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Supplementary Materials for

Discovery of a polymer resistant to bacterial biofilm, swarming, and encrustation

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Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:

Movies S1 and S2

Fig. S1. *Proteus mirabilis* (DsRed labelled) biofilm formation on the polymer array as quantified by fluorescence (F_{PM}) . (A) F_{PM} measured for homopolymers of candidate monomers. Monomer structures are shown in **Fig. 1***B*. Samples have been colored according to categories of high (red, $F_{PM} > 2,500$), medium (grey, 2,500 > $F_{PM} > 500$) or low (blue, F_{PM} < 500) bacterial attachment. *Values for silicone and glass are estimates based upon scaled up coverage measurements and comparison with tBCHA. *(B) FPM* obtained on the copolymer microarray, represented in categories of bacterial attachment in (*A)* and as indicated on the color scale. For each sample, the centre of the associated square is colored according to the mean value $(n=3)$, whilst the left and right portions are respectively colored \pm standard deviation.¹

 1 The 8 low attachment monomers produced low attachment copolymers when mixed with similarly low attachment monomers (TMPTA and DMAPA). A few monomers acted synergistically such that copolymers of TMPTA with either EHA, HEA or HDFDA exhibited high attachment whilst the homopolymers remained low attachment. Bacterial biofilm formation generally reduced on copolymers of medium and high attachment controls when mixed with low attachment test monomers TMPTA and DMAPA. OFPMA was particularly susceptible to reduced bacterial attachment, with low bacterial attachment observed on the copolymer containing 30 % (v/v) of TMPTA, whilst medium to high attachment was observed on all copolymers with monomers containing long chain glycols (PPGA and PEGPHEA) up to 50% (v/v).

Copolymerisation with the medium attachment test monomers produced similar results across all hit monomers with the exception of EGPEMA, which produced copolymers with medium to high attachment, observed after addition of only 10% (v/v) of the test monomer.

Addition of the hit monomers with the high attachment test monomers enabled discrimination of the ability of these monomers to maintain low bacterial attachment once diluted. Monomers tBCHA, BAEDA and HDFDA all achieved low to medium bacterial attachment when copolymerised with either HPHOPA or CMAOE up to addition of 40% of the test monomer and were thus the monomers of choice for the creation of a multi-functional copolymer with the desired microbiological properties.

Fig. S2. (**A**) The homopolymers tBCHA, HPhOPA and copolymer tBCHA:HPHOPA 2.4:1 do not inhibit *P. mirabilis* growth. *P. mirabilis* 1885 was cultured in the uncoated or coated wells of a 96 well microtitre plate in RPMI-1640 medium and growth monitored by measurement of OD_{600} . Standard deviations are based on the mean values of three parallel cultures. (**B**) The tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 copolymer does not inhibit bacterial growth. Final cell population densities (OD600 nm) reached by *Ps. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, UPEC, *P. mirabilis* and *E. faecalis* cultures exposed to uncoated silicone or tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 coated silicone catheters for 22 h. Values given are the means of five independent cultures. Error bars are \pm SD.

Fig. S3. Catheter bridge swarming migration assay. (*A*) Swarming of *P. mirabilis* 1885 over a silicone catheter bridge. GFP-labelled *P. mirabilis* was inoculated on one side of a catheter bridge linking two unconnected LB agar blocks (upper panel) or lacking a bridge (lower panel) the fluorescence intensity on the lower agar block quantified after incubation for 16 h. Fluorescence radiance quantified on the surface of silicone catheter bridge and control (left and right) agar sections for (*B*) DsRed or (*C*) GFP labelled *P. mirabilis* swarming migration. Results obtained from five independent experiments were normalized to the background autofluorescence of the agar. (*D*) GFP-labelled *Ps. aeruginosa* PAO1, UPEC and *S. aureus* SH1000 are unable to migrate over silicone catheter bridges.

Fig. S4. Positive ToF-SIMS spectra, split into mass regions 0-80, 80-160 and 160-240 m/z with altered normalized ion intensity (NII) ranges for polymers (*A*) BPAPGDA, (*B*) GDGDA, (*C*) tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1, (*D*) HPhOPA, (*E*) TDFHNA, (*F*) pEGPhEA, (*G*) PhMA, (*H*) DHPA, (*I*) PhoPDA, (*J*) DMDA, (*K*) tBCHA, and (*L*) tCdMdA. Text files of the positive and negative spectra for the polymer coatings are included as additional files within the supplementary information. (*M-N*) ToF-SIMS ion images as measured from 500 x 500 µm areas of tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 for the ions (*M*) C4H⁹ ⁺, likely derived from the tert-butyl group on tBCHA, and (N) C₆H₅O⁻, likely derived from the benzyl group on HPhOPA. The ion intensity (counts) is indicated by the intensity scales provided. No micron-scale phase separation of the two monomers was observed on the polymer surface.

