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Abstract

In 1986, Bouvet and Grimont delineated two related taxa of the genus *Acinetobacter* termed genospecies (GS) 8 and 9. They proposed the name *Acinetobacter lwoffii* for GS8, which included the supposed type strain (CIP 64.10). As the authenticity of CIP 64.10 was later questioned, this study aimed at reassessing the taxonomy of these genospecies. We investigated 52 strains of GS8 or GS9, including CIP 64.10 and the genuine type strain of *A. lwoffii* (NCTC 5866T). All strains were subjected to the genus-wide comparative analyses of MALDI-TOF whole-cell mass spectra, *rpoB* gene sequences and metabolic traits while whole-genome sequences were analysed for 16 strains. The strains were classified into two distinct groups corresponding to GS8 (n=15) and GS9 (n=37). CIP 64.10 fell within GS8 whereas NCTC 5866T belonged to GS9. Intraspecies ANI_b values for the genomes of GS8 (n=6) and GS9 (n=10) were ≥96.1% and ≥95.4%, respectively, whereas the ANI_b values between them were 86.8–88.6%. Based on core genome phylogeny, GS8 and GS9 formed a distinct clade within the genus, with two respective, strongly supported subclades. GS8 and GS9 were similar in physiological and catabolic properties but were clearly separable by MALDI-TOF MS. We conclude that the name *A. lwoffii* pertains to GS9 and not to GS8 as originally proposed and that these groups represent two distinct species. We propose the name *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. for GS8, with ANC 5044T (= CCM 8638T = CCUG 67963T) as the type strain, and provide the emended description of *A. lwoffii*.

Keywords	carbon source assimilation; core genome; MALDI-TOF MS; <i>rpoB</i> ; whole genome sequence
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Dear editors of Systematic and Applied Microbiology,

We are submitting a manuscript entitled "Revising the taxonomy of the *Acinetobacter lwoffii* group: the description of *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. and emended description of *Acinetobacter lwoffii*" for your kind consideration for publication in the SAM.

In this taxonomic study, we aim at the clarification of the taxonomic confusion associated with the name *Acinetobacter lwoffii*, one of two oldest validly published names of the genus *Acinetobacter*. Our results show that the emended description of *A. lwoffii* by Bouvet and Grimont (1986) was based on an incorrect (type) strain and was associated with a taxon different from the species which includes the genuine type strain of *A. lwoffii*. We believe that this subject has a publication value given the medical and ecological importance of strains so far classified as *A. lwoffii*.

Yours faithfully,

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1 **Revising the taxonomy of the *Acinetobacter lwoffii* group: the description of *Acinetobacter***
2 ***pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. and emended description of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* †**

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4

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19

20

21 *Abbreviations: MALDI-TOF MS, Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization-Time-Of-Flight Mass*
22 *Spectrometry; ANIb, average nucleotide identity based on BLAST; dDDH, digital DNA-DNA*
23 *hybridization*

24

25 † The GenBank/ENA /DDBJ accession numbers for the partial nucleotide sequences of the *rpoB* gene
26 reported in this study are MG564139–MG564159. The whole genome shotgun projects for
27 *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* ANC 5044^T, ANC 5347, ANC 5324 and ANC 5318 have been deposited at
28 DDBJ/ENA/GenBank under the accession numbers PHRG00000000, PGOZ00000000, PGPA00000000
29 and PGPB00000000, respectively. The versions described in this paper are PHRG01000000,
30 PGOZ01000000, PGPA01000000, and PGPB01000000.

31

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34 **Abstract**

35

36 In 1986, Bouvet and Grimont delineated two related taxa of the genus *Acinetobacter* termed
37 genospecies (GS) 8 and 9. They proposed the name *Acinetobacter lwoffii* for GS8, which included the
38 supposed type strain (CIP 64.10). As the authenticity of CIP 64.10 was later questioned, this study
39 aimed at reassessing the taxonomy of these genospecies. We investigated 52 strains of GS8 or GS9,
40 including CIP 64.10 and the genuine type strain of *A. lwoffii* (NCTC 5866^T). All strains were subjected
41 to the genus-wide comparative analyses of MALDI-TOF whole-cell mass spectra, *rpoB* gene
42 sequences and metabolic traits while whole-genome sequences were analysed for 16 strains. The
43 strains were classified into two distinct groups corresponding to GS8 (n=15) and GS9 (n=37). CIP
44 64.10 fell within GS8 whereas NCTC 5866^T belonged to GS9. Intraspecies ANI_b values for the
45 genomes of GS8 (n=6) and GS9 (n=10) were ≥96.1% and ≥95.4%, respectively, whereas the ANI_b
46 values between them were 86.8–88.6%. Based on core genome phylogeny, GS8 and GS9 formed a
47 distinct clade within the genus, with two respective, strongly supported subclades. GS8 and GS9 were
48 similar in physiological and catabolic properties but were clearly separable by MALDI-TOF MS. We
49 conclude that the name *A. lwoffii* pertains to GS9 and not to GS8 as originally proposed and that
50 these groups represent two distinct species. We propose the name *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp.
51 nov. for GS8, with ANC 5044^T (= CCM 8638^T = CCUG 67963^T) as the type strain, and provide the
52 emended description of *A. lwoffii*.

53

54 **Keywords:** carbon source assimilation; core genome; MALDI-TOF MS; *rpoB*; whole genome sequence

55 Introduction

56

57 In their landmark study of 1986 [2], Bouvet and Grimont laid down a basis for the classification of the
58 genus *Acinetobacter* at the species level. Based on DNA-DNA hybridization (DDH) and comprehensive
59 phenotypic testing, they delineated 12 taxa termed genospecies among 85 archive *Acinetobacter*
60 strains. These genospecies were numbered from 1 to 12, with formal species names being proposed
61 for six of them. Two of these genospecies, 8 and 9, were found to be more related to each other than
62 to the other genospecies in terms of both DNA-DNA relatedness and biochemical characteristics. As
63 genospecies 8 included strain CIP 64.10 assumed to be derived from NCTC 5866^T, the type strain of
64 *Acinetobacter lwoffii* [(Audureau 1940 [1]) Brisou and Prévot 1954 [3]], this genospecies was assigned
65 the name *A. lwoffii* in line with Rule 40b of the Bacteriological Code [11].

66

67 The authenticity of CIP 64.10 as a derivative of *A. lwoffii* NCTC 5866^T was, however, later questioned
68 by Tjernberg and Ursing in their taxonomic study on clinical *Acinetobacter* isolates based on DDH
69 [31]. They reported that their results for *A. lwoffii* NCTC 5866^T and four strains classified by Bouvet
70 and Grimont [2] as genospecies 8 (ATCC 17925) or 9 (ATCC 17968, ATCC 9957, and ATCC 17910) were
71 discordant with the data of Bouvet & Grimont [2] for CIP 64.10 and the same four ATCC strains.
72 Nevertheless, as the DDH relatedness and ΔT_m values found for all these strains were close to the
73 thresholds recommended for species delineation, they decided to lump them in a single taxonomic
74 group [31]. The fusion of genospecies 8 and 9 into one taxon was followed in many taxonomic
75 studies on *Acinetobacter* [4,6,7,33]. The problem of the identity of CIP 64.10 and *A. lwoffii* NCTC
76 5866^T was recently reopened by Touchon et al. [32] in their comparative analysis of the whole
77 genome sequences of *Acinetobacter* species. They found that the average nucleotide identity value
78 between the genome sequences of NCTC 5866^T and CIP 64.10 was as low as 88.3%, which indicates
79 that these organisms differed at both the strain and species level of resolution.

80

81 Organisms identified as *A. lwoffii* have been commonly reported from human, animal, or
82 environmental specimens [14,15,16,27] and were associated with opportunistic infections in humans
83 [33]. Given this significant medical and ecological importance, we conducted the present study in
84 order to resolve the taxonomic discrepancies associated with the name *A. lwoffii*.

85 **Material and methods**

86

87 *Bacteria*

88 Fifty-two strains of the *A. lwoffii* group investigated in the present study are listed in Table 1. They
89 included CIP 64.10 and other seven strains studied by Bouvet and Grimont [2], the genuine type
90 strain of *A. lwoffii* (CCM 8638^T derived from NCTC 5866^T) and 31 additional strains which were
91 selected from the collection of the Laboratory of Bacterial Genetics to be as diverse in their origin
92 and phenotypic and genotypic characteristics as possible. Representatives of all *Acinetobacter*
93 distinct species with validly published names (except for *Acinetobacter piscicola*, which was
94 unavailable at the time of our analyses) and several provisional taxa of the genus were included in
95 the analyses. Three junior synonyms and *Acinetobacter lactucae* which is synonymous with
96 *Acinetobacter dijkshoorniae*, [19,20,34] were not considered.

