

ONE SENTENCE SUMMARY

 DNA from 2.8 km deep in the Earth's crust reveals the genetic complement necessary for a single species ecosystem.

ABSTRACT

 DNA from low biodiversity fracture water collected at 2.8 km depth in a South African gold mine was sequenced and assembled into a single, complete genome. This bacterium, *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator*, comprises > 99.9% of the microorganisms inhabiting the fluid phase of this particular fracture. Its genome indicates a motile, sporulating, sulfate reducing, chemoautotrophic thermophile that can fix its own nitrogen and carbon using machinery shared with archaea. *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* is capable of an independent lifestyle well suited to long-term isolation from the photosphere deep within Earth's crust, and offers the first example of a natural ecosystem that appears to have its biological component entirely encoded within a single genome.

 A more complete picture of life on Earth, and even life *in* the Earth, has recently become possible by extracting and sequencing DNA from an environmental sample, a process called "environmental genomics" or "metagenomics" (*1-8*). This approach allows us to identify members of microbial communities and to characterize the abilities of the dominant members even when isolation of those organisms has proven intractable. However, with a few exceptions (*5, 7*), assembling complete or even near-complete genomes for a substantial portion of the member species is usually hampered by the complexity of natural microbial communities.

57 In addition to elevated temperatures and a lack of O_2 , conditions within Earth's crust at depths > 1 km are fundamentally different from those of the surface and deep ocean environments. Severe nutrient limitation is believed to result in cell doubling times ranging from 100 to 1,000 years (*9-11*) and as a result subsurface microorganisms might be expected to reduce their reproductive burden and exhibit the streamlined genomes of specialists or spend most of their time in a state of semi-senescence waiting for the return of favorable conditions. Such microorganisms are of particular interest as they permit insight into a mode of life independent of the photosphere.

 One bacterium belonging to the *Firmicutes* phylum (Fig. 1a), which we herein name "*Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator*", is prominent in small subunit (SSU or 16S) rRNA gene clone libraries (*11-14*) from almost all fracture fluids sampled to date from depths greater than 1.5 km across the Witwatersrand Basin (covering 150 x 300 km near Johannesburg, South Africa). This bacterium was shown in a previous geochemical and 16S rRNA gene study (*11*) to dominate the indigenous microorganisms found in a fracture zone at 2.8 km below land surface at level 104 of the Mponeng mine (MP104).

 Although Lin, *et al*. (*11*) discovered that this fracture zone contained the least diverse natural free-living microbial community reported at that time, exceeding the ~80% dominance by the methanogenic archaeon IUA5/6 of a comparatively shallow subsurface community in Idaho (*15*), we were nonetheless surprised when the current environmental genomics study revealed only one species was actually present within the fracture fluid. Furthermore, we found that the single genome that assembled appeared to possess all of the metabolic capabilities necessary for an independent lifestyle. This gene complement was consistent with the previous geochemical and thermodynamic analyses at the 80 ambient ~60°C temperature and pH of 9.3, which indicated formate and H_2 as possessing 81 the greatest potential among candidate electron donors, with sulfate $(SO₄²)$ reduction as the dominant electron accepting process (*11*).

83 DNA was extracted from ~5,600 L of filtered fracture water using a protocol that has been demonstrated to be effective on a broad range of bacterial and archaeal species, including recalcitrant organisms (supporting online material, "SOM"). A single, complete, 2.35 megabase pair (Mbp) genome was assembled using a combination of shotgun Sanger sequencing and 454 pyrosequencing (SOM). Similar to other studies that obtained near-complete consensus genomes from environmental samples (*5, 16*), heterogeneity in the population of the dominant species as measured single nucleotide polymorphisms ("SNP") was quite low, showing only 32 positions with a SNP observed more than once (Table S7), suggesting strong selective pressure.

 The DNA recovered from the filter, assuming the capture of cells and extraction of DNA from those cells was indeed comprehensive, revealed that this genome 94 represented the only species present in the fluid phase of the fracture. Of the $\sim 0.1\%$ of

 microbial reads not belonging to *D. audaxviator* (Fig. 1c,d, Tables S5 and S6), about ½ represented clear contamination (Table S6), the removal of which resulted in only 22 of 29,179 Sanger reads (0.075%) and 59 of 500,008 pyrosequencing reads (0.012%) that could be from other microorganisms. However, even with the great care taken in collecting an uncontaminated sample, it remains possible that some or all of the trace reads are from organisms not indigenous to the fracture. An upper-bound estimate of the contribution of any microorganism other than *D. audaxviator* to the community (Table S6) offered at most only 5 Sanger reads (0.017%) corresponding to γ-Proteobacteria, and at most 9 pyrosequencing reads (0.0018%) corresponding to α-Proteobacteria. Even taking the higher of these proportions suggested that it is unlikely that *D. audaxviator*, and indeed the functioning of the ecosystem, is metabolically dependent upon organisms that would be outnumbered by about 5,000 to 1 (or about 50,000 to 1 from the pyrosequencing data). However, we could not rule out the presence of organisms that 108 might adhere to the surfaces of the fracture or that were smaller than the 0.2 µm filter pore size. It may be that uncaptured microorganisms and bacteriophage, in addition to potential trace species, do play a role in the MP104 ecosystem, perhaps as reservoirs of genetic variation (*17*).

 We analyzed the genome of *D. audaxviator* using MicrobesOnline (http://www.microbesonline.org) (*18*). If *D. audaxviator* is indeed the solitary resident of this habitat, then its genome should contain the complete genetic complement for maintaining the biological component of the ecosystem prohibiting extreme reduction of its genome. The genome (Table 1), at 2.35 Mbp, was smaller than the 3 Mbp of its nearest sequenced relative *Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum*. It contained 2157

 predicted protein coding genes, more than found in streamlined free-living microorganisms, which typically have fewer than 2000 genes (*19*). We found all of the processes necessary for life encoded within the genome, including energy metabolism, carbon fixation, and nitrogen fixation.

122 Consistent with the thermodynamic evaluation (11) that SO_4^2 offers the most energetically favorable electron acceptor, the genome possesses the capacity for dissimilatory sulfate reduction (DSR) (Figs. 2, 3, and Table S13) with a gene repertoire 125 like that of other SO_4^2 reducing microorganisms (20). These genes are present in a set of operons (labeled SR1-SR11 in Fig. 2) and include an extra copy of an archael-type 127 sulfate adenylyltransferase (Sat) (Figure S5) and a H^+ -translocating pyrophosphatase, both of which appear to be a consequence of horizontal gene transfer (HGT). High 129 potential electrons enter primarily *via* the activity of a variety of hydrogenases upon H₂ (Table S24).

 Carbon assimilation may be from a variety of sources depending on local conditions. The genome contains sugar and amino acid transporters (Fig. 3 and Table S20), suggesting that, at locations where biodensity is high, heterotrophic sources could be used, including recycling of dead cells. At MP104, where biodensity is low, carbon is assimilated from inorganic sources. *D. audaxviator* appeared not to be using the reverse TCA cycle (Table S23), but did have all the machinery of the acetyl-CoA synthesis (Wood-Ljungdahl) pathway (*21, 22*), which utilizes carbon monoxide dehydrogenase (CODH) for the assimilation of inorganic carbon (Figs. 2, 3, S7, and Table S14). Entry 139 of $CO₂$ substrate into the cell may be accomplished by its anionic species through a 140 putative carbonate ABC transporter or a putative bicarbonate/Na⁺ symporter (Fig. 3 and

 Table S20). Formate and CO may serve as alternate, more direct, carbon sources in other fractures when sufficiently abundant (Table S2).

143 The ambient concentration of ammonia in the fracture water $(NH₃)+[NH₄⁺]$ ~100 µM) (*11*) appears sufficient for *D. audaxviator* (which has an ammonium transporter as well as glutamine synthetase), to obtain its nitrogen from ammonia without 146 resorting to an energetically costly nitrogenase conversion of N_2 to ammonia. Nonetheless, a nitrogenase is present in the genome (Fig. 2 and Table S15) that is more similar to archaeal types, including high temperature variants (*23*), than the nitrogenase of *Desulfotomaculum reducens* (Figs. S4, S8). It may be that *D. audaxviator* is not always presented with sufficient amounts of ammonia, so the versatility provided by the horizontally acquired nitrogenase may have contributed significantly to the success of *D. audaxviator* in colonizing such habitats.

 Desulforudis audaxviator shares other genes with archaea that may confer benefits in extreme environments. In addition to the unusual nitrogenase and sulfate adenylyltransferase, acquisitions by ancestors of *D. audaxviator* include (Table S10) a second CODH system (CODH1 in Fig. 2 and Fig. S7), cobalamin biosynthesis protein CobN, and genes for the formation of gas vesicles. It also has two clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeat ("CRISPR") regions (Table S12), that are used for viral defense (*24*), occur in the genome with adjacent CRISPR-associated genes ("CAS"), some of which are horizontally shared between *D. audaxviator* and archaea.

 D. audaxviator's ability to colonize independently is also assisted by its possession of all of the amino acid synthesis pathways (Table S21). Other factors that may confer fitness in this environment are the ability to form endospores (Table S16) and

 the potential for it to grow in deeper, hotter conditions (Table S9). *D. audaxviator* appears capable of sensing nutrients (Table S19) in its environment, and possesses flagella (Table S18) that permit motility along chemical gradients, such as those that occur at the mineral surfaces of the fracture (*25*). One ability that *D. audaxviator* is lacking is a complete system for oxygen resistance (Table S25), suggesting the long-term 169 isolation from O_2 .

 The MP104 fracture contains the simplest natural environmental microbial community yet described, and has yielded a single, complete genome of an uncultured microorganism using environmental genomics. *Desulforudis audaxviator's* ability to 173 reduce SO_4^2 grants access to the most energetically favorable electron acceptor in the fracture zones of the Witwatersrand basin (*26*). Additionally, inherited characteristics of *D. audaxviator*, such as motility, sporulation, and carbon fixation, have been complemented by horizontally acquired systems frequently found in archaea. These abilities have enabled *D. audaxviator* to colonize the deep subsurface, a process that, unlike surface habitats which permit more immediate access, has required fitness throughout the history of the colonization. This "bold traveler" (*audax viator*) has revealed a mode of life isolated from the photosphere, capturing all of the roles necessary for an independent lifestyle and showing that it is possible to encode the entire biological component of a simple ecosystem within a single genome.

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228 **SUPPORTING ONLINE MATERIAL**

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236 **TABLES**

237 **Table 1. General Features of the** *Desulforudis audaxviator* **genome.**

238 "bp": base pairs of DNA

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Phylogeny and population structure.

 (a) Phylogenetic placement of *D. audaxviator* based on protein sequences of universal protein families (Table S3). High bootstrap value supported nodes are indicated with circles. (b) Classifications of SSU rRNA gene clones from PCR amplification of filter extract (Fig. S3). (c) Proportions of Sanger sequencing reads from shotgun clone library of filter extract. Reads classified as *D. audaxviator* by match to assembled genome or by match to sequenced organisms (Table S6). (d) Proportions of 454 pyrosequencing reads directly from filter extract. Reads classified as *D. audaxviator* by match to assembled genome or by match to sequenced organisms (Table S6).

Figure 2. Genome of *D. audaxviator***, with key genes highlighted.**

 Innermost ring: GC skew (average of (G-C)/(G+C) over 10000 bases, plotted every 1000 bases). Transition at the top (near dnaA) is origin of replication. **Second ring:** G+C content (average of (G+C) over 10000 bases, plotted every 1000 bases), with 254 greater than average value (61%) in blue and below average in red. Below average G+C regions that result from CRISPR sequences are indicated in grey. **Third and fourth rings:** predicted protein coding genes on each strand. Genes with homologs only found within closest clade species (including ORFan genes) are in cyan, genes that are found only within closest clade species and within archaea (resulting from horizontal transfer) in magenta, and all other genes in black. **Outer boxes:** Genes of interest are shown around the ring as operons for sulfate reduction ("SR"), carbon fixation via acetyl-CoA synthesis pathway ("CF"), and nitrogen fixation ("NF"). Horizontally acquired genes shared with archaea specific to *D. audaxviator* and its nearest relatives are colored according to the key.

Figure 3. Model of the single species ecosystem at MP104.

 D. audaxviator's machinery is shown in a cartoon representation, including pathways for sulfate reduction, nitrogen fixation, and carbon fixation. Signal transduction proteins are reported with the number found in parentheses, and have the abbreviations "MCP": methyl-accepting chemotaxis proteins, "HPK": histidine protein kinases, "RR": response regulators. Transporters include approximate substrates. Also shown are the environmental sources of energy and material for the ecosystem, as detailed in Lin, *et al*. (*11*), shown experimentally by Lefticariu, *et al.* (*27*), and described in the SOM.

(b) SSU rRNA clone library (361 clones)

Desulforudis audaxviator 99+ (96.1%) Likely Desulforudis audaxviator 98+ (1.1%) \Box α -Proteobacterium type #1, Sphingomonas-like #1 (1.4%) β-Proteobacterium type #1, Aquabacterium-like #1 (1.1%) β-Proteobacterium type #2, Burkholderia-group #1 (0.3%)

(c) Sanger metagenomic sequence (29180 microbial reads)

Desulforudis audaxviator (29136 reads = 99.849%) \blacksquare Likely Desulforudis audaxviator (17 reads = 0.058%) Other Bacteria and Archaea, including likely microbial contamination (27 reads = 0.093%)

(d) 454 metagenomic sequence (500130 microbial reads)

Desulforudis audaxviator (499699 reads = 99.914%) Likely Desulforudis audaxviator (250 reads = 0.050%) Other Bacteria and Archaea, including likely microbial contamination $(181 \text{ reads} = 0.036\%)$

Radiolysis of water molecules

Environmental genomics reveals a single species ecosystem deep within the Earth

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I. TAXONOMIC INFORMATION

Inspiration for the name *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator.*

"In Sneffels Joculis craterem quem delibat Umbra Scartaris Julii intra calendas descende, audax viator, et terrestre centrum *attinges.*" ("Descend, bold traveler, into the crater of the jokul of Sneffels, which the shadow of Scartaris touches before the kalends of July, and you will attain the center of the earth.")

-- Hidden message deciphered from an Icelandic saga that prompts Professor Lidenbrock to undertake his journey in Jules Verne's "Journey to the Center of the Earth".

