



Supplementary Figure 1: Binding of MarA to DNA fragments derived from ChIP-seq binding peaks for MarA. Panel a) illustrates results of electrophoretic mobility shift assays with different DNA fragments containing the marbox. Panel b shows binding of equivalent MarA concentrations to DNA fragments containing no marbox. MarA was added at a final concentration of 0.3, 1.0, and 1.7 μ M as indicated by the triangle. The location of free DNA, and DNA bound by MarA, is indicated.



Supplementary Figure 2. Phenotypic landscape of the MarA regulon. The heatmap illustrates fitness scores²⁹ of strains lacking MarA target genes (y-axis) compared to the wild type parent strain. Red indicates a fitness decrease and pale blue indicates a fitness increase. Strains were grown in the presence of different antibiotics (x-axis). The antibiotics are clustered according to the cellular process targeted. Individual row and column names are provided. See reference 29 for further details.



Supplementary Figure 3: Activation of *mlaFEDCB* and *xseA* by increasing intracellular MarA: a requirement for the marbox. The result of a β -galactosidase assay done using lysates of T7 express cells transformed with derivatives of the *lacZ* reporter plasmid, pRW50. Activity values obtained using empty pRW50 vector have been subtracted. Additional MarA is provided by plasmid pET21*amarA* that encodes *marA* under the control of an IPTG inducible promoter. Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).



Supplementary Figure 4: Complementation of the *xseA***::kan phenotype by** *xseA***.** The graph shows OD_{650} values obtained for liquid cultures of strain BW25113 *xseA*::kan grown in the presence or absence of 0.005 µg/ml ciprofloxacin. The BW25113 *xseA*::kan cells were transformed with pBR322 derivatives encoding *xseA* under the control of the *xseA*1 fragment. Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).

XseA domain organisation



xseA under the control of the *xseA*1 fragment. Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).

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*mlaF*1.1



Supplementary Figure 6: Effect of *mlaFEDCB* **P1 promoter inactivation.** Panel a) shows the DNA sequence of the *mlaF*1.1 and *mlaF*2.1 DNA fragments. The *mlaF* start codon is shown in blue and the marbox is in green. Transcription start sites (+1) are underlined and further highlighted by a bent arrow. The P1 promoter has been inactivated by changing the sequence of the -10 element from 5'-TATTCT-3' to 5'-GGTTCT-3. The associated mutations are highlighted by the red box. Panel b) shows results of β -galactosidase assays using lysates of strain JCB387 transformed with pRW50 carrying either the *mlaF*1.1 or *mlaF*2.1 fragment upstream of *lacZ*. Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).

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Supplementary Figure 7: Complementation of the *mlaE*::kan phenotype by *mlaFEDCB*. The graph shows OD_{650} values obtained for liquid cultures of strain BW25113 *mlaE*::kan grown in the presence or absence of 1.0 µg/ml doxycycline. The BW25113 *mlaE*::kan cells were transformed with pBR322 derivatives encoding *mlaFEDCB* under the control of the *mlaF*1 fragment. Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).



Supplementary Figure 8: The *mlaFEDCB* marbox is required for effective barrier function and optimal surface hydrophobicity. Panel a) shows accumulation of doxycycline as a function of time for BW25113 mlaE::kan cells transformed with pBR322 encoding mlaFEDCB under the control of the mlaF1 (+marbox, solid line) or the *mlaF2* (-marbox, dashed line) promoter fragments. Panel b) depicts changes in absorbance of an aqueous suspension of bacterial cells after mixing with p-xylene. The % absorbance is relative to that obtrained with no p-xylene, at equilibrium. Data points are coloured as in panel a). The indicated volume of p-xylene is shown on the x-axis. The bar graph (c) shows relative crystal violet adsorption by BW25113 mlaE::kan cells transformed with pBR322 encoding *mlaFEDCB* under the control of the *mlaF*1 (solid bar) or the *mlaF*2 (open bar). Error bars represent standard deviation (n=3).





Supplementary Figure 9: Rob binds DNA with high affinity but low specificity. Panel a) shows the results of an electrophoretic mobility shift assay. Proteins (0.4, 1.2 or 2 μ M) were incubated with the PestA1 DNA fragment that does not contain a marbox. Panel b) shows binding of MarA and SoxS (0.4, 1.2 or 2 μ M) or Rob (0.08, 0.24 or 0.4 μ M) to a DNA fragment containing the *marRAB* promoter.



Supplementary Figure 10: The *xseA* and *mlaFEDCB* and regulatory regions preferentially bind MarA rather than SoxS. The figure shows binding of MarA, Rob or SoxS to the a) *xseA*1 or b) *mlaF*1 DNA fragments. For each experiment, the % free DNA was determined for each protein concentration as illustrated in the line graphs.



a





Figure 2d

















































Supplementary Figure 11: Uncropped gel images. The images correspond to gels presented in a) Figure 2 b) Figure 3 c) Supplementary Fig. 1 and d) Supplementary Fig. S9-10.