

1 **Isoform-scale annotation and expression profiling of the Cabernet Sauvignon**  
2 **transcriptome using single-molecule sequencing of full-length cDNA**

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13  
14 **Running title:** Iso-Seq of the grape transcriptome

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16 **Keywords:** single molecule real-time sequencing, Iso-Seq, alternative splicing, fruit ripening, genome  
17 annotation, transcriptome reconstruction

18 **ABSTRACT**

19

20 *Vitis vinifera* cv. Cabernet Sauvignon is one of the world's most widely cultivated red wine grape varieties  
21 and often used as a model for studying transcriptional networks governing berry development and  
22 metabolism. Here, we applied single-molecule sequencing technology to reconstruct the transcriptome of  
23 Cabernet Sauvignon berries during ripening. We added an error-correction step to the standard Iso-Seq  
24 pipeline that included using Illumina RNAseq reads to recover lowly-expressed transcripts. From 672,635  
25 full-length non-chimeric reads, we produced 170,860 transcripts capturing 13,402 genes of the Cabernet  
26 Sauvignon genome. Full-length transcripts refined approximately one third of the gene models predicted using  
27 several *ab initio* and evidence-based methods. The Iso-Seq information also helped identify 563 additional  
28 genes, 4,803 new alternative transcripts, and the 5' and 3' UTRs in the majority of predicted genes.  
29 Comparisons with the gene content of other grape cultivars identified 549 Cabernet Sauvignon-specific genes,  
30 including 65 genes differentially regulated during ripening. Some of these genes were potentially associated  
31 with the phenylpropanoid and flavonoid pathways, which may influence unique Cabernet Sauvignon berry  
32 attributes. Over 23% of the 36,687 annotated genes in Cabernet Sauvignon had two or more alternative  
33 isoforms, predominantly due to intron retention and alternative acceptor and donor sites. We profiled the  
34 expression of all isoforms using short read sequencing and identified 252 genes whose alternative transcripts  
35 showed different expression patterns during berry development.

36

## 37 INTRODUCTION

38

39 The history of *Vitis vinifera* (grape) is deeply intertwined with that of civilization and is closely associated  
40 with trade, literature, and culture (Campbell, 2006; McGovern et al., 2003; Unwin, 2005; Westering and  
41 Ravenscroft, 2001). Grape was probably domesticated between 6,000 and 22,000 years ago in the Near East  
42 (McGovern et al., 2003; Myles et al., 2011; Zhou et al., 2017). Once established, grape-growing (viticulture)  
43 and wine-making (enology) often became significant components of countries' economies, with fruit being  
44 used for table grapes, raisins, wine, spirits and other products. In terms of gross production value, grape is  
45 among the ten most valuable crops globally (69,200.62 million USD; <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data>).  
46 Grape has proven useful for the study of non-climacteric, fleshy fruit (Davies et al., 1997). Though ripening  
47 in climacteric fruit like tomato is well-studied and largely governed by ethylene, ripening in non-climacteric  
48 fruit like grape, strawberry and citrus is not entirely clear and involves several hormone families (Böttcher et  
49 al., 2011; Fortes et al., 2015; Koyama et al., 2010; Symons et al., 2012). Grape has been a useful model for  
50 examining the complex crosstalk between these hormones and may give insight into their relationships in  
51 other models and contexts (Blanco-Ulate et al., 2017; Chervin et al., 2004; Qian et al., 2016).

52

53 Genome-wide expression studies using microarray and, more recently, RNA sequencing (RNAseq) revealed  
54 that ripening involves the expression and modulation of ~23,000 genes (Massonnet et al., 2017a) and that the  
55 ripening transition is associated with a major transcriptome shift (Fasoli et al., 2012). Transcriptomics has  
56 proven invaluable for characterizing a ripening program that is similar across an array of grapevine cultivars  
57 (Massonnet et al., 2017a), for assessing differences between them (Da Silva et al., 2013; Jiao et al., 2015;  
58 Venturini et al., 2013), identifying key ripening related genes (Massonnet et al., 2017a; Palumbo et al., 2014),  
59 and determining the impact of stress and viticultural practices on ripening (Amrine et al., 2015; Blanco-Ulate  
60 et al., 2015, 2017; Corso et al., 2015; Deluc et al., 2009; Hopper et al., 2016; Lecourieux et al., 2017;  
61 Massonnet et al., 2017b; Pastore et al., 2013; Savoi et al., 2017, 2016; Xi et al., 2014; Zenoni et al., 2017).  
62 This knowledge increases the possibility of exerting control over the ripening process, improving fruit  
63 composition under suboptimal or adverse conditions, and honing desirable traits in a crop with outstanding  
64 cultural and commercial significance.

65

66 These genome-wide expression analyses were enabled by the first effort to sequence the grape genome and  
67 generate a contiguous assembly for the species (Jaillon et al., 2007); this first effort focused on a highly  
68 homozygous line (PN40024) that was created by several rounds of backcrossing to reduce heterozygosity and  
69 facilitate genome assembly (Jaillon et al., 2007). Though poor by current standards (contig N50 = 102.7 kb),  
70 this pioneering, chromosome-resolved assembly served as the basis for numerous publications. However, the  
71 structural diversity of grape genomes makes using a single one-size-fits-all reference genome inappropriate  
72 (Golicz et al., 2016a, 2016b). There is substantial unshared gene content between cultivars, with 8 - 10% of  
73 the genes missing when two cultivars are compared (Da Silva et al., 2013). Although many of these variable  
74 genes are not essential for the plant survival, these genes can account for 80% of the expression within their  
75 respective families and expand key gene families possibly associated with cultivar-specific traits (Da Silva et  
76 al., 2013). Assembling genome references for all interesting cultivars is impractical in part because the cost  
77 of doing so remains prohibitive. In addition, the grape genome has also features that impede the development  
78 of high-quality genome assemblies for other cultivars than PN40024. Although the *V. vinifera* genome is  
79 relatively small (Jaillon et al., 2007; Lodhi and Reisch, 1995) and as repetitive as other plant genomes of  
80 similar size (Jaillon et al., 2007; Michael and Jackson, 2013), it is highly heterozygous (Da Silva et al., 2013;  
81 Gambino et al., 2017; Jaillon et al., 2007; Venturini et al., 2013). Most domesticated grape cultivars are  
82 crosses between distantly related parents; this may influence the high heterozygosity observed in the species  
83 (Bowers and Meredith, 1997; Chin et al., 2016; Cipriani et al., 2010; Di Gaspero et al., 2005; Ibáñez et al.,  
84 2009; Lacombe et al., 2013; Lopes et al., 1999; Minio et al., 2017; Myles et al., 2011; Ohmi et al., 1993; Sefc  
85 et al., 1998; Strefeler et al., 1992; Tapia et al., 2007). Earlier attempts using short reads struggled to resolve  
86 complex, highly heterozygous genomes (Di Genova et al., 2014; Gnerre et al., 2011; Huang et al., 2012;

87 Kajitani et al., 2014; Safonova et al., 2015). A limited ability to call consensus polymorphic regions yields  
88 highly fragmented assemblies where structural ambiguity occurs and alternative alleles at heterozygous sites  
89 are excluded altogether (Velasco et al., 2007). Single Molecule Real Time (SMRT) DNA sequencing (Pacific  
90 Biosciences, California, USA) has emerged as the leading technology for reconstructing highly contiguous,  
91 diploid assemblies of long, highly repetitive genomes that include phased information about heterozygous  
92 sites (Chin et al., 2013, 2016; Doi et al., 2014; Gordon et al., 2016; Huddleston et al., 2017; Prysycz and  
93 Gabaldón, 2016; Ricker et al., 2016; Seo et al., 2016; Vij et al., 2016). Recently, we used *Vitis vinifera* cv.  
94 Cabernet Sauvignon to test the ability of SMRT reads to resolve both alleles at heterozygous sites in the  
95 genome (Chin et al., 2016). The assembly using the FALCON-Unzip assembly pipeline was significantly  
96 more contiguous than the original Pinot noir PN40024 assembly (contig N50 = 2.17 Mb) and provided the  
97 first phased sequences of the diploid genome of the species (Minio et al., 2017).

