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## Qualitative proteomic analysis of *Tipula oleracea* nudivirus (ToNV) occlusion bodies --Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Nudiviruses are arthropod-specific large double-stranded circular DNA viruses, related to baculoviruses, which replicate in the nucleus of the cells they infect. Up to date six fully sequenced nudiviral genomes are available in databases and protein profile from nudivirus particles were mainly characterized by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. However, only few direct matches were completed between genomic and proteomic data to the exception of the major occlusion body protein from <i>Penaeus monodon</i> nudivirus (PmNV) and four nucleocapsid proteins from <i>Helicoverpa zea</i> nudivirus 2 (HzNV-2). Function of predicted nudiviral proteins is still inferred from what is known from baculoviruses or endogenous nudiviruses (i.e. bracoviruses). <i>Tipula oleracea</i> nudivirus (ToNV) is the causative agent of crane fly nucleopolyhedrosis. With PmNV, ToNV is the second fully sequenced nudivirus to be described as forming occlusion bodies. Protein profile revealed by Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE is quite similar to those observed for other nudiviruses with five major protein bands of about 75, 48, 35, 25 and 12 kDa. Proteomic analysis using on-line nanoflow liquid chromatography tandem high resolution mass spectrometry revealed ToNV occlusion bodies are composed of 52 viral proteins, the most abundant of which are the functional homolog of baculovirus polyhedrin/granulin and the homologs of three HzNV-2 predicted proteins: the two virion structural proteins 34K (Hz2V052, the baculovirus capsid protein VP39 homolog) and 11K (Hz2V025); and the hypothetical protein Hz2V079, a newly identified nudivirus core gene product.</p>

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7

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26 **ABSTRACT**

27 Nudiviruses are arthropod-specific large double-stranded circular DNA viruses, related to  
28 baculoviruses, which replicate in the nucleus of the cells they infect. Up to date six fully  
29 sequenced nudiviral genomes are available in databases and protein profile from nudivirus  
30 particles were mainly characterized by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. However, only  
31 few direct matches were completed between genomic and proteomic data to the exception of  
32 the major occlusion body protein from *Penaeus monodon* nudivirus (PmNV) and four  
33 nucleocapsid proteins from *Helicoverpa zea* nudivirus 2 (HzNV-2). Function of predicted  
34 nudiviral proteins is still inferred from what is known from baculoviruses or endogenous  
35 nudiviruses (i.e. bracoviruses). *Tipula oleracea* nudivirus (ToNV) is the causative agent of  
36 crane fly nucleopolyhedrosis. With PmNV, ToNV is the second fully sequenced nudivirus to  
37 be described as forming occlusion bodies. Protein profile revealed by Coomassie-stained  
38 SDS-PAGE is quite similar to those observed for other nudiviruses with five major protein  
39 bands of about 75, 48, 35, 25 and 12 kDa. Proteomic analysis using on-line nanoflow liquid  
40 chromatography tandem high resolution mass spectrometry revealed ToNV occlusion bodies  
41 are composed of 52 viral proteins, the most abundant of which are the functional homolog of  
42 baculovirus polyhedrin/granulin and the homologs of three HzNV-2 predicted proteins: the  
43 two virion structural proteins 34K (Hz2V052, the baculovirus capsid protein VP39 homolog)  
44 and 11K (Hz2V025); and the hypothetical protein Hz2V079, a newly identified nudivirus core  
45 gene product.

46

## 47 INTRODUCTION

48

49 Formerly described as non-occluded baculoviruses (Huger & Krieg 1991), nudiviruses (NV)  
50 form a highly diverse group that shares biological, structural and genomic features with other  
51 nuclear arthropod large circular dsDNA viruses (baculoviruses, hytrosaviruses, nimaviruses or  
52 filamentous viruses). However, they also share lineage specific characters (Wang *et al.*, 2012;  
53 Jehle *et al.*, 2013a, Bézier *et al.*, 2015; Gauthier *et al.*, 2015), which justified the creation of  
54 the new *Nudiviridae* family by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV)  
55 (Jehle *et al.*, 2013b).

56 Nudiviruses display wider host range than baculoviruses, hytrosaviruses or nimaviruses, as  
57 they infect more insect orders, as well as crustaceans. They have been described in  
58 Lepidoptera with *Heliothis zea* nudivirus-1 (HzNV-1) (Granados *et al.*, 1978; Cheng *et al.*,  
59 2002), and *Helicoverpa zea* nudivirus-2 (HzNV-2) (Raina *et al.*, 2000, Burand & Rallis, 2004;  
60 Burand *et al.*, 2012), in Diptera with *Drosophila innubia* NV (DiNV) (Unkless, 2011), *Tipula*  
61 *paludosa* NV (TpNV) (Smith & Xeros, 1954; Bergoin & Guelpa 1977) and *Tipula oleracea*  
62 NV (ToNV) (Bézier *et al.*, 2015), in Orthoptera with *Gryllus bimaculatus* NV (GbNV) (Huger  
63 1985, Huger & Krieg, 1991; Wang *et al.*, 2007a), in Coleoptera with *Oryctes rhinoceros* NV  
64 (OrNV) (Huger, 1966; Payne 1974; Payne *et al.*, 1977; Wang *et al.*, 2007b), and in Decapoda  
65 with *Penaeus monodon* NV (PmNV) (Mari *et al.*, 1993; Yang *et al.*, 2014), *Penaeus vannamei*  
66 single nucleopolyhedrovirus (PvNV) (Bonami *et al.*, 1995) and possibly *Crangon crangon*  
67 intranuclear bacilliform virus (CrcrIBV) (Stentiford *et al.*, 2004). Other nudiviruses are also  
68 suspected in Trichoptera, Siphonaptera, Neuroptera, Homoptera, Thysanura, Acarina and  
69 Araneina (Huger & Krieg, 1991). So far, only six fully sequenced genomes are available in  
70 databases: HzNV-1 (AF451898; Cheng *et al.*, 2002) and HzNV-2 (NC\_004156; Burand *et al.*,

71 2012), GbNV (EF203088; Wang *et al.*, 2007a), OrNV (EU747721; Wang *et al.*, 2007b),  
72 ToNV (KM610234; Bézier *et al.*, 2015) and PmNV (KJ184318; Yang *et al.*, 2014).

