1	Long-read whole genome sequencing and comparative analysis of six strains of the human
2	pathogen Orientia tsutsugamushi
3	
4	
5	Elizabeth M. Batty ^{a,b,c} , Suwittra Chaemchuen ^b , Stuart D. Blacksell ^{b,c} , Daniel Paris ^{b,c,d,e} , Rory
6	Bowden ^a , Caroline Chan ^f , Ramkumar Lachumanan ^f , Nicholas Day ^{b,c} , Peter Donnelly ^{a,g} ,
7	Swaine L. Chen ^{h,i} , Jeanne Salje ^{b,c#}
8	
9	Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX1 7BN, UK a ;
10	Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol
11	University, Bangkok, Thailand ^b ;
12	Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine,
13	University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom ^c ;
14	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel, Switzerland ^d ;
15	Faculty of Medicine, University Basel, Basel, Switzerland ^e ;
16	Pacific Biosciences, 1305 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA ^f ;
17	Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX1 3TG, UK ^g
18	Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine,
19	National University of Singapore, Singapore ^h
20	Genome Institute of Singapore, A*STAR, Singapore 138672 ⁱ
21	
22	
23	[#] Address correspondence to Jeanne Salje: jeanne.salje@ndm.ox.ac.uk
24	

25 Abstract (250 words)

26 Background

27 Orientia tsutsugamushi is a clinically important but neglected obligate intracellular bacterial 28 pathogen of the Rickettsiaceae family that causes the potentially life-threatening human 29 disease scrub typhus. In contrast to the genome reduction seen in many obligate 30 intracellular bacteria, early genetic studies of Orientia have revealed one of the most 31 repetitive bacterial genomes sequenced to date. The dramatic expansion of mobile 32 elements has hampered efforts to generate complete genome sequences using short read 33 sequencing methodologies, and consequently there have been few studies of the 34 comparative genomics of this neglected species.

35

36 Results

We report new high-quality genomes of *Orientia tsutsugamushi*, generated using PacBio single molecule long read sequencing, for six strains: Karp, Kato, Gilliam, TA686, UT76 and UT176. In comparative genomics analyses of these strains together with existing reference genomes from Ikeda and Boryong strains, we identify a relatively small core genome of 657 genes, grouped into core gene 'islands' and separated by repeat regions, and use the core genes to infer the first whole-genome phylogeny of *Orientia*.

43

44 **Conclusions**

45 Complete assemblies of multiple Orientia genomes verify initial suggestions that these are remarkable organisms. They have large genomes with widespread amplification of repeat 46 47 elements and massive chromosomal rearrangements between strains. At the gene 48 level, Orientia has a relatively small set of universally conserved genes, similar to other obligate intracellular bacteria, and the relative expansion in genome size can be accounted 49 50 for by gene duplication and repeat amplification. Our study demonstrates the utility of long 51 read sequencing to investigate complex bacterial genomes and characterise genomic 52 variation.

53

54

55 Keywords (3-10)

56 Orientia tsutsugamushi, Rickettsiales, comparative genomics, PacBio, long read sequencing

57 Introduction

58 Background

59 Orientia tsutsugamushi is an obligate intracellular bacterial pathogen of the order 60 Rickettsiales, family Rickettsiaceae which causes the life-threatening human disease scrub 61 typhus. *Orientia* is transmitted by *Leptotrombidium* mites that occasionally feed on humans during the larval stage of development ("chiggers"), inoculate bacteria into the skin, and 62 63 initiate infection. Orientia is maintained in mite populations by transovarial transmission. 64 The mites normally feed only once on a vertebrate host, and cannot transmit bacteria 65 directly from one host to another (Coleman et al., 2003). Bacteria propagate within 66 endothelial cells, dendritic cells and monocytes at the site of inoculation, sometimes 67 resulting in a visible red skin feature called an eschar (Paris et al., 2012). Bacteria subsequently spread through the endothelial and lymphatic system to cause a systemic 68 69 infection characterised by lymphadenopathy, headache, fever, rash and myalgia, which 70 typically begin 7-10 days after inoculation. The non-specificity of these symptoms makes 71 scrub typhus difficult to diagnose based purely on clinical observations, and this is an 72 important reason why the prevalence of scrub typhus has been historically under-73 recognised. Scrub typhus has now been shown to be a leading cause of severe fever and 74 sepsis in studies in Thailand, India, China, Laos and Myanmar (Luce-Fedrow et al., 2018) and 75 untreated or severe cases are associated with CNS infection, morbidity and death (Bonell et 76 al., 2017; Dittrich et al., 2015). Locally acquired cases of scrub typhus have been reported in 77 South America and the Middle East(Izzard et al., 2010; Weitzel et al., 2016), suggesting that the global burden of this disease may stretch beyond the traditionally known endemic areas 78 79 of Asia and Northern Australia (Luce-Fedrow et al., 2018).

80

Orientia tsutsugamushi (previously Rickettsia tsutsugamushi), is distinct from other 81 82 members of the Rickettsiaceae. The genus Orientia currently includes two known species, O. 83 tsutsugamushi and O. chuto, the latter represented to date by a single strain isolated from a 84 patient with a febrile illness contracted in Dubai (Izzard et al., 2010). High antigenic diversity 85 among strains of Orientia tsutsugamushi is reflected in the poor immunological protection that recovered patients exhibit towards strains different from their original infection and, 86 87 combined with a complex immune response that involves both humoral and cell-mediated 88 immunity, this has hampered efforts towards vaccine development.

89

90 Despite its importance as a pathogen, few genomic analyses of *O. tsutsugamushi* have been 91 published. The first whole genome sequence, Boryong, (Cho et al., 2007) reported a 92 proliferation of type IV secretion systems in a repeat-dense genome of which 37.1% comprised identical repeats. A comparison of Boryong and the second complete genome, 93 Ikeda (Nakayama et al., 2008), revealed similar repeats present in each genome, dominated 94 by an integrative element named the Orientia tsutsugamushi amplified genetic element 95 96 and identified a core genome of 520 genes shared between the two O. (OTage), tsutsugamushi strains and the 5 available sequences of other Rickettsia (Nakayama et al., 97 98 2010). Extensive genomic reshuffling was thought to have been mediated by amplification 99 of repetitive sequences.

100

In comparison to other *Rickettsiae*, many of which have small and extremely stable 101 102 genomes, Orientia tsutsugamushi has a large genome with an extraordinary proliferation of 103 repeat sequences and conjugative elements. Some of the conjugative elements present in 104 multiple copies across the genome are homologues of a gene cluster found in a single copy 105 in *Rickettsia bellii*. Many of the genes in these elements are fragmented, suggesting they are 106 non-functional (Darby et al., 2007). Other intracellular pathogens also contain repetitive 107 elements, such as the mobile genetic elements in Wolbachia (Wu et al., 2004) and the 108 tandem intergenic repeats in *Ehrlichia ruminantum* (Frutos et al., 2006). These mechanisms 109 may evolve to increase genetic variability and aid immune evasion in bacteria which cannot 110 easily take up novel DNA.

111

Larger collections of *O. tsutsugamushi* strains have been extensively studied using MLST and sequence typing of the *groES* and *groEL* (Arai et al., 2013) genes, and the outer membrane proteins 47kDa (also called HtrA or TSA47) (Jiang et al., 2013) and 56kDa (also called OmpA or TSA56) (Lu et al., 2010) genes. The 56kDa and 47kDa genes are highly immunogenic in human patients and animal models and have long been investigated as candidates for vaccine design, but high levels of diversity between strains, especially in the 56kDa gene, have limited the potential of developing a universal vaccine based on these epitopes.

120 Multiple studies in South East Asia have looked at the diversity of strains by MLST and 56kDa typing, and shown a high level of diversity, with many MLSTs unique to an individual 121 122 strain (Duong et al., 2013; Phetsouvanh et al., 2015; Sonthayanon et al., 2010; 123 Wongprompitak et al., 2015). Work in Thailand and Laos has shown recombination between 124 MLSTs, as well as evidence for multiple infections in individual patients, implying that 125 multiple strains may co-exist in mites (Sonthayanon et al., 2010). Comparisons of 56kDa 126 typing with MLST (Sonthayanon et al., 2010) and 47kDa (Jiang et al., 2013) also show low 127 congruence between methods, suggesting that single gene typing of Orientia may not 128 represent the true relationships between strains; by extension, a 7-gene MLST scheme may 129 not capture the full set of genomic relationships among strains.

130

131 Attempts to generate complete Orientia tsutsugamushi genomes by whole genome sequencing have been limited by the difficulties of sequencing and assembling a repeat-132 133 dense genome, and no further genomes have been completed since the Boryong and Ikeda 134 genomes in 2008. Current draft assemblies are fragmented with over 50 contigs per 135 genome, and vary in size – the two assemblies of the genome of Orientia tsutsugamushi str. 136 Karp available Genbank 1,459,958bp on are (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/ena/data/view/LANM01000000) 137 and 2,022,909bp 138 (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/LYMA00000000; Liao et al., 2017) in length, suggesting that assemblies are either incomplete, or have problems caused by the 139 140 misassembly of repeats or the inclusion of contaminating sequences.

141

142 In this work, we have used Pacific Biosciences long-read sequencing to assemble six 143 complete genomes of *Orientia tsutsgamushi* strains representing a range of geographical 144 origins and serotypes. From this, we gain new insights into potential mechanisms underlying 145 the characteristic antigenic diversity of Orientia, which may contribute to its widespread 146 prevalence among humans. Finally, this expanded genomic perspective will contribute to 147 our understanding of the phylogeography and epidemiology of this species, as well as 148 contribute to more detailed studies of virulence mechanisms.

150 Methods

151

152 Bacterial propagation

153 All experiments were performed using *O. tsutsugamushi* grown in the mouse fibroblast cell line L929. Uninfected L929 cells were grown in 25 cm² and 75 cm² plastic flasks at 37 °C and 154 5% CO₂, using DMEM or RPMI 1640 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) media supplemented with 155 10% FBS (Sigma) as described previously (Giengkam et al 2015). Infected L929 cells were 156 grown in the same way, but at 35 °C. Frozen stocks of bacteria were grown for 5 days, then 157 158 the bacterial content was calculated using qPCR against the bacterial gene TSA47 (Giengkam et al., 2015). Bacteria were isolated onto fresh L929 cells in 75 cm² flasks at an Multiplicity 159 160 of Infection of 10:1 and then grown for an additional 7 days. At this point bacteria were 161 isolated from host cells and prepared for DNA extraction.

162

163 **DNA extraction**

164 The supernatant was removed from infected flasks and replaced with 6-8 ml pre-warmed 165 media. Infected cells were harvested by mechanical scraping and then lysed using a bullet 166 blender (BBX24B, Bullet Blender Blue, Nextadvance USA) operated at power 8 for 1 min. 167 Host cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 300xg for 3 minutes, and the supernatant 168 was filtered through a 2.0 μ m filter unit. 10 μ l of 1.4 μ g/ μ l DNase (Deoxyribonuclease I from 169 bovine pancreas, Merck, UK) was added per 1 ml of bacterial solution, then incubated at 170 room temperature for 30 minutes. This procedure removed excess host cell DNA. The bacterial sample was then isolated by centrifugation at 14,000xg for 10 min at 4 °C, and 171 172 washed two times with 0.3M sucrose (Merck, UK). After the washing steps were completed 173 DNA was extracted using a QIAGEN Dneasy Blood & Tissue Kit (QIAGEN, UK) following the 174 manufacturer's instructions.

Purified DNA samples were analysed by gel electrophoresis using 0.8% agarose gel, in order
to assess the DNA integrity. The yield of genomic DNA was quantified using a nanodrop
(Nanodrop[™] 2000, Thermo Scientific, UK) and Qubit Fluorometric Quantitation (Qubit[™] 3.0
Fluorometer, Thermo Scientific, UK).

179

180 Sequencing

181 SMRTBell templates were prepared from purified Orientia genomic DNA according to PacBio's recommended protocols. Briefly, 20kb libraries were targeted; enrichment for large 182 183 fragments was done using BluePippin (Sage Science) size selection method or successive 184 Ampure (Beckman Coulter) clean-ups, depending on the original DNA size distribution and 185 quantity, as recommended by PacBio. SMRTBell templates were sequenced on a Pacific 186 Biosciences RSII Sequencer using P6 chemistry with a 240min run time. An average of 1.05 187 Gb of raw sequence was collected per strain (range 0.3-2.4 Gb), with an average N50 read 188 length of 28.5 Kb (range 10.6-41.5 Kb). Genomes were assembled using the 189 RS_HGAP_Assembly.3 protocol from the PacBio SMRTPortal (version 2.3.0), with initial 190 polishing performed on trimmed initial assemblies using the same raw sequencing data with 191 the RS Resequencing.1 protocol. Each assembly was further polished using paired-end 192 reads sequenced on an Illumina Miseq machine. Sequencing information and Illumina data 193 availability for each sample can be found in Table S1; PacBio data is available under EBI 194 accession PRJEB24834. For each assembly, the corresponding Illumina reads were aligned to 195 the PacBio assembly using Stampy v1.0.23 (Lunter and Goodson, 2010). Pilon v1.16 (Walker 196 et al., 2014) was then used to generate a final genome, and corrected 2 to 265 errors in the 197 assemblies, with the majority of the errors being single base deletions at the end of A or T 198 homopolymer runs. All genomes were rotated and reverse complemented as needed so 199 that the predicted start codon for the dnaA gene formed the first nucleotide in the genome 200 sequence. Sequencing and assembly statistics can be found in Table 2.

