Complete genome sequence of *Marivirga tractuosa* type strain (H-43T)

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*Marivirga tractuosa* (Lewin 1969) Nedashkovskaya et al. 2010 is the type species of the genus *Marivirga*, which belongs to the family *Flammeovirgaceae*. Members of this genus are of interest because of their gliding motility. The species is of interest because representative strains show resistance to several antibiotics, including gentamicin, kanamycin, neomycin, polymixin, and streptomycin. This is the first complete genome sequence of a member of the family *Flammeovirgaceae*. Here we describe the features of this organism, together with the complete genome sequence and annotation. The 4,511,574 bp long chromosome and the 4,916 bp plasmid with their 3,808 protein-coding and 49 RNA genes are a part of the Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archaea project.

**Introduction**

Strain H-43T (= DSM 4126 = ATCC 23168 = NBRC 15989) is the type strain of the species *Marivirga tractuosa*. The genus *Marivirga*, whose type species is *M. tractuosa*, contains only one additional species: *M. sericea*. The generic name ‘Marivirga’ derives from Latin words ‘mare’, the sea and ‘virga’, rod, meaning ‘a rod that inhabits marine environments’ [1]. The species epithet ‘tractuosa’ is a Latin adjective meaning ‘that draws to itself, gluey, viscous’, probably referring to the phenotype of gliding motility [1]. Strain H-43T was isolated in 1969 from a beach sand sample collected from Nhatrang (South China Sea), Vietnam [2] and was initially named ‘*Microscilla tractuosa*’ by Lewin [3], but was never validly published under this name. The strain was then in 1974 joined to the genus *Flexibacter* by Leadbetter [4]. In 2010, strain H-43T was reclassified to the novel genus *Marivirga*, based on a polyphasic approach [1]. Other strains have been isolated worldwide from mud in the Orne Estuary, France and silty sand in Penang, Malaysia [5], as well as from brown mud.
from Muigh Inis, Ireland, underneath frozen sand in the upper littoral zone at Auke Bay, Alaska, red-brown mud from Helgoland Island, Germany, and from brown sand at Moreton Bay, Australia [6]. These sampling sites suggest an ecological preference of \textit{M. tractuosa} for wet terrestrial habitats [1,2]. Here we present a summary classification and a set of features for \textit{M. tractuosa} strain H-43\textsuperscript{T}, together with the description of the complete genomic sequencing and annotation.

**Classification and features**

The 16S rRNA gene sequence of the strain H-43\textsuperscript{T} shares the highest degree of similarity (99.1\%) with \textit{M. sericea}, the only other member of the genus \textit{Marivirga} (Figure 1) [12], and with an uncultured Bacteroidetes clone SHBC423 (99\%, GQ350249) from oceanic dead zones [13]. A representative genomic 16S rRNA gene sequence of \textit{M. tractuosa} was compared using NCBI BLAST under default values with the most recent release of the Greengenes database [14] and the relative frequencies, weighted by BLAST scores, of taxa and keywords (reduced to their stem [15]) were determined. The five most frequent genera were \textit{Flexibacter} (= not yet renamed \textit{Marivirga} hits) (26.8\%), \textit{Pontibacter} (21.6\%), \textit{Hymenobacter} (21.4\%), \textit{Adhaeribacter} (8.3\%) and \textit{Microscilla} (8.0\%) (57 hits in total). The highest-scoring environmental sequence was EU447282 (\textit{Flexibacteraceae bacteria KMM 6276}), which showed an identity of 100.0\% and an HSP coverage of 97.6\%, but most probably represents a \textit{Marivirga} strain. The five most frequent keywords within the labels of environmental samples which yielded hits were 'microbi' (4.0\%), 'sediment' (3.1\%), 'site' (1.9\%), 'group' (1.7\%) and 'coral' (1.6\%) (192 hits in total). These keywords support the ecological preference of \textit{M. tractuosa} for wet habitats, as deduced from the sampling sites of the cultivated strains. Environmental samples which yielded hits of a higher score than the highest scoring species were not found.

Figure 1 shows the phylogenetic neighborhood of \textit{M. tractuosa} H-43\textsuperscript{T} in a 16S rRNA based tree. The sequences of the two identical 16S rRNA gene copies in the genome do not differ from the previously published 16S rRNA sequence (AB078072).

