Title: Transposon elements shape population divergence of rice blast fungus

Magnaporthe oryzae

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ABSTRACT

Dynamic transposition of transposable elements (TEs) in fungal pathogens have been shown to have a significant impact on genome stability, gene expression, and virulence to the host. In *Magnaporthe oryzae*, genome plasticity resulting from TE insertion polymorphisms is a major driving force leading to the rapid evolution and diversification of this rice blast fungus. Despite their importance in *M. oryzae* population evolution and divergence, our understanding of TEs in this context remains limited. Here we conducted a genome-wide analysis of TE transposition dynamics in the eleven most abundant TE families and transcriptomic analysis in different *M. oryzae* populations. Our results show that these TEs have specifically expanded in recently isolated *M. oryzae* rice populations, with the presence/absence polymorphism of TE insertions highly concordant with population divergence on Geng/*Japonica* and Xian/*Indica* rice cultivars. Among the TE families, POT2 and Mg-SINE were shown to be overrepresented in clade-specific TE insertion events, indicating their essential roles in population divergence. Notably, the genes targeted by clade-specific TEs showed clade-specific expression patterns, suggesting a transcriptional regulation of TEs on targeted genes. Furthermore, population transcriptomic analysis revealed that genes disrupted by POT2 and Mg-SINE insertions exhibited significantly lower expression, implying a silencing function of these TEs on the targeted genes. Our study provides a comprehensive analysis of TEs in *M. oryzae* populations and demonstrates a crucial role of recent TE bursts in adaptive evolution and diversification of the *M. oryzae* rice-infecting lineage.

IMPORTANCE

M. oryzae is the causal agent of the destructive blast disease, which caused massive loss of yield annually worldwide. The fungus diverged into distinct clades during adaptation toward the two rice subspecies, Xian/indica and Geng/japonica. Although the role of TEs in the adaptive evolution was well established, mechanisms underlying how TEs promote the population divergence of *M. oryzae* remains largely unknown. In this study, we reported that TEs shape the population divergence of *M. oryzae* by differentially regulating gene expression between Xian/*Indica*-infecting and Geng/*Japonica*-infecting populations. Our results revealed a TE insertion mediated gene expression adaption that led to the divergence of *M. oryzae* population infecting different rice subspecies.

Key Words: transposable element; population divergence; rice subspecies adaptation; rice blast disease.

INTRODUCTION

Rice blast disease, caused by the ascomycete filamentous fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* (syn: *Pyricularia oryzae*), poses a significant threat to rice production worldwide, resulting in annual yield losses of 10-30% (1, 2). The deployment of resistant rice varieties is the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly strategy for controlling rice blast disease. However, the effectiveness of such resistance can rapidly be diminished due to rapid mutations of the *M. oryzae* genome. Therefore, it is crucial to uncover the mechanisms by which *M. oryzae* rapidly evolves and evades the rice immune system.

Transposable elements (TEs) make up over 10% of the *M. oryzae* genome (3, 4). Many studies have shown that TEs are major contributors to genome plasticity and a significant source of genetic variation (5-9). Recent evidence has revealed that TEs can be inserted in or around important effectors and alter the virulence spectrum of *M. oryzae*. For example, the insertion of POT3 into the promoter region of AVR-Pita in *M. oryzae* led to the acquisition of virulence towards the resistant rice cultivar Yashiro-mochi (10). TEs are also able to affect gene expression networks, and TE-dependent transcriptional regulation of some essential effectors can facilitate the pathogen's transition in its life cycle. For instance, in *Phytophthora sojae*, the avirulence genes *PsAvr1a*, *1b*, and *3a/5* were found to be transcriptionally inactive due to TE insertions in their promoter or 3' UTR regions (11).

These studies have demonstrated the crucial role of TE-mediated genome mutations in pathogen adaptation. However, previous investigations have mainly focused on the impact of TEs on specific effectors or secreted proteins (4, 12-16). To gain a better understanding on the functions of TEs in the complex *M. oryzae*-rice pathosystem, we conducted a comprehensive analysis of TE insertion polymorphisms in 90 *M. oryzae* rice isolates previously described in our study (17) and systematically investigated the roles of TEs in the regulation of gene expression and population divergence in *M. oryzae*.

