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Molecular Evolution of *Pseudomonas syringae* Type III Secreted Effector Proteins

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31 **ABSTRACT**

32

33 Diverse Gram-negative pathogens like *Pseudomonas syringae* employ type III secreted effector (T3SE)
34 proteins as primary virulence factors that combat host immunity and promote disease. T3SEs can also
35 be recognized by plant hosts and activate an effector triggered immune (ETI) response that shifts the
36 interaction back towards plant immunity. Consequently, T3SEs are pivotal in determining the virulence
37 potential of individual *P. syringae* strains, and ultimately restrict *P. syringae* pathogens to a subset of
38 potential hosts that are unable to recognize their repertoires of T3SEs. While a number of effector
39 families are known to be present in the *P. syringae* species complex, one of the most persistent
40 challenges has been documenting the complex variation in T3SE contents across a diverse collection
41 of strains. Using the entire pan-genome of 494 *P. syringae* strains isolated from more than 100 hosts,
42 we conducted a global analysis of all known and putative T3SEs. We identified a total of 14,613 T3SEs,
43 4,636 of which were unique at the amino acid level, and show that T3SE repertoires of different *P.*
44 *syringae* strains vary dramatically, even among strains isolated from the same hosts. We also find that
45 dramatic diversification has occurred within many T3SE families, and in many cases find strong
46 signatures of positive selection. Furthermore, we identify multiple gene gain and loss events for several
47 families, demonstrating an important role of horizontal gene transfer (HGT) in the evolution of *P.*
48 *syringae* T3SEs. These analyses provide insight into the evolutionary history of *P. syringae* T3SEs as
49 they co-evolve with the host immune system, and dramatically expand the database of *P. syringae*
50 T3SEs alleles.

51 INTRODUCTION

52
53 Over the past three decades, type III secreted effectors (T3SEs) have been recognized as primary
54 mediators of many host-microbe interactions (Michiels and Cornelis, 1991;Salmond and Reeves,
55 1993;Hueck, 1998;Coburn et al., 2007;Deng et al., 2017;Hu et al., 2017;Rapisarda and Fronzes, 2018).
56 These proteins are translocated directly from the pathogen cell into the host cytoplasm by the type III
57 secretion system (T3SS), where they perform a variety of functions that generally promote virulence
58 and suppress host immunity (Zhou and Chai, 2008;Cunnac et al., 2009;Oh et al., 2010;Buttner,
59 2016;Khan et al., 2018)}(Coburn et al., 2007). However, T3SEs can also be recognized by the host
60 immune system, which allows the host to challenge the invading microbe. In plants, this immune
61 response is called effector triggered immunity (ETI) (Jones and Dangl, 2006;Dodds and Rathjen,
62 2010;Khan et al., 2016). The interaction between pathogen T3SEs and the host immune system results
63 in an evolutionary arms race, where pathogen T3SEs evolve to avoid detection while still maintaining
64 their role in the virulence process, and the host immune system evolves to recognize the diversity of
65 T3SEs and their actions, while maintaining a clear distinction between self and non-self to avoid
66 autoimmune activation.

67
68 One of the best studied arsenals of T3SEs is carried by the plant pathogenic bacterium *Pseudomonas*
69 *syringae* (Lindeberg et al., 2009;2012;Mansfield et al., 2012). *Pseudomonas syringae* is a highly
70 diverse plant pathogenic species complex responsible for a wide-range of diseases on many
71 agronomically important crop species (Mansfield et al., 2012). While the species as a whole has a very
72 broad host range, individual strains can only cause disease on a small range of plant hosts (Sarkar et
73 al., 2006;Lindeberg et al., 2009;Baltrus et al., 2017;Xin et al., 2018). A growing number of *P. syringae*
74 strains have also recently been recovered from non-agricultural habitats, including wild plants, soil,
75 lakes, rainwater, snow, and clouds (Morris et al., 2007;Morris et al., 2008;Clarke et al., 2010;Morris et
76 al., 2013) . This expanding collection of strains and the increased availability of comparative genomics
77 data presents unique opportunities for obtaining insight into the determinants of host specificity in *P.*
78 *syringae* (Baltrus et al., 2011;O'Brien et al., 2011;Baltrus et al., 2012;O'Brien et al., 2012;Dillon et al.,
79 2017).

80
81 *Pseudomonas syringae* T3SEs have been the focus of both fundamental and applied plant pathology
82 research for decades, going back to some of the early work on gene-for-gene resistance and avirulence
83 proteins (Mukherjee et al., 1966;Staskawicz et al., 1984;Staskawicz et al., 1987;Keen and Staskawicz,
84 1988;Kobayashi et al., 1989;Keen, 1990;Jenner et al., 1991;Fillingham et al., 1992). Since then, over
85 1000 publications have focused on *P. syringae* T3SEs (Web of Science ["*Pseudomonas syringae*" AND
86 (avirulence OR ("type III" AND effector))], October 2018), making it one of the most comprehensively

87 studied T3SE systems. To date a total of 66 T3SE families and 764 T3SE alleles have been catalogued
88 in the *Pseudomonas syringae* Genome Resources Homepage (<https://pseudomonas-syringae.org>).
89 Many of these T3SE families are small, relatively conserved, and only distributed in a subset of *P.*
90 *syringae* strains, while others are more diverse and distributed across the majority of sequenced *P.*
91 *syringae* strains (Baltrus et al., 2011; O'Brien et al., 2011; Dillon et al., 2017). Given the irregular
92 distribution of T3SEs among strains and their frequent association with mobile genetic elements, it has
93 long been recognized that horizontal transfer plays an important role in the dissemination of T3SEs
94 among strains (Kim and Alfano, 2002; Rohmer et al., 2004; Stavriniades and Guttman, 2004; Lovell et al.,
95 2009; Godfrey et al., 2011; Lovell et al., 2011; Neale et al., 2016). Nucleotide composition and
96 phylogenetic analyses of a subset of T3SEs identified eleven *P. syringae* T3SE families that were
97 acquired by recent horizontal transfer events. However, the remaining thirteen families appeared to be
98 ancestral and vertically inherited, suggesting that there is also an important role for pathoadaptation in
99 the evolution of T3SEs (Rohmer et al., 2004; Stavriniades et al., 2006; O'Brien et al., 2011). While T3SE
100 repertoires are thought to be key determinants of host specificity, strains with divergent repertoires are
101 at times capable of causing disease on the same host (Almeida et al., 2009; O'Brien et al.,
102 2011; Lindeberg et al., 2012; O'Brien et al., 2012), signifying that we have much to learn about the ways
103 in which T3SEs contribute to *P. syringae* virulence.

104
105 Two major issues impact our current understanding of T3SE diversity in *P. syringae*: sampling bias and
106 nomenclature. The current catalogue of T3SEs listed on the *Pseudomonas syringae* Genome
107 Resources Homepage come from approximately 120 strains that represent only a subset of the
108 phylogroups in the *P. syringae* species complex. Expanding this strain collection to a more diverse set
109 will undoubtedly expand our understanding of diversity within T3SE families and reveal as-yet identified
110 families. Another persistent issue in *P. syringae* comparative genomics has been the lack of benchmark
111 standards for naming and assigning new T3SEs. While a standardized set of criteria for the
112 identification and naming of *P. syringae* T3SEs have been published and broadly accepted (Lindeberg
113 et al., 2005), the recommendation that new candidate T3SEs be subjected to rigorous phylogenetic
114 analyses prior to family designation has not always been consistently employed. While this problem is
115 not nearly as interesting from a biological perspective, it is very important operationally, since poor
116 classification and naming practices can lead to substantial confusion and even spurious conclusions.
117 Part of this issue stems from the fact that T3SEs are multidomain proteins that can share homology
118 with multiple divergent T3SE families (Stavriniades et al., 2006; McCann and Guttman, 2008). At the time
119 of their discovery, many families also had fewer than three T3SE alleles, making robust phylogenetic
120 analyses impossible. Whatever the root cause, we are currently in a situation where many T3SEs are
121 annotated without family assignment, some very similar T3SEs have been assigned to different T3SE
122 families, and some highly divergent T3SEs are assigned to the same family based on short tracts of

123 local similarity. This situation should be rectified in order to facilitate more comprehensive analyses of
124 the role of T3SEs in the outcomes of host-pathogen interactions, particularly in light of the growing
125 database of *P. syringae* genomics resources.

