

High-throughput Experimental and Computational Studies of Bacterial Evolution



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Declaration

HIGH-THROUGHPUT EXPERIMENTAL AND COMPUTATIONAL STUDIES OF BACTERIAL EVOLUTION

The work presented in this dissertation was carried out at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute between October 2009 and August 2013. This dissertation is the result of my own work and includes nothing which is the outcome of work done in collaboration except where specifically indicated in the text. This dissertation does not exceed the limit of 60,000 words as specified by the Faculty of Biology Degree Committee. This dissertation has been typeset in 12pt Computer Modern font using L^AT_EX according to the specifications set by the Board of Graduate Studies and the Faculty of Biology Degree Committee. No part of this dissertation or anything substantially similar has been or is being submitted for any other qualification at any other university.

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Declaration | i |
| Contents | iii |
| List of Figures | vii |
| List of Tables | ix |
| List of Symbols | xiv |
| 1 Querying bacterial genomes with transposon-insertion sequencing | 1 |
| 1.1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.2 Protocols | 5 |
| 1.2.1 Transposon mutagenesis | 6 |
| 1.2.2 Pool construction | 7 |
| 1.2.3 Enrichment of transposon-insertion junctions | 7 |
| 1.2.4 Sequencing | 8 |
| 1.3 Reproducibility, accuracy, and concordance with previous methods | 9 |
| 1.4 Identifying gene requirements | 10 |
| 1.5 Determining conditional gene requirements | 12 |
| 1.6 Monitoring ncRNA contributions to fitness | 14 |
| 1.7 Limitations | 16 |
| 1.8 The future of transposon-insertion sequencing | 17 |
| 2 A comparison of dense transposon insertion libraries in the <i>Salmonella</i> serovars Typhi and Typhimurium | 19 |

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 2.1 | Introduction | 19 |
| 2.1.1 | The genus <i>Salmonella</i> | 20 |
| 2.1.2 | Host adaptation and restriction | 22 |
| 2.1.3 | Serovars Typhi and Typhimurium | 24 |
| 2.2 | Materials and Methods | 26 |
| 2.2.1 | Strains | 27 |
| 2.2.2 | Annotation | 27 |
| 2.2.3 | Creation of <i>S. Typhimurium</i> transposon mutant library | 27 |
| 2.2.4 | DNA manipulations and sequencing | 27 |
| 2.2.5 | Sequence analysis | 28 |
| 2.2.6 | Statistical analysis of required genes | 28 |
| 2.3 | Results and Discussion | 30 |
| 2.3.1 | TraDIS assay of every <i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium protein-coding gene | 30 |
| 2.3.2 | Cross-species comparison of genes required for growth | 32 |
| 2.3.3 | Serovar-specific genes required for growth | 35 |
| 2.3.4 | TraDIS provides resolution sufficient to evaluate ncRNA contributions to fitness | 46 |
| 2.3.5 | sRNAs required for competitive growth | 50 |
| 2.4 | Conclusions | 52 |
| 3 | A pipeline for the analysis of TraDIS experiments, with an application to <i>Salmonella</i> macrophage invasion | 55 |
| 3.1 | Introduction | 55 |
| 3.1.1 | <i>Salmonella</i> interactions with macrophage | 56 |
| 3.1.2 | Conditional gene fitness | 57 |
| 3.2 | Experimental methods | 59 |
| 3.2.1 | Strains and cell lines | 59 |
| 3.2.2 | Preparation of THP-1 cells | 59 |
| 3.2.3 | Preparation of transposon libraries | 60 |
| 3.2.4 | Infection assay | 60 |
| 3.3 | Analysis of conditional gene fitness using TraDIS | 61 |
| 3.3.1 | Mapping insertion sites | 61 |
| 3.3.2 | Defining genomic features | 61 |

| | | |
|-------|---|-----------|
| 3.3.3 | Quality control | 61 |
| 3.3.4 | Inter-library normalization | 61 |
| 3.3.5 | Identifying fitness effects | 61 |
| 3.3.6 | Functional analysis of gene sets that affect fitness | 61 |
| 3.4 | Application: <i>Salmonella enterica</i> macrophage invasion | 61 |
| 3.4.1 | Background: the <i>Salmonella</i> containing vacuole | 61 |
| 3.4.2 | Experimental methods | 61 |
| 3.4.3 | Results | 61 |
| 3.4.4 | Other applications | 61 |
| | Published Works | 63 |
| | References | 65 |

List of Figures

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 1.1 | Transposon-insertion sequencing protocols | 5 |
| 1.2 | Applications of transposon-insertion sequencing to non-coding RNAs | 15 |
| 2.1 | Genomic acquisitions in the evolution of the salmonellae | 21 |
| 2.2 | The distribution of gene-wise insertion indexes in <i>S. Typhi</i> | 29 |
| 2.3 | Genome-wide transposon mutagenesis of <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 31 |
| 2.4 | Comparison of required genes | 33 |
| 2.5 | Comparison of cell surface operon structure and requirements | 41 |
| 2.6 | H-NS enrichment across the SPI-2 locus | 42 |
| 2.7 | Proposed differences in sRNA utilization | 51 |
| 3.1 | Biogenesis of the <i>Samonella</i> containing vacuole | 58 |

List of Tables

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 1.1 | Summary of transposon-insertion sequencing studies to date | 4 |
| 2.1 | Core genome functions in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 34 |
| 2.2 | Phage elements in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 36 |
| 2.3 | Phage elements in <i>S. Typhi</i> | 37 |
| 2.4 | Genes uniquely required in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 39 |
| 2.5 | Candidate required genes affected by H-NS binding in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> . | 43 |
| 2.6 | Genes uniquely required in <i>S. Typhi</i> | 45 |
| 2.7 | Candidate required ncRNAs | 49 |

List of Symbols

Roman Symbols

| | |
|---------------|---|
| A, C, G, T, U | Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine, Thymine, Uracil |
| Fe(II) | Ferrous iron |
| Fe(III) | Ferric iron |

Greek Symbols

| | |
|------------|--|
| λ | Phage lambda |
| σ^E | σ^{24} , extracytoplasmic stress sigma factor |
| σ^S | σ^{38} , starvation/stationary phase sigma factor |

Amino Acids

| | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| Ala, A | Alanine |
| Arg, R | Arginine |
| Asn, N | Asparagine |
| Asp, D | Aspartic acid (Aspartate) |
| Cys, C | Cysteine |
| Gln, Q | Glutamine |
| Glu, E | Glutamic acid (Glutamate) |

| | |
|--------|---------------|
| Gly, G | Glycine |
| His, H | Histidine |
| Ile, I | Isoleucine |
| Leu, L | Leucine |
| Lys, K | Lysine |
| Met, M | Methionine |
| Phe, F | Phenylalanine |
| Pro, P | Proline |
| Ser, S | Serine |
| Thr, T | Threonine |
| Trp, W | Tryptophan |
| Tyr, Y | Tyrosine |
| Val, V | Valine |

Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|---------|--|
| BALB | Bagg albino (mouse) |
| bp | Base pair |
| CCAL | Creative Commons attribution license |
| CCD | Charge-coupled device |
| CDP | Cytidine diphosphate glucose |
| cI | Clear 1 (λ repressor protein) |
| ddNTP | dideoxynucleotide |
| DeADMAn | Designer microarrays for defined mutant analysis |

| | |
|-------|---|
| DNA | Deoxyribonucleic acid |
| dNTP | deoxynucleotide |
| EHEC | Enterohemorrhagic <i>Escherichia coli</i> |
| FASTA | Fast alignment |
| FMN | Flavin mononucleotide |
| FPR | False positive rate |
| GEBA | Genomic encyclopedia of bacteria and archaea |
| GTM | Global transposon mutagenesis |
| HIRAN | HIP116, Rad5p N-terminal |
| HITS | High-throughput insertion tracking by deep sequencing |
| INSeq | Insertion sequencing |
| LEE | Locus of enterocyte effacement |
| LLR | \log_2 -likelihood ratios |
| LPS | Lipopolysaccharide |
| MATT | Microarray tracking of transposon mutants |
| ncRNA | non-coding RNA |
| NOGD | Nonorthologous gene displacement |
| OMP | Outer membrane protein |
| ORF | Open reading frame |
| PAGE | Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis |
| PBS | Phosphate-buffered saline |
| PCR | Polymerase chain reaction |

| | |
|---------|--|
| PMA | Phorbol myristate acetate |
| PPV | Positive predictive value |
| RNA | Ribonucleic acid |
| RNA-seq | RNA sequencing |
| RNase | Ribonuclease |
| RPMI | Rosewell Park Memorial Institute (cell culture medium) |
| SCV | <i>Salmonella</i> containing vacuole |
| SPI | <i>Salmonella</i> pathogenicity island |
| SPV | <i>Salmonella</i> plasmid virulence (genes) |
| sRNA | Bacterial small RNA |
| SRP | Signal recognition particle |
| STM | Signature-tagged mutagenesis |
| T3SS | Type III secretion system |
| tmRNA | Transfer-messenger RNA |
| Tn-seq | Transposon mutagenesis and sequencing |
| TraDIS | Transposon directed insertion sequencing |
| TraSH | Transposon site hybridization |
| tRNA | Transfer RNA |

Chapter 1

Querying bacterial genomes with transposon-insertion sequencing

This chapter is an expansion of the previously published article “Approaches to querying bacterial genomes using transposon-insertion sequencing” (Barquist, Boinett, and Cain, 2013). Amy K. Cain and Christine J. Boinett (Pathogen Genomics, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute) contributed to the research of the original article. All final language is my own.

1.1 Introduction

The study of gene essentiality has its roots in evolutionary theory, systems biology, and comparative genomics, and has been instrumental in the development of the emerging discipline of synthetic biology. Koonin summarizes the major scientific motivation behind this line of research succinctly: “When reverse-engineering a complex machine, one basic goal is to draw up a list of essential parts” (Koonin, 2003). The earliest attempt at constructing such a minimal gene set involved a comparison between the first two complete genomes sequenced: *Mycoplasma genitalium* and *Haemophilus influenzae* (Mushegian and Koonin, 1996). Both of these organisms are pathogens with highly reduced genomes; however, they are derived from distant branches of the bacterial phylogeny being Gram-positive and -negative, respectively. Orthology prediction based on sequence similarity identified 240 genes shared between the two organisms. However,

a number of essential pathways were found to be incomplete in this set due to non-orthologous gene displacement (NOGD), and a true minimal gene set was estimated to contain 256 genes. NOGD apparently occurs when an unrelated but functionally analogous gene is introduced in a lineage, and subsequently the ancestral gene is lost. The sequencing of complete genomes has shown that this phenomena is surprisingly wide-spread, and only ~60 genes appear to be universally conserved (Koonin, 2003). Rather obviously in hindsight, it appears that gene essentiality is highly dependent on the evolutionary and systems context in which the gene occurs - our essential parts list depends on the machine we wish to build.

Large-scale experimental studies seem to confirm this. A range of approaches have been taken to experimentally determining the ‘essential’ genes of a diverse array of organisms. These include plasmid-insertion mutagenesis in *Bacillus subtilis* (Kobayashi et al., 2003), antisense-mediated gene inactivation in *Haemophilus influenzae* (Akerley et al., 2002), transposon mutagenesis in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (Jacobs et al., 2003), and insertion-duplication mutagenesis in *Salmonella enterica* (Knuth et al., 2004). However, the “gold standard” for the determination of gene essentiality is repeated failure to generate targeted single gene deletions. Comprehensive single gene deletion libraries have been created for the γ -proteobacteria *E. coli* and *Acinetobacter baylyi* (Baba et al., 2006; Berardinis et al., 2008) where λ -red mediated recombineering has simplified the generation of defined deletions (Datsenko and Wanner, 2000), though the process is still extremely labor-intensive. Typical estimates for essential gene sets determined by these various techniques range from less than 300 to 600 genes, depending on the organism. This variability is likely dependent on a variety of factors, including false positives and negatives due to experimental techniques, the growth conditions of the experiment, intrinsic properties of the cell being manipulated, and accidents of evolution. Now that it has become feasible to synthesize a viable bacterial chromosome (Gibson et al., 2010), a deeper understanding of the factors affecting gene requirements in diverse conditions is the next hurdle on the road to engineering truly synthetic life.

A common approach to identifying genomic regions required for survival under a particular set of conditions is to screen large pools of mutants simultaneously. This can be done with defined mutants (Baba et al., 2006; Hobbs, Astarita, and Storz, 2010), but this is both labor-intensive and requires accurate genomic annotation, which can be particularly difficult to define for non-coding regions. An alternative to defined

libraries is the construction and analysis of random transposon-insertion libraries. The original application of this method used DNA hybridization to track uniquely tagged transposon-insertions in *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium over the course of BALB/c mouse infection (Hensel, Shea, Gleeson, et al., 1995). DNA hybridization was eventually superseded by methods that used microarray detection of the genomic DNA flanking insertion sites, variously known as TraSH, MATT, and DeADMAn (reviewed in Mazurkiewicz et al., 2006). However, these methods suffered from many of the problems microarrays generally suffer from: difficulty detecting low-abundance transcripts, mis-hybridization, probe saturation, and difficulty identifying insertion sites precisely.

The application of high-throughput sequencing to the challenge of determining insertion location and prevalence solves many of these problems. Interestingly, the first application of transposon-insertion sequencing, developed by Hutchison et al. (1999), actually predates the development of microarray-based methods. However, this was applied to libraries of only approximately 1000 transposon mutants in highly reduced *Mycoplasma* genomes, and the difficulty of sequencing at the time prevented wide spread adoption or high resolution. Modern high-throughput sequencing technology allows the methods discussed in this chapter to routinely monitor as many as one million mutants simultaneously in virtually any genetically tractable microorganism.

Table 1.1: Summary of transposon-insertion sequencing studies to date. Columns: 1) study reference, 2) organism mutagenized, 3) number of mutants generated, 4) insertion density, 5) brief description of the application, 6) transposon used, 7) method name coined, if any.

| Study | Organism | Total Mutants | Density | Application | Tn used | Name Coined |
|--|--|----------------|----------------------|---|---------|------------------------|
| Hutchison et al. (1999) | <i>M. genitalium</i> <i>M. pneumoniae</i> | 1291 918 | 1/850 bp 1/850 bp | Gene requirements | Tn4001 | GTM |
| Goodman, McNulty, et al. (2009) | <i>B. thetaiotaomicron</i> | 2 X 35,000 | 1/182 bp | Establishment in a murine model of the human gut | Mariner | INSeq |
| Gawronska et al. (2009) | <i>H. influenzae</i> | 75,000 | 1/32 bp | Prolonged survival in murine lung | Mariner | HITS |
| Opijken, Bodl, and Camilli (2009) | <i>S. pneumoniae</i> | 6 x 25,000 | 1/91 bp | Transcriptional regulation and carbohydrate transport | Mariner | Tn-seq |
| Langridge et al. (2009) | <i>S. Typhi</i> | 1.1 million | 1/13 bp | Gene requirements, bile tolerance | Tn5 | TraDIS |
| Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil (2011) | <i>P. aeruginosa</i> | 100,000 | 1/65 bp | Tobramycin resistance | Mariner | Tn-seq (circle method) |
| Eckert et al. (2011) | <i>E. coli</i> | 19 x 95 | N/A | Colonization of bovine intestinal tract; retrospective re-evaluation of a STM study | Tn5 | - |
| Christen et al. (2011) | <i>C. crescentus</i> | 800,000 | 1/8 bp | Genomic requirements | Tn5 | - |
| Griffin et al. (2011) | <i>M. tuberculosis</i> | 2 X 100,000 | 1/120 bp | Gene requirements and cholesterol utilization | Mariner | - |
| Khatiwara et al. (2012) | <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 16,000 | 1/610 bp | Bile, starvation, and heat tolerance | Tn5 | - |
| Mann et al. (2012) | <i>S. pneumoniae</i> | 9,000-24,000 | Varying | Determining roles of sRNAs in pathogenesis | Mariner | - |
| Opijken and Camilli (2012) | <i>S. pneumoniae</i> | 4,000 - 30,000 | Varying | Stress response and metabolism <i>in vitro</i> and murine <i>in vivo</i> colonization | Mariner | - |
| Brutinel and Granick (2012) | <i>S. oneidensis</i> | 50,000 | 1/191 bp | Gene requirements and metabolism | Mariner | - |
| Y. J. Zhang et al. (2012) | <i>M. tuberculosis</i> | 2 x 100,000 | 1/120 bp | Genomic requirements | Mariner | - |
| Klein et al. (2012) | <i>P. gingivalis</i> | N/A | 1/43 bp | Gene requirements | Mariner | - |
| Pickard, Kingsley, et al. (2013) | <i>S. Typhi</i> | 1.1 million | 1/13 bp | Bacteriophage infection | Tn5 | - |
| Barquist, Langridge, et al. (2013) | <i>S. Typhi</i> | 1.1million | 1/13 bp | Comparison of genomic requirements between two <i>Salmonella</i> serovars | Tn5 | - |
| | <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | 930,000 | 1/9 bp | | | |

1.2 Protocols

Several methods were developed concurrently for high-throughput sequencing of transposon insertion sites: TraDIS (Langridge et al., 2009), INSeq (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009), HITS (Gawronski et al., 2009), and Tn-seq (Opijken, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009) followed by Tn-seq Circle (Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011) and refinements to the INSeq protocol (Goodman, M. Wu, and Gordon, 2011). All of these protocols follow the same basic workflow with minor variations (see Figure 1.1; Table 1.1): transposon mutagenesis and construction of pools of single insertion mutants; enrichment of transposon-insertion junctions; and finally, in some protocols a purification step either precedes or follows PCR enrichment before sequencing.

