Tempo of degeneration across independently evolved non-recombining regions

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Abstract

Recombination is beneficial over the long term, allowing more effective selection. Despite long-term advantages of recombination, local recombination suppression is known to evolve and lead to genomic degeneration, in particular on sex and mating-type chromosomes, sometimes linked to severe genetic diseases. Here, we investigated the tempo of degeneration in non-recombining regions, i.e., the function curve for the accumulation of deleterious mutations over time, taking advantage of 17 independent events of large recombination suppression identified on mating-type chromosomes of anther-smut fungi, including five newly identified in the present study. Using high-quality genomes assemblies of alternative mating types of 13 *Microbotryum* species, we estimated the degeneration levels in terms of accumulation of non-optimal codons and non-synonymous substitutions in non-recombining regions. We found a reduced frequency of optimal codons in the non-recombining regions on mating-type chromosomes compared to autosomes. We showed that the lower frequency of optimal codons in non-recombining regions was not due to less frequent GC-biased gene conversion or lower ancestral expression levels compared to recombining regions. We estimated that the frequency of optimal codon usage decreased linearly at a rate of 0.989 per My. The non-synonymous over synonymous substitution rate (d_N/d_S) increased rapidly after recombination suppression and then reached a plateau. To our knowledge this is the first study to disentangle effects of reduced selection efficacy from GC-biased gene conversion in the evolution of optimal codon usage to quantify the tempo of degeneration in non-recombining regions, leveraging on multiple independent recombination suppression events. Understanding the tempo of degeneration is important for our knowledge on genomic evolution, on the origin of genetic diseases and on the maintenance of regions without recombination.

Introduction

Recombination is beneficial over the long term in most situations, allowing higher selection efficacy and therefore more rapid adaptation. Meiotic recombination, through crossing-over resulting in the reciprocal exchange of DNA segments between two homologous chromosomes, shuffles allelic combinations, such that more beneficial combinations might be formed [1, 2] and selection at different loci can be decoupled [3, 4]. Across long time scales, many crossover events indeed occur along chromosomes and selection can apply at each locus independently. Recombination prevents selection interference between loci [5], thereby facilitating the purge of deleterious mutations. In the absence of recombination, selection on strongly beneficial alleles can drag along and increase the frequency of deleterious alleles at linked loci through genetic hitchhiking [6]. Recombination also prevents the accumulation of deleterious mutations by generating chromosomes with fewer deleterious mutations than parental ones, thus avoiding the increase in the frequency of genotypes with a higher number of harmful mutations, known as Muller's ratchet [1, 2].

Despite these long-term advantages of recombination, local recombination suppression can be selected for, maintaining beneficial allelic combinations, and leading to a genetic structure known as a supergene, where multiple genes are linked together and are transmitted as a single locus [7, 8]. Examples of complex phenotypes controlled by supergenes include wing patterns in the *Heliconius* butterflies [9, 10], social systems in ants [11] and mating compatibility systems, such as sex chromosomes or mating-type loci [12-15]. The suppression of recombination can thus arise and be maintained by selection, but the corresponding genomic regions then accumulate deleterious mutations through interferences between loci and Muller's ratchet [7, 16-19]. Typical deleterious mutations include non-synonymous substitutions [20-25] which alters the amino-acid sequences of a protein and may result in protein dysfunction. Deleterious mutations also include frameshift mutations, gene losses and substitutions leading to suboptimal gene expression level [26-28]. Such deleterious mutations in sex chromosomes may be responsible for genetic diseases [29, 30]. Genomic rearrangements [31], epigenetic modifications [32] and transposable elements [19, 28] also accumulate in non-recombining regions; they are not *per se* deleterious mutations but may disrupt gene function or expression and impose strong energetic costs [33, 34].

A less studied type of deleterious mutations concerns some synonymous substitutions. Synonymous substitutions are usually considered neutral because they do not alter the amino-acid sequences of proteins. However, synonymous codons are often not used randomly [35, 36],

some codons being preferentially used over their synonymous alternative codons. This
preference is thought to result from a selection on either the rate or the accuracy of translation
[37], such that the preferred codons are called optimal codons. Optimal codons tend to
correspond to the most abundant tRNAs [38, 39], and are most frequent in highly expressed
genes [40, 41].

The existence of preferred codons among synonymous alternatives leads to a codon
usage bias, which has been found directly proportional to the recombination rate along genomes
[42]. Such deviations from preferred codon usage has been interpreted as resulting from the
decrease in selection efficacy in regions with low or no recombination [27]. Compared to
recombining regions, lower frequencies of optimal codons have been reported in the non-
recombining region of the mating-type chromosomes in the fungus *Neurospora tetrasperma*
[25], in the non-recombining dot chromosome in *Drosophila americana* [43] and twelve other
Drosophila species [44]. However, codon biases could also result from the biased mutational
pattern caused by GC-biased gene conversion. Occurring in regions of frequent recombination,
gene conversion results from the resolution of base-pair mismatches in the heteroduplex of the
recombination process [45]. GC-biased gene conversion has been shown to occur in bacteria
[46] and in eukaryotes [45, 47-49]. The effect of either fewer GC-biased gene conversion events
or less efficient selection may each lead to fewer optimal codons in non-recombining regions,
and their respective effects may be difficult to disentangle. Few studies have tried to distinguish
the roles of relaxed selection versus GC-biased gene conversion [50] and no study to our
knowledge specifically attempted to control for the effect of GC-biased gene conversion in
assessing the effect of the lack of recombination on the frequency of optimal codons.

While the accumulation of deleterious mutations in non-recombining regions has been
reported in numerous systems, only a few studies have addressed the question of the tempo of
degeneration *i.e.* the rate at which deleterious mutations accumulate with time. Theoretical
works based on the mammalian Y-chromosome predicted that degeneration through gene losses
should occur at a high speed in young non-recombining regions, mainly due to Muller's ratchet
and background selection, and should then slows down in older non-recombining regions in
which genetic hitchhiking is a major driving force [16, 51]. In the plant *Silene latifolia*, the sex
chromosomes underwent two successive recombination suppression events (i.e., evolutionary
strata; [52]), which have been losing genes at estimated rates of 4.64% and 6.92% per Myr for
the older and younger evolutionary strata, respectively [53]. Other observations have similarly
indicated that the gene loss rate is negatively correlated with the age of recombination

suppression [54, 55], and these findings are in accordance with theoretical models [51]. Studying

the tempo of degeneration requires estimating the time since recombination cessation and

gathering data for multiple independent events of recombination suppression of various ages.

Recombination suppression evolved numerous times in a wide range of organisms, even

sometimes within the same genus and at different times [56, 57]. Moreover, the evolutionary

strata present in some sex chromosomes represent stepwise extension events of recombination

suppression that occurred at different time points; *e.g.*, the four successive steps of

recombination suppression on the mammalian Y chromosome [52, 58, 59].

In the fungal genus *Microbotryum*, multiple events of recombination suppression and

the formation of evolutionary strata occurred at different dates on mating-type chromosomes,

and independently in several species [60-62]. In these pathogenic anther-smut fungi, mating

occurs mostly between haploid cells resulting from the same meiosis event (*i.e.*, intra-tetrad

mating or automixis [63]) and between cells bearing distinct alleles at the two mating-type loci,

i.e. the PR locus (carrying pheromone and pheromone receptor genes controlling gamete

fusion) and the HD locus (carrying homeodomain genes whose proteins undergo dimerization

to induce post-mating growth). Recombination suppression linking a few genes within each of

the two mating-type loci is required for ensuring the mating-type functions, and is ancestral to

the basidiomycete fungi [13, 64]. In *Microbotryum* and some other selfing basidiomycetes, the

linkage of the two mating-type loci to each other or the linkage of each mating-type locus to

their respective centromere has been favoured by selection [13, 60-62]. Indeed, under intra-tetrad

mating these linkage relationships increase the odds of gamete compatibility (producing only

two inter-compatible mating-type phenotypes among haploid meiotic products) compared to

independent segregation (producing up to four different mating types among gametes following

a meiosis). Across the *Microbotryum* genus, five independent recombination suppression

events have been shown to link the PR and HD loci to each other [61]. The two mating-type

loci were ancestrally located on different chromosomes, and multiple PR-HD linkage events

across lineages involved distinct rearrangements (fusion and/or fission) of the ancestral PR and

HD chromosomes [61]. Two additional recombination suppression events in other

Microbotryum species independently linked each of the PR and HD loci to their respective

centromere [62]. Furthermore, extensions of recombination suppression occurred stepwise and

independently in several *Microbotryum* species, forming evolutionary strata of different ages

[60, 61]. The evolutionary strata linking HD and PR loci to each other or to centromeres were

called "black evolutionary strata" while extensions of recombination suppression to non-

mating-type genes were called coloured evolutionary strata [60, 61]. Evolutionary strata formed around each of the PR and HD locus (named "purple" and "blue" strata, respectively) and have likely evolved before the radiation of the *Microbotryum* genus because they are shared by all species studied so far. Other species-specific strata formed more recently and distal to the fused PR-HD loci (*e.g.*, the pink and white strata in *M. v. paradoxa* and light blue stratum in *M. v. caroliniana*). All species retained a recombining region at least at one extremity of their mating-type chromosome, called the pseudo-autosomal region (PAR).

The non-recombining regions in the *Microbotryum* mating-type chromosomes seem to have accumulated multiple footprints of degeneration, in the form of higher rate of non-synonymous substitutions, transposable element accumulation, gene losses and reduced gene expression [65]. However, estimates in that early study were not optimal because of poor assembly quality and the wrong assumption that the non-recombining regions were homologous across species, having evolved once in the genus. Degeneration was later found in five *Microbotryum* species with recombination suppression using high-quality assemblies, including gene gain/loss and transposable element accumulation [61]. The degeneration level was found to be stronger in regions with older recombination suppression [61], but the tempo of degeneration was not studied. Degeneration in terms of gene expression level was also found based on the high-quality assembly of *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, with reduced expression being associated with different types of degenerative mutations [66].

