

# Supporting Information

## An engineered *Escherichia coli* community for studying quorum sensing

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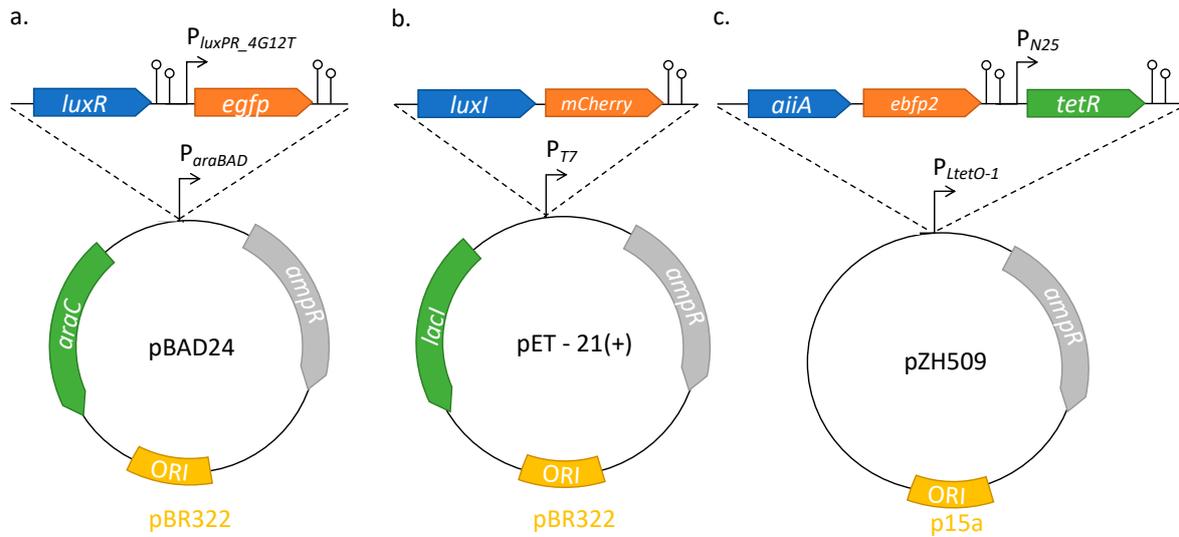
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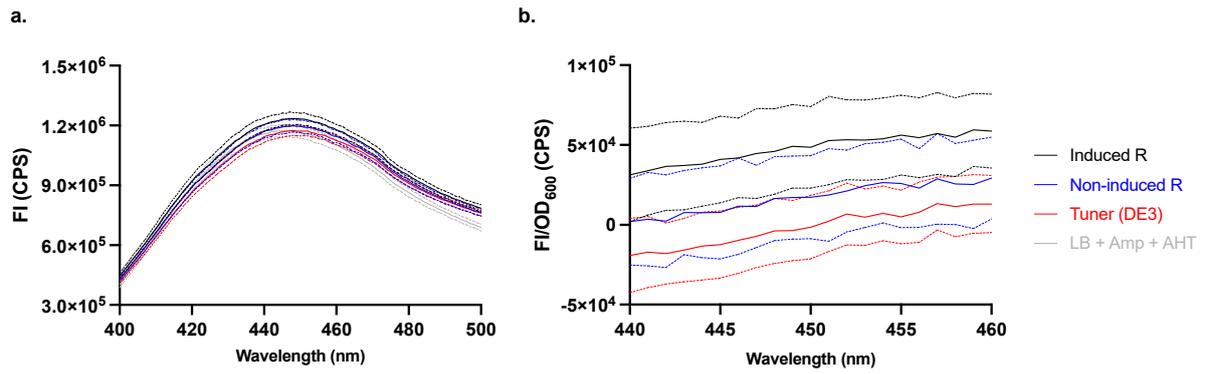
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**Table S1.** Major components of the three *E. coli* engineered strains used in this study.

Strain	Host	Backbone	Insert
Sensor		pBAD24	<i>NheI+luxR+luxPR 4G12T+egfp+EcoRI</i>
Producer	Tuner	pET-21 (+)	<i>EcoRI+luxI+mCherry+NheI</i>
Regulator	(DE3)	pZH509	<i>EcoRI+aiiA+ebfp2+PN25+tetR+NheI</i>



**Figure S1.** The structures of the plasmids of: (a) sensor, (b) producer, and (c) regulator strains. Genes encoding QS-related proteins are represented as blue arrows, encoding fluorescent proteins are represented as orange arrows, encoding promoter regulator proteins are represented as green arrows, and conferring ampicillin resistance are represented as grey arrows. Genes of origin of replication are represented as yellow ribbons. Black arrows indicate the promoters. Hairpins indicate the terminators.



**Figure S2.** Influence of the addition of anhydrotetracycline (100 ng/mL) on induction of the regulator strain as assessed on (a) the emission spectra of EBFP2 intensity at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 367$  nm and (b) the cell response levels (FI/OD<sub>600</sub>) of cultures. Data are shown as the mean values with their standard deviations (shown as dotted lines) of at least three independent experiments.