73 Nudiviruses are sexually or orally transmitted. All developmental stages (larvae, pupae,  
74 adults) can become infected. Depending on the host, the infection can be asymptomatic in  
75 both larvae and adults (HzNV-2), lethal in larvae and rather chronic in adults (GbNV and  
76 OrNV), and also induce malformations and sterility (HzNV-2) (reviewed in Burand, 1998).  
77 The tissue tropism is variable and concerns reproductive tissues (HzNV-2), fat body (GbNV  
78 and OrNV), mid-gut (OrNV), haemocytes (TpNV and PmNV) or hepatopancreas (PmNV).  
79 Nudiviruses are particularly prone to endogenization, as they are able to integrate their  
80 genome in host cells (Granados *et al.*, 1978; Lin *et al.*, 1999) and to infect reproductive  
81 tissues (Raina *et al.*, 2000). Recent reports highlight striking cases of nudivirus domestication  
82 especially the symbiotic bracoviruses associated with braconid wasps (Bézier *et al.*, 2009)  
83 since 100 MYA (Thézé *et al.*, 2011), which likely derive from a nudivirus more related to  
84 ToNV (Bézier *et al.*, 2015), or the virus-like particles (VLP) from the ichneumonid wasp  
85 *Venturia canescens*, derived from an *Alphanudivirus* (Pichon *et al.*, 2015). So far, there is no  
86 evidence that the endogenous alphanudivirus of the brown planthopper, *Nilaparvata lugens*  
87 (Cheng *et al.*, 2014), retains any functional activity.

88 A point of particular interest in the *Nudiviridae* is their phenotypic diversity, as within this  
89 family some viruses are transmitted as enveloped occlusion bodies (OBs), such as ToNV and  
90 TpNV (Bergoin & Guelpa, 1977; Bézier *et al.*, 2015), or non-enveloped OBs, such as PmNV  
91 (Yang *et al.*, 2014; Chaivisuthangkura *et al.*, 2008; Bonami *et al.*, 1997), others as non-  
92 occluded virions, such as *Penaesus* NVs (Couch, 1974; Yang *et al.*, 2014), HzNV-1 (Granados  
93 *et al.*, 1978) or GbNV (Granados *et al.*, 1978; Huger & Krieg, 1991), or as facultatively  
94 occluded virions, such as OrNV (Huger & Krieg, 1991; Raina *et al.*, 2000). The genetic bases  
95 of OrNV facultative OBs still remain to be determined (Wang *et al.*, 2011a; Bézier *et al.*,

96 2015). Protein profile obtained by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (Burand *et al.*, 1983;  
97 Crawford & Sheehan, 1985; Bonami *et al.*, 1997) estimate nudivirus particles to contain less  
98 than 30 proteins. With the exception of the major occlusion body protein (MOBP) from  
99 PmNV (Chaivisuthangkura *et al.*, 2008) and four viral structural proteins (11K, 15K, 28K and  
100 34K) from HzNV-2 (Kim, 2009), no direct match has ever been made between complete  
101 genomic and proteomic data of nudiviruses.

102 The genome of *Tipula oleracea* nudivirus (ToNV) is 145,704 bp and contains 131 predicted  
103 open reading frames (ORFs) (Bézier *et al.*, 2015). Comparative genomic analyses revealed  
104 ToNV shares 32 core genes with *Nudiviridae* and 21 with *Baculoviridae* (Bézier *et al.*, 2015).  
105 Based on sequence similarity with baculoviruses, these genes are involved in DNA replication  
106 and processing, transcription, packaging and assembly, and *per os* infectivity (reviewed in  
107 Rohrmann, 2013). Scanning and transmission electron microscopy further revealed ToNV  
108 enveloped OBs contain a large number of rod-shaped virions embedded within a dense  
109 protein matrix (Bézier *et al.*, 2015). In this study, we described the first comprehensive  
110 qualitative proteomic analysis of an occluded nudivirus. By using on-line nanoflow liquid  
111 chromatography in tandem with high-resolution mass spectrometry (nanoLC-HR-MS/MS),  
112 we identified the major occlusion body proteins that compose ToNV occluded particles and  
113 further characterized all other components.

114

## 115 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

116

### 117 **Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE profile revealed five major protein bands**

118 Separation of approximately  $4 \cdot 10^6$  OBs on a 12.5% SDS-PAGE gel revealed five major  
119 protein bands (Fig. 1). The apparent molecular weight of the major band was estimate at  
120 25 kDa. Four other major bands were also identified with an apparent molecular weight of

121 75 kDa, 48 kDa, 35 kDa and 12 kDa. A low complexity profile was also observed for the  
122 PvNV (Bonami *et al.*, 1995) with a unique major band corresponding to the major  
123 polypeptide (polyhedrin); and for the non-occluded baculovirus-like agent (CBV), most  
124 probably a nudivirus also pathogenic to penaeid shrimp, with four major bands that were  
125 approximately 75, 27.5, 23.5 and 19 kDa (Nadala *et al.*, 1998). Replication studies on other  
126 nudiviruses in insect cells revealed the presence of about nine major bands corresponding to  
127 structural proteins from about 14 to 153 kDa in HzNV-1 (Burand *et al.*, 1983); 13.5 to  
128 190 kDa in HzNV-2 (Kim, 2009) and 11.5 to 69 kDa in OrNV (Crawford & Sheehan, 1985).  
129 Protein analyses of occluded circular dsDNA viruses, like baculoviruses, revealed more or  
130 less complex profiles with proteins ranging from about 6 to over 200 kDa according to  
131 genera, virion morphotypes, techniques used to separate proteins, and staining methods  
132 (Braunagel *et al.*, 2003; Deng *et al.*, 2007; Perera *et al.*, 2007; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Wang *et al.*,  
133 2011b; Hou *et al.*, 2013). On the other hand, gradient SDS-PAGE analysis of purified  
134 *Glossina pallidipes* salivary gland hypertrophy virus (GpSGHV) with Coomassie blue  
135 staining revealed a complex profile with at least 35 proteins ranging from 10 to over 130 kDa,  
136 but only around ten distinctive bands (Kariithi *et al.*, 2010). Considering the lower sensitivity  
137 of the Coomassie blue staining approach compared to radiolabeling, silver or colloidal blue  
138 stainings, the ToNV protein profile appeared quite similar to those observed for nudiviruses,  
139 baculoviruses or hytrosaviruses.

