

1 **Variant Phasing and Haplotypic Expression from Single-molecule**

2 **Long-read Sequencing in Maize**

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19 **Abstract**

20 Haplotype phasing of genetic variants is important for interpretation of the maize
21 genome, population genetic analysis, and functional genomic analysis of allelic
22 activity. Accordingly, accurate methods for phasing full-length isoforms are
23 essential for functional genomics study. In this study, we performed an isoform-
24 level phasing study in maize, using two inbred lines and their reciprocal crosses,
25 based on single-molecule full-length cDNA sequencing. To phase and analyze full-
26 length transcripts between hybrids and parents, we developed a tool called
27 IsoPhase. Using this tool, we validated the majority of SNPs called against
28 matching short read data and identified cases of allele-specific, gene-level, and
29 isoform-level expression. Our results revealed that maize parental and hybrid lines
30 exhibit different splicing activities. After phasing 6,847 genes in two reciprocal
31 hybrids using embryo, endosperm and root tissues, we annotated the SNPs and
32 identified large-effect genes. In addition, based on single-molecule sequencing, we
33 identified parent-of-origin isoforms in maize hybrids, different novel isoforms
34 between maize parent and hybrid lines, and imprinted genes from different tissues.
35 Finally, we characterized variation in cis- and trans-regulatory effects. Our study
36 provides measures of haplotypic expression that could increase power and
37 accuracy in studies of allelic expression.

38

39 **Introduction**

40 Phasing of genetic variants is crucial for identifying putative causal variants and
41 characterizing the relationship between genetic variation and phenotype [1]. Maize
42 is a diploid organism that not only has high genetic diversity, but also exhibits
43 allele-specific expression (ASE) [2,3,4], i.e., unequal transcription of parental
44 alleles. The effects of ASE vary by cell/tissue type, developmental stage, and
45 conditions [5]. Because alleles from the same gene can generate heterozygous
46 transcripts with distinct sequences, a comprehensive analysis of ASE is necessary
47 in order to achieve a thorough understanding of transcriptome profiles [6,7].
48 Previously, ASEs were studied using short-read RNA-seq, which could quantify
49 alleles at the SNP level but was unable to provide full-length haplotype
50 information [8,9]. Third-generation sequencing technologies such as PacBio and
51 Oxford Nanopore offer full-length transcript sequencing that eliminates the need
52 for transcript reconstruction, and these methods have been widely adopted for
53 genome annotations [10–14]. However, only a handful of studies used long reads
54 for isoform-level haplotyping [6].

55 In this study, we used the Pacific Biosciences Sequel platform to produce a single-
56 molecule full-length cDNA dataset for two maize parental lines, the temperate line
57 B73 and the tropical line Ki11, as well as their reciprocal hybrid lines (B73 × Ki11;

58 Ki11 × B73). We also sequenced RNAs from the same tissues using 150-bp
59 paired-end (PE) sequencing on the Illumina platform. We developed a tool called
60 IsoPhase to phase the allelic isoforms in the hybrids based on the single-molecule
61 transcriptome datasets. This is the first full-length isoform phasing study in maize,
62 or in any plant, and thus provides important information for haplotype phasing in
63 other species, including polyploid species. Using IsoPhase, we demonstrated that
64 haplotype phasing by full-length transcript sequencing can reveal allele-specific
65 expression in maize reciprocal hybrids. Our approach does not require parental
66 information (although parental data could be used to assign maternal and paternal
67 alleles) and can be applied to exclusively long-read data. Moreover, we show that
68 single molecules can be attributed to the alleles from which they were transcribed,
69 yielding accurate allelic-specific transcriptomes. This technique allows the
70 assessment of biased allelic expression and isoform expression.

71

72 **Results**

73 **Full-Length Transcript Sequencing and Bioinformatics Pipeline**

74 Reciprocal hybrids of the maize inbred lines B73 and Ki11 exhibited dramatic
75 heterosis in plant height, primary and lateral root number, biomass and 100-kernel
76 Weight (S1A–S1H Fig), making this group well suited to the allelic study of

77 heterosis. To identify as many transcripts as possible, we extracted high-quality
78 RNA from root, embryo, and endosperm of B73, Ki11, as well as their reciprocal
79 crosses (B73 × Ki11, Ki11 × B73), and subjected the RNA to reverse transcription.
80 Tissue-specific barcodes were added before pooling for subsequent amplification.
81 Barcoded SMRTBell libraries were sequenced on a PacBio Sequel 1M platform
82 with 15 SMRT Cells using 2.1 chemistry, yielding 4,898,979 circular consensus
83 sequences (CCS, also called reads of insert). We pooled the reads from all four
84 lines and processed them using the IsoSeq3 workflow (Fig 1); 76.3% (3,739,812)
85 of reads were classified as full-length based on the presence of barcoded primers
86 and polyA tails (S1 Table). IsoSeq3 processing yielded 250,168 full-length, high-
87 quality (HQ) consensus transcript sequences.

88 The HQ transcript sequences were then mapped to the maize RefGen_v4
89 genome assembly [14] using minimap2 [15]. Of the 250,168 HQ sequences,
90 248,424 (99.3%) were mapped to the genome, among which 229,757 (91.8%) were
91 selected according to two criteria: min-coverage 99% and min-identity 95%. These
92 sequences were further collapsed into 90,419 non-redundant transcripts (S2 Table).
93 Using the QC tool SQANTI [16], we discarded 15,301 (16.9%) of the non-
94 redundant transcripts due to intra-priming, RT switching, or non-canonical
95 junctions unsupported by matching short-read data (S3 Table). Genome-wide
96 BLASTN to the NCBI RefSeq NR database revealed that 523 (30%) of the 1,744

97 unmapped sequences fell into gaps in the assembly, whereas the remaining
98 sequences could be mapped to other organisms, implying that they represented
99 biological contamination from endophytes or other sources (S4 Table). Our final
100 dataset consists of 75,118 transcripts covering 23,412 gene loci, with lengths
101 ranging from 80 to 11,495 bp and an average transcript length of 2,492 bp (S2 Fig).

102 **Isoform Characterization in Maize B73, Ki11, and Reciprocal Lines**

103 We used SQANTI to compare reference transcripts against the maize B73
104 RefGen_v4 annotation [14], matching 20,068 of the 23,412 loci to a reference gene
105 locus; the remaining 3,344 transcripts, with an average gene length of 2,350 bp,
106 were deemed novel. Among these novel transcripts 3,193 (95.5%) are intergenic,
107 and 319 (4.5%) are antisense. The novel transcripts are not annotated in the
108 existing maize B73 genome.

109 SQANTI classified the transcripts into six groups (Fig 2A): a] 36,005
110 (47.9%) isoforms were FSM (full splice matches), matching a reference perfectly
111 for all exonic junctions; b] 8,910 (11.9%) isoforms were ISM (incomplete splice
112 matches), matching a reference perfectly but with fewer exons; c] 13,521 (18.0%)
113 were NIC (novel in catalog), novel isoforms using combinations of known
114 donor/acceptor sites; d] 13,170 (17.5%) were NNC (novel not in catalog), novel
115 isoform using at least one novel donor or acceptor site; e] 319 (0.4%) were

116 Antisense; and f] 3,193 (4.3%) were Intergenic. The Iso-Seq data recovered
117 proportionately just as many full-length reference transcripts at longer read lengths
118 (Fig 2B), whereas the shortest transcripts (< 1 kb) and novel genes were enriched
119 for mono-exonic transcripts (Fig 2C–2D), of which 44.3% (4,702) were non-
120 coding. In addition, we identified alternative start and end sites for these transcripts
121 (Fig 2E–2F).

122

123 We then demultiplexed the pooled transcripts by looking at the number of reads
124 associated with each strain-tissue (ex: B73-root) in each transcript. If a sample had
125 at least one full-length read associated with a transcript, it was considered to be
126 expressed. Each sample contained between 20,000 and 30,000 expressed
127 transcripts, with relatively similar length distributions (S5 Table and S3 Fig). To
128 determine the degree of saturation of the data, we subsampled the full-length reads
129 associated with the transcripts by strain and by tissue; the results of this analysis
130 revealed that the Iso-Seq data was saturated at the gene level, but was still
131 revealing additional diversity at the transcript level (S4A–S4D Fig). Note, however,
132 that this saturation analysis was limited by the input library size and subject to
133 sequencing bias on the PacBio platform.

134

135 Comparison of genes/isoforms between parents and hybrids revealed that
136 reciprocal F1s exhibited maternal dominance (S5 Fig). We found a number of
137 shared and genotype-specific genes and isoforms between the parental line and two
138 hybrids (S6 Fig). Investigation of the main splicing patterns revealed that intron
139 retention was the dominant pattern across these four genotypes, and alternative last
140 exon the least common pattern (S7A–S7C Fig). Quantification using Illumina short
141 reads showed that most genes exhibited additive expression patterns in three
142 tissues. We also observed differences between the two reciprocal hybrids:
143 specifically, B73 × Ki11 had more non-additive genes than Ki11 × B73 (S8A–S8C
144 Fig), which could contribute to phenotypic differences between these two hybrid
145 lines. However, there were no significant differences in the number of isoforms
146 between genes with additive expression and those with non-additive expression,
147 nor were there differences in genes with non-additive expression between the two
148 reciprocal hybrids (S9A–S9C Fig).

149

150 **Full-Length Transcripts Enable Accurate Haplotyping**

151 To phase Iso-Seq transcripts, we developed a new tool called IsoPhase. For each
152 gene, we aligned all full-length reads to the gene region, and then called SNPs
153 individually (currently, IsoPhase only calls substitution SNPs). We then used the
154 full-length read information to reconstruct the haplotypes and used a simple error

155 correction scheme to obtain the two alleles (Fig 3A). To determine which allele
156 belongs to B73 or Ki11, we took advantage of the fact that all B73 reads must only
157 express one allele, and all Ki11 reads must only express the other. Once the
158 parental alleles were identified, we obtained the allelic counts for the F1 hybrids
159 (Fig 3B). We applied IsoPhase to the 9,463 genes that had at least 40 FL read
160 coverage, of which 6,907 had at least one SNP and could be readily classified as
161 the B73 or Ki11 alleles.

162

163 We validated the SNPs called from IsoPhase using short-read data. Considering
164 only substitution SNPs at positions for which there was at least 40 FL read
165 coverage, 96% (74280 of 77540) of IsoPhase SNPs were validated by short-read
166 data. The remaining 4% (3260) of SNPs that were PacBio-specific were mostly
167 due to insufficient coverage of the UTR regions by short-read data. Conversely,
168 short reads identified an additional 26,774 SNPs in the regions that were not
169 confirmed by IsoPhase. There were several reasons for this: (1) low or dropped
170 coverage of Iso-Seq data; (2) alignment artifacts; and (3) indels masquerading as a
171 series of consecutive SNPs. Both short read and Iso-Seq data showed variable
172 coverage at the 5' ends. In some cases, short-read data called additional 5' SNPs
173 (Fig 4A). At positions where short reads called a SNP but Iso-Seq had sufficient
174 coverage, however, read mis-alignment was a common issue (S10A–S10B Fig). In

175 summary, we have confidence in the joint SNP calls, and attribute the unique SNP
176 calls to either false negatives (due to low coverage) or false positives (due to mis-
177 alignment).

178 **Full-Length Transcript Reads Reveal Allelic Specific Expression**

179 An advantage of full-length transcript sequencing is the ability to characterize
180 isoforms with haplotype information. Among the highly expressed genes, we
181 observed cases of allelic specific expression. For example, only the maternal allele
182 of the gene Zm00001d037529 (PB.16588) was expressed in the F1 hybrids, and
183 both Iso-Seq and short-read data supported maternal-only expression (Fig 4B). The
184 Zm00001d040612 (PB.8517) gene provides a remarkable example of allelic-
185 specific isoform expression. Its two most abundant isoforms were PB.8517.1 and
186 PB.8517.4, which differ only in the last exon: PB.8517.4 has a single 3' exon,
187 whereas in PB.8517.1 the last exon is spliced into two exons. In B73, PB.8517.4
188 was expressed but PB.8517.1 was not, whereas in Ki11 the opposite pattern was
189 observed. In both F1 hybrids, both isoforms were expressed, but only the Ki11
190 allele was detected for the PB.8517.1 isoform, whereas only the B73 allele was
191 detected for the PB.8517.4 isoform (Fig 5). Short-read junction data supported this
192 observation. In total, we identified 221 monoallelic genes in embryo, 527 in
193 endosperm, and 271 in root (S11A Fig). Comparison of the number of isoforms in

194 these monoallelic genes revealed differences among the three tissues: in embryo
195 and root, the two reciprocal hybrids were inclined to exhibit the maternal effect
196 pattern, whereas in endosperm, reciprocal hybrid B73 × Ki11 had more isoforms
197 (S11B Fig).

198

199 We conclude that while short-read data achieves higher sequencing depth and can
200 call more SNPs, full-length transcripts deliver accurate haplotype information with
201 high specificity and can be used to study allele-specific expression. In future work,
202 combining the deep coverage of short read data with full-length long-read data
203 should drastically improve both the sensitivity and specificity of transcript
204 haplotyping.

205

206 **Functional Annotation of the SNPs**

207 We performed functional annotation of SNPs called by IsoPhase using the maize
208 reference genome annotation v4. Among all SNPs, 24% were synonymous variants.
209 Of the non-synonymous variants, 22,093 had potential large effects on the function
210 of 5,140 genes, including 21,685 missense, 287 splice donor/acceptor, and 243
211 stop gained/retained variations. In addition, 10% and 17% variants were in 3'
212 UTRs and 5' UTRs, respectively (Fig 6A–6B). Among those, 2,556 genes had
213 SIFT (sort intolerant from tolerant) scores < 0.05 and were therefore predicted to

214 be deleterious mutations. Gene Ontology analysis revealed that most of the large-
215 effect genes were associated with ‘molecular function’ terms related to catalytic
216 activity and binding, and ‘biological process’ terms related to metabolic and
217 cellular processes (Fig 6C). The resultant differences in these processes could
218 contribute to the phenotypic differences between Ki11 and B73, as well as the
219 differences between the hybrids and their parents. We also found that these large-
220 effect genes had more isoforms in root and embryo tissues in B73, but more
221 isoforms in endosperm tissue in Ki11. In addition, the number of isoforms in the
222 two reciprocal hybrids exhibited the high-parent value in root and embryo, but not
223 in endosperm, suggesting that genes in endosperm play a role in determining the
224 developmental differences between B73 and Ki11 plants (Fig 6D–6F).

