

Cobined Genomic and Metabolomic Screening

Subjects: **Biochemistry & Molecular Biology**

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Since the golden age of antibiotics in the 1950s and 1960s actinomycetes have been the most prolific source for bioactive natural products. However, the number of discoveries of new bioactive compounds decreases since decades. New procedures (e.g., activating strategies or innovative fermentation techniques) were developed to enhance the productivity of actinomycetes. Nevertheless, compound identification remains challenging among others due to high rediscovery rates. Rapid and cheap genome sequencing as well as the advent of bioinformatical analysis tools for biosynthetic gene cluster identification in combination with mass spectrometry-based molecular networking facilitated the tedious process of dereplication. In recent years several studies have been dedicated to accessing the biosynthetic potential of Actinomyces species, especially streptomycetes, by using integrated genomic and metabolomic screening in order to boost the discovery rate of new antibiotics.

bioactive natural products

actinomycetes

genome mining

biosynthetic gene cluster

dereplication

molecular networking

1. Discovery of New Analogs

Integrated genomic and metabolomic screening is a powerful tool for the detection of new derivatives of known compounds.

Liu et al. ^[1] investigated the genome and metabolome of the known daptomycin-producer *Streptomyces roseosporus* in search for nonribosomal peptide (NRP) antibiotics. They searched for specific peptidic signatures, that is masses of amino acid fragments, in the molecular network of the strain's metabolome. This way, they discovered subnodes of the daptomycin cluster, which correspond to daptomycin variants missing the N-terminal lipid chain and tryptophan. Additionally, sodium- and potassium- adducts of arylomycin ^[1], a lipohexapeptide with antibiotic activity ^[2], were discovered. The authors especially emphasized the existence of several arylomycin intermediates, which lack the typical biaryl linkage and a tryptophan residue at the C-terminus. In an antiSMASH cluster search for Non-ribosomal perptide synthase (NRPS) BGCs, those coding for the productive pathway of daptomycin and arylomycin could be assigned to the produced antibiotics. The production of another known natural product ^[1], the *Pseudomonas*-active peptidynucleoside napsamycin (**Table 1**) ^[3], was suggested by genome analysis and confirmed by the molecular network. Higher molecular weight variants seemed to be produced by *S. roseosporus* as well. Before it was unknown that *S. roseosporus* was able to produce napsamycins at all. The focus of this study lay on stenothricin, a barely characterized antibiotic that was discovered in 1974. So far, four analogs of stenothricin were known ^[4] and could be detected in the metabolome of *S. roseosporus*. A

Compound	Strain	Activity	Reference
napsamycin analogs stenothricin analogs	<i>Streptomyces roseosporus</i>	antibiotic	[1]
spiroindimicins E and F lagunapyrones D and E	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MP131-18	none	[5]
strecacansamycin A, B, C	<i>Streptomyces cacaoi</i> subsp. <i>asoensis</i>	antiproliferative	[6]
valinomycin derivatives	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CBMAI 2042	antibiotic	[7]
cyclomarin analogs arenicolide analogs retimycin A	<i>Salinispora</i> sp.	suggested antiproliferative	[8]

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5. Pacius, G.; Rabot, Y.; Tokovenko, E.; Naidmit, S.; Terpeklova, P.; Wyro, A. (Table 1); Zetche, S.; Bes, R.; Rücker, C.; Braig, S.; Zander, S.; et al. New natural products identified by combined single-cell genomics and metabolomics profiling of marine Streptomyces Sp. M131-18. *Sci. Rep.* 2017, 7, 1 and a genomic metabolomics profiling of marine Streptomyces Sp. M131-18. *Sci. Rep.* 2017, 7, 1 and a domain coding for an oxygenase. The MS/MS analysis indicated the presence of an oxidized, methylated thioacetal-version of retimycin A. This functional group has not been observed before for quinomycins [8]. So far, no bioactivity testing has been performed on retimycin A.

6. Liu, L.-L.; Chen, Z.-F.; Liu, Y.; Tang, D.; Gao, H.-H.; Zhang, Q.; Gao, J.-M. Molecular networking-based for the target discovery of potent antiproliferative polycyclic macrolactam ansamycins from *Streptomyces Cacaoi* subsp. *asoensis*. *Org. Chem. Front.* 2020, 7, 4008–4018.

