



Triticum dicoccoides в Хайфском Университете:
Генофонд, структурная и функциональная геномика,
клонирование генов, и приложения

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ВИР, Санкт-Петербург, 5 октября 2011



The Institute of Evolution (IOE)

IOE was founded in 1976, by Prof. E. Nevo, now foreign member of the USA National Academy of Science.

IOE includes ~30 researchers; 11 are full or associated professors.



Research activities

- Target organisms: microorganisms, plants, animals, humans
- Basic science is linked to applied research in agriculture, medicine, biotechnology, and industry
- Teaching at all levels – B.Sc., M.Sc., PhD, and posdocs
- Annual publication ~60-100 research articles, 2 books, 1-2 patents
- Grants: from BSF, BARD, GIF, DIP, CDR, INTAS, FP7, ISF

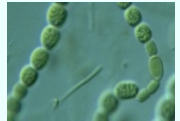
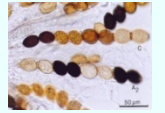
The Institute of Evolution

Research fields

- Biodiversity
- Molecular Biology & Evolution
- Evolutionary Cytogenetics
- Population Genetics
- Phylogenetics
- Genomics & Proteomics
- Bioinformatics
- Community Ecology
- Fungi Biotechnology
- Plant Ecology and Pollination
- Palaeobotany and Palaeoecology

Evolution & Biodiversity studies

- Ecology and genetics of natural populations
- Endangered species
- Evolution in action
- Assessment of environmental quality
- Genetic resources and their utilization



Wild cereals evolution & utilization program

- Origin of polyploid wheat genome
- Genetics of domestication
- Genetic resources: evaluation and conservation (Gene Bank)
- Cereal genomics: genetic/physical mapping, QTL analysis, MAS, cloning and sequencing



wild barley
H. spontaneum

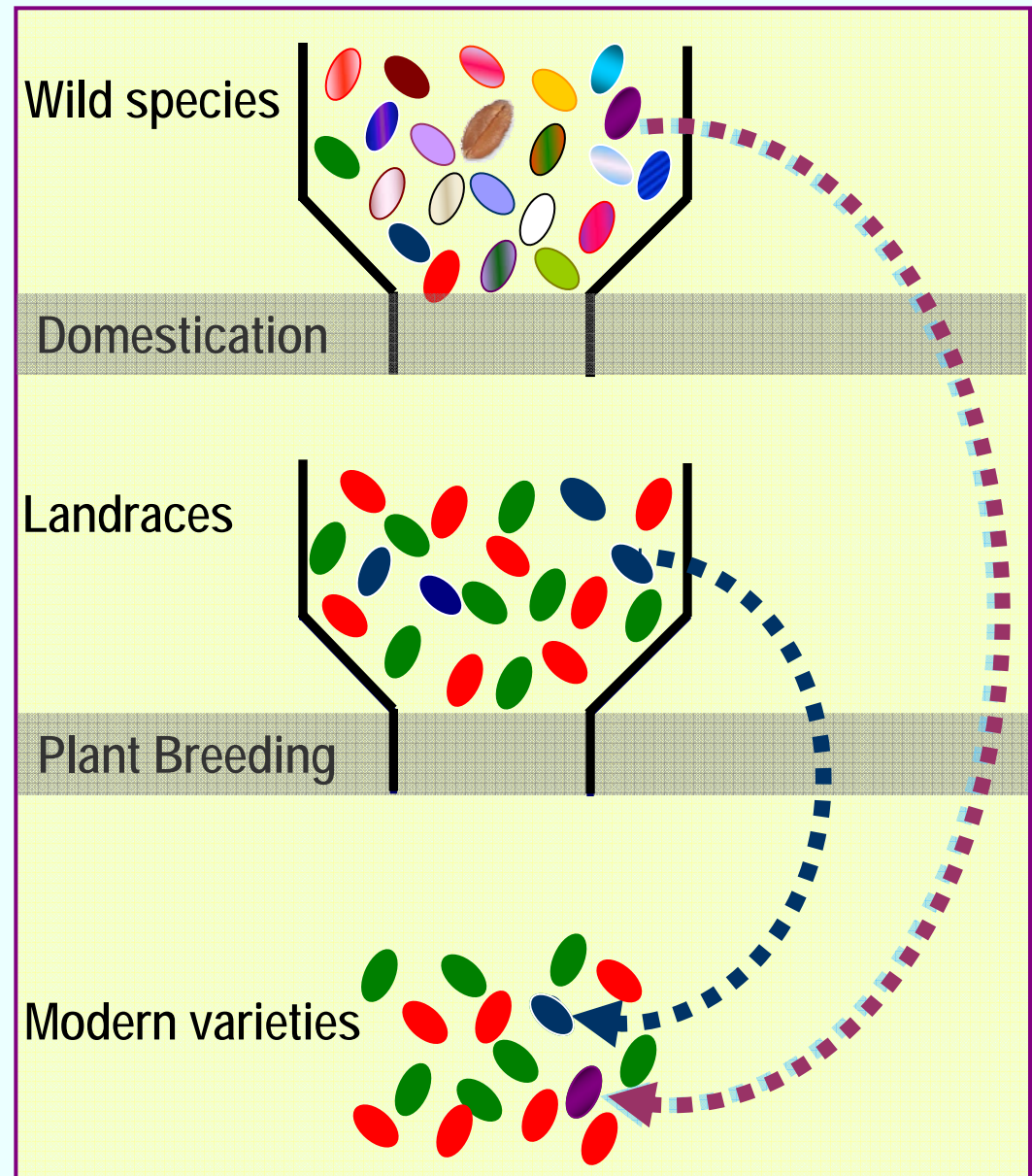
**Wild progenitors of the Old World
main domesticated plants**

wild emmer wheat
T. dicoccoides



Erosion of Genetic Diversity in Crop Plants

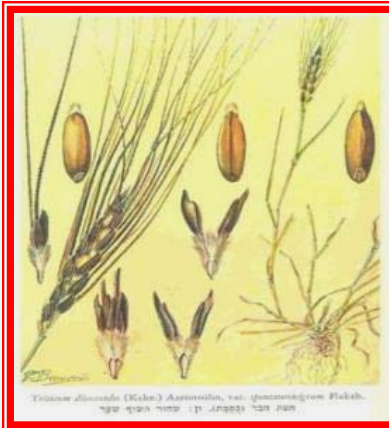
- ◆ Domestication and plant breeding practices caused an erosion in the genetic diversity of crop plants.
- ◆ The most promising source for novel genes and alleles are the gene pools of wild relatives of cultivated crops.



Wild Emmer Wheat



Aaron Aaronsohn



- ❖ discovered in Israel in 1906
- ❖ is the progenitor of domesticated wheat

Triticum turgidum ssp.
dicoccoides (Genome AABB)

Aaronsohn's vision was to use wild emmer wheat gene pool for improvement of cultivated wheat

100 year later

Wild Emmer Wheat



Can be crossed with



T. durum
 $2n=4x=28$, AABB, pasta



T. aestivum
 $2n=6x=42$, AABBDD
Bread wheat

Spike shattering



In the last 50 years about 50% of the wild wheat natural populations in Israel were lost due to urban/industrial development

Characterization of Wild Emmer Wheat Populations in Israel



Agronomic traits

- Disease resistance
- Drought tolerance
- Grain proteins
- Grain minerals (Fe, Zn)
- Salt tolerance
- Herbicide resistance
- Photosynthetic yield

Biodiversity studies

Gene Bank of wild relatives of crop plants

- Wild emmer wheat, *Triticum dicoccoides* (from Israel, Turkey, Jordan)
- Wild barley, *Hordeum spontaneum* (from Israel, Turkey, and Iran)
- Wild wheat relative, *Aegilops* complex (170 populations of 11 species)
- Wild oat, *Avena sterilis* (1000 genotypes from Israel)
- *Brachypodium*, an important model cereal with a small genome
- Wild lettuce, *Lactuca serriola* (from Israel, USA, Europe; ~ 22 countries)
- Wild lettuce, *Lactuca saligna* (600 genotypes from Israel)
- Wild lettuce, *Lactuca aculeata* (180 genotypes from Israel, Turkey, Jordan)

The gene bank is used for **basic research** (genomics, population genetics and cytogenetics, domestication evolution) and enables coordinated and integrated sampling and **conservation**, and **breeding utilization** of wild germplasm.

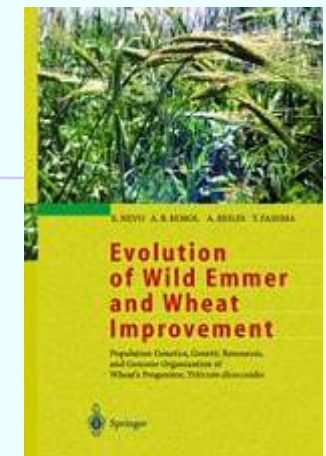
Wild Emmer Wheat Genetic Diversity

Agronomic traits

- Disease resistance
- Drought tolerance
- Grain proteins
- Salt tolerance
- Herbicide resistance
- Photosynthetic yield

Genetic Markers

- Allozymes
- SSRs
- RAPDs
- RGAs
- SNPs



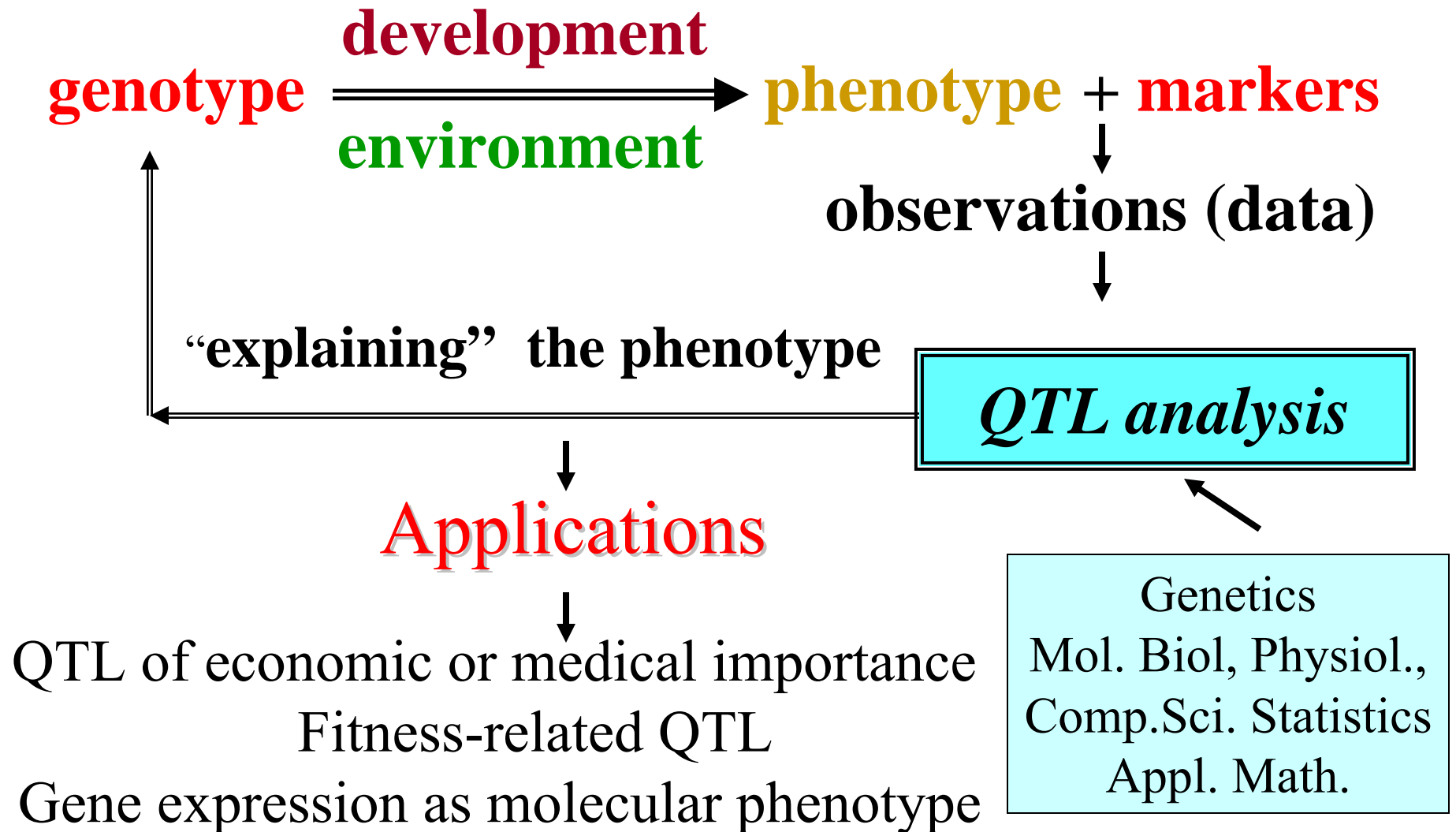
=► Rich diversity for crop improvement

Wheat Domestication Genomics

Study of genomic distribution of domestication QTLs
in a cross *T. durum* × *T. dicoccoides*

- How many loci (QTLs) involved
- How domestication QTLs are distributed
 - among genomes and chromosomes
 - within chromosomes
 - linkage vs. pleiotropy
- Characteristics of the QTLs

Genetic dissection of complex traits

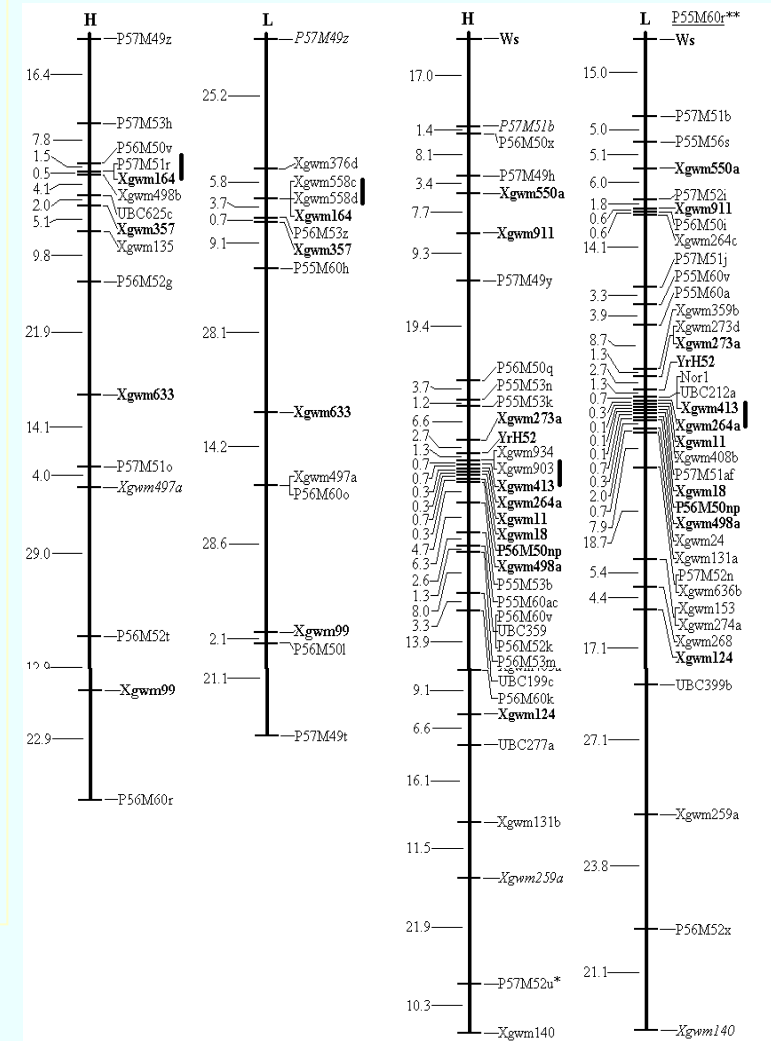


About the map

- Number of markers - 549
- Total map length - 3170 cM
- A genome - 1589
 - B genome - 1581
- Average interval - 9.9 cM
- A genome - 11.1
 - B genome - 8.9
- Marker clustering (χ^2)
- A genome - 0.92 ns
 - B genome - 19.97

Chr 1A

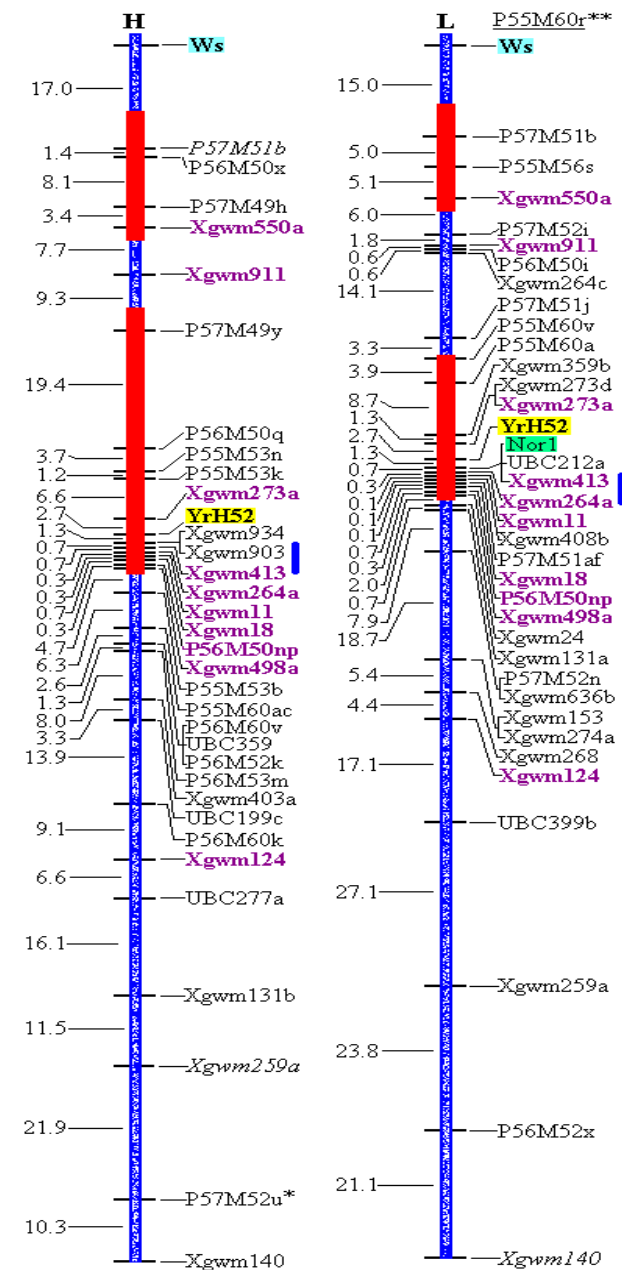
Chr 1B



Islands of *negative interference* in wheat chromosomes (e.g., 1B)

Negative interference seems to be not an exclusion (in wheat, barley, rye, *Drosophila*, and other species.

