

Supplementary Information

Diversity and function of Methyl-coenzyme M reductase-encoding archaea in Yellowstone hot springs revealed by metagenomics and mesocosm experiments

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SI Table 1. Location, pH, and temperature of main study sites. Data recorded at the time of sampling for metagenomics (2017) and mesocosm experiments (2019).

	Year	Unit	LCB003	LCB019	LCB024
Latitude		N. Lat	44.57763	44.56765	44.57347
Longitude		W. Lon	110.78957	110.80759	110.79504
pH	2017		6.47	3.02	7.79
Temperature		°C	72.5	47.1	69.4
pH	2019		6.55	5.25	7.00
Temperature		°C	72.5	47.0	69.3

SI Table 2. Aquatic geochemistry of main study sites (2017-2020). Data shown as ranges when applicable.

	Year	Unit	LCB003	LCB019	LCB024
pH	2017-2020		6.14 - 6.84	3.02 - 5.51	7.00 - 7.90
Temperature		°C	70.1 - 79.0	44.4 - 52.3	61.4 - 73.7
CH ₄ (aq)		nM	40 - 211	470 - 576	30 - 77
O ₂ (aq)		μM	<13 - 117	<13 - 171	<13 - 131
H ₂ S (aq)	2019-2020	μM	0.91 - 3.28	1.04 - 14.59	11.98 - 34.50
Fe (II)		μM	0 - 12	82 - 104	0
total Fe (II, III)		μM	0 - 20	97 - 99	0 - 1.1
CO ₂ (aq)		μM	27 - 340	487 - 580	16 - 32
PO ₄ ³⁻		μM	0.98	6.11	0.79
total N		μM	19.70	56.78	9.55
NH ₄ ⁺		μM	6.26	29.14	1.54
NO ₂ ⁻		μM	0.05	0.04	0.24
SO ₄ ²⁻	2017	mM	0.14	0.36	0.15
Cl ⁻		mM	8.03	4.88	8.53
F ⁻		mM	1.28	0.95	1.53
total C		mM	2.57	2.56	2.96
inorganic C		mM	1.87	0.89	2.97
non-purgeable organic C		mM	0.18	0.30	0.07

SI Table 3. Elemental analysis of main study sites (2017). BD, below detection.

	Unit	LCB003	LCB019	LCB024
Ag	μM	0.01	BD	0.06
Al	μM	8.34	44.48	9.45
As	μM	11.41	5.81	15.42
Ba	μM	BD	0.26	BD
Be	μM	1.00	BD	BD
Bi	μM	0.07	BD	BD
Ca	μM	52.40	67.37	28.07
Cd	μM	BD	BD	BD
Co	μM	BD	BD	BD
Cr	μM	BD	BD	BD
Cu	μM	BD	BD	BD
Fe	μM	1.37	6.98	BD
Mg	μM	11.73	22.83	BD
Mn	μM	BD	0.38	BD
Mo	μM	0.27	BD	1.72
Ni	μM	BD	BD	BD
Pb	μM	0.06	BD	BD
Sb	μM	BD	BD	0.17
Se	μM	0.28	0.09	0.11
Sr	μM	BD	BD	BD
Ti	μM	0.47	BD	BD
Tl	μM	0.01	BD	BD
V	μM	0.53	0.06	0.27
Zn	μM	0.53	0.16	0.11
B	mM	0.33	0.17	0.34
K	mM	0.13	0.35	0.25
Li	mM	0.33	0.23	0.40
Na	mM	10.25	5.09	12.16
S	mM	0.31	0.73	0.26
Si	mM	2.47	3.07	3.09

SI Table 4. NCBI BioSamples for MAGs under BioProject PRJNA859922.

MAG	Taxonomy	NCBI Taxonomy/Organism	BioSample	Accession
LCB019-065	<i>Methanolinea</i>	<i>Methanolinea</i> sp.	SAMN29855412	JANIHI000000000
LCB019-055	<i>Methanothermobacter</i>	<i>Methanothermobacter</i> sp.	SAMN29855422	JANIHH000000000
LCB019-064	<i>Methanotherrix</i>	<i>Methanotherrix</i> sp.	SAMN29855467	JANIHG000000000
LCB019-061	Methanomassiliicoccales	Methanomassiliicoccales archaeon	SAMN29855483	JANHAK000000000
LCB019-004	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i>	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i> archaeon	SAMN29877625	JANHAI000000000
LCB019-019	<i>Ca. Methanosuratus</i>	<i>Ca. Methanosuratincola</i> sp.	SAMN29877776	JANIHIJ000000000
LCB019-026	<i>Ca. Methanomethylovorales</i>	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i> archaeon	SAMN29877790	JANHAJ000000000
LCB024-024	<i>Ca. Methanomethylovorales</i>	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i> archaeon	SAMN29851525	JANHAL000000000
LCB003-007	<i>Ca. Methanomethyloarchaeales</i>	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i> archaeon	SAMN29878106	JANHAH000000000
LCB024-038	<i>Ca. Methanomethyloarchaeales</i>	<i>Ca. Methanomethylica</i> archaeon	SAMN29851763	JANHAM000000000
LCB024-003	Archaeoglobi	Archaeoglobi archaeon	SAMN29809817	JANFND000000000
LCB024-034	<i>Ca. Hadesarchaeia</i>	<i>Ca. Hadesarchaea</i> archaeon	SAMN29854158	JANIHF000000000

SI Table 5. Marker genes used in phylogenomic analysis of MAGs.

arCOG	Gene	Description
arCOG00415	RecA	RecA/RadA recombinase
arCOG01227	FtsY	Signal recognition particle GTPase
arCOG01762	RpoB/Rpo2	DNA directed RNA polymerase subunit B
arCOG01946	RPS6A	Ribosomal protein S6E (S10)
arCOG01950	RPL24A	Ribosomal protein L24E
arCOG04067	RplB	Ribosomal protein L2
arCOG04072	RplW	Ribosomal protein L23
arCOG04087	RpsE	Ribosomal protein S5
arCOG04088	RplR	Ribosomal protein L18
arCOG04097	RpsC/rps3p	Ribosomal protein S3
arCOG04098	RplV/rpl22p	Ribosomal protein L22
arCOG04099	RpsS/rps19p	Ribosomal protein S19
arCOG04185	RpsO	Ribosomal protein S15P
arCOG04208	RPL43A	Ribosomal protein L37AE/L43A
arCOG04255	RpsL/rps12p	Ribosomal protein S12
arCOG04277	Efp	Translation elongation factor P (EF-P)/translation initiation factor 5A (eIF-5A)
arCOG04314	RPS28A	Ribosomal protein S28E/S33
arCOG04372	RplK	Ribosomal protein L11

SI Table 6. Overview of Mcr-encoding lineages detected in this study. Color coding by site: orange, LCB003, magenta, LCB019, blue, LCB024.