97

98 *MALDI-TOF MS*

99 Whole cell profiling by matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight (MALDI-TOF) MS was
100 performed as described previously [24], using a standard matrix based on alpha-cyano-4-
101 hydroxycinnamic acid solution. All measurements and data processing were carried out using the
102 Microflex LT instrument (Bruker Daltonics) and BioTyper software version 3.1 (Bruker Daltonics).

103

104 *The rpoB gene analysis*

105 Comparative nucleotide sequence analysis of the *rpoB* (RNA polymerase β -subunit) gene was carried
106 out for an 861 bp region which corresponds to nucleotide positions 2915–3775 of the *rpoB* coding
107 region of *Acinetobacter baumannii* CIP 70.34^T (GenBank/ENA /DDBJ accession no. DQ207471.1) as
108 described previously [17,18]. Cluster analysis was performed using the neighbour-joining algorithm
109 with Kimura's two-parameter substitution model. All analyses were carried out using the
110 BioNumerics 7.6 software (Applied-Maths).

111

112 *Whole-genome sequence analysis*

113 Generation of DNA sequencing libraries and paired-end sequencing (250 bp \times 2) on the Illumina
114 MiSeq platform were carried out in the Genomics Core Facility (EMBL). Reads were assembled *de*
115 *novo* using the Geneious 9.0.5 software (Biomatters), with only contigs >1000 bp included in the final
116 genome sequences. Genome sequences were compared using the average nucleotide identity based
117 on BLAST (ANIb) and digital DNA–DNA hybridization (dDDH) parameters. ANIb and dDDH values were
118 calculated, respectively, using the JSpecies (<http://www.imedeia.uib.es/jspecies>) [25] and GGDC 2.1
119 (<http://ggdc.dsmz.de>) [13] programs with the recommended parameters and/or default settings.

120 *Core genome-based phylogenetic analysis*

121 For phylogenetic analysis based on the *Acinetobacter* core genome, the procedure used by Popel et
122 al. [23] was adopted. All genome sequences were annotated with Prokka [26], and predicted protein
123 coding sequences were used further. To obtain core genes, OrthoMCL [12] was first run to identify
124 orthologs from the genome sequences of five strains, i.e. *A. radioresistens* CIP 103788^T, *A. baylyi* CIP
125 107474^T, *A. baumannii* CIP 70.34^T, *A. calcoaceticus* CIP 81.8^T, and *A. nosocomialis* NIPH 2119^T.
126 Potentially orthologous protein sequences were clustered into homologous groups and redundant
127 sequences were removed to retain only one homologous sequence per genome in each group. Only
128 groups including sequences from all the five strains were analysed further. Sequences within each
129 group were aligned with MAFFT-LINSI [9], and a profile hidden Markov model (pHMM) was created
130 from each alignment using the hmmbuild command of the HMMER3 software package
131 (<http://hmmer.janelia.org>). HaMStR ortholog search [5] was then applied for the remaining genomes
132 using pHMMs for all homologous groups. Protein sequences found in all genomes were used for
133 phylogeny reconstruction. They were aligned for each group of orthologs with MAFFT-LINSI.
134 Alignments were concatenated, and sites with gaps were trimmed using Phyutility [29]. Maximum
135 Likelihood (ML) tree reconstruction on the resulting supermatrix was then conducted with RAxML
136 8.1.9 [30] using the PROTGAMMAILGF model for amino acid sequence evolution.

137

138 *Phenotypic analysis*

139 Metabolic and physiological features were assessed using a genus-targeted set of in-house, strictly
140 standardized tests (Table 2) as described previously [10,18]. Assimilation tests were performed in
141 fluid mineral medium supplemented with 0.1% (w/v) carbon source. In the case of auxotrophic
142 strains, the medium was also supplemented with 15% (v/v) of the AUX medium used in the API 20NE
143 system (bioMérieux). Temperature growth tests were carried out in brain-heart infusion broth
144 (Oxoid) using a thermostatically controlled water bath. Except for the temperature growth tests, the
145 culture temperature was 30 °C. The assimilation tests were interpreted after six days of culture and
146 the other tests after three (haemolytic and gelatinase activities) or two (D-glucose acidification,
147 temperature growth tests) days. Gram-staining and tests for oxidase, catalase, nitrate reduction,
148 motility, and anaerobic growth were performed as described by Radolfova-Krizova et al. [24].

149 **Results and Discussion**

150

151 *MALDI-TOF MS- and rpoB-based classification*

152 The results of the genus-wide cluster analyses of MALDI-TOF whole-cell mass spectra and partial
153 *rpoB* gene sequences are depicted in Fig. 1. Based on MALDI-TOF MS, the 52 strains of the *A. lwoffii*
154 group formed a distinct cluster, with two well separated, internally cohesive subclusters. The larger
155 subcluster (n=37) included *A. lwoffii* CCM 8638^T and all six strains classified by Bouvet and Grimont as
156 GS9, whereas the smaller one (n=15) comprised CIP 64.10 and the other strain (CIP 70.17) classified
157 by Bouvet and Grimont as GS8. This picture was mirrored, with the exception of two strains, in the
158 *rpoB*-based phylogram. The partial *rpoB* sequences formed a well separated cluster within the genus,
159 with a large and a small subcluster (respective intracluster sequence identities of $\geq 96.9\%$ and
160 $\geq 97.3\%$), which comprised, respectively, the strains classified by Bouvet and Grimont as GS9 and GS8.
161 The two strains with inconsistent positions in the *rpoB* and MALDI-TOF MS dendrograms were NIPH
162 713, placed in between two main clusters in the *rpoB* tree, and ANC 5324, which grouped with the
163 GS8 and GS9 strains in the MALDI-TOF MS and *rpoB* dendrograms, respectively. However, based on
164 the analysis of whole genome sequences (Table 2, Fig. 2), these two strains could be allocated
165 unequivocally to the GS8 group, and the same picture was obtained if the complete *rpoB* sequences
166 derived from the whole genomes were compared. The inspection of the complete *rpoB* sequences
167 of NIPH 713 and ANC 5324 revealed that while the major parts of these sequences were congruent
168 with those of the GS8 strains, the regions used for the partial *rpoB* gene analysis (positions 2915–
169 3775 of the *rpoB* coding region) were more similar, either completely (ANC 5324) or partly (NIPH
170 713), to those of the GS9 strains. This suggests that the *rpoB* sequences of these two strains
171 underwent homologous recombination following the acquisition of the *rpoB* sequences from strains
172 of the GS9 group.

173

174 *Comparison of whole genome sequences*

175 Whole genome sequences were analysed in six and 10 strains classified, respectively, as GS8 and GS9
176 by Bouvet and Grimont and/or by MALDI-TOF MS and *rpoB* sequencing (Table 2). Four of them
177 (GenBank/ENA /DDBJ accession nos PHRG00000000.1, PGPB00000000.1, PGPA00000000.1, and
178 PGOZ00000000.1) were determined in the present study, whereas the remaining 12 were published
179 previously [22,32]. The basic features of these genome sequences are summarized in Table S1. The
180 pairwise ANIb and dDDH values for the 16 genome sequences are shown in Table 2 while those
181 between these strains and all hitherto described *Acinetobacter* species are summarized in Tables S2
182 and S3. The intraspecies ANIb/dDDH values for GS8 and GS9 were 96.14–97.44%/68.8–79.3% and
183 95.36–99.98%/64.7–99.3%, respectively, whereas the ANIb/dDDH values between GS8 and GS9 were

184 86.72–88.58%/32.3–36.8%. The ANIb and dDDH values between the genomes of GS8 or GS9 and
185 those of the other species of the genus were $\leq 82.84\%$ and $\leq 26.9\%$, respectively. In light of the
186 recommended threshold values of ANIb (95–96%, [25]) and dDDH (70% [13]) for species
187 circumscription, these values indicate that GS8 and GS9 are two distinct species. Although a high
188 proportion of the pairwise dDDH values for GS9 were slightly below 70% (Table 2), it is of note that
189 such dDDH values can also be found for the members of other ecologically ubiquitous species such as
190 *Acinetobacter johnsonii* (unpublished results).

191

192 *Core genome-based phylogeny*

193 The results of the phylogenetic analysis of the 16 genome sequences of the *A. lwoffii* group within
194 the whole genus are shown in Fig. 2. The resulting phylogram was reconstructed from the
195 concatenated alignment of the of 54,871 amino acid residues based on 1,276 orthologous protein
196 groups. The 16 genomes formed a distinct clade within the genus, with two monophyletic
197 subbranches which, respectively, correspond to GS8 and GS9. This picture is consistent with the
198 previously published phylogram [32] based on 1,590 protein families of the *Acinetobacter* core
199 genome, which included 11 of the 16 genome sequences of the *A. lwoffii* group used in the present
200 study.

