

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

A genus in the bacterial phylum Aquificota appears to be endemic to Aotearoa-New Zealand.

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SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

Supplementary Note 1:

Genome annotation of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T

Forty-seven scaffolds from the draft genome sequence of CP.B2^T were analysed through the Integrated Microbial Genomes annotation pipeline v4.16.4 (IMG Taxon ID [2799112217](#), GOLD Analysis ID [Ga0311387](#))¹. The CP.B2^T genome is also accessible in GenBank ([GCA_026108055.1](#)). Estimated total size was 1.6 Mbp, with 29.6 % mol G+C. The number of protein coding genes was 1,707, with 1,409 of these having predicted function. Two 16S rRNA genes were detected. A second copy of the CP.B2^T genome exists in GOLD (Analysis ID [Ga0170441](#)) and IMG (Taxon ID [2724679818](#)), sequenced directly from the culture collection DSMZ (DSM 18763) which was used to corroborate annotation. Detailed annotation on carbon assimilation, electron transport, sulfur, nitrogen and arsenic metabolisms, transmembrane transportation, cytosolic pH moderation, and comparison of Hydrogenothermaceae can be found below, with a full list of genes annotated with predicted function outlined in Supplementary Data 11.

Carbon assimilation

Presence of the Type 1 reductive TCA (rTCA) cycle was evident by the annotation of ATP-citrate lyase (ACL; gene *aclAB*), succinate dehydrogenase/fumarate reductase (*sdhABC*), and 2-oxoglutarate:ferredoxin oxidoreductase (*korAB*) genes². Citryl-coA synthetase (*ccsAB*) and 2-oxoglutarate carboxylase (*cfiAB*), necessary for the alternate Type II rTCA cycle used by the Aquificaceae, were not present^{2,3}. ACL is thought to have been acquired by the Hydrogenothermaceae through horizontal gene transfer², initially formed from a fusion of citryl-coA lyase (*ccl*) and citryl-coA synthetase (*ccsAB*), both used in the older Type II cycle. There was also no evidence of citrate synthase (*gltA*), found in many autotrophic bacteria, which can be used in both the oxidative TCA cycle for the production of citrate and the reversed oxidative cycle (roTCA) to fix carbon dioxide⁴. An entire Embden-Meyerhof-Parnas (EMP) pathway for glycolysis/gluconeogenesis was annotated⁵, with no evidence found of the alternate Entner-Doudoroff (ED) pathway or the oxidative branch of the pentose phosphate pathway (oxPPP), traditional sources of NADPH for cell metabolism⁶. A non-phosphorylating glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene (*gapN*) was annotated, which can produce

NADPH by irreversibly oxidising glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate (GAP) straight to 3-phosphoglycerate (3-PG) in the EMP pathway⁶. There was also no evidence of genes for carbon monoxide dehydrogenase, or ribulose-bisphosphate carboxylase (RuBisCo) from the Calvin-Benson-Bassham cycle.

Electron transport

The genome had 13 subunits of the proton-translocating NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase (*nuoA-N*) for complex I of the electron transport chain. Succinate dehydrogenase (*sdhABC* and *frdB*) was annotated for complex II. Three subunits for the cytochrome bc₁ complex (cytochrome c oxidoreductase) were encoded for complex III (*petABC*), with cytochrome bd being the respiratory terminal oxidase (*cydAB*; complex IV). Research has shown that cytochrome bd increases expression in response to a range of environmental stressors, including pH and temperature extremes⁷. The genome had membrane-bound F-type ATPases (*atpA-H*) for complex V.

Sulfur, nitrogen & arsenic

The only gene found in the CP.B2^T genome from the SOX pathway (*soxD*) for sulfur/thiosulfate oxidation is a subunit in cytochrome c of the electron transport chain, and may also be involved in arsenic cycling⁸. Cytochrome c is reduced as an intermediate between complexes III and IV⁹, and a proton gradient is created for ATP synthesis. There was no evidence of sulfite dehydrogenase (*sorAB* or *soeA*) in the genome, even though genes were present for the biosynthesis of the cofactor molybdopterin¹⁰. No further genes from other sulfur-metabolising pathways including sulfur oxygenase reductase (SOR), thiosulfate dehydrogenase (*tqoAB*), dissimilatory sulfite reductase (*dsrABC*), and heterodisulfide reductase subunits *hdrC1* and *hdrB2*¹¹ were detected. Nitrogen assimilation via the uptake of ammonia by glutamine synthetase (*glnA*) and glutamate synthase (*gltBD*) was noted, along with nitronate monooxygenase (NMO) which putatively generates nitrite from nitroalkane. No genes associated with nitrogen-dissimilatory pathways were identified. There was no evidence of genes encoding nitric oxide reductase (*norB*) for denitrification, which is commonly found in other Hydrogenothermaceae. Congruently, CP.B2^T was the only Hydrogenothermaceae analysed to not encode a nicotinamidase gene (*pncA*). While the arsenic resistance operon *arsRBC* was annotated in the CP.B2^T genome, there was no indication of the arsenic ABC transporter ATPase gene (*arsA*; as part of the more complex *arsRDABC* operon)¹².

Additionally, no putative genes involved with dissimilatory arsenic metabolism were found, such as arsenate reductases (*arrAB*), including those found in *Pyrobaculum arsenaticum*¹³ and *Geobacter lovleyi*¹⁴, and arsenite oxidase (*aioAB*)¹⁵, which is prevalent in *Sulfurihydrogenibium*¹⁶.

Transmembrane transportation

Genes associated with transport systems for the facilitated diffusion of ions across the membrane were found for sodium, iron, calcium, magnesium, iron and ammonium, with multiple transport systems found for potassium. There were also several ABC transporters for zinc, cobalt, nickel, phosphate and a range of molecules involved in cell membrane formation (e.g., phospholipids, lipopolysaccharides, and lipoproteins). While a gene for the molybdate transport system regulatory protein (*modE*) was present, the rest of the high-affinity molybdate uptake system (*modABCD*) was missing. This is contrary to the rest of the Hydrogenothermaceae. There was also one copper exporting ATPase (*copB*) encoded in the genome, whereas all other Hydrogenothermaceae analysed had a range of two to five.

