### **Supplementary information**

# Photosynthetic production of ethanol from carbon dioxide in genetically engineered cyanobacteria

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| Strain   | Relevant genotype   | Reference  |
|----------|---|------------|
| PCC6803  | Synechocystis sp.PCC6803 wild type  | 1          |
| PCC7120  | Anabaena sp. PCC 7120 wild type   | 1          |
| PCC7942  | Synechococcus sp.PCC7942 wild type  | 1          |
| Syn-LY2  | slr0168::Omega  | 1          |
| Syn-XT43 | <i>slr0168</i> ::Omega P <sub>rbc</sub> <i>pdc</i> and <i>adh II</i>  | This study |
| Syn-ZG25 | slr0168:: Omega P <sub>rbc</sub> pdc and slr1192  | This study |
| Syn-HZ23 | slr9394::Kan P <sub>rbc</sub> pdc and slr1192   | This study |
| Syn-HZ24 | slr9394::Kan P <sub>rbc</sub> pdc and slr1192   | This study |
|          | slr0168:: Omega P <sub>rbc</sub> pdc and slr1192  |            |
| Plasmid  | Relevant properties   |            |
| pMD18-T  | AP <sup>r</sup> ; cloning vector  | Takara     |
| pET28-b  | Km <sup>r</sup> ; containing 6×His tag  | Novagen    |
| pFQ20    | Ap <sup>r</sup> Sp <sup>r</sup> ; slr0168 targeting vector; Omega   | 1          |
| pMSD15   | Cm <sup>r</sup> ; pACYA184 derivative   | 2,3        |
| pXT5     | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>adh II</i>  | This study |
| pXT113A  | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>slr1192</i>   | This study |
| pZG35    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: Synpcc7942_0459  | This study |
| pZG36    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>all0879</i>   | This study |
| pZG37    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>alr0895</i>   | This study |
| pZG38    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>alr0897</i>   | This study |
| pZG39    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>slr0942</i>   | This study |
| pZG40    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>sll0990</i>   | This study |
| pZG41    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>all2810</i>   | This study |
| pZG42    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>all5334</i>   | This study |
| pZG62    | Cm <sup>r</sup> Sp <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>pdc</i>   | This study |
| pZG63    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>slr1192</i> , <i>alr0895</i>  | This study |
| pZG64    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>adh II</i> , <i>slr1192</i>   | This study |
| pZG65    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>alr0895</i> , <i>adh II</i>   | This study |
| pZG66    | Km <sup>r</sup> ; P <sub>T7</sub> :: <i>alr0895</i> , <i>adh II</i> , <i>slr1192</i>                        | This study |
| pZG25    | Ap <sup>r</sup> Sp <sup>r</sup> ; <i>slr0168</i> targeting; P <sub>rbc</sub> :: <i>pdc</i> , <i>slr1192</i> | This study |
| pHZ22    | Ap <sup>r</sup> Km <sup>r</sup> ; containing <i>slr9394</i> homologous arm                                  | This study |
| pHZ23    | Ap <sup>r</sup> Km <sup>r</sup> ; <i>slr9394</i> targeting; P <sub>rbc</sub> :: <i>pdc</i> , <i>slr1192</i> | This study |

Table S1 Stains and plasmid used and constructed in this study

| Primers | Sequence (5'→3')                       |
|---------|--|
| pdcF    | GGCATATGAGTTATACTGTCGGTACCTATTTAGCGG   |
| pdcR    | GGTACTAGTCTAGAGGAGCTTGTTAACAGGCT       |
| 1192F   | TACATATGATTAAAGCCTACGCTGCCCT           |
| 1192R   | TTTCTCGAGCTAATTTTTACTATGGCTGAGCACTAC   |
| 93F     | GGGGACCATCCTGACTACACGG                 |
| 93R     | TTCCAATGCCATGGGTTGGGAT                 |
| 94F     | GTAGCCATGGTAGCTATGTCACCG               |
| 94R     | TGTTGATGGTGGGTATCGTGGTG                |
| rbcL-T  | TAATAACTGTCTCTGGGGGCGACGG              |
| 0168-1  | ACCTCTCCACGCTGAATTAG                   |
| 0168-2  | TTCCAGGCCACATTGTTGTC                   |
| dc92F   | CTGGATGAACCCTTTACCCGCTTA               |
| dc92R   | TTTCTCGAGCTAATTTTTACTATGGCTGAGCACTAC   |
| adhF    | GGCATATGGCTTCTTCAACTTTTTATATTCCTTTCGTC |
| adhR    | GCGCTCGAG TTAGAAAGCGCTCAGGA            |
| 0459F   | TACATATGAAATCACGCGCTGCGAT              |
| 0459R   | TTAAAAGGTGATGACGGTGCGAAT               |
| 0879F   | GACATATGCGCGCCATGATTTTAGA              |
| 0879R   | ATCTCGAGTCACTTCATCACTAAAACG            |
| 0895F   | AGCATATGAAAGCAGTCTGCTGG                |
| 0895R   | ATCTCGAGTTACGGTTTGAGTACAACT            |
| 0897F   | TACATATGAAAGCAGTTTGCTGGC               |
| 0897R   | ATCTCGAGTTAGGGTTTGAGTACAAC             |
| 0942F   | GCCATATGCAGAGTTTCAATAGG                |
| 0942R   | AGCTCGAGTTAAATTTCATCCCATAGG            |
| 0990F   | TACATATGAAATCCCGTGCCGCC                |
| 0990R   | ATCTCGAGTTAGTAGTGGATCACACT             |
| 2810F   | CACATATGGAAGTGAAAGCAGCAA               |
| 2810R   | CTCTCGAGTTAAAAAGTCACCACACT             |

