

1           Local adaptation drives the diversification of effectors in the fungal wheat pathogen  
2                                 *Parastagonospora nodorum* in the United States

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21 **Abstract**

22 Filamentous fungi rapidly evolve in response to environmental selection pressures, exemplified  
23 by their genomic plasticity. *Parastagonospora nodorum*, a fungal pathogen of wheat and causal  
24 agent of septoria nodorum blotch, responds to selection pressure exerted by its host, influencing  
25 the gain, loss, or functional diversification of putative effector genes. Whole genome  
26 resequencing of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates collected from spring, durum, and winter wheat  
27 production regions of the United States enabled the examination of effector diversity and  
28 genomic regions under selection specific to geographically discrete populations. A total of  
29 1,026,859 quality SNPs/InDels were identified within the natural population. Implementation of  
30 GWAS identified novel loci, as well as *SnToxA* and *SnTox3* as major factors in disease. Genes  
31 displaying presence/absence variation and predicted effector genes, as well as genes localized on  
32 an accessory chromosome, had significantly higher pN/pS ratios, indicating a greater level of  
33 diversifying selection. Population structure analyses indicated two major *P. nodorum* populations  
34 corresponding to the Upper Midwest (Population 1) and Southern/Eastern United States  
35 (Population 2). Prevalence of *SnToxA* varied greatly between the two populations which  
36 correlated with presence of the host sensitivity gene *Tsn1*. Additionally, 12 and 5 candidate  
37 effector genes were observed to be diversifying among isolates from Population 1 and  
38 Population 2, respectively, but under purifying or neutral selection in the opposite population.  
39 Selective sweep analysis revealed 10 and 19 regions of positive selection from Population 1 and  
40 Population 2, respectively, with 92 genes underlying population-specific selective sweeps. Also,  
41 genes exhibiting presence/absence variation were significantly closer to transposable elements.  
42 Taken together, these results indicate that *P. nodorum* is rapidly adapting to distinct selection

43 pressures unique to spring and winter wheat production regions by various routes of genomic  
44 diversification, potentially facilitated through transposable element activity.

#### 45 **Author Summary:**

46 *Parastagonospora nodorum* is an economically important pathogen of wheat, employing  
47 proteinaceous effector molecules to cause disease. Recognition of effectors by host susceptibility  
48 genes often leads to the elicitation of programmed cell death. However, little is known on the  
49 correlation between effector diversity and the spatial distribution of host resistance/susceptibility  
50 or the genomic mechanisms of diversification. This research presents the genome resequencing  
51 of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates collected from spring, winter, and durum wheat production regions of  
52 the United States, enabling the investigation of genome dynamics and evolution. Results  
53 illustrate local adaptation to host resistance or susceptibility, as evidenced by population-specific  
54 evolution of predicted effector genes and positively selected selective sweeps. Predicted effector  
55 genes, genes exhibiting presence/absence variation, and genes residing on an accessory  
56 chromosome, were found to be diversifying more rapidly. Additionally, transposable elements  
57 were predicted to play a role in the maintenance or elimination of genes. A GWAS approach  
58 identified the previously reported *SnToxA* and *SnTox3* as well as novel virulence candidates, as  
59 major elicitors of disease on winter wheat. These results highlight the flexibility of the *P.*  
60 *nodorum* genome in response to population-specific selection pressures and illustrates the utility  
61 of whole genome resequencing for the identification of putative virulence mechanisms.

#### 62 **Introduction**

63 Plant pathogenic microorganisms, which are continually in evolutionary conflict with  
64 their respective hosts, have developed mechanisms by which they adapt and proliferate. The

65 dynamic nature of fungal genomes, resulting in small and large-scale changes, provides  
66 diversification while maintaining essential functions. The prevalence of mobile elements often  
67 drives this flexibility, resulting in the creation, abolition, or translocation of genes [1,2].  
68 Additionally, this activity of mobile elements significantly contributes to the diversification of  
69 asexually reproducing fungal pathogens through the rearrangement of chromosomes into lineage  
70 specific segments [3,4]. This phenomenon has recently been described as a compartmentalized  
71 ‘two-speed’ genome, consisting of regions of high gene density and equilibrated GC content, as  
72 well as a gene-sparse compartment [5,6,7,8]. The regions of low gene density and high repetitive  
73 content appear to be hotbeds of rapid evolution, harboring genes encoding virulence  
74 determinants known as effectors that manipulate host cellular processes to facilitate infection [7].  
75 However, not all plant pathogenic fungi exhibit such explicit genome architecture but have  
76 rapidly evolving genes and transposable elements dispersed evenly throughout the genome,  
77 resembling a ‘one-speed’ or ‘one-compartment’ structure [9,10].

78 Fungal effector molecules act to modulate the host defense response in various manners,  
79 typically dependent on the lifestyle of the pathogen. Pathogen associated molecular patterns  
80 (PAMPs), such as the major fungal cell wall constituent chitin, may be recognized by the host  
81 and trigger an early defense response known as PAMP triggered immunity (PTI) [11,12,13].  
82 Effectors can successfully subvert this response to permit infection. Ecp6, a fungal effector from  
83 *Cladosporium fulvum*, binds chitin and prevents the initiation of PTI [14]. In the context of a  
84 biotrophic pathogen, host plants subsequently evolved the means to recognize virulence  
85 effectors, triggering a hypersensitive response and sequestration of the pathogen. Recognition is  
86 often mediated by host resistance genes in the nucleotide binding leucine-rich repeat (NB-LRR)  
87 gene family [15,16]. Within many biotrophic pathosystems, this interaction between a dominant

88 host resistance gene and a biotrophic effector follows the gene-for-gene model [17]. However,  
89 necrotrophic pathogens use effectors to exploit the same host defense cellular machinery.  
90 Occurring in an inverse gene-for-gene manner, effectors are recognized by dominant host  
91 susceptibility genes resulting in necrotrophic effector triggered susceptibility [18]. The lack of  
92 homology or conserved domains between effector proteins hinders efforts towards novel effector  
93 discovery. This lack of similarity can be attributed to the rapid evolution in response to local  
94 selection pressure exerted by host resistance or susceptibility. However, this can be remedied via  
95 thorough genomic and genetic analyses.

96 Fungi have become a great resource to study genome-wide signatures of selection due to  
97 their short generation times and feasibility of whole-genome sequencing. Positive selection of  
98 pathogen effector genes, as well as the host resistance/susceptibility genes, drives co-  
99 evolutionary processes. The detection of positive selection permits the identification of genes  
100 potentially involved in local adaptation to host genotypes or environmental pressures [19].  
101 Examination and comparison of nonsynonymous and synonymous substitution rates within genes  
102 has been used to detect evidence of purifying, neutral, or positive selection of putative pathogen  
103 virulence genes [20,21]. More recently, whole-genome sequencing data has been leveraged to  
104 identify and compare selective sweep regions between pathogen populations, as well as closely  
105 related species. Badouin et al. [22] found a greater prevalence of selective sweeps in  
106 *Microbotryum lychnidis-dioicae* compared to its sister species *Microbotryum silenes-dioicae*.  
107 Additionally, candidate genes potentially involved in pathogenicity and host adaptation, as well  
108 as genes upregulated *in planta* were identified within selective sweep regions. Analysis of a  
109 global collection of the barley pathogen *Rhynchosporium commune* identified three major  
110 genetic clusters that exhibited unique and generally non-overlapping selective sweep regions

111 hypothesized to stem from ecological variations [23]. Interestingly, genes potentially implicated  
112 in response to abiotic stress and not host adaptation were found to be enriched under selective  
113 sweep regions. Similarly, evidence for selective sweeps was detected in a worldwide collection  
114 of *Zymoseptoria tritici*, with the majority of the identified regions being unique to one of the four  
115 postulated populations [24]. However, in this case, genes typically associated with pathogenicity  
116 or virulence, such as secreted proteins or cell wall degrading enzymes, were found to underlie  
117 selective sweeps.

118         On a global scale, wheat annually ranks as one of the most widely grown crops and  
119 supplies the world with an important source of calories. In 2017, approximately 218.5 million  
120 hectares were harvested globally [25]. Common wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), an allohexaploid  
121 (AABBDD), is classified by several characteristics including growth habit (spring or winter),  
122 bran color (red or white), and hardness of endosperm (soft or hard). Hard red spring wheat and  
123 hard red winter wheat are utilized primarily in the bread making industry, whereas flour from  
124 soft red winter wheat is often used for cakes and cookies [26]. Durum wheat (*Triticum turgidum*  
125 var. *durum*), an allotetraploid (AABB), is primarily used in the pasta industry [26]. Hard red  
126 spring wheat and durum wheat are typically grown in the Upper Midwest, hard red winter wheat  
127 is typically grown in the Great Plains, and soft red winter wheat cultivation predominates in the  
128 southeastern United States [27].

129         *Parastagonospora nodorum*, a haploid, necrotrophic fungal pathogen of both common  
130 wheat and durum wheat, causes significant yield losses and is an annual threat to global wheat  
131 production [28]. This pathogen has also emerged as a model organism for the study of plant-  
132 necrotrophic specialist interactions. Genomic resources, including the development of near  
133 complete reference genomes of diverse isolates bolstered by deep RNA sequencing, have greatly

134 aided the investigation of pathogen virulence. Initially, the *P. nodorum* Australian isolate SN15  
135 was sequenced with Sanger sequencing and subsequently improved via re-sequencing with short-  
136 read Illumina technology, RNA-seq data, and protein datasets [29,30,31]. Recently, we  
137 developed reference quality genome assemblies of *P. nodorum* isolates LDN03-Sn4 (hereafter  
138 referred to as Sn4), Sn2000, and Sn79-1087 using long-read sequencing technology [32]. These  
139 telomere to telomere sequences of nearly every *P. nodorum* chromosome, in addition to the  
140 annotation of 13,379 genes using RNA-seq, greatly improved the framework for effector  
141 discovery. A total of nine effector-host susceptibility factor interactions have been previously  
142 identified [18,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41] with three of the pathogen effectors (SnToxA,  
143 SnTox1, and SnTox3) having been cloned and validated [35,36,42]. Additionally, the cognate  
144 receptor genes of SnToxA and SnTox1, *Tsn1* and *Snn1*, respectively, have also been cloned and  
145 characterized in wheat [34,43]. Novel host sensitivities in winter wheat germplasm have also  
146 been identified in response to effectors produced by *P. nodorum* isolates collected in the  
147 southeastern United States, which differ from sensitivities and effectors identified in the hard red  
148 spring wheat production region of the Upper Midwest [44].

149         The functionally validated *P. nodorum* effector molecules display typical properties of  
150 pathogen effectors, including being small, secreted, cysteine-rich proteins embedded in or  
151 adjacent to repetitive regions of the genome. Additionally, these genes exhibit presence/absence  
152 variation (PAV), as they are completely missing in avirulent isolates [35,36,42]. This gain or  
153 elimination of entire genes, as well as intragenic polymorphisms, is rampant within *P. nodorum*  
154 populations, although little correlation between this diversity to the spatial distribution of host  
155 susceptibility has been made. Despite the evidence of frequent sexual reproduction in the field,  
156 attempts to develop bi-parental sexual populations of *P. nodorum* have been unsuccessful, and

157 the validation of candidate effectors has been accomplished through computational, comparative,  
158 and reverse-genetics approaches [35,36,42].

159         The employment of genome wide association studies (GWAS) overcomes the inherent  
160 inability to develop bi-parental fungal populations in *P. nodorum* and allows candidate effectors  
161 to be mapped at high-resolution. Due to the widespread availability of genome sequencing, this  
162 technique can be relatively easily applied to fungi for effector identification [45]. Gao et al. [46]  
163 conducted GWAS in *P. nodorum* using restriction-associated DNA genotyping-by-sequencing  
164 (RAD-GBS) data from 191 isolates. Significant marker-trait associations (MTAs) were identified  
165 corresponding to effector genes *SnToxA* and *SnTox3*, illustrating the utility of this approach.  
166 Additionally, it was determined that linkage disequilibrium (LD) decayed rapidly in *P. nodorum*,  
167 highlighting the necessity of higher marker density for the successful identification of causal or  
168 linked single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) [46]. GWAS was also used in another pathogen  
169 of wheat, *Zymoseptoria tritici*. Sequencing of 103 isolates and subsequent identification of  
170 584,171 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) enabled the successful identification of  
171 *AvrStb6*, the gene conferring avirulence on wheat lines carrying a functional *Stb6* resistance gene  
172 [47,48].

173         As plant pathogens rapidly respond to the selection pressure placed upon them by  
174 regionally deployed host resistance/susceptibility genes, we hypothesized that this would result  
175 in local adaption of effector repertoires which would be visible as an accumulation of  
176 population-specific non-synonymous or loss-of-function mutations and genome-wide signatures  
177 of selection. This research presents the whole-genome resequencing of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates  
178 collected from various wheat growing regions of the United States, enabling the investigation of  
179 population structure and regionally-specific gene diversity, including effector diversification.



180 Selective sweep and genic diversity analyses detected unique selection pressures on local *P.*  
181 *nodorum* populations, resulting in the regionally-specific evolution of genes with a predicted  
182 virulence function, including putative effector genes that are hypothesized to have specific host  
183 susceptibility targets. Genes associated with presence/absence variation were found to be near  
184 repetitive elements, indicating a potential role of transposons in the maintenance or elimination  
185 of genic diversity. Additionally, a high level of genotypic diversity enabled robust genome-wide  
186 association analyses, as illustrated by *SnToxA* and *SnTox3* being significantly associated with  
187 disease on both spring and winter wheat lines. GWAS also detected a cell wall degrading  
188 enzyme and an entire gene cluster as novel candidates for virulence on winter wheat, laying the  
189 foundation for further dissection of this molecular pathosystem.

## 190 **Results**

### 191 *Whole Genome Sequencing and Variant Identification*

192 To quantify and compare patterns of genetic variation in populations of *P. nodorum*, we  
193 sequenced full genomes of 197 isolates collected from spring, winter, and durum wheat  
194 production regions of the United States. Total sequence per isolate ranged from approximately  
195 126 Mb to 3.01 Gb with a median value of 1.06 Gb. This corresponds to an approximate genome  
196 coverage (Sn4 genome size of 37.7 Mb) ranging from 3.34× to 79.8× with a median coverage of  
197 28.08× (S1 Table).

198 Following filtering for genotype quality and read depth, 1,026,859 SNPs and  
199 insertions/deletions (InDels) were identified corresponding to a nucleotide diversity of 0.0062.  
200 Analysis of the functional effects of SNPs/InDels revealed a total of 226,803 synonymous and  
201 160,159 non-synonymous polymorphisms within 13,238 genes, with 141 genes lacking any  
202 polymorphism (Table 1). Additionally, a total of 5,110 loss of function (LOF) mutations were

203 detected, abolishing the function of 2,848 genes. These variants include 1,464 frameshift  
204 mutations, 2,815 premature stop codons, 457 losses of a stop codon, and 374 losses of a start  
205 codon (Table 1). The total SNP data set (including intergenic SNPs/InDels) was further filtered  
206 for a minor allele frequency of 5% and maximum missing data per marker of 30%, resulting in  
207 the identification of 322,613 SNPs/InDels to be used in association mapping analyses.

