Coexistence of multiple endemic and pandemic lineages of the rice

blast pathogen

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8 Abstract

The rice blast fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* (syn. *Pyricularia oryzae*) causes the most damaging

rice disease. Yet, little is known about the genetic makeup of this important system for plant

pathology. Using whole genome resequencing of a worldwide collection of isolates, we identified

four major *M. oryzae* lineages mainly associated with japonica or indica rice, including one

pandemic lineage on each rice subspecies. Tip-dating calibration indicated that *M. oryzae* lineages

separated about a millenium ago, much later than the initial domestication of rice. The major

lineage endemic to Southeast continental Asia displayed signatures of sexual recombination and

evidence for having received DNA from multiple lineages. Tests of weak selection revealed that

the pandemic spread of clonal lineages entailed an evolutionary 'cost', in terms of an accumulation

of deleterious mutations. Our work reveals the coexistence of multiple endemic and pandemic

lineages with contrasting population and genetic characteristics within a widely distributed

pathogen.

21 Importance

The rice blast fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* (syn. *Pyricularia oryzae*) causes the most damaging

rice disease and it is a textbook example of a rapidly adapting pathogen. A better understanding of

Magnaporthe oryzae diversity and evolution is needed to guide development of more effective

control strategies. Our goal was to infer the evolutionary history of *M. oryzae* using genome

sequencing of globally-distributed samples. We found that *M. oryzae* diversified about a millenium

ago into six main lineages, including two lineages pandemic on japonica and indica rice,

respectively, and four lineages with more restricted distributions. We further found that a lineage

endemic to Southeast continental Asia displayed signatures of sexual recombination and

acquisition of genetic material from multiple lineages. Our work provides a population-level

genomic framework for defining molecular markers to assist in the control of rice blast and for

investigating the molecular underpinnings of differences in pathogenicity between *M. oryzae*

lineages.

Introduction

Fungal plant pathogens provide many examples of geographically widespread, often clonal,

lineages displaying strong ability to adapt rapidly to anthropogenic changes, such as fungicides or

resistant varieties, despite extremely low levels of population genetic diversity [1, 2]. An accurate

characterization of the population biology and evolutionary history of these organisms is crucial for

understanding the factors underpinning their emergence and spread, and for providing new,

powerful and enduring solutions to control these factors. First, knowledge of the origins and lines of

descent connecting extant pathogen population informs our understanding of the tempo and mode

of disease emergence and subsequent dispersal [2, 3]. Second, inferring the history and structure

of pathogen populations can enable the identification of disease reservoirs and improve our

understanding of the transmissibility and longevity of populations [4, 5]. Last, quantification of the

amount and distribution of genetic variation across space and time provides a population-level

genomic framework for defining molecular markers to assist in the control of pathogens and for

investigating the molecular underpinnings of phenotypic and fitness differences between divergent

pathogen lineages.

Rice blast is the most damaging rice disease worldwide [6, 7]. Rice blast is caused by the

ascomycete fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* (syn. *Pyricularia oryzae*), which became a model for plant

pathology in parallel to the development of rice as a model crop species [6, 8-10]. The rice-

infecting lineage of *M. oryzae* coexists with multiple host-specialized and genetically divergent

lineages infecting other cereals and grasses [11-13]. The lineage infecting foxtail millet (*Setaria*

italica, hereinafter « Setaria ») is the closest relative to the rice-infecting lineage and it was

therefore postulated that rice blast has emerged following a host-shift from Setaria ca. 2500 to

7500 years ago [14], at a time when Setaria was the most favored staple food in East Asia [15, 16].

Magnaporthe oryzae infects the two major subspecies of rice, *Oryza sativa* ssp. *indica* and

japonica (hereinafter indica and japonica, respectively). Population genomics studies support a

model in which de novo domestication occurred only once in japonica, with later divergence into

temperate and tropical japonica, and introgressive hybridization from japonica leading to

domesticated indica [17-21]. Using microsatellite markers, Saleh et al. [22] identified multiple

endemic and pandemic genetic pools of rice infecting strains, but could not resolve evolutionary

relationships among them. At the level of rice agrosystems, rice blast is a dynamic threat to varietal

resistance, which provided many examples of rapid adaptation to varietal resistance [23]. This is

despite the fact that rice blast has little diversity and is infertile and/or asexual in most rice-growing

areas [23, 24], making the pathogen particularly exposed to the « cost of pestification » (by

analogy with the cost of domestication [25-28]) that posits that the combination of small effective

population size, strong selection on pestification genes and the lack of recombination causes the

accumulation of deleterious mutations [29]. Potential limitations to adaptation could be

counterbalanced in *M. oryzae* by boom-and-bust cycles, allowing adaptation to occur during the

boom phases when short-term effective population size is large [2, 30]. Adaptive mutations can

also be introduced through cryptic genetic exchanges with conspecifics or heterospecifics [31-34],

but these mechanisms remain to be investigated in natural populations of *M. oryzae* [35]. An

accurate understanding of the population genetics of successful clonal fungal pathogens such as

M. oryzae can provide important insights into the genomic and eco-evolutionary processes

underlying pathogen emergence and adaptation to anthropogenic changes.

Here, we used whole-genome re-sequencing data of time- and space-distributed samples of *M.*

oryzae and population genomic analyses to address the following questions: What is the

population structure of *M. oryzae* and is it comprised of relatively ancient or recent clonal lineages?

What is the colonization history of temperate japonica, tropical japonica and indica japonica rice by

M. oryzae? Do *M. oryzae* lineages display differences in pathogenicity toward rice subspecies?

Can we identify genetic exchanges among rice-infecting lineages and what were the genomic

regions exchanged? Is there evidence for a cost of pestification in terms of an accumulation of

deleterious mutations?

Results

Genome sequencing and SNP calling. To elucidate the emergence, diversification and spread of

M. oryzae in rice agrosystems, we interrogated genome-wide variation across geographically

widespread samples. Twenty-five and eighteen genomes sequenced using single-end reads and

paired-end reads Illumina technology, respectively, were combined with seven published genomes

sequenced using Solexa and mate-pair Titanium [9, 11], resulting in a total of fifty genomes

available for analysis (Table S1). Fourty-five isolates originated from cultivated rice (*Oryza sativa*),

4 isolates from cultivated barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), and one from foxtail millet (*Setaria italica*).