The cells of strain H-43\textsuperscript{T} are long, slender and flexible rods 0.4-0.5 µm in diameter and 10-50 µm in length or longer (Figure 2). Strain H-43\textsuperscript{T} is a Gram-negative non-spore-forming bacterium (Table 1) that exhibits gliding motility [1].

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**Figure 1.** Phylogenetic tree highlighting the position of \textit{M. tractuosa} relative to the other type strains within the family \textit{Flammeovirgaceae}. The trees were inferred from 1,408 aligned characters [7,8] of the 16S rRNA gene sequence under the maximum likelihood criterion [9] and rooted in accordance with the family \textit{Sphingobacteriaceae}. The branches are scaled in terms of the expected number of substitutions per site. Numbers above branches are support values from 1,000 bootstrap replicates [10] if larger than 60\%. Lineages with type strain genome sequencing projects registered in GOLD [11] are shown in blue, published genomes in bold.
Marivirga tractuosa type strain (H-43T)

Strain H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\) is strictly aerobic and chemoorganotrophic [1]. Growth is observed at 10-40°C and with 0.5–10% NaCl, with optimal growth at 28-32°C and 4-7% NaCl [1]. Colonies are circular, shiny and 2-4 mm in diameter after 72 h of incubation on marine agar [1]. They are usually dark-orange in color but whitish or yellow-pigmented variants may occur [1]. Pigment type three was found in the strain H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\), the main pigment being saproxanthin [2]. In n-hexane, the absorption maxima of the pigments from crude extract were 425 nm, 447 nm, 471 nm and 505 nm [2]. Flexirubin-type pigments are not produced. Arginine dihydrolase, ornithine decarboxylase, lysine decarboxylase and tryptophan deaminase activities were described to be absent [1], however, Srinivas et al. [22] found that strain H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\) could utilize arginine, and also that growth on alanine and cysteine was weak. Nitrate is not reduced. Indole and acetoin (Voges–Proskauer reaction) are not produced [1]. Gelatin, Tween 20, Tween 40, Tween 80 and DNA are hydrolyzed, as well as agar, starch, urea, cellulose (CM-cellulose and filter paper) and chitin [1, 2], however, again in contrast to the original description [1], Srinivas et al. reported that the strain does not hydrolyze Tween 20, Tween 40 or Tween 80 [22]. Acid is not produced from L-arabinose, cellobiose, L-fucose, D-galactose, glycerol, lactose, melibiose, raffinose, L-rhamnose, L-sorbose, sucrose, trehalose, DL-xylose, N-acetylglucosamine, citrate, acetate, fumarate, malate, adonitol, dulcitol, inositol or mannitol. In the API 50 CH gallery, acid is produced only from esculin and arbutin. Production of hydrogen sulfide and hydrolysis of casein are variable [1]. Citrate is utilized but lactose, inositol, glucose, caprate, phenylalanine and malonate are not. Utilization of arabinose, D-glucose, D-mannose, sucrose, mannitol, N-acetylglucosamine, maltose, malate and sorbitol is variable [1]. Glucose, glycerol, galactose and sucrose (5.1 g/l, each) are used as carbon sources and stimulate the growth of strain H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\), while sodium acetate and sodium lactate do not [2]. Nitrogen sources supporting growth include tryptone (1 g/l) and casein acids (1 g/l), but not sodium glutamate or NO\(_3\); [2]. Alkaline phosphatase, esterase (C4), esterase lipase (C8), leucine arylamidase, valine arylamidase, cystine arylamidase, α-chymotrypsin, acid phosphatase, naphthol-AS-BI-phosphohydrolase, β-galactosidase and α- and β-glucosidase activities are present, but lipase (C14), trypsin, α-galactosidase, β-glucuronidase, N-acetyl β-glucosaminidase, α-mannosidase and α-fucosidase activities are negative in the API ZYM gallery [1]. In litmus-milk, the dye was reduced and the clotting occurred. Moreover, litmus turned pink due to acidification and the curd was re-digested because of proteolysis [2]. Strain H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\) is sensitive to ampicillin (10 µg), benzylpenicillin (10 U), carbenicillin (100 µg), chloramphenicol (30 µg), doxycycline (10 µg), erythromycin (15 µg), lincomycin (15 µg), oleandomycin (15 µg) and tetracycline (30 µg), but resistant to gentamicin (10 µg), kanamycin (30 µg), neomycin (30 µg), polymixin (300 U) and streptomycin (30 µg) [1]. Cytochrome oxidase, catalase and alkaline phosphatase tests were positive [1], although Srinivas et al. [22] found only a weak reaction in the catalase test. When growing, the strain was able to degrade dihydroxyphenyl alanine and tyrosine (5 g/l) [2].

