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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Outside-in assembly pathway of the type IV pili system in *Myxococcus xanthus***

Carmen Friedrich, Iryna Bulyha & Lotte SØgaard-Andersen

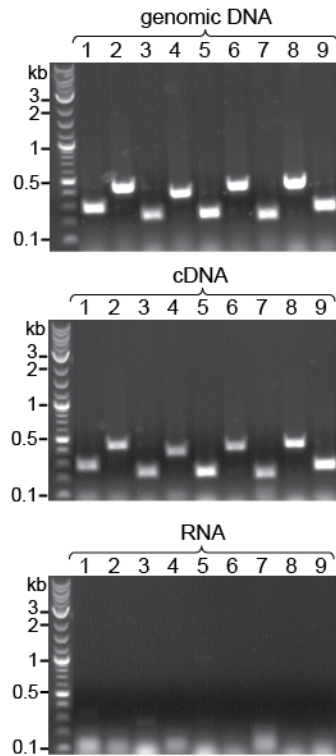
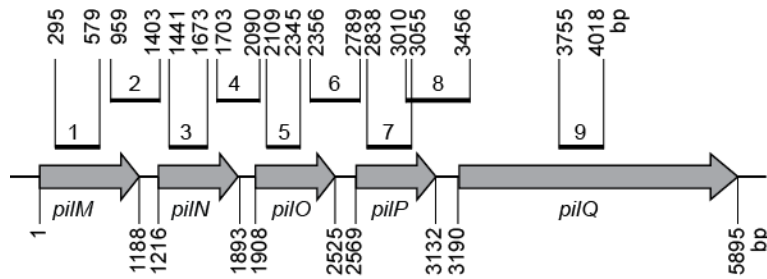
**Inventory**

Supplemental Figures S1-S7

Supplemental Materials and Methods

Supplemental Table S1-S2

Supplemental References

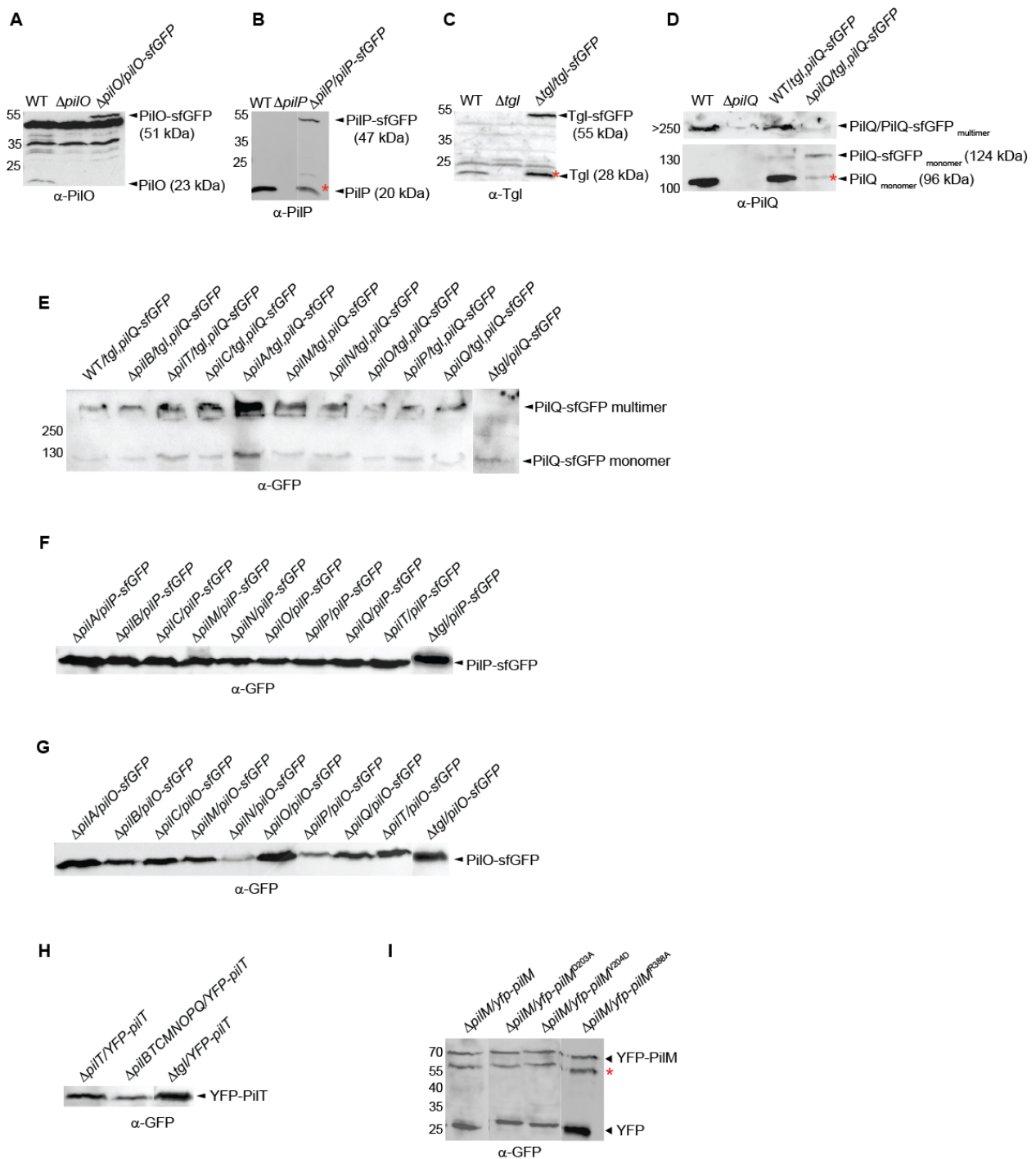


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19 **Figure S1.** *pilMNOPQ* are part of an operon.

20 Arrows indicate the direction of transcription of the *pilMNOPQ* genes. All coordinates are  
 21 relative to the start codon in *pilM*. Numbers below the genes indicate start and stop codons of  
 22 genes. The lines labeled 1 to 9 show intragenic (uneven numbers) and intergenic regions (even  
 23 numbers) with the numbers indicating the coordinates of the fragments amplified by PCR. The  
 24 PCR products amplified using genomic DNA, cDNA and RNA as templates were separated on a  
 25 1% agarose gel. Numbers above the individual lanes correspond to the numbers of the different  
 26 PCR products. Molecular size markers in kb are shown on the left.

