRS2, CUP2, MGA2, HHF1, UBP8, DNF2, DNF3, HAA1, ADE8,
457 ADE17 and DOT1) from the prototrophic collection to compare our co-culture screening result with
458 their behavior when grown in bacterial supernatant media. *Pseudomonas* supernatants were
459 prepared in 500 mL of SALN media where the *Pseudomonas sSpp.* strains were inoculated at 0.05
460 optical density (OD) and incubated for two days at 22°C without agitation. The supernatant of *S.*
461 *cerevisiae hoΔ::KanMX* was included as a control. Supernatant were filtered with a 0.02 μM
462 membrane and stored at -20°C before use. Each deletion strain was individually grown overnight
463 at 30°C without agitation in SALN. Then, they were inoculated in the supernatants for the growth
464 experiment. Initial OD was adjusted for each strain at 0.05 in 200 μL in a 96 well microplate. Each

465 condition was performed in triplicates. OD was measured each 30 minutes for 60 hours at 30°C
466 using a Tecan plate reader (Zürich, Switzerland). After modelling the growth curve for each well
467 using a Gompertz model fit in JMP13 software, the intrinsic fitness value was calculated by
468 integrating the area under the curve up to 70 hours of growth.

469

470 **Data availability**

471 Raw sequencing data are available at Bioproject number PRJNA634859 at
472 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject/>. *Pseudomonas* strain 16S rRNA gene sequences are
473 available under the accession numbers MT536139 to MT536145 and RPO-B gene under (numbers
474 to be provided).

475

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478 **Competing Interests**

479 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

480

481 **Contributions**

482 Study conception and design: MF, CRL, GN

483 Acquisition of data: NG, MJ

484 Analysis and interpretation of data: MF, GN

485 Drafting of manuscript: MF, GN

486 Critical revision: MF, GN, CRL, MJ

487

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491

492 **Footnotes**

493 Supplementary Information accompanies this paper on Journal website

494

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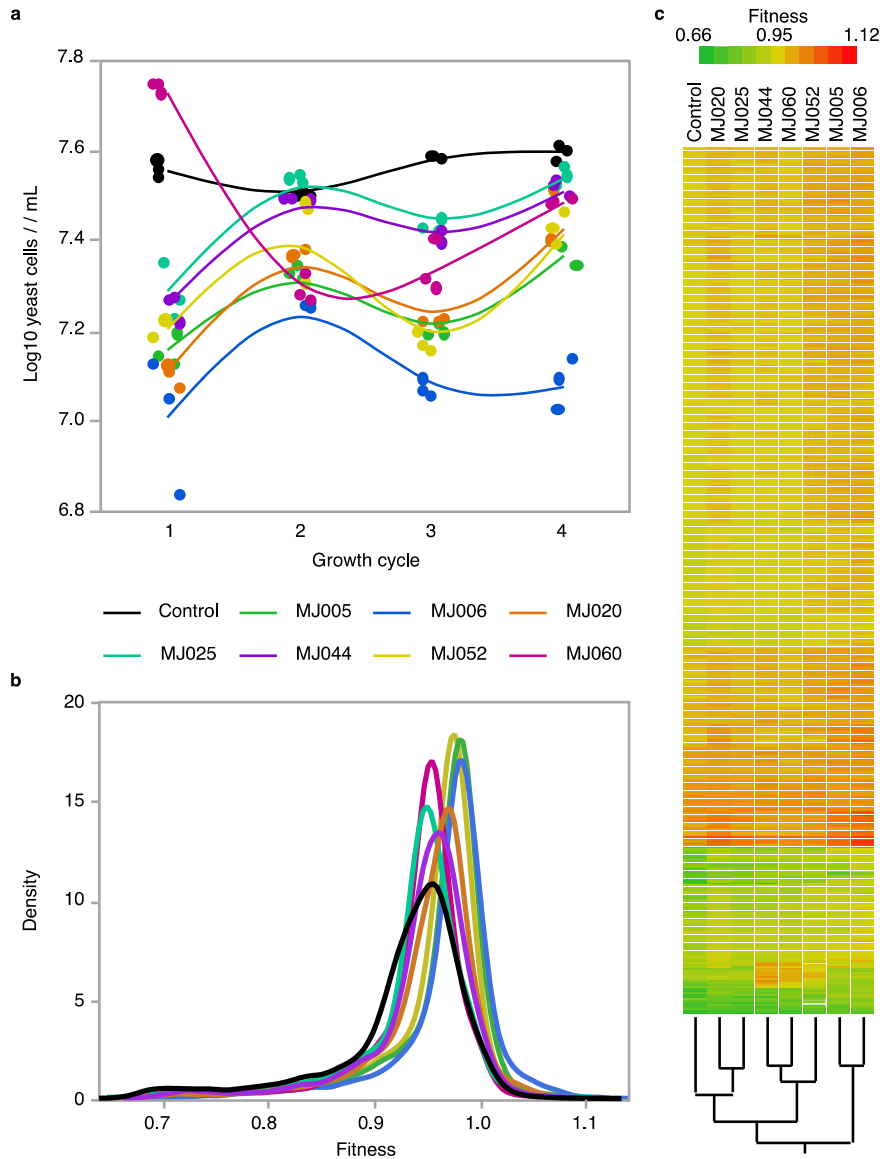
Table 1. Phylogenetic affiliation of the *Pseudomonas* strains