Table S2 Oligonucleotide primers used in this study

## 5334FGCCATATGAAAGCAGTTGTTTT5334RACCTCGAGCTAAACATTAGCTAAAGC

| Plasmid | Gene name       | Cyanobacteria type        |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| pXT113A | slr1192         | Synechocystis sp. PCC6803 |
| pZG35   | Synpcc7942_0459 | Synechococcus sp. PCC7942 |
| pZG36   | all0879         | Anabaena sp. PCC7120      |
| pZG37   | alr0895         | Anabaena sp. PCC7120      |
| pZG38   | alr0897         | Anabaena sp. PCC7120      |
| pZG39   | slr0942         | Synechocystis sp. PCC6803 |
| pZG40   | s110990         | Synechocystis sp. PCC6803 |
| pZG41   | all2810         | Anabaena sp. PCC7120      |
| pZG42   | all5334         | Anabaena sp. PCC7120      |

| Table S3 Nine a | lcohol dehydrogenases | from three dif | ferent cyanobacteria |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| DI 'I           | a                     |                |                      |

| Strain                                | Genotype                    | Doubling        | Final             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                                       |                             | time (g/h)      | OD <sub>600</sub> |
| E. coli (pZG62)                       | pdc                         | $3.54 \pm 0.38$ | 0.94              |
| E. coli (pZG62+pXT5)                  | pdc+adhII                   | 2.91±0.27       | 2.02              |
| E. coli (pZG62+pXT113A)               | pdc+slr1192                 | $2.91 \pm 0.30$ | 2.67              |
| E. coli (pZG62+pZG35)                 | <i>pdc</i> +Synpcc7942_0459 | $3.24 \pm 0.08$ | 2.22              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG36)         | pdc+all0879                 | $3.05 \pm 0.35$ | 2.53              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG38)         | pdc+alr0897                 | $2.54 \pm 0.37$ | 2.43              |
| <i>E</i> . <i>coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG42) | pdc+all5334                 | $2.68 \pm 0.14$ | 2.49              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG37)         | pdc+alr0895                 | $3.16 \pm 0.22$ | 2.65              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG39)         | pdc+slr0942                 | $2.82 \pm 0.29$ | 3.18              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG40)         | pdc+sll0990                 | $3.41 \pm 0.16$ | 2.27              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG41)         | pdc+all2810                 | $3.08 \pm 0.39$ | 2.43              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG63)         | pdc+alr0895+slr1192         | $2.65 \pm 0.30$ | 2.53              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG64)         | pdc+adhII+slr1192           | $3.24 \pm 0.27$ | 2.66              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG65)         | pdc+adhII+alr0895           | $2.64 \pm 0.21$ | 2.25              |
| <i>E. coli</i> (pZG62+ pZG66)         | pdc+adhII+alr0895+slr1192   | $2.84 \pm 0.34$ | 2.00              |

**Table S4** The doubling time of *E. coli* strains with expression of pyruvatedecarboxylase and different alcohol dehydrogenases



**Figure S1** PCR Identification of the genotype of four ethanol producing strains. The primers used in this section were listed in Table S2.

A) Genotype analysis of Syn-XT43. Lane1: DNA Ladder. Lane 2-5: wild type DNA was used as the template in PCR. Lane 6-9: the genome DNA of Syn-XT43 was used as the template. Primers 0168-1 and 0168-2, which are specific to the N- and C-terminal of *slr0168* locus respectively, were used in lane 2 and 6. This result indicated the expression cassette was inserted into the *slr0168* site of the genome with an approximate length of 7,500 bp, and the mutant Syn-XT43 was completely segregated. Primers rbcL-T (specific to  $P_{rbc}$  promoter) and 0168-2 (specific to the *slr0168* C-terminal) were used in lane 3 and 7. Primers pdcF(specific to the N-terminal of *pdc* gene) and 0168-2 (specific to the *slr0168* C-terminal) were used in lane 5 and 9. These results indicated the *pdc* and *adh II* expression cassette was successfully inserted into the *slr0168* site of the genome in the order of  $P_{rbc}$ , *pdc* and *adhII*.