225

226 **Imprinted genes and cis-/trans-regulatory effects**

227 We identified a number of imprinted genes based on the phasing results from
228 IsoPhase: 172 paternally inherited genes in embryo, 221 in endosperm, and 200 in
229 root; and 193 maternally inherited genes in embryo, 326 in endosperm, and 196 in
230 root. The expression of each allele confirmed the paternal and maternal expression
231 pattern of these imprinted genes (Fig 7A–7F). Comparison of splicing patterns
232 between parents and hybrids revealed that overall intron retention was the
233 predominant pattern across the four genotypes, regardless of tissue and paternal or

234 material imprinting; however, the proportion of each splicing pattern varied among
235 genotypes in specific tissues (Fig 7G–7L).

236
237 Variation in cis- and trans-regulation can be distinguished by allelic expression
238 ratios between parents relative to the F1 interspecific hybrid or allotetraploid. In
239 order to see cis- and trans-effects on gene expression divergence, we calculated the
240 allelic ratios in parents and reciprocal hybrids from the phasing results, and used
241 this information to identify genes with cis or trans effects. The results revealed that
242 cis + trans effects were predominant in the two hybrids among all the three tissues,
243 following by cis \times trans effects; conserved genes were the least common (S12A
244 Fig). In addition, the number of isoforms was slightly higher in conserved genes
245 than in genes with other effects (S12B Fig).

246

247 **Discussion**

248

249 Maize is a diploid important genetic model for elucidating transcriptional networks.
250 Recently, full-length transcript sequencing using long-read technology has enabled
251 us to characterize alternative splicing events and improve the maize genome
252 annotation [14,17]. However, the general Iso-Seq algorithm ignores SNP-level
253 information, focusing instead on identifying alternative splicing differences.

254 Heterosis has been extensively studied in plants using transcriptome sequencing
255 approaches, revealing differentially expressed genes and biased expressions
256 between parents and hybrid lines [18–20]. The results of these studies have
257 provided clues about the molecular mechanisms underlying plant heterosis [21]. To
258 date, however, no study has characterized allelic expression at single-molecule
259 full-length transcript level. Maize, with its high diversity, provides an excellent
260 model for studying heterosis.

261

262 On the other hand, transcriptome sequencing has a wide variety of applications,
263 including evaluation of differences in gene expression between tissues, conditions,
264 etc. By contrast, allele-specific expression analysis evaluates expression
265 differences between two parental alleles in their hybrids. Both differential and
266 allele-specific expression analyses have been employed to study heterosis using
267 traditional RNA-seq [22,23], but the short read lengths of this technique make it
268 impossible to construct the parental origins at the full-length transcript level. Full-
269 length, single-molecule sequencing provides an unprecedented allele-specific view
270 of the haploid transcriptome. Haplotype phasing using long reads allowed us to
271 accurately calculate allele-specific transcript and gene expression, as well as
272 identify imprinted genes and investigate the cis/trans regulatory effects.
273 Sequencing of full-length haplotype-specific isoforms enabled accurate assessment

274 of allelic imbalance, which could be used to study the molecular mechanisms
275 underlying genetic or epigenetic causative variants and associate expression
276 polymorphisms with plant heterosis.

277

278 Maize is an excellent model for haplotype phasing study, as it is very polymorphic
279 as well as both inbreds and hybrids are easily obtainable and reference genomic
280 sequence is available. In this study, we sequenced full-length cDNAs in two
281 reciprocal hybrids and their parental lines using the PacBio Iso-Seq method. To
282 phase isoforms in the hybrids, we developed IsoPhase, an accurate method for
283 reconstructing haplotype-specific isoforms. Based on the assumption that the SNPs
284 in each inbred line are homozygous, our method uses splice mapping to partition
285 the reads into parental haplotypes. Using IsoPhase, we successfully phased 6,847
286 genes using single-molecule sequencing data from maize reciprocal F1 hybrids and
287 their parents. It is important to note that we only phased genes supported by more
288 than 40 FL reads; the rest of the genes were not phased due to the sequencing
289 depth cutoff. In addition, we used short-read data from the same tissues to confirm
290 the SNPs called from long-reads sequencing, giving us high confidence in the
291 resultant phased genes. This is the first full-length isoform phasing study in maize,
292 or in any plant, and thus provides important information for haplotype phasing to
293 other organisms, including polyploid species. IsoPhase can also be used for self-

294 incompatible species for haplotype phasing, although a high level of
295 heterozygosity in such species makes it very challenging and would require deeper
296 sequencing.

297

298 We noticed that the allelic expression of phased genes varied among tissues.
299 Among the phased genes, we also identified imprinted genes in endosperm,
300 embryo and root, and we found that genes expressed in the embryo had more
301 isoforms than imprinted genes expressed in endosperm and root. However, due to
302 the large number of full-length reads required for high-confidence phasing by
303 IsoPhase, future studies involving large-scale deep sequencing will be required to
304 phase all genes in maize.

305

306 **Methods**

307 **Plant materials**

308 Maize inbred lines B73 and Ki11 were grown at CSHL Uplands Farm, and reciprocal crosses
309 were made between the two lines. For tissue collection, embryo and endosperm at 20 DAP (days
310 after pollination) were collected for each genotype in two biological replicates, and root tissues
311 were collected at 14 DAG (days after germination). All tissues were immediately frozen in liquid
312 N₂. For each tissue, at least 10 plants were pooled in each biological replicate.

313

314 **RNA preparation**

315 Total RNA was prepared by grinding tissue in TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen 15596026) on dry ice
316 and processing as recommended by the manufacturer. To remove DNA, an aliquot of total RNA
317 was treated with RQ1 DNase (Promega M6101), followed by phenol/chloroform/isoamyl alcohol
318 extraction and chloroform/isoamyl alcohol extraction using Phase Lock Gel Light tubes (5
319 PRIME 2302800), and ethanol precipitation. Precipitated RNA was stored at -20°C.

320

321 **Illumina RNA-Seq library construction**

322 Total RNA (20 µg) was used for poly(A)⁺ selection using oligo(dT) magnetic beads (Invitrogen
323 610-02), eluted in water, and subjected to RNA-seq library construction using the ScriptSeq™
324 kit (Epicentre SS10906). Libraries were amplified by 15 cycles of PCR, and then sequenced in
325 two lanes on the HiSeq 2500 PE150 platform at Woodbury Genome Center, Cold Spring Harbor
326 Laboratory.

327

328 **PacBio library construction and single-molecule sequencing**

329 cDNA was generated from 1 µg of total RNA per sample using the Clontech SMARTer PCR
330 cDNA Synthesis Kit (catalog# 634925 or 634926) according to PacBio's Iso-Seq Template
331 Preparation for the Sequel System ([https://www.pacb.com/wp-content/uploads/Procedure-
332 Checklist-Iso-Seq-Template-Preparation-for-Sequel-Systems.pdf](https://www.pacb.com/wp-content/uploads/Procedure-Checklist-Iso-Seq-Template-Preparation-for-Sequel-Systems.pdf)). cDNAs were barcoded using
333 barcoded oligo-dT during first-strand synthesis. The 16-bp barcode sequences used for this
334 study are shown in Additional file 1: S6 Table. The embryo, root, and endosperm cDNAs were
335 enriched by PCR using PrimeSTAR GXL DNA Polymerase (Clontech, catalog# R050A or

336 R050B). Amplification conditions used were as follows: initial denaturation at 98°C for 30
337 seconds, followed by 9–12 cycles of 98°C for 10 seconds, 65°C for 15 seconds, and 68°C for 10
338 minutes. A final extension was performed at 68°C for 5 minutes. After amplification, tissues
339 (embryo, root and endosperm) from the same strain were pooled in equimolar quantities,
340 yielding four pools, which were subsequently used to construct SMRTbell libraries using the
341 SMRTbell Template Prep Kit 1.0 (Pacific Biosciences, Part No. 100-259-100). After library
342 construction, each SMRTbell library was size-fractionated using SageELF (Sage Science). The
343 final SMRTbell libraries were annealed with Sequencing Primer v4 (Pacific Biosciences Part No.
344 101-359-000) and bound with Sequel Binding Kit 2.1 (Pacific Biosciences Part No. 101-429-300).
345 The polymerase-bound SMRTbell libraries were loaded at 3–10 pM on-plate concentrations and
346 sequenced using the Sequel Sequencing Kit 2.1 (Pacific Biosciences Part No. 101-312-100) and
347 Instrument Software v5.1.

348 **Illumina data analysis**

349 Raw reads were aligned to the B73 reference genome (RefGen_v4) [14] using STAR 2.4.2a [24]
350 with minimum intron length of 20 bp and maximum intron length of 50 kb; default settings were
351 used for the other parameters. Quantification of genes and isoforms was performed using
352 cufflinks version 2.2.1 [25] using the GTF annotation file generated by PacBio sequencing.

353

354 **PacBio data analysis**

355 PacBio data were analyzed by running the IsoSeq3 application in PacBio SMRT Analysis v6.0 to
356 obtain high-quality, full-length transcript sequences, followed by downstream analysis.

357

358 **Full-Length reads classification**

359 Full-length reads were identified as CCS reads that contained both the 5' and 3' primer and the
360 polyA tail preceding the 3' primer. The 5' primer consists of the Clontech SMARTer cDNA
361 primer with an ATGGG overhang. The 3' primer consists of a tissue-specific 16-bp PacBio
362 barcode followed by the Clontech SMARTer cDNA primer (S6 Table).

363

364 **Isoform-level clustering analysis to obtain high-quality transcript sequences**

365 To increase detection of rare isoforms, the demultiplexed FL reads were pooled to perform
366 isoform-level clustering analysis [26]. After clustering, consensus sequences were called using
367 the Arrow algorithm, and only polished sequences with predicted consensus accuracy $\geq 99\%$
368 were considered high-quality (HQ) and retained for the next step.

369

370 **Mapping to B73 genome and filtering**

371 The HQ transcript sequences were mapped to B73 RefGen_v4 genome using minimap2 (version
372 2.11-r797) [15] using parameters '-ax splice -t 30 -uf --secondary=no -C5'. We then filtered for
373 alignments with $\geq 99\%$ coverage and $\geq 95\%$ identity and removed redundancy using scripts from
374 cDNA_Cupcake (http://github.com/Magdoll/cDNA_Cupcake). The full list of commands used at

375 this step is as follows:

```
376 minimap2 -ax splice -uf -C5 --secondary=no B73_RefV4.fa hq.fastq > hq.fastq.sam  
377 sort -k 3,3 -k 4,4n hq.fastq.sam > hq.fastq.sorted.sam  
378 collapse_isoforms_by_sam.py --input hq.fastq --fq -s hq.fastq.sorted.sam \  
379     -c 0.99 -i 0.95 --dun-merge-5-shorter -o hq.no5merge  
380 get_abundance_post_collapse.py hq.no5merge.collapsed cluster_report.csv  
381 filter_away_subset.py hq.no5merge.collapsed
```

382

383 **Removing potential artifacts using SQANTI**

384 We applied further filtering criteria to remove potential genomic contamination and rare PCR
385 artifacts. We run a modified version of SQANTI [16] that categorizes each isoform according to
386 existing B73 RefGen_v4 annotations and a list of short-read junctions from the same samples.
387 An isoform is retained in the dataset if: 1) it is FSM/ISM/NIC and does not have intra-priming; 2)
388 It is NNC, does not have intra-priming, is not RT-switching, and all junctions are either all
389 canonical or supported by short reads; or 3) it is antisense, intergenic, genic, does not have intra-
390 priming, is not RT-switching, and all junctions are either all canonical or supported by short
391 reads. The rationale behind the filtering is to eliminate artifacts that come from intra-priming (dT
392 priming off genomic 'A' stretches), potential RT-switching, and other library or sequencing
393 errors that could introduce erroneous splice junctions. Isoforms that are categorized as
394 FSM/ISM/NIC are isoforms that use all known splice junctions, and are therefore trusted. For all
395 other categories, we only retain the isoform if the junctions are either canonical or supported by
396 short reads. This approach yields a high-confidence dataset that is well-supported by existing
397 annotation and matching short-read data.

398

399 **De-multiplex final isoforms by sample and rarefaction analysis by subsampling**

400 We recovered the relative abundance of each the final isoforms in each sample by extracting the
401 fraction of full-length reads supporting each isoform from each sample. To draw rarefaction
402 curves, we used the unique Iso-Seq IDs (format: PB.X.Y) to indicate unique transcripts and the
403 matching reference gene name (ex: Zm00001d027230) from B73 annotation. If a gene was novel,
404 we created a novel gene ID (ex: novelGene_124) for each non-overlapping strand-specific locus.
405 Subsampling was performed at 10,000 FL read intervals for 100 iterations, taking the average
406 number of unique transcript/genes observed to plot the rarefaction curves.

407

408 **SNP calling and phasing using Iso-Seq data**

409 All full-length reads from all 12 samples were aligned to the B73 RefGen_v4 genome using
410 minimap2 (v2.11-r797) [15] to create a pileup. Then, at each position with at least 10-base
411 coverage, Fisher's exact test with the Bonferroni correction was applied with a p-value cutoff of
412 0.01. Only substitution SNPs were called. Then, sample-specific haplotype information was
413 obtained by looking at the number of FL reads associated with each allele. To account for
414 residual errors in the FL reads, we error-corrected the haplotypes down to the two dominant
415 haplotypes (maternal and parental haplotype) that minimizes the edit distance. Functional
416 annotation of SNPs was performed using SnpEff [27] and Gramene [28] based on the maize B73
417 genome annotation RefGen_v4. SIFT 4G [29] was used to predict deleterious mutations through
418 SciApps platform [30].

