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Cyril Jousse, Céline Dalle, Isabelle Canet, Marie Lagrée, Mounir Traïka, et al.. Metabolomic study of the response to cold shock in a strain of *Pseudomonas syringae* isolated from cloud water. *Metabolomics*, 2018, 14 (1), 13 p. 10.1007/s11306-017-1295-7 . hal-01663290

HAL Id: hal-01663290

<https://hal.science/hal-01663290>

Submitted on 6 Nov 2020

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Metabolomic study of the response to cold shock in a strain of *Pseudomonas syringae* isolated from cloud water

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Keywords: NMR, MS, cloud, peptides, metabolomics, cold stress, *Pseudomonas*, oxidative stress.

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Acknowledgments

This research has been supported by the ANR French program MetaboHUB. We would like to thank Mélanie Pétéra for her valuable technical assistance.

Abstract

Introduction

Active microorganisms have been recently discovered in clouds, thus demonstrating the capacity of microorganisms to exist in harsh environments, including exposure to UV and oxidants, osmotic and cold shocks, etc. It is important to understand how microorganisms respond to and survive such stresses at the metabolic level.

Objectives

The objective of this work is to assess metabolome modulation in a strain of *Pseudomonas syringae* isolated from cloud water and facing temperature downshift from 17 °C to 5 °C by identifying key molecules and pathways of the response/adaptation to cold shock.

Methods

Bacterial extracts from suspensions of cells grown at 17 °C and further incubated in microcosms at 5 °C and 17 °C to mimic cloud conditions were analysed by combining LC-MS and NMR; the results were evaluated in comparison to similar suspensions kept at constant temperature. The differences in the metabolome profiles were deciphered using multivariate statistics (PLS-DA).

Results

Key cold shock biomarkers were observed, including cryoprotectants (trehalose, glucose, glycerol, carnitine, glutamate), antioxidants (glutathione and carnitine) and their precursors, alkaloids (bellendine and slaframine) and metabolites involved in energy metabolism (ATP, carbohydrates). Furthermore, new short peptides (9 dipeptides and a tetrapeptide) were found that have no known function.

Conclusions

This study shows that in response to cold temperatures, *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 demonstrates numerous metabolism modifications to counteract the impacts of low temperatures.

1. Introduction

Microorganisms have been studied in different areas of the environment including soil as well as ocean and surface waters; however, microorganisms alive in cloud water have been more recently examined (Desprès et al. 2012; Sattler et al. 2001; Bauer et al. 2002; Amato et al. 2005; Amato et al. 2007a; Ahern et al. 2007; Kourtev et al. 2011; Vaitilingom et al. 2012; Šantl-Temkiv et al. 2013; Frölich-Nowoisky et al. 2016). Although only a fraction of the total microbial communities can be detected by cloud water cultures (Amato et al. 2007b), measurements of anabolic

precursor incorporation rates by the biomass (Sattler et al. 2001; Väitilingom et al. 2011; Väitilingom et al. 2013) and ATP quantification (Väitilingom et al. 2012; Väitilingom et al. 2013; Amato et al. 2007c; Hill et al. 2007) revealed surprisingly high level of metabolic activity. Microbial metabolic activity in clouds is thus suspected to contribute to atmospheric chemistry (Ariya and Amyot 2004; Delort et al. 2010); it also proves that microorganisms are able to survive in stressful atmospheric conditions, such as temperature changes, UV radiations, evaporation-condensation cycles, exposure to chemical mixtures with potentially toxic compounds, strong oxidants, and acidic pH (Deguillaume et al. 2014). A recent study by Joly et al. (2015) suggested that the greatest stresses encountered in the atmosphere by microorganisms are freeze/thaw and condensation/evaporation cycles, both of which are generally linked with cloud temperature shifts.