RESULTS

Recent large-scale TE bursts in the *M. oryzae* genome

To examine the impact of transposable elements (TEs) on the *M. oryzae* genome, we analyzed the insertion time of LTR-retrotransposons (LTR-RTs) by comparing the divergence between their 5' and 3' LTRs, which were identical at the time of TE insertion and gradually diverged in the process of neutral selection. Using a *de novo* based method, we identified 1,129 intact LTR-RTs in seven near chromosomal-level *M. oryzae* rice isolates, including 70-15, Guy11, FJ81278, FJ98099, FJ72ZC7-77, AV1-1-1, and Sar-2-20-1 (3, 4, 18). Surprisingly, 91.7% (1,036/1,129) of the LTR-RTs showed extremely low levels of divergence between their LTR pairs (over 99% identity), and 69.4% (784/1,129) of them possessed identical LTR pairs, indicating that these LTR-RTs were recently inserted and are still active in the *M. oryzae* genomes.

To assess the activity of the most abundant TE families, we analyzed 11 TE families, including six LTR-RTs (RETRO5, RETRO6, RETRO7, Maggy, MGLR-3, and Pyret), two non-LTR retrotransposons (MGL and Mg-SINE), and three DNA transposons (POT2, POT3, and Occan) (**Fig S1; Table S1**) (3, 19-22). We calculated the Kimura 2-Parameter genetic distance (k-value) to measure the divergence between TE sequences and their associated consensus sequences (23). Low k-values indicate that the TE fragments were generated through recent insertion events, while high k-values indicate that the TE fragments are divergent copies generated through ancient transposition events (24). Our analysis revealed that all 11 TE families, especially sequences of MGL, Mg-SINE, Maggy, and a subset of POT2, POT3, and Occan, exhibit very low k-values, and more than half of all TE contents consisted of newly emerged TEs (k-values less than 5) (**Fig. 1a and b**), indicating a recent, large-scale burst of TEs in the genome of *M. oryzae* rice isolates. Notably, we observed two or more k-value peaks in POT2, Mg-SINE, and Pyret, indicating that these TEs families

have undergone multiple rounds of amplification.

Furthermore, we investigated these TE families in genomes of four *M. oryzae*

non-rice isolates, including three *M. oryzae* grass isolates (MZ5-1-6, NI907, NI919)

and one *M. oryzae* wheat isolate (B71) (25, 26). We found that TEs only accounted for

less than five percent of the genomes, which is significantly lower than that found in

M. oryzae rice isolates. (**Table S1** and **S2**). Interestingly, the k-values of TEs were

much larger and the proportion of newly emerged TEs was also significantly lower in

M. oryzae non-rice isolates, indicating that the TEs were generated by more ancient

insertion events and were inactive in *M. oryzae* non-rice isolates (**Fig. 1b and c**).

Notably, the *M. oryzae* non-rice isolates contained only a few copies of fragmented

Maggy and Mg-SINE, which were very abundant and possessed very low k-values in

M. oryzae rice isolates, suggesting that the two TEs specifically amplified in *M.*

oryzae rice isolates. In summary, our analysis demonstrated that the TEs were recently

and specifically expanded in the genome of *M. oryzae* rice isolates and maintained

high activity.

Whole genome landscape of TE dynamics in *M. oryzae* population

To examine the dynamics of transposable elements (TEs) in the *M. oryzae* population,

we conducted a genome-wide analysis of TE insertion sites in 90 rice isolates that had

previously been published (17), with two *M. oryzae* grass isolates from *Setaria viridis*

as an outgroup (27). Using paired-end read mapping to the reference genome method,

we identified a total of 11,163 TE insertion sites, with an average of 1,312 sites per

isolate. To verify these insertion sites, we randomly selected 17 from Guy11 or

FJ81278 isolates for PCR amplification (**Table S3**). The number (1,312 versus 739)

and location of TE insertions differed significantly between the rice and *S. viridis*

isolates (**Fig. S2**), reflecting the evolutionary divergence of these subspecies and their

corresponding TEs, which is consistent with the finding that these two subspecies

diverged ~10,000 years ago (27). More than half (6,040/11,163) of the TE insertion

sites were specific to individual isolates (**Fig. 2**), indicating frequent TE transposition

events. Notably, the number of POT2 insertion sites was substantially higher than

those of other TE families, suggesting a higher activity and variability of POT2 in the

M. oryzae population.

Furthermore, we conducted a comprehensive analysis of the genomic distribution of

