

1 **A forward genetic approach to mapping a *P*-element second site mutation identifies *DCP2* as a**
2 **novel tumor suppressor in *Drosophila melanogaster***

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31 **Running title – *Drosophila DCP2* is a tumour suppressor**

32

33 **Abstract**

34 The use of transposons to create mutants has been the cornerstone of *Drosophila* genetics in the past few
35 decades. Transpositions often create second-site mutations, devoid of transposon insertion and thereby
36 affect subsequent phenotype analyses. In a *P*-element mutagenesis screen, a second site mutant was
37 discovered on chromosome 3 wherein the homozygous mutant individuals show the classic hallmarks of
38 mutations in tumor suppressor genes including brain tumour and lethality, hence the mutant line was
39 initially named as *lethal (3) tumorous brain [l(3)tb]*. Classical genetic approaches relying on meiotic
40 recombination and subsequent complementation with chromosomal deletions and gene mutations mapped
41 the mutation to CG6169, the mRNA decapping protein 2 (*DCP2*), on the left arm of the third
42 chromosome (3L), and thus the mutation was renamed as *DCP2^{l(3)tb}*. Fine mapping of the mutation further
43 identified the presence of a *Gypsy*-LTR like sequence in the 5'UTR coding region of *DCP2*, alongwith
44 expansion of the adjacent upstream intergenic AT-rich sequence. The mutant phenotypes are rescued by
45 Introduction of a functional copy of *DCP2* in the mutant background, thereby establishing the causal role
46 of the mutation and providing a genetic validation of the allelism. With the increasing repertoire of genes
47 being associated with tumor biology this is the first instance that the mRNA decapping protein is being
48 implicated in *Drosophila* tumorigenesis. Our findings therefore imply a plausible role for mRNA
49 degradation pathway in tumorigenesis and identify *DCP2* as a potential candidate for future explorations
50 of cell cycle regulatory mechanisms.

51 **Keywords** – *DCP2*, tumor suppressor, *Drosophila*, genetic mapping

52

53 Introduction

54 With increasing interest in studies of classical tumor suppressors (Papagiannouli and Mechler, 2013;
55 Ivanov et al., 2010), the search for new candidate proteins in tumor suppression has garnered importance
56 (Tipping and Perrimon, 2013). In *Drosophila*, *P*-element mutagenesis provides a convenient method to
57 identify, isolate and clone tagged genes while probing for genes which could be mutated to tumor
58 formation (Mechler, 1994). Although identification and subsequent molecular analysis is convenient with
59 *P*-element transpositions, second-site mutations devoid of any *P*-element insertion may be created during
60 transposition (Liebl et al., 2006). In a *P*-element mutagenesis screen, a second site mutant was discovered
61 wherein the homozygous mutant individuals showed prolonged larval life, developed larval brain tumors
62 with increased number of superficial neuroblasts and abnormal chromosomal condensation along with
63 overgrowth in the wing and the eye-antennal discs and were lethal in the larval/pupal stages. Since all
64 these are hallmarks of mutations in tumor suppressor genes in *Drosophila* (Gateff and Schneiderman,
65 1969; Gateff E, 1974; Gateff E, 1978), the mutation was named as *l(3)tb* [*l(3)tb: lethal (3) tumorous*
66 *brain*] owing to its location on the third chromosome and the phenotypes manifested. Genetic and
67 molecular analyses mapped the mutation to *DCP2* on the left arm of chromosome 3 (cytogenetic position
68 72A1) and hence the allele was named as *DCP2^{l(3)tb}*. While complementation analyses of the mutation
69 with alleles of *DCP2* show phenotypes similar to *l(3)tb* homozygotes and confirm the proposed allelism,
70 over-expression of wild type *DCP2* in the mutant background rescues the mutant phenotypes, thereby
71 providing a genetic validation of allelism. Subsequent fine mapping identified the presence of a *Gypsy*-
72 LTR like sequence in the 5'UTR coding region, downstream to the transcription start site (TSS) of *DCP2*.
73 *DCP2* codes for the mRNA decapping protein 2, which belongs to the NUDIX family of
74 pyrophosphatases and was identified almost a decade ago through a yeast genetic screen (Dunckley and
75 Parker, 1999). Being one of the major components of the decapping complex, *DCP2* is conserved in
76 worms, flies, plants, mice, and humans (Wang et al., 2002). *DCP2* is activated by *DCP1* and they function
77 together as a holoenzyme to cleave the 5' cap structure of mRNA (LaGrandeur and Parker, 1998; Coller
78 and Parker, 2004; Parker and Song, 2004; She et al., 2008). *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* bears an incomplete LTR sequence
79 from the *gypsy* element and develops brain tumors in *Drosophila*, thereby demanding considerable
80 exploration of the exact perturbations in the DNA-protein interactions caused by its presence. Although
81 mRNA decapping plays a significant role in mRNA turnover and translation, widely affecting gene
82 expression (Mitchell and Tollervey, 2001; Raghavan and Bohjanen, 2004; Song et al., 2010),
83 simultaneous links between mRNA degradation genes, retrotransposons and tumors have not been
84 observed and/or investigated so far. Therefore, the novel allele *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* reveals a new perception for
85 functional roles of mutant lesions and the ensuing perturbations in gene regulation in tumor biology.

86 **Materials and Methods**

87 **Fly strains and rearing conditions**

88 All flies were raised on standard agar-cornmeal medium at $24\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$. *Oregon R*⁺ was used as the wild type
89 control. The *l(3)tb* mutation (*yw*; *+/+*; *l(3)tb* /*TM6B*, *Tb*¹, *Hu*, *e*¹) was isolated in a genetic screen and the
90 mutation was maintained with the *TM6B* balancer. The multiply marked “*rucuca*” (*ru h th st cu sr e*
91 *ca/TM6B,Tb*) and “*ruPrica*” (*ru h th st cu sr e Pr ca/TM6B,Tb*) chromosomes were employed for
92 recombination mapping (Lindsley and Zimm 1992). *w*; $\Delta 2-3$, *Sb/TM6B*, *Tb*¹, *Hu*, *e*¹ (Cooley *et al.* 1988)
93 and *CyO*, *P{Tub-Pbac/T}2/Wg^{Sp-1};+/TM6B*, *Tb*, *Hu*, *e*¹ were used for providing transposase source for *P*
94 element and *piggyBac* specific transposable element, respectively, in mutagenesis experiment. The *y*¹*w*;
95 *P{Act5C-GAL4}25F01/CyO* and *yw*; *+/+*; *Tub-GAL4/ TM3*, *Sb*, *e*, were obtained from the Bloomington
96 *Drosophila* Stock Center. The lethal insertion mutants of gene *DCP2*, viz., *PBac{RB}DCP2^{e00034}/TM6B*,
97 *Tb*¹ *Hu*, *e*¹ (Thibault *et al.* 2004) and *P{GT1}DCP2^{BG01766}/TM3*, *Sb*¹, *e*¹ (Lukacsovich *et al.* 2001) were
98 obtained from Exelixis Stock Center, Harvard University and Bloomington *Drosophila* stock center,
99 respectively.

100 Deficiency stock *Df(3L)RM96* was generated in the laboratory (for details of characterisation, refer to
101 **Supplementary Table S3**) using progenitor *P* element stocks viz. *P{RS5}5-SZ-3486*, *P{RS5}5-SZ-3070*,
102 *P{RS3}UM-8356-3*, *P{RS3}UM-8241-3*, *P{RS3}CB-0072-3*, *yw P{70FLP, ry⁺}3F^{iso}/y⁺Y; 2^{iso}*;
103 *TM2/TM6C*, *Sb*, *w¹¹¹⁸_{iso}/y⁺Y; 2^{iso}*; *TM2/TM6C*, *Sb* obtained from Vienna *Drosophila* Resource Center
104 (Golic and Golic, 1996; Ryder *et al.* 2007). Various deficiency stocks and transposon insertion fly stocks
105 (**Supplementary Tables S1 and S2**) used for complementation analysis were obtained from
106 Bloomington *Drosophila* stock centre and Exelixis stock centre.

107 **Analysis of lethal phase in *l(3)tb* homozygotes**

108 For analysis of lethal phase and morphological anomalies associated with the homozygous *l(3)tb*
109 mutation, embryos were collected at the intervals of 2h on food filled Petri dishes. Embryos from wild
110 type flies were collected as controls. The total number of eggs in each plate was counted and the embryos
111 were allowed to grow at 23°C or 18°C or 16°C ($\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$). Hatching of embryos and further development of
112 larval stages was monitored to determine any developmental delay. Mutant larvae, at different stages,
113 were dissected and the morphology of larval structures was examined.

114 **Identification of Mutant Locus in *l(3)tb* –**

115 **a. Meiotic recombination mapping of *l(3)tb* mutation**

116 Genetic recombination with multiple recessive chromosome markers, *ru cu ca*, was performed to map
117 mutation in *y w: +/+; l(3)tb/TM6B, Tb* mutant. The *y w; l(3)tb/TM6B* males were crossed to virgin *+/+;*
118 *ru Pri ca/TM6B* females to recover *l(3)tb* without *y w* on X-chromosome. The F1 *l(3)tb/TM6B* males were
119 crossed to virgin *+/+; ru cu ca* females and the F2 progeny *+/+; l(3)tb/ru cu ca* virgin females were
120 selected. These F2 virgins were then crossed to *ru Pri ca/TM6B* males to score the frequency of
121 recombinants in the F3 progeny. Thereafter, all the F3 progeny males obtained, were individually scored
122 for *ru, h, th, st, cu, sr, e* and *ca* phenotypes and then they were individually crossed with virgin
123 *l(3)tb/TM6B* females to identify which of them had the *l(3)tb* mutation along with other scored markers.

124 **b. Complementation mapping of the *l(3)tb* mutation**

125 Complementation analysis of the mutation in *l(3)tb* allele was carried out in two stages. Firstly, deficiency
126 stocks spanning the entire chromosome 3 (**Supplementary Table S1**) were used to identify the mutant
127 loci, and secondly, lethal *P*-insertion alleles selected from the region narrowed down through
128 recombination and deficiency mapping (**Supplementary Table S2**) were harnessed to further identify the
129 mutant gene(s) in *l(3)tb*. In either case, virgin females of *yw; +/+; l(3)tb/TM6B, Tb* were crossed with the
130 males of the various deficiency stocks and/or the lethal *P*-insertion alleles and the non-tubby F1 males
131 heterozygous for *l(3)tb* and the deficiency were scored for the phenotype(s).

132 Reversion analysis was performed by the excision of *piggyBac* transposon in *DCP2^{e00034}* with the help of
133 *piggyBac* specific transposase source, *CyO, P{Tub-Pbac}2/Wg^{SP-1}* (Thibault *et al.* 2004) or by the
134 excision of *P*-element in *DCP2^{BG01766}* strain using transposase from the ‘jumpstarter’, $\Delta 2-3, Sb/TM6B, Tb^1,$
135 *Hu, e¹*. Virgin flies from the ‘mutator stocks’, *viz.*, *DCP2^{e00034}* or *DCP2^{BG01766}* strain were crossed to male
136 flies from respective ‘jumpstarter stock’. F1 male flies with mosaic eye pigmentation carrying both the
137 transposase and respective transposons were selected and crossed to JSK-3 (*TM3, Sb, e¹/TM6B, Tb¹, Hu,*
138 *e¹*) virgins and from the next generation (F2), rare white eyed revertant flies were selected (Figure S1).

139 **Fine Mapping of *l(3)tb* mutation –**

140 **a. Genomic DNA Isolation, PCR and Southern hybridisation**

141 Genomic DNA for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was isolated by homogenizing 50 male flies from
142 each of the desired genotype or 80-100 third instar larvae from homozygous mutant *l(3)tb* (Sambrook *et*
143 *al.* 1989). Based on the results obtained from genetic mapping, identification of the candidate region in
144 *DCP2* was done by overlapping PCR based screening, wherein the entire genomic span of *DCP2* was
145 amplified using 28 primer pairs from 3L:15811834..15819523 (**Supplementary Tables S4, S5, S6**)
146 (Rozen and Skaletsky 2000). After identifying the candidate region, it was validated with the primer pair,
147 Dbo_F: 5'-ACAACATTCCTCCATGGAACACCT-3' and DCP2_P19_R: 5'-

148 TGCTCACCGAACTTTTTTCGCGATCT-3'. The primer pair DCP2_F: 5'-
149 ATAACAAAAAAGTTATGGTACCACCCCGCGTTGTATTCT-3' and DCP2_R: 5'-
150 AGATTTCGATGTATATGGATCCGTCCTCCCAACCTTTGCGTCT-3' was designed to amplify the full
151 length gene along with flanking sequences (500 bp on either side). In either case, the thermal cycling
152 parameters included an initial denaturation at 96°C (2 min) followed by 30 cycles of 30 s at 94°C, 45 s at
153 72°C, and 15 min at 68°C. Final extension was carried out at 68°C for 20 min. The PCR products were
154 electrophoresed on 0.8% agarose gel with O'GeneRuler 1kb plus DNA ladder (Thermo Scientific, USA).
155 An 812 bp region (3L: 15825979..15826790) spanning the candidate mutated region in *DCP2* was PCR
156 amplified and ligated in pGEM-T vector (Promega) to generate the pGEM-T-812 clone. The ~430 bp
157 fragment isolated during primer walking (see below) was purified and ligated in pTopo-TA-XL vector
158 (Invitrogen, USA) to generate the pTopo-TA-XL-430 clone. Digestion, ligation and transformation were
159 performed using standard protocols as described in Sambrook and Russell, 2001. Southern hybridizations
160 were performed according to Sambrook and Russell, 2001. Following electrophoresis and gel pre-
161 treatments, DNA was transferred on to positively charged nylon membranes (Roche, Germany).
162 Hybridizations were performed at 68°C with 0.02% SDS, 5X SSC, 0.5% Blocking reagent, and 0.1%
163 laurylsarcosine with probes generated from pGEM-T-812 and pTopo-TA-XL-430 plasmids. DIG
164 Labelling and chemiluminescent detection were performed as per the manufacturer's instructions (Roche,
165 Germany).