Together with marker reading errors, it may result in wrong marker orders → disagreement of genetic and physical maps



Highly pleiotropic *Domestication Syndrome* Factors (DSF) in tetraploid wheat

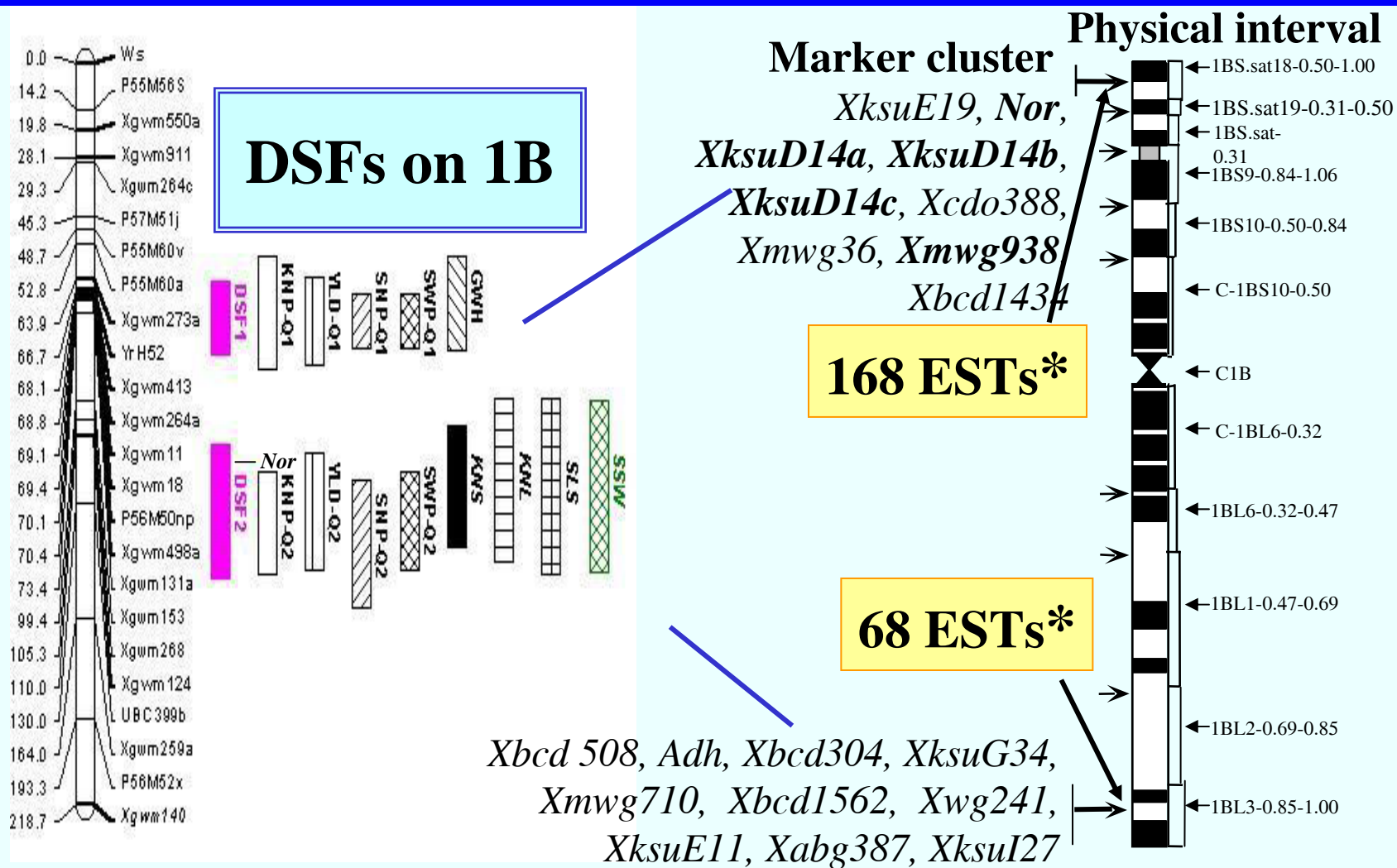
DSF	Chr.	Involved QTL effects	Interval	Position (cM)
DSF1	1B	KNP, YLD, GWH, SNP, SWP	Xgwm273a-Xgwm403a	68.6 ± 8.8
DSF2	1B	KNP, KNS, KNL, YLD, SNP, SLS, SWP, SSW	Xgwm124-P57M52u	133.9 ± 22.8
DSF3	2A	KNP, KNS, YLD, HD, SNP, SWP, SNP, SWP	Xgwm630c-Xgwm294	150.8 ± 31.4
DSF4	2A	KNP, KNS, KNL, YLD, GWH, SLS, SSW, SWP	Xgwm294-Br	216.8 ± 11.8
DSF5	3A	KNP, KNS, KNL, YLD, SSW, SWP	Xgwm218-Xgwm638	148.1 ± 28.4
DSF6	5A	KNP, KNS, KNL, YLD, HT, SLS, SSW, SWP	Xgwm154-P56M50m	72.5 ± 12.6
DSF7	5A	<i>all traits</i>	Xgwm186-P56M53c	144.2 ± 29.3

DSFs - *domestication syndrome* factors

Summary of the mapping results

- Seven intervals of strong effects (DSFs)
 - *domestication syndrome factors*
- Six out of seven DSFs appear as linked pairs
 - *some with same-sign QTL effects (e.g., on 5A),
but most with opposite-sign effects (e.g., on 2A)*
- **An excess of detected QTL effects in A genome**
- Remarkably, DSFs coincide with gene-rich regions

Mapping wheat domestication syndrome factors



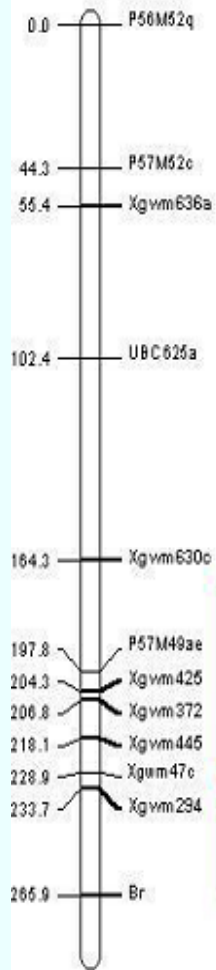
Peng et al. 2003
PNAS 100:
2489-2494

***EST loci mapped as of July, 2003**
http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html

Gill et al. 1996
Genetics 144:
1883-1891

Physical intervals

DSFs on 2A



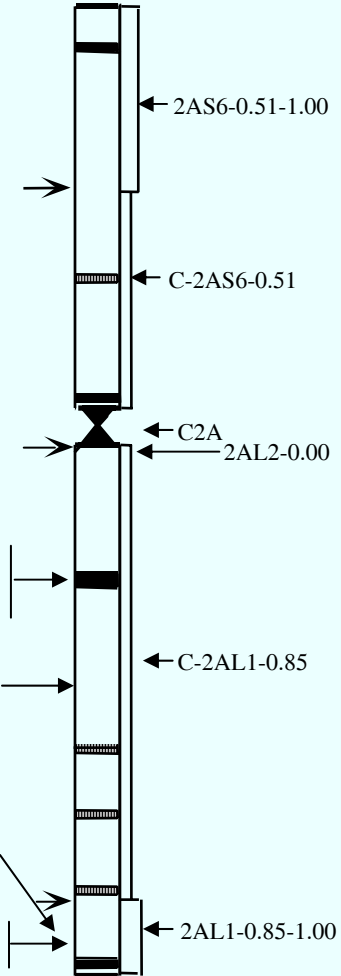
Marker cluster

Xpsr101, Xpsr102, Xpsr112, Xpsr388, XksuF15, XksuD22, XksuE16, XksuF2, XksuD8, Xbcd135

305 ESTs*

104 ESTs*

XksuF41, XksuH16, XksuI24, Xwg645

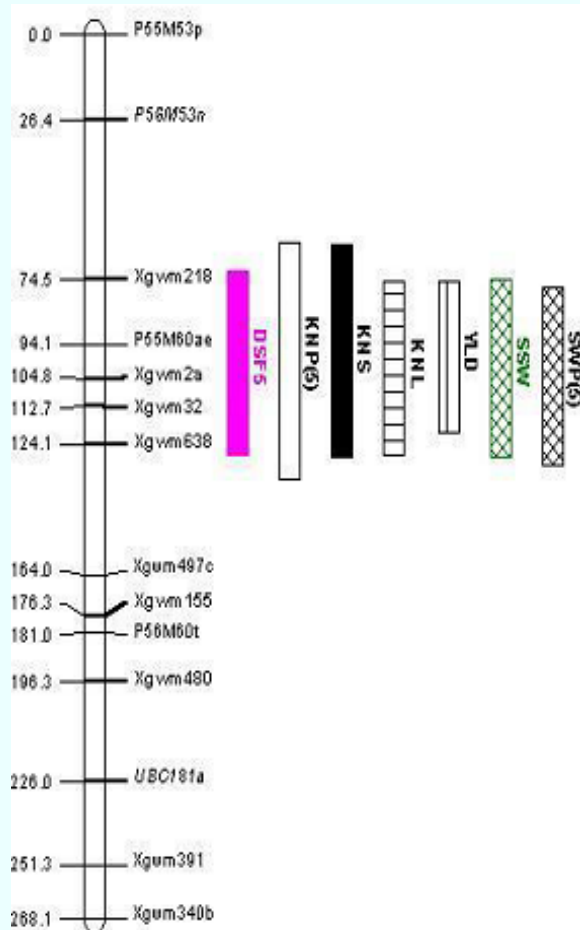


Peng *et al.*
2003 *PNAS*
100: 2489-94

*** EST loci mapped as of 2003**
http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html

Delaney *et al.*
2003 *Theor Appl Genet*
91: 568-73

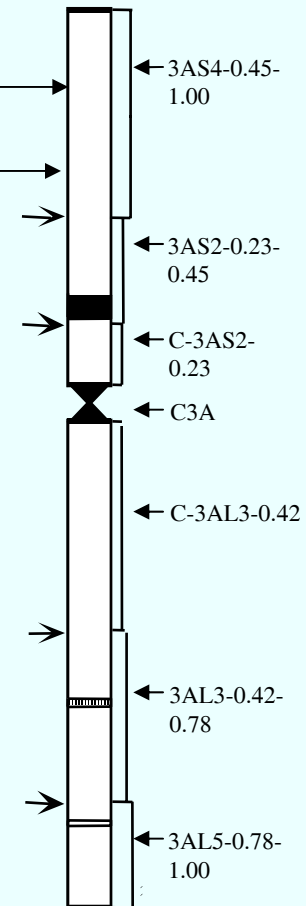
Marker cluster Physical intervals



*XksuE2, XksuG13, XksuG53,
XksuH7, XksuI32, Xpsr123,
Xpsr598, Xpsr698, Xpsr903,
Xpsr902, Xpsr910, Xpsr926,
Xglk724*

183 ESTs*

DSFs on 3A



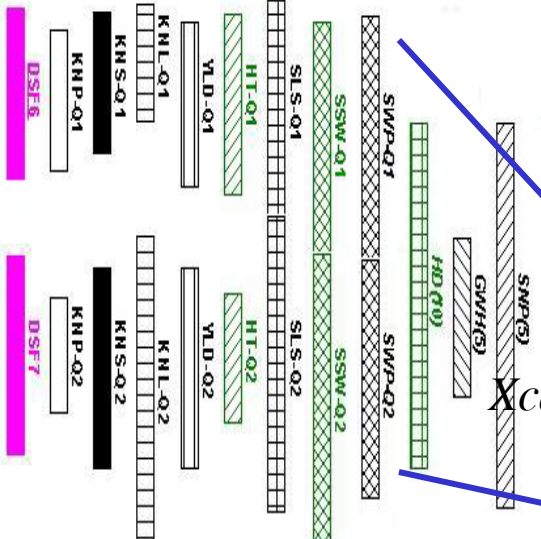
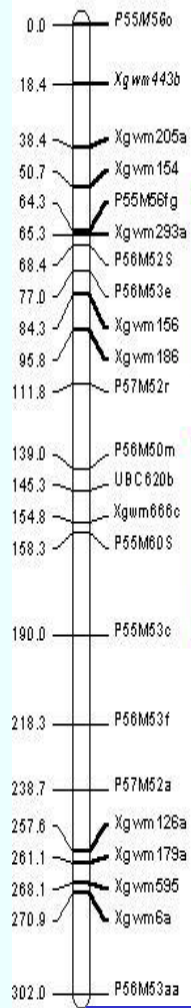
**Peng *et al.*
2003 PNAS
100: 2489-94**

*** EST loci mapped as of 2003
[http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/
project/mapping_data.html](http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html)**

**Delaney *et al.*
2003 *Theor Appl
Genet* 91: 780-2**

DSFs on 5A

Physical intervals



122 ESTs*

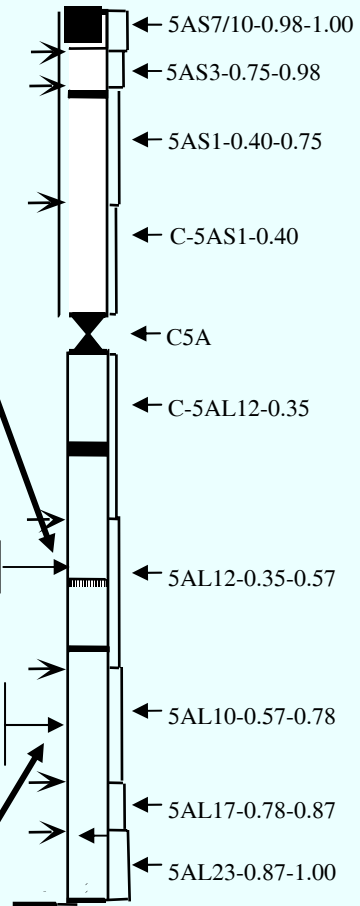
Marker clusters

XksuG7, Xbcd351, Xbcd157, Xcdo412, XksuH1, Xksu8, Xtag614, Xwg564, Xwg522, XksuQ45a

Xcdo385, Xbcd1734, Xbcd1235a, Xbcd21, Xmwg604, Xmwg805, Xbcd9a, Xcdo388, Xabc168, Xmgb63, Xmgb1, Xmwg522, Xbcd183, Xcdo1326, and other 60