At low temperatures, global cellular functioning is generally altered due to decreased molecular diffusion and reaction rates as well as the rigidification of macromolecules and membranes. Various well-known responses in microorganisms include the production or uptake of compatible solutes (e.g., Welsh 2000), modifications of the lipid composition of membranes, production of chaperones and modified enzymes capable of functioning in the cold (e.g., Feller and Gerday 2003), and adaptation of energy metabolism (e.g., Amato and Christner 2009). To better understand how bacteria globally respond to such temperature shifts and resist atmospheric stresses, the response of *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 to a cold shock was examined in this study. The choice of *Pseudomonas syringae* 32b-74 as model strain is based on the abundance of *Pseudomonas* species in clouds at Puy de Dôme (Väitilingom et al. 2012), in particular, *P. syringae*, and their capacity to be involved in atmospheric chemical (Amato et al. 2007c) and physical processes (Attard et al. 2012; Joly et al. 2013; Amato et al. 2015; Renard et al. 2016). *Pseudomonas syringae* 32b-74 is also of particular interest as it has a very efficient ice nucleation activity, which could be advantageous to resist cold shocks (Joly et al. 2013). To study the impact of temperature on its metabolome, a metabolomic approach combining LC-MS and NMR was used. Although it is still scarcely applied in the field of environmental microbiology, metabolomics was shown to be a powerful tool to investigate the influence of temperature changes on microbial metabolomes (Coucheney et al. 2008; Boroujerdi et al. 2009; Boroujerdi et al. 2012; Singh et al. 2011; Ye et al. 2012; Jozefczuk et al. 2010; Miranda et al. 2013; Azizan et al. 2012; Alreshidi et al. 2015).

2. Materials and Methods

Chemicals, reagents, standard solutions, sample preparations, and details on analytics (NMR, MS and statistics) are fully described in the supplementary material. A general outlook of the experimental design used for conducting the metabolomics experiment is also presented in the supplementary material (Figure S1).

2.2. Microbial incubation and metabolite extraction

Pseudomonas syringae PDD-32b-74 (GenBank accession number of the 16S rRNA gene sequence: HQ256872) was originally isolated from cloud water sampled at the puy de Dôme summit (1465 m) in November 2009 (Väitilingom et al. 2012). First, the bacteria were cultured on agar plates (12 biological replicates) at 17 °C (Figure S1, I). Second, bacteria collected from the plates were transferred in an aqueous medium (water) to mimic cloud water and incubated for 14 hours at either 5 °C or 17 °C (Figure S1, II). The two temperatures were chosen according to the average temperatures measured at the puy de Dôme summit where cloud water is sampled during winter (5 °C) and summer (17 °C). In this way, two typical atmospheric scenarios can be mimicked. At the end of incubation in the aqueous medium, the cell pellets were centrifuged and rinsed twice with sterile water. The metabolomes of the 24 bacterial pellets were extracted with 600 µL of a cold ternary solvent [H₂O:MeOH:CH₃CN, 1:2:2; (Lin et al. 2007; Rabinowitz & Kimball 2007; Shin et al. 2010)]. Finally, 12 extracts of 600 µL were obtained for each incubation temperature (5 °C and 17 °C). These extracts were treated for NMR or MS analyses (Figure S1, IV).

2.3. LC-MS and LC-MS-MS analyses (figure S1, IV and SM-§2)

UPLC-MS analyses for profiling

Seventy-two profiles (3 x 20 µL aliquots of each extract) were analysed using the Metabolic profiler® platform (Bruker). Briefly, a fast LC system (Agilent 1200 series) was equipped with an Acquity HSST3 C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm, 1.8 µm; Waters) and coupled to a MicroToF mass spectrometer in positive electrospray ionization mode (50-1000 m/z; Bruker).

UPLC-MS/MS analyses for structural identification

A few samples that were representative for the features in the statistical model (PLS-DA) were analysed in full scan mode and MS/MS on an LTQ Orbitrap Velos MS (ThermoFisher Scientific) with similar chromatographic conditions (gradient, column) as for profiling.

2.4. NMR analyses (figure S1, IV and SM-§3)

1D on flow NMR analyses for profiling

Twenty-four one-dimensional ^1H NMR *noesygppr1d* experiments (*i.e.*, profiles) were done on a Metabolic Profiler® equipped with an Avance III 500 MHz NMR spectrometer using a 3 mm FISEI z-gradient (^1H - ^{13}C) probe with a 60 μL flow cell (Bruker).