The sample set included multiple samples from geographically separated areas (North and South

America, South, Southeast and East Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and the Mediterranean

area), the reference lab strain 70-15 and its parent GY11 from French Guyana. Nine samples were

collected on tropical japonica rice, seven on temperate japonica, fifteen on indica, and three on

hybrid elite varieties. Sequencing reads were aligned to the 41.1Mb reference genome 70-15.

Average sequencing depth ranged from 5X to 64X for genomes sequenced using single-end

reads, and 5X to 10X for genomes sequenced using paired-end reads (Table S1). SNP calling

identified 182,804 biallelic single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) distributed along seven

chromosomes (95,925 SNPs excluding the Setaria-infecting lineage).

Population subdivision, genealogical relationships and levels of genetic variation. We used

Discriminant Analysis of Principal Components to determine the number of lineages represented in

our dataset. Increasing the number of cluster K from 2 to 5 progressively individualized the four

lineages previously identified in Asia by Saleh et al. [22] using microsatellite data, and

individualized a cluster of three strains collected in Yunnan and Hunan Provinces of China (Figure

1). Further increasing K subdivided this latter Yunnan/Hunan cluster. Barley-infecting isolates

clustered within rice-infecting lineage 1, confirming previous phylogenetic work [11, 12]. Barley is a

universal suscept to rice-infecting isolates at least in lab conditions. However, the barley isolates

included in this study were collected in Thailand and no major blast epidemic has been reported on

this host since then in this area, indicating that barley is a minor host for rice-infecting populations.

To determine if the clusters observed at K>4 in the DAPC represented new independent lineages

or subdivision of the main clusters, we inferred a genome genealogy using RAxML [36]. We based

the analysis on a dataset combining the full set of SNPs and monomorphic sites, rather than just

SNPs, to increase topological and branch lengths accuracy [37]. The total evidence genealogy

revealed four lineages corresponding to lineages 1 to 4 in Saleh et al. [22] and two new lineages

(named lineages 5 and 6) corresponding to the three-individuals cluster observed at K=5 in the

DAPC (Figure 1).

Absolute divergence (dxy) between pairs of lineages was on the order of 10^{-4} differences per base

pair and was highest in comparisons with lineage 6 (Table S2). Nucleotide diversity within lineages

was an order of magnitude smaller than divergence in lineages 2 to 4 (θ_w per site: 5.2e-5 to 7.2e-5,

π per site: 4.5e-5 to 4.9e-5) and it was highest in lineage 1 (θ_w per site: 2.3e-4; π per site: 2.1e-4)

(Table 1). Tajima's D was negative in all lineages, indicating an excess of low frequency

polymorphism, and values were closer to zero in lineage 1 and 4 (D=-0.56 and D=-0.82,

respectively) than in lineages 2 and 3 (D=-1.45 and D=-1.72).

Table 1. Summary of population genomic variation in non-overlapping 100kb window

Lineage	n	S	K	H_e	θ_w	π	D
1	10	57.6	3.6	0.31	2.25E-04	2.11E-04	-0.558
2	14	19.7	7.2	0.20	6.94E-05	4.92E-05	-1.454
3	16	21.5	7.9	0.17	7.24E-05	4.53E-05	-1.718
4	6	10.5	4.3	0.38	5.15E-05	4.52E-05	-0.824

Lineages 5 and 6 were not included in calculations because of too small a sample size (n=2 and n=1,
respectively); n is sample size; θ_w is Watterson's θ per bp; π is nucleotide diversity per bp; H_e is haplotype
diversity; K is the number of haplotypes; D is Tajima's neutrality statistic.

Footprints of natural selection and the cost of pestification. The standard neutral model of

molecular evolution was tested using the McDonald-Kreitman method based on genome-wide

patterns of synonymous and non-synonymous variation (Table 2). The null hypothesis could be

rejected for all four lineages (p<0.0001). The neutrality index, which quantifies the direction and

degree of departure from neutrality, was above 1, indicating an excess of amino acid

polymorphism. This pattern suggests that lineages 1 to 4 have accumulated slightly deleterious

mutations during divergence from the Setaria-infecting lineage. Under near neutrality, the ratio of

non-synonymous to synonymous nucleotide diversity π_N/π_S gives an estimate of the proportion of

effectively neutral mutations that are strongly dependent on the effective population size N_e [38].

The π_N/π_S ratios ranged from 0.43 in lineage 1 to 0.61 in lineage 4, and were intermediate in

lineages 2 and 3 (π_N/π_S=0.49), and the ratio of non-sense (i.e premature stop codons) to sense

non-synonymous mutations ($P_{nonsense}/P_{sense}$) followed the same pattern. Altogether, π_N/π_S and

$P_{nonsense}/P_{sense}$ ratios suggest a greater proportion of slightly deleterious mutations segregating in

lineage 4, and to a lesser extent in lineages 2 and 3, than in lineage 1. Assuming identical mutation

rates, one can also estimate that the long-term population size of lineage 1 (π_S=0.00018/bp) was

2.5 to 3 times higher than other lineages, consistent with the N_e effect on the efficacy of negative

selection predicted under near neutrality.

Table 2. McDonald-Kreitman tests based on genome-wide patterns of synonymous and non-
synonymous variation, and measures of the genome-wide intensity of purifying selection.
Divergence was measured against predicted gene sequences of *Magnaporthe oryzae* setaria-
infecting isolates US71.

