**Phylogenomic signatures of repeat-induced point mutations across the fungal kingdom**

Thomas Badet [1][*] & Daniel Croll [1][*]

[1] Laboratory of Evolutionary Genetics, Institute of Biology, University of Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel,

Switzerland

[*] Correspondence: daniel.croll@unine.ch & thomas.badet@unine.ch

Keywords: repeat-induced point mutation, fungal genomics, transposable elements, genome evolution

Short title: Phylogenomic signatures of RIP in fungi

**Abstract**

Fungal genome sizes exhibit more than a 100-fold variation, largely driven by the expansion of repetitive sequences such as transposable elements (TEs). Silencing mechanisms targeting TEs at the epigenetic or transcript level have independently evolved in many lineages. In fungi, repeat-induced point mutation (RIP) targets TEs by recognizing repetitive sequences and inducing mutagenesis. However, the prevalence of RIP across the fungal kingdom and the fidelity of the canonical C-to-T mutation signatures remain unclear. In this study, we address these gaps by tracking shifts in genome architecture across the fungal kingdom. We find that a striking ~30-fold increase in genome size within a clade of leotiomycetes is associated with the absence of several RIP-related genes, suggesting a relaxation of genome defense mechanisms during this expansion. To track the impact of genome defenses, we designed a quantitative screen for RIP-like mutation signatures. The phylum of ascomycetes was unique in showing enrichment in mutation signatures in non-coding and repetitive sequences, consistent with a phylogenetically restricted occurrence of RIP-like genome defense systems. Then, we performed a phylogeny-aware association study to identify gene functions associated with RIP-like mutation signatures. We identified a zinc-finger protein as the strongest candidate underpinning a novel mechanism of genome defenses. Our findings reveal the multifaceted drivers of genome defense systems and their close ties to genome size evolution in fungi, highlighting how proximate molecular mechanisms can shape genome evolution on deep phylogenetic scales.

## Introduction

Mechanisms underlying variation in genome size across eukaryotes have attracted significant attention ever since the discovery of the C-value paradox and the extent of non-coding DNA in most genomes [1]. With increasing genome size, the non-coding fraction becomes the dominant constituent of the genome [2]. Non-coding DNA is composed in large parts of transposable elements (TEs) capable of transposing or creating additional copies in genomes [3]. TE content variation is the primary source of genome size variation among species [4]. Beyond inflating genome size, active TEs can impair fitness through deleterious insertions and destabilize genome integrity [5,6]. Multiple genome defense systems, acting post-transcriptionally and aiming to control gene expression required for TE mobilization, have independently evolved in different lineages [7,8]. Such genomic defense systems are widespread among eukaryotes and are based on DNA or histone methylation, as well as RNA interference (RNAi) [9–11]. However, to what extent genomic defenses effectively contain TE proliferation remains poorly understood.

Despite active genome defense systems, many fungal lineages experienced genome expansions and TEs recurrently escaped from host genome control [12–14]. Variation in repeat content and TE activity have also been found within individual species highlighting the potential rapid turnovers in defense mechanisms [15,16]. Fungi present a highly heterogeneous clade for mechanisms and effectiveness of genome defenses. Most species in the Saccharomycota subphylum (including the Baker's yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) have small and compact genomes nearly devoid of repeats despite lacking DNA methylation and RNAi systems [17–19]. Small genomes have been associated with the colonization of nutrient-rich environments and the capacity to develop as single-celled yeasts [20,21]. However, yeast-forming fungi have emerged multiple times independently across the fungal kingdom and show convergent loss of important metabolic genes and genome streamlining [21–24]. Host-associated fungi also tend to have smaller genomes than their free-living relatives. The genomes of obligate fungal parasites for instance have been shown to harbor small genomes, suggesting that lifestyle might be a major driver of genome evolution [25,26]. Similar observations were made for obligate endosymbiotic bacteria showing reduced effective population size and inefficient selection

[27–29]. Therefore, species with small effective population size are predicted to evolve larger

genomes as a consequence of ineffective excision of mildly deleterious insertions such as those

induced by TE mobilization [27,30]. However, several species including plant pathogenic fungi

experienced TE-mediated genome size increases despite the assumption of large effective population

sizes [31–33]. Hence, current models fail to predict genome size evolution with TE defenses likely

being a poorly modeled factor.

While many fungi have conserved elements of the machinery for DNA methylation, histone

modifications, and RNAi-associated pathways, these systems show considerable variation in their

composition and completeness across fungal lineages [17,18,34]. These widely shared mechanisms of

TE defense are complemented in fungi by specific mechanisms such as targeted mutagenesis of

repeated DNA sequences [35]. This process, known as repeat-induced point mutation (RIP), has been

first described in *Neurospora crassa* and is responsible for the highest known mutation rate outside

viruses [36,37]. In fungal plant pathogens, RIP-mediated mutation rates underpinned rapid evolution

of pathogenicity genes located near repeats [38]. RIP activity likely contributed to the emergence of

genome compartments with contrasted TE and gene contents [39]. A major cost of the RIP genome

defense mechanism is to hinder the evolution through gene duplication. In the *N. crassa* genome,

most paralogs predate the emergence of RIP activity [40]. RIP is thought to be active in the pre-

meiotic cell containing both parental nuclei and promotes C→T mutations in targeted repeats in a

CpA/TpG dinucleotide context [41,42]. RIP efficiency is influenced by the length and identity of the

matched repeat sequences, as well as by the periodicity of interspersed homology between the repeats

[43–46]. In *N. crassa*, two mechanistically distinct RIP pathways have been described. One requires

the *Rid1*-encoded cytosine methyltransferase and targets repetitive sequences themselves, while a

second pathway dependent on the cytosine methyltransferase Dim2 and the histone H3 lysine 9

methyltransferase Dim5, targets the single-copy regions flanked by the repeats. These two pathways

likely operate with different dependencies, genomic targets, and potentially distinct biological roles,

yet this dual origin and its implications are poorly understood. Noticeably, the genes encoding Dim5,

Rid1 and Dim2 have been lost multiple times in the phylum [47–49]. Many genomes of ascomycete

fungi show signatures of RIP in repetitive sequences, however what underpins the patchy distribution

remains unknown. The trade-off between genome defense benefits and costs for paralog creation are

likely creating complex dynamics.

In this study, we tested the hypothesis that RIP activity prevents genome expansion in fungi. For that,

we first determined shifts in genome architecture across 1,239 genomes covering the fungal kingdom.

We then tested whether gains or losses of the RIP machinery predicts TE proliferation rates and

genome size evolution. Finally, we designed a quantitative screen for RIP-associated mutation

signatures to predict previously unknown genetic determinants of RIP activity.

## Results

### Genome evolution in the fungal kingdom

To determine the action and signatures of genome defense systems in the fungal kingdom, we sampled a total of 1,239 genomes representing five major phyla and included 16 outgroup species from Oomycota and Stramenopiles (Supplementary Table S1). Although distantly related, these lineages were chosen as outgroups to help distinguish fungal-specific patterns from those shared with other eukaryotes. The number of assembled scaffolds ranged from 4 to 83,551 for an average of 1,211 while genome size was on average 35 Mb ranging from 7.3 Mb (*Malassezia restricta*) to 733 Mb (*Gigaspora margarita*) (Fig 1A; Supplementary Fig S1). We find that BUSCO scores, which estimate genome assembly completeness based on the presence or absence of a set of highly conserved single-copy orthologs, ranged from 46% completeness (*Botryozyma nematodophila*) to 100 (eight Stramenopiles), for an average of 95% across all phyla (Supplementary Table S1). Larger genomes contain larger fractions classified as repeats (Fig 1B and D) highlighted by the >100 Mb genomes in species from the Mucoromycota. We identified 21 species for which more than 50% of the assembly is made of repetitive DNA for a genome size ranging from 71,5 to 773 Mb (top 5.2% larger genomes, Supplementary Table S1-S2). Genomes from the Saccharomycota are small and mostly devoid of repeats, with a repetitive fraction accounting for 0-20% of the genome (average of 2%). We computed for each species the number of sequences annotated as repeats and that share strong identity (>95% sequence identity over intervals ranging from 100 bp to 10 kb, which we term "repeat identity"; see Fig 1C). As expected for species with few or no repeats, 75% of the Saccharomycotina genomes have less than 10 sequences larger than 1 kb sharing >95% identity (265/353 species). In contrast, 83-98% of the species in the Agaricomycetes, Dothideomycetes, Eurotiomycetes, Sordariomycetes or Leotiomycetes have more than 10 genomic repeats sharing 80-95% identity over 1 kb in sequence length (Supplementary Table S3).

**Fig 1. Genome architecture across 1,239 fungi.**

(A) Assembly metrics of the 1,239 genomes. Assembly contiguity varies greatly in the dataset, but

except for 13 assemblies from the Oomycota phylum (100 genes in the *Strametopiles* database), all

genomes contain more than 100 single-copy BUSCO genes. (B) Cumulative length in base-pairs of

annotated repeats across the 1,239 genome assemblies. Repeats are classified as Rolling-circle (RC),

Long interspersed nuclear element (LINE), Short interspersed nuclear element (SINE), Long terminal

repeats (LTR), DNA transposons (DNA) or unknown. (C) Heatmap showing the number of sequences

sharing more than 95% sequence identity over 100 bp, 1 kb, 5 kb and 10 kb across the 1,239

assemblies. Only a small fraction of genomes carries multiple >5 kb repeats with >95% sequence

identity. Genomes with >1,000 hits of >95% sequence identity were also among the top 25% largest

genomes (31 out of 37 genomes). (D) Correlation between repetitive and non-repetitive genome size

across the 1,239 assemblies. (E) Phylogenetic reconstruction of the relationship based on the

concatenated alignment of 100 protein-coding genes. The resulting phylogeny recapitulates all major

taxonomic classes represented in the dataset with the Saccharomycetes, Sordariomycetes,

Eurotiomycetes, Dothideomycetes and Agaricomycetes forming the largest clades. (F) Correlation of

the phylogenetic independent contrasts of different assembly metrics across the 1,239 genome

assemblies. We used the reconstructed phylogeny to calculate the phylogenetic independent contrast

of each genome assembly metric. Assembly metrics include the average scaffold length (avgLen),

percentage of complete BUSCO genes (complete), GC isochore percentage, L50 (smallest number of

contigs whose length sum makes up half of genome size), length of the largest scaffold in base-pairs

(maxLen), median scaffold length in base-pairs (medianLen), length of the smallest scaffold in base-

pairs (minLen), number of GC segments genome-wide (segmentation), N50 (sequence length of the

shortest contig at 50% of the total assembly length), number of annotated proteins (proteins), number

of scaffolds (seqCounts) and genome size in base-pairs.

To investigate the evolution of genome defense mechanisms in a phylogenetic context, we sampled

100 BUSCO genes with a species occupancy ≥50% and built a phylogenetic tree for the phylum (Fig

1E, Methods). Using phylogenetic independent contrasts, we find that most of the measures of

assembly contiguity are highly correlated (Fig 1F). To prevent spurious associations with genome

assembly quality, we assessed phylogenetic signals for twelve genome assembly metrics. This step

ensures that observed patterns in genome defense features are not confounded by shared evolutionary

history or systematic biases in genome quality across related species. We find that all the tested

assembly metrics show some level of phylogenetic signal. Applying a local indicator of phylogenetic

association, ~79% of the species show phylogenetic signal for at least one of the genome assembly or

architecture metrics (977 / 1239, Supplementary Fig S2; Supplementary Table S4). However, we find

that the phylogenetic signal is evenly distributed along the species tree, suggesting no major

taxonomy driven bias in genome assembly quality. We find that genome size strongly correlates with

protein numbers and GC dinucleotide content ($r = 0.53$ and $0.57$, respectively). We computed genome

segmentation metrics based on the number of segments with distinct GC content. We find that

genome size and segmentation are highly correlated with larger genomes being more segmented ($r$

$=0.76$, Fig 1F). Using the 3' and 5' intergenic distance as a measure of gene density, we show that

~12.5% of the genomes show compartmentalization as defined by stretches of contrasted GC content

(Supplementary Fig S3). In addition, we find that the proportion of the total gene pool found in gene-

sparse regions (>5 kb at both 3' and 5' ends) is strongly positively correlated with genome size and

genome segmentation (Supplementary Fig S4).

**Shifts in genome size associated with trophic changes**

To dissect drivers of genome evolution, we analyzed shifts in genome architecture in a phylogenetic

context. We used a model-based approach that accounts for the shared evolutionary history of species

and allows inference of rate variation along the tree. We parametrized a Brownian motion model of

trait evolution assuming monotonous and heterogeneous evolutionary rates without *a priori*

information on the number or position of rate shifts (*i.e.* Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process). Analyzing five

metrics of genome architecture, we identified a total of 229 shifts across 150 edges of the phylogeny.

