

## Supporting Online Material for

### **Creation of a Bacterial Cell Controlled by a Chemically Synthesized Genome**

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## Supporting Online Material

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### Design of cassettes for assembly of the synthetic *Mycoplasma mycoides* genome

The synthetic *M. mycoides* genome described in this paper was constructed from 1,078 overlapping synthetic DNA cassettes. A Not I cleavage site (GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG) is included at the beginning and the end of each cassette sequence. Our original intention was to build the complete sequence of naturally occurring *M. mycoides*, with several watermark sequences added at places where insertion of additional sequence would not interfere with viability. During construction of the synthetic genome we learned that certain sequences could be deleted without affecting viability, and some of these deletions were incorporated into the synthetic genome design. The following describes the process of designing the genome, and the cassettes to assemble it, in some detail.

Design of the synthetic *M. mycoides* genome was based on sequences of two laboratory strains of *M. mycoides* determined by our group:

**GenBank accession CP001621** – This is the sequence of the *M. mycoides* strain used as the genome donor in our first paper on genome transplantation (1), with a length of 1,089,202 bp.

**GenBank accession CP001668** – This is the sequence of an *M. mycoides* strain engineered in yeast by deleting the gene for a Type III restriction endonuclease, then transplanted to produce a mycoplasma (2). This sequence has a length of 1,084,586 bp.

Design of our synthetic *M. mycoides* genome was begun using a draft genome sequence from the project that produced the above sequence CP001621, with a length of 1,114,292 bp. This draft sequence is referred to as mmmycDRAFT, and incorrectly contains a large duplication. First the mmmycDRAFT sequence was divided into cassettes 1080 bp in length, with 80-bp overlaps, and a Not I restriction site was added at each end, as follows:

mmmyc0 = bp 1-1080 preceded and followed by GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG

mmmyc1 = bp 1001-2080 preceded and followed by GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG

mmmyc2 = bp 2001-3080 preceded and followed by GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG

.

mmmyc1113 = bp 1113001-1114080 preceded and followed by GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG

mmmyc1114 = bp 1114001-1114292 preceded and followed by GC<sub>n</sub>GCCCCG

Designed cassettes located within parts of the mmmycDRAFT sequence that were considered reliable at that time were ordered for synthesis by Blue Heron. This initial order of 1,072 cassettes included all 1,115 designed cassettes except mmmyc0-mmmyc14 (15 cassettes), mmmyc835-mmmyc852 (18 cassettes), and mmmyc1105-mmmyc1114 (10 cassettes).

Assembly of these 1,072 cassettes would yield two contiguous stretches of DNA, with two gaps corresponding to regions where the sequence was uncertain.

Design of the remaining cassettes was based on sequence CP001668, after it was completely finished, because that genome was known to be stably maintained in yeast and to be transplantable from yeast to produce a viable mycoplasma. First cassettes were designed to fill the two largest gaps. “a” designates cassettes that were not part of the initial order from Blue Heron.

**Cassettes to fill gap 1.** Cassettes mmymc835a-mmymc850a produce a sequence that matches CP001668 and fill the gap left by cassettes mmymc835-mmymc852, which were omitted from the initial Blue Heron order.

**Cassettes to fill gap 2.** Cassettes mmymc2a-mmymc12ax produce a sequence that matches CP001668 and fill the gap left by cassettes mmymc1105-mmymc1114 and mmymc0-mmymc14, which were omitted from the initial Blue Heron order. This sequence is considerably shorter than the corresponding region of the draft sequence, mainly due to problems with assembly of that sequence. The sequence of mmymc12ax is longer than most, hence “x” for eXtended.

**Cassettes to make the synthetic genome match CP001668 near the origin of replication.** There were many differences between the mmymcDRAFT sequence and CP001668 in this region.

mmymc799a (overlaps mmymc798 by 80 bp at one terminus and spans to bp 1,084,586 (the end of CP001668)

mmymc811a (bp 80 to 1074 of CP001668)

mmymc812a (bp 995 to 2074 of CP001668)

### **Cassettes synthesized to match CP001668**

mmymc56a (344,335 to 345,333 of CP001668)

mmymc58a (345,252 to 345,926 of CP001668)

mmymc938.1a (lies between mmymc938 and mmymc939)

**Cassettes “fixed” by oligonucleotide mutagenesis to match CP001668.** “f” cassettes had small numbers of sequence differences that could be conveniently fixed by oligonucleotide mutagenesis to exactly match CP001668. See below for details on how these cassettes were fixed. The following cassettes were fixed: mmymc1011f, mmymc1028f, mmymc247f, mmymc248f, mmymc342f, mmymc399f, mmymc400f, mmymc528f, mmymc529f, mmymc578f, mmymc579f, mmymc632f, mmymc642f, mmymc759f, and mmymc874f. In addition, for constructing genomes with the “94D” deletion, which is missing mmymc936-mmymc939, cassette mmymc940f was produced to contain a 5' overlap with cassette mmymc935. This region was demonstrated to be dispensable by deleting it from the natural genome in yeast, then transplanting to produce a viable mycoplasma.

### **Cassettes containing watermark sequences.**

mmymcWM1: replaces mmymc282-287 (5' 80-bp overlap from mmymc282; 3' 80-bp overlap from mmymc287)

mmymcWM2b: replaces mmymc447 (both 80-bp overlaps are from mmymc447)

mmycWM3: replaces mmyc106 (both 80-bp overlaps are from mmyc106)

mmycWM4: replaces mmyc680 (both 80-bp overlaps are from mmyc680)

**Nucleotide 1 is at the initiation codon of the dnaA gene.** Both *M. mycoides* sequences CP001621 and CP001668 use a numbering system in which nucleotide 1 is at the initiation codon of the dnaA gene, in the vicinity of the DNA replication origin. However, the mmycDRAFT sequence used for the initial cassette design was numbered from a different origin (but, mercifully, in the same direction). Consequently, nucleotide 1 of the synthetic genome sequence is located in cassette mmyc811a.

**Differences between cassette designs and CP001668 that were not fixed.** There are 19 differences between cassette designs and the CP001668 sequence that appeared harmless, which we opted not to fix. These were all differences in lengths of homopolymer or dinucleotide runs and were located between annotated genes. However, some may really lie within genes for which the start sites were incorrectly annotated. Also, some may affect the spacing between the -35 and -10 sequences of promoters, and so could affect gene expression. Table S1 gives details of these 19 differences. They provide more sequence polymorphisms to distinguish the synthetic genome from the natural *M. mycoides* genome that we have cloned in yeast, in addition to the watermark sequences.

### DNA cassette sequence corrections

The synthetic cassettes comprising the synthetic genome were ordered based on an imperfect draft sequence. Because of this, there were small differences between the ordered synthetic cassette sequences and the completed *M. mycoides* subspecies *capri* genome sequence. Forty-three cassettes contained differences. As mentioned above, many of the differences were small insertions or deletions in homopolymer or dinucleotide runs not predicted to be located in genes. These changes were thought to be benign and were not fixed. Sixteen cassettes were fixed. The differences were all single base changes except for a deletion of a 12-bp repeat unit in one cassette.

Two strategies were employed to change the synthetic cassette sequences to match the completed *M. mycoides* subspecies *capri* genome sequence CP001668. All fixes were performed on the 1,080-bp cassette clones. The QuikChange II site directed mutagenesis kit (Stratagene) was used for some of the single base changes. The remainder of the changes was performed by a combination of PCR and in vitro recombination (Fig. S5) (3).

Primers BH pUC bckbn For1 (5'-CGTCAAAGCAACCATACTACGCCCTGTAG-3') and BH pUC bckbn Rev1 (5'-CTGACTCGCTGCGCTCGGTCGGC-3') were used to amplify the plasmid backbone of a cassette clone. This amplicon (BH backbone) is ~2,600 bp and contains the ampicillin resistance marker and an origin of replication. Primers BH insert For1 (5'-GCCGAACGACCGAGCGCAGCGAGTCAG-3') and BH insert Rev1 (5'-CTACAGGGCGCGTACTATGGTTGCTTGACG-3') are the reverse complements of BH pUC bckbn For1 and BH pUC bckbn Rev1 and are used as the forward and reverse primers with the correction primers to amplify the cassette insert and create homology regions with the BH backbone for in vitro recombination.

To change a single nucleotide in a cassette, two oligonucleotides are required. The first contains the corrected nucleotide sequence flanked by approximately 20-25 bases and the second is the reverse complement of the first. Examples of oligonucleotides used to change a nucleotide to a G are as follows, with the nucleotide to be changed in bold : cassette Fix For1 (5'-GAAGTGAAAATTATATCAGGTAG**A**TGAATAGGAAATAGTATGTC-3') and cassette Fix Rev1 (5'-

GACATACTATTCCTATTCA**T**TACCTACCTGATATAATTTCAGTTC-3'). PCR with these primers is used to change the selected base. Primers BH insert For1 and Cassette Fix Rev1 are used to amplify part of a corrected insert and primers BH insert Rev1 and Cassette Fix For1 are for amplifying the remaining insert also with the correction. Because the Cassette Fix For1 and Cassette Fix Rev1 primers are reverse complements of each other, this creates a homology region for in vitro recombination between the amplicons. As mentioned previously, the BH insert primers create homology with the BH backbone piece, allowing a three piece in vitro recombination reaction to create the corrected insert plasmid.

