

# Genome-wide protein–DNA interaction site mapping using a double strand DNA-specific cytosine deaminase

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1 **DNA–protein interactions (DPIs) are central to such fundamental cellular processes**  
2 **as transcription and chromosome maintenance and organization. The**  
3 **spatiotemporal dynamics of these interactions dictate their functional consequences;**  
4 **therefore, there is great interest in facile methods for defining the sites of DPI within**  
5 **cells. Here, we present a general method for mapping DPI sites *in vivo* using the**  
6 **double stranded DNA-specific cytosine deaminase toxin DddA. Our approach,**  
7 **which we term DddA-sequencing (3D-seq), entails generating a translational fusion**  
8 **of DddA to a DNA binding protein of interest, inactivating uracil DNA glycosylase,**  
9 **modulating DddA activity via its natural inhibitor protein, and DNA sequencing for**  
10 **genome-wide DPI detection. We successfully applied this method to three**  
11 ***Pseudomonas aeruginosa* transcription factors that represent divergent protein**  
12 **families and bind variable numbers of chromosomal locations. 3D-seq offers several**  
13 **advantages over existing technologies including ease of implementation and the**  
14 **possibility to measure DPIs at single-cell resolution.**

15 **Main**

16 Advances in DNA sequencing have promoted rapid expansion in DPI mapping  
17 technologies and their applications. Chromatin immunoprecipitation sequencing (ChIP-  
18 seq) became an early standard for studying both prokaryotic and eukaryotic systems<sup>1</sup>. In  
19 this approach, DPIs are identified through chemical crosslinking of DNA–protein  
20 complexes, DNA fragmentation, immunoprecipitation of a DNA binding protein (DBP)  
21 of interest, crosslink reversal, DNA purification, and DNA sequencing. Sample  
22 preparation is technically challenging and requires approximately one week to  
23 implement. More recently, Cut&Run and related technologies have gained popularity as  
24 alternatives to ChIP-seq<sup>2,3</sup>. These techniques offer several advantages relative to ChIP-  
25 seq including low starting material quantities that permit single cell measurements, the  
26 absence of crosslinking and its associated artifacts, and reduced sequencing with  
27 improved signal-to-noise<sup>4-6</sup>.

28 Although powerful, ChIP-seq and Cut&Run-related approaches are fundamentally  
29 ex vivo technologies and cannot capture DPIs in living cells. A method that overcomes  
30 this limitation is DNA adenine methyltransferase identification (DamID), where the DBP  
31 of interest is fused to DAM and DPI site identification occurs through restriction enzyme  
32 or antibody mediated methylation site enrichment<sup>7</sup>. However, the utility of this technique  
33 is limited by low resolution (1 kb) owing to the frequency of DAM recognition sites  
34 (GATC) and by toxicity resulting from widespread adenine methylation. A second  
35 approach that facilitates the mapping of DPIs *in vivo* employs mapping the sites of  
36 insertion of so-called self-reporting transposons (SRTs). In this technique, a transposase  
37 is fused to the DBP of interest, and DPIs are identified by DNA or RNA sequencing to

38 determine sites of transposon insertion<sup>8,9</sup>. A major limitation to this approach is that  
39 transposon insertions occur at low frequency within individual cells (15-100 events per  
40 cell), and thus the technology is not amenable to single cell studies<sup>8</sup>. Additionally, the  
41 accumulation of transposon insertions within a population may cause phenotypic  
42 consequences through gene disruption.

43 Nucleic acid-targeting deaminases are a diverse group of proteins that have found  
44 a number of biotechnological applications due to their ability to introduce mutations in  
45 DNA or RNA. Fusion of the single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) cytosine deaminase  
46 APOBEC to catalytically inactive or nickase variants of Cas9 led to the development of  
47 the first precision base editor capable of introducing single nucleotide substitutions (C•G-  
48 to-T•A) *in vivo*<sup>10</sup>. This breakthrough technology inspired the repurposing of several other  
49 ssDNA and RNA-targeting deaminases as base editing tools, including editors that  
50 catalyze A•T-to-G•C substitutions in DNA, and RNA transcript editors that induce C to  
51 U or A to I modifications<sup>11</sup>. RNA-targeting deaminases have additionally been employed  
52 for the identification of RNA–protein complex sites<sup>12</sup>. As the only deaminase known to  
53 act preferentially on dsDNA, the bacterial toxin-derived cytosine deaminase, DddA, is  
54 unique. We previously capitalized on this feature to develop DddA-derived cytosine base  
55 editors (DdCBEs), composed of DddA–TALE fusions that edit the human mitochondrial  
56 genome in a programmable fashion<sup>13</sup>. In the current study, we harnessed the dsDNA-  
57 targeting capability of DddA in the development of 3D-seq, a new technique for genome-  
58 wide DPI mapping.

59 In DdCBEs, DddA activity is localized to particular sites on DNA by  
60 reconstitution of the enzymatic domain of the toxin (amino acids 1264-1427) from split

61 forms fused to sequence-specific targeting proteins<sup>13</sup>. We envisioned an inverse approach  
62 whereby fusion of the intact deaminase domain of DddA, referred to herein as DddA, to  
63 DBPs with unknown binding sites could be used to define sites of interaction (Fig. 1a).  
64 To test the feasibility of this approach, we selected the candidate DNA binding protein  
65 GcsR of *P. aeruginosa*. GcsR is a sigma 54-dependent transcription activator of an  
66 operon encoding the glycine cleavage system (*gcvH2*, *gcvP2*, and *gcvT2*) and auxiliary  
67 glycine and serine metabolic genes (*glyA2* and *sdaA*)<sup>14</sup>. By analogy with closely related  
68 sigma 54-dependent regulators, also referred to as bacterial enhancer binding proteins  
69 (bEBPs), glycine binding to GcsR is thought to activate transcription of the operon by  
70 triggering conformational changes among subunits bound to three 18-bp tandem repeat  
71 binding sites in the *gcvH2* promoter region. RNA-seq analyses of *P. aeruginosa*  $\Delta gcsR$   
72 suggest that the *gcvH2* operon may encompass the only genes subject to direct regulation  
73 by GcsR<sup>14</sup>.

74 To capture physiologically relevant DNA binding, we sought to generate a GcsR–  
75 DddA translational fusion encoded at the native *gcsR* locus. These efforts revealed that  
76 even in the context of fusion to transcription factors under native regulation, DddA  
77 exhibits sufficient toxicity to interfere with strain construction. To circumvent this, we  
78 inserted the gene encoding the DddA cognate immunity determinant, *dddA1*, at the Tn7  
79 attachment site under control of an arabinose inducible promoter (pAra). In this  
80 background, and with induction of immunity, we successfully replaced *gcsR* with an open  
81 reading frame encoding GcsR bearing an unstructured linker at its C-terminus fused to  
82 the deaminase domain of DddA (GcsR–DddA). Activation of the *gcvH2* operon by GcsR  
83 is required for *P. aeruginosa* growth using glycine as a sole carbon source<sup>14</sup>. We found

84 that unlike a strain lacking GcsR, strains expressing GcsR–DddA effectively utilize  
85 glycine as a growth substrate, suggesting the fusion retains functionality (Fig. 1b).

86 Our prior work demonstrated that uracil DNA glycosylase (Ung) effectively  
87 inhibits uracil accumulation in cells exposed to DddA<sup>15</sup>. Reasoning this DNA repair  
88 factor would limit our capacity to detect DddA activity, we deleted *ung* in the GcsR–  
89 DddA-expressing strain. Next, we passaged this strain in the presence and absence of  
90 arabinose and performed Illumina-based whole genome sequencing (WGS). Data from  
91 replicate experiments was minimally filtered to remove positions with low coverage or  
92 hypervariability (see methods) and the average frequency of C•G-to-T•A transition  
93 events within 5'-TC-3' contexts were visualized across the *P. aeruginosa* genome (Fig.  
94 1c-f). Other dinucleotide contexts were excluded based on the known strong preference  
95 of DddA for thymidine at the -1 position<sup>13</sup>. Remarkably, in samples propagated in the  
96 absence of arabinose, we observed a single apparent peak of DddA activity in this  
97 minimally filtered data, which was localized to the promoter region of *gcvH2* (Fig. 1f,g).  
98 This peak was not observed in samples containing arabinose, nor was it present in  
99 parallel studies using a strain containing Ung (Fig. 1d,e).

100 While a single peak of GcsR::DddA-dependent activity was readily apparent in  
101 our minimally processed data, we reasoned that additional filtering to remove background  
102 signal would improve the sensitivity and accuracy of our technique. The filters we  
103 employed are detailed in the methods and include *i*) accounting for sequencing errors by  
104 applying a minimum read count threshold for mutation events (~1%), *ii*) eliminating  
105 positions lacking a neighboring transition event within the approximate length window  
106 likely to be accessible to a bound DBP-DddA fusion protein (100 bp), and *iii*) removing

107 transitions representing SNPs present in the parent strain. Most significantly, given our  
108 prior observation that modifications catalyzed by free DddA are randomly distributed  
109 across genomes, we reasoned that substantial noise reduction could be achieved by  
110 removing transitions not reproduced in independent replicates. Visualization of four  
111 GcsR–DddA replicate datasets showed that transition events observed in at least three of  
112 the samples were highly enriched in the peak region associated with the *gcvH2* promoter  
113 (Fig. 2a,b), and therefore this criterion was added to our filtering workflow.

