

BIODIVERSITY GENOMICS: APPLICATIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION OF CROP WILD RELATIVES

PRETORIA 23 NOVEMBER 2016

**IN SITU CONSERVATION OF CWR IN SADC
COUNTRIES**

UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS AND MINISTRY
OF AGRO INDUSTRY AND FOOD SECURITY

CWR CLASSIFICATION

GENE POOL CONCEPT

- primary gene pool (GP1),
 - the crop and all the closely related taxa, which can interbreed with the crop and produce fertile progenies - GP1A (cultivated form) and GP1B (wild or weedy forms of the crop)
- GP2
 - taxa distinct from the crop, but still capable of crossing with it and producing some fertile hybrids
- GP3
 - includes taxa distantly related to the crop
And cannot interbreed with the crop.

Taxon group: based on taxonomic hierarchy

- Taxon group 1 (TG1) includes the crop and taxa that of the same species;
- TG2 includes taxa belonging to the same series or section as the crop;
- TG3 includes taxa of the same subgenus as the crop;
- TG4 includes taxa belonging to the same genus as the crop;
- TG5 includes taxa belonging to the same tribe as the crop, but to a different genus

Genetic diversity

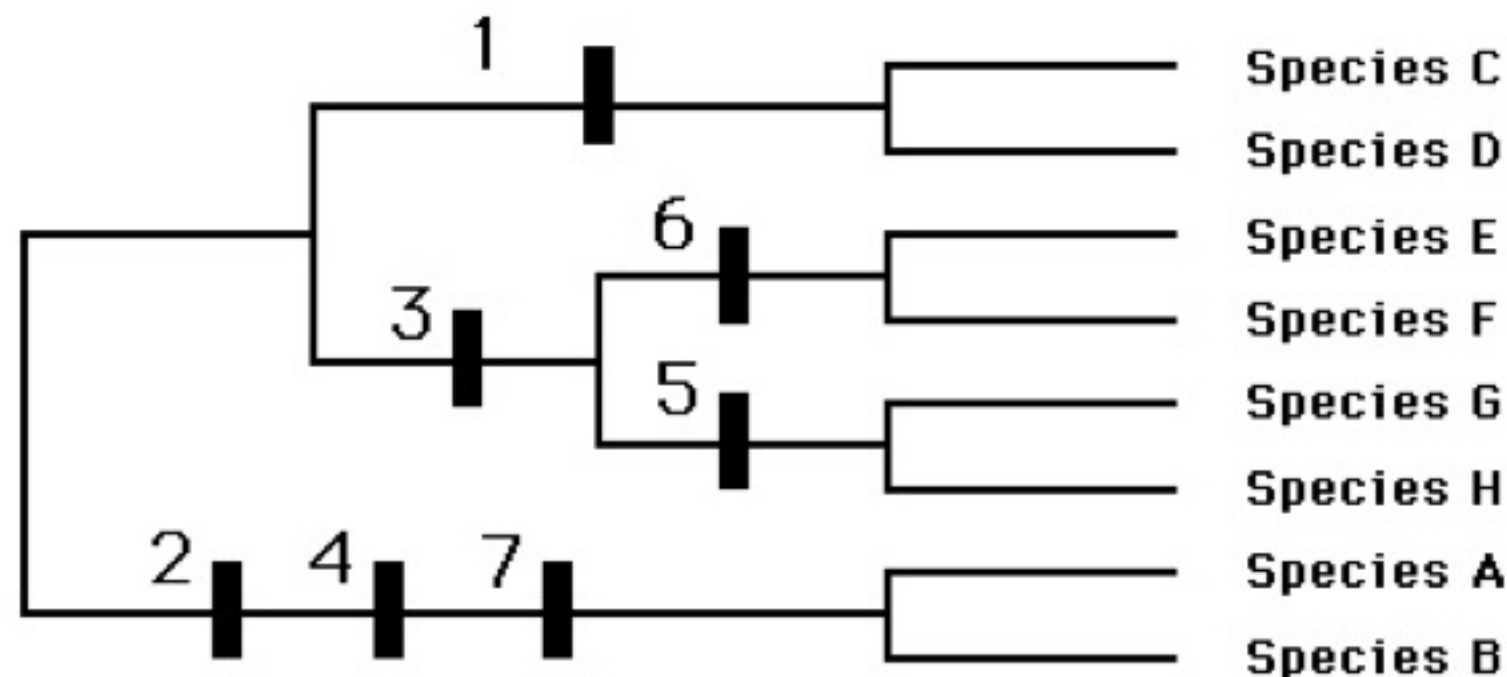
- All crop plants originated from wild relative(s) that were domesticated-
- Which ones are they ? Are they still around?
- Vincent et al. (2013) -1667 wild species for 173 crop species



