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The phased telomere-to-telomere OPENreference genome of *Musa acuminata***, a main contributor to banana cultivars Data Descriptor**

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Musa acuminata **is a main wild contributor to banana cultivars. Here, we reported a haplotyperesolved and telomere-to-telomere reference genome of** *M. acuminata* **by incorporating PacBio HiFi reads, Nanopore ultra-long reads, and Hi-C data. The genome size of the two haploid assemblies was estimated to be 469.83Mb and 470.21Mb, respectively. Multiple assessments confrmed the contiguity (contig N50: 16.53Mb and 18.58Mb; LAI: 20.18 and 19.48), completeness (BUSCOs: 98.57% and 98.57%), and correctness (QV: 45.97 and 46.12) of the genome. The repetitive sequences accounted for about half of the genome size. In total, 40,889 and 38,269 protein-coding genes were annotated in the two haploid assemblies, respectively, of which 9.56% and 3.37% were newly predicted. Genome comparison identifed a large reciprocal translocation involving 3Mb and 10Mb from chromosomes 01 and 04 within** *M. acuminata***. This reference genome of** *M. acuminata* **provides a valuable resource for further understanding of subgenome evolution of** *Musa* **species, and precise genetic improvement of banana.**

Background & Summary

The wild relatives of domesticated crops, i.e. crop wild relatives (CWRs), generally possess genetic diversity helpful in developing more productive and resilient crop varieties, thereby providing a wide practical gene pool for genetic improvement of crops^{[1](#page-10-0)}. In order to address the challenges and threats posed by emerging diseases and climate change, CWRs appear to be a source for solutions to manage both biotic and abiotic stresses^{[2,](#page-10-1)[3](#page-10-2)}. At present, combining huge sequence information and precise gene-editing tools provides a route to transform CWRs into ideal crops^{[2](#page-10-1)}. Therefore, a high-quality reference genome of CWR germplasm is an important prerequisite for efficiently introducing potential useful genes into breeding programmes. Thanks to the advances in sequencing technologies and analytical tools, many high-quality reference genomes for crops as well as their important wild relatives have been generated. Tese genetic resources will thus facilitate the identifcation of structural variants and incorporation of the variants from CWRs into crop gene pools.

Banana domestication started at least 7000 years ago in Southeast Asia^{[4](#page-10-3)}. Hybridization between various species and subspecies of the *Musa* genus led to the development of modern bananas with high produc-tion^{[5](#page-10-4)}. To date, most banana cultivars were derived from *Musa acuminata* (A genome), a complex of subspe-cies geographically segregated in distinct Southeast Asian continental regions and islands^{[6](#page-10-5)}. Four particular *M*. *acuminata* subspecies have been raised as the main contributors of edible banana cultivars, which are *banksii*,

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Fig. 1 The workflow of generating haplotype-resolved and telomere-to-telomere reference genome for *M. acuminata*. The unphased reference genome was constructed following the workflow on the left yellow panel. Then a haplotype-resolved and telomere-to-telomere reference genome was produced according to the scheme on the right blue panel. Green boxes represent raw sequencing data; white boxes represent the tools used in this pipeline; pink boxes represent intermediate data; blue boxes represent post-analysis process.

burmannica, malaccensis, and *zebrina*^{[4](#page-10-3)}. Several large structural variants in these subspecies were identified and suggested to be associated with the domestication of banana^{7-[11](#page-10-7)}. Genome research first started in the subspecies *malaccensis*. The first draft genome of *M. acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* was assembled by incoporating Sanger and Roche/454 reads, with sequence errors corrected by Illumina data 12 . This assembly was anchored along the *Musa* linkage groups of the genetic map built with SSR and DArT markers. The double-haploid genotype (DH-Pahang) was used in this study for reducing genome complexity and facilitating assembly process. Recently the telomere-to-telomere (T2T) reference genome of DH-Pahang has been constructed using Nanopore data and polished with Nanopore and Illumina reads, with continuity improved significantly^{[13](#page-10-9)}. Although DH genotype could miss some important genetic information, these genome resources have signifcantly facilitated the studies of banana domestication and genome evolution. With advances in the sequencing technologies and biosofwares, heterozygosity would not be the consistent hurdle. Currently, more and more haplotype-resolved and T2T genomes have been published, such as lychee 14 and apple¹⁵, providing unprecedented insights into subgenome evolution and domesticated history.

