

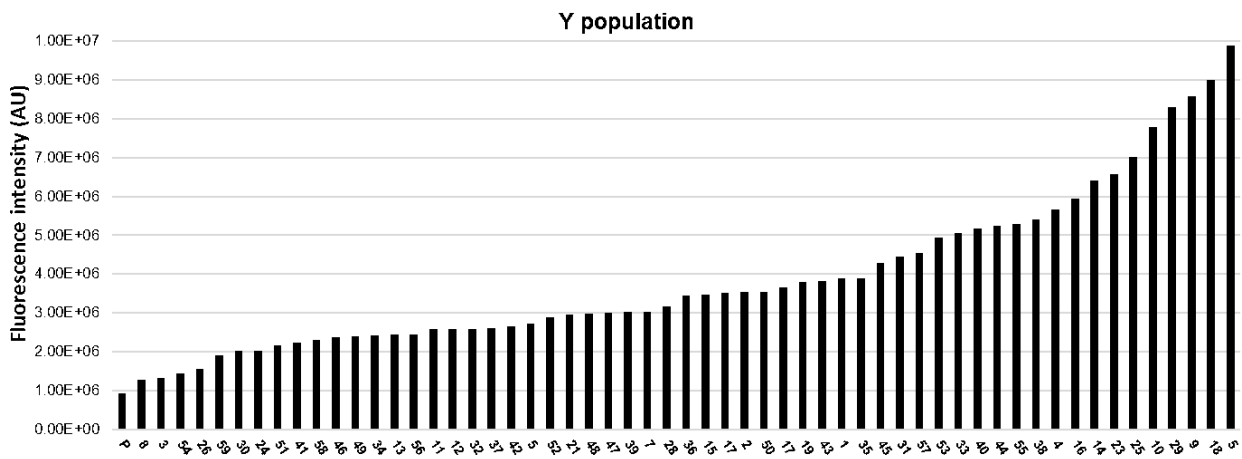
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15 **Fig. S1 Map of the pMAI79-R9-gfp plasmid.** The two unique restriction sites (NotI and Ascl) introduced
 16 upstream and downstream of the OriR sequence for the construction of the pMAI79-R9-gfp vector are
 17 highlighted in red. The map illustrates the genetic structure of the plasmid backbone including the pMtBL-
 18 derived replication origin for the maintenance in *PhTAC125* (OriR), the promoter (*PlacZ*), and the
 19 regulatory sequence (*PhlacR*) of lac operon recovered from the *PhTAE79*, the transcriptional terminator of
 20 the *PhTAC125 aspC* gene (*TaspC*), the conjugational DNA transfer origin (OriT), the β -lactamase encoding
 21 gene (*amp^R*) and the pUC18-derived replication origin for the propagation in *E. coli* (OriC).

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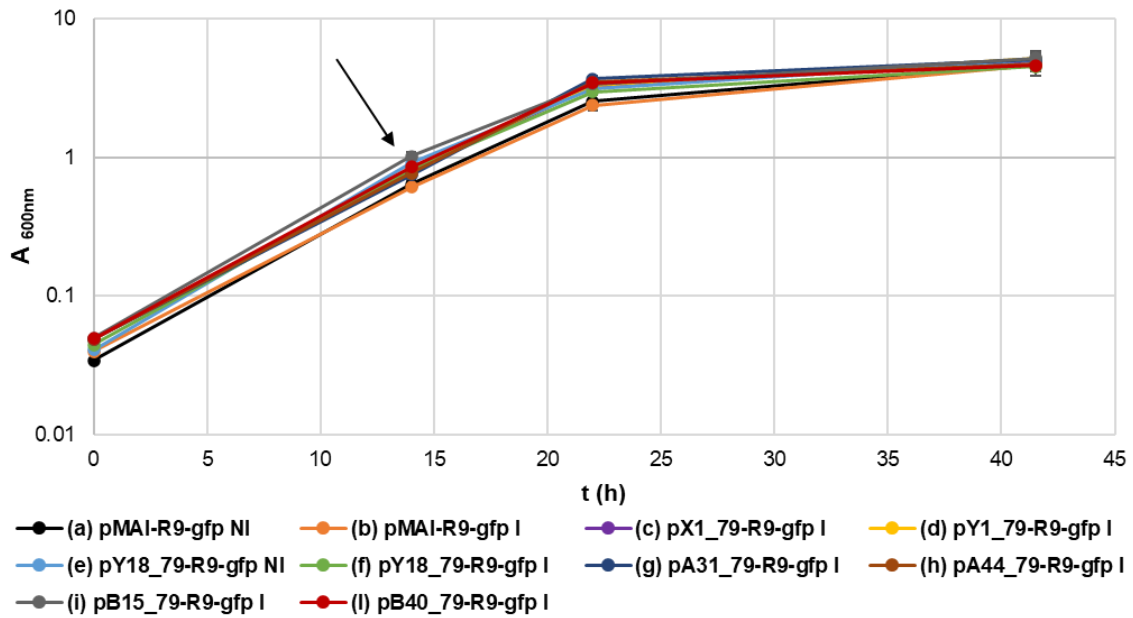
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26 **Fig. S2 Analysis of the R9-GFP expression by spectrofluorimetry.** 60 clones of the Y population were
 27 randomly selected, cultivated in 96 deep well plates filled with the GG medium at 15°C, and harvested after
 28 24 h from induction. The fluorescence of the progenitor (P) and the clones indicated on the x-axis are
 29 reported in arbitrary units (AU) as mean \pm SD, n = 3.

