

1 *Acinetobacter baylyi* ADP1 – naturally competent for synthetic biology

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8

9 Abstract

10 *Acinetobacter baylyi* ADP1 is a non-pathogenic soil bacterium known for its metabolic diversity and high
11 natural transformation and recombination efficiency. For these features, *A. baylyi* ADP1 has been long
12 exploited in studying bacterial genetics and metabolism. The large pool of information generated in the
13 fundamental studies has facilitated the development of a broad range of sophisticated and robust tools
14 for the genome and metabolic engineering of ADP1. This mini-review outlines and describes the recent
15 advances in ADP1 engineering and tool development, exploited in for example pathway and enzyme
16 evolution, genome reduction and stabilization, and for the production of native and non-native products
17 in both pure and rationally designed multispecies cultures. The rapidly expanding toolbox together with
18 the unique features of *A. baylyi* ADP1 provide a strong base for a microbial cell factory excelling in
19 synthetic biology applications where evolution meets rational engineering.

20 1. Introduction

21 The latest advances in biotechnology and synthetic biology have enabled the production of a vast number
22 of industrially relevant compounds by genetically tailored microbial cell factories [1]. The strains assigned
23 for the job are expected to possess a set of relevant features, such as genetic tractability, fast growth,

24 simple growth requirements, and the availability of genetic tools. Due to the stringent requirements for
25 comprehensive carbon recycling and sustainability, the ability to utilize the previously untapped but
26 abundant carbon sources is also considered a highly important trait. Therefore, strains exhibiting
27 interesting metabolic features, such as *Clostridium ljungdahlii* [2], *Rhodococcus opacus* [3], and
28 *Pseudomonas putida* [4, 5], are gaining more ground as industrially relevant hosts. However, as the scope
29 of synthetic biology continuously expands, and the pathways from substrates to products get more
30 complex and wide-ranging [6], the possibility for straight-forward, reliable, and fast genome engineering
31 becomes an increasingly important feature of a microbial cell factory.

32 *Acinetobacter baylyi* ADP1 (later ADP1) is a ubiquitous, fast-growing, non-pathogenic, and a strictly
33 aerobic soil bacterium with a diverse metabolism and a compact, tractable genome. The strain exhibits
34 interesting features not existing in the most widely used workhorses, namely *Escherichia coli* and
35 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. For example, ADP1 can tolerate and grow on industrially relevant non-sugar
36 carbon sources, such as lignin-derived aromatic compounds and organic acids, and produce both bulk and
37 high-value products from them. The most striking feature of ADP1, however, is its tendency to undergo
38 natural transformation and homologous recombination at exceptionally high rates. This extremely
39 beneficial characteristic has enabled the fast development of smart, efficient, and novel type of
40 engineering approaches and applications discussed in this mini-review.

41 Despite the distinctive features of *Acinetobacter*, its prevalence in scientific literature and biotechnology
42 applications has remained relatively modest. *E. coli*, for example, was discovered already in 1885, so it
43 became a reference organism for which many genetic tools were developed; ADP1 wasn't discovered until
44 1960 so it was less amenable to genetic manipulation until a comparable set of genetic tools, described
45 herein, was developed. Nevertheless, the recent increase in the number of the tools and emerging
46 applications of ADP1 shows that the unique features and the potential of this strain are no longer
47 overlooked.

48 2. Enabling tools developed for and by the ADP1 platform

49 The research on *A. baylyi* ADP1, or more precisely, its features started when Taylor & Juni isolated its
50 parental strain BD4 from soil using 2,3-butanediol for selective enrichment [7]. The strain BD4 which
51 produced a heavy exopolysaccharide (EPS) capsule was subjected to UV mutagenesis resulting in a strain
52 with a small EPS capsule. This strain, designated as BD413, is currently known as ADP1. The early studies
53 already revealed the extraordinary competence for natural transformation [8, 9], which was later
54 confirmed to be an exclusive trait of *A. baylyi* strains [10]. The sequence of the compact 3.6 Mbp genome
55 with 3325 predicted coding sequences and 40.3% GC-content was published in 2004 [11]. Following the
56 published genome sequence, a genome-wide metabolic model [12], a complete single-gene knock-out
57 mutant library [13], and the experimental annotation of all ADP1 genes by a systematic and phenotypic
58 characterization [14] were established. These studies provided a strong base for further genetic and
59 metabolic investigations, as well as the development of molecular tools and engineering strategies for
60 ADP1 (Figure 1).