98  
99 Transcriptome sequencing is a useful alternative to whole-genome reconstruction because it captures the  
100 functional genome. The ability to reconstruct the transcriptomes of different cultivars gives insight into  
101 cultivar-specific gene content that is otherwise unavailable (Da Silva et al., 2013; Jiao et al., 2015; Venturini  
102 et al., 2013). SMRT technology has recently enabled the investigation of expressed gene isoforms (Iso-Seq)  
103 in a variety of organisms, including a handful of plant species (Filichkin et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2017; Zulkapli  
104 et al., 2017); the long reads delivered by this method are full-length transcripts sequenced from their 5'-ends  
105 to polyadenylated tails (Dong et al., 2015; Gao et al., 2016; Kuo et al., 2017; Price and Gibas, 2017; Tombácz  
106 et al., 2016; Weirather et al., 2015; Workman et al., 2017). More importantly, Iso-Seq is an ideal technology  
107 for reconstructing a transcriptome without a reference sequence and for resolving isoforms (Honaas et al.,  
108 2016; Ju et al., 2016). Retrieving polyadenylated full-length molecules captures splice variants and some non-  
109 coding RNAs that can vary with cell-type (Swarup et al., 2016), developmental stage (Thatcher et al., 2016),  
110 or stress (Liu et al., 2016; Yan et al., 2012). Indeed, alternative splicing contributes to the complexity of the  
111 genome (Brett et al., 2002) that could not be definitively characterized without transcript information.

112  
113 This study generated a comprehensive and detailed transcriptome composed of full-length transcripts using  
114 Iso-Seq. We show how error-correction with high coverage short-read data recovers an important fraction of  
115 the transcriptome otherwise lost by the standard Iso-Seq pipeline. Full-length transcripts were used to annotate  
116 the complete gene space of Cabernet Sauvignon, which led to the identification of transcripts associated with  
117 berry ripening unique to this cultivar. Full-length isoform information allowed the identification of multiple  
118 splice variants for most of the genes in the genome. We show that a transcriptome reference that includes  
119 splice variant information allows gene expression profiling at the isoform level and demonstrate the value of  
120 our approach by highlighting cases of contrasting expression patterns of isoforms at the same locus, whose  
121 differential expression during ripening would have been missed if mapping was carried out without isoform  
122 information.

## 123 MATERIALS AND METHODS

124

### 125 Plant material and RNA isolation

126 Grape berries from Cabernet Sauvignon FPS clone 08 were collected in Summer 2016 from vines grown in  
127 the Foundation Plant Services (FPS) Classic Foundation Vineyard (Davis, CA, USA). **Supplemental Table**  
128 **S1** provides weather information for the sampling days. Between 10 and 15 berries were sampled at pre-  
129 véraison, véraison, post-véraison, and at commercial maturity (harvest). The ripening stages were visually  
130 assessed based on color development and confirmed by measurements of soluble solids (**Figure 1;**  
131 **Supplemental Table S2**). On the day of sampling, berries were deseeded, frozen in liquid nitrogen, and  
132 ground to powder (skin and pulp). Total RNA was isolated using a Cetyltrimethyl Ammonium Bromide  
133 (CTAB)-based extraction protocol as described in Blanco-Ulate *et al.* (2013). RNA purity was evaluated with  
134 a Nanodrop 2000 spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific, Hanover Park, IL, USA). RNA was quantified with  
135 a Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer using the RNA broad range kit (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA, USA). RNA  
136 integrity was assessed using electrophoresis and an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent Technologies, Santa  
137 Clara, CA, USA). Only RNA with an RNA integrity number (RIN) > 8.0 was used for SMRTbell library  
138 preparation.

139

### 140 Library preparation and sequencing

141 Total RNA from 4 biological replicates per developmental stage was pooled in equal amounts and 1  $\mu$ g of the  
142 pooled RNA was used for cDNA synthesis and SMRTbell library construction using the SMARTer PCR  
143 cDNA synthesis kit (Clontech Laboratories, Inc. Mountain View, CA, USA). First-strand cDNA synthesis  
144 was performed using the SMRTScribe Reverse Transcriptase (Clontech Laboratories, Inc. Mountain View,  
145 CA, USA) and each developmental stage was individually barcoded (**Supplemental Table S3**). To minimize  
146 artifacts during large-scale amplification, a cycle optimization step was performed by collecting five 5  $\mu$ l  
147 aliquots at 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 PCR cycles. PCR reaction aliquots were loaded on an E-Gel pre-cast agarose  
148 gel 0.8 % (Invitrogen, Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA, USA) to determine the optimal cycle number.  
149 Second-strand cDNA was synthesized and amplified using the Kapa HiFi PCR kit (Kapa Biosystems,  
150 Wilmington, MA, USA) with the 5' PCR primer IIA (Clontech Laboratories, Inc. Mountain View, CA, USA)  
151 following the manufacturer's instructions. Large-scale PCR was performed using the number of cycles  
152 determined during the optimization step (14 cycles). Barcoded double-stranded cDNAs were pooled at equal  
153 amounts and used for size selection. Size selection was carried out on a BluePippin (Sage Science, Beverly,  
154 MA, USA) and 1-2 kb, 2-3 kb, 3-6 kb, and 5-10 kb fractions were collected. After size selection, each fraction  
155 was PCR-enriched prior to SMRTbell template library preparation. cDNA SMRTbell libraries were prepared  
156 using 1-3  $\mu$ g of PCR enriched size-selected samples, followed by DNA damage repair and SMRTbell ligation  
157 using the SMRTbell Template Prep Kit 1.0 (Pacific Biosciences, Menlo Park, CA, USA). A second size  
158 selection was performed on the 3-6 Kb and 5-10 Kb fractions to remove short contaminating SMRTbell  
159 templates. A total of 8 SMRT cells were sequenced on a PacBio Sequel system (DNA Technologies Core,  
160 University of California, Davis, USA) producing 23.6 Gbp of raw reads. Demultiplexing, filtering, quality  
161 control, clustering and polishing of the Iso-Seq sequencing data were performed using SMRT Link (ver. 4.0.0)  
162 (**Supplemental Table S4**).

163

164 RNAseq libraries were prepared using the Illumina TruSeq RNA sample preparation kit v.2 (Illumina, San  
165 Diego, CA, USA), following the low-throughput protocol. Each biological replicate was barcoded  
166 individually. Final libraries were evaluated for quantity and quality with the High Sensitivity chip on a  
167 Bioanalyzer 2100 (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA). Libraries were sequenced in 100 bp paired-  
168 end mode, using an Illumina HiSeq4000 (DNA Technologies Core Facility, University of California, Davis,  
169 USA) producing  $8,063,142 \pm 2,040,693$  reads/sample (**Supplemental Table S5**).

170

### 171 Iso-Seq read processing and transcriptome reconstruction

172 Cabernet Sauvignon primary contigs and haplotigs FALCON-unzip assembly (Chin et al., 2016) were used  
173 as genomic reference for *V. vinifera* cv. Cabernet Sauvignon FPS 08. Reads were aligned on the Cabernet  
174 Sauvignon genomic contigs using GMAP (ver. 2015-09-29) (Wu and Watanabe, 2005) using the following  
175 parameters “-B 4 -f 2 --split-output”. Error rates were estimated from the identity and coverage of best  
176 alignments. Coding sequences (CDS) were identified using Transdecoder (Haas et al., 2013) as implemented  
177 in the PASA (ver. 2.1.0) (Haas et al., 2003) pipeline. Error correction was performed using LSC (ver. 2.0)  
178 (Au et al., 2012) using a minimum coverage threshold of 5 read (--short\_read\_coverage\_threshold 5). Genome  
179 independent clustering of the isoforms was performed with Evidential Gene (Gilbert). Genome based  
180 clustering genome was performed using PASA (ver. 2.1.0) (Haas et al., 2003) with alignments carried out  
181 with BLAT (ver. 36x2) (Kent, 2002) and GMAP (Wu and Watanabe, 2005) with parameters reported in  
182 **Supplemental File S1** specifying that all the sequences are full-length transcripts.  
183

### 184 Cabernet Sauvignon genome annotation

185 A repeat library was created *ad hoc* for Cabernet Sauvignon following the MAKER-P advanced repeat  
186 workflow (Maker-P - Repeat Library Construction -Advanced). MITEs were identified with MITEHunter  
187 (Han and Wessler, 2010); LTRs and TRIMs were identified with LTRharvest (Ellinghaus et al., 2008) and  
188 LTRdigest (Steinbiss et al., 2009). RepeatModeler (Smit and Hubley) and RepeatMasker (Smit et al.) were  
189 then used to combine and classify the information in a custom library of Cabernet Sauvignon repeats models.  
190 The custom models were finally combined with plant repeat models database to search for repetitive elements  
191 in the genome and in the transcriptome using RepeatMasker (Smit et al.). Iso-Seq reads were considered  
192 having a significant match with interspersed repeats when showing a coverage  $\geq 75\%$  and an identity  $\geq 50\%$ .  
193