1D and 2D NMR analyses for structural identification

The NMR spectrometer was an Avance 500 MHz equipped with a 5-mm inverse-triple tuned (TXI) $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$ with z-gradient coil probe (Bruker). One-dimensional ^1H -Spectra and 2D homonuclear (^1H - ^1H COSY, ^1H - ^1H TOCSY, ^1H - ^1H JRES) and heteronuclear (^1H - ^{13}C HSQC) experiments were performed for structural identification.

2.5. Data analyses (SM-§4 & 5)

MS and NMR data treatments

The MS raw data were exported using NetCDF format and extracted with the XCMS package (Smith et al. 2006) in the R environment (version 2.15.3). Quadratic correction of the retention time was performed to consider the chromatography time shift evolution in the analytical experiments. In-source fragmentation and adducts were screened using CAMERA package (in the R environment; Kuhl et al. 2012) in order to reduce information redundancy.

One-dimensional ^1H -NMR spectra were divided into 0.001 ppm wide buckets after reduction over the chemical range of -0.5 to 10 ppm and considering the exclusion area around the residual water signal (4.6 to 5.1 ppm), using AMIX software (Bruker). The signal intensity in each bucket was integrated using the sum of the intensities mode, and the spectra were scaled to total intensity.

Statistical analyses

One matrix per analytical device [ESI(+)/MS or ^1H -NMR] was built and subjected to multivariate analyses (SIMCA-P v. 12, Umetrics). Principal component analyses (PCA) were conducted to check the population homogeneity and detect possible outliers. A supplementary variable ("Y matrix") corresponding to the two classes of bacteria populations (exposed and not exposed to cold shock; Figures S2 and S3) was considered for the Partial Least Squares (PLS) regression analyses.

Databases

Identification was completed using the metabolite and pathways databases [KEGG (Kanehisa and Goto 2000), MetaCyc (Caspi et al. 2014), HMDB (Wishart et al. 2013), and METLIN (Smith et al. 2005)] as well as relevant publications (Nicholson et al. 1995; Fan 1996). MS/MS fragmentation patterns were compared to simulations with the Massfrontier (v.7; Thermo Scientific) software.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Identification of cold shock biomarkers in *Pseudomonas syringae* 32b-74

Figure 1a presents the PLS-DA analysis performed with 72 samples based on the LC-MS analysis. The two populations corresponding to the bacterial suspensions incubated at 17 °C and 5 °C are clearly separated. Using the two first components, 62 % of the variability explanation was obtained. One outlier sample was removed from the MS data. A list of 118 ion discriminating cells incubated at the 2 temperatures was obtained to compose the VIP list. Thirty-five ions were identified due to their exact mass and fragmentation pattern (validated by complementary Orbitrap experiments), the use of reference samples or by a validation based on their detection by NMR (Table 1). The detailed list of the masses and retention times of the identified metabolites is given in the supplementary data (Table S2).

Figure 1b shows the PLS-DA analysis performed with the results from 24 samples based on 1D ^1H NMR

experiments; the two populations corresponding to the bacterial suspensions incubated at 17 °C or at 5 °C are clearly separated along the first axis, explaining 32.7 % of the data dispersion. From this statistical analysis, a list of 260 discriminating buckets was obtained to compose the VIP list; 21 metabolites (including two glucose isomers) were identified as biomarkers. Their identification was validated by confirmation of their structure by 2-D NMR spectra (¹H-¹H JRES, ¹H-¹H COSY, ¹H-¹H TOCSY, ¹H-¹³C HSQC) or by a validation due to MS information (Table 1). The detailed list of the ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts as well as the multiplicity and coupling constants of the identified metabolites are given in the supplementary data (Table S3).

Table 2 reports the VIP values of the metabolites of interest as well as the ratio of relative intensities of a given metabolite in cells incubated at 5 °C with respect to cells incubated at 17 °C, termed the stressed/reference (S/R) ratio. The identification metrics proposed by Sumner et al. (2007, 2014) are used in this paper to assign an identification score to each metabolite (as explained in SM-§5 and Table S1).

