DIVERSITY IN CRISPR-BASED IMMUNITY PROTECTS SUSCEPTIBLE GENOTYPES BY RESTRICTING PHAGE SPREAD AND EVOLUTION

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SHORT TITLE Host diversity protects susceptible genotypes

KEYWORDS CRISPR-Cas, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, phage, experimental evolution, host-pathogen, dilution effect, evolutionary emergence

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS JC: methodology, investigation, data curation, formal analysis, visualisation, writing (original draft preparation). DWS and SVH: resources, writing (review and editing). ERW: conceptualisation, methodology, supervision, writing (review and editing).

DATA ACCESSIBILITY All raw data and R code associated with this this study are publicly available at github.com/JackCommon/Common_etal_2019_host_diversity

1 **Abstract**

Diversity in host resistance often associates with reduced pathogen spread. This

may result from ecological and evolutionary processes, likely with feedback between

them. Theory and experiments on bacteria-phage interactions have shown that

genetic diversity of the bacterial adaptive immune system can limit phage evolution

to overcome resistance. Using the CRISPR-Cas bacterial immune system and lytic

phage, we engineered a host-pathogen system with a non-overlapping genetic

architecture of infectivity. With this model system, we explored how CRISPR

diversity impacts the spread of phage when they can overcome a resistance allele,

how immune diversity affects the evolution of the phage to increase its host range,

and if there was feedback between these processes. We show that increasing

CRISPR diversity benefits susceptible bacteria mainly via a dilution effect, which

limits the spread of the phage. We suggest that this ecological effect impacts the

evolution of novel phage genotypes, which then feeds back into phage population

dynamics.

Author Summary

Diversity in immune systems can slow down or even prevent disease (pathogens)

from spreading. We already know that diversity matters, for example in protecting

crops and endangered wild populations from pathogens. However, it's not entirely

clear what drives this effect of diversity. It could be due to how diversity "dilutes"

hosts, making them harder to infect; it could be because new pathogens are less

likely to evolve when diversity is high; and it could be a combination of both. To help

answer why diversity matters for disease spread, we did an experiment with bacteria

and their viruses. We found that diversity matters because the bacteria a virus can

infect gets more diluted, which slows and eventually stops the virus. This effect also

makes it harder for phage to evolve and infect new bacteria in the population. This is

important because it gives us a better idea of how to limit diseases in already

threatened populations.

Introduction

Genetic diversity is a key determinant of the ecology and evolution of host-pathogen systems. Various studies of wild organisms have shown that genetic diversity within a host species often affects pathogen prevalence. The importance of diversity for disease prevalence in wild populations has been observed in numerous species, for example: cheetahs (1); Italian agile frogs (2); crimson rosella parrots (3); inbred black-footed ferret populations (4); inbred California sea lions (5); young island populations of deer mice (6); and Galapagos hawks (7). The importance of diversity for limiting disease in agricultural contexts has long been recognised (8), for example in rice (9) and hybridising populations of honeybees (10). In laboratory environments, more genetically diverse populations of *Daphnia magna* are more resistant to parasites (11), an effect that depends on the genetic architecture of resistance (12). In microbial systems, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PA14 and *Streptococcus thermophilus* with diverse immunity alleles were shown to be more resistant against lytic bacteriophage (13, 14). Two recent meta-analyses have shown that host diversity is a robust defence against pathogens both in agricultural (15) and natural populations (16).

The suggested reasons for the effect of host diversity on pathogen spread can be broadly divided into ecological and evolutionary effects. The ecological effect of diversity may manifest through a dilution effect (17, 18). In terms of within-species immune diversity, increasing the number of resistant or low-quality hosts decreases the fraction of susceptible hosts. This can reduce contact rates between free-living pathogens and susceptible hosts, which in turn limits the basic reproduction number

of the pathogen (R_0) (19-21). There is much observational support for the role of a

dilution effect in multi-species host-pathogen systems (reviewed in (18)), and some

experimental work has suggested that dilution of susceptible host genotypes can

limit pathogen spread in single host species systems (22, 23). Evolutionary effects of

diversity may manifest through limitation of the evolutionary emergence of novel

pathogen genotypes (24, 25), potentially because the supply of novel pathogen

mutations depends on the prevalence of susceptible hosts (26-28). The evolutionary

and ecological effects of host diversity are likely to depend on one another, as the

basic reproductive value of a pathogen will influence its ability to evolve to overcome

host resistance (27). Further, because increasing host diversity dilutes susceptible

hosts, pathogens may reach smaller population sizes and generate fewer novel

variants on which selection can act. Simultaneously, increasing host diversity can

increase selection for novel variants. These two effects can maximise evolutionary

emergence at intermediate host diversity (29, 30).