61 2.1 Genetic and genomic engineering of ADP1

62 For more than 30 years, ADP1 served primarily as a model system for studying bacterial genetics,
63 metabolism, and horizontal gene transfer [15-24], which facilitated the development of standard
64 protocols for deletions and insertions in ADP1 using integrative gene cassettes and counterselection
65 methods, such as those based on AZT/*tdk* and sucrose/*sacB* [19]. Notably, the straight-forward
66 methodology and the exceptionally high transformation efficiency have allowed the establishment of
67 automated, high-throughput cloning platforms, as no purification or electroporation steps are required
68 [13, 25]. The widely used CRISPR/Cas9 systems have been also established in ADP1 for scarless genomic
69 integration [26] and dCas9-based gene silencing [27]. Also, the native Type I-F CRISPR/Cas system of ADP1
70 has been harnessed for genome editing and stabilization, aided by simplified construction of natural
71 multiplex CRISPR-arrays [28]. In addition, elegant tools derived from modern techniques, such as 'Golden

72 Transformation' derived from Golden Gate Assembly and 'CRISPR-Lock' also exploiting ADP1's native
73 CRISPR/Cas system to secure the engineered genotype, were recently developed to further facilitate
74 simple multi-component DNA assembly and rapid and reliable genome engineering [29].

75 2.2 Expression tools

76 Due to the convenience of the genomic integration, the use of few plasmids in ADP1 has been reported.
77 The most well-characterized expression vectors for ADP1 are based on the efficiently replicating and
78 stable pBAV1 (BioBrick Accepting Vector) backbone [30, 31], although others, such as the cryptic plasmid
79 pWH1277 [32] is maintained in ADP1. In addition, plasmids with RSF1010 origin replicate stably in ADP1
80 [27], allowing the use of well-established vector platforms, such as the Standard European Vector
81 Architecture (SEVA) [33]. For the regulation of expression, Biggs et al. [26] recently constructed a
82 comprehensive genetic toolset for ADP1 comprising synthetic constitutive promoter and RBS libraries. In
83 addition, 27 chromosomal sites (a greater number than in any other bacterial host) were investigated and
84 validated for protein expression. Also, many of the well-established inducible promoter systems, such as
85 LacI/lacO, AraC/pBAD, and the cyclohexanone-inducible ChnR/pChnB are functional in ADP1 [31, 34].

86 2.3 Tools for pathway and strain development

87 The genomic plasticity of ADP1, perceivable as spontaneous mutations and gene duplications or
88 rearrangements during adaptation to new environments, have been harnessed for enhancing enzymatic
89 activities and existing or new pathways. Tumen-Velasquez et al. [35] developed a highly efficient method,
90 Evolution by Amplification and Synthetic biology (EASy), which facilitates beneficial genetic modifications
91 to overcome bottle-necks and inefficiencies of catabolic pathways. The method allows the amplification
92 of specific chromosomal segments and rapid accumulation of beneficial mutations in the target sequences
93 to achieve increased or altered catabolic activity. For example, the EASy method has been employed to
94 introduce and evolve enzymatic activities that enable guaiacol [35] and terephthalic acid [36] utilization
95 in ADP1, thus further expanding the broad substrate range relevant on application.

96 Despite that the genomic plasticity serves as a valuable asset in targeted application, this feature can also
97 lead to unwanted evolution, which can be counterproductive in production hosts due to the risk of
98 evolutionary failure, i.e. the loss of the engineered functionalities. For example, transposable insertion
99 sequences (IS) have major contribution in spontaneous mutations, genomic rearrangements, and loss of
100 transformability in ADP1 [37]. Suárez et al. [38] deleted all the copies of the IS elements in ADP1, resulting
101 in not only significantly reduced mutation rates, but also increased transformation efficiency in the
102 transposon-free ADP1-ISx strain. Subsequently, the approach was developed into a generalizable method
103 to increase evolutionary stability, CRISPR interference against mobile elements (CRISPRi-ME), by
104 constructing a broad-host-range vector carrying CRISPR interference tools for targeting multiple genetic
105 elements that can contribute to deleterious mutations and evolutionary failure [27].

106 Insertion sequences are not the only elements that potentially decrease the host performance.
107 Eliminating redundant, unnecessary, or potentially hazardous genes [39] can help to improve the genomic
108 stability and fitness of microbial cell factories. Also, ADP1 genome is widely clustered into operons and
109 'catabolic islands', which provides a convenient starting point for genome streamlining. Suárez et al. [29]
110 deleted 18 multi-gene regions from the previously constructed transposon-free genome, each ranging
111 from 21 to 183 kb, exploiting the above-mentioned Golden Transformation and CRISPR-Lock system, as
112 well as transposon insertion sequencing (Tn-Seq) to determine gene essentiality. In total, the deleted
113 regions accounted for 23.4% of ADP1 genome. Future work will hopefully entail the combinatorial
114 optimization of deleted regions and the demonstration of their effect on industrially-relevant
115 physiological traits, such as expression of non-native activities, stability, and fitness.

