# SI Appendix

### for

# Histone deacetylases control module-specific phenotypic plasticity in beetle weapons

Takane Ozawa<sup>a</sup>, Tomoko Mizuhara<sup>a</sup>, Masataka Arata<sup>b</sup>, Masakazu Shimada<sup>c</sup>, Teruyuki Niimi<sup>d</sup>, Kensuke Okada<sup>e</sup>, Yasukazu Okada<sup>c,1</sup>, Kunihiro Ohta<sup>a,b,1</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Life Sciences, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Meguro, Tokyo 153-8902, Japan <sup>b</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Graduate School of Science, The University of Tokyo, Bunkyo, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan <sup>c</sup>Department of General Systems Studies, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Meguro, Tokyo 153-8902, Japan <sup>d</sup>Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, National Institute for Basic Biology, 38, Nishigonaka, Myodaiji, Okazaki 444-8585, Japan <sup>e</sup>Laboratory of Evolutionary Ecology, Graduate School of Environmental Science, Okayama University, Okayama, Okayama 700-8530, Japan

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding authors: Yasukazu Okada (Meguro, Tokyo 153-8902, Japan, +81-3-5454-6974, okayasukazu@gmail.com) and Kunihiro Ohta (Meguro, Tokyo 153-8902, Japan, +81-3-5454-8834, kohta@bio.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp)

### SI Materials and Methods

#### Insect husbandry

Our stock population of *G. cornutus* originated from adults collected in Miyazaki City (31°54′, 131°25′), Japan, and maintained at the National Food Research Institute and Okayama University (1). *G. cornutus* was reared as described previously (2). In brief, larvae of *G. cornutus* were reared in groups in plastic containers (65 mm in diameter and 45 mm in height) supplied with whole meal flour enriched with yeast. The larvae were developmentally arrested at the final-instar stage under crowding conditions of stock culture, and they became prepupae 3 to 4 days after isolation (2). We obtained final-instar larvae destined to become prepupae by isolating them in wells of a 24-well tissue culture plate (Thermo scientific). We defined the larvae of 1-2 mg body weight as penultimate instar larvae. The larvae were subjected to drug administrations or gene knockdowns. Rearing and experiments were performed in a chamber maintained at  $25^{\circ}$ C, 60% relative humidity, and a photoperiod cycle of 16-/8-h light/dark conditions.

#### **Double-stranded RNA synthesis**

Total RNA was extracted from the prepupal whole body of *G. cornutus* by using the SV Total RNA Isolation System (Promega). First-strand cDNA was synthesized using the SuperScriptII FS kit (Invitrogen) with 1  $\mu$ g of total RNA. Double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) was synthesized using the Ambion MEGAscript® T7 Transcription Kit (Invitrogen). DNA template for in vitro transcription was produced with PCR by using gene-specific primers with the T7 polymerase promoter at their 5' ends (Table S5). DNA template of GFP was produced using primers GFPiF2 and GFPiR5 (3). PCR products were purified and concentrated using the Wizard® SV Gel and PCR Clean-Up System (Promega) and subjected to in vitro transcription and dsRNA purification, according to the manufacturer's protocol. The reaction mix was purified and concentrated by phenol-chloroform extraction and sodium acetate/ethanol precipitation. dsRNA was quantified and diluted to 1  $\mu$ g/µl and stored at -80°C.

### Microinjection of epigenetic drugs and dsRNA

Final-instar larvae were randomly selected from the stock culture. Stock solutions of trichostatin A (TSA, 2  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ l dimethyl sulfoxide: DMSO), an inhibitor of class I histone deacetylases, and 5-azacytidine (5-AzaC, 10  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ l water), an inhibitor of DNA methyltransferases, were prepared. Dosage was optimized to produce maximal non-lethal effects by the stated criteria (TSA: 46 ng/larva, 5AzaC: 3.48  $\mu$ g/larva) and drugs were injected into the dorsal side of the abdominal segment of the larvae by using NANOJECT II (DRUMMOND) under CO<sub>2</sub> anesthesia. The injected final instar larvae were individually isolated in 24-well culture plates (Thermo scientific), so that they could develop into prepupae (the adult morphogenetic stage) within 3 to 4 days (2, 4). No food was provided after the treatment. The developmental stage of the injected larvae was observed once a day. Individuals that successfully became adults were used for measurements.