201

202 *Physiological and metabolic features*

203 Phenotypic features assessed using the genus-targeted set of physiological and metabolic tests
204 (Table 3) are presented in the standardized way as described in our previous nomenclatural
205 proposals [10,21]. Table S4 shows the summarized data for GS8 and GS9, along with those for all
206 known *Acinetobacter* species with validly published names, whereas Table 3 is a subset of these data,
207 which compares the phenotypes of GS8 and GS9 with those of the species that are phylogenetically
208 closest to them (*A. gandensis*, *A. indicus*, *A. schindleri*, *A. townneri*, and *A. variabilis*) according to the
209 phylogram of Fig. 2. Overall, GS8 and GS9 belong, together with those phylogenetically close species,
210 to catabolically less active members of the genus, with a limited number of characteristics that can
211 differentiate between them. Even though no single diagnostic feature was identified which could
212 discriminate unequivocally between the strains of GS8 and GS9, GS9 appeared to be more active
213 than GS8 as exemplified by a higher proportion of GS9 strains to grow on adipate, 4-aminobutyrate,
214 DL-lactate, and ethanol or by the ability of some GS9 strains to oxidize D-glucose (Table 3).

215

216 *The type strain of A. lwoffii*

217 To our best knowledge, the National Collection of Type Cultures preserves the oldest known lineage
218 of the type strain of *A. lwoffii* (listed under no. NCTC 5866^T), deposited there by André Lwoff before

219 1939. NCTC 5866^T was later deposited in a number of culture collections including the Collection de
220 l'Institut Pasteur (CIP 64.10) and the Czech Collection of Microorganisms (CCM 8638^T). The results of
221 the present study showed that CIP 64.10 and CCM 8638^T differed at both the strain and species level.
222 To shed more light on, we obtained another culture of NCTC 5866^T from the National Collection of
223 Type Cultures, which has been deposited in the Collection de l'Institut Pasteur under no. CIP 110687^T.
224 This new culture was studied along with CIP 64.10 and CCM 8638^T using macrorestriction analysis
225 with Apal, which corroborated the identity of CIP 110687^T and CCM 8638^T and distinctness of CIP
226 64.10 (data not shown). These observations are in line with those of Tjernberg and Ursing [31] and
227 indicate that CIP 64.10 is a strain different from NCTC 5866^T. Although a mislabelling of strains is the
228 most likely reason behind this, it must be emphasized that such a mislabelling was difficult to
229 recognize at the time of the study of Bouvet and Grimont [2], given the high phenotypic similarity of
230 the two strains (Table 3). To avoid further confusion, CIP 64.10 is not available from the Collection de
231 l'Institut Pasteur any longer but has been deposited in the Czech National Collection of Type Cultures
232 under no. CNCTC 7645.

233

234

235 **Conclusions**

236

237 The present study provides strong evidence that taxa GS8 and GS9 described by Bouvet and Grimont
238 [2] are two phylogenetically related but taxonomically clearly distinct species of the genus
239 *Acinetobacter*. This evidence is based on the congruence of genotypic and phenotypic results, with
240 those based on the analyses of whole-genome sequences and whole-cell protein spectra being most
241 conclusive. The two species are ecologically ubiquitous, as indicated by their occurrence in various
242 human, animal, and environmental specimens. Despite their mutual resemblance in catabolic
243 properties and possible problems with their identification based on single gene markers, the reliable
244 differentiation between these species for routine diagnostics is achievable via MALDI-TOF MS. Our
245 results further demonstrate that the genuine type strain of *A. lwoffii* [1,3] is a member of GS9 and
246 not GS8, as assumed by Bouvet and Grimont [2] and that, therefore, the name *A. lwoffii* pertains to
247 the former species. In light of these findings, we provide the emended description of *A. lwoffii* and
248 propose the name *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. for GS8.

249 **Emended description of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* (Audureau 1940) Brisou and Prévot 1954.**

250 Gram-stain-negative, strictly aerobic, oxidase-negative, and catalase-positive coccobacilli typically
251 occurring in pairs, incapable of dissimilative denitrification and swimming motility, and capable of
252 growing in defined mineral media containing a single carbon and energy source and ammonia as the
253 sole source of nitrogen. Rare strains are auxotrophic. Positive in the transformation assay of Juni [8].

254

255 Colonies on tryptic soy agar (Oxoid) after incubation at 30 °C for 24 h are 1.0–2.0 mm in diameter,
256 grey–white, slightly opaque, circular, convex and smooth, with entire margins. Growth occurs in
257 brain-heart infusion broth (Oxoid) at temperatures ranging from 15 to 37 °C, but not at 44 °C; most
258 strains do not grow at 41 °C. Most strains do not produce acid from D-glucose. Gelatin is not
259 hydrolysed. Neither haemolysis nor greenish discoloration is observed on agar media supplemented
260 with sheep erythrocytes. Acetate, ethanol, and azelate are utilized as sole sources of carbon, with
261 growth visible in 6 (mostly 2) days of culture at 30° C. Most strains grow on adipate, 4-
262 aminobutyrate, benzoate, DL-lactate, and phenylacetate, whereas only rare strains grow on *trans*-
263 aconitate, L-arginine, 2,3-butanediol, citrate (Simmons), L-glutamate, levulinate, D-malate, malonate,
264 L-ornithine, and tricarballoylate. No growth occurs on β-alanine, L-arabinose, L-aspartate, citraconate,
265 gentisate, D-gluconate, D-glucose, glutarate, histamine, L-histidine, 4-hydroxybenzoate, L-leucine, L-
266 phenylalanine, putrescine, D-ribose, L-tartrate, trigonelline, or tryptamine. DNA G+C content is 42.5–
267 43.2 mol% (based on 10 genome sequences).

268

269 The type strain, CCM 5581^T (= NCTC 5866^T = CIP 110687^T = CNCTC 6167^T = NIPH 512^T), was deposited
270 in the NCTC collection by André Lwoff before 1939. This strain grows on adipate, 4-aminobutyrate,
271 benzoate, DL-lactate, and phenylacetate but not on *trans*-aconitate, L-arginine, 2,3-butanediol,
272 citrate (Simmons), L-glutamate, levulinate, D-malate, malonate, L-ornithine, or tricarballoylate. The
273 whole genome sequence of the type strain is available under GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ accession no.
274 AYHO00000000.1 (size: 3 382 003 bp, number of contigs: 16, number of proteins: 3 237, G+C
275 content: 43.1%). This genome sequence contains five copies of the 16S rRNA gene, with three
276 sequence variants, i.e. AYHO01000004 (locus_tag: P800_01948), AYHO01000005 (locus_tag:
277 P800_02544 and P800_02592). The taxonumber of the digital protologue is TA00593.

278 **Description of *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov.**

279 *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* (pseu.do.lwo.ff'i.i. Gr. adj. *pseudes* false; N.L. gen. masc. n. *lwoffii*, of
280 Lwoff, named in honour of André Lwoff and specific epithet; N.L. masc. adj. *pseudolwoffii*, a false
281 (*Acinetobacter*) *lwoffii*, referring to the high phenotypic similarity to and historical confusion with *A.*
282 *lwoffii*).

283

284 Gram-stain-negative, strictly aerobic, oxidase-negative, and catalase-positive coccobacilli typically
285 occurring in pairs, incapable of dissimilative denitrification and swimming motility, and capable of
286 growing in defined mineral media containing a single carbon and energy source, and ammonia as the
287 sole source of nitrogen. Positive in the transformation assay of Juni [8]. Colonies on tryptic soy agar
288 (Oxoid) after incubation at 30 °C for 24 h are 1.0–2.0 mm in diameter, grey–white, slightly opaque,
289 circular, convex and smooth, with entire margins. Growth occurs in brain-heart infusion broth
290 (Oxoid) at temperatures ranging from 15 to 37 °C, but not at 41 °C. Acid is not produced from D-
291 glucose. Gelatin is not hydrolysed. Neither haemolysis nor greenish discoloration is observed on agar
292 media supplemented with sheep erythrocytes. Acetate is utilized as a sole source of carbon, with
293 growth visible in 6 (mostly 2) days of culture at 30° C. Growth on adipate, azelate, benzoate, ethanol,
294 DL-lactate, or phenylacetate is common while only rare strains grow on glutarate, 4-
295 hydroxybenzoate, D-malate, malonate, or L-tartrate. No growth occurs on 4-aminobutyrate, *trans*-
296 aconitate, β-alanine, L-arabinose, L-arginine, L-aspartate, 2,3-butanediol, citraconate, gentisate,
297 citrate (Simmons), D-gluconate, D-glucose, L-glutamate, histamine, L-histidine, L-leucine, levulinate,
298 L-ornithine, L-phenylalanine, putrescine, D-ribose, tricarballylate, trigonelline or tryptamine. DNA
299 G+C content is 42.9–43.4 mol% (based on six genome sequences).

