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Genome-wide sequence information reveals recurrent hybridization among diploid wheat wild relatives

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SUMMARY

Many conflicting hypotheses regarding the relationships among crops and wild species closely related to wheat (the genera Aegilops, Amblyopyrum, and Triticum) have been postulated. The contribution of hybridization to the evolution of these taxa is intensely discussed. To determine possible causes for this, and provide a phylogeny of the diploid taxa based on genome-wide sequence information, independent data were obtained from genotyping-by-sequencing and a target-enrichment experiment that returned 244 low-copy nuclear loci. The data were analyzed using Bayesian, likelihood and coalescent-based methods. D statistics were used to test if incomplete lineage sorting alone or together with hybridization is the source for incongruent gene trees. Here we present the phylogeny of all diploid species of the wheat wild relatives. We hypothesize that most of the wheat-group species were shaped by a primordial homoploid hybrid speciation event involving the ancestral Triticum and Am. muticum lineages to form all other species except Ae. speltoides. This hybridization event was followed by multiple introgressions affecting all taxa except Triticum. Mostly progenitors of the extant species were involved in these processes, while recent interspecific gene flow seems insignificant. The composite nature of many genomes of wheat-group taxa results in complicated patterns of diploid contributions when these lineages are involved in polyploid formation, which is, for example, the case for tetraploid and hexaploid wheats. Our analysis provides phylogenetic relationships and a testable hypothesis for the genome compositions in the basic evolutionary units within the wheat group of Triticeae.

Keywords: phylogenomics, hybridization, introgression, *Triticum*, *Aegilops*, *Amblyopyrum*, crop wild relatives, genotyping-by-sequencing, nuclear single-copy genes, target enrichment.

INTRODUCTION

Different molecular marker types resulted in widely incongruent hypotheses of relationships for the species belonging to the wheat wild relatives (WWR) of the grass tribe Triticeae (Mason-Gamer and Kellogg, 1996; Escobar et al., 2011; Bernhardt, 2015; Glémin et al., 2019), that is the genera Aegilops, Amblyopyrum, and Triticum (van Slageren, 1994; Kilian et al., 2011). Thus, despite their economic importance both as crops and as wild species contributing to the continued improvement of wheat, no comprehensive and generally agreed phylogeny for these species is

currently available. This hampers the understanding of the evolution of morphological, physiological, and genetic traits, the biogeography of the species and their environmental adaptation, polyploid formation, speciation, and ultimately the search for useful alleles for plant breeding.

Hybridization is an important evolutionary process (Mallet *et al.*, 2016). It describes the crossing of individuals belonging to different species. On the homoploid level, that is if no whole-genome duplication is involved, hybridization results in first generation (F₁) offspring that

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possesses half of the genome of each of its parents. If this F₁ generation becomes reproductively isolated from its parents and evolves into a new species the process is termed homoploid hybrid speciation. If over time repeated backcrossing with one parent dilutes the contribution of the second parent this process is called introgression and means that genomic material (nuclear, chloroplast or mitochondrial DNA) can cross species borders. In contrast, incomplete lineage sorting (ILS) describes the process in which, during speciation, DNA polymorphisms that occur in an ancestral taxon are stochastically passed on to daughter taxa. Depending on the allele composition in individuals at certain genomic loci, phylogenetic analyses can arrive at different species relationships when different individuals and/or loci are analyzed (Maddison, 1997). As ILS mostly depends on population sizes together with mutation rates, the process of lineage sorting can be modelled in a coalescent framework (Kingman, 1982). Although it is not always possible to discern hybridization from ILS, multilocus coalescent analyses including multiple individuals per species can, in part, overcome this problem (Green et al., 2010a; Durand et al., 2011; Pease and Hahn, 2015; Yu and Nakhleh, 2015; Solís-Lemus and Ané, 2016; Wen and Nakhleh, 2018; Chao et al., 2018).

The recent advent of genomic data for *T. aestivum* (International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2014, 2018), an allohexaploid with three subgenomes (termed A, B, and D), and the related diploid species Ae. tauschii (Jia et al., 2013; Luo et al., 2013, 2017) and T. urartu (Ling et al., 2013), allows for the comparative analyses of genome structure and gene content. Marcussen et al. (2014), when analyzing relationships among the three subgenomes of wheat, postulated that the D-genome lineage occurring in Ae. tauschii is of homoploid hybrid origin involving the ancestors of the **A** (occurring in *T. urartu*) and **B**-genomes (similar to Ae. speltoides). This finding spurred a discussion regarding the hybrid origin of Ae. tauschii (Sandve et al., 2015; Li et al., 2015a.b), El Baidouri et al. (2017) analyzed sequences of homeologous genes and transposable elements derived from T. aestivum (ABD), tetraploid T. durum (AB), T. urartu (A), Ae. speltoides (B), and Ae. tauschii (D). They deduced that, about six million years ago (Mya), an ancestral D-genome introgressed into a homoploid hybrid of the ancestral Aand B-genomes. The ancestral D-genome became extinct sometime later. Today's D-genome, occurring in diploid Ae. tauschii and as one subgenome in T. aestivum and other polyploid species of Aegilops, is, therefore, a hybrid genome combining three genomes (El Baidouri et al., 2017). As the **B**-genome of polyploid wheat is different from its closest extant relative Ae. speltoides, they assumed that the B-genome itself might also have been introgressed by species of the S-genome group of Aegilops sect. Sitopsis. Recently, Glémin et al. (2019)

developed a new framework to investigate hybridizations. Based on transcriptome data for all species, they proposed a complex scenario of hybridizations identifying *Am. muticum* (**T**), instead of *Ae. speltoides* (**B**), as an ancestor of the **D**-genome lineage and at least two more hybridization events.

In Triticeae it is generally agreed that the diploid taxa and cytotypes form the basic units of evolution and are involved in different combinations in the formation of polyploid taxa (Kellogg, 2015). Polyploids occur mostly as allopolyploid taxa, combining the genomes of different parental species after hybridization and whole-genome duplication (WGD). Except for Glémin et al. (2019) and Huynh et al. (2019), the recent studies of the evolution of wheat included only a few species and mostly single individuals (although with huge amount of genome data) of WWR. Here we describe the analyses of two genome-wide datasets obtained for all diploid species of Aegilops, Amblyopyrum, and Triticum, and always multiple individuals per taxon to improve the understanding of evolutionary relationships in the wheat group. This work employs DNA sequences of 244 nuclear low-copy genes uniformly distributed among all seven chromosomes of the taxa. These were obtained through a set of gene-specific hybridization probes used to enrich the target loci before next-generation sequencing (Hyb-seq; Weitemier et al., 2014). Based on this set of genes, species relationships were calculated using diverse phylogenetic algorithms. In addition, genome-wide single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) data were obtained through genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS; Elshire et al., 2011). Both datasets were compared for signals of directed introgression and hybridization. Our results provide species relationships within the wheatgroup taxa, and lead to new hypotheses on far-reaching hybridization and introgression influencing the evolutionary origins and composition of all extant basic diploid genomes in this species group.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sequence assembly of the target-enriched loci

Loci for target enrichment were selected via the comparison of available genome information from different Poaceae like *Brachypodium distachyon*, rice, and sorghum, barley and wheat (Vogel *et al.*, 2010; Matsumoto *et al.*, 2011; Mayer *et al.*, 2011), aiming for orthologous loci with an even distribution on the genome (Materials and Methods S1). Our design of capture probes was finally based on 451 loci evenly distributed over the **A-**, **B-**, and **D-**genomes of *T. aestivum* (Supporting Information Table S1 and Figure S1).