ToF-SIMS analysis of polymer coatings

Many polymers exhibited peaks at 74.98 m/z, 147.09 m/z, 207.05 m/z and 221.18 m/z in the positive spectrum, all associated with the silicone, polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS). Thus, the top surface of most of the polymers was contaminated with a thin layer of PDMS oligomers. Different biological behaviours were observed on materials that both contain this contaminant suggesting that either the contaminant is not sufficient to overwhelm the underlying coating chemistry or that the oligomers were washed away in the growth medium during incubation and thus did not impact on the biological performance. Chlorine contamination was also observed on some samples, notably GDGDA, BPAPGDA, pPEGPhEA, PhMA, and tBCHA (**Table S3**). This group of polymers includes materials that both supported and resisted swarming, suggesting that the biological performance of a material had not been compromised.

The high intensity ions observed for each material (**Table S3**) were consistent with the chemical structures of the materials synthesised. For example, ions associated with benzyl rings, including $C_6H_5O^T$, $C_6H_5^+$, $C_7H_5^T$ and $C_6H_{11}^+$, were observed for materials BPAPGDA, HPhOPA, PhMA, pEGPhEA, PhoPDA, DMDA and tCdMdA, all of which contained benzyl rings or cyclic structures. Unsurprisingly, the ions CF⁺ and C- were intense for the polymer of TDFHNA, which contains fluorocarbon moieties.

The tBCHA:HPHoPA 2.4:1 copolymer had a high intensity of ions associated with the acrylate backbone (C₃H₃O₂⁻ and C₂HO⁻), the benzyl group on HPhOPA (C₆H₅O⁻, C₆H₅O₄⁺) and the tert-butyl group of tBCHA $(C_4H_9O^+, C_4H_9^+, C_4H_7^+)$ confirming that both monomers were present at the surface of the copolymer coating. The distribution of the ions appeared to be uniform over the polymer surface (Fig. S4*M-N*), suggesting that no micron-scale phase separation of the two monomers had occurred.

Table S1. List of the ions with highest normalised intensity for the different polymer coatings used for swarming assays, with the normalised ion intensity (NII), m/z and likely assignment reported. Note: a number of possible assignments are possible for ions with an $m/z > 150$. The assignment provided is the chemical structure with the lowest deviation (<75 ppm) that makes chemical sense.