In this study, we assembled a haplotype-resolved and telomere-to-telomere reference genome of *M*. *acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* by incorporating PacBio HiFi reads, Nanopore ultra-long reads, and high throughput chromatin conformation capture (Hi-C) paired reads. An unphased reference genome was frst constructed and used for guiding haplotype-resolved scafolding (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)). Multiple assessment methods were applied to evaluate the quality of the haplotype-resolved assembly. A comprehensive genome comparison between this assembly and the previous reference of the DH genotype identifed a large reciprocal translocation involving 3Mb and 10Mb from chromosomes 01 and 04. Furthermore, the 3-Mb segment (34,734,628 to 37,810,715bp in chromosome 04) was suggested to be associated with fower development pathway, such as anther/stamen development. The haplotype-resolved genome of *M. acuminata* will help to obtain a better understanding of potential structural variants, allele specific expression and subgenome evolution of *Musa* species, and serve as reliable reference for banana breeding programmes.

Methods

Sample collection and sequencing. The *M. acuminata* sample used for DNA and RNA extraction was obtained from South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou, China. Tissues were immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen and preserved at −80 °C for DNA/RNA extraction. Te CTAB method was used to extract high quality genomic DNA from leaf tissue samples.

Table 1. Summary of sequencing data of *Musa acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* for haplotype-resolved and telomere-to-telomere assembly and genome annotation.

GenomeScope Profile len:450,425,975bp uniq:58.4% aa:99.4% ab:0.59%
aa:99.4% ab:0.59%
kcov:34.5 err:0.185% dup:0.594 k:21 p:2 $1e+07$ observed full model $8e+06$ unique sequence errors kmer-peaks $6e + 06$ Frequency $4e + 06$ $2e+06$ $0e + 00$ Ω 50 100 150 200 Coverage

A standard SMRTbell library was constructed using SMRTbell Express Template Prep Kit 2.0 according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Pacifc Biosciences, CA, USA) and sequenced on a PacBio Sequel II platform. This yielded 32.39 Gb HiFi data, covering \sim 65 \times coverage of the haploid genome size. The N50 length of the HiFi reads was 17.32kb. A nanopore library was constructed with the Oxford Nanopore SQK-LSK109 kit following the manufacturers' instructions and sequenced on a PromethION platform. Totally 20.80Gb ONT data were obtained, covering \sim 42 \times coverage of the haploid genome size. The N50 length was 86.86 kb. A Hi-C library was constructed based on cross-linked genomic DNA and sequenced on an Illumina NovaSeq platform (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). In total, 134 Gb Hi-C data were obtained, covering ~268×coverage of the haploid genome size. The 15.58 Gb NGS data were obtained using the Illumina NovaSeq platform, covering \sim 3[1](#page-2-0) \times coverage of the haploid genome size (Table 1).

Additionally, total RNA was extracted from four tissues, including root, leaf, fower, and fruit, using the NEBNext® Ultra™ II Directional RNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina® (New England Biolabs, MA, USA). Paired-end 150-bp reads were also generated by the Illumina NovaSeq platform. These yielded a total of 26.90Gb raw RNAseq data (Table [1](#page-2-0)). All sequencing were carried out at Anhui Double Helix Gene Technology Co., Ltd. (Anhui, China).

Genome size and heterozygosity estimation. CCS sofware ([https://github.com/PacifcBiosciences/ccs\)](https://github.com/PacificBiosciences/ccs) with default parameters was used to generate the consensus reads (HiFi reads). Based on the obtained high-accurate HiFi reads, the K-mer distribution was analysed with jellyfish¹⁶ with jellyfish count -C -m 21 -s 100000000 and jellyfish histo -h 1000000. The results were subsequently imported to GenomeScope v2.0[17](#page-10-13) with K-mer length = 21 and Ploidy = 2. The genome size of *M. acuminata* was estimated to be 450.43 Mb with the 21 K-mer, about 14% shorter than DH-Pahang genome size (523.00 Mb) estimated by flow cytometry¹². The heterozygosity rate was estimated to be 0.59% (Fig. [2\)](#page-2-1).