419

420 **Identification of paternal and maternal imprinted genes**

421 Bm represents the percentage of expression of maternal alleles out of all expressed genes,
422 including the maternal and paternal alleles. The Bm ratio is calculated for each cross maternal
423 depth/(maternal + paternal depth) and averaged. The overall mean and standard deviation are
424 calculated and used to define cutoffs for MEG and PEG variants. A variant is marked MEG if its
425 Bm is at least two standard deviations above the mean. Conversely, it is marked PEG if its Bm is
426 at least two standard deviations below the mean.

427

428 **Contributions**

429 B.W., E.T., and D.W. conceived the idea for the study; B.W. collected the tissues; M.R.
430 generated RNA and Illumina libraries; P.B. and K.E. generated the PacBio libraries and data;
431 B.W., E.T., Y.J., L.W., A.O., and K.C. analyzed the data; and B.W. and E.T. wrote the
432 manuscript.

433 **Accession codes**

434 The data generated in this study, including PacBio Iso-Seq reads and Illumina short reads, have
435 been submitted to ArrayExpress (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/>) under accession numbers
436 E-MTAB-7837 and E-MTAB-7394. The IsoPhase tool developed in this study is available in the
437 GitHub repository: https://github.com/magdoll/cdna_cupcake.

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442 **Competing financial interests**

443 E.T., P.B., and K.E. are full-time employees of Pacific Biosciences. All other authors declare no
444 competing financial interests.

445

446 **References**

447

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- 529
- 530

531 **Figure Legends**

532 **Fig 1. Full-length Transcript Sequencing Workflow.**

533 Full-length transcript data are generated on the PacBio Sequel platform following the
534 recommended procedure for Iso-Seq multiplexed library preparation. Iso-Seq analysis
535 demultiplexes each read and removes the barcodes, cDNA primers, and polyA tail. The
536 demultiplexed reads are pooled and run through an isoform-level clustering algorithm that
537 produces high-quality transcript sequences, which is then aligned to the reference genome and
538 removed of artifacts. The genome-mapped genes are then used to run IsoPhase analysis to call
539 SNPs and haplotypes.

540 **Fig 2. Iso-Seq transcript categorization against maize B73 RefGen_v4 annotation using the** 541 **SQANTI software.**

542 **(A)** Isoform distribution across structural categories. FSM=Full Splice Match: matches a
543 reference transcript exon by exon. ISM=Incomplete Splice Match: matches a reference transcript
544 exon by exon, but is missing one or more 5' exons. NIC=Novel In Catalog: novel isoform using
545 known splice sites. NNC=Novel In Catalog: novel isoform using at least one novel splice site.
546 Because this analysis is performed after SQANTI filtering, all junctions must be in the
547 annotation, canonical, or supported by matching short-read data. **(B)** Classification by transcript
548 length, normalized. **(C)** Transcript lengths, mono vs multi-exon. **(D)** Distribution of mono- vs
549 multi-exon transcripts. **(E)** Distance to annotated polyadenylation site. **(F)** Distance to annotated
550 transcription start site.

551 **Fig 3. IsoPhase workflow.**

552 (A) For each gene, full-length reads from all 12 samples are aligned to a gene region. SNPs are
553 called individually for each position using Fisher's exact test with the Bonferroni correction,
554 applied with a p-value cutoff of 0.01. Only substitution SNPs are called. The full-length reads are
555 then used to reconstruct the haplotypes, and a simple error-correction scheme is applied to obtain
556 the two alleles. (B) To determine which allele is derived from B73 vs Ki11, we use the FL count
557 information associate with the homozygous parents: B73 would only express the B73 allele,
558 whereas Ki11 would only express the Ki11 allele.

559

560 **Fig 4. Example of phasing using IsoPhase.**

561 (A) The gene PB.12426 (Zm00001d053356) phased by IsoPhase. The top two tracks show the
562 B73 and Ki11 FL reads, and the bottom two tracks show the FL reads from the two F1 hybrids,
563 with the reads segregated by parental origin. SNPs are depicted between the B73 and Ki11 track;
564 six SNPs are shown. SNPs #2–6 were called based on both long- and short-read data (purple);
565 SNP #1 was missed by the long-read data due to reduced coverage (blue). (B) IsoPhase can
566 identify maternal-specific gene expression. The gene PB.16588 (Zm00001d037529) is expressed
567 in both B73 and Ki11. However, in the F1 hybrids, only the maternal allele is expressed. In Ki11
568 × B73, the maternal allele is Ki11. In B73 × Ki11, the maternal allele is B73. Short-read data
569 confirmed this maternal-specific gene expression.

570

571 **Fig 5. IsoPhase identifies allelic-specific isoform expression.**

572 The gene PB.8517 (Zm00001d040612) shows allelic-specific expression. B73 dominantly
573 expresses the PB.8517.4 isoform, which has an unspliced 3' exon. Ki11 dominantly expresses

574 the PB.8517.1 isoform that has the last 3' exon spliced. The two F1 hybrids express both
575 isoforms, but each isoform is associated with the parental allele.

576

577 **Fig 6. Annotations of the SNPs called from IsoPhase.**

578 (A) Distribution of different categories of SNPs from variant effect predictor. (B) Proportions of
579 different categories of SNPs from coding sequences. (C) Gene Ontology analysis of large-effect
580 genes. (D–F) Number of isoforms of large-effect genes in two parents and reciprocal hybrids
581 from root (D), endosperm (E) and embryo (F).

582

583 **Fig 7. Allelic expression and alternative splicing patterns of paternal expressed genes (PEG)**
584 **and maternal expressed (MEG) genes from phasing.**

585 (A–C) Allelic expression of maternal imprinted genes in reciprocal hybrids in embryo (A),
586 endosperm (B), and root (C). (D–F) Allelic expression of paternal imprinted genes in reciprocal
587 hybrids in embryo (D), endosperm (E) and root (F). (G–L) Alternative splicing patterns of PEG
588 and MEG genes between parents and two reciprocal hybrids in embryo (G–H), endosperm (I–J),
589 and root (K–L). p0 represents the B73 allele; p1 represents the Ki11 allele.

590

591

592 **Supporting information**

593

594 **S1 Table. 16-mer Barcodes corresponding to the sample.**

595

596 **S2 Table. Number of full-length, non-concatemer (FLNC) reads from each of the 12**
597 **samples after demultiplexing.**

598

599 **S3 Table. Mapping high-quality (HQ) transcript sequences to the genome and filtering**
600 **criteria.**

601 HQ sequences were mapped to B73 v4 genome and filtered for 99% coverage and 95% identity.

602 Redundant transcripts are collapsed.

603

604 **S4 Table. Removal of library artifacts using a modified version of the SQANTI software.**

605

606 **S5 Table. Top BLASTN hit counts of the unmapped high-quality (HQ) transcript**
607 **sequences to the NR database.**

608 BLASTN was run with a report best hit with E-value cutoff 0.1, 1669 of 1744 HQ sequences had

609 a BLASTN hit.

610

611 **S6 Table. Sample-specific transcript counts.**

612 Using the demultiplexed full-length reads, we assigned Iso-Seq transcripts back to each sample.

613 If a transcript contained at least one full-length read from a sample, it was considered to be

614 expressed.

S1 Fig. Phenotype of maize B73, Ki11, and two reciprocal hybrids (B73 × Ki11, Ki11 × B73) at 14DAG and measure of different traits between parents and the hybrids.

(A) Shoot and root phenotype of B73, Ki11, and the two reciprocal hybrids. (B) Seed phenotype of B73, Ki11, and the two hybrids. (C) Plant height, (D) primary root length, (E) lateral root number, (F–G) biomass, and (H) 100-kernel weight of the parents and hybrids. ** $p < 0.01$.

S2 Fig. Length distribution of the final transcript set.

After mapping the high-quality (HQ) sequences to the B73 v4 genome and filtering for coverage, identity, and running the SQANTI software to remove library artifacts, we obtained 75,118 transcripts. Min: 80 bp, Max: 11,495 bp, Mean: 2,482 bp, 5th–95th percentile, 363–4,975 bp.

S3 Fig. Sample-specific transcript length distribution.

Using the demultiplexed full-length reads, we assigned Iso-Seq transcripts back to each sample. If a transcript contains at least one full-length read from a sample, it is considered expressed.

S4 Fig. Rarefaction curves against known genes and transcripts (A–B) by strain, (C–D) by tissue.

For each subpanel, the X-axis shows the number of subsampled full-length reads and the Y-axis shows the number of observed unique genes or transcripts. Both known and novel genes/transcripts are considered.

S5 Fig. Number of genes and isoforms between parents and two reciprocal hybrids in embryo, endosperm, and root.

S6 Fig. Overlap of genes and isoforms among parents and two hybrids in embryo, endosperm, and root.

S7 Fig. Alternative splicing pattern between parents and two reciprocal hybrids in embryo (A), endosperm (B), and root (C).

S8 Fig. Number of additive and non-additive expression genes in embryo (A), endosperm (B), and root (C).

S9 Fig. Number of isoforms of additive and non-additive expression genes in embryo (A), endosperm (B) and root (C).

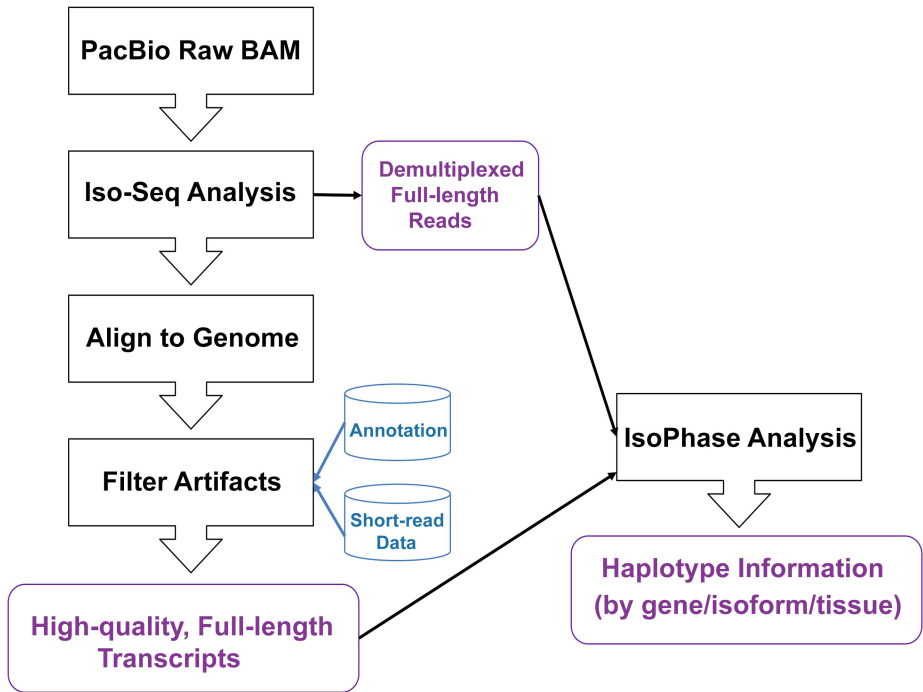
S10 Fig. IsoPhase phasing example. (A) The gene PB.21897 (Zm00001d045657) phased by IsoPhase. SNPs are depicted between the B73 and Ki11 track; seven SNPs are shown. SNP #2–#7 were called based on both long and short read data (purple), SNP #1 was missed by long read due to reduced coverage (blue); suspicious short read-only SNPs are marked in red. (B) Zoomed-in region between SNP #6 and SNP #7 showing suspicious SNPs (red) called based on short read data only. Top track shows Ki11 Iso-Seq FL reads; bottom track shows Ki11 short reads.

S11 Fig. Expression and number of isoforms of mono-allelic genes in different tissues.

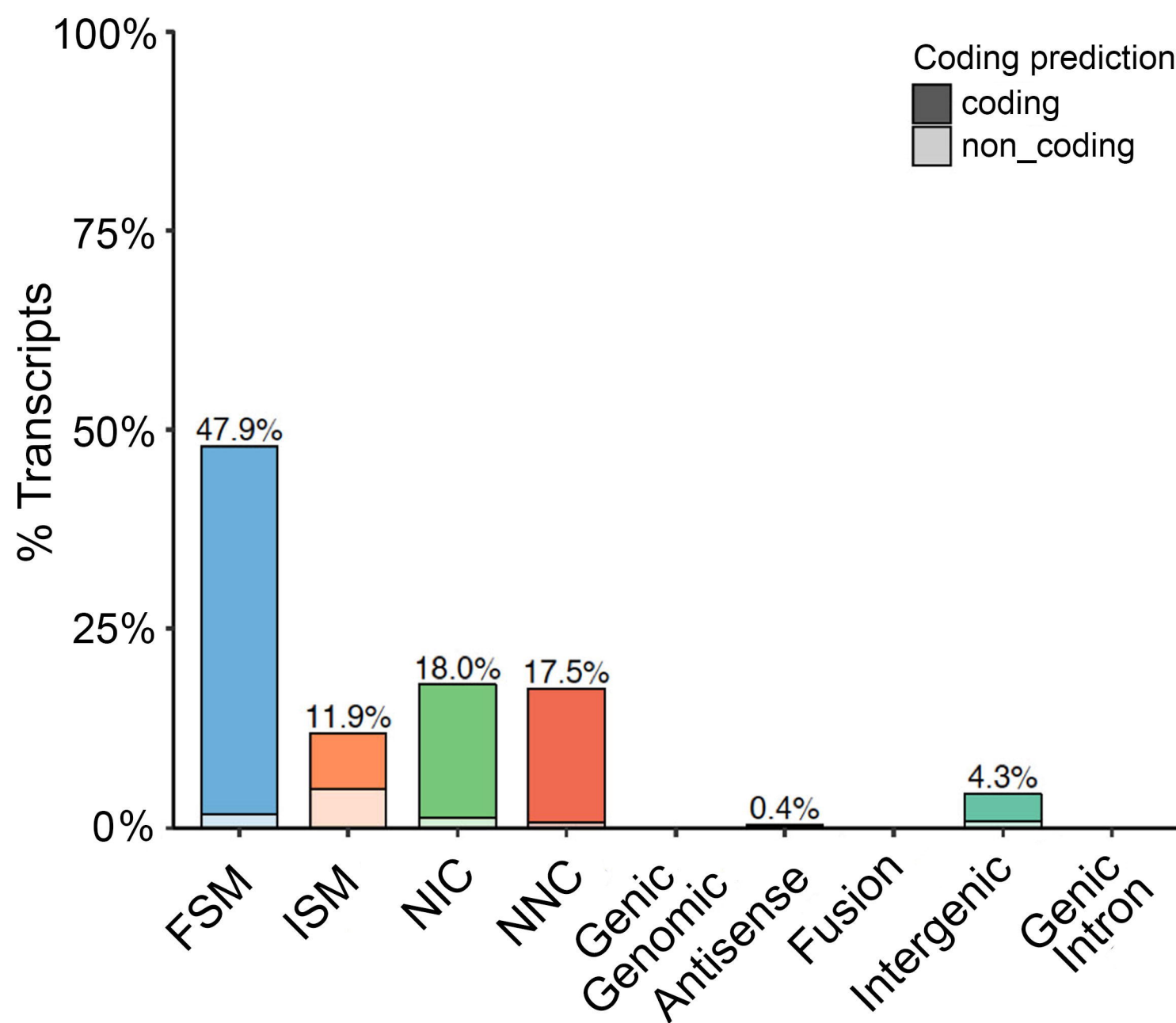
(A) Allelic expression of mono-allelic genes in reciprocal hybrids, and (B) number of isoforms between parents and hybrids of mono-allelic genes. p0 represents the B73 allele; p1 represents the Ki11 allele.

