

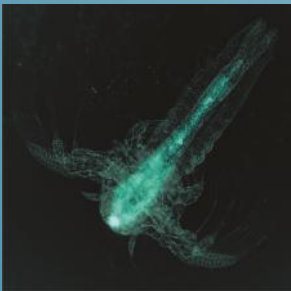
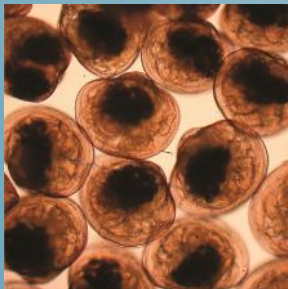
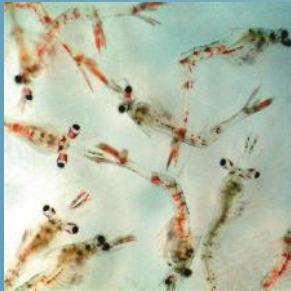
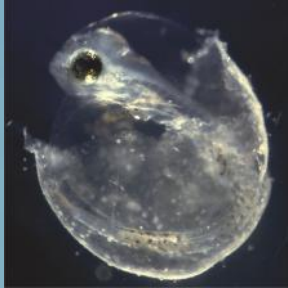
larvi 2013

6th fish & shellfish larviculture symposium

Lessons learned from gnotobiotic systems and the effect of bacteria on growth, survival and gene expression in marine larvae

Torunn Forberg

ghent university, belgium, 2-5 september 2013



LESSONS LEARNED FROM GNOTOBIOTIC SYSTEMS ON THE EFFECT OF BACTERIA ON GROWTH, SURVIVAL AND GENE EXPRESSION IN MARINE LARVAE.

Torunn Forberg and Olav Vadstein

Contributions of bacteria to their vertebrate hosts

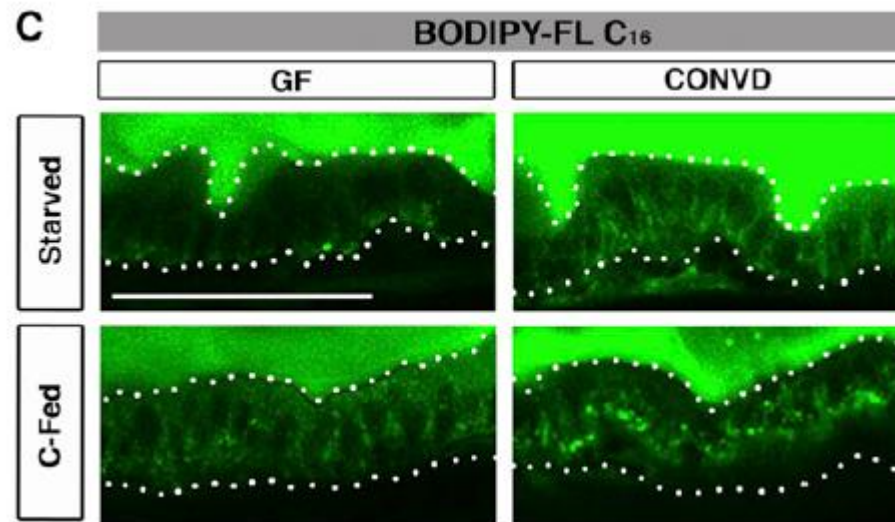
- Stimulate immune system- protect against infection
- Provide vitamins and extra metabolic capabilities
- Digestion and gut development

Gnotobiotic systems

- Conventional/xenic
- Microbiota is dynamic
- Gnotobiotic
 - Germfree/axenic, mono/di/tri –xenic etc.