The comparison of the data presented in Table 2 clearly shows the complementarity nature of MS and NMR. On one hand, all the peptides, most lipids and amines, as well as some specific compounds [phosphoric acid, slaframine, gyromitrin, sarcosine, bellendine, 5'-desoxy-5'-(methylthio)adenosine] were only detected by LC-MS. On the other hand, NMR was very useful to detect sugars and other metabolites such as valine, tyrosine and glycine, glycerol, O-phosphocholine, ATP, acetate and lactate that could not be detected by MS.

Finally, it is worth noting that when molecules were detected by both techniques, the S/R ratios derived from MS and NMR were very consistent; common amino acids (Leu/Ile, Ala, Lys, Phe) and amines (putrescine) were decreasing under cold shock while AMP and glutathione concentrations were increasing.

Other analytical techniques could use complementary information such as GC-MS and FT-ICR/FT-MS.

The detailed evolutions of the metabolite concentrations are fully described in the next section in relation to their role in maintaining vital functions facing cold stress.

3.2 *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 adapts its metabolism to maintain vital functions facing cold stress

From the list of the biomarkers identified in Table 2 and referring to the KEGG databases and tools, the metabolic pathways impacted by the cold shock imposed to *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 (see Figure 2 and 3) are deciphered. The metabolites that are over-produced at 5 °C are indicated in yellow, while those that are under-produced are indicated in blue; putative important metabolic intermediates not detected among the VIP ions are indicated in white. The modulation of these metabolite concentrations reflects the adaptation of *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 metabolism to maintain vital functions while facing cold stress.

Energy metabolism: At low temperatures, enzymatic activities and molecular diffusion are slowed down. To maintain metabolic activity compatible with survival, some bacteria adjust their energy metabolism for increasing ATP concentration notably (Amato and Christner 2009). As a consequence, a net increase of the energetic pool constituted by AMP, ATP and Pi are observed when *P. syringae* PDD-32b-74 is exposed to cold shock (Figure 2). This could result from the activation of carbohydrate metabolism and of the Krebs cycle as the glucose and trehalose concentrations increased under cold conditions resulting from the degradation of glycogen.

The decrease of acetic and lactic acid concentrations (Figure 2) might be consistent with the stimulation of respiration pathways and a slowdown of the fermentation metabolism. The decrease could also result from increased utilization. For example, a cold-adapted *Propionibacterium* species was shown to switch from aerobiose to anaerobiose when exposed to cold temperatures with the increased lactate uptake due to overexpression of the lactate dehydrogenase (Sardesai and Babu 2000). Proteomic studies of Proteobacteria species (*Rhizobium*, and *Psychrobacter*) exposed to cold shock also revealed overexpression of this enzyme (Bakermans et al. 2007; Dalmasso et al. 2012).

Membrane fluidity: When subjected to cold, bacteria have to deal with a very important issue: the rigidification of their membrane. They need to re-establish membrane fluidity by adjusting the lipid composition to maintain vital functions such as the proton motive force and other ion exchange processes. For instance, some bacteria modify the balance phosphatidylcholine (PC) vs. phosphatidylethanolamine (PE; Fajardo et al. 2011) or increase the concentration of unsaturated fatty acids (Arvizu-Gomez et al. 2013). In this case, lipid metabolism (Figure 2) was globally slowed down as shown by the decrease of oleic and palmitoleic acid concentration (fatty acid metabolism) and of the derivatives of phosphocholine and phosphoethanolamine (glycerophospholipid metabolism). However, more lipid composition data would be needed to conclude the adjustment of membrane fluidity. In the future, more specific extraction methods should be used to better characterize the lipid fraction.

