

# **Genetic isolation between two recently diverged populations of a symbiotic fungus**

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# **To cite this version:**

Sara Branco, Pierre P. Gladieux, Christopher Ellison, Alan Kuo, Kurt Labutti, et al.. Genetic isolation between two recently diverged populations of a symbiotic fungus. Molecular Ecology, 2015, 24 (11), pp.2747-2758. 10.1111/mec.13132. hal-01303143

# **HAL Id: hal-01303143 <https://hal.science/hal-01303143v1>**

Submitted on 11 May 2016

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**Molecular Ecology**

# MOLECULAR ECOLOGY

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# **Page 1 of 28 Molecular Ecology**



#### **Molecular Ecology Page 2 of 28**

24 **Genetic isolation between two recently diverged populations of a symbiotic fungus** 

In omnipresent and highly diverse group of organism<br>
Eukaryotic diversity. Little is currently known about<br>
differentiation and subsequent divergence of species,<br>
ere we investigate the population structure and envir<br> *Is* 25 Sara Branco, Pierre Gladieux, Christopher E. Ellison, Alan Kuo, Kurt LaButii, Anna 26 Lipzen, Igor V. Grigoriev, Hui-Ling Liao, Rytas Vilgalys, Kabir G. Peay, John W. 27 Taylor, Thomas D. Bruns 28 29 **Abstract**  30 Fungi are an omnipresent and highly diverse group of organisms, making up a 31 significant part of eukaryotic diversity. Little is currently known about the drivers of 32 fungal population differentiation and subsequent divergence of species, particularly in 33 symbiotic fungi. Here we investigate the population structure and environmental 34 adaptation in *Suillus brevipes* (Peck) Kuntze, a wind-dispersed soil fungus that is 35 symbiotic with pine trees. We assembled and annotated the reference genome for *S.*  36 *brevipes* and re-sequenced the whole genomes of 28 individuals from coastal and 37 montane sites in California. We detected two highly supported populations with very low 38 divergence and no evidence for migration. However, we detected highly differentiated 39 genomic regions, most notably a region that contains a gene encoding for a membrane  $40$  Na<sup>+</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger known for enhancing salt tolerance in plants and yeast. Our results are 41 consistent with a very recent split between the montane and coastal *S. brevipes*  42 populations, with few small genomic regions under positive selection and a pattern of 43 dispersal and/or establishment limitation. This is the first population genomics study 44 comprising a member of the phylum Basidiomycota or of a mycorrhizal fungus. It 45 documents the least differentiated fungal populations currently known and identifies a

#### **Page 3 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

- 46 putatively adaptive gene that motivates further functional tests to link genotypes and 47 phenotypes and shed light on the genetic basis of adaptive traits.
- 48

#### 49 **Introduction**

tation influence these abilities, shaping the genetic diversity and the set of 50 The way organisms are distributed across the landscape is the result of their 51 ability to reach, establish and persist in suitable habitats. Factors such as dispersal and 52 establishment limitation influence these abilities, shaping the genetic diversity of 53 populations in nature. Fungi are no exception. They have simple morphologies allied to 54 well-defined ecological niches, comprise considerable diversity and tend to have small 55 genomes. These features make them good models for studying population differentiation 56 and adaptation in nature (Gladieux *et al*., 2014). Unlike most animals and plants, the vast 57 majority of fungi produce copious amounts of microscopic airborne propagules and are 58 often assumed to have exceptional long-range dispersal capabilities (Brown *et al*., 2013) 59 leading to wide distributions and large population sizes (Green & Bohannan, 2006). This 60 idea has however been recently challenged by ecological evidence that dispersal 61 limitation at the landscape scale affects community structure and richness (Peay *et al*., 62 2012) and that there is widespread fungal regional endemism (Taylor *et al*., 2006, 63 Amend *et al*., 2010, Talbot *et al*., 2014). Even though fungi are good models for 64 understanding the genetic basis of evolutionary change, it is not yet clear how fungal 65 adaptive divergence occurs and whether it is linked to dispersal, natural selection, or 66 both.