Lineage	π_N/π_S	$P_{nonsense}/P_{sense}$	P_n/P_s	D_n/D_s	NI
1	0.43 (0.00041/0.00018)	0.011 (49/4244)	1.23 (4293/3492)	0.70 (16444/23656)	1.77*
2	0.49 (0.00012/0.00006)	0.022 (36/1622)	1.52 (1658/1088)	0.72 (15565/21745)	2.13*
3	0.49 (0.00015/0.00007)	0.018 (32/1814)	1.17 (1846/1578)	0.97 (14789/15293)	1.21*
4	0.61 (0.00012/0.00007)	0.034 (31/914)	1.59 (945/593)	0.72 (15302/21347)	2.22*

π_N/π_S is the ratio of non-synonymous to synonymous nucleotide diversity. Under near neutrality, π_N/π_S gives
an estimate of the proportion of effectively neutral mutations that are strongly dependent on the effective
population size N_e. π_S is a proxy for N_e. $P_{nonsense}/P_{sense}$ is the number of nonsynonymous nonsense mutations
(i.e., 'premature' stop codon) divided by the number of sense nonsynonymous mutations. *P-value<0.0001,
chi-square independence tests. Neutrality index NI=(Pn/Ps)/(Dn/Ds), quantifies the direction and degree of
departure from neutrality. NI=1 if nonsynonymous mutations are either neutral or strongly deleterious. NI < 1
indicates an amino acid substitutions and implies the fixation of advantageous mutations. NI > 1 indicates an
excess of amino acid polymorphism, as expected when there are slightly deleterious mutations.

Distribution and reproductive biology of *M. oryzae* lineages. Strains in lineage 1 and 2

originated from rainfed upland rice, including experimental fields. Lineage 2 was exclusively

associated with tropical and temperate japonica, while Lineage 1 was sampled on barley, tropical

japonica and hybrid rice varieties (Table S1; Figure 1). Lineage 1 was restricted to Southeast

continental Asia (Laos, Thailand, Yunnan). The reference lab strain GY-11 (=Guy11) was collected

in French Guyana in fields cultivated by Hmong refugees who fled Laos in the 1970s. Lineage 2

had a pandemic distribution, and included all European samples.

Lineage 3 and 4 samples originated from irrigated or rainfed upland/lowland rice, and they were

associated with indica rice, with the addition of two samples collected on hybrid varieties and one

sample originating from tropical japonica (Table S1; Figure 1). Lineage 3 had a pandemic

distribution and included all sub-Saharan Africa samples, while lineage 4 was found in the Indian

subcontinent, Zhejiang (China) and USA. Lineages 5 and 6 were collected on rainfed upland rice in

Yunnan and Hunan (China), respectively on indica and tropical japonica varieties.

Lineage 2, 3 and 4, had low rates of female fertility (20%, 0%, 0%, respectively), and showed

significant imbalance in the mating type ratios (frequency of Mat-1:100%, 14.3% and 100%,

respectively; Chi² test, P<0.001), while lineage 1 had 88.9% female fertility and non-significant

imbalance in its mating type ratio (frequency of Mat-1:33.3%; Chi² test, P=0.083). Lineage 5 was

Mat-1 and only one of the two strains was female fertile (no data for lineage 6).

Pathogen compatibility range. We used pathogenicity data for 46 isolates representing lineages

1 to 4 inoculated onto 38 tropical japonica, temperate japonica, and indica and 19 differential

varieties with known resistance genes to test for differences in virulence spectra (i.e. qualitative

pathogenicity) between lineages (Table S3). The dataset included pathogenicity data for 31

isolates published by Gallet et al. [39].

The success of infection (binary response) was analyzed using a generalized linear model.

Analysis of the proportion of compatible interactions revealed significant effects of rice subspecies,

pathogen lineage and the interaction between them (Table S4). The lineage effect could be

explained by lineage 2 having a lower infection frequency than lineage 1 (contrast: lineage 1 vs

lineage 2; z-value=-2.779; p-value=0.005) and lineage 3 having a higher infection frequency than

lineage 1 (contrast: lineage 3 vs lineage 1; z-value=2.683; p-value=0.007), while the infection

frequency of lineage 4 was not different from lineage 1 (contrast: lineage 4 vs lineage 1; z-value=1.121; p-value=0.262). The rice subspecies effect could be attributed to tropical japonica varieties having a wider compatibility range than indica varieties (contrast: tropical japonica vs indica; z-value=1.793; p-value=0.073), and temperate japonica having a wider compatibility range than indica varieties (contrast: temperate japonica vs indica; z-value=1.830; p-value=0.067). The significant interaction between rice subspecies and pathogen lineages indicates that the effect of the lineage of origin of isolates on the proportion of compatible interactions was different for the three rice subspecies. This interaction effect can be attributed to pathogen specialization to indica and tropical japonica, with lineage 1 (mostly originating from tropical japonica and/or tropical japonica-growing areas) infecting more frequently tropical japonica varieties than indica varieties, lineage 2 (the lineage sampled on temperate japonica) infecting more frequently temperate japonica varieties than other varieties, lineages 3 and 4 (mostly originating from indica varieties) infecting more frequently indica varieties than tropical japonica varieties, and all four lineages infecting temperate japonica varieties at relatively high frequencies (Table S4; Figure 2A).

Major resistance (R) genes can be a major determinant of pathogen host range, and promote divergence among pathogen lineages by exerting strong divergent selection on a limited number of pathogenicity-related genes [40-42]. To investigate the possible role of major resistance (R) genes in the observed differences in compatibility between rice subspecies and pathogen lineages, we challenged 19 differential varieties with the 46 isolates assigned to lineages 1 to 4. Analysis of the number of R genes overcome revealed a significant effect of pathogen lineage (Table S5). This effect was mostly driven by lineage 2, which could overcome fewer R genes than other lineages (Table S5; Figure 2B).

Recombination within and between lineages. To visualize evolutionary relationships while taking into account the possibility of recombination within or between lineages, we used the phylogenetic network approach neighbor-net as implemented in SPLITSTREE 4.13 [43]. This method allows visualizing conflicting phylogenetic signals, indicated by the presence of reticulations in the network. The role of recombination was evident from the non tree-like structure of the inner connections between lineages, hinting at genetic exchanges among unrelated isolates (Figure 3).

There was greater reticulation of the network between lineages 1, 5 or 6 and the other lineages

than among these other lineages themselves, the presumed consequence of higher levels of

genetic exchanges involving lineages 1, 5 and 6. Lineages 2 to 4 displayed long interior branches

and star-like topologies consistent with long-term clonality. Terminal branches appeared to be

shorter for lineages 2 to 4 than for lineage 1, consistent with the lower levels of variability detected

in these lineages.

