# The *las* and *rhl* Quorum Sensing Systems in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Form a Multi-Signal Reciprocal Network Which Can Tune Reactivity to Variations in Physical and Social Environments

## Supporting Information

### Literature Search

The PubMed database of the US National Institutes of Health was queried on 20 July 2021 using the query [PubMed Search ("review"[Title/Abstract] OR "review"[Publication Type]) AND "quorum sensing"[Title] AND "pseudomonas aeruginosa"[Title/Abstract]](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%28%22review%22%5BTitle%2FAbstract%5D+OR+%22review%22%5BPublication+Type%5D%29+AND+%22quorum+sensing%22%5BTitle%5D+AND+%22pseudomonas+aeruginosa%22%5BTitle%2FAbstract%5D&sort=), resulting in 76 results with publication dates from 1996 to 2021. Papers that incluced a daigram of the gene transcription networks for the *las* and *rhl* quorum sensing systems were further analyzed to show the interactions present on those diagrams. Tables S.1 and S.2 show the results. Of the papers analyzed, all show the *las* system positively activating the *rhl* system, and none show the *rhl* system postively activating the *las* system.

Table 1: \_las\_r

| Paper | PMID | →*lasI* | →*lasR* | →*rhlI* | →*rhlR* | →elastase |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (García-Reyes, Soberón-Chávez, and Cocotl-Yanez 2020) | [31794380](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31794380/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● | ● |
| (Rutherford and Bassler 2012) | [23125205](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23125205/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● |  |
| (Proctor, McCarron, and Ternan 2020) | [31971503](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31971503/) | ● | ○ | ○ | ● |  |
| (Jakobsen et al. 2013) | [23841636](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23841636/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● |  |
| (Soukarieh et al. 2018) | [29999316](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29999316/) | ● | ● | ● | ● |  |
| (Tateda 2005) | [15926474](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15926474/) | ● | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| (Williams et al. 2007) | [19249239](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19249239/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |  |
| (Heurlier, Dénervaud, and Haas 2006) | [16503417](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16503417/) | ● | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Le Berre et al. 2006) | [16631332](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16631332/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |  |
| (Juhas, Eberl, and Tümmler 2005) | [15816912](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15816912/) | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| (Donabedian 2003) | [12799145](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12799145/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● | ● |
| (Reuter, Steinbach, and Helms 2016) | [26819549](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26819549/) | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |
| (Yong and Zhong 2013) | [22767136](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22767136/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● | ● |
| (Welsh and Blackwell 2016) | [27268906](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27268906/) |  |  | ● | ● | ● |
| (De Sordi and Mühlschlegel 2009) | [19845041](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19845041/) | ● | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Winzer and Williams 2001) | [11437336](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11437336/) | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● |
| (Schuster et al. 2013) | [23682605](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23682605/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● |  |
| (Papaioannou, Utari, and Quax 2013) | [24065108](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24065108/) | ● | ● | ○ | ● | ● |
| (Roy, Adams, and Bentley 2011) | [22112397](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22112397/) | ● | ○ | ● | ● |  |

**Table S.1.** Activation of QS genes by LasR/3‑oxo‑C12‑HSL in review of published literature. Solid dots indicate positive activation in the paper’s diagram of gene transcription, while hollow dots indicate that the diagram shows no effect. No diagrams indicated repression. Note that some papers made no attempt to indicate particular interactions; several, for example, concentrated strictly on the QS genes themselves and did not show the effect on downstream genes such as those for elastase.

Table 2: \_rhl\_r

| Paper | PMID | →*lasI* | →*lasR* | →*rhlI* | →*rhlR* | →elastase |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (García-Reyes, Soberón-Chávez, and Cocotl-Yanez 2020) | [31794380](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31794380/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● |
| (Rutherford and Bassler 2012) | [23125205](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23125205/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Proctor, McCarron, and Ternan 2020) | [31971503](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31971503/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Jakobsen et al. 2013) | [23841636](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23841636/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Soukarieh et al. 2018) | [29999316](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29999316/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |  |
| (Tateda 2005) | [15926474](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15926474/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| (Williams et al. 2007) | [19249239](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19249239/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |  |
| (Heurlier, Dénervaud, and Haas 2006) | [16503417](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16503417/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Le Berre et al. 2006) | [16631332](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16631332/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |  |
| (Juhas, Eberl, and Tümmler 2005) | [15816912](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15816912/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ● | ● |
| (Donabedian 2003) | [12799145](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12799145/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● |
| (Reuter, Steinbach, and Helms 2016) | [26819549](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26819549/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● |
| (Yong and Zhong 2013) | [22767136](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22767136/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| (Welsh and Blackwell 2016) | [27268906](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27268906/) | ○ | ○ |  |  | ○ |
| (De Sordi and Mühlschlegel 2009) | [19845041](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19845041/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Winzer and Williams 2001) | [11437336](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11437336/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| (Schuster et al. 2013) | [23682605](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23682605/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ |  |
| (Papaioannou, Utari, and Quax 2013) | [24065108](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24065108/) | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | ● |
| (Roy, Adams, and Bentley 2011) | [22112397](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22112397/) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |  |