S12 Fig. Distribution of cis-, trans-regulated genes, and number of isoforms of each category.

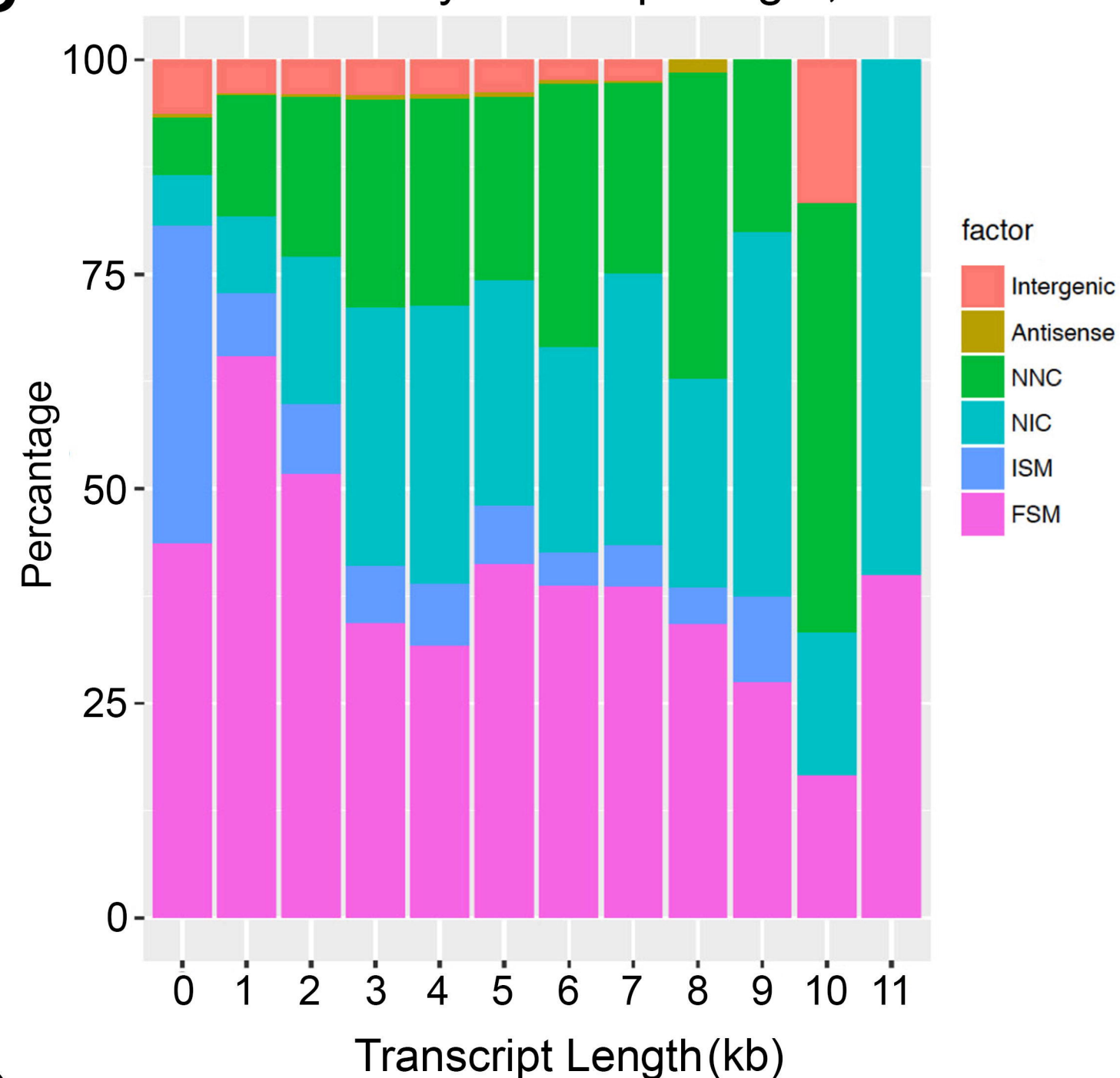
(A) Distribution of different cis-, trans-regulated genes. (B) Number of isoforms in each category of cis-, trans-regulated genes.



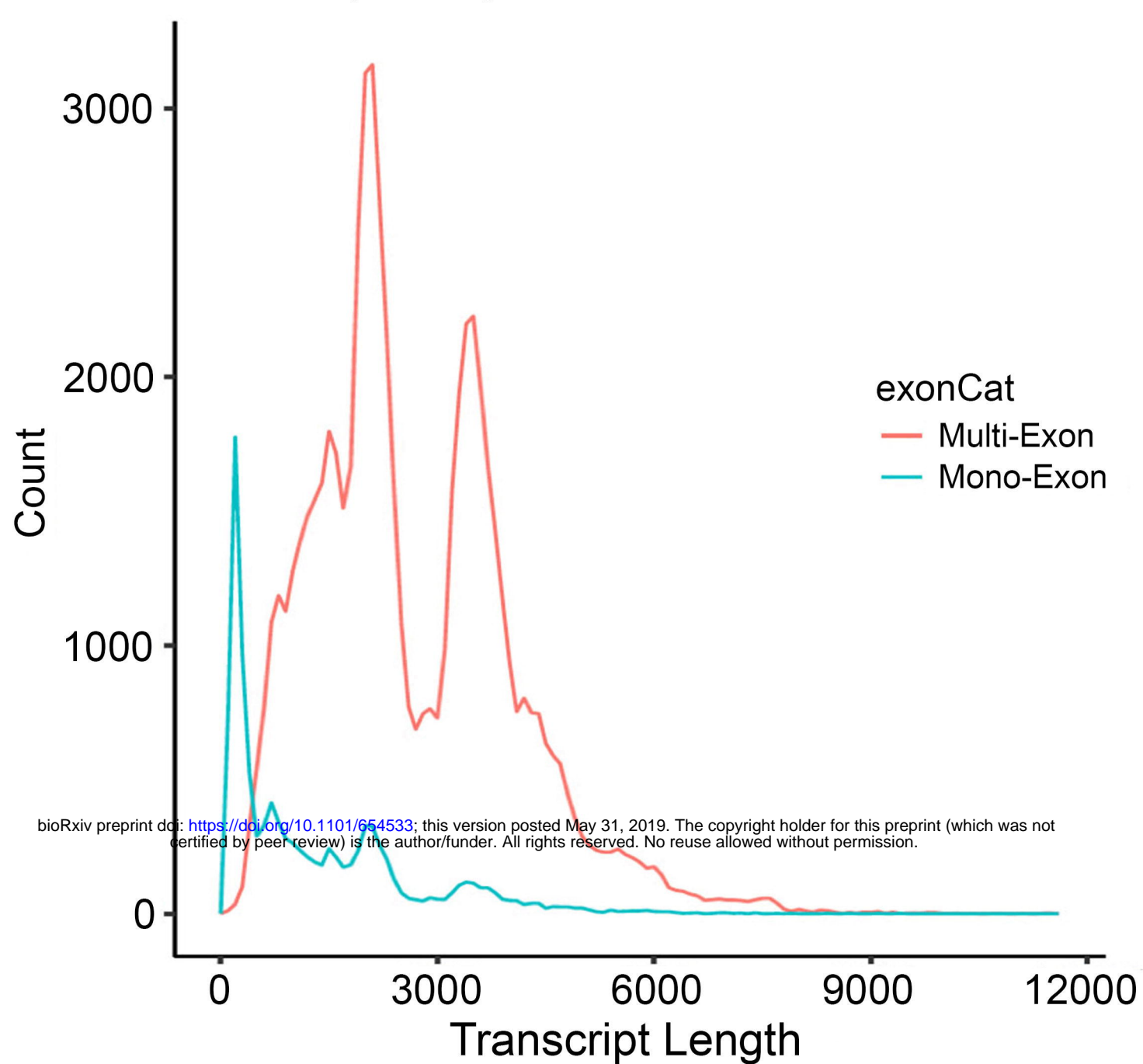
A Isoform distribution across structural categories



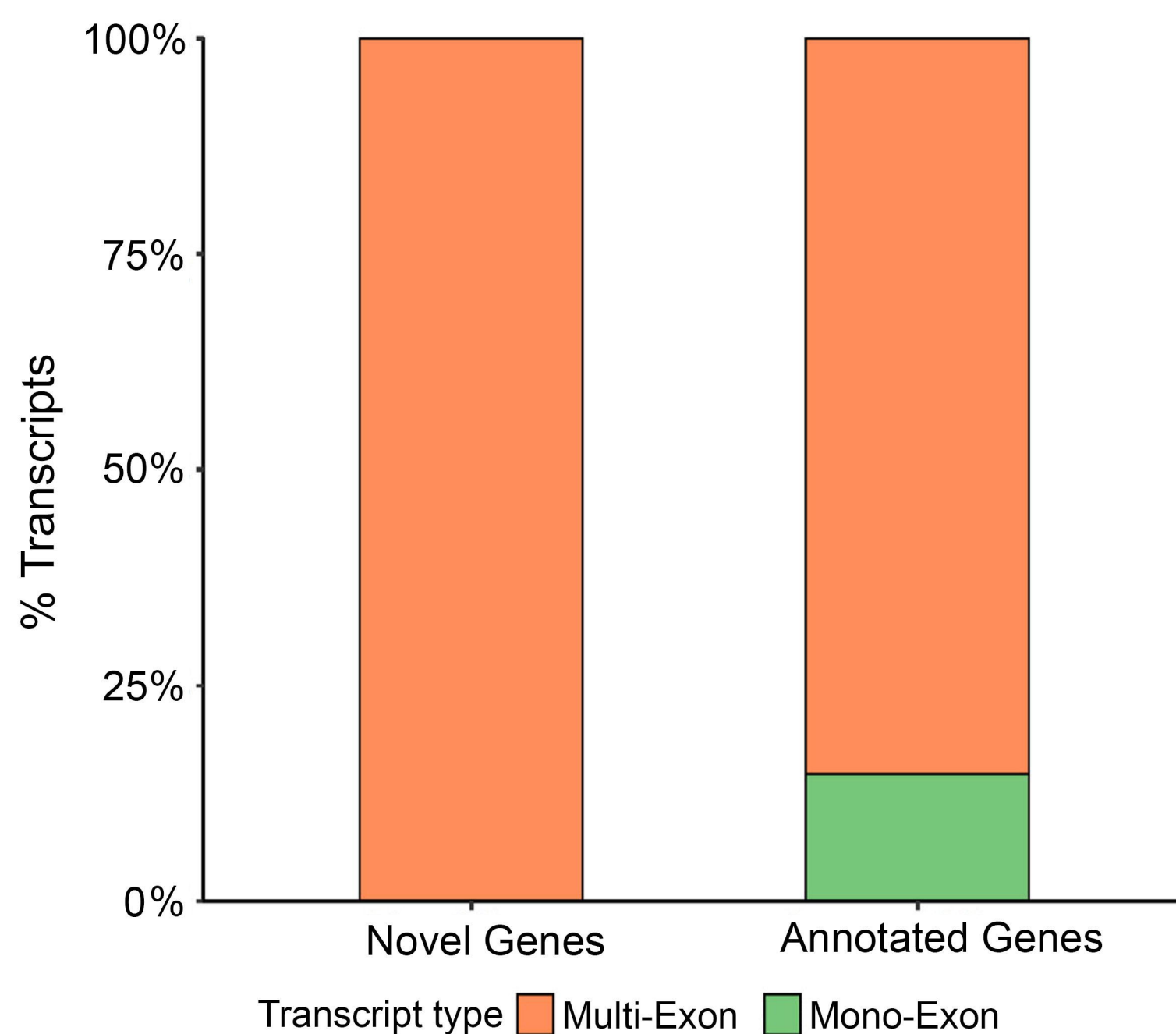
B Classification by transcript length, normalized



