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Supporting Information

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Abyssomicin Biosynthesis: Formation of an Unusual Polyketide, Antibiotic-Feeding Studies and Genetic Analysis

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Supplementary Information

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1 Analytical Data from ^{13}C -labeled substrate feeding experiments

1.1 ^{13}C -NMR spectra after feeding acetate

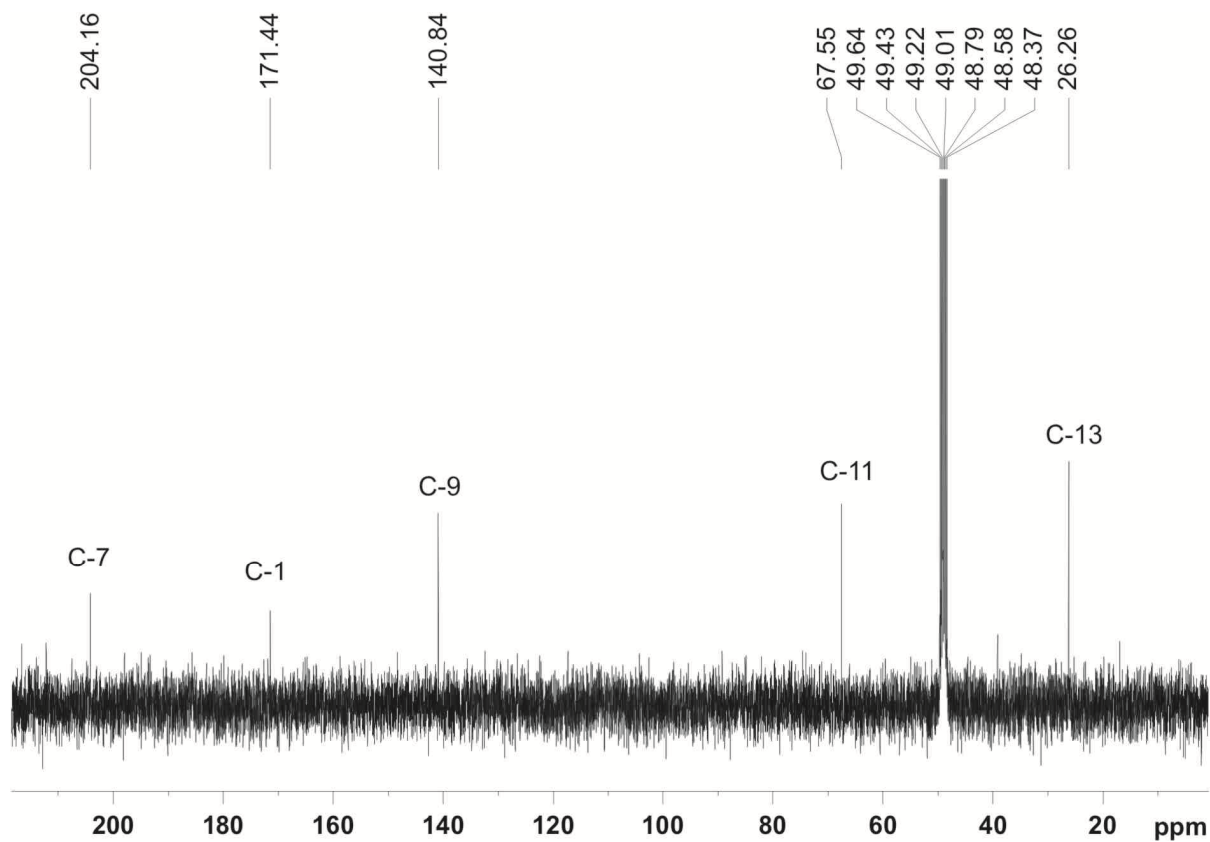


Figure S1: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of $1\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ -acetate and structural assignment of carbon-atoms.

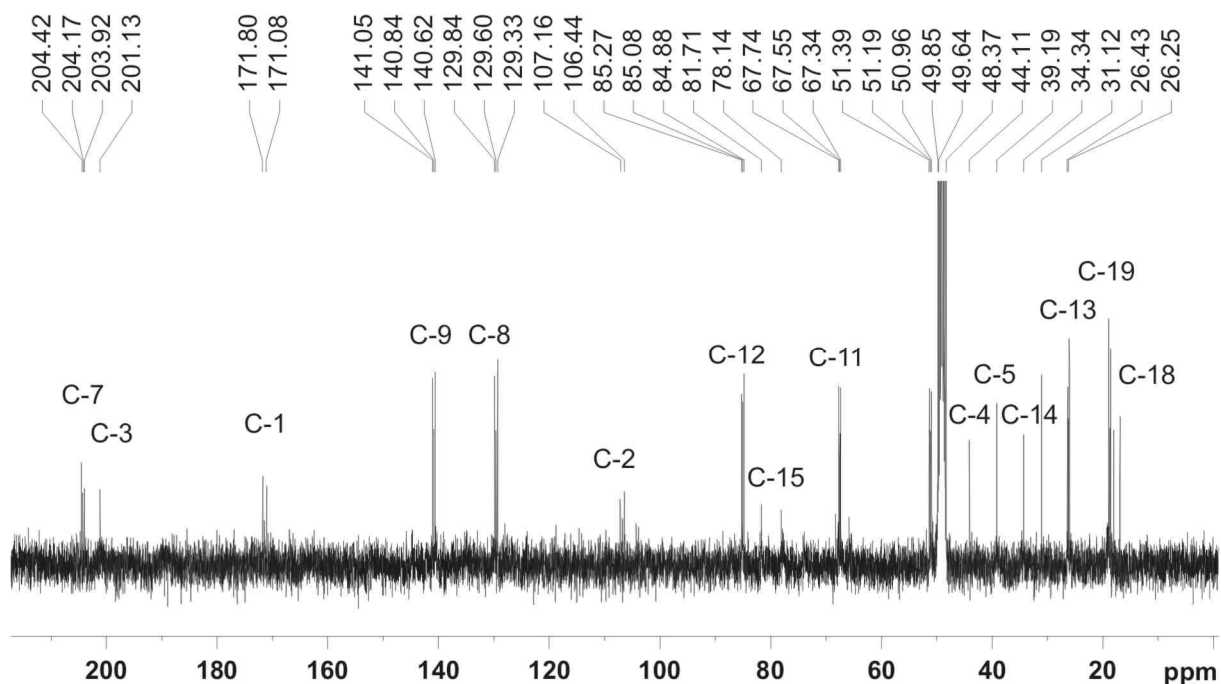


Figure S2: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of $1,2\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ -acetate and structural assignment of carbon-atoms.

