

# Digital Imaging Combined with Genome-Wide Association Mapping Links Loci to Plant-Pathogen Interaction Traits<sup>1</sup>[OPEN]

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Plant resistance to generalist pathogens with broad host ranges, such as *Botrytis cinerea* (*Botrytis*), is typically quantitative and highly polygenic. Recent studies have begun to elucidate the molecular genetic basis of plant-pathogen interactions using commonly measured traits, including lesion size and/or pathogen biomass. However, with the advent of digital imaging and high-throughput phenomics, there are a large number of additional traits available to study quantitative resistance. In this study, we used high-throughput digital imaging analysis to investigate previously poorly characterized visual traits of plant-pathogen interactions related to disease resistance using the Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*)/*Botrytis* pathosystem. From a large collection of visual lesion trait measurements, we focused on color, shape, and size to test how these aspects of the Arabidopsis/*Botrytis* interaction are genetically related. Through genome-wide association mapping in Arabidopsis, we show that lesion color and shape are genetically separable traits associated with plant disease resistance. Moreover, by employing defined mutants in 23 candidate genes identified from the genome-wide association mapping, we demonstrate links between loci and each of the different plant-pathogen interaction traits. These results expand our understanding of the functional mechanisms driving plant disease resistance.

The ability to resist biotic attackers, including plant pathogens, is central to a plant's survival and fitness. However, evolving resistance is complicated by the immense variety of pathogenic species that can attack an individual plant. Pathogens differ in their lifestyle and host range, with each having different optimal virulence mechanism(s). Specialist biotrophic pathogens often coevolve with host plants and develop virulence strategies that target specific resistance mechanisms within the host. These pathogens must strike a delicate balance between keeping the host

plant cells alive while absorbing nutrients, avoiding detection, and suppressing plant defenses. Plant defenses against coevolving specialists are tailored to the specific pathogen, often involving gene products that directly or indirectly recognize effectors or molecular patterns specific to that pathogen. This coevolutionary link between host and specialist pathogen frequently leads to large-effect, gene-for-gene resistance involving specific pathogen recognition genes (Jones and Dangl, 2006). In contrast, necrotrophic pathogens often are generalists, deploying a diverse array of virulence mechanisms designed to disrupt and kill host plant cells (e.g. diverse phytotoxins, enzymes, and microRNAs; Laluk and Mengiste, 2010; Veloso and van Kan, 2018). Coevolution is more complicated in host-generalist pathogen interactions because the pathogen must generalize to infect numerous hosts. In turn, host resistance to generalist necrotrophs is highly quantitative and polygenic, involving a complex network of traits, including physical barriers, such as cuticle formation and cell wall modification; chemical barriers, such as secondary metabolites or reactive oxygen species; and inducible defenses (Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2008; Laluk and Mengiste, 2010; Windram et al., 2012; Corwin et al., 2016a).

Plant-pathogen interactions are highly complex systems that can affect a wide array of traits, from visual to chemical. However, most molecular plant pathology research relies either on lesion size or pathogen biomass

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within the infected plant tissue to quantify the severity of infection. Whereas these traits are easily measured and reflect plant susceptibility to a pathogen, they do not fully describe all aspects of disease resistance within the plant host. For instance, comparing the molecular and quantitative genetic basis of resistance using lesion size versus the underlying biochemical responses found that different genes could contribute to these traits. This suggests that lesion size measurements do not provide the full picture of the resistance response (Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2008; Bock et al., 2010; Li et al., 2015; Corwin et al., 2016a; Schwanck and Del Ponte, 2016; Barbedo, 2017; Matsunaga et al., 2017). There has been recent interest in extending our understanding of plant-pathogen resistance through more extensive phenotyping of disease symptoms, including hyperspectral imaging of lesions (Montes et al., 2007; Kuska et al., 2015; Mutka and Bart, 2015; Leucker et al., 2016). This analysis has differentiated between diseases on the same plant using light spectra from 400 to 1,000 nm to detect biochemical responses (Mahlein et al., 2012). These spectra provide a blend of symptoms characterized not only by the extent of necrosis but also by water content, pigment modification, tissue function, and the appearance of fungal structures (Mahlein et al., 2012). However, the molecular mechanisms controlling these visual and biochemical aspects of the plant-pathogen interaction and their relation to pathogen biomass/lesion size mechanisms are largely unstudied. Measuring plant-pathogen interactions from this multidimensional view could reveal new insights into the physiology of pathogen strategy and host response.

One developing model system to directly study the complexity of molecular plant resistance to generalist pathogens is the *Arabidopsis* (*Arabidopsis thaliana*)/*Botrytis cinerea* (*Botrytis*) pathosystem (Corwin and Kliebenstein, 2017). *Botrytis* is a generalist necrotrophic pathogen with a broad range of hosts from bryophytes through gymnosperms and angiosperms (Jarvis, 1977; Staats et al., 2005; Choquer et al., 2007; Elad et al., 2016). Intraspecific genetic variation facilitates this broad host range and quantitatively influences the interaction with genetically varied hosts (Giraud et al., 1997; Alfonso et al., 2000; Váczy et al., 2008; Kretschmer et al., 2009; Stefanato et al., 2009; Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2010; Valiuskaite et al., 2010; Amselem et al., 2011; Aguilera et al., 2012; Atwell et al., 2015; Corwin et al., 2016b). Classical forward genetic screens have shown that *Arabidopsis* resistance to *Botrytis* involves key signaling pathways, such as jasmonate signaling and the BIK/BAK response system (Thomma et al., 1999; Veronese et al., 2006). Our recent use of high-throughput digital imaging analysis for lesion size in combination with host genome-wide association (GWA) mapping showed that the *Arabidopsis*/*Botrytis* interaction relied on natural genetic variation in thousands of host genes; however, most of these host genes were associated with altering the interaction of only a subset of *Botrytis* isolates (Corwin et al., 2016b). Critically, GWA does not

impart a priori assumptions on the genes or mechanisms that may play a role in controlling the trait in question, thus reducing experimental bias. This is exemplified by the observation that many of the genes identified by GWA mapping in *Arabidopsis* have not been linked previously to this pathosystem (Jarvis, 1977; Staats et al., 2005; Choquer et al., 2007; Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2008; Mengiste et al., 2010; Valiuskaite et al., 2010; Amselem et al., 2011; Corwin et al., 2016a; Corwin and Kliebenstein, 2017). For example, *LATE ELONGATED HYPOCOTYL* (*LHY*; At1g01060), a key developmental and circadian-regulated gene not linked previously to disease resistance, was identified as having a significant effect on *Botrytis* resistance (Corwin et al., 2016a). In addition to known genes, our GWA approach identified disease resistance effects in previously uncharacterized genes, such as At4g01860, which encodes a poorly characterized Cul4-RING E3 component. This suggests that extending GWA analysis to other traits may allow the identification of additional new disease resistance loci. Furthermore, a reanalysis of the digital images collected from our previous study can directly facilitate the exploration of other traits related to disease resistance.

In this study, we reanalyzed the images collected from our previous GWA experiments to measure visual aspects of lesion development that are not commonly measured, specifically lesion shape, color, and texture, and relate these to disease resistance (Corwin et al., 2016a). A GWA mapping analysis of select traits in *Arabidopsis* revealed a large compendium of genes associated with lesion size, yellowness, greenness, and shape. Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis showed that there were biological processes specific to subsets of traits rather than processes affecting all lesion-associated traits. To validate the results of the GWA mapping, we selected 23 genes associated with one or more of the lesion traits and compared their T-DNA knockout mutant phenotypes. The validation rate was highest for lesion size, at 60%, and lower for lesion color and shape traits, specifically 33% for lesion yellowness, 38% for lesion greenness, and 20% for lesion eccentricity. This further demonstrated that the genes affected subsets of lesion traits rather than being common to all traits. This confirms that expanding our phenotypic analysis of plant-pathogen interactions to novel visual traits like lesion shape and color, rather than focusing solely on lesion size, can expand our knowledge of plant-pathogen interactions and identify different mechanisms.