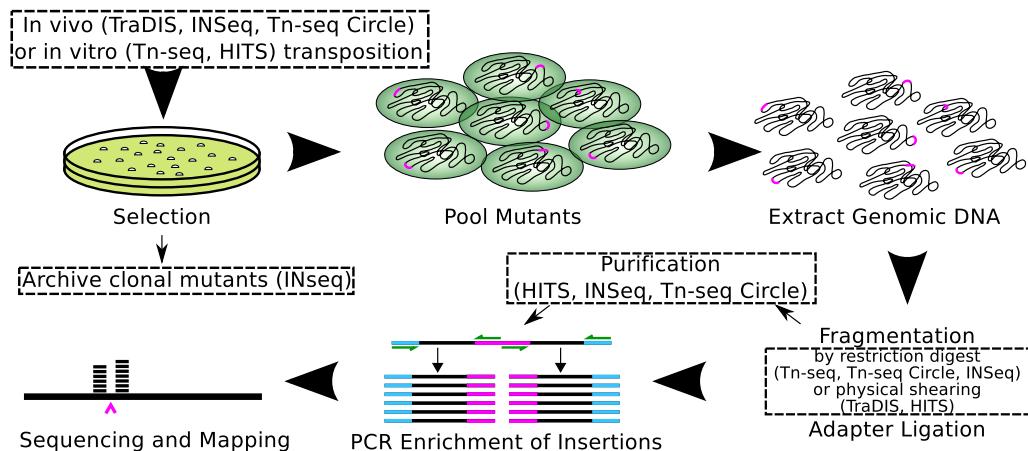


Figure 1.1: Transposon-insertion sequencing protocols. An illustration of the workflow typical of transposon-insertion sequencing protocols. Transposons are represented by pink lines, sequencing adaptors by blue, genomic DNA by black, and PCR primers by green. Mutants are generated through either *in vivo* or *in vitro* transposition and subsequent selection for antibiotic resistance. These mutants are pooled, and optionally competed in test conditions, then genomic DNA is extracted and fragmented by restriction digest or physical shearing. Sequencing adaptors are ligated, some protocols then perform a step to purify fragments containing transposon insertions, and PCR with transposon- and adapter-specific primers is used to specifically enrich for transposon-containing fragments. The fragments are then sequenced and mapped back to a reference genome to uniquely identify insertion sites with nucleotide-resolution. Dashed boxes indicate steps which differ between protocols.

1.2.1 Transposon mutagenesis

Most studies have used either Tn5 or Mariner transposon derivatives. Tn5 originated as a bacterial transposon which has been adapted for laboratory use. Large-scale studies have shown that Tn5, while not showing any strong preference for regional GC-content, does have a weak preference for a particular insertion motif (Shevchenko et al., 2002; Adey et al., 2010; Green et al., 2012). Transposon-insertion sequencing studies performed with Tn5 transposons in *S. enterica* serovars have reported a slight bias towards AT-rich sequence regions (Langridge et al., 2009; Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013). However, this preference does not appear to be a major obstacle to analysis given the extremely high insertion densities obtained with this transposon (Langridge et al., 2009; Christen et al., 2011; Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013) (see Table 1.1). Additionally, Tn5 has been shown to be active in a wide range of bacterial species, though the number of transformants obtained can vary significantly depending on the transformation efficiency of the host.

Mariner *Himar1* transposons on the other hand originate from eukaryotic hosts and have an absolute requirement for TA bases at their integration site (Lampe, Grant, and Robertson, 1998; Rubin et al., 1999), with no other known bias besides a possible preference for bent DNA (Lampe, Grant, and Robertson, 1998). This can be a disadvantage in that it limits the number of potential insertion sites, particularly in GC-rich sequence. However, this specificity can also be used in the prediction of gene essentiality in near-saturated libraries: as every potential integration site is known and the probability of integration at any particular site can be assumed to be roughly equal, it is straight-forward to calculate the probability that any particular region lacks insertions by chance. *Himar1* transposition can also be conducted *in vitro* in the absence of any host factors (Lampe, Churchill, and Robertson, 1996), and inserted transposons can then be transferred to the genomes of naturally transformable bacteria through homologous recombination (Johnsborg, Eldholm, and Havarstein, 2007). This can be advantageous when working with naturally transformable bacteria with poor electroporation efficiency (Gawronski et al., 2009; Opijken, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009). It is worth noting that Tn5 is also capable of transposition *in vitro* (Goryshin and Reznikoff, 1998), and could potentially be used to increase insertion density and hence the resolution of the assay, particularly in GC-rich genomic regions.

1.2.2 Pool construction

Once mutants have been constructed, they are plated on an appropriate selective media for the transposon chosen, and colonies are counted, picked, and pooled. A disadvantage of this is that the mutants must be recreated for follow up or validation studies. Goodman et al. introduced a clever way around this in the INSeq protocol: by individually archiving mutants, then sequencing combinatorial mutant pools it is possible to uniquely characterize $2n$ insertion mutants by sequencing only n pools (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009). Each mutant is labelled with a unique binary string that indicates which pools it has been added to. These binary strings can then be reconstructed for each insertion observed in these pools by recording their presence or absence in sequencing data, providing a unique pattern relating insertions to archived mutants. The authors control false identifications due to errors in sequencing by requiring that each binary label have a minimum edit distance to every other label, allowing for a robust association of labels with insertions despite sometimes noisy sequencing data. As a proof of concept, the authors were able to identify over 7,000 *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron* mutants from only 24 sequenced pools. This effectively uses methods for the generation of random transposon pools to rapidly generate defined mutant arrays, though it is heavily dependent on liquid-handling robotics.

1.2.3 Enrichment of transposon-insertion junctions

Once pools have been constructed they are grown in either selective or permissive conditions, depending on the experiment, and then genomic DNA is extracted. Fragmentation proceeds either through restriction digestion in the case of transposons modified to contain appropriate sites (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009; Opijnen, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009; Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011) or via physical shearing (Langridge et al., 2009; Gawronski et al., 2009), then sequencing adapters are ligated to the resulting fragments. PCR is performed on these fragments using a transposon-specific primer and a sequencing adapter-specific primer to enrich for fragments spanning the transposon-genomic DNA junction.

Some protocols purify fragments containing transposon insertions using biotinylated primers (Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011; Goodman, M. Wu, and Gordon, 2011) or PAGE (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009) before and/or after PCR enrichment. The

purification step from the Tn-seq Circle protocol is particularly unusual in that restriction digested fragments containing transposon sequence are circularized before being treated with an exonuclease that digests all fragments without transposon insertions, theoretically completely eliminating background (Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011). Given the success of protocols that do not include a purification step and the lack of systematic comparisons, it is currently unclear whether including one provides any major advantages.

1.2.4 Sequencing

The protocol steps described so far are broadly similar to those used in microarray-based studies of transposon mutant pools. The major advancement that has driven transposon-insertion sequencing has been the recent development of second generation DNA sequencing technologies. For 30 years, DNA sequencing was dominated by dideoxynucleotide, or Sanger, sequencing, first described by Sanger, Nicklen, and Coulson (1977). Sanger sequencing requires a clonal population of template DNA molecules, to which a primer and a full complement of four deoxynucleotides (dNTPs) and a single species of dideoxynucleotide (ddNTP) are added. DNA polymerase is then used to perform rounds of DNA extension, with ddNTPs stochastically terminating the reaction, before the resulting fragments are denatured and separated with gel electrophoresis. By running four such reactions with each species of ddNTP, the sequence of the template molecule can be determined by reading off bands on the gel. A number of advancements progressively improved the throughput and decreased the cost of Sanger sequencing, including the substitution of capillary electrophoresis for gel electrophoresis and the use of fluorescently labelled ddNTP (fluorescent dye-terminator sequencing) enabling sequencing in a single reaction. However, even with these advances the throughput of Sanger sequencing remained in the range of kilobases of sequence per hour, and costs remained high due to requirements for template cloning and inherent limitations in the technology (Morozova and Marra, 2008).

The development of second generation sequencing technologies in the early-mid 2000's broke these barriers to the adoption of sequencing as a routine experimental technique. These technologies include Roche 454 pyrosequencing, Illumina/Solexa reversible terminator sequencing, and ABI SOLiD parallel sequencing by ligation. While in principle any of these technologies could be applicable to transposon-insertion sequencing, all studies

to date have used Solexa sequencing. Solexa sequencing is similar in principle to Sanger sequencing, with two major innovations: the ability to generate arrayed clonal clusters of template molecules on a glass flow cell (described by Fedurco et al. (2006)) allowing for hundreds of thousands of simultaneous sequencing reactions, and the adoption of reversible dye terminator chemistry (described by Bentley et al. (2008)) which allows for fluorescently labelled terminators to be rapidly stripped of their fluorophore, their termination reversed, and extension continued. By monitoring successive rounds of these hundreds of thousands of parallel sequencing reactions with a CCD camera, the sequence of a large population of template molecules can be determined quickly and simultaneously, leading to current throughputs of megabases to gigabases of sequence per hour. As each resulting read corresponds to a single template molecule, this technology is ideally suited to monitoring populations of transposon mutants, providing an accurate digital count of insertion prevalence.

1.3 Reproducibility, accuracy, and concordance with previous methods

A number of studies have looked at the reproducibility of transposon-insertion sequencing. Multiple studies using different protocol variations have repeatedly shown extremely high reproducibility in the number of insertions per gene (correlations of 90%) in replicates of the same library grown and sequenced independently (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009; Opijnen, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009; Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011), and good reproducibility (correlations between 70-90%) in independently constructed unsaturated libraries (Opijnen, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009; Opijnen and Camilli, 2012). Opijnen and Camilli (2012) compared traditional 1 X 1 competition experiments between wild-type and mutant *Streptococcus pneumoniae* to results obtained by transposon-insertion sequencing and showed that there was no significant difference in results over a range of tested conditions. The accuracy of transposon-insertion sequencing in determining library composition has also been assessed. Y. J. Zhang et al. (2012) constructed a library of identified transposon-insertion mutants in known relative quantities, and then were able to recover the relative mutant prevalence with transposon-insertion sequencing. Additionally, by estimating the number of PCR templates prior to enrichment, this study

showed that there is a high correlation between enrichment input and sequencing output.

Two studies have evaluated concordance between results obtained with transposon-insertion sequencing and microarray monitoring of transposon insertions in order to demonstrate the enhanced accuracy and dynamic range of sequencing over previous methods. In the first, 19 libraries of 95 enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (EHEC) transposon mutants that had previously been screened in cattle using signature-tagged mutagenesis (STM) were pooled and re-evaluated using the TraDIS protocol (Eckert et al., 2011). The original STM study had identified 13 insertions in 11 genes attenuating intestinal colonization in a type III secretion system located in the locus of enterocyte effacement (LEE) (Dziva et al., 2004). By applying sequencing to the same samples, an additional 41 mutations in the LEE were identified, spanning a total of 21 genes. Additional loci outside the LEE which have been previously implicated in intestinal colonization but had not been detected by STM were also reported by TraDIS.

The second study re-evaluated genes required for optimal growth determined by TraSH in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Sassetti, Boyd, and Rubin, 2003; Griffin et al., 2011). The greater dynamic range of sequencing as compared to microarrays allowed easier discrimination between insertions that were truly unviable and those that were only significantly underrepresented. The authors estimate that genes called as required by sequencing in their study are at least 100-fold underrepresented in the pool. In comparison, the threshold in the previous microarray experiment reported genes that had log probe ratios at least 5-fold lower than average between transposon-flanking DNA hybridization and whole genomic DNA hybridization. Additionally, the nucleotide-resolution of insertion sequencing allowed the authors to identify genes which had required regions, likely corresponding to required protein domains (Y. J. Zhang et al., 2012), but which tolerated insertions in other regions. Altogether the authors increase the set of genes predicted to be required for growth in laboratory conditions in *M. tuberculosis* by more than 25% (from 614 to 774).

1.4 Identifying gene requirements

The earliest application of transposon-insertion sequencing, and indeed the earliest genome-wide experimental study of gene essentiality, was to determine the minimal set of genes necessary for the survival of *Mycoplasma* (Hutchison et al., 1999). This

essential genome is of great interest in synthetic and systems biology where it is seen as a foundation for engineering cell metabolism as described previously, and also in infection biology and medicine where it is seen as a promising target for therapies. However, it is important to remember that essentiality is always relative to growth conditions: a biosynthetic gene that is non-essential in a growth medium supplying a particular nutrient may become essential in a medium that lacks it. Traditionally, gene essentiality has been determined in clonal populations (Baba et al., 2006; Jacobs et al., 2003; Glass et al., 2006); since the high-throughput transposon sequencing protocols described here necessarily contain a short period of competitive growth before DNA extraction, many of these studies prefer to refer to the required genome for the particular conditions under evaluation.

Because of this short period of competitive growth, and because many otherwise required genes tolerate insertions in their terminus (Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009; Griffin et al., 2011; Zomer et al., 2012) or outside essential domains (Y. J. Zhang et al., 2012) the determination of required genomic regions is not completely straight-forward and a number of approaches have been taken to counter this. These include only calling genes completely lacking insertions as required (Opijken, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009), or determining a cut-off based on the empirical or theoretical distribution of gene-wise insertion densities (Langridge et al., 2009; Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013; Griffin et al., 2011; Zomer et al., 2012). Additionally, windowed methods have been developed which can be used to identify essential regions in the absence of gene annotation (Y. J. Zhang et al., 2012; DeJesus et al., 2013), and have had success in identifying required protein domains, promoter regions, and non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs). The organisms that have been evaluated for gene requirements under standard laboratory conditions are summarized in Table 1.1. In agreement with previous studies (Baba et al., 2006; Jacobs et al., 2003), many required genes identified by transposon-insertion sequencing are involved in fundamental biological processes such as cell division, DNA replication, transcription and translation (Langridge et al., 2009; Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009; Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013; Griffin et al., 2011), and many of these requirements appear to be conserved between genera and classes (Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013; Christen et al., 2011).

However, a recent study defining required gene sets in *Salmonella* serovars (described in detail in the next chapter) has found that phage repressors, necessary for maintaining

the lysogenic state of the prophage, are also required (Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013), even though mobile genetic elements such as phage are usually considered part of the accessory genome. This study also highlights the need for temperance when interpreting the results of high-throughput assays of gene requirements. For example, many genes in *Salmonella* Pathogenicity Island 2 (SPI-2) did not exhibit transposon-insertions, despite clear evidence from directed knockouts showing that these genes are non-essential for viability or growth. Under laboratory conditions, SPI-2 is silenced by the nucleoid-forming protein H-NS (Lucchini et al., 2006; Navarre et al., 2006), which acts by oligomerizing along silenced regions of DNA blocking RNA polymerase access. A previous study has shown that transposon insertion cold spots can be caused by competition between high-density proteins and transposases for DNA (Manna et al., 2007). This suggests that H-NS may be restricting transposase access to DNA, though this has not previously been observed in transposon-insertion sequencing data, and will require additional work to confirm.

1.5 Determining conditional gene requirements

One of the most valuable applications of the transposon-insertion sequencing method is the ability to identify genes important in a condition of interest, by comparing differences in the numbers of sequencing reads from input (control) mutant pools to output (test) pools that have been subject to passaging in a certain growth condition. Insertion counts are compared from cells in the input pool and those after passage, thereby identifying genes that either enhance or detract from survival and/or growth in the given condition, defined by decreased or increased insertion frequency, respectively. I describe a pipeline for analyzing such experiments in chapter **XX TraDIS PIPELINE CHAPTER HERE**. A further application of this method involves comparing insertions between biologically linked conditions, such as cellular stresses or different stages of a murine infection, to gain insight into complex systems (Opijken and Camilli, 2012).

So far, transposon-insertion sequencing has been used to investigate a number of interesting biologically relevant conditions: bile tolerance in *S. Typhi* (Langridge et al., 2009) and *S. Typhimurium* (Khatiwara et al., 2012), bacteriophage infection of *S. Typhi* (Pickard, Kingsley, et al., 2013), antibiotic resistance in *P. aeruginosa* (Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011), cholesterol utilization in *M. tuberculosis* (Griffin et al., 2011)

and survival in number of stress and nutrient conditions in *S. pneumoniae* (Opijken and Camilli, 2012). Transposon-insertion sequencing of populations passed through murine models have been used to assess genes required for *H. influenzae* infection (Gawronski et al., 2009). A further extension of the method examined double mutant libraries, that is transposon mutant libraries generated in a defined deletion background, to tease apart complex networks of regulatory genes (Opijken, Bodi, and Camilli, 2009).