208

**Table 1. Functional variants identified in a population of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates**

Variant Category	Total	Population 1	Population 2
Synonymous SNP	226,803	194,313	151,965
Non-synonymous SNP	160,159	127,006	97,361
Frameshift	1,464	992	798
Gain of Stop Codon	2,815	2030	1406
Loss of Stop Codon	457	389	282
Loss of Start Codon	374	298	216

209

210 *P. nodorum* isolates missing genotype calls in greater than 50% of SNP/InDel sites and/or  
211 having average gene coverage of less than 95% were discarded from all coverage-based  
212 analyses, resulting in a final dataset of 175 *P. nodorum* isolates. Coverage analysis across the  
213 13,379 annotated *P. nodorum* isolate Sn4 gene set identified 882 genes that were deleted in at  
214 least one isolate. Individual isolates were annotated as harboring between 5 and 343 gene losses  
215 which are distributed throughout the genome. Among genes exhibiting PAV, 70 genes encoded

216 proteins with predicted secretion signals, including the previously characterized *SnToxA*,  
217 *SnTox1*, and *SnTox3* [35,36,42]. Overall, no significant differences were observed in the  
218 frequency of PAV between predicted effectors, secreted non-effectors, or non-secreted proteins,  
219 with PAV frequency rates of 7.8%, 5.2%, and 6.7%, respectively (Pairwise comparison of  
220 proportions, FDR adjusted  $p > 0.21$  for all comparisons).

### 221 *P. nodorum* exhibits strong population structure in North America

222 We next set out to assess if the population structure of *P. nodorum* reflects adaptation to  
223 different host populations or geographical distribution. Using a genotypic dataset consisting of  
224 approximately one SNP per kb across the entire genome to mitigate potential marker pairs in  
225 linkage disequilibrium, STRUCTURE analysis revealed an optimal number of two  
226 subpopulations (S1 Figure). All isolates collected from North Dakota, Minnesota, and South  
227 Dakota formed a cluster, here termed Population 1 (S1 Figure). Isolates collected from Arkansas,  
228 Georgia, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee,  
229 Texas, and Virginia formed a second cluster, here termed Population 2 (S1 Figure). Based on the  
230 0.85 threshold of membership probability used to assign isolates to subpopulations, all 17  
231 Oklahoma isolates were not clearly assigned to a cluster. To test the hypothesis that the  
232 Oklahoma isolates were admixed between the two major populations, a three-population test was  
233 conducted [49]. The  $f_3$  statistic and z-value were 16.50 and 4.68, respectively. Both values being  
234 non-negative indicated a lack of evidence for admixture. This structure and admixture analysis  
235 clearly separates isolates based on geographical location rather than wheat cultivar and indicates  
236 isolates collected from Oklahoma are likely not admixed, but rather stem from a lineage of the  
237 major populations.

238 Principal components analysis (PCA) revealed similar results to those obtained by  
239 Bayesian clustering. The first two principal components, accounting for approximately 12.9% of  
240 the cumulative variation, separate Population 1, Population 2, and the isolates from Oklahoma.  
241 However, this analysis also indicated a separate cluster corresponding to eight isolates collected  
242 from Oregon (lower right of the plot), which likely represent a small subpopulation (Fig. 1).  
243 However, due to a comparatively lower population size ( $n=8$ ), these isolates were removed from  
244 any subsequent comparisons between populations due to lack of proper representation (Fig. 1).

#### 245 *High genetic variation in P. nodorum populations*

246 We used our genome-wide inference of genetic variation to compare patterns of genetic  
247 diversity and polymorphism distribution in the *P. nodorum* population. Due to the larger number  
248 of SNB susceptibility targets that have been validated in spring wheat relative to winter wheat  
249 [18], we hypothesized that *P. nodorum* populations specific to spring wheat regions would  
250 contain a higher level of diversity and be under balancing selection to maintain a larger virulence  
251 gene repertoire. To assess the extent of population differentiation, we computed the parameter  $F_{st}$   
252 between each population. The  $F_{st}$  statistic was 0.181 when comparing Population 1 to Population  
253 2, indicating moderate differentiation has occurred between isolates collected from each region.  
254 To assess the distribution of nucleotide diversity in each *P. nodorum* population, we computed  
255 nucleotide variation ( $\pi$ ), Watterson's theta ( $\Theta_w$ ), and Tajima's D for each population (Table 2;  
256 S2 Figure). Overall, Population 1 had a higher level of nucleotide diversity (0.0059) compared to  
257 Population 2 (0.0041). Population 1 also had a greater proportion of segregating sites compared  
258 to Population 2, as evidenced by  $\Theta_w$  values of 0.0055 and 0.0037, respectively. Additionally,  
259 differences were observed in the estimates of Tajima's D between the two. Both groups had  
260 positive Tajima's D values caused by an excess of alleles of intermediate frequencies and

261 absence of rare alleles. Population 1 had the highest genome-wide Tajima's D value at 0.7402.  
262 Population 2 had lower, yet still positive, Tajima's D values of 0.5660. Taken together, these  
263 results indicate that isolates comprising Population 1 have a greater level of nucleotide diversity  
264 at the genome scale. Also, the positive values of Tajima's D indicate a possible population  
265 contraction or that balancing selection is occurring.

**Table 2. Population genomics parameters of 172 *P. nodorum* isolates by population**

Population	$\pi^1$	$\Theta_W^2$	Tajima's D <sup>3</sup>
Population 1	0.0059	0.0054	0.8641
Population 2	0.0041	0.0037	0.5660

266 <sup>1</sup>Nucleotide diversity calculated across entire genome

267 <sup>2</sup>Watterson's estimator calculated across entire genome

268 <sup>3</sup>Average Tajima's D value

269 *Signatures of selective sweeps indicate recently acquired advantageous mutations*

270 Examination of genomic regions having undergone selective sweeps sheds light onto  
271 potentially beneficial genes being selected for, as well as facilitates the comparison of selective  
272 forces acting on different populations. We hypothesize that due to regional differences in wheat  
273 genotypes grown, as well as differing environmental cues, positive selection is acting on  
274 different regions of the *P. nodorum* genome within each population. Selective sweep analysis  
275 using SweeD revealed 42 and 46 regions having undergone selective sweeps in isolates from  
276 Population 1 and Population 2, respectively (Table 3; Fig. 2A). To add further evidence of  
277 selective sweeps, predicted sweep regions were compared to population-specific Tajima's D

278 values calculated in intervals across the genome. This analysis identified a total of 10 and 19  
279 regions in Population 1 and Population 2, respectively, which were predicted as selective sweeps  
280 by SweeD and were located in a genomic region with a negative value of Tajima's D.  
281 Interestingly, no genes underlying selective sweep regions were common to both populations,  
282 indicating that different selection pressures, likely from regional wheat genotypes or the  
283 environment, are being exerted on isolates from each population for the maintenance of  
284 beneficial genes.

**Table 3. Detection of selective sweeps in two *P. nodorum* populations**

Population	Sweep Regions	Median (kb)	Maximum (kb)	Genes	Genome Coverage (%)
Population 1	10	4.5	25.0	16	0.17
Population 2	19	9.0	92.0	76	1.02

285

286 Sweep regions detected in Population 1 isolates had a median length of 4.5 kb with the  
287 largest region being 25.0 kb. Underlying these regions are 16 genes, of which, 7 are predicted  
288 hypothetical proteins with no known functional domains. A total of four genes encode predicted  
289 secreted proteins, including one predicted effector. Additionally, five genes (31.3% of genes  
290 underlying sweeps) exhibited PAV, which is significantly greater than expected (one gene  
291 expected; Fisher's Exact Test  $p=0.003$ ). Additionally, genes affected by selective sweeps in  
292 Population 1 have a median distance of 6.4 kb to the nearest repetitive element, which although  
293 not statistically significant, is substantially closer than the median distance of genes not under

294 selective sweep regions of 13.0 kb (Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test;  $p = 0.056$ ). Gene ontology  
295 enrichment analysis did not identify any significantly overrepresented gene functions, likely due  
296 to the low number of genes underlying predicted selective sweep in Population 1 (File S1). A  
297 significant selective sweep region was detected on chromosome 8, flanking the *SnToxA* locus,  
298 but was not detected in Population 2 (Fig. 2B). This reinforces the hypothesis that *SnToxA* was  
299 heavily selected for within the Midwestern population due to the prevalence of *Tsn1*, but was  
300 then lost in Population 2 due to the lack of the *Tsn1* gene in the popular local winter wheat  
301 cultivars [50].

302         Analysis of isolates from Population 2 identified 19 selective sweep regions having a  
303 median length of 9.0 kb, maximum length of 92.0 kb, and a cumulative length of 385.4 kb,  
304 covering 1.02% of the genome (Table 3; Figure 2). The quantity and cumulative size of the  
305 predicted sweep regions are larger than those identified in Population 1, indicating that these  
306 may be more recent selection events. A total of 76 genes underlie the sweeps detected in  
307 Population 2, including 11 genes encoding predicted secreted proteins, one of which is a  
308 predicted effector protein. A total of 7 genes (9.2% of genes underlying sweeps) exhibited PAV,  
309 which is not significantly greater than expected (five genes expected; Fisher's Exact test  $p >$   
310 0.05). Additionally, genes underlying selective sweeps in Population 2 had a median distance to  
311 the nearest repetitive element of 10.1 kb, which is not significantly closer than genes outside of  
312 sweep regions which have a median distance of 13.0 kb (Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test;  $p=0.63$ ).  
313 Gene ontology enrichment analysis did not identify any overrepresented genes underlying  
314 selective sweeps specific to Population 2 (S1 File).

315 *P. nodorum* populations harbor different alleles and prevalence of *SnToxA*, *SnTox1*, and *SnTox3*

316 We then wanted to determine if host sensitivity conferred by a previously characterized  
317 effector had influenced *P. nodorum* population structure within the United States. Sensitivity to  
318 effectors SnToxA, SnTox1, and SnTox3 conferred by host genes *Tsn1*, *Snn1*, and *Snn3*,  
319 respectively, offer a distinct advantage to the pathogen through the strong induction of  
320 programmed cell death. The predominant presence of a host sensitivity gene, including novel  
321 genes or interactions still undiscovered, may provide a strong selective force towards the  
322 maintenance of a given effector, and therefore influence population structure. Coverage analysis  
323 was used to determine the presence or absence of the three previously characterized *P. nodorum*  
324 effectors *SnToxA*, *SnTox1*, and *SnTox3* from the natural population (isolates with sufficient  
325 coverage, n = 175). Overall, *SnToxA*, *SnTox1* and *SnTox3* were absent from 36.6%, 4.6%, and  
326 41.1%, respectively, from the natural population (Table 4). Prevalence of effector genes was also  
327 examined by subpopulation. The clear majority of isolates retained a functional *SnTox1* gene, as  
328 0% and 12.5% of isolates from Population 1 and Population 2, respectively, harbored *SnTox1*  
329 gene deletions. *SnTox3* was observed to be absent from 38.3% and 48.4% of isolates from  
330 Population 1 and Population 2, respectively. A stark difference was observed when comparing  
331 the presence of *SnToxA* between the two populations. Within Population 1, containing isolates  
332 from the Upper Midwest, only 4.3% of isolates lacked *SnToxA*. However, among Population 2,  
333 isolates from the Southern, Eastern, and Pacific Northwest, 93.8% lacked *SnToxA* (Table 4).  
334 Additionally, *SnToxA* was present in 100% (n = 17) of the isolates collected from Oklahoma,  
335 which were not placed into a major population. These results indicate a strong selection pressure  
336 has been placed on maintaining *SnTox1* in the entire natural populations likely due to its dual  
337 function [42]. Additionally, the presence of *SnToxA* has been selected for in Population 1, but on



338 the other hand selected against in Population 2, likely due to regional differences in deployment  
339 of the host sensitivity gene *Tsn1*.

340

**Table 4. Functional variants identified in *SnToxA*, *SnTox1*, and *SnTox3***

Variant Category	<i>SnToxA</i>	<i>SnTox1</i>	<i>SnTox3</i>
Coding Sequence (bp)	534	351	693
Synonymous SNP	8	0	3
Non-synonymous SNP	3	9	5
Gain of Stop Codon	1	0	0
Loss of Start Codon	0	0	1
Deletion (%) Population 1	4.3	0	38.3
Deletion (%) Population 2	93.8	12.5	48.4
Overall Deletion (%)	36.6	4.6	41.1

341

342 In addition to the PAV exhibited by all three effectors, functional diversity was also  
343 detected within the coding regions of each gene. Throughout the entire population, *SnToxA*  
344 harbored 12 mutations, including eight synonymous SNPs, three nonsynonymous SNPs, and one  
345 SNP introducing a premature stop codon (Table 4). A total of four unique nucleotide haplotypes  
346 and protein isoforms were detected. The SNP inducing a premature stop codon was found in a  
347 single isolate collected on winter wheat from Ohio. Within the *SnTox1* coding region, no  
348 synonymous changes were detected, however, nine nonsynonymous SNPs were identified (Table

349 4). The nine non-synonymous changes form nine unique nucleotide haplotypes and protein  
350 isoforms. *SnTox3* was found to contain a total of nine SNPs, including three synonymous  
351 changes, five nonsynonymous SNPs, and one SNP causing the loss of the start codon (Table 4).  
352 The variants detected within *SnTox3* collapse into five nucleotide haplotypes and four protein  
353 isoforms. The start codon mutation was only observed in one isolate, collected on durum wheat  
354 in western North Dakota.

### 355 *Disease Phenotyping*

356 Previous research has identified the presence of novel necrotrophic effectors in *P. nodorum*  
357 isolates collected from the southeastern United States and cognate host sensitivities specific to  
358 winter wheat germplasm [44]. In order to better characterize disease reactions of winter wheat to  
359 a diverse pathogen collection and potentially identify genes contributing to virulence via GWAS,  
360 wheat lines Alsen (*Tsn1* control), Jerry (hard red winter), TAM105 (hard red winter), ITMI38  
361 (*Snn3* control), Massey (soft red winter), and F/G95195 (soft red winter) were inoculated with  
362 197 *P. nodorum* isolates collected from spring, winter, and durum wheat production regions of  
363 the United States. Average disease reactions on spring wheat line Alsen ranged from 0.25 to 5.00  
364 with an average of 3.34 (Fig. 3). Disease reaction on hard red winter wheat line Jerry ranged  
365 from 0.25 to 4.25 with an average of 2.93 (Fig. 3). Disease reaction on hard red winter wheat line  
366 TAM105 ranged from 0.13 to 4.13 with an average of 2.75 (Fig. 3). An increased disease  
367 reaction correlated with the presence of a functional *SnToxA* gene, indicating that the SnToxA-  
368 Tsn1 interaction is largely responsible for disease on these wheat lines. Disease reaction on the  
369 recombinant inbred wheat line ITMI38 ranged from 0 to 3.50 with an average of 1.49 (Fig. 3).  
370 Disease reaction on soft red winter wheat line Massey ranged from 0.00 to 2.00 with an average  
371 of 0.72 (Fig. 3). Disease reaction on soft red winter wheat line F/G95195 ranged from 0.00 to

372 3.875 with an average of 1.51 (Fig. 3). Disease reaction correlated with the presence of *SnTox3*  
373 which indicated that the *SnTox3-Snn3* interaction is the main facilitator of disease on these  
374 wheat lines. Interestingly, the disease reactions on Massey were comparatively lower, indicating  
375 that although *SnTox3* is an effective virulence factor, an underlying host resistance not present in  
376 the other wheat lines may exist.

