

# The revisited genome of *Pseudomonas putida* KT2440 enlightens its value as a robust metabolic chassis

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## Summary

By the time the complete genome sequence of the soil bacterium *Pseudomonas putida* KT2440 was published in 2002 (Nelson *et al.*, 2002) this bacterium was considered a potential agent for environmental bioremediation of industrial waste and a good colonizer of the rhizosphere. However, neither the annotation tools available at that time nor the scarcely available *omics* data—let alone metabolic modeling and other nowadays common systems biology approaches—allowed them to anticipate the astonishing capacities that are encoded in the genetic complement of this unique microorganism. In this work we have adopted a suite of state-of-the-art genomic analysis tools to revisit the functional and metabolic information encoded in the chromosomal sequence of strain KT2440. We identified 242 new protein-coding genes and re-annotated the functions of 1548 genes, which are linked to almost 4900 PubMed references. Catabolic pathways for 92 compounds (carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus sources) that could not be accommodated by the previously constructed metabolic models were also predicted. The resulting examination not only accounts for some of the known stress tolerance traits known in *P. putida* but also recognizes the capacity of this bacterium to perform difficult redox reactions, thereby multiplying its value as a platform microorganism for industrial biotechnology.

## Introduction

*Pseudomonas putida* is a soil bacterium generally recognized as safe (GRAS). Belonging to a somewhat fuzzy clade of the Pseudomonadales (Palleroni, 1984), it has been used for decades as a model environmental organism with activity against aromatic pollutants. In 2002, in a successful transatlantic collaboration, scientists at The Institute for Genomic Research (The United States) and at four research centers in Germany deciphered and analyzed the genome of strain KT2440 (Nelson *et al.*, 2002). This strain, which can be used to dispose of organic pollutants in the soil, promotes plant growth and fights plant

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diseases (Regenhardt *et al.*, 2002). Regenhardt *et al.* highlighted the complex and versatile metabolism that gives *P. putida* an important role not only in academic research on soil bacteria but also as an agent for environmental cleanup and other biotechnological uses. Yet, the genome analysis tools available at the time were able to extract only a small portion of the wealth of biological activities encoded in the chromosome of this bacterium.

In this work we set out to revisit the metabolic and physiological setup of this organism by re-analyzing the content of its genome using several approaches. We first re-sequenced the *P. putida* KT2440 wild-type strain, in parallel with that of a streamlined derivative as a control for possible evolution in laboratory settings (Leprince *et al.*, 2012) and compared it to the original published sequence (Nelson *et al.*, 2002). Combined with transcriptomic data analysis (Frank *et al.*, 2011; Kim *et al.*, 2013), a complete structural re-annotation of the KT2440 genome sequence led us to eliminate original erroneously predicted protein-coding genes, to correct disrupted genes and to identify potential new genes, some of which encode enzymatic activities. In a second step, we functionally re-annotated these genes based on recent progress in our knowledge of metabolic pathways (Silby *et al.*, 2011; Wu *et al.*, 2011). Thirdly, we used this re-annotation to reconcile *in silico* predictions from Genome-Scale constraint-based Metabolic Models (GSMMs) (Nogales *et al.*, 2008; Puchalka *et al.*, 2008; Sohn *et al.*, 2010; Oberhardt *et al.*, 2011) with metabolic phenotype data obtained with BIOLOG plates and transcriptomics experiments (Bochner *et al.*, 2001; van Duuren *et al.*, 2013). The updated annotation was then used to extend the GSMM iJP962 (Oberhardt *et al.*, 2011) with newly curated Gene-Protein-Reaction (GPR) associations. Finally, this extended GSMM was evaluated for its ability to correctly predict positive/negative phenotypes of wild-type and mutant strains.

During the curation process, we surveyed metabolic pathways involved in coping with stressful environments and explored in some details the general context of aromatic compounds degradation. In biochemical terms, the synthesis of aromatic molecules is costly as it requires much energy and reducing power (Akashi and Gojobori, 2002). In genetic terms, the synthesis and degradation of aromatic compounds are costly too, because of the fairly large number of genes involved in these processes. In physico-chemical terms, the degradation of aromatics is problematic due to the fact that, because of their electronic set up, they tend to cross membranes when uncharged, often disrupting the lipid bilayer of the membrane and leaking in and out of the compartments where they should be confined (Saparov *et al.*, 2006). Furthermore, because of this property, they frequently behave as proton-carriers that shunt the vectorial proton transport that would be used to build up ATP otherwise (i.e., chemical uncoupling). As a

consequence, catabolic processes must be compartmentalized in a way that matches proton availability with the propensity of a protonated molecule to pass through the membrane (Kell and Oliver, 2014; de Lorenzo, 2015). This requires an efficient management of transport processes and control of the electrochemical potential of the cell as well as osmolarity. For this reason, we explored the metabolic capacity of *P. putida*, as indicated by the presence of relevant genes, in the context of control of osmolarity, control of proton availability and aromatic compounds degradation. Taken together, the novelties and metabolic updates presented in this work should contribute to the implementation of biocatalysis strategies using *P. putida* as a *chassis* for Synthetic Biology constructs.

The updated *P. putida* KT2440 genome sequence is deposited at the International Nucleotide Sequence Data Collaboration (identical accession number: AE015451, version 2). The re-annotated data can also be explored and downloaded using the MicroScope platform (<https://www.genoscope.cns.fr/agc/microscope>). The curated genome-scale metabolic network is available at the MicroCyc repository (<http://www.genoscope.cns.fr/agc/microcyc>) and can be downloaded using the “Download Data” functionality of the “Search/Export” menu of the MicroScope platform. Finally, the updated metabolic model is available in the Supporting Information (SBML file format).

## Results and discussion

### *New features of the genome of strain KT2440*

*Pseudomonas putida* genome sequence and its structural re-annotation. The revised *P. putida* genome has 10 additional nucleotides compared with the earlier version (6 181 873 bp instead of 6 181 863 bp). We left out unmodified 140 regions in the re-sequenced genome (the largest being 5-kb long), encompassing regions annotated as rRNAs, tRNAs, transposons and group II intron-encoding sequences. The *P. putida* genome displays a GC content of 61.5%. The consensus sequence correction (see “Experimental Procedures” section) shows that the original sequence was of outstanding quality (Nelson *et al.*, 2002). Indeed, among the 83 detected variations, 46 accounted for Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs), 23 for short insertions and 14 for small deletions. It is known that strains kept in laboratories tend to evolve (Barrick *et al.*, 2009). In order to substantiate the validity of our re-sequencing of the genome, we compared the regions of variation with the sequence of a streamlined mutant (Leprince *et al.*, 2012): 95% of the variations were present in both sequences, showing that they were present at a very early stage and did not arise while handled in our laboratory. A significant part of the events (54) were found to affect 20 CoDing Sequences (CDSs; see Supporting Information Table S1). In most cases, insertion/deletion (InDel)

events restored the reading frame (i.e., either the new CDS is longer than the published one or two CDSs are fused in one gene, see Supporting Information Table S1). Only *PP\_0253* (encoding phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase) and *PP\_5662* (encoding two fragments of a conserved gene of unknown function) remain pseudogenes (see below). Curiously, *PP\_5662* (21 SNPs) and *PP\_4302* (12 SNPs; encoding urea transporter) gather most of the detected SNPs (72%, either transitions or transversions). The re-annotated genome sequence (see “Experimental Procedures” section) comprises 5,592 CDSs plus 56 fragments of CDS [vs. 5350 CDS stored in the last release of the NCBI GenBank file, NC\_002947, or in the *Pseudomonas.com* database (Winsor *et al.*, 2011)], 22 rRNA genes, and 75 tRNA genes (versus 74). The non-coding regions account for 11.5% of the *P. putida* genome and contain 7.5% of repeated sequences. Only nine non-coding regions of more than 1 kb have been identified (Supporting Information Table S2). Among the annotated CDSs (complete genes and pseudogenes), we identified (i) common gene annotations between the original data and the AMIGene predictions: 5301 genes (94.8%), the original start codon positions of which were automatically kept, (ii) gene annotation unique to the original GenBank file: 116 genes, and (iii) gene annotation unique to the AMIGene prediction: 607 potential new CDSs. Following the manual curation process described in the “Experimental Procedures” section, 311 CDSs unique to the present version and 36 CDSs unique to the original annotation were kept. Moreover, 102 original CDSs were considered false positive predictions and removed from the final set of genes (Supporting Information Table S3). All of them would encode proteins of unknown function and 38 (37.2%) were found at a position where a new gene has been annotated, generally on the complementary strand [see Médigue *et al.* (2002) for a similar rationale used for annotation of *Helicobacter pylori* genes] (Supporting Information Tables S3 and S4). As shown in Supporting Information Table S4, the validity of most of the 311 newly annotated genes is supported by transcription expression profiling (Frank *et al.*, 2011; Kim *et al.*, 2013) and/or by sequence similarity with authentic genes: for example, *PP\_5706* encodes a protein involved in the Sec translocation complex (SecG subunit), and *PP\_5602* encodes the  $\alpha$  subunit of the quinoxinoprotein amine dehydrogenase (the *peaA* gene within the *peaACB* operon) which is known to be involved in the conversion of 2-phenylethylamine and 2-phenylethanol into phenylacetic acid in *P. putida* U (Arias *et al.*, 2008). Indeed, 118 newly annotated genes among the 143 novel CDSs listed in Supporting Information Table S2 of the publication by (Frank *et al.*, 2011), show up in Supporting Information Table S4 (the 25 missing ones correspond to predicted genes that were considered as false positives by our curation process). Forty-five new genes (14.5%) were

assigned a gene product type and a biological process (Supporting Information Table S4) whereas the remaining genes (266) correspond to functions that remain to be identified.

