Supplementary Figures

Supplementary Figure 1 (preceding page). Analysis of *Pseudoalteromonas* **isolate growth on carrageenan and oligosaccharides.** (a) Growth of U2A, FUC4, PS47, and PS2 on 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan (green), 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan with of 0.04% (w/v) κ -NC4 (blue), or 0.4% (w/v) κ -NC4 alone (black). (b) Growth of U2A, FUC4, PS47, and PS2 on 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan (green), 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan with of 0.04% (w/v) $k-\text{NC4}$ (blue), 0.4% (w/v) ι -carrageenan with of 0.04% (w/v) ι -NC4 (purple), or 0.4% (w/v) i-NC4 alone (red). (c) Growth of U2A, FUC4, PS47, and PS2 on 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan (green), 0.4% (w/v) i-carrageenan with of 0.04% (w/v) κ -NC4 (blue), 0.4% (w/v) ι carrageenan with of 0.04% (w/v) κ -NC8 (pink), or 0.4% (w/v) κ -NC8 alone (orange). Errors bars represent the SEM (*n*=4).

Supplementary Figure 2. Carrageenanase activity of BovGH16. FACE analysis of the products of k-carrageenan and i-carrageenan degradation produced by the activity of BovGH16 or BovGH16 added in combination with S1_19A. a) and b) show cropped and uncropped versions of the gel image.

Supplementary Figure 3 (accompanies Figure 2 in the main text). (a) Uncropped image from Figure 2e. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis of κ -NC8 incubated with cell-free culture supernatants (CS) taken from the *Pseudoalteromonas* isolates after growth on MMM supplemented with 0.4% i-carrageenan and 0.04% k-NC4 (medium also contained 0.5% galactose for PS42). (b) Uncropped images used to assemble Figure 2f. Fluorophore-assisted carbohydrate electrophoresis (FACE) analysis of i-carrageenan (icarr) and κ -carrageenan (κ -carr) incubated with CS or total cell fraction (TCF) from PS47 after growth on MMM supplemented with 0.4% i-carrageenan and 0.04% K-NC4. The asterisks (*) indicate the band corresponding to excess ANTS fluorophore.

Supplementary Figure 4. Features of the *Pseudoaltermonas* **GH16 enzymes.** (a) Amino acid sequence alignment of GH16A/B/C with CgkA from *P. carrageenovora* 9T. The catalytic residues are indicated with arrows beneath the sequences. Black circles beneath the sequences indicate the positions that differ between GH16C and CgkA. (b) An overlap of the homology model of GH16A (orange) based on the complex of CgkA with κ -NC4 (grey with κ -NC4 shown as green sticks). The comparison highlights the 100% conservation of active site residues. The active site of GH16C is also identical to CgkA.

a

Supplementary Figure 5 (accompanies Figure 3 from main text). The carrageenan degradation properties of recombinant GH16 enzymes from PS47. Uncropped images of gels corresponding to panels a-d from Figure 3. FACE analysis of the products of κ -carrageenan (a) and ι -carrageenan (b) degradation. Panels (c) and (d) show the FACE analysis of κ -carrageenan (c) and ι -carrageenan (d) degradation when the GH16 enzymes are used in conjunction with the S1_19A *endo-4S-k/i-carrageenan sulfatase.* The superscript " p " (p) in the sample label indicates that the carrageenan was pretreated overnight with the sulfatase, followed by heat inactivation of the sulfatase then digestion with the GH16. The asterisks (*) indicates the band corresponding to excess ANTS fluorophore.

Supplementary Figure 6 (accompanies Figure 4 from the main text). Activity of PS47 sulfatases. (a) Uncropped image of Figure 4a. TLC analysis of S1_19B activity. (b) Uncropped image of Figure 4h. TLC analysis of i-NC2 conversion by the total cellular fraction (TCF) from PS47. TCF* indicates heat inactivated TCF. k-NC2 incubated with S1_19B, which produces β -NC2, is shown as a standard.