We also analyze "trophism", defined as the functional trophic profile inferred from the overall

composition and abundance of carbohydrate-active enzymes (CAZymes) encoded in the genome,

which reflects the organism's capacity to degrade different substrates and thus serves as a proxy for

ecological trophism (Supplementary Table S5). We excluded 11 edges for which we also identified a

shift in an assembly metric, leaving 177 shifts in genome architecture across 139 edges of the

phylogeny (Fig 2AB, Supplementary Table S6). In complement, we also compared assembly quality

between species associated with a shift in genome size to a similar set of closely related species in the

phylogeny. We find no differences in either N50, L50 or the scaffold number between the two sets,

ruling out assembly quality as major bias in the identification of genomic shifts (Supplementary Fig

S5, Supplementary Table S7). The highest number of shifts across the phylogeny were associated

with genome size and trophism changes, while most intense shifts were found for the number of

highly similar repeat sequences (*i.e.* repeat identity metric) and the genome segmentation metric (Fig

2AB). Overall, 40% of the shifts co-occurred with at least one other metric of genome architecture (70

/ 177; Fig 2BD). Shifts in genome size often co-occurred with changes in trophism (Fig 2BD,

Supplementary Table S6). Nearly 60% of the shifts are in terminal branches of the tree including three

co-occurring shifts at the terminal branch of *Aspergillus parasiticus* with an increase in genome size

and repeat identity being associated with trophism change (Supplementary Table S6). Shifts tend to

occur closer to the tree tips than in preceding non-terminal edges (Wilcoxon rank sum test *p*-value =

2.95e-9, Supplementary Fig S6). One notable exception was the ~30-fold increase in genome size

internal to the order of the Leotiomycetes with 29 offspring tips (Fig 2E). Following this large

increase, five non-terminal offspring branches show shifts in genome architecture, including genome

size, repeat identity and GC content. Five shifts in genome size, trophism and repeat identity mapped

to a clade of plant pathogens of the *Rhynchosporium* genus suggesting that the gain of the pathogenic

trophism might have been facilitated by changes in genome architecture (Fig 3A).

**Fig 2. Widespread shifts in genome architecture and trophism across fungi.**

(A) Number of shifts identified across the phylogeny of 1,239 species and for each genomic trait. (B)

The number of shifts identified for each genomic trait and their co-occurrence. (C) Estimated intensity

of the shifts identified for each genomic trait. Shifts are expressed as log2 values of the fold-change.

(D) Visualization of where across the phylogeny shifts co-occur. Bars are colored and sized according

to the shifts estimated intensity expressed as log2 fold-change. Fold-change values for shifts in

trophism were scaled to 1/1000. (E) Phylogenetic positions of the shifts identified for genome size.

Negative values denote an identified decrease in the genomic trait value while positive values denote

an increase in the genomic trait value.

In particular, the 30-fold genome expansion coincides with the inferred loss of the canonical RIP

methyltransferase Rid1, for which ancestral state reconstruction suggests that the gene was already

absent at the onset of genome size expansion (Supplementary Fig. S7; Fig. 3A). We found that both

the maintenance-type DNA methyltransferase Dnmt5 and the *de novo* DNA methyltransferase Dim2

were absent in 13 and 9 species of the same clade of 29 species, respectively (Fig 3A). We confirmed

the loss of the RIP-essential cytosine methyltransferase in the enlarged genome of *Blumeria graminis*

*f. sp. tritici* by analyzing the *Rid1* locus of a genome from the sister genus *Cadophora* (Fig 3B). We

identified synteny relationships for multiple protein coding genes surrounding the *Rid1* sequence in

the *Cadophora* genome matching a single scaffold in the *Blumeria graminis* f. sp. *tritici* assembly.

Most of the genes surrounding *Rid1* were conserved among the genomes, with the locus *in B.*

*graminis f. sp. tritici* clearly lacking the RIP-essential gene (Fig 3B). Across the fungal phylogeny,

Rid1 and Dnmt5 are encoded in mostly conserved loci. In contrast, the genomic locus surrounding

*Dim2* shows poor conservation across the fungal phylogeny (Fig 3C, Supplementary Table S18). This

lack of synteny may reflect recurrent gene loss but could also result from translocations or local

rearrangements. The disrupted genomic context in multiple lineages suggest that *Dim2* may be under

relaxed selective constraint in many fungi. This is consistent with the broader pattern of loss or

pseudogenization observed across Ascomycota and supports the idea that Dim2, while involved in

multiple cellular functions, may not be universally essential.

**Fig. 3. Major shift in genome size detected in Leotiomycetes.**

(A) Phylogenetic branch in which the ~30-fold increase in genome size occurred in the

Leotiomycetes. Presence / absence heatmap of RIP-related genes and genes associated with genome

size. (B) Genomic synteny at the *Rid1* locus between *Blumeria graminis* and *Cadophora* sp. *DSE10*.

Syntenic links are reported for encoded amino-acid sequences. Red links represent hits with

conserved sequence order (same orientation), while blue links indicate inverted (reverse orientation)

matches. Darker shades correspond to higher sequence identity between the aligned regions. The *Rid1*

gene as annotated in *Cadophora* is shown in green. (C) Synteny of 4,666 orthogroups across the 1,239

genomes. The dotted line depicts the average synteny across all orthogroups.

**Genes likely to impact RIP were lost in fungi**

In *N. crassa*, RIP is associated with both DNA and histone methylation, though the precise

mechanisms remain unclear. We analyzed similar functions across the fungal kingdom to assess

potential correlates with genome size shifts. To do this, we constructed a pangenome by clustering all

12,837,225 predicted proteins into orthogroups, which represent sets of homologous genes likely

descending from a common ancestor. The resulting 933,315 orthogroups provide a framework to

distinguish between core, variable, and species-specific gene content across the dataset

(Supplementary Tables S8–10). All species included orthogroups with 10 or more paralogs

(Supplementary Fig S8, Supplementary Table S11). Overall, 79% of the orthogroups were restricted

to single species (*i.e.* unique), and ~20% were present in less than 50% of the species (*i.e.* variable

set). Only 2,434 core orthogroups (0.2%) were present in at least 90% of the species making up ~12-

68% of each species proteome (Fig 4A, Supplementary Table S9). We next investigated the

taxonomic distribution of eight orthogroups encoding proteins known to affect RIP in *N. crassa*. The

heterochromatin protein 1 (Hp1) and the damage-specific DNA binding protein 1 (Ddb1) are highly

conserved in fungi with each being present in >90% of the species (Fig 4B). The histone H3 lysine

methyltransferase Dim5 and the ubiquitin ligase components Cullin4 (Cul4) have homologs identified

in 72% and 66% of the species, respectively. The two cytosine DNA methyltransferases Rid1 and

Dim2 have homologs in only 48% and 51% of the species. Dim2 is nearly absent in saccharomycetes

and eurotiomycetes and Rid1 is absent in saccharomycetes (Fig 4B, Supplementary Fig S9). Species

carrying Rid1/Masc1 homologs have more segmented and larger genomes, as well as lower repeated

sequence identity (Fig 4C). Repeat-targeted mutations have been associated with epigenetic

modifications and DNA repair machinery, although the underlying mechanisms vary across fungi. For

example, while DNA methylation is involved in some species, others show efficient RIP activity in its

absence, and RIP in *N. crassa* operates independently of the canonical recombination machinery

[50,51]. For an exhaustive view of relevant molecular machineries present across fungi, we used

protein family annotations to identify proteins related to DNA methylation, heterochromatin

formation, RNA interference, DNA repair and meiotic recombination (Supplementary Table S12).

These categories were selected because they represent core components of genome defense systems

and are functionally linked to RIP, which occurs during the sexual cycle and involves interactions

between chromatin state, DNA damage response, and transcriptional silencing. A cytosine DNA

methylase domain is present in 871 genomes and mostly absent from *Saccharomycota* and the

*Oomycota* outgroup (Fig 4D, PF00145.18). Proteins with domains associated with DNA repair were

found consistently across most genomes, in concordance with their important role (Supplementary Fig

S10). Histone-related proteins are highly conserved across fungi, with the exception of the histone-

lysine N-methyltransferase E(z), which is missing in species from the *Eurotiomycetes* (Fig 4D,

Supplementary Fig S10). The C2H2 type master regulator of conidiophore development brlA

involved in RNA interference was exclusively found in *Eurotiomycetes* and *Sordariomycetes*.

Furthermore, all ascomycetes lack the RNA exonuclease acting as a negative regulator of RNA

interference (Fig 4D, ERI1). The pool of protein functions showing overlaps with known components

of RIP is taxonomically restricted and shows a patchy distribution.

**Fig. 4. Patchy distribution of RIP-related protein coding genes across fungi.**

(A) Proportion of each of the 1,239 proteomes assigned to pangenome categories. Bars represent, for

each species, the proportion of its proteome assigned to pangenome categories. Categories include

orthogroups present in 80–90% of the species (soft-core), 50–80% (shell), <50% (variable), and

orthogroups found in only one species (unique). The core set of proteins (orthogroups present in

>90% of species) is not shown. (B) Presence / absence heatmap for eight protein coding genes related

to RIP in *Neurospora crassa*. (C) Variation in six measures of genome architecture in relation to the

presence / absence of the eight RIP-related protein coding genes. Presence of the gene is depicted by

shaded boxes. (D) Presence / absence heatmap for five protein families (Pfams) related to DNA

maintenance.

**Widespread nucleotide composition enrichment in repetitive sequences**

Mutagenic mechanisms targeting repeats such as TEs should leave strong signatures in repetitive,

non-coding sequences. We designed a screen for mutation signatures against TEs, which is agnostic

of the specific sequence patterns generated by the mutagenic mechanism. Short, fixed-length DNA

sequences, also called *k-mers*, readily capture genome base composition changes introduced by

mutational processes, such as the RIP C-to-T transitions. Under active RIP-like mutagenic process,

we expect that specific *k-mers* will be systematically skewed in their frequency in repeated regions

relative to other genomic compartments. In contrast, in the absence of directed mutagenesis, the action

of neutral drift or random mutation should alter *k-mer* frequencies stochastically, without consistent

directional biases towards any genomic compartment. Our approach started by segmenting each

genome into coding, non-coding and repeated sequences to assess the abundance of 336 specific *k-*

*mers* (including 16 dimers, 64 trimers and 256 tetramers; Fig 5A). These three genomic compartments

are not mutually exclusive as repeated sequences such as TEs can carry genes required for

mobilization or only include non-coding sequences. We computed *k-mer* frequencies only for full

genome assemblies and after filtering for scaffolds larger than 50 kb to reduce artefacts

(Supplementary Fig S11). We found that nearly all species have at least one *k-mer* that is >2-fold

enriched in non-coding sequences compared to coding sequences (1,027 / 1,239 species, Fig 5C,

Supplementary Table S13). A total of 152 tetramers were overrepresented in non-coding sequences

with a >2-fold enriched in 1,027 species (Supplementary Fig S12). We identified 26 *k-mers* with >10-

fold enrichment and these *k-mers* were found across 53 species grouped into seven taxonomic classes

(Supplementary Fig S13-S14). Finally, we identified a set of 10 *k-mers* >2-fold enriched in non-

coding sequences in ~40% of all analyzed species. This broadly enriched set of 10 *k-mers* were all

AT-rich tetramers consistent with sequence signatures generated by RIP mutations (*i.e.* CpA

dinucleotide contexts).

To expand the screen for RIP-like repeat-directed genome defense mechanisms, we analyzed

hallmarks of the rapid loss of sequence identity as expected for heavily mutated TEs. For this, we

contrasted repeated sequences against the entirety of the non-coding sequences (Fig 5B,

Supplementary Table S13). We found that in most species the *k-mer* frequency at repeats largely

reflects the frequency at non-coding sequences, suggesting that for most genomes the repeated

sequences are not targeted by an active RIP-like mechanism (Fig 5BC; Supplementary Fig S15).