Strain Name	Blast results						Antifungal activity					
	Closest species ¹ match 16S rDNA (accession number)	% identity	Closest type strain match 16S rDNA (accession number)	% identity	Closest species ¹ match RpoB (accession number)	% identity	Super-natant	Spot-test	14 °C	22 °C	14 °C	22 °C
MJ005	<i>P. fluorescens</i> A506 (CP003041)	98.7	<i>P. gessardii</i> CIP 105469 (AF074384)	98.4	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain M04 (KU963595)	99.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
MJ006	<i>P. yamanorum</i> strain LMG 27247 (LT629793)	98.9	<i>P. brenneri</i> CFML 97-391T (AF268968)	99.5	<i>P. yamanorum</i> strain LBUM636 (CP012400)	98.7	-	-	+	-	-	-
MJ020	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain 36F3 (KT695822)	98.8	<i>P. reinekei</i> MT1 (AM293565)	98.6	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain 36F3 (KX696884)	97.9	++	++	+	+	+	+
MJ025	<i>P. libanensis</i> strain IHB B 17501 (LT629702)	99.9	<i>P. libanensis</i> CIP 105460 (AF057645)	99.5	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain LMG 14571 (HE586411)	100	-	-	+	+	-	-
MJ044	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain W-6 (MF949058)	99.7	<i>P. extremaustralis</i> CT14-3 (AJ583501)	99.5	<i>P. poae</i> strain 36C8 (KX696882)	96.3	+	-	+	+	-	-
MJ052	<i>P. brenneri</i> strain NIBRBAC000500430 (MK000700)	99.7	<i>P. trivialis</i> DSM 14937 (AJ492831)	99.4	<i>P. fluorescens</i> strain B15 (KU963614)	97.5	+	+	-	-	-	-
MJ060	<i>P. veronii</i> strain E02 (KT326185)	99.7	<i>P. rhodesiae</i> CIP 104664 (AF064459)	99.5	<i>P. marginalis</i> strain LMG 2210T (AJ717425)	98.9	+	+	+	+	+	+

¹Only matches with a species level annotation were considered.

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627

628 **Figure legends**



629

630 **Figure 1.** Co-culture experiment between seven *Pseudomonas* spp. strains and the pooled *S.*