Supplementary Figure 7 (preceding page). Activity and structural analysis of S1 19B. (a) Kinetic analysis of S1 19B activity on k-NC2. Data shown are the mean of four replicates; error bars represent the error. The unaveraged data is shown in the adjacent panel (b) Cartoon representation of the S1_19B tetramer with a monomer colored blue and the remaining monomers colored grey. Calcium ions are shown as yellow spheres. The inset shows the molecular interactions at the dimer interfaces. Amino acid residues are represented as sticks and coloured according to their respective chains; mirrored interactions are shown as transparent amino acid residues, and hydrogen bonds are represented as dashed lines. (c) Oligomeric state determination of S1_19B based on elution volume when compared to the calibration proteins ranging from 29 kDa to 200 kDa. S1_19B is represented by a purple square. (d) Cartoon representation of S1_19B revealing the two subdomains of mixed α/β topology (α -helices coloured slate, β -sheets coloured yellow). N-terminal subdomain meandering β -sheets are numbered 1-8 and the C-terminal subdomain anti-parallel β -sheets are lettered A-D. Residues comprising the Ssubsite are represented as slate sticks and the calcium ion as a yellow sphere. (e) Representative electron density for κ -NC2 modeled into the active site. The gray mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *2Fo-Fc* map contoured at 1.0 σ. The green mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *Fo-Fc* map (contoured at 3.0 σ) produced by refinement with the k-NC2 atoms omitted. (f) Representative electron densities for i -NC4, calcium ion, calcium binding residues, and the counter ion modeled into the active site. The green mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *Fo-Fc* map (contoured at 3.0 σ) produced by refinement with the corresponding residues omitted. (g) Close up of S1 19B C77S active site pocket with bound i -NC4. The solvent accessible surface is coloured in gray with the area comprising the S-subsite coloured in violet. (h) The i -NC4 bound in the active site with a focus on the DA2S and G4S residues in the potential +1 and +2 subsites, respectively.

Supplementary Figure 8. Structural analysis of S1_NC. (a) Cartoon representation of the S1_NC dimer. The α -helices are coloured according to either chain A or chain B as green or brown, respectively. β -sheets are coloured yellow and polypeptide termini are labeled (N) or (C). The inset shows the molecular interactions at the dimer interface. Amino acid residues are represented as sticks and coloured according to their respective chains; mirrored interactions are shown as transparent amino acid residues and hydrogen bonds are represented as dashed lines. (b) Oligomeric state determination of S1_NC based on elution volume when compared to the calibration proteins ranging from 29 kDa to 200 kDa. S1 NC is represented as a green triangle. (c) Cartoon representation of the S1 NC is characterized by two subdomains of mixed α/β topology (α-helices coloured green, β -sheets coloured yellow). N-terminal subdomain meandering β -sheets are numbered 1-7 and the C-terminal subdomain anti-parallel β -sheets are lettered A-D. Residues comprising the S-subsite are represented as green sticks and the calcium ion as a yellow sphere.

Supplementary Figure 9 (preceding page). X-ray crystallographic analysis of the catalytic residue in S1_NC to reveal its post-translational modification. (a) Representative electron density for S1_NC active site residues. The gray mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted 2*Fo-Fc* map contoured at 1.0 σ. The green mesh shows the unbiased electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *Fo-Fc* map (contoured at 3.0 σ) produced by refinement with the atoms for residue 84 omitted. Residues are coloured as gray lines. In panels $b - g$, representative electron density for S1_NC residue 84 is shown when modeled as FGly (b), cysteine (c), cysteinsulfenic acid conformation-A (d), cysteinsulfenic acid conformation-B (e), cysteinsulfenic acid in both conformations each having 50 % occupancy (f), and cysteinsulfinic acid (g). The green mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *Fo-Fc* map (contoured at 3.0 σ) produced by refinement with the residue atoms present. All colouring for panels b-g are the same as in (a). Respective B-factors and bond lengths are labeled in black and blue, respectively.

Supplementary Figure 10. Sulfate, k**-NC2, and** i**-NC4 complexes of S1_NC.** (a) The active site of S1_NC C84A in complex with sulfate. (b) The active site of S1_NC C84S in complex with κ -NC2. (c) An overlay of the sulfate and κ -NC2 complexes. (d) Representative electron density for i -NC4 modeled into the active site; density was only evident for two of the sugar residue ultimately leading to the sugar being modeled as i-NC2. The gray mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/ σ _aweighted *2Fo-Fc* map contoured at 1.0 σ. The green mesh shows the electron density map as a maximum likelihood/σa-weighted *Fo-Fc* map (contoured at 3.0 σ) produced by refinement with the i-NC4 atoms omitted.

