Dynamics of the compartmentalized *Streptomyces* chromosome during

metabolic differentiation

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Abstract

Streptomyces are among the most prolific bacterial producers of specialized

metabolites, including antibiotics. The linear chromosome is partitioned into a central

region harboring core genes and two extremities enriched in specialized metabolite

biosynthetic gene clusters (SMBGCs). The molecular mechanisms governing

structure and function of these compartmentalized genomes remain mostly unknown.

Here we show that in exponential phase, chromosome structure correlates with

genetic compartmentalization: conserved, large and highly transcribed genes form

boundaries that segment the central part of the chromosome into domains, whereas

the terminal ends are transcriptionally, largely quiescent compartments with different

structural features. Onset of metabolic differentiation is accompanied by remodeling

of chromosome architecture from an 'open' to a rather 'closed' conformation, in which

the SMBGCs are expressed forming new boundaries. Altogether, our results reveal

that *S. ambofaciens'* linear chromosome is partitioned into structurally distinct

entities, indicating a link between chromosome folding, gene expression and genome

evolution.

Introductory paragraph

Bacteria of the genus *Streptomyces* are amongst the most prolific producers of

specialized metabolites with applications in medicine, agriculture and the food

industry[1]. The biosynthesis of these specialized metabolites (*e.g.* antibiotics and

pigments) generally occurs after 'metabolic differentiation', a physiological transition

from primary to specialized metabolism[2,3]. This transition coincides with

morphological differentiation[4] (*e.g.* formation of the secondary multinucleated

mycelium, sporulation) that occurs late in the growth phase. These metabolic and

morphological changes are controlled by highly interconnected regulatory

mechanisms that have been studied mostly at the transcriptional, translational and

post-translational levels[4-7]. However, a clear link between global chromosome

organization and metabolic differentiation has yet to be established.

Streptomyces possess an unusual linear chromosome. Moreover, its

extremities, or 'terminal arms', contain terminal inverted repeats (TIRs) capped by

telomere-like sequences. In addition, the chromosome is large (6-15 Mb) with an

extreme GC content (circa 72%). Finally, the *Streptomyces* chromosome presents a

remarkable genetic compartmentalization, with a distinguishable central region and

the terminal arms. The central region primarily contains core genes, common to all

Streptomyces species, these being often essential[8-13]. The terminal arms are mainly

composed of conditionally adaptive genes, in particular, enriched in specialized

metabolite biosynthetic gene clusters (SMBGCs)[14]. In addition, they are prone to

large DNA rearrangements and frequent recombination[12,15,16,17]. Importantly, many

SMGBCs appear silent or poorly expressed under laboratory conditions, giving rise to

the concept of 'cryptic' SMBGCs. The basis of the regulation of these clusters in

relation to the overall genome dynamics remains to be explored.

The development of chromosome conformation capture (3C) methods coupled

to deep sequencing provided novel concepts in bacterial chromosome biology.

Notably pioneer studies revealed that bacterial chromosomes present a high degree

of 3D-organization in macrodomains and/or 'chromosome interacting domains'

(CIDs), mediated by multiple structural factors, including transcription and

replication[18-23]. Here, we explore the dynamics of the *Streptomyces* chromosome

during metabolic differentiation. By combining multi-omic approaches, we show that

the dynamics of gene expression correlate with the folding of the linear chromosome

of *Streptomyces ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 into transcriptionally active and silent

compartments. Moreover, metabolic differentiation is accompanied by a huge

remodeling of chromosome architecture from an 'open' to a rather 'closed'

conformation, SMBGCs forming new boundaries. Altogether, our results highlight a

link between chromosome folding, gene expression and genome evolution.

Results

Compartmentalization of the *Streptomyces ambofaciens* genome highlighted

by comparative genomics and functional annotation

The genetic compartmentalization of the *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 genome

was previously reported[12]. However, here we took advantage of the numerous

Streptomyces available sequences to update the cartography of the genome. We

also used gene persistence[24] as a new indicator to describe the organization of

Streptomyces genome. Gene persistence reflects the tendency for genes to be

conserved in a large number of genomes. As shown in other bacteria, gene

persistence is associated with gene essentiality and similar expression levels[24-26].

Here, we calculated a gene persistence index by determining the frequency of a

given gene in a panel of 125 complete *Streptomyces* genomes (**Supplementary**

Table 1)[27]. The highest level of persistence associated with the best reciprocal

matches between genes of all these genomes defines the core-genome[27]. In

addition, we mapped the genes encoding the 'actinobacterial signature' previously

identified[28] as those coding sequences (CDSs) that are nearly universal among

actinobacteria. In contrast, we searched the *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 genome

for variable regions, potentially acquired by horizontal gene transfer. For this

purpose, we identified unique genes as well as genomic islands (GIs,

Supplementary Table 2, Supplementary Fig. 1). These are defined as DNA

sequences that are inserted in regions of synteny (i.e. same orthologous gene order

in closely related genomes, see Methods). Thus genes from the core, the

actinobacterial signature and/or presenting a high level of persistence are enriched in

the central region, whereas GIs and unique CDSs are enriched in chromosome

extremities. The results clearly highlight the compartmentalization of the *S.*

ambofaciens genome (**Fig.1**, **Supplementary Table 3**). Synteny gradually

disappears in terminal arms (**Fig.1**), as previously reported[12]. This makes it difficult to

have an operational delineation of the limits of these arms. However, since the first

and last ribosomal operons approximately mark the limits of a central region beyond

which the synteny level falls (**Fig.1**), these operons were used as limits for definition

of the left and right extremities in this study.

Functional annotation also highlighted a bias of gene distribution along the

chromosome (**Fig.1**, **Supplementary Table 3**). As a proxy for major metabolic

processes, we used the functional RNA genes (encoding rRNA, tRNA, tmRNA,

RNAse-P RNA, SRP-RNA) and genes encoding functions related to translation

and/or RNA stability. We also mapped the genes encoding nucleoid-associated

proteins (NAPs) that play a central role in the dynamic organization of the bacterial

chromosome and are enriched in the central region (**Fig.1**, **Supplementary Table 3**).

Finally, we used the antiSMASH secondary metabolite genome mining pipeline

(version 5.1.0)[29] to identify putative SMBGCs (**Supplementary Table 4**). These

genes are preferentially located in the terminals arms and almost half of them are

present within GIs (**Fig.1**, **Supplementary Table 3**). Accordingly, GIs are 3.5-fold

enriched in SMBGC genes (p value $< 2.2.10^{-6}$, Fisher's exact test for count data).

These results illustrate that the high variability of *Streptomyces* extremities relates in

particular to functions involved in metabolic differentiation.

Together, these analyses confirm the strong genetic compartmentalization of

the *S. ambofaciens* chromosome. In this context, we then explored the extent to

which this genetic organization correlates with gene expression and chromosome

architecture.

Transcription of the *S. ambofaciens* genome is strongly compartmentalized

To focus specifically on transcriptome dynamics during metabolic

differentiation, while limiting cellular physiological heterogeneity in the colony, we

took advantage of the fact that *S. ambofaciens*, like many *Streptomyces*[2], does not

sporulate in liquid medium. We chose MP5 and YEME liquid media (**Table 1**) in

which *S. ambofaciens* grows in a rather dispersed manner that makes the cells also

more accessible to further 3C-treatments. Moreover, for *S. ambofaciens*, MP5

medium was previously reported to be suited for the production of the antibiotics

spiramycin[30] and congocidine[31] by *S. ambofaciens* while there is only limited

antibiotic production in YEME medium (**Extended Data Fig.1.A&B**). The results

showed that the transcriptomes were rather similar in exponential phase in both

media, while commitment to specialized metabolism (C4, C5 and C7 conditions) was

accompanied by major transcriptional changes that form a distinct cluster

(**Fig.2.A&B, Extended Data Fig.1.C&D**). Notably, at the earliest time points in the

growth period in both media, the terminal regions were rather poorly expressed,

whereas transcription gradually increased toward terminal ends over the growth

period (**Fig.2.B**), as previously reported in *S. coelicolor*[10,32]. We observed that the *S.*

ambofaciens genome has a transcriptional landscape with approximately 90 % of the

genes significantly expressed ('CAT_1' level or more) and/or regulated (DESeq2

statistical analysis) in at least one condition (**Extended Data Fig.2.A&B**,

Supplementary Table 5).