However, we also identified 68 *k-mers* that are enriched >2-fold in non-coding sequences compared to

coding sequences, and simultaneously enriched >2-fold in repetitive regions compared to non-

repetitive regions (Fig 5D, Supplementary Table S13). In species of the dothideomycetes,

eurotiomycetes, leotiomycetes and sordariomycetes, AT-rich *k-mers* were found even >5-fold

enriched in repeats compared to all non-coding sequences (Fig 5C, Supplementary Fig S16). In

addition, ~60% of the species with a strong *k-mer* enrichment in repeats carry only few large

sequences with >95% identity (Supplementary Fig S17). This matches expectations for a RIP-like

mechanism driving the degeneration of repeat sequences (279/466, average number of >5kb

sequences with >95% identity = 23). Interestingly, species with large and repetitive genomes carry on

average more repeats of high sequence identity, consistent with recent TE proliferation unopposed by

a RIP-like mechanism (Supplementary Fig S18).

To formally assess the impact of repeat-directed mutagenesis such as RIP on *k-mer* frequencies, we

analyzed experimental crosses in *Neurospora crassa* [52]. In these crosses, parental strains were

engineered to contain an 802 bp duplicated sequence separated by a 729 bp linker sequence in the

form of a repeat-linker-repeat (RLR) sequence that serves as target for RIP mutations. As controls, we

included crosses of strains with deletions for the two key DNA methyltransferases, Rid1 and Dim2

(Δ*rid1*, Δ*dim2*, and Δ*rid1*Δ*dim2* mutants). For each cross, 11 to 16 progeny were sequenced at the

RLR region. Across individual crosses, we detected between 0 and 108 mutations within the RLR

sequence. In some progeny, these mutations resulted in up to a 17-fold enrichment of AT-rich *k-mers*

(Supplementary Fig S19, TAA *k-mer*) specifically within the duplicated sequence, but not in the

adjacent linker. Notably, no shift in *k-mer* composition was observed in Δ*rid1* or Δ*rid1*Δ*dim2* crosses,

while Δ*dim2* crosses still showed enrichment of AT-rich *k-mers*. These results indicate that Rid1 is

required for the RIP-induced skewing of *k-mer* frequencies, and confirm that RIP can leave a strong,

localized signature on sequence composition that resemble those identified in repetitive sequences of

other fungi.

**Fig. 5. Identification of repeat-enriched mutation signatures in fungal genomes.**

(A) Schematic of the approach used to assess signatures of repeat-targeted mutations. In each of the

three non-exclusive genomic compartments, we first counted *k-mers* occurrence that we normalized to

frequencies ($f$) by computing the ratio of individual *k-mers* over the sum ($\Sigma$) of the *k-mer* count in the

compartment. Enrichment values for the non-coding and the repeat compartments were finally

computed as frequency ratios (B) Correlation between the frequencies at repetitive sequences and

non-coding sequences of *k-mers* highly enriched in non-coding sequences. Data is shown for four

major taxonomical classes. (C) Heatmap for the top 23 *k-mer* enrichments in non-coding sequences

compared to coding sequences. (D) For each genome, bars show the number of *k-mers* that have both

repeat and non-coding enrichment values > 2 (upper bars) or that have only the non-coding

enrichment value > 2 (lower panel). (E) Proportion of *k-mers* enriched >2-fold in both non-coding and

repeat regions across all genomes. Species are grouped by taxonomic class. Values larger than 0.5 is

consistent with recent RIP activity. Dot size represents the number of *k-mers* enriched >2-fold at

repeats.

We assigned each species as putatively RIP-proficient if more than 50% of the *k-mers* enriched >2-

fold in non-coding regions were also enriched in repeats (Supplementary Table S13-S14). This

threshold reflects the expectation that a mutagenic process like RIP should produce a consistent and

widespread signature across both compartments. Importantly, this pattern is also consistent with the

known dynamics of RIP, whereby older TE insertions no longer annotated as repeats still carry the

mutational signature, leading to similar *k-mer* enrichment in non-coding regions relative to coding

sequences. Using a threshold of least 10 *k-mers* with a 2-fold enrichment in non-coding regions and

repeats, we found 130 species showing strong signatures of recent episodes of repeat-directed

mutations (Fig 5E, 22 Dothideomycetes, 45 Eurotiomycetes, 50 Sordariomycetes and 13

Leotiomycetes, respectively). We identified 105 genomes with enriched *k-mers* in non-coding regions

and repeats at a ratio of 0.3-0.5. Such genomes experienced most likely only trace activity of a RIP-

like mechanism, and the mechanism ceased activity long ago. Using these discrete categories for

evidence of RIP-like activity, we found that Ascomycota genomes with trace or ancient RIP activity

tend to be smaller than genomes with no traces of RIP (Supplementary Fig S20; Tukey's HSD Test

for multiple comparisons $p < 9.3e-7$). We also computed pairwise protein sequence identity per

genome and found that genomes with trace or ancient RIP activity encoded fewer proteins with recent

duplicates (Supplementary Fig S21). In conjunction, our results strongly suggest that RIP-like

genomic defenses share a preference for CpA dinucleotides and were active in only few fungal clades.

Furthermore, RIP-like defenses tend to be associated with smaller genomes and lower protein

sequence identity suggesting effective defenses against genome expansion at the cost of constraining

gene duplications.

**Phylogenetic associations identify a new candidate gene involved in a RIP-like process**

We conducted phylogeny-aware association analyses to identify candidate genes potentially involved

in RIP-like mutational processes and broader genome architecture. This method accounts for shared

evolutionary histories and controls the risk of false positives due to phylogenetic relatedness.

Specifically, we tested associations between orthogroup presence/absence and variation in four

genomic features across the phylogeny: genome size, genome segmentation, fungal trophism, and k-

mer enrichment in repetitive regions (a proxy for RIP-like mutation signatures, Supplementary Table

S15). Using three independent models, we identified 1,348 orthogroups with significant associations

(Supplementary Table S16), of which 112 were supported by at least two models and considered

robust (Fig 6A). All associations were exclusive to individual genomic characteristics, with fungal

trophism accounting for most of the associations (63 orthogroups, Fig 6A). Trophism-associated

orthogroups encode lipase, cupin and hydrolase activity matching expectations for their niche

adaptation (Fig 6B). Most associated orthogroups reflect the species phylogeny and trophic lifestyles

(Fig 6C, Supplementary Fig S22). Strikingly, many associated orthogroups were missing from the

Saccharomycota species and other monomertrophs in other clades (Supplementary Fig S22). Features

of genome segmentation associated with 13 orthogroups found in 62-110 ascomycetes, with the

majority belonging to the class of Sordariomycetes, Leotiomycetes and Dothideomycetes (136, 50 and

44 species respectively; Fig 6C). The orthogroups include a total of 1,232 proteins with largely

unknown functions with the exception of four orthogroups encoding mostly SKG6, PAN, zinc-finger

and CFEM domains (Fig 6B). A further 13 orthogroups are associated with variation in genome size

(Fig 6AC). About 20% of all protein sequences included in orthogroups associated with genome size

encode AAA+ ATPase domains, which are often identified as TE mobilization proteins

(Supplementary Table S17). This further supports the strong correlation between genome size and TE

activity.

**Fig. 6. Identification of protein coding genes associated with repeat-enriched *k-mer* frequencies.**

(A) Number of orthogroups associated with genome architecture. (B) Word cloud of the most

represented protein family annotations of orthogroups associated with genome architecture. (C)

Presence / absence heatmap of the orthogroups associated with genome architecture. (D) Effect size of

the top associated orthogroups (presence/absence variation) with six genomic traits expressed by eta-

squared values. (E) Phylogenetic relationship of proteins assigned to the orthogroup OG0000460

associated with *k-mer* enrichment at repeats.

Importantly, we identified a single orthogroup (OG0000460) significantly associated with *k-mer*

enrichment in repetitive sequences (eta-squared $\eta^2$ = 0.4; Fig. 6C–D), our metric for RIP-like

mutational activity. The orthogroup is shared by 598 species ($n$ = 2,853 proteins; ~97% of

Ascomycota excluding Saccharomycota). The most abundant domain encoded by these proteins is a

DNA binding bZIP domain (Fig 6B). Furthermore, genomes carrying the OG0000460 orthogroup

show stronger *k-mer* enrichment at repeats as well as larger and more segmented genomes than those

without the orthogroup (Supplementary Fig S23). In addition, we found that a clade of six species

including the plant pathogen *Blumeria graminis* f. sp. *tritici* with genome size variation of 41-140 Mb

lack between 1-3 genes associated with variation in genome size (Fig 3A and 6AC). In *N. crassa*,

OG0000460 includes two highly conserved proteins of 260 and 379 amino acids, respectively (Fig

6E). The best structural match for the two *N. crassa* proteins were found with A0A2J8CDV3 (5

members), which includes five members from the fungal kingdom (A0A1V1TG90) in addition to a

protein encoded by the plant *Digitaria exilis* (*Poaceae* family). Our results show that no single gene

likely controls genome size evolution in fungi. Furthermore, we find that Ascomycetes harbor

numerous clades with strong evidence for yet undescribed RIP mechanisms underpinning convergent

evolution in genome defenses.

**Discussion**

Eukaryotic genome size variation is most likely driven by TE activity [53–55]. Here, we showed that

genome size evolution can be associated both with the presence of specific orthogroups and sequence

signatures of recent RIP activity. Most fungal genomes showed strong *k-mer* compositional

enrichment at non-coding sequences compared to coding sequences. However, only a third of the

genomes showed a concomitant compositional enrichment both in non-coding and repeated

sequences, suggesting that mechanisms of repeat-driven mutations are not conserved across fungi. In

ascomycetes, RIP targets repeated sequences to promote C-to-T transitions [43,56]. Consistent with

RIP, we found that all repeat-enriched *k-mer* are AT-rich and reminiscent of RIP signatures. Also, we

found that species with repeat-enriched *k-mers* were almost exclusively ascomycetes, and this phylum

also encodes the clearest molecular toolset for RIP. We used our quantitative measure of mutation

bias to pinpoint a gene with a strong positive association to AT-rich *k-mers*. Finally, we observed that

a ~30-fold increase in genome size in leotiomycetes, dated to approximately 120 million years before

present, coincided with the loss of several RIP-related genes, suggesting that relaxation of repeat-

induced mutational constraints on TEs may have contributed to, or enabled, their accumulation and

further genome expansion in this lineage.

Bursts in TEs are often attributed to the inactivation of genomic defenses and the de-repression of

active elements [57–59]. Here, we show that RIP activity as observed in *N. crassa* is likely restricted

to a small number of ascomycetes. Furthermore, we show that *N. crassa* carries sequence signatures

consistent with relict RIP activity, because signatures mostly mapped to non-coding sequences

excluding repetitive DNA. Such a mutation bias is most likely explained by weak or dormant TE

activity in the species. Using these sequence signatures, we show that most species previously

reported to harbor RIP-like mutations do not show biased nucleotide compositions in repeats. For

instance, we found no evidence for recent RIP activity in repeats of the TE -rich genome of the barley

pathogen *Pyrenophora teres f. teres* with *ca.* 30% of the genome predicted to be RIP-affected [60].

Furthermore, the *Pyricularia grisea* lineage carries signatures of ancient RIP activity but no such

evidence in the closely related *P. oryzae*. Even though sexual recombination and RIP-like mutations

were documented in *P. oryzae*, most recent divergence occurred through clonal reproduction, which is

expected to disable RIP due to the lack of meiosis. This is supported by a recent study showing that

recombining and non-recombining populations of the blast fungus *P. oryzae* differ in RIP-like

mutation accumulation [61,62]. The *P. oryzae* example illustrates the limitations of using mutational

signatures within single genomes to infer the occurrence of RIP in a species.

The paradigm for the genes required for RIP is confirmed in seven species, including *N. crassa*,

supporting the existence of a universal toolbox underpinning the genome defense mechanism [61,63–

67]. We find however that near 50% of the species lack one of the two important DNA

methyltransferases. The cytosine methyltransferase Dim2 and adenine methylation were lost in most

Eurotiomycetes. Another cytosine methyltransferase, Dnmt5, was lost in most Sordariomycetes,

including *N. crassa* [17,48]. Among the species with experimental evidence for RIP, two most likely

encode Dnmt5 (*i.e., P. anserina* and *L. maculans*) showing both weaker RIP signatures [63,67].

Interestingly, most experimental evidence for RIP strength outside of *N. crassa* indicated less

effective RIP mutations, in particular in unlinked repeats [61,63–67]. In *P. anserina,* premeiotic

recombination and RIP are much more frequent in a deletion mutants with delayed fruiting-body

development, further highlighting the differences in RIP activity among fungi [68]. As an example,

the DNA methyltransferase Rid1 is essential for RIP but also for normal sexual development in *P.*

*anserina* but not in *N. crassa* [47,69–72]. This is highlighted by the fact that in *P. anserina* the mild

RIP-like mutations observed upon sexual recombination are independent from cytosine methylation of

the targeted repeats, in contrast to *N. crassa* [67,71].