C Transcript Lengths, Mono- vs Multi-Exons

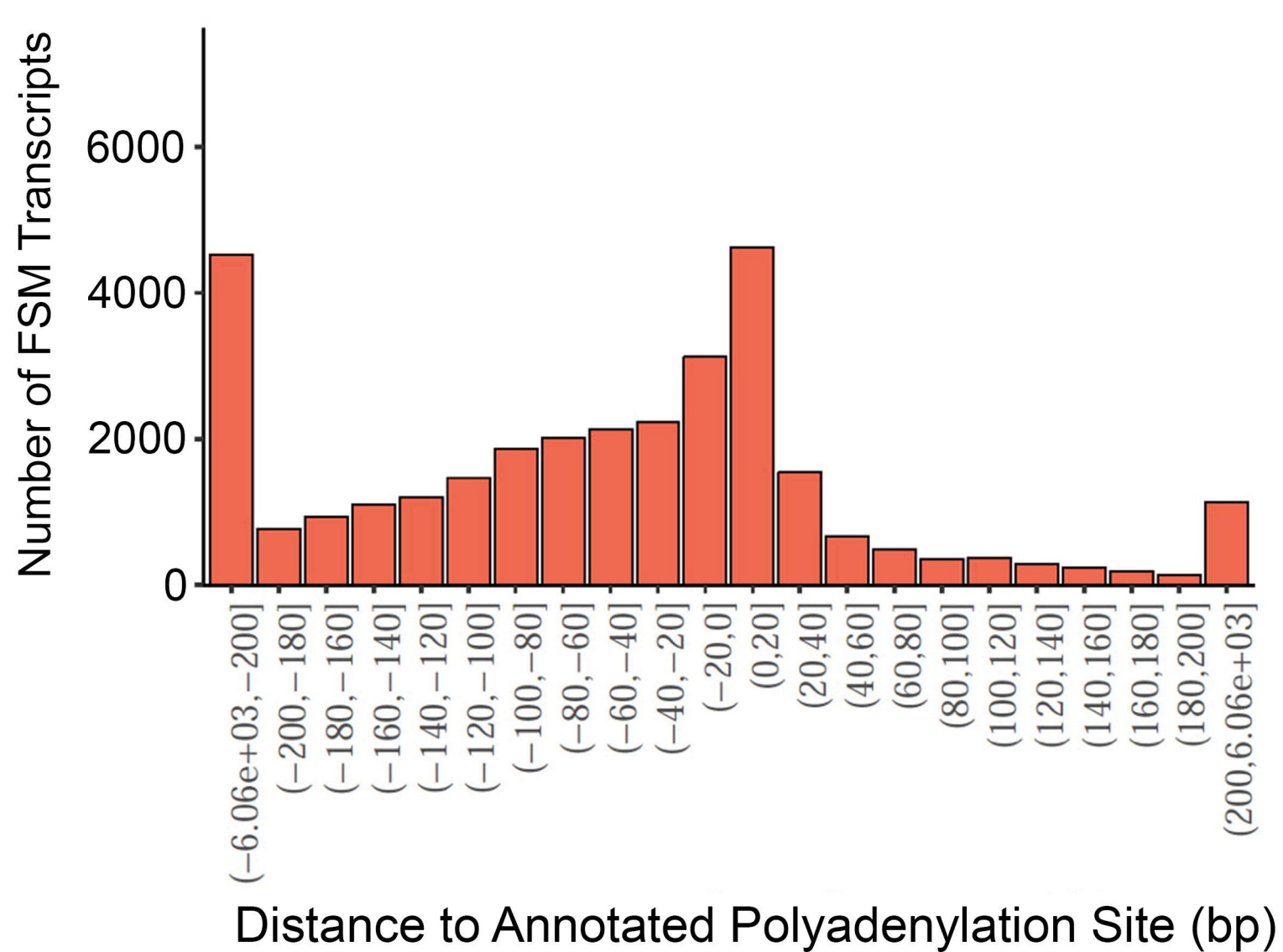


D Distribution of Mono- vs Multi-Exon Transcripts



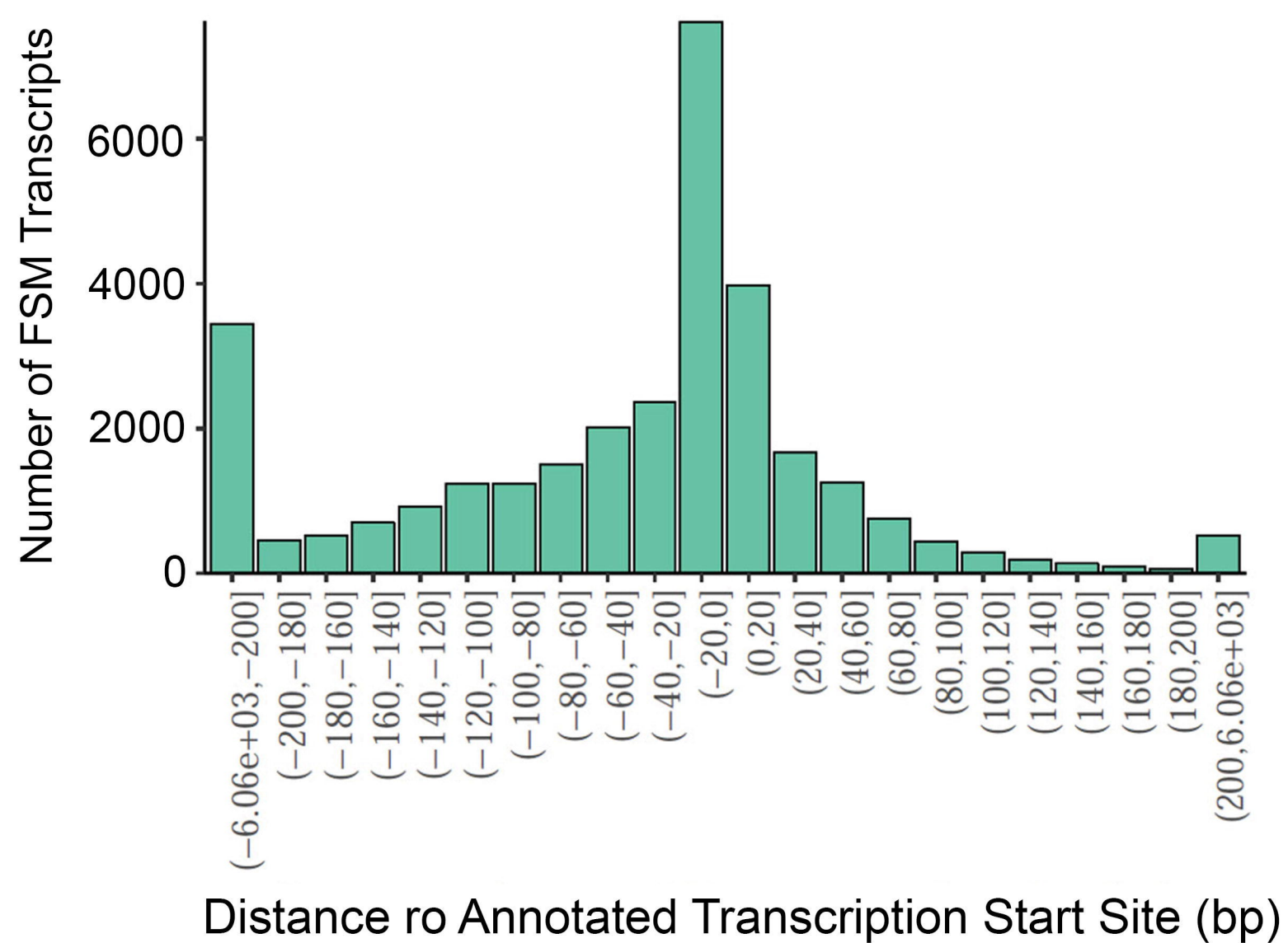
E

- distance: upstream of polyA site
- + distance: downstream of polyA site



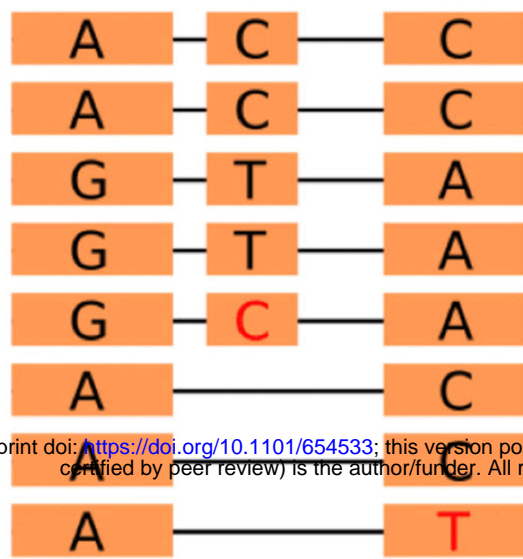
F

- distance: downstream of TSS
- + distance: upstream of TSS



A

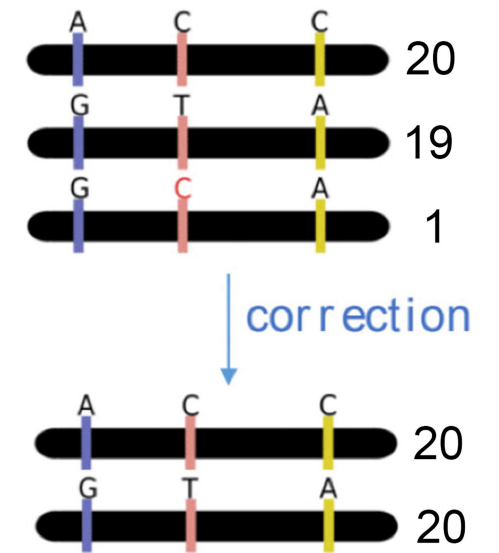
ALIGNMENT



SNP CALLING

Position	SNPs
POS1	A, G
POS2	C, T
POS3	C, A

PHASING



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VCF OUTPUT

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.2
