

Identification of Three Type II Toxin-Antitoxin Systems in Model Bacterial Plant Pathogen *Dickeya dadantii* 3937

Lidia Boss ^{1,*}, Marcin Górnjak ², Alicja Lewańczyk ¹, Joanna Morcinek-Orłowska ³, Sylwia Barańska ¹ and Agnieszka Szalewska-Pałasz ¹

¹ Department of Bacterial Molecular Genetics, University of Gdańsk, 80-309 Gdańsk, Poland;

a.lewaniczyl.825@studms.ug.edu.pl (A.L.); sylwia.baranska@ug.edu.pl (S.B.); agnieszka.szalewska-palasz@ug.edu.pl (A.S.-P.)

² Department of Molecular Evolution, University of Gdańsk, 80-309 Gdańsk, Poland; marcin.gornjak@ug.edu.pl

³ Department of Molecular Biology, University of Gdańsk, 80-309 Gdańsk, Poland; joanna.morcinek-orlowska@phdstud.ug.edu.pl (J. M.-O.)

* Correspondence: lidia.boss@ug.edu.pl

Supplementary Data

Table S1. Generation time (min) of the *D. dadantii* 3937 overexpressing the putative toxins or toxin-antitoxin complexes.

| | pBAD-toxin | pBAD-antitoxin-toxin |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| <i>ccdB2Dda</i> | 63.5 +/- 2.4 | 62.4 +/- 7.9 |
| <i>phd-docC2Dda</i> | 83.2 +/- 3.9 | 56.5 +/- 2.8 |
| <i>dhiTA</i> | 78.9 +/- 2.9 | 65.9 +/- 1.5 |

Table S2. Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study.

| Strain or plasmid | Relevant characteristics | Source or reference |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Strains | | |
| <i>Dickeya dadantii</i> 3937 | Genomic DNA and total RNA source, host for in vivo experiments with selective expression vectors | Wild-type strain isolated from <i>Saintpaulia ionantha</i> [63] |
| Escherichia coli | | |
| DH5α | Cloning host for recombinant vectors | [64] |
| MG1655 | Host for promoter activity assays and for in vivo experiments with selective expression vectors | [65] |
| MG1655Δ <i>lacZ</i> | Host for plasmid stabilization assay | Lab stock |
| Plasmids | | |
| pBAD24 | Selective expression vector; amp ^R | [66] |
| pBAD24-ccdB2Dda | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>ccdB2Dda</i> genes under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| pBAD24-ccdA2Dda | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>ccdA2Dda</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| pBAD24-ccdB2Dda | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>ccdB2Dda</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| pBAD24-phd-docDda | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>phd-docDda</i> genes under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| pBAD24-phdDda | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>phdDda</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |

| Strain or plasmid | Relevant characteristics | Source or reference |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| pBAD24-doc _{Dda} | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>docDda</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| p24dhiTA | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>dhiTA</i> genes under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| p24dhiA | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>dhiA</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| p24dhiT | pBAD24 derivative containing <i>dhiT</i> gene under control of arabinose-inducible <i>P_{BAD}</i> promoter | This study |
| pBBRlux | Vector for generating transcriptional fusion to <i>lux</i> , Cm ^r | [55] |
| pLuxccdAB _{2Dda} | pBBRlux derivative containing the 100bp fragment upstream <i>ccdB2Dda</i> gene, cloned upstream promoter-less <i>luxCDABE operon</i> | This study |
| pLuxphd-doc _{2Dda} | pBBRlux derivative containing the 100bp fragment upstream <i>phdDda</i> gene, cloned upstream promoter-less <i>luxCDABE operon</i> | This study |
| pLuxdhiTA | pBBRlux derivative containing the 100bp fragment upstream <i>dhiT</i> gene, cloned upstream promoter-less <i>luxCDABE operon</i> | This study |
| pRC7 | Unstable, low-copy-number, mini-F derivative of pFZY1, used for plasmid stabilization assays | [35] |
| pRC7-ccdAB _{2Dda} | pRC7 derivative containing <i>ccdB2Dda</i> toxin-antitoxin operon including promoter region, cloned within ApaI site | This study |
| pRC7-phd-doc _{Dda} | pRC7 derivative containing <i>phd-docDda</i> toxin-antitoxin operon including promoter region, cloned within ApaI site | This study |
| pRC7-dhiTA | pRC7 derivative containing <i>dhiTA</i> toxin-antitoxin operon including promoter region, cloned within ApaI site | This study |

