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# DISCOVERY AND CHARACTERIZATION OF *PSEUDOMONAS PUTIDA* PHAGES

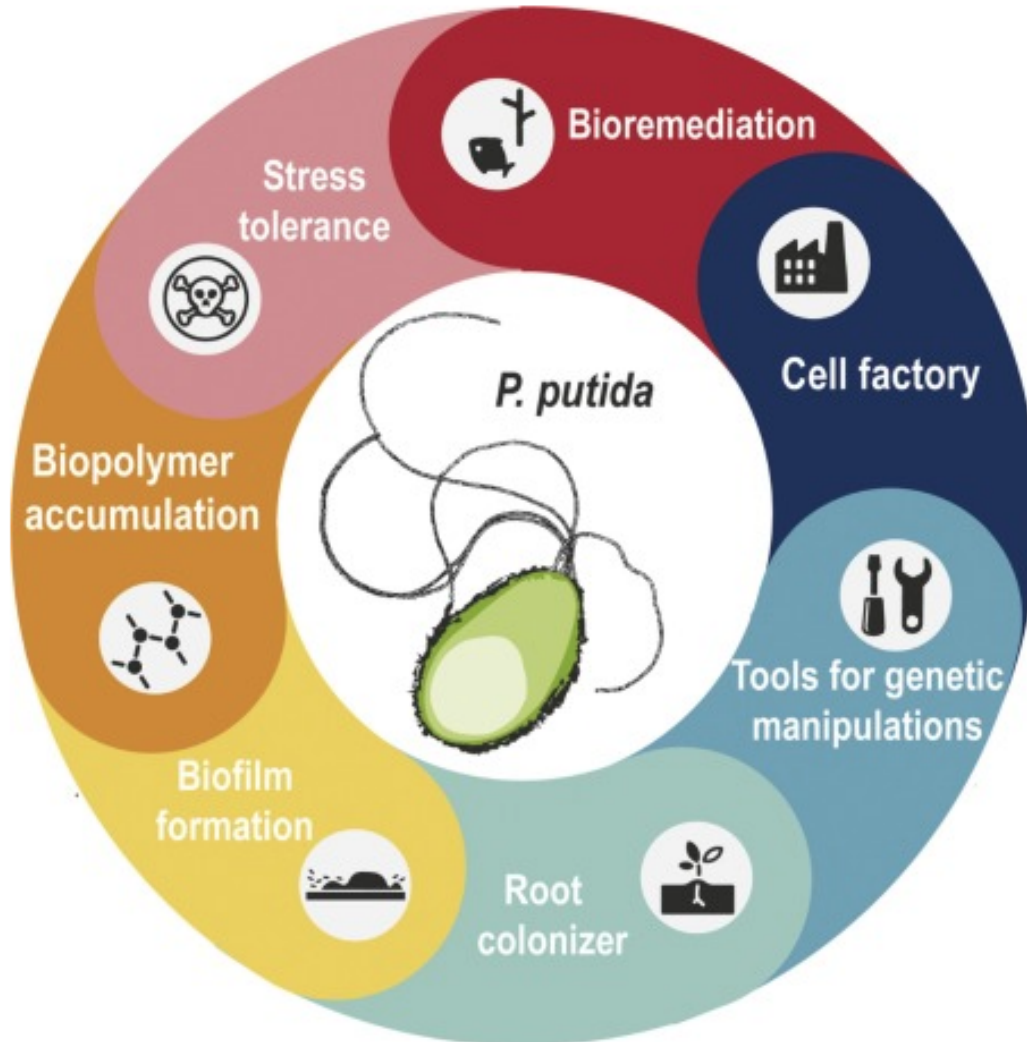
Catherine M. Mageeney

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# PSEUDOMONAS PUTIDA HAS IMPORTANT ROLES IN THE SOIL



- Ubiquitous and metabolically diverse and versatile
- Bioremediation potential
  - Degrades aromatic and xenobiotic compounds
- Root colonization and plant health
  - Can use carbon, nitrogen, iron, phosphorous, or sulfur from soil
  - Establish and migrate in Rhizosphere
  - Avoid competition of other microbes
- Genetic manipulation tools exist

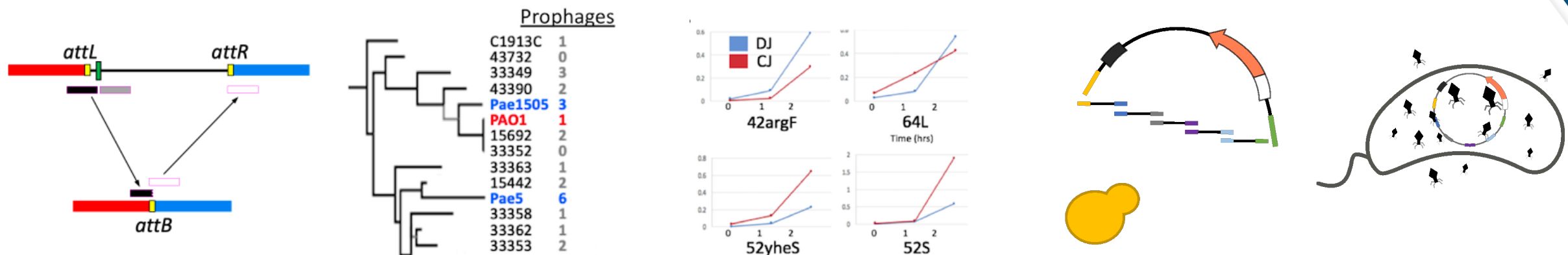
# *PSEUDOMONAS PUTIDA* PHAGE LANDSCAPE



- Few isolated:
  - 23 as of Jan. 2024
  - 67 in recent report from Estonia (CEPEST collection) at low temperatures (20°C)
- Biofilm degrading activity
- Diversity of phage related to hosts
- AMGs



