



**Figure S1** – Number of viable cells during stationary phase culture. *E. coli* was grown in MOPS medium as described in main text. Cells were plated to LB plates 3, 24, and 48 hours after the start of growth (from here on referred to as mid-log, day one, and day two respectively) and subsequently on days 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14. (A) The number of colony forming units (CFU) was determined. (B) Absorbance at 600 nm ( $A_{600}$ ) of the culture on given timepoints. Values shown in the figure are the mean of three independent biological experiments with standard deviation (n=3; mean  $\pm$  SD)