

**International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology
Supplementary Materials for:**

Proposal to reclassify *Propionibacterium acnes* type I as *Propionibacterium acnes* subsp. *acnes* subsp. nov. and *Propionibacterium acnes* type II as *Propionibacterium acnes* subsp. *defendens* subsp. nov.

Andrew McDowell¹, Emma Barnard², Jared Liu², Huiying Li^{2,3}, Sheila Patrick⁴

¹Northern Ireland Centre for Stratified Medicine, Biomedical Sciences Research Institute, C-TRIC Building, Altnagelvin Area Hospital, University of Ulster, Londonderry, UK.

²Department of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology, Crump Institute for Molecular Imaging, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA, California, USA

³UCLA-DOE Institute for Genomics and Proteomics, Los Angeles, California, USA.

⁴Centre for Infection & Immunity, School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Sciences, Queen's University, Belfast, UK

Correspondence:

Dr Andrew McDowell; Email: a.mcdowell@ulster.ac.uk; Telephone +44 (0) 2871 675662 (extn 75662)

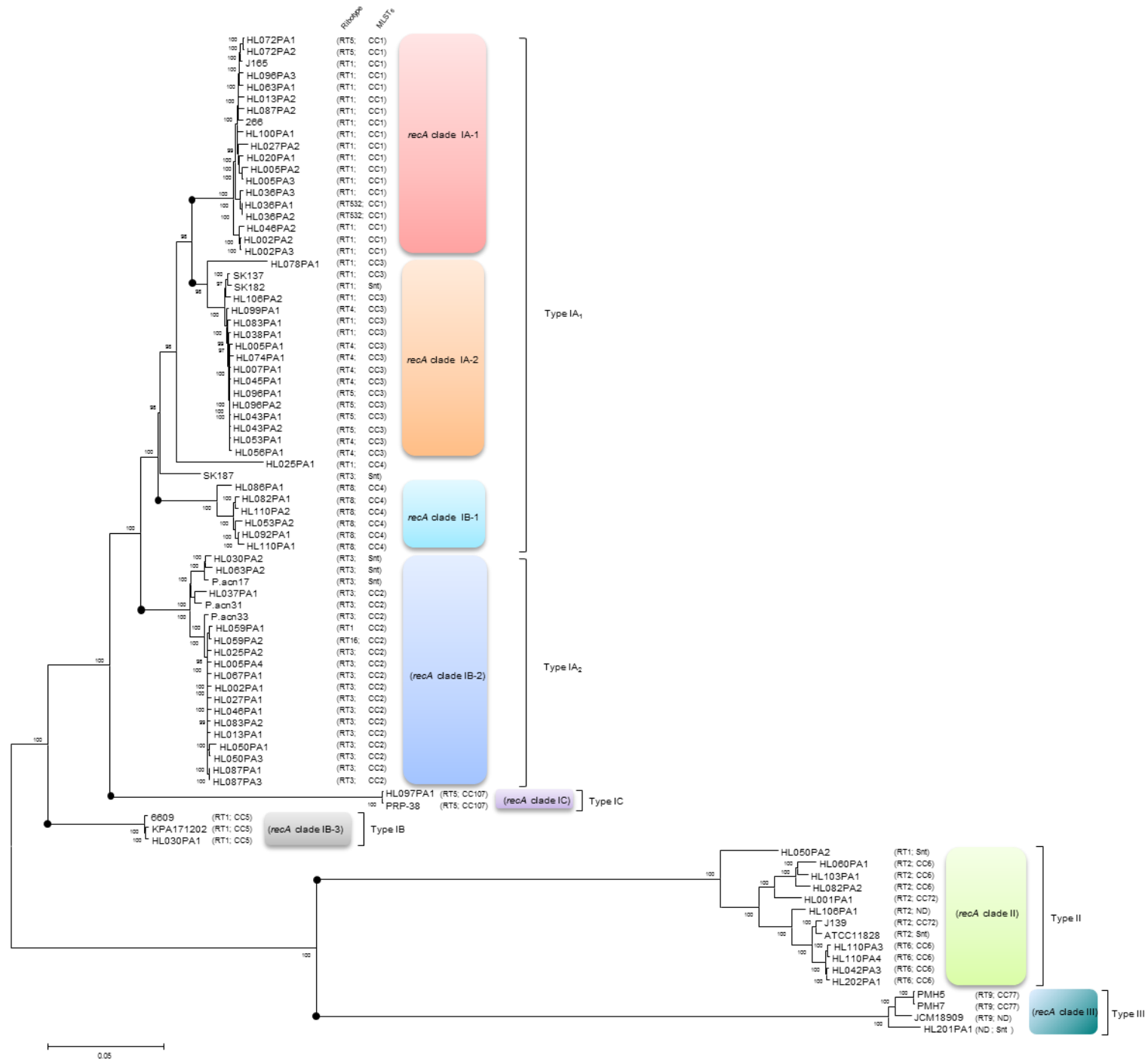


Fig S1. Whole genome neighbour-joining phylogenetic tree (MEGA v5.0) based on the p-distances between each of 85 concatenated SNP sequences. Briefly, core regions were calculated by mapping 84 genome sequences against the reference genome KPA171202 using Nucmer [Kurtz et al. (2004). Versatile