

Genomic Challenges in Polyploid Crops: An Overview of Progress so Far

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Polyploids



Polyploids are organisms that have **multiple copies** of the complete set of chromosomes. This multiplicity imposes numerous **challenges to genomic analysis** and subsequent applications in practical breeding.

Polyploid species

Autohexaploid



Allohexaploid

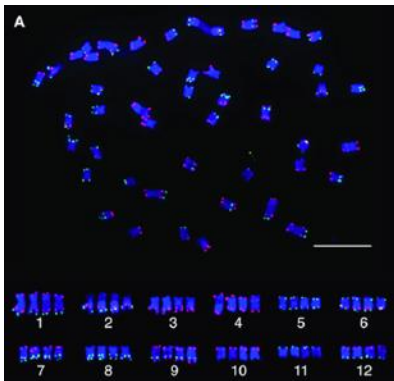


Multiple sets have the **same** origin

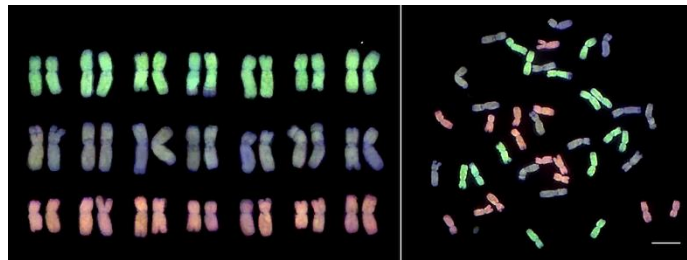
Multiple sets have **different** origins



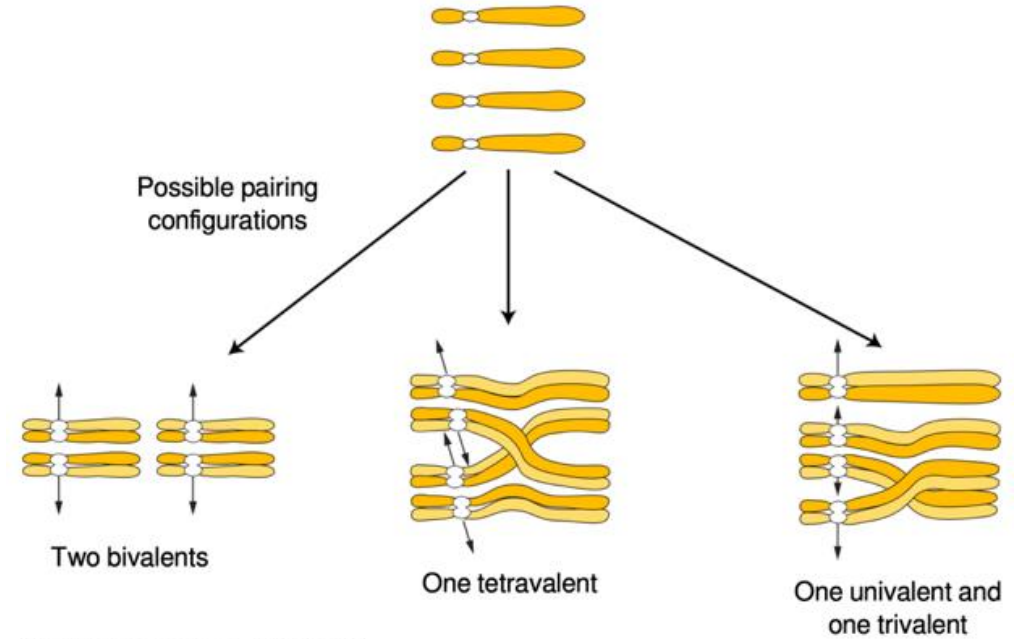
Autotetraploid potato



Braz et al., 2018

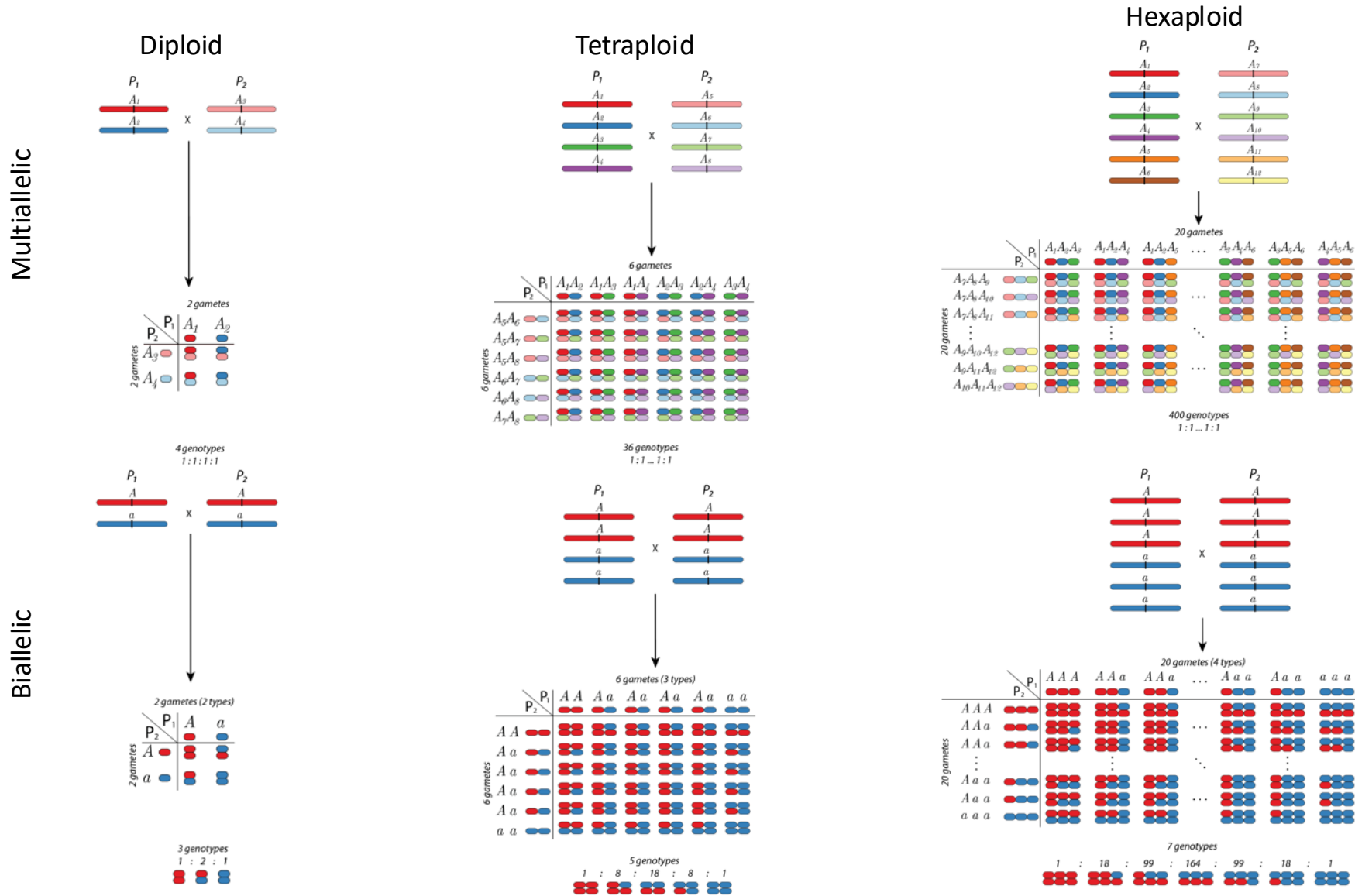


Meiotic pairing in autotetraploids



Griffiths et al. (2004)

Segregation in polyploids*



*random pairing and no double reduction

Linkage analysis

Theoretical foundations: 1914 - 1941

On the Genetics of Tetraploid Plants in Primula sinensis.

By R. P. GREGORY, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge,
University Lecturer in Botany.

(Communicated by W. Bateson, F.R.S. Received March 3,—Read
April 30, 1914.)

A NEW MODE OF SEGREGATION IN GREGORY'S
TETRAPLOID PRIMULAS

Hermann J. Muller

The American Naturalist, Vol. 48, No. 572 (Aug., 1914), pp. 508-512

THEORETICAL GENETICS OF AUTOPOLYPLOIDS.

By J. B. S. HALDANE, M.A.

(*The John Innes Horticultural Institution.*)

1930

SEGREGATION AND LINKAGE
IN AUTOTETRAPLOIDS

By K. MATHER

1936

(*Galton Laboratory, University College, London*)

THE THEORETICAL CONSEQUENCES OF POLYPLOID
INHERITANCE FOR THE MID STYLE FORM
OF *LYTHRUM SALICARIA*

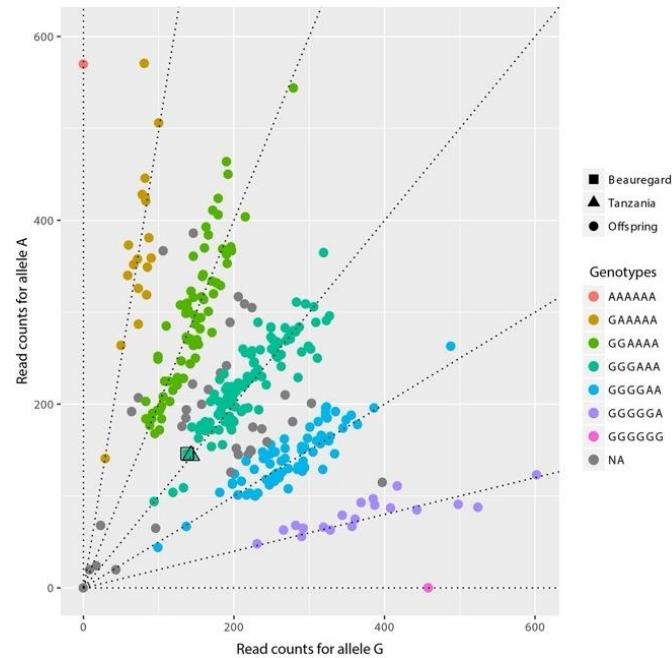
By R. A. FISHER

1941

Variant discovery and genotyping calling

- Process of finding variations in raw DNA sequences and estimating their dosages in all population individuals.