Table S3. Primers used in this study.

| Primer | Sequence (5'-3') | Relevant characteristics |
|--------|--|--|
| 1 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACATGCCGACTACAAAAGCATA CGA | Primer (forward) for <i>ccdB2Dda</i> amplification with primer 2 or 4, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 2 | GTCGACTCTAGAGGGATCCCTTAAACGTCTGAATCAT | Primer (reverse) for <i>ccdB2Dda</i> amplification with primer 1, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 3 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACATGCAGTACATGGTGTACG | Primer (forward) for <i>ccdB2Dda</i> amplification with primer 4, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 4 | GTCGACTCTAGAGGGATCCCCGGGTCAAAACCCGTCTAGCA AAA | Primer (reverse) for <i>ccdB2Dda</i> amplification with primer 1 or 3, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 5 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACATGAAGACTTATACC | Primer (forward) for <i>phd(doc)Dda</i> amplification with primer 6 or 8, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 6 | GTCGACTCTAGAGATCCCCTCATCTGTCGGCGAG | Primer (reverse) for <i>phdDda</i> amplification with primer 5, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 7 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACATGAAATGGGTGAGTGCAGC | Primer (forward) for <i>docDda</i> amplification with primer 8, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |

| Primer | Sequence (5'-3') | Relevant characteristics |
|--------|--|--|
| 8 | GTCGACTCTAGAGGGATCCCCTATTTCACCCGTG | Primer (reverse) for <i>phd(doc)_{Dda}</i> amplification with primer 5 or 7, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 9 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACCATGCCTGAAATTGAC | Primer (forward) for <i>dhiT(A)</i> amplification with primer 10 or 12, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 10 | GTCGACTCTAGAGGGATCCCCTACAATTCCGGATG | Primer (reverse) for <i>dhiT</i> amplification with primer 10, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 11 | GCTAGCAGGAGGAATTCAACCATGCATAAAATCATC | Primer (forward) for <i>dhiA</i> amplification with primer 12, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 12 | GTCGACTCTAGAGGGATCCCCTACTTCTCTCCAG | Primer (reverse) for <i>dhiT(A)</i> amplification with primer 10 or 11, fragment cloned into pBAD24 digested with SmaI |
| 13 | GGTGGCGGCCGCTAGAACTAGTGCCTGAGCGGGTATCG CGGCG | Primer (forward) for putative promoter region of <i>ccdB_{2Dda}</i> amplification with primer 14, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 14 | ATCCATTTCGCGCCGCAACTAGAGGGTTGCCCTCCATTAC ACGT | Primer (reverse) for putative promoter region of <i>ccdB_{2Dda}</i> amplification with primer 13, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 15 | GGTGGCGGCCGCTAGAACTAGTGGTTGGGGCTTTTT TATA | Primer (forward) for putative promoter region of <i>phd-doc_{Dda}</i> amplification with primer 16, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 16 | ATCCATTTCGCGCCGCAACTAGAGGGCTCCCCTTGAAAT GTAC | Primer (reverse) for putative promoter region of <i>phd-doc_{Dda}</i> amplification with primer 15, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 17 | GGTGGCGGCCGCTAGAACTAGTGGTGAATCACATGA AACCT | Primer (forward) for putative promoter region of <i>dhiTA</i> amplification with primer 18, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 18 | ATCCATTTCGCGCCGCAACTAGAGTGGCACTCCTGTCAA TGAG | Primer (reverse) for putative promoter region of <i>dhiTA</i> amplification with primer 17, fragment cloned into pBBLux digested with BamHI |
| 19 | TCACCAGCAAATCGCGCTGTTAGCGTGAGCGGGTATCGCG GCGTA | Primer (reverse) for <i>ccdB_{2Dda}</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 20, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |
| 20 | AGACGCCCGAGACAGAACTTAATGTCAAAACCGTCTAG CAAAA | Primer (forward) for <i>ccdB_{2Dda}</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 19, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |
| 21 | TCACCAGCAAATCGCGCTGTTAGCCTGGGGCTTTTAT AAC | Primer (reverse) for <i>phd-doc_{Dda}</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 22, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |

| Primer | Sequence (5'-3') | Relevant characteristics |
|--------|--|---|
| 22 | AGACGCGCCGAGACAGAACCTAATGTTATTTCCACCCGT TGTC | Primer (forward) for <i>phd-docDda</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 21, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |
| 23 | TCACCAGCAAATCGCGCTGTTAGCGTGGAAATCAACATGAA ACCTT | Primer (forward) for <i>dhiTA</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 24, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |
| 24 | AGACGCGCCGAGACAGAACCTAATGCTACTTCTCTCCAGT TGTA | Primer (reverse) for <i>dhiTA</i> amplification, including putative promoter region, used with primer 23, fragment cloned into pRC7 digested with ApaI |
| 25 | ACTACAAGCATAACGACAC | Primer (forward) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>ccdB2Dda</i> module transcript |
| 26 | TCATCACCAAGATAATCAC | Primer (reverse) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>ccdB2Dda</i> module transcript |
| 27 | TATACCATTACTGAAGCC | Primer (forward) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>phd-docDda</i> module transcript |
| 28 | CTTAATGGTGAGTTCTTC | Primer (reverse) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>phd-docDda</i> module transcript |
| 29 | GATGATGAGTTGATCATC | Primer (forward) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>dhiTA</i> module transcript |
| 30 | CTCTTCCAGTTGTAACAC | Primer (reverse) for RT-PCR analysis of <i>dhiTA</i> module transcript |