62 ESTs*

markers

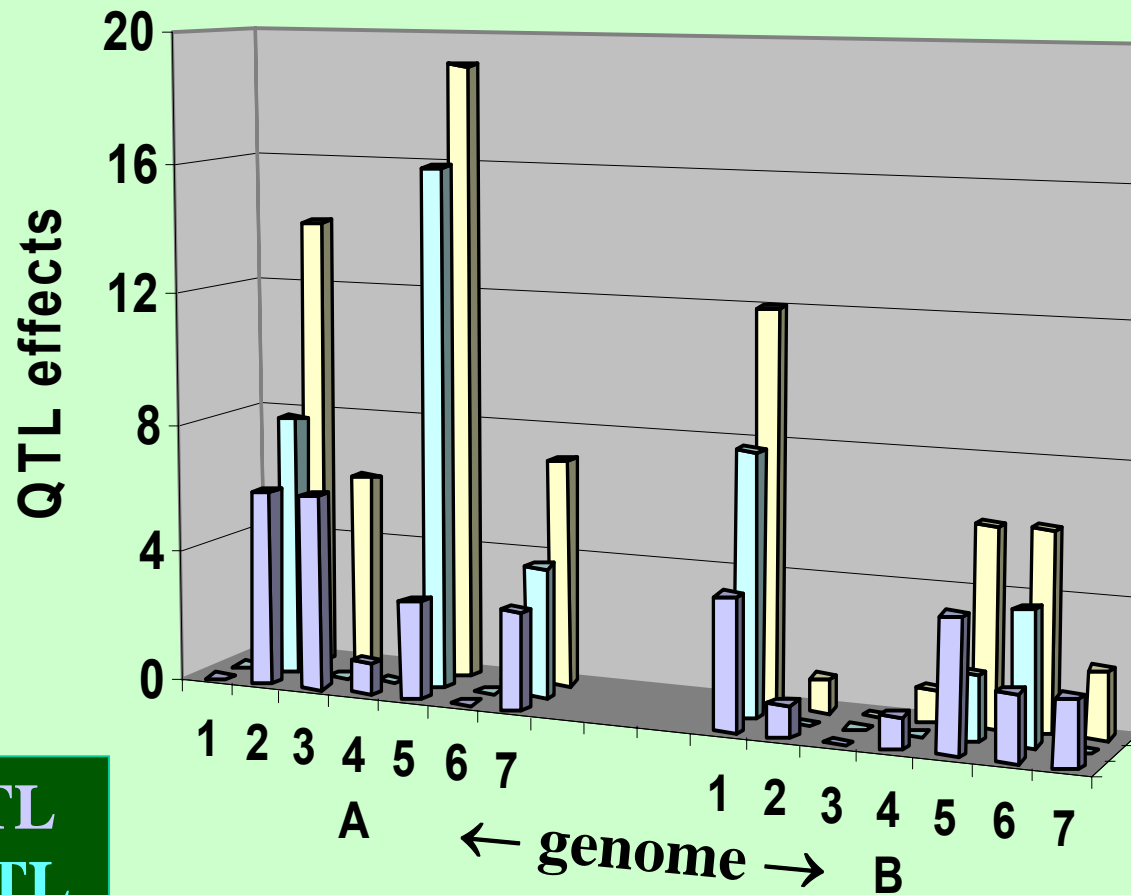


**Peng et al.
2003 PNAS
100: 2489-94**

*** EST loci mapped as of 2003
[http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/
project/mapping_data.html](http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html)**

**Faris et al. 2000
Genetics 154:
823-835**

Summary of the mapping results



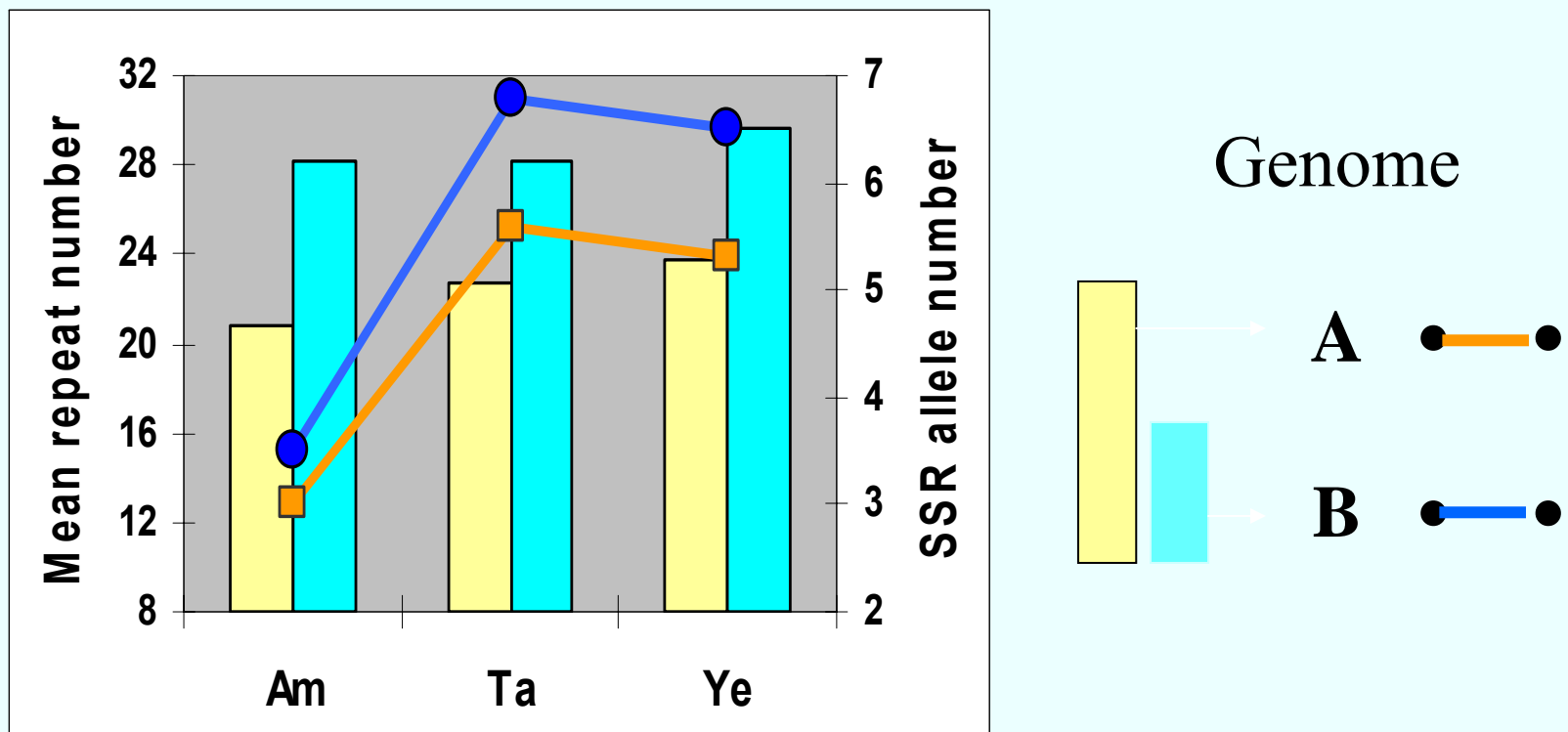
Single-QTL
Linked-QTL
S+L

Functional asymmetries in the tetraploid wheat genome

	A	B	$P_{1:1}$
QTL effects (FDR 5%)	37	16	0.004
Disease resistance genes	45	75	0.008
Mapped ESTs $\times 10^3$	5.3	5.9	ns
Mapped AFLP, %	40	60	0.007
Segregation-distorted loci	23	8	0.0004
Clustering of markers, χ^2	0.92	19.9	$<10^{-6}$

Genome asymmetry in population variation of wild wheat *T. dicoccoides*

(Li *et al.* 2000, *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 17: 851-862)



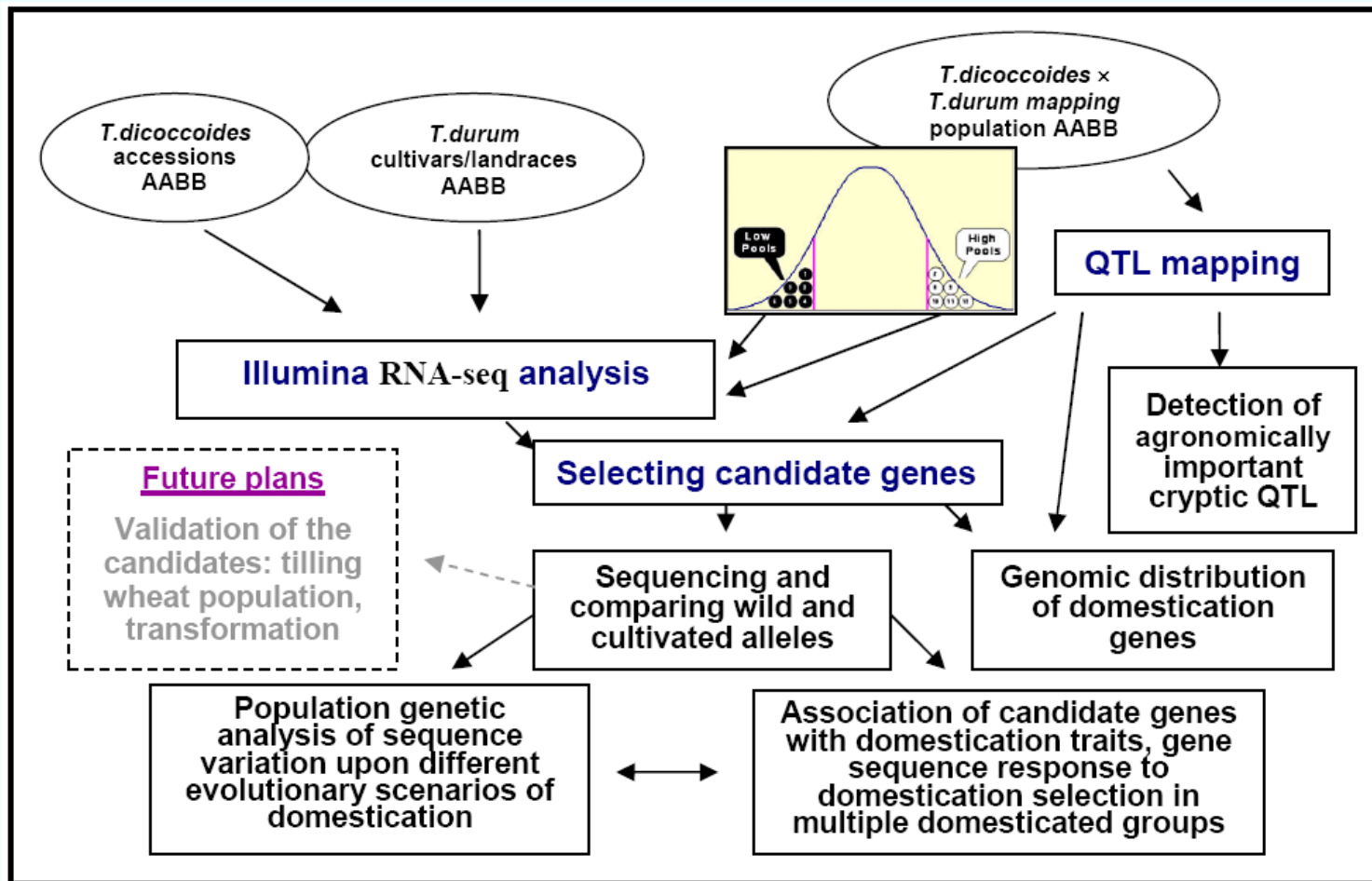
Am - Ammiad, Ta - Tabigha, Ye - Yehuddya

Hypothesis

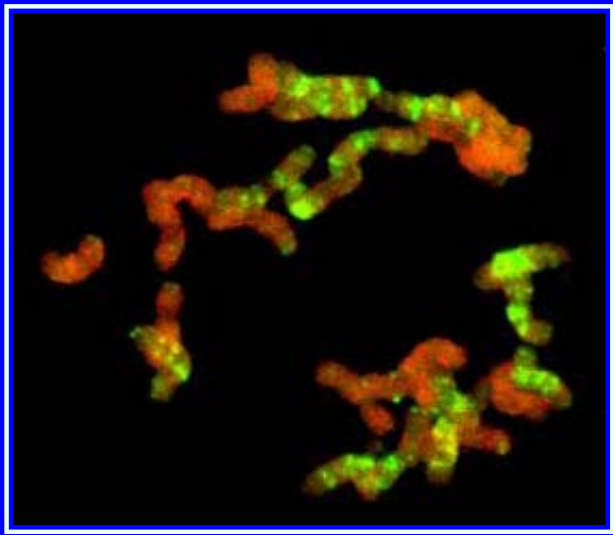
In the wild, B genome plays a more important role in adaptation of the allopolyploid to ecological conditions than A. Thus, during domestication the response to artificial selection was provided by allelic variation at A genome loci.

It is a testable hypothesis, but needs a high resolution of QTL analysis complemented by functional genomics and sequencing candidate genes

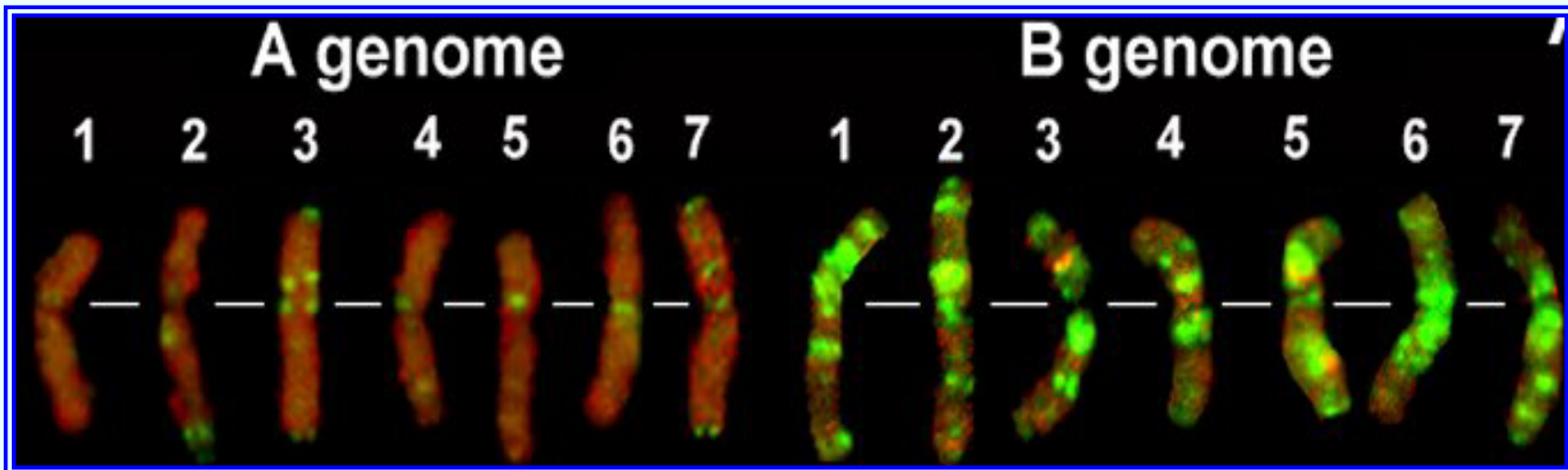
Our new ISF project on wheat Domestication Genomics



Evolutionary Cytogenetics

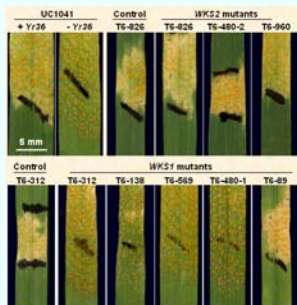


Genome in situ hybridization enables revealing and scoring evolutionary divergence of genomes as well as introgressions caused by interspecific recombination



Some Applied Wheat Genomic Studies

- **Software: Multi-Point, Multi-QTL and LTC** - powerful tools for Genetic and Physical Mapping that enabled us to develop better maps of the complex wheat genome
- *Yr15*, *YrH52*, *PmG3M*, *Gpc-B1* and *Yr36* - **novel genes** derived from wild emmer wheat
- *Gpc-B1* was the **first QTL** to be cloned in wheat
- *Yr36* (and *Lr34*) were the **first quantitative resistance** genes cloned in wheat
- The cloning of these genes is emphasizing the importance of **wild wheat gene pool** for crop improvement



Our mapping tools are distributed worldwide

USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Poland, Holland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Belgium, Switzerland, Russia, India, Japan, China, South Korea, Kenya, South Africa, Argentina, Australia, Israel



Positional cloning of agriculturally important genes derived from wild emmer wheat

Gene	Trait	Type	Location	Current status
<i>Gpc-B1</i>	High grain protein and mineral content	QTL	6BS	Cloned Uauy et al. <i>Science</i> 2006
<i>Yr36</i>	High-temperature stripe rust resistance	QTL	6BS	Cloned Fu et al. <i>Science</i> 2009
<i>Yr15</i>	Stripe rust resistance	Major gene	1BS	Physical mapping
<i>YrH52</i>	Stripe rust resistance	Major gene	1BS	Fine mapping/ physical mapping
<i>PmG3M</i>	Powdery mildew resistance	Major gene	6BL	Fine mapping

Complexity of Positional Cloning in Wheat

Relative Genome Size

1. Genome size 17,000 Mbp

Arabidopsis 145 Mbp (110×)

Rice 430 Mbp (35×)

Tomato 900 Mbp (16×)

Human 3,500 Mbp (5×)



(Bikram Gill, personal comm.)