114 In parallel, we sought to develop a statistical analysis able to provide a  
115 quantitative means of distinguishing specific DPIs from background noise in 3D-seq data.  
116 Our approach employed a null hypothesis test and is described in detail in the methods.  
117 Briefly, a null hypothesis consisting of only background enzyme activity was compared  
118 to an alternative hypothesis in which a single putative peak was fit by maximum  
119 likelihood analysis. The null hypothesis was then either accepted or rejected at a  
120 confidence level of 95% using a Generalized Likelihood Ratio Test. If the null hypothesis  
121 was rejected, the model containing the peak replaced the null hypothesis and the test was  
122 repeated for another putative peak until no more peaks could be detected. P values for  
123 each detected peak are estimated and reported (Table S1). The application of these  
124 filtering criteria and statistical analyses to our GcsR 3D-seq data dramatically improved  
125 the apparent signal-to-noise and placed the major GcsR–DddA binding site centered  
126 within the 200 bp region containing the three known binding sites for GcsR<sup>14</sup> (Fig. 2c,d).

127 To benchmark the 3D-seq approach, we performed a comparative study using  
128 ChIP-seq – a current standard for assessing DPIs genome-wide in bacteria<sup>16</sup>. In place of  
129 the *dddA* translational fusion at the 3' end of *gcsR*, we inserted a sequence encoding the

130 VSV-G epitope to facilitate the necessary immunoprecipitation step of ChIP-seq. Similar  
131 to 3D-seq, the most strongly supported candidate binding site for GcsR identified by  
132 ChIP-seq localized at the expected region upstream of *gcvH2* (Table S2). We noted in the  
133 course of this work that following strain construction, the 3D-seq workflow is  
134 considerably streamlined relative to that of ChIP-seq. The hands-on time to process a  
135 ChIP-seq sample to the point of sequencing library preparation is approximately one-  
136 week in our laboratory, whereas 3D-seq sample preparation constitutes only a genomic  
137 DNA preparation that occupies a portion of one day and requires little training.

138 Given that our initial experiment for detecting GcsR–DddA-catalyzed  
139 mutagenesis involved growth for multiple passages, we examined whether a peak of  
140 C•G-to-T•A transition frequency in the vicinity of the GcsR binding site could be  
141 detected after a shorter period of growth. In continuously growing cultures of *P.*  
142 *aeruginosa*  $\Delta$ *ung* expressing GcsR–DddA in the absence of DddA<sub>I</sub> induction we  
143 observed a small peak at 9 hrs of propagation and robust DddA–GcsR activity was  
144 detected at 20 hrs of growth (Fig. S1). This latter incubation period was thus  
145 implemented for subsequent experiments.

146 We found that Ung inactivation is critical for the detection of GcsR-DNA  
147 interactions by 3D-seq (Fig. 1e,f). As an alternative to a *ung* knockout, we considered  
148 whether expression of the Ung inhibitor protein, UGI, could achieve sufficient Ung  
149 inactivation to reveal GcsR DPis<sup>17</sup>. This approach is potentially advantageous for 3D-seq  
150 in organisms that are difficult to modify genetically. To determine whether expression of  
151 UGI could substitute for genetic inactivation of *ung*, we supplied *P. aeruginosa*  
152 expressing GcsR–DddA and DddA<sub>I</sub> with a plasmid possessing Ugi under control of the

153 *lacUV5* promoter to allow orthogonal modulation of DddA<sub>I</sub> (arabinose) and Ugi (IPTG).  
154 As when Ung was inactivated genetically, we found that inhibition of Ung by UGI  
155 expression yielded a high significant peak of C•G-to-T•A transition events centered on  
156 the known GcsR binding site upstream of *gcvH2* (Fig. S2, Table S1). This peak was not  
157 observed in the empty vector control strain.

158 To begin to probe the versatility of 3D-seq, we next sought to determine whether  
159 it could be successfully applied to the mapping of DPIs for a DBP that is structurally and  
160 functionally divergent from GcsR. For this analysis, we selected the regulator GacA,  
161 which belongs to a large group of transcription factors known as response regulators.  
162 Canonically, phosphorylation of these proteins by cognate histidine kinases enhances  
163 their interaction with promoter elements, leading to modulation of transcription <sup>18</sup>. In the  
164 case of GacA, phosphorylation by the sensor kinase GacS promotes binding of GacA to  
165 the promoter regions of two small RNA genes, *rsmY* and *rsmZ*<sup>19</sup>. GacS is itself regulated  
166 by a second sensor kinase, RetS, which strongly inhibits GacS phosphotransfer to  
167 GacA<sup>20</sup>. To further evaluate the capacity of 3D-seq to capture the effects of  
168 posttranslational regulation of a transcription factor, we performed our studies in both  
169  $\Delta gacS$  and  $\Delta retS$  backgrounds of *P. aeruginosa*.

170 During preliminary testing of the 3D-seq protocol with GacA, we found that  
171 repressing DddA<sub>I</sub> production by removing arabinose did not lead to detectable DddA  
172 activity. We reasoned that leaky expression of DddA<sub>I</sub>, which is well documented to occur  
173 from pAra in *P. aeruginosa*, might be itself sufficient to effectively inhibit DddA in this  
174 instance. After exploring alternative promoters without success, we tested a DddA<sub>I</sub>  
175 mutant in which the interaction with DddA is weakened by a C-terminal FLAG epitope

176 fusion (DddA<sub>I</sub>-F, Fig. S3). At high arabinose levels, DddA<sub>I</sub>-F provided sufficient  
177 protection against DddA to permit strain construction and under lower arabinose levels,  
178 DddA-dependent C•G-to-T•A transitions were observed.

179 Consistent with prior studies, 3D-seq revealed GacA binding sites upstream of  
180 *rsmY* and *rsmZ* in the  $\Delta retS$  background of *P. aeruginosa* (Fig. 3a-c, Table S1). These  
181 peaks were the only significant GacA binding sites detected and they were not found in  
182 the  $\Delta gacS$  strain (Fig. 3d, Table S1). Huang et al. recently reported GacA binds 1125  
183 sites across the *P. aeruginosa* genome, as measured by ChIP-seq<sup>21</sup>. Given the large  
184 discrepancy between this result and our findings by 3D-seq, we performed ChIP-seq  
185 analysis of GacA in-house. Rather than over-express GacA, which was the strategy  
186 adopted by Huang et al., we introduced an epitope-tagged allele of the regulator at its  
187 native locus in the  $\Delta retS$  background of *P. aeruginosa*. Consistent with our 3D-seq  
188 results and an earlier ChIP-ChIP study<sup>22</sup>, this approach identified regions upstream of  
189 *rsmY* and *rsmZ*, enriched 215- and 212-fold, respectively, as the two major binding sites  
190 of GacA (Table S2). A third site located in the promoter region of PA4648 was the only  
191 additional site that surpassed our three-fold enrichment significance cut-off. These results  
192 added to our confidence in 3D-seq-based DPI site identification and they showed that the  
193 methodology can be applied to regulators of different binding modalities and with  
194 multiple interaction sites. Finally, they show that 3D-seq can potentially be used to assess  
195 PDI dynamics under different regulatory states.

196 Although they represent different transcription factor families, our findings show  
197 that GcsR and GacA both interact with a limited number of sites on the *P. aeruginosa*  
198 chromosome. To gauge the performance of 3D-seq when applied to a DBP with many

199 predicted sites of interaction, we selected the regulator FleQ. This protein is an unusual  
200 member of the bEBP family, as it can act as both an activator and repressor, it regulates  
201 transcription from both  $\sigma^{54}$  and  $\sigma^{70}$ -dependent promoters, and its regulatory functions  
202 appear to be modulated by interaction with an additional protein that does not bind DNA  
203 directly, FleN<sup>23-26</sup>. In its capacity as a  $\sigma^{54}$ -dependent transcription activator, studies have  
204 shown FleQ binds the promoters of several flagellar gene operons; as a  $\sigma^{70}$ -dependent  
205 regulator, it interacts with binding sites adjacent to or overlapping with transcription start  
206 sites for several genes involved in exopolysaccharide biosynthesis and can serve as both a  
207 repressor and activator depending on availability of the second messenger molecule  
208 cyclic-di-GMP<sup>23,25,27</sup>. To date, there are no published studies describing the full  
209 complement of genes directly regulated by FleQ in *P. aeruginosa*. FleQ was included in  
210 the study referenced above that utilized over-expressed transcription factors, but a list of  
211 FleQ sites was not provided, and our GacA ChIP-seq and 3D-seq results suggest the  
212 general workflow adopted by the authors is problematic<sup>21</sup>.