194 To create a high quality training set for *ab initio* gene prediction, PN40024 gene models were aligned on the  
195 primary Cabernet Sauvignon assembly with GMAP (Wu and Watanabe, 2005) and uniquely aligning models  
196 were kept only if: 1) the alignment length was at least 98% of the original model to ensure no major loss of  
197 exons; 2) models contained a full ORF coding for a protein with both identity and coverage  $\geq 90\%$  compared  
198 to the protein encoded by the aligned sequence; 3) splice sites were confirmed by Cabernet Sauvignon  
199 RNAseq data. In case of redundancy due to multiple different models encoding for the same protein, only one  
200 representative was kept.  
201

202 *Ab initio* trainings and predictions were carried out with SNAP (ver. 2006-07-28) (Korf, 2004), Augustus  
203 (ver. 3.0.3) (Stanke et al., 2006), GeneMark-ES (ver. 4.32) (Lomsadze et al., 2005), GlimmerHMM (ver.  
204 3.0.4) (Majoros et al., 2004), GeneID (ver. 1.4.4) (Parra et al., 2000) and Twinscan (Brent, 2008; Korf et al.,  
205 2001) (ver. 4.1.2, using TAIR10 annotation for Arabidopsis as informant species). MAKER-P (ver. 2.31.3)  
206 (Campbell et al., 2014a) was used to integrate the *ab initio* predictions with the experimental evidence listed  
207 in **Supplemental Table S8**. Only MAKER-P models showing an Annotation Edit Distance (AED)  $< 0.5$  were  
208 kept.  
209

210 Gene structure refinement was carried out with PASA (ver. 2.1.0) (Haas et al., 2003) using as evidence the  
211 Iso-Seq data, Clustered isoforms, corrected reads and raw reads, along with all the available grape  
212 transcriptomic data. Parameters can be found in **Supplemental Table File 2**. Types of alternative splicing  
213 were classified using AStalavista (ver. 3.0) (Foissac and Sammeth, 2007). For structure refinement, all  
214 RNAseq data were *de novo* assembled (separately for each sample) using a reference-based approach:  
215 HISAT2 alignments were used as input for Stringtie (ver. 1.1.3)(Pertea et al., 2015) without any *a priori*  
216 annotation and clustered in a non-redundant dataset using CD-HIT-EST (ver. 4.6)(Li and Godzik, 2006) with  
217 an identity threshold of 99%.  
218

219 Functional annotation was performed with BLAST (Altschul et al., 1990) search using the RefSeq protein  
220 database (<ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/refseq>, retrieved January 17th, 2017). Functional domains were identified  
221 with InteProScan (ver. 5) (Jones et al., 2014). Enrichment analysis was done the BiNGO (ver. 2.4) (Maere et

222 al., 2005) plugin tool in Cytoscape (ver. 3.0.3) (Shannon et al., 2003) with Biological Process GO categories.  
223 Overrepresented Biological Process GO categories were identified using a hypergeometric test with a  
224 significance threshold of  $P$ -value = 0.01. Non-coding RNAs were searched for with Infernal (ver. 1.1.2)  
225 (Nawrocki et al., 2009) using the Rfam database (ver. 12.2) (Nawrocki et al., 2015). Secondary overlapping  
226 alignments and structures with an  $e$ -value  $\geq 0.01$  were rejected. Hits on the minus strand of the Iso-Seq reads  
227 were rejected as well as matches that were truncated or covering less than 80% of the entire read.

228

### 229 **Short-read alignment and expression profiling**

230 Reads were aligned on transcript sequences using Bowtie2 (ver. 2.26) (Langmead and Salzberg, 2012).  
231 Differential gene expression analysis was performed for the 3 pairwise comparisons of consecutive growth  
232 stages using DESeq2 (ver. 1.16.1) (Love et al., 2014). Expression of RPKM  $> 1$  was used as minimum  
233 threshold to consider a transcript expressed.  $K$ -means clustering was performed with MeV (ver. 4.9) (Saeed  
234 et al., 2003) using the 2,526 gene loci with one or more differentially regulated transcripts ( $P$ -value  $< 0.05$ )  
235 at least at one stage of berry development. Before processing, RPKM values were  $\log_2$  transformed ( $\log_2$   
236 [RPKM average + 1]).  $K$ -means cluster analysis was performed with 100 iterations and a number of co-  
237 expressed clusters equal to three, four and five. The number of clusters was established using figure of merit  
238 (FOM) values (1–20 clusters, 100 iterations, **Supplemental Figure S8**). Genomic loci whose alternative  
239 transcripts were members of more than one co-expression cluster were considered as genomic loci whose  
240 alternative transcripts showed different patterns of gene expression during berry development (**Supplemental**  
241 **File S7 and Figure S9**).

## 242 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

243

### 244 Full-length cDNA sequencing provides comprehensive representation of the Cabernet Sauvignon 245 transcriptome during berry development

246 To obtain a comprehensive representation of the transcripts expressed during berry development, we isolated  
247 RNA from Cabernet Sauvignon berries (**Figure 1**) before the onset of ripening ( $4.35 \pm 0.39$  °Brix), at ( $10.94$   
248  $\pm 0.26$  °Brix) and after véraison ( $18.38 \pm 0.61$  °Brix), and at commercial ripeness ( $20.33 \pm 0.76$  °Brix). To  
249 avoid loading bias, cDNAs were fractionated based on their length to produce four libraries at each  
250 developmental stage in size ranges of 1-2 kbp, 2-3 kbp, 3-6 kbp, or 5-10 kbp. Libraries derived from different  
251 developmental stages were barcoded and libraries with similar cDNA size were pooled together. Each library  
252 pool was sequenced independently on two SMRT cells of a Pacific Biosciences Sequel system generating a  
253 total of 23.6 Gbp. In parallel, the same samples were sequenced using Illumina technology to provide high  
254 coverage sequence information for error correction and for gene expression quantification (**Supplemental**  
255 **Table S5**). Demultiplexing, filtering and quality control of SMRT sequencing data were performed using  
256 SMRT Link as described in the Methods section. A total of 672,635 full-length non-chimeric (FLNC; **Figure**  
257 **2**) reads with a maximum length of 14.6 kbp and an N50 of 3.5 kbp were generated (**Supplemental Table**  
258 **S4**). FLNC reads were further polished and clustered into 46,675 single representatives of expressed  
259 transcripts (henceforth, polished-clustered Iso-Seq reads or PCIRs) ranging from 400 bp to 8.8 kbp with an  
260 N50 of 3.6 kbp (**Supplemental Table S4**). The alignment of FLNC and PCIRs to the genomic DNA contigs  
261 of the same Cabernet Sauvignon clone (Chin et al., 2016; Minio et al., 2017) confirmed that sequence  
262 clustering and polishing successfully increased sequence accuracy, whose median values were 95.4% in  
263 FLNC and 99.6% in the PCIRs. The increase in sequence accuracy was also reflected by the significantly  
264 longer detectable coding sequences (CDS) in the PCIRs compared to the short and fragmented CDS found in  
265 the FLNC reads (**Figure 2**). The residual sequence discrepancy between PCIRs and the genomic contigs could  
266 be explained by heterozygosity and/or sequencing errors, but unexpectedly not by coverage (**Supplemental**  
267 **Figure S1**).

268

269 Over 18.5% of the FLNC reads did not cluster with any other reads and were discarded by the SMRT Link  
270 pipeline. When mapped on the genomic contigs, the uncorrected reads displayed a sequence accuracy that  
271 reflected the typical error rate of 10 - 20% of the technology (**Figure 1**) (Giordano et al., 2017; Koren et al.,  
272 2016; Zimin et al., 2017). High error rates also resulted in short and fragmented detectable CDS (**Figure 1**).  
273 To recover the information carried by these 124,185 uncorrected FLNC, which represented an important  
274 fraction of the transcriptome (see below), we error-corrected their sequences with LSC (Au et al., 2012) using  
275 the short reads generated using Illumina technology. As for the PCIRs, error correction resulted in greater  
276 sequence accuracy and longer CDS (**Figure 2**). This result confirmed the importance of integrating  
277 sequencing technologies that provide complementary benefits, long reads covering full-length transcripts of  
278 SMRT sequencing together with high coverage and accurate short Illumina reads.