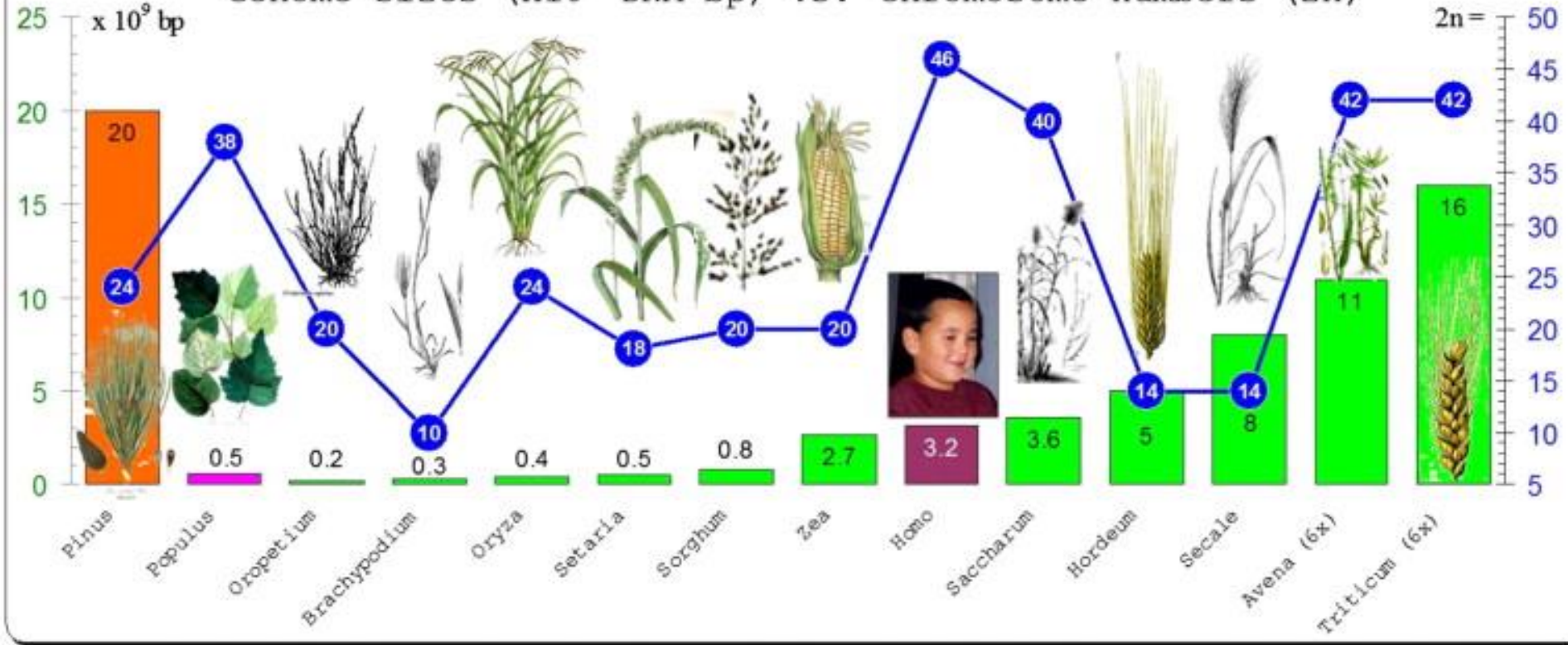
Biodiversity Genomics: using genomic data to assess biodiversity

- Conservation planning requires data on diversity of **species richness, endemism as well as genetic diversity**
- Reconcile traditional approach based on morphology with **high-resolution DNA sequence** information
-

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Species A	ACCAGC	C TGTGCATCGATG	A CGACTAAGTGATACCATAAA	A GACT			
Species B	ACCAGC	C TGTGCATCGATG	A CGACTAAGTGATACCATAAA	A GACT			
Species C	AC	G AGCATGTGCATCGATG	C CGACTAAGTGATACCATAAT	G AATGACT			
Species D	AC	G AGCATGTGCATCGATG	C CGACTAAGTGATACCATAAT	G AATGACT			
Species E	ACCAGCATGTG	T ATCGATGCCGACTAAGTGATACCA	A AATGACT				
Species F	ACCAGCATGTG	T ATCGATGCCGACTAAGTGATACCA	A AATGACT				
Species G	ACCAGCATGTG	T ATCGATGCCGACTAAGTG	C TACCATAATGACT				
Species H	ACCAGCATGTG	T ATCGATGCCGACTAAGTG	C TACCATAATGACT				



Genome sizes ($\times 10^9$ DNA bp) vs. chromosome numbers ($2n$)



Genome sizes

Species	No. of base pairs
Arabidopsis	125 million
Drosophila	180 million
Rice	400 million
Maize	2,500 million
Human	3,000 million
Barley	4,900 million
Wheat	16,000 million

In a Conventional
PCR

20-30 bases
primers anneal
over millions of
bases -

Phylogenetic diversity: measuring genetic distance

- Units of diversity- “species”
- Classical approach: identification can be ambiguous when characters such as flower color, flower shape, and leaf morphology change over the life of an individual
- Definition of the “species”-

Taxonomic approaches

- Incorporate Chloroplast/mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences into taxonomic keys
- These DNA barcodes are available in GenBank database.
- DNA barcoding has greatly improved species delineation.
- Nearly 100 plant genomes available in public databases

DNA barcoding has greatly improved species delineation.