126
127 Here, we present an expanded catalogue of T3SEs in *P. syringae* and an updated phylogenetic
128 analysis of the diversity within each T3SE family. We identified a total of 14,613 T3SEs from 494 *P.*
129 *syringae* whole-genomes that include strains from 11 of the 13 *P. syringae* species complex
130 phylogroups. These strains allowed us to redefine evolutionarily distinct family barriers for T3SEs,
131 examine the distribution of each family across the *P. syringae* species complex, quantify the diversity
132 within each T3SE family, and explore how T3SEs are inherited. By expanding and diversifying the
133 database of confirmed and predicted *P. syringae* T3SEs and placing all alleles in an appropriate
134 phylogenetic context, these analyses will ultimately enable more comprehensive studies of the roles of
135 individual T3SEs in pathogenicity and allow us to more effectively explore the contribution of T3SEs to
136 host specificity.

137

138

139 **METHODS**

140

141 **Genome Sequencing, Assembly, and Gene Identification**

142 Four hundred and ninety-four *P. syringae* species complex strains were analyzed (Supplemental
143 Dataset S1), of which 102 assemblies were obtained from public sequence databases, including
144 NCBI/GenBank, JGI/IMG-ER, and PATRIC (Markowitz et al., 2012; Wattam et al., 2014; Coordinators,
145 2018), and 392 strains were sequenced in house by the University of Toronto Center for the Analysis of
146 Genome Evolution and Function (CAGEF). Two hundred and sixty-eight of these sequenced strains
147 were provided by the International Collection of Microorganisms from Plants (ICMP). For the strains
148 sequenced by CAGEF, DNA was isolated using the Gentra Puregene Yeast and Bacteria Kit (Qiagen,
149 MD, USA), and purified DNA was then suspended in TE buffer and quantified with the Qubit dsDNA BR
150 Assay Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific, NY, USA). Paired-end libraries were generated using the Illumina
151 Nextera XT DNA Library Prep Kit following the manufacturer's instructions (Illumina, CA, USA), with 96-
152 way multiplexed indices and an average insert size of ~400 bps. All sequencing was performed on
153 either the Illumina MiSeq or GAIIx platform using V2 chemistry (300 cycles). Following sequencing,
154 read quality was assessed with FastQC v.0.11.5 (Andrews, 2010) and low-quality bases and adapters
155 were trimmed using Trimmomatic v0.36 (Bolger et al., 2014) (ILLUMINACLIP: NexteraPE-PE.fa,
156 Maximum Mismatch = 2, PE Palindrome Match = 30, Adapter Read Match = 10, Maximum Adapter
157 Length = 8; SLIDINGWINDOW: Window Size = 4, Average Quality = 5; MENLEN = 20). All genomes
158 were then *de novo* assembled into contigs with CLC v4.2 (Mode = fb, Distance mode = ss, Minimum

159 Read Distance = 180, Maximum Read Distance = 250, Minimum Contig Length = 1000). Raw reads
160 were then re-mapped to the remaining contigs using samtools v1.5 with default settings to calculate the
161 read coverage for each contig (Li and Durbin, 2009). Any contigs with a coverage depth of less than the
162 average contig coverage by more than two standard deviations were filtered out of the assembly.
163 Finally, gene prediction was performed on each genome using Prodigal v2.6.3 with default settings
164 (Hyatt et al., 2010).

165 166 **Annotation and Family Delimitation of Type III Secreted Effectors**

167 To characterize the effector repertoire of each of the 494 *P. syringae* species used in this study, we first
168 downloaded all available *P. syringae* effector, helper, and chaperone sequences from three public
169 databases: NCBI (18,120) (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>), Bean 2.0 (225) (Dong et al., 2015), and the
170 *Pseudomonas syringae* Genome Resources Homepage (843) (<https://pseudomonas-syringae.org>).
171 Using this database of 19,188 T3SE associated sequences in *P. syringae*, we then performed a
172 BLASTP analysis to ensure that all sequences that we downloaded were assigned to appropriate
173 families, which was essential given that many of the sequences downloaded from NCBI are
174 ambiguously labelled as “type III effectors”, “type III helpers”, or “type III chaperones”. Any unassigned
175 T3SE associated gene that had significant reciprocal blast hits ($E < 1e-24$) with an assigned T3SE
176 associated gene was assigned to the corresponding family. This strict E-value cutoff was chosen to
177 avoid incorrectly assigning families to sequences based on short-tracts of similarity that are common in
178 the N-terminal region of T3SEs from different families (Stavrinos et al., 2006). Sequences that had
179 reciprocal significant hits from multiple families were assigned to the family where they had more
180 significant hits, which means that smaller families could be dissolved into a larger family if all
181 sequences from the two families were sufficiently similar. However, this only occurred in one case,
182 which resulted in all HopBB sequences being dissolved into the HopF family. In sum, our final seed
183 database of *P. syringae* T3SEs contained a total of 7,974 effector alleles from 66 independent families,
184 1,585 discontinued effector alleles from 6 independent families, 2,230 helper alleles from 23
185 independent families, and 1,569 chaperones alleles from 10 independent families. Any sequences that
186 were not able to be assigned to an appropriate T3SE family were discarded because of the possibility
187 that these are not true T3SE associated genes.

188
189 Using the T3SE seed database, which contained a total of 7,974 effector alleles, we then annotated
190 any predicted genes in each of the *P. syringae* genomes as a T3SE if the gene had a significant blast
191 hit ($E < 1e-24$) in the T3SE seed database. This resulted in the annotation of 14,613 T3SEs across the
192 494 *P. syringae* strains. Family names were initially assigned to these T3SEs based on the name that
193 had been assigned to the hit T3SE in the seed database. However, a meaningful comparative analysis
194 of the distribution and evolution of the different T3SE families across the *P. syringae* species complex

195 requires that we employ consistent definitions for delimiting each T3SE family. This has been
196 historically problematic with *P. syringae* T3SEs because inconsistent criteria have been employed for
197 assigning novel families. Therefore, we took all 14,613 T3SEs that were identified in this study and
198 used an all-vs-all BLAST clustering approach to delimit them into new families with consistent criteria.
199
200 First, we blasted each T3SE amino acid sequence against a database of all 14,613 T3SEs and retained
201 only hits that an E-value of less than 1e-24 and a length that covered at least 60% of the shorter
202 sequence. Sequences that had multiple non-contiguous hits (i.e. high-scoring segment pairs) with an e-
203 value less than 1e-24 whose cumulative lengths covered at least 60% of the shorter sequence were
204 also retained. As was the case above, the strict e-value cutoff prevents us from assigning significant
205 hits between T3SE sequences that only share strong local identity, which is most commonly seen in the
206 N-terminal secretion signal. The 60% length cutoff prevents chimeric T3SEs from linking the two
207 unrelated T3SE families that combined to form the chimera.
208
209 Second, a final list of all T3SE pairs that shared significant hits was gathered and T3SE sequences
210 were collectively binned based on their similarity relationships. With this method, T3SE families were
211 built based on all-by-all pairwise similarity between T3SEs rather than the similarity between individual
212 T3SEs and an arbitrary seed T3SE or collection of centroid T3SEs, as is the case with some clustering
213 methods. Significantly, our approach binned all significantly similar T3SE regardless of whether any two
214 T3SEs were connected through direct or transitive similarity. For example, if T3SE sequence A was
215 significantly similar to T3SE sequence B, and sequence B was significantly similar to sequence C, all
216 three sequences would be binned together, regardless of whether there was significant similarity
217 between sequence A and sequence C. This is important for appropriately clustering particularly diverse
218 T3SE families, which may contain highly divergent alleles that have intermediate variants.
219
220 Finally, we assigned the same T3SE family designation to all T3SEs within each cluster based on the
221 most commonly assigned T3SE family name that had initially been assigned to sequences within that
222 cluster. In the majority of cases, all sequences in a single cluster had the same initially assigned T3SE
223 family. However, for cases where there were multiple family names assigned to sequences within a
224 single cluster, the lower Hop designation (ie. HopC < HopD) was assigned to all sequences in the
225 cluster. Conversely, for cases where T3SEs that had initially been assigned the same family
226 designation formed two separate clusters, T3SEs from the larger cluster were assigned the initial family
227 name, and T3SEs from the smaller cluster(s) were assigned a novel family name, starting with HopBO,
228 which is the first available Hop designation. Ultimately, this method allowed us to effectively delimit all
229 T3SEs in this dataset into separate families with consistent definitions and performed considerably
230 better at partitioning established T3SE families than standard orthology delimitation software like

231 PorthoMCL (Tabari and Su, 2017) (Supplemental Dataset S2), likely because of the widespread
232 presence of chimeric T3SEs in the *P. syringae* species complex.