Target enrichment and Illumina sequencing resulted in 140 million raw reads and 116 million reads after quality filtering. On average, 6% of the reads mapped to the chloroplast genome. Of the 451 loci, 25 (5%) were not

sufficiently captured (i.e. not captured in most taxa) and were excluded from further analyses. The capture efficiency was usually taxon/accession independent, indicating no (strong) influence of probe design on the capture efficiency (Tables S1 and S2). The sequences retrieved for the 426 well captured nuclear loci were combined into multiple sequence alignments. Visual inspection of these alignments often showed genus- or species-specific patterns of ambiguous positions indicating the occurrence of different alleles or paralogues. Allelic diversity is assumed to be much lower than 1%. This threshold was set based on a comparison with Jakob et al. (2014) that reported an allelic diversity clearly lower than 1% for the analysis of six single-copy loci of large populations of Hordeum vulgare subsp. spontaneum. Thus, single-copy loci of heterozygous individuals can be expected to show noticeably less than 1% of ambiguous positions in assembled sequences, while a higher percentage indicates the presence of paralogous copies. Moreover, since sequenced accessions within a species mainly share the same combinations of polymorphic positions, this too points to the existence of paralogous gene copies for a locus, either functional or as pseudogenes, rather than to heterozygous loci. The proportion of ambiguous positions per accession and locus was estimated (Table S3). An average of more than 1% of ambiguous sites in more than five species was detected for 62 (~15%) captured loci. These loci were considered as mainly multicopy and excluded from further analyses. Moreover, very short or not variable loci were excluded. The median of the mean coverage for the 244 remaining loci (Dataset S1) was 25X. Large deviations in the mean coverage resulted from the actually achieved sequencing depth (Table S4a). The loci used for phylogenetic inference had, on average, a length of 2278 bp, 43% of non-variable sites and a pairwise identity of 88% (Table S4b). Concatenation of the 244 nuclear loci in a supermatrix resulted in an alignment with a total length of 555 543 bp.

Phylogenies based on target-enrichment data

Supermatrix approach. The first step of our analysis procedure was to use DNA sequences of nuclear genes enriched through hybridization probes for Illumina sequencing to infer phylogenetic relationships from quality filtered alignments. In addition to the wheat group taxa, we included four diploid species as outgroups representing the barley genus Hordeum (Table S5). Maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian phylogenetic inference (BI) of the concatenated DNA sequences of all loci (i.e. creating a supermatrix with 555 543 alignment positions) resulted in the phylogenetic relationships provided in Figure S2. In this tree Ae. speltoides and Am. muticum form a clade that is sister to all other ingroup taxa analyzed. Within the latter, Triticum is a sister group of the remainder of Aegilops species. When analyzing the same dataset with maximum parsimony (MP), Triticum and Ae. speltoides/Am. muticum exchange their respective positions in the phylogenetic tree (Figure S3).

Coalescent-based phylogenetic inference. As data concatenation could potentially result in strong support for wrong species relationships (Xi et al., 2015), gene trees were used to infer a coalescent-based species tree. Individual ML gene trees were used as input for ASTRAL (Mirarab et al., 2014; Chao et al., 2018), which models ILS under the multispecies coalescent (MSC) model (Degnan and Rosenberg, 2009) to deduce species relationships. The resulting phylogeny places Triticum as sister to Amblyopyrum and all Aegilops species (Figures 1a and S4), a topology similar to the one found by MP analysis of the supermatrix (Figure S3). Aegilops markgrafii/Ae. umbellulata form a clade with Ae. comosa/Ae. uniaristata (clade CUMN), although with very low statistical support (Figure 1a).

While all 244 individual ML gene trees were in conflict with each other and accessions of the same species may be widely scattered in single topologies (Dataset S2), all supermatrix phylogenetic approaches (Figures S2 and S3), the Astral analysis (Figure S4), and the unrooted network obtained via SplitsTree (Figure S5) revealed species to be monophyletic. We, therefore, concluded that ongoing gene flow between species is not significantly impacting the data and extant species can be considered as units.

Low support values in the ASTRAL tree (Figures 1a and S4) correspond to branches with topological differences when compared with the supermatrix phylogenies, indicating conflicting phylogenetic signal. The degree of gene tree/species tree conflict was investigated in detail using PhyParts (Smith et al., 2015), as it could also stem from hybridization/introgression instead of ILS. For most clades comprising several species, no major alternative to the Astral topology could be identified (Figure S6). However, the clades of **CUMN** and **DS** present in the Astral tree were supported by only seven and 20 out of 244 gene trees. respectively. For the former clade, there were five alternative topologies found to be more frequent and involving members of the CUMN clade together with either Ae. tauschii (D) or the Triticum species (A): UD with 14 supporting topologies, CD 12, MND 10, AU 9, and ND 8. For **DS**, there were 20 alternative topologies that grouped Ae. speltoides (B) instead of Ae. tauschii (D) together with sect. Sitopsis (S).