377 *GWAS provides new virulence enhancement candidates and insight into local levels of linkage*  
378 *disequilibrium*

379 Previous studies have identified effectors that interact with host susceptibility genes  
380 derived from spring wheat germplasm. Novel effector-susceptibility gene interactions have been  
381 identified that are specific to the winter wheat gene pool [44]. To identify candidate virulence  
382 genes underlying these novel interactions on winter wheat lines, as well as determine if  
383 previously identified effectors play a role in disease development, phenotypic and genotypic data  
384 were utilized to conduct a GWAS. Further filtering the quality SNPs/InDels identified from the  
385 *P. nodorum* natural population (n = 197) for a minor allele frequency of 5%, a total of 322,613  
386 markers were used to identify associations with virulent phenotypes. Using a mixed linear model  
387 incorporating a kinship matrix, a total of 174 and 277 markers were identified as significant in *P.*  
388 *nodorum* for virulence on winter wheat lines Jerry and TAM105, respectively (Fig. 4A). The  
389 same marker approximately 51.2 kb upstream of *SnToxA* on chromosome 8 was detected with  
390 the highest significance on both wheat lines and the PAV of *SnToxA* was also highly significant  
391 on each line (Fig. 4A). *SnToxA* resides in an approximately 112.1 kb isochore region of  
392 chromosome 8 characterized by low GC content. Due to the repetitive nature of this region,  
393 SNPs could not be reliably called, leaving the PAV of *SnToxA* as the only marker within this  
394 region. Among the 174 markers significantly associated with virulence on winter wheat line

395 Jerry, 54 were in a 62.6 kb genomic region downstream and 111 were in an 87.0 kb region  
396 upstream of *SnToxA*. A total of eight markers were identified outside of the *SnToxA* locus,  
397 including four markers on chromosome 4, one marker on chromosome 10, two markers on  
398 chromosome 11, and one marker on chromosome 14 (S3 Figure). Out of the 277 significant  
399 markers identified for virulence on TAM105, 80 were in a 66.2 kb genomic region downstream  
400 and 173 were in an 88.1 kb region upstream of *SnToxA*. A total of 23 markers were detected  
401 outside of the *SnToxA* locus, including four markers on chromosome 1, one marker on  
402 chromosome 2, one marker on chromosome 3, three markers on chromosome 4, eight markers on  
403 chromosome 5, three markers on chromosome 9, two markers on chromosome 10, and one  
404 marker on chromosome 12 (S3 Figure).

405 Candidate genes involved in virulence on TAM105 were also identified underlying novel  
406 loci. The significant SNP on chromosome 1 at position 2,989,164 bp was within a glycosyl  
407 hydrolase family 11 gene, implicated in the degradation of plant cell walls. A high level of  
408 polymorphism was detected within this gene, as evidenced by 18 SNPs, including seven non-  
409 synonymous SNPs, all within the predicted functional domain. The most significant SNP was a  
410 non-synonymous change from valine to isoleucine at amino acid position 116. Directly flanking  
411 a significant SNP at position 1,484,536 on chromosome 5 by 1364 bp was an entire gene cluster  
412 exhibiting PAV. This cluster was absent from approximately 53% of the isolates and was  
413 comprised of a NAD(P)-binding monooxygenase, aldehyde dehydrogenase, aromatic ring opening  
414 dioxygenase, acyl esterase/dipeptidyl peptidase, and a transcription factor. In isolates harboring  
415 the cluster, the transcription factor was observed to harbor a high level of polymorphism,  
416 including 29 non-synonymous and 11 synonymous SNPs.

417 Interestingly, the PAV of *SnToxA* was not the most significant marker associated with  
418 virulence on winter wheat lines Jerry and Massey but still exhibited a high LD with the most  
419 significant marker ( $R^2=0.97$ ). Additionally, LD extended approximately 48.6 kb downstream and  
420 47.6 kb upstream of *SnToxA* before decaying to  $R^2$  levels below 0.20, explaining the large  
421 number of SNPs identified in association with virulence. These results, confirmed by sensitive  
422 reactions of Jerry and TAM105 to infiltrations with SnToxA (Fig. 5A), indicated that SnToxA  
423 was the major effector facilitating infection on these two winter wheat lines. However, other  
424 candidate genes contributing to disease development in a quantitative manner were identified at  
425 significant genomic loci and provide candidate genes for further investigation.

426 Association mapping analyses using a mixed linear model incorporating three principal  
427 components (15.9% cumulative variation) as fixed effects and a kinship matrix as a random  
428 effect revealed four markers significantly associated with virulence on winter wheat line Massey.  
429 The most significant association corresponds to the PAV of *SnTox3* on chromosome 11, with the  
430 three remaining significant markers being SNPs located in an approximately 6.0 kb genomic  
431 region upstream of the *SnTox3* gene (Fig. 4B). Using the same mixed linear model, a total of ten  
432 significant markers were detected in association with virulence on winter wheat line F/G 95195.  
433 Similar to virulence on Massey, *SnTox3* PAV was the most significant locus identified, with nine  
434 additional significant SNPs located in an ~23.1 kb upstream region (Fig. 4B). LD decayed to  
435 levels below 0.20 approximately 6.5 kb upstream of *SnTox3*. As this gene is located near the  
436 telomere, no distal markers were identified, therefore, no LD estimations could be made  
437 downstream of *SnTox3*. As no markers outside of the *SnTox3* genomic region were found  
438 significant, these results indicate that SnTox3 is the lone major segregating effector governing

439 virulence on the winter wheat lines Massey and F/G 95195, which is confirmed by the sensitivity  
440 to infiltrations of SnTox3 (Fig. 5B).

441 *Gene ontology enrichment analyses show an excess of non-synonymous SNPs within putative*  
442 *virulence genes*

443 For the examination of putative functions of genes undergoing diversification, gene  
444 ontology enrichment analysis was conducted. Using 882 genes exhibiting PAV in at least one *P.*  
445 *nodorum* isolate, 16 molecular function gene ontology terms were significant at FDR-adjusted  $p$   
446  $< 0.10$  (S1 File). Genes involved in the binding of nucleotides, small molecules, organic  
447 cyclic/heterocyclic compounds, anions, and carbohydrate derivatives were found to be  
448 significantly enriched (File S1).

449 A total of 2,848 genes harbored at least one LOF mutation and were used in gene  
450 ontology enrichment analysis, identifying six molecular function ontology terms significant at  
451 FDR adjusted  $p < 0.10$  (S1 File). Genes potentially involved in virulence through production or  
452 manipulation of reactive oxygen species, as well as genes implicated in molecule binding were  
453 enriched, as evidenced by the most significant biological process terms being oxidation-  
454 reduction processes, as well as binding of coactors, flavin adenine dinucleotides, heme,  
455 tetrapyrrole, and iron ions (File S1).

456 Examination of gene locations and corresponding pN/pS ratios revealed a significantly  
457 higher pN/pS ratio of genes residing on the accessory chromosome (Chromosome 23) compared  
458 to the core chromosomes (Pairwise Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test,  $p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$ ,  $w = 333,700$ ). Genes  
459 on the accessory chromosome had a median pN/pS value of 0.50 compared to the genome-wide  
460 median of 0.20 (Fig. 6). This was also compared to a random subsample of equal size ( $n=126$

461 genes). The pN/pS medians of the five random subsamples ranged from 0.19-0.22, which is  
462 significantly different than the 126 genes residing on the accessory chromosome (Pairwise  
463 Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test,  $p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$ ). This indicates that genes residing on the accessory  
464 chromosome are evolving faster and this genomic compartment may serve as a hotbed of  
465 adaptation. A total of 423 and 484 genes from Population 1 and Population 2, respectively,  
466 exhibited pN/pS values greater than 1 and were examined for gene ontology enrichment. In  
467 Population 1, within the ontology of molecular function, metallopeptidase activity was found  
468 significant at  $p = 0.00061$  (0.4 genes expected, 4 genes observed; FDR-adjusted p-value = 0.35).  
469 Although not significant following p-value adjustment, the molecular function chitin binding was  
470 the most enriched ontology term in Population 2 at  $p = 0.015$  (0.53 genes expected, 3 genes  
471 observed).

#### 472 *Predicted effectors evolve faster than non-effectors*

473 As effectors play an essential role in the development of disease and are directly affected  
474 by the selection pressure exerted by host resistance, we next wanted to determine if these genes  
475 are preferentially accumulating nonsynonymous changes, as well as if these changes are  
476 population specific. Additionally, extreme forms of diversification including the abolition of  
477 gene function via loss-of-function mutations or the direct elimination of an effector gene were  
478 analyzed. Analysis of the *P. nodorum* isolate Sn4 annotated gene set revealed a total of 1,020  
479 proteins containing a predicted secretion signal and lacking a predicted transmembrane domain.  
480 Further analysis using EffectorP revealed 219 of these proteins to be predicted effectors. This  
481 candidate effector list was used for further comparative analyses between the derived  
482 populations, excluding the isolates from Oklahoma and Oregon. Predicted effector proteins were  
483 observed to accumulate a greater number of nonsynonymous SNPs compared to secreted non-

484 effectors or non-secreted proteins (Pairwise Wilcoxon Rank Test,  $p < 0.01$ ) (Fig. 7A). Genes  
485 encoding predicted effectors had average pN/pS ratios of 0.36, whereas secreted non-effectors  
486 and secreted proteins had average pN/pS ratios of 0.22 and 0.30, respectively. Also, the clear  
487 majority of predicted effector proteins did not have a predicted function, with only 27.6% having  
488 predicted functional domains, compared to 64% of secreted non-effector proteins. Only three  
489 predicted effector genes lacking a predicted functional domain were completely fixed between  
490 the two populations and no synonymous, nonsynonymous, LOF, or PAV mutations were  
491 identified. Additionally, 17 genes harbored only nonsynonymous SNPs and therefore, no pN/pS  
492 ratios could be calculated. Only two of these predicted effectors contained predicted functions,  
493 including chitin and ubiquitin binding. Conversely, 17 predicted effectors had pN/pS ratios of  
494 zero due to the presence of only synonymous SNPs. Of these genes lacking nonsynonymous  
495 SNPs, 10 contained predicted functional domains, including those involved in cell wall  
496 degradation, secretion, and synthesis of phytotoxins. A set of five genes encoding predicted  
497 effector proteins, including previously characterized effector *SnTox3*, were found to have pN/pS  
498 ratios equal to or less than 1 in Population 2 but appeared to be diversifying in Population 1 (S3  
499 Table). All five proteins lacked predicted functional domains. Also, seven predicted effectors  
500 lacking functional domains were found to have only non-synonymous SNPs (and pN/pS could  
501 not be calculated) in Population 1, but lacked non-synonymous changes in Population 2 (S3  
502 Table). Conversely, four genes lacked an accumulation of nonsynonymous changes in  
503 Population 1 but had pN/pS ratios greater than 1 in Population 2. None of these proteins had  
504 predicted functional domains. Additionally, a gene encoding a predicted effector with a chitin  
505 binding domain lacked nonsynonymous polymorphism in Population 1 but harbored  
506 nonsynonymous SNPs in Population 2 (S3 Table).



507           LOF mutations affected 45 genes encoding predicted effector proteins. Within Population  
508 1, twelve effector genes harbored LOF mutations but remained intact in all isolates from  
509 Population 2. Of these LOF mutations specific to Population 1, eight lacked functional domains,  
510 with the remaining genes consisting of a peroxidase, polyketide cyclase, domain of unknown  
511 function (1996), and the mutation causing a premature stop codon in SnToxA mentioned  
512 previously. Conversely, LOF mutations were identified in 14 effector genes in isolates from  
513 Population 2 but remained functional in isolates from Population 1. One gene from this subset  
514 encodes a protein with a heterokaryon incompatibility domain, with the remaining proteins  
515 lacking functional predictions. A total of 19 genes encoding predicted effector proteins that  
516 harbored LOF mutations were common to both populations, all of which are hypothetical  
517 proteins except one predicted effector annotated as a blastomyces yeast phase specific protein.  
518 Overall, isolates from Population 1 had a significantly higher number of genes affected by LOF  
519 mutations, with 2,193 genes having frameshifts, loss of start codons, loss of stop codons, or gain  
520 of stop codons, compared to 1,849 detected in isolates from Population 2 (Kruskal-Wallis test, p-  
521 value < 0.001).

522           Differences were also observed with genes exhibiting PAV between populations. As  
523 previously mentioned, 70 genes encoding predicted secreted proteins were observed to exhibit  
524 PAV, out of which, 17 encoded proteins predicted to be effectors. Two genes, including *SnTox1*,  
525 were present in all isolates from Population 1, whereas the PAV was segregating in the isolates  
526 from Population 2. Neither of these genes encoded proteins with predicted functional domains  
527 although SnTox1 has been shown to bind chitin. A total of four genes exhibited segregating PAV  
528 in Population 1 but were present in all isolates from Population 2. Among the proteins encoded  
529 by these four genes, two did not have predicted functions and the remaining two consisted of the

530 previously characterized phytotoxic cerato-platanin gene *SnodProt1* [51,52] and an  
531 oxidoreductase. Interestingly, *SnodProt1* was absent only in isolates collected from durum wheat  
532 in North Dakota. Additionally, all genes (effector, secreted non-effector, or non-secreted)  
533 exhibiting PAV were observed to have significantly higher pN/pS ratios compared to those genes  
534 found in all isolates (Kruskal-Wallis test,  $p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$ ), indicating that not only are they being  
535 strongly selected via elimination or gain of the entire gene, but are diversifying within isolates  
536 harboring a functional copy (Fig. 7B).

### 537 *Repetitive elements are associated with PAV loci*

538 As repetitive elements have been observed to be a large contributing factor in the  
539 dynamic nature of the fungal genome [1,2], we next wanted to examine the repeat content of *P.*  
540 *nodorum* and its relation to the diversity observed within the natural population. Repeat  
541 annotation classified 2,223,841 bp of the Sn4 genome as repetitive content, consisting of  
542 LTR/Copia (54.37%), LTR/Gypsy (22.33%), DNA/TcMar-Fot1 (11.64%), LINE/Penelope  
543 (2.60%), Satellites (0.29%), and unknown (8.77%) elements, all of which represented  
544 approximately 5.90% of the entire genome. Proximity of genes to the nearest repeat element  
545 were calculated to determine if transposable or repetitive elements influenced gene  
546 diversification. When comparing proximity to repetitive elements of genes exhibiting PAV, a  
547 large discrepancy was observed. Genes present in all isolates were a median distance of 13.3 kb  
548 away from the nearest repetitive element, while genes exhibiting PAV were significantly closer,  
549 being only a median distance of 5.8 kb away (Pairwise Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test,  $p < 2.0 \times 10^{-16}$ ;  
550 Figure 8). These results indicate that transposable or repetitive element activity may be  
551 influencing the gain or loss of genes and are a driving factor in the constantly evolving fungal  
552 genome.

## 553 Discussion

554 The dynamic nature of fungal genomes has been revealed following the increase in  
555 abundance of whole-genome sequences that facilitate the investigation of the way plant  
556 pathogenic fungi undergo diversification. Until recently, effector biology and genome research  
557 within *P. nodorum* has relied on relatively few genomic resources. Complementing the recently  
558 refined SN15 genome [31] and the establishment of nearly complete telomere to telomere  
559 reference genomes of three additional *P. nodorum* isolates [32], this research enhances our  
560 knowledge of genomic diversity within *P. nodorum* by revealing locale specific effector  
561 diversification and evidence of host susceptibility genes influencing population structure. This  
562 investigation also gives insight into the classes of genes undergoing diversifying selection  
563 through the accumulation of nonsynonymous SNPs, LOF mutations, and PAV, as well as  
564 identifying repetitive elements as a contributing factor to this diversification. Additionally, these  
565 results illustrate the utility of these data for the effective implementation of association mapping  
566 strategies and the study of variable linkage disequilibrium surrounding effector loci.

### 567 *Population structure and genetic diversity*

568 STRUCTURE analysis clearly separated the natural population of *P. nodorum* isolates  
569 into two populations. Although isolates collected from North Dakota, Minnesota, and South  
570 Dakota were collected from spring, winter, and durum wheat, they still clustered together.  
571 Population 2 consisted of isolates from a large geographical range, stretching from Texas to the  
572 East coast and further North into Ohio, Maryland, and New York. Overall, a greater number of  
573 genic SNPs, both synonymous and nonsynonymous, were observed in Population 1 compared to  
574 isolates in Population 2 and is also evidenced in the estimated  $\pi$  values for each population. One  
575 possible explanation is the age of the populations. If the United States *P. nodorum* population

576 originated in the Upper Midwest and subsequently spread to the other wheat producing regions,  
577 more genome variants may have accumulated. Population size may also play a role in the  
578 observed differences and account for the increased level of nucleotide diversity observed in  
579 Population 1. Isolates in Population 2 may have recently experienced a bottleneck, resulting in a  
580 lower genome-wide Tajima's D compared to Population 1, as well as the identification of a  
581 larger number of potential selective sweep regions. Alternatively, differences may exist in the  
582 amount of selection pressure being placed on genes within each population. It has been shown  
583 that differences exist in the presence of *P. nodorum* sensitivity genes between wheat germplasm  
584 in the Midwest and the Southeastern United States [44,50]. If the genetic basis of host sensitivity  
585 is narrower, with less susceptibility genes present in winter wheat germplasm compared to spring  
586 wheat germplasm, selection pressure may have a reduced effect on the genic variation of isolates  
587 collected from winter wheat regions.

