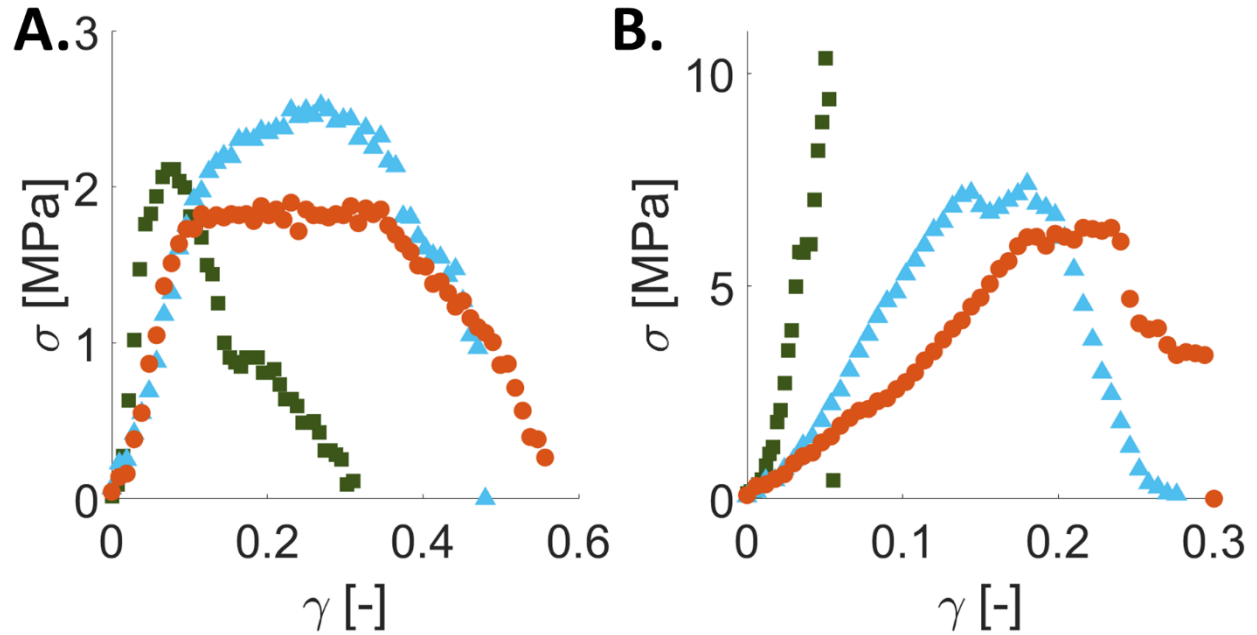


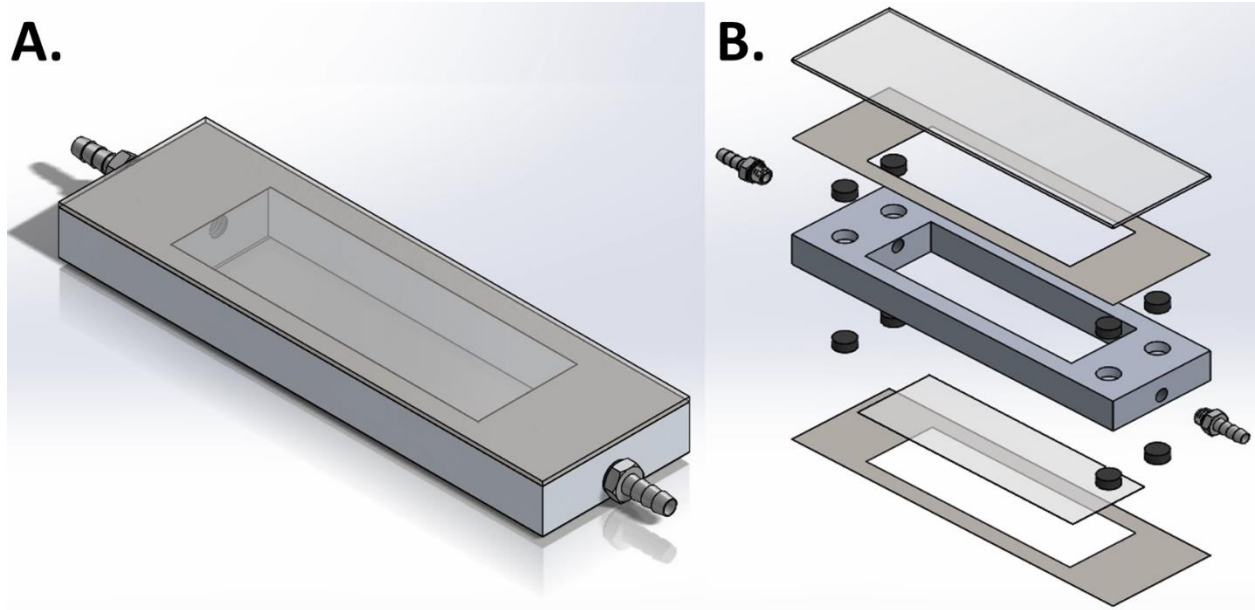
Bacterial invasion across the human skin barrier – mechanisms and ensuing tissue degradation.

