

Conserved but Attenuated Parental Gene Expression in Allopolyploids: Constitutive Zinc Hyperaccumulation in the Allotetraploid *Arabidopsis kamchatica*

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Abstract

Allopolyploidization combines parental genomes and often confers broader species distribution. However, little is known about parentally transmitted gene expression underlying quantitative traits following allopolyploidization because of the complexity of polyploid genomes. The allopolyploid species *Arabidopsis kamchatica* is a natural hybrid of the zinc hyperaccumulator *Arabidopsis halleri* and of the nonaccumulator *Arabidopsis lyrata*. We found that *A. kamchatica* retained the ability to hyperaccumulate zinc from *A. halleri* and grows in soils with both low and high metal content. Hyperaccumulation of zinc by *A. kamchatica* was reduced to about half of *A. halleri*, but is 10-fold greater than *A. lyrata*. Homeologs derived from *A. halleri* had significantly higher levels of expression of genes such as *HEAVY METAL ATPASE4 (HMA4)*, *METAL TRANSPORTER PROTEIN1* and other metal ion transporters than those derived from *A. lyrata*, which suggests *cis*-regulatory differences. *A. kamchatica* has on average about half the expression of these genes compared with *A. halleri* due to fixed heterozygosity inherent in allopolyploids. Zinc treatment significantly changed the ratios of expression of 1% of homeologous pairs, including genes putatively involved in metal homeostasis. Resequencing data showed a significant reduction in genetic diversity over a large genomic region (290 kb) surrounding the *HMA4* locus derived from the *A. halleri* parent compared with the syntenic *A. lyrata*-derived region, which suggests different evolutionary histories. We also estimated that three *A. halleri*-derived *HMA4* copies are present in *A. kamchatica*. Our findings support a transcriptomic model in which environment-related transcriptional patterns of both parents are conserved but attenuated in the allopolyploids.

Key words: allopolyploid, homeolog, hyperaccumulation, heavy metal, selective sweep, transcriptomics.

Introduction

The divergence of phenotypes plays a primary role in speciation and is often driven by ecological adaptations (Coyne and Orr 2004; Rundle and Nosil 2005). Once isolated, species with highly divergent ecological adaptations become less likely to come into contact, and if they do, viable offspring are unlikely because of genetic incompatibilities that accumulate during parental divergence (Wu and Ting 2004). Therefore, it is unclear how allopolyploid hybrids not only survive, but also are able to inhabit broad ecological habitats compared with parental species (Stebbins 1971; Ehrendorfer 1980; Levin 2000). Allotetraploids inherit chromosomes from two parental species through hybridization and genome duplication, and thus represent a fixed heterozygote state of two

parental genomes (reviewed in Comai 2005). In allopolyploids, differential gene expression can result from vertically transmitted bias in parental expression (Yoo et al. 2014) or “parental legacy” (Buggs et al. 2014), which results in one homeolog being preferentially expressed over the other. Studies in *Arabidopsis* polyploids have demonstrated that divergent parental expression can be transmitted to an allopolyploid (Wang et al. 2006) and parental (allelic) expression patterns can persist over multiple generations (Shi et al. 2012).

Comparative transcriptomics studies in natural and synthesized allopolyploids have become a powerful tool for detecting homeolog-specific expression and estimating additive and nonadditive gene regulation due to *cis* and *trans* effects (Wang et al. 2006; Shi et al. 2012; Yoo et al. 2013). Studies have

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often identified genes enriched for gene ontologies corresponding to a particular treatment condition that affects homeolog expression (Akhunova et al. 2010; Combes et al. 2013; Akama et al. 2014; Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2016), but comparisons of both expression levels and quantitative phenotypes have shown a relationship between quantitative traits and transcriptomics in allopolyploids and diploid parents (Bertrand et al. 2015). To gain an empirical perspective into the possible advantages or disadvantages of polyploidy that affect species distributions, it is first necessary to identify phenotypes that were inherited from diploid ancestors, which can be measured precisely in both parents and hybrids (Takumi et al. 2009; McCarthy et al. 2015), along with the knowledge of the corresponding genetic loci underlying such phenotypes. We propose that heavy metal hyperaccumulation represents a highly tractable and inducible quantitative trait that has tremendous potential for detailed analyses of gene regulation between diploid and polyploid relatives. Next-generation sequencing can now be used to enhance both genome-wide studies of hyperaccumulation (Verbruggen et al. 2013) and allopolyploid evolution (Buggs et al. 2012).

Hyperaccumulator species transport toxic heavy metals from roots to shoots and can grow on soils with high cadmium (Cd) and zinc (Zn) contamination. Only a limited number of hyperaccumulator species have evolved independently among the angiosperms (Krämer 2010) and are often distributed in toxic ecological niches with heavy metal contamination. Hyperaccumulation of Cd and Zn has been studied extensively in Brassicaceae at the physiological and molecular level in *Arabidopsis halleri* and *Noccaea caerulescens* (formerly *Thlaspi caerulescens*), and many candidate genes responsible for metal tolerance have been identified (Hanikenne et al. 2008; Milner and Kochian 2008, Shahzad et al. 2010; Ó Lochlainn et al. 2011). Both genera have closely related hyperaccumulator and nonaccumulator species enabling comparative genomic and phenotyping studies (Becher et al. 2004; Talke et al. 2006; reviewed in Verbruggen et al. 2009; Krämer 2010).

Metal homeostasis involves multicellular transport of ions and intricate detoxification of cells, presenting considerable challenges for finding loci with large effects. Nevertheless, quantitative trait locus (QTL) studies using a backcross family (BC1) of *A. halleri* and *Arabidopsis lyrata* have demonstrated two main loci involved in hyperaccumulation and tolerance to both Cd and Zn: *HEAVY METAL ATPASE4* (*HMA4*) coding for an ATPase transporter protein and *METAL TRANSPORTER PROTEIN1* (*MTP1*, also called *ATCDF1* or *ZAT1*) coding for a cation diffusion facilitator (CDF) protein (Dräger et al. 2004; Desbrosses-Fonrouge et al. 2005; Filatov et al. 2006; Courbot et al. 2007; Willems et al. 2007). These two loci are constitutively expressed even under low metal conditions (Talke et al. 2006), and both have known paralogous duplications in *A. halleri* (Hanikenne et al. 2008; Shahzad et al. 2010) giving them enhanced *cis*-regulation. The discovery in *A. halleri* of the tandemly triplicated *HMA4* as the major locus responsible for transporting heavy metals from roots to shoots was confirmed by yeast complementation tests (Talke et al. 2006) and RNA silencing (RNAi, Hanikenne

et al. 2008). Silencing of *HMA4* in *A. halleri* effectively inhibited Zn translocation to leaves, but transformation of the functional *A. halleri* *HMA4* (*AhHMA4*) gene into a nontolerant *Arabidopsis thaliana* background conferred the ability to transport Zn to the xylem, although it was not sufficient to confer the ability to hyperaccumulate Zn into leaves. This indicates that transport is tightly integrated with cellular detoxification mediated by other factors involving vacuolar sequestration of toxic ions, such as *MTP1* (Kobae et al. 2004; Filatov et al. 2006; Willems et al. 2007) and possibly *HMA3* (Becher et al. 2004; Morel et al. 2008). In short, the triplication as well as enhanced promoter activity of each copy contributed to high *HMA4* expression (Hanikenne et al. 2008), which is presumably responsible for the constitutive hyperaccumulation ability in the entire species (Krämer 2010).

The time of evolutionary divergence of *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* has been estimated to coincide with the duplication of *HMA4* (Roux et al. 2011), which presumably confers the ability to hyperaccumulate heavy metals to *A. halleri*, but not *A. lyrata*. This suggests a mechanism of ecological speciation by enhanced tolerance to toxic soils. Despite that habitats of European *A. halleri* encompass both metalliferous and non-metalliferous soils, *A. halleri* appears to be constitutively metal tolerant regardless of low to intermediate heavy metal concentrations in most populations (Bert et al. 2002; Pauwels et al. 2006; Meyer et al. 2010). The *HMA4* diversity analysis of *A. halleri* by Hanikenne et al. (2013) estimated a hard selective sweep surrounding the *HMA4* locus (Hanikenne et al. 2013), which further suggests that hyperaccumulation in *A. halleri* is adaptive. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) showed three *HMA4* copies in numerous *A. halleri* genotypes, which indicates that the triplication is widespread in the species. The elemental defense hypothesis may support the species-wide ability to hyperaccumulate metals where even small amounts of Cd or Zn accumulation in leaves deter herbivores (Coleman et al. 2005; Boyd 2007). Elemental defense was recently supported by Kazemi-Dinan et al. (2014), who discovered a significant reduction in herbivory of *A. halleri* as a result of elevated Cd and Zn concentrations in leaves. Metal concentrations from above 1,000 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$ dry weight (DW) and 18 $\mu\text{g Cd g}^{-1}$ DW reduced feeding of *A. halleri* by three specialist insects (Kazemi-Dinan et al. 2014).

The allopolyploid species *Arabidopsis kamchatica* is a natural hybrid of diploid *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* without chromosome reduction. Phylogenetic analysis showed that the nearest ancestors of *A. kamchatica* are *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmaifera*, native to East Asia, and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* (also called *A. petraea* subsp. *umbrosa*), native to Siberia (Shimizu et al. 2005; Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2009; Schmickl et al. 2010). The diploid progenitors of *A. kamchatica* are highly divergent in both hyperaccumulation and gene expression (Filatov et al. 2006; Willems et al. 2007), which provides the opportunity to study a quantitative phenotype in a hybrid species whose diploid parents possess opposite phenotypes. The divergence of *A. kamchatica* from its parental diploid species was estimated to have occurred 20,417 years ago (95% confidence interval 0–75,460 years) using mutation rates estimated by Koch et al. (2000) and 245,070 years (95%

confidence interval 37,385–532,953 years) using mutation rates estimated by Ossowski et al. (2010) (Tsuchimatsu et al. 2012). The possible divergence of *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* due to ecological speciation (Roux et al. 2011) followed by recent hybridization to form the allopolyploid *A. kamchatica* can provide insights into genome-wide transcriptional changes maintaining potentially adaptive phenotypes in these *Arabidopsis* species.

To test whether *A. kamchatica* retained Zn hyperaccumulation following allopolyploid hybridization between hyperaccumulating and nonaccumulating parental species, we grew plants hydroponically under Zn stress to compare hyperaccumulation in both diploid parental species. We then characterized transcriptional changes among homeologous gene copies using algorithms to assign RNA-seq reads to their ancestral genomes (Akama et al. 2014) and validated expression ratios using pyrosequencing. We identified several genes previously reported as having roles in metal tolerance and ion transport that show strong bias toward the hyperaccumulating *A. halleri* (*H-origin*) parental genome and significant regulatory changes in both *H-origin* and *A. lyrata* (*L-origin*)-derived homeologs following Zn treatment. We examined whether the three *HMA4* copies of *A. halleri* are also present in *A. kamchatica* and whether *HMA4* showed high homeolog-specific expression. Using polymorphism data flanking the *HMA4* locus in *A. kamchatica*, we detected significantly different levels of diversity between *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs surrounding *HMA4* over a large genomic region. The combination of the Zn accumulation phenotype, transcriptomics data, and polymorphism analysis suggests that despite allopolyploid hybridization with a nontolerant *A. lyrata*-like ancestor, the allopolyploid *A. kamchatica* has retained the hyperaccumulation phenotype from the *A. halleri* parent.

Results

Zinc Accumulation

We expected that the concentration of Zn in *A. kamchatica* would be high in leaves and low in roots if hyperaccumulation was inherited from the *A. halleri* parent. Using hydroponic growth chambers, after 1 week of exposure to 500 μM Zn, we first compared Zn accumulation between diploid *A. halleri*, *A. lyrata*, and four *A. kamchatica* genotypes (two Japanese and two Alaskan accessions) (Experiment 1). In leaf tissues, the hyperaccumulator *A. halleri* had the highest Zn accumulation (mean = 8,180 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ DW, standard deviation (SD) = 3,533) while *A. lyrata* accumulated less than one-tenth the concentration of Zn (mean = 614.6 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$, sd = 262.9; fig. 1A, supplementary table S1, Supplementary Material online) as *A. halleri*. Zinc levels in leaves of the Tada mine *A. halleri* genotype showed elevated levels similar to those in previous reports of European *A. halleri* collected in the field (Bert et al. 2002) and grown under controlled Zn treatments (Chiang et al. 2006; Talke et al. 2006; Kashem et al. 2010). In *A. kamchatica*, the mean accumulation of Zn in leaf tissues was about half of *A. halleri*. The average Zn accumulation of each genotype (with replication) varied from 3,200 to

4,100 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ DW (the maximum accumulation in the PAK genotype was 6,720 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ DW). Statistical comparisons confirmed that all *A. kamchatica* genotypes showed significantly lower Zn accumulation in leaves than *A. halleri* ($0.003 < P < 0.02$), while both *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica* showed the same magnitude of Zn accumulation, and both accumulated significantly higher concentrations than *A. lyrata* (all *P* values $< 1.20 \times 10^{-5}$, supplementary table S1B, Supplementary Material online).

