

Overexpression of an oxidoreductase YghA confers tolerance against furfural in ethanologenic *Escherichia coli* strain SSK42

TABLE S1: List of plasmids and strains used in the study.

TABLE S2: Percent COV observed in first screen of *E. coli* BW25113 mutant strains at 3h and 6h of cultivation.

TABLE S3: The maximum specific ethanol productivity values of SSK42 (pTrcHisA) and SSK42 (pTrcHisA-*yghA*) strains at 5% and 10% xylose concentration

Figure S1: LD₅₀ values of parent *E. coli* BW25113 strain towards furfural in media containing 0.2% (wt/vol) of either glucose (A) or xylose (B) as sole carbon source.

Figure S2: First screening of *E. coli* BW25113 derived mutant strains. Cultivation was performed in media containing 0.2% (wt/vol) xylose and 0.25 g L⁻¹ furfural.

Figure S3: Second screening of selected *E. coli* BW25113 mutant strains in AM1 media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 1 g L⁻¹ furfural.

Figure S4: Transformation of *yghA* gene in *E. coli* BW25113Δ*yghA* genetic background.

Figure S5: Influence of carbon source in promoting biomass formation in *E. coli* SSK42 host with either pTrcHisA (dark gery) or with pTrcHisA-*yghA* (light grey).

Figure S6: Overexpression of YghA also leads to metabolism of 1 g L⁻¹ 5-HMF from media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 0.1 mM IPTG.

Figure S7: Influence of IPTG concentration on furfural metabolism in SSK42 harboring either pTrcHisA (dark grey) or pTrcHisA-*yghA* (light grey).

Figure S8: Furfural concentration in bioreactor containing 5% xylose (wt/vol) and 1 g L⁻¹ furfural.

TABLE S1. List of plasmids and strains used in the study

| Plasmid/Strain | Description | Source/Reference |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Plasmid | | |
| pTrcHisA | P _{trc} bla oriR rrnB lacI ^q 6XHis | Invitrogen |
| pTrcHisA-yghA | yghA ORF cloned into pTrcHisA | This study |
| pCP20 | bla, flp, temperature-conditional replicon | CGSC #7629 |
| Strain | | |
| SSK42 | <i>E. coli</i> B P _{gapA} PDH Δ ldh Δ frdA Δ pflB undergone evolutionary adaptation. | Jilani SB, Venigalla SSK, Mattam AJ, Dev C, Yazdani SS. <i>J Ind Microbiol Biotechnol</i> 44:1375–1384 (2017) |
| BW25113 (pTrcHisA) | BW25113, Δ yghA :: FRT-kan-FRT - pTrcHisA | This study |
| BW25113 (pTrcHisA-yghA) | BW25113, Δ yghA :: FRT-kan-FRT - pTrcHisA-yghA | This study |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA) | SSK42 harboring pTrcHisA | This study |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA-yghA) | SSK42 harboring pTrcHisA-yghA | This study |
| BW25113 | F ₋ , DE(<i>araD-araB</i>)567, <i>lacZ</i> 4787(del):: <i>rrnB</i> _3, LAM-, <i>rph</i> _1, DE(<i>rhaD-rhaB</i>) 568, <i>hsdR</i> 514 | CGSC#7636 |
| Δ adhP | BW25113, Δ adhP :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9282 |
| Δ aldB | BW25113, Δ aldB :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10626 |
| Δ aldA | BW25113, Δ aldA :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9239 |
| Δ astD | BW25113, Δ astD :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11289 |
| Δ betB | BW25113, Δ betB :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8504 |
| Δ dkgA | BW25113, Δ dkgA :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11427 |
| Δ dkgB | BW25113, Δ dkgB :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#12026 |
| Δ eutG | BW25113, Δ eutG :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9943 |
| Δ feaB | BW25113, Δ feaB :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9220 |
| Δ frmA | BW25113, Δ frmA :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8536 |
| Δ fucO | BW25113, Δ fucO :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11871 |
| Δ gabD | BW25113, Δ gabD :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10077 |
| Δ gldA | BW25113, Δ gldA :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11940 |
| Δ hdhA | BW25113, Δ hdhA :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9372 |
| Δ maoC | BW25113, Δ maoC :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9222 |
| Δ mhpF | BW25113, Δ mhpF :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8532 |
| Δ pgi | BW25113, Δ pgi :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10867 |
| Δ prr | BW25113, Δ prr :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9259 |
| Δ puuC | BW25113, Δ puuC :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11640 |
| Δ rspB | BW25113, Δ rspB :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9342 |
| Δ sad | BW25113, Δ sad :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11267 |