Our kingdom-wide screen reveals complex dynamics between genome defenses and genome size in

fungi. By analyzing over a thousand fungal genomes, we demonstrate that genome size variation is

intricately linked to TE accumulation and genome compartmentalization. While genes essential for

genome defense against TEs are frequently lost across the fungal kingdom, this loss is not consistently

associated with major TE-driven genome expansion. Instead, ecological factors appear to be the

primary drivers of genome evolution, as most changes in genome size coincide with trophism

transitions. Within Ascomycota, ancient signatures of RIP activity correlate with smaller genomes,

indicating effective control against genome inflation. This kingdom-wide perspective underscores that

while RIP mutational signatures are strongly associated with ascomycetes, RIP presence and

effectiveness are highly dynamic within the phylum. This highlights the value of comparative

genomic studies in uncovering the interplay between genome defense mechanisms and genome

architecture. Integrating intraspecific pangenomes into this approach presents further opportunities to

associate TE dynamics with genome evolution. Evolve-and-resequence experiments may reveal host

genome responses to TE activity and short-term effects of selection on genome defenses mechanisms

[73,74].

**Methods**

**Fungal genomes and annotation procedure**

The genomes of 1,342 species were retrieved from two different sources (Supplementary Table S1).

The yeast genomes and their respective gene annotation were taken from the study

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2018.10.023 (available on figshare at

https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/Tempo_and_mode_of_genome_evolution_in_the_budding_yeast

_subphylum/5854692). All other published fungal and Oomycota genomes were retrieved from NCBI

together with their respective gene annotation. We calculated assembly statistics using the *stat*

function from the *pyfastx* tool version 0.7.0 [75]. As an additional genome metric, we computed

variation in GC content across the assemblies using the *GC-Profile* method [76]. Using a

segmentation threshold of 100 and a minimum length of 200 bp, we estimated genome segmentation

by counting the number of segments identified by GC-Profile.

**Inference of species trophisms**

We categorized species according to their trophic mode as developed by Hane et al [77]. Using gene

annotation of the 1,239 individual species genomes, we searched for carbohydrate-degrading enzymes

(CAZymes; dbCAN version 10 [78]). We used the *hmmscan* function from the HMMER package

version 3.3.2 to identify CAZYmes in each of the proteomes using the dbCAN hidden Markov models

as queries [79]. We then applied the *CATAStrophy* algorithm to classify each species trophism given

its CAZymes pool. For each proteome we also extract the fitted CATAStrophy principal component

values based on its CAZymes frequencies. The first two axes of the principal component analysis

were used as a quantitative measure of trophic lifestyles.

**Species phylogeny reconstruction**

For the species tree reconstruction, we followed a similar method as in [80]. Briefly, we first

identified a set of single-copy orthologous genes in each of the 1,342 genomes using *BUSCO* version

4.1.4 [81] searching the Fungi or Oomycota orthology database version 10, respectively. The method

identified a maximum set of 756 BUSCO genes in the genome of the fungus *Colletotrichum*

*plurivorum*. Using a minimal threshold of 50% gene occupancy (> 378 BUSCO genes), we proceeded

with 1,263 individual species. BUSCO genes were then translated into protein sequences respecting

the species' genetic code (code 12 for Saccharomycota species except for *Pachysolen tannophilus* for

which code 26 was used and code 1 for all other species). A random sample of 100 of the resulting

protein sequences were then concatenated using the geneStitcher.py script

(https://github.com/ballesterus/Utensils) and aligned using the *mafft* alignment tool (version v7.475, --

maxiterate 1000 –auto parameters) [82]. The resulting alignment was trimmed using trimal v1.4.rev15

with the -gappyout option [83]. We estimated the best molecular evolutionary models for the

concatenated 100 protein sequences using *partitionfinder* version 2 [84] with the quick option (-q)

while using *RAxML* for the analysis version 8.2.12 [85]. The resulting partitioned model was then

applied for phylogenetic inference using iqtree2 version 2.1.2 after 1,000 replicates for ultrafast

bootstrap and 2 independent runs (-B 1000 --runs 2) [86]. Finally, the tree was rooted using *Achlya*

*hypogyna* as the oomycete outgroup species with the *root* function in the ape R package v 5.7-1 with

resolve.root = TRUE [87]. We further excluded 24 redundant species (*i.e.* branch lengths of 0) to

work on a final set of 1,239 genomes.

***K-mer* frequency estimates**

We computed the frequencies of all possible 336 *k-mer* with size 2, 3 or 4, across all 1,239 fungal

genome assemblies. First, we used the gene annotation available for each genome assembly to define

coding and non-coding compartments. Using the *subtractBed* function from the *bedtools* suite v2.26.0

[88], we extracted coordinates of all the intergenic segments for each individual assembly ("gene"

was used as the feature to subtract, leaving introns as part of the coding fraction of the genome). Next,

we masked the genome assemblies using either the genic or intergenic coordinates (*maskfasta*

function from the *bedtools* suite). We then counted *k-mer*s in either the gene-masked and intergenic-

masked assemblies using *jellyfish* 2.3.0 [89]. To account for variation in assembly contiguity, we also

counted *k-mer*s after filtering out the scaffolds smaller than 50 kb in length using the *seqtk seq -L*

function, version 1.4-r122 [90]. Finally, to account for the size of the coding and non-coding

compartments in each genome, we normalized the frequency of each *k-mer* by the sum of all *k-mer*

counts in their respective compartment. For each *k-mer*, its non-coding enrichment was represented by

the frequency in non-coding sequences over its frequency in coding sequences (*i.e.,* the *k-mer* is

defined as enriched in non-coding sequences with values > 1).

**Repeat identification and annotation**

To identify putative repetitive elements, we used *RepeatModeler* v2.0.1 using rmblast v2.10.0 in

combination with *LTR_Harvest* and *LTR_retriever* (-engine ncbi and -LTRStruct options) [91–93].

For five small genomes we reduced the sampling size (-genomeSampleSizeMax option) to 8100000

or 810000 (Kazsaulg = 8100000, Canathen = 8100000, Malrestr = 8100000, Psehubei = 8100000,

Kazaerob = 810000, respectively). Using the consensus sequences identified in each genome, we next

annotated repeats with *RepeatMasker* version 4.1.5 using a cutoff value of 250 and skipping bacterial

insertion element (-cutoff 250 and -no_is options) [94]. The resulting repeat annotation was filtered

for simple_repeats and low_complexity regions, interrupted repeats were merged using the helper

script *parseRM_merge_interrupted.pl* and annotations were finally converted to gff3 format using the

*rmOutToGFF3.pl* script (https://github.com/4ureliek/Parsing-RepeatMasker-Outputs). Based on the

*RepeatModeler* classification, we assigned each putative repeat to either of five major families,

namely DNA, Long Terminal Repeat (LTR), Rolling Circle (RC), Long Interspersed Nuclear Element

(LINE), Short Interspersed Nuclear Element (SINE), leaving the rest assigned to unclassified

(Unknown). To calculate the *k-mer* frequencies at repeats, we used the repeat annotation of each

genome assembly to recover their sequences using the *bedtools getfasta* tool [88]. As for the coding

and non-coding compartments, we counted *k-mer*s at repeat sequences using jellyfish 2.3.0 and

calculated for each *k-mer* its normalized frequency using the sum of all *k-mer* counts at repeats within

each genome. For each *k-mer*, the repeat enrichment is represented by the frequency at repetitive

sequences over its frequency at non-coding sequences, *i.e* the *k-mer* is enriched in repetitive

sequences for values > 1.

**Repeat sequence identity**

To estimate to which extent each genome contains long stretches of high sequence identity, we

applied a blast-based strategy. Using the repeat annotation gff files of each genome, we first merged

overlapping repeats with the *bedtools merge* function and extracted the resulting repeated sequences

using *bedtools getfasta* [88]. The set of repeats of each genome was next blasted against itself using

*blastn* from the BLAST 2.10.0+ suite using a word size of 11 and reporting only the top 10 sequences

with hits of ≥80% sequence identity (-max_target_seqs 10 -perc_identity 80 -word_size 11). The

resulting blastn results were parsed by removing self-hits (query hit against itself) and keeping only

the first hit if for a same target sequence multiple overlapping hits with identical alignment score were

identified (*i.e* same pident, length, mismatch, gapopen and qstart). The remaining hits were then

assigned to the following four categories based on their alignment length and sequence identity score:

alignment length > 100 bp, >1,000 bp, >5,000 bp or >10,000 bp, with sequence identities between 80-

95% or >95%.

**Genome compartmentalization**

To assess the concordance of genome segmentation metric with the "two-speed" genome concept, we

estimated genome compartmentalization using gene density. For this, we calculated for each gene in

each genome the distance to the nearest gene in the 5' and 3' context. We defined regions where

coding sequences are flanked on both sides by intergenic sequences >5 kb as gene sparse. We

considered genomes with >1% of their gene pool with flanking intergenic regions >5 kb as

compartmentalized.

**Phylogenetic signal and independent contrasts**

We estimated phylogenetic signals for the 12 genome assembly metrics using the *phylosignal* package

in R (version 1.3, [95]). We first concatenated phylogenetic relationship and trait variables into a

phylo4d object using the *phylo4d* function implemented in the phylobase package and assessed the

signal for each trait using the five implemented methods by the *phyloSignal* function, namely,

Blomberg's K and K*, Abouheif's Cmean, Moran's I, and Pagel's Lambda

(https://github.com/fmichonneau/phylobase). In addition, we computed the correlation between the

same 12 genome assembly metrics using the phylogenetically independent contrasts (method by

Felsenstein 1985 [96]) and implemented in the *ape* package in R version 5.7-1 [87]. We computed the

correlation between each pair of metrics by fitting a linear model between the two independent

contrasts (fit = lm(iy~ix-1)) in R. For each linear model, we used the coefficient of determination as a

measure of correlation between the two variables (adjusted R-squared), and the *p*-value estimates

were adjusted using the false discovery rate method in R.

**Identification of putative shifts in genome architecture**

To identify the edges in the phylogeny with putative major shifts in genome architecture, we fitted a

modified random walk process of trait evolution modeled by an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU) process

and implemented in the *phylolm* package in R version 2.6.2 [97]. For each variable, we fitted the

model with $\log_{10}$ transformed values except for null values (kept as 0), as well as the PC1 and PC2

values of the CATAStrophy output. Note that 15 species had no identified repeated sequence, and we

used the average value of repeat identity for modelling. For each model, we allowed a maximum of

100 shifts across the phylogeny (nmax = 100 option). Best models were selected based on log-

likelihoods using the modified Bayes information criterion (mBIC, [98]). The *OUshifts* function

outputs the edge on the tree where the shift occurred and the estimated shifts in the expected value of

the trait (pshift and shift values in the output). For each edge with a putative trait shift, we recovered

the underlying tips in the tree using the corresponding node with the *offspring* function from the

*tidytree* package v0.4.5 [99].

**Gene orthology analysis**

We inferred gene orthology across the 1,239 species based on protein sequence identity. For that we

used *orthofinder* version 2.4.1, which implements *diamond* for homology search (version 0.9.24)

[100]. From the entire set of 13,863,658 single proteins, *orthofinder* retrieved 1,008,244 orthogroups.

We assessed pangenome categories based on the frequency of each orthogroup in the dataset. We

considered orthogroups present in >90% of the 1,239 species as "core" orthogroups. Orthogroups

assigned to the "softcore" category were present in >80% but <90% of the species. The "shell"

orthogroups were present in >50% but <80% of the species. Orthogroups present in <50% of the

species were considered "variable" and those present in only one species were called "singletons". We

found major differences in the orthogroup composition across the different taxonomic groups in the

dataset. Saccharomycotes have fewer protein coding sequences than the rest of the dataset but ~54%

were assigned core proteins. Species in the Oomycota outgroup have a large fraction of their

proteome assigned as variable (average of 61% of the proteins). Most orthogroups are well defined in

the dataset, as ~84% are single-copy and likely representing true orthologs (790,441 / 933,315). Six

orthogroups were present in all 1,239 species of the dataset, and all six are multi-copy and associated

with functions related to repeat elements (Supplementary Table S8). The number of proteins assigned

to an orthogroup ranges from 1-43,748 (Supplementary Table S11). We identified 11,070 orthogroups

with ≥10 representatives in at least one genome, and 142,874 orthogroups with more than one

representative in at least one species ("multi-copy", Supplementary Fig S8, Supplementary Table

S11). We identified 15 species for which >40% of the proteome was constituted of multi-copy

orthogroups for genome sizes ranging from ~16Mb to >770Mb (*Martiniozyma abiesophila* and

*Gigaspora margarita,* respectively).

