

1 **Signatures of kin selection in a natural population of the bacteria *Bacillus***
2 ***subtilis***

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42 **Abstract**

43 Laboratory experiments have suggested that bacteria perform a range of cooperative
44 behaviours, which are favoured because they are directed towards relatives (kin selection).
45 However, there is a lack of evidence for cooperation and kin selection in natural bacterial
46 populations. Molecular population genetics offers a promising method to study natural
47 populations, because theory predicts that kin selection will lead to relaxed selection, which will
48 result in increased polymorphism and divergence at cooperative genes. Examining a natural
49 population of *Bacillus subtilis*, we found consistent evidence that putatively cooperative traits
50 have higher polymorphism and greater divergence than putatively private traits expressed at
51 the same rate. In addition, we were able to eliminate alternative explanations for these patterns,
52 and found more deleterious mutations in genes controlling putatively cooperative traits.
53 Overall, our results suggest cooperation favoured by kin selection, with an average relatedness
54 of $r=0.77$ between interacting individuals.

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57 **Introduction**

58 Laboratory studies have suggested that bacteria cooperate in a diversity of ways (1, 2).
59 Individual cells produce and secrete molecules to collectively scavenge nutrients, fight
60 antibiotics, and move through their environment (3–5). This cooperation is however vulnerable
61 to cheating by non-producers, who withhold their own cooperation whilst benefiting from that
62 of others (6). A resolution to this vulnerability is kin selection, where cooperation is favoured
63 because the benefits of cooperation go to related cells which share the gene for cooperation (7).
64 Laboratory experiments have also supported a role of kin selection, with experimental
65 evolution, and by showing how clonal growth makes neighbouring cells highly related, and
66 limited diffusion keeps secreted molecules in the neighbourhood (3, 8–11).

67

68 In contrast, there is little evidence for cooperation and kin selection in natural populations of
69 bacteria (12–15). The extent to which bacteria cooperate and interact with close relatives is
70 likely to be highly dependent upon environmental conditions. It is hard to know whether the
71 artificial environments and gene knockouts of lab experiments are representative of natural
72 populations. Experiments have also shown that some traits can be cooperative in some
73 environments but private in others (16). Across species comparative studies have shown that
74 cooperation is more common in species where relatedness is higher (17, 18), but this doesn't

75 help us determine whether specific traits are evolving as cooperative public goods. For this, we
76 need a way to study bacteria in their natural environment.

77

78 Molecular population genetics offers a promising method to test for cooperation and kin
79 selection in natural populations. Theory predicts that kin selection leaves a distinct signature
80 (footprint) of selection in genomes (Figure 1) (19–23). If a gene encodes a trait that provides a
81 direct benefit to the individual performing that trait, then the cells which perform that trait carry
82 the gene for that trait. Similarly, in a clonal population, relatedness between cells is $r = 1$, and
83 so the cells which benefit from cooperation also carry the cooperative gene. If instead,
84 relatedness between cells is $r < 1$, the cells which benefit from cooperation won't always carry
85 the gene for cooperation. This dilution of the benefit of cooperation leads to relaxed (reduced)
86 selection, relative to directly beneficial traits or in a clonal population ($r = 1$).

87

88 The relaxed selection when $r < 1$ results in an increased probability of fixation for deleterious
89 mutations, and a decreased probability of fixation for beneficial mutations (14-16). The
90 consequence of this change in fixation probabilities, when $r < 1$, is that it would lead to increased
91 polymorphism and divergence in cooperative genes relative to genes that have direct fitness
92 effects (Figure 1). Consequently, by examining patterns of polymorphism and divergence, we
93 can test for signatures of cooperation favoured by kin selection. This method has been applied
94 in microbes to the social amoeba *Dictyostelium discoideum* with mixed results, although
95 relatedness is close to $r = 1$ in that species, and so we might not expect to a significant signature
96 of kin selection (24–27). We have also previously applied this method to the opportunistic
97 pathogen *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and found evidence for cooperative traits favoured by kin
98 selection (28). A key advantage of this method is that it solves the problem caused by traits that
99 are only cooperative in certain contexts, as the signature of selection will represent the average
100 conditions experienced over time.

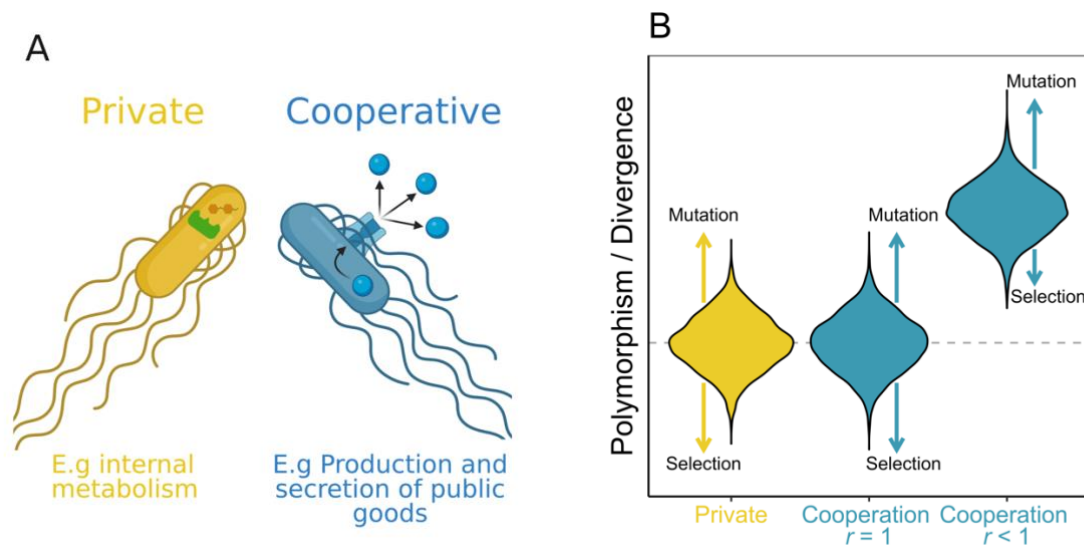


Figure 1: Population genetic theory for cooperative traits. (A) Representation of the categorisation of traits as private (yellow) or cooperative (blue). Cooperative traits involve the production and secretion of molecules whose fitness benefits are shared with other nearby cells. Private traits are those whose fitness benefits are only felt by the individuals expressing the trait (B) Prediction for relative polymorphism and divergence for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes. If relatedness, $r=1$, then cooperative genes (middle blue violin) should have the same polymorphism and divergence as private genes (left yellow violin). In contrast, if $r<1$ then cooperative genes (right blue violin) should show greater polymorphism and divergence than private genes. Figure based on (19, 21).

101 However, there were two potential problems with the only previous analysis with bacteria, on
102 *P. aeruginosa* (28). Firstly, the genomes had been collected over several decades, and from six
103 different continents. The underlying population genetic theory assumes that all genomes are
104 sampled from a single population, at a single time point. Violating this assumption could have
105 led to biased or spurious results (29). Secondly, we were unable to directly control for gene
106 expression. If a gene is only occasionally expressed, in certain conditions, then this can also
107 lead to relaxed selection, with increased polymorphism and divergence (21). Belcher *et al.*
108 lacked data on gene expression, and so controlled for this problem by making targeted
109 comparisons between cooperative and private traits that they argued were likely to be expressed
110 at different rates (28). If their assumptions did not hold, and expression rates differed, then then
111 their patterns could alternatively be explained by gene expression rather than kin selection for
112 cooperation.

113

114 We were able to address these problems by taking advantage of two recently developed data
115 sets in the bacteria *Bacillus subtilis*. *B. subtilis* is found in soil and the gastrointestinal tracts of
116 several animals, including humans, and is used on an industrial scale by biotechnology

117 companies (30). A number of laboratory studies have suggested that *B. subtilis* is a highly
118 cooperative species, which secretes a number of potentially cooperative enzymes (31–34).
119 First, we used a natural population consisting of 31 environmental isolates collected as part of
120 a citizen science project in Dundee, Scotland (35) (Supplementary Table 1). All of these strains
121 were collected from the wild around the same time, and from similar niches. Second, we were
122 able to directly control for gene expression rates, by using two genome-wide studies of gene
123 expression across several timepoints during biofilm formation (36, 37). Taken together, these
124 studies allow us to satisfy the assumptions of the underlying population genetic theory.

125

126 **Results & Discussion**

127

128 We compared genes controlling traits that are hypothesised to be cooperative, with traits that
129 are hypothesised to be private. We identified six different types of putatively cooperative
130 behaviour, where an appropriate comparison could be made with genes controlling private
131 traits, that are likely to be expressed at similar rates (Table 1). We used the first type, quorum
132 sensing (QS), for the main analysis, and we summarise the other five types at the end of the
133 results section.

134

135 *Quorum Sensing*

136 We started by examining genes induced by the ComQXPA quorum sensing (QS) signalling
137 system (33, 34). This system regulates gene expression in response to the density of a diffusible
138 signal molecule. At high cell densities, the density of the signal molecule increases, causing
139 ComA to activate, and the upregulation of a number of traits (38–41). We categorized genes as
140 cooperative or private based on a search of the literature in *B. subtilis* (Methods). For example,
141 the fifteen genes coding for the exopolysaccharide EPS are classed as cooperative. EPS is the
142 main biofilm matrix component (42), and is required for biofilm formation (43). EPS is costly
143 to produce, it provides benefits to non-producers, and non-producers can exploit producers
144 (44). This is a classic public good. Similarly, TasA, a protein fibre that is needed for biofilm
145 structural integrity (45, 46), has also been shown in lab experiments to be a public good (32).
146 Mutants lacking either EPS or TasA can also complement each other, private further evidence
147 that the benefits of these genes are shared (47). Private genes include those coding for traits
148 such as asparagine synthase (AsnB), which controls peptidoglycan hydrolysis for cell growth
149 and cell-wall synthesis (48).. We found that quorum sensing controls a mixture of private and

150 cooperative traits in *B. bacillus*, categorizing N=25 of our quorum sensing-controlled genes as
151 cooperative, and N=153 as private (Supplementary Table 2).

152 We started by focusing on quorum sensing because it offers a number of advantages for our
153 purpose. First, the large size and nature of this network means that there are sufficient private
154 and cooperative genes for a targeted analysis (N=153 & N=25 respectively). Second, shared
155 control by the same signalling system means that private and cooperative genes controlled by
156 the quorum sensing system are likely to have similar levels of expression (49, 50).. Third, there
157 is data on gene expression allowing us to directly compare expression rates (36). Fourth, the
158 coregulation of genes acts as a control for mutations in noncoding regulatory and promoter
159 regions that could affect the production of cooperative public goods.

160
161 *QS: Controlling for conditional expression*

162
163 Differential gene expression can also influence the strength of selection and so needs to be
164 controlled for. Theory tells us that the fraction of generations in which a trait is expressed can
165 determine the extent to which selection is relaxed (21). To control for this, we need to compare
166 genes that are switched on or off in the same conditions. Shared control by the same signalling
167 system means that private and cooperative genes controlled by the quorum sensing system are
168 likely to have similar levels of expression. We were, however, also able to test this assumption
169 directly by examining two data sets on gene expression (36, 37). Gene expression depends
170 strongly upon environmental conditions and so there is no single rate of gene expression for
171 each gene.

172
173 Futo *et al.* measured gene expression at 11 different points in the formation of a biofilm, and
174 normalised their results to the median to convert expression levels to the same scale (36). This
175 gives us an excellent dataset to test our control for conditional expression, as we can use simple
176 correlations between pairs of genes to see if they are up- and down-regulated at the same time.
177 For our 178 private and cooperative genes, there are 15753 unique pairs of genes. The average
178 correlation in gene expression for a pair of these genes is 0.302 (Spearman's correlation). We
179 then used a bootstrap approach to see if this correlation was greater or lower than for randomly
180 chosen genes. We took a random set of 178 genes and calculate mean pairwise correlation in
181 the same way, and repeated 10000 times. We found that the mean pairwise Spearman's
182 correlation was 0.251 for the random (bootstrap) samples, and that the correlation in expression

183 of our quorum sensing-controlled genes was higher than 99.7% of our bootstrap samples
184 (Figure 2). Consequently, our candidate set of genes have expression rates that are correlated
185 significantly higher than expected by chance, supporting our choice for their use in an analysis
186 of signature of selection ($p < 0.004$).

187

188 Pisithkul provided a different dataset measuring gene-expression in biofilms (37). Whereas
189 Futo measured expression over two months in a biofilm with a solid-air interface, Pisithkul
190 focussed on the initial stages of biofilm growth, measuring expression over 24 hours in a
191 biofilm with a liquid--air interface. We again found that quorum sensing-controlled genes have
192 expression rates that are correlated significantly higher than expected by chance ($N=160$ genes,
193 $p < 0.02$; Supplement S11).

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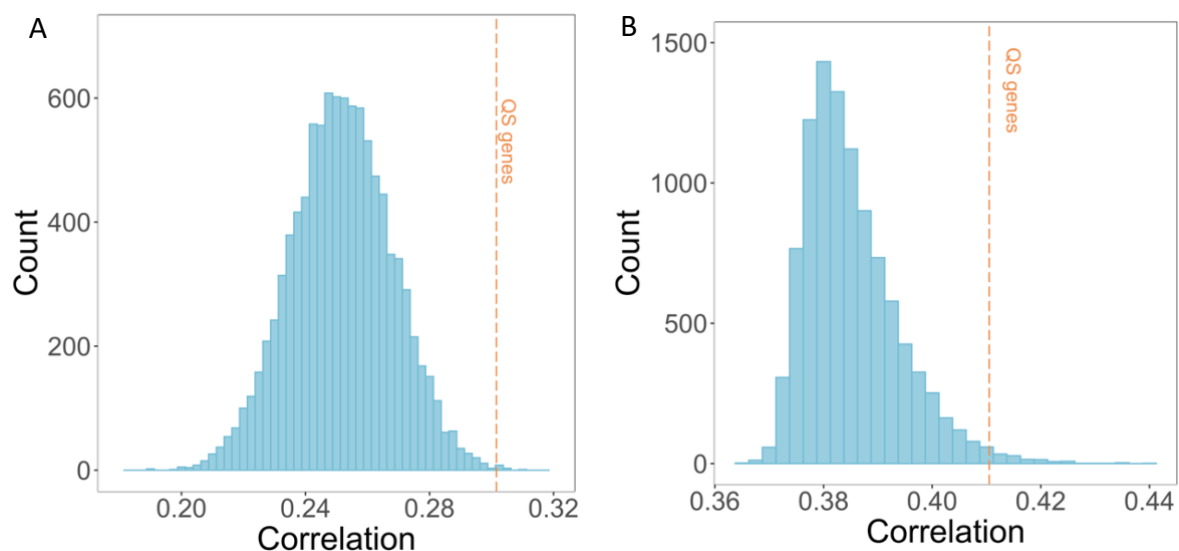


Figure 2: Average correlation in gene expression between genes during biofilm growth. **(A)** Correlation across 11 timepoints of biofilm formation for randomly sampled gene sets of the same size as our quorum sensing-controlled genes ($N=178$). Data from Futo et al. (2021).

