Supplementary Materials and Methods

Network-assisted genetic dissection of pathogenicity and drug resistance in the opportunistic human pathogenic fungus *Cryptococcus neoformans*

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Supplementary Figure S1. A schematic summary of network search options for hypothesis generation using CryptoNet (A) 'Find new members of a pathway' search option is used to prioritize genes for pathways or phenotypes (gray node) such as virulence by propagating information of known genes (black node) through the network. Candidate genes are prioritized by sum of edge scores to known genes. Here, darker gray nodes represent more likely candidate genes. (B) 'Infer functions from network neighbors' search option is used to prioritize functions for a query gene (gray node). GO biological process annotations among neighbor genes are collected and algorithm rank them from the most enriched one. Here, an annotation term is most enriched among genes marked by black color. (C) 'Find context associated hub genes' search option is used to identify a sub-network hub gene (gray node) associated with a context of interest. This option is feasible to calculate significant overlap between submitted differentially expressed genes (DEGs, nodes in the larger circle) and neighbor genes of the sub-network hub gene (black node) by Fisher's exact test. If a sub-network hub gene significantly possesses DEGs as its neighbor genes, the subnetwork hub gene is defined as a context associated hug gene for the given context.

Supplementary Figure S2. in vivo virulence assay of candidate genes by CryptoNet using a wax moth model system Each larva was infected with 800,000 Cryptococcus cells and incubated at 30°C or 37° C. Percent survival (%) was monitored for 2 weeks postinfection. Percent survival $\left(\frac{9}{0}\right)$ was monitored for 2 weeks post-infection. *P*=0.3755 and *P*=0.3458 for CMO18 vs. CNAG 03290 at 37°C or 30°C, *P*=0.2206 and *P*=0.0772 for CMO18 vs. CNAG_06697 at 37°C or 30°C, *P*=0.7671 and *P*=0.3040 for CMO18 vs. *kin1*∆ (CNAG_{_0}1938) mutant at 37° C or 30° C, $P=0.2159$ and $P=0.2033$ for CMO18 vs. CNAG_02675 at 37° C or 30° C, $P=0.4473$ and $P=0.3173$ for CMO18 vs. *cck1*∆ (CNAG G_00556) m mutant at 37 7C or 30 C, *P*=0.211 13 and *P*=0 0.1461 for CMO18 vs s. *hos2*∆ (CNAG_{_0}5563) mutant at 37° C or 30° C, $P=0.0905$ and $P=0.5858$ for CMO18 vs. CNAG_06086 at 37° C or 30° C, respectively.

Supplementary Figure S3. Experimental validations for Kin1, Ypk1, and Sho1 that were **predicted by CryptoNet to be involved in virulence regulation in** *C. neoformans* **(A) For** thermotolerance test, each strain grown overnight was 10-fold serially diluted (1 to 10^4), spotted on YPD medium, and further incubated at 30°C, or 39°C for 2-4 days. (B) Each *C*. neoformans strain was spotted on Niger seed medium containing the indicated concentration of glucose (0.5%) and incubated at 30° C or 37° C. The images were photographed by using a microscope (Motic Microscope) equipped with a digital camera (Pro-Microscan No. 5888). (C) For capsule production measurement, each strain was spotted and cultured on DME agar medium at 30°C for 2 days. Capsules were visualized by India ink staining. Relative capsule diameter was described in the picture. The scale bar represents $10 \mu m$. The images were photographed by using a SPOT insight digital camera (Diagnostic Instrument Inc.) (D) A/Jcr mice were infected with $10⁵$ cells of WT and two independent mutants by intranasal instillation. Survival (%) was monitored daily for 60 days after infection. Strains were: WT (H99), *kin1*∆ mutants (YSB1716 and YSB1718), *sho1*∆ mutants (YSB1719 and YSB1720) and *ypk1*∆mutants (YSB1735 and YSB1736).