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Δtas</i> | BW25113, <i>Δtas</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10189 |
| <i>Δusg</i> | BW25113, <i>Δusg</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9858 |
| <i>ΔucpA</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔucpA</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11361 |
| <i>ΔyahK</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyahK</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8516 |
| <i>ΔyajO</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyajO</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8578 |
| <i>ΔyagR</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyagR</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8491 |
| <i>ΔyagS</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyagS</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8492 |
| <i>ΔybdR</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔybdR</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#8716 |
| <i>ΔycjQ</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔycjQ</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9171 |
| <i>ΔycjS</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔycjS</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9172 |
| <i>ΔyciK</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyciK</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9138 |
| <i>ΔydfG</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔydfG</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9318 |
| <i>ΔydhE</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔydhE</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9408 |
| <i>ΔydjL</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔydjL</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9483 |
| <i>ΔyeaE</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyeaE</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9486 |
| <i>ΔygbJ</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔygbJ</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10129 |
| <i>ΔygfF</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔygfF</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10226 |
| <i>ΔyghA</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyghA</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10283 |
| <i>ΔyghZ</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyghZ</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10282 |
| <i>ΔyggP</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyggP</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11416 |
| <i>ΔygiB</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔygiB</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11658 |
| <i>ΔygjR</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔygjR</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10334 |
| <i>ΔyhdH</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyhdH</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10438 |
| <i>ΔyhhX</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyhhX</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10532 |
| <i>ΔyhiN</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyhiN</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10562 |
| <i>ΔyiaY</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyiaY</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11499 |
| <i>ΔyihU</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyihU</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10784 |
| <i>ΔyjbB</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyjbB</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11992 |
| <i>ΔykgE</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔykgE</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#11999 |
| <i>ΔyohF</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyohF</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#9723 |
| <i>ΔyphC</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyphC</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#12007 |
| <i>ΔyqhD</i> | BW25113, <i>ΔyqhD</i> :: FRT-kan-FRT | CGSC#10288 |

TABLE S2: Percent Coefficient of Variation (COV) observed in first screen of *E. coli* BW25113 mutant strains at 3 and 6 h of cultivation.*

| | 3h | 6h |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| WT | | |
| BW25113 | 0 | 4 |
| <i>viaY</i> | 7 | 27 |
| <i>yjgB</i> | 1 | 6 |
| <i>feaB</i> | 13 | 35 |
| <i>eutG</i> | 3 | 7 |
| <i>ybdR</i> | 12 | 71 |
| <i>ycjQ</i> | 8 | 47 |
| <i>ycjS</i> | 3 | 4 |
| <i>rspB</i> | 3 | 35 |
| <i>ygfF</i> | 4 | 7 |
| <i>ucpA</i> | 6 | 14 |
| <i>ydjL</i> | 3 | 20 |
| <i>pgi</i> | 12 | 13 |
| <i>yghZ</i> | 14 | 8 |
| <i>ydfG</i> | 3 | 7 |
| <i>ygiB</i> | 1 | 14 |
| <i>hdhA</i> | 3 | 6 |
| <i>ygjR</i> | 5 | 15 |
| <i>ykgE</i> | 4 | 18 |
| <i>yhdH</i> | 4 | 8 |
| <i>yhhX</i> | 5 | 5 |
| <i>ydhE</i> | 7 | 16 |
| <i>tas</i> | 3 | 7 |
| <i>yeaE</i> | 1 | 10 |
| <i>aldB</i> | 2 | 7 |
| <i>maoC</i> | 8 | 27 |
| <i>yagR</i> | 2 | 15 |
| <i>gabD</i> | 1 | 13 |
| <i>prp</i> | 6 | 21 |
| <i>yagS</i> | 5 | 26 |
| <i>dkgB</i> | 3 | 19 |
| <i>dkgA</i> | 7 | 15 |
| <i>betB</i> | 1 | 3 |
| <i>sad</i> | 8 | 25 |
| <i>yhiN</i> | 6 | 15 |
| <i>yphC</i> | 0 | 0 |
| <i>yajO</i> | 6 | 12 |