**Remaining pseudogenes.** The re-sequencing process followed by expert curation of gene fragments and fusion/fission events using the MicroScope platform (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013), identified a total of 71 CDSs as partial genes (14), pseudogenes (54 fragments of CDSs corresponding to 27 pseudogenes, and 1 CDS, *PP\_3752*, which contains an internal stop codon) and one programmed frameshift (2 CDSs corresponding to the peptide chain release factor 2 gene, *prfB*). Partial genes were essentially grouped into classes of genes either encoding proteins containing Rhs repeat domains, transcriptional regulators (LysR family) or transposases (Supporting Information Table S5). Two of the 27 pseudogenes are of particular interest:

- The gene *PP\_0253* is split into two fragments that have 100% amino acid identity with fragments of the *pckA* gene encoding phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (ATP dependent) in *P. putida* F1 (UniProt entry A5VX32). This enzyme is involved in gluconeogenesis, where it catalyzes the conversion of oxaloacetate (OAA) to phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP). The present UniProt functional annotation is supported by sequence similarity using the UniRule annotation procedure (The UniProt Consortium, 2014). Indeed, similarity with an experimentally validated phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase is found with the *Staphylococcus aureus* PckA protein (Q2G1W2, 45.4% amino-acid identity) (Scovill *et al.*, 1996). The underlying reason for this loss of function in strain KT2440 is unknown, but we note that this enzyme is a key enzyme required for gluconeogenesis, under conditions where *P. putida* strains display a tight regulation of the balance between fluxes going from glucose to pyruvate and from succinate to pyruvate (La Rosa *et al.*, 2015). In *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, PckA is important for maintaining the pathogenic bacteria in competition with the bulk of the microbiota (Bertin *et al.*, 2014); inactivation of the gene may contribute to the GRAS phenotype of strain KT2440. Additionally, the enzyme is allosterically regulated by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in other  $\gamma$ -proteobacteria (Sudom *et al.*, 2003), and this feature might point at a particular role of the inactivation of this gene in the *P. putida* KT2440 niche.
- The two fragments of gene *PP\_1919* encode a protein similar to *E. coli* K-12 thymidylate kinase (Tmk protein; > 50% identity), a key enzyme for DNA synthesis. This protein catalyzes the phosphorylation of deoxythymidine monophosphate (dTMP) to deoxythymidine diphosphate (dTDP) in the presence of ATP and



Mg<sup>2+</sup>. Tmk is essential for DNA synthesis and cell growth in *E. coli* (Reynes *et al.*, 1996) and it would be expected to be essential in *P. putida* as well. Interestingly, in strain KT2440, but not in other sequenced *P. putida* strains, the *tmk* gene has been disrupted by the integration of a large genomic island of about 65 kb (the 3'-end of the first part of *tmk* is found at position 2 162 696 bp, while the 5'-end of the second part is found at position 2 227 487 bp). This region is obviously of phage origin (it contains genes for phage integrases, a transcriptional regulator of the Cro/cI family as well as site-specific recombinases), and harbors several clusters of metabolic genes (monooxygenases, dehydrogenases, etc.) together with a cluster of genes involved in arsenic resistance (*PP\_1927-PP\_1930*). Remarkably, *PP\_1964*, the prophage gene located next to the truncated *tmk* gene, is likely to encode a deoxyribonucleotide monophosphate kinase (Mikoulińska *et al.*, 2004), that could substitute for the missing essential *tmk* gene. Alternatively, the two halves of the *tmk* gene could be expressed separately and the resulting polypeptides reconstruct the enzyme activity through protein trans-complementation, a possibility currently under investigation.

**Functional re-annotation of protein-coding genes.** The outcome of the automatic functional annotation procedure was followed by manual curation of *P. putida* genes previously recorded as encoding unknown functions, while showing significant similarity with one of the protein and domain resources used in the platform (see "Experimental Procedures" section). Among those, 197 CDSs were reviewed (Supporting Information Table S6). Most of these proteins were labeled as (putative) enzymes (56%), (putative) transporters (20%) or (putative) regulators (9%). We further annotated 61 genes encoding proteins highly similar to proteins with functions experimentally demonstrated either in *Pseudomonas* species/genus or in other organisms. This is the case for genes involved in the catabolism of carnitine [*PP\_0301* to *PP\_0305*; (Wargo and Hogan, 2009; Bastard *et al.*, 2014)], in phenylethylamine degradation [*PP\_3459* and *PP\_3460*; (Arias *et al.*, 2008)], in gallate degradation [*PP\_2513*, *PP\_2514* and *PP\_2515*; (Nogales *et al.*, 2011)], and in urate degradation [*PP\_4287*; (Ramazzina *et al.*, 2006)]. In order to provide accurate annotations, the global curation process was directed by the results of the growth phenotype data obtained in this work as well as extracted from experimentally based literature (see next section).

Overall, the function of 1548 genes has been manually re-annotated and linked to updated literature references (4837 PubMed references in the current annotation release). To provide a comprehensive reconstruction of the global metabolic map of *P. putida*, the utmost care was

taken in the curation of associations between genes encoding enzymes and the biochemical reactions they catalyze. A total of 1485 CDSs has been associated to 1898 chemical reactions [1406 reactions from MetaCyc (Caspi *et al.*, 2014) and 492 from Rhea (Morgat *et al.*, 2015)] comprising a total of 3185 gene-reaction associations. In these associations, the role of 229 genes, displaying a high degree of similarity with their counterparts, was automatically annotated via transfer of the related *E. coli* K-12 reactions (see "Experimental Procedures" section). In the current update of the *P. putida* KT2440 genome annotation, about 21% of the protein-coding genes still remain of unknown function. A summary of the main *P. putida* KT2440 genome annotation updates in comparison with the original annotation can be found in Table 1.

**An updated view of strain KT2440 metabolic capabilities through genome-scale modeling and phenotyping data.** The updated genome annotation and corresponding functions were subsequently reviewed by computer simulations, assessing their contribution to the GSMM *iJP962* (Oberhardt *et al.*, 2011), which progresses toward a comprehensive model of the current knowledge of *P. putida* metabolism. First, we pinpointed knowledge gaps in the original GSMM by comparing its *in silico* growth predictions to the output of BIOLOG experiments on carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus sources. This comparison identified 108 compounds, the *in silico* growth prediction of which did not match the BIOLOG outcome. Furthermore, we added an extra set of 12 aromatic compounds that were not included in the BIOLOG assay but were known to serve as carbon source to *P. putida* (Jiménez *et al.*, 2002; Kim *et al.*, 2006). Eventually, the knowledge gap set comprised a total of 120 compounds, among which 43 carbon sources, 43 nitrogen sources, 31 phosphorus sources and 3 compounds that are both carbon and nitrogen sources (uridine, glycyl-glutamate and alanine-glycine) (Table 2).

Initial expansion of the *iJP962* model with the automatically reconstructed metabolic network yielded a disappointing total of only 3 (all nitrogen sources) out of 120 compounds, the knowledge gap of which could be closed (i.e., a complete degradation route with reactions connecting the query compound to the central metabolism was present). This observation suggested that the metabolic model and the automatic genome re-annotation were missing catabolic pathways for the remaining 117 compounds. This prompted us to include the full set of 120 compounds as a starting point for a manual metabolic pathway curation process (further described in "Experimental Procedures" section). The outcome of this effort allowed us to identify catabolic pathways for 92 of these compounds (32/43 carbon, 28/43 nitrogen, 29/31 phosphorus and 3/3 carbon and nitrogen sources; see Table 2). Some of those metabolic routes, absent from public metabolic pathways

**Table 1.** Summary of the main *P. putida* KT2440 features annotation update in comparison with the original one.

		New annotations	Original annotations
<b>CDS</b>	Total number	5592	5350
	Unknown functions/hypothetical proteins	1151 (*1)	1505
	Pseudogenes	28 (*2)	9 (*3)
	Partial genes	14	61 (*4)
	Additional genes	311	
	False positive genes in original annotations		102
<b>rRNA genes</b>	Total number	22	22
<b>tRNA genes</b>	Total number	75	74
<b>EC number annotation</b>	CDS associated with an EC number	1250	463
	Total unique EC numbers	902	360
	Complete EC numbers	811	360
	Partial EC numbers	91	0
<b>GPR associations</b>	Number of CDSs associated to reactions	1485	0
	Number of reactions	1898 (*5)	0
	Total number of GPR associations	3185	0
<b>PMID annotations</b>	Genes with associated PMID references	1371	18
	Number of different PMID references	4837	1

(\*1) 1040 conserved proteins of unknown function + 111 proteins of unknown function.

(\*2) 28 pseudogenes made of 54 fragments of CDSs corresponding to 27 pseudogenes, and 1 CDS, *PP\_3752*, which contains an internal stop codon).

(\*3) 9 genes without/product annotation; in/note = "This region contains a pseudogene, one or more premature stops, and is not the result of a sequencing artifact"; following the sequencing and the manual curation processes these 9 pseudogenes have been re-annotated as functional.

(\*4) 61 genes without/product annotation; in/note = "This region contains an authentic frame shift and is not the result of a sequencing artifact." The sequence of 10 of these partial genes has been corrected after the re-sequencing process.

(\*5) 1406 MetaCyc reactions (Caspi *et al.*, 2014) + 492 Rhea reactions (Morgat *et al.*, 2015).

databases, are associated to extended substrate specificity of enzymatic activities experimentally described in other organisms. This aspect is illustrated for some compounds of general interest: L-2-hydroxybutyrate degradation, degradation of D-amino acids as nitrogen sources, and dipeptides degradation (see Supporting Information Results and Supporting Information Table S7 in the Supporting Information). Detailed information about the update and novelties in *P. putida* metabolic competence revealed by the present work can be found in the Supporting Information Results file. In the following sections we provide an overview of novel features that may have direct relevance to control and expression of biocatalytic activities, mainly control of osmolarity, management of proton availability and transformations of aromatic compounds.

#### Mechanisms of control of osmolarity

Living in polluted environments, *P. putida* needs to cope with highly variable concentrations of osmolytes. It must, therefore, build up a matching opportunity to control osmolarity by shuttling between synthesis, degradation and transport of osmolytes. This is reflected in its genome sequence by the concerted presence of genes involved in these biological processes.

**Osmoregulation metabolism and transport of osmolytes.** Potassium glutamate is a major regulator of osmolarity in a large panel of organisms (Gralla and Vargas, 2006). The

Kdp and Trk transport systems mediate osmoregulatory K<sup>+</sup> uptake in a wide range of Bacteria and Archaea. In contrast to what was initially published with the sequence of the genome of *P. putida* KT2440 (Nelson *et al.*, 2002), a complete Kdp system is present in this strain (the *kdpCBAF* operon; Supporting Information Table S8). It contains a functional high affinity P-type ATPase-K<sup>+</sup> transporter encoded by the now functional *kdpB* gene, previously annotated as a pseudogene. Furthermore, we have identified and annotated a novel gene which encodes the small non-essential KdpF subunit (29 amino acids) that binds and stabilizes the whole protein complex (Gassel *et al.*, 1999). Expression of this gene is dependent on a two-component regulatory system, encoded by *kdpD* (the sensor kinase component) and *kdpE* (the response regulator component), that activates the expression of the *kdpCBAF* operon under conditions of severe K<sup>+</sup> limitation or osmotic upshift (Ballal *et al.*, 2007).