One synthetic cassette contained five repeats of a 12-bp sequence, whereas the completed genome sequence showed six repeats of this sequence. PCR and in vitro recombination were used as above to correct the 12-bp deletion with minor changes. The forward primer used to add the 12-bp repeat unit contained four repeat units on the 5' end followed by 27 bases of non-repeat sequence on the 3' end. This primer was used with primer BH insert Rev1 to create an amplicon with four repeat units at the 5' end. The reverse primer used to add the 12-bp repeat unit contained the reverse complement of four repeat units on the 5' end followed by 27 bases of non-repeat sequence on the 3' end. This primer was used with primer BH insert For1 to create an amplicon with four repeat units at the 3' end. Following in vitro recombination, clones were sequenced to identify the clones that recombined between two repeat units on the 3' end and two units on the 5' end of the amplicons, resulting in a cassette insert sequence with six 12-bp repeat units.

A further change was made in cassette 940 that was not related to differences between the synthetic and native sequences. Cassettes 936-939 were difficult to assemble. Further work demonstrated that cassettes 936-939 were not essential for the viability of *M. mycoides* subspecies *capri* and could be deleted. To delete this region during construction of the synthetic genome, the 5' 80-bp overlap of cassette 940 was changed to match the 80-bp 3' overlap of cassette 935. Upon construction, cassette 935 would then join with cassette 940, deleting cassettes 936-939. To change the overlap region, cassette 940 was amplified with BH insert Rev1 and a forward primer that binds adjacent to the 5' 80-bp overlap region. The 5' overlap from cassette 936 (which is identical to the 3' 80-bp overlap of cassette 935) was obtained by amplifying cassette 936 with BH insert For1 and a reverse primer that binds the 3' 40-bp end of the overlap with a 5' extension that is the complement of the forward primer used to amplify cassette 940. In vitro recombination was then used with the BH backbone piece to generate cassette 940 with a 5' 80-bp overlap to cassette 935.

## Assembly vector preparation

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification was used to produce a unique vector for the cloning of each assembly. The amplified vectors contain terminal overlaps to the ends of the assembly. The strategy for assembly vector preparation has previously been described (4). Each PCR primer includes a 20-bp overlap with one end of the vector, a Not I restriction site, and a 40-bp overlap with one end of the cassette assembly. For the first stage of assembly, a yeast/*Escherichia coli* shuttle vector, termed pCC1BAC-LCYEAST, was produced for template DNA in PCR. This vector was constructed by in vitro assembly (3) of Afe I-digested pCC1BAC (Epicentre) with a PCR product consisting of 40-bp overlaps to the Afe I restriction fragment, a histidine selectable marker, a centromere, and an origin of replication (derived from pRS313 (5)). For the second stage of assembly, pRS314 (5) was used as template DNA in PCR (with the exception of the assembly of 831-840, which used pCC1BAC as template DNA). Unique assembly vectors were generated by PCR using the Phusion Hot Start High-Fidelity DNA polymerase with HF buffer (New England Biolabs; NEB) according to the manufacturer's instructions except reactions were supplemented with 1 mM additional MgCl<sub>2</sub> and products were annealed at 60 °C and extended for 1 min per kilobase. PCR products were extracted from agarose gels after electrophoresis and purified using the QIAquick Gel Extraction kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Although we could have used the same second-stage vectors for cloning natural and synthetic fragments, an additional vector sequence was constructed for cloning natural 100-kb fragments. This vector sequence is named pCC1BAC-URA and was constructed in the same way that pCC1BAC-LCYEAST was constructed except pRS316 was used instead of pRS313. The primers used to produce the PCR-amplified assembly vectors are listed in Tables S5-S7.

### **Preparation of cassette DNA for yeast transformation to produce 10-kb assemblies**

Approximately 500 ng uncut cassette DNA was pooled in sets of 10, digested with Not I, and electrophoresed on a 1% low-melting point agarose gel for 90 min at 96 V. One-kb DNA fragments were cut from the gels and the mass of the gel slice was measured. A 1:10 solution of 10X TAE buffer containing 3M sodium acetate was added to the gel slice, and the agarose gel was melted at 65 °C for 10 min. Following incubation at 42 °C for 15 min, β-agarase (NEB) was added 1:50 and the incubation was continued for 1 h longer. Following a phenol extraction and ethanol precipitation (in the presence of 1 μl glycoblue (Ambion), DNA was resuspended in 40 μl TE (pH 8.0). Ten microliters was used in transformation experiments.

### **Yeast transformation**

In the yeast spheroplast transformation procedure, cells are treated with zymolyase to remove the cell wall and then made competent to take up foreign DNA by treatment with PEG and CaCl<sub>2</sub>. This procedure was carried out using a previously published protocol with the VL6-48N yeast strain (6) with one modification: cells were grown to an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5 (~10<sup>7</sup> cells/ml) prior to the preparation of yeast spheroplasts. We have found this optical density to be optimal for the assembly of multiple overlapping fragments in yeast. The Not I-digested fragments were pooled, mixed with 40 ng unique PCR-amplified assembly vector (except for the final stage of assembly), and then added to ~2 X 10<sup>8</sup> yeast spheroplasts. After transformation, yeast spheroplasts were regenerated and selected on complete supplemental medium without histidine (CSM-His; 10-kb assemblies, 811-900, and complete genome) or without tryptophan (CSM-Trp; 100-kb assemblies with the exception of 811-900) and 1M sorbitol agar plates for 3 days at 30

°C. Primary transformants were then transferred onto selective plates as small patches and incubated overnight at 30 °C.

### **10-kb assembly screening**

DNA was extracted from  $\sim 10^7$  yeast cells (from patches) using a QIAprep Spin Miniprep Kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's instructions but with one modification: buffer P1 was supplemented with 1:1000  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol and 1:100 20mg/ml Zymolyase-100T (USB), and cells were incubated at 37 °C for 30-60 min prior to the addition of buffer P2. Samples (up to 3  $\mu$ l) of the yeast extracted DNA were transformed into 30  $\mu$ l EPI300 (Epicentre) electrocompetent *E. coli* cells in a 1-mm cuvette (BioRad) at 1,200 V, 25  $\mu$ F and 200  $\Omega$  using a Gene Pulser Xcell electroporation system (BioRad). Cells were allowed to recover at 37 °C for 1.5 h in 1 ml SOC medium, then plated onto LB medium containing 12.5  $\mu$ g/ml chloramphenicol. After incubation at 37 °C for 16-24 h, individual colonies were selected and grown in 3 ml LB medium with 12.5  $\mu$ g/ml chloramphenicol overnight at 37 °C. DNA was prepared from these cells by alkaline lysis using the P1, P2 and P3 buffers (Qiagen), followed by isopropanol precipitation. DNA pellets were dissolved in TE buffer (pH 8.0) containing RNase A and RNase T1 (Ambion).

Alternatively, DNA was prepared from the QIAprep Spin Miniprep Kit according to the instructions provided. Following purification, DNA was digested with Not I (and occasionally Sbf I) to release the insert from the vector and sized by gel electrophoresis on 0.8% E-gels (Invitrogen) for 30-60 min. Bands were visualized using a GE Typhoon 9410 Imager.

### **10-kb DNA extraction and preparation for transformation to produce 100-kb assemblies**

Positive clones were propagated in 10 ml LB medium containing 12.5  $\mu$ g/ml chloramphenicol and 1:1000 induction solution (Epicentre) and incubated overnight at 37 °C. DNA was purified from these cultures using the QIAprep Spin Miniprep Kit according to the manufacturer's instructions. Assembly 211-220 was unstable in the Epi300 strain so was transferred to the Stbl4 strain (Invitrogen), where it could be stably maintained. This assembly cannot be induced to higher copy levels in this strain and was not column-purified as above. Instead, this clone was propagated in 50 ml LB medium containing 12.5  $\mu$ g/ml chloramphenicol. After cell lysis with sodium hydroxide and sodium dodecyl sulfate, followed by neutralization with potassium acetate, these DNA molecules were centrifuged and then precipitated with isopropanol. DNA pellets were dissolved in TE buffer (pH 8.0) then RNase treated, phenol-chloroform extracted, and ethanol precipitated. DNA pellets were dissolved in TE buffer. For each 10-kb assembly, Not I-digested DNA was quantified by gel electrophoresis alongside known DNA standards. Approximately 125 ng uncut DNA was pooled in sets of 10, digested with Not I (and usually also with Sbf I to provide better separation between the vector bands and insert) and electrophoresed on a 1% low-melting point agarose gel for 90 min at 96 V. Ten-kb DNA fragments were cut from the gels and extracted following  $\beta$ -agarase treatment as described above. DNA was resuspended in 20  $\mu$ l TE (pH 8.0). Ten microliters was used in transformation experiments with 40 ng vector.

### **100-kb assembly multiplex PCR screening**

DNA was extracted from patches as above. Multiplex PCR was performed using a Qiagen Multiplex PCR Kit. A 1/50 volume (1  $\mu$ l) of the DNA extract and 1  $\mu$ l of a 10X primer stock containing 20 oligos at 2.5-5  $\mu$ M each were included in each 10- $\mu$ l reaction. Cycling parameters

were 94 °C for 15 min, then 35 cycles of 94 °C for 30 s, 57-60 °C for 90 s, and 72 °C for 90s, followed by a single 3-min incubation at 72 °C. Then, 2 µl of each reaction was loaded onto a 2% E-gel (Invitrogen), and 72 V was applied for 30 min. Bands were visualized using a Typhoon 9410 Imager.