dsRNA was also injected in the final-instar and penultimate instar larvae. Injected penultimate instar larvae were reared for 3 weeks under crowding condition until they became final-instar larvae, and they were individually isolated in 24-well culture plates (Thermo scientific). Stock solutions of dsRNA ( $1 \mu g/\mu l$  water) for each target gene were prepared. To avoid any systemic developmental failures due to high doses of RNAi, dsRNA dose adjustment was performed as described in Table S5. In HDAC1 and HDAC3 knockdowns at penultimate instar larvae, a dsRNA dose for "early KD" in Table S5 was used for experiments of gene-knockdown efficiencies (Fig. S3 D and E) and morphological measurements (Fig. 2 G and H, and Fig. S5). In the morphological observations and measurements of adults subjected to HDAC1, HDAC3 RNAi, moderate doses were used to avoid severe defects during pupal maturation and adult eclosion.

#### Morphological observations and measurements

Morphological observations of pupae and adults were performed using a scanning electron microscope (SEM; VE-8800, KEYENCE). To evaluate the morphogenetic effects of epigenetic perturbations, 16 body parts of adult males were quantified (Fig.

1B) using mandible sizes (length, outline length, and width) as indices of exaggerated traits. Elytra width was considered as an index of body size and used as a covariate to examine the effect of the treatments on trait sizes (5, 6).

Straight-line distances between two landmark points were measured with the microscope monitoring system (VHX-200, KEYENCE), and curvature structures (mandible outline length, wing vein lengths, and genitalia length; Fig. 1B) were measured as curve-fitted lengths by using the segmental line tool in Image J (7) with captured digital images. Adult males were randomly selected from each treatment for the measurements. The measurements were performed on right sides of appendages. In case of accidental damage to the wings and legs, left sides were used for the analysis. All analyses were performed using R 3.1.1 (8) and JMP 11.

### Sequencing of Genes for HDACs and PcGs in G. cornutus

Transcript sequences of the G. cornutus orthologs for HDACs, PcG genes, DNA methylation factors and histone modification factors were identified using de novo RNA-seq. Total RNA was isolated from the heads of final-instar larvae and prepupae (24 and 48 h after attaining the prepupal stage) by using the Ambion RNAqueous®-Micro Total RNA Isolation kit (Invitrogen). RNA quality was tested cDNA 2100.using Agilent Bioanalyzer synthesized was using the template-switching method (9). cDNA library samples were run using an Illumina HiSeq 2000 platform for 100 cycles with paired-end reads at the Beijing Genomics Institute. Quality of the sequencing reads was assessed with the software FastQC (http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastgc/), and the reads were quality-filtered (Q20) and trimmed (3 nt from 3' end) with the FastX-toolkit software suite (http://hannonlab.cshl.edu/fastx\_toolkit/). The adaptor sequence of every read was eliminated using Tagdust (10). The quality-filtering paired-end read results showed that some reads lost their partner reads. All post-processed reads were pooled together and assembled *de novo* with Trinity (11, 12) (Trinity version: Trinityrnaseq\_r20131110). We obtained 412,824 contigs by *de novo* assembly with Trinity. G. cornutus orthologs of histone-modifying genes were identified using the

KEGG Automatic Annotation Server (KAAS) (13) with manual checks of sequence similarities to *T. castaneum* orthologs. The DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ)/European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)/GenBank accession numbers for Gc-HDACs and Gc-PcGs are listed in Table S4.

In addition, cross-species gene orthologies (*G. cornutus, T. castaneum, D. melanogaster*, and *H. sapiens*) were confirmed by phylogenetic relationships of proteins by using MEGA 6.0 (14) with a heuristic search under JTT models with 1000 bootstrap replicates.

#### Quantitative RT-PCR for HDAC expression analysis

cDNA was prepared from the head, thorax, abdomen and whole body of dsRNA injected larvae and prepupae. Quantitative RT-PCR was performed using the KAPA SYBR Fast qPCR Kit (KAPA BIOSYSTEMS) with Applied Biosystems® StepOnePlus<sup>™</sup>. Actin gene Gc-ACT was used as the reference for comparative Ct quantification. Primer sequences for the actin gene, HDACs, and PcG genes are listed in Table S10.