In terms of compatible solutes transport, strain KT2440 has a functional counterpart of the proline/betaine symporter (ProP), a multidrug efflux protein of the major facilitator superfamily (MFS) that mediates the uptake and accumulation of either one of these two osmoprotectants in *E. coli* K-12. ProP allows for adaptation to increasing osmotic pressure by acting as transporter and osmosensor (MacMillan *et al.*, 1999). Exploration of the synteny conservation between *P. putida*, *P. aeruginosa* and *P. syringae* allowed us to

**Table 2.** Results of the integration of the updated catabolic pathways into the metabolic model *iJP962*.

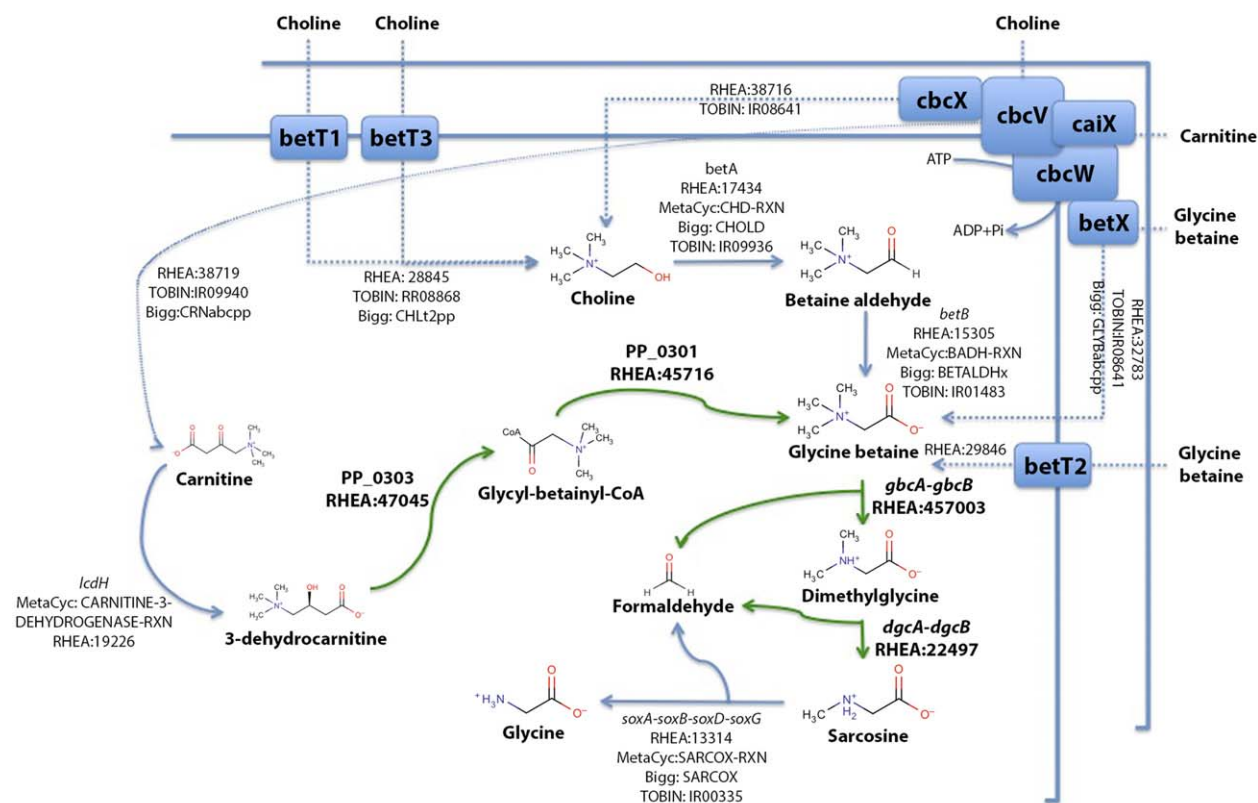
Carbon Sources	<i>iJP962</i>		Nitrogen Sources	<i>iJP962</i>		Phosphorus Sources	<i>iJP962</i>	
	+Pre	+Cur		+Pre	+Cur		+Pre	+Cur
L-Alanyl-Glycine			L-Histidine			D-Glucosamine-6-Phosphate		
Glycyl-L-Proline			Uracil			Trimetaphosphate		
Glycyl-L-Glutamic Acid			Xanthine			β-Glycerol Phosphate		
β-Hydroxy-Butyric Acid			Allantoin			D-Glucose-6-Phosphate		
γ-Hydroxy-Butyric Acid			Gly-Met			Cytidine 3',5'-Cyclic Monophosphate		
α-Hydroxy Glutaric Acid-γ-Lactone			Met-Ala			Phosphocreatine		
α-D-Glucose			L-Cysteine			Phosphoryl Choline		
Butyric Acid			Thymine			O-Phosphoryl-Ethanolamine		
Dihydroxyacetone			Ala-Asp			D,L-α-Glycerol Phosphate		
L-Pyrogutamic Acid			Ala-Gln			Hypophosphite		
Uridine			Ala-Glu			Adenosine 2'-Monophosphate		
4-Hydroxy-L-Proline ( <i>trans</i> )			L-Alanyl-Glycine			Adenosine 3'-Monophosphate		
α-Hydroxy-Butyric Acid			Ala-His			Adenosine 2',3'-Cyclic Monophosphate		
D-Galacturonic Acid			Ala-Leu			Guanosine 2'-Monophosphate		
D-Glucuronic Acid			Ala-Thr			Guanosine 3'-Monophosphate		
Quinic Acid			Gly-Asn			Guanosine 2',3'-Cyclic Monophosphate		
β-Phenylethylamine			Gly-Gln			Cytidine 2'-Monophosphate		
Bromo-Succinic Acid			Glycyl-L-Glutamic Acid			O-Phospho-D-Serine		
D,L-Carnitine			L-Pyrogutamic acid			Uridine 2'-Monophosphate		
D-Ribose			Cytidine			Uridine 3'-Monophosphate		
D-Ribono-1,4-Lactone			Uridine			Uridine 2',3'-Cyclic Monophosphate		
L-Alaninamide			Inosine			O-Phospho-L-Tyrosine		
Methyl Pyruvate			Xanthosine			Thiophosphate		
*Gallate			Uric acid			O-Phospho-L-Threonine		
*Glycine Betaine			D-Serine			Cysteamine-S-Phosphate		
*Choline			D-Valine			Inositol Hexaphosphate		
*Sulfate choline			D,L-α-Amino-N-Butyric acid			Thymidine 3'-Monophosphate		
*Ferulate			α-Amino-N-Valeric acid			Thymidine 5'-Monophosphate		
*Phenylacetate			L-Methionine			Phospho-L-Arginine		
*Vanilate			β-Phenylethylamine					
*Vanilline			D-Asparagine					
*Coniferyl alcohol								
*p-Coumarate								
*Caffeate								
*Nicotinate								

All 96 compounds that were part of the initial 120 knowledge gaps and for which a degradation pathway was ultimately identified are included. These include: 23 BIOLOG Carbon sources, 12 Literature-based Carbon sources (indicated by \*), 31 BIOLOG Nitrogen sources and 29 BIOLOG Phosphorus sources. *iJP962* was either expanded with the predicted reaction set (+Pre), or with the curated reaction set (+Cur). The colors represent no-growth (red), growth (green) or growth with the addition of an artificial transporter (orange).

identify additional transporters that may operate together to span the whole physiological range of osmolarity and provide optimal uptake of glycine-betaine and choline osmoprotectant molecules from the environment (Fig. 1 and Supporting Information Table S8). As reported in experiments performed with *P. aeruginosa* (Wargo, 2013), three transporters of the BBCT family (BetT-I, BetT-II and BetT-III) could transport glycine-betaine (BetT-II) and choline (BetT-I and BetT-III), and thus confer osmoprotection [as shown in *P. syringae*, when they are expressed in a hyperosmotic environment (Chen and Beattie, 2008)]. Moreover, a complete choline-betaine-carnitine (CBC) ABC transport system is encoded in the *cbcXWV* operon. The expression of the operon is induced by an AraC-family transcriptional

activator (encoded by *gbdR*) in response to glycine-betaine and dimethylglycine (Chen *et al.*, 2010; Wargo, 2013). In fact, three different periplasmic substrate-binding proteins in *P. putida*, encoded by the *cbcX*, *caiX* and *betX* genes (Fig. 1 and Supporting Information Table S8), show high specificity for choline, carnitine and betaine, respectively (Chen *et al.*, 2010). Finally, a small multidrug resistance (SMR) protein, homolog of the *E. coli* K-12 EmrE protein, is also present in *P. putida* KT2440. It could be associated to choline and glycine-betaine export in response to intracellular levels of both osmoprotectants (Bay and Turner, 2012).

**Glycine-betaine degradation.** In addition to the annotation of choline and glycine-betaine transporter genes, the



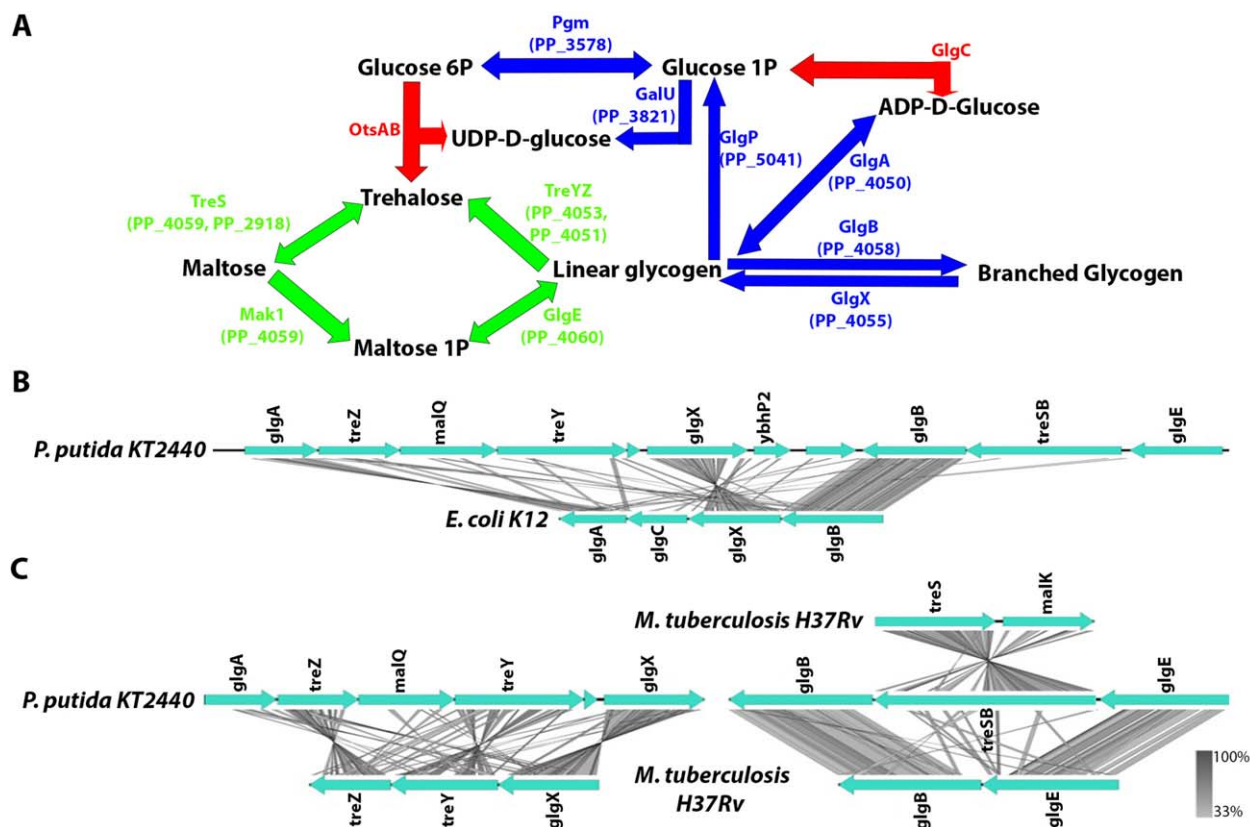
**Fig. 1.** Schematic representation of the Glycine-Betaine, Carnitine and Choline metabolism in *P. putida* KT2440. Blue arrows represent transport reactions (dotted lines) and cytoplasmic reactions (continuous lines) that were present in previous KT2440 metabolic model reconstructions (Bigg = iJN746, TOBIN = iJP968; different naming spaces). Green arrows show new GPR associations curated during our re-annotation process (they were missing in previous KT2440 metabolic reconstructions) CoA, coenzyme A.