Here, we investigated the tempo of degeneration in non-recombining regions, *i.e.*, the curve of the relationship between deleterious mutation accumulation and time since recombination cessation, taking advantage of the multiple independent linkage events and of evolutionary strata of different ages in the anther-smut fungi. We first identified additional independent events of recombination suppression, linking the PR and HD loci, on the mating-type chromosomes of the *M. v. tatarinowii*, *M. v. melanantha* and *M. coronariae* species, leading to a total of eight independent events of recombination suppression between mating-type loci across *Microbotryum* species. We also identified two additional old strata in the large non-recombining mating-type chromosome of *M. v. paradoxa*. Using high-quality genomes assemblies of alternative mating types of 13 *Microbotryum* species and a total of 17 independent evolutionary strata of different ages, we estimated the degeneration levels in terms of the accumulation of non-optimal codons and non-synonymous substitutions in non-recombining regions. We identified optimal codons as those enriched in highly expressed autosomal genes and tested whether they were less frequent in non-recombining regions controlling for possible

effects: i) of lower GC-biased gene conversion in non-recombining regions, by comparing GC

content in coding versus non-coding regions, as selection on codon usage acts only in exons

while GC-biased gene conversion also impacts introns and inter-genic sequences, and ii) of the

ancestral state of expression levels in non-recombining regions, taking as a proxy the expression

level in a closely related outgroup without recombination suppression. We then investigated the

relationship between degeneration level, in terms of non-synonymous substitutions

accumulation (d_N/d_S) and of decrease in frequency of optimal codons, and the time since

recombination suppression in the different evolutionary strata and species. We found that the

frequency of optimal codons decreased nearly linearly and that the non-synonymous over

synonymous substitution rate accumulated initially rapidly but then reached a plateau.

Understanding the tempo of degeneration is important for our knowledge on genomic evolution,

in particular for the maintenance of regions without recombination, that can be associated with

lower fitness and human genetic diseases.

224 Results

226 PR-HD linkage in three new *Microbotryum* genomes

We sequenced (long-read Pacific Bioscience technology) and assembled the genomes from

haploid cells bearing opposite mating types (called a_1 and a_2) of a single diploid individual, for

the following species: *Microbotryum violaceum* (*s.l.*) parasitizing *Silene melanantha* (called *M.*

v. melanantha), *M. violaceum* (*s.l.*) parasitizing *S. tatarinowii* (called *M. v. tatarinowii*) and *M.*

coronariae parasitizing *Silene flos-cuculi* (Syn. *Lychnis flos-cuculi*) (Figure 1; Table S1). We

reconstructed the evolutionary history of their mating-type chromosomes by comparing their

genome structure to those of *M. intermedium*, taken as a proxy for the genomic ancestral state,

following previous studies [60, 61]. In *M. intermedium*, the PR and the HD mating-type loci are

located on distinct mating-type chromosomes (Figure S1).

In *M. v. melanantha* and *M. coronariae*, the mating-type chromosomes carried both PR and HD

loci and were found to result from the fusion of the whole ancestral PR chromosome with the

short arm of the ancestral HD chromosome (Figure S2), as was previously found in *M.*

lychnidis-dioicae, *M. silenes-dioicae* and *M. violaceum sensu stricto* [60, 61]. Although the

mating-type chromosomes of the five species in this clade resulted from the same chromosomal

rearrangements, trans-specific polymorphism analyses suggested that there were three events of complete recombination cessation in this clade (Figure 1). Indeed, as soon as recombination cessation links a gene to the mating-type locus, the alleles of this gene associated to the alternative mating-type alleles start diverging and accumulate mutations independently. The alleles of this non-mating-type gene will thus cluster per mating type, even across speciation events. The node to which trans-specific polymorphism extends therefore indicates the date of complete recombination cessation [13]. Trans-specific polymorphism in the genes present in the non-recombining regions in all species but *M. intermedium* and *M. silenes-acaulis* suggested the existence of three independent events of complete recombination cessation, one in *M. v. melanantha*, one in the lineage leading to *M. lychnidis-dioicae* and *M. silenes-dioicae*, and one in the lineage leading to *M. coronariae* and *M. violaceum* (s.s.) (Figure 1C). There could have been three independent similar chromosomal rearrangements, or a single one but without initially complete recombination cessation, which would have only occurred later, independently in the three lineages.

In *M. v. tatarinowii*, the mating-type chromosomes resulted from the fusion of a part of the long arm of the PR chromosome with the short arm of the HD chromosome (Figure 1; Figure S2). We found the remaining part of the ancestral PR chromosome on an autosomal contig in the two haploid genomes of *M. v. tatarinowii*. This represents the same type of chromosomal rearrangement leading to PR-HD linkage as found previously in *M. v. caroliniana* [61]. However, the phylogenetic placement on the two species show that they represent independent events (Figure 1). In addition, we improved the assemblies of *M. scabiosae* (Table S2) and refined the chromosomal rearrangement scenario for *M. v. caroliniana*. We could thus refine the breakpoint locations for the fissions and fusion generating their mating-type chromosomes (Figure S3).

The tree of single-copy genes belonging to non-recombining regions (black strata) in all species (but *M. intermedium* and *M. silenes-acaulis*) displayed a different placement of *M. v. paradoxa* compared to the species tree: *M. v. paradoxa* is sister species to the clade encompassing *M. coronarie*, *M. lychnidis-dioicae* and *M. violaceum s.s.* in the species tree (Fig. 1A), while it is placed as a sister species to the *M. lagerheimii-M. saponariae* clade in the black stratum tree (Figs 1A and C). This discrepancy strongly suggests an event of introgression of the black stratum in *M. v. paradoxa* shortly after speciation. This reinforces the view that mating-type chromosomes in fungi may be particularly prone to introgression, as this process may counteract the effect of degeneration following recombination suppression [67-69].

Evolutionary strata

We investigated the existence of evolutionary strata in *M. v. melanantha*, *M. v. tatarinowii* and *M. coronariae* following the methods used previously [60, 61], *i.e.*, by plotting the synonymous divergence calculated between the alleles from the genomes of opposite mating types along the ancestral-like gene order of *M. intermedium* (Figure 2). The rationale of this method is that, as soon as some genes become linked to the mating-type genes, the alleles associated with the two mating-type alleles gradually accumulate substitutions independently, so that their differentiation increases with the time since recombination suppression. Stepwise extension of recombination therefore yields a pattern of discrete strata with different levels of differentiation between alleles on the mating-type chromosomes. In contrast, we expect high levels of homozygosity in these selfing species in recombining regions, including pseudo-autosomal regions, and therefore no differentiation between the two genomes of a diploid individual. We identified four evolutionary strata in each of *M. v. melanantha*, *M. v. tatarinowii* and *M. coronariae*. Three strata are ancient and shared among most *Microbotryum* species, *i.e.*, the purple stratum around the PR locus, the blue stratum around the HD locus, and the orange stratum adjacent to the purple stratum gene (Figure 2). In addition, recombination suppression evolved independently, at different times, for linking the HD and PR loci together [60, 61]. We called all these regions involved in the different events of HD-PR linkage the black evolutionary strata, but they resulted from different types of chromosomal fissions and fusions and therefore encompassed distinct gene sets (Figure 1). We did not identify additional evolutionary strata that would be younger than the PR-HD linkage events in any of the species that we sequenced in the present study. To run statistical analyses on independent events of recombination suppression, we only analysed the genomic regions corresponding to the black strata (linking HD and PR loci one to each other or to their centromere) and to the species-specific strata, and not the older strata shared by multiple species.

We however did detect here, in the process of building the single-copy gene trees, that the fusion of the whole HD and PR mating-type chromosomes in *M. v. paradoxa* to form a single mating-type chromosome led to a higher number of successive events of recombination cessation than previously thought. The two most recent strata in *M. v. paradoxa* had been identified previously [61], are distal to the mating-type loci and were called pink and white strata (Figure 1A). The oldest event of recombination suppression corresponds to the telomere-to-telomere fusion region and includes genes ancestrally located between the HD locus and its

short arm telomere, as well as genes in the short arm of the PR chromosome ("brown" stratum, Figure 1A). Recombination then stopped left to the centromere on the long arm of the ancient HD chromosome ("light-brown" stratum), and shortly after in the regions between the HD and PR and the centromeres in the ancestral chromosomes ("black" strata of *M. v. paradoxa,* Figure 1A). The independence of these three events of recombination cessation is supported by i) the non-overlapping distributions of the estimated times of recombination suppression for the brown stratum and for the light-brown or black strata (inset Figure 1A) and ii) the different tree topologies for the genes in the brown or light-brown strata versus the black stratum (Figure 1C, Figure S4).

Absolute dating of recombination suppression events

As soon as a gene is permanently linked to the mating-type loci, its alleles will independently accumulate substitutions, that will remain associated with the mating-type allele near which they appeared. We therefore estimated the dates of recombination suppression for the 13 strata (among the 17 used) for which we did not had estimated the date previously, by inferring the divergence time between the alleles associated with the a_1 and a_2 mating types by molecular dating. The estimated times ranged 0.17 to 2.5 million years before present for the black strata (Table S3). We estimated divergence times ranging from 3.82 (brown) to 0.15 (white) million years before present (Table S3) in *M. v. paradoxa* strata and in the range of 0.47 to 0.1 million years for the *M. v. caroliniana* light-blue stratum.

Identification of optimal codons

To identify optimal codons in *Microbotryum* fungi, we investigated which codons were preferentially used in highly expressed autosomal genes in the two distantly related species, *M. lychnidis-dioicae* and *M. intermedium* (Figure 1). Selection for codon usage is expected to be strongest on most highly expressed genes and most effective on autosomes because recombination occurs. We had expression data for haploid cells cultivated clonally on nutritive medium (Table S4), for the two mating types separately. To study autosomal codon usage, we performed a within-group correspondence analysis (WCA; [70]), *i.e.*, a multivariate statistical method summarizing codon count data, normalizing the count of each codon by the average count of all the codons encoding for the same amino acid [71]. For the *M. intermedium* a_1 mating

type, the first principal component axis summarized 16.55% of the codon usage variation (Figure S5) and was significantly negatively correlated with the gene expression level (Table S5). Therefore, the genes with the lowest coordinates on the first principal component axis were those with the codon usage most strongly shaped by selection, *i.e.*, with optimal codons. We performed chi-square tests to compare the codon counts per amino acid of the genes with the 10% highest coordinates and the 10% lowest coordinates on the first axis. For each amino acid, we inferred the optimal codon to be the one with the highest adjusted standardized residuals (*i.e.*, larger counts compared to expected under the hypothesis of random use of synonymous codons) in highly expressed genes from chi-square tests (Table 1). We inferred the same optimal codons when using the autosomes from the a_2 mating type of *M. intermedium* or from either of the two *M. lychnidis-dioicae* mating types (Table S6). Because *M. intermedium* and *M. lychnidis-dioicae* are very distantly related species in our dataset (last common ancestor at ca. 20 million years before present, Figure 1), and have yet the same optimal codons, we assumed the optimal codons to be the same in all other *Microbotryum* species. The optimal codons were more GC rich than random codons (Table 1).