201

The Boryong, Ikeda, and non-*Orientia* Rickettsial genomes used in this study were obtainedfrom NCBI (Table S2).

204

The finished assemblies were annotated using Prokka v1.11 (Seemann, 2014), using a 205 206 custom database created from the Boryong and Ikeda strains, which were previously 207 annotated using the NCBI prokaryotic annotation pathway. The Boryong and Ikeda strains 208 were re-annotated using Prokka for consistency with the other samples. Short gene names 209 for all non-hypothetical gene products were checked manually (607 products). Where genes names were present for Boryong and/or Ikeda a consensus name based on these was 210 211 selected. Where no short name was available, the long gene name was searched for in E. 212 coli using the UniProt database, and where a single and unambiguous match was selected

this was used. In cases of ambiguity the protein sequence from *Orientia* was used in a BLAST
search against *E. coli, R. rickettsii* and *H. sapiens* and the short name of the closest match
was selected. The key *Orientia* genes *TSA56, TSA47, TSA22, ScaA, ScaC, ScaD,* and *ScaE* were
also manually annotated by taking known protein sequences from the UT76 strain and using
BLAST to find the homologous genes in the other strains and give them the correct names.
The single contig genomes were rotated to begin with the *DnaA* gene.

219

Repetitive regions of the genome were defined as regions of at least 1000bp in length which
had a match with another 1000bp region with up to 100 differences (mismatches,
insertions, and deletions) allowed. The repetitive regions were identified with Vmatch
(Abouelhoda et al., 2004).

224

225 The core and accessory genome was identified using Roary (Page et al., 2015) with a 226 threshold of 80% sequence identity required to consider two sequences part of the same 227 gene group. Core genes were defined as genes present in every sample and as a single copy 228 in every sample. The accessory genes identified using Roary were re-clustered using CD-Hit 229 (Fu et al., 2012; Li and Godzik, 2006) with a cutoff of 80% identity across 95% of the length 230 of the shortest protein to identify accessory genes which were truncated copies of other 231 proteins. The correlation between gene order in each pair of samples was calculated by 232 taking the order of the genes relative to the Karp strain and calculating the Spearman's rank 233 coefficient between each pair. COG categories were assigned using RPS-BLAST to find 234 matches in the NCBI Conserved Domain Database (Marchler-Bauer et al., 2002) and 235 assigning a COG category to these using cdd2cog (Leimbach, 2016). Core repeat genes were 236 identified using protein clusters generated by CD-Hit to find gene groups which were 237 present at more than 1 copy. The clusters were identified using CD-Hit on the proteins 238 predicted by Prokka with a cutoff of 80% identity across 90% of the length of the shortest 239 protein. Pseudogenes were identified from CD-Hit protein clusters where at least one 240 protein was a truncated version of the longest protein in the group. As pseudogenes which 241 are truncated at the 5' end will not be annotated by Prokka, BLAST (Altschul et al., 1997) was using to screen for any additional pseudogenes in non-genic regions by searching for 242 BLAST hits with protein identity >= 80% and an E-value $<10^{-15}$. This method found a further 243 244 26-37 pseudogenes per strain.

245

Further analysis used BioPython (Cock et al., 2009) and the GenomeDiagram package (Pritchard et al., 2006). Figure 1 was created with Circos (Krzywinski et al., 2009). Statistical tests were carried out in R (R Core Team, 2014) and the Python SciPy library (Jones et al.). Phylogenies were inferred using Maximum Likelihood methods in RaxML (Stamatakis, 2014)

under the GAMMA model of rate heterogeneity and bootstrap values calculated using the
rapid bootstrap method. The input sequences were aligned with Clustal Omega (Sievers et
al., 2011) (for the 56kDa/46kDa/MLST trees) or using the MAFFT alignments produced by
Roary (for the core gene tree). Phylogenetic trees were drawn using the ape (Paradis et al.,
2004) and phytools (Revell, 2012) R packages, and Robinson-Foulds distances were
calculated using the phangorn (Schliep, 2011) R package.

257 Results

258

259 Sequencing, Assembly, and Annotation

260 Eight genomes were assembled using the PacBio reads to perform initial genome assembly 261 and Illumina sequencing reads to polish the genomes and reduce errors. Six of the eight 262 genomes could be assembled into a single finished contig, while two genomes remain in 263 multiple contigs. In addition, two previously assembled references genomes, Orientia 264 tsutsugamushi str. Boryong and Orientia tsutsugamushi str. Ikeda, were incorporated into 265 our analysis. The genome size ranges from 1.93Mb to 2.47Mb, and the GC content for all 266 strains is consistent at 30-31%. We assessed the genomes to identify core genes shared between all genomes, and look for repetitive regions and repeat genes in each strain. 267 Figure 1 plots the genetic elements of each complete genome. 268

The number of predicted genes in each strain ranges from 2086 (UT176) to 2709 (Gilliam) 269 and is highly correlated with genome size (Spearman's correlation coefficient 0.94, p < 270 2.2x10⁻¹⁶). A function could not be assigned, by similarity to reported sequences, to 325-547 271 272 22 % of the identified coding regions) in genes (16 to each strain.

273 Core genome analysis

274

275 The set of 8 complete, single-contig genomes was used to identify core genes (present in all 276 genomes) and accessory genes (present in a subset of genomes), using the criterion that all 277 members of a group of putative orthologues should be at least 80% identical (similar) to all 278 other members of the group. While the unfinished genomes do not appear to have lower 279 numbers of predicted genes, which might indicate the assembly is incomplete, for this 280 analysis the two strains which assembled as multiple contigs were excluded to avoid 281 excluding core genes which are missing from the unfinished assemblies. A total of 657 gene 282 groups were present in all 8 strains and therefore form a putative core genome, while 2812 283 gene groups were present in 2-7 of the 8 strains, and a further 4687 gene groups were 284 found in a single strain. The 657 core genes make up 28-35% of the genome of each strain 285 (Table S3). The number of core gene groups does not continue to decrease as more 286 genomes are added to the analysis, suggesting that the core genome of Orientia can be 287 defined with 8 representative genomes. In the initial analysis with Roary, the total number 288 of gene groups continues to grow, suggesting an open pan-genome, but observation of the 289 7499 accessory gene groups showed that of the 6050 groups where a function can be 290 assigned to one or more gene, there are only 122 distinct gene products, many of them 291 conjugal transfer proteins, transposases, DNA helicases, and other functions shared by 292 genes known to be part of the Orientia tsutsugamushi amplified genetic element identified 293 in the Ikeda strain (Nakayama et al., 2008). Re-clustering these accessory genes but allowing 294 genes which are only a match to part of a gene sequence to cluster together to include 295 more truncated and fragmented copies of genes shows that the number of accessory gene 296 groups continues to increase, but at a slower rate (Figure S1). The number of gene products 297 remains constant at 122 no matter how many strains are included in the analysis. This 298 suggests that the increase in non-core gene clusters is mainly due to further duplication and 299 truncation of existing genes, rather than by the import of novel genes.

300

301 Genome Synteny

With the completed genomes produced by long read sequencing, the synteny of the genomes can be investigated. Previous work on the Boryong and Ikeda genomes showed extensive genome shuffling between the two strains. Analysis of the order and grouping of 305 the core genes which are conserved in each genome shows that the genome has undergone 306 massive rearrangement, with the core genes found in core gene 'islands' with repeat 307 regions interspersed between these islands. The 657 core genes are present in 145-157 308 distinct islands, of which only 51 are conserved (defined as the same genes present in the 309 same order) in all genomes. Figure 3 shows the position and ordering of these conserved 310 core gene islands which are maintained in all samples relative to the position and ordering in the Karp strain. The correlation between gene order in each pair of samples is shown in 311 312 Figure S2. A value close to 0 shows low correlation in gene order, while values closer to 1 show higher correlation in gene order. As there are differences in the correlation of gene 313 314 order between strains, this suggests that the process of genome rearrangement is 315 happening in multiple steps and not as a single event.

316

The identities of genes present on conserved islands is shown in table S5. Conserved islands 317 318 range from 1-13 genes in size, with larger islands often containing genes linked by plausible 319 biological functions. For example, groups 3 and 6 include a number of cell division and 320 peptidoglycan biosynthesis genes (including mraY, murF, murE, pbp, ftsL, dnaJ and dnaK in 321 group 3 and murC, murB, ddl and ftsQ in group 6) and groups 31 and 32 include a number of 322 30S and 50S ribosomal proteins. Analysis of the number of conserved islands shared 323 between samples shows that the number of conserved islands continues to decrease as 324 more genomes are included (Figure S3), and suggests that gene order and clustering is not 325 always constrained in Orientia tsutsugamushi. There is no difference seen in the size of the 326 islands between conserved and non-conserved islands (Figure S4) (two-sample Kolmogorov-327 Smirnov test D=0.085, p-value=0.86), the nucleotide diversity between genes in the two 328 categories of islands (Figure S5) (two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test D=0.052, pvalue=0.86), or the Clusters of Orthologous Groups (COG) categories assigned to genes in 329 the two island categories (Chi-squared test χ^2 = 15.03, p=0.82). 330

331

332 Repeats and pseudogenes

The genomes of *Orientia tsutsugamushi* are known to be highly repetitive, including a highly amplified genetic element known as the *Orientia tsutsugamushi* amplified genetic element (Otage), as well as other transposable elements. 336 Our results emphasise the large number of repeated genes and regions, including many genes related to the Type IV secretion system. The total proportion of the genome which is 337 338 repetitive (see Methods for our definition of repetitive) differs markedly from 33% in UT176 339 to 51% in Gilliam (Table S3). In contrast, the extremely compact (and therefore nonrepetitive) Rickettsia typhi genome is 0% repetitive by our measure and even, intriguingly, 340 the Rickettsia endosymbiont of Ixodes scapularis, known to encode multiple copies of the 341 342 same repetitive element found in Orientia (Gillespie et al., 2012), is 20% repetitive in our 343 analysis, despite our methods giving more conservative figures than previously determined 344 for the Ikeda strain (Nakayama et al., 2008).

345 We identified 530 groups of repeat genes containing 12043 genes present in multiple copies 346 in at least one strain, which we term "core repeats". Of the 530 groups, 427 represent genes 347 found in multiple strains, which 103 are found only in a single strain. Despite clustering in 348 530 groups, the genes have only 66 different functional products, as is expected from the 349 earlier results looking at all the non-core genes. The repeat genes are mainly transposase 350 and conjugal transfer genes, similar to those previously reported in the Otage (Table S6), 351 and cluster into genetic elements which are interspersed between the core genes. Many of 352 these genes are present in high copy number, with all strains carrying over 200 transposases and 300 conjugal transfer genes and gene fragments. These core repeat elements occupy 353 354 35-47% of the Orientia tsutsugamushi genome and represent 57-67% of the genes in these 355 genomes (Table S4).

356

357 *Orientia tsutsugamushi* genes are known to exhibit high levels of pseudogenisation and 358 gene decay. We searched for pseudogenes in each genome, and identified up to 484 359 pseudogenes per strain (Table S7). This is lower than previously reported in Ikeda, but due 360 to methodological differences the figures cannot be directly compared. We also assessed 361 whether the pseudogene had been caused by truncation at the 5' or 3' end of the 362 sequencing, or by frameshift.

363

364 **Phylogenetics**

A phylogenetic tree was constructed using the core genes from each strain. This can be compared to trees built using the 56kDa (Figure 4) and 47kDa (Figure S6) genes, which are often used for phylogenetic analysis of *Orientia tsutsugamushi*, or to trees built using the MLST genes (Figure S7). *Orientia* strains are commonly based on their similarity to reference strains, either from phylogenetics or serology. Compared to the 56kDa tree, the core gene tree suggests the Kato and Ikeda strains are more closely related to the Karp, UT176, and UT76 strains than the TA686 and Gilliam strains (Figure 4). Robinson-Foulds distances between trees are shown in Table S8; for this small number of strains, the distance is lowest between the 47kDa tree and the core genome tree.

374

375 Discussion

We present the first large-scale study of *Orientia tsutsugamushi*, a bacterium which is important both for the study of human disease and for its unique insights into genome evolution.

379 Previous studies of Orientia tsutsugamushi genomes have used BAC cloning and Sanger 380 sequencing to produce complete genomes (Cho et al., 2007; Nakayama et al., 2008), or have 381 used next-generation sequencing strategies which have produced only incomplete and 382 fragmented genomes (Liao et al., 2017). We demonstrate that a combination of PacBio and 383 Illumina sequencing is sufficient to produce a single-contig genome, allowing us to study the 384 gene content and synteny of this organism. For the two genomes which could not be 385 assembled into single contigs in our study (FPW1038 and TA763), we found that the 386 sequencing produced fewer reads at the high end of the length distribution. This suggests 387 that given the highly repetitive nature of the Orientia tsutsugamushi genome, the DNA preparation and sequencing methods must be carefully chosen to produce very long reads 388 389 in order to produce complete assemblies. We used Illumina sequencing to correct errors in 390 our genomes, which was vital to reduce the number of homopolymer errors, which could 391 otherwise suggest frameshift errors and affect gene annotation. While the fewest errors we 392 corrected in a strain was two, this is likely an underestimate as errors in repetitive regions 393 where Illumina reads cannot map are impossible to correct. While our analysis shows small 394 differences when quantifying the extent of the repeat regions and repeat gene families in 395 Orientia compared to previous work, a direct comparison is difficult due to differences in 396 methodology between analyses.