annotation of genes involved in the aerobic degradation of these compounds has also been updated. The *betIBA* operon (Fig. 1 and Supporting Information Table S8) encodes a choline-responsive transcriptional repressor (BetI), and two enzymes, a choline oxidase (BetA) and a betaine aldehyde dehydrogenase (BetB), responsible for the two-step conversion of choline to glycine-betaine (Rkenes *et al.*, 1996; Velasco-García *et al.*, 2006; Ziegler *et al.*, 2010). As in *P. aeruginosa*, the genes encoding the choline transporter BetT1 and the *betIBA* operon are divergently transcribed in *P. putida* KT2440, allowing rapid transcriptional response to choline (Rkenes *et al.*, 1996). Finally, comparative genomics allowed us to identify orthologs of the *P. aeruginosa* PAO1 genes involved in the three-steps demethylation of glycine-betaine to glycine, a metabolic pathway essential for growth with glycine-betaine as the sole carbon source (Wargo *et al.*, 2008). This pathway includes a novel demethylase activity associated to the GbcAB enzyme complex that catalyzes the initial demethylation of glycine-betaine to dimethylglycine and formaldehyde. This operates via a process involving a dioxygenase and differs from the process mediated by the

betaine-homocysteine *S*-methyltransferase present in other choline degraders like *Sinorhizobium meliloti* (Smith *et al.*, 1988; Wargo *et al.*, 2008). In *P. putida* KT2440, an heterodimeric flavin-linked oxidoreductase, encoded by the *dgcA* and *dgcB* genes (Supporting Information Table S8), catalyzes the second demethylation reaction of dimethylglycine to sarcosine, which is further demethylated to glycine in a reaction catalyzed by a heterotetrameric sarcosine oxidase complex encoded by the gene cluster *soxBDAG* (Fig. 1).

**Trehalose-glycerol metabolism.** Due to its electroneutral nature and its role as a protein stabilizer, the disaccharide trehalose is a major osmoprotectant in bacterial cells (Kaushik and Bhat, 2003; Ruhal *et al.*, 2013). The *P. putida* genome re-annotation process revealed a complex metabolic scenario where trehalose could play a central role both in osmoregulation and in the metabolism of glycogen (Fig. 2). This differs from the metabolic profile present in most  $\gamma$ -Proteobacteria where this role is fulfilled by monosaccharide nucleoside diphosphates (Chandra *et al.*, 2011). *P. putida* KT2440 lacks the *ostAB* genes encoding enzymes involved in the two-step trehalose biosynthesis





**Fig. 2.** Trehalose metabolism in *P. putida* KT2440. (A) Metabolic pathway of trehalose biosynthesis in *P. putida* KT2440 and *E. coli* K12. Reactions specific to *P. putida* are shown in green and those specific to *E. coli* are shown in red. Shared reactions are represented in blue (B) Lineplot showing tblastX similarities between genomic regions containing genes involved in the trehalose metabolism in *P. putida* KT2440 and in *E. coli* K12 (C) same as (B) between *P. putida* KT2440 and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H37Rv. The gene cluster is splitted in three different genomic regions in *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv. In this organism, *treS* and *malK* genes are not fused. ADP, adenosine diphosphate; UDP, uridine diphosphate.

pathway from UDP-glucose via a trehalose-6-phosphate intermediate (Kaasen *et al.*, 1992). Rather, it displays two alternative pathways for trehalose biosynthesis (Fig. 2A and Supporting Information Table S8). The first one involves the PP\_4053 protein (previously annotated as a generic glycosyl hydrolase) that is highly similar to the malto-oligosyl trehalose synthase (TreY) from other *P. putida* strains. Together with the malto-oligosyl trehalose hydrolase (encoded by the *treZ* gene), TreY catalyzes the biosynthesis of trehalose from glycogen (Kobayashi *et al.*, 1996; De Smet *et al.*, 2000). The second pathway is associated to two different trehalose synthases (coded by *treSA* and *treSB* genes) that catalyze the reversible single-step conversion of maltose to trehalose (Lee *et al.*, 2005; Chandra *et al.*, 2011; Ruhel *et al.*, 2013). These enzymes belong to two evolutionary distinct lineages. The corresponding genes do not display sequence similarity and are involved in different genomic and metabolic contexts. The *treSB* gene (PP\_4059; Supporting Information Table S8) encodes a fused protein (a trehalose synthase belonging to a family widely distributed across different bacterial lineages and a maltokinase) and is clustered with genes

encoding the glycogen branching enzyme GlgB, and the  $\alpha$ -1,4-glucan:maltose-1-phosphate maltosyltransferase GlgE (Fig. 2B). These genes form an operon for a novel glycogen biosynthesis pathway similar to the variant recently discovered in *Mycobacteria* (Fig. 2C), that uses  $\alpha$ -maltose-1-phosphate instead of UDP-glucose-6-phosphate as the building block to extend glucan chains (Elbein *et al.*, 2010; Chandra *et al.*, 2011; Ruhel *et al.*, 2013). By contrast, the trehalose synthase encoded by the *treSA* gene (PP\_2918; Supporting Information Table S8) belongs to a small family of highly active trehalose synthases. It has been biochemically characterized in *P. stutzeri* CJ38 as a biocatalyst of biotechnological interest for the production of trehalose (Lee *et al.*, 2005). We propose that this second *P. putida* trehalose synthase may have a role in the control of osmolarity.

#### Control of the proton gradient

*Pseudomonas putida* KT2440 is an obligate aerobe that uses the EDMP cycle (composed by activities from the Entner–Doudoroff, the incomplete Embden–Meyerhof–



Parnas, and the pentose phosphate pathway) to process glucose (Nikel *et al.*, 2015). Furthermore, it lacks the glucose-specific phosphoenolpyruvate:carbohydrate phosphotransferase system (PTS) that usually fuels in the Embden-Meyerhof-Parnas pathway in other bacteria, such as *E. coli*. Yet, apart from sugars its growth environment provides a considerable number of compounds that may enter its metabolism at various points. This in turn requires the presence of a large number of transport systems, as illustrated by the coding capacity of its genome. The processes encompassing oxygen availability and utilization, carbon catabolism and transport suggest that a considerable amount of protons are involved: they could be channeled during respiration to form ATP and in proton/metabolite co-transport activities. *P. putida* KT2440 possesses counterparts of the cytochrome *bo* oxidase and the cytochrome *bd-I* oxidase found in many bacteria. However, it does not have a counterpart of *E. coli* cytochrome *bd-II* oxidase (AppCD). The activity of cytochrome oxidases contributes to build up a proton motive force (Bettenbrock *et al.*, 2014). The proton gradient thereby generated is challenged when the pH of the environment varies. We thus wanted to explore the way the bacterium maintains proton homeostasis through critical examination of its genome sequence. *P. putida* is a neutrophilic organism and harbors a standard version of most of the general processes involving protons (ATP synthase, assembly of flagellar motor, NADH/NADPH balance, etc.). It differs however from other classes of  $\gamma$ -Proteobacteria such as Enterobacteria in the way it manages the acid resistance response and the transport of protons.

**Acid resistance response.** The acid stress response involves many different processes in species having a periplasm (Lund *et al.*, 2014), where some enzymes may have an acidic optimum pH for activity [e.g., AppA in *E. coli* (Golovan *et al.*, 2000), a gene not found in *P. putida*]. The results of the functional re-annotation shows that *P. putida* KT2440 has orthologs of the *E. coli* K-12 genes encoding the alternative sigma factor RpoS and the cAMP receptor protein Crp, that constitute the glucose-repressed Acid Resistance system AR1 allowing cell survival at pH = 2.5 (Foster, 2004; Milanese *et al.*, 2011) (Supporting Information Table S9). In *P. putida* RpoS restores the acid resistance phenotype missing in *rpoS*-deficient *E. coli* mutants. Yet, it seems that in *P. putida* the role of RpoS is mainly associated to adaptation to carbon starvation conditions (Ramos-González and Molin, 1998). RpoS and Crp are global regulators which control expression of multiple genes (regulons) under conditions when global resource allocation needs to be modified as the environment changes (Hui *et al.*, 2015). However, the regulatory network of both Crp and RpoS activities is noticeably different in *P. putida* when compared with that of *E. coli*, in line with the widely different niches of

the organisms (Venturi, 2003; Milanese *et al.*, 2011). Expression profiling studies in the KT2440 strain using different carbon sources revealed a strong expression of *rpoS* in cells growing with glycine and fructose as carbon sources (Frank *et al.*, 2011; Kim *et al.*, 2013). A further difference can be pointed out: *P. putida* KT2440 has neither orthologs of the *E. coli* decarboxylase-antiporter systems AR2 [glutamate-decarboxylase isozymes GadA, GadB and 4-aminobutanoate (GABA)-glutamate antiporter GadC], nor of AR3 (degradative arginine-decarboxylase AdiA and agmatine-arginine antiporter AdiC). As far as the Acid Resistance system 4 (AR4) is concerned, the *PP\_4140* gene, previously annotated as a pseudogene, was now found to be complete. It is similar to the *E. coli* lysine decarboxylase (*ldcC* gene, encoding a constitutive form of the lysine decarboxylase). However, there is no signal of neighbor cadaverine-lysine antiporter CadB characteristic of the AR4 system (Foster, 2004). Overall *P. putida* lacks most of the acid stress response present in Enterobacteria. This may contribute to its recognized lack of pathogenicity, but it needs to be taken into account when *P. putida* is used for biocatalysis in a reactor as well when the organism is used for *in situ* or *ex situ* bioremediation of polluted environments.

Otherwise, *P. putida* KT2440 has functional alternative pathways for the degradation of both L-arginine and GABA, which involve enzymatic activities induced in high pH conditions in *E. coli*. The *P. putida* annotated homologous genes are listed in Supporting Information Table S9.