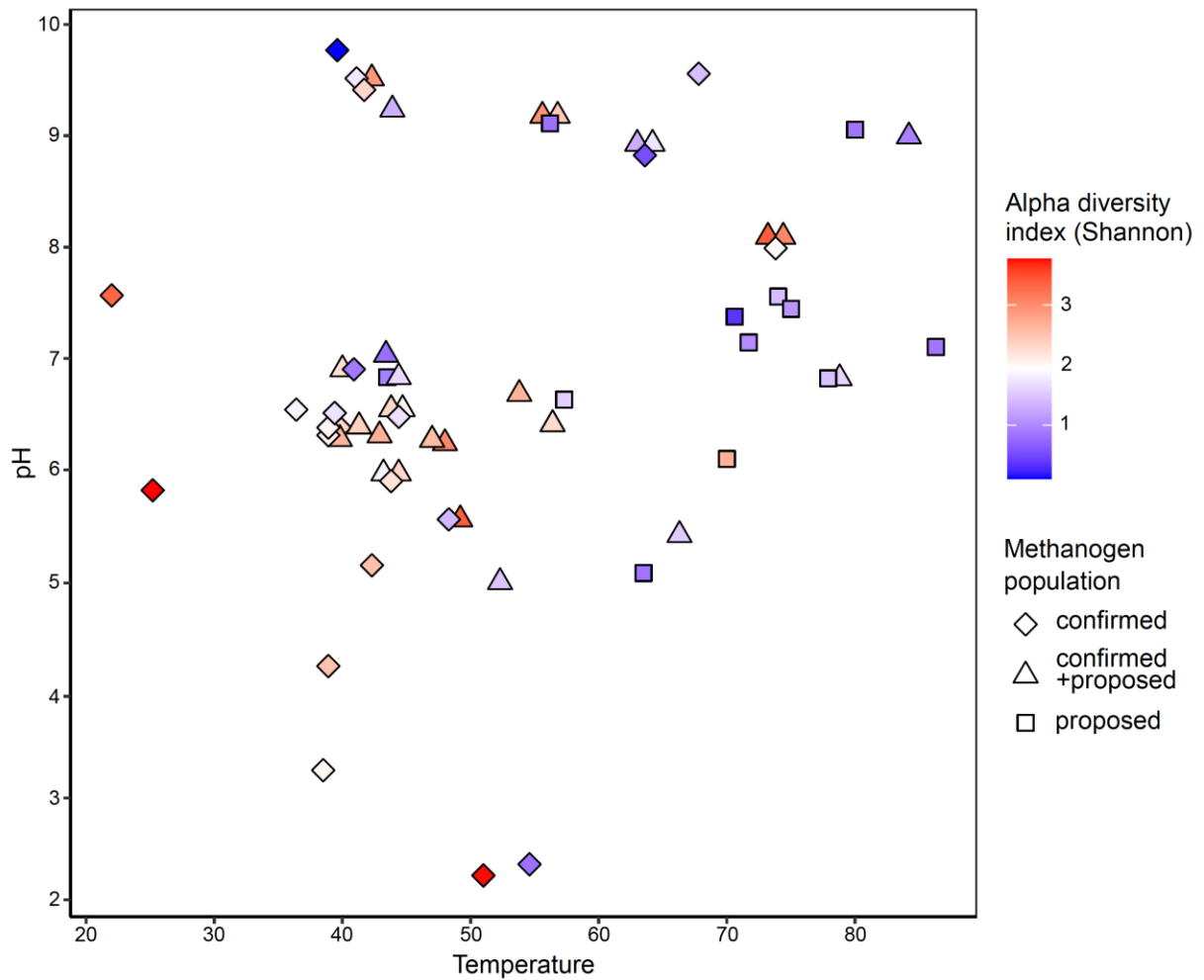
Detected group	Status	MCR-based metabolism/ metabolic potential	<i>mcrA</i> ASVs ¹	<i>mcrA</i> MG ²	<i>mcrA</i> MAG ³	16S rRNA ASVs ⁴
<i>Methanocella</i>	cultured	methanogenesis (H ₂)	2	3		
<i>Methanotherix</i>	cultured	methanogenesis (acetate)	2	1	1	1
<i>Methanolinea</i>	cultured	methanogenesis (H ₂)	2	1	1	
<i>Methanothermobacter</i>	cultured	methanogenesis (methyl- groups)	3	5	1	1 2
Methanomassiliicoccales	cultured	methanogenesis (H ₂ , methyl-groups)		2	1	
Archaeoglobi	MAG	methanogenesis (H ₂ , methyl-groups), methane/alkane oxidation	3 5	5	1	3 1
<i>Ca. Korarchaeia</i>	MAG	methanogenesis (H ₂ , methyl-groups), methane oxidation	1	1		1
<i>Ca. Methanomethylicia</i>	MAG	methanogenesis (H ₂ , methyl-groups), methane/alkane oxidation		1 2 6 2	1 4 1	2
<i>Ca. Nezharchaeia</i>	MAG	methanogenesis (H ₂)		2		1
<i>Ca. Hadesarchaeia</i>	MAG	methane/alkane oxidation		1 2 3	1	

¹ number of *mcrA* ASVs at >1% relative sequence abundance detected via amplicon sequencing.