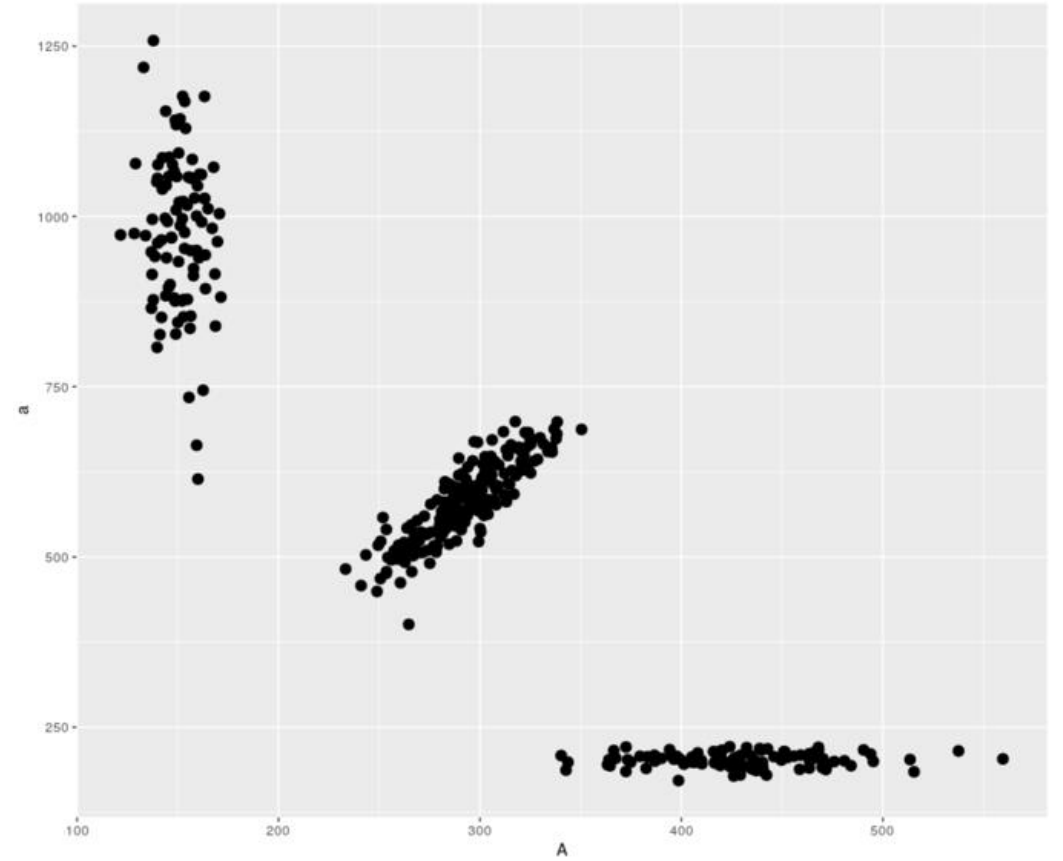
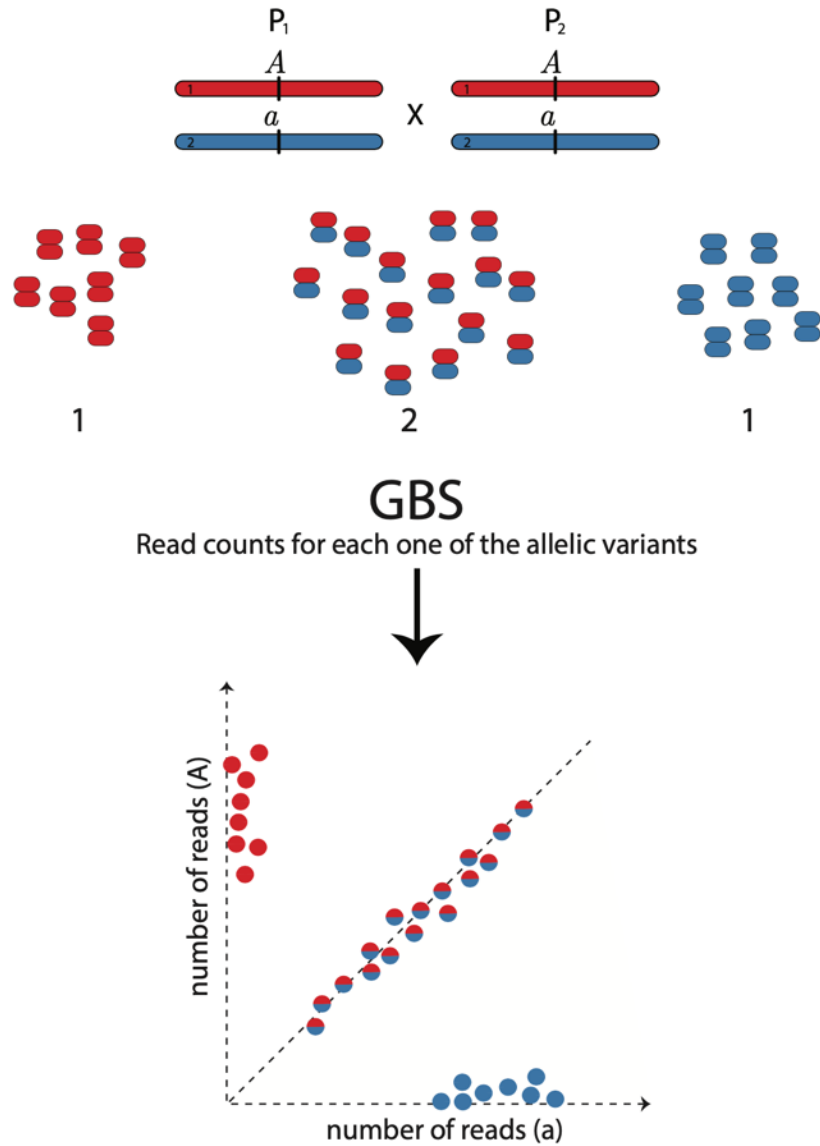
Raw DNA sequences or Genotyping Arrays



P1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	snp_name	P1	P2	sequence	sequence_position	ind_1	ind_10	ind_100	ind_101	ind_102	ind_103	ind_104	ind_105	ind_106	ind_107
2	solcap_snp_c2_41437	3	4	NA	805279	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	3
3	solcap_snp_c2_24258	1	1	NA	1252530	NA	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2
4	solcap_snp_c2_4408	4	3	NA	1838446	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	NA	3	NA
5	solcap_snp_c2_21332	3	2	NA	3499619	2	2	4	3	2	4	2	3	2	1
6	solcap_snp_c2_21314	4	3	NA	3812896	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	3
7	solcap_snp_c2_4430	4	3	NA	5631984	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	3
8	solcap_snp_c2_4437	3	2	NA	5896615	2	2	4	3	2	4	2	3	2	2
9	solcap_snp_c2_6674	0	1	NA	7041946	NA	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
10	solcap_snp_c2_56547	1	1	NA	8837919	NA	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
11	solcap_snp_c1_16362	1	0	NA	8842099	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
12	solcap_snp_c1_16364	4	3	NA	8842788	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	4
13	solcap_snp_c2_53375	1	0	NA	9488548	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
14	solcap_snp_c2_6680	1	0	NA	9666419	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
15	solcap_snp_c2_48820	3	4	NA	11348627	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
16	solcap_snp_c2_48821	3	2	NA	11349022	2	2	1	3	3	2	3	3	1	2
17	solcap_snp_c1_11008	0	1	NA	12342673	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
18	solcap_snp_c1_11013	4	3	NA	12370025	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	3
19	solcap_snp_c1_11023	0	1	NA	12390751	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
20	solcap_snp_c1_11025	4	3	NA	12398104	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	3
21	solcap_snp_c2_36941	0	1	NA	12428130	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
22	solcap_snp_c2_36942	3	2	NA	12428415	2	3	2	4	2	2	3	1	3	2
23	solcap_snp_c2_36943	0	1	NA	12429978	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
24	solcap_snp_c2_36952	3	3	NA	12432371	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	2	3	3
25	solcap_snp_c2_36955	0	1	NA	12432576	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1