#### **Small-scale isolation of 100-kb supercoiled assemblies from yeast and analysis**

Supercoiled, circular assemblies were isolated from a 5 ml saturated yeast culture grown in selective medium. The procedure is based on a previously described method (7) but scaled down and without emphasis on removing yeast chromosomal DNA. Harvested yeast cells were transferred to a microfuge tube with 1 ml water, and resuspended in 1 ml Pretreatment Buffer (1.2M sorbitol, 200mM Tris-Cl, 100mM EDTA, pH 9.1) with 8 µl 14 M β-mercaptoethanol. Following a 10 min incubation at room temperature, cells were harvested, washed twice with 1 ml SCE (1M sorbitol, 60mM EDTA, 100mM sodium citrate, pH 5.75), and resuspended in 1 ml SCE plus 10 µl Zymolyase-100T solution (20 mg/ml Zymolyase-100T [USB], 50% glycerol, 2.5% glucose, 50 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.0). Following a 1 hour incubation at 37 °C, spheroplasts were harvested and then resuspended in 25 µl Tris/sucrose buffer (50mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0, 25% sucrose) and 20 µl proteinase K solution (10mg/ml proteinase K [Sigma], 1 mM calcium chloride, 50 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0). Next, 475 µl Lysis Buffer (20mM EDTA, 50mM Tris-Cl, 1% SDS, pH 12.45) was added and mixed by pipetting up and down. Following a 30 min incubation at 37 °C, 100 µl 2M Tris-Cl pH 7.0 was added and mixed. Next, 100 µl 4M NaCl was added and mixed. Following a 30 min incubation at room temperature, 70 µl 3M sodium acetate was added and mixed. A standard phenol-chloroform extraction, isopropanol precipitation, and 70% ethanol wash was carried out and DNA pellets were resuspended in 100 µl TE pH 8.0 containing RNase A. Following a one hour incubation at 37 °C, 10 µl DNA was loaded onto a 1% agarose gel in 1X TAE buffer and electrophoresis was carried out for 3 hours at 4.5V/cm. After electrophoresis, the gel was stained with SYBR Gold and scanned with a Typhoon 9410 imager.

#### **Large-scale isolation of 100-kb assemblies from yeast and analysis**

A pre-culture (5 to 10 ml) of each VL6-48N strain harboring one of the eleven 100-kb assemblies was grown overnight to saturation in selective medium and then inoculated into 400 ml of selective medium. Once the culture reached an OD<sub>600</sub> of 1.5, cells were harvested (2,205 rcf, 3 min). Pellets were resuspended in 100 ml water and transferred to two 50 ml conical tubes and harvested as above. Cell pellets were resuspended in 40 ml SPE (1 M Sorbitol, 10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>EDTA, 0.01 M Na phosphate, pH 7.5) containing 0.4 ml Zymolyase-20T (10 mg/ml) and 40 µl 14 M β-mercaptoethanol. The cell suspension was incubated at 37 °C for 60 min. Spheroplasts were harvested (1,125 rcf for 5 min) and resuspended in 1 ml 1 M Sorbitol, and then 20 ml of lysis Buffer (0.05 M Tris-HCl, 0.02 M EDTA, 1% SDS, pH 12.8) was added and the tubes were inverted 10 times. Cell lysates were incubated at 37 °C for 30 min and then extracted with 20 ml phenol/chloroform/isoamyl-alcohol (Invitrogen) by 20 gentle inversions and centrifugation at 3,645 rcf for 20 min. The aqueous phase was transferred to a new 50 ml conical tube. DNA precipitation was carried out by adding 2 ml 3M NaAc (pH 5.2) and 20 ml of isopropanol, followed by centrifugation at 3,645 rcf for 30 min at 4 °C. The pellets were resuspended in 1 ml TE (pH 8.0) containing RNase A (30 µg/ml) and incubated at 37 °C for 30 min. At this point, the two DNA samples were combined. The circular DNA was further purified by the Qiagen Large-Construct Kit, according to the manufacturer's instructions with

some minor modifications. Ten ml of EX Buffer was mixed with the DNA solution, followed by the addition of 200  $\mu$ l exonuclease and 300  $\mu$ l 100 mM ATP. After a 45 min incubation at 37 °C, the reaction was stopped by adding 12 ml of QS buffer. This solution was then applied to the Qiagen-tip 500 column. The column was washed with 30 ml of QF buffer, and DNA was eluted with 12 ml QF buffer, pre-warmed at 55 °C. DNA was then precipitated overnight at -20 °C by the addition of 2 volumes of ethanol, in the presence of 1.2 ml 3M NaAc (pH 5.2), 15  $\mu$ l of GlycoBlue, and 15  $\mu$ l of yeast total tRNA (Sigma). Alternatively, DNA was precipitated by the addition of 1 volume isopropanol. The precipitated DNA was recovered by centrifugation at 3,645 rcf for 1 hr at 4 °C. DNA pellets were washed with 70% ethanol and resuspended in 150  $\mu$ l TE (pH 8.0). A sample (0.75  $\mu$ l) of each was digested with Not I and analyzed by FIGE. The FIGE analysis was performed on a 1% agarose gel (BioRad, catalog # 161-3016) in 1X TAE buffer without circulation and the parameters were forward 90 V, initial switch 5.0 sec, final switch 30 sec, with linear ramp, and reverse 60 V, initial switch 5.0 sec, final switch 30 sec, with linear ramp. After electrophoresis, the gel was stained with SYBR Gold and scanned with a Typhoon 9410 imager.

### **Topological trapping and analysis**

Twenty microliters of each uncut 100-kb assembly were pooled and equilibrated to 50 °C. One volume (220  $\mu$ l) of 2% low melting point agarose, also equilibrated to 50 °C, was mixed with the pooled DNA. Approximately 85  $\mu$ l of this mixture was added to agarose plug molds (Bio-Rad), which were kept cold on ice. Following a 30 min incubation on ice, agarose plugs were added to the wells of a 1% agarose gel (1X TAE buffer) and electrophoresis was carried out at 4.5 V/cm for 2 hours. Plugs were removed from the agarose gel and washed by inverting in 5 ml 0.1X Wash Buffer (Bio-Rad CHEF Genomic DNA Plug Kit) for 1 hour at room temperature. This buffer was removed and 5 ml 1X Buffer 3 (NEB) was added. Following a 1 hour incubation/inversion at room temperature, the buffer was removed and fresh 1X Buffer 3 (2.5 ml) with 250 units Not I was added. Not I digestion was carried out by incubating the agarose plugs overnight at 37 °C. Agarose plugs were then inverted in 5 ml 1X TAE/0.3M sodium acetate solution for 1 hour, and then moved to a microfuge tube. A solution of 10X TAE buffer containing 3M sodium acetate was added 1:10 (~40  $\mu$ l) to the gel slice, and the agarose gel was melted at 68 °C for 7 min after an initial incubation at 50 °C for 15 min. Following a 15 min incubation at 42 °C,  $\beta$ -agarase (NEB) was added 1:50 (~8  $\mu$ l) and the incubation was continued for 1 h longer. Following a gentle phenol extraction (by slowly inverting the tube for 10 min), and a standard ethanol precipitation (in the presence of 1  $\mu$ l glycoblue), DNA was resuspended in 20  $\mu$ l TE (pH 8.0). All but 0.5  $\mu$ l was used to transform yeast. This 0.5  $\mu$ l sample was analyzed by FIGE as above.

### **Yeast Agarose Plugs**

Yeast cultures (50 ml) were grown in CSM-His plus adenine medium (Teknova) to an OD<sub>600</sub> of 1.0. Cultures were harvested and then washed with 50 ml water. Next, the cultures were harvested and then washed with 10 ml EDTA pH 8.0. The cultures were harvested and then transferred to microfuge tubes with 750  $\mu$ l cell resuspension buffer (Bio-Rad CHEF Genomic DNA Plug Kit). Cell pellets were then resuspended in 150  $\mu$ l cell resuspension buffer. This mixture was equilibrated to 50 °C and then mixed with 85  $\mu$ l Zymolyase-100T solution (20 mg/ml Zymolyase-100T [USB], 50% glycerol, 2.5% glucose, 50 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.0) and 225

$\mu$ l 2% low melting point agarose. Approximately 85  $\mu$ l of this mixture was added to agarose plug molds (Bio-Rad), which were kept cold on ice. Following a 30 min incubation on ice, plugs were added to 5 ml lyticase buffer (10 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.5, 50 mM EDTA pH 8.0) containing 500  $\mu$ l Zymolyase-100T solution. Following incubation at 37 °C for 2 hours, plugs were washed with 25 ml water. The Bio-Rad CHEF Genomic DNA Plug Kit was used to carry out the Proteinase K incubation and wash steps, which are described in the manual that is provided with the kit.