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>frmA</i> | 1 | 13 |
| <i>yahK</i> | 1 | 15 |
| <i>yciK</i> | 0 | 6 |
| <i>yqhD</i> | 6 | 29 |
| <i>mhpF</i> | 0 | 9 |
| <i>adhP</i> | 9 | 26 |
| <i>aldA</i> | 5 | 10 |
| <i>fucO</i> | 8 | 9 |
| <i>yggP</i> | 12 | 26 |
| <i>ycjS</i> | 4 | 17 |
| <i>ygbJ</i> | 2 | 9 |
| <i>yohF</i> | 4 | 25 |
| <i>usg</i> | 2 | 10 |
| <i>gldA</i> | 4 | 14 |
| <i>yihU</i> | 3 | 14 |
| <i>astD</i> | 4 | 39 |
| <i>puuC</i> | 5 | 10 |
| <i>yghA</i> | 3 | 5 |

*Strains having COV equal to or less than 5 at both 3 h and 6 h time points were considered for further experiment and have been highlighted in green.

TABLE S3: The maximum specific ethanol productivity values of SSK42 (pTrcHisA) and SSK42 (pTrcHisA-yghA) strains at 5% and 10% xylose concentration

| Strain | Furfural Conc (g L ⁻¹) | 5% xylose | | 10% xylose | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| | | Sp ethanol productivity (g g ⁻¹ h ⁻¹) | Time period (h) | Sp ethanol productivity (g g ⁻¹ h ⁻¹) | Time period (h) |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA) | 0 | 0.56 | 0-24 | 0.51 | 0-24 |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA- <i>yghA</i>) | 0 | 0.41 | 0-24 | 0.51 | 0-24 |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA) | 1 | 0.35 | 72-96 | 0.34 | 96-120 |
| SSK42 (pTrcHisA- <i>yghA</i>) | 1 | 0.4 | 24-48 | 0.39 | 48-72 |

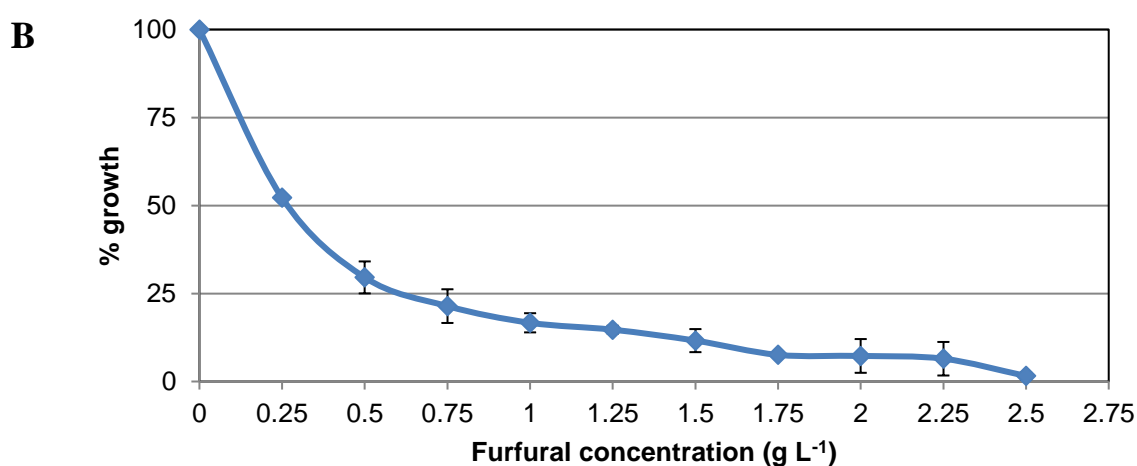
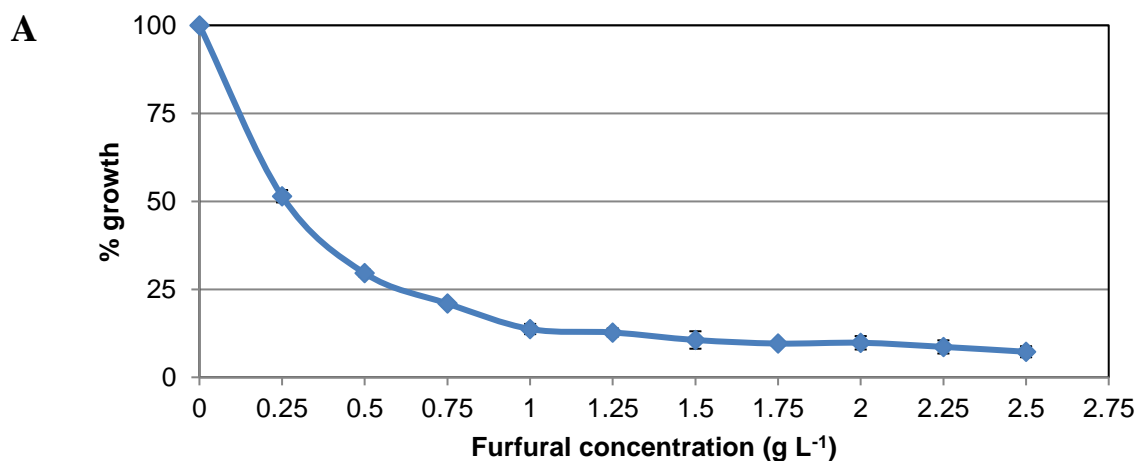