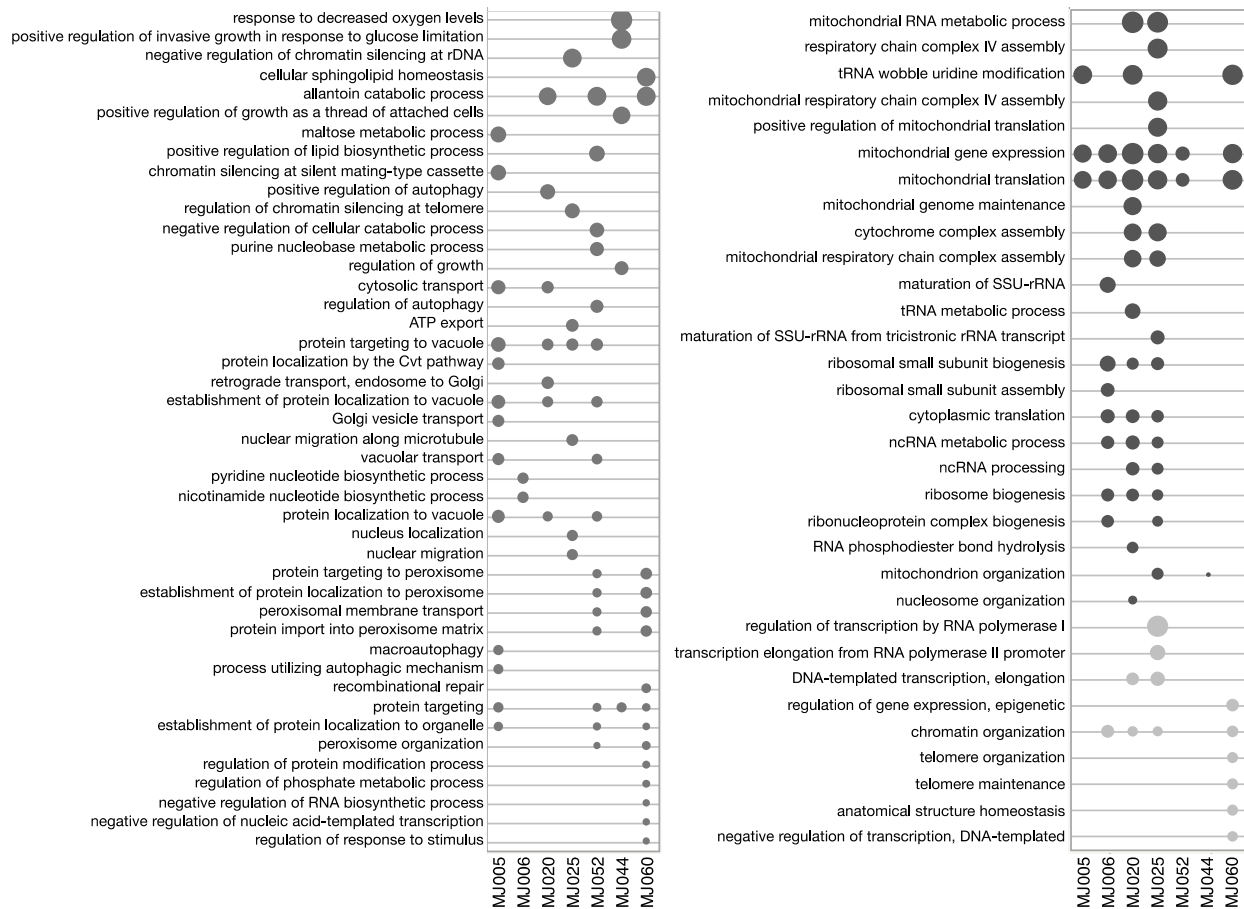
631 *cerevisiae* strain deletion collection. a) Counts of yeast cells after each cycle of 24h co-culture. b)

632 Density curve of the yeast deletion strain fitness distribution for each co-culture compared to the

633 *S. cerevisiae* strain deletion collection alone (Control). c) Hierarchical clustering and heatmap of

634 averaged fitness profiles of control and co-cultures.