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Supplementary Figure 11 (preceding 2 pages). Analysis of GH167 and BovGH167. (a) Amino acid sequence alignment of GH167 (query) with BovGH167 (template) generated by one-to-one threading with Phyre2. The predicted secondary structure is show for both sequences as well the known secondary structure for BovGH167; α -helices are shown in green and β -strands as blue arrows. The overall amino acid sequence identity is 36%. (b) Amino acid composition in the putative -1 subsite of BovGH167. (c) Amino acid composition of the putative -1 subsite in GH167 using the model of GH167 generated with Phyre2 one-to-one threading and the structure of BovGH167 as a template. In panels a-c the nucleophile is indicated by an N and the acid-base as A/B. The overall identity of the -1 subsites reflects the similar specificities of the two enzymes. (d) TLC analysis of the nucleophile mutants of GH167 and BovGH167.

Supplementary Figure 12. Activity analysis of DauA. (a) DauA rate (arbitrary units) plotted vs pH (McIlvaine's buffer). (b) DauA rate (arbitrary units) plotted vs pH (Tris-HCl buffer). Michaelis-Menten plots of rate vs (c) NADP+ and (d) 3,6-anhydro-D-galactose performed at 25 ºC in 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0) with 0.5 M NaCl and 20 nM of enzyme. Left panels show averaged data (duplicate or triplicate measurements) with error bars showing standard deviations and right panels show unaveraged data.

Supplementary Figure 13 (preceding page). Structural features of DauA. (a) Consurf analysis of the DauA active site based on homologs greater than 35% amino acid sequence identity. Residues likely involved in catalysis (labeled in red) and substrate binding (labeled in yellow) are shown as sticks. (b) Recognition of the sulfate group distinguishing NADP⁺ (shown as sticks) from NAD⁺. Hydrogen bonds are indicated as dashed lines. (c) Amino acid sequence alignment with DauA from *Z. galactanivorans* (ZgDauA). Likely catalytic residues are indicated by red arrows, substrate (AHG) binding residues by yellow arrows, and residues recognizing the sulfate group of NADP⁺ by black arrows.

Supplementary Figure 14 (and preceding page). Mass spectrometry analysis of S1_19A activity on i**-NC4.** (a) LC-MS total ion chromatograms of i-NC4 and (b) HRMS spectrum of the peak highlighted in panel (a) with specific regions expanded and annotated. (c) LC-MS total ion chromatograms of i-NC4 treated for 1 (top) and 2 (bottom) hours with S1_19A. (d) the HRMS spectrum of the peak highlighted in panel (d) with specific regions expanded and annotated. See Supplementary Table 7 for a list of expected and measured species.

Supplementary Figure 15. Signal peptide prediction in the hypothetical a**-1,3-(3,6 anhydro)-D-galactosidase(s) using SignalP** ¹⁶**.**

Supplementary Figure 16. Phyre2 fold-prediction analysis of the hypothetical a**-1,3- (3,6-anhydro)-D-galactosidase(s).** (a) Tabulation of the Phyre2 results. (b-d) Cartoon representations of the folds predicted for EU509_08830, EU509_08835, and EU509_08875, respectively.

Supplementary Table 1: Bacterial isolate and genome details

* OrthoANIu of 99.99% over 4,454,130 aligned bases with PS47. Likely independent isolate of the same strain as PS47

of aligned bases Presence of carrageenan PUL
 $\frac{1}{10}$,987,151

Supplementary Table 2: CarPUL gene content and comparison.

Glycoside hydrolase

 \Box Sulfatase

■ TonB-dependent receptor (TBDR)
← Other function or hypothetical protein

Galactose/Galactonate metabolism

Major facilitator superfamily sugar transporter (MFS)

Candidate α -1,3-(3,6-anhydro)-D-galactosidase

Transcriptional regulator

Supplementary Table 3: Oligonucleotide primer sequences used for gene amplification

Supplementary Table 4: Crystallization condition for all X-ray crystal structures

Supplementary Table 5: X-ray data collection and structure statistics

Supplementary Table 6. List of major ions observed in t-NC4 and its digestion products

*Tet refers to the backbone tetrasaccharide of 3,6-anhydro-D-galactose (DA) and D-galactose (G) comprising DA-G-DA-G. This is followed by the number of sulfate groups present on the tetrasaccharide backbone.