Supplementary Table S1. Fourteen distinct data types incorporated into the CryptoNet

Supplementary Table S2. 73 Cryptococcus neoformans genes for three different virulence phenotypes collected from literature

Supplementary Table S3. Predicted top 100 candidate for three virulence factors by guilt-by association (√: tested strain)

Capsule formation

Melanin

Thermotolerance

Supplementary Table S4. 230 upregulated genes upon fluconazol treatment (> 2 fold change)

Supplementary Table S5. Predicted top 94 candidates (P-value < 0.05) as contextassociated hub genes (16 genes involved in ergosterol pathway; 2 genes identified at PMID-22339665; 1 gene identified at PMID-19700638); DEG: Differentially Expressed Gene; √: tested strains

Rank	Score	Evidences	Sc GO biological process terms	GO biological process terms supporters(LLS)
1	1.5	$CN-CX:1.00$	NADH oxidation	GPD1 (1.50)
\mathfrak{D}	1.5	$CN-CX:1.00$	intracellular accumulation of glycerol	GPD1 (1.50)
3	1.42	$CN-CX:1.00$	nucleotide metabolic process	HNTI (1.42)
4	1.27	$CN-CX:1.00$	D-amino acid metabolic process	HPA3(1.27)
5	1.27	$CN-CX:1.00$	D-xylose catabolic process	YJR096W (1.27)
6	1.27	$CN-CX:1.00$	arabinose catabolic process	YJR096W (1.27)
7	1.27	$CN-CX:1.00$	cellular response to oxidative stress	<i>YJR096W</i> (1.27)
8	1.24	$CN-CX:1.00$	base-excision repair, AP site formation	MAGI (1.24)
9	1.24	$CN-CX:1.00$	DNA dealkylation involved in DNA repair	$MAGI$ (1.24)
10	1.19	$CN-CX:1.00$	transcription from RNA polymerase I promoter	RPO26(1.19)

Supplementary Table S6. Inferred GO-BP terms of CNAG_00711 from its network neighbors

Supplementary Table S7. Functional descriptions of novel genes for *C. neoformans* **virulence**

Supplementary Table S8. GEO expression data sets incorporated into CryptoNet

Primer Name	Sequence $(5'-3')$	Comment
B79	TGTGGATGCTGGCGGAGGATA	Screening primer on ACT promoter
B1026	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGAGC	M13 forward (extended)
B1027	CAGGAAACAGCTATGACCATG	M13 reverse (extended)
B1454	AAGGTGTTCCCCGACGACGAATCG	NSL ₂
B1455	AACTCCGTCGCGAGCCCCATCAAC	NSR ₂
B4213	TGAGGTGGAGGCTTGTCTAC	$KIN1 - 5$ ' screening primer
B4209	AGAGACAAAGGTGAGGTCG	KINI - left flanking primer 1
B4210	TCACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACCACGGGATAATGTTGACG	KIN1 - left flanking primer 2
B4211	CATGGTCATAGCTGTTTCCTGGCAGTATCAAATGCTGGC	KINI - right flanking primer 1
B4212	AGATAATAAGGGTGCGGC	KIN1 - right flanking primer 2
B4214	GGACTTCTTTGGTTGGGAG	$KINI$ – Southern probe primer 1
B4203	AACGAACGGAAGATTGGC	SHO1 - 5' screening primer
B4204	ATCTCCCAATCTCCCGAAG	SHO1 - left flanking primer 1
B4205	TCACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACAAGAAAGACTGGGTGTCGC	SHO1 - left flanking primer 2
B4206	CATGGTCATAGCTGTTTCCTGACACCCGCTGGTATTACAG	SHO1 - right flanking primer 1
B4207	AAGTTTTCCTCCACTCGCC	<i>SHO1</i> - right flanking primer 2
B4208	GCTGCTTACTACATCTGGACG	SHO1 - Southern probe primer 1
B4173	TACCCATCATTCCCTGCTC	$YPK1 - 5'$ screening primer
B4169	CGACTATGGGTTCGTTACTGG	YPK1 - left flanking primer 1
B4170	TCACTGGCCGTCGTTTTACTGTCTATGCGTTTTCCGAC	YPK1 - left flanking primer 2
B4171	CATGGTCATAGCTGTTTCCTGTGGTGTAGAATGGCAGAGC	YPK1 - right flanking primer 1
B4172	GCACCGTGGAGGTAGTAATG	YPK1 - right flanking primer 2
B4174	ACACCGTATCAGCACAAGC	$YPK1$ – Southern probe primer 1

