In Silico Analysis of PKS and NRPS Gene Clusters in Arisostatin- and Kosinostatin-Producers and Description of Micromonospora okii sp. nov.

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Abstract: Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 are producers of arisostatin and kosinostatin, respectively. Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 showed a 16S rRNA gene sequence similarity of 100% to Micromonospora oryzae CP2R9-1 T whereas Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 showed a 99.3% similarity to Micromonospora haikouensis 232617 T. A phylogenetic analysis based on gyrB sequences suggested that Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 is closely related to Micromonospora oryzae whereas Micromonospora TP-A0468 is an independent genomspecies. As Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 showed some phenotypic differences to its closely related species, it was classified as a novel species, for which the name Micromonospora okii sp. nov. is proposed. The type strain is TP-A0468 T (= NBRC 110461 T). Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and M. okii TP-A0468 T were both found to harbor 15 gene clusters for secondary metabolites such as polyketides and nonribosomal peptides in their genomes. Arisostatin-biosynthetic gene cluster (BGC) of Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 closely resembled tetrocarcin A-BGC of Micromonospora chalcea NRRL 11209. A large type-I polyketide synthase gene cluster was present in each genome of Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and M. okii TP-A0468 T. It was an ortholog of quinolidomicin-BGC of M. chalcea AK-AN57 and widely distributed in the genus Micromonospora.

Keywords: arisostatin; classification; kosinostatin; Micromonospora; polyketide; quinolidomicin; secondary metabolite

1. Introduction

Actinomycetes are Gram-positive filamentous bacteria and its members are recognized as a rich source of bioactive secondary metabolites, many of which have been utilized for pharmaceutical purposes [1]. Although soil is the main habitat of actinomycetes, including the genus Streptomyces, marine environments such as sea water have been identified as sites for the isolation of actinomycetal strains producing new bioactive compounds. Members of the genus Micromonospora are often isolated from marine environments such as sea water by the membrane filter method, followed by their cultivation on an agar plate [3,4]. Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 produces novel compounds, named arisostatins A and B, in addition to tetrocarcin A [3] whereas Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 produces kosinostatin [4]. Arisostatins are new members of the tetrocarcin class of antibiotics (Figure 1a), providing antibiotic activity against Gram-positive bacteria and demonstrating antitumor activity [3]. Although the tetrocarcin A-biosynthetic gene cluster (BGC) was identified...
in *Micromonospora chalcea* NRRL 11289 [5], the arisostatin-BGC of *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 has not yet been identified. Kosinostatin is a new quinocycline antibiotic (Figure 1b) with antibacterial, anti-yeast and antitumor activities [4]. Kosinostatin-BGC have already been reported in *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468. Tetrocarcin A and kosinostatin are synthesized via type-I polyketide synthase (PKS) and type-II PKS pathways, respectively [5,6].

![Figure 1](image)

**Figure 1.** Chemical structures of arisostatins A and B and tetrocarcin A (a) and kosinostatin (b). Arisostatin A, R$_1$ = NO$_2$, R$_2$ = CH(CH$_3$)$_2$; arisostatin B, R$_1$ = NH$_2$, R$_2$ = CH(CH$_3$)$_2$; tetrocarcin A: R$_1$ = NO$_2$, R$_2$ = CH$_3$.

Polyketides are biosynthesized by the assembly of acyl-CoA units. Type-I PKSs are large modular enzymes composed of multiple catalytic domains and synthesize polyketide chains based on the co-linearity rule of assembly lines. The mechanism resembles that of nonribosomal peptide synthetase (NRPS) pathways, as nonribosomal peptides are biosynthesized by the assembly of amino acid units and NRPSs are also large modular enzymes composed of multiple catalytic domains and synthesize peptide chains according to the co-linearity rule of assembly lines [7]. In type-II PKS pathways, a set of three enzymes, ketosynthase a (KSα), KSβ (chain length factor), and acyl carrier protein (ACP), iteratively catalyzes the elongation of polyketide chains. The products are mainly aromatic compounds [8]. Approximately half to three quarters of secondary metabolite-BGCs, in the genomes of actinomycetes, are associated with PKS or NRPS pathways. This suggests that polyketides, nonribosomal peptides, and their hybrid compounds, which are synthesized by hybrid PKS/NRPS gene clusters, are major secondary metabolites in actinomycetes [9]. These compounds are structurally diverse and often exhibit useful pharmaceutical activities. Hence, nowadays, genome analyses focusing on PKS and NRPS gene clusters are often conducted to evaluate the potential use of actinomycete strains as a source for novel secondary metabolites [10–12].