Supplementary Notes

1. Genomic analysis. Though PS2 and PS47 were independently isolated and sequenced instances of the same strain, their CarPULs were found on identically sized contigs of 135169 bp. This suggests that the CarPUL is present on a plasmid, similar to the 143 kbp plasmid in *Pseudoalteromonas carrageenovora* 9T that bears the CarPUL 1. Likewise, the U2A CarPUL is on a contig of 111950 bp and, like in *P. carrageenovora* 9T, the CarPUL is immediately preceded by genes encoding predicted ParA and RepA-like proteins, suggesting the U2A CarPUL is also on a plasmid. In contrast, however, in FUC4 the CarPUL is present on a contig of >1.4 Mbp, mostly likely indicating its presence on a chromosome.

2. Primary structure analysis and modeling of GH16 enzymes. The only GH16 conserved between *P. carrageenovora* 9T and all of our *Pseudoalteromonas* strains is GH16B, which is predicted to be a lipoprotein localized to the outer membrane. GH16B shows only ~25% amino acid sequence identity with both GH16A and GH16C, but ~78% amino acid sequence identity with a *Paraglaciecola hydrolytica* S66T GH16 enzyme that is classified as a β -carrageenan specific *endo*-hydrolase ². The gene encoding GH16A, which is predicted to be a periplasmic protein, is also present in the *Pseudoalteromonas* strains, though the gene is fragmented in *P. carrageenovora* 9T and U2A. With 92% amino acid sequence identity over their entire lengths, GH16C is the orthologue of the well characterized k-carrageenanase CgkA (PCAR9_p0048)*,* which is responsible for the secreted k-carrageenanase activity in *P. carrageenovora* 9T 1,3–6 and therefore possibly also in PS47*.* GH16A and GH16C have 76% amino acid sequence identity; however, GH16A lacks the ~100 amino acid C-terminal domain present in GH16C and CgkA (Supplementary Figure 4a). Modeling the structures of GH16A and GH16C using CgkA as a template indicate 100% conservation of the active sites, pointing to conserved specificity amongst these enzymes (Supplementary Figure 4b).

3. Structural analysis of S1_19B. The structure of the wild type S1_19B enzyme at 2.50 Å resolution was solved using S1_19A from PS47 (PDB ID code: 6BIA)⁷ as the search model. The final refined model contained four molecules in the asymmetric unit arranged as a tetramer (Supplementary Figure 7b). PISA analysis⁸ of the S1_19B structure predicts the tetramer to be composed of two dimers, with buried surface areas of \sim 1460 Å² between the chains participating in the dimer interface (chains A and B, or C and D), and only \sim 362 Å² between chains from the different dimers (i.e. between chains A and C). The molecular interactions of the dimer interfaces show an extensive and direct hydrogen bond network (Supplementary Figure 7b inset). To assess the oligomeric state of S1_19B in solution, the protein was passed through a calibrated size exclusion chromatography column. The elution volume for S1_19B corresponds to an experimental molecular weight of 91.3 kDa (Supplementary Figure 7c). This is between the expected molecular weight of the S1_19B monomer (55.828 kDa) and dimer (112 kDa), but is closer to that of a dimer. The PISA analysis and the elution volume results support the dimer as being the biological unit for S1_19B. In contrast, the other S1_19 family member in the CarPUL, S1 19A, adopts a stable trimeric structure ⁷.

4. Structural analysis of S1_NC. The final refined model of native S1_NC contained two molecules in the asymmetric unit arranged as a homodimer with C2 symmetry (Supplementary Figure 8a). PISA analysis of this structure predicts the dimer to be a stable oligomeric state with \sim 1500 Å of buried surface area at the dimer interface. This interface is composed of an extensive and symmetrical hydrogen bond network (Supplementary Figure 8a inset). The formation of a physiologically relevant dimer was further supported by size exclusion chromatography analysis of S1 NC, which gave an elution volume corresponding to an experimental molecular weight of 102.3 kDa (Supplementary Figure 8b). With an expected molecular weight of 56.613 kDa for a monomer and 113.2 kDa for a dimer, this experimental value is most consistent with that of a dimer rather than a monomer.