In root tissues, the Zn concentration of *A. lyrata* (mean = 13,754 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) was significantly higher than both *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica* (fig. 1B), which indicated a lack of Zn transport to shoots. Zinc quantities in *A. kamchatica* (5,300–6,600 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) and *A. halleri* (mean concentration of 6,756 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$) roots were not significantly different (supplementary table S1D, Supplementary Material online). The level of Zn in *A. lyrata* roots was significantly higher than in *A. halleri* and all four *A. kamchatica* genotypes (supplementary table S1D, Supplementary Material online). Among *A. kamchatica*, the SRM genotype had the highest level of Zn in roots, and the difference between the MUR and SRM genotypes in roots was significant. Strong hyperaccumulators typically show leaf-to-root ratios of Zn accumulation greater than one (Krämer 2010). Ratios of shoot-to-root concentrations of Zn from Experiment 1 were 1.21 for *A. halleri* and 0.04 for *A. lyrata*. Shoot-to-root Zn ratios for each *A. kamchatica* genotype (0.52–0.66) were about half that of *A. halleri*, but were > 10 times higher than that of *A. lyrata*. Two additional experiments that varied Zn treatments (250–1,000 μM) showed proportional increases in Zn accumulation indicating highly responsive heavy metal transport (supplementary figs. S1 and S2, Supplementary Material online) in *A. kamchatica*.

Genome-Wide Patterns of Homeolog Expression and Hyperaccumulation-Related Genes

To quantify the expression patterns of homeologs, we conducted RNA-seq analysis on 48 cDNA libraries (4 genotypes \times 2 tissues \times 2 treatments \times 3 replicates) using leaf and root tissues of two *A. kamchatica* genotypes (MUR from Murodo, Japan and PAK from Potter, Alaska), one *A. halleri* genotype, and one *A. lyrata* genotype. Tissues were collected during Experiment 1 before and after 48 h of 500 μM Zn treatment to determine the early transcriptional response. Reads were sorted using the HomeoRoq pipeline described in Akama et al. (2014) and mapping statistics can be found in supplementary file 1, Supplementary Material online. We estimated similar proportions of reads sorted as *H-origin* and *L-origin* with a slight excess of the *halleri*-derived reads.

We expected genes affecting hyperaccumulation in *A. kamchatica* would be inherited from *A. halleri* and would show significantly higher expression in the *H-origin* compared to the *L-origin* homeologs. Comparing homeolog expression levels before Zn treatment that were ≥ 3 -fold (read per kilobase per million reads (RPKM)) higher in *H-origin* than in *L-origin* copies in leaves and root tissues, we found that the Japanese genotype (MUR) showed 1,410 (leaf) and 1,208 (root) genes with ≥ 3 -fold higher expression in *H-origin*

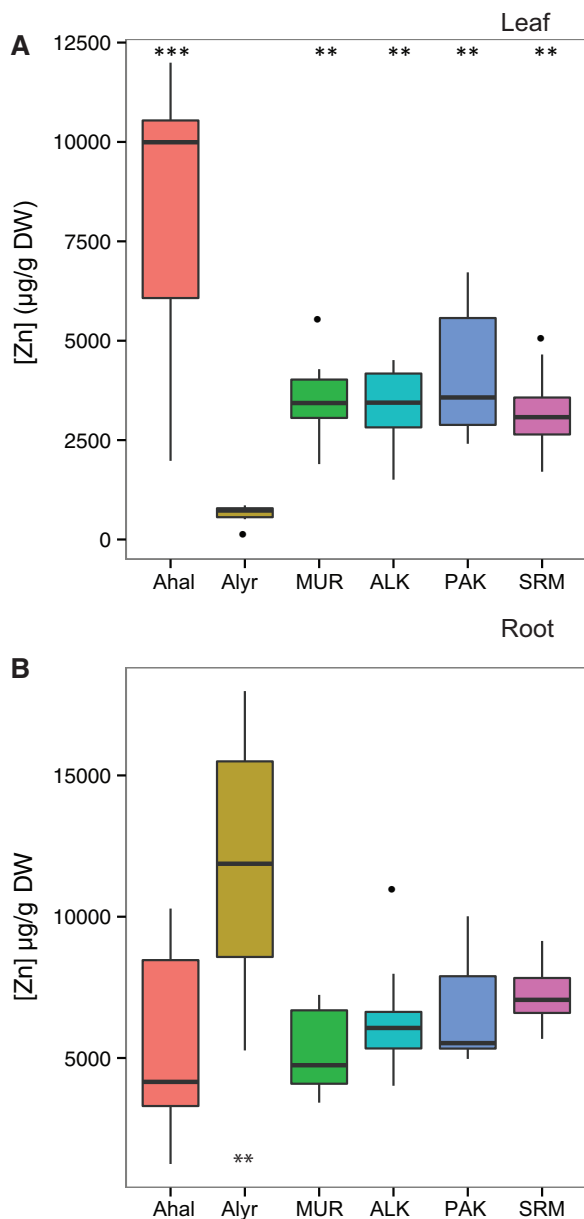


Fig. 1. Zinc (Zn) accumulation in leaf (A) and root tissue (B) in *Arabidopsis halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* (Ahal), *Arabidopsis lyrata* subsp. *petraea* (Alyr), and *Arabidopsis kamchatica* (MUR, ALK, PAK, and SRM genotypes) after 7 days of 500 μ M Zn exposure estimated as μ g per gram of dry weight (DW). Box plots indicate the first quartile, median, and third quartile, whiskers indicate the minimum and maximum interquartile range (no more than 1.5 times), and dots show outlier values. Asterisks in (A) show significant pairwise differences relative to mean *A. lyrata* leaf Zn concentration ($P < 10^{-5}$; supplementary table S1, Supplementary Material online). For roots (B), asterisks indicate that *A. lyrata* is significantly different from both *A. halleri* and all four *A. kamchatica* genotypes ($P < 0.008$). Pairwise differences were estimated using a Wilcoxon signed rank-sum test to determine significance.

than in *L-origin* homeologs. The Alaska genotype (PAK) showed 1,041 genes in leaves and 1,281 in roots with ≥ 3 -fold higher *H-origin* expression (fig. 2). Among these genes, we focused on those identified in previous differential expression studies between the hyperaccumulator *A. halleri* and

nonaccumulators *A. thaliana* (Becher et al. 2004; Talke et al. 2006; Chiang et al. 2006, Shanmugam et al. 2011) or *A. lyrata* (Filatov et al. 2006). We found that many of the candidates for hyperaccumulation, metal tolerance, or metal ion transport (hereafter we refer to these genes as HM genes) previously detected in differential expression studies are above the 3-fold threshold of *H-origin* over *L-origin* homeolog expression (fig. 2). Among these HM genes for leaves, the top four genes with > 5 -fold *H-origin* expression bias were *HMA3*, *HMA4*, *PDF1.1*, and *MTP1*, followed by *IRT3*, *NRAMP3*, and *IAR1*, which show 3- to 5-fold *H-origin* bias in at least one of the samples (supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online). For roots, we found (again using ≥ 3 -fold bias as a cutoff) higher *H-origin* expression in *HMA3*, *HMA4*, *HMA5*, *IAR1*, *MTP1*, *NRAMP3*, *PDF1.1*, *ZIP3*, and *ZIP9*. Nearly all of the differences in homeolog-specific expression were statistically significant using edgeR (FDR < 0.05 ; supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online), suggesting *cis*-regulatory differences (He et al. 2012; Shi et al. 2012).

Compared with *A. kamchatica*, we found similar tendencies for the diploid parents for most of these same HM genes, but often stronger *A. halleri* bias because of higher expression of many metal-tolerance-related genes compared with *A. kamchatica* (supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online). For diploids, the top five genes showing the strongest *A. halleri* bias in leaves were *HMA3*, *PDF1.1*, *MTP1*, *HMA4*, and *IRT3*. In particular, both *MTP1* and *PDF1.1* had dramatically higher expression and stronger bias in *A. halleri* than in *A. lyrata* compared with the *H-origin* homeolog of these genes in *A. kamchatica*. The Zn transporter *HMA4* had greater expression in *A. halleri*, but a lower fold increase over *A. lyrata* following Zn treatment compared with *A. kamchatica* *HMA4* homeologs (supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online). Using the procedure and the genome assembly here, when there are duplicated copies within a diploid species (e.g., duplicated copies of *HMA4* and *MTP1* in *A. halleri* and consequently in *halleri*-homeologs), the sum of their expression would be detected (see the section *HMA4* copy number by pyrosequencing and 3' amplification).

To compare the levels of expression between diploid and allopolyploid species better, we calculated the sum of the expression of homeologs for sets of hyperaccumulator-related genes. The sum of the expression levels of the homeologs of hyperaccumulation genes is potentially relevant, because no differences in protein function have been reported between orthologs derived from hyperaccumulator and nonaccumulator species (Krämer 2010). Because the expression level in *A. halleri* is much higher than *A. lyrata* for heavy metal-related genes, and because the allotetraploid represents a fixed heterozygous condition, the total expression level in *A. kamchatica* of most of these genes would be expected to be much higher than *A. lyrata*, but still reduced (to about half) compared with *A. halleri*. This can be described as follows: supposing that the levels of expression in *A. halleri* (denoted by *H*) is *x* times higher than *A. lyrata* (denoted by *L*), $H = xL$. In a simple case with *cis*-regulation only, the total expression level of *A. kamchatica* (denoted by *K*, the sum of a pair of homeologs) is the

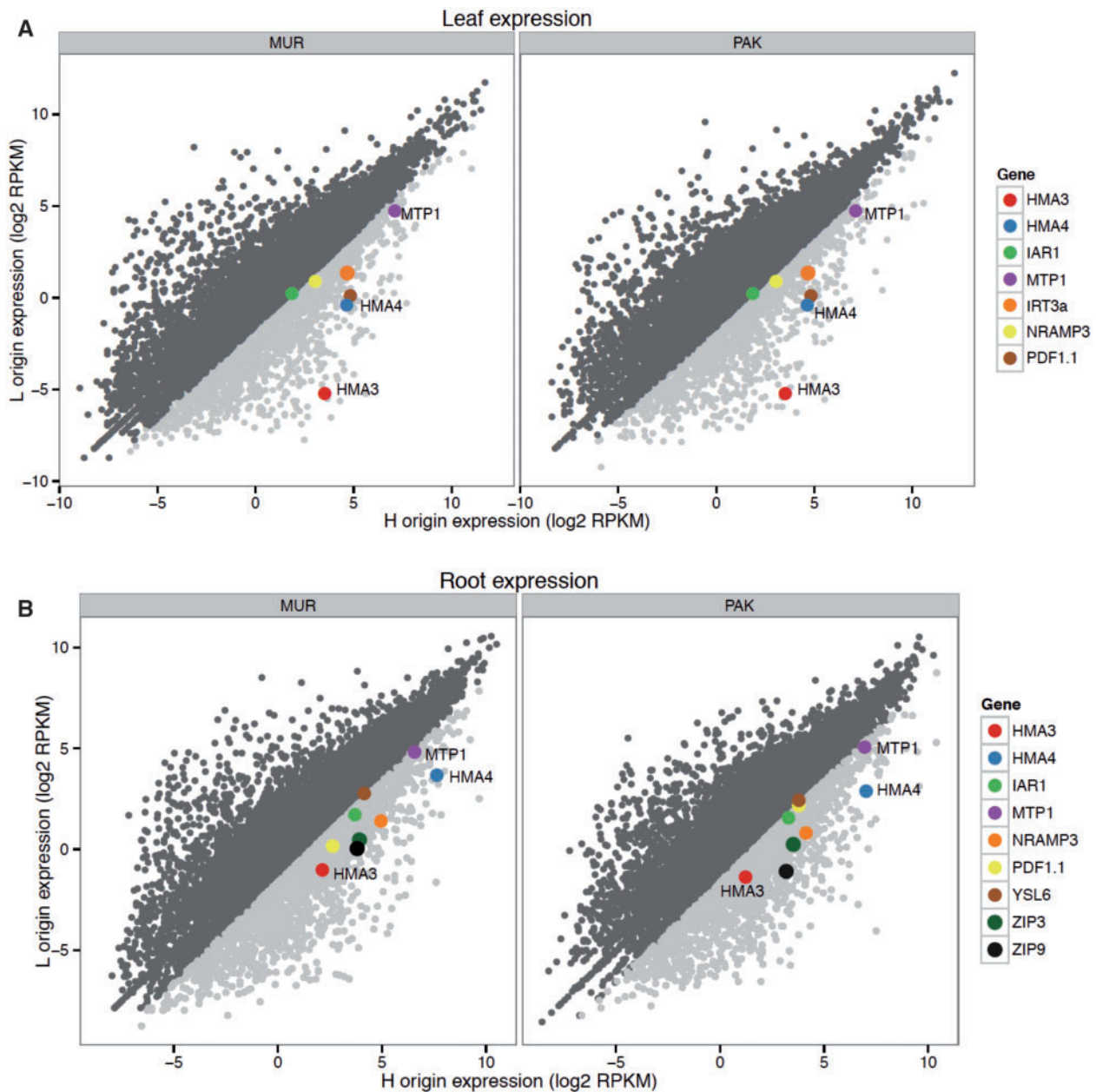


FIG. 2. Genome-wide expression patterns in the leaves (A) and roots (B) of *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs before Zn treatment in the Murodo, Japan (MUR) and Potter, Alaska (PAK) *Arabidopsis kamchatica* genotypes. Genes with ≥ 3 -fold higher expression (RPKM) in *H*-origin over *L*-origin homeologs are shaded light gray and those with ≤ 3 -fold higher expression are shown as dark-gray points. Colored points represent candidate orthologs in *A. kamchatica* previously shown to be differentially expressed by Talke et al. (2006) and Filatov et al. (2006) or with annotated metal transport function in TAIR10 (Lamesh et al. 2012). Expression is \log_2 of mean RPKM among three replicates. Genome-wide correlations between homeologs are $r^2 = 0.79$ – 0.84 .