Table 3. Estimates of the population recombination rate ρ, tests of recombination based on

homoplasy and linkage disequilibrium, proportion of homoplastic SNPs.

Lineage	ρ (crossovers/Mb/generation)								Homoplastic SNPs	PHI test (p-value)
	Chromosomes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Average		
1	8.6*	3.8*	15.1*	1.4	8.5*	10.6*	13.5*	10.57	34.56 %	0.0000
2	0.0	0.2	0.2*	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.28	0.09 %	0.0944
3	0.4*	0.2*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.01	0.47 %	0.0535
4	0.2	0.2*	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.33	0.40 %	0.0014

226   *P<0.05. PHI test is the Pairwise Homoplasy Test. The null hypothesis of no recombination was tested, for
227   the PHI test and for ρ, using random permutations of the positions of the SNPs based on the expectation that
228   sites are exchangeable if there is no recombination. For the ρ test, significance was computed using the
229   distribution of maximum composite likelihood values calculated on permuted data.
230
To further study the amount of recombination within lineages, we estimated the population

recombination parameter (rho=$2N_e$r) and tested for the presence of recombination using a

likelihood permutation test implemented in the PAIRWISE program in LDHAT. Recombination

analyses confirmed the heterogeneity across lineages in the contribution of recombination to

genomic variation, with recombination rates averaged across chromosomes being more than two

to three orders of magnitude higher in lineage 1 (10.57 crossovers/Mb/generation) than in other

lineages (lineage 2: 0.28; lineage 3: 0.01; lineage 4: 0.33 crossovers/Mb/generation) (Table 3).

Analyses using SPLITSTREE to visualize reticulations within each lineage and to test for

recombination using the PHI test were consistent with this pattern (Table 3; Figure 3; Figure S1).

The null hypothesis of no recombination was rejected only for lineage 1 and 4 [44].

Differences in recombination-based variation among lineages were confirmed by analyses of

homoplasy (Table 3). Homoplastic sites are sequence similarities that are not inherited from a

common ancestor but result from independent events on different branches. Homoplasy can result

from recurrent mutations or recombination, and the contribution of recombination to homoplasy is

expected to be dominating in outbreeding populations. Homoplastic sites were identified by

mapping mutations onto the total evidence genome genealogy using the 'Trace All Characters'

function in MESQUITE [45], applying ancestral reconstruction under the maximum parsimony

optimality criterion. The resulting matrix of ancestral states for all nodes was then processed using

a python script to compute the number of mutations having occurred a each site within each

lineage, counting sites requiring multiple substitutions across the tree as homoplastic. Only 0.09%,

0.47% and 0.40% of the SNPs were homoplastic in lineages 2, 3 and 4, respectively, versus

34.6% in lineage 1 (lineages 5 and 6: not tested because small sample size). The fact that very

few sites are homoplastic in lineages 2, 3 and 4 suggest that these lineages are largely clonal,

while the high level of homoplasy detected in lineage 1 is consistent with repeated recombination

events having occurred between strains of this lineage.

To gain insight into the genomic impact of recombination, we analyzed patterns of linkage

disequilibrium (LD), which represents the tendency for different alleles to co-occur non-randomly.

For lineage 1, LD decayed smoothly with physical distance, reaching half of its maximum value at

about 10 kb, while for lineages 2, 3 and 4, no pattern of LD decay was observed (Figure S2).

These analyses also revealed that background LD levels were not higher in lineage 2, 3, or 4,

which appear to be largely clonal, than in lineage 1. However, both simulation work and empirical

data have shown that population history, including bottlenecks or admixture, have a strong impact

on population background LD levels [46].

Genome scan for genetic exchanges among lineages.

We scanned the genomes for mutations exchanged among lineages using a method based on

lineage-diagnostic SNPs and a probabilistic method of 'chromosome painting' (Figure 4). In the

lineage-diagnostic SNPs approach, each isolate is removed from the dataset, in turn, lineage-

diagnostic SNPs are identified (i.e. biallelic sites at which a mutation is specific to a given lineage),

each focal isolate is then added back to the dataset and scanned for the presence of lineage-

diagnostic SNPs identified in lineages that are not its lineage of origin. Using this approach, we

identified 515 lineage-diagnostic singletons with 276, 96 and 140 singletons in lineage 1, 5 and 6,

respectively, and only a single singleton in lineages 2, 3 and 4. Putatively migrant singletons were

assigned to all other lineages for lineage 1 and 5, and to all other lineages except lineage 1 for

lineage 6 (Table S6). 'Chromosome painting' is a probabilistic method of reconstructing the

chromosomes of each individual sample as a combination of all other homologous sequences. For

each isolate, we identified migrant mutations as mutations having a probability above 90% of

having been copied from a lineage that is not the lineage of origin of the focal isolate. The method

only takes population data as recipient populations, and thus only lineages 1 to 4 could be included

in the analysis. Using chromosome painting we identified 464 migrant mutations, all of which

segregated in lineage 1. Putatively migrant mutations were assigned to all five other lineages (92.8

mutations per lineage on average), with greatest contribution of lineage 2 (165 mutations) and

smallest contribution of lineage 4 (39 mutations).

The sets of putative migrant mutations identified using the two methods matched different sets of

genes that showed enrichment in NOD-like Receptors [47], HET-domain genes [48] or the GO

term 'lipid catabolic process' (Table S6). However, the presence of false positive caused by the

random sorting of ancestral polymorphism in lineage 1 and other lineages cannot be excluded. To

reduce the impact of the retention of ancestral mutations, we reasoned that series of adjacent

mutations are more likely to represent genuine genetic exchange events. We identified all genomic

regions defined by three adjacent putative migrant mutations stemming from the same donor

lineage. We searched for such mutations in the set of putative migrant mutations identified by the

two methods. In total we identified 12 such regions, matching 1917 genes. Functional enrichment

tests conducted for each recipient isolates revealed enrichment in GO term 'pathogenesis' for

isolate CH999, GO term 'phosphatidylinositol biosynthetic process' for isolate TH17 and GO term

'telomere maintenance' for isolate CH1019 (Table S6).