(B) Correlation across 8 timepoints of biofilm formation for randomly sampled gene sets of the same size as our quorum sensing-controlled genes ($N=160$). Data from Pisithkul et al. (2019). In both panels, the orange line shows the average correlation for the quorum sensing-controlled genes, which is $>99.7\%$ of our random samples for panel A, and $>98.5\%$ of random samples for panel B.

195

196 *QS: Polymorphism*

197

198 We found that genes for putatively cooperative traits had significantly greater polymorphism
199 than genes for private traits (Figure 3; ANOVA $F_{2,61} = 11.82, p < 0.0001$; Games Howell Test
200 $p < 0.001$; $N=25$ cooperative genes, $N=153$ private genes). Cooperative genes also had
201 significantly greater polymorphism when we only examined only non-synonymous sites

202 (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 10.7, p < 0.01$; Dunn Test $p=0.0240$. Figure 4a), or only synonymous
203 sites (ANOVA $F_{2,61} = 7.30, p < 0.01$; Games Howell Test $p=0.007$) (Figure 4b).

204

205 The trend for greater synonymous polymorphism is possibly surprising as such sites should be
206 under much weaker selection, and we wouldn't necessarily expect to see an effect of kin
207 selection. However we also found this pattern in *P. aeruginosa* (28). There is some evidence
208 that differences in use of preferred codons between cooperative and private genes could explain
209 this pattern (Supplement S1). Synonymous mutations can also have substantial fitness effects
210 on social traits (51–54).

211

212 The ratio between non-synonymous and polymorphism does not differ between cooperative
213 and private genes (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 6.97, p = 0.0306$; Dunn Test $p=0.183$.
214 Supplementary Figure 1), which reflects the fact that cooperative genes have elevated diversity
215 at both types of site, possibly due to the large fitness effects of many traits (both cooperative
216 and private) that are quorum sensing-controlled (55, 56) (Supplement S2).

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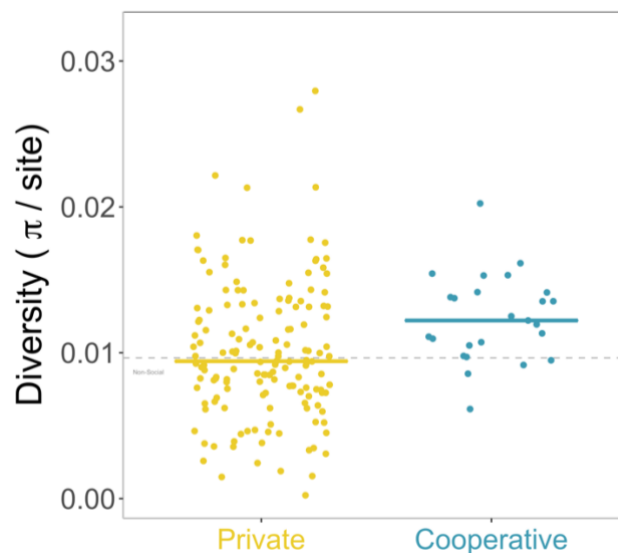


Figure 3: Nucleotide diversity per site for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes controlled by quorum sensing. Each point is a gene, and the horizontal line shows the median for each group. The grey line shows the median for background private genes across the genome.

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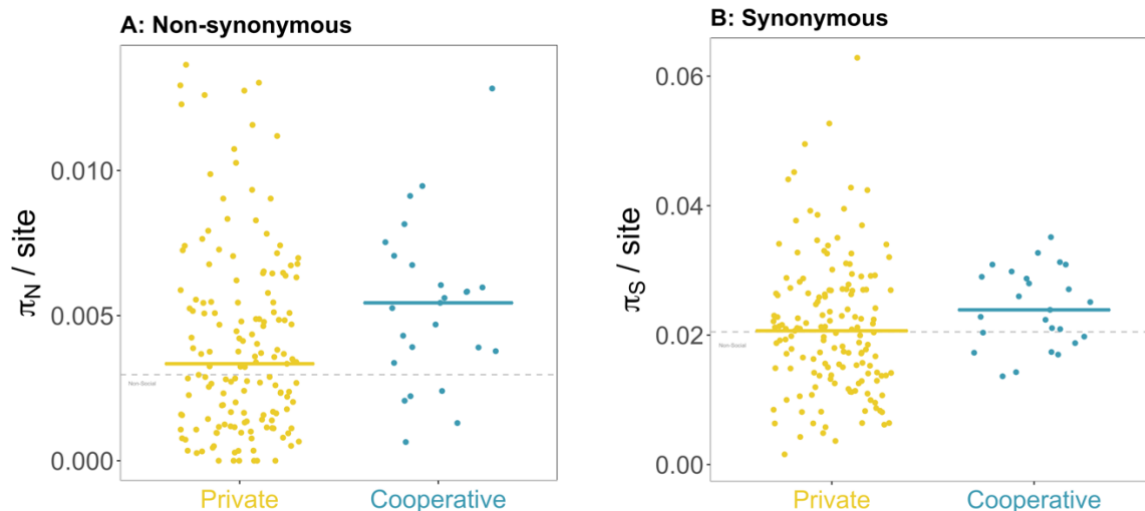


Figure 4: Nucleotide diversity at non-synonymous (A) and synonymous (B) sites for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes controlled by quorum sensing. Each point is a gene, and the horizontal line shows the median for each group. The grey line shows the median for background private genes across the genome.

222

223 As an additional control, we were able to repeat all of these analyses comparing cooperative
224 quorum sensing genes against a different group of private genes not controlled by quorum
225 sensing (N=1832). This different set of N=1832 private genes, which we call ‘background
226 genes’ are those which aren’t controlled by quorum sensing and whose products are found in
227 the cytoplasm, where they are least likely to have a cooperative function. In all cases we found
228 the same pattern, with cooperative quorum-sensing genes showing elevated polymorphism
229 compared to background genes (Supplement S2).

230

231 *QS: Divergence*

232

233 We found that cooperative genes had significantly greater divergence compared to private
234 genes at both at non-synonymous and synonymous sites (Non-synonymous: Kruskal-Wallis
235 $\chi^2(2) = 10.4, p = 0.006$; Dunn Test $p=0.00553$; Figure 5a; Synonymous: ANOVA $F_{2,59} =$
236 $7.26, p < 0.01$; Games Howell Test $p=0.011$; Figure 5b). We examined synonymous and non-
237 synonymous sites separately because we measure divergence through rates of protein
238 evolution. A signature of selection can be found at both synonymous and non-synonymous
239 sites, implying that synonymous variation is not neutral (26, 28). Because divergence is
240 elevated at both types of site (similar to polymorphism), there is no difference in the ratio of
241 non-synonymous to synonymous divergence (Kruskal-Wallis $\chi^2(2) = 13.32, p = 0.00128$;
242 Dunn Test $p=0.189$. Supplementary Figure 2), although both sets of quorum sensing genes
243 have a higher ratio than the background genes (Supplement S2). This could reflect stronger
244 selection on quorum sensing traits than background traits on average.

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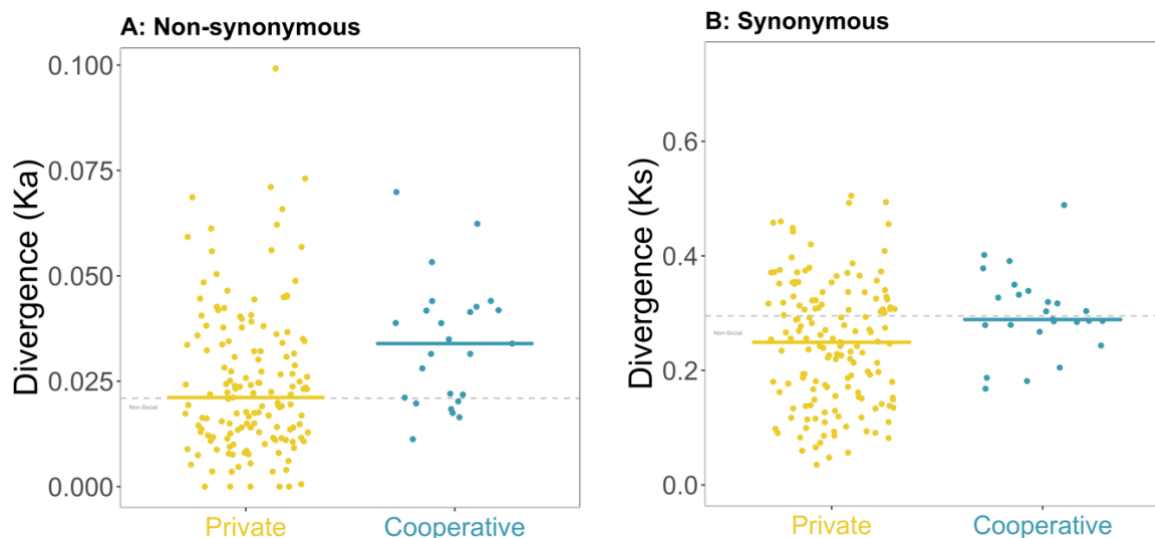


Figure 5: Divergence at non-synonymous (A) and synonymous (B) sites for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes controlled by quorum sensing. Divergence is measured by rates of protein evolution, e.g. number of synonymous substitutions per synonymous site for panel B. Each point is a gene, and the horizontal line shows the median for each group. The grey line shows the median for background private genes across the genome.

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247

248 *Alternative hypotheses*

249

250 We were also able to eliminate alternative explanations for the patterns that we observed with
251 both polymorphism and divergence (Figures 3-5). Greater polymorphism would also have been
252 expected if cooperative genes were more likely to be experiencing balancing or frequency
253 dependent selection, while greater divergence would arise from positive/directional selection
254 leading to fixation of adaptive mutations (19, 20). Alternatively, the pattern we observed could
255 have been caused by other differences between putatively cooperative and private genes. We
256 assessed these alternative hypotheses by testing other predictions that they make.

257

258 First, we found no evidence that cooperative genes were more likely to be under balancing
259 selection, which would lead to a deficit of rare alleles in the population (Tajima's D, Fu & Li's
260 F, Fu & Li's D, Supplement S3). Second, we found no evidence that cooperative genes are
261 more likely to be under positive selection, which would lead to an excess of non-synonymous
262 divergence compared to non-synonymous polymorphism, as adaptive mutations would quickly
263 spread and only be detected as divergence (McDonald-Kreitman test, Neutrality Index,
264 Direction of Selection statistic, Supplement S4). Third, we found no evidence that the patterns
265 observed are due to any differences in gene length or likelihood of horizontal gene transfer
266 between cooperative and private genes, or a lack of statistical power (Supplement S5). Fourth,

267 we found no evidence that our results could be explained by noise due to variation in the
268 recombination rate. The set of strains that we analysed vary in genetic competence, the ability
269 to take up DNA from the environment (35), which is a form of recombination in bacteria. This
270 variation in competency could create noise in our population genetic measures that focus on
271 SNPs, due to the variation in recombination. Considering the 31 strains we analysed, 18 are
272 genetically competent (35). We conducted an analysis of polymorphism and divergence using
273 only the competent strains, and found the same patterns as when we use all strains (Supplement
274 S7).

275
276 Finally, we found no evidence that the patterns we observed could be caused by division of
277 labour (57–60), which is a cooperative hypothesis not mutually exclusive with kin selection.
278 In *B. subtilis* biofilms, some cells will produce the polysaccharide EPS, and some will produce
279 TasA amyloid fibres (61). Mutants lacking cannot grow alone but can grow together (32). The
280 extra level of conditional expression in these public goods (over that caused by being quorum
281 sensing-controlled), could leave a signature of relaxed selection that isn't caused by kin
282 selection. To investigate this possibility, we took advantage of the fact that this heterogeneity
283 is ultimately caused by Spo0A. Spo0A is a bistable switch that is active in only a subset of cells
284 (61, 62) and activates SinR anti-repressors which control the operons for both EPS and TasA
285 (32, 63, 64). If the extra conditionality of division of labour was causing an effect, we would
286 expect that genes under the control of Spo0A (N=20) would have greater polymorphism than
287 other quorum sensing-controlled genes (N=157), but this is not the case (Supplement S6). We
288 note that the cooperative genes EPS and TasA that are known to have division of labour both
289 stand out as highly polymorphic within the genes controlled by Spo0A, providing support to
290 our hypothesis that sociality causes the effect. We note that the cooperative genes EPS and
291 TasA that are known to have division of labour both stand out as highly polymorphic within
292 the genes controlled by Spo0A, providing support to our hypothesis that sociality causes the
293 effect.

294 295 *Other Cooperative Traits*

296
297 Our above analyses have provided strong evidence for relaxed selection due to kin selection
298 for cooperation, considering genes controlled by quorum sensing. We then tested if the same
299 pattern was found in five other types (groups) of traits, where we could compare genes for
300 putatively private and cooperative traits, that are likely to be expressed at similar rates (Table
301 1; Figure 6). The extent to which the distinction between private and cooperative traits can be

302 made varies across these other groups of traits. Consequently, we might not expect to see a
303 signature of kin selection in every case, and so our aim is to see if there is a relatively consistent
304 pattern.

305

306 First, *B. subtilis* produces and secretes a siderophore named bacillibactin, which binds to iron
307 in the environment (65, 66) (Figure 6b). The bound complex can be taken into the cell, but is
308 also available to non-producers, and is therefore a public good. We separated the genes
309 involved in the bacillibactin pathway into cooperative and private components, with: genes
310 involved in biosynthesis and export classed as cooperative, and those involved in uptake and
311 release of bound iron classed as private. Second, *B. subtilis* exhibits resistance to antimicrobials
312 by either pumping intact antibiotics outside the cell (private), or by producing enzymes such
313 as beta-lactamases that detoxify the environment for the entire community (67–69)
314 (cooperative; Figure 6c).

315

316 Third, *B. subtilis* produces proteases to break down proteins, with different proteases acting
317 either inside the cell (private), or secreted to act outside the cell (70–72) (cooperative; Figure
318 6d). Fourth, *B. subtilis* produces toxins which can either be contact-dependant (relatively
319 private), or diffusible throughout the community (cooperative public goods; Figure 4d).
320 However, this comparison is relative, and possibly weak, as killing cells with contact-
321 dependant toxins can also provide a cooperative benefit to other local cells, that experience
322 reduced competition. Fifth, *B. subtilis* has a number of antimicrobial traits which are more
323 defensive against predators without affecting the predators' growth (private) and those which
324 are more offensive against competitors (cooperative) (73, 74). This is also a weak comparison,
325 as bacillaene (the defensive molecule) is secreted from cells, and so likely also has some
326 cooperative component. However, the defensive traits provide a relatively more private benefit
327 in providing personal protection, whereas the removal of competitors by the offensive traits
328 provides a relatively more cooperative benefit. For all comparisons, we find that the set of
329 genes have significantly correlated expression, using the same methodology and data as for the
330 comparison with quorum sensing genes (Supplement S9) (36).