140

#### 141 **ToNV occlusion bodies contain of at least 48 viral proteins**

142 To allow the identification of all proteins that composed the ToNV occlusion bodies, major  
143 bands were excised individually from polyacrylamide gel and the remaining gel lane was  
144 divided into twenty other gel sections (Fig. 1). After in-gel trypsin digestion, peptides were  
145 extracted from each slice and subjected to bottom-up proteomic (Cottrell, 2011) using



146 nanoLC-HR-MS/MS, which is a highly sensitive proteomic method well suited for complex  
147 samples, available in limited quantity and for non-sequenced organisms (Ishihama, 2005;  
148 Rieux *et al.*, 2011). Protein identification with a minimal 95.0% probability against ToNV  
149 predicted proteins database revealed ToNV OBs were composed of at least 48 viral proteins  
150 (Table 1). Among them, 41 proteins were identified with two or more exclusive peptides and  
151 seven proteins were unambiguously identified from a unique peptide with a minimal 95.0%  
152 probability (Table 1). Four additional proteins could be identified with a unique peptide at the  
153 same confidence level (>95%) but a lower protein threshold probability (50 to 79%). They  
154 corresponded to GbNVORF19, ORF080, P47 and ORF122. Genes encoding these proteins  
155 were distributed throughout the genome, contrary to what was observed in hytrosaviruses, in  
156 which genes involved in virions production appears confined to a specific genomic region  
157 (Garcia-Maruniak *et al.*, 2008; Kariithi *et al.*, 2010).

158 ToNV OBs thus harboured between 48 and 52 viral proteins, which is the largest number of  
159 components detected in nudiviruses. In HzNV-1, HzNV-2 and OrNV, 28, 16 and 27 virus  
160 structural proteins were identified respectively, after infection of insect cell lines using pulse-  
161 labelling or silver staining approaches (Burand *et al.*, 1983; Lu, 1997; Crawford & Sheehan,  
162 1985). This high number of viral proteins identified in ToNV OBs might reflect that ToNV is  
163 an occluded nudivirus or the high sensitivity of nanoLC-HR-MS/MS enabling the detection of  
164 proteins present in very small amounts. On the other hand, this number was in the range of  
165 what has been observed in *Baculoviridae* with equivalent techniques (Braunagel *et al.*, 2003;  
166 Perera *et al.*, 2007; Liu *et al.*, 2008; Xu *et al.*, 2011; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Wang *et al.*, 2011b;  
167 Hou *et al.*, 2013; Braconi *et al.*, 2014; Zhang *et al.*, 2015). For baculoviruses, proteomic  
168 analyses have led to a general understanding of virus particle structure for both virion  
169 morphotypes, the occlusion-derived viruses (ODVs) that initiate primary infection and the  
170 budded viruses (BVs) that spread the infection from cell to cell leading to a systemic infection

171 (van Oers & Vlak, 2007, Slack & Arif, 2007; Rohrmann, 2013). ODVs are composed of 16 to  
172 73 protein products (Liu *et al.*, 2008; Zhang *et al.*, 2015) and BVs of 23 to 51 (Wang *et al.*,  
173 2010; Hou *et al.*, 2013). However, a higher number of proteins, up to 86, were detected by  
174 LC-MS/MS in hytrosaviruses (Kariithi *et al.*, 2010; Abd-Alla *et al.*, 2016), that are enveloped  
175 but not occluded nuclear arthropod large circular dsDNA viruses.

176

### 177 **Comparison with other arthropod-specific large double-stranded circular DNA viruses**

178 Of the 48 identified proteins with a 95% protein threshold, 21 were already known viral  
179 particle components in baculoviruses (NPV and/or GV) (reviewed in Rohrmann, 2013),  
180 nudiviruses (NV) (Chaivisuthangkura *et al.*, 2008; Kim, 2009), hytrosaviruses (SGHV)  
181 (Garcia-Maruniak *et al.*, 2008; Kariithi *et al.*, 2010) or endogenous nudiviruses such as  
182 bracoviruses (Bézier *et al.*, 2009; Wetterwald *et al.*, 2010; Burke *et al.*, 2013) or VLPs of the  
183 wasp *Venturia canescens* (VcVLP) (Pichon *et al.*, 2015); and 27 were to date so far unique  
184 viral components of ToNV OBs. The previously identified polyhedrin/granulin homolog  
185 (MOBP, ORF059) (Bézier *et al.*, 2015) appeared as the major protein component of OBs in  
186 ToNV (Table 1), as it is for baculoviruses. This nudiviral polyhedrin/granulin homolog might  
187 thus form the matrix of OBs in which ToNV virions are embedded (Bézier *et al.*, 2015) and  
188 participate in long-term virion conservation in the environment, although it might confer less  
189 effective protection than baculovirus polyhedra (Slack & Arif, 2007; Meynardier *et al.*, 1964).  
190 VP39, 38K and VLF-1 homologs found associated with both baculovirus virion morphotypes  
191 (Braunagel *et al.*, 2003; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Hou *et al.*, 2013), where they play a crucial role in  
192 nucleocapsid formation and assembly, or with particles of endogenous nudiviruses (Bézier *et*  
193 *al.*, 2009; Wetterwald *et al.*, 2010; Burke *et al.*, 2013; Pichon *et al.*, 2015), were identified as  
194 ToNV OB components (Table 1). P33, which was identified as baculovirus ODV (Braunagel  
195 *et al.*, 2003; Perera *et al.*, 2007; Wang *et al.*, 2011b; Hou *et al.*, 2013), bracovirus particles or

196 VcVLP component (Burke *et al.*, 2013; Pichon *et al.*, 2015), was also present. Additionally  
197 two nudiviral core proteins, the integrase INT and the FLAP endonuclease FEN-1, most  
198 probably involved in DNA metabolism (Grainge & Jayaram, 1999; Liu *et al.*, 2004;  
199 Balakrishnan & Bambara, 2013), were identified. However INT is the only one that has  
200 already been identified as particles associated protein in bracoviruses (Burke *et al.*, 2013) and  
201 hytrosaviruses (GpSGHVORF30; Kariithi *et al.*, 2010). In combination with VLF-1, which is  
202 also an integrase/recombinase, the nudiviral INT and FEN-1 might play a critical role in viral  
203 DNA and/or virion maturation, but also most generally in viral replication (Vanarsdall *et al.*,  
204 2004; Li *et al.*, 2005; Vanarsdall *et al.*, 2006; Burke *et al.*, 2013), they might also be involved  
205 in nudiviral DNA integration and its excision from host genome.