The X-ray crystal structure of native S1 NC showed unusual electron density at the protocatalytic C84 residue (Supplementary Figure 9a). Efforts at modelling this density revealed that it was best modeled as a cysteinesulfinic acid residue, which likely represents the oxidized form of the cysteinesulfenic acid intermediate proposed in the normal maturation of the catalytic FGIy residue (Supplementary Figure 9b-g)⁹. Despite extensive efforts, we were unable to circumvent generation of this inappropriately matured form of the protein. Therefore, to provide insight into the specificity of this enzyme we generated C84A and C84S mutants, which prevented post-translational modification of the catalytic site, and attempted to determine structures of these mutants in complex with neocarrageenan oligosaccharides and fragments thereof. These initial efforts led to separate structures of S1_NC C84A and S1_NC C84S in complex with a sulfate and k-NC2, respectively (Supplementary Figures 10a and 10b). Superimposition of these structures revealed a composite mimicking a product complex of i-NC2 hydrolysis whereby 0 and +1 subsites were occupied by the DA and G4S residues, respectively, of the κ -NC2 "product," while the S-subsite was occupied by a free sulfate found in proximity to the O2 of the DA residue (Supplementary Figure 10c). Informed by this, we subsequently determined the structure of S1 NC C84S in complex with i -NC4 (Supplementary Figure 10d, see also main text).

5. Characterization of the 3,6-anhydro-D-galactose dehydrogenase, DauA. Recombinant DauA from PS47 had no significant activity on DA when using NAD⁺ as a co-factor. However, it displayed activity on DA when using NADP⁺ as a co-factor and had optimum activity between pH 7.5 and 8.0 (Supplementary Figure 12). At pH 7.5 the K_m and K_{cat} values were 442.4 (\pm 42.3) μ M and 30.6 (\pm 1.4) s⁻¹, respectively, for DA. The corresponding values for NADP⁺ were 147.1 (\pm 13.5) μ M and 21.5 (\pm 0.6) s⁻¹.

DauA was crystallized in two distinct crystal forms, each in the space group P2₁. Native DauA, whose structure was determined by molecular replacement, crystallized with four molecules in the asymmetric, while DauA in complex with NADP⁺ crystallized with six molecules in the asymmetric unit. The common quaternary structure of the two crystal forms, which is predicted by PISA analysis to be stable, is a dimer.

In the NADP⁺ complex, the 2 prime-sulfate group of the adenine group is accommodated in a pocket where two direct and two water mediated hydrogen bonds are made between the sulfate and the protein (Supplementary Figure 13b). The preference of DauA for NADP+ over NAD+ distinguishes the *Pseudoalteromonas* enzyme from ZgDauA, which prefers NAD+ 10. Notably, S174 of DauA, which provides the end-wall of the sulfate binding pocket, is substituted by a glutamic acid in ZgDauA. Additionally, D204, which in DauA provides a hydrogen bond with the sulfate, is substituted by a valine in ZgDauA (Supplementary Figure 13c). These changes may provide steric hindrance with the 2 prime-sulfate of NADP⁺ and a loss of H-bonding potential in ZgDauA, possibly explaining the difference in co-factor preference between the two enzymes.

6. Activity of S1_19A on i*-NC4.* Our previous characterization of S1_19A indicated that this enzyme is primarily an *endo*-acting 4S-sulfatase that prefers i-carrageenan7. However, the enzyme displayed the ability to process i -NC4, but not i -NC2, and had very low activity on κ -carrageenan oligosaccharides with a degree of polymerization of four or more. X-ray crystallographic and NMR analyses of the interaction of S1_19 with substrate indicated its specificity for G4S residues. Furthermore, the poise of t -NC4 in the crystal structure of the S1_19A i-NC4 complex showed recognition of the non-reducing end ineocarrabiose motif in all three of the protein monomers in the asymmetric unit. Given the ability to process an i-carrageenan oligosaccharide and the role this could potentially play in the *Pseudoalteromonas* pathway of carrageenan processing we further probed i-NC4 processing by mass spectrometry. Profiling of oligosaccharide species in i -NC4 and its digestion products treated with sulfatase for 1 or 2 hrs was carried out using a LC-HRMS/DAD/ELSD method, with a graphitized carbon column as reported¹¹. The starting i-NC4 substrate showed predominantly masses consistent with a tetrasaccharide having four sulfate groups, as expected for i-NC4 (Supplementary Figure 14a and 14b, and Supplementary Table 7). Minor amounts of di- and tri-sulfated species were detected and are likely due to ionization induced neutral loss of sulfate groups.

After one and two hours of incubating i -NC4 with S1 19A a new product was formed with a different retention time; this was the same for both samples so only the 2 hour sample was used for further analysis and comparison (Supplementary Figure 14c). The product showed predominantly masses consistent with a tetrasaccharide having three sulfate groups, indicating the enzymatic removal of a single sulfate group (Supplementary Figure

14d and Supplementary Table 6). Minor amounts of di-sulfated species were detected, which are also likely due to ionization induced neutral loss of sulfate groups. Thus, combining the mass spectrometry and structural data, our interpretation is that S1_19A is capable of removing the 4-sulfate from the G4S residue adjacent to the non-reducing end, but is unlikely to desulfate all G4S residues in an oligosaccharide.