**Table S.2.** Activation of QS genes by RhlR/C4‑HSL in review of published literature. Same notation as previous table.

### Data Analysis

Gene expression data for *lasI,* *rhlI,* and *lasB* was collected every hour for a 24-hour period. Observations used for analysis were limited to a two-hour window that contained the peak expression level for each gene. Figures S.1, S.2, and S.3 show the full time course of expression levels and highlight the intervals used for analysis. Those windows were 8–10 hours, 3–5 hours, and 4–6 hours for *lasI,* *rhlI,* and *lasB,* respectively.

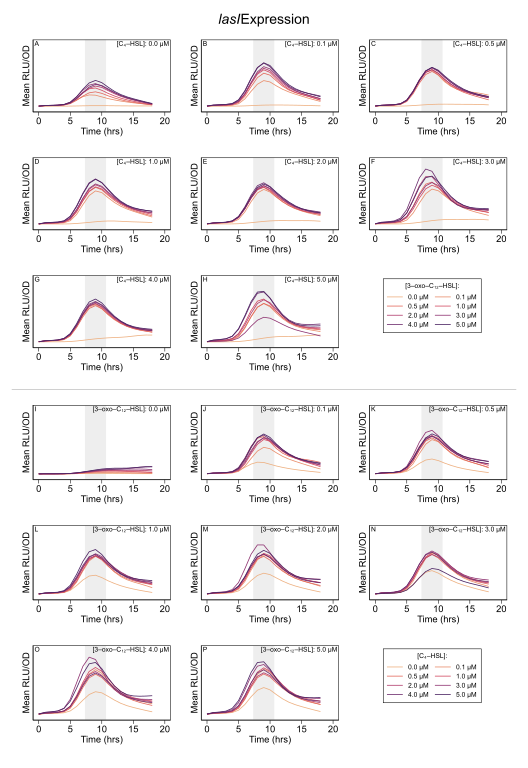


Figure 1: lasi\_time

**Figure S.1. Expression level of *lasI* over time course of experiment.** Shaded regions highlight peak expression and indicate two-hour period used in analysis.

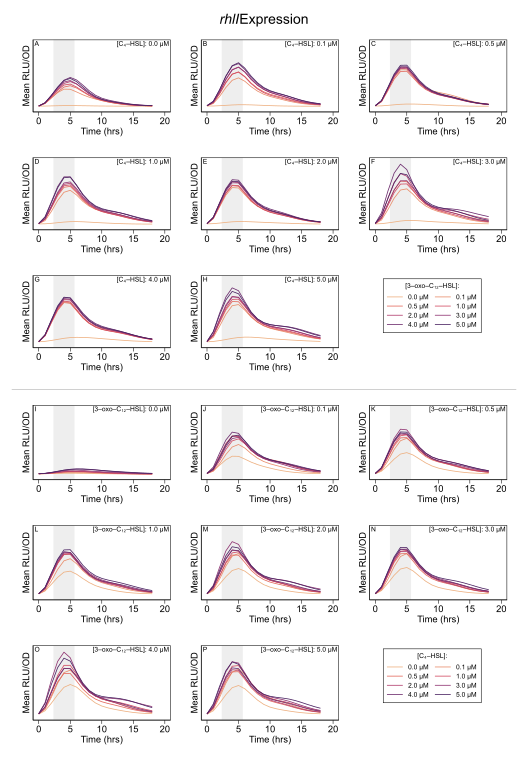


Figure 2: rhli\_time

**Figure S.2. Expression level of *rhlI* over time course of experiment.** Shaded regions highlight peak expression and indicate two-hour period used in analysis.

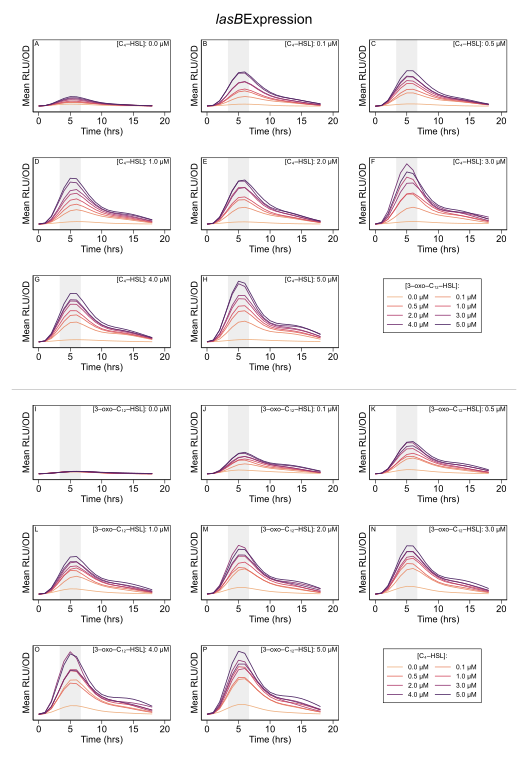


Figure 3: lasb\_time

**Figure S.3. Expression level of *lasB* over time course of experiment.** Shaded regions highlight peak expression and indicate two-hour period used in analysis.