166 **b. Sequencing, Primer Walking and CNV detection**

167 To confirm the fidelity of amplification automated DNA Sequencing was performed (ABI – 3130, USA)
168 as per the manufacturer's instructions. Primer walking was initiated with the primers Dbo_F and
169 DCP2_P19_R and from the terminal part of the sequence obtained, new primers P19_W2_F 5'-
170 GGAGATCTGTTTGAAATATCTCTTCACATT-3' and P19_W2_R 5'-
171 GGCGCGTCAGCATTGTTTCATACAAAGCTAC-3' were designed. Long-range PCR with P19_W2 was
172 performed as described previously. Sequence chromatograms were assessed and analyzed with FinchTV
173 1.4.0, Geospiza Inc. Semi-quantitative assessment of copy number variance (CNV) of the intergenic
174 sequence in *DCP2*^{(3)^{nb}} was determined through PCR analyses. A 156 bp sequence (3L:
175 15826497..15826652) was chosen to be amplified by CNV_F 5'- ACAGTTGGCTCTGTGATAAATGT-
176 3' and CNV_R 5'- AGTGCAACGGAAGGGAATCT-3' against an internal control sequence of 153 bp,
177 corresponding to the gene *Dsor*, amplified by the primer pair. Thermal cycling parameters included an
178 initial denaturation at 95°C (5 min) followed by 28 cycles of 30 s at 94°C, 30 s at 60°C, and 30 s at 72°C.
179 Final extension was carried out at 72°C for 10 min. The PCR products were electrophoresed on 2%
180 agarose gel with a 100-bp DNA ladder (BR Biosciences, India).

181 **Immunocytochemistry**

182 The imaginal discs and/or brain ganglia were collected from wild type *Oregon R*⁺ wandering 3rd instar
183 larvae, just before pupation (110 h, AEL) and in mutant homozygous *l(3)tb* from day 6 and day 10/12.
184 The tissues were processed for immunostaining as described in Banerjee and Roy, 2018, with the desired
185 antibodies. Primary antibodies used in this study were - Anti-Discs large, 4F3 (1:50, Developmental
186 Studies Hybridoma Bank, Iowa, USA), Anti-Armadillo (1:100, a kind gift by Prof LS Shashidhara, IISER
187 Pune, India), Anti-Elav (Rat-Elav-7E8A10, 1:100, DSHB, USA), Anti-DE-Cadherin (DCAD2, 1:20,
188 DSHB, Iowa, USA), Anti-phospho-Histone 3 (1:500, Millipore, Upstate, USA), Anti-Deadpan (1:800, a
189 kind gift from Prof. Volker Hartenstein, University of California, USA) and Anti-Cyclin E (HE12; sc-
190 247, 1:50, Santa Cruz, India). Appropriate secondary antibodies conjugated either with Cy3 (1:200,
191 Sigma-Aldrich, India) or Alexa Fluor 488 (1:200; Molecular Probes, USA) or Alexa Fluor 546 (1:200;
192 Molecular Probes, USA) were used to detect the given primary antibody, while chromatin was visualized
193 with DAPI (4', 6-diamidino-2-phenylindole dihydrochloride, 1µg/ml Sigma-Aldrich). Counterstaining
194 was performed with either DAPI (4', 6-diamidino-2-phenylindole dihydrochloride, Sigma) at 1µg/ml, or
195 phalloidin-TRITC (Sigma-Aldrich, India) at 1:200 dilutions. Tissues were mounted in DABCO (antifade
196 agent, Sigma). The immunostained slides were observed under Zeiss LSM 510 Meta Laser Scanning
197 Confocal microscope, analysed with LSM softwares and assembled using Adobe Photoshop 7.0.

198 **Statistical analysis**

199 Sigma Plot (version 11.0) software was used for statistical analyses. All percentage data were subjected to
200 arcsine square-root transformation. For comparison between the control and experimental samples, One-
201 Way ANOVA was performed. Data were expressed as mean ± S.E. of mean (SEM) of several replicates.

202 **Results**

203 ***l(3)tb* homozygotes show the classic hallmarks of cancer in *Drosophila* including developmental** 204 **delay, abnormal karyotype, larval/pupal lethality alongwith tumorous brain and wing imaginal disc**

205 Developmental analysis of *l(3)tb* homozygotes showed that while embryos hatched normally and
206 developed alike their heterozygous siblings [*l(3)tb/TM6B*], the third instar larvae reached the wandering
207 stage quite late with the larval stage extending up to 12 or 13 days (**Figure 1B**). Although 66.8% of the
208 larvae survived to pupate (**Table 1**), they died in the pupal stage following bloating, enhancement in size
209 and cessation of growth (**Figure 1A**). Hence, the mutation is absolutely lethal with the lethality being
210 pronounced in the pupal stage. Lowering the temperature to 16°C or 18°C reduced the larval mortality,
211 causing 96% of larvae to pupate but did not improve pupal survival (**Figure 1 C and D**). Analysis of
212 larval brain and imaginal discs in the homozygotes in the early (Day 6) and late (Day 10-12) larval phase

213 showed gross morphological alterations in the size of the larval brain, wing and eye imaginal discs
214 (**Figure 2A–G**) as compared to the wandering wild type third instar larvae (115h ALH; **A**fter **L**arval
215 **H**atching). The brain was smaller in size than the wild type (*Oregon R*⁺) or heterozygous [*l(3)tb/TM6B*]
216 individuals till 115 ALH but started showing aberrant growth in the dorsal lobes thereafter, showing
217 significant differences in the diameter and area of the lobes. The overgrown brain hemispheres remained
218 more or less symmetric in most of the cases, except in some where it got deformed and fused with the
219 imaginal discs (**Figure 2 J and K**). A similar trend in morphological aberration was observed in the wing
220 discs, which remained smaller initially but enlarged sufficiently later (**Figure 2L**), with abnormal
221 protrusion in the wing pouch. Analysis of mitotically active cell population by screening for the
222 metaphase marker protein, phosphorylated histone H3 (PH3) revealed increased number of active mitoses
223 in the mutant homozygous brains (**Figure 3A–O; 3V**) and wing discs (**Figure 3P–V**) (Day 6) in
224 comparison to the wild type, the number of which increased with increase in larval age of the mutant.
225 However, mitotic karyotypes of the mutant brain lacked numerical aberrations, despite showing extensive
226 variability in condensation (**Figure 2 H and I**).

227

228 **Eye-antennal discs and leg imaginal discs also show morphological and developmental anomalies in** 229 ***l(3)tb* homozygous individuals**

230 Global analysis of morphological aberrations in the mutant homozygotes showed that besides the
231 tumorous brain and wing imaginal discs, eye-antennal discs and leg imaginal discs were also overgrown
232 with a transparent appearance. Expression of Elav and Dlg in the eye-antennal discs revealed similarities
233 to the developmental perturbations observed in the wing discs and brain. In the early third instar mutant
234 larvae (Day 6), all photoreceptor cells showed expression of Elav, similar to the wild type tissue (**Figure**
235 **4J and N**). However, during advanced stages of larval tumorigenesis (Day 10), it dwindled eventually
236 (**Figure 4R**). The Elav expressing cells which are posterior to the morphogenetic furrow co-express Dlg
237 and demonstrate the typical ommatidial arrangement. In the mature mutant larvae however, the eye discs
238 demonstrate significant deviations from the normal regular arrangement of ommatidia. The leg imaginal
239 discs, which reside in close proximity to the brain and wing imaginal discs also show enlargement in size
240 which increases with advancement and retention of larval stage. They show gradual disruption of normal
241 expression of DE-cadherin and Armadillo (**Figure 5**), alike tumorous wing discs (see above), implying
242 the mutation and subsequent tumor to affect developmental homeostasis in adjacent tissues as well.

243

244 **Genetic mapping through meiotic recombination and complementation mapping identify *l(3)tb* to** 245 **be allelic to *DGP2***

246 The mutation *l(3)tb*, being recessive and on the third chromosome, was maintained with *TM6B* balancer.
247 Analysis of meiotic recombination frequencies of an unmapped mutation with known markers is a
248 classical technique that has been routinely employed to identify its cytogenetic position. In order to bring
249 *l(3)tb* in a chromosome with such markers (*ru cu ca*), we allowed meiotic recombination to occur
250 between *l(3)tb* and the 8 recessive markers present on the “*rucuca*” chromosome (**Table 2**). 113
251 recombinant males were observed and recombination frequencies were calculated in centiMorgan (cM).
252 **Table 3** shows the recombination frequencies of each marker (locus) with the mutation *l(3)tb*.
253 Preliminary analysis suggested that *l(3)tb* was close to *thread* (*th*) with minimum recombination events
254 between the two loci (2.65%). Further analysis of recombination events between *h-l(3)tb* [17.78%], *st-*
255 *l(3)tb* [1.23%] and *cu-l(3)tb* [8.29%] (**Table 4**) and comparing with the positions of each of the markers,
256 the mutation was estimated to be located left of *thread* (43.2 cM; band 72D1) between 41.71 cM–42.77
257 cM, *i.e.*, in the cytological position 71F4-F5.
258 Complementation analysis with molecularly defined Drosdel and Exelixis deficiency lines (N=85),
259 spanning the entire chromosome 3, identified four lines which failed to complement the mutation, *viz.*,
260 *Df(3L)BSC774*, *Df(3L)BSC575*, *Df(3L)BSC845* and *Df(3L)RM95*, which was generated in the lab using
261 progenitor RS stocks. Trans-heterozygotes *l(3)tb/Df(3L)BSC575* were pupal lethal and the dying non-
262 tubby larvae showed phenotypes similar to *l(3)tb* homozygotes, suggesting the mutation to reside between
263 71F1 and 72A1 on the left arm of chromosome 3. Further analysis using six deletion lines belonging to
264 the above region (71F1–72A2) identified the mutation to reside between 71F4 to 71F5, which strangely is
265 a gene desert region. Complementation analyses performed with lethal insertion alleles (N=26) of genes
266 residing proximal or distal to 71F4-F5 identified two lethal *P*-element insertion alleles of *DCP2* (mRNA
267 decapping protein 2; CG6169), *viz.*, *P{GT1}DCP2^{BG01766}* and *PBac{RB}DCP2^{e00034}*, which failed to
268 complement the mutation *l(3)tb* (**Figure 7A and C**) as well as those deletions which had failed to
269 complement *l(3)tb*, implying the mutation to be allelic to *DCP2* (72A1).

270

271 **Trans-heterozygotes of *DCP2* mutants and *l(3)tb* show developmental delay, tumorous larval brain**
272 **with elevated neuroblast numbers, larval/pupal lethality and developmental defects in escapee flies**

273 Trans-heterozygotes of *l(3)tb* with either allele of *DCP2*, *viz.*, *P{GT1}DCP2^{BG01766}* and
274 *PBac{RB}DCP2^{e00034}*, showed developmental delay. In either case, trans-heterozygous third instar larvae
275 showed persistence of larval stage till Day 10 ALH (**Figure 6B and D**), and show tumorous phenotypes
276 of brain and wing imaginal discs (**Supplementary Figure S4**), similar to the *l(3)tb* homozygotes.
277 Expression pattern of Deadpan (Dpn), a marker for neuroblasts show increased number of neuroblasts in
278 the larval brain of the trans-heterozygotes as well as *l(3)tb* homozygotes (**Figure 7F, K and P**). Also, the
279 trans-heterozygous progeny showed a higher mitotic index as compared to the wild type progeny, similar

280 to the *l(3)tb* homozygotes (**Figure 7G, L and P**). While *PBac{RB}DCP2^{e00034}/l(3)tb* was found to be
281 100% pupal lethal, *P{GTI}DCP2^{BG01766}/l(3)tb* was only 81.6% lethal (**Figure 6A and B**), with the rest
282 18.4% pupae eclosing as flies. However, the escapee flies showed several developmental abnormalities,
283 *viz.*, defects in wing (9.5%), thorax closure (3.2%), loss of abdominal para-segments and abdominal
284 bristles (3.2%), and presence of melanotic patches (22.2%), leg defects (41.3%) or eclosion defects
285 (12.7%) (**Supplementary Figure S2**). Analysis of compound eyes in these escapees revealed complete
286 loss of regular arrangement of ommatidia and ommatidial bristles (**Supplementary Figure S3**).
287 Abnormal external genitalia were also observed in the male escapees (data not shown). Subsequent
288 analysis of fertility showed that the trans-heterozygous escapee flies had compromised fertility with only
289 40% of the males and 21.7% of the females being fertile (**Table 5**).

290 The similarity in the pattern of development and the defects associated with it between the *l(3)tb* trans-
291 heterozygotes and homozygotes provide a strong genetic proof of allelism between *l(3)tb* and *DCP2*.

292 *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* is an insertion allele of *DCP2*

293 Fine mapping, performed by overlapping PCR identified the region (**Supplementary Figure S5**),
294 amplified by the primer pair, Dbo_F, and DCP2_P19_R, to span the candidate region. The region, which
295 is of 945 bp (3L: 15826279..15827223) in the wild type and comprises of the 5'UTR coding region of
296 *DCP2*, the adjacent intergenic region and the proximal part of the neighboring gene, *dbo*, showed absence
297 of amplification in the DNA of *l(3)tb* homozygotes, highlighting it as the candidate lesion. Long range
298 PCR using the same pair of primers revealed a large amplicon of ~8.5 kb in the mutant against the 945 bp
299 amplicon in the wild type genome, subjected to same thermal cycling parameters (**Figure 8B**).
300 Amplification of the full length gene *DCP2* using primers residing outside the gene revealed a large
301 amplicon of ~17kb from the mutant genome as against the 8.6 kb (3L: 15811576..15820204) wild type
302 amplicon (**Figure 8A**). The pGEM-T-812 probe, which corresponds to the candidate region in the wild
303 type, hybridized with all the amplicons implying the fidelity of amplification (**Figure 8A and B**). This
304 was further corroborated by sequencing of the amplicon terminals (data not shown). On digesting wild
305 type and mutant genomic DNA with enzymes *HindIII* and *BamHI* and subsequent hybridization with the
306 pGEM-T-812 probe, completely different banding profiles were observed. While the *HindIII* digested
307 DNA showed a band at ~ 2.1 kb in the wild type genome, the *l(3)tb* genome showed a single band at ~ 10
308 kb, the size difference being almost in agreement with the banding profile exemplified by *BamHI* digested
309 DNA, wherein, the wild type genome showed a band at ~ 10.2 kb and the mutant at ~ 18 kb (**Figure 8D**).
310 These results imply the presence of an insertion at the candidate region in *DCP2*, in the *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* genome
311 and that *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* is an insertion allele.