397 Owing to the difficulties of producing complete genomes, most previous work has relied on single gene or MLST studies to investigate the genetic diversity of Orientia tsutsugamushi. 398 399 We demonstrate that phylogenies generated from limited data are substantially different 400 from those produced from the whole core genome. The common practice of grouping 401 Orientia strains into 'Karp-like' or 'Gilliam-like' groups based on the genotype of the 56kDa 402 antigen may not give an accurate view of the relatedness of these strains, especially when 403 recombination is taken into account, although this may still be important when considering 404 immune response.

405 Previous work has demonstrated limited synteny between the two reference strains of 406 *Orientia tsutsugamushi*, but we extend this to demonstrate that there is minimal synteny 407 between any known Orientia tsutsugamushi genome. The pattern of core gene islands 408 separated by transposable elements and repeats suggests a repeat-mediated system of 409 chromosome rearrangement. It is unclear whether this is a gradual process of genome 410 rearrangement, or whether the genome is being broken apart and rearranged rapidly, similar to chromothripsis or the chromosome repair of *Deinoccocus radiodurans* after 411 412 exposure to ionizing radiation. In *Deinococcus*, it is thought that RecFOR pathway is particularly important for DNA repair, and it has no homologues to RecB or RecC (Cox et al., 413 414 2010). Similarly, in Orientia, the core genome does not contain RecB or RecC, but does 415 contain the RecFOR pathway genes, indicating this alternative DNA repair pathway may also 416 be important. Longitudinal studies of *Orientia tsutsugamushi* genomes during passage or 417 infection may be needed to determine the speed and processes of genome rearrangement 418 in Orientia.

We report a core genome of only 657 genes, compared to the 519 previously reported as the core genome shared between *Orientia* and five other sequenced *Rickettsia*, despite using a relatively low sequence identity threshold to determine gene clusters. Differences in methodology may lead to the reporting of different core gene sets, but more interesting is the pattern of core genome islands separated by amplified repeat regions, and the lack of conservation in the ordering and clustering of the core genes.

425 All of the *Orientia* genomes show high repetitiveness, which we measured as both non-426 unique regions of the genome, and genes which are present in multiple copies (some of 427 which may be truncated). The genomes of intracellular bacteria tend towards genome reduction and gene loss (Darby et al., 2007; Merhej and Raoult, 2011), but maintain 428 429 degraded genes and accumulate non-coding DNA. The transition to intracellularity has been 430 hypothesized to lead to the relaxation of selective pressure on the genome (Moran, 1996), 431 with an increased rate of sequence evolution. The expansion of the Otage (and other mobile elements) throughout the Orientia lineage appears to be another consequence of relaxed 432 selection on Orientia in its intracellular niche, again leading to accelerated sequence 433 434 evolution of the genome through rearrangement and gene loss. This is supported by the 435 finding that the diversity of gene repertoire between strains of Orientia tsutsugamushi is 436 largely due to the duplication and truncation of existing genes, and we find no evidence for 437 the acquisition of new genetic material via horizontal transfer . The amplication of a 438 transposable element has been seen in Rickettsial (Gillespie et al., 2012) and non-Rickettsial (Wiens et al., 2008) species, but it is not known whether this is associated with 439 440 rearrangement of the genome in other species.

441 In conclusion, we report the generation of six complete and a further two draft genomes 442 from a diverse set of strains of the important but neglected human pathogen Orientia 443 tsutsugamushi. This set includes the major reference strains Karp, Kato and Gilliam, and will 444 serve as a valuable resource for scientists and clinicians studying this pathogen, in particular 445 supporting future work on Orientia genomics, vaccine development, and cell biology. The 446 new genomes reported here confirm the status of Orientia as one of the most fragmented 447 and highly repeated bacterial genomes known, and exciting questions remain regarding the 448 mechanisms and timeframes driving the evolution of these extraordinary genomes.

450 **Conflict of Interest**

451 P.D. is Founder, Director, and Executive Officer of Genomics plc and a Partner of Peptide452 Groove LLP.

453

454 Data Availability

455 Sequence data and assemblies generated in this study have been uploaded to the EBI under 456 project PRJEB24834.

457

458 Author Contributions

459

460 Acknowledgements and Funding

- J.S. was funded by a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Research Fellowship. P.D. is supportedby a Wellcome Trust Core Award (090532/Z/09/Z).
- 463
- 464

465 References

- Abouelhoda, M.I., Kurtz, S., and Ohlebusch, E. (2004). Replacing suffix trees with enhanced
 suffix arrays. J. Discret. Algorithms 2, 53–86.
- 468 Altschul, S.F., Madden, T.L., Schäffer, A.A., Zhang, J., Zhang, Z., Miller, W., and Lipman, D.J.
- 469 (1997). Gapped {BLAST} and {PSI-BLAST:} a new generation of protein database search
 470 programs. Nucleic Acids Res. *25*, 3389–3402.
- Arai, S., Tabara, K., Yamamoto, N., Fujita, H., Itagaki, A., Kon, M., Satoh, H., Araki, K., TanakaTaya, K., Takada, N., et al. (2013). Molecular phylogenetic analysis of Orientia tsutsugamushi
- based on the groES and groEL genes. Vector Borne Zoonotic Dis. *13*, 825–829.
- 474 Blacksell, S.D., Luksameetanasan, R., Kalambaheti, T., Aukkanit, N., Paris, D.H., McGready,
- 475 R., Nosten, F., Peacock, S.J., and Day, N.P.J. (2008). Genetic typing of the 56-kDa type-
- 476 specific antigen gene of contemporary *Orientia tsutsugamushi* isolates causing human scrub
- 477 typhus at two sites in north-eastern and western Thailand. FEMS Immunol. Med. Microbiol.
 478 *52*, 335–342.
- 479 Bonell, A., Lubell, Y., Newton, P.N., Crump, J.A., and Paris, D.H. (2017). Estimating the 480 burden of scrub typhus: A systematic review. PLoS Negl. Trop. Dis. *11*, e0005838.
- 481 Cho, N.-H., Kim, H.-R., Lee, J.-H., Kim, S.-Y., Kim, J., Cha, S., Kim, S.-Y., Darby, A.C., Fuxelius,
- 482 H.-H., Yin, J., et al. (2007). The Orientia tsutsugamushi genome reveals massive proliferation
- 483 of conjugative type IV secretion system and host-cell interaction genes. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.
 484 U. S. A. *104*, 7981–7986.
- Cock, P.J.A., Antao, T., Chang, J.T., Chapman, B.A., Cox, C.J., Dalke, A., Friedberg, I.,
 Hamelryck, T., Kauff, F., Wilczynski, B., et al. (2009). Biopython: freely available Python tools
 for computational molecular biology and bioinformatics. Bioinformatics *25*, 1422–1423.
- 467 for computational molecular biology and bioinformatics. Bioinformatics 25, 1422–1423.
- Coleman, R.E., Monkanna, T., Linthicum, K.J., Strickman, D.A., Frances, S.P., Tanskul, P.,
 Kollars, T.M., Inlao, I., Watcharapichat, P., Khlaimanee, N., et al. (2003). Occurrence of
 Orientia tsutsugamushi in small mammals from Thailand. Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg. *69*, 519–
 524.
- 492 Cox, M.M., Keck, J.L., and Battista, J.R. (2010). Rising from the Ashes: DNA Repair in 493 Deinococcus radiodurans. PLoS Genet. *6*, e1000815.
- 494 Darby, A.C., Cho, N.-H., Fuxelius, H.-H., Westberg, J., and Andersson, S.G.E. (2007).
- 495 Intracellular pathogens go extreme: genome evolution in the Rickettsiales. Trends Genet.
- 496 *23,* 511–520.

Dittrich, S., Rattanavong, S., Lee, S.J., Panyanivong, P., Craig, S.B., Tulsiani, S.M., Blacksell,
S.D., Dance, D.A.B., Dubot-Pérès, A., Sengduangphachanh, A., et al. (2015). Orientia,
rickettsia, and leptospira pathogens as causes of CNS infections in Laos: a prospective study.
Lancet. Glob. Heal. *3*, e104-12.

501 Duong, V., Blassdell, K., May, T.T.X., Sreyrath, L., Gavotte, L., Morand, S., Frutos, R., and 502 Buchy, P. (2013). Diversity of Orientia tsutsugamushi clinical isolates in Cambodia reveals 503 active selection and recombination process. Infect. Genet. Evol. *15*, 25–34.

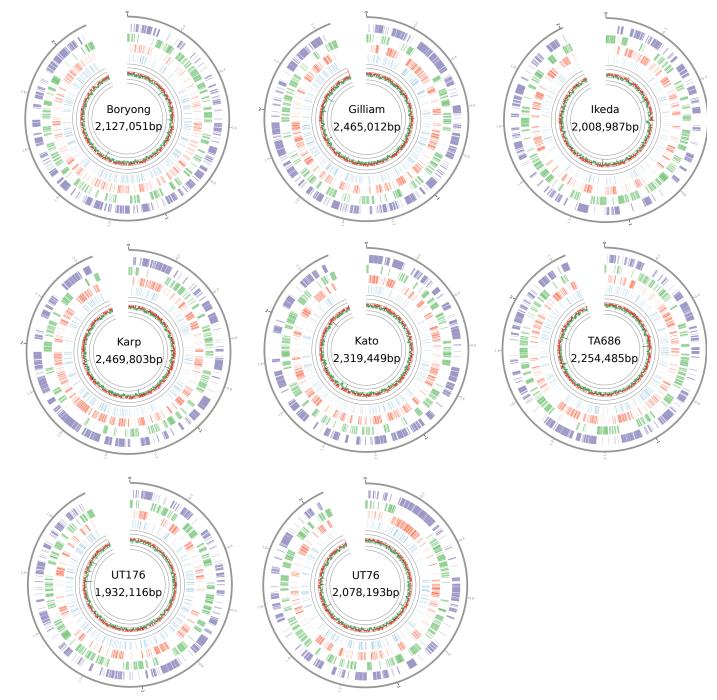
- 504 Enatsu, T., Urakami, H., and Tamura, A. (1999). Phylogenetic analysis of *Orientia* 505 *tsutsugamushi* strains based on the sequence homologies of 56-kDa type-specific antigen 506 genes. FEMS Microbiol. Lett. *180*, 163–169.
- 507 Frutos, R., Viari, A., Ferraz, C., Morgat, A., Eychenié, S., Kandassamy, Y., Chantal, I., Bensaid,
- A., Coissac, E., Vachiery, N., et al. (2006). Comparative genomic analysis of three strains of
 Ehrlichia ruminantium reveals an active process of genome size plasticity. J. Bacteriol. *188*,
 2533–2542.
- 511 Fu, L., Niu, B., Zhu, Z., Wu, S., and Li, W. (2012). CD-HIT: accelerated for clustering the next-
- generation sequencing data. Bioinformatics 28, 3150–3152.
 Giengkam, S., Blakes, A., Utsahajit, P., Chaemchuen, S., Atwal, S., Blacksell, S.D., Paris, D.H.,
- 513 Giengkam, S., Biakes, A., Utsanajit, P., Chaemonuen, S., Atwai, S., Biacksen, S.D., Paris, D.H.,
- 514 Day, N.P.J., and Salje, J. (2015). Improved Quantification, Propagation, Purification and 515 Storage of the Obligate Intracellular Human Pathogen Orientia tsutsugamushi. PLoS Negl.
- 516 Trop. Dis. *9*, e0004009.
- 517 Gillespie, J.J., Joardar, V., Williams, K.P., Driscoll, T., Hostetler, J.B., Nordberg, E., Shukla, M.,
- 518 Walenz, B., Hill, C.A., Nene, V.M., et al. (2012). A Rickettsia genome overrun by mobile 519 genetic elements provides insight into the acquisition of genes characteristic of an obligate
- 520 intracellular lifestyle. J. Bacteriol. *194*, 376–394.
- 521 Izzard, L., Fuller, A., Blacksell, S.D., Paris, D.H., Richards, A.L., Aukkanit, N., Nguyen, C., Jiang,
- 522 J., Fenwick, S., Day, N.P.J., et al. (2010). Isolation of a Novel *Orientia* Species (*O. chuto* sp. 523 nov.) from a Patient Infected in Dubai. J. Clin. Microbiol. *48*, 4404–4409.
- 524 Jiang, J., Paris, D.H., Blacksell, S.D., Aukkanit, N., Newton, P.N., Phetsouvanh, R., Izzard, L.,
- 525 Stenos, J., Graves, S.R., Day, N.P.J., et al. (2013). Diversity of the 47-kD HtrA nucleic acid and
- translated amino acid sequences from 17 recent human isolates of Orientia. Vector BorneZoonotic Dis. *13*, 367–375.
- 528 Jones, E., Oliphant, T., Peterson, P., and others {SciPy}: Open source scientific tools for 529 {Python}.
- 530 Krzywinski, M., Schein, J., Birol, I., Connors, J., Gascoyne, R., Horsman, D., Jones, S.J., and
- 531 Marra, M.A. (2009). Circos: An information aesthetic for comparative genomics. Genome
- 532 Res. 19, 1639–1645.
 - Leimbach, A. (2016). bac-genomics-scripts: Bovine E. coli mastitis comparative genomics edition.
 - Li, W., and Godzik, A. (2006). Cd-hit: a fast program for clustering and comparing large sets of protein or nucleotide sequences. Bioinformatics *22*, 1658–1659.
 - 537 Liao, H.-M., Chao, C.-C., Lei, H., Li, B., Tsai, S., Hung, G.-C., Ching, W.-M., and Lo, S.-C. (2017).
 - 538 Intraspecies comparative genomics of three strains of Orientia tsutsugamushi with different 539 antibiotic sensitivity. Genomics Data *12*, 84–88.
 - 540 Lu, H.-Y., Tsai, K.-H., Yu, S.-K., Cheng, C.-H., Yang, J.-S., Su, C.-L., Hu, H.-C., Wang, H.-C.,
 - 541 Huang, J.-H., and Shu, P.-Y. (2010). Phylogenetic analysis of 56-kDa type-specific antigen
 - 542 gene of Orientia tsutsugamushi isolates in Taiwan. Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg. *83*, 658–663.
 - 543 Luce-Fedrow, A., Lehman, M., Kelly, D., Mullins, K., Maina, A., Stewart, R., Ge, H., John, H.,