Two studies in particular illustrate the power of using transposon-insertion sequencing to identify conditionally required genes. In the first, Goodman, McNulty, et al. (2009) set out to determine the genes necessary for the establishment of the commensal *B. thetaiotaomicron* in a murine model. First, the growth requirements of transposon mutant populations in the cecum of germ-free mice was assessed, and genes required for growth in monoassociation with the host were found to be enriched in functions such as energy production and amino acid metabolism. By further comparing monoassociated transposon mutant libraries with those grown in the presence of three defined communities of human gut-associated bacteria, the authors identified a locus up-regulated by low levels of vitamin B12 that is only required in the absence of other bacteria capable of synthesizing B12. This showed that the gene requirements of any particular bacterium in the gut are at least partially dependent on the metabolic capabilities of the entire community and emphasizes the importance of testing *in vivo* conditions to complement *in vitro* study.

The second study, conducted by Opijken and Camilli (2012), aimed to map the genetic networks involved in a range of cellular stress responses in *S. pneumoniae*. Seventeen *in vitro* conditions were tested, including: pH, nutrient limitation, temperature, antibiotic, heavy metal, and hydrogen peroxide stress. Approximately 6% of disrupted genes resulted in increased fitness in some condition, suggesting that some genes are maintained despite being detrimental to the organism under particular conditions. These would be interesting candidates for further functional and evolutionary study, as the maintenance of these genes is presumably highly dependent on the conditions the bacteria faces, and may have implications for our understanding of e.g. gene loss in the process of bacterial host adaptation (Toft and Andersson, 2010). Two additional *in vivo* experiments were performed in a murine model, where cells were recovered from the lung and nasopharynx. Combining this data, over 1,800 genotype-phenotype genetic interactions were identified. These interactions were mapped and pathways identified. Between the two *in vivo* niches,

certain stress responses pathways were markedly different. For example, temperature stress produced a distinct response in the lung, compared to the nasopharynx, which is perhaps to be expected as temperature varies greatly between these two sites. By further examining sub-pathways required in the two different niches and comparing them to *in vitro* requirements, the authors were able to draw conclusions regarding the condition *S. pneumoniae* faces when establishing an infection. This comprehensive mapping of genotype-phenotype relationships will serve as an important atlas for further studies of the factors affecting *S. pneumoniae* carriage and virulence.

1.6 Monitoring ncRNA contributions to fitness

To date, four studies (including one described in detail in the next chapter) have used transposon-insertion sequencing to examine the contribution of non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs) and other non-coding regions to organismal fitness (see Table 1.1). Two of these examined requirements for non-coding regions in the relatively under-explored bacterial species *Caulobacter crescentus* (Christen et al., 2011) and *M. tuberculosis* (Y. J. Zhang et al., 2012). Both utilized analytical techniques that allowed for the identification of putative required regions in the absence of genome annotation. Twenty-seven small RNAs (sRNAs) had previously been detected in *C. crescentus* (Landt et al., 2008); 6 were found to be depleted in transposon insertions indicating an important role in basic cellular processes. Additionally, the well-characterized ncRNAs tmRNA and RNase P, as well as 29 non-redundant tRNAs were found to be required. An additional 90 unannotated non-disruptable regions were identified throughout the genome, implying an abundance of unexplored functional non-coding sequence.

While the non-coding transcripts of *M. tuberculosis* have been explored more thoroughly than those of *C. crescentus*, most remain functionally uncharacterized, though there are hints that some of these may be involved in pathogenicity (Arnvig and Young, 2012). Using a Mariner transposon-based assay and a windowed statistical analysis that accounted for the distribution of potential TA integration sites, 35 intergenic regions were identified as putatively required in the *M. tuberculosis* genome (Y. J. Zhang et al., 2012). In common with the *C. crescentus* study, the RNA component of RNase P, required for the maturation of tRNAs, and tmRNA, involved in the freeing of stalled ribosomes, were identified as required (Figure 1.2 A) together with 10 non-redundant tRNAs and



Figure 1.2: Applications of transposon-insertion sequencing to non-coding RNAs.

A) Plots of genomic regions in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* containing the required non-coding RNAs RNase P (top) and tmRNA (bottom). Tracks, from top to bottom: 1. Histogram of insertion counts, 2. Comprehensive heat-map of requirement of 500-bp windows, 3. Position of annotated genes, 4. Position of TA dinucleotide sites, 5. Position of non-coding RNA. Reproduced from Y. J. Zhang et al. (2012) under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL).

B) 1 X 1 competition assays validate attenuating *Streptococcus pneumoniae* sRNA mutants identified by transposon-insertion sequencing. Mice were infected with defined deletions of sRNAs identified as attenuating by Tn-seq and wild type *S. pneumoniae* TIGR4 at the body site indicated and bacterial densities were compared 24 hours post-infection. These plots show the derived competitive index in blood (top) and the nasopharynx (bottom). Each point represents the result of a competition experiment between an sRNA deletion mutant and wild-type were recovered. Modified from Mann et al. (2012) under a CCAL.

potential promoter regions. However, due to the lower overall insertion density and lack of TA sites in some GC-rich regions, there were some regions that could not be assayed and the resolution was limited to 250 bases.

A particularly exciting study has been conducted in *S. pneumoniae* TIGR4 combining RNA-seq with transposon-insertion sequencing (Mann et al., 2012). To identify sRNA loci the authors first sequenced size-select RNA from wild type TIGR4 and three two-component system knockouts, identifying 89 putative sRNAs, 56 of which were novel. Fifteen of these candidates, selected on the basis of high expression and low predicted folding free energy, were assayed for their ability to establish invasive disease in a murine model. Of these 8 sRNA deletions showed a significant attenuation of disease. To more broadly establish the roles of sRNAs in infecting particular organs, transposon insertion libraries were administered directly to the nasopharynx, lungs, or blood of mice, and bacteria were harvested following disease progression. Twenty-six, 28, and 18 sRNAs were found to attenuate infection in the nasopharynx, lung and blood respectively. These results were then validated with targeted deletions of 11 sRNAs (Figure 1.2 B). In addition to establishing the role of sRNAs in *S. pneumoniae* virulence, this study illustrated the power of combining RNA-seq and transposon-insertion sequencing to rapidly assign phenotypes to non-coding sequences.

1.7 Limitations

In this chapter, I have largely focused on the potential of transposon insertion sequencing. However, this technology does have a number of important limitations. As discussed previously, requirements for particular nucleotides at insertion sites, such as the TA required by Mariner transposons, or preference for certain sequence composition, such as the AT bias exhibited by Tn5, can limit the density of observed insertions in certain genomic regions. This may impact any down-stream analysis, and can potentially bias results, particularly the determination of gene requirements. Even if this bias has been accounted for, transposon-insertion screens will always over-predict gene requirements in comparison to targeted deletion libraries as discussed previously. However, this over-prediction can be controlled either through careful consideration of known insertion biases as in many Mariner-based studies, or by high insertion densities, such as those achieved in several Tn5-based studies (Table 1.1). Once the library has been created, only regions

that have accumulated insertions in the conditions of library creation will be able to be assayed for fitness effects in further conditions. This means that regions that lead to slow growth phenotypes when disrupted in standard laboratory conditions may be difficult to assay in other conditions. Additionally, the dynamic range of fitness effects detected will depend on the complexity of the input library(s). The absence of insertions may be a particular problem for assaying small genomic elements, such as sRNAs or short ORFs. Finally, the validation of hypotheses derived from transposon-insertion sequencing will require the construction of targeted deletions, as individual mutants cannot be recovered from pools unless specialized protocols have been followed during library construction (as in Goodman, McNulty, et al., 2009).

1.8 The future of transposon-insertion sequencing

Transposon-insertion sequencing is a robust and powerful technique for the rapid connection of genotype to phenotype in a wide range of bacterial species. Already, a number of studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of this method and the results have been far-reaching: enhancing our understanding of basic gene functions, establishing requirements for colonization and infection, mapping complex metabolic pathways, and exploring non-coding genomic dark matter. Due to the range of potential applications of transposon-insertion sequencing, along with the decreasing cost and growing accessibility of next-generation sequencing, I believe that this method will become increasingly common in the near future.

A number of bacterial species have already been subjected to transposon-insertion sequencing (Table 1.1). Microarray-based approaches to monitoring transposon mutant libraries have even been applied to eukaryotic systems (Ross-Macdonald et al., 1999), and similarly transposon-insertion sequencing can potentially be applied to any system where the creation of large-scale transposon mutant libraries is technologically feasible. Recently the Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archea (GEBA) (D. Wu et al., 2009) has been expanding our knowledge of bacterial diversity through targeted genomic sequencing of underexplored branches of the tree of life. Applying transposon-insertion sequencing in a comparative manner across the bacterial phylogeny will provide an unprecedented view of the determinants for survival in diverse environments - the next chapter describes a study taking the first steps toward this eventual goal (Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013). While

most transposon-insertion sequencing studies to date have focused on pathogenic bacteria, these techniques could also have applications in energy production, bioremediation, and synthetic biology.

The combination of transposon-insertion sequencing with other high-throughput and computational methods is already proving to be fertile ground for enhancing our understanding of bacterial systems. For instance, by using transposon-insertion sequencing in a collection of relatively simple conditions combined with a computational pathway analysis, Opijnen and Camilli (2012) were able to provide a holistic understanding of the genetic subsystems involved in a complex process such as *S. pneumoniae* pathogenesis. In the future, methods to assay phenotype in a high-throughput manner (Bochner, 2009; Nichols et al., 2011; See also chapter **XX BIOLOG CHAPTER HERE**) may be combined with transposon-insertion sequencing to provide exhaustive simple genotype-phenotype associations with which to understand complex processes in a systems biology framework.

Chapter 2

A comparison of dense transposon insertion libraries in the *Salmonella* serovars Typhi and Typhimurium

This chapter is a modified version of the previously published article “A comparison of dense transposon insertion libraries in the Salmonella serovars Typhi and Typhimurium” (Barquist, Langridge, et al., 2013). This work is a result of collaboration with Gemma C. Langridge (Pathogen Genomics, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute), who constructed the Salmonella Typhimurium transposon mutant library and contributed to a draft manuscript. In particular, portions of the analyses in sections 2.3.1-3 have their origins in Langridge (2010), though have been significantly elaborated on here.

2.1 Introduction

Salmonella enterica subspecies *enterica* serovars Typhi (*S. Typhi*¹) and Typhimurium (*S. Typhimurium*) are important, closely related, human pathogens with very different lifestyles. In this chapter, I describe a study comparing dense transposon insertion libraries created in these two serovars. The results of this study demonstrate that orthologous genes can have dramatically different effects on the fitness of recently diverged organisms

¹Note that the complicated *Salmonella* taxonomy and nomenclature make abbreviation difficult (and at times contentious). Here I have adopted the practice of referring to individual serovars as *S. Serovar* once they have been introduced, following the advice of Brenner et al. (2000).

in rich media. These differences in fitness effects are indicative of changes in the network architecture of the cell which may partially underlie the dramatically different diseases caused by each organism and their different host ranges. Additionally, *S. Typhimurium* has served as a model organism for the discovery and functional characterization of ncRNAs. Comparing ncRNA requirements between it and a closely related serovar provides a glimpse of the functional evolution of non-coding regulatory networks.

2.1.1 The genus *Salmonella*

Salmonella is a Gram-negative, γ -proteobacterial genus within the order Enterobacteriales, consisting of two species: *Salmonella enterica* and *Salmonella bongori*, though a contested third species, *Salmonella subterranea*, has recently been proposed (Shelobolina et al., 2004). Based on phylogenetic analyses of 16S and conserved amino acid sequences, *Salmonella* is most closely related to the generaes *Escherichia*, *Shigella*, and *Citrobacter* (Paradis et al., 2005; Pham et al., 2007; D. Wu et al., 2009). Molecular clock analyses suggest that *Salmonella* and *Escherichia* shared a common ancestor between 100 and 160 million years ago (Ochman and Wilson, 1987; Doolittle et al., 1996). During the time since their divergence *Escherichia* has become established as a mammalian gut commensal, though multiple independent origins of the *Shigella* and other pathogenic phenotypes within the genus show that a disease phenotype can be developed fairly easily through the horizontal acquisition of virulence determinants and the silencing of anti-virulence loci (Kaper, Nataro, and Mobley, 2004; Prosseda et al., 2012). Despite sharing the majority of their genomes with *Escherichia* and having broadly similar metabolic capabilities (AbuOun et al., 2009), the salmonellae exist primarily as pathogens, though are possibly commensal in some reptiles (Mermin et al., 2004; Bauwens et al., 2006).

The difference in dominant phenotype between *Escherichia* and *Salmonella* appears to be largely due to the acquisition of virulence determinants which opened new niches to ancestral salmonellae (see figure 2.1). Interestingly, *S. subterranea* has been described as a soil isolate capable of uranium reduction (Shelobolina et al., 2004) and may represent a pre-pathogenic branching of the lineage, though the species has not been thoroughly characterized and it is not clear if this strain is truly a member of the genus. Many of the virulence determinants characteristic of the salmonellae are encoded on large genomic islands with sizes between \sim 6 and 140 kilobases, termed *Salmonella Pathogenicity Islands*



Figure 2.1: Genomic acquisitions in the evolution of the salmonellae. Traits shared by the common ancestor are depicted in blue; those unique to *S. bongori* are shown in red and those unique to *S. enterica* subspecies *enterica* serovar Typhi in green. Arrows, *Salmonella* Pathogenicity Islands (SPIs); extended ovals, fimbriae; circles, effectors; small ovals and needle complexes, secretion systems. Metabolic pathways: lines, enzymatic reactions; open squares, carbohydrates; ovals, pyrimidines; open circles, other substrates; filled shapes, phosphorylated. Novel effectors acquired by *S. bongori* are secreted by the type III secretion system encoded on SPI-1. SPI-3a and 3b carry the same genes in both organisms but are fused into one island in *S. Typhi*. SPI-5a also carries the same genes in both organisms, but a further 3 kb (termed SPI-5b) has fused to SPI-5a in *S. Typhi*. *indicates a pseudogene. Reproduced from Fookes et al. (2011) under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL).

(SPIs) (Hensel, 2004). These islands encode a diverse array of pathogenicity-related functions including secretion systems, toxins, antibiotic resistances, and lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and capsular modifications. In particular, the acquisition of SPI-1, encoding a type 3 secretion system (T3SS), and various fimbriae by the ancestral *Salmonella* likely enabled invasion of cells in the intestinal epithelium and escape from competition with other members of the gut microbiota (Bäumler, 1997). *S. bongori* appears to have only acquired a single additional SPI since its divergence from *S. enterica* and likely retains a lifestyle more similar to the ancestral *Salmonella*, though there is evidence for additional adaptation to its niche in the reptilian gut (Fookes et al., 2011).

S. enterica meanwhile has diversified into 6 distinct subspecies: *enterica*, *salamae*, *arizonae*, *diarizonae*, *houtenae*, and *indica*. These subspecies are further divided into over 2000 serovars based on the cell-surface O, flagellar H, and capsular Vi antigens (Grimont and Weill, 2007). The acquisition of SPI-2, involved in survival inside macrophages and an enabling factor for systemic infection (Kuhle and Hensel, 2004; Abrahams and Hensel, 2006), by the ancestral *S. enterica* is thought to have been a driving force in this diversification (Bäumler, 1997). Subspecies besides *enterica* are thought to be primarily restricted to cold-blooded animals (Bäumler, 1997), though sporadic reports of zoonotic disease show these subspecies are capable of transiently infecting the mammalian gut under certain conditions (Mermin et al., 2004; Hilbert et al., 2012). However, here I will be primarily concerned with the subspecies *enterica* and its adaptation to the mammalian, and more specifically human, host.

2.1.2 Host adaptation and restriction

Bacterial adaptation to a pathogenic lifestyle is a complex process involving both the acquisition of virulence factors and gene loss through both passive decay and positive selection (Pallen and Wren, 2007; Prosseda et al., 2012). In the previous section I discussed how the acquisition of SPI-1 and -2, among other factors, have enabled *S. enterica* subspecies *enterica* to establish a niche in the mammalian gut. Access to this new niche has enabled serovars of subspecies *enterica* to explore a range of pathogenic modalities. The most common form of disease caused by *enterica* serovars is a self-limiting gastroenteritis, exemplified by the serovars Typhimurium and Enteriditis (Santos, Raffatellu, et al., 2009). These serovars can infect a wide range of mammals and birds,

but are only capable of causing serious disease in the very young (Bäumler et al., 1998), and are generally thought to exhibit a phenotype similar to the ancestral *enterica*.

A number of subspecies *enterica* serovars have adapted to causing invasive disease in specific organisms. These include Typhi and Paratyphi in humans, Dublin in cattle, Gallinarum in chickens, Abortusovis in sheep, Choleraesuis in pigs, and Abortusequi in horses. These adaptations appear to be the result of the acquisition of host-specific virulence factors (Bäumler et al., 1998). Interestingly, those serovars associated with the most severe forms of disease appear to be most highly restricted in terms of host range. This appears to be the result of three processes: positive selection against anti-virulence loci (Pallen and Wren, 2007; Grosseda et al., 2012), and two more passive processes termed “use it or lose it” and “use it, but lose it anyway” by Moran (2004).