279

280 PCIRs and error corrected FLNC (C-FLNC) were finally combined into a single dataset of 170,860 corrected  
281 Iso-Seq isoforms (CISIs). As low as 1.7 % (2,826) of the CISIs showed significant homology with  
282 interspersed repeats. LTRs and LINEs were the most abundant orders with 778 and 729 representatives,  
283 respectively. Chloroplast and mitochondria genes represented a small fraction of the CISIs with only 89  
284 (0.05%) isoforms having a significant match (50% identity and mutual alignment coverage). Excluding these  
285 organellar transcribed isoforms, only 164 CISIs (0.1%) failed to align to the Cabernet Sauvignon genomic  
286 contigs (**Supplemental Table S6**), confirming the completeness of the genome reference and the negligible  
287 biological contamination of the berry samples.

288

289 By aligning the CISIs to the Cabernet Sauvignon genomic contigs, we determined the number of genomic  
290 loci derived from the different full-length transcripts. The 170,860 isoforms merged into a non-redundant set  
291 of 21,680 transcripts that mapped onto 13,402 different loci in the genome with a median number of



292 alternative isoforms per locus of  $1.6 \pm 1.4$ . The CISIs were also clustered independently of any genome  
293 reference with EvidentialGene (Gilbert). A larger number of non-redundant transcripts (29,482) was retained  
294 by clustering, which nonetheless represented a similar number of genomic loci (13,596) when they were  
295 aligned to the genomic contigs. In combination, the two methods identified a total of 15,005 expressed loci  
296 with over 85% overlap and remarkable agreement in gene structure (~98%). Interestingly, only 25% of the  
297 loci were represented by CISIs at all ripening stages, while about one third were detected by Iso-Seq only at  
298 specific stages (**Figure 3A**) confirming the importance of collecting different stages of development to  
299 capture the complexity of the berry transcriptome (Reddy et al., 2013; Vitulo et al., 2014). As expected,  
300 transcripts present in the PCIRs dataset were found associated with higher expression levels than C-FLNC  
301 (**Figure 3B**). Importantly, the 15,005 loci identified by Iso-Seq represented about 82% of the total loci  
302 detectable by RNAseq using Illumina suggesting that only a minority of lowly expressed genes were not  
303 sequenced by Iso-Seq or were lost in the analysis (**Figure 3B**).

### 304 305 **Error corrected Iso-Seq isoforms improve gene model prediction**

306 Full-length cDNA sequencing has been recently shown to improve gene annotations in eukaryotic genomes  
307 (Chen et al., 2017; Clavijo et al., 2017; Hoang et al., 2017; Korf et al., 2017; Li et al., 2017; Semler et al.,  
308 2017; Wang et al., 2018; Xu et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2017). We incorporated the Iso-Seq information in the  
309 process of protein-coding gene prediction in the Cabernet Sauvignon genome as described in **Figure 4**. We  
310 first masked the repetitive regions of the genome using a custom-made library prepared for Cabernet  
311 Sauvignon containing MITE, LTR and TRIM information. We identified 412,994 repetitive elements for a  
312 total of 313 Mb, which masked ~53% of the genome (**Supplemental Table S7**). LTRs were the most abundant  
313 class covering over 240 Mb of the genome, with Gypsy and Copia families accounting for 136 Mb and 64.6  
314 Mb, respectively. MAKER-P (Campbell et al., 2014b) was then used to identify putative protein-coding loci,  
315 combining the results of six *ab initio* predictors trained *ad hoc* with publicly available experimental evidences.  
316 *Ab initio* predictors were trained using a custom set of 4,000 randomly selected gene models out of the 5,636  
317 high quality, non-redundant, and highly conserved gene models of the PN40024 V1 transcriptome (4,459  
318 multiexonic and 1,177 monoexonic). Prediction processes produced over 296,000 models corresponding to  
319  $3.53 \pm 4.98$  CDSs per transcript with an average CDS length of 810 bp. Experimental evidence from public  
320 databases (**Supplemental Table S8**) were incorporated and used to validate the predicted models identifying  
321 41,375 optimal distinct gene loci. Based on similarity to experimental evidence, we finally retained a total of  
322 38,227 high-quality models (AED < 0.5).

323  
324 To further refine the gene models, introduce alternative splicing events, and update the annotations of UTRs  
325 and CISIs, RNAseq Illumina data were introduced sequentially along with all the publicly available grapevine  
326 transcriptome assemblies. PCIRs permitted the annotation of 95 loci that were missed by MAKER-P and  
327 introduced 953 new alternative transcripts; C-FLNC reads introduced 468 new loci and 1,349 new alternative  
328 transcripts; and FLNC reads introduced 2,501 new alternative transcripts. RNAseq data and the other  
329 available grapevine transcriptomes allowed the annotation of 662 additional loci and 4,435 new alternative  
330 transcripts. At the end of the process, only 15,691 of the original MAKER-P gene models were not updated  
331 or modified by the refining procedure. The annotated models were compared to proteins in the RefSeq  
332 database and functional domains identified with InterProScan (Jones et al., 2014) in order to assign functional  
333 information to each isoform. The 2,477 predicted genes that did not show any similarity to known proteins  
334 and did not contain any known functional domain were removed. The final annotation consisted of 55,886  
335 transcripts on 36,687 loci (**Table 1**), up to 29 kb in length with an average of 5.84 exons per transcript. The  
336 identified models encoded for proteins comparable in length with known grape proteins, with just 7.3%  
337 diverging more than 50% from their most similar and/or co-linear PN40024 protein models (**Supplemental**  
338 **Figure S1**). Gene ontology (GO) terms were assigned to 45,271 transcripts based on homology with protein  
339 domains in RefSeq and InterPro databases (**Supplemental Figure S3-S4, Supplemental file S3-S6**).

340

341 We scanned both CISIs and the genome assembly for non-coding RNA (ncRNA) using the covariance models  
342 of the Rfam database. In the CISI dataset, 182 isoforms were annotated as ncRNAs, all ascribed to ribosomal  
343 RNA, 145 of them attributed to the large subunit (clan CL00112) and 37 to the small subunit (clan CL00111).  
344 In the genomic contigs, we identified 3,238 non-overlapping putative ncRNA structures belonging to 236  
345 different families covering a total of 638 kb of the assembly (**Supplemental Table S9**).

347 Overall, these results demonstrate that incorporating complete isoform sequencing information while  
348 annotating the gene space not only improved the predicted gene models, but also increased the number of  
349 identified coding sequences even when extensive RNAseq data is available. Importantly, because they  
350 represent entire molecules and not *de novo* assembled contigs, Iso-Seq reads provided direct experimental  
351 evidence supporting the structure and expression of alternative transcripts and UTRs. UTRs are important  
352 regulatory elements with strong influence on the post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression; they are  
353 hard to predict precisely *ab initio*. Here we show that, by incorporating Iso-Seq and multiple transcriptional  
354 evidences, we were able to annotate both 5' and 3' UTRs in the majority of the transcripts.

