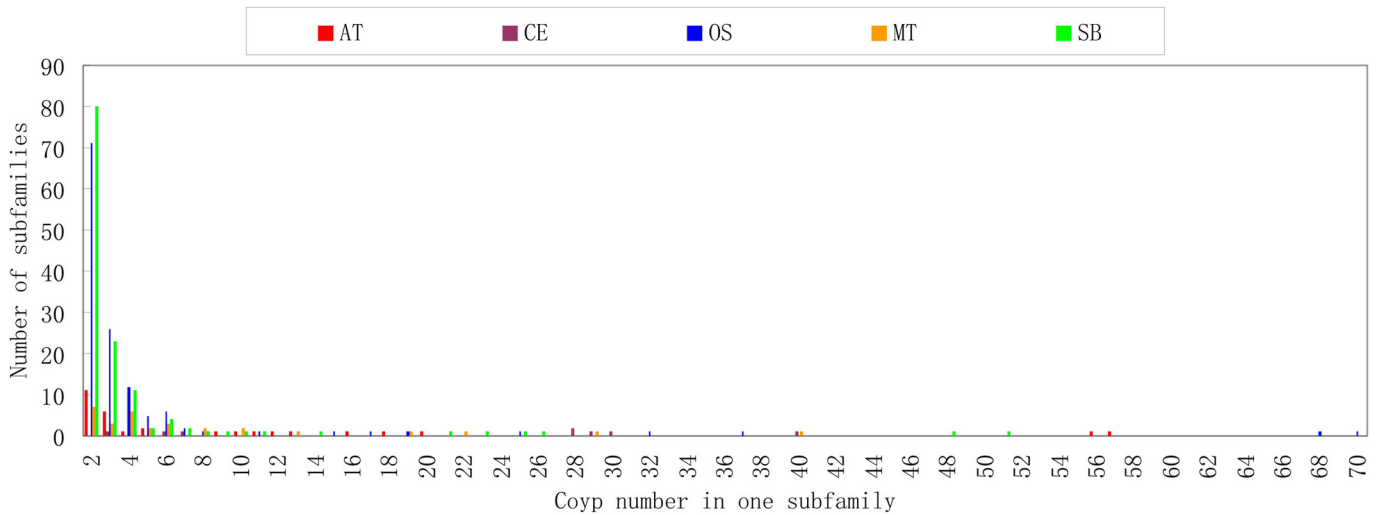
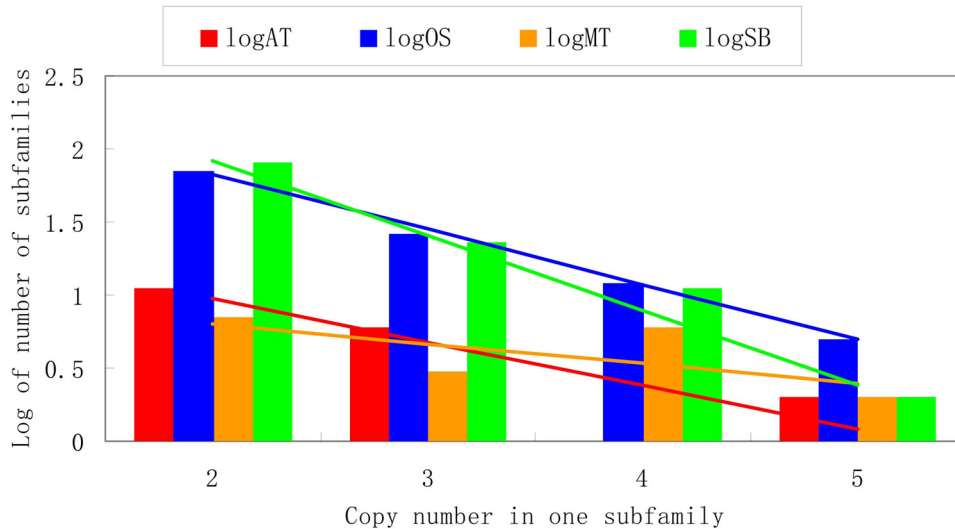


Supporting Information

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(A)



(B)

Fig. S1. Distribution of *Helitron* copy numbers in different subfamilies. (A) *x* axis, *Helitron* copy number in each subfamily; *y* axis, number of subfamilies with this element copy number. *Helitron* copy number results are shown for *A. thaliana*, *C. elegans*, *O. sativa*, *M. truncatula*, and *S. bicolor*. (B) *x* axis, *Helitron* copy numbers in each subfamily (2–5 copies shown); *y* axis, log transformed number (base 10) of the number of subfamilies with this copy number. Linear regression lines are also shown and used to estimate the number of single copy elements.