# PHAGE FACTORY FOR PROPHAGE DISCOVERY AND ENGINEERING



Prophage  
database

Identify  
prophage-  
rich close  
relatives of  
target

Validate  
phages

Phage  
Annotation

Enginee  
r phages

Reboot

Tiger and Islander  
Prophage Predictions

Islander: Hudson et al., 2015 NAR

TIGER v1: Mageeney et al., 2020  
NAR

TIGER v2: Mageeney, Trubl,  
Williams, 2022 Frontiers in  
Bioinformatics

Tree of strains. Cluster  
phages to find non-  
duplicated prophages for  
engineering purposes

Validate excision by  
PCR and understand  
prophage excision  
biology with juxtaposer

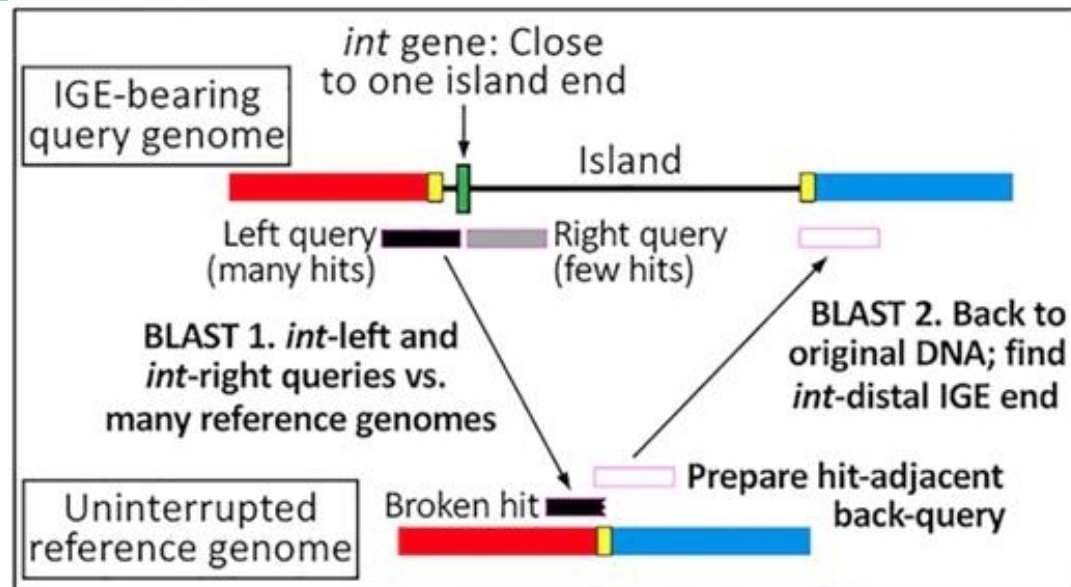
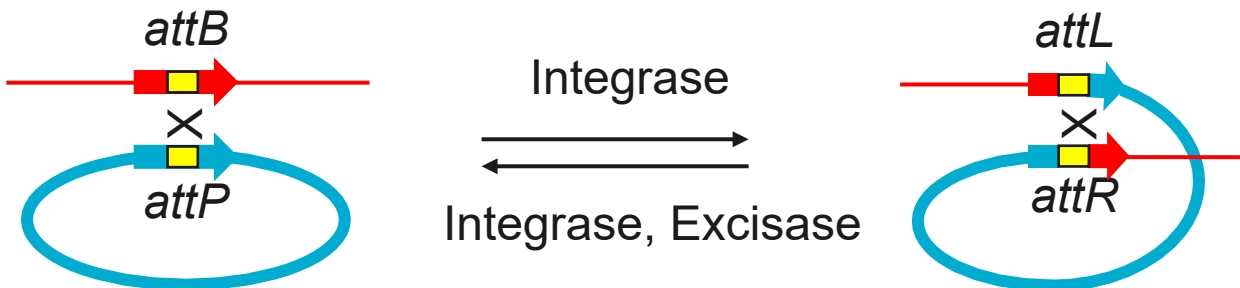
Remove integrase,  
att site, repressor  
toxins

- PCR/GA
- YAC assembly

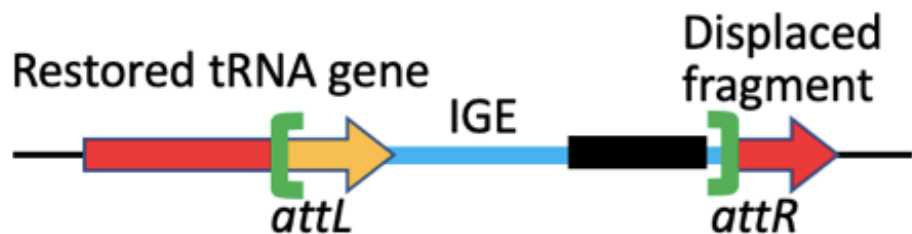
- Cell-based systems  
(E. coli / phage  
host)
- Cell free