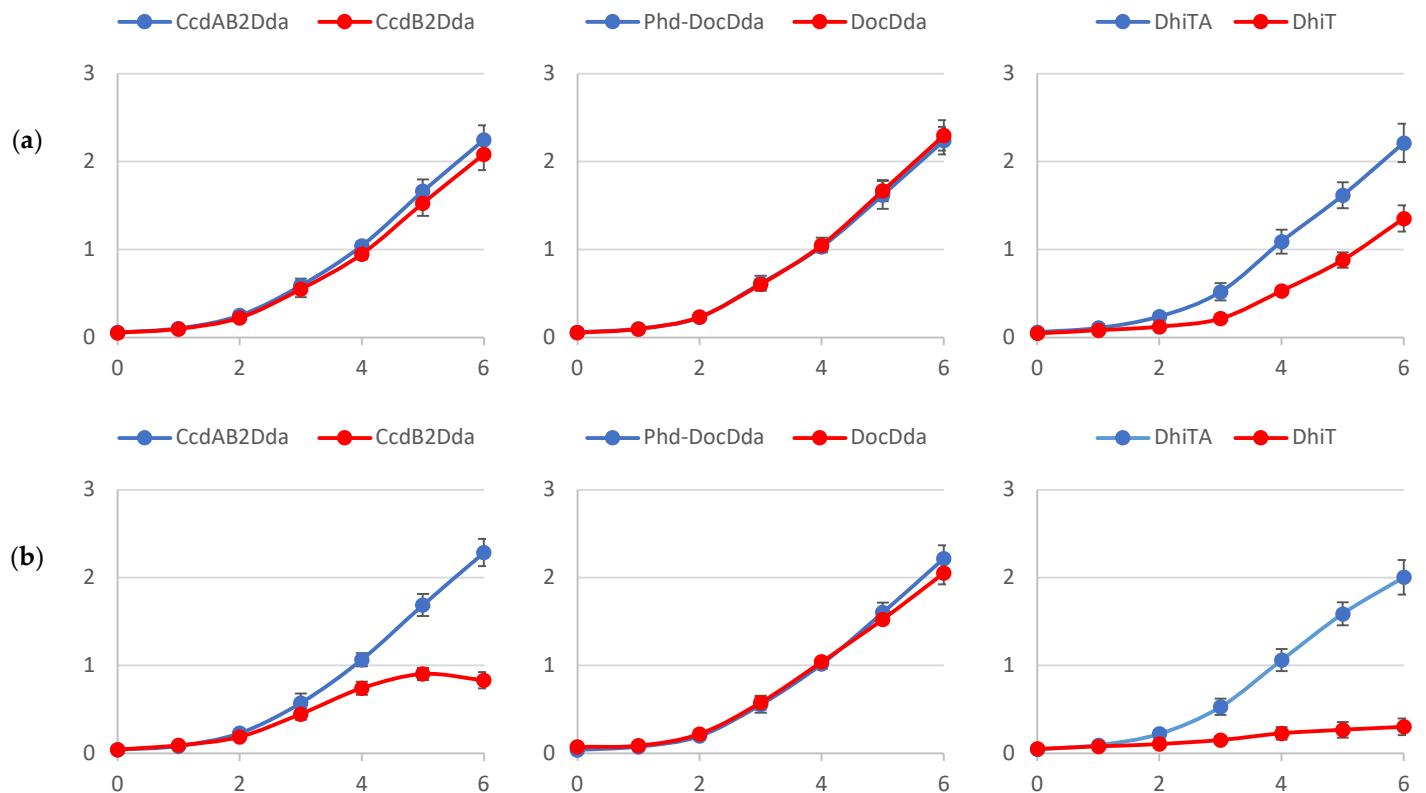


Figure S1. Effect of induction of expression of the putative toxins on growth of the *E. coli* K-12 MG1655. *E. coli* cells, harbouring plasmids encoding the toxin (red ♦) or antitoxin-toxin (blue •) genes under control of the *P_{BAD}* promoter, were grown to OD₆₀₀ of 0.05–0.08. Each culture was then supplemented with either 0.2 % D-glucose (**a**) or 0.2 % L-arabinose (**b**). Culture growth was monitored by measuring OD₆₀₀ every hour. The results are an averages of at least 3 independent experiments with SD indicated.

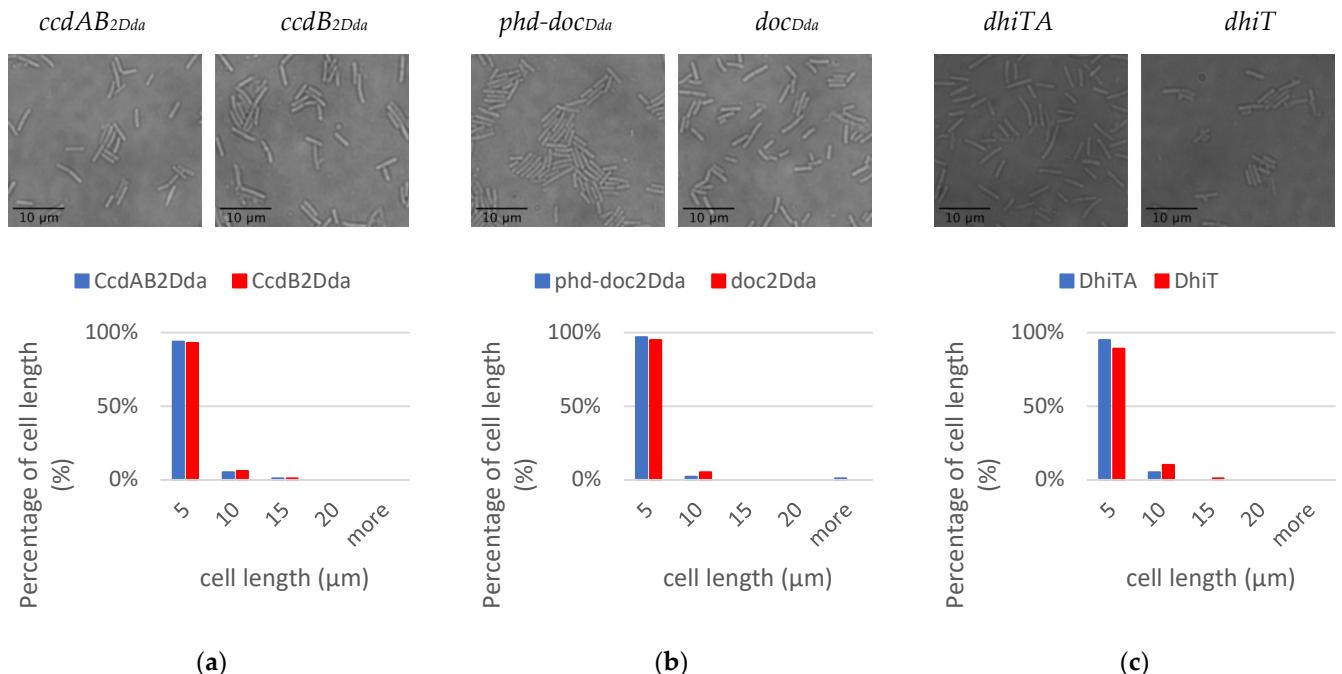


Figure S2. The effect of overexpression of the toxins on the *D. dadantii* 3937 cell morphology. pBAD24 derivatives harbouring genes encoding (**a**) CcdAB_{2Dda} system or toxin CcdB_{2Dda}, (**b**) Phd-DocDda system or DocDda, toxin (**c**) DhiTA system or DhiT toxin were introduced into *D. dadantii* 3937 cells and were induced with 0.2 % arabinose. *D. dadantii* 3937 cells cultured in the same conditions were used as a cell length control. Light microscope morphology of *D. dadantii* 3937 cells ($\times 100$), cell length was measured for 100 bacteria for each strain. Examples of relevant microphotographs are above the graphs.