In this study, we investigated the taxonomic positions of *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468, since the classification of antibiotic producers at the species level is important to understand the relationship between species and products. Next, we sequenced whole genomes of these two strains to reveal their potential in producing diverse secondary metabolites such as polyketides and nonribosomal peptides. Consequently, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 was considered to be a novel species, for which we propose *Micromonospora okii* sp. nov. Additionally, we observed a wide distribution of quinolidemycin-BGCs in the genus *Micromonospora* and classified ten *Micromonospora* strains for which whole genome sequences have been published, although species names have been unclear.
2. Results

2.1. Classification of Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468

*Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 showed a 16S rRNA gene sequence similarity of 100% to *Micromonospora oryzae* CP2R9-1T whereas *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 showed a similarity of 99.3% to *Micromonospora haikouensis* 232617T. In the phylogenetic tree, based on 16S rRNA gene sequences, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 formed a clade with the *M. oryzae* and *Micromonospora harpali* strains. In contrast, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 did not form a clade with any strains with a bootstrap value of >50% (Figure 2).

![Phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences. Numbers on the branches represent the confidence limits estimated by bootstrap analysis with 1000 replicates; values above 50% are at branching points. *Phytohabitans suffuscus* K07-0523T (AB490769) was used as an outgroup (not shown).](image)

Next, we reconstructed a phylogenetic tree based on DNA gyrase subunit B gene (gyrB) sequences (Figure 3), because 16S rRNA gene-based phylogenies of the genus *Micromonospora* did not always agree with other taxonomic characteristics, and the gyrB sequence has been reported to be suitable for phylogenetic classification and identification [13]. *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 formed a clade with the type strain of *M. oryzae* and their gyrB sequences are identical. This suggests that *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 is likely *M. oryzae*. On the other hand, the position of *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 was deep branched and monopelic, suggesting its phylogenetical independency. Although *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 formed a clade with the type strains of *M. oryzae*, *Micromonospora carbonacea*, *M. harpali* and *M. haikouensis*, its gyrB sequence similarities to the four strains were 94.9%, 94.9%, 94.9% and 94.7%, respectively. It has been reported that a 98.5% gyrB-sequence similarity corresponds to 70% DNA–DNA relatedness [13,14]. As the gyrB sequence similarities are well below 98.5%, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 is considered as an independent genomospecies.

Additionally, we conducted a multilocus sequence analysis (MLSA) using 85 housekeeping genes (Figure 4). Although *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 formed a clade with *M. haikouensis* DSM 45626T, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *M. carbonacea* DSM 43168T, its evolutionally relationships with them are not as close as the relationships that exist among the three strains (Figure 4). The DNA–DNA relatedness between *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 and these three members was found to be between 33.5% and 33.8% (data not shown). These results also suggest *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 to be an independent genomospecies.

Phenotypic differences were observed between *Micromonospora* TP-A0468 and its closely related phylogenetic neighbors such as *M. oryzae*, *M. carbonacea*, *M. harpali* and
M. haikouensis as listed in Table 1. Unlike these neighbors, Micromonospora TP-A0468 includes galactose within the whole-cell sugar. Its growth ranges and utilization pattern of carbon sources are different from those of the other listed species. Although M. oryzae may appear to show a similar utilization pattern of carbon sources, except for D-xylose, it produces soluble pigment and liquefies gelatin, which is different to Micromonospora TP-A0468. Thus, we classified Micromonospora TP-A0468 as a novel species, for which the name Micromonospora okii sp. nov. is proposed. The type strain is TP-A0468T (=NBRC 110461T).

**Figure 3.** Phylogenetic tree based on gyrB sequences. Numbers on the branches represent the confidence limits estimated by bootstrap analysis with 1000 replicates; values above 50% are at branching points. P. suffuscus NBRC 105367T (AP022871) was used as an outgroup (not shown).
Figure 4. Phylogenetic tree based on MLSA. Actinoplanes missouriensis 431T was used as an outgroup (not shown). The numbers in parentheses are accession numbers of whole genome sequences or WGS Projects in GenBank, from which housekeeping gene sequences were obtained.