Supplementary Table S9. Primers used in this study

Supplementary Methods

Sequence and functional annotation data for *Cryptococcus neoformans*

CryptoNet was constructed for the all protein coding genes of *C. neoformans* var. *grubii* H99 (serotype A) which lists 6,962 genes validated by deep coverage RNA-sequences 14 . We also added 13 validated mitochondria coding genes for further coverage (*C. neoformans var. grubii* H99 Sequencing Project, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, http://www.broadinstitute.org). As a result, a total of 6,975 protein coding genes were used for the construction of a *C. neoformans* functional network. For functional analysis of *C. neoformans* genes, we used Gene Ontology (GO) annotations for *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* orthologs, obtained from Saccharomyces Genome Database (SGD) 15 . Orthologous genes between two species are assigned by BLASTP bidirectional best hits.

The gold standard co-functional gene links

Machine learning approaches for network construction requires gold standard linkage data. Pathway annotation databases are credible resources to collect them, yet current annotations for *C. neoformans* var. *grubii* (serotype A) are not sufficient. Therefore, we decided to use pathway annotations of *C. neoformans* var. *neoformans* (serotype D) because *C. neoformans* var. *neoformans* shares ~90% coding genome with *C. neoformans* var. *grubii* 16. Pathway annotations by Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) were downloaded on August, $2013¹⁷$, A total of $206,624$ positive gold standard gene pairs were generated from 105 annotated KEGG pathways. To avoid network training bias toward a few dominant pathways, we excluded gene pairs derived from three over-dominant pathways 18: metabolic pathways (cne:01100), biosynthesis of secondary metabolites (cne:01110), aminoacyl-tRNA biosynthesis (cne:00970). These three KEGG terms account for \sim 78 % of gold standard positive gene pairs. For orthology mapping between *C. neoformans* var. *grubii* and *C. neoformans* var. *neoformans*, we used an inparalog score threshold of 1 by Inparanoid (v4.1) ¹⁹. The final gold standard set consists of $\overline{43,524}$ positive and 955,467 negative gene pairs among 1,414 *C. neoformans* genes.

Benchmarking and integrating networks

The likelihood of co-functional link supported by given experimental or computational data was measured by Bayesian statistics approach ²⁰. Log likelihood score (LLS) was calculated by following equation:

$$
LLS = \ln\left(\frac{P(L|E)/P(\neg L|E)}{P(L)/P(\neg L)}\right)
$$

, where $P(L|E)$ and $P(\neg L|E)$ are probability of gold standard positive and negative link for given experimental data, respectively, and $P(L)$ and $P(\neg L)$ are probability of gold standard positive and negative link before the experimental data provided, respectively. To avoid overtraining, we calculate LLS with 0.632 bootstrapping as described in $2¹$.

For the links with multiple LLSs, we integrated the scores using weighted sum (WS) method as described in 21 :

$$
WS = L_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{L_i}{D \cdot i}, \text{ for all } L \geq T,
$$

, where L represents LLS (L_0) is the maximum LLS of a given functional link), and *i* is the index number for all other LLS by ranked order. D is a free parameter used as a weight factor, and *T* is a minimum threshold of LLS.

Co-functional links inferred from co-citation of genes (CC)

The original co-citation algorithm was based on an idea that functionally related two genes tend to be cited at the same research article abstract ²². However, some articles have names of genes in the main text. To improve sensitivity of search, we scanned full text rather than just abstract for co-citation analysis. We searched PubMed Central (PMC, http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/) for articles containing "Cryptococcus neoformans" in abstract and any *C. neoformans* gene name in full text. As a result, we found a total of 609 articles containing *C. neoformans* gene names, and then assign probability of association between genes by Fisher's exact test.

Co-functional links inferred from co-expression of genes (CX)

We downloaded 12 microarray data sets containing no less than 8 samples of gene expression from Gene Express Omnibus (GEO)²³ on August, 2013. Pearson correlation coefficient was measured between all pairs of gene vectors of expression values to infer functional association between two genes. We tested a total of 12 microarray data sets and were able to infer functional links from seven of them: GSE31911 and 6 published data sets $24-29$ including 191 samples (**Table S8**).