312 **The *DCP2*^{*l(3)tb*} genome harbors Gypsy-LTR like sequence in 5'UTR coding region of *DCP2* and**
313 **expansion of adjacent upstream intergenic AT-rich sequence**

314 In order to identify the functional genomics of mutations, it is essential to deduce the nucleotide sequence
315 of the mutation, and thus, a convergent bi-directional primer-walk was initiated with the primer pair
316 which identified the presence of insertion in *DCP2* in the *l(3)tb* genome. On sequencing, the *DCP2*-
317 proximal end showed presence of wild type sequence till 3L: 15826410 after which a 444 bp AT-rich
318 sequence was detected (**Supplementary Figure S6 B-1**), which did not show any resemblance with the
319 wild type sequence present at the region whereas the *dbo*-proximal end showed complete wild type
320 sequence profile (3L: 15827143..15826738) (**Supplementary Figure S6 B-2**). On homology search to
321 identify the novel sequence obtained, the sequence showed homology with the Gypsy LTR sequence of
322 *Drosophila*. On searching for *DCP2* promoters in the Eukaryotic Promoter Database, SIB and aligning
323 the sequence coordinates of the 444 bp insertion, it was found that the insertion is downstream to the
324 transcription start site (TSS) of *DCP2*, which is at 3L: 15826420. On designing a new pair of primers
325 from the distal part of the reads obtained above, long range PCR was first performed with *DCP2*^{*l(3)tb*} and
326 wild type genomic DNA. Although no amplification was observed with the wild type DNA, the *DCP2*^{*l(3)tb*}
327 DNA showed amplicons of sizes ~7.2 kb, ~3 kb, ~2.8 kb and ~430 bp with the 430 bp amplicon showing
328 the highest concentration as observed from the electrophoretogram (**Figure 9B**). This amplification
329 profile resembled that of tandem repeat bearing regions. To confirm the repetitive nature of the sequence,
330 Southern hybridisation was performed with the same electrophoretogram. The 430 bp amplicon was
331 eluted from the gel, cloned in pGEM-T vector and used as a probe. The probe showed complete
332 hybridization with all of the amplicons indicating the repetitive nature of the sequence present
333 downstream (**Figure 9B**). Sequencing of the 430 bp amplicon revealed an AT-rich sequence. Homology
334 search identified the sequence to be homologous to the distal part of the *DCP2* UTR and the adjacent
335 intergenic sequence between *DCP2* and *dbo*, the coordinates being 3L: 15826407..15826716. After
336 aligning the present set of reads with the previous set, a sequence duplication was observed for 5'-T-A-T-
337 A-3', flanking the Gypsy-LTR insertion (**Supplementary Figure S6 B-3 and 4**). The present set of
338 sequencing reads also confirmed that the LTR insertion (3L: 15826407..15826407) was indeed prior to
339 the completion of the UTR (3L: 15826423). Copy number variation analyses of the intergenic sequence
340 vs. the internal control through PCR in the wild type and the mutant *DCP2*^{*l(3)tb*} showed a sharp increase in
341 the amplicon concentration of the intergenic sequence in *DCP2*^{*l(3)tb*} against the internal control as
342 evidenced from the gel electrophoretogram (**Figure 9C**). Comparison of the fluorescent intensity of the
343 bands (intra and inter-genotype) showed relatively high ratio of concentrations of the amplicon to the
344 internal control (*Dsor*) amplicon as observed from the graphical analyses (**Figure 9D**). On the basis of the

345 results obtained from rough and fine mapping, the architecture of the mutant allele, *DCP2*^{l(3)tb} is depicted
346 in **Figure 9E**, which shows the bipartite nature of the mutation, viz., amplification of the intergenic
347 sequence between *DCP2* and *Dbo* as well as an insertion of 444 bp *Gypsy* LTR-like sequence
348 immediately downstream to the TSS of *DCP2*.

349 ***DCP2*^{l(3)tb} is a *DCP2* hypomorph alongwith low expression of the neighbouring gene, *Dbo***

350 Following the identification of the genomic architecture of the allele, it was imperative to determine the
351 expression potential of the allele. Semi-quantitative RT-PCR analyses confirmed the hypomorphic nature
352 of the allele wherein the mutant showed extremely low levels of expression of *DCP2* (**Figure 9F**). Since
353 the intergenic region between *DCP2* and *Dbo* is upstream to either and bears an expansion, *Dbo* transcript
354 titres were also examined wherein they showed extremely lowered expression (**Figure 9F**). At present, it
355 is doubtful whether the lowered *Dbo* level is a cause or an effect of the mutation, since *Dbo*
356 (*Smac/Diablo/Henji*) is a pro-apoptogenic molecule which the inhibitor of apoptotic proteins (IAP), and
357 its lowered levels therefore serve as a prognostic marker of tumor progression in human carcinomas
358 (Martinez-Ruiz et al, 2008). Again, *Dbo* expresses strongly in the neuronal tissues at the synapse (Wang
359 et al, 2016) and its perturbation causes alteration in neuro-muscular function. Being a multi-faceted
360 molecule, altered expression of the same may have some contribution to the tumourigenesis since the
361 tumor primarily affects brain which is an integral part of the CNS.

362 **Tumor caused by *DCP2* is hyperplastic with elevated Cyclins A and E**

363 Since the mutation showed all the hallmarks of classical tumor suppressors (Merz et. al., 1990), we
364 endeavored to characterize the perturbations in cellular physiology caused in the wake of tumourigenesis.
365 RT-PCR analyses depicted elevated levels of Cyclins E (G1/S phase cyclin) and A (G2/M phase cyclin),
366 which are indicative of increased cell proliferation and rapid cell cycles (**Figure 10C**).
367 Immunolocalisation studies confirmed the elevated expression of Cyclin E as well (**Figure 10A and B**).
368 On observing closely, the regular arrangement of cells in the brain hemisphere and optic lobes in the wild
369 type is severely disrupted in the mutant along with superfluous growth and increased number of mitotic
370 nuclei. The enlarged brain lobes, increased number of mitotic nuclei and disruption of the regular
371 arrangement of cells in the mutant, concomitant with elevated expression of cyclins A and E clearly imply
372 the tumourous nature of the mutant.

373 When the tumorous brains (**Figure 10D**) and wing discs (**Figure 10E**) were examined for the expression
374 of the polarity marker Discs large (*Dlg*), both tissues did not show appreciable loss of polarity. On a
375 closer look, the wing discs at 138h AEL showed increase in cell number concomitant with decrease in cell

376 size (**Figure 10E-C**). At the same stage, the tumorous brain shows increased number of cells at in the
377 optic lobe (**Figure 10D**). Usually, neoplastic tumours are metastatic and the tumour cells lose their
378 polarity to acquire the mesenchymal-like fate, delaminate from the matrix and migrate (Miles et al, 2011).
379 In contrast, hyperplastic tumours do not show appreciable loss of polarity even in later stages of
380 tumorigenesis, since in these tumours the cells do not delaminate, but remain adhered to the original
381 tissue matrix, but keep on dividing. The expression pattern of Dlg shows retention of polarity even at
382 138h of development, which is an extremely late and delayed 3rd instar larval stage, which implies the
383 tumour to be an over-proliferative, hyperplastic one. Again, this is well in agreement with the Cyclin E
384 staining pattern, and taken together, they imply increased cell division, which essentially requires
385 increased and rapid cell cycles.

386 **Global overexpression of *DCP2* rescues mutant phenotypes associated with *l(3)tb***

387 Global over-expression of *DCP2* using ubiquitous GAL4 drivers (*Act5C-GAL4* or *Tub-GAL4*) in the
388 mutant homozygous *l(3)tb* individuals rescued the larval and pupal lethality. **Table 6** shows the genotype
389 and fate of the progeny as scored from the rescue experiment. As can be seen, for over-expression of
390 *DCP2* using *Act5C-GAL4*, out of 35.1% (N=155) non-tubby progeny (*l(3)tb* homozygous background),
391 *i.e.*, *Act5C-GAL4/CyO* or *Sp; l(3)tb:UAS-DCP2/l(3)tb*, 21.3% (N=94) and 13.8% (N=61) segregated as
392 curly (*Act5C-GAL4/CyO; l(3)tb:UAS-DCP2/l(3)tb*) and non-curly (or with sternopleural bristles: *Act5C-*
393 *GAL4/Sp; l(3)tb:UAS-DCP2/l(3)tb*), respectively. Similarly, while over-expressing using *Tub-GAL4*, we
394 obtained 37% (N=166) non-tubby progeny, *i.e.*, *UAS-DCP2/CyO* or *Sp; l(3)tb:Tub-GAL4/l(3)tb*, out of
395 which, 17.2% (N=77) were curly (*UAS-DCP2/CyO; l(3)tb:Tub-GAL4/l(3)tb*) while 19.8% (N=89) were
396 non-curly (*UAS-DCP2/ Sp; l(3)tb:Tub-GAL4/l(3)tb*).

397 In both the cases of overexpression, all non-tubby progeny pupated, devoid of any developmental
398 anomalies reminiscent of *l(3)tb* mutation and emerged as flies. Thus, the rescue of the mutant phenotypes
399 observed in *l(3)tb* homozygotes by global overexpression of *DCP2* iteratively substantiates the fact the
400 *l(3)tb* is an allele of *DCP2* and that the tumour is caused solely owing to the loss of expression of *DCP2*.

401 **Summary and Conclusion**

402 In *Drosophila*, *DCP2* is the only decapping enzyme present and thus is extremely important for a number
403 of growth processes throughout development. In other organisms as well, it is well conserved and has
404 fundamentally important roles in development (Xu et al, 2006; Ma et al, 2013), DNA replication (Mullen
405 and Marzluff, 2008; Schmidt et al, 2011), stress response (Hilgers et al, 2006; Xu and Chua, 2012),
406 synapse plasticity (Hillebrand et al, 2010), retrotransposition (Dutko et al, 2010) and viral replication
407 (Hopkins et al, 2013). In *Arabidopsis*, *DCP2* loss-of-function alleles show accumulation of capped

408 mRNA intermediates, lethality of seedlings and defects in post-embryonic development, with no leaves,
409 stunted roots with swollen root hairs, chlorotic cotyledons and swollen hypocotyls (Goeres et al, 2007;
410 Iwasaki et al, 2007; Xu et al, 2006). In humans as well, chromosomal deletions of 5q21-22, the region
411 harboring *DCP2* is frequently observed in lung cancers (Hosoe et al, 1994; Mendes-da-Silva et al, 2000),
412 colorectal cancer (Delattre et al, 1989) and oral squamous cell carcinoma (Mao et al, 1998). Hence, *DCP2*
413 has an unexplored role in development and/or cell cycle progression across phyla, which needs to be
414 investigated. Since the physiology of an organism is tightly regulated by the optimized titres of gene
415 expression programs, a global loss of *DCP2* may lead to perturbed mRNA titres which in turn may alter
416 the cellular response to such dismal conditions and eventually lead to drastic physiological disorders such
417 as tumourigenesis. Although we are unsure of the exact mechanism(s) by which a loss of *DCP2* leads to
418 tumourigenesis, our findings in the novel allele, *DCP2^{l(3)hb}*, propose an absolutely novel role of *DCP2* in
419 tumourigenesis and identify *DCP2* as a candidate for future explorations of tumourigenesis.

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428

429 **Conflict of Interest**

430 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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433 **Ethical Approval**

434 All studies were performed as per ethical guidelines. All applicable international, national and
435 institutional guidelines for the care and use of *Drosophila* were followed.

436

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Figures

A forward genetic approach to mapping a *P*-element second site mutation identifies *DCP2* as a novel tumor suppressor in *Drosophila melanogaster*

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Running title – *Drosophila DCP2* is a tumour suppressor

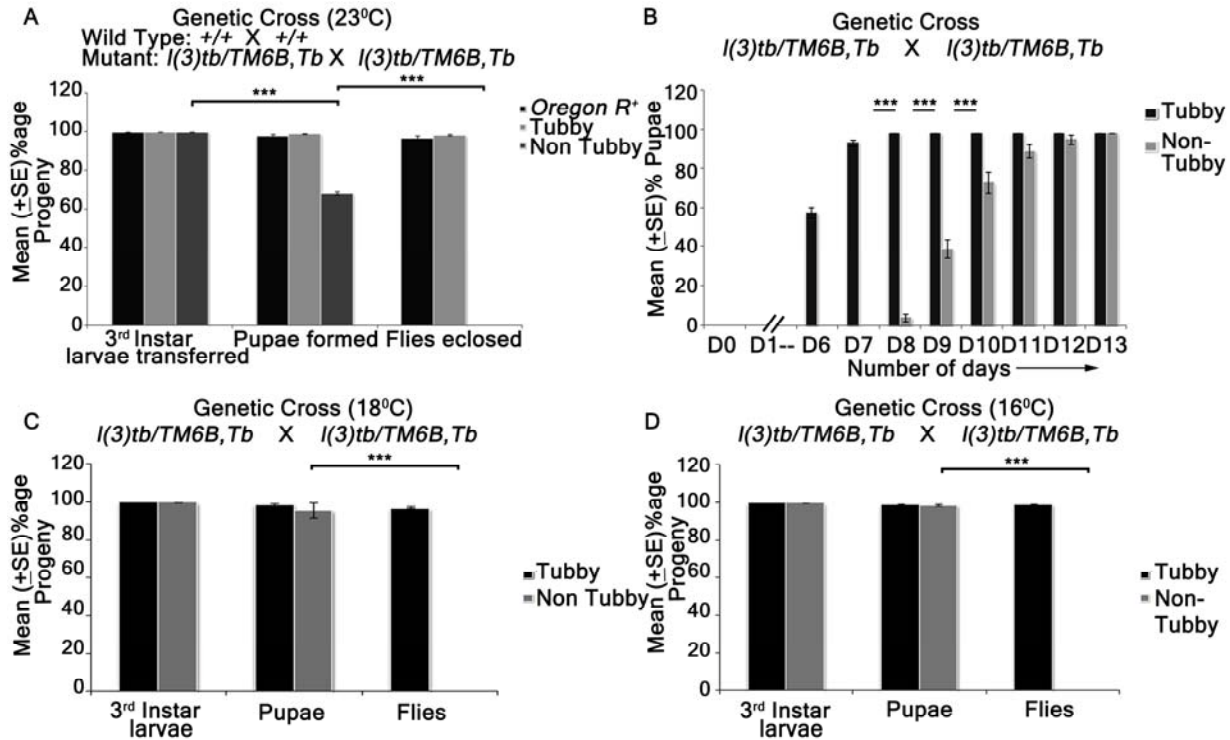


Figure 1. Homozygous $l(3)tb$ show delayed larval development with lethality at larval/pupal stage (A, B) and is not a conditional temperature sensitive allele (A, B, C). Homozygous $l(3)tb$ progeny, at 23°C, showed lethality at larval and pupal stages and no flies eclosed as compared to wild type and heterozygous $l(3)tb$ progeny with balancer chromosome (A). Homozygous $l(3)tb$ progeny individuals demonstrated extended larval life up to day 12/13 where as heterozygous progeny individuals followed the normal wild type pattern of development (B). (C) and (D) show significant increase in viability of homozygous (non-tubby) $l(3)tb$ larvae at lowered temperatures of 18°C and 16°C respectively, though there also occurred absolute lethality at pupal stages. Each bar represents mean (\pm S.E.) of three replicates of 100 larvae in each. *** indicates $p < 0.005$ *** indicates $p < 0.005$.