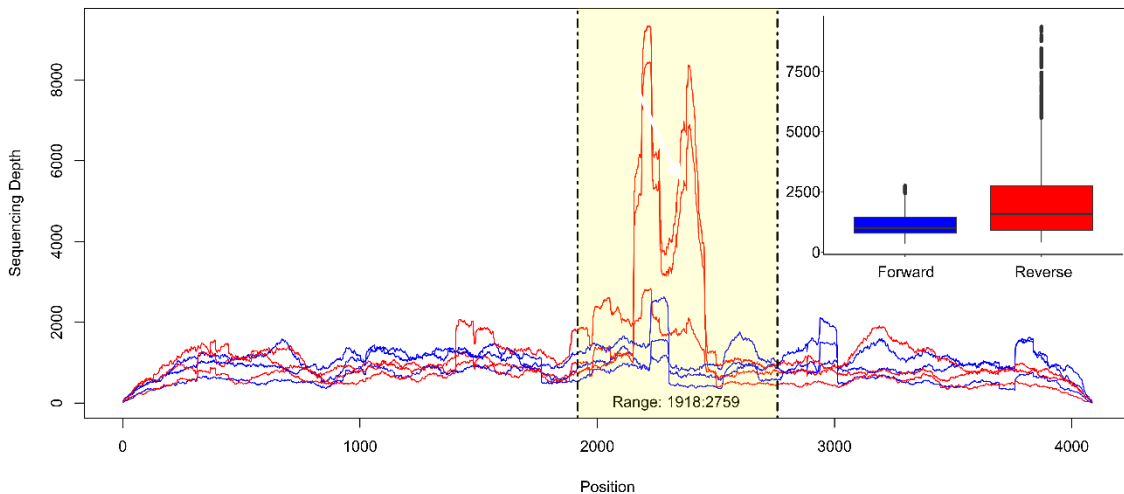
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32 **Fig. S3 Growth curves of KrPL harboring the original plasmid (*pMAI-R9-gfp*) and the high-copy**
 33 **plasmids.** The recombinant cells were grown in the GG medium at 15 °C. Growth curves of non-induced
 34 cells harboring *pMAI-R9-gfp* (a) and *pY18_79-R9-gfp* (e). Growth curves of induced cells (5 mM IPTG)
 35 harboring *pMAI-R9-gfp* (b), *pX1_79-R9-gfp* (c), *pY1_79-R9-gfp* (d), *pY18_79-R9-gfp* (f), *pA31_79-R9-gfp*
 36 (g), *pA44_79-R9-gfp* (h), *pB15_79-R9-gfp* (i), and *pB40_79-R9-gfp* (l). The moment of the induction is
 37 represented with a black arrow.

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40 **Fig. S4 Display of RNA-Seq data.** Data from pMtBL transcriptome, the total coverage is displayed as a
 41 plot showing nucleotide-level sequence depth for the forward (blue) and reverse strand (red). The highlight
 42 focuses on OriR region, which stretches from nucleotides 1918 to 2759. Boxplot in the inset shows the
 43 quartiles of total forward (blue, mean: 1008.218, SD: 420.3342) and total reverse (red, mean: 2242.505,
 44 SD: 2123.815) strand sequencing depths for the highlighted region.