### 356 **The Cabernet Sauvignon private transcriptome**

357 Previous analyses of gene content in a limited number of grape cultivars showed that up to 10% of grape  
358 genes may not be shared between genotypes. Some of these dispensable genes are associated with cultivar  
359 specific characteristics (Da Silva et al., 2013). To identify cultivar-specific genes in Cabernet Sauvignon, all  
360 55,886 annotated transcripts were compared to the predicted CDS of PN40024 (both V1 and V2; (Jaillon et  
361 al., 2007; Vitulo et al., 2014)), and the transcriptomes of Corvina (Venturini et al., 2013) and Tannat berries  
362 (Da Silva et al., 2013). Only the gene models that did not have a homologous copy in the other cultivars and  
363 did not align to PN40024 were considered putative cultivar specific genes. This additional filtering ensured  
364 that we did not overestimate the set of cultivar specific genes because of artifacts introduced by gene  
365 prediction in Cabernet Sauvignon and PN40024. Our analysis confirmed a mean unshared gene content of  
366  $5.25\% \pm 1.95\%$  between grape cultivars (**Figure 5A**). The set of Cabernet Sauvignon specific isoforms  
367 comprised 585 isoforms distributed over 549 gene loci. These genes are involved in various cellular and  
368 metabolic processes of grapevine growth and berry ripening (**Figure 5B**). In particular, two GO terms were  
369 significantly enriched: “cellular amine metabolic process” and “oxidation reduction process” (adj. *P*-value  $\leq$   
370 0.01). Among the genes involved in “cellular amine metabolic process” were two phenylalanine ammonia-  
371 lyases (PALs; *P0148F.500780.A*, *P0148F.500740.A*). Both PALs were expressed throughout ripening  
372 (RPKM > 1) and significantly up-regulated after véraison. Among the overrepresented Cabernet Sauvignon  
373 genes belonging to the “oxidation reduction process” was a putative flavonone 3-hydroxylase (F3H;  
374 *P0007F.293800.A*) that was significantly up-regulated between pre-véraison and véraison and between  
375 véraison and post-véraison. PAL and F3H are both enzymes involved in the phenylpropanoid and flavonoid  
376 biosynthetic pathways that produces polyphenols in berries. During grape berry development, F3H generates  
377 intermediate compounds in tannin biosynthesis during the herbaceous phase (pre-véraison), and in flavonol  
378 and anthocyanin biosynthesis after véraison (Castellarin et al., 2012). Interestingly, unlike F3H in PN40024  
379 (*VIT\_04s0023g03370*; (Castellarin et al., 2007)) and its homolog in Cabernet Sauvignon (*P0009F.302990.A*),  
380 this additional F3H paralog does not appear to be expressed before véraison (**Supplemental Figure S5**),  
381 suggesting that this particular F3H may contribute to berry coloration rather than astringency or bitterness.  
382 Similarly, other Cabernet Sauvignon specific genes were differentially expressed during ripening (65  
383 transcripts) and exhibited different gene expression patterns, suggesting their involvement in berry ripening  
384 (**Figure 5C**). We can hypothesize that the expression of additional PALs and F3H as well as of other berry  
385 ripening associated genes contribute to Cabernet Sauvignon varietal attributes, such as berry color and  
386 organoleptic properties (Heymann and Noble, 1987; Robinson et al., 2014; Roujou de Boubee et al., 2000).  
387 For example, Cabernet Sauvignon berries accumulate more anthocyanins than Pinot Noir, Merlot and  
388 Cabernet franc berries (Mattivi et al., 2006) leading to wines denser in color (Cliff et al., 2007).

389

## 390 **RNAseq data mapping on isoform-aware reference allows genome-wide expression profiling at the** 391 **isoform resolution**

392 The coding potential and complexity of eukaryotic organisms are known to be increased by the alternative  
393 splicing of precursor mRNAs from multiexon genes. Cabernet Sauvignon is no exception: over 23% percent  
394 of the 36,687 annotated genes had two or more alternative isoforms, with an average of  $1.52 \pm 1.27$  alternative  
395 transcripts per locus, confirming previous reports in PN40024 (Vitulo et al., 2014). The frequency of splicing  
396 variant types was similar to those observed in other plant species (Reddy et al., 2013). Intron retention was  
397 the most abundant type, counting for over 44% (**Figure 6A**), similarly to what has been observed for rice (45-  
398 55%) (Zhang et al., 2015), Arabidopsis (30 - 64%) (Marquez et al., 2012; Reddy et al., 2013; Zhang et al.,  
399 2015) and maize (40 - 58%) (Wang et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2015). Alternative acceptor sites (13%) and  
400 donor site (10%), and exon skipping (8%) were the other types of alternative splicing found in the Cabernet  
401 Sauvignon genome.

402  
403 Illumina RNAseq reads were aligned to our new reference transcriptome that included all annotated isoforms  
404 to profile the transcriptional levels of all transcripts potentially expressed in the Cabernet Sauvignon genome.  
405 Comparison of the four stage transcriptomes showed an obvious distinction of the berry transcriptome before  
406 and after véraison (**Supplemental Figure S7**), confirming the well-known transcriptional reprogramming  
407 associated with the onset of ripening (Fasoli et al., 2012; Massonnet et al., 2017a). Gene expression analysis  
408 showed that 19,717 transcripts belonging to 11,902 loci were differentially expressed (adj. *P*-value < 0.05) at  
409 least once during berry development (**Supplemental File S7**). Transcriptional modulation was more intense  
410 between pre-véraison and véraison than post-véraison as observed in other studies (**Supplemental Figure 8**)  
411 (Massonnet et al., 2017a; Palumbo et al., 2014). Over 76% of the transcripts (82% of the genes) considered  
412 expressed following short-read sequencing (RPKM > 1) were detected using Iso-Seq. The transcripts not  
413 detected by Iso-Seq were expressed at extremely low levels, with just 1,997 loci (3.6 %) detected over the  
414 retention threshold of RPKM > 1. Expression levels measured by mapping on the predicted loci correlated  
415 well with the RNAseq results when reads were mapped directly on the CISIs (**Figure 3C**), further supporting  
416 the effectiveness of Iso-Seq to generate a reference transcriptome without relying on a genome assembly.

417  
418 The inclusion of transcript variants in the RNAseq analysis allowed the profiling of each gene at the isoform  
419 resolution during berry ripening. We identified 252 loci whose alternative transcripts showed different  
420 expression patterns during berry development. **Figure 6** shows two such loci, encoding a *N*-  
421 carbamoylputrescine amidase (**Figure 6B**) and a putative hexokinase (**Figure 6C**), that produce alternative  
422 transcripts with different patterns of expression during ripening. *N*-carbamoylputrescine amidase is an  
423 enzyme involved in the biosynthesis of polyamines, which are associated with numerous developmental and  
424 stress-related processes in plants, including grapevines (Panagiotis et al., 2012). Hexokinases play an  
425 important role in sugar sensing and signaling in grape berries (Lecourieux et al., 2014). Two transcripts  
426 associated with the same locus encoding a putative *N*-carbamoylputrescine amidase show contrasting patterns  
427 of expression; one was significantly up-regulated at véraison and one was significantly down-regulated post-  
428 véraison (**Figure 6B**). For the putative hexokinase (**Figure 6C**), one of its three transcripts was significantly  
429 up-regulated at véraison and two were significantly down-regulated at and post-véraison. For both genes,  
430 considering only a single transcript would have masked the complexity of this locus' usage during ripening.

## 431 **Conclusions**

432  
433 This study demonstrates that Iso-Seq data can be used to compile a comprehensive reference transcriptome  
434 that represents most genes expressed in a tissue undergoing extensive transcriptional reprogramming. The  
435 integration of full-length cDNA sequencing with high coverage short read technology allowed to error correct  
436 and recover a large number of lowly expressed genes. As established in whole genome reconstruction, our  
437 results confirm that the utilization of different technologies with complementary characteristics can have  
438 synergistic benefits for the completeness and quality of the final genomic product. Although in this study  
439 genomic contigs were available, our results show that Iso-Seq can be used to generate a transcriptome

440 reference without the need of a genome reference. In grapes, this approach can be particularly helpful by  
441 giving rapid access to cultivar specific transcripts. Nonetheless, the pipeline described here can be of even  
442 greater value for projects aiming to reconstruct the gene space in plant species with complex and large  
443 genomes that have not been resolved yet.

444

#### 445 **Acknowledgments**

446 This work was supported in part by J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines, E. & J. Gallo Winery and was carried out  
447 in collaboration with UC Davis Chile with funds from the Chilean Economic Development Agency (CORFO;  
448 Project 13CEI2-21852), Viña San Pedro, and Viña Concha y Toro.

449

#### 450 **Author Contributions**

451 DC and AM designed the experiment. BBU and MM coordinated and executed berry sampling. AM and MM  
452 carried out bioinformatics analyses. RFB prepared all sequencing libraries. DC, AM, AV, and MM wrote the  
453 manuscript.

454

#### 455 **Conflicts of Interest**

456 The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial  
457 relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

458

#### 459 **Data Availability**

460 Sequencing data are accessible through NCBI (SRA SRP132320) and other relevant datasets, such protein  
461 coding gene and repeat coordinates, can be retrieved from the Cantulab github repository  
462 (<http://cantulab.github.io/data.html>).

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## Supplementary material

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**Supplemental Figure S1:** Heatmap representing the distribution of PCIRs in function of base accuracy and maximum measured expression level (RPKM). Accuracy level shows no correlation with isoform expression.