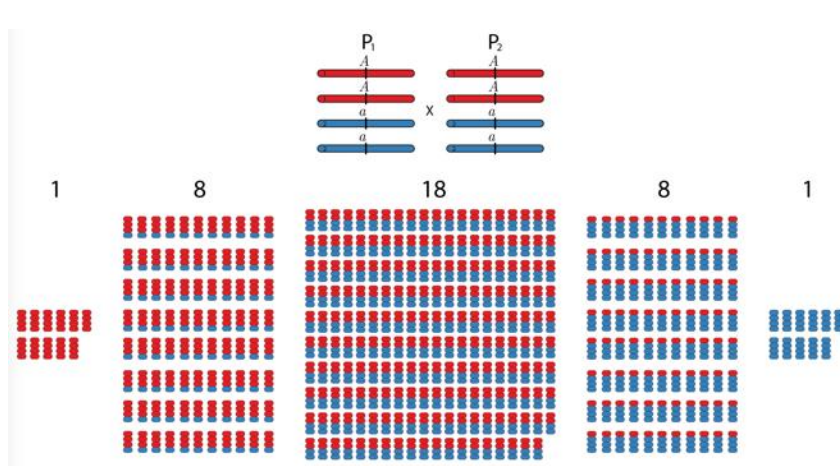
- Discovery: Tassel, GATK
- Calling: fitPoly, SuperMASSA, polyRAD, updog, VCF2SM

Genotype calling in diploids

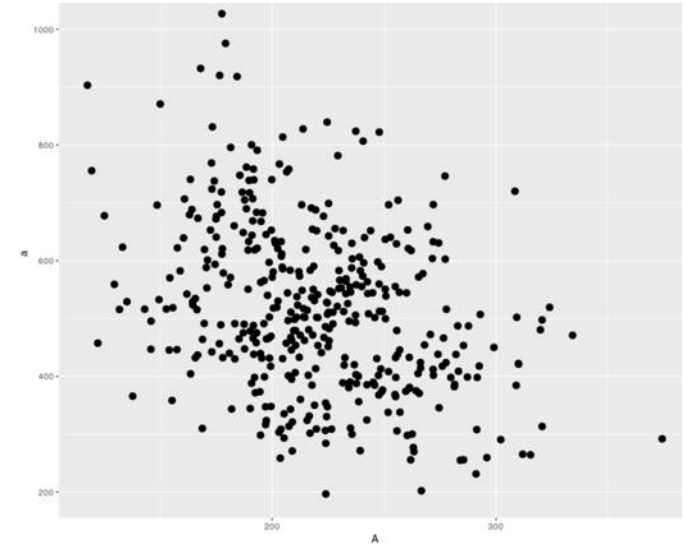
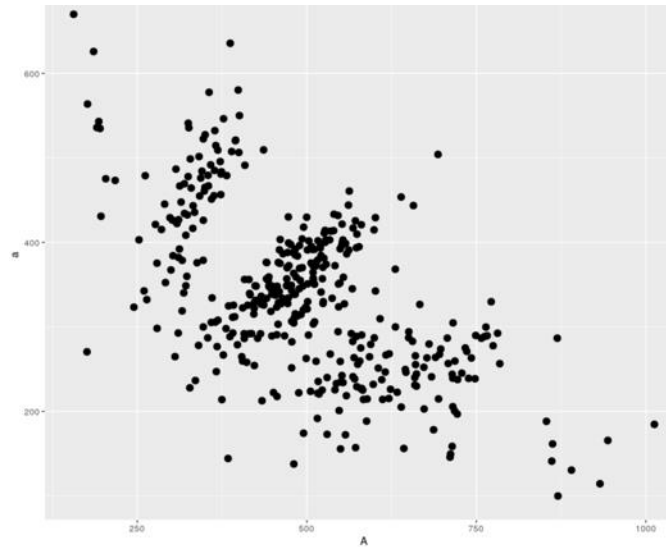
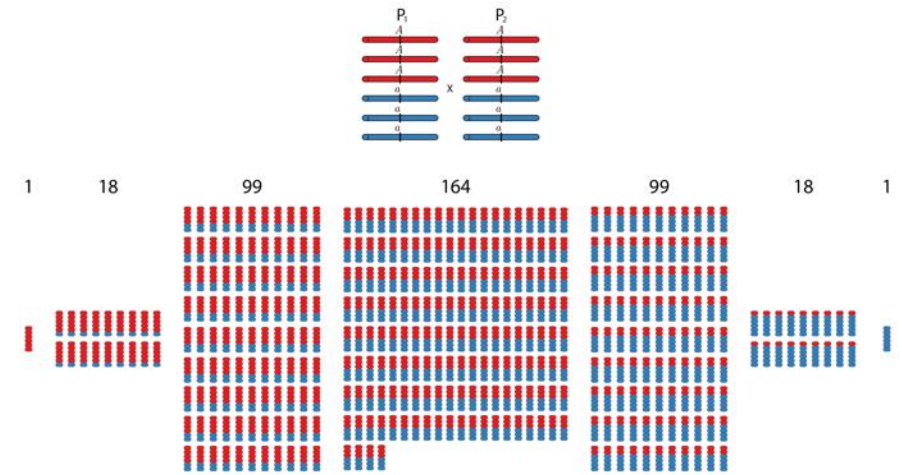


Genotype calling in polyploids

Tetraploid

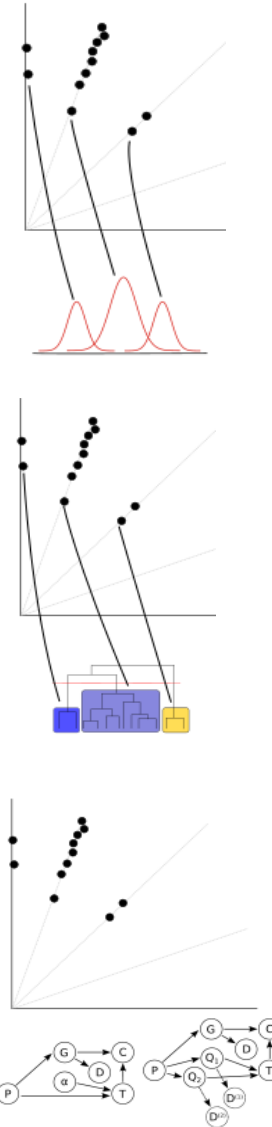


Hexaploid



Genotype calling in polyploids

- fitTetra (tetraploids – array data):
<https://www.wur.nl/en/show/Software-fitTetra.htm>
- ClusterCall (tetraploids):
<https://potatobreeding.cals.wisc.edu/software/>
- SuperMASSA (any ploidy level):
<https://bitbucket.org/orserang/supermassa>
- updog (any ploidy level, allows preferential pairing):
<https://github.com/dcgerard/updog>
- polyRAD (any ploidy level, reads VCF, BAM, etc):
<https://github.com/lvclark/polyRAD>

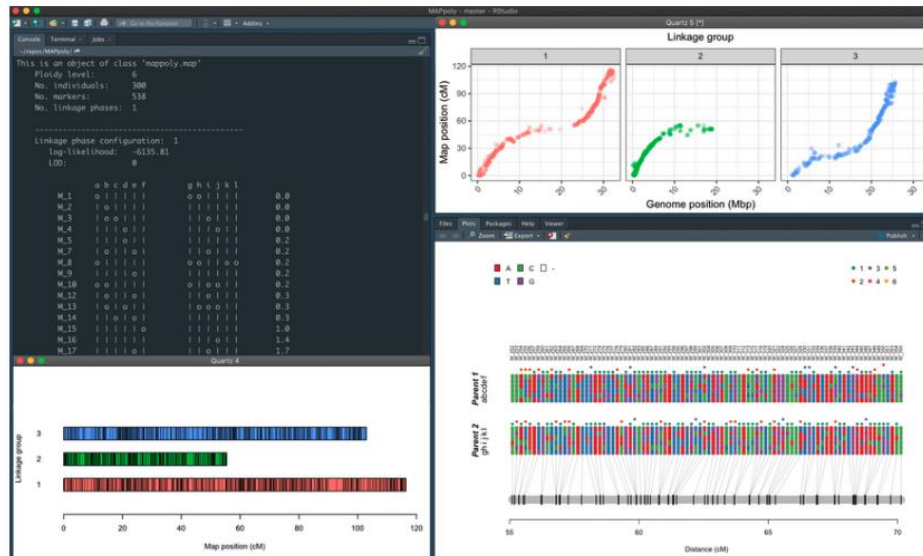
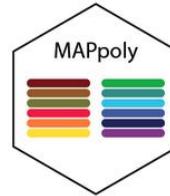


Genetic mapping and haplotype inference

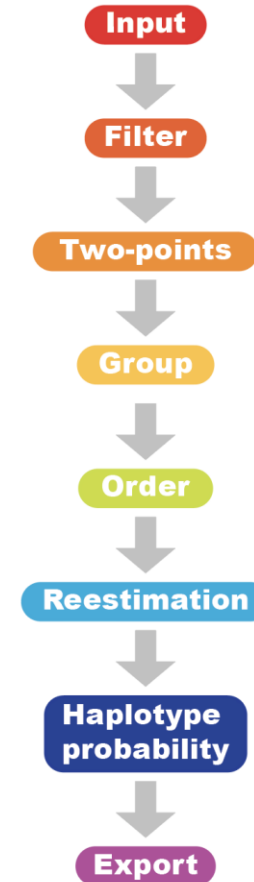
R-CMD-check **passing** build **passing** development **active** License **GPL v3** codecov **71%** CRAN **0.3.1** r-universe **0.3.1**
downloads **9136**

MAPpoly

MAPpoly (v. 0.3.0) is an R package to construct genetic maps in autopolyploids with even ploidy levels. In its current version, MAPpoly can handle ploidy levels up to 8 when using hidden Markov models (HMM), and up to 12 when using the two-point simplification. When dealing with large numbers of markers (> 10,000), we strongly recommend using high-performance computation.