1.2 ^{13}C -NMR spectra after feeding propionate

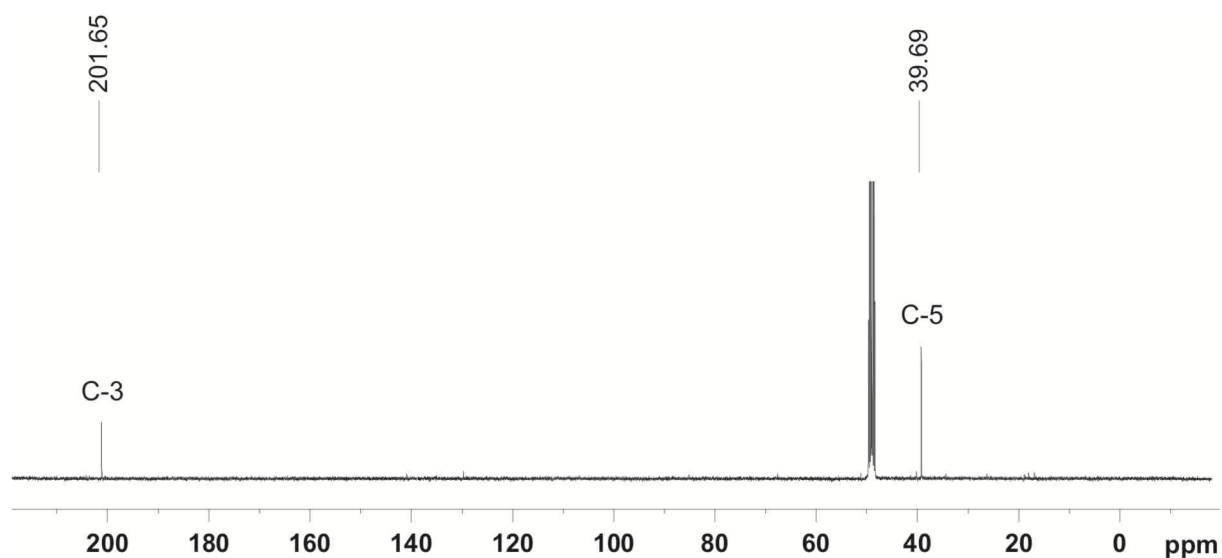


Figure S3: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of $1\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ -propionate and structural assignment of carbon-atoms.

1.3 ^{13}C -NMR spectra after feeding glucose

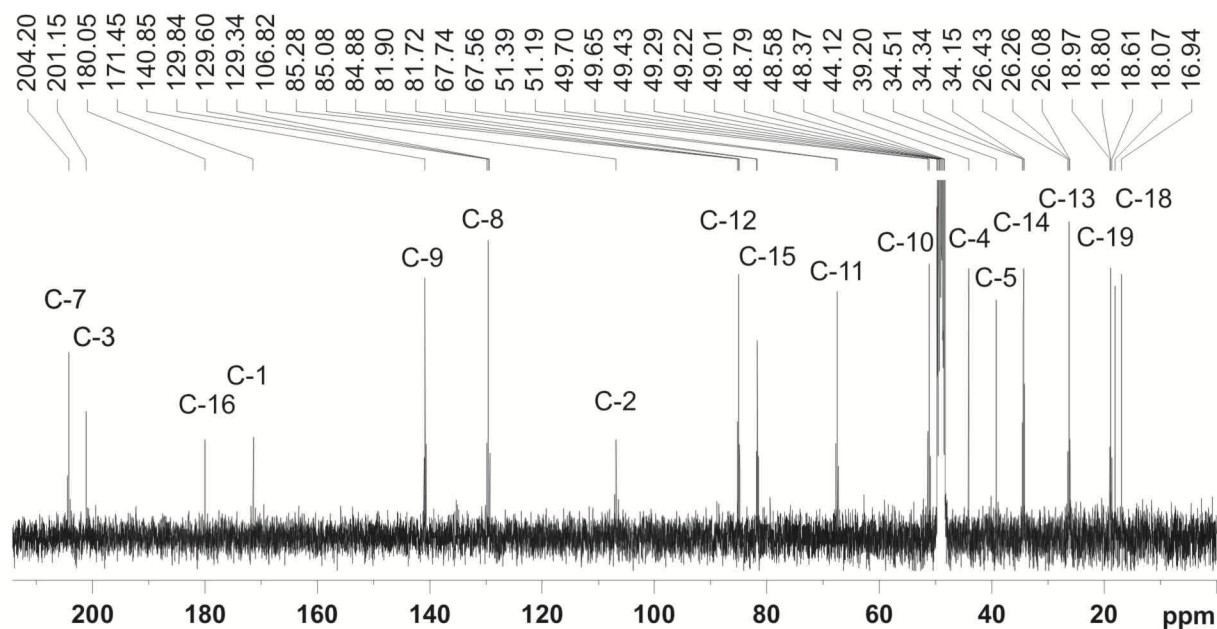


Figure S4: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of $1,2\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ -glucose and structural assignment of carbon-atoms.