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335

336 **Table 1:** Traits used for comparisons of cooperative vs. private genes. The full gene lists are
 337 in supplementary tables 2-7.

Trait	Private genes	Cooperative genes
1. Quorum sensing traits	Genes which only affect the fitness of the producing cell (N=25)	Genes for public goods that potentially provide benefits to the local group of cells (N=153)
2. Iron scavenging	Genes for uptake and use of iron via the <i>B. subtilis</i> siderophore bacillibactin (N=5)	Genes for biosynthesis and secretion of bacillibactin (N=5)
3. Antimicrobial resistance	Genes for ABC transporters involved in multi-drug resistance. These genes transport the intact antibiotic outside the cell (N=11)	Genes for enzymes that deactivate beta-lactam and aminoglycoside antibiotics outside the cell (N=3)
4. Proteases	Genes for intracellular proteases, which are likely to be involved in processing and regulation of proteins within the cell (N=9)	Genes for extracellular proteases, which are likely to be involved in collective feeding and motility (N=8)
5. Toxins	Genes for contact-dependant LXG toxins, which are delivered by a Type VII secretion system (N=6)	Genes for the secreted toxin bacilysin, which is activate against a broad range of bacterial competitors (N=8)
6. Antimicrobial activity	Genes for the secondary metabolite bacillaene, which inhibits predation by <i>M. xanthus</i> (N=13)	Genes for the secondary metabolite plipistatin, which is active against fungal competitors (N=4)

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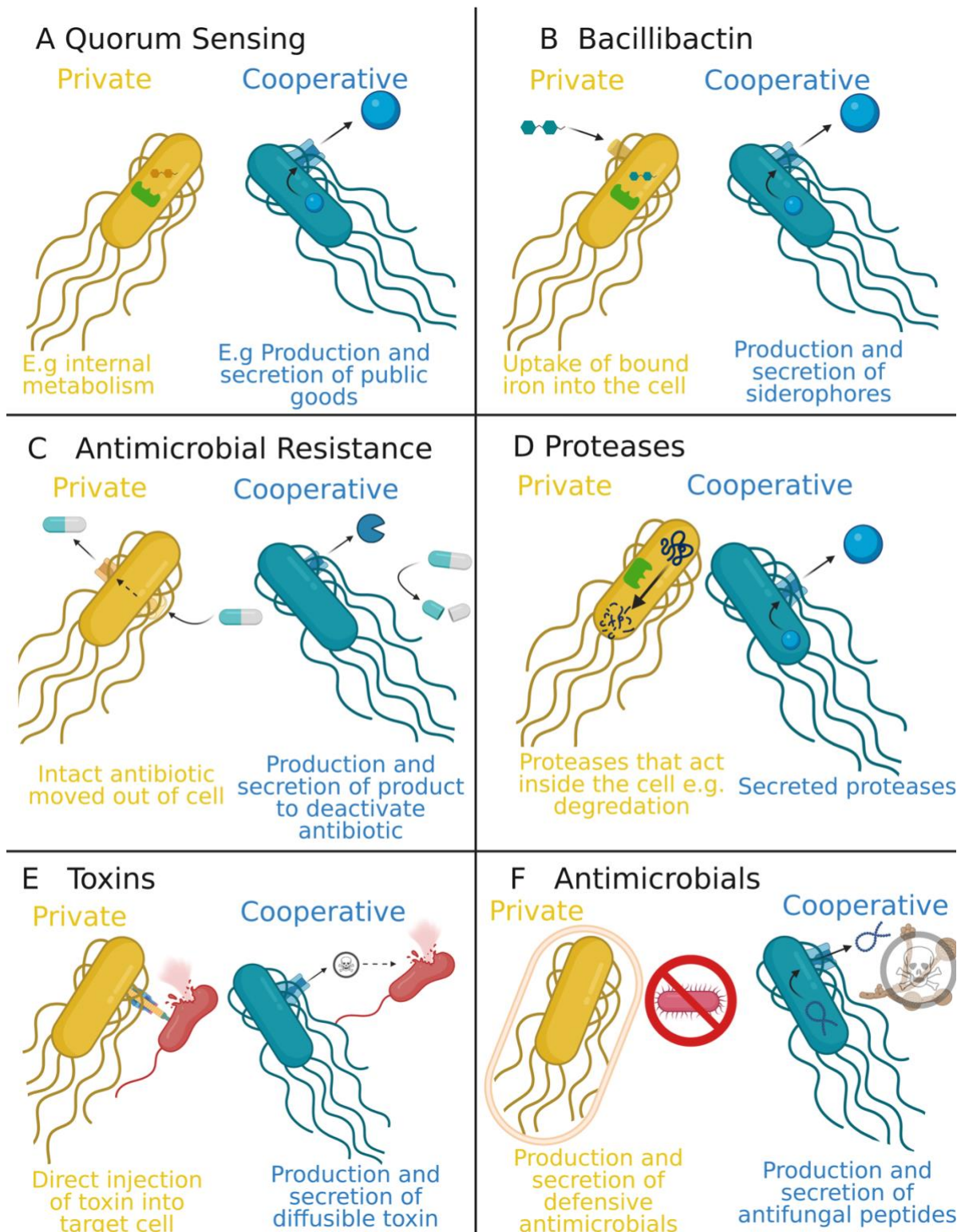


Figure 6: Diagram of how traits are categorised as either private (yellow) or cooperative (blue). Panel (A) shows categorisation of quorum sensing controlled traits for the main analysis, with private traits giving fitness benefits only to those expressing the gene, and cooperative traits giving fitness benefits that can potentially be shared with other cells. Panels B-F show other cooperative traits; (B) Bacillibactin (iron scavenging). (C) Antimicrobial resistance. (D) Proteases. (E) Toxins. (F) Antimicrobials. Note that for some of these comparisons it is the relative level of sociality that is different. Figure created with BioRender.com

339 The number of cooperative genes was too small to analyse each case separately – for example,
340 the iron-scavenging comparison involves only 10 genes (5 private and 5 cooperative).
341 Consequently, we examined the data in three ways. First, we grouped all cooperative genes
342 together into one set (N=52) and compared them to the grouped private genes across all
343 comparisons (N=194). Second, we grouped all of the cooperative genes from just the five new
344 comparisons (i.e. not quorum sensing) (N=27), and compared them to the private genes from
345 these five comparisons (N=41). Third, we consider each of the six categories of cooperative
346 vs. private genes (Table 1) as its own data point (N=6).

347

348 *Other Cooperative Traits: Polymorphism and divergence*

349

350 We found that polymorphism was consistently higher in cooperative genes than in private
351 genes (Figure 7). This pattern is consistent across the three different ways that we can analysed
352 our data: all genes comparison (ANOVA $F_{2,127} = 10.59, p < 0.0001$; Games Howell Test
353 $p < 0.001$); just the genes for the social traits other than quorum sensing (ANOVA $F_{2,47} =$
354 $5.94, p < 0.01$; Games Howell Test $p < 0.01$); and the six categories comparison (Wilcoxon
355 signed-rank test $V=21, p=0.031$).

356

357 Polymorphism at non-synonymous sites is also significantly higher in cooperative genes than
358 in all private genes. This pattern is consistent across the three different ways that we can
359 analysed our data: all genes comparison (Kruskal-Wallis $\chi^2(2) = 19.71, p <$
360 10^{-4} , Dunn Test $p < 10^{-4}$); just the genes for the social traits other than quorum sensing
361 (Kruskal-Wallis $\chi^2(2) = 9.90, p < 0.01$, Dunn Test $p < 0.01$); and the six categories comparison
362 (Wilcoxon $V=21, p=0.031$) (Supplementary Figure 3).

363

364 Polymorphism at synonymous sites is also significantly higher in all cooperative genes than in
365 all private genes when analysing all genes (ANOVA $F_{2,130} = 4.21, p = 0.016$; Games Howell
366 Test $p=0.019$). However, this trend was not significant when examining just the genes for the
367 social traits other than quorum sensing (ANOVA $F_{2,47} = 2.28, p = 0.113$; Games Howell Test
368 $p=0.10$), or when using categories as data points (synonymous polymorphism is marginally
369 higher in private genes than cooperative genes for the iron-scavenging and AMR categories;
370 Wilcoxon $V=18, p=0.156$). We would expect the pattern to be weaker with synonymous
371 polymorphism, as these sites are likely to be under weaker selection.

372

373 Non-synonymous divergence is significantly greater in all cooperative genes compared to all
374 private genes. This pattern is consistent across the three different ways that we can analysed
375 our data: all genes comparison (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 22.9$, $p < 10^{-4}$, Dunn Test $p < 10^{-4}$); the
376 genes for the social traits other than quorum sensing (Wilcoxon $V=21$, $p=0.031$ Supplementary
377 Figure 5); and the six categories comparison (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 14.7$, $p <$
378 0.001 , Dunn Test $p < 0.001$). As would be expected, the pattern is more mixed for synonymous
379 divergence. Whilst synonymous divergence is significantly greater in all cooperative genes
380 compared to all private genes (ANOVA $F_{2,125} = 8.33$, $p < 0.001$; Games Howell Test $p < 0.01$),
381 this isn't the case when examining just the genes for the social traits other than quorum sensing
382 (ANOVA $F_{2,45} = 2.10$, $p = 0.13$; Games Howell Test $p=0.39$), or the six categories comparison
383 (Wilcoxon $V=13$, $p=0.688$) (Supplementary Figure 6). Similarly, the ratio between non-
384 synonymous and synonymous divergence is significantly greater in all cooperative genes
385 compared to all private genes (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 25.0$, $< 10^{-5}$, Dunn Test $p = 0.021$), but
386 not when we just looked at the genes for the social traits other than quorum sensing (Kruskal-
387 Wallis $X^2(2) = 13.2$, < 0.01 , Dunn Test $p = 0.11$) or the six categories comparison (Wilcoxon
388 $V=18$, $p=0.156$) (Supplementary Figure 7). This may reflect differences in selection on
389 synonymous variation on different traits, or the weakness of some of these comparisons due to
390 small sample sizes. We confirmed that none of our cooperative vs. private comparisons show
391 significant differences in balancing or positive selection (Supplement S10), suggesting that
392 what we are seeing is a signature of kin selection, and that we may just lack power in our other
393 comparisons.

394

395 Overall, these results incorporating other traits in addition to quorum sensing controlled genes,
396 provide support to the main result that there is a signature of kin selection for cooperation
397 (Figures 3-5). Nonetheless, the *a priori* distinction between private and cooperative traits is
398 weaker for some comparisons, and we could expect exceptions within the overall pattern. The
399 main exception in our analyses was toxin comparison, where we compared contact-dependant
400 LXG toxins (N= 6 genes) to the secreted antimicrobial bacilycin (N=8 genes). Both of these
401 sets of genes are involved in competition in biofilms, and both are controlled by the DegS-
402 DegU system, so likely expressed at similar rates (75, 76). Possible confounding factors in this
403 case include the fact that although we classified the contact-dependent toxins as private, they
404 also provide cooperative benefits to local cells by eliminating competitors. The LXG toxins

405 also stand out because three of them are on phage elements (75), and it may be that the strength
406 or type of selection is different on these genes, masking any effect of sociality.

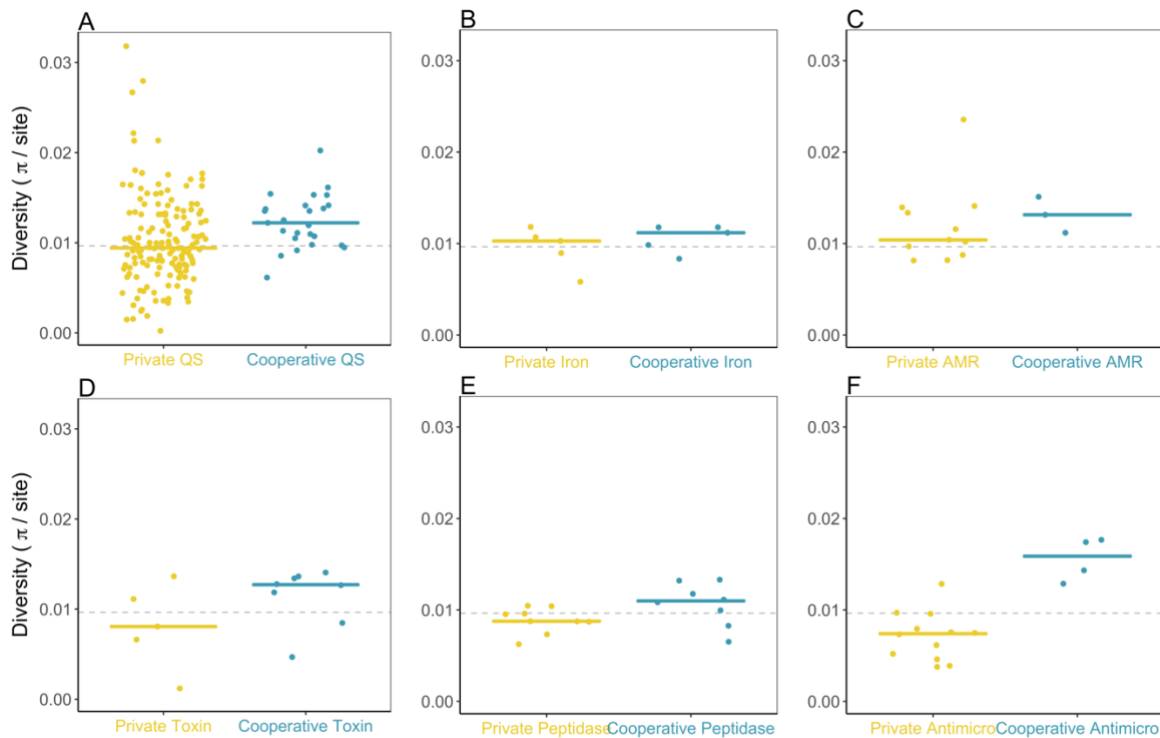


Figure 7: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) polymorphism in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing-controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the other cooperative traits.

407

408 *All traits: Deleterious mutations*

409 As an additional robustness test for our conclusions, we analysed deleterious mutations. If kin
410 selection is favouring cooperation, we should also observe more deleterious mutations in genes
411 controlling cooperative traits compared to private traits. This is because relaxed selection slows
412 the rate at which deleterious mutations are purged from the population (19, 20, 22). We tested
413 this prediction by looking for loss-of-function mutations, that generate stop codons or
414 frameshift mutations, and hence act as deleterious mutations, in our SNP data. We repeated
415 this analysis with two different data sets.