In multilocus analyses, Ae. speltoides always forms a moderately supported clade with Am. muticum (T), and, as in previous studies (e.g. Petersen et al., 2006; Li et al., 2015a), it was always clearly separated from the other species of Aegilops sect. Sitopsis (S), as well as from the remaining Aegilops species. In the following, we will use sect. Sitopsis* to indicate that we refer to the S-genome group of sect. Sitopsis excluding Ae. speltoides (B) that

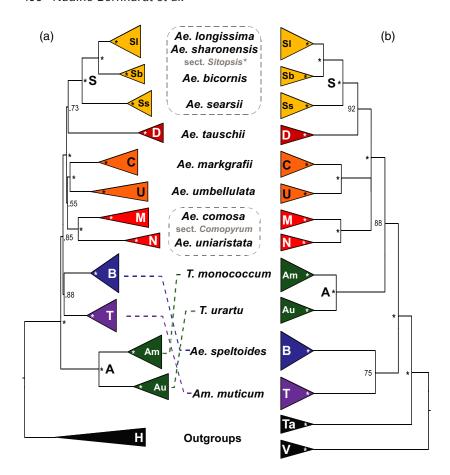


Figure 1. Comparison of coalescent-based phylogenetic trees for the diploid wheat wild relatives. Triticeae-specific genome designations are provided for the respective clades. Fully supported nodes are indicated by asterisks. (a) Schematic representation of the multispecies coalescent tree calculated from separate maximum likelihood gene trees of 244 target-enriched low-copy loci using ASTRAL. Numbers at nodes depict local posterior probabilities. (b) Consensus cladogram derived from a TETRAD analysis of GBS data. Numbers along branches are bootstrap support values (%).

was earlier placed within this group (van Slageren, 1994). Aegilops tauschii (D), although assumed to be either a homoploid hybrid between the A- and B-genome lineages (Marcussen et al., 2014; Sandve et al., 2015; Huynh et al., 2019) or the A-, B-, and D-genome ancestors (El Baidouri et al., 2017), results in all our analyses as sisters of sect. Sitopsis*. This indicates that an **S**-genome progenitor may have played a role in its formation. This close relationship has not been previously postulated, although Marcussen et al. (2014) used sequences of the S-genome species Ae. sharonensis (International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2014). However, they excluded these from additional analyses, as they assumed Ae. sharonensis itself to be a hybrid involving the B-genome lineage. Our data show that not only Ae. sharonensis is closely related to Ae. tauschii but that shared genome parts most probably involved the entire sect. Sitopsis*. Although the relationship to the B-genome was not found in this initial analysis, this clearly indicates a more complex evolutionary history of the Ae. tauschii genome and perhaps also that of sect. Sitopsis* in comparison with previous hypotheses.

Although the discordant topologies revealed by PHYPARTS are potentially better resolved by modelling ILS, they may also result from past hybridizations or gene flow among species. Both processes would violate the assumption of

the coalescent analysis that only ILS contributes to deviation of gene tree topologies. Therefore, our sequence data were further analyzed to uncover past hybridization and introgression events.

Network approach based on gene tree topologies from target-enrichment data. Even though methods to infer phylogenetic networks are under constant development (e.g. Yu et al., 2011; Yu and Nakhleh, 2015; Solís-Lemus and Ané, 2016; Wen et al., 2016; Wen and Nakhleh, 2018; Chi et al., 2018), the analysis of multiple loci, individuals, and species while modelling ILS and reticulations remains computationally expensive (Hejase and Liu, 2016; Wen et al., 2018). Thus, resource demanding methods such as full ML or Bayesian inference (Yu et al., 2014; Wen and Nakhleh, 2018) failed to infer networks from our entire sequence data. We therefore used different strategies of data partitioning by reducing the number of individuals or loci. However, these approaches gave incoherent results across replicates.

Nevertheless, we were able to obtain phylogenetic networks from the 244 gene tree topologies under the multispecies network coalescent (MSNC) using maximum pseudolikelihood as implemented in PhyloNet (Yu and Nakhleh, 2015). We allowed for zero to five reticulations

(Figure S7a-f). If no hybridization was assumed, the tree with the best log pseudolikelihood (-7 617 218) had a topology similar to the one obtained via ASTRAL (Figures 1a and S4). However, clades poorly supported in ASTRAL were dissolved resulting in a grade with Triticum as sister to the rest of the species, Am. muticum and Ae. speltoides not being monophyletic, and Ae. comosa/Ae. uniaristata and Ae. markgrafii/Ae. umbellulata not clustering together. PhyloNet also retrieved the Astral topology among the top five trees with a slightly lower log pseudolikelihood (-7 617 519). The network with four hybridization nodes (Figures 2 and S7e) was selected with the Akaike information criterion as best fit. In this network, hybridizations are nested within each other. This suggests a sequence of hybridization events, the first one involves the ancestors of Am. muticum and the Triticum clade each contributing approximately equal proportions (0.54 and 0.46, respectively) to the common ancestor of all other Aegilops species except Ae. speltoides. This confirms the scenario inferred by Glémin et al. (2019) identifying Am. muticum instead of Ae. speltoides (Marcussen et al., 2014; Huynh et al., 2019) as one of the genome donors. Sect. Sitopsis* appears as sister to both Ae. tauschii and Ae. markgrafii and to be introgressed by Ae. speltoides (0.31). Finally, the Ae. comosa/Ae. uniaristata clade is sister to Ae. markgrafii with an additional introgression of the Triticum clade (0.29). However, phylogenetic networks inferred from gene tree topologies under maximum pseudolikelihood are not necessarily uniquely encoded by their system of rooted triples and this analysis may return an equivalent network to the true network (Yu and Nakhleh, 2015). In this case, the authors suggest investigating the obtained network with other methods and/or data. Here we used GBS to generate genome-wide SNP data from all taxa to evaluate this scenario.

DNA polymorphisms obtained through genotyping-bysequencing

Sequence assembly of the GBS data. To obtain genomewide SNP data, a two-enzyme GBS analysis (Poland et al., 2012) was performed by cutting the genome with a frequent and a rare-cutting restriction enzyme followed by sequencing 100 bp of the DNA fragments directly adjacent to the rare restriction sites (Wendler et al., 2014). This method was shown to target the coding parts of the genome (Schreiber et al., 2019). Thus, it can be used to compare SNP patterns between species, which might, in their non-coding genome regions, already be too diverse for meaningful comparisons. As Hordeum and the wheat-group lineage were already separated 15 Mya (Marcussen et al., 2014), their genomes have diverged substantially. Therefore, we included Dasypyrum villosum and Taeniatherum caput-medusae as outgroups. These taxa are outside the wheat group

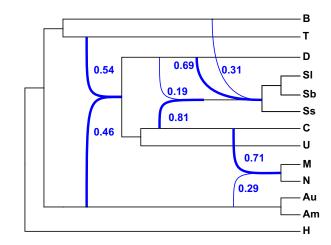


Figure 2. Phylogenetic network inferred under the multispecies network coalescent (MSNC) from the 244 gene tree topologies using maximum pseudolikelihood. The network with four reticulations was selected as best fit among zero to five hybridizations calculated with the routine InferNetwork MPI of PhyloNet under the Akaike information criterion (see Figure S7). Reticulations are indicated by blue arcs with major contributions from species to hybrid lineages indicated by bold lines. Numbers represent estimated inheritance probabilities.

genera (Bernhardt et al., 2017) but still close enough to share multiple GBS loci.