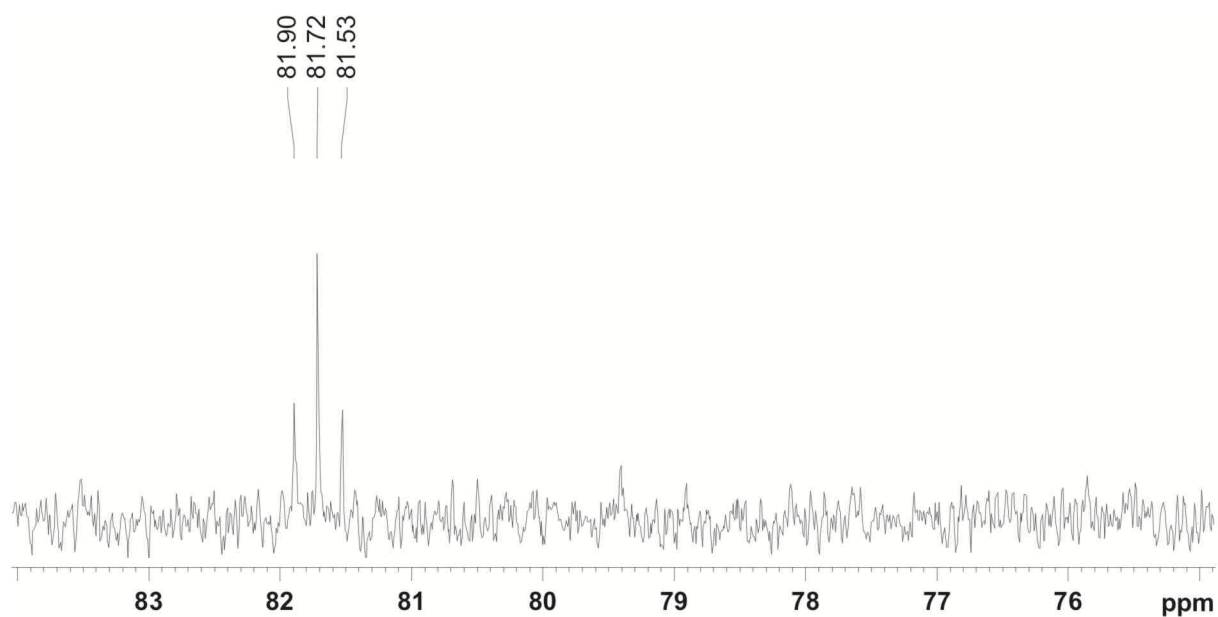


Figure S5: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of 1,2- ^{13}C -glucose: Zoom of signal C-15 of Fig. S4 between 83 ppm and 76 ppm.

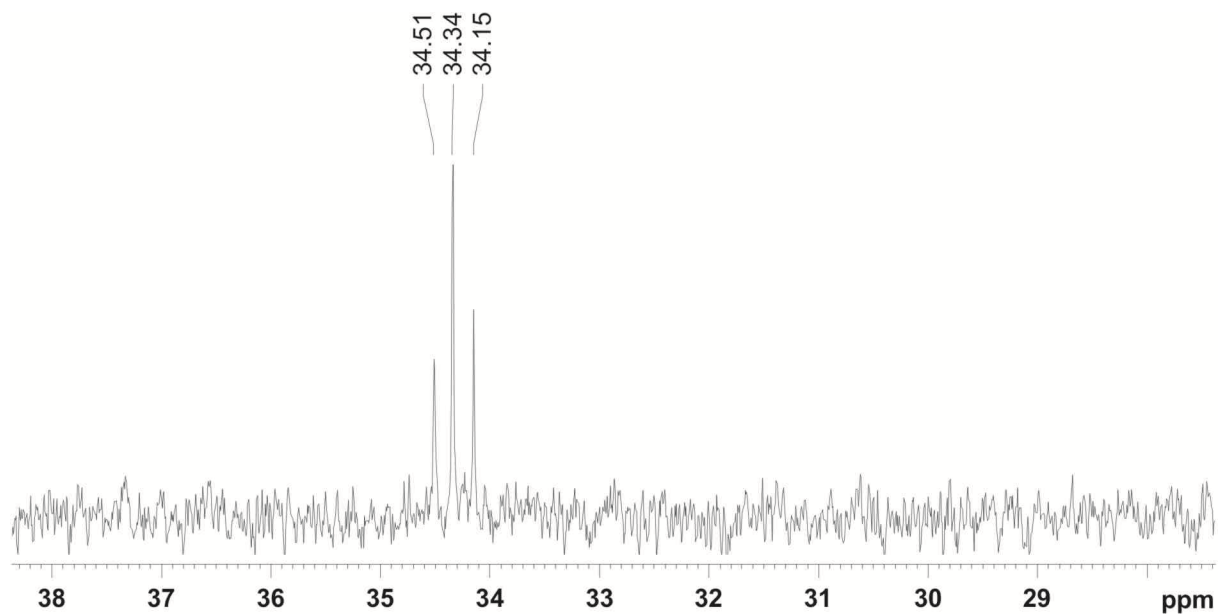


Figure S6: ^{13}C -NMR-spectrum of atrop-abyssomicin C after feeding of 1,2- ^{13}C -glucose: Zoom of signal C-14 of Fig. 4 between 38 ppm and 29 ppm.

Tab. S1: ¹³C NMR data of atrop-abyssomicin C ([D₄]methanol, 298 K)

| No. | δ(13C) [ppm] | [1,2-13C2]glucose | | [1,2-13C2]acetate | | [1- ¹³ C]acetate | | [1- ¹³ C]propionate | |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | | Multiplicity | JC-C [Hz] | Multiplicity | JC-C [Hz] | Multiplicity | JC-C [Hz] | Multiplicity | JC-C [Hz] |
| 1 | 171.5 | d | 72.3 | d | 72.2 | s | | | |
| 2 | 106.9 | d | 72.3 | d | 72.2 | | | | |
| 3 | 201.2 | s | | s | | | | s | |
| 4 | 44.7 | s | | s | | | | | |
| 5 | 39.2 | s | | s | | | | s | |
| 6 | 50.0 | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 204.2 | d | 50.6 | d | 50.6 | s | | | |
| 8 | 129.8 | d | 50.6 | d | 50.6 | | | | |
| 9 | 140.3 | d | 43.5 | d | 43.5 | s | | | |
| 10 | 51.1 | d | 43.5 | d | 43.5 | | | | |
| 11 | 67.6 | d | 39.5 | d | 39.5 | s | | | |
| 12 | 85.1 | d | 39.5 | d | 39.5 | | | | |
| 13 | 26.7 | d | 35.8 | d | 35.9 | s | | | |
| 14 | 34.6 | d | 36.5 | s | | | | | |
| 15 | 81.8 | d | 36.5 | s | | | | | |
| 16 | 180.1 | s | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18.8 | d | 35.8 | d | 35.9 | | | | |
| 18 | 16.9 | s | | s | | | | | |
| 19 | 18.0 | s | | s | | | | | |