416 First, we used all cooperative genes from our six comparisons in Table 1. We measured how
417 many cooperative and private genes have deleterious mutations, and compared this to an
418 expectation based on their relative frequency across the genome. Cooperative genes were
419 significantly more likely than private genes to have deleterious mutations ($\chi^2(1) = 12.3, p <$
420 0.001). This pattern also holds if we count total number of deleterious mutations, rather than
421 just presence or absence ($\chi^2(1) = 11.0, p < 0.001$).

422 To test the robustness of this result, we repeated the analysis using the localization prediction
423 tool PSORTb to categorize genes for extracellular proteins as ‘cooperative’, and genes for
424 proteins that aren’t secreted as ‘private (77)’. This method has been previously used in several
425 studies to estimate whether genes are for cooperative (social) or private traits (78, 79). By using
426 PSORTb we are able to analyse all genes, which increases our sample size and statistical power.
427 We removed the 17% of all genes with unknown localization, leaving us with a set of genes of
428 known sociality. We found deleterious mutations in 293 genes, of which 17 are cooperative
429 (5.8%). This is significantly more than expected given that cooperative genes only make up
430 2.0% of genes (binomial test $P < 0.001$), matching our prediction that deleterious mutations
431 should be biased towards cooperative genes. If we count total deleterious mutations (rather
432 than number of genes with at least one) we see the same pattern, with cooperative genes making
433 up 5.5% of mutations (20 of 361).

434 *Relatedness estimation*

435 The genetic relatedness between interacting cells (r) is a key parameter for social evolution.
436 Relatedness can be very hard to estimate for natural populations of bacteria and other microbes,
437 except for extreme cases where interactions take place in some physical structure such as a
438 fruiting body or a filament (80, 81). Population genetic data allows relatedness to be estimated
439 indirectly, because the degree to which selection is relaxed, and greater polymorphism will be
440 observed, depends upon the relatedness between interacting cells. Consequently, we can work
441 backwards from the polymorphism data to obtain an indirect estimate of relatedness (28).
442 Examining the polymorphism data from all genes, we estimated relatedness to be $r = 0.77$ (95%
443 CI 0.67-0.91) (Supplement S8). This estimate assumes that both the magnitude of selection and
444 the distribution of selection coefficients is the same on average for cooperative and private
445 genes. An advantage of this indirect method for estimating relatedness is that it does not require
446 knowledge about factors that would be hard or impossible to measure in natural populations.
447 For example, the spatial details of how cooperative interactions play out, such as how far do
448 public goods diffuse, and who benefits, as well as how much these vary in different
449 environments, and the frequency with which different environments are encountered (28, 82).
450 Indeed, cooperative traits in *B. subtilis* vary in the degree to which they are shared depending
451 on whether groups are exhibiting sliding motility or growing in biofilms (16). In contrast, the
452 indirect measure provided by population genetics represents an average for the different
453 cooperative traits, over the different environments encountered, over evolutionary time.

454 **Conclusions**

455 We have found strong evidence of kin selection for cooperation in a natural population of *B.*
456 *subtilis*. Our analyses controlled for possible confounding factors, such as expression rate, and
457 eliminated alternative explanations for polymorphism and divergence, providing evidence that
458 complements the lab experiments demonstrating sociality in this species (32, 42–46, 61, 83–
459 86). Taken together with a previous study, population genetic analyses have now provided
460 evidence of kin selection for cooperation in both a gram-positive (*B. subtilis*) and a gram-
461 negative (*P. aeruginosa*) bacteria (28). These results suggest convergent, and potentially
462 widespread, kin selection for cooperation, based on very different underlying mechanisms,
463 across bacteria.

464

465 A possible complication with studying cooperation in bacteria is that the extent to which traits
466 are cooperative, and their importance for fitness, can depend greatly upon environmental
467 conditions (8, 87–90). One advantage of the molecular population genetic approach that we
468 have used is that it averages across different environments over evolutionary time.
469 Consequently, rather than examining a specific environment, it provides an ‘average’ answer.
470 In the case of *B. subtilis*, for the traits that we have examined, we have found evidence of kin
471 selection for cooperation, with an estimated average relatedness of $r=0.77$.

472

473

474

475 **Acknowledgements**

476

477 We thank: Ming Liu and Ákos Kovács for useful discussion and comments on the manuscript.
478 This work was supported by the European Research Council (834164: LJB, AED & SAW;
479 SESE: MG).

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492 Material & Methods

493 Strains

494

495 We use the whole-genome sequences of 31 strains of *Bacillus subtilis* from (35). The strains
496 are environmental isolates, collected from a citizen science project in Dundee where people
497 brought soil samples from their garden. *B. subtilis* is most commonly found in soil, but is also
498 found living as a commensal in animal intestines (91), and in marine environments (92).. Whilst
499 durable spores than can disperse through the air can allow long-distance migration (93), and
500 strains don't phylogenetically cluster based on environment (94), several factors are in favour
501 of using these strains as our natural population.. Firstly, these samples were all collected at the
502 same time for the same project (35). Further, we know that rates of migration between
503 populations scales with geographic distance, most of the sequence diversity within the species
504 is contained in local population (93), and there is evidence for fine-scale genetic structure in
505 micro-scale populations (95).

506

507 We downloaded raw sequence data for each strain from the European Nucleotide Archive
508 (accession number PRJEB43128). The full list of strains can be found in Supplementary Table
509 S1.

510

511

Supplementary Table 1: List of strains used

Strain ID	Location	Assembly
NRS6096	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311035.1
NRS6099	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905310985.1
NRS6103	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905310995.1
NRS6105	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905311425.1
NRS6107	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311405.1
NRS6108	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311395.1
NRS6110	Tayport (UK) vegetable plot	GCA_905311415.1
NRS6111	Tayport (UK) vegetable plot	GCA_905311375.1
NRS6116	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311385.1
NRS6118	Tayport (UK) potato patch	GCA_905311435.1
NRS6120	Tayport (UK) potato patch	GCA_905312035.1
NRS6121	Tayport (UK) shrub bed	GCA_905315035.1
NRS6127	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315045.1
NRS6128	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315055.1
NRS6131	Tayport (UK) worm bin	GCA_905315025.1
NRS6134	Tayport (UK) vegetable patch	GCA_905315395.1
NRS6137	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905315385.1
NRS6141	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315375.1
NRS6145	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315685.1
NRS6148	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315695.1
NRS6153	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315705.1
NRS6160	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315715.1
NRS6167	Tayport (UK) soil from planter	GCA_905316385.1

NRS6181	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905318255.1
NRS6183	Lochee (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319155.1
NRS6186	Newport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319135.1
NRS6190	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319565.1
NRS6194	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319555.1
NRS6202	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319535.1
NRS6205	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319825.1
NRS6206	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319815.1

512

513 *Genes regulated by quorum sensing*

514

515 For our set of quorum sensing controlled genes, we combine three published datasets: (1) 88
 516 genes controlled by ComXAP (40); (2) 114 genes controlled by degU (96); (3) 40 genes
 517 controlled by Spo0A (63).. We didn't use a fourth possible dataset, of 166 genes affected by
 518 the competence transcription factor ComK, which are indirectly regulated by ComA (97).. This
 519 is partly because our undomesticated reference strain (NCIB 3610) carries a plasmid-encoded
 520 protein which interferes with the competence machinery (98) (Supplement S7.). In addition,
 521 we wanted to focus on the quorum sensing systems known to produce public goods (Figure 3
 522 of (34)).

523

524 *Identifying social genes*

525

526 We used an artisan approach to identify social genes based on laboratory studies which have
 527 demonstrated that a trait is cooperative. The gold-standard test for a cooperative gene involves
 528 a wildtype strain which produces the traits, and a mutant strain which doesn't. If a trait is
 529 cooperative, then the producer will outperform the non-producer when each is grown clonally,
 530 but non-producers will outperform producers in groups (2). As an example, we look at the first
 531 gene on the list, *bslA* (formely known as *yuaB*), which is involved in biofilm formation, and
 532 specifically in making the biofilm hydrophobic to resist chemical attack (99). A non-producer
 533 of *bslA* cannot form normal biofilms on its own, but can get into mature biofilms when in co-
 534 culture with producers (100). Further work mixing producers and non-producers at a range of
 535 starting ratios demonstrated that the biofilm can maintain function as long as >50% of cells are
 536 producers (99).

537

538 The full list of cooperative genes can be found in Supplementary Table 2.

539

540 **Supplementary Table 2: List of social genes**

Gene	Function	Reference
<i>bslA</i>	biofilm-surface layer protein BslA	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>bslB</i>	biofilm-surface layer protein BslB	Morris 2017
<i>epsA</i>	hypothetical protein	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsB</i>	protein tyrosine kinase EpsB	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsC</i>	polysaccharide biosynthesis protein	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsD</i>	glycosyltransferase family 4 protein	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsE</i>	glycosyltransferase EpsE	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsF</i>	glycosyltransferase family 1 protein	Arnaouteli 2020
<i>epsG</i>	biofilm exopolysaccharide biosynthesis protein EpsG	Arnaouteli 2020

epsH	glycosyltransferase	Arnaouteli 2020
epsI	polysaccharide pyruvyl transferase family protein	Arnaouteli 2020
epsJ	lipoprotein	Arnaouteli 2020
epsK	cyclic-di-GMP receptor EpsK	Arnaouteli 2020
epsL	sugar transferase	Arnaouteli 2020
epsM	acetyltransferase	Arnaouteli 2020
epsN	aminotransferase class I/II-fold pyridoxal phosphate-dependent enzyme	Arnaouteli 2020
epsO	polysaccharide pyruvyl transferase family protein	Arnaouteli 2020
sipW	signal peptidase I	Arnaouteli 2020
srfAA	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAA	Kalamara 2018
srfAB	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAB	Kalamara 2018
srfAC	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAC	Kalamara 2018
srfAD	surfactin biosynthesis thioesterase SrfAD	Kalamara 2018
srfT	MFS transporter	Kalamara 2018
tapA	amyloid fiber anchoring/assembly protein TapA	Arnaouteli 2020
tasA	biofilm matrix protein TasA	Arnaouteli 2020

541

542 For the robustness check of whether deleterious mutations are over- or under-represented in
543 cooperative genes, we used the protein localisation tool PSORTb 3.0 (77). We categorize
544 cooperative genes as those which PSORTb predicts to be extracellular. We also follow
545 previous studies in removing genes for which PSORTb cannot make a definitive prediction
546 (78)

547

548 *Controlling for conditional expression*

549

550 Conditional expression can lead to the same signatures of relaxed selection as kin selection for
551 cooperation. We directly examined expression rates for the set of genes regulated by quorum
552 sensing, using data from (36), who measured gene expression of >4000 genes at 11 timepoints
553 during biofilm formation.

554

555 For any pair of genes, we can calculate the correlation in gene expression across the 11
556 timepoints of the biofilm. For the 178 quorum sensing genes in our dataset, there are 15753
557 unique pairs of genes. The mean pairwise Spearman's correlation in gene expression is 0.302.
558 To test whether this set of genes is more or less correlated than a randomly chosen set of genes,
559 we use a bootstrap approach. We take a random set of 178 genes and calculate mean pairwise
560 correlation in the same way as before. Then we repeat 10000 times. We find that the correlation
561 in expression of our quorum sensing-controlled genes is higher than in 99.7% of our bootstrap
562 samples (Supplementary Figure 3), demonstrating that our candidate set of genes is appropriate
563 for our analysis of signature of selection.

564

565 *Other cooperative traits*

566

567 We also examined five other types (groups) of traits, where we could compare genes for
568 putatively private and cooperative traits, that are likely to be expressed at similar rates (Table
569 1; Figure 4). Firstly, we used iron-scavenging via siderophores, which is a well-studied
570 cooperative trait that is important for growth and survival of bacteria (3, 101). Specifically, we
571 looked at the *B. subtilis* siderophore bacillibactin (65, 66). We classified the genes for

572 biosynthesis bacillibactin as cooperative, and genes for uptake and release of bound
573 bacillibactin as private (Supplementary Table 3). We classified the genes for biosynthesis
574 bacillibactin as cooperative, and genes for uptake and release of bound bacillibactin as private
575 (Supplementary Table 3).

576
577 Second, we looked at antibiotic resistance genes. There are many mechanisms of antibiotic
578 resistance, some of which are cooperative. For example, the secretion of beta-lactamases is a
579 cooperative trait as they detoxify the external environment, providing benefits to the local
580 population (5, 102). We also classified aminoglycoside resistance as cooperative, as the
581 modification of the antibiotic detoxifies the local environment (103). For the private genes, we
582 used the eight ABC transporters that are thought to be involved in multi-drug resistance by
583 pumping antibiotics outside the cell (69, 104) (Supplementary Table 4).

584
585 Thirdly, we looked at the range of peptidase proteases produced by *B subtilis*. The functions of
586 these proteases are broad, covering processing, regulation, and feeding, but we can separate
587 them in cooperative and private genes by looking at those which are secreted (i.e. are
588 extracellular) and those which are not secreted (70). The secreted proteases are more likely to
589 have cooperative fitness effects on other cells, through nutrition, interacting with host immune
590 systems etc (Supplementary Table 6)..

591
592 Fourthly, we looked at toxins. For the cooperative genes, we used bacilycin, which is a secreted
593 antimicrobial peptide that is active against a range of bacteria (105). Because bacilycin can
594 diffuse through the environment, it likely has cooperative fitness effects on others. *B. subtilis*
595 also has many toxins which are involved in contact-dependent inhibition, and therefore likely
596 have private effects on fitness. For the private gene, we used six LXG toxins (75), which are
597 delivered by a Type VII secretion system. Whilst these toxins can still have cooperative effects
598 by removing competitors, they are by their nature less cooperative than secreted molecule such
599 as bacilycin. Both of these sets of genes are under control of the DegS-DegU system
600 (Supplementary Table 5).

601
602 Fifthly, we looked at antimicrobials. *B. subtilis* produce a series of antimicrobial molecules,
603 which vary in which organisms they target, how they act, and how they are secreted. We can
604 however distinguish between antimicrobials that have a more defensive role in traits such as
605 predation avoidance, and those which have a more offensive role in competition with other
606 species. Whilst both of these categories likely have some component of cooperative and private
607 effects on fitness, the offensive ones will be relatively more cooperative. This is because
608 defensive molecules have a stronger effect on the individuals producing them (Supplementary
609 Table 7).