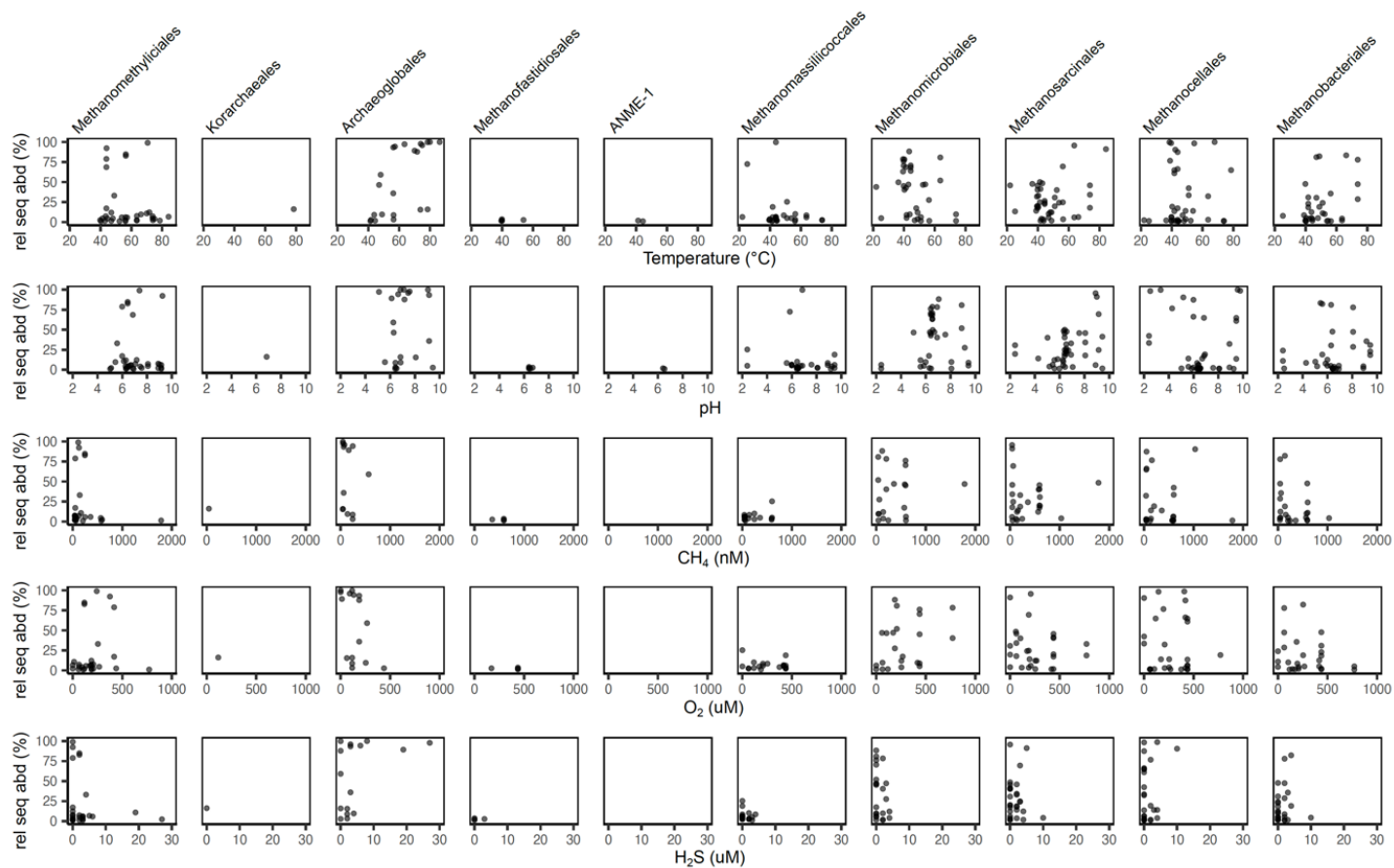
² number of *mcrA* genes (>300 nt) detected in metagenomes.

³ number of reconstructed MAGs containing *mcrA* genes.

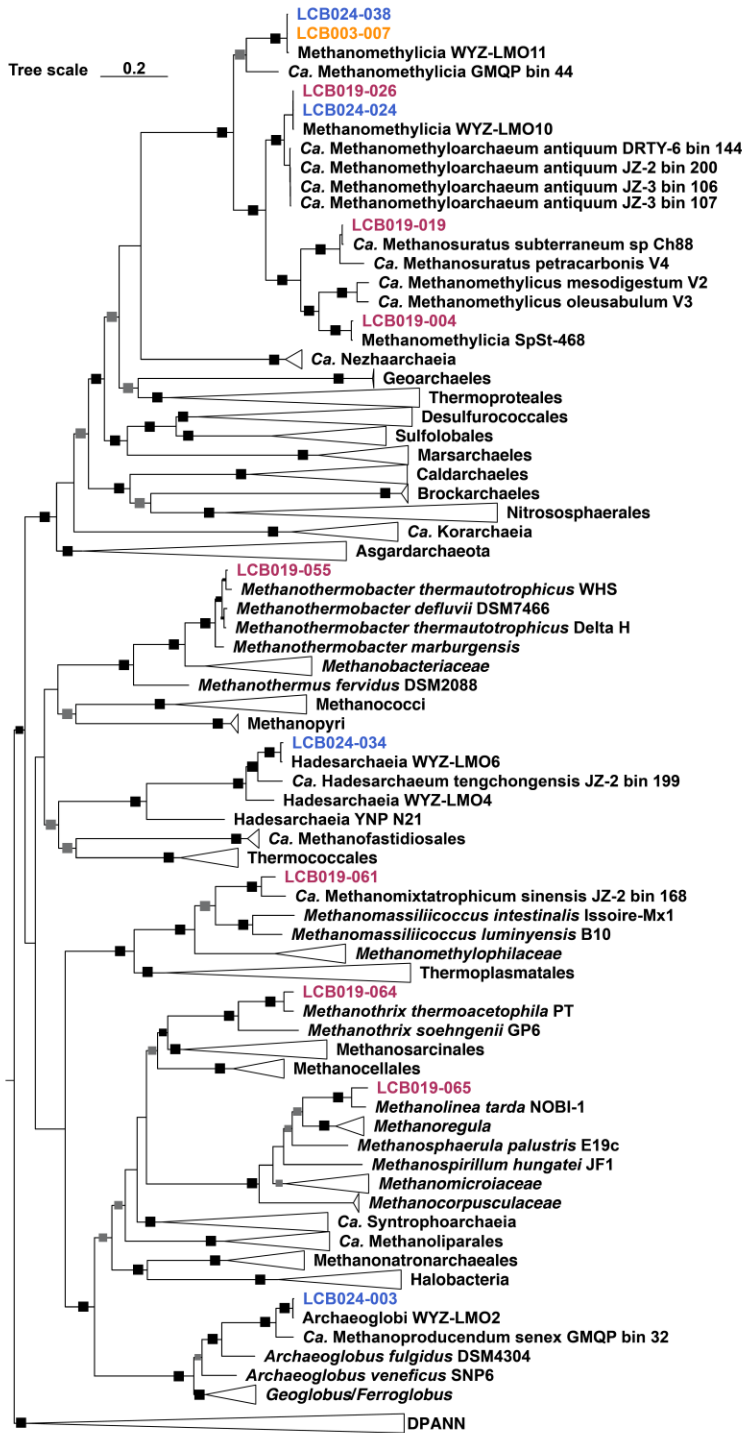
⁴ number of 16S rRNA ASVs enriched in mesocosms at >3% relative sequence abundance detected via amplicon sequencing.



