

Genomic Surveillance Uncovers High Diversity and Regional Resistance in *Streptococcus uberis* from Dairy Cows

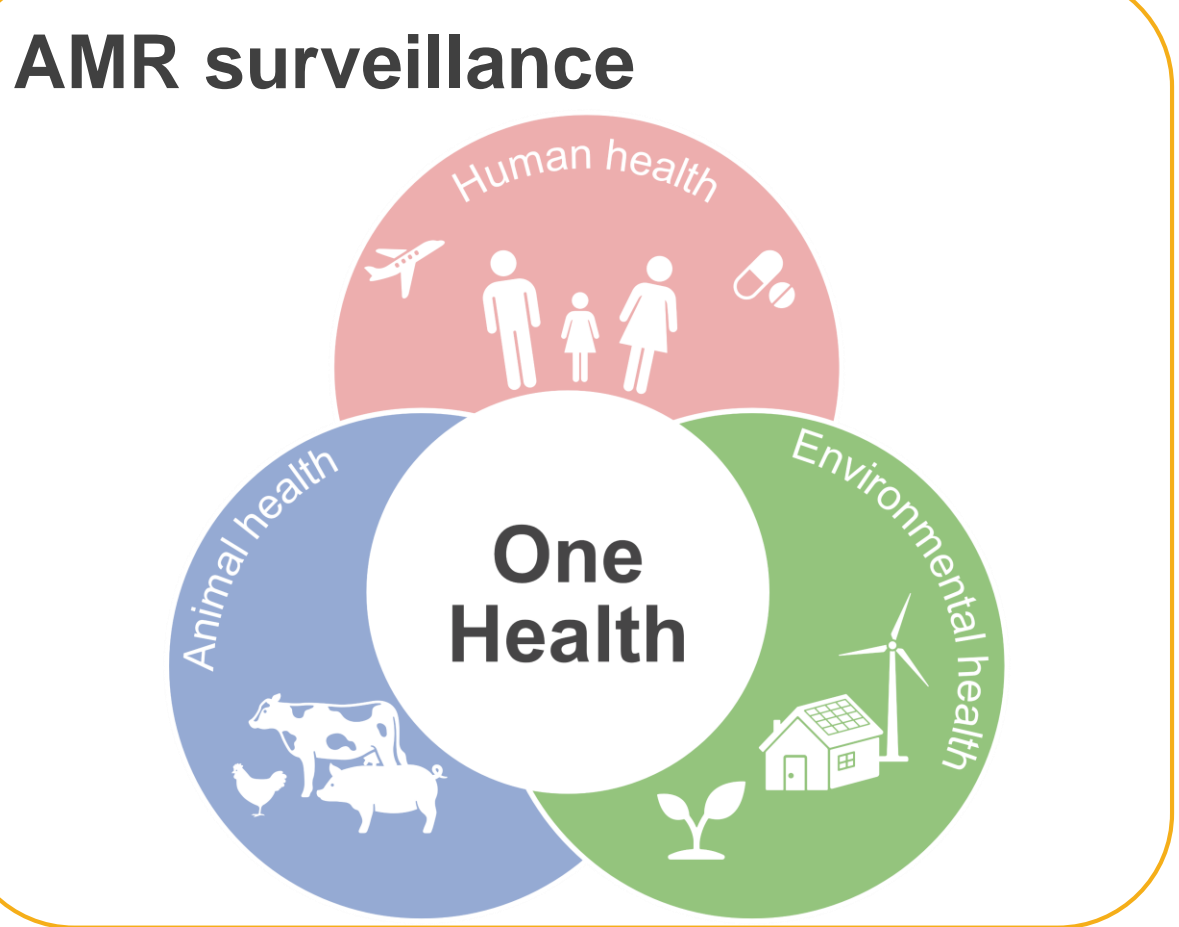
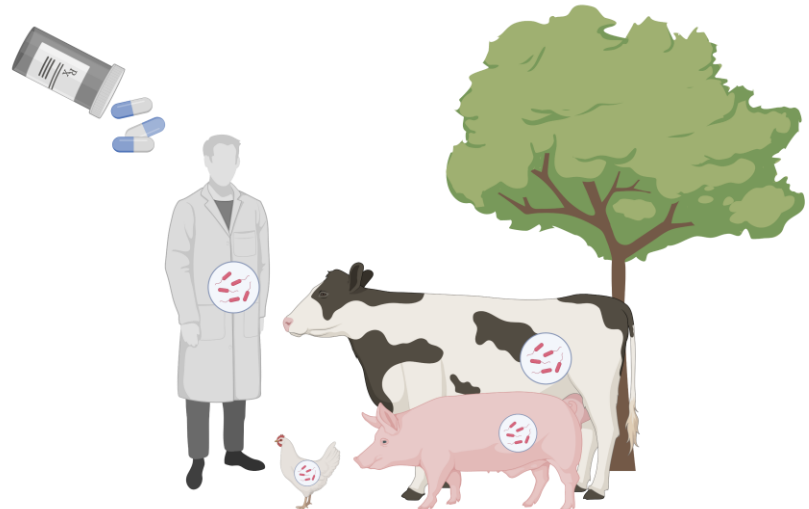
Thamonwan Wanganuttara¹, Hidehito Matsui², Takuya Yagisawa³, Naoki Suzuki⁴, Shoji Ogino⁵, Toshihiro Tsukui⁵, Poowadon Muenraya¹, Iyo Uchiyama¹, Jumpei Uchiyama¹