average of two parents because allotetraploids represent a fixed heterozygous condition, that is, $K = (L + xL)/2 = (1 + x)L/2$. In an average situation with the same expression level of both homeologs ($x = 1$), the ratio $K/H = (1 + x)/2x$ is 1. In contrast, when x is large, K/H approaches $1/2$ and K/L becomes large. We confirmed these predictions using our expression data, in which H and L were diploid expression levels, and K was measured as the sum of the pair of homeologs for each gene. The majority of the gene pairs show a similar expression level and consistently the genome-wide median of K/H in both *A. kamchatica* genotypes was close to 1 (supplementary fig. S3,

Supplementary Material online). In contrast, from our HM gene list (supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online), the ratio of K/H was less than 1 (mean 0.34–0.67, median 0.19–0.45), while the ratio of both homeologs divided by the *A. lyrata* expression (K/L) was higher than 1 (mean 6.33–48.81, median 1.8–8.07). The variation between genes also suggests the contribution of both *cis*- and *trans*-regulation. This finding also conforms well with the Zn accumulation phenotype, where on average *A. kamchatica* exhibits about one-half the Zn concentration in leaves compared with *A. halleri*, but more than ten times greater concentration than that in *A. lyrata*.

Table 1. Numbers of Significantly Up or Down Regulated Genes Before and After 48 h Zinc Treatment in Leaf and Root Tissues.

	Leaf		Root	
(A) Diploids				
	<i>A. halleri</i>	<i>A. lyrata</i>	<i>A. halleri</i>	<i>A. lyrata</i>
Upregulated	889	355	232	5,095
Downregulated	1,103	187	614	5,458
Total	1,992	542	846	10,553
(B) <i>A. kamchatica</i>				
MUR (Murodo, JP)	<i>H-origin</i>	<i>L-origin</i>	<i>H-origin</i>	<i>L-origin</i>
Upregulated	313	297	1,030	1,006
Downregulated	384	358	1,345	1,332
Total	697	655	2,375	2,338
(C) <i>A. kamchatica</i>				
PAK (Potter, AK)	<i>H-origin</i>	<i>L-origin</i>	<i>H-origin</i>	<i>L-origin</i>
Upregulated	220	226	1,527	1,441
Downregulated	696	661	1,480	1,353
Total	916	887	3,007	2,794

NOTE.—(A) Diploids *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* genotype (Tada mine) and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* genotype w1178. Allopolyploid genes significantly up- or down-regulated in *A. halleri*-derived (*H-origin*) and *A. lyrata*-derived (*L-origin*) homeologs for *A. kamchatica* genotypes (B) MUR (Murodo, Japan) and (C) PAK (Potter, Alaska). The significance threshold is set to a FDR-adjusted $P < 0.05$ and expression between control to zinc-treated conditions must add up to RPKM ≥ 0.2 .

Differential Expression Following Zn Treatment

To quantify the regulatory changes affected by Zn treatment in both the allopolyploid and diploid relatives, we examined differential expression before and after 48 h of Zn treatment in leaf and root tissues. Although several genes directly involved in hyperaccumulation are known to be expressed in *A. halleri* in a broad range of Zn concentrations (“constitutive expression”), a large number of differentially regulated genes and homeologs (both up- and down-regulated) were found after the Zn treatment (table 1). In *A. halleri*, leaves showed over twice the number of differentially regulated genes compared with roots (1,992/846). *A. lyrata* showed the opposite pattern, whereby roots had nearly 20 times more differentially regulated genes than leaves (table 1A). This pattern is consistent with the distribution of Zn with high concentration in roots of *A. lyrata* and leaves of *A. halleri* because of root-to-shoot transport and also indicative of a strong stress response in *A. lyrata* roots.

Compared with the diploids, *A. kamchatica* showed an intermediate pattern with 2.5–4 times as many differentially regulated homeologs in roots compared with leaf tissues and similar numbers of total *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs showing regulatory changes in each tissue (table 1B and C). Similar numbers of differentially regulated homeologs are also consistent with the highly correlated homeolog expression for our genome-wide dataset, which we found for both *A. kamchatica* genotypes ($r^2 = 0.79–0.83$). However, despite the similar numbers of homeologs showing regulatory changes in each tissue type, the overlap among differentially regulated homeologs was about half the total number for both tissues (fig. 3A). The largest number of unique genes showing differential regulation was found for *A. halleri* leaves (fig. 3B), which

indicated the regulation of many genes that are likely necessary for complete detoxification to achieve high Zn accumulation in *A. halleri*.

We performed a gene ontology (GO) enrichment test to determine whether differentially regulated genes are enriched for molecular functions (MFs) that have ontologies related to metal homeostasis in leaf tissues. For GO categories with >30 query genes, *A. halleri* showed enrichment for transporter activity (GO:0005215), transmembrane transporter activity (GO:0022857), and ion transmembrane transporter activity (GO:0015075) (supplementary table S2, Supplementary Material online). *A. lyrata* showed no enrichment for any transporter activity or metal ion-related GO. For *A. kamchatica* homeologs, we found enrichment for the same categories as *A. halleri*, and in addition, several additional categories showed enrichment including substrate-specific transporter activity (GO:0022892), ion binding (GO:0043167), cation binding (GO:0043169), and metal ion binding (GO:0046872). The complete GO results using TAIR gene IDs can be found in supplementary file 3, Supplementary Material online.

We found differential regulation of many genes related to hyperaccumulation and tolerance as reported in previous studies (Becher et al. 2004; Filatov et al. 2006; Talke et al. 2006; supplementary table S2, Supplementary Material online). These studies showed the effect of increased Zn stress on constitutively expressed genes related to hyperaccumulation and tolerance in *A. halleri* often results in the downregulation of known ion transporters because the plant’s unusually high demand for Zn is attained (Talke et al. 2006; Hanikenne et al. 2008). For the main Zn transporter gene *HMA4*, both *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica H-origin* homeologs show high expression before Zn treatment, then following Zn stress, the gene was downregulated in both shoots and roots, characteristic of a released deficiency response (supplementary table S2, Supplementary Material online). Downregulation was also detected in *A. halleri* and *H-origin* homeologs of *PDF1.1*, *IRT3*, *NRAMP3*, *ZIP3*, and *ZIP9*. For *MTP1*, both the *A. halleri* and the *A. kamchatica H-origin* homeologs of *MTP1* show an approximately 1.5-fold increase in expression following Zn treatment. This suggests that after the initiation of Zn stress and transport to leaves, upregulation of *MTP1* in leaves is required for detoxification of excess Zn in cells following transport from roots and shoots.

Ratio Change Test of Differential Regulation Among Homeologs

As an interaction of the response to Zn treatment and the ratio of homeolog expression, we tested for significant changes in homeolog ratios following Zn treatment using a statistical test controlling for overdispersion (Akama et al. 2014). We found that approximately 1% (0.3–1.5%) of the homeolog pairs showed significant ratio changes in both leaves and roots of *A. kamchatica* (table 2), which is similar to the results reported using a synthesized *A. kamchatica* hybrid and cold treatments (Akama et al. 2014) where 1.11% of homeologs showed ratio changes following cold stress. The relatively small proportion of homeologous pairs showing significant ratio changes can be explained by highly stable genome-wide *H-*

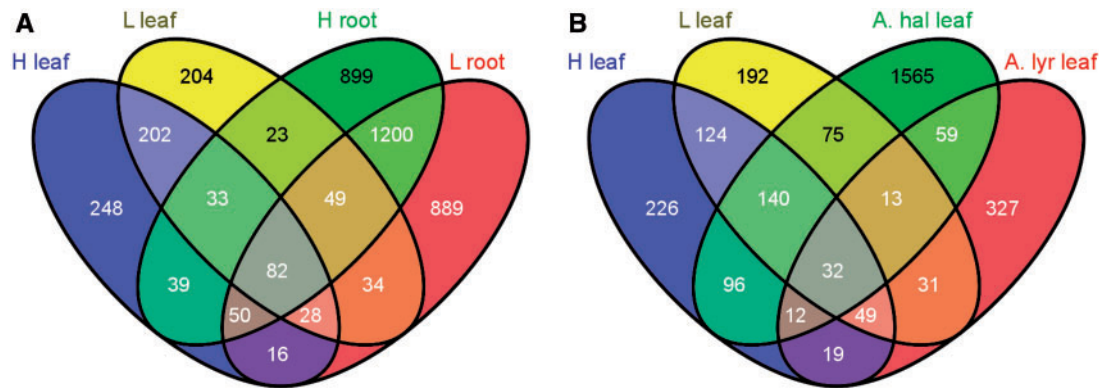


FIG. 3. Venn diagram of overlapping significant differentially regulated genes in the *Arabidopsis kamchatica* Japan (MUR) genotype (A) for *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs in both leaf and root tissues. (B) Overlap between the number of differentially regulated genes for *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs with *Arabidopsis halleri* and *Arabidopsis lyrata* for leaf tissue.

Table 2. Number of Genes Showing Significant Ratio Changes in Leaf and Root for Each Genotype.

<i>A. kamchatica</i>	Significant genes	% total	H ratio (ctl)	H ratio (zinc)	H ratio r^2
MUR-leaf	68	0.3	53.8%	53.7%	0.94
MUR-root	309	1.5	53.6%	53.6%	0.93
PAK-leaf	174	0.9	52.3%	52.3%	0.89
PAK-root	293	1.5	52.0%	52.3%	0.90

NOTE.—Percent total is the number of genes showing significant ratio changes out of our total gene dataset ($N = 19820$ genes). *H* ratio ctl (before treatment) and *H* ratio zinc (after 48 h zinc treatment) indicates the median *Arabidopsis halleri*-origin expression over the *Arabidopsis lyrata*-origin copies for all genes in the dataset. Correlation coefficients (r^2) indicate the correlation of genome wide expression ratios before and after zinc treatment. Significance for the ratio change statistic based on FDR-adjusted $P < 0.05$.

origin to *L*-origin ratios across treatment conditions (supplementary fig. S4, Supplementary Material online), and also by the high correlation of expression ratios before and after the Zn treatment ($r^2 = 0.89$ – 0.96 ; table 2).

Although many genes responsible for tolerance and hyperaccumulation are expressed constitutively, we found significant ratio changes in several genes, suggesting that both constitutive and induced expression changes are important. Among the genes showing significant ratio changes (table 2) in leaves, only 8 were common between the Japanese and Alaskan genotypes, while 51 were common between genotypes in roots. Among the genes showing ratio changes in leaves, two had annotated roles in putative metal homeostasis, *ZIP3* (AT2G32270.1) and a *Yippee* family putative Zn-binding protein (AT4G27740.1). Among the significant genes identified in roots, several were found with previously implicated roles in metal tolerance and hyperaccumulation such as *MTP1* (AT2G46800.1), *MTP3* (AT3G58810.1), *NAS4* (AT1G56430.1), *HIPP25* (AT4G35060.1), *SAM2* (AT4G01850.1), *ZIP9* (AT4G33020.1), and *ZIP10* (AT1G31260.1), and an unnamed gene annotated as a “heavy metal transport protein” (AT5G26690.1).