- Jiang, J., and Richards, A. (2018). A Review of Scrub Typhus (Orientia tsutsugamushi and Related Organisms): Then, Now, and Tomorrow. Trop. Med. Infect. Dis. *3*, 8.
- 546 Lunter, G., and Goodson, M. (2010). Stampy: A statistical algorithm for sensitive and fast 547 mapping of Illumina sequence reads. Genome Res.
- 548 Marchler-Bauer, A., Panchenko, A.R., Shoemaker, B.A., Thiessen, P.A., Geer, L.Y., and Bryant,
- 549 S.H. (2002). CDD: a database of conserved domain alignments with links to domain three-550 dimensional structure. Nucleic Acids Res. *30*, 281–283.
- 551 McGready, R., Blacksell, S.D., Luksameetanasan, R., Wuthiekanun, V., Jedsadapanpong, W.,
- 552 Day, N.P.J., and Nosten, F. (2010). First report of an Orientia tsutsugamushi type TA716-553 related scrub typhus infection in Thailand. Vector Borne Zoonotic Dis. *10*, 191–193.
- Merhej, V., and Raoult, D. (2011). Rickettsial evolution in the light of comparative genomics.
 Biol. Rev. Camb. Philos. Soc. *86*, 379–405.
- Moran, N.A. (1996). Accelerated evolution and Muller's rachet in endosymbiotic bacteria.
 Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. *93*, 2873–2878.
- Nakayama, K., Yamashita, A., Kurokawa, K., Morimoto, T., Ogawa, M., Fukuhara, M.,
 Urakami, H., Ohnishi, M., Uchiyama, I., Ogura, Y., et al. (2008). The Whole-genome
 sequencing of the obligate intracellular bacterium Orientia tsutsugamushi revealed massive
 gene amplification during reductive genome evolution. DNA Res. *15*, 185–199.
- Nakayama, K., Kurokawa, K., Fukuhara, M., Urakami, H., Yamamoto, S., Yamazaki, K., Ogura,
 Y., Ooka, T., and Hayashi, T. (2010). Genome comparison and phylogenetic analysis of
 Orientia tsutsugamushi strains. DNA Res. *17*, 281–291.
- Page, A.J., Cummins, C.A., Hunt, M., Wong, V.K., Reuter, S., Holden, M.T.G., Fookes, M.,
 Falush, D., Keane, J.A., and Parkhill, J. (2015). Roary: rapid large-scale prokaryote pan
 genome analysis. Bioinformatics *31*, 3691–3693.
- 568 Paradis, E., Claude, J., and Strimmer, K. (2004). A{PE}: analyses of phylogenetics and 569 evolution in {R} language. Bioinformatics *20*, 289–290.
- Paris, D.H., Aukkanit, N., Jenjaroen, K., Blacksell, S.D., and Day, N.P.J. (2009). A highly
 sensitive quantitative real-time PCR assay based on the groEL gene of contemporary Thai
 strains of Orientia tsutsugamushi. Clin. Microbiol. Infect. *15*, 488–495.
- 573 Paris, D.H., Phetsouvanh, R., Tanganuchitcharnchai, A., Jones, M., Jenjaroen, K.,
- Vongsouvath, M., Ferguson, D.P.J., Blacksell, S.D., Newton, P.N., Day, N.P.J., et al. (2012).
 Orientia tsutsugamushi in human scrub typhus eschars shows tropism for dendritic cells and
 monocytes rather than endothelium. PLoS Negl. Trop. Dis. *6*, e1466.
- 577 Phetsouvanh, R., Sonthayanon, P., Pukrittayakamee, S., Paris, D.H., Newton, P.N., Feil, E.J.,
 578 Day, N.P.J., Kurup, A., Issac, A., Loh, J., et al. (2015). The Diversity and Geographical
- 579 Structure of Orientia tsutsugamushi Strains from Scrub Typhus Patients in Laos. PLoS Negl.
 580 Trop. Dis. *9*, e0004024.
- 581 Pritchard, L., White, J.A., Birch, P.R.J., and Toth, I.K. (2006). GenomeDiagram: a python 582 package for the visualization of large-scale genomic data. Bioinformatics *22*, 616–617.
- 583 R Core Team (2014). R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing.
- Revell, L.J. (2012). phytools: An R package for phylogenetic comparative biology (and other
 things). Methods Ecol. Evol. *3*, 217–223.
- 586 Rights, F.L., and Smadel, J.E. (1948). Studies on scrub typhus; tsutsugamushi disease;
- heterogenicity of strains of R. tsutsugamushi as demonstrated by cross-vaccination studies.
 J. Exp. Med. *87*, 339–351.
- 589 Schliep, K.P. (2011). phangorn: phylogenetic analysis in R. Bioinformatics 27, 592–593.
- 590 Seemann, T. (2014). Prokka: rapid prokaryotic genome annotation. Bioinformatics 30, 2068–

591 2069.

- Sievers, F., Wilm, A., Dineen, D., Gibson, T.J., Karplus, K., Li, W., Lopez, R., McWilliam, H.,
 Remmert, M., Söding, J., et al. (2011). Fast, scalable generation of high-quality protein
 multiple sequence alignments using Clustal Omega. Mol. Syst. Biol. *7*.
- 595 Sonthayanon, P., Peacock, S.J., Chierakul, W., Wuthiekanun, V., Blacksell, S.D., Holden, 596 M.T.G., Bentley, S.D., Feil, E.J., and Day, N.P.J. (2010). High rates of homologous 597 recombination in the mite endosymbiont and opportunistic human pathogen Orientia 598 tsutsugamushi. PLoS Negl. Trop. Dis. *4*, e752.
- 599 Stamatakis, A. (2014). RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and post-analysis of 600 large phylogenies. Bioinformatics *30*, 1312–1313.
- Walker, B.J., Abeel, T., Shea, T., Priest, M., Abouelliel, A., Sakthikumar, S., Cuomo, C.A., Zeng,
 Q., Wortman, J., Young, S.K., et al. (2014). Pilon: An Integrated Tool for Comprehensive
 Microbial Variant Detection and Genome Assembly Improvement. PLoS One *9*, e112963.
- 604 Weitzel, T., Dittrich, S., López, J., Phuklia, W., Martinez-Valdebenito, C., Velásquez, K.,
- 605 Blacksell, S.D., Paris, D.H., and Abarca, K. (2016). Endemic Scrub Typhus in South America. N. 606 Engl. J. Med. *375*, 954–961.
- 607 Wiens, G.D., Rockey, D.D., Wu, Z., Chang, J., Levy, R., Crane, S., Chen, D.S., Capri, G.R.,
- Burnett, J.R., Sudheesh, P.S., et al. (2008). Genome sequence of the fish pathogen Renibacterium salmoninarum suggests reductive evolution away from an environmental Arthrobacter ancestor. J. Bacteriol. *190*, 6970–6982.
- 611 Wongprompitak, P., Duong, V., Anukool, W., Sreyrath, L., Mai, T.T.X., Gavotte, L., Moulia, C.,
- 612 Cornillot, E., Ekpo, P., Suputtamongkol, Y., et al. (2015). Orientia tsutsugamushi, agent of 613 scrub typhus, displays a single metapopulation with maintenance of ancestral haplotypes
- 613 scrub typhus, displays a single metapopulation with maintenance of a
 614 throughout continental South East Asia. Infect. Genet. Evol. *31*, 1–8.
- 615 Wu, M., Sun, L. V, Vamathevan, J., Riegler, M., Deboy, R., Brownlie, J.C., McGraw, E.A.,
- 616 Martin, W., Esser, C., Ahmadinejad, N., et al. (2004). Phylogenomics of the Reproductive
- 617 Parasite Wolbachia pipientis wMel: A Streamlined Genome Overrun by Mobile Genetic
- 618 Elements. PLoS Biol. 2, e69.
- 619
- 620

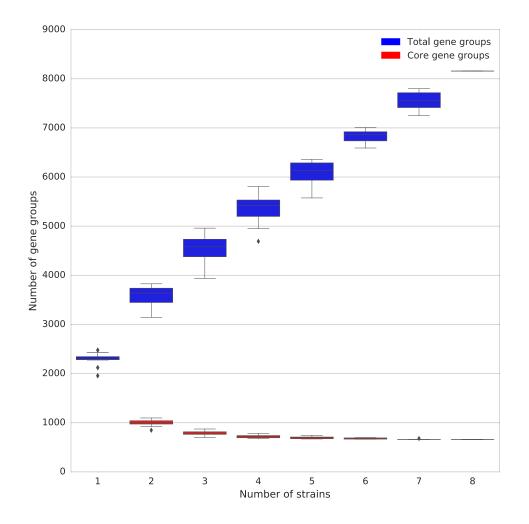
621 Figures and Tables



622

Figure 1. Ring diagrams for all single-contig strains. From outermost feature in each genome, moving inwards: repetitive regions are shown in purple, core genes in green, repeat genes in red and pseudogenes in blue. The track shows the GC percentage in windows of 1000bp. Values above the median GC are in green, and values below the median GC are in red.

- 628
- 629

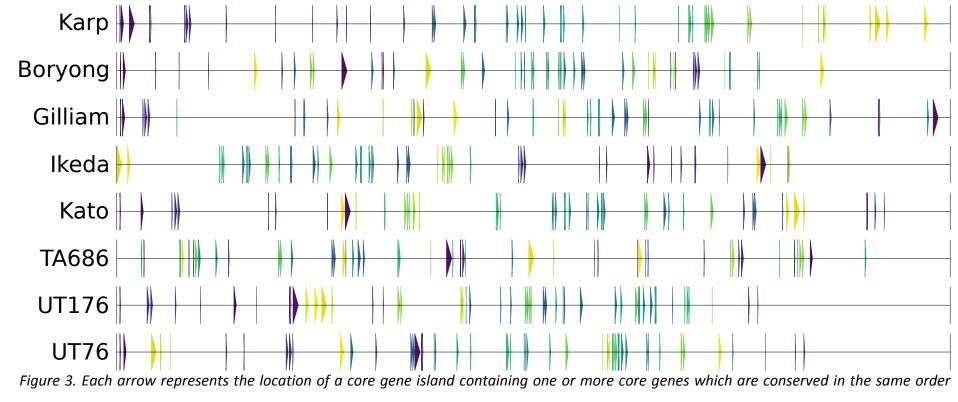


630

631 Figure 2: The number of core gene groups and the total number of gene groups (including

632 the core gene groups) as more strains are added to the analysis. Boxplots represent all

633 *possible combinations of the number of strains given on the x-axis.*



636 within an island across all strains. The arrows are coloured relative to their order in the Karp genome.