<https://github.com/mmollina/MAPpoly>



- MAPpoly can easily be used in conjunction with several genotype calling, mapping and QTL analysis software

Mollinari and Garcia (2019) – G3

[doi:10.1534/g3.119.400378](https://doi.org/10.1534/g3.119.400378)

Genetic Mapping - Sweetpotato



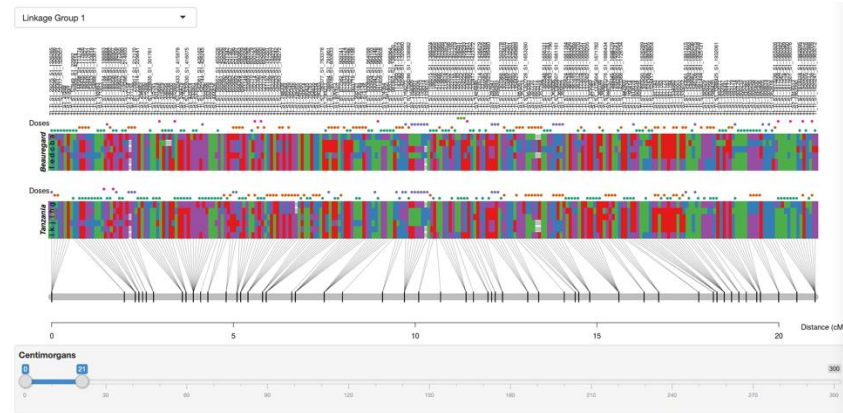
X

Beauregard

Tanzania

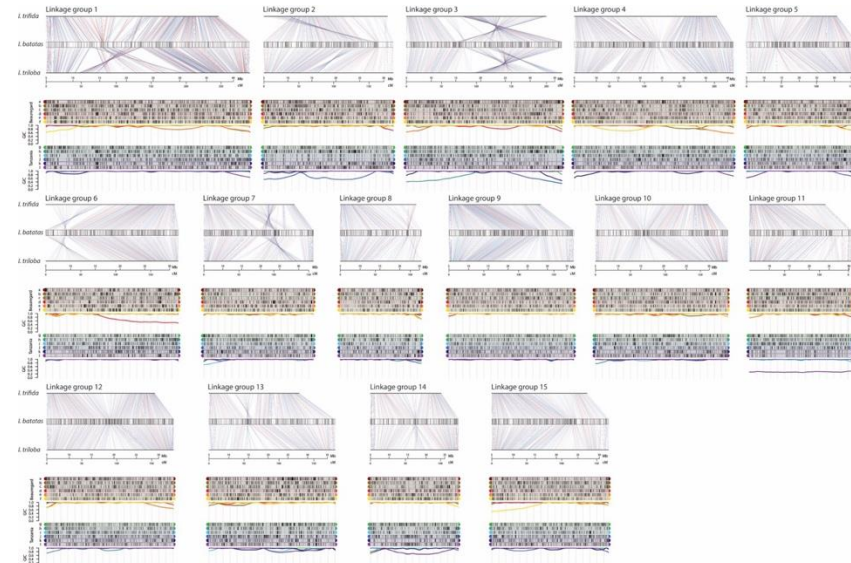


Chromosome 1



https://gt4sp-genetic-map.shinyapps.io/bt_map/

Final map - 15 chromosomes

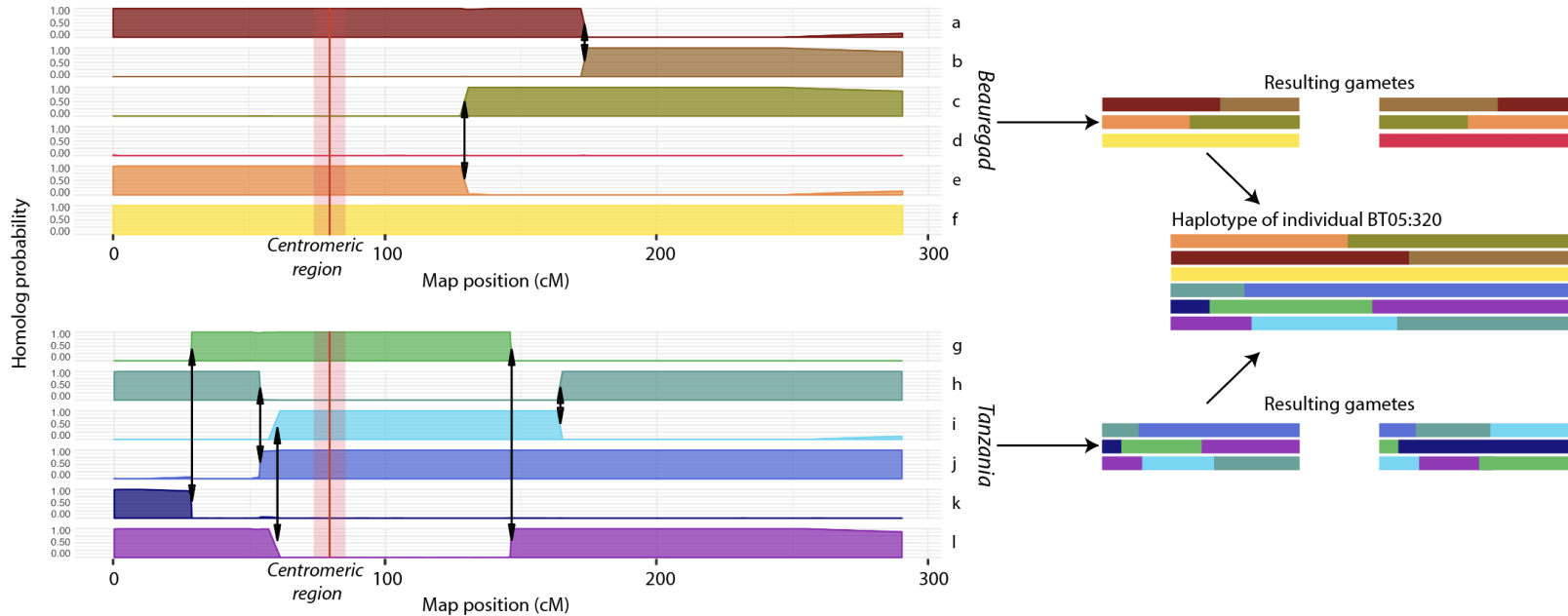


Mollinari *et al.* (2020) – G3

[doi:10.1534/g3.119.400620](https://doi.org/10.1534/g3.119.400620)