Pyrosequencing Validation of Homeolog Expression and *HMA4* Alignments

We validated the homeolog expression ratios using pyrosequencing assays for known genes in both leaf and root tissues

using cDNA from before and after the Zn treatment. Because pyrosequencing uses diverged SNPs in the parental genomes (and homeologs) to design sequencing assays, this method can be considered an allele-specific test of expression ratios. Pyrosequencing confirmed that our homeolog read assignment and expression ratio quantifications were accurate for these genes and we estimated a strong correlation ($r^2 = 0.96$) between homeolog ratios using both RNA-seq and pyrosequencing (fig. 4). Pyrosequencing validated the strong expression bias in the *H*-origin homeologs *HMA3*, *HMA4*, *MTP1*, and *NRAMP3* and a significant ratio change in expression between homeologs from control to Zn treatment for *ZIP9* in root tissues. For an example of pyrosequencing assay positions, see supplementary fig. S5, Supplementary Material online for an alignment that includes both parental *HMA4* alleles, and four *halleri*- and *lyrata*-origin homeologs with target positions of diverged SNPs between homeologs that were sequenced by PyroMark. Similar to RNA-seq reads mapping to single-copy homeologs, putatively duplicated genes in the *HMA4* and *MTP1* *A. halleri*-derived homeolog would result in amplified PCR products being the sum of duplicated *H*-origin (i.e., the sum of 3 copies of *HMA4*) gene expression.

HMA4 Copy Number by Pyrosequencing and 3' Amplification

Recently duplicated genes with nearly identical sequences are difficult to assemble separately using short-read NGS libraries. Our reference genome assembly (v. 1.0) of *A. halleri* (Tada mine) contains only a single copy of *HMA4*, despite evidence that the Langelsheim *A. halleri* accession contains three tandemly duplicated *HMA4* copies (Hanikenne et al. 2008). The *HMA4* diversity analysis by Hanikenne et al. (2013) indicates that duplicated copies of *HMA4* are widespread in *A. halleri* (including subsp. *gemmifera*) based on successful sequencing of PCR fragments of each copy among 18 genotypes and qPCR of genomic DNA amplification of *HMA4*. The multiple copies contribute to high *HMA4* expression and widespread hyperaccumulation ability in the species. To estimate the copy number of *A. halleri*-derived *HMA4* in *A. kamchatica*, we used pyrosequencing assays with the same experimental setup as for cDNA, but using genomic DNA as templates. If *A.*

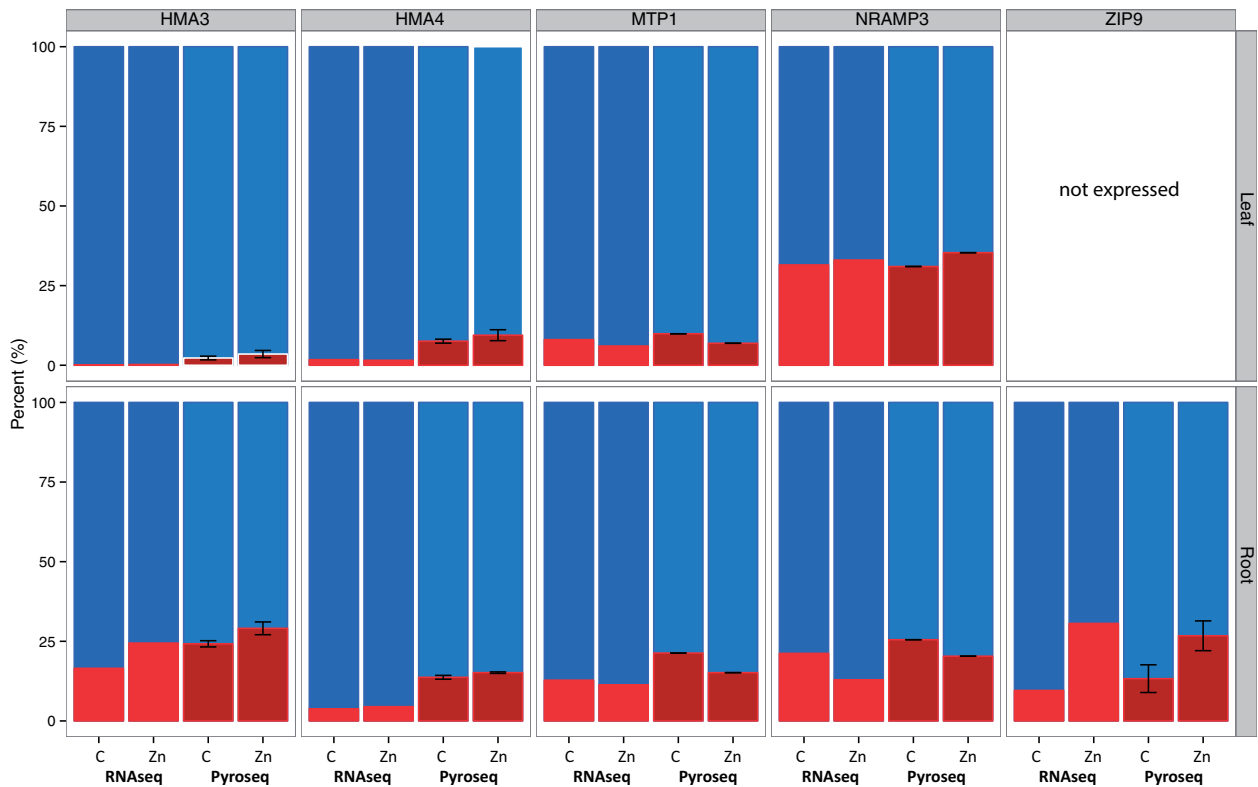


Fig. 4. Ratio of *H*-origin (blue) and *L*-origin (red) relative expression by RNA-seq and PyroMark pyrosequencing of the MUR genotype. Correlation between RNAseq and pyrosequencing is $r^2 = 0.94$. Error bars are SDs between three replicates in PyroMark assays.

kamchatica inherited three copies of *HMA4* from *A. halleri* and one copy from *A. lyrata*, the assay should show a 3:1 ratio. Pyrosequencing results showed 67–76% *halleri*-origin SNPs and 25–31% *lyrata*-origin SNPs in five *A. kamchatica* genotypes (supplementary table S3 and fig. S6, Supplementary Material online), which indicates a 3:1 ratio for *HMA4*. Because the five genotypes come from distant locations, including two Japanese accessions (MUR lowland, SRM, highland), one subspecies *A. kamchatica* subsp. *kawasakiana* (HMK), one Taiwanese sample (TWN), and one Alaskan accession (PAK), it appears the triplicated *halleri*-origin *HMA4* is widespread in *A. kamchatica*. Finally, because our *A. halleri* *HMA4* reference contig was truncated at amino acid position 983, we performed 3' RACE to complete the C-terminus, which appears similar to known *A. halleri* (translated from GenBank DQ221101.1) amino acid sequences (supplementary fig. S7, Supplementary Material online).

Genetic Diversity of the *HMA4* Locus

The recently estimated signature of a hard selective sweep in the *HMA4* region of *A. halleri* Hanikenne et al. (2013) led us to examine the patterns of genetic diversity of the *HMA4* regions of both *A. kamchatica* homeologous regions. Using resequencing data from 20 *A. kamchatica* genotypes, we created sequence alignments for 11 genes surrounding and including the *HMA4* locus plus two reference genes that are located distally on the each side of the genomic region to determine whether there are significant differences in *H*-origin and *L*-

origin “background” genetic diversity (S1 and S13 in Hanikenne et al. 2013). The 11 homeologs were aligned to the Langelsheim *A. halleri* *HMA4* BAC scaffold (EU382072.1 and EU382073.1; supplementary fig. S8A, Supplementary Material online) and also to the syntenic *A. lyrata* region of LG3 (Hu et al. 2011; supplementary fig. S8B, Supplementary Material online). We first compared the average pairwise diversity (π) among the 11 coding sequences and found a significant reduction in diversity in all of the *H*-origin homeologs compared with *L*-origin diversity (fig. 5A), while the two background genes on either side show highly similar levels of diversity between *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs (S1: AT2G18750: $\pi_{halleri} = 0.0038$, $\pi_{lyrata} = 0.004$; S13: AT2G19490: $\pi_{halleri} = 0.0022$, $\pi_{lyrata} = 0.0026$; fig. 5A, supplementary file 4, Supplementary Material online). The mean π of the *H*-origin homeologs of the 11 genes (mean $\pi_{halleri} = 0.0012$) was about four times lower than that of *L*-origin homeologs (mean $\pi_{lyrata} = 0.0046$, $P < 0.001$; supplementary file 4, Supplementary Material online). Although pyrosequencing showed three *H*-origin *HMA4* copies in *A. kamchatica*, a single copy *H*-origin *HMA4* from our reference genome assembly was used to estimate diversity for the *HMA4* coding sequence. This copy can be aligned to any of the three *HMA4* copies in the Langelsheim BAC assembly due to 99% homology among the three copies. We also assume that all three copies in *A. kamchatica* should have high homology, similar to *A. halleri* (Hanikenne et al. 2008). This assumption is also supported by the phylogeny, in which the *HMA4* homeolog sequences clustered with diploid parental alleles and showed

little divergence from the parental sequences (see [supplementary fig. S9, Supplementary Material](#) online for a phylogeny of diploid alleles and *A. kamchatica* homeologs, including the three *A. halleri* subsp. *halleri* Langelsheim *HMA4* copies). This procedure could combine polymorphisms at the three duplicated copies and could result in a bias for higher diversity in *halleri*-origin *HMA4*, but the estimated diversity at the *H*-origin *HMA4* was very low and supported the low diversity in the surrounding *H*-origin homeologs. To be conservative, we calculated the difference using the surrounding ten genes excluding *HMA4*, and the difference was still highly significant for both nonsynonymous π , and synonymous π ([supplementary fig. S10A and B, Supplementary Material](#) online). Similarly, we found significant differences between both homeologs in the total number of segregating sites ([supplementary fig. S10D, Supplementary Material](#) online), although the difference in Tajima's *D* was not significant ([fig. 5B, supplementary fig. S10C, Supplementary Material](#) online).

Divergence from a related species can be used to test neutrality because polymorphism within focal species can increase or decrease expected ratios of divergence to polymorphism ([Hudson et al. 1987](#)). We included *A. thaliana* orthologs in each *H*-origin and *L*-origin alignment as a related outgroup species, and used a HKA test to compare a pair of homeologs ([Small et al. 1999](#)) using the sum of all segregating sites for the 11 genes in each of the *HMA4* region homeologs. Under neutrality, the number of diverged substitutions between a homeolog relative to an outgroup species (e.g., *H*-origin homeologs relative to *A. thaliana* orthologs, or *L*-origin homeologs relative to *A. thaliana* orthologs) is proportional to the time since the split of *A. thaliana* and the mutation rate. For within-species polymorphism, the number of segregating sites is proportional to the effective population size and the mutation rate. Therefore, it would be expected that the ratio of divergence and polymorphism (e.g., $S_{\text{div}}/S_{\text{poly}}$) in neutral mutations should be roughly equivalent between different genes (here between a pair of homeologs), and significant differences in $S_{\text{div}}/S_{\text{poly}}$ between species or homeologous genes suggests nonneutral evolution ([Hudson et al. 1987](#)). Divergence estimates from *A. thaliana* (the number of fixed differences with *A. kamchatica* homeologs) were highly similar for each gene, with the *HMA4* gene itself showing similarly elevated divergence for both *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs ([fig. 5C, supplementary fig. S10E, Supplementary Material](#) online). This similar divergence from *A. thaliana* resulted in significantly different $S_{\text{div}}/S_{\text{poly}}$ ratios between *H*-origin and *L*-origin homeologs ($P = 0.002$, [supplementary fig. S10F, Supplementary Material](#) online), indicating that there are significantly fewer polymorphic sites in the *H*-origin genes despite both homeologs having similar divergence from a common outgroup ([fig. 5C](#)). This was also significant both when segregating sites in each homeolog were summed and compared using the HKA test ([supplementary fig. S4, Supplementary Material](#) online). We also found that the low diversity in the *HMA4* region of *H*-origin, but not that of *L*-origin in *A. kamchatica*, appears generally similar to that reported for *A. halleri*.

Quantification of Metal Ions in Soil

We measured soil concentrations of metal ions for several of our sample locations of *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica*. The *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* accession used in this experiment comes from a mine site in Japan known to be contaminated with metals (Tada mine site) with soil estimates for Zn of 724.7–2,461.5 mg kg⁻¹ and Cd of 4.7–12.8 mg kg⁻¹ ([supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material](#) online). While there is no international consensus on the threshold value for metal contamination, [Bert et al. \(2002\)](#) proposed that soil with more than 300 mg kg⁻¹ Zn, 100 mg kg⁻¹ Pb, or 2 mg kg⁻¹ Cd be classified as metalliferous (or metal-contaminated) soil according to the French agricultural norm. Soil concentrations from two of the three *A. kamchatica* sample locations show levels consistent with previously described nonmetalliferous sites ([Meyer et al. 2010; Hanikenne et al. 2013](#)) for *A. halleri* (Zn < 160 mg kg⁻¹ and Cd < 0.42 mg kg⁻¹). By the above standard, the soil at Mt. Shirouma is metalliferous ([supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material](#) online; Zn > 300 mg kg⁻¹), with high Zn (mean 800 mg kg⁻¹, up to 1,164.3 mg kg⁻¹), along with high Mg (average 74,000 mg kg⁻¹) and Ni (mean 600 mg kg⁻¹), which are consistent with reported serpentine soil conditions with a mixture of other soil types at this site ([Schlüchter and Heuberger 1981; Hatano and Matsuzawa 2008](#)).

