

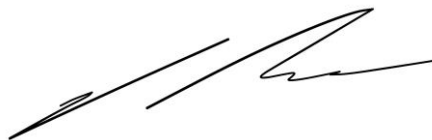
Dear Editor,

This manuscript is a response to an invitation from Jaydev Upponi to submit to your journal (December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019) stemming from our recently published paper in the Journal of Bacteriology "*Under elevated c-di-GMP in E. coli, YcgR alters flagellar motor bias and speed sequentially, with additional negative control of the flagellar regulon via the adaptor protein RssB*" DOI: 10.1128/JB.00578-19. Therein, we deploy a number of techniques to uncover the nuances of motility inhibition in response to the second messenger c-di-GMP. In this manuscript, we detail some of the techniques crucial to that work, and combine them in series with other methods, to exploit motility as a selection tool to identify components/pathways contributing to swimming and swarming motility, and then characterize them.

Though the protocols we describe relate to *E. coli*, they can be readily adapted for application in other species, and offer elegant and practical ways to gain insight into bacterial motility. Correspondence with your team implied that if accepted, publication might be feasible by May, which would be advantageous to us.

We hope you will find this work of interest to your journal and of assistance to your readers.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Partridge Ph.D.