and open software for comparing large genomes. *Genome Biol* 5: R12). Regions of KPA171202 that aligned with all 84 genomes were identified within the 84 “.coords” output files, and the corresponding aligned regions in all 85 genomes were extracted. A total of 124,731 SNPs relative to KPA171202 were identified and concatenated into a single sequence for analysis. The bootstrap tree was inferred from 200 replicates. Bootstrap values ($\geq 70\%$) are shown on the arms of the tree. Horizontal bar represents genetic distance. Snt = singleton; CC = clonal complex (MLST₈ analysis).

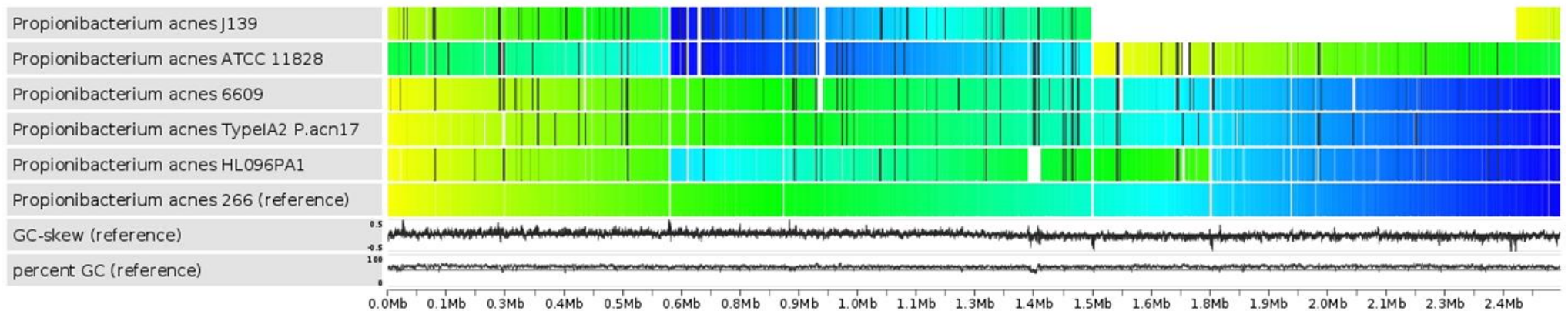


Fig S2. Visualisation of synteny between representative type I and type II genomes using the new *P. acnes* Sybil database. Type II specific inversions within the strains ATCC11828 (ST27) and J139 (ST28) can be clearly seen versus type I strains 266 (IA₁; ST20), P.acn17 (IA₂; ST22) and 6609 (IB; ST5). Note: the type IA₁ strain HL096PA1 (ST3) has a distinct verified inversion while those in the type II strains remained to be confirmed. Strain J139 is currently not closed and is represented by a large contig which results in a white section in the alignment [Scholz et al. (2016). Genome stability of *Propionibacterium acnes*: a comprehensive study of indels and homopolymeric tracts. *Sci Rep*, **6**, 20662]. ST designations relate to MLST₈ analysis (<http://pubmlst.org/pacnes/>).