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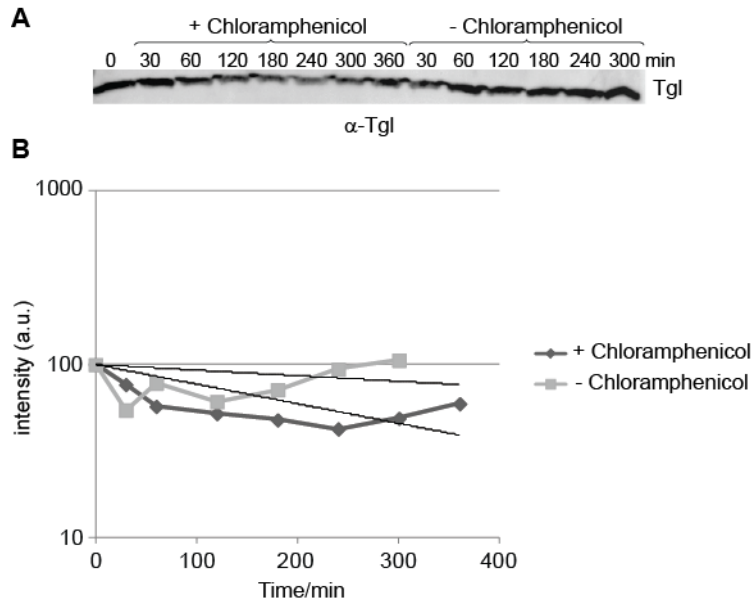
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31 **Figure S2.** Immunoblot analysis of the accumulation of fluorescently tagged proteins.  
 32 (A-I) Total cell lysates from exponentially growing cultures of the indicated genotypes were  
 33 separated by SDS-PAGE (protein from  $7 \times 10^7$  cells loaded per lane), and analyzed by

34 immunoblotting using specific antibodies as indicated. Relevant proteins and their calculated  
35 molecular masses are indicated on the right and molecular size markers in kDa on the left. \*  
36 indicates degradation products of the fluorescently tagged protein.

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40 **Figure S3.** Determination of  $T_{1/2}$  of Tgl.

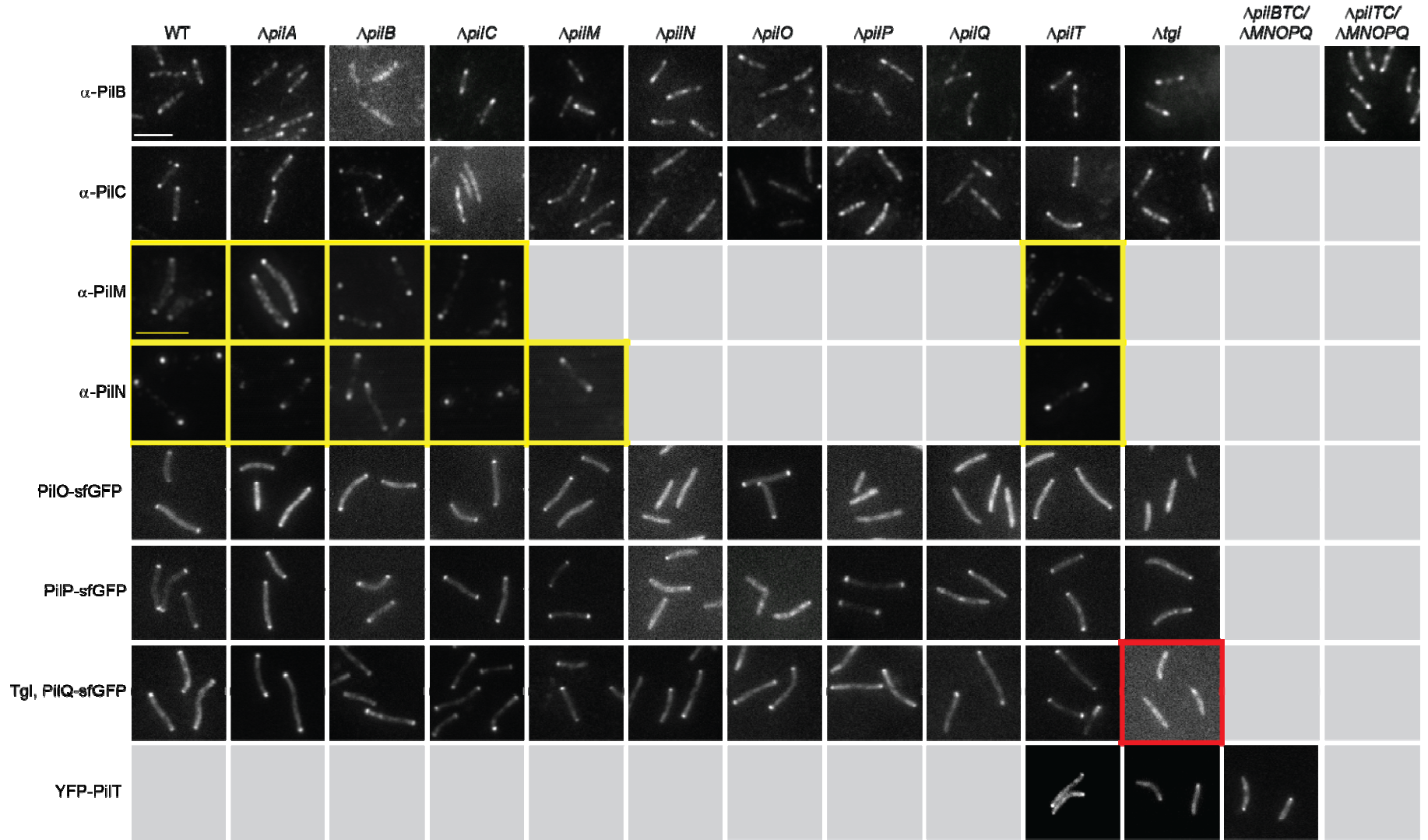
41 **(A)** DK1622 WT cells were grown in 1.0% CTT medium. At  $t=0$  min, the culture was split in two  
 42 and chloramphenicol added to one at a concentration of 25  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ , which inhibits protein  
 43 synthesis under these conditions (6). At the indicated time-points, samples were harvested.  
 44 Protein from  $7 \times 10^7$  cells were loaded per lane, separated by SDS-PAGE and Tgl levels  
 45 determined by immunoblotting using  $\alpha$ -Tgl antibodies.