Figure 2. Scanning electron micrograph of M. tractuosa H-43\(^\mathrm{T}\)
Table 1. Classification and general features of *M. tractuosa* H-43\(^\text{T}\) according to the MIGS recommendations [16]

| MIGS ID | Property          | Term                                      | Evidence code |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|
|         | Current classification |                                           |               |
|         | Domain            | Bacteria                                  | TAS [17]      |
|         | Phylum            | Bacteroidetes                             | TAS [19]      |
|         | Class             | Sphingobacteria                           | TAS [18]      |
|         | Order             | Sphingobacteriales                        | TAS [18]      |
|         | Family            | Flammeovirgaceae                          | TAS [18]      |
|         | Genus             | Marivirga                                 | TAS [1]       |
|         | Species           | Marivirga tractuosa                       | TAS [1]       |
|         | Type strain       | H-43                                      | TAS [1]       |
|         | Gram stain        | negative                                  | TAS [1,2]     |
|         | Cell shape        | long, slender and flexible rods           | TAS [1]       |
|         | Motility          | motile by gliding                         | TAS [1,2]     |
|         | Sporulation       | no                                        | TAS [1,2]     |
|         | Temperature range | 10°C-40°C                                 | TAS [1]       |
|         | Optimum temperature | 28°C-32°C                              | TAS [1,2]     |
| MIGS-22 | Oxygen requirement | strictly aerobic                          | TAS [1,2]     |
|         | Carbon source     | glycerol, glucose, galactose, sucrose     | TAS [2]       |
|         | Energy metabolism | chemoorganotroph                          | TAS [1]       |
| MIGS-6  | Habitat           | wet terrestrial habitats, occasionally fresh water | TAS [2] |
| MIGS-15 | Biotic relationship | free-living                              | NAS           |
| MIGS-14 | Pathogenicity      | not reported                              | NAS           |
|         | Biosafety level   | 1                                         | TAS [20]      |
|         | Isolation         | beach sand sample                         | TAS [1]       |
| MIGS-4  | Geographic location | Nhatrang (South China Sea), Vietnam      | TAS [1]       |
| MIGS-5  | Sample collection time | 1969 or before                          | TAS [2]       |
| MIGS-4.1 | Latitude         | 12.25                                     | TAS [2]       |
| MIGS-4.2 | Longitude        | 109.20                                    | NAS           |
| MIGS-4.3 | Depth            | not reported                              | NAS           |
| MIGS-4.4 | Altitude         | not reported                              | NAS           |

Evidence codes - IDA: Inferred from Direct Assay (first time in publication); TAS: Traceable Author Statement (i.e., a direct report exists in the literature); NAS: Non-traceable Author Statement (i.e., not directly observed for the living, isolated sample, but based on a generally accepted property for the species, or anecdotal evidence). These evidence codes are from of the Gene Ontology project [21]. If the evidence code is IDA, then the property was directly observed by one of the authors or an expert mentioned in the acknowledgements.

**Chemotaxonomy**

The predominant cellular fatty acid of the strain H-43\(^\text{T}\) were iso-C\(_{15:0}\) (36.8%), iso-C\(_{15:1}\) (23.0%) and iso-C\(_{17:03-06}\) (12.2%), with a detailed listing given in Nedashkovskaya *et al.* [1]. Srinivas *et al.* reported fundamentally different observations for strain H-43\(^\text{T}\), with the C\(_{16:0}\) (69% of the total fatty acids) to be the most important fatty acids in the strain H-43\(^\text{T}\), whereas iso-C\(_{15:0}\) was not detectable [22]. The main respiratory quinone is MK-7 [1].

