

**The *E. coli* toxin MqsR destabilizes the transcriptional repression complex formed between the antitoxin MqsA and the *mqsRA* operon promoter**

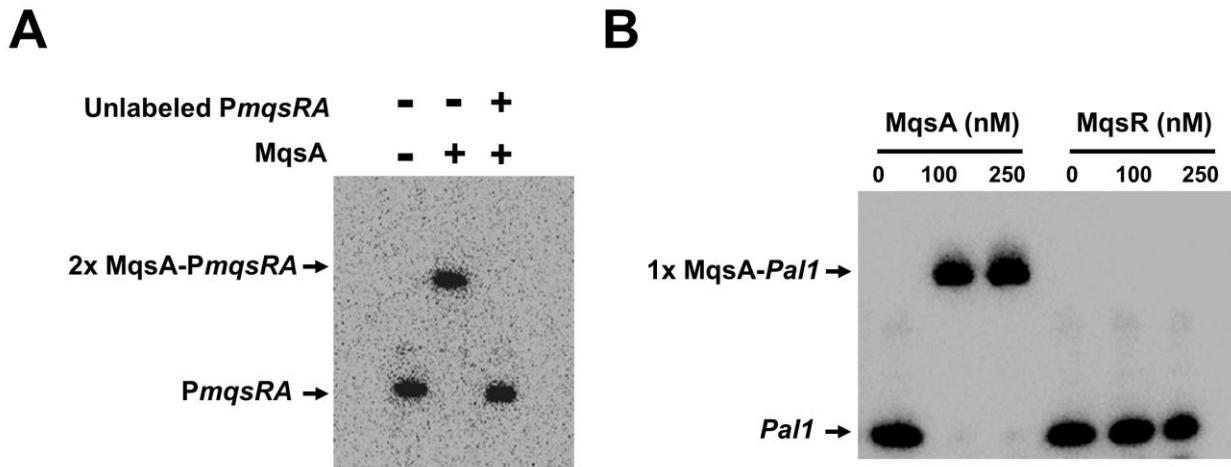
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**TABLE S1. PCR primers used to generate templates for T7 RNA polymerase *in vitro* transcription.** *F* indicates forward primer and *R* indicates reverse primer. The T7 promoter sequence is underlined and the bases incorporated into mRNA during transcription are in bold.

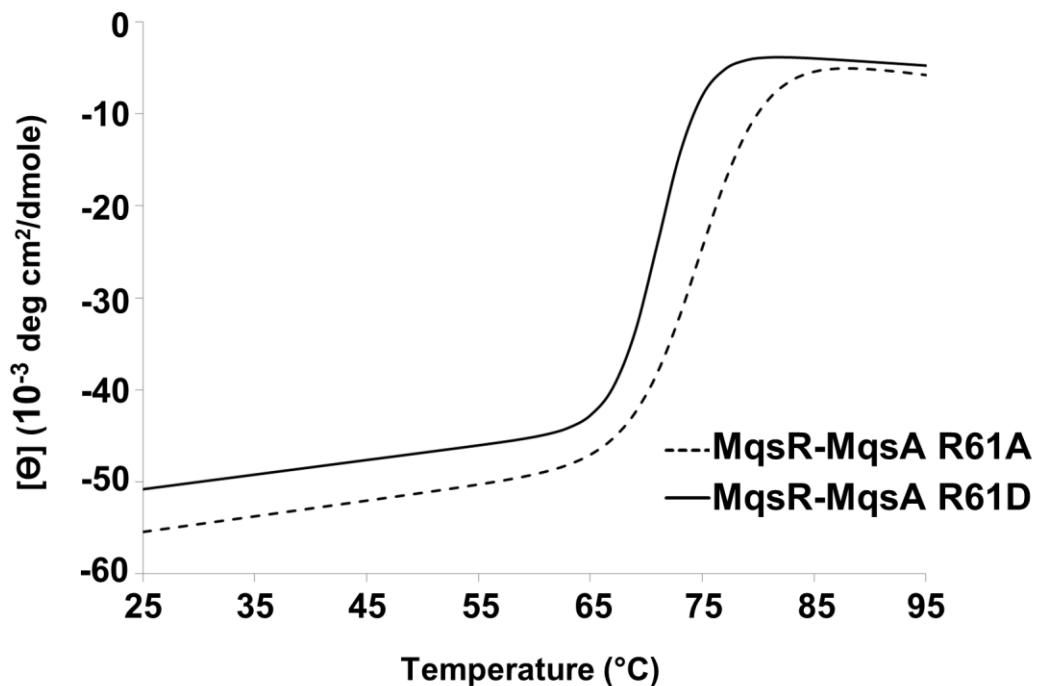
RNA	Transcript size (nt)	Primer Name	Sequence (5' - 3')
<i>mqsA</i>	415	PT7- <i>mqsRA</i> -F	<u>TAATACGACTCACTATA</u> <b>GGAGAAGGAGATATA</b> CAT
		PT7- <i>mqsA</i> -R	TTAACGGATTTCATTCAATAGTTCTGG
<i>mqsR</i>	315	PT7- <i>mqsRA</i> -F	<u>TAATACGACTCACTATA</u> <b>GGAGAAGGAGATATA</b> CAT
		PT7- <i>mqsR</i> -R	TTACTTCTCCTTAAACGAGACGAT

**TABLE S2. PCR primers used to generate DNA for EMSA experiments.** *F* indicates forward primer and *R* indicates reverse primer.

DNA	Transcript size (nt)	Primer Name	Sequence (5' - 3')
P <i>mqsRA</i>	234	P <i>mqsRA</i> -F	GTGATGCCTGACTCCAGCTT
		P <i>mqsRA</i> -R	CGTGTATGTGGTGTGCGTTT
Pal1	26	Pal1-F	TCTAACTAACCTTTAGGTGCTTTT
		Pal1-R	AAAAAGCACCTAAAAGGTTAGTTAGA
Pal2	26	Pal2-F	TGTAATTAACCTTTAGGTATAACT
		Pal2-R	AGTTATAACCTAAAAGGTTAATTACA



**Supplemental Figure S1. MqsA binds *PmqsRA* specifically.** (A) EMSA in the presence and absence of unlabeled *PmqsRA* DNA. In lane 2, MqsA was incubated with 100 fmol of biotin-labeled *PmqsRA* DNA. Lane 3 is the same as lane 2 except MqsA was incubated first with a 2-fold excess of unlabeled *PmqsRA* DNA. (B) EMSA with increasing amounts of MqsA (lanes 2-3) or MqsR (5-6) incubated with 100 fmol biotin-labeled Palindrome 1 (Pal1).



**Supplemental Figure S2.** Thermal denaturation at 208 nm of the MqsR-MqsA R61 mutants. The T<sub>m</sub> for MqsR-MqsA R61A (5 μM, dashed line) and MqsR-MqsA R61D (5 μM, solid line) are 75.2 ± 0.4°C and 70.5 ± 1.0°, respectively.

