

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL: Changes in growth, lanthanide binding, and gene expression in *Pseudomonas alloputida* KT2440 in response to light and heavy lanthanides

Linda Gorniak¹, Sarah Luise Bucka¹, Bayan Nasr², Jialan Cao², Steffen Hellmann³, Thorsten Schäfer³, Martin Westermann⁴, Julia Bechwar¹, Carl-Eric Wegner^{1,5, #}

¹Institute of Biodiversity, Aquatic Geomicrobiology, Friedrich Schiller University, Dornburger Str. 159, 07743 Jena, Germany

²Department of Physical Chemistry and Microreaction Technology, Institute for Chemistry and Biotechnology, Technische Universität Ilmenau, Weimarerstr. 32, 98693, Ilmenau, Germany

³Institute of Geosciences, Applied Geology, Friedrich Schiller University, Burgweg 11, 07749 Jena, Germany

⁴Electron Microscopy Center, Jena University Hospital, Ziegelmühlenweg 1, 07743 Jena, Germany

⁵current address: Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Bioinorganic Chemistry, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Universitätsstr. 1, 40225 Düsseldorf

#corresponding author: Carl-Eric Wegner | carl-eric.wegner@hhu.de

Running title: Lanthanide-induced growth and gene expression changes in *P. alloputida* KT2440

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Supplementary Information. Complementary information about used materials and applied methods.

We also provide details about sequence data processing and differential gene expression analysis through an Open Science Framework (<https://osf.io/>) repository (<https://osf.io/ynsdc/>).

Cultivation

P. allopuntida KT2440 was grown using MP (*Methylobacterium* PIPES) medium (1) with different La concentrations (10 nM, 50 nM, 100 nM, 250 nM, 500 nM, 1 μ M, 2.5 μ M, 5 μ M, 10 μ M) and 2-phenylethanol (5 mM) as the carbon source to determine the preferred La concentration range for growth. MP medium contained: 30 mM PIPES, 1.45 mM $K_2HPO_4 \times 3 H_2O$, 1.88 mM $NaH_2PO_4 \times H_2O$, 0.5 mM $MgCl_2 \times 6 H_2O$, 8 mM $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, 20 μ M $CaCl_2 \times 2 H_2O$, 45.6 μ M sodium citrate, 1.2 μ M $ZnSO_4 \times 7 H_2O$, 1 μ M $MnCl_2 \times 4 H_2O$, 18 μ M $FeSO_4 \times 7 H_2O$, 2 μ M $(NH_4)_6Mo_7O_{24} \times 4 H_2O$, 1 μ M $CuSO_4 \times 5 H_2O$, 2 μ M $CoCl_2 \times 6 H_2O$, 0.33 $Na_2WO_4 \times 2 H_2O$. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 6.75. We subsequently tested growth with 50 nM of different Ln elements (La, Ce, Nd, Dy, Er, Ho, Yb, Mix [equimolar mix of Ce, Nd, Dy, Ho, Er, Yb; 50 nM total Ln], controls without added Ln). All incubations were monitored by spectrophotometry ($\lambda = 600$ nm). Monitoring of 96-well plates was done with a Synergy H4 Hybrid reader (Agilent Technologies, Waldbronn, Germany) (30°C, medium shaking) for 24 hours. For downstream RNAseq analysis, elemental analysis, and electron microscopy, incubations with selected Ln elements (50 nM

total Ln) were repeated in a volume of 50 mL in acid-washed Erlenmeyer flasks (150 mL) with cellulose stoppers. Biomass samples were collected during exponential growth, at optical densities between 0.17 and 0.33 (OD_{600nm}). Biomass samples were harvested by centrifugation (10 min, $10.000 \times g$, room temperature) and stored at $-80^{\circ}C$ until further processing.

Microfluidic cultivation

A highly-resolved, one-dimensional, dose-response screening was achieved by controlling the dosing of effectors, culture medium, and cell suspension into a carrier liquid stream (perfluoromethyldecalin, PP9). PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene) tubing with an inner diameter of 0.5 mm and an outer diameter of 1.6 mm was used to connect the droplet generator to the computer-controlled syringe pump. We used syringes (ILS GmbH, Fürstfeldbruck, Germany) with volumes of 500 μL for the effector solution (La, Er, Yb; 300 nM), 1000 μL for the cell suspension and culture medium (MP medium), and 10 mL for the PP9 carrier fluid. The generated droplets were transported through an optical detector unit at a constant flow rate of 200 $\mu L/min$, which facilitated measuring autofluorescence intensity data. Data acquisition was performed directly through the transparent PTFE tubing. Fluorescence measurements were performed using a laser diode with a peak wavelength of 405 nm (Changchun New Industries Optoelectronics, Changchun, PR China) and a long-pass filter (425 nm) (Laser Components, Olching, Germany) on the detection side. Emitted photons were collected using a photomultiplier module (Hamamatsu Photonics, Herrsching am Ammersee, Germany). Absorbance measurements were performed with four LEDs with peak wavelengths of 470, 505, 605, and 705 nm

(Agilent Technologies). A tube coil length of four meters with approximately 350 droplets was generated for the one-dimensional screening experiments. A tube coil length of six meters with approximately 600 droplets was generated for the two-dimensional screening experiments. The flow rates of the various fluids in the syringe pump were controlled using LAbVIEW (National Instruments, USA). To manipulate the composition of droplets, the flow rates of the syringe pumps were adjusted according to the desired droplet fraction. In the case of investigating dose-response relationships for single substances, a stepwise increase in effector concentration with a syringe pump control program was employed to continuously change the desired effector concentration against a diluting medium. For two effectors (binary mixture), a stepwise increase in concentrations with a resolution of 10% was implemented. Consequently, for two effectors, 11 different concentration steps (0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100%) were combined, resulting in 121 different combinations. The flow rates of the carrier liquid and cell suspension were set at 136 $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$ and 32 $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$, respectively. The flow rates of the effector solutions and cultivation medium varied within a total flow rate of 32 $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$. Therefore, the overall flow rate of the segment generation process remained constant at 200 $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$. An initial cell density of 2500 cells per 500 nL segment (10^7 cells \times mL^{-1}) was used. The generation of the highly resolved one- and two-dimensional screening sequences took approximately four and nine minutes, respectively. After droplet formation, droplets were passed through the transparent FEP tubes with an outer diameter (OD) of 1.6mm and an inner diameter (ID) of 0.5 mm for photofluorimetric analysis ($t = 0$) and subsequently collected in connected PTFE tube coils (ID 0.5mm and OD 1.0 mm) for incubation. These tube coils were incubated for 3 days at room