300

301 The type strain, ANC 5044^T (= CCM 8638^T = CCUG 67963^T = CNCTC 7472^T), was isolated from creek
302 sediment in a protected deciduous forest (Natural reserve Mohelnička, the Czech Republic, GPS
303 coordinates: 49.1043269°N 16.2148017°E) in September 2014. This strain grows on adipate, azelate,
304 benzoate, ethanol, DL-lactate, phenylacetate, and L-tartrate but not on glutarate, D-malate,
305 malonate, or 4-hydroxybenzoate. The whole genome sequence of the type strain is available under
306 GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ accession no. PHRG00000000.1 (size: 3 105 311 bp, number of contigs: 30,
307 number of proteins: 2 791, G+C content: 43.3%). The complete 16S rRNA gene sequence is available
308 from the whole genome sequence (PHRG01000001.1, locus_tag: CWI32_02650). The taxonumber of
309 the digital protologue is TA00592.

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315

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319

320 **Appendix A. Supplementary tables**

321 Supplementary tables S1–S4 associated with this article, can be found, in the online version, at
322 <http://dx.doi.org/>?.

323

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414 **Figure legends**

415 **Fig. 1.** Results of the clustering of the (A) MALDI-TOF mass spectra and (B) partial sequences of the
416 *rpoB* gene of the of 37 strains of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* (genospecies 9), 15 strains of *Acinetobacter*
417 *pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8) and 56 type or reference strains representing the known
418 species of the genus *Acinetobacter*. The MALDI-TOF MS analysis was carried out by using the
419 Biotyper MSP Dendrogram Creation Standard Method (Bruker Daltonics) with the correlation
420 distance measure and average linkage algorithm (UPGMA). Analysis of the *rpoB* sequences was
421 carried out for nucleotide positions 2915–3775 (861 bp) of the coding region of the gene using the
422 BioNumerics 7.6 software (Applied-Maths). Evolutionary distances were computed using Kimura's
423 two-parameter model while the tree was reconstructed using the neighbour-joining algorithm with
424 the sequence of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PAO1 (DDBJ/ENA/GenBank accession no. NC002516) as
425 the outgroup. GenBank accession numbers for the *rpoB* sequences or whole-genome sequences
426 from which the *rpoB* sequences were extracted are shown in parentheses. In the case of identical
427 *rpoB* sequences, accession numbers are shown only for one representative. Bootstrap values (>80%)
428 after 1000 resamplings are indicated at branch nodes; bar, 5% of change per nucleotide site. Squares
429 and circles denote the strains studied using DNA–DNA hybridization by Bouvet and Grimont [2] and
430 those analysed by whole genome sequencing in the present study, respectively; filled and empty
431 figures indicate the strains allocated to *A. lwoffii* and *A. pseudolwoffii*, respectively.

432 **Fig. 2.** Core genome-based tree for the genus *Acinetobacter* showing the phylogenetic position of *A.*
433 *lwoffii* (genospecies 9) and *A. pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8). Included are the genomes of 10
434 and 6 strains of *A. lwoffii* and *A. pseudolwoffii*, respectively, and those of 54 type or reference strains
435 representing the known species of the genus *Acinetobacter* (missing are only the genomes of
436 *Acinetobacter halotolerans* and *Acinetobacter piscicola*, not available at the time of analysis). The
437 tree was reconstructed using maximum likelihood with the PROTGAMMAILGF model for amino acid
438 sequence evolution. Bootstrap values based on 100 replications are shown at the nodes of the tree.
439 Bar, 0.05 amino acid substitutions per site.

Table 1Strains of *A. lwoffii* (genospecies 9) and *A. pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8).

Strain classification and designation	Specimen	Location and/or year of isolation	Donor and/or reference
<i>Acinetobacter lwoffii</i> (n = 37)			
CCM 5581 ^T = NIPH 512 ^T = CIP 110687 ^T = CNCTC 6167 ^T = NCTC 5866 ^T = Lwoff(1) ^T	Unknown	Unknown	
NIPH 237	Blood (inpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1994	[16]
NIPH 238	Vagina (outpatient)	Dobříš, CZ, 1993	[16]
NIPH 393	Throat (outpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1996	[16]
NIPH 403	Throat (outpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1996	[16]
NIPH 461	Gastric juices (inpatient)	Praha, CZ, 1996	A. Steinerová [16]
NIPH 473	Nose (outpatient)	Český Brod, CZ, 1996	E. Aldová [16]
NIPH 474	Urine (human)	České Budějovice, CZ, 1996	O. Hausner [16]
NIPH 478 = CIP 110447	Ear (outpatient)	Horní Planá, CZ, 1997	M. Horníková [16]
NIPH 486	Nose (outpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1997	[16]
NIPH 616	Burn (human)	Praha, CZ, 1994	J. Vránková [16]
NIPH 666	Ear (outpatient)	Praha, CZ, 1997	J. Sobotková [16]
NIPH 671	Cannula (inpatient)	České Budějovice, CZ, 1997	O. Hausner [16]
NIPH 715 = CIP 110448	Pus (inpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1997	[16]
NIPH 912	Ear (outpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1998	[16]
NIPH 913	Nose (outpatient)	Sedlčany, CZ, 1998	[16]
NIPH 1094	Nose (outpatient)	Sedlčany, CZ, 1999	[16]
NIPH 2172 = CIP 70.31 = 62 ^b	Gangrenous lesion (human)	IT, Before 1946	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
NIPH 2175 = CIP A162 = 65 ^b	Conjunctivitis	Before 1941	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
NIPH 2176 = CIP 70.19 = 66 ^b	Unknown	Unknown	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
NIPH 2257 = LMG 10590 = 44 ^b	Prostate secretion (human)	Malmö, SE, 1980-1981	I. Tjernberg [31]
NIPH 2266 = LMG 10599 = 202 ^b	Urine (human)	Malmö, SE, 1980-1981	I. Tjernberg [31]
ANC 3906 ^c	Mud (forest)	Lány forestland, CZ, 2010	
ANC 4203 ^c	Mud (wetland)	Křečkov, CZ, 2011	
ANC 4217 ^c	Clayey mud (drained pond)	Hostivice, CZ, 2012	
ANC 4305 = 67 ^b	Pus	Unknown	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
ANC 4309 = 64 ^b	Sperm culture	Unknown	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
ANC 4400 = SH145 = CCUG 57819	Hand (human)	Cologne, DE, 1994	[28]
ANC 4568 = CIP 51.11	Pleural pus (human)	FR, 1951	
ANC 4569 = CIP 102136	Sternum (human)	Paris, FR, 1986	
ANC 4570 = CIP 101966	Sputum (human)	Nevers, FR, 1985	
ANC 4571 = CIP 64.7 = 68 ^b	Urine	Before 1964	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
ANC 4897 ^c	Water (forest well)	Bílíchov, CZ, 2014	
ANC 5032 ^c	Water (river)	Birecik, TR, 2014	
ANC 5055 ^c	Water with organic debris (forest)	Mohelno, CZ, 2014	
ANC 5085 ^c	Soil (dry creekbed)	Peçenek, TR, 2014	
ANC 5086 ^c	Soil (dry creekbed)	Peçenek, TR, 2014	
<i>Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii</i> (n = 15)			
ANC 5044 ^{T, c} = CCUG 67963 ^T = CCM 8638 ^T	Water with organic debris (forest)	Mohelno, CZ, 2014	
CIP 64.10 = ANC 4579 = CNCTC 7645	Unknown	Unknown	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
NIPH 713 = CIP 110446	Vagina (inpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1997	[16]
NIPH 746 = A46-1 ^b	Soil (lakeshore)	Aquilasee, Westfalia, DE, 1990s	H. Seifert
NIPH 748 = A80-2 ^b	Water (river)	Centa Albenga, IT, 1990s	H. Seifert
NIPH 831 = RUH 581 ^b	Soil	Rotterdam, NL	L. Dijkshoorn [Q2]
NIPH 1041	Conjunctiva (outpatient)	Příbram, CZ, 1998	[16]
ANC 4683 = CIP 70.17 = 61 ^b	Unknown	Before 1958	P. J. M. Bouvet [2]
ANC 5303	Nose (calf)	Rýmařov, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5307	Nose (cow)	Chválkovice, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5318	Nose (horse)	Valašské Meziříčí, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5320	Faeces (sheep)	Bělkovice, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5324	Nose (goat)	Kopřivnice, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5347	Rectum (guinea pig)	Ivanovice, CZ, 2015	
ANC 5504	Mud (wetland)	Olší, CZ, 2016	

Abbreviations: CCM, Czech Collection of Microorganisms, Brno, Czech Republic; CCUG, Culture Collection, University of Göteborg, Sweden; CIP, Collection de l'Institut Pasteur, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France; CNCTC, Czech National Collection of Type Cultures, Prague, Czech Republic; LMG, Bacteria Collection, Laboratorium voor Microbiologie Gent, Gent, Belgium; NCTC, National Collection of Type Cultures, Central Public Health Laboratory, London, UK. ANC and NIPH, strain designation used by the Laboratory of Bacterial Genetics. Country abbreviations: CZ, Czech Republic; DE, Germany; FR, France; IT, Italy; NL, the Netherlands; SE, Sweden; TR, Turkey.

