

Gene expression dynamics upon allopolyploidization: Global transcriptome analysis reveals large-scale repression of the 'D'subgenome in synthetic hexaploid wheat

Akshaya Vasudevan, Madeleine Lévesque-Lemay, Tara Edwards and Sylvie Cloutier

IWGSC workshop International Plant & Animal Genome XXIX, San Diego January 8th 2022

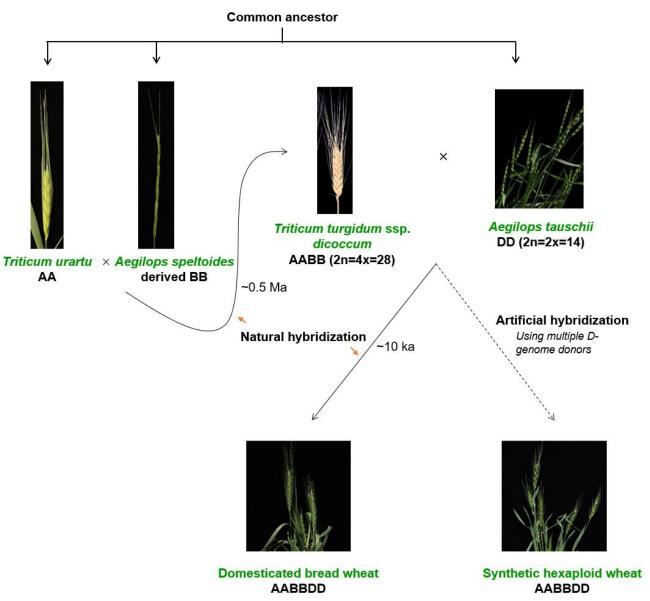






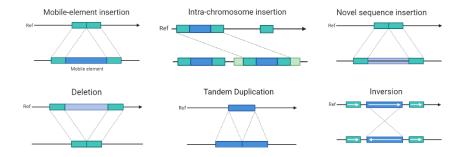
Wheat genome evolution: Polyploidization

- Whole genome duplication has strong association with plant speciation
- Bread wheat is an allohexaploid crop (2n = 6x = 42; AABBDD)
- Genetic diversity of D genome in bread wheat is lesser than the A and B genomes

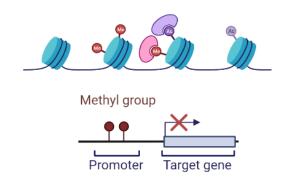


Consequences of polyploidization: Genomic shock

Genetic changes



Epigenetic modifications



Alterations in three-dimensional chromatin architecture



All these potentially trigger changes in transcriptome.

Objective: To understand the influence of genome interactions at various ploidy levels on gene expression in SHW lines

Materials

Plant material

		Male parent	
		AS2386 (DD) Ae. tauschii	AS2399 (DD) Ae. tauschii
Female parent	PI377655 (AABB) T. turgidum ssp. dicoccum	C66* (AABBDD)	C65* (AABBDD)
	Langdon (AABB) <i>T. turgidum ssp. durum</i>	C44* (AABBDD)	C45* (AABBDD)

*SHW – Synthetic Hexaploid Wheat

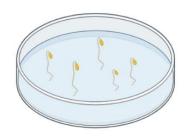
Sequencing data

- mRNA-sequencing data from above eight genotypes
- 10 different tissues
- Three biological replicates

Tissues used in the study



1. Shoot (below rachis)



- 2. Root
- 3. Hypocotyl



4. Lemma and Palea



5. Glume



6. Head at boot stage

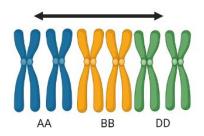


- 7. Pistil when anthers are at immature stage
- 8. Mature anthers
- 9. Pistil when anthers are at mature stage
- 10. Pistil one day after anthesis

Methods

Alignment to IWGSC RefSeq v2.1 using STAR v2.7.1a

Comparison of homoeo-allele expression within the same genomic background



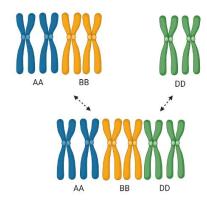
18,357 triads (IWGSC 2018; Zhu et al. 2021)

Homoeolog expression bias (HEB) estimation

$$HEB = \log_2\left(\frac{RPKM_a}{RPKM_b}\right)$$

HEB analysis of triads using likelihood ratio test (Smith et al. 2019)

Comparison of expression differences between different genomic backgrounds

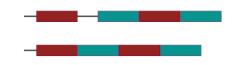


106,913 high confidence gene models

Differential expression analysis between SHWs and their parents:

With all high confidence models using edgeR (Robinson et al. 2010)

Qualitative changes in transcripts



SHW vs parents comparison of differentially spliced isoforms

rMATS (Shen et al. 2014)

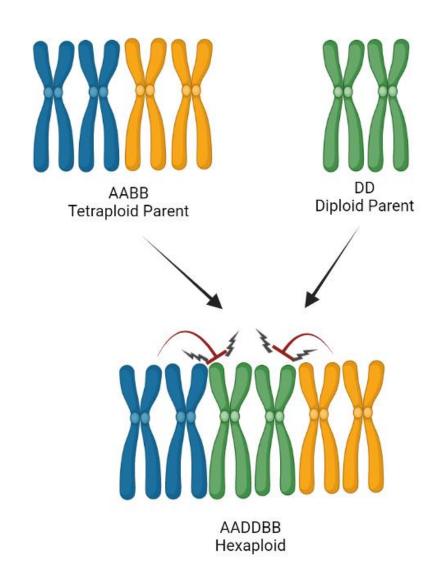
- 1. Mutually exclusive exons
- 2. Alternative 3' splicing site
- 3. Alternative 5' splicing site
- 4. Retained intron
- 5. Skipped exon

Results

Manuscript under preparation, hence removed from this slide deck.

Summary

- Within genome comparison of homoeo-allele expression:
 - The repression of D-genome specific homoeologues in synthetic hexaploid background
- Between genome comparison at different ploidy level:
 - Majorly impact on expression of genes in the Dsubgenome
- Qualitative differences:
 - Differences in mRNA splicing between parents and the SHW lines
 - Retained intron was the predominantly detected event



Acknowledgement

PhD Thesis Supervisor:



Dr. Sylvie J. Cloutier Principal Research Scientist, AAFC & Adjunct Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa

PhD Thesis Advisory Committee:

Dr. Jean-Sébastien Parent, Research Scientist, AAFC & Adjunct Professor, Department of Biology, Carleton University

Dr. Allyson M. MacLean, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa

Dr. Nicolas Corradi, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa

Grant funding





Members of Dr. Cloutier's lab, AAFC





International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium

Illustrations were made using Biorender



Thank You John Tamil)