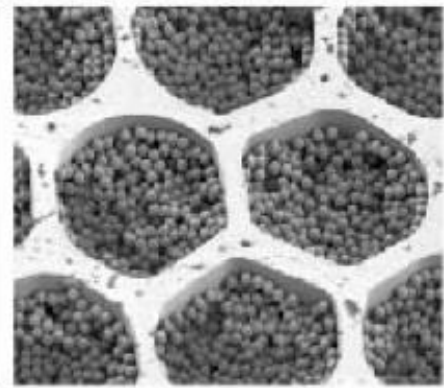
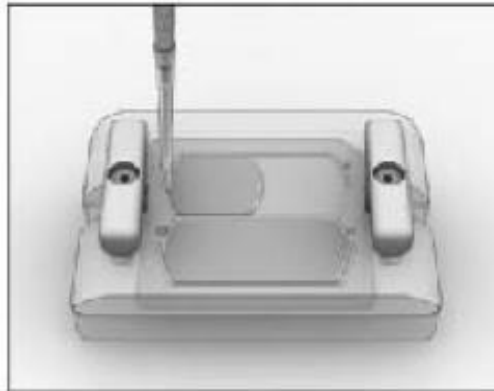
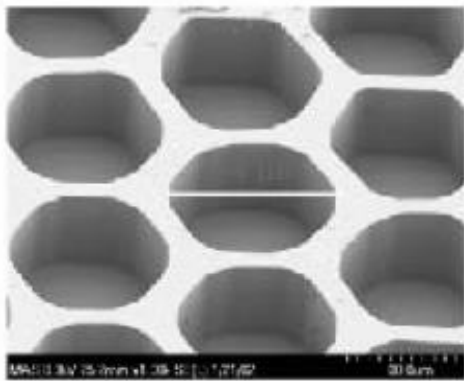
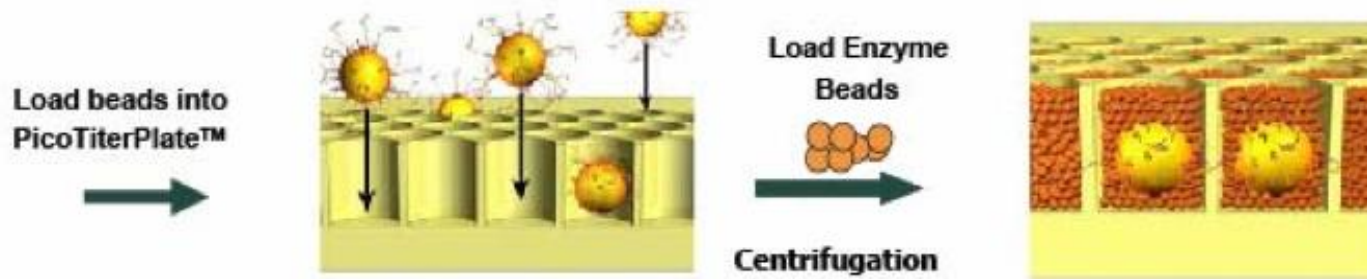
- (ITS + *trnH-psbA*, Kress et al., 2005;
- portion of *matK*, Lahaye et al., 2008),
- land plants (ITS + *rbcL*, Chase et al., 2005; *rpoC1* + *rpoB* + *matK* or *rpoC1* + *matK* + *psbA-trnH*, Chase et al., 2007; portion of *rbcL* + *trnH-psbA*, Kress and Erickson, 2007; *rbcL* + *matK*, CBOL, 2009),
- combinations of *rbcL*, *rpoC1*, *rpoB*, *matK*, *ycf5*, *trnL*, *psbA-trnH*, and ITS Gonzalez et al., 2009),
- and a 50-ha forest in Panama (*rbcL* + *matK* + *trnH-psbA*, Kress et al., 2009).

Whole genome sequencing

- Shotgun sequencing using next-generation sequencing (NGS) : provides very large volumes of high-quality sequence data in the form of short sequences.
- the majority of food and fiber crops have **at least one genome assembly** in the public domain
- **Next Generation Sequencing**
- 454 - 35 bases
- Illumina 250 bases
- 15 000 bases are available on the Pac Bio platform

Chemistry of sequencing reactions have improved to give high-throughput data

Depositing DNA Beads into the PicoTiterPlate™



Genomes of crop wild relatives completed

[*Arachis duranensis*](#) (A genome diploid wild **peanut**) and [*Arachis ipaensis*](#) (B genome diploid wild peanut) Wild ancestors of peanut, an oilseed and grain legume crop-

[*Solanum pimpinellifolium*](#) closest wild relative to **tomato**

Solanum commersoni - Wild **potato** relative

[*Oryza brachyantha*](#) (wild rice) -Disease resistant wild relative of **rice**

[*Oryza glaberrima*](#) (African rice) - West-African species of **rice**

[*Oryza rufipogon*](#) (red rice) - Ancestor to [*Oryza sativa*](#)

Molecular analysis has shown that there is frequent **exchange** of segments between *O. sativa* and *O. glaberrima*.

Wild relatives have poor phenotypic characteristics

Comparative genomics and phylogenetic discordance of cultivated tomato and close wild relatives

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ABSTRACT

Background. Studies of ancestry are difficult in the tomato because it crosses with many wild relatives and species in the tomato clade that have diverged very recently. As a result, the phylogeny in relation to its closest relatives remains uncertain. By using the coding sequence from *Solanum lycopersicum*, *S. galapagense*, *S. pimpinellifolium*, *S. corneliomuelleri*, and *S. tuberosum* and the genomic sequence from *S. lycopersicum* ‘Heinz’, an heirloom line, *S. lycopersicum* ‘Yellow Pear’, and two of cultivated tomato’s closest relatives, *S. galapagense* and *S. pimpinellifolium*, we have aimed to resolve the phylogenies of these closely related species as well as identify phylogenetic discordance in the reference cultivated tomato.