^a If known hospitalized (inpatient) or ambulatory (outpatient) human patients are indicated.

^b Strain designation used by the donor.

^c GPS coordinates of sampling sites: ANC 3906 (50°6'56.602"N, 13°55'11.481"E), ANC 4203 (50°11.11837'N 15°6.88278'E), ANC 4217 (50°4'16.872"N, 14°15'15.190"E), ANC 4897 (50.2506431°N 13.9026414°E), ANC 5032 (37°02'42.0"N 37°58'58.2"E), ANC 5055 (49.1043269°N 16.2148017°E), ANC 5085 and ANC 5086 (37°21'50.5"N 41°47'09.5"E), and ANC 5044 (49.1043269°N 16.2148017°E).

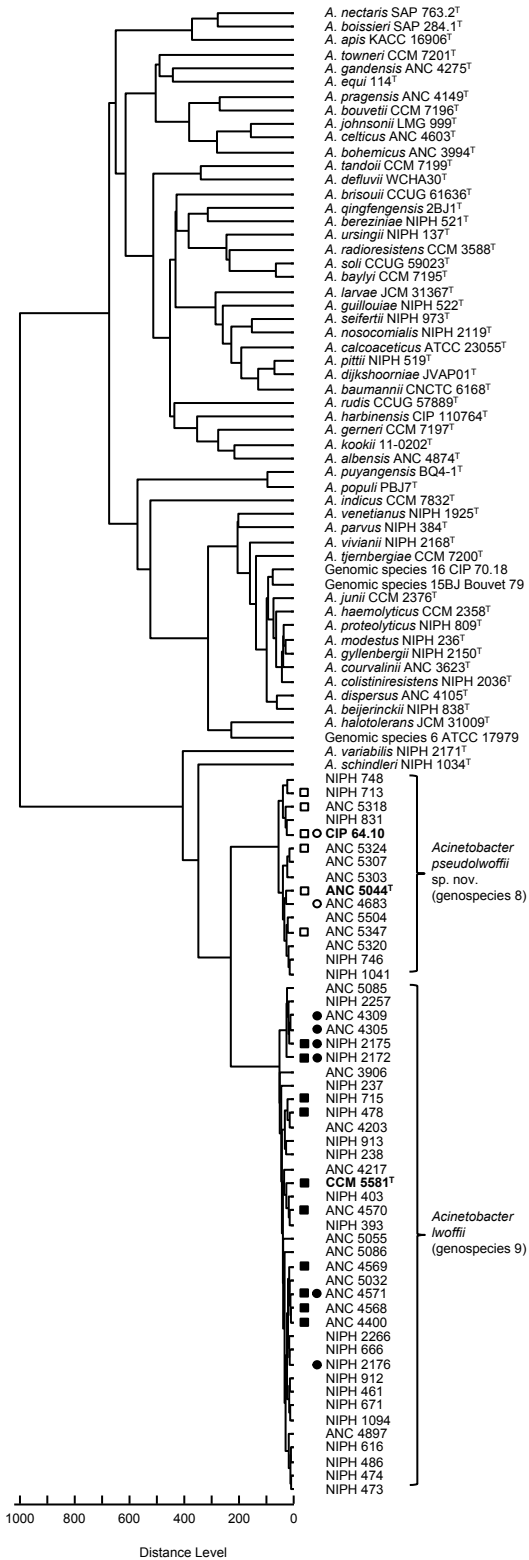
Table 2. Average nucleotide identity based on BLAST (ANiB) and digital DNA-DNA hybridization (dDDH) values for the genome sequences of the *A. lwoffii* group

Genome	Strain	ANiB (%)/ dDDH (%)														
		AYHO01	APRU01	APRY01	APQT01	APRX01	APRV01	APOG01	APQU01	APOT01	ACPN01	PHRG01	PGPB01	PGPA01	PGOZ01	APQS01
A. lwoffii (genospecies 9)																
AYHO0000000.1	NIPH 512 ^T (= CCM 5581 ^T)															
APRU0000000.1	CIP 51.11 (= ANC 4568)	95.70/ 65.5														
APRY0000000.1	CIP 64.7 (= ANC 4571)	95.61/ 66.5	95.57/ 64.9													
APQT0000000.1	CIP 70.31 (= NIPH 2172)	95.65/ 66.9	95.79/ 66.3	96.75/ 74.2												
APRX0000000.1	CIP 101966 (= ANC 4570)	95.75/ 67.1	95.71/ 65.8	96.25/ 69.9	96.76/ 72.9											
APRV0000000.1	CIP 102136 (= ANC 4569)	95.69/ 66.7	95.62/ 65.4	96.23/ 70.2	96.71/ 72.6	96.55/ 71.6										
APOG0000000.1	CIP A162 (= NIPH 2175)	99.98/ 99.3	95.64/ 65.8	95.54/ 66.9	95.59/ 67.3	95.72/ 67.4	95.61/ 66.8									
APQU0000000.1	NIPH 478	95.64/ 66.0	95.95/ 67.2	95.36/ 64.7	95.75/ 66.1	95.60/ 65.3	95.59/ 66.0	95.62/ 66.2								
APOT0000000.1	NIPH 715	96.05/ 68.0	95.74/ 66.1	96.42/ 71.9	96.48/ 70.7	96.53/ 71.5	96.47/ 71.0	95.97/ 67.9	95.78/ 66.1							
ACPN0000000.1	SH145 (= ANC 4400)	95.94/ 67.4	95.57/ 65.1	96.45/ 71.6	96.70/ 72.1	96.38/ 70.8	96.47/ 71.5	95.97/ 67.5	95.69/ 66.1	96.33/ 69.9						
A. pseudolwoffii (genospecies 8)																
PHRG0000000.1	ANC 5044 ^T	87.32/ 33.7	87.21/ 33.1	87.33/ 34.0	87.44/ 34.0	87.43/ 34.1	87.29/ 33.8	87.29/ 33.7	87.04/ 33.0	87.39/ 34.0	87.27/ 33.7					
PGPB0000000.1	ANC 5318	87.12/ 33.3	87.24/ 33.2	87.32/ 33.7	87.45/ 33.7	87.23/ 33.7	87.15/ 33.5	87.07/ 33.3	87.01/ 32.9	87.27/ 33.6	87.06/ 33.5	96.76/ 73.8				
PGPA0000000.1	ANC 5324	87.33/ 33.8	87.22/ 33.2	87.49/ 34.1	87.45/ 33.8	87.41/ 34.0	87.31/ 33.7	87.26/ 33.8	86.99/ 33.1	87.48/ 33.9	87.24/ 33.8	96.97/ 74.8	97.19/ 77.2			
PGOZ0000000.1	ANC 5347	87.59/ 34.2	87.17/ 33.2	87.62/ 34.6	87.77/ 34.6	87.64/ 34.6	87.48/ 34.2	87.56/ 34.2	87.33/ 33.7	87.67/ 34.6	87.58/ 34.6	97.10/ 76.4	97.04/ 75.9	97.04/ 75.3		
APQS0000000.1	CIP 64.10 (= ANC 4579)	88.33/ 36.0	88.06/ 35.1	88.54/ 36.8	88.57/ 36.7	88.37/ 36.6	88.22/ 36.4	88.24/ 36.0	87.97/ 35.3	88.58/ 36.7	88.41/ 36.6	96.55/ 72.0	96.14/ 68.8	96.51/ 70.6	96.83/ 73.5	
APRJ0000000.1	NIPH 713	86.90/ 33.0	86.96/ 32.7	87.08/ 33.3	87.13/ 33.2	87.03/ 33.2	86.99/ 33.0	86.96/ 33.0	86.72/ 32.3	87.08/ 33.2	86.93/ 33.0	97.39/ 78.6	97.32/ 77.0	97.23/ 76.4	97.44/ 79.3	96.53/ 72.6