2. Polyploidy

Triticum aestivum (6x) AABBDD

Triticum dicoccoides (4x) AABB

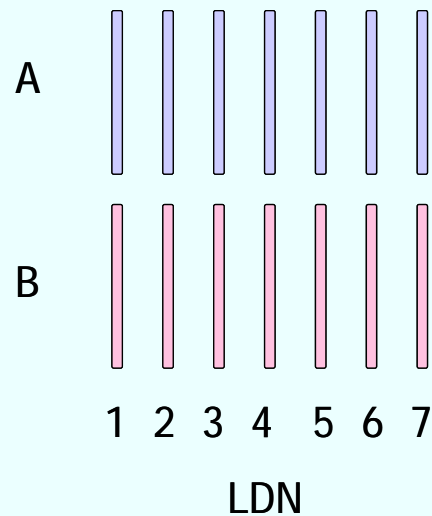
95% similarity between A, B & D genomes

3. Repetitive sequences

More than 80% repetitive (mainly transposon elements)

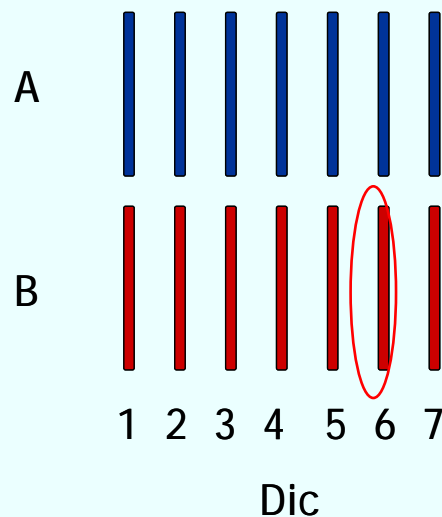
Wheat Genome is not sequenced (yet !!!)

A QTL for **Grain Protein Content** was identified using a set of Chromosome Substitution Lines



T. turgidum
ssp. durum

Low GPC



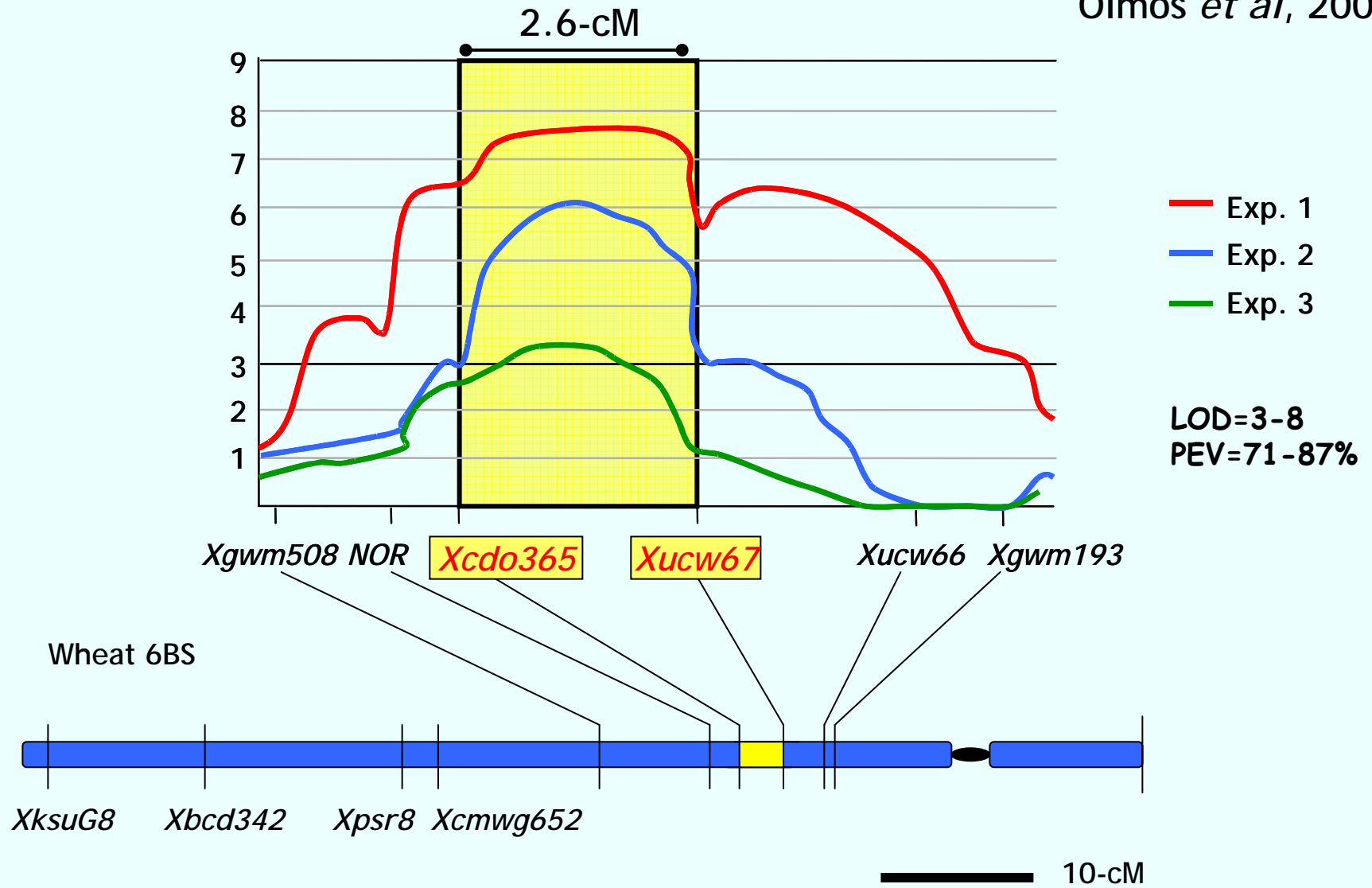
T. turgidum
ssp. dicoccoides

High GPC

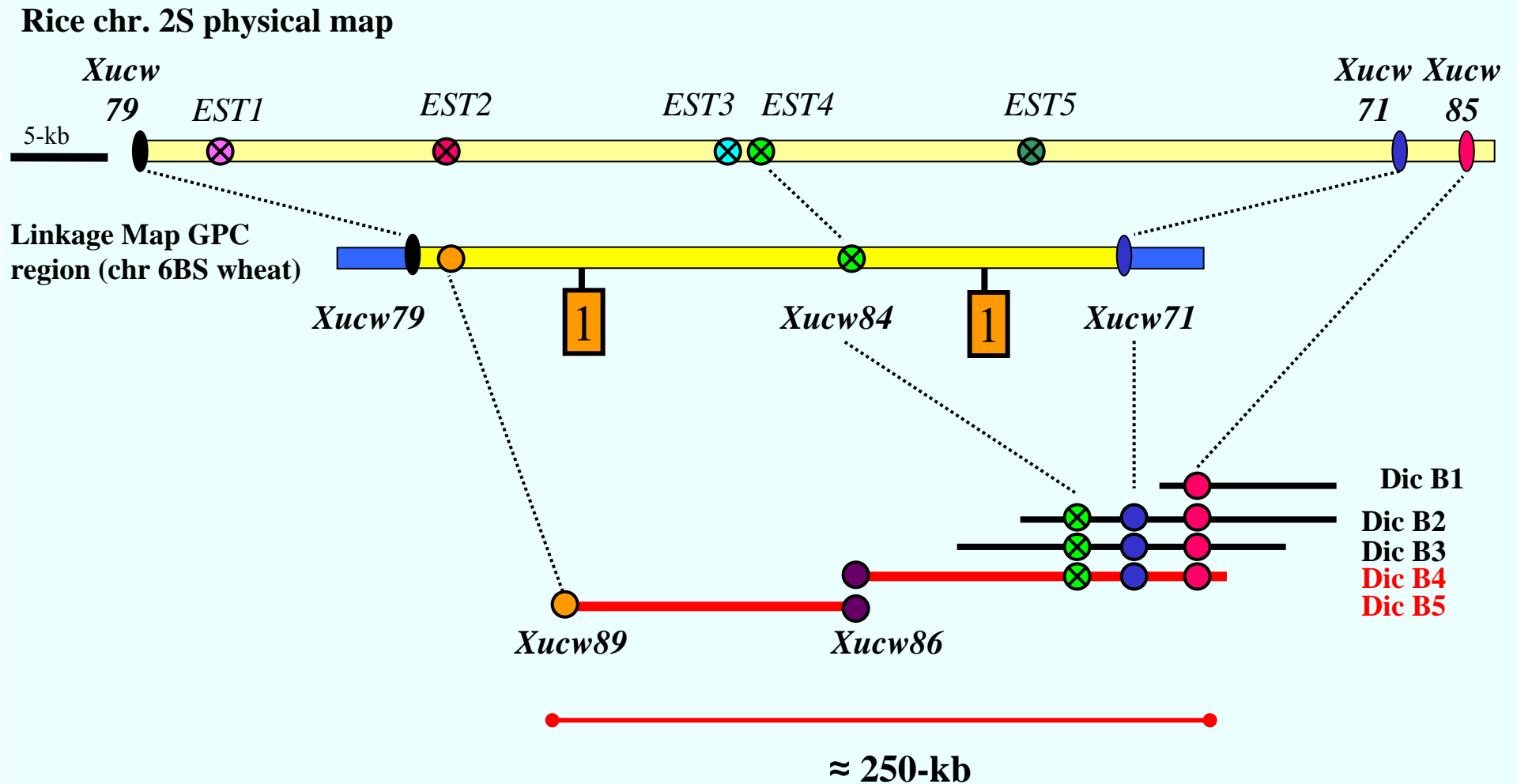
(Joppa *et al.*, 1990)

QTL mapping of *Gpc-B1* on 6BS

Olmos *et al*, 2003



Complete Physical Map of *Gpc-B1*



Distelfeld et al. (2006) *New Phytologist*

Proposed model for *Gpc-B1* effects

Earlier Senescence

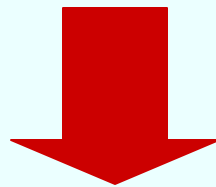
Degredation of cell components



Higher levels of soluble proteins and minerals available for remobilization



More efficient remobilization



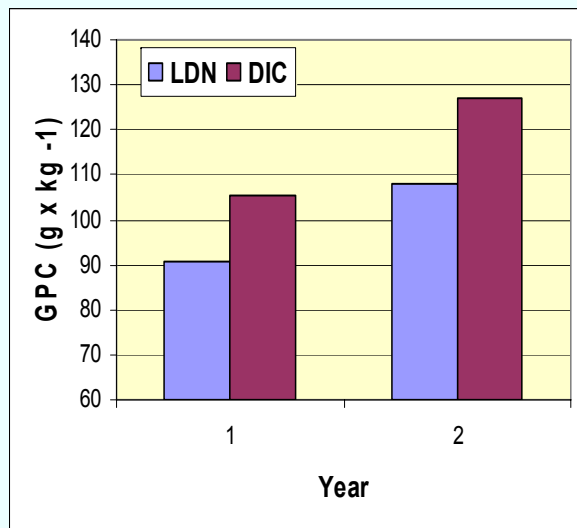
Higher grain protein and mineral concentrations (N, Zn, Fe)



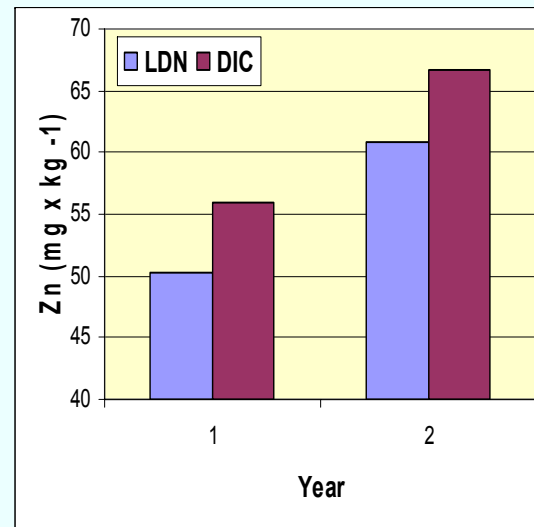
LDN

DIC

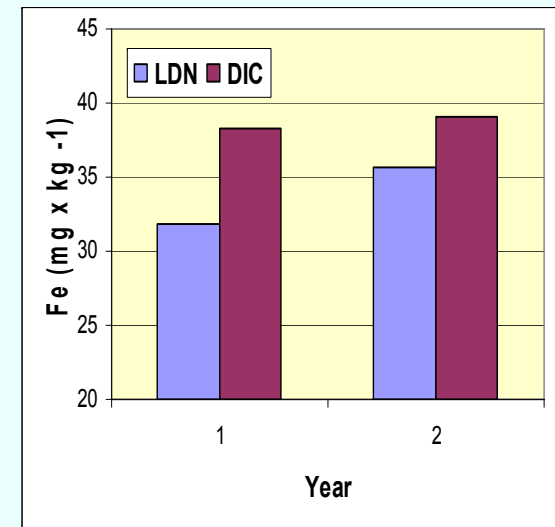
QTL effects of *GPC-B1* on: Protein, Zn and Fe concentrations in the grain



GPC



Zn



Fe

Average increase over 2 years of:

18 % in GPC

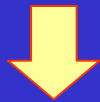
11 % in Zinc

15 % in Iron

Distelfeld et al. 2007, In collaboration with I.Cakmak & H.Budak

Importance of *GPC-B1* for wheat nutritional value

➤ 600 million tons
of wheat per year



Produce more than
60 million tons of
protein/year



Zinc deficiency in
diet can affect a
range of functions:

- Immune system
- Growth rate
- Brain development
- Sexual Reproduction



QTL Mapping of Valuable Traits in Tetraploid Wheat

Gitit × LDN Mapping Population (152 F₆ Recombinant Inbred Lines)

Gitit 18-16
Wild emmer wheat



Langdon
Durum wheat



×

↓
152 F₆ RILs

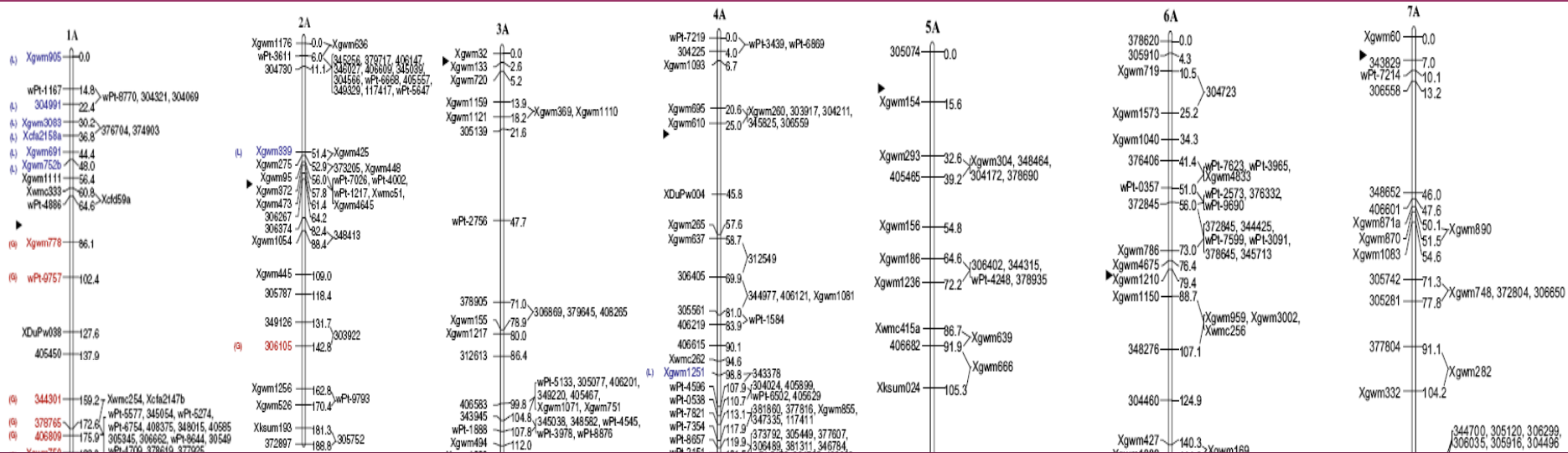
Spike Morphology

- **Color**
- **Length**
- **Seeds per spike**
- **Shape**
- **Weight**
- **etc.....**