Gnotobiotic zebrafish (*Danio rerio*)

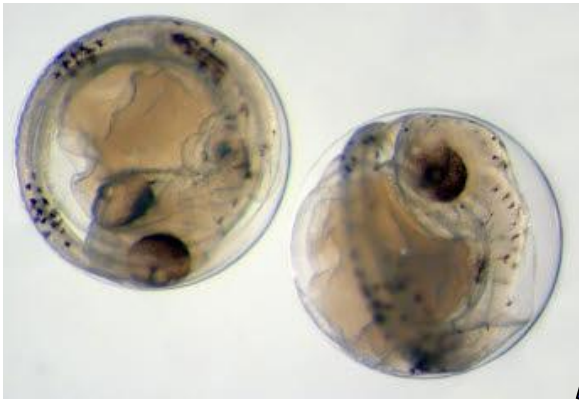
- 212 genes regulated by microbiota
- Reduced growth and gut development
- Impaired nutrient uptake



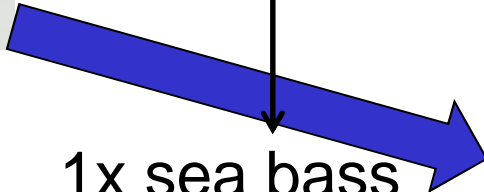
Gnotobiotic systems marine species

- Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*)
- Halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*)
- Sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*)
- Cod (*Gadus morhua*)

Sea bass and cod protocols

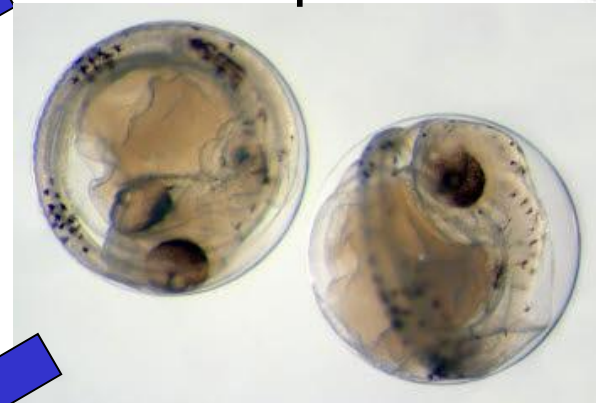


Glutaraldehyde



10 ppm rifampicin
and ampicillin

1x sea bass
2x cod



Reared with or without
antibiotics

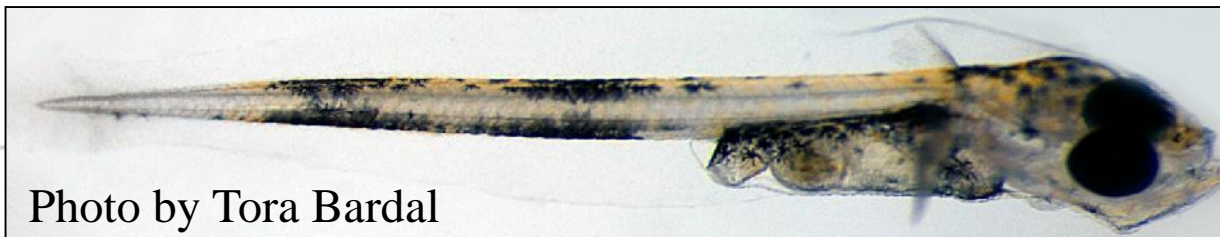
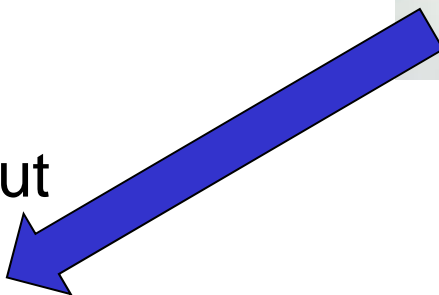
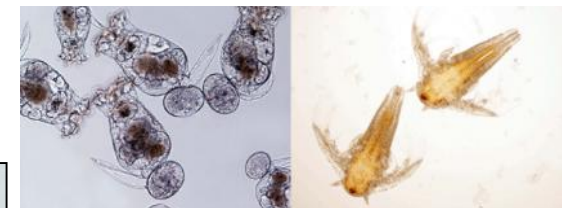