Adapted from Mageeney et al., 2020 mSystems

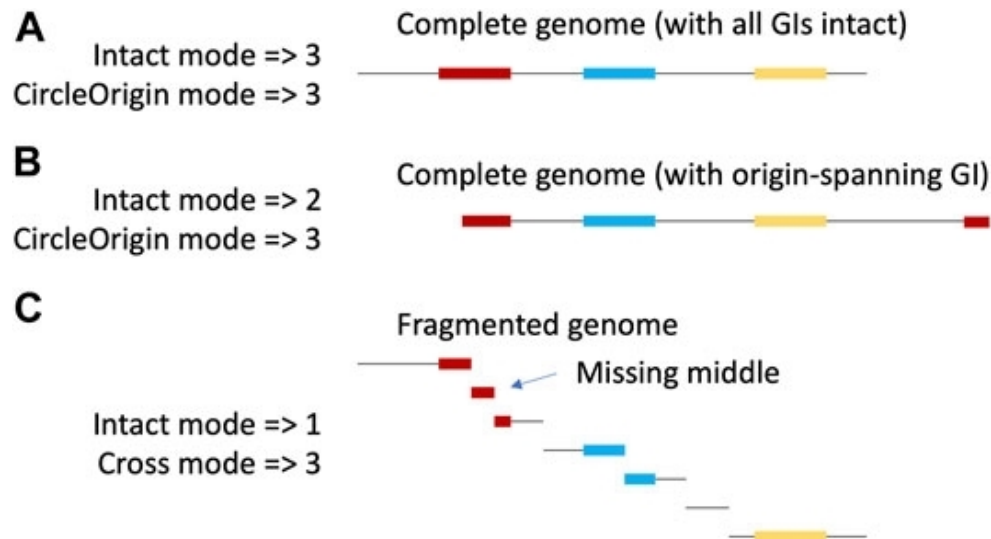
# TIGER AND ISLANDER DETECT MOBILE GENETIC ELEMENTS INCLUDING PROPHAGE



TIGER v1: Mageeney et al., 2020 NAR



Islander: Hudson et al., 2015 NAR

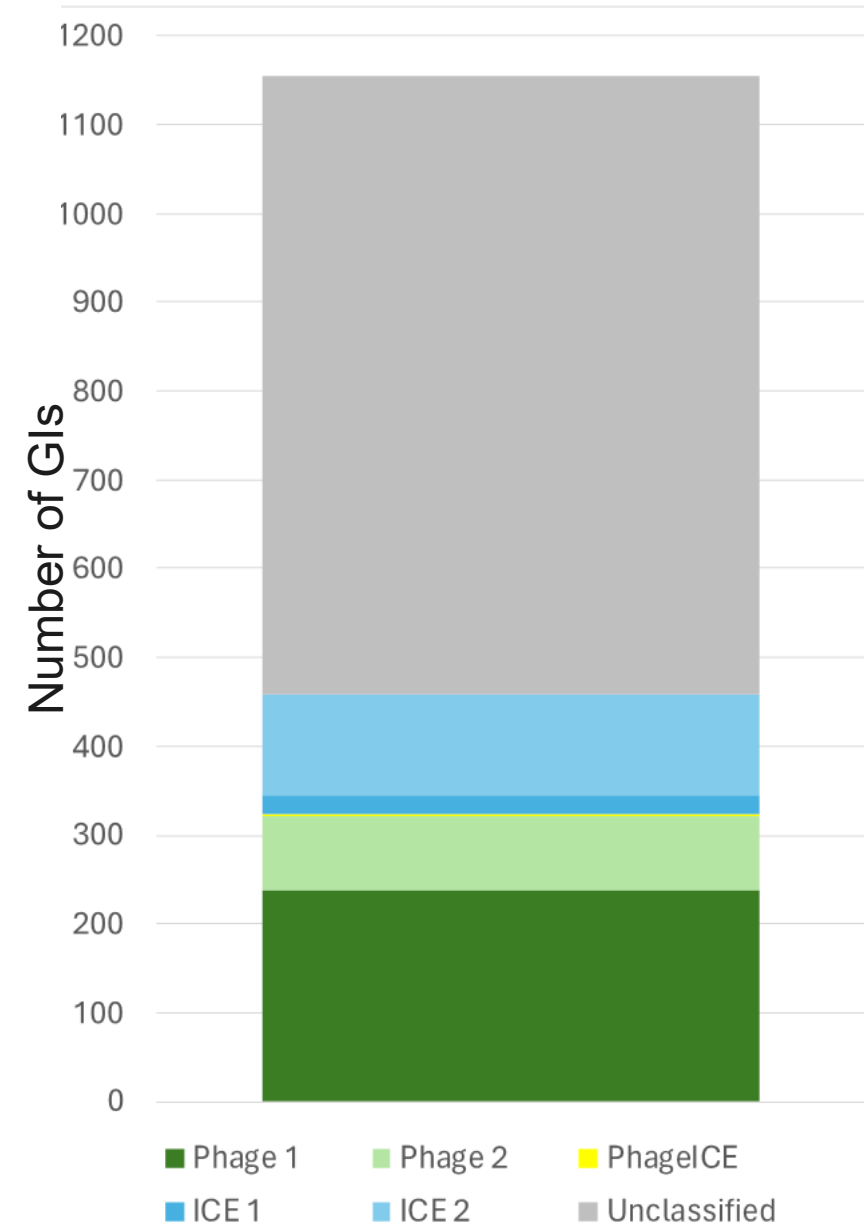


TIGER v2: Mageeney, Trubl, Williams, 2022 Frontiers in Bioinformatics

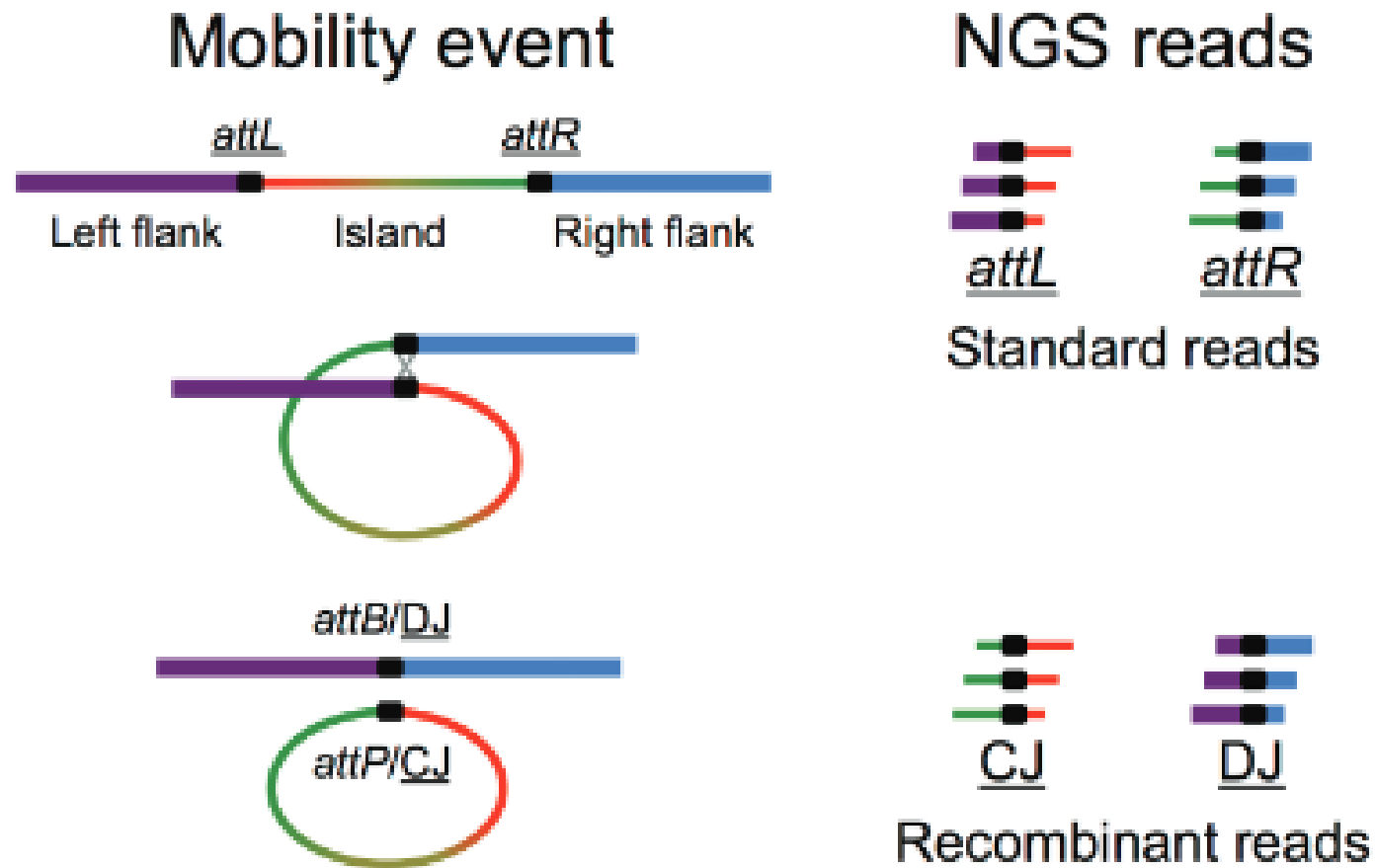
# PROPHAGES ARE COMPUTATIONALLY PREDICTED IN *P. PUTIDA* STRAINS



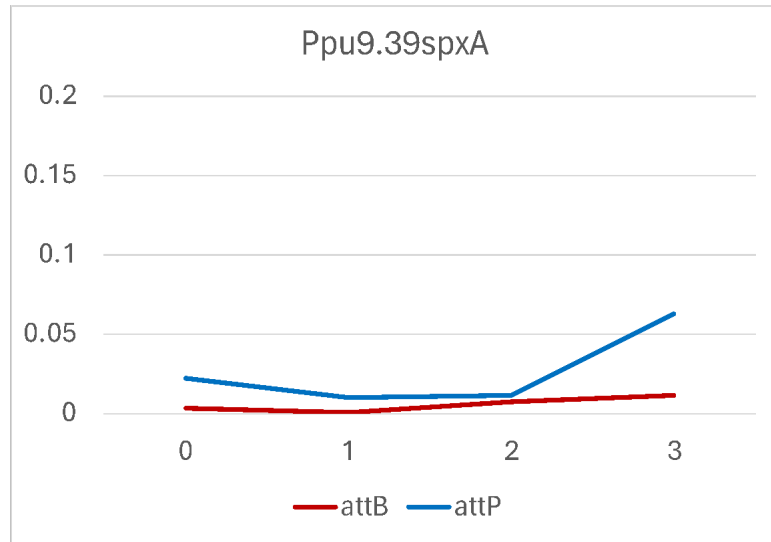
- *P. putida* KT2440
  - 134 bacterial genomes in *Pseudomonas\_\_E\_alloputida* at GTDB (r214)