Molecular dating. To investigate the timing of rice blast emergence and diversification, we

performed Bayesian phylogenetic analyses using BEAST. Isolates were collected from 1967 to

2009 (Table S1), which allowed us to use a tip-based calibration approach to coestimate

evolutionary rates and ancestral divergence times. Fitting a linear regression between the age of

samples and their root-to-tip distance (i.e. the number of substitution separating each sample from

the hypothetical ancestor at the root of the tree) revealed enough temporal signal to perform

thorough tip-dating inferences (Figure S3) [49]. We therefore used tip-dating to estimate jointly the

rate at which mutations accumulate (i.e. the substitution rate) and the age of every node in the tree

including the root (i.e. time to the most recent common ancestor). At the genome scale, the

average substitution rate estimate was 1.98e-8 substitution/site/year (Figure S3). We inferred that

the ancestor of rice-infecting and Setaria-infecting lineages lived ~14,000 years before present

(ybp) but credibility intervals were relatively large (95% HPD [6500-30,000] ybp). The six rice-

infecting lineages were estimated to have diversified ~900 to ~1300 ybp (95% HPD [175-2700]

ybp) (Figure 5). Bootstrap node support were high and similar node age estimates were obtained

when excluding recombining lineage 1 and potentially recombining lineages 5 and 6 (not shown),

indicating that recombination has limited effect on our inferences.

Discussion

We have performed a whole-genome sequence analysis of time- and space-distributed samples to

elucidate the emergence, diversification and spread of *M. oryzae* as a rapidly evolving pathogen

with devastating impact on rice agrosystems. Analyses of population subdivision and tip-dating

analyses of a collection of samples covering over 40 years revealed that the six lineages identified

within *M. oryzae* diversified ~900 to ~1300 ybp (95% credible intervals [175-2700] ybp). Lineage 1

(which includes the reference strains GY11 and 70-15) was found in mainland Southeast Asia and

originated from barley, tropical japonica or from undetermined varieties. All isolates from lineage 1,

5 and 6 were collected in rainfed upland agrosystems that are typical for japonica rice, and

pathogenicity tests were consistent with local adaptation of lineage 1 to tropical japonica rice.

Lineage 2 was pandemic in irrigated fields of temperate japonica outside Asia, and cross

inoculation experiments revealed specialization to this host as well as an ability to overcome fewer

R genes, on average, than other lineages. Lineages 3 and 4 were associated with indica. Lineage

3 is pandemic, and cross inoculation indicated local adaptation to this host, relative to tropical

japonica, although in general terms lineages 3 and 4 had relatively wide compatibility ranges

consistent with generalism. A possible explanation to both the wide compatibility range of

temperate japonica varieties and the narrow compatibility range of lineage 2 is that temperate

japonica varieties display smaller repertoires of R genes, as resistance to blast is less of a concern

to breeders in temperate irrigated conditions that are less conducive to epidemics [50].

The Southeast continental Asian lineage was the most basal in total evidence genome

genealogies, mirroring an evolutionary pathway to domesticated Asian rice [15, 17] in which the de

novo domestication of rice occurred only once, in japonica. However, the diversification of *M.*

oryzae into multiple rice-infecting lineages (point estimates ranging from ~900 to ~1300 ybp)

appears to be much more recent than the de novo domestication of rice (8500-6500 ybp [15, 51,

52]), the spread of rice cultivation in paddy fields, and the domestication of indica in South Asia,

following introgressive hybridization from the early japonica gene pool into 'proto-indica' rice (ca.

4000 ybp [15, 53]). At the time corresponding to the upper bound of 95% credible intervals (2700

ybp), japonica rice and paddy-field cultivation had spread to most areas of continental and insular

South, East and Southeast Asia [15, 54], and indica rice was beginning to spread out of the

Ganges plains [15]. The point estimates for the splitting of *M. oryzae* lineages in fact corresponds

with the Tang dynasty ('the Golden Age') in China, and the late classical period in India, during

which food production became more rational and scientific and intensive irrigated systems of

cultivation were developed, bringing about economic, demographic and material growth [55].

Genome scans based on polymorphism and divergence revealed heterogeneity in the genomic

and life-history changes associated with the emergence and spread of the different lineages. The

Southeast continental Asia lineage 1 is recombining, fertile, genetically diverse and has both

mating types, suggesting sexual reproduction and relatively high long-term population size. The

pandemic lineages 2 and 3, as well as the South Asia/US lineage 4, were largely clonal, genetically depauperate, sterile, and single mating type, suggesting a lack of sexual reproduction and demographic bottlenecks associated with their emergence in agrosystems. Patterns of polymorphism and diversity at non-synonymous and synonymous sites indicated that deleterious mutations were enriched in clonal lineages of *M. oryzae* with smaller long-term population size, consistent with a higher cost of pestification in these lineages. Introgression of genetic elements from clonal lineages harboring greater loads of deleterious mutations may be counteracting efficient purging of deleterious mutations in the recombining lineage 1 from mainland Southeast Asia, and contribute to reducing differences in the proportion of nonsynonymous mutations between recombining and clonal lineages. However, the extensive variability detected in the origin and genomic distribution of the detected putative migrant mutations suggested that most of them were false positives and that only the series of adjacent such mutations originating from the same donor lineage represented genuine genetic exchange events. Field-scale studies in areas where different lineages coexist should provide more detailed insights into the relative importance of interlineage recombination and allow testing whether genetic exchanges are driven by positive selection or whether they represent an incidental byproduct of the sympatric coexistence of interfertile lineages. We predict that the accumulation of deleterious mutations in pandemic clonal complexes and gene flow into sexual lineages during disease emergence and spread are widespread phenomena, not due to idiosyncrasies of *M. oryzae*, and we expect patterns to hold true in other invasive fungal plant pathogens.