## RESULTS

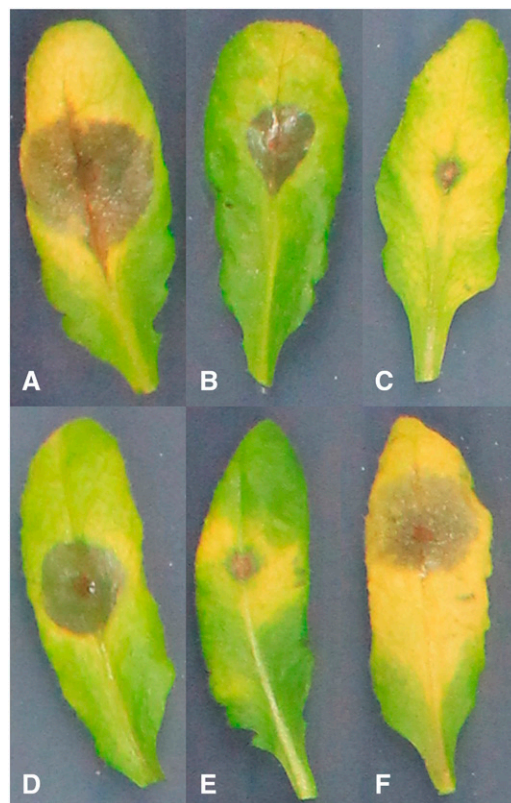
### Identification of Alternative Disease-Related Traits

Using a custom digital image-analysis pipeline, we previously measured lesion size (area) to identify *Arabidopsis* genes controlling lesion size within the

*Arabidopsis/Botrytis* pathosystem using four diverse pathogen genotypes (Corwin et al., 2016a). That previous study used 96 diverse *Arabidopsis* accessions chosen based on similar flowering time to minimize ontogenetic variation, which also decreased population structure and rare alleles within the collection. The host-pathogen interaction was recorded digitally within a randomized complete block design over two experiments with four independent biological replicates per genotype per experiment. Using the same images from the previous experiment, we adapted our imaging pipeline to quantify 75 different lesion parameters for each infected leaf. For example, these parameters included the number of pixels for specific hues within the lesion, lesion perimeter, proportion of the leaf the lesion occupied, length of the major and minor axes of the lesion, eccentricity of the perimeter, and Haralick texture features within the lesion (Fig. 1; Corwin et al., 2016b). As reported previously, there is a wide range of lesion sizes resulting from different plant-pathogen interactions (Fig. 1, A versus C). In addition to lesion size, there is variation in color within both the lesion and the residual leaf. For example, some plant-pathogen interactions result in large chlorotic sectors surrounding the lesions (Fig. 1, A, C, and F), whereas others cause less chlorosis surrounding the developing lesion (Fig. 1, B and E). In our previous work, we have shown that the pathogen is limited solely to the developing lesion and that these chlorotic regions are systemic plant responses to the infection (Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2008; Corwin et al., 2016b). Even within the lesion there are color variants, with some exhibiting more yellow coloring (Fig. 1A), whereas others have a greener hue (Fig. 1D). In addition to lesion color, there is variation in lesion shape, with some lesions exhibiting high symmetry and circularity (Fig. 1, D and F), whereas others are elongated along the major axis of the leaf, possibly due to extended pathogen growth along the midvein (Fig. 1, A and B). This preferential midvein growth was seen previously as genetically variable among *Botrytis* isolates that infect *Arabidopsis* (Corwin et al., 2016b). We proceeded to study if these additional measurements of the *Arabidopsis/Botrytis* interaction provided unique genetic insight into the virulence outcome that was not obtained readily from lesion size alone

### Hierarchical Clustering Analysis for Trait Selection

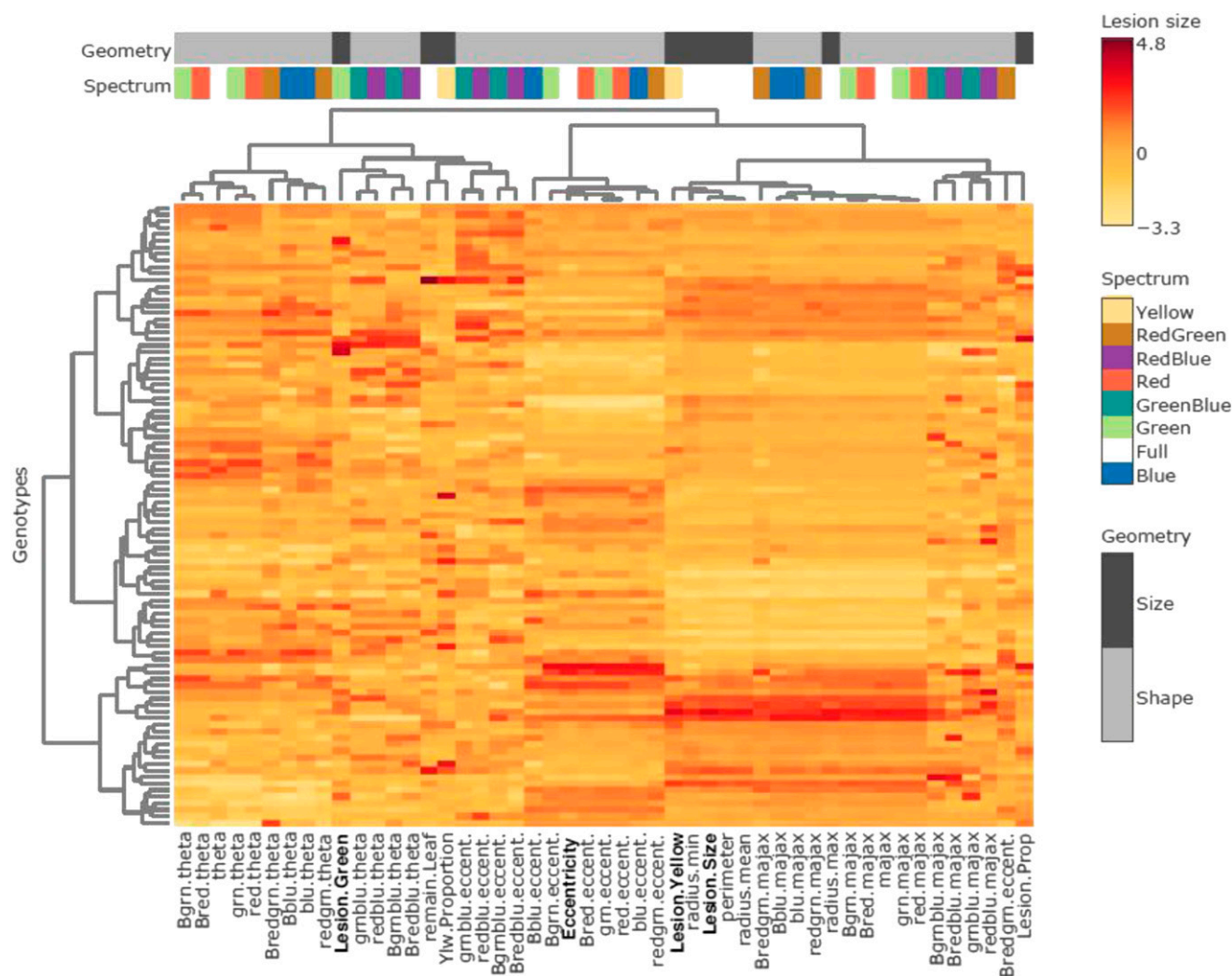
To better understand the relationship among the measured visual traits and select a subset of traits for further study, we conducted a hierarchical clustering analysis (HCA) of the lesion traits across the 96 *Arabidopsis* accessions infected with the different *Botrytis* isolates (Fig. 2; Supplemental Table S1; Supplemental Fig. S1). This analysis allowed us to assess the inter-relatedness of these infection traits both with each other and with lesion size to determine whether the traits provide distinct or similar genetic signatures. The HCA showed extensive variation in all the traits dependent on *Arabidopsis* accessions and *Botrytis*



**Figure 1.** Illustration of different lesion traits. Representative images show *Arabidopsis* leaves infected with *Botrytis* illustrating the varying combinations of lesion traits observed. Lesions were observed to be more circular or more eccentric, with pointed ends growing along the midvein of the leaf. Greenness and yellowness of both areas within the lesion and in the surrounding tissue also were highly variable. The water-soaked grayish sectors represent the actual infected lesion. A, Large eccentric lesion with extensive leaf senescence. B, Moderate eccentric lesion with minimal leaf senescence. C, Small lesion with extensive leaf senescence. D, Moderate circular lesion with moderate leaf senescence. E, Small lesion with moderate leaf senescence. F, Moderate circular lesion with extensive leaf senescence.

isolates, leading to a wide range of trait measurements (Supplemental Fig. S1). Interestingly, in these clusters, lesion color and shape traits distinctly clustered apart from full-spectrum lesion size and varied genetically across plant accessions. Using the analysis among all isolates, we chose to proceed with three distinct traits that are wholly distinct from lesion size ( $\text{mm}^2$ ). Specifically, these traits are lesion yellowness (the proportion of yellow pixels within the lesion to total pixels within the lesion), lesion greenness (total  $\text{mm}^2$  of green pixels within the lesion), and lesion eccentricity (maximum lesion diameter – minimum diameter/maximum lesion diameter).

The HCA shows that lesion yellowness is partially associated with lesion size within each isolate (Fig. 2), but it also shows a discrete pattern distinct from lesion size when all isolates are compared, suggesting that lesion yellowness may describe a distinct genetic



**Figure 2.** HCA of lesion traits. The heat map shows the collection of lesion measurements using the Apple517 *Botrytis* isolate on the collection of 96 Arabidopsis accessions (rows). The bars at the top show if the trait is linked to either size or shape of the lesion and in which spectrum it was measured, according to the legends on the right. The four traits used in this study are shown on the bottom of the plot in boldface. HCA was conducted using the Ward algorithm with z-scaling within each trait.

and molecular architecture of the plant-pathogen interaction (Supplemental Fig. S1). Lesion greenness and lesion eccentricity were selected to represent the two other distinct branches of the HCA and traits uncorrelated with lesion size (Fig. 2; Supplemental Fig. S1). Lesion greenness may be related to the presence of green islands that were noted in other plant-pathogen interactions but have not been commonly studied (Walters et al., 2008). Lesion eccentricity is a lesion shape variation trait that previous work in our lab tentatively linked to genetic variation in the pathogen's ability to identify and grow directionally along the midvein of the host leaf (Corwin et al., 2016b). This trait may provide unique genetic insight into the pathogen's growth orientation preference along the primary leaf vasculature within the host. These four traits represent a broad sampling of the identified

variation in the lesion traits, revealing natural genetic variation within both the plant and the pathogen, and provide a diverse array of measurable aspects of the Arabidopsis/*Botrytis* interaction.