### Transport of protons

Protons are involved in many transport systems, including vectorial transport for ATP synthesis, as well as in the mechanical rotation of flagella. *P. putida* KT2440 has two counterparts of the  $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$  antiporter NhaA (Supporting Information Table S9), the best-understood antiporter which helps maintain the internal pH, protecting cells from excess sodium at high pH (Dover and Padan, 2001; Stancik *et al.*, 2002). This species also harbors a putative multidrug efflux protein MdfA that extends the pH tolerance range up to pH = 10 in *E. coli*, taking over when NhaA is deleted (Lewinson *et al.*, 2004). However, we did not identify a homolog to the positive regulator NhaR, which controls NhaA activity during exponential growth (Rahav-Manor *et al.*, 1992; Carmel *et al.*, 1997). This may be compensated for by a possible activity under the control of the functional RpoS sigma factor together with genes of the RpoS regulon also involved in pH homeostasis in the stationary growth phase (Dover and Padan, 2001). The *P. putida* KT2440 genome also harbors a second pH-independent  $\text{Na}^+/\text{H}^+$  antiporter, NhaB (Pinner *et al.*, 1993; Padan *et al.*, 2005), as well as five proton-sodium antiporters of the monovalent cation:proton antiporter (CPA) families CPA1 and CPA2 (*nhaB* and *nhaP* genes;

Supporting Information Table S9). Three additional glutathione-gated  $K^+$  efflux systems (*kef* genes) of the CPA2 family have also been found. They are likely to be important for coping with mechanical stress induced by the considerable variations of metabolites charges and concentrations associated with *P. putida* metabolism in a chemically polluted environment. In *B. subtilis* the essential operon *mrpABCDEFG* encodes a transport system of the CPA3 family, which provides  $Na^+/H^+$  antiport activity and functions in resistance toward several different compounds and pH homeostasis (Brett *et al.*, 2005; Kajiyama *et al.*, 2007). As in bacteria from a great many other clades (e.g., in *Bdellovibrio bacteriovorus*, *Bordetella pertussis*, *Deinococcus radiodurans* and *Mycobacterium smegmatis*), but not in *E. coli*, *P. putida* KT2440 has a complete operon counterpart of *phaABCDEFG* (Supporting Information Table S9). Given the role of this system in pH adaptation and cholate resistance, we propose to rename this operon *mrp* for “multiple resistance and pH adaptation locus.” This also allows to distinguish the *P. putida*  $Na^+/H^+$  pumping function from the biosynthesis of polyhydroxyalkanoates (*pha* genes). This system is widely present in Pseudomonadales, where its organization differs slightly from that of Firmicutes: MrpA counterpart is fused to MrpB (MrpAB protein). Moreover, 22 additional Major Facilitator Superfamily transporters (MFS) were identified in the *P. putida* KT2440 proteome; they could contribute to pH homeostasis through additional  $Na^+/H^+$  or  $K^+/H^+$  antiporter activities, as it is the case for the multidrug efflux protein MdfA in *E. coli* or the tetracycline resistance protein TetL in *B. subtilis* (Padan *et al.*, 2005).

Finally, the annotation of five genes encoding periplasmic and outer-membrane proteins associated to pH homeostasis has been updated in *P. putida* KT2440 (Supporting Information Table S9). These genes include the extreme base-induced membrane-bound redox modulator Alx (Stancik *et al.*, 2002), as well as the peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase SurA, which is necessary for proper folding of outer membrane proteins and whose inactivation is lethal in stationary phase under elevated pH conditions (Tormo *et al.*, 1990; Foster, 1999).

#### Aromatic compounds degradation pathways

One of the most relevant metabolic features of *P. putida* KT2440 is its ability to break down into central metabolic intermediates a wide range of aromatic compounds that are present in the rhizosphere and associated to the recycling of plant-derived material prevalent in the environment (Palleroni, 1984; Nelson *et al.*, 2002; Dos Santos *et al.*, 2004). This prompted us to explore the gene complement of aromatic degradation pathways, not only for carbon-only aromatic compounds, but also for aromatic heterocycles, including purines and pyrimidines.

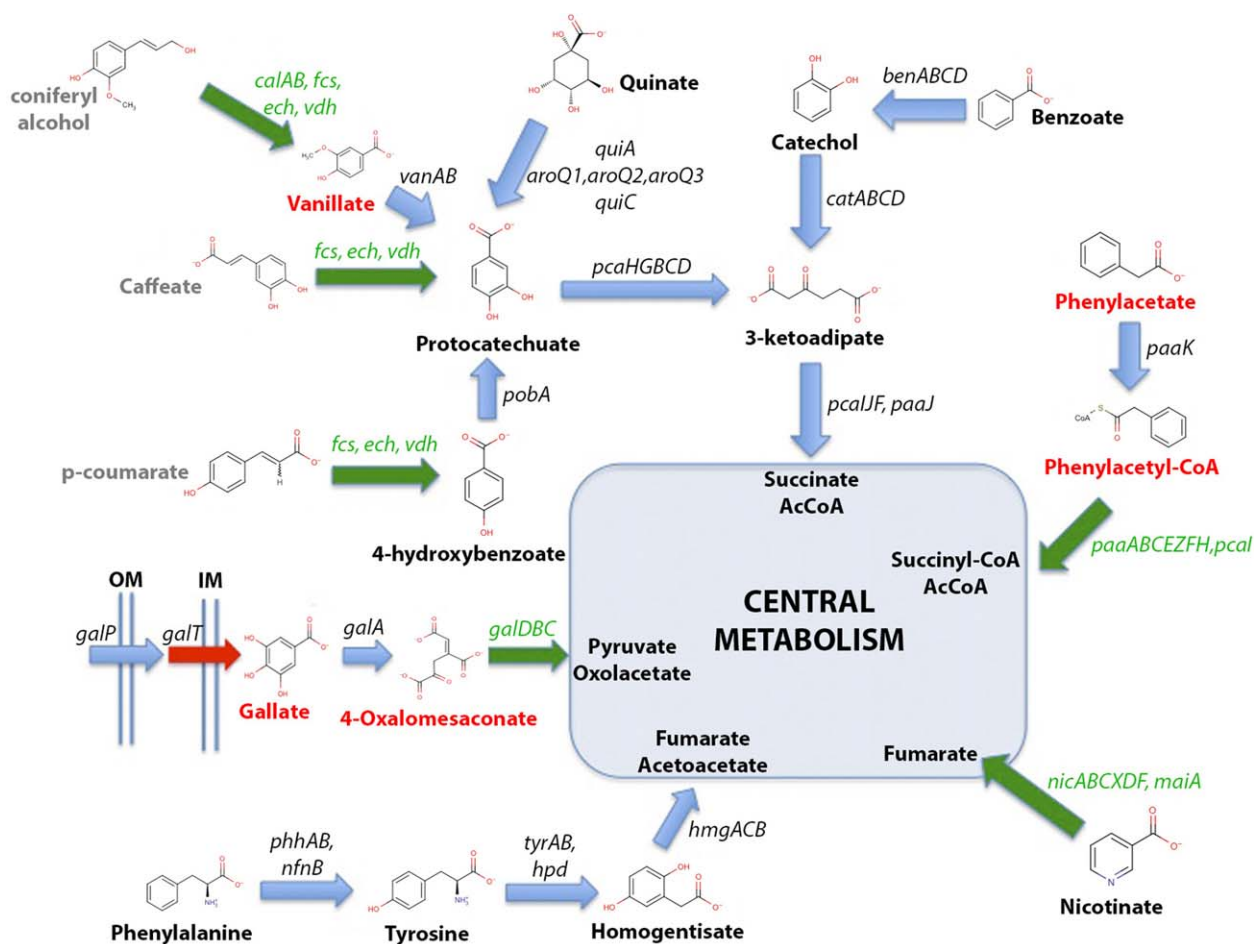
#### Degradation of carbon-skeleton aromatics

In addition to the outcome of BIOLOG experiments, much experimental evidence has been reported since the first publication of the genome sequence of *P. putida* KT2440. This had impacted the annotation of genes involved in the degradation of aromatic compounds (Dos Santos *et al.*, 2004; Nogales *et al.*, 2005; Kim *et al.*, 2006; Wu *et al.*, 2011). The present upgrade includes genes involved in the central aromatic compounds degradation pathways as well as a variety of connected pathways. A summary of the new vision of the aromatic catabolism of strain KT2440 is represented in Fig. 3, and detailed in the Supporting Information Results file (see Supporting Information Table S10 for a complete description).

We propose a candidate gene for the orphan enzyme (i.e., a defined enzyme without assigned sequence) responsible for the first redox step of the two-step degradation of coniferyl alcohol to ferulate (Jiménez *et al.*, 2002; Nogales *et al.*, 2008). The *PP\_2426* gene, corresponding to the alcohol dehydrogenase activity CalA (EC 1.1.1.194; Supporting Information Table S10), is likely to encode a coniferyl dehydrogenase, with somewhat promiscuous activity. This candidate gene shows significant similarity with cinnamyl-alcohol dehydrogenases of plant origin (about 50% amino acid identity over the whole protein length), which are also able to act on coniferyl alcohol (see IUBMB annotation, EC 1.1.1.195). The proposed coniferyl dehydrogenase CalA (*PP\_2426*) would work together with coniferyl aldehyde dehydrogenase CalB (*PP\_5120*, EC 1.2.1.68) (Overhage *et al.*, 1999; Jiménez *et al.*, 2002). However, an experimental validation is necessary to substantiate this prediction.

#### Degradation of nucleotides and other heterocyclic aromatics

The positive redox phenotypes observed in BIOLOG experiments using uracil and thymine as nitrogen sources led us to re-annotate a gene cluster which contains all the genes involved in the reductive pathway of pyrimidine nucleotides (West, 2001; Schnackerz and Dobritzsch, 2008) (Supporting Information Table S10). This pathway starts with the reduction of uracil and thymine to the corresponding 5,6-dehydro-derivatives by a type II NADPH-dependent dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPD) enzyme complex PydXA (Osterman, 2006; Hidese *et al.*, 2011). The dihydropyrimidines are subsequently hydrolyzed by a bifunctional D-hydantoinase/dihydropyrimidinase (*pydB* gene) and a  $\beta$ -ureidopropionase (*hyuC* gene) into  $\beta$ -alanine and 3-amino-isobutyrate respectively (West, 2001; Schnackerz and Dobritzsch, 2008). The *PP\_4036* gene (*pydB*), was originally annotated as a pseudogene (sequencing error), but it is likely to be fully functional as



**Fig. 3.** Schematic representation of the catabolism of aromatic compounds to central metabolites in *P. putida* KT2440 (adapted from Nogales *et al.*, 2008). Red compounds correspond to dead-end metabolites in iJP968 model (isolated compounds that are either only consumed or only produced by the model). Gray compounds represent aromatic compounds absent in iJP968 metabolic model. Green arrows and green genes represent new GPR associations curated during the *P. putida* KT2440 genome re-annotation process (they were absent in the original iJP968 model). Flux Balance Analysis (FBA) simulations over the extended iJP968 metabolic model gave rise to a functional phenotype in terms of biomass production with all these aromatic compounds as external carbon sources. OM, outer membrane; IM, inner membrane; CoA, coenzyme A; and AcCoA, acetyl-coenzyme A.

it encodes a protein highly similar to the experimentally characterized D-hydrantoinase/dihydropyrimidinase from *P. putida* (*Arthrobacter capsulatus*) (Chien *et al.*, 1998). The gene cluster also encodes a permease commonly present in  $\beta$ - and  $\gamma$ -Proteobacteria (*pydP* gene), as well as a transcriptional regulator (the *PP\_4039* gene is similar to the *E. coli rutR* gene) (Supporting Information Table S10).