Table 1. Phenotypic characters different between Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 and closely related species.

| Character                  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Melanine formation         | +  | nd | nd | nd | –  |
| Soluble pigment            | –  | nd | +  | nd | –  |
| Whole cell sugar           | Gal, Xyl, Ara, Glu | Ara, Xyl, Glu | Ara, Glu, Rib, Xyl | Ara, Glu, Xyl | Glu, Xyl, Man |
| Phospholipid               | PE, PI | PE, DPG, PIM | DPG, PE, PG, PI, PIMs | DPG, PE, PIM | DPG, PE, PIM |
| Starch hydrolysis          | +  | +  | +  | v  | +  |
| Milk peptonization         | +  | nd | +  | nd | –  |
| Cellulose decomposition    | –  | +  | nd | +  | –  |
| Gelatin liquefaction       | +  | +  | –  | nd | –  |
| Utilization of carbon source | l-Arabinose | D-Fructose | D-Galactose | Inositol | – |

- “+” indicates the presence of the character.
- “nd” indicates no data available.
- “–” indicates the absence of the character.
- “v” indicates variable presence.
Table 1. Cont.

| Character     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Maltose       | +   | −   | nd  | +   | +   |
| D-Mannose     | +   | −   | +   | +   | +   |
| D-Mannitol    | −   | v   | −   | v   | +   |
| D-Raffinose   | −   | +   | w   | +   | +   |
| D-Xylose      | −   | v   | +   | v   | −   |
| Growth temp.  | 13–41 (25–39) | nd | 20–45 (30) | nd | 15–40 (28) |
| pH for growth | 6–10 (7–8) | 5–8.5 | 5–10 (7) | nd | 6–10 (7) |
| NaCl tolerance | <4  | 3   | 4   | 3   | 3.5 |

1: Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468; 2: M. haikouensis; 3: M. oryzae; 4: M. carbonacea; 5: M. harpani; +: positive; −: negative; Ara: arabinose; DPG: diphosphatidylglycerol; Gal: galactose; Glu: glucose; Man: mannose; nd: not determined; PE: phosphatidylethanolamine; PI: phosphatidylinositol; PG: phosphatidylglycerol; PIM: phosphatidylinositol mannoside; Rib, ribose; v: varied; w: weak; Xyl: xylose. These data are taken from previous reports [4,15–17].

2.2. PKS and NRPS Gene Clusters in Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and M. okii TP-A0468

Fifteen gene clusters for secondary metabolites such as polyketides and nonribosomal peptides were observed in the genomes of Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316, as listed in Table 2. Type-I PKS gene cluster 1 (t1pks-1) resembled the tca gene cluster responsible for tetrocarcin A synthesis in M. chalcea NRRL 11289 [5] (Figure 5). As arisostatins are congeners of tetrocarcin A, and Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 is reported to produce tetrocarcin A in addition to arisostatins A and B [3], t1pks-1 was considered as the BGC for arisostatins and tetrocarcin A. Furthermore, t1pks-2 was found to be a large cluster of >200 kb and include 33 modules. This was considered as an ortholog of BGC for quinolidomicin (qnm), the largest known macrolide [18], according to the similar gene and domain organizations (Table 3). However, its module number is different from that of qnmA because t1pks-2 lacks module 4. The product is likely a quinolidomicin congener, but its polyketide skeleton is presumed to be different from quinolidomicin A1 [18]. In contrast, t1pks-3 was not found to be multimodal, but harbored only a single module. This gene cluster was predicted to be involved in sporolide synthesis [19]. As t1pks-4 was not completely sequenced, its product could not be predicted. Products of t2pks-1 were not predicted by our bioinformatic analysis. However, it is generally known that type-II PKS pathways are responsible for the synthesis of aromatic compounds. Additionally, t3pks-1 showed similarity to agq, a type-III PKS gene cluster for alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinone [20]. Five NRPS gene clusters in this strain did not show high similarities to other known NRPS gene clusters, suggesting them to be orphan, although nrps-6 was not completely sequenced. They were predicted to synthesize pentapeptide, tripeptide, tetrapeptide and dipeptide, respectively, as listed in Table 2. Four hybrid PKS/NRPS gene clusters, pks/nrps-1, -2, -3, and -4, were also orphan and were predicted to synthesize heptapeptide, tripeptide and pentapeptide with polyketide moieties and hexaketide with a glycine molecule, respectively.

M. okii TP-A0468 harbored 6 PKS, 5 NRPS and 4 hybrid PKS/NRPS gene clusters in its genome as shown in Table 4. Moreover, t1pks-2, t3pks-1, pks/nrps-2 and pks/nrps-3, which are asterisked in the tables, were found to be orthologs of gene clusters present in Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316. Both t1pks-5 and t2pks-2 were responsible for syntheses of 16-demethylrifamycins and kosinostatin, respectively, as reported [6,21]. Although nrps-6 was not completely sequenced, it is predicted to be a pyochelin-BGC since the homologs are often annotated as pyochelin synthetases. Although pks/nrps-5 resembled tallysomycin-BGC, ORF 21-45 contained a methyltransferase (MT) domain that is not encoded in tlmVIII. As the other domain organization showed good agreement with that of tlm gene cluster [22], its product was presumed to be methylallylsomycin. The other gene clusters such as t2pks-3, t3pks-2, nrps-7 to -10, and pks/nrps-6 were orphan and their products were predicted as shown in Table 4.
Table 2. PKS and NRPS gene clusters in the genomes of *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316.

