

FigS1

Genes	Microarray half-life	qPCR half-life
<i>lpp</i>	43.4	30.5
<i>ompC</i>	20.2	11.5
<i>ompA</i>	9.1	4.6
<i>acs</i>	8.0	3.7
<i>glgS</i>	7.9	8.7
<i>infA</i>	4.4	2.5
<i>ihfB</i>	4.4	4.8
<i>edd</i>	4.3	2.0
<i>maeA</i>	2.1	2.9
<i>ppsA</i>	1.9	1.6
<i>sdhD</i>	1.6	1.3

Figure S1. Comparison of mRNA half-lives measured by the microarray-based technique and by qPCR. mRNA half-lives are expressed in minutes.

FigS2

Gene class	This study		Bernstein et al. 2002	
	M9 medium 37°C / $\mu = 0.63 \text{ h}^{-1}$		M9 medium 30°C / $\mu = 0.47 \text{ h}^{-1}$	
	Number of genes in category	Median half-life	Number of genes in category	Mean half-life
Amino acid synthesis	155	2.0	96	3.8
Macromolecule synthesis	180	2.1	206	4.4
Nucleotide synthesis	33	2.2	30	4.6
Synthesis of cofactors/carriers	148	2.1	106	4.8
Cell division	53	2.1	37	5.0
Macromolecule degradation	74	2.3	60	5.0
Fatty acid synthesis	16	2.4	20	5.1
Regulation	334	2.8	49	5.1
Adaptation to stress	94	3.1	25	5.1
Ribosome constituents	53	2.4	50	5.4
Central intermediary metabolism	273	3.2	170	5.6
Protection responses	104	3.0	44	6.0
Transport/Binding proteins	429	3.0	393	6.2
Energy metabolism, carbon	165	3.7	173	6.3

Figure S2. Gene function and mRNA stability. This table compares the median half-lives of gene-family memberships that we measured with the results published by Bernstein et al, (Bernstein et al, 2002, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 99: 9697–9702) (21). In both studies half-lives were measured in *E. coli* cells in the exponential phase of growth on minimal medium (but at different temperatures in the two studies). The functional classification is based on Riley GenProtEC annotation (Serres et al, 2004, Nucleic Acids Res. 32: D300-D302) (47).