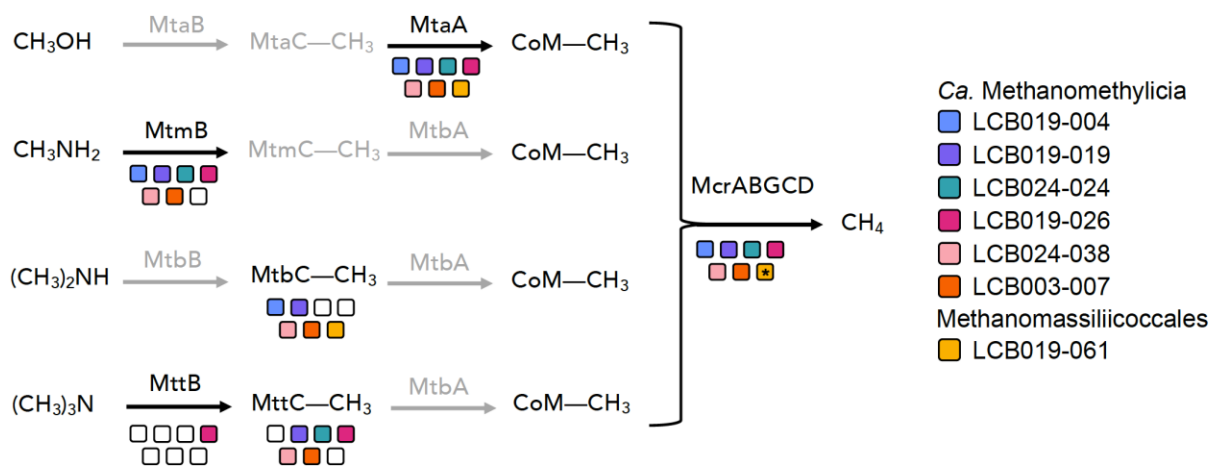
SI Figure 1. Alpha diversity of *mcrA* gene ASVs across temperature and pH. Most samples were retrieved from geothermal features with circumneutral pH and moderate to elevated temperatures (35-80°C). *mcrA* alpha diversity (Shannon index) indicates a trend towards decreased richness at elevated temperatures. *Mcr*-encoding communities tend to be primarily composed of confirmed methanogens at moderate temperatures and proposed methanogens or methane/alkane oxidizing archaea at elevated temperatures.



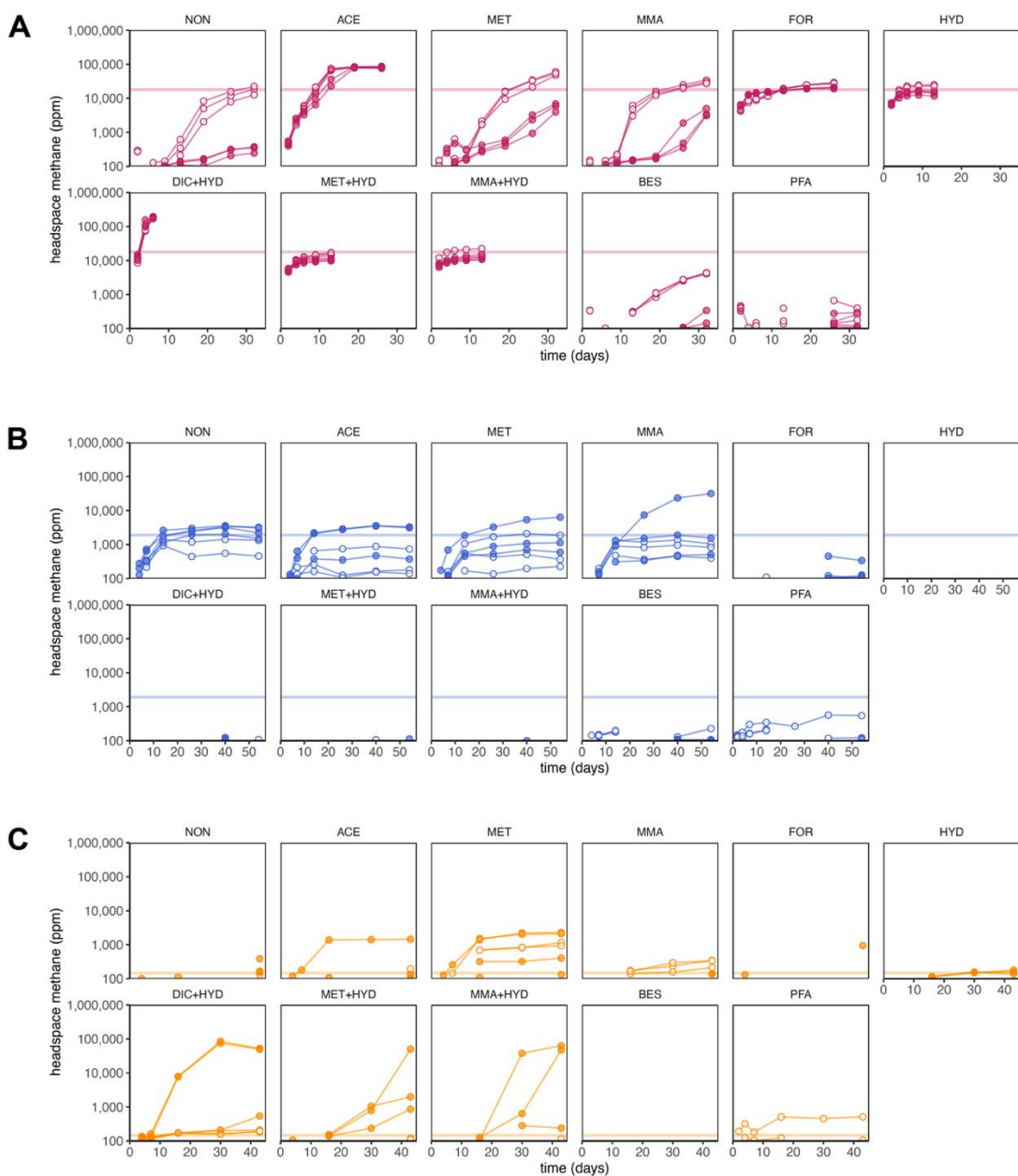
SI Figure 2. Distribution of Mcr-encoding archaea across physicochemical regimes. Mcr-encoding lineages detected via *mcrA* gene amplicon sequencing with relative abundances >1%. Aqueous CH₄, O₂, and H₂S data not available for all samples. Detection limit for O₂ and H₂S was 13 μM and 2 μM, respectively.