Figure S1: LD₅₀ values of parent *E. coli* BW25113 strain towards furfural in media containing 0.2% (wt/vol) of either glucose (A) or xylose (B) as sole carbon source. The observations were recorded at 3 h and LD₅₀ values of the BW25113 strain against furfural for either carbon source was determined to be 0.25 g L⁻¹. Values are average of n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

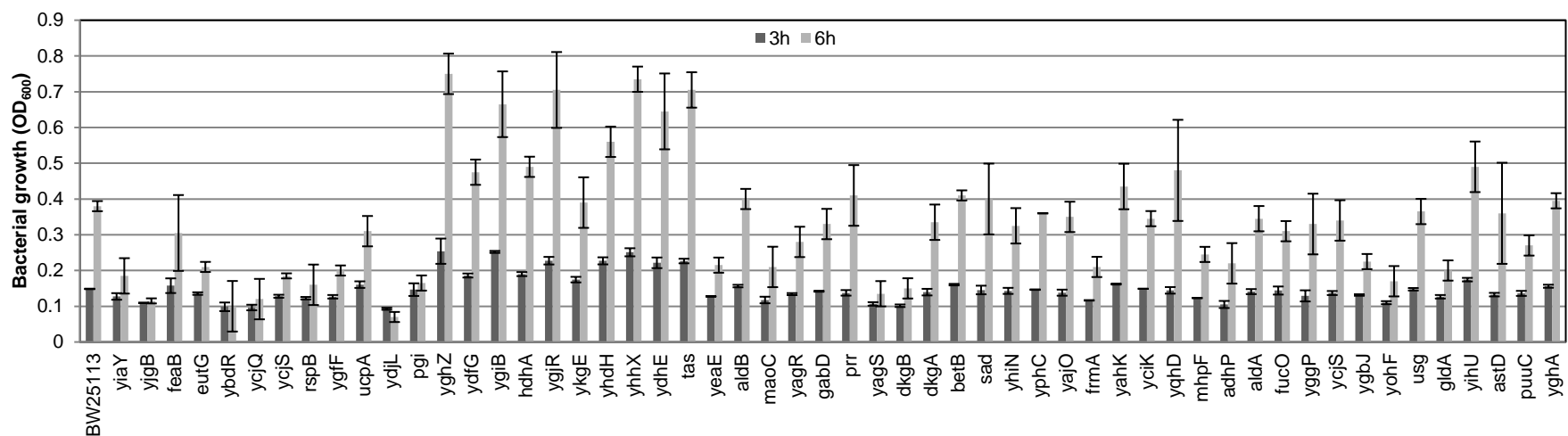


Figure S2: First screening of *E. coli* BW25113 derived mutant strains. Cultivation was performed in media containing 0.2% (wt/vol) xylose and 0.25 g L⁻¹ furfural. Cultures were seeded at OD₆₀₀=0.1 and observations recorded at 3 h and 6 h. Values are average of at least n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