#### **Restriction analysis of *M. mycoides* genomes propagated in yeast**

Yeast agarose plugs were washed two times for 1hr in 1ml of 0.1X Wash Buffer (Bio-Rad CHEF Genomic DNA Plug Kit) and equilibrated for 1hr in 1ml of 1X Buffer 2 supplemented with BSA (NEB). The yeast chromosomal DNA was digested overnight with 50 units each of the restriction enzymes AsiSI and RsrII. These enzymes do not digest the *M. mycoides* genome. Plugs were then loaded onto a 1% TAE agarose gel to run digested yeast genomic DNA fragments out of the plugs (the circular *M. mycoides* genomes remain in the plug). The agarose gel was electrophoresed for 3 hours at 6V/cm. After electrophoresis, the agarose plugs were removed from the wells and were washed two times for 1hr in 1ml of 0.1X Wash Buffer and equilibrated for 1 hr in 1 ml of 1X Buffer 3 (NEB; for BssH II digests) or 1X Buffer 4 (NEB; for Asc I digests). The *M. mycoides* genomic DNA was digested overnight with 50 units of the restriction enzyme BssH II or 50 units of Asc I. Following incubation, all plugs were washed for 1 hour with 1 ml 0.1X Wash Buffer at room temperature and loaded on an agarose gel and subjected to pulsed-field gel electrophoresis. All restriction enzymes were purchased from NEB.

#### **Pulsed-field gel electrophoresis**

Yeast agarose plugs and *M. mycoides* agarose plugs were subjected to pulsed-field electrophoresis in a 1% agarose gel in 1X TAE with 0.5  $\mu$ g/ml ethidium bromide with circulation at 14 °C, with a contour-clamped homogeneous electric field (CHEF DR III; Bio-Rad). Pulse times were ramped from 60 to 120 s for 20-24 hr at 4.0 V/cm.

#### **Verification of cassettes, assembly intermediates, and *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0**

Just as the construction scheme for the synthetic cell genome followed a tiered hierarchy (1-kb cassettes, 10-kb subassemblies, 100-kb subassemblies, and the completed synthetic genome), so did the quality control efforts to ensure that the DNA being assembled had the sequence that it was designed to have. Because of variable cost constraints, variable time constraints, and the intrinsic differences in sequencing (many small regions of DNA with overlapping sequence from sequencing one large region of largely non-repetitious DNA), different strategies of sequencing were applied to each tier. The easiest, most economical, and fastest methods of sequence validation were substantially different at each of the different tiers of the construction effort. Also, the variable limitations of these methods caused a minority of mutations introduced at the cassette level to persist all the way to the 100-kb tier. Also, every tier of assembly was associated with the creation of some mutations. This demonstrates the need for quality control at all levels of synthetic biology efforts that endeavor to construct large regions of DNA.

**1-kb cassette verification.** Cassettes were purchased from Blue Heron. Blue Heron also provided sequence trace files confirming the sequences of the delivered DNA. These trace files

were processed by us in a semi-automated manner. In-house base-calling software was used to extract sequence from the trace files into FASTA format. The resulting sequence files were aligned to the target reference sequence using ClustalW (8) with default settings. The resulting pair-wise alignments were parsed with PERL scripts written for the purpose and sequence positions which did not match the target reference sequence were identified. Because each 1-kb cassette was covered by two or more Blue Heron-provided trace files, which in turn gave rise to as many pair-wise alignments, it was necessary to reconcile the list of mismatched positions from all pair-wise alignments covering a particular 1-kb cassette with each other. This was done by another custom PERL script, and cassette-positions that differed from the target sequence when all reads were taken into account were then manually analyzed. Of 1031 cassettes, 578 passed wholly automated screening. Of the remaining 453 cassettes, 370 had discrepancies that fit into categories that were judged not to require direct manual analysis of the trace files. There were two such categories: 1) The apparent sequence deviation was in the Not I site flanking the cassette. This was very common due to the poor performance of Sanger sequencing immediately following the sequencing primer, but was not of any concern because the intactness of the Not I site was immediately testable in the normal course of the processing of the cassette which involved cutting the cassette out of the cloning vector with Not I, and gel purifying it and 2) Some of the Blue Heron provided trace files contained unusually broad C peaks as is sometimes associated with the oxidation of the C-big-dye terminator reagent. As a result, some of the trace files gave rise to incorrect base calls of C. Eighty-three of the 453 cassettes that did not pass automated verification had their trace files inspected by eye; 62 were deemed to not require in-house re-sequencing, and 21 were re-sequenced. Three of the 1-kb cassettes were, in the final analysis, determined to have mutations (two single nucleotide deletions and one single nucleotide substitution), but only one of those was found during the screening of Blue Heron-provided trace files. The failure to detect the other two errors at the 1-kb tier was largely due to the poor quality of a minority of reads (those with unusually broad C peaks) and, in one case, the incorrect clone having been delivered. All 1-kb cassettes that passed this screen were used to create 10-kb subassemblies.

**10-kb assembly intermediate verification.** The 10-kb subassemblies were pooled and verified via 454 sequencing using non-paired-end reads. Initially 116 10-kb assemblies were screened. These 116 include some 10-kb subassemblies that were duplicates or near-duplicates. This was the case because alternate clones of certain troublesome 10-kb subassemblies were tested in parallel. Also, alternate versions of certain 10-kb subassemblies that were identical except for certain designed changes such as the presence of the watermarks were tested in parallel. Because of the presence of duplicate or near-duplicate sequences that needed to be read independently, as well as the existence of duplicate regions in contiguous 10-kb subassemblies due to the 80 base pair overlaps, the 116 10-kb subassemblies were pooled into 4 separate pools that prevented any 10-kb subassembly from being in the same pool as either of the two 10-kb subassemblies that shared 80 base pairs with its two ends. All alternate clones and alternate versions of specific 10-kb segments were separated from each other. Also, certain 10-kb subassemblies which had highly similar sequence to one another, such as those that contained IS1296 elements, were separated as much as possible from one another among the four pools. The four pools were bar-coded and then pooled into one pool which was sequenced by 454. The reads from the four bar-coded pools were then separated and analyzed using the CLC Workbench software package's

high-throughput reference assembly tool at default settings. The reads from each pool were assembled against an artificially constructed "reference sequence" which consisted of the 29 10-kb target sequences for that pool separated by runs of 500 N's. After assembly to this reference sequence, mutations were detected with a mixture of manual observation, the CLC SNP detection tool, and the CLC DIP detection tool. Oddly, CLC has no automated way of detecting differences between the reference and consensus sequences. To bypass this defect, the following non-default settings on the SNP and DIP tools were used: Minimum Coverage=1, Maximum Coverage=999999, Minimum Variant Frequency=50% or count=999999. All other settings were at their defaults. Initially 18 of the 116 10-kb subassemblies were found to contain variations from their target sequences. Eventually, three of these were determined to be caused by sequence similarity between the markers in the synthetic genome and the markers in the plasmid backbone of the 10-kb subassembly clones with backbone sequence contaminating the 10-kb sequences. Several of the remainder were found to be associated with the plasmid induction of the 10-kb clones in *E. coli*. This was determined after targeted PCR and sequencing of mutation regions of selected clones isolated directly from yeast, from *E. coli* before induction, and *E. coli* after induction. One class of mutation that was observed 3 times was the introduction of a GC at the sight of an overlap. We postulate that this might be a remnant of the Not I site flanking the cassette overlap sequences. Alternate assemblies of the 10-kb segments that were mutated in the first attempt to make them were then sequenced as before, except this time in only two bar-coded pools. One of the three mutations in the 1-kb cassettes was detected at the 10-kb level. All the other mutations that were not caused by induction *E. coli* originated in construction.

**100-kb assembly intermediate verification.** Rather than sequence each of the 100-kb subassemblies, semi-synthetic genomes were constructed. These semi-synthetic genomes contained between two and ten of the eleven 100-kb subassemblies, and the rest of the genome was derived from natural *M. mycoides* genomes. These semi-synthetic genomes were transplanted, validating that no lethal mutations were in the synthetic fraction of the genome. It rapidly became apparent that only one of the 100-kb subassemblies was not viable: the one corresponding to cassettes 811a-900. Because this 89-kb segment was not available conveniently from yeast in quantities that would make direct genomic walking or 454 sequencing easy or cost effective, overlapping PCR amplicons were generated and sequenced with a sequencing primer every 200 base pairs along each amplicon, alternating between strands. This process was done for both the synthetic 811a-900 and the corresponding region of the natural *M. mycoides* genome that had been shown to be viable in the semi-synthetic experiments. Re-sequencing of the natural fragment was to guard against the possibility that the 811a-900 region had been designed with a deviation that would prevent viability upon transplantation. Whereas the sequencing of the synthetic 811a-900 was to guard against mutations away from the designed sequence, one such mutation away from the design was detected in the 811a-900 sequence. It was a one base pair deletion that was eventually determined to have existed in the 812a 1-kb cassette. This mutation was not captured at the 1-kb level due to the wrong 1-kb clone having been sent by Blue Heron. It was not detected at the 10-kb level because, coincidentally, many of the 454 reads happened to end or start in its immediate vicinity, causing mutation to seem to be poorly supported across the population of read, and thus ignored by the automated SNP and DIP detection tools.

**Sequence analysis of the *M. mycoides* sMmYcp235-1 genome isolated from *M. mycoides* sMmYcp235 cells.** Cells were grown in SP4 medium containing 10 mg/l tetracycline and genomic DNA was extracted using a Promega Genomic DNA Extraction Kit. Genomic sequencing by a small insert shotgun Sanger library generated 14,319 successful reads. PCRs and genomic walks for known repeats and problematic areas generated 551 additional Sanger reads. The combined sequencing data was assembled using Celera Assembler (Meyers, 2000) resulting in 7 contigs in 3 scaffolds, with a contig N50 of 279215 bp. Average coverage was 11.5X. An additional 133 Sanger clone primer walks and genomic walks were generated to close the remaining gaps and cover low coverage regions. A completely finished genome was produced in 19 days. The resulting *M. mycoides* sMmYcp235 assembly contains eight SNP discrepancies and two insertions compared to the designed *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0 genome. Differences are summarized in Table S1.