Photo by Tora Bardal

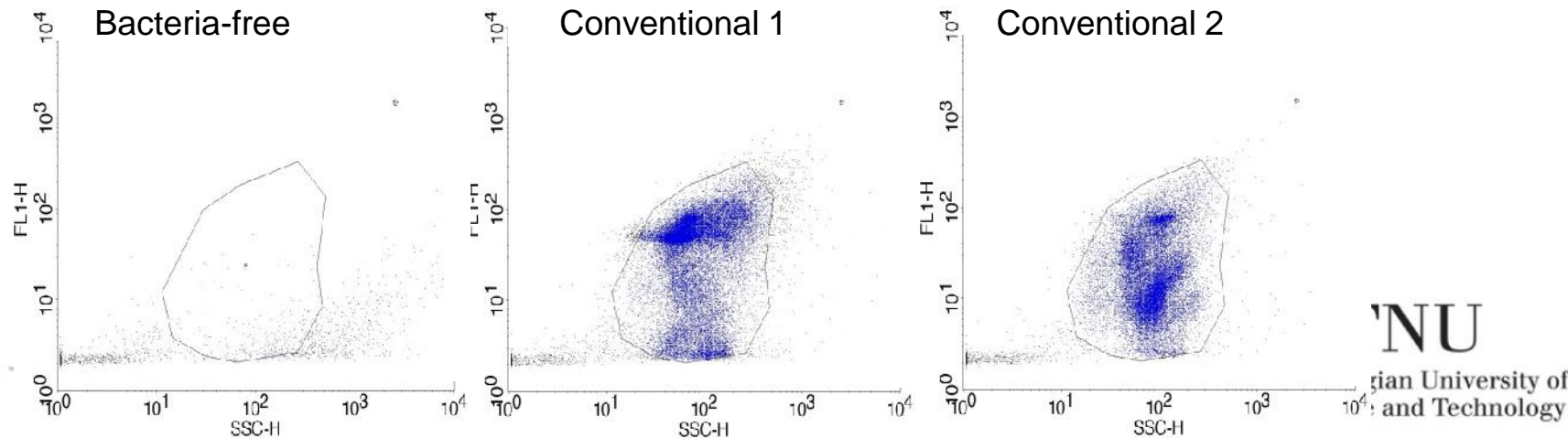


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Methods to confirm gnotobiotic state

- Culture based
- Amplification based
- “Direct counts” –microscopy or flow cytometry



Survival and growth

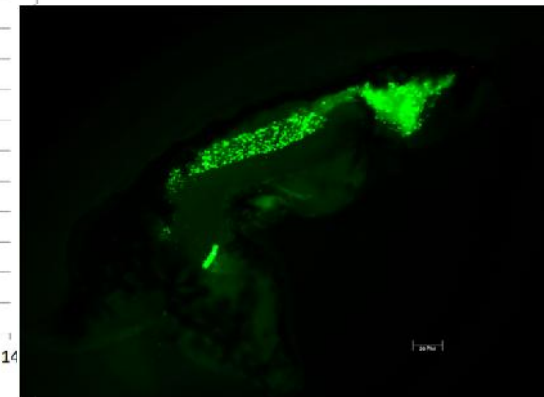
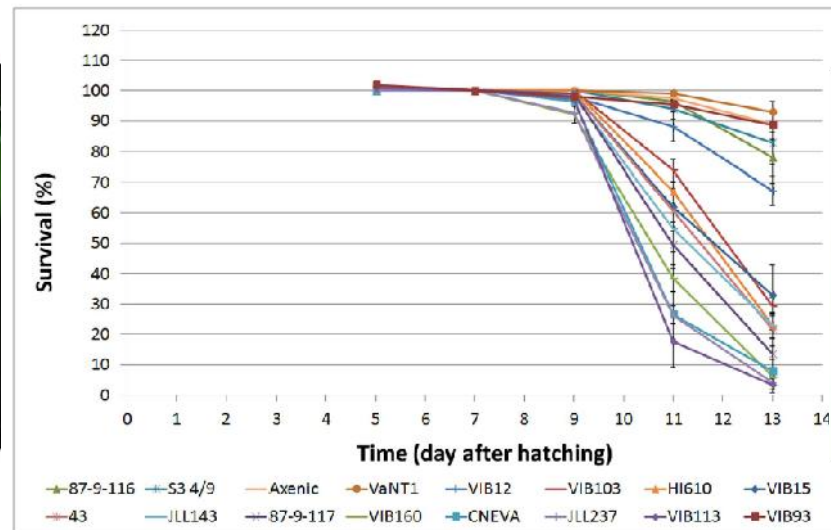
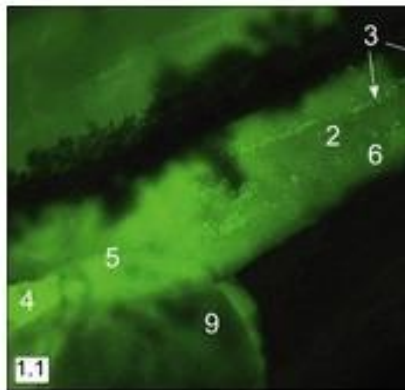
- Germ-free turbot, sea bass and cod- high survival
- No difference in growth detected in germ-free and conventional cod
- Germ-free sea bass larvae bigger and more developed digestive tract than conventional..
- Stressful conditions – Germ-free and conventional sea bass similar growth