**Supplemental Figure S2:** Distribution of protein length deviation (percentage) between the annotated transcript and, on the x-axis, the co-linear PN40024 V1 gene model, and, on the y-axis, the most similar PN40024 V1 gene model.

**Supplemental Figure S3:** Distribution of hits for functional annotation. (A) Venn diagram of transcripts for which InterPro, Refseq Blast hit and GOslim information was available. (B) Number of transcripts for which a GO information was available using InterPro and BLAST against RefSeq databases

**Supplemental Figure S4:** Distribution of major metabolic process GO annotation available for Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Supplemental Figure S5:** Flavanone 3-hydroxylase alternative transcripts expression. (A) Schematic representation of flavanone 3-hydroxylase pathway. (B) Expression pattern of flavanone 3-hydroxylase alternative transcripts during berry ripening.

**Supplemental Figure S6:** Distribution of encoded protein length for expressed transcripts present in PCIRs dataset, C-FLNC isoforms dataset, or missing from any of the corrected Iso-Seq dataset.

**Supplemental Figure S7:** Heatmap of RNAseq expression distance across the different samples and replicates.

**Supplemental Figure S8:** Number of differentially expressed genes between consecutive developmental stages. In red are showed the up-regulated genes, in green the down-regulated.

**Supplemental Figure S9:** Line graph showing Figure of merit value (FOM) values for increasing number of clusters in the k-means clustering algorithm (1-20 clusters, 100 iterations; MeV v.4.9; Saeed et al., 2003).

**Supplemental Figure S10:** Overlap of gene loci whose alternative transcripts belong to more two or more different clusters when performing k-means gene expression clustering analysis with 3, 4, or 5 as number of clusters.

**Supplemental File S1:** Alignment and annotation parameters used in PASA.

**Supplemental File S2:** Control files with parameters used for MAKER-P annotation.

**Supplemental File S3:** Results of *K*-means clustering. (A) List of the 2,526 gene with significant difference in expression ( $P$ -value  $< 0.05$ ) in at least one comparison of ripening stages. (B) List of the 292 genes whose alternative transcripts showed different patterns of gene expression during berry development. *K*-means gene expression clustering analysis outputs when processing the analysis with three (C), four (D) and five (E) clusters.

**Supplemental File S4:** Cellular component GO annotation tree for Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Supplemental File S5:** Molecular function GO annotation tree for Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Supplemental File S6:** Biological process GO annotation tree for Cabernet Sauvignon.

517 **Supplemental File S7:** Expression profiling of Cabernet Sauvignon in berry ripening using RNAseq.

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911 **TABLES AND FIGURE LEGENDS**

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914 under aCC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 International license.  
915 **Table 1.** Summary statistics of the Cabernet Sauvignon genome annotation after refinement with  
916 experimental evidence.

917 **Figure 1.** Biological material sampled for transcriptome sequencing. (A) Boxplots showing the  
918 concentration of soluble solids in the berries at different stages of development. Representative pictures  
919 of Cabernet Sauvignon berry clusters are shown. (B) Size distribution of the Iso-Seq libraries obtained by  
920 size fractionation of cDNA.

921 **Figure 2.** Diagram depicting the main steps of analysis of the Iso-Seq reads. Raw Iso-Seq reads were  
922 processed following the standard SMRT Link pipeline for Iso-Seq data to obtain Full-Length Non-  
923 Chimeric (FLNC) reads, and clustered and corrected isoform reads (PCIRs). FLNC reads that did not  
924 cluster were error corrected using RNAseq data (C-FLNC). The final dataset described in this study  
925 comprised both PCIRs and C-FLNC reads. For each step, sequencing accuracy and CDS length  
926 distributions are reported.

927 **Figure 3.** Expression profiling of the grape transcriptome using Iso-Seq and RNAseq data. (A) Overlap  
928 of loci detected by Iso-Seq in the different stages of berry development. (B) Distribution of the expression  
929 level of PCIR, FLNC and C-FLNC datasets measured by RNAseq. (C) Correlation of expression levels  
930 between RNAseq conducted by mapping on genomic loci and directly on CIRs.  
931

932 **Figure 4.** Genome annotation workflow with integration of Iso-Seq data.

933 **Figure 5.** Characterization of unshared gene content with other cultivars. (A) Transcript overlap between  
934 Cabernet Sauvignon, PN40024 V1 and V2, Corvina and Tannat. (B) Overrepresented GO terms among  
935 the Cabernet Sauvignon cultivar-specific isoforms. Size of the nodes is related to the cardinality of the  
936 genes associated with the functional category, while color is proportional to the *P*-value of the enrichment  
937 for the category (Benjamini and Hochberg corrected *P*-value < 0.01). (C) Transcriptional modulation of  
938 the Cabernet Sauvignon-specific isoforms expressed during berry development. Isoforms were clustered  
939 by gene modulation pattern based on a hierarchical cluster analysis using the Ward agglomeration method  
940 and Pearson's correlation distance as the metric. Heat maps represent the gene expression level (RPKM)  
941 of Cabernet Sauvignon cultivar-specific isoforms at the four growth stages.  
942

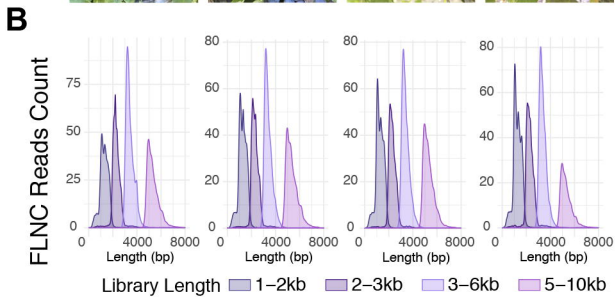
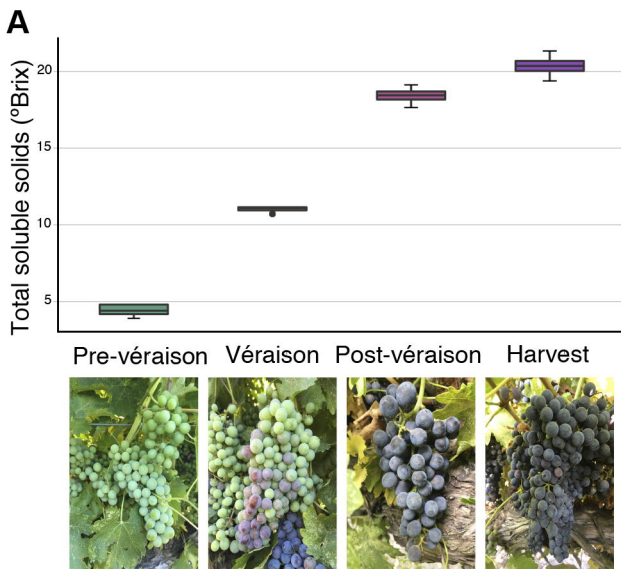
943 **Figure 6.** Alternative splicing variants in Cabernet Sauvignon. (A) Relative abundance of the different  
944 types of splicing variants. (B, C) Expression profiles of two genes whose annotated alternative transcripts  
945 present a differential transcription modulation during berry development. Expression is calculated over  
946 the transcriptome comprising all alternative transcripts per locus and over a reduced representation of the  
947 annotation comprising only one transcript per locus. P0029F.365630.A and P0009F.303060.A encode a  
948 *N*-carbamoylputrescine amidase and a hexokinase, respectively.  
949  
950

951  
 952  
 953

**Table 1. Summary statistics of the Cabernet Sauvignon genome annotation after refinement with experimental evidence.**  
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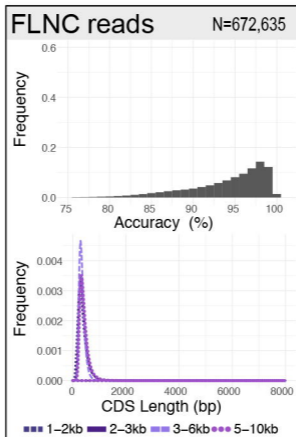
<b>Number of genes</b>	36,687	
<b>Number of monoexonic genes</b>	9,045	
<b>Number of multiexonic genes</b>	27,642	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average per Gene</b>
<b>Number of Transcripts</b>	55,886	1.52
<b>Number of monoexonic transcripts</b>	9,476	1.05
<b>Number of multiexonic transcripts</b>	46,410	1.68
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average per transcript</b>
<b>Number of exons</b>	326,425	5.84
<b>CDS exon number</b>	296,839	5.31
<b>5'UTR exon number</b>	54,659	0.98
<b>3'UTR exon number</b>	53,433	0.96
	<b>Average Length (bp)</b>	<b>Max (bp)</b>
<b>CDS lengths</b>	1,228	29,022
<b>Exon lengths</b>	313	17,750
<b>Intron lengths</b>	809	106,147
<b>5'UTR length</b>	225	13,363
<b>3'UTR length</b>	372	12,798
<b>Intergenic distances</b>	10,349	742,164