2 The abyssomicin biosynthetic gene cluster - Function assignment

Table S2: The abyssomicin biosynthetic gene cluster with functions assigned by xblast and InterProScan searches.

| Name | Gene start (bp) | Length (aa) | Proposed Function | Similarity with | Identity/Positives [%] |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--|--|------------------------|
| <i>orfQ</i> | 1 | 208 | NUDIX-Hydrolase | <i>Frankia sp. EAN1pec</i> | 53/66 |
| | | | putative MutT family protein | <i>Nocardia farcinica</i> IFM 10152 | 43/52 |
| <i>abyR</i> | 680 | 248 | transcriptional regulator, SARP family | [<i>Frankia sp. EUN1f</i>] | 54/71 |
| | | | | <i>Frankia symbiont of Datisca glomerata</i> | 58/69 |
| <i>abyX</i> | 2629 | 396 | cytochrome P450 | <i>Frankia sp. EAN1pec</i> | 66/77 |
| | | | | <i>Streptomyces griseolus</i> | 56/70 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|---|---|-------|
| <i>abyH</i> | 5389 | 889 | LuxR family transcriptional regulator | <i>Frankia alni</i> ACN14a | 33/46 |
| | | | putative activator | <i>S. carzinostaticus</i> | 35/45 |
| <i>abyI</i> | 5745 | 252 | putative pathway specific activator | <i>S. longisporoflavus</i> | 50/64 |
| | | | activator protein | <i>S. hygrosopicus</i> ATCC 53653 | 48/63 |
| <i>abyK</i> | 8827 | 579 | YD repeat | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec | 46/57 |
| | | | RHS repeat-containing protein | <i>Amycolatopsis mediterranei</i> U32 | 36/50 |
| <i>abyA1</i> | 8911 | 341 | β -ketoacyl-acyl-carrier-protein synthase I | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec | 68/81 |
| | | | 3-oxoacyl-(acyl-carrier-protein) synthase III | <i>Streptomyces sp.</i> NRRL 11266 | 64/75 |
| <i>abyA2</i> | 9933 | 622 | phosphatase and glyceryl transferase | <i>Streptomyces sp.</i> NRRL 11266 | 57/68 |
| | | | ChID1 | <i>S. antibioticus</i> | 57/68 |
| <i>abyA3</i> | 11798 | 78 | discrete ACP | <i>Streptomyces sp.</i> NRRL 11266 | 58/75 |
| | | | ChID2 | <i>S. antibioticus</i> | 53/72 |
| <i>abyA4</i> | 12031 | 251 | dehydrogenase catalytic domain-containing protein | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec; | 64/78 |
| | | | pyruvate/2-oxoglutarate dehydrogenase | <i>Streptomyces sp.</i> NRRL 11266 | 60/73 |
| <i>abyA5</i> | 12783 | 355 | hydrolase superfamily dihydrolipoamide acyltransferase-like protein | <i>Actinomadura kijanata</i> | 54/68 |
| | | | ChID4 | <i>S. antibioticus</i> | 51/65 |
| <i>abyB1</i> | 13847 | 5781 | PKS I (module1: KS, ATa, ACP; module 2: KS ^O , ATa, DH, KR, ACP; module 3: KS, ATa, DH, KR, ACP; module 4: KS, ATa, DH, KR, ACP) | <i>S. avermitilis</i> MA-4680 | 48/59 |
| <i>abyB2</i> | 31269 | 3645 | PKS I (module 5: KS, ATp, DH, KR, ACP; module 6: KS, ATp, DH, ER, KR, ACP) | <i>Streptomyces sp.</i> DSM 21069 | 50/61 |
| <i>abyB3</i> | 42203 | 992 | PKS I (module7: KS, ATa, ACP) | <i>S. antibioticus</i> | 54/65 |
| <i>abyC</i> | 45942 | 230 | regulatory protein, TetR | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec; | 60/75 |
| | | | | <i>Brucella abortus biovar 1 str.</i> 9-941 | 40/56 |
| <i>abyD</i> | 46026 | 475 | drug resistance transporter EmrB/QacA subfamily; | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec; | 66/79 |
| | | | export protein | <i>S. antibioticus</i> | 44/60 |
| <i>abyE</i> | 47524 | 335 | luciferase; alkanal monooxygenase α -chain/ | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec; | 60/74 |
| | | | Flavin utilizing monooxygenases | <i>Brucella melitensis</i> 16M | 45/64 |
| <i>abyF1</i> | 48619 | 538 | ABC transporter oligopeptide binding protein | <i>Frankia alni</i> ACN14a; | 45/59 |
| | | | peptide ABC transporter, periplasmic peptide-binding protein | <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> 342 | 40/55 |
| <i>abyF2</i> | 50232 | 311 | ABC transporter oligopeptide permease; | <i>Frankia alni</i> ACN14a | 53/74 |
| | | | binding-protein-dependent transport systems inner membrane component | <i>Frankia sp.</i> Ccl3 | 51/69 |
| <i>abyF3</i> | 51164 | 283 | binding-protein-dependent transport systems inner membrane component | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec | 54/70 |
| | | | oligopeptide ABC transporter permease protein | <i>Symbiobacterium thermophilum</i> IAM 14863 | 45/62 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|-----|---|--|-------|
| <i>abyF4</i> | 52005 | 539 | peptide ABC transporter ATP-binding protein | <i>Frankia alni</i> ACN14a | 59/71 |
| | | | ABC transporter ATP-binding protein | <i>Janthinobacterium sp. Marseille</i> | 52/63 |
| <i>abyV</i> | 53621 | 395 | cytochrome P450 | <i>Frankia sp.</i> EAN1pec | 63/72 |
| | | | cytochrome P450 hydroxylase | <i>S. avermitilis</i> MA-4680 | 51/63 |
| <i>abyW</i> | 54771 | 302 | alcohol dehydrogenase zinc-binding domain protein | <i>S. bingchenggensis</i> BCW-1 | 64/76 |
| | | | oxidoreductase | <i>Streptomyces hygroscopicus</i> ATCC 53653 | 60/74 |
| <i>abyZ</i> | 55601 | 165 | NAD(P)H-dependent FMN reductase | <i>S. clavuligerus</i> ATCC 27064 | 73/81 |
| | | | | <i>S. viridochromogenes</i> DSM 40736 | 75/86 |
| <i>abyT</i> | 55726 | 298 | thioesterase | <i>Nostoc punctiforme</i> PCC 73102 | 35/52 |
| | | | oleoyl-(acyl-carrier-protein) hydrolase | <i>Haliangium ochraceum</i> DSM 14365 | 42/55 |
| <i>orfU</i> | 57429 | 302 | alcohol dehydrogenase zinc-binding domain protein | <i>S. bingchenggensis</i> BCW-1 | 64/76 |
| | | | oxidoreductase | <i>S. hygroscopicus</i> ATCC 53653 | 60/74 |
| <i>orfS</i> | 57520 | 197 | transcriptional regulator, TetR family protein | <i>S. bingchenggensis</i> BCW-1 | 59/70 |
| | | | putative transcriptional regulator | <i>S. hygroscopicus</i> ATCC 53653 | 57/72 |