46 **(B)** Quantitative analysis of Tgl accumulation. The intensities of the bands corresponding to Tgl  
 47 in the immunoblot in (A) were quantified. All intensities are relative to  $t=0$  min and plotted as a  
 48 function of time. Lines represent best fit curves.

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56 **Figure S4.** Localization of T4PS proteins.

57 Cells from exponentially growing cultures of the indicated genotypes and containing the  
58 indicated fusion proteins were transferred to a 1.5% agar pad on a microscope slide and imaged  
59 by fluorescence microscopy in the case of the fluorescent fusion proteins of PilT, PilO, PilP and  
60 PilQ. For native PilB, PilC, PilM and PilN, cells were fixed and imaged by immunofluorescence  
61 microscopy using specific antibodies. In the case of Tgl, PilQ-sfGFP, all strains contained extra  
62 Tgl. with the exception of the  $\Delta tgl$  strain, which did not contain Tgl (highlighted in red). Scale  
63 bars 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Notice different scale bars in images highlighted in yellow.

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A

*M. xanthus*: M--MIRINLLPWRVAVKKREM : 18  
*P. aeruginosa*: ---MARINLLPWRVEELREQR : 17  
*T. thermophilus*: ---MIRLNLLP--KNLRRRV : 15  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: MNNLTKINLLPYVEEMNRK : 20

B

*M. xanthus*: MVRGSRPSSGGQAGSRHFLGGVDGQCYAGCLSTESRMAGKLVGLDIGSTSIKMLLKEQRKGEVIYALQ : 71  
*P. aeruginosa*: MLGLIKK-----KANTLLGIDISSTSVKLELERSGGG----YKVE : 37  
*T. thermophilus*: MFKSL-----SQLRPRVE-----ALGLEIGASALKLVEVSGNP-----PALK : 38  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: M-----RLFKSLKNPKKTDAKLPKSSGLNRAAIGIDIDQHSIKMVQLS---GSLNQLQLE : 55

*M. xanthus*: SFGWKPLPFEATVVGATMNSTAVCAVQDLMSELKVKGKDVAVGVSGHSVIIKTIQV-PRMSQDELSESTQ : 141  
*P. aeruginosa*: AAWEPIPEENAVVVKNIVELEGVGOALSRLVVKAKTNLKSAAVAVAGSAVITKTIEMEAGLSEDELENQIK : 108  
*T. thermophilus*: ALASRFTPEGLLMGGMVAEPAALACEIKELILEARTKRYVVTALSNLAVILRFIQV-PKMPKEMEEAVR : 108  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: KVVVAKLPEKNIHQGNKVQNYDQVVTYVQQAYAKLGTSCKNIVASVPQNLAIEQLTYTAKDAELDLQGFVE : 126

*M. xanthus*: WEABQYIPFDVKDWNIDTQIIDGGGN-DATGQDVLVVAKKEMINDYTTVVSEAGLAPVVVDVAFVQV : 211  
*P. aeruginosa*: IEADQYIPYPLEVAIDDEV-QGLSA-RNPERVDVLVAACRKENVEVREAAALAGLTAKVVDVVAAYLER : 177  
*T. thermophilus*: WEABRYIPFDIDVLDAPITPLSEVQEGEQVQVMVAARQEAAGVLEAARGAGLVPVVDVVKPFAGLY : 179  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: SSISEASSISLEFANYDQVLS-----QSAVGEAVLSVASRKEDEIEPLIDAFNAAGMKLSALDVIDFQYN : 192

*M. xanthus*: MFSVNYDV---PERETVVLINAGASVVNINITSNGATVETREIVTIGNQFTETIKQLNVSYEEAEALKI : 278  
*P. aeruginosa*: SMAFLSSQLGADTDQLTAVVDIGATMTLSVLHNGRTHYTRQLFGRQLTETIQRRTGLSVVEAGLAKK : 248  
*T. thermophilus*: PLEARLAE---EPDRVFLVLDIGAESLSVLLRGRDKPTAVRVLTSKDFTEAARSFNIDLLAAEAVKR : 246  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: AFAWINHFAPELADEKVAIFGVYAAQYALVITQDGRILNKQETSVSSEQLNQLIORTYQVTAFAKAEIN : 263

*M. xanthus*: GGNGA----DAVAVPQDVER-----VLSVAEQVAGETIQRSIDFYAGT---AADSNFSKVVYISG : 331  
*P. aeruginosa*: QGGLPD---DYQ-----SE-----VLRPFKDAVVQVSRSLQFFFAA---GQFNDVDYIVLAG : 295  
*T. thermophilus*: TYGMATLPTEDLRLDFDAERERYSPGRIYDAIRPVLVELTQELRRSIEFFRIQ---LEEASPEMGYILG : 314  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: SPQKPS---DYQ-----ES-----VANYFNQQITQELIQRVLFQFYTTQTADDMTDIKHLITG : 313

*M. xanthus*: GTAKIPALFKTTEARTVPEVILNPFERKTEVDNRKFLPAFVMVAFMAAVAVGLAIRRPGDKLA : 395  
*P. aeruginosa*: GTASTQDLDRLTIQKIGTPTLVANPFADMAINGKVNAGALASD-APALMIACGLAIRSF----D : 354  
*T. thermophilus*: GGSKLRGLASLLTDTLGVNFEPVNPWEAVAVPKRFSEQLQETGPEFAVALGLAIRGV-EPLD : 377  
*N. gonorrhoeae*: EAVRQKGAQTVASQTNADVQCWHPARYFANDIKTDEQQFELD-APTLLTKAFGLAVRGL---- : 371