- 1191 genomic islands
  - 27% are Prophages (2.4/genome)
  - 11.4% are Integrative Conjugative Elements (ICEs)
  - 0.2% are Phage/ICE tandems
  - 58.4% are Unclassified
    - These have yet to be functionally determined



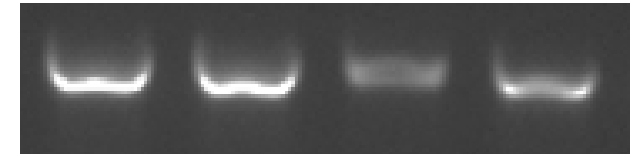
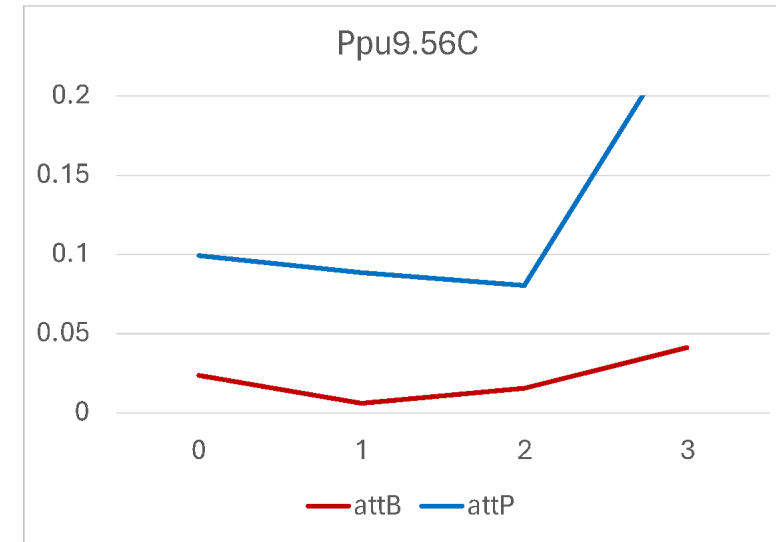
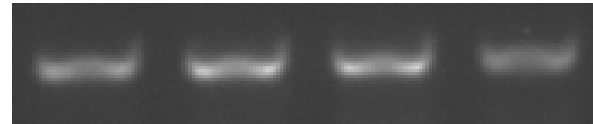
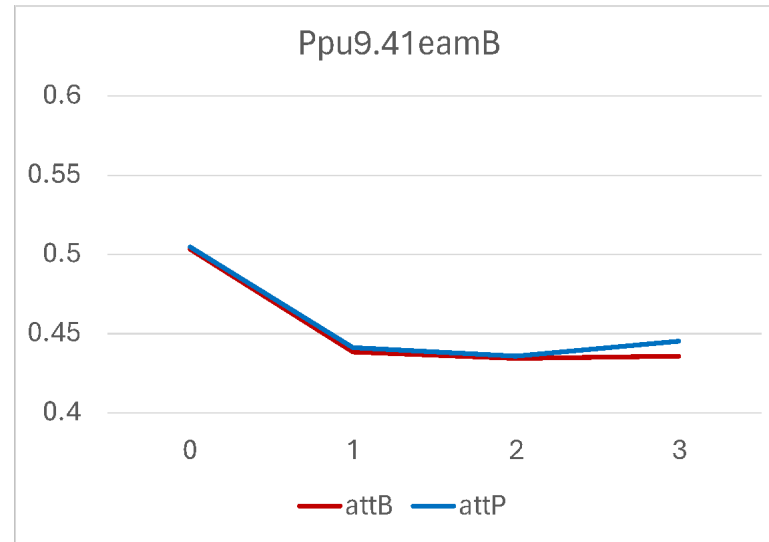
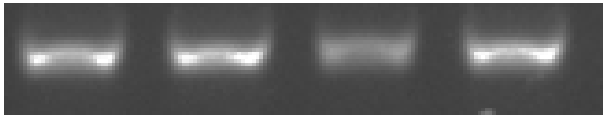
# WE HAVE DEVELOPED SOFTWARE THAT CAN DETECT AND CHARACTERIZE PROPHAGE ACTIVATION THROUGH DEEP SEQUENCING