temperature ($21^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$). The different droplet sequences were assessed after 2 and 3 days by passing through the photo-fluorimetric detection unit to monitor cell density and autofluorescence intensity. Details of the setup and data processing were described in our previous work (2, 3). The setup is illustrated in **Figure S1**. To analyze the precision achievable in a two-dimensional concentration space, we previously (4) validated the setup using effector model dyes. A flow program with stepwise increases in dye concentration was applied. To achieve a concentration resolution of 10%, eleven different concentration steps (0, 10, ... 100% of maximum effector concentration) were programmed, resulting in $11^2=121$ combinations. Two anionic indicator dyes, cochineal red A (1 mM) and Orange G (1 mM), were used as aqueous solutions. The total flow rate of the aqueous phase (sum of the two effector solutions and the dilution medium) was set to $64 \mu\text{L}/\text{min}$, and the flow rate of the carrier liquid was set to $136 \mu\text{L}/\text{min}$. After droplet formation, they were transported at a constant flow rate of $200 \mu\text{L}/\text{min}$ through a microflow photometer equipped with two light-emitting diodes (LEDs) with peak wavelengths of 470 and 505 nm for monitoring the absorbance of the indicator dyes. The measurement beam had a diameter of approximately 0.5 mm, matching the internal diameter of the microtube. Integrating the optical signal over the entire residence time of the droplet ensured the registration of a representative optical signal for each cultivation volume. By applying the program shown in **Figure S2A**, we generated a sequence of about 800 droplets. The achieved normalized absorbance of both dyes is shown in **Figure S2B**. Each dot in **Figure S2B** represents the optical signal of one droplet. **Figure S2C** demonstrates that the effectively obtained two-dimensional dye distribution deviated marginally ($\pm 2.5\%$) from the expected values.

Single-cell (sc) ICP-MS (inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry) analysis

Fixed cell suspensions ($6.87 \times 10^7 - 5.15 \times 10^8$ cells \times mL⁻¹) were diluted with ultrapure water to a final concentration of 10^4 cells \times mL⁻¹. Samples were introduced using a Syringe Pump E-1000 (New Era Pump Systems Inc, Farmingdale, NY, USA) equipped with a 1 mL syringe (Hamilton, Bonaduz, Switzerland) with a constant flow rate of $10 \mu\text{L} \times \text{min}^{-1}$. All parameters are listed in **Table S14** and the ionic limits of detection (LOD) and quantification (LOQ) using 3, respectively, $10 \times \text{SD} + \text{mean}$ (blank) criteria in **Table S15**. A total acquisition time of 2 min and a dwell time of 5 ms in time-resolved analysis mode were used. All chosen isotopes (³¹P⁺, ¹³⁹La⁺, ¹⁴⁰Ce⁺, ¹⁴⁴Nd⁺ and ¹⁶⁶Er⁺) were measured in separate runs using oxygen gas in the reaction cell with a mass shift to ³¹P¹⁶O⁺, ¹³⁹La¹⁶O⁺, ¹⁴⁰Ce¹⁶O⁺, ¹⁴⁴Nd¹⁶O⁺ and ¹⁶⁶Er¹⁶O⁺ in triple quadrupole mode to prevent ICP-MS based interferences. P was used for tracking bacterial cells, as it is highly abundant in cell constituents such as phospholipids. Au nanoparticles (NPs, as ¹⁹⁷Au⁺ in No gas mode) with a nominal diameter of 30 nm (LGCQC5050, LGC, London, UK) at a final concentration of 2×10^4 NPs \times mL⁻¹ were used to determine the transport efficiency from the syringe to the plasma via particle number method described previously (5). The ionic calibrations were prepared for the quantification in 1 mM EDTA (pH 8) to stabilize the ions in a range from 0 to $10 \mu\text{g} \times \text{L}^{-1}$.

Sequence data pre-processing

Trimmed reads were filtered with SortMeRNA (v2.1) (6) and the SILVA (7) and Rfam (8) databases by removing rRNA-derived and non-coding RNA sequences. Read

mapping onto the reference genome of *P. alloputida* KT2440 was done with *bbmap* (v.38.26) (settings: slow, k = 11). The number of mapped reads per feature (e.g. coding genes) was determined from *.bam* files, that have been sorted and indexed with *samtools* (v1.3.1) (9), using *featureCounts*, which is part of the *Subread* package (v1.6.3) (10).

Differential gene expression analysis

Pseudo-counts ($\log_2(\text{counts}+1)$) (**Figure S7**) were generated for exploring read count data using MA (mean of the normalized counts versus the $\log_2\text{FC}$ [fold change] for all genes tested) plots. Multidimensional scaling plots were generated with *limma* (v3.50.0) (11). Scaled read count data was used to examine inter-dataset relationships. Scatterplot matrices were plotted with the *plotSM* function of *bigPint* (v. 1.10.0) (12, 13) to check correlations between intra- and inter-sample replicates. Read counts were filtered to remove genes, which recruited insufficient numbers of reads. Filtering was done with the *filterByExpr* function that is part of *edgeR* (v3.36.0) (14, 15). Samples were normalized based on calculated normalization factors and assessed dispersion. We estimated the uncertainty of transcript abundances based on replicates by calculating the biological coefficient of variation (BCV) (**Figure S8**). We determined p-values deduced from the exact test established by Robinson and Smyth (16) for all carried-out comparisons (**Figure S9**).