67 Environmental factors are known to drive fungal adaptation, with temperature as a 68 recurrent feature associated with wild fungal population differentiation even in host-

#### **Molecular Ecology Page 4 of 28**

mes *et al.*, 2006) and including the majority of myco<br>
ii living in obligate symbiotic associations with vasc<br>
particular, ectomycorrhizal (EM) fungi are an impor<br>
vide range of plant families including tree species do<br>
p 69 associated fungi (Vacher *et al*., 2008, Frenkel *et al*., 2010, Ellison *et al*., 2011, Mboup *et*  70 *al.*, 2012). However, fungal population genomics and adaptation have been studied in a 71 very small set of fungi (Liti *et al*., 2009, Neafsey *et al*., 2010, Ellison *et al*., 2011, 72 Rosenblum *et al*., 2013). This limited sample leaves out an immense diversity of fungal 73 groups and life histories, including all symbiotic basidiomycete mushroom-forming 74 fungi. The phylum Basidiomycota is one of the largest fungal phyla, comprising about 75 30,000 species (James *et al*., 2006) and including the majority of mycorrhizal species, 76 which are soil fungi living in obligate symbiotic associations with vascular plants (Smith 77 & Read, 2010). In particular, ectomycorrhizal (EM) fungi are an important group 78 associated with a wide range of plant families including tree species dominant in many 79 biomes. EM fungi play a crucial role in forest ecosystems by providing water and 80 nutrients to their host trees, for which they receive carbohydrates in return (Smith & 81 Read, 2010). Although there have been attempts to understand EM fungal population 82 genetics (Douhan *et al*., 2011), little is currently known about the patterns of population 83 structure in these fungi or on the relative role of dispersal limitation and local adaptation 84 in shaping fungal diversity.

85 Here we report on the first population genomics study of an EM basidiomycete 86 fungus. We compile a new fungal reference genome, document fungal population 87 structure and investigate candidate genomic regions for local adaptation. We focused on 88 *Suillus brevipes*, a widespread North American EM fungus associated with pine trees 89 (Smith & Thiers, 1964). *S. brevipes* is a soil fungus and reproduces by forming fruiting 90 bodies that produce and disperse in the order of  $10<sup>8</sup>$  airborne spores per mushroom 91 (Dahlberg & Stenlid, 1994). It plays an important ecological role as a pioneer species,

#### **Page 5 of 28 Molecular Ecology**



- 112 **Materials and Methods**
- 113 *Isolate collection, culturing, and DNA extraction and sequencing*

#### **Molecular Ecology Page 6 of 28**



# **Page 7 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_8_Picture_92.jpeg)

158 *Read filtering, mapping and variant calling* 

# **Molecular Ecology Page 8 of 28**

![](_page_9_Picture_99.jpeg)

180

181 *Polymorphism and genome scans for divergence* 

# **Page 9 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_10_Picture_96.jpeg)

# **Molecular Ecology Page 10 of 28**

![](_page_11_Picture_87.jpeg)

# **Page 11 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_12_Picture_109.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_101.jpeg)

266 *Demography* 

267 Demographic inference of coastal and montane populations indicated isolation 268 (absence of gene flow) between the mountain and coastal populations as the most likely 269 demographic model (Table 3). Inference using folded site frequency spectra also pointed 270 to the isolation model as the best fit to the data (isolation likelihood  $= -32595.1$ ;

# **Page 13 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_14_Picture_109.jpeg)

outliers as an absolute divergence metric to scan the regent selection (Noor & Bennett, 2009, Cruickshank e genes located in the top 1% 5kb window Dxy value variety of functions, with 20% involved in transpoting genes in s 294 regulation. The latter is invariable in the coastal individuals (Fig. 2) and codes for a  $295$  Na<sup>+</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger, which is a membrane protein involved in salt tolerance in 296 *Sacchromyces cerevisiae* and *Arabidopsis* (Nass *et al*., 1997, Apse *et al*., 1999). The *S.*  297 *cerevisiae* homolog *Nhal* encodes for a membrane protein involved in Na<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> efflux 298 needed for yeast to tolerate alkali cation tolerance at acidic pH (Bañuelos *et al*., 1998). 299 Gene 826958 will hereafter be referred to as *Nha1-like*. 300 We used Dxy outliers as an absolute divergence metric to scan the genome for 301 regions under divergent selection (Noor & Bennett, 2009, Cruickshank & Hahn, 2014). 302 Table S3 reports the genes located in the top 1% 5kb window Dxy values. These encode 303 proteins with a wide variety of functions, with 20% involved in transporter activity. 304 *Nha1-like* and flanking genes in scaffold 12 (coding for an endopeptidase and another 305 unknown protein) were included in the Dxy outlier list. 306 We also investigated Fst across the genome. On average Fst values per SNP were  $307$  low (average Fst = 0.053, s.d. = 0.115), as expected given the low level of differentiation 308 between populations. Fst was also calculated for 5 Kb and 1Kb genomic sliding windows 309 and compared to the list of Dxy outliers. The majority of windows showed low Fst values 310 yet some regions had high relative divergence. Fig. 3 depicts the 1Kb window Fst values, 311 showing 807 windows displaying Fst values above 0.5. We found 24 genes associated 312 with the top 0.1% of 1kb windows with highest Fst values (Table 5). These are involved 313 in a variety of cellular functions, namely transporter, catalytic, oxidoreductase activities 314 and DNA binding. Four Dxy outliers were also on this list, including one gene in scaffold 315 66 and the three Dxy outlier genes in scaffold 12 (these were not listed as Fst outliers

#### **Page 15 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_16_Picture_86.jpeg)

337 consistent with the early stages of environmental adaptation.