Selection against anti-virulence loci presumably occurs during host-adaptation, and generally involved the loss of loci that provoke an antigenic response or interfere with the infective process. Once a bacterium has escaped competition in the gut microbiota and gained access to a rich intracellular niche through horizontal acquisitions, the “use it or lose it” principle leads to the loss of metabolic pathways no longer required in this environment presumably due to the lifting of selective pressure for their maintenance. The “use it, but lose it anyway” principle is a consequence of the severe bottleneck imposed by adaptation to a particular host, which will often drastically reduce the effective population size of the bacterium. This can cause fixation of inactivating mutations in potentially beneficial genes simply as an accident of the adaptive process. Together these processes may eventually prevent the bacterium from living independently of its host; particularly extreme examples are *Mycobacterium leprae* with its thousands of inactivated pseudogenes (Cole et al., 2001), *Mycoplasma* species with their highly reduced genomes (Fraser et al., 2001), and most strikingly the endosymbiont-derived mitochondria and plastid organelles (Sagan, 1967; Andersson et al., 1998). While no *Salmonella* serovars appear to have been subject to this degree of genome degradation, it is not unusual for as much as 7% of the protein-coding genes of host-restricted serovars to be inactivated (Parkhill et al., 2001; N. R. Thomson et al., 2008; Holt, Teo, et al., 2009; McClelland, Sanderson, Clifton, et al., 2004).

The serovars of *S. enterica* subspecies *enterica* exhibit a spectrum of pathogenic lifestyles, from low-pathogenicity and wide host range to high-pathogenicity and narrow host range. Recent studies examining host adaptation of Typhimurium strains to

immunocompromised populations (Feasey et al., 2012; Okoro et al., 2012) demonstrate that the process of host-adaptation is both on-going and highly relevant to human health. In this study, we have used transposon-insertion sequencing to examine two recently diverged (circa 50,000 years ago (Kidgell et al., 2002)) serovars at extreme ends of this pathogenicity spectrum: Typhi and Typhimurium.

2.1.3 Serovars Typhi and Typhimurium

Salmonella enterica subspecies *enterica* serovars Typhi (*S. Typhi*) and Typhimurium (*S. Typhimurium*) are important human pathogens with distinctly different lifestyles. *S. Typhi* is host-restricted to humans and causes typhoid fever. This potentially fatal systemic illness affects at least 21 million people annually, primarily in developing countries (Crump, Luby, and Mintz, 2004; Bhutta and Threlfall, 2009; Kothari, Pruthi, and Chugh, 2008), and is capable of colonizing the gall bladder creating asymptomatic carriers; such individuals are the primary source of this human restricted infection, exemplified by the case of “Typhoid Mary” (Soper, 1939). Mary Mallon was an Irish-American cook in New York City at the turn of the twentieth century, and an (at least initially) unwitting carrier of Typhi. A series of typhoid outbreaks were traced to her by city public health authorities. She was offered removal of her gall bladder, which she refused, and was ordered to refrain from working as a cook following release from three years of quarantine. After a number of additional outbreaks – including several deaths – were traced to Mary, who had continued working as a cook under a pseudonym, she was involuntarily quarantined on North Brother Island in the East River for 23 years until her death.

S. Typhimurium, conversely, is a generalist, causing relatively mild disease in a wide range of mammals and birds in addition to being a leading cause of foodborne gastroenteritis in human populations. Control of *S. Typhimurium* infection in livestock destined for the human food chain is of great economic importance, particularly in swine and cattle (CDC, 2009; Majowicz et al., 2010). Additionally, *S. Typhimurium* causes an invasive disease in mice, which has been used extensively as a model for pathogenicity in general and human typhoid fever specifically (Santos, S. Zhang, et al., 2001).

Despite this long history of investigation, the genomic factors that contribute to these differences in lifestyle remain unclear. Over 85% of predicted coding sequences are conserved between the two serovars in sequenced genomes of multiple strains (McClelland,

Sanderson, Spieth, et al., 2001; Parkhill et al., 2001; Holt, Parkhill, et al., 2008; Deng et al., 2003). The horizontal acquisition of both plasmids and pathogenicity islands during the evolution of the salmonellae is believed to have impacted upon their disease potential. A 100kb plasmid, encoding the *Salmonella* plasmid virulence (SPV) genes, is found in some *S. Typhimurium* strains and contributes significantly towards systemic infection in animal models (Gulig and Curtiss, 1987; Gulig, Danbara, et al., 1993). *S. Typhi* is known to have harbored IncHI1 plasmids conferring antibiotic resistance since the 1970s (Phan et al., 2009), and there is evidence that these strains present a higher bacterial load in the blood during human infection (Wain et al., 1998). Similar plasmids have been isolated from *S. Typhimurium* (Datta, 1962; Holt, N. R. Thomson, et al., 2007; Cain and Hall, 2012). *Salmonella* pathogenicity islands 1 and 2 are common to all *Salmonella enterica* subspecies, and are required for invasion of epithelial cells (reviewed in Darwin and V. L. Miller (1999)) and survival inside macrophages respectively (Ochman and Groisman, 1996; Shea et al., 1996; Kuhle and Hensel, 2004; Abrahams and Hensel, 2006). *S. Typhi* additionally incorporates SPI-7 and SPI-10, which contain the Vi surface antigen and a number of other putative virulence factors (Pickard, Wain, et al., 2003; Seth-Smith, 2008; Townsend et al., 2001).

Acquisition of virulence determinants is not the sole explanation for the differing disease phenotypes displayed in humans by *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi*; genome degradation is an important feature of the *S. Typhi* genome, in common with other host-restricted serovars such as *S. Paratyphi A* (humans) and *S. Gallinarum* (chickens). In each of these serovars, pseudogenes account for 4-7% of the genome (Parkhill et al., 2001; N. R. Thomson et al., 2008; Holt, Teo, et al., 2009; McClelland, Sanderson, Clifton, et al., 2004). Loss of function has occurred in a number of *S. Typhi* genes that have been shown to encode intestinal colonisation and persistence determinants in *S. Typhimurium* (Kingsley et al., 2003). Numerous sugar transport and degradation pathways have also been interrupted (Parkhill et al., 2001), but remain intact in *S. Typhimurium*, potentially underlying the restricted host niche occupied by *S. Typhi*.

In addition to its history as a model organisms for pathogenicity, *S. Typhimurium* has recently served as a model organism for the elucidation of non-coding RNA (ncRNA) function (Vogel, 2009a). These include cis-acting switches, such as RNA-based temperature and magnesium ion sensors (Waldminghaus et al., 2007; Cromie et al., 2006), together with a host of predicted metabolite-sensing riboswitches. Additionally, a large number

of trans-acting small RNAs (sRNAs) have been identified within the *S. Typhimurium* genome (Kröger et al., 2012), some with known roles in virulence (Hebrard et al., 2012). These sRNAs generally control a regulon of mRNA transcripts through an antisense binding mechanism mediated by the protein Hfq in response to stress. The functions of these molecules have generally been explored in either *S. Typhimurium* or *E. coli*, and it is unknown how stable these functions and regulons are over evolutionary time (Richter and Backofen, 2012).

Transposon mutagenesis has previously been used to assess the requirement of particular genes for cellular viability. The advent of next-generation sequencing has allowed simultaneous identification of all transposon insertion sites within libraries of up to 1 million independent mutants (reviewed in Barquist, Boinett, and Cain (2013); see also the previous chapter), enabling us to answer the basic question of which genes are required for *in vitro* growth with extremely fine resolution. By using transposon mutant libraries of this density, which in *S. Typhi* represents on average > 80 unique insertions per gene (Langridge et al., 2009), shorter regions of the genome can be interrogated, including ncRNAs (Christen et al., 2011). In addition, once these libraries exist, they can be screened through various selective conditions to further reveal which functions are required for growth/survival.

Using Illumina-based transposon directed insertion-site sequencing (TraDIS (Langridge et al., 2009)) with large mutant libraries of both *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi*, we investigated whether these salmonellae require the same protein-coding and non-coding RNA (ncRNA) gene sets for competitive growth under laboratory conditions, and whether there are differences which reflect intrinsic differences in the pathogenic niches these bacteria inhabit.

2.2 Materials and Methods

Gemma Langridge created the *S. Typhimurium* library described here, and performed all the laboratory experiments described here. Duy Phan and Keith Turner created the *S. Typhi* library. Duy Phan and Gemma Langridge performed the read mapping.

2.2.1 Strains

S. Typhimurium strain SL3261 contains a deletion relative to the parent strain, SL1344, was used to generate the large transposon mutant library. The 2166bp deletion ranges from 153bp within *aroA* (normally 1284bp) to the last 42bp of *cmk*, forming two pseudogenes and deleting the intervening gene SL0916 completely. For comparison, we utilized our previously generated *S. Typhi* Ty2 transposon library (Langridge et al., 2009).

2.2.2 Annotation

For *S. Typhimurium* strain SL3261, I used feature annotations drawn from the SL1344 genome (EMBL-Bank accession FQ312003.1), ignoring the deleted *aroA*, *ycaL*, and *cmk* genes. I re-analyzed the *S. Typhi* Ty2 transposon library with features drawn from an updated genome annotation (EMBL-Bank accession AE014613.1.) I supplemented the EMBL-Bank annotations with non-coding RNA annotations drawn from Rfam 10.1 (Burge et al., 2013), Sittka et al. (2008), Chinni et al. (2010), Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011), and Kröger et al. (2012). Selected protein-coding gene annotations were supplemented using the HMMER webserver (Finn, Clements, and Eddy, 2011) and Pfam (Punta et al., 2012).

2.2.3 Creation of *S. Typhimurium* transposon mutant library

S. Typhimurium was mutagenized using a Tn5-derived transposon as described previously (Langridge et al., 2009; a detailed protocol is available in Langridge, 2010). Briefly, the transposon was combined with the EZ-Tn5 transposase (Epicenter, Madison, USA) and electroporated into *S. Typhimurium*. Transformants were selected by plating on LB agar containing 15 µg/mL kanamycin and harvested directly from the plates following overnight incubation. A typical electroporation experiment generated a batch of between 50,000 and 150,000 individual mutants. 10 batches were pooled together to create a mutant library comprising approximately 930,000 transposon mutants.

2.2.4 DNA manipulations and sequencing

Genomic DNA was extracted from the library pool samples using tip-100g columns and the genomic DNA buffer set from Qiagen (Crawley, UK). DNA was prepared for nucleotide

sequencing as described previously (Langridge et al., 2009). Prior to sequencing, a 22 cycle PCR was performed as previously described (Langridge et al., 2009). Sequencing took place on a single end Illumina flowcell using an Illumina GAI^I sequencer, for 36 cycles of sequencing, using a custom sequencing primer and 2x Hybridization Buffer (Langridge et al., 2009). The custom primer was designed such that the first 10 bp of each read was transposon sequence.

2.2.5 Sequence analysis

The Illumina FASTQ sequence files were parsed for 100% identity to the 5' 10bp of the transposon (TAAGAGACAG). Sequence reads which matched were stripped of the transposon tag and subsequently mapped to the *S. Typhimurium* SL1344 or *S. Typhi* Ty2 chromosomes using Maq version maq-0.6.8 (Li, Ruan, and Durbin, 2008). Approximately 12 million sequence reads were generated from the sequencing run which used two lanes on the Illumina flowcell. Precise insertion sites were determined using the output from the Maq mapview command, which gives the first nucleotide position to which each read mapped. The number and frequency of insertions mapping to each nucleotide in the appropriate genome was then determined.

2.2.6 Statistical analysis of required genes

The number of insertion sites for any gene is dependent upon its length, so the values were made comparable by dividing the number of insertion sites by the gene length, giving an “insertion index” for each gene. As before (Langridge et al., 2009) the distribution of insertion indices was bimodal, corresponding to the required (mode at 0) and non-required distributions (See Figure 2.2). I fitted gamma distributions for the two modes using the R MASS library (<http://www.r-project.org>). Log_2 -likelihood ratios (LLR) were calculated between the required and non-required distributions and I called a gene required if it had an LLR of less than -2, indicating it was at least 4 times more likely according to the required model than the non-required model. “Non-required” genes were assigned for an LLR of greater than 2. Genes falling between the two thresholds were considered “ambiguous” for the purpose of this analysis. This procedure lead to genes being called as required in *S. Typhimurium* when their insertion index was less than 0.020, or 1 insertion

in every 50 bases, and ambiguous between 0.020 and 0.027. The equivalent cut-offs for the *S. Typhi* library are 0.0147 and 0.0186, respectively.

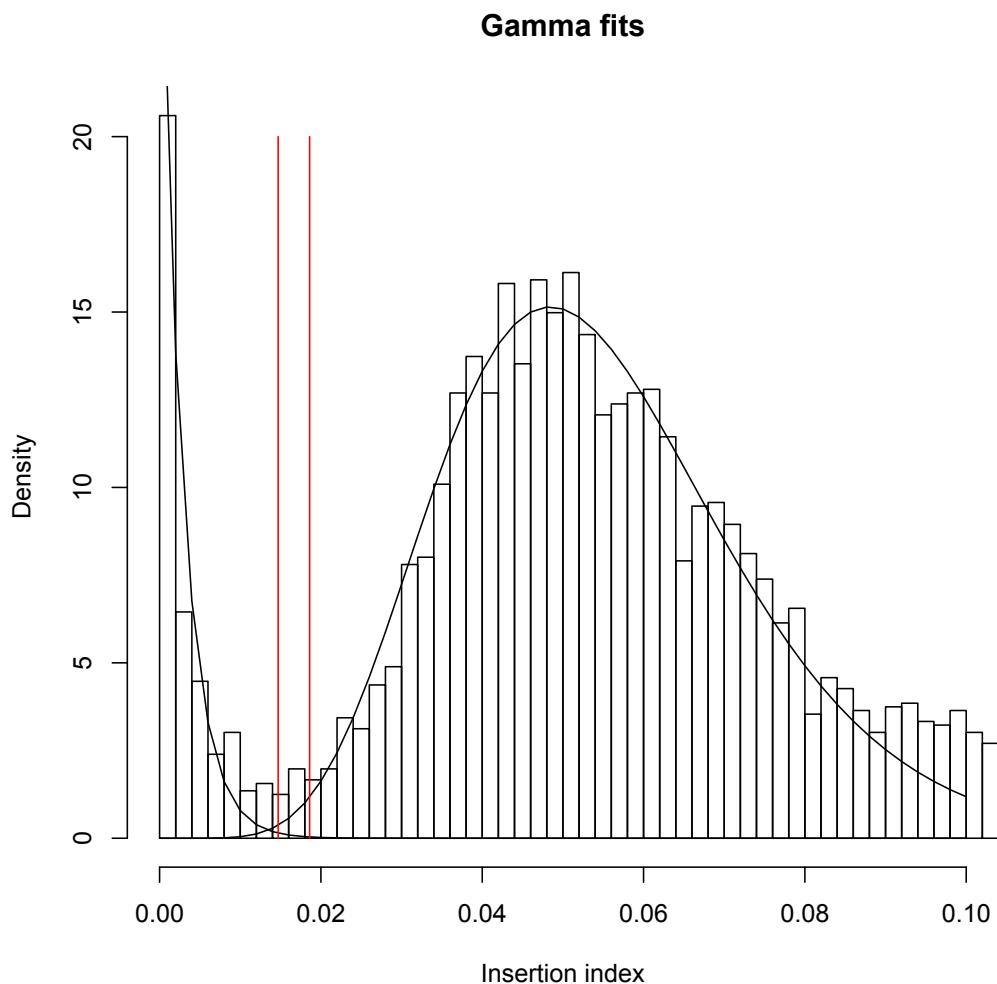


Figure 2.2: The distribution of gene-wise insertion indexes in *S. Typhi*. Bars report the density of genes with insertion indexes within each range, black lines show gamma distributions fitted to the required (left, mode at 0) and non-required (right) peaks, and red lines report associated LLR-based cut-offs for calling gene ambiguity (left) and requirement (right). The distribution of insertion indexes in *S. Typhimurium* is similar, though with a wider separation between the required and non-required peaks due to the higher insertion density attained.

I calculated a p-value for the observed number of insertion sites per gene using a

Poisson approximation with rate $R = \frac{N}{G}$ where N is the number of unique insert sites (549,086) and G is the number of bases in the genome (4,878,012). The p-value for at least X consecutive bases without an insert site is $e^{(-RX)}$, giving a 5% cut-off at 27 bp and a 1% cut-off at 41 bp.

For every gene g with $n_{g,A}$ reads observed in *S. Typhi* and $n_{g,B}$ reads observed in *S. Typhimurium*, I calculated the log2 fold change ratio $S_{g,A,B} = \log_2(\frac{n_{g,A}+100}{n_{g,B}+100})$. The correction of 100 reads smoothes out the high scores for genes with very low numbers of observed reads. I fitted a normal distribution to the mode +/- 2 sample standard deviations of the distribution of $S_{A,B}$, and calculated p-values for each gene according to the fit. I considered genes with a p-value of 0.05 or less under the fitted normal distribution to be uniquely required by one serovar.