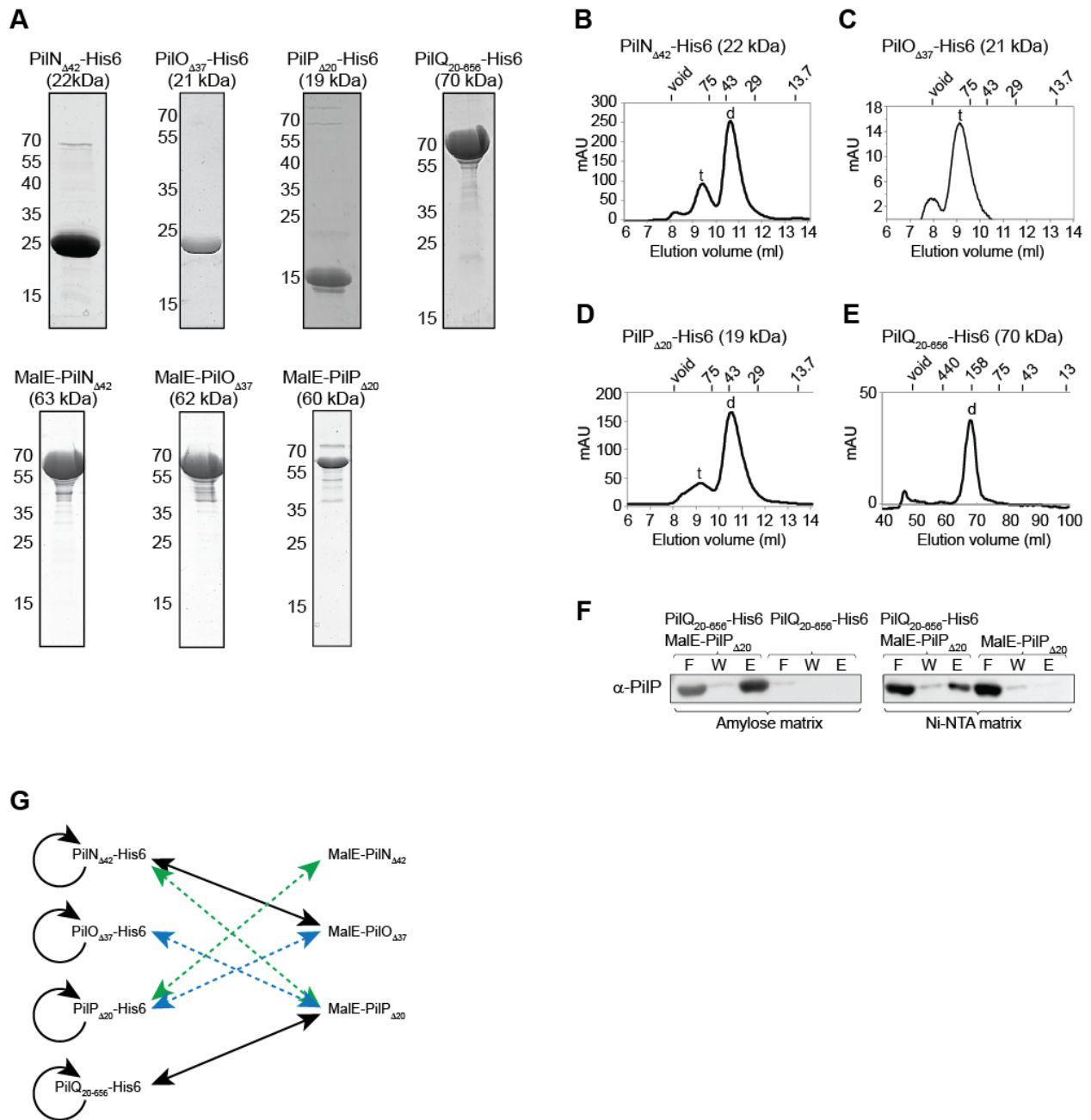
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68 **Figure S5.** Comparison of N-terminus of PiIN and PiIM to selected PiIN and PiIM proteins.

69 (A) Alignment of N-termini of PiIN proteins from *M. xanthus*, *P. aeruginosa*, *T. thermophilus* and  
 70 *N. gonorrhoea*. The indicated 15 residues of *T. thermophilus* PiIN were included in the PiIM  
 71 structure (5). Residues are shaded according to conservation. Residues indicated white on  
 72 black are 100% conserved and residues indicated white on grey are 75% conserved.

73 (B) Alignment of PiIM proteins from *M. xanthus*, *P. aeruginosa*, *T. thermophilus* and *N.*  
 74 *gonorrhoea*. Conservation is indicated as in (A). Residues marked red interact with the N-  
 75 terminal PiIN peptide in the PiIM structure and were substituted in the PiIM variants analyzed.





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78 **Figure S6.** *In vitro* analysis of the periplasmic parts of PilN, PilO, PilP and PilQ.

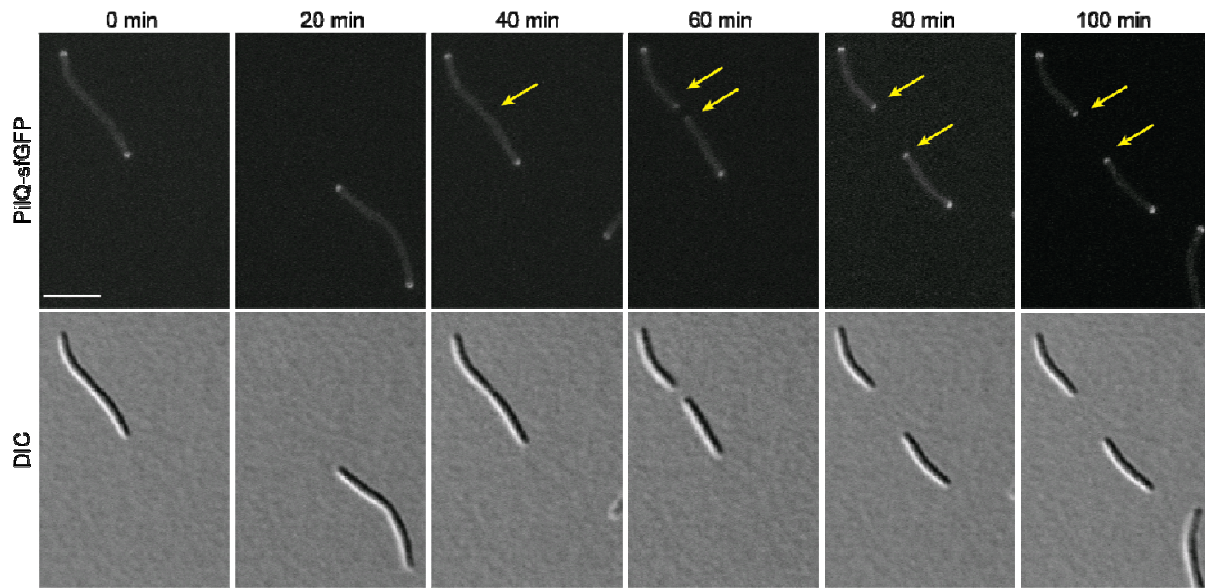
79 (A) SDS-PAGE analysis of the indicated purified proteins after staining with Coomassie G-250.  
 80 Positions of molecular markers are indicated on the left in kDa. Calculated molecular masses  
 81 are shown in parentheses.