The interaction between lytic bacteriophage (phage) and the bacterial CRISPR-Cas

(Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats; CRISPR-associated)

immune system is a tractable model system to study the evolutionary ecology of

infectious diseases, including the role of host diversity (13, 29, 31). CRISPR-Cas

immune systems can incorporate short DNA fragments (spacers) of about 30 base

pairs derived from the phage genome into CRISPR loci on the host genome (32).

Processed CRISPR transcripts guide Cas immune complexes to identify and cleave

the invading phage genome, preventing successful re-infections (33-36). In turn,

phage can evolve to overcome CRISPR immunity by point mutation in the sequence

targeted by the spacer (protospacer) or in the protospacer-adjacent motif (PAM),

which flanks the protospacer and functions in self/non-self discrimination (37-40).

Phage evolution to overcome CRISPR immunity can lead to CRISPR-phage

coevolution (41-44). CRISPR loci in both natural and experimental populations can

be highly diverse (41, 42, 45, 46), due to different bacteria in the population acquiring

different spacers (31). Diversity has important implications for the coevolutionary

interaction, as CRISPR diversity can provide increased resistance by limiting the

ability of phage to acquire the mutations needed to overcome CRISPR resistance

(41). Phage mutation is limited by mutation supply (47-49), and full phage infectivity

requires mutations in all the protospacers targeted by the host CRISPR array. This

becomes more difficult as individual-and population-level CRISPR diversity

increases (48, 50), and can drive rapid phage extinction (13, 14, 29).

Apart from this evolutionary effect, theory predicts that even if a phage mutant

evolved that can overcome one CRISPR resistance allele in the population, its ability

to amplify will be reduced in a more diverse host population (19). The resulting

smaller phage population sizes are in turn predicted to reduce the ability of the

phage to evolve to overcome other CRISPR resistance alleles in the population (27,

29). However, these predictions remain untested. We therefore set out to explicitly

test the ecological role of host diversity and its knock-on evolutionary effects using

the bacteria *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and its lytic phage DMS3vir. We performed

an experiment where we manipulated the degree of CRISPR diversity in the host

population by mixing different numbers of CRISPR-resistant clones, and measured

host fitness, phage population dynamics and evolution, following infection with a

phage that was pre-evolved to infect one CRISPR resistance allele in the population.

Results

To explore how population-level immune diversity would influence the population

dynamics and evolution of an infective phage and its susceptible host genotype, we

set up an experiment where we mixed 1-, 3-, 6-, 12- and 24-clones, and inoculated

each treatment with a phage that was pre-evolved to infect only one of the clones

(escape phage) (**Figure S1 & S2**). The susceptible clone (i.e. the one that could be

infected by the escape phage) always carried a *lacZ* reporter gene, so we could

follow its population dynamics and competitive performance during the experiment.

P. aeruginosa ΔpilA, which only resists phage infection via surface receptor

modification, was included in each treatment to provide a benchmark against which

the dynamics and performance of the entire CRISPR population could be measured.

We also included 1- and 24-clone treatments inoculated with ancestral phage to

which the whole bacterial population was resistant, which served as a control (13).

We then monitored population dynamics and evolution of the phage, CRISPR clones

and the susceptible clone over 3 days.

