## Supporting information

## Non-Redfield, nutrient synergy, and flexible internal elemental stoichiometry in a marine bacterium

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## CONTENTS

Figure S1 Cultivation workflow in physiological experiments	2
Figure S2 Compiled growth curves with fitted LDR function for 415 different	
$NH_4^+$ and $PO_4^{3-}$ concentration pairs	.3
Figure S3 High-resolution growth curves with fitted LDR function for five selected	
$NH_4^+$ and $PO_4^{3-}$ concentration pairs	31
Figure S4 Comparison of experimental data with model prediction based on	
Liebig's law of the minimum	.32
Figure S5 Experimental data with fitted Monod function	.33



**Figure S1** Cultivation workflow in physiological experiments. Each growth experiment covering one of the 415 different  $NH_4^+$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$  concentration pairs followed a stringent cultivation procedure, starting from an individual glycerol stock culture. Glassware was specifically cleansed with HCl at  $PO_4^{3-}$  concentrations <50 µM.

























































**Figure S2** Compiled growth curves for *P. inhibens* DSM 17395 with fitted LDR function for 415 different  $NH_4^+$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$  concentration pairs (data basis for Figs. 2–5). Each plot displays recorded experimental data for optical densities (OD) at 600 nm (black) and the fitted LDR function (red) with corresponding R<sup>2</sup> values, as well as the maximal OD ( $OD_{max}$ ; at the transition into stationary growth phase) and the calculated maximal linear growth rate ( $\mu_{lin}$ ) achieved during the main active growth phase.



Figure S3 High-resolution growth curves of P. inhibens DSM 17395 with fitted LDR function (red line) for five selected  $NH_4^+$ and PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3–</sup> concentration pairs. Corresponding external N:P supply ratios were (values in brackets:  $NH_4^+$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$  concentration pair): (a) 267 (8.0 mM, 30 µM), (b) 67 (2.0 mM, 30 μM), (c) 17 (0.5 mM, 30 μM), (d) 4 (0.5 mM, 125 µM) or (e) 1 (both 0.5 mM). An absorbance (Abs) increase at 398 nm indicates formation of the antibiotic tropodithietic acid (TDA).



**Figure S4** Comparison of experimental data with model prediction based on Liebig's law of the minimum. (**a**, **b**) maximal optical density ( $OD_{max}$ ), (**c**, **d**) cellular dry weight (CDW) at  $OD_{max}$ , and (**e**, **f**) maximal linear growth rate ( $\mu_{lin}$ ) across the studied concentration range of  $NH_4^+$  and  $PO_4^{3-}$ . (**a**, **c**, **e**) Values predicted by model based on Liebig's law of the minimum. (**b**, **d**, **f**) Relative deviation of model prediction from experimental values: red color, model prediction higher than experimental value; blue color, model prediction lower than experimental value; white, exact match between model prediction and experimental value.



**Figure S5** Experimental data (black dots) with fitted Monod function (red line). Semilogarithmic profiles of (**a**) maximal optical density ( $OD_{max}$ ), (**b**) cellular dry weight at  $OD_{max}$ , and (**c**) maximal linear growth rate ( $\mu_{lin}$ ) for *P. inhibens* DSM 17395 as a function of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> or PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> concentration (see Fig. 2b–d for joint display in color maps). A Monod function was fitted to experimental data by minimizing the sum of squared errors. The blue line corresponds to the median derived from a 2D LOWESS fit to experimental data (see Fig. 3).