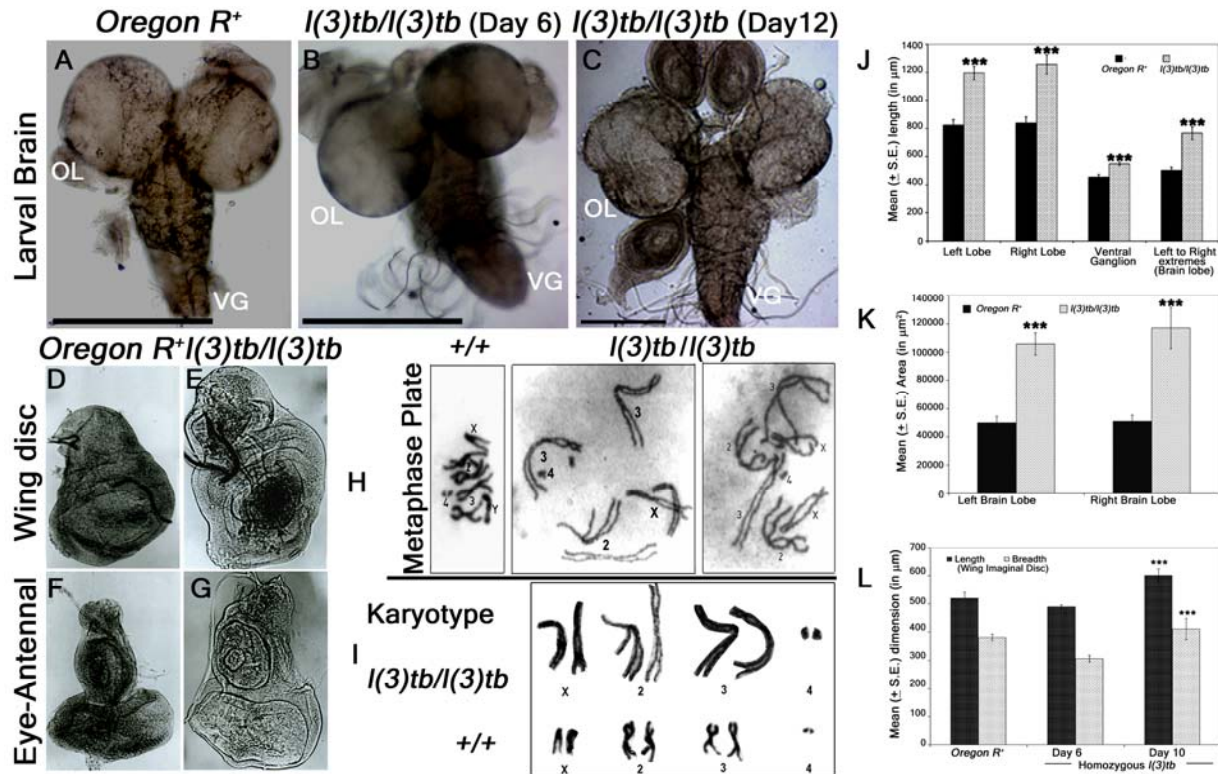


Figure 2. Homozygous *l(3)tb* mutants show severe morphological alteration in delayed 3rd instar larval brain, wing and eye-antennal disc of. Homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant 3rd instar larvae revealed tumorous brain of day 12 (C) as compared to day 6 of homozygous mutant (B) and day 5 of wild type, *Oregon R⁺* (A). *l(3)tb* homozygotes exhibited highly significant differences in the overall circumference of the left and right brain lobes in the delayed stage (day 10) as compared to the respective wild type brain lobes (J). Significant differences were found in the area (μm^2) of respective brain lobes of *l(3)tb* homozygotes and wild type (K). Dimension of wing and eye-antennal imaginal discs of delayed 3rd instar larvae from homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant revealed significant increase in size (D,E,F,G). Length and breadth of wing discs from 3rd instar larvae of *l(3)tb* mutant of day 6, was found to be smaller than the wing imaginal discs from wild type, but wing discs from extended larval period (day 10) showed significant increase in the size (L). Metaphase chromosome preparation of brain cells (H) from wild type and *l(3)tb* homozygotes exhibited abnormal karyotypes (I) where *l(3)tb* homozygotes showed less condensed and extended chromosome morphology as compared to wild type, *Oregon R⁺*. *** denotes $p < 0.005$

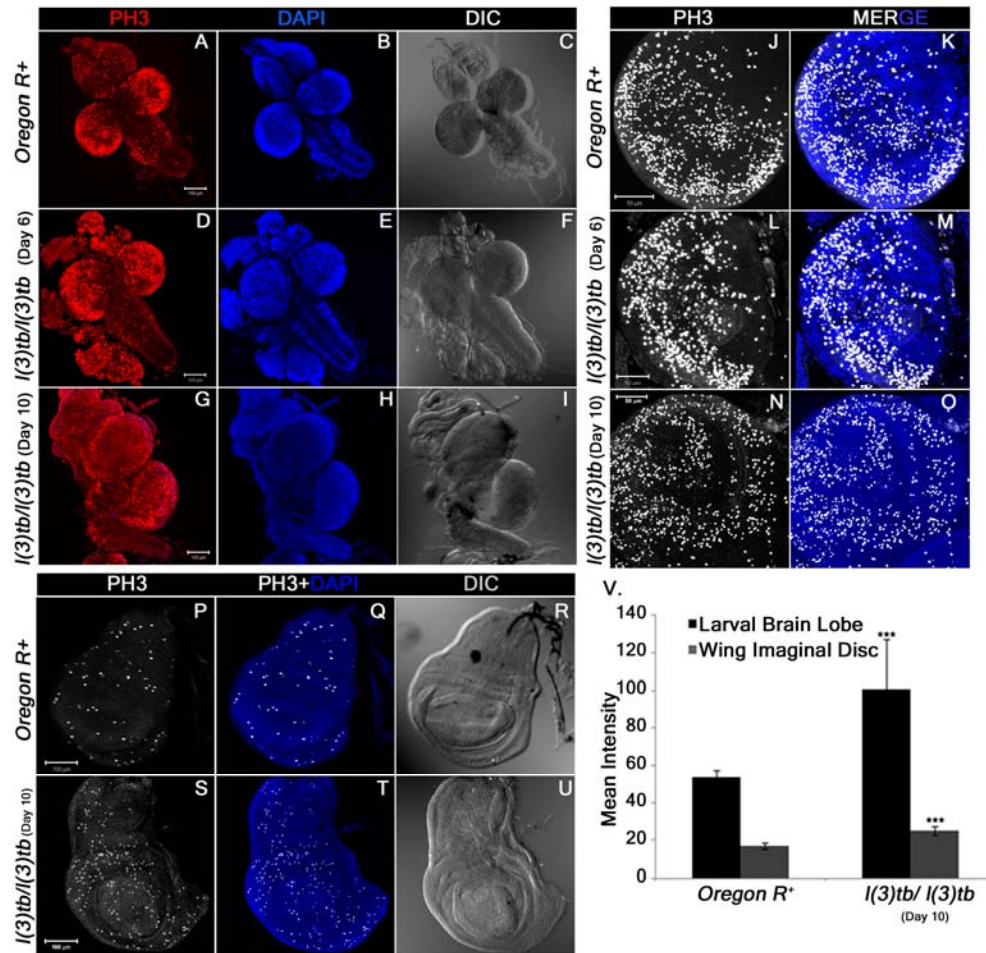


Figure 3. Enhanced mitotic potential observed in the tumorous tissues of homozygous *l(3)tb* as shown in larval whole brain (A), brain lobes (D, G) and wing imaginal discs (S) immunostained with phosphor-histone 3 (PH3), a potent mitotic marker. Distribution of PH3 labeled cells counter stained with DAPI cells in wild type (A) and homozygous *l(3)tb* (Day 6 and Day 10) larval brain (D, G) and also in wild type brain lobes (B, C) and homozygous mutant brain lobes (E, F for day 6; H, I for day 10) indicated high mitotic index as compared to wild type. Similarly, more mitotic positive cells were seen in tumorous wing imaginal discs (day 10) of homozygous mutant *l(3)tb* (S) as compared to wild type, *Oregon R+* (P). DIC images (C, F, I and R, U) illustrates external normal morphology in wild type and more pronounced tumorous phenotypes in homozygous *l(3)tb* larval brain and wing imaginal discs. Quantitative analysis showed increase in the number of mitotic positive cells in homozygous mutant larval brain lobes and wing imaginal discs as compared to wild type and difference was highly significant (V). The images are projections of optical sections acquired by confocal microscopy. Staining was done in triplicates with 10 brains and 15 wing imaginal discs in each group. Significant difference is represented as *** $P \leq 0.005$ using one-way ANOVA.

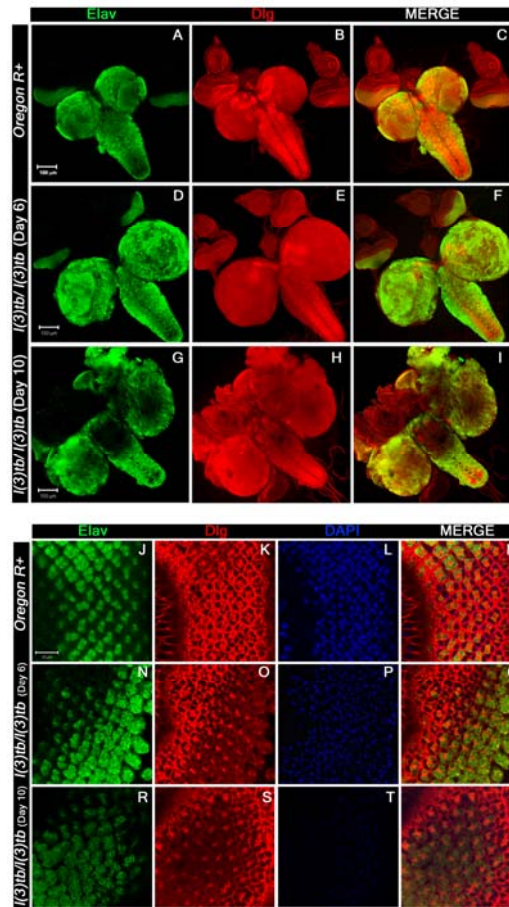


Figure 4. Confocal photomicrographs show loss of mature neurons and increase in junctional protein, Dlg, in delayed (Day 10) homozygous *l(3)tb*. 3rd instar larval brain shows intense staining of Elav (green) in day 6 (D) of homozygous mutant later on show loss of staining in enlarged brain of day 10 (G), while the wild type brain (A) showed normal pattern of Elav staining. Dlg stained the ventral nerve chord and central brain in optic lobes of wild type (B), which is similar in day 6 of homozygous mutant brain (E) but in delayed larval brain, day 10, the pattern was altered (H). Scale shown is 100 μ m. Neuronal tissue from eye imaginal discs also display loss of neurons seen through Elav staining in day 10 (R) as compared to day 6 (N) in homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant as well as to wild type (J). Pattern of junctional protein, Dlg, in eye imaginal discs is also altered in day 10 (S) as compared to day 6 (O) and wild type (K). Counter stain with DAPI shows very weak intensity in day 10 (T) reflecting disintegrating chromatin as compared to day 6 (P) and wild type (L). Scale bar represents 10 μ m.

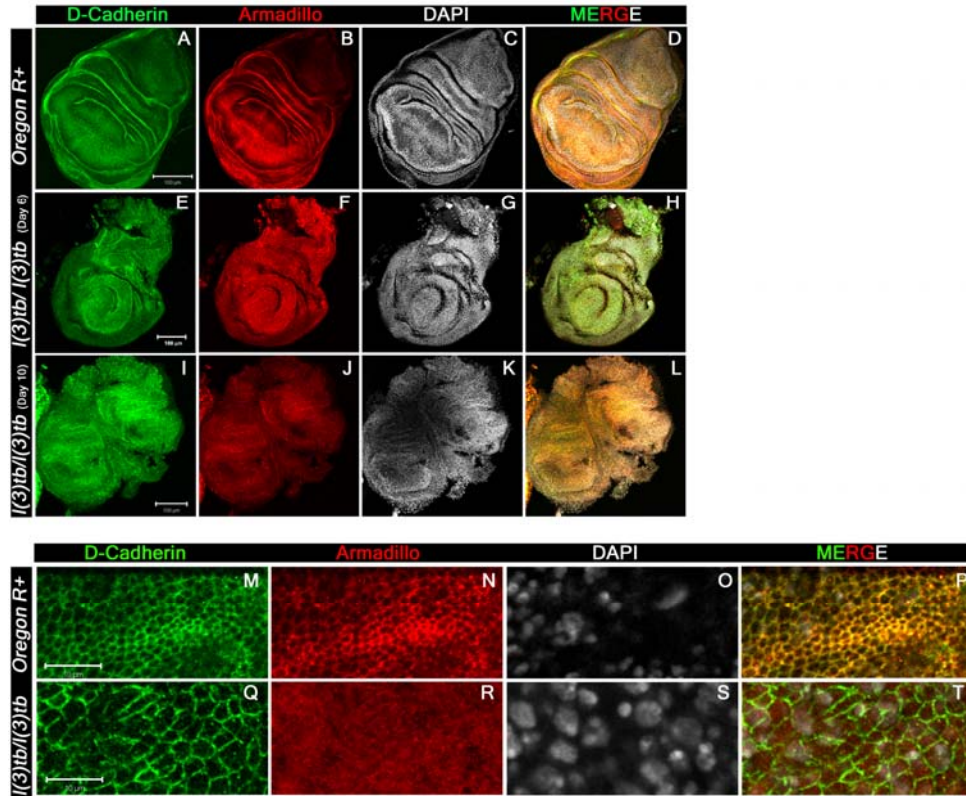


Figure 5. Confocal images of 3rd instar larval wing imaginal discs immunolabeled to visualize the altered distribution pattern of cadherin-catenin complex proteins. Tumor caused in the homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant completely altered the distribution pattern of both, trans-membranous protein DE-cadherin (A, E, I, M, Q) and Armadillo (β -Catenin, B, F, J, N, R) adheren junctional proteins. Alteration of both proteins is more pronounced in the wing imaginal discs from mutant larva during extended larval life (I, J) than in the early wing imaginal disc (E, F) as compared to distinct pattern of DE-cadherin (A) and Armadillo (B) in the wild type wing imaginal discs. Armadillo is a binding partner of trans-membranous protein DE-cadherin having roles in cell adhesion and regulate tissue organization and morphogenesis. Merged images also substantiate the altered distribution of both junctional proteins in the homozygous mutant (H, L) as compared to the wild type (D) where co-localization is indicated by yellow pattern. Higher magnification of wing imaginal disc (pouch region) demonstrate altered distribution pattern of DE-cadherin (Q) and Armadillo (R) in homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant as compared to wild type (N, R). Increase in cell size seen in homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant (Q) as compared to wild type (M). Complete loss of Arm staining observed in homozygous *l(3)tb*(R) whereas normal pattern seen in wild type wing disc (N). Chromatin size also altered in homozygous *l(3)tb* (S) as compared to wild type (O). Wild type shows clear co-localization of D-Cad and Arm (P), while there is complete loss of co-localization in homozygous *l(3)tb* wing imaginal discs (T). Scale bar represents 100 μ m (A to L) and 10 μ m (M to T).