Protection against ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species): Glutathione was clearly at higher concentration at 5 °C as well as other metabolites closely linked with it, including glutamate, glycine and 5'-desoxy 5'-methylthio(adenosine) [analogue of 5'-methylthio(adenosine); Figure 3]. Glutathione is a tripeptide composed of glutamate, cysteine and glycine; the increased glutathione concentration at low temperature is consistent with the concomitant increase of glutamate and glycine concentrations. In parallel, carnitine concentration was also increased at 5 °C (Figure 3). Glutathione and carnitine are well known key metabolites involved in oxidative stress metabolism (Davies 2000). Many papers report a close relationship between cold stress and oxidative stress in bacteria. It was shown that the production of free radicals ($O_2^{\bullet-}$ and $^{\bullet}OH$) and H_2O_2 is increased when the temperature is decreased (Zhang et al. 2012). As a result, bacteria can increase the amount of detoxifying enzymes such as superoxide dismutase and catalase for preventing the formation of radicals, or they can produce antioxidant compounds for reducing ROS concentrations. Zhang et al. (2012) recently showed that GSH improves the resistance of *Lactobacillus sanfranciscensis* to cold shock. Additionally, Arvizu et al. (2013) showed the induction of a gene encoding for catalase in *Pseudomonas syringae* pv *phaeolicola* when the temperature was decreased. In their metabolomic studies, Singh et al. (2011) and Ye et al. (2012) suggested that the oxidative stress pathways could be impacted by temperature shifts in *L. monocytogenes* and *E. coli*. In this study, the activation of the oxidative stress metabolism in *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 is consistent with its high survival capacity under UV exposure and high concentration of H_2O_2 (Joly et al. 2015).

Synthesis of cryoprotectants: To avoid disruptive freezing and maintain intracellular osmotic pressure, bacteria synthesize small weight molecules called “cryoprotectants” or “compatible solutes” (e.g., polyols, polyamines, carbohydrates and amino acids derivatives; see Shivaji and Prakash 2010). The most common cryoprotectants found in bacteria are trehalose, glycine, betaine, glycerol and carnitine. These cryoprotectants are supposed to act as “chemical chaperones” that prevent the denaturation and aggregation of proteins. In the case of *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74, we observed the accumulation of carbohydrates such as trehalose and glucose, amines such as carnitine and amino acids such as glutamate and glycine, and glycerol (Figure 2 and 3). The same cryoprotectants were found in metabolomic studies namely, trehalose, glucose, glycerol, glycine, carnitine and glutamate in the psychrotolerant *Listeria monocytogenes* (Singh et al. 2011) and glycine in a *Staphylococcus aureus* strain exposed to cold conditions (Alreshidi et al. 2015). Trehalose has already been reported as a cryoprotectant in other *Pseudomonas*, in particular in different strains isolated from the rhizosphere of Himalayan plants (Bisht et al. 2013). Glutamate and trehalose were shown to accumulate in *Pseudomonas syringae* when subjected to osmotic stress (Kurz et al. 2010).

Alkaloid synthesis: Cold shock impacted the number of metabolites that are interconnected within the degradation pathways of ornithine and lysine, including the unexpected alkaloids, bellendine and slaframine (Figure 3). Bellendine was found at higher concentration in the cold condition; however, slaframine was present at lower concentration. Bellendine has been described in plants while slaframine is a mycotoxin. Interestingly, in a metabolomic study, slaframine concentration was shown to vary when the fungal plant pathogen *Rhizoctonia solani* was grown in pure cultures or in dual-cultures with the mycoparasite *Stachybotrys elegans* (Chamoun et al. 2015). It is worth noting that *Pseudomonas syringae* is from the phyllosphere, and some species can be plant pathogens related to the presence of these alkaloids; although, they have not been described in such bacteria.

Peptide synthesis: The most striking result issued from this metabolomic study is the evidence of concentration changes of specific short peptides (9 dipeptides and 1 tetrapeptide; Figure 2). Mass spectra analysis shows that these peptides are linear, and their low number and specific composition exclude random protein degradation. Interestingly, a parallel concentration change of the amino acids is present in these peptides. For instance, the concentration of Ala-leu, Leu-Leu, Ala-Arg, Glu-Ala, Pro-Phe, Pro-Ile, Leu-Phe and Val-Val were decreasing at the same time as that of Ala, Leu, Ile, Val and Phe. In contrast, the dipeptide Ser-Val and the tetrapeptide Gln-Ser-Ala-Gln were overproduced. A common amino acid to these two peptides is Serine; although, it could not be identified as free in this dataset, and the synthesis of this amino acid is achieved from phosphoglyceric acid simultaneously as the synthesis of glycine (Figure 2 and 3). Additionally, glutamine (a putative compound), which is present in the tetrapeptide, is directly linked to glutamate that is also overproduced.