233

234 In order to classify short chimeric relationships between families, as illustrated in Figure 2, we used a
235 similar approach to the one outlined above. Specifically, we parsed our reciprocal BLASTP results to
236 capture hits that occurred between alleles that had been assigned to different families. Here, we
237 determined there to be a significant overlap between the alleles if there was an E-value $< 1e-10$, with
238 no length limitation. These local relationships between some alleles in distinct families have no bearing
239 on the evolutionary analyses performed in this study, but are highlighted in Figure 2, where the length
240 of the alleles and their overlapping regions is proportional to the lengths of a pair of representative
241 alleles from the two families.

242

243 **Phylogenetic Analyses**

244 We generated three separate phylogenetic trees in this study to ask whether core-genome diversity,
245 pan-genome content, or effector content could effectively sort *P. syringae* strains based on their host of
246 isolation. For the core genome tree, we clustered all protein sequences from the 494 *P. syringae*
247 genomes used in this study into ortholog families using PorthoMCL v3 with default settings (Tabari and
248 Su, 2017). All ortholog families that were present in at least 95% of the *P. syringae* strains in our
249 dataset were considered part of the soft-core genome and each of these families was independently
250 aligned using MUSCLE v3.8.31 with default settings (Edgar, 2004). These alignments were then
251 concatenated end-to-end using a custom python script and a maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree
252 was constructed based on the concatenated alignment using FastTree v2.1.10 with default parameters
253 (Price et al., 2010). For the pan-genome tree, we generated a binary presence-absence matrix for all
254 ortholog families that were present in more than one *P. syringae* strain. This presence-absence matrix
255 was used to compute a distance matrix in R v3.3.1 using the “dist” function with the Euclidean distance
256 method. The phylogenetic tree was then constructed using the “hclust” function with the complete
257 linkage hierarchical clustering method. We used the same approach to generate the effector content
258 tree, except the input binary presence-absence matrix contained information on the 70 effector families
259 rather than all ortholog families that made up the *P. syringae* pan-genome.

260

261 **Estimating Pairwise K_a , K_s , and K_a/K_s**

262 Evolutionary rate parameters were calculated independently for each T3SE family. First, amino acid
263 sequences were multiple aligned with MUSCLE v.3.8.31 using default settings (Edgar, 2004). Each
264 multiple alignment was then reverse translated based on the corresponding nucleotide sequences
265 using RevTrans v1.4 (Wernersson and Pedersen, 2003) and all pairwise K_a and K_s values were
266 calculated for each family using the Nei-Gojobori Method, implemented by MEGA7-CC (Kumar et al.,

267 2016). Output files were parsed using custom python scripts to convert the *Ka* and *Ks* matrices to
268 stacked data frames with four columns: Sequence 1 Header, Sequence 2 Header, *Ka*, and *Ks*. The
269 alignment-wide ratio of non-synonymous to synonymous substitutions (*Ka/Ks*) was then calculated for
270 all T3SE pairs that had both a *Ka* and a *Ks* value greater than 0 in each family. For codon-level analysis
271 of positive selection in each family, we used Fast Unconstrained Bayesian Approximation (FUBAR) to
272 detect signatures of positive selection in all families that were present in at least five strains with default
273 settings (Murrell et al., 2013) .

274

275 For comparisons between T3SE family evolutionary rates and core genome evolutionary rates, we
276 converted each individual core genome family alignment that was generated with MUSCLE to a
277 nucleotide alignment with RevTrans, then concatenated these alignments end-to-end as described
278 above. As was the case with each T3SE family, we then calculated *Ka* and *Ks* for all possible pairs of
279 core genomes using the Nei Gojobori Method and parsed the output files into stacked data frames
280 using our custom python script. The core genome data frame was then merged with each T3SE family
281 data frame independently based on the genomes that the two T3SE sequences were from so that the
282 evolutionary rates between these two T3SEs could be directly compared to the evolutionary rates of the
283 corresponding core genomes.

284

285 **Gain-Loss Analysis**

286 We used Gain Loss Mapping Engine (GLOOME) to estimate the number of gain and loss events that
287 have occurred for each T3SE family over the course of the evolution of the *P. syringae* species
288 complex (Cohen et al., 2010). The gain-loss analysis implemented by GLOOME integrates the
289 presence-absence data for each gene family of interest across and the phylogenetic profile to estimate
290 the posterior expectation of gain and loss across all branches. These events are then summed to
291 calculate the total number of gene gain and loss events that have occurred for each family across the
292 phylogenetic tree. We performed this analysis on each T3SE family using the mixture model with
293 variable gain/loss ratio and a gamma rate distribution. The phylogenetic tree that used for this analysis
294 was the concatenated core genome tree, which gives us the best estimation of the evolutionary
295 relationships between strains, given the ample recombination known to occur within the *P. syringae*
296 species complex (Dillon et al., 2017).

297

298

299 **RESULTS**

300

301 In this study, we analyzed the type III effectorome of the *P. syringae* species complex using whole-
302 genome assemblies from 494 strains representing 11 of the 13 established phylogroups and 72 distinct

303 pathovars (Supplemental Dataset S1). These strains were isolated from 28 countries between 1935
304 and 2016, and include 62 *P. syringae* type and pathotype strains (Thakur et al., 2016). Although the
305 majority of the strains were isolated from a diverse collection of more than 100 infected host species,
306 we also included a number of strains isolated from environmental reservoirs, which have been
307 dramatically under-sampled in *P. syringae* studies (Morris et al., 2007; Mohr et al., 2008; Clarke et al.,
308 2010; Demba Diallo et al., 2012; Monteil et al., 2013; Morris et al., 2013; Monteil et al., 2016; Karasov et
309 al., 2018). As per Dillon et al. (Dillon et al., 2017), we designate phylogroups 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 as
310 primary phylogroups and 7, 9, 11, and 13 as secondary phylogroups (we have no representatives from
311 phylogroups 8 or 12, although presumably they would also be secondary phylogroups) (Berge et al.,
312 2014). The primary phylogroups are phylogenetically quite distinct from the secondary phylogroups and
313 include all of the well-studied *P. syringae* strains. Nearly all of the primary phylogroup strains carry a
314 canonical *P. syringae* type III secretion system and were isolated from plant hosts. In contrast, many of
315 the strains in the secondary phylogroups do not carry a canonical *P. syringae* type III secretion system
316 and were isolated from environmental reservoirs (e.g. soil or water).

317
318 All of the *P. syringae* genome assemblies used in this study were downloaded directly from NCBI or
319 generated in-house by the University of Toronto Centre for the Analysis of Genome Evolution &
320 Function using paired-end data from the Illumina GAIIx or the Illumina MiSeq platform. There was some
321 variation in the genome sizes, contig numbers, and N50s among strains due to the fact that the majority
322 of the genomes are *de novo* assemblies in draft format (Figure S1); however, the number of coding
323 sequences identified in each strain were largely consistent with the six finished (closed and complete)
324 genome assemblies in our dataset. Given the large size of the *P. syringae* pan-genome, the fact that
325 some strains have acquired large plasmids, and the relatively high frequency of horizontal gene transfer
326 in the *P. syringae* species complex (Baltrus et al., 2011; Dillon et al., 2017), we expect there to be some
327 variation in genome size and coding content of different strains.