206 All PIF proteins (P74, PIF-1 to PIF-6, and VP91), that are essential for oral infectivity of  
207 baculoviruses (Peng *et al.*, 2010 ; Peng *et al.*, 2012 ; Zhu *et al.*, 2013), were also identified.  
208 PIFs are conserved in exogenous nudiviruses (Bézier *et al.*, 2015) and to a lesser extent in  
209 hytrosaviruses (Garcia-Maruniak *et al.*, 2008; Kariithi *et al.*, 2010) and filamentous viruses  
210 (Gauthier *et al.*, 2015). Recent studies revealed that these proteins are also conserved particle  
211 components of endogenous nudiviruses, which are not transmitted orally (Bézier *et al.*, 2009;  
212 Burke *et al.*, 2013; Pichon *et al.*, 2015). As for baculoviruses, PIF proteins must therefore play  
213 a crucial role in infectivity of nudivirus virions.

214 Surprisingly, we could detect in ToNV OBs neither the homologs of Ac81 or of P6.9, which  
215 they were both detected in baculoviruses (Tweeten *et al.*, 1980; Braunagel *et al.*, 2003; Wang  
216 *et al.*, 2010; Hou *et al.*, 2013) and in GpSGHV for Ac81 (Kariithi *et al.*, 2010; Abd-Alla *et al.*,  
217 2016). The absence of P6.9 might be due to technical issues. ToNV P6.9 (ORF051) is  
218 composed of 119 amino acids, a theoretical trypsin digestion using PeptideCutter Expsy tool  
219 ([http://web.expasy.org/peptide\\_cutter](http://web.expasy.org/peptide_cutter)) revealed 33 cleavage sites generating 22 unique  
220 peptides, ranging in size from one to a maximum of eleven amino acids (not shown). Only

221 two peptides of 10 and 11 amino acids were theoretically just within the detection limits of  
222 the mass spectrometry method. This could explain why this protein was not detected in ToNV  
223 OBs.

224 LEF-4 and P47 homologs were present in ToNV OBs. Although the presence of LEF-4 has  
225 not been previously described as viral particle component, the presence of one or more of the  
226 other RNA polymerase subunits is not unusual, as it has already been observed in  
227 baculoviruses (Zhang *et al.*, 2015; Perera *et al.*, 2007) and hytrosaviruses (Kariithi *et al.*,  
228 2010; Abd-Alla *et al.*, 2016).

229 Twenty-one core nudiviral proteins were detected in ToNV OBs (Fig. 2, in black). Seven  
230 proteins (HzNVORF128, PmNVORF47, HzNVORF143, Cc50C22.6, Cc50C22.5,  
231 PmNVORF7 and PmNVORF64) were shown for the first time to be present in OBs. Five  
232 nudiviral proteins (PmNVORF62, PmV, HzNVorf106, HzNVORF64 and HzNVORF9) had  
233 so far exclusively been characterized as particles component of endogenous nudiviruses  
234 (Bézier *et al.*, 2009; Burke *et al.*, 2013; Pichon *et al.*, 2015). The 11K protein had been  
235 detected in endogenous nudiviruses as well as HzNV-2 (Kim, 2009).

236 Lastly, the four additional proteins, GbNVORF19, ORF080, P47 and ORF122, seemed  
237 relevant components of ToNV OBs, although below the filter thresholds. In particular, P47  
238 need to be confirmed as its detection relies on a 100% peptide sequence identity based on a  
239 sequence also found in Bacteria and Eukaryota (not shown). However, P47 and GbNVORF19  
240 have already been identified as viral particle component of *Clostera anachoreta* granulovirus  
241 (ClanGV) (Zhang *et al.*, 2015) and VcVLP (Pichon *et al.*, 2015) respectively, which suggests  
242 that they are genuine particle components. ORF080 and ORF122 both appear specific to  
243 ToNV and therefore are described as OB associated proteins for the first time.

244 Overall, from all these 52 identified proteins, 21 were encoded by nudivirus core genes, 11  
245 had homologs in at least one exogenous or endogenous nudivirus and 20 were to date specific  
246 to ToNV (Bézier *et al.*, 2015).

247

## 248 **Protein Abundance**

249 On the basis of the total spectrum count obtained by Scaffold software (Proteome software  
250 Inc), the relative quantity of each OB protein can be estimated (Table 1 & Fig. 2) (Searle,  
251 2010; Lundgren *et al.*, 2010). Among ToNV OB proteins, the most abundant protein is  
252 encoded by *orf059*, the functional homolog of the baculovirus polyhedrin (Bézier *et al.*,  
253 2015). MOBP represented about 65% of all identified spectrum counts and MOBP peptides  
254 were found within all gel slices subjected to nanoLC-HR-MS/MS (not shown), including all  
255 major bands. The identification of single proteins in several bands is not unusual as it was  
256 already observed for the NPV and GV major structural proteins (Deng *et al.*, 2007; Perera *et*  
257 *al.*, 2007; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Wang *et al.*, 2011b). Moreover, protein abundance estimated by  
258 calculating the emPAI using Scaffold Q+ software 4.6.1 (Ishihama *et al.*, 2005) further  
259 revealed that MOBP represented ~95% of the viral proteins present in the 25 kDa major band.  
260 The second component forming this band was ORF023 (~4%).