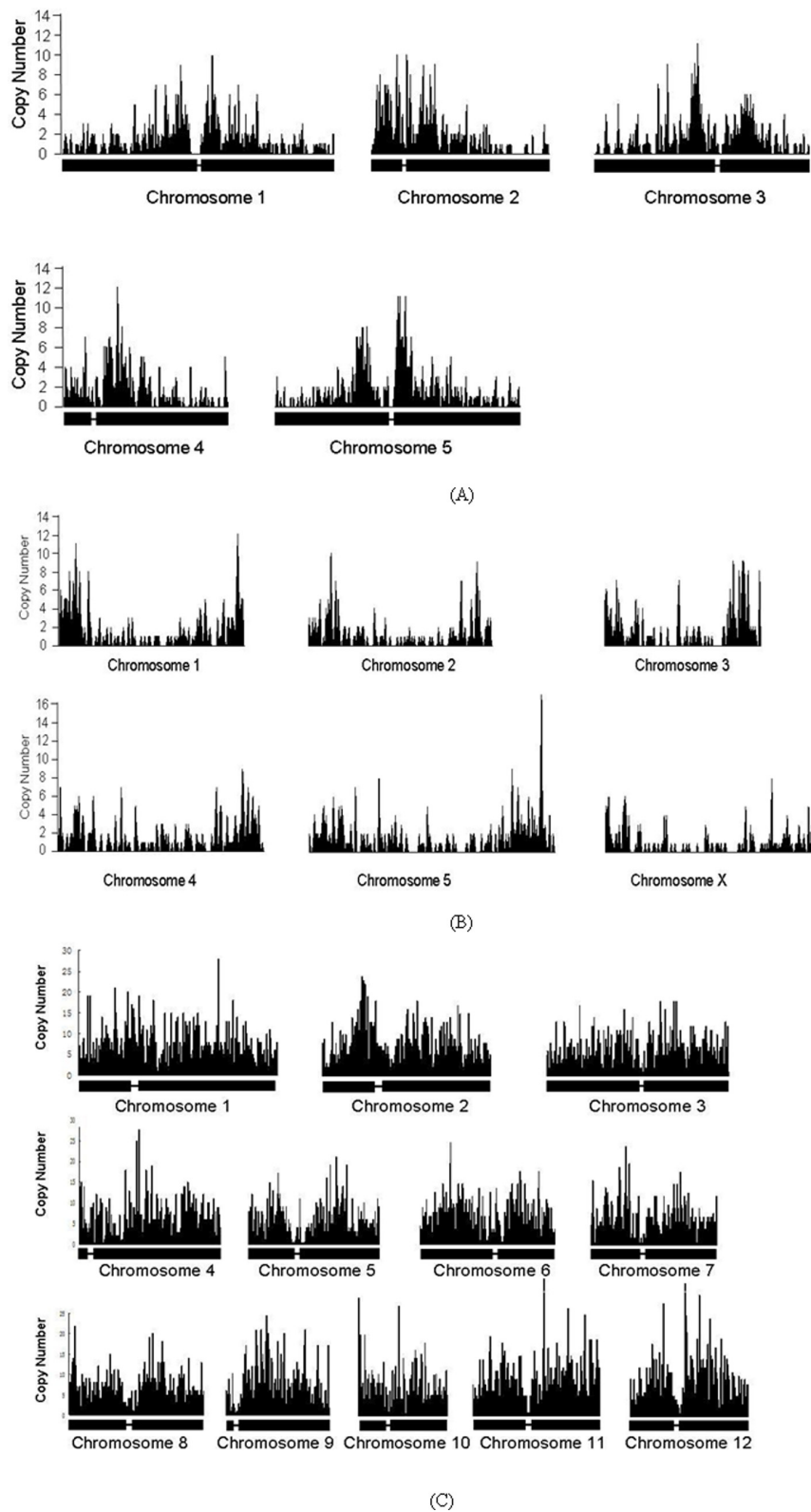


Fig. S2. Distribution of *Helitrons* along the chromosomes of *A. thaliana* (A), *C. elegans* (B), and *O. sativa* (C). The x axis shows the chromosome locations and the y axis indicates the copy numbers of *Helitrons* (both intact and truncated elements) per 100 kb. Narrow lines in A and C on the x axis indicate the positions of centromeres.

