

## Supplementary Materials

**Table S1.** The Absolute Abundance of Several Common ARGs in the Surface Water (copies/mL)

Study sites	<i>sul1</i>	<i>sul2</i>	<i>tetA</i>	<i>tetW</i>	<i>ermB</i>	<i>bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	<i>qnrS</i>	Reference
Taihu Lake, China	–	–	10 <sup>4</sup> –10 <sup>5</sup>	–	–	–	–	[1]
Lake Tai, China	1.9×10 <sup>3</sup> – 7.9×10 <sup>5</sup>	–	–	–	–	2.9×10 <sup>0</sup> – 4.5×10 <sup>4</sup>	–	[2]
Huangpu river, China	0.32×10 <sup>5</sup> – 1.84×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.43×10 <sup>5</sup> – 4.19×10 <sup>5</sup>	0.28×10 <sup>3</sup> – 3.16×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.61×10 <sup>1</sup> – 3.84×10 <sup>2</sup>	–	1.36×10 <sup>3</sup> – 20.0×10 <sup>3</sup>	–	[3]
Liuxi River, China	1.3×10 <sup>4</sup> – 6.7×10 <sup>7</sup>	6.1×10 <sup>3</sup> – 4.9×10 <sup>7</sup>	–	7.6×10 <sup>3</sup> – 4×10 <sup>7</sup>	–	–	4.5×10 <sup>2</sup> – 4.8×10 <sup>8</sup>	[4]
Haihe River, China	2.2×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.6×10 <sup>7</sup>	–	–	–	–	–	[5]
Haihe River, China	9.70×10 <sup>4</sup> – 1.30×10 <sup>7</sup>	8.60×10 <sup>5</sup> – 8.83×10 <sup>8</sup>	–	1.15×10 <sup>5</sup> – 3.3×10 <sup>6</sup>	–	–	–	[6]
Jiulong River, China	–	5.96×10 <sup>8</sup>	–	–	–	–	–	[7]
Pearl River, China	10 <sup>5.8(R)</sup>	10 <sup>5.5(R)</sup>	–	–	10 <sup>3.5(R)</sup>	–	10 <sup>3.7(R)</sup>	[8]
East River, China	9×10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	8×10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	8×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	7.9×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	–	7×10 <sup>2(R)</sup>	[9]
West River, China	7×10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	7×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	3×10 <sup>3(R)</sup>	10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	8×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	–	7×10 <sup>1(R)</sup>	[9]
North River, China	8×10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	9×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	2×10 <sup>3(R)</sup>	6×10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	10 <sup>5(R)</sup>	–	2×10 <sup>3(R)</sup>	[9]
Yangtze River delta	3.07×10 <sup>5</sup> – 8.87×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.20×10 <sup>5</sup> – 4.25×10 <sup>6</sup>	2.02×10 <sup>3</sup> – 9.45×10 <sup>3</sup>	8.69×10 <sup>0</sup> – 4.49×10 <sup>2</sup>	–	–	–	[10]
Lake Maggiore, Italy&Switzerland	–	10 <sup>4(R)</sup>	10 <sup>2(R)</sup>	–	–	–	–	[11]
Almendares River, Cuba	–	–	–	10 <sup>2.45(R)</sup>	10 <sup>2.6(R)</sup>	10 <sup>1.95(R)</sup>	–	[12]

**Table S1 (continued)**

Study sites	<i>sul1</i>	<i>sul2</i>	<i>tetA</i>	<i>tetW</i>	<i>ermB</i>	<i>bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	<i>qnrS</i>	Reference
Ter River, Spain	10 <sup>3</sup>	–	–	10 <sup>2.4</sup>	10 <sup>2.8</sup>	10 <sup>1.5</sup>	10 <sup>3.2</sup>	[13]
Ter River, Spain	10 <sup>4.8(R)</sup>	–	–	10 <sup>3.2(R)</sup>	10 <sup>2.2(R)</sup>	10 <sup>4.0(R)</sup>	10 <sup>4.0(R)</sup>	[14]
Warta River, Poland	1.9×10 <sup>4</sup>	6.0×10 <sup>2</sup>	–	–	–	–	–	[15]
Zimny Potok, Poland	1.0×10 <sup>1</sup> – 9.0×10 <sup>7</sup>	4.7×10 <sup>1</sup> – 3.5×10 <sup>2</sup>	0.2×10 <sup>1</sup> – 0.8×10 <sup>1</sup>	–	–	–	–	[16]
River Toce, Italy&Switzerland	–	ND–3.59×10 <sup>2</sup>	1.42×10 <sup>1</sup> – 4.59×10 <sup>2</sup>	–	ND–7.13×10 <sup>2</sup>	–	ND–4.88×10 <sup>2</sup>	[17]
Iowa River, USA	–	–	–	–	1.75×10 <sup>2</sup> – 1.30×10 <sup>4</sup>	–	–	[18]
River Llobregat, Spain	–	–	–	–	–	10 <sup>3.8(R)</sup>	10 <sup>3(R)</sup>	[19]
River Llobregat, Spain	–	–	–	–	–	–	10 <sup>2.5(R)</sup>	[20]