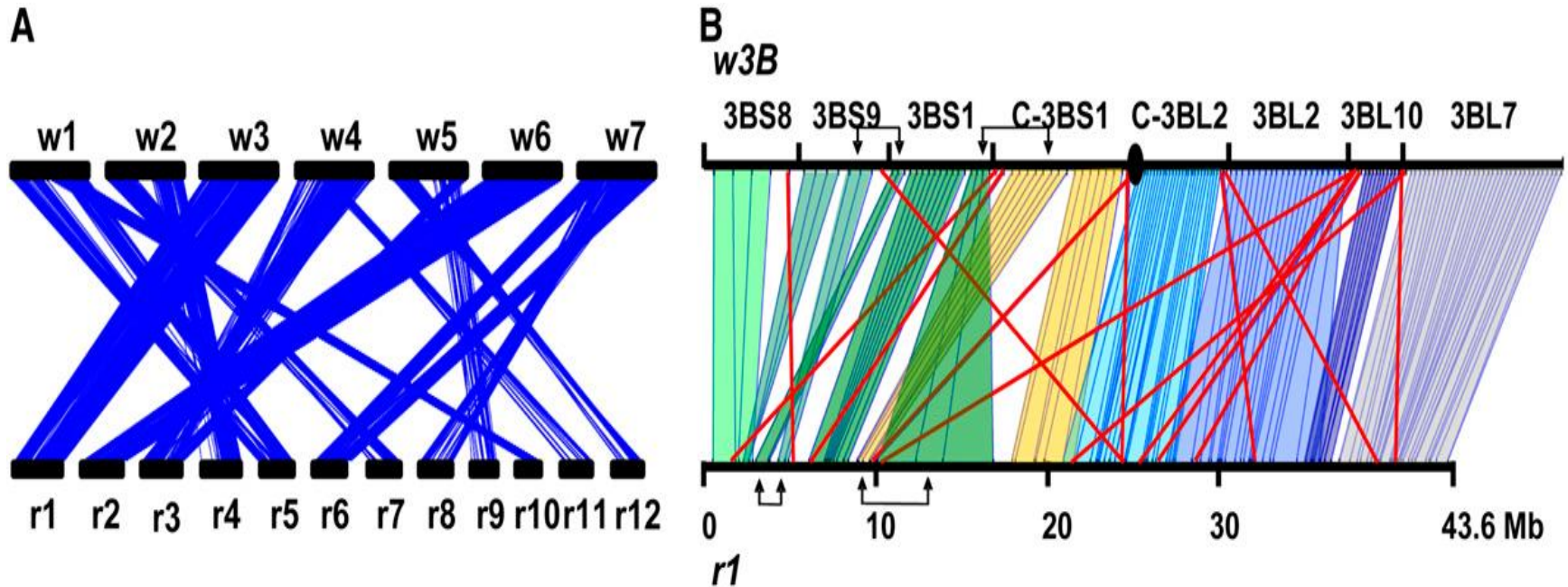
De novo assembly of soybean wild relatives for pan-genome analysis of diversity and agronomic traits

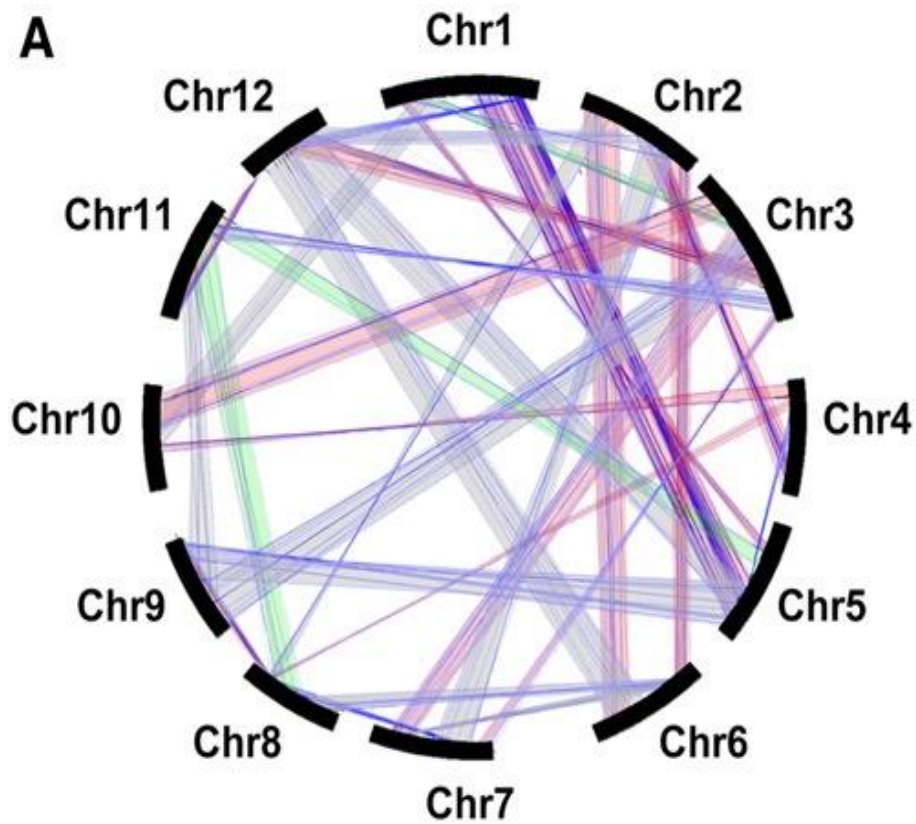
Ying-hui Li^{1-3,11}, Guangyu Zhou^{4,10,11}, Jianxin Ma^{5,11}, Wenkai Jiang^{4,11}, Long-guo Jin¹⁻³, Zhouhao Zhang⁴, Yong Guo¹⁻³, Jinbo Zhang⁴, Yi Sui¹⁻³, Liangtao Zheng⁴, Shan-shan Zhang¹⁻³, Qiyang Zuo⁴, Xue-hui Shi¹⁻³, Yan-fei Li¹⁻³, Wan-ke Zhang⁶, Yiyao Hu⁴, Guanyi Kong⁴, Hui-long Hong¹⁻³, Bing Tan¹⁻³, Jian Song¹⁻³, Zhang-xiong Liu¹⁻³, Yaoshen Wang⁴, Hang Ruan⁴, Carol K L Yeung⁴, Jian Liu⁴, Hailong Wang⁴, Li-juan Zhang¹⁻³, Rong-xia Guan¹⁻³, Ke-jing Wang¹⁻³, Wen-bin Li⁷, Shou-yi Chen⁶, Ru-zhen Chang¹⁻³, Zhi Jiang⁴, Scott A Jackson⁸, Ruiqiang Li^{4,9} & Li-juan Qiu¹⁻³

