

**Table S1.** Average Nucleotide Identity (ANI) between all pairs considering either all shared genes between pairs (Shared pairs) or genes shared by all strains (Shared all) or *E. coli* core genes (Core).

<b>ANI</b>	<b>MG/IAI1</b>	<b>MG/TW1</b>	<b>MG/TW2</b>	<b>IAI1/TW1</b>	<b>IAI1/TW2</b>	<b>TW1/TW2</b>
<b>Shared pairs</b>	0.985	0.927	0.927	0.923	0.914	0.913
<b>Shared all</b>	0.986	0.928	0.928	0.924	0.914	0.913
<b>Core</b>	0.988	0.934	0.933	0.929	0.92	0.919

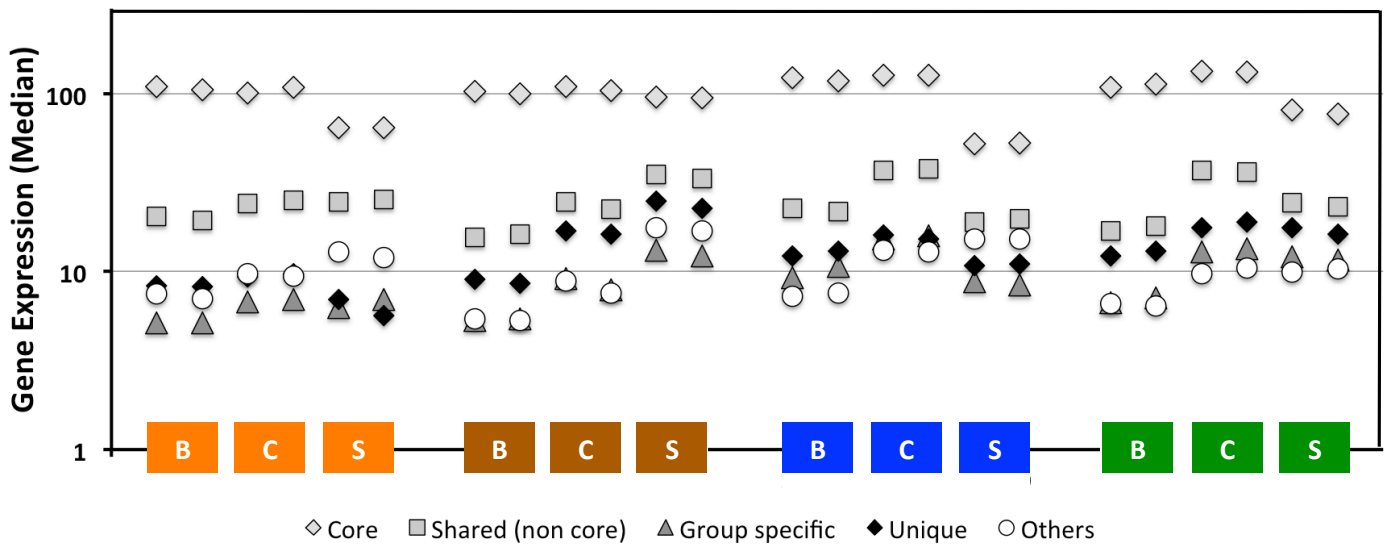
MG: MG1655, TW1: TW11588, TW2: TW09308

**Table S2.** Basic growth parameters of individual strains (replicates are shown).

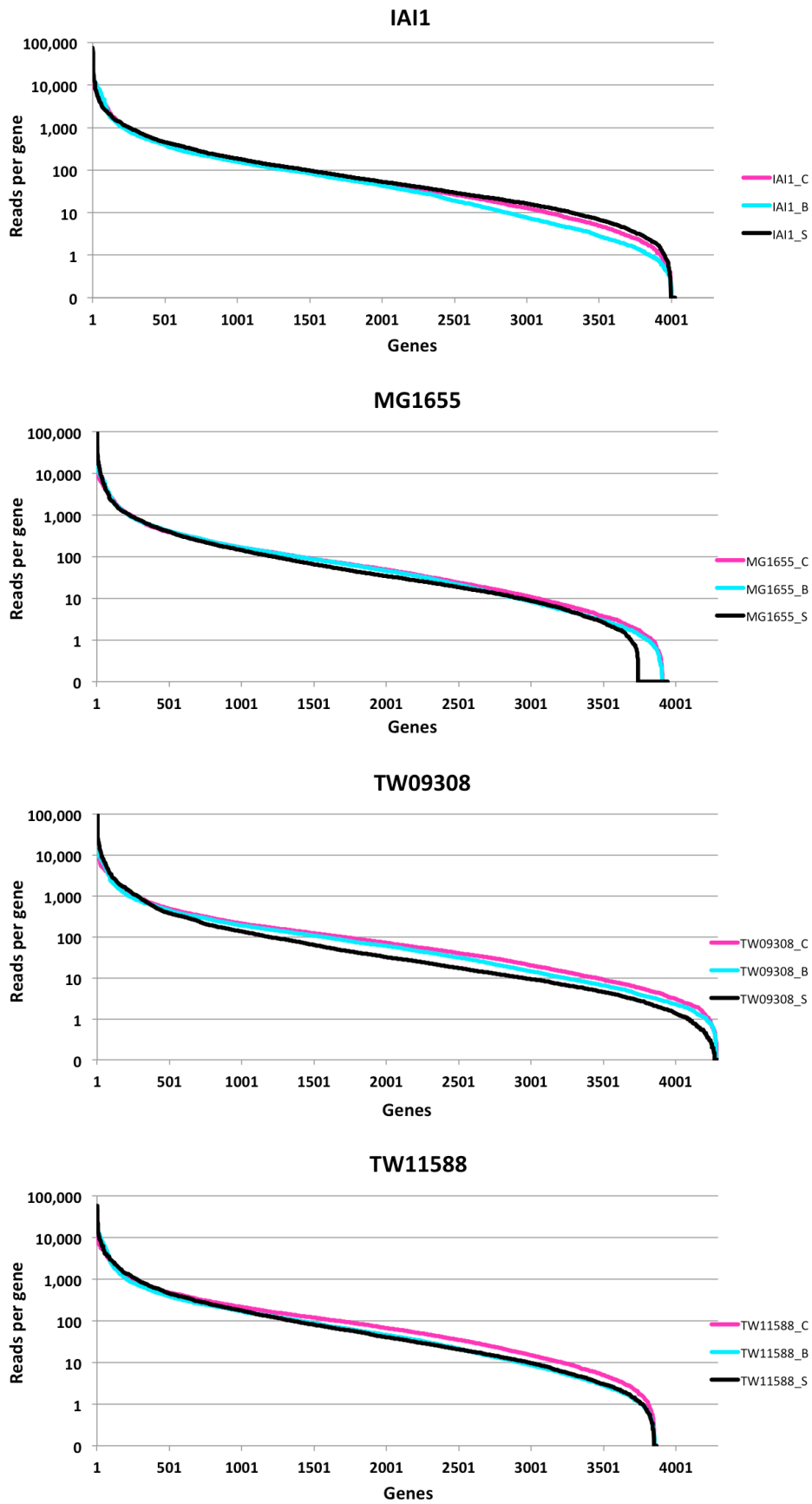