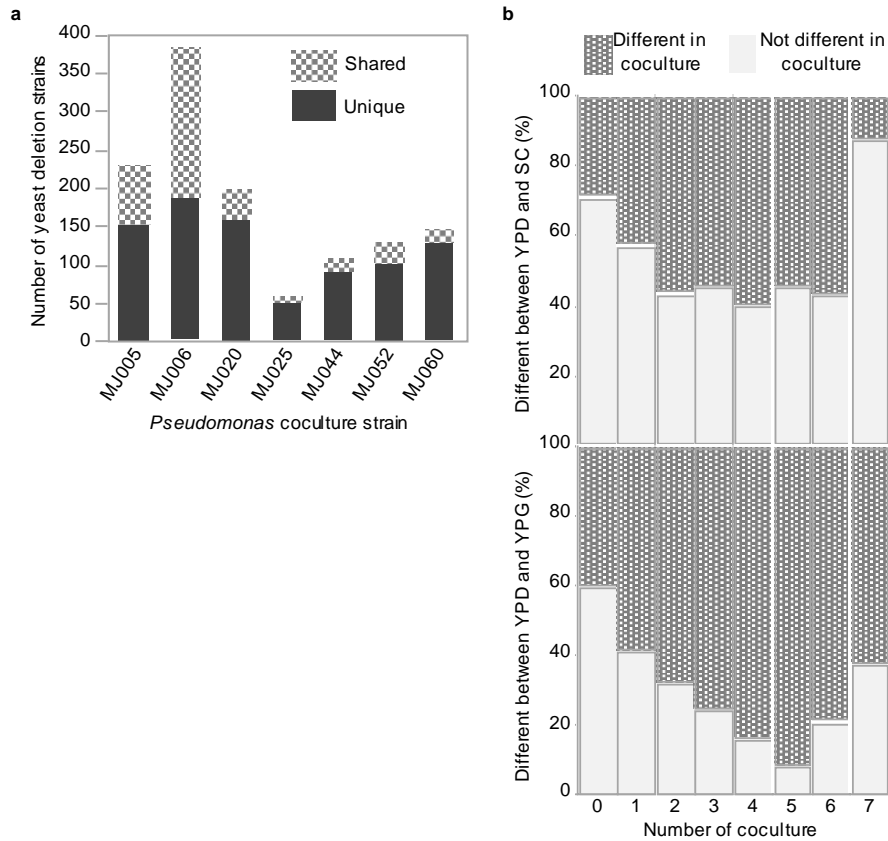
635



636

637 **Figure 2.** Gene Ontology Process enrichments of ranked fitness residuals in co-culture
 638 experiments. Enrichments were performed with the online tool of the String Protein-Protein
 639 Interaction Networks database (<https://string-db.org>). The left panel shows enrichment for the top
 640 of the list corresponding to a fitness decrease in co-culture. The right panel shows the enriched
 641 processes of the bottom of the list corresponding to a fitness increase in co-culture (dark grey dots)
 642 and those enriched from both ends (light grey dots). Dot size is proportional to the enrichment
 643 score (FDR < 0.01). See Supplementary file 2 for complete results.

644



645

646 **Figure 3.** Yeast deletion strains showing a significant difference in fitness when co-cultured with

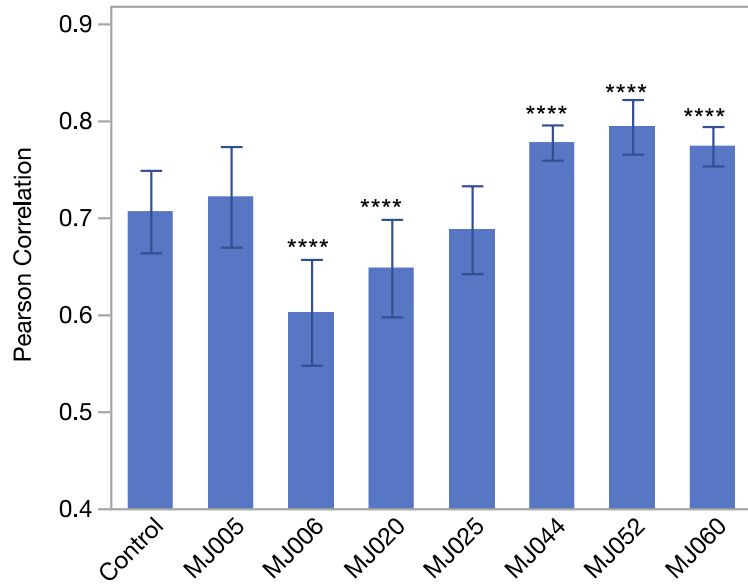
647 a *Pseudomonas spp.* strain. a) Number of yeast strain identified in each co-culture. b) Percent