(R) : Calculated from the figures; some of the data were collected by Yang et al. [21]

**Table S2.** The Relative Abundance of Several Common ARGs in the Surface Water (copies/16S rDNA)

Study sites	<i>sul1</i>	<i>sul2</i>	<i>tetA</i>	<i>tetW</i>	<i>ermB</i>	<i>bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	Reference
Six urban lakes, China	$3.51 \times 10^{-3}$ – $2.79 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-4}$ – $2.84 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.48 \times 10^{-5}$ – $2.43 \times 10^{-4}$	–	–	–	[22]
Beijiang River, China	$10^{-2.56}$ – $10^{-0.52}$	$10^{-3.25}$ – $10^{-1.24}$	–	–	–	–	[23]
Beijiang River, China	$1.41 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.38 \times 10^{-2}$ – $1.37 \times 10^{-1}$	–	–	–	[24]
Yangtze River Lakes, China	$1.85 \times 10^{-2(M)}$	$2.09 \times 10^{-3(M)}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-3(M)}$	–	–	–	[25]
Rivers of Beijing, China	$10^{-3(R)}$	ND	$10^{-2}$ – $10^{-1(R)}$	ND	–	–	[26]
Bosten Lake, China	$2.81 \times 10^{-5}$ – $3.33 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.04 \times 10^{-5}$ – $3.80 \times 10^{-3}$	–	$1.58 \times 10^{-6}$ – $4.19 \times 10^{-4}$	–	–	[27]
Urban river, South Africa	$10^{-2}$ – $10^{-1(R)}$	$10^{-2}$ – $10^{-1(R)}$	–	–	–	–	[28]
Drweca River, Poland	–	–	$10^{-0.22(R)}$	–	–	–	[29]
Bernesga River, Spain	–	–	–	–	–	$10^{-5(R)}$	[30]
Cache La Poudre River, USA	$10^{-4(R)}$	$10^{-4(R)}$	–	$10^{-5(R)}$	–	–	[31]
Almendares Rivera	–	–	–	$10^{-6}$ – $10^{-5(R)}$	$10^{-5}$ – $10^{-4(R)}$	ND– $10^{-6(R)}$	[32]
Lake Geneva, Switzerland	$2.8 \times 10^{-3}$ – $7.7 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-4}$ – $2.1 \times 10^{-2}$	–	–	–	–	[33]

**Table S2 (continued)**

Study sites	<i>sul1</i>	<i>sul2</i>	<i>tetA</i>	<i>tetW</i>	<i>ermB</i>	<i>bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	<i>qnrS</i>	Reference
Twenty-One Swiss lakes	$1.50 \times 10^{-3}$ – $2.1 \times 10^{-1}$	$3.40 \times 10^{-3}$	–	–	–	–	–	[34]
Cohana Bay of Titicaca Lake, Peru	$10^{-3}$ – $5 \times 10^{-3(R)}$	$5 \times 10^{-4}$ – $10^{-3(R)}$	–	–	–	–	–	[35]
South Platte River (SP) and the Poudre River (PR), USA	$3.5 \times 10^{-2(R)}$	–	–	–	–	–	–	[36]
Stroubles Creek	$10^{-2(R)}$	$10^{-4(R)}$	–	$10^{-4(R)}$	–	–	–	[37]

(R): Calculated from the figures; some of the data were collected by Yang et al. [21]; (M):Median values