We hypothesised that if CRISPR diversity limits phage epidemics, then both phage

density and survival would be negatively correlated with CRISPR diversity. Phage

densities decreased as CRISPR diversity increased ($F_{6,342}$ = 48.30, $p < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$;

Fig. 1), phage population sizes decreased over the course of the experiment

(regression of ln pfu ml^{-1} over dpi: β [95% CI] = -1.32 [-1.74, -0.94], $t(2)_{344}$ = -6.40, p

= 5.06×10^{-10}), and phage declined faster with increasing CRISPR diversity

(interaction between CRISPR diversity and days post-infection: $F_{6,314}$ = 24.10, $p <$

2.2×10^{-16}; **Fig. 1A & B**). This is consistent with a protective effect of CRISPR

diversity. The ancestral phage controls show that phage titre over time in a

monoclonal (and initially resistant) host population is statistically similar to that

observed when an escape phage infects a monoclonal (but susceptible) population

(**Fig. 1B**), which is in line with previous data showing that CRISPR-resistant

monocultures allow phage persistence due to rapid evolution of escape phage that

overcome the CRISPR resistance allele (13). When we explored the model further,

we found that ancestral phage titres were lower in the 24-clone population compared

to the same treatment with the pre-evolved escape phage (difference in ln pfu ml^{-1}: β

[95% CI] = -2.40 [-4.67, -0.33], $t(2)_{342}$ = -2.25, p = 0.03; **Fig. 1B**). This is consistent

with a modest escape phage epidemic being able to establish by replicating on the

susceptible fraction of the host population.

Next we hypothesised that if phage survival across our CRISPR diversity treatments

was related to phage evolution, the proportion of phage that evolved an expanded

infectivity range would negatively correlate with CRISPR diversity. Given that our

experiment was designed such that the proportion of the host population resistant to

the escape phage increased with CRISPR diversity, there would likely have been

strong selection to acquire mutations in other protospacers and PAMs to infect other

hosts in the population. The evolution of range expansion did depend on diversity

(LR = 6.60, p = 0.01), and was most likely in the 6-clone treatment, particularly at 3

days post-infection (dpi) (**Fig. 2**). This is consistent with the idea that intermediate

host diversity maximises evolutionary emergence (29, 30). Phage survival in some

treatments was promoted by evolutionary emergence of host shift, where infectivity

on the original host is lost but phage evolved to infect a new host. This is a less likely

event as it involves two mutations: back-mutation to the ancestral state at the original

protospacer followed by mutation at the new protospacer, all while incurring the cost

of loss of infectivity on the original host. We observed phage in two replicates of the

24-clone treatment had evolved via host shift. Sequence data confirmed that single

nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the PAM that conferred infectivity to the original

host had been lost, and novel SNPs or deletions had emerged in protospacers that

conferred infectivity to a new host present in the population (**Table 4 & 5 in S1 Text**).

These data suggest that the evolutionary emergence of host range expansion or

host shift contributed to phage survival.

Given that CRISPR diversity negatively affected phage persistence, we reasoned

that this could also lead to enhanced fitness of the CRISPR population as a whole

(13). We therefore hypothesised that the selection rate (53, 54) of all CRISPR clones

(both resistant and susceptible) would be positively related to CRISPR diversity. We

did find that CRISPR clones in all polyclonal CRISPR populations had higher

selection rates compared to clonal populations during infection with escape phage

(**Fig. 3**). However, within the polyclonal populations, we did not detect a relationship

between CRISPR diversity and selection rate when controlling for the effect of time

($F_{4,113}$ = 1.73, p = 0.15; **Fig. 3C**). Selection rate also did not change notably over time

(regression of selection rate over dpi: β [95% CI] = 0.03 [-0.04, 0.11], $t(2)_{118}$ = 0.94,

p = 0.35) even though phage densities decreased with time.

The absence of a detectable relationship between the level of CRISPR diversity and

the selection rate of all CRISPR clones might be because escape phage dynamics

were dependent on the susceptible subpopulation. Consequently, we hypothesised

that the selection rate of susceptible CRISPR clones would be positively related to

the level of CRISPR diversity. Indeed, in some replicates in the 3- and 6-clone

treatments the susceptible CRISPR clone was driven extinct by phage (**Fig. 4A**).