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### SI Figures

Figure S1



Fig. S1. Effects of epigenetic inhibitor treatments on mandible size in *G. cornutus* males. (A) The effects of TSA treatment on mandible size. DMSO (control, black dots and lines) and TSA treatment (red dots and lines) are shown. (B) The effect of 5-azacytidine (AzaC) treatment on mandible size.  $H_2O$  (control, black dots and lines) and 5-AzaC treatment (blue dots and lines) are shown. ANCOVA results are summarized in Table S2.

### Figure S2



**Fig. S2.** Orthological relationships of HDACs in *G. cornutus* and other model species. Phylogeny is based on amino acid sequences. *G. cornutus* HDACs are highlighted in gray. Numbers on branches indicate maximum likelihood bootstrap values (1,000 replicates).

Figure S3



**Fig. S3.** Gene-knockdown efficiencies of HDAC RNAi. (A-C) Relative transcript abundances for HDAC1 (A), HDAC3 (B), HDAC4, HDAC6, and HDAC11 (C) in prepupae after gene-knockdowns at final-instar larvae. Left to right columns in A and B show transcript levels in head, prothorax, or abdomen. (D, E) Relative transcript abundances for HDAC1 and HDAC3 in penultimate instar larvae (D) and

prepupae (E) after gene-knockdowns at penultimate instar larvae. Left and right columns in D and E show transcript levels in whole body. Mean  $\pm$  SE values are shown (\*, P < 0.05; \*\*, P < 0.01; \*\*\*, P < 0.001; n.s., not significant, *t*-test). Numbers within parentheses indicate sample sizes.

Figure S4







**Fig. S4.** Effects of HDAC1 and HDAC3 late-knockdowns on trait sizes in *G. cornutus* males. GFP knockdown (control, black dots and lines), HDAC1 knockdown (blue dots and lines), and HDAC3 (red dots and lines) are shown. ANCOVA results are summarized in Table S6.



length

width







**Fig. S5.** Effects of HDAC1 and HDAC3 early-knockdowns on trait sizes in *G. cornutus* males. GFP knockdown (control, black dots and lines), HDAC1 knockdown (blue dots and lines), and HDAC3 (red dots and lines) are shown. ANCOVA results are summarized in Table S7.

### Figure S6



**Fig. S6.** Effects of knockdowns of polycomb group (PcG) proteins on pupal and adult morphologies. (A) EZH2 and PCGF3 knockdowns reduce pupal and adult mandible sizes. Male heads of pupae (front and side views, left and middle columns) and adults (ventral view, right column) for GFP, EZH2, or PCGF3 RNAi are shown. Mandibles are indicated in green (PCGF3) or yellow (EZH2). Scale bars indicate 200 μm. (B) Gene knockdown efficiencies of EZH2 or PCGF3 in the heads of prepupae.

Mean  $\pm$  SEM values are shown. (\*\*\*, P < 0.001, t test). Numbers within parentheses indicate sample size. (C) PCGF3 and EZH2 knockdowns that significantly reduce mandible sizes in *G. cornutus* males (GFP control, black dots and line; PCGF3 knockdown, green dots and line; and EZH2 knockdown, yellow dots and line) are shown. Statistical results are shown in Table S9.

## SI Tables

**Table S1.** Variability in exaggerated and somatic/genital traits of male *Gnatocerus* cornutus.

| Trait                         | Allometric coefficient (95% confidence intarval) |               |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------|--|--|--|
| mandible length (ML)          | 2.58   | (1.87 - 3.28) |  |  |  |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | 2.16   | (1.33 - 2.98) |  |  |  |
| mandible width (MW)           | 1.16   | (0.38 - 1.94) |  |  |  |
| gena width (GW)               | 1.49   | (1.22 - 1.76) |  |  |  |
| prothorax width (PW)          | 1.18   | (1.05 - 1.31) |  |  |  |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | 1.08   | (0.93 - 1.24) |  |  |  |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | 1.19   | (0.88 - 1.51) |  |  |  |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | 1.38   | (1.08 - 1.69) |  |  |  |
| middle femur length (MFL)     | 1.02   | (0.76 - 1.28) |  |  |  |
| middle femur width (MFW)      | 1.07   | (0.70 - 1.43) |  |  |  |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | 1.22   | (0.83 - 1.61) |  |  |  |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 1.34   | (0.97 - 1.72) |  |  |  |
| genitalia length (GL)         | 0.53   | (0.24 - 0.81) |  |  |  |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | 0.94   | (0.61 - 1.28) |  |  |  |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | 1.1  | (0.74 - 1.45) |  |  |  |