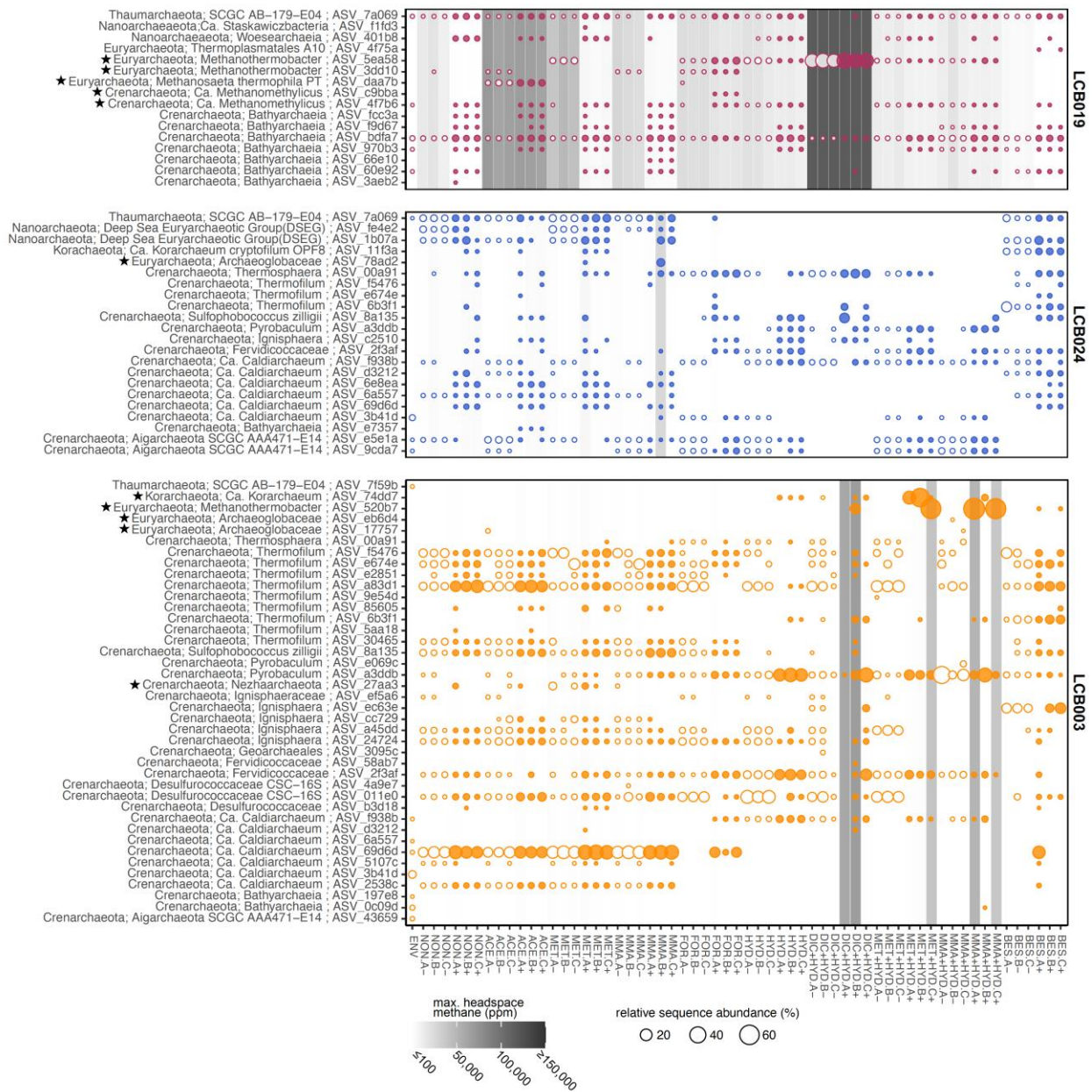
SI Figure 3. Phylogenetic affiliation of Mcr-encoding MAGs. Expanded maximum-likelihood tree, inferred with IQtree and the best-fit LG+C60+F+G model, from the concatenated alignment of 18 conserved arCOGs (SI Table 4). Squares indicate ultrafast bootstrap values of 100% (black) and 95-99% (gray).



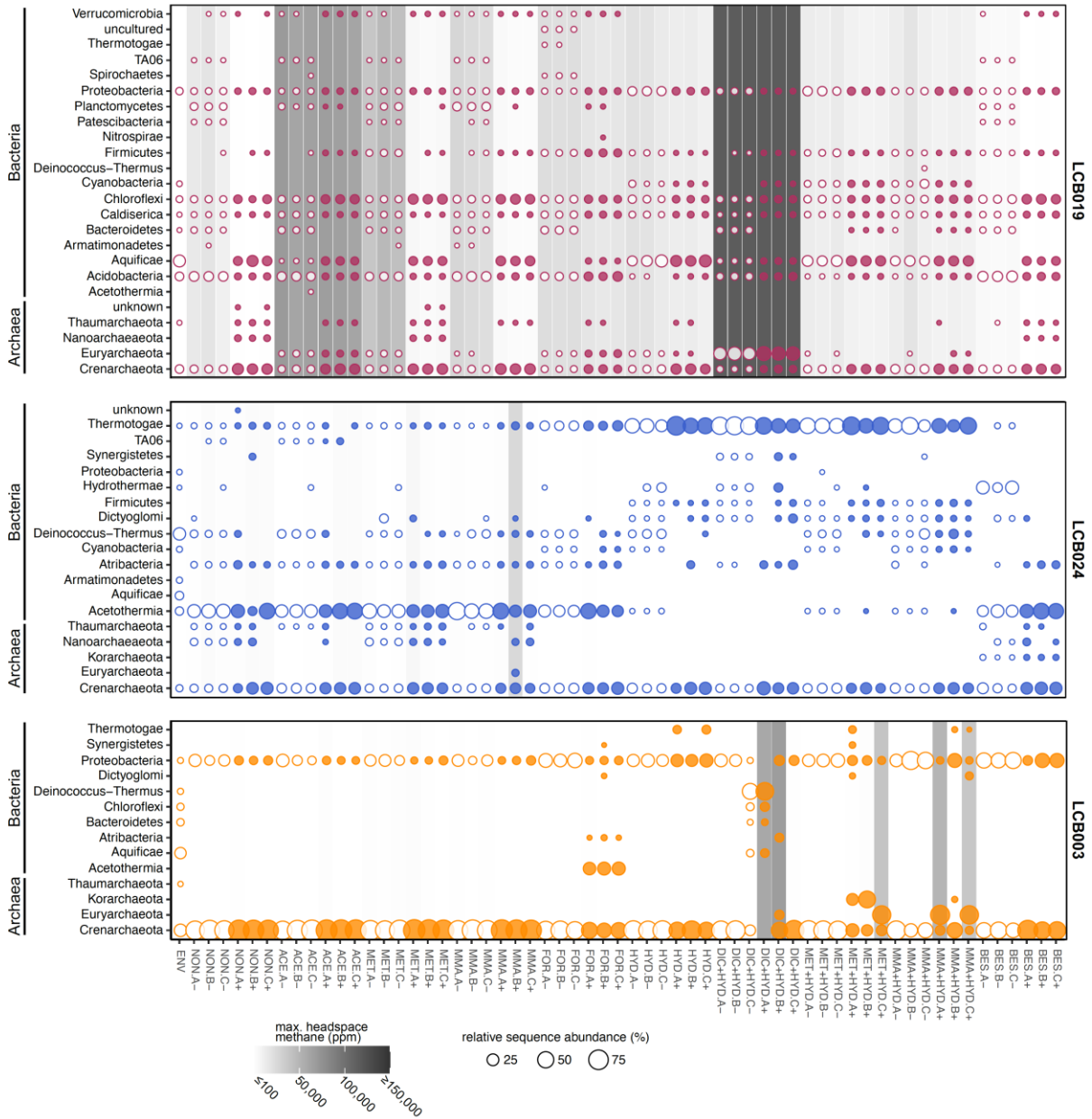
SI Figure 4. Proposed pathways for methylotrophic methanogenesis in MAGs from this study. Colors indicate individual MAGs affiliated with *Ca. Methanomethylica* and Methanomassiliicoccales. Filled squares indicate methyltransferases and corrinoid proteins detected in the MAG. Shaded in gray are methyltransferases and corrinoid proteins not detected in any MAG. * denotes absence of McrG in LCB019-061. See SI Data 3 for details on protein abbreviations.