# MITOMYCIN C INDUCTION OF *P. PUTIDA* KT2440 REVEALS 3 ACTIVE PROPHAGES WITH DIFFERENT INDUCTION KINETICS

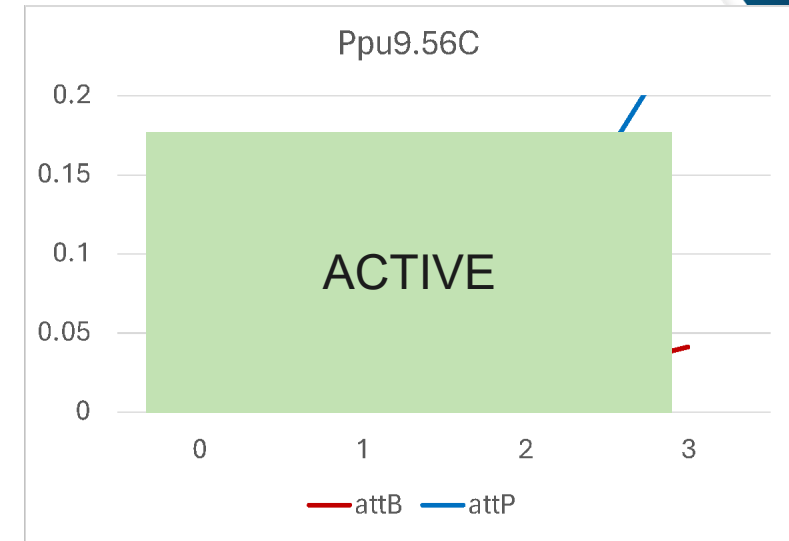
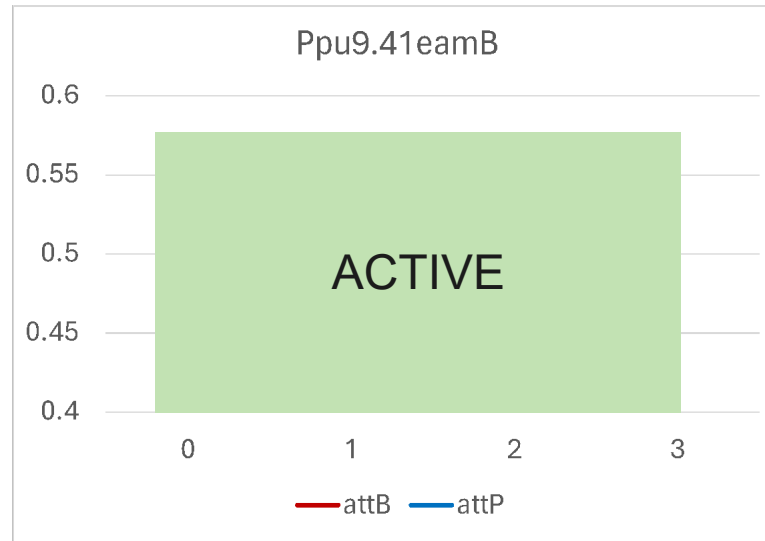
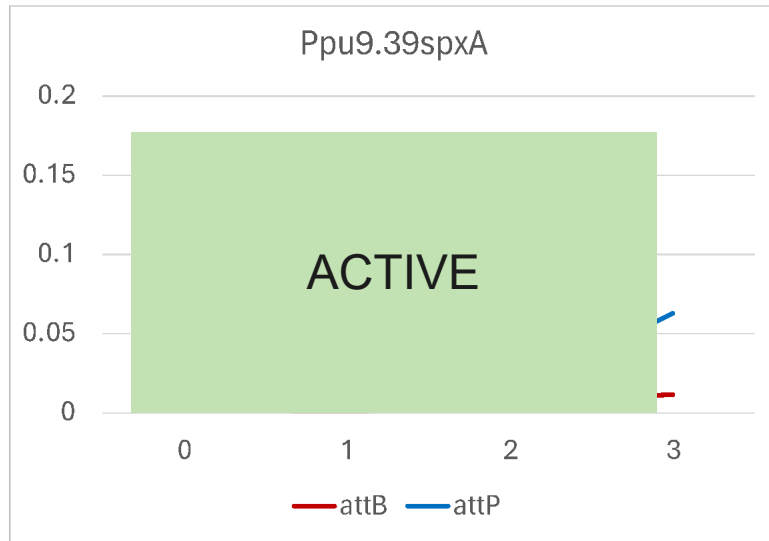