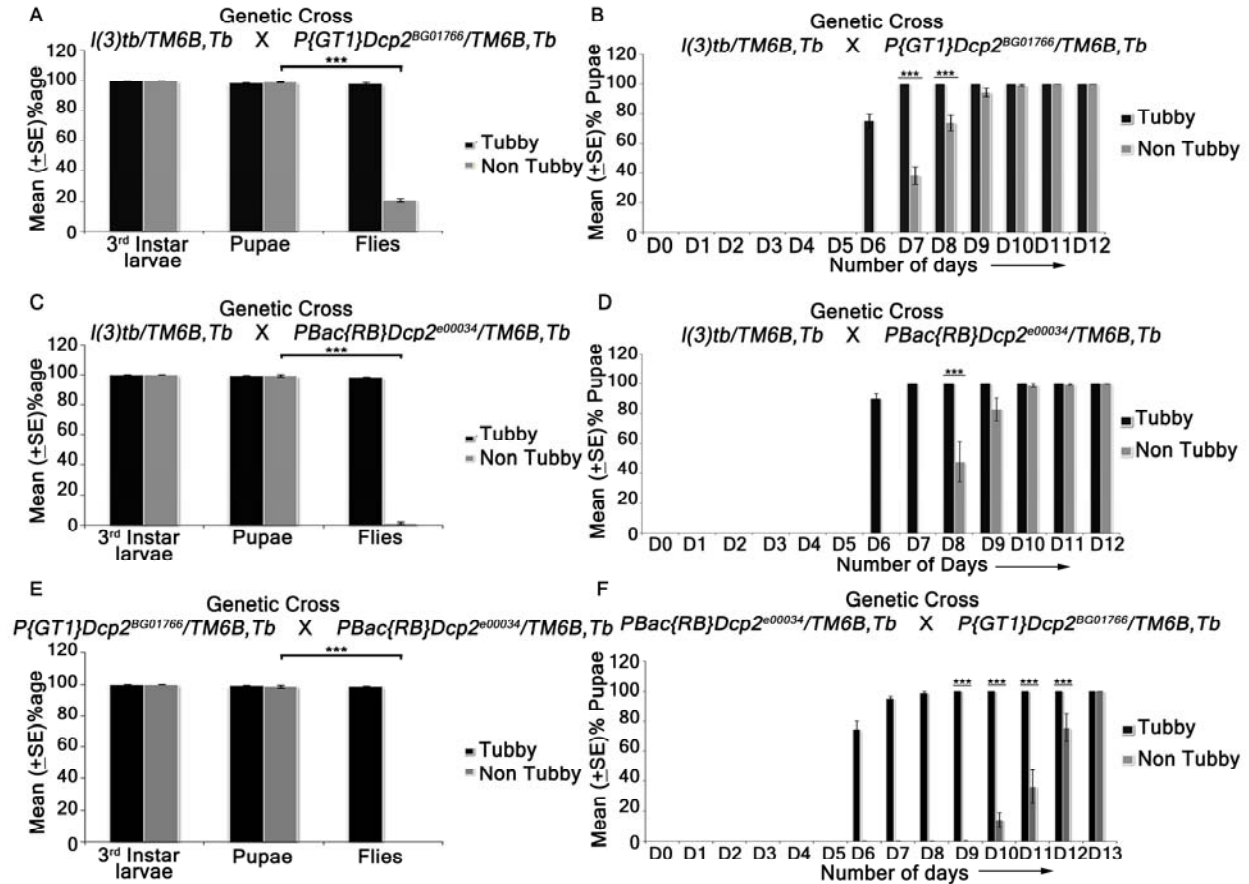


Figure 6. Viability assay performed on various hetero-allelic combinations between alleles of gene *DCP2* and the mutation in *l(3)tb*. Homozygous *l(3)tb* exhibited larval as well as pupal lethality. 69% of homozygous larvae pupated whereas no fly eclosed from the pupae. *l(3)tb* trans-heterozygous with *P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}* showed only 18.4% fly eclosed (A). *l(3)tb/PBac\{RB\}DCP2^{e00034}* trans-heterozygote (C) causes 100% lethality at pupal stage. Trans-allelic combination *P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}/PBac\{RB\}DCP2^{e00034}* (E) also exhibited 100% pupal lethality. Developmental delay seen in trans-heterozygotes *l(3)tb/P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}* (B) and *l(3)tb/PBac\{RB\}DCP2^{e00034}* (D) as in homozygous *l(3)tb*. Progeny from heterozygous for both the alleles of *DCP2* gene, *PBac\{RB\}DCP2^{e00034}/P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}* (F) also exhibited developmental delay. *** indicates $p < 0.005$.

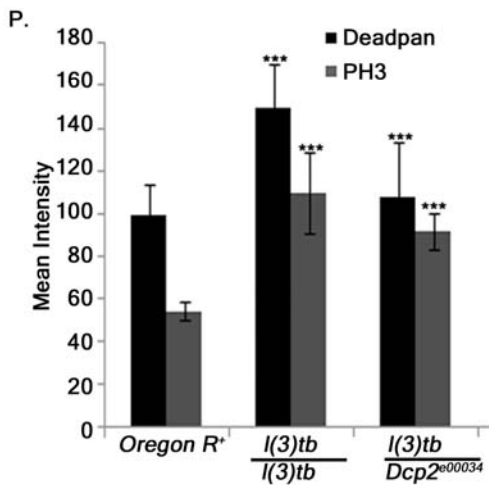
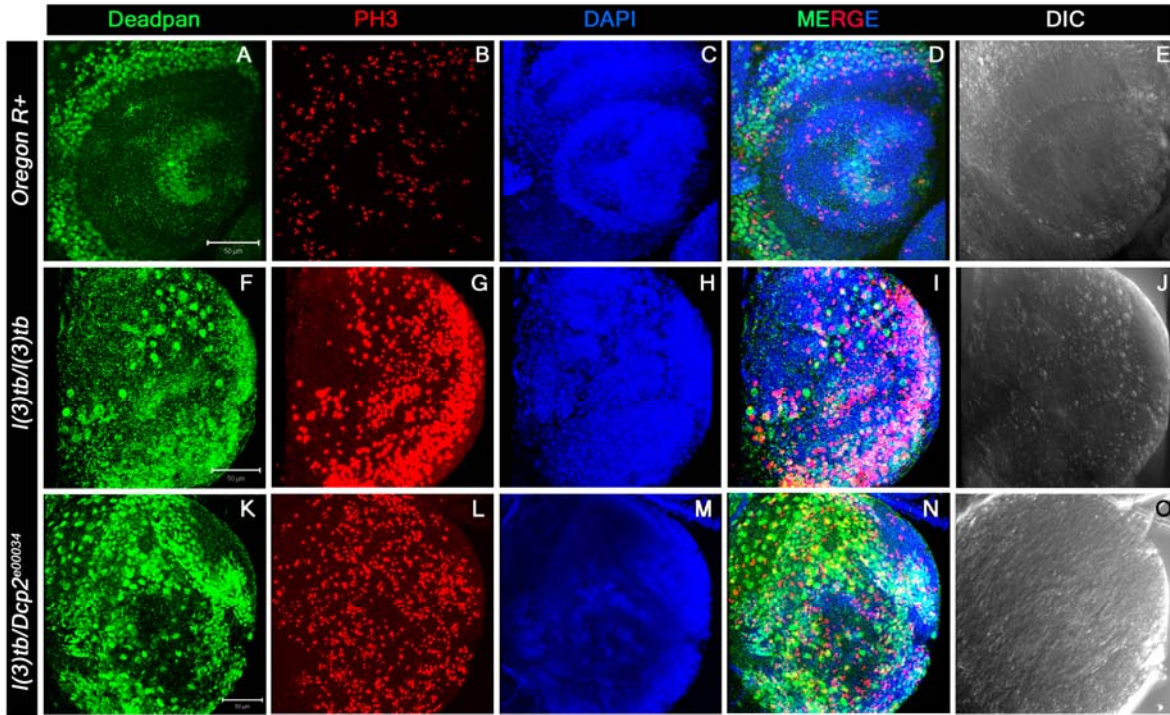


Figure 7. Heterozygous combination of *l(3)tb* with *Dcp2^{e00034}* allele resulted in to significant increase in the number of neuroblasts and mitotically active cells. Confocal projection sections showing immunolocalisation of Deadpan, a neuroblast marker (Green, A, F, K) for picking neuroblasts and phosphohistone 3 (PH3, red, B, G, L) marking the mitotic cells are shown. Enhanced neuroblast population in homozygous mutant (F) and in heterozygous *l(3)tb* with *Dcp2^{e00034}* allele (K) Similarly, increased number of mitotic cells (PH3 positive) also occurred in heterozygous *l(3)tb* with *Dcp2^{e00034}* allele (L), similar to homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant (G). NBs and mitotic positive cells are quantified (P) and the differences are statistically significant when compared with wild type. *** $P > 0.005$. Scale bar indicates 50 μ m.

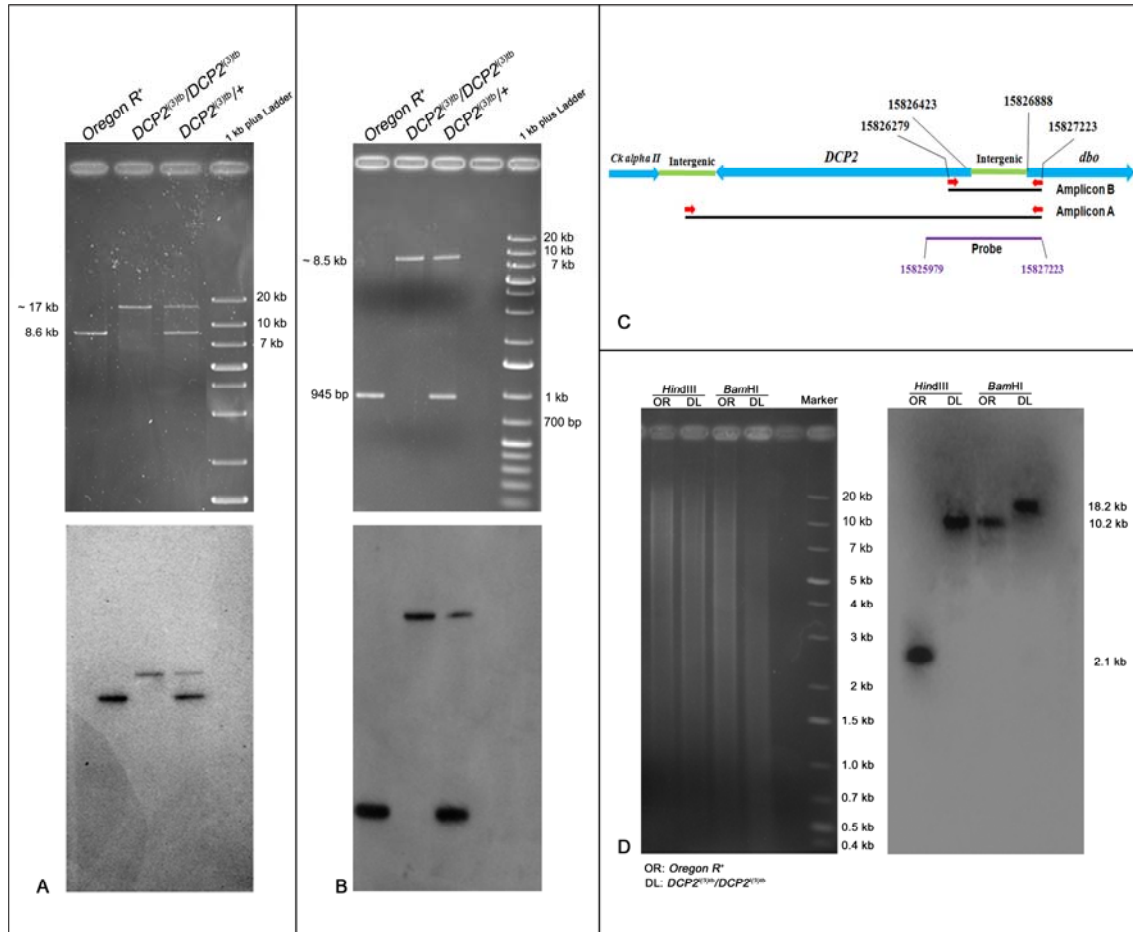


Figure 8. Gel electrophoretogram showing the PCR analysis of the full-length *DCP2* (A) and candidate region (B) in the wild type, mutant and the heterozygote. The schematic in C shows the gene arrangement along the chromosome along with the important coordinates. The primers are indicated by red arrows. For amplification of the full – length gene, the wild type amplicon is of 8.6 kb while the mutant amplicon is sized ~17 kb (A, upper half), whereas the wild type amplicon for the candidate region is of 945 bp while the mutant amplicon is sized ~8.5 kb (B, upper half). The heterozygote harbors both the alleles (wild type and mutant) and thus shows both the amplicons. The lower half in both A and B shows the the blot of the same probed with the pGEM-T-812 probe which spans the candidate mutated region in *DCP2* and is represented by the purple line. D shows the gel electrophoretogram and Southern blot of *DCP2* in the wild type and mutant genome. *Hind*III digested genomic DNA showed banding at ~ 2.1 kb in the wild type genome as against ~ 10 kb in the mutant genome, the size difference being almost in agreement with the banding profile exemplified by *Bam*HI digestion, with the wild type genome hybridizing at ~ 10.2 kb and the mutant at ~ 18 kb.