648 overlap between strains identified in our co-cultures and strains showing a fitness difference

649 between a synthetic culture media (SC) a fermentable complex media (YPD) and a non-

650 fermentable complex media (YPG), classified by the number of co-cultures in which the strains

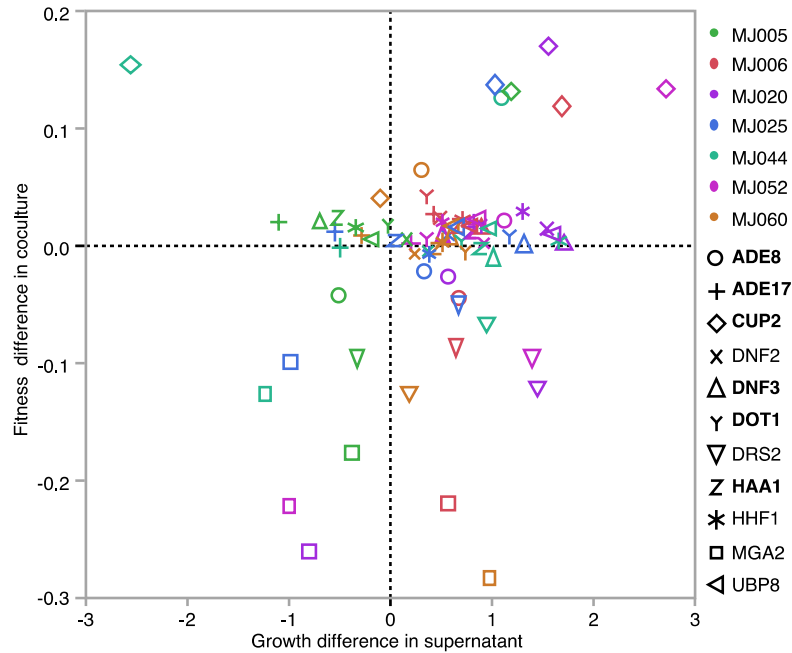
651 were identified.



652

653 **Figure 4.** Correlation between yeast fitness profiles in co-culture with *Pseudomonas* spp strains and yeast
654 fitness profiles in 27 samples of maple sap. Bars represent the average Pearson Correlation and error bars
655 the standard deviation. **** indicate a significant difference with the control (Dunnett's test, P-
656 value<0.0001).

657



658

659 **Figure 5.** Relative impact of *Pseudomonas* spp. co-culture compared to supernatant exposition on

660 yeast deletions mutants. *Pseudomonas* strains are identified with colors, and yeast deletion strains

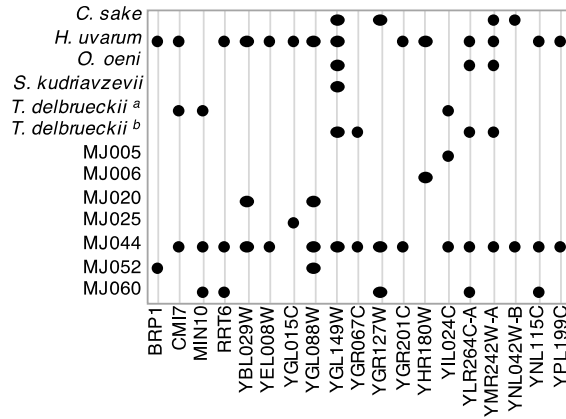
661 by symbols.