Discussion

Zinc Accumulation in *A. kamchatica* is High in Leaves and Low in Roots

We have demonstrated that the allopolyploid species *A. kamchatica* possesses high Zn accumulation ability in leaves, similar to the order expected of known hyperaccumulators ([Bert et al. 2002; Talke et al. 2006](#)). Estimates of Zn accumulation among the three species showed that *A. kamchatica* accumulates about half of the amount of Zn in its leaves compared with *A. halleri* and about ten times the concentration accumulated by the *A. lyrata* parent. This result is similar to that shown by [Willems et al. \(2007\)](#) using a F1 cross of diploid *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata*, which showed Zn tolerance was still very high, but was reduced from *A. halleri*, as expected for a stable hybrid. Despite the lower Zn accumulation in the leaves of *A. kamchatica* compared with *A. halleri*, there were no significant differences in Zn accumulation in root tissues between the two species. Both *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica* also showed significantly lower Zn accumulation in roots compared with *A. lyrata*, which indicates that *A. kamchatica* still transports substantial amounts of Zn from roots to shoots. Moreover, while the leaf-to-shoot ratios for *A. kamchatica* were slightly less than half the shoot-to-root ratio of *A. halleri*, this ratio was an order of magnitude higher than in *A. lyrata*. Despite lower levels of Zn accumulation in leaves of *A. kamchatica* compared with *A. halleri* when treated with 500 μ M Zn, we found that exposing *A. kamchatica* to increasing Zn concentrations resulted in proportional increases in Zn accumulation, which demonstrates that the allopolyploid is highly responsive to Zn treatments over short

time periods. These experiments indicated up to 10,000 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ leaf accumulation can be achieved in *A. kamchatica* when treated with 1,000 μM of Zn over 1 or 2 week time periods (supplementary figs. S1 and S2, Supplementary Material online), which is consistent with levels found for both European and Asian *A. halleri* collected in heavy metal-contaminated sites (Bert et al. 2000; Bert et al. 2002; *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* called *Arabidopsis gemmifera* by Kubota and Takenaka 2003). While we did not test tolerance directly, these high levels of hyperaccumulation of levels also suggest increased tolerance to heavy metals because these traits are tightly linked.

Genes Regulating Metal Homeostasis by Hyperaccumulation and Detoxification Show Significantly Higher Expression in *A. halleri*-Derived Copies

As expected, if high Zn accumulation is maintained in *A. kamchatica*, constitutively expressed genes for hyperaccumulation and detoxification should show a strong expression bias in the *H-origin* over the *L-origin* homeolog. Significantly higher expression in *Arabidopsis* diploid and polyploid hybrids suggests *cis*-regulatory divergence (He et al. 2012; Shi et al. 2012) and our data indicates that conserved *cis*-regulatory differences between *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* HM orthologs were retained among homeologs (supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online). Although the expression patterns of these genes alone do not unequivocally implicate their function, it is known that high expression of genes such as the Zn transporter, *HMA4*, and detoxification of tissues by *MTP1* in *A. halleri*, is essential for hyperaccumulation (Willems et al. 2007; Hanikenne et al. 2008; Shahzad et al. 2010). The patterns of differences in homeolog expression and regulatory changes for genes such as *HMA3*, *HMA4*, *MTP1*, *PDF1.1*, *NRAMP3*, *ZIP3*, and *ZIP9* (and others listed in supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material online) are consistent with studies of differential expression comparing *A. halleri* with *A. lyrata* or *A. thaliana* (Chiang et al. 2006; Filatov et al. 2006; Talke et al. 2006), which provides a connection to their conserved role in *A. kamchatica*.

For the four HM genes showing the largest *H-origin*-derived expression bias over the *L-origin* homeolog, several studies have also demonstrated their roles in hyperaccumulation and tolerance. In *A. thaliana*, *HMA3* is responsible for vacuolar sequestration of both Cd and Zn based on cellular localization using fluorescent probes (Morel et al. 2008). Differential expression analyses between *A. halleri* and *A. thaliana* show significantly greater *AhHMA3* expression (Filatov et al. 2006, Talke et al. 2006) and *AhHMA3* confers greater Zn detoxification in complementation tests using *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Becher et al. 2004) supporting its putative function in vacuolar sequestration of Zn. In *A. halleri*, the ATPase transporter *HMA4* has a direct role for both Cd and Zn root to shoot transport through xylem tissue based on gene silencing *in planta* (RNAi, Hanikenne et al. 2008). Studies of differential expression of *HMA4* between *A. halleri* and nontolerant *A. lyrata* and *A. thaliana* show patterns of ortholog-specific

bias similar to our homeolog-biased expression results in *A. kamchatica* (Chiang et al. 2006, Filatov et al. 2006). Our study also shows that *A. kamchatica* has similarly greater expression in the *H-origin* homeolog of *HMA4* in roots compared with leaves, consistent with the results of Talke et al. (2006). Also, like *AhHMA4*, the *H-origin* copy of *HMA4* in *A. kamchatica* exhibits significant downregulation after 500 μM Zn treatment. This indicates that under low-Zn or Zn-deficient conditions (before Zn stress), *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica* express *HMA4* highly to maximize Zn transport, a mechanism that would also provide benefit to the plants under the elemental defense hypothesis, even if a small amount of Zn is present in the environment (Coleman et al. 2005).

Along with *HMA4*, *AhMTP1* shows the strongest QTL for the Zn-tolerance phenotype in the *A. halleri* \times *A. lyrata* BC1 family (Willems et al. 2007), which indicates that these are large-effect loci, and the duplicated *MTP1* copies (3–5 copies) found in *A. halleri* strongly enhance tolerance (Shahzad et al. 2010). Like *HMA4*, *MTP1* shows significantly higher gene expression in *A. halleri* over *A. thaliana* or *A. lyrata* (Weber et al. 2004, Talke et al. 2006). *MTP1* has been demonstrated to be involved in cytoplasmic detoxification of Zn (Dräger et al. 2004; Desbrosses-Fonrouge et al. 2005), which would be consistent with its extremely high expression bias in leaves in our study. This would also explain the upregulation of the *H-origin* *MTP1* homeolog following the 500 μM Zn treatment where increased cellular Zn induces a detoxification response.

Plant defensins, such as PDF1s in *A. halleri*, have recently been demonstrated to play a role in both fungal resistance and heavy metal tolerance in plants (Mirouze et al. 2006; Shahzad et al. 2013). The gene *PDF1.1* (AT1G75830) showed >100-fold expression in *A. halleri* over *A. lyrata* orthologs before Zn treatment in our study, which is consistent with previous studies comparing *A. halleri* with nontolerant species of *Arabidopsis*. Shahzad et al. (2013) showed that *AhPDF1.1* could confer greater Zn tolerance in yeast complementation tests, while Mirouze et al. (2006) also showed that *AhPDF1.1* resulted in greater Zn tolerance when transformed in *A. thaliana*. The strong bias in the *A. kamchatica* *H-origin* homeolog of *PDF1.1* and significant downregulation following Zn treatment suggests that plant defensins may also play an important role in Zn accumulation in the allopolyploid.

Homeolog and Diploid Transcriptional Patterns are Consistent with Leaf and Root Accumulation Phenotypes of Each Species

Comparisons of tissue-specific transcriptional patterns between the two diploids and the allopolyploid species show remarkably different levels of gene regulation in leaves and roots that reflect the levels of Zn accumulation in these tissues. *A. halleri* shows by far the greatest number of regulatory changes in the leaves and the highest Zn accumulation compared with leaves of both *A. kamchatica* and *A. lyrata*. The patterns for both *A. kamchatica* and *A. lyrata* indicate that direct exposure to Zn stress induces significant regulatory changes in roots, while the highly efficient metal transport

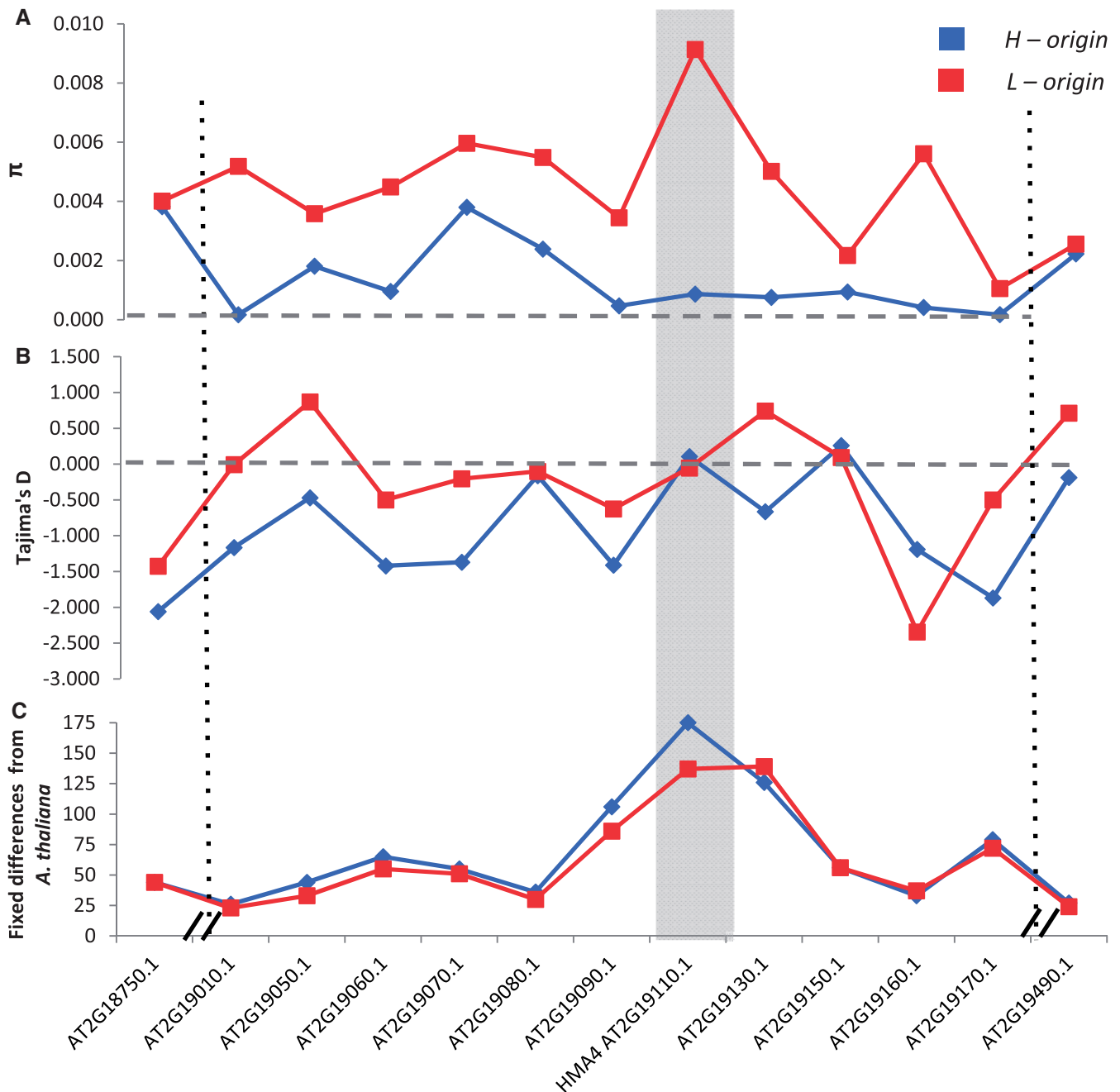


Fig. 5. Average pairwise nucleotide diversity at 13 genes (A) around the *HMA4* locus (gray shaded area; BAC accessions EU382072.1 and EU382073.1 comprising approximately 290 kb) of *H-origin* (blue) and *L-origin* (red) homeologs. Dotted vertical lines marking genes AT2G18750.1 and AT2G19490.1 that are outside of the BAC sequence and considered unlinked to the *HMA4* locus show nearly identical diversity. Diversity at the 11 genes that align to the BAC: mean $\pi_{\text{halleri}} = 0.0012$, mean $\pi_{\text{lyrata}} = 0.0046$, $P < 0.001$. Dashed horizontal gray line for (A) and (B) mark zero for diversity and Tajima's D, respectively. Tajima's D estimates (B) for each of the genes show that *L-origin* copies have on average higher D, but are overall not significantly different (dashed gray lines, $D = 0$ representing neutrality). Fixed differences (C) (both nonsynonymous and synonymous combined) between *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs and *Arabidopsis thaliana* show that both homeologs have the greatest number of fixed differences at the *HMA4* gene itself. The x-axis represents the physical orientation of each gene alone, not the actual physical distance. The *HMA4* coding sequence is represented by a single contig in each of our *Arabidopsis halleri* subsp. *gemmaifera* (C1829917.g40478) and *Arabidopsis lyrata* subsp. *petraea* (scaffold16994.g19792) reference genomes and does not contain duplicated CDS regions.

from roots to leaves in *A. halleri* (shoot-to-root ratio > 1) suggests a more complex transcriptional response for heavy metal detoxification. Efficient heavy metal transport to leaves driven by transcriptional responses inherently protects roots from metal toxicity, which may be indicated by the far fewer

regulatory changes in *A. halleri* roots than in *A. lyrata* and *A. kamchatica*.