Ability to moderate cytosolic pH

Two genes associated with the *aguBDAC* operon for increasing alkalinity within the cell, agmatine deiminase (*aguA*) and putrescine amidase (*aguB*), were detected in the genome. Potential for malolactic fermentation was also noted by the presence of a lactate dehydrogenase gene (*dld*). No copies of glutamate, arginine or lysine decarboxylase, urease, or tryptophanase were observed, indicating that *Venenivibrio* does not possess these well-known mechanisms to manage cell pH homeostasis¹⁷. However, it should be noted that all Hydrogenothermaceae family members analysed appear to have no significant differences in genomic capabilities when it comes to cytosolic pH modulation.

Hydrogenothermaceae genomes

Along with CP.B2^T, a group 2d hydrogenase was found in three *Persephonella* spp., *H. marinus* VM1^T, and *S. subterraneum* HGMK1^T. *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1 and *S. yellowstonense* SS-5^T had no hydrogenases, and instead rely on the oxidation of reduced sulfur species¹⁸. An arsenite oxidase gene (*aioA*, formally *aroA* or *aoxA*)¹⁵, which was found in four *Sulfurihydrogenibium* spp. analysed, was not annotated in the CP.B2^T genome.

Supplementary Note 2:

Growth range reassessment of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T

Moderate growth of CP.B2^T was observed from 40.9-79.7 °C (opt 70.4 °C), with limited growth noted at both 38.5 °C and 80 °C. Cells at 80 °C were not viable when subcultured to new DSMZ Medium 1149 and cultivated at 70 °C. Growth was observed between pH 4.5-8.0, with the most significant growth observed at pH 5.5-7.0 (opt pH 6.0). A reduced number of viable cells were also visualised in medium from pH 3.0-4.0 and pH 8.5. Salinity tolerance was confirmed at 0.0-8.0 % NaCl (opt 0.0-0.2 %). Cells of CP.B2^T tolerated O₂ concentrations of up to 10 % v/v and as low as 1.25 % v/v of the headspace. Growth of CP.B2^T in Champagne Pool water was determined by the presence of typical aggregates in all three preparations. Within 24 hours, growth was also observed in all hybrid Obsidian Pool medium preparations. Microscopy confirmed increased numbers of CP.B2^T cells were viable in subsequent subculturing of unaltered spring water. Both the Champagne Pool and Obsidian Pool cultures were sequentially subcultured five times to ensure growth was not a result of essential element(s) carryover. Results are summarised in Supplementary Data 12.

Supplementary Note 3:

Global search for 16S rRNA genes reported as, or closely related to, *Venenivibrio*

Nucleotide Collection (NCBI)

The Nucleotide collection (nt) of NCBI had 71,983,277 non-redundant DNA sequences at the time of analysis. Two entries were deposited for the 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (1506 bp in length); the first discovery of the gene in Champagne Pool, Aotearoa-New Zealand in 2007 (GenBank accession [DQ989208](#))¹⁹, and the characterisation of the type strain in 2008 ([NR_044029](#))²⁰. There was only one result with both ≥ 95 % sequence similarity and ≥ 95 % query coverage to the near full length 16S rRNA gene, a clone deposited in 2003 from a hot spring in Kuirau Park, Aotearoa-New Zealand ([AF402979](#); 98.6 % sequence similarity, 1441 bp)²¹. The next most similar result across the full gene was *Sulfurihydrogenibium azorense* Az-Fu1^T ([CP001229](#); 94.5 % sequence similarity). Six other partial entries (536-899 bp) were found with ≥ 98.0 % similarity, which were all clones from two separate studies of Champagne Pool; [EF101539](#) and [EF101540](#)¹⁹, and [FN429034](#), [FN429035](#), [FN429036](#), and [FN429037](#)²². The next closest results to CP.B2^T were 29 clones (538-629 bp) from the same

study²³, with a similarity range of 95.2-95.7 %. These were most closely related to *S. azorensis* Az-Fu1^T (98.9-99.8 %) and were from a hot spring in the Nagano Prefecture, Japan. All other results from NCBI, both full and partial length, were <95 % sequence similarity to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T.

Sequence Read Archive (NCBI)

Three samples from SRA had total k-mer counts of 1672, 3218 and 7146 that assigned to the genus *Venenivibrio* when searched using the STAT program (Supplementary Data 15), which searched 208.5 gb of metadata from a possible 12.2 petabytes (or 27.3 quadrillion bases) of open access sequence data (06/Dec/2021; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/docs/sragrowth/>). One of these samples was a metagenome from a geothermal spring in Aotearoa-New Zealand that was already included in this study (P1.0019, Radiata Pool; [SRR14702244](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/SRR14702244)). The other two ([SRR15830908](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/SRR15830908) and [SRR15830907](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/SRR15830907)) were 16S rRNA gene amplicon samples from seafloor hydrothermal vents near the Baja California Peninsula, Mexico. The greatest sequence similarity to the full length 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T found across both of these samples was 92 %, with 16 % of the gene covered by the query. The remaining samples from this SRA search ($n=85$) that produced k-mers assigned to *Venenivibrio* had counts that ranged between 25 and 430 (Supplementary Data 15).

SILVA database

The SILVA SSU r138.1 database contained a total of 33 entries classified to *Venenivibrio*, including the 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T, from a total of 9,469,124 aligned rRNA sequences (Supplementary Data 13). Seven of these entries were clones originating from Aotearoa-New Zealand hot springs and all had ≥ 98.0 % pairwise sequence similarity to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (GenBank accessions [AF402979](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/AF402979), [EF101539](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/EF101539), [EF101540](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/EF101540), [FN429034](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/FN429034), [FN429035](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/FN429035), [FN429036](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/FN429036), and [FN429037](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/FN429037))^{19,21,22}. The remaining 25 entries composed of one isolate and 24 clones and had a similarity range of 79.3-94.7 % to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (Supplementary Data 13). An approximate maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree of all 33 aligned sequences clustered only the seven Aotearoa-New Zealand clones together with *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (Figure S6). SILVA identified one closest neighbour (≥ 95 % identity) to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T in the Ref NR database, the Aotearoa-New Zealand clone [AF402979](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/AF402979)²¹.