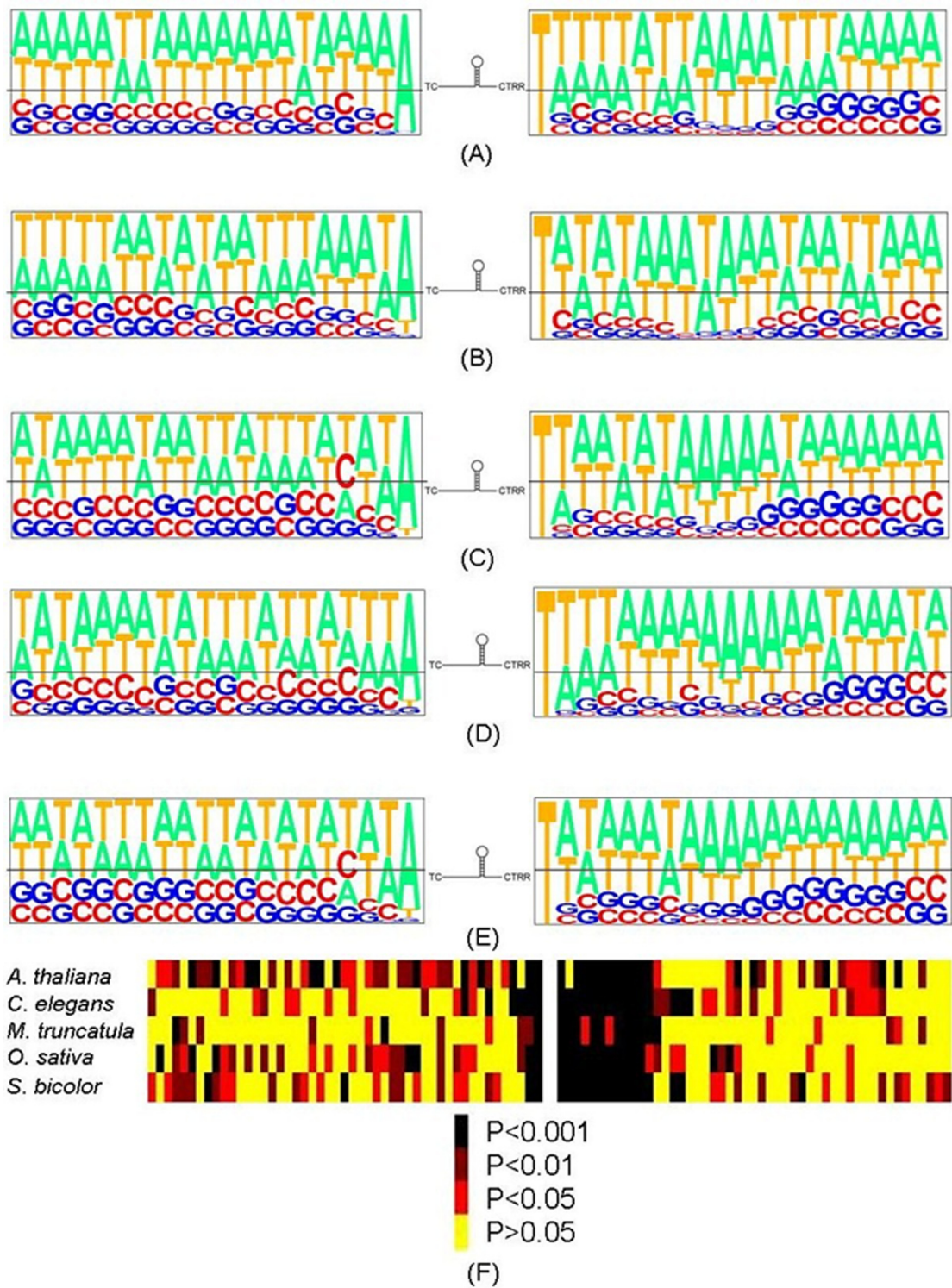


Fig. S3. Insertion site base composition. *Left side of Helitrons*, 20 bp upstream of *Helitron* insertion sites. *Right side of Helitrons*, 20 bp downstream of *Helitron* insertion sites. Black lines in A–E indicate average GC content of the genome. (A) *Helitrons* of *A. thaliana*. (B) *Helitrons* of *C. elegans*. (C) *Helitrons* of *O. sativa*. (D) *Helitrons* of *M. truncatula*. (E) *Helitrons* of *S. bicolor*. (F) χ^2 tests of GC content for 50 bp upstream and downstream of *Helitron* insertion sites on each position compared to a random AT flanking site from the same genome. The *P* value is indicated by color, with black representing the most significant and yellow the least significant associations.