As shown by scanning the genome with respect to gene expression levels, we

found a marked bias in the localization of poorly *versus* highly expressed genes

along the genome as well as a positive correlation between gene persistence and

expression (**Fig. 2C, Extended Data Fig.2.C & D**). The 332 chromosomal genes

expressed at very high level in all conditions are mainly enriched in the central region

of the genome (**Supplementary Table 3, Fig.3D**), whereas most (> 60 %) of the

SMBGCs, GIs and mobile genetic elements (pSAM1, pSAM2 and a prophage) are

silent or poorly expressed in at least one condition. Up to 19 and 23 % of SMBGC

and GI genes, respectively, were found in this category in all tested conditions

(**Extended Data Fig.2.B**). However, compared to other poorly conserved genes,

SMBGCs have a higher proportion of highly induced genes, from 'CAT_0' to the

highest ('CAT_3' or 'CAT_4') categories (**Extended data Fig.2.C**).

Interestingly, as previously described in *S. coelicolor*[32], we observed

significant antisense-transcription throughout the genome. Considering the absolute

number of transcripts, this antisense-transcription was positively correlated to the

level of sense-transcription (**Extended Data Fig.2.E**), suggesting that spurious

antisense-transcription can arise from highly transcribed regions. To investigate the

relative importance of this antisense-transcription, we defined the 'antisense index' as

the level of antisense-transcription over the total (sense plus antisense) transcription.

Interestingly, in exponential phase, the antisense index was particularly high for GIs,

mobile genetic elements and SMBGCs and very low in conserved regions enriched in

the central region (except for pSAM2) (**Extended Data Fig.2.F**). During metabolic

differentiation the antisense indices of GIs, pSAM1, prophage and especially

SMBGCs tended to decrease (**Extended Data Fig.2.F**). This observation suggests

that antisense-transcription could be a consequence of or directly involved in the

regulation of gene expression concerning metabolic differentiation.

Together, these results indicate that the genetic compartmentalization of the

Streptomyces genome clearly correlates with a compartmentalization of transcription,

both sense and antisense.

Compartmentalized architecture of the *Streptomyces ambofaciens*

chromosome in exponential phase

We next asked the question, is a compartmentalized transcriptome correlated

with a specific chromosome folding. We first performed 3C-seq on cells harvested in

the exponential growth phase (**Fig.3**, **Fig.4.A**). The contact map displayed a main

diagonal reflecting the frequency of contacts, which extends up to 1 Mb (**Extended**

Fig.3.A). This diagonal contains loci acting as boundaries delimiting segments

(visualized as squares, **Fig.3.A**, **Fig.4.A**) reminiscent of CIDs in other bacteria[18-20].

To define these domains precisely in *S. ambofaciens*, we computed the 'frontier

index', a domain boundary indicator built from a multiscale analysis of the contact

map[33]. Briefly, two indices are computed, reflecting the intensity of the loss of contact

frequencies when going downwards or upwards, respectively, to each genome

position (**Extended Fig.3.B**). In this context, a boundary is defined by a significant

change in both the downstream (green peaks, **Fig.3.B**) and upstream (orange peaks,

Fig.3.B) directions (see method section for details). In exponential phase in YEME

medium (non-optimal for antibiotic production, condition C6), we found 10 boundaries

that defined the central region, delimited by the first and last rDNA operons, 9

domains ranging in size from 240 kbp to 700 kbp (**Fig.3.B**). These central domains

resembled regular CIDs[18,21] both in size and in the presumably nature of its formation

(see below). The central boundaries are also conserved in exponential phase in MP5

medium, which is optimized for antibiotic production (**Fig.4.A**). Only four additional

boundaries are observed in this medium (**Fig.4.A**). All rDNA operons coincide with

the sharpest boundaries (**Fig.3.B, Fig.4.A**). The genes surrounding these operons,

as well as those of other boundaries, are enriched in consecutive genes expressed at

very high level (**Fig.4.B, Supplementary Table 5**), as previously reported in other

bacterial models[18,21]. Interestingly, in exponential phase, we report a clear correlation

between the level of gene conservation and the formation of boundaries (**Fig.4.C**).

Moreover, the transcription of the genes present within boundaries tends to be

oriented in the direction of continuous replication (odds ratio 1.8, *p* value $1.4.10^{-8}$,

Fisher's exact test for count data), with a very low antisense index (**Extended Data**

Fig.3.C).

Genome extremities form two large terminal compartments of 1.46 and 2.46

Mbp, respectively, with different structural features (**Fig.3, Fig.4.A** and **Extended**

Data Fig.3B). Interestingly, within the terminal arms, the low transcriptional activity in

exponential phase in YEME medium correlates well with the absence of boundaries.

Of note, the boundaries present in each terminal domain in MP5 medium (one of

which is composed of an active prophage) do not contain highly expressed genes

and do not divide the terminal compartment into two parts (**Fig.4.A**). To compare the

dynamics of contacts within regions, we thus calculated a dispersion index, reflecting

the variability of the 3C-seq signal in each region (**Fig.4.D, Extended Data Fig.3.E**).

Despite that the plots for the probability of contacts as a function of genomic distance

are similar for both the terminal and central regions (**Extended Data Fig.3.D**), the

terminal ends present a higher dispersion index than the central compartment in both media for contacts longer than 100 kbp (**Fig.4.D**, **Extended Data Fig.3.E)**. This indicates that contacts between loci in the terminal regions are more variable than in the central compartment.

Thus, at the conformational level, the chromosome of exponentially growing cells of *S. ambofaciens* is partitioned into three compartments: a central compartment, actively transcribed and structured in multiple domains formed by the high-level expression of persistent genes and two large terminal compartments rich in GIs and SMBCGs and rather transcriptionally silent in which large-scale contacts are highly variable. Since in exponential phase, the boundaries are very similar in YEME and MP5 media and correspond mostly to persistent CDSs (**Fig.4.C**) or rDNA, their orthologous sequences may also structure the spatial organization of the chromosome in other *Streptomyces* species at a similar growth phase.

Chromosome remodeling during metabolic differentiation

As shown above, during metabolic differentiation we observed that the level of transcription gradually increased within the terminal ends (**Fig.2**). To determine whether transcription dynamics influence the 3D-organization of the chromosome, we performed 3C-seq on *Streptomyces* cells during metabolic differentiation in MP5 medium (48 h, condition C4) (**Fig.4.E**). The frontier index revealed changes in the boundaries along the primary diagonal; the boundaries identified in exponential phase were not detected anymore after 48 h in the growth medium (**Fig.4.E**). By contrast, the appearance of a very sharp boundary within the right terminal region that divides this arm into two domains of 1,350 kpb and 1,000 kpb, correlates very well with the increased level of transcription of the congocidine biosynthetic gene

cluster (BGC, **Fig.4.B & E**). In a replicate experiment, we observed that the

expression of another SMBGC, encoding the biosynthesis of a siderophore, could

generate the formation of an additional boundary (**Supplementary Fig.3.C**). This

illustrates some variability in the expression of SMBGCs during metabolic

differentiation. Together, these results highlight the correlation between SMBGC

expression and the formation of boundaries after 48 h. Accordingly, the level of

conservation of genes present within the boundaries switches from highly persistent

in exponential phase to poorly conserved during metabolic differentiation (**Fig.4.C**). In

addition, a second boundary detected within the right compartment is located in the

stambomycin BGC that is not or is poorly expressed in this condition. Interestingly,

accompanying the formation of boundaries and the increase of transcription in the

terminal compartments, the variability in the long-range contacts within the terminal

compartments is comparable to that of the central compartment (**Fig 4.D**).

The contact map also revealed the appearance of a secondary diagonal after

48 h of growth, indicating an increase in the frequency of contacts between regions

along the entire arms of the chromosome. This suggests that late in the cell cycle and

in the absence of a central compartment segmented into multiple domains, the two

chromosome arms are closer to each other (**Fig.4.E & F**). Remarkably, the second

diagonal is slightly tilted when it moves away from the origin, representing an

asymmetry in the contacts between loci within the terminal compartments.

In summary, our results indicate that the central and transcriptionally active

compartments in exponential phase present no boundaries after 48 h of growth,

whereas the terminal domains are locally remodeled concomitantly with the

expression of SMBGCs and with a decrease in the variability of the long-range

contacts. In addition, inter-arm contacts become more frequent. These results

indicate that metabolic differentiation is accompanied by major remodeling of the 3D-

architecture of the chromosome, both at the local and global levels (**Fig.4.F**).