610

611 ***Identifying deleterious mutations***

612

613 We used the variant annotation tool SnpEff (106) to look for SNPs that generate deleterious
614 mutations in our dataset.. Specifically, we annotate two types of mutations; (1) premature stop
615 codons and (2) frameshift mutations. This gives us a list of genes that have at least one
616 deleterious mutation. To test if a given set of genes are overrepresented for deleterious
617 mutations, we use two percentages; (1) the % of genes in the whole genome that are in that set,
618 and (2) the % of genes with deleterious mutations that are in this set. We compare these values
619 using a binomial test with the null hypothesis that the number of deleterious mutations in the
620 gene set is equal to that expected by the frequency of the gene set. For any given gene set, we

621 conduct a further test where we use the total number of deleterious mutations in that set of
622 genes, rather than just presence/absence of deleterious mutations for that gene.

623

624 ***Statistics & Figures***

625

626 We conducted all statistical analysis in R (107).. For the main statistical analysis comparing
627 molecular population genetic parameters of cooperative and private genes we use one of two
628 statistical tests, depending on the variable in question. For variables that are normally
629 distributed, we used an ANOVA to compare the three groups of genes. Because of unequal
630 sample sizes we used Welch ANOVA which doesn't require equal variance. We used the
631 Games-Howell post-hoc test, which is similar to Tukey's HSD, but designed for Welch
632 ANOVA where we don't have to assume equal variance. For variables that aren't normally
633 distributed, we used the Kruskal-Wallis test, which compares medians. We then used the Dunn
634 test for post-hoc comparisons of groups.

635

636 All results figures were made using the ggplot2 package in R (108) using colour palettes from
637 the packages wesanderson (github.com/karthik/wesanderson) and BirdBrewer
638 (<https://github.com/lauriebelch/BirdBrewer>). Figure 4 illustrating the secondary comparisons
639 was made using BioRenderFigure 4 illustrating the secondary comparisons was made using
640 BioRender.

641

642 ***Bioinformatics***

643

644 Raw reads for each of the 31 strains were downloaded from the European Bioinformatics
645 Institute's European Nucleotide Archive (accession number PRJEB43128). We then used a
646 SNP calling pipeline to find SNPs in each strain compared to the reference NCIB 3610
647 (accession NZ_CP020102.1).

648

649 *Trimming and quality-control*

650 We used Trimmomatic to remove adapters remove low quality reads, which we did by remove
651 leading and trailing reads if the quality score was <3 or if average quality in a four-base sliding
652 window was <20. We manually checked the output of this step using the reports produced by
653 FastQC (109).

654

655 *Mapping*

656 We used BWA (110) to map reads from each strain to the reference strain. We used SAMtools
657 (111) to convert the mapping files from BAM to SAM, and used Picard tools (112)to remove
658 PCR duplicates.

659

660 *Variant calling*

661 We used BCFtools (113) to call variants on all strains and produce a VCF file that can be read
662 by R for population genetic analysis.

663

664 *Filtering and quality control*

665 We conducted further filtering to remove indels, and filter for mapping quality, read depth, and
666 strain bias using the default setting of SAMtools vcfutils python script. We then removed all
667 sites which hadn't been called in at least 80% of strains. We also used the coverageBed tool in
668 BEDtools (114) to record the percentage of each genes length that had been mapped, in order
669 to adjust per-site measures to the correct length. After filtering, we had a total of 256,769 SNPs
670 among the 31 strains.

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Outgroup

We used the phylogeny in Kalamara 2019 (the source of these strains) to identify *Bacillus subtilis subsp. spizizenii* str. W23 as an appropriate outgroup (accession NC_014479.1, raw sequencing data SRR2063059). We used the same variant calling pipeline as above to produce a second VCF which included the SNPs from the outgroup.

Population genetic measures

We used the PopGenome package from R (115) to conduct the main molecular population genetic analysis. All parameters were scaled to the corresponding mapped gene length, and any gene with mapped length <50% of their full length or lacking polymorphism data was removed from the analysis, leaving 3817 genes for the population genetics analysis. Using PopGenome, we calculated Nucleotide polymorphism, Tajima's D, Fu and Li's D*, the McDonald-Kreitman p-value, Direction of Selection statistic, and neutrality index. We also calculated separate measures for synonymous and non-synonymous sites where appropriate.

To calculate divergence, we measured the rate of protein evolution K_a/K_s by comparing the reference strain to the outgroup. We did this by creating a pseudo-genome of the outgroup by inserting the relevant SNPs into the reference sequence using the GATK suite of tools (116). This pseudo-genome could then be read by R, and we used the seqinR package (117) to calculate divergence.

721 **Supplementary Material**

722 **S1: Codon usage**

723

724 In the main text, we showed that the elevated polymorphism in cooperative genes relative to
725 private genes occurs at both synonymous and non-synonymous sites. This may be due to
726 selection on synonymous codon usage, which is common across bacteria (118). In general,
727 some codons may be preferred due to GC or AT preference, tRNA availability, or metabolic
728 costs (119–122). We investigated whether codon usage differences between cooperative and
729 private genes can explain the elevated synonymous polymorphism observed in social genes.
730

731

731 We used the R package ‘sscu’ (strength of selected codon usage), which calculates several
732 measures of codon usage bias (123).

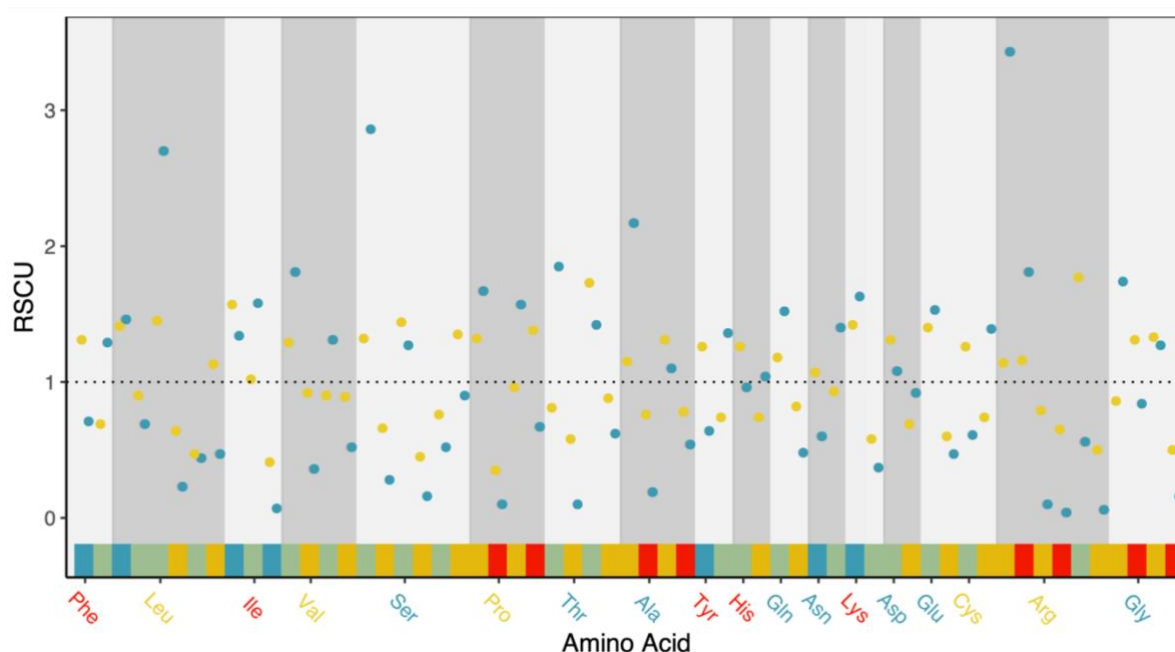
733

734 For many measures, we compare social genes to a set of highly expressed genes, under the
735 assumption that highly expressed genes are under the strongest selection to optimize codon
736 usage. We followed Rocha 2004 (122) in choosing genes that code for ribosomal proteins as
737 this set. For our social genes, we used the set of genes coding for extracellular proteins (as
738 determined by PSORTb), as this is a measure that can be systematically applied to the whole
739 genome (unlike our ‘artisan’ method, which requires manual curation of genes).

740

741 The first measure we calculated is RSCU, relative synonymous codon usage. This gives a
742 measure of the relative use of each codon, compared to the null expectation that each codon
743 for an amino acid is used equally (RSCU = 1) (Supplementary Figure S1.1).
744

745



Supplementary Figure S1.1: RSCU for cooperative genes (blue) alongside highly expressed (ribosomal) genes (yellow). The dotted line shows RSCU=1, which is when each codon for an amino acid is equally likely to be used. If codons are used at random, we would expect all RSCU values to be close to 1. If certain codons are strongly preferred, then each amino acid should have a codon for which RSCU >> 1

745

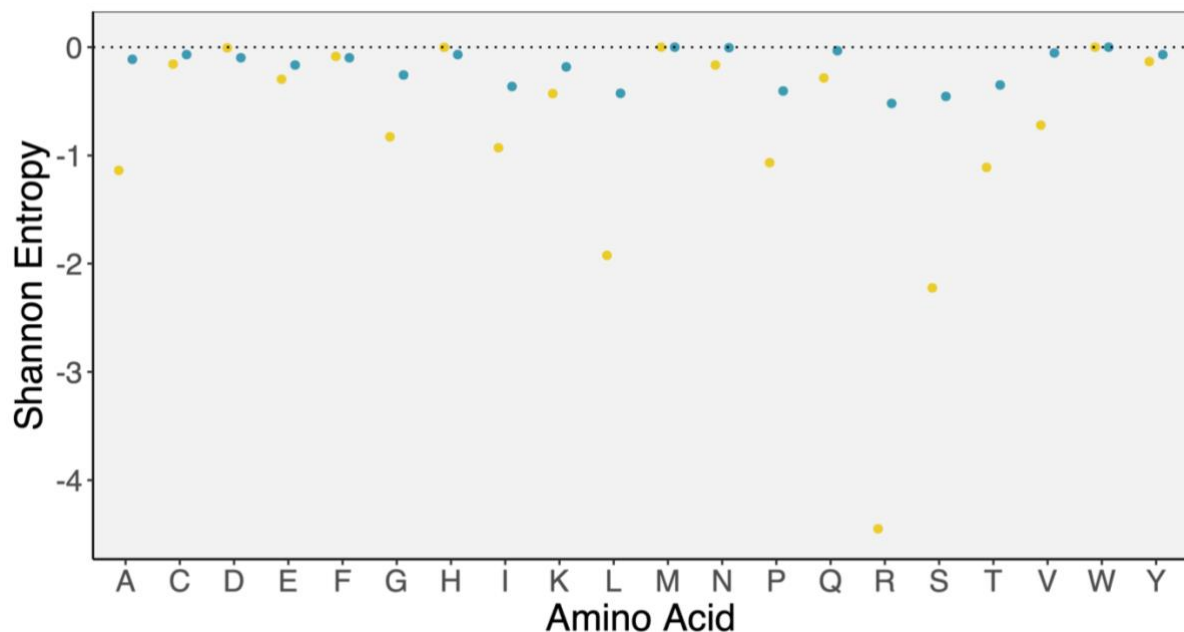
746

747 To determine if codon usage is more even in social genes or highly expressed genes, we
748 calculate Shannon entropy for each amino acid. If each codon is used evenly, then Shannon
749 entropy will be 0. If one codon is used more frequently than random, then Shannon entropy
750 will be negative. This is analogous to how entropy is used in ecology to calculate species
751 richness. An amino acid mostly being coded for with the same codon is equivalent to one
752 species dominating in a species richness measure.

753

754 On average, Shannon entropy is much less negative for cooperative genes (-0.215 compared to
755 -0.869 for highly expressed genes), suggesting that cooperative genes have much more even
756 usage of codons, suggesting that there may be relaxed selection for synonymous codon usage
757 in cooperative genes (Supplementary Figure S1.2)

758



Supplementary Figure S1.2: Shannon entropy for cooperative (blue) and highly-expressed (yellow) genes for each amino acid.

759

760

761 Cooperative genes also have higher GC3 (GC content at third positions) than our set of highly
762 expressed genes. [0.407 in cooperative compared to 0.322 in ribosomal] which may relate to
763 variable expression.

764

765 The effective number of codons is also substantially higher in cooperative genes than in our set
766 of highly expressed genes (55.1 compared to 43.4), further demonstrating how cooperative
767 genes are using more codons, and therefore less likely to use preferred codons. We also
768 conducted chi-squared tests to determine for each codon whether it was used significantly more
769 than expected (from random chance) in cooperative genes than highly expressed genes, and
770 found that only 14 codons are used significantly more often than expected by chance in
771 cooperative genes, compared to 22 codons that are used significantly more often than expected
772 for highly-expressed genes.

773

774 Overall, there is some evidence that decreased usage of preferred codons may explain the
775 increase in synonymous polymorphism. This is the third study to find the counter-intuitive
776 pattern of increased synonymous polymorphism in social genes (*P. aeruginosa* (28) ; *D.*
777 *discoideum* (26), so more research is needed in this area.

778 **S2: Cooperative vs. background genes**

779

780 We compared cooperative genes to private genes in the main analysis, and here we also
781 compare to a set of background genes. For the background genes we use those which produce
782 proteins that localise to the cytoplasm, as these are least likely to have cooperative functions.
783 This produces a set of 1832 genes.

784

785 Here, we present the results of the post-hoc comparison between cooperative genes and
786 background genes for the main set of molecular population genetic measures

787

Measure	P-value
Nucleotide polymorphism	0.004*
Non-synonymous polymorphism	0.006*
Synonymous polymorphism	0.056
Ratio of non-synonymous to synonymous polymorphism	0.103
Ratio of non-synonymous to synonymous divergence	0.017*
Non-synonymous divergence	0.004*
Synonymous divergence	0.485
Tajima's D	0.220
Neutrality Index	1.000

788

789 We find the same pattern as in the main analysis, with cooperative genes having a signature
790 of higher non-synonymous polymorphism and divergence, without evidence for increased
791 likelihood of positive or balancing selection.

792

793 This comparison is less well-controlled than the main analysis, but these results add further
794 weight to our conclusion that signature of selection we observed in quorum sensing -
795 controlled genes is a signature of kin selection.

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814 **S3: Balancing selection**

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816 A logical explanation for cooperative genes to be more polymorphic than private genes would
817 be that cooperative genes are more likely to be under balancing selection. This could occur if
818 both cheats and cooperators are maintained in a population because the fitness advantage of
819 cheats declines as they become more common (124, 125). It could also occur if multiple
820 greenbeard recognition alleles are maintained (126).

821

822 To detect balancing selection from sequence alignment data, we can use several population
823 genetic measures such as Tajima's D and Fu & Li's F^* and D^* that look at allele frequencies
824 to determine if balancing selection is occurring. Tajima's D looks at the distribution of allele
825 frequencies, whereas Fu & Li's measures look at singletons (rare variants found in only one
826 strain). To interpret these measures, we use statistical tests to determine if each gene is
827 significantly different from the neutral expectation. We then extract the list of genes with
828 significant support, and test if they are overrepresented for social genes using binomial tests.