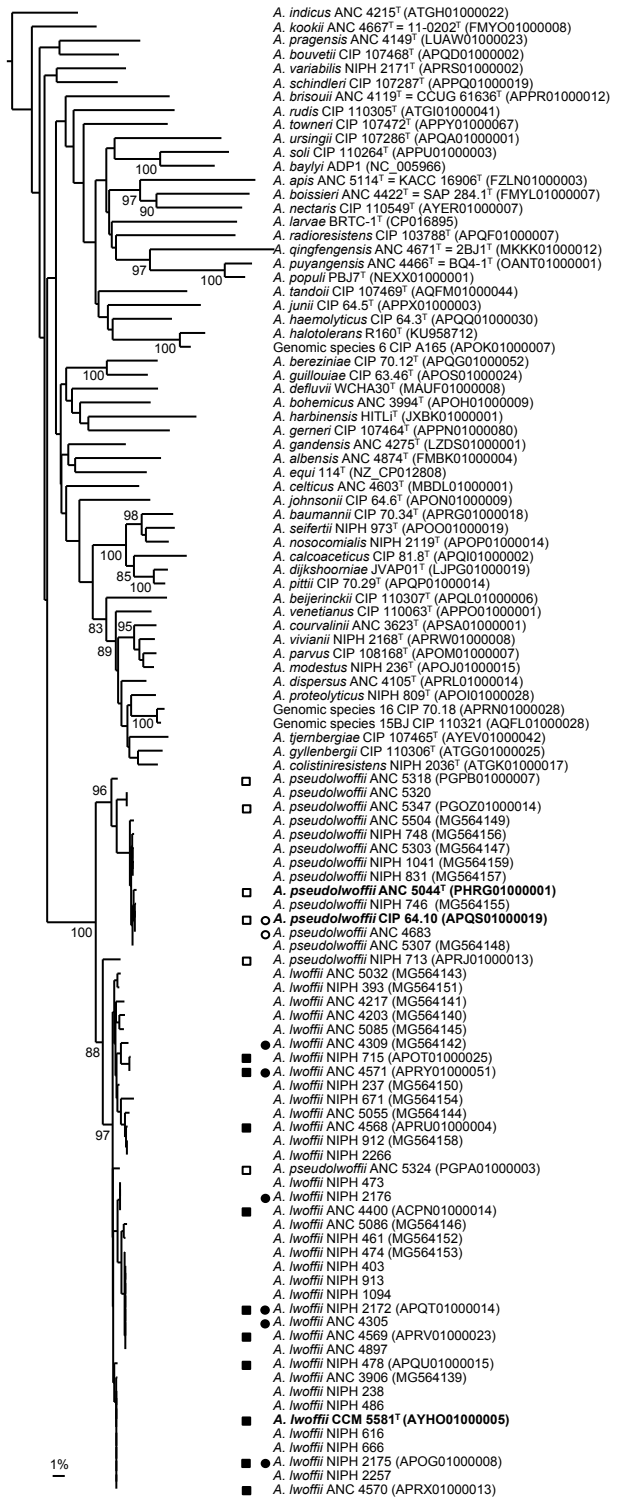
Table 3. Metabolic and physiological properties of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* (genospecies 9), *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8), and phylogenetically related species.

Characteristic	<i>A. lwoffii</i> (37)	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i> (15)	<i>A. gandensis</i> (6)	<i>A. indicus</i> (2)	<i>A. schindleri</i> (22)	<i>A. townneri</i> (2)	<i>A. variabilis</i> (16)
Growth at 44 °C	-	-	-	D	-	-	31W (W)
Growth at 41 °C	11W (-)	-	-	+	+	+	+
Acidification of D-glucose	19 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	13 (-)
Utilization of							
<i>trans</i> -Aconitate	5 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	6 (-)
Adipate	76 (+)	40 (+)	-	-	41 (-)	-	69 (-)
4-Aminobutyrate	84 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	19 (-)
L-Arabinose	-	-	-	-	-	-	19 (-)
L-Arginine	5 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	19 (-)
Azolate	+	80 (+)	-	50 (-)	64 (-)	-	81 (+)
Benzoate	84 (+)	80 (+)	+	50 (+)	91 (+)	+	88 (+)
2,3-Butanediol	8 (-)	-	33 (-)	-	32 (-)	50 (-)	81 (+)
Citrate (Simmons)	8 (-)	-	50 (+)	-	59W (+)	-	25 (-)
Ethanol	+	73 (+)	+	+	95 (+)	+	+
Gentisate	-	-	-	-	41 (+)	-	-
L-Glutamate	8 (-)	-	33 (+)	50 (+)	- (D)	50 (+)	25 (-)
Glutarate	-	13 (-)	83 (+)	-	95 (+)	-	19 (-)
4-Hydroxybenzoate	-	7 (-)	-	-	64 (+)	-	-
DL-Lactate	84 (+)	40 (+)	+	+	+	+	6 (-)
Levulinate	3 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Malate	11 (-)	7 (-)	-	-	95W (+)	50 (-)	13 (+)
Malonate	8 (-)	7 (-)	17 (-)	-	-	-	-
L-Ornithine	8 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phenylacetate	81 (+)	80 (+)	-	+	-	-	75 (+)
L-Phenylalanine	-	-	-	-	-	-	38 (-)
D-Ribose	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 (-)
L-Tartrate	-	13 (+)	-	-	18 (-)	-	-
Tricarballoylate	8 (-)	-	-	-	45 (+)	-	-

The results were obtained either in this study or have been published previously [10,21]. All strains grew at 20-37 °C and on acetate. None of the strains liquefied gelatin, produced hemolysis on sheep blood agar, or grew on β -alanine, L-aspartate, citraconate, D-gluconate, D-glucose, histamine, L-histidine, L-leucine, putrescine, trigonelline, or tryptamine. *A. lwoffii* strains NIPH 2176, ANC 4305, and ANC 4309 were auxotrophic. +, All strains positive; -, all strains negative; D, (mostly) doubtful or irreproducible reactions; W, (mostly) weakly positive reactions. Numbers are percentages of strains with clearly positive reactions. For strain-dependent reactions, results for type strains are given in parentheses.



A



B

Fig. 1

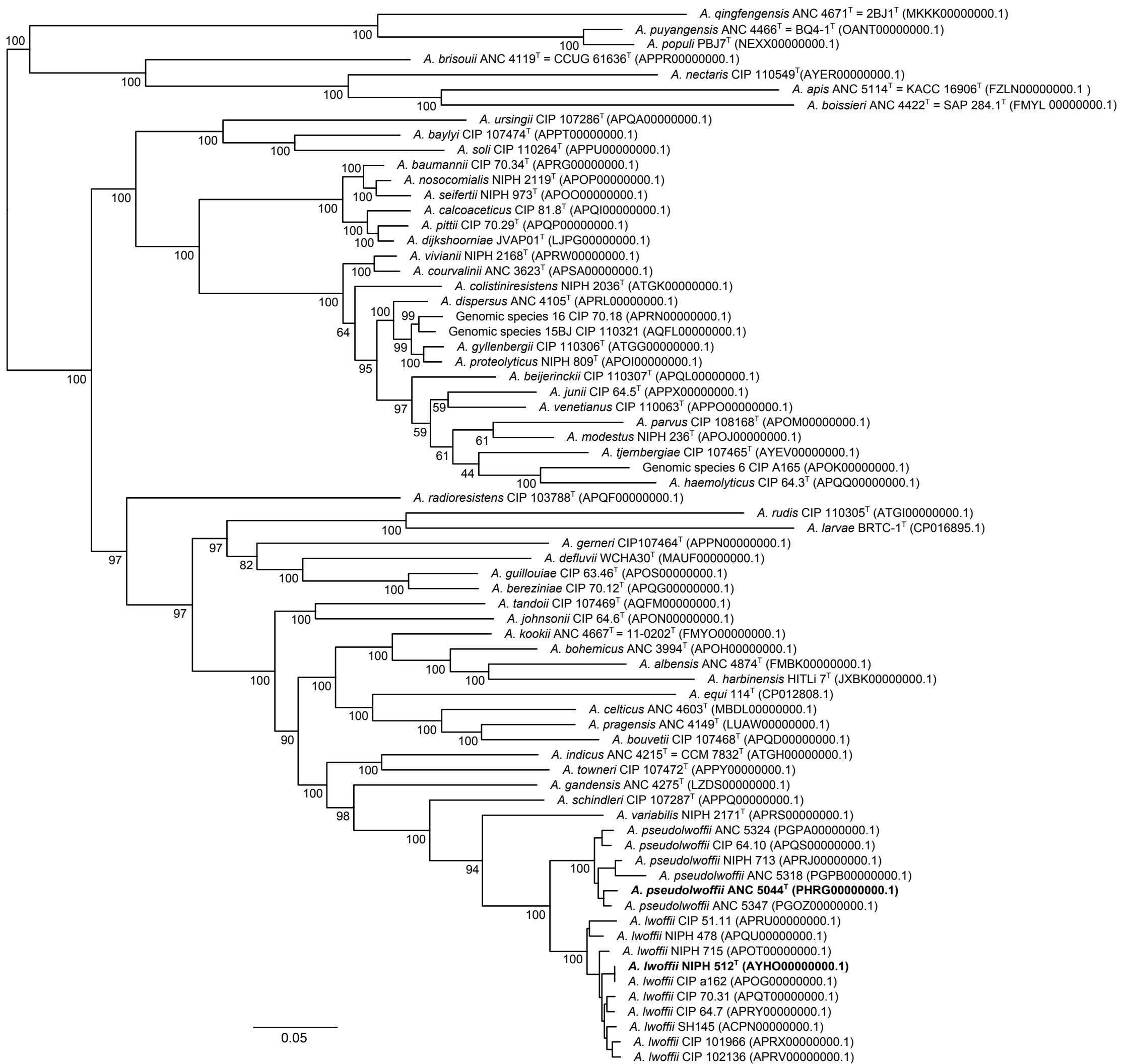


Fig. 2

Revising the taxonomy of the *Acinetobacter lwoffii* group: the description of *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. and emended description of *Acinetobacter lwoffii*