**Genome sequencing and annotation**

**Genome project history**

This organism was selected for sequencing on the basis of its phylogenetic position [23], and is part of the *Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archaea* project [24]. The genome project is deposited in the Genomes On Line Database [11] and the complete genome sequence is deposited in GenBank. Sequencing, finishing and annotation were performed by the DOE Joint Genome Institute (JGI). A summary of the project information is shown in Table 2.
Marivirga tractuosa type strain (H-43T)

Table 2. Genome sequencing project information

| MIGS ID | Property           | Term                                                                 |
|---------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MIGS-31 | Finishing quality  | Finished                                                             |
| MIGS-28 | Libraries used     | Three genomic libraries: one 454 pyrosequence standard library, one 454 PE library (10 kb insert size), one Illumina library |
| MIGS-29 | Sequencing platforms | Illumina GAii, 454 GS FLX Titanium                                     |
| MIGS-31.2 | Sequencing coverage | 60.1 × Illumina; 44.4 × pyrosequence                                  |
| MIGS-30 | Assemblers         | Newbler version 2.1-PreRelease-4-28-2009-gcc-3.4.6-threads, Velvet, phrap |
| MIGS-32 | Gene calling method | Prodigal 1.4, GenePRIMP                                               |
|         |                    | CP002349 (chromosome)                                                |
|         |                    | CP002350 (plasmid FTRAC01)                                            |
| MIGS-13 | Source material identifier | DSM 4126                                                             |
|         | Project relevance  | Tree of Life, GEBA                                                   |

Growth conditions and DNA isolation

*M. tractuosa* H-43T, DSM 4126, was grown in DSMZ medium 172 (Cytophaga (marine) medium) [25] at 25°C. DNA was isolated from 0.5-1 g of cell paste using MasterPure Gram-positive DNA purification kit (Epicentre MGP04100) following the standard protocol as recommended by the manufacturer with modification st/DL for cell lysis as described in Wu et al. [24]. DNA is available through the DNA Bank Network [26,27].

Genome sequencing and assembly

The genome was sequenced using a combination of Illumina and 454 sequencing platforms. All general aspects of library construction and sequencing can be found at the JGI website [28]. Pyrosequencing reads were assembled using the Newbler assembler version 2.1-Pre-release-4-28-2009-gcc-3.4.6-threads (Roche). The initial Newbler assembly consisted of 115 contigs in one scaffold and was converted into a phrap [29] assembly by making fake reads from the consensus, collecting the read pairs in the 454 paired end library. Illumina GAii sequencing data (496 Mb) was assembled with Velvet [30] and the consensus sequences were shredded into 1.5 kb overlapped fake reads and assembled together with the 454 data. The 454 draft assembly was based on 201.9 Mb 454 draft data and all of the 454 paired end data. Newbler parameters were -consed -a 50 -i 1350 -g -m -ml 20. The Phred/Phrap/Consed software package [29] was used for sequence assembly and quality assessment in the following finishing process. After the shotgun stage, reads were assembled with parallel phrap (High Performance Software, LLC). Possible mis-assemblies were corrected with gapResolution [28], Dupfinisher, or sequencing cloned bridging PCR fragments with subcloning or transposon bombing (Epicentre Biotechnologies, Madison, WI) [31]. Gaps between contigs were closed by editing in Consed, by PCR and by Bubble PCR primer walks (J.-F.Chang, unpublished). A total of 336 additional reactions were necessary to close gaps and to raise the quality of the finished sequence. Illumina reads were also used to correct potential base errors and increase consensus quality using a software Polisher developed at JGI [32]. The error rate of the completed genome sequence is less than 1 in 100,000. Together, the combination of the Illumina and 454 sequencing platforms provided 104.5 × coverage of the genome. Final assembly contains 589,653 pyrosequence and 7,543,442 Illumina reads.

Genome annotation

Genes were identified using Prodigal [33] as part of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory genome annotation pipeline, followed by a round of manual curation using the JGI GenePRIMP pipeline [34]. The predicted CDSs were translated and used to search the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) nonredundant database, UniProt, TIGRFam, Pfam, PRIAM, KEGG, COG, and In-
terPro databases. Additional gene prediction analysis and functional annotation was performed within the Integrated Microbial Genomes - Expert Review (IMG-ER) platform [35].

