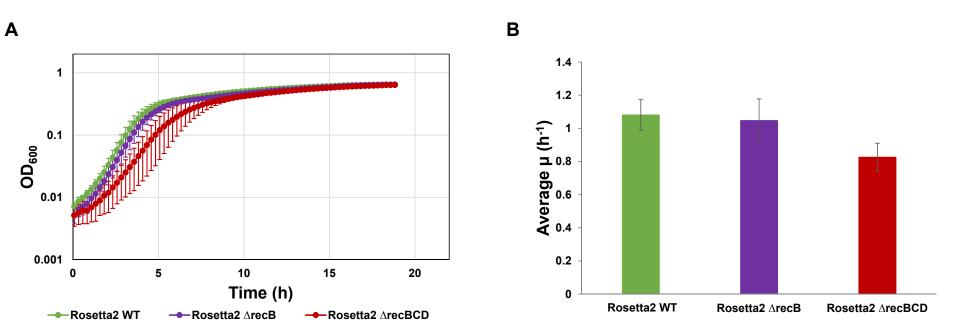
## **Supplementary Figure 1:**



**Specific growth rates of strains.** Growth curves (A) and calculated growth rates (B) of *E. coli* BL21 Rosetta2 WT,  $\Delta recB$  and  $\Delta recBCD$  cultures incubated overnight. All strains were grown in 2xYTP medium used for expanding cells for lysis. Specific growth rate of each strain was calculated in the log phase of growth from 4 colonies picked for inoculation. Compared to the parental, the knockout strains did not show a substantial decrease in growth rate upon genomic deletions. Data shown are mean±SD for 4 biological replicates done on the same day.