Table 2. Summary of genome assembly of *Musa acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* genome. Note: MA represents the primary contig sets, while MAH1 and MAH2 represent contigs in haplotype1 and contigs in haplotype2.

Table 3. The lengths of the pseudo-chromosomes of *Musa acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* genomes.

De novo **haplotype-resolved genome assembly.** Fastp v0.23.[218](#page-10-14) was performed to flter Hi-C reads with default parameters. Subsequently, hifiasm v0.16.1-r375¹⁹ was carried out to generate the primary unphased draft genome based on HiFi and Hi-C reads. This generated a 491.54 Mb draft genome with an N50 of 26.62 Mb, and only [2](#page-3-0)0 contigs consisted of 90% length of the genome (Table 2). Then, ragtag v2.1.0^{[20](#page-10-16)} with default parameters was frst used to sort, orientate, and cluster the primary contigs guided by the T2T version of *M*. *acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* DH-Pahang genome^{[13](#page-10-9)} (Hereafter MAv4). Meanwhile, the primary contigs were anchored into 11 pseudo-chromosomes using Juicer v1.6²¹ and 3D-DNA v180922²² in turn. Then, based on the assembly file obtained from ragtag and the hic file from Juicer and 3D-DNA, Juicebox v2.20.00²³ was introduced for visualizing Hi-C data and manual correction in order to obtain a high-quality reference genome. Finally, there were only 17 gaps in the high-quality reference genome. For gap flling, ONT assembly was constructed by NextDenovo (<https://github.com/Nextomics/NextDenovo>) with read-cutoff=1k and genome_size=500 M. Then this draft ONT assembly was polished by Nextpolish^{[24](#page-11-2)} based on the HiFi reads and the Illumina reads with default parameters. Subsequently minimap2 v2.24-r1122²⁵ with default parameters was used to map the polished ONT assembly to the primary reference genome. We examined the breakpoint with the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) tool^{[26](#page-11-4)} and manually filled the gaps based on the alignment results. After using ONT assembly to fill all remaining gaps, a high-quality reference genome named MA was generated. The genome size of this unphased assembly

Fig. 3 The Overview of *M. acuminata* genome assembly and features. The tracks represent the following elements (from outer to inner): (**a**) Karyotypes of the 22 chromosome sequences, (**b**) TRF-183bp centromeric repeat density, (**c**) *Copia* density, (**d**) Transposable element (TE) density, (**e**) GC contents, (**f**) Gene density. Te innermost is syntenic relationships.

is 471.04 Mb with an anchored rate of 95.83%. The Hi-C heatmap confirmed the contiguity of the assembly (Supplementary Figure S1).

To obtain a haplotype-resolved genome, a similar pipeline was applied (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)). Two primary haploid assemblies were first generated by hifiasm. Further genome assembly statistics were performed with QUAST²⁷ with default parameters. Accumulative lengths of the two haploid assemblies were 500.78Mb and 484.36Mb with N50 of 16.53Mb and 18.58Mb, respectively (Table [2\)](#page-3-0). Afer Hi-C scafolding processes, 469.83Mb and 470.21Mb were anchored to 11 chromosomes respectively, with an anchored rate of 93.82% and 97.08% (Table [3](#page-3-1)). The genome sizes of the two haploid assemblies were slightly longer than that of MAv4 (468.82 Mb)¹³, and represented approximately 90% of DH-Pahang genome size (523.00 Mb) estimated by flow cytometry¹². All 66 gaps in the two haploid assemblies were flled. Finally, the haplotype-resolved and telomere-to-telomere reference genome for *M*. *acuminata* was obtained; and the two haploid assemblies were named MAH1 and MAH2. Te circos²⁸ software was introduced to draw the genome features shown in Fig. [3.](#page-4-0) The Hi-C heatmap confirmed this assembly as a complete and reliable haplotype-resolved reference genome (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)).

Genome quality assessment. Multiple methods were combined to evaluate the quality of genome assembly. First, the HiFi, Illumina, and RNAseq reads were aligned to the phased genome using minimap2 v2.24-r1122,

chr12 chr02 chr13 chr03 chr14 chr04 chr15 chr05 chr16 chr06 chr17 chr07 chr18 chr08 chr19 chr09 chr20 chr10 chr20 chr11 chr22

Fig. 4 The Hi-C heatmap of haplotype-resolved genome of *M. acuminata*. 11 chromosome pairs were defined.