On average, 1.65 million reads per sample were obtained from Illumina sequencing. After filtering and clustering, on average, 222 185 clusters remained per sample. After consensus calling per cluster the number of loci per individual in the assembly was, on average, 21 000 (with a minimum of 8472 loci for accession AE 739 of Ae. speltoides and maximum of 28 469 loci for accession PI 560122 of Am. muticum). In total, 140 072 loci having 444 618 phylogenetic informative sites were kept for downstream analvsis when it was specified that at least four individuals had to share a locus (Dataset S3 and Table S6).

GBS-based phylogenetic relationships. To analyze phylogenetic relationships based on the GBS data, we conducted an analysis in Tetrad within the IPYRAD package (Eaton, 2014; https://github.com/dereneaton/ipyrad). Tetrad uses a single SNP per GBS locus and conducts quartet analyses to infer a species tree that is consistent under the MSC. The phylogenetic tree (Figures 1b and S8) supports the topology of the supermatrix tree of the target-enrichment data (Figure S2) with respect to the relative positions of Triticum and Ae. speltoides/Am. muticum and of the Astral tree regarding the MN and UC taxa forming together a weakly supported clade (Figure 1a). The unrooted phylogenetic network computed by SplitsTree (Figure S9) is concordant with the one for target-enrichment data (Figure S5) showing that species are monophyletic and can be considered as units for the detection of hybridization.

Even though Zhu and Nakhleh (2018) developed a method (i.e. MLE_BiMarkers) able to deal with more than 50 taxa and four hybridizations using bi-allelic markers under the maximum pseudolikelihood, we could not process our dataset in a reasonable timeframe (i.e. analyses did not finish within 30 days). We assume that the complexity of the relationships, including putative nested hybridization and introgression events (Figure 2), complicates the inference of a network from the GBS data. Nonetheless, we assessed hybrid relationships with Fourand Five-taxon *D* statistics. Those methods, based on the frequency of shared polymorphisms between taxa, are less computing intensive.

GBS-based D statistics for the detection of hybridization and direction of introgression. Under a neutral model of sequence evolution, and if speciation events occur in rapid succession, ILS should result in similar amounts of shared polymorphisms among species derived from a common ancestor. However, if hybridization is involved, the amount of shared alleles shifts towards the species connected through gene flow in comparison with the background signal contributed by ILS. *D* statistics, also known as the ABBA–BABA test (Green et al., 2010a; Durand et al., 2011), is able to discern hybridization from ILS by analyzing allele distribution in three taxa in comparison with an outgroup.

All Four-taxon D statistic tests were performed specieswise on unlinked SNPs with the routine Dtrios of DSUITE (Malinsky, 2019). First, *D. villosum* was set as an outgroup to test if Ta. caput-medusae was involved in hybridizations with any members of the WWR (Figure S10). Taeniatherum caput-medusae then was used as an outgroup for all following tests as no hybridization signal was found. In total, 220 tests were performed of which 64 were significant (P-value < 0.05 after Benjamini–Yekutieli correction) with D statistics ranging between 0.10 and 0.33 (Figure 3 and Table S7). All species were involved in potential hybridizations. The strongest signal revealed a relationship between both Triticum species and Ae. markgrafii/Ae. umbellulata, and to a lesser extent Ae. tauschii and Ae. comosa/Ae. uniaristata. The latter relationship is in conflict with the results from the network analysis (Figure 2) that suggested an additional introgression of Triticum into the ancestor of Ae. comosa/Ae. uniaristata. In addition, Ae. markgrafii showed a strong tie with the members of sect. Sitopsis* (S). This analysis confirmed the strong and exclusive relationships between Ae. speltoides and the latter.

An extension of D statistics is the D_{FOIL} test (Pease and Hahn, 2015) that allows not only the detection of hybridization in the presence of ILS but also infers the direction of introgression in a five-taxon phylogeny. This analysis only accepts an alignment of five sequences, therefore we created consensus sequences for each species. D_{FOIL} tests were performed with $Ta.\ caput-medusae$ used as the

outgroup to polarize the comparisons of all species. Altogether 216 unique combinations of five taxa were tested, but only 143 tests were considered after removing tests that did not fulfil the requirements of estimated divergence times (see Experimental procedures; Pease and Hahn, 2015). On average 292 602 alignment positions (233 791-379 867) were used resulting in 6738 (952-10 354) SNP patterns that could be compared (Table S7 and Figure 4). Overall, the relationships inferred are similar to the ones identified by the ABBA-BABA test (Figure 3 and Table S6), however directions of gene flow could be inferred for nine relationships (11 tests). A large proportion of tests (42) revealed undirected patterns involving three taxa indicative of complex or ancient introgressions, or reciprocal gene flow. Evidence of introgression/hybridization was found for all species (Figure 4a-k), with a low number of significant tests involving Ae. uniaristata and Ae. umbellulata (Figure 4e-f) and a high number involving Ae. markgrafii and Ae. longissima (Figure 4g, k). This analysis confirms the close relationships between the members of sect. Sitopsis* (S) and Ae. speltoides (B), but, in contrast with the network inferred with PhyloNet (Figure 2), DFOIL identifies gene flow from **S** to **B** (Figure 4b). Among the members of sect. *Sitop*sis*, Ae. longissima (SI) appeared as a major introgressor of **B** but also of *Ae. comosa* (**M**), *Ae. markgrafii* (**C**), and *Ae.* tauschii (D) (Figure 4k). This may explain the high number of tests returning undirected signals involving those four species. The close relationship between *Triticum* species and the **CUMND** clade was confirmed, although no direction could be inferred (Figure 4c). This analysis also suggests that Am. muticum was affected by gene flow from Ae. comosa and Ae. tauschii (Figure 4a).

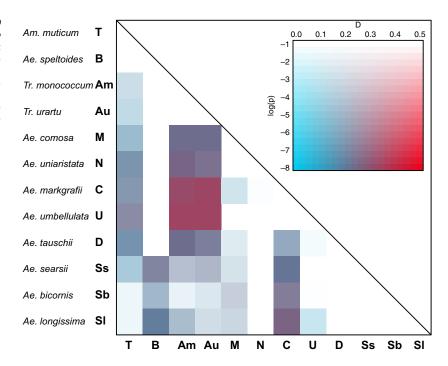
Homoploid hybrid speciation and major introgressions

In the following, we describe our hypothesis for the evolution of WWR (Figure 5). Overall, the scenario inferred is similar to the one identified by Glémin *et al.* (2019). Nonetheless, as we did not focus on identifying the progenitors of the '**D**-genome lineage', we are able to propose a more complete picture. However, as the relationships we identified are highly reticulate, there are partly alternative scenarios possible. We limit our interpretation to the most strongly supported relationships to avoid false positives (Eaton *et al.*, 2015).