# **Molecular Ecology Page 16 of 28**

![](_page_17_Picture_105.jpeg)

359 also pointed to absence of migration as the most probable scenario. Furthermore, we

#### **Page 17 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_18_Picture_115.jpeg)

#### **Molecular Ecology Page 18 of 28**

383 known to host poorly diverse EM fungal communities (Schechter & Branco, 2014 and 384 references therein). Further research will be needed to fully understand the role of gene 385 *Nha1-like* for salt tolerance in *Suillus brevipes*.

erns of genomic differentiation, demographics and p<br>on genomics study on wild and domesticated yeasts<br>*aradoxus*) found worldwide population differentiatio<br>on (Liti *et al.*, 2009). Ellison *et al.*, 2011 found evide<br>tiati 386 Our study is one of the few available fungal population genomic studies so far and 387 provides the earliest example of divergence and emergence of environmentally adapted 388 fungal populations. Other studies also reported evidence of adaptive evolution, revealing 389 more complex patterns of genomic differentiation, demographics and positive selection. 390 A pioneer population genomics study on wild and domesticated yeasts (*Saccharomyces*  391 *cerevisiae* and *S. paradoxus*) found worldwide population differentiation correlated to 392 phenotypic variation (Liti *et al*., 2009). Ellison *et al*., 2011 found evidence of cryptic 393 population differentiation and local adaptation in *Neurospora crassa*. Their genome scans 394 revealed distinct populations at different latitudes, with up to 9% genomic divergence, 395 asymmetrical migration and areas of genomic differentiation including genes related to 396 temperature and circadian rhythm, showing environmental factors shape fungal 397 evolution. *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, the amphibian-killing chytrid fungus, was 398 found to include high genetic variation across populations and a complex evolutionary 399 history, including differences in chromosome copy numbers and heterozygosity across 400 isolates as well as signatures of selection in genes involved in amphibian skin infection 401 (Rosenblum *et al*., 2013). Whole genome data has also revealed population structure, 402 strong genomic divergence  $(-50\%)$  and signals of introgression in the human pathogens 403 *Coccidioides immitis* and *C. posadasii* (Neafsey *et al*., 2010). Comparing to these studies, 404 *Suillus brevipes* is an example of a much more recent population split, as demonstrated

#### **Page 19 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

405 by the very low amount of reciprocally fixed alleles (0.01%), low Dxy and low overall 406 Fst.

erance not previously hypothesized to be relevant in<br>
1 clarify the importance of this gene and shed light on<br>
1 fungi. Furthermore, a broader geographic sampling<br>
1 environments will aid in understanding the evolutic<br>
M f 407 This study documents the first steps of fungal population differentiation, reporting 408 the most recent split between fungal populations to date. Our results corroborate the 409 existence of dispersal limitation in fungi and show positive selection associated with 410 abiotic factors as a driver for population differentiation in fungi, including a gene 411 involved in salt tolerance not previously hypothesized to be relevant in EM fungi. Further 412 functional tests can clarify the importance of this gene and shed light on the genetic basis 413 of adaptive traits in fungi. Furthermore, a broader geographic sampling, including 414 samples from other environments will aid in understanding the evolution of *S. brevipes* in 415 particular and of EM fungi in general.<br>416

416

#### 417 **Acknowledgements**

418 We thank Holly Edes for technical assistance, the Computational Genomics Resource 419 Laboratory at the University of California, Berkeley for assistance with computational 420 analysis, Joey Spatafora and the 1000 Fungal Genomes Project for the *Suillus brevipes* 421 reference genome and annotation, Ben Wilson and Philipp Messer for sharing scripts to 422 perform selective sweep analysis, and Megan Phifer-Rixey for comments on an earlier 423 draft. Financial support was supported by National Science Foundation grant DBI 424 1046115. The work conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy Joint Genome Institute, 425 a DOE Office of Science User Facility, is supported under Contract No. DE-AC02- 426 05CH11231.