Supplemental Material

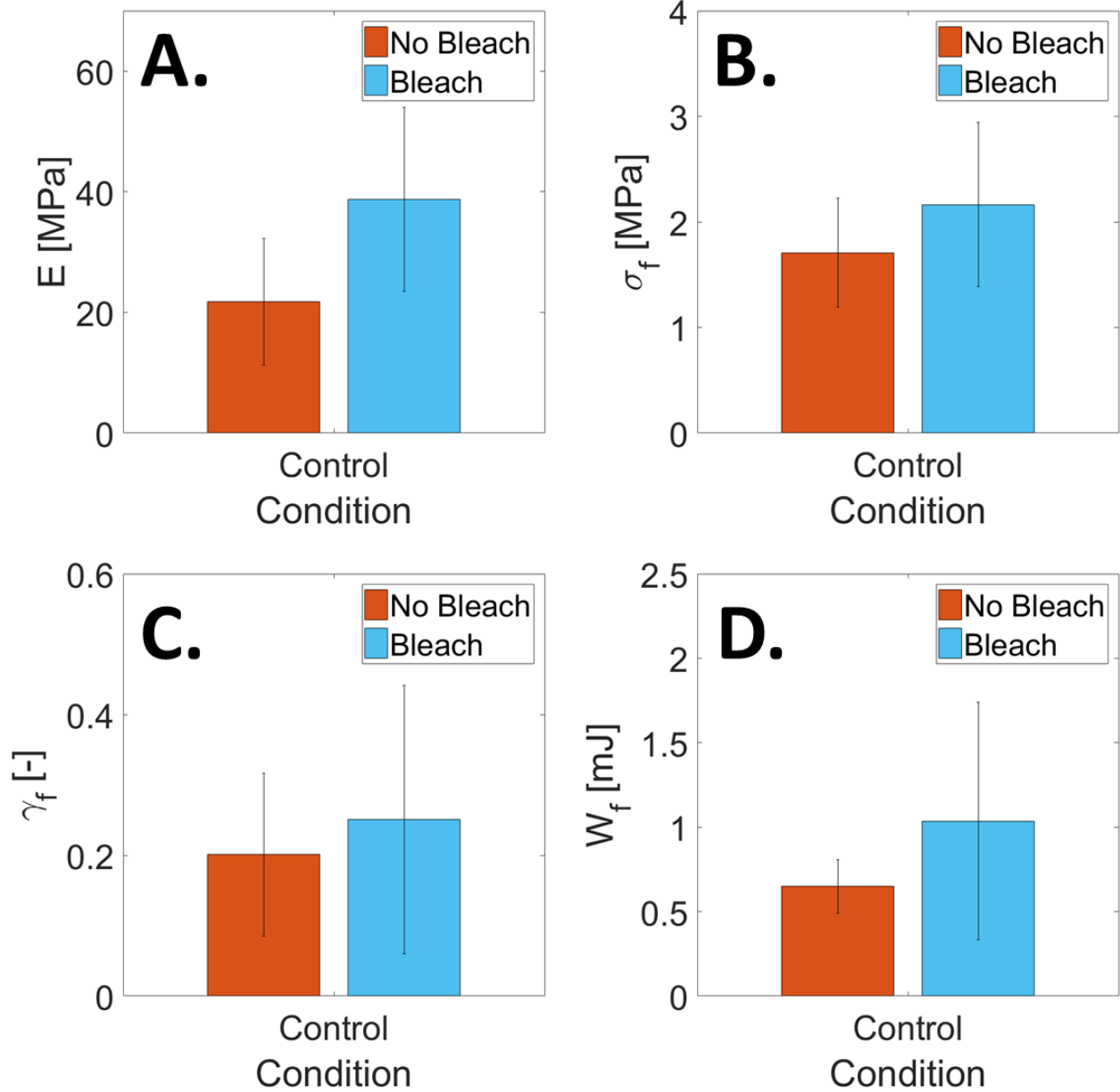


Supplemental Figure 1. *S. aureus* reduces SC plastic deformation at 100% RH.

Representative stress-strain plots of stratum corneum samples subjected to: no media immersion (orange circles), media immersion (blue triangles), and the addition of bacteria (green squares) for (A) control and (B) delipid conditions.



Supplemental Figure 2. Drip chamber schematic. (A) Overview of drip chamber setup (B) Exploded view of drip chamber major components. **This device provides a physiologically relevant arrangement that more closely mimics skin temperature and diurnal hydration/dehydration cycles to study bacteria-skin interactions.**



Supplemental Figure 3. Bleach at 2.5 ml/L does not affect the mechanical properties of SC. Average (A) elastic modulus, E , (B) fracture stress, σ_f , (C) fracture strain, γ_f , and (D) work of fracture, W_f for control samples (*orange bars*) and samples incubated in bleach for 30 mins (*blue bars*). Bars denote average values of $4 \leq n \leq 9$ individual sample measurements for each exposure condition. Error bars denote standard deviations.