Decrease in optimal codon odds in non-recombining regions

Using this set of optimal codons, we calculated the frequency of optimal codons per gene for each haploid genome of the 13 *Microbotryum* species included in this study, on the autosomes and the different compartments of the mating-type chromosomes, i.e. the recombining pseudo-autosomal regions (PARs) and distinct evolutionary strata with different ages of recombination suppression. Several evolutionary strata are small and contain few genes which impedes statistical analysis of degeneration features. We therefore only considered the largest non-recombining regions, i.e., eight different black strata independently linking HD and PR, as well as the light-blue, white, pink, light brown and brown strata extending recombination suppression away from mating-type loci, and the strata corresponding to the PR-centromere and HD-centromere linkage events in *M. lagerheimii* and *M. saponariae*. We tested whether the genes in these non-recombining regions had lower frequencies of optimal codons compared to autosomal genes. We found that optimal codons were enriched in GC in *Microbotryum*, thus a decrease in the frequency of optimal codons in the non-recombining regions compared to recombining regions alternatively could be due to a reduction of GC-biased gene conversion in non-recombining regions. However, GC-biased gene conversion should affect both coding and

non-coding sequences while lower efficacy of selection on codons should only affect coding

sequences (i.e. on exons but not on introns). In order to distinguish the effects of relaxed

selection and of GC-biased conversion on the frequency of optimal codons, we conducted an

analysis testing both the effect of the genomic compartment (i.e., autosomes, PAR and

evolutionary strata) and the effect of a footprint of GC-biased conversion on the frequency of

optimal codons on the mating-type chromosomes.

We performed a logistic regression for each genome to explain the variation in the frequency

of optimal codons by the genomic compartment, the difference in GC content between coding

sequences (GC^{exon}) and introns (GC^{intron}) as a measure of the relative effect of GC-biased gene

conversion and selection on codon usage, and their interactions (see Figure S6A and S6B for

raw data distribution). These factors allowed testing (i) whether a given genomic compartment

had a frequency of optimal codons significantly different from that in autosomes, (ii) the effect

of GC-biased gene conversion on the frequency of optimal codons in autosomes, and (iii)

whether this effect of GC-biased gene conversion was similar, stronger or weaker in non-

recombining regions than in autosomes, by testing the significance of the interaction between

the genomic compartment and the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron}. We wanted to assess

whether the frequency of optimal codons was lower in non-recombining regions (tested through

the genomic compartment effect), and to assess whether this was due to a lower frequency of

GC-biased conversion in non-recombining regions, which was tested through the interaction

between the genomic compartment and a measure of the relative effects of selection on codon

usage and GC-biased conversion, i.e. the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron} (Figure 3D).

We found that the recombining regions located on mating-type chromosomes, i.e., PARs or on

HD mating-type chromosome, had generally similar frequencies of optimal codons as

autosomes (p-values > 0.05; Table S7a). The frequencies of optimal codons were, however,

significantly lower in genes located in the recombining regions of the PR mating-type

chromosome in *M. intermedium*, *M. lagerheimii* and *M. saponariae* and of the PAR of *M.*

violaceum (*s.s.*), *M. v. scopulorum*, a_1 *M. coronarie* and a_2 *M. silenes-acaulis* (Table S7a). The

frequencies of optimal codons in the young pink, white, light blue, brown evolutionary strata

were not significantly different from autosomes in any species / mating type (p-value > 0.05;

Table S7a).

Across all species and mating types, the frequencies of optimal codons in black strata linking

HR and PR loci were in contrast significantly lower than in autosomes (p-values < 0.01; Table

S7a, Figure 3, Figure S6 et S7). The frequencies of optimal codons were higher than in autosomes in the light brown in the a_2 but not in the a_1 genomes in *M. v. paradoxa* (Table S7a). The frequencies of optimal codons in the non-recombining regions in the *M. lagerheimii* and *M. saponariae* mating-type chromosomes (between the PR or HD loci and their respective centromere) were lower than in autosomes (p-values < 0.05; Table S7a) except for the very recently evolved non-recombining region in the a_2 HD *M. lagerheimii* mating-type chromosome (Table S7a). The frequencies of optimal codons in the oldest non-recombining evolutionary strata were therefore generally lower than in recombining regions. However, lower frequencies of optimal codons in non-recombining regions could be due to a lower frequency of recombination-mediated gene conversion because gene conversion is typically GC-biased and optimal codons were found GC rich. To disentangle these effects, we compared GC^{exon} and GC^{intron}, as the effect of low efficacy of selection on codon usage should act only on coding sequences while GC-biased conversion should act on all sequences. We found that, when the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron} decreased, indicative of possible influence of GC-biased conversion, the frequency of optimal codons significantly increased in autosomes for all the genomes (p-values < 0.05; Table S7a) except the a_1 genomes of *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, *M. v. melanantha* and *M. violaceum* (*s.s.*) for which the effect was not significant (Table S7a). This suggests that GC-biased gene conversion increases the frequency of optimal codons in autosomes and therefore that the generally lower frequency of optimal codons in non-recombining regions could be due to less frequent GC-biased gene conversion in these regions compared to autosomes.

However, the interaction between the genomic compartment (particular recombining or non-recombining regions) and the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron} in predicting the frequency of optimum codon usage was generally not significant (p-values > 0.05; Table S7; Figure 3C). This means that the effect of the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron} in predicting the frequency of optimal codons was not different between recombining and non-recombining regions. Therefore, the lower frequencies of optimal codons in the black strata were not due to a lower GC-biased gene conversion in these regions (Figure 3D). The interaction between the genomic compartment and the difference between GC^{exon} and GC^{intron} was significant in only six non-recombining regions in five distinct haploid genomes out of 26. The direction of the effect was the same for the black stratum of the a_2 genome of *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, *M. v. caroliniana* and *M. v. paradoxa* (p-values < 0.05; Table S7) but opposite for the light brown stratum in the a_2 genome of *M. v. paradoxa* (p-value < 0.05; Table S7). We also

performed the same statistics using all evolutionary strata, even the shortest ones. While the

number of genes were too low to be confident in the results, it did not change the conclusions

we had for the largest ones (Figure S8, Table S7b).

Control for ancestral gene expression level

The lower frequency of optimal codons in non-recombining regions could also be due to a lack

of strong selection for a biased codon usage if gene expression in these regions was, by chance,

low in these large genomic regions even before recombination was suppressed. To investigate

whether genomic compartments differed in the average gene expression level before

recombination suppression, we retrieved the ancestral-like expression level of each gene taking

as a proxy the expression level of its ortholog in *M. intermedium* (Figure S6), which has no

recombination suppression on its mating-type chromosomes, except in small regions around

the mating-type loci themselves. Of course, some gene-specific expression levels may have

changed in *M. intermedium* since the common ancestor, but, without recombination suppression

in this species, there has likely been no major change in gene expression across large genomic

regions since the last common ancestor of the studied *Microbotryum* species. That gene

expression level changed little across the *Microbotryum* genus in recombining regions was

supported by significant correlations for all the 12 replicate combinations of gene expression

levels of shared autosomal genes measured in similar culture conditions between *M.*

intermedium and *M. lychnidis-dioicae* (Table S8).

For each of the two haploid genomes across the 13 species, we compared the mean and variance

of the ancestral-like gene expression level (i.e. the gene expression level in *M. intermedium*)

between the current genomic compartments using a Kruskal-Wallis' test and a Levene's test,

respectively. We thus analysed for each species whether there were differences in the ancestral-

like gene expression between the current genomic compartments, *i.e*., autosomes, PARs and

the various evolutionary strata that lack recombination. For none of genomes there was a

difference in the mean or variance of the ancestral-like gene expression level between the

current recombining and non-recombining regions (Table S9). Therefore, differences in

frequencies of optimal codons across the genomic compartments are unlikely to be explained

by differences in ancestral gene expression level between genomic compartments.

Tempo of degeneration in codon usage and in protein-coding genes

The multiple independent events of recombination suppression in the *Microbotryum* genus

provides an excellent case study for investigating the tempo of degeneration, as it allows

analysing the relationship between degeneration level and time using independent data points.

Here, we investigated the tempo of degeneration using the genes present in black strata, *i.e.*, the

non-recombining regions linking the PR and HD loci, as well as the large species-specific strata,

as these represented independent events and large genomic regions. We did not consider the

strata that were shared by most species and therefore cannot provide independent data points

(purple, blue and orange strata), nor those that contained insufficient number of genes to

estimate properly the time since recombination suppression (e.g., the red and green strata in *M.*

lychnidis-dioicae). For the black strata shared by multiple species, we took the mean value of

variables for species descendent from the same recombination suppression event to avoid

pseudo-replication.

We sought to test whether the odds for a codon to be optimal and the non-synonymous versus

synonymous substitution rates (d_N/d_S) ratio of the genes located in the independently evolved

non-recombining regions are predicted by the time since recombination suppression. Using a

logistic regression, we found that the odds for a codon to be optimal at the time when

recombination suppression initially linked the PR and the HD loci *Microbotryum* was 0.725 (p-

value < 2e-16; Figure 4; Table S10), and that the odds significantly decreased, nearly linearly,

by a factor of 0.989 every million year (p-value = 0.0503; Figure 4A and Table S10).

Using a linear regression, we found that the change in the d_N/d_S ratio was better explained by

the log of the time since recombination suppression than by the raw time since recombination

suppression ($R^2_{time} = 0.0016$ vs $R^2_{log(time)} = 0.0096$; Table S10). The d_N/d_S ratio indeed increased

rapidly after recombination suppression, but then in a decelerating manner until reaching a

plateau, with its maximum value of 0.706 at 3.82 million years. It took only 9,400 years for the

d_N/d_S ratio to reach 0.353 which corresponds to half of the maximum d_N/d_S value observed in

our dataset.