2.3 Results and Discussion

2.3.1 TraDIS assay of every *Salmonella* *Typhimurium* protein-coding gene

Approximately 930,000 mutants of *S. Typhimurium* were generated using a Tn5-derived transposon. 549,086 unique insertion sites were recovered from the mutant library using short-read sequencing with transposon-specific primers. This is a substantially higher density than the 371,775 insertions recovered from *S. Typhi* previously (Langridge et al., 2009). The *S. Typhimurium* library contains an average of one insertion every 9bp, or over 100 unique inserts per gene (figure 2.3). The large number of unique insertion sites allowed every gene to be assayed; assuming random insertion across the genome, a region of 41bp without an insertion was statistically significant ($P < 0.01$). As previously noted in *S. Typhi*, the distribution of length-normalized insertions per gene is bimodal (see figure 2.2), with one mode at 0. Genes falling in to the distribution around this mode are interpreted as being required for competitive growth within a mixed population under laboratory conditions (hereafter “required”). Of these, 57 contained no insertions whatsoever and were mostly involved in core cellular processes (see table 2.1).

There was a bias in the frequency of transposon insertion towards the origin of replication. This likely occurred as the bacteria were in exponential growth phase immediately prior to transformation with the transposon. In this phase of growth,



Figure 2.3: Genome-wide transposon mutagenesis of *S. Typhimurium*. A) Circular plot showing gene content, distribution of required genes, and insertion density along the *S. Typhimurium* chromosome. The outer scale is marked in megabases. Circular tracks range from 1 (outer track) to 6 (inner track). Track 1, all forward-strand genes (color-coded according to function: dark blue, pathogenicity/adaptation; black, energy metabolism; red, information transfer; dark green, membranes/surface structures; cyan, degradation of macromolecules; purple, degradation of small molecules; yellow, central/intermediary metabolism; light blue, regulators; pink, phage/IS elements; orange, conserved hypothetical; pale green, unknown function; brown, pseudogenes.); track 2, all reverse-strand genes (color-coded as for forward-strand genes); track 3, *S. Typhimurium* required genes (red); track 4, 56 genes required by *S. Typhimurium* but not by *S. Typhi* (dark blue, see also table 1); track 5, transposon insertion density; track 6, GC bias ($\frac{G-C}{G+C}$), khaki indicates values >1 ; purple <1 .

multiple replication forks would have been initiated, meaning genes closer to the origin were in greater copy number and hence more likely to be a target for insertion. There was a bias for transposon insertions in A+T rich regions, as was previously observed in the construction of an *S. Typhi* mutant library (Langridge et al., 2009). However, the insertion density achieved is sufficient to discriminate between required and non-required genes easily. As was first seen in *S. Typhi* (Langridge et al., 2009), there were transposon insertions into genes upstream of required genes in the same operon, suggesting that most insertions do not have polar effects leading to the inactivation of downstream genes.

Analysis of the *S. Typhimurium* mutant library allowed the identification of 353 coding sequences required for growth under laboratory conditions, and 4,112 non-required coding sequences (see [need to put supp data in appendix](#)). Sixty-five genes could not be assigned to either the required or non-required category. 60 of these genes, which I will refer to as “ambiguous”, had log-likelihood ratios (LLRs) between -2 and 2. The final 5 unassigned genes had lengths less than 60 bases, and they were removed from the analysis. All other genes contained enough insertions or were of sufficient length to generate credible LLR scores. Thus, every gene was assayed and I was able to draw conclusions for 98.7% of the coding genome in a single sequencing run (figure 2.3).

2.3.2 Cross-species comparison of genes required for growth

Gene essentiality has previously been assayed in *S. Typhimurium* using insertion-duplication mutagenesis. Knuth et al. (2004) estimated 490 genes are essential to growth in clonal populations, though 36 of these have subsequently been successfully deleted (Santiviago, Reynolds, et al., 2009). While TraDIS assays gene requirements after a brief period of competitive growth on rich media, I identify a smaller required set than Knuth et al. (2004) of approximately 350 genes in each serovar, closer to current estimates of approximately 300 essential genes in *E. coli* (Baba et al., 2006).

To demonstrate that TraDIS does identify genes known to have strong effects on growth, as well as to test our predictive power for determining gene essentiality, I compared our required gene sets in *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi* to essential genes determined by systematic single-gene knockouts in the *Escherichia coli* K-12 Keio collection (Baba et al., 2006). I identified orthologous genes in the three data sets by best reciprocal FASTA hits exhibiting over 30% sequence identity over at least 80% of the amino acid sequence.



Figure 2.4: Comparison of required genes. Venn diagrams showing (A) the overlap of all genes (outer circles, light colors) and required genes (inner circles, dark colors) between *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi* (excluding genes required in one serovar only which do not have significantly different read-counts). Black numbers refer to all genes, white numbers to required genes. (B) the overlap of all required genes between *S. Typhimurium* (blue), *S. Typhi* (green) and *E. coli* (purple). White numbers refer to genes with Keio essentiality scores ≥ 0.5 .

Required orthologous genes identified in this manner share a significantly higher average percent sequence identity with their *E. coli* counterparts than expected for a random set of orthologs, at $\sim 94\%$ identity as compared to $\sim 87\%$ for all orthologous genes. In 100,000 randomly chosen gene sets of the same size as our required set I did not find a single set where the average shared identity exceeded 90%, indicating that required genes identified by TraDIS are more highly conserved at the amino acid level than other orthologous protein coding sequences.

Baba et al. (2006) have defined an essentiality score for each gene in *E. coli* based on evidence from four experimental techniques for determining gene essentiality: targeted knock-outs using λ -red mediated homologous recombination, genetic footprinting (Gerdes et al., 2003; Tong et al., 2004), large-scale chromosomal deletions (Hashimoto et al., 2005), and transposon mutagenesis (Kang et al., 2004). Scores range from -4 to 3, with negative scores indicating evidence for non-essentiality and positive scores indicating evidence for essentiality. Comparing the overlap between essential gene sets in *E. coli*, *S. Typhi*, and *S. Typhimurium*, I found a set of 228 *E. coli* genes which have a Keio essentiality score of at least 0.5 (i.e. there is evidence for gene essentiality; See Figure 2.4.)

Table 2.1: Core genome functions in *S. Typhimurium*. Protein-coding genes providing fundamental biological functions in *S. Typhimurium*. Genes in bold are required in *S. Typhi* (log-likelihood ratio (LLR) between required and non-required models < -2; see Methods.) * indicates genes ambiguous in *S. Typhimurium*, having a LLR between -2 and 2.

| Biological Process | Sub-process | Required genes | Non-required genes |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Cell division | | <i>ftsALKQWYZ, minE, mukB, SL2391</i> | <i>ftsHJNX*</i> , <i>minCD</i> , <i>sdIA, cedA, sulA</i> |
| DNA replication | Polymerases I, II, and III | <i>dnaENQX, holAB</i> | <i>polAB, holCDE</i> |
| | Supercoiling | <i>gyrAB, parCE</i> | |
| | Primosome-associated | <i>dnaBCGT, priA, ssb</i> | <i>priB*C, rep</i> |
| Transcription | RNA polymerase | <i>rpoABC</i> | |
| | Sigma, elongation, anti- and termination factors | <i>nusBG, rpoDH, rho</i> | <i>nusA, rpoENS</i> |
| Translation | tRNA-synthetases | <i>alaS, argS, asnS, aspS, cysS, glnS, gltX, glyQS, hisS, ileS, leuS, lysS, metG, pheST, proS, serS, thrS, tyrS, valS</i> | <i>trpS, trpS2</i> |
| | Ribosome components | <i>rplBCDEFJKLMNPQRSTUUVWXYZ, rpmABCDHI, rpsABCDEFGHIJKLMNPQRST</i> | <i>rplAI, rpmEE2, rpmFHJJ2, rpsOR*U*V</i> |
| | Initiation, elongation, and peptide chain release factors | <i>fusA, infABC, prfAB, tsf, yrdC</i> | <i>efp, prfCH, selB, tuf</i> |
| Biosynthetic pathways | | | |
| Peptidoglycan | | <i>murABCDEFGI</i> | <i>ddl, dlla</i> |
| Fatty acids | | <i>accABCD, fabABDGHIZ</i> | |

that have TraDIS-predicted required orthologs in both *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium*, constituting ~85% of *E. coli* genes with evidence for essentiality indicating that gene requirements are largely conserved between these genera. Including orthologous genes that are only predicted to be essential by TraDIS in *S. Typhi* or *S. Typhimurium* raises this figure to nearly 93%. The majority of shared required genes between all three bacteria are responsible for fundamental cell processes, including cell division, transcription and translation. A number of key metabolic pathways are also represented, such as fatty acid and peptidoglycan biosynthesis (Table 2.1). A recent study in the α -proteobacteria *Caulobacter crescentus* reported 210 shared essential genes with *E. coli*, despite *C. crescentus* sharing less than a third as many orthologous genes with *E. coli* as *Salmonella* serovars (Christen et al., 2011). This suggests the existence of a shared core of approximately 200 essential proteobacterial genes, with the comparatively rapid turnover of 150 to 250 non-core lineage-specific essential genes.

By making the simplistic assumption that gene essentiality should be conserved between *E. coli* and *Salmonella*, I can use the overlap of our predictions with the Keio essential genes to provide an estimate of our TraDIS libraries accuracy for predicting that a gene will be required in a clonal population. Of the 2632 orthologous *E. coli* genes which have a Keio essentiality score of less than -0.5 (i.e. there is evidence for gene

non-essentiality), only 33 are predicted to be required by TraDIS in both *Salmonella* serovars. *S. Typhi* contains the largest number of genes predicted by TraDIS to be required with *E. coli* orthologs with negative Keio essentiality scores. However, even if it is assumed these are all incorrect predictions of gene essentiality, this still gives a gene-wise false positive rate (FPR) of ~2.7% (81 out of 2981 orthologs) and a positive predictive value (PPV) of ~75% (247 with essentiality scores greater than or equal to 0.5 out of 328 predictions with some Keio essentiality score.) Under these same criteria the *S. Typhimurium* data set has a lower gene-wise FPR of ~1.6% (51 out of 3122 orthologs) and a higher PPV of ~82% (234 out of 285 predictions as before), as would be expected given the library's higher insertion density. In reality these FPRs and PPVs are only estimates; genes which are not essential in *E. coli* may become essential in the different genomic context of *Salmonella* serovars and vice versa, particularly in the case of *S. Typhi* where wide-spread pseudogene formation has eliminated potentially redundant pathways (Holt, Teo, et al., 2009; McClelland, Sanderson, Clifton, et al., 2004). Additionally, TraDIS will naturally over-predict essentiality in comparison to targeted knockouts, as the library creation protocol necessarily contains a short period of competitive growth between mutants during the recovery from electro-transformation and selection. As a consequence, genes which cause major growth defects, but not necessarily a complete lack of viability in clonal populations, may be reported as 'required.'

2.3.3 Serovar-specific genes required for growth

Many of the required genes present in only one serovar encoded phage repressors, for instance the cI proteins of Fels-2/SopE and ST35 (see tables 2.2 and 2.3). Repressors maintain the lysogenic state of prophage, preventing transcription of early lytic genes (Echols, 1971). Transposon insertions into these genes will relieve this repression and trigger the lytic cycle, resulting in cell death, and consequently mutants are not represented in the sequenced library. This again broadens the definition of 'required' genes; such repressors may not be required for cellular viability in the traditional sense, but once present in these particular genomes, their maintenance is required for continued viability, as long as the rest of the phage remains intact.

S. Typhimurium and *S. Typhi* both contain 8 apparent large phage-derived genomic regions (N. Thomson et al., 2004; Kropinski et al., 2007). I was able to identify required

Table 2.2: Phage elements in *S. Typhimurium*. Genomic coordinates determined from annotations in the EMBL annotation for FQ312003 and manual inspection. Repressor domains and architecture were determined using the HMMER webserver (Finn, Clements, and Eddy, 2011) and Pfam (Punta et al., 2012). Phage types were determined using repressor sequence similarity searches and information from N. Thomson et al. (2004) and Kropinski et al. (2007).

| Element name | Genomic coordinates | Repressor | Repressor domain(s) | Repressor domain architecture | Predicted active? | Phage type | Required cargo |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Gifsy-2 SLP105 | 1054795 - 1100036 | SL0950 | HTH_3 (PF01381) |  | Yes | lambdoid | N/A |
| N/A | 1913364 - 1925490 | N/A | N/A | N/A | No | remnant | SL1799 |
| SLP203 | 2039803 - 2079890 | SL1967 | HTH_19 (PF12844) and Pep-tidase_S24 (PF00717) |  | Yes | P22-like | N/A |
| Gifsy-1 SLP272 | 2726717 - 2777229 | SL2593 | HTH_3 (PF01381) |  | Yes | lambdoid | SL2549 |
| SLP281 | 2815382 - 2825915 | SL2633 | 2 Phage_CI_repr (PF07022) |  | Yes | degenerate P2-like | N/A |
| Fels-2 SLP285 | 2855616 - 2888522 | SL2708 | Phage_CI_repr (PF07022) |  | Yes | P2-like | SL2695 |
| SLP289 | 2890073 - 2900377 | IsrK RNA (RF01394) | N/A | N/A | No | P4-like | N/A |
| SLP443 | 4437731 - 4459844 | N/A | N/A | N/A | No | remnant | SL4132 |

repressors in all the intact lambdoid, P2-like, and P22-like prophage in both genomes, including Gifsy-1, Gifsy-2, and Fels-2/SopE (see tables 2.2 and 2.3). With the exception of the SLP203 P22-like prophage in *S. Typhimurium*, all of these repressors lack the peptidase domain of the classical λ repressor gene cI. This implies that the default anti-repression mechanism of *Salmonella* prophage may be more similar to a trans-acting mechanism recently discovered in Gifsy phage (Lemire, Figueroa-Bossi, and Bossi, 2011) than to the λ repressor's RecA-induced self-cleavage mechanism. I was also able to confirm that most phage remnants and fusions contained no active repressors, with the exception of the SLP281 degenerate P2-like prophage in *S. Typhimurium*. This degenerate prophage contains both intact replication and integration genes, but appears to lack tail and head proteins, suggesting it may depend on another phage for production of viral particles. Both genomes also encode P4-like satellite prophage, which rely on 'helper' phage for lytic functions and utilize a complex antisense-RNA based regulation mechanism for decision pathways regarding cell fate (Briani et al., 2001) using structural homologs of the IsrK (Padalon-Brauch et al., 2008) and C4 ncRNAs (Forti et al., 2002), known as seqA and CI RNA in the P4 literature, respectively. While the mechanism of P4 lysogenic maintenance

Table 2.3: Phage elements in *S. Typhi*. Genomic coordinates determined from N. Thomson et al. (2004) and manual inspection. Repressor domains and architecture were determined using the HMMER webserver (Finn, Clements, and Eddy, 2011) and Pfam (Punta et al., 2012). Phage types were determined using repressor sequence similarity searches and information from N. Thomson et al. (2004) and Kropinski et al. (2007).

| Element name | Genomic coordinates | Repressor | Repressor domain(s) | Repressor domain architecture | Predicted active? | Phage type | Required cargo |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ST15 | 1408790 - 1441377 | N/A | N/A | N/A | No | Mu/P2 fusion | N/A |
| Gifsy-2 | 1929572 - 1972330 | t1920 | HTH_3 (PF01381) |  | Yes | lambdaoid | N/A |
| ST2-27 | 2735054 - 2745321 | IsrK RNA (RF01394) | N/A | N/A | Yes | P4-like | N/A |
| ST27 | 2745477 - 2768221 | N/A | N/A | N/A | No | P2/iroA fusion | N/A |
| ST35 | 3500854 - 3536047 | t3402 | Phage_CI_repr (PF07022) |  | Yes | P2-like | t3415 |
| SopE | 4457346 - 4491316 | t4337 | Phage_CI_repr (PF07022) |  | Yes | P2-like | N/A |
| N/A | 4519423 - 4519501 | IsrK RNA (RF01394) | N/A | N/A | No | remnant | N/A |
| ST46 | 4666579 - 4677433 | IsrK RNA (RF01394) | N/A | N/A | Yes | P4-like | N/A |

is not known, the IsrK-like ncRNAs of two potentially active P4-like prophage in *S. Typhi* are required under TraDIS. This sequence element has previously been shown to be essential for the establishment of the P4 lysogenic state (Sabbattini et al., 1995), and we predict based on our observations that it may be necessary for lysogenic maintenance as well. The fact that some lambdaoid prophage in *S. Typhimurium* encode non-coding genes structurally similar to the IsrK-C4 immunity system of P4 raises the possibility that these systems may be acting as a defense mechanism of sorts, protecting the prophage from predatory satellite phage capable of co-opting its lytic genes.

In addition to repressors, 4 prophage cargo genes in *S. Typhimurium* and one in *S. Typhi* are required (See tables 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, and 2.6). The *S. Typhimurium* prophage cargo genes encode a PhoPQ regulated protein, a protein predicted to be involved in natural transformation, an endodeoxyribonuclease, and a hypothetical protein. The *S. Typhi* prophage cargo gene encodes a protein containing the DNA-binding HIRAN domain (Iyer, Babu, and Aravind, 2006), believed to be involved in the repair of damaged DNA. These warrant further investigation, as they are genes that have been recently acquired and become necessary for survival in rich media.