Discussion

In this study, we demonstrated that in *Streptomyces*, compartmentalization of

gene organization, transcription and architecture are correlated. We explore the

transcriptional landscape of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 during metabolic

differentiation: its large genome is highly dynamic, most of the genes (≈ 90 %) being

significantly expressed in at least one condition. This situation is very similar to

Bacillus subtilis, another Gram-positive bacteria from soil[34]. Interestingly, the

SMBGCs (*e.g.* antibiotic clusters) are generally considered as 'cryptic' under most

growth conditions[10,35]. We observed that they are poorly expressed in exponential

phase. However their expression is characterized by up regulation after 48 h in the

growth medium, compared to the rest of the chromosome including other genes

putatively acquired by horizontal gene transfer (*e.g.* GIs). This result highlights that

SMBGCs in *S. ambofaciens* have evolved regulatory mechanisms, such as the

induction of cluster-situated transcriptional factor genes (**Supplementary Fig.2**) that

efficiently and specifically regulate gene expression during metabolic differentiation,

as reported in other *Streptomyces* species[4-7].

Moreover, we show that changes in gene expression dynamics are correlated

with metabolic differentiation. Indeed, the terminal regions become transcriptionally

active after 48 h of growth (see also references[10,32]) (**Fig.2**). Interestingly, the ratio,

antisense- over sense-transcription is high within the terminal compartments but

decreases over the growth period, especially in the SMBGCs (**Extended Data**

Fig.2.F). This suggests that this antisense-transcription may reflect regulatory

processes that remain to be explored. This is particularly interesting since some

NAPs suppress antisense-transcription in *S. venezuelae*[36].

In addition, 3C-seq analysis revealed that in exponential phase the central

compartment forms a multiple domain structure, delineated by boundaries, whereas

the terminal regions form two large compartments in which contacts are more

variable at larger distances. As previously shown for bacteria with circular

genomes[18-21], long and highly expressed genes (LHEGs encoding rRNA, ribosomal

proteins, or respiratory chain components) are found at the boundaries in the

Streptomyces chromosome (**Supplementary Table 5, Fig.4**). The positions of these

boundaries are both conserved (under certain circumstances) and dynamic, since

they change over the growth phase ([20], this work). Notably, most of the boundaries

observed at early growth times were correlated with the presence of persistent genes

(**Fig.4C**). Within the central compartment, domains are a direct consequence of

boundary formation. Additionally, no trivial role in gene expression or in chromosome

conformation have been assigned to chromosome interacting domains (CIDs) in

bacteria[37]. Here we propose that boundaries are likely to act as transcriptional hubs

for clustered and persistent genes[38], associated with very high levels of transcription

in exponential phase. Moreover, in exponential phase, the first and last rDNA

operons form the sharpest boundaries, recapitulating the borders that were arbitrarily

used to define the central region beyond which genome synteny falls (**Figure 1**). We

thus propose that they also constitute an evolutionary barrier that limits the

occurrence of single recombination events within the central region. Interestingly,

some boundaries in *Streptomyces* do not display high levels of gene expression

(**Supplementary Table 5**). These are generally located within the terminal arms,

suggesting the existence of other mechanisms, yet to be discovered that impose

chromosome constraints.

Furthermore, we show for the first time that the central and terminal

compartments present different organizational features, an observation

independently demonstrated for the *S. venezuelae* chromosome (see accompanying

paper, Szafran *et al.*). We favor the idea that the different organization of the terminal

compartments could be a consequence of multiple factors: i) the lack of constraints

imposed by active and sense-transcription; ii) the high level of anti-sense

transcription; iii) the enrichment of horizontally acquired NAPs and other

transcriptional regulators that, by increasing the dynamics of DNA intramolecular

interactions, ensure appropriate SMBGC repression in exponential phase.

Interestingly, it was shown in *S. venezuelae* that during sporulation the HupS NAP is

involved in promoting optimal contacts along the whole chromosome, but seems to

be particularly important for the organization of the terminal regions (see

accompanying paper, Szafran *et al.*).

During metabolic differentiation, the changes in transcriptional dynamics are

accompanied by a huge remodeling of chromosome folding, switching from an 'open'

to a 'closed' conformation, in which highly expressed SMBGC genes form new

boundaries (**Fig.4.E & F**). This may illustrate a relocation of transcriptional hubs from

clustered and persistent genes (in exponential phase) to SMBGCs at the onset of

metabolic differentiation. Remarkably, the central region is no longer structured into

multiple domains. The lack of boundaries in the central compartment after 48 h

growth is correlated with a slight decrease in transcripts from genes that were

present in boundaries in exponential phase. Indeed most of these genes remain

expressed at high level ('CAT-3' or 'CAT_4') but below a threshold classically

associated with boundaries (a string of genes with above 20 000 normalized reads per kb, **Supplementary Table 5**). Moreover, we cannot exclude the possibility that some of these transcripts are stable RNAs produced in exponential rather than stationary phase[39]. This loss of boundaries in the central compartment is reminiscent of the phenomena observed in eukaryotes during G1-to-mitosis transition[40] and could reflect a more general phenomenon of genome compaction during the cell cycle.

At larger scales, there is an increase in the frequency of inter-arm DNA contacts. The most likely candidate to be involved in this reorganization is the Smc-ScpAB condensin complex, which is recruited to the origin region by ParB bound to *parS*[41,42]. From the *parS* sites, Smc-ScpAB promotes inter-arm contacts by translocating to the terminal region of the chromosome, likely by loop extrusion[18,22,43-46]. *Streptomyces* spp. encode both a ParABS system[47-49] and a Smc-ScpAB complex[50]. Interestingly, during sporulation *Streptomyces* chromosomes need to be compacted and segregated to ensure correct spore formation[51][50]. Indeed, HiC studies during sporogenic development in *S. venezuelae* showed that inter-arm contacts are dependent on Smc-ScpAB (Szafran *et al.,* see accompanying paper). The global remodeling of the *Streptomyces* chromosome seems to occur similarly during metabolic (this work) and sporogenic development (Szafran *et al.,* see accompanying paper). Interestingly, we observed a slight tilt in the secondary diagonal in contact analysis when it approaches to the terminal compartments (**Fig.4.E, Supplementary Fig.3.C**). This is consistent with a slow-down of Smc-ScpAB activity when interacting with the transcription machinery[52], in agreement with the fact that transcription in the terminal compartment is higher than in the central compartment during metabolic differentiation (**Fig.4.E**, **Supplementary Fig.3.C**).

Collectively, these results indicate a link between evolutionary processes,

including genome-compartmentalization and the molecular mechanisms (*e.g.*

transcription, 3D-folding) that shape the structure and function of genes and

genomes in *Streptomyces*. We therefore hypothesize that the efficiency of the

regulatory processes controlling conditional expression of SMBGCs may be an

emerging property of spatial compartmentalization. We believe that this study will

open new insights into setting the rules governing chromosome spatial organization,

expression and stability, and the optimal design of *Streptomyces* genomes for

SMBCG expression.

Methods

***Streptomyces* strains and growth conditions**

S. ambofaciens ATCC 23877 was grown on solid soy flour-mannitol (SFM)

medium[53] at 28°C unless otherwise indicated. The strain was grown in the following

media: MP5 medium (7 g/l yeast extract, 20.9 g/l MOPS, 5 g/l NaCl, 1 g/l NaNO$_3$, 36

ml/l glycerol – pH 7.5) [30], or YEME medium 10.3 % sucrose (3 g/l yeast extract, 5 g/l

bactotryptone, 3 g/l malt extract, 10 g/l glucose, 103 g/l sucrose; pH 7.0-7.2 ; adapted

from[53]). Twenty million spores of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 were inoculated in

100 ml of media before growth at 30°C in a shaking agitator (220 rpm, INFORS HT

multitron standard).

Bioassays

For bioassays from liquid cultures, 50 µl of filtered supernatants were spotted on

to agar medium using cylinder (diameter 0.5 cm) and allowed to dry until complete

penetration into a plate containing 50 ml of DIFCO antibiotic medium 5 (DIFCO

227710). Thereafter 7 ml of SNA medium (2 g/l agar, 8 g/l nutrient broth MP

Biomedicals Cat#1007917) containing *Micrococcus luteus* (final OD_{600nm} 0.04) were

overlaid on the plate and incubated at 37°C. The growth inhibition area was

measured 24 h later.