Table 4. Assessment of genome quality based on mapping with RNAseq reads.

Table 5. BUSCO results of MAH1 (C: 98.57%) and MAH2 (C: 98.57%). Note: The lineage dataset is embryophyta_odb10.

BWA v0.7.17-r1188²⁹, and HiSAT2 v2.2.1^{[30](#page-11-8)} with default parameters, respectively. BamTools v2.5.1^{[31](#page-11-9)} was used to calculate the read mapping rates. Te results showed a HiFi coverage rate of 99.86% and 99.87% on MAH1 and MAH2 assemblies, respectively. The mapping rate of Illumina reads reached up to 99.98% in both haploid assem-blies. The mapping rate of RNAseq reads ranged from 92.44% to 97.34% (Table [4\)](#page-5-1). Second, the LTR Assembly Index (LAI) calculated from LTR_retriever $v2.9.0^{32}$ was used to assess the genome assembly quality. The LAI of MAH1 and MAH2 reached up to 20.18 and 19.48, respectively, indicating that our phased assembly reached the standard of a golden reference. Tird, the completeness of the haplotype-resolved genome was evaluated by BUSCO v5.4.3[33](#page-11-11) against the 'embryophyta_odb 10' database. In total, 98.57% (1,591 of 1,614) of the complete BUSCO genes were identifed (Table [5\)](#page-5-2). Finally, the consensus quality value (QV) of the genome was assessed by Merqury v1.3^{[34](#page-11-12)} with meryl k = 19 count, showing 45.97 and 46.12 of QV (Genome accuracy >99.99%) for MAH1 and MAH2, respectively (Table [6,](#page-6-0) Supplementary Figure S2).

Repeat and gene annotation. The extensive *de novo* TE annotator (EDTA)³⁵ was used to fully screen and group repeat elements. Briefy, a *de novo* repeat library constructed by RepeatModeler v2.0.[136](#page-11-14) was imported to RepeatMasker v4.1.1 (<http://repeatmasker.org/>) to predict repeats. Then, Repbase³⁷ was introduced to predict

Table 6. The consensus quality values of MAH1 and MAH2.

Genes with GO terms 59,143

Table 7. Statistics of protein-coding genes in MAH1 and MAH2.

Table 8. Summary of BUSCO analysis of protein-coding genes in MAH1 (C: 89.41%) and MAH2 (C: 90.27%). Note: The lineage dataset is embryophyte_odb10.

homology repeats in RepeatMasker. In total we identifed 235.46Mb (50.11%) and 234.61Mb (49.90%) repetitive sequences in MAH1 and MAH2, respectively. Among these, long terminal repeats (LTR) that accounted for 36.61% in MAH1 and 34.19% in MAH2 were the most abundant repeat elements (Supplementary Table S1). These results were comparable with the findings in the previous T2T DH genome version (Repeat elements: 52.62%; LTR: 34.85%)¹³.

Standard MAKER3 v3.01.0[338](#page-11-16) pipeline was used to annotate genes. All high-confdence protein sequences in swiss-prot³⁹ database were imported for homology prediction. Transcripts from the 4 tissues, including root, leaf, flower and fruit, were used for gene prediction. Then AUGUSTUS v3.3.2 and SNAP v20131129 were used to

Table 9. Summary of telomere information of *Musa acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* genome.

Table 10. Summary of centromere information of *Musa acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis* genome.

train the ab-initio gene models. Finally, the MAKER3 pipeline was run again to obtain high-quality gene annotations. Functional characterization of the predicted coding genes was performed using eggNOG-mapper v2[40](#page-11-18) based on the eggNOG v5.0 database⁴¹. A total of 40,889 and 38,269 protein-coding genes were annotated in MAH1 and MAH2, respectively. The total lengths of protein-coding genes were 148.54 Mb and 144.95 Mb, respectively. Average lengths of genes were 3.63 kb and 3.79 kb. Based on the eggNOG-Mapper results, 59,143

Fig. 5 The sequence collinearity and structural variants between MAH1 and MAH2.