Discussion

495 This study takes advantage of multiple events of recombination suppression on the mating-type

496 chromosomes of closely related fungal species to document the tempo of genomic degeneration

in non-recombining regions (*i.e.*, the pace at which deleterious mutations accumulate with time). We quantified the rate of degeneration by estimating, for each non-recombining region, the time since recombination suppression and its relationship with measures of degeneration, i.e., non-synonymous substitution accumulation and the reduction in the odds of optimal codons. Few studies have focused on the degeneration of codon usage. This study further proposes a method to disentangle the effect of less efficient selection and of other factors on codon usage in non-recombining regions. Indeed, a barrier in studying the consequences of relaxed selection on codon usage in non-recombining regions is that it may be confounded with the effect of processes such as GC-biased gene conversion or ancestral expression level. We found that genes in non-recombining regions had fewer optimal codons than in recombining regions, and that this was due to a decrease in selection efficacy rather than lower GC-biased gene conversion or lower ancestral expression level in non-recombining regions. Furthermore, we found that the decrease in the frequency of optimal codon usage has been nearly linear during the last 2.5 million years of suppressed recombination on *Microbotryum* mating-type chromosomes. The non-synonymous over synonymous substitution rate, in contrast, increased initially rapidly, but then saturated, reaching a plateau.

Multiple independent events of recombination suppression involving mating-type loci were reported in anther-smut fungi [60-62]. By sequencing and analysing the genomes of three additional *Microbotryum* species, we document three new cases of independent events of mating-type chromosome rearrangements and fusions leading to PR-HD linkage, amounting to a total of eight such independent PR-HD linkage event. Linking mating-type loci is beneficial under selfing [60, 72]. The high number of independent events of PR-HD linkage through distinct genomic rearrangements shows the power of natural selection and the high degree of evolution repeatability under strong selection, as well as the range of evolutionary paths that can lead to the same phenotype. In addition, there have been independent recombination suppression events between centromeres and mating-type loci [62]. Recombination suppression further extended at different times in a stepwise manner, forming evolutionary strata, at multiple instances in *Microbotryum* species and we document here additional evolutionary strata unidentified so far. In total, we could use 17 genomic regions corresponding to independent events of recombination suppression. The lack of availability of such multiple independent events of recombination suppression across closely related species in other groups of organisms had prevented so far empirical comparative studies of genomic degeneration. As the *Microbotryum* genus contains more than a hundred species [73, 74], these results suggest that

there remains a rich resource of genomic diversity into the evolution of suppressed recombination in linkage to reproductive compatibility loci and the tempo of degeneration. The *Microbotryum* genus thus constitutes a unique model to provide insights on recombination suppression and the tempo of degeneration.

We document here decreased optimal codon usage as a degenerative feature of recombination suppression in multiple *Microbotryum* species. Using a logistic model, we found that optimal codons were less frequently used in non-recombining regions compared to autosomes. Because optimal codons in *Microbotryum* are GC-rich, any process inducing a lower GC content in non-recombining regions could be responsible for the difference in optimal codon frequencies between non-recombining regions and autosomes. We therefore tested whether less frequent GC-biased gene conversion in non-recombining regions could be the cause of the smaller frequencies of optimal codons in non-recombining regions compared to autosomes. Decreased GC-biased gene conversion and less efficient selection on codon usage impacts similarly coding sequences, while the GC content of introns is only affected by GC-biased gene conversion, not by selection on codon usage. Therefore, we used the difference in GC content between coding sequences and introns to infer the relative impacts of GC-biased gene conversion and selection on codon usage, and we incorporated this measure in the logistic model explaining the variance of frequency optimal codons between genomic compartments (*i.e.*, autosomes, pseudo-autosomal regions and non-recombining regions). We found lower odds of optimal codons in non-recombining regions, and not only when GC-biased gene conversion was high (*i.e.*, at the lower differences in GC content between coding sequences and introns; Figure 3D), but also when selection for optimal codons was high (*i.e.*, at the higher differences in GC content between coding sequences and introns; Figure 3D). Thus, we identified less effective selection as the cause of the decrease in the odds of optimal codons in non-recombining regions in *Microbotryum* mating-type chromosomes. To our knowledge, this study constitutes the first attempt to analyse codon usage by controlling for confounding processes in statistical analyses.

We also checked that the differences in codon usage between autosomes and non-recombining regions were not due to differences in gene expression levels between these regions before the evolution of recombination suppression, as gene expression level affects codon usage [40, 41]. Indeed, if expression levels were ancestrally lower for genes now located in non-recombining regions, selection on codon usage would have been weaker than in other autosomal regions, and smaller frequencies of optimal codons would have been expected, regardless of the effect of recombination suppression. However, we found no difference in the

ancestral expression levels between autosomal genes and those in current non-recombining
regions. Altogether, we thus found robust evidence showing that relaxed selection due to
recombination suppression resulted in less optimal codon usage in *Microbotryum* species, as
suggested in the non-recombining mating-type chromosome of the fungus *Neurospora*
tetrasperma [25].

It has often been assumed that only weak selection would act on codon usage [37, 75],
because synonymous substitutions should not greatly impact phenotypes. Contradicting this
view, several studies, focusing at the gene level, showed substantial impacts of synonymous
substitutions on phenotypes [37, 76, 77], sometimes leading to a strong selection on codon
usage [37]. In *Drosophila* species, codon usage was shown to be quite stable over long time
frames with 11/12 species having the same preferred codons except those coding for serine
[44]. In the *Microbotryum* genus, optimal codons were the same in *M. intermedium* and *M.*
lychnidis-dioicae, two species having their last common ancestor at the basis of the studied
Microbotryum clade, ca. 20 million years ago (Figure 1). The same optimal codons have
therefore been maintained for several millions years, suggesting strong and consistent selection.
The preferred codons in *S. latifolia* are almost identical to those in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, despite
their long divergence time [78]. In *S. latifolia*, no decrease in optimal codon frequencies was
found in non-recombining regions of the Y-chromosome [27]. In *Drosophila* in contrast, a faster
rate of accumulation of unpreferred synonymous mutations was higher for the neo-Y
chromosome than for the neo-X chromosome even for highly expressed genes [27]. The codon
usage in non-recombining regions therefore needs more studies to help draw generalities about
its evolution.

In contrast, degeneration of protein-coding sequences on non-recombining regions of sex
chromosomes has been much more studied than codon usage and was consistently found in a
variety of organisms, from animals and fungi to plants (e.g., [16, 25, 65, 79-81]. However, very
few datasets have so far allowed the study of the tempo of non-synonymous mutation
accumulation [82]. Theoretical models made predictions on the tempo of gene losses, but
empirical studies on the tempo of degeneration are lacking [51]. Tendencies were suggested
from reporting higher degeneration in older evolutionary strata, *e.g.*, on sex chromosomes in
papaya [82]. However, only two independent recombination suppression events in that case are
insufficient to study the temporal dynamics of genomic degradation.

The existence of multiple independent events of recombination suppression in *Microbotryum*
fungi allowed estimating the tempo of degeneration in codon usage in protein-coding
sequences. Using a logistic regression, we inferred that the decrease in the frequency of optimal
codons was nearly linear in the range of time since recombination suppression found in
Microbotryum, at a rate of 0.989 per My. The non-synonymous over synonymous substitution
rate in contrast increased non-linearly, initially increasing rapidly with the time since
recombination suppression, and then in a decelerating manner until reaching a plateau. The
early burst of accumulation of non-synonymous substitution relatively to synonymous
substitution is likely caused by the sudden decrease in the efficacy of selection due to
recombination suppression. A substantial number of positions underwent non-synonymous
change, which induced a saturation of the d_N/d_S ratio, with its maximum value of 0.706 at 3.82
million years. This is the first study to our knowledge that disentangles the effects of reduced
selection efficacy and GC-biased gene conversion on the frequency of optimal codons and that
investigates the tempo of degeneration using multiple independents events of recombination
suppression.

Understanding the tempo of degeneration is important for our knowledge on genomic
evolution, on the origin of genetic diseases, and on the maintenance of regions without
recombination. For example, it is important to note that the seven youngest evolutionary strata
used in the study of the degeneration tempo are still collinear between mating types [60-62] and
correspond to low levels of degeneration. In contrast, the evolutionary strata with strong signs
of degeneration are also highly rearranged between mating types [60-62]. This implies in
particular that the hypothesis postulating that inversions linked to a mating-type locus or a sex-
determining regions could easily reverse when they accumulate too much load [83] likely does
not hold, as the region would then have already accumulated further rearrangements, preventing
reversion to recombination. This would in turn supports the hypothesis that the extension of
recombination suppression could then simply be the result of the selection of recombination
cessation for sheltering deleterious alleles [84].

Data access

623 The dataset(s) supporting the conclusions of this article is(are) available in the [repository name]
624 repository, [unique persistent identifier and hyperlink to dataset(s) in http:// format]-will be added upon
625 manuscript acceptance.

Material and methods

Genome sequencing

We sequenced haploid genomes of opposite mating types for one diploid strain of each of the following species: *M. v. tatarinowii* parasitizing *S. tatarinowii* (#1400, GPS 39°59'45.4" 116°11'37.3", Xiangshan, Beijing, collected in September 2015)*, M. v. melanantha* parasitizing *S. melanantha* (#1296; 27°01'50.6" 100°10'41.6" First Peak, Lijiang, date collected in July 2014)*,* and *M. coronariae* parasitizing *L. flos cuculi* (#1247; GPS 55.7 -4.9, Great Cumbrae Island, UK, collected in 2000). Additionally, we sequenced the a_1 genome of *M. intermedium* parasitizing *Salvia pratensis* (#1389, GPS 44.3353 N 7.13637 E, Cuneo, Italy, collected in July 2011). Samples were collected before the publication of laws regarding the Nagoya protocol in the countries of collection. DNA extraction and sequencing based on Pacific Bioscience long-read sequencing was performed as described previously [60, 61]. Sequencing was carried out at UCSD IGM Genomics Center (San Diego, USA) with the P6 C4 chemistry. Coverage was between 24x and 35x for all genomes, except for *M. intermedium* for which it was 199x.

