



Article

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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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 and have been found to produce diverse secondary metabolites [2]. In our previous studies, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 were isolated from 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 tetrocacin A [3] whereas *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 produces kosinostatin [4]. Arisostatins are new members of the tetrocacin class of antibiotics (Figure 1a), providing antibiotic activity against Gram-positive bacteria and demonstrating antitumor activity [3]. Although the tetrocacin 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. Tetrocacin A and kosinostatin are synthesized via type-I polyketide synthase (PKS) and type-II PKS pathways, respectively [5,6].

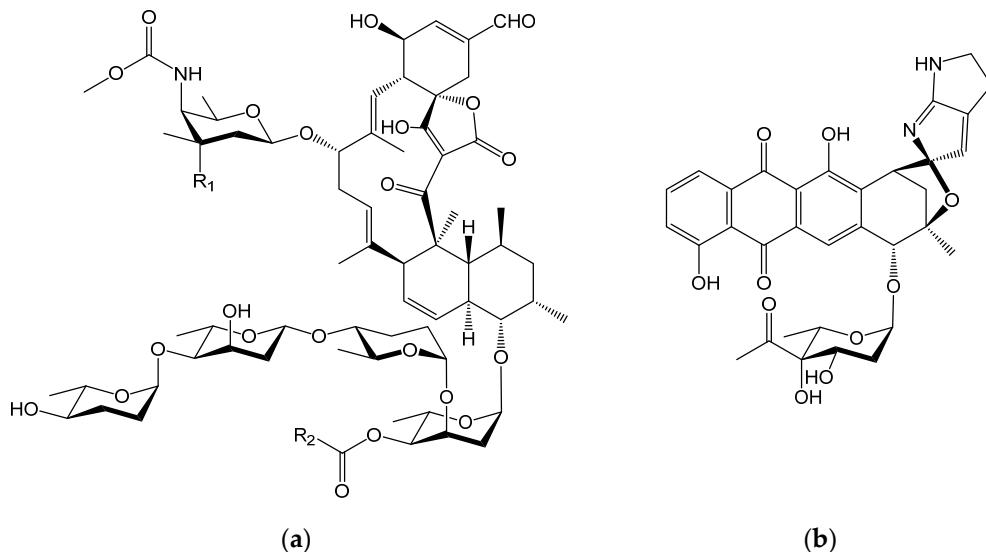


Figure 1. Chemical structures of arisostatins A and B and tetrocacin A (a) and kosinostatin (b). Arisostatin A, R₁ = NO₂, R₂ = CH(CH₃)₂; arisostatin B, R₁ = NH₂, R₂ = CH(CH₃)₂; tetrocacin A: R₁ = NO₂, R₂ = CH₃.

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 α (KS α), KS β (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 quinolide-mycin-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* CP2R9-1^T whereas *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0468 showed a similarity of 99.3% to *Micromonospora haikouensis* 232617^T. 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).