Cluster analysis

Based on the observed differences in gene expression, we were interested to which extent genes were co-expressed/-regulated. We used K-means clustering (17) for

grouping genes in clusters based on similar gene expression patterns across the different incubation conditions. K-means clustering represents a form of partitional clustering, meaning that genes are grouped into K partitions. This requires *a priori* knowledge about the number of clusters. Higher numbers of K lead to smaller cluster sizes, making data exploration more granular, while smaller K values tend to oversimplify the data. We used different algorithms to define a suitable value for K. Used algorithms included the sum of squared error, average silhouette width, the Calinski-Harabasz index, the gap statistic, and hierarchical clustering (18–22) (**Figure S4**).

Quantitative reverse-transcription PCR (RT-qPCR)

Extracted total RNA from an independent incubation was reverse-transcribed using the GoScript™ Reverse Transcription System (Promega, Mannheim, Germany), following the manufacturer's protocol, and using random hexamers as primers. PCR primers for *pedE* (*pedE_F* 5'-TTG TGT TCC CAC ACC AGC TT-3', *pedE_R* 5'-TGT TCT ACA TCC CCG GCA AC-3') and *pedH* (*pedH_F* 5'-ATG CCG ATG GCC TAC AAC AA-3', *pedH_R* 5'-ATT GAG CGG CTT GAT GGT GA-3') were designed using *NCBI Primer-Blast* (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/primer-blast/>) starting from the respective gene sequences (*pedE*, locus tag: PP_RS13925; *pedH*, locus tag: PP_RS13950; NCBI RefSeq *P. alloputida* KT2440 genome accession: NC_002947.4). For quantifying 16S rRNA gene transcripts, we used a previously published (23, 24) primer pair (*Bac8Fmod* 5'-AGA GTT TGA TYM TGG TCTC AG-3'; *Bac338Rabc* 5'-GCW GCC WCC CGT AGG WGT-3'). Transcripts were quantified in triplicates with Brilliant II SYBR® Green qPCR Master Mix (Agilent, Waldbronn,

Germany) using a Bio-Rad CFX Real-Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad, Feldkirchen, Germany). The cycling conditions were 95°C for 10 min, followed by 40 cycles of 30s at 95°C, 30 s at 59.3°C (*pedE*) or 56.4°C (*pedH*), and 60 s at 72°C. For the assay targeting the 16S rRNA gene, the cycling conditions have been: 95°C 10 min, followed by 40 cycles of 30 s at 95°C, 1 min at 55°C, 25s at 72°C, and 10s at 78°C. Fluorescence signals were recorded after the annealing and extension steps. Standard curves were constructed using plasmids with cloned *pedE* and *pedH* fragments from *P. alloputida* KT2440, or cloned 16S rRNA gene fragments from freshwater environments. All standard curves were linear from 5×10^8 to 50 copies for all three target genes, with R^2 above 0.99 and PCR efficiencies between 90 and 100%. PCR specificity was assessed by melt curve analysis. Observed threshold cycles of no-enzyme controls of the reverse-transcription reaction showed that the background caused by undigested DNA was negligible. Changes in gene expression were determined by applying the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method (25).

Figure S1. Experimental droplet-based microfluidic setup for 1D and 2D-screening of cultivation parameters. On the left side of the illustration, there is a 6-channel syringe pump and a droplet generator responsible for generating the droplets. The droplets, consisting of aqueous cell media, are separated from each other by an immiscible continuous phase. The size/volume, spacing, and composition of the droplets can be adjusted by controlling the flow rate program of the syringe pump. A combined photo-fluorimetric micro flow-through detector unit is used to measure the generated droplets. Subsequently, the droplet sequences are collected and incubated in PTFE tube coils.

Figure S2. Analysis of the droplet composition accuracy for two-dimensional screenings (in 11 concentration steps resulting in 121 concentration points) with stepwise varied compositions of two effector model dyes (cochineal red A [Col. red A] and Orange G). A syringe pump program for the generation of two-dimensional concentration spaces in 11 concentration steps resulting in 121 concentration combinations was applied. Droplet absorbances were measured for the two dyes (B). Droplet concentration composition accuracy based on measured dye concentration combinations are shown as normalized absorbance/absorbance plot (C). The shown data were previously reported (4) and the shown figure is based on Figure 9 in the referenced publication (4).

Figure S3. Transmission electron microscopy and energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) of *P. alloputida* KT2440. *P. alloputida* KT2440 was grown in MP medium (1) with 5 mM 2-phenylethanol as the carbon source and supplemented with

either La, Nd, or without Ln. We did two rounds of incubations, one with 50 nM and one with 1 μ M of the respective Ln. Cells were inspected for intracellular biominerals as indicator for local Ln accumulation (A, scale bar = 500 nm). Control cultures without added Ln were monitored and analyzed for both rounds of incubations. We only subjected samples from 1 μ M incubations to EDX-based elemental analyses (B). We did not consider single cells, but defined a bigger measuring field, which enabled the analyses of whole groups of cells. The upper part of (B) shows inverted micrographs, green circles indicate the defined measuring field. The lower half shows deconvoluted EDX spectra. Ln could not be detected. (k)eV = (kilo) electron volt, cps = counts per second.

Figure S4. Growth curves of *P. alloputida* KT2440 incubations for downstream RNAseq-based gene expression analysis. Samples for qPCR analysis were collected at time points t_0 - t_3 . Biomass for RNA extraction was collected at t_1 (La, Nd, Ln mix) and t_2 (Er, none [= no Ln controls]). Line and dot shapes refer to the different elements. Incubations were done in triplicates ($n = 3$ biological replicates). Plotted are average OD_{600nm} values and respective standard deviations.

Figure S5. Algorithms used to define a suitable K for clustering differentially expressed genes by *K-means* clustering. Tested algorithms included hierarchical clustering based on *Spearman* distances (A), the Calinski-Harabasz index (B) (21), sum of squared errors (C), average silhouette width (ASW) (D) (20), and the gap statistic (E) (22). K=6 is marked in all subpanels. WSS = weighted sum of squares.

Figure S6. Relative expression of the target genes *pedE* and *pedH* in response to light (La) and heavy Ln (Er), determined by reverse transcription qPCR. The upper panel shows the $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ values of *pedE* and *pedH*, which were calculated by using the 16S rRNA gene for normalization and samples without Ln supplementation as controls.