3 Inactivation studies: Primers and constructs used

3.1 Single Crossover Homologous Recombination

Internal gene fragments (app. 300bp) were amplified by PCR and cloned into pDrive following the manufacturer's instructions ("PCR cloning kit", Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). After restriction digestion with *EcoRI*, the fragments were ligated with *EcoRI*-digested and dephosphorylated (Antarctic phosphatase, New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA, USA) pK18mob2¹ and introduced into *E. coli* DH5 α by transformation. Clones were confirmed by PCR and/or restriction digestion. Isolated plasmid DNA was introduced into *E. coli* ET12567 containing one of the helper plasmids pUZ8002 or pUB307 by transformation.² Intergeneric conjugation followed using protocols described in *Practical Streptomyces Genetics*.² After 16 hours of incubation at 28 °C, plates were overlaid with 4ml soft nutrient agar containing 10 μ l apramycin (100mg/ml) and 10 μ l nalidixic acid (25 mg/ml).² After a further 5 days of incubation at 28 °C, colonies were visible which were picked to fresh SGG-agar plates containing 100 μ g/ml apramycin and 25 μ g/ml nalidixic acid. Insertion into the correct chromosomal location was confirmed using a 3-primer system (the orientation of the insert in the vector was arbitrary, reflecting the cloning procedure): Two primers (confirmation primers 1 and 2) corresponded to the genome sequence of *Verrucosispora* AB-18-032 flanking the amplified region, while one primer corresponded to vector sequences (confirmation primer vector; see Figure S7). The wild type genome would yield a PCR fragment from confirmation primers 1 and 2 that would be shorter than the one expected for a mutant clone (confirmation primer 1 or 2 with confirmation primer vector; Figure S7 and Figure S8). Final confirmation was achieved by sequencing of the PCR-product. A second gene deletion procedure (SOEing)³ was used to generate in-frame deletions (ca. 90% of the coding region of individual genes) for *abyR*, *abyI* and *abyT*. Two sets of primers were used to generate overlapping fragments that were spliced together by PCR to form the gene deletion cassette. The deletion cassettes were cloned into the non-integrating vector pKC1132⁴ that had been digested with *EcoRI* and *HindIII*. Resulting constructs were used to transform *Verrucosispora* AB-18-032 by conjugation as described above. Double

crossover mutants (see below) were selected by screening for loss of apramycin resistance followed by PCR and sequencing confirmation. The primers used for SOEing are given in Table 2.

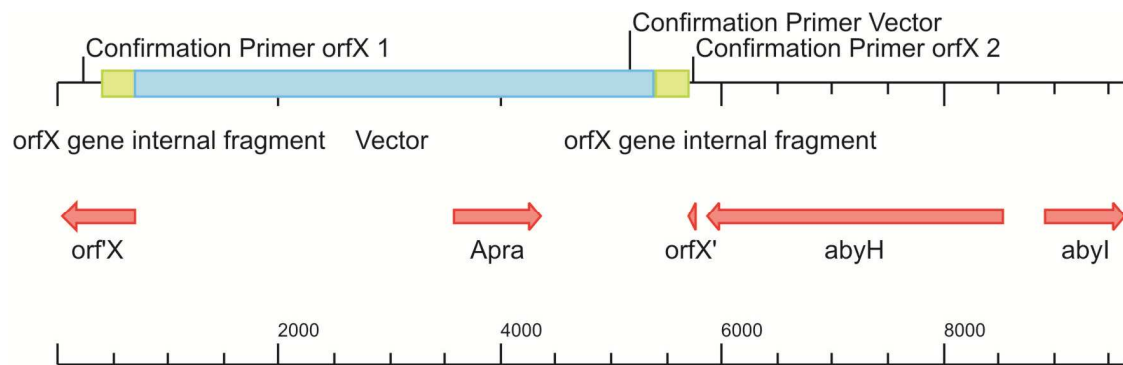


Figure S7: Scheme of genomic DNA sequence with inserted pK18mob2::abyXfragment (length 9645 bps).

| Table S3: Primers for generation and confirmation of single crossover ("SXO") mutants | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Primers for insertion-fragment and confirmation primers | |
| SXO abyX fw | TCGAGACGGGCGCTGACG |
| SXO abyX rev | CCGCCCTGCGCGAGAATG |
| SXO orfV fw | AGAGCCACTCCGAGCGCCAACG |
| SXO orfV rev | CTCCTCGACGAGGTGGTTC |
| SXO abyC fw | CGTCGAACAGGTCGGGAAAG |
| SXO abyC rev | TGGCGAAGCCGACCATCTAC |
| confirmation primer vector | CGCGCCATTCGCCATTCAGG |
| abyX confirmation primer 1 | CCTGTGCGGTGCTCGAAC |
| abyX confirmation primer 2 | ATGACCCGCACCTGTCCC |
| orfV confirmation primer 1 | CGCGGTCCGCAACTTCATCG |
| orfV confirmation primer 2 | TGCCGCAGGATCTCCTCCAC |
| abyC confirmation primer 1 | GAGCGCCTCGGTGGCCTGGTTC |
| abyC confirmation primer 2 | GTGTTCCGCCGCGAGGGCTACG |
| Primers for SOEing (restriction site underlined) | |
| abyI_1F | GCCTGCGAATTCGGACCTGTGGGTCCTTGATG |
| abyI_1R | GAGGAATCTAGATAATTCGTAGCGCATTGCTG |
| abyI_2F | GAATTATCTAGAGAGGAACTCGGGTTGGAG |
| abyI_2R | GAATTCAAGCTTAACCCGTTCCGCTACCTG |
| abyR_1F | GAGCGGGGATCCGGGAAACCTCGTATCGAAGC |
| abyR_1R | GTTGGCTCTAGAATGAGTTCGTGGTGGTGAC |
| abyR_2F | ACTCATTCTAGAGTTGGCGGCGTACCACTG |

| | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| abyR_2R | GGACAAGCTTCCAAGGACATCTCCAACAGC |
| abyT_1F | CTGACCTGGATCCGGTCGACCTGGCACTGTTG |
| abyT_1R | CGGTCATCTAGAGTCCAGGTAACCGGTCGATC |
| abyT_2F | CTGGACTCTAGACGGTCACCTGTTCCACCT |
| abyT_2R | CCGTCCGAAGCTTGTAGGTGGGGTCGTCGTG |

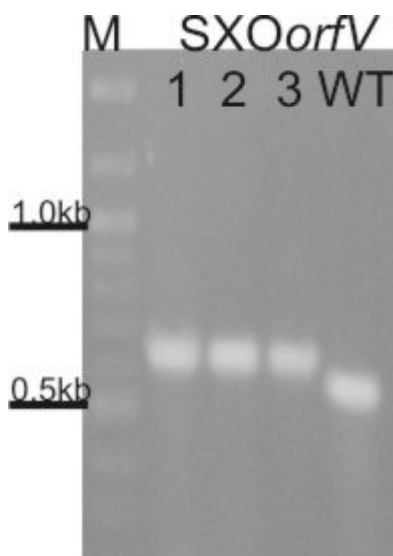


Figure S8: Example of confirmation of insertional inactivation: Agarose gel of PCR products generated with confirmation primers (SXOorfV = single crossover mutants of *orfV*; 1-3 = mutant samples; WT = wild type *Verrucosipora* sp. AB-18-032; M = bp length marker).

3.1.1 Primers used for Single Crossover Inactivation

| Table S4: Lengths of PCR fragments wild type vs. single crossover mutant | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------|
| Gene | Verrucosipora::pK18_genefragment | WT |
| <i>abyX</i> | 689 or 568bp | 504bp |
| <i>abyC</i> | >462bp | 357bp |
| <i>orfV</i> | 732 or 682bp | 584bp |

3.2 Double Crossover Homologous Recombination by PCR Targeting³

To achieve in-frame deletion of genes, cosmid-clones were mutagenised according to protocols described by Gust et al.⁵ pOJ436² contains an *oriT* as well as a Φ C31 attachment site, so a modified protocol was used. Primers for amplification of the streptomycin resistance cassette were designed so that only the antibiotic resistance gene plus promoter were amplified and not the whole cassette containing FRT and *oriT*. Restriction sites were introduced between the streptomycin resistance cassette primer and the gene-specific

homologous sequence of 39nt. In the case of cosmid 49 (A-3 – A4), *NdeI* was used, for cosmid 17 (C1) and for cosmid 45 (C2 and C3), a combination of *NheI* and *XmaI* were used.

3.2.1 Procedure

pIJ778 was digested with *EcoRI* and *HindIII* and gel-purified twice (QiaexII gel extraction kit, Qiagen). PCR was carried out following the protocol of Gust et al. (for primers see Table S). The PCR product was purified using the Illustra GFX PCR DNA and Gel Band Purification Kit (GE Healthcare). Cosmids 17, 45 and 49 were introduced into *E. coli* BW25113/pIJ790 by electroporation. After PCR-targeting of the cosmids, clones were analyzed by colony-PCR (using primers lying approximately 100bp to each side of the homologous regions, see Table S). Confirmed positive clones were grown in LB medium at 30°C and 200rpm. After isolation the mutagenised, streptomycin resistant cosmid was digested with *NdeI* or *NheI/XmaI*, respectively. Religation followed and the ligation mix was desalted and introduced into *E. coli* DH5 α by transformation. Streptomycin sensitive clones were analyzed by colony-PCR (primers Table S). The confirmed streptomycin sensitive cosmid was introduced into *E. coli* BW25113/pIJ790 and mutagenised with a PCR product obtained with primers for the streptomycin resistance cassette containing two 39nt extensions homologous to the flanking regions of the Φ C attachment site *attB* and the integrase. Confirmed clones (designated $\Delta\Phi$ C31) lacked the ability to integrate into the genome of *Verrucosisspora* via *attB/attP* site-specific integration. After introduction into *E. coli* ET12567/pUZ8002, intergeneric conjugation was carried out. After 5-7 days, exconjugants were picked to SGG plates containing 100 μ g/ml apramycin and 25 μ g/ml nalidixic acid (SGG: 1% dextrin, 1% glucose, 1% glycerol, 0.25% corn steep powder (Marcor, Carlstadt, NJ, USA), 0.5% peptone, 0.2% yeast extract, 0.1% NaCl, 0.3% CaCO₃ 0.3% in tap water (1 L), adjusted to pH 7.3 prior to sterilization) plates and grown for 3-5 days after which several clones were chosen and transferred to fresh SGG-agar plates for three passages. Subsequently, spores were harvested from 7-10 day old patches and a spore dilution distributed on fresh SGG agar plates. After 5-7 days, individual colonies were visible and were picked onto SGG-*Apra*^S agar and SGG-agar. 2-3 day old apramycin sensitive (*Apra*^S) clones were analyzed by colony PCR (a small amount of mycelium was dispersed in 100 μ l water and incubated for 10min at 100°C; after cooling on ice and centrifugation 3-10 μ l of the supernatant were used as template in the PCR; for typical results see Figure S9). PCR-products were verified by sequencing. Several exconjugants per gene knockout were analyzed, and three individual clones of each mutant were identified and tested for production.