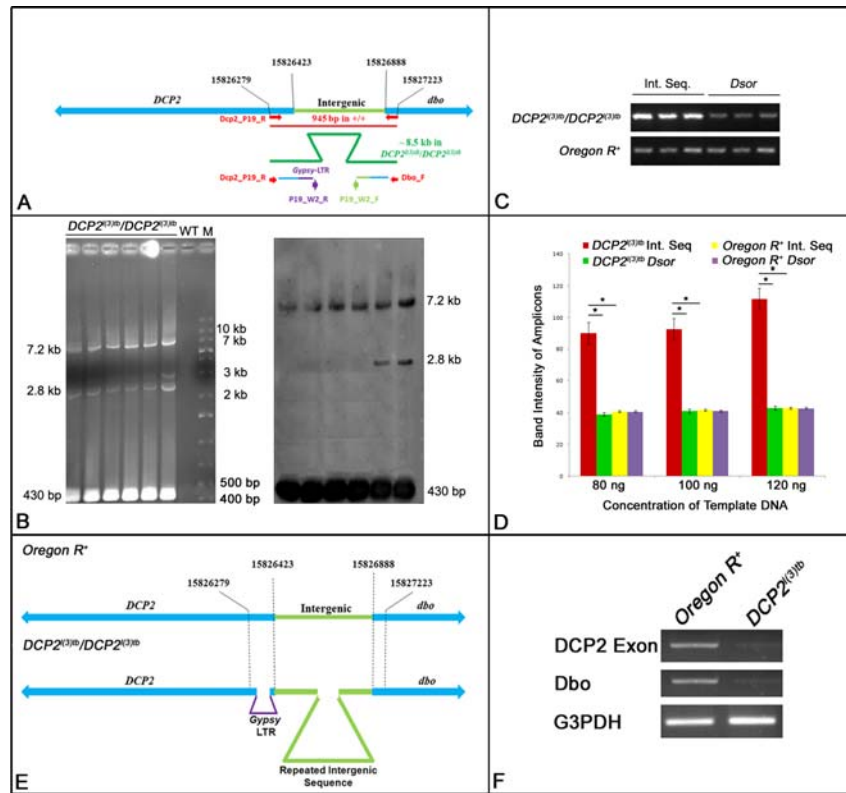


Figure 9. Gel electrophoretogram showing PCR amplification profile obtained by the primers used (P19_W2_R and P19_W2_F) for the “second step” of walking (B). The alignments of the sequences uncovered in the “first step” are shown as thin lines colored as per homology with the wild type sequence. The region amplified here lies subsequent to the sequence uncovered by the initial primers (A; Dbo_F and Dcp2_P19_R, shown in red arrows). Mentioned alongside the electrophoretogram are the semi-logarithmic estimates of the amplicon size. Shown alongside is the blot of the same hybridized with the probe generated from the ~430 bp amplicon. Semi-quantitative PCR to detect change in copy number of the intergenic region in the *DCP2^{(3)tb}* genome (C) shows increased amplification of the intergenic sequence in *DCP2^{(3)tb}* genome as compared to the *Dsor* (control) amplicons in both the genomes. Shown in D is a histogram comparing the fluorescence intensity of PCR amplicons obtained from amplification of the intergenic sequence and the control sequence from the *DCP2^{(3)tb}* genome and the wild type genome. The schematic in E shows the architecture of the mutant allele, *DCP2^{(3)tb}* based on the results obtained from fine mapping. Semi-quantitative RT-PCR analyses of transcription from *DCP2* and *Dbo* in the wild type and *DCP2^{(3)tb}* homozygotes (F) shows decreased titre of mRNA from both genes in the tumorous individuals.

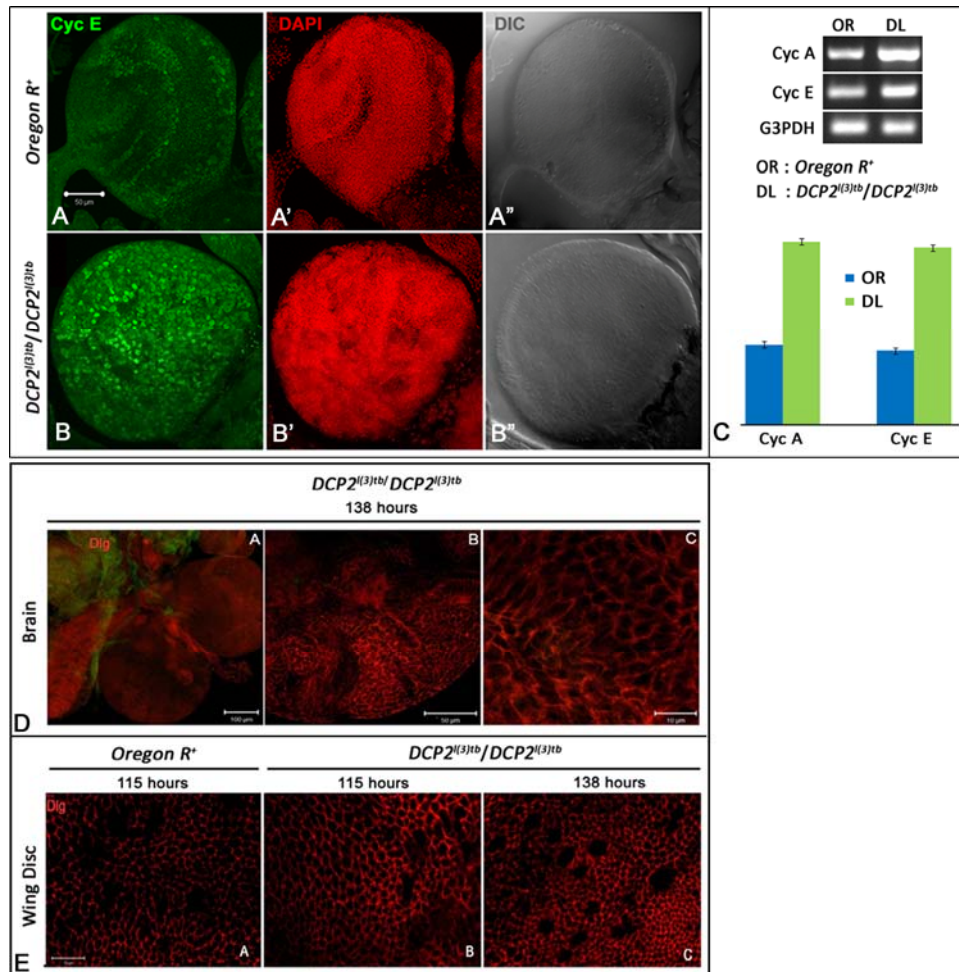


Figure 10. Immunolocalisation of Cyclin E shows elevated expression in the tumorous larval brains of *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* homozygotes (B) as compared to the wild type (A). Semi-quantitative analyses of mRNA expression of Cyclins A and E show similar elevation in the brain of *DCP2^{l(3)tb}* homozygotes (C). Expression of Discs-large in the brain (D) and wing discs (E) of the tumorous individuals did not show appreciable loss. At 138h AEL, the wing discs showed increase in cell number concomitant with decrease in cell size (E.C) whereas, at the same stage, the tumorous brain shows increased number of cells at in the optic lobe (D).

1 **Tables**

2 **A forward genetic approach to mapping a *P*-element second site mutation identifies *DCP2* as a**
3 **novel tumor suppressor in *Drosophila melanogaster***

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32 **Running title – *Drosophila DCP2* is a tumour suppressor**

33 **Table 1. Homozygous mutation in *l(3)tb* causes larval and pupal lethality.**

Genetic cross (23⁰C₊₁)	Total Eggs	No. of eggs hatched	3rd Instar larvae transferred	Pupae formed	Flies eclosed
<i>l(3)tb/TM6B</i> X <i>l(3)tb/TM6B</i>	1500	972 (O= 64.8%) (E=66.7%)	Non-Tubby- 468 (O=48.1%) (E= 50%)	Non-tubby 313 (O=66.8%)	Non Tubby 0
			Tubby 473 (O= 48.6%) (E=50%)	Tubby 468 (O=98.9%) (E=100%)	Tubby 465 (O=99.4%) (E=100%)

34 Numbers in parenthesis indicate the percentage observed (O) and expected (E) values out of the total
35 progeny from previous stage.

36

37 **Table 2. Rearranged genotypes of 113 males after various recombination events between all the**
 38 **eight visible markers of *rucuca* chromosome**

S.No.	Genotypes								No. of Flies	Status of <i>l(3)tb</i> locus
1.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	+	+	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
2.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	+	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
3.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
4.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
5.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	+	3	3 <i>l</i> ⁺
6.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	6	6 <i>l</i> ⁺
7.	+	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	6	6 <i>l</i> ⁺
8.	+	+	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	6	6 <i>l</i> ⁺
9.	+	+	+	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	1	1 <i>l</i>
10.	+	+	+	+	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	2	1 <i>l</i> 1 <i>l</i> ⁺
11.	+	+	+	+	+	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	2	2 <i>l</i>
12.	+	+	+	+	+	+	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	4	4 <i>l</i>
13.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<i>ca</i>	6	6 <i>l</i>
14.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	26	26 <i>l</i>
15.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	6	6 <i>l</i>
16.	<i>ru</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	6	6 <i>l</i>
17.	<i>ru</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	<i>ca</i>	3	3 <i>l</i>
18.	<i>ru</i>	+	+	+	+	+	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	1	1 <i>l</i>
19.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	+	+	+	+	+	<i>ca</i>	7	7 <i>l</i>
20.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	+	+	+	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	5	5 <i>l</i>
21.	<i>ru</i>	+	+	+	+	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	3	3 <i>l</i>
22.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	+	+	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	1	1 <i>l</i>
23.	<i>ru</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	+	<i>e</i>	<i>ca</i>	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
24.	+	+	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	+	<i>ca</i>	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
25.	+	+	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	+	3	3 <i>l</i> ⁺
26.	+	+	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	+	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
27.	+	+	+	+	+	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
28.	+	<i>h</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
29.	+	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>e</i>	+	5	4 <i>l</i> ⁺ 1 <i>l</i>
30.	+	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	<i>sr</i>	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
31.	+	<i>h</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>st</i>	<i>cu</i>	+	+	+	1	1 <i>l</i> ⁺
Total									113	

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40

41 **Table 3. Recombination frequencies (RF) between various recessive markers on *rucuca***
 42 **chromosomes (*roughoid*, *hairy*, *thread*, *scarlet*, *curled*, *stripe*, *ebony*, and *claret*) and *l(3)tb***

Sl. No.	Association of marker with <i>l(3)tb</i>	Flies				Recombination frequency (RF) $\frac{R}{P+R} \times 100$
		Parental (P)		Recombinant (R)		
		Genotype	No. of flies	Genotype	No. of flies	
1.	<i>ru - l</i>	<i>ru⁺ l</i> <i>ru l⁺</i>	18 } 62 44	<i>ru⁺ l⁺</i> <i>ru l</i>	18 } 51 33	45.13
2.	<i>h - l</i>	<i>h⁺ l</i> <i>h l⁺</i>	54 } 79 25	<i>h⁺ l⁺</i> <i>h l</i>	12 } 34 22	30.08
3.	<i>th - l</i>	<i>th⁺ l</i> <i>th l⁺</i>	74 } 110 36	<i>th⁺ l⁺</i> <i>th l</i>	1 } 3 2	2.65
4.	<i>st - l</i>	<i>st⁺ l</i> <i>st l⁺</i>	73 } 108 35	<i>st⁺ l⁺</i> <i>st l</i>	2 } 5 3	4.42
5.	<i>cu - l</i>	<i>cu⁺ l</i> <i>cu l⁺</i>	71 } 105 34	<i>cu⁺ l⁺</i> <i>cu l</i>	3 } 8 5	7.07
6.	<i>sr - l</i>	<i>sr⁺ l</i> <i>sr l⁺</i>	62 } 94 32	<i>sr⁺ l⁺</i> <i>sr l</i>	4 } 19 15	16.8
7.	<i>e - l</i>	<i>e⁺ l</i> <i>e l⁺</i>	56 } 86 30	<i>e⁺ l⁺</i> <i>e l</i>	7 } 27 20	23.89
8.	<i>ca - l</i>	<i>ca⁺ l</i> <i>ca l⁺</i>	42 } 74 32	<i>ca⁺ l⁺</i> <i>ca l</i>	16 } 49 33	43.3

44

45 **Table 4. Recombination events between *h-l*, *st-l* and *cu-l***

S.No.	Association of marker with <i>l(3)tb</i>	Flies				Recombination frequency $\frac{R}{P+R} \times 100$
		Parentals (P)		Recombinants (R)		
		Genotype	No. of flies	Genotype	No. of flies	
1.	<i>h - l</i>	<i>h⁺ l</i>	89	<i>h⁺ l⁺</i>	18	17.78
		<i>h l⁺</i>	96	<i>h l</i>	22	
			185		40	
2.	<i>st - l</i>	<i>st⁺ l</i>	252	<i>th⁺ l⁺</i>	2	1.23
		<i>st l⁺</i>	238	<i>th l</i>	4	
			480		6	
3.	<i>cu - l</i>	<i>cu⁺ l</i>	269	<i>ru⁺ l⁺</i>	22	8.29
		<i>cu l⁺</i>	283	<i>ru l</i>	28	
			552		50	

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48 **Table 5. Fertility assay of trans-heterozygotes $P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}/l(3)tb$ demonstrating male and**
49 **female sterility**

Cross	$l(3)tb/P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}$	$l(3)tb/P\{GT1\}DCP2^{BG01766}$
	(males) X +/+ (Virgin females)	(Virgin females) X +/+ (males)
Total No. of Pair Mating	70	83
Fertile	28 (40%)	18 (21.7%)
Sterile	42 (60%)	55 (66.3%)

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52 **Table 6 Global overexpression of *DCP2* rescues the mutant phenotypes exhibited by *l(3)tb***
 53 **homozygotes**