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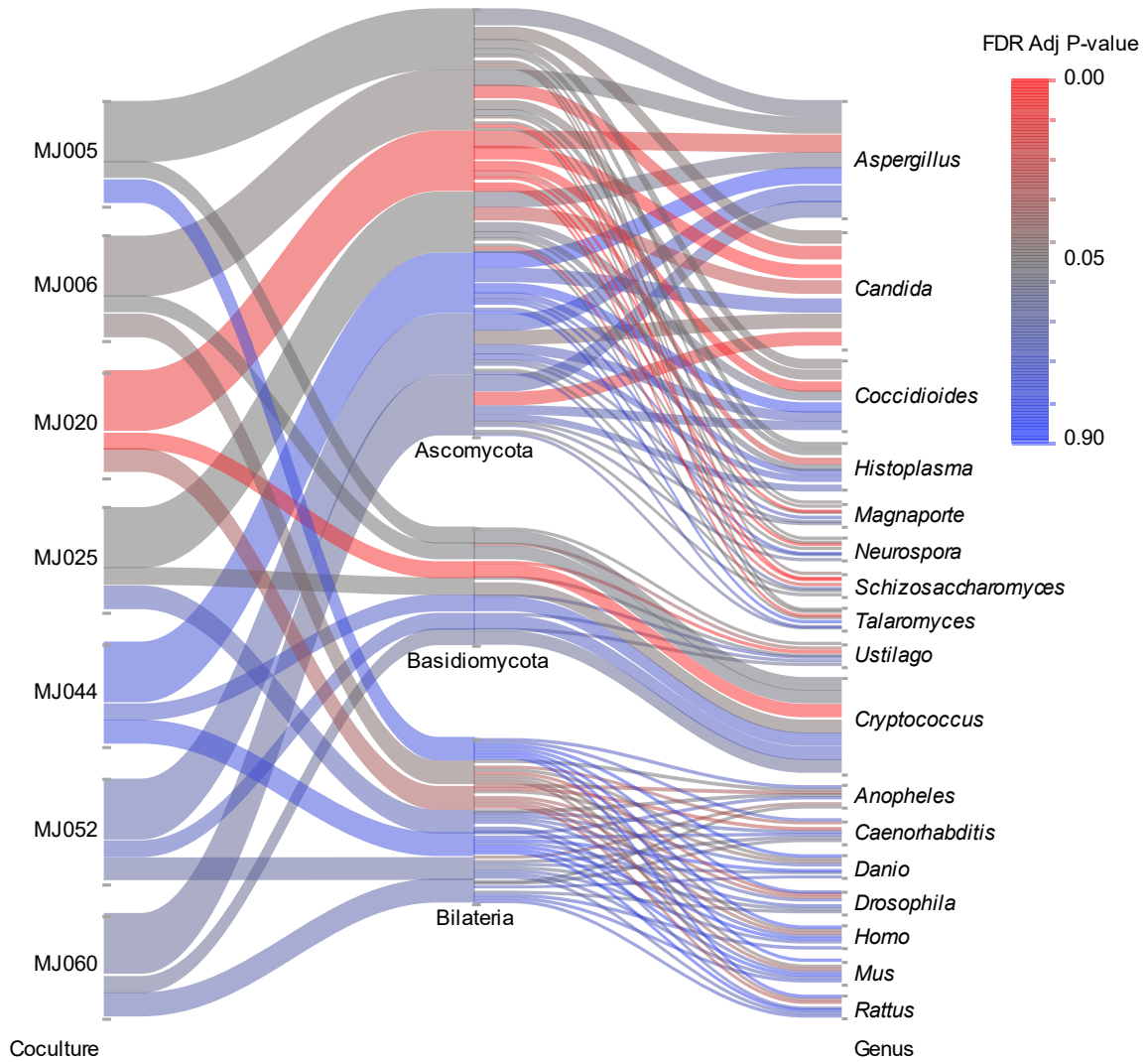
667 **Figure 6.**

668 Unknown function genes identified in our co-culture experiments and other interspecies co-

669 culture studies with *C. sake* (17), *H. uvarum* (17), *O. oeni* (18), *S. kudriavzevii* (16) or *T.*

670 *delbrueckii*^a(17);^b(19).

671



677 **Supplementary File Description**

678 **Supplementary File 1.**

679 Fitness obtained for each yeast deletion strain in each replicate experiment of the co-culture
680 functional genomic screen.

681 **Supplementary File 2.**

682 Compilation of enrichment analysis using the online tool of the String Protein-Protein Interaction
683 Networks database.

684 **Supplementary File 3.**

685 List of indexes used for sequencing library construction and reference barcodes used for the
686 analysis.