#### **Additional content regarding the assembly of 10-kb synthetic intermediates**

DNA cassettes were supplied at about equal concentrations and contained in an *E. coli* cloning vector. Equal amounts of these cassettes were pooled in sets of 10, digested with Not I to release the inserts, gel-purified, and then mixed with a unique yeast/*E. coli* shuttle vector. This vector is a bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC; pCC1BAC) with an inserted histidine auxotrophic marker, centromere, and origin of replication for selection and propagation in yeast (15). Yeast propagation elements were already designed into assembly 831-840. For this reason, the cloning vector for this assembly only included the BAC elements (pCC1BAC). Unique first-stage assembly vectors were produced by PCR-amplification with primers that contained 40 bp overlapping sequence to the ends of the cassettes that were to be assembled (4). Also included in these primers were Not I restriction sites, which allowed the assembled cassettes to be released intact from the vector. The vector/cassette mix was then transformed into yeast and incubated on selective plates for several days. Plasmid DNA was extracted from individual yeast clones and transformed into *E. coli*, a more suitable host for propagation of the assembled cassettes. Plasmid DNA was then isolated from individual *E. coli* clones and digested with Not I to screen for cells containing a vector with an assembled 10kb insert. In general, at least one 10 kb assembled fragment could be obtained by screening 10 yeast clones. However, the rate of success varied from 10-100%. One assembly, 791-799, could not be produced by homologous recombination in yeast. This fragment was divided into two parts, 791-795 and 796-799, which were individually assembled by in vitro recombination (3). With the exception of 211-220, all first stage assemblies were propagated in Epi300 *E. coli* cells. This cell line allows for induction of the cloning vector from single-copy to high-copy numbers. Assembly 211-220 was unstable in Epi300 cells and so was transferred to Stbl4 cells, where it could be stably maintained.

All of the first-stage intermediates were sequenced. Nineteen out of 111 assemblies contained errors. Our sequencing analysis revealed that assemblies 81-90 and 811-820 each contained a single error originating from cassettes 82 and 812, respectively. Cassette 82 was corrected at the 1-kb level and reassembled to produce an error-free clone of 81-90. The mutation in cassette 812 occurred in the 811 overlap, which does not contain an error. Therefore, when additional 811-820 clones were sequenced, some of these did not contain errors. One sequence-verified 811-820 clone was used in subsequent assembly reactions. We opted not to correct an error that was present in 121-130 since it was a synonymous mutation in a non-essential gene. This

mutation served as an additional variation to further distinguish the synthetic genome from a natural one. One mutation could be avoided by maintaining the assembled fragments at single-copy number during propagation in *E. coli*. One error was produced by incomplete removal of the Not I restriction site at one of the cassette junctions. Four errors likely originated from the primers used to PCR-amplify the cloning vectors. The remaining errors were produced during propagation in yeast. Alternate clones of 15 assemblies were selected and sequence-verified.

### Supporting Online Material References

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**Watermark-1, 1246 base pairs**

**TTAATCTAGCTAA** GTTCGAATATTCCTATAGCTGACATATTGTAATGCTGATAACTAACTGTCCGCTTGACTGTGATCCTGATAAATAACTTCTTGTAGGGTAGAGTTTA  
TTAAGGCTACTCACTGGTTGCAAACCAATGCCATACATTACTAGCTTGATCCTTGTGCGTATGGGGATATCTTAACTAATAGAGCGGCCTATCGCGTATTCTCGCG  
GACCCCCCTCTCCCACACCAGCGCGTGAAGCATCACCAAGAAAATAGGGGAAAGGGATGAGGAACCGAGTGGGGGCTCATGGCTGATCATATAATGACTGTTTATATACATGC  
CGTCAACTGTTGCTGTGATACTGCTTCGAGGGCGGGAGATTCGTTTGACATACATAATCATGACAAAACAGCGGTGATGACAAAACAGCGGTGATAGATAG  
TAGCGGTGACTGTGAAACTAAAGCTACTATGCCGTCATAAAATATGATAATAGCAACGGCACTGACTGTGAAACTAAAGCCGGCACTCATATAAGTACCGGGAGTCG  
ATTATAGCCGGTAGATATCACTAATAGGCCCAAGGATCATGTAACACAGCACCCCTCGTCCGAGTTTGTGCGACCTATACCGGAAGCTGATCATATAAT  
AGTTTTTGCTGCCGCACTAGAGCGAACACTACGTTGTAATACATCGTCCGAATGTAATAATTAAATTTCGTTAAATTATGATCACTGGCTATAGTC  
TAGTGTAACTACAATAGCTAGCAATAAGTCAATATAACAATAGCTGACCTGCTACATATCCGCTACGGTAGATATCACTATAAGGCCAGGACAAGCTGAACTGA  
CGTCAGCAACTACGTTAGCTGCTGGTTTTGCTGACGCTATACGGAAGCTCATAACTATAAGAGCGCACTAGAGCGGCACACAAGCCGGCAGT  
CGTATTGATAGCCGGCACTGACAAAACAGC **GGCGCGCC** **TTAATCTAGCTAA**

**Watermark-2 1081 base pairs**

**TTAATCTAGCTAA** CAACTGGCAGCATAAAACATATAAGAACACTACCTGCTATAAGTGTACAACACTGTTTCATAGTAAACATACAACGTTGCTGATAGTACTCTAAGTGTAGCTT  
AGTGCCTTACGATATTTGAGCTCTATAAATAGTGTATTTAGCTACGTAACAAATAACTAGTGTACTGCTTACGTTGCTGTTTCACTGATATGCTAGTTTCACTATAGTACGTT  
CTACTACATCAATAGTGCCTGATATGCCGCTGCTAGATAGAACACATAACTACGTTGCTGTTTCACTGATATGCTAGTTTCACTATAGTATAGGCTGCTTAGATTC  
ACTAGCTTACGTTCTAGGGTAGATACGCTGATAAGTTAATGCTGATTTAATGCTGCTAGTGTGATACATAGCCTCCATCCCTAGTGCATATTTCATCTAGTGCCTACGTT  
ATAATTGTAATAGCTGCTGATGATAATTAAATGCTGCTGCTGTTAGGTGATATAATTAGCTGCTGCTAAACATACATCCGAGTGTGCTGTTGCTGATAGTGCCTACGTT  
ATACAACTAGGCTGCTGATATGGTCACTGCCCTACTGCTACATATTACTCGCAGGGGGATGAGCTATAACCTGTTGTAAGTGTATAGCAGTATAACTAGTGA  
TATAGCTGATAGGCTAGAACACGTTGATATGACTACTGCTCCAAACATCAGTGTATAGCTGCTATACTATAATTCTATAATAGTGTATAAAACCTGGGCTAA  
TACGTTCTGATACGTCATAAACCTGGGCTAACGAGGAACCCATAGTTGCAATAAGCTATAGTTGCTCATTTTAA **GGCGCGCC** **TTAATCTAGCTAA**

**Watermark-3 1109 base pairs**

**TTAATCTAGCTAA** TTAAACCATATTAAATATCCTCTGATTTCACTGGCTCGTGTGATAGATTCTACTGTAGTGTAGATGTTCTGACTAGGTGATACTATAGATTT  
ATAGTGTAGCACTCTGGCTCATGGCATACCTGGCATCCAAATAGCTAGTGTAGTTAGTGCATACAAACGTCATGTGATACACGTTGCTGGCTGAGATACACGCTGTTGCGT  
AAGTGTACAAATAGCTATTGCTGTCATAGGCTATAGTGGCTGTAACACTGTTAGTGTGATACATCGTAACAAACCATATAAGTTAGTTAATGCCCTGACTGAAACGCTGTTGCGT  
ATAGTTAGGCTCGTTGATACAAACTGTTGATTTACAAAACAGTGTGATAATTAGCTGCTAGATAAGTCCGCTTAGCAAGTGTAGTGTGCTGCTAGTGCATAGTGC  
TCATGCGCTCGTGTGATGATAACACTAGGCGAGCTTACAACTGATATAATTGCTGATATTGCTGCTGTTGCTAGTGTGATAGTGTGCTGATAGTTAACGCTCT  
GTTTAGATATCACGTGCTGATATAATGAAACTAACTAGTGTGATACGCTGTTAATCTGTAATAGGCTACTGTAAATTCAATAGTGCCTGATATTGAACTAGATTGCAACTG  
CTAATATGCCGTGCTGTTGATTTAGCTGCTTCAACTATAAAATAGTGTGTTAATCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTG  
GCTATATGCCGTGCTGATATGATACATACATAGTGTGATAGTTGCTG  
AACAGGAGA **TTAATCTAGCTAA**