Based on its rod-like morphology, its apparent use of the dissimilatory sulfate reduction pathway for energy production, and because of the journey this "*audax viator*" (bold traveler) undertook to live in the extreme depths of the Earth, we have named this organism "*Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator*". Additionally, as a consensus sequence from a fracture accessed from the 104th level of the Mponeng mine, we have given the genome the strain designation "MP104C".

Taxonomic record for *Candidatus* **classification.**

Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator MP104C has been given the NCBI taxonomy ID 477974 and placed in the lineage "cellular organisms; Bacteria; Firmicutes; Clostridia; Clostridiales; Peptococcaceae; Candidatus Desulforudis; Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator; Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator MP104C". In accordance with the guidelines of Murray and Stackbrandt (*1*) for the *Candidatu*s designation, we offer the following codified taxonomic record for *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* MP104C.

"*Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* MP104C" [(*Firmicutes*) NC; G+; R; NAS (GenBank CP000860), oligonucleotide sequence complementary to unique region of 16S rRNA 5'-GCGGGATTTCACCTGCGACTTCTCA-3'; FL (deep subsurface crustal fracture); Anaer., sulfate reducing; T]. Chivian et al., Science [*PUBLICATION INFORMATION TO BE DETERMINED*], 2008.

II. BACKGROUND

Isolation of deep subsurface organisms in South Africa.

South African mines have provided access to microorganism-bearing fluids that emanate from fractures at depths ranging from 0.7 km to 5 km (*2, 3*). Phylogenetic classification of the indigenous microbial species using small subunit (SSU or 16S) rRNA gene analyses of DNA from environmental samples has revealed new genera, families, orders, and in some cases, new candidate phyla of *Archaea* and *Bacteria* (*4, 5*). Of the approximately 280 bacterial and 44 archaeal operational taxomic units (OTUs) identified to date in the South African mines, only 12 mesophilic and thermophilic anaerobic bacteria and one autotrophic methanogen have so far been isolated (*6-10*). Of the bacterial isolates only one belongs to the *Firmicutes* phylum. *Desulforudis audaxviator* has not yet been isolated, which may be due to its extreme sensitivity to O_2 (Table S25).

Desulforudis audaxviator has been prevalent in the 16S rRNA gene clone libraries of thermophilic, sulfidic, moderately saline, alkaline boreholes at Beatrix, Evander, Driefontein, Kloof, and Mponeng Au mines and is the only organism this widely distributed in the Witwatersrand Basin at depths greater than 1.5 km. *D. audaxviator* is found in the deepest and hottest fracture waters to date. The highest temperature determined was based on the hydrogen isotope equilibrium temperature between H₂O and dissolved H₂. During the course of dewatering fracture zones, these temperature estimates and the measured temperatures will change as different depths of the fracture zone contribute water to the borehole. In the case of MP104 the temperature decreased from 62° C to 52° C which, when combined with local heat flow and thermal conductivity data (*11*), suggest that this fracture network extends from 4.2 km to 2.8 km below land surface (kmbls), the latter depth being that of level 104. The fracture water represents a mixture of \sim 3 million year old paleometeoric water with 0.8-2.5 billion year old, saline, reduced-gas-rich hydrothermal fluid (3). H_2 and SO_4^2 concentrations tended to be greater in these deeper fractures. Experimental data and theoretical analyses indicate that radiolysis of water directly supplies the H₂ (12) and indirectly supplies the SO₄² by producing H₂O₂ that in turn oxidizes the abundant pyrite in the Witwatersrand quartzite (*13*). Retention of rubrerythrin (Table S25) in the genome of *D. audaxviator* is consistent with recurring exposure to the products of radiolysis.

History of the South African crust.

Unlike surface habitats that permit comparatively instantaneous access, species found in the deep subsurface require fitness throughout the history of their colonization, which in the Witwatersrand basin includes temperatures greater than 60°C, nutrient flux

on the order of 10^{-9} moles cell⁻¹ yr⁻¹ and pH values ranging from 8.5 to 9.5. The Witwatersrand basin formed between 2.9 to 2.5 Ga and at 2.0 Ga, during the formation of the Vredefort impact structure, it may have had 7 to 10 km more sediment on top than the present day and experienced a peak metamorphic temperature of \sim 250-300°C. The basin was quiescent until 1.4 Ga dyke swarms from the Pilanesberg alkaline complex to the north of the basin compartmentalized the hydrological structure of the aquifers within the Witwatersrand basin. The 7 to 10 km of overburden was gone by the Permo-Carboniferous glacial period at 280 Ma, because the present day surface outcrops of the nearby Vredefort impact structure reveal signs of glacial scouring. During the Karoo volcanic episode at 200 Ma, however, an additional 2 km of volcanic and sedimentary overburden may have been deposited on top of the Witwatersrand basin.

Fission track apatite thermochronological analyses have revealed that the temperature was 120°C at a depth of 3.7 km in Driefontein mine at 75 Ma and cooled to the present day temperatures at a rate of 1.4° C Myr⁻¹ (11) as this overburden was removed by uplift and erosion prior to 40 Ma. The South African crust has therefore been moving up and down, heating up and cooling off for billions of years. The fractures tend to seal with burial and open with uplift as lithostatic pressure decreases. Therefore, the period of time between 100 and 40 Ma is probably the most recent time when fluid flow occured into the deeper portions of the crust (*11*). This may date the time of *D. audaxviator's* latest journey into the earth.

Environmental sources of energy and material.

Energy and material for the ecosystem (as shown in Figure 3) comes from the radiolytic production of H_2 and reactive H_2O_2 , which in turn reacts with H₂S to produce SO_4^2 or with pyrite (FeS₂) to produce SO_4^2 and Fe(OH)₃ as detailed by Lin, *et al.* (3), and shown experimentally by Lefticariu, *et al.* (13). The \overline{H}^+ produced by the cell and released by oxidation reactions dissolves calcite (CaCO₃) releasing Ca^{2+} and bicarbonate (HCO₃). The Ca^{2+} in turn may exchange with NH₄⁺ in chlorite mineral. The HCO₃ can either be taken up by the putative Na⁺/HCO₃ symporter or it may be radiolytically reduced to formate (HCO₂). All three forms of inorganic carbon may be utilized by the Acetyl-CoA carbon fixation pathway, as well as CO. The H₂S produced by the SO_4^2 -reduction pathway can diffuse out of the cell and, in addition to reacting with H_2O_2 to replish SO_4^2 , can react with the Fe(OH)₃ to regenerate SO_4^2 and release PO₄³. The Fe²⁺ released by this last reaction can combine with H₂S to precipitate FeS or FeS₂.

III. METHODS

Collection of DNA.

Fracture fluid was collected over 3 days (9/27/02-9/30/02) from a borehole located at level 104 (2.8 km below land surface, 1.2 km below sea level) of Mponeng gold mine (26°26'S; 27°26'E), owned and operated by AngloGold, PTY. A Cole Parmer, 0.2 µm effective pore size, double open end, high efficiency, pleated PTFE filter cartridge (http://www.coleparmer.com – EW-06479-52), 8 cm in diameter and 25 cm long was installed on a flowing borehole 15 days after initial intersection of the fracture using an autoclaved expansion packer placed downstream from a large steel ball valve installed by mine contractors. The density of planktonic cells in the fracture fluid, as determined by flow cytometry, was ~3.3x10⁴ cells mL⁻¹ and ~5.6x10⁶ mL of water passed through the filter, yielding a capture of \sim 1.8x10¹¹ cells. The filter consisted of a pleated filter that wrapped around a hard plastic core, but was not actually attached to it, and held in place by a hard plastic outer case with radial slits and hard plastic end caps. Prior to removal, the cartridge was drained of fluid in the mine, removed from its stainless steel canister and carefully wrapped in multiple thicknesses of sterile plastic, placed in a cooler with dry ice and transported to the surface. The cartridge was stored for a couple weeks at -20° C in the field laboratory then transported to Princeton University on dry ice and stored at -80°C until being shipped to Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on dry ice for DNA extraction.

High molecular weight community DNA was extracted using a rigorous protocol developed for hard-to-lyse Gram-positive bacteria and archaea. The outer plastic case was cut off and the pleated filter removed from the core while it was still frozen, and the pleated filter returned to the freezer. The pleated filter was comprised of 5 layers, the inside (upstream side) stiff net-like layer, a relatively thick pre-filter layer, two filter layers and another net-like layer on the outside. Separating the filter layers from the structural layers of the cartridge filter before carrying out the extraction was required to successfully extract DNA. The first and second filter layers were extracted separately and pooled at the end of the extraction process. For each extraction, the top two filter layers from 150 or 200 cm² of the filter were cut into \sim 1 cm² pieces with sterile scissors and placed in 50 mL disposable tubes held in liquid nitrogen. Ten mLs of Bactozyme solution, (cat. no. BZ 160, Molecular Research Center, Inc., Cincinnati, OH 45212) was added to each tube. The filter pieces were wetted by vacuum infiltration and incubated at 50°C for 30 minutes. One mL of a 10% (w/v) SDS solution was added to each tube and 6 rapid freeze/thaw cycles with liquid N₂ and a 50°C water bath were performed. Two hundred μ L of Proteinase K (10) mg/mL) was added to each tube and incubated at 50°C for 2 hours. Forty mLs of DNAzol (*14*) (cat. no. DN 127, Molecular Research Center, Inc., Cincinnati, OH 45212) was added to each tube and incubated at 42°C overnight. The supernatant was separated from the filter pieces and particulates by centrifuging at 10,000 x g for 15 minutes. One mL aliquots of the clear supernatant were transferred into 1.7 mL microcentrifuge tubes and the DNA precipitated by adding 600 µL of 100% ethanol and incubating at 4°C overnight.

The DNA was pelleted by centrifugation at 17,000 x g for 30 min and washed with 1 mL 70% ethanol per tube. The DNA was resuspended with 25 µL of sterile water per tube and pooled into one 1.7 mL microcentrifuge tube. The DNA concentration was spectrophotometrically determined by measuring absorbance at 260 nm using a NanoDrop ND-1000 spectrophotometer (NanoDrop Technologies, Wilmingon, DE, USA), and the integrity of the DNA was verified on a 0.6% TBE agarose gel. In 4 extractions, a total of 82 micrograms of DNA was recovered from 650 square centimeters of filter, of which 46 micrograms were high molecular weight (HMW) DNA. DNA was extracted as follows: 11/16/04 extraction: 17 micrograms HMW DNA (249 ng/cm²); 11/6/2005 and $11/8/2005$ extractions: 17 micrograms HMW DNA (70 ng/cm² and 93 ng/cm² respectively); 4/19/2006 extraction: 12 micrograms HMW DNA (94 ng/cm^2) .

Sequencing and assembly.

Sequencing and assembly was done by the DOE Joint Genome Institute (JGI). The high molecular weight DNA extract was used to construct two genomic libraries (~3 kb pUC18 vector and ~8 kb pMCL200 vector) (http://www.jgi.doe.gov/). Double-ended sequencing reactions were carried out using both ET and BigDye terminator chemistry (Perkin Elmer) and resolved using both MegaBase and ABI PRISM 3730 (Applied Biosystems) capillary DNA sequencer. Sanger sequencing (*15*) yielded 31,218 reads of average nominal length 1036 bp for a total of 32.3 Mb (including 29,198 reads with at least 10 contiguous calls with a Phred score \geq 25 yielding 19.2 Mb of high quality calls). Vector and quality trimming of shotgun data was performed yielding 29,279 reads for a total of 20.7 Mb (average trimmed read length of 708 bp). During the finishing process paired reads information was used to scaffold contigs. Because of the small amount of DNA available, uncaptured gaps between scaffolds were closed using 454 pyrosequencing (*16*) data (750 bp overlapping pseudoreads that are chopped from Newbler (*16*) contigs were assembled together with the Sanger reads) which yielded 56.2 Mb (518,272 reads with an average length of 109 bp). Gap-spanning 454 stretches were confirmed by Sanger sequencing of PCR products performed on source DNA. The reads were assembled using Phrap version SPS-3.57 (*17, 18*) (http://www.phrap.org/), yielding one complete, closed chromosome of length 2,349,476 bp. The assembled genome contained 27900 shotgun Sanger reads and 267 finishing reads. This is the first case when the combination of Sanger and pyrosequencing was applied to the metagenomic assembly finishing. The genome sequence reported in this study has been deposited in GenBank under accession number CP000860. The metagenomic data is available from the Joint Genome Institute (http://www.jgi.doe.gov/) under project number 4000602.

Genome annotation.

We identified and classified the protein and RNA genes using the MicrobesOnline (*19*) annotation pipeline (http://www.microbesonline.org). Protein-coding genes were identified using CRITICA (*20*) and supplemented with non-overlapping high-scoring hits from Glimmer (*21*), and translated into protein sequences assuming the standard microbial genetic code. Additional RNAs were identified using tRNAscan-SE (*22*) and BLASTn (*23*). For each protein-coding gene, we used a comprehensive set of sequence databases to identify conserved domain structure and to provide addition sources of annotations such as Enzyme Commision (EC) numbers, GO terms (*24*), Pfam (*25*) and TIGRfam (*26*) protein sequence family assignments, and membership in COGs (Clusters of Orthologous Groups of proteins) (*27*). Comparison with orthologous sequences (identified as bidirectional best BLASTp hit covering at least 75%) from multiple microbes enables the prediction of operons and regulons (*28*) and allows for viewing the genomic context of a given gene in multiple organisms simultaneously using a tree-based genome browser (http://www.microbesonline.org/treebrowseHelp.html). We applied the operon/regulon predictions and tree-based genome browser extensively in manually curating the annotations of key genes. Genes were subsequently mapped to calls made by the ORNL pipeline, with gene names of the form "DaudXXXX". The annotated *D. audaxviator* genome is accessible *via* MicrobesOnline (http://www.microbesonline.org).

Collection and preparation of samples for microscopy.

Microscopy sample #1 (date: 09/16/02): collected into a 120 ml serum vial. The serum vial was flushed with N_2 gas and autoclaved prior to the field trip. The vial was transported back to the field lab in South Africa within 3 hours and stored in a 4°C refrigerator. Samples were then transported back to USA on blue ice packs, and stored in a 4°C refrigerator. Nothing else was added to the serum vial.