829

830 *Tajima's D*

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832 We use the beta-distribution test with $\alpha=0.025$ from the Pegas package in R (127, 128) to
833 identify which genes have evidence for balancing selection. The test could be significant either
834 due to balancing selection and a lack of rare alleles ($D \gg 0$) or a recent selective sweep ($D \ll 0$),
835 so we exclude significant genes where $D < 0$.

836

837 We have 242 genes with significant evidence for balancing selection. Only one of those is a
838 cooperative gene, so cooperative genes are not significant overrepresented in those under
839 balancing selection (binomial test, $p=0.380$). That gene is the aminoglycoside resistance gene
840 *aadK*.

841

842 *Fu & Li's D^* and F^**

843

844 We use the critical values from (129) for $n=100$ genes and $\alpha=0.025$, which is 1.53 for D^*
845 and 1.73 for F^* . The probability of D^* or F^* being greater than this critical value for by chance
846 is 0.025. Although we have >100 genes, this is likely to be a good approximation as the critical
847 value scales with the natural-log of n . Although we have >100 genes, this is likely to be a good
848 approximation as the critical value scales with the natural-log of n .

849

850 We have 21 genes with significant evidence for balancing selection from Fu & Li's D^* . None
851 of them are cooperative. We have 13 genes with significant evidence for balancing selection
852 from Fu & Li's D^* . None of them are cooperative

853

854 Overall, these results support our conclusions that cooperative genes have higher
855 polymorphism due to relaxed selection, rather than balancing selection.

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864 **S4: Positive selection**

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866 Cooperative genes might show greater divergence than private genes due to being more likely
867 to be under positive or directional selection.

868

869 We use several complementary measures to look for signatures of positive selection in our
870 genes. First, we use the McDonald-Kreitman (MK) test, which compares the ratio of non-
871 synonymous to synonymous divergence with the ratio of non-synonymous to synonymous
872 polymorphism (130). If there is lots more non-synonymous divergence than non-synonymous
873 polymorphism, then this could indicate positive selection. The logic is that with strong positive
874 selection, advantageous mutations don't spend much time as polymorphisms, and are mainly
875 detected through divergence. .

876

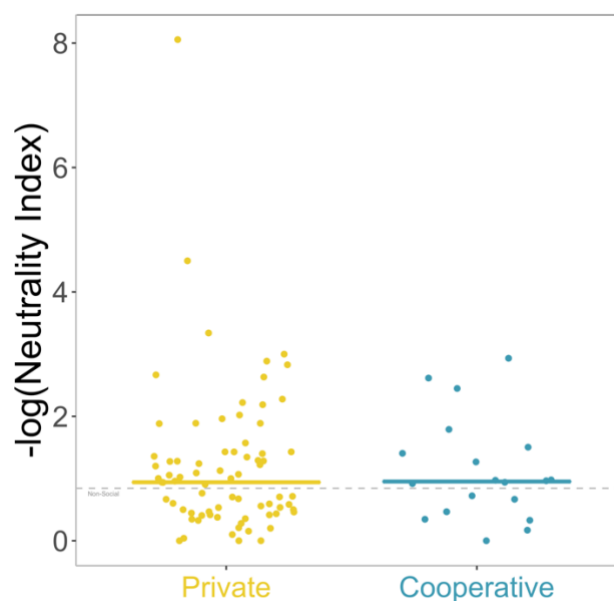
877 We have 15 genes which have evidence for significant positive selection from the MK test.

878 None of them are cooperative.

879

880 Secondly, we use the neutrality index, which uses the same information as the MK test, but
881 rather than just a binary significance test, it uses the full information to make a continuous
882 variable (130).. This can be interpreted by comparing averages and distributions of different
883 groups of genes. We log-transformed neutrality index to normalise, meaning that positive
884 values indicate positive selection. There is no difference in neutrality index between
885 cooperative and private genes, and both also don't differ from the background set of genes
886 (Kruskal-Wallis test, chi-squared=0.06, df=2, p=0.974) Supplementary Figure 4.1.

887



Supplementary Figure 4.1: Log-transformed neutrality index of private and cooperative genes. The dashed line shows the median for background genes.

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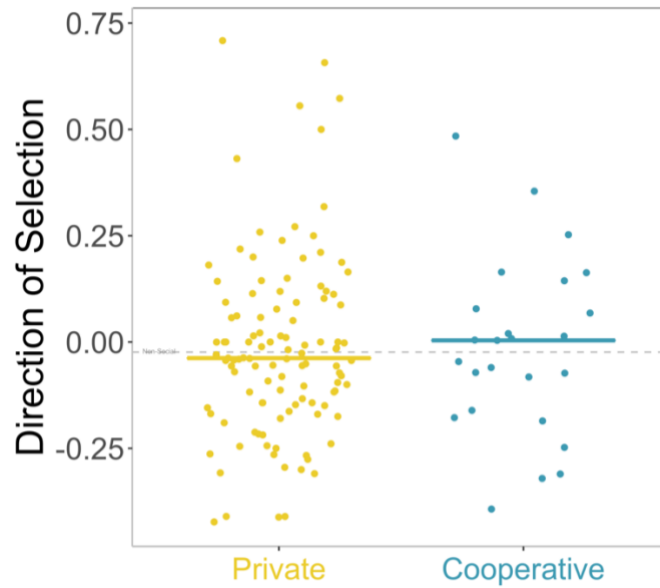
889 We also use the direction of selection statistic, which again uses the same information as the
890 MK test to make a continuous variable, with positive values indicating positive selection.

891 Whilst there is a slight trend for cooperative genes to have a higher direction of selection
892 statistic than private genes, this is not significant (Kruskal-Wallis test, chi-squared=0.09, df=2,
893 p=0.955) Supplementary Figure 4.2.

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Supplementary Figure 4.2: Direction of selection statistic for private and cooperative genes. The dashed line shows the median for background genes.

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Overall, these findings support our conclusion that cooperative genes are not more divergent than private genes due to being more likely to be under positive selection.

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927 **S5: Alternative explanations**

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929 ***Gene length***

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931 It is well-known that gene length can affect molecular population genetic parameters such as
932 polymorphism. Even though we calculate all measures per site (considering gene length), we
933 also check here that our results aren't an artefact of any differences in gene length between
934 cooperative and private genes.

935

936 Cooperative genes are on average 19% longer than private genes (965 base-pairs compared to
937 812).

938

939 We conduct a small analysis where we remove the smallest 25% of genes from our analysis,
940 which is those genes which are <450 base-pairs long.

941

942 Cooperative genes are still significantly more polymorphic and divergent than private genes
943 using this reduced dataset (Kruskal-Wallis test, chi-squared=8.16, df=2, p=0.017. Dunn Test
944 p=0.01)

945

946 ***Horizontal gene transfer / pangenome***

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948 We focused our analysis on chromosomal genes, because frequent horizontal gene transfer can
949 make drawing conclusion from molecular population genetic parameters more challenging. We
950 check if cooperative genes are more likely to be horizontally transferred by checking if they
951 are overrepresented in the accessory genome compared to the core genome.

952

953 *B. subtilis* has an open pangenome, meaning that each additional strain sequenced adds many
954 new genes. This is usually indicative of a species living in multiple or variable environments,
955 which we know is true for this species. *B. subtilis* is also naturally competent, meaning they
956 can take-up DNA from the environment, and it is thought that the open pangenome occurs
957 because rare genes are acquired in this way from closely related species (94).

958

959 We use the panX database (pangenome.org) to assign genes as core or accessory genome based
960 on 80 *B. subtilis* genomes. If we count core genes as those present in 90% of genomes, then
961 23.2% of the genes in our reference strain are in the *B. subtilis* accessory genome, and 76.8%
962 are in the core genome.

963

964 10 out of 53 cooperative genes are in the accessory genome, which is 18.9%. Cooperative genes
965 are therefore not overrepresented in the accessory genome (binomial test p=0.622).

966

967 We conclude that cooperative genes are not more likely to be transferred horizontally, which
968 matches with previous results (78)..

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970 **Power analysis**

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972 We conducted a power analysis to see what would happen if we had fewer strains in our
973 population genetic analysis.

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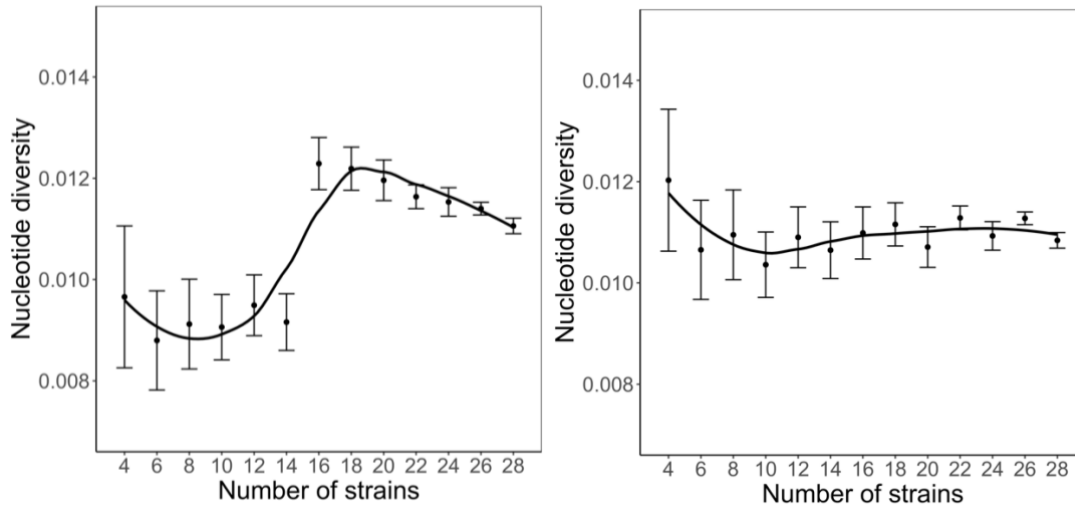
975 We took advantage of the vcf-tools software , which allowed us to randomly remove strains
976 from our analysis. This enabled us to conduct a basic analysis on polymorphism for a groups

977 of N strains (N = 4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20,22,24,26,28), with 22 iterations of each number of
978 strains

979

980 Within any analysis, we focussed on the 3570 genes which are present in all strains, and
981 calculated mean and median polymorphism (average pairwise polymorphism, relative to gene
982 length) (Supplementary Figure S5.1).

983



Supplementary Figure S5.1: (A) Median polymorphism, (B) Mean polymorphism as the number of strains uses in the analysis varies. The line is a loess regression fit

984

985 The graph on the left shows median polymorphism, which shows a threshold effect once we
986 get to 16 strains, and also much smaller error bars. This shows that a smaller number of strains
987 will miss a lot of the diversity between strains.

988

989 The graph on the right shows mean polymorphism. The main pattern is that the standard error
990 in mean polymorphism declines substantially as the number of strains increase. This means
991 that the likelihood of getting a good estimate of the population mean increases as the number
992 of strain increases, which makes logical sense.

993

994 The fact that mean polymorphism doesn't change much, but median does, implies that the
995 distribution has changed. The overall conclusion is that the number of strains we have included
996 is likely appropriate to capture the true variation in the population

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1010 **S6: Division of labour**

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1012 We conducted an analysis to see if the division of labour in the production of public goods in
1013 *B. subtilis* could explain the signatures of selection that we observe. For this, we look at the
1014 subset of 40 genes which are controlled by Spo0A, which is active only in a subset of cells
1015 (63). Depending on whether Spo0A is on or off, the expression of extracellular polysaccharides
1016 and amyloid protein fibres is either repressed or not (32, 61).

1017

1018 Spo0A controlled genes have lower median polymorphism than other quorum sensing -
1019 controlled genes, whether measured as overall polymorphism (0.0045 vs. 0.0101), non-
1020 synonymous polymorphism (0.0015 vs. 0.0037), or synonymous polymorphism (0.016 vs.
1021 0.021).

1022

1023 Spo0A controlled genes also have lower non-synonymous divergence (0.013 vs. 0.023) and
1024 lower ratio between non-synonymous and synonymous divergence (0.049 vs. 0.097), although
1025 they have slightly higher synonymous divergence (0.286 vs. 0.266).

1026

1027 The direction of selection statistic is very similar between the two groups (-0.044 vs. -0.037).

1028

1029 This pattern is the opposite to what we would expect if the division of labour was responsible
1030 for the signature of selection, rather than sociality *per se*. If the lower conditional expression
1031 was having a large effect, then we would expect these genes to have higher polymorphism than
1032 the background set of quorum sensing-controlled genes.

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1034 Further, EPS and TasA genes stand out within this class of genes as having high polymorphism,
1035 implying that the social effect is important in causing the signature of selection that we observe.

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1060 **S7: Competence**

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1062 The reference strain NCIB 3610 has a plasmid-encoded gene ComI, which interferes with the
1063 competence machinery (Konkol 2013). We know that there is variation in natural competence
1064 in our strains, as they were all screened for competency by (35). 18 out of the 31 strains we
1065 used are genetically competent.

1066

1067 Some of the competence genes (comGF, comGE, comGG) have extremely high polymorphism.
1068 Here, we conduct a small analysis where we restrict our analysis to only competent strains, to
1069 see if this polymorphism is caused by disuse in non-competent strains. We find that the
1070 competence operon comG is still amongst the most polymorphic even when we are only
1071 looking at competent strains.

1072

1073 Furthermore, cooperative genes are still significantly more polymorphic than private genes in
1074 the competent strains (Kruskal-Wallis test, chi-squared=14.7, df=2, p<0.0001).

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1076 Overall, we conclude that variation in natural competence isn't responsible for the difference
1077 between cooperative and private genes that we observe.

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1109 **S8: Estimation of relatedness**

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1111 According to theory, the degree to which selection is relaxed in cooperative genes relative to
1112 private genes is inversely proportional to relatedness. This result emerges from a simple
1113 population genetics model, which shows that a slightly deleterious allele with a cooperative
1114 effect on fitness will reach equilibrium frequency inversely proportional to the relationship
1115 between the actor and recipient (r) (19). If we assume weak selection and a large population
1116 (and ignore higher-order terms), we can directly map this prediction to relative levels of
1117 nucleotide polymorphism between alleles with cooperative and private effects on fitness.

1118

1119 As we noted in our previous work on *P. aeruginosa*, we have to make further assumptions that
1120 our set of cooperative genes experience the same average strength of selection and distribution
1121 of fitness effects as private genes, but this approach has the advantage of many experimental
1122 attempts to estimate relatedness for social interactions in that we don't need to know the scale
1123 at which interactions take place, or the relative weighting of environments in which traits are
1124 more or less social.

1125

1126 Cooperative genes have a median polymorphism of 0.01078, and private genes have median
1127 polymorphism of 0.00918. This leads to a calculation of relatedness as $r=0.77$.