Ribosomal Database Project (RDP)

RDP (release 11_6) had a total of 3,351,829 sequences screened. Seven of these sequences matched the 16S rRNA gene sequences of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (98.6-99.6 % sequence similarity), which were the same clones originating from Aotearoa-New Zealand that were found in the GenBank and SILVA databases (GenBank accessions [AF402979](#), [EF101539](#), [EF101540](#), [FN429034](#), [FN429035](#), [FN429036](#), and [FN429037](#))^{19,21,22}.

Greengenes database

The latest version of the Greengenes 16S rRNA gene database v13.8 (August 2013) had 1,262,986 unique sequences. These were clustered into 203,452 and 99,321 representative OTUs at 99 % and 97 % similarity, respectively. Only one of these OTUs classified as *Venenivibrio stagnispumantis* (Greengenes OTU ID 1142935) in the 99 % representative set, with one additional sequence in the database (ID 189417) also found mapped to this cluster. Both sequences corresponded to the 16S rRNA gene sequence of the type strain, CP.B2^T (GenBank accessions [DQ989208](#) and [NR_044029](#)). No OTU in the 97 % representative set was assigned to *Venenivibrio*, with only 25 classifying to the family Hydrogenothermaceae. From these 25 OTUs, OTU ID 32720 had 98.6 % sequence similarity to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T and the corresponding GenBank accession was [AF402979](#), a clone found in a hot spring from Kuirau Park, Aotearoa-New Zealand²¹. The next highest similarity from the 97 % OTUs was OTU ID 242647 at 94.2 %, with all others at ≤ 92.7 %. OTU ID 1142935 was also mapped to OTU 32720 cluster in the 97 % reference set.

Integrated Microbial Next Generation Sequencing (IMNGS) platform

From a total of 500,048 samples (24,835,679,746 reads), 31 OTUs were found across 29 samples with ≥ 95 % sequence similarity to the 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (Supplementary Data 14). None of these OTUs had ≥ 99 % similarity, with only eight having ≥ 97 % across ≤ 34 % of the CP.B2^T 16S rRNA gene. One of these OTUs (with ≥ 97 % similarity) was sourced from a sample of sugarcane root soil in Australia (SRA run accession [SRR1924223](#))²⁴, and two were from peat soil adjacent to cold temperature springs in Canada ([SRR1029457](#) and [SRR2026416](#))²⁵. However, the abundance of these OTUs ranged from one to five reads which contributed to only ≤ 0.01 % of the sample communities and were present in ecosystems not conducive to supporting *Venenivibrio* populations (e.g., soils, cold temperature). The remaining five OTUs with ≥ 97 % similarity to CP.B2^T were sourced from

synthetic samples (Supplementary Data 14). Samples containing reads at ≥ 95 % sequence similarity to *Venenivibrio* which accounted for ≥ 0.1 % of the sample community were all from Aotearoa-New Zealand geothermal springs ($n=10$).

Integrated Microbial Genomes and Microbiomes (IMG/M) database

IMG/M had a total of 147,328 datasets at the time of analysis, including 26,097 distinct public non-redundant genomes and 83,287 metagenomic bins. Thirteen genomes were found classified to the Hydrogenothermaceae from 11 isolates and two MAGs. Two of these genomes were found assigned to the genus *Venenivibrio*: *Venenivibrio stagnispumantis* DSM 18763 (IMG Genome ID [2724679818](#); Gold Analysis ID [Ga0170441](#)), which was sequenced from the type strain stored in the DSMZ culture collection; and *Venenivibrio stagnispumantis* CP.B2 (IMG Genome ID [2799112217](#); Gold Analysis ID [Ga0311387](#)), which was sequenced by this study from the type strain stored in the original laboratory that isolated the microorganism. No other genomes in the entire collection contained genes that matched the 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T. Likewise, no metagenome bins were found assigned to the genus. There were 20 bins classified to the Hydrogenothermaceae, using GTDB-Tk lineage, and these were either *Sulfurihydrogenibium* ($n=11$) or *Persephonella* ($n=9$).

Earth Microbiome Project (EMP) & Qiita database

No samples from the first release of the Earth Microbiome Project (EMP) had sequences that matched *Venenivibrio* in the analysis classified using SILVA taxonomy. This dataset had a total of 27,411 samples, 126,730 OTUs, and 1,754,319,647 sequence reads. The reference OTUs for this analysis were checked and two OTUs were classified to the genus *Venenivibrio* (AF402979.1.1441 and KM221400.1.1484). To confirm this result, the redbiom search function was enabled for both taxon (g__*Venenivibrio*) and features (OTU ID 32720 and 1142935) in the Greengenes-assigned taxonomy. Again, no hits were found. The EMP subset used to create trading cards had 155,002 unique sequences (ASVs; amplicon sequence variants) from a total of 10,000,000 reads, 2,000 samples and 95 studies. *Venenivibrio* was also not found in this subset and there were only two Hydrogenothermaceae-assigned ASVs, one found in five samples with a total of 238 reads, the second found in one sample with six reads (or observations). These six samples were from the Lost City Hydrothermal Field, Mid-Atlantic Ridge, and no significant similarity was found to the 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T. Finally, no results were found for *Venenivibrio* within publicly available studies

($n=599$) in the Qiita platform. A total of 276,184 samples were searched by taxon name, OTU IDs and sequence.

NCBI & Google Scholar word search

A word search for *Venenivibrio* in all NCBI databases highlighted four entries in SRA and four entries in GenBank. Two of the SRA entries belonged to whole genome sequencing of the type strain CP.B2^T from the culture collection DSMZ (DSM 18763; SRA runs [SRR5889102](#) and [SRR5889103](#)). The other two entries were amplicon sequences added in 2020 from an unpublished study of hot spring microbial communities in SiChuan, China ([SRR10580885](#) and [SRR10580889](#)). The highest sequence similarity found with the full length 16S rRNA gene of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T was 93.1 %, with 16 % of the gene covered. The GenBank results included three accession numbers from the type strain CP.B2^T ([DQ989208](#), [NR_044029](#), and [EF581124](#))^{19,20}, with the fourth result from an environmental clone labelled as uncultured *Venenivibrio* sp. CCB8131 (GenBank accession [KY480601](#)). This sequence had only 78.3 % sequence similarity to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T, with 85 % of the query covered.