**Watermark-4 1222 base pairs**

**TTAATCTAGCTAA** TTTCAATTGCTGATCACTGTGATAGTGCATTCTATAAGTCGCTCCCACAGGGCTAGTGTGCGCACGTTTCAGTGTATATTCTAGTGCTACATAACAA  
TCATAGTGCCTGATAAACCTGATACAATAGGTGATATCATAGCAACTGACTGACGTTGCTAGTCAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATACTAGCAACGTTGCGT  
GATAATTTCACTACTGGCTGACTGTGATAGTGCATATGATAGTACGCTAATAGCTGATAGTTAGTGTGATAGTTATTTCTATAGCTGTAACATTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGT  
TAATCTCAACTAGATAGCTGCTGATCCCTATGCTAATAGTGTGATAGTAACTAGTGTGATACATCGTCCCTGCTACGGTGTAGCTTCACTGAGTCCCATACATCGTGTGCTTAA  
ACATCGTGTAAACACTATAGAGTTGATAGACTGCTTAACTAGTGTGATAGTACTGCTGCAATAGCTTGCACGTTGACGTTGCGTCAAACACAGTGTATAATTGTTAGTGTGCTAGA  
CTATAGTCTCTGCTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTG  
GCACGTGCGCTGATATGCTGATATTGCTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTG  
TCATAGTGTGCTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTGATAGTGTG  
GATATTAGTGTGCTGCCGTTGATATCCTGCTTAAACTAGCTG  
**GGCGCGCC** **TTAATCTAGCTAA**

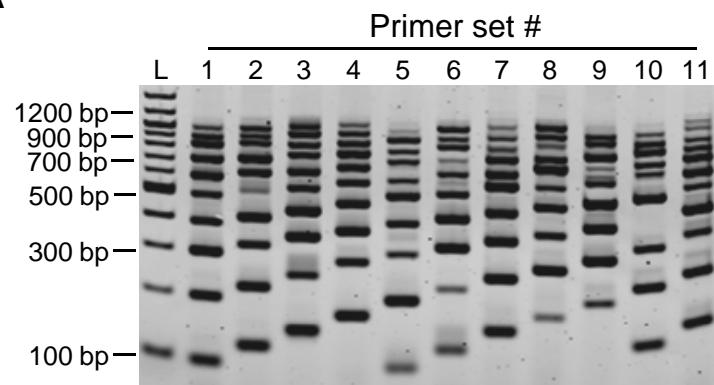
# Figure S1



Figure S2

- Biosynthesis of cofactors, & carriers
- Transport & binding proteins
- Fatty acid & phospholipid metabolism
- Central intermediary metabolism
- Purines, pyrimidines, nucleosides, & nucleotides
- Regulatory functions
- Energy metabolism
- Transcription
- Amino acid biosynthesis
- Mobile element functions
- Hypothetical proteins
- Unknown function
- Cellular processes
- Cell envelope
- DNA metabolism
- Unclassified
- RNA gene
- Protein synthesis
- WM# Watermarks

A



B

Amplicon	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
<b>Set 1 sizes (bp)</b>	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000	
<b>Set 2 sizes (bp)</b>	125	225	325	425	525	625	725	825	925	1025	
<b>Set 3 sizes (bp)</b>	150	250	350	450	550	650	750	850	950	1050	
<b>Set 4 sizes (bp)</b>	175	275	375	475	575	675	775	875	975	1075	
<b>Set 5 sizes (bp)</b>	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000	
<b>Set 6 sizes (bp)</b>	125	225	325	425	525	625	725	825	925	1025	
<b>Set 7 sizes (bp)</b>	150	250	350	450	550	650	750	850	950	1050	
<b>Set 8 sizes (bp)</b>	175	275	375	475	575	675	775	875	975	1075	
<b>Set 9 sizes (bp)</b>		200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000	
<b>Set 10 sizes (bp)</b>	125	225	325	425	525	625	725	825	925	1025	
<b>Set 11 sizes (bp)</b>	150	250	350	450	550	650	750	850	950	1050	1150

Figure S3



Figure S4

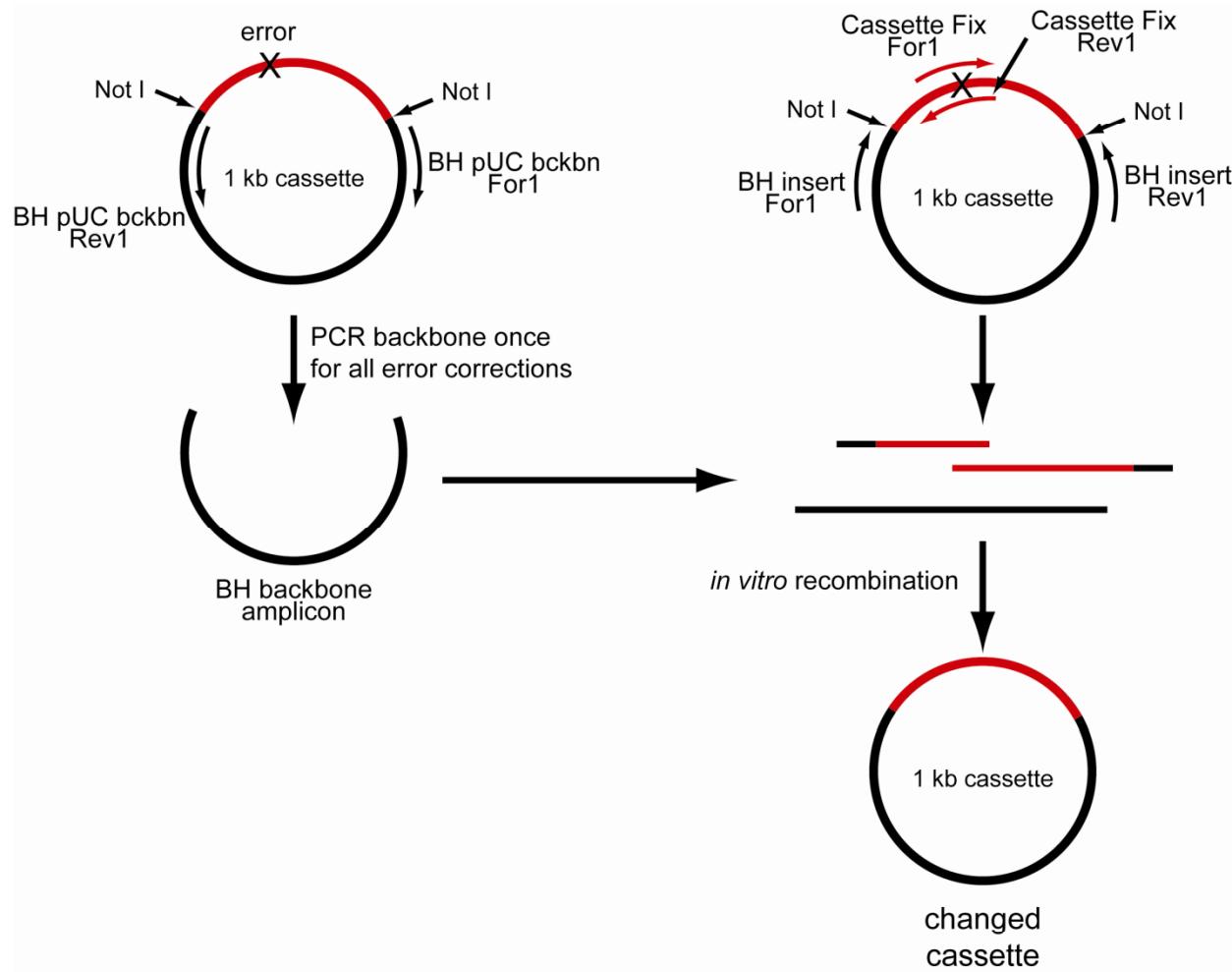


Figure S5

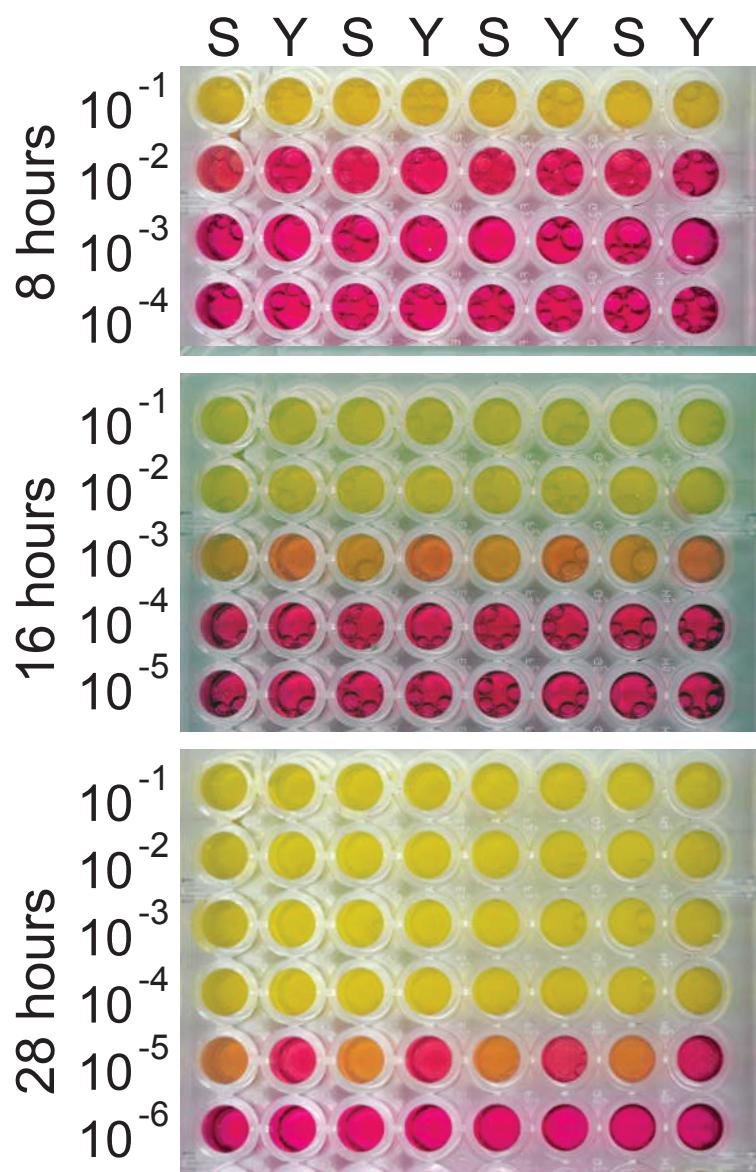


Figure S6

## Supplementary Figure Legends

**Figure S1. Synthetic genome watermarks.** A 6-frame stop sequence is in black on green. Asc I restriction sites are in red on grey.