To compare differences between requirements for orthologous genes in both serovars,

I calculated log-fold read ratios to eliminate genes which were classified differently in *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium* but did not have significantly different read densities (see Methods.) Even after this correction, 36 *S. Typhimurium* genes had a significantly lower frequency of transposon insertion compared to the equivalent genes in *S. Typhi* ($P < 0.05$), including four encoding hypothetical proteins (table 2.4). This indicates that these gene products play a vital role in *S. Typhimurium* but not in *S. Typhi* when grown under laboratory conditions.

Table 2.4: Genes uniquely required in *S. Typhimurium*. Genes determined to be uniquely required in *S. Typhimurium*. SL, *S. Typhimurium*; Ty, *S. Typhi*; inserts refer to the number of unique insertion sites within a gene; reads refer to the number of sequence reads over all insertions sites within a gene. †, P-value (associated with log2 read ratio) < 0.05. ‡, sse is a pseudogene in *S. Typhi*. Shaded rows indicate genes shown to be H-NS repressed in Navarre et al. (2006)

| Ty inserts | Ty reads | SL inserts | SL reads | SL ID | SL gene length | Ty ID | Ty gene length | Name | Function |
|------------|----------|------------|----------|---------|----------------|-------|----------------|------|--|
| - | - | 18 | 123 | SL0742 | 1269 | - | - | - | putative cation transporter |
| - | - | 9 | 80 | SL0830 | 516 | - | - | - | conserved hypothetical protein |
| - | - | 4 | 21 | SL0831 | 855 | - | - | - | putative electron transfer flavoprotein (beta subunit) |
| - | - | 0 | 0 | SL0950 | 323 | - | - | - | predicted bacteriophage protein, potential phage repressor Gifsy-2 |
| - | - | 11 | 75 | SL1179 | 789 | - | - | - | lipoprotein |
| - | - | 3 | 18 | SL1480 | 249 | - | - | - | antitoxin Phd.YefM, type II toxin-antitoxin system |
| - | - | 4 | 32 | SL1527 | 264 | - | - | - | putative inner membrane protein |
| - | - | 1 | 3 | SL1560 | 717 | - | - | - | putative membrane protein |
| - | - | 7 | 50 | SL1601 | 859 | - | - | - | putative transcriptional regulator (pseudogene) |
| - | - | 4 | 36 | SL1799 | 201 | - | - | - | bacteriophage encoded pagK (phoPQ-activated protein) |
| - | - | 5 | 22 | SL1830A | 434 | - | - | - | conserved hypothetical protein (pseudo-gene) |
| - | - | 3 | 27 | SL1967 | 677 | - | - | - | predicted bacteriophage protein, potential phage repressor SLP203 |
| - | - | 1 | 15 | SL2045A | 63 | - | - | - | short ORF |
| - | - | 17 | 107 | SL2066 | 900 | - | - | - | CDP-abequose synthase |
| - | - | 3 | 34 | SL2549 | 209 | - | - | - | endodeoxyribonuclease |
| - | - | 4 | 149 | SL2593 | 449 | - | - | - | putative DNA-binding protein, potential phage repressor Gifsy-1 SLP272 |
| - | - | 3 | 7 | SL2633 | 846 | - | - | - | putative repressor protein, SLP281 |
| - | - | 2 | 21 | SL2695 | 978 | - | - | - | putative competence protein |
| - | - | 5 | 39 | SL4132 | 291 | - | - | - | hypothetical protein |
| - | - | 5 | 45 | SL4354A | 303 | - | - | - | conserved hypothetical protein |
| 36 | 474 | 5 | 26 | SL0032 | 441 | t0033 | 306 | - | putative transcriptional regulator |
| 71 | 349 | 11 | 48 | SL0623 | 642 | t2232 | 576 | lpB | lipopeptide ligase B |
| 151 | 3546 | 10 | 64 | SL0702 | 897 | t2156 | 894 | - | putative glycosyl transferase |
| 194 | 3007 | 9 | 61 | SL0703 | 1134 | t2155 | 1134 | - | galactosyltransferase |
| 231 | 3499 | 15 | 67 | SL0706 | 1779 | t2152 | 1780 | - | putative glycosyltransferase, cell wall biogenesis |
| 84 | 1041 | 2 | 4 | SL0707 | 834 | t2151 | 834 | - | putative glycosyltransferase, cell wall biogenesis |
| 49 | 367 | 14 | 70 | SL0722 | 1569 | t2136 | 1569 | cydA | cytochrome d ubiquinol oxidase subunit I |
| 74 | 1613 | 5 | 22 | SL1069 | 693 | t1789 | 693 | - | putative secreted protein |
| 20 | 199 | 1 | 1 | SL1203 | 150 | t1146 | 156 | - | hypothetical protein |

| Present in <i>S. Typhi</i> but required only in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------|-----------|----------|-------------|------|--------------|--------|--|
| SL | Protein Name | Length | Accession | Location | Annotations | SL | Protein Name | Length | Annotations |
| 20 | | 290 | | 1 | 5 SL1264 | 315 | t1209 | 315 | - putative membrane protein |
| 84 | | 384 | | 6 | 26 SL1327 | 402 | t1261 | 384 | spiC putative pathogenicity island 2 secreted effector protein |
| 66 | | 769 | | 5 | 35 SL1331 | 270 | t1265 | 327 | sseA putative pathogenicity island protein |
| 36 | | 307 | | 2 | 5 SL1341 | 228 | t1275 | 228 | sseH putative pathogenicity island protein |
| 47 | | 407 | | 1 | 3 SL1342 | 249 | t1276 | 249 | sseI putative pathogenicity island protein |
| 144 | | 3197 | | 5 | 14 SL1343 | 750 | t1277 | 750 | sseJ putative pathogenicity island lipoprotein |
| 63 | | 847 | | 5 | 26 SL1354 | 267 | t1288 | 267 | sseS putative type III secretion protein |
| 73 | | 762 | | 4 | 44 SL1355 | 780 | t1289 | 780 | sseT putative type III secretion protein |
| 30 | | 226 | | 12 | 48 SL1386 | 693 | t1322 | 693 | mrE/ydgQ Electron transport complex protein mrE |
| 265 | | 337 | | 29 | 165 SL1473 | 1557 | t1463 | 1557 | PhoP-activated protein |
| 85 | | 765 | | 6 | 35 SL1532 | 951 | t1511 | 951 | putative virulence effector protein |
| 22 | | 156 | | 16 | 174 SL1561 | 1227 | t1534‡ | 141 | Salmonella translocated effector protein (SseJ) |
| 119 | | 1639 | | 10 | 44 SL1563 | 762 | t1536 | 762 | - putative periplasmic amino acid-binding protein |
| 107 | | 2440 | | 5 | 44 SL1564 | 648 | t1537 | 648 | - putative ABC amino acid transporter permease |
| 183 | | 1646 | | 20 | 118 SL1628 | 1355 | t1612 | 1364 | - hypothetical protein |
| 23 | | 177 | | 1 | 5 SL1659 | 183 | t1640 | 183 | ycfG conserved hypothetical protein |
| 78 | | 617 | | 16 | 104 SL1684 | 1014 | t1664 | 1014 | hypothetical protein |
| 37 | | 277 | | 4 | 25 SL1785 | 396 | t1022 | 396 | conserved hypothetical protein |
| 166 | | 2823 | | 9 | 27 SL1793 | 915 | t1016 | 915 | inner membrane protein |
| 28 | | 311 | | 3 | 22 SL1794 | 159 | t1015 | 159 | - putative inner membrane protein |
| 23 | | 155 | | 1 | 4 SL1823 | 972 | t0988 | 972 | lipid A acyltransferase |
| 60 | | 402 | | 11 | 58 SL2064 | 1002 | t0786 | 1002 | putative glycosyl transferase |
| 87 | | 524 | | 7 | 59 SL2065 | 1293 | t0785 | 1299 | putative O-antigen transporter |
| 66 | | 559 | | 13 | 74 SL2069 | 774 | t0780 | 774 | glucosamine-1-phosphate cytidylyltransferase |
| 41 | | 204 | | 5 | 14 SL3828 | 1830 | t3658 | 1830 | glmS aminotransferase |
| 27 | | 288 | | 5 | 23 SL4250 | 288 | t4220 | 288 | putative GerE family regulatory protein |
| 148 | | 2633 | | 16 | 89 SL4251 | 876 | t4221 | 876 | araC family regulatory protein |



Figure 2.5: Comparison of cell surface operon structure and requirements. Diagram illustrating cell surface operons with different requirement patterns in *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi*. The top figure is of an uncharacterized operon putatively involved in cell wall biogenesis, while the bottom figure shows a portion of the *rfb* operon involved in O-antigen biosynthesis. Plots along the top and bottom of each figure show insertions in *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Typhi*, respectively, with read depth on the y-axis with a maximum cut-off of 100 reads. Genes in blue are required in *S. Typhimurium*, genes in white are pseudogenes; others are in grey. Grey rectangles represent BLAST hits between orthologous genes, with percent nucleotide identity colored on the scale to the right of each figure.

A major difference between the two serovars is in the requirement for genes involved in cell wall biosynthesis (see figure 2.5). A set of four genes (SL0702, SL0703, SL0706, and SL0707) in an operonic structure putatively involved in cell wall biogenesis is required in *S. Typhimurium* but not in *S. Typhi*. The protein encoded by SL0706 is a pseudogene in *S. Typhi* (Ty2 unique ID: t2152) due to a 1bp deletion at codon 62 that causes a frameshift (Figure 4a). This operon contains an additional two pseudogenes in *S. Typhi* (t2154 and t2150), as well as a single different pseudogene (SL0700) in *S. Typhimurium*, indicating that this difference in gene requirements reflects the evolutionary adaptation of these serovars to their respective niches. Similarly, four genes (*rfbV*, *rfbX*, *rfbJ* and *rfbF*) within an O-antigen biosynthetic operon are required by *S. Typhimurium* but not *S. Typhi*. There appears to have been a shuffling of O-antigen biosynthetic genes since the divergence between the two serovars, and *rfbJ*, encoding a CDP-abequose synthase, has been lost from *S. Typhi* altogether. These broader requirements for cell wall-associated biosynthetic and transporter genes suggest that surface structure biogenesis is of greater

importance in *S. Typhimurium*.

There were seven genes from the shared pathogenicity island SPI-2 that appear to contain few or no transposon insertions only in *S. Typhimurium* under laboratory conditions. These genes (*spiC*, *sseA*, and *ssaHIJT*) are thought to encode components of the SPI-2 type III secretion system apparatus (T3SS) (Kuhle and Hensel, 2004). In addition, the effector genes *sseJ* and *sifB*, whose products are secreted through the SPI-2-encoded T3SS (Miao and S. I. Miller, 2000; Freeman, Ohl, and S. I. Miller, 2003), also fell into the ‘required’ category in *S. Typhimurium* alone. All of these genes display high A+T nucleotide sequence and have been previously shown (in *S. Typhimurium*) to be strongly bound by the nucleoid associated protein H-NS, encoded by *hns* (Lucchini et al., 2006; Navarre et al., 2006). Therefore, rather than being ‘required’, it is instead possible that access for the transposon was sufficiently restricted that very few insertions occurred at these sites. In further support of this hypothesis, a comparison of the binding pattern of H-NS detected in studies using *S. Typhimurium* LT2 with the TraDIS results from the SPI-2 locus indicated that high regions of H-NS enrichment correlated well with both the *ssa* genes described here and with *sseJ* (see figure 2.6). An earlier study also suggests that high-density DNA binding proteins can block Mu, Tn5, and Tn10 insertion (Manna et al., 2007); however, a genome-wide study of the effects of H-NS binding on transposition would be necessary to confirm this effect.



Figure 2.6: H-NS enrichment across the SPI-2 locus. Based on data from Lucchini et al. (2006) where a 2 fold enrichment of H-NS-bound DNA over a total genomic DNA control in a ChIP-on-chip experiment was taken to indicate regions of H-NS binding in *S. Typhimurium* strain LT2. Assuming these binding patterns are similar in the *S. Typhimurium* strain tested in this study, H-NS binding may have affected transposon access to genes in the SPI-2 locus.

Table 2.5: Candidate required genes affected by H-NS binding in *S. Typhimurium*. Genes identified by comparison with data from Navarre et al. (2006). Fold change values report the results of a ChIP-on-chip experiment, and indicate genes strongly bound by H-NS.

| Gene | SL ID | STM ID | Fold change | Function |
|------|--------|---------|-------------|---|
| - | SL0830 | STM0854 | -16.2 | conserved hypothetical protein |
| - | SL0831 | STM0855 | -33.8 | putative putative electron transfer flavoprotein (beta subunit) |
| - | SL1069 | STM1131 | -13.5 | putative putative secreted protein |
| spiC | SL1327 | STM1393 | -19.1 | putative pathogenicity island 2 secreted effector protein |
| sseA | SL1331 | STM1397 | -46 | Type three secretion system chaperone |
| ssaH | SL1341 | STM1407 | -8.8 | Type three secretion system apparatus |
| ssaI | SL1342 | STM1408 | -32.4 | putative putative pathogenicity island protein |
| ssaJ | SL1343 | STM1409 | -53.7 | putative putative pathogenicity island lipoprotein |
| ssaS | SL1354 | STM1420 | -15.5 | putative putative type III secretion protein |
| ssaT | SL1355 | STM1421 | -33.9 | putative putative type III secretion protein |
| pqaA | SL1473 | STM1544 | -5.5 | PhoPQ-activated protein |
| sifB | SL1532 | STM1602 | -66.8 | putative putative virulence effector protein |
| - | SL1560 | STM1630 | -9.8 | putative putative membrane protein |
| sseJ | SL1561 | STM1631 | -48.6 | <i>Salmonella</i> translocated effector protein (SseJ) |
| - | SL1563 | STM1633 | -91.9 | putative putative periplasmic amino acid-binding protein |
| - | SL1564 | STM1634 | -22.5 | putative putative ABC amino acid transporter permease |
| - | SL1628 | STM1698 | -101.4 | hypothetical protein |
| - | SL1659 | STM1728 | -17.3 | cytochrome b561 (cytochrome b-561) |
| - | SL1785 | STM1856 | -12.1 | conserved hypothetical protein |
| pagO | SL1793 | STM1862 | -11.9 | inner membrane protein (PagO) |
| - | SL1794 | STM1864 | -22.9 | putative inner membrane protein |

Indeed, the generation of null *S. Typhimurium* mutants in *sseJ* and *sifB*, as well as many others generated at the SPI-2 locus suggest that these genes are not truly a requirement for growth in this serovar (Freeman, Ohl, and S. I. Miller, 2003; Hensel, Shea, Baumler, et al., 1997; Hensel, Shea, Waterman, et al., 1998; Ohlson et al., 2005). While this is a reminder that the interpretation of gene requirement needs to be made with care, the effect of H-NS upon transposon insertion is not genome-wide. If this were the case, there would be an under-representation of transposon mutants in high A+T regions (known for H-NS binding), which is not what was observed. In total, only 21 required genes fall into the ‘*hns*-repressed’ category described in Navarre et al. (2006)(see table 2.5); the remainder (almost 400) contained sufficient transposon insertions to conclude they were non-required. In addition, all SPI-1 genes that encode another T3SS and are of high A+T content were also found to be non-required. This phenomenon was not observed in *S. Typhi*, possibly because the strain used harbors the pHCM1 plasmid, which encodes the H-NS-like protein *sfh* and has been shown to affect H-NS binding (Doyle et al., 2007; Dillon et al., 2010).

Twenty-two *S. Typhi* genes had a significantly lower frequency of transposon insertion compared to orthologs in *S. Typhimurium* ($P < 0.05$), indicating that they are required only in *S. Typhi* for growth under laboratory conditions (table 2.6), including the *fepBDGC* operon. This indicates a requirement for ferric (Fe(III)) rather than ferrous

(Fe(II)) iron. This can be explained by the presence of Fe(III) in the bloodstream, where *S. Typhi* can be found during typhoid fever (Wain et al., 1998). These genes function to recover the ferric chelator enterobactin from the periplasm, acting with a number of proteins known to aid the passage of this siderophore through the outer membrane (Rabsch et al., 1999). It has long been noted that *aroA* mutants of *S. Typhi*, deficient in their ability to synthesize enterobactin, exhibit severe growth defects on complex media, while similar mutants of *S. Typhimurium* grow normally under the same conditions (Edwards and Stocker, 1988), though the mechanism has not been clear. These results suggest that this difference in growth of *aroA* mutants is caused by a requirement for iron uptake through the *fep* system in *S. Typhi*. During host adaptation, *S. Typhi* has accumulated pseudogenes in many iron transport and response systems (McClelland, Sanderson, Clifton, et al., 2004), presumably because they are not necessary for survival in the niche *S. Typhi* occupies in the human host, which may have led to this dependence on *fep* genes. In contrast, *S. Typhimurium* generally causes intestinal rather than systemic infection and is able to utilize a wider range of iron sources, including Fe(II), a soluble form of iron present under anaerobic conditions such as those found in the intestine (Tsolis et al., 1996).