Co-functional links inferred from domain co-occurrence between proteins (DC)

Domains recur functional regions of proteins. Because domains are functional subunits of proteins, proteins that share a similar set of domains may contribute to a similar function. Using profiles of domain occurrence for proteins by InterPro database 30 , we measure likelihood of functional association for given tendency of domain co-occurrence (DC) between two proteins. To learn a more informative co-occurrence pattern, we used a weighted version of the mutual information score, in which higher weights were given to rarer domains under the assumption that rarer domains harbor more specific pathway information.

Co-functional links inferred from genomic contexts (PG, GN)

We used genomic context information of *C. neoformans* proteins to discover functional associations between genes with two different methods, phylogenetic profiles $31-33$ and gene neighbors 34-36. The similarity of phylogenetic profiles between two *C. neoformans* genes reflects the degree of co-inheritance of two genes during speciation, because functional constraints between functionally coupled genes mainly determine co-inheritance pattern. We first ran BLASTP to compare all *C. neoformans* protein sequences against all protein sequences from 1,626 Bacteria genomes, 122 Archaea genomes, and 396 Eukaryota genomes. Phylogenetic profile matrices of the blast hit scores were constructed, and the similarity between profiles was measured by mutual information scores as described in 37. For *C. neoformans* genes, we found that the similarity of phylogenetic profiles for each of the two domains of life (Archaea and Bacteria) performed better than that for all 2,144 genomes in retrieving gold-standard functional links. Therefore, we integrated the two domain-specific

networks into a single network by phylogenetic profiles. For network inference by genomic neighborhood across 1,746 prokaryote genomes, we used two approaches to measure the genomic neighborhood: chromosomal distance between neighboring genes 35,36,38 and probability of observed neighborhood ³⁴. Because we previously found complementarity between these two methods 39 , we integrated them into a single network by genomic neighborhood.

Co-functional links by orthology-based transfer from yeast and human networks

Associalogs are conserved functional associations transferred from different species by orthology 21. We transferred conserved functional links between *C. neoformans* genes from YeastNet v3⁴⁰ and HumanNet⁴¹. All transferred co-functional associations are re-scored by Inparanoid weighted LLS (IWLLS) 42 as following,

IWLLS $(A'B') = LLS (A-B) + ln(imparalog score of A-A') + ln(imparalog score of B-B')$

,where A and B are *C. neoformans* genes and Aʹ and Bʹ are orthologous genes from *S. cerevisiae* or human, and the transferred functional association of Aʹ-Bʹ from that of A-B obtains weighted values as how likely A-Aʹ and B-Bʹ are orthologous by Inparanoid. We transferred 7 and 2 co-functional associations of YeastNet v.3 and HumanNet, respectively (summarized in **Table S1**).

Assessment of prediction power of networks for pathogenicity

To assess predictive power of CryptoNet for *C. neoformans* pathogenicity, we used a total of 73 genes involved in three different virulence phenotypes were collected from literatures: 28 genes for capsule formation, 23 genes for melanin production, and 22 genes for thermotolerance. (**Table S2**). Predictions were performed for each of virulence phenotype. Ranks of virulence genes were assigned by sum of LLS by CryptoNet links from a gene to all other genes for the same virulence phenotype. If the known virulence genes are well interconnected by a given network, they are highly ranked by this network-assisted prioritizing method. The performance of network-assisted ranking was then assessed by the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve, which is usually summarized as a single score, area under the ROC curve (AUC). The ROC curve in general represents true positive (TP) rate for the given cost of false positive (FP) rate.

$$
\frac{TP \ rate}{FP \ rate} = \frac{TP/TP + FN}{FP/FP + TN}
$$

, where TP is a correctly predicted virulence gene, FP is an incorrectly predicted virulence gene, true negative (TN) is a correctly predicted non-virulence gene, and false negative (FN) is an incorrectly predicted non-virulence gene. AUC score ranges between 0.5 and 1, which indicate random prediction and perfect prediction, respectively. Visualization of networks for three virulence phenotypes were conducted by Cytoscape 43 .