(74.72%) genes were functionally annotated (Table [7\)](#page-6-1). Besides, BUSCO scores of protein-coding genes in MAH1 and MAH2 were up to 89.41% and 90.27% (Table [8](#page-6-2)).

Identification of telomeres and centromeres. TIDK v0.2.1 ([https://github.com/tolkit/](https://github.com/tolkit/telomeric-identifier) [telomeric-identifer\)](https://github.com/tolkit/telomeric-identifier) was used to fnd telomeres. In total 36 telomeres were found (Table [9\)](#page-7-0). Plant centromeric regions are generally characterized by the presence of short tandem repeats that are highly enriched in these region[s42,](#page-11-20) accompanied by a collapse in the density of LTR elements such as *Copia*. By identifying these distinctive features, centromeric regions can be located. We predicted centromeric regions according to the workfow in Shi *et al.*^{[43](#page-11-21)}, which employed the above approach. Using Tandem Repeats Finder v4.09^{[44](#page-11-22)} with the parameters: trf genomes.fa 2 7 7 80 10 50 500 -f -d -m, we screened 183 bp, 148 bp, 124 bp, 125 bp, and 191 bp tandem repeat units as candidates based on sorted results and IGV results (Supplementary Table S2, Supplementary Figure S3). The centromeric regions were defined according to the density of 183 bp tandem repeat unit, which was the highest enriched centromeric repeat unit. Finally, all centromeric regions have been captured successfully (Table [10,](#page-7-1) Supplementary Figure S3).

Characterization of a reciprocal translocation in *Musa acuminata***.** Nucmer v4.0.0rc1⁴⁵ was used to obtain the syntenic relationship between MAH1 and MAH2 with default parameters. Then the delta-filter was launched with parameters '-i 90 -l 15000'. In the same way, our haplotype-resolved assembly was aligned against MAv4 using nucmer. Mummerplot command was used to generate the dot plots (Supplementary Figure S4). Syri v1.6.[346](#page-11-24) with default parameters was used for identifying structural variants between MAH1 and MAH2 (Fig. [5\)](#page-8-0). Overall, 47 translocations with a cumulative size of 2.70Mb (~0.57%), 23 inversions with a cumulative size of 11.30 Mb (\sim 2.40%), and 53 duplications with a cumulative size of 1.33 Mb (\sim 0.28%) were defined. These structural variants were generally heterozygous, representing more complete genetic information compared with the double-haploid MAv4 genome.

MCscan tool[s47](#page-11-25) were used to search for the syntenic relationships between the two haploid assemblies and MAv4 at the gene level. Briefly, 'jcvi.compara.catalog' module with \cdot -cscore = 0.99' and 'jcvi.compara.synteny' module with '--minspan=30' were used to build the syntenic regions; then, syntenic relationships were visualized by 'jcvi.graphics.karyotype' module. Besides, potential structural variants and heterozygous regions were shown in Supplementary Figure S5. A reciprocal translocation involving 3Mb and 10Mb from chromosome 01 and 04 was identifed (Fig. [6a\)](#page-9-0). Tese reciprocal translocation gene blocks were located in the translocated regions identified in whole genome alignment results (Supplementary Figure S4C,D). The 10-Mb segment from 261,650 to 10,745,936bp in chromosome 01 of MAH1 was linked to 44,882,868 to 34,419,170bp in chromosome 04 of MAv4 (Supplementary Figure S5). The 3-Mb segment from 34,734,628 to 37,810,715 bp in chromosome 04 of MAH1 was linked to 122,362 to 3,101,126 bp in chromosome 01 of MAv4. Te reciprocal translocation between MAH2 and MAv4 was located in the similar genomic regions. The huge difference in chromosome length in chromosome 01 and chromosome 04 between MAH1/2 and MAv4 was also derived from this reciprocal translocation, while other chromosome lengths and genomic total lengths were comparable (Table [3](#page-3-1)).

We further performed GO enrichments based on the extracted genes located in the translocated regions using TBtools v1.108⁴⁸. The genes in the 10-Mb segment of MAH1 were not significantly enriched in any biological process, while those on the 3-Mb segment were enriched in several pathways associated with fower development (Supplementary Table S3), including anther development (GO:0048653), stamen development (GO:0048443), regulation of fower development (GO:0009909), and foral whorl development (GO:0048438). For further validation, we used nucleotide BLAST tools in National Center for Biotechnology Information

(NCBI) with default parameters to align identifed genes to non-redundant database, and checked gene functions manually.