This is the first clear report of such peptides as cold shock biomarkers; in addition, the presence of such linear short peptides was unexpected, as they have never been described before in *Pseudomonas* species. Nonlinear dipeptides have been described in *Pseudomonas* strains, and some cyclic dipeptides are involved in the regulation of quorum sensing (Degraassi et al. 2002); others such as NAGGN: N-AcetylGlutaminylGlutamine amide were shown to be

synthesized in response to osmotic stress (Smith and Smith 1989; Sagot et al. 2010). However, it is unlikely that all these nonlinear dipeptides play the same role as the linear peptides detected in this study. The presence of linear short peptides has only been reported in a few cases when bacteria are facing osmotic stresses. Using a metabolomic approach, Kol et al. (2010) showed an upregulation of one dipeptide (Gly-Pro) and four tripeptides (Arg-Gly-Pro, Lys-Gly-Pro, Glu-Gly-Pro and Ala-Gly-Pro), and in response to salt shock in *Streptomyces coelicolor*, these peptides contained proline. The presence of short and linear proline-containing peptides has also been reported in other microbial strains facing osmotic shocks, including *Listeria monocytogenes* (Amezaga et al. 1995), *Lactobacillus casei* (Piuri et al. 2003), *Oenococcus oeni* (Le Marrec et al. 2007) and *Bacillus subtilis* (Zapras et al. 2013). The intracellular accumulation of these proline-containing peptides is consistent with the known role of proline as an osmoprotectant, which is obtained after peptide hydrolysis. However, these peptides may also have regulatory functions, which are not yet understood, as observed in *Oenococcus oeni* (Le Marrec et al. 2007). In this case, the function of the peptides over- or underproduced under cold shock remains to be discovered.

Relative importance of the resistant mechanisms to cold shock in *Pseudomonas syringae*:

The previous results show that many resistance mechanisms to cold shock are present in this strain. The VIP score values (Table 2) can be used to determine which mechanisms are the most important as these scores reflect the relative importance of each metabolite to discriminate the two temperatures. The higher the VIP value, the more discriminant it is. Based on the VIP score histograms from the MS and NMR results (Figure S4), three signal groups have been highlighted. The metabolites which present the highest VIP scores (group 1) are glutathione, trehalose, palmitoleic acid and (iso)Leucine (Table 2). The second group contains some amines and amino acids (piperidine, lysine and phenylalanine) and some dipeptides (Ala-Leu, Leu-Leu); the other metabolites are in the third group. These results suggest that the most important resistance mechanisms to this temperature change are the protection against oxidative stress (glutathione), the production of osmo/cryoprotectants (trehalose), and the adaptation of the membrane composition (Lipids). This result is consistent with the SEED subsystems annotated in the genome sequence of this strain that was recently published (Besaury et al 2017). From 181 SEED subsystems affiliated to stress response, the majority were assigned to the responses to oxidative stress (79), osmotic stress (32) and cold shock (5).

4. Conclusions

This is the first study reporting the metabolic response of a cloud bacterium to a cold shock, which is important to the survival of bacteria in the atmosphere. The use of combined MS and NMR helped identify a number of biomarkers and specify the metabolic routes potentially impacted by this stress. *Pseudomonas syringae* PDD-32b-74 could efficiently adapt its metabolism to re-establish some of its essential functions. It synthesized cryoprotectants (trehalose, glutamate, carnitine and glycine) to maintain cellular structural and functional integrity. These cryoprotectants could also act as osmoprotectants, which are also potentially important for survival in the atmosphere. In clouds, bacteria are subjected to evaporation-condensation cycles inducing important osmotic variations in cloud droplets. As a response to temperature shifts, *P. syringae* PDD-32b-74 is also reacted by activating the metabolic route of glutathione. This indicates the high potential of this strain to protect against ROS. Finally we showed the presence of unexpected peptides which synthetic pathways were impacted. The function of these peptides remains unknown; however, new directions of research are introduced in the adaptation of microorganisms to temperature changes and their general metabolic functioning. This study showed that *P. syringae* 32b-74 has a great potential to survive in clouds; it can adapt not only to cold stress but also to osmotic and oxidative stresses. These stresses are actually concomitant in the atmosphere and might be related to the preponderance of the genus *Pseudomonas* in clouds.