Assembly of new genomes and assembly improvement for *M. scabiosae* infecting *Knautia arvensis* (initially published in Branco et al 2018).

We converted the bax.h5 files from the each smart cell into one bam file using bax2bam with the "--subread" option (https://github.com/PacificBiosciences/bax2bam), and all bam files from the same sequencing genome into one fastq file using bam2fastx (https://github.com/PacificBiosciences/bam2fastx). We generated the assembly using canu [85] with the parameters "genomeSize=30m" and "-pacbio-raw". We used pbalign (version 0.3.0) with the blasr algorithm [86] to realign the raw reads onto the assembly (indexed with samtools faidx [75] and then used the output bam file into quiver [87] to polish the assembly basecalling (https://github.com/PacificBiosciences/GenomicConsensus). Default parameters were used when not detailed in the text (see the Table S1 for further assembly statistics).

The previous genome assemblies of the a_1 and a_2 genome of *M. scabiosae* were based on five PacBio movies. We re-assembled the genome using three additional movies, from the same strain, and generated using the same PacBio technology for a total coverage of 506x for the a_1 genome and 803x for the a_2 genome. The assemblies were substantially improved, as the contig

657 numbers were reduced from 123 and 147 to 26 and 20 for the a_1 and a_2 mating type, respectively

658 (see the Table S2 for further assembly statistics).

Gene models, orthologous group reconstruction, transposable elements, centromeres

As for the previously published *Microbotryum* genomes [31, 60, 61], the protein-coding gene

models were predicted with EuGene (version 4.2a; [88], trained for *Microbotryum*. Similarities

to the fungal subset of the uniprot database [89] plus the *M. lychnidis-dioicae* Lamole proteome

[31] were integrated into EuGene for the prediction of gene models. We obtained the

orthologous groups based on all-vs-all blastp high scoring pairs parsed with orthAgogue -u

option [90] and clustered with mcl [91] setting to 1.5 the inflation parameter. Transposable

elements were obtained from a previous study [92]. Centromeres were identified as regions with

high density of the centromeric repeats described in *M. lychnidis-dioicae* [31].

Evolutionary scenarios of the mating-type chromosomes

We represented genomic data using Circos [93] with the following tracks: (i) contig, (ii) dS=0

(indicating recombination in these selfing species as selfing leads to homozygosity), (iii) all

genes, (iv) transposable elements, centromeric repeats from *M. lychnidis-dioicae* [31]. Both the

dS=0 and all gene tracks were filtered for TEs and centromeric repeats, using their merged

coordinates with bedtools [94]. Homozygosity (dS=0) was used to infer recombining regions

on mating-type chromosomes following previous studies [60, 61]. The comparisons of mating-

type chromosomes of the species with linked HD and PR loci to the ancestral state with HD

and PR loci on different chromosomes (using the *M. intermedium* genome as a proxy for the

ancestral state) allowed to infer the chromosomal rearrangements having linked HD and PR

loci, as previously done [60, 61]. Evolutionary strata were identified as genomic regions with

different levels of differentiation between mating-type chromosomes in the ancestral gene order

as previously done [60, 61].

RNAseq experiment and expression level quantification.

We generated RNAseq data for *M. intermedium*. Total RNA was isolated from haploid cells

using the Qiagen RNeasy Mini Kit. Haploid strains (a_1 or a_2) were streaked on Potato Dextrose

Agar (PDA) and grown for 48 hours at 22°C. Cells were scraped, ground in liquid nitrogen,

and total RNA extracted following the manufacturer's protocol. For RNAseq analysis, equal

amounts of total RNA individually isolated from a_1 and a_2 cultures were pooled. For RNA

isolation from mated pairs, haploid a_1 and a_2 cultures were first grown separately in yeast extract

peptone dextrose broth overnight. Cell density was measured spectrophotometrically. The

concentration of each culture was adjusted to O.D.$_{600}$ 1.0. Equal volumes of the two haploid

cultures were mixed and plated on water agar. These plates were incubated for four days at

14°C, after which wet mounts were prepared from each mated plate to verify the presence of

conjugation tubes, indicating active mating behaviour. Cells were scraped and total RNA

harvested as previously described. After total RNA isolation, several quality control measures

were taken. Concentration and purity were assessed using a NanoDrop 2000 spectrophotometer

(Thermo Scientific); 260/280 and 260/230 ratios greater than 1.8 were considered satisfactory

for RNAseq application. Additionally, cDNA was prepared and used as template for intron-

spanning primers in PCR reactions to verify the lack of genomic DNA contamination.

Bioanalyzer analysis was completed to detect intact 18S and 23S RNA as a measure of overall

RNA quality. After passing all quality control measurements, RNA was sent for RNAseq

analysis to CD Genomics (Shirley, New York).

For *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, we used RNAseq data published previously [95]. List and statistics of

the RNAseq experiments used in this study are provided in Table S4 We controlled the quality

of the RNAseq experiment data using fastQC (https://github.com/s-andrews/FastQC). We

trimmed the sequences using trimmomatic (Bolger et al. 2014); parameters:

ILLUMINACLIP:TruSeq3-PE.fa:2:30:10:2:keepBothReads LEADING:3 TRAILING:3

MINLEN:36). We only considered the resulting trimmed paired-end reads for further analysis

(Table S3). For each RNAseq dataset, we pseudo-aligned the reads onto the corresponding

references and quantified the gene expression levels using Kallisto using the "kallisto quant"

command with the "--bias" option [96]. For the diploid RNAseq experiment (Table S4, we used

the concatenated coding sequence set from a_1 and a_2 haploid genomes as reference. For haploid

RNAseq experiment, we considered the haploid coding sequence set from the corresponding

mating type. For each RNAseq experiment, we removed all the genes with an expression level

above the 95th percentile of the expression level distribution to avoid spurious high expression

level.

Identifying optimal codons in *Microbotryum* fungi

We generated a codon usage table for each of the a_1 *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, a_2 *M. lychnidis-dioicae*, a_1 *M. intermedium* and a_2 *M. intermedium* haploid genomes (in-house awk script) and filtered the genes that overlapped transposable elements, that were previously identified [92]. We then performed a within-group correspondence analysis (WCA), following the procedure available at http://pbil.univ-lyon1.fr/datasets/charif04/ [70] on each codon usage table. Correspondence analysis is a multivariate statistical method that summarizes codon count data by reducing them to a limited number of variables. WCA more specifically allows to dissociate the effects of different amino-acid compositions from the effects directly related to synonymous codon usage [70]. This method adjusts the value for each codon by the average value of all the codons encoding for the same amino acid. We only considered the two first principal components which explained between 16.30% and 16.50% of the variance for the first principal component and between 7.75% and 8.51% for the second principal component (Figure S5). The coordinates of the genes projected onto the first (PC1) and second (PC2) axes were significantly correlated with gene expression level (Pearson's correlation tests; Table S5. We considered the first axis to better characterized the gene expression level variation because the R^2 calculated between PC1 gene coordinates and gene expression level were higher by two orders of magnitude compared to the R^2 calculated between PC2 gene coordinates and gene expression level (see correlation's coefficient value in Table S05).

We performed chi-square tests to compare, per amino acid, the codon counts of the 10% genes having the lowest PC1 coordinates to the codon counts of the 10% genes having the highest PC1 coordinates, representing the genes with highest and lowest expression, respectively (Figure S3). When the chi-square test was significant ($p\text{-}value < 0.05$), we considered for each amino acid the optimal codon to be the one with the highest residual from the chi-square test (Table S6). We did not consider the ATG (methionine) and TGG (tryptophan) codons as they do not have synonymous codons.

Frequency of optimal codons and GC content statistics

For each coding sequence with base pair numbers multiple of three, we calculated the frequency of optimal codons (FOP), the GC content on the third position (%GC_3) of each codon and the GC content of the introns of each gene (%$GC_{introns}$). We removed from this gene set any gene overlapping with a TE. While parsing the coding sequence fasta files for the frequency of

751 optimal codons calculation, we did not consider the ATG (methionine) or TGG (tryptophan)

752 codons since they do not have synonymous codons.

Non-synonymous and synonymous divergence estimation

755 For each pair of allele from alternative mating type in each species, we aligned the protein

756 sequences with muscle v3.8.31 [97] and obtained the codon-based CDS alignments with

757 TranslatorX; dN and dS values were computed in the yn00 program [98].

Absolute dating of recombination suppressions

We estimated the species and genome compartment divergence times under a calibrated Yule

model and a HKY substitution model (kappa=2, estimated frequencies) with 10,000,000 or

20,000,000 mcmc generations in beast v2.5.0 [99]. We used three unlinked site models (one per

codon position). Clock model and tree parameters were kept linked. We used the split of *M.*

lychnidis-dioicae and *M. silenes-dioicae* as a calibration point, with a normal prior with a mean

0.42 MYA and sigma 0.04 [100]. Beast input files are available as supplementary material.

Concatenated alignments were obtained from codon-based alignments produced by macse

v2.03 -prog alignSequences [101] protocol on fully conserved single copy genes. We

reconstructed the species and genome compartment maximum likelihood trees with IQTree

v2.0.4 (1000 rapid bootstraps and automatic model selection [102]).

For the species divergence we used 3,955 fully conserved single copy autosomal genes

(2,732,071 aligned codons). For estimating the dates of recombination suppression, we

estimated the divergence time at the genes linked to mating-type loci between alleles associated

with a_1 and a_2 mating types in ML trees. For the black strata in species with HD-PR linkage,

we used a conserved set of 32 genes (28,402 aligned codons) consistently present in the non-

recombining region between the PR and HD loci in all species but in *M. silenes-acaulis.* For

the black stratum of *M. silenes-acaulis* we used 59 genes (44,055 aligned codons) present in its

specific black stratum. For the strata of *M. v. paradoxa* we used 12 genes (9,165 aligned

codons), 21 genes (13,246 aligned codons), 92 genes (78,627 aligned codons) and 179 genes

(129,122 aligned codons) for the brown, pink, light-brown and white strata, respectively. We

estimated the recombination suppression in the light-blue stratum of *M. v. caroliniana* based

on the estimates of the divergence between the a_1 versus a_2 associated alleles in *M. v.*

caroliniana in the trees used for estimating the ages of the black stratum of *M. silenes-acaulis*

(21 genes in common) and the pink stratum of *M. v. paradoxa* (10 genes in common). Absolute

dates for the non-recombining regions in *M. lagerheimii* and *M. saponariae* were taken from a

previous study [62]. Gene family alignments are available as supplementary material.