| Cluster   | ORF Domain Organization       | Predicted Product                        |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| t1pks-1   |                                |                                          |
| 1-1073    | CoL/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS      | arisostatins A & B, tetrocarcin A         |
| 1-1077    | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 1-1078    | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 1-1080    | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| t1pks-2   |                                |                                          |
| 1-1081    | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    | quinolidomicin congener                 |
| t1pks-3   |                                | sporolide                                |
| 2-674     |                                |                                          |
| t1pks-4   |                                |                                          |
| 14-64     | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 16-1/16-2 | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 16-3      | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| t2pks-1   |                                |                                          |
| 4-99      | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 4-100     | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| 4-101     | KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-KS    |                                          |
| t3pks-1   |                                |                                          |
| 2-674     |                                |                                          |
| nrps-1    |                                |                                          |
| 1-336     | C/A/T/C/A/H, T/E              | pentapeptide (x-thr-phe-ser-ile)         |
| 1-337     | C/A/T/C/A/H, T/E              |                                          |
| 1-339     | C/A/T/C/A/H, T/E              |                                          |
| nrps-2    |                                |                                          |
| 4-510     | C/A/T/A/T                   | tripeptide (x-gly-x)                     |
| 4-511     | C/A/T/A/T                   |                                          |
| 4-512     | C/A/T/A/T                   |                                          |
| 4-513     | C/A/T/A/T                   |                                          |
| 4-514     | C/A/T/A/T                   |                                          |
| nrps-3    |                                |                                          |
| 6-252     | C/A/cys/T                   | tetrapeptide (x-cys-cys)                 |
| 6-258     | C/A/cys/T                   |                                          |
| 6-265     | C/A/cys/T                   |                                          |
| 6-266     | C/A/cys/T                   |                                          |
| 6-270     | C/A/cys/T                   |                                          |
| nrps-4    |                                |                                          |
| 8-247     | A/T/C                       | unpredictable                            |
| 8-248     | A/T/C                       |                                          |
| nrps-5    |                                |                                          |
| 12-31     | C/A/T/C/A/H, T/C/A/H, T/C    | ser-pro                                  |
| pks/nrps-1|                                |                                          |
| 4-217     | Col./ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-C/A/T-C | heptapeptide with polyketide moieties     |
| 4-220     | Col./ACP-KS/AT/KR-ACP-C/A/T-C | (st-pk-x-ala-glu-y-thr-ser-y)            |
| 4-223     | A/A/a/T                     |                                          |
| 4-227     | A/A/a/T                     |                                          |
| 4-228     | A/A/a/T                     |                                          |
| 4-229     | A/A/a/T                     |                                          |
| 4-247     | A/A/a/T                     |                                          |
| pks/nrps-2|                                |                                          |
| 6-50      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
| 6-51      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
| 6-52      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
| 6-53      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
| 6-54      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
| 6-55      | C/A/T                       |                                          |
Table 2. Cont.

| Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|---------|-----|---------------------|------------------|
| pks/nrps-3 * | 6-307 | A/T-KS/DH | pentapeptide with polyketide moiety |
|          | 6-310 | A/T-C/T | |
|          | 6-311 | KS/ATm/KR/DH/ACP | |
|          | 6-313 | C/ATm/T | (x-pk-x-pk-astn-ser) |
|          | 6-314 | C/Asat/T-Te | |
| pks/nrps-4 | 8-41 | Agly/T-KS/ACP/KS/ATm | hexaketide with gly |
|          | 8-40 | DH/KR/ACP/KS/ACP/KS/KR/ACP | |
|          | 8-39 | KS/DH/ACP/KS/ATm | |
|          | 8-37 | DH/KR/ACP-AmT | |

* not completely sequenced; * conserved between strains TP-A0316 and TP-A0468; A, adenylation; ACP, acyl carrier protein; AmT, aminotransferase; AT, acyltransferase; ATm, AT for malonyl-CoA, ATmm, AT for methyl malonyl-CoA; C, condensation; CLF, chain length factor; CoL, CoA ligase; DH, dehydratase; dbb, dihydroxybenzoate; E, epimerization; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, ketoreductase; KS, ketosynthase; M, AMPylation of just removed pentapeptide of polyketide moiety; MT, methyltransferase; m, methyl transferase; n, pentapeptide with methyl transferase; P, phytolase; T, thiolation; TD, termination; Te, thioesterase, m, methyl transferase; P, phytolase; X, unknown domain, y, unknown unit by lack of A domain in the module. Amino acids incorporated by A domains are indicated by 3-letter abbreviations in subscript just after A. Most similar, known clusters (similarity in KnownClusterBlast) of t1pks-1, t1pks-3 and t3pks-1 are BGCs of tetrocarcin A (91%), sporolide (23%) and alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinones (57%), respectively, by antiSMASH.