**Annotation of functional domains across proteomes**

To identify putative functional domains across the species proteomes, we downloaded the annotated

domains hidden Markov models from the Pfam release 31 [101]. We used the *hmmsearch* function

from the *Hmmer* package version 3.3.2 to scan all the species proteomes for functional domains (--

noali option to speed up the process) [79]. We then filtered the resulting outputs for a minimal

bitscore of 50 and a maximal e-value of $1e^{-17}$ using the HmmPy.py script

(https://github.com/EnzoAndree/HmmPy).

**Identification of putative determinants of genome architecture**

We applied a hypothesis-free approach to identify putative genetic determinants of trait variation in a

phylogenetic context. We used the *treeWAS* v1 package in R, a method that performs genome-wide

associations between a continuous or binary trait and biallelic genomic loci correcting for the

confounding effects of relatedness. We performed association tests for a total of 27 traits, including

genomic metric, trophism, and *k-mer* enrichment (Supplementary Table S15). For each variable, we

performed the association of $\log_{10}$ transformed values except for null values that were set to 0 and the

PC1 and PC2 values of the CATAStrophy output, which was kept untransformed. For the genotype

matrix, we encoded binary values representing presence/absence of the 10,474 orthogroups identified

by *orthofinder* with a minimum frequency of 5% in the dataset (see "gene orthology analysis").

Similarly, we performed association analyses using a presence / absence matrix of the 18,259 protein

families (Pfam) identified using *hmmsearch* with the HMM models of the Pfam release 31 (see

"annotation of functional domains across proteomes"). For each trait, we reported the associated

orthogroups and Pfams given the terminal, simultaneous and subsequent association tests performed

by *treeWAS* (Supplementary Table S16). For the associated orthogroups of interest, protein sequences

were aligned using Clustal Omega version 1.2.4 allowing for five iterations (--iterations 5) [102].

Gaps in the resulting alignment were trimmed using *trimAl* v1.4.rev15 and gaps in the resulting

alignment were further excluded using the -gappyout option [83]. The phylogenetic relationship

among proteins was inferred from the trimmed and filtered alignment using FastTree under the

Whelan-And-Goldman 2001 model after 1,000 bootstraps (-boot 1000 and -wag options) [103]. Based

on the annotated HMM domains for each protein assigned to the orthogroup, we also counted the

occurrence of Pfams for each protein sequence. For the most co-occurring Pfams, we illustrated the

protein topology using a random representative using the *drawProteins* package in R [104].

## Protein family analysis

We focused on a set of protein families related to DNA biology (DNA methylation and DNA repair).

For that, we screened the Hidden Markov Models domains identified across the entire set of proteins

given a Pfam identifier (see "annotation of functional domains", Supplementary Table S12). All

proteins with a hit for a given Pfam domain were filtered for non-canonical sequences (i.e., no

methionine start, in-frame stop codons, https://github.com/milesroberts-123/extract-weird-proteins).

The remaining hits were used to assess presence/absence of DNA-repair and DNA methylation related

Pfams in each genome (Supplementary Table S12). To estimate presence-absence of the eight *N.*

*crassa* RIP-related genes and their orthogroups, we used the *N. crassa* protein sequences to identify

RIP-associated orthogroups. For the list of genes associated with meiotic recombination,

heterochromatin, histone biology and RNA interference (Supplementary Table S12), we used

*diamond* in sensitive mode to identify the best reciprocal blast hit among the full set of 13,863,658

proteins (version 0.9.24). For each of the query proteins, the best reciprocal hit was used to define

presence/absence of the corresponding gene for each genome.

**Protein identity analysis**

For the 1,239 genomes, we performed *diamond blastp* searches using the set of annotated proteins

within a genome as both query and subject (default parameters, version 0.9.24). The resulting

alignments were filtered for redundant hits and classified according to their length (<=50, 50<100,

100<500 or >500 amino acids sequence alignment).

**Orthogroup synteny analyses**

We focused on the set of 4,666 orthogroups present in >5% of the dataset, single-copy in >80% of the

genomes and represented in at least 10 different taxonomic classes (Supplementary Table S18). For

each of the 4,666 orthogroups, we recovered the 10 neighboring genes in each direction, the

orthogroup assignment and counted their occurrence near the focal orthogroup in the dataset. For each

pair of focal orthogroups and nearby orthogroups, we estimated their synteny ratio by dividing the

number of species with the orthogroup in range of the focal orthogroup by the total number of species

carrying the focal orthogroup. The synteny of each of the 4,666 orthogroups was summarized by the

mean synteny of all the orthogroups found in the 10+10 neighboring gene range.

**Experimental evidence of RIP-induced shifts in *k-mer* composition**

To assess the direct impact of RIP mutations on *k-mer* frequencies, we used the data generated from

[52] and available on github (https://github.com/jujushen/NcrassaRID/tree/main). Briefly, the RLR

DNA fragment containing an 802 bp repeats with complete or partial homology (R) separated by a

729 bp linker (L) was integrated into the wild-type or the *Δrid1*, *Δdim2* and *Δrid1Δdim2* deletion

strains of each mating-type. Between 10 and 20 single spores resulting from each of the four crosses

were isolated and PCR-sequenced for the entire RLR locus. For each of these RLR sequence, we

counted *k-mer* occurrence at the linker and duplicated regions separately using jellyfish. We

computed the frequency of each *k-mer* by normalizing raw counts by the sum of all counts in the focal

sequence. Finally, we report frequency ratios by dividing the *k-mer* frequency in the progeny by its

frequency in the parental sequence.

**References**

1.    Thomas CA. The genetic organization of chromosomes. Annual review of genetics. Annu Rev

Genet; 1971. pp. 237–256. doi:10.1146/annurev.ge.05.120171.001321

2.    Hatje K, Mühlhausen S, Simm D, Kollmar M. The Protein-Coding Human Genome:

Annotating High-Hanging Fruits. BioEssays. 2019;41: 1900066. doi:10.1002/BIES.201900066

3.    Arkhipova IR. Neutral Theory, Transposable Elements, and Eukaryotic Genome Evolution.

Mol Biol Evol. 2018;35: 1332–1337. doi:10.1093/MOLBEV/MSY083

4.    Burns KH, Boeke JD. Human Transposon Tectonics. Cell. 2012;149: 740–752.

doi:10.1016/J.CELL.2012.04.019

5.    Payer LM, Burns KH. Transposable elements in human genetic disease. Nature Reviews

Genetics 2019 20:12. 2019;20: 760–772. doi:10.1038/s41576-019-0165-8

6.    Hedges DJ, Deininger PL. Inviting instability: Transposable elements, double-strand breaks,

and the maintenance of genome integrity. Mutation Research/Fundamental and Molecular

Mechanisms of Mutagenesis. 2007;616: 46–59. doi:10.1016/J.MRFMMM.2006.11.021

7.    Slotkin RK, Martienssen R. Transposable elements and the epigenetic regulation of the

genome. Nat Rev Genet. 2007;8: 272–285. doi:10.1038/nrg2072

8.    Gladyshev E. Repeat-Induced Point Mutation and Other Genome Defense Mechanisms in

Fungi. Microbiol Spectr. 2017;5. doi:10.1128/microbiolspec.funk-0042-2017

9.    Buchon N, Vaury C. RNAi: a defensive RNA-silencing against viruses and transposable

elements. Heredity 2006 96:2. 2005;96: 195–202. doi:10.1038/sj.hdy.6800789

10.   Fedoroff N V. Transposable elements, epigenetics, and genome evolution. Science Nov 9,

2012 pp. 758–767.

11.   Zhou W, Liang G, Molloy PL, Jones PA. DNA methylation enables transposable element-

driven genome expansion. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2020;117: 19359–19366.

doi:10.1073/PNAS.1921719117/SUPPL_FILE/PNAS.1921719117.SAPP.PDF

12.   Tobias PA, Schwessinger B, Deng CH, Wu C, Dong C, Sperschneider J, et al. Austropuccinia

psidii, causing myrtle rust, has a gigabase-sized genome shaped by transposable elements. G3

Genes|Genomes|Genetics. 2021;11. doi:10.1093/G3JOURNAL/JKAA015

13.    Kelkar YD, Ochman H. Causes and Consequences of Genome Expansion in Fungi. Genome

Biol Evol. 2012;4: 13–23. doi:10.1093/GBE/EVR124

14.    Stajich JE, Lovett B, Lee E, Macias AM, Hajek AE, Bivort BL de, et al. Signatures of

transposon-mediated genome inflation, host specialization, and photoentrainment in

Entomophthora muscae and allied entomophthoralean fungi. Elife. 2023;12.

doi:10.7554/ELIFE.92863.1

15.    Nakamoto AA, Joubert PM, Krasileva K V. Intraspecific Variation of Transposable Elements

Reveals Differences in the Evolutionary History of Fungal Phytopathogen Pathotypes.

Genome Biol Evol. 2023;15. doi:10.1093/GBE/EVAD206

16.    Lorrain C, Feurtey A, Ller MM, Haueisen J, Stukenbrock E. Dynamics of transposable

elements in recently diverged fungal pathogens: Lineage-specific transposable element content

and efficiency of genome defenses. G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics. 2021;11.

doi:10.1093/g3journal/jkab068

17.    Bewick AJ, Hofmeister BT, Powers RA, Mondo SJ, Grigoriev I V., James TY, et al. Diversity

of cytosine methylation across the fungal tree of life. Nature Ecology & Evolution 2019 3:3.

2019;3: 479–490. doi:10.1038/s41559-019-0810-9

18.    Nakayashiki H, Kadotani N, Mayama S. Evolution and diversification of RNA silencing

proteins in fungi. J Mol Evol. 2006;63: 127–135. doi:10.1007/S00239-005-0257-

2/FIGURES/4

19.    Kim JM, Vanguri S, Boeke JD, Gabriel A, Voytas DF. Transposable Elements and Genome

Organization: A Comprehensive Survey of Retrotransposons Revealed by the Complete

Saccharomyces cerevisiae Genome Sequence. Genome Res. 1998;8: 464–478.

doi:10.1101/GR.8.5.464

20.    Stajich JE. Fungal Genomes and Insights into the Evolution of the Kingdom. Microbiol Spectr.

2017;5. doi:10.1128/MICROBIOLSPEC.FUNK-0055-2016/ASSET/F179A154-6318-4BDA-

9DC0-7FC2C7D9CA5B/ASSETS/GRAPHIC/FUNK-0055-2016-FIG2.GIF

21.    Nagy LG, Ohm RA, Kovács GM, Floudas D, Riley R, Gácser A, et al. Latent homology and

803           convergent regulatory evolution underlies the repeated emergence of yeasts. Nature

804           Communications 2014 5:1. 2014;5: 1–8. doi:10.1038/ncomms5471

805    22.    Shen XX, Opulente DA, Kominek J, Zhou X, Steenwyk JL, Buh K V., et al. Tempo and Mode

806           of Genome Evolution in the Budding Yeast Subphylum. Cell. 2018;175: 1533-1545.e20.

807           doi:10.1016/J.CELL.2018.10.023

808    23.    Naranjo-Ortiz MA, Gabaldón T. Fungal evolution: cellular, genomic and metabolic

809           complexity. Biol Rev Camb Philos Soc. 2020;95: 1198. doi:10.1111/BRV.12605

810    24.    Nguyen TA, Cissé OH, Yun Wong J, Zheng P, Hewitt D, Nowrousian M, et al. Innovation and

811           constraint leading to complex multicellularity in the Ascomycota. Nat Commun. 2017;8: 1–13.

812           doi:10.1038/ncomms14444

813    25.    Keeling PJ, Slamovits CH. Simplicity and complexity of microsporidian genomes. Eukaryot

814           Cell. 2004;3: 1363–1369. doi:10.1128/EC.3.6.1363-1369.2004

815    26.    Katinka MD, Duprat S, Cornillott E, Méténler G, Thomarat F, Prensier G, et al. Genome

816           sequence and gene compaction of the eukaryote parasite Encephalitozoon cuniculi. Nature.

817           2001;414: 450–453. doi:10.1038/35106579

818    27.    Rispe C, Moran NA. Accumulation of Deleterious Mutations in Endosymbionts: Muller's

819           Ratchet with Two Levels of Selection. Am Nat. 2000;156: 425–441. doi:10.1086/303396

820    28.    Wernegreen JJ, Moran NA. Evidence for genetic drift in endosymbionts (Buchnera): analyses

821           of protein-coding genes. Mol Biol Evol. 1999;16: 83–97.