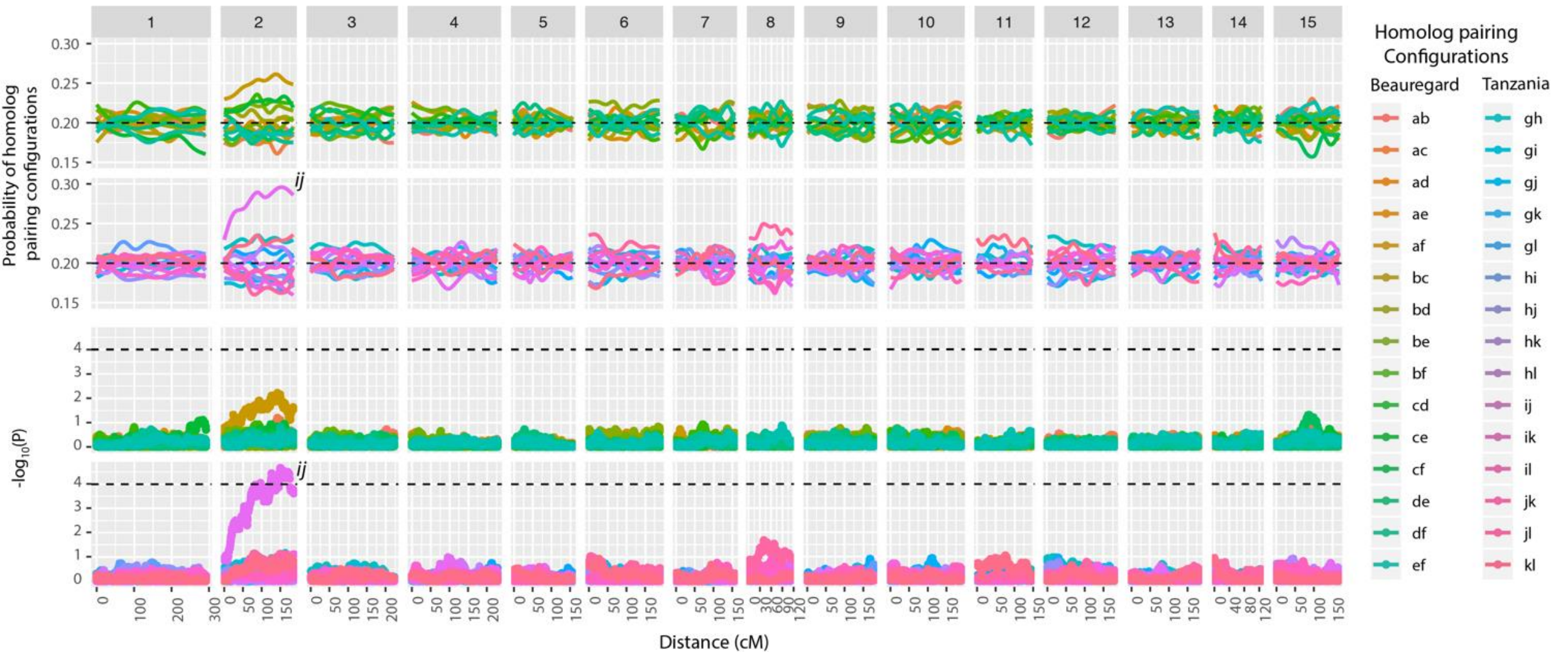


Haplotype reconstruction – BT offspring

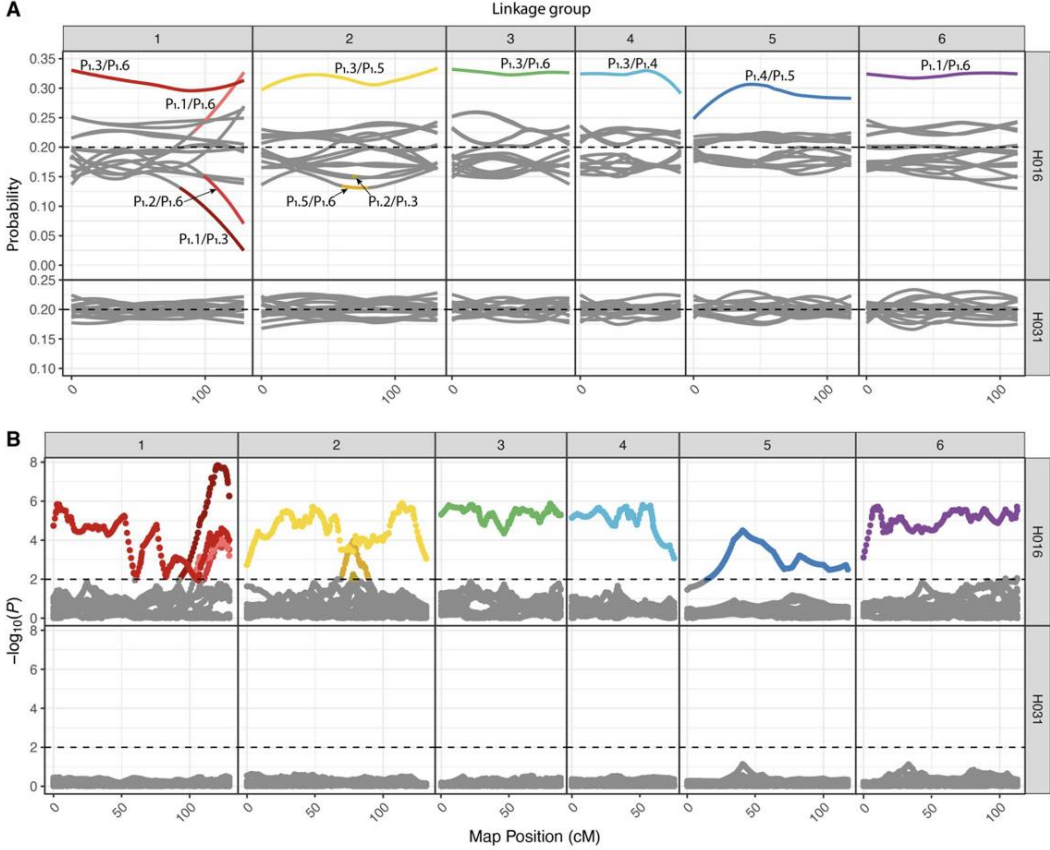
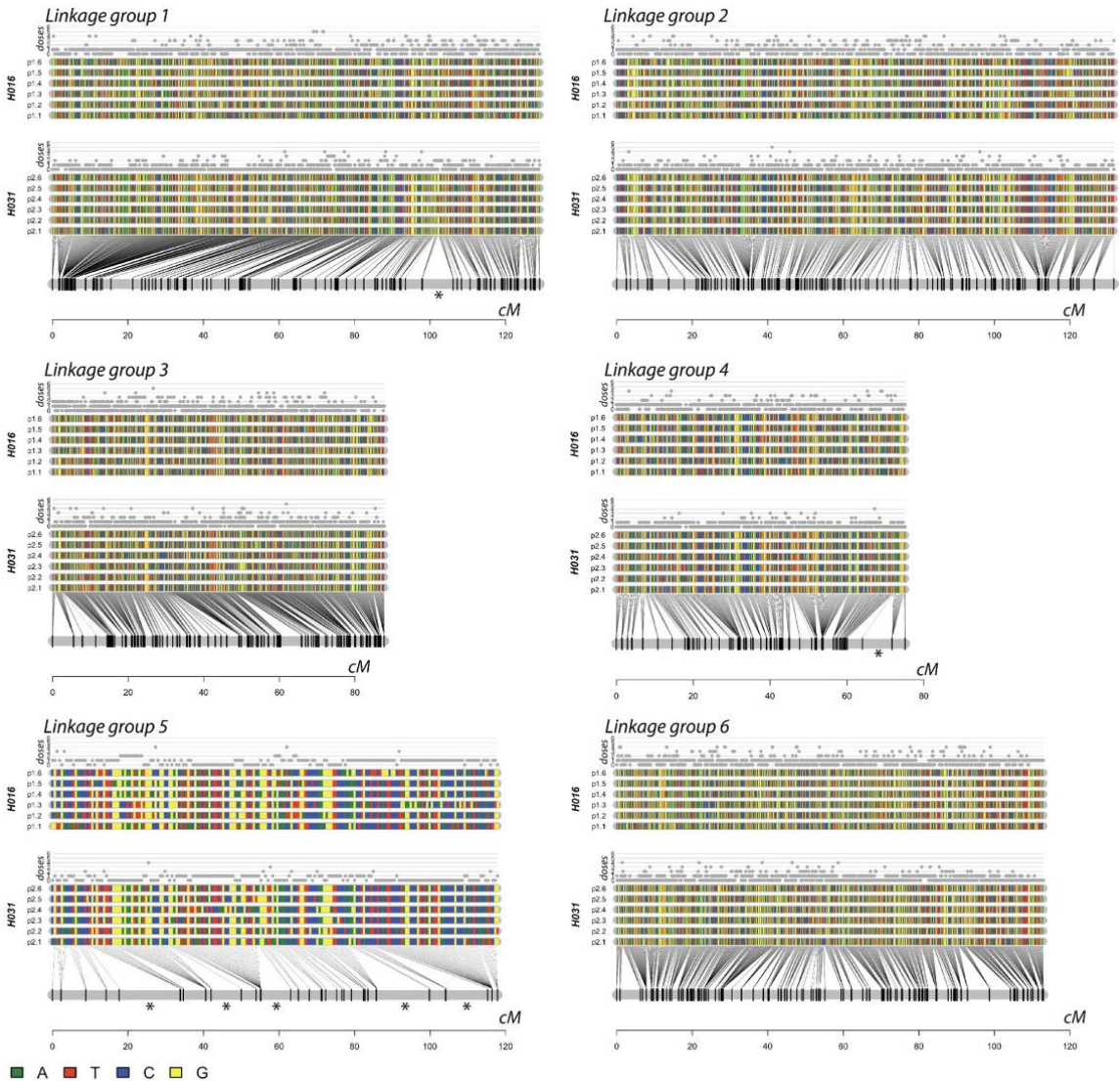


- MAPpoly reconstructs the genome of individuals in the offspring by tracing back their haplotypes to their founders.
- It also estimates degrees of preferential pairing and frequency of multivalent configurations.

Preferential pairing profiles



Genomic characterization of *Urochloa humidicola*



Theoretical and Applied Genetics (2023) 136:238
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00122-023-04485-w>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Advances in genomic characterization of *Urochloa humidicola*: exploring polyloid inheritance and apomixis

Aline da Costa Lima Moraes¹ · Marcelo Mollinari² · Rebecca Caroline Ulbricht Ferreira³ · Alexandre Aono² · Leticia Aparecida de Castro Lara⁴ · Marco Pessoa-Filho⁵ · Sanzio Carvalho Lima Barrios⁶ · Antonio Augusto Franco Garcia⁴ · Cacilda Borges do Valle⁶ · Anete Pereira de Souza^{1,3} · Bianca Bacilli Zanotto Vigna⁷

Public mid-density genotyping platform for alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.)