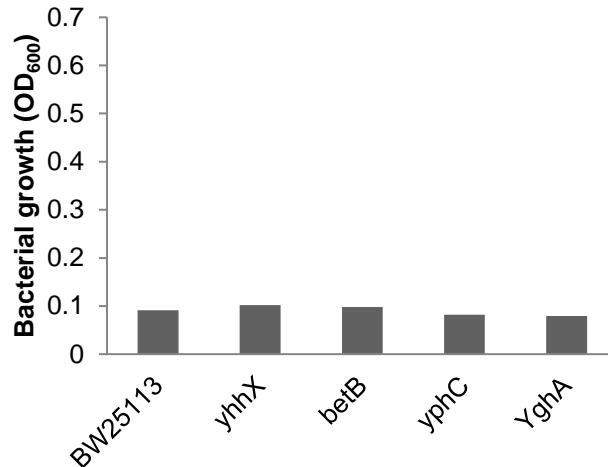


Figure S3: Second screening of selected *E. coli* BW25113 mutant strains in AM1 media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 1 g L⁻¹ furfural. Cultures were seeded at OD₆₀₀=0.1 and growth recorded at 48 h. Values represent outcome of one observation.

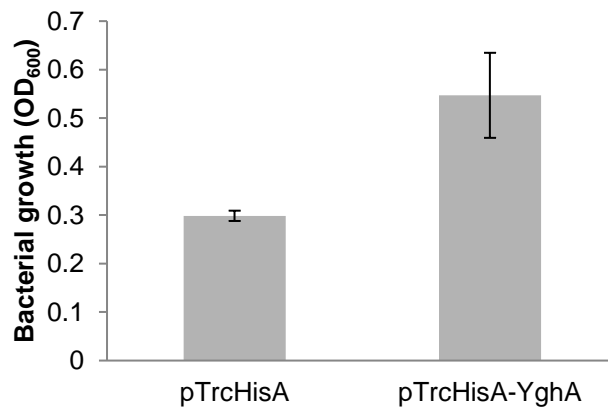


Figure S4: Transformation of *yghA* gene in *E. coli* BW25113Δ*yghA* genetic background. Strain harbored either empty plasmid as a control (pTrcHisA) or cloned *yghA* gene (pTrcHisA-*yghA*). Cultures were grown in media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 0.5 g L⁻¹ furfural. OD₆₀₀ was recorded at 24 h. Values are average of n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