261 The other main OB components were encoded by *orf087*, *orf028* and *orf019*, that are  
262 respectively homologs to three HzNV-2 predicted proteins corresponding to the virion  
263 structural proteins 34K (Hz2V052, the baculovirus capsid protein VP39 homolog) and 11K  
264 (Hz2V025) (Kim, 2009), and to the hypothetical protein Hz2V079, which was previously  
265 determined as a nudivirus core gene (Bézier *et al.*, 2015). Of these proteins, VP39 was  
266 identified as the second major protein in ToNV OBs (~10% of all identified spectrum counts)  
267 and also the second main viral component of the major band estimated at 35 kDa (~38%;  
268 MOBP amount to ~61% of that band). VP39 was also identified as a highly abundant

269 structural protein in baculoviruses (Person *et al.*, 1988; Thiem & Miller, 1989) or exogenous  
270 (Kim, 2009) and endogenous (Bézier *et al.*, 2009; Wetterwald *et al.*, 2010; Burke *et al.*, 2013)  
271 nudiviruses. 11K is a nudiviral specific core protein. This protein was found in the 12 kDa  
272 band in the same proportion (~0.5%) as VP39 and two other proteins with close estimated  
273 molecular weight (ORF041, 8.7 kDa and ORF053, 10.7 kDa). The HzNV-2 11K homolog  
274 was suspected as a possible viral envelope component (Kim, 2009), in contrast bracovirus  
275 homologs (HzNVORF124-like) were not found as particle component (Wetterwald *et al.*,  
276 2010; Burke *et al.*, 2013). PmNVORF62 (ORF019) was found in low proportion in both  
277 remaining major bands, mainly in combination with MOBP and ORF023 in the 48 kDa band  
278 (~0.2%) and with MOBP and VP39 in the 75 kDa band (~2%).

279 All the *per os* infectivity factors were present in ToNV OBs, but only two (b and c) out of the  
280 three members of the PIF-5 ToNV multigenic family were found. PIFs were not highly  
281 represented with 13 to 278 total spectra, totalling only ~2% of all identified viral peptides.  
282 However such low abundance was also observed in baculoviruses (Faulkner *et al.*, 1997;  
283 Braunagel & Summers, 2007; Kikhno *et al.*, 2002; Peng *et al.*, 2010), hytrosaviruses (Abd-  
284 Alla *et al.*, 2016) and endogenous nudiviruses (Wetterwald *et al.*, 2010).

285 Eight proteins, encoded by *orf019* (PmNVORF62), *orf027* (GbnVORF19), *orf028* (11K),  
286 *orf031* (PmV), *orf049* (HzNVORF106), *orf059* (MOBP), *orf112* (HzNVORF64) and *orf117*  
287 (HzNVORF9), had homologs already identified as particle components with no other known  
288 function in nudiviruses (Chaivisuthangkura *et al.*, 2008; Kim, 2009), bracoviruses (Bézier *et*  
289 *al.*, 2009; Wetterwald *et al.*, 2010; Burke *et al.*, 2013) and VcVLP (Pichon *et al.*, 2015)  
290 (Table 1 and Fig. 2). They represented 73.23% of all identified spectrum counts. Finally, 20  
291 proteins did not have any known viral homolog and therefore did not have so far any known  
292 function, except putative associated or viral structural proteins in ToNV OBs. Among them,  
293 ORF034, belongs to the ToNV specific ORF032 multigenic family (Bézier *et al.*, 2015), from

294 which only two (ORF032 and ORF034) out of the three members were detected as OB  
295 components. These 20 proteins specific to ToNV represented 12.90% of all identified  
296 spectrum counts and about a sixth of all identified spectrum counts corresponding to  
297 accessory gene products (not shown). *In fine*, from the 52 identified proteins, nudivirus core  
298 genes and accessory genes represented respectively 20% and 80% of all identified spectrum  
299 counts (not shown).

300

### 301 **Associated arthropod proteins**

302 Nine host-cell derived proteins were identified to be associated with ToNV OBs with high  
303 confidence (over 99%). They mainly concerned cytoskeleton proteins, proteins involved in  
304 DNA or mRNA processing, and potential oxidative stress response proteins (Table 2). Such  
305 host proteins might have been co-purified with ToNV OBs and consequently represent  
306 contaminants but they might also be intricately associated with the OBs or the viral particles  
307 as it was shown for other phylogenetically related (Wang *et al.*, 2010; Hou *et al.*, 2013;  
308 Braconi *et al.*, 2014) or unrelated (Ott, 2002; Shaw *et al.*, 2008) enveloped viruses. They  
309 might therefore play a crucial role in the viral life cycle. Similarly *Helicoverpa armigera* NPV  
310 (HearNPV) BV and ODV were shown to be associated with 101 and 21 host proteins,  
311 respectively (Hou *et al.*, 2013). Furthermore, the presence of such cellular proteins is not  
312 unusual, even among nudiviruses at large, as we found that ultra-deep purified particles  
313 (sucrose and cesium chloride gradients) of the endogenous nudivirus, *Cotesia congregata*  
314 bracovirus, contain heat shock proteins, ATP-synthases, ATPases, tubulin and actin  
315 (unpublished data).

316 In particular, actin, beta tubulin, histone and heat shock protein 70 were identified in  
317 baculovirus ODV (Lanier & Volkman, 1998; Wang *et al.*, 2010; Hou *et al.*, 2013; Braconi *et*  
318 *al.*, 2014; Zhang *et al.*, 2015), herpesviruses (Shaw *et al.*, 2008), human immunodeficiency

319 virus (Saphire *et al.*, 2005) and other retrovirus (Segura *et al.*, 2008). During baculovirus  
320 infection, cellular actin is directly involved in nucleocapsid transit between the cytoplasm and  
321 the nucleus, in nucleocapsid assembly in the virogenic stroma, in their egress from the  
322 nucleus and budding through the cytoplasmic membrane (Ohkawa *et al.*, 2010; Volkman,  
323 2007; Marek *et al.*, 2011).

324 Cu-Zn superoxide dismutase (SOD) is involved in detoxifying superoxide free radicals  
325 released during host defense reaction (Bannister *et al.*, 1987). Such enzyme mainly occurs in  
326 eukaryota and bacteria but SODs have been convergently acquired in several virus families  
327 (Thézé *et al.*, 2015). SODs were described as virion components in nucleocytoplasmic large  
328 DNA viruses (NCLDV) such as vaccinia virus (Almazan *et al.*, 2001; Chung *et al.*, 2006) or  
329 in the Megavirus chilensis (Lartigue *et al.*, 2015). *Sod* homologs were found in the genome of  
330 entomopoxviruses (Thézé *et al.*, 2013) and almost all lepidopteran baculoviruses (Tomalski *et*  
331 *al.*, 1991). They were described as associated with ODV in *Chrysodeixis chalcites* NPV (Xu  
332 *et al.*, 2011) and HearNPV (Hou *et al.*, 2013). In such viral context, SODs are suspected to  
333 counteract the host stress response thus increasing virus survival or to inhibit or regulate  
334 cellular SOD function (Almazan *et al.*, 2001; Teoh *et al.*, 2003). Concerning ToNV, the insect  
335 SOD protein might have been captured by the virus by chance, while infected cells contained  
336 many cellular SODs, or by oriented way so as to play a similar protective role upon virus  
337 infection.