213 3D-seq analysis employing FleQ–DddA expressed from its native promoter  
214 identified 14 peaks with a significantly elevated frequency of C•G-to-T•A transition  
215 events (Fig 3e-h, Table S1). Many of these peaks were localized to previously identified  
216 FleQ binding sites. Consistent with expectations for *P. aeruginosa* growing exponentially  
217 in liquid media, these included sites upstream of both exopolysaccharide biosynthesis and  
218 cell autoaggregation genes known to be repressed by FleQ (e.g. *pelA*, *pslA*, *siaA*) and  
219 flagellar motility genes known to be activated by the protein (e.g. *flhF*, *fliL*, *motD*)<sup>23,25,27</sup>.  
220 Interestingly, we also identified significant peaks upstream of several uncharacterized  
221 genes, including a homolog of the motility gene *fimV* (PA3340), a gene encoded

222 upstream of a c-di-GMP biosynthetic enzyme (PA2869), and a gene with no predicted  
223 links to other FleQ-regulated functions (PA3440) (Table S1). These results illustrate the  
224 capacity of 3D-seq to sensitively and specifically identify DPIs for proteins that bind at  
225 many sites across the genome.

226 To our knowledge, 3D-seq represents the first method for high-resolution  
227 genome-wide recording of DPIs in living cells. In addition to this unique capability of  
228 3D-seq, we found the method offers several advantages over commonly employed  
229 technologies for DPI mapping. Key among these is its ease in implementation. Once the  
230 appropriate genetic elements are in place, which can in principle be reduced to  
231 transformation by a single plasmid, 3D-seq involves simply growing a small volume of  
232 the strain under examination followed by genomic DNA preparation and standard WGS.  
233 In contrast, ChIP-seq requires a number of specialized reagents, including highly purified  
234 antibodies targeting the DBP of interest or an associated epitope tag, and the subsequent  
235 technically demanding immunoprecipitation procedure requires several days to  
236 complete<sup>1</sup>. Another distinct advantage of 3D-seq is the minimal starting material  
237 required. Owing to handling challenges and sample loss occurring at each step of the  
238 ChIP-seq protocol, these experiments must generally be initiated with ~40-80 mL of  
239 bacterial culture <sup>28,29</sup>. The lower limit on material for a 3D-seq study is defined only by  
240 the terminal DNA sequencing technology being utilized. Indeed, we predict that in many  
241 circumstances, the genome of a single cell would be adequate for revealing DPIs by 3D-  
242 seq.

243 As performed in this study, 3D-seq exploits the small size of bacterial genomes to  
244 cost-effectively obtain high coverage (>100-fold) that can be translated into semi-

245 quantitative measures of DBP occupancy. In eukaryotic organisms with substantially  
246 larger genomes, an approach such as this is impractical and enrichment strategies are  
247 preferred. Nevertheless, we anticipate that 3D-seq will find application in organisms with  
248 large genomes. If experiments are conducted in a manner that permits mutations  
249 introduced by the DBP–DddA fusion of interest to approach 100% frequency in the  
250 population, far less sequencing depth is required. In another variation, candidate sites  
251 could be amplified by PCR and amplicon sequencing would be used to reveal lower  
252 frequency modifications.

253 Despite the strong performance of 3D-seq, there is ample opportunity for  
254 optimizing the technology. The straightforward genetic manipulation of *P. aeruginosa*  
255 allowed us to generate chromosomally-encoded DBP–DddA fusions and DddA<sub>I</sub>  
256 expression constructs. These sequences, along with that necessary for Ugi expression,  
257 could readily be incorporated into a single plasmid, thus eliminating the need for  
258 chromosomal manipulations. Future work will compare the performance of 3D-seq by the  
259 two approaches.

260 The resolution of 3D-seq is currently limited by the frequency of cytosines found  
261 in the sequence context preferred by DddA, 5'-TC-3'. In *P. aeruginosa*, this dinucleotide  
262 motif occurs on average every 12 bp, allowing sufficient resolution to accurately identify  
263 DPI sites. Although the average frequency of 5'-TC-3' is expected to remain relatively  
264 consistent across organisms with varying GC content, within particular genomic regions,  
265 the frequency of 5'-TC-3' could diminish substantially and limit resolution. DddA  
266 derivatives or novel dsDNA-targeting deaminases with alternative or relaxed sequence  
267 specificity hold great promise as a solution to this limitation of 3D-seq<sup>15</sup>.

268 While we have demonstrated the utility of 3D-seq for the population-level  
269 mapping of DPIs involving bacterial transcription factors during in vitro growth, we  
270 envision its unique features will catalyze additional applications of the technology going  
271 forward. One such feature is the ability to modulate DddA activity through DddA<sub>I</sub>  
272 expression, which enables 3D-seq to capture a snapshot of the protein-DNA landscape  
273 during a fixed period of time. This can be particularly advantageous for identifying DPIs  
274 during growth under physiological conditions inaccessible to other mapping methods,  
275 such as during colonization of a host. The capacity to inducibly inhibit DddA also raises  
276 the intriguing possibility of employing 3D-seq to map DPIs within single cells. In this  
277 derivative of the technique, we envision a bacterial population would be grown under a  
278 condition of interest in the absence of DddA<sub>I</sub> expression, and subsequently individual  
279 clones would be isolated (e.g. as colonies) from media containing the inducer for DddA<sub>I</sub>.  
280 Sequencing of these clones, which contain a mutational record of the activity and location  
281 of the DBP of interest, will provide heretofore unobtainable genome-wide insights into  
282 cell-cell heterogeneity in DPIs. In summary, we anticipate the simplicity of 3D-seq will  
283 greatly improve the accessibility of genome-wide DPI mapping studies and its unique  
284 attributes will help usher in a new era of DPI measurements in physiological contexts.  
285

286 **Methods**

287 **Bacterial strains, plasmids, and growth conditions**

288 Detailed lists of all strains and plasmids used in this study can be found in Tables S3 and  
289 S4. All *P. aeruginosa* strains were derived from the sequenced strain PAO1<sup>30</sup> and were  
290 grown on Luria-Bertaini (LB) medium at 37°C supplemented as appropriate with 30 µg  
291 ml<sup>-1</sup> gentamicin, 25 µg ml<sup>-1</sup> irlgasan, 5% (w/v) sucrose, 1.0 mM IPTG (isopropyl β-D-1-  
292 thiogalactopyranoside), and arabinose at varying concentrations. *Escherichia coli* was  
293 grown in LB medium supplemented as appropriate with 15 µg ml<sup>-1</sup> gentamicin, 50 µg ml<sup>-1</sup>  
294 trimethoprim, and 1% rhamnose. *E. coli* strains DH5 $\alpha$  was used for plasmid  
295 maintenance and SM10 (Novagen, Hornsby Westfield, Australia) HB101 (pRK2103) and  
296 S17-1 were used for conjugative transfer.

297

298 **Plasmid construction**

299 Details of plasmid construction and primer sequences are provided in Tables S5 and S6.  
300 Plasmid pEXG2 was used to make the in-frame deletion constructs pEXG2- $\Delta gcsR$  as  
301 well as the VSV-G insertion constructs pEXG2-GcsR-V and pEXG2-GacA-V and the  
302 DddA fusion constructs pEXG2-*gcsR*::*dddA*, pEXG2-*gacA*-*dddA* and pEXG2-*fleQ*-  
303 *dddA*<sup>31</sup>. Plasmid pEXG2- $\Delta gcsR$ , was constructed by amplification of ~400 bp regions of  
304 genomic DNA flanking *gcsR*, with primers containing restriction sites, followed by  
305 digestion and ligation into pEXG2 that had been digested with the appropriate restriction  
306 enzymes. C-terminal VSV-G insertion constructs for GcsR-V and GacA-V were made  
307 by amplifying ~400 bp regions flanking each insertion site using primers that contained  
308 an in-frame sequence encoding the VSV-G epitope tag. Constructs for generating DddA

309 fusions encoded a protein in which DddA was fused to the C-terminus via a 32aa linker  
310 (SGGSSGGSSGSETPGTSESATPESSGGSSGGS). To generate these constructs,  
311 primers with 3' overlapping regions were used to amplify both the linker and *dddA*, as  
312 well as 500 bp regions flanking the C-terminus of each gene. Gibson assembly<sup>32</sup> was then  
313 used for the generation of the pEXG2 plasmids containing each construct, and assembly  
314 mixes were transformed into *E. coli* DH5 $\alpha$  expressing DddA<sub>I</sub> from pSCRhaB2-DddA<sub>I</sub> to  
315 avoid DddA-mediated toxicity. Construction of pEXG2-derived plasmids for deletion of  
316 *gacS*, *retS* and *ung* was previously described<sup>15,33,34</sup>. Site-specific chromosomal insertions  
317 of the immunity gene *dddA*<sub>I</sub> (with or without a FLAG tag at encoded at the C-terminus)  
318 were generated using pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-*araE*. The genes encoding DddA<sub>I</sub>  
319 or DddA<sub>I</sub>-FLAG were amplified and cloned into the KpnI/HindIII sites of this vector  
320 through Gibson assembly, to generate pUC18-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-*araE-dddA*<sub>I</sub> and  
321 pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-*araE-dddA*<sub>I</sub>-FLAG.