Genetic Crosses		<i>Act5C-GAL4/CyO; +/+</i>		<i>+/+; Tub-GAL4/TM6B</i>		<i>Act5C-GAL4/CyO; l(3)tb/TM6B</i>		<i>UAS-DCP2/CyO; l(3)tb/TM6B</i>	
		<i>Act5C GAL4/CyO; +/+</i>		<i>+/+; Tub GAL4/TM6B</i>		<i>Sp/CyO; l(3)tb: UAS-DCP2/TM6B</i>		<i>Sp/CyO; l(3)tb: Tub GAL4/TM6B</i>	
		Homozygotes die as embryos or early larvae		Homozygotes die as embryos or early larvae		CyO and TM6B homozygotes die as embryos or early larvae		CyO and TM6B homozygotes die as embryos or early larvae	
01.	Eggs	750		790		1050		1245	
02.	Unfertilised Eggs	39	5.2%	37	4.7%	68	6.5%	86	6.9%
03.	Fertilised Eggs	711	94.8%	753	95.3%	982	93.5%	1159	93.1%
04.	Dead Embryos	304	42.8%	357	47.4%	434	44.2%	525	45.3%
05.	Dead 1 st and 2 nd instar Larvae	8	1.12%	19	2.52%	34	3.46%	57	4.92%
06.	Dead 3 rd instar larvae	2	0.28%	5	0.66%	72	7.33%	128	11.04%
07.	Pupae	397	55.8%	372	49.4%	442	45.0%	449	38.7%
08.	Dead Pupae	17	4.3%	11	2.9%	21	4.8%	23	5.1%
09.	Eclosion following over-expression of <i>DCP2</i> in homozygous <i>l(3)tb</i> background	-	-	-	-	<i>Act5C-GAL4/CyO; l(3)tb:UAS-DCP2/l(3)tb</i>		<i>UAS-DCP2/CyO; l(3)tb: Tub-GAL4/l(3)tb</i>	
						94	21.3%	77	17.2%
		-	-	-	-	<i>Act5C-GAL4/Sp; l(3)tb:UAS-DCP2/l(3)tb</i>		<i>UAS-DCP2/Sp; l(3)tb: Tub-GAL4/l(3)tb</i>	
						61	13.8%	89	19.8%

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1 **Supplementary Figures**

2 **A forward genetic approach to mapping a *P*-element second site mutation identifies *DCP2* as a**
3 **novel tumor suppressor in *Drosophila melanogaster***

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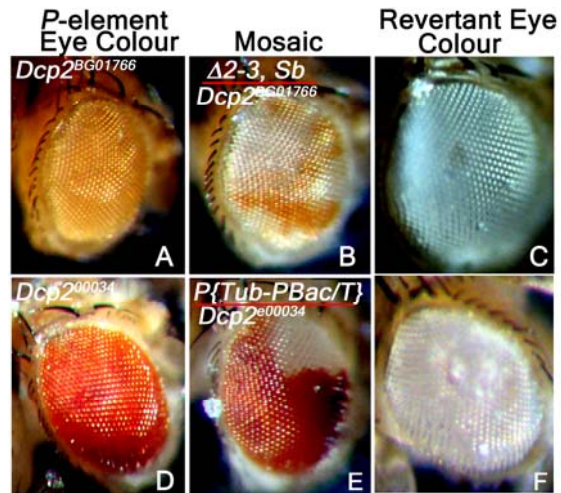
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31
32 **Running title – *Drosophila DCP2* is a tumour suppressor**



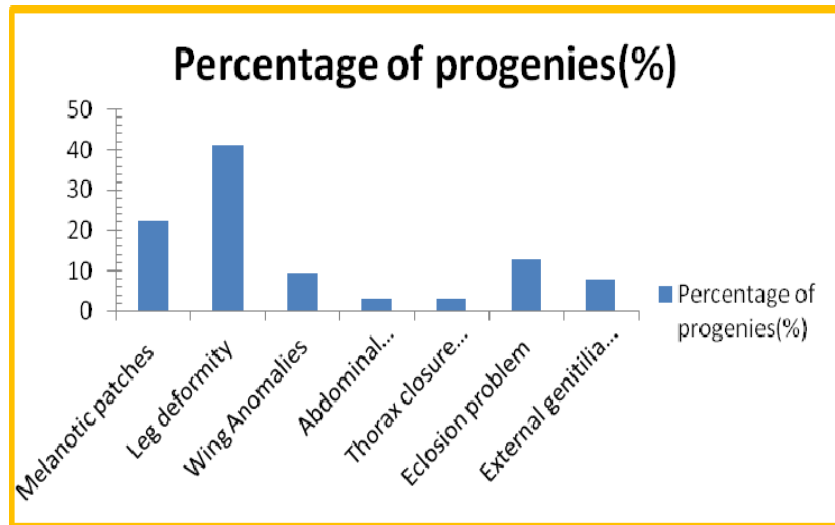
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35 **Figure S1** Reversion analysis by the excision of *piggyBac* transposon in $DCP2^{e00034}$ with the help of
36 *piggyBac* specific transposase source, *CyO*, $P\{Tub-Pbac\}2/Wg^{SP-1}$ and similarly by the excision of *P*-
37 element in $DCP2^{BG01766}$ strain using $\Delta 2-3, Sb/TM6B$, Tb^l , *Hu*, e^l transposase source as ‘jumpstarter stock’.
38 $DCP2$ revertant white eyed F2 flies were crossed to $l(3)tb$ and lethal progenies scored.

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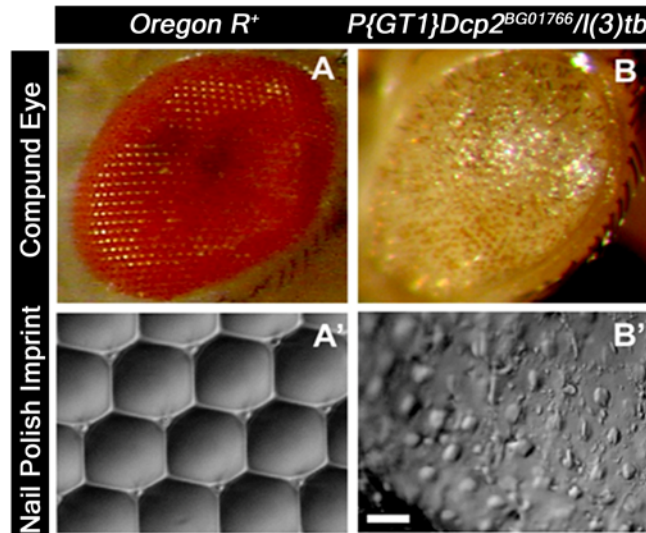
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42 **Figure S2.** Morphological defects exhibited by escapees of adult fly trans-heterozygous for
43 *P{GT1}DCP2^{BG01766}/l(3)tb*. The phenotype includes melanotic patches (22.2%) on the cuticular
44 exoskeleton, abnormalities in leg (41.3%), wing (10%), abdomen (3.2%) and thorax (3.2%). Many of the
45 trans-heterozygous progeny was observed to have eclosion problem (12.7%) and males have abnormal
46 genitalia (9.7%).

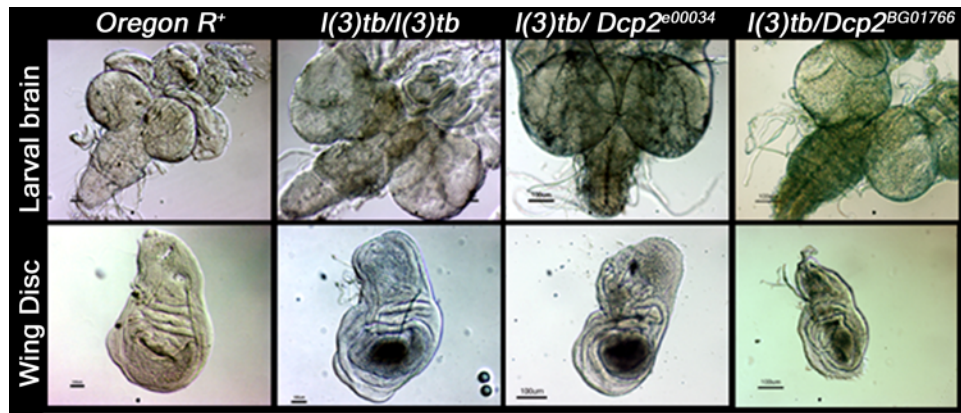
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49 **Figure S3. Pronouncement of severe defects in compound eyes of the escapees having heterozygous**
50 **genetic background of the mutant *l(3)tb* with lethal *P*-insertion allele *DCP2*^{BG01766}.** Images in A and B
51 showing the compound eye of wild type and trans-heterozygote respectively while A' and B' are their
52 respective nail-polish imprint of the compound eye, viewed with the help of DIC or Nomarski
53 microscope. The exact geometrical arrangement of ommatidia in a hexagonal pattern having each
54 ommatidium surrounded by bristle was completely disrupted in the trans-heterozygote exhibiting the
55 complete loss of arrangement in the ommatidial pattern. This represents the severe loss of polarity as it
56 cues a complete disassembly of compound eye as whole. Bar represents 20µm.

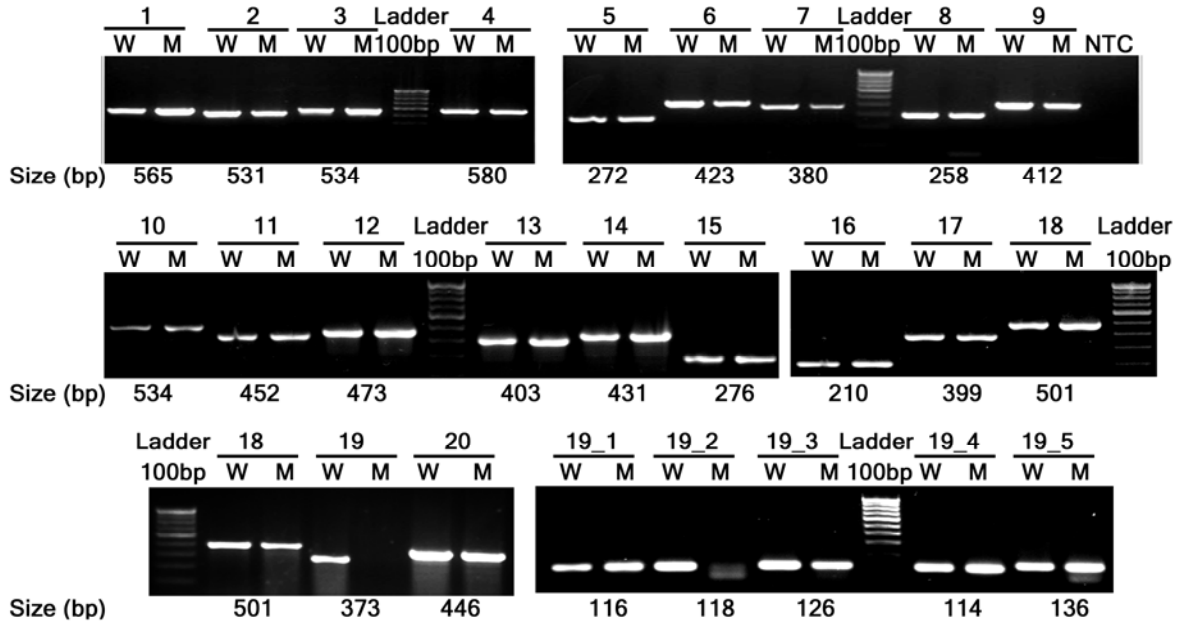
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59 **Figure S4.** Tumorous phenotype observed in larval brain and wing imaginal discs in trans-heterozygotes
60 *l(3)tb* /*PBac{RB}DCP2^{e00034}* and *l(3)tb* /*P{GT1}DCP2^{BG01766}* as homozygous *l(3)tb* Scale bar is 100µm.

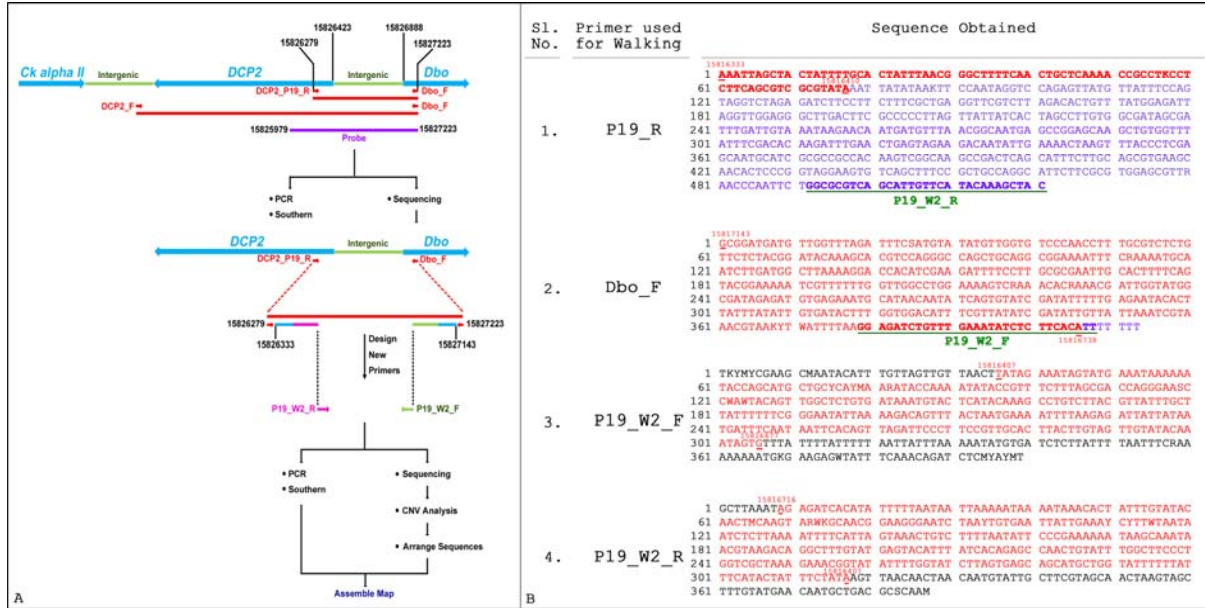
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63 **Figure S5.** Amplification of *DCP2* using overlapping primers. All primers amplify same size of amplicon
64 with DNA from wild type and homozygous l(3)tb mutant, except *DCP2_P19* (3L:15819379..15819751)
65 and *DCP2_P19_2* (3L:15819452..15819569). This implies the probable mutation in the region.

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68 **Figure S6.** Schematic representation of the convergent bidirectional primer walking adopted for
69 sequencing and alignment of the large amplicon obtained at the candidate region in $DCP2^{(3)hb}$
70 homozygotes (A). Shown in differently colored arrows are the primers used for sequencing during
71 walking. Reads aligning to the gene regions are represented by blue lines, while those aligning to the
72 intergenic regions are depicted by green lines. The primers designed are represented in similar colors
73 depending on their alignment in the sequence. The reads obtained on sequencing with each of the four
74 primers is shown in B. The *Gypsy*-LTR sequence is shown in purple. Underlined in 1 and 2 are the
75 sequences used as primers for the second-step of primer walking.