<b>strain</b>	<b><math>\mu_{\max}</math></b>		<b>yield/OD</b>	
<b>MG1655</b>	0.72	0.72	1.1	1.09
<b>IAI1</b>	0.83	0.81	1.39	1.31
<b>TW11588</b>	0.88	0.89	1.61	1.53
<b>TW09308</b>	0.82	0.81	1.61	1.58

**Table S3.** Percentage of differentially expressed genes (DE) between individual states.

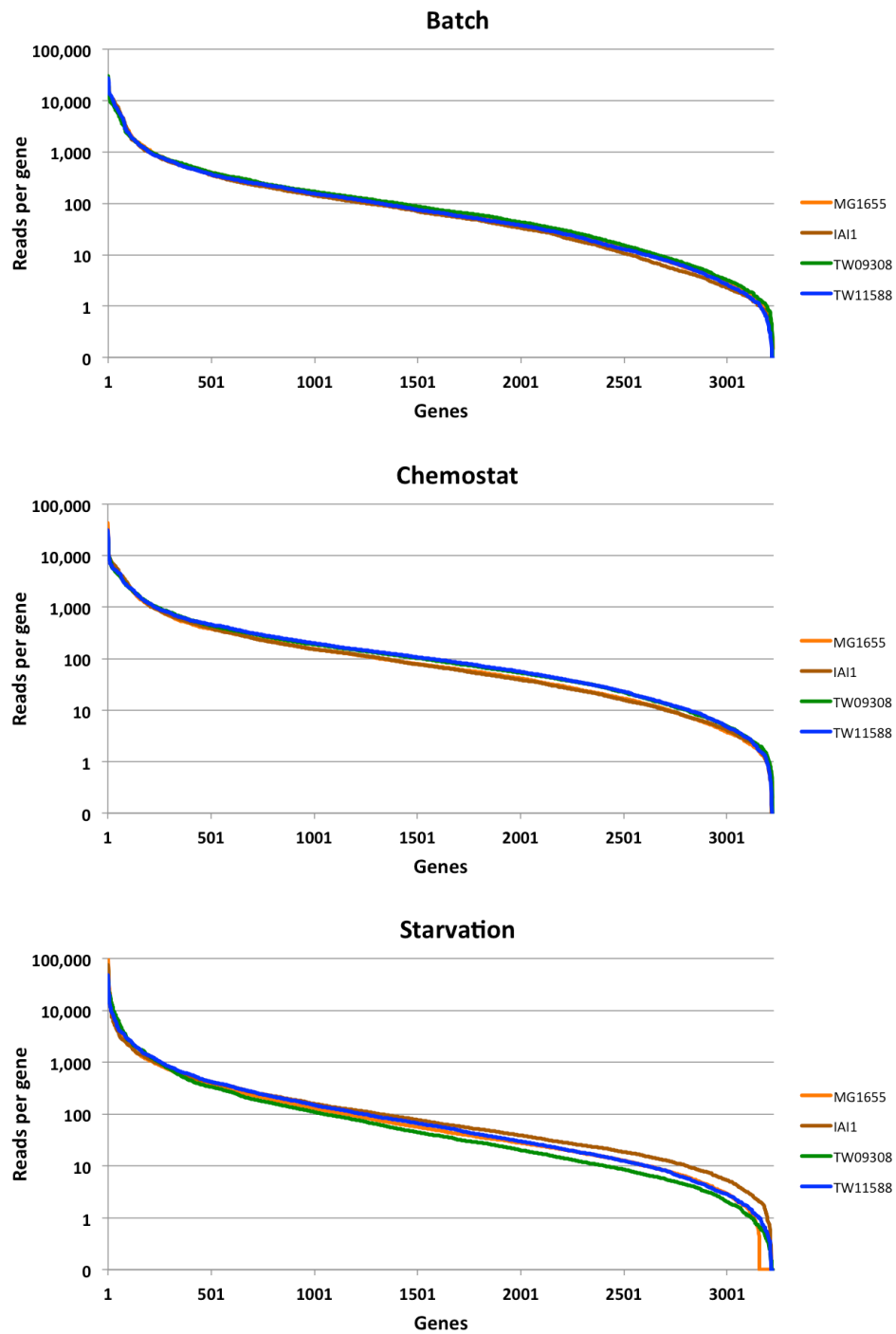
	<b>MG1655</b>			<b>IAI1</b>			<b>TW11588</b>			<b>TW09308</b>		
	<b>B/C</b>	<b>B/S</b>	<b>C/S</b>	<b>B/C</b>	<b>B/S</b>	<b>C/S</b>	<b>B/C</b>	<b>B/S</b>	<b>C/S</b>	<b>B/C</b>	<b>B/S</b>	<b>C/S</b>
<b>DE (p&lt;0.01)</b>	38	53	46	48	71	64	57	77	70	38	71	61
<b>DE (p&lt;0.01;&gt;= 2 fold)</b>	12	50	44	24	57	45	29	61	49	21	61	52