Table S1. Helitron families in *A. thaliana*

Family name	No. of intact element	Size range, bp	Original name(s) of known <i>Helitron</i> (s)	Putative autonomous elements	Gene fragment(s)
<i>Hug</i>	195	360–2,734	ATREP1, ATREP2, ATREP3, ATREP5, ATREP11, AtREP21, HELITRONY1A		+
<i>Hali</i>	27	775–1,709	ATREP6, ATREP9		
<i>Hari</i>	22	642–1,500	ATREP10		
<i>Hane</i>	15	1,346–2,111	AtREP20	+	
<i>Hani</i>	11	606–655	ATREP13		
<i>Hup</i>	3	2,106–2,544	ATREP4		
<i>Hame</i>	3	1,340–1,628	ATREP12		
<i>Hip</i>	2	1,189–1,219			
<i>Hake</i>	2	3,389–3,395			+
<i>Haki</i>	1	817–903	ATREP7		
Total	281	360–3,395			

Table S2. Helitron families in *C. elegans*

Family name	No. of intact element	Size range, bp	Original name(s) of known Helitron(s)	Putative autonomous elements	Gene fragment(s)
<i>Hike</i>	206	182–4,802	HELITRON2_CE, HELITRONY2_CE, HELITRONY3_CE, HELITRONY4_CE	+	
<i>Hibe</i>	38	866–8,965	HELITRON1_CE, HELITRONY1_CE	+	
<i>Hino</i>	30	1,313–1,605	NDNAX3_CE		
<i>Hite</i>	7	1,709–2,164	NDNAX1_CE		
Total	281	182–8,965			

Table S3. *Helitron* families in *M. truncatula*

Family name	No. of intact element	Size range, bp	Original name(s) of known <i>Helitron</i> (s)	Putative autonomous elements	Gene fragment(s)
<i>Hip</i>	99	1,281–5,357	HELITRON1N.MT	+	+
<i>Hem</i>	53	375–3,249			
<i>Heno</i>	33	2,445–5,717	HELMET	+	+
<i>Heto</i>	33	3,055–5,643			+
<i>Hefo</i>	3	8,279–8,394	HELMET2	+	
<i>Heke</i>	2	450–472			
<i>Hebo</i>	2	817			
<i>Hecu</i>	2	1,910–1,913			
<i>Heku</i>	2	3,043			
<i>Hecho</i>	1	14,261	HELITRON1MT	+	
Total	230	375–14,261			

Table S4. Helitron families in *O. sativa* ssp. *japonica* cultivar Nipponbare

Family name	No. of intact element	Size range, bp	Original name(s) of known Helitron(s)	Putative autonomous elements	Gene fragment(s)
<i>Hup</i>	280	230–15,654		+	+
<i>Hip</i>	196	242–4,984			+
<i>Hair</i>	116	180–2,577			+
<i>Hole</i>	18	2,357–4,705			
<i>Hoy</i>	10	350–10,152	HELITRON7_OS	+	
<i>Hocku</i>	6	1,058–6,263			+
<i>Hova</i>	5	3,776–13,092	HELITRON2_OS, HELITRON3_OS	+	
<i>Holie</i>	4	705–1,911			
<i>Horia</i>	4	2,635–3,198			
<i>Howi</i>	3	1,896–1,955			
<i>Hota</i>	2	2,085–2,133			+
<i>Hoku</i>	2	1,429–1,695			
<i>Honu</i>	2	210–219			
<i>Hok</i>	2	187–189			
<i>Hani</i>	2	1,140–1,143			
<i>Hoju</i>	2	2,180–2,233			
<i>Holda</i>	2	15,063–15,147	HELITRON1_OS, HELITRON5_OS, HELITRON8_OS	+	
<i>Holku</i>	2	1,891–1,977			
<i>Homno</i>	2	3,532–3,790			+
<i>Holta</i>	2	1,172–1,422			
<i>Holvo</i>	2	6,117–6,186			+
<i>Howa</i>	2	1,503–1,506			
<i>Hofa</i>	2	911–912			
Total	668	180–15,147			

Table S5. *Helitron* families in *S. bicolor*

Family name	No. of intact element	Size range, bp	Original name(s) of known <i>Helitron</i> (s)	Putative autonomous elements	Gene fragment(s)
<i>Hip</i>	289	289–21,899		+	+
<i>Hair</i>	153	238–532			
<i>Hole</i>	119	1,248–4,499			+
<i>Hok</i>	22	356–3,005			
<i>Hoy</i>	9	986–11,062			
<i>Huyo</i>	6	268–384			
<i>Hubi</i>	2	148–149			
<i>Husi</i>	2	3,423–3,426			
<i>Huca</i>	2	172–174			
<i>Huphi</i>	2	1,718–1,903			
<i>Huga</i>	2	2,435–2,568			
Total	608	148–21,899			