Wild relatives of crops are an important source of genetic diversity for agriculture, but their gene repertoire remains largely unexplored. We report the establishment and analysis of a pan-genome of *Glycine soja*, the wild relative of cultivated soybean *Glycine max*, by sequencing and *de novo* assembly of seven phylogenetically and geographically representative accessions. Intergenomic comparisons identified lineage-specific genes and genes with copy number variation or large-effect mutations, some of which show evidence of positive selection and may contribute to variation of agronomic traits such as biotic resistance, seed composition, flowering and maturity time, organ size and final biomass. Approximately 80% of the pan-genome was present in all seven accessions (core), whereas the rest was dispensable and exhibited greater variation than the core genome, perhaps reflecting a role in adaptation to diverse environments. This work will facilitate the harnessing of untapped genetic diversity from wild soybean for enhancement of elite cultivars.

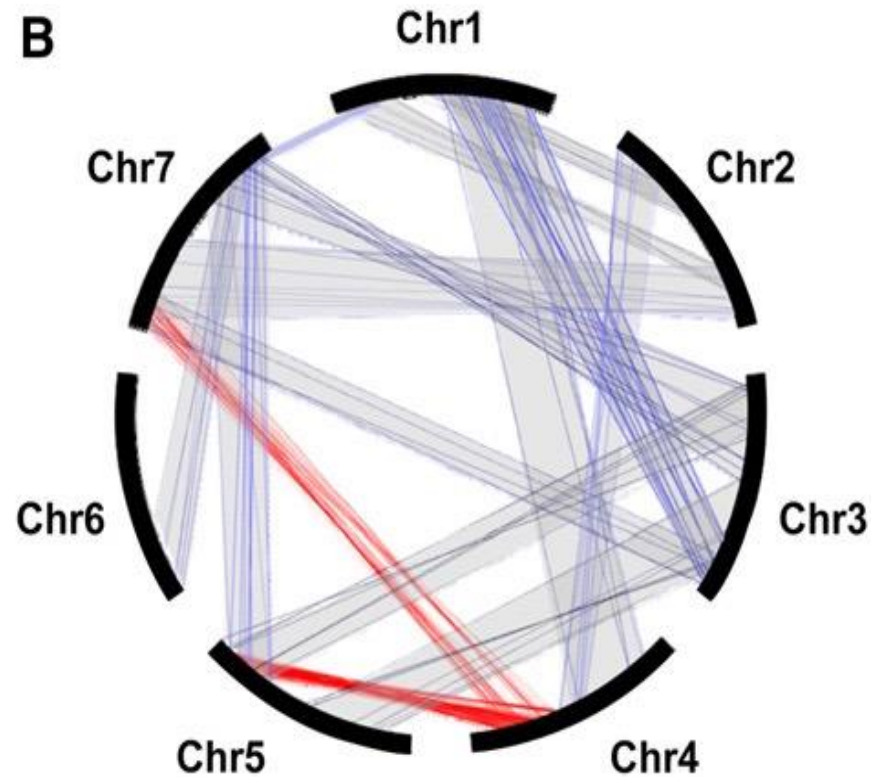
Annual wild soybean (*Glycine soja* Sieb. & Zucc.) is the closest relative and antecedent of cultivated soybean (*Glycine max* (L.) Merr.) and is a source of genetic diversity that has often been missed⁷. Moreover, a single genome is insufficient to represent the genomic content of a predominantly selfing (autogamous) species

Orthologous Regions Between Wheat and Rice





29 duplication blocks on the 12 rice chromosomes.



10 duplicated regions and 2 translocations identified on the seven wheat chromosome groups.

