

Table S1. Open reading frames (ORF) and DHS elements on 10 fragments of linear plasmids of *Borrelia hermsii* with *vsp* and *vlp* genes and shown in physical maps of Figure 2

Fragment (size)	ORF	Start position	End position	Positions 22-23 of UHS of $\geq 33$ nt	Fragment (size)	ORF	Start position	End position	Positions 22-23 of UHS of $\geq 33$ nt	
I (14,338 bp) lp28-1	PF50	1	156		VI (23,848 bp)	PF96	745	5		
	PF32	176	300			<i>mip</i>	1675	1262		
	<i>tra</i> fragment	420	646			PF115	1847	2404		
	PF49	1376	807			PF145	2424	3465		
	PF32	2133	1390			<i>bdr</i> fragment	4029	3874		
	PF50	2312	2139			PF88	4403	4113		
	<i>tra</i> fragment	2618	2844			<i>vsp24</i>	4641	5285	T-	
	<i>vlp39</i>	3980	3063			DHS <sub>s</sub>	5328	5541		
	<i>dvlp36</i>	4177	5253	T-		<i>vsp1</i>	5663	6307	T-	
	<i>vsp13</i>	5373	6022	T-		DHS <sub>s</sub>	6350	6563		
	<i>vlp19</i>	7109	6153			<i>vsp27</i>	6685	7335	T-	
	<i>vsp28</i>	7684	8334	G-		<i>bdr</i>	7850	8251		
	<i>vlp</i> fragment	9098	8355			PF146	8359	8639		
	<i>dvlp</i> pseudogene	9091	9960			<i>mip</i>	9250	8822		
	<i>vsp28</i> pseudogene	10080	10729			PF113	9894	9289		
	<i>vlp5</i>	11778	10852			<i>vsp2</i>	10081	10728	T-	
	<i>avlp7</i>	12094	13203	T-		DHS <sub>s</sub>	10772	10985		
	<i>vsp26</i>	13340	13981			<i>vsp72</i>	11133	11729		
	DHS <sub>s</sub>	14025	14237			<i>vlp37</i>	11844	12890		
II (8,913 bp) lp32-1	PF145	1	192		<i>vsp59</i>	13658	13014			
	<i>femD</i> fragment	548	333		<i>avlp44</i>	14887	13779	TA		
	<i>vsp6</i>	680	1327	T-	PF12	15820	15569			
	DHS <sub>s</sub>	1371	1583		<i>vlp</i> pseudogene	16857	18068			
	<i>vsp69</i> pseudogene	1627	2209		<i>dvlp46</i>	18061	18958	T-		
	<i>avlp7</i>	2441	3550	T-	<i>dvlp9</i>	19260	18184	T-		
	<i>vsp26</i>	3687	4328		<i>vlp49</i>	20392	19366	T-		
	DHS <sub>s</sub>	4372	4584		<i>dvlp</i> fragment	20930	21412			
	<i>vlp</i> pseudogene	4621	5505		BBG30	21837	21968			
	PF62	6011	6595		<i>bdr</i>	22953	22153			
	BBG30	6600	7073		PF88	23787	22987			
	<i>bdr</i> (PF80)	7810	7151		VII (22,769 bp)	PF113	566	97		
	PF88	8644	7844			<i>vsp68</i>	829	1458		
	III (16,331 bp) lp28-2	PF50	11	502			PF145	1842	2177	
		PF32	481	1218			<i>bdr</i>	2220	2738	
		PF49	1307	1841			<i>avlp18</i>	2974	4056	T-
		PF161	2260	2472			DHS <sub>s</sub>	4174	4386	
		PF112	2704	2543			<i>vsp69</i>	4424	5068	
		PF113	3439	3124			<i>dvlp10</i>	5344	6366	
<i>vsp30</i>		3761	4416			<i>dvlp56</i>	6480	7481		
<i>dvlp17</i> pseudogene		4727	5632			<i>avlp70</i>	7746	8756		
<i>avlp25</i>		5932	6884			<i>dvlp71</i>	8801	9868		
<i>dvlp</i> pseudogene		7037	7990			<i>vlp43</i>	9987	10877	G-	
<i>avlp21</i>		8212	9306	T-		<i>dvlp4</i>	11151	12110		