**Figure S2. Genome map of *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0.** Genes, structural RNAs, watermarks, polymorphisms relative to natural *M. mycoides capri* GM12, and the coordinates of the synthetic DNA cassettes used to construct the genome are shown.

**Figure S3. Multiplex PCR patterns used to identify 100-kb intermediates containing all first-stage assemblies.** **(a)** To demonstrate the expected PCR patterns for each of the 100-kb assemblies, the multiplex PCR primers listed in **Table S3** were used to screen YCpMmmyc1.1, which was extracted from yeast. **(b)** PCR amplicons are spaced 100 bp apart. With the exception of amplicon 10d (shaded in yellow; the region corresponding to 931-940), and assembly 796-799, all first-stage assemblies can be accounted for by this PCR analysis. Downstream analyses were used to further confirm the 701-799 and 901-100 intermediates.

**Figure S4. Proteomic Analysis.** Two-dimensional gels were run using cell lysates from *M. mycoides* YCpMmmyc1.1 (WT) and *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0. Standard conditions were used for the separation of protein spots. The first dimension separated proteins on immobilizing pH gradient strips (pH range 4 to 7 from left to right in the images). In the second dimension, the proteins are separated in 9-17% acrylamide gradient gels that resolve the proteins in an M<sub>r</sub> range from around 130 kDa to 10 kDa (from top to bottom in images). The gels were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue G-250.

**Figure S5. Error correction using PCR and in vitro recombination.** Primers (BH pUC bckbn For1 and Rev1) are used to amplify the plasmid backbone for use in recombination reactions. Complements of backbone primers (BH insert For1 and Rev1) are used in conjunction with error-correcting primers (Cassette Fix For1 and Rev1) to produce amplicons with regions of homology to each other and the BH backbone amplicon. The three PCR products are used in in vitro recombination to generate the corrected cassette.

**Figure S6. Comparison of the growth rates for *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0 and the WT control strain YCpMmmyc1.1.** Growth rates were compared using a color changing unit (CCU) assay to measure the rates at which serial dilutions of each cell type acidified the culture media. This causes the phenol red in the SP4 culture media to change from a red to a yellow culture. This assay is a standard method used by mycoplasmologists to determine culture titers (9). We took aliquots of both the JCVI-syn1.0 (S) and YCpMmmyc1.1 M. mycoides (Y) strains that were just beginning to turn from red to orange. These strains were compared because they are the most similar organisms we have in our library. Both organisms have the YAC vector sequence, although there are several other genes absent in the JCVI-syn1.0 genome that could alter the growth rates. We made serial 10 fold dilutions in a 96-well plate of each culture and incubated the cells at 37 °C. Every hour we photographed the cultures to determine whether the cultures were red (early log phase), orange (late log phase) or yellow (senescent). After 8 hours of growth, all the JCVI-syn1.0 and YCpMmmyc1.1 cultures at each dilution are essentially the same color, indicating the wells at each dilution contain similar numbers of organisms at each dilution. After 28 hours, the JCVI-syn1.0 culture in the 10<sup>-5</sup> dilution is much more acidic and turbid than the YCpMmmyc1.1 wells, which are still red. In the figure, we cropped dilutions that had not begun to change color and one well in the 10<sup>-7</sup> dilution that was apparently contaminated.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
designed difference	coordinate on JCVI-syn1	JCVI-syn1	YCpMmyc1.1	affected cassettes	Search string following difference	Comment
homopolymer run	59700	A15	A16	mmyc872	TAATATAATTCGCATACTATAAAA	intergenic
homopolymer run	118608	A16	A17	mmyc931	GCAAAAAAACTAGTAAATATCGTAT	intergenic
homopolymer run	120703	A18	A17	mmyc933	CAAAATAGCTTAGTACATATCGCAT	intergenic
homopolymer run	122656	A17	A16	mmyc935	GCAACAAGGTGTGATCGCACCACTT	intergenic
deletion "94D"	123020	deletion	4130 bp	mmyc936-939	TATTTGTAACACAGTTTCAAGTT	putative lipoprotein genes
homopolymer run	123429	A18	A21	mmyc940f	GCAAACAAACCTAGTACACATCGTA	intergenic
dinucleotide run	159343	(TA)10	(TA)9	mmyc976	ATGGAATTAACTATATACACTAGGT	intergenic
homopolymer run	174542	T16	T15	mmyc991	AATAAAAAGACTCACATAAGTGAGT	intergenic
watermark	388631-389563	WM3	1000 bp	mmyc106	TGATGCACTGATGTAACAGAGTTAAA	coded watermark sequence
snp	405381	G	A	mmyc122	CCAATGCTAAAAAATCAAATGCTCATT	A->G, Gly synonymous, CDS: putative lipoprotein
homopolymer run	420496	A22	A18	mmyc137	CTAAAAACAAACTCTATTTCTAAA	intergenic
homopolymer run	421365	A19	A20	mmyc138	CTAAAAACAAACTCTATTTCTAAA	intergenic
homopolymer run	426516	T16	T15	mmyc143	GTAAAATAAAAGTAAGATTGGAT	intergenic
watermark	564644-565713	WM1	6000 bp	mmyc282-287	AATTACCAAAAGGTGTAGTTTCAGTTC	coded watermark sequence
homopolymer run	577948	T18	T17	mmyc300	GCTAAAAGCCTATGTAAGGCC	frameshift, CDS: hypothetical protein
watermark	724794-725698	WM2	1000 bp	mmyc447	TATCAAGATACTTAGTAATGCTAGTTCTCC	coded watermark sequence
dinucleotide run	727553	(TC)12	(TC)10	mmyc449	GGCTACTATCAAGTTCTAACGTGATCA	intergenic
homopolymer run	900703	T21	T19	mmyc622/623	ACAAGCAATTAACTAACATTGTA	intergenic
watermark	957779-958824	WM4	1000 bp	mmyc680	CAAATTCATGCTAGACAAAGCATT	coded watermark sequence
homopolymer run	1014079	A16	A17	mmyc736	TAAATCCAGCTTAGTACTCATCAA	intergenic
homopolymer run	1064216	T18	A17	mmyc786	GCAGAGCTGTATTATTCTTTCTT	intergenic
dinucleotide run	1069129	(AT)8	(AT)10	mmyc791	TATAATGTGTCTACAAAAGATAAA	intergenic
dinucleotide run	1069967	(TA)15	(TA)12	mmyc792	ATGGTTATTGACAGGAAAATATAT	intergenic
dinucleotide run	1070891	(TA)13	(TA)14	mmyc793	ATGTGTCTTACCAAATTATAACAA	intergenic
dinucleotide run	1071855	(TA)12	(TA)11	mmyc793/794	ATGATTATTGATATGAAAAATATAT	intergenic
not designed		sMmYcp235-1				
snp	48020	G	C	mmyc861	CAAATAAAGTACCAAGTACATAACCTA	C -> G, Gly -> Ala, CDS: GnsA/GnsB family
snp	189893	C	G	mmyc1006	CAAATAAAGCGTTGCTCATTATCGTT	G -> C, Ala -> Pro, CDS: rpsG
insertion	308736	777 bp insertion	"."	mmyc24	ATGTTGGGTTAAATCATATGATTATATAA	E. coli IS1 transposable element inserted in peptidase, S41 family
insertion	338117	85 bp insertion	"."	mmyc53-54	AAGTATAATCTTGATAATCTTCAAATTTA	GGCCGC (from NotI) plus 79 bp duplication Disrupts CDS: thiamine pyrophosphokinase
snp	347965	A	T	mmyc65	AAAAATGTTGCTAATGAGTAATAAAAAGT	T -> A, Leu -> Phe, CDS: efflux ABC transporter,_permease protein
snp	678748	G	A	mmyc400f/401	GTTGAGTTGATTTTTAGTATTTCAGC	A -> G, Ser -> Gly, CDS: hypothetical protein
snp	735321	A	G	mmyc457	AGATAAAGAACAAATGCCACCAACTAAT	G -> A, Gly -> Glu, CDS: hypothetical protein
snp	858167	A	G	mmyc580	AAAAACAGCAACAAAGTAGTGTGCTGA	G -> A, Gly -> Glu, CDS: tpiA
snp	858175	T	G	mmyc580	CAACAAGTAGTGTGCTGAAGAAGTATG	G -> T, Ala -> Ser, CDS: tpiA
snp	1036988	G	C	mmyc759f	TTATTCAATTCTATTTCTTTAACAGAT	intergenic