#### Genetic Variation in New Lesion Traits

We utilized the phenotypic measurements for all four traits across all genotypic interactions of Arabidopsis and *Botrytis* to quantify the role of host and pathogen genetic variation in controlling these traits. We used linear models to analyze the variance across the 96 Arabidopsis accessions and the four *Botrytis* isolates. The genetic variation in both the pathogen and the host significantly influenced all four resistance-associated traits (Table 1). The proportion of variance attributable to the Arabidopsis accession was significant

for these four traits, although relatively small. The heritability across the entire data set that was attributable solely to Arabidopsis was relatively low, although significant for each trait tested (Table 1). The proportion of heritability attributable to pathogen genetic variation was higher for the color and size traits, ranging from 10% to 40% (Table 1). In contrast, eccentricity was controlled by the interaction of genetic variation in the host and pathogen (Table 1). Thus, there is significant genetic variation for all traits that is dependent upon both host and pathogen genomic diversity.

In our further analysis, we obtained the model-corrected least squared means from these linear models to control for the environmental stochasticity. This was designed to focus the analysis on the genetic influence of the plant host in the downstream genetic mapping. Given the significance of the interaction between plant accession and pathogen isolate, we analyzed each lesion trait individually for each pathogen genotype across the diverse Arabidopsis accessions as a separate trait to maximize our ability to identify causal loci.

#### Analysis of Covariance of Lesion Traits

To test how the lesion size, color, and shape traits may correlate across the different plant-pathogen combinations, we conducted an analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) comparing each pair of traits across the 96 diverse Arabidopsis accessions for each of the four *Botrytis* isolates (Fig. 3). Significant correlations ( $P < 0.05$ ) between the color and size traits indicate that these three traits are generally related. Lesion yellowness and greenness show a positive correlation, both overall and within each *Botrytis* isolate group, and this correlation is statistically consistent between groups (Fig. 3). In contrast, lesion color (both greenness and yellowness) and size display different relationships within each *Botrytis* isolate, in that B05.10 and Supersteak isolates show a negative correlation between lesion yellowness and size whereas Apple517 and UKRazz show a neutral or slightly positive correlation (Fig. 3). Additionally, eccentricity does not display uniform correlation with other lesion traits across all the isolates. Instead, the correlation is highly dependent on the plant-pathogen interaction (Fig. 3). For example, for eccentricity and lesion size, there was a strong negative correlation for the *Botrytis* isolates B05.10 and Supersteak, whereas there was a very slight positive correlation for Apple517 and UKRazz.

This suggests that genetic variation at the origin of the Arabidopsis response to these diverse *Botrytis* isolates can be both shared and trait specific. Whereas we found some correlation between the four lesion traits, the host and pathogen genotypes alter these relationships, indicating that there is not a simple mechanistic basis for these relationships. Furthermore, the four lesion traits represent measures of distinct and nuanced interactions between the plant and the pathogen. The genes associated with these traits likely influence

**Table 1.** Heritability of lesion traits

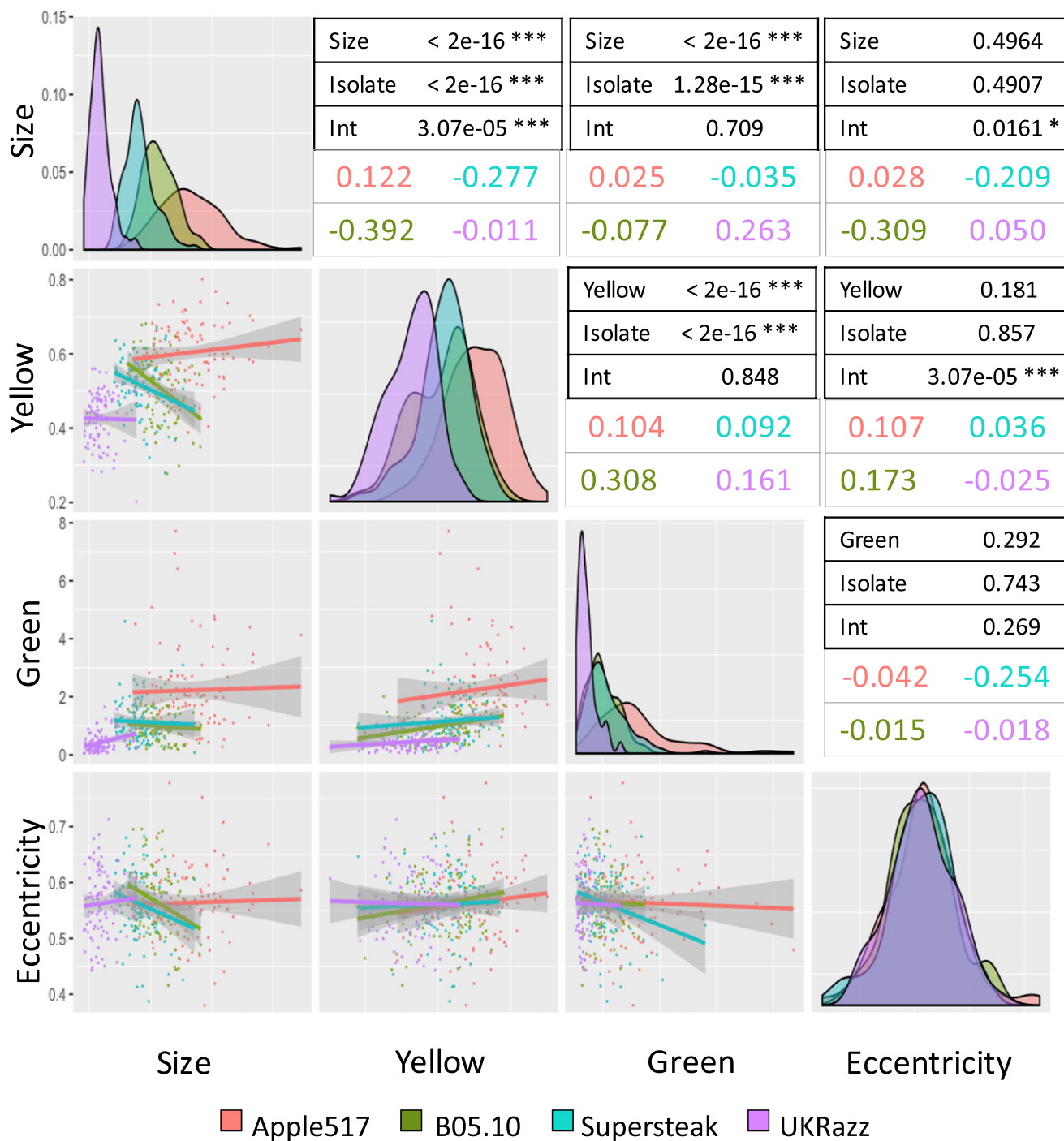
For each of the four traits, the table displays the sum of squares (SS) for each term in an ANOVA, the  $P$  value for each term, and the calculated heritability (proportion of total variance) attributed to the specific model terms. The analysis used the model Lesion Trait ~ Experiment + Accession: Isolate.

Trait	SS	$P$	Heritability
<b>Size</b>			
Experiment	1,224	0.002	
Plant	179,962	<0.001	
Accession	25,273	<0.001	3.0%
Isolate	333,466	<0.001	39.5%
Accession:isolate	57,552	<0.001	6.8%
<b>Yellow</b>			
Experiment	2,387,113	0.036	
Plant	964,232,385	<0.001	
Accession	70,751,623	0.014	2.5%
Isolate	557,388,090	<0.001	20.0%
Accession:isolate	176,639,269	0.083	6.3%
<b>Green</b>			
Experiment	3	0.281	
Plant	3,958	<0.001	
Accession	756	<0.001	6.1%
Isolate	1,232	<0.001	10.0%
Accession:isolate	1,084	<0.001	8.8%
<b>Eccentricity</b>			
Experiment	0.00070	0.842	
Plant	13.04996	0.003	
Accession	2.34077	0.008	4.3%
Isolate	0.00387	0.974	<0.1%
Accession:isolate	6.00843	0.022	11.1%