There were eight published manuscripts that contained the word '*Venenivibrio*' from NCBI's PubMed Central database (PMC; accessed 28/Apr/2022). These included five studies that used samples from Aotearoa-New Zealand geothermal springs²⁶⁻³⁰, and three publications that referenced the type strain *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T and/or associated characterisation³¹⁻³³. A similar search was also conducted in Google Scholar (accessed 28/Apr/2022) which highlighted an additional nine manuscripts that referenced the type strain³⁴⁻⁴², plus two that reported *Venenivibrio* taxa in amplicon sequencing of Chinese hot spring and wetland microbial communities^{43,44}. The first of these studies described an average of 8.7 % *Venenivibrio* in the microbial communities across 16 hot springs⁴³; however, the greatest sequence similarity to CP.B2^T from all of these samples was 93.5 % over 16 % of the 16S rRNA gene. The second study reported trace amounts of *Venenivibrio* (0.03-2.15 %) in three microbial communities of a voltage-applied wetland plant⁴⁴. The 16S rRNA gene sequences from this study were not deposited in a database for review, so this result could not be verified.

Supplementary Note 4:

Screening metagenomes for *Venenivibrio*

Similar to *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T, low coverage breadth was observed from the six global metagenomes mapped to *P. hydrogeniphila* 29W^T, *S. yellowstonense* SS-5^T and *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1 (Figure 6, Supplementary Data 18). This could be due in part to low numbers of Hydrogenothermaceae originally present in the sites analysed, enrichment strategies excluding preferred Aquificota growth conditions, or perhaps the samples contained reads from an uncharacterised close relative of the genomes tested. The three samples from Japan had the highest coverage breadth of *P. hydrogeniphila* 29W^T at 2.8-6.1 % (Supplementary Data 18).

To test the sensitivity of Kraken2 at classifying reads as *Venenivibrio*, eight mock communities (samples A-H) were created with varying concentrations of *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T, *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1, *P. hydrogeniphila* 29W^T and a selection of random genomes (Supplementary Data 20). The software correctly classified concentrations of both *V. stagnispumantis* (± 0.93 %) and *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1 (± 1.39 %), but failed to classify *P. hydrogeniphila* whatsoever. Non-equivalent concentrations were reported, however, for *P. marina* EX-H1 in those mock communities with *P. hydrogeniphila*. Interestingly, the sample that consisted of *P. hydrogeniphila* reads only (sample B) returned 1.42 % of the community as *Venenivibrio*, suggesting that previous traces of *Venenivibrio* found globally in both metagenomic and amplicon samples could have been inflated by similar family members being present in these sites.

The alignment of synthetic metagenomes back onto their respective genomes did not yield any anomalies (Figure S7; Supplementary Data 21). In the three mock communities where *V. stagnispumantis* concentration was either 100, 10, or 33 %, the type strain genome was predominantly covered by each sample (98.7, 98.3, and 98.6 % respectively). Even in the samples with 1 % of the species, 83.2 % of the genome was recovered. While classification of samples with *P. hydrogeniphila* proved unreliable, this was not the case with aligning synthetic reads back onto this genome (>99.4 % coverage breadth with initial concentrations of 33, 45, or 100 %). *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1 also had near complete coverage breadth across the genome (>99.96 %), with only <0.9 % of another species in the same genus (*S.*

yellowstonense SS-5^T) being covered. The depth of coverage from the recovered genomes varied across samples, depending on taxon concentration that comprised the initial community makeup (Supplementary Data 21). Average coverage depth of *V. stagnispumantis* was 100x in the sample with 100 % of reads from that species. This reduced to 2.3x for samples with just 1 % *V. stagnispumantis*. A similar trend was observed for coverage depth for *P. hydrogeniphila* and *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