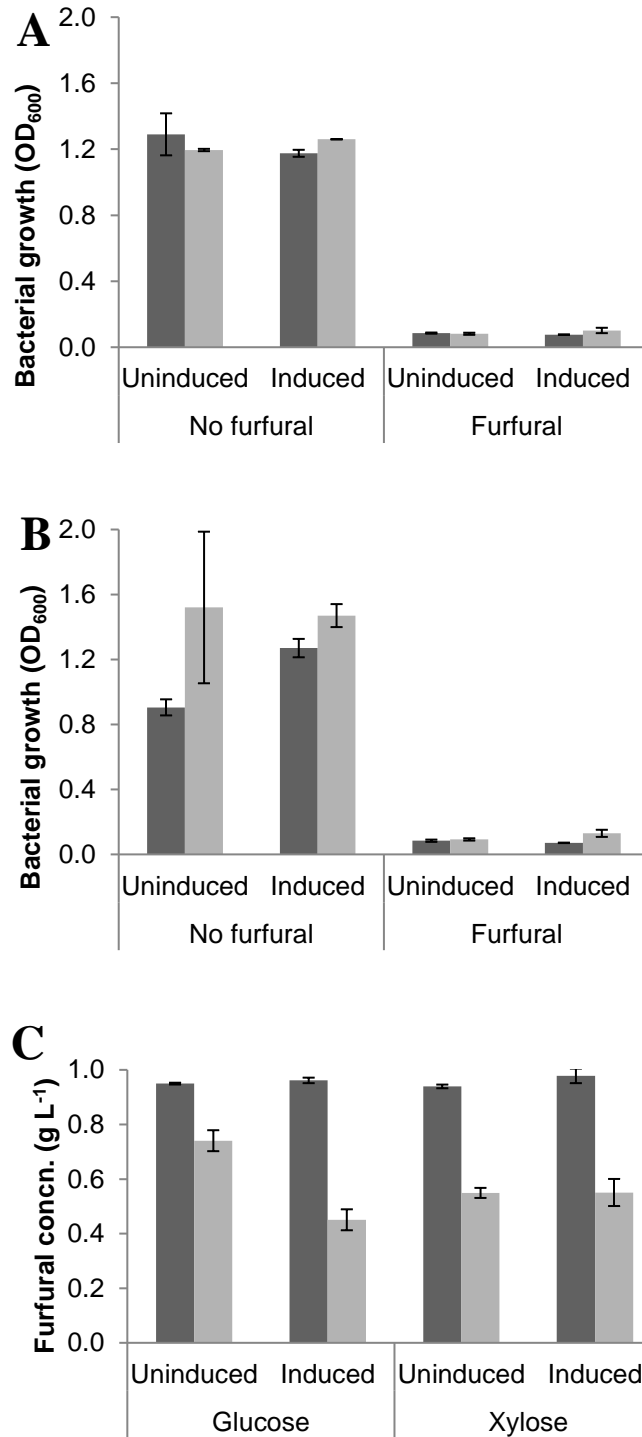


Figure S5: Influence of carbon source in promoting biomass formation in *E. coli* SSK42 host with either pTrcHisA (dark grey) or with pTrcHisA-yghA (light grey). Media consisted of 1 g L⁻¹ furfural, 0.1 mM IPTG and either 5% (wt/vol) glucose (A) or xylose (B) as carbon source. OD₆₀₀ was recorded at 48 h. (C) Furfural concentration was measured at 48 h of cultivation. Values are average of n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