#### 588 *Distribution and Diversity of SnToxA, SnTox1, and SnTox3*

589 A large difference was observed in the distribution of *SnToxA* among *P. nodorum*  
590 isolates. Only 4.3% of isolates from Population 1 had lost *SnToxA*, compared to the 93.8% of  
591 isolates from Population 2, which lacked the gene (Table 2). Additionally, a selective sweep was  
592 detected in the genomic region flanking *SnToxA* specifically in Population 1 but was not detected  
593 in Population 2 (Fig. 2B). This staggering difference in the prevalence of *SnToxA* is likely  
594 correlated with the removal of *Tsn1*, the dominant susceptibility gene that indirectly recognizes  
595 SnToxA, from the winter wheat cultivars planted in the soft red winter wheat region of the  
596 United States where most of Population 2 was collected. Previous research investigated the  
597 sensitivity of winter wheat breeding lines planted in the regions where isolates from the natural  
598 population were collected, particularly Georgia, Maryland, and North Carolina. Except for a

599 single line from the breeding program at the USDA-ARS, Raleigh, North Carolina, all breeding  
600 lines from the aforementioned regions were found to be insensitive to infiltrations of SnToxA,  
601 and therefore, lack a functional *Tsn1* [53]. Conversely, previous research identified SnToxA  
602 sensitivity present in popular North Dakota spring wheat cultivars Glenn and Steele ND [54].  
603 Additionally, *Tsn1* is present in the vast majority of wheat cultivars planted in Oklahoma [50].  
604 The strong selective advantage given by SnToxA in the presence of a functional *Tsn1* explains  
605 the abundance of isolates harboring this *SnToxA* in Oklahoma and the Upper Midwest. As *Tsn1*  
606 is less prevalent in the eastern winter wheat producing regions of the United States, the *SnToxA*  
607 gene was lost. A study by McDonald et al. [55] found *SnToxA* to be present in only 25% of a  
608 North American *P. nodorum* population, compared to an overall presence of 63.4% in the current  
609 natural population. The large difference seen between these two studies is probably due to the  
610 differences in the number of isolates used from the Upper Midwest and the rest of the United  
611 States. Previously, approximately 8% of the isolates used were from North Dakota, with the  
612 remaining isolates being collected from winter wheat producing regions [55], compared to the  
613 population used in coverage analysis in this study, consisting of 59.5% of the isolates collected  
614 in the Upper Midwest where *Tsn1* is prevalent.

615 *SnTox1* was the most prevalent *P. nodorum* effector found within this natural population,  
616 being present in 95.4% of the isolates (Table 4). The prevalence of *SnTox1* is higher than  
617 observed in a North American population by McDonald et al. [55], where it was found to be  
618 present in 70% of isolates examined, as well as in 84% of a global population. However, like the  
619 study by McDonald et al. [55], *SnTox1* was found to be the most widespread effector of the three  
620 characterized genes. Additionally, we detected nine unique haplotypes for *SnTox1* compared to  
621 the two private haplotypes previously detected in a North American population [55]. The wide-

622 range distribution of *SnTox1* is likely due to its dual-function in chitin binding and protection  
623 from wheat chitinases [56]. The ability of SnTox1 to trigger programmed cell death via  
624 recognition by Snn1 is a strong selective force [33,42] but is dependent on the presence/absence  
625 of *Snn1* in locally grown wheat cultivars. The more broad-range effector function of chitinase  
626 protection provided by SnTox1, more likely explains its relatively high prevalence compared to  
627 the other necrotrophic effectors.

### 628 *Gene Diversification*

629 Plant pathogenic fungi are constantly adapting the way they infect their host, often using  
630 a suite of effectors to facilitate disease. These effectors are typically small, secreted proteins that  
631 lack known functional domains. Additionally, they may be cysteine-rich and exhibit signatures  
632 of diversifying selection [57,58]. Overall, the identified putative effectors in the *P. nodorum*  
633 genome exemplify these hallmarks, as evidenced by 72.4% lacking predicted functional domains  
634 and accumulating more non-synonymous changes compared to secreted non-effectors or non-  
635 secreted proteins. Interestingly, not only are effectors diversifying within the entire population,  
636 but effector diversification was also observed to occur within specific subpopulations. As  
637 previously discussed, the maintenance of specific host susceptibility genes can shape a  
638 population, as seen with the presence of *Tsn1* in hard red spring wheat in the Upper Midwest and  
639 the presence of *SnToxA* in nearly every isolate collected in that region, as well as the detection of  
640 the genomic region surrounding *SnToxA* as a significant selective sweep specific to Population 1.  
641 Selective sweep analysis identified 92 genes underlying sweep regions specific to either  
642 subpopulation and no genes located in sweep regions common to both subpopulations. Similar  
643 results were observed in the wheat pathogen *Zymoseptoria tritici*, where the investigation of  
644 selective sweeps in four globally distinct populations revealed that genomic regions under

645 selection were largely population specific [24]. This highlights the ability of plant pathogenic  
646 fungi to rapidly fix advantageous mutations and subsequently shape a population. Additionally,  
647 plant pathogenic fungi have developed effector proteins that function in manners other than host  
648 colonization, such as competition with local microbial communities [59]. *P. nodorum* likely  
649 produces such effectors during its saprotrophic stage and differences in the composition of local  
650 microbial populations may be contributing to the diversification of effector proteins within  
651 specific pathogen subpopulations. Combined, these results indicate that selection pressure  
652 exerted by specific host genes or environmental factors is driving effector/gene diversification as  
653 well as fixation and can be restricted to specific geographical regions.

654         In addition to the diversity observed in predicted effector proteins, gene classes typically  
655 associated with pathogen virulence were also observed to exhibit significant levels of  
656 polymorphism. Plant chitinases present an obstacle to fungal pathogens via the active  
657 degradation of the fungal cell wall and the chitin monomer by-products of this reaction may  
658 induce the host defense response [60,61]. To combat this chitinase activity, fungi have developed  
659 chitin binding proteins to protect the fungal cell wall from degradation, as previously observed  
660 with *P. nodorum* effector SnTox1 [56]. Another method to counteract host chitinase activity is  
661 through the modification of the enzyme by pathogen produced metalloproteases, which reduce  
662 chitinase activity resulting in improved virulence [62,63]. Chitin binding proteins were detected  
663 as being enriched within genes exhibiting signs of diversifying selection and LOF mutations in  
664 the United States *P. nodorum* population. Additionally, metalloprotease genes were observed to  
665 be overrepresented in genes undergoing diversifying selection, as well as containing LOF  
666 mutations. This indicates that the interplay between host chitinases and pathogen derived  
667 mechanisms of protection may be under strong selective pressure within this population and that

668 the pathogen is not only using a variety of genes to accomplish this, but different means of genic  
669 differentiation.

670 A gene encoding a hydrolase was identified as a candidate virulence gene in a GWAS.  
671 Necrotrophs have long been thought to use CWD enzymes for the initiation of infection through  
672 the degradation of plant cells [64]. Although necessary for pathogenicity, cell wall degrading  
673 enzymes are not typically associated with direct or indirect interactions with host R genes,  
674 however, other classes of CWD enzymes have been observed to be under diversifying selection  
675 [65,66]. It is hypothesized that these proteins may trigger the plant basal immune response and  
676 are therefore diversifying to avoid this detection [66]. It is also possible that *P. nodorum*  
677 hydrolases are evolving rapidly to develop more efficient lysis of plant cells to enhance  
678 virulence.

679 Analysis of repeat content of the genome facilitated the comparison of genomic location  
680 of genes and levels of diversity. The clear majority (90.9%) of repetitive DNA identified was  
681 classified within families of transposable elements. Genes exhibiting PAV were significantly  
682 closer to repetitive elements when compared to genes present in all isolates, suggesting that  
683 transposable element activity may contribute to gene gain or loss. This phenomenon has also  
684 been observed in *Magnaporthe oryzae* [2] and provides a glimpse into one of the mechanisms  
685 giving fungal genomes their plasticity. Additionally, genes residing on the *P. nodorum* accessory  
686 chromosome were observed to be evolving faster than genes distributed elsewhere in the genome  
687 (Fig. 6). These results further support the hypothesis that transposable element activity mobilizes  
688 beneficial genes and upon exposure to significant selection pressure in a given locale, become  
689 fixed in a pathogen subpopulation and that different compartments of the fungal genome undergo  
690 evolution at different rates.



691 *Pseudogenization*

692           The detection of polymorphisms within the natural population allowed the analysis of  
693 their functional consequences, especially concerning the formation of pseudogenes. Remarkably,  
694 a total of 2,848 genes were affected by LOF mutations, amounting to 21.3% of the annotated Sn4  
695 genes. An even greater amount of pseudogenization was observed in the wheat pathogen  
696 *Zymoseptoria tritici*, with approximately 55% of the pan-genome harboring at least one LOF  
697 mutation [67]. Genes harboring LOF mutations may be functionally redundant and therefore,  
698 their losses may have minimal effect on the pathogen. Alternatively, these genes may also be  
699 implicated in deleterious interactions with the host, and the pathogen is attempting to escape  
700 perception through local adaptation.

701 *GWAS and LD Decay*

702           Using 322,613 SNP/InDel markers, as well as the PAV of *SnToxA* and *SnTox3* obtained  
703 through coverage analysis of whole-genome sequences, a robust framework for association  
704 mapping was created. This marker set translates to approximately one marker every 114 bp,  
705 overwhelmingly meeting our previous estimate of needing one marker every 7 kb to overcome  
706 LD decay [46]. Using four winter wheat lines, the power of GWAS with this dataset was  
707 demonstrated, detecting strong associations for the *SnToxA* locus on winter wheat lines Jerry and  
708 TAM105, as well as the *SnTox3* locus in winter wheat lines Massey and F/G 95195.  
709 Additionally, the utility of this data set was shown by the identification of novel loci associated  
710 with virulence on TAM105, enabling the identification of candidate genes for further  
711 investigation. In the case of *SnTox3*, the PAV was the most significant marker detected,  
712 however, due to the sufficient marker density and LD extending to 6.5 kb, non-causal SNPs were  
713 also detected as significant. At the *SnToxA* locus, the PAV of the effector gene was not the most

714 significant variant but was still in high LD with the most significant SNP residing in the region  
715 flanking the AT-rich isochore. This is likely due to missing data associated with individual  
716 isolates being removed from the PAV dataset due to low coverage across the entire gene set,  
717 subsequently reducing the significance of the marker. Interestingly, LD extended much further  
718 into the region flanking *SnToxA* compared to that of *SnTox3*. This resulted in the detection of  
719 two strong associations in the regions flanking the *SnToxA*-containing isochore. As *SnTox3* is in  
720 the subtelomeric region, its flanking region was likely more prone to recombination and the  
721 breakdown of LD, as subtelomeric regions are known to be recombination hotspots in fungi [68].  
722 The opposite is likely true at the *SnToxA* locus. Due to the presence/absence nature of the region,  
723 recombination may be suppressed and therefore preserve LD.

724         Prior to this study, focus had been placed on the investigation of diversity within  
725 previously identified effector genes. Whole-genome sequencing of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates  
726 collected from spring, winter, and durum wheat producing regions of the United States revealed  
727 the accumulation of non-synonymous changes in suites of effectors specific to geographical  
728 regions. Additionally, *SnToxA* was found to be present in nearly all isolates collected from  
729 regions where local wheat lines harbor *Tsn1* and absent from isolates collected from regions  
730 where *Tsn1* had been removed from locally grown cultivars. The *SnToxA* locus was detected  
731 near a selective sweep region, reinforcing this hypothesis. Selective sweep analysis also revealed  
732 unique genomic regions specific to *P. nodorum* subpopulations having undergone purifying  
733 selection, indicating that strong and distinct selective forces are acting on each subpopulation.  
734 Taken together, this illustrates the selective power that host susceptibility genes place on the  
735 pathogen populations and identifies candidate effector genes specific to the spring and winter  
736 wheat production regions of the United States. Also, the identified variants were successfully

737 used in a GWAS to identify strong associations of *SnToxA* and *SnTox3* with disease reaction on  
738 winter wheat lines, as well as to detect novel virulence candidates. Vastly different patterns of  
739 LD were observed surrounding these loci, highlighting the importance of marker density for the  
740 successful identification of effector loci in association mapping. Further investigation of *P.*  
741 *nodorum* genomics and functional characterization of effector candidates is ongoing and will  
742 provide further information on how this destructive pathogen is interacting with its host.

## 743 **Materials and Methods**

### 744 *DNA Extraction and Whole Genome Sequencing*

745 Dried agarose plugs of each isolate were placed in liquid Fries media [57] and cultured  
746 for approximately 48 hours. Fungal tissue was then collected, lyophilized, and homogenized  
747 using Lysing Matrix A (MP Biomedicals) by vortexing for 3 minutes on maximum speed.  
748 Genomic DNA was extracted using the Biosprint using the manufacturer's protocol. DNA was  
749 enzymatically fragmented using dsDNA fragmentase (New England Biolabs) and whole genome  
750 sequencing libraries were prepared using the NEBNext Ultra II Library kit (New England  
751 Biolabs) according the recommended protocol. NEBNext Multiplex Oligos for Illumina were  
752 used to uniquely index libraries and were subsequently sequenced at the Beijing Genome  
753 Institute (BGI) on an Illumina HiSeq 4000. Raw sequencing reads of each isolate were uploaded  
754 to the NCBI short read archive under BioProject PRJNA398070.

### 755 *Variant Identification*

756 Quality of sequencing reads were analyzed using FastQC [70] and subsequently trimmed  
757 using trimmomatic [71]. Trimmed reads were mapped to the *P. nodorum* isolate Sn4 [32]  
758 reference genome (NCBI BioProject PRJNA398070) using BWA-MEM [72]. Sequencing

759 coverage of the genome was calculated per isolate using GATK ‘Depth of Coverage’ using  
760 default settings. SNPs/InDels were identified using SAMtools ‘mpileup’ [73]. Variants were then  
761 filtered for individual genotype quality equal to or greater than 40 with at least three reads  
762 supporting the variant and all heterozygous calls were coded as missing data. For GWAS  
763 analysis, all SNPs/INDELS with missing data greater than 30% or a minor allele frequency less  
764 than 5% were removed from the dataset.

### 765 *Population Structure*

766 SNP data were read into the R statistical environment [74] and converted to a genlight  
767 object using the package ‘vcfR’ [75]. PCA was conducted within the R package ‘adegenet’ [76]  
768 using a randomly selected subset of 50,000 markers.

769 A marker subset minimizing potential linkage disequilibrium between marker pairs  
770 consisting of approximately one SNP/10 kb was created in TASSEL v5 [77] and used to infer  
771 population structure using the software STRUCTURE [78]. A burn-in of 10,000 followed by  
772 25,000 MCMC replications using the admixture model was completed for each k value from 1-8  
773 with three iterations. Optimal sub-population level was determined using the method developed  
774 by Evanno et al. [79] and implemented in StructureHarvester [80]. STRUCTURE analysis was  
775 re-run using the optimal k value with a burn-in period of 10,000 and 100,000 MCMC. An  
776 individual isolate was assigned to a specific subpopulation if membership probability was greater  
777 than 0.85. Subsets corresponding to SNP/InDel calls for individuals within specific populations  
778 were created using VCFtools [81]. ADMIXTOOLS [49] was used to conduct a 3-population test  
779 to determine if evidence existed for the hypothesis that isolates collected from Oklahoma  
780 resulted from admixture between Population 1 (Upper Midwest) and Population 2 (South/East  
781 United States). Genotypic data was converted to PLINK format in TASSEL 5. Genotypic data

782 was further converted to EIGENSTRAT format using ‘convertf’ provided in ADMIXTOOLS. A  
783 3-population test was conducted using the two major populations identified using STRUCTURE  
784 as the sources and the isolates collected from Oklahoma as the target population. As  
785 recommended in the software documentation, the ‘inbreed’ option was selected due to the  
786 haploid nature of the organism. Additionally, as the  $f_3$  statistic uses a measure of heterozygosity  
787 for normalization, as recommended in the documentation, the parameter ‘OUTGROUP=YES’  
788 was used. Isolates collected from Oklahoma (n=17), not clearly belonging to either major  
789 population, were removed from the datasets when comparing pN/pS ratios to obtain a more  
790 representative estimate of diversifying or purifying selection for each population.