Microscopy sample #2 (date: 11/09/02): collected in sterile 140 mL serum vials, precapped with blue butyl stoppers (Bellco) and preflushed with filtered, industrial grade Argon. Unconcentrated samples were introduced into the vials via 20 Ga syringe needles hooked directly to the flowing Masterflex norprene hose (sterile) off the octopus sampler. Additional concentrated samples were taken off the same flowing sample lines using mediakap filters (0.2 micron). About 2 L was pushed through each of the mediakap filters follwed by backflushing ~60 mL of sample water into waiting small serum vials. All samples were stored 4°C refrigerators at the field lab in South Africa, then at PNNL, then at DRI.

DAPI staining: 1ml of sample #2 was stained w/ 100µl DAPI (3µg/ml) for 10 minutes in the dark. Stained samples were filtered (Poretics, polycarbonate, black, 0.22µm pore, 25mm; Osmonics, Inc) and viewed using 100x-oil emersion lens and epifluorescent microscopy with appropriate filters.

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM): both sample #1 and sample #2 were filtered though 0.4µm Isopore membrane filters (millipore) then processed through an ethanol dehydration series (25, 50, 75, and 100% v/v ethanol) with each treatment lasting 30 min. The samples were then critically point dried in a SamDri® Critical Point Drier (Tesumis Inc.) to preserve the structure of the cells. The filter papers were mounted on aluminum stubs with carbon adhesive tabs, coated with palladium-gold alloy to reduce charging artifacts and imaged at 5 kV using a LEO 1540XB Field Emission SEM.

CARD-FISH protocol: Catalyzed-reporter deposition fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (CARD-FISH) was performed. A 25 bp probe for *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* was designed using the software package ARB (*29*) according to recommendations by Hugenholtz, *et al*. (*30*). The probe was checked for homology to all sequences available in the Greengenes database (*31*) as of March 2008. The probe was synthesized and 5' labeled with Horse-Radish Peroxidase (Invitrogen, CA).

CARD-FISH was performed essentially as described by Sekar *et al.* (*32*). Samples were fixed by addition of 0.2 µm filtered 96% ethanol to a final concentration of 50% (v/v). Fixed samples were filtered through 0.2µm black polycarbonate filters that were cut into sections using a sterile scalpel. Filters sections were air dried, dipped into 0.2% (w/v) low-melting-point agarose and placed on glass slides and air dried at 35°C for 10 min. Filter sections were then dehydrated in 96% ethanol for 1 min and air dried. For cell permeabilization, agarose embedded filter sections were incubate in lysozyme (10 mg/ml) at 37°C for 60 min and achromopeptidase (60 U/ml) at 37°C for 30 min. Sections were then incubated in 0.01 M HCl for 10 min at RT to inactivate endogenous peroxidases (to avoid false positive signals due to non-specific tyramide deposition) before washing with mobio grade water (0.2 µm filtered, autoclaved, DEPC treated) and 0.2 µm filtered 96% ethanol. Filter sections were placed on glass slides and 400 µl of hybridization buffer (containing 20% formamide and 0.5 ng probe DLO1_HRP μ l⁻¹). Slides were incubated in sealed Petri dishes overnight at 35°C. Filter sections were washed in prewarmed (37°C) washing buffer. Filter sections were then incubated in 1 x PBS amended with 0.05% of Triton X-100 followed by incubation in substrate mix (1 parts of CY3-labeled tyramide and 100 parts of amplification buffer [1 x PBS, 0.0015% H_2O_2 , 0.1% blocking reagent (PBS + 1% BSA]) at 37°C for 10 min in the dark. Filter sections were then washed in 1x PBS amended with 0.05% Triton X-100 and then with mobio grade water followed by 96% ethanol. Filter sections were then mounted with VECTASHIELD HardSet Mounting Medium with DAPI (Vector Laboratories, CA). Epifluorescence images were

taken using filters for DAPI and CY3 spectra using a Leica DMRX microscope.

16S rRNA gene amplification for PhyloChip and clone library analysis.

The 16S rRNA gene was amplified from gDNA extracts using modified (degeneracies removed) universal primers 27F (5' AGAGTTTGATCCTGGCTCAG) and 1492R (5' GGTTACCTTGTTACGACTT) for bacteria and 4Fa (5' TCCGGTTGATCCTGCCRG 3') combined with 1492R for archaea. Each PCR reaction mix contained: 1X Ex Taq buffer, 0.8mM dNTP mixture, 0.02U/µL Ex Taq polymerase (TaKaRa Bio Inc, Japan), 0.4mg/mL bovine serum albumin (BSA), and 300nM each primer and 36ng gDNA. PCR conditions were as follows: 1 cycle of 3 min at 95°C, followed by 25 cycles (35 for Archaea) of 30 sec at 95°C, 30 sec at annealing temperature (gradient of 8 temperatures between 48-58°C), and 1 min at 72°C, with a final extension for 7 min at 72°C. PCR products from the eight different annealing temperatures were combined, concentrated by precipitation and resuspended in DEPC treated water. Lack of a visible band following gel electrophoresis suggested archaea were absent or in low numbers.

16S rRNA amplicon analysis by clone library sequencing.

Bacterial 16S rRNA amplicon pools amplified as for PhyloChip analysis were ligated to pCR4-TOPO vectors (Invitrogen, CA), using an insert to vector ratio of 3:1 to maximize diversity of amplicons recovered. Ligated plasmids were transformed into *E. coli* TOP10 chemically competent cells according to the manufacturer's recommended protocol (Invitrogen, CA). Three hundred eighty four clones were randomly selected by a robotic picker and inserts were sequenced bi-directionally using M13 vector specific primers. Sequences were primer and vector screened using cross_match, quality scored using Phred and assembled into contigs using Phrap (*17, 18*). Sequences were trimmed to retain only bases Phred ≥q20 and high quality contigs were tested for chimeras (one of which was removed from further analysis) using Bellerophon version 3 (http://greengenes.lbl.gov/cgi-bin/nph-bel3_interface.cgi).

16S rRNA amplicon analysis by PhyloChip hybridization.

PhyloChip analysis was essentially as described previously (*33-35*). Results are given in Table S5. For bacteria, 780 ng of 16S rRNA gene amplicons were spiked with internal controls consisting of synthetic 16S rRNA gene fragments and non-16S rRNA gene

fragments. Despite the lack of visible PCR amplicons from archaeal reactions an aliquot from those combined reactions was also included in the amplicon mix to be analyzed by PhyloChip. This mix was fragmented, to a size range of 50-200 bp in length using DNAse I (0.02 U/µg DNA, Invitrogen, CA, USA) in One-Phor All buffer (Amersham, NJ, USA) according to Affymetrix's standard protocol, with incubation at 25˚C for 10 min, followed by enzyme denaturation at 98˚C for 10 min. Biotin labeling was performed using an Affymetrix Gene Labeling Reagent and terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase (Promega, WI, USA) according to Affymetrix technical expression manual (http://www.affymetrix.com/support/technical/manual/expression_manual.affx). The labeled DNA was then denatured (99˚C for 5 min) and hybridized to the 'PhyloChip' DNA microarray in 100 mM MES (morpholineethanesulfonic acid) buffer, pH 6.6, containing 1 M NaCl, 20 mM EDTA, 0.01% Tween 20, 100 µg of herring sperm DNA/ml, 500 µg of bovine serum albumin (BSA)/ml, and 0.5 nM control biotin-oligonucleotide B3. Arrays were hybridized at 48°C overnight (> 16 hr) at 60 rpm and washed and stained according to the Affymetrix technical expression manual.

Arrays were scanned using a GeneArray Scanner (Affymetrix, CA, USA). The scan was recorded as a pixel image and analyzed using standard Affymetrix software (Microarray Analysis Suite, version 5.1) that reduces the data to an individual signal value for each probe. Background probes were identified as those producing intensities in the lowest 2% of all intensities. The average intensity of the background probes was subtracted from the fluorescence intensity of all probes. The noise value (N) was considered the variation in pixel intensity signals observed by the scanner as it read the array surface. The standard deviation of the pixel intensities within each of the identified background cells was divided by the square root of the number of pixels comprising that cell. The average of the resulting quotients was then used for N in the calculations described below.

Probe pairs scored as positive were those that met two criteria: (i) the intensity of fluorescence from the perfectly matched probe (PM) was greater than 1.3 times the intensity from the mismatched control (MM), and (ii) the difference in intensity, PM minus MM, was at least 130 times greater than the squared noise value (>130 \mathbb{N}^2). The positive fraction (PosFrac) was calculated for each probe set as the number of positive probe pairs divided by the total number of probe pairs in a probe set. An OTU was considered present in the sample when over 90% of its assigned probe pairs are positive (PosFrac > 0.90). Hybridization intensity (referred to as intensity) was calculated in arbitrary units (a.u.) for each probe set as the trimmed average (maximum and minimum values removed before averaging) of the PM minus MM intensity differences across the probe pairs in a given probe set.

Sequence analysis of 16S rRNA gene libraries and comparison with PhyloChip data.

Sequences were aligned to the Greengenes 7,682-character format using the NAST web-server (http://greengenes.lbl.gov/NAST) (*31, 36*). Similarity to public database records was calculated with DNADIST (*37*) using the DNAML-F84 option assuming a transition:transversion ratio of 2.0 and an A, C, G, T 16S rRNA gene base frequency of 0.2537, 0.2317, 0.3167, 0.1979, respectively. This was calculated empirically from all records of the Greengenes 16S rRNA gene multiple sequence alignment over 1,250 nucleotides in length. The Lane mask (*38*) was used to restrict similarity observations to 1,287 conserved columns (lanes) of aligned characters. Three cloned sequences from this study were rejected from further analysis when <1,000 characters could be compared to a lane-masked reference sequence. Sequences were assigned to a taxonomic node using a sliding scale of similarity thresholds (*39*). Phylum, class, order, family, sub-family, or OTU placement was accepted when a clone surpassed similarity thresholds of 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 94%, or 97%, respectively. For example, when similarity to nearest database sequence was <94%, the clone was considered to represent a novel sub-family and a novel class was denoted when similarity was <85%. Diversity estimates (Shannon-Weaver index (*40*) and the non-parametric richness estimator Chao1 (*41*)) were calculated using the software DOTUR (*42*) with the clone distance matrix as input and a furthest-neighbor clustering algorithm. Dominance in clone libraries was calculated as 1- Shannon evenness index (1-E) where evenness (E) is represented as follows: $E = H/lnS$, where $H = Shannon-Weaver$ diversity index and S is the total richness in a sample. Results are given in Table S5.

Reducing the impact of the dominant species on assessment of 16S rRNA gene sequence diversity.

PhyloChip microarray data indicated that other bacterial species besides *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* were present in the gDNA extracts. However, the initial SGNY clone library analysis showed little evidence for this (Fig. S3). We hypothesized that the extreme dominance of *Candidatus Desulforudis audaxviator* in this system made detection of less abundant species by clone library or shotgun metagenomics problematic without a significant sequencing effort. To overcome this obstacle we succeeded (Fig. S3) in reducing the dominance of the *D. audaxviator* template in the PCR reaction by selective restriction enzyme digestion. Using the data obtained from the PhyloChip and previous studies of this fracture water system (*3*) we identified the other possible templates in the gDNA extract and selected a restriction enzyme (*Sal*I) that would digest the *D. audaxviator* 16S rRNA gene making it unavailable for amplification, while minimizing digestion of other less abundant 16S rRNA gene templates (an online tool, 'Seq and Destroy' was written for this purpose and can be accessed at http://greengenes.lbl.gov/cgi-bin/nph-seq_and_destroy.cgi). gDNA was pre-digested with 20U *Sal*I and 36ng of digested DNA was added to PCR reactions which were carried out as for the intact gDNA 16S rRNA gene libraries. Aliquots from the pooled products of these PCR reactions were ligated, transformed and sequenced as described above.

Sequences were also vector screened, quality checked, assembled, trimmed and chimera screened as described for the intact gDNA. The SGNY and SGNX library results are given in Figure S3, in particular the phylogenetic tree of Figure S3d. Comparison with the phylogenetic microarray results is given in Figure S5b. The clone library sequences have been submitted to GenBank with accession numbers EU730965 - EU731008.

IV. FIGURES AND TABLES

Table S1. Abbreviations used in tables.

Column headings are as follows:

Gene: the locus id.

Name: the gene name.

Description: functional assignment of the gene, usually taken from a protein family, or sometimes from a homologous gene in another organism if membership in a protein family is not confident for the *D. audaxviator* gene (likely as a result of the undersampling of the protein family). The following protein sequence families are used: "COG": clusters of orthologous groups (*27*), "PFAM" or "PF": protein families (*25*), "TIGRFAM", "TIGR", or "TF": TIGR protein families (*26*), "SM": SMART protein families (*43*), and "SSF": SUPERFAMILY protein families (*44*).

Len: the length of the gene, in amino acids for protein-coding genes, and in base pairs for non-protein-coding genes (including pseudogenes)

CH id: the amino acid identity of the closest homolog in another species, or "N/A" if no homolog is found.

CH species: the species name of the closest homolog in another species (usually abbreviated according to the table below), or "ORFan" if no homolog is found. At the time of most of these analyses, we did not have the complete genome sequence for *Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum* SI nor *Desulfotomaculum reducens* MI-1. We also did not have any genomic sequence for the other relatives *Syntrophomonas wolfei* subsp. wolfei str. Goettingen (with the exception of the analysis of the signal transduction genes Table S19), *Heliobacterium modesticaldum* Ice1, *Thermosinus carboxydivorans* Nor1, and *Clostridium novyi* NT.

Notes: notes pertinent to the gene. Some of the abbreviations used include: "ds": downstream, "us": upstream, "hh": hitchhiking (meaning present in operon primarily providing different functionality), "annot.": source organism from which annotation was taken.