BPAPGDA			GDGDA			tBCHA: HPHoPA (2.4:1)			HPhOPA		
NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment
	0.0216 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.174 34.9723	Cl^-		0.128 93.0408	$C_6H_5O^-$		0.186 93.0408	$C_6H_5O^-$
	0.0136 34.9723	$Cl-$		0.172 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.124 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.122 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$
	0.0101 211.022	$C_9H_7O_6^{-}$		0.055 36.9692	37 _{Cl}		0.115 57.0678	$C_4H_g^+$		0.0529 71.0133	$C_3H_3O_2^-$
	0.0094 74.9837	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.0485 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_{A}^+$		0.0595 71.0133	$C_3H_3O_2^-$		0.0399 41.0067	$C2HO-$
	0.0087 149.005	$C_4H_5O_6^-$		0.0419 74.9837	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.0527 41.0067	$C2HO-$		0.0378 77.0348	C_6H ₅ ⁺
	0.0082 89.038	$C_7H_s^-$		0.0284 15.9932	$O-$		0.0412 69.0704	$C_5H_a^+$		0.0337 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_4^+$
	0.0081 93.0408	$C_6H_5O^-$		0.0248 41.0403	$C_3H_{\epsilon}^+$		0.0375 55.0534	C_4H ₇ ⁺		0.0223 55.0148	$C_3H_3O^+$
	0.008 41.0067	$C2HO-$		0.0247 71.0133	$C_3H_3O_2^-$		0.036 83.0924	$C_6H_{11}^+$		0.0208 133.057	$C_5H_9O_4^+$
	0.0076 135.014	$C_7H_3O_7$		0.0234 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0321 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_{A}^+$		0.0206 15.9932	$O-$
	0.0073 75.0264	C_6H ⁻		0.0212 41.0067	$C2HO-$		0.0288 43.0558	$C_3H_7^+$		0.0203 25.0112	$C2H-$
	0.0068 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0175 55.0534	C_4H^{-+}		0.0266 41.0403	$C_3H_t^+$		0.0159 105.073	$C_4H_9O_3^+$
TDFHNA			pEGPhEA			PhMA			DHPA		
NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment
	0.237 18.9969	$\mathsf{F}^\text{-}$		0.272 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.17 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.152 15.9932	$O-$
	0.0694 43.0118	$C_2H_3O^+$		0.0872 15.9932	O ⁻		0.117 93.0408	$C_6H_5O^-$		0.121 28.9972	CHO ⁺
	0.0682 55.0148	$C_3H_3O^+$		0.0669 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_4^+$		0.0406 67.0534	$C_5H^{-+}_{7}$		0.0704 43.0558	$C_3H_7^+$
	0.0424 59.0214	$C_2H_3O_2^-$		0.0397 17.0017	HO ⁻		0.0405 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_4^+$		0.0599 17.0017	HO ⁻
	0.041 69.0006	$H2O3F+$		0.0283 13.0076	CH-		0.0294 15.9932	$O-$		0.0538 13.0076	CH ⁻
	0.0355 30.9984	$CF+$		0.028 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0287 34.9723	$Cl-$		0.0202 25.0112	$C2H-$
	0.0279 71.0133	$C_3H_3O_2^-$		0.0271 22.9894	$Na+$		0.0224 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0195 12.0001	$\mathsf{C}^\text{-}$
	0.0214 41.0403	$C_3H^{-+}_5$		0.0225 34.9723	$Cl-$		0.0207 41.0067	$C2HO-$		0.0153 27.9726	Si ⁻
	0.0207 39.0224	C_3H ⁺		0.0212 38.963	K^+		0.0173 43.021	$C2H3O-$		0.0142 14.0135	CH_2^+
	0.0192 39.02/5	C ₃ H ₃		0.018 /4.983/	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.015 41.0403	C_3H_5 ⁺		U.0114 15.0219	CH ₃
	0.019 28.9972	$CHO+$		0.0141 207.049	$C_{10}H_7O_{5}^+$		0.0143 44.9982	CHO ₂		0.0113 14.0152	CH ₂
PhoPDA			DMDA			tBCHA			tCdMdA		
NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment	NII	m/z	Assignment
	0.319 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.234 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.277 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$		0.0904 73.0657	$C_4H_9O^+$
	0.072 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O$ ⁺		0.0582 15.9932	$O-$		0.0902 15.9932	O^-		0.0586 25.0112	C_2H^-
	0.0665 15.9932	$O-$		0.0443 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_4^+$		0.0539 147.087	$C_6H_{11}O_{4}^+$		0.0344 15.9932	$O-$
	0.0341 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0314 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0437 17.0017	HO ⁻		0.0329 41.0403	$C_3H_s^+$
	0.0321 17.0017	HO ⁻		0.0295 86.1013	C_6H_{14} ⁺		0.0328 13.0076	CH ⁻		0.0302 13.0076	CH-
	0.0271 13.0076	CH ⁻		0.0288 17.0017	HO ⁻		0.03 25.0112	$C2H-$		0.0278 17.0017	HO ⁻
	0.0251 74.9837	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.0239 13.0076	CH ⁻		0.0239 34.9723	$\mathsf{Cl}^\text{-}$		0.0205 77.0348	$C_6H_s^+$
	0.018/149.005	$C_8H_5O_3$		U.UZ3Z /4.983/	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.023 /4.983/	CH ₃ SiO ₂		0.0194 /9.0548	C_6H_7 ⁺
	0.0167 27.9689	$Si+$		0.0166 149.005	CaH ₅ O ₃		0.017 45.0293	$C_2H_5O^+$		0.0185 91.0513	$C_7H^{-+}_7$
	0.0159 222.996	$C_{13}H_3O_4^-$		0.0139 222.996	$C_{13}H_3O_4$		0.0169 27.9689	$Si+$		0.0175 55.0534	C_4H ⁺
		0.0151 207.049 $C_{11}H_{11}O_4^+$		0.0131 73.011	C_6H^-		0.0148 75.0477	$C_3H_7O_2^+$		0.0158 39.0224	$C_3H_3^+$

Fig. S5. Swarming motility of *P. mirabilis* 1885 across artificial urine (AU) conditioned silicone catheter bridges coated with tBCHA, HPhOPA or the tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 copolymer respectively showing (*A*) the fluorescence quantified on the surface of the lower agar block. Values are the mean of three parallel experiments, error bars equal \pm one standard deviation for three biological replicates. *****p*<0.0001. Significance was determined by one-way ANOVA analysis using Tukey's multiple comparisons test. (*B*) Fluorescence images of the agar bridge assembly after 16 h migration across AUconditioned catheter bridges. Bacteria were inoculated onto the upper agar block and the lower block imaged after 16h.

