ENZ	Genotype	Source (reference)
535	F ⁻ rph-1 ilvG rfb-50 phnE	MG1655 (21)
985	As 535 but <i>rpoS359</i> ::Tn10	(21)
1698	As 535 but <i>rpoS::kan</i>	(11)
1755	As 535 but $\Delta(phoB-R)kan$	(21)
1791	As 535 but $\Delta lacY$::kan	P1.JW334
1797	As 535 but <i>lacY</i> ::Tn10	This study
1901	Evolved 535 RpoS ⁻	This study
1902	Evolved 535 Glg	This study
1903	Evolved 535 Glg^+	This study
1904	Evolved 535 Glg ⁺	This study
1905	Evolved 535 Glg ⁺	This study
1944	As 535 but $\Delta rpoS::kan$	P1.JW5437
1946	As 1944 (535 Δ <i>rpoS</i>) Km ^s	This study
1984	As1905 but $\Delta lacY::kan$	P1.JW334
2000	As 1901 but $\Delta lac Y$:: kan	P1.JW334
2001	As 1902 but $\Delta lac Y$:: kan	P1.JW334
2002	As 1903 but $\Delta lac Y$:: kan	P1.JW334
2005	As 1944 (535 Δ <i>rpoS::kan</i>) but <i>cysC</i> 95::Tn10	This study
2015	As 1901 but $\Delta(phoB-R)kan$	P1.1755
2020	As 1946 (535 $\Delta rpoS$) but $\Delta lacY$::kan	P1.JW334
2039	As 535 but <i>rpoS</i> 819	This study
2041	As 535 but <i>rpoS1901</i>	This study
2063	As 2039 (535 <i>rpoS819</i>) but Δ <i>lacY</i> :: <i>kan</i>	P1.JW334
2065	As 2041 (535 <i>rpoS1901</i>) but Δ <i>lacY</i> :: <i>kan</i>	P1.JW334
2075	As 535 but $\Delta phoB$::kan	P1.JW389
2079	As 1901 but $\Delta phoB$::kan	P1.JW389
2084	As 2075 (535 $\Delta phoB$) Km ^s	This study
2255	As 535 but $\Delta proP$::kan MePn ⁻	This study
2256	As 535 but $\Delta proP$::kan MePn ⁺	This study
2258	As 1946 (535 $\Delta rpoS$) but $\Delta proP$::kan MePn ⁻	This study
2259	As 1946 (535 $\Delta rpoS$) but $\Delta proP$::kan MePn ⁺	This study
2260	As 1901 but $\Delta pstA$::kan	P1.JW3704
2263	As 2041 (535 $rpoS1901$) but $\Delta proP$::kan MePn ⁺	This study
2265	As 2041 (535 $rpoS1901$) but $\Lambda proP$::kan MePn	This study
2268	As 1901 but $\Lambda phnK$: kan GPS ⁺ MePn ⁻	P1.JW5727
2271	As 1901 but $\Delta phnE^{}kan$	P1 JW4065
2274	As 2271 (1901 $\Lambda phnE$: kan) Km ^s	This study
2277	As 2274 (1901 $\Lambda phnE$) but $\Lambda pstA$ ··kan	P1.JW3704
2278	As 2274 (1901 AphnE) but AphoE kan	P1 JW231
2282	As 1901 but $lac Y$:: Tn 10	P1.1797

TABLE S1. E. coli K-12 strains





FIG. S1. Adaptive evolution of *E. coli* K-12 under Pi starvation conditions. Strain ENZ535 was diluted 1:50 into fresh Pi-limiting medium every 9 days of incubation and incubated further for up to 36 days. Five independent experiments (I-V) are shown. (A) The values (CFU/ml) for experiment (I) are from Fig. 1. The numbers of colonies (total 6) exhibiting either an RpoS⁻, Glg⁻, or Glg⁺ phenotype are indicated below the figure. (B and B') For the experiments (II-V), the values for the subcultures #3 and #4 are shown in panels B and B', respectively. The pH of the spent media and the number of colonies (total 12) exhibiting either an RpoS⁻, Glg⁻, or Glg⁺ phenotype are indicated below the figures. Strains ENZ1901 (RpoS⁻), ENZ1902 (Glg⁻), ENZ1903 (Glg⁺) in experiment V, and strains ENZ1904 and ENZ1905 (Glg⁺) in experiments II were isolated on day 27 of incubation in subcultures #4.