Statistics

We tested in each of the 26 *Microbotryum* genomes (one genome per mating type for 13

species) whether the genes in distinct genomic compartments (PARs and the different

evolutionary strata with different ages of recombination suppression) had lower frequencies of

optimal codons compared to autosomal genes. To take into account the effect of any process

other than genomic degeneration that could lower the GC level in the non-recombining regions

such as less frequent GC-biased gene conversion in the non-recombining regions, we included

in the analysis the difference in GC content between coding and intronic sequences across

genes.

We therefore performed a logistic regression to assess whether the variation in the frequency

of optimal codons could be explained by the genomic compartment, the difference in GC

content between coding and intronic sequences across genes and/or their interaction. Using the

glm function in R, we gave as input the frequency of optimal codons weighted by the total

number of codons per gene (using the "weight" option in the glm function). After performing

a logistic regression assuming binomial distribution and a logit link, we noticed that predicted

frequencies of optimal codons were all lower than the raw frequency of optimal codons which

could indicate overdispersion issues. We therefore performed the logistic regression assuming

a quasibinomial distribution, the only difference being in the estimation of the dispersion

parameter to correct, among other things, the p-values. The estimated dispersion parameter was

high for the logistic regression model of each genome ($\Phi > 2$), so we choose the quasibinomial

distribution to interpret the data. Choosing a quasibinomial distribution did not change however

the log(odds) estimated by the model. We tested whether the relationship between the frequency

of optimal codons and the time since recombination suppression was better explained with a

non-linear component using a non-linear model (polynomial with two degrees) than with only

a linear component (Table S10).

We therefore analysed this relationship through a logistic regression and used this model to
estimate the frequency of optimal codons using a sequence of time value and calculated 95%
confidence interval using the linkinv function.

We built a linear model to analyse the relationship between d_N/d_S and the time since
recombination suppression. As d_N/d_S seemed to saturate at high times, we also tested whether
a linear regression with the log of the time since recombination suppression explained better
the relationship.

We inquired how much expression level changed for genes in recombining region across the
Microbotryum genus. To do so, we performed Pearson's correlation tests between *M.*
intermedium and *M. lychnidis-dioicae* orthologous genes for all combinations of RNA-seq
experiment replicates that were comparable between the two species (*i.e.* cells grown on rich
media). This led to 12 correlation tests summarized in Table S8.

Author contribution

826 Conception and design, TG, MEH, FC; Formal analysis, FC, RCRV; Interpretation, FC, TG,
827 MEH, RCRV; Data acquisition, MHP, RMW; Original draft, FC, TG; Final draft, FC, TG,
828 MEH, RCRV; Revision, FC, TG, RCRV, MEH, MHP, RMW. All authors read and approved
829 the final version.

Competing interests

832 None of the authors have any competing interests.

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1101 **Table 1: Optimal codons in *Microbotryum*.** All codons are represented for each amino acid.

1102 Optimal codons found using WCA and expression level are shown for each amino acid.

Amino acid	Optimal codon	Synonymous codons				
Ala	GCC	GCT	GCA	GCG		
Arg	CGC	CGT	CGA	CGG	AGA	AGG
Asn	AAC	AAT				
Asp	GAC	GAT				
Cys	TGC	TGT				
Gln	CAG	CAA				
Glu	GAG	GAA				
Gly	GGC	GGT	GGA	GGG		
His	CAC	CAT				
Ile	ATC	ATT	ATA			
Leu	CTC	CTT	CTA	CTG	TTA	TTG
Lys	AAG	AAA				
Phe	TTC	TTT				
Pro	CCC	CCT	CCA	CCG		
Ser	TCG	TCT	TCC	TCA	AGC	AGT
Thr	ACC	ACT	ACA	ACG		
Tyr	TAC	TAT				
Val	GTC	GTT	GTA	GTG		
Stp	TAA	TGA	TAG			

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1105 **Figures Legends**

1106 **Figure 1: Timetrees and rearrangement scenarios of recombination suppression events in**

1107 **the *Microbotryum* genus.** A) Densitree plot of 1,000 random trees with the best posterior

1108 probabilities based on the concatenation of single-copy autosomal genes (green traces) and

1109 single-copy genes that are located in the non-recombining regions (black traces) of all species

used here but *M. intermedium* (that has only very small regions without recombination around

its mating-type loci) and *M. silenes-acaulis* (involving a very different rearrangement of the PR

chromosome, with therefore very few gene shared with other species in its non-recombining

region). Tips are labelled with scientific names of *Microbotryum* and of their hosts. Photos of

diseased flowers by M.E. Hood and Eugene Popov @iNatutalist, croped. CC BY 4.0. Inset:

density of estimates of time since recombination suppression for *M. v. paradoxa* strata. Note

the different scales for young (pink and white) and old strata (black, brown and light brown).

Approximate position of the corresponding regions in the ancestral chromosome order is shown

(HD chromosome in light blue and PR chromosome in light purple, HD locus in dark blue and

PR locus in dark purple) and the succession of recombination suppression events is pictured

below the rearrangement scenario (see Figure S2). Symbols key is also valid for panel B. B)

Rearrangement scenarios bringing the HD and PR loci into the same chromosome or linkage

events to their centromeres (*M. lagerheimii* and *M. saponariae*). The ten independent events of

chromosomal rearrangement and/or recombination suppression are separated by white lines.

Scenarios shared by contiguous species on the tree are depicted only once. Chromosome

arrangement in *M. intermedium* corresponds to the ancestral state [60, 61]. Symbol key is the

same as in the inset of panel A. Rearrangements are indicated by blue shades. C) Consensus

timetrees of single-copy autosomal genes (green trace) and evolutionary strata (with their

corresponding color). Timetrees in the upper panel are identical but for the different dates

estimated for the suppression of recombination in different strata of *M. v. paradoxa*. The

timetree in the lower panel is the consensus of 32 concatenated single-copy genes in the non-

recombining region of all species but *M. intermedium* and *M. silenes-acaulis*. The shaded areas

in this tree show the two trans-specific polymorphism occurrences and the big black dot

indicates the different placement of *M. v. paradoxa* compared to the species tree

Figure 2: Allelic divergence analysis between mating-type chromosomes for the newly
sequenced species. For each species (*Microbotryum coronariae*, *M. v. melanantha*, *M. v.*
tatarinowii and *M. lychnidis-dioicae)*, we show the synonymous divergence calculated between

alternative mating types and plotted along the *M. intermedium* mating-type chromosome gene

order. Zero d_S between mating-type chromosomes indicate recombination in these selfing

species and the level of d_S between mating-type chromosomes increases with time since

recombination suppression. Different evolutionary strata, i.e., different steps extending

recombination suppression, are indicated by different colours. Divergence between the a_1 and

a_2 pheromone receptor (PR) genes was too extensive, and d_S could not be calculated (depicted

as "Un" for unalignable).

Figure 3: Analysis of the frequency of optimal codons in the a_1 genome of _Microbotryum_

silenes-dioicae. A) Distribution of the frequency of optimal codons across genomic

compartments. B) Distribution of the frequency of optimal codons predicted by the logistic

regression, accounting for genomic compartment, difference of GC in coding and intronic

sequences and their interactions as factor. In A) and B), boxplot grey shade refers to the

genomic compartment. For each genomic compartment, the red dot indicates the mean

frequency of optimal codons, the sample size (N) is labelled on top of the corresponding

boxplot, as well as the significance level of the difference between a given genomic

compartment and the autosomes (NS: non-significant; ***: p-value < 0.001) from the logistic

regression. Note the difference in the ranges of Y axes for panels A and B. Similar analyses for

all species studied here are presented in Figure S6 and S7 in the supplementary materials. C)

Frequency of optimal codons predicted by the logistic regression plotted against the difference

in GC content between coding and intronic sequences. From the logistic regression, significant

interactions between a genomic compartment and the autosomes are indicated by solid line and

filled dots, while non-significant interactions are indicated by dotted line and hollow dots.

"Reference" refers to the reference considered in the logistic regression. D) Predicted effect of

GC-biased gene conversion and selection on frequency of optimal codons. The figure shows

the interpretation of the absence of interaction (2) or the presence of a positive (3) or negative

interaction (4) between the difference in GC content between coding sequences and introns and

the genomic compartments regarding the logistic regression performed in this study. The

frequency of optimal codons in autosomes (1) decreases with the increase of difference in GC

content and the frequency of optimal codons are lower in non-recombining regions (2, 3, 4).

Figure 4: Tempo of degeneration in _Microbotryum_ fungi. A) Frequency of optimal codons

as a function of time since recombination suppression (in million years). B) Non-synonymous

over synonymous divergence (d_N/d_S) as a function of time since recombination suppression (in

million years). The dots represent the data used in the regressions, plotted as the frequency of

optimal codons or d_N/d_S against the time since recombination suppression. Dot edges are

coloured according to species and the dot fill colours correspond to genomic compartments.

Predictions from the models are show as blue line and the 95% confidence interval of the

prediction as grey background.

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Additional files:

1-All supplementary Tables as a single xls file (different Tables as sheets)

2-All supplementary Figures as a single PDF file

Supplemental Figure legends

Figure S1: Synteny and allelic divergence analysis between mating-type chromosomes of

alternative mating types for the species *Microbotryum intermedium*. We show synteny plots

between a_1 and a_2 PR mating-type chromosome (left top panel), synteny plots between a_1 and

a_2 HD mating-type chromosomes (right top panel), and the synonymous divergence calculated

between alternative mating types and plotted along the *M. intermedium* PR and HD mating-

type chromosome gene order (bottom left and right panel, resp.). Zero d_S between mating-type

chromosomes indicate recombination in these selfing species and the level of d_S between

mating-type chromosomes increases with time since recombination suppression. Different

evolutionary strata, i.e., different steps extending recombination suppression, are indicated by

different colours. Divergence between the a_1 and a_2 pheromone receptor (PR) genes was too

extensive, and d_S could not be calculated (depicted as "Un" for unalignable).