#### 791 *Population Genomics*

792 Using genotypic data for 197 *P. nodorum* isolates and population assignments derived  
793 from STRUCTURE analysis, population genomics analyses were conducted in the R package  
794 ‘PopGenome’ specifying a ploidy level of one [82].  $F_{st}$ , nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ), Watterson’s  $\Theta$ ,  
795 and Tajima’s D were calculated across individual chromosomes and averaged to obtain a  
796 genome-wide value. Tajima’s D was also calculated in 50 kb windows in 25 kb steps across each  
797 chromosome to examine regions that substantially lack allelic diversity and may provide  
798 evidence for selective sweeps.

799 A likelihood-based method implemented in SweeD [83] was used to detect regions of  
800 the genome that have undergone a selective sweep. Chromosomes were divided into approximate  
801 1 kb grids and each population was analyzed separately. The option ‘-folded’ was selected to  
802 consider the site frequency spectrum as folded, as to not distinguish between ancestral and  
803 derived states. Grids within the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of likelihood values were extracted and examined  
804 for values of Tajima’s D. If the value of Tajima’s D fell below zero within an interval, it was

805 considered as a selective sweep region. Selective sweep grids within 10 kb were considered a  
806 single region. Genes underlying selective sweep regions were extracted using BEDtools  
807 ‘intersect’ [84] and gene ontology enrichment analysis was conducted as described in a  
808 subsequent section.

### 809 *Disease Phenotyping and Effector Infiltration*

810 The natural *P. nodorum* population (n=197) used in this study consists of 51 isolates  
811 collected from spring wheat in North Dakota and Minnesota, 45 isolates collected from durum  
812 wheat in North Dakota, nine isolates collected from winter wheat in South Dakota, and 92  
813 isolates collected from winter wheat in the Eastern, Southern, and Pacific Northwest regions of  
814 the United States (S1 Table). These isolates were chosen for their diversity in geographical  
815 origin of isolation, as well as the differences in wheat class (spring, winter, and durum wheat). *P.*  
816 *nodorum* isolates were cultured as described by Friesen and Faris [69]. Briefly, dried agarose  
817 plugs stored at -20 °C of each isolate were brought to room temperature and rehydrated by  
818 placing on V8-potato dextrose agar (150 mL V8 juice, 3 g CaCO<sub>3</sub>, 10 g Difco PDA, 10 g agar,  
819 850 mL H<sub>2</sub>O). Plugs were then spread across the plate to distribute the spores and the plates were  
820 then incubated at room temperature under a constant fluorescent light regimen for seven days.  
821 Pycnidial spores were harvested by flooding the plates with sterile H<sub>2</sub>O and agitation with a  
822 sterile inoculation loop. Spores were counted using a hemocytometer, concentration was adjusted  
823 to 1 × 10<sup>6</sup> spores per mL, and two drops of Tween20 were added per 100 mL of spore  
824 suspension.

825 Disease reaction to the 197 *P. nodorum* isolates was assessed on six wheat lines including  
826 spring (Alsen) and winter types (Jerry, TAM105, Massey, and F/G95195), as well as a  
827 recombinant from a synthetic wheat population (ITMI38). Three seeds of each wheat line were

828 sown into cones, comprising a single replicate. A border of wheat cultivar Alsen was planted to  
829 reduce the edge effect. Plants were grown in the greenhouse for approximately two weeks, until  
830 the two to three-leaf stage. Inoculations were conducted as described by Friesen and Faris [69].  
831 Briefly, plants were inoculated using a paint sprayer until leaves were fully covered, until runoff.  
832 Inoculated plants were placed in a mist chamber at 100% humidity for 24 hours and  
833 subsequently moved to a climate-controlled growth chamber at 21 °C with a 12 hour photoperiod  
834 for six days. Disease ratings were taken seven days post-inoculation using the 0-5 scale as  
835 described by Liu et al. [85]. For each wheat line, at least three replicates were conducted per *P.*  
836 *nodorum* isolate and the average of the replicates were used as the phenotypic data for  
837 downstream analyses.

838         To produce effector proteins used in bio-assays to validate associations detected with  
839 known necrotrophic effectors, cells from glycerol stocks of *P. pastoris* expressing previously  
840 characterized SnToxA and SnTox3 were plated on YPD media amended with Zeocin  
841 (Invitrogen) at 25 µg/mL and incubated at 30 °C for 2-4 days until colony formation [35,36].  
842 Colonies were picked and grown in 2 mL of liquid YPD media and grown for 24 hours at 30 °C  
843 and shaking at 250 rpm. A 500 µL aliquot of each starter culture was transferred to 50 mL of  
844 YPD media and incubated at 30 °C and shaking at 250 rpm for 48 hours. Cultures were  
845 transferred to 50 mL conical tubes and centrifuged at 3,166 rcf for 10 minutes. Supernatants  
846 were decanted and filtered using a 0.45 µm Durapore Membrane Filter (Merck Millipore Ltd.).  
847 Filtered supernatant was then lyophilized overnight and stored at -20 °C. Seeds of winter wheat  
848 lines Jerry, TAM105, Massey, and F/G95195 were sown in cones and grown under greenhouse  
849 conditions for approximately 14 days until the secondary leaf was fully emerged. Freeze-dried  
850 protein samples of SnToxA and SnTox3 were resuspended in ddH<sub>2</sub>O and infiltrated into

851 secondary wheat leaves using a needleless syringe. Plants were placed in a growth chamber at 21  
852 °C with a 12-hour photoperiod and evaluated for necrotrophic effector sensitivity after three  
853 days.

854

#### 855 *Genome-Wide Association Analysis*

856 Association mapping was conducted using TASSEL v5 [77] and GAPIT [86,87]. A naïve  
857 model, as well as a model including the first three components derived from a PCA as fixed  
858 effects were used in association analyses in TASSEL v5. A kinship matrix (K) was calculated  
859 using the EMMA algorithm. Models incorporating K as a random effect, as well as a model  
860 using a combination of PCA and K were analyzed in GAPIT. The most robust model was chosen  
861 for each trait by visualization of Q-Q plots produced by GAPIT, illustrating the observed vs  
862 expected unadjusted p-values. Marker p-values were adjusted using a false discovery rate (FDR)  
863 in the R Statistical Environment. Markers with a FDR adjusted p-value of 0.05 or less were  
864 deemed significant.

#### 865 *Linkage Disequilibrium*

866 Linkage disequilibrium (LD) was calculated between the most significant marker  
867 detected from association mapping analyses and each intrachromosomal marker in TASSEL v5  
868 [77]. LD decay was determined by averaging  $R^2$  values across sliding windows consisting of five  
869 markers and observing when average  $R^2$  values fell below 0.20 for three consecutive windows.  
870 Position of the extent of LD was taken as the position of the marker at the center of the sliding  
871 window before decay.

#### 872 *Putative Effector Diversification Analyses*



873           The presence of predicted secretion signals and transmembrane domains were identified  
874 using DeepSig [88]. Effector candidates were predicted via EffectorP using protein sequences of  
875 secreted proteins [89]. For comparative analyses, proteins were categorized as effectors  
876 (identified by EffectorP), secreted non-effectors (predicted secreted proteins without  
877 transmembrane domain or effector predictions), or non-secreted. Genomic positions of all genes  
878 were obtained and used to calculate genome coverage with BEDtools ‘coverage’ [84]. A gene  
879 was classified as absent if sequencing coverage across the entire length of the gene was less than  
880 40%.

881           A consensus genome sequence was obtained for each isolate using bcftools consensus,  
882 specifying “--sample” [90]. The perl script ‘gff2fasta.pl’ was used to extract the coding regions  
883 for each isolate separately (<https://github.com/minillinim/gff2fasta/blob/master/gff2fasta.pl>).  
884 Coding regions of each gene were aligned using Clustal Omega [91] and the subsequent  
885 alignments were concatenated. The average number of nonsynonymous (NSite) and synonymous  
886 sites (SSite) were calculated using egglib [92].

887           Synonymous (S) and non-synonymous (N) SNPs, as well as LOF mutations were  
888 identified using SNPeff [93] and SNPsift [94] with the *P. nodorum* isolate Sn4 reference  
889 genome annotation. LOF mutations include small InDels causing frameshifts, as well as  
890 SNPs/InDels resulting in the loss of a start codon, loss of a stop codon, or gain of a premature  
891 stop codon. Isolates from specific subpopulations were grouped and fixed SNPs/LOF mutations  
892 (minor allele frequency of 0%) were removed from each dataset. pN/pS ratios were obtained for  
893 each gene by the following formula:  $(N/NSites)/(S/SSites)$ . Genes with pN/pS ratios greater than  
894 one were considered to be under diversifying selection, while genes with pN/pS ratios equal to or  
895 less than one were considered to be under neutral or purifying selection. Raw counts of LOF

896 mutations were used in comparisons between subpopulations. Protein sequences of the *P.*  
897 *nodorum* isolate Sn4 annotation were input into InterproScan [95] to identify conserved domains  
898 and gene ontology. Gene ontology enrichment analysis was conducted in the R Statistical  
899 Environment using the package ‘topGO’ [96]. Analysis was conducted on both molecular  
900 function and biological process associated ontology terms using the classic algorithm and  
901 significance of overrepresented terms were determined using Fisher’s exact test. GO terms with  
902 FDR adjusted p-values of less than 0.10 were declared significantly enriched.

### 903 *Repetitive Element Annotation and Analysis*

904 De novo identification of repetitive element families in the Sn4 reference genome was  
905 conducted using RepeatModeler [97]. Identified repetitive element families were used as input to  
906 RepeatMasker [98] to annotate the repetitive regions of the Sn4 genome. Distance to the nearest  
907 repetitive element from each annotated gene was calculated using bedtools ‘closest’ [84].

### 908 *Data availability*

909 All novel data used in analyses described within the manuscript are available at  
910 [https://github.com/jkzrich/pnodorum\\_popgen](https://github.com/jkzrich/pnodorum_popgen).

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1191

1192 **Figure 1.** PCA using genotypic data of 50,000 randomly selected markers. PC1 is represented on  
1193 the x-axis and PC2 is represented on the y-axis. Colored dots correspond to individual isolates  
1194 and the color signifies the predominant wheat class (or state) of the region from which the isolate  
1195 was collected. The isolates collected in Oregon are depicted in the lower right of the figure. The  
1196 color legend is displayed on the right side of the figure.

1197 **Figure 2.** A) Plot illustrating the detected selective sweep loci from both *P. nodorum*  
1198 subpopulations and sliding window Tajima's D analysis. '\*' signifies a selective sweep region  
1199 that was detected using SweeD and has a negative average value of Tajima's D. a) Chromosomes  
1200 with sizes listed in Mb in 0.5 Mb increments b) Selective sweeps detected in Population 1.  
1201 Genomic position is displayed on the x-axis. Likelihood values are displayed on the y-axis. Y-  
1202 axis scale ranges from 0 to 400. Individual dots represent the likelihood value of a single 1 kb  
1203 window. Highlighted blue regions are the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of likelihood values. c) Tajima's D  
1204 values of isolates in Population 1 in 50 kb windows in 25 kb steps. Genomic positions are  
1205 displayed on the x-axis. Tajima's D values are displayed on the y-axis. The y-axis ranges from -2  
1206 to 4. The bold horizontal axis line is 0. d) Selective sweeps detected in Population 2. Genomic  
1207 position is displayed on the x-axis. Likelihood values are displayed on the y-axis. Y-axis scale  
1208 ranges from 0 to 400. Individual dots represent the likelihood value of a single 1 kb window.  
1209 Highlighted blue regions are the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of likelihood values. e) Tajima's D values of

1210 isolates in Population 2 in 50 kb windows in 25 kb steps. Genomic positions are displayed on the  
1211 x-axis. Tajima's D values are displayed on the y-axis. The y-axis ranges from -2 to 4. The bold  
1212 horizontal axis line is 0. B) Selective sweep analysis of *P. nodorum* chromosome 8 for  
1213 Population 1 (top panel) and Population 2 (bottom panel). Position along the chromosome in  
1214 megabases (Mb) is displayed on the x-axis. The composite likelihood ratio (CLR) is shown on  
1215 the y-axis. The genomic region harboring *SnToxA* is highlighted in light grey.

1216 **Figure 3.** Histograms depicting the distribution of disease reactions to 197 *P. nodorum* isolates  
1217 on wheat lines Alsen (*Tsn1*), Jerry, TAM105, ITMI38 (*Snn3*), Massey, and F/G95195. Disease  
1218 reactions are displayed in bins along the x-axis and frequency is illustrated on the y-axis. Bars  
1219 are shaded to illustrate the proportion of presence/absence of the corresponding effector (*SnToxA*  
1220 or *SnTox3*) or missing data (NA) per bin. Light blue corresponds to the presence of the effector,  
1221 dark pink corresponds to the absence of the effector, and grey corresponds to missing data.

1222

1223 **Figure 4.** Genome-wide association study (GWAS) detecting significant associations with  
1224 virulence on wheat lines Jerry, TAM105, Massey, and F/G95195. (A) Manhattan plot of *P.*  
1225 *nodorum* chromosome 8 illustrating a highly significant association with the *SnToxA* locus for  
1226 isolates inoculated onto hard red winter wheat lines Jerry and TAM105. Markers are represented  
1227 by dots which are colored corresponding to the level of linkage disequilibrium ( $R^2$ ) with the most  
1228 significant marker and are order by position on the x-axis. The significance of each marker  
1229 expressed as  $-\log_{10}(p)$  is displayed on the y-axis. (B) Manhattan plot of *P. nodorum*  
1230 chromosome 11 illustrating a highly significant association with the *SnTox3* locus for isolates  
1231 inoculated onto soft red winter wheat lines Jerry and TAM105. Markers are represented by dots  
1232 which are colored corresponding to the level of linkage disequilibrium ( $R^2$ ) with the most

1233 significant marker and are ordered by position on the x-axis. The significance of each marker  
1234 expressed as  $-\log_{10}(p)$  is displayed on the y-axis.

1235 **Figure 5.** Sensitivity of winter wheat lines TAM105 (hard red), Jerry (hard red), Massey (soft  
1236 red), and F/G95195 (soft red) to infiltrations with SnToxA (A) and SnTox3 (B). TAM105 and  
1237 Jerry are sensitive to SnToxA but insensitive to SnTox3, indicating that they possess a functional  
1238 *Tsn1* and lack *Snn3*. Massey and F/G95195 are insensitive to SnToxA but sensitive to SnTox3,  
1239 indicating that they lack a functional *Tsn1* but harbor *Snn3*.

1240 **Figure 6.** Distribution of pN/pS ratios of genes across all *P. nodorum* chromosomes. Specific  
1241 chromosomes are displayed on the x-axis and pN/pS ratios are displayed on the y-axis. ‘\*’  
1242 indicates significantly different than each pairwise comparison at  $p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$  (Pairwise  
1243 Wilcoxon Rank Sum test,  $p < 0.01$ ). Outliers with pN/pS values greater than 10 were omitted.