attP  
PCR

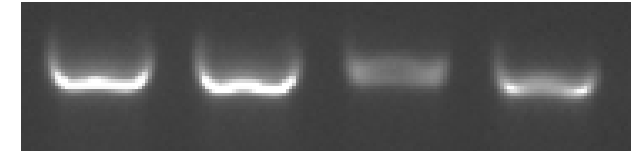
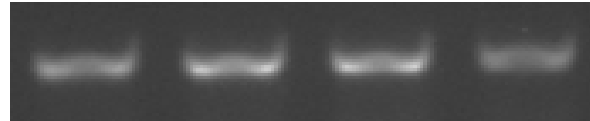
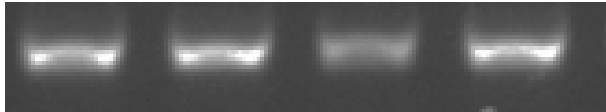




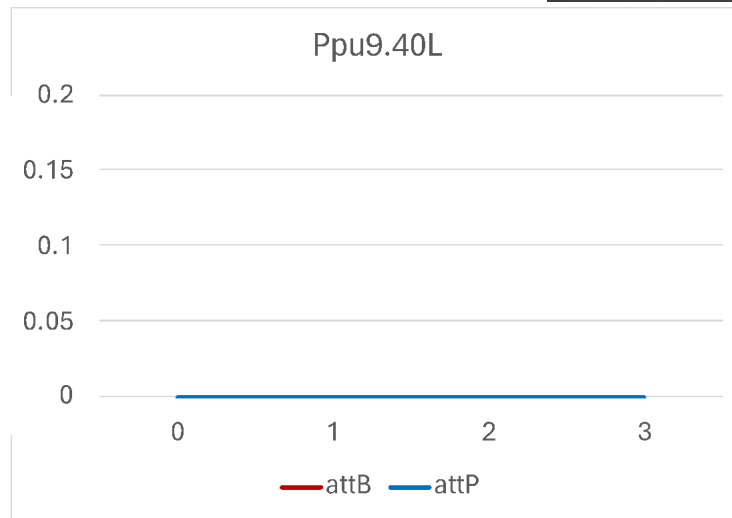
# MITOMYCIN C INDUCTION OF *P. PUTIDA* KT2440 REVEALS 3 ACTIVE PROPHAGES WITH DIFFERENT INDUCTION KINETICS