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT ISOFORM1 ISOFORM2
chr1 105 . A G . PASS DP=40;AF=0.50 GT:HQ 0|1:20,20 0:15
chr1 190 . C T . PASS DP=40;AF=0.50 GT:HQ 0|1:20,20 0:15
chr1 336 . C A . PASS DP=40;AF=0.50 GT:HQ 0|1:20,20 0:15
```

B

Pooled Reads

B73 FL reads
Ki11 FL reads
B73 x Ki11 FL reads
Ki11 x B73 FL reads

IsoPhase

Allele and Per-sample Read Counts

	B73	Ki11	B73xKi11	Ki11xB73
A-C-C	30	0	15	15
G-T-A	0	20	15	3

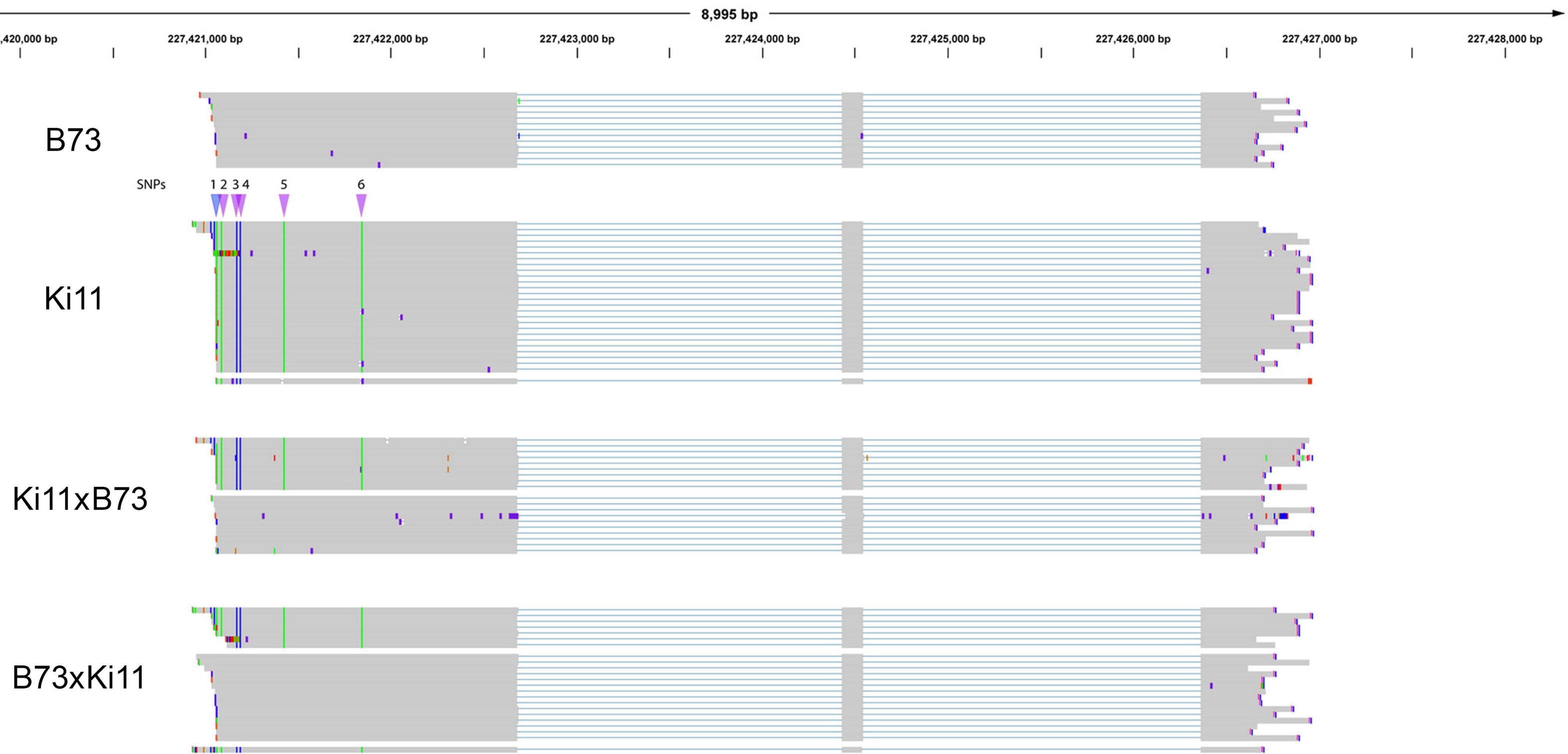
Final Results

Phase 0 (B73) : A-C-C
Phase 1 (Ki11) : G-T-A
B73 x Ki11 : 15, 15
Ki11 x B73 : 15, 3

Identify B73-only allele as phase0
Identify Ki11-only allele as phase1