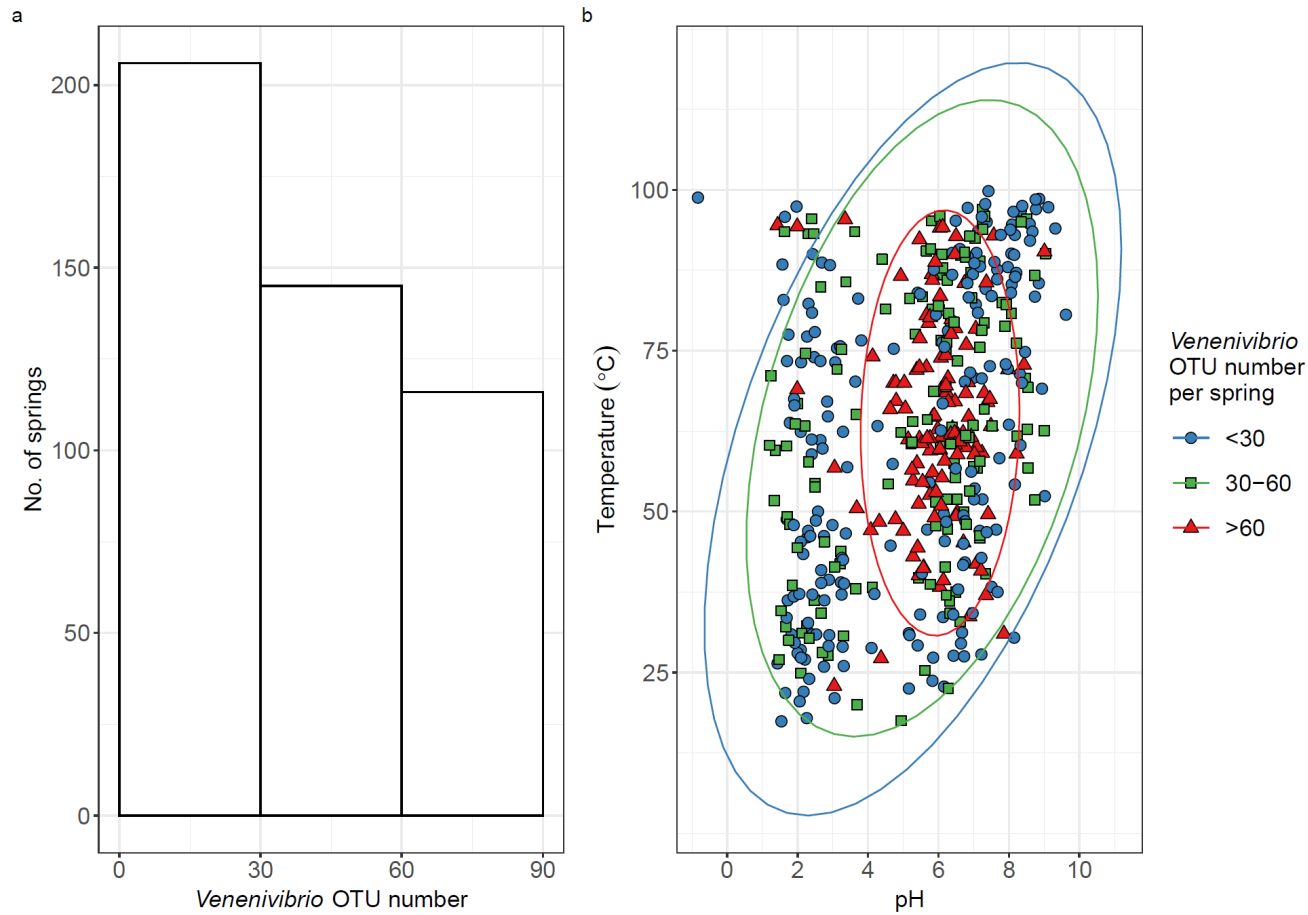


Figure S1. *Veenivibrio* 16S rRNA gene diversity in the Taupō Volcanic Zone (TVZ), Aotearoa-New Zealand. (a) The number of operational taxonomic units (OTUs) found across 467 geothermal springs that assigned to the genus *Veenivibrio* are shown (post filtering; $n=99$ OTUs). **(b)** Springs ($n=467$) are plotted as a function of environmental pH and temperature conditions. The number of *Veenivibrio*-assigned OTUs in each spring is represented by blue circles (<30), green squares (30-60), or red triangles (>60), with data ellipses assuming multivariate t-distribution and a 95 % confidence interval.

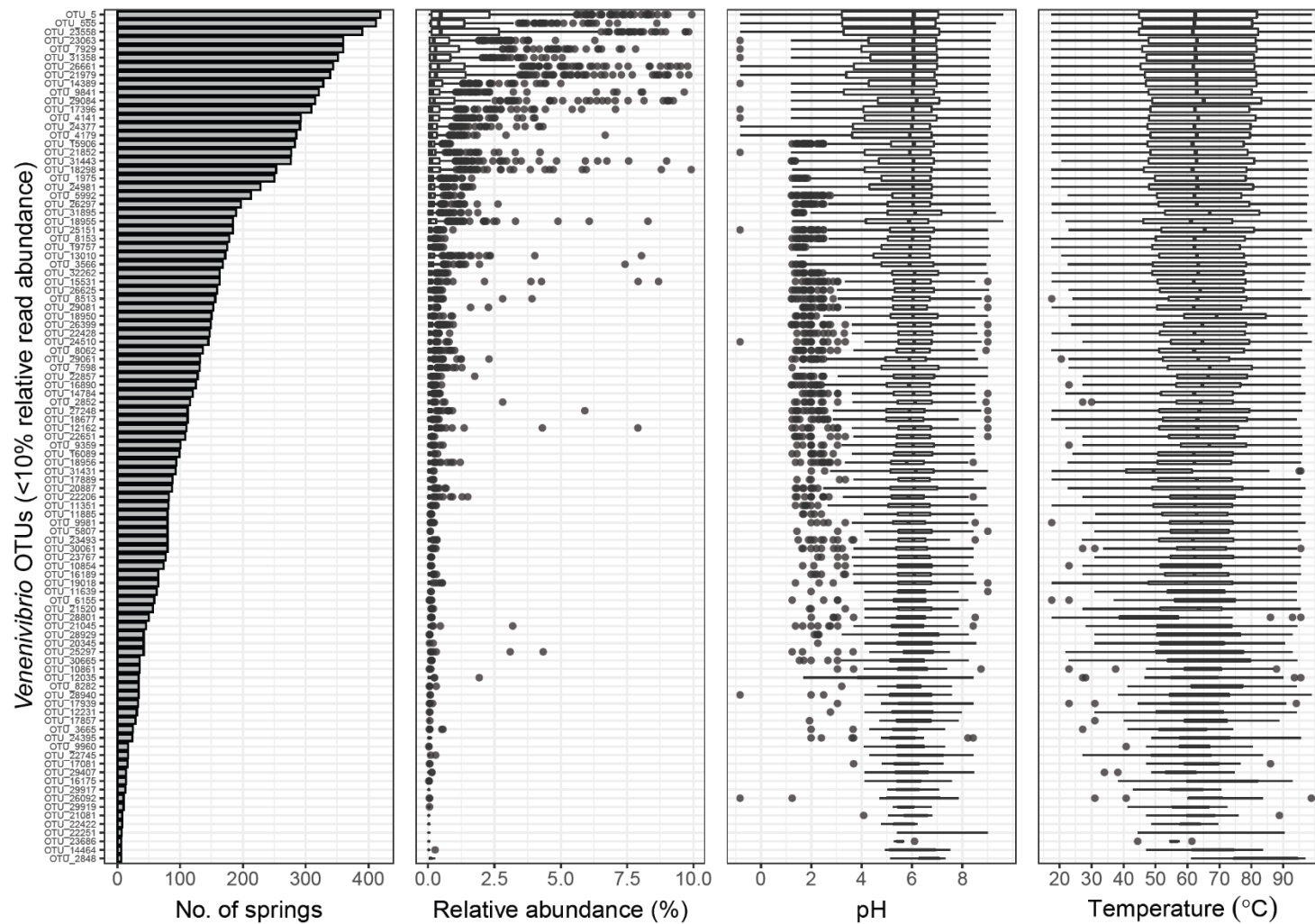


Figure S2. Prevalence, read abundance, pH, and temperature ranges of low abundance *Venenivibrio* operational taxonomic units (OTUs). Low abundance OTUs (<10 % relative abundance per spring community) that assigned to the genus *Venenivibrio* are shown (post filtering; $n=99$ OTUs). These are ordered by the number of springs where each OTU was found (i.e., prevalence). Median pH and temperature for low abundance OTUs were 6.0 (IQR 1.7) and 62.9 °C (IQR 23.4), respectively.