In the same way, the positive redox phenotype observed in BIOLOG experiments when using xanthine, urate or allantoin as nitrogen sources, allowed us to upgrade the annotation of a gene cluster involved in the transport and degradation of purine nucleotides (Supporting Information Table S10). It includes the xanthine dehydrogenase enzyme complex XdhABC that catalyzes the  $\text{NAD}^+$ -dependent oxidation of hypoxanthine and xanthine to urate (Parschat *et al.*, 2001), and two of the three enzymes

involved in the degradation of urate to S-allantoin (Ramazzina *et al.*, 2006): the hydroxyisourate hydroxylase (PucM) and the 2-oxo-4-hydroxy-4-carboxy-5-ureidoimidazole (OHCU) decarboxylase (PucL). These proteins belong to two chromosomal clusters and share homologies with eukaryotic and prokaryotic proteins (COG2351 and COG3195, respectively). They also display similar co-evolution phylogenetic profiles (Engelen *et al.*, 2012; Vallet *et al.*, 2013). This suggests a common evolutionary gain and loss history, as illustrated in other organisms harboring this pathway (Ramazzina *et al.*, 2006). Furthermore, S-allantoin can be degraded in four steps to glyoxylate via S-ureidoglycine as an intermediate, releasing ammonia and urea. The first step involves a novel metal-independent allantoinase encoded by the *puuE* gene that differs from the *E. coli* K-12 allantoinase (*allB* gene) (Ramazzina *et al.*, 2008).



Finally, the annotation of the *nic* gene cluster (*nicPT-FEDCXRBAS*), responsible for the aerobic degradation of nicotinate to fumarate, has also been updated. It allows *P. putida* KT2440 to grow with nicotinate as both nitrogen and carbon source (Jiménez *et al.*, 2008).

#### *Toward an extended view of the KT2440 metabolic model*

The updated genome annotation provided us with a list of functions, for example, chemical conversions, that were not previously identified in *P. putida*. However, the effect of an individual function on systems-wide behavior is not straightforward. For example, a candidate degradation pathway can eventually be deemed nonfunctional if its byproducts cannot be further processed. We decided to assess the full impact of the updated annotation by complementing an existing genome-scale metabolic model with the new reactions. This allowed us to check whether the identified enzymatic conversions could truly function in the context of the former knowledge of *P. putida* metabolism, and to pinpoint additional knowledge gaps to be addressed in future studies. Specifically, for 96 out of the 120 defined knowledge gaps, we identified a probable degradation pathway during the targeted manual annotation process. Together, these pathways comprised a total of 253 reactions, 234 of which have been assigned to one or more genes and integrated into MicroScope. Moreover, 43 new ChEBI compounds and 73 new RHEA reactions were created during this curation process.

To assess whether these reactions indeed coped with the knowledge gaps, we expanded the *iJP962* metabolic model with the degradation pathways and mimicked *in silico* the BIOLOG experiment (see “Experimental Procedure” section). Surprisingly, this expansion led to an *in silico* positive phenotype for only 20 compounds (out of 96). However, it is important to recall that the BIOLOG setup does not measure growth *per se* but the integrated activity of redox networks (Bochner, 1989). This relatively small improvement prompted us to inspect the remaining cases in more detail (Supporting Information Table S12). A major issue turned out to be the difficulty in identifying transport proteins for specific compounds; our list of curated reactions only contained 23 transporters. To further test the existence of degradation pathways, we complemented the GSMM with *ad hoc* transport reactions that behaved as passive diffusion reactions. This improved the outcome of the model, as 72 out of 96 degradation pathways were now functional. Interestingly, even in the original model the addition of *ad hoc* transporters resolved 10 of the knowledge gaps, indicating that for some compounds the lack of a transport reaction was the only functional step preventing *in silico* growth. This procedure also led to *in silico* positive growth phenotypes for 14 compounds with a negative

BIOLOG phenotype (Supporting Information Table S12), demonstrating that it is essential to get experimental evidence for transport systems. Although such results require future *in vitro* confirmation, they suggest that the range of suitable substrates for *P. putida* may be increased with the sole identification of the corresponding transporter proteins. This observation highlights an essential area for future research that will lead to improve GSMMs.

Still, successful *in silico* metabolite degradation was yet to be achieved for 24 out of the 96 compounds with identified degradation pathways. The underlying causes of these remaining knowledge gaps may be roughly divided into four categories (Supporting Information Table S13):

- i. *Level of detail.* The degradation pathways for seven compounds involved ill-defined metabolite classes, such as “NADPORNOP,” and “Oxidized-cytochromes.” Where possible, we replaced these with specific instances of these classes, such as NAD and ferricytochrome.
- ii. *Byproduct accumulation.* The degradation pathways for six compounds resulted in by-products that the *in silico* cell was unable to dispose of. In particular, five degradation pathways led to an accumulation of sulfur-containing compounds. We complemented the model with sulfate, hydrogen sulfide and sulfite exporters, which allowed successful degradation of 4/5, 1/5 and 5/5 compounds. We show below that *P. putida* KT2440 has 11 candidate *tauE* genes, which may encode a sulfite exporter. The sulfite export reaction and the 11 corresponding genes were thus added to the curated reaction list.
- iii. *Reaction reversibility.* The degradation of one compound, D-glucosamine-6-phosphate, was hampered by a reaction that was irreversible in the model, but reversible according to external sources such as MetaCyc (Caspi *et al.*, 2014) and Brenda (Chang *et al.*, 2015). We adjusted the reaction accordingly.
- iv. *Open issues.* Ten out of the degradation pathways led to the production of dead-end metabolites in the model. Dead-end metabolites are metabolites that can either only be produced, or only consumed in the model. We were unable to link possible degradation pathways for these compounds to *P. putida* genes. These non-functioning degradation pathways and the corresponding metabolites highlight a remaining knowledge gap in *P. putida* metabolism to be addressed in future studies.

In addition, we assessed how the expanded model performs in a broader *in silico* growth analysis including both wild-type and mutant growth predictions. We distinguished between predictions for wild-type growth and for mutant growth because these reflect different qualities of a



GSMM. Wild-type growth predictions indicate whether the GSMM includes any pathways that can convert a specific combination of medium constituents into biomass. In contrast, mutant growth predictions assess the quality of the GPR associations and the appropriate inclusion or exclusion of alternative pathways. The wild-type growth dataset consisted of the full BIOLOG dataset and 12 additional compounds with literature back-up. The mutant growth dataset was made of a combination of two external datasets: the original test-set for the *JP815* model (Puchałka *et al.*, 2008) and experimental data that was published later on Molina-Henares *et al.* (2010). As expected, the accuracy of wild-type growth predictions increased marginally when the model was expanded with the automatically predicted reaction set (0.59–0.66), but increased substantially when expanded with the curated reaction set (0.59–0.79) (Table 3 and Supporting Information Table S12). By contrast, the accuracy of mutant growth predictions decreased considerably when the model was expanded with the automatically predicted reaction set (0.73–0.60), and slightly improved when expanded with the curated reaction set (0.73–0.75) (Table 3 and Supporting Information Tables S12 and S14). Overall, these results indicate that the curated reaction set is a solid expansion of the existing model, while the predicted reaction set reveals discrepancies between the updated annotation and the existing model.

We expect future work on *P. putida* metabolic modeling to use the predicted reaction list (Supporting Information Table S15) in conjunction with the available GSMMs in order to identify faulty reactions or GPR associations in both our reaction list and the existing GSMMs. Although we used the *JP962* GSMM as the current knowledge on *P. putida* metabolism in order to contextualize the annotation, it is possible that there are errors in this GSMM that became apparent upon expansion with the predict reaction set. Using algorithms such as Growmatch (Kumar and Maranas, 2009), reactions can be selectively included or excluded in a GSMM in order to increase the correspondence between *in vivo* observations and *in silico* predictions. For example, the yeast GSMM was recently updated to version 6.0 by removing ill-supported model reactions and adding reactions based on updated annotation experimental literature. This led to a substantial increase in accuracy for predicting mutant growth phenotypes (Heavner *et al.*, 2013). We anticipate that the predicted reaction set for *P. putida* based on the updated annotation will facilitate a similar improvement of the *in silico* mutant growth predictions.

#### Comparison to other *Pseudomonas putida* strains

Udaondo and co-workers have recently reported a comparative analysis of the genomes of nine *P. putida* strains

**Table 3.** Model evaluation. *JP962* as well as the extensions based on predicted (+Pre) and curated (+Cur) degradation pathways were tested in terms of phenotype predictions (growth/no-growth).

	<i>JP962</i>	<i>JP962</i> + Pre	<i>JP962</i> + Cur
Metabolites	980	1375	1122
Reactions	1066	1533	1256
Genes	949	1203	1053
<b>Wild-type predictions</b>			
Specificity	0.90	0.86	0.88
Sensitivity	0.42	0.55	0.75
Accuracy	0.59	0.66	0.79
<b>Mutant predictions</b>			
Coverage	0.70	0.68	0.70
Specificity	0.74	0.56	0.72
Sensitivity	0.72	0.71	0.80
Accuracy	0.73	0.60	0.75

We used both wild-type and mutant growth data (Puchałka *et al.*, 2008; Molina-Henares *et al.*, 2010). The experimental mutant data comprised gene knockout data in defined media as well as experimentally verified auxotrophies.

aimed at determining the core collection of genes that give identity to this species (Udaondo *et al.*, 2015). Although the number of strains examined is somewhat limited, the results revealed the lack of pathogenic traits (e.g., exotoxins and type III secretion systems are absent in all cases) and the centrality of the Entner–Doudoroff pathway as the key route for consumption of carbohydrates. Such a core genome [paleome (Acevedo-Rocha *et al.*, 2013; Yang *et al.*, 2015)] of *P. putida* consisted of approximately 3380 genes, a good share of which encoded transporters, both for nutrients and for electrons, which seemingly enable aerobic metabolism under different oxygen regimes. Other genes of the core set determined the pentoses phosphate cycle, arginine and proline metabolism, and different routes for degradation of aromatic chemicals. Amino acid metabolism (synthesis and degradation) was very conserved as well and encoded in each case complete set of transporters, enzymes and regulators. Flagellar biosynthesis and genes for biofilm formation belong to the *P. putida* core genome as well.

Despite a large number of differences between strains, the wealth of information on strain KT2440 discussed above makes this specimen the reference for the whole group. Many of the general traits discussed above that make special strain KT2440 can be properly extended to other members of the *P. putida* group (Nikel *et al.*, 2014), with the caveat that the *P. putida* group is somewhat fuzzy, strain 2440 lying slightly distant from the reference type strain DSM291 (Ye *et al.*, 2014).