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Table S1 List of bacterial strains, plasmids, and primers used in this study.

Strain	Relevant characteristics	References or Source
<i>E. coli</i> strains		
<i>DH5α</i>	[supE44, ΔlacU169 (φ80 lacZΔM15) hsdR17, recA1, endA1, gyrA96, thi-1, relA1]	Lab stock
S17-1 (<i>λpir</i>)	thi, pro, hsd(r- m+) recA::RP4-2-TCr::Mu Kmr::Tn7 Tpr Smr λpir	Tascon et al. 1993
XL10-Gold Ultracompetent Cells	TetR Δ(mcrA)183 Δ(mcrCB-hsdSMR-mrr)173 endA1 supE44 thi-1 recA1 gyrA96 relA1 lac Hte [F' proAB lacIqZΔM15 Tn10 (TetR) Amy CamR]	Lab stock
<i>PhTAC125</i> strains		
<i>PhTAC125 wt</i>	Possesses two endogenous plasmids	Médigue et al. 2005 and CIP 108707
KrPL	<i>PhTAC125</i> cured strain without pMtBL plasmid	Lab stock (Unpublished data)
Plasmid		
pP79- <i>R9-gfp</i>	Expression vector with <i>PhTAE79 lacZ</i> regulative sequences producing enhanced GFP	Colarusso et al. 2020
pMAI79- <i>R9-gfp</i>	pP79- <i>R9-gfp</i> vector, introducing two unique restriction sites, <i>NotI</i> and <i>AscI</i>	This work
Primer name		
Sequence (5' - 3')		
Multiple-site mutagenesis		
Left OriR <i>NotI</i> Fw	CGGAAAAGATCCGTCGATTGCGGCCGCTTATTTAACATAAAAAAC	
Right OriR <i>AscI</i> Rv	TCAATTCATGTGAGCAAAAAGGCGCGCCAAAGGCCAGGAACCGTAA	
Random mutagenesis		
mut pP79- <i>R9-gfp</i> Fw	GAAAAGATCCGTCGATTGCGGCCGC	
mut pP79- <i>R9-gfp</i> Rv	GTTCTGGCCTTTGGCGCGCCTTT	
Quantitative PCR		
<i>PSHAa2051</i> Fw	AACCGCACACAGACCCGAA	
<i>PSHAa2051</i> Rv	AACGCACATTGGCATGACTGG	
<i>R9-gfp</i> Fw	GGAGAGGGTGAAGGTGATGCT	
<i>R9-gfp</i> Rv	GGTCAGAGTAGTGACAAGTGTGG	
Deletions		
OriR_BsiWI Fw	GGCCGTACGGAAGAATACTTTTCAGATGAGTT	
OriR_BsiWI Rv	CGGCGTACGAATTCCTGCAAGCATACT	
OriR_Nsil Fw	GGCCGTACGGAAGAATACTTTTCAGATGAGTT	
OriR_Nsil Rv	CGGCGTACGAATTCCTGCAAGCATACT	
OriR_ <i>NotI</i> Fw	CTCGCAGAGCAGGATCCCCGTTGAG	
OriR_ <i>AscI</i> Rv	CGCGGCGCGCCTGTTTTACTTTTTAA	

47 **Table S2 Free energy values (kcal/mol) of RNA and DNA secondary structures in the selected**
 48 **mutants compared to wild-type OriR were estimated with the Mfold tool**

Sample	RNA structure		DNA structure	
	Stem-loop I Free energy minimum (kcal/mol)	Stem-loop II Free energy minimum (kcal/mol)	Stem-loop I Free energy minimum (kcal/mol)	Stem-loop II Free energy minimum (kcal/mol)
wild-type	-4.12	-17.45	-3.50	-14.67
X1	-3.81	/	-1.60	/
Y1	/	-11.66	/	-9.24
Y18	/	-11.47	/	-10.52
A31	/	-19.57	/	-16.05
A44	-2.57	/	-1.75	/
B15	-3.08	-11.77	-2.92	-10.40
B40	-2.69	-11.26	-2.07	-9.64