TE insertion sites in the *M. oryzae* population. Of the 11,163 TE insertion sites

identified, a significant proportion (77%; 8,582/11,163) was found to be located

within 1 kb of the flanking regions of genes or intragenic regions, and over 40% of

the genes (5,259/12,991) were disrupted by these TE insertions. Our enrichment

analysis showed that the distribution of the 11 TE families is non-random in the *M.*

oryzae genome, and each family displayed a distinct preference for specific genomic

regions. For instance, Maggy, MGLR-3, RETRO5, RETRO7, Pyret, POT3, and

Occan were predominantly distributed in intergenic regions, while POT2 displayed a

preference for the gene flanking regions. Additionally, SINE, MGL, and RETRO6

were found to preferentially target intragenic regions (adjusted p-value < 0.01, **Table**

S4). These findings provide valuable insights into the mechanisms underlying TE

insertions and their potential impact on gene regulation in *M. oryzae*.

Higher frequency of POT2 and POT3 insertions in promoter of secreted proteins

Based on the two-speed genome model, filamentous fungi genomes had been shown

to display a bipartite architecture comprising of a gene-rich compartment, which

evolves slowly containing core genes encoding essential functions and metabolisms,

and a repeat-rich compartment, which evolves rapidly containing important virulence

effectors involved in pathogenicity (28). To avoid recognition by the plant immune

system, some pathogen effectors such as avirulence genes were shown to be

influenced or silenced by transposon elements (8, 29). In line with this finding, we

observed that genes encoding secreted proteins were more closely associated with TE

junctions (**Fig. 3a**), and the proportion of genes encoding secreted proteins with TE

insertion within 1-kb flanking regions was significantly higher than in those of

non-secreted proteins (**Table 1**). Moreover, enrichment analysis for TEs associated

with genes encoding secreted proteins showed that POT2 and POT3 were

overrepresented in promoters of genes encoding secreted protein (adjusted p-value <

0.01, **Table S5**), implying that genes encoding secreted proteins are more prone to

disruption by POT2 and POT3.

Previous studies have shown that genes with presence/absence variation (PAV) tended

to be located near transposable elements (TEs) in fungal pathogen genomes, while

core genes were located further away from the TE-rich compartments (30-32). In this

study, we compared the genomic distribution of core genes and PAV genes and found

that PAV genes tended to be located closer to TE insertion sites than core genes (**Fig.**

3b). Our results were consistent with previous findings and suggested that PAV genes

may be more susceptible to TE-mediated disruption, potentially contributing to their

faster evolution in the context of host-pathogen interactions. Together, these findings

suggested that TEs are play a role in the evolution of pathogen effectors and

contribute to the dynamic nature of host-pathogen interactions.

Association of TEs with *M. oryzae* population divergence

Considering that the *M. oryzae* population diverged within only one thousand years

(17) and that the large-scale TE burst happened not long ago, we thus raised the

question of whether the population divergence of *M. oryzae* is associated with recent

TE amplification events. To characterize correlations between the 90 isolates, we

estimated the distance for each of two isolates by calculating the identity of the TE

insertion sites. The pairwise TE insertion identities varied from 17.6% between

YN126441 and FJ12JN-084-3 to 87.2% between TW-PT3-1 and TW-PT6-1, with an

average of only 38.7%, thereby strongly implicating the high variability of TE

junctions between the different isolates. However, when we grouped these isolates

based on the pairwise TE insertion identities, we discovered two distinct clusters (**Fig.**

4a) matching the Clade2 and Clade3 isolates that we had previously defined based on

genome-wide SNPs (17). We noticed that the remaining isolates out of the two

clusters were also able to match the Clade1 isolates even though they showed a

relatively low pairwise TE insertion identity, which can be attributed to an earlier time

of divergence of Clade1 isolates from the *M. oryzae* population when compared to the

other two clade isolates. Furthermore, we found that the pairwise TE insertion identity

between intra-clade isolates was significantly higher than that between inter-clade

isolates (**Table S6**). Surprisingly, the hierarchical tree constructed using TE insertion

sites showed a high degree of similarity to the phylogenetic tree constructed based on

whole-genome SNPs (**Fig. 4b**) (17) , indicating that the recent TE amplification event

has been a major force driving population divergence of *M. oryzae*. Consistently,

principal component analysis of these TE insertion sites displayed a similar pattern

(**Fig. 4c**). Considering that the TEs were largely amplified recently in the *M. oryzae*

genome (**Fig. 1**), we presumed that the recent high activity of TEs has been one of the

major forces driving population divergence of *M. oryzae*.

