

## Supporting Information Carbon Source Utilization

To reveal a more representative metabolic profile for *E. coli* IrrE-expressing strains BioLog assays were performed on *E. coli* IrrE-expressing strains and compared with similar analyses of *E. coli* control strain. The major differences between the strains are briefly described below.

We noted that the 44 substrates utilized by the control strain could be divided further into two broad categories. 41 substrates were strongly utilized (>100U). The remaining 3 substrates were weakly utilized (50 to 100U) by control strain. For the 44 utilized substrates, the IrrE-expressing *E. coli* strain had no significant effect on utilization of the  $\beta$ -methyl-D-glucoside, acetic acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxybutyric acid, N-acetyl-D-glucosamine, L-arabinose, D-galactose, D-melibiose, D-psicose, D-trehalose, D-gluconic acid, D-glucuronic acid,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutaric acid, inosine, uridine, thymidine and D-glucose-6-phosphate. The genetic basis accounting for significant differences between the strains are described. Included as substrates in GN2 MicroPlates are 19 amino acids, amino acid analogs and dipeptides. The IrrE-expressing strain and the control cell was negative (<50U) for utilization of D-alanine, L-glutamic acid, L-histidine, L-leucine, L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, L-proline; the amino acid analogs L-alaninamide, hydroxy-L-proline; and the dipeptides glycyl-L-glutamic acid, L-pyroglutamic acid (data not shown). The utilization of the amino acids L-alanine, L-asparagine, L-aspartic acid, D-serine, L-serine, L-threonine; and the dipeptides L-alanyl-glycine, glycyl-L-aspartic acid were severely decreased in the IrrE-expressing strain.

### Supplementary Information Table S5. Comparison of the *E. coli* control strain and transformant strain expressing IrrE metabolism by BIOLOG GN2 plate

| BioLog compound <sup>a</sup>      | Control strain <sup>b</sup> | IrrE-expressing strain <sup>b</sup> | Fold change <sup>c</sup> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| $\alpha$ -D-Lactose               | 176                         | 10                                  | -17.6                    |
| Pyruvic Acid Methyl Ester         | 193                         | 15                                  | -12.9                    |
| L-Rhamnose                        | 230                         | 25                                  | -9.1                     |
| L-Serine                          | 364                         | 43                                  | -8.5                     |
| D-Galactonic Acid Lactone         | 195                         | 24                                  | -8.1                     |
| Glycyl-L-Aspartic Acid            | 174                         | 26                                  | -6.7                     |
| D-Serine                          | 195                         | 34                                  | -5.7                     |
| L-Threonine                       | 156                         | 28                                  | -5.6                     |
| Bromosuccinic Acid                | 107                         | 21                                  | -5.1                     |
| L-Alanyl-Glycine                  | 83                          | 17                                  | -4.9                     |
| Succinic Acid Mono-Methyl Ester   | 90                          | 22                                  | -4.1                     |
| D,L-Lactic Acid                   | 147                         | 37                                  | -4                       |
| L-Alanine                         | 130                         | 33                                  | -3.9                     |
| L-Aspartic Acid                   | 160                         | 45                                  | -3.6                     |
| L-Asparagine                      | 221                         | 63                                  | -3.5                     |
| D,L- $\alpha$ -Glycerol Phosphate | 172                         | 52                                  | -3.2                     |
| Dextrin                           | 173                         | 76                                  | -2.3                     |
| Succinic Acid                     | 126                         | 56                                  | -2.3                     |
| Maltose                           | 362                         | 167                                 | -2.2                     |
| L-Fucose                          | 260                         | 152                                 | -1.7                     |
| Glycerol                          | 192                         | 113                                 | -1.7                     |
| D-Galacturonic Acid               | 259                         | 176                                 | -1.5                     |
| <b>D-Fructose</b>                 | <b>227</b>                  | <b>302</b>                          | <b>1.3</b>               |

|                                 |            |            |     |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-----|
| <b>α -D-Glucose-1-Phosphate</b> | <b>220</b> | <b>326</b> | 1.5 |
| <b>D-Mannose</b>                | <b>232</b> | <b>410</b> | 1.8 |
| <b>α -D-Glucose</b>             | <b>167</b> | <b>327</b> | 2   |
| <b>Glucuronamide</b>            | <b>115</b> | <b>243</b> | 2.1 |
| <b>D-Mannitol</b>               | <b>208</b> | <b>456</b> | 2.2 |
| <b>D-Sorbitol</b>               | <b>16</b>  | <b>97</b>  | 6.1 |

<sup>a</sup> Chemical compounds or growth/metabolic substrates tested in the BIOLOG GN2 plate, where there was a significant difference between the *E. coli* control strain and the IrrE-expressing strain.

<sup>b</sup> The average signal for each BIOLOG GN2 well was calculated as the mean of the signal from *E. coli* control strain or the IrrE-expressing strain in three independent PM array experiments. Wells where there was no much difference are not shown

<sup>c</sup> Statistically significant changes in arbitrary units are given as ratio of sample versus control (fold-change).