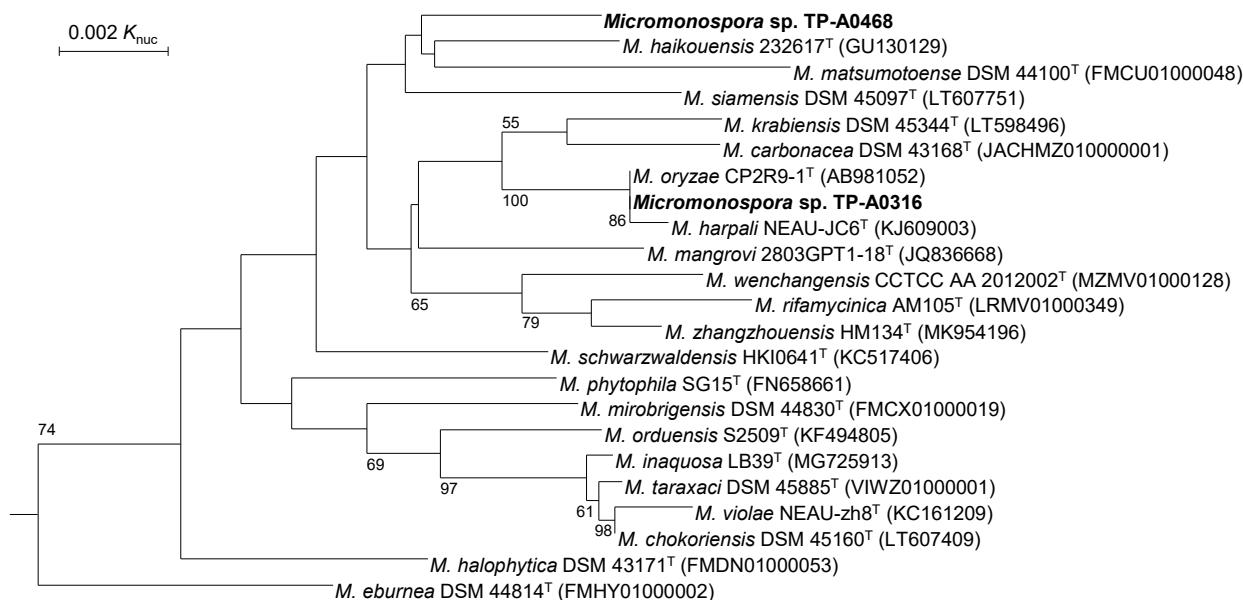


Figure 2. Phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences. Numbers on the branches represent the confidence limits estimated by bootstrap analysis with 1000 replicates; values above 50% are at branching points. *Phytohabitans suffuscus* K07-0523^T (AB490769) was used as an outgroup (not shown).

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 monophelic, 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 45626^T, *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *M. carbonacea* DSM 43168^T, its evolutionarily 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-A0468^T (=NBRC 110461^T).