# Raw Iso-Seq Reads (N = 9,513,625)

Full-length  
Non-chimeric *SMRT Link*



Clustering *SMRT Link*

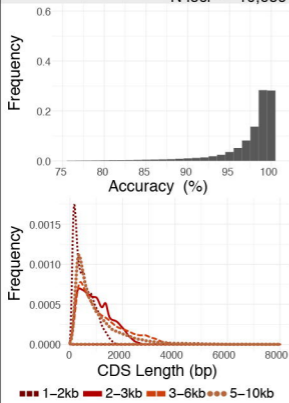
## Unclustered FLNC

## Clustered FLNC

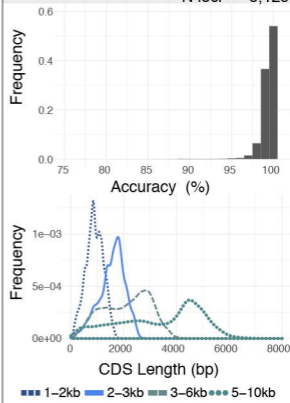
Error correction  
w/ Illumina RNAseq *LSC*

Polishing *SMRT Link*

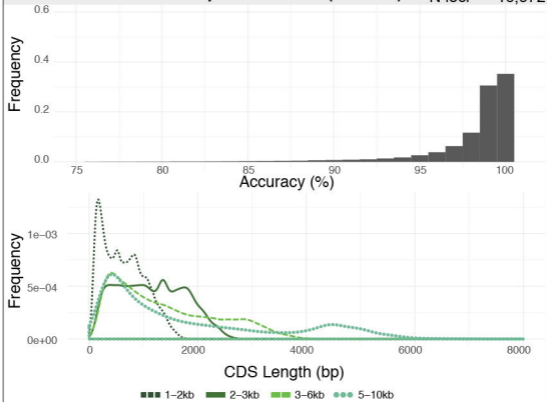
## C-FLNC N reads = 124,185 N loci = 10,639

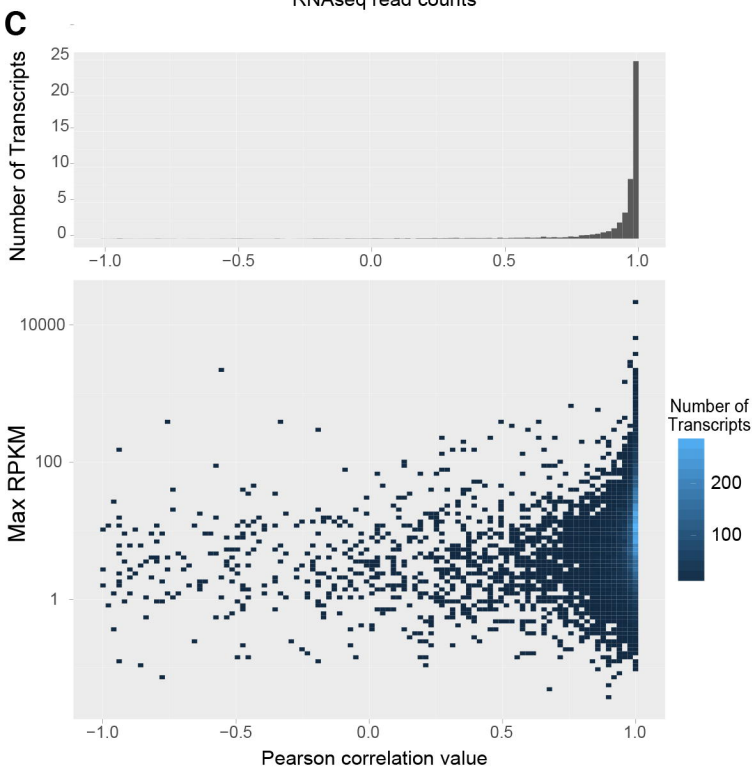
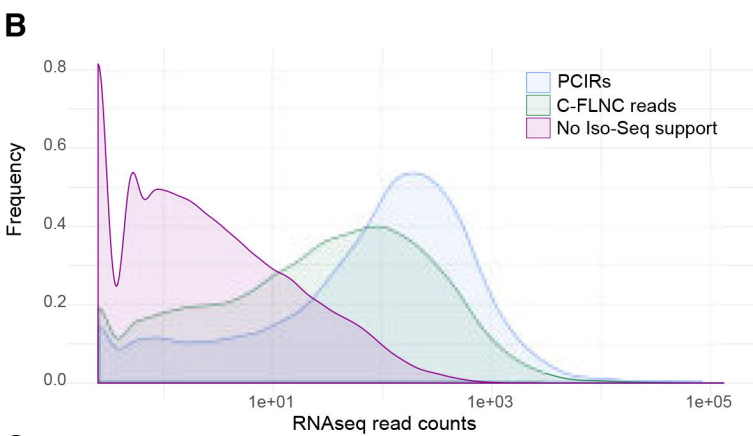
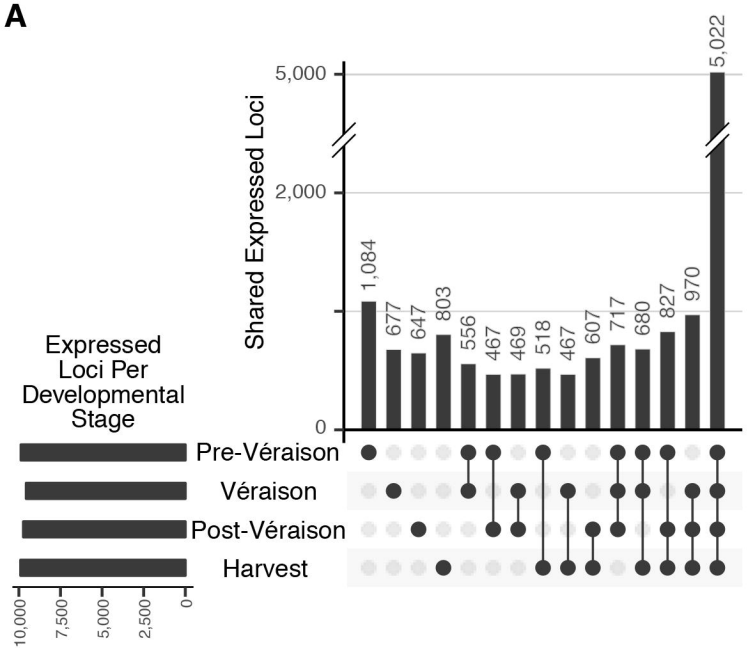