328

329 **Distribution of type III secreted effectors in the *P. syringae* species complex**

330 To explore the distribution of T3SEs across the *P. syringae* species complex, we first identified all
331 putative T3SEs present in each of our 494 genome assemblies using a blastp analysis (Altschul et al.,
332 1997), where all protein sequences from each *P. syringae* genome were queried against a database of
333 known *P. syringae* T3SEs obtained from the *Pseudomonas syringae* Genome Resource Database
334 (<https://pseudomonas-syringae.org>), the Bean 2.0 T3SE Database (<http://systbio.cau.edu.cn/bean>), and
335 the NCBI Protein Database (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>). In sum, we identified a total of 14,613
336 confirmed and putative T3SEs, 4,636 of which were unique at the amino acid level, and 5,127 of which
337 were unique at the nucleotide level. Individual *P. syringae* strains in the dataset harbored between one
338 and 53 putative T3SEs, with a mean of 29.58 ± 10.13 (stddev), highlighting considerable variation in

339 both the composition and size of each strain's suite of T3SEs (Figure 1). As expected, primary
340 phylogroup strains tended to harbor substantially more T3SEs than secondary phylogroups strains
341 (30.55 ± 8.97 vs. 3.89 ± 1.64 , respectively), which frequently do not contain a canonical T3SS (Dillon et
342 al., 2017). However, a subset of strains from phylogroups 2 and 3, and all strains from phylogroup 10
343 harbored fewer than 10 T3SEs, more closely mirroring secondary phylogroup strains in their T3SE
344 content. The extensive T3SE repertoires found in most primary phylogroup strains supports the idea
345 that these effectors play an important role in the ecological interactions of the majority of strains in this
346 species complex.

347
348 Objective criteria are required for partitioning and classifying T3SEs prior to any study of their
349 distribution and evolution. In 2005, an effort was made to unify the disparate classification and naming
350 conventions applied to *P. syringae* T3SEs (Lindeberg et al., 2005). While this effort was very successful
351 overall, the criteria have not been universally or consistently applied, resulting in some problematic
352 families. For example, the HopK and AvrRps4 families are homologous over the majority of their protein
353 sequences, but are assigned to distinct families, while the HopX family contains highly divergent
354 subfamilies that only share short tracts of local similarity.

355
356 We reassessed the relationship between all 14,613 T3SEs using a formalized protocol in order to
357 objectively delimit families and clarify the current classification. While the selection of the specific
358 delimiting criteria is arbitrary and open to debate, we have elected to use a well-established protocol
359 with fairly conservative thresholds. We identified shared similarity using a BLASTP-based pairwise
360 reciprocal best hit approach (Altschul et al., 1997; Eisen, 2000; Daubin et al., 2002), with a stringent
361 Expect-value acceptance threshold of $E < 1e-24$ and a length coverage cutoff of $\geq 60\%$ of the shorter
362 sequence (regardless of whether it is query or subject). It should be noted that since this approach uses
363 BLAST it requires only local similarity between family members. Nevertheless, our stringent E-value
364 and coverage thresholds select for matches that share more extensive similarity than would typically be
365 observed when proteins only share a single domain. We feel that these criteria provide a reasonable
366 compromise between very relaxed local similarity criteria (using default BLAST parameters) and very
367 conservative global similarity criteria. All T3SEs that exceeded our acceptance thresholds were sorted
368 into family bins. T3SEs in each bin can therefore be either connected through direct similarity or
369 transitive similarity. Finally, we assigned a name to all T3SEs in each bin based on the most common
370 effector family name in that bin.

371
372 Our analysis identified 70 T3SE families and sorted T3SEs into their historical families in the majority of
373 cases. However, there were some exceptions, including merging existing effector families that shared
374 significant local similarity (Table 1), and creating some new, putative families that were generated from

375 T3SEs originally assigned to existing families, but which did not pass our local similarity thresholds
376 (Table 2). A number of these new families only contain a single allele, so it is likely that they are recent
377 pseudogenes still annotated as coding sequences by Prodigal. Finally, in two cases, a subset of alleles
378 from one T3SE family were assigned to a different family due to the extent of shared local similarity.
379 This included the assignment of all originally designated HopS1 subfamily alleles to HopO, and the
380 assignment of all originally designated HopX3 alleles to HopF.

381
382 It is important to emphasize that the new criteria do not bin T3SEs that share less than 60% similarity
383 across the shortest sequence. This was done to prevent families from being combined due to short
384 chimeric relationships between a subset of the alleles in distinct families (Stavrinos et al., 2006).
385 These relationships could be recognized as super-families, although the reticulated nature of these
386 relationships makes this unwieldy. We list families that share these short regions of similarity in Figure
387 2, although it is important to recognize that some of these chimeric relationships are only displayed by a
388 subset of alleles in each family. While we acknowledge that some of the new T3SE family boundaries
389 may cause concern due to conflicts with historical naming, we feel it is essential to use unambiguous
390 and consistent criteria for family delimitation.

391
392 The distribution of each of these 70 T3SE families across the *P. syringae* species complex reveals that
393 the majority of families are present in only a small subset of *P. syringae* strains, typically from a few
394 primary phylogroups (Figure 3; Figure S2). Among T3SE effector families, only AvrE, HopB, HopM, and
395 HopAA are considered part of the soft-core genome of *P. syringae* (present in > 95% of strains).
396 Interestingly, three of these core families, AvrE, HopM, and HopAA are part of the conserved effector
397 locus (CEL), a well characterized and evolutionarily conserved sequence region that is present in most
398 *P. syringae* strains (Alfano et al., 2000; Dillon et al., 2017). However, the fourth effector from the CEL,
399 HopN, is only present in 14.98% of strains, all of which are from phylogroup 1. While the remainder of
400 T3SE families are also mostly present in a small subset of strains, there is a wide distribution in the
401 number of strains harboring individual T3SE families, further highlighting the dramatic variation in T3SE
402 content across *P. syringae* strains (Figure S3).

403
404 Following family and strain T3SE classification, we also performed hierarchical clustering using the
405 T3SE content of each strain to determine if T3SE profiles are a good predictor of host specificity. We
406 previously reported that in *P. syringae*, neither the core genome or gene content phylogenetic trees
407 correlate well with the hosts from which the strains were isolated (Dillon et al., 2017). This remains true
408 in this study, where we've updated the core and pan-genome analyses with an expanded set of strains
409 (Figure S4; Figure S5). The T3SE content tree is not as well resolved due to the smaller number of
410 phylogenetically informative signals in the T3SE dataset. However, we were able to largely recapitulate

411 the established *P. syringae* phylogroups with this analysis, suggesting that more closely related strains
412 do tend to have more similar T3SE repertoires (Figure S6). We also see that the phylogroup 2,
413 phylogroup 3, and phylogroup 10 strains that have smaller T3SE repertoires than other primary
414 phylogroups, cluster more closely with secondary phylogroup strains in the effectorome tree. However,
415 as was the case in the core genome and gene content trees, hierarchical clustering based on effector
416 content did not effectively separate strains based on their host of isolation. We therefore conclude that
417 overall T3SE content is not a good predictor of host specificity.

418

419 **Diversification of type III secreted effectors in the *P. syringae* species complex**

420 Substantial genetic and functional diversity has been shown to exist within individual T3SE families
421 (Lewis et al., 2014; Dillon et al., 2017). While some T3SE families are relatively small, restricted to only
422 a subset of *P. syringae* strains, and present in only a single copy in each strain, others are found in
423 nearly all strains, and often appear in multiple copies within a single genome (Figure 4). Many of the
424 largest families, including those that are part of the core genome (AvrE, HopB, HopM, and HopAA), are
425 among those that are often present in multiple copies. However, we also found that some families that
426 are present in less than half of *P. syringae* strains (e.g. HopF, HopO, HopZ, and HopBL) frequently
427 appear in multiple copies. The average copy number of individual T3SEs per strain across all families is
428 1.30, while some families are present in copy numbers as high as six.

429

430 To quantify the extent of genetic diversification within each T3SE family, we aligned the amino acid
431 sequences of all members from each family with MUSCLE, then reverse translated these amino acid
432 alignments and calculated all pairwise non-synonymous (K_a) and synonymous (K_s) substitution rates
433 for all pairs of alleles within each family. There was a broad range of pairwise substitution rates in the
434 majority of T3SE families, which is expected given the range of divergence times in the core-genomes
435 of strains from different *P. syringae* phylogroups (Dillon et al., 2017). The three families with the highest
436 non-synonymous substitution rates were HopF, HopAB, and HopAT (Figure 5A), which all have an
437 average K_a greater than 0.5. These families also tended to have relatively high synonymous
438 substitution rates, but several other families also have K_s values that are greater than 1.0 (Figure 5B).