116 3. Metabolic engineering for improved production of native and non- 117 native products

118 In addition to the interesting catabolic pathways, ADP1 possesses a fruitful cellular framework for the
119 production of both native and non-native biocompounds from a variety of carbon sources (Figure 2); ADP1

120 naturally produces storage compounds, such as triacylglycerols (TAG) and wax esters (WE), which can
121 facilitate the overproduction of other acetyl-CoA -derived products. However, one of the first examples
122 of metabolic engineering of ADP1 was related to the improved production of cyanophycin from amino
123 acids. Engineering the arginine metabolism and the PhoB/PhoR phosphate regulon system by gene knock-
124 outs and overexpression resulted in increased cyanophycin content up to 30% of cell dry weight (CDW)
125 [40]. In the next subchapters, the metabolic engineering of both native and non-native pathways in ADP1
126 is discussed, the focus being on long chain hydrocarbons and lipids.

127 3.1 Triacylglycerols and wax esters

128 The storage lipids TAG and WE are fatty acid (FA) derived industrially relevant products, that can be
129 broadly used in for example biofuels, lubricants, cosmetics, coatings, and for nutritional and
130 pharmaceutical purposes. By definition, *Acinetobacter* strains are not oleaginous, which means that their
131 cellular lipid content does not naturally exceed 20%. However, various engineering strategies have been
132 employed to improve the lipid production metrics. For example, the effect of gene knock-outs on TAG
133 synthesis was studied by first conducting metabolic modelling followed by the experimental validation of
134 the model predictions by single and multiple gene knock-outs [41]. As a result, the cellular TAG yield was
135 improved by several folds, but the overall production metrics were still low. In recent studies, the focus
136 has been on the production of WEs, for which ADP1 has notable potential [42].

137 Wax esters are oxoesters of long-chain fatty acids (FA) esterified with long-chain alcohols. The synthesis
138 pathway in ADP1 involves three steps; first, the fatty acyl coenzyme A (acyl-CoA) is reduced to the
139 corresponding aldehyde by an NADPH-dependent acyl-CoA reductase Acr1 [43]. The long-chain aldehyde
140 is further reduced to the corresponding alcohol by a yet uncharacterized aldehyde reductase. In the last
141 step, the fatty alcohol is esterified with a fatty acyl-CoA by an acyl-CoA:fatty alcohol acyltransferase (wax
142 ester synthase) of a bifunctional enzyme WS/DGAT [44]. ADP1 naturally produces mainly C16-C18 FA and
143 alcohol moieties, the total average size of a WE molecule being C33-34 with a single double bond [45].

144 However, it has been possible to alter the WE profile by replacing the fatty acyl-CoA reductase Acr1 with
145 a fatty acid reductase complex LuxCDE from *Photorhabdus luminescens* [46].

146 The wild type ADP1 typically produces 3-8% WEs of CDW from glucose or gluconate. To study the pathway
147 activity, a bioluminescence-based sensor for real-time monitoring of the WE synthesis pathway was
148 developed [47]. The reduction of fatty acyl-CoA to fatty aldehyde was shown to have a key role in the
149 synthesis pathway, and the sensor was employed for the selection of the most optimal reductase and
150 tuning its expression level [45]. Luo et al. combined the overexpression of the native reductase Acr1 with
151 the elimination of isocitrate lyase AceA, which further increased the production of WEs to 27% of CDW
152 (1.82 g L^{-1}), the highest reported cellular WE yield [48]. In the same study, WE production was also
153 demonstrated from unconventional, nitrogen-rich carbon sources, namely amino acids and yeast biomass
154 [48].

155 Despite the highest WE production metrics thus far have been obtained with glucose, glycolytic substrates
156 in general are not optimal for ADP1 in terms of the growth and production yield. In ADP1, glucose and
157 gluconate enter metabolism through a modified Entner-Doudoroff pathway, where they form one
158 glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate (G-3-P) and one pyruvate molecule, with the former being unable to directly
159 contribute to acetyl-CoA derived products [11, 49]. Instead, G-3-P is readily directed to the synthesis of
160 exopolysaccharides (EPS) which can form up to 20% of CDW. Extensive production of EPS also complicates
161 downstream processing and cell harvesting [50]. However, the complete elimination of the EPS synthesis
162 pathway can result in reduced growth rate and cell aggregation [51]. To prevent the loss of carbon and to
163 improve the growth rate of ADP1 on glucose and gluconate, Kannisto et al. [49] introduced pyruvate
164 kinase pykF from *E. coli* to enable the conversion of phosphoenolpyruvate to pyruvate. The specific
165 growth-rates of pykF-expressing cells increased from 0.18 h^{-1} to 0.42 h^{-1} while simultaneously maintaining
166 the biomass and WE production yields, demonstrating the potential of using ADP1 also in glucose-based
167 applications.