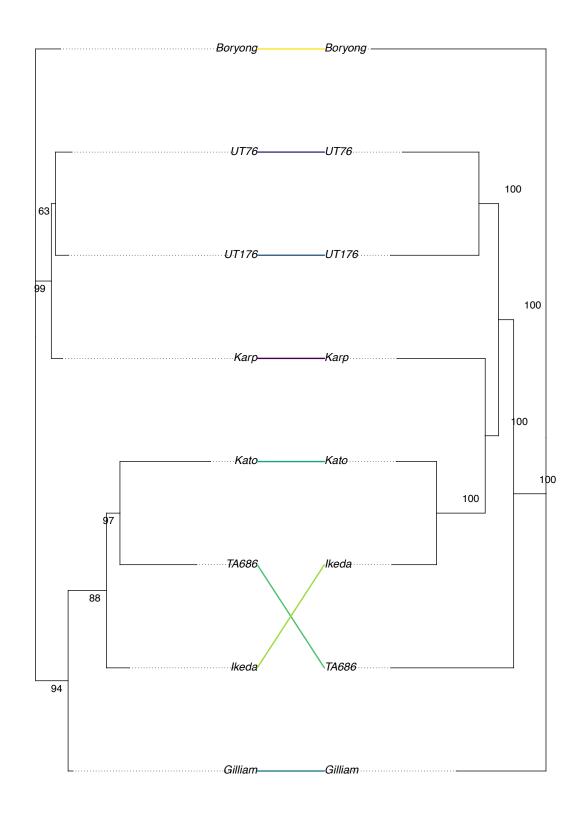


Figure 4. Phylogenetic trees generated from the 56kDa antigen sequence (left) and the
sequence of the 657 core genes (right). The tree was inferred using the maximum likelihood
method implemented in RaxML, and bootstrap values were calculated with the RaxML rapid
bootstrap method.

Strain	Original Source	Source in this study	Reference
Karp	New Guinea, human	Naval Medical	(Enatsu et al., 1999)
	patient, 1943	Research Centre	
		(NMRC)	
Kato	Niigata, Japan,	NMRC	(Enatsu et al., 1999)
	human patient,		
	1955		
Gilliam	Indian-Burmese	NMRC	(Rights and Smadel,
	border, human		1948)
	patient, 1943		
TA686	Thailand, animal	NMRC	(Enatsu et al., 1999)
	(Tupaia glis), 1963		
TA763	Thailand, animal	NMRC	(Enatsu et al., 1999)
	Rattus rajah), 1963		
FPW1038	Thailand-Burmese	Mahidol-Oxford	(McGready et al.,
	border, human	Research Centre	2010)
	patient (pregnant),	(MORU)	
	2010		
UT76	Udon Thani,	MORU	(Blacksell et al.,
	Thailand, human		2008)
	patient, 2003		
UT176	Udon Thani,	MORU	(Paris et al., 2009)
	Thailand, human		
	patient, 2004		

642 Table 1. Bacterial strains used in this study.

Strain	Genome length (bp)	Contigs	GC percentage	Errors corrected by Illumina sequencing
Boryong*	2,127,051	1	31	-
lkeda*	2,008,987	1	31	-
FPW1038	2,035,338	25	31	265
Gilliam	2,465,012	1	31	7
Karp	2,469,803	1	31	48
Kato	2,319,449	1	31	5
TA686	2,254,485	1	31	28
TA763	2,089,396	8	31	88
UT76	2,078,193	1	30	2
UT176	1,932,116	1	30	13

644

Table 2. Assembly statistics for the 10 assemblies used in this analysis. Genomes marked

646 with * are previously-assembled reference strains.

648

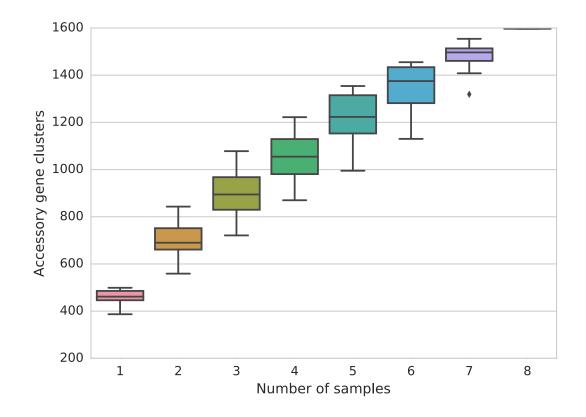
Strain	Genes	Annotated as hypothetical
Boryong	2443	547
Ikeda	2186	417
FPW1038	2198	369
Gilliam	2709	463
Karp	2578	470
Kato	2406	465
TA686	2546	474
TA763	2212	396
UT76	2247	420
UT176	2086	325

649

Table 3. Number of genes predicted in each strain after annotation with Prokka, and the
number of genes which were annotated as hypothetical. The Boryong and Ikeda strains were
reannotated with Prokka for consistency between strains.

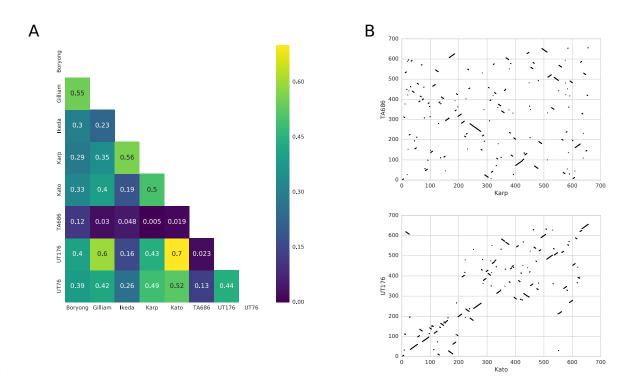
654 Supplementary Figures and Tables

655



656 Figure S1. Boxplot of accessory genes clustered with a lenient length threshold to show how

657 the number of clusters increases with number of samples included in the analysis.



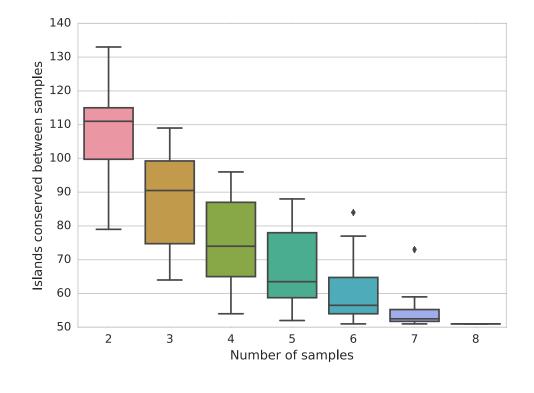
658

659

660 Figure S2. A - Heatmap showing the correlation in gene order between each pair of samples.

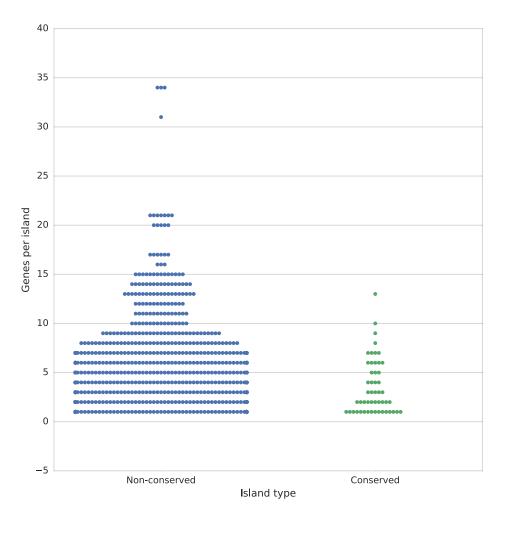
661 *B* – dotplots showing the gene ordering between the pair with the highest correlation (Kato

662 and UT176) and the lowest correlation (Karp and TA686).

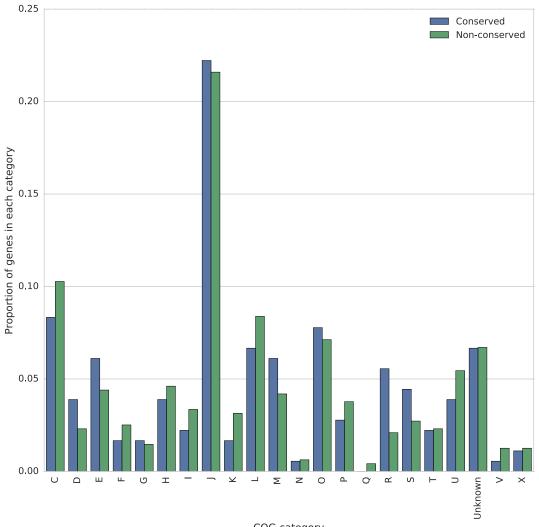


666 Figure S3. Boxplot showing the number of islands conserved between samples across all

different combinations of samples.



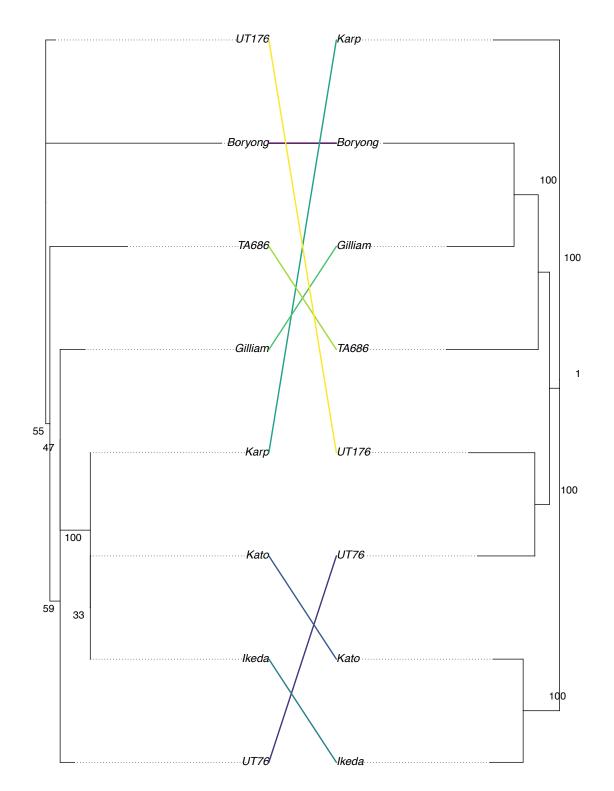
670 Figure S4. The number of genes per island in conserved versus non-conserved islands.



671

COG category

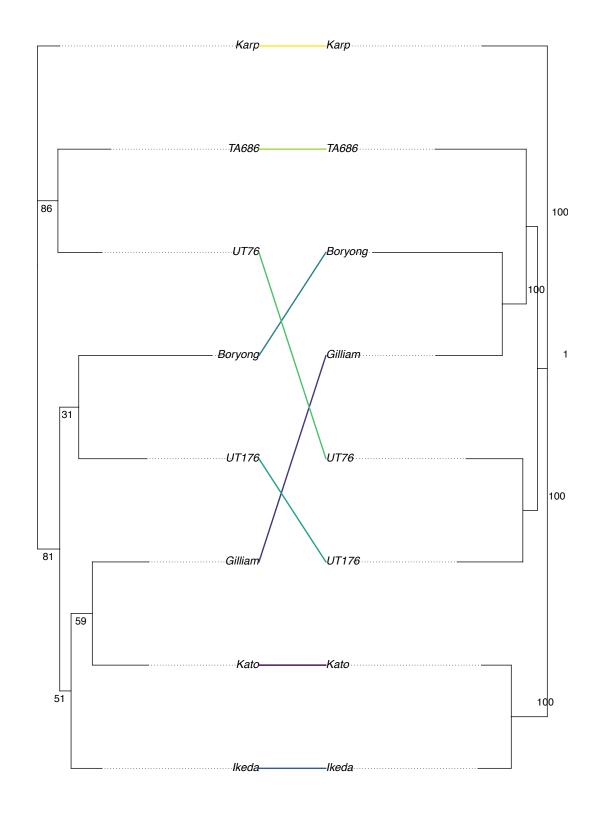
- *Figure S5. The proportion of core genes which are in conserved and non-conserved islands in* 672
- each COG category. 673



675

676 Figure S6. A phylogenetic tree showing the relationship between a tree generated using the

677 47kDa antigen sequences, and the sequences of 657 core genes.



679

Figure S7. A phylogenetic tree showing the relationship between a tree generated using
MLST gene sequences, and the sequences of 657 core genes.

Strain	Sequencing	Accession		
Karp	Institute for Genome Sciences	PRJNA212440		
Kato	Institute for Genome Sciences	PRJNA212441		
Gilliam	Institute for Genome Sciences	PRJNA212442		
TA686	MicrobesNG	PRJEB24834		
TA763	Institute for Genome Sciences	PRJNA212454		
FPW1038	Oxford Genomics Centre	PRJEB24834		
UT76	Oxford Genomics Centre	PRJEB24834		
UT176	Oxford Genomics Centre	PRJEB24834		

683 Table S1. Sources and data accession for Illumina sequencing data.

684

Genome	NCBI Identifier
Orientia tsutsugamushi strain Boryong	GCF_000063545.1
Orientia tsutsugamushi strain Ikeda	GCF_000010205.1
Rickettsia typhi strain Wilmington	GCF_000008045.1
Rickettsia endosymbiont of Ixodes scapularis	GCF_000160735.1

685 Table S2. NCBI identifiers for previously published strains used in this paper.

687 688

Sample	Genome	Length of repetitive	Percentage of genome which is
Sumple	Length	sequence (bp)	repetitive
Boryong	2127051	895302	42
FPW1038	2035338	957348	47
Gilliam	2465012	1246424	51
Ikeda	2008987	721214	36
Karp	2469803	1210014	49
Kato	2319449	1050415	45
TA686	2254553	976333	43
TA763	2089396	895735	43
UT176	1932116	635697	33
UT76	2078193	868414	42
REIS	2100092	426115	20
Wilmington	1111496	0	0

689Table S3. Total length of repetitive genome sequences in each strain, and as a percentage of

690 the genome. REIS: Rickettsia endosymbiont of Ixodes scapularis. Wilmington: Rickettsia 691 typhi strain Wilmington.