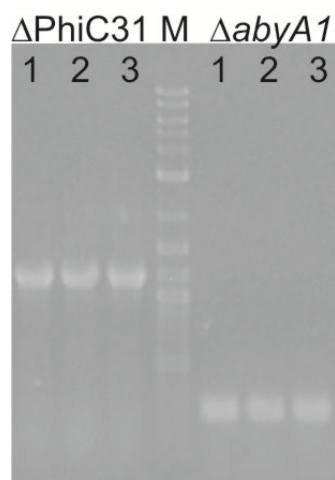


Figure S9: Colony-PCR products with confirmation primers. $\Delta\Phi$ C31 has a length of app. 1.2kb, Δ abyA1 a length of app. 300bp.

3.2.2 Primers used for double crossover inactivation

| Table S5: ReDirect Primers for PCR-directed mutagenesis | |
|---|---|
| <i>abyI</i> Red up | GCAATGCGCTACGAATTACTCGGACCACTACGACTGGTGCATATGCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyI</i> Red down | GCCTGCCCTTCAGCAGGCTTGGGCTACCTCCCGCCCGCATATGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyA1</i> Red up | CCGCCTCACGCCGACCCCTCGGGAGGACTGCAATGACCCATATGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyA1</i> Red down | ACCCGGTGGCGGACGGGGCCCGGCACCCCGCTCACAGCATATGCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyA2</i> Red up | GATCAAGTCGGGCTTCGCGTTGGAGGGCTGTGACGGCGCATATGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyA2</i> Red down | GGGTGACGAAGTCGTGGACGGATCGCAGGGTGTCTACGGCATATGCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyA3</i> Red up | GTTGACCGGCTCCTGGCCCCCGGAGGAACCCCGTGAGCCATATGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyA3</i> Red down | GCCGGCGCTCGCGGGCGACGGGGGAGACGCTGGTACCCGCATATGCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyA4</i> Red up | CCTGGGCGGGATCTACGCGACGGCGGTGGATCGGTGACCCATATGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyA4</i> Red down | GGACGTACTGCTTCAGCTCTGCGACGTGTTGCTCATGCCATATGCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyC</i> Red up | ACCAGCCCCGGCCGGTCTGGCGCGGCCCGCCGGGGCTCACCTAGGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyC</i> Red down | AGTTCAGTTCGGCGCACTGCACGGTAACATGGCCGAATGGCTAGCCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyD</i> Red up | TCTATCGAACCGGCCCGACAAAAACCGGAGACGGCCATGCCTAGGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyD</i> Red down | CTCGGGGGCGCCGACCGGCCCGGGTTTGGGGTTCGTCAGCTAGCCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| <i>abyE</i> Red up | AGTCGACCGGCCCGTACCCACCCAGAGAGGCCCGATGCCTAGGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| <i>abyE</i> Red down | GCGCCTAAAGCTGGCCTAAACCCGCAGGTCGCGCGCTAGCTAGCCTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |
| PhiC31Integr up | CTGGGTGGGTTACACGACGCCCTCTATGGCCGTAAGTGTATCACCACCGACTATTTGC |
| PhiC31Integr down | CCGTCTCAGCGCCTAACAGGCTTCCCGGTGTCTCGCTACTTATTTGCCGACTACCTTG |

| Table S6: Confirmation Primers | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| abyI Best. 1 | CGGCGAAATACCATCCTGAC |
| abyI Best. 2 | ACGTGCGGACGAGTAAGTG |
| abyA1 Best. upstream | CCGTCCGCTCGTTCATGG |
| abyA1 Best. downstream | CTGCGGTACAGCTCGGACAG |
| abyA2 Best. upstream | GACAGCGGGCGCTGGGTGTG |
| abyA2 Best. downstream | CGGCCGGGAGCGAGATGGAC |
| abyA3 Best. upstream | CGCCGGAACACGTCCAGTTG |
| abyA3 Best. downstream | CGCACGGCCTCCAGGAAGAAAG |
| abyA4 Best. upstream | CGCCACCGGGCGGTCCATCTC |
| abyA4 Best. downstream | GCCGGCGCGGATCCACTGTGTC |
| abyC Best. upstream | TGTCGCCGCTGGCGCTGTTC |
| abyC Best. downstream | GTCGGGCCGGTTCGATAG |
| abyD Best. upstream | GGTGTGCGCTCAGTCATTG |
| abyD Best. downstream | GACGTGAGGACGGATAC |
| abyE Best. upstream | ACGCCCGCAGCCCGTCACCC |
| abyE Best. downstream | CGCGGTGGCGGCGACCAGGAG |
| PhiC31 Best. upstream | CGCCCACTGCCTTCAGAC |
| PhiC31 Best. downstream | CCGCTGTGCTGTGGTGAC |

3.3 Double Crossover Homologous Recombination using pK18mob2

Deletion mutants for genes *abyE* and *abyK* were made by double crossover recombination using pK18mob2.

3.3.1 Procedure

Generation of an *abyE* gene replacement mutant

Two 1.4 kb fragments of the flanking regions of *abyE* were amplified by PCR using the primer pairs *abyE_EcoRI_for*, *abyE_EcoRV_rev*, *abyE_EcoRV_for* and *abyE_XbaI_rev*. The resulting PCR fragments *abyE_EcoRI_EcoRV* and *abyE_EcoRV_XbaI* were cloned together into pUC21 to generate pUC21_Δ*abyE*. The insert of pUC21_Δ*abyE* was excised with *EcoRI/XbaI* and cloned into pK18mob2¹. Transfer to *Verrucospora* AB-18-032 was performed as described in 2.1. Apramycin-resistant colonies were obtained and single cross-over events were confirmed by isolation of genomic DNA and PCR analysis with the primer pair *abyE_proof_for* / *abyE_proof_rev*. Integrants were grown without apramycin selection to allow for second cross-over recombination. Apramycin-sensitive clones were confirmed by PCR for the deletion of the internal fragment of *abyE*.

Generation of an *abyK* gene replacement mutant

Similar to the generation of the *abyE* inactivation construct, flanking regions of *abyK* were amplified with the primer pairs *abyK_EcoRI_for* / *abyK_EcoRV_rev* and *abyK_EcoRV_for* / *abyK_XbaI_rev* and cloned into pK18mob2. Transfer to *Verrucospora* AB-18-032, generation and verification of the double crossover mutant was performed as described above using the primers *abyK_proof_for* / *abyKproof_rev*.