Figure S7. Comparison of the different RNAseq data sets based on pseudocount distributions. Pseudocounts were determined gene-wise by calculating $\text{Log}_2([\text{count of mapped reads}]+1)$.

Figure S8. Determined biological coefficients of variation (BCV). The BCV gives an estimate for the coefficient of variation with which the true abundance of transcripts varies within replicate groups of RNAseq data sets. $\text{Log}_2\text{CPM} = \log_2$ counts per million.

Figure S9. P-value distributions obtained from testing for differential gene expression between replicate groups of RNAseq data sets. The corresponding p-values have been deduced from the exact test proposed by Robinson and Smyth (16), which is implemented in *edgeR* (14).

Table S1. Growth characteristics determined by means of *growthcurver*. K = carrying capacity, n0 = initial population size at the beginning of the growth curve, r = intrinsic growth rate (h⁻¹), t_gen = generation time (h), t_gen_min = generation time (min),

auc_l = area under the logistic curve, auc_e = empirical area under the curve, sigma = goodness of fit.

Table S2. Autofluorescence data from the microfluidic two-dimensional screening La vs. Er. 3-6 microfluidic segments have been incubated per combination of La and Er. Autofluorescence values represent averages for all segments of a given combination. SD = standard deviation, % SD = standard deviation as a percentage of the average values.

Table S3: Overview of gene expression data of *Pseudomonas alloputida* KT2440 grown with phenylethanol (5 mM) as carbon source, and supplemented with either 50 nM of La, Nd, Er, a Ln mix (Ce, Nd, Dy, Ho, Er, Yb; equimolar pooled). Gene expression is given in log₂ counts per million (CPM). Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. La.1-3 = KT2440 grown with 50 nM La, Nd.1-3 = KT2440 grown with 50 nM Nd, Er.1-3 = KT2440 grown with 50 nM Er, Mix.1-3 = KT2440 grown with an equimolarly pooled cocktail of heavy and light lanthanides (50 nM).

Table S4: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM La or without added Ln. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. logFC = log₂ Foldchange, logCPM = log₂ Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S5: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Nd or 50 nM La. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S6: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Er or 50 nM La. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S7: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Ln mix or 50 nM La. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S8: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Nd or without added Ln. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S9: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Er or 50 nM Nd. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S10: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Ln mix or 50 nM Nd. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S11: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Er or without added Ln. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S12: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Ln mix or 50 nM Er. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S13: Overview of differentially expressed genes in *P. alloputida* KT2440 when grown with either 50 nM Ln mix or without added Ln. Given annotation data were retrieved from NCBI RefSeq and KEGG GENES. \log_2 FC = \log_2 Foldchange, \log_2 CPM = \log_2 Counts per million, FDR = false discovery rate.

Table S14: ICP-MS/MS 8900 operating conditions for single-cell mode.

Table S15: Estimation of ionic limit of detection (LOD) and quantification (LOQ) for scICP-MS. For the estimation, > ten blank signals and the slope of the calibration curve were used to calculate the LODs/LOQs ($LOD = 3 \times \text{standard deviation} + \text{mean}$; $LOQ = 10 \times \text{standard deviation} + \text{mean}$).

Note: All supplementary tables are provided in one combined spreadsheet.

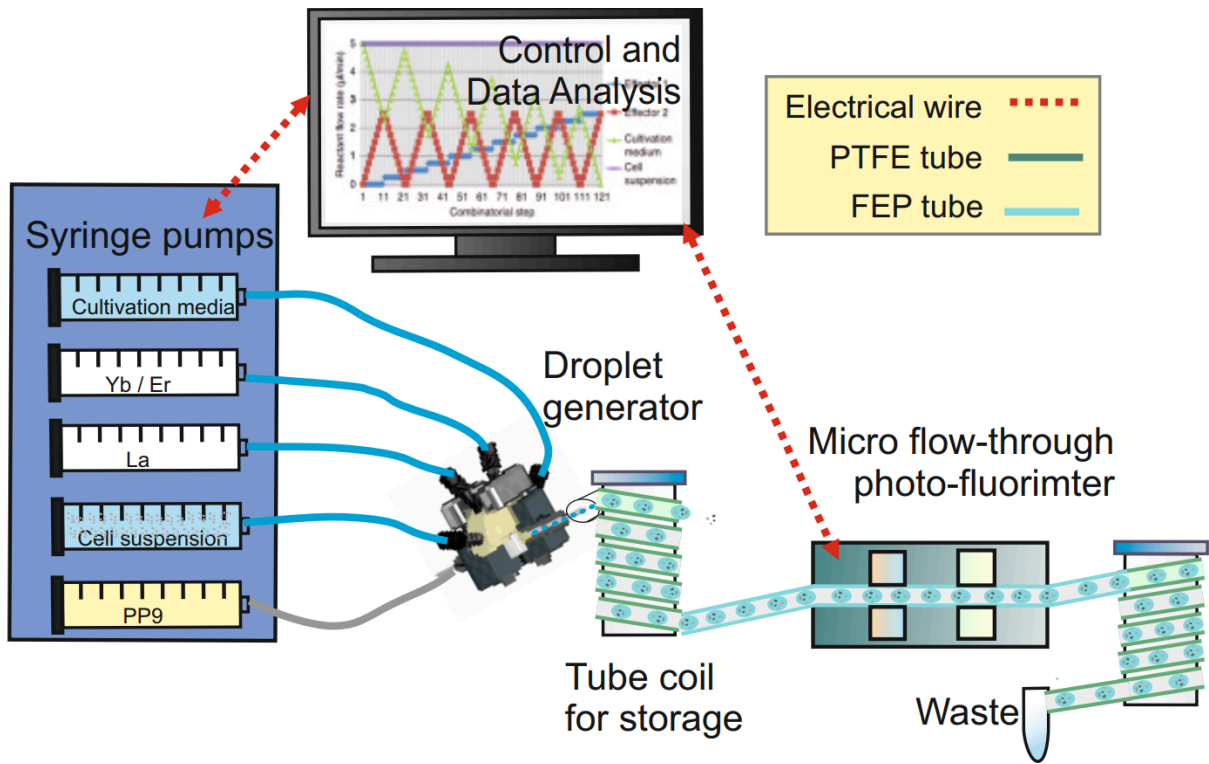


Figure S1.