1244 **Figure 7.** Distribution of pN/pS ratios among genes encoding (A) predicted effectors, secreted  
1245 non-effectors, non-secreted proteins, and (B) genes exhibiting PAV. Categories are displayed on  
1246 the x-axes and the log transformed pN/pS ratio is illustrated on the y-axes. Color legends are  
1247 displayed to the right of each figure. Letter codes correspond to statistically different groups  
1248 (Pairwise Wilcoxon Rank Test,  $p < 0.01$ ). Outliers of pN/pS values greater than 10 are not  
1249 displayed.

1250 **Figure 8.** Distances of genes to the nearest repetitive element. Categories are listed on the x-axis  
1251 and distance to nearest repeat on the y-axis. Letter codes correspond to statistically different  
1252 groups (Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test  $p < 0.01$ ).

1253 **S1 Figure.** STRUCTURE analysis of 197 *P. nodorum* isolates. A) Evanno method indicated the  
1254 optimal k value (number of subpopulations) to be two. B) Using a k-value of two, the 197 *P.*

1255 *nodorum* natural population is divided into two populations. Population 1 (red) consists of  
1256 isolates from the Midwestern United States. Population 2 (blue) consists of isolates from the  
1257 Southern/Eastern region of the United States, as well as Oregon.

1258 **S2 Figure.** Boxplots illustrating the distribution of (A) nucleotide diversity, (B) Tajima's D, and  
1259 (C) Watterson's Theta calculated in 50 kb windows within Population 1 and Population 2.

1260 **S3 Figure.** Whole genome Manhattan plots illustrating significant associations with virulence on  
1261 wheat lines TAM105, Jerry, Massey, and F/G95195. Dots represent individual SNPs/InDels.  
1262 Markers are ordered by position and chromosomes are displayed on the x-axis. The  $-\log_{10}(p)$   
1263 value is displayed on the y-axis. The horizontal line represents the significance threshold at and  
1264 FDR adjusted p-value of 0.05.

1265 **S1 File.** Results of the gene ontology enrichment analysis conducted using topGO.

1266 **S2 File.** Phenotypic data

1267

1268 **S1 Table.** Collection information of the fungal isolates used in this study.

1269 **S2 Table.** Genome sequencing coverage statistics for each isolate.

1270 **S3 Table.** Genes under population-specific diversifying selection.

1271 **S4 Table.** STRUCTURE likelihoods

1272

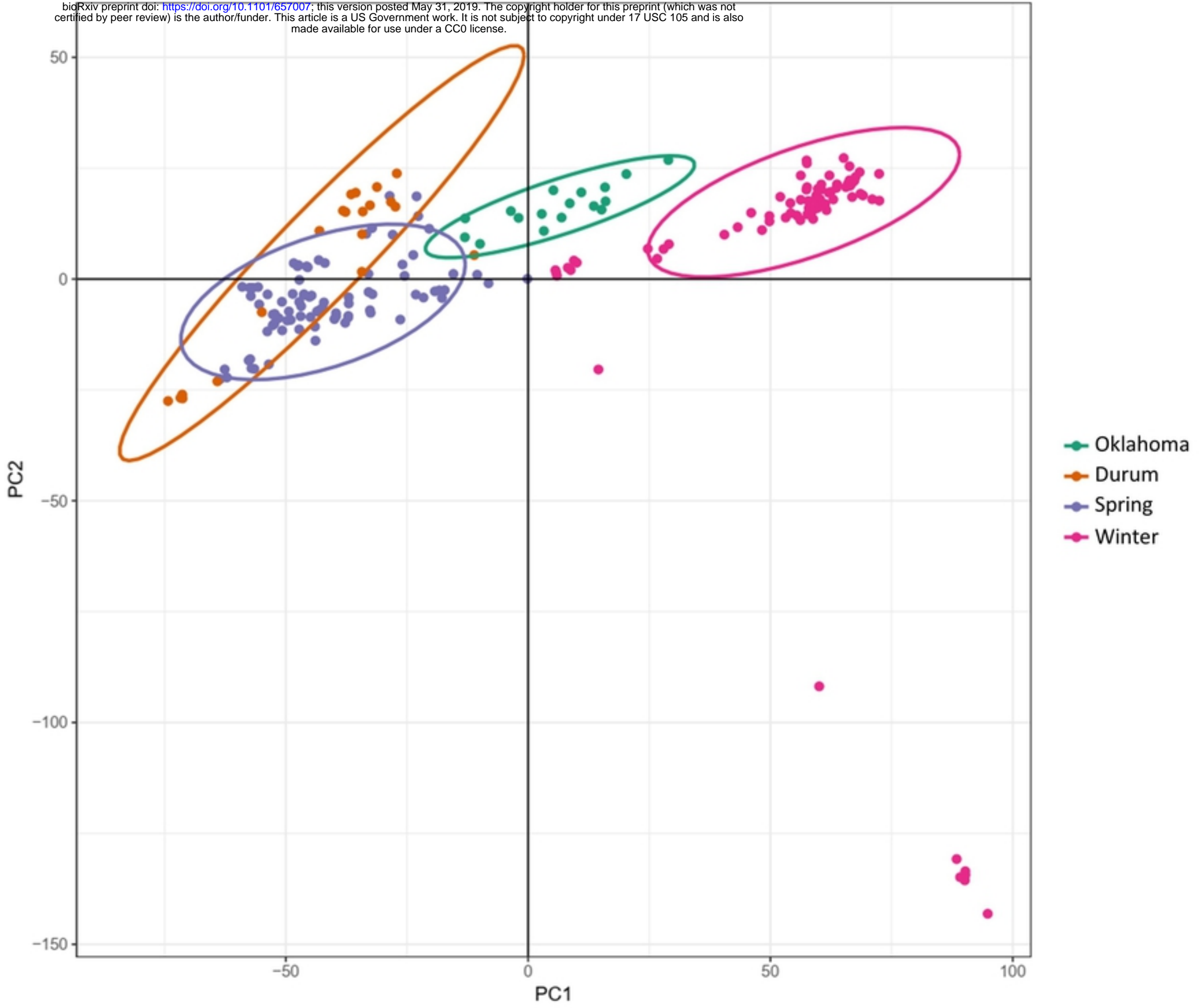


Figure 1

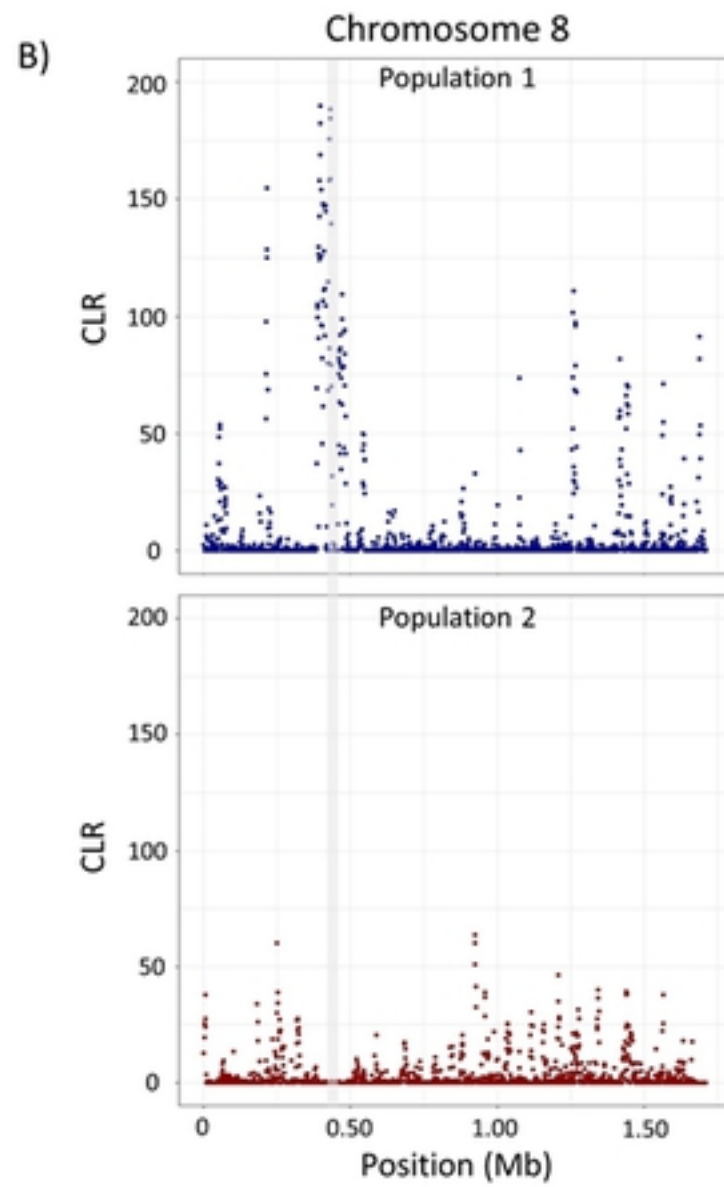
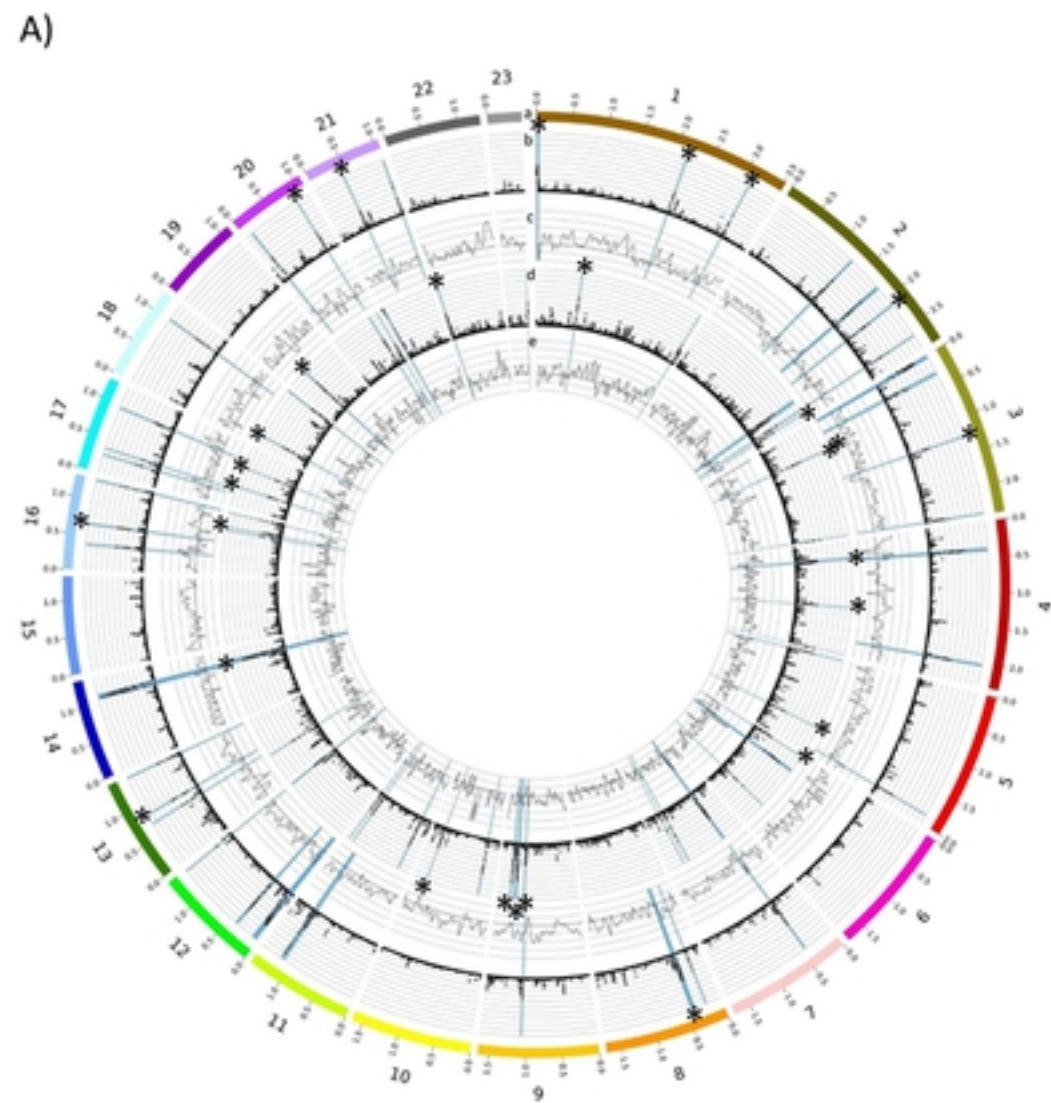