Further, the selection rate of susceptible CRISPR clones in these treatments was on

average less than zero (mean selection rate [95% CI]; 3-clone: -1.53 [-2.61, -0.45];

6-clone: -0.99 [-2.07, -0.09]), indicating they tended to be outcompeted by resistant

CRISPR clones. Turning to the 12- and 24-clone treatments, the selection rate of

susceptible clones was statistically similar to zero, and significantly higher than the

3- and 6-clone treatments (12-clone: 0.12 [-0.96, 1.21]; 24-clone: 0.15 [-0.93, 1.24];

Fig. 4B & C). Together, these data show that the selection rate of susceptible

CRISPR clones increased with CRISPR diversity. There was also an increase in

selection rate of susceptible CRISPR clones over time among polyclonal treatments

(regression of selection rate over dpi: β [95% CI] = 0.41 [0.03, 0.80], $t(2)_{118}$ = 2.17, p

= 0.03; **Fig. 4A & B**), which parallels the decline in phage population sizes over time

in the same treatments (regression of ln pfu ml^{-1} over dpi: β [95% CI] = -2.58 [-3.23,

-1.84], $t(2)_{114}$ = -7.64, p = 7.27 x 10^{-12}). These data suggest that susceptible hosts

are protected by population-level CRISPR diversity, and that this protection is

mediated by a reduced ability of phage to replicate on increasingly dilute susceptible

hosts (**Figure S3**).

Discussion

Previous studies have shown that CRISPR diversity can limit the evolution of phage to overcome host resistance (13, 29). In those studies, bacterial populations were infected with ancestral phage that had not been previously exposed to resistant hosts. Here, we examined the consequences of CRISPR diversity once a phage has already evolved to overcome one of the CRISPR resistance alleles in the population. This tractable system enabled us to closely monitor how the level of CRISPR diversity influenced the population and evolutionary dynamics of the phage, as well as the evolutionary dynamics of the host.

These analyses show that phage population sizes were larger and persisted longer in populations with lower CRISPR diversity, which is consistent with previous studies (13). Our results indicate that increasing host diversity dilutes susceptible hosts, which in turn limits phage population size and survival. This dilution effect of host resistance diversity is an important factor in explaining why genetically diverse host populations often have reduced pathogen loads (17, 18, 55). Further, this result qualitatively matches theoretical predictions of how host diversity should affect pathogen spread in a system with matching allele genetic architecture (19).

In theory, this kind of ecological effect can in turn shape the evolutionary dynamics of the bacteria-phage interaction, since smaller phage population sizes will decrease the mutation supply and hence the evolutionary potential of the phage (26-28). We did observe that the evolution of phage host range expansion peaked at intermediate levels of CRISPR diversity. This is likely because increasing CRISPR diversity

dilutes susceptible hosts, which results in smaller phage population size and hence

less genetic variation on which selection can act. Simultaneously, increasing host

diversity can increase selection for escape mutations. These two effects in dynamic

tension can maximise evolutionary emergence at intermediate host diversity (29).

In this study, we focussed on host populations where different CRISPR resistance

genotypes were at equal starting frequencies, but natural communities are often

composed of a few very common and many rare variants (57, 58). This likely matters

for the observed dynamics, since the proportion of susceptible hosts has a large

impact on the probability of evolutionary emergence of pathogens (29). Also, we

focussed our analysis on the simple case where a diverse host population is infected

by a clonal pathogen population. In nature, pathogen populations will frequently be

genetically diverse as well (59, 60), and increased levels of pathogen diversity may

affect the benefits of host diversity (61). Indeed, previous studies of CRISPR-phage

interactions suggest that infection by two different phages can increase bacteria-

phage coexistence compared to infections with a single phage (42, 43). The

empirical system used in this study offers both a unique ability to link genotypes and

phenotypes, tight experimental control over the infectivity matrix of the host-phage

interaction, and a clear link with theoretical predictions. These features will make it

an ideal system for more detailed studies to understand how the composition of the

host population and the relative diversity levels of the phage and host shape

coevolutionary interactions.

Materials & Methods

Bacterial strains and phage

Evolution experiments were carried out using *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* UCBPP-PA14 (which has two CRISPR loci, CRISPR1 and CRISPR2), UCBPP-PA14 Δ*pilA* (this strain lacks the pilus, which is the phage DMS3 receptor, and therefore displays surface-based resistance) and phage DMS3vir (62). We used *P. aeruginosa* UCBPP-PA14 *csy3::lacZ* (63), which carries an inactive CRISPR-Cas system, for phage amplification, and for top lawns in phage spot and plaque assays. *P. aeruginosa* PA14 *csy3::lacZ, Escherichia coli* DH5α (NEB), *E. coli* CC118 λpir (NEB), and *E. coli* MFD*pir* (64) were used for molecular cloning.