SI Figure 5. Development of methane concentrations in the headspace of mesocosms. (A) LCB019, (B) LCB024 and (C) LCB003. Open circles, without antibiotics; filled circles, with antibiotics. Horizontal line: average maximum methane produced in controls without substrate amendment and without antibiotics. Detection limit: 100 ppm. Abbreviations: NON, no substrate amendment; FOR, formate; ACE, acetate; MET, methanol; MMA, monomethylamine; HYD, hydrogen; MMA+HYD, monomethylamine plus hydrogen; MET+HYD, methanol plus hydrogen; DIC+HYD, dissolved inorganic carbon ($\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2$) plus hydrogen; BES, bromoethanesulfonate (methanogenesis inhibitor); PFA, paraformaldehyde (killed control).



SI Figure 6. Relative sequence abundance of archaeal ASVs detected at >1% in mesocosms. Stars indicate ASVs identified as affiliated with Mcr-encoding archaea discussed in this study. Open circles, without antibiotics; filled circles, with antibiotics. Color coding by site: orange, LCB003, magenta, LCB019, blue, LCB024. Circle size proportional to relative sequence abundance. Gray shading indicates maximum methane concentration detected in mesocosm headspace. Abbreviations: ENV, environmental sample; NON, no substrate amendment; FOR, formate; ACE, acetate; MET, methanol; MMA, monomethylamine; HYD, hydrogen; MMA+HYD, monomethylamine plus hydrogen; MET+HYD, methanol plus hydrogen; DIC+HYD, dissolved inorganic carbon ($\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2$) plus hydrogen; BES, bromoethanesulfonate (methanogenesis inhibitor); PFA, paraformaldehyde (killed control).



SI Figure 7. Relative sequence abundance of phyla detected at >3% in mesocosms. Open circles, without antibiotics; filled circles, with antibiotics. Color coding by site: orange, LCB003, magenta, LCB019, blue, LCB024. Circle size proportional to relative sequence abundance. Gray shading indicates maximum methane concentration detected in mesocosm headspace. Abbreviations: ENV, environmental sample; NON, no substrate amendment; FOR, formate; ACE, acetate; MET, methanol; MMA, monomethylamine; HYD, hydrogen; MMA+HYD, monomethylamine plus hydrogen; MET+HYD, methanol plus hydrogen; DIC+HYD, dissolved inorganic carbon ($\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2$) plus hydrogen; BES, bromoethanesulfonate (methanogenesis inhibitor); PFA, paraformaldehyde (killed control).

Extended Materials and Methods

Physicochemical measurements, aqueous geochemistry, and elemental analysis.

Prior to removing any sediment or microbial mat material from geothermal features, pH and temperature were recorded using a thermocouple (Fluke 52 II; Everett, WA) and a portable pH meter (ThermoFisher Orion Star A329 with electrode 8107UWMMD, Accumet AP63 with electrode AP50A, Accumet AP71 with electrode AP55, Waltham, MA), and geothermal water was collected for analysis of aqueous geochemistry and elements. Water samples were filtered through a pre-rinsed 0.22 μm PES syringe filter directly into sterile screw-cap plastic tubes and carbon-free glass vials sealed headspace-free. Blanks were prepared with ultrapure water (Barnstead, ThermoFisher, 18.2 M Ω). Samples and blanks were stored at 4 °C until analysis by the Environmental Analytical Lab (Montana State University). An aliquot was acidified with trace-metal grade HNO₃ (20%) to a final concentration of 5% and analyzed using inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES) (SpectroBLUE, Kleve, Germany) for total dissolved Ag, Al, As, Ba, Be, Bi, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, Mg, Mn, Mo, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Sr, Ti, Tl, V, Zn, B, K, Li, Na, S, Si. An unacidified aliquot was analyzed for SO₄²⁻, Cl⁻, and F⁻ using a Dionex (Sunnyvale, CA, USA) ICS-2100 ion chromatograph with AS18 column and NO₂⁻, PO₄³⁻, and NH₄⁺ using a segmented flow analyzer (Seal Analytical, Southampton, UK). Samples collected in carbon-free glass vials were analyzed for total carbon (TC), inorganic carbon (IC), non-purgeable organic carbon (NPOC), and total nitrogen (TN) using a carbon analyzer (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan).