Additionally, species names have been abbreviated as follows:

Archaea Archaea

A. pernix *Aeropyrum pernix* K1 M. thermautotrophicus *Methanothermobacter thermautotrophicus* ∆*H* M. stadtmanae *Methanosphaera stadtmanae* DSM 3091

Bacteria Bacteria

A fulgidus *Archaeoglobus fulgidus* DSM 4304 N. pharaonis *Natronomonas pharaonis* DSM 2160 Halo. NRC-1 *Halobacterium sp. NRC-1* P. aerophilum *Pyrobaculum aerophilum* str. IM2 M. maripaludis *Methanococcus maripaludis* P. abyssi *Pyrococcus abyssi GE5* M. jannaschii *Methanocaldococcus jannaschii* DSM 2661 P. furiosus *Pyrococcus furiosus* DSM 3638 M. kandleri *Methanopyrus kandleri* AV19 S. solfataricus *Sulfolobus solfataricus* P2 M. acetivorans *Methanosarcina acetivorans* C2A S. tokodaii *Sulfolobus tokodaii* str. 7 M. barkeri *Methanosarcina barkeri* str. fusaro T. kodakaraensis *Thermococcus kodakaraensis* KOD1 M. mazei *Methanosarcina mazei* Goe1 T. acidophilum *Thermoplasma acidophilum* DSM 1728 M. hungatei *Methanospirillum hungatei* JF-1 T. volcanium *Thermoplasma volcanium* GSS1

A. tumefaciens *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* str. C58 (Cereon) L. sakei *Lactobacillus sakei* subsp. sakei 23K A. variabilis *Anabaena variabilis* ATCC 29413 Leptospira interrogans *Leptospira interrogans* L1-130 H. marismortui *Haloarcula marismortui* ATCC 43049 M. magneticum *Magnetospirillum magneticum* AMB-1 A. dehalogenans *Anaeromyxobacter dehalogenans* 2CP-C M. succiniciproducens *Mannheimia succiniciproducens* MBEL55E A. aeolicus *Aquifex aeolicus* VF5 M. aqueolei *Marinobacter aqueolei Moorella thermoacetica* ATCC 39073 (Previously named *Clostridium thermoaceticum*) B. anthracis Sterne *Bacillus anthracis* str. Sterne M. avium *Mycobacterium avium* K10 B. cereus *Bacillus cereus* ZK M. bovis *Mycobacterium bovis* AF2122/97 B. clausii *Bacillus clausii* KSM-K16 N. winogradskyi *Nitrobacter winogradskyi* Nb-255 B. halodurans *Bacillus halodurans* C-125 N. oceani *Nitrosococcus oceani* ATCC 19707 B. licheniformis *Bacillus licheniformis* DSM 13 N. farcinica *Nocardia farcinica* IFM 10152 **Nostoc punctiforme PCC 73102** 97-27 Nos. sp. PCC ⁷¹²⁰ *Nostoc* sp. PCC ⁷¹²⁰ B. japonicum *Bradyrhizobium japonicum* USDA 110 O. iheyensis *Oceanobacillus iheyensis* HTE831 B. pseudomallei *Burkholderia pseudomallei* K96243 P. carbinolicus *Pelobacter carbinolicus* str. DSM 2380 B. xenovorans *Burkholderia xenovorans* LB400 P. luteolum *Pelodictyon luteolum* DSM 273

Table S2. Range of geochemical parameters for *D. audaxviator* **bearing fracture water samples.**

Table S2 summarizes the range of geochemical parameters recorded at four boreholes where *D. audaxviator* is found (conditions specific to MP104 may be found in (3)). SO_4^2 is the dominant electron acceptor followed by inorganic carbon. The most abundant electron donor is CH₄ followed by H₂, C₂H₆, C₃H₈, acetate, CO, n-C₄, formate, iso-C₄, and propanoate. Concentrations are in Molar units. CO concentrations are highest at EV818 Hole 6 (Evander mine, 1.8-2 kmbls in quartzite) and DR 546 Hole 1 (Dreifontein mine, 3.3 kmbls in metavolanic rock).

Table S3. Proteins used to build phylogenetic tree of Fig. 1.

The universally distributed COGs that do not have ambiguous alignments (*45*) that were used to build the phylogenetic tree in Fig. 1. The tree was from a concatenated multiple sequence alignment built using MUSCLE (*46*), and determined by maximum likelihood by PHYML (*47*) with 100 replicates for bootstrapping (sampling with replacement), using the JTT amino acid substitution model (*48*). Genomes in which COGs were found in multiple copies and therefore excluded from the analysis for those species are indicated in the Notes.

Table S4(a,b). Counts of closest homologs in sequenced organisms.

Supporting the phylogenetic assignment of *D. audaxviator* in Fig. 1, Table S4(a) reports the number of homologs from each microorganisms that provide the closest homolog (as determined by possessing the highest BLASTp bit score) to a protein-coding gene in *D. audaxviator*. To ascertain whether there was bias caused by undercounting homologous genes that are very close to the top hit, we also report Table S4(b), which gives the number of homologs that are high-scoring (within 25 bits of the highest scoring homolog) from each microorganism. In both views, the *Desulfotomaculum*-clade member *Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum* (*49*), a syntrophic propionate oxidizer, has the greatest number of genes that are closest to those found in *D. audaxviator*. The genome of *P. thermopropionicum* was unfortunately incomplete when this analysis was performed, so it is likely even more closely related to *D. audaxviator* than this partial comparison suggests. *Desulfotomaculum reducens* (*50*) is second (unfortunately, it was also incomplete at the time of this analysis), followed by *Moorella thermoacetica* (*51*) (previously named *Clostridium thermoaceticum*), and *Carboxydothermus hydrogenoformans* (*52*). At the time of this analysis, we unfortunately also did not have genomic sequence for the other relatives *Syntrophomonas wolfei* subsp. wolfei str. Goettingen, *Heliobacterium modesticaldum* Ice1, *Thermosinus carboxydivorans* Nor1, and *Clostridium novyi* NT.
Table S4(a).

Table S4(b).

Figure S1. Relationship to sequenced organisms and environmental clones.

The 16S gene of this phylotype is almost identical to a 16S clone from a biofilm found in a Danish heating system (1506 of 1510 positions are the same, with 2 of the 4 differing positions an unidentified nucleotide in the Danish clone sequence). The 16S gene is also very similar to a 16S clone (~96% identity) found in the Gulf of Cadiz (where runoff from mining occurs and is the location of

undersea mud volcanoes), a 16S clone (~96% identity) from an aquifer in New Mexico and 16S clones (~96% identity) from the vents of the Juan de Fuca ridge in the North Eastern Pacific Ocean (Fig. S1 of SOM). Among isolated organisms, its 16S most resembles those from the *Desulfotomaculum* clade, many of which were derived from subsurface environments, but the identity to the closest 16S of a *Desulfotomaculum*, *D. kuznetsovii*, is only ~90% (well below the generally-accepted genus cutoff of 97%), and so it does not belong in this genus.

Phylogenetic tree based on 16S rDNA sequences from both sequenced organisms and environmental clones (some of which were truncated). Sequences aligned with MUSCLE (*46*). Tree determined by maximum likelihood with PHYML (*47*) using HKY substitution model (*53*). High bootstrap value supported nodes are indicated by circles. Note that the topology is slightly different for the placement of some relatives (e.g. *Symbiobacterium* and *Thermoanaerobacter*), due to the decreased amount of information (fewer positions) available from the 16S sequence compared with the protein tree as well as the lack of intermediate species with which to build the tree. Environmental clones correspond to the accession numbers AF517773 (OGL-7B Rainbow hydrothermal vent mid-Atlantic ridge), AY225657 (AT-s30 Rainbow hydrothermal vent mid-Atlantic ridge), AF325224 (P-3 Piceance basin Colorado), DQ208688 (RL50JIII Japanese mine), AY753399 (SK18A Heating system biofilm Skanderborg Denmark), AY181047 (1026B3 Juan de Fuca ridge NE Pacific), AY181044 (1026B117 Juan de Fuca ridge NE Pacific), AY753389 (SK21 Heating system biofilm Skanderborg Denmark), AY122603 (OSS-33 New Mexico aquifer), DQ004670 (CAMV300B902 Gulf of Cadiz Spain/Portugal).

Figure S2. Microscopy.

Figure S2(a). DAPI stain fluorescence microscopy.

MP104 microscopy sample #2 was stained with DAPI and imaged (see Methods). Across many images and based on flow cytometry on the sample, only one "rod-like" vegetative morphotype was observed, consistent with the single genome assembled from the DNA. Bright points in image below may represent spores, which could have formed after collection of the sample as it was not fixed at any point during the ~6 years from collection to imaging. Due to the 4^oC storage temperature compared with the ~60^oC conditions at MP104, it is unlikely that the reverse, germination, has occured. Image contrast enhanced uniformly increase clarity. Image courtesy James Bruckner, DRI.

Figure S2(b,c). SEM of MP104 sample #1 and DR9.

Scanning electron micrographs were taken of (b) MP104 microscopy sample #1 (see Methods) and (c) a sample from a different mine, 648 meters down in borehole D8A, where *D. audaxviator* is also the predominant organism (*2*). Only one morphotype was observed at both locations.

Figure S2(d,e,f). SEM of Microscopy sample #2.

MP104 microscopy sample #2 was also morphologically consistent in SEM, showing only rod-like cells and small spherical objects that may be spores in all views, three of which are shown in (d-f). Sample #2, like sample #1, was also left unfixed so any spores could have formed after sample collection, but given the 4° C storage temperature it is unlikely that the reverse, germination, has occured. The dark objects with bright edges in the images are filter pores and the tiny globular objects are probably various minerals.

Figure S2(g). Catalyzed-reporter Deposition Fluorescent *In Situ* **Hybridization (CARD-FISH) microscopy of sample #2.**

Epifluorescence images showing a rod-shaped cell viewed at the emission maxima for (g.a) the nucleic acid stain DAPI (461 nm) and (g.b) Cy3 (565 nm). The white scale bars represent 5 µm. We were able to photograph only a single DAPI stained cell in over 50 fields of view across 5 filter sections. This cell was also Cy3 stained, which demonstrates the presence of the horse-radish peroxidase labeled probe specific to Candidatus *Desulforudis audaxviator* 16S rRNA. We suspect that the low number of stained cells may have been due to the relatively harsh permeabilization procedure used. Additionally, the use of ethanol as a fixative results in significant precipitation from these fracture water concentrates which obscures the fields of view making focusing extremely difficult.

Figure S3(a,b,c,d). 16S rRNA gene PCR amplification of gDNA.

Figure S3(a). Proportions of 16S clones in intact (SGNY) and pre-digested (SGNX) libraries.

Distribution of clone sequences in 16S rRNA gene libraries generated from intact gDNA isolated from Mponeng fracture water (SGNY library) and selectively pre-digested Mponeng fracture water gDNA (SGNX library).

SSU rRNA clone library (362 clones)

Pre-digested SSU rRNA clone library (254 clones)

Figure S3(b). Diversity of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) community (16S clones).

Classification of 16S clones from Tyson, *et al*. (*54*). Metagenomic sequencing of AMD samples more closely followed population structure indicated by 16S clone analysis than we found for South African gold mine MP104 sample.

Figure S3(c). Phylogenetic assignment of 16S clones.

Categorization of the sequences from regular SGNY and predigested SGNX library, clustered at 99%, is shown below, with one representative for each cluster of clones. Phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences from both sequenced organisms and environmental clones. Sequences aligned with MUSCLE (*46*). Tree determined by maximum likelihood with PHYML (*47*) using HKY substitution model (*53*). High bootstrap value supported nodes are indicated by circles.

Clones from MP104 filter extract have names of the form "Clone MP104-MF-*", with clones from the intact SGNY library in green and clones from the pre-digested SGNX library in blue. The number of members in each cluster larger than one is shown in orange parentheses. For reference, also shown in purple are clones from the South African subsurface, including those found at the MP104 site by Lin, *et al.* (*3*). Clones from the fracture water ("Clone MP104-<date>-*") are in purple. Clones from the service water ("Clone MP104-SW-*") are in red. Reference 16S rRNA gene sequences for classification are black. Hypervariable regions of the 16S gene were suppressed using a Lane mask (*38*) from *Clostridium botulinum* type F.

Figure S3(d). Diversity in *Desulforudis* **16S rRNA gene clones.**

Clones from the intact SGNY library that matched at 99% or better (without corroboration of polymorphism) to the 2 identical consensus 16S rRNA genes of the assembly were further clustered into groups, with 100% identity within each group. Most, if not all, of the variation in the sequences from the assembly is likely due to PCR amplification error, which typically has about 1.5 errors in 1400 bases with the Taq polymerase in the protocol used.

100% identity clusters (of 99+ clones) in SGNY 16S library

Additionally, examination of the 16S clones in the SGNY library that were close to the *Desulforudis audaxviator* consensus 16S sequence but below 99% identity (12 distant clones: SGNY 0015, 0020, 0081, 0118, 0132, 0206, 0212, 0227, 0250, 0298, 0309, 0331) revealed that the polymorphisms in those sequences were not reliable. Each clone sequence was obtained by the phrap assembly of a single forward and a single reverse Sanger read, which tended to overlap only for the middle 400 bases. In this region, it was possible to determine which of the putative polymorphisms in the clone sequence were confirmed by both the forward and reverse read. Of the 170 putative polymorphisms found in these 12 clones in the overlapping ~400 base region, only 12 polymorphisms were corroborated by both the forward and reverse read. Based on this indicated untrustworthiness of putative polymorphisms based on a single read and the non-negligible error rate of the polymerase used in the PCR reactions, we elected to consider only those polymorphisms found in more than 1 clone (ignoring the forward and reverse reads since $\frac{3}{4}$ of the clone length was covered by only one of the reads) as somewhat reliable. Applying the rule of corroboration of the same polymorphism at that position from at least one of the 352 *D.*

audaxviator 16S clones in the SGNY library over the full length of each clone, we find that of the 519 putative polymorphisms in the 12 distant clones, only 178 at 116 positions are confirmed by a duplicate observation in the full set of 352 16S clones (changing the % identity for SGNY 0015: from 97.4% to 99.1%; 0020: 98.5% to 99.6%; 0081: 98.7% to 99.7%; 0118: 98.6% to 99.5%; 0132: 97.2% to 99.1%; 0206: 98.7% to 99.2%; 0212: 93.0% to 98.5%; 0227: 97.9% to 98.7%; 0250: 95.2% to 98.3%; 0298: 98.2% to 99.4%; 0309: 93.1% to 98.1%; 0331: 97.7% to 99.2%). Additionally, of the near set of 340 clones (after removal of the 12 more distant clones) there are 868 putative polymorphisms, with 464 confirmed at 170 positions. Combining the results for both the near and distant clones yields 642 confirmed at 198 positions. However, even if the most conservative means of obtaining the rate of polymorphism is used, 170 positions out of the consensus 16S length of 1692 bases yields a rate of about 10% at a depth of coverage of 340X (this stands in stark contrast to the 0 confirmed SNPs in the 16S region found in the Sanger metagenomic reads). While a substantial fraction of the difference between the 16S clone library SNP rate and the SNP rate inferred from the metagenomic sequencing (32 confirmed SNPs throughout the entire genome at a depth of coverage of about 8X) may be true heterogeneity and can be explained by the greatly increased likelihood of observing a duplicate polymorphism with $340 / 8 = 42.5$ times the number of sequences, the discrepancy may instead indicate that 16S PCR libraries are inherently less reliable for obtaining high-fidelity sequence than wholegenome shotgun approaches, with a greater number of systematic PCR or sequencing errors contributing an increased probablilty of two errors occurring that confirm one another.