Table 2.6: Genes uniquely required in *S. Typhi*. Genes determined to be uniquely required in *S. Typhi*. SL, *S. Typhimurium*; Ty, *S. Typhi*; inserts refer to the number of unique insertion sites within a gene; reads refer to the number of sequence reads over all insertions sites within a gene. †, P-value (associated with \log_2 read ratio) < 0.05 . *, the assignment of recA as a required gene has been described previously (Langridge et al., 2009), but briefly is believed to be due to the presence of the priC pseudogene in *Typhi*.

| SL inserts | SL reads | Ty inserts | Ty reads | Ty ID | Ty gene length | SL ID | SL gene length | Name | Function |
|--|----------|------------|----------|-------|----------------|--------|----------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>S. Typhimurium</i> in <i>S. Typhi</i> orthologs | | | | | | | | | |
| No. | SL reads | Ty inserts | Ty reads | Ty ID | Ty gene length | SL ID | SL gene length | Name | |
| 199 | 1792 | 18 | 59 | t1332 | 132 | - | - | malY | pseudogene |
| 45 | 498 | 3 | 22 | t1920 | 405 | - | - | - | possible repressor |
| 120 | 589 | 11 | 32 | t0123 | 165 | - | - | - | 10/Gifsy-2 |
| | | | | t0203 | 228 | - | - | - | conserved hypothetical protein |
| 123 | 982 | 2 | 25 | t0224 | 1353 | SL0224 | 1353 | yaeL/rseP | spurious ORF annotation overlapping the RnasP/M1 RNA |
| 67 | 452 | 1 | 14 | t0270 | 576 | SL2604 | 576 | rpoE | repressor protein, cs 73 prophage |
| 140 | 760 | 0 | 0 | t0587 | 2286 | SL2246 | 2286 | mrnA | HIRAN-domain family gene, potential DNA repair |
| | | | | | | | | - | hypothetical secreted protein |
| 113 | 641 | 15 | 42 | t2140 | 2802 | SL0718 | 2802 | sucA | survival protein SurA precursor |
| 116 | 753 | 13 | 36 | t2177 | 1641 | SL0680 | 1641 | yabB/mraZ | glutamate-1-semialdehyde 2,1- |
| 80 | 542 | 9 | 15 | t2276 | 1008 | SL0580 | 1008 | hemL | aminomutase |
| | | | | | | | | | Zinc metallopeptidase |
| 93 | 591 | 2 | 2 | t2277 | 990 | SL0579 | 990 | fepG | RNA polymerase sigma-E factor |
| | | | | | | | | | ribonucleoside-diphosphate reductase 1 |
| 64 | 508 | 5 | 6 | t2278 | 795 | SL0578 | 795 | fepC | alpha chain |
| 201 | 1129 | 12 | 116 | t2410 | 2355 | SL0444 | 2355 | lon | 2-oxoglutarate dehydrogenase E1 component |
| 95 | 518 | 8 | 20 | t2730 | 1062 | SL2809 | 1062 | recA* | phosphoglucomutase |
| 135 | 719 | 16 | 39 | t2996 | 1992 | SL3052 | 1947 | tktA | ferric enterobactin transport protein |
| | | | | | | | | rfaE | FepD |
| 76 | 358 | 3 | 9 | t3120 | 1434 | SL3173 | 1434 | transketolase | ferric enterobactin transport protein |
| 213 | 1976 | 6 | 50 | t3265 | 1071 | SL3321 | 1071 | ADP-heptose synthase | ADP-heptose synthase |
| 43 | 448 | 3 | 10 | t3326 | 606 | SL3925 | 606 | degS | serine protease |
| 124 | 571 | 17 | 36 | t3384 | 2025 | SL3872 | 2025 | yigP | conserved hypothetical protein |
| 175 | 1208 | 6 | 21 | t3621 | 2787 | SL3947 | 2787 | rep | ATP-dependent DNA helicase |
| | | | | | | | | polA | DNA polymerase I |
| 117 | 797 | 9 | 13 | t3808 | 1047 | SL3677 | 1047 | waaF | ADP-heptose-LPS heptosyltransferase II |
| 176 | 1628 | 14 | 59 | t4153 | 1080 | SL4183 | 1080 | alr | alanine racemase |
| 140 | 1127 | 10 | 38 | t4411 | 951 | SL4294 | 951 | miaA | tRNA delta-2-isopentenylpyrophosphate transferase |

2.3.4 TraDIS provides resolution sufficient to evaluate ncRNA contributions to fitness

Under a Poisson approximation to the transposon insertion process, a region of 41 (in *S. Typhimurium*) or 60 bases (in *S. Typhi*) has only a 1% probability of not containing an insertion. NcRNAs tend to be considerably shorter than their protein-coding counterparts, but this gives us sufficient resolution to assay most of the non-coding complement of the *Salmonella* genome. As a proof of principle, I performed an analysis of the best-understood class of small ncRNAs, the tRNAs. Francis Crick hypothesized that a single tRNA could recognize more than one codon through wobble recognition (Crick, 1966), where a non-canonical G-U base pair is formed between the first (wobble) position of the anticodon and the third nucleotide in the codon. As a result, some codons are covered by multiple tRNAs, while others are covered non-redundantly by a single tRNA. I expect that singleton wobble-capable tRNAs, that is wobble tRNAs which recognize a codon uniquely, will be required. In addition, I inferred the requirement for other tRNAs through the non-redundant coverage of their codons and used this to benchmark our ability to use TraDIS to reliably interrogate short genomic intervals.

The *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium* genomes encode 78 and 85 (plus one pseudogene) tRNAs respectively with 40 anticodons, as identified by tRNAscan-SE (Lowe and Eddy, 1997). In *S. Typhi*, 10 out of 11 singleton wobble tRNAs are predicted to be required or ambiguous, compared to 16 tRNAs below the ambiguous LLR cut-off overall (significant enrichment at the 0.05 level, two-tailed Fishers exact test p-value: 6.4e-08.) Similarly in *S. Typhimurium*, 9 of 11 singleton wobble tRNAs are required or ambiguous compared to 15 required or ambiguous tRNAs overall, again showing a significant enrichment of required tRNAs in this subset (Fishers exact test p-value: 5.2e-07.) The one singleton wobble tRNA which is consistently not required in both serovars is the tRNA-Pro(GGG), which occurs within a 4-member codon family. It has previously been shown in *S. Typhimurium* that tRNA-Pro(UGG) can read all four proline codons in vivo due to a cmo5U34 modification to the anticodon, obviating the need for a functional tRNA-Pro(GGG) (Näsvall, P. Chen, and Björk, 2004) and making this tRNA non-required. The other non-required singleton wobble tRNA in *S. Typhimurium*, tRNA-Leu(GAG), is similarly a member of a 4-member codon family. I predict tRNA-Leu(TAG) may also be capable of recognizing all 4 leucine codons in this serovar; such a leucine “four-way

wobble” has been previously inferred in at least one other bacterial species (Osawa et al., 1992; Marck and Grosjean, 2002).

Of the 6 required non-wobble tRNAs in each serovar, four are shared. These include two non-wobble singleton tRNAs covering codons uniquely, as well as a tRNA with the ATG anticodon which is post-transcriptionally modified by the required protein MesJ/TilS to recognize the isoleucine codon ATA (Marck and Grosjean, 2002). An additional two required tRNAs in both serovars, one shared and one with a differing anticodon, contain Gln anticodons and are part of a polycistronic tRNA operon containing other required tRNAs. This operon is conserved in *E. coli* with the exception of an additional tRNA-Gln at the 3' end that has been lost in the *Salmonella* lineage. It is possible that transposon insertions early in the operon may interfere with processing of the polycistronic transcript into mature tRNAs. Finally, I did not observe insertions in a tRNA-Met and a tRNA-Val in *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium*, respectively.

Using this analysis of the tRNAs we estimate a worst-case PPV for these short molecules (~76 bases) at 81%, in line with my previous estimates for conserved protein-coding genes, and a FPR of <4%, higher than for protein-coding genes but still well within the typical tolerance of high-throughput experiments. This assumes that the “required” operonic tRNA-Glns and the serovar-specific tRNA-Met and tRNA-Val are all false positives; it is not clear that this is in fact the case.

Surveying the shared required ncRNA content of both serovars (see table 2.7), I found that the RNA components of the signal recognition particle (SRP) and RNase P, two universally conserved ncRNAs, are required as expected. The SRP is an essential component of the cellular secretion machinery, while RNase P is necessary for the maturation of tRNAs. I also found a number of required known and potential cis-regulatory molecules associated with genes required for growth under laboratory conditions in both serovars. The FMN riboswitch controls *ribB*, a 3,4-dihydroxy-2-butanone 4-phosphate synthase involved in riboflavin biosynthesis, in response to flavin mononucleotide concentrations (Winkler, Nahvi, and Breaker, 2002). Additionally, I was able to assign putative functions to a number of previously uncharacterized required non-coding transcripts through their 5' association with required genes. SroE, a 90 nucleotide molecule discovered in an early sRNA screen (Vogel et al., 2003), is consistently located at the 5' end of the required *hisS* gene across its phylogenetic distribution in the Enterobacteriaceae. Given this consistent association and the function of HisS as a histidyl-tRNA synthetase, I

hypothesize that this region may act in a manner similar to a T-box leader, inducing or repressing expression in response to tRNA-His levels. The *thrU* leader sequence, recently discovered in a deep-sequencing screen of *E. coli* (Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman, 2011), appears to regulate a polycistronic operon of required singleton wobble tRNAs. Three additional required cis-regulatory elements, t44, S15, and StyR-8, are associated with required ribosomal proteins, highlighting the central role ncRNA elements play in regulating fundamental cellular processes.

Table 2.7: Candidate required ncRNAs greater than 60 nucleotides in length, excluding rRNA and tRNA. Known and putative non-coding elements classified as required or ambiguous in this screen. Required ncRNAs have a log-likelihood ratio (LLR) between required and non-required models of < -2; see Methods. * †, ncRNAs which are ambiguous (LLR between -2 and 2) in *S. Typhi*(*) or in *S. Typhimurium*(†). Hfq-binding annotations are taken from Chao et al. (2012). The downstream protein-coding genes columns report annotated CDS or ribosomal RNA start sites within 100 bases of each candidate required non-coding element on either strand, and whether these downstream sequences are also classified as required.

| Name | Rfam accession | Function | Hfq-binding | Downstream protein-coding gene(s) | Downstream gene | Required | References |
|--|----------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| Required or ambiguous in both <i>S. Typhi</i> and <i>S. Typhimurium</i> | | | | | | | |
| SRP | RF00169 | RNA component of the signal recognition particle | | | | N | Rosenblad et al. (2009) |
| RNase P | RF00010 | RNA component of RNase P | <i>ybaZ</i> | | | Y | Frank and Pace (1998) |
| RFN | RF00050 | FMN-sensing riboswitch controlling the <i>ribB</i> gene | <i>ribB</i> | | | Y | Winkler, Nahvi, and Breaker (2002) |
| SroE | RF00371 | Putative cis-regulatory element controlling the <i>hisS</i> gene | <i>hisS</i> | | | Y | Vogel et al. (2003) |
| ThrU Leader | NA | Putative cis-regulatory element controlling the ThrU tRNA operon | | | | | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011) |
| t44 | RF00127 | Cis-regulatory element controlling the ribosomal <i>rpsB</i> gene | <i>rpsB</i> | | | Y | Tjaden et al. (2002); Aseev et al. (2008); Meyer et al. (2009) |
| S15† | RF00114 | Translational regulator of the ribosomal S15 protein | <i>rpsO</i> | | | Y | Benard et al. (1996) |
| StyR-8 | NA | Putative cis-regulatory element controlling the ribosomal <i>rpmB</i> gene | <i>rpmB</i> | | | Y | Chinni et al. (2010) |
| MicA | RF00078 | sRNA involved in cellular response to extracytoplasmic stress | Y | <i>luxS</i> | | N | Vogel (2009b) |
| DsrA† | RF00014 | sRNA regulator of H-NS | Y | <i>mngB</i> | | N | Lease, Cusick, and Belfort (1998) |
| STnc10 | NA | Putative sRNA | | <i>nhaA</i> | | N | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| STnc60† | NA | Putative sRNA | | | | | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| STnc840 | NA | Verified sRNA derived from 3' UTR of the <i>fgl</i> gene | Y | | | | Chao et al. (2012) |
| IS0420*† | NA | Putative ncRNA | | <i>rmf</i> | | N | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011); S. Chen et al. (2002) |
| RGO0† | NA | Putative sRNA identified in <i>E. coli</i> | | | | | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011) |
| Required or ambiguous in <i>S. Typhimurium</i> only | | | | | | | |
| rne5 | RF00040 | RNase E autoregulatory 5' element | <i>rne</i> | | | Y | Diwa et al. (2000) |
| RydC | RF00505 | sRNA regulator of the <i>yejABEF</i> ABC transporter | Y | | | | Antal et al. (2005) |
| RydB | RF00118 | Putative ncRNA | | | | | Wassarman et al. (2001) |
| STnc510 | NA | Putative sRNA | | <i>pagD/pagC</i> | | Y/N | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| STnc460† | NA | Putative sRNA | | | | | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| STnc170 | NA | Putative sRNA | | <i>SL1458</i> | | N | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| STnc130 | NA | Putative sRNA | | <i>dmsA</i> | | N | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| RseX | RF01401 | sRNA regulator of OmpA and OmpC | Y | | | | Douchin, Bohn, and Bouloc (2006) |
| IsrJ | RF01393 | sRNA regulator of SPI-1 effector protein secretion | | | | | Sittka et al. (2008); Padalon-Brauch et al. (2008) |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|--|
| IsrI | RF01392 | Island-encoded sRNA | Hfq-binding | Y | SL1028 | Y | Sittka et al. (2008); Padalon-Brauch et al. (2008); Chao et al. (2012) |
| Required or ambiguous in <i>S. Typhi</i> only | | | | | | | |
| RybB | RF00110 | sRNA involved in cellular response to extracytoplasmic stress | | Y | | | Vogel (2009b) |
| tk5* | NA | Putative ncRNA | | | | | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011); Rivas and Eddy (2001) |
| STnc750 | NA | Verified sRNA | | Y | <i>speB</i> | N | Kröger et al. (2012); Chao et al. (2012) |
| StyR-44* | RF01830 | Putative multicopy (2/6 copies required in <i>S. Typhi</i>) ncRNA associated with ribosomal RNA operon | | | 23S rRNA | N | Chinni et al. (2010) |
| tp2 | NA | Putative ncRNA | | | <i>aceE</i> | N | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011); Rivas and Eddy (2001) |
| RdID | RF01813 | RdID RNA anti-toxin, 1/2 copies required in <i>S. Typhi</i> | | | | | Kawano et al. (2002) |
| STnc120* | NA | Putative sRNA | | | | | Sittka et al. (2008) |
| tp28* | NA | Putative ncRNA | | <i>fur</i> | | N | Raghavan, Groisman, and Ochman (2011); Rivas and Eddy (2001) |
| Phe Leader* | RF01859 | Phenylalanine peptide leader sequence associated with the required <i>pheST</i> operon | | <i>pheS</i> | | Y | Zurawski et al. (1978) |
| RimP Leader | RF01770 | Putative cis-regulator of the <i>rimP-nusA-infb</i> operon | | <i>rimP</i> | | Y | Naville and Gautheret (2010) |
| GlmY | RF00128 | Trans-acting regulator of the <i>glmS</i> gene | | | | | Urban and Vogel (2008) |

2.3.5 sRNAs required for competitive growth

Inferring functions for potential trans-acting ncRNA molecules, such as anti-sense binding small RNAs (sRNAs), from requirement patterns alone is more difficult than for cis-acting elements, as one cannot rely on adjacent genes to provide any information. It is also important to keep in mind that TraDIS assays requirements after a brief competition within a large library of mutants on permissive media. This may be particularly important when surveying the bacterial sRNAs, which are known to participate in responses to stress (Vogel, 2009a).

This is demonstrated by two sRNAs involved in the σ^E -mediated extracytoplasmic stress response, RybB and RseX, both of which can be successfully knocked out in *S. Typhimurium* (83). In *S. Typhi*, *rpoE* is required, as it also is in *E. coli* (Baba et al., 2006; De Las Penas, Connolly, and Gross, 1997). However, in *S. Typhimurium*, *rpoE* tolerates a heavy insertion load, implying that σ^E mutants are not disadvantaged in competitive growth. In *S. Typhimurium*, the sRNA RseX is required. Overexpression of RseX has previously been shown to compensate for σ^E essentiality in *E. coli* by leading



Figure 2.7: Proposed differences in sRNA utilization. Diagram illustrating inferred required sRNA regulatory networks under TraDIS. Molecules required in *S. Typhi* are highlighted in yellow and in *S. Typhimurium* are highlighted in blue. RseA, in yellow/grey check, is ambiguous in *S. Typhi*. Non-required molecules are in grey. Diamonds indicate sRNAs, circles regulatory proteins, ovals proteases, oblong shapes are membrane-anchored proteins, and rounded squares are outer membrane porins.

to the degradation of *ompA* and *ompC* transcripts (85). This suggests that RseX may also be short-circuiting the σ^E stress response network in *S. Typhimurium* (figure 2.7). To our knowledge, this is the first evidence of a native (i.e. not experimentally induced) activity of RseX.