Dissolved oxygen (DO) was determined using a closed-headspace modification of the Winkler protocol (1). Briefly, 60 mL of geothermal water were collected with a 60 mL syringe that was immediately capped with a rubber septum to prevent gas exchange with the atmosphere. Needles and syringes were used to inject 0.4 mL of 2.15 M MnSO₄ and 0.4 mL alkali-iodide-azide solution (12 M NaOH, 0.869 M KI, 0.15 M NaN₃). The sample was thoroughly mixed by inversion and the formed floc was allowed to settle for 3-5 minutes. This mixing process was repeated twice before 0.4 mL concentrated (18 M) H₂SO₄ were added, and the floc completely dissolved by mixing. 30 mL of this mixture were titrated to colorlessness with 10.1 mM sodium thiosulfate to determine DO.

Total dissolved sulfide (H₂S(aq)) was measured using the amine-sulfuric acid method (2). For this, 7.5 mL of geothermal water were collected with a 10 mL syringe and added into triplicate

glass tubes pre-filled with 0.5 mL of amine sulfuric acid reagent (Ricca Chemical). Approximately 0.15 mL (4 drops) of 15 M FeCl₃ were immediately added and the sample was mixed by slowly inverting the test tube once. After 3-5 minutes, 1.6 mL of 3.8 M (NH₄)₂PO₄ were added and the sample was stored in the dark until absorbance was measured at 664 nm using a BioMate 3S spectrophotometer or Ocean Optics USB2000 spectrophotometer within 24 hours of sample collection.

The ferrozine assay was used to measure total and ferrous iron (Fe, Fe(II)) (3). Briefly, 5 mL of geothermal water were filtered through a 0.22 µm pore size PES syringe filter into three replicate tubes. 250 µL of a 10% w/v hydroxylamine solution were added for the Fe(II) assay before 250 µL of 4.9 mM ferrozine reagent and 625 µL ammonium-acetate buffer (3) were added for both Fe total and Fe(II) assays. After dilution to 12.5 mL with distilled water, samples were stored in the dark until absorbance was measured at 562 nm using a BioMate 3S spectrophotometer or Ocean Optics USB2000 spectrophotometer within 24 hours of sample collection.

To determine dissolved methane (CH₄(aq)), geothermal water was collected using a peristaltic pump with an in-line 142 mm diameter, 0.2 µm pore size hydrophilic polycarbonate membrane filter (Millipore). 160 mL serum bottles were purged with three pour volumes of geothermal water, capped without headspace using butyl rubber stoppers, secured with aluminum rings, and stored upside-down at 4 °C. Prior to the analysis of dissolved gases, samples were weighed before and after 30 mL of liquid was removed, headspace replaced with ambient air, and incubated on a shaker at 60 rpm for two hours at room temperature. From the headspace, 1 mL was withdrawn using a gas tight syringe and manually injected into an SRI Multiple Gas Analyzer #5 gas chromatograph equipped with a Haysep D column (6 foot), a thermal conductivity detector, and a flame ionization detector with a methanizer (carrier gas: N₂ at 13 psi, 50°C). Methane and mixed gas (CH₄, CO₂, CO, H₂) standards (100 ppm, 10,000 ppm) were measured regularly. Concentrations of dissolved gases were calculated using Henry's law and solubility equations (2, 4).

***mcrA* and 16S rRNA gene amplification and amplicon sequencing.**

mcrA genes were amplified from DNA extracts of environmental samples and 16S rRNA genes were amplified from DNA extracts of mesocosm samples including the initial environmental material (environmental sample). DNA extracts from 500 µL sterile nuclease-free water were included as negative controls. DNA extracts were quantified using the Qubit high sensitivity assay

(Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). Adapter sequences added to the gene-specific primers facilitated the preparation of Illumina amplicon libraries for sequencing as previously described (5).

The *mcrA* gene was amplified using the primer set mlas-mod-F/*mcrA*-rev-R (6). The PCR volume was 25 μ L and consisted of 10 μ L Invitrogen Platinum Taq II 2X Master Mix, 2 μ L mlas-mod-F primer (10 μ M; final 0.8 μ M), 2 μ L *mcrA*-rev-R primer (10 μ M; final 0.8 μ M), 10 μ L nuclease-free water, and 1 μ L of template DNA (5 ng/ μ L). Thermocycler conditions for amplification were: 94°C for 4 min, followed by five touchdown cycles of 94°C for 30 sec, 60–1°C for 45 sec, and 72°C for 30 sec, followed 30 cycles of 94 °C for 30 sec, 55 °C for 30 sec and 72 °C for 30 sec, and a final elongation step at 72 °C for 10 min (6).

Archaeal and bacterial 16S rRNA genes were amplified following the Earth Microbiome protocol with the updated primer set 515F and 806R (7-9). The PCR volume was 25 μ L and consisted of 10 μ L Invitrogen Platinum Taq II 2X Master Mix, 0.5 μ L 515F primer (10 μ M; final: 0.2 μ M), 0.5 μ L 806R primer (10 μ M; final: 0.2 μ M), 9 μ L nuclease-free water, and 5 μ L of template DNA (1 ng/ μ L). The thermocycler conditions were: 94 °C for 3 min followed by 28 cycles of 94 °C for 45 sec, 50 °C for 60 sec, and 72 °C for 90 sec before a final elongation step at 72 °C for 10 min.

A negative control with nuclease-free water as template was included in each PCR set. PCR products were checked for the expected length on a 1% agarose gel. *mcrA* and 16S rRNA gene amplicons were purified using AMPure XR beads (Beckman Coulter, Pasadena, CA) following the manufacturer's protocol with a final elution volume of 40 μ L nuclease-free water before a second PCR was performed to attach dual barcode indices and sequence adapters (Illumina). This PCR was performed in a 25 μ L final volume with 5 μ L purified amplicons 12.5 μ L Invitrogen Platinum Taq II 2X Master Mix, 2.5 μ L i5 primer (10 μ M; final: 0.25 μ M), 2.5 μ L i7 primer (10 μ M; final: 0.25 μ M), and 2.5 μ L nuclease-free water. The PCR conditions were as follows: 95 °C for 3 min followed by 8 cycles of 95 °C for 30 sec, 55 °C for 30 sec, and 72 °C for 30 sec, followed by a final elongation step at 72 °C for 5 min. The amplicons were purified using AMPure XR beads and were quantified in triplicate reactions using the Quant-iT Picogreen dsDNA Assay (Invitrogen, Waltham, MA) and a Biotek Synergy H1 Hybrid microplate reader following manufacturers guidelines. Samples were pooled at 10 ng DNA each, concentrated using a QIAquick PCR purification spin column kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany) following the

manufacturers protocol, and quantified with the Qubit high sensitivity assay (Invitrogen, Waltham, MA).

Metagenome sequencing, read processing, assembly, and annotation.

