

# Supporting Information

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## SI Materials and Methods

**Bacterial Strains, Plasmids, and Growth.** Plasmids were introduced into *Myxococcus xanthus* by electroporation. Mutants and transformants were obtained by homologous recombination. Complementmentation, expression of the fusion, and mutant proteins were all obtained after ectopic integration of the genes of interest at the Mx8-phage attachment site in appropriate deletion backgrounds (1). Integration at Mx8<sub>att</sub> has no effect on cell motility (1, 2).

For phenotypic assays, cells (10  $\mu$ L) at a concentration of  $4 \times 10^9$  cfu/mL were spotted on charcoal yeast extract (CYE) plates containing an agar concentration of either 0.5% [favoring twitching (S) motility] or 1.5% [supporting both gliding (A) and twitching motility], incubated at 32  $^{\circ}$ C, and photographed after 48 h with an Olympus SZ61 binocular or a Nikon Eclipse (model TE2000E) microscope.

**Preparation of Solubilized AgIRQS Complex.** A midexponential phase, a culture of wild type or the AgIQ-HA-expressing strain grown in 1L CYE medium was harvested, washed, resuspended in 25 mL lysis buffer [50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 200  $\mu$ g/mL lysozyme, 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 500 U Benzonase, and 10 mM PMSF) and lysed using a French pressure cell press. Cell debris was removed by slow-speed centrifugation. Ultracentrifugation (1 h at 10,000  $\times$  g) then was used to pellet the cell membrane containing the AgIRQS proteins, and the supernatant corresponding to the soluble fraction was discarded. The membrane pellet was resuspended in 2 mL lysis buffer (without lysozyme) and homogenized with a Potter-Elvehjem homogenizer. Membranes then were solubilized gently with 1% dodecyl maltoside (DDM) for 1 h at 4  $^{\circ}$ C. Solubilized membranes were ultracentrifuged again, and the soluble fraction containing the solubilized protein complex was subjected to the coimmunoprecipitation procedure.

**Coimmunoprecipitation of the AgIRQS Complex.** Solubilized membranes were mixed with 100  $\mu$ L anti-HA affinity matrix (Roche) and incubated at 4  $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h. The beads were washed repeatedly in Y-Buffer [50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5)] containing decreasing amounts of DDM (1–0.1%). After washing, the beads were resuspended directly in 100  $\mu$ L of Laemmli buffer and boiled at 100  $^{\circ}$ C for 10 min. Eluates were analyzed by SDS/PAGE and stained with Sypro-Ruby (Bio-Rad). As a control, protein lysates from the nontransformed *M. xanthus* wild-type strain were prepared following the same procedure (membrane solubilization and coimmunoprecipitation).

**Mass Spectrometry and Data Analysis.** After SDS-PAGE and staining of protein lysates from the AgIQ-HA fusion protein constructs (wild type or D28N mutant) and nontransformed control, lanes were excised and subjected to antigen retrieval by heating, disulfide reduction, and alkylation with iodoacetamide, in-gel trypsin digestion, and peptide elution (3). Peptides were desalted using microscale reversed-phase chromatography and then were subjected to reversed-phase nano-liquid chromatography (LC)-MS and MS/MS performed on a 2D nano-flow capillary HPLC system (Eksigent) coupled to an LTQ-Orbitrap hybrid mass spectrometer (ThermoFisher Scientific). Sample concentration and desalting were performed online using a trapping column (180  $\mu$ m  $\times$  ca. 20 mm) packed with 5  $\mu$ m 100  $\text{\AA}$  Magic AQ C18 material (Michrom) at a flow rate of 7  $\mu$ L/min for 2 min. Separation was achieved using an analytical capillary column (100  $\mu$ m  $\times$  ca. 100 mm) packed with 3  $\mu$ m 100  $\text{\AA}$  Magic AQ C18