322

### 323 **Strain construction**

324 *P. aeruginosa* strains containing in-frame deletions of *gcsR*, *ung*, *retS* or *gacS* were  
325 constructed by allelic replacement using the appropriate pEXG2-derived deletion  
326 construct and were verified by PCR and site specific or genomic sequencing as described  
327 previously<sup>31</sup>. *P. aeruginosa* cells synthesizing GcsR with a C-terminal VSV-G epitope  
328 tag from the native chromosomal location were made by allelic replacement using vector  
329 pEXG2-GcsR-V. *P. aeruginosa*  $\Delta$ *retS* mutant cells synthesizing GacA with a C-terminal  
330 VSV-G epitope tag from the native chromosomal location (*P. aeruginosa*  $\Delta$ *retS* GacA-V)  
331 were made by allelic replacement using vector pEXG2-GacA-V. The *P. aeruginosa*

332  $\Delta gcsR$ , GcsR-V, and  $\Delta retS$  GacA-V strains were verified by PCR and production of the  
333 GcsR-V and GacA-V fusion proteins was verified by Western blotting using an antibody  
334 against the VSV-G epitope tag. *P. aeruginosa* strains producing DddA fusion proteins  
335 were generated by first engineering the parent strain to express DddA<sub>I</sub> or DddA<sub>I</sub>-FLAG  
336 from the chromosome under arabinose-inducible control by introduction of pUC18T-  
337 miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE-*dddA*, or pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE-*dddA*-FLAG  
338 and helper plasmids pTNS3 and pRK2013 via tetraparental mating<sup>35</sup>. After chromosomal  
339 integration the GmR marker was removed from these cassettes by Flp/FRT  
340 recombination using plasmid pFLP2, which was then cured by sucrose counterselection<sup>36</sup>.  
341 *P. aeruginosa* strains synthesizing GcsR-DddA, GacA-DddA or FleQ-DddA from the  
342 native chromosomal loci of each regulator were then generated by two-step allelic  
343 exchange using the relevant pEXG2 construct. Rhamnose (0.1%, for *E. coli*) or arabinose  
344 (0.1%, for *P. aeruginosa*) were maintained during the DddA-fusion expressing strain  
345 construction process to minimize DddA toxicity and off-target activity. Fusion-  
346 expressing strains were verified by PCR and by assembly of complete genome sequences  
347 obtained during 3D-seq analyses.

348

#### 349 **Assessing the functionality of the GcsR-DddA fusion protein**

350 To determine the functionality of the GcsR-DddA fusion protein cells were grown in  
351 biological triplicate in No Carbon E (NCE) minimal media<sup>37</sup> containing arabinose (1%)  
352 and glycine (20 mM), or arabinose (1%) and succinate (20 mM), at 37°C with aeration  
353 for 48 hours. Growth was determined by measuring the culture OD<sub>600</sub>.

354

355 **3D-seq sample preparation and sequencing**

356 *Culturing of DddA-fusion expressing strains*

357 To generate genomic DNA for 3D-Seq analysis, strains carrying specific DddA fusion  
358 constructs and *attTn7::araC-P<sub>BAD</sub>-dddI* (*GcsR*) or *attTn7::araC-P<sub>BAD</sub>-dddI-FLAG* (*GacA*,  
359 *FleQ*) were grown for varying amounts of time and with variable levels of arabinose to  
360 induce *DddA<sub>I</sub>* or *DddA<sub>I</sub>-FLAG* expression and/or IPTG to induce UGI production from  
361 *pPSV39-UGI*. In each case, the strains were initially streaked for single colonies on LB  
362 containing 0.1% or 1% arabinose, and single colonies were used to inoculate  
363 quadruplicate liquid cultures containing 0.1% or 1% arabinose. After ~16 hrs growth,  
364 these cultures were then washed with LB and used to inoculate fresh cultures. For *GcsR*-  
365 *DddA* in  $\Delta ung$  and *ung*<sup>+</sup> backgrounds and for the  $\Delta ung$  strain without a *dddA* fusion  
366 construct, washed cultures were inoculated into LB containing 0.1% (negative control) or  
367 no (experimental) arabinose at  $OD_{600} = 0.02$ , then grown for 8hrs before diluting back to  
368  $OD_{600} = 0.02$ . After an additional ~16 hrs, cultures were again washed and diluted to  
369  $OD_{600} = 0.02$ , then grown a final 8 hrs before samples were collected for genomic DNA  
370 preparation. For *gacA-dddA* (with  $\Delta retS$  or  $\Delta gacS$ ) and *fleQ-dddA*, washed cultures were  
371 inoculated into LB containing 0.0005% arabinose at  $OD_{600} = 0.02$ , then grown for 6.5 hrs  
372 before samples were collected for genomic DNA preparation.

373 *Genomic DNA preparation and sequencing*

374 Genomic DNA was isolated from bacterial pellets using DNEasy Bood and Tissue Kit  
375 (Qiagen). Sequencing libraries for whole-genome sequencing were prepared from 200-  
376 300 ng of DNA using DNA Prep Kit (Illumina), with KAPA HiFi Uracil+ Kit (Roche)

377 used in place of Enhanced PCR Mix for the amplification step. Libraries were sequenced  
378 in multiplex by paired-end 150-bp reads on NextSeq 550 and iSeq instruments (Illumina).

379

380 **ChIP-Seq sample preparation and library construction**

381 200 mL cultures of the *P. aeruginosa* GcsR-V, wild-type,  $\Delta retS$  and  $\Delta retS$  GacA-V  
382 strains were grown in biological triplicate to an  $OD_{600}$  of 1.5 in LB at 37°C with aeration.  
383 80 mL of culture was crosslinked with formaldehyde (1%) for 30 minutes at room  
384 temperature with gentle agitation. Crosslinking was quenched by the addition of glycine  
385 (250 mM) and cells were incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes with gentle  
386 agitation. Cells were pelleted by centrifugation, washed three times with phosphate  
387 buffered saline, and stored at -80°C prior to subsequent processing. Cell pellets were  
388 resuspended in 1 mL Buffer 1 (20 mM KHEPES, pH 7.9, 50 mM KCl, 0.5 mM  
389 dithiothreitol, 10% glycerol) plus protease inhibitor (complete-mini EDTA-free (Roche);  
390 1 tablet per 10 mL), diluted to a total volume of 5.2 mL and divided equally among four  
391 15 mL conical tubes (Corning). Cells were subsequently lysed and DNA sheared in a  
392 Bioruptor water bath sonicator (Diagenode) by exposure to two 8-minute cycles (30  
393 seconds on, 30 seconds off) on the high setting. Cellular debris was removed by  
394 centrifugation at 4°C for 20 minutes at 20,000 xg. Cleared lysates were adjusted to match  
395 the composition of the immunoprecipitation (IP) buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 150  
396 mM NaCl, 0.1% NP-40 alternative (EMD-Millipore product 492018). The adjusted  
397 lysates were combined with anti-VSV-G agarose beads (Sigma) that had been washed  
398 once with IP buffer and reconstituted to a 50/50 bead/buffer slurry. For IP, 75  $\mu$ L of the  
399 washed anti-VSV-G beads were added to each of the four aliquots for a given sample. IP

400 was performed overnight at 4°C with gentle agitation. Beads were then washed 5 times  
401 with 1 mL IP buffer and 2 times with 1X TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, 1 mM  
402 EDTA). Immune complexes were eluted from beads by adding 150 µL of TES buffer (50  
403 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 10 mM EDTA, 1% Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate (SDS)) and heating  
404 samples to 65°C for 15 minutes. Beads were pelleted by centrifugation (5 minutes at  
405 16,000xg) at room temperature and a second elution was performed with 100 µL of 1X  
406 TE + 1% SDS. Supernatants from both elution steps were combined and incubated at  
407 65°C overnight to allow cross-link reversal. DNA was then purified with a PCR  
408 purification kit (QIAGEN), eluted in 55 µL of 0.1X Elution Buffer and quantified on an  
409 Agilent Bioanalyzer. ChIP-Seq libraries were prepared from 1-40 ng of DNA using the  
410 NEBNext Ultra II DNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina (NEB). Adaptors were diluted 10-  
411 fold prior to ligation. AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter) were used to purify libraries,  
412 which were subjected to 7 rounds of amplification without size selection. Libraries were  
413 sequenced by the Biopolymers Facility (Harvard Medical School) on an Illumina  
414 HiSeq2500 producing 75-bp paired-end reads<sup>38</sup>.

415

#### 416 **ChIP-Seq data analysis**

417 ChIP-Seq data were analyzed as described previously<sup>38</sup>. Paired-end reads corresponding  
418 to fragments of 200 bp or less were mapped to the PAO1 genome (NCBI RefSeq  
419 NC\_002516) using bowtie2 version 2.3.4.3<sup>39</sup>. Only read 1 from each pair of reads was  
420 extracted and regions of enrichment were identified using QuEST version 2.4<sup>40</sup>. Reads  
421 collected from the PAO1 replicates (i.e. IP from PAO1 cells that do not synthesize any  
422 VSV-G tagged protein) were merged and served as the mock control for the reads from

423 each of the PAO1 GcsR-V replicates. Merged reads from the PAO1  $\Delta retS$  replicates  
424 served as the mock control for the reads from the PAO1  $\Delta retS$  GacA-V replicates. The  
425 mock control data were used to determine the background for each corresponding ChIP  
426 biological replicate. The following criteria were used to identify regions of enrichment  
427 (peaks): (i) they must be 3.5-fold enriched in reads compared to the background, (ii) they  
428 are not present in the mock control, (iii) they have a positive peak shift and strand  
429 correlation, and (iv) they have a q-value of less than 0.01. Peaks of enrichment for GcsR-  
430 V and GacA-V were defined as the maximal region identified in at least two biological  
431 replicates. Data were visualized using the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) version  
432 2.5.0<sup>41</sup>. Peak analyses used BEDtools version 2.27.1.