**Figure S1:** Median gene expression levels of individual gene sets (core: *E. coli* core genes, shared (non-core): all shared genes of isolates not included in *E. coli* core genes, group specific: genes enriched in each group, unique: genes unique to strains and others: all other genes). Strains are represented by color (orange: MG1655, brown: IAI1, blue: TW11588 and green: TW09308), whereas letters refer to individual states (B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation)



**Figure S2:** Overall expression level shapes of individual strains between states. B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation. The x-axis corresponds to all genes for individual genomes.

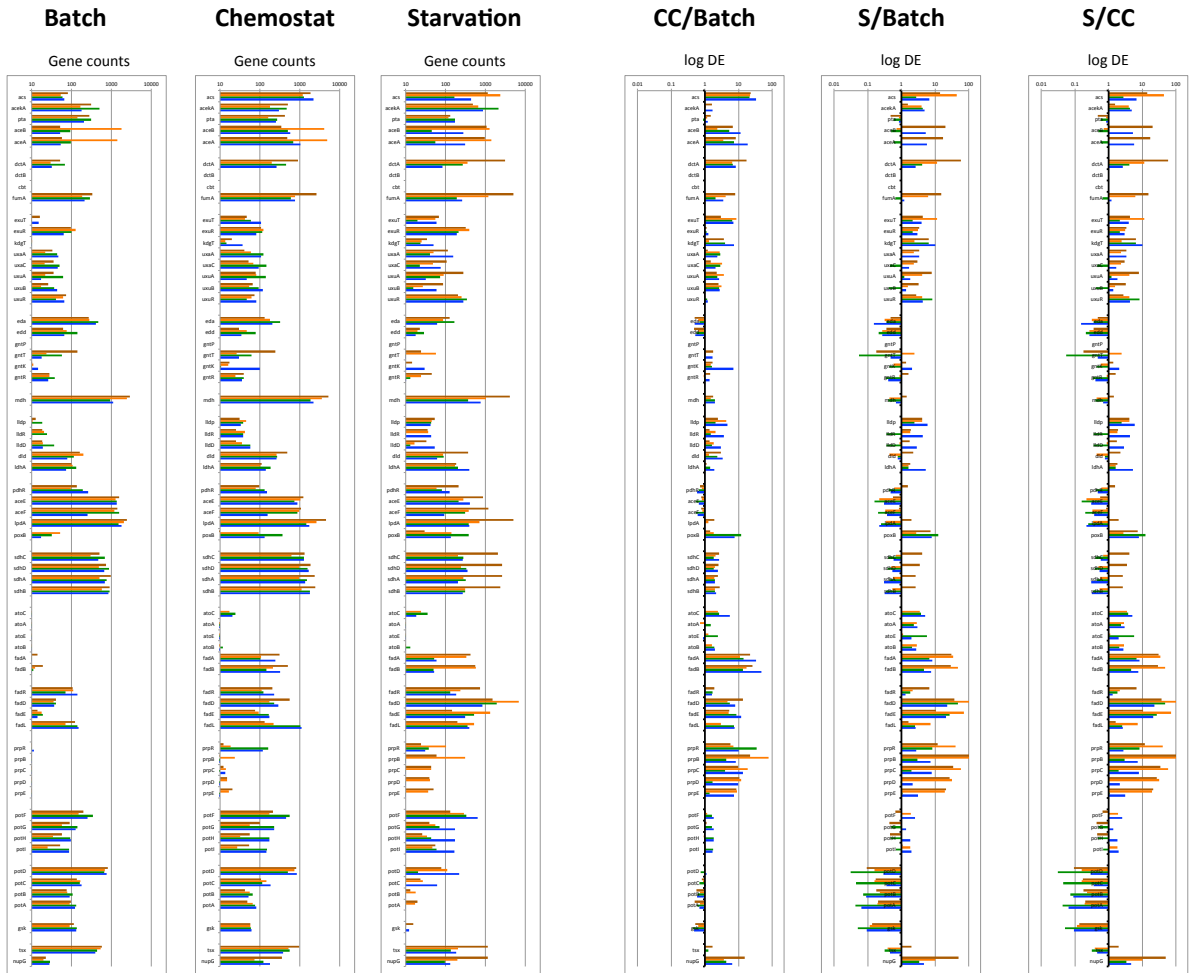


**Figure S3:** Overall expression level shapes of individual strains within states. Only genes shared by all four strains (x-axis) were considered for analysis. Strains are represented by color (orange: MG1655, brown: IAI1, blue: TW11588 and green: TW09308).