7. Sigrist, R.; Paul, B.S.; Anguina, C.; Fier, D.; Delvigne, C. Mass spectral metagenomics, which was sampling as a tool to recover novel natural products. *J. Mass Spectrom.* 2020, 55, 1–10. *Streptomyces*

8. Duncan, K.R.; Crusemann, M.; Lechner, A.; Sarkar, A.; Li, J.; Ziemert, N.; Wang, M.; Bandeira, N.; Moore, B.S.; Dorrestein, P.C.; et al. Molecular networking and pattern-based genome mining improves discovery of biosynthetic gene clusters and their products from *Salinispora* species. *Nat. Chem. Biol.* 2015, 22, 460–471. This way, the production of the bisindole pyrrole antibiotics lynamycins A to G [14] and spiroindimicins B and C [15] could be confirmed. Known biosynthetic genes from the production of bisindole

9. Jensen, P.R.; Moore, B.S.; Fenical, W. The marine actinomycete genus *Salinispora*: A model organism for secondary metabolite discovery. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* 2015, 32, 738–751.

10. Rehner, M.K.; Shen, Y.C.; Cheng, X.C.; Jensen, P.R.; Franknoele, W.; Kaufman, C.A.; Fenical, W.; Lobkovsky, E.; Clardy, J. Cycloamides A-C, new anti-inflammatory cyclic peptides produced by a marine bacterium (*Streptomyces* Sp.). *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, 121, 11273–11276. Besides these, the polyketides lagunapyrones A-C [16] accumulated. Genes coding for type I and type III Polyketide synthase (PKS) were present in BGC 3. This indicated that this cluster is responsible for lagunapyrone-production, as lagunapyrone is a polyketide. As for this type III

11. Gontang, E.A.; Fenical, W.; Jensen, P.R. Phylogenetic diversity of gram-negative positive bacteria cultured from marine sediments. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 2007, 73, 3272–3282. The new compounds did not display antimicrobial activity with the exception of

12. Williams, P.G.; Miller, E.D.; Asakura, A.; Nity, Jensen, P.R.; Fenical, W. A new class of bisindole alkaloids from the marine actinomycete *Salinispora*. *J. Org. Chem.* 2007, 72, 5025–5034. bioactivity, the

2. Exploring the Productive Spectrum

13. Wang, T.; Liu, T.; Tang, F.; Bernot, K.M.; Scherf, R.; Marzulli, G.; Caligiuri, M.A.; Zheng, P.; Liu, Y. echinomycin protects mice against relapsed acute myeloid leukemia without adverse effect on hematopoietic stem cells. *Blood* 2014, 124, 1127–1135.

14. McArthur, K.A.; Mitchell, S.S.; Tsung, G.; Rheingold, A.; White, D.J.; Grodberg, J.; Lam, K.S.; Rott, B. A. M. Lynamycin A: A bisindole pyrrole antibiotics from a novel marine *Streptomyces* actinomycete. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* 2008, 25, 1732–1737. Lynamycin A, a bisindole pyrrole antibiotic, thus the group aimed to identify the compound responsible for this effect. Hence, the group performed a whole genome analysis with antiSMASH, in

15. Zhang, W.; Liu, Z.; Li, S.; Yang, T.; Zhang, Q.; Ma, L.; Tian, X.; Zhang, H.; Huang, C.; Zhang, S.; et al. Spiroindimicins A-D: New bisindole alkaloids from a deep-sea-derived actinomycete. *Org. Lett.* 2012, 14, 3364–3367. Only nine of these clusters showed more than 75% similarity to those deposited in the antiSMASH database. The remaining clusters were suspected to code for the production of so far unknown chemical entities. The crude extract was examined via LC-HRMS and LC-HRMS/MS. This resulted in a molecular

16. Lindel, T.; Jensen, P.R.; Fenical, W. Lagunapyrones A-C: Cytotoxic acetogenins of a new skeletal class from a marine sediment bacterium. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1996, 37, 1327–1330. network consisting of 327 nodes of which four correlated to the spectra of cyclic dipeptides (2,5-diektopiperazines) [17]. Cyclic dipeptides act as LuxR-type activators or inhibitors and exhibit antiproliferative, antibiotic and anti-inflammatory activity [18]. The genes coding for the key enzymes for the formation of 2,5-diektopiperazines, CDPS