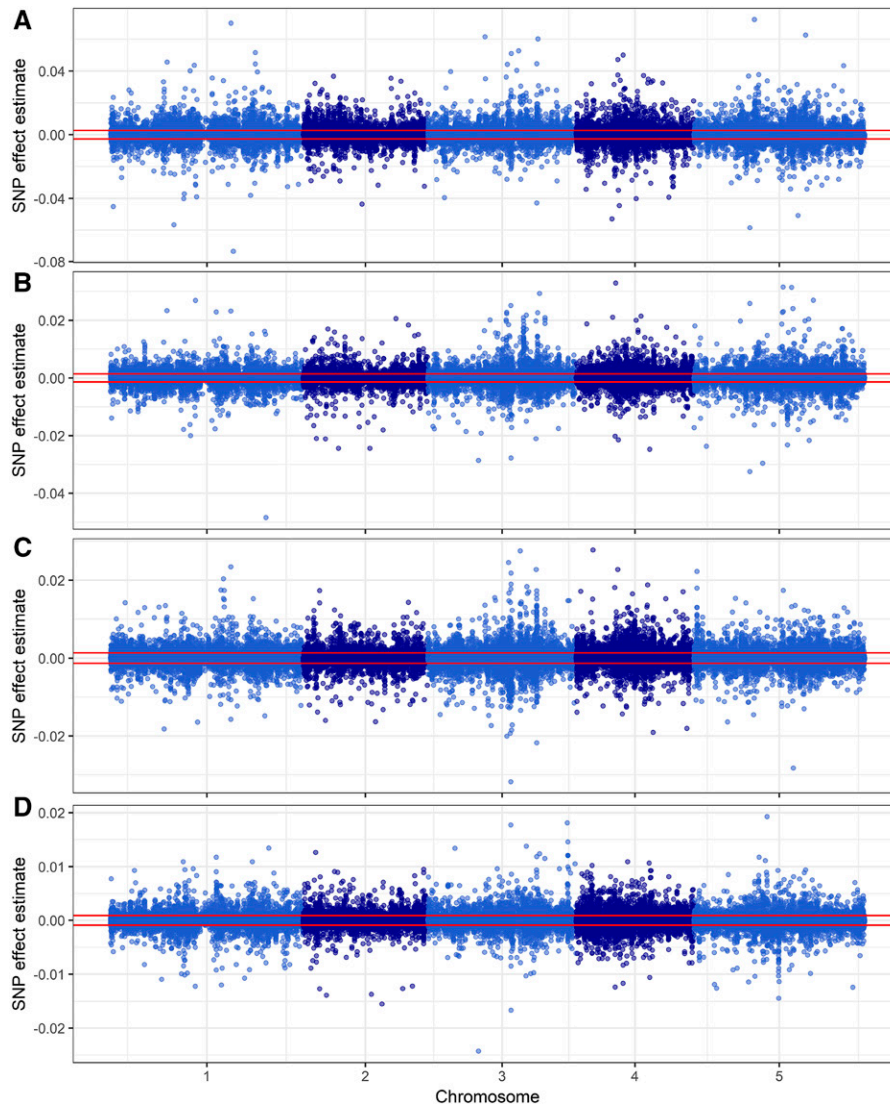
different and complementary mechanisms in a multifaceted defense response.

#### GWA Mapping of Lesion Traits

To identify Arabidopsis genes that are associated with these new lesion traits, we conducted a GWA study. We used the model-corrected trait least squares means of each trait for every Arabidopsis accession infected independently with the four different *Botrytis* isolates across the traits of lesion size, eccentricity (shape), and yellow and green color. We employed a publicly available database of genomic polymorphisms across the 96 Arabidopsis accessions consisting of 115,301 single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) with minor allele frequency > 0.2 (Atwell et al., 2010; Corwin et al., 2016a). The model for GWA mapping used a previously published ridge regression approach with a permuted-effects threshold, which has been used to successfully identify causal loci for both plant-pathogen interactions and plant metabolic variation (Shen et al., 2013; Corwin et al., 2016a; Francisco et al., 2016; Kooke et al., 2016). We conducted GWA mapping for each combination separately for each isolate across the Arabidopsis accessions, resulting in four separate GWA maps, one for each trait. Because the variance and mean of each lesion phenotype differed according to pathogen genotype, the resulting effect sizes for Arabidopsis SNPs also varied in magnitude. To create comparative Manhattan plots of the



**Figure 3.** Isolate dependency of trait correlations across the isolates. Trait correlations between each pair of traits across the 96 Arabidopsis accessions were tested via ANCOVA using each of the four different *Botrytis* isolates. On the left of the plots are scatterplots showing each trait correlation in each isolate, with the gray areas around the lines showing the 95% confidence interval for the prospective correlation. The dot and line color show the specific isolate tested. The diagonal contains histograms for the distributions of each specific trait across the four *Botrytis* isolates. The tables on the right show the *P* values from the ANCOVA for the trait-trait correlations, the *Botrytis* isolate dependency of these correlations, and the interaction of *Botrytis* isolate on the trait-trait correlation (Int). The estimated slopes for each trait-trait interaction for each *Botrytis* isolate are shown by the colored text.

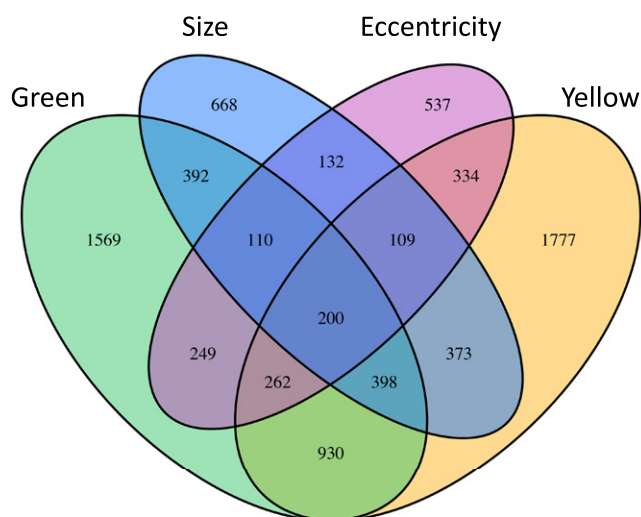


**Figure 4.** Lesion size GWA for four *Botrytis* isolates. Manhattan plots show lesion size trait GWA results as measured on four *Botrytis* isolates. A, Apple517. B, B05.10. C, Supersteak. D, UKRazz. The horizontal red lines show the significance threshold as estimated by permutation. The effect sizes are measured as cm<sup>2</sup> of lesion area.

results for a single trait across all four *Botrytis* isolates, we z-scaled the SNP effect sizes within each pathogen and overlaid the results (Figs. 4 and 5). We calculated the significance threshold for each individual trait by permuting the data 1,000 times and running the ridge regression on the permuted data and locating the 95th percentile (Supplemental Tables S3–S6).

The comparative Manhattan plots (Fig. 4; Supplemental Figs. S2 and S3) showed that all four lesion-associated traits lacked large, distinct SNP peaks. Instead, there are numerous significant SNPs with small to medium effect sizes distributed across the genome, suggesting a highly polygenic nature underlying the genetic variation in these traits. Furthermore, the significant SNPs differed between the *Botrytis* isolates, suggesting that most SNPs are dependent upon the

interaction between plant and pathogen genotypes (Figs. 4 and 5). For lesion yellowness and eccentricity, only Apple517 had significant SNPs, possibly because this isolate had the highest level of phenotypic diversity in these traits (Fig. 3). We next proceeded to identify putative causal loci in the GWA results by calling a gene as significantly associated with a trait if two or more SNPs within the coding region and 1 kb of the 5' upstream and 3' downstream regions had effect sizes above the 95th percentile threshold (Chan et al., 2011; Corwin et al., 2016a). This approach has been shown previously to reduce false positives within the data set (Corwin et al., 2016a). Combining the analyses of each trait across the *Botrytis* isolates for which there were significant SNPs identified 2,382 genes associated with lesion size, 4,383 with lesion yellowness, 4,110



**Figure 5.** Venn diagram of trait-associated genes found in GWA mapping. The Venn diagram shows the candidate Arabidopsis genes found to associate with each lesion trait via GWA. The number of genes listed for each lesion trait reflects the number of genes with two or more SNPs above the 95th percentile threshold for that particular trait.

with lesion greenness, and 1,933 with lesion eccentricity. In agreement with the hypothesis that these traits can identify new cellular mechanisms, the majority of the genes identified are associated with only one or a few traits (Fig. 5). Few genes (2.5% of 7,940 total genes identified) were associated with all four lesion-related traits (Fig. 5). Of the genes associated with lesion size, 8% were not associated with any of the other three lesion traits. Likewise, 22% of genes associated with yellowness were associated exclusively with that phenotype, 20% for greenness, and 7% for eccentricity. Overall, 57% of the genes found in this study associated with only one of the lesion traits and 31% associated with exactly two of the lesion traits. These results reinforce the idea that, although the traits are partially correlated, they are quantitative traits that represent different measures and identify different genetic components of the plant-pathogen interaction.

### GO Category Enrichment Analysis

We performed a GO category enrichment analysis on biological processes of genes associated with each of the four traits to identify Arabidopsis mechanisms that may influence variation in lesion traits. We performed GO enrichment analysis for each set of candidate genes (Table 2). Both lesion color traits linked to genes involved in defense against pathogens and insects (Table 2). They also identified unique enrichment categories for each trait. Specifically, lesion greenness showed enrichment in maintenance of shoot apical meristem identity and lesion yellowness showed enrichment in lignin biosynthetic processes. In contrast, eccentricity-associated candidate genes were enriched

in a variety of unexpected processes, such as negative regulation of flower development and negative regulation of reproductive process, in addition to known pathogen-associated processes, such as cell wall thickening and callose deposition in cell walls. Genes controlling cell wall modification play a role in plant defense strategies to contain the infected area but have unknown effects on lesion shape (Cantu et al., 2008; Mengiste et al., 2010; Bethke et al., 2016). Thus, these novel visual traits identify known defense mechanisms while also extend the analysis out to new pathways.

In contrast to the individual trait candidate gene lists, the top enrichment categories for the 200 Arabidopsis genes that associate with all four lesion traits were defense response, response to stress, immune response, plant-type hypersensitive response, programmed cell death, chromatin remodeling, and response to salicylic acid (Supplemental Table S2). Thus, the core genes associated with all four lesion-related traits linked in part to known defense genes. Overall, the enrichment categories of genes associated with only a single trait uncovered several distinct and unique biological processes that are tangentially associated with defense, whereas genes shared across four traits were more conservatively associated with defense. These uniquely represented enrichment categories according to trait and reflect varying, nonoverlapping plant mechanisms involved in the multifaceted disease resistance against generalists. This analysis revealed four portraits of plant defense that showed some overlap but also revealed the extent of biochemical and molecular mechanisms involved in lesion traits.