82 **(B-E)** Periplasmic domains of PilN, PilO and PilP form dimers and tetramers in solution, while  
83 PilQ forms dimers. The diagrams show the elution profiles of the indicated His6-tagged proteins  
84 from size-exclusion chromatography experiments (Superdex 75 10/300 GL for PilN $\Delta$ 42-His6,  
85 PilO $\Delta$ 37-His6, PilP $\Delta$ 20-His6 and HiLoad 16/60 Superdex 200 prep grade for PilQ20-656-His6).  
86 Molecular size markers are indicated at the top in kDa. Peaks marked “t” and “d” correspond to  
87 the size of a tetramer and dimer, respectively.

88 **(F)** PilP and PilQ interact directly. Samples from the experiment shown in Fig. 5B were stained  
89 with PilP-specific antibodies by immunoblotting. Shown are relevant sections of the immunoblot  
90 of the flowthrough (F), wash (W) and elution (E) fractions with MalE-PilP $\Delta$ 20 (60 kDa) and PilQ $\Delta$ 20-  
91 656-His6 (69 kDa) from Ni-NTA or amylose matrices.

92 **(G)** Diagram of proteins tested *in vitro* for direct interactions. Black lines indicate combinations  
93 of one or two proteins in which interactions were observed; green stippled lines indicate the two  
94 combinations of PilN and PilP tested for direct interactions with negative results; blue stippled  
95 lines indicate the two combinations of PilO and PilP tested for direct interactions with negative  
96 results.

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99 **Figure S7.** PilQ localizes polarly late during or immediately after cell division. Cells were treated  
 100 as in Fig. 7, and imaged by fluorescence and DIC microscopy at 20 min intervals. Arrows  
 101 indicate newly formed polar clusters. Strain used, SA6060 ( $\Delta aglZ/tgl$ , *pilQ-sfGFP*,). Scale bar 5  
 102  $\mu\text{m}$ .

103

## 104 **Supplemental Materials and Methods**

105 Antibody generation. To generate  $\alpha$ -PilN antibodies, a PilN variant was purified in which the 42  
106 N-terminal residues were deleted and a C-terminal His6-tag was added (PilN $_{\Delta 42}$ -His6). For  $\alpha$ -  
107 PilP antibodies, a variant PilP $_{\Delta 55}$ -His6 was used. For overexpression and purification of PilN $_{\Delta 42}$ -  
108 His6 and PilP $_{\Delta 55}$ -His6, the plasmids pSC5 and pSC7 were separately transformed into *E. coli*  
109 Rosetta 2 [F-*ompT hsdS<sub>B</sub> (r<sub>B</sub><sup>-</sup>m<sub>B</sub><sup>-</sup>) gal dcm pRARE2*] (Novagen). Both proteins were purified  
110 under native conditions on a Ni<sup>2+</sup>-NTA-agarose column using native lysis buffer (50 mM  
111 NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 300 mM NaCl, 10 mM imidazole, 10 mM mercaptoethanol, 10% glycerol; pH 8).  
112 Bound protein was eluted with native lysis buffer containing 50-250 mM imidazole. Size-  
113 exclusion chromatography (HiLoad Superdex 200 prep grade for PilN; HiLoad Superdex 75  
114 prep grade for PilP) was used to further purify both proteins. To generate  $\alpha$ -PilO antibodies,  
115 PilO $_{\Delta 37}$ -His6 (pSC6) was overexpressed in Rosetta 2 and purified under denaturing conditions  
116 (100 mM NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 8 M urea; pH 8) using a 1 ml Bio-scale mini profanity IMAC  
117 cartridge (BioRad) charged with Ni<sup>2+</sup> ions and 10 ml Bio-scale mini Bio-Gel P-6 desalting  
118 cartridge (Profinia, BioRad). For  $\alpha$ -Tgl antibodies, Tgl $_{\Delta 55}$ -His6 (pIB48) was purified from Rosetta  
119 2 under denaturing conditions on a Ni<sup>2+</sup>-NTA-agarose column using the same buffer as for PilO  
120 purification. The elution fractions for PilO and Tgl were dialyzed against the same buffer  
121 containing 5 M urea. All four purified proteins were used to immunize rabbits using standard  
122 procedures (7).

123 Size-exclusion chromatography. Purified proteins were applied to HiLoad 16/60 Superdex 200  
124 prep grade (SD200) or Superdex 75 10/300GL (SD75) size exclusion columns equilibrated with  
125 lysis buffer. The SD200 column was calibrated with ferritin (440 kDa), aldolase (158 kDa),  
126 conalbumin (75 kDa), ovalbumin (43 kDa) and ribonuclease (13.7 kDa) (GE Healthcare) using  
127 the same buffer and conditions. For the SD75 conalbumin (75 kDa), ovalbumin (43 kDa),  
128 carbonic anhydrase (29 kDa), ribonuclease A (13.7 kDa) and apronitin (6.5 kDa) were used for  
129 calibration. Blue dextran (GE Healthcare) was used to determine the void volume of the  
130 columns.

131 Determination of T<sub>1/2</sub> of Tgl. DK1622 WT cells were grown in 1.0% CTT medium. At t= 0 min,  
132 the culture was split in two and chloramphenicol added to one at a concentration of 25  $\mu$ g/ml,  
133 which inhibits protein synthesis under these conditions (6). At relevant time-points, samples  
134 were harvested. Protein from 7 $\times$ 10<sup>7</sup> cells were separated by SDS-PAGE and Tgl levels  
135 determined by immunoblotting using  $\alpha$ -Tgl antibodies. The intensities of the bands

136 corresponding to Tgl in the immunoblot were quantified using the program Multi Gauge V3.1  
137 (Fujifilm). All intensities were normalized to t= 0 min and plotted as a function of time.

138 Construction of plasmids. To construct **pSC5** for overexpression of PilN $\Delta$ 42-His<sub>6</sub>, a truncated  
139 version of *pilN* was amplified with opilN-3 and opilN-4, cut with BamHI and HindIII and ligated  
140 into the expression vector pET24b<sup>+</sup>.