Another interesting pattern of the regulatory changes in *A. kamchatica* is the similar numbers of *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs showing responses to Zn treatment in both

tissues (table 1). This pattern could be explained by coregulation of homeologs by *trans*-acting factors, which have known influences on gene expression in other *Arabidopsis* allopolyploids (Shi et al. 2012; Chen 2013). However, only about half of these homeologs are shared in each tissue (fig. 3A), which would not support *trans*-regulation of equal numbers of homeologs. It is more likely that the high correlation in homeolog gene expression in both control and Zn-treated samples ($r^2 = 0.79\text{--}0.84$) results in correlated expression changes among homeologs (table 2).

We applied a new statistical method that considers overdispersion to exclude pseudopositives (Akama et al. 2014) and found the majority of homeolog pairs in the genome show stable expression ratios across stress treatments (supplementary fig. S4, Supplementary Material online), with about 1% of homeologs showing significant ratio changes (table 2). For most HM genes, we found greater constitutive expression of *H-origin* homeologs, which indicates strong *cis*-regulation. However, the ratio changes were not always predictable toward either homeolog driving them following Zn treatment. An interesting example is the gene *MTP3*, where the strong upregulation of the *L-origin* copy results in a significant ratio change following Zn treatment, which could potentially influence the Zn accumulation phenotype. Because overexpression of this gene is thought to result in vacuolar sequestration in roots, preventing toxic metal transport to leaves in non-tolerant *A. thaliana* (Arrivault et al. 2006), the strong *L-origin* expression response in roots could indicate a candidate gene responsible for longer root retention and lower Zn transport to leaves. Finally, while metal hyperaccumulation clearly has a genetic basis, it is unclear how other factors, such as larger cell size or structural differences common in tetraploid relative to diploid cytology, may also contribute at least partly to increased quantities of metal ion accumulation in tissues (Levin 2002; Comai 2005).

Triplicated *HMA4* from *A. halleri* is Common in the Allopolyploid *A. kamchatica*

The tandem triplication of the *HMA4* gene in *A. halleri* was shown to have contributed to its ability to hyperaccumulate by constitutive expression together with the enhanced promoter activity of each copy. Hyperaccumulation is a species-wide trait that explains the signature of a hard selective sweep in *A. halleri* (Hanikenne et al. 2013). Based on pyrosequencing of *HMA4* using genomic DNA, we found a 3:1 ratio of *H-origin* to *L-origin* SNPs, which indicated that three *H-origin* copies of *HMA4* were present in all tested *A. kamchatica* individuals that were estimated to represent three independent polyploid origins (Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2009). RNA-seq data and pyrosequencing showed that the *HMA4* homeologs derived from *A. halleri* were preferentially expressed (fig. 4). Therefore, it is very unlikely that the triplication occurred independently in *A. halleri* and in multiple origins of *A. kamchatica*, but rather this strongly suggests that the *HMA4* triplication of the *A. halleri* founder individuals was inherited during the hybridization with *A. lyrata* and genome duplication, and its high expression contributed to hyperaccumulation in *A. kamchatica*.

Until recently, the search for genetic loci having differential contributions with large phenotypic effects arising from either diploid ancestor has eluded researchers studying polyploidy in the genus *Arabidopsis* (Chen 2013; Bomblies and Madlung 2014). We found significantly different patterns of homeolog diversity surrounding the *HMA4* locus in *A. kamchatica*, which bears a potential signature of a species-wide selective sweep in the *A. halleri*-derived *HMA4* region. In *A. kamchatica*, the *HMA4* locus and surrounding genes derived from the *A. halleri* ancestor has approximately three times fewer non-synonymous and synonymous substitutions, despite showing nearly equal diversity in both homeologs for the two genes unlinked to the *A. halleri* BAC sequence (AT2G18750 and AT2G19490.1 in fig. 5). Previous estimates of nuclear and chloroplast haplotype diversity and population structure analyses (Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2009; Tsuchimatsu et al. 2012) indicated that allopolyploid hybridization occurred at least three times in the ancestors of our collection of *A. kamchatica* genotypes. The most conservative and likely scenario is that current diversity at the *HMA4* locus is the result of very low diversity in the ancestral *A. halleri* parents in this genomic region compared with the ancestral *A. lyrata* parents. These data support that the triplication and hyperaccumulation evolved once in *A. halleri*, and three copies were transmitted to *A. kamchatica* during the hybridization with *A. lyrata*.

Ecological Relevance of Hyperaccumulation

In an attempt to assess the ecological relevance of hyperaccumulation, we estimated soil concentrations in *A. halleri* and *A. kamchatica* sites for genotypes used in this study. The habitats of European *A. halleri* encompass both metalliferous (>300 up to 35,000 mg kg⁻¹ of Zn) and nonmetalliferous soils (Bert et al. 2002). The Tada mine site of the Japanese *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmaifera* accession (Tada mine) had high concentrations of both Zn and Cd characteristic of a highly metalliferous site as the result of mining in the area. We found that the habitats of *A. kamchatica* encompass both nonmetalliferous and metalliferous soils (supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material online). Native soil conditions in the sites at Murodo, Japan and Potter, Alaska show negligible levels of heavy metals and no *A. kamchatica* has yet been collected from any known mining areas. The Mt. Shirouma population in Japan showed ion concentrations typical of serpentine soils (high in Ni and Mg) (Hatano and Matsuzawa 2008) and soils with elevated Zn (>800 mg kg⁻¹), but low Cd (supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material online).

Ecological studies and Zn accumulation experiments using many European *A. halleri* populations show that native soils are often not remarkable for heavy metals, but plants collected from these sites still possess tolerance and general hyperaccumulation ability (Bert et al. 2000; Pauwels et al. 2006). Elemental defense against insect herbivores could explain the constitutive ability of *A. halleri* to hyperaccumulate metals where a significant reduction in herbivory by specialist and generalist insects occurs when leaves contain high levels of Cd and Zn. The recent study by Kazemi-Dinan et al. (2014)

showed that Zn concentrations from above $1,000 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ in *A. halleri* leaves were sufficient to reduce herbivory. We have shown that *A. kamchatica* can accumulate four times this level of Zn. It is yet to be shown whether native soils are sufficient to provide these concentrations, or whether insects would be deterred by similar concentrations in *A. kamchatica*.

A Model of Gene Expression following Allopolyploidization: Transcriptional Patterns of Both Parents Are Conserved but Attenuated

A long-standing question in the study of polyploids is why some species have a broader environmental tolerance and habitat distribution than their diploid parents (Stebbins 1950; Stebbins 1971; te Beest et al. 2012). Based on our quantitative estimates of Zn hyperaccumulation and transcriptional patterns, we propose a model for an allopolyploid (*A. kamchatica*) to combine the transcriptional patterns of both parental species by merging their regulatory networks. First, the ancestral diploid species diverged and a relatively small number of genes evolved species-specific expression patterns, such as induced or constitutively high expression levels of hyperaccumulation-related genes in *A. halleri*. After the gene networks of the two parental species were merged by allopolyploidization, despite the redundancy of most homeologous pairs, parent-specific transcriptional patterns can be maintained in the allopolyploid by *cis*-regulatory divergence. We found that 99% of the homeologous pairs did not show significant changes in ratios after Zn treatment. Importantly, in many hyperaccumulation-related genes, high expression of *halleri*-derived homeologs was maintained in the allopolyploid by *cis*-regulatory divergence, which strongly suggests that the high expression level of these genes contributed to hyperaccumulation in *A. kamchatica*. A similar pattern was also observed in cold-induced transcriptomes of *A. kamchatica*, where about 99% of the homeologous pairs did not show significant changes in ratios (Akama et al. 2014), and the genes that showed significant ratio changes were enriched in the GO categories of stress responses. Among them, *lyrata*-derived homeologs were much more induced than *A. halleri*-derived homeologs in well-known cold response genes such as *RD29B* and *COR15A* that are known to confer cold tolerance in *A. thaliana* (Yamaguchi-Shinozaki and Shinozaki 1993; Thomashow 1999; Nakayama et al. 2007). Our data indicates that the allopolyploid *A. kamchatica* can encompass expression patterns of Zn hyperaccumulation characteristic of *A. halleri* and that of cold response genes characteristic of *A. lyrata* (fig. 6).

Despite that the high expression of hyperaccumulation-related genes was transmitted from *A. halleri* to *A. kamchatica*, our data also indicates that the absolute expression level in the allopolyploid may be attenuated (or diluted) compared with parental species (supplementary fig. S3, Supplementary Material online). Due to the fixed heterozygosity inherent in allopolyploids, the total level of gene expression (sum of both homeologs) with dominant *cis*-regulation would be the average of the expression levels of the parental species. When the expression in a parent is much higher than that of another,

the total expression level will be reduced to nearly half that of the former parent (see the Results section on K/H ratio). Such attenuated expression would result in a quantitatively reduced phenotype. We found that the total level of expression (the sum of homeologs in the allopolyploid) of hyperaccumulation-related genes of *A. kamchatica* is generally about half of that in the hyperaccumulator *A. halleri*, and at least two times higher in *A. kamchatica* than that in the nonhyperaccumulator *A. lyrata* for these genes. Consistent with the expression data, the degree of hyperaccumulation of the shoot-to-root Zn concentration of *A. kamchatica* is about half that of *A. halleri*, but >10 times greater than that of *A. lyrata*. Depending on the genetic architecture in other phenotypic traits, the reduction may not necessarily be half, but it is expected that the trait cannot maintain the same level as the specialist diploid. It is also possible that the homeologs from another parent have an inhibitory function, that is, the *A. lyrata*-derived metal ion transporters network may reduce the efficiency of Zn transport in *A. kamchatica*, perhaps by slower uptake from the environment or by longer retention of Zn in the roots.

The ability to use the environmental responses of both parents can provide a generalist strategy for allopolyploid species to respond to the broader environmental conditions. Although transcriptional data and Zn hyperaccumulation does not directly show tolerance and fitness in natural environments, the broad distribution range of *A. kamchatica* suggests that it has a generalist property. The study of the climatic niches of *Arabidopsis* species (Hoffmann 2005) showed that *A. kamchatica* (called *A. lyrata* subsp. *kamchatica* by Hoffmann 2005) has one of the broadest temperature and precipitation gradients in the genus, spanning a large latitudinal range (from Taiwan to Alaska) and highly variable altitudes (from 0 to 3,000 m) (Kenta et al. 2011). The diploid parents, *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* and *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera*, are distributed in colder and warmer regions, respectively, which indicates that allopolyploid hybridization resulted in greater environmental plasticity. Natural *A. kamchatica* is tolerant to cold temperatures (Armstrong et al. 2015). Hyperaccumulation/metal tolerance may provide additional benefits to high variability in soil types across the broad distribution of *A. kamchatica* (Kenta et al. 2011). This model of transcriptome network merging could provide a molecular basis for the “general purpose genotypes,” which Stebbins (1971) defined as polyploid genotypes that are able to tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions. Because there are few allopolyploid systems that have been used as empirical models to address species distributions, the combination of temperature and soil adaptations derived from both diploid parents suggests that *A. kamchatica* holds considerable promise in this area.