**Table S3.** The Fate of Several Common ARGs in the Effluent-Receiving Water

ARGs	Study sites	Range of absolute gene abundance copies/ml or g	Range of relative gene abundance copies/16S rDNA	Reference
<i>bla<sub>SHV</sub></i>	Treated waste water, Spain	–	10 <sup>-3.8</sup>	[30]
	aquaculture sites, Cuba	–	10 <sup>-6</sup> –10 <sup>-4</sup>	[32]
<i>bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	aquaculture sites, Cuba	–	10 <sup>-6</sup> –10 <sup>-5</sup>	[32]
<i>sul1</i>	landfill leachate, China	10 <sup>7</sup> –10 <sup>8</sup>	–	[38]
	Treated waste water, Netherlands	10 <sup>4</sup> –10 <sup>6</sup>	–	[39]
	Treated waste water, China	–	10 <sup>-1</sup> –10 <sup>0</sup>	[26]
	swine wastes, China	–	2.5×10 <sup>-1</sup> –5.0×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[40]
<i>sul2</i>	landfill leachate, China	10 <sup>8</sup> –10 <sup>9</sup>	–	[38]
	Treated waste water, Swedish	10 <sup>2</sup> –10 <sup>4</sup>	–	[41]
	Treated waste water, China	10 <sup>4</sup> –10 <sup>5</sup>	–	[39]
	Treated waste water, China	–	10 <sup>-1</sup> –10 <sup>0</sup>	[26]
	swine wastes, China	–	1.5×10 <sup>-1</sup> –4.0×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[40]
	landfill leachate, China	10 <sup>8</sup>	–	[38]
<i>tetA</i>	Treated waste water, Swedish	<LOQ–10 <sup>2</sup>	–	[41]
	Treated waste water, Germany	10 <sup>2</sup>	–	[42]
	Treated waste water, China	–	10 <sup>-2</sup> –10 <sup>-1</sup>	[26]
	swine wastes, China	–	5.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> –2.0×10 <sup>0</sup>	[40]
	Treated waste water, Netherlands	10 <sup>3</sup> –10 <sup>4</sup>	–	[39]
	Treated waste water, Germany	10 <sup>4</sup>	–	[42]
	Treated waste water, China	–	10 <sup>-6</sup> –10 <sup>-5</sup>	[26]
	aquaculture sites, Cuba	–	10 <sup>-5</sup> –10 <sup>-4</sup>	[32]
	Treated waste water, Netherlands	10 <sup>3</sup>	–	[39]
<i>ermB</i>	swine wastes, China	–	<LOQ	[40]
	aquaculture sites, Cuba	–	10 <sup>-5</sup> –10 <sup>-3</sup>	[32]

**Table S4.** The Antibiotic Resistant Percentage of Indicator Isolates in the Drinking Water Sources

Sampling sites	Tet-resistant bacteria	Chl-resistant bacteria	Sulf-resistant bacteria	Amx-resistant bacteria	Imi-resistant bacteria	Ery-resistant bacteria	Kan-resistant bacteria	Str-resistant bacteria	Amp-resistant bacteria	Ctet-resistant bacteria	Nor-resistant bacteria	Reference
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> isolates												
Bayou Lafourche, USA	13.6% (30 µg)	–	10.9% (23.75/1.25µg SMX/TMP)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	[43]
Ayodhya–Faizabad, India	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	70% (10 µg)	[44]
<i>Enterococcus</i> spp. isolates												
Bayou Lafourche, USA	0	–	–	–	–	6.5% (15 µg)	–	–	–	–	–	[43]
<i>E. coli</i> isolates												
Passaúna River, Brazil	12.5% or 25% (30 µg)	0 (30 µg)	–	25% or 50% (20 µg)	12.5% (10 µg)	–	–	–	37.5% (10 µg)	–	–	[45]
Hamilton, Canada	0–5% (30 µg/mL)	–	92–100% (50 µg/mL)	0–5% (125 µg/mL)	–	0–8% (90 µg/mL)	0–5% (40 µg/mL)	0–8% (60 µg/mL)	0–5% (50 µg/mL)	0–8% (50 µg/mL)	–	[46]
Anacostia River, USA	29% (25 µg/mL)	0 (10 µg/mL)	13% (500 µg/mL)	–	–	–	0 (25 µg/mL)	21% (12.5µg/mL)	8% (10 µg/mL)	29% (25 µg/mL)	–	[47]
Mmabatho, South Africa	40% (30 µg)	30% (30 µg)	–	–	–	40% (15 µg)	10% (30 µg)	–	20% (10 µg)	–	35% (10 µg)	[48]