material (Michrom) terminating in a pulled sprayer tip, under a linear gradient of buffers A [3% acetonitrile (ACN)/0.1% formic acid (FA)] and B [97% ACN/0.1% FA] over 70 min at a flow rate of  $\sim$ 0.5  $\mu$ L/min. Electrospray ionization was carried out at 2.5 kV, with the LTQ heated capillary set to 200  $^{\circ}$ C. Full-scan mass spectra were acquired in the Orbitrap in the positive-ion mode over the range  $m/z$  300–2000 at a resolution of 60,000. Mass accuracy after internal calibration typically was within 2–3 ppm. Simultaneously, MS/MS was acquired using the LTQ for the seven most abundant, multiply charged species in the mass spectrum with signal intensities of  $>1,000$  nL. MS/MS collision energies were set at 35%. Dynamic exclusion was set so that MS/MS for each species was acquired a maximum of once over a period of 120 s. All spectra were recorded in profile mode for further processing and analysis. Xcalibur software (ThermoFisher Scientific) was used for MS and MS/MS data analysis. Peptide and protein assignments were conducted using Mascot (Matrix Science) to search against the *M. xanthus* species subset of the Trembl database, using a error window of 8 ppm on the precursor ions and 1.2 Da on the fragment ions. Fixed modifications were set to include carbamidomethylation of cysteine; variable modifications were set to include oxidation of methionine. Scaffold software (Proteome Software) was used to collate and coalesce database search results.

**Kymograph Analysis and Bead Tracking.** We used custom software written in Matlab to construct the kymograph. The user selected a region of interest (ROI) that included only one cell image. A 2D matrix then was formed from the intensity profiles along the middle line (axial direction) of the cell image from a time-sequence stack. The 2D matrix was displayed as a pseudocolored image to form the kymograph.

For bead tracking, the original image (ROI) was preprocessed to get uniform background. Next, the mean intensity of the image was subtracted from the image. Then, the image was inverted, and the mean intensity of the inverted image was subtracted. The two subtracted images were added together to form the final image. In this way, the contour and contrast of the cell were greatly enhanced. The final image was segmented with a clustering ( $k$ -means) algorithm by assuming three clusters, which correspond to the bead (brightest cluster), the cell (second-brightest cluster), and the background (darkest cluster). The areas of the bead and cell were used as secondary criteria to eliminate false segments. The centroids of the segmented cell and bead then were calculated. The movement of the bead relative to the cell was recorded to compensate for any drift of the cell relative to the imaging optics.

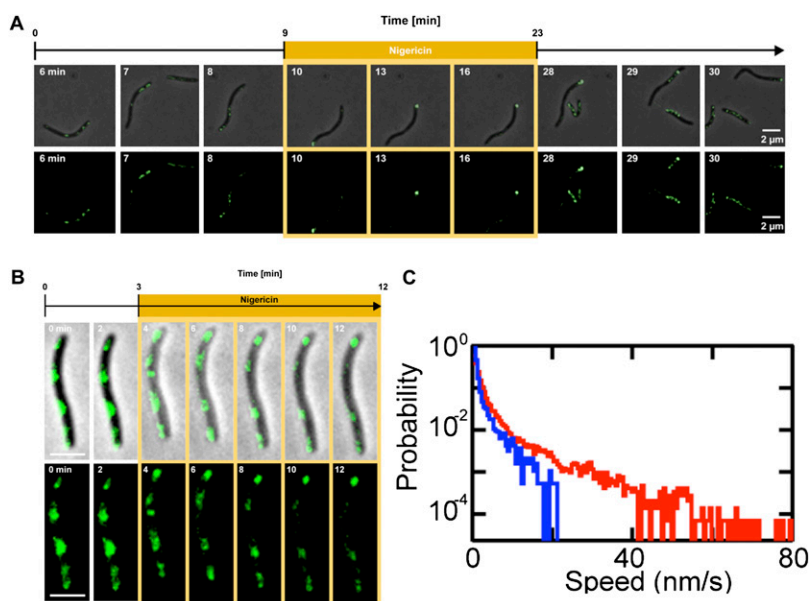
**Measurement of the Membrane Potential, Intracellular ATP Level, and pH.** Typically, *M. xanthus* cells were grown in CYE to OD<sub>0.5</sub>, and each drug was added at the appropriate concentration for 15 min at 32  $^{\circ}$ C. Then 1 mL of each suspension was centrifuged, and the cell pellets were concentrated 50-fold in 100 mM Tris HCl (pH 7.8) and 1 mM EDTA. After 3-min incubation at 32  $^{\circ}$ C, each suspension was diluted 20-fold in 100 mM NaPi (pH 7.5), 1 mM KCl, and 0.4% glycerol and was equilibrated at 32  $^{\circ}$ C for 15 min.  $^3\text{H-TPP}^+$  was added to the suspension at 10  $\mu$ M (70,000 cpm) and incubated for 1 h at 32  $^{\circ}$ C. Incorporated radioactivity in 100  $\mu$ L of the cell suspension was measured directly on filters after three washes in 100 mM NaPi (pH 7.8) with a Beckman Coulter scintillation counter. Under these conditions (pH 7.8), we determined that  $\Delta\text{pH} = 0$ ; thus the proton motive force (PMF) equals the membrane potential (PMF =  $\Delta\psi$ ). The membrane