As our phylogenetic analyses revealed the monophyly of all species, we are certain that hybridizations and introgressions involved mainly ancestral taxa and not the extant species. Our results suggest that there are different classes of taxa, that is lineages that introgressed others, lineages that are recipients of introgressions from one or several taxa, and/or lineages that originated via homoploid hybrid speciation.

We hypothesize that most of the wheat-group species were shaped by a primordial homoploid hybrid speciation

Figure 3. Heatmap summarizing Four-taxon D statistic tests using Taeniatherum caput-medusae as the outgroup. The plot is based on 220 tests. It shows the D statistic results and their significance for each pair of species. Red and blue indicate high and low D statistic values, respectively. The intensity of the colour corresponds to the P-value (in log scale) assessed using the block jackknife procedure and corrected with Benjamini-Yekutieli for multiple testing. All D statistic results are summarized in Table S7.



event, that is the Triticum lineage merged with the ancestor of Am. muticum to form all other species except Ae. speltoides (Figure 5, event 1). These results highlight the pivotal role of Am. muticum, instead of Ae. speltoides, in the formation of the WWR. This hybridization event was followed by multiple introgressions affecting all taxa except Triticum. In contrast with Glémin et al. (2019), we do not find introgression of Triticum into Am. muticum, instead our results indicated that Am. muticum may have been introgressed by Ae. umbellulata or the common ancestor of the CU(MND) clade (Figures 3, 4a, S7d and Figure 5, event 2). Previously published chloroplast phylogenies (Yamane and Kawahara, 2005; Bordbar et al., 2011; Bernhardt et al., 2017) support a chloroplast capture event, as the maternal lineage of Am. muticum does not group with Ae. speltoides, although both are sister taxa in nuclear phylogenies, but it shares a common ancestor with Ae. umbellulata.

For Ae. speltoides (B) conflicting results were obtained with either sect. Sitopsis* (S) being introgressed by B (Figure 2) or the other way around (Figure 4b). This suggests that either reciprocal gene flow occurred between those species (Figure 5, event 3) or that at least one of the applied methods revealed false positives. Both methods have drawbacks: phylogenetic networks obtained under maximum pseudolikelihood may not be true but rather equivalent to the true network (Yu and Nakhleh, 2015), and D statistics are only analyzing three or four taxa simultaneously. Nevertheless, sect. Sitopsis*, and especially Ae. longissima that has been described as an outcrossing taxon (Escobar et al., 2010), was repeatedly identified as an introgressor, as it exhibits relationships with all taxa except the Triticum lineage (Figure 4k).

Signals for involvement of the sect. Sitopsis* genomes can be found in Ae. comosa (M) and Ae. markgrafii (C), for which a hybrid origin has been recently proposed (Danilova et al., 2017). Both taxa presented patterns of introgressions different from their respective sister species Ae. umbellulata and Ae. uniaristata. These two species were involved in the least number of hybridizations. This seems to indicate that the C and M lineages diverged from their respective sister species due to minor introgressions from Ae. longissima or other species of the sect. Sitopsis* (Figure 5, event 4).

It is further suspected that Ae. longissima or sect. Sitopsis*, possibly together with members of CU(MN), were involved in the formation of Ae. tauschii, as the complexity of the observed pattern does not resemble a simple sisterspecies relationship (Figures 3, 4h and S6). Indeed, chloroplast phylogenies (Yamane and Kawahara, 2005; Bernhardt et al., 2017) place the maternal lineage of Ae. tauschii sister to the CUMNS clade, suggesting that one of its ancestors is an ancient, perhaps extinct (El Baidouri et al., 2017), lineage. This idea is in contrast with its placement in nuclear phylogenies in which Ae. tauschii shows a moderately supported sister relationship to sect. Sitopsis* or members of CU(MN) (see PhyParts analysis). Therefore, we hypothesize that the introgressions from one or possibly both of those clades resulted in the position of Ae. tauschii inside the clade partially depicted by the event 5 in Figure 5. Finally, due to the primordial homoploid hybrid speciation, Ae. tauschii displays similarities with Triticum (A) and Am.

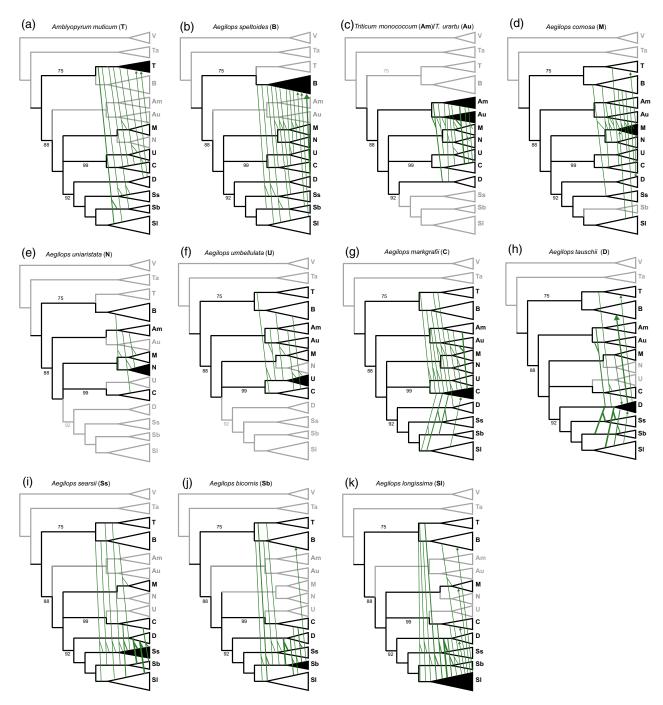


Figure 4. Representation of D_{FOIL} results for genotyping-by-sequencing data. All significant relationships after Benjamini–Yekutieli correction are shown on a modified version of the Tetrad species tree. Each tree shows all significant relationships for a focal taxon. An arrowhead indicates the direction of hybridization/introgressions between two taxa. Undirected relationships involving three taxa are shown using a branched line. Taxa not contributing to hybridization signal for the focal taxon are shown in grey for easier visualization. All D_{FOIL} results are summarized in Table S8.

muticum (T; Figures 2 and 5, event 1) and to a lower extent with Ae. comosa (M) and Ae. markgrafii (C; Figures 3 and 4h). Moreover, it is connected to Ae. speltoides through its ancestor belonging to sect. Sitopsis* (Figure 4h).