- B) Genotype analysis of Syn-ZG25. Lane1: DNA Ladder. Lane 2-5: wild type DNA was used as the template. Lane 6-9: the genome DNA of Syn-ZG25 was used as the template. Primers 0168-1 and 0168-2 were used in lane 2 and 6. This result indicated the expression cassette was inserted into the *slr0168* site of the genome with an approximate length of 7,300 bp, and the mutant Syn-ZG25 was completely segregated. Primers rbcL-T and 0168-2 were used in lane 3 and 7. Primers pdcF and 0168-2 were used in lane 4 and 8. Primers 1192F (specific to the N-terminal of *slr1192* gene) and 0168-2 were used in lane 5 and 9. These PCR results indicated the *pdc* and *slr1192* expression cassette was successfully inserted into the *slr0168* site of the genome in the order of *P<sub>rbc</sub>*, *pdc* and *slr1192*.
- C) Genotype analysis of Syn-HZ23. Lane1: DNA Ladder. Lane 2-5: wild type DNA was used as the template. Lane 6-9: the genome DNA of Syn-HZ23 was used as the template. Primers 93F and 94R, which are specific to the N- and C-terminal of *slr9394* (or *phaAB*) locus respectively, were used in lane 2 and 6. This result indicated the expression cassette was completely inserted into the *phaAB* site of the genome with an approximate length of 8,000 bp, and the mutant Syn-HZ23 was completely segregated. Primers rbcL-T and 94R were used in lane 3 and 7. Primers pdcF and 94R were used in lane 4 and 8. Primers 1192F and 94R were used in lane 5 and 9. These PCR results indicated the *pdc* and *slr1192* expression cassette was successfully inserted into the *phaAB* site of the genome in the order of *P<sub>rbc</sub>*, *pdc* and *slr1192*.
- D) Genotype analysis of Syn-HZ24. Lane1: DNA Ladder. Lane 2-9: wild type DNA was used as the template. Lane 10-17: the genome DNA of Syn-HZ24 was used as the template. Primers 0168-1 and 0168-2 were used in lane 2 and 10. Primers rbcL-T and 0168-2 were used in lane 3 and 11. Primers pdcF and 0168-2 were used in lane 4 and 12. Primers 1192F and 0168-2 were used in lane 5 and 13. These PCR result indicated the *pdc* and *slr1192* expression cassette was completely inserted into the *slr0168* site of the genome in the order of  $P_{rbc}$ , *pdc* and *slr1192*. Primers 93F and 94R were used in lane 6 and 14. Primers rbcL-T and 94R were used in lane 7 and 15. Primers pdcF and 94R were used in lane 8 and 16.

Primers 1192F and 94R were used in lane 9 and 17. And these PCR result indicated the *pdc* and *slr1192* expression cassette was completely inserted into the *phaAB* site of the genome in the order of  $P_{rbc}$ , *pdc* and *slr1192*.



**Figure S2** The SDS-PAGE gel of *adh II*, *slr1192*, *all0879* and Synpcc7942\_0459 purification. (A) The gel of *adh II*, lane 1: protein marker, lane 2: crude extract, lane 3: the protein through the Ni-NTA resin, lane 4-6: the target protein eluted by Tris buffer containing 100mM iminazole (B) The gel of *slr1192*, lane 1: protein marker, lane 2: crude extract, lane 3-10: the protein eluted by Tris buffer containing 250 mM iminazole (C) The gel of *all0879*, lane1: protein marker, lane 2: crude extract, lane 4 and 5: the target protein eluted by Tris buffer containing 100 mM iminazole (D) The gel of Synpcc7942\_0459, lane 1: protein marker, lane 2-9: the target protein eluted by Tris buffer containing 250 mM iminazole.



**Figure S3** Western blot analysis of protein expression in *E. coli* mutants with heterologous overexpression of pyruvate decarboxylase from *Zymomonas mobilis* and different alcohol dehydrogenases.

Lane 1: protein marker. Lane 2: the total proteins in wild type *E.coli* as a negative control. Lane 3: the purified alcohol dehydrogenase (*slr1192*) from *Synechocystis* sp. PCC6803 as a positive control. Lane 4: the purified pyruvate decarboxylase (*pdc*) from *Zymomonas mobilis* as another positive control. Lane 5 through lane 14 showed the results of the total protein extracts from *E. coli* mutant harboring *pdc* and *adh II* genes (lane 5); *pdc* and *slr1192* genes (lane 6); *pdc* and Synpcc7942\_0459 genes (lane 7); *pdc* and *all0879* genes (lane 8); *pdc* and *alr0895* genes (lane 9); *pdc* and *alr0897* genes (lane 10); *pdc* and *slr0942* genes (lane 11); *pdc* and *sll0990* genes (lane 12); *pdc* and *all2810* genes (lane 13); *pdc* and *all5334* genes (lane 14), respectively.



**Figure S4** The column photo-bioreactor (A) and condensation device (B) used for exact determination of the ethanol production in cyanobacteria.

#### References

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