141 For overexpression of PilO $\Delta$ 37-His<sub>6</sub> a truncated version of *pilO* was amplified using opilO-3 and  
142 opilO-4. The fragment was cut with BamHI and HindIII and ligated into the expression vector  
143 pET24b<sup>+</sup> resulting in **pSC6**.

144 To construct **pSC7** for overexpression of PilP $\Delta$ 55-His<sub>6</sub>, a truncated version of *pilP* was amplified  
145 with the primers opilP-3 and opilP-4. The gene product was cut with BamHI and HindIII and  
146 fused into pET24b<sup>+</sup>.

147 For overexpression of Tgl $\Delta$ 55-His<sub>6</sub>, the truncated gene was amplified with otgl-8 and otgl-9,  
148 digested with BamHI and HindIII and ligated into the pET24b<sup>+</sup> vector resulting in **pIB48**.

149 To create **pSC43** for overexpression of PilP $\Delta$ 20-His<sub>6</sub>, a truncated version of *pilP* was amplified  
150 with the primers opilP-8 and opilP-9. The fragment was digested with BamHI and HindIII and  
151 fused into pET24b<sup>+</sup>.

152 For overexpression of the periplasmic part of PilQ, **pSC108** was constructed. A part of the gene  
153 coding for aminoacids 20-656 was amplified using the primers opilQ-17 and opilQ-18 carrying  
154 the EcoRI and HindIII restriction sites. After digestion, the gene product was fused into the  
155 pET24b<sup>+</sup>.

156 To express MalE-PilN $\Delta$ 42 the truncated gene was amplified with opilN-8 and opilN-9, digested  
157 with HindIII and EcoRI and cloned into the pMal-c2x expression vector (**pSC44**).

158 For overexpression of MalE-PilO $\Delta$ 37 the truncated gene was amplified with opilO-8 and opilO-9,  
159 cut with HindIII and EcoRI and cloned into the pMal-c2x expression vector giving rise to **pSC45**.

160 For overexpression of MalE-PilP $\Delta$ 20 the truncated gene was amplified with opilP-10n and opilP-  
161 11n, cut with HindIII and EcoRI and cloned into the pMal-c2x expression vector giving rise to  
162 **pSC46**.

163 Complementation constructs for *pilM*, *pilN*, *pilO*, *pilP*, *pilQ* and *tgl* were constructed by  
164 amplifying the respective genes using the primers: opilM-3 and opilM-4 (**pSC2**), opilN-5 and  
165 opilN-6 (**pSC37**), opilO-5 and opilO-6 (**pSC38**), opilP-5 and opilP-6 (**pSC39**), opilQ-8 and opilQ-  
166 9 (**pIB55**) and otgl-10 and otgl-12 (**pIB54**). All gene products were digested with XbaI and  
167 HindIII and cloned into the pSW105 vector.

168 To construct **pSC101**, the gene *sfGFP* was amplified from the vector pET21-*sfGFP* using the  
169 primers *osfGFP-1* and *osfGFP-2*. The *osfGFP-2* primer contained a linker  
170 (ctggagggcccgccggcctg) which resembles the linker recommended by (2) and was optimized in  
171 terms of codon usage for *M. xanthus*. The PCR product was digested with BamHI and HindIII  
172 and cloned into the vector pSWU30.

173 To localize PilP, we constructed the plasmid **pSC102**. We amplified the *pilA* promoter with the  
174 full-length *pilP* gene from the complementation plasmid pSC39 using the primers *oPilAforw*  
175 and *opilP-12*. After digestion with EcoRI and BamHI, the gene product was cloned into the  
176 plasmid pSC101 carrying the *sfGFP* gene.

177 Similarly, the genes *tgl* and *pilO* were amplified with the *pilA* promoter from the  
178 complementation plasmids pB54 (*oPilAforw* and *otgl-13*) and pSC38 (*oPilAforw* and *opilO-*  
179 *10*) and were cloned into the pSC101, giving rise to the plasmids **pSC104 (Tgl-sfGFP)** and  
180 **pSC106 (PilO-sfGFP)**.

181 The first localization construct for PilQ called **pSC110** was cloned similarly amplifying *pilQ* from  
182 pB55 using *oPilAforw* and *opilQ-15*.

183 The second localization construct **pSC120** carried the genes for *tgl* and *pilQ* under the *pilA*  
184 promoter and fused C-terminally to *sfGFP*. *pilQ* was amplified with the upstream intergenic  
185 region between *pilP* and *pilQ* (57 bp) using the primers *opilQ-21* and *opilQ-15* carrying the  
186 restriction sites for HindIII and KpnI. *tgl* was amplified using *otgl-10* and *otgl-12* carrying XbaI  
187 and HindIII. Both gene products were digested and cloned simultaneously in the vector pSC110  
188 from which the *pilQ* gene has previously been removed with HindIII and XbaI.

189 Site-directed mutagenesis of *pilM* (**pSC97, 98, 56**) was performed using the QuikChange II XL  
190 site directed mutagenesis protocol as described by the manufacturer (Stratagene). The  
191 mutations were introduced in the plasmid **pSC11** carrying the gene *pilM* which was cut from  
192 pSC2 with XbaI and HindIII and fused into the plasmid pSK<sup>+</sup>. After introducing the mutations with  
193 the primer pairs *opilM-34* and *opilM-35* (R388A), *opilM-43* and *opilM-44* (D203A) and *opilM-45*  
194 and *opilM-46* (V204D), *pilM* was cut out by XbaI and HindIII and ligated into pSC8.

195 For the in-frame deletion of *pilN* (full-length 678 bp, deletion from 49-662 bp), the up- and  
196 downstream regions of the gene were amplified using the primer pairs *opilN-A* and *opilN-B-Xba*  
197 and *opilN-C-Xba* and *opilN-D*. Both fragments were digested with EcoRI and XbaI and HindIII  
198 and XbaI, respectively and cloned simultaneously into the vector pBJ113 giving rise to **pB59**.