¹ Okayama University, Japan, ² Kitasato University, Japan, ³ Hokkaido Agriculture Mutual Aid Association, Sapporo, Japan, ⁴ Hiroshima University, Japan, ⁵ Nippon Zenyaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., Fukushima, Japan.

Introduction

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global health threat requiring coordinated One Health surveillance across human and veterinary medicine. *Streptococcus uberis*, a major cause of bovine mastitis, leads to economic losses in dairy production and is often treated with broad-spectrum antimicrobials critical to human medicine. Despite its importance, genomic data on *S. uberis* from East Asia, particularly Japan, are scarce. This study aimed to characterize the genomic and antimicrobial resistance features of Japanese *S. uberis* isolates in comparison with global strains.

AMR: A global health threat



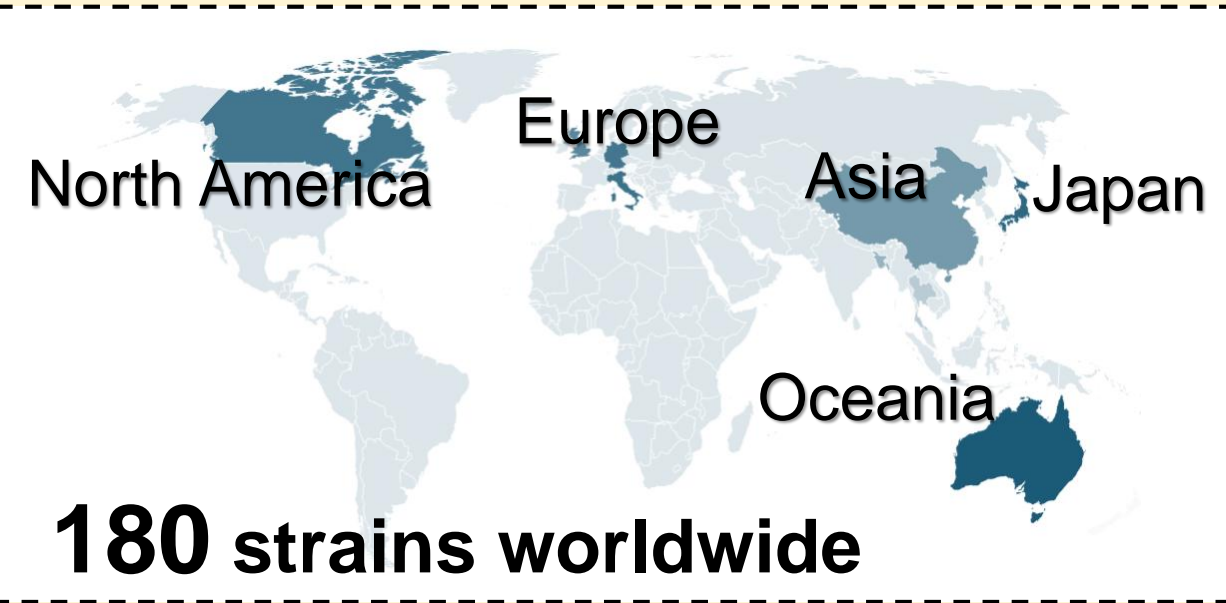
Methods

Collected milk from mastitis cow



- Antibiotic susceptibility tests
- Whole genome sequencing

Downloaded genome from GenBank database



217 *S. uberis* strains

Genome analysis

- Core genomics
- Multilocus sequence typing (MLST)
- AMR genes analysis
- Virulence genes analysis