Table S5(a,b). Phylogenetic microarray analysis.

Table S5(a). Comparison of PhyloChip and 16S rRNA gene clone libraries.

Analysis of prokaryotic species composition in fracture water gDNA extracts used for metagenome analysis.

* the large increase in clones assigned at class level is due to the divergence between the dominant *Desulforudis audaxviator* sequence and the organisms represented on the PhyloChip

Table S5(b). Microbial identifications by various methods.

Comparison of fracture water microbial counts by both 16S rRNA gene composition (PhyloChip, intact, and pre-digested 16S PCR amplification of gDNA) and by BLASTn and BLASTx matches of metagenomic sequence reads (Sanger and 454 pyrosequencing reads), including likely microbial contamination. Note that BLASTx matches of metagenomic sequence reads are not necessarily highly specific and may offer misleading assignments as they do not properly account for horizontal transfers.

Table S6(a,b,c,d,e,f). Sanger and 454 reads that don't match *D. audaxviator* **assembly.**

In order to ascertain the upper-bound on the proportion of organisms other than *D. audaxviator*, we assumed that the stray reads (that were not clear contamination) were not a consequence of error in the sequencing and did not result from contamination. We further assumed that each coarse taxonomic assignment corresponds to a single species (e.g. all reads classified as belonging to γ-Proteobacteria are from the same species). Under such assumptions, we find that the greatest proportion of other species in the sample indicated by Sanger sequencing would be from γ-Proteobacteria (5 reads = 0.0171%), α-Proteobacteria (4 reads = 0.0137%), and Cyanobacteria (4 reads = 0.0137%). The greatest proportion of other species in the sample indicated by 454 pyrosequencing would be from α-Proteobacteria (9 reads = 0.0018%), γ-Proteobacteria (8 reads = 0.0016%), and Clostridia (8 reads = 0.0016%).

(a) Organisms other than *Desulforudis* found in Sanger reads (sets D and E), including likely and possible contamination.

Percentages based on 29218 reads that match *Desulforudis* or other organisms (sets B, C1, C2, D, and E), including contamination.

(b) Categorization of Sanger reads.

We were very careful in our classification of reads, and attempted to be as thorough and rigorous as possible. Some of the Sanger reads suffered from errors in the sequencing and unreliable or unknown base calls, complicating the analysis (e.g. 2020 of the 31218 total Sanger reads did not have a run of at least 10 contiguous base calls with a Phred score ≥ 25). Additionally, classification of reads using protein BLAST is potentially misleading given the inability to determine whether the gene was subject to horizontal transfer. The Sanger reads were taken through a series of assignments as follows: 1. Reads were matched to the *D. audaxviator* assembly using BLASTn with a strong mismatch penalty of -3, a gap initiation penalty of -5 (the default value), a gap extension penalty of -2 (the default value), a strict e-value threshold of 1e-50, and additionally were required to match $\geq 75\%$ of the read length at $\geq 97\%$ nucleotide identity, yielding set B. 2. Under the assumption that usually about 80-90% of microbial genomes are protein-coding and that the signal from protein sequences would be more robust to sequencing error and sensitive for classification based on more remote relatives, the remaining reads were scanned using BLASTx (translating the reads) using default values against a protein sequence collection that combined the non-redundant protein database (NR) obtained from the NCBI on Aug. 10, 2007 with the *D. audaxviator* genome in all 6 frames of translation (NR+Da6). We chose to err on the side of sensitivity for detecting the presence of other organisms and so permitted a loose e-value cutoff of 0.1, followed by visual inspection of the alignments. We classified the read as likely a weaker member of the assembly (set C1) if the top hit was to the *D. audaxviator* translation, had a bit score of at least 50 bits and was 1.2 times or more greater than the bit score of the next-highest non-*D. audaxviator* hit. We classified the read as likely belonging to another organism (set E) if the bit score of the top hit was > 1.2 times or more greater than the top *D. audaxviator* hit. Lastly, we classified the read as difficult to assign but still possibly a member of the assembly (set D) if the bit scores of the top *D. audaxviator* hit and the top non-*D. audaxviator* hits were within a factor of 1.2 of each other. We reassigned reads from set D to set C2 when the top non-*D. audaxviator* hit was a near relative and had an identity equal to or below (or was considerably shorter) the top *D. audaxviator* hit. We also removed reads from sets D and E when the match was exceptionally untrustworthy and likely a consequence of sequencing error, indicated by low-identity matches between low-complexity non-hydrophobic P,G,A,S,T,H-rich sequences (usually collagen-like sequences from animals) by visual inspection of the alignments, and discarded them from further analysis. Remaining sequences that did not hit the assembly nor known protein sequences were likely not microbial in origin, and discarded from further analysis. Attention was also paid to whether legitimate reads were eukaryotic in origin, from common contaminants or likely contaminants from organisms sequenced at the JGI, with such reads discarded from further analysis. Lastly, the remaining reads that did not match the assembly and did not contain protein-coding sequences were checked for nucleotide similarity to sequenced genomes, with a small number matching Eukaryotic and microbial contamination only (results not shown), and were discarded from further analysis. The remaining reads that do not match anything are mostly of poor quality and appear to be

the result of systematic error in the sequencing process, and are of a proportion consistent with that found for sequencing projects of clonal microorganisms (Alex Copeland, personal communication). We discarded the unassignable reads from further analysis.

From these data, we calculate that the number of legitimate (not including likely Eukaryotic or microbial contamination) Sanger reads (sets $B + C1 + C2 + D + G$) is 29179. We may also determine that the proportion strictly belonging to *D. audaxviator* (sets $B + C1 +$ C2) is 29153 / 29179 = 99.9109%, and, erring on the side of favoring other organisms by including set D, the proportion that belong to other organisms (set G) is $22 / 29179 = 0.0754\%$.

Set C2: **Likely D. audax. Num. of Reads Ident Best D.audax. Best Ident. Best Aln. Len Best Evalue Best Bit Score Closest Species Other Than D. audaxviator Partial Classification** * 11 100 92.86 56 1E-23 107 Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum SI Bacteria; Firmicutes; Clostridia ⁴ 100 93.1 29 4E-08 60.8 Thermosinus carboxydivorans Nor1 Bacteria; Firmicutes; Clostridia * 1 86.57 80 55 3E-18 96.3 Carboxydothermus hydrogenoformans Z-2901 Bacteria; Firmicutes; Clostridia * 1 86.81 68.13 91 3E-28 129 Desulfitobacterium hafniense Y51 Bacteria; Firmicutes; Clostridia

(c) Classification of Sanger reads for sets C2, D, and E

[a] eukaryotic or viral contamination

[b] human-associated

[c] strain sequenced at JGI

[d] very close relative sequenced at JGI (Genus-level or closer)

Set E:

[a] eukaryotic or viral contamination

[b] human-associated

[c] strain sequenced at JGI

[d] very close relative sequenced at JGI (Genus-level or closer)

(d) Organisms other than *Desulforudis* found in 454 reads (sets D and E), including likely and possible contamination.

Percentages based on 500178 reads that match *Desulforudis* or other organisms (sets B, C1, C2, D, and E), including contamination.

(e) Categorization of 454 reads.

As with the Sanger reads, we were very careful in our classification of the 454 reads, and again attempted to be as thorough and rigorous as possible. Some of the 454 reads suffered from errors in the sequencing and unreliable base calls, especially some that were unusually much longer than the ~100 bases of the normal reads. Additionally, classification of such short reads using protein BLAST is less trustworthy than the longer Sanger reads and should be viewed mostly at a coarse taxonomic level such as class, and again, such classifications are potentially misleading given the inability to determine whether the gene was subject to horizontal transfer. The 454 reads were taken through the same series of assignments as the Sanger reads, but with a couple variations, as follows: 1. Reads were matched to the *D. audaxviator* assembly using BLASTn with a strong mismatch penalty of -3, a weakened gap initiation penalty of -1 (not the default value, as miscounted homopolymer runs are frequent and cause short alignments with default gap penalties), a weakened gap extension penalty of -1 (again, not the default value), and additionally were required to match at least 40 bases and ≥ 75% of the read length at ≥ 97% nucleotide identity, yielding set B. 2. Under the assumption that usually about 80-90% of microbial genomes are protein-coding and that the signal from protein sequences would be more robust to sequencing error and sensitive for classification based on more remote relatives, the remaining reads were scanned using BLASTx (translating the reads) using default values against a protein sequence collection that combined the non-redundant protein database (NR) obtained from the NCBI on Aug. 10, 2007 with the *D. audaxviator* genome in all 6 frames of translation (NR+Da6). We chose to err on the side of sensitivity for detecting the presence of other organisms and so permitted a loose e-value cutoff of 0.1, followed by visual inspection of the alignments. We classified the read as likely a weaker member of the assembly (set C1) if the top hit was to the *D. audaxviator* translation, had a bit score of at least 50 bits and was 1.2 times or more greater than the bit score of the next-highest non-*D. audaxviator* hit. We classified the read as likely belonging to another organism (set E) if the bit score of the top hit was > 1.2 times or more greater than the top *D. audaxviator* hit. Lastly, we classified the read as difficult to assign but still possibly a member of the assembly (set D) if the bit scores of the top *D. audaxviator* hit and the top non-*D. audaxviator* hits were within a factor of 1.2 of each other. We reassigned reads from set D to set C2 when the top non-*D. audaxviator* hit was a near relative and had an identity equal to or below (or was considerably shorter) the top *D. audaxviator* hit. We also removed reads from sets D and E when the match was exceptionally untrustworthy and likely a consequence of sequencing error, indicated by low-identity matches between low-complexity non-hydrophobic P,G,A,S,T,H-rich sequences (usually collagen-like sequences from animals) by visual inspection of the alignments, and discarded them from further analysis. Remaining sequences that did not hit the assembly nor known protein sequences were likely not microbial in origin, and discarded from further analysis. Attention was also paid to whether legitimate reads were eukaryotic in origin, from common contaminants or likely contaminants from organisms sequenced at the JGI, with such reads discarded from further analysis. Lastly, the remaining reads that did not match the assembly and did not contain protein-coding sequences were checked for nucleotide similarity to sequenced genomes, with a small number matching Eukaryotic and microbial contamination only (results not shown), and were discarded from further analysis. The remaining reads that do not match anything are mostly of poor quality and appear to be the result of systematic error in the sequencing process, and are of a proportion consistent with that found for sequencing projects of clonal microorganisms (Alex Copeland, personal communication). We discarded the unassignable reads from further analysis.

From these data, we calculate that the number of legitimate (not including likely contamination) 454 reads (sets $B + C1 + C2 + D + G$) is 500008. We may also determine that the proportion strictly belonging to *D. audaxviator* (sets $B + C1 + C2$) is 499949 / 500008 = 99.9882%, and, erring on the side of favoring other organisms by including set D, the proportion that belong to other organisms (set G) is $59 / 500008 = 0.0118%$.

(f) Classification of 454 reads for sets C2, D, and E

44

[a] eukaryotic or viral contamination

[b] human-associated

[c] strain sequenced at JGI

[d] very close relative sequenced at JGI (Genus-level or closer)

Table S7(a,b). Single base substitutions (SNPs) found in Sanger reads.

Examination of the Sanger reads permitted an estimate of the degree of genetic variation in the *D. audaxviator* population. Two or more reads corroborate the observation of only 32 positions with single nucleotide polymorphisms ("SNP") in the population in the entire 2.35 Mbp genome. Twelve of the SNPs occur within the same ORFan gene (Daud1974). Several other genes possess two SNPs, yielding a total of 11 genes that exhibit a SNP. Comparison with the unusually homogeneous *Leptospirillum* group II population (*54*) with a similar read depth, showed 60-fold less polymorphism and means that the reads came largely from a dominant near-clonal strain. Regrettably, without many orders of magnitude more sequencing it is impossible to access the polymorphism that might be present in any rarer sub-types. This insufficient sequence information for rarer sub-types prohibits estimation of the recombination rate and the effective population size, without which we cannot determine of the number of generations that have occurred since founding. We additionally do not have enough SNPs to ascertain whether genes are under purifying, neutral, or positive selection, with the possible exception of Daud1974 which has 8 synonymous and 3 non-synonymous SNPs, suggesting purifying selection for this gene.

Since a pronounced excess of cells were sampled $(-1.8x10^{11}$ cells) compared with the number of Sanger reads corresponding to the assembly $(\sim 2.9x10^4 \text{ reads})$, we may expect that each read came from a different cell and may therefore be used to ascertain nucleotide polymorphism. We examined the Sanger reads that strongly matched to the assembly (sets B and C1 from Table S6b) for polymorphism with respect to the consensus. We choose to investigate several approaches for identifying the single base substitutions and found a very low number, even with the least stringent parameters, precluding discrimination of sub-populations in the fashion of Tyson, *et al*.(*54*). We chose to not attempt to identify SNPs from the 454 sequence data because such data, to our knowledge, does not yet offer reliable quality scores, and additonally suffers from artifacts primarily as a consequence of homopolymeric stretches of sequence. While the Sanger reads, when including low-quality calls, gave an average depth of coverage of 11.356 X we found using

only the higher-quality calls did not greatly reduce the average depth of coverage (the lowest was 8.033 X) and therefore felt justified in focusing on the more trustworthy data. The five approaches we used to identify the single-base substitutions were (from most stringent to most permissive) 1. a minimum base call quality (Phred score(*17, 18*)) of at least 15 and a minimum of two identical observations of the mutation, 2. allowing only a single observation, but requiring a Phred score of at least 25, but ignoring the first 50 bases of each read (based on an increased rate of non-matching bases even for higher Phred scores at the beginning of the reads), 3. a Phred score of at least 25 and using the entire read, 4. a Phred score of at least 20 and ignoring the first 50 bases, and 5. a Phred score of at least 20 and using the entire read. The number and location of SNPs identified by these five approaches are given in Table S7a, with the rate calculated from the genome length of 2,349,476 bp.