In addition to the major evolutionary scenario developed in this work, past or present gene flow among the different lineages of WWR cannot be ruled out entirely, whenever species come into contact with each other (Arrigo *et al.*, 2011; Bernhardt *et al.*, 2017). The existence of extinct ancestral lineages (Brassac and Blattner, 2015) that could not be sampled may, in general, mislead the results of *D* statistics (Beerli, 2004; Slatkin, 2005). However, in that case, *D* statistics are expected to return mostly false-negative test results (Pease and Hahn, 2015) instead of arriving

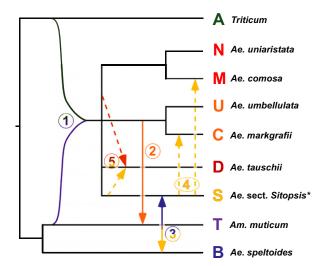


Figure 5. Total evidence evolutionary scenario for the wheat wild relatives. All diploid Aegilops species except Ae. speltoides are derived from an initial homoploid hybridization event involving the ancient A (Triticum) and T (Am. muticum) lineages (1). Strong signals of introgression were found for Am. muticum (from the U/C group; 2) and between Ae. speltoides and sect. Sitopsis* (3). For the latter, introgression seems to have happened in both directions. Weaker signals of introgression (dashed arrows) were found by GBS-based D statistics from (4) sect. Sitopsis* into Ae. markgrafii (C) and Ae. comosa (M), as well as (5) for Ae. tauschii (D).

at wrong species connections. Conversely, although we took a conservative approach, ancestral population structure, non-random mating, and small effective population sizes, characteristic of inbreeding species like most WWR species, could lead to high D statistic values (Eriksson and Manica, 2012; Martin et al., 2015). New methods accounting for demographic processes at the scale of a genus are necessary to overcome this limitation.

CONCLUSIONS

We obtained DNA sequences of 244 nuclear low-copy genes evenly distributed among the Triticeae chromosomes and genome-wide SNP for all diploid species of the WWR. A combination of different phylogenetic and network approaches together with D statistics revealed ancient complex reticulated processes partly involving multiple rounds of introgression as well as at least one homoploid hybrid speciation during the formation of the extant taxa.

Based on our comprehensive taxon sampling, we are able to propose a detailed scheme of events that shaped the close relatives of wheat, which is much more complex than previously suggested (Marcussen et al., 2014; Sandve et al., 2015; Li et al., 2015a,b; El Baidouri et al., 2017; Huynh et al., 2019). With two independent datasets, we were not only able to confirm the scenario developed by Glémin et al. (2019), that up to now seems not only to best reflect the evolution of WWR but also to uncover more complex

patterns of interspecific gene flow. Our hypothesis is congruent with the proposed formation of the 'D-genome lineage' through homoploid hybrid speciation (Marcussen et al., 2014; Huynh et al., 2019) but proposes, in agreement with Glémin et al. (2019), Am. muticum together with the Triticum lineage as progenitors. Furthermore, we suggest that Ae. longissima or members of sect. Sitopsis* played an important role in the formation of Ae. comosa (M), Ae. markgrafii (C), and Ae. tauschii (D). We propose that an ancient, now extinct, lineage was introgressed by Ae. longissima or sect. Sitopsis* and possibly also by an ancestor of the CUMN clade to form Ae. tauschii. Moreover, our data provide evidence of gene flow between sect. Sitopsis* and the B-genome lineage, a hypothesis raised by El Baidouri et al. (2017) and Glémin et al. (2019). We also show that Am. muticum cannot be separated from Aegilops, as it is sister taxon to Ae. speltoides for nuclear data and is both a progenitor of, and introgressed by, other Aegilops species as shown from D statistics and plastid phylogenies (Yamane and Kawahara, 2005; Bordbar et al., 2011; Bernhardt et al., 2017). As the scenario proposed here is highly reticulate, it is necessary to obtain extensive genome information for all diploid species of this group to test predictions regarding composite genomes. Hybrid speciation and introgression should influence genome organization, the presence of syntenic blocks, and the occurrence of different transposable elements within the basic and hybrid lineages of the wheat-group taxa. In more general terms, the question remains if the important role of hybrid speciation and introgression that we found in the wheat group is a peculiarity of these taxa or if it plays an important role in most grasses, or generally in plant evolution but has not yet been detected, as studies using an approach similar to ours are still mainly in their infancy.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Plant materials

We analyzed 97 individuals representing all diploid species of the WWR with multiple individuals plus three outgroup taxa (i.e. Dasypyrum, Hordeum, Taeniatherum) of the grass tribe Triticeae (Table S5). All materials were grown from seed and identified based on morphological characteristics if an inflorescence was produced. Vouchers of the morphologically identified materials were deposited in the herbarium of IPK (GAT). Genome size and ploidy level of 83 individuals were initially verified by flow cytometry and genomic DNA was extracted as in Bernhardt et al. (2017).

Design of capture probes and library preparation for target enrichment

We used the assembly of H. vulgare cv 'Morex' (Mayer et al., 2012), the only Triticeae draft genome that was available at the time of bait design, to select loci for which orthology could be confirmed when comparing these to the fully sequenced grass genomes of Brachypodium distachyon, rice, and sorghum (Vogel et al., 2010; Matsumoto et al., 2011; Mayer et al., 2011).

Subsequently, one locus was selected every 0.5 cM on all H. vulgare chromosomes. These loci were used for BLAST comparisons (Altschul et al., 1990) against available data of Brachypodium, rice, sorghum, barley, and wheat. Multiple sequence alignments were built including full-length cDNA (fl-cDNA) and genomic DNA sequences. Finally, 451 loci were chosen for the design of hybridization probes, if they showed: (i) a conserved exon-intron structure, (ii) a total length of exonic region larger than 1000 bp, with (iii) a minimum size of single exons being 120 bp, and (iv) introns separating adjacent short exons being smaller than 400 bp. The design of capture probes for the selected loci was finally based only on fl-cDNAs from H. vulgare and T. aestivum, two distantly related Triticeae taxa, and Brachypodium distachyon, which was used to broaden the taxonomic spectrum. Capture probes for each of the loci were designed on exon sequences of all three species. The loci used for bait design are evenly distributed over the A-, B-, and D-genomes of T. aestivum (Table S1 and Figure S1). The total exonic sequence information considered in bait design amounts to 690 kb. Custom PERL scripts were used to design bait sequences that were submitted to the web-based application eARRAY (Agilent Technologies). A detailed description of the bait design can be found in the Experimental procedures S1.

For each of the selected 69 samples (Table S5) 3 μg genomic DNA was sheared into fragments having an average length of 400 bp. The sheared DNA was used in a sequence-capture approach (SureSelect^{XT} Target Enrichment for Illumina Paired-End Sequencing, Agilent Technologies). All samples were barcoded, pooled, and sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq 2000 or MiSeq. For further details see Experimental procedures SI.