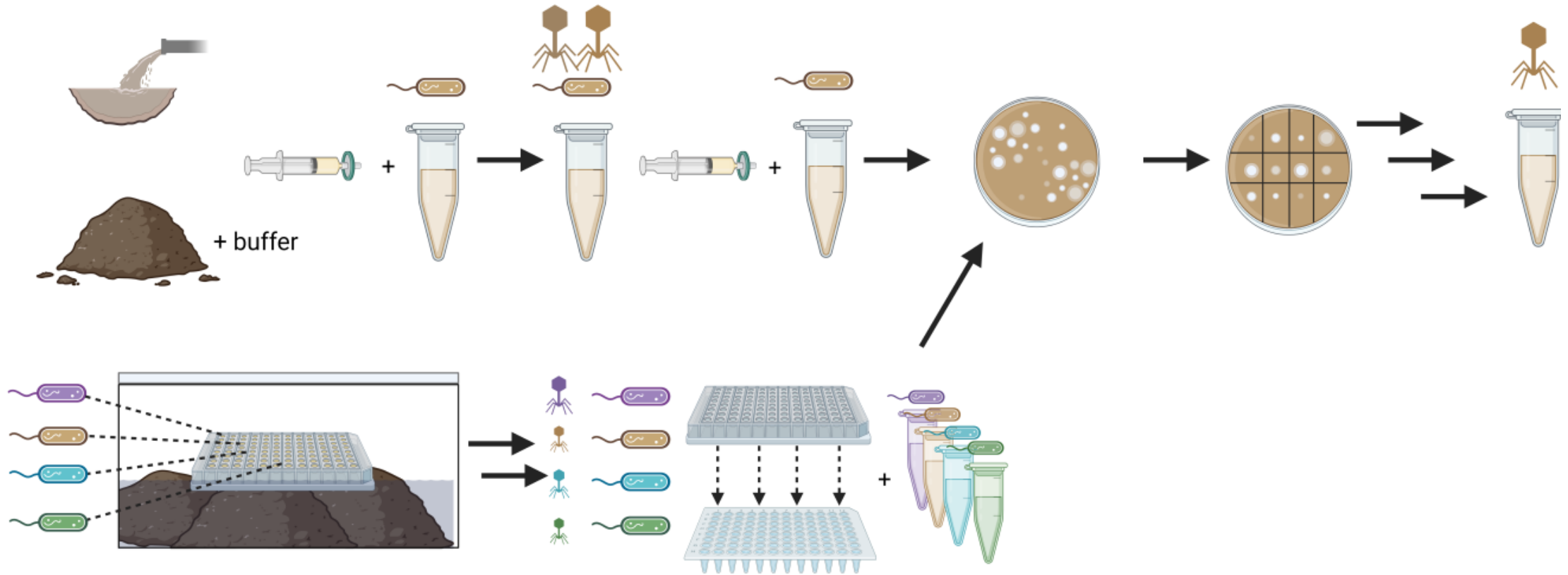
attP  
PCR



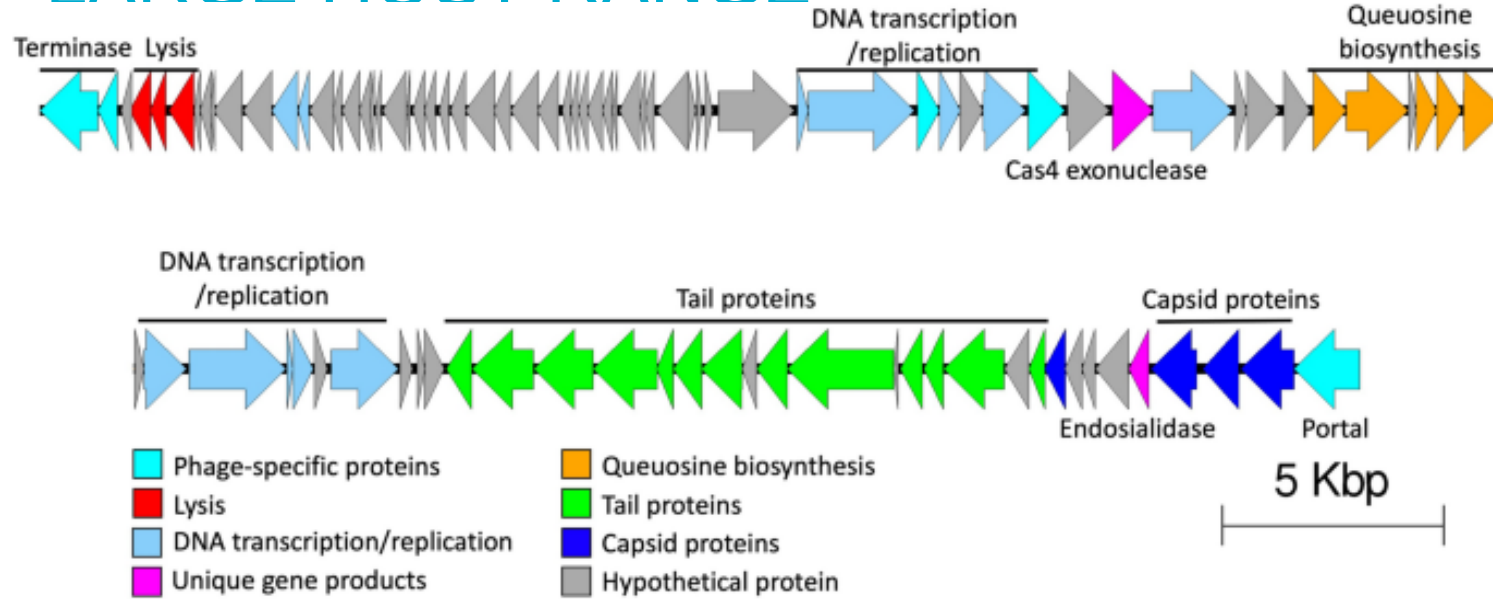
Not induced by  
MMC



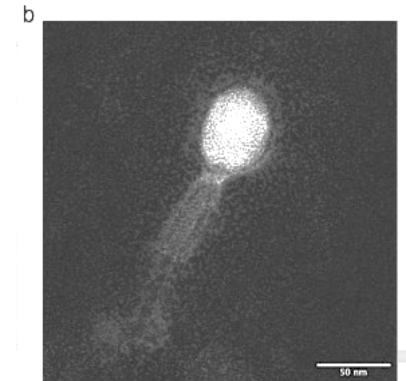
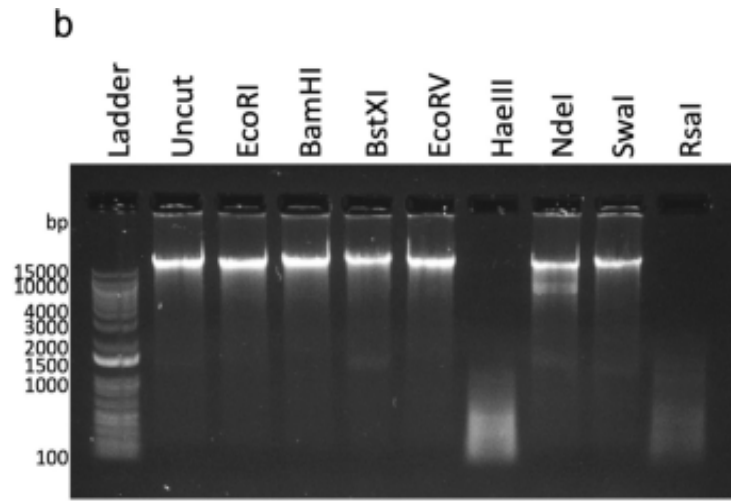
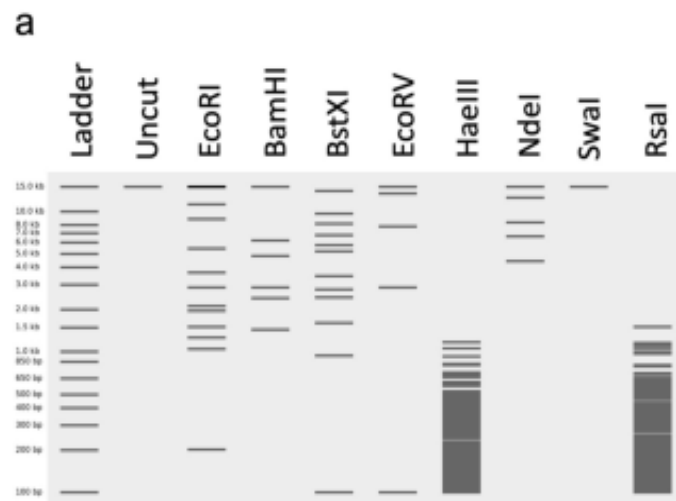
# WE HAVE PERFORMED ENVIRONMENTAL PHAGE HUNTS IN HIGH AND LOW THROUGHPUT



# *P. PUTIDA* PHAGE MICATH HAS MODIFIED DNA AND A LARGE HOST RANGE



- MiCath was isolated from garden soil on *P. putida* S12
  - Can infect strains from two GTDB species
- Genome encodes a queuosine biosynthesis pathway that protects MiCath DNA from restriction enzymes
  - Hypothesized due to hyper modified guanine, 2'-deoxyarcheosine (dG+) based on reports from other phages