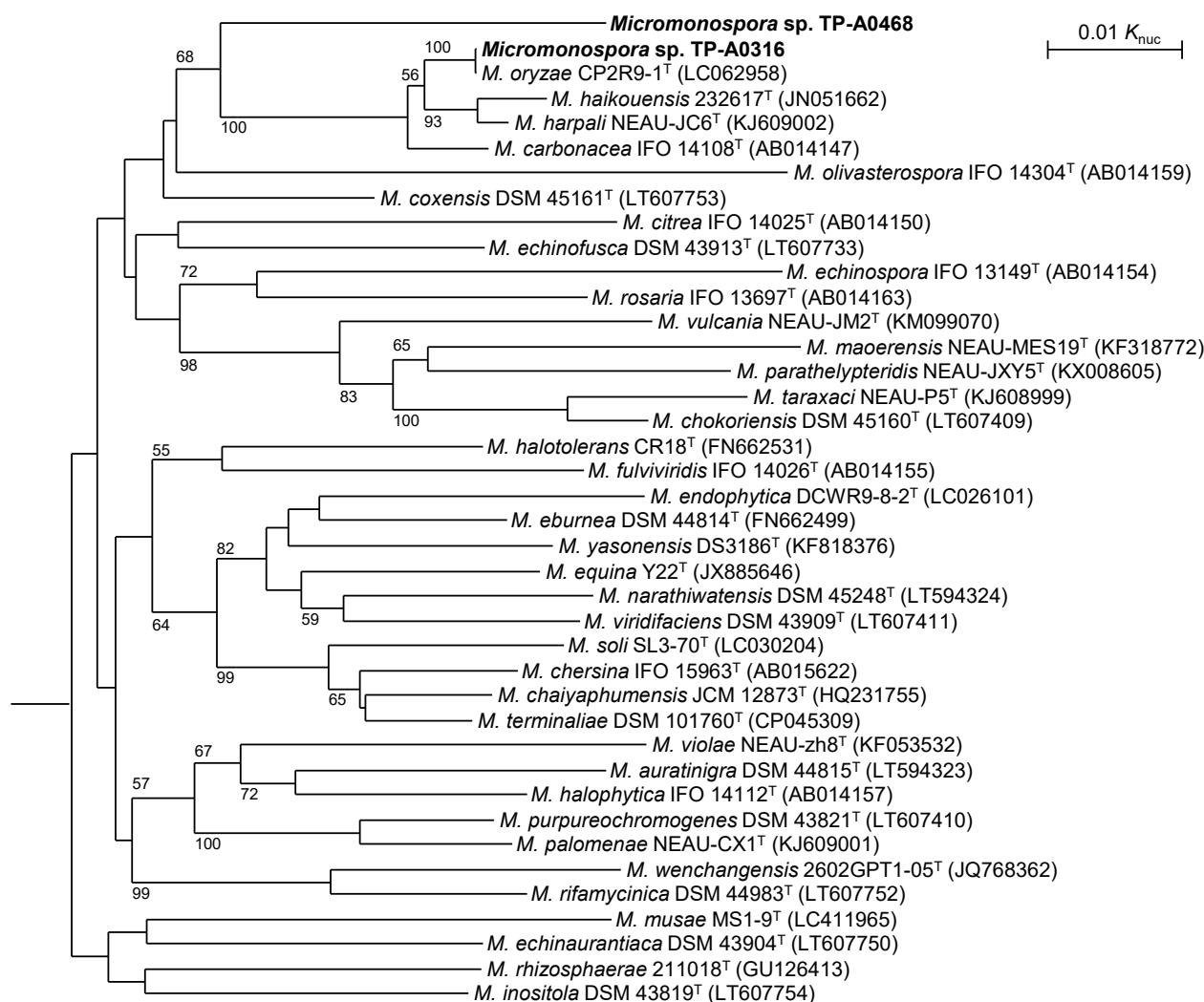


Figure 3. Phylogenetic tree based on *gyrB* sequences. Numbers on the branches represent the confidence limits estimated by bootstrap analysis with 1000 replicates; values above 50% are at branching points. *P. suffuscus* NBRC 105367^T (AP022871) was used as an outgroup (not shown).

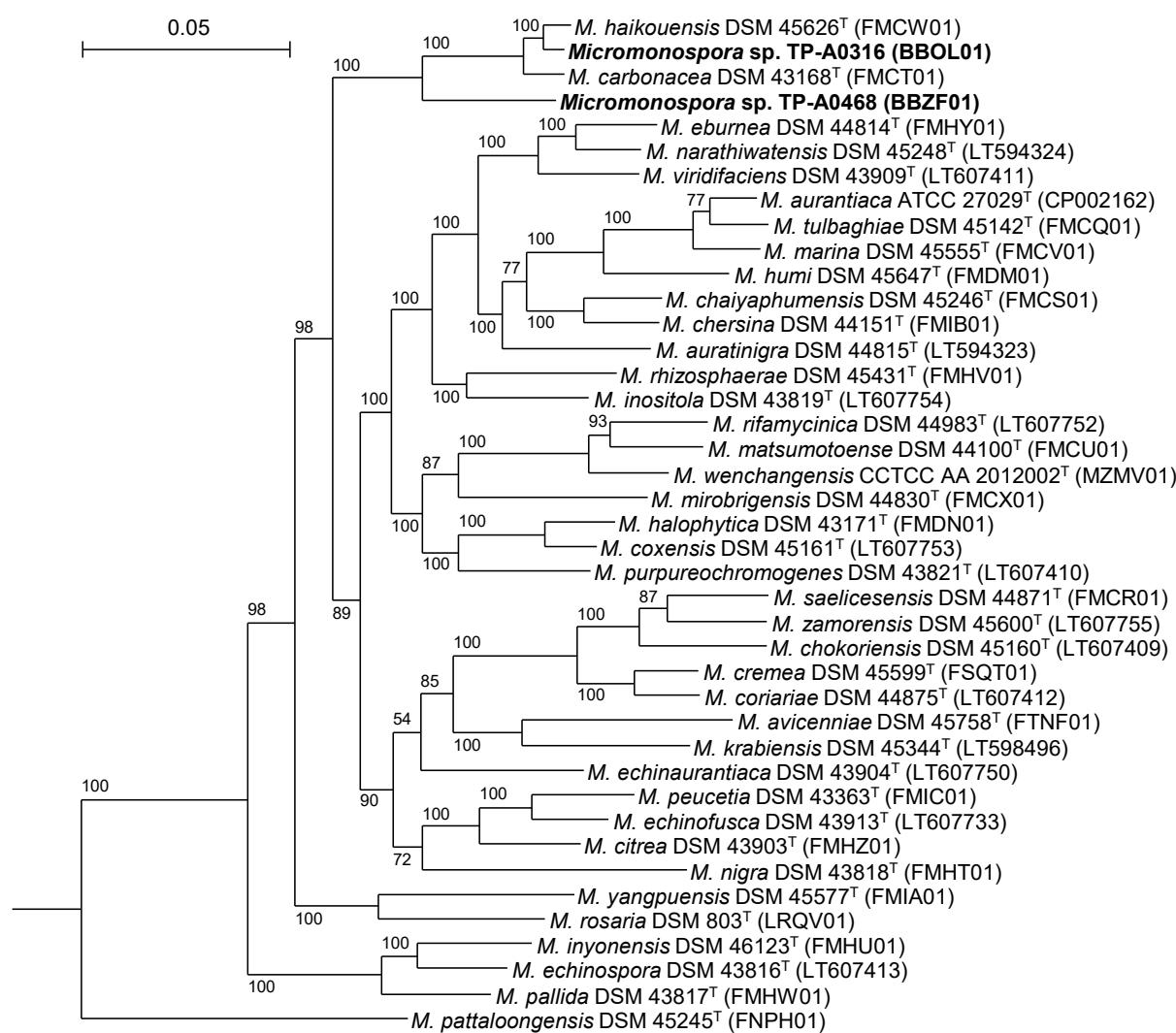


Figure 4. Phylogenetic tree based on MLSA. *Actinoplanes missouriensis* 431^T was used as an outgroup (not shown). The numbers in parentheses are accession numbers of whole genome sequences or WGS Projects in GenBank, from which housekeeping gene sequences were obtained.