potential then was calculated using the Nernst equation as previously described (4).

To measure changes in intracellular pH, cells were grown to midexponential phase and mixed with BCEF-AM (0.5 mM, Molecular Probes) before they were transferred to a standard TPM-agar pad (pH 6) on a microscope slide. Nigericin, valinomycin, and carbonyl cyanide-*m*-chlorophenylhydrazone (CCCP) were injected at appropriate concentrations directly on the microscope. All fluorescence images were captured with a 480-nm excitation filter but with two different emission filters (535 and 610 nm) to monitor changes in intracellular pH. Intracellular pH variations were quantified by calculating  $R = \text{fluorescence } \lambda 535 \text{ nm} / \text{fluorescence } \lambda 610 \text{ nm}$ . Emission of BCECF (Molecular Probes) at  $\lambda 535 \text{ nm}$  decreases with intracellular pH; thus any drug that collapses the pH gradient is expected to decrease  $R$ , because the pH of the surrounding medium is acidic (pH 6) and the initial intracellular pH is 7.8.

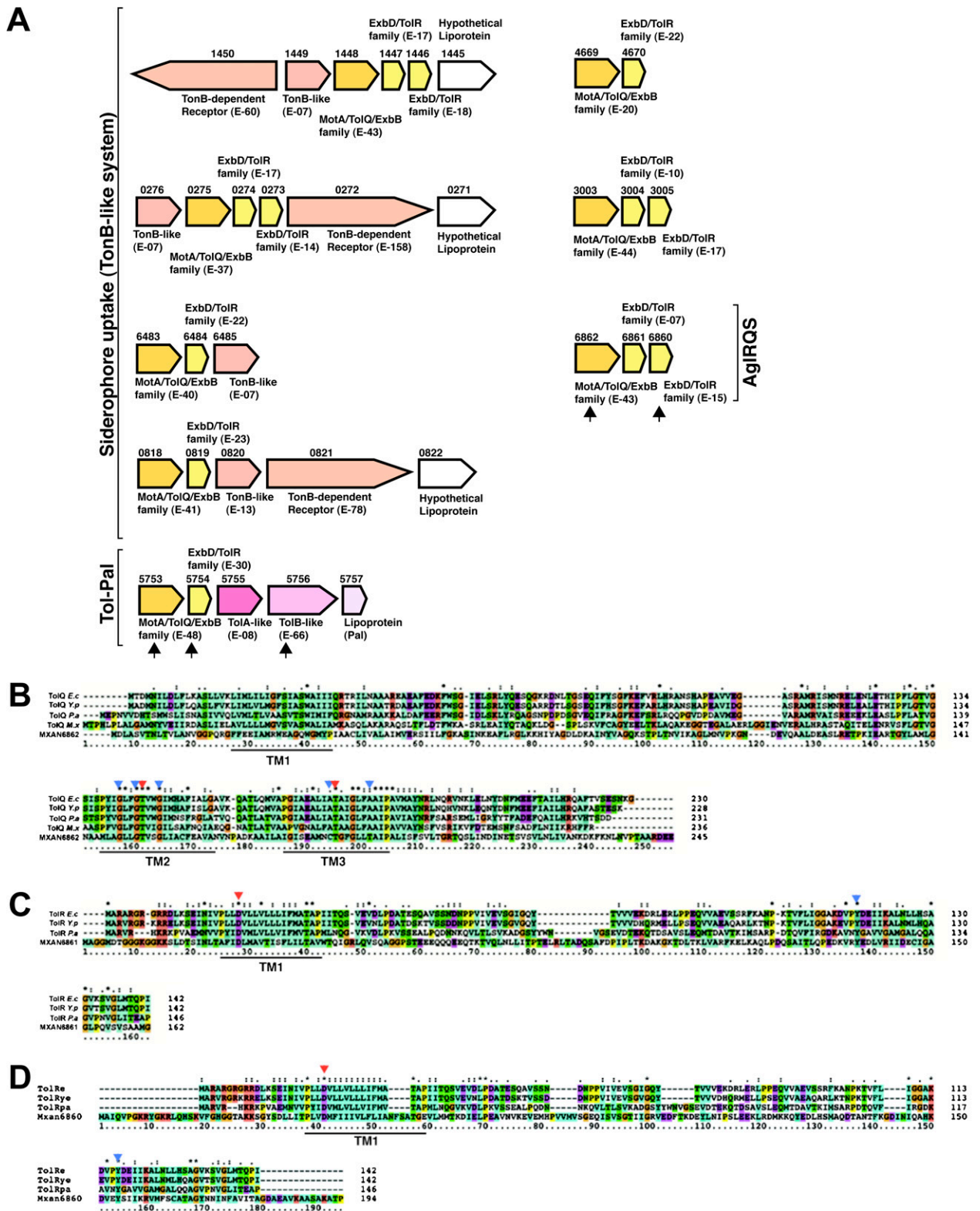
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**Imaging of Cell Gliding.