433

### 434 **3D-seq data analysis**

435 Fastq reads were first pre-processed using the HTStream pipeline v. 1.3.0  
436 (<https://s4hts.github.io/HTStream/>), where the chain of programs is hts\_SuperDeduper ->  
437 hts\_SeqScreener -> hts\_AdapterTrimmer -> hts\_QWindowTrim -> hts\_LengthFilter ->  
438 hts\_Stats. In each case logging was enabled and default settings were used, with the  
439 following exceptions: 1) For hts\_QWindowTrim a window size of 20bp was used with a  
440 minimum quality score of 10. 2) For hts\_LengthFilter the minimum length was set to half  
441 the mean read length. Reads were subsequently aligned to the PAO1-UW reference  
442 sequence ([https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/NC\\_002516.2](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/NC_002516.2)) using Minimap2 v.  
443 2.17-r974-dirty (<https://lh3.github.io/minimap2/>) and the alignments were saved into  
444 sorted BAM files with SAMTools v. 1.10 (<https://www.htslib.org/>). Alignment position  
445 counts were then enumerated using PySAM v. 0.16.0.1

446 (<https://pysam.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>) using these settings: `read_callback='all'`,  
447 `quality_threshold=20`. The reference genome was then surveyed using Biopython v. 1.78  
448 (<https://biopython.org/>) to determine the proportion of high-quality read-pairs covering  
449 each 5'-TC-3' site (the preferred DddA target sequence context; Mok et al.) on either  
450 strand that showed the alternative sequence 5'-TT-3' (representing cytidine deamination),  
451 and corresponding base counts and allele frequencies were tabulated using Pandas v.  
452 1.3.0. (<https://pandas.pydata.org/>).

453 To generate minimally filtered datasets, sites with sequence coverage of less than  
454 15 read-pairs for that sample were ignored, as were a set of 52 sites within a phage region  
455 known to display hypervariability<sup>42</sup>. Average C•G-to-T•A transition frequency was then  
456 calculated using remaining positions for each set of quadruplicate samples per condition.  
457 To generate more stringently filtered data, sites with >95% C•G-to-T•A transition  
458 frequency in all four replicates of a given sample were considered parental SNPs and  
459 were ignored. The mean C•G-to-T•A transition frequency was then calculated for each  
460 position at which 3 of 4 replicate samples for a given condition exhibited at least 3  
461 sequencing reads containing the mutation. Finally, positions were excluded for which the  
462 nearest neighboring position with an average C•G-to-T•A transition frequency >0 was  
463 within more than 100 bp. To generate the representations of the data shown in Fig. 1 and  
464 2, this data was further processed by the calculation of a moving average employing a 75  
465 bp window. For statistical analyses, we used data passing these criteria except we  
466 required a minimum of only 1 read to contain a given mutation. Additionally, we  
467 removed positions from any single sample with  
468

469 **Statistical analysis**

470 See supplemental methods.

471

472 **Data availability**

473 Sequence data associated with this study is available from the Sequence Read Archive at

474 BioProject PRJNA748760.

475

476 **Code availability**

477 Computer code generated for this study is available from GitHub at

478 <https://github.com/marade/3DSeqTools>.

479

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489

490 **Competing interests**

491 The authors declare no competing interests.

492

493 **Author contributions**

494 L.A.G, E.V., S.B.P, M.H.D., V.L., S.L.D. and J.D.M designed the study, L.A.G, E.V.,  
495 J.C.C, F.H., K.M.P., J.K., and P.A.A. performed experiments, L.A.G, E.V., S.B.P,  
496 M.C.R., M.J.G., T.L., S.J.S, P.A.W., S.L.D. and J.D.M analyzed data, and S.B.P and  
497 J.D.M wrote the manuscript with input from the other authors.