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 | + | v | + | v | — |
| D-Galactose | + | v | + | — | + |
| Inositol | — | nd | — | nd | + |

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 temperature (optimum, °C) | 13–41 (25–39) | nd | 20–45 (30) | nd | 15–40 (28) |
| pH for growth (optimum) | 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^T

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 tetrocarkin A synthesis in *M. chalcea* NRRL 11289 [5] (Figure 5). As arisostatins are congeners of tetrocarkin A, and *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 is reported to produce tetrocarkin A in addition to arisostatins A and B [3], *t1pks-1* was considered as the BGC for arisostatins and tetrocarkin 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 quinolidomycin (*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 quinolidomycin congener, but its polyketide skeleton is presumed to be different from quinolidomycin A₁ [18]. In contrast, *t1pks-3* was not found to be multimodular, 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-4* 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^T 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 methyltallysomycin. 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 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| <i>t1pks-1</i> | 11-150 (<i>tcaA1</i>) | KS/AT/ACP-KS/AT/DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT/DH/KR/ACP-KS | |
| | 11-151 (<i>tcaA1</i>) | AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 11-152 (<i>tcaA2</i>) | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT/DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP- | |
| | | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 11-153 (<i>tcaA4</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | arisostatins A & B, tetrocarcin A |
| | 11-154 (<i>tcaA5</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 11-166 (<i>tcaA3</i>) | KS/AT/DH/ER/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| <i>t1pks-2</i> * | 1-1073 | CoL/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1077 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1078 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1080 | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP- | |
| | | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP- | |
| | | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1081 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP- | quinolidomycin congener |
| | | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1091 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1092 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| <i>t1pks-3</i> | 1-1093 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1094 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1095 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| <i>t1pks-4</i> ^P | 1-1096 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1097 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 1-1098 | KS/AT _m /ACP-Te | |
| <i>t2pks-1</i> | 4-330 | KS/AT/KR/DH | sporolide |
| <i>t1pks-4</i> ^P | 14-64 ^P | KS/AT ... | |
| | 16-1 ^P | ... KR | unpredictable |
| | 16-2 | KS/AT | |
| | 16-3 | ACP | |
| <i>t2pks-1</i> | 4-99 | KS α | |
| | 4-100 | KS β (CLF) | aromatic polyketide |
| | 4-101 | ACP | |
| <i>t3pks-1</i> * | 2-674 | KS | alkyl-O- dihydrogeranyl- methoxyhydroquinone |
| <i>nrps-1</i> | 1-336 | C/A/T-C/A _{thr} /T/E | |
| | 1-337 | C/A _{phe} /T/E-C/A _{ser} /T | pentapeptide (x-thr-phe-ser-ile) |
| | 1-339 | C/A _{ile} /T | |
| <i>nrps-2</i> | 4-510 | C-C | |
| | 4-511 | C/A/T-Te | |
| | 4-512 | A | tripeptide (x-gly-x) |
| | 4-513 | C/A _{gly} /T | |
| | 4-514 | T | |
| <i>nrps-3</i> | 6-252 | C/A _{cys} /T-Te | |
| | 6-258 | A-C/A _{cys} /T | |
| | 6-265 | C | tetrapeptide (x-x-cys-cys) |
| | 6-266 | A | |
| | 6-270 | A/T | |
| <i>nrps-4</i> ^P | 8-247 | A/T-C | |
| | 8-248 | A/T | unpredictable |
| <i>nrps-5</i> | 12-31 | C/A _{ser} /T-C/A _{pro} /T-Te | ser-pro |
| <i>pks/nrps-1</i> | 4-217 | CoL/ACP-KS/AT _m /ACP-C/A/T-C | |
| | 4-220 | A _{ala} /T-C | |
| | 4-223 | A _{glu} /T-C/T | heptapeptide with polyketide moieties |
| | 4-227 | A _{thr} /T | (st-pk-x-ala-glu-y-thr- ser-y) |
| | 4-228 | T-C | |
| | 4-229 | A _{ser} /T-C/T-Te | |
| | 4-247 | A/T | |
| | | | |
| <i>pks/nrps-2</i> * | 6-50 | C/A/T | |
| | 6-51 | KS | |
| | 6-52 | ACP | |
| | 6-53 | C/A _{val} /T | tripeptide with polyketide moiety |
| | 6-54 | KS/AT _m /ACP | (ser-x-val-pk) |
| | 6-55 | A _{ser} | |