** The microscope was equipped with a “Perfect Focus System” (PFS) that automatically maintains focus so that the point of interest within a specimen is in sharp focus at all times, despite any mechanical or thermal perturbations. Images were recorded with a CoolSNAP HQ 2 (Roper Scientific), and a 40 $\times$ /0.75 DLL Plan-Apochromat or a 100 $\times$ /1.4 DLL objective. All fluorescence images were acquired with a minimal exposure time to minimize bleaching and phototoxicity effects. Before any image processing, phase-contrast or fluorescent gray-scale images used for segmentation were equalized to reduce fluctuations in background noise. Cell tracking was performed automatically. When appropriate to correct tracking errors, manual measurements also were performed with tools built into the software. Images were processed under both ImageJ 1.40g (National Institutes of Health) and MetaMorph.



**Fig. 51.** (A) Addition of nigericin (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) rapidly blocks movement and disperses the AglZ-YFP clusters. After washing, movement is resumed coincidentally with the reappearance of AglZ-YFP internal clusters. (B) Nigericin disperses the AglQ-mCherry clusters. Note the condensation of a polar cluster upon nigericin treatment. (Scale bar, 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .) (C) Addition of A22 (50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ) significantly decreases bead gliding speed (blue) as compared with the speed on nontreated cells (red).