1 **Supplementary Tables**

2 **A forward genetic approach to mapping a *P*-element second site mutation identifies *DCP2* as a**
3 **novel tumor suppressor in *Drosophila melanogaster***

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32 **Running title – *Drosophila DCP2* is a tumour suppressor**

33 **Table S1. Complementation status of *l(3)tb* with cytologically mapped deletion lines**

S.No.	Bloomington Stock Number	Deletion Lines	Estimated Cytological Break points	Status of Complementation
1.	BL: 6554	<i>Df(3L)XG8</i>	71C3-D1;71F2-5	No
2.	BL:6548	<i>Df(3L)XG1</i>	71C3-D1;71F2-5	No
3.	BL:6603	<i>Df(3L)X-21.2</i>	71F1;72A2	No
4.	BL:6157	<i>Df(3L)D-5rv12,e¹</i>	70C2;72A1	No
5.	BL:6558	<i>Df(3L)XG15</i>	71A3;71F4	Yes
6.	BL:3641	<i>Df(3L)th¹⁰²,h¹,kni^{ri-1},e¹</i>	72A2;72D10	Yes

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36 **Table S2. Complementation analysis of *l(3)tb* with lethal transposon insertion lines**

S. No.	Stock	Symbol	Gene Affected/ Estimated cytology*	Genomic Sequence Coordinates*	Complementation Status
1.	18573	<i>PBac{WH}DCX-EMAP⁰²⁶⁵⁵</i>	<i>DCX-EMP</i> 71A2	3L:14933115..14933115	YES
2.	12791	<i>P{GT1}mnd^{BG01434}</i>	<i>minidiscs (mnd)</i> 71A4	3L:14980561..14980561	YES
3.	17084	<i>P{EP}Prosbeta2^{EP306}</i> 7	<i>Proteosome subunit</i> 71B1	3L:14993119..14993119	YES
4.	12089	<i>P{lacW}cp309^{s2172}</i>	<i>cp309</i> 71B3	3L:15072574..15072574	YES
5.	21206	<i>P{EPgy2}cp309^{EY1637}</i> 6	<i>cp309</i> 71B3	3L:15072713..15072713	YES
6.	16007	<i>P{EPgy2}Aats-gly^{EY09021}</i>	<i>Glycyl synthetase</i> 71B4	3L:15088255..15088255	YES
7.	12090	<i>P{lacW}l(3)j2A2^{j2A2}</i>	<i>lethal(3)j2A2</i> 71B5	3L:15134670..15134670	YES
8.	34467	<i>Mi{MIC}Toll-6^{M102127}</i>	<i>Toll-6</i> 71C2	3L:15332734	YES
9.	16100	<i>PBac{5HPw[+]}CG7841^{A372}</i>	<i>CG7841</i> 71D3	3L:15500292..15500292	YES
10.	21095	<i>P{EPgy2}CrebA^{EY134}</i> 94	<i>CrebA</i> 71E1	3L:15529167..15529167	YES
11.	10183	<i>P{PZ}CrebA⁰³⁵⁷⁶</i>	<i>CrebA</i> 71E1	3L:15537388..15537388	YES
12.	12091	<i>P{lacW}l(3)s1754^{s175}</i> 4	<i>lethal(3)s1754</i> 71E1	3L:15556710..15556710	YES
13.	12092	<i>P{lacW}RhoGAP71E^{j6B9}</i>	<i>RhoGAP71E</i> 71E1	3L:15582004..15582004	YES
14.	15523	<i>P{EPgy2}mrn^{EY01615}</i>	<i>marionette</i> 71E1	3L:15573609..15573609	YES
15.	12100	<i>P{lacW}RhoGAP71E^{s1629a}</i>	<i>RhoGAP71E</i> 71E1	3L:15582004..15582004	YES
16.	17134	<i>P{EP}RhoGAP71E^{EP}</i> 3492	<i>RhoGAP71E</i> 71E1	3L:15586701..15586701	YES
17.	22649	<i>P{EPgy2}CG7650^{EY2}</i> 3633	<i>CG7650</i> 71E2	3L:15603462..15603462	YES
18.	23596	<i>Mi{ET1}CG7579^{MB02}</i> 986	<i>CG7579</i> 71F1	3L:15676129..15676129	YES
19.	16186	<i>PBac{5HPw⁺}B259</i>	71F2	3L:15700304..15700304	YES
20.	17644	<i>P{EPgy2}comm^{EY1015}</i> 4	<i>commisureless</i> 71F2	3L:15721560..15721560	YES
21.	21983	<i>P{EPg}fwe^{HP35545}</i>	<i>flower</i>	3L:15809466..15809466	

			72A1	09466	YES
22.	12794	<i>P{GTI}DCP2^{BG01766}</i>	<i>Decapping protein2</i> 72A1	3L:15819332..15819332	NO
23.	23591	<i>Mi{ETI}CG32150^{MB02846}</i>	CG32150 72A2	3L:15834442..15834442	YES
24.	25339	<i>Mi{ETI}pHCl^{MB06931}</i>	<i>pHCl</i> 72A3	3L:15863723..15863723	YES
25.	22126	<i>P{EPg}HP36806</i>	72B2	3L:15948256..15948256	YES

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38 Allele of *Decapping protein 2* (*P{GTI}DCP2^{BG01766}*), reported to be semi-lethal in the FlyBase showed
39 non-complementation to the mutation in *l(3)tb*. *Designates the current annotation and cytological
40 positions and molecular insertion sites as per FlyBase (R5).

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42 **Table S3. Primers used for characterizing deletion in *Df(3L)RM95*.**

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PRIMER SYMBOL	PRIMER DETAILS						PARAMETER
	PRIMER (10 pmol/ μ L)	SEQUENCE (5'→3')	MOLECULAR POSITIONS (FlyBase, R5)	T _m (°C)	'GC' (%)	AMPLICON SIZE (in bp)	T _a (°C) / Ext. (sec)
Custom A	FOR	GCACCAACTGAGCTGTATC	15525318-	54.1	52.6	420	54 ⁰ C/ 30sec
PRY4	REV	CAATCATATCGCTGTCTCACTCA		60.3	43.5		
W7500D	FOR	GTCCGCCTTCAGTTGCACTT		62.7	55.0	1600	6 ⁰ C/ 1min
W11678U	REV	TCATCGCAGATCAGAAGCGG		64.9	55.0		
3. PRY4	FOR	CAATCATATCGCTGTCTCACTCA	-15948402	60.3	43.5	360	54 ⁰ C / 1min
Custom B	REV	TAGTCCACGTAAGGTGCAC		54.3	55.6		

55 Custom A and custom B primers were designed from the genomic region upstream and downstream to the region where the P{RS5} and P{RS3}
 56 progenitor element localized so that with the combination of PRY4, could give 420 bp and 360 bp amplicon respectively.

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58 **Table S4.** Overlapping set of primers for *DCP2* gene and thermal cycler conditions of annealing temperature and extension time for each primer
 59 pair to amplify the genomic region of *DCP2* gene in the homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant.

PRIMER SYMBOL	PRIMER DETAILS					
	PRIMER (10 pmol/μL)	SEQUENCE (5'→3')	MOLECULAR POSITIONS (FlyBase, R5)	Tm (°C)	'GC' (%)	AMPLICON SIZE (in bp)
DCP2_P1	FOR	AGGCTTCTCTCCCCGTA ACT	15813182-15813746	62.7	57.1	565
	REV	CTGCGGGGCGAGA ACACGAT		70.0	65.0	
DCP2_P2	FOR	TTCATAGGTGGGGGCGGGCA	15813671-15814201	71.8	65.0	531
	REV	ACGTTAGGGAACCACAAACACACCT		65.9	48.0	
DCP2_P3	FOR	TGTGCTGAGCGGAAGACTCTCGTTT	15814054-15814635	69.5	52.0	582
	REV	GCAGCAGCTGGGAATCGACTTTACG		70.7	56.0	
DCP2_P4	FOR	ATTTGGCGTAAAGTCGATTC	15814605-15815184	56.9	40.0	580
	REV	CAAGCAATGAGAAGGTGAGT		55.4	45.0	
DCP2_P5	FOR	AGGATTTTGACTGGCTGCTG	15814960-15815231	60.4	50.0	272
	REV	GCGTCAACTGTTCCATAGCC		60.7	55.0	
DCP2_P6	FOR	GGAACAGTTGACGCTTCGAG	15815218- 15815640	61.0	55.0	423
	REV	GCCTGAAGAAGTGGGTGAAC		59.7	55.0	
DCP2_P7	FOR	CTTATTGCGTTTCCCATTGC	15815330-15815709	60.5	45.0	380
	REV	ATGCCATATCAAAGGCCAAG		59.9	45.0	
DCP2_P8	FOR	AGCCTTCCGATCGTTCACCCAC	15815609-15815909	68.8	59.1	301
	REV	GGTTTATGAGGAGACCGGGTTCG		66.9	56.5	
DCP2_P9	FOR	ATGTTTCGCACCACGTACAG	15815802- 15816213	59.6	50.0	412
	REV	GCTATCGGTGCCCACTTATG		60.5	55.0	
DCP2_P10	FOR	ATAGCGCCATAAGTGGGCACCGATA	15816187-15816720	69.9	52.0	534
	REV	ACTCCTCCTACGGCAGCTCATCATC		68.0	56.0	
DCP2_P11	FOR	GATGATGAGCTGCCGTAGGAGGAGT	15816696-15817147	68.0	56.0	452
	REV	CTATCAGTTTCTTGGGGCCGTGTGC		70.4	56.0	
DCP2_P12	FOR	GCACACGGCCCCAAGAACTG	15817123-15817595	69.2	61.9	473
	REV	AGGCTCTTACAAAGGGTGCTTATCGA A		66.9	44.4	
DCP2_P13	FOR	TCGATAAGCACCCCTTGTAAAGAGCCT	15817570-15817972	66.2	46.2	403
	REV	CACCAGTCTACGTTATCGGGGTCGT		68.2	56.0	

DCP2_P14	FOR	AGTGCTGCAGTACGACCCCGATA	15817937-15818367	67.1	56.5	431
	REV	ACAATCAGAATATCTCCCACCCAGCA		67.7	46.2	
DCP2_P15	FOR	TGCTGGGTGGGAGATATTCTGATTGT	15818342-15818617	67.7	46.2	276
	REV	CGTCTCTGCCTCTGCTAGCGT		64.4	61.9	
DCP2_P16	FOR	ACGCTAGCAGAGGCAGAGAC	15818597- 15818806	59.9	60.0	210
	REV	CAGAGAGAGACGCGAATGTG		59.7	55.0	
DCP2_P17	FOR	AGAGGCAGAGGCTGTGACGAC	15818623-15819021	64.4	61.9	399
	REV	TTCGTGCGACAAAAGCGGACG		70.7	57.1	
DCP2_P18	FOR	TGCAATCGTCCGCTTTTGTGCGCA	15818995-15819495	73.6	52.2	501
	REV	AGAGGAAGGCGAGTTTTGAGCAGT		65.9	50.0	
DCP2_P19	FOR	TGCTCACCGAACTTTTTCGCGATCT	15819379-15819751	70.7	48.0	373
	REV	GTGCAACGGAAGGGAATCTAACTGT G		67.8	50.0	
DCP2_P20	FOR	CACAGTTAGATTCCCTTCCGTTGCAC	15819726- 15820171	67.8	50.0	446
	REV	ACAAAGCACGTCCAGGGCCA		68.4	60.0	

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62 **Table S5.** Overlapping set of primers to amplify the genomic region in *DCP2* gene for the region covered by the DCP2_P19 set of primers in the
 63 homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant.

PRIMER SYMBOL	PRIMER DETAILS						
	PRIMER (10 pmol/μL)	SEQUENCE (5'→3')	TEMPLATE STRAND	LENGTH (in ntd.)	MOLECULAR POSITIONS (FlyBase, R5)	Tm (°C)	'GC' (%)
DCP2_P19_1	FOR	TAAATTGCCTTTATTTACACGTTGC	PLUS (+)	25	15819403-15819518	60.6	32.0
	REV	ACTATTTCTATACGCGACGCTGAAG	MINUS(-)	25		62.1	44.0
DCP2_P19_2	FOR	ACTATTTAACGGGCTTTTCAACTG	PLUS (+)	24	15819452-15819569	60.0	37.5
	REV	CGGTATATTTTGGTATCTTAGTGAGC	MINUS(-)	26		58.7	38.5
DCP2_P19_3	FOR	CAGCGTCGCGTATAGAAATAGTATG	PLUS (+)	25	15819497-15819622	67.7	46.2
	REV	AGTACATTTATCACAGAGCCTCAACTG	MINUS(-)	25		58.8	40.0
DCP2_P19_4	FOR	GCTCACTAAGATACCAAATATACC G	PLUS (+)	26	15819544-15819657	58.7	38.5
	REV	AAAATAAGCAAATAACGTAAGACAG G	MINUS(-)	26		58.5	30.8
DCP2_P19_5	FOR	AAGCCTGTCTTACGTTATTTGCTTA	PLUS (+)	25	15819629-15819764	59.8	36.0
	REV	CAACTACAAGTAAGTGCAACGGAAG	MINUS(-)	25		61.4	44.0

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68 **Table S6.** Overlapping set of primers to amplify the complete 5'UTR of genomic region in *DCP2* gene in the homozygous *l(3)tb* mutant. The
 69 table also documents the thermal cycler conditions of annealing temperature and extension time for each primer pair. Genomic region amplified
 70 by primer pair is also mentioned.

PRIMER SYMBOL	PRIMER DETAILS					
	PRIMER (10 pmol/μL)	SEQUENCE (5'→3')	MOLECULAR POSITIONS (FlyBase, R5)	T _m (°C)	'GC' (%)	AMPLICON SIZE (in bp)
DCP2_5'UTR1	FOR	GTACTCTAGTTATTCCATCGGTTGC	15819051-15819563	59.5	44.0	513
	REV	ATTTTGGTATCTTAGTGAGCAGCAT		59.6	36.0	
DCP2_5'UTR2	FOR	TTTTGCTATTGTTCTCTCGATTTTC	15819085-15819652	60.1	32.0	568
	REV	AAGCAAATAACGTAAGACAGGCTTT		60.8	36.0	
DCP2_5'UTR3	FOR	AAGCCTGTCTTACGTTATTTGCTTA	15819629-15820187	59.8	36.0	459
	REV	TCTGTTCTCTACGGATACAAAGCAC		61.0	44.0	

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