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Figure legends

Fig. 1 a) Score plot from the PLS-DA of Pareto scaled LC-MS data (PC1 vs PC2 model). Blue triangles and red dots are from extracts of bacteria incubated at 5 °C and 17 °C, respectively. In one group (5 °C), one sample is considered as an outlier (out of Hotelling ellipse). **b)** Score plot from PLS-DA of Pareto scaled NMR data (PC1 vs PC2 model).

Fig. 2 Metabolic pathways (carbohydrates, amino-acids, lipids and peptides) impacted by exposure of *Pseudomonas syringae* to cold shock. Metabolites that are overproduced at 5 °C are in yellow, and metabolites that are underproduced are in blue. Putative intermediates are indicated in white.

Fig. 3 Metabolic pathways of *Pseudomonas syringae* (glutathione, ornithine and lysine) impacted by exposure to cold. Metabolites that are overrepresented at 5 °C compared with 17 °C are in yellow, and metabolites that are underrepresented are in blue. Putative intermediates are indicated in white.

Table 1: Identification criteria for metabolites considering MS and NMR experiments, and according to relevant databases (or standard when mentioned). MS experiments: TOF, accurate mass measurement on LC-ToF (Time of Flight); HRMS, accurate mass measurement on LC-Orbitrap; MS/MS, fragmentation pattern on LC-Orbitrap; STD, comparison using pure chemical standard (at least parent ion mass and retention time). NMR experiments (validation mark for at least one result in the following experiment): ¹H, chemical shift on proton NMR experiment; Jres, chemical shift and coupling constant on J-resolved experiment; COSY, chemical shift and correlation on CORrelation SpectroscopY experiment; TOCSY, chemical shift and correlation on TOTA correlation SpectroscopY experiment; HSQC, chemical shift and correlation on Heteronuclear Single Quantum Correlation experiment

Identification status	MS EXPERIMENTS				NMR EXPERIMENTS				
	TOF	HRMS	MS/MS	STD	¹ H	Jres	COSY	TOCSY	HSQC
5'-Deoxy-5'-(methylthio)adenosine	X	X	X						
Acetate					X				X
Alanine	X				X	X	X	X	X
Alanyl-Arginine		X	X	X					
Alanyl-Leucine		X	X	X					
AMP	X			X			X		X
ATP							X		
Bellendine	X								
Carnitine	X	X							
Feruloylputrescine	X								
Gln-Ser-Ala-Gln		X	X						
Glutamate	X			X	X	X	X		X
Glutamyl-Alanine		X	X	X					
Glutathione	X				X	X	X	X	X
Glycerol					X	X	X	X	X
Glycine					X				X
Glycogen					X	X	X	X	X
Gyromitrin	X								
Isoleucine	X ¹				X	X	X		X
Lactate					X	X	X		X
Leucine	X ¹				X	X	X	X	X
Leucyl-leucine	X			X					
Leucyl-Phenylalanine	X			X					
Lysine	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
LysoPC(16:1)	X								
LysoPE 16:0	X			X					
LysoPE 18:1	X			X					
LysoPE(0:0/16:1(9Z))	X								
Methionine	X				X	X	X	X	X
Oleic acid	X								
O-phosphocholine					X				X
Palmitoleic acid	X			X					
PE(P-16:0e/0:0)	X								
Phenylalanine	X	X		X	X	X	X		X

Phosphoric acid	X	X							
Piperidine	X			X					
Proline-(iso)Leucine		X	X	X					
Proline-Phenylalanine	X								
Putrescine	X			X			X	X	X
Sarcosine	X								
Serine-Valine		X	X	X					
Slaframine	X								
Trehalose					X	X	X	X	X
Tyrosine					X	X	X		X
Valine					X	X	X		X
Valine-Valine		X	X	X					
α -Glucose					X	X	X	X	X
β -Glucose					X	X	X	X	X

¹ MS data do not permit to differentiate leucine and isoleucine.