168 Although glucose is still an important carbon source in biotechnological processes, due to societal and
169 economical reasons, using more sustainable carbon sources is of interest. Acetic acid, for example, is
170 readily available, inexpensive, and readily metabolized by ADP1. In fact, ADP1 has a higher growth rate on
171 acetate than on glucose [52]. As acetate is primarily directed to growth in ADP1, Santala et al. developed
172 an autonomously regulated switch to decouple growth from WE synthesis and to intensify the production
173 of WEs from acetate [53]. The shift from growth-mode to WE synthesis-mode was achieved by placing a
174 growth-essential gene, isocitrate lyase *aceA*, under an arabinose-inducible promoter. Although arabinose
175 cannot be used as a carbon source in ADP1, it is progressively oxidized to inactive form by a native glucose
176 dehydrogenase causing a gradual and timed decrease of *aceA* expression and growth. This in turn, forces
177 cells to direct the acetate towards the WE synthesis pathway. Bypassing the native regulation of lipid
178 synthesis allowed the engineered strain to accumulate 19% of CDW as WEs, which was a fourfold
179 improvement to wild type cells. Recently, also a kinetic metabolic model was constructed to simulate the
180 function of the constructed dynamic switch [54].

181 Despite the improvements achieved by the dynamic regulation described above, the engineered cells
182 exhibited reduced growth and volumetric productivity, likely due to the limited supply of energy and
183 reducing equivalents. In order to address the fundamental issues of both unbalanced supply of
184 biochemical resources and the trade-off between growth and production typical in lipid synthesis, Santala
185 et al. used metabolic engineering and synergistic substrate cofeeding to partition the metabolism of ADP1
186 into two distinct modules, each dedicated to cell growth and WE biosynthesis, respectively (Santala,
187 Santala, Liu, Stephanopoulos: *manuscript under review*). Combining the advantages of each approach, it
188 was possible to maximize the synthesis of WEs during active cell growth. As a result, 7.2- and 4.2-fold
189 improvements in cellular WE content and productivity were obtained, respectively, and the product titer
190 was enhanced by 8.3-fold over the wild type strain. Notably, a yield of 18% C-WE/C-total-substrates was
191 achieved, being the highest reported for WE biosynthesis.

192 3.2 Alkanes and 1-alkenes

193 ADP1 can naturally utilize long chain hydrocarbons, such as C12-C18 alkanes as sole carbon sources [55,
194 56]. As hydrocarbons are desirable products in chemical and fuel industry, this feature was reversed in
195 ADP1 to establish the heterologous production of alkanes. Development of a twin-layer metabolic
196 biosensor which simultaneously monitors the key pathway intermediates, aldehydes, and the final
197 products, alkanes, allowed the construction of a functional pathway employing the fatty acyl-ACP
198 reductase and aldehyde-deformylating oxygenase from *Synechococcus elongatus* [57]. The sensor was
199 subsequently exploited to balance the relative expression levels of the pathway enzymes, resulting
200 in the production of 540 µg/L heptadecane from acetate [58]. More recently, the production of
201 alkanes directly from lignin-related aromatic compounds, namely p-coumarate, was demonstrated in
202 ADP1 [59].

203 1-Alkanes, or alpha olefins (AO), are interesting platform chemicals as they can be derived to a variety
204 of products. Due to their hydrophobicity and volatility, AOs can be continuously recovered from the
205 culture vessels, thus significantly simplifying the cost-intensive product recovery and purification.
206 ADP1 was previously engineered for the production of AOs, namely 1-undecene, by the heterologous
207 expression of 'TesA from *E. coli* and UndA from *P. putida*. Adaptive laboratory evolution was carried
208 out to improve the growth and tolerance of ADP1 against aromatic compounds, allowing the
209 production 1-undecene using high concentrations of ferulate, another major representative of lignin
210 monomers, as a sole carbon source [34]. The genetic changes in the adapted strains have been
211 investigated to increase the understanding about the mechanisms behind the improved tolerance
212 and growth (Luo et al.; manuscript in preparation). In another study, the direct collection of 1-
213 undecene from a bioprocess using lignocellulosic substrates was demonstrated by a continuous gas-
214 stripping-condensation device, which highlighted the straight-forward recovery and purity of the

215 produced AOs [60]. However, like in the case of alkanes, the production metrics for AOs have been
216 thus far modest, up to 700 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ [34].