Sample	Genome Length	Length of core genes	Core genes as proportion of genome	Length of repeat genes	Repeat genes as percentage of genome
Boryong	2127051	679631	0.32	748541	35
Gilliam	2465012	681491	0.28	1165831	47
Ikeda	2008987	683889	0.34	757868	38
Karp	2469803	682061	0.28	1163785	47
Kato	2319449	682142	0.29	1039243	45
TA686	2254553	682706	0.30	933469	41
UT176	1932116	681689	0.35	738572	38
UT76	2078193	682964	0.33	826716	40

693 Table S4. Core gene and core repeat statistics.

709 Table S5. Core genes calculated by Roary. Gene names are given for the Karp strain.

Gene group	Island number	Annotation	Gene name	Boryong	Gilliam	Ikeda	Karp	Kato	TA686	UT176	UT76-HP
clpP		1 ATP-dependent Clp protease proteolytic subunit		Boryong_01 567	Gilliam_019 42	Ikeda_0042 3	Karp_01574	Kato_01535	TA686_0207 9	UT176_017 55	UT76- HP_01648
gatB		2 aspartyl/glutamyl-tRNA(Asn/Gln) amidotransferase subunit B	GatB	Boryong_01 584	Gilliam_019 57	lkeda_0040 9	Karp_01279		TA686_0028 8	UT176_017 41	UT76- HP_01661
gatA		2 glutamyl-tRNA(Gln) amidotransferase subunit A	GatA	Boryong_01 583	Gilliam_019 56	lkeda_0041 0	Karp_01280	Kato_01522	TA686_0028 9	UT176_017 42	UT76- HP_01660
group_5707		2 aspartyl/glutamyl-tRNA(Asn/Gln) amidotransferase subunit C	GatC	Boryong_01 582	Gilliam_019 55	lkeda_0041 1	Karp_01281		TA686_0029 0	UT176_017 43	UT76- HP_01659
group_6080		2 RNase J family beta-CASP ribonuclease		Boryong_01 581	Gilliam_019 54	Ikeda_0041 2	Karp_01282	Kato_01524	TA686_0029 1	UT176_017 44	UT76- HP_01658
group_7975		2 DNA-binding response regulator		Boryong_01 580	Gilliam_019 53	lkeda_0041 3	Karp_01283		TA686_0029 2	UT176_017 45	UT76- HP_01657
group_250		3 transposase		Boryong_00 790	Gilliam_027 03	lkeda_0211 8	Karp_00040	Kato_00709	TA686_0116 2	UT176_005 74	UT76- HP_00998
group_5845		3 multidrug ABC transporter ATP-binding protein		Boryong_00 791	Gilliam_027 04	lkeda_0211 9	Karp_00041	Kato_00710	TA686_0116 1	UT176_005 73	UT76- HP_00999
group_7831		3 UMP kinase		Boryong_00 792	Gilliam_027 05	lkeda_0212 0	Karp_00042	Kato_00711	TA686_0116 0	UT176_005 72	UT76- HP_01000
group_5846		3 phospho-N-acetylmuramoyl-pentapeptide- transferase	MraY	Boryong_00 793	Gilliam_027 06	lkeda_0212 1	Karp_00043	Kato_00712	TA686_0115 9	UT176_005 71	UT76- HP_01001
group_5550		UDP-N-acetylmuramoylalanyl-D-glutamyl-2, 6-diaminopimelate 3 D-alanyl-D-alanine ligase	MurF	Boryong_00 794	Gilliam_027 07	lkeda_0212 2	Karp_00044	Kato_00713	TA686_0115 8	UT176_005 70	UT76- HP_01002
group_5397		UDP-N-acetylmuramoyl-L-alanyl-D-glutamate2, 6- 3 diaminopimelate ligase	MurE	Boryong_00 795	Gilliam_027 08	Ikeda_0212 3	Karp_00045	Kato_00714	TA686_0115 7	UT176_005 69	UT76- HP_01003
group_5847		3 penicillin-binding protein	PBP	Boryong_00 796	Gilliam_027 09	Ikeda_0212 4	Karp_00046	Kato_00715	TA686_0115 6	UT176_005 68	UT76- HP_01004
ftsL		3 hypothetical protein	FtsL	Boryong_00 797	Gilliam_027 10	Ikeda_0212 5	Karp_00047	Kato_00716	TA686_0115 5	UT176_005 67	UT76- HP_01005
group_5670		3 16S rRNA methyltransferase		Boryong_00 798	Gilliam_027 11	lkeda_0212 6	Karp_00048	Kato_00717	TA686_0115 4	UT176_005 66	UT76- HP_01006
group_6027		3 molecular chaperone DnaJ	DnaJ	Boryong_00 799	Gilliam_027 12	Ikeda_0212 7	Karp_00049	Kato_00718	TA686_0115 3	UT176_005 65	UT76- HP_01007
group_7111		3 molecular chaperone DnaK	DnaK	Boryong_00 800	Gilliam_027 13	Ikeda_0212 8	Karp_00050	Kato_00719	TA686_0115 2	UT176_005 64	UT76- HP_01008
group_6028		3 BolA family transcriptional regulator		Boryong_00 801	Gilliam_027 14	Ikeda_0212 9	Karp_00051	Kato_00720	TA686_0115 1	UT176_005 63	UT76- HP_01009
group_5671		3 enoyl-ACP reductase	ENR	Boryong_00 802	Gilliam_027 15	lkeda_0213 0	Karp_00052	Kato_00721	TA686_0115 0	UT176_005 62	UT76- HP_01010
group_4752		4 sodium:proline symporter		Boryong_00 980	Gilliam_006 83		Karp_00697		TA686_0210 2	UT176_020 68	UT76- HP_02241
group_5324		5 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 010	Gilliam_000 14	Ikeda_0177 8	Karp_00009	Kato_00009	TA686_0119 8	UT176_000 09	UT76- HP_00009
group_5345		6 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 676	Gilliam_022 58	lkeda_0108 4	Karp_02002		TA686_0234 1	UT176_009 40	UT76- HP_01866
group_5664		6 UDP-N-acetylmuramateL-alanine ligase	MurC	Boryong_00 675	Gilliam_022 59	lkeda_0108 5	Karp_02003		TA686_0234 0	UT176_009 39	UT76- HP_01867
group_5663		6 UDP-N-acetylenolpyruvoylglucosamine reductase	MurB	674		6	Karp_02004	Kato_00904		38	HP_01868
group_5839		6 D-alanineD-alanine ligase	Ddl	Boryong_00 673	Gilliam_022 61	Ikeda_0108 7	Karp_02005		TA686_0233 8	UT176_009 37	UT76- HP_01869
group_5662		6 cell division protein FtsQ	FtsQ	672		8	Karp_02006		TA686_0233 7	UT176_009 36	UT76- HP_01870
group_5548		6 DNA replication/repair protein RecF	RecF	671	Gilliam_022 63	9	Karp_02007			35	HP_01871
group_5349		7 hypothetical protein		099		1	Karp_02387	Kato_02127		68	HP_00144
group_6051		7 virB4 protein precursor		098	Gilliam_009 70	2	Karp_02388	Kato_02126		67	HP_00143
group_5858		7 type I glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase	GapA	097		3	Karp_02389	Kato_02125		66	HP_00142
group_5857		7 phosphoglycerate kinase	Pgk	096	Gilliam_009 72	4	Karp_02390	Kato_02124		65	HP_00141
group_6050		7 hypothetical protein		095	Gilliam_009 73	5	Karp_02391	Kato_02123		64	HP_00140
group_5856		7 prolinetRNA ligase	ProS	Boryong_01 094	Gilliam_009 74	Ikeda_0000 6	Karp_02392	Kato_02122	TA686_0141 4	UT176_006 63	UT76- HP_00139

group_7234	7 ATP-dependent Clp protease ATP-binding subunit ClpX	ClpX	Boryong_01 093	Gilliam_009 75	Ikeda_0000 7	Karp 02393	Kato 02121	TA686_0141	UT176_006	UT76- HP_00138
	7 elongation factor P		Boryong_01 092	Gilliam_009			Kato 02120	TA686_0141		UT76-
group_8077			Boryong_01	Gilliam_009	Ikeda_0000			TA686_0141	UT176_006	
group_6049	7 extragenic suppressor protein SuhB tRNA (adenosine(37)-N6)-threonylcarbamoyltransferase complex	SuhB	091 Boryong 01	77 Gilliam_009	9 Ikeda 0001	Karp_02395	Kato_02119	1 TA686_0141	60 UT176 006	HP_00136 UT76-
group_5557	7 dimerization subunit type 1 TsaB	TsaB	090	78 Gilliam 013	0	. –	Kato_02118		59	HP_00135
group_5351	8 hypothetical protein		511	39	3		Kato_00841	1	64	HP_01169
group_5352	9 glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (NAD(P)())	GpsA	Boryong_01 513	Gilliam_013 37	Ikeda_0114 5	Karp_01850	Kato_00843	TA686_0022 9	UT176_013 66	UT76- HP_01171
group_8119	tRNA (N(6)-L-threonylcarbamoyladenosine(37)-C(2))- 9 methylthiotransferase MtaB	MtaB	Boryong_01 514	Gilliam_013 36	lkeda_0114 6	Karp_01851	Kato_00844	TA686_0022 8	UT176_013 67	UT76- HP_01172
group_5359	10 crossover junction endodeoxyribonuclease RuvC	RuvC	Boryong_01 866	Gilliam_014 37	lkeda_0105 3	Karp_02233	Kato_00938	TA686_0209 2	UT176_011 31	UT76- HP_01610
group_5717	10 tRNA dihydrouridine synthase DusB	DusB	Boryong_01 867	Gilliam_014 38	lkeda_0105 4	Karp_02234	Kato_00937	TA686_0209 1	UT176_011 32	UT76- HP_01611
group_5494	10 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 868	Gilliam_014 39	lkeda_0105 5	Karp_02235	Kato_00936	TA686_0209 0	UT176_011 33	UT76- HP_01612
group_5495	bifunctional 3-demethylubiquinone 3-O-methyltransferase/2- 10 octaprenyl-6-hydroxy phenol methylase		Boryong_01 869	Gilliam_014 40	lkeda_0105 6	Karp_02236	Kato_00935	TA686_0208 9	UT176_011 34	UT76- HP_01613
group_5718	10 protein-(glutamine-N5) methyltransferase, release factor-specific	:	Boryong_01 870	Gilliam_014 41	lkeda_0105 7	Karp_02237	Kato_00934	TA686_0208 8	UT176_011 35	UT76- HP_01614
group_6104	10 tRNA pseudouridine(38-40) synthase TruA	TruA	Boryong_01 871	Gilliam_014 42	lkeda_0105 8	Karp_02238	Kato_00933	TA686_0208 7	UT176_011 36	UT76- HP_01615
group_7746	10 50S ribosomal protein L13	L13	Boryong_01 872	Gilliam_014 43	lkeda_0105 9	Karp_02239	Kato_00932	TA686_0208	UT176_011 37	UT76- HP_01616
group_5719	10 30S ribosomal protein S9	S9	Boryong_01 873	Gilliam_014 44			- Kato_00931	TA686_0208	UT176_011 38	UT76- HP_01617
	11 rRNA (cytidine-2'-O-)-methyltransferase			Gilliam_017			Kato_01661	TA686_0054		_
group_5458			Boryong_01	Gilliam_017	Ikeda_0048			TA686_0054	UT176_013	UT76-
group_5865	11 serinetRNA ligase	SerS	203 Boryong_01	34 Gilliam_017	1 Ikeda_0048	Karp_01859	Kato_01662	6 TA686_0054	56 UT176_013	HP_01639 UT76-
group_7705	11 twin-arginine translocase subunit TatC	TatC	204 Boryong_01	35 Gilliam_017	0 Ikeda_0047	Karp_01860	Kato_01663	7 TA686_0054	55 UT176_013	HP_01638 UT76-
group_6566	11 hypothetical protein		205 Bopyong 01	36 Gilliam_017	9 Ikeda 0047	Karp_01861	Kato_01664	8 TA686_0054	54 UT176_013	HP_01637
group_6058	11 16S rRNA methyltransferase		206	37	8	Karp_01862	Kato_01665	9	53	HP_01636
group_7851	11 chromosome partitioning protein ParA	ParA	207		7	Karp_01863	Kato_01666		52	HP_01635
group_6059	11 chromosome partitioning protein	ParB	Boryong_01 208	Gilliam_017 39	Ikeda_0047 6	Karp_01864	Kato_01667	TA686_0055 1	UT176_013 51	UT76- HP_01634
group_5485	12 rod shape-determining protein MreC	MreC	Boryong_01 561	Gilliam_021 76	Ikeda_0033 6	Karp_01810	Kato_01222	TA686_0116 9	UT176_018 39	UT76- HP_01300
group_7287	12 rod shape-determining protein	MreB	Boryong_01 562	Gilliam_021 75	Ikeda_0033 5	Karp_01811	Kato_01223	TA686_0116 8	UT176_018 38	UT76- HP_01301
group_5575	12 dihydrolipoamide acetyltransferase		Boryong_01 563	Gilliam_021 74		Karp_01812	Kato_01224	TA686_0116 7	UT176_018 37	UT76- HP_01302
group_5491	13 aspartate kinase	АК	Boryong_01 771	Gilliam_019 06	Ikeda_0077 2	Karp_01348	Kato_01421	TA686_0034 5	UT176_017 25	UT76- HP_01353
group_5712	13 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 772	Gilliam_019 05	Ikeda_0077 3	Karp_01349	Kato_01420	TA686_0034 6	UT176_017 24	UT76- HP_01354
group_8049	13 potassium transporter		Boryong_01 773	Gilliam_019 04	Ikeda_0077 4	Karp_01350	Kato_01419	TA686_0034 7	UT176_017 23	UT76- HP_01355
group_5713	13 5-formyltetrahydrofolate cyclo-ligase	YgfA	Boryong_01 774	Gilliam_019 03	Ikeda_0077 5	Karp_01351	Kato_01418	TA686_0034 8	UT176_017 22	UT76- HP_01356
group_5579	13 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 775	Gilliam_019 02	Ikeda_0077 6	Karp_01352	Kato_01417	TA686_0034 9	UT176_017 21	UT76- HP_01357
group_5496	14 ankyrin repeat-containing protein 13	Ank13	Boryong_01 925	Gilliam_015 41	lkeda_0052 3	Karp_01630	- Kato_01772	TA686_0009 5	UT176_012 72	UT76- HP_01784
group_5411	14 hypothetical protein			Gilliam_015	Ikeda_0052		Kato_01773	TA686_0009	UT176_012	
			Boryong_02	Gilliam_015	Ikeda_0078			TA686_0121	UT176_017	UT76-
group_5497	15 heme A synthase		136	73	7	Karp_01402	Kato_01407	5	11	HP_01347