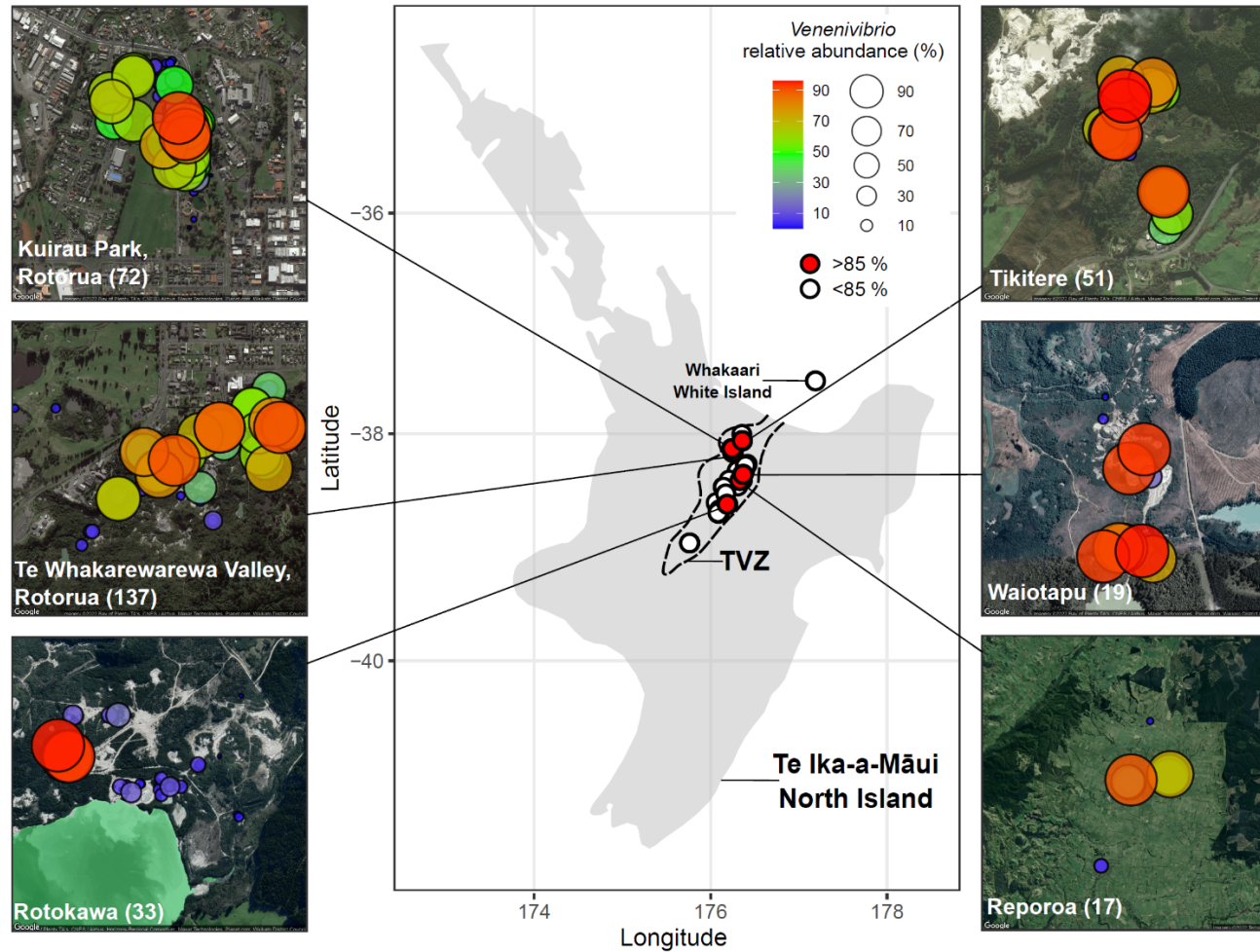


Figure S3. *Venenivibrio* hotspots in the Taupō Volcanic Zone (TVZ), Aotearoa-New Zealand. Geothermal springs containing *Venenivibrio* 16S rRNA genes (post filtering; $n=467$) are shown in the centre map, with springs containing $\geq 85\%$ of the microbial community ($n=20$) highlighted in red. These springs are also presented in their respective geothermal fields, with circles coloured and sized according to *Venenivibrio* relative read abundance per spring community. Total number of springs that contained *Venenivibrio* per geothermal field are in brackets. Median pH and temperature of these hotspots were 5.5 (IQR 0.8) and 66.0 °C (IQR 18.1), respectively. Map data ©2022 Google.