217 4. Multi-species approaches employing ADP1

218 Synthetic microbial consortia are a promising new approach in synthetic biology as they exhibit improved
219 robustness and functional diversity in terms of task performance and substrate utilization. Several studies
220 have demonstrated the benefits and potential of employing ADP1 in synthetic cocultures and other
221 multispecies approaches (Figure 3). For example, the synthetic cocultures of *E. coli* and ADP1 have shown
222 that the rationally engineered consortia can improve growth, production, and stability of engineered
223 systems [61, 62]. In addition, ADP1 has been shown to be a convenient bacterial host for the detoxification
224 of lignocellulosic hydrolysates; in a coculture of ADP1 and *Clostridium butyricum*, the sugar-utilizing
225 pathway of ADP1 was eliminated by removing the glucose dehydrogenase encoded by *gcd*. The
226 engineered ADP1 rapidly consumed acetate, formate, 4-hydroxybenzoate, and oxygen, allowing the
227 subsequent fermentation of lignocellulosic sugars to hydrogen by the strict anaerobe *C. butyricum* [52].
228 In another example, the pathways responsible for the aromatics catabolism were engineered in two
229 glucose-negative ADP1 strains to simultaneously remove common growth inhibitors, 4-hydroxybenzoate
230 and benzoate, prior to the fermentation of glucose to ethanol by *Kluyveromyces marxianus* [63].

231 The multispecies approach has been also employed in the production of WEs and alkanes using CO₂ as a
232 sole carbon source; in the two-stage system, acetogenic bacteria first produced acetate from CO₂ and
233 electricity (or hydrogen), followed by the upgrading of acetate to WEs [64] or alkanes [58] by ADP1.
234 Conversely, Salmela et al. showed that strictly aerobic and anaerobic bacteria can be cultivated in ‘one-
235 pot’ to optimize the energy and carbon recovery. In the coculture, *C. butyricum* produced hydrogen from
236 glucose while glucose-negative ADP1 consumed the remaining acetate and butyrate for the production of
237 WEs [65]. By a similar approach, Mangayil et al. produced 1,3-propanediol and WEs from crude glycerol

238 by *C. butyricum* and ADP1, respectively [66]. Recently, the production of AOs was established from
239 cellulose and authentic lignin hydrolysate by a two-stage culture of *C. cellulolyticum* and ADP1 [60].

240 Some native ADP1 features can be counterproductive in some coculture applications. For example,
241 Cooper et al. showed that when cells are in physical contact (e.g. in biofilms), ADP1 uses a contact-
242 dependent type-VI secretion system (T6SS) to lyse and acquire genes from neighboring cells [67]. This
243 feature is potentially detrimental for the cocultured cells, and the unintended exchange of genes can
244 cause further problems. However, these issues can be readily overcome by the elimination of T6SS and
245 for example one of the competence-essential genes by single gene deletions [20, 67].

246 5. Conclusions and future outlook

247 *A. baylyi* ADP1, also rightfully referred as ‘the sexiest organism on earth’ [68] (for being highly competent
248 and a soil bacterium), is slowly but steadily emerging as a new alternative microbial cell factory. In recent
249 years, the molecular toolset for the strain improvement and engineering has significantly expanded,
250 facilitating the further development of ADP1 as a relevant host. The major strengths of ADP1 are the highly
251 versatile metabolism and the unique genome engineering opportunities, which can contribute to the
252 emergence of novel applications involving previously unattainable substrates and products. Moreover,
253 the fast growth and divergent substrate preference justify the use of ADP1 in synthetic cocultures and
254 other multispecies approaches. The production of non-native products, such as alkanes and 1-alkenes,
255 has been demonstrated in ADP1, but the reported production metrics have been low compared to more
256 established hosts. However, the strain has shown strong potential for the production of wax esters; the
257 cellular yields in engineered strains well exceed 20%, and sustainable and abundant non-sugar carbon
258 sources can be used as the substrates for the production. Nevertheless, scale-up cultivations are yet to be
259 conducted to evaluate the strain’s potential in industrial applications. Therefore, bioprocess development
260 and optimization would be the logical next steps in promoting ADP1 as a host for the applications of

261 synthetic biology and industrial biotechnology, for which the developed strains, tools, and engineering
262 strategies serve as an excellent starting point.

263 Summary points

- 264 • The metabolic diversity and straight-forward genome engineering promote the use of
265 *Acinetobacter baylyi* ADP1 as a microbial cell factory
- 266 • Broad range of tools for *A. baylyi* ADP1 engineering and strain development has been recently
267 established
- 268 • *A. baylyi* ADP1 shows promise for the production of lipids and other acetyl-CoA derived products
269 from challenging carbon sources, such as lignin-derived aromatics and organic acids
- 270 • *A. baylyi* ADP1 is well-suited for applications employing a multispecies approach
- 271 • Bioprocess development and scale-up are the next steps in advancing *A. baylyi* ADP1-based
272 systems