Genomic island (GI) identification

We designed the Synteruptor program (http://bim.i2bc.paris-

[saclay.fr/synteruptor/](http://bim.i2bc.paris-saclay.fr/synteruptor/))[54] to compare the sequences of chromosomes of species close

enough to have synteny blocks, and to identify the genomic islands existing in each

respective chromosome. We define synteny breaks as genomic regions between two

consecutive synteny blocks when comparing two genomes, with the two blocks

having the same direction. The genome of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 was

compared to the chromosome of 7 closely related strains: *S. ambofaciens*

DSM40697, *S. coelicolor* A3(2), *S. lividans* 1326, *S. lividans* TK24, *S. mutabilis*,

Streptomyces sp. FXJ7.023, *Streptomyces* spp. M1013. To define a region

harbouring GIs, we used a threshold of 15 CDS as the minimal number of CDSs

within the synteny break, in at least one of the strains used for the pairwise

comparison. Of note, a GI can therefore correspond to 15 CDS in one strain but less

CDS in the other one. However, when the corresponding position within the *S.*

ambofaciens genome contained less than 2 CDS or only tRNAs, compared to at least

15 CDSs in the chromosome of the compared species, it was considered as an

insertion point (but not a GI) within *S. ambofaciens*. When the GIs were identified

during several pairwise comparisons of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 and/or

overlapping, they were fused and considered thereafter as a single GI. The complete

list of GIs identified in the *S. ambofaciens* genome is presented in **Supplementary**

Fig. 1 and **Supplementary Table 2**.

SMBGCs identification

We used antiSMASH5.1.0[29] to identify putative SMBGCs. Thirty SMBGCs have

thus been identified in the *S. ambofaciens* genome, the one encoding kinamycin

biosynthesis being duplicated owing to its location within the TIRs. The definition of

cluster boundaries has been manually refined on the basis of literature data for

characterized SMBGCs (**Supplementary Table 4**). Of note, SMBGC genes are ≈ 1.5

times larger than the average, and only 13 of them (from 4 SMBGCs, namely

'CL4_Indole', 'CL10_Furan', 'CL11_NRPS', 'CL20_Hopenoid') belong to the core

genome.

NAPs, identification

In this study, we considered NAPs *sensu lato* by including orthologues of classical

NAPs and structural factors (HU, sIHF, Lsr2, Lrp/AsnC, SMC, Dps, CbpA, DnaA or

IciA family proteins)[55] and/or proteins associated with *S. coelicolor* chromatin[56]. This

list is available in **Supplementary Table 5.**

Definition of indexes for genome conservation analyses

We selected 125 *Streptomyces* genomes from the NCBI database representative

of the *Streptomyces* genus by keeping only complete genomes of distinct species.

When genomes share an average nucleotide identity (ANIb) value greater than or

equal to 96 %, they are considered as members of the same species[27]

(**Supplementary Table 1**). We made one exception by keeping two strains of *S.*

ambofaciens (ATCC 23877 and DSM 40697). Orthologous genes were identified by

BLASTp best hits[57] with at least 40 % of identity, 70 % coverage and an E-value

lower than 1e^{-10} [27]. The gene persistence index was calculated as N_{orth}/N, where N_{orth}

is the number of genomes carrying a given orthologue and N the number of genomes

searched[24]. Pairwise comparisons are achieved using a sliding window and

comparing a reference strain (species A) to another (species B). Here is considered a

window containing 8 genes noted from 1 to 8 in the reference species. To calculate

the GOC index (Gene Order Conservation), which is the number of contiguous

syntenic orthologs between the two chromosomes over the number of orthologs

between the two chromosomes, calculated in a sliding window, the pair of contiguous

genes present in the window in the reference species are searched and counted as

contiguous pairs of orthologues in the whole genome of species B related to the

number of orthologs is defined by the window.

Transcriptome analysis

For RNA-seq analysis performed in liquid cultures, $\approx 2.10^7$ spores of *S.*

ambofaciens ATCC 23877 were inoculated in 100 ml of liquid medium. Thereafter, 25

ml (for samples harvested after 24 h growth) or 10 ml of cultures (for other time

points) were added to an equal volume of cold ethanol.

Cells were then harvested by centrifugation for 15 min at 4,000 g at 4°C, and

stored at -20°C. Pellets were washed with 1 ml of DEPC water, centrifuged for 5 min

at 16,000 g at 4°C and homogenized with glass beads (≤ 106 µm; G4649, SIGMA) in

350 µl of lysis buffer (RNeasy Plus Mini Kit, QIAGEN) supplemented with 10 µl/ml β-

mercaptoethanol. Samples were processed 3 times for 45 sec each in FastPrep-24™

5G instrument (MP Biomedicals) at setting 6 with 1 min cooling between the stages.

After centrifugation for 10 min at 16,000 g at 4°C, total RNAs were isolated from the

supernatants using an RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (QIAGEN) and gDNA Eliminator

columns, following the manufacturer's recommendations. To remove genomic DNA,

RNA samples were incubated for 30 min at 37°C with 20 U of RNase-free DNase I

(Roche) in a final reaction volume of 30 µl. RNAs were then cleaned up using the

RNeasy Mini Kit (QIAGEN), following the manufacturer's recommendations. The

absence of DNA in the preparations was checked by PCR on an aliquot. RNA

samples were quantified using Qubit^{TM} RNA HS Assay kit (ThermoFischer Scientific),

following manufacturer's recommendations.

Total RNA quality was assessed in an Agilent Bioanalyzer 2100, using RNA 6000

pico kit (Agilent Technologies). 500 ng of total RNA were treated with DNAse

(Baseline Zero DNAse, Epicentre) prior to ribosomal RNA depletion using the

RiboZero bacteria magnetic Kit from Illumina according to the manufacturer's

recommendations. After the Ribo-Zero step, the samples were checked in the Agilent

Bioanalyzer for complete rRNA depletion. Directional RNA-seq libraries were

constructed using the Illumina ScriptSeq kit V2 (discontinued) for samples

corresponding to C5 conditions and Illumina Stranded library preparation kit for all

other samples, according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Libraries were pooled in equimolar proportions and sequenced (Paired-end 2x43

bp) with an Illumina NextSeq500 instrument, using a NextSeq 500 High Output 75

cycles kit. Demultiplexing was done (bcl2fastq2 V2.2.18.12) and adapters

(adapter_3p_R1: AGATCGGAAGAGCACACGTCTGAACT; adapter_3p_R2:

AGATCGGAAGAGCGTCGTGTAGGGA) were trimmed with Cutadapt1.15, only

reads longer than 10 bp were kept.

STAR software [58] was used for mapping RNA-seq to the reference genome

(genome-build-accession NCBI_Assembly: GCF_001267885.1) containing only one

terminal inverted repeat (TIR). This avoids any biases with multiple mapping within

the duplicated extremities of the genome (since the two TIR sequences are

indistinguishable). We used the *featureCounts* program[59] to quantify reads (in sense-

and antisense- orientation) generated from RNA-sequencing technology in terms of

"Gene" feature characteristics of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 most recent

annotation (GCF_001267885.1_ASM126788v1_genomic.gff – released on the

06/15/2020).

Bioinformatic analysis of RNA-seq count data

SARTools (Statistical Analysis of RNA-Seq data Tools) DESeq2-based R

pipeline[60] was used for systematic quality controls and the detection of differentially

expressed genes. PCA and sample clustering used homoscedastic data transformed

with Variance Stabilizing Transformation (VST). For the differential analysis, the

Benjamini and Hochberg's method was used with a threshold of statistical

significance adjusted to 0.05. The reference condition was C1 (medium "MP5_24h").

All parameters of SARTools that have default values were kept unchanged. Genes

with null read counts in the 37 samples were not taken into account for the analysis

with DESeq2. Genes corresponding to the second TIR (not used for the mapping) or

the rRNAs (RiboZero treatment) were excluded from further analysis.

Supplementary Table 5 presents the normalized counts per gene in each growth

condition. To ensure that antisense-transcription did not affect the normalization of

sense-transcription data, the latter were normalized as follows: the percentage of

transcription in antisense orientation of each gene was determined with the raw data,

then the normalized antisense-transcription was evaluated by applying this

percentage to the normalized sense-transcript counts. To determine the category of

gene expression the normalized counts obtained by the SARTools DESeq2-based

pipeline were again normalized with respect to gene size (number of DESeq2

normalized reads/gene size x 1000 bp), and thereafter expressed in RPK (reads per

kb). This allowed us to compare directly the relative levels of gene expression of

individual genes. Data were analyzed with R software[61] and the Integrative Genomics

Viewer (IGV) tool was used to simultaneously visualize RNAseq data and genomic

annotations[62].

Multidimensional analyses of the data

We used the FactoShiny R package[63] to perform clustering, principal component

analyses and correspondence analyses. This overlay factor map presented in

Extended Data Fig.2.C results from the correspondence analysis performed using a

contingency table indicating the number of genes in each category of expression

level depending on the genome features of interest. Max', 'Mean' and 'Min' refer to

the maximal, mean and minimal expression levels in all studied condition, from the

lowest category ('0') to the highest ('4'). These categories were defined by

considering the distribution parameters of the normalized number of reads

(**Extended Fig.2.A.**). These gene expression categories as well as the number of

genes switched ON ('Switch', meaning that the expression level switches from

CAT_0 in at least one condition to CAT_3 or more in another condition), or

presenting a very low ('AS < 0.05') or high ('AS > 0.5') level of antisense index were

used to build the map, and projected on the plan. Here are some basic explanations

of how to interpret the results of correspondence analysis. On **Extended Data**

Fig.2.C, the squares correspond to the raw labels (genome features). The triangles

correspond to the column labels (*e.g.* category of level of mean, maximal, minimal

sense-transcription, antisense index < 0.05, antisense index > 0.5).