Library construction and sequencing for genotyping-bysequencing

GBS and Illumina sequencing were performed for 57 individuals (Table S5) following Wendler et al. (2014). Dasypyrum villosum and Taeniatherum caput-medusae were included as outgroup taxa. For each individual, 200 ng genomic DNA were digested by two restriction enzymes PstI-HF (CTGCAG, NEB Inc.) and Mspl (CCGG, NEB Inc.). Sequencing was carried out on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 obtaining 100 bp single-end reads.

Target-enrichment data assembly and analyses

Assembly. The loci were assembled in a two steps procedure. First, all 451 loci were assembled in a fast and non-stringent approach to evaluate if the capture worked sufficiently and if the loci are truly single-copy in most of the taxa. For each sample, the sequence reads were mapped to the barley genome assembly (Mayer et al., 2012) using the Burrows-Wheeler Alignment (BWA) Tool v.0.7.8 (Li and Durbin, 2009). Consensus sequences were called using SAMTOOLS v.1.1. (Li et al., 2009; Li, 2011) and converted into FASTA sequences using VCFUTILS and SEOTK V.1.0 (Heng Li, https://github.com/lh3/seqtk). The percentage of ambiguous sites was determined for each sequence in locus-wise multiple sequence alignments. Allelic diversity is assumed to be much lower than 1% for single- and low-copy-number loci (for comparison see Jakob et al., 2014). Therefore, a high percentage of ambiguous positions for sequences of the same species are assumed to reflect the presence of paralogous gene copies. Finally, loci with an average number of ambiguous sites >1% in six or more species of Aegilops and Triticum were considered as multicopy loci (Table S3). Then, the loci found to be mainly lowcopy-number loci were kept and selected for a refined assembly procedure if they had a length of at least 1000 bp, contained less

than 25% of missing data and had at least 15% of parsimony-informative positions, as identified with PAUP v.*4.0a146 (Swofford, 2002). The refined assembly was performed in Generous v.10.0.5 (Kearse *et al.*, 2012), as it can reliably assemble short insertions and deletions (Smith, 2015). For further details see Experimental procedures SI.

Phylogenetic analyses. To infer the phylogeny of the wheat relatives, we adopted an analysis approach consisting of the following steps. After aligning the sequences for all loci separately: (i) models of sequence evolution were determined for each locus; (ii) gene trees were inferred for each locus by M; (iii) the degree of gene tree/species tree conflict was investigated in detail using Phy-Parts; (iv) concatenated sequences from all loci (supermatrix) were used for BI, ML, MP, and NeighbornNet analyses; (v) multispecies coalescent-based analyses were conducted to infer species trees from the ML gene trees; and (vi) phylogenetic networks were calculated based on the ML gene tree topologies. These analysis steps are detailed below.

Gene tree inference. Individual gene trees were inferred using RAxML v.8.1 (Stamatakis, 2014) under the GTRCAT model, rapid bootstrapping of 100 replicates and search for the best-scoring ML tree. To reduce noise from the data, the ML trees were further processed by contracting low support branches (bootstrap-values < 10) as suggested by (Chao et al., 2018) with the Newick utilities function nw_ed and rerooted using the MRCA of Hordeum as the outgroup with the function nw_reroot (Junier and Zdobnov, 2010).

Supermatrix phylogeny. Multiple sequence alignments of all 244 loci were concatenated. Bayesian inference was performed in MRBAYES v.3.2.6 (Ronquist et al., 2012) on CIPRES, Cyberinfrastructure for Phylogenetic Research Science Gateway 3.3 (Miller et al., 2010). The best-fitting models of sequence evolution were estimated by making the MCMC sampling to be across all substitution models, as described in Bernhardt et al. (2017). Hordeum vulgare was set as the outgroup. An alternative approach to visualize the variation in the data was conducted by computing an unrooted phylogenetic network via Splitstree v.4.14.8 (Huson and Bryant, 2006). The tool was run using the algorithms Uncorrected P, NeighborNet, and EqualeAngle for the matrix of the 244 concatenated target-enrichment loci.

An MP analysis of the supermatrix was conducted in PAUP* v.4.0a146 (Swofford, 2002) to see if the phylogeny obtained by BI were sufficiently robust with regards to different analysis algorithms. The MP analysis was run using a heuristic search with 100 random-addition sequences and tree bisection and reconnection (TBR) branch swapping, saving all shortest trees. Node support was evaluated by 500 bootstrap re-samples with the same settings but without random-addition sequences.

Coalescent-based species tree estimation. The effect of gene tree conflicts due to ILS was addressed using the short-cut coalescence method ASTRAL (Mirarab *et al.*, 2014; Chao *et al.*, 2018), which is able to estimate the true species tree with high probability, given a sufficiently large number of correct gene trees under the MSC model. ASTRAL-III v.5.6.3 was run using 244 the ML edited and rerooted gene trees pre-estimated in RAxML.

Differences among gene trees. PhyParts (Smith et al., 2015) was used to summarize the amount of concordant and conflicting phylogenetic signals from the 244 ML gene trees with the Astral topology as species tree. Visualization of the output was done as

in Kates et al. (2018) and Villaverde et al. (2018), and using the phypartspiecharts.py script of M. Johnson available at www. github.com/mossmatters/phyloscripts.

Maximum pseudolikelihood gene tree-based phylogenetic networks estimation. Throughout all analyses Ae. sharonensis grouped within Ae. longissima and T. monococcum within T. boeoticum. This result confirmed previously known findings for these species, that is Ae. sharonensis and Ae. longissima are closely related taxa, and the unified or separate treatment of the two Triticum taxa is debated (van Slageren, 1994; Bernhardt, 2015). Here we used Ae. sharonensis and T. boeoticum if accessions were assigned to this taxon in the donor seed bank. However, due to their strong genetic similarity we treated Ae. sharonensis and Ae. longissima as well as T. boeoticum and T. monococcum as con-specific.

The effect of gene tree conflicts due to hybridizations was investigated with the maximum pseudolikelihood method InferNetwork_MPL (Yu and Nakhleh, 2015) included in the package PhyloNet (Than et al., 2008; Wen et al., 2018). The set of ML gene trees analyzed with ASTRAL was used as input for PHYLoNet, allowing for zero to five hybridizations, other options were left to default. For each analysis, the best network was recorded and these were compared using the Akaike information criterion (AIC; Akaike, 1974). As suggested by Yu et al. (2012) and Morales-Briones et al. (2018), the number of parameters was set to the number of branches plus the number of hybridization probabilities being estimated. The network with the lowest AIC score was selected as the best-fit multispecies network. The network was visualized with Dendroscope (Huson and Scornavacca, 2012).