Fig. S6 Partial least square (PLS) regression model predicting the ability of a polymer to inhibit swarming from molecular descriptors. (*A*) RMSECV curve for 9 molecular descriptors. (*B*) Measured versus predicted values for the 11 polymers used in this study. A threshold value of 0.4 is shown as a dotted line, above which all polymers able to prevent swarming were successfully predicted. (*C*) The regression coefficient for the final model. (*D*) Abbreviations and names for the molecular descriptors used to form the final model.

Partial least square (PLS) regression model to predict the ability of a polymer to inhibit swarming from molecular descriptors

In the PLS model each of the 4 polymers that resisted swarming had a predicted swarming value greater than 0.4 whilst all of the remaining materials had a predicted swarming value below 0.4, thus, using 0.4 as a threshold value allowed for each of the 11 materials to be correctly assigned as being able to either inhibit or support swarming (**Fig. S6***B*)(32, 45). Each of the molecular descriptors was assigned a regression coefficient from which the influence of a particular descriptor on the ability of a polymer to prevent swarming can be determined by assessing the polarity and magnitude (**Fig. S6***C*). Molecular descriptors associated with molecular rigidity, such as the rotatable bond fraction (RBF) and the 3D Petitjean shape index (PJI3), as well as descriptors associated with hydrophilicity, such as the number of hydroxyl groups (nROH), the number of aliphatic tertiary C(sp2) (nR=Ct) and the number of terminal primary C(sp3) (nCp), were included in the model (**Fig. S6***D*). This suggests that for the 11 polymers studied an interplay of molecular rigidity and hydrophilicity influence the ability of a polymer to inhibit swarming. This is similar to the α parameter that correlated with the ability of polyacrylates with aliphatic carbon pendant groups to prevent bacterial attachment (23). This parameter was derived from the combination of the calculated partition coefficient and the number of rotatable bonds. In the present PLS model the hydrophilicity component is more complicated than for the α parameter, whereby an interplay of both hydrophilic groups (nOH) and hydrophobic groups (nR=Ct and nCP) were required to successfully predict whether a material inhibits swarming.

Fig. S7. Impact of surfactin on *P. mirabilis* swarming on poly(HPhOPA). (*A*) Images of crystal violet stained bacteria migrating between agar containing surfactin and, from left to right, uncoated, poly(tBCHA) and poly(HPhOPA) coated polystyrene surfaces. Samples were imaged 7 h after inoculation. (*B*) DIC microscopy time series showing images of *Proteus* cells inoculated onto poly(tBCHA) (top) or poly(HPhOPA) (bottom) and incubated at 37 °C. Images were taken after 7 h, 8.5 and 9 h. Samples without and with 25 μ M surfactin are shown. Scale bar, 20 μ m. (C) Determination of the front line swarming speed on the poly(tBCHA) and poly(HPhOPA) coated surfaces without (dark grey) or with surfactin (light grey). Error bars equal \pm one standard deviation for at least three independent replicates. **p*≤0.05. Significance was determined by oneway ANOVA analysis using Tukey's multiple comparisons test. (*D*) Scanning electron microscopy showing the morphology and organisation of *P. mirabilis* cells within the migrating populations on poly(tBCHA) or poly(HPhOPA) with or without surfactin. Scale bars represent 5 µm.

Table S2. Compositional analysis of poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA) by 400 MHz ¹H-NMR and chloroform gel permeation chromatography. Molar ratios shown.

Table S3. Compositional analysis of scaled up poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA) by 400 MHz ¹H-NMR. Molar ratios shown.

Table S4 Patient Information relating to urine samples collected pre- and post- catheterization.

Fig. S8. H-NMR analysis of synthesized monomers (*A*) DMDA and (*B*) DHPA. (*A*) ¹H NMR (400 MHz,) δ 6.44 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.25 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.43 – 1.43 (m, 3H), 1.37 – 1.37 (m, 3H). (*B*) ¹H NMR (400 MHz,) δ 6.46 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (ddd, *J* = 11.7, 11.7, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 4.06 – 3.95 (m, 3H), 3.76 – 3.58 (m, 2H).

Fig. S9. (*A*) Synthesis of poly(tert-butylcyclohexylacrylate(tBCHA)-co-hydroxy-3 phenoxypropyl acrylate (HPhOPA)). (*B*) Stacked proton NMR spectra of tBCHA:HPhOPA copolymers with 0.9:3 (blue), 2.4:3 (green) and 2.4:1 (red) monomer ratios. Chemical structures of HPhOPA (left) and tBCHA (right) are also shown indicating protons associated with the benzyl ring (**A**) or tert-butyl groups (*B*) that were used to quantify the monomer content from the NMR spectra. (*C*) GPC analysis of copolymer tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 showing the differential (blue) and cumulative (red) molar mass distributions.