S. Typhi on the other hand requires σ^E along with its activating proteases RseP and DegS and anchoring protein RseA, as well as the σ^E -dependent sRNA RybB, which also regulates OmpA and OmpC in *S. Typhimurium*, along with a host of other OMPs (Papenfort et al., 2006). It is unclear why the σ^E response is required in *S. Typhi* but not *S. Typhimurium*, though it may partially be due to the major differences in the cell

wall and outer membrane between the two serovars. In addition, there are significant differences in the OMP content of the *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium* membranes that may be driving alternative mechanisms for coping with membrane stress. For instance, *S. Typhi* completely lacks OmpD, a major component of the *S. Typhimurium* outer membrane (Santiviago, Toro, et al., 2003) and a known target of RybB (Vogel, 2009a).

Two additional sRNAs involved in stress response are also required by both *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium*. The first, MicA, is known to regulate *ompA* and the *lamB* porin-coding gene in *S. Typhimurium* (Bossi and Figueiroa-Bossi, 2007), contributing to the extracytoplasmic stress response. The second, DsrA, has been shown to negatively regulate the nucleoid-forming protein H-NS and enhance translation of the stationary-phase alternative sigma factor σ^S in *E. coli* (Lease, Cusick, and Belfort, 1998), though its regulation of σ^S does not appear to be conserved in *S. Typhimurium* (Jones, Goodwill, and Elliott, 2006). Both have been previously deleted in *S. Typhimurium*, and so are not essential. H-NS knockouts have previously been shown to have severe growth defects in *S. Typhimurium* that can be rescued by compensatory mutations in either the *phoPQ* two-component system or *rpoS*, implying that the lack of H-NS is allowing normally silenced detrimental regions to be transcribed (Navarre et al., 2006). As MicA has recently been shown to negatively regulate PhoPQ expression in *E. coli* (Coornaert et al., 2010), it is tempting to speculate that MicA may be moderating the effects of DsrA-induced H-NS repression; however, it is currently unclear whether sRNA regulons are sufficiently conserved between *E. coli* and *S. enterica* to justify this hypothesis.

2.4 Conclusions

The extremely high resolution of TraDIS has allowed the assaying of gene requirements in two very closely related salmonellae with different host ranges. I found, under laboratory conditions, that 58 genes present in both serovars were required in only one, suggesting that identical gene products do not necessarily have the same phenotypic effects in the two different serovar backgrounds. Many of these genes occur in genomic regions or metabolic systems which contain pseudogenes and/or have undergone reorganization since the divergence of *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium*, demonstrating the complementarity of TraDIS and phylogenetic analysis. These changes may in part explain differences observed in the pathogenicity and host specificity of these two serovars. In particular, *S.*

Typhimurium showed a requirement for cell surface structure biosynthesis genes; this may be partially explained by the fact that *S. Typhi* expresses the Vi-antigen which masks the cell surface, though these genes are not required for survival in our assay. *S. Typhi* on the other hand has a requirement for iron uptake through the *fep* system, which enables ferric enterobactin transport. This dependence on enterobactin suggests that *S. Typhi* is highly adapted to the iron-scarce environments it encounters during systemic infections. Furthermore, this appears to represent a single point of failure in the *S. Typhi* iron utilization pathways, and may present an attractive target for narrow-spectrum antibiotics.

Of the approximately 4500 protein coding genes present in each serovar, only about 350 were sufficiently depleted in transposon insertions to be classified as required for growth in rich media. This means that over 92% of the coding genome has sufficient insertion density to be queried in future assays. Dense transposon mutagenesis libraries have been used to assay gene requirements under conditions relevant for infection, including *S. Typhi* survival in bile (Langridge et al., 2009), *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* catabolism of cholesterol (Griffin et al., 2011), drug resistance in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (Gallagher, Shendure, and Manoil, 2011), and *Haemophilus influenzae* survival in the lung (Gawronski et al., 2009). I expect that parallel experiments querying gene requirements under the same conditions in both serovars examined in this study will yield further insights in to the differences in the infective process between *Typhi* and *Typhimurium*, and ultimately the pathways that underlie host-adaptation.

Both serovars possess substantial complements of horizontally-acquired DNA. I have been able to use TraDIS to assay these recently acquired sequences. In particular, I've been able to identify, on a chromosome wide scale, active prophage through the requirement for their repressors. The P4 phage utilizes an RNA-based system to make decisions regarding cell fate, and structurally similar systems are used by P1, P7, and N15 phage (Citron and Schuster, 1990; Ravin, Svarchevsky, and Deho, 1999). C4-like transcripts have been regarded as the primary repressor of lytic functions, though the IsrK-like sequence is known to be essential to the establishment of lysogeny in P4 and is transcribed in at least two phage types (Sabbattini et al., 1995; Ravin, Svarchevsky, and Deho, 1999). These observations in *S. Typhi* suggest an important role for the IsrK-like sequence in maintenance of the lysogenic state in P4-like phage, though the mechanism remains unclear.

Recent advances in high-throughput sequencing have greatly enhanced our ability to detect novel transcripts, such as ncRNAs and short open reading frames (sORFs). In fact, our ability to identify these transcripts now far out-strips our ability to experimentally characterize these sequences. There have been previous efforts at high-throughput characterization of bacterial sRNAs and sORFs in enteric bacteria; however, these have relied on labor-intensive directed knockout libraries (Santiviago, Reynolds, et al., 2009; Hobbs, Astarita, and Storz, 2010). Here I have demonstrated that TraDIS has sufficient resolution to reliably query genomic regions as short as 60 bases, in agreement with a recent high-throughput transposon mutagenesis study in the α -proteobacteria *Caulobacter crescentus* (Christen et al., 2011). This method has the major advantage that library construction does not rely upon genome annotation, and newly discovered elements can be surveyed with no further laboratory work.

I have been able to assign putative functions to a number of ncRNAs using TraDIS through consideration of their genomic and experimental context. In addition, ncRNA characterization generally is done in model organisms like *E. coli* or *S. Typhimurium*, and it is unclear how stable ncRNA regulatory networks are over evolutionary time. By assaying two serovars of *Salmonella* with the same method under the same conditions, I have seen hints that there may be differences in sRNA regulatory networks between *S. Typhi* and *S. Typhimurium*. In particular, I have found that under the same experimental conditions, *S. Typhi* appears to rely on the σ^E stress response pathway while *S. Typhimurium* does not; it is tempting to speculate that this difference in stress response is mediated by the observed difference in requirement for two sRNAs, RybB and RseX. I believe that this combination of high-throughput transposon mutagenesis with a careful consideration of the systems context of individual genes provides a powerful tool for the generation of functional hypotheses. I anticipate that the construction of TraDIS libraries in additional organisms, as well as the passing of these libraries through relevant experimental conditions, will provide further insights into the function of bacterial ncRNAs in addition to the protein-coding gene complement.

Chapter 3

A pipeline for the analysis of TraDIS experiments, with an application to *Salmonella* macrophage invasion

Section 3.2 describes a collaborative study with Gemma C. Langridge (Pathogen Genomics, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute). Gemma performed all laboratory experiments described in this chapter unless otherwise noted.

3.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter, I described the results of a study predicting and comparing the genes required for robust growth of two *Salmonella* serovars in standard laboratory media. While this revealed interesting aspects of *Salmonella* biology, linking these findings to *Salmonella*'s infective niche in the human host is difficult. However, transposon-insertion sequencing can be used to interrogate infective conditions directly (reviewed previously in section 1.5): by comparing libraries passed through a condition of interest to control libraries, we can determine the genomic regions involved in survival in that condition. In this chapter, I describe a pipeline for the analysis of such experiments, illustrated with an experiment assaying genes required for *S. Typhi* and *Typhimurium* invasion of (or uptake into) human macrophage.

3.1.1 *Salmonella* interactions with macrophage

As previously described in section 2.1, the ability to invade and survive in host cells was a major factor in the early evolution of *S. enterica* subspecies *enterica*; survival in macrophages in particular is known to be necessary for virulence (Fields et al., 1986). This ability appears to have been largely driven by the acquisition of two horizontally-acquired pathogenicity islands, SPI-1 and -2. Due to the availability of a mouse model of systemic infection (Santos, S. Zhang, et al., 2001), most of what is known about *Salmonella* interactions with host cells is derived from studies of *S. Typhimurium* infection.

S. Typhimurium infections of either epithelial or phagocytic cells appear to follow broadly similar paths (Figueira and Holden (2012), see also figure 3.1). On encountering a suitable host cell, the bacterium adheres using an array of fimbrial adhesins (Baumler, Tsolis, and Heffron, 1996; Velden et al., 1998). The SPI-1 T3SS, a needle-like complex spanning the periplasm and presenting its tip to the exterior of the bacterial cell (Mueller, Broz, and Cornelis, 2008), induces membrane ruffling in the host cell through secretion of effector proteins (Zhou and Galán, 2001), facilitating bacterial uptake. While use of this mechanisms is not strictly necessary for entrance to phagocytic cells such as macrophage, *S. Typhimurium* strains unable to induce ruffling are taken up six to ten times less efficiently than the wild-type (Monack et al., 1996), though the entry mechanism does not ultimately affect cell fate (Rathman, Barker, and Falkow, 1997).

Once entry has been gained to the cell, through either active invasion or phagocytic engulfment, *S. Typhimurium* begins expressing a second T3SS encoded by SPI-2. The effectors secreted by this T3SS allow *S. Typhimurium* to remodel the *Salmonella* containing vacuole (SCV), and even modulate host immune signalling (see figure 3.1). There is some controversy as to whether or not the SCV undergoes fusion with lysosomes; a recent study suggests it does, but that the activity of these lysosomes is first modulated by the SPI-2 effector SifA (McGourty et al., 2012). Little is known about the growth conditions *S. Typhimurium* faces within the SCV, though transcriptomic studies suggests it is aerobic, mildly acidic, rich in gluconate, and limited in aromatic amino acids, purines, and pyrimidines (Eriksson et al., 2003; Hautefort et al., 2008).

Our understanding of how these findings relate to *S. Typhi* infections of human macrophage is limited, largely due to the lack of a non-human model organism for this serovar. A recent study suggests that SPI-2 may not even be necessary for *S. Typhi*

invasion of and survival in human macrophages (Forest et al., 2010), though SPI-2 genes are known to be expressed by *S. Typhi* in macrophages (Faucher et al., 2006) and a SPI-2 deletion mutant was previously shown to be attenuated under these conditions (Khan et al., 2003). Regardless, it is well established that the genotype of both the *Salmonella* strain used and the macrophage can have profound effects on the course of infection. A number of studies comparing a variety of *Salmonella* serovars infecting murine-, human-, and even chicken-derived macrophages have repeatedly shown that serovars exhibit remarkably different behaviors under the same conditions (Vladoianu, Chang, and Pechère, 1990; Schwan et al., 2000; Okamura et al., 2005); these differences appear to correlate somewhat with the degree of host-adapation exhibited by the serovar. In this study we compare our *Salmonella* TraDIS libraries following uptake by human macrophage in the hopes of uncovering genomic factors underlying these differences in behavior.

3.1.2 Conditional gene fitness

Determining conditional gene fitness presents a somewhat different problem to that addressed in the previous chapter, predicting and comparing “essential” genes under the conditions of library creation. In predicting gene essentiality, we had a single time point representing the initial growth of the library on rich media, while in identifying conditional gene fitness (measured as the relative expansion or contraction of mutant populations) we are always comparing changes in mutant fitness with respect to fitness in a baseline condition. The ratio of reads between the two conditions is taken as indicative of relative mutant prevalences between them. In some ways, this makes the problem of identifying genes with strong fitness effects easier: as we are primarily interested in the ratio of various insertion mutants present between the two conditions, effects that may confound the prediction of simple gene essentiality are effectively “zeroed out”. More explicitly, whether low insertion density in the initial library occurs due to chance, nucleotide composition bias, or the exclusionary effects of high-density DNA-binding proteins (described in section 2.3.3) does not matter – these regions can simply be identified as not producing sufficient reads over insertion-sites to be assayed and removed from the analysis.

In many ways, the problem of investigating the statistical and biological significance of



Figure 3.1: Biogenesis of the *Salmonella* containing vacuole (SCV). *Salmonella* adheres to the outer membrane of host cells, and uses the SPI-1 T3SS and its associated effectors to induce membrane ruffling and entry into the SCV. The SPI-2 T3SS functions mainly in maintenance of the SCV, through the action of the effectors SifA, SopD2, SseJ and PipB2 (orange boxes), and its localization near the Golgi of host cells, mediated by SseF and SseG (purple boxes). Other effectors are involved in modulation of host immune signalling (SpvC, SspH1 and SseL; pink boxes) or target the host cytoskeleton (SteC, SpvB, SspH2 and SrfH; blue boxes). Reproduced from Figueira and Holden (2012) under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL).

ratios of reads over insertion sites resembles established analyses developed for differential RNA-seq analysis. In the following sections I describe the application of these methods to the problem of determining conditional gene fitness.

3.2 Experimental methods

Gemma C. Langridge performed all laboratory experiments described in this chapter; brief descriptions are included here for completeness. Silvia Pinero prepared the THP-1 cells for infection. Sabine Eckert and Daniel Turner performed the nucleotide sequencing. A more detailed description of the experimental methods is available in Langridge (2010), including preliminary assessments of bacterial strain ability to grow in RPMI, invade THP-1 derived macrophage, and experiment optimization.

3.2.1 Strains and cell lines

These experiments were performed with *S. Typhi* WT174 and *S. Typhimurium* SL3261 transposon mutant libraries, described in Chapter 3. Human monocytic cell line THP-1 was used for cell infections.

3.2.2 Preparation of THP-1 cells

THP-1 cells were grown up from frozen stocks in RPMI-1640 supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated foetal bovine serum and 2 mM L-glutamine, and incubated without shaking in vented flasks (VWR, Lutterworth, UK) at 37°C in the presence of 5% CO₂. Culture volumes were split and given fresh media every 3-4 days until the desired cell density was achieved. Phorbol myristate acetate (PMA) was used to activate the THP-1 monocytes. Briefly, approximately 212 cells in 4 mL supplemented RPMI containing 0.125 ng/mL PMA were seeded into each well of a 6-well plate and incubated for six days at 37°C in 5% CO₂. On the day of infection, the PMA-containing media was removed, cells were washed with dPBS and fresh warmed, supplemented RPMI was added to maintain the cells while the bacterial inoculum was prepared.

3.2.3 Preparation of transposon libraries

Frozen stocks of the Typhi library were measured by OD600 to be at half the concentration of the Typhimurium library. To ensure the overnight cultures started at similar concentrations, a 1 in 5000 dilution of the Typhi library and a 1 in 10,000 dilution of the Typhimurium library was used to inoculate the growth medium. Cultures for each transposon library were grown with shaking in 100 mL of RPMI-1640 supplemented with 0.3 g/L L-glutamine and buffered with 10 mL 1 M MOPS at 37 oC for 16 hours. These cultures were sub-cultured at 1 in 20 into fresh RPMI supplemented and buffered as before, and grown for between 3 and 4 hours to mid-log phase (OD600 of 2.4).

3.2.4 Infection assay

Five 6-well plates were used for each run of the assay. In total, 29 wells were infected with the bacterial inoculum and one served as a blank control for eukaryotic cell contamination. At the start of the assay, media was removed from all wells except for the blank control, and a 3 mL bacterial inoculum was added to each experimental well. The plates were centrifuged for 5 minutes at 600 x g and incubated at 37°C in 5% CO₂ for 30 minutes. A 4-6 mL aliquot of the inoculum was processed for genomic DNA as the TraDIS control. After 30 minutes, media was removed from all wells, and fresh RPMI additionally supplemented with 100 µg/mL gentamicin was added. After 2 hours the wells were washed 3 times in plain dPBS. Following washing, 500 µL of 1% Triton-X-100 was added to each well to lyse the eukaryotic cells, mixed well by pipetting, and incubated at 37°C in 5% CO₂ for 2 minutes. The cell suspensions from all experimental wells were pooled for bacterial DNA extraction. Genomic DNA was extracted using the Qiagen DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit, according to the manufacturers protocol for Gram negative bacteria. Sequencing was performed as described in section 2.2.4.

3.3 Analysis of conditional gene fitness using TraDIS

3.3.1 Mapping insertion sites

3.3.2 Defining genomic features

3.3.3 Quality control

3.3.4 Inter-library normalization

3.3.5 Identifying fitness effects

3.3.6 Functional analysis of gene sets that affect fitness

3.3.7 Results

3.3.8 Other applications

Published Works

Publications arising in the course of this thesis:

- Okoro C.K., Barquist L., Kingsley R.A., Connor T.R., Harris S.R., Arends M., Stevens M., Parry C.M., Al-Mashhadani M.N., Kariuki S., Msefula C.L., Gordon M.A., de Pinna E., Wain J., Heyderman R.S., Obaro S., Alonso P.L., Mandomando I., MacLennan C.A., Tapia M.D., Levine M.M., Tennant S.M., Parkhill J., Dougan G. **Signatures of adaptation in human invasive *S. Typhimurium* populations.** Manuscript in preparation, 2013.
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