Examination of additional isolates from under-sampled geographical regions (including Africa and South-America) using sequencing approaches and sampling schemed tailored to detecting adaptation from de novo mutations will be required to enhance our understanding of the biogeography of *M. oryzae* and the genetic basis of adaptation in the different *M. oryzae* lineages. Nevertheless, the catalogue of variants detected in our study provides a solid foundation for future research on the population genomics of adaptation in *M. oryzae*. Our work also provides a population-level genomic framework for defining molecular markers to assist in the control of rice blast and for investigating the molecular underpinnings of phenotypic and fitness differences between divergent lineages.

Methods

Genome sequencing and SNP calling. Preparation of sequencing libraries and Illumina HiSeq

2500 sequencing was performed either at Beckman Coulters Genomics (Danvers, USA) or at

Iwate Biotechnological Research Center (Table S1). Genomic DNA for sequencing at BCG was

isolated from 100 mg of fresh mycelium grown in liquid medium. Mycelium was pre-treated by

enzymatic activities that degrade the cell walls (mainly betaglucanase) followed by an incubation in

a lysis buffer (Triton 2 X - SDS 1% - NaCl 100 mM - TrisHCl 10 mM - EDTA 1 mM). Nucleic acids

were extracted using a chloroform:isoamyl alcohol 24:1 treatment, overnight isopropanol

precipitation, and rinsing with 70% ethanol. The nucleic acid extract was treated with RNase A

(0.2mg/mL final) to remove RNA and purified with another chloroform:isoamyl alcohol 24:1

treatment. Genomic DNA for sequencing at IBRC was isolated using a protocol adapted from the

animal tissue (Mouse tail) protocol available in the Promega Wizard® Genomic DNA Purification

Kit. Nucleic acids were extracted from 20 mg of fresh mycelium grown in liquid medium, grind into

powder using liquid nitrogen and pre-chilled mortar and pestle. Centrifugation time specified in the

mouse tail protocol was increased to 15 min and centrifugation was carried out at 4°C after the

precipitation step of 3 hours at -20°C. Nucleic acids were resuspended in water, treated with

RNase A (0.2mg/mL final), purified with a chloroform:isoamyl alcohol 24:1 treatment, precipitated

overnight using isopropanol with 0.1 volume of sodium acetate (3 M pH = 5), and rinsed using 70%

ethanol rinsing.

Sequencing reads were either paired-end (read length 100 nucleotides, insert size ~ 500bp, DNAs

sequenced at IBI) or single-end (read length 100 nucleotides, DNAs sequenced by BCG). Reads

were trimmed to remove barcodes, adapters, and filtered to eliminate sequences containing

ambiguous base calls. Reads were mapped against the 70-15 reference genome version 8 [9]

using BWA [56] (sub-command alb, option -n 5; sub-command sampe option -a 500). Alignments

were sorted with SAMTOOLS [57], and reads with mapping quality below 30 were removed.

Duplicates were removed with PICARD (http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/). We used REALIGNER-

TARGETCREATOR, TARGETCREATOR and INDELREALIGNER within the GENOME ANALYSES TOOLKIT

(GATK) [58] to define intervals to target for local realignment and to perform local realignment of

reads around indels, respectively, and UNIFIED GENOTYPER to call SNPs. High-confidence SNPs

were identified using GATK's VARIANTFILTRATION with the following parameters: MQ0< 3.0 (Total

Mapping Quality Zero Reads), prof >= 15.0 (Number of reference alleles + number of alternative

alleles, computed as the sum of allelic depths for the reference and alternative alleles in the order

listed), and RA <= 0.1 (Number of reference alleles / number of alternative alleles). High-

confidence SNPs were annotated using SNPEFF v4.3 [59].

Mating type and female fertility assays. Mating type and female fertility had previously been

determined [24], or were determined as previously described [60].

Genealogical relationships and Population subdivision. Total evidence genealogy was inferred

using RAxML based on pseudo-assembled genomic sequences (i.e. tables of SNPs converted into

a fasta file using the reference sequence as a template), assuming a General Time-Reversible

model of nucleotide substitution with the Γ model of rate heterogeneity. Bootstrap confidence

levels were determined using 100 replicates. DAPC was performed using the ADEGENET package

in R [61]. Sites with missing data were excluded. We retained the first 20 principal components,

and the first 6 discriminant functions.

Diversity and divergence. Polymorphism and divergence statistics were computed using EGGLIB

3.0.0b10 [62] excluding sites with >30% missing data. The neutrality index was calculated as

$(P_n/P_s)/(D_n/D_s)$, with P_n and P_s the numbers of non-synonymous and synonymous polymorphisms,

D_n and D_s the numbers of non-synonymous and synonymous substitutions. D_n and D_s were

computed in GESTIMATOR [63] using the Setaria-infecting lineage as an outgroup. P_n and P_s were

computed using EGGLIB.

Linkage disequilibrium and Recombination. The coefficient of linkage disequilibrium (r2) [64]

was computed using VCFTOOLS [65] with missing data and sites with minor allele frequency below

10% excluded. For all lineages we computed r2 between all pairs of SNPs less than 100kb apart

and averaged LD values in distance classes of 1kb for lineages 1 and 4, and 10kb for lineages 2

and 3 to minimize noise due to their low genetic diversity. Only sites without missing data and at

which the minor allele frequency was above 10% were included, to minimize the dependency of r2

to levels of minor allele frequency [66]. Recombination rates were estimated for each chromosome

using the PAIRWISE program in LDHAT version 2.2 [67]. Singletons and sites with missing data were excluded.

Pathogenicity tests. We used pathotyping data for 31 isolates published by Gallet et al. [39]. We supplemented this dataset with pathotyping data for 17 isolates, produced by the same authors using the same protocol, but not included in their study due to uncertainty in the nature of their rice subspecies of origin. We used a combination of multilocus microsatellite and SNP data to assign the 58 pathotyped isolates to the six lineages. To improve accuracy of assignment tests, we also included SNP and microsatellite data for 19 non-pathotyped isolates, and the full dataset included 77 multilocus genotypes. Multilocus microsatellite genotyping at 12 loci was carried out as in Saleh et al. [50]. For the 49 isolates for which genomic data were available, we kept 1% of the SNP loci that had no missing data (i.e. 164 SNPs). Missing data were introduced at SNP and microsatellite loci for the 27 non-sequenced isolates and the 4 sequenced isolates without microsatellite data.