7. Analysis of EU509_8830, EU509_8835, and EU509_8875 – hypothetical a*-1,3-(3,6* anhydro)-D-galactosidases. As an initial step towards identifying the α -1,3-(3,6-anhydro)-D-galactosidases we focused on putative proteins that a) did not have an experimentally identified function, b) did not have a confident bioinformatic prediction, and c) was conserved amongst all of the strains. This narrowed the possibilities to EU509_08830, EU509_08835, EU509_08865, EU509_08875, EU509_08885, and EU509_08915. Fold prediction for EU509 08915 using Phyre2¹² returns a mutarotase-like fold with 100% confidence, which interpreted in light of genomic context, where the gene residues in the monosaccharide processing cluster (Supplementary Table 2), and prediction of cytoplasmic localization (Supplementary Table 2) is most consistent with the protein acting as a galactose or 3,6-anhydro-D-galactose mutarotase. EU509_08865 is predicted to be a secreted lipoprotein. Its fold, however, suggests the presence of non-catalytic carbohydrate-binding modules indicating that this protein is may be a SusE-like protein that mediates adherence to polysaccharides. Fold recognition analysis of EU509_08885 indicates it contains a domain with a cytochrome C-like fold followed by a tetratricopeptide repeat (TPR) domain, both with >99.9% confidence; neither fold is consistent with activity on glycosidic bonds. Rather, the similarity of this fold to a recently identified galactose demethylase suggests this may be the function of EU509 08885 13 . The likelihood of these three proteins having functions other than glycosidic bond cleavage then leaves EU509_08830, EU509_08835, and EU509_08875, which are all predicted to be secreted lipoproteins (Supplementary Figure 15). EU509_08830 and EU509_08875, which share 38% amino acid sequence identity, are predicted with 100% confidence by Phyre2 to have a 7-bladed B-propeller fold (Supplementary Figure 16). This fold is associated with a variety of different functions, but, notably, is found in carbohydrate specific lectins, polysaccharide lyases, and glycoside hydrolases, latter two of which are classes of enzymes that cleave glycosidic bonds. Similarly, the 6-bladed β -propeller fold predicted to be adopted by EU509 8835 is also associated with a variety of functions, including glycoside hydrolysis (Supplementary Figure 16). On this basis, we favor EU509_08830, EU509 08835, and EU509 08875 as the most likely candidates for the α -1,3-(3,6anhydro)-D-galactosidase(s) in the CarPUL.

8. Comparison of agarose and carrageenan degradation pathways. There are two general models proposed for saccharification of agarose, which is an algal galactan that is related to carrageenan but is typically non-sulfated (or less sulfated) and has 3,6-anhydro-Lgalactose in place of DA. Both models rely on initiation of depolymerization by the action of *endo*-acting b-agarases to generate a pool of neoagaroligosaccharides. One model, which we refer to as the "*exo* model," then relies on the sequential action of an *exo*-a-1,3- L-neoagarooligosaccharide hydrolase (GH117) and an *exo*-b-D-galactosidase (GH2) to reduce the oligosaccharides to monosaccharides 14 . The other model uses a neoagarobiose releasing β -D-agarase (GH50) to reduce neoagarooligosaccharides to neogarobiose, which is then followed by hydrolysis to monosaccharides by a GH117 15. The *Pseudoalteromonas* CarPUL does not contain any genes encoding a candidate *exo*b-D-galactosidase, such as the GH2 enzymes of *Z. galactanivorans* and *Paraglaciecola hydrolytica* S66^T that have $e \times o - \beta$ -galactosidase activity on the β -1,4-linkages in carrageenan 2,10 , but instead employs a β -NC2 releasing β -carrageenanase. Therefore, the model of \sqrt{k} -carrageenan metabolism by our pseudoalteromonad isolates most closely parallels the latter model of agarose metabolism. In contrast to the pseudoalteromonad model, the pathway proposed for i/k-carrageenan metabolism by *Z. galactanivorans* utilizes a parallel of the "*exo* model" 10.