338 Hrp59 is a nuclear protein that belongs to the heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein  
339 (hnRNP) M type. Such proteins are evolutionarily conserved from yeast to human. They are  
340 involved in packaging nascent transcripts into ribonucleoprotein complexes; they present gene  
341 target specificity depending on the considered type (Krecic & Swanson, 1999; Dreyfuss *et al.*,  
342 2002). Human M type homolog is implicated in premRNA splicing regulation under stress  
343 conditions (Gattoni *et al.*, 1996). HnRNPs seem to be recurring targets for many RNA viruses



344 (Jorba *et al.*, 2008; Dechtawewat *et al.*, 2015; Jagdeo *et al.*, 2015), but to our knowledge  
345 nothing is known about hnRNP association with DNA virus particles or hnRNP exploitation  
346 by DNA viruses.

347 Other host proteins might also be associated with ToNV OBs that could not be identified  
348 because the crane fly genome is not sequenced. Finally, to be confirmed as ToNV OB  
349 components, immunogold labelling analyses of these proteins should be done. Although  
350 cytoskeleton and structural host proteins could be involved in virus entry and other protein in  
351 preventing stress response, the real implication of these host factors in nudivirus life cycle  
352 remains largely unknown.

353

## 354 **CONCLUSIONS**

355

356 Comprehensive qualitative proteomic analysis using on-line nanoLC-HR-MS/MS revealed for  
357 the first time exhaustive composition of nudivirus OBs. The occluded nudivirus infecting  
358 *Tipula oleracea* contained 52 viral proteins and 9 host proteins. About half of the viral  
359 proteins were already identified as particle components in other exogenous or endogenous  
360 nudiviruses as well as in baculoviruses and hytrosaviruses. These mainly concern baculovirus  
361 homologs involved in oral infectivity and packaging, assembly and release. Almost all host  
362 proteins were previously identified as particle component in other enveloped viruses. Thus,  
363 conservation of the main protein components through various viral entities, in particular  
364 nudiviruses, both demonstrated cases of nudivirus endogenization (bracoviruses and VcVLP),  
365 baculoviruses and hytrosaviruses, strengthens the idea of a similar basic cell entry mechanism  
366 within insect. However, each virus retains specificity, as over half identified proteins are to  
367 date specific for *Tipula oleracea* nudivirus. This study does not provide any information  
368 regarding whether these proteins are associated with the nucleocapsids, with the envelopes, or

369 with the protein matrix of the *Tipula oleracea* nudivirus. To discriminate further between  
370 these different compartments it would be necessary to treat the OBs with, for example,  
371 Nonidet P-40, to compare SDS-Page profiles between treated and non-treated occluded  
372 particles and to proceed to new protein sequencing. Immunogold strategy using candidate  
373 proteins and scanning transmission electron microscopy could also reveal protein localization.

374

## 375 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

376

### 377 **Viral sample.**

378 ToNV archival sample (*Nudivirus*, Unclassified) was originally obtained from the historical  
379 insect virus collection held at the Natural Environment Research Council, Centre for Ecology  
380 and Hydrology (NERC-CEH, Wallingford, England). The occluded particles solution used in  
381 this study was the same as those used for previous genomic analyses (Bézier *et al.*, 2015).

382

### 383 **SDS-Page and gel section excision.**

384 Five microliters of purified virus (approximately 3 µg total proteins quantified using Qubit  
385 Protein AssayKit, Life Technologies) were denatured 30 min at 95°C in 1x PBS and SDS-  
386 PAGE sample (Laemmli, 1970) buffers then placed on ice few minutes. Sample was then  
387 electrophoresed during 3h at 70V on a 12.5% polyacrylamide running gel combined to a 5%  
388 stacking gel, along with Kaleidoscope molecular weight marker (Biorad). After staining with  
389 Coomassie blue, major bands were first individually excised from polyacrylamide gel then the  
390 remaining lane was also taken and divided in twenty slices so as to include all the present  
391 components in the study.

392

### 393 **In-gel digestion.**

394 Each band was washed in water, acetonitrile (1:1) for 5 min followed by a second wash in  
395 acetonitrile for 10 min. Cystein reduction and alkylation were performed by successive  
396 incubations in solutions of 10 mM dithiothreitol in 50 mM sodium bicarbonate for 30 min at  
397 56°C and 55 mM iodoacetamide in 50 mM sodium bicarbonate for 20 min at room  
398 temperature in the dark, respectively. Gel slices were washed by incubation in 50 mM sodium  
399 bicarbonate, acetonitrile (1:1) for 10 min followed by incubation in acetonitrile for 15 min.  
400 Proteins were digested overnight in 25 mM sodium bicarbonate with 12.5 ng/μl trypsin  
401 (Sequencing Grade, Roche). The resulting peptides were extracted from the gel using  
402 incubation in 0.1% formic acid, acetonitrile (1:1) for 10 min followed by incubation for  
403 5 min, in acetonitrile. The collected extractions were pooled, dried with a Speed-Vac  
404 (Thermofisher), reconstituted with 12 μL of 0.1% formic acid, 2% acetonitrile, and sonicated  
405 for 10 min.