Chromosome conformation capture (3C)

Spores of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 ($\approx 4.10^7$) were inoculated in 200 ml of

MP5 or YEME liquid medium. In these media, bacterial growth was monitored by

opacimetry. At the indicated time point, cells were harvested from 100 ml samples of

culture, adjusted to an OD$_{600\ nm}$ of about 0.15 (with the appropriate fresh medium)

and fixed by adding formaldehyde solution (3 % final concentration). Cells were then

incubated under moderate agitation for 30 min at room temperature and 30 min more

at 4°C. Glycine (250 mM final concentration) was added, and the bacteria incubated

30 min at 4°C with moderate agitation. Cells were then harvested by centrifugation

for 10 min at 4,000 g at 4°C. The cells were gently suspended in 50 ml of PBS 1X

and then again harvested by centrifugation for 10 min at 4,000 g at 4°C. This

washing step was repeated once before suspending the cells in 1 ml of PBS before

final harvesting by 10 min at 4,000 g at 4°C. The dry pellets were stored at -80°C

until use.

Frozen pellets of exponentially grown cells were thawed, suspended in 600 μl Tris

10 mM EDTA 0.5 mM (TE) (pH 8) with 4 μl of lysozyme (35 U/μl; Tebu Bio) and

incubated at RT for 20 min. For the samples collected after 48 h, the pellets were

thawed, suspended in TE (pH 8) with 4 μl of lysozyme (35 U/μl; Tebu Bio) for 45 min

and then homogenized with a Bioruptor sonication device (3 cycles of 30 seconds,

with a pause of 30 second pause for each). Then, for both 24 h and 48 h samples,

SDS was added to the mix (final concentration 0.5%) of cells and incubated for 10

minutes at RT. 500 μl of lysed cells were transferred to a tube containing 4.5 ml of

digestion mix (1X NEB 3 buffer, 1% triton X-100) and 100 μl of the lysed cells were

transferred to a tube containing 0.9 ml of digestion mix. 800 units of SalI were added

to the 5 ml digestion mix. Both tubes were then incubated for 2 h at 37°C and 250

units of SalI were added to the 5 ml tube and further incubated, 2 h at 37°C. To stop

the digestion reaction, 4 ml of the digestion mix were immediately centrifuged for 20

min at 20,000 g, and pellets suspended in 4 ml of sterile water. The digested DNA (4

ml in total) was split into 4 aliquots and diluted in 8 ml ligation buffer (1X ligation

buffer NEB 3 (without ATP), 1 mM ATP, 0.1 mg/ml BSA, 125 Units of T4 DNA ligase

5 U/µl). Ligation was performed at 16°C for 4 h, followed by incubation overnight at

65°C with 100 µl of proteinase K (20 mg/ml) and 100µl EDTA 500 mM. DNA was

then precipitated with an equal volume of 3 M Na-Acetate (pH 5.2) and two volumes

of iso-propanol. After one hour at -80°C, DNA was pelleted and suspended in 500 µl

1X TE buffer. The remaining 1ml digestion mix with or without SalI were directly

incubated with 100 µl of proteinase K (20 mg/ml) overnight at 65°C. Finally, all the

tubes were transferred into 2 ml centrifuge tubes (8 tubes), extracted once with 400

µl phenol-chloroform pH 8.0, precipitated, washed with 1 ml cold ethanol 70% and

diluted in 30 µl 1X TE buffer in the presence of RNAse A (1 µg/ml). Tubes containing

the ligated DNA (3C libraries) were pooled. The efficiency of the 3C preparation was

assayed by running aliquots of the 3C-librairies, the digested DNA or the non-

digested DNA on 1% agarose gel. Finally the 3C libraries were quantified on the gel

using QuantityOne software (BioRad).

Processing of libraries for Illumina sequencing

Approximately 5 µg of a 3C library was suspended in water (final volume 130 µL)

and sheared using a Covaris S220 instrument (Duty cycle 5, Intensity 5, cycles/burst

200, time 60 sec for 4 cycles). The DNA was purified using a Qiaquick® PCR

purification kit, DNA ends were prepared for adapter ligation following standard

protocols[64]. Custom-made adapters[19] were ligated overnight at 4°C. Ligase was

inactivated by incubating the tubes at 65°C for 20 min. To purify DNA fragments

ranging in size from 400 to 900 pb, a PippinPrep apparatus (SAGE Science) was

used. For each library, one PCR reaction of 12 cycles was performed using 2 to 3 µl

of 3C library, 0.2 µM Illumina primers PE1.0 and PE2.0 and 1 unit of Taq Phusion

[Finnzymes]. The PCR product was purified on Qiagen MinElute columns and dimers

of primers were removed from the 3C library by using AMPure XP beads following

the manufacturer's protocol (Beckman Coulter). Finally, libraries were subjected to 75

bp paired-end sequencing in an Illumina sequencer (NextSeq500).

Processing of sequencing data

PCR duplicates from each 3C library sequence dataset were discarded using the 6

Ns of custom-made adapters[19]. Reads were aligned independently using Bowtie 2 in

very sensitive mode[65]. Only reads with mapping quality > 30 were kept to establish

contact maps.

Generation of contact maps

Contact maps were built as described previously[66]. Briefly, each read was

assigned to a restriction fragment. Non-informative events such as self-circularized

restriction fragments, or uncut co-linear restriction fragments were discarded[67]. The

chromosome of *S. ambofaciens* devoid of the TIRs was divided into 10 kbp bins and

the frequencies of contacts between genomic loci for each bin were assigned.

Contact frequencies were visualized as heatmaps. Raw contact maps were

normalized with the sequential component normalization procedure (SCN[67]). To

facilitate visualization, contact matrices are visualized as log matrices. First we

applied to the SCN matrices the log10 and then a Gaussian filter (H=1) to smooth the

image. The contact score for a pair of bins that due to mapping was identified as an

outlier (z-score>contact score) was replaced with the median value of the contact

matrix.

Frontier Index determination

To analyze the domain organization of *S. ambofaciens*, we used the frontier index

(FI) method that quantifies the involvement of each bin in the frontier of any domain,

i.e. at any scale – see technical details in[33]. Briefly, this method consists, first, in

computing derivatives of the contact maps. To this end, we used normalized contact

maps where the average contact frequency, *P(s)*, was substracted to reduce noise

coming from the natural overall decrease of contact frequencies as the genomic

distance *(s)* between loci increase. Here, we also added pseudocounts (equal to

m/20 where *m* is the maximal value of the contact frequencies) such that all values of

the contact maps are strictly positive and we considered the logarithm of the resulting

maps in order to mitigate the strongest variations close to the diagonal. We then

considered separately the derivatives of these maps along the vertical and horizontal

axes, whose large positive values (in the upper part of the maps) are respectively

associated with upstream and downstream frontiers of domains, respectively. After

setting negative values to zero (to reduce noise even more), for each bin the

corresponding upstream and downstream FIs were defined as the sum over all other

bins at a distance below 600 kb of the resulting signals. We then computed the

profile of upstream and downstream FIs. We considered peaks that are located

above the median of the peak values plus two times the standard deviation

(estimated by the 1.48 times the median absolute deviation to mitigate the impact of

outliers). These statistics were computed separately for the left terminal arm, the

central region and the right terminal arm as these compartments have distinct

statistical 3C-seq features. Altogether, this led us to a list of significant upstream

(orange) and downstream (green) peaks, respectively.

A boundary was then allocated to any bin (as well as to pairs of consecutive bins

to cope with uncertainty of peak positions) for which both the upstream and

downstream peaks were significant. To analyze the genetic environment associated

with a boundary, we considered the environment around the boundary identified by

the frontier index (± 2 bins). Note that due to intrinsically noisy nature of 3C-seq data,

we detected bins with only an upstream or a downstream significant peak

(**Supplementary Fig.3.D**). These bins with an 'orphan' peak were not associated

with a boundary, and hence, were removed from the analysis.