Truseq libraries were prepared at the JGI using low (10ng, LCB003.1) or regular (100ng, LCB019.1, LCB024.1) input quantities of DNA and were sequenced on the Illumina NovaSeq platform using the NovaSeq XP V1 reagent kits, S4 flow cell, following a 2 x 150 bp indexed run recipe. Raw metagenomic reads were processed according to the standard workflow employed by the JGI. Briefly, BBDuk (version 38.08; <https://bbtool.jgi.doe.gov>) was used to remove contaminants, trim reads that contained adapter sequence, right quality trim reads where quality drops to zero and remove reads that contained four or more 'N' bases, had an average quality score across the read less than 3 or had a minimum length ≤ 51 bp or 33% of the full read length. Reads mapped with BMap (v37.78) to masked human, cat, dog, and mouse references at 93% identity were removed as were reads aligned to common microbial contaminants (JGI SOP 1077)(10). Trimmed and screened paired-end reads were error corrected with bfc (v. r181) with options: -1, -s 10g, -k 21, t 10 (Li, 2015) and then assembled using SPAdes 3.11.1 (11) with options -m 2000, -k 33,55,77,99,127 -meta. Coverage information was generated using BMap by mapping the entire filtered reads dataset against the final assembly. Annotation of the final assembly was performed with JGI's Integrated Microbial Genomes & Microbiomes Expert Review (IMG/M-ER) pipeline v7 (12). Assembled scaffolds $\geq 2,000$ bp were binned with six implementations of four different programs including, Maxbin v2.2.4 (13), Concoct v1.0.0 (14), Metabat v2.12.1 (with and without coverage) (15), and Autometa v1 (with bacterial and archaeal modes, and Machine Learning step, but omitting the taxonomy assignment step) (16). Bins generated from each method were dereplicated, aggregated, and scored with DAS_Tool (17).

Extended Discussion

Energy conservation mechanisms of Mcr-encoding archaea

Both LCB019-065 (*Methanolinea*) and LCB019-055 (*Methanothermobacter*) encode heterodisulfide reductase (HdrABC) and either F₄₂₀-non-reducing hydrogenase (MvhADG; LCB019-055) or F₄₂₀-reducing hydrogenase (FrhAG) and MvhD (LCB019-065) allowing for two distinct mechanisms of heterodisulfide (CoM-S-S-CoB) reduction. In LCB019-055, heterodisulfide reduction could be mediated by an electron bifurcating HdrABC/MvhADG complex as is common for other hydrogenotrophic methanogens (18). Conversely, in LCB019-065, HdrABC could form an electron bifurcating complex with FrhAG and MvhD to reduce heterodisulfide as described in some members of the Methanomicrobiales (18-20).

LCB019-064 (*Methanotherx*) encodes HdrDE and a Fpo-like complex (*fpoABCDHIJKLMN*, lacking *fpoFO* for binding and oxidizing F₄₂₀), which would allow for heterodisulfide reduction by HdrDE with electrons supplied by the Fpo-like complex. The [NiFe] hydrogenase Frh, energy-converting hydrogenase (Ech), Na⁺-translocating ferredoxin:NAD⁺ oxidoreductase (Rnf), and methanophenazine-reducing hydrogenase (Vho) were not encoded. This suggests that energy conservation in LCB019-064 may proceed as proposed for *Methanotherx thermophila* (21) and differs from the energy conservation mechanisms of other acetivlastic methanogens within the genus *Methanosarcina*.

Methanomassiliicoccales MAG LCB019-061 encodes HdrABC, MvhADG, and a partial Fpo-like complex (21), which is consistent with the energy conservation complexes found in H₂-dependent methylotrophic methanogens (22). An electron bifurcating HdrABC/MvhADG complex (23, 24), could couple the oxidation of H₂ with the reduction of heterodisulfide and ferredoxin. Interestingly, multiple copies of the *hdrA* (x14), *hdrB* (x4), and *hdrC* (x4) genes were identified in LCB019-061 while *hdrD* was not detected (SI Data 3). The oxidation of reduced ferredoxin by the membrane bound Fpo-like complex would generate a proton gradient for ATP synthesis via a V/A-type ATP synthase.

The energy conservation complexes encoded in the six *Ca.* Methanomethylia MAGs (LCB003-007, LCB019-004, LCB019-019, LCB019-026, LCB024-024, and LCB024-038) were similar to those in related MAGs (26). Genes encoding complexes involved in establishing a proton gradient, including the Fpo-like complex (21) and an energy-converting hydrogenase B (Ehb) complex, were detected in all six MAGs (27). The generated proton gradient would drive ATP

synthesis via a V/A-type ATP synthase, encoded in all MAGs. Previously proposed mechanisms of heterodisulfide reduction encoded in the six *Ca. Methanomethylicia* MAGs include reduction via an interaction between HdrD and the Fpo-like complex (25), a Fpo-HdrD-GlcD complex (26), or energy-converting hydrogenase D (Ehd) formed by a membrane-bound [NiFe] hydrogenase and HdrBC (28). All six MAGs contained 1-3 copies of *hdrD* and *glcD*, however the Ehd complex was only encoded in four MAGs (LCB003-007, LCB019-026, LCB024-038, and LCB019-019 (partially)).

LCB024-003 (*Archaeoglobi*) encodes two mechanisms for coenzymes M and B regeneration. LCB024-003 contains *mvhADG*, *hdrD*, and three copies of *hdrA* (one upstream of *mvhADG*). *hdrBC* were not detected; however, HdrD has been proposed to substitute for HdrBC in heterodisulfide reduction in other Mcr-encoding *Archaeoglobi* MAGs (29, 30). LCB024-003 also encodes a fused HdrDE and a membrane-bound F₄₂₀H₂:quinone oxidoreductase (Fqo) complex. In *Archaeoglobi* isolates, the Fqo complex has been shown to reduce menaquinone instead of methanophenazine (31), which is characteristic of methanogens containing an Fpo complex (32). HdrDE contains two cysteine-rich domains (CCG) and is homologous to the membrane bound complex DsrMK, which is inferred to reduce a cytoplasmic cysteine disulfide (Cys-S-S-Cys) in DsrC during dissimilatory sulfate reduction (33). Similarly, HdrDE could couple the periplasmic oxidation of menaquinol, generated from Fqo, to the cytoplasmic reduction of the disulfide bond in CoM-S-S-CoB. A replacement of HdrDE for DsrMK has been shown in *Archaeoglobus fulgidus* VC16 (34) and has been proposed for other Mcr-encoding *Archaeoglobi* MAGs (30).

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