Table S7a. SNP statistics.

Of interest were the numerous synonymous (and repeatedly observed) mutations within the ORFan gene Daud1974 (which may have been recently acquired), as well as the non-synonymous mutation in the H^+ translocating pyrophosphatase (gene Daud0308), which appears to have been horizonatally acquired from archaea. Such ORFan and horizontally transferred genes may either be adapting to the new host, or may be subject to less selective pressure than more established genes. Additionally, many of the SNPs found with the less stringent parameters lay within transposons, possibly a consequence of reduced selective pressure on such regions of the genome, although some fraction of the inferred SNPs within transponsons may instead be attributable to the challenge in perfectly assigning such reads to an assembly that contains multiple identical or near-identical regions.

Table S7b. Reliable SNPs.

The reliable SNP identifications (those with multiple observations) are given. If the mutation occurs within a protein-coding gene, the effect on the amino acid sequence of the mutation is indicated. The base and the position are given with respect to the positive strand in the assembly, whereas the codon change in protein-coding genes is with respect to the coding strand. Intergenic SNPs are indicated with "N/A" for the Gene ID. Also reported is the number of reads containing the observation, the overall depth and the depth (at a Phred score \geq 15) at the position, and the Phred scores of the calls. Note that the depth is reported with respect to the Sanger reads only, whereas the consensus sequence is derived from both Sanger and 454 sequence, so low-Sanger-depth positions with mutations can occur.

Table S8. Functional RNA genes.

Genes coding for functional RNA. Of note are the duplication of tRNA for Met (bacterial start codon) and insertion of tRNA for Ala and Ile into second rRNA operon. Also of interest is the unusual "Ornate, Large, Extremophilic" RNA ("OLE" RNA) (*55*). A complete set of tRNA genes is present, including SeC. The two SSU rRNA (16S) genes are 100% identical to one another.

Table S9(a,b,c). Potential genomic determinants of hyperthermophily.

We investigated the presence of 58 COGs determined by Makarova, et al. (*56*) as possibly playing a role in hyperthermophily based on their distribution in extremophilic Archaea and the bacteria *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis*, *Thermus thermophilus*, *Thermotoga maritima*, and *Aquifex aeolicus*. The signature hyperthermophile gene "reverse gyrase" (*57*), which has an N-terminal helicase domain and a C-terminal topoisomerase I domain, is not found as a complete gene in *D. audaxviator*, but may not be absolutely essential for hyperthermophily (*58*). *D. audaxviator* does possess a gene that is similar to the topoisomerase I domain of *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* reverse gyrase (Table S9b) as well as helicase encoding genes (although none closely resemble the helicase domain of *T. tengcongensis* reverse gyrase).

Table S9(a). Presence/absence of potential hyperthermophile COGs in relevant organisms.

Presence and absence of 50 hyperthermophilic COGs in *D. audaxviator*, and other relevant bacteria (hyperthermophilic archaea not included for clarity). Since the study by Makarova, et al. (*56*) was a "guilt by association" study, some genes are undoubtedly incorrectly implicated as having a direct role in hyperthermophily, when in fact they may be playing other roles (e.g. CRISPRassociated genes or Carbon monoxide dehydrogenase, some of which are also reported in Table S10 as horizontal transfers between archaea and *D. audaxviator*). Other genes may be necessary for hyperthermophily, but only because they are putatively thermostable

forms or otherwise enzymatically functional at high temperature of essential proteins (e.g. the xenologous replacement of fructose-1,6,bisphosphatase in the gluconeogenic pathway).

Key

- + gene present by match to COG
- gene absent
- ? incomplete genome, absence of gene indeterminate
- B0 homolog detected by BLASTp to *T.tengcongensis* representative (TTE1745)
- B1 homolog detected in *D.audaxviator* by BLASTp to *D.reducens* representative (VIMSS1188125)
- B2 homolog detected in *D.audaxviator* by BLASTp to *P.thermopropionicum* representative (VIMSS1359824)
- B3 homolog detected in *M.thermoacetica* by BLASTp to *P.thermopropionicum* representative (VIMSS1360512)
- B4 homolog detected in *D.audaxviator* by BLASTp to *P.thermopropionicum* representative (VIMSS1359650)

Species Abbreviations

Table S9(b). Detection of *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* **Reverse gyrase homologs with tBLASTn.**

Table S9(b)-i. tBLASTn search with full-length *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* **MB4T reverse gyrase gene, N-terminal Helicase + C-terminal Topoisomerase I domains (residues 1-1117)**

Bacteria?	Species	Bit Score	E-value	Notes
\ast	Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis MB4T	1996	θ	
\ast	Thermotoga maritima	1058	$\overline{0}$	
	Pyrococcus abyssi	652	θ	
	Pyrococcus furiosus DSM 3638	635	1.00E-180	
\ast	Aquifex aeolicus	618	1.00E-175	
	Archaeoglobus fulgidus	600	1.00E-170	
	Sulfolobus solfataricus	579	1.00E-163	
	Sulfolobus tokodaii	578	1.00E-163	
	Sulfolobus acidocaldarius DSM 639	487	1.00E-154	
	Pyrobaculum aerophilum	538	1.00E-151	
	Aeropyrum pernix	520	1.00E-145	
\ast	Thermus thermophilus HB8	491	1.00E-137	
	Pyrococcus horikoshii	462	1.00E-128	

Table S9(b)-ii. tBLASTn search with *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* **MB4T reverse gyrase gene C-terminal: residues 553-1117 (residues selected by match to** *D. audaxviator***) Topoisomerase I domain**

Table S9(b)-iii. tBLASTn search with *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* **MB4T reverse gyrase gene N-terminal: residues 1-552, Helicase domain (does not match to** *D. audaxviator***)**

Table S9(c). Putative hyperthermophile COGs (from Makarova, et al.) present in *D. audaxviator***.**

Gene	Name	Description	Operon	Len	CH id	CH species	Notes
Daud0600	topA	COG550 (not COG1110): Topoisomerase IA		712	62.8	D. reducens	Related to T.tengcongensis Reverse gyrase (C-terminal topoisomerase) domain)
Daud 0133		COG2250: Related to C-terminal domain of eukaryotic chaperone, SACSIN		130	50.79	P. thermopropionicum	near 23S
Daud1839	fbp	COG1980: Archaeal fructose 1,6- bisphosphatase		371	79.12	P. thermopropionicum	us Daud1840 (inorganic pyrophosphatase, not H+ translocating type)
Daud1072 pflX		COG1313: Fe-S protein PflX, homolog of pyruvate formate lyase activating proteins		307	59.59	P. thermopropionicum	
Daud1287	$\cos 4$	COG1468: RecB family exonuclease	CAS ₁	191	34.76	A. fulgidus	
Daud1812	$\cos 4$	COG1468: RecB family exonuclease	CAS2B	179	66.47	T. tengcongensis	
Daud1058	apgM	COG3635: Predicted phosphoglycerate mutase, AP superfamily		406	59.2	P. thermopropionicum	
Daud1205	trpB	COG1350: Predicted alternative tryptophan synthase beta-subunit (paralog of TrpB)		452	69.47	P. thermopropionicum	

Table S10. Horizontally transferred genes shared between clade and archaea.

Horizonatally transferred genes that are shared between the clade and archaea (not including horizontal transfers that happened prior to divergence or potentially also happened between archaea and other bacterial clades) were identified by finding homologous genes from archaeal genomes that have a BLASTp bit score greater than 1.2 times higher than any other homologous gene from all bacteria that are not a member of the clade (where the clade consisted of *Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum*, *Desulfotomaculum reducens*, *Carboxydothermus hydrogenoformans*, *Moorella thermoacetica*, *Desulfobacterium hafniense* (both Y51 and DCB-2), *Symbiobacterium thermophilum*, and *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis*). The clade members in which homologous genes are found is reported. Because the genomes are incomplete, absence of homologous genes from *P. thermopropionicum* and/or *D. reducens* does not necessarily indicate a most recent acquisition by *D. audaxviator*.

Gene Daud0895 may in fact be succinyl-CoA synthetase, as the acetyl-CoA synthetase α subunit family resembles that of succinyl-CoA synthetase α subunit (although *D. audaxviator* does not appear to possess the succinyl-CoA synthetase β subunit). Another potential xenologous replacement is for pckA (phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase) of the reverse TCA pathway. Some genes that are likely transferred from archaea are not present in this table even though they have a closest hit to an archaeal homolog, due to our strict bit score separation requirement with respect to non-clade bacteria (e.g. the H+ translocating pyrophosphatase Daud0308). Some of the putatively horizontally transferred genes that are not included in this table also have additional support for horizontal transfer indicated by the adjacent presence of clearly transferred genes (e.g. CRISPR-associated genes Daud1287 and Daud1289 within the CAS1 operon are missing from this table, even though they have archaeal closest hits and their adjoining genes did meet the bit score separation criterion for inclusion).

Clade members with homologous genes are listed under "Notes", with the following abbreviations: "P. thermo.": *Pelotomaculum thermopropionicum* SI, "D. red.": *Desulfotomaculum reducens* MI-1, "M. therm.": *Moorella thermoacetica* ATCC 39073, "C. hyd.": *Carboxydothermus hydrogenoformans* Z-2901, "T. teng.": *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis* MB4T, "S. therm.": *Symbiobacterium thermophilum* IAM 14863, "D.haf.Y51": *Desulfitobacterium hafniense* Y51, "D.haf.DCB2": *Desulfitobacterium hafniense* DCB-2.

Figure S4(a,b). Archaeal-type molybdenum nitrogenase.

Phylogenetic tree based on nitrogenase nifH protein sequence (and nitrogenase-like sequences) from both sequenced organisms and environmental isolates used by Mehta and Baross (*59*). Sequences aligned with MUSCLE (*46*). Tree determined by maximum likelihood with PHYML (*47*) using JTT substitution model (*48*). High bootstrap value supported nodes are indicated by circles. FS406-22 nifH1 has been identified as functional at 92 °C (59). Truncated environmental clones were not included in (a) to allow for better resolution of the tree. While the nifH possessed by *D. audaxviator* is closest to the high temperature archaeal cluster, low bootstrap supported nodes with short branch lengths do not permit its confident phylogenetic placement. However, these sequences are sufficient to determine that the nifH possessed by *D. audaxviator* is not related by vertical decent to that possessed by *D. reducens*.

Figure S4(a). NifH tree.

Tree built from multiple sequence alignment over 242 positions, not including truncated environmental clones.

Figure S4(b). NifH tree, with truncated environmental clones of Mehta and Baross.

Tree built from multiple sequence alignment over 127 positions, including truncated environmental clones.

Table S11. Transposons, Integrases, and phage-associated genes.

D. audaxviator possesses a number of transposon insertion sites (83 sites with 30 types), some degenerate, that were identified by homology to known transposon sequence families or by their repetition in the genome. Several of the transposons with multiple sites have very high identity to one another, suggesting recent activity (e.g. TPN5, TPN7, TPN8, TPN10, TPN11, TPN12, TPN16, and TPN30). Additionally, some of these appear to be highly active, with numerous copies (e.g. TPN11, TPN12, TPN16, and TPN30). Many of the transposons are quite distant from the closest detected homolog in another species (e.g. TPN1, TPN2, TPN4, TPN9, TPN11, TPN20, TPN21, TPN29, TPN30). The frequent presence of the transposons adjacent to horizontally transferred genes suggests continued roles in genetic rearrangement and potentially transfer that contribute to adaptive flexibility, or perhaps such regions simply present targets that are more amenable to destructive insertions.

Genes with the closest match to an archaeal homolog and those that only match the N-terminal or C-terminal portion of the full transposon are indicated in the Notes column. Genes that appear to be pseudogenes are indicated by "*", and have lengths measured in base pairs rather than amino acids.

Table S12(a,b,c). CRISPR sequences and CRISPR-associated genes.

The genome possesses two "clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeat" (CRISPR) regions, and several CRISPRassociated proteins (CAS) (*60*), cst1, cst2, cas5t, and cas3 (the first three of which currently only have BLAST-detectable homologs in *Thermosinus carboxydivorans*) appear in the same linear order as their archaeal homologs, suggesting their transfer as a cassette. The viral defense role of CRISPRs has recently been confirmed (*61*), and appears to employ an RNAi-like approach (*62*) with variable sequences that contain viral antisense nucleotides between the CRISPR sequences (*61*), called "spacers". We did not find similarity between these variable sequences and the unassembled reads, although the 0.2 μ m filter pore size used to collect bacterial cells would have prohibited capture of external viral particles. We also found no significant hits to known protein sequences, but viral sequence is notoriously fast-evolving and vastly under-sampled, so we cannot rule out a viral defense role for the CRISPR regions. The extremophile association of some of the genes in the CRISPR-associated genes of region 1 suggests uncharacterized viral types may inhabit this high temperature environment.

Region 1 (from position 1355523 to 1359321 in the genome) has 52 instances (51 of which are perfectly identical) of the 34 base repeat sequence CTTTCAGTCCCCTTTTCGT[C51,T1]GGGTCGGTCGCTGA, with intervening variable sequences of length 36 to 43 bases. Region 2 (from position 1898565 to 1912072 in the genome) has 157 instances (all of which are perfectly identical, but two of which are truncated to 21 bases just before a transposon) of the 30 base repeat sequence GTTTCAATCCCTCGTAGGTAGGCTGGAAAC. Region 2 can be divided into 3 sub-regions with 3 transposons (Daud1807, Daud1808, and Daud1809, all transposons of the TPN12 group), with 34 instances of the repeat sequence in CRISPR 2A (from position 1898565 to 1900798) with intervening variable sequences of length 35 to 40 bases, 24 instances in CRISPR_2B (from

position 1902591 to 1904342) with intervening variable regions of length 35 to 38 bases, and 90 instances in CRISPR_2C (from position 1906154 to 1912072) with intervening variable regions of length 35 to 40 bases.