822           doi:10.1093/OXFORDJOURNALS.MOLBEV.A026040

823    29.    Woolfit M, Bromham L. Increased Rates of Sequence Evolution in Endosymbiotic Bacteria

824           and Fungi with Small Effective Population Sizes. Mol Biol Evol. 2003;20: 1545–1555.

825           doi:10.1093/MOLBEV/MSG167

826    30.    Wernegreen JJ. Endosymbiont evolution: Predictions from theory and surprises from genomes.

827           Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2015;1360: 16. doi:10.1111/NYAS.12740

828    31.    McDonald BA, Suffert F, Bernasconi A, Mikaberidze A. How large and diverse are field

829            populations of fungal plant pathogens? The case of Zymoseptoria tritici. Evol Appl. 2022;15:

830            1360–1373. doi:10.1111/EVA.13434

831    32.    Badet T, Oggenfuss U, Abraham L, McDonald BA, Croll D. A 19-isolate reference-quality

832            global pangenome for the fungal wheat pathogen Zymoseptoria tritici. BMC Biol. 2020;18: 1–

833            18. doi:10.1186/s12915-020-0744-3

834    33.    Oggenfuss U, Badet T, Wicker T, Hartmann FE, Singh NK, Abraham L, et al. A population-

835            level invasion by transposable elements triggers genome expansion in a fungal pathogen. Elife.

836            2021;10: 2020.02.11.944652. doi:10.7554/elife.69249

837    34.    Freitag M. Histone Methylation by SET Domain Proteins in Fungi. Annu Rev Microbiol.

838            2017;71: 413–439. doi:10.1146/ANNUREV-MICRO-102215-095757/1

839    35.    Selker EU. Premeiotic instability of repeated sequences in Neurospora crassa. Annu Rev

840            Genet. 1990;24. doi:10.1146/ANNUREV.GE.24.120190.003051

841    36.    Wang L, Sun Y, Sun X, Yu L, Xue L, He Z, et al. Repeat-induced point mutation in

842            Neurospora crassa causes the highest known mutation rate and mutational burden of any

843            cellular life. Genome Biol. 2020;21: 142. doi:10.1186/S13059-020-02060-W/FIGURES/3

844    37.    Selker EU, Cambareri EB, Jensen BC, Haack KR. Rearrangement of duplicated DNA in

845            specialized cells of Neurospora. Cell. 1987;51: 741–752. doi:10.1016/0092-8674(87)90097-3

846    38.    Rouxel T, Grandaubert J, Hane JK, Hoede C, van de Wouw AP, Couloux A, et al. Effector

847            diversification within compartments of the Leptosphaeria maculans genome affected by

848            Repeat-Induced Point mutations. Nat Commun. 2011;2: 202. doi:10.1038/ncomms1189

849    39.    Frantzeskakis L, Kusch S, Panstruga R. The need for speed: compartmentalized genome

850            evolution in filamentous phytopathogens. Mol Plant Pathol. 2019;20: 3–7.

851            doi:10.1111/MPP.12738

852    40.    Galagan JE, Selker EU. RIP: The evolutionary cost of genome defense. Trends in Genetics.

853            Elsevier; 2004. pp. 417–423. doi:10.1016/j.tig.2004.07.007

854    41.    Selker EU, Garrett PW. DNA sequence duplications trigger gene inactivation in Neurospora

855           crassa. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 1988;85: 6870–6874.

856           doi:10.1073/PNAS.85.18.6870

857    42.    Selker EU, Cambareri EB, Jensen BC, Haack KR. Rearrangement of duplicated DNA in

858           specialized cells of Neurospora. Cell. 1987;51: 741–752. doi:10.1016/0092-8674(87)90097-3

859    43.    Carlier F, Nguyen TS, Mazur AK, Gladyshev E. Modulation of C-to-T mutation by

860           recombination-independent pairing of closely positioned DNA repeats. Biophys J. 2021;120:

861           4325–4336. doi:10.1016/J.BPJ.2021.09.014

862    44.    Gladyshev E, Kleckner N. Recombination-Independent Recognition of DNA Homology for

863           Repeat-Induced Point Mutation (RIP) Is Modulated by the Underlying Nucleotide Sequence.

864           PLoS Genet. 2016;12: e1006015. doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PGEN.1006015

865    45.    Gladyshev E, Kleckner N. Direct recognition of homology between double helices of DNA in

866           Neurospora crassa. Nat Commun. 2014;5: 1–11. doi:10.1038/ncomms4509

867    46.    Mazur AK, Gladyshev E. Partition of Repeat-Induced Point Mutations Reveals Structural

868           Aspects of Homologous DNA-DNA Pairing. Biophys J. 2018;115: 605–615.

869           doi:10.1016/j.bpj.2018.06.030

870    47.    Freitag M, Williams RL, Kothe GO, Selker EU. A cytosine methyltransferase homologue is

871           essential for repeat-induced point mutation in Neurospora crassa. Proceedings of the National

872           Academy of Sciences. 2002;99: 8802–8807. doi:10.1073/pnas.132212899

873    48.    Kouzminova E, Selker EU. dim☐2 encodes a DNA methyltransferase responsible for all

874           known cytosine methylation in Neurospora. EMBO J. 2001;20: 4309–4323.

875           doi:10.1093/EMBOJ/20.15.4309

876    49.    Gladyshev E, Kleckner N. DNA sequence homology induces cytosine-to-thymine mutation by

877           a heterochromatin-related pathway in Neurospora. Nat Genet. 2017;49: 887–894.

878           doi:10.1038/ng.3857

879    50.    Gladyshev E. Repeat-Induced Point Mutation and Other Genome Defense Mechanisms in

880           Fungi. Microbiol Spectr. 2017;5. doi:10.1128/microbiolspec.funk-0042-2017

51. Gladyshev E, Kleckner N. Recombination-Independent Recognition of DNA Homology for

Repeat-Induced Point Mutation (RIP) Is Modulated by the Underlying Nucleotide Sequence.

PLoS Genet. 2016;12: e1006015. doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PGEN.1006015

52. He Z, Wu N, Yao R, Tan H, Sun Y, Chen J, et al. RID is required for both repeat-induced

point mutation and nucleation of a novel transitional heterochromatic state for euchromatic

repeats. Nucleic Acids Res. 2025;53: 263. doi:10.1093/NAR/GKAF263

53. Kidwell MG. Transposable elements and the evolution of genome size in eukaryotes.

Genetica. 2002;115: 49–63. doi:10.1023/A:1016072014259

54. Castanera R, López-Varas L, Borgognone A, LaButti K, Lapidus A, Schmutz J, et al.

Transposable Elements versus the Fungal Genome: Impact on Whole-Genome Architecture

and Transcriptional Profiles. Feschotte C, editor. PLoS Genet. 2016;12: e1006108.

doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1006108

55. Feschotte C, Pritham EJ. DNA Transposons and the Evolution of Eukaryotic Genomes. 2007.

doi:10.1146/annurev.genet.40.110405.090448

56. Perkins DD, Margolin BS, Selker EU, Haedo SD. Occurrence of repeat induced point mutation

in long segmental duplications of neurospora. Genetics. 1997;147: 125–136.

doi:10.1093/genetics/147.1.125

57. Oggenfuss U, Croll D. Recent transposable element bursts are associated with the proximity to

genes in a fungal plant pathogen. Thomma B, editor. PLoS Pathog. 2023;19: e1011130.

doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PPAT.1011130

58. Fouché S, Badet T, Oggenfuss U, Plissonneau C, Francisco CS, Croll D. Stress-driven

transposable element de-repression dynamics in a fungal pathogen. Mol Biol Evol. 2019;

633693. doi:10.1101/633693

59. Dubin MJ, Mittelsten Scheid O, Becker C. Transposons: a blessing curse. Current Opinion in

Plant Biology. Elsevier Ltd; 2018. pp. 23–29. doi:10.1016/j.pbi.2018.01.003

60. van Wyk S, Wingfield BD, De Vos L, van der Merwe NA, Steenkamp ET. Genome-Wide

Analyses of Repeat-Induced Point Mutations in the Ascomycota. Front Microbiol. 2021;11:

622368. doi:10.3389/FMICB.2020.622368/BIBTEX

61.    Ikeda KI, Nakayashiki H, Kataoka T, Tamba H, Hashimoto Y, Tosa Y, et al. Repeat-induced

910           point mutation (RIP) in Magnaporthe grisea: implications for its sexual cycle in the natural

911           field context. Mol Microbiol. 2002;45: 1355–1364. doi:10.1046/J.1365-2958.2002.03101.X

912    62.    Zong X, Lou Y, Xia M, Zhao K, Chen J, Huang J, et al. Recombination and repeat-induced

913           point mutation landscapes reveal trade-offs between the sexual and asexual cycles of

914           Magnaporthe oryzae. Journal of Genetics and Genomics. 2024.

915           doi:10.1016/J.JGG.2024.03.003

916    63.    Idnurm A, Howlett BJ. Analysis of loss of pathogenicity mutants reveals that repeat-induced

917           point mutations can occur in the Dothideomycete Leptosphaeria maculans. Fungal Genetics

918           and Biology. 2003;39: 31–37. doi:10.1016/S1087-1845(02)00588-1

919    64.    Li WC, Huang CH, Chen CL, Chuang YC, Tung SY, Wang TF. Trichoderma reesei complete

920           genome sequence, repeat-induced point mutation, and partitioning of CAZyme gene clusters.

921           Biotechnol Biofuels. 2017;10: 1–20. doi:10.1186/S13068-017-0825-X/FIGURES/7

922    65.    Cuomo CA, Güldener U, Xu JR, Trail F, Turgeon BG, Di Pietro A, et al. The Fusarium

923           graminearum genome reveals a link between localized polymorphism and pathogen

924           specialization. Science (1979). 2007;317: 1400–1402.

925           doi:10.1126/SCIENCE.1143708/SUPPL_FILE/CUOMO_SOM.PDF

926    66.    Coleman JJ, Rounsley SD, Rodriguez-Carres M, Kuo A, Wasmann CC, Grimwood J, et al.

927           The Genome of Nectria haematococca: Contribution of Supernumerary Chromosomes to Gene

928           Expansion. PLoS Genet. 2009;5: e1000618. doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PGEN.1000618

929    67.    Graïa F, Lespinet O, Rimbault B, Dequard-Chablat M, Coppin E, Picard M. Genome quality

930           control: RIP (repeat-induced point mutation) comes to Podospora. Mol Microbiol. 2001;40:

931           586–595. doi:10.1046/J.1365-2958.2001.02367.X

932    68.    Bouhouche K, Zickler D, Debuchy R, Arnaise S. Altering a Gene Involved in Nuclear

933           Distribution Increases the Repeat-Induced Point Mutation Process in the Fungus Podospora

934           anserina. Genetics. 2004;167: 151–159. doi:10.1534/GENETICS.167.1.151

935     69.    Li WC, Chen CL, Wang TF. Repeat-induced point (RIP) mutation in the industrial workhorse

936           fungus Trichoderma reesei. Appl Microbiol Biotechnol. 2018;102: 1567–1574.

937           doi:10.1007/S00253-017-8731-5/TABLES/1

938     70.    Lee DW, Freitag M, Selker EU, Aramayo R. A Cytosine Methyltransferase Homologue Is

939           Essential for Sexual Development in Aspergillus nidulans. PLoS One. 2008;3: e2531.

940           doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0002531

941     71.    Grognet P, Timpano H, Carlier F, Ait-Benkhali J, Berteaux-Lecellier V, Debuchy R, et al. A

942           RID-like putative cytosine methyltransferase homologue controls sexual development in the

943           fungus Podospora anserina. PLoS Genet. 2019;15: e1008086.

944           doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PGEN.1008086

945     72.    Arnaise S, Zickler D, Bourdais A, Dequard-Chablat M, Debuchy R. Mutations in mating-type

946           genes greatly decrease repeat-induced point mutation process in the fungus Podospora

947           anserina. Fungal Genetics and Biology. 2008;45: 207–220. doi:10.1016/J.FGB.2007.09.010

948     73.    Phillips MA, Kutch IC, Long AD, Burke MK. Increased time sampling in an evolve-and-

949           resequence experiment with outcrossing Saccharomyces cerevisiae reveals multiple paths of

950           adaptive change. Mol Ecol. 2020;29: 4898–4912. doi:10.1111/MEC.15687

951     74.    Long A, Liti G, Luptak A, Tenaillon O. Elucidating the molecular architecture of adaptation

952           via evolve and resequence experiments. Nature Reviews Genetics 2015 16:10. 2015;16: 567–

953           582. doi:10.1038/nrg3937

954     75.    Du L, Liu Q, Fan Z, Tang J, Zhang X, Price M, et al. Pyfastx: a robust Python package for fast

955           random access to sequences from plain and gzipped FASTA/Q files. Brief Bioinform.