POT2 and Mg-SINE are critical for the divergence of Clade2 and Clade3 isolates

TEs are able to exert either beneficial or deleterious effects on host genomes, and the

retention or elimination of TEs is largely determined by their impact on the host.

Positive selection has been shown to drive the frequency of a TE locus to increase or

decrease dramatically during a population bottleneck or in response to a new

environment (33). We hypothesized that positive selection has fixed a portion of

clade-specific TE insertion sites in the intra-clade isolates, contributing to the adaptive

evolution of the clade isolates. To identify the clade-specific TE insertion sites, we

screened out those that were present in at least 80% of the intra-clade isolates and

absent in more than 80% of the other two clade isolates. A total of 11 Clade1-specific,

212 Clade2-specific, and 168 Clade3-specific TE insertion sites were identified, with

the number of Clade1-specific TE insertion sites being too small for subsequent

analysis. Enrichment analysis revealed that POT2 and Mg-SINE TE families were

overrepresented in both Clade2 and Clade3 datasets, indicating that the insertion of

these two TE families was positively selected for retention in subpopulations of *M.*

oryzae (**Fig. 5a and b**).

We investigated the influence of clade-specific TE junctions on genes, which, for this

purpose, we referred to as clade-specific TE-associated genes. We identified a total of

238 Clade2-specific and 173 Clade3-specific TE-associated genes. Interestingly, less

than 10% of these genes overlapped, suggesting that the Clade2- and Clade3-specific

TEs have distinct targeted genes (**Fig. S2**). Gene ontology (GO) enrichment analysis

revealed that the Clade2- and Clade3-specific TE-associated genes were enriched

under similar GO terms (adjusted p-value < 0.01, **Fig. 5c, d**). Of note, the top

enriched term in both datasets was 'GO:0004497, monooxygenase activity,' which is

correlated to cytochrome P450s on the fungal genome. We further validated the GO

enrichment results by performing enrichment analysis for these genes using the Pfam

database (**Table S7**). Several previous studies have shown that fungal P450s possess

detoxifying functions towards compounds produced by host plants during pathogen

infection, thereby enhancing the fitness of the pathogenic fungus to specific host

genotypes (27, 34-38). Therefore, we suggest that TE-induced variations in different

members of P450s partially contribute to the differential pathogenicity of the two

clade isolates.

Genes associated with TE are significantly lower expressed

Previous studies have demonstrated that transposable elements (TEs) were able to

affect gene expression by inserting into gene promoters or intragenic regions (39-41).

Therefore, we investigated whether TE insertion polymorphisms could shape the gene

expression networks in *M. oryzae* populations. To this end, we selected 16 isolates

and extracted total RNA for sequencing (**Table S8**). We identified 2,282 genes

targeted by 4,236 TE insertion sites that were polymorphic between the 16 isolates.

We then grouped the genes based on whether they contained TE insertion sites

(TE-present or TE-absent) and compared the expression levels between these two

groups. We observed that the TE-present gene group displayed significantly lower

expression levels than the TE-absent gene group (**Fig. 6a**), suggesting that TEs have

negative effects on the expression of their target genes. We have identified 131 genes

that exhibited clade-specific expression patterns. Furthermore, based on the expression levels of these genes, we were able to divide 16 isolates into three distinct clusters using principal component analysis. These findings suggest that transposable element-mediated gene regulation had a profound impact on population divergence (**Fig. 6b and c**). Interestingly, we found that only genes with insertion polymorphisms of POT2 and Mg-SINE displayed transcriptional suppression, while other TE families displayed little impact on the expression of their target genes. Our results suggest that the insertion polymorphisms of POT2 and Mg-SINE were able to shape the gene expression network of *M. oryzae* by inducing transcriptional suppression.

DISCUSSION

The high genomic plasticity and rapid evolution of the plant pathogen *M. oryzae* presents a significant challenge for rice blast disease control. Previous studies have identified transposons as a major driving force for the adaptive evolution of fungal pathogen genomes (9). Insertion polymorphisms of transposable elements (TEs) have been shown to lead to genomic instability, increased chromosomal recombination, and accelerated gene evolution (13, 42). However, the precise role of TE dynamics during *M. oryzae* evolution has remained poorly understood. To address this, we conducted a population-scaled TE analysis of *M. oryzae* to investigate how TE insertion polymorphisms contributed in shaping population structure and divergence.