Table 2. Cont.

| Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|---------------------|-------|---|---|
| <i>pks/nrps-3</i> * | 6-307 | A/T-KS/DH | pentapeptide with polyketide moiety (x-pk-x-y-pk-asn-ser) |
| | 6-310 | A/T-C/T | |
| | 6-311 | KS/AT _m /KR/DH/ACP | |
| | 6-313 | C/A _{asn} /T | |
| | 6-314 | C/A _{ser} /T-Te | |
| <i>pks/nrps-4</i> | 8-41 | A _{gly} /T-KS/ACP-KS/AT _m | hexaketide with gly |
| | 8-40 | DH/KR/ACP-KS/ACP-KS/KR/ACP | |
| | 8-39 | KS/DH/ACP-KS/AT _m | |
| | 8-37 | DH/KR/ACP-AmT | |

^P, not completely sequenced; *, conserved between strains TP-A0316 and TP-A0468; A, adenylation; ACP, acyl carrier protein; AmT, aminotransferase; AT, acyltransferase; AT_m, AT for malonyl-CoA, AT_{mm}, AT for methyl malonyl-CoA; C, condensation; CLF, chain length factor; CoL, CoA ligase; DH, dehydratase; dhb, dihydroxybenzoate; E, epimerization; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, ketoreductase; KS, ketosynthase; MT, methyltransferase; *nrps*, NRPS gene; pk, polyketide; *pks/nrps*, hybrid PKS/NRPS gene; st, starter molecule; T, thiolation; TD, termination; Te, thioesterase; *t1pks*, type-I PKS gene; *t2pks*, type-II PKS gene; *t3pks*, type-III PKS gene; x, unidentified amino acid residue; 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 tetrocarkin A (91%), sporolide (23%) and alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinones (57%), respectively, by antiSMASH.

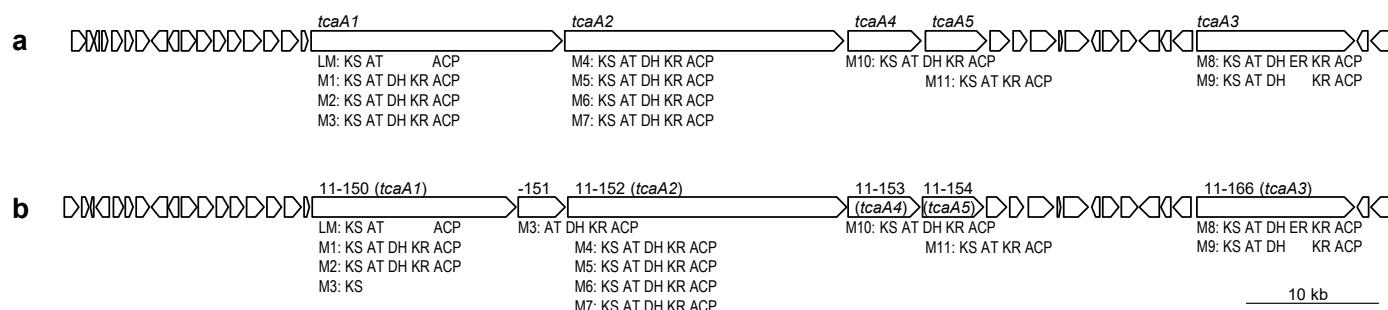


Figure 5. Tetrocarkin A-biosynthetic (*tca*) gene cluster of *M. chalcea* NRRL 11289 (a) and *t1pks-1* gene cluster of *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 (b); ACP, acyl carrier protein; AT, acyltransferase; DH, dehydratase; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, ketoreductase; KS, ketosynthase; LM, loading module; M, module.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

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

| M * | Quinololidomicin (<i>qnm</i>) | | <i>t1pks-2</i> |
|-----|---|---|--|
| | in <i>M. chalcea</i> AK-AN57 | in <i>Micromonospora</i> sp. TP-A0316 | in <i>M. okii</i> TP-A0468 ^T |
| L | (<i>qnmA1</i>) CoL/ACP | (1-1073) CoL/KR/ACP | (8-118) CoL/ACP |
| 1 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 2 | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (<i>qnmA2</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (1-1077) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (8-122) |
| 3 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP (<i>qnmA3</i>) | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP (1-1078) | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP (8-123) |
| 4 | <u>KS/AT_m/DH/KR/ACP</u> | — | — |
| 5 | <u>KS/AT_m/KR/ACP</u> | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP |
| 6 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP |
| 7 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA4</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (1-1080) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (8-135) |
| 8 | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 9 | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 10 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP |
| 11 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA5</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (1-1081) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (8-136) |
| 12 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (8-137) |
| 13 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 14 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 15 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 16 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP |

Table 3. Cont.

| M * | Quinololidomicin (<i>qnm</i>) | | <i>t1pks-2</i> |
|-----|---|---|--|
| | in <i>M. chalcea</i> AK-AN57 | in <i>Micromonospora</i> sp. TP-A0316 | in <i>M. okii</i> TP-A0468 ^T |
| 17 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA6</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (1-1091) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (8-146) |
| 18 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP |
| 19 | KS/DH/KR/ACP (<i>qnmA7</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP (1-1092) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP (8-147) |
| 20 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 21 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/KR/ACP |
| 22 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA8</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (1-1093) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (8-148) |
| 23 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT/KR/ACP |
| 24 | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (<i>qnmA9</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (1-1094) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP (8-149) |
| 25 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | KS/AT _m (8-150) |
| 26 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP |
| 27 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA10</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (1-1095) | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (8-151) |
| 28 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP |
| 29 | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP (<i>qnmA11</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP (1-1096) | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP (8-152) |
| 30 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA12</i>) | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (1-1097) | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP (8-153) |
| 31 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP |
| 32 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (<i>qnmA13</i>) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (1-1098) | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP (8-154) |
| 33 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP/Te | KS/AT _m /ACP/Te | KS/AT _m /ACP/Te |

* M, module; ACP, acyl carrier protein; AT, acyltransferase; AT_m for malonyl-CoA, AT_{mm}, AT for methyl malonyl-CoA; CoL, CoA ligase; DH, dehydratase; ER, enoyl reductase; KR, ketoreductase; 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 them by dashed lines.

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

| Gene Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|------------------|--------|---|-----------------------|
| <i>t1pks-2</i> * | 8-118 | CoL/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP | |
| | 8-122 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 8-123 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-135 | KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP-KS/AT/DH/ER/KR/ACP- KS/AT _m /DH/ER/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-136 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-137 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP- KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-146 | KS/AT _m /KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| | 8-147 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-148 | KS/AT/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/ER/KR/ACP | |
| | 8-149 | KS/AT _m | |
| | 8-150 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-151 | KS/AT _m /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| <i>t1pks-5</i> | 8-152 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-153 | KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP-KS/AT _m /KR/ACP | |
| | 8-154 | KS/AT _m /ACP/Te | |
| | 17-167 | CoL/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /KR/ACP | |
| | 17-166 | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | |
| <i>t2pks-2</i> | 17-165 | KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP-KS/AT _{mm} /DH/KR/ACP | 16-demethylrifamycins |
| | 17-164 | | |
| | 17-163 | | |
| <i>t2pks-2</i> | 8-66 | KS α | |
| | 8-67 | KS β (CLF) | |
| | 8-68 | ACP | kosinostatin |

Table 4. Cont.