273 Author contributions

274 SS and VS structured and wrote the manuscript. Both authors approved the final version of the
275 manuscript.

276 Competing interests

277 The authors declare that there are no competing interests associated with the manuscript.

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447

448

449 Figure legends

450 **Figure 1. Tools for *A. baylyi* ADP1 engineering and development.** Based on the genome sequence [11]
451 of ADP1, A) genome-scale metabolic model [12] was constructed and later enhanced by experimental
452 annotation of genes [14]. B) Complete collection of single-gene knock-out mutants [13] utilizing genomic
453 integration cassettes [19] was built to provide further information about gene essentiality and function.
454 C) Plasmid-based engineering tools (such pBAV1 system [30, 31]) are available for ADP1, although the
455 tool development has largely focused on genomic engineering; For expression purposes, great number of
456 chromosomal sites have been tested and validated, along with the construction of a promoter and RBS
457 libraries [26]. In addition, several E) CRISPR-based tools have been designed and implemented in ADP1,
458 such as a one-step CRISPR/Cas9 for constructing scarless genomic modifications and CRISPRi for gene
459 silencing [26]. In addition, for genetic stabilization and streamlining of ADP1, methods called CRISPRi-ME
460 [27] targeting mobile elements and CRISPR-Lock [29] for securing genomic deletions have been
461 developed among other tools exploiting the ADP1's natural CRISPR array [28]. F) Evolution by
462 Amplification and Synthetic biology (EASy) platform has been utilized for developing enzymes and
463 catabolic pathways for enhanced and novel activities [35]. G) The high efficiency of natural
464 transformation and homologous recombination have allowed the establishment of automated cloning
465 platforms for high-throughput genome engineering [25].

466

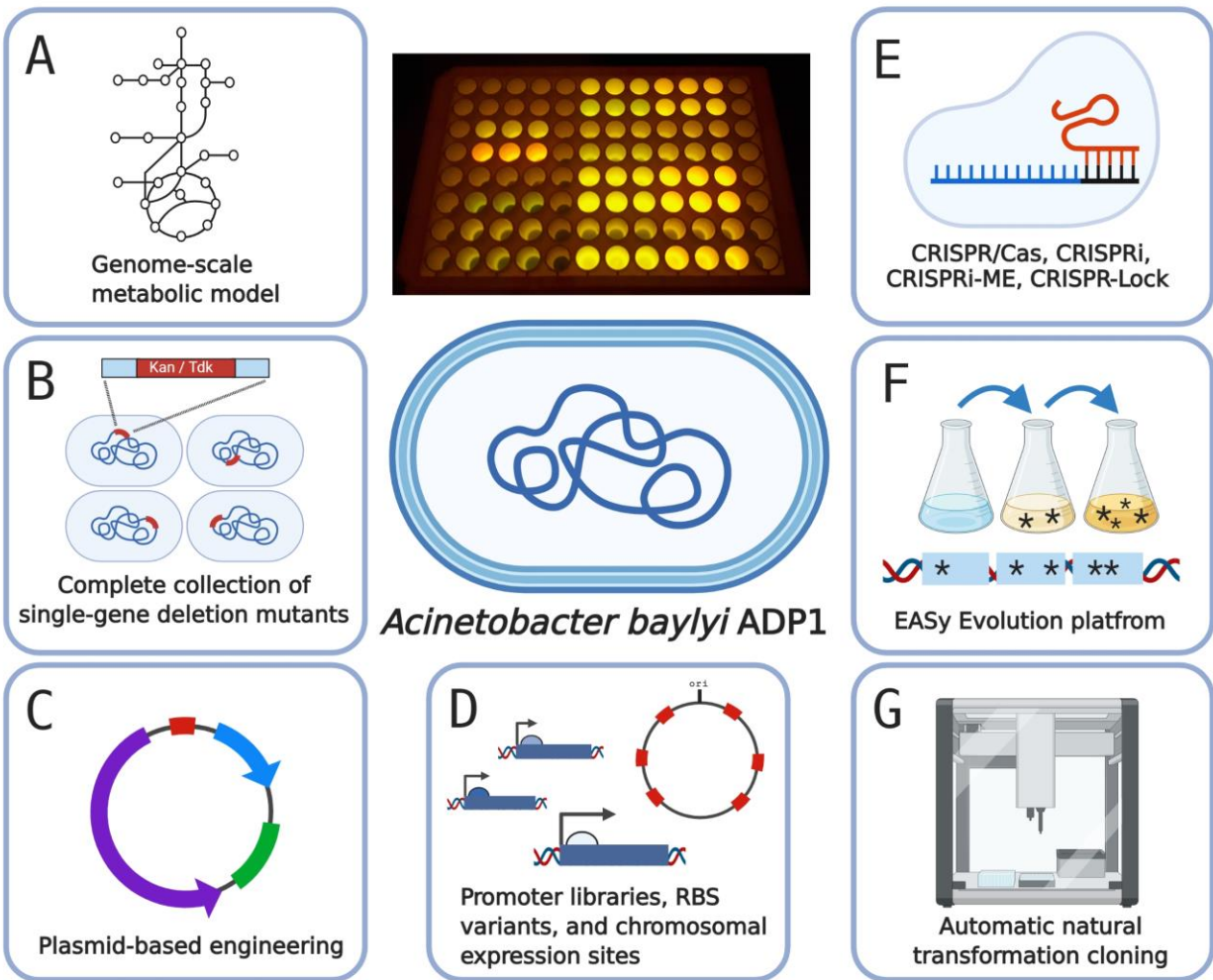
467 **Figure 2. Production of native and non-native products by engineered *A. baylyi* ADP1.** A variety of
468 substrates, including lignin derived molecules (ferulate, p-coumarate, caffeate), organic acids (acetate,
469 lactate, butyrate, gluconate), glucose, and amino acids have been used for the production of native
470 (cyanophycin [40], triacylglycerols [41], wax esters [45, 46, 48, 49, 51, 53, 59]) and non-native (alkanes
471 [57, 59], 1-alkenes [34]) products. For pathway optimization, decoupled growth and synthesis, and