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Supplementary tables

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Table S1. Basic properties of the genome sequences of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* (genospecies 9) and *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8)

Genome accession no.	Strain	Species	GC%	No. of contigs	Total length of contigs (bp)	No. of scaffolds	Total length of scaffolds (bp)	No. of proteins	Sequencing technology	Coverage	Reference
AYHO000000000.1	NIPH 512 ^T = CCM 5581 ^T = NCTC 5866 ^T	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	43.1	16	3382003	12	3384618	3237	Illumina	147.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
ACPN000000000.1	SH145 = ANC 4400	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.8	250	3347001	76	3481004	3134	454	22.06x	Peleg <i>et al.</i> (2012)
APOG000000000.1	CIP A162 = NIPH 2175	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	43.0	12	3356935	7	3364056	3204	Illumina	92.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APOT000000000.1	NIPH 715 = CIP 110448	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.9	76	3400693	26	3454560	3314	Illumina	118.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APQT000000000.1	CIP 70.31 = NIPH 2172	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	43.0	79	3546109	12	3677680	3503	Illumina	74.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APQU000000000.1	NIPH 478 = CIP 110447	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.9	27	3276129	9	3301256	3088	Illumina	232.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APRU000000000.1	CIP 51.11 = ANC 4568	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	43.2	11	3133520	5	3143762	2899	Illumina	85.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APRV000000000.1	CIP 102136 = ANC 4569	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.5	51	3559292	20	3606614	3395	Illumina	82.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APRX000000000.1	CIP 101966 = ANC 4570	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.9	50	3485835	18	3528462	3424	Illumina	84.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APRY000000000.1	CIP 64.7 = ANC 4571	<i>A. lwoffii</i>	42.9	59	3608282	19	3657789	3550	Illumina	82.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
PHRG000000000.1	ANC 5044 ^T = CCUG 67963 ^T = CCM 8638 ^T	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	43.3	30	3105311	-	-	2791	Illumina Miseq	55x	This study
APQS000000000.1	CIP 64.10 = ANC 4579	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	43.1	29	3206079	16	3218415	3019	Illumina	144.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
APRJ000000000.1	NIPH 713 = CIP 110446	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	43.3	19	3006240	12	3042530	2816	Illumina	88.0x	Touchon <i>et al.</i> (2014)
PGOZ000000000.1	ANC 5347	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	42.9	55	3179951	-	-	2908	Illumina Miseq	51x	This study
PGPA000000000.1	ANC 5324	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	43.4	19	2978620	-	-	2709	Illumina Miseq	50x	This study
PGPB000000000.1	ANC 5318	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i>	43.4	40	2972456	-	-	2681	Illumina Miseq	45x	This study

Table S4. Phenotypic properties of *Acinetobacter lwoffii* (genospecies 9), *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. (genospecies 8), and the *Acinetobacter* species with validly published names.

Listed are all species with validly published names except for *A. boissieri* and *A. nectaris*, which are negative in the assimilation tests shown (they utilize other substrates such as sucrose or D-fructose), *A. grimontii*, *A. guangdongensis* and *A. pakistanensis*, which are the later synonyms of *A. junii* (Vaneecoutte *et al.*, 2008), *A. indicus* (Nemec & Radolfova-Krizova, 2017) and *A. bohemicus* (Nemec & Radolfova-Krizova, 2016), respectively, and *A. lactucae*, which is synonymous with *A. dijkshoorniae* (Dunlap & Rooney, 2018). Each species includes a type strain. All the results were obtained in the Laboratory of Bacterial Genetics in Prague using an array of strictly standardized, in-house tests as described by Nemec *et al.* (2009) and Krizova *et al.* (2015). All the data were published previously (Krizova *et al.*, 2015; Nemec *et al.*, 2016, 2017; Radolfova-Krizova *et al.*, 2016a,b) except for those for the type strains of *A. halotolerans*, *A. larvae*, *A. piscicola* and an additional strain of *A. kookii*. Except for temperature-dependent tests, the culture temperature was 25 °C for *A. celticus* and 30 °C for the other species. Assimilation/growth tests were interpreted after 6 days of culture, other tests after 3 (haemolytic and gelatinase activities) or 2 (D-glucose acidification, temperature growth tests) days. +, All strains positive; -, all strains negative; !, results which are opposite to those published in original nomenclatural proposals; D, (mostly) doubtful or irreproducible reactions; W, (mostly) weak positive reactions; ND, not determined. Numbers are percentages of strains with clearly positive reactions; for strain-dependent reactions, results for type strains are given in parentheses. Numbers of strains of individual species are indicated in parentheses after the species names.

Characteristic	<i>A. lwoffii</i> (37)	<i>A. pseudolwoffii</i> (15)	<i>A. albensis</i> (8)	<i>A. opis</i> (1)	<i>A. baumannii</i> (25)	<i>A. boydii</i> (5)	<i>A. heijtenickii</i> (15)	<i>A. herzeginae</i> (16)	<i>A. bohemicus</i> (25)	<i>A. bouvardii</i> (1)	<i>A. brisavii</i> (1)	<i>A. calcoaceticus</i> (11)	<i>A. celticus</i> (6)	<i>A. calistiniensis</i> (24)	<i>A. canuolimy</i> (9)	<i>A. defluorii</i> (1)	<i>A. dispersus</i> (9)	<i>A. dijkshoorniae</i> (5)	<i>A. equi</i> (5)	<i>A. gantheris</i> (6)	<i>A. gemeri</i> (1)	<i>A. guillouzei</i> (17)	<i>A. guillibergii</i> (9)	<i>A. haemolyticus</i> (16)	<i>A. halotolerans</i> (1)	<i>A. harbiniensis</i> (1)	<i>A. indicus</i> (2)
Growth at 44 °C	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	D
Growth at 41 °C	11W (-)	-	-	-	+	60 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	9 (-)	-	-	50W (D)	-	-	+	D	-	-	-	-	94 (+)	-!	-	+
Growth at 37 °C	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	D	+	91 (-)	-	82 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	D	+	+	+	+	+
Growth at 35 °C	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Growth at 32 °C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Acidification of D-glucose	19 (-)	-	-	+	+	+	88 (+)	-	-	-	-	91 (-)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	75 (+)	+	-	-
Hemolysis of sheep blood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80W (W)	-	-	-	-	-	89 (+)	-!	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-
Liquefaction of gelatin	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	94 (+)	+	-	-
Assimilation of																											
Acetate	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
trans-Aconitate	5 (-)	-	-	-	92 (+)	-	38 (-)	-	-	+	+	-	-	44 (-)	-	11 (-)	+	-	-	-	12 (-)	-	63 (+)	+	-	+	On
Adipate	76 (+)	40 (+)	88 (+)	-	88 (+)	+	63 (+)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22 (-)	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
β-Alanine	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	91 (-)	-	17 (-)	89 (+)	-!	+	+	-	+	94 (+)	+	-	-	-!	-	-
4-Aminobutyrate	84 (+)	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-!	+	+	-	+	88 (D)	D	+	+	-	-	-
L-Arabinose	-	-	-	-	84 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	27 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L-Arginine	5 (-)	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	94 (+)	+	-	-
L-Aspartate	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	11 (-)	-	-	+	+	+	D	+	+	31 (-)	+	-	-	-
Azelaate	+	80 (+)	88 (+)	-	88 (+)	+	63 (+)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	22 (-)	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-!	50 (-)	
Benzoate	84 (+)	80 (+)	D (+)	-	84 (+)	+	+	92 (+)	+	+	+	+	17 (-)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	88 (+)	+	-	-	+	!	50 (+)
2,3-Butanediol	8 (-)	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	33 (-)	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
Citraconate	-	-	-	-	40 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Citrate (Simmons)	8 (-)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	91 (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	50 (+)	+	+	+	+	75 (+)	+	-	-
Ethanol	+	73 (+)	-	-	96 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	91 (+)	+	17 (-)	-	+	+	11 (-)	+	80	+	+	+	22 (-)	94 (+)	+	+	+
Gentisate	-	-	50 (+)	-	4 (-)	-	-	4 (-)	-	-	-	-	88 (+)	-	-	-	33 (-)	+	+	-	-	18 (-)	11 (+)	81 (+)	-	-	-
D-Gluconate	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Glucose	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L-Glutamate	8 (-)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	33 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	-!	50 (+)	
Glutarate	-	13 (-)	-	-	96 (+)	D	-	+	-	+	+	91 (D)	-	-	+	+	+	83 (+)	+	+	+	D (-)	-	-	-	-	
Histamine	-	-	-	-	-	-	63 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	11 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65 (+)	-	-	-	-	-
L-Histidine	-	-	-	-	96 (+)	-	94 (+)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	94 (+)	+	+	+	+	-
4-Hydroxybenzoate	-	7 (-)	88 (+)	-	92 (+)	+	88 (+)	92 (+)	-	+	91 (+)	+	83 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	88 (+)	89 (+)	81 (+)	+	-	-	-
DL-Lactate	84 (+)	40 (+)	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	96 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
L-Leucine	-	-	-	-	88 (+)	-	93 (+)	-	-	-	-	91 (-)	-	13 (-)	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	88 (+)	+	-	-
Levulinat	3 (-)	-	-	-	24 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	91 (-)	50 (-)	-	11 (-)	-	-	60 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Malate	11 (-)	7 (-)	38W (W)	-	92 (+)	D (+)	+	88 (+)	D	-	+	D (-)	-	92 (+)	89 (+)	-	+	+	-	-	-	94 (+)	+	88 (+)	+	-	-
Malonate	8 (-)	7 (-)	+	-	88 (+)	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	8 (-)	-	-	22 (-)	+	-	17 (-)	-	-	18 (-)	78 (+)	-	-	+	-
L-Ornithine	8 (-)	-	-	-	76 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56 (+)	-	-	-	-
Phenylacetate	81 (+)	80 (+)	-	-	84 (+)	-	25 (-)	-	-	+	+	67 (+)	96 (+)	+	-!	89 (+)	+	-	-	+	65 (+)	+	-	-	-	+	-
L-Phenylalanine	-	-	-	-	84 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	96 (+)	+	-	89 (+)	+	-	+	+	+	89 (+)	+	-	-	-	-
Putrescine	-	-	-	-	96 (+)	-	-	-	-	D	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Ribose	-	-	-	-	76 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	45 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	80 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L-Tartrate	-	13 (+)	-	-	32 (-)	-	-	16 (-)	-	+	9 (-)	-	-	22 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tricarballoylate	8 (-)	-	+	-	92 (+)	80 (+)	-	38 (-)	4 (-)	-	+	-	-	44 (-)	-	-	11 (-)	+	80	-	-	12 (-)	-	-	-	-	-
Trigonelline	-	-	-	-	60 (+)	+	+	-	-	-	-	9 (-)	-	33 (-)	67 (+)	-!	-	60 (+)	-	-	-	-	59 (-)	-	-	-	-
Tryptamine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22 (D)	-	-	11 (+)	D	-	+	82 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table S4. Phenotypic properties of *Acinetobacter lwoffii*, *Acinetobacter pseudolwoffii* sp. nov. and the *Acinetobacter* species with validly published names. – *continued*