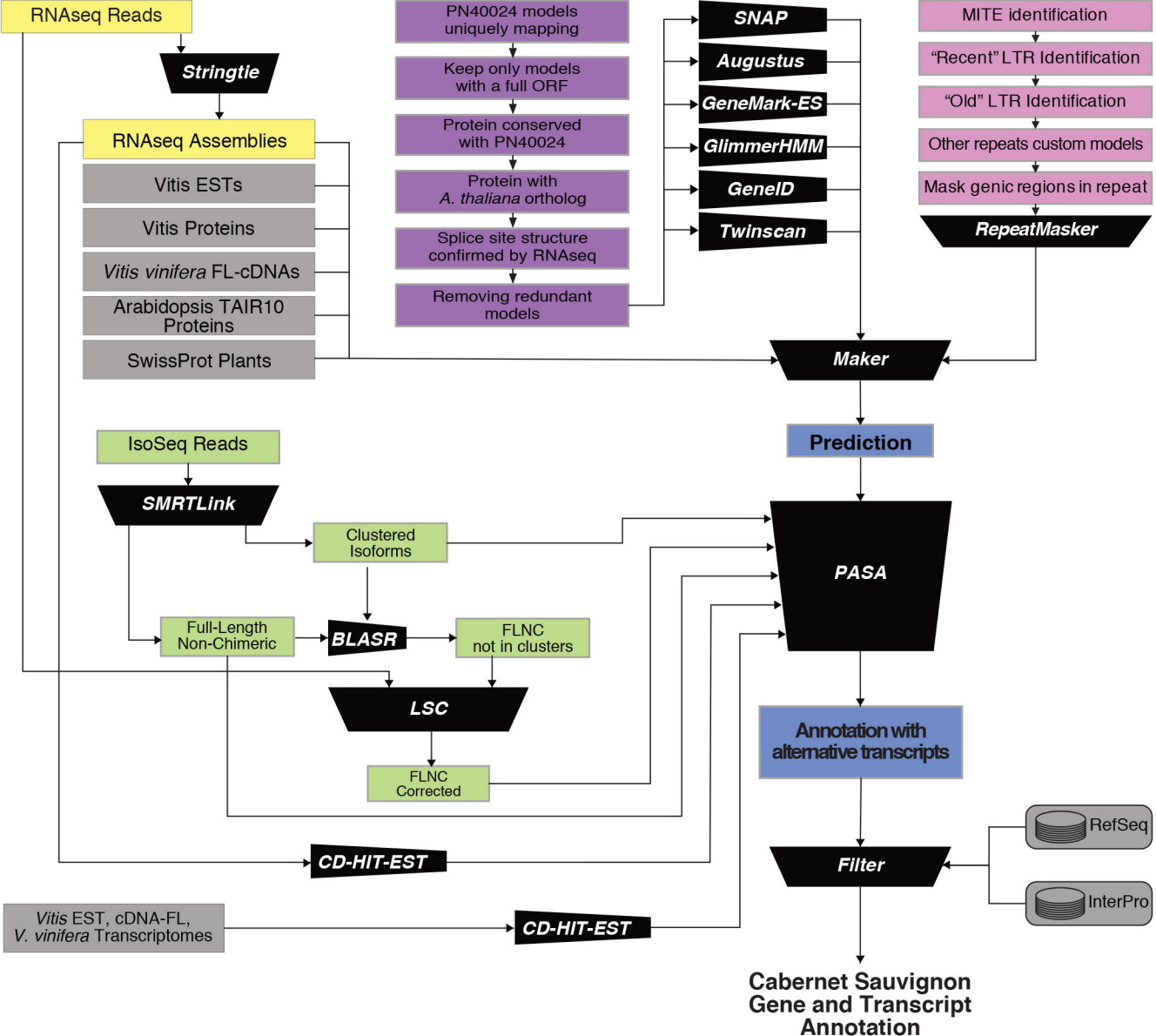
## PCIRs N reads = 46,675 N loci = 8,125



## Corrected Iso-Seq Isoforms (CISIs) N reads = 170,860 N loci = 13,872



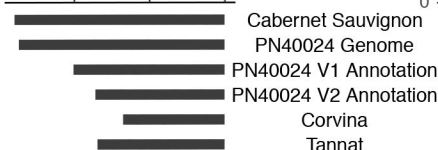
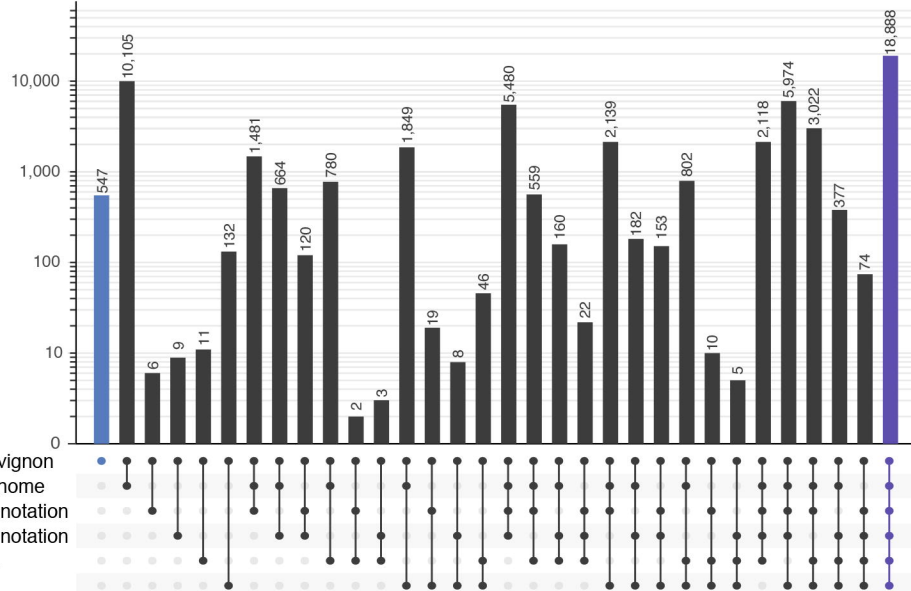
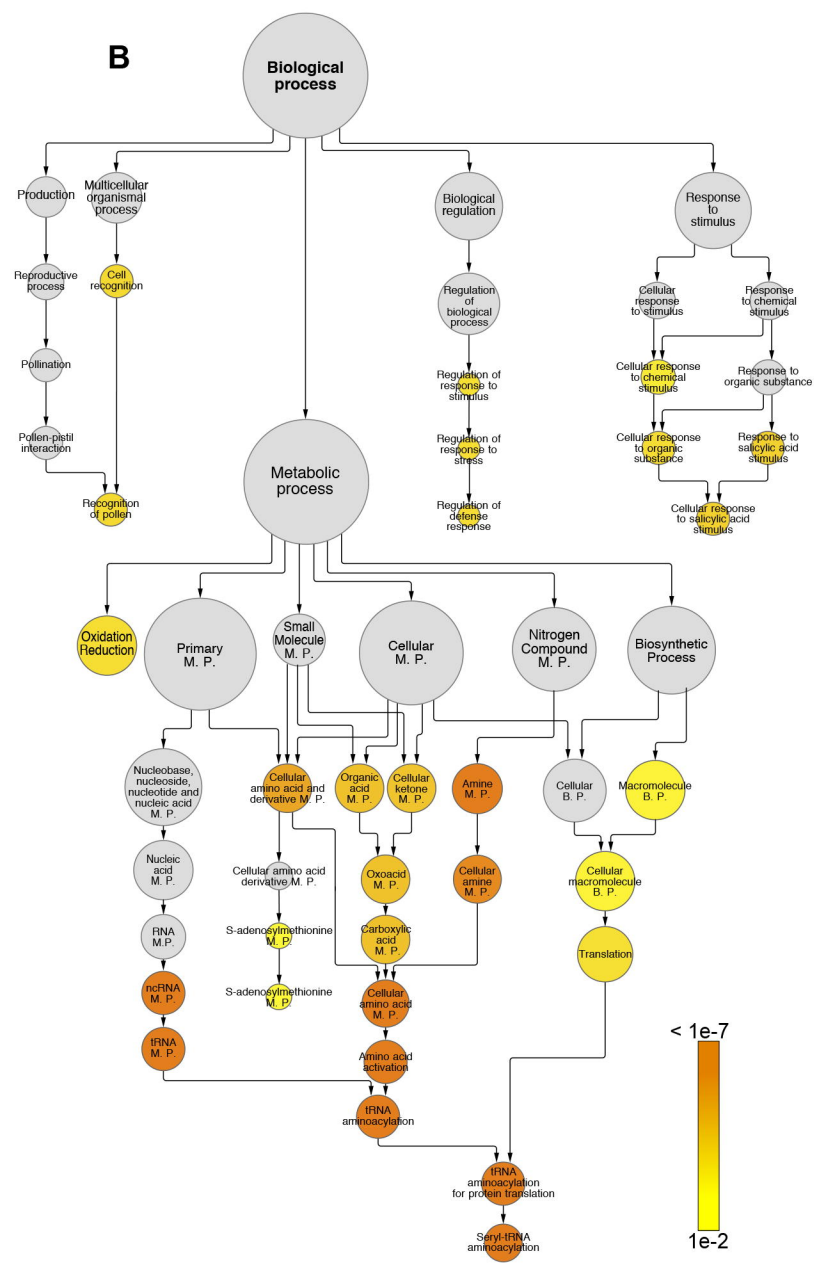




**A**

Shared Cabernet Sauvignon transcripts

40,000 20,000 0

Shared transcripts  
across cultivars**B****C**