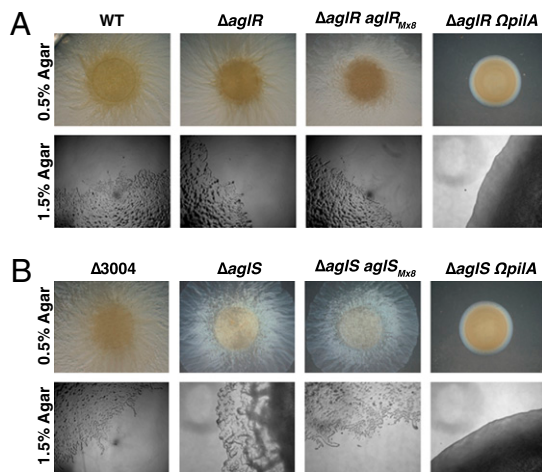


**Fig. S3.** (A) The *Myxococcus* genome contains eight loci carrying genes encoding Tol/Exb/Mot. Four clusters encode TonB-like systems involved in iron siderophore transport (1) and thus were discarded for this analysis. Transposon insertions known to disrupt A motility are shown (black arrows). Three insertions were found in a cluster encoding a complete Tol-Pal system. However, Tol-Pal also is required for S motility (2). In fact, Tol-Pal is involved in membrane integrity, cell division, and protein localization in all systems studied so far (3–5); thus the effects on motility probably are indirect. Blast E values are shown for each predicted gene. (B–D) Multiple sequence alignment of AgIR, AgIRQ, and AgIS with TolQ (B) and TolR (C and D) from canonical Tol-Pal systems (Ec: *Escherichia coli*; Yp: *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*; Ye: *Yersinia enterocolitica*; Pa: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*). The critical transmembrane helices are conserved

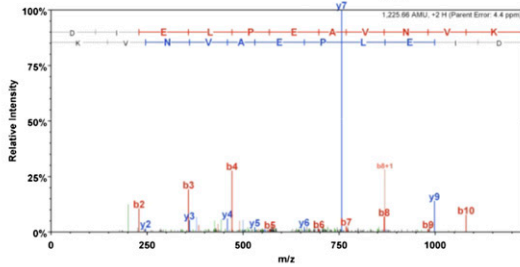
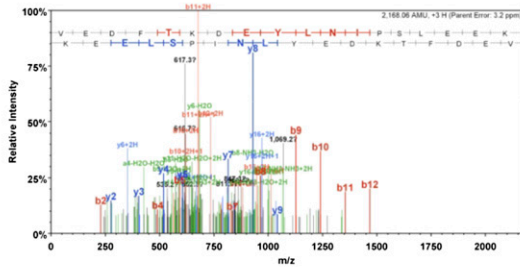
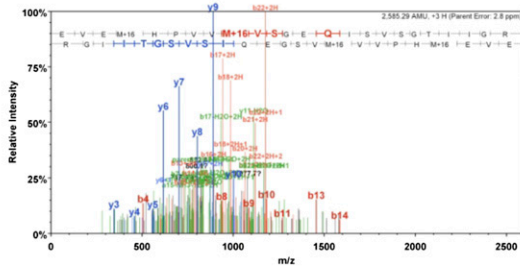
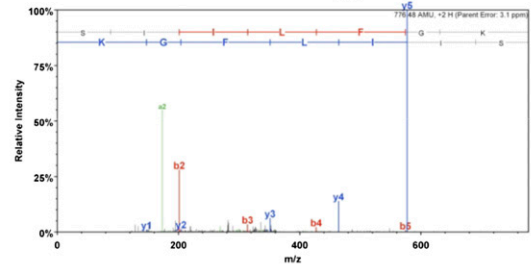
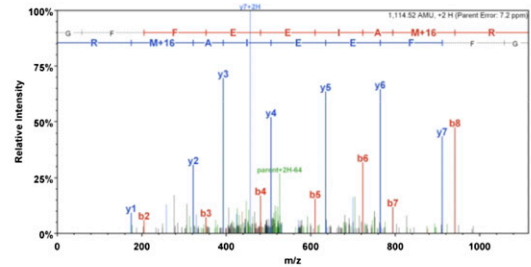
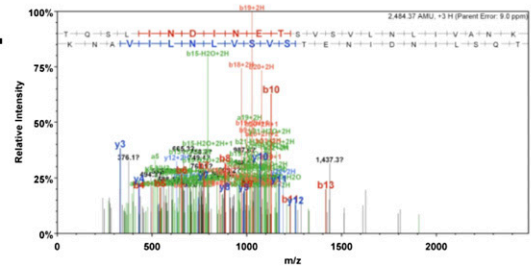
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in all AglRQS proteins. Blue arrows indicate critical residues for channel assembly in *E. coli* TolQ. Note that some of these residues are missing in AglR. Red arrows indicate residues that are essential for proton conductance in *E. coli* TolQR. All these residues are systematically conserved in AglR, -Q, and -S.

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**Fig. 54.** Both *aglR* and *aglS* are essential for gliding motility. Hard and soft agar motility assays showing motility defects of the *aglR* (A) and *aglS* (B) deletion mutants. For both mutants, single motile cells are not detected at the colony edges, and combined *pilA* disruption results in complete loss of motility. Both *aglR* and *aglS* defects are fully complemented when *aglR* and *aglS* are expressed ectopically from the Mx8 phage attachment site, confirming their respective roles in gliding motility.