The dispersion index

The dispersion index of a signal reflects the range of variations relative to the

mean value of the signal. Here, we compute it for the frequency of contacts. More

precisely, it is defined as: $I(s) = var(s)/P(s)$, where $P(s)$ and $var(s)$ are, respectively,

the mean value and variance of the frequency of contacts between bins separated by

the genomic distance. These quantities are then computed separately in each

compartment of the genome. The larger the dispersion index is, the more variable are

the contact frequencies within a compartment.

Statistical procedure

Data were analyzed with R software[61]. For the RNA-seq analyses, three independent

experiments (performed on different days) were carried out for each studied

condition, except for C3, C9 and C10 that were performed in duplicate and C5 in

quadruple. The statistical significance of RNA-seq analysis was assessed using the

SARTools DESeq2-based pipeline[60]. For the 3C-seq analyses, two independent

experiments (performed on different days) were carried out for each condition. To

quantify gene regionalization, we defined the left and right terminal arms using as

limits the first (genome position: 1,469,670-1,474,823 bp) and last (genome position:

5,802,471-5,807,629 bp) rDNA operons, respectively. The statistical significance was

assessed by means of Fisher's exact test for count data, which is appropriated to the

analysis of contingency tables.

Data availability

The datasets generated during this study have been deposited in the NCBI Gene

Expression Omnibus (GEO, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/) under the accession

number GSE162865.

List of abbreviations

3C: Chromosome Conformation Capture

"Actino. Sign.": Actinobacterial Signature

BGC: Biosynthetic Gene Cluster

CDS: coding sequence

CID: Chromosome Interacting Domain

GI: Genomic island

IGV: Integrative Genomics Viewer

LHEG: long and highly expressed genes

NAP: Nucleoid Associated Protein

PCA: Principal Component Analysis

rDNA: ribosomal RNA encoding DNA

RPK: Read per kb

SARTools: Statistical Analysis of RNA-Seq data Tools

SMBGC: Specialized Metabolite Biosynthetic Gene Cluster

TIR: Terminal inverted repeat

VST: Variance Stabilizing Transformation

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 Figure legend

Figure 1: The genetic compartmentalization of *S. ambofaciens* linear chromosome

The terminal inverted repeats (TIRs, 200 kb) and the origin of replication (*oriC*) are indicated in black. The distribution of gene presenting features of interest are represented in blue or red when enriched in the central region or within the extremities (defined by the first and last rDNA operons), respectively (see **Supplementary Table 3** for a statistical analysis of the data). The dot and asterisk indicate the position of pSAM2 and of a complete prophage, respectively. The position of the SMBGC encoding the biosynthesis of all known antibacterial compounds of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 is also indicated. The level of synteny along the chromosome of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 is represented as a heat map of GOC (Gene Order Conservation) scores using a sliding window (8 CDSs with 1 CDS steps). Each line corresponds to the GOC profile of the reference against another species. The species are organized from the phylogenetically closest to the furthest. The vertical black dotted line represents the location of the *dnaA* gene delineating the two replichores. "NA" (in yellow) indicates the absence of orthologs in the corresponding window. *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 also harbors a circular pSAM1 plasmid (≈ 89 kbp).

Abbreviations: 'Actino. Sign. CDSs' (coding sequences of the actinobacterial signature); BGC (biosynthetic gene cluster); 'C.' (congocidine BGC); 'Chr.' (whole chromosome); GIs (genes belonging to genomic islands); 'K.' (kinamycin BGC); 'Persist.$_{>0.95}$ CDSs' (coding sequences of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 presenting a gene persistence superior to 95 % in 124 other *Streptomyces* genomes); 'Transl. CDSs' (genes encoding functions involved in translation process and/or RNA stability);

NAP (nucleoid associated protein); SMBGCs (specialized metabolite BGCs); 'Sp.'

(spiramycin BGC); 'St.' (stambomycin BGC); 'rRNA' (ribosomal RNA).

Figure 2: Transcriptome dynamics depending on genome features and

metabolic differentiation

A. Transcriptome changes over growth. Heatmaps of the normalized number of

reads per gene, ranked by their expression level at 24 h.

B. Transcription along the chromosome over growth. The normalized counts

(DESeq2 analysis) were mapped on *S. ambofaciens* chromosome. The two

clusters to which the different conditions belong were obtained by hierarchical

classification (**Extended Data Fig.1C**). Whereas the cluster 1 corresponds to

exponential phases (no ATB production), the cluster 2 gathers conditions

associated to the activation of SMBGC encoding at least two known antibacterial

activities (**Supplementary Fig.2**). 'C1' to 'C7' refer to the name of the studied

conditions: C1 to C5, cells grown in MP5 during 24 h, 30 h, 36 h, 48 h and 72 h,

respectively; C6 and C7: cells grown in YEME during 24h and 48h, respectively

(see **Table 1,** for details).

C. Boxplot presenting the mean level of gene expression depending on

features of interest. The distribution of the number of counts (normalized by

DESeq and on gene size) as the mean of all studied conditions is presented

depending on the genome features of interest (see the legend of **Figure 1** for

abbreviations). For clarity, outliers were excluded from this graphical

representation (but were taken into account for the numerical exploitation of the

data). The significant differences by Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity

correction compared to the chromosome ('Chr.') are indicated by asterisks (***,

p< 0.001). Other abbreviation: 'Func. RNA (-rRNA)' (Functional RNA excluded

rRNA)

Figure 3: Spatial organization of *S. ambofaciens* chromosome and

transcriptome in absence of metabolic differentiation

3C-seq and RNA-seq were performed on *S. ambofaciens* grown in exponential phase

in YEME medium (24 h, C6 condition). The normalized contact map was obtained from

asynchronous populations. The *x* and *y* axes represent the genomic coordinates of the

reference genome. To simplify the analyses, TIRs were removed from the reference

genome. In **panel A**, the colour scale reflects the frequency of the contacts between

genome loci, from white (rare contacts) to dark purple (frequent contacts). In **panel B**,

the frontier index analysis is able to detect, for a given genome 10 kb bin, the change

in the contact bias with their neighbouring bins. Thus, a boundary is defined as any bin

in which there is a change in the right bias of contacts towards the left bias (± 2 bin,

green and orange peaks, respectively). Red and black circles indicate the position of

rDNAs and highly expressed genes (HEGs), respectively. In **panel C**, the normalized

counts (DESeq2 analysis) measured in cells grown in the same condition were mapped

on *S. ambofaciens* chromosome and binned in 10 kb. The **panel D** highlights genomic

and transcriptional features of interest. The right and left compartment were defined

owing the outer boundaries of the central compartment, which correspond to the first

and last rDNA operon position. The 'synteny-break' right arm corresponds to the

beginning of the spiramycin BGC. The replicate of this experiment is presented in the

Supplementary Fig. 3.A.

Figure 4: Chromosome remodeling during metabolic differentiation

A. 3C-seq and RNA-seq performed after 24 h in MP5 growth medium (C1 condition). Same legend than **Figure 3**. The replicate of this experiment is presented in the **Supplementary Fig. 3.B**.

B. Level of gene expression depending on gene location within boundaries or domains. The box-plot presents the sense-transcription (normalized number of read per Kb) depending on gene location in exponential phase either in MP5 (C1) or in YEME (C6), or after 48 h of growth in MP5 medium (C4). Boundaries in common between MP5 24 h and YEME 24 h conditions ('Common C1 & C6') were also analyzed separately. The significant differences by Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction (boundaries versus domains) are indicated by asterisks (**, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$).

C. Level of gene persistence depending on gene location within boundaries or domains. The box-plot presents the persistence index depending on gene location in exponential phase (C1: MP5; C6: YEME) or after 48 h of growth in MP5 medium (C4). Boundaries in common between MP5 24 h and YEME 24 h conditions ('Common C1 & C6') were also analyzed separately. The significant differences by Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction (boundaries versus domains) are indicated by asterisks (***, $p < 0.001$).

D. Dispersion index of the left, central and right compartments plotted as a function of genomic distance. The index of dispersion (*Var(s)/P(s)*) reflects the range of variations relative to the mean value as a function of the genome distance for the contact maps obtained for cells grown 24 h and 48 h in MP5 medium. Long-range DNA contacts within the terminal compartments (> 100 kbp) are more variable than within the central compartment.

E. 3C-seq and RNA-seq performed after 48 h in MP5 growth medium (C4 condition). Same legend than **Figure 3**. The arrow indicates the position of the congocidine biosynthetic gene cluster (BGC). The replicate of this experiment is presented in the **Supplementary Fig.3.C**.