Data Records

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All raw sequencing reads have been deposited in the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) under BioProject ID PRJNA962682, and the National Genomics Data Center (NGDC) under BioProject ID PRJCA018611. The PacBio HiFi, Nanopore, Hi-C, Illumina sequencing reads have been deposited in the NCBI Sequence Read Archive database with accession group numbers SRP435127⁴⁹. Genome assembly is available from GenBank with accession number GCA_030219345.1⁵⁰. The genome annotation files have been submitted to the online open access repository Figshare database⁵¹, including a high-quality reference genome that we constructed for guidance.

Technical Validation

Manual correction for chromosome scaffolding. For constructing a high-quality reference genome, we used Juicebox to manually correct the reference genome based on Hi-C alignments (Supplementary Figure S1). Finally, 471.04 Mb (95.83%) contigs were anchored to 11 pseudo-chromosomes. Then, we started to orient, sort and group our haplotype-resolved genome based on this high-quality reference genome. We also used Juicebox to manually correct the haplotype-resolved genome based on Hi-C alignments. In total, 469.83Mb (93.82%) and 470.21Mb (97.08%) contigs were anchored to 11 chromosome pairs, respectively. We further examined the Hi-C alignments in chromosome 01 and chromosome 04 in Juicebox (Fig. [6b\)](#page-9-0), and confrmed the accurate assemblies of chromosome 01 and chromosome 04. Besides, chromosome 01 consists of only one contig (Table [3](#page-3-1)), further confrming its high continuity.

Targeted PCR confrmed the reciprocal translocation between Chr01 and Chr04. Based on the genomic syntenic analysis between our assembly and MAv4, we identifed a large reciprocal translocation from chromosomes 01 and 04, corresponding to the translocation found in a previous study^{[9](#page-10-18)}. In that study, three pairs of primers were designed to amplify the breakpoints located along the reference and hypothesized chromosome structures, thereby showing the presence of chromosomes 01, 04, and 1T4 resulting from the translocation. Here we used the same primer pairs to perform targeted PCR to validate the chromosome structures found in our sample (Fig. [6c](#page-9-0)). DNA was extracted from leaf tissue of *M*. *acuminata* ssp. *malaccensis*. PCR was performed in 50-μL volumes containing 2.5ng of gDNA, 1μL of specifc primers, 32μL of distilled, deionized water, and 0.5μL of *TaKaRa LA Taq*[®] (Vazyme) using an Eastwin Life Science EDC810 PCR amplification system. The reaction conditions for thermal cycling were 94 °C for 5min, followed by 35 cycles of 94 °C for 45s, 56°C for 45s, and 72°C for 60 s. Thereafter, PCR products were visualized by 2% agarose gel-electrophoresis with a 100 bp DNA ladder. Only the breakpoint of chromosome 1T4 was amplifed in our studied sample, suggesting that the reciprocal translocation involving 3 and 10Mb segments from chromosomes 01 and 04 existed in both haploid genomes of the *M. acuminata* sample (Fig. [6c](#page-9-0)). Tis fnding was consistent with our whole genome alignment results in sequence and gene levels.

Code availability

No special code was used for this study. All sofware mentioned in methods could be found in the community. If no detail parameters were mentioned for the sofware, default parameters were used as suggested by the developer.

Received: 6 June 2023; Accepted: 5 September 2023; Published online: 16 September 2023

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Acknowledgements

This work was financially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 32070237, 31261140366), and the Strategic Priority Research Program of Chinese Academy of Sciences (Grant No. XDB31000000).

Author contributions

H.R.H., X.J.G. and Y.Z. designed and supervised the research; X.L., R.A. and H.R.H. wrote the manuscript; X.L., R.A. and X.W. analysed the data; X.L. and W.M.L. collected the experimental materials. All authors contributed to manuscript revision, read and approved the submitted version.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Additional information

Supplementary information The online version contains supplementary material available at [https://doi.org/](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-023-02546-9) [10.1038/s41597-023-02546-9.](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-023-02546-9)

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