<i>dvlp34</i>		9348	10418			<i>vsp3</i>	12248	12885	T-	
DHS <sub>s</sub>		10484	10696			<i>vlp43</i> pseudogene	13139	13959		
<i>dvlp16</i>		10819	11885			PF62	14611	15189		
<i>vlp73</i>		12095	12981			BBG30	15191	15886		
<i>dvlp</i> fragment		13115	13704			<i>bdr</i>	16465	15752		
PF62		13869	14384			PF88	17254	16499		
BBG30		14450	14719		PF84	17556	17253			
<i>bdr</i>		15670	14933		<i>tsf</i> elongation factor	18240	17647			
PF88	16330	15704		BBG67	19254	19105				
IV (22,593 bp) lp28-3	BB086	40	279		hypothetical protein	20425	19589			
	BB163	275	505		hypothetical protein	20843	20421			
	PF32	1037	468		<i>bdr</i>	21365	20958			
	PF50	1573	1016		PF101	11768	21584			
	PF62	2259	1630		VIII (21,706 bp) lp28-4	PF32	305	54		
	<i>bdr</i>	3626	3970			<i>dvlp14</i>	641	1723	T-	
	<i>vsp11</i>	4149	4761			DHS <sub>s</sub>	1803	2015		
	<i>vsp8</i>	5094	5639			<i>vlp65</i>	2132	3217		
	<i>vlp48</i>	5824	6862	T-		<i>vsp66</i>	3958	3354		
	<i>vsp58</i>	6979	7599			<i>vlp65</i> pseudogene	5138	4062		
	DHS <sub>s</sub>	7643	7856			DHS <sub>s</sub>	5467	5255		
	<i>vsp22</i>	7977	8633	T-		<i>vlp54</i> pseudogene	6573	5548		
	DHS <sub>s</sub>	8677	8889			PF161	7066	7317		
	<i>dvlp32</i>	9010	10095	T-		<i>dvlp</i> pseudogene	7527	8456		
	<i>dvlp23</i>	11240	10185	T-		<i>vlp</i> pseudogene	8534	9366		
	PF32	11576	12016			<i>dvlp</i> fragment	9758	10546		
	PF49	12103	12504			<i>vlp77</i>	11133	12067		
	PF96	13374	13015			<i>dvlp12</i>	12238	13294	GA	
	<i>mip</i> (PF113)	14479	14057			<i>vlp54</i>	13421	14452	GA	
PF113	15133	14513		<i>dvlp76</i>		15600	14563	GA		
PF115	15318	15582		<i>vlp53</i>		16732	15728			
PF145	15875	16232		PF57		16738	17463			
<i>femD</i> fragment	16677	16373		PF32		17692	18399			
<i>dvlp42</i>	16720	17808	T-	PF49	18733	19062				
DHS <sub>s</sub>	17650	18062		<i>vsp</i> pseudogene	19638	20213				
<i>vlp</i> fragment	18100	18468		<i>vsp75</i>	20616	21260				
PF12	19451	20362		IX (2,625 bp)	<i>vlp</i> fragment	363	581			
BBK32	21848	20763			<i>dvlp17</i>	721	1782	T-		
<i>bdr</i> fragment	21923	22093			DHS <sub>s</sub>	1863	2075			
V (16,853 bp)	<i>dvlp61</i>	186	1212		<i>vlp</i> fragment	2113	2481			
	<i>avlp62</i>	1381	2463	T-	X (2,583 bp)	<i>dvlp</i> fragment	1	551		
	<i>dvlp</i> pseudogene	2601	3580			<i>dvlp79</i>	670	1770		
	<i>vsp63</i>	3873	4513			PF12	2132	2583		
	<i>vlp64</i>	4774	5754							
	<i>dvlp</i> fragment	5897	6340							
	PF62	7233	6518							
	PF104	7921	8319							
	PF86	8465	8658							
	BBG17	9097	9861							
	PF101	9861	11697							
	<i>bdr</i>	11906	12322							
	hypothetical protein	12437	12859							
	hypothetical protein	12859	13691							
	methvlase fragment	14026	14319							
	methvlase	14593	16851							