We employed two methods to assess the activity of transposable elements (TEs) in the genome of *M. oryzae*. First, we estimated the insertion time of LTR-RTs and secondly, we calculated the Kimura 2-parameter genetic distance for the 11 most abundant TE families. Both analyses indicate that TEs have undergone recent amplification in the *M. oryzae* genome and have remained highly active. Previous studies have suggested that the insertion of TEs having caused gene presence/absence variations to be the main evolutionary mechanism driving the divergence of host-specific *M. oryzae*

lineages (12). In this study, we investigated the abundance and activity of 11 TEs in pathogens from wheat and grass infecting lineages, and found that these 11 TEs have undergone specific expansion in *M. oryzae* rice isolates and have recently become inactive in non-rice isolates. Based on these results, we propose that the recent burst of TE activity is the primary factor responsible for the divergence of *M. oryzae* from rice and other host infecting lineages.

In order to elucidate the role of TEs in genome evolution and divergence, we conducted a genome-wide survey of TE insertion sites in 90 *M. oryzae* rice isolates that were previously published (17). We utilized PoPoolationTE2, which is a validated method for estimating TE insertion frequency in populations (43). The TE insertion junctions varied widely among the 90 isolates, indicating the highly dynamic and active nature of TEs in *M. oryzae* populations. Consistent with prior research, we found that the distribution of TE junctions across the genome was not evenly distributed, and different TE families or superfamilies displayed preferences for insertion into distinct genomic regions (6, 13, 15).

TEs have been shown to be a major contributor in causing genomic variations. Previous studies have reported that TE insertions in or around *Avr* genes in *M. oryzae* were able to lead to transcriptional silencing and loss of avirulence function (10, 44-48). Our analysis revealed that TE junctions are frequently observed in the flanking regions of genes encoding secreted proteins (SPs), and the proportion of genes encoding SPs with TE insertions is higher than that of non-SPs. This is consistent with previous findings that SPs are enriched in repeat-rich regions and are prone to rapid evolution (4, 49). We propose that the variations in SPs, induced by TE insertion polymorphisms, is able to facilitate adaptive evolution of *M. oryzae*. Presence/absence variations in genes resulting from TE insertions have been identified as the major force driving divergence of host-specific *M. oryzae* lineages (12). Consistent with this, we found that genes exhibiting high gain/loss polymorphisms in the 90 isolates were preferentially located near TE junctions,

suggesting that TE-mediated presence/absence variation constitutes a significant
mechanism underlying differentiation of host-specific or intra-species *M. oryzae*
isolates.

Through the comparison of TE junctions in 90 *M. oryzae* rice isolates, we observed a
clustering pattern that was similar to the three previously defined *M. oryzae* clades.
This led us to investigate the potential role of TEs in *M. oryzae* population divergence.
We constructed a hierarchical tree based on the TE junctions and found that it closely
resembled the phylogenetic tree constructed using genome-wide SNPs. Principal
component analysis of the TE junctions also yielded a similar clustering pattern.
These findings suggested that the transposition of TEs was strongly associated with *M.*
oryzae population divergence. Given that the majority of TEs in the *M. oryzae*
genome were generated recently, and that the population divergence occurred not long
ago, we hypothesize the large-scale amplification of TEs to be a major driving force
contributing to the *M. oryzae* population divergence.

TE loci that undergo positive selection during evolution will be retained and will
exhibit high frequencies in a population. Based on the hierarchical tree and PCA
results, we postulate that the intra-clade isolates have a fixed set of TE insertion sites
that are specific to each clade. These clade-specific TE insertion sites are then able to
serve as molecular markers to distinguish isolates belonging to the three clades.
Interestingly, we found that POT2 and Mg-SINE were significantly enriched in
clade-specific TE insertion sites, suggesting that these clade-specific insertions of
POT2 and Mg-SINE were beneficial for the adaptive evolution of clade isolates.
Furthermore, we noted that cytochrome P450 proteins were overrepresented in both
Clade2- and Clade3-specific TE-targeted genes. Given the essential roles of P450s in
detoxifying phytoalexins produced by host plants, we hypothesize that the differential
pathogenicity of clade isolates may be partially due to the variations in P450s induced
by clade-specific TE insertions.