Co-culture experiment

To control the levels of CRISPR diversity in our evolution experiments, we established a library of 24 *P. aeruginosa* PA14 clones each carrying a single spacer in CRISPR2 (bacteriophage-insensitive mutants; BIMs). We also independently evolved 24 phage clones that could infect each BIM (escape phage). To be able to monitor the population dynamics and relative fitness of individual bacterial clones within the mixed populations over the course of the co-culture experiment, we transformed 8 BIMs to carry a *lacZ* reporter gene. The *LacZ* gene encodes the β-galactosidase enzyme that hydrolyses X-gal, resulting in the production of a blue pigment.

We designed 5 treatments in which we manipulated the level of CRISPR spacer

diversity, based on the BIM library: monocultures (1-clone), or polycultures

consisting of 3, 6, 12 and 24 clones. For each of the polyclonal treatments, a single

BIM carrying the *lacZ* reporter gene was included. From fresh overnight cultures of

each BIM, we made mixes of equal proportion of each clone corresponding to the

diversity treatments. To monitor the population dynamics and competitive

performance of the CRISPR-resistant population as a whole, we also added PA14

$\Delta pilA$ (surface mutant; SM, which is fully resistant to phage DMS3vir and has a

distinct "smooth" colony morphology) to each mix in equal proportion to the CRISPR

population. We then inoculated 6ml of M9m 1:100 from each mix. Approximately

1×10^6 pfu ml^{-1} of the escape phage targeting the labelled BIM were then added to

each vial. We also established 1- and 24-clone treatments with ancestral phage as

controls. Polyclonal treatments consisted of 8 biological replicates (*N*=8) to ensure

that both BIMs and phage were equally represented across treatments, while the 1-

clone treatments consisted of 24 biological replicates (*N*=24). Glass vials were

incubated at 37°C while shaking at 180rpm. At 1, 2, and 3 days-post infection (dpi),

the sampling of the phage and bacterial culture was repeated as described. Cultures

were transferred 1:100 to fresh media after sampling had been carried out. The

experiment was terminated at 3 dpi.

Each day 180µl of culture was taken from each vial and phage was extracted using

chloroform. Phage titres were determined by serially diluting extracted phage in 1x

M9 salts, and then spotting 5µl of each dilution on a top lawn of *P. aeruginosa* PA14

csy3::lacZ, which was then incubated at 37°C for 24hrs. Phage titres were calculated

from this assay. The detection limit of phage spot assays is 10^2 pfu ml^{-1}. To monitor

bacterial densities, culture samples were serially diluted in 1x M9 salts, and then

plated on LB agar + 40µg/ml X-gal + 0.1mM IPTG, and incubated for 48hrs at 37˚C.

The density of SM, CRISPR and the labelled BIM was then calculated. SM were

differentiated from CRISPR clones by their "smooth" colony morphology, and the

labelled BIM was identified by the blue:white screen.

We assessed the competitive performance of the CRISPR relative to SM clones and

the labelled BIM relative to non-labelled BIMs by calculating selection rate (r_n = (ln

[density strain A at t_n/density strain A at t_{n-1}] – ln[density strain B at t_n/density strain B

at t_{n-1}])/day) (53, 54), which expresses competitive performance as the natural log of

the relative change in density of one competitor against another. First, the relative

fitness (*W*) calculation used in Westra *et al.* (2015) (46) is very sensitive to starting

densities and hence becomes increasingly skewed at later timepoints. Applied to our

data, it consequently produced impossibly high values of *W*.

Phage evolution

We examined phage evolution during the experiment by sampling 12 individual

plaques from each replicate that had detectable levels of phage from 1 to 3 dpi,

which were amplified on PA14 *csy3::lacZ* overnight in LB, at 37˚C and shaking at

180rpm. Phage were extracted using chloroform, and then diluted 1000-fold.

Samples of each phage were then applied on lawns of each of the 24 BIMs and WT

PA14 *csy3::lacZ*. A successful infection was indicated by a clear lysis zone on the

top lawn. Phage were classified according to whether they had expanded their

infectivity range (could infect the original susceptible clone and a new clone in the

BIM library). Of the phages that had undergone a host shift (lost infectivity to the

original clone and could only infect a new clone), we confirmed their expanded

infectivity range by sequencing the old and new protospacers on the evolved phage

genome (SourceBioscience, UK). We also sequenced the relevant protospacers of

the pre-evolved escape phage from the BIM-phage library and ancestral DMS3vir.

