



**S2 Fig. Stimulation of curli gene expression by stringent response.** Wild-type *E. coli* cultures were grown as in Fig 1A (except shaking conditions) but with addition of either indicated concentrations of serine hydroxamate (SHX) at inoculation point or 1 mM serine after 6 h of growth. **(A)** Bacterial growth and activity of transcriptional curli reporter. Error bars indicate SEM of 6 technical replicates. **(B)** Distribution of single-cell fluorescence levels after 24 h of growth in a plate reader measured by flow cytometry.