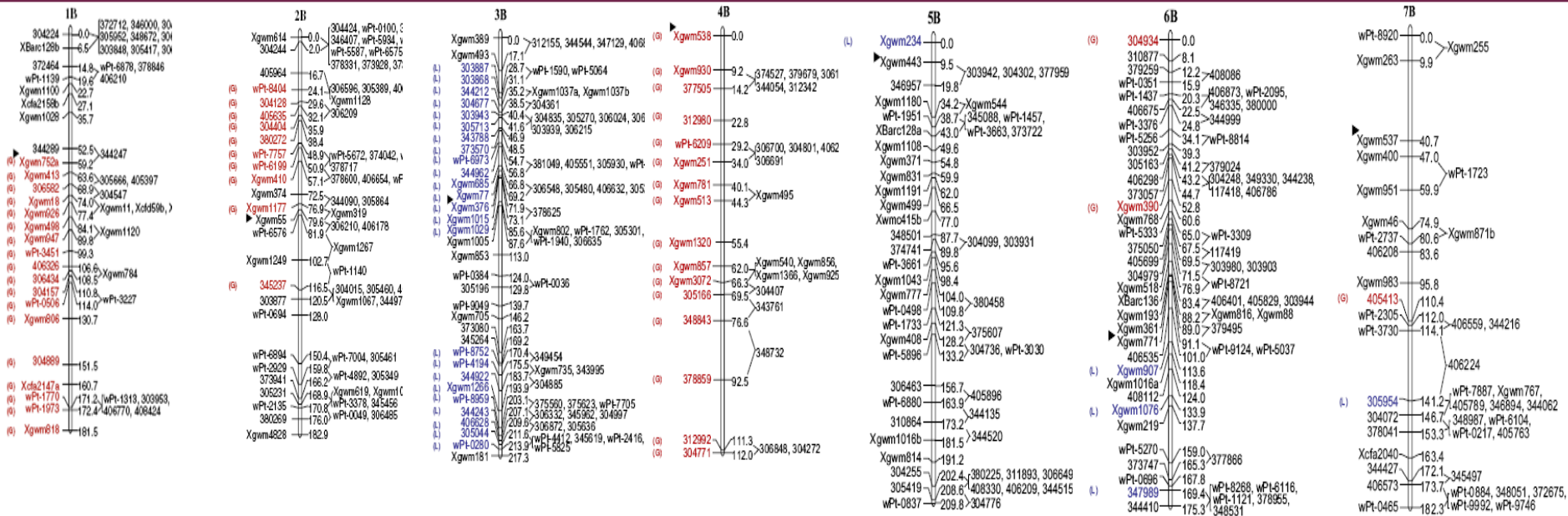


Mineral Content
Drought tolerance

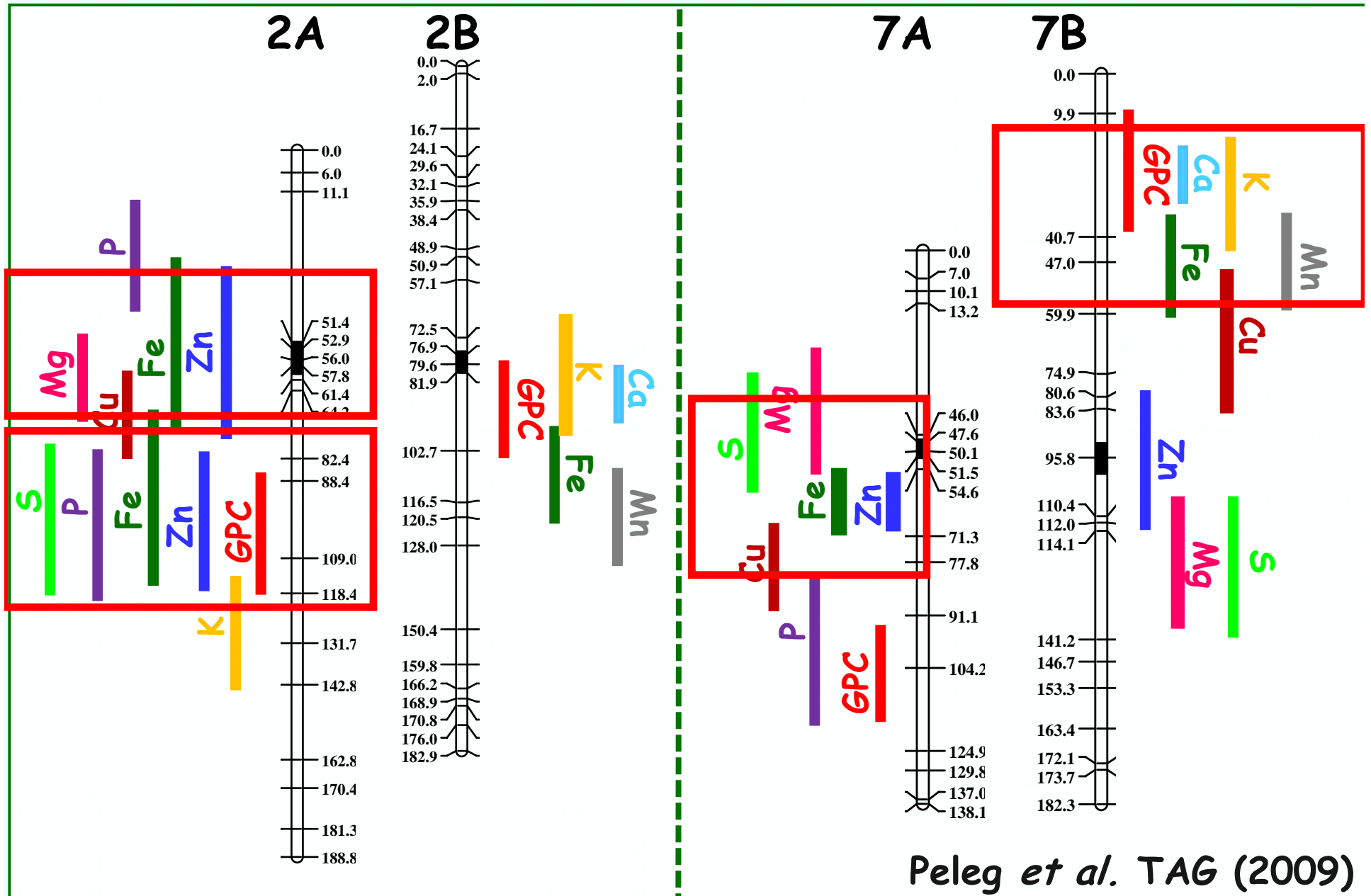
Genetic map based on 600 DNA markers



2300cM long, 7.5cM/Marker



QTL map of grain nutrients



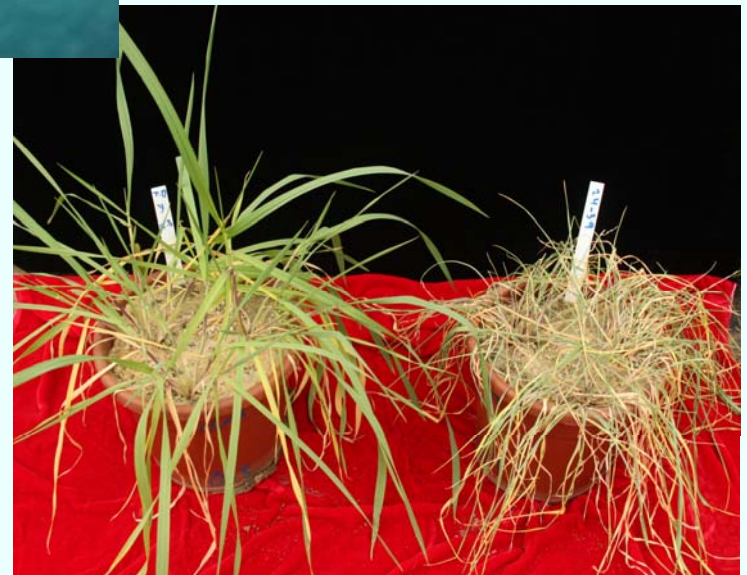
Emmer wheat as a source for drought stress tolerance

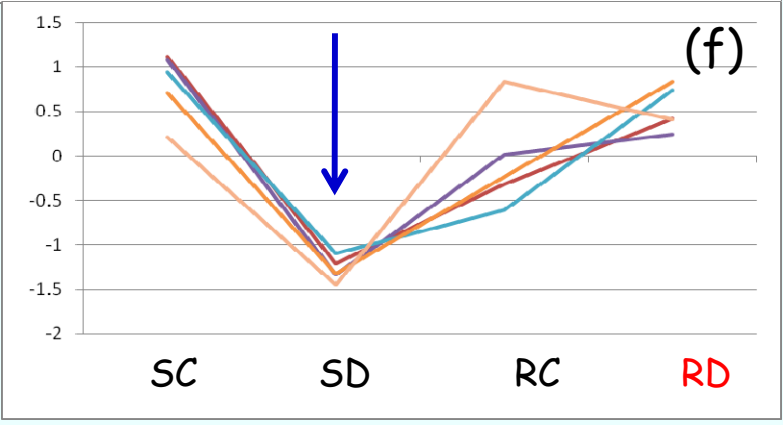
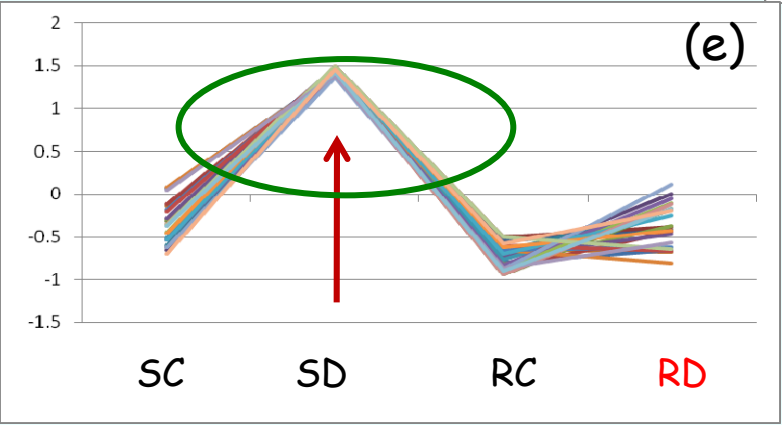
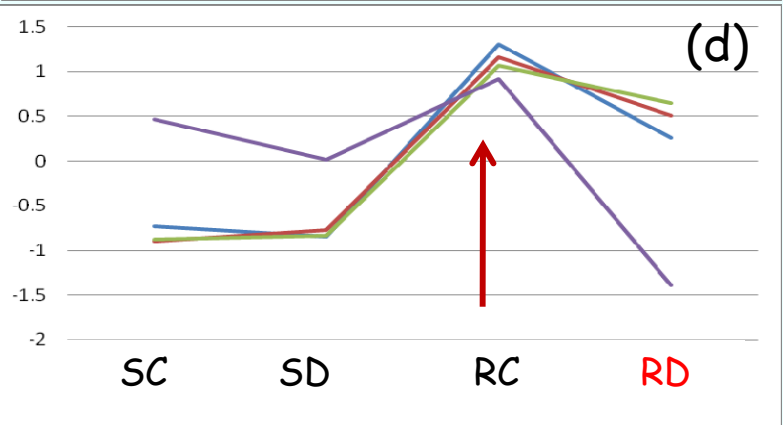
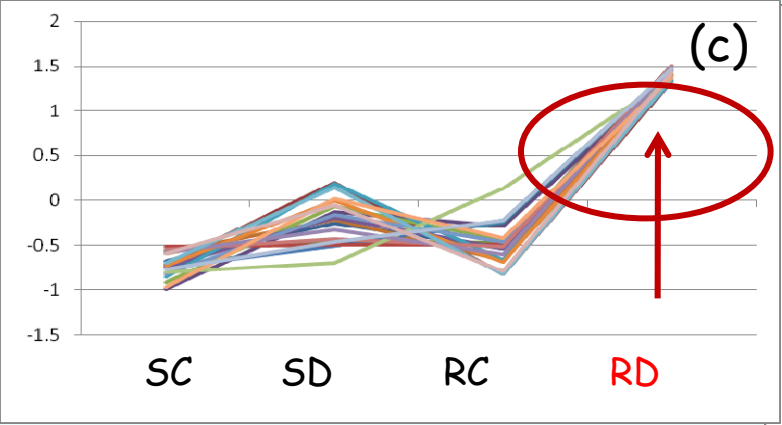
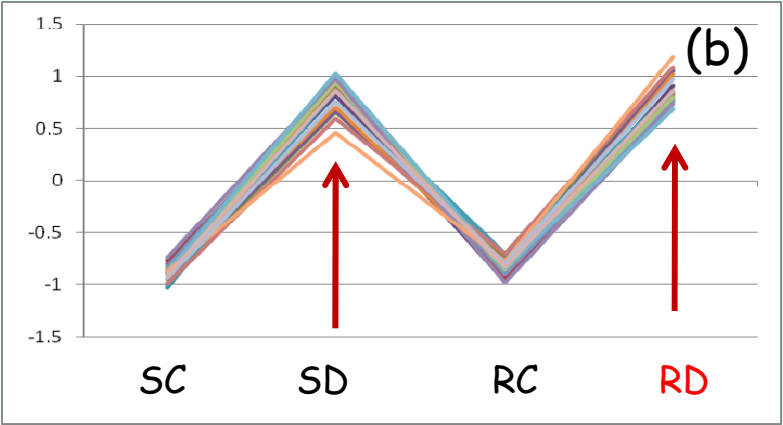
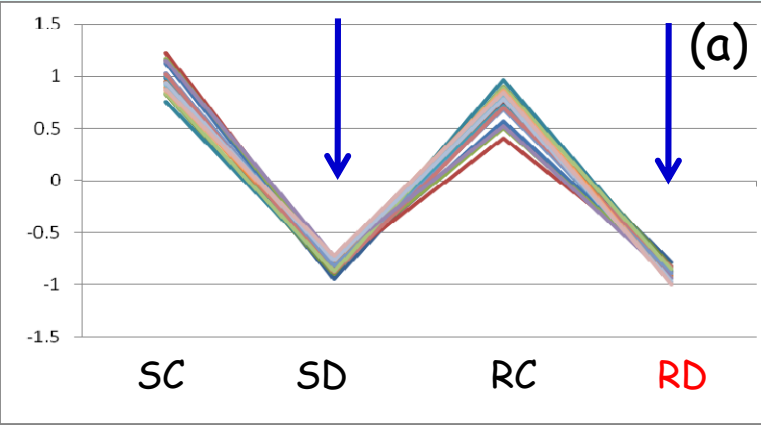
Drought stress is a major challenge for several fields in plant biology. In this study we used a multidisciplinary approach:

- Population genetics
- QTL mapping
- Functional genomics

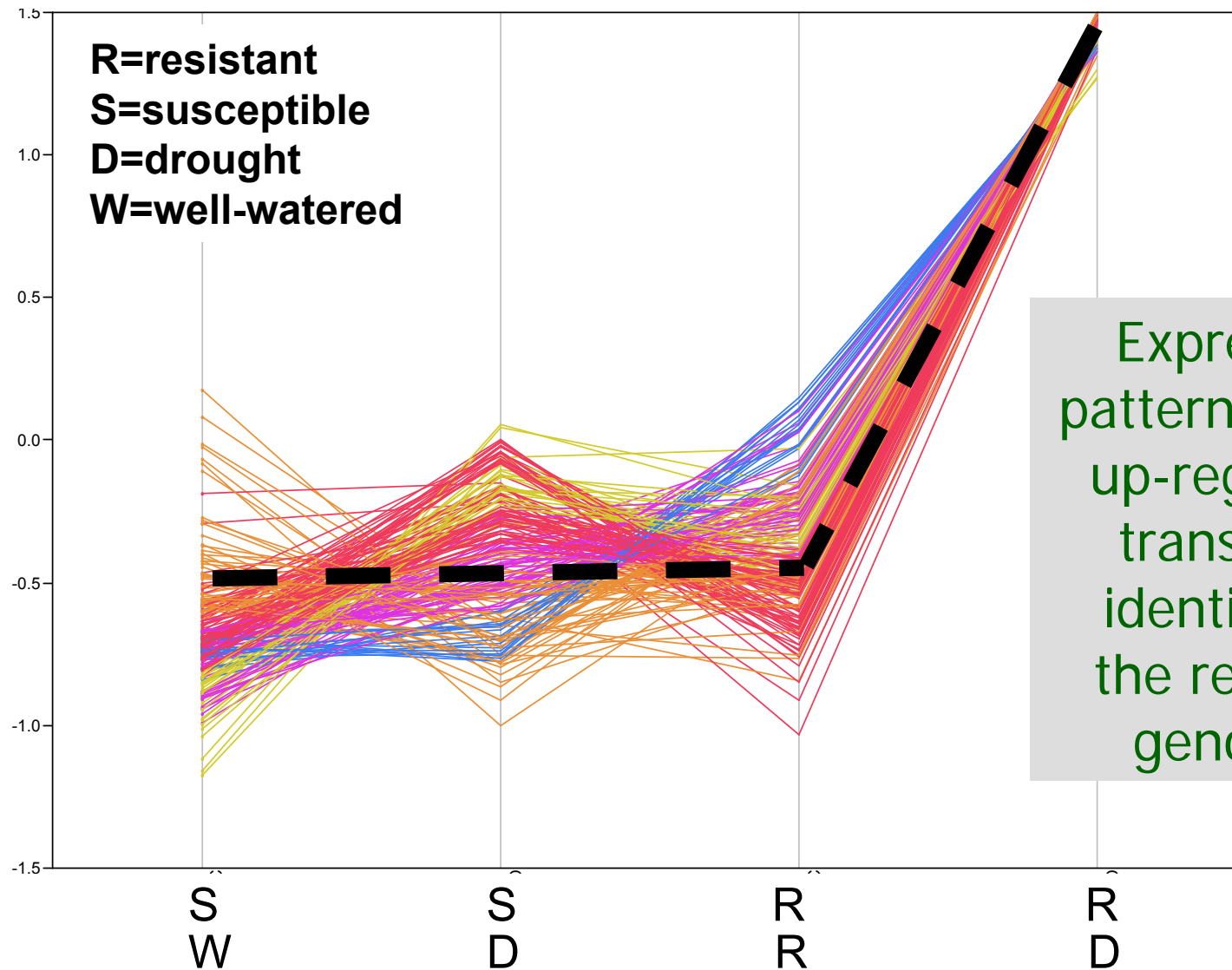
Assisted by

- Plant physiology
- Metabolomics





Transcriptome analysis to reveal candidate genes for drought stress tolerance in emmer wheat