498

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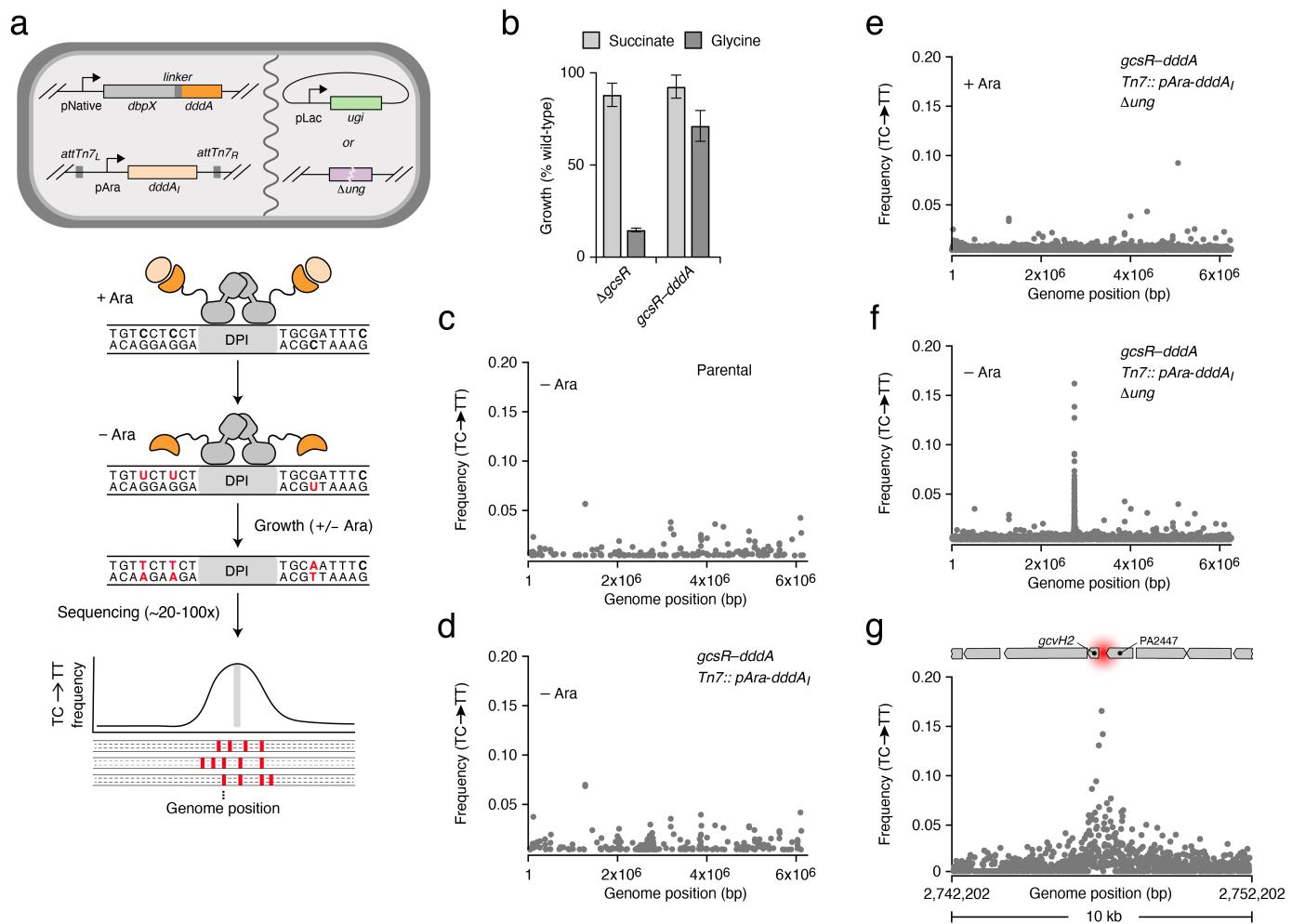
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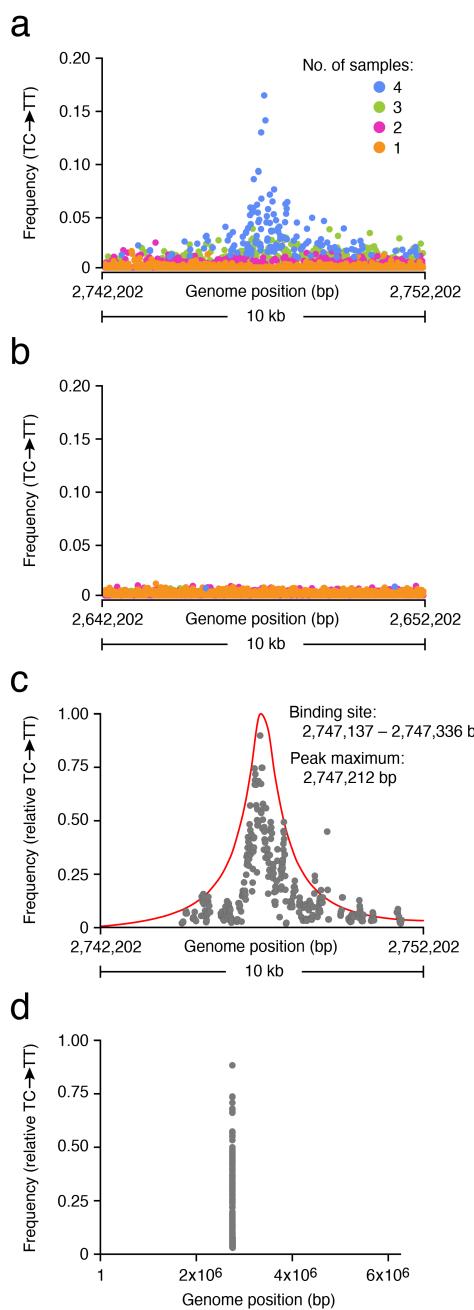
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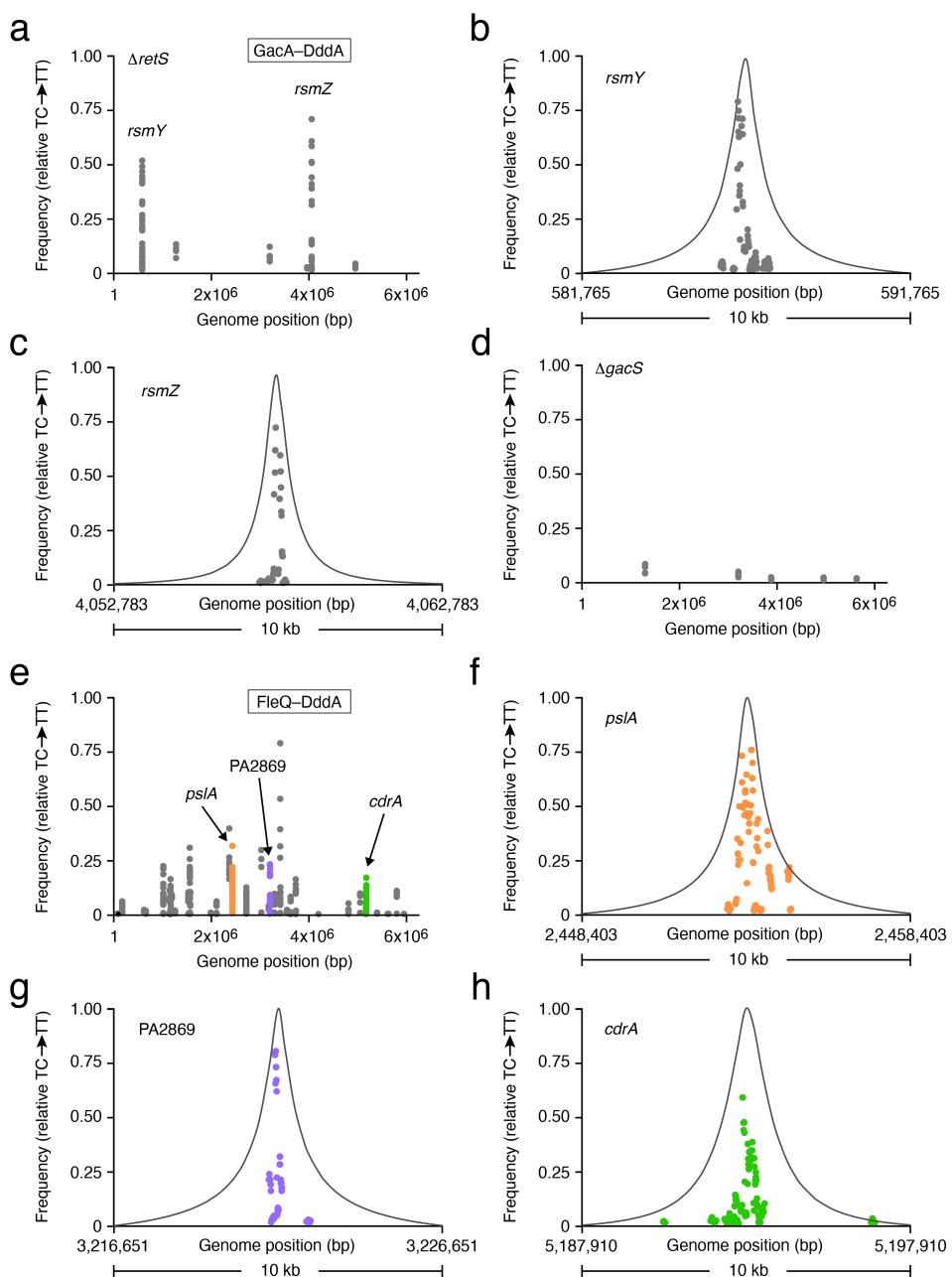
652



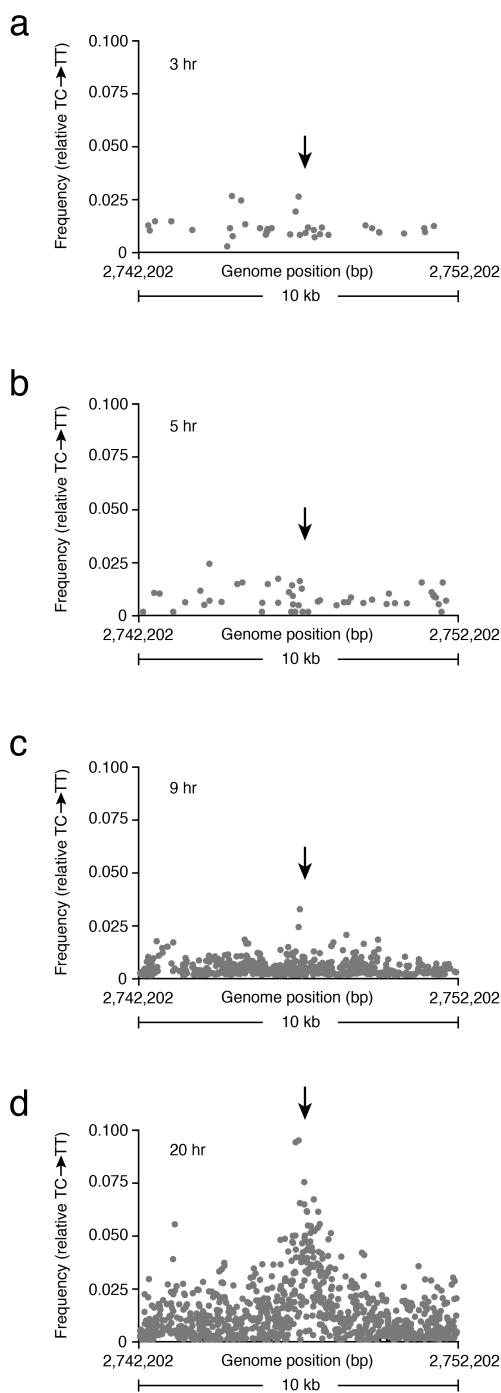
**Fig. 1: 3D-seq is a method for *in vivo* DPI mapping and can be applied to *P. aeruginosa* GcsR. a,** Diagram providing an overview of the 3D-seq method. Top, cell schematic containing the genetic elements required for 3D-seq. Elements may be integrated into the chromosome or supplied on plasmids. Middle, model depicting localized activity of DddA (dark orange) when fused to a DBP of interest (grey) and after growth in the absence of arabinose to limit production of DddA<sub>I</sub> (light orange). Bottom, schematized 3D-seq output indicating enrichment of C•G-to-T•A transitions (red) in the vicinity of a DPI site (grey). **b**, Growth yield (normalized to wild-type) of the indicated strains on minimal medium containing glycine or succinate as the sole carbon source. **c-f**, Average (n=4) C•G-to-T•A transition frequency by genome position after passaging cultures of *P. aeruginosa* bearing the indicated genotypes, in the presence or absence of arabinose (Ara) to induce DddA<sub>I</sub> expression. Data were filtered to remove a prophage hypervariable region and positions with low sequence coverage (<15-fold read depth), and positions with an average transition frequency <0.004 were removed ease of visualization. **g**, Zoomed view of a subset of the data depicted in (f). Location of the previously characterized GcsR binding site (red) and adjacent genetic elements shown to scale above.