17. Shaheen, N.M.; Bungschof, E.; Aichinger, M.; Althoff, J.; Sahawneh, R.; Fawcett, D.S.; Karsmair, G.; Hruzel, A.; Steidler, C.; Götsche, H. The clavulanic acid biosynthetic pathway in *Streptomyces clavuligerus* did not evolve in the same way as the clavulanic acid biosynthetic pathway in *Streptomyces clavuligerus* before [17].

characterization of *Streptomyces Tendae* VITAKN with quorum sensing inhibitory activity from Southern India. *Microorganisms* 2020, 8, 121.

Nevertheless, the compound with QSI activity could not be identified via this combined genome and metabolomic screening approach. But as no corresponding MS-data for the detected parent ions could be found, an uncharacterized compound with QSI-activity is likely produced by *S. tendae* VITAKN. The existence of unexplored natural products. *Chem. Rev.* 2012, 112, 3641–3716.

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A detailed screening of both genome and metabolome can not only help to estimate the amount of unknown natural products but also to elucidate the full biosynthetic potential of putative producer strains. *Streptomyces clavuligerus*, *Streptomyces jumonjinensis*, and *Streptomyces katsurahamanus* [20] are all known to produce the β -lactamase inhibitor clavulanic acid [21]. The following study by AbuSara et al. [20] aimed to examine if the three species produce other secondary metabolites in common. Therefore, a comparative analysis of the metabolome as well as of the genome was performed. Via LC-MS and LC-MS/MS analysis, it was observed that all three species produce desferrioxamines [22] and ectoine [23], which are very common in streptomycetes as these metabolites are

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22. Keberle, H. The biochemistry of desferrioxamine and its relation to iron metabolism. *Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci.* 1964, 119, 758–768.

Naringenin is a flavonoid previously only known from plants [27] but was found here to be produced in all three *Streptomyces* species. The same is true for the plant-associated monoterpene carvedol and eumyl alcohol.

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aureus and *Candida albicans* and suppressed the proliferation of *Citrus* pathogens. Whole genome sequencing

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 35. Rinehart, K.L.; Shield, L.S. Chemistry of the ansamycin antibiotics. *Fortschr. Chem. Org. Nat.* 1976, 33, 231–307. [6]
- Liu et al. [6] also aimed to elucidate biosynthetic details by using combinatorial genetic and metabolomic screening to determine the absolute configuration of the stereochemical centers of the newly isolated streccacansamycins A, B and C (Table 1), which are produced by *Streptomyces cacaoi* subsp. *asoensis* H2S5. Streccacansamycins belong to the class of aliphatically bridged aromatic ansamycins [35]. In activity tests in vivo against PC-3, HepG2, and U87-MG cells, respectively, the isolated analogs displayed antiproliferative properties [6]. LC-HR-ESI-MS data of the culture extract were evaluated with GNPS. This way, nodes for ansamycin-analogs were detected. MS data, however, give no information about the absolute stereochemistry of a molecule. So, Liu et al. used the genetic information to reconstruct the production pipeline and derive which stereochemistry would be provided by the modules. For this purpose, the whole genome was sequenced and analyzed with antiSMASH. The analysis revealed 31 BGCs. A type I PKS-NRPS hybrid cluster is probably responsible for the production of streccacansamycins. PKSs and NRPSs are composed of several biosynthetic units called modules, which contain a set of catalytically active domains. The type I PKS-NRPS hybrid cluster contains acyltransferase-domains in module 4, which are stereoselective for *S*-methylmalonyl-CoA, but stereoinversion occurs in the subsequent condensation reaction catalyzed by a ketosynthase-domain so the final configuration at C-12 is *R*. The configuration of the methoxy or hydroxyl-groups at C-3, C-11 and C-13 could be determined as *R*, *S* and *R*, based on the direction of the hydride-addition at the ketoreductase-domains. One ketoreductase-domain type is also responsible for the formation of *cis* or *trans* double bonds depending on the direction of the reduced hydroxy-group. This way, it could be deduced that the double bonds at C-5, C-7, and C-9 exhibit *trans*- and those at C-15 *cis*-configuration [6].