Genetic
Resources

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Genetic Resources (2023), 4 (8), 55–63

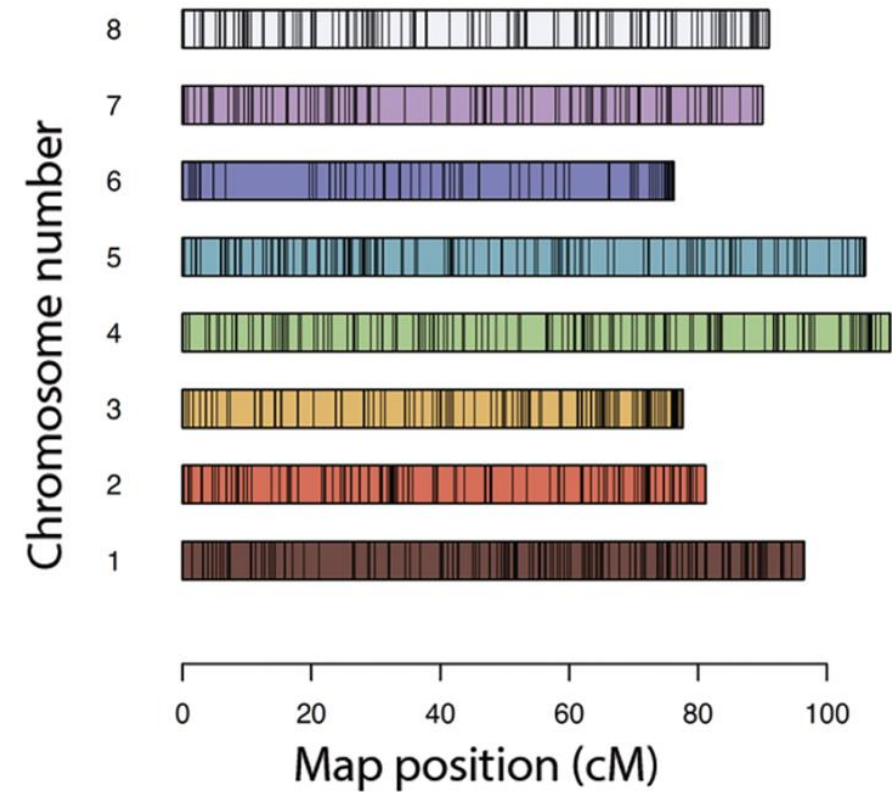
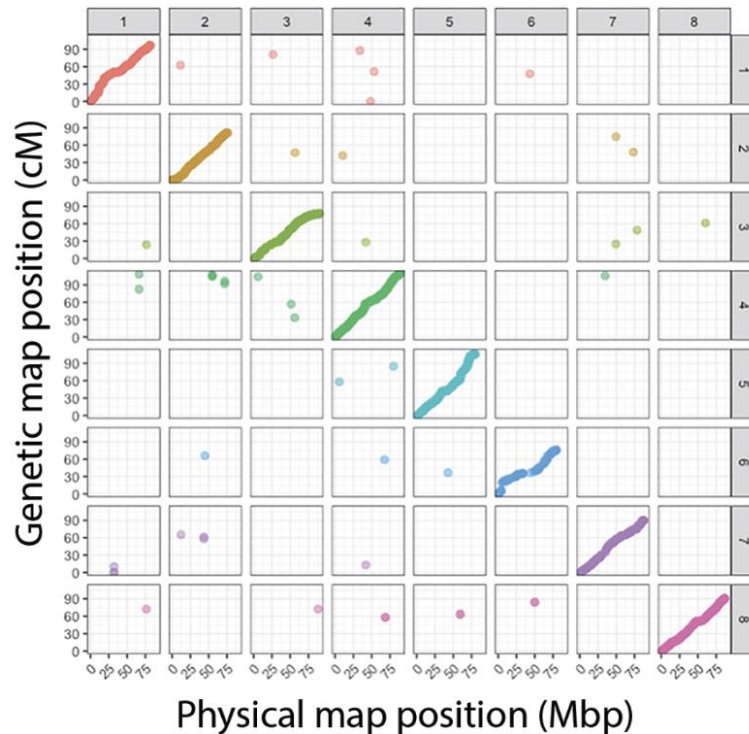
DOI: [10.46265/genresj.EMOR6509](https://doi.org/10.46265/genresj.EMOR6509)

<https://www.genresj.org>

ISSN: 2708-3764

A public mid-density genotyping platform for alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.)

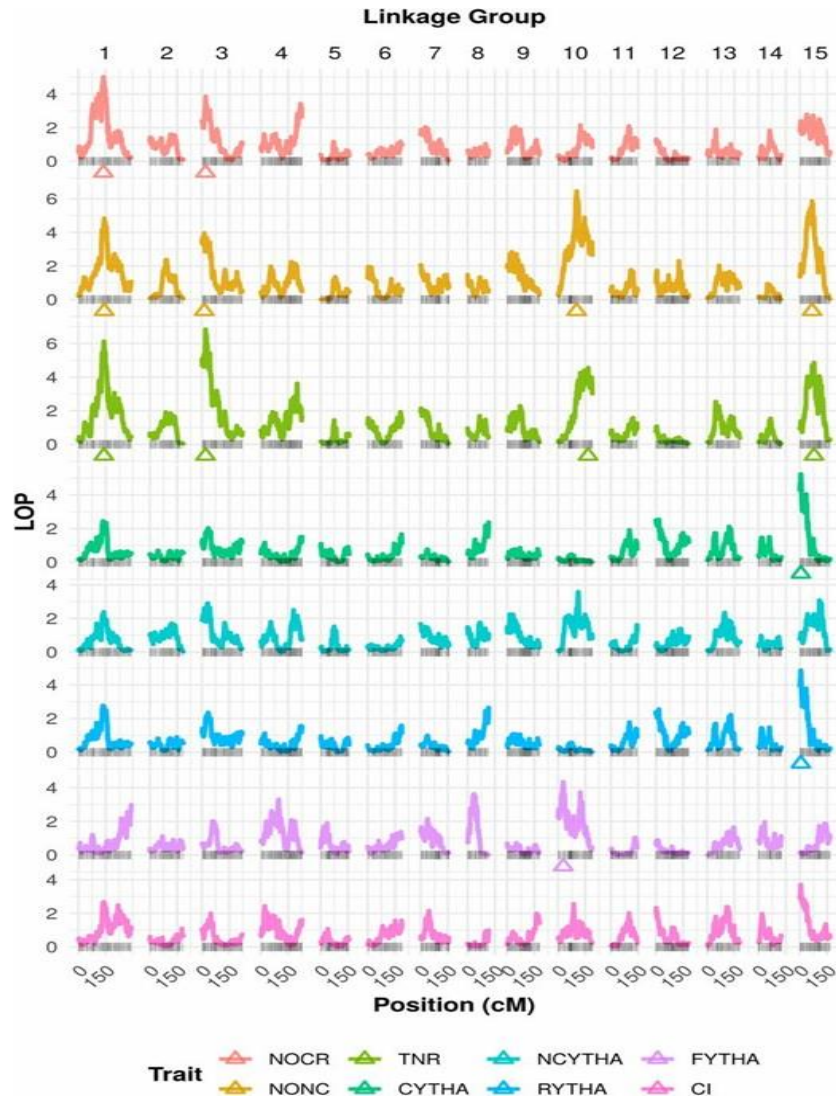
Dongyan Zhao^a, Katherine Mejia-Guerra^{a,b}, Marcelo Mollinari^c, Deborah A Samac^d, Brian M Irish^e, Kasia Heller-Uszynska^f, Craig T Beil^a and Moira J Sheehan^{*,a}



MAPpoly2 and alfalfa map construction

https://rpubs.com/mmollin/tutorial_mappoly2

QTL mapping



Pereira *et al.* (2020) - Genetics

[doi.org:10.1534/genetics.120.303080](https://doi.org/10.1534/genetics.120.303080)

build passing development active License GPL v3 CRAN 0.2.3 r-universe 0.2.3

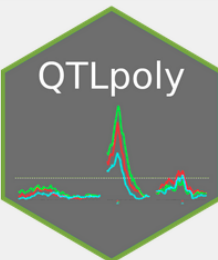
downloads 223/month

QTLpoly

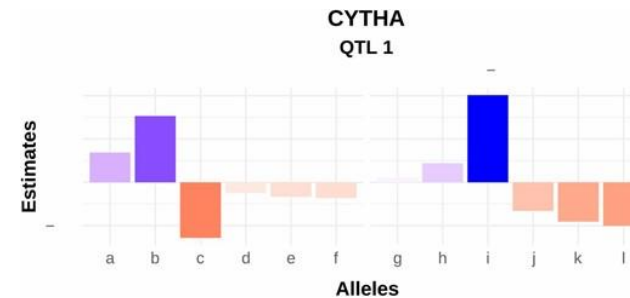
The R package `qtlpoly` (v. 0.2.2) is an under development software to map quantitative trait loci (QTL) in full-sib families of outcrossing autopolyploid species based on a random-effect multiple QTL model (Pereira *et al.* 2020).

In order to do so, you will need a genetic map from which conditional probabilities of putative QTL can be computed. We recommend `mappoly`, a hidden Markov model-based R package to construct genetic maps in autopolyploids (Mollinari and Garcia 2019).

Variance components associated with putative QTL are tested using score statistics (Qu *et al.* 2013), and final models are fitted using residual maximum likelihood (REML, adapted from the R package `sommer`). Plots for visualizing the results are based on `ggplot2` (v. 3.1 or higher) (Wickham 2016).