Assignments were carried out using the STRUCTURE 2.3.1 program [68-70]. The model implemented allowed admixture and correlation in allele frequencies. Burn-in length was set at 10 000 iterations followed by a run phase of 40 000 iterations. Four independent runs were performed to check for convergence. At K=6 the four main clusters identified with the full genomic dataset were recovered, although 15 genotypes out of 77 could not be assigned because of admixture or a lack of power. Finally, out of the 58 inoculated isolates, 46 could be assigned to lineages 1 to 4; the remaining twelve isolates could not be divided between lineages 1, 5 or 6 and were not analyzed further (Figure S4). The success of infection was analyzed using a generalized linear model with a binomial error structure and logit link function. Treatment contrasts were used to assess the specific degrees of freedom of main effects and interactions.

Genome scan for genetic exchanges. Probabilistic chromosome painting was carried out using the CHROMOPAINTER program version 0.0.4 [71]. This method "paints" individuals in "recipient" populations as a combination of segments from "donor" populations using linkage information in probability computation on the basis that linked alleles are more likely to be exchanged together during recombination events. All lineages were used as donors, while lineage 1-4 only were used as recipients (sample size too small for lineages 5 and 6). We initially ran the model using

increments of 50 expectation-maximization iterations, starting at 10 iterations, and examined

convergence of parameter estimates to determine how many iterations to use. Hence, the

recombination scaling constant N_e and emission probabilities (μ) were estimated in lineages 1-4 by

running the expectation-maximization algorithm with 200 iterations for each lineage and

chromosome. Estimates of N_e and μ were then computed as averages weighted by chromosome

length (N_e=8160 for all lineages, lineage 1; μ=0.0000506; lineage 2, μ=0.0000171; lineage 3,

μ=0.000021; lineage 4, μ=0.000011). These parameter values and the per-chromosome

recombination rates estimated using LDHAT were then used to paint the chromosome of each

lineage, considering the remaining lineages as donors, using 200 expectation-maximization

iterations. We used a probability threshold of 0.9 to assign mutations in a recipient lineage to a

donor lineage.

Tip-calibrated phylogenetic analysis. Tip-calibrated phylogenetic inferences were performed

using only the 48 isolates with recorded sampling dates, i.e. all isolates except the reference 70-15

and PH0018. We investigated whether our dataset contained sufficient signal to perform thorough

tip-dating inferences by building a phylogenetic tree using PHYML [71] without constraining tip-

heights to isolate's sampling times and then fitting root-to-tip distances (a proxy for the number of

accumulated substitutions since the most recent common ancestor, TMRCA) to collection dates

using TEMPEST [70]. We observed a positive and significant correlation (Figure S3), demonstrating

sufficient temporal signal to perform thorough tip-dating inferences at this evolutionary scale.The

tip-calibrated inferences were then ran using Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling in BEAST 1.8.2

[72]. The topology was fixed as the total evidence genome genealogy inferred using RAXML. We

used an annotation of the SNPs with SNPEFF [57] to partition Bayesian inference (i.e. several

substitution models and rates of evolution were fitted to the different sets of SNPs during a single

analysis). The optimal partitioning scheme and the best-fit nucleotide substitution model for each

partition of the genome were estimated using the software PARTITIONFINDER [73]. The best

partitioning was obtained for K=3 schemes (synonymous: HKY, non-synonymous: GTR and non-

exonic SNPs: GTR) and was used henceforth. Nodes age were then estimated using this optimal

partitioning scheme. Rate variation among sites was modeled with a discrete gamma distribution

with four rate categories. We assumed an uncorrelated lognormal relaxed clock to account for rate

variation among lineages. To minimize prior assumptions about demographic history, we adopted

an extended Bayesian skyline plot approach in order to integrate data over different coalescent

histories. The tree was calibrated using tip-dates only. To do so, we applied flat priors (i.e., uniform

distributions) for the substitution rate (1.10^{-12} - 1.10^{-2} substitutions/site/year) as well as for the age

of any internal node than in the tree (including the root). We ran five independent chains in which

samples were drawn every 5,000 MCMC steps from a total of 50,000,000 steps, after a discarded

burn-in of 5,000,000 steps. Convergence to the stationary distribution and sufficient sampling and

mixing were checked by inspection of posterior samples (effective sample size >200). Parameter

estimation was based on the samples combined from the different chains. The best-supported tree

was estimated from the combined samples using the maximum clade credibility method

implemented in TREEANNOTATOR.

Functional enrichment. Gene enrichment analysis was conducted using R package TOPGO for

GO terms, and fisher exact tests for enrichment in HET-domain genes, NLRs, small-secreted

proteins and MAX-effector genes. MAX-effector genes were obtained from de Guillen et al. [72],

NLRs were identified in Dyrka et al. [47], and small-secreted proteins and HET-domain were

identified using Ensembl's Biomart.

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Figure Captions

Figure 1. Population subdivision in the sample set analyzed. (A) Total evidence maximum

likelihood genome genealogy and Discriminant Analysis of Principal Components, (B) geographic

distribution of the six lineages identified based on results presented in (A). In panel A, all nodes

had bootstrap supports above 95% (100 resamplings), except the node carrying isolates BR0026,

US0098, PR0009 and MC0016 (support: 72%); in the barplot, each isolate is represented by a

thick horizontal line divided into K segments that represent the isolate's estimated membership

probabilities in the K clusters assumed. In panel B, diameters are proportional to the number of

isolates collected per site (smallest diameter represents 1 isolate). TRJ, tropical japonica; TEJ,

temperate japonica; IND, indica; HYB, hybrid; BAR, barley; ND, no data.

Figure 2. Proportion of compatible interactions between 46 isolates from lineages 1 to 4 of *M.*

oryzae and 38 varieties representing three rice subspecies (B) and proportion of R genes

overcome by 36 isolates from lineages 1 to 4 of M. oryzae inoculated onto 19 rice differential lines.