**A****<sup>66</sup>DIELPEAVNVK<sub>76</sub>****i.****<sup>100</sup>VEDFTKDEYLNIPSLEEK<sub>118</sub>****ii.****<sup>77</sup>EVE MHPVVMVSGEQISVSGTIIGR<sub>100</sub>****iii.****B****<sup>55</sup>SIILFGK<sub>61</sub>****i.****<sup>21</sup>GFFEEIAMR<sub>29</sub>****ii.****<sup>210</sup>TQSLINDINETSVSVLNLIVANK<sub>229</sub>****iii.**



**Table S1. Plasmids and strains used in this study**

Plasmid or strain	Description	Source
<b>Plasmid</b>		
pBJ114	Used to create deletions, <i>galK</i> , KmR	Laboratory collection
pSWU19	KmR used to integrate genes ectopically at <i>mx8att</i>	Laboratory collection
pSWU30	TetR used to integrate genes ectopically at <i>mx8att</i>	Laboratory collection
pBJΔ <i>pilA</i>	pBJ114 allowing deletion of <i>pilA</i>	Z. Yang
pBJΔ <i>aglQ</i>	pBJ114 allowing deletion of <i>aglQ</i>	This work
pBJAglZY	pBJ114 with a cassette allowing construction of the <i>aglZ-YFP</i> chimeric gene	Laboratory collection
pSWU19 <i>aglQHA</i>	pSWU19 allowing expression of <i>aglQ-HA</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pSWU19D28NHA	pSWU19 allowing expression of <i>aglQD28N-HA</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pSWU19 <i>aglQCh</i>	pSWU19 allowing expression of <i>aglQ-mCherry</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pSWU30 <i>aglQCh</i>	pSWU30 allowing expression of <i>aglQ-mCherry</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pSWU19D28NC	pSWU19 allowing expression of <i>aglQ<sub>D28N</sub>-mCherry</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pBJΔ <i>aglR</i>	pBJ114 allowing deletion of <i>aglR</i>	This work
pBJΔ <i>aglS</i>	pBJ114 allowing deletion of <i>aglS</i>	This work
pSWU30 <i>aglR</i>	pSWU30 allowing expression of <i>aglR</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pSWU30 <i>aglS</i>	pSWU30 allowing expression of <i>aglS</i> from its own promoter at <i>mx8att</i>	This work
pBJΔ3004	pBJ114 allowing deletion of MXAN3004	This work
<b>Strain</b>		
DZ2	Wild type	Laboratory collection
TM9	DZ2 <i>aglZYFP</i> ; <i>aglZ-YFP</i>	Laboratory collection
TM146	DZ2 Δ <i>aglQ</i> (pBJΔ <i>aglQ</i> ); Δ <i>aglQ</i>	This work
TM156	DZ2 <i>pilA::tet</i> ; Ω <i>pilA</i>	This work
TM163	TM146 <i>aglZYFP</i> (pBJAglZY); Δ <i>aglQ aglZ-YFP</i>	This work
TM251	TM146 <i>mx8att::aglQHA</i> (pSWU19 <i>aglQHA</i> ); Δ <i>aglQ aglQ-HA</i>	This work
TM255	TM146 <i>pilA::tet</i> ; Δ <i>aglQ ΩpilA</i>	This work
TM295	TM146 <i>frzE::tn5Ω226</i> ; Δ <i>aglQ ΩfrzE</i>	This work
TM312	TM146 <i>mx8att::aglQD28NHA</i> (pSWU19D28NHA); Δ <i>aglQ aglQD28N-HA</i>	This work
TM333	TM146 <i>mx8att::aglQmCherry</i> (pSWU19 <i>aglQCh</i> ); Δ <i>aglQ aglQ-mCherry</i>	This work
TM348	TM146 <i>mx8att::aglQmCherry</i> (pSWU30 <i>aglQCh</i> ); Δ <i>aglQ aglQ-mCherry</i>	This work
TM337	TM255 <i>mx8att::aglQmCherry</i> (pSWU19 <i>aglQCh</i> ); Ω <i>pilA ΔaglQ aglQ-mCherry</i>	This work
TM340	TM163 <i>mx8att::aglQmCherry</i> (pSWU30 <i>aglQCh</i> ); <i>aglZYFP ΔaglQ aglQ-mCherry</i>	This work
TM364	TM255 <i>mx8att::aglQ<sub>D28N</sub>mCherry</i> (pSWU19D28NCh); Δ <i>aglQ aglQ<sub>D28N</sub>-mCherry ΩpilA</i>	This work
TM384	DZ2 Δ <i>aglR</i> (pBJΔ <i>aglR</i> ); Δ <i>aglR</i>	This work
TM449	TM384 Δ <i>pilA</i> (pBJΔ <i>pilA</i> ); Δ <i>aglR ΔpilA</i>	This work
TM452	DZ2 Δ <i>aglS</i> (pBJΔ <i>aglS</i> ); Δ <i>aglS</i>	This work
TM450	TM384 <i>mx8att::aglR</i> (pSWU30 <i>aglR</i> ); Δ <i>aglR aglR</i>	This work
TM455	TM452 <i>mx8att::aglS</i> (pSWU30 <i>aglS</i> ); Δ <i>aglS aglS</i>	This work
TM454	TM452 <i>pilA::tet</i> ; Δ <i>aglS ΩpilA</i>	This work
TM363	DZ2 ΔMXAN3004 (pBJΔ3004); ΔMXAN3004	This work