199 The deletion constructs for *pilO* (full-length 618 bp, deletion from 25-570 bp; **pIB18**, *pilP* (full-  
200 length 564 bp, deletion from 70-516 bp; **pIB21**) and *tgl* (full-length 762 bp, deletion from 31-732

201 bp; **pSC125**) were cloned similarly using the primers named *opilO-A/B/C/D*, *opilP-A/B/C/D* and  
202 *otgl-A/B/C/D*, respectively. Due to overlapping regions of the primers B and C, the gene  
203 products of the primer pairs A/B and C/D were fused in a third PCR using the primers A/D. After  
204 digestion with HindIII and EcoRI, the products were fused into the vector pBJ114 or pBJ113  
205 (compare Table S1). To delete multiple genes, as it was done for *pilMNOPQ* (deletion from  
206 position 49 bp in *pilM* to position 2676 bp in *pilQ*; **pSC89**), *pilBTC* (deletion from position 25 bp  
207 in *pilB* to position 1230 bp in *pilC*; **pSC83**) or *pilTC* (deletion from position 91 bp in *pilT* to  
208 position 1230 bp in *pilC*, pSC84) the up- and downstream fragments were amplified with the  
209 primers *opilM-A* and *opilM-Q-B* and *opilM-Q-C* and *opilM-Q-D* for pSC89, with *opilB-A*, *opilB-B*  
210 and *opilC-C<sub>CS</sub>*, *opilC-D* in the case of pSC83 and using *opilT-A*, *opilT-B* NheI, *opilC-C<sub>CS</sub>* and  
211 *opilC-D* for pSC84 and subsequently cloned into the vector pBJ114 as described above.

212

213 **Table S1.** Plasmids used in this work.

Plasmid	Relevant characteristics	Reference
pSW105	Vector with Mx8 <i>attP</i> site and <i>pilA</i> promoter, Km <sup>R</sup>	S. Weiss (pers. communication)
pBJ114	Vector for in-frame deletion constructs, Km <sup>R</sup>	(4)
pBJ113	Vector for in-frame deletion constructs, Km <sup>R</sup>	(4)
pET45b <sup>+</sup>	Expression vector, T7 promoter, N-term. His <sub>6</sub> -tag, Amp <sup>R</sup>	Merck Millipore
pSC8	pSWU30 - P <sub><i>pilA</i></sub> - <i>yfp-pilM</i> ; Tet <sup>R</sup>	(1)
pIB75	pSWU30 - P <sub><i>pilA</i></sub> - <i>yfp-pilT</i> ; Tet <sup>R</sup>	(1)
pMal-c2x	Expression vector, <i>tac</i> promoter, C-term. MBP-tag, Amp <sup>R</sup>	New England Biolabs
pET24 b <sup>+</sup>	Expression vector, T7 promoter, C-term. His <sub>6</sub> -tag, Km <sup>R</sup>	Merck Millipore
pBluescript II SK-(pSK <sup>-</sup> )	cloning vector, Amp <sup>R</sup>	Fermentas
pSWU30	Vector with Mx8 <i>attP</i> site, Tet <sup>R</sup>	(3)
pET-21-sfGFP	pET-21 - sfGFP, Amp <sup>R</sup>	(2)
pSC2	pSW105 - <i>pilM</i> ; Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB18	pBJ114 - <i>pilO</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB21	pBJ113 - <i>pilP</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB59	pBJ113 - <i>pilN</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC37	pSW105 - <i>pilN</i> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC38	pSW105 - <i>pilO</i> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC39	pSW105 - <i>pilP</i> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB54	pSW105 - <i>tgl</i> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB55	pSW105 - <i>pilQ</i> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC101	pSWU30 - sfGFP, Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work



pSC102	pSC101 - P <sub>pilA</sub> - <i>pilP</i> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC104	pSC101 - P <sub>pilA</sub> - <i>tgl</i> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC106	pSC101 - P <sub>pilA</sub> - <i>pilO</i> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC110	pSC101 - P <sub>pilA</sub> - <i>pilQ</i> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC120	pSC101 - P <sub>pilA</sub> - <i>tgl-pilQ</i> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC11	pSK <sup>-</sup> - <i>pilM</i> , Amp <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC56	pSC8 - <i>pilM</i> <sup>R388A</sup> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC97	pSC8 - <i>pilM</i> <sup>D203A</sup> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC98	pSC8 - <i>pilM</i> <sup>V204D</sup> , Tet <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC5	pET24 b <sup>+</sup> - <i>pilN</i> <sub>Δ42</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC6	pET24 b <sup>+</sup> - <i>pilO</i> <sub>Δ37</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC7	pET24 b <sup>+</sup> - <i>pilP</i> <sub>Δ55</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC43	pET24 b <sup>+</sup> - <i>pilP</i> <sub>Δ20</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pIB48	pET24 b <sup>+</sup> - <i>tgl</i> <sub>Δ55</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC44	pMal-c2x - <i>pilN</i> <sub>Δ42</sub> , Amp <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC108	pET24b <sup>+</sup> - <i>pilQ</i> <sub>20-656</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC45	pMal-c2x - <i>pilO</i> <sub>Δ37</sub> , Amp <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC46	pMal-c2x - <i>pilP</i> <sub>Δ20</sub> , Amp <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC83	pBJ114 - <i>pilBTC</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC84	pBJ114 - <i>pilTC</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC89	pBJ114 - <i>pilMNOPQ</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work
pSC125	pBJ114 - <i>tgl</i> in-frame deletion, Km <sup>R</sup>	This work

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216 **Table S2.** Primers used in this work

Name	Nucleotide sequence (5'-3') <sup>1</sup>
opiiM-3	atcggaagcttTCAGGCCAGCTTGTCGCC
opiiM-4	atcgggtctagaGTGGTGCGAGGCTCCCGT
opiiN-A	atcggaagcttTCATCTCCAACGGCGCGA
opiiN-B-Xba	atcgggtctagaACGCTTCTTCACCGCCCCG
opiiN-C-Xba	atcgggtctagaCAACTACGCCATCTGACA
opiiN-D	atcgggaattcGTTCTTGAGTTTGGCCGA
opiiO-A	atcggaagcttGTCGCTTCAACCAAGGCG
opiiO-B	ggccttctgGAATTGATCCAGGTACTT
opiiO-C	gatcaattcCAGAAGGCCGCTGCGTCG
opiiO-D	atcgggaattcGAACACCTCTGTACCGT
opiiP-A	atcggaagcttGAAATCGGTTGGGCGGTG
opiiP-B	gttgtaggcCGGCTCCTCGCACGCAGC
opiiP-C	gctgcgtgcCAGGACCCCGCCTACAAC
opiiP-D	atcgggaattcCGACGCGGTCATGCGTTC
opiiN-5	atcgggtctagaatgATGATTCGCATCAAC
opiiN-6	atcggaagcttTCAGATGGCGTAGTTGGA
opiiO-5	atcgggtctagaatgGACAAGTACCTGGAT
opiiO-6	atcggaagcttCTATTTCTTCGAGTTCGA
opiiP-3	atcggatcccatgTACAGCTATGTGTACAAC
opiiP-4	atcaagcttCTCTCCGTAGTTCCTGCC
opiiP-5	atcgggtctagaATGAAGACGTTCAAGGCC
opiiP-6	atcggaagcttCTACTCTCCGTAGTTCCT
oTgl-10	atcgggtctagaATGTTCCGCCTTTCCACC
oTgl-12	atcggaagcttCTACTAGAGCTTTTCCAGCAG
opiiQ-9	atcgggtctagaATGCTCGAGGAGAGCGCT