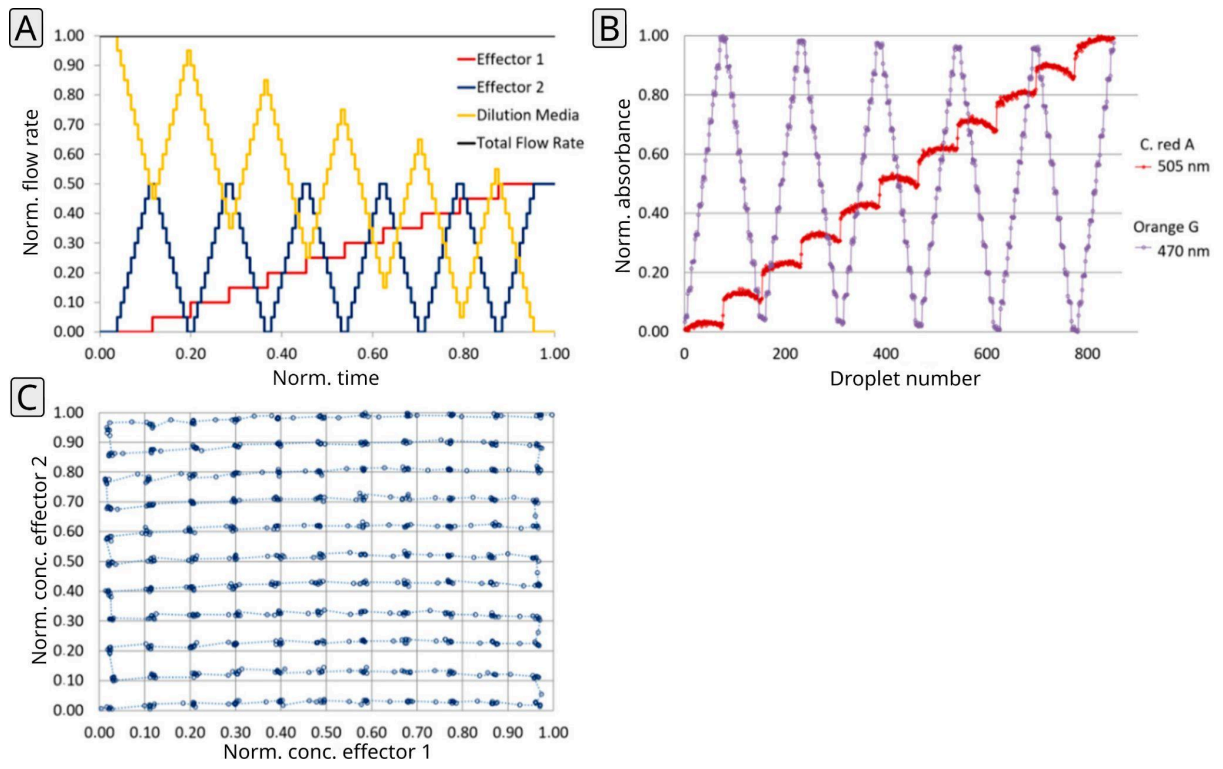
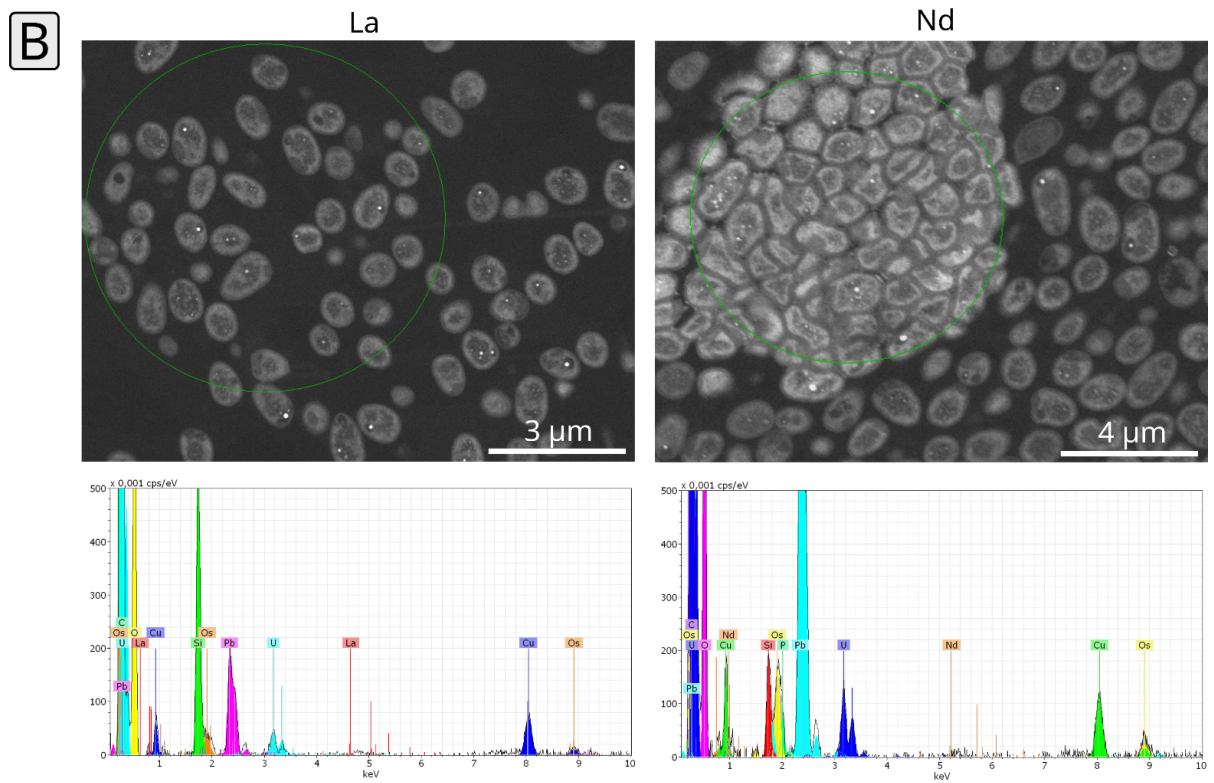
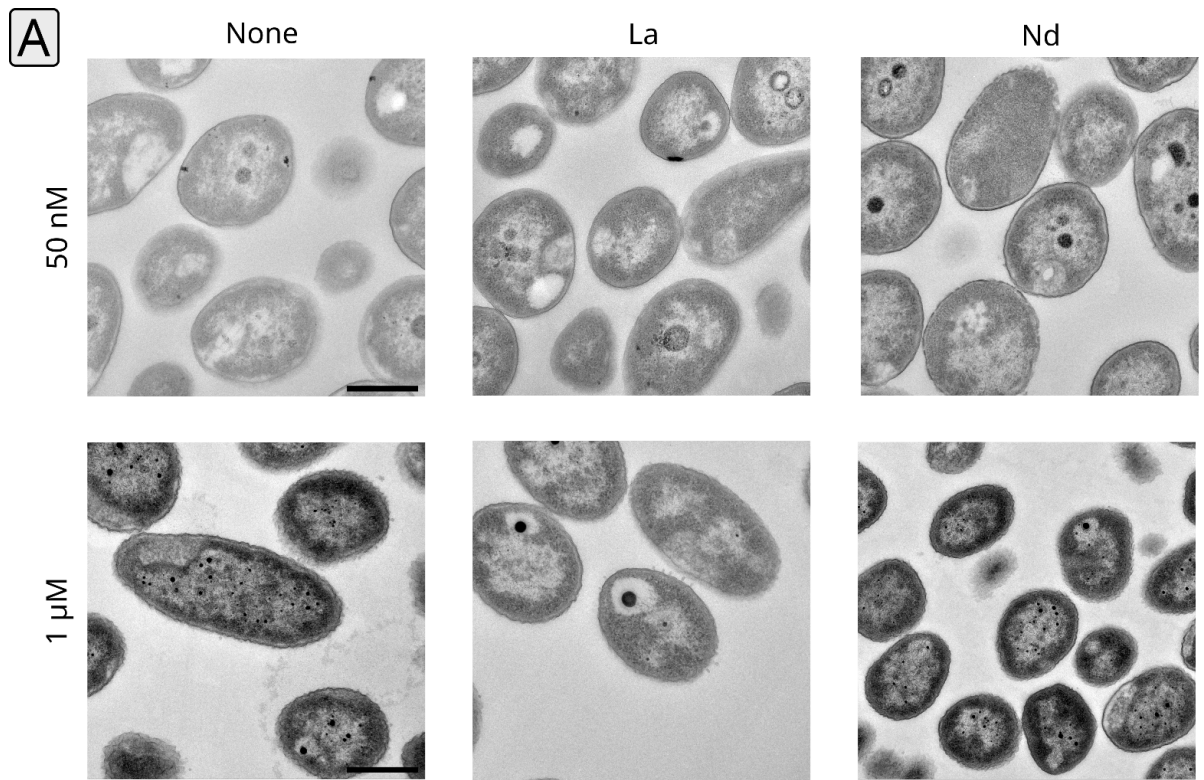