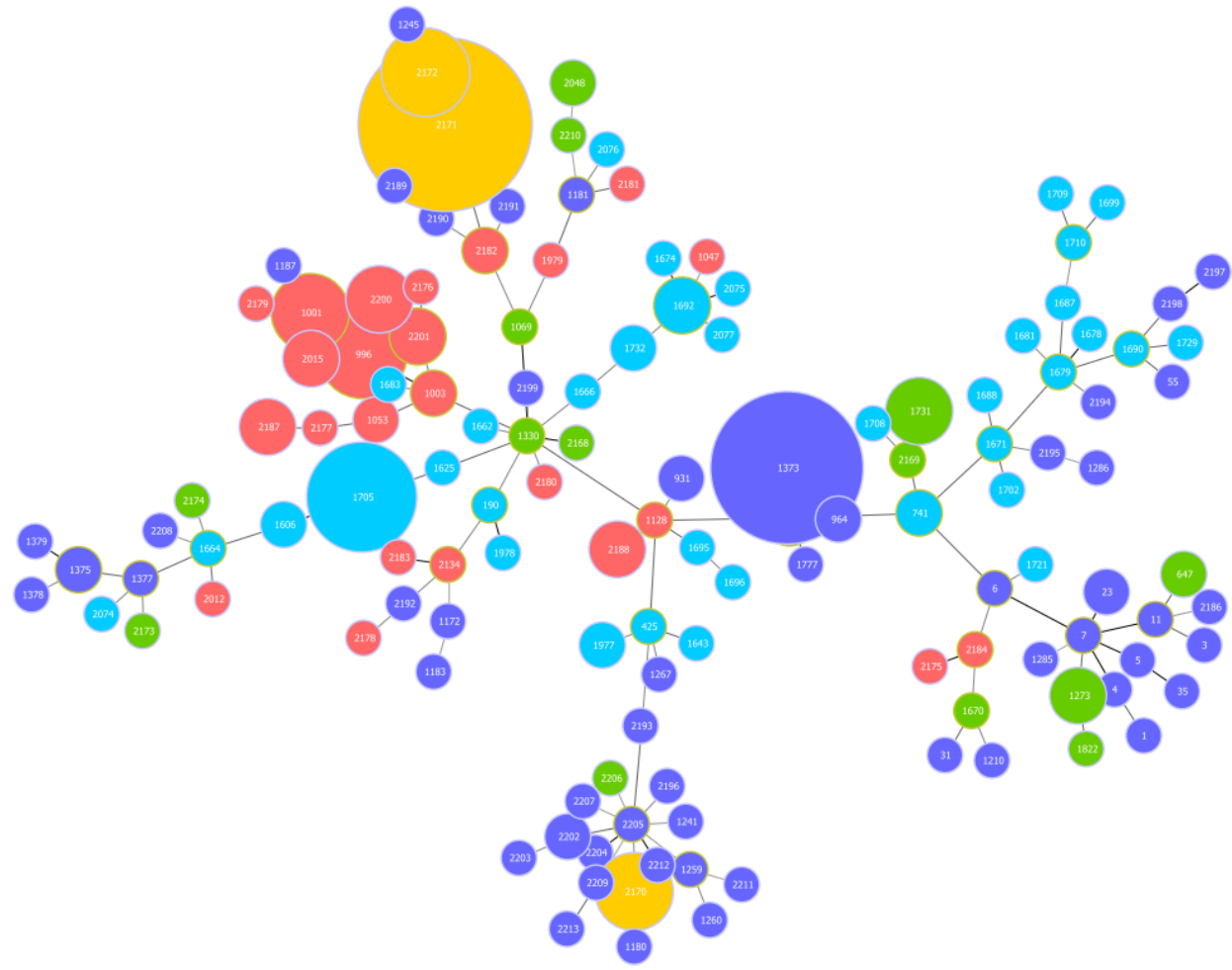
Results

Antibiotic susceptibility tests of 37 strains in this study

S	I	R	MIC (µg/mL)												Resistance		
			≤0.31	0.63	0.125	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	>64	rate (%)	
	Penicillin G	4	1	16	13	3									0		
	Ampicillin	5	1	17	12	2									0		
	Amoxicillin	4	1	4	23	5									0		
	Cefazolin			4		19	13	1							0		
	Cefoperazone				4		5	20	8						0		
	Cefquinome	5	2	19	10	1									0		
	Ceftiofur			5		2	13	12	5						0		
	Erythromycin	15	11			1								10	27.03		
	Lincomycin		1	17	1	1	3	2								12	32.43
	Gentamicin							1	3	7	10	15	1			0	
	Oxytetracycline			4	17	3										35.14	
	Ciprofloxacin				1	29	7									0	
	Enrofloxacin				2	14	20	1								0	
	Sulfamethoxazole / Trimethoprim			8	22	6	1								0		