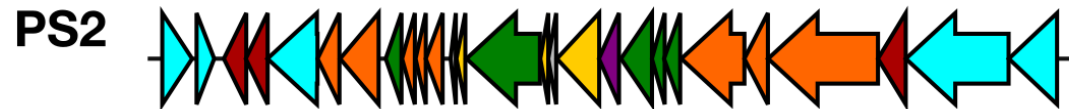
# TWO ADDITIONAL NOVEL PHAGES FOR *P. PUTIDA* KT2440 HAVE BEEN ISOLATED



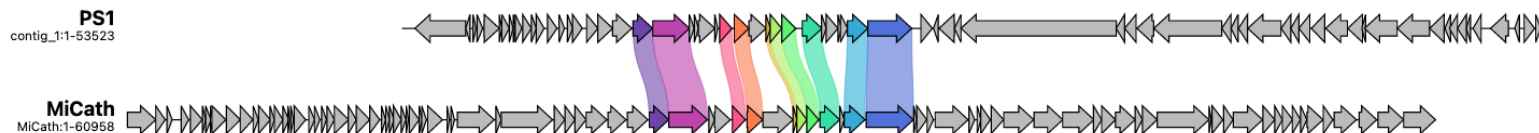
- PS1: 53.5kbp dsDNA phage; little similarity to known phages



- PS2: 14.9kbp dsDNA phage and resembles coli phage PRD1



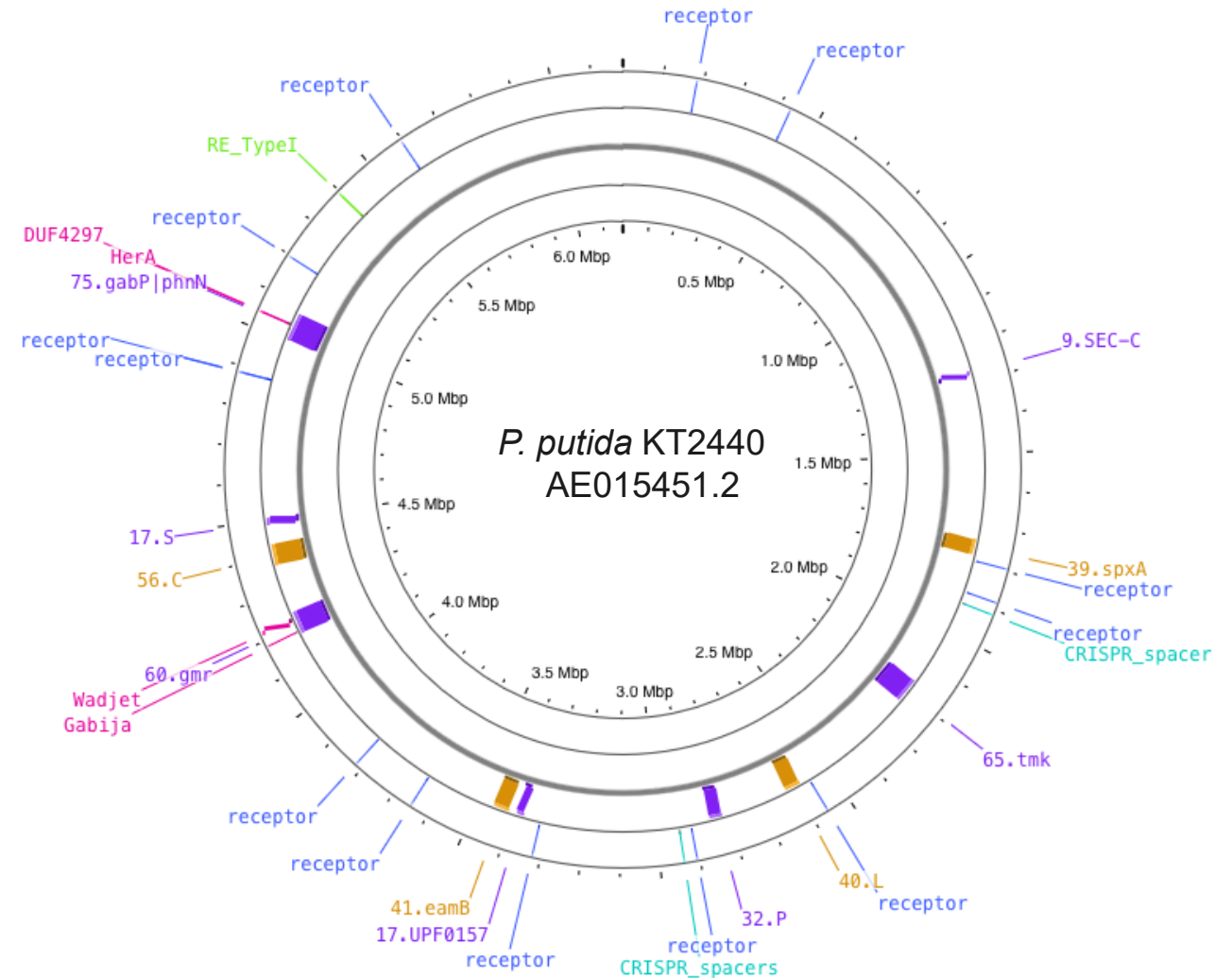
- PS1 and MiCath share the same queuosine biosynthesis pathway



# UNDERSTANDING DEFENSE SYSTEMS AND PHAGE DYNAMICS IN KT2440



- BADIS software tool combines GI searching with padloc defense finding and custom receptor HMMs for a comprehensive look at phage defense
- 4 systems called in KT2440
  - 3 located on MGEs
  - 8 putative defense proteins called



# CONCLUSION



- Prophages and genomic islands are abundant in *Pseudomonas putida* genomes
- Although prophages are active traditional strategies for isolation were unsuccessful
- We have discovered three novel phages
  - MiCath
    - Modified DNA genome
    - Large host range
  - PS1
    - Hypothesized modified genome
  - PS2
    - Small genome (<15kbp)
    - Similar to tectiviridae PRD1
- Defense systems are found and may play a role in low phage numbers

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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- Ellis Torrance
- Kelly P. Williams
- Joseph S. Schoeniger

## Collaborators

- Brady Cress (University of California, Berkeley)
- Louise Temple (James Madison University)

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