Figure 2



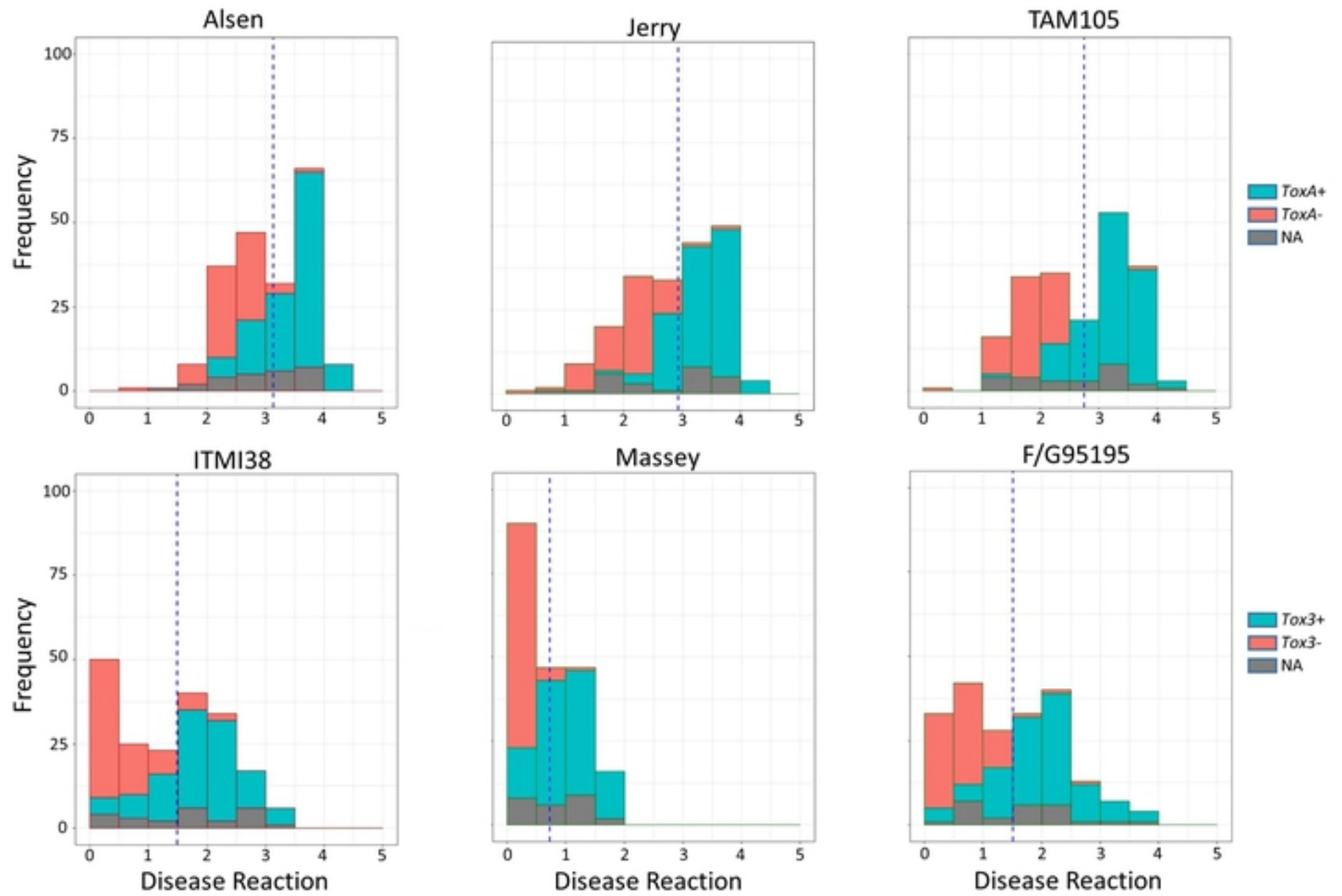


Figure 3



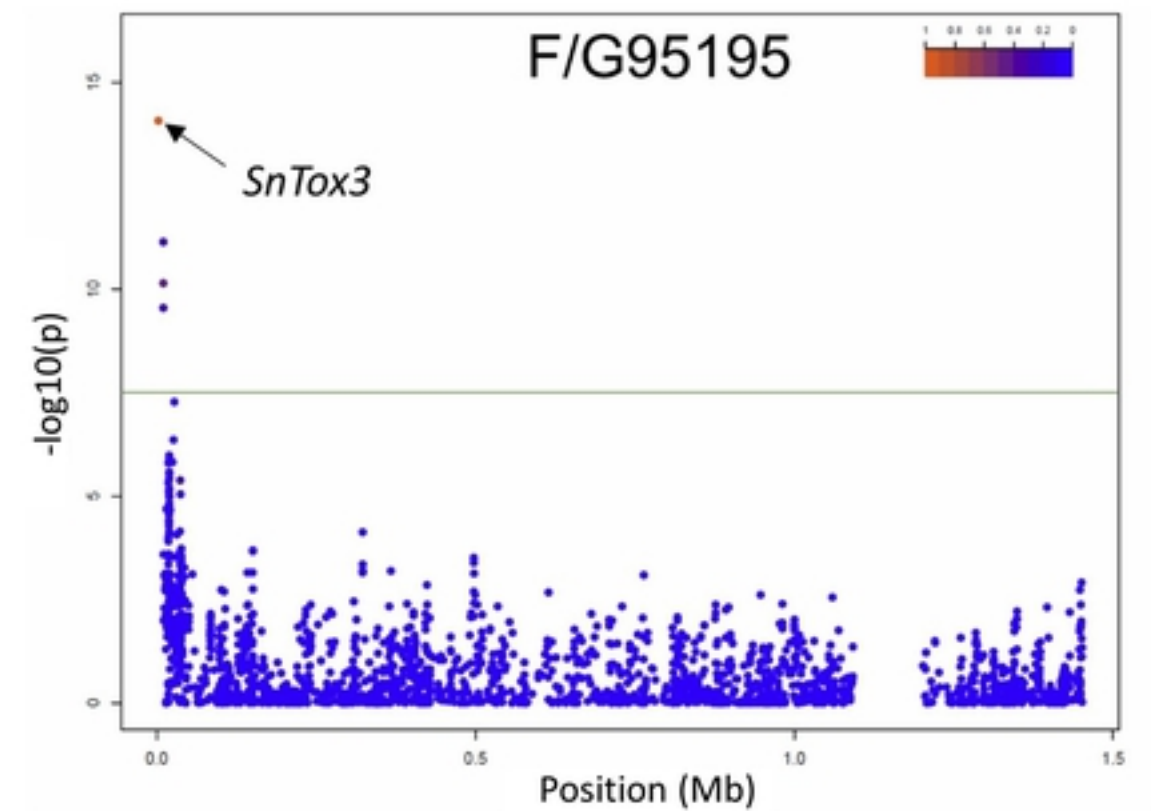
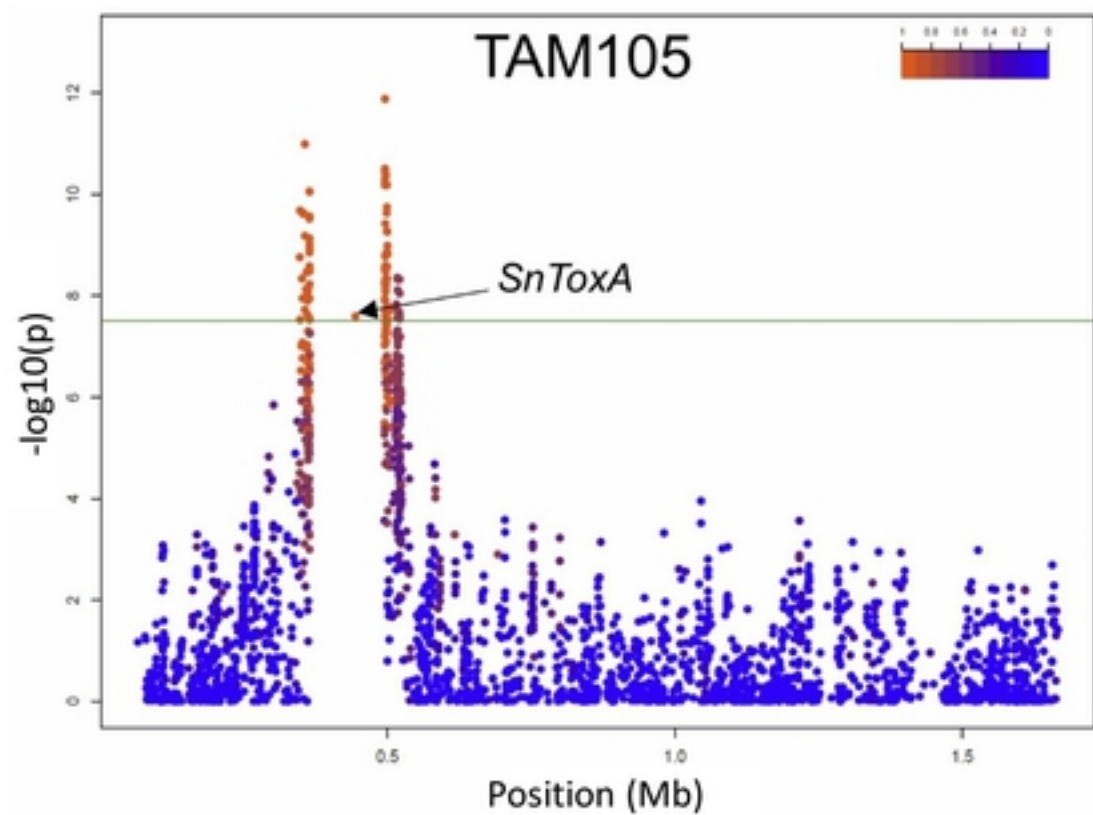
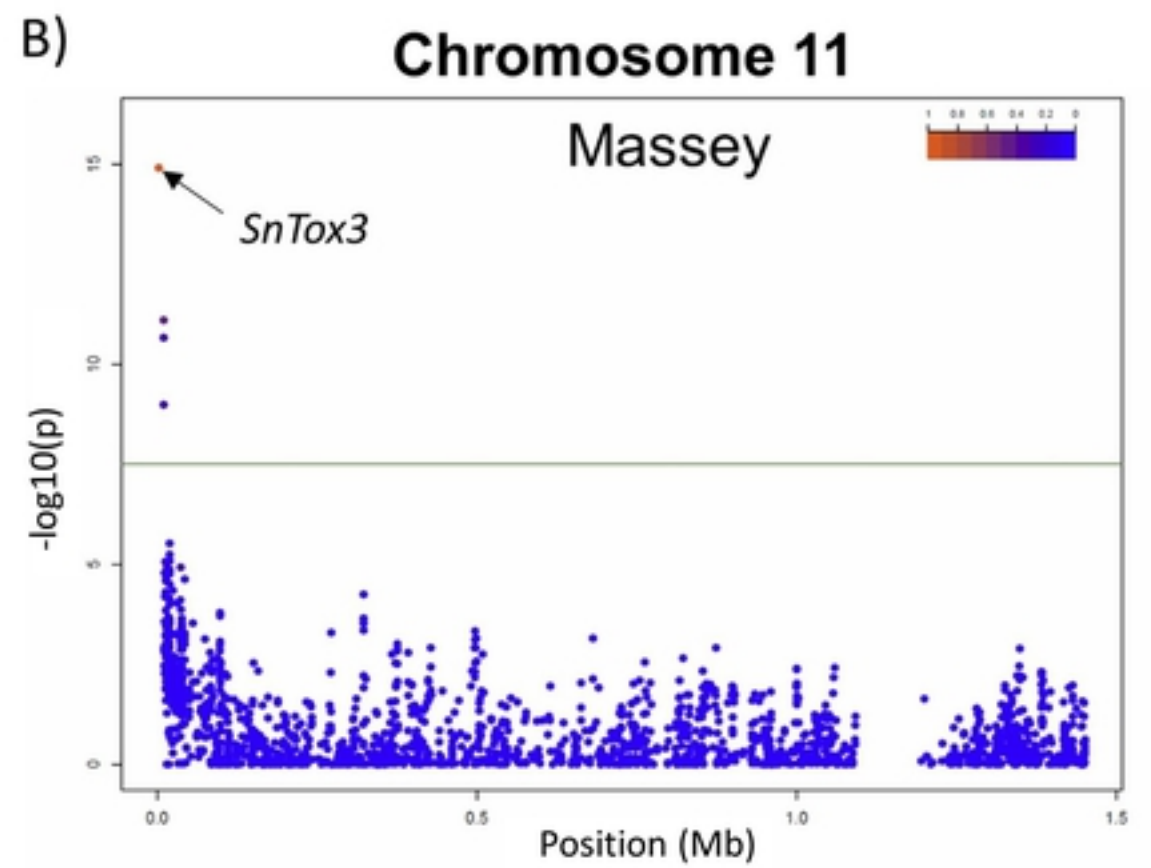
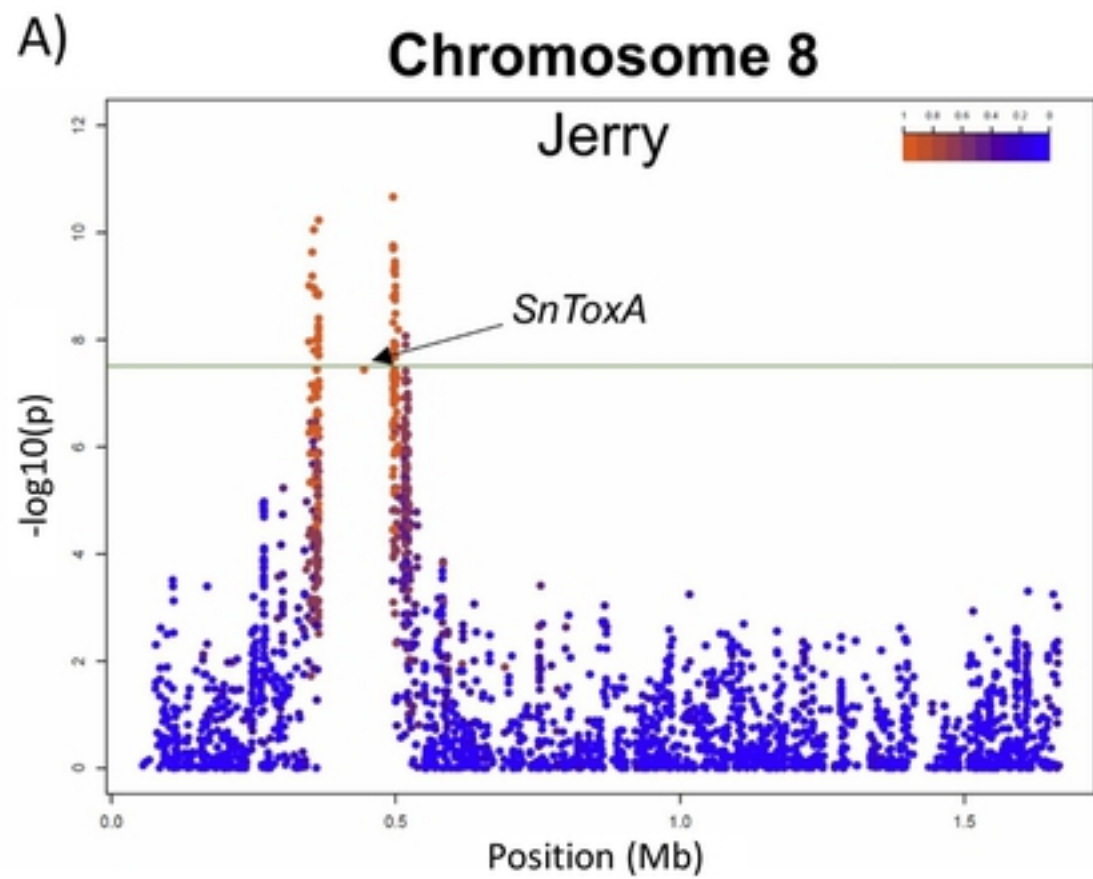
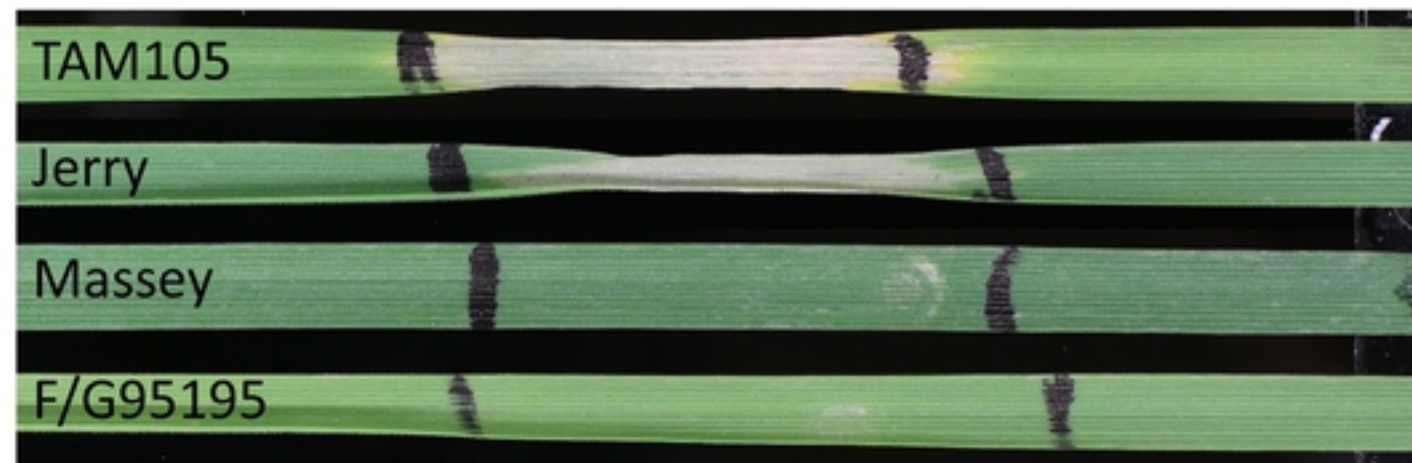