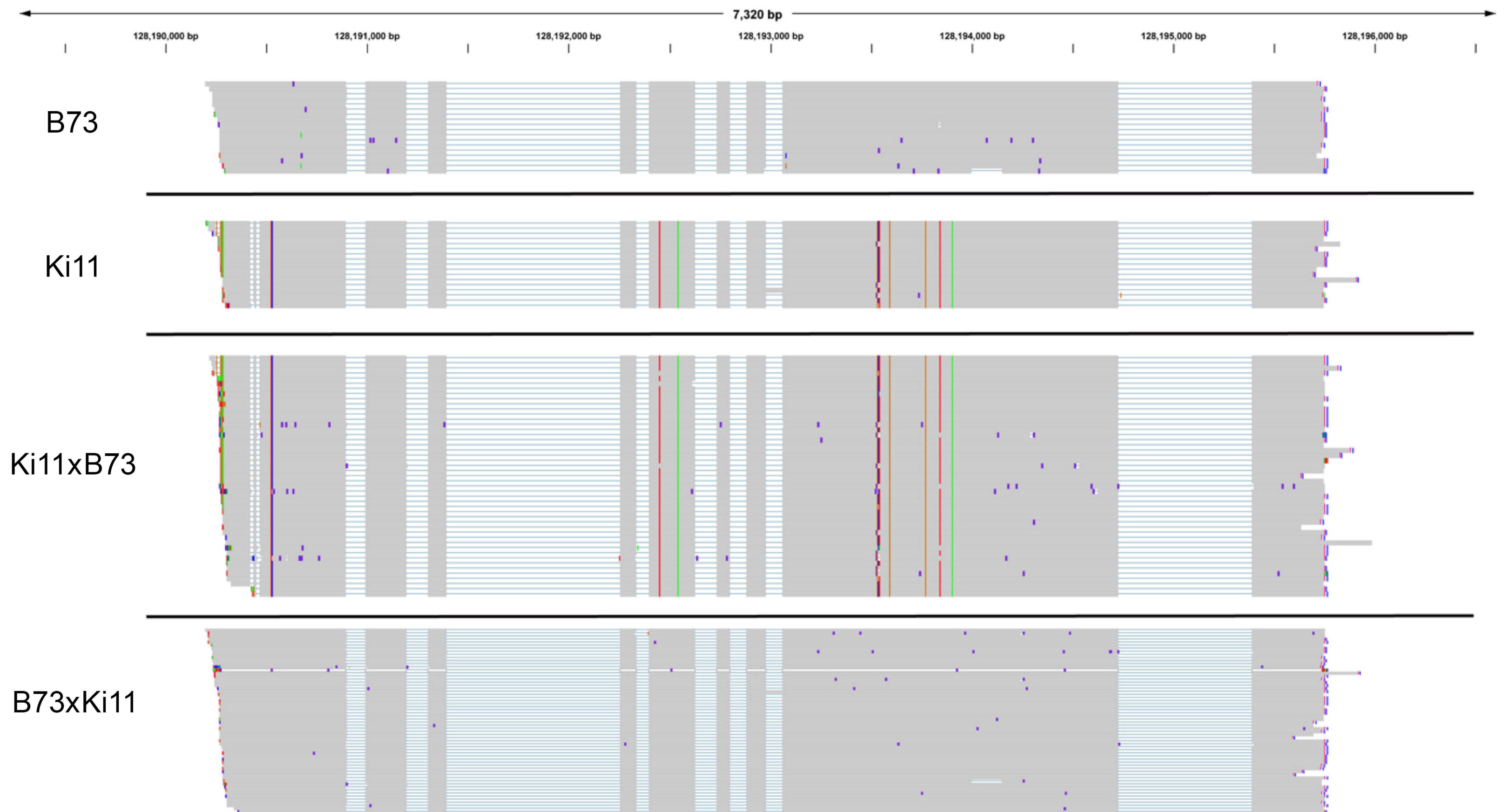
IsoPhase is run individually for each gene

A chr4



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B chr6



chr3

11 kb

53,864 kb

53,866 kb

53,868 kb

53,870 kb

53,872 kb

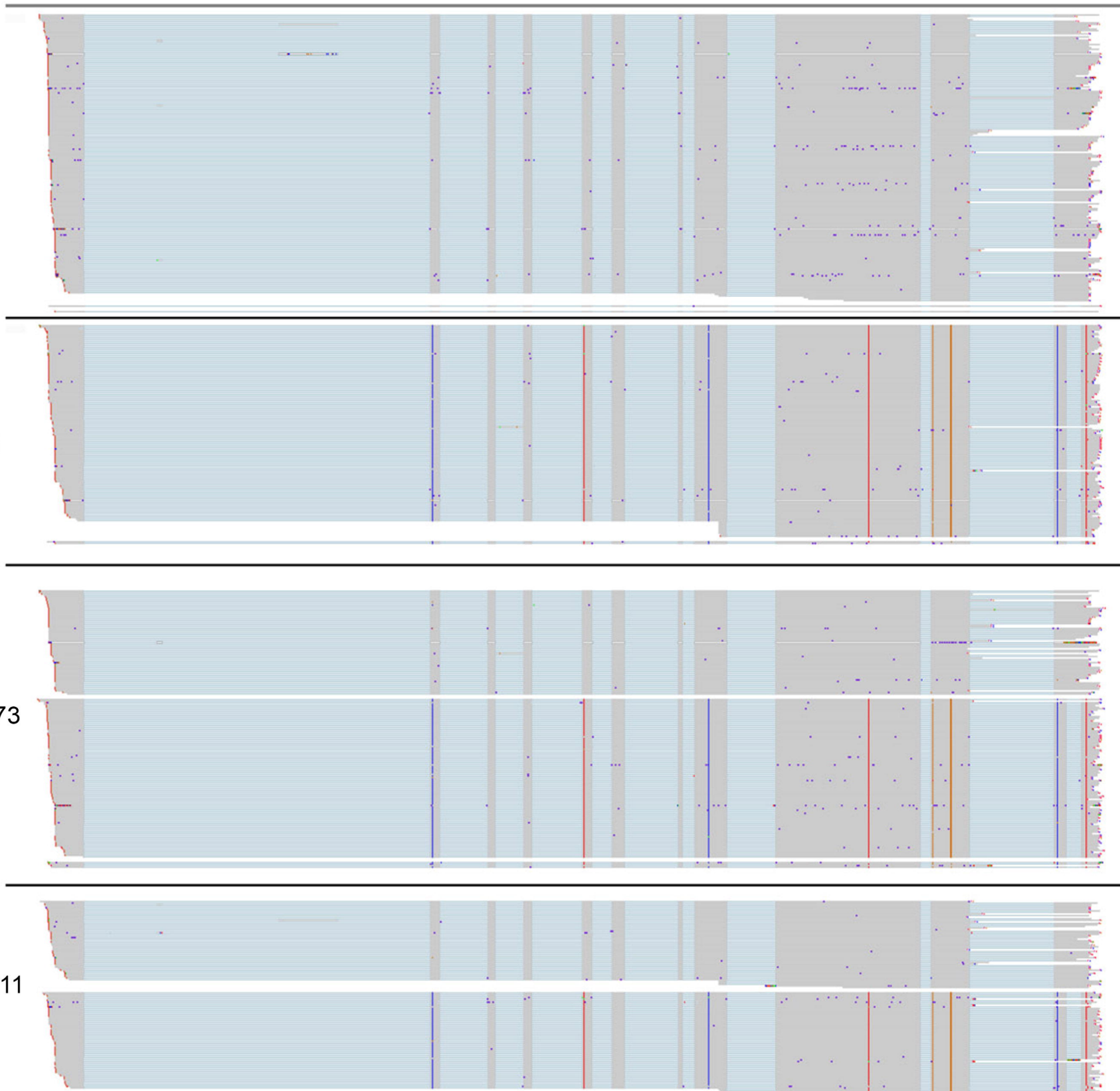
53,874 kb

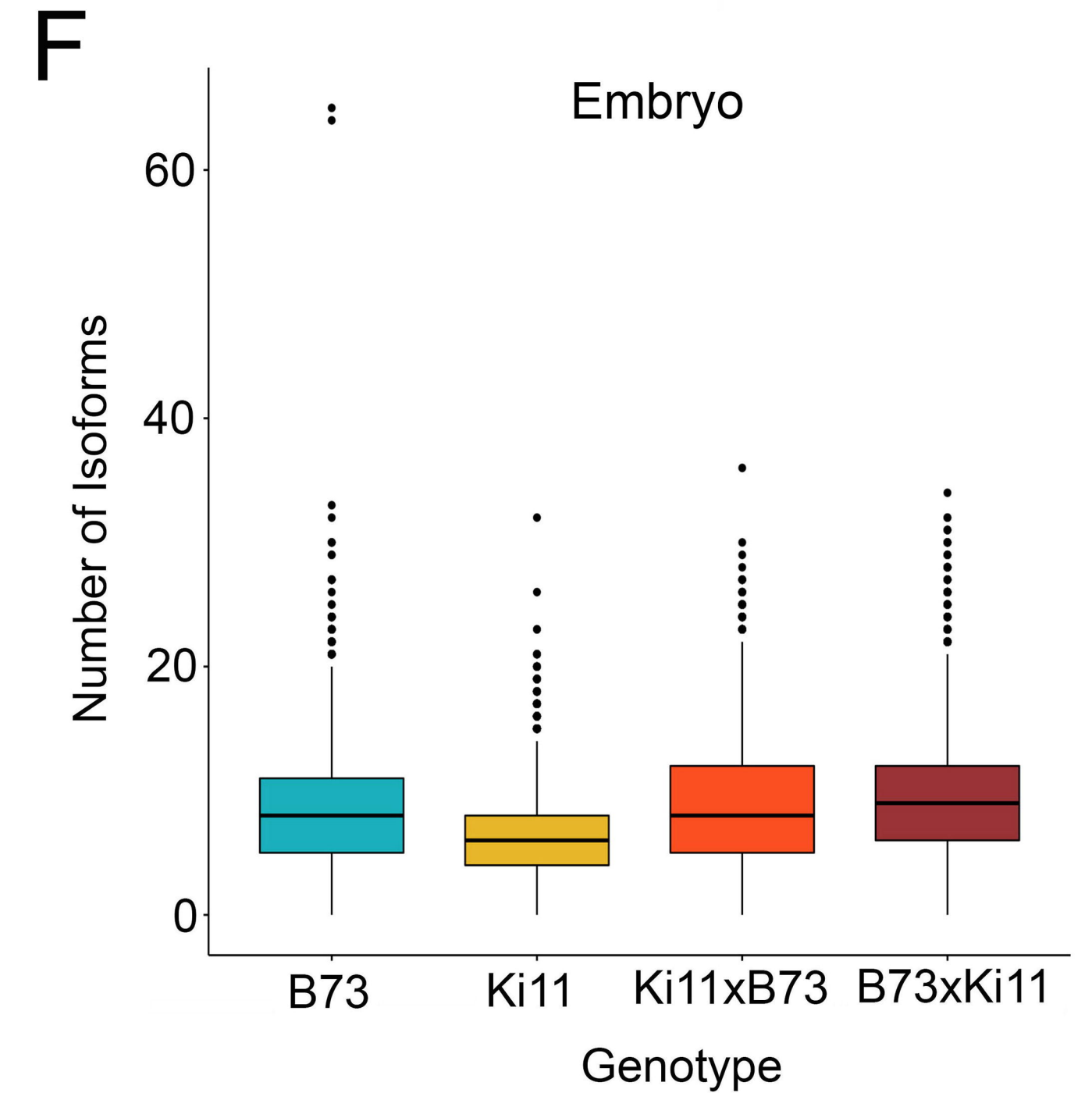
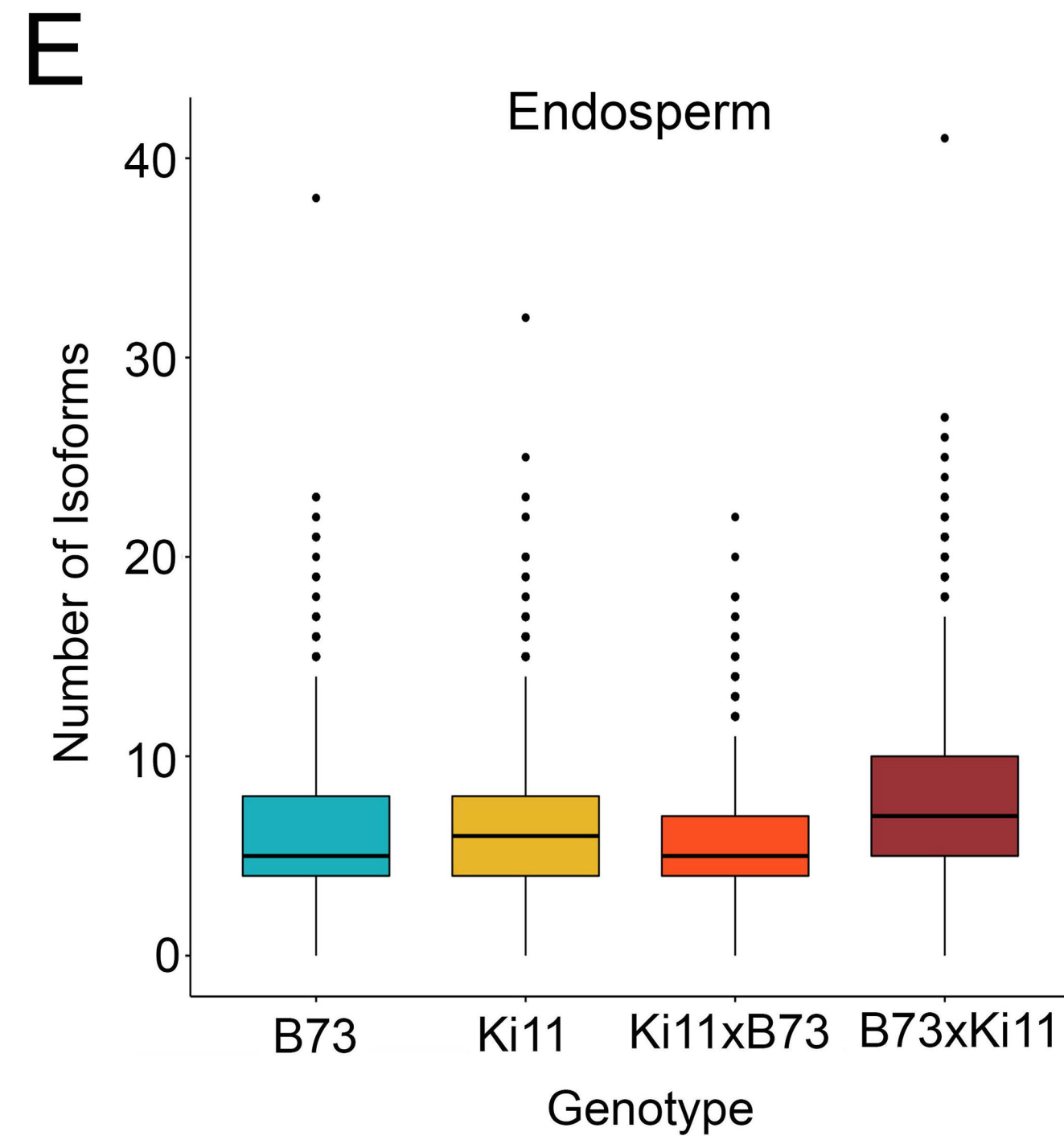
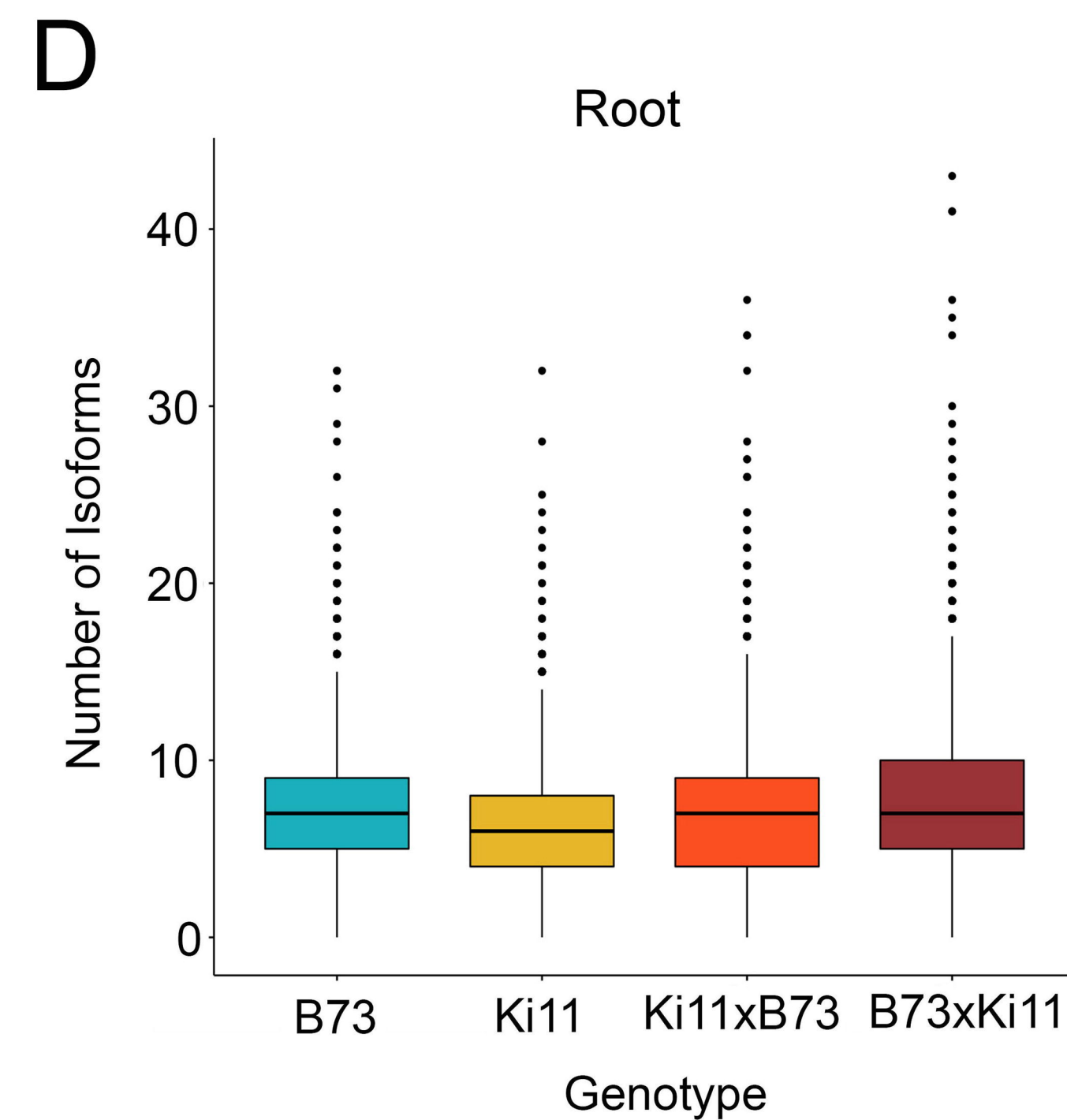
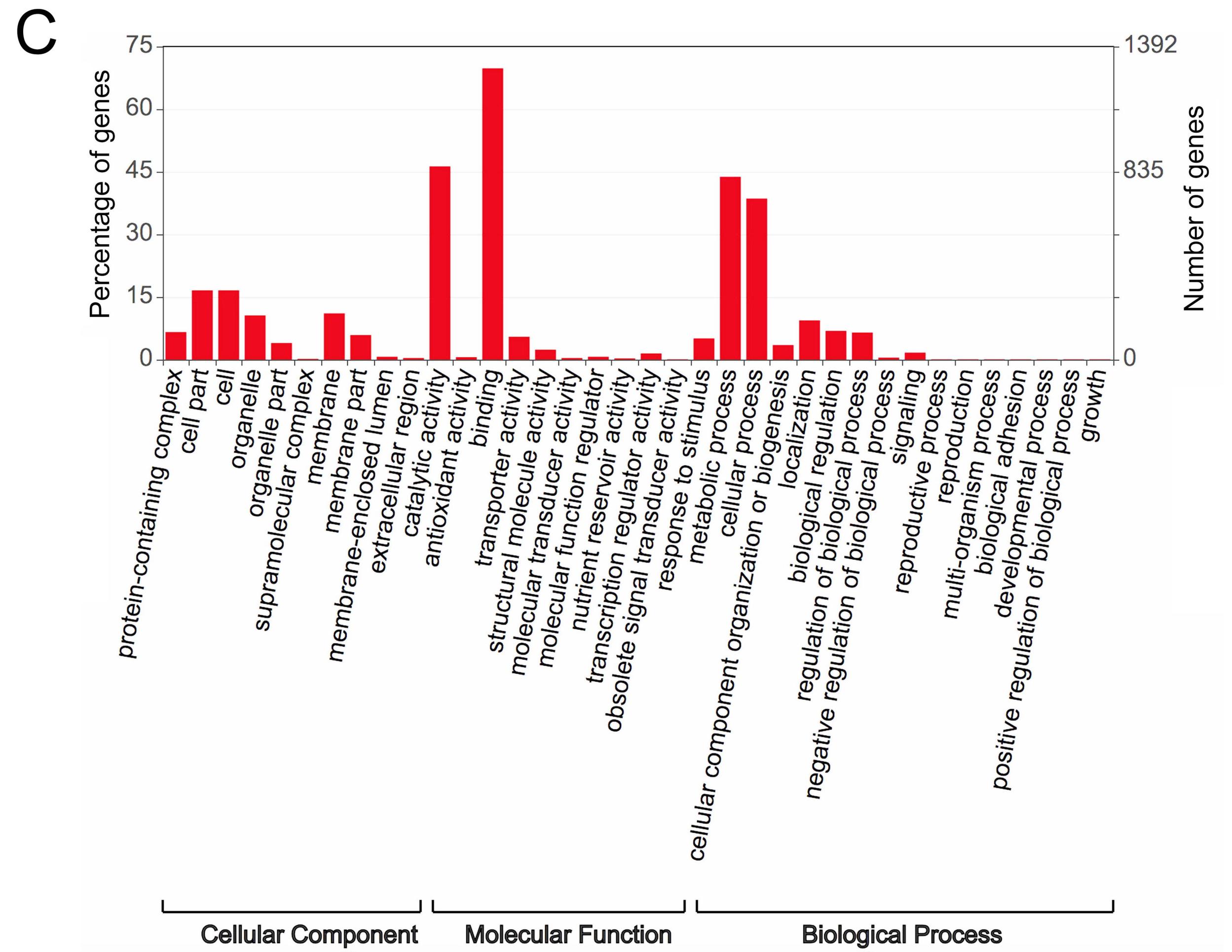
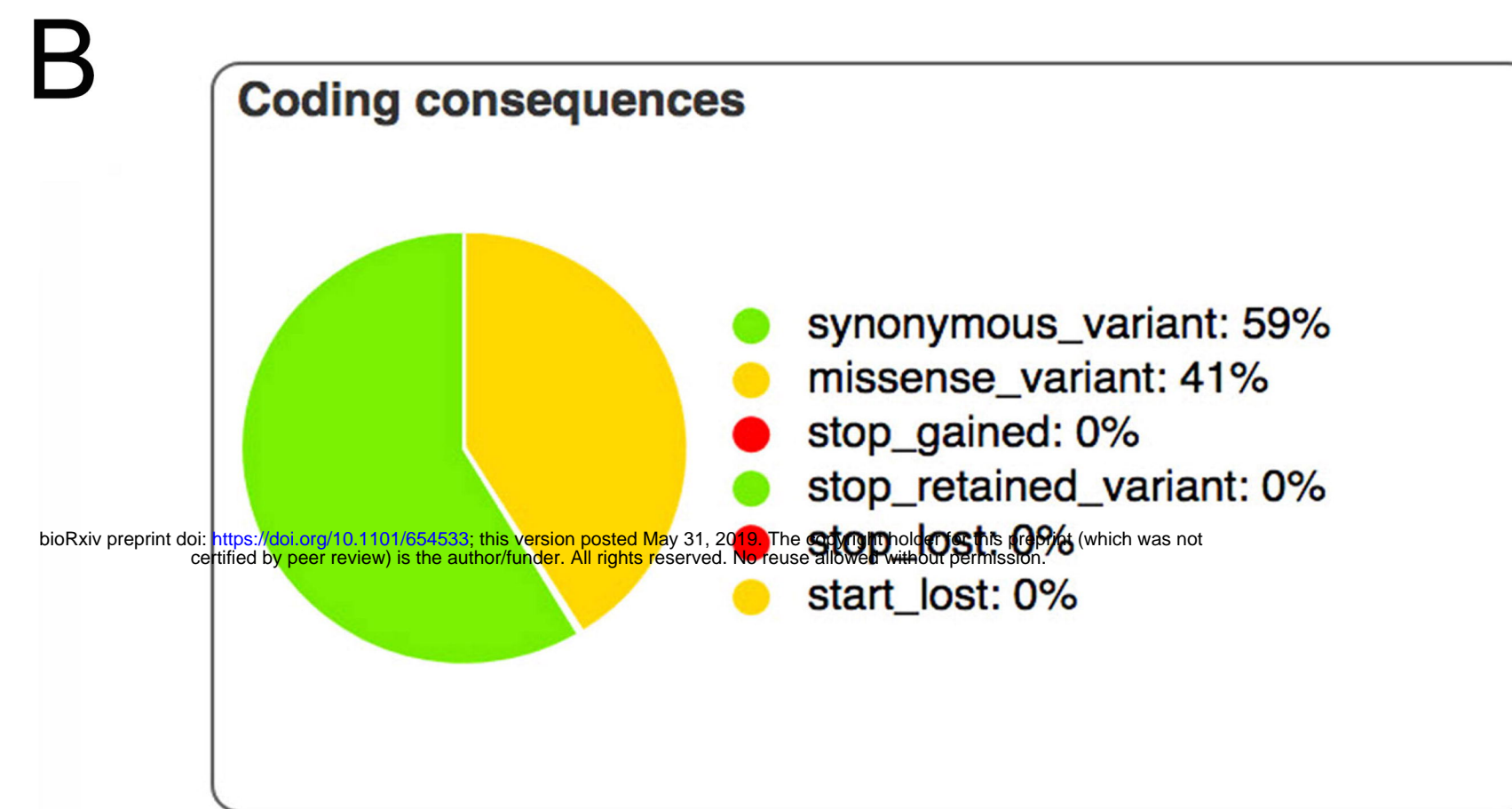
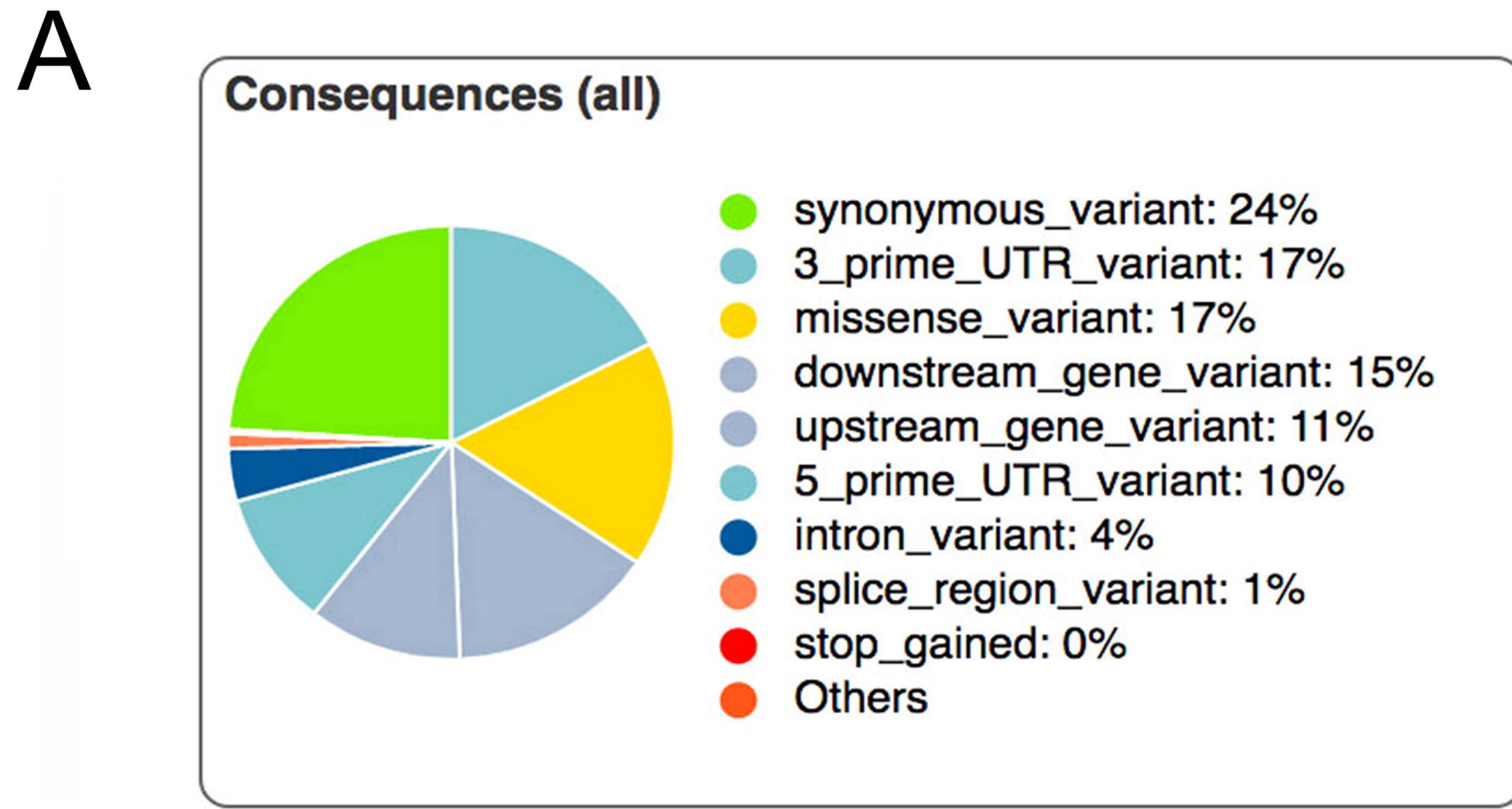
B73

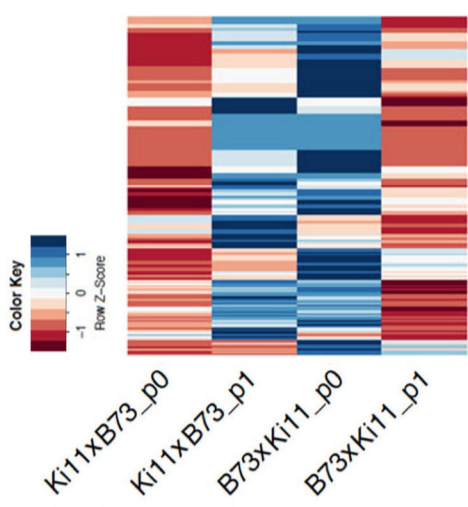
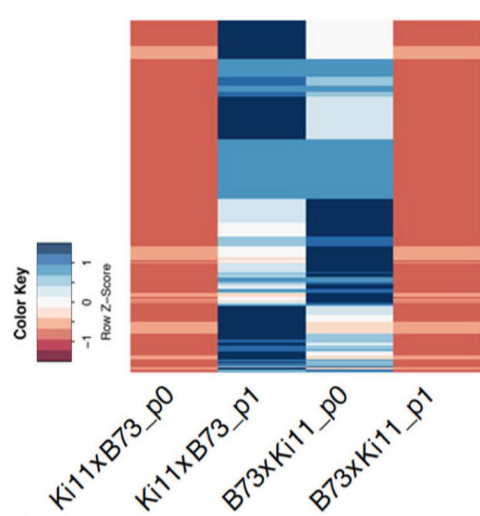
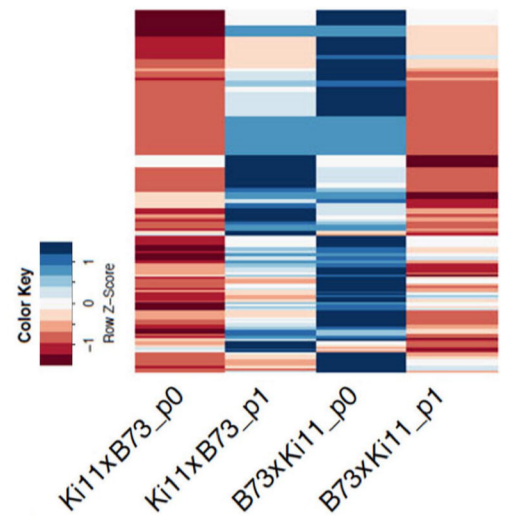