opilQ-8	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> TTACAGAGTCTGCGCAAT
osfGFP-1	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> tttaTTTGTAGAGCTCATCCAT
osfGFP-2	atcg <b>ggatccc</b> ctggagggcccggcgggcctgATGAGCAAAGGAGAAGAACT
oPpilAforw	atcg <b>gaattc</b> GCGGCGTTGAACGAGGGG
opilO-10	atcg <b>ggatcc</b> TTTCTTCGAGTTCGAGTT
opilQ-15	atcg <b>ggatacc</b> CAGAGTCTGCGCAATGGT
opilQ-21	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CGCCCTCCAAGGCGCTCC
otgl-10	atcg <b>gtctaga</b> ATGTTCCGCCTTTCCACC
otgl-12	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CTACTAGAGCTTTTCCAGCAG
opilM-34	CGTGGGACTGGCGCTGG <u>CG</u> CGCCCCGGGCGACAAG
opilM-35	CTTGTGCCCCGGGCGC <u>GC</u> CAGCGCCAGTCCCACG
opilM-43	CCCGGTGGTGGTGG <u>CG</u> CGTGGATGCCTTCG
opilM-44	CGAAGGCATCCACG <u>GC</u> CCACCACCACCGGG
opilM-45	GTGGTGGTGGACG <u>AC</u> GATGCCTTCGCCG
opilM-46	CGGCGAAGGCATC <u>GC</u> ICGTCCACCACCAC
opilN-3	atc <b>ggatccc</b> atgGACCGACAGAGCGAGCTT
opilN-4	atc <b>aaagctt</b> GATGGCGTAGTTGGAAGT
opilO-3	atc <b>ggatccc</b> atgCCCACGGAGGAAGAAATC
opilO-4	atc <b>aaagctt</b> TTTCTTCGAGTTCGAGTT
opilP-8	atcg <b>ggatccc</b> atgGAGGAGCCGCCGGCTCCT
opilP-9	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CTCTCCGTAGTTCCTGCC
opilN-8	atcg <b>gaattc</b> atgGACCGACAGAGCGAG
opilN-9	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> TCAGATGGCGTAGTTGGA
opilO-8	atcg <b>gaattc</b> atgCCCACGGAGGAAGAA
opilO-9	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CTATTTCTTCGAGTTCGA
opilP-10n	atcg <b>gaattc</b> atgGAGGAGCCGCCGGCTCCT
opilP-11n	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CTACTCTCCGTAGTTCCT
opilQ-17	atcg <b>gaagctt</b> CAGCGACCGGCTAAAGGA

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opiiQ-18	atcgggaattccatgGTCGTTCTTGTGGGCGCC
opiiP-12	atcggggatccCTCTCCGTAGTTCCTGCC
otgl-13	atcggggatccGAGCTTTTCCAGCAGCCT
opiiT-A	atcgaattcCTCGCCCAGCGTCTGGCG
opiiT-B NheI	atcgctagcGCGAAGCTGCGGCGGAGA
opiiB-A	atcgggaattcTGCCATCCGCGTCCAAGT
opiiB-B	atcgggctagcCAGTTCACCGAGTCGACC
opiiC-C CS	atcgggctagcTCGCTTGCCGGCGCCATC
opiiC-D	atcaagcttAGCACCCGCGTGGGCGGC
opiiM-A	atcgggaagcttGGGCTCACCGCAGAGGCC
opiiM-Q-B	ctgccggtGTGCCTGGAGCCCGCCTG
opiiM-Q-C	tccaggcacAACCGGCAGACCATTGCG
opiiQ-D	atcgggaattcCTCGGTGCGACTTGCCGTT
otgl-A	atcgggaagcttTACCGCGGGCTGCCCGCC
otgl-B	ccggcagtcCGAACAGGACGCGGTGGA
otgl-C	tcctgttcGACTGCCGGAGGCTGCTG
otgl-D	atcgggaattcACGAGCCGGTCGGACTCG
otgl-8	atcggggatccatgCAGGTGTCGCTGAAGAAC
otgl-9	atcgggaagcttGAGCTTTTCCAGCAGCCT
opiiM-6	CAGGACCTGATGTCCGAGCTGAA
opiiM-7	GGAGACCACCGTGGTGTAGTCGT
opiiM-8	CCGACTCGAACTTCAGCAAGGTC
opiiN-5-o	GCAATCCTCGCCTTGGTTGAAGC
opiiN-6-o	AACACCCGGAAGGCCGAAGTGA
opiiN-7-o	TTGGGTGTCCACACCACACCGTT
opiiN-8-o	GGGACAGCAAGACAGCACGAGTC
opiiO-5-o	ACTCTTGTCCGCCAGTTCCAGGT

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opilO-6-o	AATGAGCGTCGGCGCGAGATGGA
opilO-7-o	GAGCGCAATCTCGTGGTAGTTGC
opilO-8-o	AGATGGCCAACATGCGCCGCATC
opilP-5-o	TCGATCGGACTCCGGAAAGGGTC
opilP-6-o	CCTCTGCTCGTTCGACTTGGATC
opilP-7-o	CCGATTCTTGATGATCTCTCCG
opilP-8-o	GTGACAGAGGTGTTCTCCGGCAA
opilQ-12	AGAGCCCTCGTGGTGTCCCTTGA
opilQ-13	ACGTGGTGGCTGCCGAGGCTGAT
opilQ-14	CCAGCACCAGGCGAACCTTGTCT

217 <sup>†</sup> Sequences in bold display restriction sites used for cloning. Sequences in upper case indicate  
218 sequences complementary to the respective genes. Sequences in lower case show added  
219 sequences required for cloning. Underlined nucleotides were substituted during site-directed  
220 mutagenesis.

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