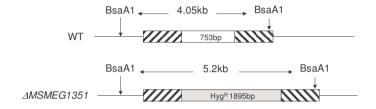
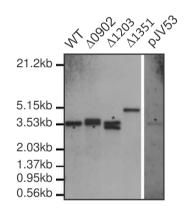
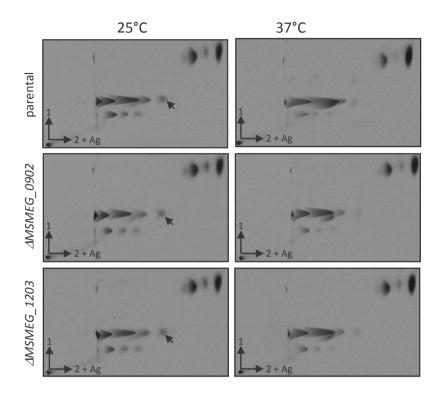
Structures of the major mycolic acids of *M. smegmatis.* X and Y represent the positions of the distal and proximal functional groups relative to the carboxyl group, respectively.



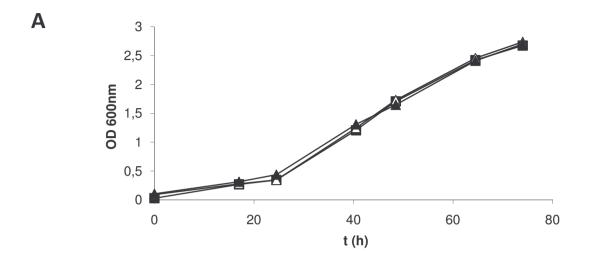


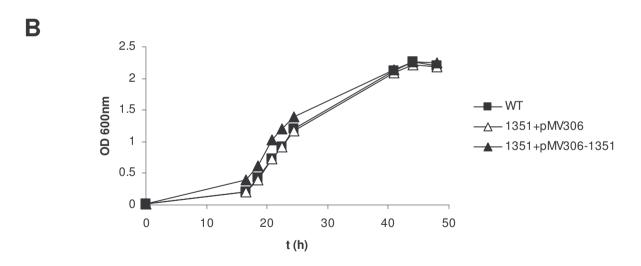
Disruption of *MSMEG_1351* **in** *Msm* **by a hygromycin resistance cassette.** BsaA1 restriction site and probe location are indicated. The same strategy was followed for the construction of $\triangle MSMEG_0902$ and $\triangle MSMEG_1203$. The Southern blot of BsaA1-digested genomic DNA in the indicated strains was performed using a hygromycin probe. The band marked with * corresponds to non-specific labeling of a 3611-bp BsaA1-fragment of the pJV53 vector. This band is absent from the $\triangle MSMEG_1351$ mutant in which pJV53 has been cured. Predicted sizes for $\triangle MSMEG_0902$, $\triangle MSMEG_1203$ and $\triangle MSMEG_1351$ were 3.85kb, 3.2kb, and 5.2kb, respectively.

Figure S3



Mycolic acid analysis of MSMEG_0902 and MSMEG_1203 disrupted M. smegmatis mutants. MSMEG_0902 and MSMEG_1203 genes were inactived by introducing a hygromycin resistance cassette, following the same strategy used to inactive MSMEG_1351. The parental strain, the Δ MSMEG_0902 and Δ MSMEG_1203 mutants were either grown at 25°C or at 37°C and labeled with ¹⁴C-acetate. Mycolic acids were then extracted and resolved by 2D argentation-TLC. The arrowhead indicates the position of cyclopropanated α-mycolic acids that accumulate at 25°C, not only in the parental strain but also in the two mutants.





Growth curves of *M. smegmatis* strains at 25°C (A) or 37°C (B).