The intervening variable sequences were scanned with BLASTx against the non-redundant (NR) sequence database from the NCBI, both as separate sequences and as a concatenated sequence for each sub-region. No significant matches were found in the NR. Searches for similarity between intervening variable sequences and the Sanger and 454 reads that did not match the assembly using BLASTn also did not yield significant hits. The intervening variable sequences were also scanned with BLASTn against the genome of *D. audaxviator*. There were no strong matches for region 1 or the first sub-region of region 2. A single strong match was found in the second sub-region of region 2 for the 36 base sequence ACACTCTACCCTGGATGTACTGGGCCTTCTTCCGCC (positions 1903352 to 1903387) to a perfect complement from the third sub-region of region 2 (positions 1906842 to 1906877). The third subregion of region 2 possesses a group of three identical 36 base intervening sequences (positions 1909564 to 1909599, 1909960 to 1909995, and 1910092 to 1910127) with sequence CTGCGCTTCCCCAGCAGTACCCCCGCTTGTCTCCAG, a pair of identical 36 base intervening sequences (positions 1910026 to 1910061 and 1910158 to 1910193) with sequence TTTTGCAAAGTGAGTTGAGCAACTTAATGTCCCGAA, a pair of identical 36 base intervening sequences (positions 1910817 to 1910852 and 1911020 to 1911055) with sequence CACCCCAACCCCTCCGGGAGTAAAACCTACGGAGGG, a pair of identical 37 base intervening sequences (positions 1910883 to 1910919 and 1911086 to 1911122) with sequence GTCAATACAACAGAATAAAATTCGCCGAGATTCGGCA. Other, less strong, matches from the third sub-region of region 2 include the incomplete match of a variable intervening region (only 27 of 40 bases contiguously perfect) of sequence TTCTTTACTTCTTCCTGCCGGGATTTA (positions 1909440 to 1909466 with 1909903 to 1909929), and the internal palindromic match of 20 of 36 bases of sequence AGTTTCTACATGTAGAAACT to itself (positions 1911686 to 1911705).

Region 1 has an adjoining downstream collection of CRISPR-associated (Cas) genes (*60*), whereas region 2 has both upstream and downstream Cas genes. Several of these genes have closest homologs in clade members (mostly *Thermosinus carboxydivorans* and *Thermoanaerobacter tengcongensis*) or archaea, including several in a row in region 1 that suggest their conservation as a cassette. We have grouped these genes into 3 putative operons, CAS1 (downstream of region 1), CAS2A (downstream of region 2), and CAS2B (upstream of region 2). All three operons are on the (-) strand.

Daud1798 RAMP [COG1337: Predicted DNA repair (RAMP)] CAS2A 340 31.56 Syn. sp. JA-3-3 Synechococcus annot.

Daud1796 [TIGR02710: Cas02710] CAS2A 315 28.48 M. thermautotrophicus

Daud1797 hypothetical protein CAS2A 105 N/A ORFan

Daud1799 hypothetical protein CAS2A 215 N/A ORFan

homolog

annot.

Archaea; M.

thermoautotrophicus

Table S13, Figures S5 and S6. Sulfate and sulfite reduction genes.

Sulfate and sulfite reducing and related genes were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified sulfate and sulfite reducing genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no protein family could be assigned with confidence, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes).

Consistent with the thermodynamic evaluation (3) that SO_4^2 offers the most energetically favorable electron acceptor, the genome possesses the capacity for dissimilatory SO_4^2 reduction (DSR) with a gene repertoire like that of other SO_4^2 reducing microorganisms (63). Access to extracellular SO_4^2 is provided by a Na^2/SO_4^2 symporter. The SO_4^2 is activated by Sat (sulfate adenylyltransferase), three putative copies of which exist in the genome. Two of the Sat genes are in a cluster (in SR7 of Fig. 2), the first of which has orthologs within *P. thermopropionicum*, *D. reducens*, and *C. hydrogenoformans*. The second Sat gene, which is very close the first Sat gene, follows a proline tRNA gene (a common insertion point for horizontal transfers (*64*)) and a methyl-accepting chemotaxis protein (MCP), and has orthologs primarily among archaea (with the exception of one other bacterial genome at the time of this writing, *Mycobacterium avium* 104), suggesting the collective acquisition of a set of useful genes. The third putative Sat (in SR8) has only ~30-35% amino acid identity to the nearest homologs, and may be involved in either assimilatory or dissimilatory sulfate reduction. The genome also contains a H⁺-translocating pyrophosphatase for utilization of pyrophosphate released by the activation of SO_4^2 by Sat to further enhance the H⁺ gradient (Fig. 3). Interestingly, this gene appears to have been horizontally acquired and is one of the few genes showing a non-synonymous SNP in the population (Table S7).

In dissimilatory sulfate reduction, the activated SO_4^2 is then reduced to sulfite (SO_3^2) by AprAB (adenylylsulfate reductase), of which there are three instances, two of which are proximal (SR9A and SR9B) and separated only by an uncharacterized gene on the opposite strand. Lastly, the SO_3^2 is converted into hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) by DsrAB (dissimilatory sulfite reductase), one copy of which occurs in the genome (in SR11). The cytoplasmic components HmeD/DsrK, QmoA, and QmoB of the membrane-associated Hdr-like menaquinol-oxidizing enzyme ("Hme", also called "DsrMKJOP") and quinone-interacting membrane-bound oxidoreductase ("Qmo") complexes that contribute electrons and H^+ extrusion are found, as are the membrane-bound components $HmeC/DsrM$ and two putative, domain-split, copies of QmoC. Other missing components may have their functionality provided by the frh-type hydrogenase (Coenzyme F420-reducing hydrogenase) and numerous heterodisulfide-like reductases (labeled "hdrA" and "hdrX") found in operons with other DSR genes (e.g. SR4 of Fig. 2). Alternatively, these uncharacterized components may instead form a novel complex that could play a role in SO_4^2 reduction. Other genes may play slightly different roles depending on conditions, such as the genes for PAPS-reductase (cysH), which may also act as APS-reductase, and could be active in either assimilatory or dissimilatory pathways.

Gene	Name			Len	CH id		Notes
		Description	Operon			CH species	
Daud0092	hdrA	COG1148: Heterodisulfide reductase, subunit A and related polyferredoxins	SR1	1014	55.77	D. reducens	
Daud0093	hmcF	COG0247: Fe-S oxidoreductase [HmcF, 52.7 kd protein in hmc operon]	SR1	424	42.23	D. reducens	DvH annot.
Daud0167	dsrE	COG1553, PF02635: DsrE-like protein	SR ₂	109	39.42	M. mazei	HGT
Daud0307	secG	TIGR00810 Preprotein translocase SecG subunit	SR3/ TPT29 $/$ GLY1	77	67.11	D. reducens	hh on GLY1?
Daud0308	hppA	COG3808, TIGR01104: V-type $H(+)$ -translocating pyrophosphatase	SR3/ TPT29 /GLY1	683	61.01	M. acetivorans	proton pump; probable HGT; high SNP count; hh on GLY1?
Daud0563	hdrC/ qmoC?	COG1150: Heterodisulfide reductase, subunit C	SR4	212	47.03	C. hydrogenoformans	incomplete match to DvH qmoC
Daud0564	hdrB/ qmoC?	COG2048: Heterodisulfide reductase, subunit B	SR4	284	55.96	C. hydrogenoformans	
Daud0565	hdrA	COG1148: Heterodisulfide reductase, subunit A and related polyferredoxins	SR4	662	68.58	C. hydrogenoformans	
Daud0566	frhD	COG1908: Coenzyme F420-reducing hydrogenase, delta subunit	SR4	145	70.63	C. hydrogenoformans	
Daud0567	hdrX	COG1139, PF00037: 4Fe-4S ferredoxin	SR4	329	46.13	P. thermopropionicum	
Daud0568	hdrX	PF00037: 4Fe-4S ferredoxin, [putative anaerobic sulfite reductase, A subunit]	SR4	343	54.12	P. thermopropionicum	C.hydrogenoformans annot.
Daud0569	hdrX	COG0543, PF00970: Oxidored. FAD-binding & PF00175: Oxidored. FAD/NAD(P)-binding	SR4	282	64.13	C. hydrogenoformans	
Daud0787	$Na+/SO42-$	COG0471: Di- and tricarboxylate transporters, PF00939: Sodium/sulphate symporter	SR ₅	492	36.29	B. xenovorans	likely Pfam correct based on gene context
Daud0788	apr $A/$	COG1053, [TIGR02061: Adenylylsulfate reductase,	SR ₅	580	42.04	C. acetobutylicum	A. fulgidus annot.

Table S13. Sulfate and sulfite reduction genes.

Figure S5. Sat phylogenetic genome context analysis.

Desulforudis audaxviator has a gene cluster than includes two copies of sulfate adenylyltransferase (Sat), one of which (Daud1076) resembles that of its clade relatives (in the blue box), while the other (Daud1078) has primarily been found in archaea (in the red box), with the exception of its presence in *Mycobacterium avium* 104. Figure S5's gene context analysis coupled with phylogenetic analysis does not reveal much of the history of the Sat genes in D. audaxviator, except to reveal that the "bacterial version" (Daud1076, in the blue box) has not retained the gene order of sat, aprB, aprA, hdrA, frhD that other bacteria (*D. reducens, C. chlorochromatii, S.*

fumaroxidans) have either vertically inherited obtained as a cassette via horizontal gene transfer. Additionally, the sat gene appears to be quite mobile, with the gene phylogeny not closely corresponding to the species phylogeny. The tree below is from a multiple sequence alignment of the Sat protein sequence built using MUSCLE (*46*), and determined by maximum likelihood by PHYML (*47*) with 100 replicates for bootstrapping (sampling with replacement), using the JTT amino acid substitution model (*48*). The Sat gene is indicated by the gray arrow, with the archaeal-type gene context in the red box and the bacterial-type context in the blue box. Archaeal species names are blue. The gap between the *D. audaxviator* gene regions is zero bases.

Figure S6. DsrAB phylogenetic genome context analysis.

The dsrAB gene cluster has been shown to be subject to horizontal gene transfer, even between archaea and bacteria (*65*). Figure S6's gene context analysis coupled with phylogenetic analysis of the dsrAB genes (dsrA: Daud2201, dsrB: Daud2200) in *D. audaxviator* and other dsrAB containing bacteria and archaea reveals that *D. audaxviator* and *Moorella thermoacetica* have received the form of the dsrAB genes (shown in red boxes below) that resembles that found in *Desulfovibrio vulgaris*. This acquisition appears to have occurred after the divergence of *D. audaxviator* from *Desulfotomaculum reducens*. *D. audaxviator* does not possess additional copies of dsrAB and retains the context shared with *Desulfotomaculum reducens* of the ferredoxin(FD)-dsrMKCN operon and the other nonsulfate reducing genes shown below in dark gray and black within blue and green boxes. Interestingly, *M. thermoacetica* shows a phage-like gene immediately upstream of the dsr operon, whereas *D. audaxviator* has a transposon just downstream. *M. thermoacetica* additionally has another dsrAB-like cluster only 20 kb upstream that does not resemble any of the dsrAB genes in other sequenced organisms. The tree below is from a concatenated multiple sequence alignment of dsrA and dsrB built using MUSCLE (*46*), and determined by maximum likelihood by PHYML (*47*) with 100 replicates for bootstrapping (sampling with replacement), using the JTT amino acid substitution model (*48*).

Table S14 and Figure S7. Acetyl-CoA synthesis (Wood-Ljungdahl) and related carbon fixation genes.

Genes for assimilation of carbon from inorganic carbon (formate, CO, CO₂, bicarbonate, and carbonate) *via* the carbon monoxide dehydrogenase (CODH) / acetyl-CoA synthesis (Wood-Ljungdahl) pathway (*51*) were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified formate utilization and CODH/acetyl-CoA genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes).

D. audaxviator appears to have two CODH systems, one in operon CF2 that is similar to the CODH-III carbon fixation system of *C. hydrogenoformans* (*52*), and another system present in operon CF1 with formate dehydrogenase that resembles archaeal CODH (see Figure S7 below).

To determine whether the Wood-Ljungdahl pathway was functional the free energy of formation for the acetyl-CoA dehydrogenase synthase complex reported by Grahame and DeMoll (66) was used to calculate the free energy for acetyl-CoA synthesis from H₂ and $CO₂$, from CO and from formate and H⁺ for the observed concentrations reported for the fracture environment and assuming an intracellular pH of 8.5. These calculations indicate that a H_2 partial pressure of \sim 0.1 atm is required for net synthesis of acetyl-CoA. This condition is met in the environments where *D. audaxviator* is prevalent. Uncertain is whether under low pH_2 , the reverse reaction transfers electrons from acetate decomposition to sulfate reduction as hypothesized by Dai, et al. (*67*) for *A. fulgidus*. This favorable result is also dependent upon the intracellular pH as no gene for carbonic anhydrase has been detected in the genome and is dependent on the equilibrium conversion of CO_3^2 to CO_2 . The free energy for synthesis of acetyl-CoA from CO was -240 to -270 kJ mol⁻¹. The free energy for synthesis of acetyl-CoA from formate was 3 to -21 kJ mol⁻¹, but is sensitive to the intracellular pH and formate concentrations, which are not known. Application of the Wood-Ljungdahl pathway may have the added benefit of Na⁺ export to aid in maintaining the Na⁺ gradient utilized by the Na⁺ antiporters and symporters, including the Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter that could aid in driving ATP synthase (H^+ -dependent). Na⁺ could potentially be used by ATP synthase in very alkaline conditions, but it is not known whether the ATP synthase possessed by *D. audaxviator* is of the type that may use $Na⁺$.

Table S14. CODH genes.

Figure S7. CODH catalytic subunit phylogenetic genome context analysis.

Desulforudis audaxviator has two CODH gene clusters, each with a phylogenetically distinct catalytic subunit. The first, with Daud0870, corresponds to COG 1151 (cooS) and is in the acetogenic CODH-III family of *Carboxydothermus hydrogenoformans* (*52*). COG 1151 is a fairly broad family but, with the additional requirement that cdhC/acsB was found in the neighborhood, the CODH-III type of cooS was only found in the sequenced bacterial genomes at the time of this analysis. The other CODH gene cluster, with Daud0105, corresponds to COG 1152 (cdhA) and, other than *D. audxaviator*, was only found in the sequenced archaeal genomes included at the time of this analysis. Daud0870 and Daud0105 are distantly related, showing sequence identity of \sim 27-30% and can be aligned with other members of COG1151 and COG1152 to make the tree of Figure S7. Other genes in the cluster that are closest to archaeal homologs are shown in the red boxes, whereas those genes that are closest to bacterial homologs are shown in green and blue boxes. Interestingly, the archaeal-type gene cluster includes some genes that more closely resemble their counterparts in the bacterial cluster (cooC, cdhE/acsC, acsE, frhD, Zn-finger, and metF). The tree below is from a multiple sequence alignment of COG1151 and COG1152 using MUSCLE (*46*), and determined by maximum likelihood by PHYML (*47*) with 100 replicates for bootstrapping

(sampling with replacement), using the JTT amino acid substitution model (*48*). The cooS and cdhA genes are indicated by the gray arrow. Archaeal species names are blue. The gap between the *Methanopyrus kandleri* cdhA gene duplication is zero bases. The *C. hydrogenoformans* protein sequence used was as determined after removal of the pseudogene-inducing frame shift present in the sequenced strain.