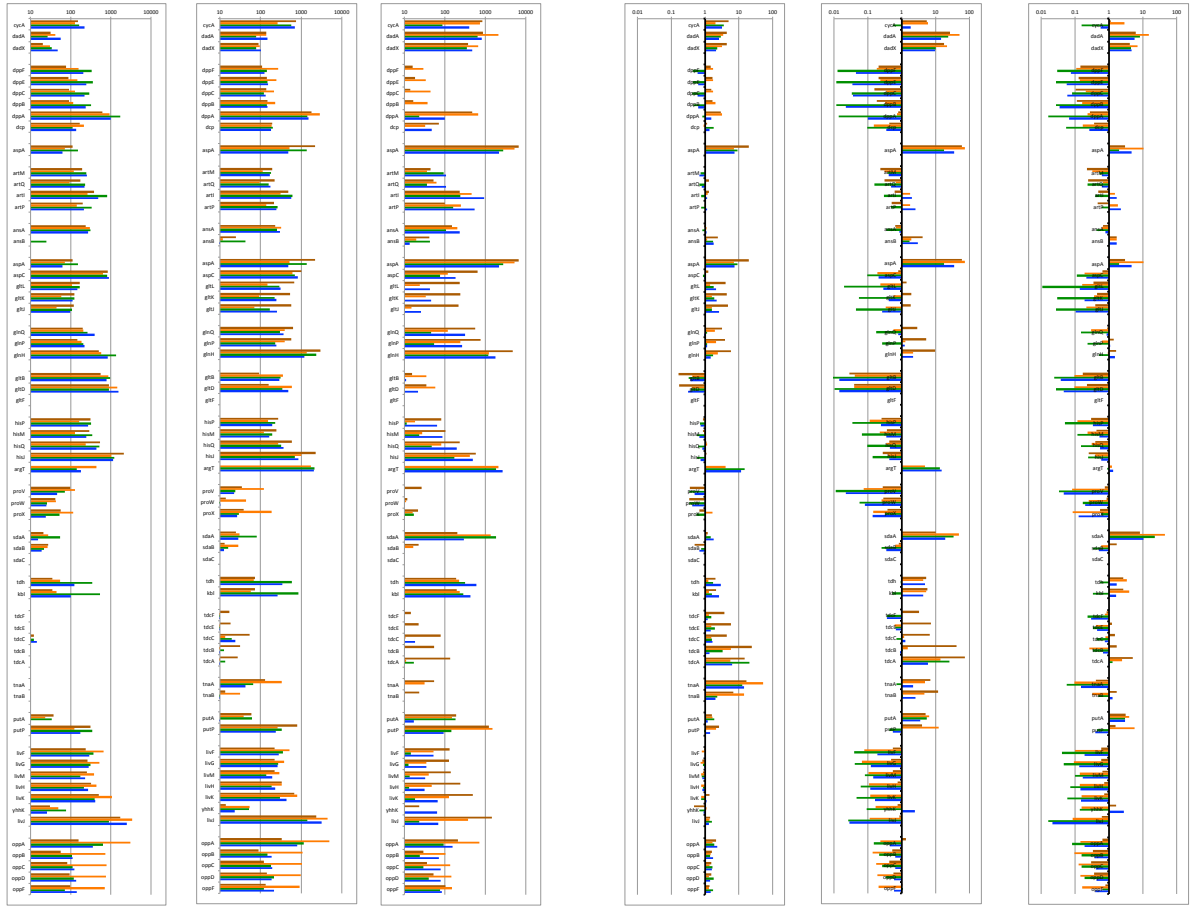
*Sugars and Sugar-alcohols*



*Organic Acids and Others*

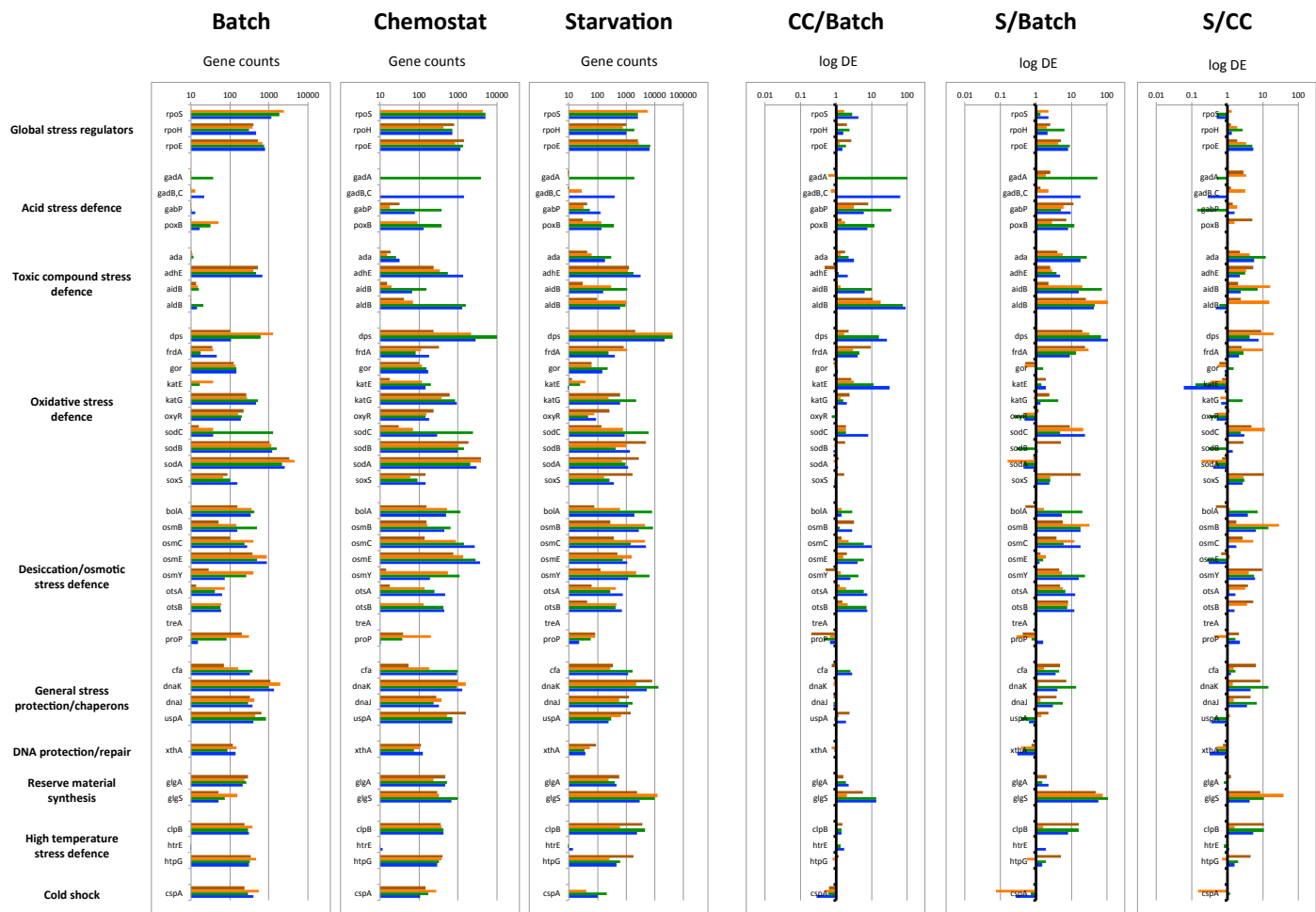


*Aminoacids and Peptides*

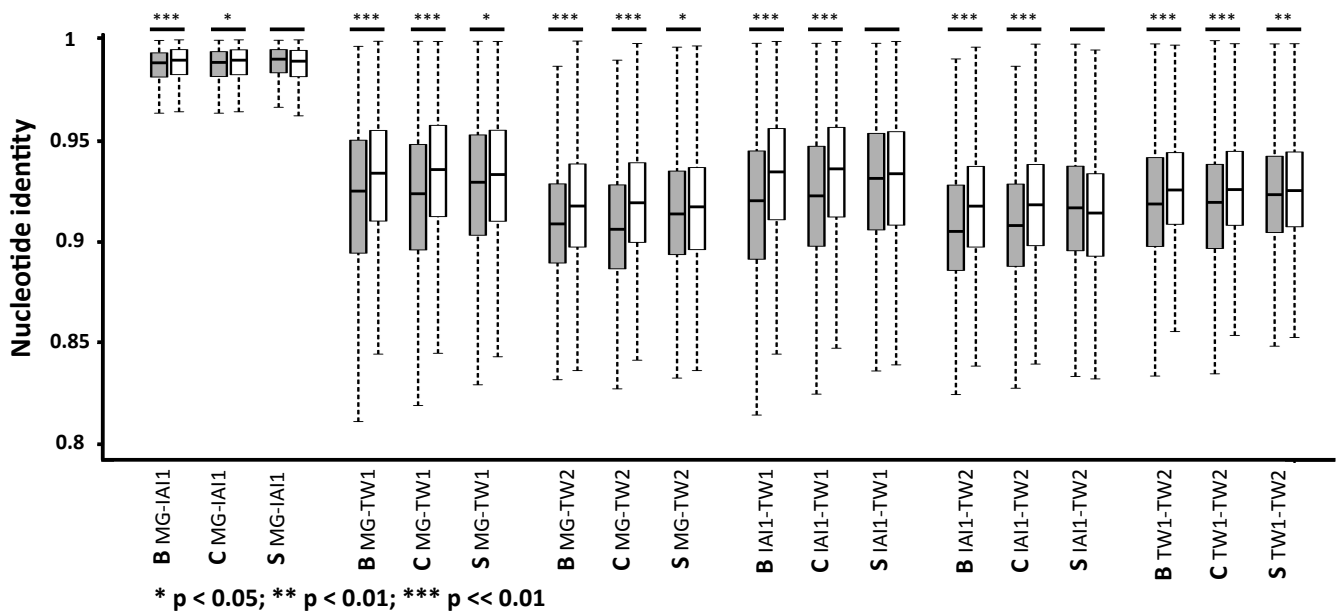




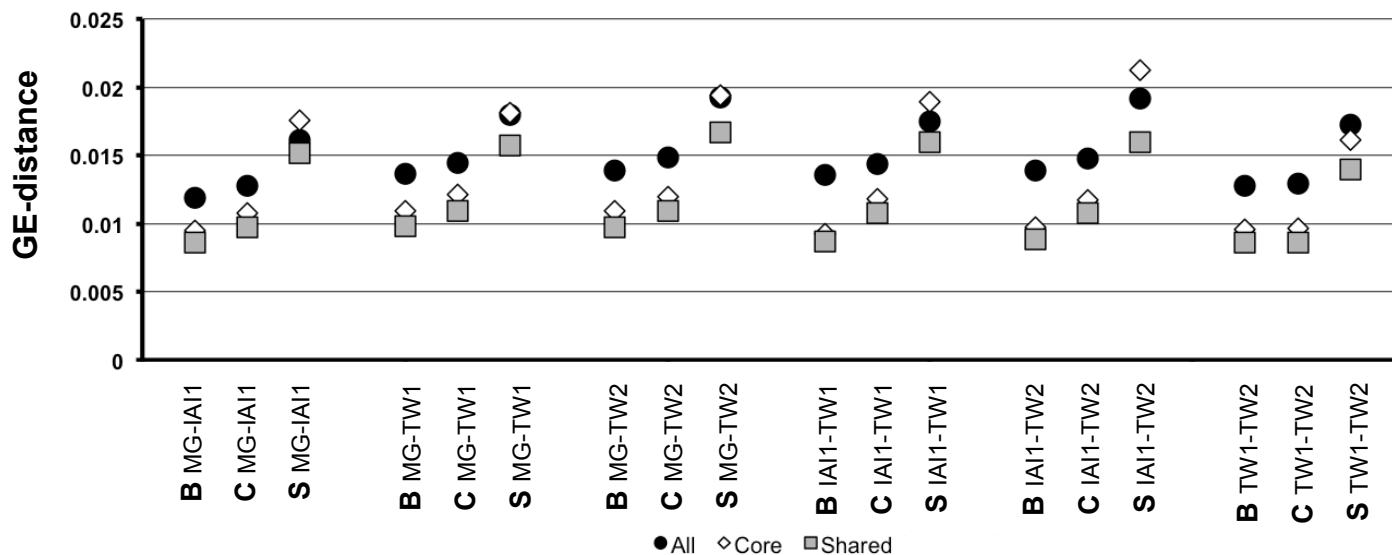
**Figure S4:** Gene expression (reads per gene - three columns on the left) and differential gene expression between states (three columns on the right) of genes associated to transport and catabolism of various carbon substrates (based Ihssen et al., 2007). Strains are represented by color (orange: MG1655, brown: IAI1, blue: TW11588 and green: TW09308), whereas letters refer to individual states (B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation).