406

#### 407 **NanoLC-HR-MS/MS approach.**

408 Peptide mixtures were analysed by on-line nanoflow liquid chromatography tandem high  
409 resolution mass spectrometry (nanoLC-HR-MS/MS). All experiments were performed on a  
410 LTQ Orbitrap Velos Mass Spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) coupled to an Ultimate®  
411 3000 RSLC Ultra High Pressure Liquid Chromatographer (Dionex) controlled by Chromeleon  
412 Software (version 6.8 SR11; Dionex). Five microliters of each sample were injected and  
413 loaded on an LCPackings trap column (Acclaim PepMap 100 C<sub>18</sub>, 100 μm inner diameter x  
414 2 cm long, 3 μm particles, 100 Å pores). Mobile phases consisted of (A) 0.1% formic acid,  
415 97.9 % water, 2% acetonitrile (v/v/v) and (B) 0.1% formic acid, 15.9 % water, 84%  
416 acetonitrile (v/v/v). Peptides were desalted and preconcentrated for 10 min at 5 μL/min with  
417 4% solvent B. The peptide separation was conducted using a LCPackings nano-column  
418 (Acclaim PepMap C<sub>18</sub>, 75 μm inner diameter x 50 cm long, 3 μm particles, 100 Å pores). The

419 gradient consisted of 4 to 55% B for 90 min, 55 to 99% B for 1 min, constant 99% B 20 min  
420 and return to 4% B in 1 min. The column was re-equilibrated for 15 min at 4% B between  
421 runs. The nanoflow rate was set to 300 nl/min. Standard mass spectrometric conditions for all  
422 experiments were spray voltage 1.2 kV, no sheath and auxiliary gas flow; heated capillary  
423 temperature, 200°C; predictive automatic gain control (AGC) enabled, and an S-lens RF level  
424 of 50%.

425 Data were acquired using Xcalibur software (version 2.1; Thermo Fisher Scientific). The LTQ  
426 Orbitrap Velos instrument was operated in positive ion mode in data-dependent mode to  
427 switch between high resolution full scan MS spectra collected in profile mode and low-  
428 resolution MS/MS spectra in centroid mode. Resolution in the Orbitrap was set to  $R = 60,000$ .  
429 In the scan range of  $m/z$  300-1800, the 20 most intense peptide ions with charge states  $\geq 2$   
430 were sequentially isolated (isolation width, 2  $m/z$ ; 1 microscan) and fragmented in the high-  
431 pressure linear ion trap by CID (Collision Induced Dissociation) with normalized collision  
432 energy of 35% and wideband-activation enabled. Ion selection threshold was 500 counts for  
433 MS/MS, and the maximum allowed ion accumulation times were 200 ms for full scans and  
434 50 ms for CID-MS/MS measurements. An activation  $q = 0.25$  and activation time of 10 ms  
435 were used. Dynamic exclusion was activated during 30 s with a repeat count of 1. The lock  
436 mass was enabled for accurate mass measurements. Polydimethylcyclsiloxane ( $m/z$ ,  
437 445.1200025,  $(\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{O})_6$ ) ions were used for internal recalibration of the mass spectra.

438

#### 439 **Protein identification and data validation.**

440 Raw data files were converted to MGF (Mascot Generic Format) with Proteome Discoverer  
441 software (version 1.3; Thermo Fischer Scientific). Precursor mass range of 350-5000 Da and  
442 signal to noise ratio of 1.5 were the criteria used for generation of peak lists. In order to  
443 identify the proteins, the peptide and fragment masses obtained were matched automatically

444 against a local database comprising all the ToNV predicted proteins, such a comparison with a  
445 specific database was all the more necessary that overall nudiviral homologous sequences are  
446 relatively distant from a virus to another. MS/MS ion searches were performed using  
447 MASCOT Daemon and search engine (version 2.3; Matrix Science). The parameters used for  
448 database searches include trypsin as a protease with allowed two missed cleavage,  
449 carbamidomethylcysteine (+57 Da), oxidation of methionine (+16) and N-terminal protein  
450 acetylation (+42) as variable modifications. The tolerance of the ions was set to 5 ppm for  
451 parent and 0.8 Da for fragment ion matches. Mascot results obtained from the target and  
452 decoy databases searches were incorporated to Scaffold software (version 3.6.4, Proteome  
453 Software), a bioinformatic tool that integrates algorithms to validate identified peptides and  
454 proteins by search engine and thus reduces number of false positives (Searle, 2010). Peptide  
455 identifications were accepted if they could be established at greater than 95.0% probability as  
456 specified by the Peptide Prophet algorithm (Keller *et al.*, 2002). Protein identifications were  
457 accepted if they could be established at greater than 95.0% probability as specified by the  
458 Protein Prophet algorithm (Nesvizhskii *et al.*, 2003). Supplementary peptides with a 95.0%  
459 peptide probability and a 50 to 79% protein probability were also examined and validated  
460 manually against the non-redundant protein sequences using blastp (NCBI).

461

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463

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469

470 **AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

471

472 AB performed and supervised the experiments and wrote the manuscript. GH and VL  
473 performed the proteomic analyses and contributed to the writing of the manuscript. KM  
474 realized the SDS-Page gel. EAH directed the study and contributed to the writing of the  
475 manuscript. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript prior submission.

476

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761

762 **TABLES**

763 **Table 1. The ToNV major and associated OB proteins identified by nanoLC-HR-MS/MS ranked by decreasing predicted molecular**  
 764 **weight.** The four main major components, with known homologs in other nudiviruses, are highlighted in gray, with gray intensity based on  
 765 normalized total spectra count. Homologous proteins were those present (+) or identified (●) as particle component for at least one  
 766 representative of the referenced viral families.

ORF #	Protein designation	Length (aa)	MW (kDa)	pI	#unique peptide	Protein coverage (%)	Total spectrum count	Present (+) or identified (●) as particle component in				
								NPV - GV	NV	SGHV	BV	VcVLP
125	ORF125	808	94.99	5.02	46	49	857					
130	ORF130	765	88.28	4.92	36	50	415					
45	P74	763	87.20	9.91	8	13	40	●	+	●	●	●
16	VP91/95	742	86.95	5.33	15	25	111	●	+		●	●
57	Cc50C22.5	690	81.88	5.13	15	26	107		+		+	
108	ORF108	704	81.16	5.89	47	45	904					
19	PmNVORF62	597	68.85	9.13	42	66	2442		+			●
4	HzNVORF128	561	66.18	8.55	3	6	8		+		+	
69	PIF-1	527	60.04	8.01	10	21	101	●	+		●	●
25	LEF-4*	494	58.96	4.86	1	2	8	+	+	+	+	+
120	ORF120	497	57.75	6.00	3	7	5					
1	FEN-1	479	56.85	8.43	17	38	92		+	+	+	
102	PIF-5c	450	51.94	4.22	17	34	262	●	+	●	●	●
112	HzNVORF64	408	47.81	4.64	5	15	12		+		●	
84	ORF084*	421	47.74	5.60	1	3	4					
80	ORF080**	388	45.23	4.10	1	3	2					
65	VLF-1	385	44.81	5.93	6	22	15	●	+		●	
15	PmNVORF47	364	43.40	4.89	10	26	285		+			
96	PIF-5b	398	43.27	8.11	15	30	278	●	+	●	●	●
7	PIF-2	362	40.96	6.34	14	47	148	●	+	●	●	●