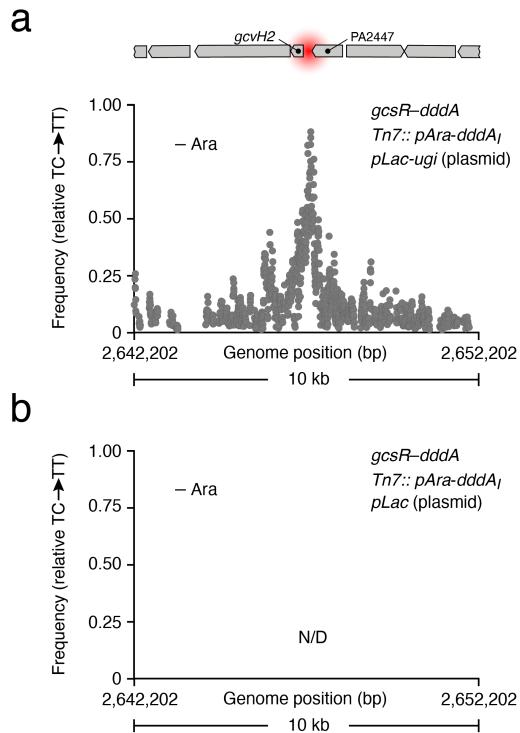
**Fig. 2: Statistical analyses and data filtering enhance signal-to-noise and allow 3D-seq to precisely map DPIs. a,b** Average ( $n=4$ ) C•G-to-T•A transition frequency within the (a) primary GcsR 3D-seq peak region or (b) a control region located 100,000 bp upstream, with positions colored by the number of replicates in which a transition at that position was observed. **c**, Moving average (75 bp window) of C•G-to-T•A transition frequencies and the curve deriving from our statistical model (red line) calculated from filtered 3D-seq data for the GcsR peak region (see methods). Y-coordinates for the model curve are scaled arbitrarily. **d**, Genome-wide moving average (75 bp window) of C•G-to-T•A transition frequencies calculated for GcsR 3D-seq data after filtering as in (c).



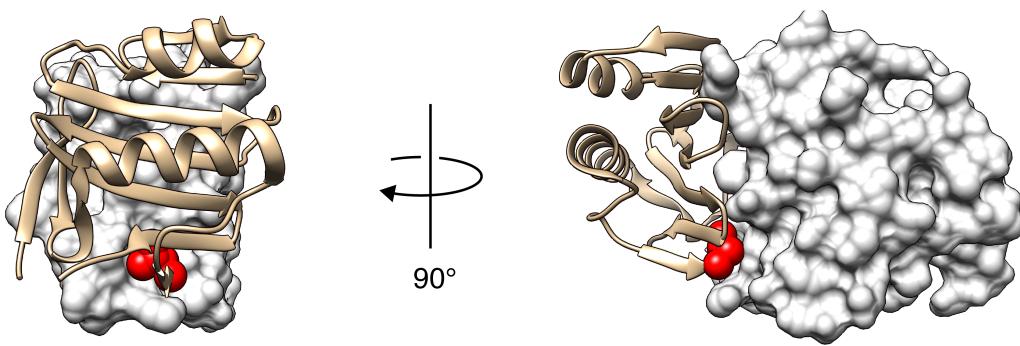
**Fig. 3: 3D-seq maps DPIs for *P. aeruginosa* transcription factors belonging to different families and with varying numbers of binding sites. a-h,** Moving average ( $n=4$ , 75 bp window) of C•G-to-T•A transition frequencies calculated from filtered 3D-seq data deriving from the indicated *P. aeruginosa* strains expressing GacA–DddA (a-d) or FleQ–DddA (e-h) grown with 0.0005% w/v arabinose for induction of DddA<sub>I</sub>–F. Genome-wide (a,d,e) and zoomed (b,c, f-h) regions of the data shown in (a) or (e) are provided. Curves deriving from our statistical model (grey line) calculated from filtered 3D-seq data are shown in the zoomed regions. Y-coordinates for the model curves are scaled arbitrarily. Points in (f-h) are colored as in (e).



**Figure S1. Transition mutations associated with GcsR:DddA activity accumulate over time. a-d,** Average (n=4) C•G-to-T•A transition frequency within the primary GcsR 3D-seq peak region after the indicated growth period and in the absence of arabinose. Data were filtered as in Fig. 1. The arrow indicates the approximate position of the known GcsR binding site.



**Figure S2. Ugi expression can substitute for genetic inactivation of *ung* in 3D-seq. a,b,** Moving average ( $n=4$ , 75 bp window) of C•G-to-T•A transition frequencies calculated from filtered 3D-seq data deriving from the indicated *P. aeruginosa* strains grown in the absence of arabinose for 20 hrs. IPTG was included to induce the expression of Ugi throughout the growth period. The location of the previously characterized GcsR binding site (red) and adjacent genetic elements are shown to scale above.



**Figure S3. The C-terminus of DddA<sub>I</sub> abuts DddA.** X-ray crystal structure of the DddA<sub>I</sub>–DddA complex in ribbon and surface representation, respectively. The C-terminal amino acid of DddA<sub>I</sub> (Leu123) is colored red and shown in space filling representation to highlight its position against the surface of DddA.

**Table S1. Significant peaks detected in this study by 3D-seq.**

Peak number <sup>1</sup>	p-value <sup>2</sup>	Peak maximum position	Peak height <sup>3</sup>	Width parameter <sup>4</sup>	Closest annotated gene
<b>GcsR (<math>\Delta ung</math> Tn7::pAra-<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> <i>gcsR</i>-<i>dddA</i>)</b>					
1	<1.9E-999	2747212	0.0308	650	<i>gcvH2</i>
2	4.4E-6	2754622	0.0032	507	<i>gcvH2</i>
<b>GacA (<math>\Delta ung</math> <math>\Delta retS</math> Tn7::pAra-<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> <i>gacA</i>-<i>dddA</i>)</b>					
1	2.0E-273	586705	0.0096	552	<i>rsmY</i>
2	4.5E-167	4057755	0.0090	449	<i>rsmZ</i>
<b>FleQ (<math>\Delta ung</math> Tn7::pAra-<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> <i>fleQ</i>-<i>dddA</i>)</b>					
1	1.9E-167	5192977	0.0182	828	<i>cdrA</i>
2	1.6E-157	2453477	0.0196	624	<i>pslA</i>
3	4.0E-25	3221641	0.0092	479	PA2869
4	5.9E-25	1549819	0.0079	402	<i>bdlA</i>
5	1.6E-21	3434343	0.0067	704	<i>pelA</i>
6	2.2E-16	1592133	0.0066	563	<i>motD</i>
7	2.2E-16	1187368	0.0042	480	<i>fleQ</i>
8	5.7E-14	2129043	0.0054	529	PA1945
9	2.4E-11	196854	0.0070	439	<i>siaA</i>
10	9.9E-11	1582818	0.0036	429	<i>flhF</i>
11	2.2E-09	2737599	0.0075	686	PA2440
12	1.4E-04	1572170	0.0030	394	<i>fliL</i>
13	1.6E-02	3751994	0.0027	316	PA3340
14	1.8E-02	1215200	0.0040	508	<i>yfiR</i>
<b>GcsR (Tn7::pAra-<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> <i>gcsR</i>-<i>dddA</i> pPSV39::pLac-<i>ugi</i>)</b>					
1	<1.9E-999	2747582	0.0830	511	<i>gcvH2</i>
2	9.6E-113	6199779	0.0391	610	PA5508
3	2.1E-83	2744696	0.0344	204	<i>gcvH2</i>
4	1.5E-26	2141807	0.0153	1000	PA1957
5	5.0E-22	6151145	0.0104	934	PA5459
6	1.0E-21	4230516	0.0117	756	PA3372
7	1.8E-21	2754908	0.0127	283	PA2454
8	2.8E-17	1121658	0.0117	612	PA1032
9	4.0E-15	2749090	0.0463	26	PA2448
10	1.5E-12	6195909	0.0110	364	PA5503
11	9.0E-12	2751477	0.0155	213	PA2449
12	1.5E-09	2742380	0.0107	166	PA2443
13	8.9E-08	2750504	0.0168	109	<i>gcsR</i>

<sup>1</sup>Peaks are listed in order of increasing p-value.

<sup>2</sup>P-values calculated as described in the supplemental methods.

<sup>3,4</sup> The peak profile function represents cell-mean allele frequency as a function of genomic position. The amplitude parameter  $I$  represents the height of the peak of the profile function. The width parameter  $L$  controls its width. See supplemental methods.

**Table S2. Significant peaks detected in this study by ChIP-seq.**

Peak number <sup>1</sup>	Fold enrichment	Peak maximum	Peak start	Peak end	Closest annotated gene
<b>GcsR (<i>gcsR</i>–VSV-G)</b>					
1	92	2747441	2746047	2748292	<i>gcvH2</i>
2	13	5402788	5402462	5403174	<i>lipC</i>
3	9.1	945626	945487	945780	PA0864
4	5.6	2516215	2516073	2516373	PA2288
5	3.4	4373881	4373741	4374013	PA3904
6	3.4	3070313	3070176	3070417	PA2715
7	3.2	1205058	1204920	1205189	PA1112a
<b>GacA (<i>ΔretS gacA</i>–VSV-G)</b>					
1	22E01	586983	586145	587484	<i>rsmY</i>
2	21E01	4057808	4057399	4058161	<i>rsmZ</i>
3	3.6	5214833	5214674	5215156	PA4648

<sup>1</sup>Peaks are listed in order of decreasing fold enrichment.