Gene expression

- Cod larvae: 14 putative host-response genes identified, involved in processes such as immune response, nutrient uptake and cell growth.
- Microbial specificity was observed both with regards to what bacteria were present and to the status (live/dead) of the bacteria.

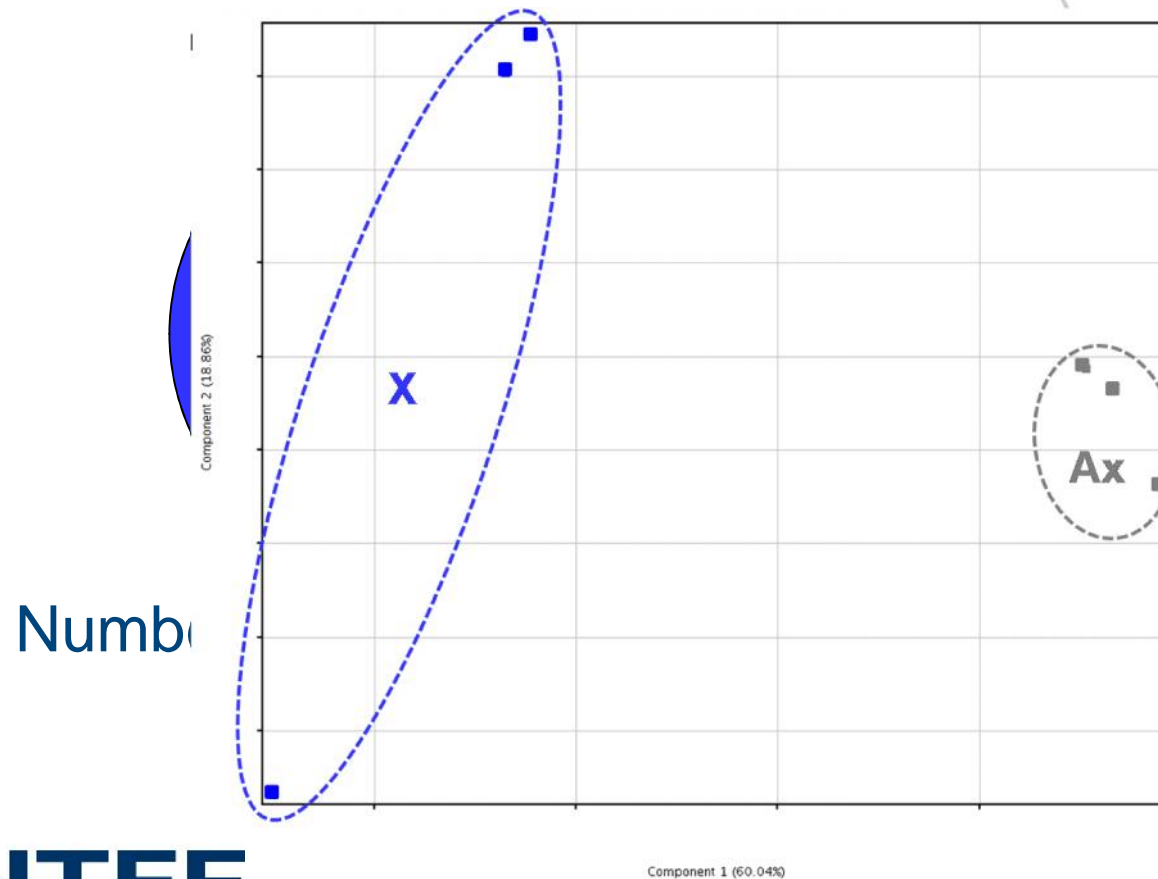
Applications with monognotobiotic conditions