F. Schematic representation of genome dynamics during metabolic differentiation. The *Streptomyces* linear chromosome is represented as dark gray (central compartment) and dark red sticks (left and right compartments). The origin of replication is indicated as a light yellow circle (*oriC*). In exponential phase, the chromosome of *Streptomyces* is organized into one transcriptionally active (light green) central compartment and two rather silent compartments (pink grey). The transcriptionally active compartment is enriched in core genes and is segmented in multiple domains, flanked by long and highly expressed conserved genes. The low frequency of contacts between the two arms is represented as an open conformation of the chromosome. After 48 h of growth, the transcription of the congocidine cluster is accompanied by a global remodeling of the chromosome. The increase in the frequency of contacts between the two chromosomal regions around the origin is represented as a closed conformation. Interestingly, a slight tilt on the secondary diagonal towards the ends of the chromosome shows an asymmetry between contacts within the terminal ends that was not schematized in the figure. In addition, since TIRs cannot be distinguished at the sequence level, they were neither considered in this analysis nor represented in this figure. However they may be located close to each other[68], although this remains controversial[69].

Extended Data Figure 1: The metabolic differentiation of *Streptomyces ambofaciens* analyzed at the transcriptional level

A. **Growth curves of *Streptomyces ambofaciens* in MP5 and YEME liquid media.** In these media, *S. ambofaciens* grows under a rather dispersed way, so that growth can be monitored by optical density (OD_{600nm}). We although refer to "pseudo-opacymetry" because of the presence of some clumps of bacteria. Values are means ± standard errors (error bars) from 3 independent experiments.

B. **Bioassays performed in conditions used in this study.** Bioassays performed against *Micrococcus luteus* with the supernatants of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 grown in MP5 or YEME liquid media and harvested at different time points. Non-inoculated media were used as negative controls ("T-"). 'C1' to 'C7' refer to the name of the studied conditions (Table 1). The width of the plates is 12 cm. The presence of a halo indicates the presence of one or more antibacterial activities. The expression of the SMBGCs encoding known ATB is presented in **Supplementary Fig.2**.

C. **Multidimensional analyses of the studied conditions. Left panel - Axes 1 and 2 of the principal component analysis (PCA)** of the whole data set (21 samples), with percentages of variance associated with each axis. The numbers indicate the condition (as indicated in Table 1) with a distinct letter (a, b, c, d) for each replica. **Right panel- Ascending hierarchical classification** (Euclidean distance, Ward criterion) and its inertia gain. The conditions form 2 clusters (1 and 2) and 5 subclusters which are boxed. The cluster 1 corresponds to the earliest growth time points (24 h, 30 h and 36 h) in which no ATB production was detected by bioassay. The cluster 2 corresponds to

conditions associated to metabolic differentiation and the latest growth time

points. Its sub-clusters separate owing the growth time and medium: 48 h in

MP5 (subcluster 2.1), 72 h in MP5 (subcluster 2.2), 48 h in YEME (subcluster

2.3).

D. **MA-plot of the data for the comparison of transcriptomes over growth**

and over media. The MA-plot represents the log ratio of differential

expression as a function of the mean intensity for each pairwise comparison.

The differentially expressed features are highlighted in red, and the number of

up- and down-regulated genes indicated on each graph. Triangles correspond

to features having a too low/high $\log_2$(fold change) to be displayed on the plot.

Extended Data Figure 2: The dynamic of *Streptomyces ambofaciens*

transcriptome

A. **Distribution of the normalized read counts per gene and definition of**

gene expression level categories. The boxplot represents the

distributions of the read counts per gene (normalized by DESeq and on

gene size, RPK) individually for each tested condition and as the mean

expression of each gene in all tested conditions. For clarity outliers were

excluded from this graphical representation (but were taken into account

for the numerical exploitation of the data). The genes were classified owing

their expression level by considering the distribution parameters as

indicated. These parameters were calculated both for each condition

individually, and for the mean expression in all tested condition.

B. **Pattern of gene expression depending on genome features of**

interest. The genes were classified owing their mean (upper panel) or their

minimal of maximal (lower panel) expression level in all studied conditions, as described in panel A. The table presents the statistical analysis of the data (Fisher's exact test for count data).

C. **Multidimensional analysis (overlay factor map) of genomic and transcriptomic data.** The squares and triangles correspond to genomic and transcriptomic features of interest, respectively (see abbreviations below). The closer the squares or triangles are to the origin of the graph, the closer they are likely to be to the mean data. Proximity between triangles or between squares indicates similarity. A small angle (*e.g.* less than 30°) connecting a triangle and a square to the origin indicate that they are probably associated. If they are located at the opposite, they are probably negatively associated. The proximity between the variables 'SMBGCs' and 'Switch' is due to the fact that a high proportion (19.3 %) of the SMBGC genes switched on at the transcriptional level in at least one studied condition (compared to 4.4 % at the level of the whole genome, odds ratios 5.2, *p*-value < $2.2.10^{-16}$; 7.6 % of genes within GIs, odds ratios 2.9, *p*-value $2.2.10^{-9}$, Fisher's exact test for count data).

Genomic feature abbreviations: 'Actino. Sign. CDSs' (coding sequences of the actinobacterial signature); 'Chr.' (whole chromosome); 'Func. RNA (-rRNA)' (Functional RNA excluded rRNA); GIs (genes belonging to genomic islands); 'Persist.$_{0.95}$ CDSs' (coding sequences of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 presenting a gene persistence superior to 95 % in 124 other *Streptomyces* genomes); 'Transl. CDSs' (genes encoding functions involved in translation process and/or RNA stability); NAP (nucleoid associated protein); SMBGCs (specialized metabolite BGCs).

Expression feature abbreviations: 'AS < 0.05' and 'AS > 0.5' correspond to very low (below 0.05) or very high (above 0.5) antisense-transcription indices. 'Max', 'Mean' and 'Min' refer to the maximal, mean and minimal expression levels in all studied condition, from the lowest category ('0') to the highest ('4'). 'Switch' correspond to the expression level switch from CAT_0 in at least one condition to CAT_3 or more in another condition.

D. **Correlation between gene persistence and the transcription in sense orientation.** The correlation between gene persistence and the mean number of counts (normalized by DESeq2 and on gene size, RPK) in sense- orientation for each gene (over all studied conditions) was analyzed by a Spearman's rank correlation test (not sensitive to the log2 conversion of the data).

E. **Correlation between sense- and antisense-transcriptions.** The correlation between the mean number of counts (normalized by DESeq2 and on gene size, RPK) in sense- and antisense- orientation for each gene (over all studied conditions) was analyzed by a Spearman's rank correlation test (not sensitive to the log2 conversion of the data).

F. **Boxplot presenting the antisense index over growth in MP5 medium depending on feature of interest.** The distribution of the antisense index defined as the number of counts in antisense over total counts (in sense- and antisense- orientation) is presented depending on the genome features of interest (see panel C for abbreviations). For clarity outliers were excluded from this graphical representation (but were taken into account for the numerical exploitation of the data). The significant differences by Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction are indicated by asterisks (*, $p < 0.05$;

**, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$), in grey when comparing results after 24 h *versus*

48 h of growth for a given genome feature of interest, in violet and green

when comparing a genome feature of interest to the whole set of

chromosomal genes after 24 h *versus* 48 h of growth, respectively.

Extended Data Figure 3: Data exploration linking the chromosome architecture,

transcription and gene persistence

A. **Contact probability, *P(s)*, plotted as a function of genomic distance in**

exponential phase in YEME medium (C6 condition). The plot represent the

intra-chromosomal contact probability, *P(s)*, for pairs of loci separated by a

genomic distance (in base pairs) on the chromosome, showing that the

probability of contact extends up to approximately 1 Mb. The results of two

replicates (#1 and #2) are presented.

B. **Derivative of the contact matrix for exponentially growing WT cells**. The

map shows for each genome locus the tendency of contact frequencies to go

downwards or upwards. Boundaries are visualized as the black vertices of the

squares along the diagonal. Regions with no upstream/downstream bias show

no squares (*e.g.* terminal regions).

C. **Boxplot presenting the antisense index over growth depending of genes**

depending on their architectural location. The distribution of the antisense

index defined as the number of counts in antisense over total counts (in sense-

and antisense- orientation) is presented depending on the location of the genes

(within boundaries or domains). For clarity, outliers were excluded from this

graphical representation (but were taken into account for the numerical

exploitation of the data). The significant differences by Wilcoxon rank sum test

with continuity correction (boundaries *versus* domains) are indicated by asterisks (***, $p < 0.001$).

D. **Contact probability, *P(s)*, of the left, central and right compartments plotted as a function of genomic distance**. The plot represents the intra-chromosomal contact probability, *P(s)*, for pairs of loci separated by a genomic distance (in base pairs) on the three compartments.