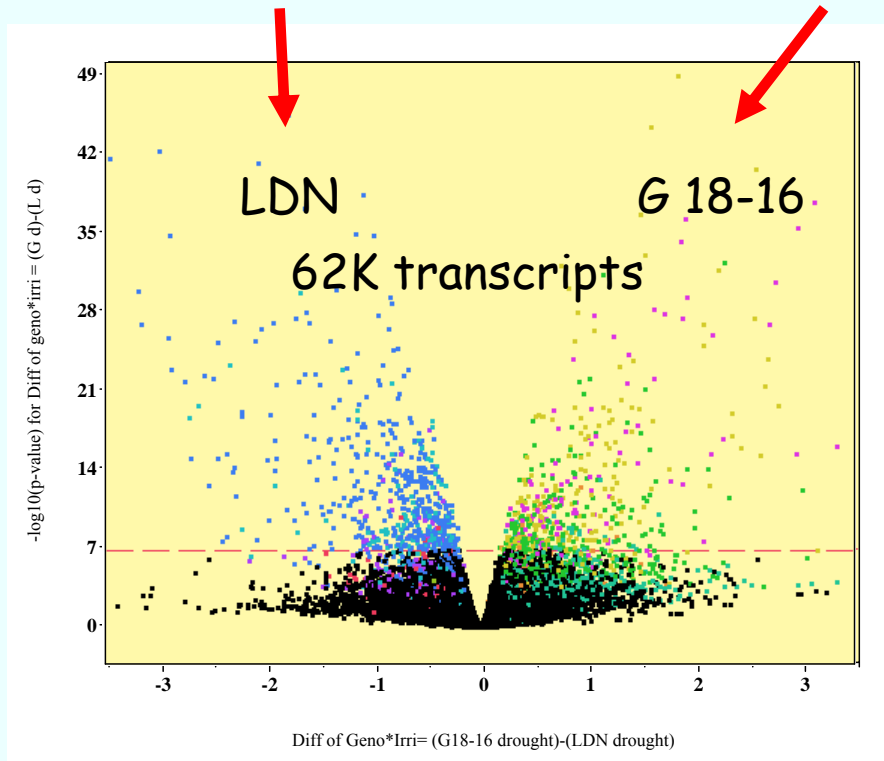
Expression patterns of 300 up-regulated transcripts identified in the resistant genotype

Transcriptome Analysis of Response to Drought

Langdon

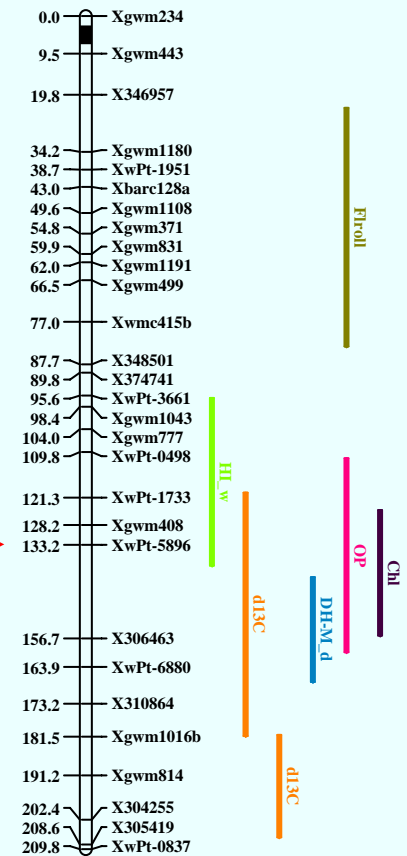


Gitit 18-16

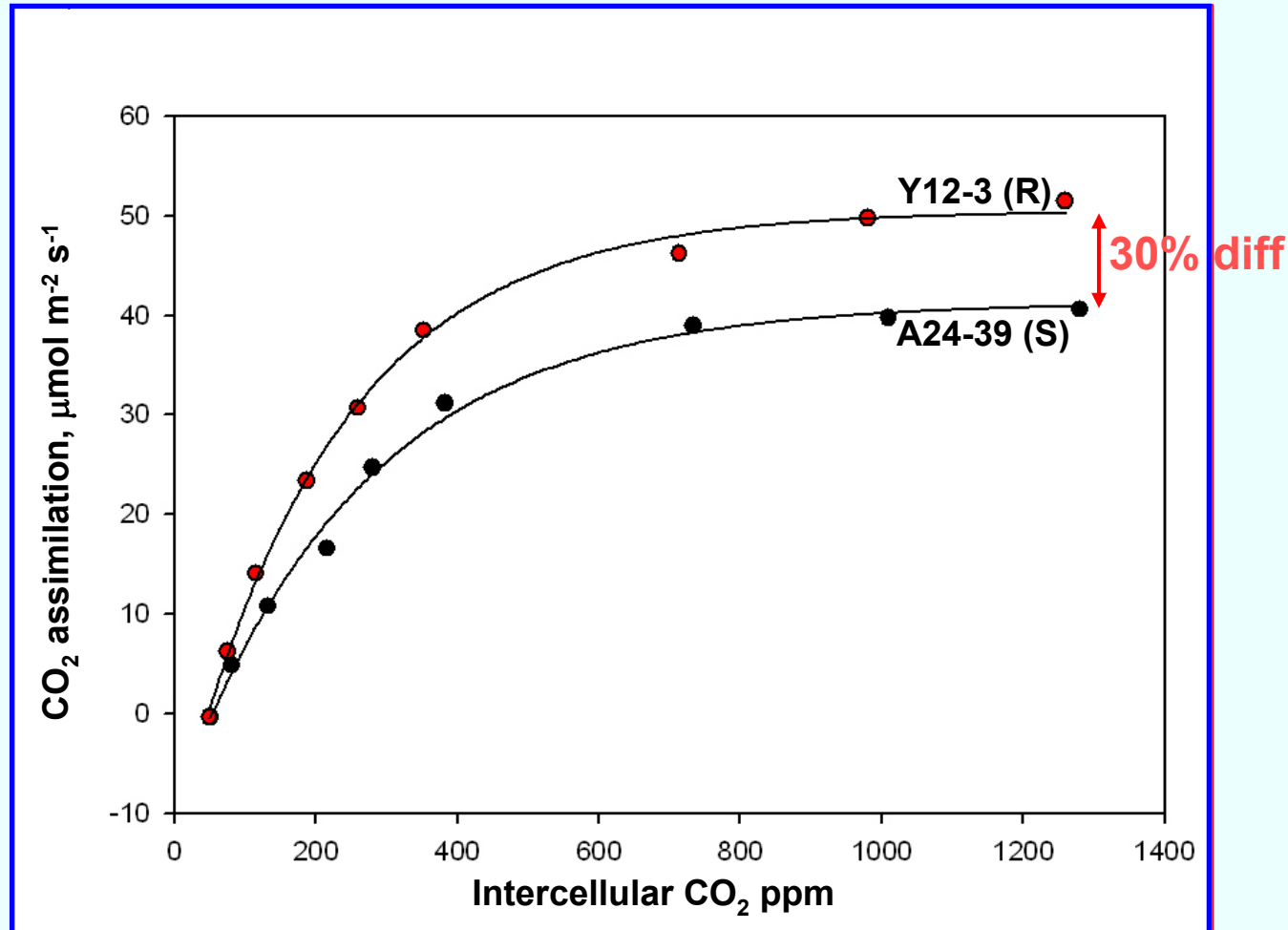


Candidate gene mapping
and QTL co-localization

5B



Photosynthetic rate of drought resistant vs. drought susceptible genotypes under drought stress



GO enrichment analysis

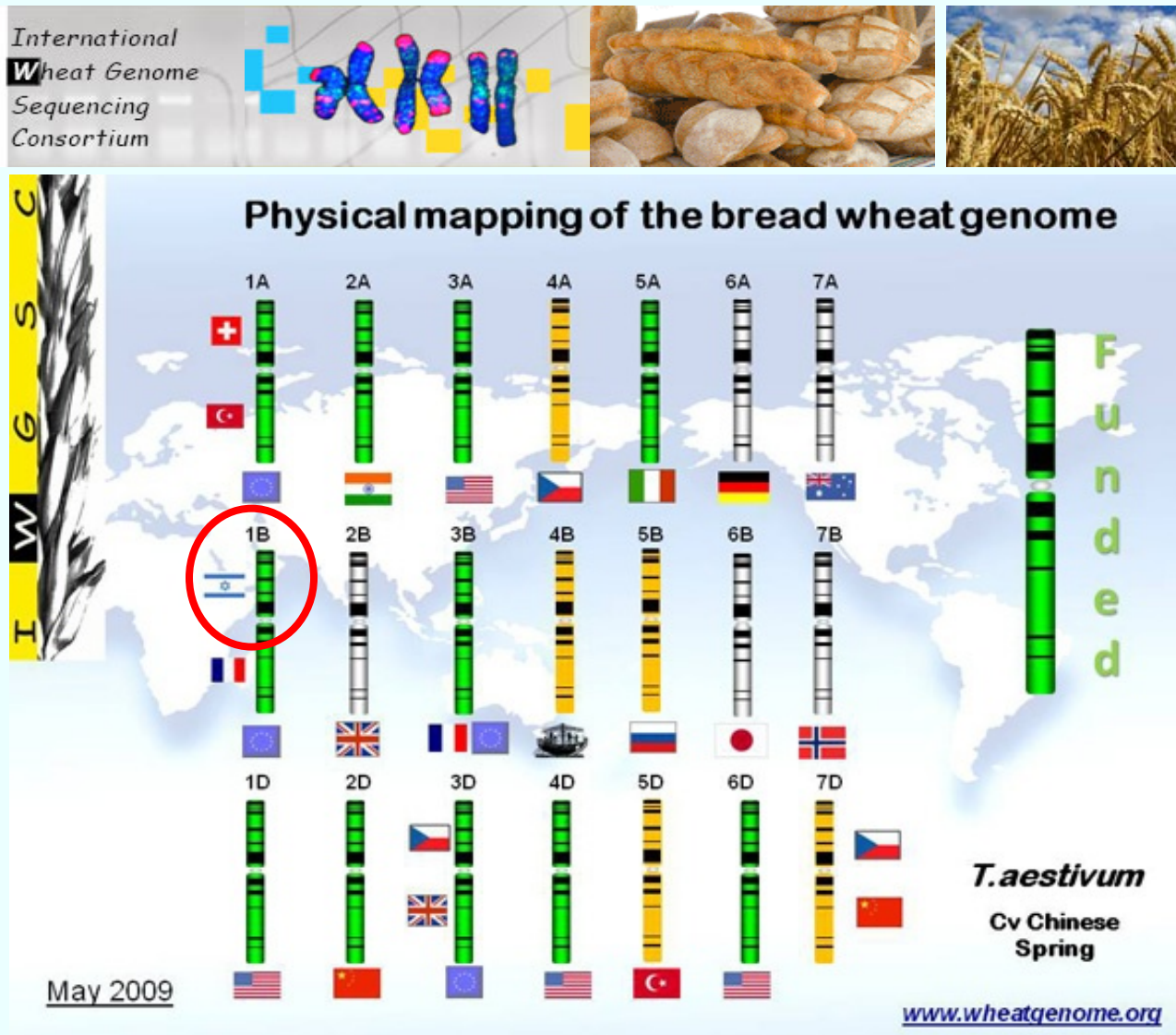
Biological process GO term	Number of transcripts and Cluster frequencies		Genome frequency of 56,985 used rice genes
	Out of 837 DETs - R	Out of 514 DETs - S	
Response to stress	104, 12.4%	61, 11.9%	2516, 4.4%
Response to endogenous stimulus	76, 9.1%	n.s.	3963, 7.0%
Response to abiotic stimulus	70, 8.4%	48, 9.3%	2308, 4.1%
Response to biotic stimulus	47, 5.6%	33, 6.4%	2019, 3.5%
Response to external stimulus	27, 3.2%	14, 2.7%	797, 1.4%
Response to stimulus	180, 21%	121, 23.5%	6182, 10.8%

Adaptive mechanisms of drought response identified in the resistant genotype

- ✓ Absciscic acid (ABA) dependent stomatal closure
- ✓ Cell wall adjustment
- ✓ Cuticular wax formation
- ✓ Lignification
- ✓ Osmoregulation and cell homeostasis
- ✓ Energy transfer
- ✓ Dehydration protection
- ✓ Maintained metabolism and catalytic activity
- ✓ Delayed senescence