Primers are given in Table S3.

Statistical analyses

All statistical analyses were carried out in R v3.5.3 (65). The packages dplyr (66),

tidyr (67) and magrittr (68) were used for data handling. Generalised linear mixed

models (GLMMs) were used throughout, and replicate was treated as a random

effect in all models. Days post-infection (dpi) was treated as a continuous variable

and CRISPR allele diversity as a categorical variable. Model selection followed a

nested approach, where full versus reduced models were compared using

information criteria (69, 70), and the similarity between observed and predicted

values. The overall statistical significance of the single and interaction effects of fixed

effects (that is, treatment and dpi) was assed using ANOVA, which gives an F- and

associated p-value. Simple Bayesian GLMMs from the MCMCglmm (71) package

were used to analyse phage evolution. These models used a probit transformation

(the inverse standard normal distribution of the probability) and a flat prior. The

overall statistical significance of the single and additive effects of fixed effects in

these models was assessed using Likelihood Ratio (LR) tests and their associated p-

values using the VCVglmm package (72). Where possible, exact p-values are given,

but R is unable to give exact values when $p < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$. When phage titre was

considered as the response variable, data was log-transformed to improve model fit.

Credibility intervals around model coefficients and predictions were calculated to the

95%, 89% and 67% level to give the reader a clearer indication of effect size. The

package ggplot2 (73) was used to generate figures. All R code used for analyses

and figures is available at this manuscript's GitHub page.

Acknowledgements

We thank Meaghan Castledine for help constructing the pBAM1(Gm)_lacZ plasmid.

 Figure captions

Fig 1. Increasing CRISPR diversity limited phage population size and survival

(A) Population dynamics of phage at different levels of CRISPR diversity in the host

population (panels). Black lines show the phage density expressed as plaque-

forming units (pfu) ml^{-1} in individual replicates at each day post-infection. The limit of

phage detection is 200 pfu ml^{-1}. (B) Coefficients from a GLMM of the natural log of

phage density (ln[pfu ml^{-1}]), with CRISPR allele diversity treatment and days post-

infection (dpi) as fixed effects. The intercept is the mean phage titre in the 1-clone

treatment at 0 dpi. The β differences from the intercept are shown for the remaining

levels of both fixed effects. The dotted line at zero indicates no difference from the

intercept. Means are shown as white points with 67, 89% and 95% credibility

intervals given in decreasing width.

Fig 2. Phage evolutionary emergence was maximised at intermediate CRISPR

diversity

Estimated proportion of phage that had evolved to infect a second CRISPR clone in

addition to the original CRISPR clone they were pre-evolved to infect at each day

post-infection in each polyclonal CRISPR diversity treatment. Because these

estimates are derived from a Bayesian GLMM, they are posterior modes - not means

– and are shown as white points. Similarly, 67, 89 and 95% credibility intervals are

highest probability density intervals, and are given in decreasing width around mode

estimates. Residuals are shown as points.

Fig 3. Selection rate of all CRISPR clones did not change with any level of CRISPR diversity

Selection rate of all CRISPR clones relative to a surface mutant (which does not encode CRISPR-based immunity) in (A) the 1-clone CRISPR diversity treatments with infective and ancestral phage and (B) the remaining CRISPR diversity treatments. Days post-infection is indicated by colour. Selection rate is the natural log of the relative change in density of one competitor against another. The dotted line at zero indicates no difference in density change i.e. both are equally fit. Boxplots show the median, 25th and 75th percentile, and the interquartile range. Residuals are shown as points. (C) Predicted mean selection rate derived from a GLMM that statistically controls for the effect of time. Means are shown as white points with 67, 89 and 95% credibility intervals given in decreasing width.