### Multi-Signal Models

Figure 7 in the main text summarizes the predictions of the multi-signal models for *lasI* and *rhlI* expression. The following figures provide a more detailed comparison of the model predictions for all three genes.

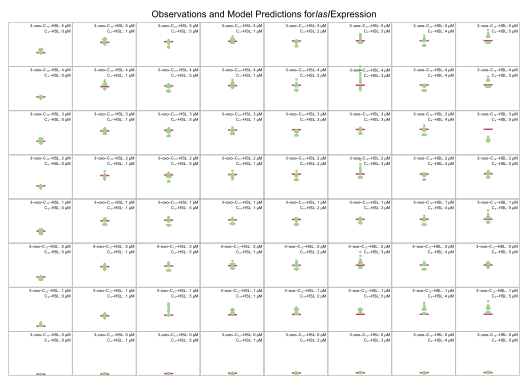


Figure 4: model\_lasi

**Figure S.4. Multi-signal model for *lasI* expression.** Panels compare model predictions to observations for all combinations of signal concentrations. Horizontal bars indicate model predictions, while plotted points show observed values.

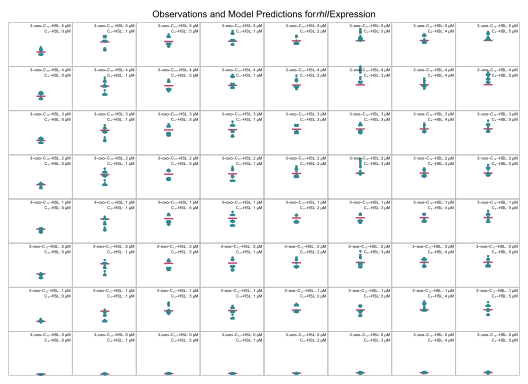


Figure 5: model\_rhli

**Figure S.5. Multi-signal model for *rhlI* expression.** Panels compare model predictions to observations for all combinations of signal concentrations. Horizontal bars indicate model predictions, while plotted points show observed values.

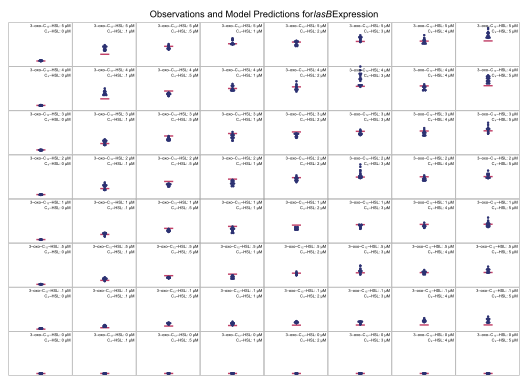


Figure 6: model\_lasb

**Figure S.6. Multi-signal model for *lasB* expression.** Panels compare model predictions to observations for all combinations of signal concentrations. Horizontal bars indicate model predictions, while plotted points show observed values.

### Signal Dynamics

We analyze signal dynamics using the model from the main text where the per-capita single production rater is assumed to be proportional to the synthase expression level, . The proportionality constant is .

We consider the equilibrium signal concentration (where ) and normalize to the decay rate of C4‑HSL (). When there is no mass transfer (), these simplifications result in an equation for C4‑HSL,

which can be solved for in terms of *rhlI* expression , density , and C4‑HSL concentration . The corresponding equation for 3‑oxo‑C12‑HSL includes an additional factor which, from (Cornforth et al. 2014), we take to be approximately 1.7.

Data from (Rattray et al. 2022) includes measurements of equilibrium signal concentrations at multiple population densities. We combine those measurements of and with our model’s estimate of synthase expression level and use non-linear least squares to estimate the proportionality constants.

Table 3: const

| Signal *i* | Proportionality Constant | Adjusted R2 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **3‑oxo‑C12‑HSL** | 0.0000256 μM/RLU | 0.8637 |
| **C4‑HSL** | 0.0000433 μM/RLU | 0.8639 |

**Table S.3.** Estimated proportionality constants that relate synthase expression levels to per-capita signal production rates. Final column shows adjusted R2 of non-linear least squares estimate.

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