International effort for wheat genome physical mapping

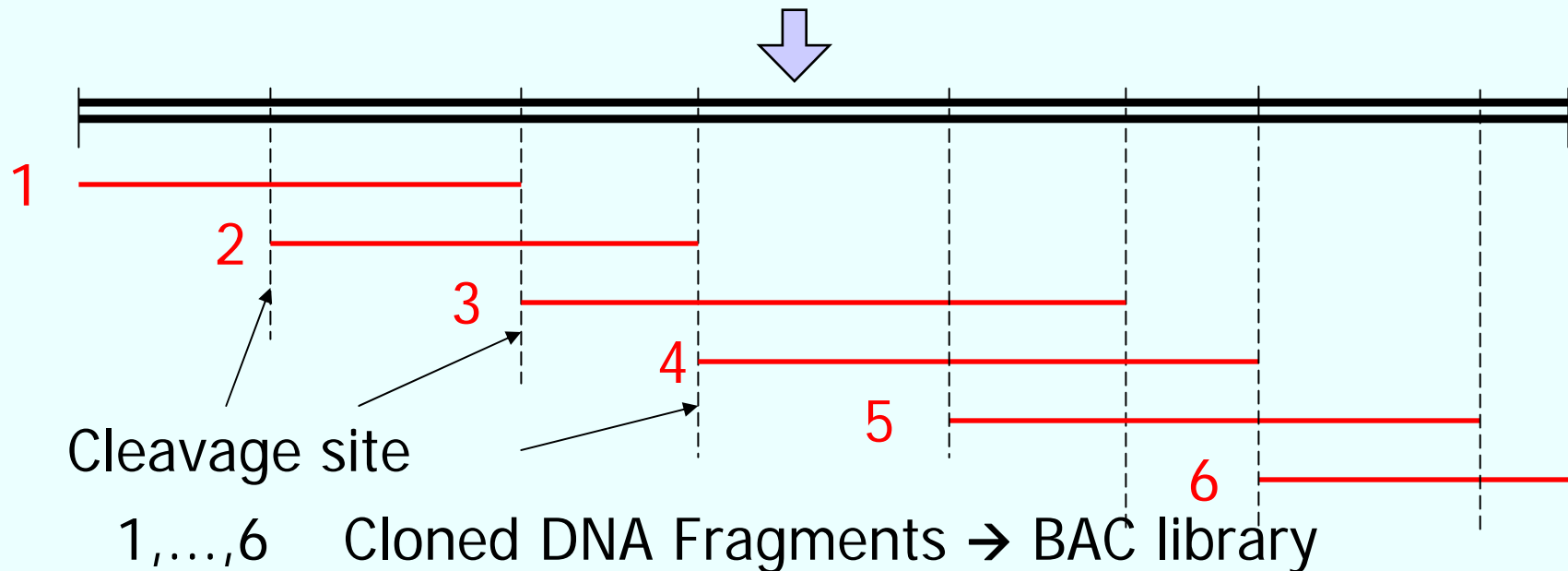
Chromosome 1BS - University of Haifa



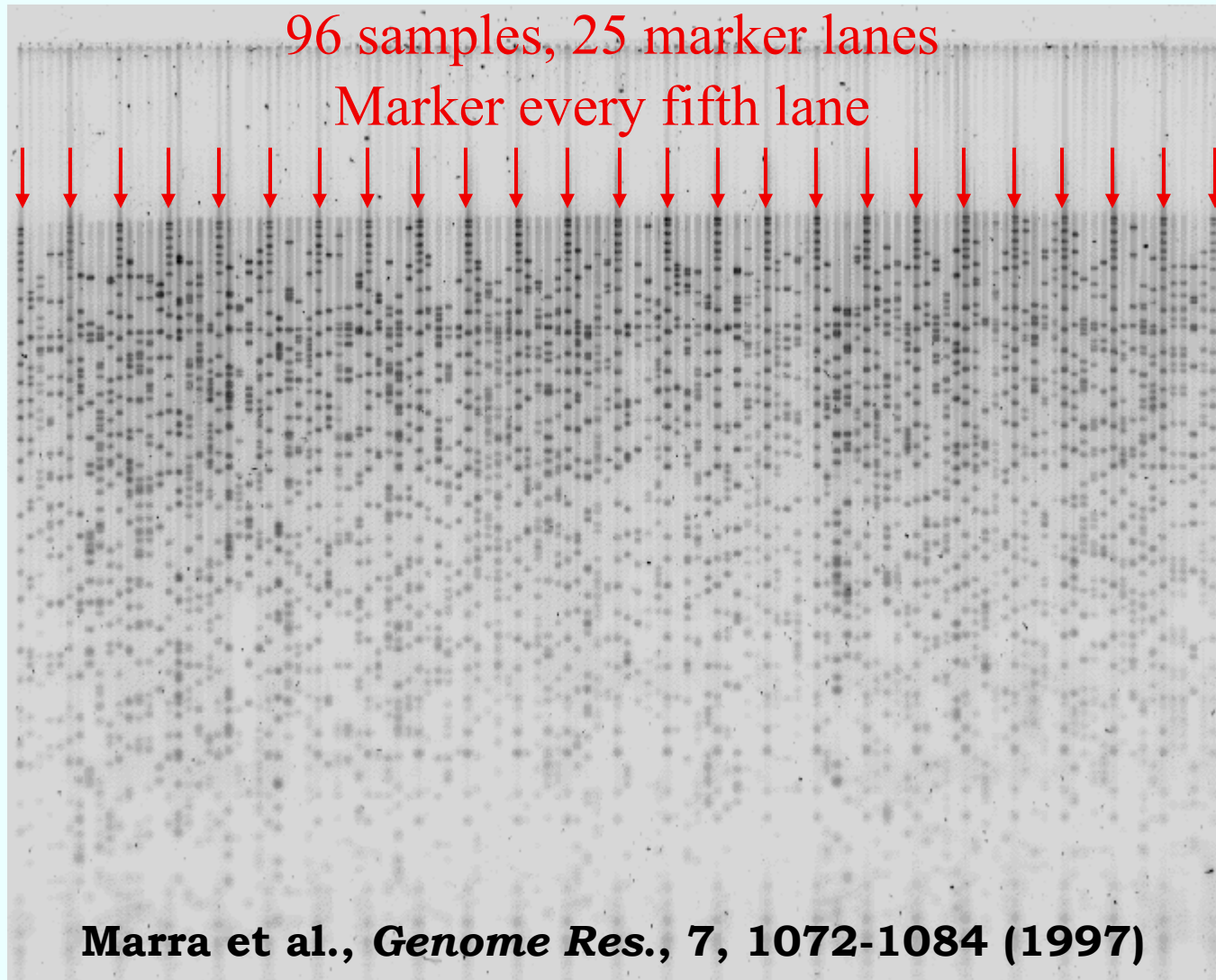
Physical mapping with BAC clones

Genomic library: Breaking the DNA, cloning the fragments in BACs, and ordering

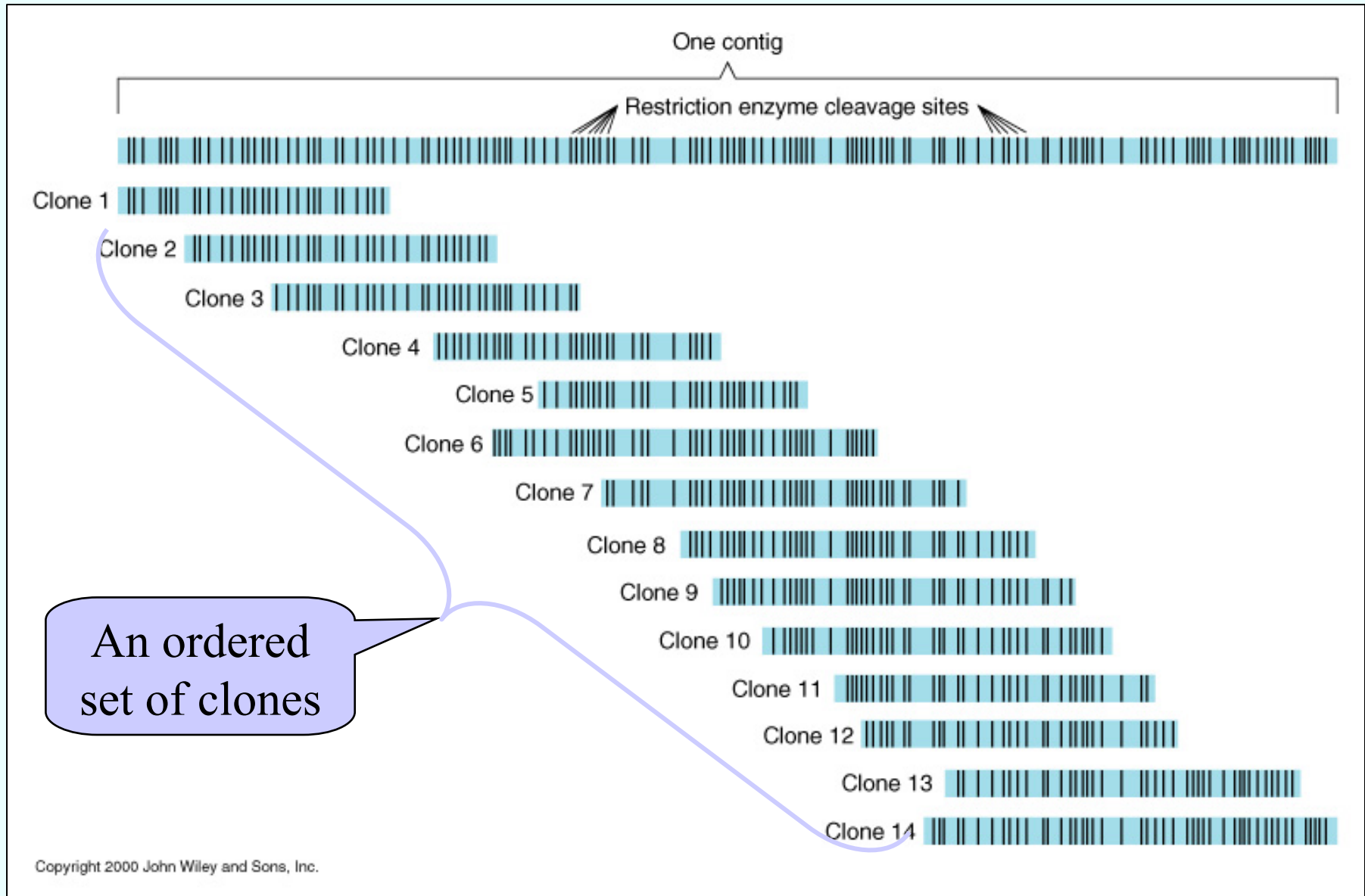
Let us cut the isolated DNA with a restriction enzyme taken at a low concentration many sites will remain unrestricted



BAC Fingerprinting by Fragment Separation



Building a contig map

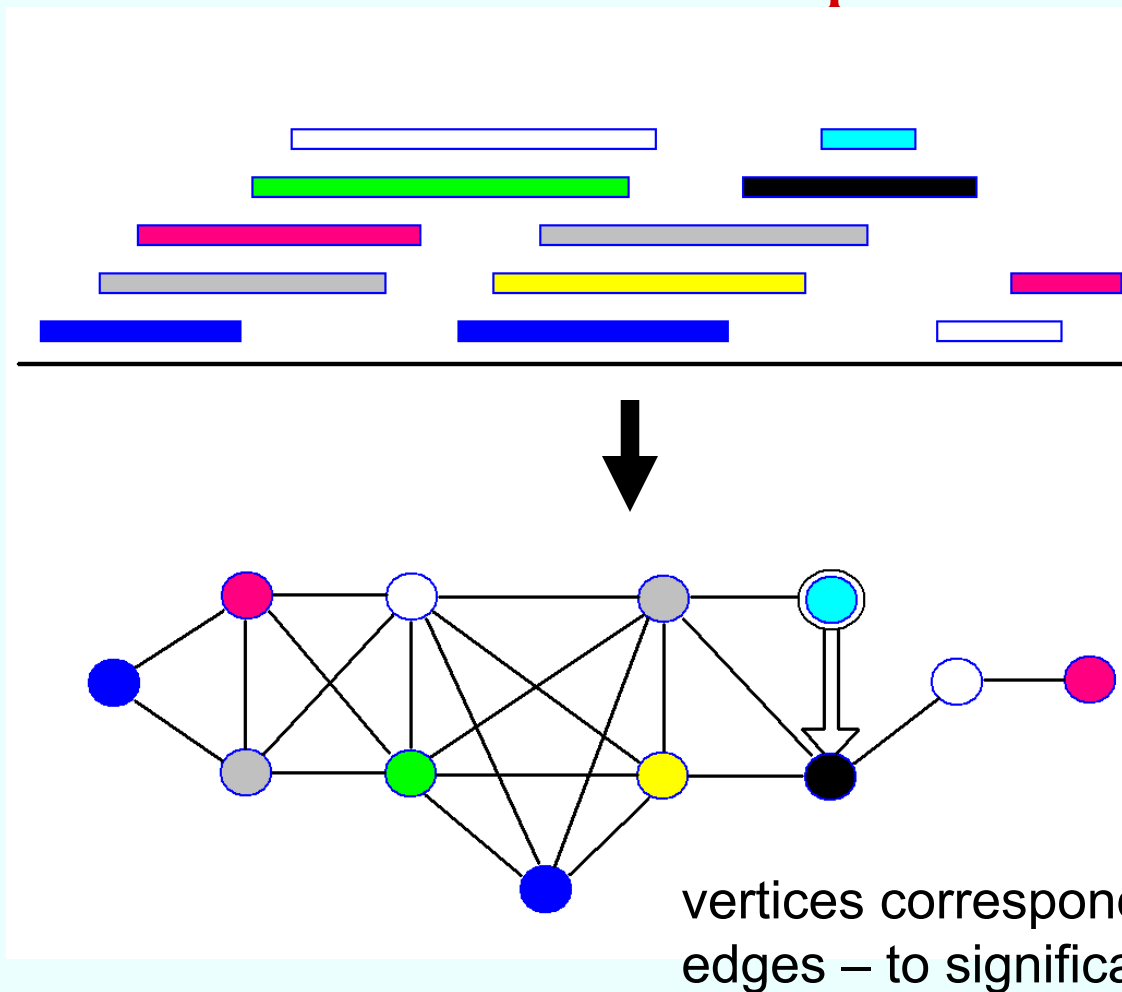


Genome mapping problems are computationally challenging

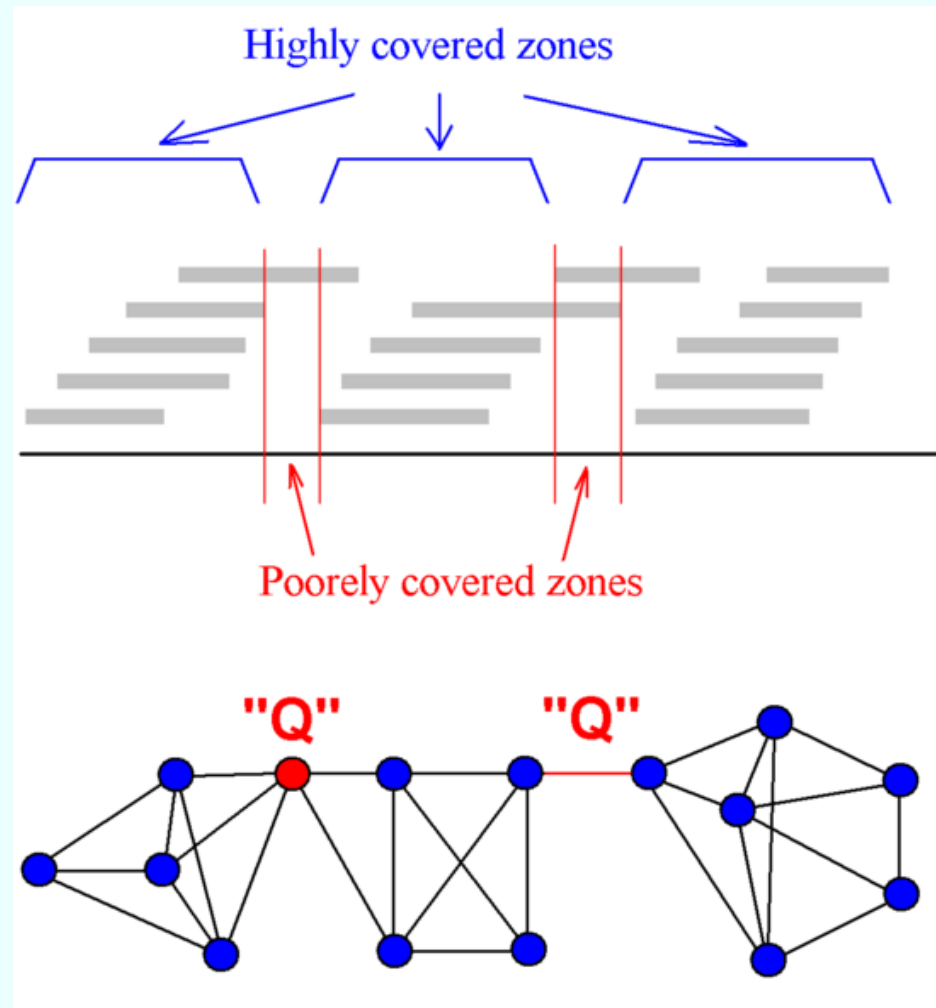
“... We have been looking at the assemblies of large genomes ... and for every ‘draft’ genome we look at, we find hundreds - and sometimes thousands - of mis-assemblies”.

Salzberg & Yorke (2005) Beware of mis-assembled genomes. *Bioinformatics*, **21**: 4320-4322