![](_page_21_Picture_262.jpeg)

#### **Page 21 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

![](_page_22_Picture_272.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_251.jpeg)

#### **Page 23 of 28 Molecular Ecology**

563 Zhou Z, Miwa M, Hogetsu T (2001) Polymorphism of simple sequence repeats reveals 564 gene flow within and between ectomycorrhizal *Suillus grevillei* populations. *New*  565 *Phytol*, **149**, 339–348. 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 **Figures and figure legends: For Review Only 1990**<br> **For Stars Share Share** 575 A

- 578 Figure 1 Evidence for population structure between the coastal and montane *Suillus*
- 579 *brevipes* populations. a) Neighbor-joining tree based on 567192 SNPs after singleton
- 580 exclusion; green branches depict individuals from the mountains (Yosemite National
- 581 Park, CA) and blue branches refer to coastal individuals (Sb20 was collected from Pt
- 582 Reyes, Sb21 from Salt Point, and all others from Mendocino Co, CA); Sb7 and Sb10 are
- 583 clones. \* indicates bootstrap support values of 100. b) FRAPPE diagrams showing
- 584 genetic differentiation between coastal and montane individuals.
- 585
- 586

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_278.jpeg)

#### 625 **Tables**  626

627 Table 1 - Genomic summary statistics for the montane and coastal *Suillus brevipes*

628 populations with number of segregating sites, nucleotide diversity  $(\pi)$ ,  $\pi$  for silent sites,

629 Tajima's D, and Zeng's E for 5Kb genomic windows and genes.

630

![](_page_26_Picture_279.jpeg)

631 632

633 Table 2 – Number and percentage of polymorphic and fixed SNP between the coastal and

634 mountain populations. (Total number of SNPs = 1254275).

635

![](_page_26_Picture_280.jpeg)

636

637

638 Table 3 - Optimized log-likelihoods for demographic models as provided by  $\partial a \partial i$  (using

639 the unfolded site frequency spectra). Tested models included isolation, migration,

640 migration and exponential growth, migration with two epochs, and migration with two

641 epochs and exponential growth. The isolation model is the most likely model and is

642 highlighted in bold.

![](_page_26_Picture_281.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_249.jpeg)

- 644
- 645

646 Table 4 - Maximum-likelihood demographic parameter estimates for the isolation model<br>647 to the joint allele frequency spectrum for the mountain and coastal *S. brevipes* 

647 to the joint allele frequency spectrum for the mountain and coastal *S. brevipes*

648 populations, with respective means and standard deviation (SD).  $\mu$ =10-9; divergence time in generations. in generations.

650

![](_page_27_Picture_250.jpeg)

651

652 Table 5 – 1kb window Fst gene 0.1% outliers, with localization in genome and protein

653 function (with respective description) if available.

![](_page_27_Picture_251.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_215.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_210.jpeg)

- 655
- 656
- 657

#### 658 **Data Accessibility**

- 659
- 660 DNA sequences : Short Read Archive accessions in table S1
- 661 *Suillus brevipes* reference genome and annotation:
- 662 http://genome.jgi.doe.gov/Suillus\_brevipes/
- 663 *S. brevipes* raw single nucleotide polymorphism list : Dryad doi XXXXX
- 664 *S. brevipes* neighbor-joining tree : Dryad doi XXXXX
- 665 666

# 667 **Author Contributions**

- 668 669 SB, TDB and JWT designed the study and collected samples. SB, PG and CEE
- 670 performed analyses. AK, KL, AL and IVG assembled and annotated the *Suillus brevipes* 671 reference genome. SB, PG, CEE, H-L L, RV, KGP, JWT and TDB wrote the paper.
- 672
- 673

#### 674 **Supporting Information**  675

- The Jounnig acc. *Dryaa dof AXXXXX*<br> **For Solven Solven Convertsion** Cherry designed the study and collected samples. SB, PG as<br>
For R. K. K. AL and IVG assembled and annotated th<br>
SB, PG, CEE, H-L L, RV, KGP, JWT and TDB 676 Table S1 - *Suillus brevipes* isolate location, habitat, pine host, coordinates and 677 elevation, number of raw and high quality reads, % alignment rate, genome coverage, and 678 Short Read Archive accession numbers. \* Sb2 was the isolate used to generate the 679 reference genome for the species (http://genome.jgi-psf.org/Suibr1/Suibr1.home.html). 680 See text for details.
- 681

682 Table S2 - 5kb window Dxy gene 1% outliers, with localization in genome and 683 protein function and description. Genes in scaffold 12 include 20% of the reciprocally 684 fixed differences falling in genic regions and gene 828720 was found to under positive 685 selection by McDonald Kreitman test.

686 687 Table S3 - Genes under positive selection as inferred by McDonald-Kreitman tests 688 on genes using *S. luteus* as the outgroup. *P* values were adjusted using the Benjamini-689 Hochberg correction.

690

691 Table S4 – Selective sweep analysis; top five H value peaks for coastal and mountain 692 *Suillus brevipes* populations.

- 694 Figure S1 Observed and estimated site frequency spectra under the isolation model 695 from coastal and montane *Suillus brevipes* populations.
- 696
- 697