Figure 5. Tetrocarcin A-biosynthetic (tca) gene cluster of M. chalcea NRRL 11289 (a) and t1pks-1 gene cluster of Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 (b). ACP, acyl carrier protein; AT, acyltransferase; DH, dehydratase; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, ketoreductase; KS, ketosynthase; LM, loading module; M, module. Domain organizations are shown below ORFs.

Table 3. Domain organizations of PKSs in quinolidomycin-BGC and t1pks-2.

| Quinolidomycin (qnm) | M * | t1pks-2 |
|----------------------|-----|---------|
| in M. chalcea AK-AN57 | (1-1073) | (8-118) |
| Col./ACP | CoL/KR/ACP | Col./ACP |
| 1 KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP |
| 2 KS/ATmmm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 3 KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP (qnmA3) | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP (1-1078) | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP (8-123) |
| 4 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 5 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 6 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 7 KS/ATm/KR/ACP (qnmA4) | KS/ATm/KR/ACP (1-1080) | KS/ATm/KR/ACP (8-135) |
| 8 KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 9 KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 10 KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 11 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 12 KS/ATm/KR/ACP (qnmA5) | KS/ATm/KR/ACP (1-1081) | KS/ATm/KR/ACP (8-136) |
| 13 KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/DH/KR/ACP |
| 14 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 15 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
| 16 KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP | KS/ATm/KR/ACP |
Table 3. Cont.

| M* | Quinolidomicin (qnm) | in M. chalcea AK-AN57 | in Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 | in M. okii TP-A0468† |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 17  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 18  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 19  | KS/DH/KR/ACP          | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP     | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP            |                     |
| 20  | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP      | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP     | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP            |                     |
| 21  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 22  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 23  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 24  | KS/ATₘ/DH/ER/KR/ACP   | KS/ATₘ/DH/ER/KR/ACP  | KS/ATₘ/DH/ER/KR/ACP         |                     |
| 25  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 26  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 27  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 28  | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP      | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP     | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP            |                     |
| 29  | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP      | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP     | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP            |                     |
| 30  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 31  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 32  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |
| 33  | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP         | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP        | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP               |                     |

* M, module; ACP, acyl carrier protein; AT, acyltransferase; ATₘ, for malonyl-CoA; ATₘ/KR, AT for methyl malonyl-CoA; CoL, CoA ligase; DH, dehydratase; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, keto reductase; KS, ketosynthase; L, loading; Te, thioesterase; †, absent. Boldfaced and underlined domains are not observed in the others. Genes names and ORF no. are shown in parentheses. The domain organizations were surveyed by antiSMASH. Domain organizations in italicized modules may be doubtful because antiSMASH surrounded by dashed lines.

Table 4. PKS and NRPS gene clusters in the genomes of M. okii TP-A0468†.

| Gene Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|--------------|-----|---------------------|-------------------|
| t1pks-2      | 8-118 | CoL/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP | quinolidomicin congener |
|              | 8-122 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 8-123 | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP-KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP |                   |
|              | 8-124 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 8-135 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 8-136 | KS/ATₘ/KR/ACP       |                   |
| 17-167       | 8-137 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
| t1pks-5      | 17-166 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    | 16-demethylrifamycins |
|              | 17-167 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 17-168 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 17-169 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
|              | 17-170 | KS/ATₘ/DH/KR/ACP    |                   |
| 12pks-2      | 8-66  | KSα                 |                   |
|              | 8-67  | KSB (CLF)           | kosinostatin       |
|              | 8-68  | ACP                 |                   |
Table 4. Cont.