CLSI, VET01S, 7th ed., 2024., Zouharova et al., Antibiotics, 12(10), 1527, 2023., Monistero et al., Antibiotics, 10(6), 644, 2021.

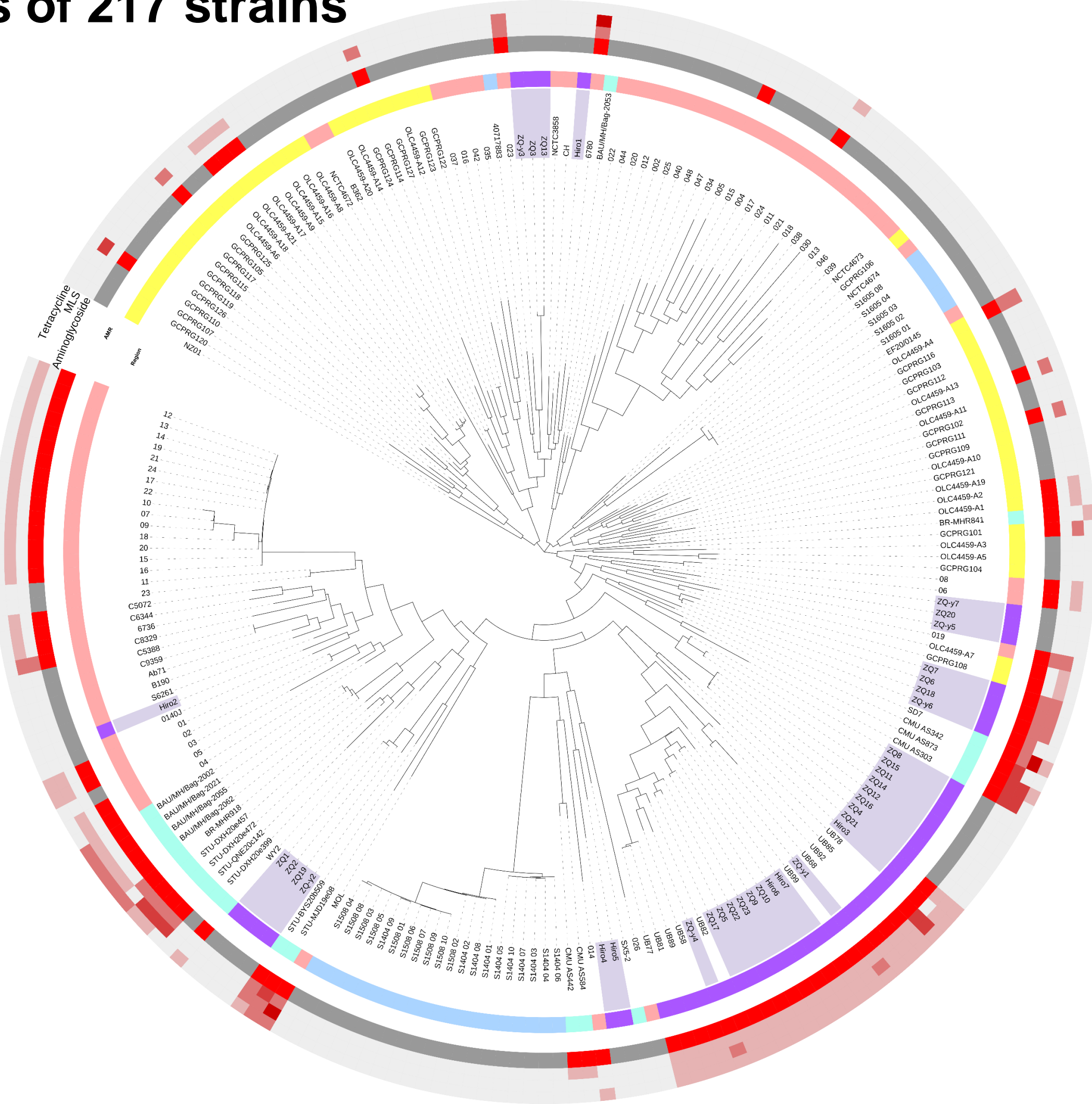
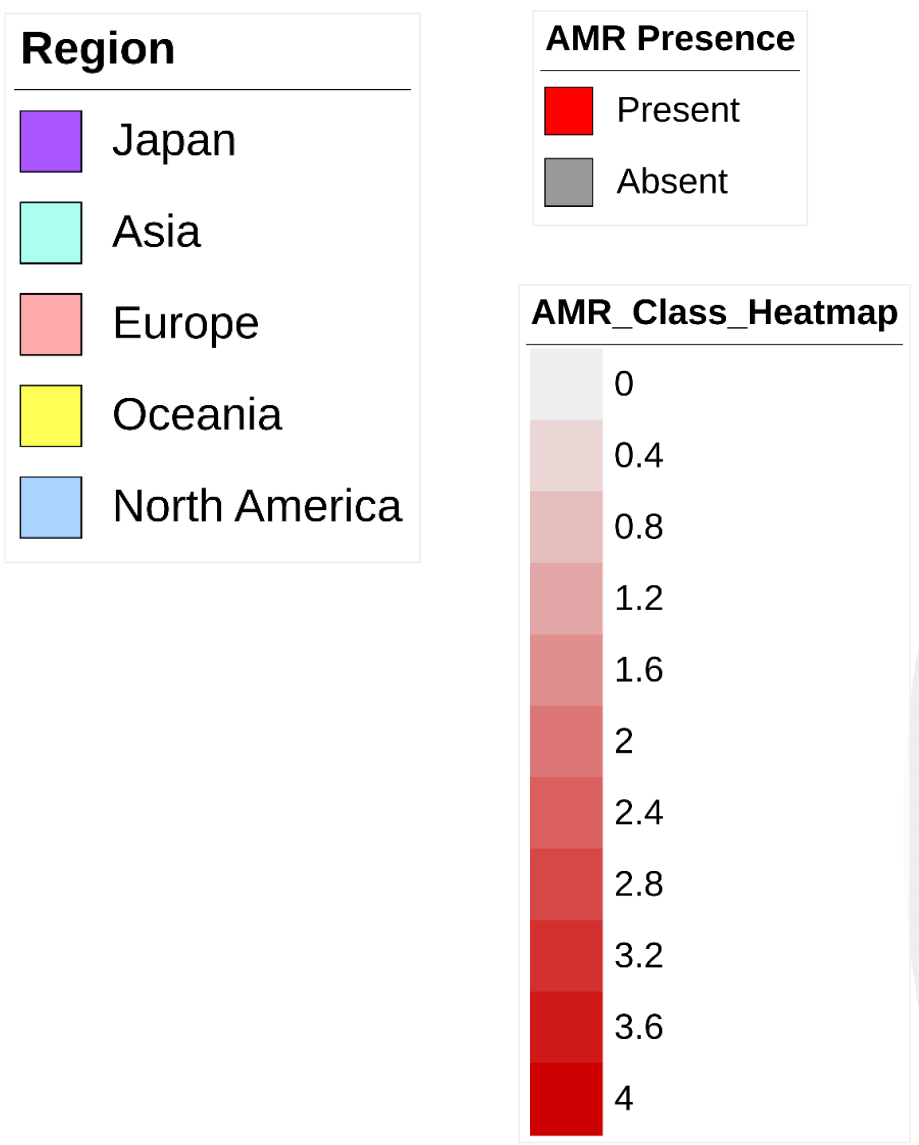
MLST and regional patterns in *S. uberis*