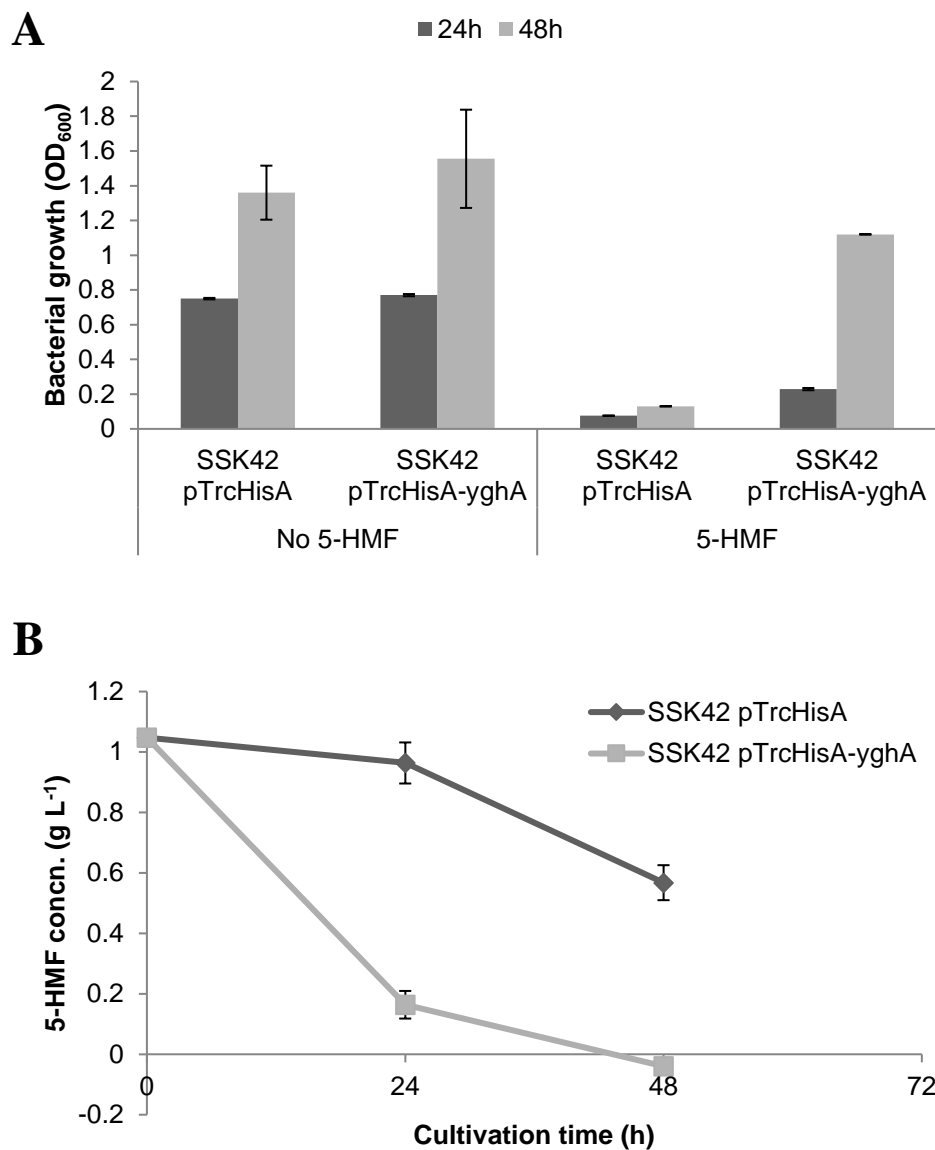


Figure S6: Overexpression of YghA also leads to metabolism of 1 g L⁻¹ 5-HMF from media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 0.1 mM IPTG. OD₆₀₀ (A) and concentration of 5-HMF (B) was recorded at 24 h and 48 h. Values are average of n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

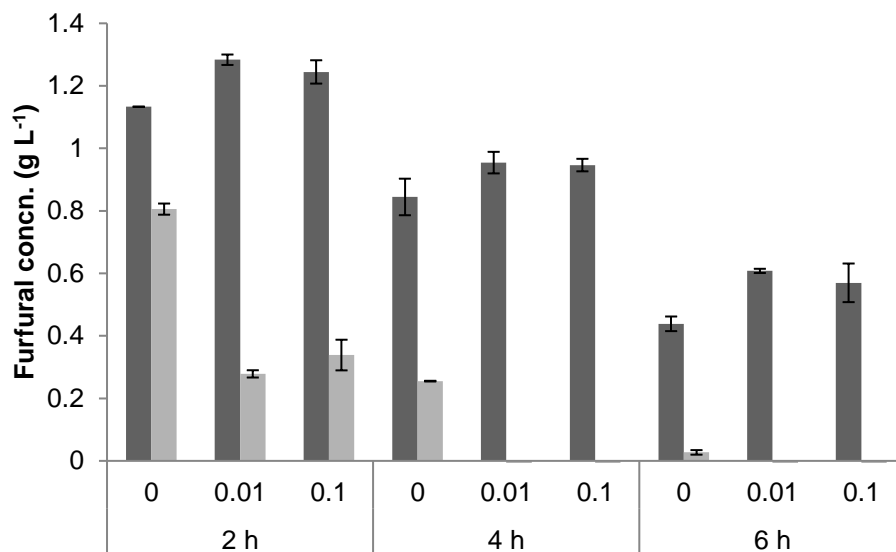


Figure S7: Influence of IPTG concentration on furfural metabolism in SSK42 harboring either pTrcHisA (dark grey) or pTrcHisA-*yghA* (light grey). Strains were seeded at OD₆₀₀ of 2.0 in media containing 5% (wt/vol) xylose and 2.0 g L⁻¹ furfural. Concentration of IPTG used was 0, 0.01 and 0.1 mM. Concentration of furfural was measured at 2, 4 and 6 h of growth. Values are average of n=2 independent experiments. Error bars represent SD of the mean.

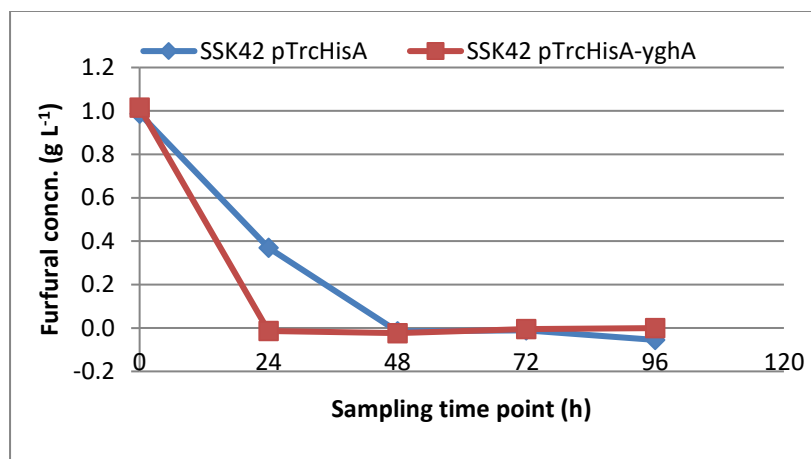


Figure S8: Furfural concentration in bioreactor containing 5% xylose (wt/vol) and 1 g L⁻¹ furfural. Samples were analyzed immediately after extraction at indicated time points. Values represent outcome of one experimental observation.