Simple Tandem Repeat Sequences

Class	Repeat size bp	Array size (no. of units)	Genomic distribution
Satellites	2-2,000	> 1,000	Centromeric, heterochromatic
Minisatellites	9-100	10-100	Sub-telomeric, dispersed
Short tandem repeats	3-5	10-100	Dispersed
Microsatellites	1-2	10-100	Dispersed

Dictyosperma in Mauritius

- Palm family (Arecaceae)
- 188 genera and approximately 2,585 species (Palmweb,2015)
- In the Mascarenes :11 species in five endemic genera (Moore & Gueho, 1984)
- Mauritius has highest palm diversity, with seven species and eight taxa – six endemic
- La Réunion has four species, two taxa endemic;
- Rodrigues has three species of which three taxa are endemic

Scientific name	Vernacular name	Endemic range	IUCN Red List category	Estimated wild population
<i>Dictyosperma album</i> (Bory) H. Wendl. & Drude ex Scheff. var. <i>album</i>	Palmiste blanc	Mauritius & La Réunion	CR	c. 30
<i>Dictyosperma album</i> var. <i>conjugatum</i> Moore & Guého	Palmiste de l'Île Ronde	Round Island	CR	1

Dictyosperma album var *album*



***Dictyosperma
album var
conjugatum***

Ile Ronde
(Round Island)



Dictyosperma album var *conjugatum*

Ile aux Aigrettes



Ile aux Aigrettes



Re-introduction onto Round Island

Seedlings



PART OF A SPECIAL ISSUE ON PALM BIOLOGY

DNA barcoding: a new tool for palm taxonomists?

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- **Background and Aims** In the last decade, a new tool – DNA barcoding – was proposed to identify species. The technique of DNA barcoding is still being developed. The Consortium for the Barcode of Life's Plant Working Group (CBOL-PWG) selected two core markers (*matK* and *rbcL*) that now must be tested in as many taxa as possible. Although the taxonomy of palms (Arecaceae/Palmae) has been greatly improved in the past decades, taxonomic problems remain. Species complexes, for example, could significantly benefit from DNA barcoding. Palms have never before been subjected to a DNA barcoding test.
- **Methods** For this study, 40 out of the 48 species of the southeast Asian tribe Caryoteae (subfamily Coryphoideae) were included. In total, four DNA markers – three plastid encoded (*matK*, *rbcL* and *psbA-trnH*) and one nuclear encoded (nrITS2) – were analysed to determine if adequate variation exists to discriminate among species.
- **Key Results** The combination of three markers – *matK*, *rbcL* and nrITS2 – results in 92 % species discrimination. This rate is high for a barcoding experiment. The two core markers suggested by the CBOL-PWG, *rbcL* and *matK*, have a low species discrimination rate and need to be supplemented by another marker. In Caryoteae, nrITS2 should be chosen over *psbA-trnH* to supplement the two 'core' markers.
- **Conclusions** For the first time a test of DNA barcoding was conducted in Arecaceae. Considering that palms have highly variable mutation rates compared with other angiosperms, the results presented here are encouraging for developing DNA barcoding as a useful tool to identify species within this ecologically important tropical plant family.

Transposable Elements (TE)

- They account for almost 50% of the human genome and 70% of the genomes of some grass species, including maize.
- Class 1 LTR-retrotransposons, such as the *Gypsy* and *Copia* superfamilies
- Class 2 MITEs (Miniature Inverted Repeat Elements) are also abundant in maize

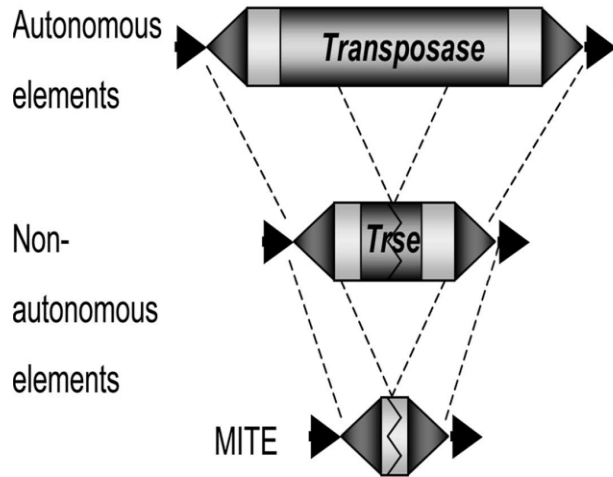
IRAP

- interretrotransposon amplified polymorphism (IRAP) protocol (Kalendar and Schulman 2006)
- segments between two nearby retrotransposons or LTRs(Long Terminal Repeats) are amplified using outward-facing primers, used to determine the diversity of TE elements.