| Gene Cluster | ORF | Domain Organization | Predicted Product |
|----------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| <i>t2pks-3</i> | 15-39 | KS α | aromatic polyketide |
| | 15-40 | KS β (CLF) | |
| | 15-41 | ACP | |
| <i>t3pks-1</i> * | 13-182 | KS | alkyl-O-dihydrogeranyl-methoxyhydroquinone |
| <i>t3pks-2</i> | 9-577 | KS | polyketide with guanidinotide moiety |
| <i>nrps-6</i> ^P | 8-1 ^P | ... T | pyochelin |
| | 8-2 | C/A _{cys} /MT/T | |
| | 8-14 | A _{dhb} | |
| <i>nrps-7</i> | 9-387 | A _{glu} /T-TD | glu with β -lactone |
| <i>nrps-8</i> | 16-60 | T | dipeptide (val-pro) |
| | 16-59 | A _{val} | |
| | 16-58 | C/A _{pro} /T-TD | |
| <i>nrps-9</i> | 19-118 | A/T | dipeptide (x-x) |
| | 19-110 | C/A/T | |
| <i>nrps-10</i> | 20-72 | A | dipeptide (x-x) |
| | 20-83 | A/T/E | |
| <i>pks/nrps-2</i> * | 24-73 | C/A/T | tripeptide with polyketide moiety (ser-x-val-pk) |
| | 24-74 | KS | |
| | 24-75 | ACP | |
| | 24-76 | C/A _{val} /T | |
| | 24-77 | KS/AT _m /ACP | |
| | 24-78 | A _{ser} | |
| <i>pks/nrps-3</i> * | 17-59 | A/T-KS/DH | pentapeptide with polyketide moiety (x-pk-x-y-pk-asn-ser) |
| | 17-56 | A/T-C/T | |
| | 17-55 | KS/AT _m /KR/DH/ACP | |
| | 17-52 | C/A _{asn} /T | |
| | 17-51 | C/A _{ser} /T-Te | |
| <i>pks/nrps-5</i> | 21-43 | C/A _{asn} /T-C/A/T | methyltallysomycin |
| | 21-44 | C/A _{ser} /T | |
| | 21-45 | KS/AT _m /MT/KR/ACP | |
| | 21-46 | C/A/T | |
| | 21-47 | CoL/T-C/A _{ser} /T-C | |
| | 21-48 | T-C | |
| | 21-50 | C/A _{b-al} /T-C/A _{cys} /T-C | |
| | 21-51 | A/T | |
| | 21-53 | C | |
| | 21-62 | A/T | |
| <i>pks/nrps-6</i> | 26-56 | A/T-KS/AT _m /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 Quinmuinolidomicin-BGC Orthologs in the Genus *Micromonospora*

Unexpectedly, both *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316 and *M. okii* TP-A0468^T 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*.