Network representation of significant clone overlaps



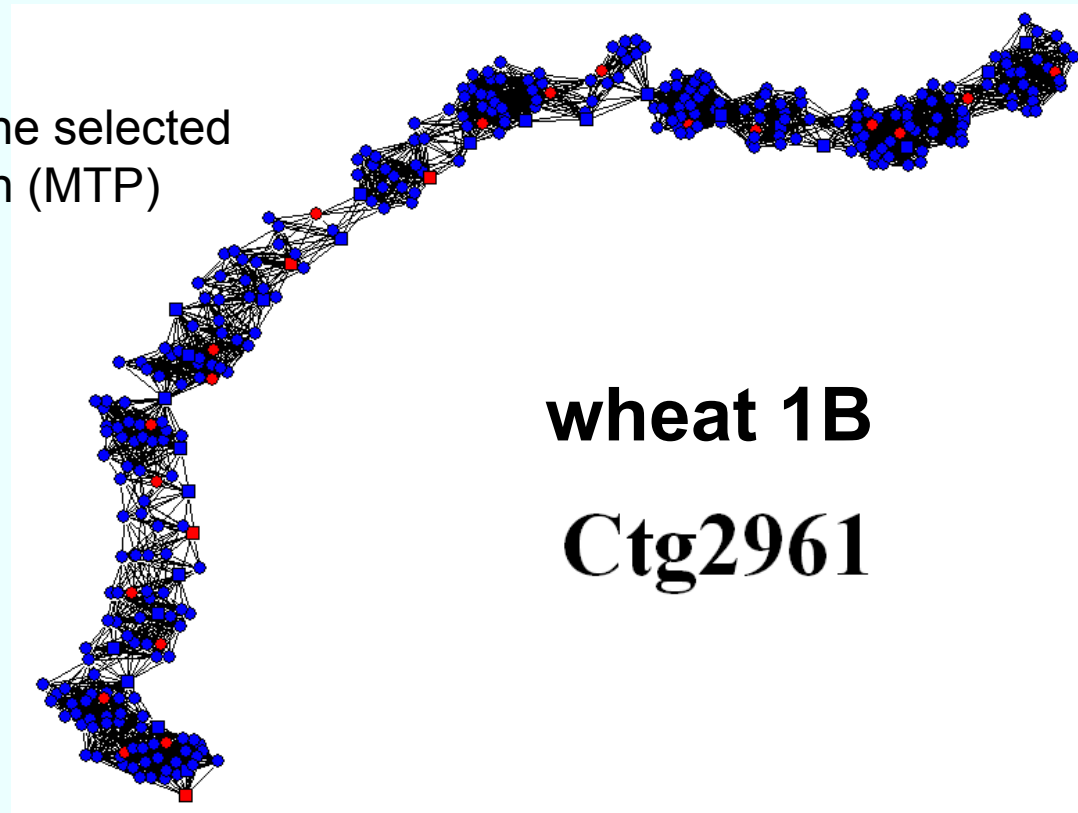
Putative Q-clones and Q-overlaps



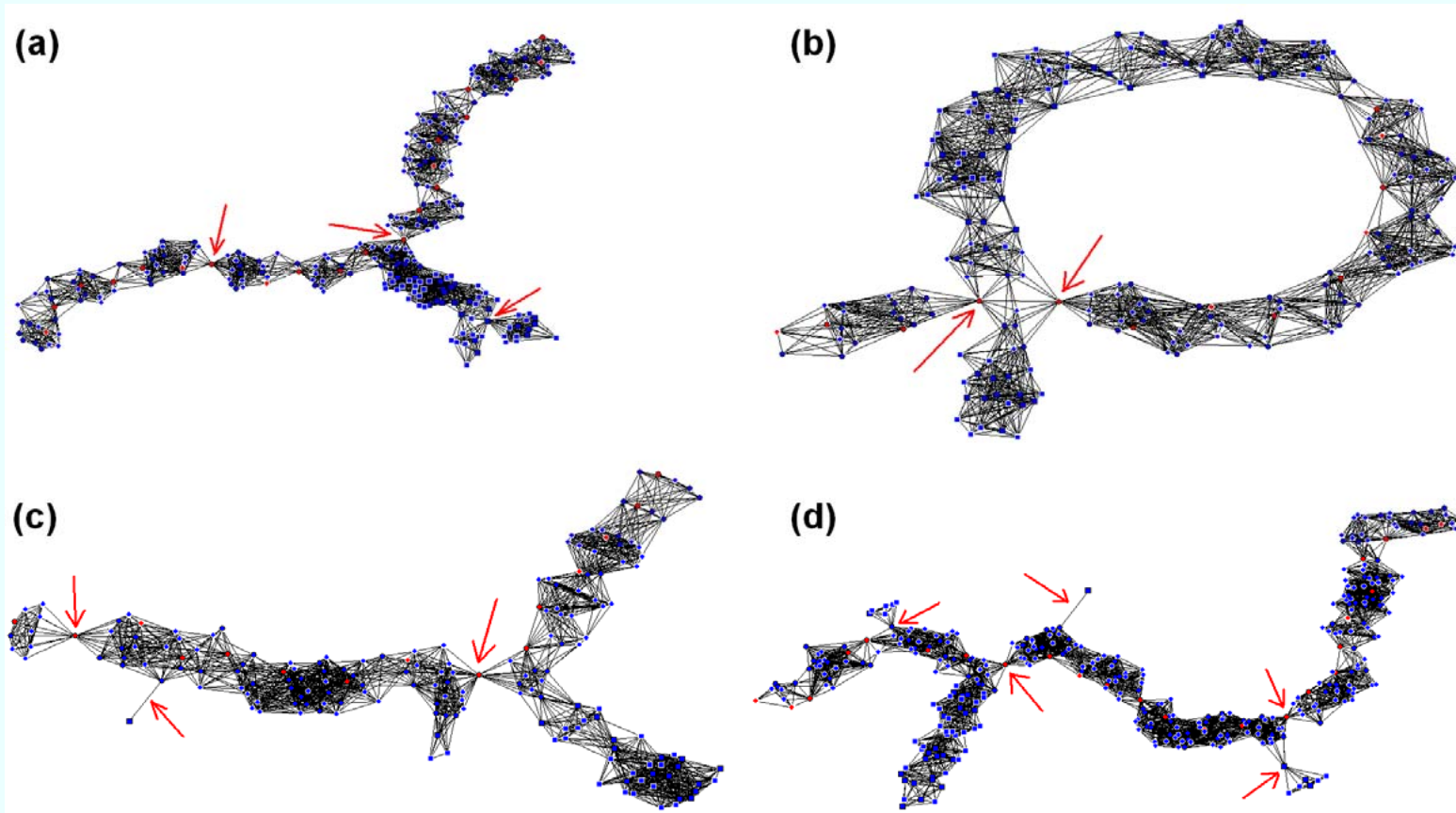
Frenkel et al. 2010

Network representation of significant clone overlaps

- clones
- clones from the selected diametric path (MTP)



Identification of contig non-linearity



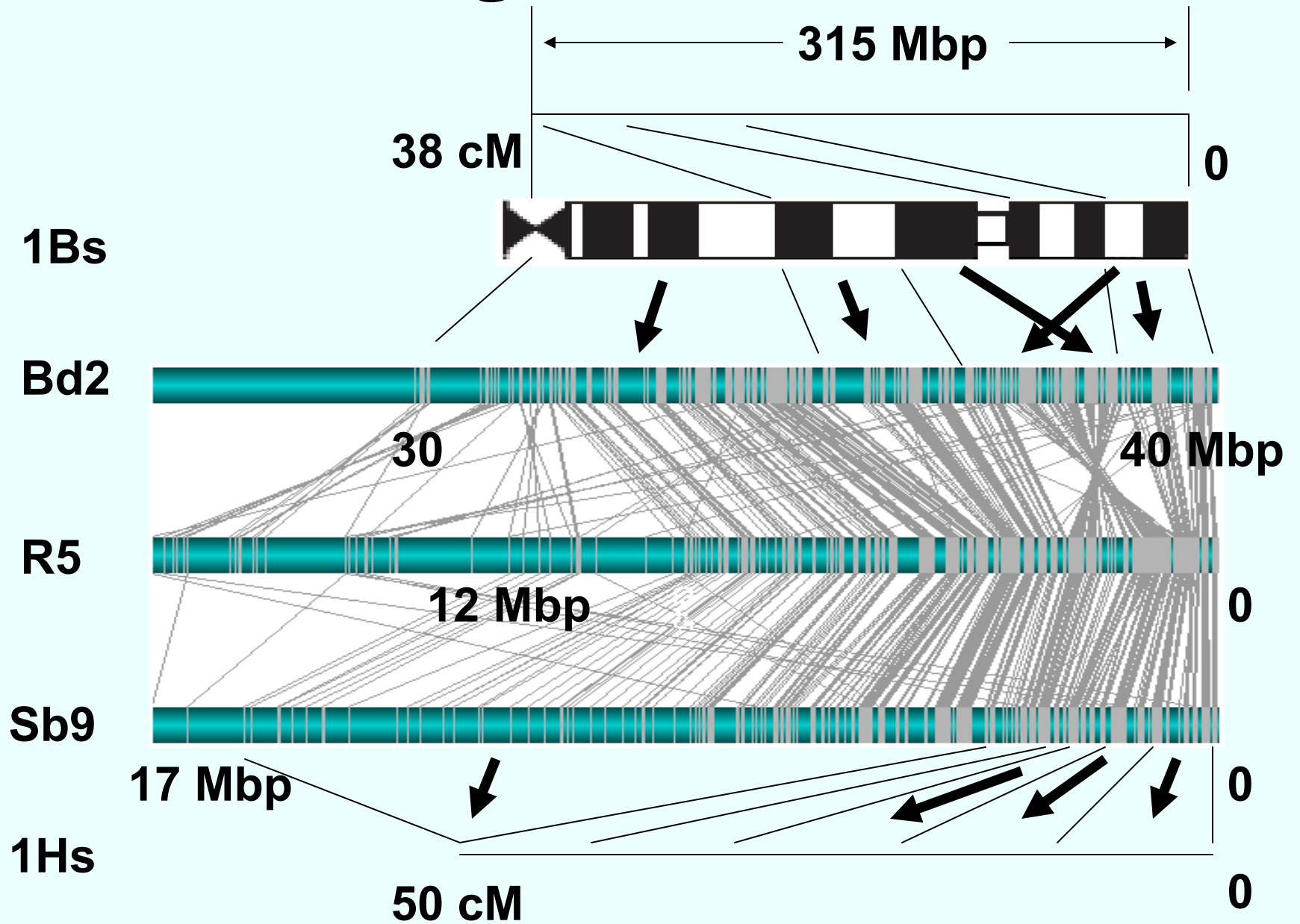
1BS assembly: FPC vs. LTC

In total 49,412 clones (av. size 113 kb), coverage 17.7

	FPC	LTC
Contigs with ≥ 6 clones	517	385
Clones in contigs	33,262	33,912
Mean clones/contig	64.3	88.1
Clones in MTPs	3,647	3,827
Coverage by MTP	270 Mb (86%)	283 Mb (90%)

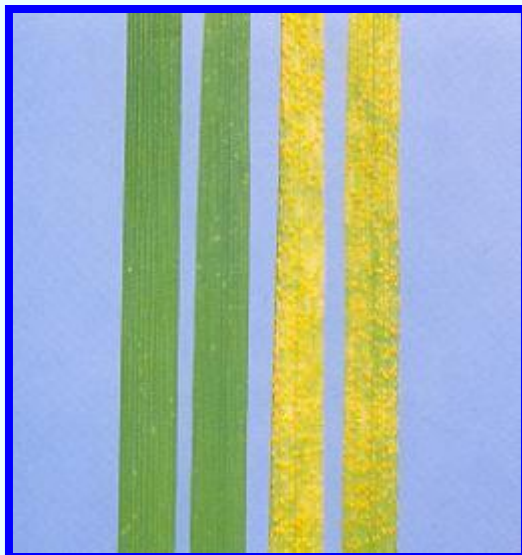
MTPs were constructed by LTC using e-25 cutoff

Parallel genomes for 1BS



Genomic Organization and Diversity of Stripe Rust Resistance Genes Derived from Wild Emmer Wheat

How many genes are involved?
What is their genomic organization?

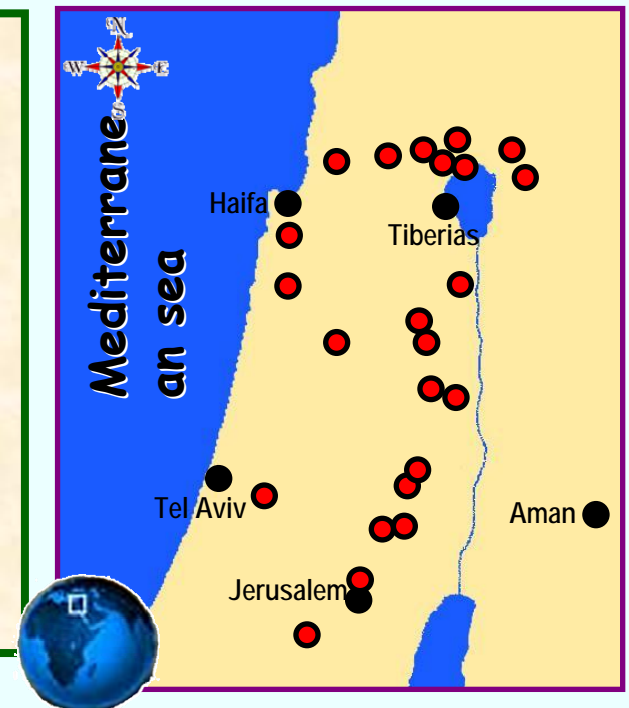


Yr15 *yr15*

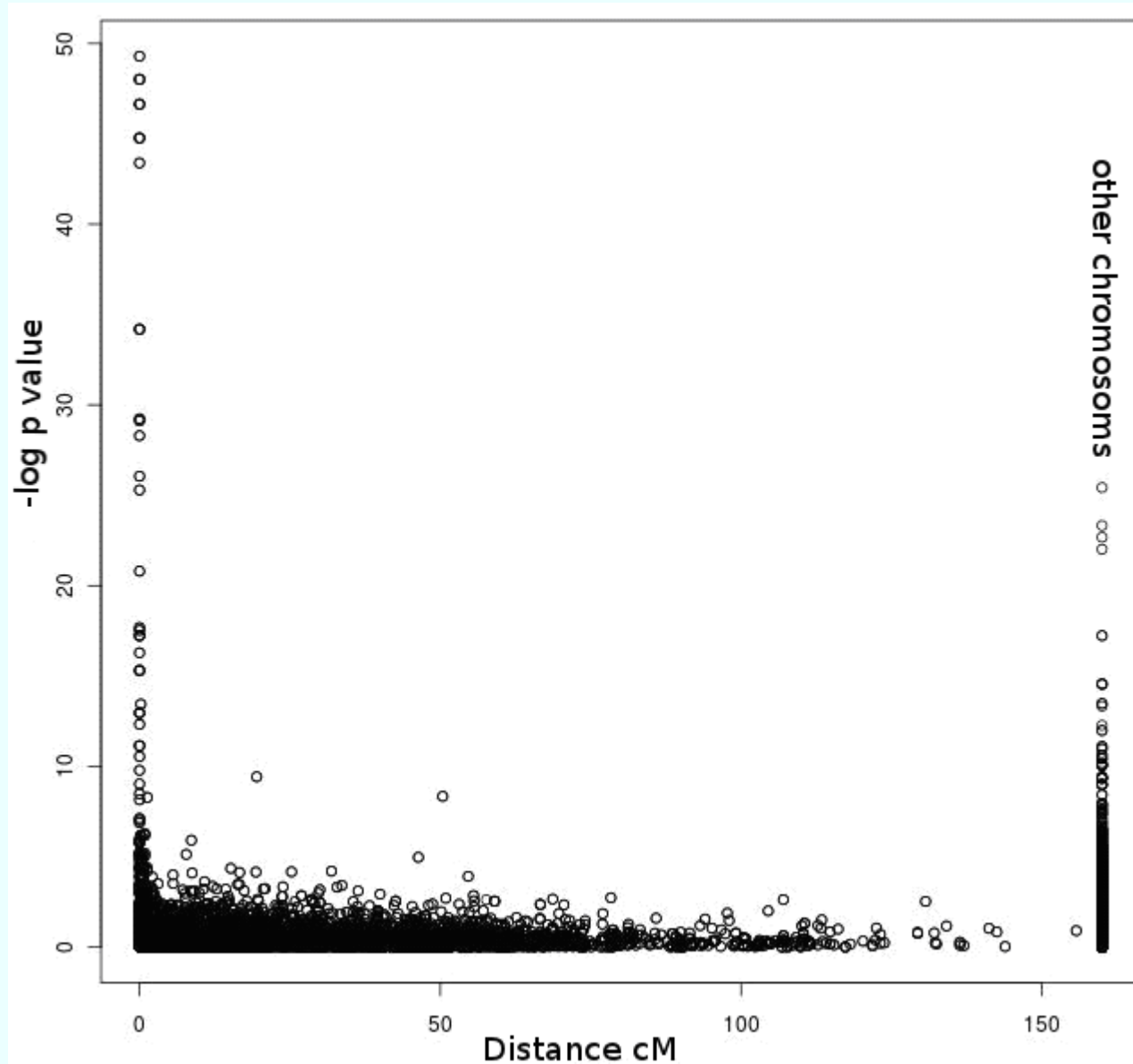
Theoretical
calculations

=

11 novel Yr
genes

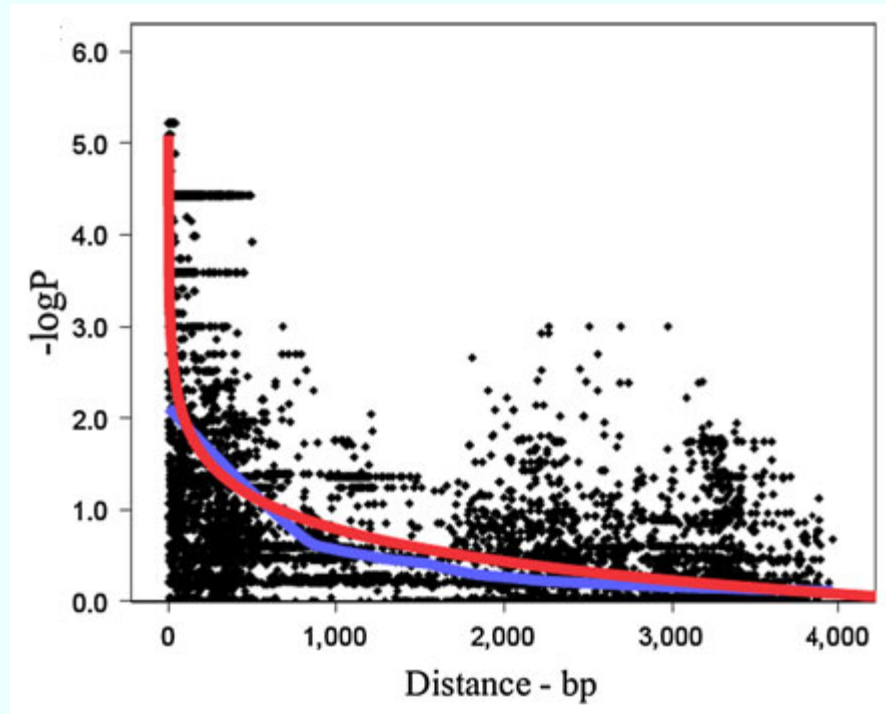


Prospects for association mapping in *T. dicoccoides*

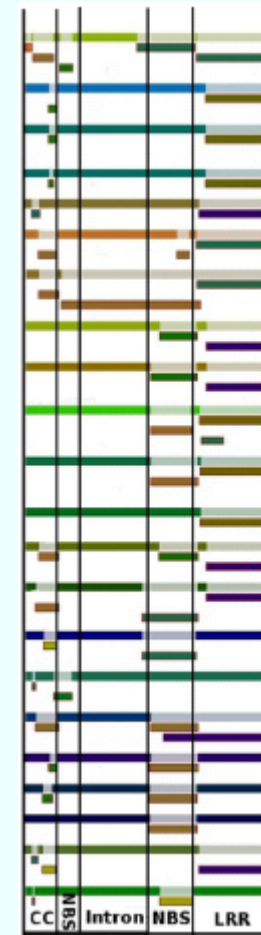


Decay in LD
between SNP
markers
across genome

Prospects for association mapping in *T. dicoccoides*



Decay in LD within leaf rust resistance gene LR10 in Israeli populations of wild emmer



Sela et al. TAG 122:175–187, 2011

Participating groups



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Please, visit our website: <http://evolution.haifa.ac.il>