In both models of carrageenan depolymerization a key step is the hydrolysis of the nonreducing terminal α -1,3-(3,6-anhydro)-D-galactose residue. While the α -1,3-(3,6anhydro)-D-galactosidase has not yet been identified in CarPUL-containing *Pseudoalteromonas* species, their growth phenotype on κ - and *i*-carrageenan indicates that this enzyme activity must be present. The failure to identify candidate enzymes

belonging to GH families 127 and 129 indicates that the pseudoalteromonad solution to hydrolyzing the a-glycosidic linkage in carrageenan is different than that of *Z. galactanivorans,* where this activity is clearly attributed to GH127 and GH129 enzymes*,* thus highlighting another difference between the two pathways.

With respect to the sulfatases employed, which are a notable feature of carrageenan metabolism, the two characterized pathways use different complements of enzymes. The *Pseudoalteromonas endo*-acting sulfatase S1_19A and *Z. galactanivorans* ZGAL_3145 (family S1_19) display very similar biochemical properties: activity most consistent with *endo*-G4S *i*-carrageenan sulfatase specificity and the capability of producing α carrageenan on the non-reducing end of an i-carrageenan oligosaccharide*.* The kcarrageenan specific G4S-sulfatase from *Z. galactanivorans* (ZGAL_3146, family S1_7) displays properties most consistent with *endo*-activity whereas the k-carrageenan specific G4S-sulfatase S1_19B from *Pseudoalteromonas* is *exo*-acting on the non-reducing end. Finally, the DA2S-sulfatases from *Z. galactanivorans (*ZGAL_3151, family S1_17) and *Pseudoalteromonas* (S1_NC) are both *exo*-acting on non-reducing end DA2S residues; however, ZGAL_3151 is α -carrageenan specific whereas S1_NC has structural properties most consistent with action on both i - and α -carrageenan. Thus, not only does the mode of oligosaccharide depolymerization differ between the two pathways but the order in which desulfation occurs must also differ¹⁰.

Supplementary Methods.

Oligomeric state determination using size exclusion chromatography – Elution volumes (V_e) for protein molecular weight standards of 10 mg mL⁻¹ albumin (MW: 66 kDa), 3 mg mL⁻¹ conalbumin (MW: 75 kDa), 5 mg mL⁻¹ alcohol dehydrogenase (MW: 150 kDa), and 4 mg mL-1 beta-amylase (MW: 200 kDa) were utilized to calibrate a HiPrep 16/60 Sephacryl S-300 HR column, 16 mm × 1600 mm (GE Healthcare). Blue dextran (MW: 2,000 kDa) was used to determine the void volume (V_0) and a standard curve was created plotting molecular mass *vs.* V_e/V_o for each respective protein standard. Samples of S1 19B and S1 NC at 10 mg mL⁻¹ were applied to the column and their V_e/V_o values

plotted against the standard curve. All samples and standards were run at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min in 500 mM NaCl and 20 mM Tris (pH 8.0).

Mass spectrometry – For liquid chromatography high resolution mass spectrometry/diode array detector/evaporative light scattering detector (LC-HRMS/DAD/ELSD), an Accela™ 1250 LC system was coupled to an Exactive™ mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with electrospray ionization source (HESI-II) probe. Through a flowsplitter, the LC eluent was simultaneously sent to a diode array detector (UltiMate 3000 DAD) to acquire UV signal and subsequently to an evaporative light scattering detector (Alltech 3300 ELSD). A makeup solution consisting of 0.1% formic acid in 80% methanol was delivered constantly at 100 µL to the MS. Separation was based on a modified method by Itoh et al. ¹¹. It was carried out on a Hypercarb column (100 x 2.1 mm, 5 μ m Thermo Scientific) using mobile phase consisting of (A) 5 mM ammonium acetate pH 9.6 with 2% acetonitrile and (B) 5 mM ammonium acetate pH 9.6 with 80% acetonitrile, with a linear gradient from 5% B to 30% B in 30 min, and then to 100% B in another 5 min, before returning to initial gradients, at a flow-rate of 400 μ L min⁻¹.

HRMS was acquired in negative polarity at 50,000 resolution. The following MS conditions were used: sheath flow 15, auxiliary gas flow rate 4; spray voltage -2.3 kV; both capillary and heater temperature at 250 °C. Mass range was scanned from m/z 100-2,000. MSMS was performed in high-energy collisional dissociation (HCD) scan at 10,000 resolution, using 60 eV. Maximum inject time for both MS and MSMS channels was at 50 ms.

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