group_5549	16 threonylcarbamoyl-AMP synthase	TsaC	Boryong_00 G 680 54			Karp_01998 Kato_009:	TA686_0234 10 5	4 UT176_009 44	UT76- HP_01862
group_5448	16 glycinetRNA ligase subunit beta	GlyS	Boryong_00 G 679 5			Karp_01999 Kato_0090		4 UT176_009 43	UT76- HP_01863
group_5840	16 glycinetRNA ligase subunit alpha	GlyQ	Boryong_00 G 678 5			Karp_02000 Kato_0090		4 UT176_009 42	UT76- HP_01864
group_5574	17 competence protein ComEC	ComEC	Boryong_01 G 456 8			Karp_01804 Kato_012:		5 UT176_018 48	UT76- HP_01293
group_5585	18 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 G 875 4			Karp_02242 Kato_0092		8 UT176_011 40	UT76- HP_01619
group_5622	19 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 G 133 4			Karp 00722 Kato 023		0 UT176_020 92	UT76- HP_02218
group_5776	2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate N- 19 succinyltransferase	DapD	Boryong_00 G 132 4			Karp 00723 Kato 0239		0 UT176_020 93	UT76- HP_02217
group_5656	20 MFS transporter permease		Boryong_00 G 574 8	ailliam_009	Ikeda_0161		TA686_0038	8 UT176_001 85	_
			Boryong_00 G	Gilliam_009	lkeda_0161		TA686_0038	8 UT176_001	UT76-
group_5544	20 sodium:pantothenate symporter		573 8 Boryong_00 G		Ikeda_0191	Karp_00352 Kato_004	TA686_0010	86 0 UT176_005	
group_5684	21 SAM-dependent methyltransferase		940 22 Boryong_01 G			Karp_00101 Kato_0234		53 5 UT176_018	HP_01014
group_5705	22 two-component sensor histidine kinase		454 8	1	2	Karp_01806 Kato_012:	18 2	46	HP_01295
group_6160	22 sigma-54-dependent Fis family transcriptional regulator		Boryong_01 G 453 8	10	1	Karp_01807 Kato_012:	19 3	5 UT176_018 45	HP_01296
group_5483	22 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 G 452 7	_		Karp_01808 Kato_0122		5 UT176_018 44	UT76- HP_01297
group_5722	23 aspartate aminotransferase	AspC	Boryong_02 G 006 94			Karp_00229 Kato_0010		1 UT176_001 01	UT76- HP_00570
ubiG	23 Ubiquinone biosynthesis O-methyltransferase	UbiG	Boryong_02 G 007 9			Karp_00230 Kato_0010		1 UT176_001 02	UT76- HP_00569
group_5723	23 ABC transporter		Boryong_02 G 008 9			Karp_00231 Kato_0010		1 UT176_001 03	UT76- HP_00568
group_5724	23 hypothetical protein		Boryong_02 G 009 9			Karp_00232 Kato_0016		1 UT176_001 04	UT76- HP_00567
group_5900	23 coproporphyrinogen III oxidase		Boryong_02 G 010 98			Karp_00233 Kato_0016		1 UT176_001 05	UT76- HP_00566
group_6112	23 hypothetical protein		Boryong_02 G 011 9			Karp_00234 Kato_0016		1 UT176_001 06	UT76- HP_00565
group_5587	23 DNA repair protein RecO	RecO	Boryong_02 G 012 0			Karp_00235 Kato_0016		1 UT176_001 07	UT76- HP_00564
group_5732	24 DNA helicase II	UvrD	Boryong_02 G 217 1			Karp_01153 Kato_0143		9 UT176_014 93	UT76- HP_01067
group_5740	25 NAD-glutamate dehydrogenase	GdhA	Boryong_02 G 452 8			Karp_02529 Kato_0070		6 UT176_006 39	UT76- HP_00743
group_5739	tRNA uridine-5-carboxymethylaminomethyl(34) synthesis GTPase 25 MnmE	2	Boryong_02 G 451 8-		Ikeda_0211 5	Karp_02530 Kato_0070		6 UT176_006 40	UT76- HP_00744
group_6137	25 recombinase XerC	XerC	Boryong_02 G 450 8			Karp_02531 Kato_0070		6 UT176_006 41	UT76- HP_00745
group_6136	25 RNA polymerase-binding protein DksA	DksA	Boryong_02 G 449 8		Ikeda_0211	Karp_02532 Kato_0070	TA686_0176	6 UT176_006 42	-
group_6135	25 inorganic pyrophosphatase		Boryong_02 G 448 8	Gilliam_010	Ikeda_0211	Karp_02533 Kato_0070	TA686_0176	6 UT176_006 43	
group_5415	25 DNA polymerase III subunit delta'	HolB	Boryong_02 G 447 8	Gilliam_010	Ikeda_0211	Karp_02534 Kato_0070	TA686_017	7 UT176_006 44	
group_5922	25 ribosomal large subunit pseudouridine synthase		Boryong_02 G 446 8	Gilliam_010	Ikeda_0211	Karp 02535 Kato 0070	TA686_0177	7 UT176_006 45	-
group_5791	26 tetraacyldisaccharide 4'-kinase	ІрхК	Boryong_00 G 218 1	ailliam_012	Ikeda_0202	Karp_00613 Kato_006	TA686_0025	5 UT176_004 27	_
group_7640	26 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 G 219 20	6illiam_012	Ikeda_0202	Karp_00614 Kato_006	TA686_0025	5 UT176_004 28	-
			Boryong_00 G	Gilliam_025	lkeda_0191		TA686_0164	4 UT176_005	UT76-
group_5849	27 transporter		Boryong_00 G	Gilliam_025	Ikeda_0190	Karp_00104 Kato_0234	TA686_0164	49 4 UT176_005	
glpE	27 hypothetical protein		934 1 Boryong_01 G			Karp_00105 Kato_023		48 4 UT176_013	HP_01019 UT76-
group_5864	28 protein translocase subunit SecF	SecF	198 2		6	Karp_01854 Kato_016		61	HP_01644

group 6057	28 ATP/ADP translocase			Gilliam_017 31		Karp_01856 Kato_01659	TA686_0054 3		UT76- HP 01642
group_5882	29 haloacid dehalogenase			Gilliam_016			TA686_0073		UT76- HP_00989
group_7708	29 DNA gyrase subunit B	GyrB	Boryong_01 632	Gilliam_016 58	lkeda_0094 5	Karp_01022 Kato_01992	TA686_0073 3	UT176_014 07	UT76- HP_00988
group_5577	29 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 631	Gilliam_016 57	Ikeda_0094 6	Karp_01023 Kato_01993	TA686_0073 4	UT176_014 06	UT76- HP_00987
group_5881	29 amino acid permease		Boryong_01 630	Gilliam_016 56	lkeda_0094 7	Karp_01024 Kato_01994	TA686_0073 5	UT176_014 05	UT76- HP_00986
group_5895	30 succinate dehydrogenase iron-sulfur subunit	SdhB	Boryong_01 938	Gilliam_009 45	lkeda_0220 8	Karp_02372 Kato_02140	TA686_0023 5	UT176_006 89	UT76- HP_00157
group_6106	30 succinate dehydrogenase flavoprotein subunit	SdhA	Boryong_01 937	Gilliam_009 44	lkeda_0220 9	Karp_02373 Kato_02139	TA686_0023 6	UT176_006 88	UT76- HP_00156
group_5586	succinate dehydrogenase, hydrophobic membrane anchor 30 protein	SdhD	Boryong_01 936	Gilliam_009 43	lkeda_0221 0	Karp_02374 Kato_02138	TA686_0023 7	UT176_006 87	UT76- HP_00155
group_5721	30 succinate dehydrogenase, cytochrome b556 subunit	SdhC	Boryong_01 935	Gilliam_009 42	lkeda_0221 1	Karp_02375 Kato_02137	TA686_0023 8		UT76- HP_00154
group_5901	31 hypothetical protein		Boryong_02 018	Gilliam_001 08	lkeda_0135 3	Karp_00239 Kato_00172	TA686_0120 4	UT176_001 13	UT76- HP_00558
group_6113	31 hypothetical protein		Boryong_02 019	Gilliam_001 09	lkeda_0135 4	Karp_00240 Kato_00173	TA686_0120 5	UT176_001 14	UT76- HP_00557
group_8000	31 30S ribosomal protein S12	RpsL	Boryong_02 020	Gilliam_001 10	lkeda_0135 5	Karp_00241 Kato_00174	TA686_0120 6	UT176_001 15	UT76- HP_00556
group_7893	31 30S ribosomal protein S7	RpsG	Boryong_02 021	Gilliam_001 11	lkeda_0135 6	Karp_00242 Kato_00175	TA686_0120 7	UT176_001 16	UT76- HP_00555
group_7759	31 elongation factor G	EfG	Boryong_02 022	Gilliam_001 12	lkeda_0135 7	Karp_00243 Kato_00176	TA686_0120 8	UT176_001 17	UT76- HP_00554
group_5902	31 30S ribosomal protein S1	RpsA	Boryong_02 023	Gilliam_001 13	lkeda_0135 8	Karp_00244 Kato_00177	TA686_0120 9	UT176_001 18	UT76- HP_00553
group_6017	32 50S ribosomal protein L20	RpIT	Boryong_00 628	Gilliam_023 47	lkeda_0090 2	Karp_00926 Kato_01948	TA686_0083 3	UT176_011 65	UT76- HP_00870
group_7830	32 50S ribosomal protein L35	RpmL	Boryong_00 627	Gilliam_023 48	lkeda_0090 3	Karp_00927 Kato_01949	TA686_0083 4	UT176_011 66	UT76- HP_00871
group_8150	32 molecular chaperone HtpG	HtpG	Boryong_00 626	Gilliam_023 49	Ikeda_0090 4	Karp_00928 Kato_01950	TA686_0083 5	UT176_011 67	UT76- HP_00872
group_5657	32 succinyl-diaminopimelate desuccinylase	DapE	Boryong_00 625	Gilliam_023 50		Karp_00929 Kato_01951	TA686_0083 6	UT176_011 68	UT76- HP_00873
group_6033	33 DNA translocase FtsK	FtsK	Boryong_00 894	Gilliam_012 56	Ikeda_0043 0	Karp_01269 Kato_01542	TA686_0058 3	UT176_016 46	UT76- HP_01670
group_5682	33 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 895	Gilliam_012 57	Ikeda_0042 9	Karp_01270 Kato_01541	TA686_0058 4	UT176_016 47	UT76- HP_01669
group_7304	33 energy-dependent translational throttle protein EttA	EttA	Boryong_00 896	Gilliam_012 58	Ikeda_0042 8	Karp_01271 Kato_01540	TA686_0058 5	UT176_016 48	UT76- HP_01668
group_5348	33 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 897	Gilliam_012 59	Ikeda_0042 7	Karp_01272 Kato_01539	TA686_0058 6	UT176_016 49	UT76- HP_01667
group_6064	34 alpha/beta hydrolase		Boryong_01 286	Gilliam_016 21	Ikeda_0065 5	Karp_01105 Kato_01727	TA686_0081 1	UT176_015 36	UT76- HP_00785
group_5701	34 iron-sulfur-binding protein		Boryong_01 285	Gilliam_016 20	Ikeda_0065 4	Karp_01106 Kato_01726		35	HP_00784
group_5400	34 aminotransferase class V-fold PLP-dependent enzyme		284		3	Karp_01107 Kato_01725		34	HP_00783
group_6063	34 cysteine desulfurase		283		2	Karp_01108 Kato_01724		33	HP_00782
group_5868	34 iron-sulfur cluster scaffold-like protein		282		1	Karp_01109 Kato_01723		32	HP_00781
group_6062	34 iron-sulfur cluster assembly accessory protein		281		0	Karp_01110 Kato_01722		31	HP_00780
group_5564	34 co-chaperone HscB	HscB	280		9	Karp_01111 Kato_01721		30	HP_00779
group_5867	34 molecular chaperone HscA	HscA	279		8	Karp_01112 Kato_01720		29	HP_00778
group_5563	34 (2Fe-2S) ferredoxin		278		7	Karp_01113 Kato_01719		28	HP_00777
group_6072	35 electron transporter		Boryong_01 395	Gilliam_001 96	Ikeda_0107 6	Karp_01763 Kato_00913	TA686_0225 1	UT176_011 54	UT76- HP_01631