Generation of an *abyX* gene replacement mutant

Similar to the generation of the *abyE* inactivation construct, flanking regions of *abyX* were amplified with the primer pairs *abyX_EcoRI_for* / *abyX_EcoRV_rev* and *abyX_EcoRV_for* / *abyX_XbaI_rev* and cloned into pK18mob2. Transfer to *Verrucosisspora* AB-18-032, generation and verification of the double crossover mutant was performed as described above using the primers *abyXproof_for* / *abyXproof_rev*.

3.3.2 Primers

| Table S7: Primers for double crossover homologous recombination using pK18mob2 | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <i>abyE_EcoRI_for</i> | GACCGCTGAATTCGACGCCCACTG |
| <i>abyE_EcoRV_rev</i> | CCGTGATATCGCTCCAGACCGGAAC |
| <i>abyE_EcoRV_for</i> | GGCGCTGGATATCCTGCCCGAGCTG |
| <i>abyE_XbaI_rev</i> | CTGCCCGTCTAGATTCCGTTGGTCGCGTTCC |
| <i>abyE_proof_for</i> | CTCCTTCGACCAAGCCTTCTG |
| <i>abyE_proof_rev</i> | GGAGCAGCAGAATGGCTGTC |
| <i>abyK_EcoRI_for</i> | GGGCAGGAATTCGCTACGAATTAC |
| <i>abyK_EcoRV_rev</i> | CACTTCCTGATATCCCGCATCTACAAC |
| <i>abyK_EcoRV_for</i> | CGAGCGATATCTCCGGTGGTAG |
| <i>abyK_XbaI_rev</i> | CTGCGGTCTAGATCGGACAGCTCAG |
| <i>abyK_proof_for</i> | TGATGAACGGAATGCCGGTGCCGAGAAAC |
| <i>abyKproof_rev</i> | GCGGCGAGTTGCCCGAGACCAC |
| <i>abyX_EcoRI_for</i> | GGGCAACGAATTCACCAGCCGGTATCGC |
| <i>abyX_EcoRV_rev</i> | AACCGATATCCGGCCGCCTTC |
| <i>abyX_EcoRV_for</i> | GGACAGATATCGCCGCGATCAGC |
| <i>abyX_XbaI_rev</i> | CGGCGCTCTAGACGAGTGCTGCTGG |
| <i>abyXproof_for</i> | GGTACACGCCCTGCACCGAG |
| <i>abyXproof_rev</i> | GTTCCCGATGACCCGCACCTG |

3.4 Complementation Experiments

3.4.1 Procedure

To complement the deletion mutants Δ *abyI* and Δ *abyK*, the genes were amplified by PCR using primers *abyI_fw* and *abyI_rev* (*abyK_HindIII_for* / *abyK_SpeI_rev*). The PCR-products were purified using Invitex-columns and digested with *EcoRI* and *XbaI*. The product was ligated with *EcoRI* and *XbaI*-digested rs pSETermE Δ HindIII and pUWLoriT, respectively. The constructs were introduced by electroporation into *E.coli* ET12567 + pUZ8002, followed by standard conjugation using spores from deletion mutants Δ *abyI* and Δ *abyK* using methods described in 2.1.

3.4.2 Primers

| Table S8: Primers for Complementation Experiments | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| abyI_fw | AAACCGAATTCTCGGAGGCAGCAATG |
| abyI_rev | CCCGCTCTAGATCAGCAGGCTTGGGCTAC |
| abyK_HindIII_for | CCAAAAGCTTGGGAGGCGACTGTGGCGCTCCGTC |
| abyK_SpeI_rev | GCGGTCACTAGTCCAGTCGCTCAGTCATTGTCTG |

4 Phylogenetic analysis of Aby, Chl, Kij, Tca and Tmn

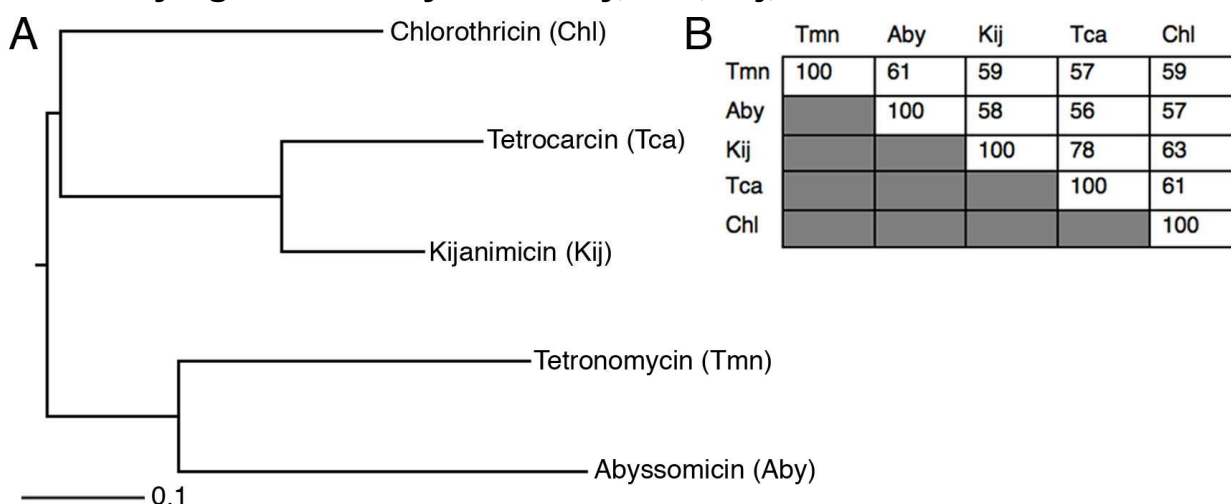


Fig. S10: **A) Phylogenetic analysis of Aby, Chl, Kij, Tca and Tmn (see main paper for references) proteins involved in tetronic acid ring formation. Five proteins homologous to ChlM and ChlD1-D4 from each biosynthetic cluster were concatenated in the above order and aligned. Phylogenetically uninformative sites were removed from the alignment using Gblocks.⁶ The inferred maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree was produced using PHYLIP.⁷ The scale bar indicates the branch length corresponding to 0.1 amino acid substitutions per site. B) Percentage identity table generated from the concatenated alignment.**

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