Europe (n = 73, 33.80%)
Oceania (n = 49, 22.69%)
Japan (n = 47, 21.76%)
North America (n = 26, 12.04%)
Asia (n = 21, 9.72%)

S. uberis had the regional clustering in genomics.

Core genome analysis of 217 strains



Japan had one major group with a high prevalence of AMR genes which are resistant to antibiotics, including aminoglycosides, tetracyclines, and macrolide-lincosamide-streptogramin (MLS).

Conclusions

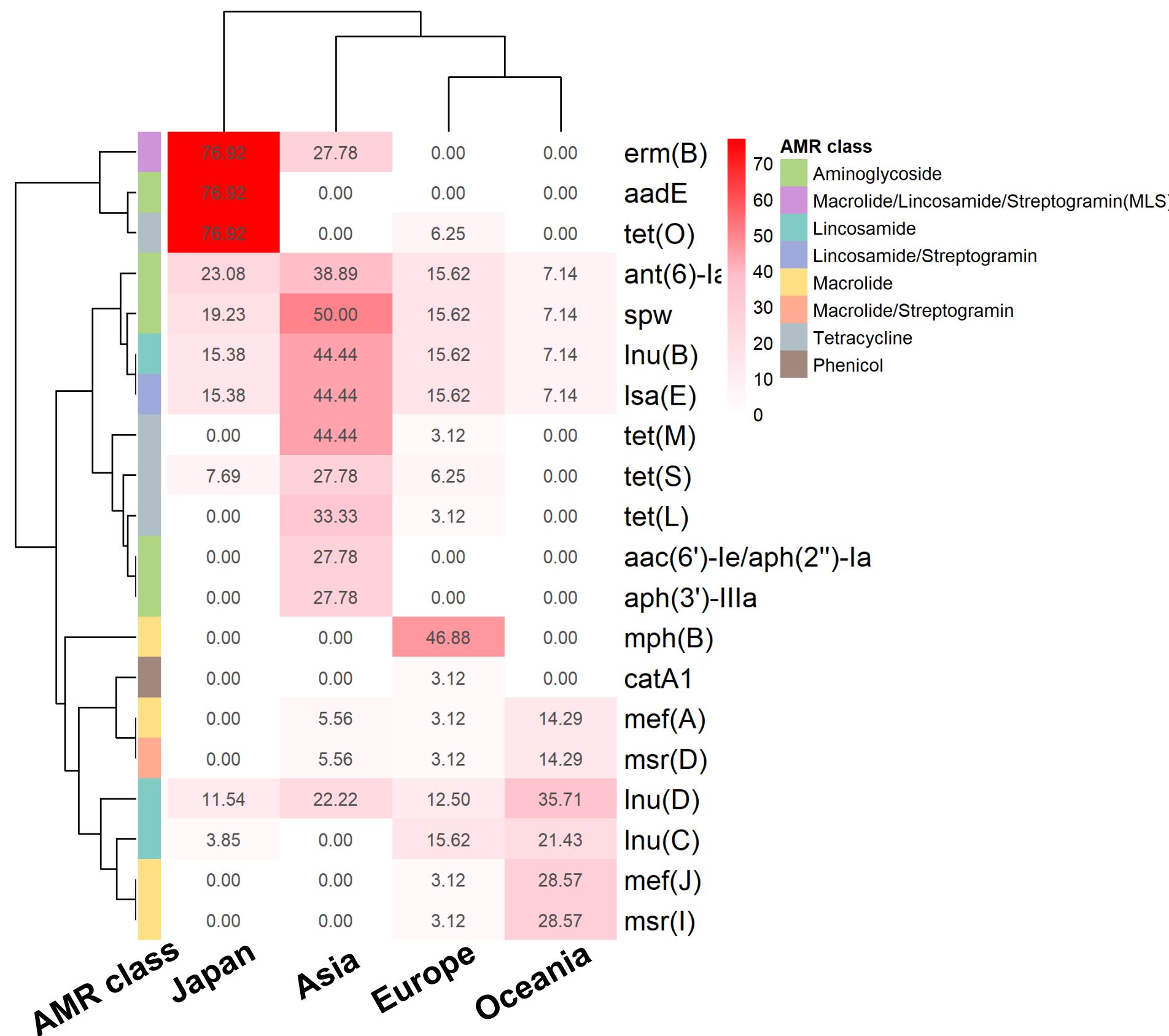
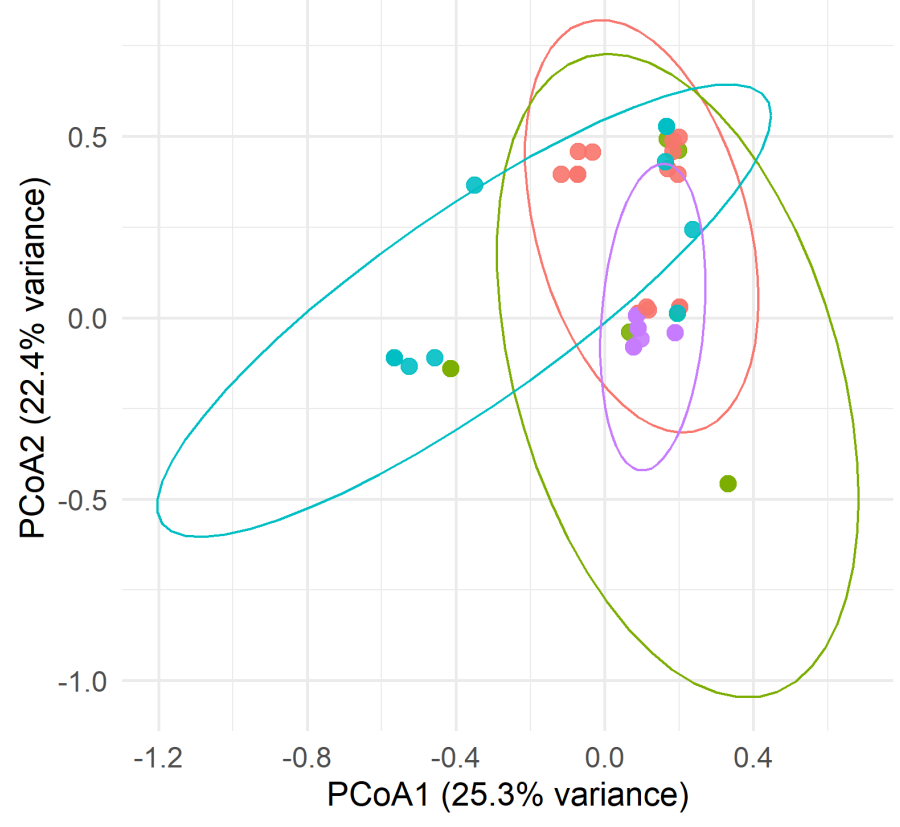
S. uberis isolates from Japan exhibit distinct AMR gene profiles compared to global strains. These findings highlight the need for region-specific genomic surveillance to guide targeted mastitis control and inform One Health strategies for AMR mitigation.