E. **Dispersion index, *Var(s)/P(s)*, of the left, central and right compartments plotted as a function of genomic distance in YEME after 24 h of growth (C6 condition).** The index of dispersion (Var(s)/P(s)) reflects the range of variations relative to the mean value as a function of the genome distance for the contact maps obtained for cells grown 24 h in YEME medium. Long-range DNA contacts within the terminal compartments (> 100 kbp) are more variable than within the central compartment.

Supplementary Figure 1: Size distribution of *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 GIs

Using a minimal threshold of 15 CDS within the synteny break in at least one of the compared genome, 50 GIs (composed of 2 to 158 CDSs) and 22 insertion points (≤ 1 CDS within the synteny break) were identified in *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 genome.

Supplementary Figure 2: Transcriptomes over growth of the four biosynthetic gene clusters encoding all known antibacterial activities of *Streptomyces ambofaciens* ATCC 23877

The genes expressed at the highest level is boxed in red for the congocidine, spiramycin and kinamycin BGCs. They correspond to *cgc1* (SAM23877_RS39345,

encoding a transcriptional regulator), *srmB* (SAM23877_RS26680, encoding the

ABC-F type ribosomal protection protein SrmB) and *alpZ* (SAM23877_RS00890,

encoding a transcriptional regulator) genes, respectively. The gene encoding SrmS

(SAM23877_RS26595), the transcriptional regulator of the spiramycin BGC, is boxed

in black. The dots are joined by a line for clarity (but the lines do neither report a real

observation nor a model).

Supplementary Figure 3: 3C-contact-maps for *S. ambofaciens* grown in the studied conditions

    A. Replicate of cells after 24 h in YEME growth medium, C6 condition

    B. Replicate of after 24 h in MP5 growth medium, C1 condition

    C. Replicate of after 48 h in MP5 growth medium, C4 condition. The violet and pink arrows indicate the location of boundaries formed at desferrioxamin and congocidine BGCs, respectively.

    D. Results of the frontier index analysis including peaks that do not form boundaries. This panel presents the frontier index analysis of the 3C-maps presented in **Fig.3** and **Fig.4**, showing single peaks that where not considered as indicative of a boundary. At each locus, two indices are computed, reflecting the intensity of the loss of contact frequencies when going downwards (green peaks) or upwards (orange peaks), respectively, to the locus. A boundary is defined as any bin in which there is a change in the right bias of contacts towards the left bias (± 2 bin, green and orange peaks, respectively). The detection of bins with only an upstream or a downstream significant peak reflects the intrinsically noisy nature of 3C-seq data.

Supplementary table 1: Collection of 125 *Streptomyces* genomes used in this study

Name: Species name

Genome Assembly ID: Unique identifier used in the NCBI Genome Assembly database

Chromosome length (bp): Chromosome length expressed in bp

Plasmid length (bp): Cumulative length of plasmids [Number of plasmids] expressed in bp

CDSs nb: Number of CDSs in chromosome [CDSs in plasmids]

TIR length (bp): Size of one copy of a TIR expressed in bp.

Supplementary table 2: List of the GIs identified in *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 genome

Supplementary table 3: Gene distribution in the central region *versus* the extremities (defined by the first and last rDNA operons) of *Streptomyces ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 chromosome depending on features of interest

Supplementary table 4: List of the SMBGCs identified in *S. ambofaciens* ATCC 23877 genome

Supplementary table 5: Overall results from the comparative genomics, RNA-seq and 3C-seq analyses

ID: Gene identifier (NCBI annotation).

SUPPORT: genetic support, either chromosome (CHR) or pSAM1 plasmid.

TIR: 'TIR' if the gene is located within a TIR, 'NA' otherwise.

START: start position of the gene on the genetic support.

END: end position of the gene on the genetic support.

STRAND: orientation of the gene on the genetic support.

REPLICATION_ORIENTATION: orientation of the gene regarding the origin of replication, either on the "leading" or the "lagging" strand.

GENE_SIZE: size of the gene (in bp).

Protein_ID: Protein identifier (NCBI annotation).

GO_ID: Gene product identifier (Uniprot or RNA Central, suitable for GO analysis).

Gene_Name: Gene name (from NCBI and manual annotation from SMBGCs encoding known antibiotics).

UNIPROT_Gene_Name: Uniprot gene name, old locus tag.

Product (NCBI annotation): Product annotation from NCBI.

Product (Uniprot annotation): Product annotation from Uniprot.

ACTINO_SIGN: 'ACTINO_SIGN' if the gene encodes a protein of the actinobacterial signature, 'NA' otherwise.

CORE: 'CORE' if the gene belongs to the core CDSs identified by comparing 125 *Streptomyces* genomes (see Methods section for details, as well as Supplementary Table 1).

PERSIST95: 'PERSIST95' if the gene persistence is superior to 95 %, 'NOT_PERSIST95' otherwise.

GI: annotation as to whether or not the gene belongs to a GI (see details about GI

names on Supplementary Table 2).

Strain-specific_CDSs: 'UNIQ' if the gene is only present in *S. ambofaciens*

ATCC23877 (in a panel of 125 *Streptomyces* genomes described in Supplementary

Table 1), 'NOT_UNIQ' otherwise.

Func_RNA: annotation as to whether or not the gene encodes a functional RNA

(tRNA, tmRNA, SRP RNA, RNAse P RNA) excluding rRNA.

Transl._CDS: 'translation' if the CDS encodes a function related to translation and/or

RNA stability, 'NA' otherwise

NAP: 'NAP' if the gene encodes a nucleoid-associated protein or a chromosome

structural protein and/or a protein experimentally found associated to *Streptomyces*

chromatin (see Methods for details), 'NA' otherwise.

SMBGC: annotation as to whether or not the gene belongs to a SMBGC (see details

about SMBGC names on Supplementary Table 4).

pSAM2: 'pSAM2' if the gene belongs to pSAM2 integrative plasmid, 'NA' otherwise.

PROPHAGE: 'PROPHAGE' if the gene belongs to the prophage integrated in *S.*

ambofaciens ATCC23877 genome, 'NA' otherwise

PERSIST_INDEX: Persistence index (N_{orth}/N, where N_{orth} is the number of genomes

carrying a given orthologue and N the number of genomes searched, 124 in our

case)

'SENSE' columns: Number of normalized counts (DESeq2 normalization and

normalized on gene size) per kb for each gene in the sense orientation, as the mean

of the number of counts in all tested conditions ('SENSE_Mean') or of the replicates

in each condition considered individually ('SENSE_C1' to 'SENSE_C7')

'ANTISENSE_INDEX' columns: Number of reads in the antisense orientation over

the total (sense plus antisense) number of reads for each gene in all tested conditions

('ANTISENSE_INDEX_Mean') or in each condition considered individually

('ANTISENSE_INDEX _C1' to 'ANTISENSE_INDEX _C7')

'DIFF' columns: annotation as to whether or not the gene is statistically differentially

expressed compared to C1 condition, with an adjusted p value $\leq$ 0.05 ('DIFF0.05'),

0.01 ('DIFF0.01') or 0.001 ('DIFF0.001').

'CAT' columns: Gene expression level category in all tested conditions ('CAT

_Mean'), in each condition considered individually ('CAT _C1' to 'CAT _C7'), maximal

category in all tested conditions ('CAT_MAX') and minimal category in all tested

conditions ('CAT_MIN').

SWITCH: annotation as to whether or not the gene expression level switches from

CAT_0 to a maximal CAT_3 ('SWITCH0->3') or CAT_4 ('SWITCH0->4') category,

when considering all studied conditions.

'BORDER' columns: annotation as to whether or not the gene belongs to a boundary

observed on the map contact obtained in C1 ('C1_BORDER'), C4 ('C4_BORDER')

and/or C6 condition ('C4_BORDER'). The boundaries are numbered according to their

order in the genome. 'rRNA' indicates that the boundary also contains an rDNA operon.

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Table 1: Growth conditions used to performed -omics analyses

Conditions	Media	Brief description	Time (h)	Antibacterial activity[*]
C1	MP5	Liquid medium based on yeast extract containing glycerol (3.6 %), $NaNO_3$ (1 g/l), MOPS - optimized for congocidine and spiramycin production	24	-
C2			30	-
C3			36	-
C4			48	++
C5			72	+++
C6	YEME	Liquid medium based on yeast extract containing saccharose (10.3 %), glucose (1 %), and malt extract	24	-
C7			48	+

[*]Size of the inhibition halo: "-" (no detectable inhibition), "+" (< 20 mm), "++" (]20; 30] mm), "+++" (> 30 mm) – See **Extended Data Fig.1B.**

Figure 3

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.