- Cod and probiotic candidate bacteria
- Sea bass & cod GFP-labelled *V. anguillarum*
- Sea bass virulence of *V. anguillarum* serotypes and mutants



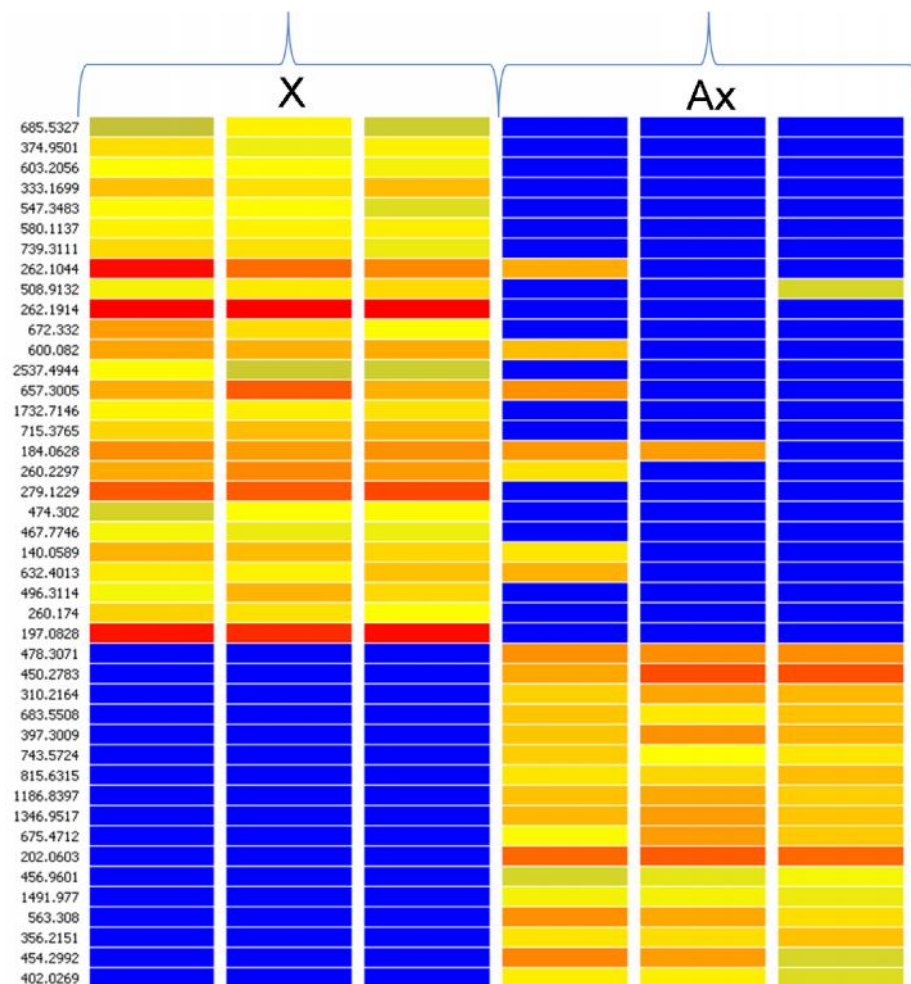
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Germ-free vs conventional cod metabolome



Aasen et al.