Table S2. Polymorphic sites (positions 22-23) of UHS regions of relapse expression sites and archival sites.

Relapse isolate <sup>a</sup>	Expression site UHS	UHS for archival gene	Archival UHS length in nts <sup>b</sup>
1-7-20	T-	T-	45
1-7-12	T-	T-	45
1-7-40	T-	T-	45
1-7-24	T-	T-	45
2-7-2	T-	T-	53
2-7-4	T-	T-	53
2-7-9	T-	T-	53
2-7-21	T-	T-	53
2-7-145	T-	T-	53
6-7-16	T-	T-	48
6-7-150	T-	T-	48
6-7-11	T-	T-	48
6-7-147	T-	T-	48
6-7-144	T-	T-	48
6-7-148	T-	T-	48
17-7-37	GA	T-	45
17-7-148	T-	T-	45
17-7-150	T-	T-	45
17-7-144	T-	T-	45
7/18-7-22	T-	T-	61
18-7-10	T-	T-	46
18-7-18	T-	T-	46
18-7-20	T-	T-	46
18-7-4	T-	T-	46
18-7-21	T-	T-	46
18-7-2	T-	T-	46
18-7-23	T-	T-	46
18-7-138	T-	T-	46
18-7-146	T-	T-	46
24-7-13	T-	T-	59
24-7-18	T-	T-	59
24-7-22	T-	T-	59
24-7-8	T-	T-	59
24-7-3	T-	T-	59
24-7-5	T-	T-	59
24-7-6	T-	T-	59
24-7-10	T-	T-	59
24-7-17	GA	T-	59
24-7-151	T-	T-	59
24-7-155	T-	T-	59
1-17-14	GA	T-	45
1-17-3	GA	T-	45
2-17-9	GA	T-	53
2-17-10	GA	T-	53
2-17-6	GA	T-	53
2-17-11	GA	T-	53
2-17-15	GA	T-	53
2-17-93	GA	T-	53
2-17-8	GA	T-	53
2-17-96	GA	T-	53
6-17-18	T-	T-	48
7-17-109	GA	T-	61
14-17-13	GA	T-	61
14-17-2	GA	T-	61
16-17-96	G-	None	32
18-17-4	GA	T-	46
18-17-5	GA	T-	46
18-17-6	GA	T-	46
18-17-14	GA	T-	46
18-17-15	GA	T-	46
18-17-19	GA	T-	46
18-17-98	GA	T-	46
24-17-16	GA	T-	59
24-17-5	GA	T-	59
24-17-4	GA	T-	59
24-17-12	GA	T-	59
27-17-109	GA	T-	45
42-17-109	GA	T-	48
46-17-91	T-	T-	61
58-17-1	GA	None	5

<sup>a</sup>Relapse serotype-infecting serotype-mouse number. Relapses in italics are used in the analysis for Figure 3.

<sup>b</sup>Length of sequence that was >90% identical in nts to the UHS at the expression site.

Table S3. DHS elements at expression sites for infecting and relapse isolates and the presumptive donor at archival site

Infecting serotype	Relapse isolate*	DHS site	DHS type	Polymorphic positions																							
				23	42	47	59	68	78	81	93	99	107	107	120	129	137	149	154	163	167	192	195	198	211	213	
7	1-7-12, 20 and 40	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	g	G	G	A	T	C	G	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	g	G	G	A	T	C	G	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	1-7-24	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	2-7-2, 4, 9 and 21	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	h	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	h/a	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	6-7-16 and 150	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	6-7-11	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	f	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Relapse expression	f/a	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	17-7-37	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Relapse expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	7/18-7-22	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	18-7-4, 10, 18, and 21	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	18-7-20	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	18-7-2	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	i/a	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	18-7-23	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	i	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	i/a	G	A	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	24-7-8, 13, 18 and 22	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Archival donor	f	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	f	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
24-7-3	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Archival donor	a	f	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Relapse expression	f/a	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
24-7-5, 6, and 10	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Archival donor	f	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Relapse expression	f/a	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
24-7-17	Infecting expression	a	G	G	G	C	C	A	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Archival donor	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	Relapse expression	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
17	1-17-14	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	g	G	G	A	T	C	G	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	g	G	G	A	T	C	G	G	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	1-17-3	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	d	G	G	T	C	G	A	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Relapse expression	d	G	G	T	C	G	A	A	A	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
	2-17-9 and 10	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	h	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	h/l	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	2-17-6, 11 and 15	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	h	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	h/l	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	2-17-91	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	h	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	h	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	2-17-93	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	2-17-8	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	
		Relapse expression	h/f	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	6-17-18	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A	
		Archival donor	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
		Relapse expression	b	G	G	G	C	C	C	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C	A
	13-17-89	Infecting expression	l	T	G	G	T	T	A	G	C	G	T	G	T	C	A	A	T	T	-	-	C	C	C		