Fig 4. The selection rate of susceptible CRISPR clones increased with CRISPR diversity and over time

Selection rate susceptible CRISPR clones relative to the resistant CRISPR clones in in (A) the 3- and 6-clone CRISPR diversity treatments and (B) the remaining CRISPR diversity treatments. Days post-infection is indicated by colour. Selection rate is the natural log of the relative change in density of one competitor against another. The dotted line at zero indicates no difference in density change i.e. both are equally fit. Boxplots show the median, 25th and 75th percentile, and the interquartile range. Residuals are shown as points. The 1-clone treatments, both with infective and ancestral phage, have been excluded because the whole CRISPR population was susceptible, and the data is therefore present in Fig. 3A. (C) Predicted mean selection rate derived from a GLMM that statistically controls for the

406   effect of time. Means are shown as white points with 67, 89 and 95% credibility

407   intervals given in decreasing width.

 Fig. 1

A

410 **Fig. 2**

413 **Fig. 3**

416   **Fig. 4**

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Supporting information captions

S1 Text. Supplemental materials & methods, figures, and tables

Figure S1. Infectivity matrix of the library of bacteriophage-insensitive mutants

(BIMs) and escape phages

The identity of BIMs and escape phage (1-24) are shown in the first row and column,

respectively. Black squares represent infectivity, white indicates no infectivity.

Infectivity of the wild-type DMS3vir is shown, as well as the infectivity of each escape

phage on wild-type *P. aeruginosa* PA14.

Figure S2. Design of the co-culture experiment

The library of bacteriophage-insensitive mutants (BIMs) and escape phage is shown

at the top (that is, Figure S1). For each CRISPR allele diversity treatment, the

relevant numbers of BIMs and escape phage were taken from the library and used to

start the experiment, as shown by the arrows. The number of BIMs is shown next to

the arrows. Blue text indicates that the BIM was engineered to carry a lacZ reporter

gene, and that it was susceptible to the escape phage. Black text indicates that the

BIMs were resistant to the phage. The number of replicates (N) is given underneath

each treatment. SM represents the surface mutant strain PA14 ΔpilA.

Figure S3. Density of surface mutants, all CRISPR clones, and the susceptible

CRISPR clone

Population dynamics of the bacterial host population at different levels of CRISPR

allele diversity in the host population (panels). Lines show the density expressed as

colony-forming units (cfu) ml^{-1} in individual replicates at each day post-infection (x-

axis). Line colours indicate host immunity: *P. aeruginosa* PA14 Δ*pilA* surface mutant,

which is completely resistant to phage; all CRISPR clones from the BIM library; and

susceptible CRISPR clones.

Table 1 Sequence of spacers in the CRISPR2 locus of each of the 24

bacteriophage-insensitive mutants (BIMs) used in the co-culture experiment. Clones

transformed to carry a *lacZ* reporter gene using pBAM1(Gm)_lacZ are highlighted in

blue.

Table 2 Plasmids, Primers, and Strains used for molecular cloning work.

Table 3 Primers used to amplify and sequence the protospacers of interest of phage

that were shown to have undergone host shift (lost infectivity to the original clone

and could only infect a new clone) from the phenotypic assay. The first column

indicates if the protospacer was the original pre-evolved or the new protospacer, with

the identity of the protospacer shown in brackets. The primer sequence and binding

direction are shown, and if the primer was used for PCR or sequencing reactions.

Table 4 Protospacer sequences of evolved phage clones which showed host shift

according to the phenotypic assay from replicate 3 of the 24-clone treatment at 1 day

post-infection (dpi). The CRISPR-targeted protospacer and PAM sequences of the

ancestral (WT) phage and of the pre-evolved phage are shown. Numbers 1-12 are

separate phage isolates. The second column indicates if the protospacer was the

original pre-evolved or the new protospacer, with the identity of the protospacer

shown in brackets. Protospacer-adjacent motif (PAM) and protospacer sequences

are shown separately. SNPs and deletions are highlighted in red.

Table 5 Protospacer sequences of evolved phage clones which showed host shift

according to the phenotypic assay from replicate 5 of the 24-clone treatment at 2

days post-infection (dpi). The CRISPR-targeted protospacer and PAM sequences of

the ancestral (WT) phage and of the pre-evolved phage are shown. Numbers 1-8 are

separate phage isolates. The second column indicates if the protospacer was the

original pre-evolved or the new protospacer, with the identity of the protospacer

shown in brackets. Protospacer-adjacent motif (PAM) and protospacer sequences

are shown separately. SNPs and deletions are highlighted in red.