### Validation of Genes Associated with Lesion Phenotypes

To test whether the trait-associated genes we found in the GWA mapping were causal, we measured the infection-related phenotypes on knockout mutants of genes associated with each trait of interest. We chose 23 genes (Table 3) based on GWA effect-size ranking, specificity, or overlap of traits affected and the availability of viable homozygous lines of T-DNA knockout mutants. The mutant lines were grown, infected, and phenotyped using the same image-analysis software as for the initial Arabidopsis accessions. All mutants were tested for resistance against each isolate using 20 independent biological replicates per genotype spread across two experiments. All of the traits were measured for each lesion, and each trait was tested independently for a difference between that in the wild type and that in the mutant using ANOVA (Table 3). The validation rate was 60% for lesion size, 33% for lesion yellowness, 38% for lesion greenness, and 20% for lesion eccentricity. Interestingly, this correlates with the overall fraction of each trait controlled by genetic variation (Table 1). This suggests that the lower validation rates for these alternative visual traits may be partially a power-to-detect effect issue and, thus, require increased replication. Another complication is that, in our GWA



**Table 2.** GO category enrichment

The table displays the top 10 enrichment categories (biological processes) associated with each of the four lesion traits.

GO Identifier	Term	P	Trait
GO:0006952	Defense response	1.40E-05	Size
GO:1901264	Carbohydrate derivative transport	0.0003	Size
GO:0009617	Response to bacterium	0.0007	Size
GO:0006749	Glutathione metabolic process	0.0027	Size
GO:0009556	Microsporogenesis	0.0028	Size
GO:0006897	Endocytosis	0.0043	Size
GO:0030029	Actin filament-based process	0.0048	Size
GO:0048236	Plant-type spore development	0.0050	Size
GO:0072523	Purine-containing compound catabolic process	0.0061	Size
GO:1903409	Reactive oxygen species biosynthetic process	0.0081	Size
GO:0009910	Negative regulation of flower development	0.0011	Eccentricity
GO:2000242	Negative regulation of reproductive process	0.0015	Eccentricity
GO:0006349	Regulation of gene expression by genetic imprinting	0.0021	Eccentricity
GO:0071514	Genetic imprinting	0.0021	Eccentricity
GO:0052386	Cell wall thickening	0.0055	Eccentricity
GO:0052543	Callose deposition in cell wall	0.0055	Eccentricity
GO:0009617	Response to bacterium	0.0093	Eccentricity
GO:0010150	Leaf senescence	0.0093	Eccentricity
GO:0006821	Chloride transport	0.0107	Eccentricity
GO:0015700	Arsenite transport	0.0107	Eccentricity
GO:0006952	Defense response	0.0002	Green
GO:0010492	Maintenance of shoot apical meristem identity	0.0046	Green
GO:0002218	Activation of innate immune response	0.0051	Green
GO:0002253	Activation of immune response	0.0051	Green
GO:0042742	Defense response to bacterium	0.00520	Green
GO:0009617	Response to bacterium	0.0068	Green
GO:0006928	Movement of cell or subcellular component	0.0092	Green
GO:0030048	Actin filament-based movement	0.0092	Green
GO:0034614	Cellular response to reactive oxygen species	0.0093	Green
GO:0048236	Plant-type spore development	0.0095	Green
GO:0006952	Defense response	0.0002	Yellow
GO:0016568	Chromatin modification	0.0011	Yellow
GO:0044699	Single-organism process	0.0012	Yellow
GO:0009625	Response to insect	0.0021	Yellow
GO:0044710	Single-organism metabolic process	0.0022	Yellow
GO:0006325	Chromatin organization	0.0029	Yellow
GO:0016569	Covalent chromatin modification	0.0033	Yellow
GO:0009809	Lignin biosynthetic process	0.0039	Yellow
GO:0042886	Amide transport	0.0039	Yellow
GO:0006857	Oligopeptide transport	0.0045	Yellow

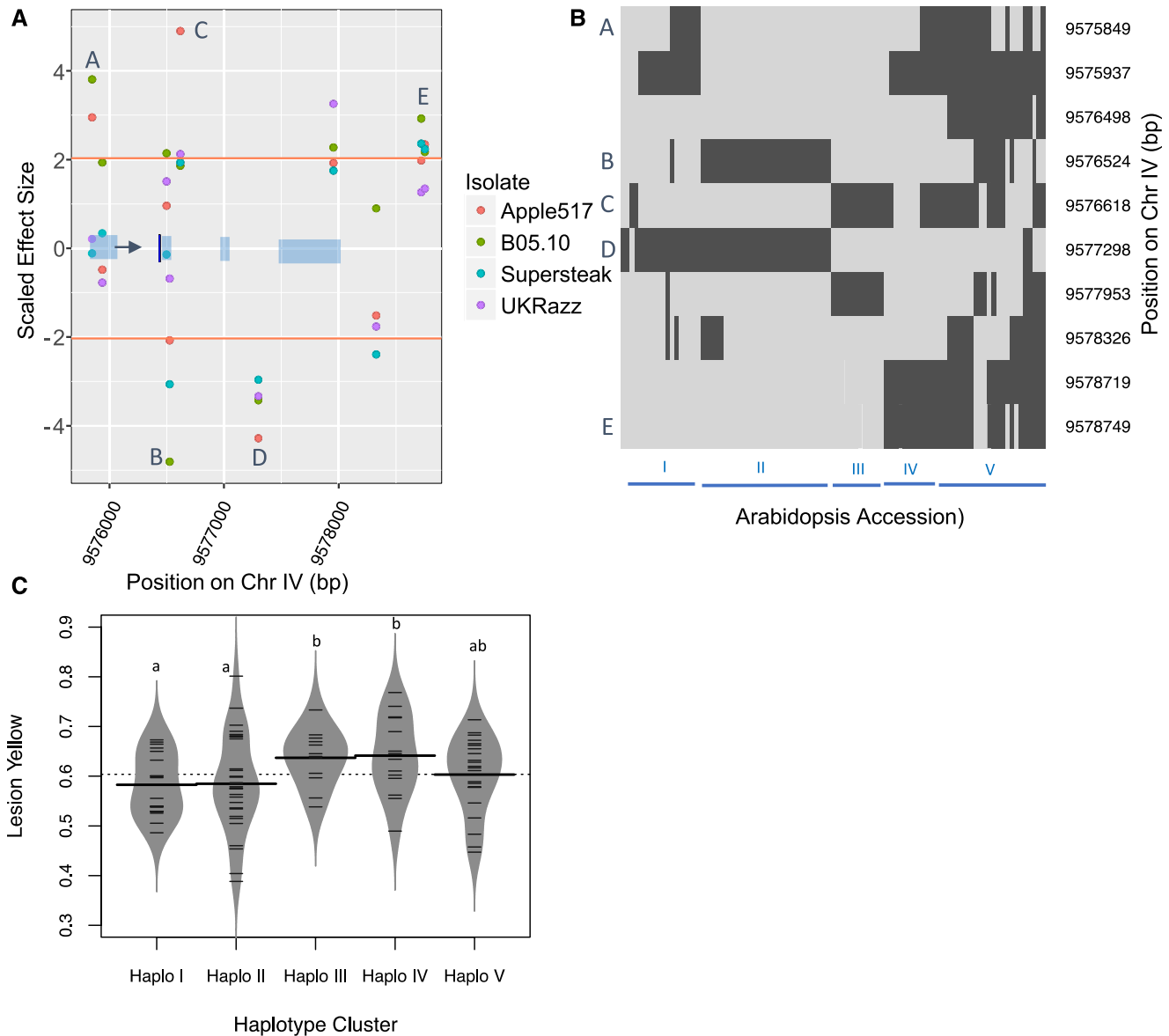
mapping, we observed that effect sizes for individual SNPs within a single gene could be both positive and negative in comparison with the reference Columbia-0 (Col-0) accession (Fig. 6; Table 3). Thus, the natural loci likely have multiple haplotypes with differing functionalities, whereas the validation mutants are unidirectional loss-of-function mutants within the reference Col-0 accession. We illustrate this with AT4G17010, encoding a component of the transcription factor III B complex, where significantly associated SNPs have both positive and negative effects in comparison with that in the reference Arabidopsis accession Col-0 (Fig. 6; Table 3). Three SNPs have effect sizes that fall above the 95th percentile threshold in the positive direction for lesion yellowness, and two have a similarly large magnitude in the negative direction, indicating that the different haplotypes of this gene uniquely affect lesion yellowness (Fig. 7). Clustering the accessions according to SNPs within

this particular gene separates the haplotypes into five major groups, with groups I and II containing the SNPs with significant negative effect size, groups III and IV containing the SNPs of greatest positive effect size, and group V containing the remaining diverse haplotypes (Fig. 7). Even in the face of this complication, the T-DNA knockout mutant for AT4G17010 did exhibit altered lesion yellowness but not altered lesion size (Table 3). Our validation rates are likely influenced by the environment, as one mutant genotype known to affect *Botrytis* resistance, *tga3-2*, had no significant effect in our experiment (Windram et al., 2012). We also should note that these are preliminary validations, as multiple mutant alleles or complementation analysis would be required to finalize all of these validations. Thus, we can use GWA from high-throughput digital imaging to identify and validate new genes affecting visual lesion traits beyond lesion size.