| Gene Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|--------------|-----|---------------------|-------------------|
| t2pks-3      | 15-39, 15-40, 15-41 | KSα, KSβ (CLF), ACP | aromatic polyketide |
| t3pks-1 *    | 13-182 | KS | alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinone |
| t3pks-2      | 9-577 | KS | polyketide with guaninotiole moiety |
| nrps-6p      | 8-1p, 8-2, 8-14 | C/A, A₄/C/T, A₁b | pyochelin |
| nrps-7       | 9-387 | A₂glu/T-TD | glu with β-lactone |
| nrps-8       | 16-60, 16-59, 16-58 | T, A₁al, C/A₃pro/T-TD | dipeptide (val-pro) |
| nrps-9       | 19-118, 19-110 | A/T, C/A/T | dipeptide (x-x) |
| nrps-10      | 20-72, 20-83 | A, A/T/E | dipeptide (x-x) |
| pks/nrps-2 * | 24-73, 24-74, 24-75, 24-76, 24-77, 24-78 | C/A/T, KS, ACP, C/A₄al/T, KS/AT₁al/ACP, A₄ser | tripeptide with polyketide moiety (ser-x-val-pk) |
| pks/nrps-3 * | 17-59, 17-56, 17-55, 17-52, 17-51 | A/T-KS/DH, A/T-C/T, KS/AT₁al/KR/ACP, C/A₄ser/T, C/A₄ser/T-Te | pentapeptide with polyketide moiety (x-pk-x-y-pk-asn-ser) |
| pks/nrps-5   | 21-43, 21-44, 21-45, 21-46, 21-47, 21-48, 21-50, 21-51, 21-53, 21-62 | C/A₄ser/T-C/A/T, C/A₄, C/Av₁al/T-C, Co₁/T-C/A₄ser/T-C, T-C, C/A₄as/C/T-C, A/T, C, A/T | methyllaoylsomycin |
| pks/nrps-6   | 26-56 | A/T-KS/AT₁al/ACP-C/A/T-C | dipeptide with polyketide moiety (x-pk-x) |

Footnotes are the same as those of Table 2. *p, not completely sequenced; *, conserved between strains TP-A0316 and TP-A0468. Most similar known cluster (similarity in KnownClusterBlast) of t1pks-5, t2pks-2, t3pks-1 and pks/nrps-5 are biosynthetic gene clusters of rifamycin (64%), kosinostatin (100%), alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinones (57%) and tallysomycin (37%), respectively, by antiSMASH.

2.3. Distribution of Quinquinoidomicin-BGC Orthologs in the Genus Micromonospora

Unexpectedly, both Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and M. okii TP-A0468 possessed an ortholog of qnm gene cluster, which is the largest type-I PKS gene cluster identified to date [18]. We investigated its distribution in genome sequence-published strains of the genus Micromonospora. Among the 74 strains shown in Figure 6, 34 strains were found to harbor the ortholog. Among them, 23 strains were phylogenetically close to Micromonospora aurantiaca or to the two strains studied here. However, the remaining 11 strains are phylogenetically diverse, suggesting the ortholog is widely distributed in the genus Micromonospora.
Figure 6. Distribution of quinolidomycin-biosynthetic gene cluster orthologs in the genus Micromonospora. Whole genome sequence-published strains are shown in a phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences. Accession numbers of 16S rRNA gene sequences are shown in parentheses. Strains harboring the ortholog are boldfaced. DDH, DNA-DNA relatedness values determined by digital DNA-DNA hybridization. P. sulfuscens K07-05237 (AB490769) is used as an outgroup (not shown).

Although the 16S rRNA gene sequences between Micromonospora sp. B006 and Micromonospora tubulagiae DSM 45142 was identical, it was found that Micromonospora sp. B006 harbors the orthob [23] while M. tubulagiae DSM 45142 does not. Because it is reported that members in the same species possess similar sets of PKS and NRP gene clusters [24], we examined DNA-DNA relatedness values, which were estimated using digital DNA-DNA hybridization (DDH) among strains showing high 16S rRNA gene sequence similarities to clarify their taxonomic relationships. As noted in Figure 5, the DNA-DNA relatedness value between Micromonospora sp. B006 and M. tubulagiae DSM 45142 was 51%, which is below the species cut-off value of 70% defined in the bacteria systematics [25], suggesting them to be different species. Micromonospora sp. L5, Micromonospora sp. RV43, Micromonospora sp. WMMA235, Micromonospora sp. CNZ279, Micromonospora sp. CNZ296 and “Micromonospora globosa” NRRL B-2673 showed a DNA-DNA relatedness value of >90% to the type strain of M. aurantia. Micromonospora sp. M42 and Micromonospora sp. DSW705 showed ~90% to the type strain of M. chalcea, but Micromonospora sp. TSR0369 did not. In contrast, the DNA-DNA relatedness values between Micromonospora sp. WMMA2032 and
Micromonospora sediminicola DSM 45794T, Micromonospora sp. DSW705 and Micromonospora sp. TSR0369, and M. parva NRRL B-2680T and M. chokoriensis NRRL B-24750T were less than 70% although these strain pairs shared the same 16S rRNA gene sequence. The DNA-DNA relatedness values between M. saelicesensis DSM 44871T and Micromonospora sp. CNZ322, Micromonospora sp. NRRL B-16802 and M. profundii DSM 45981T, and among Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316, M. haikouensis JXNU-1, M. haikouensis DSM 45626T and Micromonospora sp. Rc5 were 71%, 94% and 74–94%, respectively.

