

High prevalence of transmission ratio distortion Jan-Niklas Runge & J. Schacherer, IN Species-wide yeast crosses



BACKGROUND

 Deviations from expected allele frequencies in offspring are called transmission ratio distortion (TRD).

• They can be caused by genetic incompatibilities, lethal allele combinations, or selfish genetic elements that actively manipulate transmission.

• TRD causes evolutionary pressure, but its prevalence is unknown.

 TRD is difficult to discover, requiring large crossing experiments, often unfeasible.

METHODS

 Crossed maximally divergent yeast S. cerevisiae isolates.

• Aimed to extract 1,500 segregants per cross.

 Sequenced pooled segregants to derive allele frequencies.

• Identified TRD regions.

• Scanned a 2,500 strains genotype matrix for genomic signals associated with TRD.

RESULTS

 High prevalence of TRD loci at unique positions.

• Diverse genomic signals associated with TRD, different in every CLOSS.

 Overall, TRD loci are more distant to other strains than random loci on average.

OUTLOOK

• First systematic species-wide search for TRD reveals an unexpectedly high prevalence of distortion.

 The TRD regions are diverse and likely have unique properties in all cases.

 Signals of diversification and selection were found so far.

Will require further work to understand the mechanisms.

Background



Two loci, alleles

green/lightblue

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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What is TRD? Scenario Genetic incompatibility: Lethality of individuals with purple+lightblue allele combinations Outcome: Transmission distortion in favor of khaki and green

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Scenario Selfish transmission manipulation: Production / survival of almost exclusively green-khaki sperm/spores Outcome: Transmission distortion in favor of green