439

440 While some pairwise comparisons of effector alleles did yield a K_a/K_s ratio greater than 1, the
441 predominance of purifying selection operating in the conserved domains of these families likely
442 overwhelms signals of positive selection at individual sites. Indeed, the average global pairwise K_a/K_s
443 values were less than 1 for all T3SE families (Figure 5C). Therefore, we also analyzed the K_a and K_s
444 on a per codon basis using FUBAR to search for site-specific signals of positive selection in each family
445 (Bayes Empirical Bayes P-Value ≥ 0.9 ; $K_a/K_s > 1$) (Murrell et al., 2013). We find that 37 out of the 64
446 (57.81%) T3SE families with at least five alleles have at least one positively selected site. The number

447 of positively selected sites in these families was relatively low, ranging from 1 to 17, with the
448 percentage of positively selected sites in a single family never rising above 2.29% (Table 3). By
449 comparison, we found that only 3,888/17,807 (21.83%) ortholog families from the pangenome of *P.*
450 *syringae* that were present in at least five strains demonstrated signatures of positive selection at one
451 or more sites (Dillon et al., 2017), suggesting that T3SE families experience extremely high rates of
452 positive selection.

453

454

455 Finally, to explore whether T3SE families display different levels of diversity than core gene families
456 carried by the same *P. syringae* strains, we compared all pairwise K_a and K_s values within each
457 effector family to the pairwise K_a and K_s values for the core genes carried in the corresponding
458 genomes. We would expect T3SEs and core genes to share the same K_a and K_s values if they were
459 evolving under the same evolutionary pressures. Deviation from this null expectation could be due to
460 either differences in selective pressures, or the movement of the T3SE via horizontal gene transfer
461 (HGT). We find that the pairwise K_a values for T3SEs are substantially higher than those of the
462 corresponding core genes for the majority of T3SEs (Figure 5A; Figure S7). This was also true for
463 pairwise K_s values, although the differences between T3SE pairs and core genes were not as high and
464 there were many more examples of T3SE pairs that had lower K_s values than the corresponding core
465 genes (Figure 6B; Figure S8).

466

467 **Gene gain and loss of type III secreted effectors in the *P. syringae* species complex.**

468 Both the patchy distribution of T3SE families across the *P. syringae* species complex and the
469 inconsistent relationships between T3SE and core gene substitution rates suggest that HGT may be an
470 important evolutionary force contributing to the evolution of T3SEs in the *P. syringae* species complex.
471 Therefore, we also sought to analyze the expected number of gene gain events across the *P. syringae*
472 phylogenetic tree in order to more accurately quantify the extent to which HGT has actively transferred
473 T3SEs between *P. syringae* strains over the evolutionary history of the species complex. We used the
474 Gain Loss Mapping Engine (GLOOME) to estimate the number of gain and loss events (Cohen et al.,
475 2010; Cohen and Pupko, 2010), and found extensive evidence for HGT in several T3SE families, with
476 some families experiencing as many as 40 HGT events over the course of the history of the *P. syringae*
477 species complex (Figure 7). Outlier T3SE families that did not appear to have undergone much HGT in
478 *P. syringae* include the smallest families, like HopU, HopBE, and HopBR, and the largest families, like
479 AvrE, HopB, HopM, and HopAA. Smaller families were less likely to have undergone HGT because
480 they were only identified in a subset of closely related strains, so are not expected to have been part of
481 the *P. syringae* species complex through the majority of its evolutionary history. Larger families may
482 experience less HGT because they are more likely to already be present in the recipient strain and

483 therefore will quickly be lost following an HGT event. However, because GLOOME only identifies HGT
484 events that result in the gain of a new family, we cannot be certain whether *P. syringae* genomes with
485 multiple copies were generated by HGT or gene duplication.

486
487 An opposing evolutionary force that is also expected to have a disproportional effect on the evolution of
488 T3SE families is gene loss. Specifically, loss of a given T3SE may allow a *P. syringae* strain to infect a
489 new host by shedding an effector that elicits the hosts' ETI response. Indeed, we found that gene loss
490 events were also common in many T3SE families, with more than 50 events estimated to have
491 occurred in the HopAT and HopAZ families (Figure 7). T3SE families that experienced more gene loss
492 events also tended to experience more gene gain events, as demonstrated by a strong positive
493 correlation between gene loss and gene gain in T3SE families (Figure S9) (linear regression; $F =$
494 140.50 , $df = 1, 68$, $p < 0.0001$, $r^2 = 0.67$). However, as was the case with gene gain events, we
495 observed few gene losses in the smallest and the largest T3SE families. For small families, this is again
496 likely to be the result of the fact that they have spent less evolutionary time in the *P. syringae* species
497 complex. For large families, we are again blind to gene loss events that occur in a genome that has
498 multiple copies of the effector prior to the loss event. Therefore, there are likely many more T3SE
499 losses occurring in larger families than we observe here because these T3SE families tend to be
500 present in multiple copies within the same genome.

501
502 Finally, we also observed that there is a significant positive correlation between both evolutionary rate
503 parameters and the rates of gene gain and loss for T3SE families (*Ka*-Gene Gain: $F = 8.48$, $df = 1, 63$,
504 $p = 0.0050$, $r^2 = 0.1186$; *Ka*-Gene Loss: $F = 16.15$, $df = 1, 63$, $p = 0.0002$, $r^2 = 0.2041$; *Ks*-Gene Gain: $F =$
505 6.46 , $df = 1, 63$, $p = 0.0135$, $r^2 = 0.0930$; *Ks*-Gene Loss: $F = 7.70$, $df = 1, 63$, $p = 0.0072$, $r^2 = 0.1089$)
506 (Figure S10). This implies that the same evolutionary forces resulting in diversification of T3SEs are
507 also causing them to undergo elevated rates of gain or loss. However, there was substantial
508 unexplained variance in these correlations, resulting in some T3SE families that have high evolutionary
509 rates and low levels of gain and loss, and other T3SE families that have low evolutionary rates and high
510 levels of gain and loss. These families tended to be the same for all correlations.

511

512

513 **DISCUSSION**

514

515 Bacterial T3SEs are primary virulence factors in a wide-range of plant and animal pathogens (Hueck,
516 1998;Desveaux et al., 2006;Zhou and Chai, 2008;Block and Alfano, 2011;Buttner, 2016;Khan et al.,
517 2016;Hu et al., 2017;Khan et al., 2018;Xin et al., 2018). T3SEs are particularly interesting from an
518 evolutionary perspective due to their dual and diametrically opposed roles in host-pathogen

519 interactions. While T3SEs have evolved in order to promote bacterial fitness, usually via the
520 suppression of host immunity or disruption of host cellular homeostasis, hosts have evolved
521 mechanisms to recognize the presence or activity of T3SEs, and this recognition often elicits an
522 immune response that shifts the interaction back into the host's favor. To explore the distribution and
523 evolutionary history of *P. syringae* T3SEs and gain insight into their role in host specificity, we
524 catalogued the T3SE repertoires of a large and diverse collection of 494 *P. syringae* isolates. These
525 phylogenetically diverse strains allowed us to generate an expanded database of more than 14,000
526 T3SE alleles and investigate the evolutionary mechanisms through which these important molecules
527 have enabled *P. syringae* to become one of the most globally important bacterial plant pathogens
528 (Mansfield et al., 2012).

529 530 **Expanded database of type III secreted effectors in *P. syringae***

531 This study increases the number of confirmed and putative T3SE alleles available in the *P. syringae*
532 Genome Resources Database by 20-fold, resulting in a final database of 14,613 T3SE alleles from the
533 *P. syringae* species complex, 5,127 of which are unique at the nucleotide level. Although these new,
534 putative T3SEs all share an ancestral sequence with known T3SE families, the extensive diversification
535 that has occurred within many of these families clearly indicates that some level of functional
536 diversification has occurred.