3. Discussion

The relationships that exist between taxonomic species and secondary metabolites are still unclear because many strains that produce bioactive secondary metabolites have not been classified at species level. This study aimed to elucidate the taxonomic positions of both Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316, a producer of arisostatins, and Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468, a producer of kosinostatin, at the species level. We concluded that Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 is closely related to M. oryzae, and that Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468 should be classified as a novel species, for which we propose M. okii sp. nov. These two strains each harbor 15 PKS and NRPS gene clusters in their genomes. We characterized these gene clusters bioinformatically. Among the 15 clusters of each strain, only 4 were conserved between the strains. This is because Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and M. okii TP-A0468T are different species.

Our genome analysis revealed that, alongside the two strains that have not been reported as quinolidomicin-producers, diverse Micromonospora strains harbor orthologs of the qnm gene cluster. Members in the genus Micromonospora are known to include producers of aminoglycoside antibiotics such as gentamicin [26], mutamicin [27], netilmicin, retymycin, sisomicin [28], verdamicin and turbinmicin [29]. Quinolidomincins may be one of the representative products, although the report is limited [30] by the difficulties associated with its structure [18,31].

In addition to Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 and Micromonospora sp. TP-A0468, many genome sequence-published Micromonospora strains have not been classified at species level. Digital DDH conducted in this study clarified the taxonomic positions as follows: Micromonospora sp. L5, Micromonospora sp. RV43, Micromonospora sp. WMMB235, Micromonospora sp. CNZ297, Micromonospora sp. CNZ296 and M. globosa NRRL B-2673 are M. aurantiaca; Micromonospora sp. M42 and Micromonospora sp. DSW705 are M. chalcea; Micromonospora sp. NRRL B-16802 is M. profundii. Although the strain NRRL B-2672 has been published as Micromonospora purpureochromogenes, we found this to not be true, because they are phylogenetically distant as shown in Figure 5 and its DNA-DNA relatedness to M. purpureochromogenes DSM 43827T was only 27% (data not shown). It may be possible to classify Micromonospora sp. CNZ322 as M. saelicesensis since their DNA-DNA relatedness was found to be 71%. In contrast, Micromonospora sp. WMMA2032, Micromonospora sp. TSLI0369 and Micromonospora sp. B006 are likely to be classified as independent genomospecies, since their DNA-DNA relatedness to each phylogenetic neighbor was 37%, 64% and 51%, respectively.

We stated that Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 is likely to be classified as M. oryzae in the results section. However, this strain and M. haikouensis JXNU-1, which is not the type strain of M. haikouensis, unexpectedly shared the same 16S rRNA gene sequence as shown in Figure 6. Strain JXNU-1 may not be M. haikouensis but M. oryzae. Our digital DNA–DNA hybridization suggested that M. oryzae and M. haikouensis may be identical because the members showed DNA–DNA relatedness values of >74%, as shown in Figure 5, although whole genome sequence of M. oryzae type strain is not available. If it is considered that M. oryzae and M. haikouensis are synonym, Micromonospora sp. TP-A0316 may be classified as M. haikouensis based on the priority rule of the International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria.
4. Description of *Micromonospora okii* sp. nov.

*Micromonospora okii* (o.ki’i. N.L. gen. n. okii of Oki, named in honor of the late Professor Toshikazu Oki, a celebrated actinomycete biologist who organized the study on strain TP-A0468).

The description provided is based on data obtained in a previous study [4]. Aerobic and Gram stain-positive filamentous actinomycete. Spores are singly formed on substrate mycelium. The spore shape and size are oval and range from 0.8 to 1.2 mm, respectively. The colors of vegetative mycelium and the reverse side are yellowish or grayish white to grayish brown on sucrose-nitrate agar, light orange on glucose-asparagine agar, yellowish brown on Bennett’s agar, light orange to dark gray on nutrient agar, light or light yellowish brown to grayish brown on oatmeal agar, dark brown to dark yellowish brown on inorganic salts-starch agar, and white on glycerol asparagine agar. Vegetative mycelium and the reverse side are, respectively, beige white to light grayish brown and white on glucose-nitrate agar, soft orange to olive gray and light yellowish brown to medium gray on yeast extract-malt extract agar, beige gray to light yellowish brown and grayish white to yellowish brown on tyrosine agar. Vegetative mycelium acts well on nutrient agar, Bennett’s agar, yeast extract-malt extract agar, oatmeal agar, and inorganic salts-starch agar, but poorly on sucrose-nitrate agar, glucose-nitrate agar, glucose-asparagine agar, glycerol asparagine agar and tyrosine agar. Aerial mycelium and diffusible pigments are not formed. Starch hydrolysis, milk coagulation and milk peptonization are positive. The temperature range for growth is 13 to 41 °C and the optimum temperature is from 25 to 39 °C. D-Glucose, sucrose, maltose, L-rhamnose, D-mannose, D-fructose, L-arabinose, and D-galactose are utilized for growth. Inositol, D-mannitol, raffinose and D-xylitol are not utilized. Whole-cell hydrolysates contain meso-diaminopimelic acid as the diagnostic diamino acid, and galactose, xylose, arabinose and glucose as the whole-cell sugars. The phospholipid type is the PII pattern, and phosphatidylethanolamine and phosphatidylinositol are present. The type strain produces kosinostatin.