Bold letters in allometric coefficients show statistically significant values ( $\alpha > 1$  [positive allometry] or  $\alpha < 1$  [negative allometry] at 95% confidence intervals).

| Trait                | Relative size change | Sample size       |    | Effect (treatment) |       | Effect (treatme | nt x elytra width) |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----|--------------------|-------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                      | (% of control)       | Control Treatment |    | F                  | Ρ     | F               | Р                  |
| TSA treatment        |                      |                   |    |                    |       |                 |                    |
| mandible length (ML) | 6.30%                | 46                | 45 | 4.421              | 0.038 | 2.221           | 0.140              |
|                      |                      |                   |    |                    |       |                 |                    |
| 5-AzaC treatment     |                      |                   |    |                    |       |                 |                    |
| mandible length (ML) | 3.60%                | 60                | 56 | 3.339              | 0.070 | 0.826           | 0.365              |

Table S2. Effects of TSA and 5-azacytidine (AzaC) treatments on mandible sizes.

Relative trait means were calculated as estimated marginal means (adjusted means) at mean body size with elytra width as a covariate by ANCOVA. Bold letters indicate significant size changes when compared with the control treatment.

**Table S3.** Summary of the read statistics from RNA sequencing and *de novo* transcriptome assembly.

| total reads                             |                |
|---|----------------|
| Total number of reads                   | 446,191,805    |
| Total nucleotides (nt)                  | 45,065,372,305 |
| High-quality reads                      | 430,939,602    |
| Total length of high quality reads (bp) | 43,524,899,802 |
|   |                |
| Assembly                                |                |
| Total assemble nucleotides (nt)         | 932,155,473    |
| Total number of transcripts             | 412,824        |
| Median transcript length (bp)           | 1,507          |
| Average transcript length (bp)          | 2,258          |
| N50 size (bp)                           | 4,025          |
| GC content (%)                          | 41.14          |

| G. cornutus gene   | Description of KEGG   | KO               | Accession No. |
|--------------------|---|------------------|---------------|
|                    | HDACs (histone deacetylases)                                |                  |               |
|                    | Class I HDACs   |                  |               |
| HDAC1              | HDAC1_2; histone deacetylase 1/2 [EC:3.5.1.98]              | K06067           | LC096257      |
| HDAC3              | HDAC3; histone deacetylase 3 [EC:3.5.1.98]                  | K11404           | LC096258      |
|                    | Class II HDACs  |                  |               |
| HDAC4              | HDAC4_5; histone deacetylase 4/5 [EC:3.5.1.98]              | K11406           | LC096259      |
| HDAC6              | HDAC6; histone deacetylase 6 [EC:3.5.1.98]                  | K11407           | LC096260      |
|                    | Class IV HDACs  |                  |               |
| HDAC11             | HDAC11; histone deacetylase 11 [EC:3.5.1.98]                | K11418           | LC096261      |
|                    | Polycomh group protoins                                     |                  |               |
|                    | PRC1 (nolycomb repressive complex 1)                        |                  |               |
| CBX6 *             | CBX8_PC3: chromobox protein 8                               | K11455           |               |
| PGCF2              | PCGE2 RNE110: polycomb group RING finger protein 2          | K11460           |               |
| PGCF4              | PCGE4_RMI1: polycomb group RING finger protein 2            | K11450           |               |
| PHC1               | PHC1_EDR1: polyhomeotic-like protein 1                      | K11456           |               |
| RING1              | RNE1, 2: E3 ubiguitin-protein ligase RNE1/2 [EC:6 3 2 19]   | K10695           |               |
| SCMH1              | SCMH1: polycomb protein SCMH1                               | K11461           |               |
|                    |   |                  |               |
|                    | PRC2-EZH2 complex   |                  |               |
| EZH2               | EZH2; histone-lysine N-methyltransferase EZH2 [EC:2.1.1.43] | K11430           | LC100104      |
| EED                | EED; polycomb protein EED                                   | K11462           |               |
| SUZ12              | SUZ12; polycomb protein SUZ12                               | K11463           |               |
| RBBP4              | RBBP4, HAT2, CAF1, MIS16; histone-binding protein RBBP4     | K10752           |               |
| AEBP2              | AEBP2; zinc finger protein AEBP2                            | K17452           |               |
|                    | Other polycomb group proteins                               |                  |               |
| PCGE3              | PCGE3: polycomb group RING finger protein 3                 | K11488           | LC100109      |
| MTE2               | MTE2 PCI 2: polycomb_like protein 2                         | K11485           | LC100103      |
|                    |   | 111405           |               |
|                    | HMTs (histone methyltransferases)                           |                  |               |
|                    | HKMTs (histone lysine methyltransferases)                   |                  |               |
| SETMAD             | SETMAR; histone-lysine N-methyltransferase SETMAR           | K11122           |               |
| SETWAR             | [EC:2.1.1.43]   | K11455           |               |
|                    |   |                  |               |
|                    | PRMITS (protein arginine metyltransferases)                 |                  |               |
| PRMT5              | PRM15, HSL7; protein arginine N-methyltransferase 5         | K02516           |               |
|                    | [EC.2.1.1.125]  |                  |               |
|                    | Other heterochromatin formation proteins                    |                  |               |
| DUNTA              | DNMT1, dcm; DNA (cytosine-5)-methyltransferase 1            | 100550           |               |
| DNM11              | [EC:2.1.1.37]   | K00558           |               |
|                    |   |                  |               |
|                    | Methyltransferases  |                  |               |
| DNMT2              | TRDMT1, DNMT2; tRNA (cytosine38-C5)-methyltransferase       | K15336           |               |
| "G. cornutus       | UBA6 was identified as the most homologous gene to          | r <i>Triboli</i> | um            |
| <i>Castaneum</i> ( | DAD DY DLADI.   |                  |               |