Characteristic	<i>A. johnsonii</i> (30)	<i>A. junii</i> (14)	<i>A. koohii</i> (2)	<i>A. lovvey</i> (1)	<i>A. modestus</i> (7)	<i>A. nosocomialis</i> (20)	<i>A. parvus</i> (10)	<i>A. piscicola</i> (1)	<i>A. pittii</i> (20)	<i>A. populi</i> (3)	<i>A. progenis</i> (7)	<i>A. proteolyticus</i> (6)	<i>A. pyrogenis</i> (2)	<i>A. qingfengensis</i> (2)	<i>A. radresistens</i> (12)	<i>A. radis</i> (3)	<i>A. schindleri</i> (22)	<i>A. seifertii</i> (16)	<i>A. soli</i> (5)	<i>A. tonelloi</i> (1)	<i>A. spjernbergiae</i> (2)	<i>A. townneri</i> (2)	<i>A. ursingii</i> (25)	<i>A. variabilis</i> (16)	<i>A. ventriculus</i> (5)	<i>A. vivionii</i> (9)
Growth at 44 °C	-	-	-	-!	-	95 (+)	-	-	10 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	31W (W)	-	-	
Growth at 41 °C	-	93 (+)	+	-!	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-!	+	-	+	94 (+)	80 (+)	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	
Growth at 37 °C	10W (D)	+	+	+	+	(W)	+	90 (+)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Growth at 35 °C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	D	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Growth at 32 °C	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	ND	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Acidification of D-glucos	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	95 (+)	-	-	-	-	-!	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	13 (-)	89 (+)	
Hemolysis of sheep blo	60W (-)	50 (-)	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60 (+)	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	
Liquefaction of gelatin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80 (+)	
Assimilation of																										
Acetate	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
trans -Aconitate	-	-	-	-!	-	60 (+)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-!	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	6 (-)	56 (-)		
Adipate	-	-	-	-!	14 (-)	95 (+)	-	-	+	33 (+)	-	67 (-)	-	+	-	41 (-)	63 (-)	+	-	-	-	+	69 (-)	20 (-)	89 (+)	
β-Alanine	-	-	-	+	-	85 (+)	-	-!	90 (+)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	88 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	
4-Aminobutyrate	83 (+)	86 (+)	+	+	-	-	-	-	85 (+)	-	D (-)	50 (-)!	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	19 (-)	+	+	
L-Arabinose	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	85 (+)	-	-	-	-!	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19 (-)	-	+
L-Arginine	83 (+)	93 (+)	-	-!	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-!	83 (+)	-	-	+	+	+	+	50 (+)	-	-	19 (-)	+	+
L-Aspartate	83 (+)	21 (+)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	50 (-)!	50 (-)!	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	97W (+)	-	11 (D)	
Azelate	-	-	-	-	-	95 (+)	-	-!	+	-	67 (-)	-	-	+	-	64 (-)	63 (-)	+	-	-	-	+	81 (+)	20 (-)	89 (+)	
Benzoate	97 (+)	79 (+)	+	-!	+	90 (+)	-	+	90 (+)	-	+	D	-	+	+	91 (+)	94 (+)	+	+	-	+	52 (-)	88 (+)	+	+	
2,3-Butanediol	67 (-)	-	+	+	14 (-)	90 (+)	-	-	85 (+)	+	29 (+)	-	+	+	+	32 (-)	+	+	+	+	-	50 (-)	-	81 (+)	-	-
Citraconate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Citrate (Simmons)	90 (-)	79 (+)	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-!	50 (-)!	-	+	59W (+)	+	+	+	+	-	+	25 (-)	+	+	
Ethanol	+	93 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Gentisate	-	-	-	-	-	10 (-)	-	-	25 (-)	-	43 (+)	+	-	-	-	41 (+)	75 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89 (+)	
D-Gluconate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Glucose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L-Glutamate	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	86 (D)	+	+	+	+	+	- (D)	+	+	+	+	+	50 (+)	+	25 (-)	+	+
Glutarate	-	-	-	+	-	95 (+)	-	-!	90 (+)	+	+	33 (-)	50 (+)!	-	+	+	95 (+)	+	+	-	-	-	97 (+)	19 (-)	-	89 (+)
Histamine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L-Histidine	-	93 (+)	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	94 (+)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+
4-Hydroxybenzoate	20 (-)	-	-	-!	-	80 (+)	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	64 (+)	94 (+)	+	+	+	-	-	97 (+)	-	+	+
DL-Lactate	+	93 (+)	+	+	-	+	+	+	95 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	6 (-)	-	+
L-Leucine	-	14 (-)	-	-	-	95 (+)	-	-	5 (-)	-	83 (-)	-	-	92 (+)	+	-	94 (-)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
Levulinat	-	-	-	-	-	5 (-)	-	-	5 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D-Malate	10W (-)	79 (D)	-	-!	D	+	-	-!	95 (+)	67 (+)	-	+	-	-	-	95W (+)	88 (+)	80 (D)	+	-	50 (-)	+W	13 (+)	+	+	
Malonate	73 (-)	-	-	+	-	20 (+)	-	-	95 (+)	-	+	67 (+)	-	+W	+	+	75 (+)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	
L-Ornithine	-	-	-	-!	-	95 (+)	20 (-)	-	95 (+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	81 (-)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
Phenylacetate	-	-	50 (+)	-	-	85 (+)	-	-	75 (+)	33 (-)	71 (+)	83 (-)	-!	-!	+	+	88 (+)	+	+	+	-	-	-	75 (+)	-	+
L-Phenylalanine	-	-	-	-	-	85 (+)	-	-	75 (+)	-	-	+	-!	-	92 (+)	+	-	88 (+)	+	+	-	-	-	38 (-)	-	+
Putrescine	-	-	-	+	-	95 (+)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-!	92 (+)	-	-	81 (-)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	78 (+)
D-Ribose	-	-	-	-	-	80 (+)	-	-	35 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22 (+)
L-Tartrate	37 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85 (+)	-	+	-	-	-	-	18 (-)	31 (+)	20 (-)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tricarballoylate	-	-	-	-	-	95 (+)	-	-	+	-	71 (-)	+	-	-	-	45 (+)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	56 (-)
Trigonelline	-	-	-	-	+	20 (-)	-	-	20 (+)	-	-	-	50 (-)!	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	50 (+)	-	-	-	-	+
Tryptamine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57 (-)	50 (+)	-	-	-	-	+	6 (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	D

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