The type strain is TP-A0468T (=NBRC 110461T). The DNA G+C content of the type strain is 73.9% (determined by whole genome-sequencing). Accession numbers of the draft genome sequence of the type strain are BBZF01000001–BBZF01000036.

5. Materials and Methods

*Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 were isolated as previously reported [3,4] and were deposited onto the NBRC culture collection as NBRC 110038 and NBRC 110461, respectively. The 16S rRNA gene sequences were determined by the same method used in our previous report [32]. The EzBioCloud web server [33] was used to search closely related type strains and calculate 16S rRNA gene sequence similarities. Phylogenetic trees based on 16S rRNA gene and gyrB sequences were reconstructed by the neighbor-joining method using ClustalX 2.1. MLSA was conducted by autoMLST [34] using the DNA sequences of 85 housekeeping genes: *gatB*, gatA, amino acid biosynthesis phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase (PGDH) gene, amino acid biosynthesis acetolactate synthase, small subunit (acolac_sm) gene, imidazole glycerol phosphate synthase, glutamine amidotransferase subunit (IMP_synth_hisH) gene, *nuoF*, phosphoribosylformylglycinamidine synthase II (FGAM_synth_II) gene, *rsnG*, *tphA/bipA*, *ilsD*, phosphoribosylformylglycinamidine synthase I (FGAM_synth_I) gene, *hutU*, *yjeE*, fructose-bisphosphate aldolase, class II (FruBisAldo_II_A) gene, histidinol-phosphatase (his_9_HisN) gene, *recQ*, nth, *whiA*, transketolase (tktlase_bact) gene, polyphosphate kinase 1 (poly_P_kin) gene, *atpD*, rplA, *hrcA*, *glpX*, *rpe*, *lipA*, *purH*, translation initiation factor IF-2 gene, *pdb2*, SUF system FeS assembly protein, NifU family (SUF_scaf_2) gene, *ung*, *rplM*, *atpA*, *secA*, *gyrA*, preprotein translocase, SecY subunit (3a0501s007) gene, *pyrF*, *rpsC*, *trbB*, rpsL, cystathionine beta-synthase (cysta_beta) gene, *pth*, *pyrG*, ribonucleoside PH (RNasePH) gene, *clpX*, hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (HGPRTase) gene, *flsZ*, *flsY*, *rlmN*, *cgtA*, *flsE*, *trmU*, *pyrB*, *radA*, *rpoC*, CCA tRNA nucleotidyltransferase gene, *ksA*, *era*, 1,4-alpha-glucan branching enzyme gene, *rntB*, *purS*, *pyrF*, *recA*, *dcx*, *gurB*, *pdbx1*, *engA*, *fbi*, *recR*, *dnaA*, *sufB*, *dxr*, *trmD*, *rplB*, *pyrH*, *mfd*, *rplV*, *mraZ*, *purA*, nicotinate (nicotinamide) nucleotide adenyllyltransferase gene, *aspS*, *rpoZ*, phosphopan-
tothenoylcysteine decarboxylase/phosphopantothenate—cysteine ligase (coaBC_dfp) gene, purF, and rpsB. Whole genome sequencing and analyses of PKS and NRPS gene clusters in the genome sequences were conducted in the same manner of our previous reports [32,35–37]. These gene clusters and their domain were detected and determined, respectively, using antiSMASH [38]. The products were predicted not only through KnownClusterBlast in antiSMASH but also manually, based on module numbers, domain organizations, and substrates of adenylation domains. The draft genome sequences have been published in GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ under the accession numbers of BBOL01000001–BBOL01000026 and BBZF01000001–BBZF01000036, respectively. DNA–DNA relatedness was estimated by digital DDH using Formula 2 of the Genome-to-Genome Distance Calculator 2.1 (GGDC) [39].

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