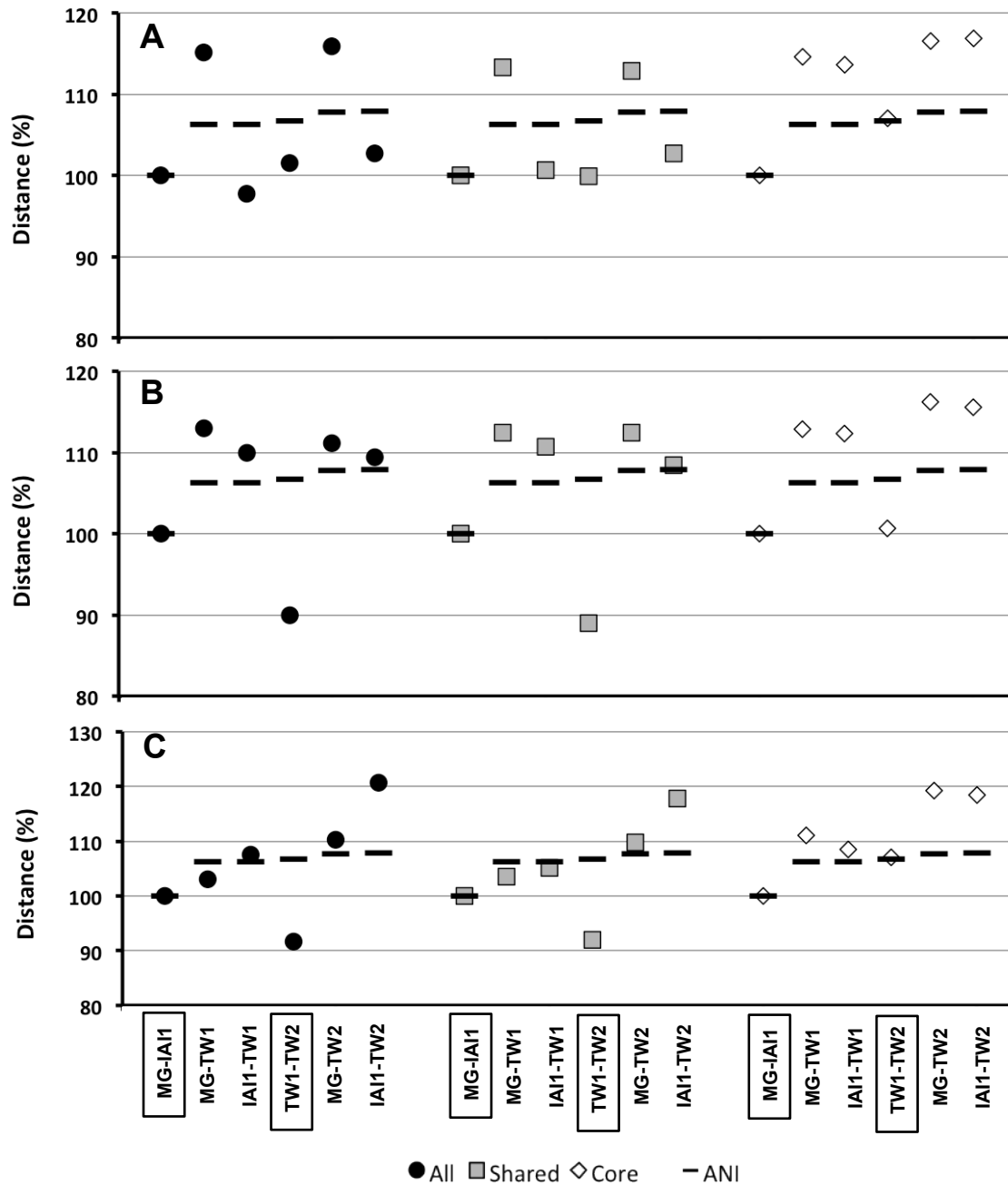
**Figure S5:** Gene expression (reads per gene - three columns on the left) and differential gene expression between states (three columns on the right) of genes associated to stress defence (based on Ihssen et al., 2007). Strains are represented by color (orange: MG1655, brown: IAI1, blue: TW11588 and green: TW09308), whereas letters refer to individual states (B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation).