#### Conclusion

In this work we have coupled re-sequencing of the *P. putida* KT2440 genome to a complete upgrade of its sequence

annotations as means to provide a standard for use of this organism as a versatile *chassis* for both fundamental and biotechnological endeavors. Over the last few years, *P. putida* strains have been increasingly recognized for their potential to host bioreactions that other model bacteria fail to execute (e.g., strongly oxidative biotransformations). An attractive trait of strain KT2440 that makes it adequate for such applications is the fact that this bacterium harbors a large number of metabolic and stress-endurance properties optimal for biotechnological needs. In our present study, we further highlight the potential of *P. putida* for biotransformations and biodegradation by disclosing mechanisms controlling osmolarity and pH homeostasis. While resequencing *per se* only provided marginal improvement in the sequence, the update of the annotation allowed us to propose a consistent picture of *P. putida* metabolism. Coupled with experimental data using the BIOLOG setup this allowed us to improve considerably the outcome of a systems biology approach where a model metabolism of the organism could be matched with experimental data. The present state of affairs demonstrates that while there remain some knowledge gaps in the *P. putida* metabolism, we now have a clear picture of its overall functioning. Our approach pinpointed a specific deficiency in our knowledge: we need to considerably improve explicit identification of transport systems. This should be a major task for the immediate future of studies with the *P. putida chassis*, but also for other *chassis* as well.

In this respect, the present update of the genome sequence of *P. putida* and its annotation emphasized considerable differences with the ubiquitous model used as a *chassis* in many studies, *E. coli* K-12. Indeed, Enterobacteria and related bacteria differ considerably from Pseudomonadales, and *P. putida* may be an excellent reference model of this clade. Beside metabolic differences that have been outlined in the present article, the way DNA is handled is quite different in these clades, and this may be of importance for studies involving DNA constructs meant to provide novel metabolic engineering approaches. An example of this are the different contingents of DNA polymerase III proteins in different species. In *P. putida* one finds four different DNA polymerase III proteins, three variants of DnaE (DnaE1, DnaE2 and DnaE3) and a second type, PolC (Timinskas *et al.*, 2014). Organisms such as *B. subtilis* combine DnaE1 and PolC (Engelen *et al.*, 2012). By contrast, *E. coli* has only DnaE1. A second DnaE variant appears as a heterologous subunit of the enzyme when the length of the genome sequence increases. Furthermore, the presence of DnaE2 together with DnaE1 is linked to bacteria featuring large GC-rich genomes and living in aerobic environments (Timinskas *et al.*, 2014), as in the case of *P. putida* (*dnaEA*: PP\_1606 and *dnaEB*: PP\_3119). Analysis of the co-evolution of the

genes that are present in parallel with DnaE2 will certainly help identification of functions that are highly relevant both to the ecological niche of the organism and to its use as a cell factory.

## Experimental procedures

### *Pseudomonas putida* sequencing

The genome sequences of *P. putida* KT2440 DSM 615 and of a mutant strain TEC1 401-Δ1, were obtained using Illumina sequencing technology. The wild-type strain is the one sequenced in 2002, coming from the same original glycerol stock deposited in the DSMZ collection, and the mutant strain was generated by experimental genome reduction over strain KT2440 by the group of Vitor Martins dos Santos in Wageningen University [Microme WP3, (Leprince *et al.*, 2012)]. Paired-ends libraries were prepared with fragment size comprised between 300 and 600 bp and sequenced on HiSeq2000 (100 nt length). A total of 8 786 896 reads were produced for the *P. putida* KT2440 wild-type strain and 11 021 169 reads for the mutant, leading to 1.6 and 2.1 Gb, respectively. Sequence reads were processed to remove low-quality reads and mapped over the *P. putida* KT2440 reference genome sequence.

### SNPs/InDels detection strategy

High Throughput Sequencing (HTS) data were analyzed using the PALOMA pipeline (Cruveiller S., unpublished) implemented in the Microscope platform (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013). The current pipeline is a “Master” shell script that launches the various modules of the analysis (i.e., a collection of in-house software written in C) and controls for all tasks having been completed without errors. In a first step, the HTS data quality was assessed by including options like reads trimming or merging/split paired-end/mate-paired reads. In a second step, reads were mapped onto the original sequence of *P. putida* str. KT2440 (Accession Number NC\_002947; AE015451.1) using the SSAHA2 package (Ning *et al.*, 2001). Unique matches having an alignment score equal to at least half of their length were retained as seeds for full Smith–Waterman realignment (Smith and Waterman, 1981) keeping at both sides a region of the reference genome extended by five nucleotides. All computed alignments were then screened for discrepancies between read and reference sequences and *in fine*, a score based on coverage, allele frequency, quality of bases and strand bias was computed for each detected event to assess its relevance. The results generated are available at the MicroScope platform (<http://www.genoscope.cns.fr/agc/microscope>).

### Consensus sequence correction

To correct the original sequence of *P. putida* KT2440, the PALOMA pipeline was run with stringent parameters for the “SNP calling” step (allelic frequency set to 0.8 with at least 10 reads mapping the position, a balance of forward reads to reverse reads set to 0.33). This analysis led to a relatively small amount of variations compared with the original one, showing

that the 2002 sequence was of excellent quality (Nelson *et al.*, 2002). An automated process was subsequently implemented to generate a new version of the sequence of the *P. putida* strain KT2440 genome using both the original sequence and the list of detected variations as inputs. During the process, uncovered areas of the reference genome were reported as well, corresponding either to repeats (discarded by default during the reads mapping step) or potentially large deletions in the re-sequenced genome.

### RNA-Seq Analysis

The complete transcriptome high-throughput sequencing data published in Kim *et al.* (2013) was retrieved from the GEO database [(Barrett *et al.*, 2013); accession no. GSE42491]. Data were then analyzed in the MicroScope platform with the workflow TAMARA (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013). The current pipeline is a "Master" shell script that launches the various parts of the analysis (i.e., a collection of Shell/Perl/R scripts) and checks that all tasks are completed without error. Reads pre-processing and mapping steps are performed in the same way as the PALOMA pipeline (see "SNPs/InDels detection strategy" section for details). After reads were mapped on the newly annotated *P. putida* strain KT2440 genome, we minimized the false positive discovery rate using SAMtools [v.0.1.8; (Li *et al.*, 2009)] to extract reliable alignments from SAM-formatted files. The number of reads matching each genomic object of the reference genome was then calculated with the Bioconductor-GenomicFeatures package (Lawrence *et al.*, 2013). When reads matched several genomic objects, the count number was weighted so as to keep the total number of reads constant. Finally, the Bioconductor-DESeq package (Anders and Huber, 2010) was used with default parameters to normalize raw count data based on negative binomial distribution and to determine whether expression levels differed between conditions.

### Structural re-annotation of the *Pseudomonas putida* genome

The corrected genome sequence was subsequently processed by the MicroScope pipeline for complete structural and functional annotation (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013). Gene prediction was performed using the AMIGene software (Bocs *et al.*, 2003) and the microbial gene finding program Prodigal (Hyatt *et al.*, 2010) known for its capability to locate the translation initiation site with great accuracy. The predicted genes were compared with those listed in the original annotation (AE015451, version: 05-MAR-2010). Manual curation was performed on the two sets of unique genes (see "Results" section) by taking into account transcriptomic information from (Frank *et al.*, 2011) and (Kim *et al.*, 2013) experiments, as well as conservation of sequence similarity and genomic context with homologs in other genomes. Predicted small CDSs having a coding prediction value inferior to 0.3 and which are orphans in terms of sequence similarity and not involved in a synteny group were discarded, unless they showed a signal with one of the transcriptomic experiments. A total of 80 unique GenBank genes, and of 296 unique AMIGene CDSs were considered false positive predictions and discarded from

the final annotations (artifact status). These genes are kept in our database as "obsolete" genomic objects, but they are removed from the *P. putida* KT2440 genome annotation deposited at the International Nucleotide Sequence Data Collaboration (identical accession number: AE015451, version 2). The 309 unique AMIGene predictions considered as newly predicted *P. putida* genes are numbered starting from the last original annotation (PP\_5420) (i.e., PP\_5421, Supporting Information Table S4).

The RNAMmer (Lagesen *et al.*, 2007) and tRNAscan-SE (Lowe and Eddy, 1997) programs were used to predict rRNA and tRNA-encoding genes, respectively, whereas other RNA structures like small RNAs and riboswitches were identified using the RFAM database (Burge *et al.*, 2013) ( $n = 65$ ) and from publications ( $n = 3$ ) (Frank *et al.*, 2011). Finally, intra-chromosomal repeats were detected using the method described by (Achaz *et al.*, 2000).

### Functional automatic annotation

The predicted/annotated genes were subjected to sequence similarity searches using the gapped blastP algorithm against the UniProtKB protein sequence knowledgebase (The UniProt Consortium, 2014) and several protein family resources: COG (Galperin *et al.*, 2015), HAMAP (Pedruzzi *et al.*, 2015) and FIGfam (Meyer *et al.*, 2009). They were also processed using the InterProScan software to predict potential sequence motifs, patterns and protein family assignments compiled in InterPro (Mitchell *et al.*, 2015). In addition, genes encoding enzymes were also classified using the PRIAM profiles (Claudel-Renard *et al.*, 2003). In terms of predicted structural features,  $\alpha$ -helical transmembrane regions were searched with the TMHMM program (Krogh *et al.*, 2001) and signal peptides with SignalP (Petersen *et al.*, 2011). Finally, to predict probable subcellular localization of the annotated protein in the cell, PSORTb predictions were also carried out (Yu *et al.*, 2011).

Using the MicroScope platform, *E. coli* K-12 expert annotation is already an ongoing process since the work described in (Touchon *et al.*, 2009), with a main focus in the curation of GPR associations coming from EcoCyc (Keseler *et al.*, 2013) and literature data. Then, in order to (re)assign functions to each *P. putida* KT2440 annotated genes, bi-directional best-hit (BBH) between *P. putida* KT2440 and *E. coli* K-12 genes were first identified by BLASTP, and annotation transfer from *E. coli* K-12 to *P. putida* KT2440 genes was carried out based on this BBH relationships and the following similarity thresholds: 50% identity on 80% of the length of the longest protein, or 40% identity on 80% of the length of the longest protein in case of shared genomic context or FIGfam protein families assignments (Meyer *et al.*, 2009). *P. putida* KT2440 annotation transfer includes the transfer of these GPR associations from *E. coli* K-12 counterpart, a feature that improves the subsequent genome-scale metabolic network reconstruction (see below). A total of 706 genes were re-annotated using this process. *P. putida* genes escaping the *E. coli* K-12 functional annotation transfer were annotated following the standard MicroScope procedure (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013). Finally, during the curation process of gene function, chosen gene names conform to the nomenclature conventions derived from (Demerec *et al.*, 1966).