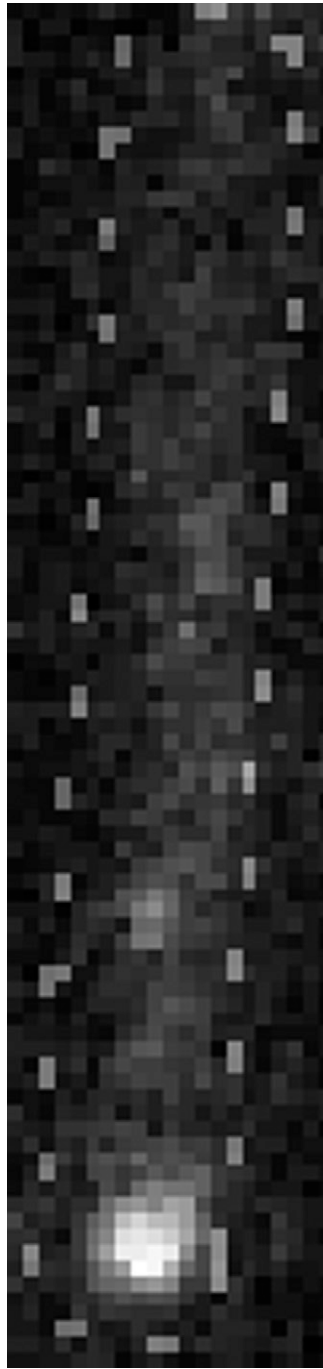
**Table S3. Plasmid construction schemes**