Assembly and analysis of GBS data

The assembly of the GBS data was performed de novo using IPYRAD v.0.7.17 (Eaton, 2014; https://github.com/dereneaton/ipyrad), with strict filtering for adapters and restricting the maximum number of heterozygous sites per locus to 25%. Default settings were used for the remaining parameters.

A species tree based on SVDQUARTETS (Chifman and Kubatko, 2014) under multispecies coalescence was estimated using Tet-RAD, as implemented in IPYRAD v.0.7.17 with 100 bootstrap replicates. For comparison with the target-enrichment data, Splitstree v.4.14.8 (Huson and Bryant, 2006) was run using the methods Uncorrected P, NeighborNet and EqualeAngle to compute unrooted phylogenetic networks for 807 909 SNPs of the GBS analysis.

Identification of hybrid taxa

We used Four-taxon D statistics (Green et al., 2010a; Durand et al., 2011; Eaton and Ree, 2013) for the GBS data to identify candidate lineages involved in the introgressive hybridization within a fixed phylogeny (((P1, P2) P3), O). Under ILS alone, the number of shared SNPs resulting in an incongruent topology (i.e. ABBA and BABA) are expected to be equivalent. If P3 was involved in an introgressive event with P1, it will share more SNPs with P1 (i.e. BABA patterns) than with P2 (i.e. ABBA patterns).

The VCF file generated by IPYRAD was first filtered with SAM-TOOLS/BCFTOOLS (Li, 2011) retaining only unlinked SNPs. Four-Taxon D statistic tests were performed using the routine Dtrios of DSUITE (Malinsky, 2019; https://github.com/millanek/Dsuite). We first tested if Taeniatherum caput-medusae was involved in any introgressions. As no hybridization signal was found (Figure S10) and,

because it is sharing more loci with the WWR than D. villosum, Ta. caput-medusae was used as outgroup taxon for all following tests. The VCF file was further processed to exclude all *D. villosum* individuals and Dtrios was used to perform 220 tests. ASTRAL topology (Figure 1a) was used to specify species relationships. D statistics significance was assessed using jackknife (Green et al., 2010a) on blocks of 100 SNPs. The function p.adjust in R v.3.5.3 (R Core Team, 2019) was used to apply a Benjamini-Yekutieli correction (Benjamini and Yekutieli, 2001). All 220 tests are summarized in Table S7. The results were visualized with the Ruby script 'plot_d.rb' available from M. Matschiner (https://github.com/mma

The D_{FOIL} test (Pease and Hahn, 2015; https://github.com/jbpease/dfoil/) was used on the GBS data. It relies on a symmetric five-taxon phylogeny (((P1, P2), (P3, P4)), O) to identify the direction of introgressions among the candidate taxa identified using the Four-taxon D statistic. All tests were performed on species-specific consensus sequences. For each species, the alignment of all loci was used to call a consensus sequence that represented all diversity within the species. Therefore, we used the '0% identical' threshold in Generous that minimizes the number of ambiguities. A custom workflow in Genelous was used to create datasets of five species including Ta. caput-medusae as outgroup. For all tests, we made sure that the estimated divergence times fitted the assumptions of the program, that is that P1 and P2 diverged after P3 and P4 in forward time, by excluding all tests that raised the warning 'b' (Table S8). We also used a feature of D_{FOIL} , that is D_{FOIL} alt, that excluded single derived-allele count for tests with an error warning 'c' (Table S8) following Leduc-Robert and Maddison (2018). As 216 tests were conducted, a Benjamini-Yekutieli correction (Benjamini and Yekutieli, 2001) was applied to all four statistics for each test with the function p.adjust in R 3.5.3 (R Core Team, 2019). A significance level of 0.01 was then used on the adjusted P-values to identify patterns of introgression.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Designed study: FRB, NB, BK. Coordinated study: NB. Provided data or materials: EMW, BK. Performed experiments: NB. Analyzed data: NB, JB, XD, FRB, and CHP. NB and FRB wrote the initial manuscript. All authors contributed to and approved the final version.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article.

- Figure S1. Representation of the physical locations of loci considered in bait design (left side) and low-copy loci used for analyses (right side) in the A-, B-, and D-genomes of T. aestivum.
- Figure S2. Phylogenetic tree derived from Bayesian phylogenetic inference of the concatenated matrix of 244 loci.
- Figure \$3. Single maximum parsimony tree derived from the concatenated matrix of 244 loci.
- Figure S4. Multispecies coalescent tree calculated with ASTRAL from separate ML trees of 244 loci.
- Figure S5. Phylogenetic network inferred via the NEIGHBORNET method in SPLITSTREE4 from the concatenated matrix of 244 target-enriched loci.
- Figure S6. Visualization of the degree of gene tree/species tree
- Figure S7. Phylogenetic networks inferred under the multispecies network coalescent (MSNC) from the 244 gene tree topologies with maximum pseudolikelihood.
- Figure S8. Consensus cladogram derived from a Tetrad analysis of the GBS data.
- Figure S9. Phylogenetic network inferred via the NEIGHBORNET method in SPLITSTREE4 from 807 909 SNPs using the full GBS
- Figure S10. Heatmap summarizing Four-taxon D statistic tests using Dasypyrum villosum as outgroup.
- **Table S1**. Overview of loci selected for the sequence capture.
- **Table S2.** Read statistics of the target-enrichment experiment.
- Table S3. The proportion of ambiguous positions per accession, locus, and among species/genera.
- Table S4. Read mapping per accession and information on the multiple sequence alignments and model of evolution for each of the 244 loci used for phylogenetic inference.
- Table S5. Overview of the material considered in this study.
- Table S6. Read and assembly statistics for the GBS data.
- Table S7. Four-taxon D statistics.
- Table S8. DFOIL test for introgression in wheat wild relatives from GBS data.
- Dataset S1. Assemblies of the 244 target enriched nuclear loci.
- Dataset S2. Maximum likelihood gene trees of the 244 target enriched nuclear loci.
- Dataset S3. Raw GBS data and concatenated GBS loci data
- Experimental procedures S1. Extended descriptions of bait design and conducted analyses.

OPEN RESEARCH BADGE



This article has earned an Open Data Badge for making publicly available the digitally shareable data necessary to reproduce the reported results. The data are available at http://dx.doi.org/10. 5447/IPK/2019/18

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The assemblies of the 244 enriched nuclear loci (Dataset S1), the 244 gene trees (Dataset S2), the demultiplexed

fasta-file of the barcoded reads for each accession used for GBS, and the matrix for the filtered loci (Dataset S3) are published via e!DAL-PGP (Arend et al., 2014, 2016) at http://dx.doi.org/10.5447/IPK/2019/18.

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