537
538 Consistent with our earlier analysis, we find that primary phylogroup strains harbor considerably larger
539 repertoires of T3SEs than secondary phylogroup strains (Baltrus et al., 2011; O'Brien et al.,
540 2011; Dudnik and Dudler, 2014; Dillon et al., 2017). We also find that a small number of primary
541 phylogroup strains have significantly smaller effector repertoires; including phylogroup 10 strains, which
542 were primarily isolated from non-agricultural sources similar to most secondary phylogroup strains, and
543 the phylogroup 2 strain Psy642, which has previously been highlighted as an outlier in its T3SE content
544 and has been characterized as non-pathogenic (Clarke et al., 2010; O'Brien et al., 2011). In general,
545 phylogroup 2 strains have somewhat smaller T3SE repertoires and employ a greater number of
546 phytotoxins relative to other primary phylogroup strains (Baltrus et al., 2011; O'Brien et al., 2011; Dillon
547 et al., 2017). This may indicate that phylogroup 2 strains have evolved a different host-microbe lifestyle
548 than other *P. syringae* primary phylogroup strains, e.g. one tending towards low virulence, epiphytic
549 interactions, rather than high virulence, invasive pathogenesis (Hirano and Upper, 2000).

550
551 Among the 70 T3SE families that were delimited in this study, seven of them had fewer than five total
552 members (HopBR, HopBS, HopBT, HopBU, HopBV, HopBW, HopBX). These families all consist of
553 alleles that were separated from a larger T3SE family during the delimitation stage of our analysis
554 because they shared only very limited regions of local similarity with the larger family. The small size of

555 these families suggests that they may be pseudogenes degenerating due to a lack of selective
556 constraints. The 63 remaining families are similar to the ~60 families that have been discussed in
557 earlier studies (Baltrus et al., 2011;Lindeberg et al., 2012). While we do merge seven families based on
558 our delimitation analysis, seven new families have been discovered in the past five years (McCann et
559 al., 2013;Hockett et al., 2014;Lam et al., 2014;Matas et al., 2014;Mucyn et al., 2014). Unfortunately, our
560 objective delimitation analysis separated HopX2 from HopX, HopZ3 from HopZ, and HopH3 from
561 HopH, forming the HopBO, HopBP, and HopBQ families, respectively. Despite these differences, we
562 arrive at several similar conclusions to prior work on the distribution of individual T3SEs across *P.*
563 *syringae* strains. Specifically, we find that few T3SE families are considered part of the core genome
564 (Baltrus et al., 2011;O'Brien et al., 2011;Lindeberg et al., 2012), with only AvrE, HopB, HopM, and
565 HopAA being present in more than 95% of strains. Three of these families (AvrE, HopM, and HopAA)
566 are part of the CEL, while the other CEL effector, HopN, is only present in 14.98% of *P. syringae*
567 strains, all from phylogroup 2. This suggests that HopN arose in the CEL after the divergence of this
568 phylogroup. Other families that have previously been characterized as core T3SEs in *P. syringae*
569 include HopI and HopAH (Baltrus et al., 2011), which are only present in 79.76% and 89.07% of strains
570 from our study, respectively. HopB has not been highlighted as a core T3SE in prior studies, likely
571 because it had been split into the HopB and HopAC families. We find that alleles from these families
572 are quite similar, often sharing reciprocal BLASTP hits across more than 80% of the HopB sequence
573 with E-values less than 1e-24, which indicates that HopB and HopAC should be considered a single
574 family. The remainder of T3SE families have a considerably sparser distribution across the *P. syringae*
575 species complex, ranging in frequency from 1.62% to 80.97%. This demonstrates that different T3SE
576 families were likely acquired episodically throughout the evolutionary history of the *P. syringae* species
577 complex and are subject to strong evolutionary pressures for gain and loss due to the widespread and
578 diverse ETI surveillance system of plants (Cunnac et al., 2009;Xin et al., 2018).

579
580 Finally, we find that highly divergent combinations of T3SEs can enable *P. syringae* to infect the same
581 host (Figure S6). While this observation is consistent with prior studies in *P. syringae* (Baltrus et al.,
582 2011;Lindeberg et al., 2012;O'Brien et al., 2012), it is in contrast to the convergence in T3SE
583 repertoires that has been observed in *Xanthomonas*, another phytopathogen that employs a T3SS
584 (Hajri et al., 2009). Importantly, this limits our ability to detect and differentiate *P. syringae* pathogens of
585 different hosts using this fairly crude application of comparative genomics. The lack of correlation
586 between T3SE repertoires and host specificity may be a direct result of the fact that there is substantial
587 functional redundancy among *P. syringae* T3SEs from different families, or that certain T3SEs in
588 combination can mask the detection of other T3SEs in a given *P. syringae* background (Cunnac et al.,
589 2009;Cunnac et al., 2011;Lindeberg et al., 2012;Wei et al., 2018). However, it will be important moving

590 forward to assess the true host range of a broader collection of *P. syringae* strains in order to determine
591 whether specific T3SEs promote or suppress growth on particular hosts.

592

593 **Genetic and functional evolution of *P. syringae* type III secreted effectors**

594 Given the broad array of unique T3SEs that exist within the *P. syringae* species complex, mining this
595 untapped diversity is likely to reveal a number of new functions and interactions for T3SEs in *P.*
596 *syringae*. By quantifying K_a , K_s , and K_a/K_s for each pair of T3SE alleles in each family, we identified
597 substantial genetic diversity in several T3SE families (Figure 5). Our codon-level analysis of positive
598 selection also revealed that T3SE families were substantially more likely than non-T3SE families to
599 contain positively selected sites (Table 3). Finally, we confirmed that this divergence is not simply a
600 reflection of the immense diversity exhibited by the strains used in this study, since the divergence
601 observed for T3SE families is consistently higher than the divergence observed across core genes
602 (Figure S7; Figure S8). Elevated non-synonymous substitution rates in T3SE families implies that there
603 is elevated positive selection operating on these families. Elevated synonymous substitution rates
604 additionally show that this elevated positive selection may extend to synonymous sites, that many
605 T3SEs arose prior to the last common ancestor (LCA) of the *P. syringae* species complex, and/or that
606 T3SEs undergo considerably higher rates of HGT than core genes.

607

608 Fast-evolving T3SEs will also provide numerous opportunities for studying Red Queen dynamics (van
609 Valen, 1973). Under Fluctuating Red Queen (FRQ) dynamics, fluctuating selection drives oscillations in
610 allele frequencies at the focal genetic loci in both the pathogen and the host, resulting in rapid
611 evolutionary change on both sides (Brockhurst et al., 2014). In the case of *P. syringae* and their plant
612 hosts, bacterial T3SEs are the key players on the pathogen side, and plant resistance genes are the
613 key players on the host side. These FQR dynamics are expected to maintain high levels of within-
614 population genetic diversity at focal loci, as we've observed in many T3SE families. The majority of
615 T3SE families in *P. syringae* are highly divergent and display strong signatures of positive selection,
616 likely in response to intense host-imposed selection to evade recognition (Rohmer et al., 2004; Baltrus
617 et al., 2011; Lindeberg et al., 2012). This implies that few T3SEs are broadly unrecognized, making
618 interactions between individual T3SEs and the corresponding plant resistance genes an excellent
619 resource for exploring FQR dynamics.