956           2021;22: 1–8. doi:10.1093/BIB/BBAA368

957     76.    Gao F, Zhang CT. GC-Profile: a web-based tool for visualizing and analyzing the variation of

958           GC content in genomic sequences. Nucleic Acids Res. 2006;34: W686–W691.

959           doi:10.1093/NAR/GKL040

960     77.    Hane JK, Paxman J, Jones DAB, Oliver RP, de Wit P. "CATAStrophy," a Genome-Informed

961           Trophic Classification of Filamentous Plant Pathogens – How Many Different Types of

Filamentous Plant Pathogens Are There? Front Microbiol. 2020;10: 492799.

doi:10.3389/FMICB.2019.03088/BIBTEX

78.    Yin Y, Mao X, Yang J, Chen X, Mao F, Xu Y. dbCAN: a web resource for automated

carbohydrate-active enzyme annotation. Nucleic Acids Res. 2012;40.

doi:10.1093/NAR/GKS479

79.    Finn RD, Clements J, Eddy SR. HMMER web server: Interactive sequence similarity

searching. Nucleic Acids Res. 2011;39: W29-37. doi:10.1093/nar/gkr367

80.    Li Y, Steenwyk JL, Chang Y, Wang Y, James TY, Stajich JE, et al. A genome-scale

phylogeny of the kingdom Fungi. Current Biology. 2021;31: 1653-1665.e5.

doi:10.1016/J.CUB.2021.01.074

81.    Simão FA, Waterhouse RM, Ioannidis P, Kriventseva E V., Zdobnov EM. BUSCO: Assessing

genome assembly and annotation completeness with single-copy orthologs. Bioinformatics.

2015;31: 3210–3212. doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btv351

82.    Katoh K, Standley DM. MAFFT multiple sequence alignment software version 7:

Improvements in performance and usability. Mol Biol Evol. 2013;30: 772–780.

doi:10.1093/molbev/mst010

83.    Capella-Gutiérrez S, Silla-Martínez JM, Gabaldón T. trimAl: a tool for automated alignment

trimming in large-scale phylogenetic analyses. Bioinformatics. 2009;25: 1972–1973.

doi:10.1093/BIOINFORMATICS/BTP348

84.    Lanfear R, Frandsen PB, Wright AM, Senfeld T, Calcott B. PartitionFinder 2: New Methods

for Selecting Partitioned Models of Evolution for Molecular and Morphological Phylogenetic

Analyses. Mol Biol Evol. 2017;34: 772–773. doi:10.1093/MOLBEV/MSW260

85.    Stamatakis A. RAxML-VI-HPC: maximum likelihood-based phylogenetic analyses with

thousands of taxa and mixed models. Bioinformatics. 2006;22: 2688–2690.

doi:10.1093/BIOINFORMATICS/BTL446

86.    Minh BQ, Schmidt HA, Chernomor O, Schrempf D, Woodhams MD, Von Haeseler A, et al.

IQ-TREE 2: New Models and Efficient Methods for Phylogenetic Inference in the Genomic

Era. Mol Biol Evol. 2020;37: 1530–1534. doi:10.1093/MOLBEV/MSAA015

87.    Paradis E, Schliep K. ape 5.0: an environment for modern phylogenetics and evolutionary

991            analyses in R. Bioinformatics. 2019;35: 526–528. doi:10.1093/BIOINFORMATICS/BTY633

992    88.    Quinlan AR, Hall IM. BEDTools: A flexible suite of utilities for comparing genomic features.

993            Bioinformatics. 2010;26: 841–842. doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btq033

994    89.    Marçais G, Kingsford C. A fast, lock-free approach for efficient parallel counting of

995            occurrences of k-mers. Bioinformatics. 2011;27: 764–770.

996            doi:10.1093/BIOINFORMATICS/BTR011

997    90.    Shen W, Le S, Li Y, Hu F. SeqKit: A Cross-Platform and Ultrafast Toolkit for FASTA/Q File

998            Manipulation. PLoS One. 2016;11: e0163962. doi:10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0163962

999    91.    Xu Z, Wang H. LTR_FINDER: an efficient tool for the prediction of full-length LTR

1000           retrotransposons. Nucleic Acids Res. 2007;35: W265–W268. doi:10.1093/nar/gkm286

1001   92.    Ellinghaus D, Kurtz S, Willhoeft U. LTRharvest, an efficient and flexible software for de novo

1002           detection of LTR retrotransposons. BMC Bioinformatics. 2008;9: 1–14. doi:10.1186/1471-

1003           2105-9-18/TABLES/5

1004   93.    Ou S, Jiang N. LTR_retriever: A Highly Accurate and Sensitive Program for Identification of

1005           Long Terminal Repeat Retrotransposons. Plant Physiol. 2018;176: 1410.

1006           doi:10.1104/PP.17.01310

1007   94.    Smit, AFA, Hubley, R & Green P. RepeatMasker Open-4.0. 2015.

1008   95.    Keck F, Rimet F, Bouchez A, Franc A. phylosignal: an R package to measure, test, and

1009           explore the phylogenetic signal. Ecol Evol. 2016;6: 2774–2780. doi:10.1002/ECE3.2051

1010   96.    Felsenstein J. Phylogenies and the Comparative Method. Am Nat. 1985;125: 1–15.

1011   97.    Tung Ho LS, Ané C. A Linear-Time Algorithm for Gaussian and Non-Gaussian Trait

1012           Evolution Models. Syst Biol. 2014;63: 397–408. doi:10.1093/SYSBIO/SYU005

1013   98.    Bogdan M, Frommlet F, Biecek P, Cheng R, Ghosh JK, Doerge RW. Extending the modified

1014           bayesian information criterion (mBIC) to dense markers and multiple interval mapping.

1015           Biometrics. 2008;64: 1162–1169. doi:10.1111/J.1541-0420.2008.00989.X

99. Curry E, Zhang H. Data Integration, Manipulation and Visualization of Phylogenetic Trees.

Data Integration, Manipulation and Visualization of Phylogenetic Trees. 2022.

doi:10.1201/9781003279242

100. Emms DM, Kelly S. OrthoFinder: Phylogenetic orthology inference for comparative

genomics. Genome Biol. 2019;20: 466201. doi:10.1186/s13059-019-1832-y

101. Finn RD, Bateman A, Clements J, Coggill P, Eberhardt RY, Eddy SR, et al. Pfam: the protein

families database. Nucleic Acids Res. 2014;42: D222. doi:10.1093/NAR/GKT1223

102. Sievers F, Wilm A, Dineen D, Gibson TJ, Karplus K, Li W, et al. Fast, scalable generation of

high-quality protein multiple sequence alignments using Clustal Omega. Mol Syst Biol.

2011;7: 539. doi:10.1038/MSB.2011.75

103. Price MN, Dehal PS, Arkin AP. Fasttree: Computing large minimum evolution trees with

profiles instead of a distance matrix. Mol Biol Evol. 2009;26: 1641–1650.

doi:10.1093/molbev/msp077

104. Brennan P. drawProteins: a Bioconductor/R package for reproducible and programmatic

generation of protein schematics. F1000Res. 2018;7.

doi:10.12688/F1000RESEARCH.14541.1

1032

**Competing interests**: The authors have declared no competing interest.

**Author contributions**: TB conceived the study and performed analyses with input from DC; DC

provided funding; TB and DC wrote the manuscript. All authors have seen and approved this version

of the manuscript.

**Data availability**: The data analyzed in the frame of this study are available from the NCBI

repositories as indicated in the Supplementary Table S1. Scripts and datasets are available on zenodo

(10.5281/zenodo.1542569).

**Funding**: DC was supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation (grants 173265 and 201149).

**Acknowledgements**: We thank group members for fruitful discussions.

1042

**Supporting information**

**S1 Fig. Genome assembly metrics across 1,239 fungi.** (A) Genome assembly size in total base pairs.
(B) First principal component of the CAZyme repertoire in the genome assembly (trophism PC1)
suggests that Ascomycetes and Basidiomycetes have an extended repertoire compared to other phyla
C. GC content of the genome assembly in percentage (D) Number of annotated protein-coding genes
in the assembly (E) Number of segments with contrasted GC dinucleotide content across the assembly
(segmentation) (F) Second principal component of the CAZyme repertoire in the genome assembly
(trophism PC2) (G) Average number of introns per gene in each assembly (H) Average intron length
(bp) in each assembly (I) Total sequence counts in the assembly (seqCounts) (J) Average sequence
length in the assembly (avgLen) (K) Median sequence length in the assembly (medianLen) (L) Count
of smallest number of contigs whose length sum makes up half of assembly size (L50) (M) Maximum
sequence length in the assembly (maxLen) (N) Minimum sequence length in the assembly (minLen)
(O) Sequence length of the shortest contig at 50% of the total assembly length (N50) (P) Percentage
of BUSCO genes found to be complete in each assembly. Note that Oomycota and Mucoromycota
have on average larger genomes and more genes while yeasts in the Saccharomycotina subphylum
have smaller genomes and less genes. Intron numbers per gene and GC content greatly varies across
the dataset, with yeast species having fewer but longer introns and low GC content compared to other
ascomycetes.

**S2 Fig. Widespread signatures of phylogenetic signal of genome assembly metrics.** Local
Indicator of Phylogenetic Association (local Moran's I, log10 transformed for display) for each
genome assembly metric as calculated by the lipaMoran function from the phylosignal R package.
Only significant associations are displayed (p-value < 0.05 based on 1,000 permutations).
Phylogenetic signal was inferred using five different statistics, namely, Blomberg's K and K*,
Abouheif's Cmean, Moran's I, and Pagel's Lambda). Note that two species in the Mucoromycota with
some of the largest genomes in the dataset show strong phylogenetic signal for genome size, L50 and
the number of scaffolds (Supplementary Table S4, seqCounts).

1071 **S3 Fig. Estimation of the number of assemblies showing a "two-speed"-like genome**

1072 **architecture.** Percentage of the gene pool per genome that is found in gene-sparse regions as

1073 estimated by >5 kb intergenic distances up and downstream of the gene. Genome assemblies with

1074 more than 1% of their gene pool (n=156) in such gene-sparse regions are matching a "two-speed"

1075 genome architecture.

1076

1077 **S4 Fig. Genome compartmentalization strongly correlates with genome size.** Correlation of the

1078 percentage of the gene-pool (genome) that is found in gene-sparse regions as estimated by more than

1079 5 kb intergenic distances up and downstream of the gene with genome assembly GC content (%), the

1080 number of segments with contrasted GC dinucleotide content across the assembly (segmentation),

1081 total protein number and genome assembly size (Mb).

1082

1083 **S5 Fig. No major difference in genome assembly quality between species with an associated shift**

1084 **in genome architecture and their close-relative.** Genome assembly quality given the number of

1085 scaffolds, N50 and L50 values for species associated with at a shift in one metric of genome

1086 architecture (shift-descendent) compared to close relatives with no shift (closely-related).

1087

1088 **S6 Fig. Detection of shifts and phylogenetic distances to farthest descendant tip.**

1089

1090 **S7 Fig. Ancestral state reconstruction of presence / absence of the DNA methylase Rid1 across**

1091 **nodes of the phylogeny.** Ancestral state reconstruction was performed using the ace function (ape

1092 package version 5.8 in R), upon the all-rates-different maximum likelihood model of discrete trait.

1093 Only nodes with a minimal estimated status probability > 5% are shown.

1094

1095 **S8 Fig. Proportion of multi-copy orthogroups identified in each genome.** For each genome, the

1096 proportion of orthogroups with counts <10 and >10 protein-coding genes are shown separately.

1097

1098 **S9 Fig. Phylogenetic relationship of proteins with a DNA methyltransferase domain (PF00145).**

1099 Proteins with an HMM hit to the PF00145 domain were aligned with Clustal Omega and gaps

1100 removed using trimAl for phylogenetic reconstruction under the Whelan and Goldman model of

1101 protein evolution with fastTree.