**Table 3.** Candidate gene assessment

The table shows the validation tests on mutants in 23 potential candidate genes for each of the four measures of lesion formation: size, yellowness, greenness, and eccentricity. The number of SNPs classified as significant above the 95th percentile threshold for that trait for that gene is shown as well as the significance of the difference between the insertion mutant and the wild type across all *Botrytis* isolates (*P* – Plant) or an interaction with *Botrytis* isolates (*P* – Plant:isolate). Significance was tested using the models mentioned in “Materials and Methods.” Nominal *P* values between 0.1 and 0.05 are provided if at least one other trait showed significance below 0.05. NS, Not significant.

Arabidopsis Genome Initiative Code	Gene	Mutant	No. of SNPs in the Coding Region	Size		Yellow		Green		Eccentricity	
				<i>P</i> – Plant	No. of Unique SNPs above 95	<i>P</i> – Plant	No. of Unique SNPs above 95	<i>P</i> – Plant	No. of Unique SNPs above 95	<i>P</i> – Plant	No. of Unique SNPs above 95
AT2G25540	CESA10	cesA10-1	11	0.005	2	0.053	2	NS	2	NS	3
AT2G39940	COI1	coi1-1	4	<0.001	4	<0.001	4	0.096	0	NS	0
AT1G01060	LHY	lhy-20	2	0.006	2	NS	2	0.093	2	0.028	1
AT3G26830	PAD3	pad3-1	1	<0.001	0	0.004	0	0.014	0	0.008	0
AT3G52430	PAD4	pad4-1	6	0.002	0	NS	1	0.062	1	0.010	4
AT4G39350	CESA2	CS818491	8	0.020	2	NS	2	NS	2	0.067	0
AT1G22070	TGA3	tg3-2	1	NS	0	NS	0	NS	0	NS	1
AT4G17010	AT4G17010	CS861804	7	NS	3	0.048	4	NS	2	NS	1
AT1G14690	MAP65	CS872894	10	NS	0	NS	0	NS	0	NS	0
AT4G01883	–	CS67496	6	0.083	0	NS	0	NS	2	0.056	0
AT4G14420	AT4G14420	N508498	6	0.046	1	NS	2	NS	2	0.003	2
AT4G14400	ACD6	N559132	20	NS	5	NS	5	NS	15	0.047	0
AT4G14368	–	N574598	16	NS	3	NS	0	NS	6	NS	0
AT1G31260	ZIP10	N604586	9	NS	3	NS	0	NS	6	NS	6
AT4G01860	–	N606172	13	NS	0	NS	0	NS	6	NS	0
AT2G32150	–	N640067	6	NS	0	NS	0	NS	1	NS	0
AT4G01880	–	CS857701	4	0.012	0	0.037	1	NS	1	0.079	0
AT3G46640	LUX	lux	5	NS	0	NS	0	NS	4	NS	0
AT3G45780	PHOT1	phot1	6	NS	3	NS	1	0.052	5	NS	0
AT4G18130	PHYE	phyE-2	3	0.002	3	0.024	0	NS	0	NS	0
AT4G39030	SID1	sid1	9	NS	0	NS	0	0.014	8	NS	0
AT5G67370	CGLD27	N529971	4	NS	3	NS	1	NS	1	NS	0
AT5G45950	–	N582692	5	NS	1	NS	4	NS	0	NS	0
AT1G20910	–	N641443	5	NS	0	NS	0	0.023	5	NS	1
AT5G13550	SULTR4;1	N662135	5	NS	0	NS	0	NS	0	NS	5

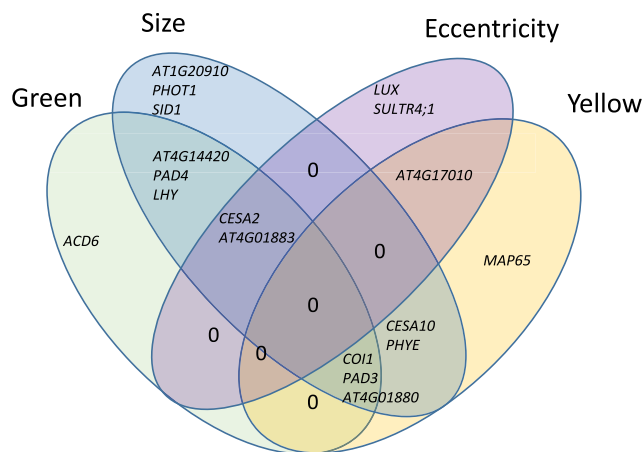


**Figure 6.** Haplotype diversity effects on trait-to-genotype linkages using AT4G17010. A, Plot of z-scaled SNP effect size across all four *Botrytis* isolates on lesion yellowness within 1,000 bp of the AT4G17010 coding region (represented in blue blocks). The arrow indicates the transcriptional start site. The horizontal orange lines indicate the positive and negative permutation thresholds for the *Botrytis* isolate Apple517. The letters show the SNPs that are associated significantly with lesion yellowness in *Botrytis* Apple517. B, Hierarchical clustering of 95 Arabidopsis accessions based on SNPs within AT4G17010. Haplotypes are assigned into five major groups, denoted by Roman numerals. Light gray indicates that the SNP is the Col-0 allele, whereas dark gray indicates that it is the opposite allele. The SNPs are presented in their genomic order rather than the haplotype grouped structure. C, Distributions of lesion yellowness across the Arabidopsis accessions infected with *Botrytis* Apple517. The Arabidopsis accessions are grouped by approximate SNP haplotypes in B. The model-corrected mean value of lesion yellowness for Arabidopsis reference accession Col-0 was 0.545. Significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) between the groups are indicated by different lowercase letters.

### Pleiotropy among Validation Mutants

The validation tests showed that the genes were highly specific in their effects on the lesion traits by affecting only one or two traits. Only two genes, *CESA2* and AT4G01883, were linked to three traits (Fig. 7).

Critically, no mutant affected all of the measured traits (Fig. 7). This analysis identified new genes not linked previously to resistance to *Botrytis*. A knockout mutant disrupted in PHYTOCHROME E (*phyE*), previously linked to shade avoidance, germination, seedling de-etiolation, and flowering time (Halliday and Whitelam,



**Figure 7.** Lesion traits affected by T-DNA insertional mutants. The Venn diagram shows the lesion traits affected significantly by each of the T-DNA knockout mutants in comparison with that in the wild-type background. The gene identifiers are located within the appropriate section of the diagram showing all the phenotypes altered by mutations in that gene.

2003), showed a statistically significant increase in lesion size and lesion yellowness compared with the wild type. Previous work showed that *phyE* affects stomatal conductance and photorespiration, which play an important role in signaling programmed cell death and systemic acquired resistance defense response (Muhlenbock et al., 2008; Szechyńska-Hebda et al., 2010). Other phytochromes, such as *phyB*, have been linked with defense responses in *Arabidopsis* via this pathway (Griebel and Zeier, 2008; Zhao et al., 2014), but there is no prior evidence in the literature of *phyE* affecting resistance. *sultr4;1*, a knockout mutant of *SULFATE TRANSPORTER4.1*, showed greater lesion eccentricity. *SULTR4;1* transports sulfur from storage in the vacuole, facilitating the synthesis of sulfur-containing amino acids and glutathione, a compound involved in balancing cellular redox (Zuber et al., 2010). *SULTR4;1* has not been linked previously with pathogen resistance, yet somehow it plays a role in defining the shape of a *Botrytis* lesion. This gene was neither associated with nor found to affect any of the other lesion traits, highlighting the importance of expanding the visual information used in the investigation of lesions. This highlights the utility of measuring different lesion-related traits beyond biomass or lesion size to identify new resistance mechanisms.

## DISCUSSION

In the analysis of plant-pathogen interactions, there is a dominant focus on measuring pathogen success either as lesion area or pathogen biomass to quantify the level of resistance/virulence in the interaction. However, this is merely one measure of the interaction, and active infections can affect many different traits within

the plant host (Agrios, 2005). New, nondestructive imaging methods are beginning to illuminate other aspects of the host-pathogen interaction that have been largely unexplored in mechanistic studies. Here, we utilized a simple digital imaging platform to show that it is possible to identify the genetic basis of these other defense-related traits, such as the color and shape of the developing lesion, in addition to the traditional lesion size trait. This shows that the generation of these visual traits is genetically determined by variation in the host and in the pathogen and the interaction of genetic variation in the two organisms (similar to lesion size), which can identify genes not known to influence lesion size.