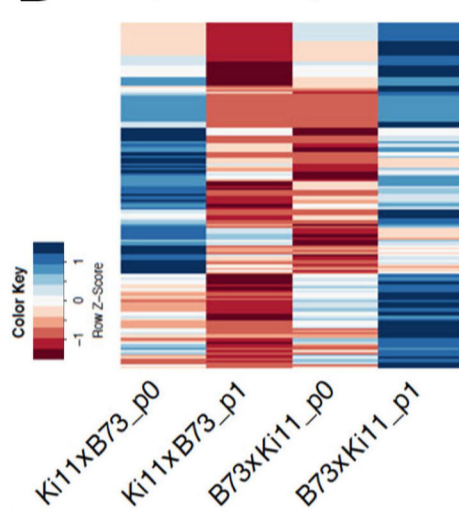
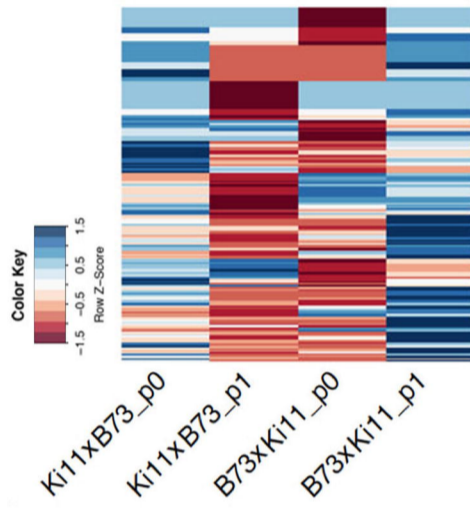
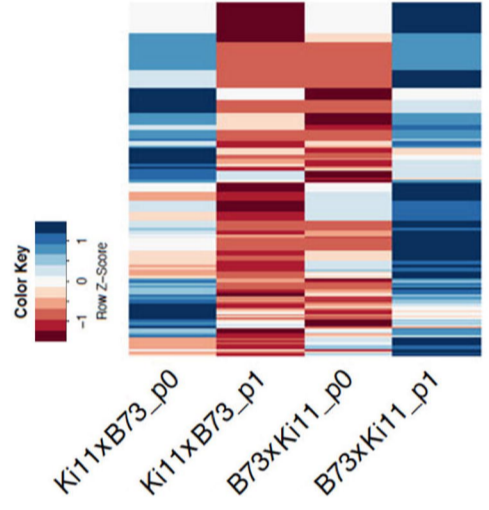
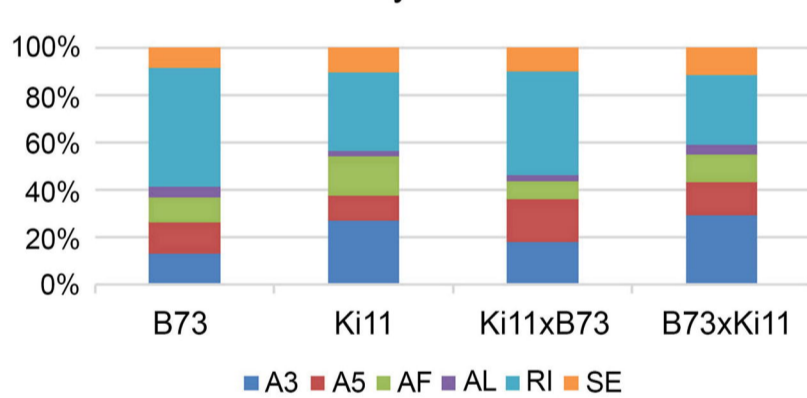
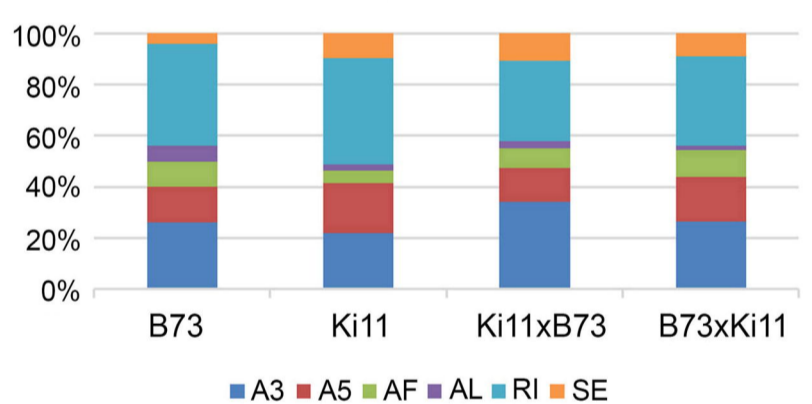
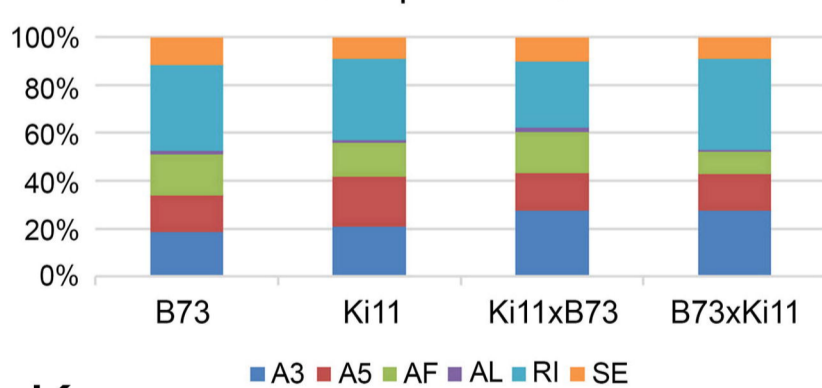
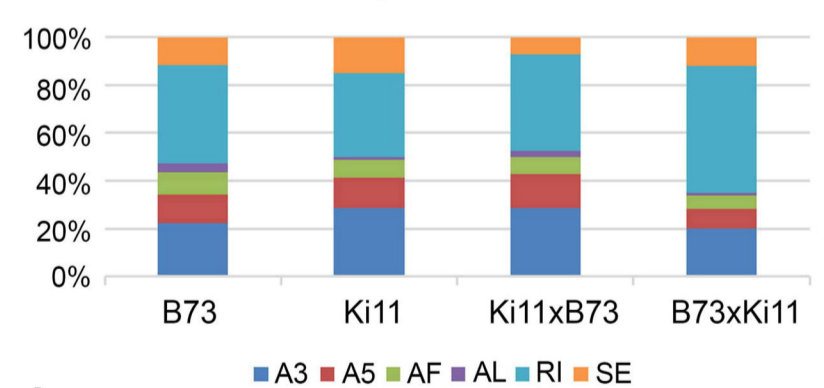
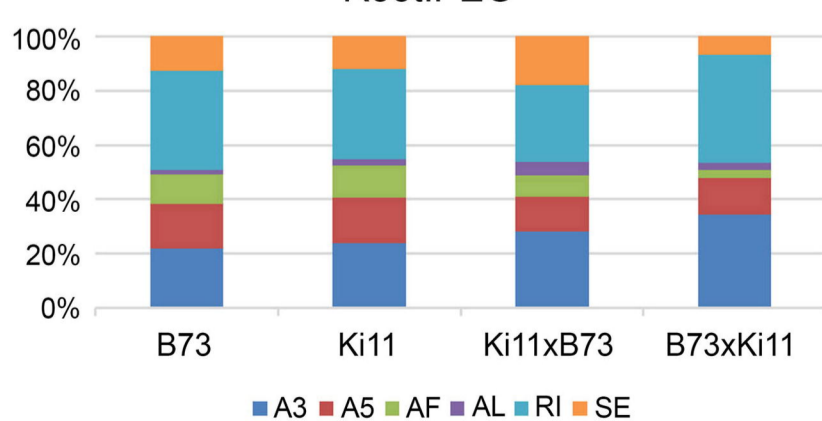
Ki11

Ki11xB73

B73xKi11





A Imprinted.embryoMEG.allele**B** Imprinted.endospermMEG.allele**C** Imprinted.rootMEG.allele**D** Imprinted.embryoPEG.allele**E** Imprinted.endospermPEG.allele**F** Imprinted.rootPEG.allele**G** Embryo.PEG**H** Embryo.MEG**I** Endosperm.PEG**J** Endosperm.MEG**K** Root.PEG**L** Root.MEG