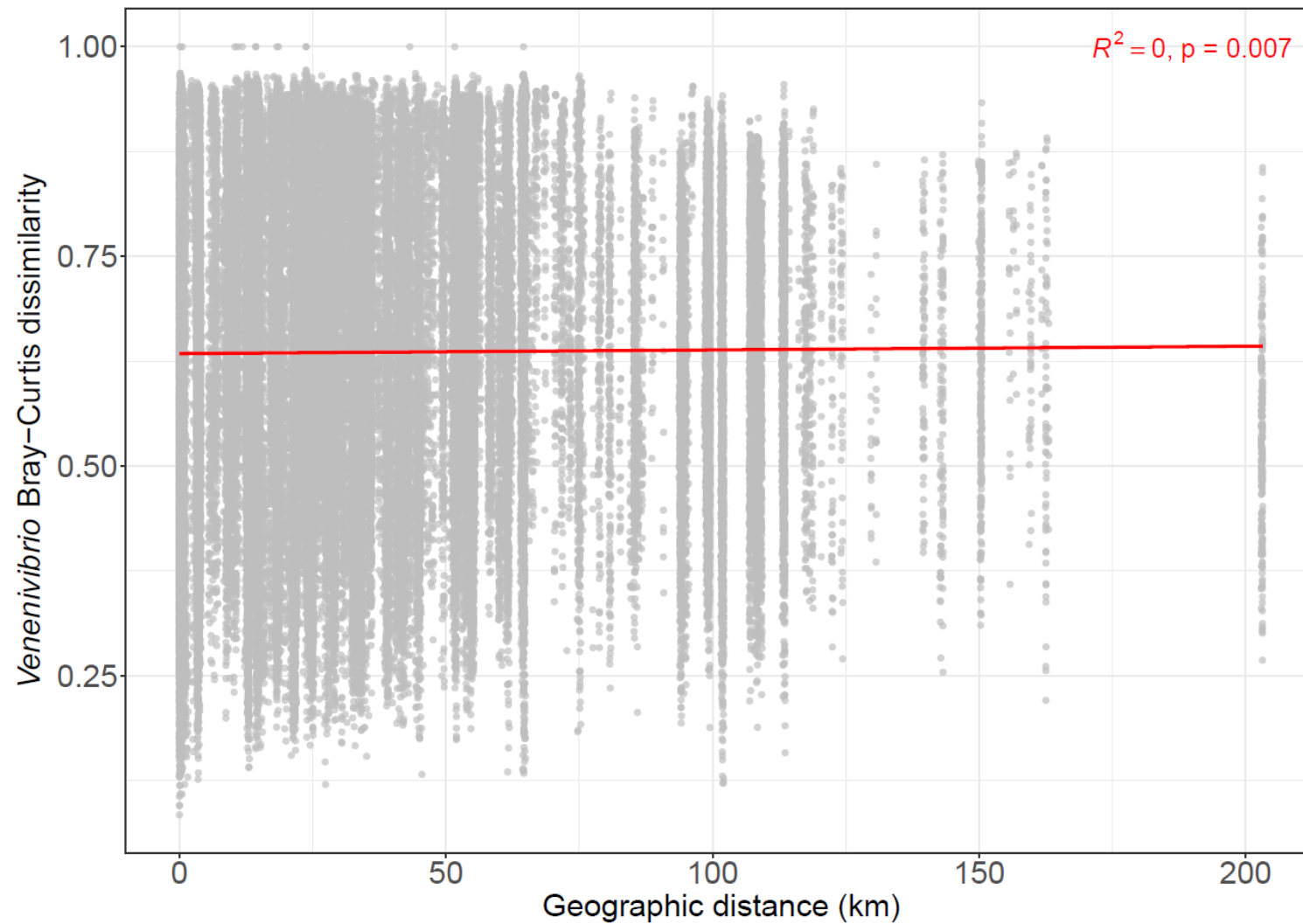


Figure S4. Distance-decay pattern of *Venenivbrio* populations in Aotearoa-New Zealand. Bray-Curtis dissimilarity was calculated between non-transformed *Venenivbrio* populations only (at operational taxonomic unit [OTU]-level) in geothermal springs (post-filtering, $n=467$) from across the TVZ, and plotted against pairwise geographic distance. A linear regression model was applied, highlighted in red (slope= 4.36×10^{-5}).



Figure S5. *Veenivibrio* relative read abundance per geothermal spring in Aotearoa-New Zealand. Springs that containing *Veenivibrio*-assigned reads (post filtering; $n=467$) are shown, split by respective geothermal field. Operational taxonomic units (OTUs) with the greatest read abundance ($n=20$) are represented by colour in each spring.