Figure S2: Synteny between mating-type chromosomes of alternative mating types for the

Microbotryum* species A) *M. lychnis flos-cuculi*, B) *M. v. melanantha* and C) *M. v.

***tatarinowii*.** For each species, we show synteny plots between a_1 and a_2 mating-type

chromosomes (left top), synteny plots between a_1 mating-type chromosome and a_1 mating-type

chromosome of *M. intermedium* (right panel).

Figure S3: **Synteny and allelic divergence analysis between mating-type chromosomes of**

alternative mating types for the species *M. scabiosae* (A) and *Microbotryum v. caroliniana*

(B). For each species, we show synteny plots between a_1 and a_2 mating-type chromosomes (left

top panel), synteny plots between a_1 and a_2 mating-type chromosomes of *M. intermedium* (right

top panel), and the synonymous divergence calculated between alternative mating types and

plotted along the *M. intermedium* mating-type chromosome gene order (bottom panel). Zero d_S

between mating-type chromosomes indicate recombination in these selfing species and the level

of d_S between mating-type chromosomes increases with time since recombination suppression.

On the top left figure in B), the light blue evolutionary stratum is indicated by a light blue box

on the outer track.

1205

Figure S4: Allelic divergence analysis between mating-type chromosomes of alternative mating types for *Microbotryum v. paradoxa*. The synonymous divergence calculated between alternative mating types is plotted along the *M. intermedium* mating-type chromosome ancestral-like gene order. Zero d_S between mating-type chromosomes indicate recombination in these selfing species and the level of d_S between mating-type chromosomes increases with time since recombination suppression. Different evolutionary strata, i.e., different steps extending recombination suppression, are indicated by different colours. Divergence between the a_1 and a_2 pheromone receptor (PR) genes was too extensive, and d_S could not be calculated (depicted as "Un" for unalignable).

1215

Figure S5: Within-correspondence analysis plots. A) WCA plots for the a_1 and a_2 genomes of *Microbotryum intermedium* (resp. left and right top panel) and a_1 and a_2 genomes of *M. lychnidis-dioicae* (resp. left and right bottom panel). B) Percentage of variance explained for each correspondence analysis axis for the a_1 and a_2 genomes of *M. intermedium* (resp. left and right top panel) and a_1 and a_2 genomes of *M. lychnidis-dioicae* (resp. left and right bottom panel).

Figure S6 Data distribution across genomic compartments in *Microbotryum*. A) Distribution of the frequency of optimal codons. B) Distribution of the difference in GC content between coding sequences and introns. C) Distribution of the expression level of *M. intermedium* orthologous genes. The gene expression level distribution was truncated at the 90th percentile for visualisation purpose and was not represented for the genomes a_1 and a_2 *M. intermedium*. Boxplot colours refer to the genomic compartment.

1228

Figure S7: **Analysis of the frequency of optimal codons in all *Microbotryum* genomes using the genomic compartments considered in the main text.** A) Distribution of the frequency of optimal codons across genomic compartments. B) Distribution of the predicted frequency of optimal codons predicted by the logistic regression. In A) and B), boxplot colours refer to the genomic compartment. For each genomic compartment, the red dot indicates the mean frequency of optimal codons, the sample size (N) is labelled on top of the corresponding boxplot, as well as the significance level of the difference between a given genomic

compartment and the autosomes (NS: non-significant; ".": p-value < 0.1; *: p-value < 0.05; **:

p-value < 0.01; ***: p-value < 0.001). C) Frequency of optimal codons predicted by the logistic

regression along the difference of GC content between coding and intronic sequences.

Significant interactions between a genomic compartment and the autosomes are indicated by a

solid line and a filled dot, while non-significant interactions are indicated by a dotted line and

a hollow dot.

Figure S8: Analysis of the frequency of optimal codons in all *Microbotryum* genomes using

all the genomic compartments. A) Distribution of the frequency of optimal codons across

genomic compartments. B) Distribution of the predicted frequency of optimal codons predicted

by the logistic regression. In A) and B), boxplot colours refer to the genomic compartment. For

each genomic compartment, the red dot indicates the mean frequency of optimal codons, the

sample size (N) is labelled on top of the corresponding boxplot, as well as the significance level

of the difference between a given genomic compartment and the autosomes (NS: non-

significant; ".": p-value < 0.1; *: p-value < 0.05; **: p-value < 0.01; ***: p-value < 0.001). C)

Frequency of optimal codons predicted by the logistic regression along the difference of GC

content between coding and intronic sequences. Significant interactions between a genomic

compartment and the autosomes are indicated by a solid line and a filled dot, while non-

significant interactions are indicated by a dotted line and a hollow dot.

1254

1255

1256

A

M. violaceum s.l.
on

Strata
Order
5 2 3 1 3 4

PR
Centromere
HD
Relic centromere
Linkage

density

0.0

MRCA (MY)
−5 −4 −3 −2 −1
−0.4 −0.2

B

HD chromosome   PR chromosome

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*

M. scabiosae
on *Knautia arvensis*

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene caroliniana*

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene tatarinowii*

M. silenes-acaulis
on *Silene acaulis*

M. coronariae
on *Silene flos-cuculi*

M. silenes-diocae
on *Silene dioica*

M. lychnidis-diocae
on *Silene latifolia*

M. violaceum s.s.
on *Silene nutans*

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene melanatha*

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene paradoxa*

M. lagerheimii
on *Silene vulgaris*

M. saponariae
on *Saponaria officinalis*

C

Single copy autosomal
Brown
Light brown
Blacks
Pink
White

a2
a1
a2
a1
a2
a1
a2
a1

2 MY

Trans-specific

a2
a2
a1
a1

a2
a2
a1
a1

2 MY

−25   −20   −15   −10   −5   MY

Gene order along the mating-type chromosomes of *M. intermedium*

A)

Frequency of optimal codons

B)

Non-synonymous over synonymous divergence

Time since recombination suppression (MY)

Legend

- ⬤ Black stratum formed prior to *M. lychnidis-dioicae - M. silenes-dioicae* speciation
- ⬤ Black stratum formed prior to *M. coronariae - M. violaceum* (s.s.) speciation
- ⬤ Non-recombining region linking HD locus and centromere in *M. lagerheimii*
- ⬤ Non-recombining region linking PR locus and centromere in *M. lagerheimii*
- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. silenes-acaulis*
- ⬤ Non-recombining region linking HD locus and centromere in *M. saponariae*
- ⬤ Non-recombining region linking PR locus and centromere in *M. saponariae*
- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. scabiosae*
- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. melanantha*
- ⬤ Lightblue stratum in *M. v. caroliniana*

- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. v. caroliniana*
- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. v. paradoxa*
- ⬤ Lightbrown stratum in *M. v. paradoxa*
- ⬤ Brown stratum in *M. v. paradoxa*
- ⬤ Pink stratum in *M. v. paradoxa*
- ⬤ White stratum in *M. v. paradoxa*
- ⬤ Black stratum in *M. v. tatarinowii*

— Predicted value from statistical model and the corresponding 95% confidence interval

Figure S1

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*

Key to tracks

- ■ Genes with $d_S = 0$
- ■ Transposable elements
- ■ Genes
- ■ Centromeric repeats

Key to links

- ▬ One-to-one orthologs in the same orientation
- ▬ One-to-one orthologs in inverted orientation

Evolutionary strata

- ■ Purple stratum
- ■ Blue stratum

Gene order along
the PR mating-type chromosome
M. intermedium

Gene order along
the HD mating-type chromosome
M. intermedium

Figure S2

Key to tracks

- Genes with $d_S = 0$
- Transposable elements
- Genes
- Centromeric repeats

Key to links

- One-to-one orthologs in the same orientation
- One-to-one orthologs in inverted orientation

Figure S3a

Key to tracks

- ⬛ Genes with $d_S = 0$
- 🟩 Transposable elements
- ⬜ Genes
- 🟥 Centromeric repeats

Key to links

- 🟦 One-to-one orthologs in the same orientation
- 🟧 One-to-one orthologs in inverted orientation

Figure S3b

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene caroliniana*

a₁
mating type

a₂
mating type

a₁ mating-type
PR chromosome

a₁ mating-type
HD chromosome

Autosomal contigs
M. v. caroliniana

Key to tracks

- ■ Genes with d_S = 0
- ■ Transposable elements
- ■ Genes
- ■ Centromeric repeats

Key to links

- ■ One-to-one orthologs in the same orientation
- ■ One-to-one orthologs in inverted orientation

Evolutionary strata

- ☐ Lightblue stratum

a₁ - a₂ synonymous divergence

Gene order along the mating-type
chromosomes of *M. intermedium*

Figure S4

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene paradoxa*

a_1 - a_2 synonymous divergence

Gene order along the mating-type
chromsomes of *M. intermedium*

Figure S5a

Figure S5b

a)

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a₁ genome

b)

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a₂ genome

c)

M. lychnidis-diocae
on *Silene latifolia*
a₁ genome

d)

M. lychnidis-diocae
on *Silene latifolia*
a₂ genome

Figure S6

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum

A)

M. lagerheimii
on *Silene vulgaris*
a_2 genome

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum
- Red stratum

C)

A)

M. lychnidis-diocae
on *Silene latifolia*
a₂ genome

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum
- Red stratum

C)

M. silenes-acaulis
on *Silene acaulis*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

C)

A)

B)

C)

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

C)

M. saponariae
on *Saponaria officinalis*
a_2 genome

A)

B)

C)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

A)

M. scabiosae
on *Knautia arvensis*
a_1 genome

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

A) Frequency of optimal codons

B) Difference in GC content between coding sequences and introns

C) Expression level of M. intermedium orthologous gene

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

M. scabiosae on *Knautia arvensis* a$_2$ genome

Genomic compartments

 Autosomes

 PAR

 Black stratum

 Purple stratum

 Blue stratum

 Orange stratum

Red stratum

M. coronariae
on *Silene flos-cuculi*
a₁ genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

 Autosomes

 PAR

 Black stratum

 Purple stratum

 Blue stratum

 Orange stratum

C)

M. coronariae
on *Silene flos-cuculi*
a₂ genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

 Autosomes

 PAR

 Black stratum

 Purple stratum

 Blue stratum

 Orange stratum

C)

M. violaceum s.l.
on _Silene melanantha_
a_1 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

 Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

Orange stratum

C)

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene melanantha*
a_2 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene caroliniana*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

Lightblue stratum

Orange stratum

C)

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene caroliniana*
a_2 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Lightblue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

M. violaceum s.s.
on *Silene nutans*
a₁ genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

A)

B)

C)

Genomic compartments

Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

Orange stratum

A)

B)

C)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum
- Pink stratum
- White stratum
- Lightbrown stratum
- Brown stratum

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene paradoxa*
a$_2$ genome

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum
- Pink stratum
- White stratum
- Lightbrown stratum
- Brown stratum

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene tatarinowii*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

Orange stratum

C)

A)

B)

Genomic compartments

Autosomes

PAR

Black stratum

Purple stratum

Blue stratum

Orange stratum

C)

Figure S7

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

C)

Interaction significance
- Significant
- Non-significant

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a_2 genome

A)

N = 6370   N = 236   N = 431

Frequency of optimal codons

0.7

0.5

0.3

Autosomes

Recombining region of
the PR chr.