620

621 The highly dynamic nature of T3SE evolution is also seen in our analysis of T3SE gain and loss across
622 the *P. syringae* phylogenetic tree. More than five gene gain events are estimated to have occurred in
623 52 out of the 70 T3SE families analyzed in this study, with a maximum of 41 HGT events estimated in
624 the HopZ family. Gene loss events were even more common, with 57 out of 70 T3SE families
625 experiencing more than five loss events and a maximum of 53 events in the HopAZ family. Earlier

626 studies have also suggested that both gene gain and loss were quite common among T3SE families.
627 One specific study using nucleotide composition and phylogenetics found that members from 11 out of
628 24 tested *P. syringae* T3SE families were recently acquired by HGT (Rohmer et al., 2004). These
629 families included AvrA, AvrB, AvrD, AvrRpm, HopG, HopQ, HopX, HopZ, HopAB, HopAF, and HopAM
630 (although AvrD is not a T3SE (Leach and White, 1996;Mucyn et al., 2014)). The T3SEs from this
631 dataset were also highlighted by this study as undergoing considerably high rates of gene gain and loss
632 within the *P. syringae* species complex. Specifically, all of these T3SEs were demonstrated to have
633 undergone at least ten gene gain events and many were among the most dynamic T3SEs in our
634 dataset. Other studies have shown that many T3SEs are present on mobile genetic elements and that
635 T3SEs from the same family are often found at different genomic locations (Kim and Alfano,
636 2002;Charity et al., 2003;Lovell et al., 2009;Godfrey et al., 2011;Lovell et al., 2011;Neale et al., 2016),
637 which may both promote and be a consequence of the high rates of gene gain and loss for particular
638 T3SE families. From a selective perspective, it is also likely that host immune recognition can drive
639 selection for gene gain or loss (Vinatzer et al., 2006), while the functional redundancy of different T3SE
640 families carried in the same genetic background may limit the negative impacts of the loss of such
641 T3SEs (Kvitko et al., 2009;Cunnac et al., 2011;Wei et al., 2018). Finally, as has been previously
642 reported (Baltrus et al., 2011), we find that there is a significant positive correlation between rates of
643 evolution and rates of gene gain and loss (Figure S10), suggesting that similar evolutionary forces that
644 cause the diversification of T3SEs are contributing to the loss and gain of T3SEs. However, not all
645 T3SEs fit this model which could reflect that T3SEs vary in their mutational robustness and/or that the
646 genomic context of different T3SEs makes them more or less prone to HGT. In any event, the
647 extensive gene gain and loss that occurs in the majority of T3SE families lends further support to the
648 hypothesis that few T3SE alleles are broadly unrecognized (Baltrus et al., 2011).

649
650 Given the highly dynamic nature of T3SE evolution, we predict that there are still numerous T3SEs that
651 will be found to elicit ETI. Most research on ETI elicitation to date has focused on a small number of
652 T3SE families, and an even smaller number of alleles from each family (Mansfield, 2009). The
653 immense diversification that we observe in many T3SE families points to strong selective pressures
654 that may be explained by as-yet discovered ETI responses. If this prediction holds true, it will be
655 particularly interesting to study T3SE families with alleles that induce different ETI responses in the
656 same host. These patterns will help reveal how strains shift onto new hosts or break immunity in an
657 existing host, perhaps explaining the evolutionary driving force behind new disease outbreaks.

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661

DATA ACCESS

662 All genomic data produced by this study have been submitted to NCBI. Accession numbers for all
663 genomes sequenced in this study and all publicly available genomes are available in Supplemental
664 Dataset S1.

665

666

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673

674

675 **DISCLOSURE DECLARATION**

676 The authors declare no conflicts of interests or disclosures.

677

678

679 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

680 M.M.D., D.D., and D.S.G. designed the research; M.M.D., R.A., B.L., and A.M. analyzed the data; and
681 M.M.D, and D.S.G. wrote the paper.

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Table 1: T3SE Families Merged into a New Family

Families to Merge	New Family ¹
HopAB + HopAY	HopAB
HopAT + HopAV	HopAT
HopB + HopAC	HopB
HopAO + HopD	HopD
HopF + HopBB	HopF
HopK + AvrRps4	HopK
HopW + HopAE	HopW

The new name was assigned based on the first assigned Hop designation.

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Table 2: New T3SE Families

Old Name	New Family
HopX2	HopBO
HopZ3	HopBP
HopH3	HopBQ
HopBN1	HopBR
HopAV1	HopBS
HopAB2	HopBT ¹
HopAB2	HopBU ¹
HopAJ2	HopBV ¹
HopBH1	HopBW ¹
HopL1	HopBX ¹

¹ These new families only contain a single allele

949 Table 3: Positive Selection among T3SE Families.

Family	Total Number of Alleles	Number of Unique Alleles ¹	Alignment Length (Codons)	Positively Selected Sites (N)	Positively Selected Sites (%)
AvrA	27	12	906	1	0.11
AvrB	277	75	366	0	0.00
AvrE	608	360	2248	3	0.13
AvrPto	170	33	275	0	0.00
AvrRpm	171	39	301	0	0.00
AvrRpt	25	12	261	3	1.15
HopA	277	105	449	0	0.00
HopB	770	362	2265	0	0.00
HopC	115	28	271	0	0.00
HopD	587	228	981	0	0.00
HopE	103	31	274	0	0.00
HopF	380	125	385	0	0.00
HopG	190	70	528	0	0.00
HopH	265	54	226	2	0.88
HopI	400	166	601	0	0.00
HopK	156	34	338	3	0.89
HopL	102	53	902	1	0.11
HopM	620	223	1034	2	0.19
HopN	74	25	350	0	0.00
HopO	227	75	391	1	0.26
HopQ	304	86	504	3	0.60
HopR	424	231	2001	6	0.30
HopS	114	26	179	2	1.12
HopT	97	34	398	2	0.50
HopU	15	4	264	0	0.00
HopV	307	74	738	2	0.27
HopW	618	219	1125	1	0.09
HopX	308	83	452	3	0.66
HopY	201	53	287	2	0.70
HopZ	396	79	771	2	0.26
HopAA	752	218	578	0	0.00

HopAB	553	204	893	5	0.56
HopAD	30	12	675	5	0.74
HopAF	395	105	289	3	1.04
HopAG	347	141	742	17	2.29
HopAH	899	317	479	1	0.21
HopAI	326	110	268	1	0.37
HopAL	33	15	679	0	0.00
HopAM	54	15	281	3	1.07
HopAQ	26	8	98	2	2.04
HopAR	105	30	312	1	0.32
HopAS	421	164	1396	4	0.29
HopAT	604	223	1858	0	0.00
HopAU	243	58	815	0	0.00
HopAW	117	18	266	1	0.38
HopAX	63	33	448	0	0.00
HopAZ	283	98	340	1	0.29
HopBA	43	16	239	0	0.00
HopBC	26	9	254	2	0.79
HopBD	141	50	304	3	0.99
HopBE	11	6	633	0	0.00
HopBF	104	25	252	0	0.00
HopBG	13	5	134	0	0.00
HopBH	84	26	427	1	0.23
HopBI	106	31	452	2	0.44
HopBJ	8	6	260	0	0.00
HopBK	75	32	89	1	1.12
HopBL	94	50	819	0	0.00
HopBM	40	10	157	0	0.00
HopBN	80	20	301	1	0.33
HopBO	93	32	355	1	0.28
HopBP	83	31	411	5	1.22
HopBQ	20	3	215	0	0.00
HopBR	5	1	133	0	0.00
HopBS	3	1	52	0	0.00
HopBT	1	1	194	0	0.00
HopBU	1	1	190	0	0.00

HopBV	1	1	677	0	0.00
HopBW	1	1	171	0	0.00
HopBX	1	1	182	0	0.00

¹ Unique DNA sequences

951 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

952

953 **Figure 1:** Total number of coding T3SEs in each *P. syringae* strain, sorted by phylogroup. Closed
954 circles represent the number of effectors in each strain, boxes show the first quartile effector count,
955 median effector count, and third quartile effector count for the whole phylogroup, and whiskers extend
956 to the highest and lowest effector counts in the phylogroup that are not identified as outliers (>1.5 times
957 the interquartile range).

958

959 **Figure 2: Interfamily blast hits ($E < 1e-10$) that did not pass our e-value and/or length cut-offs for**
960 **combining T3SEs into families.** Each superfamily represents a cluster of families that have some
961 overlapping sequence. Coloured blocks represent the regions of the representative sequence pairs that
962 are homologous, where the length of the blocks is proportional to the length of the homologous
963 sequence. Black lines represent the remainder of each representative sequence that is not
964 homologous, where the length of the lines is proportional to the length of the 5' and 3' non-homologous
965 regions. Not all families within a superfamily need to contain a significant blast hit with all other families
966 in the superfamily because they can be homologous to the same intermediate sequence in different
967 regions.

968

969 **Figure 3:** Heat map demonstrating the proportion of strains in each phylogroup that harbor each of the
970 T3SE families. Only four T3SE families, AvrE, HopB, HopM, and HopAA are considered part of the soft-
971 core *P. syringae* complex genome (present in > 95% of strains). Other T3SE families are mostly
972 sparsely distributed across the *P. syringae* species complex, with several families only being present in
973 a few phylogroups.