Conducting GWA within the *Arabidopsis* accessions and subsequent mutant validation studies showed that the four lesion traits we quantified had a blend of distinct and overlapping genetic mechanisms controlling their generation. Classical *Botrytis* resistance genes, like *COI1* and *PAD3*, influenced both the color and size of the developing lesion but not the shape of the lesion, showing the role of known resistance mechanisms in these new lesion traits (Fig. 7; Thomma et al., 1998; Ferrari et al., 2003; Kliebenstein et al., 2005; Rowe et al., 2010). In contrast, some known resistance genes like *ACD6* affected only the color but not the size or shape of the lesion (Fig. 7; Rate et al., 1999; Song et al., 2004; Lu et al., 2009). More importantly, using new lesion-related traits for GWA identified new genes involved in resistance to *Botrytis*. This included genes involved in light signal transduction, *LUX*, *PHOT1*, and *PHYE*, as well as those that play a role in sulfur transport (Clack et al., 1994; Devlin et al., 1998; Briggs and Christie, 2002; Halliday and Whitlam, 2003; Kataoka et al., 2004; Hazen et al., 2005; Zuber et al., 2010; Nusinow et al., 2011; Sánchez-Lamas et al., 2016). The three light-related genes were associated with different lesion traits, with *PHOT1* related specifically to lesion size and *PHYE* playing a role in lesion size and yellowing, whereas *LUX*, alongside the sulfur transporter, functioned specifically in lesion size (Fig. 7). Thus, even these three light-related genes that might have been expected to have overlapping roles exhibit distinct effects. This shows that there are specific mechanisms for each set of lesion traits and that more than simply measuring pathogen growth is required to fully understand the plant-pathogen interaction.

## Lesion Eccentricity as an Indicator of Pathogen Success

One difficulty of developing new traits from high-throughput digital imaging is comprehending their possible biological role. For example, lesion eccentricity (i.e. deviation from circularity) is a trait that is controlled by variation in both pathogen and host genes. The heritability of lesion eccentricity was 4.3% for plant accession and less than 0.1% for pathogen isolate but jumped to 11.1% for the plant-pathogen interaction, indicating that variation in this trait is highly dependent on the interaction of plant and pathogen genotypes. In

two of the pathogen genotypes, namely B05.10 and Supersteak, there was a negative correlation between lesion size and eccentricity, suggesting that eccentric lesions tend to be smaller (Fig. 3). In previous work, we showed that eccentric lesions are associated with preferential growth along the primary vasculature, which implies that there is a shift from general radial outward growth to directed growth along the leaf midrib (Corwin et al., 2016b). Purely radial growth can maximize local growth in microbial organisms, and this would argue that directed growth might forsake potential local growth. A possible reason for forsaking local growth is that this could enable some pathogen isolates to move systemically through the vasculature of the plant. The fact that there are plant genes specific to affecting this trait indicates that *Arabidopsis* has specific mechanisms geared toward altering the pattern of pathogen growth. As such, the success of the pathogen in the host-pathogen interaction would depend on a combination of the ability to infect local tissue and to move rapidly to distal tissue. Equally, if the pathogen has different growth strategies to optimize fitness, the plant would have to defend against local growth and growth geared toward spread of the pathogen.

#### Lesion Color Genetic Mechanisms and Agriculture

It is harder to assess the potential ecological or evolutionary role of specific genetic mechanisms influencing the color of a lesion. However, lesion color is a potentially key aspect of the plant-pathogen interaction for vegetable and fruit crops. For example, lesions that give rise to a highly noticeable color (Fig. 1C) on a fruit or vegetable would greatly decrease the consumer acceptance of that product and lead to postharvest crop loss if the lesion was large. As such, understanding the specific genetic mechanisms influencing the different color traits can have significant agricultural importance, and they are not studied at present. Our study showed that, as described previously, *COI1* plays a key role in controlling the development of lesion yellowness in the plant-pathogen interaction (Rowe et al., 2010). This agrees with the known connection of jasmonate signaling to photosynthetic/plastid functioning (Kazan and Manners, 2011; Attaran et al., 2014; Campos et al., 2016). Interestingly, this also showed that additional genes not known previously to affect *Botrytis* resistance also function in determining the level of lesion yellowness, like *PHYE* (Fig. 7).

Genes associated with lesion greenness were enriched in activation of the immune system, activation of the innate immune system, and movement of cellular or subcellular components. These biological processes have obvious roles in the plant response to a fungal infection, but their links with lesion greenness are less obvious. Previous studies had identified green islands, which are dead green tissue within pathogen lesions, in some plant-pathogen interactions as associated with increased levels of cytokinins and polyamines that delay senescence as well as a variety of fungal toxins

(Walters et al., 2008). We previously attempted to extract green pigment from lesions using both methanol and hexane but were unsuccessful, indicating that the source of this greenness is not free chlorophyll (Corwin et al., 2016b). Furthermore, greener lesions had no living plant cells, from what we could assess with Trypan Blue staining (Corwin et al., 2016b). However, the genes associated with greenness included known *Botrytis* resistance genes like *COI1*, *PAD3*, and *PAD4* (Fig. 7). Interestingly, the only gene associated solely with lesion greenness was *ACD6*, a gene that is key to regulating plant cell death in response to pathogen attack. This suggests that there may be a role for how the plant cell dies in controlling lesion color development. Whereas our results do not provide an immediate direct mechanism for lesion color traits, they do show that there are potential mechanisms specific to lesion color traits in plant-pathogen interactions that may be useful for understanding the infection process.

#### Infection Methodology and Trait Analysis

The mode of infection, a major influencing factor, affects these results as well as all published results and any field virulence mechanisms. The mode of infection refers to whether the inoculum is a localized droplet or a diffuse spray, the location of the inoculation on leaves, and the spore density of the inoculation. In this analysis, we chose to utilize a single droplet with low spore concentration placed near the midrib for several reasons. A single droplet was utilized because previous work with sprayed inoculations revealed interactions between the lesions such that outgrowth was limited (Mengiste et al., 2003; Veronese et al., 2004, 2006; Zheng et al., 2006). Thus, a single droplet allows for quantification of the effects of both lesion establishment and outgrowth. A low spore inoculum was utilized to ensure that the pathogen did not merely overwhelm the plant's defenses and that we could better quantify the interaction (Denby et al., 2004; Kliebenstein et al., 2005). This specific spore concentration allows for a high efficiency of lesion establishment with modest outgrowth (Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2007, 2008). Finally, the location of the droplet by the midrib facilitated the measurement of preferential growth along the primary but not the secondary vasculature (Rowe et al., 2010; Corwin et al., 2016b). Placing the droplet near the primary vasculature ensured that this would create an elliptical growth pattern allowing easy measurement of eccentricity. Moving the droplet away from the midrib would still allow for measuring preferential growth but would require a different method of quantification. The highly polygenic nature of the *Arabidopsis/Botrytis* pathosystem means that altering the inoculation parameters could shift how the pathosystem is measured and which causal genes are identified (Corwin et al., 2016a; Corwin and Kliebenstein, 2017; Zhang et al., 2017). Equally, given the diverse field infection strategies of this pathogen, there is no single optimal system to find the important genes. Understanding the

complete network of genes that are critical for this interaction requires a diverse range of strategies (Elad et al., 2016).

Expanding the visualization platform to utilize different spectra, as enabled by high-resolution multispectral or hyperspectral platforms, would open up an even wider range of phenotypes (Bock et al., 2010; Mahlein et al., 2012; Matsuda et al., 2012). The inclusion of additional wavelengths would allow for direct links to specific biochemical processes like photosynthesis and phenolic or lipid metabolism. Furthermore, the use of higher resolution imaging would allow for treatment of the lesion as a two-dimensional fine-scale map and create the potential for distance measurements and other measures that the lower resolution imaging did not enable. Whereas the analytical challenges to these assays are significant, the technical challenge is potentially greater. Although these new platforms would provide more traits, the sample throughput would have to be as high, if not higher, than in this experiment to provide the necessary statistical power (~750 measured lesions per isolate for GWA). Given the cost and throughput of multispectral platforms, measuring more than 3,000 lesions in a single experiment is a significant impediment.

#### Polygenic Trait Architecture, Model Choice, and True Effects

The genetic architecture of all the traits that we measured in the *Arabidopsis/Botrytis* interaction was highly polygenic (Corwin et al., 2016a). This situation is a difficult setting for standard GWA models like SNP-by-SNP mixed models, which work better for situations with at least some moderate effect loci (Atwell et al., 2010; Zhang et al., 2010). Instead, GWA on lesion traits requires polygenic models, like the ridge regression approach applied here, that facilitate the identification of hundreds to thousands of SNPs with similar effect sizes (Shen et al., 2013; Corwin et al., 2016a; Francisco et al., 2016; Kooke et al., 2016). However, this approach is limited, as it does not readily identify SNPs with truly no effect on the trait, suggesting that there is room to optimize models for polygenic trait-SNP identification. It should be noted that, whereas the individual SNPs appeared to have small effects, the individual gene validation efforts showed, in agreement with other studies (Chan et al., 2011; Corwin et al., 2016a), that most of these individual genes can have 25% or larger effects on the trait (Supplemental Table S7). This apparent discrepancy likely is due to the difficulty in generating accurate effect size estimates in the GWA data with thousands of causal SNPs, more than 100,000 SNPs that are not causal, and a paucity of genotypes from which to derive these estimates. Thus, it remains to be determined whether the GWA effect estimate or the single gene trait effect is the better estimate of the true potential for that specific causal locus to affect trait evolution in a polymorphic population.