Figure S2.



S3

Figure S3.

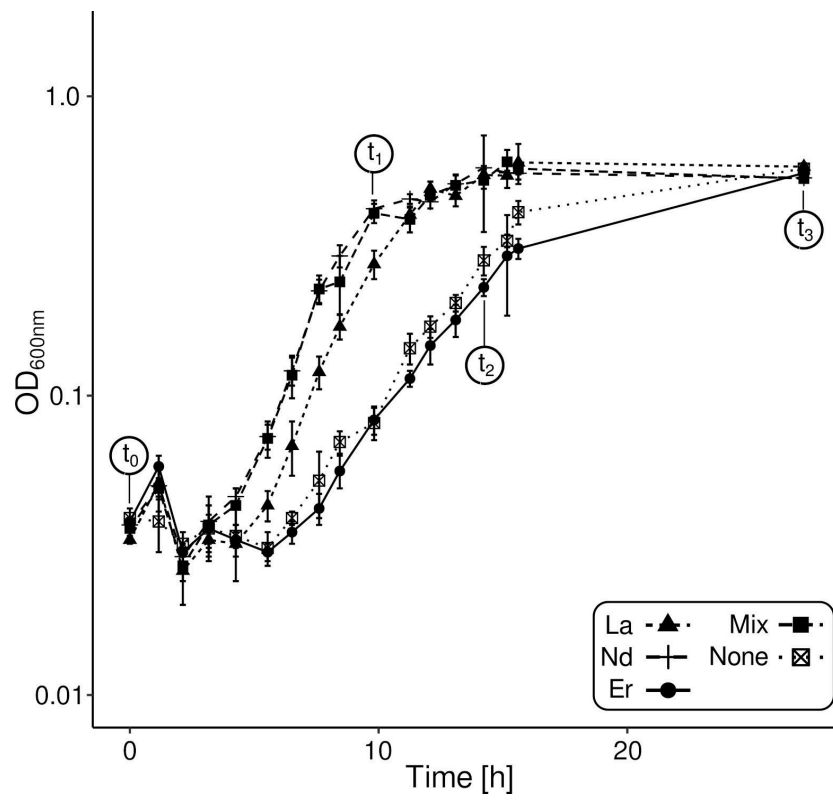


Figure S4.