1128

1129 We note that this measure might vary depending on how you define the population, which is
1130 tricky in bacteria due to horizontal gene transfer and other complications (131). In *B. subtilis*,
1131 for example, we know that strains from the same plant root or gram of soil can vary in their
1132 production of public goods, and don't always group together phylogenies (132–134).

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1159 **S9: Correlation in gene expression for secondary comparisons**

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1161 Here, we use the dataset from Futo *et al.* 2020 to test if the genes we used in the secondary
1162 comparisons also tend to be co-expressed. For each set of genes we first calculate the mean
1163 pairwise correlation between all possible pairs of genes. We then use a bootstrap approach of
1164 randomly sampling 10,000 other gene sets of the same size, to see if the gene set has higher
1165 correlated expression than expected by chance.

1166

1167 For all gene sets, we find that the correlation is greater than >95% of randomly sampled
1168 gene-sets (Supplementary Table S9.1)

1169

1170 **Supplementary Table S9.1:** Results from pairwise correlation in gene expression of a gene
1171 set, and bootstrap iterations of randomly sampled gene sets of the same size

Gene set	Correlation for gene set	Mean correlation for 10,000 iterations	Percentile of gene set
Iron scavenging	0.880	0.329	100
Antibiotic resistance	0.429	0.306	95.7
Proteases	0.397	0.293	95.3
Toxins	0.534	0.305	99.8
Antimicrobials	0.640	0.294	100

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1202 **S10: Positive and balancing selection in other cooperative traits**

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1204 We checked whether the other cooperative traits that we examined differ in signatures of
1205 positive and balancing selection, as this could cloud our conclusion on the nature of selection.
1206 We use Tajima's D to detect balancing selection, and neutrality index to detect positive
1207 selection.

1208

1209 Cooperative genes don't differ in balancing selection, whether we use all genes from the six
1210 comparisons (ANOVA $F_{2,121} = 7.50, p < 0.001$; Games Howell Test $p=0.39$), just the five
1211 secondary comparisons (ANOVA $F_{2,44} = 4.72, p = 0.14$; Games Howell Test $p=0.33$), or
1212 consider each gene as a data point (Wilcoxon signed-rank test $V=7, p=0.563$).

1213

1214 Cooperative genes also don't differ in positive selection, whether we use all genes from the six
1215 comparisons (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 2.11, p = 0.35$, Dunn Test $p = 0.70$), just the five
1216 secondary comparisons (Kruskal-Wallis $X^2(2) = 5.37, p = 0.07$, Dunn Test $p = 0.98$), or consider
1217 each gene as a data point (Wilcoxon signed-rank test $V=7, p=0.563$).

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1219 Overall, we can conclude that the signature of selection we see across the five other cooperative
1220 traits are most consistent with kin selection causing the effective relaxation of selection

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1252 **S11: Correlations in gene expression of QS-controlled genes**

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1254 To test the robustness of our result that quorum sensing-controlled genes tend to be expressed
1255 at the same time, we repeated our analysis using the dataset from Pisithkul (37).

1256

1257 Whilst Futo *et al.* measured gene expression in a solid-air interface biofilm over two months
1258 (N=11 timepoints), Pisithkul *et al.* used a liquid-air interface, and measured gene expression
1259 over 24 hours (N=7 timepoints), representing the initial stages of biofilm growth.

1260

1261 Pisithkul *et al.* provided their data in the form of reads per kilobase of transcript per million
1262 mapped reads. For each gene, we normalised the data with the following steps;

1263

1264 1) We calculated median expression across the four replicates of each timepoint

1265 2) We then divided each measure by the median expression at timepoint one (eight
1266 hours). This allows for better comparison between genes

1267 3) We then used a log₂ transformation to normalize the resulting relative expression
1268 measures

1269

1270 The average correlation for the N=160 quorum sensing controlled genes that we were able to
1271 match to the data was 0.411. The average correlation for N=10,000 randomly sampled gene
1272 sets of the same size (N=160) was 0.385. Quorum sensing-controlled genes have a higher
1273 correlation than 98.5% of the randomly sampled gene sets.

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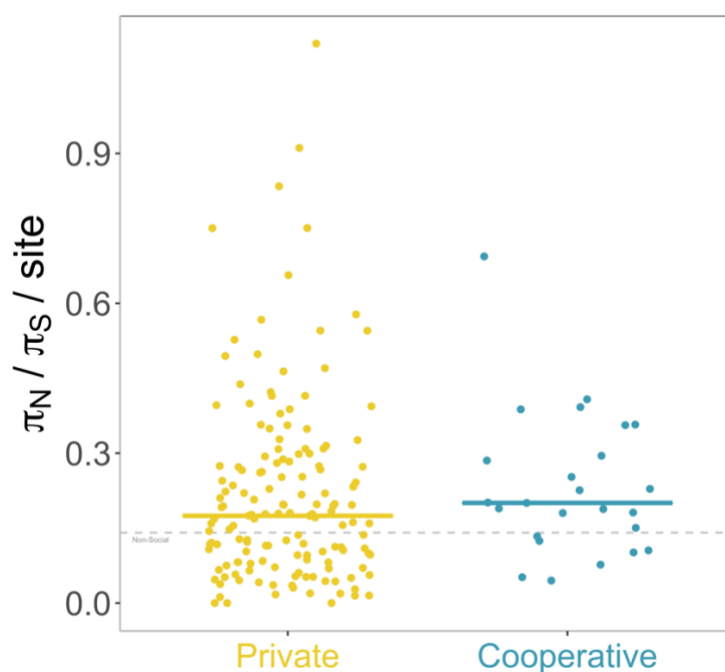
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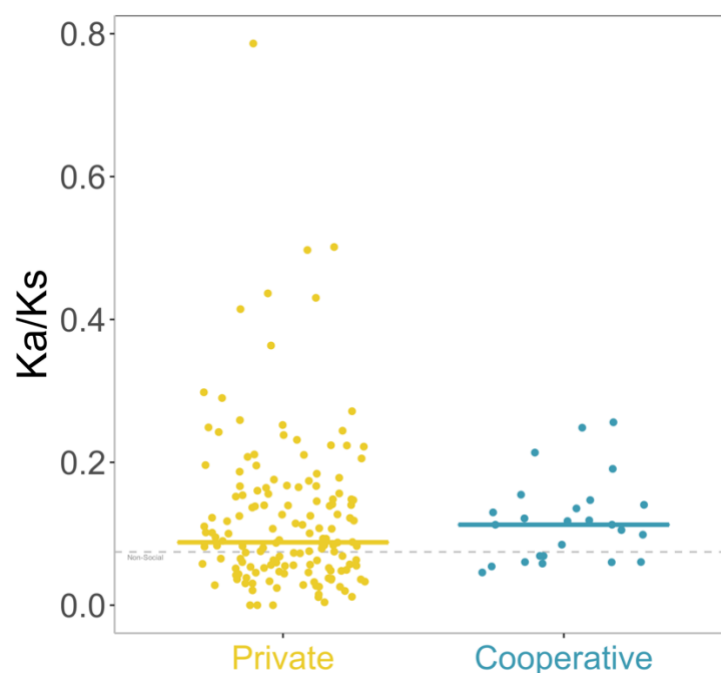
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1302 **Supplementary Figures**

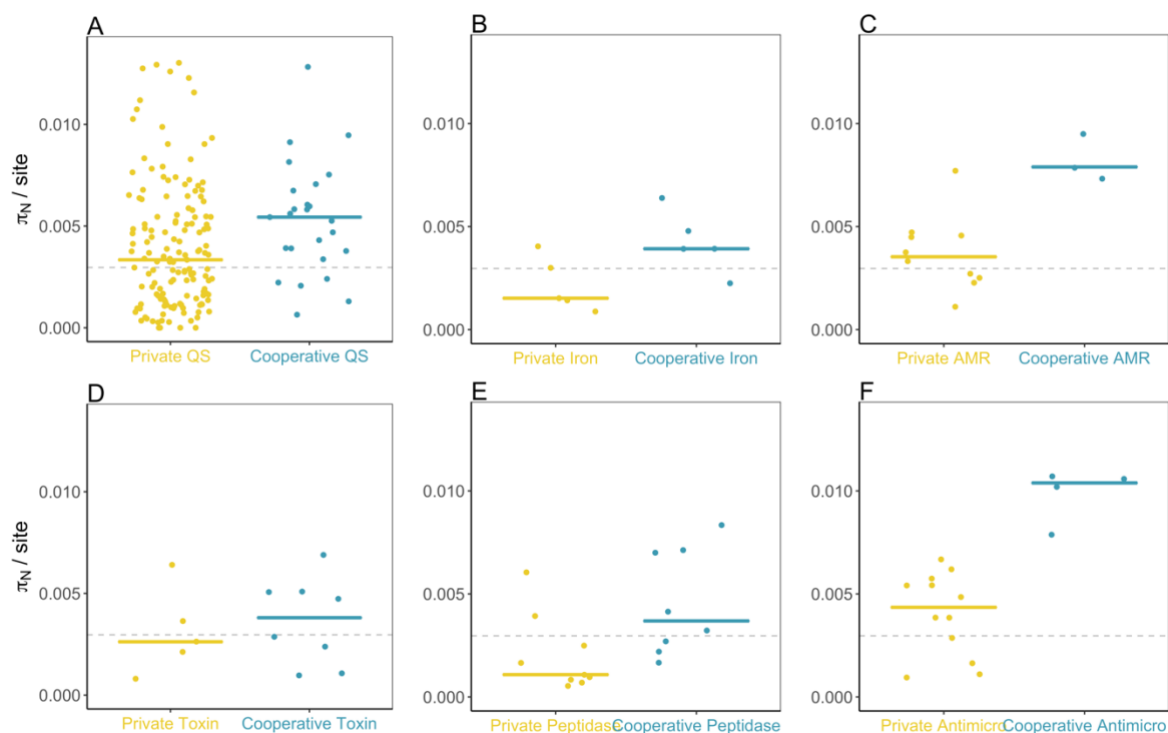


Supplementary Figure 1: Ratio between non-synonymous and synonymous nucleotide diversity per site for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes controlled by quorum sensing. Each point is a gene, and the horizontal line shows the median for each group. The grey line shows the median for background private genes across the genome.

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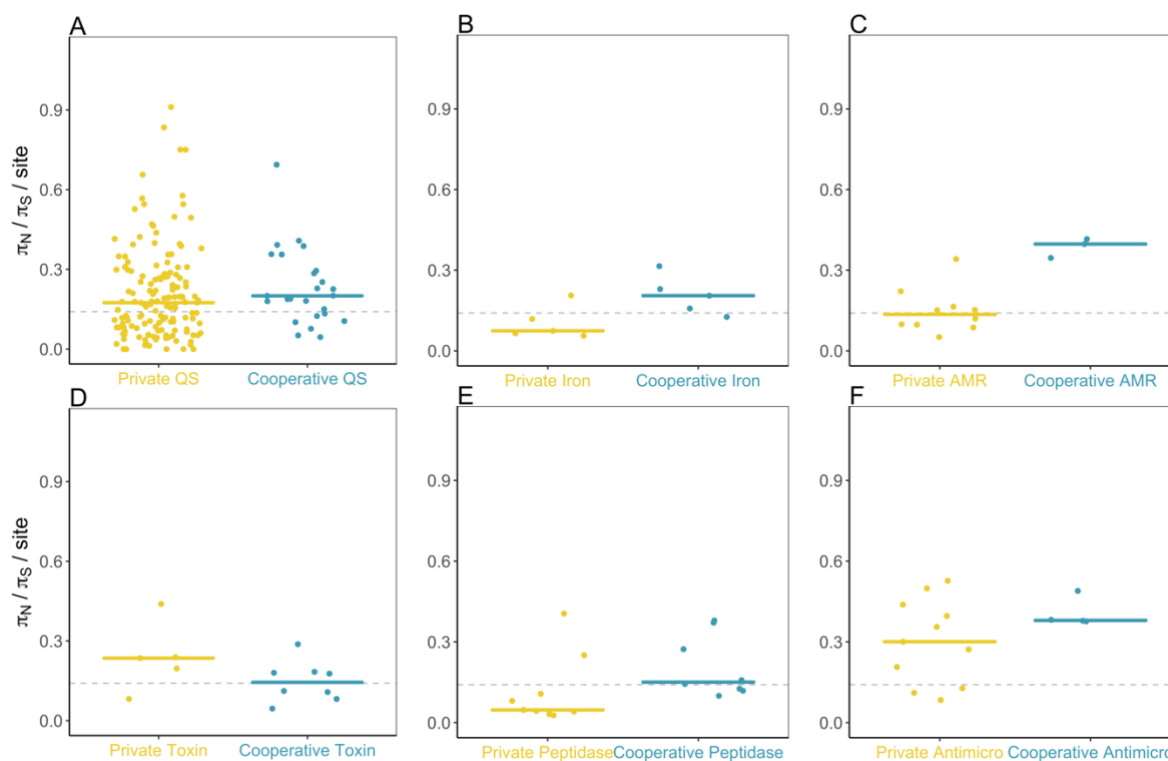


Supplementary Figure 2: Ratio between non-synonymous and synonymous divergence for private (yellow) and cooperative (blue) genes controlled by quorum sensing. Divergence is measured by rates of protein evolution, e.g. number of synonymous substitutions per synonymous site for panel B. Each point is a gene, and the horizontal line shows the median for each group. The grey line shows the median for background private genes across the genome.