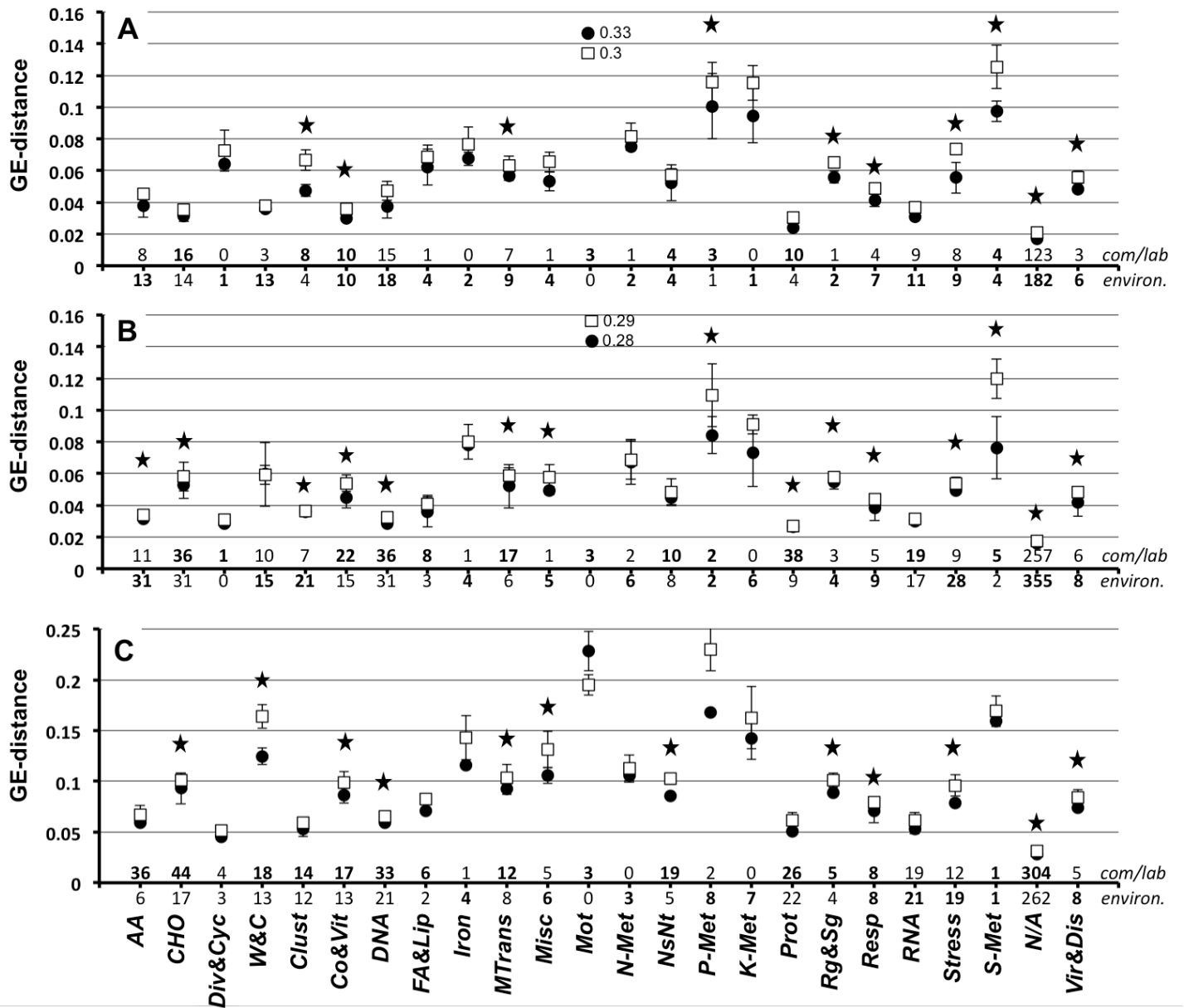
**Figure S6:** Nucleotide identity of highly differentially expressed genes ( $\geq 2$  fold; grey boxplots) was lower compared to nucleotide identity of all other genes (white boxplots). Individual pairwise comparisons are shown, where strains (MG: MG1655, IA1: IA1, TW1: TW11588 and TW2: TW09308) and individual states (B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation) are indicated. \*\*\*:  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*  $p < 0.5$  (student t-test). Boxplot outliers are not indicated. Note that boxplots are given, whereas stats are based on the mean and the standard error.



**Figure S7:** Gene expression profile differences (GE-distances for all pairwise comparisons for all states are shown, where strains (MG: MG1655, IAI1: IAI1, TW1: TW11588 and TW2: TW09308) and individual culture conditions (B; batch, C: chemostat, S: starvation) are indicated. Individual gene sets considered for calculations are displayed (All: all genes, Core: *E. coli* core genes, Shared: all shared genes of isolates).



**Figure S8:** All pairwise comparisons for GE-distances and ANI in all states are shown (A: batch, B: chemostat, C: starvation; MG: MG1655, IAI1: IAI1, TW1: TW11588 and TW2: TW09308). Data are displayed as percentage of the distance between laboratory/commensal strains (= 100 %). Individual gene sets considered for calculations are indicated (All: all genes, Shared: all shared genes of isolates, Core: *E. coli* core genes). The percentage of the reciprocal ANI (Average Nucleotide Identity) from all shared genes between individual pairs is given. The environmental and commensal/laboratory pair, respectively, is highlighted in boxes.



**Figure S9:** Average gene expression distance (GE-distance) between enteric and environmental strains (□, n= 4 comparisons) as well as within ecological pairs (●, n= 2 comparisons) for individual RAST categories for all culture conditions (A: batch, B: chemostat and C: starvation). Genes shared by all isolates were considered for analysis. Standard deviation is indicated by error bars. Number of genes up-regulated in individual pairs are given at the bottom of each panel. A black star illustrates that pairs clustered together for that category (>= 80 % bootstrapped). For key to category abbreviations see Figure 4. Categories containing >= 20 genes were included into analysis.