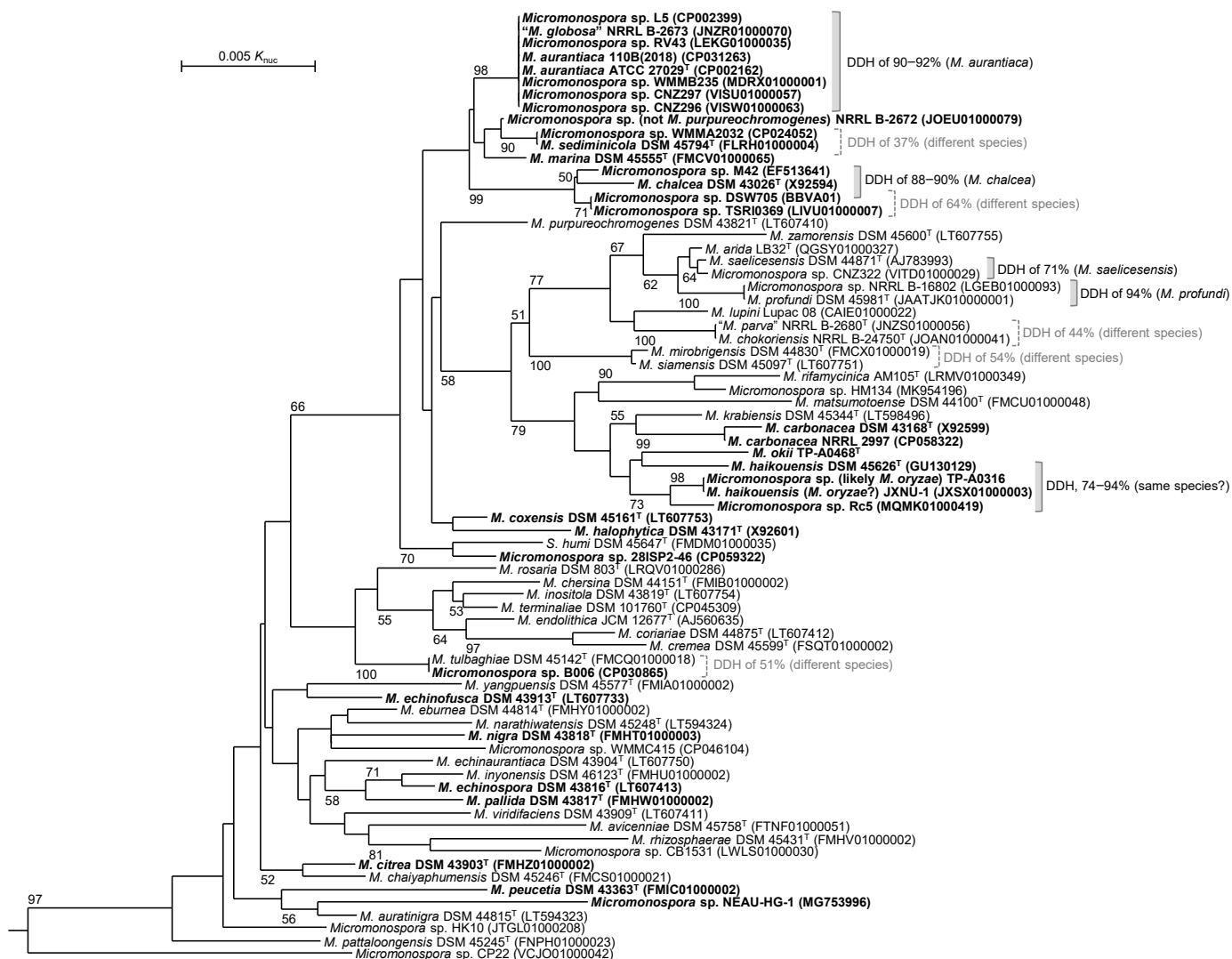


Figure 6. Distribution of quinolide biosynthetic gene cluster orthologs in the genus *Micromonospora*. Whole genome sequence-published strains are shown in a phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences. Accession numbers of 16S rRNA gene sequences are shown in parentheses. Strains harboring the ortholog are boldfaced. DDH, DNA-DNA relatedness values determined by digital DNA-DNA hybridization. *P. suffuscus* K07-0523^T (AB490769) is used as an outgroup (not shown).

Although the 16S rRNA gene sequences between *Micromonospora* sp. B006 and *Micromonospora* tulbaghiae DSM 45142^T were identical, it was found that *Micromonospora* sp. B006 harbors the ortholog [23] while *M. tulbaghiae* DSM 45142^T does not. Because it is reported that members in the same species possess similar sets of PKS and NRPS 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. tulbaghiae* DSM 45142^T 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. WMMB235, *Micromonospora* sp. CNZ297, *Micromonospora* sp. CNZ296 and "Micromonospora globosa" NRRL B-2673 showed a DNA-DNA relatedness value of >90% to the type strain of *M. aurantiaca*. *Micromonospora* sp. M42 and *Micromonospora* sp. DSW705 showed ~90% to the type strain of *M. chalcea*, but *Micromonospora* sp. TSRI0369 did not. In contrast, the DNA-DNA relatedness values between *Micromonospora* sp. WMMA2032 and

Micromonospora sediminicola DSM 45794^T, *Micromonospora* sp. DSW705 and *Micromonospora* sp. TSRI0369, and *M. parva* NRRL B-2680^T and *M. chokoriensis* NRRL B-24750^T were less than 70% although these strain pairs shared the same 16S rRNA gene sequence. The DNA-DNA relatedness values between *M. saelicesensis* DSM 44871^T and *Micromonospora* sp. CNZ322, *Micromonospora* sp. NRRL B-16802 and *M. profundi* DSM 45981^T, and among *Micromonospora* sp. TP-A0316, *M. haikouensis* JXNU-1, *M. haikouensis* DSM 45626^T 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-A0468^T are different species.

Our genome analysis revealed that, alongside the two strains that have not been reported as quinolidomycin-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, retymicin, sisomicin [28], verdamicin and turbinmicin [29]. Quinolidomycins 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. profundi*. 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 43827^T 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. TSRI0369 and *Micromonospora* sp. B006 are likely to be classified as independent geno-species, 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, white 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-xylose 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-A0468^T (=NBRC 110461^T). 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*, phosphoribosylformylglycinamide synthase II (FGAM_synth_II) gene, *rsmG*, *typA/bipA*, *ilvD*, phosphoribosylformylglycinamide 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, *pdx2*, SUF system FeS assembly protein, NifU family (SUF_scaf_2) gene, *ung*, *rplM*, *atpA*, *secA*, *gyrA*, preprotein translocase, SecY subunit (3a0501s007) gene, *prfA*, *rpsC*, *truB*, *rplS*, cystathione beta-synthase (cysta_beta) gene, *pth*, *pyrG*, ribonuclease PH (RNasePH) gene, *clpX*, hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (HGPRTase) gene, *ftsZ*, *ftsY*, *rlmN*, *cgtA*, *ftsE*, *trmU*, *prfB*, *radA*, *rpoC*, CCA tRNA nucleotidyltransferase gene, *ksgA*, *era*, 1,4-alpha-glucan branching enzyme gene, *rvB*, *purS*, *pyrF*, *recA*, *dxs*, *gyrB*, *pdx1*, *engA*, *ffl*, *recR*, *dnaA*, *sufB*, *dxr*, *trmD*, *rplB*, *pyrH*, *mfd*, *rplV*, *mraZ*, *purA*, nicotinate (nicotinamide) nucleotide adenylyltransferase 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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