FIG. S2. The evolved strain ENZ1901 grows in a culture of *E. coli* K-12 starved for Pi. The strains tested as a minority in mixed cultures were grown as monocultures in Pi-limiting medium for 1 day, diluted 10^3 -fold, added (0.5 ml) into 50 ml of 1-day-old cultures of the ancestral strain ENZ535 in Pi-limiting medium, and incubated further for 8 days. (A) Evolved strain ENZ1901 (Km^r: ENZ2000) as a minority (\blacktriangle , \blacktriangledown , \blacklozenge) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Tc^r: ENZ1797) as a majority (\triangle , ∇ , \diamondsuit), and evolved strain ENZ1901 (Tc^r: ENZ2282) as a minority (\bigcirc , \square) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Km^r: ENZ1791) as a majority (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Km^r: ENZ1791) as a minority (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Km^r: ENZ1791) as a minority (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Km^r: ENZ1791) as a minority (\bigstar , \bigtriangledown) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Km^r: ENZ1791) as a minority (\bigstar , \bigtriangledown) with ancestral strain ENZ535 (Tc^r: ENZ1797) as a majority (\triangle , \bigtriangledown).



FIG. S3. Growth of the evolved strain ENZ1901 in mixed culture. The evolved strain ENZ1901 (Km^r: ENZ2000) was grown for 1 day in Pi-limiting medium, serially diluted (10^1-10^5 -fold) (∇ , \triangle , \bullet and \blacktriangle , \Box , O), and 0.5 ml samples were added into 50 ml of 1-day-old cultures of the ancestral strain ENZ535 (Tc^r: ENZ1797) (\bullet) in Pi-limiting medium, and incubated further for 8 days.



FIG. S4. Evolved strains in mixed culture. The evolved strains were grown as monocultures in Pi-limiting medium for 1 day, diluted 10^3 -fold, added (0.5 ml) into 50 ml of 1-day-old cultures of the ancestral strain ENZ535 (Tc^r: ENZ1797) (open symbols) in Pi-limiting medium, and incubated further for 8 days. (A) Evolved strain ENZ1902 (Glg⁻) (Km^r: ENZ2001) (\blacktriangle). (B) Evolved strain ENZ1903 (Glg⁺) (Km^r: ENZ2002) (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown , \blacklozenge). (C) Evolved strain ENZ1905 (Glg⁺) (Km^r: ENZ1984) (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown).



FIG. S5. ENZ535 carrying the *rpoS*1901 allele alone does not grow in a mixed culture containing the ancestral strain ENZ535 in excess. The re-constructed strains (solid symbols) were grown as monocultures in Pi-limiting medium for 1 day, diluted 10^3 -fold, added (0.5 ml) into 50 ml of 1-day-old cultures of the ancestral strain ENZ535 (Tc^r: ENZ1797) in Pi-limiting medium (\triangle , ∇), and incubated further for 8 days. (A) ENZ535 carrying the *rpoS*1901 allele (Km^r: ENZ2065) (\blacktriangle , \blacktriangledown). (B) ENZ535 carrying the *rpoS*1901 allele (Km^r: ENZ2065) (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown). (C) ENZ535 carrying the *rpoS*819 allele (Km^r: ENZ2063) (\bigstar , \blacktriangledown).



FIG. S6. Adaptive evolution of *E. coli* K-12 and of a *phnE*⁺ derivative. Strains were diluted 1:50 into Pi-limiting medium every 9 days of incubation and incubated further for 30 days; the values for the subcultures #3 are shown. The values for 4 independent experiments are shown for each strain. (A) *E. coli* K-12 (ENZ2255). The numbers of colonies (total 20) exhibiting a PhnE⁺ and/or an RpoS⁻ phenotype are indicated below the figure. (B) *E. coli* K-12 *phnE*⁺ (ENZ2256). The population that survived on day 30 of incubation (\bigcirc) contained PhnE⁺ cells (20/20).