<b>107</b>	ORF107	336	39.58	7.76	16	45	606					
<b>43</b>	INT*	331	39.15	8.31	1	4	3		+	●	●	
<b>115</b>	P47**	333	39.09	7.75	1	2	20	●	+		+	+
<b>119</b>	PIF-4	327	38.31	5.76	14	48	88	●	+		●	●
<b>87</b>	VP39	324	37.77	6.19	47	78	4999	●	●		●	
<b>49</b>	HzNVORF106	307	36.30	4.88	13	32	74		+		●	
<b>63</b>	38K	291	35.02	9.03	7	19	25	●	+		●	
<b>99</b>	P33	289	34.70	8.85	3	11	30	●	+		●	●
<b>27</b>	GbNVORF19**	291	34.12	8.35	1	3	2		+		+	●
<b>31</b>	PmV	272	31.78	5.75	13	44	200		+		●	
<b>54</b>	Cc50C22.6	254	30.124	8.51	8	26	169				+	
<b>59</b>	MOBP	241	27.36	6.31	44	87	32188	●	●			
<b>117</b>	HzNVORF9	237	27.31	4.82	8	34	40		+		●	
<b>26</b>	ORF026*	226	27.00	4.97	1	7	15					
<b>62</b>	ORF062*	224	26.31	6.43	1	7	5					
<b>23</b>	ORF023	225	26.20	6.19	19	75	894					
<b>106</b>	ORF106	218	25.29	9.82	13	59	651					
<b>89</b>	ORF089	203	23.37	4.88	10	52	36					
<b>32</b>	ORF032	205	22.47	6.14	10	38	566					
<b>13</b>	PIF-3	193	21.86	4.83	6	25	43	●	+	●	●	●
<b>124</b>	ORF124	180	21.27	8.24	7	34	138					
<b>34</b>	ORF034	188	20.64	7.16	5	24	1139					
<b>56</b>	PIF-6	143	16.81	5.60	2	15	13	●	+		+	●
<b>30</b>	ORF030*	144	16.77	7.25	1	9	3					
<b>114</b>	PmNVORF64*	139	15.76	4.36	1	7	1		+			
<b>122</b>	ORF122**	133	15.68	9.92	1	7	1					
<b>42</b>	ORF042*	105	12.65	9.70	1	21	14					
<b>28</b>	11K	115	12.39	10.13	9	44	1325		●		+	●
<b>100</b>	PmNVORF7	92	10.73	6.41	3	23	35		+			
<b>53</b>	ORF053	93	10.70	9.38	2	41	11					
<b>41</b>	ORF041	74	8.70	9.37	5	49	107					

52 HzNVORF143 53 6.53 7.76 3 51 11 + +767

768

769 NPV, nucleopolyhedrovirus; GV, granulovirus; NV, nudivirus; SGHV, salivary gland hypertrophy virus; BV, bracovirus; VcVLP, *Venturia*  
 770 *canescens* virus-like particles. MW and pI, predicted molecular weight and Isoelectric point, respectively. \*, proteins unambiguously identified  
 771 with a unique peptide and a minimal protein threshold at 95%; \*\*, proteins unambiguously identified with a unique peptide, a protein threshold  
 772 comprised between 50 and 94% but a peptide threshold above or equal to 95%.

773

774

775

776 **Table 2. Cellular proteins identified by nanoLC-HR-MS/MS.**

Identified Protein	GO – Biological process	Total spectra	Protein coverage (%)	GI no.	Species	Order
Cu,Zn superoxide dismutase	Response to oxidative stress	14	8	1019906	<i>Drosophila saltans</i>	Diptera
Histone H4	Nucleosome assembly	7	13	194772468	<i>Drosophila ananassae</i>	Diptera
Muscle myosin heavy chain	Myosin filament organization	5	1	183979376	<i>Papilio xuthus</i>	Lepidoptera
Actin	Cytoskeleton process	4	9	425893652	<i>Psoroptes cuniculi</i>	Astigmata
ADP, ATP carrier protein	Response to oxidative stress	4	11	195438665	<i>Drosophila willistoni</i>	Diptera
ADP, ATP carrier protein 2	Response to oxidative stress	3	11	751238593	<i>Solenopsis invicta</i>	Hymenoptera
Hrp59 protein	mRNA splicing	4	2	50880296	<i>Chironomus tentans</i>	Diptera
Tubulin beta chain	Microtubule-based process	3	2	157108656	<i>Aedes aegypti</i>	Diptera
Hsp 70 BD1	Stress response	3	4	311797659	<i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i>	Diptera

777

778 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

779

780 **Fig. 1. Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE of ToNV occlusion bodies analysed by LC-**  
781 **MS/MS.** Five microliters of purified OB (lane 2) were denatured then run on a 12.5% SDS-  
782 PAGE along with Kaleidoscope molecular weight (Biorad, lane 1) at 70 V during 3 h. Major  
783 bands and their apparent molecular weight are indicated by arrows.

784

785 **Fig. 2. Qualitative proteomic analyses of ToNV major and associated OB proteins**  
786 **identified by nanoLC-HR-MS/MS.** Relative quantity of all identified major or associated  
787 OB proteins was presented as the total spectrum count defined by the Scaffold software  
788 (Proteome software Inc). Nudiviral core and accessory proteins were represented by black and  
789 gray bars, respectively. In both bar graph and pie chart synthetic graph, proteins were  
790 addressed according to their potential function in other viruses. \*, proteins unambiguously  
791 identified with a unique peptide and a minimal protein threshold at 95%; \*\*, proteins  
792 unambiguously identified with a unique peptide, a protein threshold comprised between 50  
793 and 94% but a peptide threshold above or equal to 95%. All members of the ToNV ORF032,  
794 PIF-5 and VP91/95 multigenic families were displayed in the figure although for some of  
795 them (#) no peptide was detected from ToNV OBs (ORF033, PIF-5a and ORF083,  
796 respectively).