a

Class 2

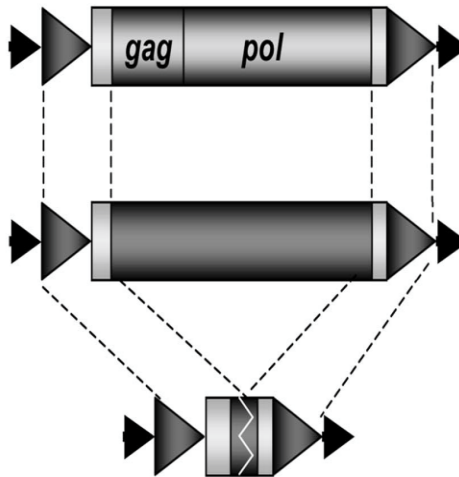
DNA transposons



b

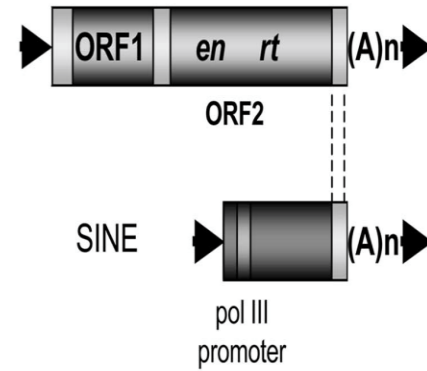
Class 1

LTR retrotransposons



c

Non-LTR retrotransposons

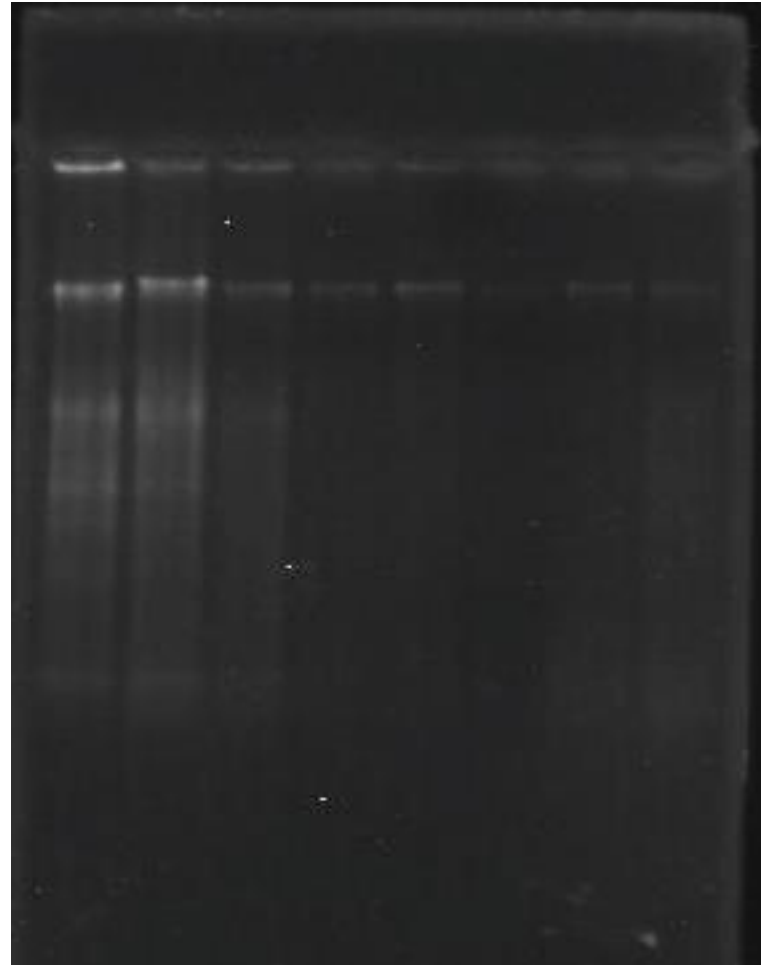


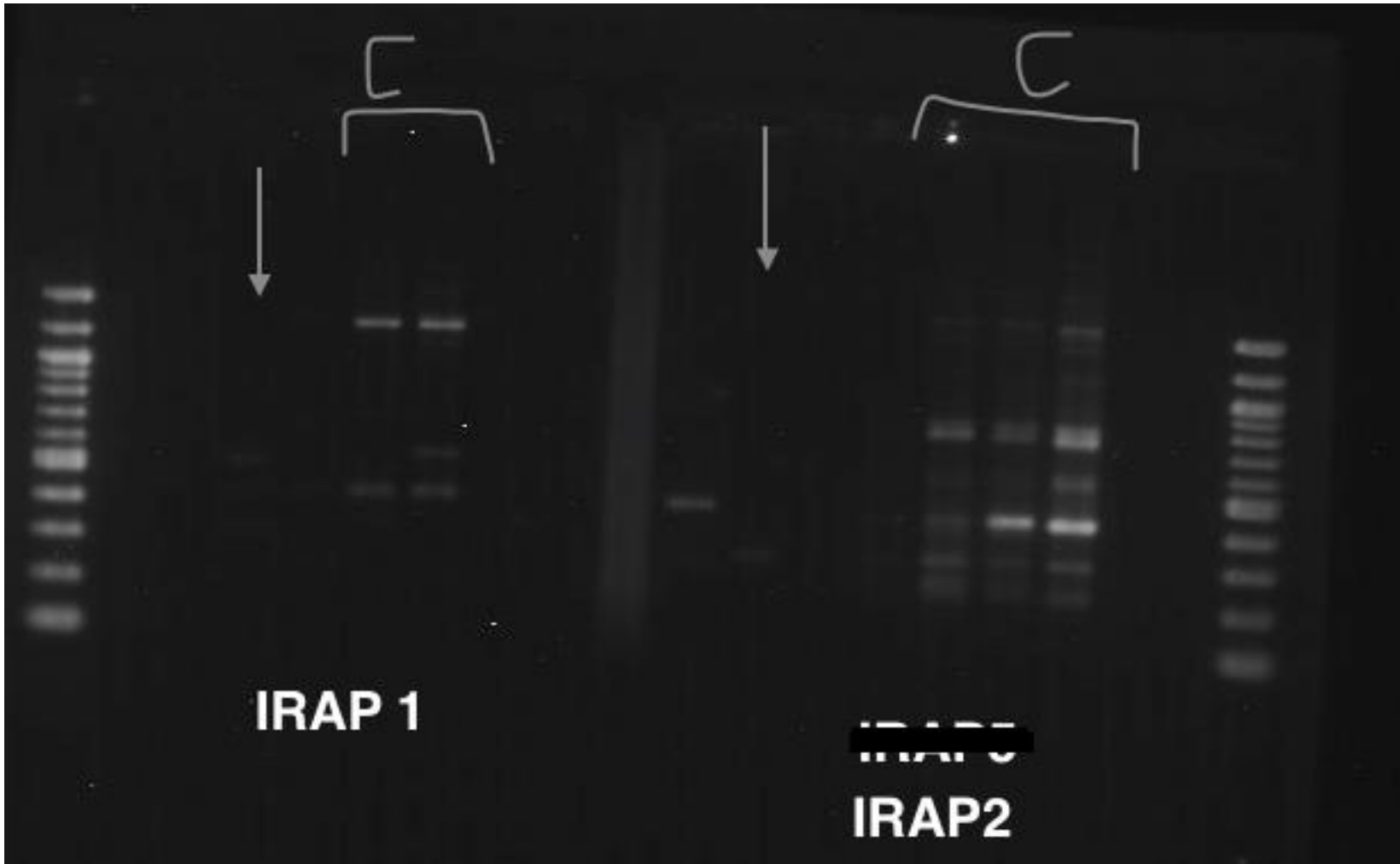
Molecular characterisation on *Dictyosperma album* var *album* and *D a* var *conjugatum*