Plasmid	Construction scheme*
pBJΔagIQ	Primer pairs Δ6861-1/Δ6861-2 and Δ6861-3/Δ6861-4 were used to amplify a 1-kb fragment upstream and downstream of the <i>agIQ</i> ORF. First the upstream fragment was cloned at the EcoRI and BamHI sites of pBJ114. Then the downstream fragment was ligated at the BamHI and HindIII sites of the pBJ114-upstream fragment.
pSWU19agIQHA	A fragment encompassing <i>agIQ</i> and the <i>agIQ</i> promoter region was amplified from the DZ2 chromosome with primers AgIR-3/AgIR-7 and cloned at the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU19.
pSWU19D28NHA	A <i>agIQ(D28N)HA</i> allele was generated by splicing by overlapping extension (SOE) PCR fusing a fragment amplified from primers AgIR-3/AgIR-5 to a fragment amplified from AgIR-9/AgIR-7 using the DZ2 chromosome as a template. The resulting fragment then was ligated to the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU19.
pSWU19agIQCh	Primers AgIR-3/6861-mCherry-1 were used to amplify a <i>agIQ</i> fragment and its promoter region from the DZ2 chromosome. Primers 6861-mCherry-2/6861-mCherry-3 were used to amplify the <i>mCherry</i> fragment from a plasmid containing the <i>mCherry</i> gene. Both fragments were fused by SOE-PCR and cloned at the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU19.
pSWU30agIQCh	Primers AgIR-3/6861-mCherry-1 were used to amplify the <i>agIQ</i> fragment and its promoter from the DZ2 chromosome. Primers 6861-mCherry-2/6861-mCherry-3 were used to amplify the fragment <i>mCherry</i> from a plasmid containing the <i>mCherry</i> gene. Both fragments were fused by SOE-PCR and cloned at the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU30.
pSWU19D28NC	A <i>agIQ-D28N-mCherry</i> allele was generated by SOE PCR fusing a fragment amplified from primers AgIR-3/AgIR-5 to a fragment amplified from AgIR-9/6861-mCherry-1 using the DZ2 chromosome as a template. The resulting fragment then was fused to a third fragment amplified from primers 6861-mCherry-2/6861-mCherry-3 using a plasmid containing the <i>mCherry</i> gene as a template. The resulting fragment then was ligated to the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU19.
pBJΔagIR	Primer pairs D6862-5/D6862-6 and D6862-7/D6862-8 were used to amplify a 1-kb fragment upstream and downstream from the <i>agIR</i> ORF. First the upstream fragment was cloned at the EcoRI and BamHI sites of pBJ114. Then the downstream fragment was ligated at the BamHI and HindIII sites of the pBJ114-upstream fragment.
pBJΔagIS	Primer pairs D6860-5/D6860-6 and D6860-7/D6860-8 were used to amplify a 1-kb fragment upstream and downstream from the <i>agIS</i> ORF. First the upstream fragment was cloned at the EcoRI and BamHI sites of pBJ114. Then the downstream fragment was ligated at the BamHI and HindIII sites of the pBJ114-upstream fragment.
pSWU30agIR	A fragment encompassing <i>agIR</i> and the <i>agIR</i> promoter region was amplified from the DZ2 chromosome with primers CgmoA-1/CgmoA-2 and cloned at the BamHI and HindIII sites of pSWU30.
pSWU30agIS	Primers CgmoA-1/CgmoC-1 were used to amplify the promoter of <i>agIS</i> from the DZ2 chromosome. Primers CgmoC-2/CgmoC-3 were used to amplify <i>agIS</i> from the DZ2 chromosome. Both fragments were fused by SOE-PCR and cloned at the BamHI and EcoRI sites of pSWU30.
pBJΔ3004A	Primer pairs D3004-1/D3004-2 and D3004-3/D3004-4 were used to amplify a 1-kb fragment upstream and downstream from the MXAN_3004 ORF. Both fragments were fused by SOE-PCR and cloned at the EcoRI sites and HindIII sites of pBJ114.

\*All plasmid inserts were sequenced to ensure the absence of PCR-introduced mutations.

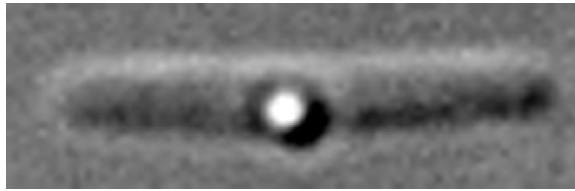
**Table S4. Effects of CCCP, valinomycin, and nigericin on the membrane potential**

Drug treatment	Effect on membrane potential $\Delta\psi$ (mV)
No treatment	154
CCCP (10 $\mu$ M)	0
Valinomycin (40 $\mu$ M)	0
Nigericin (100 $\mu$ M)	158



**Movie S1.** Intracellular transport of AglZ-YFP clusters. Most AglZ-YFP clusters move from the cell head, defined as the brightest pole, toward the back. Some clusters move opposite this direction, and the cell can support both directions of motion at the same time.

[Movie S1](#)



**Movie S2.** A bead moves along the side of an immobilized cell. Long, unidirectional runs are interrupted by periods of motionless pausing.

[Movie S2](#)