Figure 3. Neighbor-Net networks showing relationships between haplotypes identified based on

the full set of 16,370 SNPs without missing data, (A) in the whole sample set, (B) in lineage 1, (C)

in lineage 2, (D) in lineage 3, (E) in lineage 4.

Figure 4. Genomic distribution of candidate immigrant mutations in lineages 1, 5 and 6. (A)

Lineage-diagnostic mutations segregating as singletons in other lineages. (B) Lineage 1 mutations

for which the most probable donor is lineage 2, 3, 4 in probabilistic Chromosome painting analysis.

Lineages 5 and 6 (n=2 and n=1, respectively) could not be included as recipient populations in

Chromosome painting analysis of small sample size. No candidate immigrant mutations were

identified in lineages 2, 3, and 4. (C) Genomic regions corresponding to series of adjacent putative

migrant mutations identified using lineage-diagnostic singletons in lineage 1. Chromosomes 1 to 7

in clockwise order, with ticks every megabase.

Figure 5. Tip-calibrated genealogy inferred using maximum-likelihood phylogenetic inference in

BEAST 1.8.2 based on single-nucleotide variation in 50 M. oryzae genomes. Approximate historical

periods are shown for context.

Supporting information

Figure S1. Neighbor-Net networks showing relationships between haplotypes identified based on

the full set of 16,370 SNPs without missing data, (A) in lineage 1, (B) in lineage 2, (C) in lineage 3,

(D) in lineage 4.

Figure S2. Linkage disequilibrium (r^2) against distance. Only SNPs less than 100kb and SNPs with

Minor Allele Frequency above 10%. Averaged values in 1kb windows for lineage 1 and 4.

Averaged values in 10kb windows for lineage 2 and 3 to minimize noise associated with smaller

sample size.

Figure S3. (A) Root-to-tip distances (mutations/site) estimated using Beast correlate with

collection date; (B) Marginal posterior densities of the substitution rates of the three data partitions

(non-coding sites, non-synonymous sites and synonymous sites) as estimated using a tip-

calibrated phylogenetic analysis.

Figure S4. Proportions of ancestry in K=6 ancestral populations inferred using the STRUCTURE

program based on 77 multilocus genotypes. Individuals were genotyped at 12 microsatellite loci

and 164 SNP loci. Each individual is represented by a bar, partitioned into K segments

representing the amount of ancestry of its genome in each ancestral population.

Table S1. Isolates and genome sequencing information

Table S2. Absolute divergence (dxy) per base pair between *Magnaporthe oryzae* lineages.

Table S3. Binary interactions (infection: +; no infection: -; no data: empty cell) between rice

varieties representing three rice subspecies (left) or rice differential lines (right) and *Magnaporthe*

oryzae isolates representing six lineages

Table S4. General linear model analysis of the proportion of compatible interactions (A) and

contrasts results for the analysis of the proportion of compatible interactions (B).

Table S5. General linear model analysis of the proportion of R genes overcome (A) and contrasts

results for the analysis of the proportion of the proportion of R genes overcome using a general

linear model (B)

Table S6. Distribution of putative migrant mutations, list of predicted genes matching putative

migrant mutations and functional enrichment analysis.

.

(A)

Membership probabilities

	K=2	K=3	K=4	K=5	K=6	K=7	K=8	K=9	K=10	

NP37 — IND
US0031 — ND
IN0072 — TRJ
IN0082 — IND
CH701 — IND
IN0094 — ND

Lineage 4
Nepal, USA, India, China

NP61 — IND
NP41 — IND
CH680 — HYB
CH328 — HYB
CH595 — ND
PH14 — IND
CL0026 — IND
CD0073 — IND
CD0203 — ND
PH0118 — IND
PH0103 — IND
BD0024 — ND
MD0929 — IND
CH0549 — IND
CL367 — IND
ML0025 — IND

Lineage 3
Nepal, China, Philippines, Burundi, Madagascar, Mali Côte d'Ivoire, Colombia

CH532 — ND
CH0333 — IND

Lineage 5 China

CH1016 — TRJ

Lineage 6 China

CH0052 — TRJ
CH689 — HYB
CH0063 — TRJ
BR0026 — TRJ
US0098 — TEJ
MC0016 — TEJ
PR0009 — TEJ
FR13 — TEJ
NP52 — TRJ
CH860 — ND
JP0010 — TRJ
SP0005 — TEJ
CH0092 — TEJ
HN001 — TEJ

Lineage 2
China, Brasil, USA, Burundi, Morocco, Portugal, France, Japan, Spain, Hungary

GY11 — ND
70-15 — ND
TH14 — BAR
TH16 — BAR
TH12 — BAR
CH999 — TRJ
CH1019 — TRJ
LA5 — ND
LA21 — ND
TH17 — BAR

Lineage 1
French Guyana, Thailand, China, Laos

US71 — Setaria millet, USA

3.0E-4

(B)

- lineage 1
- lineage 2
- lineage 3
- lineage 4
- lineage 5
- lineage 6
- Setaria

(A) Proportion of compatible interactions

Lineage
1
2
3
4

Indica   Tropical Japonica   Temperate Japonica

(B) Proportion of R genes overcome

Lineage
1   2   3   4

Lineage

(A) Lineage-diagnostic singletons

(B) Chromosome painting

(C) Adjacent putative migrant mutations

Recipient Lineage

Donor Lineage

Recipient Isolates
1 — TH14
   TH17
   GY11
   LA21
   TH12
   70-15
   TH16
   CH999
   CH1019
   LA5
5 — CH532
   CH0333
6 — CH1016

930
[200-2020]

680
[140-1460]

860
[175-1855]

1260
[260-2700]

170
[60-370]

1035
[210-2200]

1195
[230-2565]

220
[80-4200]

9760
[1200-21700]

870
[180-2000]

280
[70-575]

Foxtail millet domestication (North China)

Japonica domestication (South China)

Reliance on proto-Indica (Ganges Valley)

Indica domestication (Ganges Valley)

Spread of intensive cultivation

Rice in Egypt & Persia

Tang dynasty ('Golden Age')
Late classical period in India

years before
present

9000   6000   3000   0