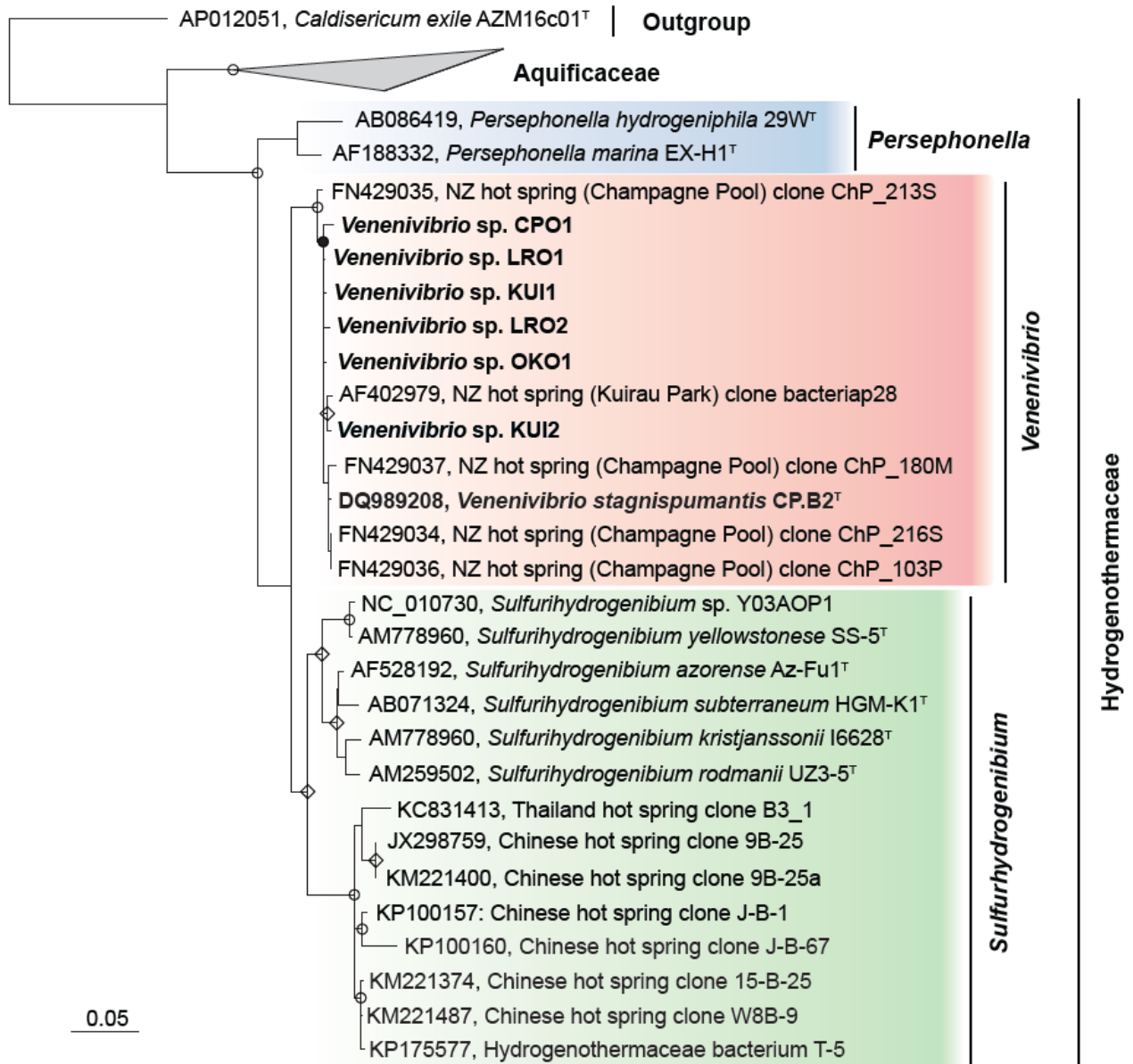


Figure S6. Phylogenetic tree of 16S rRNA gene sequences assigned to *Venenivibrio*. Maximum-likelihood quartet-puzzling phylogenetic tree showing the position of the type strain *Venenivibrio stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T, with near full-length environmental 16S rRNA gene clones that have been reported as belonging to or are closely related to the genus *Venenivibrio* from the SILVA database (SSU r138.1). Six new *Venenivibrio* strains recently isolated from the TVZ (CPO1, KUI1, KUI2, LRO1, LRO2 and OKO1), and type strains from closely related genera *Sulfurihydrogenibium* and *Persephonella* have also been included, with type strains from the family Aquificaceae collapsed for clarity. *Caldisericum exile* AZM16c01^T was used as an outgroup. Quartet-puzzling support values (10,000 resamples) are represented by the following symbols: [open circles] >90 %, [closed circles] >80 %, and [open diamonds] >70 % at each internal branch. Multifurcations are drawn where the support value for a bifurcation is <50 %. The scale bar represents 0.05 substitutions per nucleotide position.

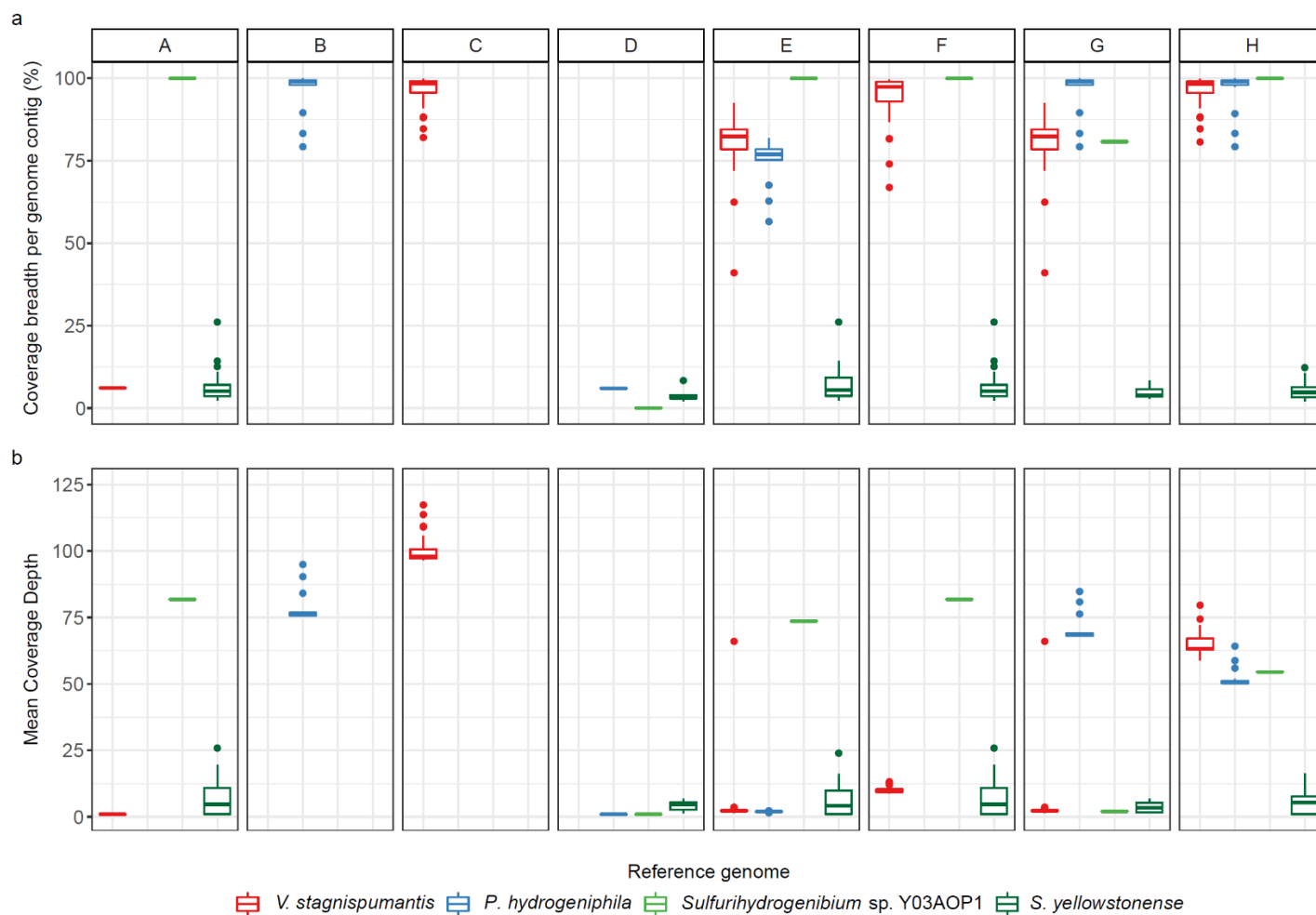


Figure S7. Hydrogenothermaceae genomes recovered from synthetic metagenomes. (a) Coverage breadth of reference genome contigs is displayed from alignment against eight mock metagenomic communities (A-H). (b) Average coverage depth of the reference genome contigs from the synthetic samples is shown. The four reference genomes used were *V. stagnispumantis* CP.B2^T (red, $n=43$ contigs, GOLD Analysis ID [Ga0170441](https://gold.jgi.doe.gov/analysis/Ga0170441)), *P. hydrogeniphila* 29W^T (blue, $n=19$ contigs, GenBank Accession [GCA_900215515.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/GCA_900215515.1)), *Sulfurihydrogenibium* sp. Y03AOP1 (light green, $n=1$ contig, [GCA_000020325.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/GCA_000020325.1)), and *Sulfurihydrogenibium yellowstonense* SS-5^T (dark green, $n=228$ contigs, [GCF_000173615.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/GCF_000173615.1)).

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