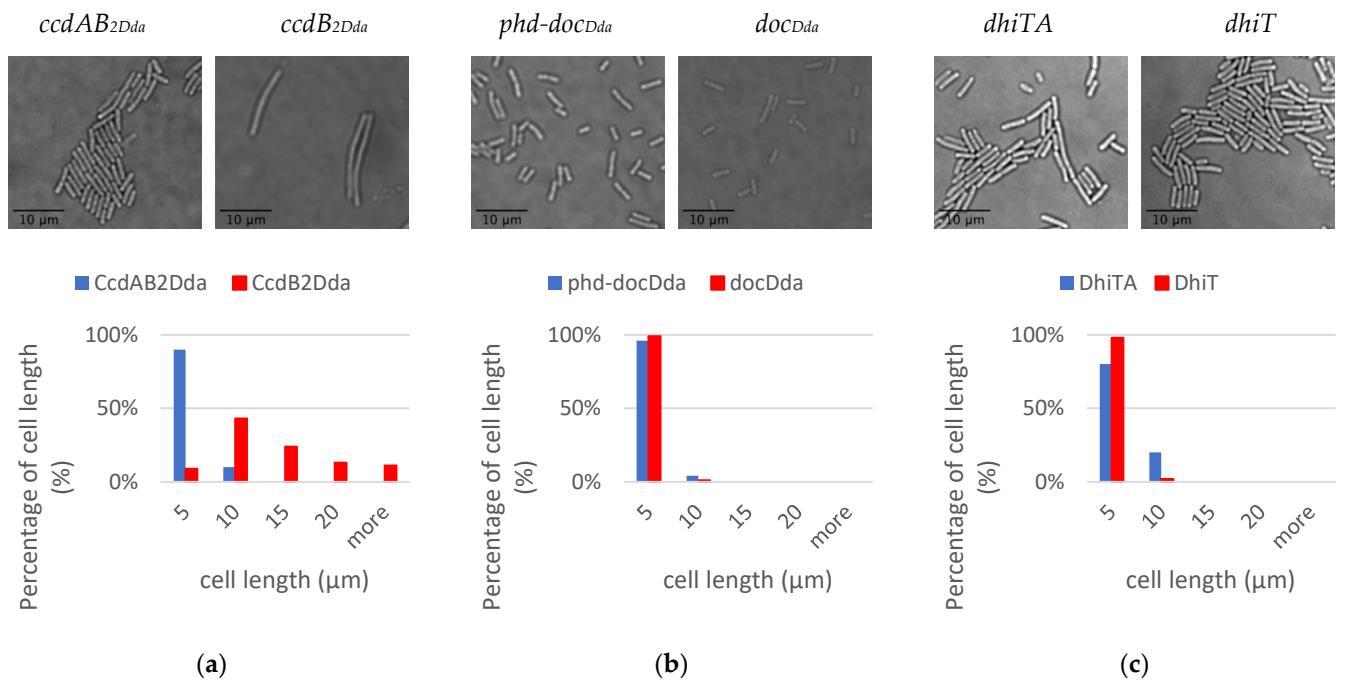


Figure S3. The effect of overexpression of the *D. dadantii* 3937 toxins on the *E. coli* cell morphology. pBAD24 derivatives harbouring genes encoding (a) CcdAB_{2Dda} system or toxin CcdB_{2Dda}, (b) Phd-DocDda system or DocDda toxin (c) DhiTA system or DhiT toxin were introduced into *E. coli* cells and were induced with 0.2 % arabinose. *E. coli* cells cultured in the same conditions were used as a cell length control. Light microscope morphology of *E. coli* cells ($\times 100$), cell length was measured for 100 bacteria for each strain. Examples of relevant microphotographs are above the graphs.