Materials and Methods

Plant Cultivation

All accessions of *A. kamchatica*, *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera*, and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* used in this study are cultivars of strains that have been repeatedly self-fertilized or grown

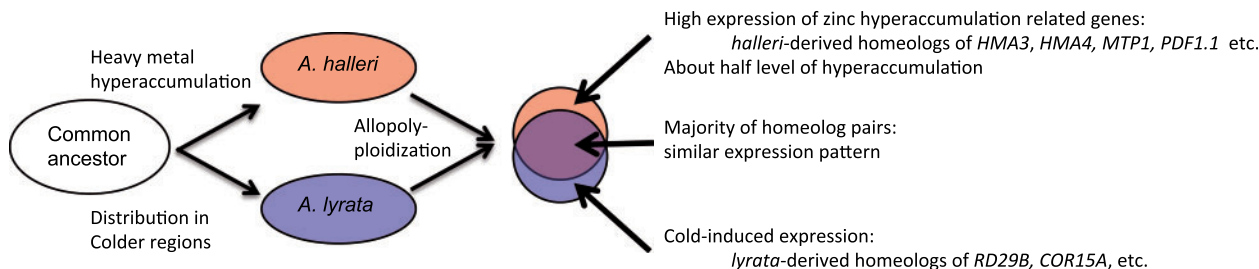


Fig. 6. A model showing that the transcriptional patterns underlying divergent traits of both diploid parents can be combined in the allopolyploid. Candidate genes for heavy metal hyperaccumulation show strong *Arabidopsis halleri*-derived patterns of constitutive expression and response to Zn treatments (this study), while cold treatments show *Arabidopsis lyrata*-derived expression responses detected by Akama et al (2014).

clonally in the laboratory. For hydroponic experiments, we used five genotypes of *A. kamchatica*: MUR (seed stock w1880; Murodo, Japan, near the population of kamD19 described by Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2009), ALK (seed stock w1661; Darling Creek, Alaska, from the same population as kamH46), PAK (seed stock w1889; Potter, Alaska, also kamH43), SRM (seed stock w2347; Mt. Shirouma, Japan, from the same population as kamD17), HMK (seed stock w2075; Hamakurosaki, Toyama, Japan, from the same population as kamkwsB10). The last strain belongs to the subspecies *kawasakiana*, while the others belong to the subspecies *kamchatica*. Chloroplast, ribosome, and low-copy nuclear data obtained by Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. (2009) suggested at least three independent polyploid origins (each represented by MUR, HMK, and PAK/ALK), and SRM represents another unique genotype. For Experiments 1 and 2 (see details below), seeds were germinated on fine quartz sand in separate wells in 12-well Greiner plates for ca. 2 weeks at room temperature and kept moist with deionized water. Far East *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* (also named *A. petraea* subsp. *umbrosa*) was collected from the banks of the Suharnaya River, alluvium of Kolyma, Yakutia (Sakha Republic), Far East Russia (named *lyrpet4* by Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. 2009) and the seeds (w1178 in our stock number) were similarly germinated on fine quartz sand. Our accession of *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* is a clone of halgem2 used by Shimizu-Inatsugi et al. (2009) and of w302 used by Tsuchimatsu et al. (2010), which was treated with five rounds of self-fertilization by bud pollination in the lab to reduce heterozygosity, and can be propagated clonally because of inflorescence reversion.

After successful germination, seedlings were then transferred to Oil-Dri US-special substrate (Damolín, www.damolín.fr) and placed in a growth chamber under a 16 h light and 8 h dark regime at 20°C for 1.5 weeks to allow establishment of primary roots. The Oil-Dri gravel contains no soil or additional nutrients and allows for easy removal from roots. The seedlings were then transferred to 5-L hydroponic containers, with 12 plants randomized per pot. Hydroponic pots were covered and aerated to limit algal growth and provide oxygen to roots. The third experiment (Experiment 3) used a more compact hydroponic chamber design using 0.5 mL thermo PCR tubes containing phytoagar for seed germination and 1,000 μ L (700 mL volume) pipette tip boxes used as the hydroponic containers. The 0.5 mL tubes were then cut at the

bottom to allow roots to penetrate the phytoagar into the hydroponic medium.

The hydroponic nutrient recipe is as follows: for 5 L final volume we added each nutrient at the following concentrations: 4 mM KNO_3 , 1.2 mM $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$, 0.8 mM MgSO_4 , 0.8 mM KH_2PO_4 , 0.8 mM NH_4Cl , and 5 μM $\text{Fe}(\text{III})\text{EDTA}$. A separate 1 L stock of oligoelements was made with the following elements and 16.25 mL of oligonutrients was added to the final 5 L solution: 0.2 mM KCl , 0.12 mM H_3BO_3 , 0.04 mM MnSO_4 , 4 μM CuSO_4 , 3 μM ZnSO_4 , and 1 μM $(\text{NH}_4)_6\text{Mo}_7\text{O}_{21}$. Ten-liter batches were mixed in one container and then dispensed to individual hydroponic containers. The final pH was adjusted to 5.6–5.8 and the solution was changed weekly. Zn supplements were added after about 4.5 weeks of plant growth (with slight variability among genotypes because of seed germination).

Zn Treatment Experiments

Because our goal was to induce a strong Zn stress response at both the phenotypic and transcriptomic levels, our Zn treatment concentrations were selected based on pilot experiments and other studies of *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* (Filatov et al. 2006; Willems et al. 2007) that used 100 μM , 500 μM , and 1,000 μM Zn treatments. The study of Willems et al. (2007) tested tolerance in *A. halleri* \times *A. lyrata* F1s and BC1 up to 3,000 μM Zn and found high tolerance in BC1 plants at 250–1,000 μM Zn. Other studies have shown hyperaccumulation in *A. halleri* under Zn stress up to 2,000 μM Zn in hydroponic conditions (Kashem et al. 2010) and exceptionally high leaf accumulation even in plants collected from sites contaminated with low levels of heavy metals.

Three independent experiments were conducted, with ionomics analyses performed in two separate labs, thereby ensuring repeatability. The first experiment (Experiment 1) compared Zn accumulation among four *A. kamchatica* genotypes (MUR, ALK, PAK, and SRM), *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera*, and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* using a Zn supplement of 500 μM added after about 4.5 weeks of plant growth. Leaf and root tissue samples for metal analysis were harvested after 7 days exposure to 500 μM Zn. Each genotype was represented by 8–11 replicates for leaf tissue and 6–13 replicates for roots. Tissues from Experiment 1 were also harvested before Zn was added ($T = 0$) and after 48 h ($T = 48$) for RNA-seq analyses.

The second experiment (Experiment 2) used three *A. kamchatica* genotypes (MUR, PAK, and HMK), and Zn was added

at 250, 750, and 1,000 μM to the hydroponic medium in 5 L hydroponic containers after about 4.5 weeks of plant growth using three replicates of each genotype. Tissues were then harvested 2 weeks after Zn treatment. A third experiment (Experiment 3) tested three *A. kamchatica* genotypes (MUR, SRM, and PAK) at both 500 and 1,000 μM Zn accumulation after 7 days of added Zn with phytoagar germination and 700 mL hydroponic containers. This experiment was represented by 10–12 replicates of each plant genotype for the 500 μM Zn treatment and 6–8 replicates for the 1,000 μM Zn treatment.

Elemental Analysis in Plant Tissues

Measurements of elemental concentrations in leaves were performed as described by Lahner et al. (2003) in the Salt Lab, University of Aberdeen (Experiments 1 and 2), and the Schulin Lab in the Institute of Terrestrial Ecosystems at ETH Zurich (Experiments 1 and 3). Leaves and roots (approximately 2–5 mg DW) were harvested from plants grown for 5.5 or 6.5 weeks following Zn treatment as described above. Leaf tissue was dried at room temperature and then at 50 °C for 24 h. Root tissue was first rinsed in deionized water, and then washed in 5 mM CaCl_2 followed by 1 mM MES-KOH to remove residual ions and rinsed again in double-distilled H_2O . Tissues were rinsed again with 18 M Ω water and placed into Pyrex digestion tubes. Samples were placed into an oven at 92 °C to dry for 20 h. After cooling, seven reference samples from each planted block were weighed. Samples were digested in a microwave oven with 2 mL concentrated nitric acid (HNO_3 , ACS reagent; Sigma-Aldrich) and 30% hydrogen peroxide (Normapur; VWR Prolabo) and diluted to 10 mL with 18 M Ω water. Analytical blanks and standard reference material (WEPAL IPE 980) were digested together with plant samples in the same manner. After samples and controls were prepared, elemental analysis was performed using inductively coupled mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) for Zn. An internal standard with yttrium and indium were added to the samples to correct for instrumental drift. All samples were normalized to calculated weights, as determined with a heuristic algorithm using the best-measured elements, the weights of the samples, and the elemental solution concentrations. We used ANOVA to detect differences in Zn accumulation between species and genotypes (linear model: μg per gram DW approximately equal to the genotype + tissue + species + species \times tissue). All statistical analyses were conducted using R.

Elemental Analysis of Soils

Soil samples from the Tada mine site where our *A. halleri* reference accession and from three *A. kamchatica* populations were collected (supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material online). Soil samples were weighed and ground, and then dried at 40 °C. Soils were digested using the DigiPREP MS digestion system (SCP Science, Canada) and 2 M HNO_3 for 90 min at 120 °C. The samples were then cooled and diluted with up to 50 mL nanopure water. The digested soils were then filtered using 41 Whatman filter paper into 50 mL centrifuge tubes. Samples were then diluted for measurement using ICP-OES at ETH Zurich.

RNA Extraction and cDNA Synthesis

For transcriptomics experiments, leaf and root tissues were harvested from three replicates at time zero (control), and then at 48 h following the replacement of the hydroponic solution containing an additional 500 μM of Zn from Experiment 1 described above. Leaf and root tissues collected before and after Zn treatment were flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C . RNA was extracted with TRIzol (Invitrogen) and further purified with the RNeasy Mini Kit (Qiagen). RNA concentrations were measured using a Qubit (Invitrogen). The RNA sample (1 μg each) library synthesis was done using TruSeq RNA Sample Prep Kit, version 2 (Illumina), polyA-unstranded, at the Functional Genomics Center Zurich (<http://www.fgc.zh.ch>). Samples were sequenced using Illumina HiSeq 2000 to generate $2\times$ paired-end 100 bp reads.

Reference Genome Assembly

The diploid parental species *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* each possess eight chromosomes ($n = 8$, $2n = 2x = 16$) and the allopolyploid hybrid has $2n = 4x = 32$ chromosomes. Because *A. kamchatica* is a self-fertilizing species (Shimizu & Tsuchimatsu 2015), the *A. halleri*- and *A. lyrata*-derived chromosomes are generally homozygous. This effectively allows us to treat the eight *A. halleri*- and eight *A. lyrata*-derived chromosomes as haploid genomes. We created homeologous *A. kamchatica* (*A. halleri*-derived = *H*-origin) and (*A. lyrata*-derived = *L*-origin) diploid-guided reference genomes for a Japanese (MUR) and an Alaskan (PAK) accession using de novo assemblies of *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* from Akama et al. (2014). Genomic DNA from both accessions of *A. kamchatica* (accessions MUR: Murodo, Japan and PAK: Potter, Alaska) was extracted from leaf tissue using the DNeasy Plant Kit (Qiagen) and the total DNA was sequenced using Illumina HiSeq 2000 with insert size of 200 bp. DNA reads from *A. kamchatica* were mapped using BWA-MEM version 0.7.5a on the two diploid genomes independently. We classified the reads to each parental (*H*-origin or *L*-origin) using HomeoRoq (<http://seselab.org/homeoroq>, last accessed July 14, 2016). In this method, reads are first mapped to both parental genomes, and then classified as *H*-origin, *L*-origin, common, or unclassified (see fig. 1 in Akama et al. 2014 for schematic diagram). If a read was mapped to only one of the parental genomes, it was discarded. After mapping to the *A. halleri* genome, we detected *A. kamchatica* *halleri*-origin (*H*-origin) reads and identified single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and short insertions and deletions using Samtools 0.1.18. Then, the nucleotides were replaced on the detected variant position with the alternative nucleotides if the positions were covered by at least five reads. At least 80% of the reads were required to have the alternative nucleotide from the reference to be called a SNP. The *A. kamchatica* *lyrata*-origin (*L*-origin) genome was updated in a similar manner. These processes, mapping, read classification, and reference modification, were repeated ten times. We used only origin reads the first five times and both origin and common reads the last five times for the reference modification. Then, using the updated genomes,

we performed the SNP replacement iteration three more times. For the final reference of each *A. kamchatica* accession, we assumed that both imputed references derived from parental species were homeologous genomes. The de novo diploid genome assemblies and the polyploid SNP replacement strategy decreases mapping bias that would come from mapping only to a single common genome, which improves our estimates of homeolog expression levels for RNA-seq experiments.