TEs that insert in or near genes have been reported to induce silencing of gene

expression through the formation of heterochromatic regions (9, 41). To investigate

the correlation between TE insertion and gene expression regulation in *M. oryzae*, we

conducted RNA sequencing on 16 isolates from the three clades. Our analysis

revealed that genes containing a TE insertion displayed significantly lower expression

compared to genes without TE insertion. Notably, only POT2 and Mg-SINE insertions

led to substantial suppression of gene expression. Therefore, we hypothesized that

clade-specific insertions of POT2 and Mg-SINE contribute to the adaptive evolution

of clade isolates by regulating expression of specific genes.

Through a comprehensive analysis of TEs in populations of the rice-infecting fungus

M. oryzae, we have revealed the crucial roles played by recent TE insertional bursts in

the adaptive evolution and diversification of this fungal lineage. Our findings

highlight the significance of TE-mediated genetic changes in the regulation of gene

expression, which in turn contributes to clade divergence.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

RNA extraction, library generation, and sequencing

The fungal strains were cultured in liquid CM medium by incubation at 28℃ under

shaking at 110 rpm for three days. The mycelium was filtered, washed with

double-deionized water, and dried before being ground in liquid nitrogen. Ground

samples were transferred into DNase/RNase-free Eppendorf tubes, suspended in 1 mL

Trizol, and vortexed vigorously. To eliminate proteins, 200 μL of chloroform was

added to the mixture, which was then shaken for 15 s. After centrifugation at 12,000

rpm for 15 min at 4℃, 400 μL of the supernatant was collected and mixed with 400

μL of cold isopropanol. The mixture was kept at -20℃ for at least two hours, then

centrifuged at 12,000 rpm for 15 min at 4℃. The supernatant was discarded, and the

precipitates were washed with 1 mL of 70% alcohol and centrifuged at 12,000 rpm for

5 min at 4℃. After air drying for 5 min at room temperature, the pellets were diluted

with 54 μL of DNase/RNase-free deionized water and treated with 2 μL of DNase

I at 37℃ for 30 min. The mixture was brought up to 800 μL with RNase-free water,

followed by the addition of an equal volume of chloroform. After gentle mixing, the

mixture was centrifuged at 12,000 rpm for 15 min at 4℃. About 500 μL of the

supernatant was collected and mixed with 500 μL of cold isopropanol. The mixture

was then kept at -20℃ for more than three hours, followed by centrifugation at

12,000 rpm for 15 min at 4℃. The precipitates were washed with 1 mL of 70%

alcohol, air-dried for 5 min at room temperature, and eluted with DNase/RNase-free

deionized water. The RNA samples were then stored at -80℃ for RNA sequencing

analysis.

Estimation of TE activity

LTR-Finder (50), LTR-harvest (51) and LTR-Retriever (52) were used for *de novo*

identification of full-length LTR-RTs and estimation of insertion time. Information on

TE classification is based on previous research (3) and the conserved domains of TE

consensus sequences were predicted by Conserved Domain Database (53). The

Kimura 2-Parameter genetic distances (k-values) of TE fragments were calculated by

RepeatMasker (54) with option '-a'.

Prediction of secreted proteins and PAV genes

To identify putative secreted proteins, several criteria were employed, including the

presence of a signal peptide cleavage site, the absence of a transmembrane domain,

and a protein length of less than 400 amino acids. SignalP 4.0 and TMHMM 2.0 were

utilized for signal peptide and transmembrane domain prediction, respectively (55,

56). The transcript sequences of the 70-15 reference genome were aligned to the

previously published assemblies of 90 isolates using NCBI-blastn with default

parameters. Genes that exhibited more than 90% similarity with no gaps longer than

50 bp when compared to the assemblies were marked as "present". Genes that did not

meet these criteria were marked as "absent". PAV (presence-absence variation) genes

were defined as those that were absent in more than five isolates, while core genes

were defined as those present in all isolates.

Identification of TE insertion sites in *M. oryzae* populations

395 The pair-end reads were mapped to the *M. oryzae* 70-15 reference genome using

396 BWA (57) with default parameters. The alignment files were exported to

397 PoPoolation2 (58) with default parameter to identify TE insertion site for each isolate.

398 The TE insertion sites with score less than 0.3 were filtered, and the insertion sites

399 located within 50 bp were merged.

Construction of TE hierarchical tree, principal component analysis

401 The insertion sites that are present in at least 5 isolates were used for constructing

402 hierarchical tree and principal component analysis (PCA). The TE insertion sites in

403 presence/absence variation format were exported to the R package 'hclust' (59) for

404 construction of TE hierarchical tree. Vcftools (60) and Plink (61) were used for PCA.