Table S1

**Table S2**

Amplicon #	Name	Primer sequence	Amplicon Size (bp)
1	100F	GTAATTGAACCTAATTCTTTCTAAC	337
	101R	GGACTTGGTGGATTAGACATC	
2	200F	TCAGCTTATTAGCTACAAATTCTG	429
	201R	GAAGAAGATACTTCATGAACAAATG	
3	300F	AGAAGATATTGCAGATGCAGAAG	514
	301R	AGTTGCATTGCTTGAAGTAGTTG	
4	400F	AAACTAGACAAAATGAAGATGGAAG	589
	401R	CTTCATCATCTTCATATCAAGGAC	
6	500F	AACCATCTGCACCGAGATAGTTC	726
	501R	AGTGGTATATTAGTTAGCAAAACC	
8	600F	TAGCTGTTGCTTGCTAAGGTC	846
	601R	TGGGTTTGTATTTAGTAGTAGTGC	
9	700F	GAAGTTAGTGACGGATATGCAAG	952
	701R	ATTATATCCAGTTGGAACCTCTG	
5	799aF-2	GTCAGTTCTTTCATACCACTAC	685
	811aR	TTGTTCAATTACTTGCACCGATTAC	
7	900F-2	GAAGTATGATTCAGAACAAAAC	784
	901R-2	AACTAGCTCCGTGTTGCTTG	
10	1000F-2	TGTAGATCTGCCAAGTAAGTCTC	1010
	1001R-2	CCTGTAATTGTTGATTGCTTG	
11	1104F-2	AGGTGTGTTATCTTGTGATTAGC	1149
	2aR-2	ATGGTCAAGTCCCTGTAGCTAC	

**Table S3**

<b>Amplicon name</b>	<b>Primer name</b>	<b>Primer sequence</b>	<b>Amplicon size (bp)</b>
<b>WM1</b>	MLC WM1 for	GCTCATTGCTGATCATATAATGACTGTTTATATAC	100
	MLC WM1 rev	ATGTATGTCAAAAACGAATCTCCCG	
<b>WM2</b>	MLC WM2 for	GATATTTCATCCTTGCAATACAATAACTACATC	300
	MLC WM2 rev	CGAGCCAGGCATTAATTATCTACAG	
<b>WM3</b>	MLC WM3 for	GCTGTAGATACAACGTCGTATTCTGTAAGTG	500
	MLC WM3 rev	GTGCAGCACGGCATATTAGCAG	
<b>WM4</b>	MLC WM4 for	TCTGATACTATAGCAACGTTGCGTGATATT	700
	MLC WM4 rev	AATGTTCAAGGAACTTATTCAACGG	

**Table S4**

Table S5

<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Primer Name</b>	<b>Primer Sequence</b>
2-100	pRS-2aF	GTTTTAATTAACTAATATTTTACAAATAAAAACCTTgcggccgcgaaggcgatataagtggg
	pRS-100R	TAACATTTATCTTTAATTTTCAATTACATTAGCAATTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
101-200WM3	pRS-101F	TCAAACAGCAAAGCAAATGTATGGAGAAATGCTTCCAGAAgcggccgcgaaggcgatataagtggg
	pRS-200R	CTGCTGTTAACCTGGTAGGAATTGATTATAAACCCGcgccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
201-300WM1	pRS-201F	ATTATAATGATTATCCTTGTAGATGTTGGTACATTATAgcggccgcgaaggcgatataagtggg
	pRS-300R	CAAATGAAGATTGAGAAGATTTATTGCTTGTAGATGCTCTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
301-400	pRS-301F	CTTTCTACTAATTCAAAATTGATTATGCTTGCgcggccgcgaaggcgatataagtggg
	pRS-400R	GTTGATTTTTAGTATTTCACTAATCATCTTATCAAgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
401-500WM2	pRS-401F	TCAACTAAAATCTTCAAAAAGATTTGTGTTTGTTGTTCTGATTATTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-500R	AAAATCAGATAGTTTATAGTAAATAAAATTCTTAAGATTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
501-600	pRS-501F	ATTAATTAGAAAATAACCAAAATTGGTTCTGATTATTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-600R	AAAATATCTAAATTACTAAATCTTATCTAATTCTTAgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
601-700WM4	pRS-601F	AAAATTATGTAATTAAATTATCTTATAATATAgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-700R	ATGCTTCTGACTGACATTGTTCACTTAAAGTTGATGAGcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
701-799	pRS-701F	TAGAAAAACTCATAGCTACACCTAAAACAAACGTTCAAGCgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-799aR	TTTAACAAGTGTAACTATAATATTTGGAGACAAATgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
811-900	Mmyc811aF	ATGTGGAAAACGTGGAAAAATCCTATAACATAGATATAgcggccgcgtcccttagatcgaccgt
	Mmyc900R	TATGCCAATTATTAAATTAGTGGACTAGATAAAAGAACAAgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaaatc
901-1000 (94D)	pRS-901F	ATATTATTCTTCTTTCTATGTAATTATACAAAAGcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-1000R	ATTCTTACAAAATTACTTTGAATATGAAAAAGcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
1001-1104	pRS-1001F	ACTTGTAACAAACATTAAAAGATTGTACAAAAATAATTgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc
	pRS-1104R	CAAATCTGTAATTGTATTAAAAACTCTTAAAAACTAGAgcggccgcacatcccccttcgcgcagc

**Table S6**

<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Primer Name</b>	<b>Primer Sequence</b>
2-100	Mmyc2aF	GTTTTAATTAACTAATTTTACAAATAAAAACCTTgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc100R	TAAACATTATCTTTAATTTCATTAACATTAGCAATTgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
101-200WM3	Mmyc101F	TCAAACAGCAAAGCAAATGTATGGAGAAATGCTCCAGAAAgcgccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc200R	CTGCTGTTAACTTGGTATAGAATTGATTATAAACCCgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
201-300WM1	Mmyc201F	ATTTATAATGATTATCCTTAGATGTTTGGTACATTATAgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc300R	CAAATGAAGATTGAGAAGATTTTATTGCTTAGATGCTCTgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
301-400	Mmyc301F	CTTTCTACTAATTTCATCAAATTATGATTATGCTTCCgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc400R	GTTGATTTTTAGTATTTCACTATCATCTTATCAAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
401-500WM2	Mmyc401F	TCAACTAAAATCTTTCAAAAAGATTTGTGTTTTTTgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc500R	AAAATCAGATAGTTTATAGTAAATAAACTTAAGATTTgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
501-600	Mmyc501F	ATAAATTAGAAAATAACCAAAATTGGTTCTGATTATTgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc600R	AAAATATCTCTAATTACTAAATCTTATCTAATTCAATTCTAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
601-700WM4	Mmyc601F	AAAATTTATGTAATTATTAAATTCTTATAATATAATAGcgccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc700R	ATGCTTAGCTGACATTGTTCACTTAAAGTTGATGAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
701-799	Mmyc701F	TAGAAAAACTCATAGCTACACCTAAACACAAACGTTCAGCgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc799aR	TTTAACAAGTGTAACTATAATATTGGAGACAAATgcggccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
811-900	Mmyc811aF	ATGTGGAAAACGTGGAAAAATCCTTATAACATAGATATAcgccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc900R	TATGCCATTATTAAATTAGTGGACTAGATAAGAACAAAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
901-1000 (94D)	Mmyc901F	ATATTATCTCCTTTCTATGTAATTACAAAAGcgccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc1000R	ATTTCTTACAAAATATTACTTTTGAAATATGAAAAAAAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa
1001-1104	Mmyc1001F	ACTTGTAAACAAACATTAAGATTTGTACAAAATAATTgcggccgcgatcctctagagtgcac
	Mmyc1104R	CAAATCTGTAATTGTATTAAAAACTCTTAAAAACTAGAgcgccgcgggtaccgagctcgaa

**Table S7**

## Supplementary Table Legends

### Table S1. Differences between *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0 and the natural genome YCpMmmyc1.1.

The differences are divided into two groups: 1) “designed differences” - 25 differences between the synthetic genome design and the natural YCpMmmyc1.1 genome, and 2) “not designed” - 10 observed differences between the sequenced genome arising from the transplanted clone sMmYCP235-1 and YCpMmmyc1.1. The differences are classified by type (column 1). The coordinate of each difference on the designed *M. mycoides* JCVI-syn1.0 sequence is indicated (column 2). The actual sequence differences on the synthetic and the natural genomes are listed for snps, and for homopolymer and dinucleotide runs; for watermarks the name of the watermark is given and the length of the substituted *M. mycoides* sequence is indicated; the size is of deletions and insertions given (columns 3 and 4). The cassettes affected by the difference and a search string to locate each difference is also shown (columns 5 and 6). The comment in column 7 indicate the gene(s) affected by the difference.

### Table S2. Multiplex PCR primers used to identify 100-kb intermediates containing all first-stage assemblies.

**Table S3. Multiplex PCR primers used to identify complete assembled genomes.** We refer to this primer set as TSS2. Each primer set crosses one of the eleven 100-kb junctions.

**Table S4. Multiplex PCR primers used to identify genome assemblies containing watermark sequences.** We refer to this primer set as WM1-4. Each primer set produces an amplicon in one of the four watermark sequences.

**Table S5. Primers used to produce unique first-stage assembly vectors.** Overlaps to the ends of the cassette sequences are shown in upper case.

**Table S6. Primers used to produce unique synthetic second-stage assembly vectors.** Overlaps to the ends of the 10-kb assembly sequences are shown in upper case.

**Table S7. Primers used to produce unique vectors for cloning 100-kb natural *M. mycoides* fragments.** Overlaps to the ends of the 100-kb natural sequences are shown in upper case.