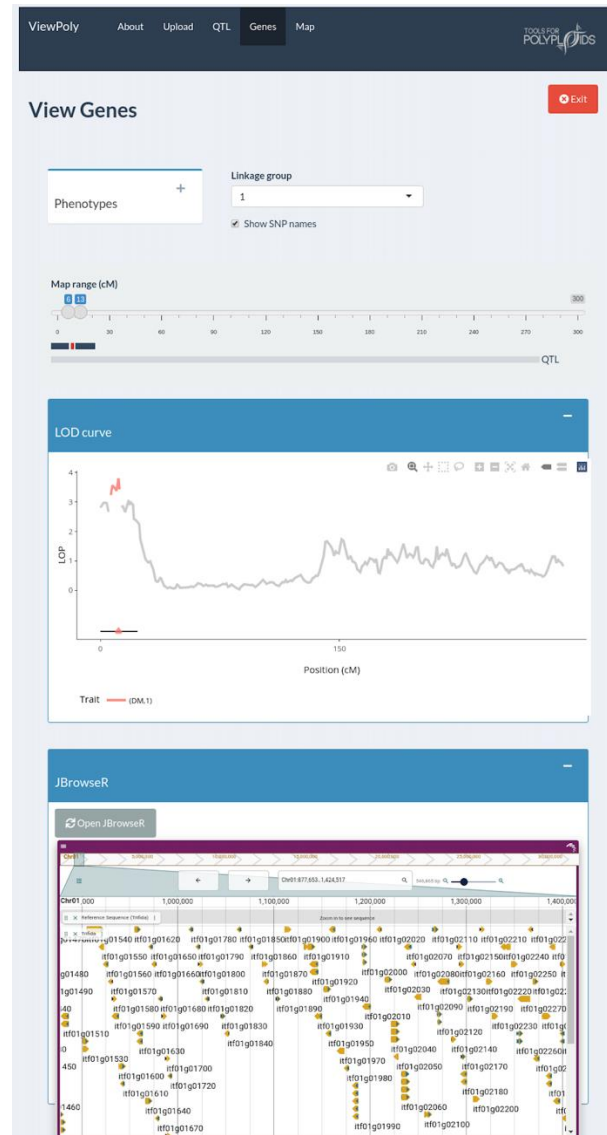
	NOCR	NONC	TNR	CYTHA	NCYTHA	RYTHA	FYTHA	CI
σ_g^2	0.386	0.277	1.117	27.611	0.313	31.568	23.677	5.88×10^{-3}
σ_{ge}^2	0.272	0.213	0.571	17.028	0.310	18.538	34.451	2.30×10^{-3}
σ^2	0.686	0.559	1.462	32.271	1.082	35.098	50.836	5.23×10^{-3}
H^2 (%)	80.07	78.31	84.59	84.08	70.39	84.73	71.35	88.42



Additive allele effects from the decomposed BLUPs for the QTL 1 of commercial root yield

Viewpoly

Interactively explore and select QTL regions, find candidate genes, find favorable haplotypes, dosage effects, list breeding values, and QTL information.



VIEWpoly: a visualization tool to integrate and explore results of polyploid genetic analysis

Cristiane Hayumi Taniguti¹, Gabriel de Siqueira Gesteira², Jeekin Lau¹, Guilherme da Silva Pereira³, Zhao-Bang Zeng², David Byrne¹, Oscar Riera-Lizarazu¹, and Marcelo Molinari²

1 Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA 2 Bioinformatics Research Center, Department of Horticultural Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA 3 Department of Agronomy, Federal University of Viçosa, Brazil

Taniguti *et al.* (2022) - JOSS

[doi:10.21105/joss.04242](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.04242)

Software

Genotype calling, mapping, QTL analysis and visualization

Related software

- [Polyverse](#) - the polyploid R universe (a [Lindsay Clark](#)'s initiative)

```
# Enable this universe
options(repos = c(
  polyploids = 'https://polyploids.r-universe.dev',
  CRAN = 'https://cloud.r-project.org'))

# Install some packages
install.packages('mappoly')
```

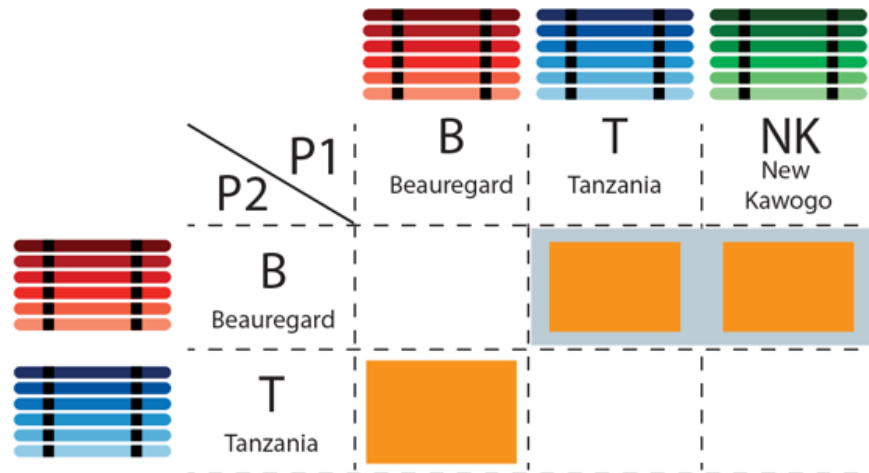
- Variant Calling
 - [GBSapp: An automated pipeline for variant calling and filtering.](#)
- Simulations
 - [PedigreeSim: Simulation of genetic marker data in diploid and polyploid pedigreed populations.](#)
- Genotype calling
 - [ClusterCall: Automated tetraploid genotype calling by hierarchical clustering](#)
 - [fitPoly: Genotype Calling for Bi-Allelic Marker Assays](#)
 - [polyRAD: Genotype Calling with Uncertainty from Sequencing Data in Polyploids and Diploids](#)
 - [SuperMASSA: Graphical Bayesian inference tool for genotyping polyploids](#)
 - [updog: Flexible Genotyping for Polyploids](#)
 - [VCF2SM: Python script that integrates VCF files and SuperMASSA](#)
- Genetic mapping in polyploids
 - [MDSMap: High Density Genetic Linkage Mapping using Multidimensional Scaling](#)
 - [polymapR: Linkage Analysis in Outcrossing Polyploids](#)
 - [TetraploidSNPMap: Linkage maps and mapping QTLs for autotetraploid species, using SNP dosage data.](#)
- Haplotype reconstruction
 - [MCHap: Polyploid micro-haplotype assembly using Markov chain Monte Carlo simulation.](#)
 - [TetraOrigin:haplotype reconstruction in a full-sib tetraploid family](#)
 - [PolyOriginR:haplotype reconstruction in polyploid multiparental populations](#)
- QTL mapping
 - [QTLpoly: QTL mapping in full-sib families of outcrossing autopolyploid species based on a random-effect multiple QTL model](#)
 - [diaQTL: QTL analysis of diploid and autotetraploid diallel populations](#)
 - [polyqtlR: QTL analysis and exploration of meiotic patterns in autopolyploid bi-parental F1 populations.](#)
- Visualization
 - [VIEWpoly: integrate, visualize and explore results from genetic analysis, together with genomic information for autopolyploids](#)

<https://github.com/mmollina/MAPpoly>

Analysis in multiple inter-connected sweetpotato families

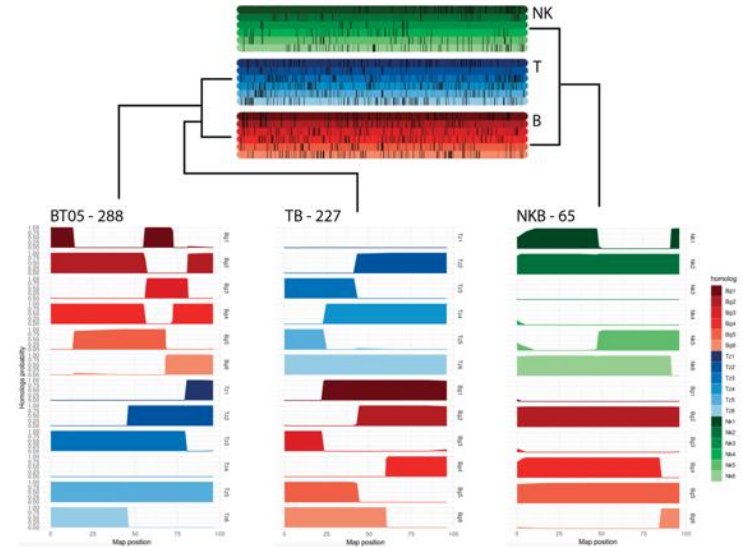
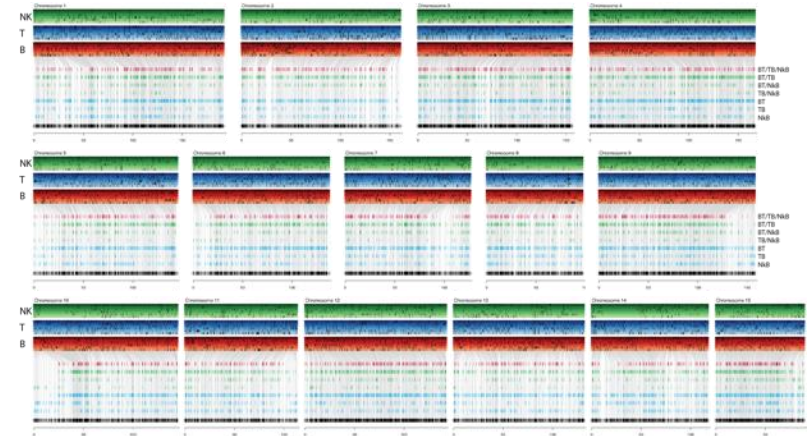


full-sib family + half-sib family (B)
 Gametes from both parents Gametes from parent B