Results

Multivariate and differential abundance analyses across regions

AMR genes

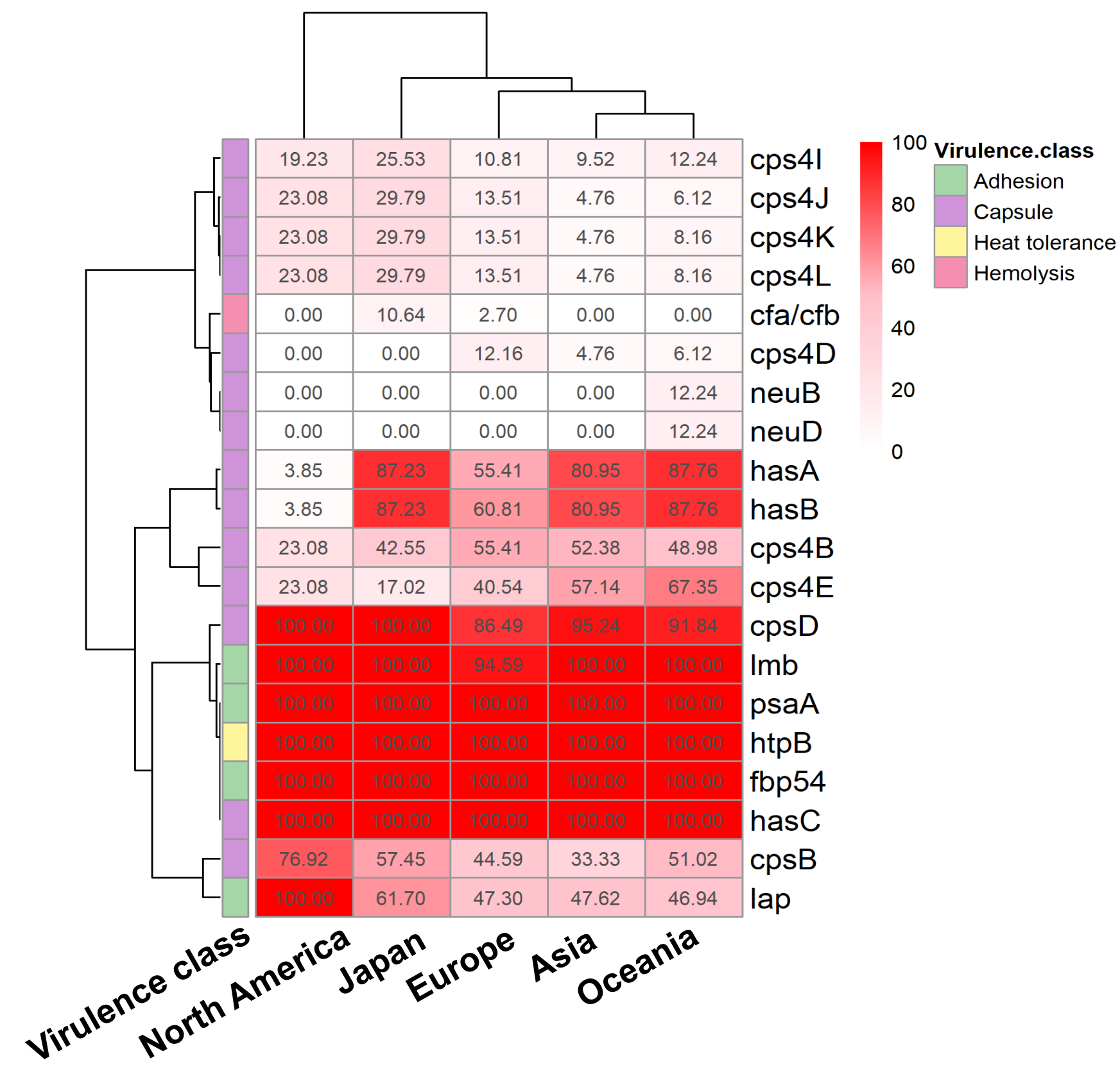
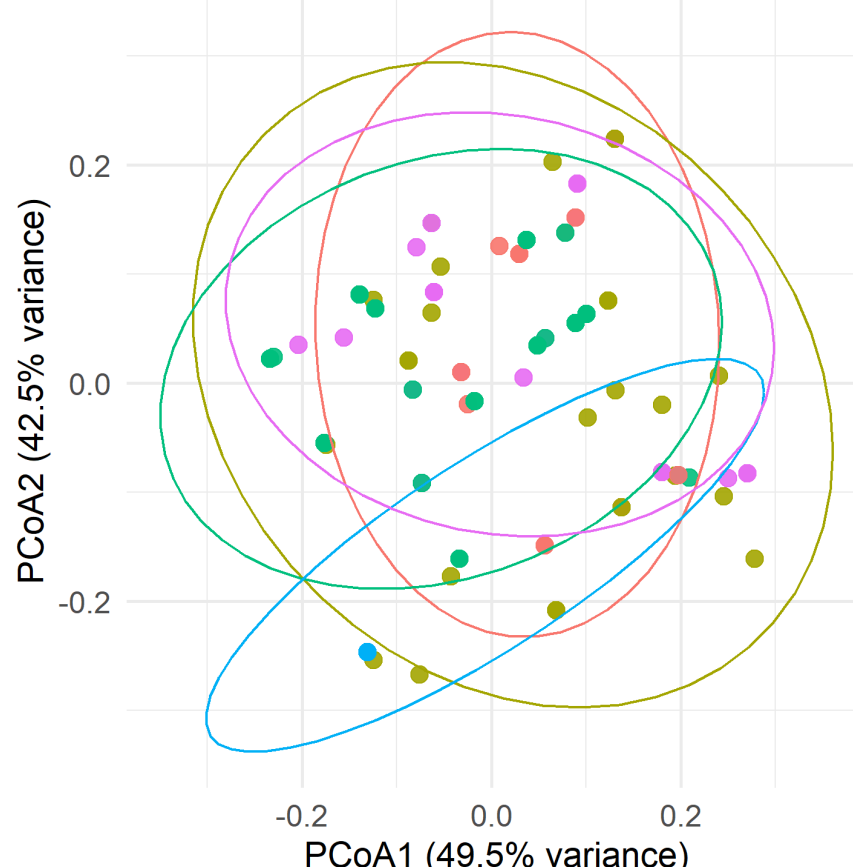
Principal coordinate analysis (PCoA)



- The region significantly affects AMR gene profiles.
- Japan displayed a unique AMR gene profile, distinct from other regions [*erm(B)*, *aadE*, and *tet(O)* genes]. This indicated potential regional-specific antimicrobial pressures or reservoirs of strains in Japan.

Virulence genes

Principal coordinate analysis (PCoA)



- The virulence gene profiles differed significantly among regions.
- Strains from Japan carried all core virulence genes but no region-specific markers.
- The *psaA*, *htpB*, *fbp54*, and *hasC* were consistently detected across all regions.