472 *controlled distribution of resources, new metabolic engineering approaches have been developed,*
473 *including intracellular metabolic biosensors [47, 57], autonomously regulated switch [53], and*
474 *partitioning of metabolism.*

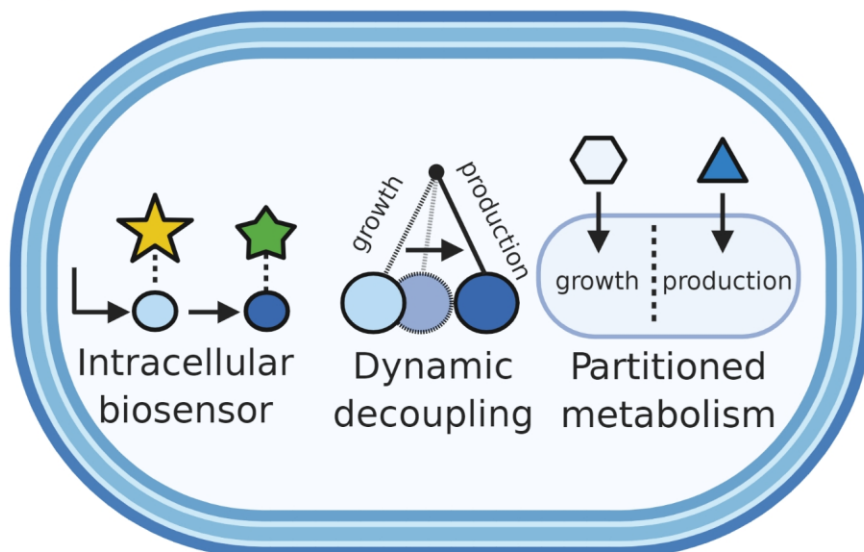
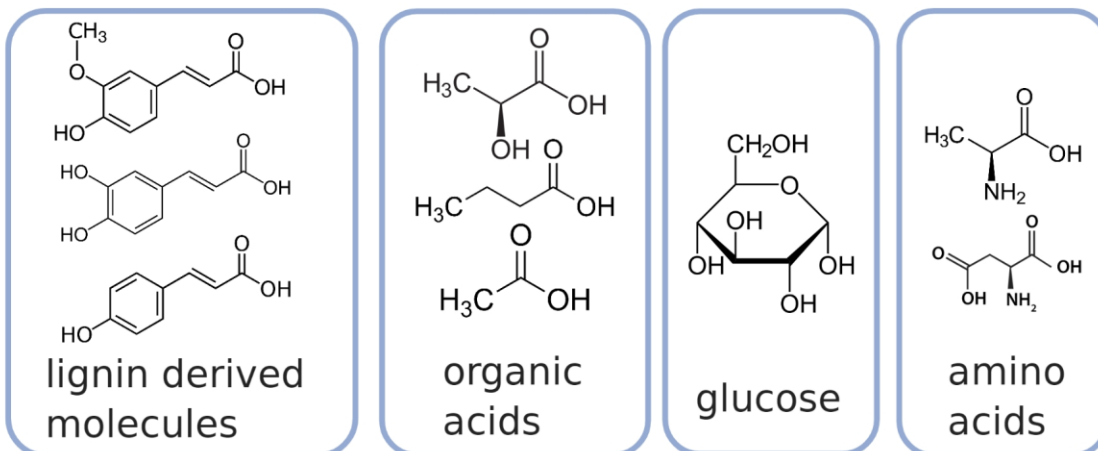
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476 **Figure 3. Multi-species approaches utilizing *A. baylyi* ADP1.** A) *Rationally engineered synthetic coculture*
477 *of *E. coli* and glucose-negative *A. baylyi* ADP1 was shown to improve the culture performance in terms of*
478 *substrate utilization, growth, and production [62]; When both strains were engineered to be glucose-*
479 *negative (by deleting genes encoding for phosphotransferase system enzyme I (ptsI) and gluconate*
480 *permease (gntT) in *E. coli* and ADP1, respectively), interconnected carbon cross-feeding allowed controlled*
481 *population growth and stabilized production [61]. B) Glucose-negative ADP1 strains have been employed*
482 *for the detoxification of lignocellulose hydrolysates or respective model compounds: utilization of formate,*
483 *acetate, and 4-hydroxybenzoate by engineered ADP1 allowed the growth and hydrogen production by*
484 **Clostridium butyricum* [52], while the simultaneous removal of benzoate and 4-hydroxybenzoate by a*
485 *consortium of engineered ADP1 strains enabled the fermentation of glucose to ethanol by *Kluyveromyces**
486 **marxianus* [63]. C) Multispecies approaches have enabled the upgrading of substrates not attainable by*
487 *ADP1 alone: In a two-stage cultures of acetogenic strains and ADP1, carbon dioxide and electricity/H₂*
488 *were upgraded to wax esters [64] or alkanes [58]; crude glycerol was fermented to acetate and butyrate*
489 *(along with 1,3-propanediol) by *C. butyricum* and further upgraded to wax esters by ADP1 [66]; *C.**
490 **cellulolyticum* fermented cellulose to glucose, acetate, and lactate, which were subsequently upgraded to*
491 *1-alkenes by engineered ADP1 [60].*