1102

**S10 Fig. Presence / absence heatmap of DNA biology related genes.** For each genome, the

presence of functional domains (Pfam) or protein-coding genes known to be involved in DNA repair,

DNA methylation, histone biology, meiotic recombination, heterochromatin formation, and RNA

interference was assessed by HMM domain or blast search (Supplementary Table S10). Most of the

species from the Eurotiomycetes and Dothideomycetes lack the SAS2 Histone acetyltransferase,

while species from the Sordariomycetes mostly lack the histone deacetylase 3 (Fig. 4D, SAS2 and

NP_651978.2). Most recombination-related genes are conserved in fungi, with the known exceptions

of the Mus81 endonuclease absent from Dothideomycetes and the Hop2-Mnd1 recombination

complex that is nearly absent from Sordariomycetes. The replication checkpoint Rad17 and the

sporulation protein Spo22 are nearly exclusive to the Saccharomycota clade. We also find that

homologs of the meiotic sister chromatid recombination protein 1 (Msc1) are absent from the

Oomycota, Chytridiomycota, Mucoromycota and Zoopagomycota. In addition to Msc1, Oomycota

also lack Msc7 homologs. Similarly, the DNA helicase Srs-2 has been lost multiple times in fungi,

including in the eurotiomycetes. As opposed to the cytosine methyltransferase protein family, which

is mostly conserved in ascomycetes (excluding saccharomycetes), the adenine methylation domain is

conserved in the Saccharomycota but nearly absent in species from the eurotiomycetes (Fig. 4D,

PF10237.10). Protein families related to the double-strand recombination repair are mostly missing in

species from the sordariomycetes (Fig. 4D, PF10376.10). Similarly, proteins from the DNA-mismatch

repair family are mostly conserved in Ascomycota but nearly absent from the eurotiomycetes (Fig.

4D, PF18795.2). Proteins with a PBZ domain, often associated with DNA strand-break repair, are

nearly absent from the Ascomycota except for species from the eurotiomycetes (Fig. 4D,

PF10283.10).

1125

**S11 Fig. Impact of assembly scaffold filtering on k-mer frequency at coding and non-coding**

**sequences.** Assemblies were filtered for scaffolds larger than 50 kb (i.e. filtered assemblies) and k-

mer frequency calculated at coding and non-coding sequences (2-, 3- and 4-mers). Although the

overall distribution of the frequency values in non-coding sequences is constant across the full and the

50-kb filtered datasets, we find that high frequency k-mers tend to be over-represented in coding

sequences (1,235 genomes left after filtering due to low assembly contiguity).

1132

1133  **S12 Fig. Number of >2-fold overrepresented k-mers in non-coding sequences compared to**

1134  **coding sequences.** The y-axis shows the number of species in which a 2-, 3-, or 4-mers is found >2-

1135  fold overrepresented in non-coding sequences. For the 212 species without a single k-mer

1136  overrepresented in the non-coding compartment, we find at least one representative of all nine phyla

1137  or sub-phyla in the dataset.

1138

**S13 Fig. Intensity of non-coding k-mer enrichment across different taxonomic classes.** Proportion

of k-mer in each taxonomic class that are enriched at non-coding sequences in the range of 1.3 to 2-

fold, 2 to 5-fold, 5 to 10-fold or more than 10-fold. Most taxonomic classes have at least one k-mer

>2-fold enriched in non-coding sequences (80% or 29 / 36), with Sordariomycetes, Saccharomycetes

and Dothideomycetes being the most represented classes, in addition to Eurotiomycetes,

Exobasidiomycetes, Lecanoromycetes and Leotiomycetes.

1145

1146  **S14 Fig. Taxonomic distribution of highly enriched k-mers at non-coding sequences.** Distribution

1147  of the species taxonomic classes carrying the respective k-mer more than 10-fold enriched in non-

1148  coding sequences.

1149

1150  **S15 Fig. *K-mer* frequency at repeats and non-coding sequences across taxonomic classes.**

1151  Frequency of eight highly enriched k-mer at repeats versus non-coding sequences. Lines represent the

1152  y = x diagonal.

1153

1154 **S16 Fig. Number of *k-mers* with repeat enrichment >5-fold across taxonomic classes.** Total

1155 number of *k-mers* with repeat frequency >5-fold compared to non-coding sequences for all 36

1156 taxonomic classes. *K-mers* were split according to their AT-content (0, 0.25, 0.33, 0.50, 0.66, 0.75 or

1157 1).

1158

1159 **S17 Fig. Strong enrichment of *k-mers* at repeats associate with few highly similar repetitive**

1160 **sequences.** Genomes with a value of k-mer enrichment at repeats >5-fold as a function of the total

1161 number of sequences larger than 5 kb sharing between 95-100% sequence identity. Dot colors indicate

1162 different taxonomic classes.

1163

1164 **S18 Fig. High number of highly similar repeats correlates with genome repetitive fraction.** Total

1165 number of sequences larger than 5 kb sharing between 80-95% or 95-100% sequence identity per

1166 genome assembly as a function of the fraction of the genome assembly identified as repeats. Dot size

1167 is scaled to the size of the non-repetitive genome assembly (in base pairs).

1168

1169 **S19 Fig. Changes in *k-mer* frequency induced by RIP upon a single cross in *Neurospora crassa*.**

1170 Frequency ratios of 12 *k-mers* showing >5-fold enrichment at the RLR sequence in the progeny after

1171 crosses with the wild-type parents or the deletion mutants *Δdim2*, *Δrid1* and *Δrid1Δdim2*. *K-mer*

1172 frequencies were calculated at the duplicated (100% sequence identity) and the unique linker region

1173 separately.

1174

1175 **S20 Fig. Genome architecture in species with evidence for recent or old RIP mutational**

1176 **signatures.** The asterisk denotes TukeyHSD post-hoc test significant differences.

1177

1178 **S21 Fig. Species with no evidence for RIP mutation signatures carry more proteins of high**

1179 **sequence identity.** The x-axis shows protein percentage sequence identity calculated from reciprocal

1180 blasts. The y-axis is the scaled density given the number of blast hits. Blast hits with sequence length

1181  < 50, between 50 and 100, between 100 and 500 or larger than 500 amino acids are represented in the

1182  four facets.

1183

1184  **S22 Fig. Presence / absence heatmap of orthogroups associated with genome size, k-mer repeat**

1185  **enrichment and segmentation.** For each associated orthogroup, presence in the focal genome

1186  assembly is represented by filled boxes, with the species corresponding taxonomy and trophism

1187  annotated as colored tiles (top and bottom tiles, respectively).

1188

**S23 Fig. Genome architecture in species with and without the repeat enrichment-associated**

**orthogroup OG0000460.** (A) TATA k-mer enrichment at repeats compared to non-coding sequences

in species with or without the OG0000460. (B) Proportion of the genome annotated as repeats in

species with or without the OG0000460. (C) Number of highly similar (>95% sequence identity)

repeated sequences larger than 1 kb in species with or without the OG0000460. (D) Genome size in

species with or without the OG0000460. (E) Number of isochore genome segments in species with or

without the OG0000460. Asterisks denote significant difference as per a TukeyHSD post-hoc test.

1196

1197  **S1 Table.** Metadata for all 1,239 genome assemblies analyzed in the study.

1198

1199  **S2 Table.** Repeat summaries for all 1,239 genome assemblies analyzed in the study.

1200

1201  **S3 Table.** Number of identified sequences sharing 80-95% or 95-100% identity across the 1,239

1202  genome assemblies analyzed in the study. Columns denote the number of across different sequence

1203  length (<100 bp, <1 kb, <5 kb or >10 kb)

1204

1205  **S4 Table.** Local Moran's I metric estimated for the different genome assembly metrics across our

1206  1,239 genomes' phylogeny. The p-values are computed given 1,000 permutations using the lipaMoran

1207  function from the phylosignal R package

1208

1209     **S5 Table.** Values of trophism representing the CAZyme repertoire across the 1,239 genome

1210     assemblies. For each species, the values corresponding to the first two PCA reductions from the

1211     CATAStrophy tools are given

1212

**S6 Table.** Positions across the phylogeny (edge_num) where shifts in a genome assembly metric (var

column) were identified. The shift column denotes the direction (sign) and intensity of the shift as

calculated by the Oushifts function from the phylolm R package. The *is_tip* column indicates if the

shift is located at a terminal edge. The *coshift* column indicates if multiple shifts were mapped at the

same edge. The *excluded* column indicates edges for which a shift in one of the assembly metrics was

also detected and therefore excluded from subsequent analysis

1219

**S7 Table.** Wilcoxon rank sum test *p*-values comparing genome assembly metrics (*variable* column)

of species for which a shift was identified to close-relative species with no shift (*shift_edge* column).

L50 (smallest number of contigs whose length sum makes up half of genome size), length of the

largest scaffold in base-pairs (maxLen), median scaffold length in base-pairs (medianLen), length of

the smallest scaffold in base-pairs (minLen), number of GC segments genome-wide (segmentation),

N50 (sequence length of the shortest contig at 50% of the total assembly length), percentage of

complete BUSCO genes (complete), number of scaffolds (seqCounts) and genome size in base-pairs

(totalBases)

1228

1229     **S8 Table.** Conserved orthogroups in the 1,239 genome assemblies and their associated protein

1230     domains

1231

**S9 Table.** The number of orthogroups assigned to each pangenome category and their frequency

across the 1,239 genome assemblies. Orthogroups present in >90% of the 1,239 genomes were

designed as "core" orthogroups. Orthogroups assigned to the "softcore" category were present in

>80% but <90% of the species. The "shell" orthogroups were present in >50% but <80% of the

species. Orthogroups present in <50% of the species were considered "variable" and those present in

only one species were called "singletons".

1238

1239 **S10 Table.** Summary of the number of proteins assigned per orthogroup

1240

1241 **S11 Table.** Number of species with unique or paralog proteins assigned to each orthogroup

1242

1243 **S12 Table.** List of genes and Pfams used to estimate presence / absence of DNA biology related

1244 function across the 1,239 genome assemblies

1245

**S13 Table.** *K-mer* frequency calculated at coding, non-coding and repeated sequences in each

assembly filtered for scaffolds larger than 50 kb. Non-coding enrichment calculated as the ratio of the

*k-mer* frequency at non-coding over its frequency at coding sequences. Repeat enrichment calculated

as the ratio of the *k-mer* frequency at repeats over its frequency at non-coding sequences. For each *k-*

*mer* we report the proportion of the 1,239 genome assemblies showing noncoding or repeat

enrichment larger than 2.

1252

1253 **S14 Table.** Number of *k-mer* >2-fold enriched at non-coding sequences (*n_noncoding*), repeats

1254 (*n_repeat*) or both (*n_both*) across the 1,239 genome assemblies. The ratio of the number of *k-mer*

1255 >2-fold enriched at both non-coding and repeats over the total number of *k-mer* enriched >2-fold is

1256 used to estimate recent repeat-induced point mutation activity (Figure 2E). For each assembly we

1257 report the estimated RIP status, *i.e.* "recent RIP" activity, "old RIP" activity or "no RIP" activity.

1258

**S15 Table.** Metrics of genome architecture and their values used for phylogeny-aware association

mapping across the 1,239 genome assemblies. Metrics include values of non-coding and repeat

enrichment of the 8 top-enriched *k-mers*. The genome-wide repeat proportion (*repeat_prop*). The

number of >1 kb-length sequences sharing >95% identity (*n_1kb*), N50 (sequence length of the

shortest contig at 50% of the total assembly length), average scaffold length in base-pairs (*avgLen*),

the total number of proteins (*proteins*), the total number of scaffolds (*seqCounts*), number of GC

segments genome-wide (*segmentation*), the genome-wide GC content (*GC*), the PCA reduction of

CAZyme content (*trophism_PC1* and *trophism_PC2*) and genome size in base-pairs (*totalBases*)

1267

1268   **S16 Table.** List of orthogroups associated with one of the genome assembly metrics (*variable*

1269   column) given the simultaneous, subsequent or terminal model implemented in the treeWAS R

1270   package (*mode* column). The number of models for which we find an association is denote in the

1271   *n_association* column (1 to 3)

1272

1273   **S17 Table.** List of the protein domains most commonly associated (top 1 Pfam) with proteins

1274   assigned to orthogroups associated with variation in one of the genome assembly metrics (*variable*

1275   column). The number of proteins with the given Pfam domain is given in the *n_protein* column

1276

**S18 Table.** Relative synteny for a list of 4,666 orthogroups mostly single-copy across the 1,239

genome assemblies (*i.e.* in >80% of the species). Synteny ratios were computed by dividing the

number of species with the orthogroup in range of the focal orthogroup by the total number of species

carrying the focal orthogroup. The synteny of each of the 4,666 orthogroups was summarized by the

mean synteny of all the orthogroups found in the 10 upstream + 10 downstream neighboring gene

range

1283

1284

**A**

**B**

**C**