974

975 **Figure 4:** Total number of *P. syringae* strains harboring an allele from each T3SE family. Colour
976 categories denote the copy number of each effector family in the corresponding strains. While the
977 majority of families are mostly present in a single copy, some of the more broadly distributed families
978 have higher copy numbers in a subset of *P. syringae* genomes.

979

980 **Figure 5:** Non-synonymous substitution rate (Ka), synonymous substitution rates (Ks), and Ka/Ks ratio
981 for each T3SE family. All alleles in each family were aligned using MUSCLE v. 3.8 and all pairwise Ka
982 and Ks values within each family were calculated using MEGA7 with the Nei-Gojobori Method. Boxes

983 show the first quartile substitution rates, median substitution rates, and third quartile substitution rates
984 for each family, and whiskers extend to the highest and lowest substitution rates in the family that are
985 not identified as outliers (>1.5 times the interquartile range). Average pairwise Ka , Ks , and Ka/Ks
986 values for each family are denoted by red X's.

987

988

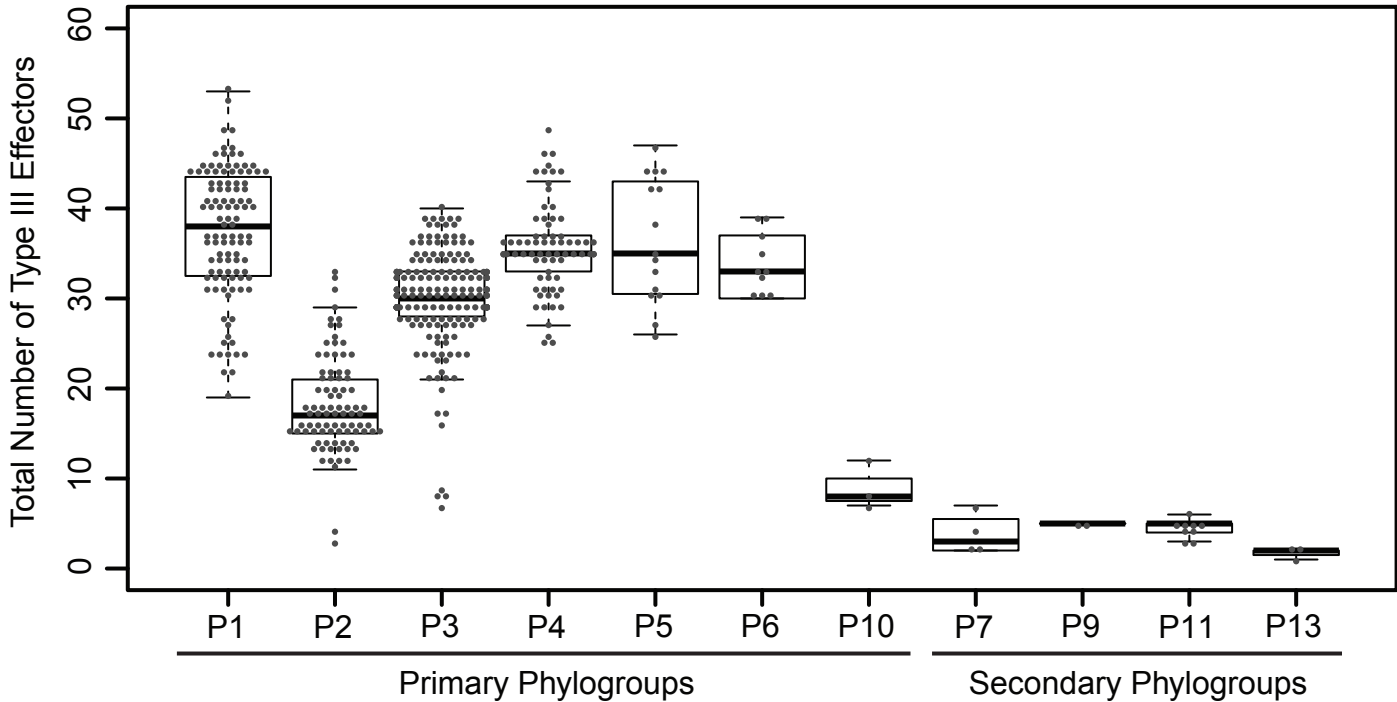
989 **Figure 6:** Relationship between the average pairwise non-synonymous substitution rate (Ka) (A) and
990 the average pairwise synonymous substitution rate (Ks) (B) for each effector family with the average
991 core genome synonymous and non-synonymous substitution rates of the corresponding *P. syringae*
992 strains. Pairwise substitution rates for all sequences within a family were estimated by reverse
993 translating the effector family and concatenated core genome amino acid alignments, then calculating
994 pairwise substitution rates in MEGA7 with the Nei-Gojobori Method. Each point on the scatter plot
995 represents the average of these pairwise rates for a single family and the red dotted lines represent the
996 null-hypothesis that the substitution rates in the effector family will be the same as the substitution rates
997 of the core genes in the same collection of genomes.

998

999

1000 **Figure 7:** Expected number of gene gain and gene loss events for each T3SE family. The posterior
1001 expectation for gain and loss events was estimated for each family on each branch of the *P. syringae*
1002 core-genome tree using GLOOME with the stochastic mapping approach. The sum of these posterior
1003 expectations across all branches yields the total expected number of events for each family.

1004



Superfamily 1

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HopBX

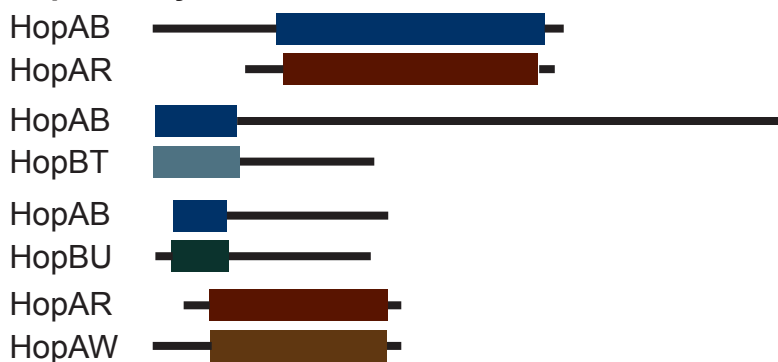
Superfamily 2



Superfamily 3



Superfamily 4

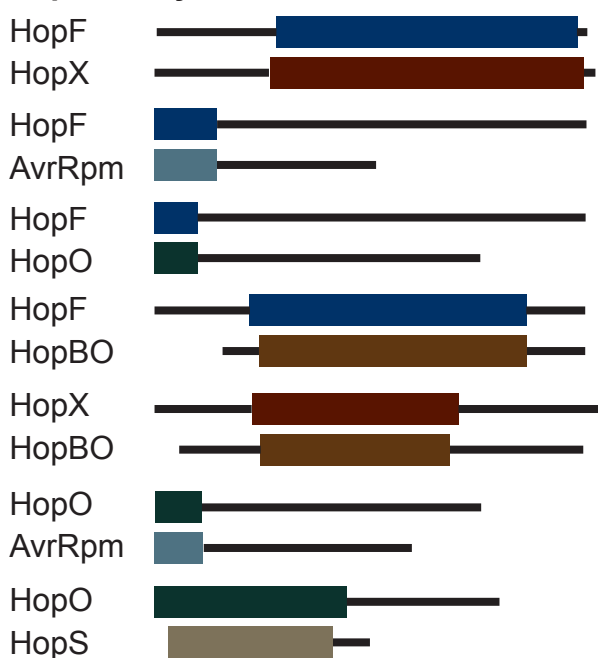


Scale

300
Amino
Acids



Superfamily 5



Superfamily 7



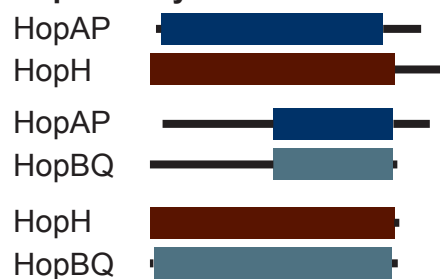
Superfamily 8



Superfamily 9



Superfamily 10



Superfamily 6