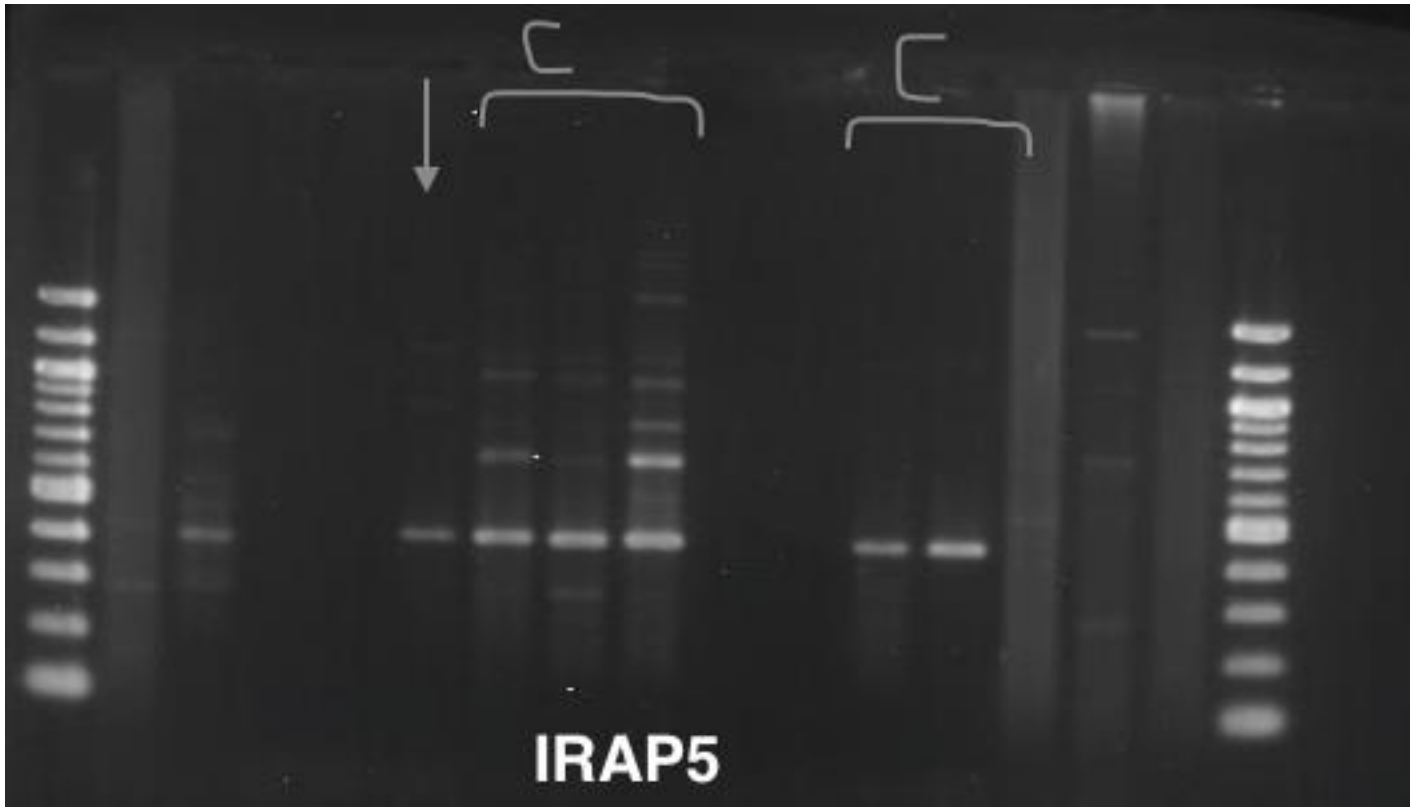
- Samples :
 - National Parks Black River (*conjugatum*)
 - Ile aux Aigrettes (3 *conjugatum*)
 - Curepipe (*album*)
 - Plaine Sophie (*album*)
 - Botanical Garden- Pamplémousse (*conjugatum*)

DNA extraction

- 1st attempt- Kit – not successful
- CTAB method- isopropanol







On going work

- More samples to be tested
- Reproducibility of PCR
- DNA barcoding- amplicons will be sequenced-
- Outcome- relatedness of the two varieties
that can assist in conservation management

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