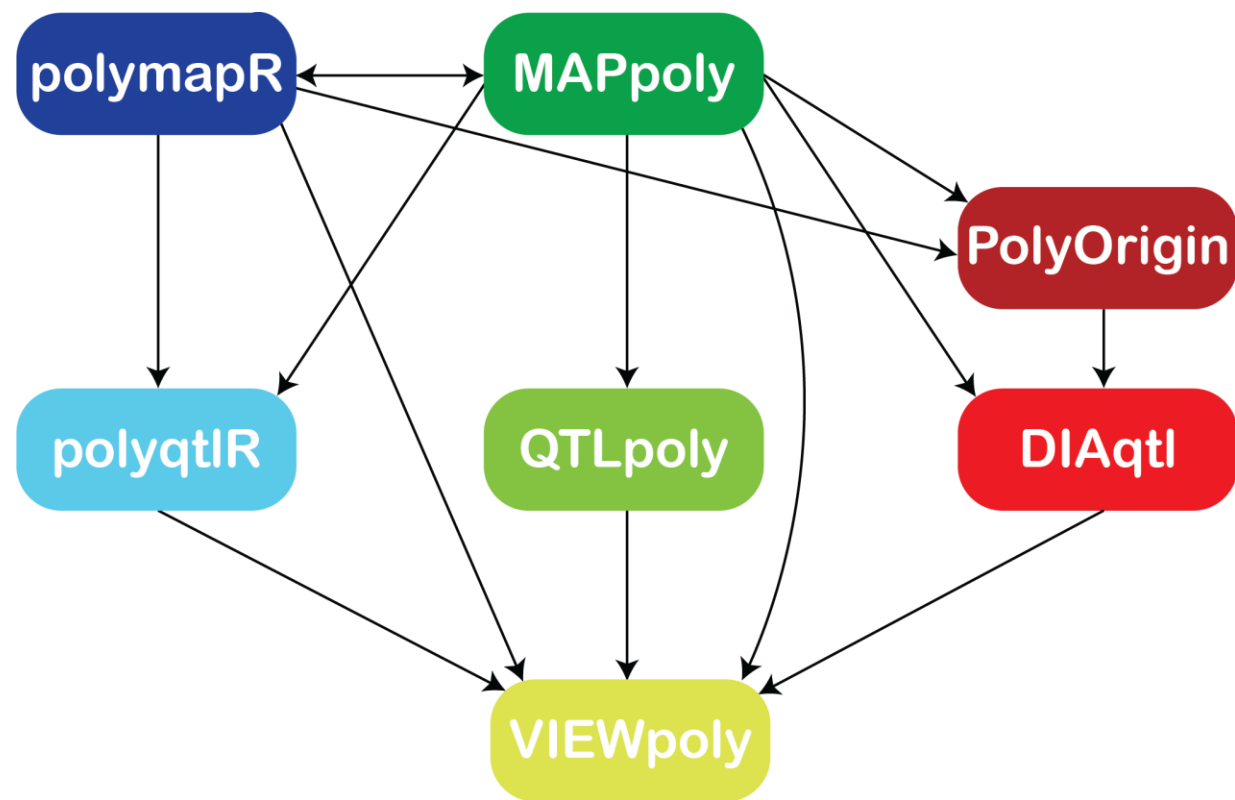
Schematic representation of three interconnected populations: BT, TB, and NKB

Complete genetic map for BT, TB, and NKB



Example of haplotyping in chromosome 15: Beauregard, Tanzania and New Kawogo

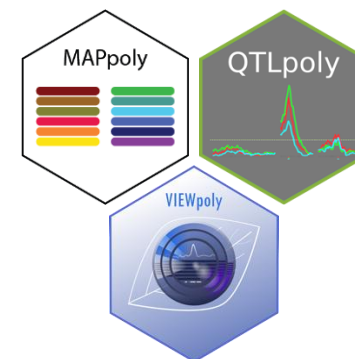
Analytical environment for linkage and QTL analysis in polyploids



TOOLS FOR
POLYPL
IDS



Tools for Polyploids
PLUS



MAPpoly2: Constructing maps and integrating them in multiple F1 populations

README MIT license MIT license

MAPpoly2

MAPpoly2 is an R package designed to build maps in interconnected full-sib autopolyploid families. It has been enhanced for user-friendliness and accessibility. This version, developed for potential integration with R Shiny, aims to provide a user-intuitive interface for genetic mapping in polyploids. It can handle ploidy levels of 2, 4, and 6, including any combination of these.

One of the key improvements in MAPpoly2 is its enhanced performance, largely due to the implementation of computationally intensive codes primarily in C++. This enables efficient handling of large datasets. Additionally, the package facilitates the construction of individual maps for each parent using a Hidden Markov Model (HMM), significantly speeding up the map construction process. These individual maps can then be merged, and a joint map is recomputed to include any remaining markers.

Installation:

From GitHub

You can install the development version from Git Hub. Within R, you need to install `devtools` :

```
install.packages("devtools")
```

If you are using Windows, please install the latest recommended version of [Rtools](#).

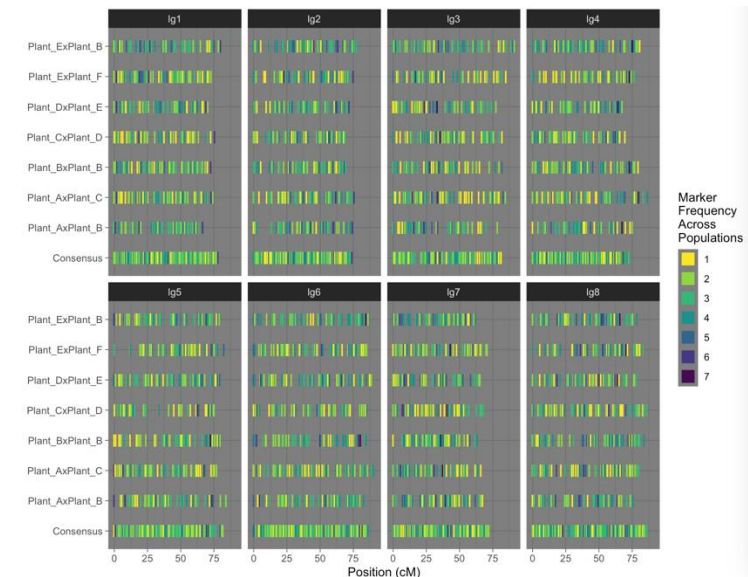
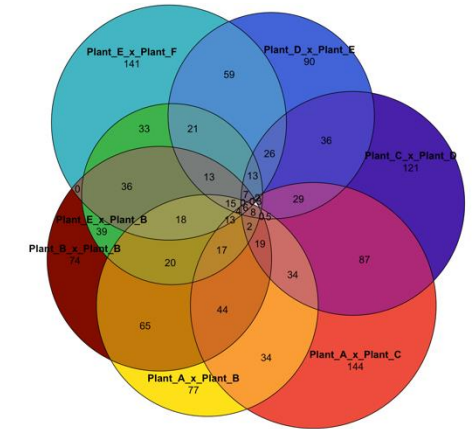
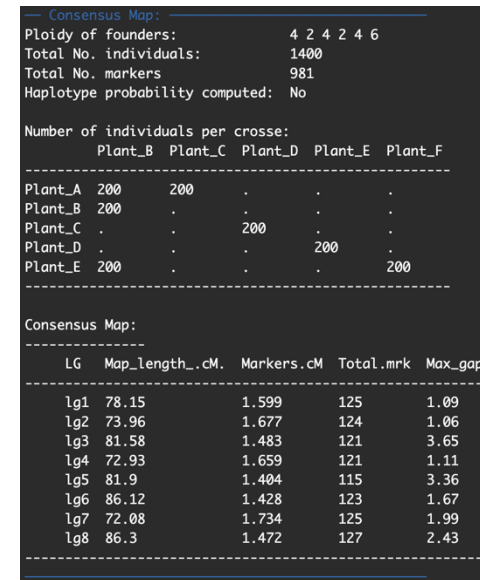
To install MAPpoly from Git Hub, use

```
devtools::install_github("mmollina/mappoly2", dependencies=TRUE)
```

Tutorial

- [Building an integrated genetic linkage map of autotetraploid alfalfa populations using the MAPpoly2](#)
- [Code Only - Alfalfa populations using the MAPpoly2](#)
- [Constructing Multi-Family Genetic Maps with MAPpoly2: A Simulation Example](#)
- [Supplementary Slides](#)

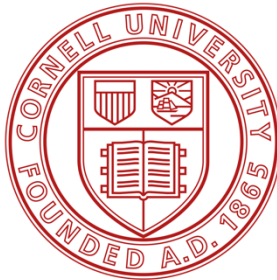
<https://github.com/mmollina/mappoly2>



Acknowledgements



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



- Gabriel S. Gesteira
- Cristiane Hayumi Taniguti
- Guilherme Da Silva Pereira
- Dongyan Zhao
- Shan Wu
- Aline da Costa Lima Moraes
- Bianca B. Z. Vigna
- Anete P Souza
- Antonio A. F. Garcia
- Zhangjun Fei
- Moira Sheehan
- David Byrne
- Oscar Riera-Lizarazu
- Craig Yencho
- Zhao-Bang Zeng