Figure 4

A) SnToxA



B) SnTox3

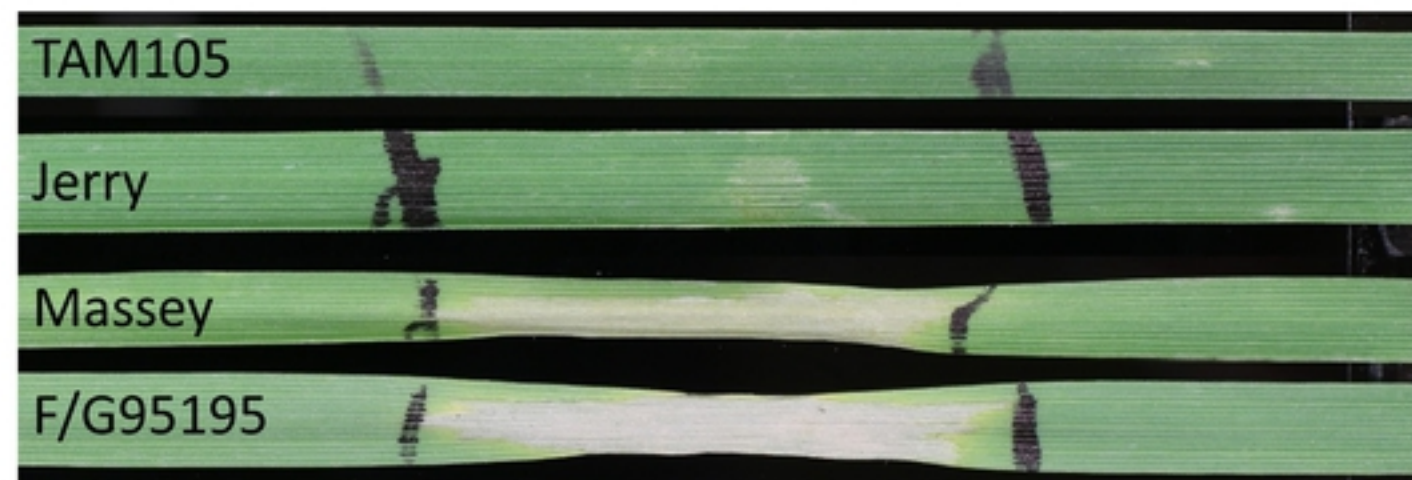


Figure 5

## Chromosome pN/pS

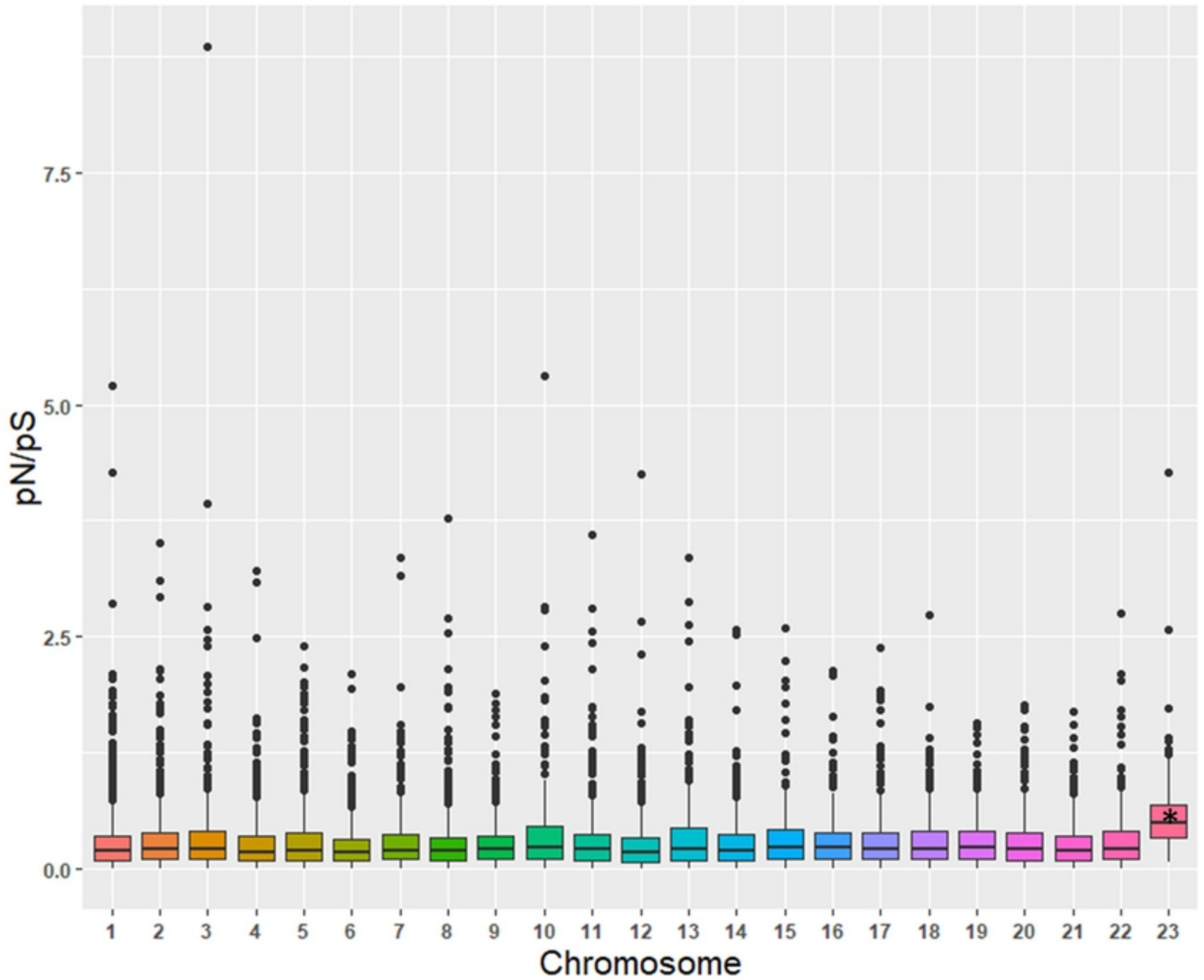


Figure 6

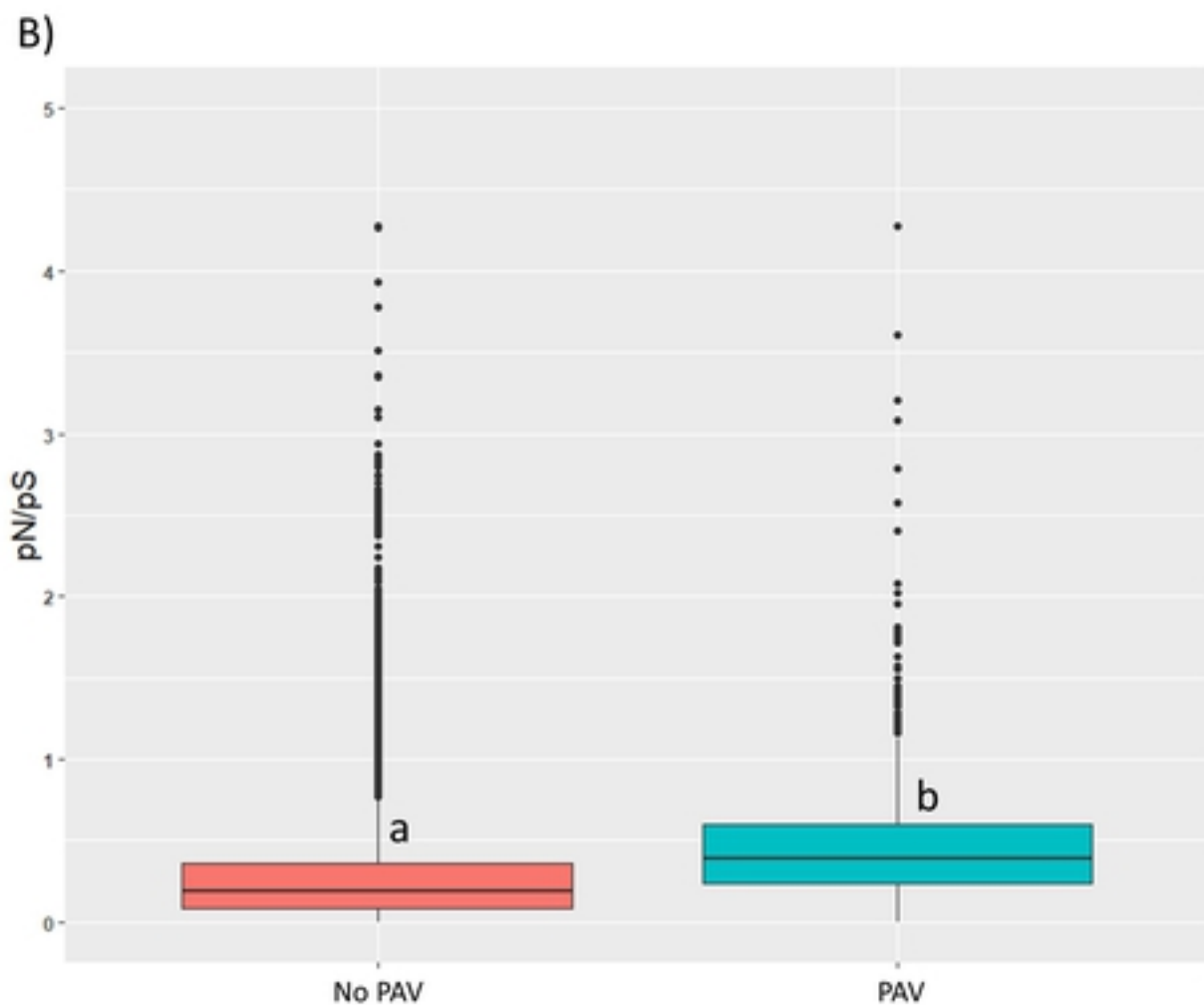
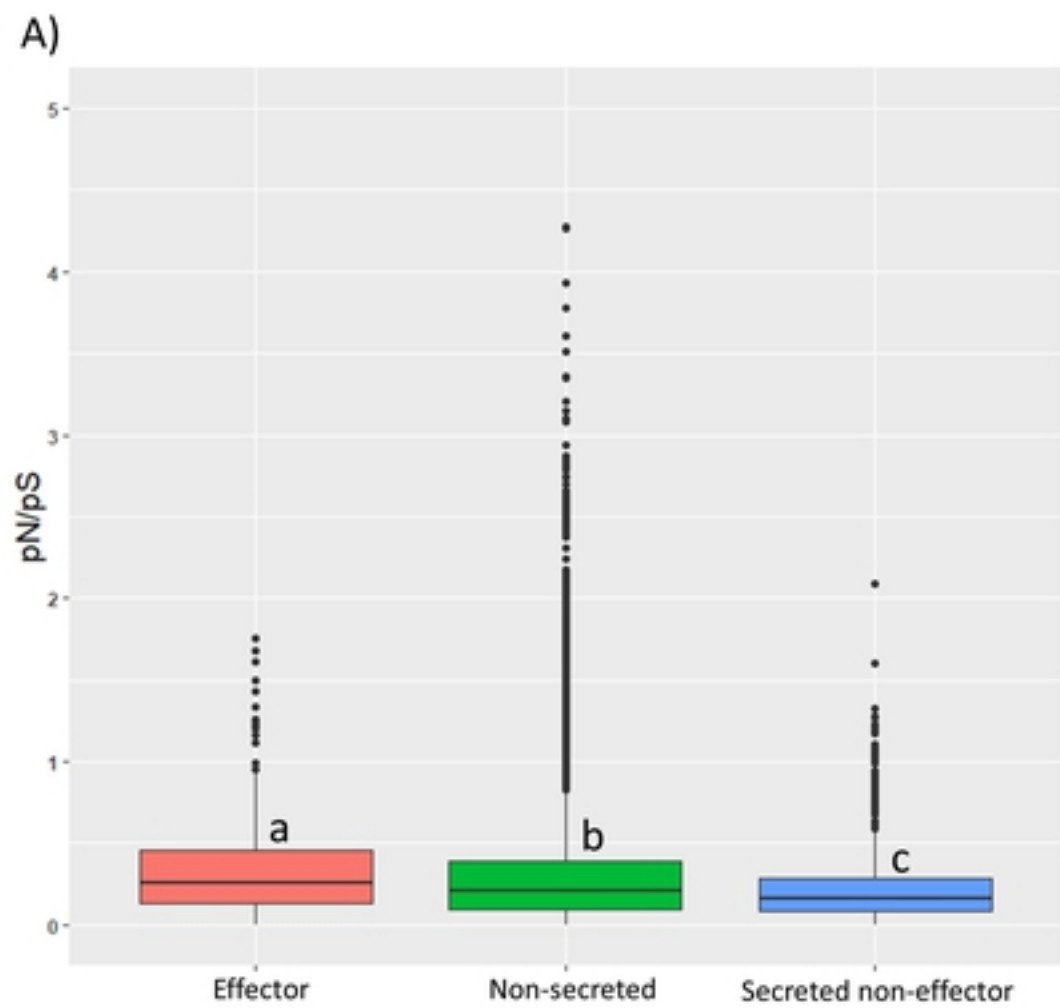


Figure 7

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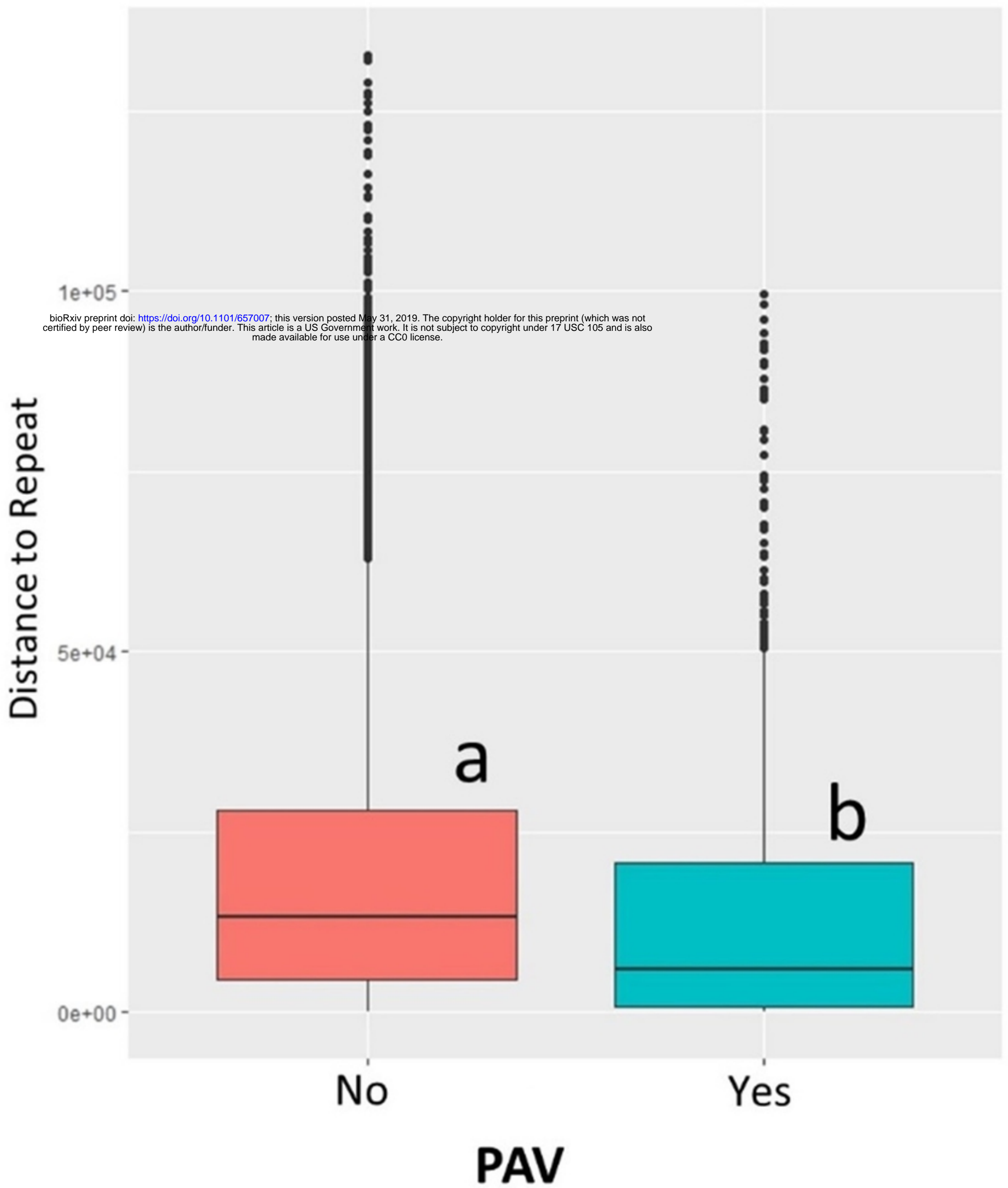


Figure 8