**Genome properties**
The genome consists of a 4,511,574 bp long chromosome with a 35.5% G+C content and a 4,916 bp plasmid with 40% G+C content (Figure 3 and Table 3). Of the 3,857 genes predicted, 3,808 were protein-coding genes, and 49 RNAs; Fifty-one pseudogenes were identified. The majority of the protein-coding genes (62.2%) were assigned with a putative function while the remaining ones were annotated as hypothetical proteins. The distribution of genes into COGs functional categories is presented in Table 4.

**Figure 3.** Graphical circular map of the chromosome (plasmid map not shown). From outside to the center: Genes on forward strand (color by COG categories), Genes on reverse strand (color by COG categories), RNA genes (tRNAs green, rRNAs red, other RNAs black), GC content, GC skew.
**Table 3. Genome Statistics**

| Attribute                                | Value          | % of Total |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Genome size (bp)                         | 4,516,490      | 100.00%    |
| DNA coding region (bp)                   | 4,029,412      | 89.22%     |
| DNA G+C content (bp)                     | 1,604,111      | 35.52%     |
| Number of replicons                      | 2              |            |
| Extrachromosomal elements                | 1              |            |
| Total genes                              | 3,857          | 100.00%    |
| RNA genes                                | 49             | 1.27%      |
| rRNA operons                             | 2              |            |
| Protein-coding genes                     | 3,808          | 98.73%     |
| Pseudo genes                             | 51             | 1.32%      |
| Genes with function prediction           | 2,398          | 62.17%     |
| Genes in paralog clusters                | 396            | 10.27%     |
| Genes assigned to COGs                   | 2,375          | 61.58%     |
| Genes assigned Pfam domains              | 2,609          | 67.64%     |
| Genes with signal peptides               | 1,113          | 28.86%     |
| Genes with transmembrane helices         | 997            | 25.85%     |
| CRISPR repeats                           | 0              |            |

**Table 4. Number of genes associated with the general COG functional categories**

| Code | Value | % age | Description                                                                 |
|------|-------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| J    | 157   | 6.1   | Translation, ribosomal structure and biogenesis                            |
| A    | 0     | 0.0   | RNA processing and modification                                              |
| K    | 163   | 6.3   | Transcription                                                               |
| L    | 131   | 5.1   | Replication, recombination and repair                                       |
| B    | 1     | 0.1   | Chromatin structure and dynamics                                            |
| D    | 30    | 1.2   | Cell cycle control, cell division, chromosome partitioning                 |
| Y    | 0     | 0.0   | Nuclear structure                                                           |
| V    | 63    | 2.4   | Defense mechanisms                                                          |
| T    | 184   | 7.1   | Signal transduction mechanisms                                               |
| M    | 236   | 9.1   | Cell wall/membrane/envelope biogenesis                                       |
| N    | 10    | 0.4   | Cell motility                                                               |
| Z    | 1     | 0.0   | Cytoskeleton                                                                |
| W    | 0     | 0.0   | Extracellular structures                                                    |
| U    | 37    | 1.4   | Intracellular trafficking and secretion, and vesicular transport             |
| O    | 112   | 4.3   | Posttranslational modification, protein turnover, chaperones                |
| C    | 126   | 4.9   | Energy production and conversion                                            |
| G    | 102   | 3.9   | Carbohydrate transport and metabolism                                        |
| E    | 217   | 8.4   | Amino acid transport and metabolism                                          |
| F    | 67    | 2.6   | Nucleotide transport and metabolism                                         |
| H    | 118   | 4.6   | Coenzyme transport and metabolism                                           |
| I    | 99    | 3.8   | Lipid transport and metabolism                                              |
| P    | 136   | 5.3   | Inorganic ion transport and metabolism                                       |
| Q    | 51    | 2.0   | Secondary metabolites biosynthesis, transport and catabolism                |
| R    | 340   | 13.1  | General function prediction only                                            |
| S    | 208   | 8.0   | Function unknown                                                            |
| -    | 1,482 | 38.4  | Not in COGs                                                                 |
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