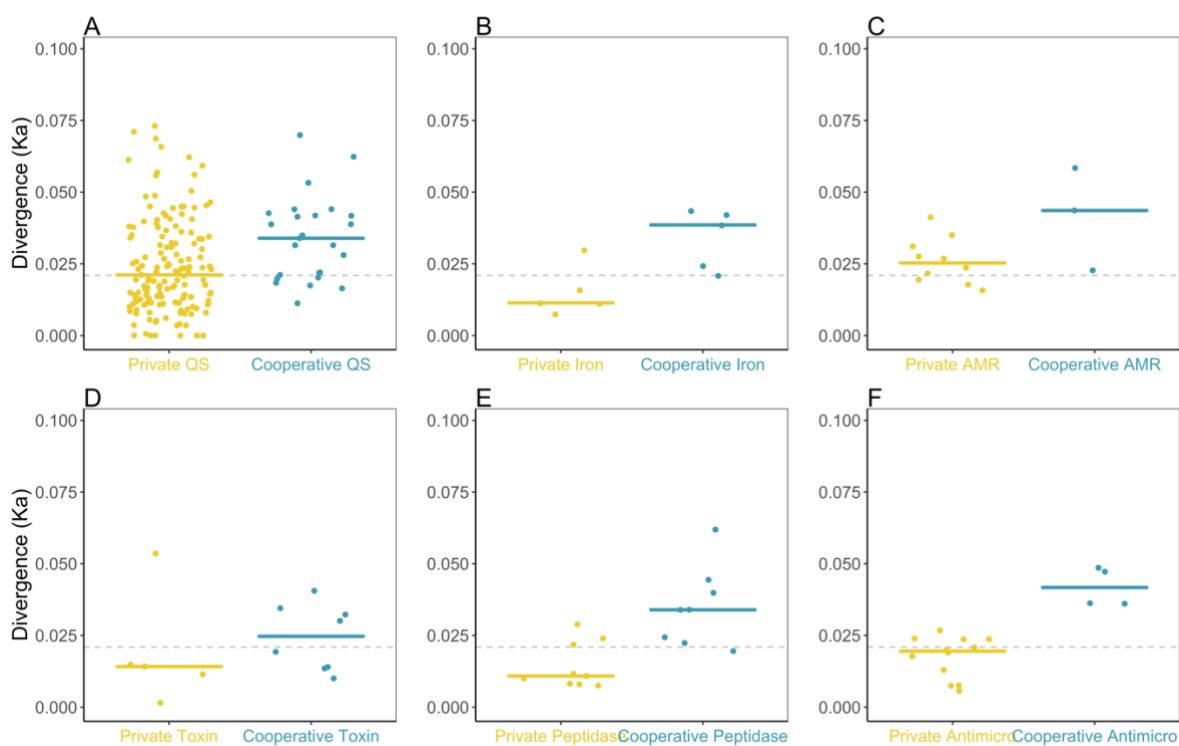
Supplementary Figure 3: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) non-synonymous polymorphism in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing -controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the secondary comparisons

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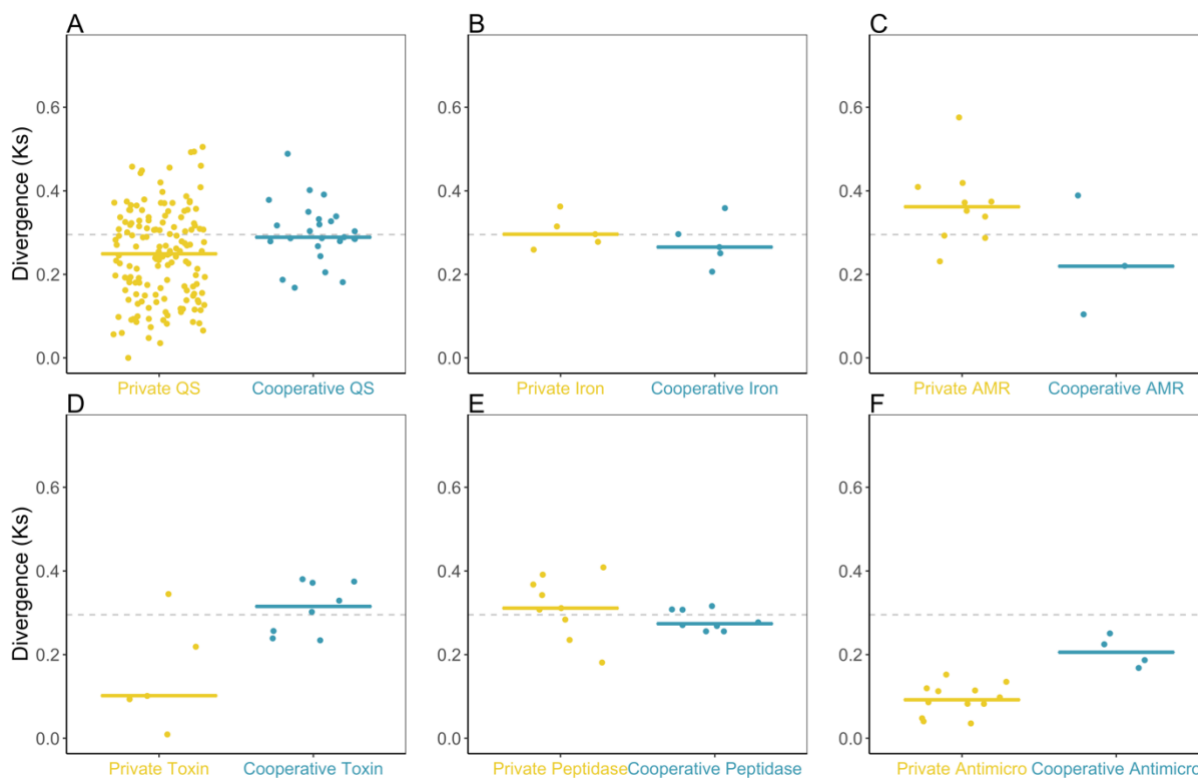
Supplementary Figure 4: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) ratio between non-synonymous and synonymous polymorphism in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing-controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the secondary comparisons

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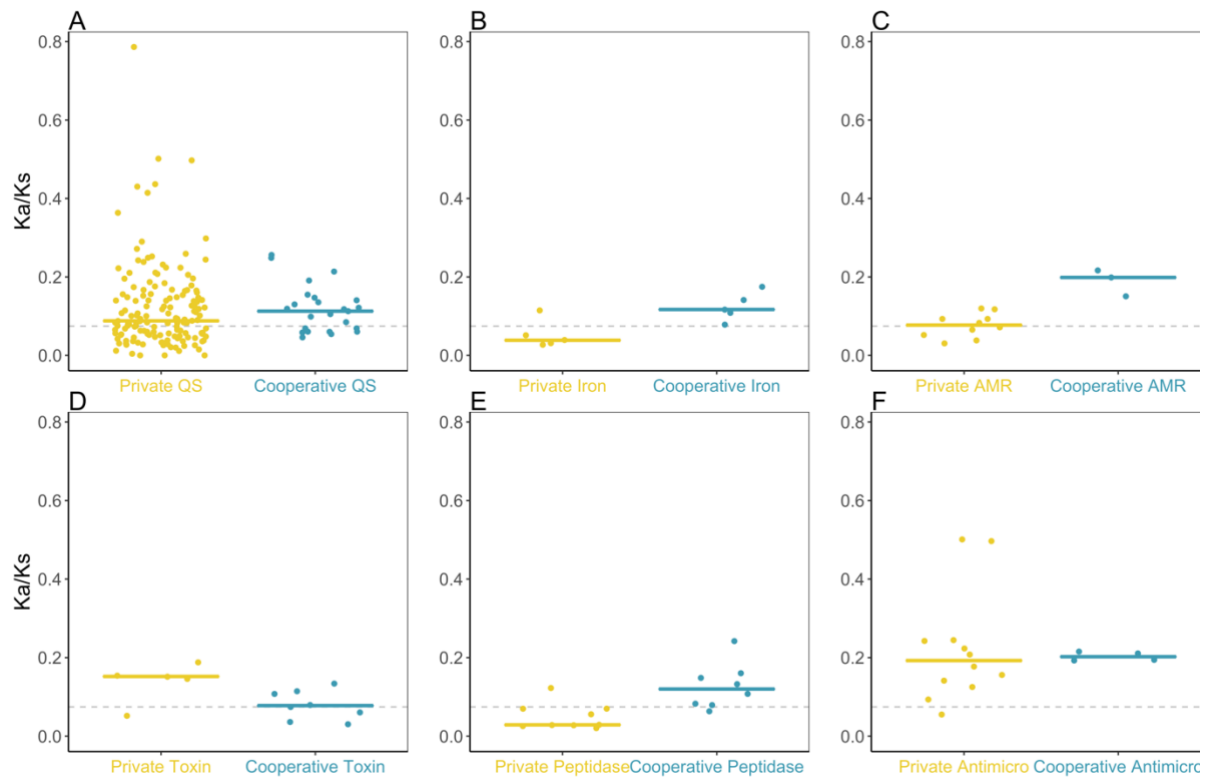


Supplementary Figure 5: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) non-synonymous divergence in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing -controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the secondary comparisons

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Supplementary Figure 6: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) synonymous divergence in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing -controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the secondary comparisons



Supplementary Figure 7: Private (yellow) vs. cooperative (blue) ratio between non-synonymous and synonymous divergence in genes for six traits. Panel A shows the quorum sensing-controlled genes used in the main analysis. Panels B-F show the secondary comparisons

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1328 **Supplementary Tables**

1329 **Supplementary Table 1: List of strains used**

Strain ID	Location	Assembly
NRS6096	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311035.1
NRS6099	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905310985.1
NRS6103	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905310995.1
NRS6105	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905311425.1
NRS6107	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311405.1
NRS6108	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311395.1
NRS6110	Tayport (UK) vegetable plot	GCA_905311415.1
NRS6111	Tayport (UK) vegetable plot	GCA_905311375.1
NRS6116	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905311385.1
NRS6118	Tayport (UK) potato patch	GCA_905311435.1
NRS6120	Tayport (UK) potato patch	GCA_905312035.1
NRS6121	Tayport (UK) shrub bed	GCA_905315035.1
NRS6127	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315045.1
NRS6128	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315055.1
NRS6131	Tayport (UK) worm bin	GCA_905315025.1
NRS6134	Tayport (UK) vegetable patch	GCA_905315395.1
NRS6137	Tayport (UK) community garden soil	GCA_905315385.1
NRS6141	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315375.1
NRS6145	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315685.1
NRS6148	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315695.1
NRS6153	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315705.1
NRS6160	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905315715.1
NRS6167	Tayport (UK) soil from planter	GCA_905316385.1
NRS6181	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905318255.1
NRS6183	Lochee (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319155.1
NRS6186	Newport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319135.1
NRS6190	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319565.1
NRS6194	Tayport (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319555.1
NRS6202	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319535.1
NRS6205	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319825.1
NRS6206	Kirriemuir (UK) garden soil	GCA_905319815.1

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Supplementary Table 2: List of social genes

Gene	Function	Reference
bslA	biofilm-surface layer protein BslA	(33, 34)
bslB	biofilm-surface layer protein BslB	(135)
epsA	hypothetical protein	(33, 34)
epsB	protein tyrosine kinase EpsB	(33, 34)
epsC	polysaccharide biosynthesis protein	(33, 34)
epsD	glycosyltransferase family 4 protein	(33, 34)
epsE	glycosyltransferase EpsE	(33, 34)
epsF	glycosyltransferase family 1 protein	(33, 34)
epsG	biofilm exopolysaccharide biosynthesis protein EpsG	(33, 34)
epsH	glycosyltransferase	(33, 34)
epsI	polysaccharide pyruvyl transferase family protein	(33, 34)
epsJ	lipoprotein	(33, 34)
epsK	cyclic-di-GMP receptor EpsK	(33, 34)
epsL	sugar transferase	(33, 34)
epsM	acetyltransferase	(33, 34)
epsN	aminotransferase class I/II-fold pyridoxal phosphate-dependent enzyme	(33, 34)
epsO	polysaccharide pyruvyl transferase family protein	(33, 34)
sipW	signal peptidase I	(33, 34)
srfAA	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAA	(33, 34)
srfAB	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAB	(33, 34)
srfAC	surfactin non-ribosomal peptide synthetase SrfAC	(33, 34)
srfAD	surfactin biosynthesis thioesterase SrfAD	(33, 34)
srfT	MFS transporter	(33, 34)
tapA	amyloid fiber anchoring/assembly protein TapA	(33, 34)
tasA	biofilm matrix protein TasA	(33, 34)

1340 **Supplementary Table 3: Cooperative and private genes for iron-scavenging via bacillibactin**

Gene ID	Name	Function	Sociality	Reference
IRON SCAVENGING				
17270	dhbF	Bacillibactin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(65, 66)
17275	dhbB	Bacillibactin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(65, 66)
17280	dhbE	Bacillibactin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(65, 66)
17285	dhbC	Bacillibactin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(65, 66)
17290	dhbA	Bacillibactin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(65, 66)
1040	feuC	Membrane permease	Private	(65, 66)
1045	feuB	Membrane permease	Private	(65, 66)
1050	feuA	Periplasmic binding protein	Private	(65, 66)
17785	yusV [feuV]	ABC transporter	Private	(65, 66)
17295	besA	Ferri-bacillibactin esterase	Private	(65, 66)

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1342 **Supplementary Table 4: Cooperative and private genes for antibiotic resistance**

Gene ID	Name	Function	Sociality	Reference
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ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE				
1295	blaOXA (ybxI)	Beta-lactamase	Cooperative	(67)
10225	bla (penP)	Beta-lactamase	Cooperative	(67)
14460	aadk	Aminoglycoside resistance	Cooperative	(68)
5445	bmrC	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
5550	bmrD	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
20835	cydC	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
20840	cydD	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
4595	yfiB	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
4600	yfiC	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
7900	yknU	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
7905	yknV	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
20050	ywjA	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
18775	bmrA	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
4830	ygaD	Multidrug ABC transporter	Private	(69)
11680	sunT	Sublancin transporter	Private	(69)

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1344 **Supplementary Table 5:** Cooperative and private genes toxin genes

Gene ID	Name	Function	Sociality	Reference
TOXINS				
20325	ywfA	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20320	bacA	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20315	bacB	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20310	bacC	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20305	bacD	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20300	bacE	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20295	bacF	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
20290	bacG	Bacilycin biosynthesis & export	Cooperative	(105)
3890	yeeF	LXG toxin	Private	(75)
10360	yobL	LXG toxin	Private	(75)
11735	yokI	LXG toxin	Private	(75)
1830	yqcG	LXG toxin	Private	(75)
19495	ywqJ (rttN)	LXG toxin	Private	(75)
21125	yxiD	LXG toxin	Private	(75)

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1346 **Supplementary Table 6:** Cooperative and private genes protease genes

Gene ID	Name	Function	Sociality	Reference
PROTEASES				
5755	aprE	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
8405	Bpr	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
20660	Epr	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
1375	Mpr	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
6155	nprB	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
8100	nprE	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
20500	Upr	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
5990	wprA	Extracellular protease	Cooperative	(70)
9385	aprX	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
7560	clpE	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
18630	clpP	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)

8830	clpQ	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
13140	ispA	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
15210	lonA	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
15215	lonB	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
9115	mlpA	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)
12000	ypwA	Intracellular protease	Private	(70)

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1348 **Supplementary Table 7:** Cooperative and private genes for the production of antimicrobials

Gene ID	Name	Function	Sociality	Reference
PROTEASES				
9975	ppsA	Plipistatin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(73)
9970	ppsB	Plipistatin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(73)
9965	ppsC	Plipistatin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(73)
9960	ppsD	Plipistatin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(73)
9955	ppsE	Plipistatin biosynthesis	Cooperative	(73)
9295	pksB	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9310	pksD	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9315	pksE	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9325	pksF	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9330	pksG	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9335	pksH	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9340	pksI	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9345	pksJ	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9350	pksL	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9355	pksM	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9360	pksN	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9365	pksR	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)
9370	pksS	Bacillaene biosynthesis	Private	(74)

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