Prediction of novel candidate genes for anti-fungal drug resistance

To predict candidate genes for antifungal drug resistance, we devised a method of searching for context-associated hub genes. This method requires two components: subnetworks and an expression signature. Each subnetwork is composed of a hub gene having no less than 50

connected neighbors by CryptoNet and its neighbors. We predefined 2,135 subnetworks for the given number of neighbors as a threshold. An expression signature represents a cellular context such as drug stress condition. To construct an expression signature for antifungal drug stress, we collected 230 *C. neoformans* genes that were up-regulated by >2-fold upon treatment of fluconazole 44 (**Table S4**). Normalization of the expression data was conducted by Limma 45. For the given pair of gene sets, one for 230 up-regulated genes by drug treatment and the other for neighbor genes of each of 2,135 hubs, we measured significance of enrichment using Fisher's exact test. If neighbors for a hub gene are significantly enriched among the up-regulated genes by fluconazole treatment, the corresponding hub gene is considered to be associated with the context of fluconazole treatment. We found 94 hub genes are significantly associated with gene expression response to fluconazole treatment (*pvalue* < 0.05).

Construction of *ypk1***Δ,** *sho1***Δ and** *kin1***Δ mutants**

The genes were deleted with a disruption cassette containing split Nat^r dominant selectable marker generated by double joint PCR as described before $\frac{46}{1}$. The gene disruption cassette was introduced into the H99S strain through the biolistic transformation method, as previously described 47. The correct genotype of these mutants was confirmed by Southern blot analysis as described before 48. Primers for this disruption and Southern blot analysis were described in **Table S9**.

Assay for virulence factor production, thermotolerance, and antifungal drug resistance

The *C. neoformans* Madhani collection strains used in this study were provided by Fungal Genetics Stock Center. Before tests, we confirmed the correct genotype of each strain by diagnostic PCR to check potential cross-contamination during strain storage and recovery. Each strain was cultured in a liquid YPD (yeast extract-peptone-dextrose) medium for 16 hours at 30^oC. The agar-based DME (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's) medium (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) for capsule production, and agar-based Niger seed medium, which contains indicated concentration of glucose (0.1% and 0.5%), for melanin biosynthesis were prepared as previously described 49 . The capsule production of strains showing growth defect at 37° C were determined at 30°C. The relative capsule size of each cell was quantitatively measured. previously described 49. Melanin production was monitored and photographed daily. For thermotolerance test, strains were incubated overnight at 30° C in a liquid YPD medium, washed, serially diluted (1 to 10^4 dilutions) with dH_2O , and spotted onto a solid YPD medium. Each plate was incubated at 37° C or 39° C for 2-4 days and photographed for incubation period. For antifungal drug resistant test, each serially diluted strain $(1 \text{ to } 10^4 \text{ dilutions})$ was spotted onto a solid YPD medium containing the indicated concentration of azoles (fluconazole, itraconazole, and ketoconazole) or amphotericin B and incubated at 30° C and photographed for 2 to 5 days.

Galleria mellonella **infection assay and** *in vivo* **mouse study**

G. mellonella in the final instar larval stage (15 larvae per strain) was infected through prolegs with 800,000 *Cryptococcus* cells in 4 μl of PBS by the Hamilton syringe. After injection, larvae were incubated at 30° C or 37° C for 14 days and then larvae showing signs, such as changes in body color and no movement in response to touch, were considered dead. Larvae transforming into pupa were censored. The Kaplan-Meier survival curves were constructed by Prism 5.01 (GraphPad Software) and *p-values* were calculated from Gehan-Breslow-Wilcoxon test.

Four- to six-week-old female A/Jcr mice (National Cancer Institute, 18–20 g) were utilized in this study. For infection, strains were cultured in YPD medium overnight at 30°C, washed twice with phosphate buffered saline (PBS), and resuspended in PBS at 2×10^6 cells per ml. Serially diluted cells were plated onto YPD medium and incubated at 24°C for 72 hr to determine viability and CFU. Ten mice per strain (except 9 mice for strain YSB1720 due to one death after pentobarbital treatment) were anesthetized with pentobarbital (Lundbeck Inc.) and infected via intranasal instillation with 10^5 cells (in 50 μ l). Survival was monitored twice daily, and moribund mice were $CO₂$ -euthanized. The Kaplan-Meier survival curves were generated with Prism 5.02 (GraphPad Software), and P values were evaluated from a Logrank (Mantel-Cox) test.

Ethics statement

The animal studies at Duke University Medical Center were in full compliance with the guidelines of the Duke University Medical Center Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and the United States Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 98–198). The Duke University Medical Center IACUC approved all of the animal studies. The studies were conducted under protocol number A217-11-08 in Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) facilities that are accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC).

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