**Table S4 (continued)**

Sampling sites	Tet-resistant bacteria	Chl-resistant bacteria	sulf-resistant bacteria	Amx-resistant bacteria	Imi-resistant bacteria	Ery-resistant bacteria	Kan-resistant bacteria	Str-resistant bacteria	Amp-resistant bacteria	Ctet-resistant bacteria	Nor-resistant bacteria	Reference
<i>E. coli</i> isolates												
Ayodhya-Fa izabad, India	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	48% (10 µg)	[44]
Well water, India	16.7% (Vitek 2)	–	11.1% (Vitek 2)	–	–	–	–	–	16.7% (Vitek 2)	–	–	[49]
Osun State, Nigeria	33% (30 µg)	20% (30 µg)	100% (25 µg)	59% (25 µg)	0 (10 µg)	–	< 5% (30 µg)	2% (300 µg)	57% (25 µg)	–	–	[50]
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp.												
Not mentioned	10.7% (30 µg)	–	0 (25 µg)	–	–	–	–	–	7.1% (25 µg)	–	–	[50]

Note: Tet, tetracycline; Chl, chloramphenicol; Sulf, sulfonamide; Amx, amoxicillin; Imi, imipenem; Ery, erythromycin; Str, Streptomycin; Amp, ampicillin; Kan, kanamycin; Ctet, chlortetracycline; Nor, norfloxacin; Vitek 2, using the Vitek 2 instrument with standardized cards to test antibiotic susceptibility; value in the brackets is corresponding antibiotic concentration (or content) selected for the susceptibility tests.

**Table S5.** The Abundance of Common ARGs in the Effluent and Activated Sludge of UWTPs

ARGs	Effluent (copies/mL)	Activated sludge (copies/g)	Reference
<i>Sul1</i>	$4.09 \times 10^5$	$1.11 \times 10^9$	[51]
	$10^5-10^6$	$10^{10}-10^{11}$	[52]
	$10^5-10^7$	–	[53]
	$10^4-10^7$	$10^7-10^9$	[54]
	$6.21 \times 10^3-6.05 \times 10^4$	$6.17 \times 10^8-6.76 \times 10^9$	[55]
<i>Sul2</i>	$4.86 \times 10^5$	$6.29 \times 10^9$	[51]
	$10^6-10^7$	$10^{10}-10^{11}$	[52]
	$10^5-10^7$	–	[53]
	$10^3-10^6$	$10^5-10^8$	[54]
	$5.30 \times 10^5-2.5 \times 10^6$	$2.14 \times 10^{10}-2.09 \times 10^{11}$	[55]
<i>ErmB</i>	$2.42 \times 10^4$	$5.81 \times 10^9$	[51]
	$10^3-10^5$	$10^6-10^8$	[53]
<i>TetA</i>	$10^3-10^6$	–	[53]
	$2.20 \times 10^2-3.32 \times 10^3$	$4.90 \times 10^6-2.69 \times 10^8$	[54]
<i>TetM</i>	$1.44 \times 10^3$	$9.49 \times 10^8$	[51]
	$10^4-10^5$	$10^8-10^9$	[52]
	$10^3-10^5$	$10^5-10^7$	[54]
<i>TetW</i>	$10^5-10^6$	$10^9-10^{10}$	[52]
	$10^3-10^6$	–	[53]
	$10^2-10^4$	$10^5-10^6$	[54]
	$4.76 \times 10^3-2.22 \times 10^5$	$2.34 \times 10^8-3.47 \times 10^9$	[55]
<i>Bla<sub>TEM</sub></i>	$10^3-10^6$	–	[53]
<i>intI1</i>	$1.74 \times 10^5$	$4.38 \times 10^8$	[51]
	$10^6-10^7$	$10^{10}-10^{11}$	[52]
	$10^5-10^8$	$10^8-10^{10}$	[54]
	$9.72 \times 10^4-4.59 \times 10^5$	$2.63 \times 10^9-8.51 \times 10^{10}$	[55]



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