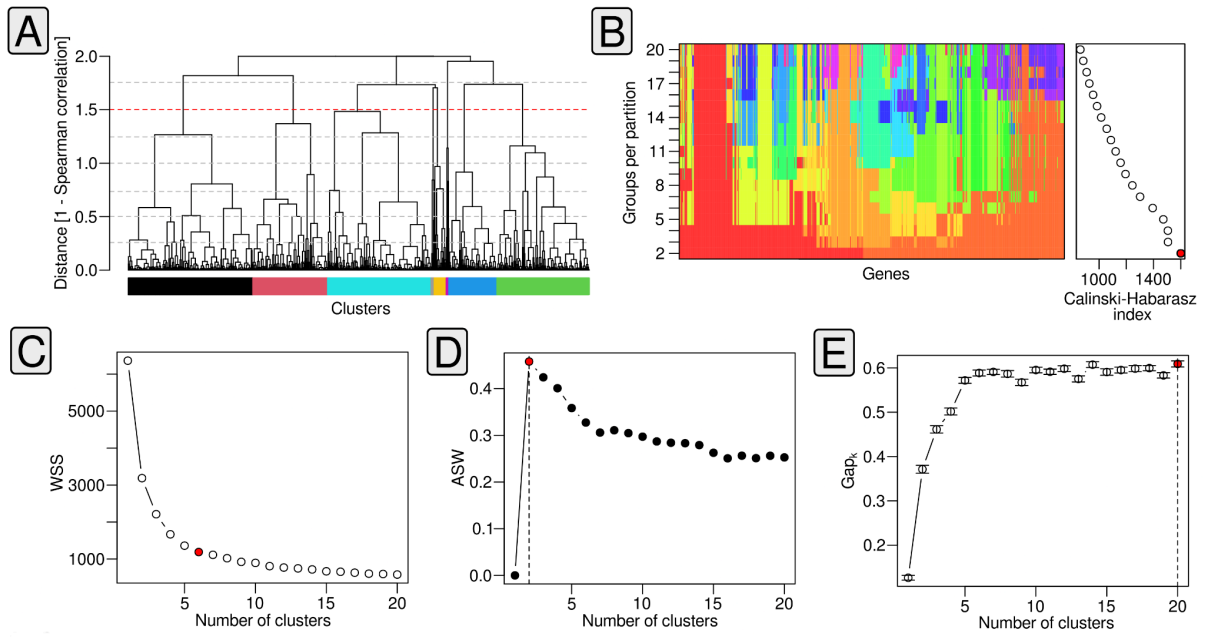


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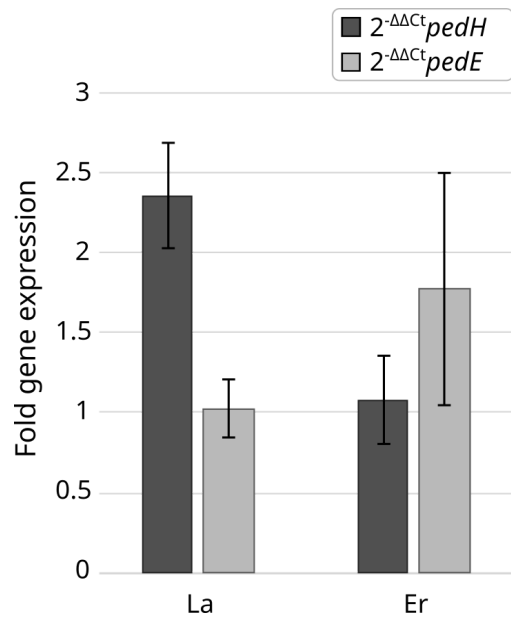


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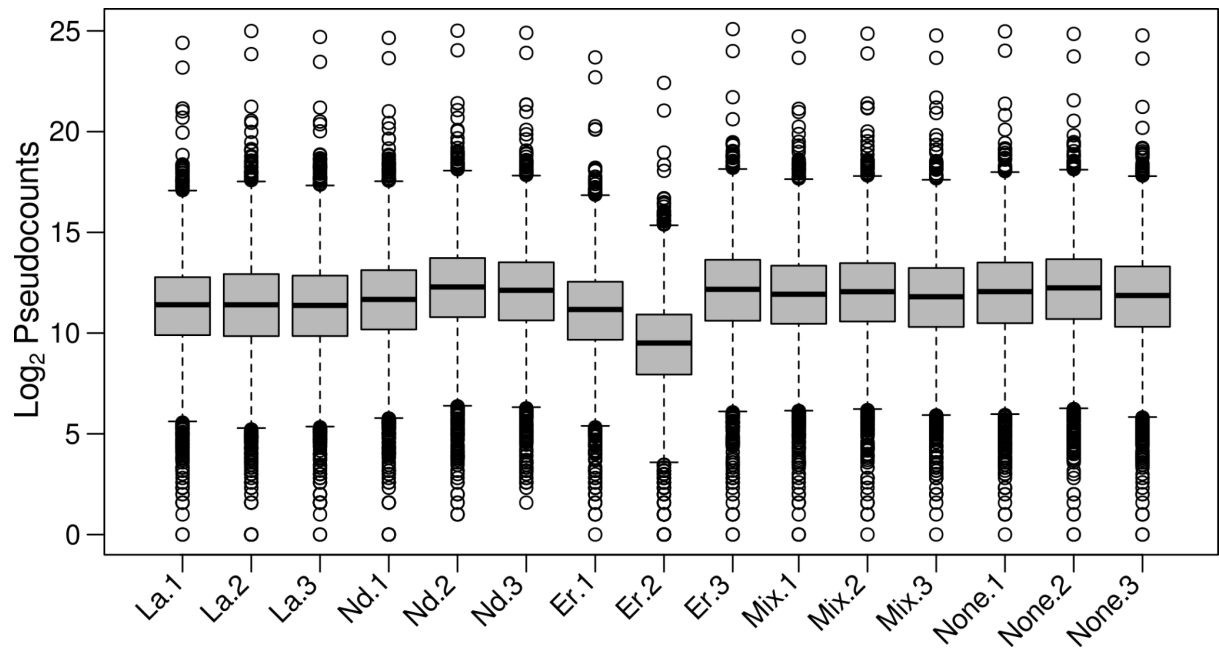


Figure S7.