RNA-Seq Read Classification and Homeolog Assignment

We extracted total RNA using RNeasy (Qiagen) from three replicates of both leaf and root tissues from two *A. kamchatica* (MUR: Murodo, Japan and PAK: Potter, Alaska), *A. halleri* subsp. *gemmifera* (Tada mine), and *A. lyrata* subsp. *petraea* (Siberia) sampled at time zero (no Zn treatment) and 48 h after 500 μ M Zn treatment. In total, 48 cDNA libraries were constructed at the Functional Genomics Center, University of Zurich, and then sequenced using Illumina HiSeq 2000 generating 2 \times paired-end 100 bp reads. Low-quality regions of the sequenced reads were trimmed using Trimmomatic-0.30 (Bolger et al. 2014) before mapping. We used STAR-2.3.0 (Dobin et al. 2013) to map RNA-seq reads in *A. kamchatica* with default parameter settings to map reads and the HomeoRoq pipeline to classify reads to *H-origin* or *L-origin* genomes. Mapping and read classification were done using the reference genomes with SNP replacement for two *A. kamchatica* accessions as described above for the genome assembly step. Therefore, the reference genomes of each *A. kamchatica* genotype match those used in the RNA-seq experiments. If a read was mapped to multiple positions, the aligned position with a “primary” flag (the position with the best alignment score) was adopted to quantify expression levels to avoid ambiguous results caused by multiply mapped reads. Reads that only mapped to one parental genome were discarded. Using this type of read to quantify homeolog expression levels may cause a biased estimation of expression levels attributed to the difference in quality of the assembled genomes of two parental species, even though part of them would truly represent species-specific gene fragments. We mapped *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* RNA-seq reads directly using STAR-2.3.0 without the read classification step.

We identified 25,509 homeologous contigs and scaffolds in the two *A. kamchatica* genotypes using a reciprocal blast hit (best-to-best) strategy using a reciprocal best hit (best-to-best) based on BLAST *E* values of 10^{-15} for each *A. kamchatica* genotype. Among these, 19,820 are orthologous with *A. thaliana* also using a reciprocal blast hit strategy. We also detected orthologous genes between the predicted genes on diploid *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* contigs with *A. thaliana* genes using TAIR 10 gene annotations (Lamesch et al. 2012) using reciprocal best hits based on BLAST *E* values of 10^{-15} . We limited our dataset by TAIR gene IDs that are common to both *A. halleri*- and *A. lyrata*-derived copies in both diploids and polyploid genomes to compare gene expression between homeologs and between species. The use of reciprocal best hits and limiting the gene dataset to items containing

A. thaliana orthologous gene models is somewhat conservative, but we are primarily concerned with homologous gene pairs with annotated function. We also used one-way blast of *A. lyrata*-derived scaffolds as the query against the *A. halleri*-derived reference genome to confirm that our reciprocal blast results blasted to the same contig if there were multiple hits in the one-way blast. In addition, when gene duplications occur in a particular species, the sum of the expression of those duplicates can drive the function underlying the phenotype of interest (e.g., *HMA4* and hyperaccumulation). The highly similar duplicates are likely to be assembled as a single copy in the current assembly (see the section regarding pyrosequencing validation of homolog expression) because of their short overall contig length.

Differential Expression Analysis

Differentially regulated (up- and down-regulated) homeologs in control and Zn treatments were estimated using edgeR (Robinson et al. 2010) with only *H-origin* or *L-origin* read count data. We first performed differential expression analyses for each homeolog (*H-origin* or *L-origin*), tissue (leaf or root), and genotype (Alaskan or Japanese) separately. Diploid gene regulation was estimated similarly using orthologous read count data to detect up- and downregulation from control to Zn-treated samples. Significance was determined using a false discovery rate (FDR; BH test) cutoff of <0.05 . If the RPKM was <0.1 in both control and Zn-treated samples, the gene was considered unexpressed and was not counted as differentially regulated if significant. We conducted GO analysis on differentially regulated genes using agriGO (Du et al. 2010) and GO categories with ≥ 30 query genes for MF and a FDR *P* value threshold of <0.05 . Changes in homeolog ratios from control to Zn-treated conditions were estimated using the statistical test described by Akama et al. (2014) to control for overdispersion and reduce false-positive ratio-change estimates.

RPKM reported as total levels of gene expression were estimated in the allopolyploids including both origin and common reads counted using HTSeq 0.5.4 in union mode after the read classification was bundled in the HomeoRoq pipeline as described in the following equation (1):

$$\text{RPKM}_{x,i} = \frac{10^9 C_{x,i}}{G_i T}, \text{ where } x \in \{\text{lyr}, \text{hal}\}$$

$$C_{\text{hal},i} = H_i + M_i \frac{H_i}{H_i + L_i} \quad (1)$$

$$C_{\text{lyr},i} = L_i + M_i \frac{L_i}{H_i + L_i}$$

where $C_{x,i}$ is the number of reads that are mapped on gene *i* in species *s*, G_i is the length of gene *i* in the *A. halleri* genome, and $T = C_{\text{hal},i} + C_{\text{lyr},i}$ is the total number of mapped reads. In our procedure, there are three types of count values produced after read classification: 1) H_i : the number of reads mapped to *A. halleri*-derived homeolog *i*, 2) L_i : the number of reads mapped to *A. lyrata*-derived homeolog *i*, and 3) M_i :

the number of reads that cannot be classified in the parental species because the reads are identical to the genomes of both species (i.e., *common* reads). The M_i reads were allocated to one of the species at a rate proportional to the *H-origin* and *L-origin* ratio of each homeolog for total RPKM comparisons. That is, two RPKM values were estimated corresponding to each gene in the *A. kamchatica* genome, one for the *A. halleri*-derived homeolog (*H-origin*), and one for the *A. lyrata*-derived homeolog (*L-origin*). In the diploid, RPKM values were calculated normally after counting mapped reads to the reference without the read classification. The RPKM values of tetraploids and diploids would be comparable despite minor methodological differences.

Complete datasets of *A. kamchatica* (MUR and PAK genotype leaf and root) transcriptomics can be found in [supplementary files 5 and 6, Supplementary Material](#) online, and the *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* transcriptomics datasets can be found in [supplementary file 7, Supplementary Material](#) online. [Supplementary file 2, Supplementary Material](#) online shows candidate gene expression ratios and for both polyploid genotypes and parental diploid species.

Pyrosequencing

We used pyrosequencing to validate the expression ratios between *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs in *A. kamchatica*. The RNA samples of three replicates per genotype were reverse transcribed to cDNA using a High Capacity RNA-to-cDNA kit (Invitrogen) separately for leaf and root tissues for replicates of each polyploid genotype before and after Zn treatments. We designed pyrosequencing assays using diverged SNPs in homeologous gene copies for the following genes orthologous to *A. thaliana*: *HMA3* (AT4G30120), *HMA4* (AT2G19110), *MTP1* (AT2G46800), *NRAMP3* (AT2G23150), and *ZIP9* (AT4G33020). Each set of gene-specific PCR primers and sequencing primers was designed using PyroMark Assay Design software (v. 2.0, Qiagen) at the Genomic Diversity Center, ETH, Zurich ([supplementary table S6, Supplementary Material](#) online). The gene-specific amplification primers were designed at conserved regions between *H-* and *L-*homeologs so that they include SNP positions inside the amplified region. The sequencing primer was designed at an adjacent conserved region to targeted SNP positions between *H-* and *L-*homeologs (see [supplementary fig. S5, Supplementary Material](#) online for example assay design using *HMA4* homeologs).

The amplified PCR fragments were sequenced using the PyroMark ID system (Qiagen) at the ETH Genetic Diversity Center, Zurich. The amplification peaks were analyzed using the PyroMark system in allele quantification (AQ) mode to determine the SNP amplification ratio. The multiple SNP ratios obtained for each gene fragment were averaged to estimate the *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeolog ratios. Genes such as *HMA4* and *MTP1* that presumably have multiple copies in the *A. halleri* genome are represented in our assembly on short contigs in both *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* and have only a single copy. Therefore, pyrosequencing assays identify target SNPs between *A. halleri*- and *A. lyrata*-derived homeologs that are only represented by these single-copy contigs. Pyrosequencing expression ratios between *H-origin* and *L-*

origin are potentially the sum of duplicated *A. halleri*-derived copies if the duplicates also possess these target SNPs. To determine whether *A. kamchatica* shares the tandemly duplicated copies also found in *A. halleri*, we used genomic DNA from *A. kamchatica* accessions for the template for PCR amplification. Because we designed assays in the same manner using SNPs that are divergent among *H-origin* and *L-origin* homeologs ([supplementary fig. S5, Supplementary Material](#) online), these assays can detect whether there are three *A. halleri*-derived copies, compared with a single copy from the *A. lyrata* parent by quantifying the *A. halleri*-derived SNPs. Pyrosequencing primers can be found in [supplementary table S5, Supplementary Material](#) online. We also used 3' rapid amplification of cDNA ends (3' RACE) to amplify the C-terminus end of *HMA4* using the Invitrogen RACE kit. PCR products were subcloned and amplified using M13 forward and reverse primers, and then Sanger sequenced.

HMA4 Region Resequencing and Diversity Analysis

Using the approach described above for diploid-guided reference assembly for 20 *A. kamchatica* genotypes, we generated consensus contigs for *H-origin* and *L-origin* genes for each genotype that align to the BAC sequences from *A. halleri* subsp. *halleri* (GenBank BAC accession numbers: EU382072.1 and EU382073.1) containing the *HMA4* locus (Hanikenne et al. 2008; Hanikenne et al. 2013). Coding sequences from the 20 *A. kamchatica* *H-origin* and *L-origin* *HMA4* regions were aligned using Muscle and Geneious (v. 6.06). We also aligned our *H-origin* and *L-origin* contigs to a corresponding region on JGI's *A. lyrata* (Hu et al. 2011) chromosome 3 (Alyr_JGI_scaffold_3.23427106-23532642) containing the orthologous *HMA4* region. This showed the same physical order of 11 *H-origin* and *L-origin* contigs surrounding and including the *HMA4* coding sequences on both *A. halleri* (BAC) and *A. lyrata* (JGI) genomes ([supplementary fig. S8 A and B, supplementary material](#) online), and we assume the same orientation and synteny in *A. kamchatica* for our diversity comparisons.

The *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* genomes have some important structural differences surrounding the *HMA4* locus, where the published *A. halleri* BAC sequence is nearly 2.5 times longer (including intergenic space and introns) than that of the corresponding region containing these 11 genes on chromosome 3 in the JGI *A. lyrata* assembly. This is largely because of the triplication of the *HMA4* gene on the BAC assembly. Our de novo assemblies of *A. halleri* and *A. lyrata* each contain only a single contig with the *HMA4* gene (homologous to *A. thaliana* AT2G19110.1) identified as homeologs by both reciprocal blast hit and one-way blast of the *A. lyrata* genome to the *A. halleri* genome. Moreover, many of the genes identified as surrounding the *HMA4* locus by aligning to the BAC sequence in *A. halleri* are also on separate contigs in our diploid reference assemblies described in [supplementary file 3, Supplementary Material](#) online.

The 11 gene alignments are orthologous to *A. thaliana* TAIR10 annotated gene models: AT2G19010.1, AT2G19045.1, AT2G19050.1, AT2G19060.1, AT2G19070.1, AT2G19080.1, AT2G19090.1, AT2G19110.1, AT2G19130.1, AT2G19150.1, AT2G19160.1, and AT2G19170.1. We also included two contigs

corresponding to two genes outside of the *A. halleri* BAC sequence and *A. lyrata* scaffold corresponding to the S1 and S13 genes used by Hanikenne et al. (2013) to estimate background diversity between homeologs (supplementary file 4, Supplementary Material online). The genes outside of the BAC sequence are: AT2G18750.1 and AT2G19490.1. Eight of these genes correspond to the gene regions S1, S2, S3, S4 (including *HMA4-1*, AT2G19110.1), S11, S12, and S13, with S1 (AT2G18750.1) and S13 (AT2G19490.1) not linked (“background genes”) and outside of the BAC sequence. We then aligned the 13 *H-origin* and *L-origin* coding sequences from 20 *A. kamchatica* genotypes to *A. thaliana* orthologs to use as a common outgroup for each homeolog. Summary and diversity statistics, including divergence from *A. thaliana*, were estimated using *libsequence* (Thornton 2003) packages and custom R and Perl shell scripts. The HKA test was performed using DNASP (Librado and Rozas 2009).

Data Accessibility

RNA-seq reads were submitted to DDBJ. Submission: DRA004363 (masa-0001_Submission). BioProject: PRJDB4054 (PSUB004762). BioSample: SAMD00035297 (SSUB004394). Experiment: DRX049283 (masa-0001_Experiment_0001). Run: DRR054434 (masa-0001_Run_0001). Illumina data for the MUR and PAK accessions. DDBJ: DRA003243 and DRA004363. HMA4 homeolog alignments and Supplementary Files 5–7 can be downloaded from at <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.tr85d>.

Supplementary Material

Supplementary figures S1–S10, tables S1–S6, and files 1–4 are available at *Molecular Biology and Evolution* online (<http://www.mbe.oxfordjournals.org/>).

Author Contributions

TP, RSI, and KKS conceived the experiments. TP and TC conducted the hydroponic experiments. TP and MH assembled and analyzed transcriptomics datasets. TP conducted polymorphism analysis. JS assembled reference genomes. KT, YO, RIS, and KKS contributed plant and soil samples. TP, RSI, and KKS wrote the paper, with editorial contributions by all coauthors.

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