**Table S3: Bacterial strains used**

Strain	Source
<b><i>P. aeruginosa</i> strains</b>	
PAO1	30
$\Delta$ ung	15
attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub>	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub>	This study
attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i>	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i>	This study
attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> pPSV39(empty)	This study
attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> pPSV39- <i>ugi</i>	This study
attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG <i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i>	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG <i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> $\Delta$ <i>retS</i>	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG <i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> $\Delta$ <i>gacS</i>	This study
$\Delta$ ung attTn7::araC-P <sub>BAD</sub> - <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -FLAG <i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i>	This study
$\Delta$ <i>gcsR</i>	This study
GcsR-V	This study
$\Delta$ <i>retS</i>	This study
$\Delta$ <i>retS</i> GacA-V	This study
<b><i>E. coli</i> strains</b>	
DH5 $\alpha$	
SM10	Novagen
HB101	43
S17-1	44

**Table S4: Plasmids used**

Plasmid	Reference
pEXG2	31
pSCRhaB2	45
pPSV39	46
pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE	35
pRK2103	47
pTNS3	48
pFLP2	49
pEXG2- <i>Δung</i>	15
pEXG2- <i>ΔretS</i> (pEXG2_ΔPA4856)	34
pEXG2- <i>ΔgacS</i> (pEXG2_ΔPA0928)	33
pSCRhaB2- <i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i>	This study
pEXG2- <i>gcsR-dddA</i>	This study
pEXG2- <i>gacA-dddA</i>	This study
pEXG2- <i>fleQ-dddA</i>	This study
pEXG2- <i>ΔgcsR</i>	This study
pEXG2-GscR-V	This study
pEXG2-GacA-V	This study
pPSV39- <i>ugi</i>	This study
pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE- <i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i>	This study
pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE- <i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> -FLAG	This study

**Table S5: Plasmid construction.**

The following plasmids were generated by combining the individual fragments listed using either Gibson cloning or overlap extension PCR. Primer sequences are listed in Table S6.

**pSCRhaB2-*dddA*<sub>I</sub>**

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pSCRhaB2/NdeI/XbaI	NA		
<i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub>	<i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <sup>13</sup>	pSCRhaB:: <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -F	pSCRhaB:: <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -R

**pEXG2-*gcsR*-*dddA***

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII/XhoI	NA		
5' end of <i>gcsR</i>	PAO1 gDNA	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 1	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 2
linker+ <i>dddA</i>	XTEN linker <sup>50</sup>	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 3	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 4
<i>gcsR</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 5	<i>gcsR</i> - <i>dddA</i> 6

**pEXG2-*gacA*-*dddA***

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII/XhoI	NA		
5' end of <i>gacA</i>	PAO1 gDNA	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 1	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 2
linker+ <i>dddA</i>	XTEN linker <sup>50</sup>	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 3	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 4
<i>gacA</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 5	<i>gacA</i> - <i>dddA</i> 6

**pEXG2-*fleQ*-*dddA***

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII/XhoI	NA		
5' end of <i>fleQ</i>	PAO1 gDNA	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 1	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 2
linker+ <i>dddA</i>	XTEN linker <sup>50</sup>	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 3	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 4
<i>fleQ</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 5	<i>fleQ</i> - <i>dddA</i> 6

**pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE-*dddA*<sub>I</sub>**

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-	NA		
pBAD-			
<i>araE</i> /KpnI/HindIII			
<i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub>	<i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> <sup>13</sup>	pUC18- <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -F	pUC18- <i>dddA</i> <sub>I</sub> -R

**pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-pBAD-araE-*dddA*<sub>I</sub>-FLAG**

Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pUC18T-miniTn7T-Gm-	NA		
pBAD-			
<i>araE</i> /KpnI/HindIII			

<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> -FLAG	<i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> <sup>13</sup>	pUC18- <i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> -F	pUC18- <i>dddA<sub>I</sub></i> -FLAG-R
<b>pPSV39-<i>ugi</i></b>			
Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pPSV39/SacI/XbaI	NA		
<i>ugi</i>	ugi gBlock codon optimized	pPSV39-UGI-F	pPSV39-UGI-R
<b>pEXG2-<math>\Delta</math>gcsR</b>			
Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII	NA		
/BamHI			
<i>gcsR</i> 5' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX.del.gcsR 1	pEX.del.gcsR 2
<i>gcsR</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX.del.gcsR 3	pEX.del.gcsR 4
<b>pEXG2-GcsR-V</b>			
Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII	NA		
/BamHI			
<i>gacA</i> 5' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX-GcsR-V 1	pEX-GcsR-V 2
<i>gacA</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX-GcsR-V 3	pEX-GcsR-V 4
<b>pEXG2-GacA-V</b>			
Fragment	Template	F primer	R primer
pEXG2/HindIII	NA		
/BamHI			
<i>fleQ</i> 5' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX-GacA-V 1	pEX-GacA-V 2
<i>fleQ</i> 3' flank	PAO1 gDNA	pEX-GacA-V 3	pEX-GacA-V 4

**Table S6: Primer sequences**

Primer	Sequence
pSCRhaB::dddAI-F	TGAAATTCAAGCAGGATCACATATGTACGCAGACGATTGAC
pSCRhaB::dddAI-R	TCATTTCAATATCTGTATATCTAGATTACAACCTCGCTCCATGTC
gcsR-dddA 1	GGAAGCATAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTGCAACCTGGAGAAGATG GTCGCCG
gcsR-dddA 2	TACCTCCAGAGGCGCGCGGACCGATGCC
gcsR-dddA 3	TCCGCGCGCTCTGGAGGTAGCTCCGGC
gcsR-dddA 4	GCCCGCTTCAACAAACCTCCTTCGTGGG
gcsR-dddA 5	AGGAGGTTGTTGAAGCGGGCTCAGCCCT
gcsR-dddA 6	TTAAGGTACCGAATTGAGCTCGAGCAATCCAAGGAGTTCG AGCG
gacA-dddA 1	GGAAGCATAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTCGGATGTCGTCTGATG GAC
gacA-dddA 2	TACCTCCAGAGCTGGCGGCATCGACCAT
gacA-dddA 3	TGCCGCCAGCTCTGGAGGTAGCTCCGGC
gacA-dddA 4	CGCTCATCTAACAAACCTCCTTCGTGGG
gacA-dddA 5	AGGAGGTTGTTAGATGAGCGCCGTTTCGACGC
gacA-dddA 6	TTAAGGTACCGAATTGAGCTCGAGGGCCGCGTACGGTTGCG G
fleQ-dddA 1	GGAAGCATAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTTCGCCCTGCTGCTAACG
fleQ-dddA 2	TACCTCCAGAACATCCGACAGGGCTCG
fleQ-dddA 3	GTCGGATGATTCTGGAGGTAGCTCCGGC
fleQ-dddA 4	CGACCTGTCAACAAACCTCCTTCGTGGG
fleQ-dddA 5	AGGAGGTTGTTGACAGGTCGTTCGCAACGCTTG
fleQ-dddA 6	TTAAGGTACCGAATTGAGCTCGAGCGCGCGGAGCGAAGCAG C
pPSV39-UGI-F	GATAACAATTCAAGAACATTGAGCTCACGGGAGGAAAGATGAC GAATCTCAGCGACAT
pPSV39-UGI-R	TCATTTCAATATCTGTATATCTAGATTAGAGCATCTTGATTTG TTCTCGC
pUC18-dddAI-F	GGGCTAGCGAACATTGAGCTCGGTACCACGGGAGGAAAGATGT AC
pUC18-dddAI-R	CTCATCCGCCAAACAGCCAAGCTTCACAACCTCGCTCCATGT C
pUC18-dddAI- FLAG-R	CTTCTCTCATCCGCCAAACAGCCAAGCTTCATTGTCGTCGT CGTCTTGTAGTCCAAC CGCTCCATGTCAG
pEX.del.gcsR 1	CATAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTTGGTACCGAGGGCGGACT
pEX.del.gcsR 2	AGCCCGCTTCAGGCGCGCGGGATGCGCATGCGGA
pEX.del.gcsR 3	CAGGTTCCCGCATGCGCATCCCGCGCGCTGAAGC
pEX.del.gcsR 4	TCGAGCTCGAGCCCAGGGATCCTCGATTACCCACCTGC
pEX-GcsR-V 1	CATAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTTACCTGTTCTACCGCCTCA
pEX-GcsR-V 2	CTTGCCGAGGCGGTTCAATTGAGCTCGGTGTAAGCGGCCGCG GCGCGCGGACCGATGC

pEX-GcsR-V 3	CGGGCCGCTTACACCGACATCGAAATGAACCGCCTCGGCAAG TGAAGCGGGCTCAGCCC
pEX-GcsR-V 4	TCGAGCTCGAGCCCAGGGATCCGAGTTCGAGCGCTTCAG
pEX-GacA-V 1	CATAAAATGTAAAGCAAGCTTGAAGCTGAGCGCGATGTC
pEX-GacA-V 2	CTTGCCGAGGCCGGTTCATTCGATGTCGGTGTAAAGCGGCCGCG CTGGCGGCATCGACCA
pEX-GacA-V 3	CGGGCCGCTTACACCGACATCGAAATGAACCGCCTCGGCAAG TAGATGAGCGCCGTTTC
<u>pEX-GacA-V 4</u>	<u>TCGAGCTCGAGCCCAGGGATCCGCGCTCGGATAGGGACC</u>