group_6074	36 single-stranded DNA-binding protein			Gilliam_019	Ikeda_0083		TA686_0178		
group_5704	36 hypothetical protein		419 Boryong_01	82 Gilliam_015		Karp_01240 Kato_01363	5 TA686_0254	03 UT176_014	HP_01742 UT76-
group_6078	37 malate dehydrogenase	Mdh	520 Borvong 01	26 Gilliam_015	3 Ikeda 0066	Karp_01409 Kato_01734	1 TA686_0254	50 UT176 014	HP_01425 UT76-
group_6077	37 permease		519		4	Karp_01410 Kato_01735		51	HP_01426
group_5484	37 hypothetical protein		518	28	5	Karp_01411 Kato_01736	9	52	HP_01427
group_6083	38 cytochrome b	СуbВ	614	91	9	Karp_01467 Kato_01374	3	60	HP_01121
group_5878	38 ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase iron-sulfur subunit	PetA	Boryong_01 613	Gilliam_026 90		Karp_01468 Kato_01373	TA686_0079 2	UT176_016 61	UT76- HP_01120
group_5486	38 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 612	Gilliam_026 89		Karp_01469 Kato_01372	TA686_0079 1	UT176_016 62	UT76- HP_01119
group_5877	38 heme exporter protein B	CcmB	Boryong_01 611	Gilliam_026 88		Karp_01470 Kato_01371	TA686_0079 0	UT176_016 63	UT76- HP_01118
group_5709	38 cytochrome c biogenesis protein CcmA	CcmA		Gilliam_026 87		Karp_01471 Kato_01370	TA686_0078 9		UT76- HP_01117
group_6087	39 2-hydroxyacid dehydrogenase		Boryong_01 640	Gilliam_016 66	Ikeda_0093 7	Karp_01014 Kato_01984	TA686_0072 5	UT176_014 15	UT76- HP_00996
group_7914	39 cation:proton antiporter		Boryong_01 639	Gilliam_016 65	Ikeda_0093 8	Karp_01015 Kato_01985	TA686_0072 6	UT176_014 14	UT76- HP_00995
group_6086	39 cation:proton antiporter		Boryong_01 638	Gilliam_016 64	Ikeda_0093 9	Karp_01016 Kato_01986	TA686_0072 7	UT176_014 13	UT76- HP_00994
group_5883	39 sodium:proton antiporter		Boryong_01 637	Gilliam_016 63	Ikeda_0094 0	Karp_01017 Kato_01987	TA686_0072 8	UT176_014 12	UT76- HP_00993
group_5710	39 sodium:proton antiporter		Boryong_01 636	Gilliam_016 62	Ikeda_0094 1	Karp_01018 Kato_01988	TA686_0072 9	UT176_014 11	UT76- HP_00992
group_8081	39 sodium:proton antiporter		Boryong_01 635	Gilliam_016 61	lkeda_0094 2	Karp_01019 Kato_01989	TA686_0073 0	UT176_014 10	UT76- HP_00991
group_6098	40 hypothetical protein		Boryong_01 851	Gilliam_014 22		Karp_02217 Kato_00953	TA686_0149 6		UT76- HP_01595
group_6107	41 S26 family signal peptidase		Boryong_01 941	Gilliam_009 52	lkeda_0220 5	Karp_00806 Kato_02077	TA686_0027 2	UT176_008 90	UT76- HP_02017
group_6108	41 ribonuclease III	Rnc	Boryong_01 942	Gilliam_009 53	lkeda_0220 4	Karp_00807 Kato_02076	TA686_0027 3	UT176_008 89	UT76- HP_02016
group_6121	42 nucleoside-diphosphate kinase	Ndk		Gilliam_008 55		Karp_02170 Kato_00743	TA686_0108 1		UT76- HP_00186
group_6122	43 hypothetical protein		Boryong_02 132	Gilliam_015 67	Ikeda_0079 1	Karp 01397 Kato 01402	TA686_0232 8	UT176_017 08	UT76- HP_01343
group_6132	44 phospholipase D family protein		Boryong_02 222	Gilliam_006 12		Karp 01146 Kato 01485	TA686_0162 8		UT76- HP_01062
group_6754	45 elongation factor 4	lepA	Boryong_01 410	Gilliam_021 08	Ikeda_0083 4	Karp 01242 Kato 01360	TA686_0136 8	UT176_013 01	UT76- HP 01739
group_5874		PrfA		Gilliam_021			TA686_0136		-
group_7286	46 DNA-binding protein			Gilliam_007	Ikeda_0002		TA686_0075		_
		Cure 1	Boryong_00	Gilliam_007	Ikeda_0002		TA686_0075	UT176_006	UT76-
surA	16S rRNA (adenine(1518)-N(6)/adenine(1519)-N(6))-	SurA		Gilliam_007	_		TA686_0075	_	
group_6007	46 dimethyltransferase	David		Gilliam_007			TA686_0076		
group_5824		RmuC		Gilliam_007			TA686_0076		
group_5650	46 zinc metalloprotease			Gilliam_007			TA686_0076		
group_5539		BamA		Gilliam_007			TA686_0076		
group_5649	46 thiol reductase thioredoxin		Boryong_00	15 Gilliam_000			TA686_0237		
group_7769	47 thioredoxin-disulfide reductase	TrxB	020 Boryong_00	24 Gilliam_000	7 Ikeda_0175	Karp_00011 Kato_00071	5 TA686_0237	64 UT176_003	HP_00026 UT76-
group_7112	47 permease		021		8	Karp_00012 Kato_00070		63	HP_00025
group_5621	47 translocation protein ToIB	TolB	022		9	Karp_00013 Kato_00069		62	HP_00024

group_5775	47 dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase	IpdA			Karp_00014 Kato_0		UT76- HP_00023
group_5425	47 SAM-dependent methyltransferase				Karp_00015 Kato_(
group_5426	47 hypothetical protein		Boryong_00 025	Gilliam_000 29	Karp_00016 Kato_(UT76- HP_00021
group_7894	48 type I methionyl aminopeptidase	Мар			Karp_01288 Kato_(
group_7905	49 ubiquinone biosynthesis protein UbiB	UbiB			Karp_01872 Kato_(
group_5580	49 ubiquinone biosynthesis protein	UbiJ			Karp_01873 Kato_0		
group_6093	49 ribosome maturation factor				Karp_01874 Kato_0		
group_6094	49 transcription termination/antitermination protein NusA	NusA		Gilliam_021 95	Karp_01875 Kato_0	TA686_002 1870 1	
group_5889	49 translation initiation factor IF-2	InfB			Karp_01876 Kato_0		
group_7895	49 ribosome-binding factor A	RbfA	Boryong_01 800	Gilliam_021 93	Karp_01877 Kato_(
group_7960	50 preprotein translocase subunit YajC	YajC			Karp_00223 Kato_(
group_6110	50 protein translocase subunit SecD	SecD			Karp_00224 Kato_(
group_8117	51 peptidase S66				Karp_00511 Kato_0		

Product		Boryong	Gilliam	Ikeda	Karp	Kato	TA686	UT176	UT76
(p)pGpp hydrolase		37	31	25	40	26	14	16	25
(p)ppGpp synthetase		2	2	1	5	1	0	2	2
spoT ppGpp hydrolase		3	15	7	16	9	11	5	5
ABC transporter ATP-binding protein		1	2	2	2	3	2	1	3
Aconitate hydratase A		1	1	2	1	2	0	1	1
All ankyrin proteins		43	46	40	58	37	39	37	38
	ankyrin	14	26	18	33	23	21	21	25
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein	13	10	13	11	7	4	10	8
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein 09	4	6	3	4	2	8	3	3
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein 13	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein 16	9	0	2	7	2	2	1	0
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein 17	0	1	1	1	0	4	1	0
	ankyrin repeat-containing protein 19	0	2	2	1	2	0	0	1
ATP-binding protein		48	85	63	99	91	97	44	87
Cell division protein FtsB		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
All conjugal transfer proteins		461	532	378	570	502	462	330	481
	conjugal transfer protein	166	202	138	242	181	202	137	194
	conjugal transfer protein TraA	75	86	60	83	56	64	41	62
	conjugal transfer protein TraC	70	50	39	40	65	37	34	61
	conjugal transfer protein TraD	1	0	2	2	2	2	0	0
	conjugal transfer protein TraG	13	29	21	28	24	25	19	24

	conjugal transfer protein TraH	41	37	37	44	52	34	24	41
	conjugal transfer protein Tral	41	62	32	65	48	50	25	33
	conjugal transfer protein TraN	46	49	30	38	40	27	36	45
	type-F conjugative transfer system pilin								
	assembly protein TrbC	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
	type-F conjugative transfer system								
	protein TraW	8	17	19	26	34	21	14	21
deoxyribodipyrimidine photo-lyase		4	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
DNA helicase		0	0	1	3	6	0	0	1
DNA methyltransferase		27	32	17	29	26	22	17	28
DNA polymerase III subunit epsilon		1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
elongation factor Tu		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
exodeoxyribonuclease III		3	1	4	4	2	1	2	3
exodeoxyribonuclease VII small subunit		1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
Group II intron-encoded protein LtrA		0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
guanosine polyphosphate pyrophosphohydrolase		3	2	10	3	9	11	1	5
helix-turn-helix domain-containing protein		3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
histidine kinase		1	8	9	8	13	16	1	9
HNH endonuclease		4	2	1	32	19	37	0	3
hydrolase		5	13	13	11	20	12	7	14
hypothetical protein		321	250	180	259	241	242	134	188
integrase		69	77	69	71	92	87	44	82

All transposases		338	602	306	325	242	409	487	242
	DDE transposase family protein	0	0	4	2	1	3	0	1
	IS110 family transposase	19	8	34	22	14	23	13	5
	IS5 family transposase ISOt6	199	157	101	143	85	163	73	87
	IS630 family transposase	26	342	71	27	37	83	316	29
	transposase	94	95	96	131	105	137	85	120
lipase LipB		1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2
lysinetRNA ligase		1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
membrane protein		12	27	17	34	25	20	16	22
N-6 DNA methylase		6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
NADP-dependent oxidoreductase		1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
peroxiredoxin		1	2	4	4	7	5	2	2
phosphatidate cytidylyltransferase		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
phosphoribosylaminoimidazolesuccinocarboxamide									
synthase		1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2
polyribonucleotide nucleotidyltransferase		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
preprotein translocase SecA subunit-like protein		0	4	2	7	2	9	0	2
Propionyl-CoA carboxylase beta chain		0	1	2	1	2	0	1	1
repeat-containing protein D		4	0	4	1	2	0	1	1
replicative DNA helicase		47	33	28	40	36	39	17	34
reverse transcriptase		58	19	32	5	33	23	2	6
RNA-binding protein		3	2	5	10	3	12	4	4

sodium:proline symporter		4	4	7	6	8	5	5	5
TAL effector protein PthXo1		1	0	3	2	3	0	1	3
All TPR repeat-containing proteins		22	40	18	29	37	24	22	27
	TPR repeat-containing protein 03	0	12	6	8	10	7	11	4
	TPR repeat-containing protein 08	22	28	12	21	27	17	11	23
tryptophantRNA ligase		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
UDP pyrophosphate synthase		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

710 Table S6. Repeat gene counts in each strain. Repeat genes were grouped by protein similarity and annotated with the product of the longest

711 gene in the group where annotations differed.

Sample	Pseudogenes	Truncated 5'	Truncated 3'	Frameshift
Boryong	432	219	302	46
Gilliam	484	262	278	51
Ikeda	257	141	186	38
Karp	321	105	236	47
Kato	286	143	178	57
TA686	453	200	307	50
UT176	465	107	392	53
UT76	319	149	203	52

017631914920352713Table S7. Pseudogenes and causes of pseudogenisation for each strain. The causes are not

714 mutually exclusive, and may sum to greater than the total number of pseudogenes.

	56kDa	47kDa	MLST	Core genome
56kDa	-	10	10	8
47kDa	10	-	8	6
MLST	10	8	-	10
Core				
genome	8	6	10	-

715 Table S8. Robinson-Foulds distances between phylogenetic trees.