Table 2: Identified metabolites according to MS and NMR experiments. All metabolites presented here are key biomarkers dicriminating the two bacterial populations incubated at 5°C (stress) and 17°C (reference). Statistical model provide a VIP value of metabolites' influence for each analytical technique. S/R (stress/reference) ratio represents the ratio of the means relative intensities measured on MS or NMR profiles of a given metabolite in cells incubated at 5 °C vs at 17°C.

Identified VIP Metabolites	MS		NMR		ID metrics**
	VIP score	S/R Ratio	VIP score	S/R Ratio	class (score)
Amino acids					
Valine			2.17-2.49	0.49	II (5)
Leucine	3.91 ¹	0.59 ¹	3.38	0.51	II (9)
Isoleucine			1.99-2.19	0.38-0.5	II (5)
Alanine	1.42	0.58	1.34-1.68	0.77-0.83	II (10)
L-Lysine	2.76 ²	0.42 ²	1.18-1.49	0.72-0.77	II (10)
Phenylalanine	2.91	0.53	1.09-1.37	0.72-0.74	I
Tyrosine			1.03-1.08	0.49-0.52	II (5)
Methionine	1.71	0.52	1.32-1.49	0.79-0.8	II (10)
Sarcosine	1.62	0.52			III (1)
L-Glutamate	1.22 ²	1.18 ²	1.41-1.75	ND*	I
Glycine			1.01	1.09*	II (2)
Saccharides					
Glucose			1.04-1.32	1.39-1.59	II (9)
Trehalose			5.42-6.06	2.5	II (9)
Glycogen			1.13-1.44	0.75-0.85	II (9)
Amines					
Putrescine	2.05	0.46	1.57-1.80	0.51-0.54	I
Feruloylputrescine	1.64	0.28			III (1)
Piperidine	3.41	0.5			I
Carnitine	1.62	2.38			III (1)
Lipids					
Palmitoleic acid	4.20	0.26			I
Oleic acid	2.48	0.44			III (1)
LysoPE 18:1	3.04	0.3			I
O-phosphocholine			1.16	0.78*	II (2)
LysoPE(0:0/16:1(9Z))	1.03	0.74			III (1)
LysoPE 16:0	2.43	0.4			I
LysoPC 16:1	1.66	0.37			III (1)
PE(P-16:0e/0:0)	1.21	0.65			III (1)
Miscellaneous					

Slaframine	1.78	0.11			III (1)
Acetate			1.01-1.28	0.72-0.78	II (2)
Lactate			1.76-2.04	0.67-0.78	II (5)
AMP	1.49	1.28	1.03	1.11	I
ATP			1.02-1.26	1.11-1.25	II (5)
Phosphoric acid	1.42	1.45			III (1)
Glycerol			4.40	1.45*	II (9)
Gyromitrin	1.02	1.2			III (1)
Bellendine	1.71	3.7			III (1)
Glutathione	5.71	2	1.45-1.90	1.27-1.59	II (10)
5'-Deoxy-5'-(methylthio)adenosine	1.09	2.5			II (2.5)
Peptides					
Alanyl-leucine	2.78	0.35			I
Leucyl-leucine	2.76	0.27			I
Alanyl-arginine	2.11	0.22			I
Leucyl-phenylalanine	1.72	0.3			I
Glutamyl-alanine	1.61	0.44			I
Prolyl-phenylalanine	1.40	0.22			III (1)
Prolyl-(iso)leucine	1.37	0.22			I
Valyl-valine	1.06	0.33			I
Seryl-valine	1.34	1.75			I
Gln-Ser-Ala-Gln	1.1	5.88			II (3)

¹ not differentiable through MS experiments; ² information about L/D conformation is not available through MS experiments; * quantifications are given according to ¹H-NMR buckets with peak overlaps. ** Classes and scores are according to Sumner et al. (2007; 2014; See Table S1).