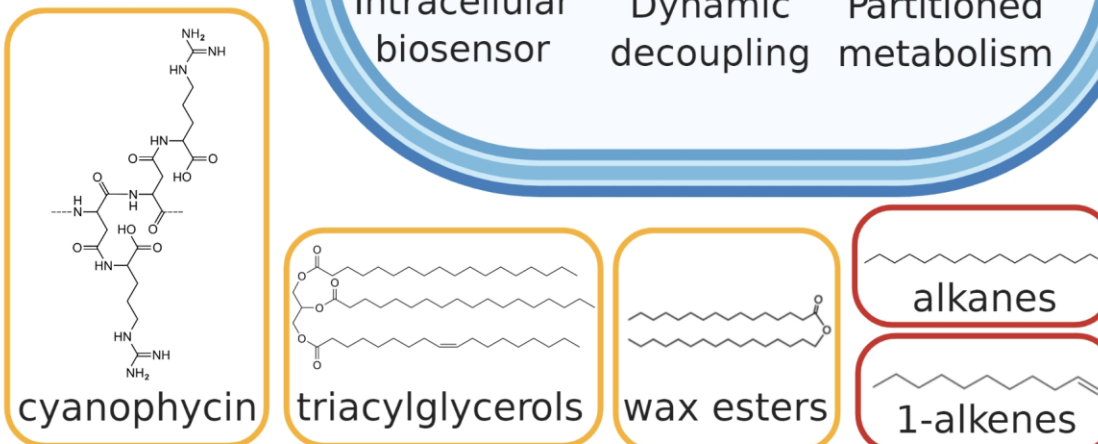
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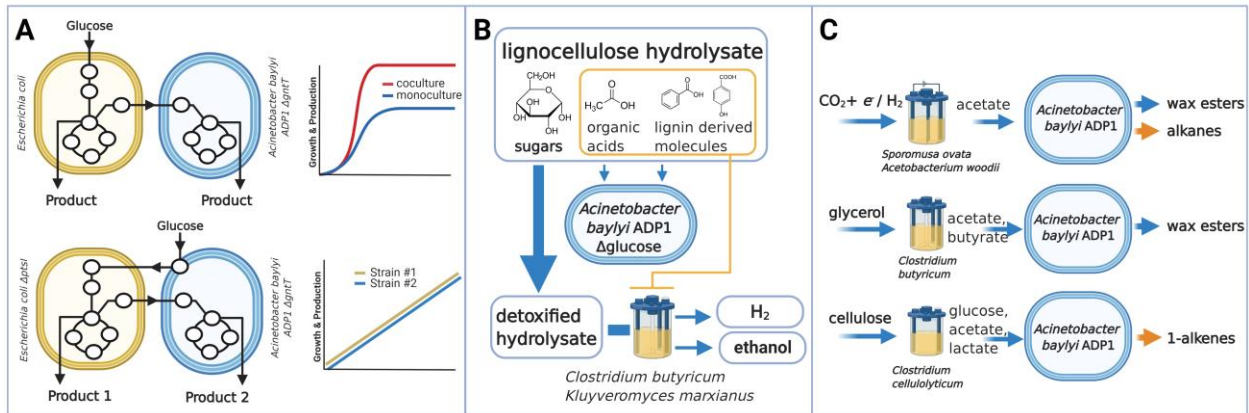
Substrates



Products



499 Figure 3.



500