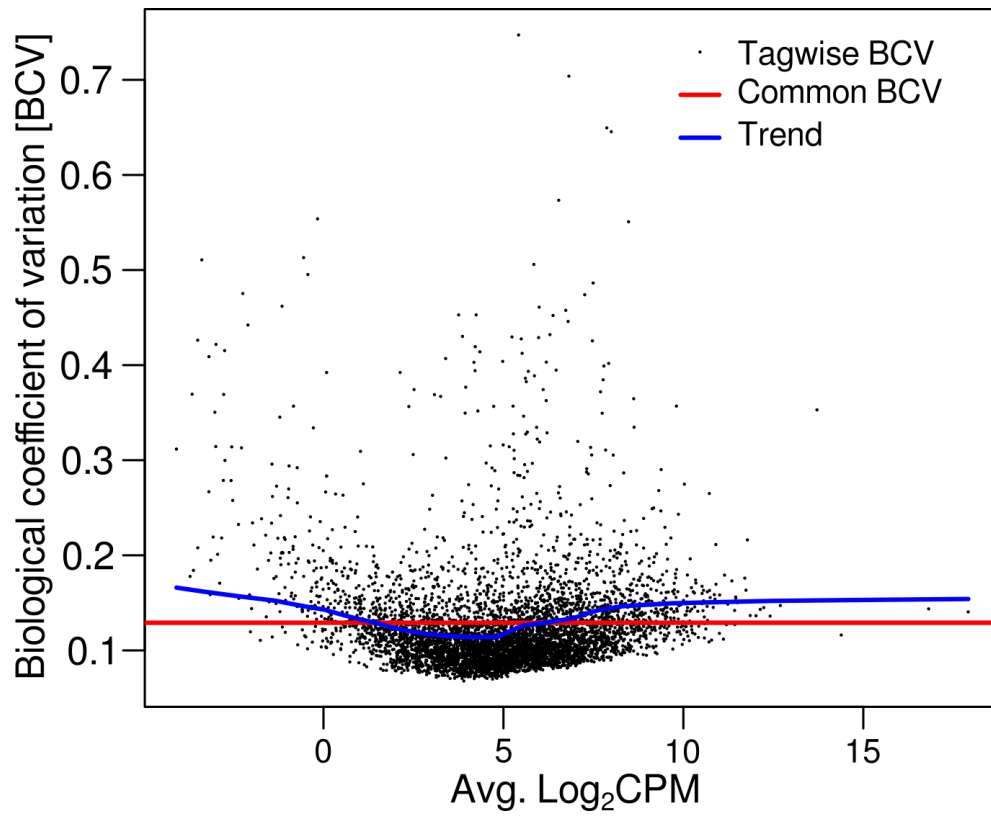


Figure S8.

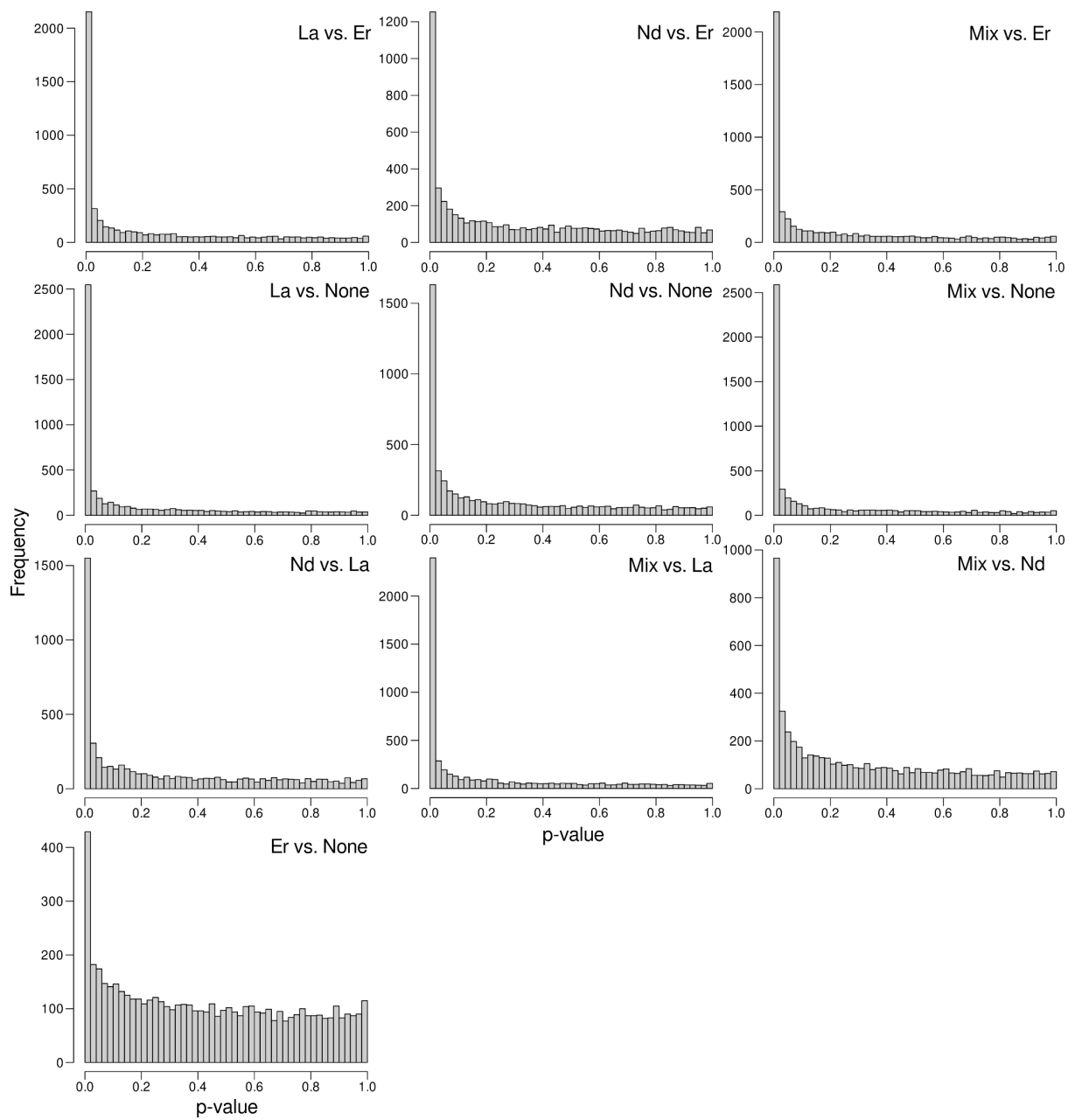


Figure S9.

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