### Automatic genome-scale metabolic network reconstruction

The metabolic network of *P. putida* KT2440 was reconstructed from the re-annotated genome sequence stored in PkGDB using the MicroScope automatic reconstruction pipeline, which is based on the BioCyc pathway reconstruction software (Karp *et al.*, 2011). Pathway Tools uses the set of genome annotations as input data to automatically project the set of reference metabolic pathways stored in MetaCyc database (Caspi *et al.*, 2014), generating a specific Pathway Genome Database (PGDB) in a two-step process: first, the Reactome projection step, where associations between genes and metabolic reactions are inferred from gene annotations, and the Pathway projection step where reference pathways are projected based on these gene-reaction associations (see Karp *et al.*, 2011 for further details on the algorithm). The Reactome projection step in MicroScope is enhanced by implementing an export procedure from MicroScope PkGDB to Pathway Tools input format that directly associates the genes to MetaCyc reaction identifiers coming from manual validation by MicroScope curators or from automatic reaction transfer from reference organisms (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013). This allowed minimization of the over-prediction or missing of relevant enzymatic reactions resulting from inaccurate or unclear textual annotations. It should be noticed that, GPR associations rules of the PathoLogic algorithm does not distinguish between AND and OR statements, that is, isozymes and protein complexes are equally considered (using a OR relationship). The reconstructed genome scale metabolic network of *P. putida* KT2440 is included in the MicroCyc repository available at <http://www.genoscope.cns.fr/agc/microcyc>.

### Namespace conversion

To integrate the novel GPRs into the GSMM *JP962*, the GSMM was first converted into the standardized MnXRef namespace (Bernard *et al.*, 2014) at MetaNetX.org (Ganter *et al.*, 2013) to facilitate integration of reaction sets from external sources. Subsequently, the novel reaction sets were also converted into the MnXRef namespace using a custom script that takes into account the metabolites that are already included in the converted GSMM. This was done in order to account for possible differences in level of detail between the different sources. For example, the compound glucose can correspond to D-glucose or L-glucose, which in turn can correspond to  $\alpha$ -D-glucose,  $\beta$ -D-glucose,  $\alpha$ -L-glucose or  $\beta$ -L-glucose. In order to correctly connect new reactions to an existing GSMM, their metabolites thus need to not only be converted into the same namespace, but also at the correct level of detail. Metabolite names that had multiple plausible alternatives in the GSMM were manually checked following the logic of metabolic reactions (Danchin and Sekowska, 2014).

### Model extension

For each predicted or curated reaction from the functional re-annotation process (hereafter: new reactions), the GSMM *JP962* was first scanned to search for model reactions involving the same set of metabolites. Only if no such reaction

existed was the new reaction added to the model. Otherwise, the existing and new reactions were compared in terms of reaction directionalities and associated genes. If the new reaction had been manually curated, the GSMM reaction was updated in terms of both reaction directionality and gene associations. However, if the new reaction had not been manually curated the GSMM reaction directionality was left unchanged. In addition, the gene associations of the GSMM reaction were only updated if it was an orphan reaction.

### Growth phenotype data using BIOLOG experiments

*Pseudomonas putida* KT2440 DSM 6125 was tested for its ability to utilize different carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) sources, using BIOLOG PM01, PM02A, PM03B and PM04A MicroPlates (Bochner *et al.*, 2001). Bacteria were grown overnight on nutrient agar plates (DSMZ medium 1) at 28°C. Biolog experiments were performed according to the modified protocol "PM Procedures for *E. coli* and other GN Bacteria" (Biolog, Inc. 16 Jan 2006; see Supporting Information). Subsequently, for PM1 and PM2A experiments cells were transferred and suspended into 20 ml of Inoculating Fluid IF-0 to achieve 85% T (transmittance) in the BIOLOG Turbidimeter. About 240  $\mu$ l Dye Mix A and 3760  $\mu$ l H<sub>2</sub>O were added to a final volume of 24 ml. Each well of PM01 and PM02A MicroPlates (carbon sources) were inoculated with 100  $\mu$ l of the 85% T cell suspension. PM3B and PM4A experiments require an appropriate carbon source, and a stock solution of 2 M sodium succinate and 200  $\mu$ M ferric citrate was used as an additive as recommended in the PM procedures for gram-negative bacteria. Initial experiments with 85% T resulted in a strong metabolic response for both, the different substrates but also the negative control (PM3B—A1 [nitrogen]; PM4A—A1 [phosphorus], F1 [sulfur]). Accordingly, the amount of cells was successively reduced in a series of test experiments to a turbidity of 98%, which resulted in sufficient signal strength of the tested substrates combined with a comparably low conversion of the dye in the negative control. For the nitrogen plate PM3B, the optimized inoculation fluid contained 10 ml IF-0, 120  $\mu$ l Dye Mix A, 60  $\mu$ l additives and 1820  $\mu$ l H<sub>2</sub>O, whereas the inoculation fluid of the phosphorus and sulfur plate PM4A contained 10 ml IF-0, 120  $\mu$ l Dye Mix A, 120  $\mu$ l additives and 1760  $\mu$ l H<sub>2</sub>O. All PM plates were sealed with parafilm and inoculated in the OmniLog plate reader at 28°C. The conversion of the tetrazolium dye was measured and monitored all 15 min at OD<sub>590</sub> for 4 days (96 h). The read-outs were analyzed with MicroLog software applying the automatic threshold option. BIOLOG measures above/below the threshold were considered as positive/negative phenotypes, respectively. The reading of plates involving sulfur compounds did not provide reliable results, presumably because the BIOLOG set up does not measure growth *per se*, but, rather, reflects an integrated view of the redox network of the cells in a particular environment.

### In silico growth simulations

FBA was performed using the Cobra Toolbox (Schellenberger *et al.*, 2011) with MatLab (MathworksInc., Natick, MA) and the gurobi solver (Gurobi Optimization., Houston, TX). The



simulations were performed based on the GSMM *JP962* of *P. putida* KT2440 (Oberhardt *et al.*, 2011). Each well of the BIOLOG Microplates was simulated by adjusting the *in silico* medium to the available C-, N-, P- and S-sources. Specifically, the *in silico* media contained: bicarbonate, CO<sub>2</sub>, cobalt, dihydrogen, iron, magnesium, nickel, oxygen, potassium, H<sup>+</sup>, sodium, water, succinate (not in C-source tests), ammonia (not in N-source tests), phosphate (not in P-source tests), sulfate (not in S-source tests), and the compound specific to the BIOLOG well (see Supporting Information Tables S12 and S14). We discriminated between growth and non-growth phenotypes based on a threshold value of 10<sup>-6</sup> gdw/gdw/h.

### *In silico* gene essentiality analysis

The Cobra Toolbox (Schellenberger *et al.*, 2011) and the Gurobi solver (Gurobi Optimization., Houston, TX) were used for FBA simulations with MatLab (Mathworks Inc., Natick, MA) based on the GSMM *JP962* of *P. putida* KT2440 (Oberhardt *et al.*, 2011). We expanded the original gene essentiality test-set of *JP815* (Puchalka *et al.*, 2008) by adding new experimental data including auxotrophies (Molina-Henares *et al.*, 2010). Each knockout gene was simulated by blocking its associated reactions using the “deleteModelGenes” function of the COBRA toolbox. The *in silico* media were adjusted to the minimal media described for the experiments in Puchalka *et al.* (2008) and Molina-Henares *et al.* (2010) (see Supporting Information Tables S12 and S14). We discriminated between growth and non-growth phenotypes of the mutants based on a threshold value equal to 50% of the wild-type growth rate in the same conditions.

### Metabolic network curation process

Positive phenotypes in BIOLOG experiments not supported by metabolic model simulations were manually curated using tools and curation interfaces available in MicroScope (Vallenet *et al.*, 2013), in order to find potential catabolic pathways for the corresponding compounds. This includes the analysis of pre-computed results of several computational methods used in the functional annotation process (see above). In addition, genome-context methods available in MicroScope were also used in order to guide functional annotation curation and pathway hole filling: they are based on co-evolution of phylogenetic profiles with functionally related genes (Engelen *et al.*, 2012) and the conservation of genomic and metabolic context through the CANOE strategy used to find candidate genes for orphan enzymatic activities (Smith *et al.*, 2012). The outcome of these methods was further improved by extensive manual literature searches to add additional support to functional assignments. Finally, before the integration into the GSMM *JP962*, GPR associations which include more than one gene, were manually curated to distinguish isozymes (OR relationships) from protein complexes (AND relationships).

Biochemical reactions and Gene-Reaction associations resulting from the curation process were manually validated in MicroScope using the MetaCyc (Caspi *et al.*, 2014) and the Rhea (Morgat *et al.*, 2015) reaction databases. Rhea was mainly used to manage biochemical reactions that are absent from the current MetaCyc repository. This implies the

creation of new reactions directly in the Rhea database, starting with chemical compounds defined in the Chemical Entities of Biological Interest ontology (ChEBI) (Hastings *et al.*, 2013); reactions are stoichiometrically balanced for mass and charge at pH 7.3 (Morgat *et al.*, 2015). Similarly, in case of missing compounds in ChEBI with correct 2D structure at pH 7.3, the corresponding compounds were created *de novo* in ChEBI using the Marvin suite of tools from ChemAxon (<http://www.chemaxon.com>).

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## Supporting information

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article at the publisher's web-site:

**Fig. S1** (A) Genomic organization of the *ddp* operon in *P. putida* KT2440 and *P. aeruginosa* PAO1, responsible for the dipeptide degradation. Only *P. aeruginosa* *mdpA* and *psdR* genes do not have orthologs in *P. putida* KT2440. (B) Protein domain organization of the *mdpA* gene in *P. aeruginosa* PAO1 (PA4498) coding for a metallopeptidase involved in dipeptide degradation. In *P. putida* KT2440, three genes coding for putative peptidases have similar protein domain architecture to that of *mdpA*

**Supplementary Results: curation of *P. putida* KT2440 metabolic pathways**

**Table S1.** SNPs/InDels identified in coding regions from the re-sequenced wild-type *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S2.** Non-coding regions larger than 1kb in the re-sequenced genome of *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S3.** CDS in original annotation removed in the re-annotated genome sequence of *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S4.** Novel CDSs in the re-annotated genome sequence of *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S5.** Pseudogenes in the re-annotated genome sequence of *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S6.** Original genes of unknown function with updated functional annotation in the re-annotated genome sequence of *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S7.** Functional annotation of curated genes with extended substrate specificity in *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S8.** Functional annotation of curated genes involved in control of osmolarity in *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S9.** Functional annotation of curated genes involved in control of proton availability in *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S10.** Functional annotation of curated genes involved in degradation of aromatic compounds in *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S11.** Functional annotation of curated genes involved in carnitine degradation and pyoverdine biosynthesis in *P. putida* KT2440.

**Table S12.** Growth phenotype predictions of the *P. putida* KT2440 metabolic models for BIOLOG experiments and additional literature data.

**Table S13.** Overview of the knowledge gap compounds and the required steps for degradation in the *P. putida* KT2440 metabolic models.

**Table S14.** *In-silico* growth media used for flux balance analysis simulations over *P. putida* KT2440 metabolic models.

**Table S15.** Automatically predicted gene-reaction associations from the re-annotated *P. putida* KT2440 genome sequence.