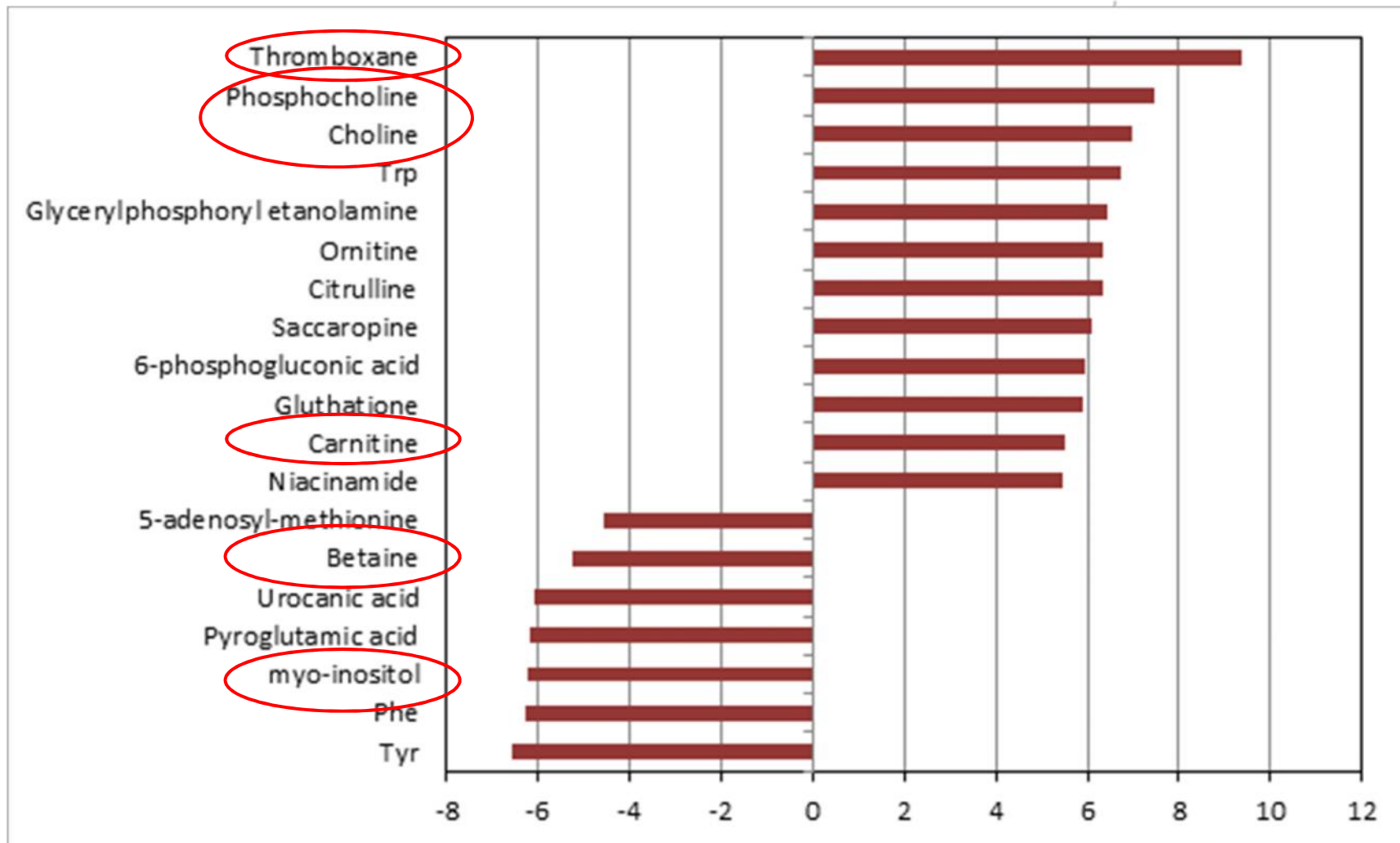
Axenic vs xenic cod larvae



Identification of significant compounds

Comp.	Xenic	Axenic
Phospholipids	-	+
Lyso-PLs	+	-
Conj. bile acids	-	+
Di-/tripeptides	+	-
Modified aa	+	-
Flavonoids	+	-

"Heat-map", most significant compounds



Conclusions & perspectives

- Both cod and seabass represent robust gnotobiotic systems for marine larvae
- Effects of germfree state seem to differ from zebrafish with regards to growth
- Some host-response genes identified in cod, next stage - high throughput methods
- Metabolome analysis confirms the many effects of commensal microbiota on host metabolism.

- More studies needed!

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