#### CONCLUSION

This study has utilized high-throughput digital imaging of plant-pathogen interactions to uncover the genetics for previously undercharacterized lesion traits. Many of the candidate genes that were tested using insertional mutants affected more than one aspect of the plant-pathogen interaction, as measured by lesion color, size, or shape. However, no gene affected all of these lesion traits. As most studies of quantitative resistance focus on pathogen biomass or lesion size measurements and omit lesion shape and color, our findings suggest that there are potentially unrecognized mechanisms that may be important for plant-pathogen interactions. Further validation studies could reveal more plant genes that have a greater effect on quantitative resistance, filling gaps in our knowledge of the cellular mechanisms involved in lesion traits and pathogen virulence and revealing new gene targets that deserve attention in plant breeding programs. Equally, analysis of these alternative lesion traits highlights the need for broader life history studies of plant-pathogen interactions in the field to identify the potential ecological or evolutionary drivers of these traits. GWA mapping coupled with high-throughput digital measurement of virulence-associated traits will be a useful tool in understanding broader plant-pathogen interactions.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

##### Population Selection for GWA

We used a previously published collection of 96 *Arabidopsis* accessions that was chosen for pathogen resistance GWA based on similarity in flowering time ( $63.1 \pm 0.95$  [SE] d to flowering). This population minimizes the indirect effects of ontogenic variation caused by a wide range of flowering times while also reducing the effect of rare, medium-effect alleles in order to inflate genetically related residuals (Corwin et al., 2016a). Selection based on flowering time also removed genetic outliers and minimized population structure. The selected population extends broadly across the known phylogeny of *Arabidopsis* (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) accessions, increasing the resolution of the association study (Corwin et al., 2016a).

##### Growth Conditions and Pathogen Infection

Seeds were cold stratified in 1% (w/v) Phytagar at 4°C for 7 d prior to sowing. Seeds then were sown in a randomized complete block design with three seeds per cell into four 104-cell flats containing standard potting soil (Sunshine Mix #1; Sun Gro Horticulture). Plants were covered with a transparent humidity dome, placed in short-day (10 h of full-spectrum light) conditions in a controlled environment at 22°C, and watered biweekly as needed. After 1 week, seedlings were thinned to one seedling per pot. Sowing was repeated 2 weeks later to create another balanced randomized experiment so that eight biological replicates per accession were present across the two independent experiments in a randomized complete block design.

After 5 weeks of growth, mature leaves were excised and placed on agar flats (Denby et al., 2004; Rowe and Kliebenstein, 2008). Individual leaves were inoculated with one of four phenotypically and genotypically diverse isolates of *Botrytis* (*Botrytis cinerea*; Apple517, B05.10, Supersteak, and UKRazz) or a mock-inoculated control (Atwell et al., 2015; Corwin et al., 2016a, 2016b). Spores of 5-d-old sporulation cultures grown on organic peach (*Prunus persica*) slices were collected in sterilized one-half-strength organic grape juice,

counted with a hemocytometer, and standardized to a solution of 10 spores  $\mu\text{L}^{-1}$ . Individual leaves were inoculated with a single 4- $\mu\text{L}$  droplet of one of the *Botrytis* isolates or mock inoculated with a control of one-half-strength organic grape juice for approximately 40 spores per leaf. The inoculated leaves were kept under transparent humidity domes at room temperature to allow lesions to grow for 3 d. At 72 h post inoculation, photographs were taken of infected leaves along with a 1-cm<sup>2</sup> scale for size reference using an 18-megapixel high-resolution T3i Canon camera outfitted with an EF-S 10-22mm f/3.5-4.5 USM ultra-wide angle lens, achieving a resolution of approximately 10 pixels  $\text{mm}^{-1}$  (Corwin et al., 2016a).

## Image Analysis

A semiautomated image-analysis script using the open-source R statistical environment (R Development Core Team, 2016) and the Bioconductor packages EImage and CRImage (Failmezger, 2010; Pau et al., 2010) were used to measure lesion traits such as lesion size, shape, and color (Corwin et al., 2016a). Briefly, the script identified leaves as objects that have a green hue and are highly saturated at their perimeter, whereas lesions were brown objects of low saturation within the leaf perimeter. Lesion and leaf mask images were generated and refined manually or corrected where faulty. The area in pixels of these leaves and lesions, as well as the numbers and proportions of pixels of certain colors and dimensions such as major and minor axes, perimeter, and eccentricity, were recorded. These values were converted to  $\text{mm}^2$  using a 1-cm reference standard contained within each image.

## GWA Mapping

For each trait, we modeled heritability and obtained the model-corrected least squared means using the linear model:

$$\text{Lesion trait}_{\text{pub}} \sim \beta_0 + E_c + P_p + A_a + B_b + A:B_{ab} + \varepsilon_{\text{pub}}$$

where  $E$  is the experimental replicate,  $P$  is the individual plant,  $A$  is the genotype of the Arabidopsis accession, and  $B$  is the genotype of the *Botrytis* isolate. Experimental replicate was modeled as a random effect, whereas individual plant, Arabidopsis accession, and *Botrytis* isolate were categorical. Publicly available data on genomic polymorphisms of the selected Arabidopsis accessions were collected from the Arabidopsis 1,001 Genomes project (Ossowski et al., 2008; Cao et al., 2011; Gan et al., 2011; Schneeberger et al., 2011; Long et al., 2013; Alonso-Blanco et al., 2016). SNPs with minor allele frequency < 0.2 were filtered out, resulting in a set of 115,310 SNPs for the 95 accessions. Association mapping was performed using the bigRR package in the R statistical environment (Shen et al., 2013). This previously published and validated method uses ridge regression, an appropriate approach given the small proportion of phenotypic variance attributable to genotype (Corwin et al., 2016a; Francisco et al., 2016). The ridge regression models the effects of all polymorphisms in a single model, treating each SNP as a random effect and introducing a bias to the regression estimates to reduce SE. Thus, each polymorphism is assigned a heteroscedastic effect size rather than a  $P$  value, which is difficult to determine for random variables. Instead, a significant effect threshold value is delineated by permuting the phenotype data as they correspond to the polymorphism data 1,000 times and taking the 95th and 99th percentiles. A gene is considered associated with a trait when two or more SNPs within the coding region have an effect size greater than the 95th percentile threshold. This is a functional genome-wide prediction method that has been shown to provide similar results to Efficient Mixed-Model Association-based GWAS (Kooke et al., 2016). Furthermore, this GWAS pipeline has yielded a high rate of gene validation for diverse traits within Arabidopsis (Corwin et al., 2016a; Francisco et al., 2016).

## GO Enrichment Analysis

GO enrichment analysis for biological processes was performed on all genes significantly associated with each of the four lesion traits using the Bioconductor packages org.At.tair.db, topGO, and goProfiles in the R statistical environment. Genes within Arabidopsis that contain at least two significant SNPs that were associated with the trait of interest in the data set were used as the genomic background sample for the analysis.

## Validation Tests

Based on the availability of viable homozygous validated T-DNA knockout lines, 23 Arabidopsis genes were selected that were found to be highly associated with lesion size, greenness, yellowness, and eccentricity. Seventeen of the lines had been identified previously and tested for lesion size, and an additional six genes were chosen based on the magnitude of predicted effect size. The genotypes were sourced from a number of origins, based on the availability of validated homozygous genotypes, and then regrown in conjunction with the control wild types prior to analysis (Supplemental Table S7). Plants were grown as described above, and no genotypes showed any evidence of flowering within this time frame in these conditions. At 5 weeks of age, the six first fully mature leaves were excised and inoculated with the four isolates of *Botrytis* mentioned above at the same concentrations and imaged at 72 h post inoculation. These leaves showed no visual evidence of senescence at the start of the experiment, and the control grape juice mock-inoculated leaves showed no developing lesion during the image analysis. The experiment was carried out in a randomized complete block design, with two experimental replicates each containing 10 biological replicates, amounting to 20 replicates for each Arabidopsis mutant/*Botrytis* isolate combination. Statistical differences between the wild-type Col-0 background and each mutant genotype were assessed using the linear model:

$$\text{Lesion trait}_{\text{epi}} \sim \beta_0 + E_c + P_p + I_i + P:I_{pi} + \varepsilon_{\text{epi}}$$

where  $E$  is the experimental replicate,  $P$  is the plant genotype, and  $I$  is the fungal isolate genotype. Experimental replicate was modeled as a random effect, whereas plant and fungal isolate genotypes were categorical.

## Accession Numbers

The TAIR numbers for the genes discussed in this work are as follows: CESA10, AT2G25540; COI1, AT2G39940; LHY, AT1G01060; PAD3, AT3G26830; PAD4, AT3G52430; CESA2, AT4G39350; TGA3, AT1G22070; AT4G17010, AT4G17010; MAP65, AT1G14690; AT4G14420, AT4G14420; ACD6, AT4G14400; ZIP10, AT1G31260; LUX, AT3G46640; PHOT1, AT3G45780; PHYE, AT4G18130; SID1, AT4G39030; CGLD27, AT5G67370; and SULTR4;1, AT5G13550.

## Supplemental Data

The following supplemental materials are available.

**Supplemental Figure S1.** HCA of lesion traits.

**Supplemental Figure S2.** Lesion greenness Manhattan plots.

**Supplemental Figure S3.** Lesion yellowness and eccentricity shape Manhattan plots for Apple517.

**Supplemental Table S1.** Least squared means for all measured lesion traits.

**Supplemental Table S2.** GO enrichment test using the 200 candidate genes associated with all four lesion traits.

**Supplemental Table S3.** Lesion area GWA.

**Supplemental Table S4.** Lesion greenness GWA.

**Supplemental Table S5.** Lesion yellowness GWA.

**Supplemental Table S6.** Lesion eccentricity GWA.

**Supplemental Table S7.** Validation genotype information and trait means. Received July 13, 2018; accepted September 18, 2018; published September 28, 2018.

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