Recombining region of
the HD chr.

B)

N = 6370   N = 236   N = 431
                *   .

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.50

0.45

0.40

Autosomes

Recombining region of
the PR chr.

Recombining region of
the HD chr.

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.475

0.450

0.425

0.400

0.375

0.0   0.2   0.4

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

—●— Significant

·○· Non-significant

Genomic compartments

—●— Autosomes

—●— Recombining region of
the PR chr.

—●— Recombining region of
the HD chr.

A)

Frequency of optimal codons

| N = 6985 | N = 170 | N = 451 | N = 152 | N = 41 |

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

B)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

| N = 6985 | N = 170 | N = 451 | N = 152 | N = 41 |
| | * | NS | *** | * |

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Interaction significance
- Significant
- Non-significant

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

A)

N = 6949   N = 168   N = 453   N = 144   N = 39

Frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

B)

N = 6949   N = 168   N = 453   N = 144   N = 39
           *   NS   **   .

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

M. lagerheimii
on *Silene vulgaris*
a_2 genome

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

●— Significant
○⋯ Non-significant

Genomic compartments

—●— Autosomes
—●— Recombining region of the PR chr.
—●— Recombining region of the HD chr.
—●— Black stratum PR-to-CEN
—●— Black stratum HD-to-CEN

A)

N = 7928   N = 106   N = 729

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum

Frequency of optimal codons

B)

N = 7928   N = 106   N = 729

NS   ***

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum

Interaction significance
- Significant
- Non-significant

A)

B)

C)

Genomic compartments
— Autosomes
— PAR
— Black stratum

Interaction significance
—•— Significant
····○···· Non-significant

A)

N = 7401 N = 148 N = 487 N = 151 N = 42

Frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

B)

N = 7401 N = 148 N = 487 N = 151 N = 42
* NS *** *

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance
— Significant
··○·· Non-significant

Genomic compartments
— Autosomes
— Recombining region of the PR chr.
— Recombining region of the HD chr.
— Black stratum PR-to-CEN
— Black stratum HD-to-CEN

A)

Frequency of optimal codons

N = 7355   N = 151   N = 486   N = 170   N = 42

0.75

0.50

0.25

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

B)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.52

0.48

0.44

0.40

N = 7355   N = 151   N = 486   N = 170   N = 42
          *   NS   ***   *

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.475

0.450

0.425

0.400

-0.2   -0.1   0.0   0.1   0.2   0.3

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

● Significant
○ Non-significant

Genomic compartments

● Autosomes
● Recombining region of the PR chr.
● Recombining region of the HD chr.
● Black stratum PR-to-CEN
● Black stratum HD-to-CEN

A) N = 6496   N = 121   N = 146

B) N = 6496   N = 121   N = 146

NS   *

C)

Genomic compartments
— Autosomes
— PAR
— Black stratum

Interaction significance
—— Significant
····· Non-significant

M. scabiosae
on *Knautia arvensis*
a_2 genome

A)

M. coronariae
on *Silene flos-cuculi*
a_1 genome

M. coronariae
on *Silene flos-cuculi*
a$_2$ genome

A)

N = 8111   N = 170   N = 755

Frequency of optimal codons

0.9
0.7
0.5
0.3

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum

B)

N = 8111   N = 170   N = 755

.   ***

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.475
0.450
0.425
0.400

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.42
0.40
0.38

-0.2   -0.1   0.0   0.1   0.2

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Genomic compartments

Autosomes
PAR
Black stratum

Interaction significance

Significant
Non-significant

A)

B)

C)

A)

B)

C)

M. violaceum s.s.
on *Silene nutans*
a₂ genome

A)

Frequency of optimal codons

| N = 7694 | N = 39 | N = 1333 | N = 26 | N = 255 |

Autosomes · PAR · Black stratum · Pink stratum · White stratum

B)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

| N = 7694 | N = 39 | N = 1333 | N = 26 | N = 255 |
| | NS | *** | NS | NS |

Autosomes (reference) · PAR · Black stratum · Pink stratum · White stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes (reference)
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Pink stratum
- White stratum

Interaction significance with autosomes
- Significant
- Non-significant

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene tatarinowii*
a_2 genome

A)

B)

C)

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene tatarinowii*
a_2 genome

Figure S8

M. intermedium
on *Salvia pratensis*
a_1 genome

A)

N = 6949 | N = 168 | N = 453 | N = 144 | N = 39 | N = 10 | N = 31 | N = 16

Frequency of optimal codons

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

B)

N = 6949 | N = 168 | N = 453 | N = 144 | N = 39 | N = 10 | N = 31 | N = 16
   | * | NS | ** | . | NS | NS | NS

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

Interaction significance

- Significant
- Non-significant

A)

B)

C)

M. lychnidis-diocae on Silene latifolia a₂ genome

M. silenes-acaulis
on *Silene acaulis*
a_1 genome

A)

B)

M. silenes-acaulis
on *Silene acaulis*
a₂ genome

C)

Genomic compartments

- Autosomes
- PAR
- Black stratum
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum

Interaction significance

- Significant
- Non-significant

A)

N = 740 N = 148 N = 487 N = 151 N = 42 N = 10 N = 13 N = 10

Frequency of optimal codons

0.75

0.50

0.25

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN
Purple stratum
Blue stratum
Orange stratum

B)

N = 740 N = 148 N = 487 N = 151 N = 42 N = 10 N = 13 N = 10

* NS *** * NS NS .

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.52

0.48

0.44

0.40

0.36

Autosomes
Recombining region of the PR chr.
Recombining region of the HD chr.
Black stratum PR-to-CEN
Black stratum HD-to-CEN
Purple stratum
Blue stratum
Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.475

0.450

0.425

0.400

0.375

-0.1   0.0   0.1   0.2   0.3

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Genomic compartments

— Autosomes
— Recombining region of the PR chr.
— Recombining region of the HD chr.
— Black stratum PR-to-CEN
— Black stratum HD-to-CEN
— Purple stratum
— Blue stratum
— Orange stratum

Interaction significance

●— Significant
○· Non-significant

A)

B)

C)

Genomic compartments
- Autosomes
- Recombining region of the PR chr.
- Recombining region of the HD chr.
- Black stratum PR-to-CEN
- Black stratum HD-to-CEN
- Purple stratum
- Blue stratum
- Orange stratum

Interaction significance
- Significant
- Non-significant

A)

N = 6502   N = 122   N = 141   N = 12   N = 11   N = 9

Frequency of optimal codons

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum   Purple stratum   Blue stratum   Orange stratum

B)

N = 6502   N = 122   N = 141   N = 12   N = 11   N = 9
            NS   **   NS   NS   NS

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.50

0.45

0.40

Autosomes   PAR   Black stratum   Purple stratum   Blue stratum   Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

0.450

0.425

0.400

0.375

-0.2   -0.1   0.0   0.1   0.2   0.3

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

●——● Significant

○····○ Non-significant

Genomic compartments

—— Autosomes

—— PAR

—— Black stratum

—— Purple stratum

—— Blue stratum

—— Orange stratum

A)

B)

C)

Interaction significance
— ● Significant
··· ○ Non-significant

Genomic compartments
— Autosomes
— PAR
— Black stratum
— Purple stratum
— Blue stratum
— Orange stratum

M. silenes-diocae
on *Silene dioica*
a$_1$ genome

M. silenes-diocae
on *Silene dioica*
a$_2$ genome

M. coronariae on *Silene flos-cuculi* a₁ genome

A)

B)

C)

A)

N = 7745 | N = 189 | N = 325 | N = 9 | N = 12 | N = 6

Frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes | PAR | Black stratum | Purple stratum | Blue stratum | Orange stratum

B)

N = 7745 | N = 189 | N = 325 | N = 9 | N = 12 | N = 6

*** | *** | NS | NS | NS

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes | PAR | Black stratum | Purple stratum | Blue stratum | Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

Non-significant

Genomic compartments

Autosomes
PAR
Black stratum
Purple stratum
Blue stratum
Orange stratum

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene caroliniana*
a$_2$ genome

A)

N = 7090 | N = 147 | N = 208 | N = 8 | N = 10 | N = 6

Frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes · PAR · Black stratum · Purple stratum · Blue stratum · Orange stratum

B)

N = 7090 | N = 147 | N = 208 | N = 8 | N = 10 | N = 6

NS | *** | NS | NS | NS

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes · PAR · Black stratum · Purple stratum · Blue stratum · Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences

Interaction significance

— Significant

···○··· Non-significant

Genomic compartments

— Autosomes

— PAR

— Black stratum

— Purple stratum

— Blue stratum

— Orange stratum

M. violaceum s.l.
on *Silene tatarinowii*
a_2 genome

A)

N = 7076 | N = 145 | N = 207 | N = 8 | N = 10 | N = 6

Frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes · PAR · Black stratum · Purple stratum · Blue stratum · Orange stratum

B)

N = 7076 | N = 145 NS | N = 207 *** | N = 8 NS | N = 10 NS | N = 6 .

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Autosomes · PAR · Black stratum · Purple stratum · Blue stratum · Orange stratum

C)

Predicted frequency of optimal codons

Interaction significance
— ● Significant
···○ Non-significant

Genomic compartments
— Autosomes
— PAR
— Black stratum
— Purple stratum
— Blue stratum
— Orange stratum

Difference of GC in coding and intronic sequences