Fig. S10. Structures of tBCHA, HPhoPA and their crosslinked homo- and hetero- polymers

Fig. S11. Surface roughness of the HPhOPA and tBCHA homopolymers and the tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 copolymer coatings determined using atomic force microscopy (AFM). (*A***-***C*) the polymer surface imaged at 10, 0.5 and 0.125 µm from the surface. (*D***-***F*). Determination of the root mean square roughness (nm) of the homopolymers tBCHA and HPhOPA, and the co-polymer tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 copolymer imaged at 10 µm, 0.5 μ m and 0.125 μ m from the surface. Error bars equal \pm one standard deviation for four biological replicates. **p*≤0.05; ***p*≤0.01; ****p*≤0.001. Significance was determined by one-way Anova analysis using Tukey's multiple comparisons test.

Fig. S12. *Proteus* biofilm formation and biomineralization on the tBCHA:HPhOPA 2.4:1 copolymer. GFP-labelled *Proteus* was cultured on glass or copolymer coated coverslips for 72 h in AU. Biofilm formation (*A* and *B*) and biomineralization detected by calcein staining (*C* and *D*) were imaged by confocal microscopy. (*E*) Bright-field images showing *Proteus*-dependent biomineralization. Scale bars, 50µm. Quantification of biomass (*F*) and biomineralization (*G*) by *Proteus* on glass or on copolymer coated coverslips. Values given are the means of five independent replicates. Error bars are \pm one standard deviation unit. ***p*≤0.01; ****p*≤0.005. Significance was determined by unpaired Student *t*-test.

Fig. S13 Filtration by sterilization did not affect biofilm development on catheter sections. *S. aureus (gfp*-tagged*)* was grown on silicone catheter sections pre-conditioned with urine taken from a patient pre- and post-catheterization respectively. Urine samples were either not filtered or filtered with 0.22µm membrane filter (Millipore). Biofilm biomass shows no significant difference between unfiltered and filtered urine. Error bars are ±SD.

Fig. S14. (*A*) Biofilm biomass formed by GFP-tagged *S. aureus* on silicone (dark blue & dark brown) or poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA) (light blue & light brown) catheter segments conditioned with pre- (blue) or post- (brown) catheterisation urine from 8 patients. (*B*) Scatter plot showing the overall mean for *S.aureus* biomass. **p*≤0.05; ***p*≤0.01; *** *p*≤0.001; *****p*≤0.0001. Significance was determined by two-way Anova analysis using Sidak's multiple comparisons test.

Fig. S15. *S. aureus* (*gfp*-labelled) biofilm on silicone segments were probed with primary (rabbit antibody to human fibrinogen) and/or secondary anti-rabbit Qdot700 conjugate. No cross reactivity with the bacterial cells was observed. Scale bars, 50 µM.

Fig. S16 (*A*) Human fibrinogen surface coverage on silicone and poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA) *in vitro* following pre-conditioning with a range of fibrinogen concentrations. (*B*) Quantification of *S. aureus* biomass on silicone and copolymer after pre-conditioning with Fg (0.1 mg/ml). (*C*) Scatter plot showing the mean Fg concentration on silicone and poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA after surface conditioning with pre and post-catheterization urine from 8 patients. Values given are the means of five images, error bars are \pm one standard deviation unit. **p*≤0.05; ***p*≤0.01; *** *p*≤0.001; *****p*≤0.0001. Significance was determined by two-way Anova analysis using Sidak's multiple comparisons test.

Fig. S17. MTT cytotoxicity assay. Conditioned media were generated by incubation of poly(tBCHA:HPhOPA) coated coverslips in tissue culture media (MEM) for 8 days to allow leaching of soluble products. MRC-5 fibroblasts in 96-well plates were incubated in a range of dilutions of conditioned media or in unconditioned media. MTT assays were carried out for 72h at 37 \degree C in 5% CO₂, A₅₅₀ was quantified and the data normalised to cell density. Values given are the means of seven independent replicates. Error bars are \pm one standard deviation unit. No reduction in cell viability with the MTT assay was observed.

Videos S1 and S2.

DIC videos of the migrating front of *P. mirabilis* 1885 swarming on a coating of tBCHA (**video S1**) or HPhOPA (**video S2**) showing the elongation and alignment of cells at the moving front on tBCHA and the absence of this cell organisation on HPhOPA.

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