Functional enrichment analysis

406 GO annotation information of *M. oryzae* was obtained from the JGI database (62).

407 Conserved domains of *M. oryzae* protein sequences were predicted using the Pfam

408 database (63). Fisher right-tailed test was used for enrichment analysis and a cutoff

409 p-value less than 0.05 was used to define significant enrichment.

RNA-seq analysis

The clean reads were mapped to the 70-15 reference genome using hisat2 v2.2.1 (64)

with default parameters. Stingtie v2.1.4 was used for expression quantification (65).

Gene expressions were normalized with transcripts per million (TPM). The

expression of each gene in the isolates with or without TE insertion were counted,

averaged and compared. Two-tailed Wilcoxon paired test was used to estimate the

significance of expression difference.

DATA AVAILABILITY

All high-throughput sequencing data generated in this study are accessible at NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) via GEO Series accession number GSE205351 (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE205351).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was financially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (32272513 and 32172365). Open Access funding provided by Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University.

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Figure legends

FIG 1 a) The Kimura 2-Parameter genetic distance of 11 TE families in three different *Magnaporthe* species were shown in density plot. **b, c)** The k-value proportions of 11 TE families in *M. oryzae* rice isolates (**b**) and non-rice isolates (**c**). The numbers of TE fragment were marked at the top of bars.

FIG 2 The circos diagram (from outer to inner) displays chromosomes, gene distribution, distribution of DNA transposon, Non-LTR-RT and LTR-RT junctions. The histogram shows the insertion site numbers of different TE families. The non-transparent and transparent colors represent the numbers of isolate-specific and isolate-shared TE junctions, respectively

FIG 3 The distance of TEs to the 5' and 3' ends of secreted proteins and non-secreted proteins (**a**) or core genes and PAV genes (**b**).

FIG 4 a) The heatmap showing the identity of TE insertion site between each two isolates. **b)** The hierarchical tree built by using the TE insertion sites of *M. oryzae* population. Three distinct clades were marked in red, blue and green colors respectively. **c)** Principal component analysis using the TE insertion sites.

FIG 5 a, b) Enrichment analysis of 11 TE families in Clade2- (**a**) and Clade3-specific (**b**) insertion sites. Fisher's exact test was used for significance test. **c**) GO enrichment analysis for the clade2- (**c**) and clade3-specific (**d**) TE-associated genes.

FIG 6 a) Comparison of gene expressions between the isolates present or absent with TE insertion. **b)** PCA clustering of 16 isolates based on expression level of 131 clade-specific DEGs. **c)** Heatmap showing expression level of 131 clade-specific DEGs in 16 isolates.

TABLE 1 The numbers of secreted protein and non-secreted protein that have TE insertion in 1-kb flanking regions or within gene.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

FIG S1 Schematic of the 11 most abundant TE families on the genome of the *M. oryzae* rice isolate. The conserved domains in the relative location of the TE consensus were highlighted using different colors.

FIG S2 The venn chart compares the TE insertion loci of 90 *M. oryzae* rice isolates and two *S. viridis* isolates.

FIG S3 The venn chart displays the intersection of clade2-specific and clade3-specific TE-associated genes.

TABLE S1 The proportions of 11 TE families on the genomes of seven *M. oryzae*
rice isolates.

TABLE S2 The proportions of 11 TE families on the genomes of a *M. oryzae* wheat
isolate and three grass isolates.

TABLE S3 Validation of 17 TE insertion sites by PCR amplification.

TABLE S4 Insertion preference of various TEs in different genomic regions.

TABLE S5 Enrichment analysis of TEs in the promoter of secreted proteins.

TABLE S6 Identity of TE insertion sites between intra- or inter-clade isolates.

TABLE S7 Enrichment analysis of the clade2- and clade3-specific TE-associated
genes using conserved domains.

TABLE S8 GEO information of 16 RNA seq samples.

TABLE 1 The numbers of secreted protein and non-secreted protein that have TE insertion in 1-kb flanking regions or within gene.

	Total number	Embed	Upstream	Downstream	Total
Non-SP	11,445	2,247	1,978	1,893	4,414
SP	1,546	358	482	475	845
All	12,991	2,605	2,460	2,368	5,259

#SP: secreted protein