Table S15 and Figure S8. Nitrogen fixation genes.

Genes for assimilation of nitrogen from N_2 and ammonia were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified nitrogen fixation genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes).

Parts of the NF1 nitrogenase operon appears to have been horizontally transferred from archaea, and based on the phylogeny of the nifH subunit (Fig. S4), groups with Molybdenum-containing nitrogenases that can sometimes function at quite high temperatures(*59*). The maintenance of nitrogenase function in the presence of high CO concentrations (CO, like O₂, inhibits the functioning of nitrogenase) may be assited by CODH-mediated removal of CO within the cell.

Table S15. Nitrogen fixation genes.

Figure S8. NifH phylogenetic and genome context analysis.

Desulforudis audaxviator has one nif nitrogen fixation gene cluster. The genes in this cluster do not possess sufficient homology at the per-gene level to confidently place them in a nif subfamily or gene context similarity to a known nif cassette. While its relative, *Desulfotomaculum reducens*, also has a nif gene cluster, only some of the genes in this cluster appear to be related by vertical decent to those in *D. audaxviator* (labeled with green and blue boxes). The other nif genes in *D. audaxviator* (nifD, nif K, nifE, nifB) are quite distant from their homologs in the other genomes cannot be placed clearly within a phylogenetic context. These genes probably represent new subfamilies, ones that may not require nifN as it is not found in the *D. audaxviator* genome. The other nif genes (nifH, nifI1, nifI2), while also difficult to place phylogenetically, do appear to group with archaeal-type nitrogenases (labeled with red boxes). The tree below is from a multiple sequence alignment of nifH (with anfH and vnfH) using MUSCLE (*46*), and determined by maximum likelihood by PHYML (*47*) with 100 replicates for bootstrapping (sampling with replacement), using the JTT amino acid substitution model (*48*). The nifH gene is indicated by the gray arrow. Archaeal species names are blue. While the nifH possessed by *D. audaxviator* is closest to the high temperature archaeal cluster, low bootstrap supported nodes with short branch lengths do not permit its confident phylogenetic placement. However, these sequences are sufficient to determine that the nifH possessed by *D. audaxviator* is not related by vertical decent to that possessed by *D. reducens*.

Table S16. Sporulation and germination genes.

Sporulation and germination genes identified as orthologs (by reciprocal best BLASTp hit) to *C. hydrogenoformans* sporulation and germination genes. Sporulation and germination genes in *C. hydrogenoformans* were identified by Wu, *et al*. (*52*) using orthology to known spore forming genes in *B. subtils* (CHY_1978 to CHY_0424 in below table) and by phenotype footprint technique to identify genes associated with spore formers and not associated with non-spore formers (CHY_0020 to CHY_2676). Names taken from closest *B. subtilis* homolog (not necessarily an ortholog). "N/A": no homolog was detected in *B. subtilis* from which to derive the name. "N/D": no ortholog was detected within the genome. Most names and descriptions taken directly from Wu, *et al*. Additional putative sporulation and germination genes in *D. audaxviator* that are not orthologous to *C. hydrogenoformans* sporulation and germination genes are not reported.

Table S17. Pilus genes.

Genes for pilus formation were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified pilus genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes). The majority of matched protein families indicate type IV pili ("Tfp"), but such protein families also often include type II-like genes. One pilus assembly gene (Daud2198) is found in a sulfate reduction operon.

Table S18. Flagellar genes.

Genes for chemotactic motility were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified flagellar genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes). Chemotactic signal transduction genes are only listed when present within a flagellar operon (see Table S19 for the full list signal transduction genes).

Table S19. Signal transduction genes.

Genes for signal transduction were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes). Non-signaling genes found in operons with signaling genes are sometimes included in the table as they suggest possible roles for the signaling proteins. The operon name is also used to indicate such relationships. Examples of such context-derived candidate roles include **phosphate:** SIG11 operon genes; **sporulation:** SIG5A, SIG5B, SIG14, and SIG25 operon genes**; carbon assimilation:** Daud0119; **aromatic amino acids:** SIG10 operon genes. Putative pseudogenes are indicated with "*" and have lengths in nucleotides instead of amino acids.

Abbreviations used in "Notes" column include "RR": response regulator, "TF": transcription factor, "WH": winged helix transcription factor domain, "UNK": unknown domain, "Y": cheY-like receiver domain, "cNMP": cyclic nucleotide monophosphate binding domain, "GGDEF": GGDEF motif containing domain (likely diguanylate cyclase activity), "PAS": PAS domain (ligand and cofactor binding), "GAF": GAF domain (cyclic GMP-specific phosphodiesterase), "HD" and "HD-GYP": metal dependent phosphohydrolase domain, "B": cheB-like methylesterase domain, "HK": histidine kinase domain, "ANTAR": AmiR and NasR transcription antitermination regulators (RNA-binding domain), "LytTr": LytTr-type winged helix DNA binding domain, "SENS": ligand sensing domain, "HAMP": HAMP linker region, "NUC": nucleotide binding domain, "ATP": ATP binding domain, "MEMB": membrane associated domain, "EAL": EAL motif containing domain (likely diguanylate phosphodiesterase activity), "CBS": cystathionine-beta synthase domain, "IMPDH": inosine-5'-monophosphate dehydrogenase domain, "EPP": exopolyphosphatase domain, and "PAP": polyA polymerase domain.

Table S20. Transport genes.

Genes encoding transport proteins were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes). Associated nontransport genes found in operons with transport genes are included in the table as they suggest possible roles for the transporters. Putative pseudogenes are indicated with "*" and have lengths in nucleotides instead of amino acids.

Wanger, *et al.* detected 50 µm spatial variations in adsorbed Fe, S and exopolysaccharide-type organic species (consistent with the polysaccharide ABC exporter and exopolysaccharide synthesis genes found in the genome of *D. audaxviator*) on a surface from this fracture zone(68). These variations in adsorbed species also produce gradients in surface charges that in turn may lower the pH close to the mineral surfaces and perhaps alleviate the impact of the high pH in the fracture fluid on the ability of *D. audaxviator* to maintain a H+ gradient across the cell membrane. Whether due to an advantageous pH or because of increased access to nutrients, *D. audaxviator* does appear to colonize nutrient-rich mineral surfaces (*68*).

Table S21. Amino acid synthesis genes.

Genes for amino acid synthesis were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified amino acid synthesis genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes).

Table S22. Vitamin and cofactor synthesis genses.

Genes for vitamin and other cofactor synthesis were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified cofactor synthesis genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes).

While *D. audaxviator* has genes that appear to be coenzyme F420 dependent, it does not appear to have the canonical F420 synthetic pathway, lacking easily recognizable forms of cofC, cofD, cofE, cofG, and cofH, suggesting that either it possesses an alternate pathway for the synthesis of F420 or that the genes that appear to belong to F420-dependent families instead employ other cofactors. Additionally, *D. audaxviator* appears to be missing the canonical form of the pyrroloquinoline quinone synthesis genes (pqqABCDEF), with the possible exception of pqqF (also called pqqL), although the match between Daud0936 and the known pqqF in *Klebsiella pneumoniae* is weak (~29% identity) and only covers the N-terminal ¼ of the latter gene.

Table S23. Glycolysis/Gluconeogenesis and TCA cycle genes.

Genes for in the glycolytic, gluconeogenic, and transcarboxylic acid cycle pathways were identified by membership in known sequence families (e.g. COG, TIGRFAM, and Pfam) or by gene context (proximity and/or presence in operons with other identified central metabolism genes). Annotation was by protein family, or if no confident protein family could be assigned, by the protein family assignment of the nearest homolog (such annotations are indicated with square brackets, with the source organism provided in the notes). Putative pseudogenes are denoted with "*", and have length indicating number of nucleotides rather than amino acid length.

D. audaxviator is missing easily recognizable forms of succinyl-CoA synthetase, aconitase, and citrate synthase genes in the reverse transcarboxylic acid (TCA) cycle for assimilation of CO2. *D. audaxviator* does have a gene (Daud0895) shared with archaea that may substitute for succinyl-CoA synthetase and may have other non-standard forms of genes that complete the TCA pathway (*69*), making it impossible to rule out its functionality.

Table S24. Hydrogenases, dehydrogenases, and other oxidoreductases.

Genes for oxidoreductase activity (that are not already reported in the preceeding tables) were identified by membership in known sequence families (COG). Annotation was by protein family. Putative pseudogenes are denoted with "*", and have length indicating number of nucleotides rather than amino acid length.

Table S25. Oxygen tolerance.

Fracture environments at this depth are anoxic (*3*). Accordingly, the *D. audaxviator* genome lacks obvious functional homologs of catalase, peroxidase, and superoxide reductase, but does possess Mn/Fe superoxide dismutase that converts O_2 to H_2O_2 . It also lacks obvious full-length homologs to most of the rubredoxin / rubrerythrin O_2 tolerance system, with the exception of rubrerythrin which allows it to convert the H_2O_2 produced by superoxide dismutase, or from radiolytic reactions (3), to H_2O . A very truncated pseudogene for catalase was found, as was a pseudogene for another instance of rubrerythrin. The loss of most of the $O₂$ tolerance systems suggests the long-term sequestration from O_2 and isolation from the surface, and has likely contributed to the failure to isolate *D. audaxviator*.

Genes for oxygen tolerance were identified by membership in known sequence families (COG). Annotation was by protein family. Putative pseudogenes are denoted with "*", and have length indicating number of nucleotides rather than amino acid length.

Table S26. Pseudogenes.

Pseudogenes (protein coding genes that are no longer functional due to early stop codons or are otherwise truncated, split, or frameshifted) were identified at ORNL. The *D. audaxviator* genome possessed 83 pseudogenes, more than 48 of *D. reducens*, the 25 of *C. hydrogenoformans,* and the 58 of *M. thermoacetica* (pseudogene counts were not available for *P. thermopropionicum*), all larger genomes than that of *D. audaxviator*. The relatively large number of pseudogenes corresponded with the large number of transposons, not surprising given that many of the pseudogenes themselves represent transposon "scars" or were likely caused by adjacent transposons.

We classified pseudogenes by BLASTx (translating BLAST) by similarity to known protein coding genes in D. audaxviator or other organisms. These pseudogenes did not themselves possess full-length open reading frames due to transposon invasion, truncation, early stop codons, or frameshifts. Classification was by membership of the closest homolog (CH) in known sequence families (COG, PFAM, or TIGRFAM). Regions with a high density of pseudogenes are indicated by assigning a "PG" group (Group). Lengths indicate number of nucleotides rather than amino acid length. The percentage of the matched functional gene is reported (CH cov %) as is the amino acid identity over that match (CH ident), and the VIMSS gene ID of the match (CH VIMSS ID). Many of the pseudogenes either represented remanants of transposons or may have been caused by proximal or interrupting transposon activity and are indicated, as are other reasons for the cause of the pseudogene in the pseudogene character field (ψgene character). Immediate sequence upstream (us) and downstream (ds) of matched pseudogene sequence up until the next gene or pseudogene were also scanned with BLASTx against known functional proteins to allow for additional classification, primarily for genes interrupted by transposons (e.g. Daud0158, which is interrupted by the transposon Daud0159). Functional homologs present in *D. audaxviator* are

also reported in the Notes column. While the majority of the pseudogenes represent derivatives of transposon activity, of note are the small remaining piece of the missing catalase gene (Daud0372) and the broken duplicate copy of rubrerythrin (Daud0583). Many of the other interesting pseudogenes are redox proteins (Daud0153, Daud0154, Daud0155, Daud0158, Daud0577, Daud0739, Daud0791, Daud0834, Daud1097, Daud1646, Daud1828, Daud2074) or transport proteins (Daud0374, Daud0532, Daud1417, Daud1513, Daud1545, Daud1830, Daud1948) that are either difficult to specifically classify or have duplicate functional versions present in the genome that may take the role of the lost proteins, making it difficult to reliably infer the loss of a capability.

V. DATA AVAILABILITY

The genome sequence reported in this study has been deposited in GenBank under accession number CP000860. The metagenomic data is available from the Joint Genome Institute (http://www.jgi.doe.gov/) under project number 4000602. The annotated *D. audaxviator* genome is accessible *via* MicrobesOnline (http://www.microbesonline.org). The clone library sequences have been submitted to GenBank with accession numbers EU730965 - EU731008. The traces from the reads for the clone library sequences have been submitted to the NCBI trace archive and may be accessed by searching for 'CENTER_NAME = "JGI" and SEQ_LIB_ID = "SGNY"' or 'CENTER_NAME = "JGI" and SEQ_LIB_ID = "SGNX"'.

VI. AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

LHL, GS, and GW collected the "Massive filter" sample used for the environmental genomics. LHL collected microscopy sample #1. DPM collected microscopy sample #2. DEC and FJB extracted the DNA from the filter. AL and SRL sequenced and assembled the *D. audaxviator* genome. DC, EJA, and APA performed the annotation and analysis of the *D. audaxviator* genome. DC and PSD analyzed the reads present in the metagenome. ELB, TZD, GLA performed the PhyloChip analysis. ELB, TZD, GLA, and DC performed the 16S rRNA gene analysis. GS and GW performed the electron microscopy. DPM and Jim Bruckner performed the DAPI stain fluorescence microscopy. ELB performed the 16S CARD-FISH microscopy. TCO performed the chemical speciation and thermodynamic calculations. TCH and PR coordinated the sequencing. FJB postulated environmental sequencing to potentially produce a closed genome sequence. TCO, DC, APA, FJB, TCH, GLA, GS, and LMP guided the project. DC and TCO wrote the manuscript, with significant contributions from EJA, ELB, PSD, LHL, DPM, LMP, FJB, and APA, as well as input from all authors.

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