Table S6. Gene fragments acquired by *Helitrons*

Name	Size	Gene fragments	Expect value	Identity, %
<i>Hug_AT2_1</i>	2,182	Putative protein	e-35	94
		Protein in rice	e-14	46
<i>Hake_AT1_1</i>	3,389	Transferase	e-24	93
<i>Hug_AT4_75</i>	747	Hypothetical protein (yeast)	e-14	51
<i>Hup_OS3_1</i>	3,410	RNA polymerase beta chain	e-42	84
<i>Hota_OS1_1</i>	2,083	Unknown	e-40	94
<i>Hocku_OS1_1</i>	6,261	FAD-binding domain-containing protein-like	e-79	81
		Unknown	e-16	90
<i>Hup_OS1_3</i>	2,467	Calmodulin	e-17	80
<i>Hup_OS1_56</i>	2,830	RNA polymerase beta subunit	e-9	51
<i>Hup_OS1_65</i>	2,359	Calmodulin	e-8	43
<i>Hup_OS1_157</i>	2,687	ARM repeat fold domain	e-41	80
<i>Hair_OS8_1</i>	2,372	Unknown	e-10	57
<i>Hair_OS9_1</i>	1,927	Unknown	e-30	89
		Unknown	e-30	87
<i>Hair_OS10_1</i>	373	Unknown	e-10	73
<i>Hip_OS5_1</i>	4,313	Unknown	e-11	43
<i>Hip_OS1_1</i>	1,404	Root cap protein 1-like	e-31	82
<i>Hip_OS7_1</i>	4,908	Unknown	e-22	78
		Unknown	e-11	53
<i>Hip_OS7_4</i>	4,140	Unknown	e-36	92
		Unknown	e-18	97
<i>Homno_OS1_1</i>	3,530	Unknown	e-71	96
<i>Holvo_OS1_1</i>	6,184	Putative RING zinc finger protein	e-35	65
<i>Hip_MT1_1</i>	5,016	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-14	85
<i>Hip_MT1_13</i>	4,364	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-18	91
<i>Hip_MT1_43</i>	3,913	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-10	50
<i>Hip_MT2_19</i>	3,768	Polynucleotidyl transferase, Ribonuclease H fold	e-23	58
<i>Heno_MT1_1</i>	4,140	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-111	93
<i>Heto_MT1_1</i>	3,202	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-51	68
<i>Heto_MT1_5</i>	3,187	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-52	69
<i>Heto_MT1_15</i>	5,428	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-29	59
<i>Hip_MT3_1</i>	4,228	Nucleic acid-binding, OB-fold	e-10	86
<i>Hole_SB1_19</i>	2,261	Putative glucosyl transferase	e-147	87
<i>Hole_SB1_23</i>	1,610	Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase	e-17	82
<i>Hole_SB1_28</i>	3,451	Putative proteasome 26S non-ATPase subunit 2	e-10	40
<i>Hole_SB1_40</i>	2,610	AP-3 complex delta subunit-like protein	0	68
<i>Hole_SB1_46</i>	4,125	Tetratricopeptide repeat (TPR)-containing protein	e-19	50
<i>Hole_SB1_53</i>	2,795	PUTATIVE ubiquitin carboxyl terminal hydrolase	e-13	81
<i>Hole_SB1_55</i>	2,936	Putative RNA-binding protein	e-39	93
<i>Hole_SB1_57</i>	3,159	Hypothetical protein in rice	e-15	58
<i>Hole_SB1_59</i>	2,699	DNA directed RNA polymerase	e-13	72
<i>Hole_SB1_68</i>	4,499	UMP synthase	e-97	96
<i>Hip_SB5_1</i>	4,072	Protein phosphatase 2C-related	e-122	68
<i>Hip_SB2_43</i>	1,763	<i>F-box domain containing protein</i>	e-21	68
<i>Hip_SB2_44</i>	1,721	Hypothetical protein in rice	e-56	77
<i>Hip_SB2_54</i>	1,675	Unknown in maize	e-29	76
<i>Hip_SB2_56</i>	2,493	Unknown in maize	e-19	90
<i>Hip_SB3_1</i>	4,400	Unknown in maize	e-19	83
<i>Hip_SB3_4</i>	5,982	Unknown in maize	e-12	52
<i>Hip_SB3_9</i>	2,408	Cycloartenol synthase	e-79	86