 Table S4. Candidate epigenetic genes in G. cornutus.

|                    |                       |                               | late    | early KD |          |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| Gene               | Forword primer 5' -3' | Reverse primer 5' -3'         | viable  | viable   |          |
|                    |                       |                               | pupa    | adult    |          |
| GFP (see           | GFPiF2:               | GFPiF5:                       |         |          |          |
| References         | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGC | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCGGACTGG  | 50.6 ng | 50.6 ng  | 50.6 ng  |
| 3)                 | GATGCCACCT            | GTG                           |         |          |          |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGT | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGACGGAGT  | 50.6 pg | 5.06 pg  | 5 06 pg  |
| HDACT              | CCAAGCAATATGGGCAATC   | TGGTCCCGTATC                  | 50.6 pg | 5.00 pg  | 5.06 pg  |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGT | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGGTTTCCA | 50.6 22 | 0.506 55 | 0 506 52 |
| HDAC3              | TTTTGCCCCCGACTTTACG   | CCGACTTTACG TTTCTTCCTTATCGT   |         | 0.000 Hg | 0.506 Hg |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGG | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGGGGGAACA | E 06 ng | 5.06 ng  |          |
| NDAC4              | GAAGGAGGCTACGATCTGC   | ACCTGGGTGATA                  | 5.06 Hg |          |          |
| TAATACGACTCACTATAG |                       | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGTTGGAACTG | 50.6 22 | 50.0 mm  |          |
| HDAC0              | CGATTGTAATGCCGAGAGA   | TTAAAAGCGTTG                  | 50.6 Hg | 50.6 Ng  |          |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGT | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCAGTTTTCC | 50.6 22 | 50.6 mg  |          |
| HDACTI             | AGTGTACCGCCCCGAGTAC   | GGCCAAAATAG                   | 50.6 Hg | 50.6 Ng  |          |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGG | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGGATTCGT |         | 50.6 mg  |          |
| EZHZ               | TGCCCAGAGAACAAACCAT   | GTTACCGTTCG                   | 50.6 ng | 50.6 ng  |          |
|                    | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGG | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGTCAAAAA | 50 6 pc | 50.6 mg  |          |
| FUGFJ              | TCCCCACAAGAACCACTGT   | TCGGCTGCAAT                   | gn a.uc | 50.6 ng  |          |

### Table S5. List of primer sequences for RNAi and injected dose conditions.

The maximum dose for viable pupa represents the highest dose of RNAi that enables pupal development. For HDAC1 and HDAC3, this dose caused lethality during the pupal stage; thus, the dose was further lowered to allow adult eclosion (maximum dose for viable adult). All other RNAi experiments successfully yielded the adult, so further adjustment was not performed.

| Trait                         | Relative size change | Sam | nple size | Effect (tre | eatment) | Effect (treatmer | nt x elytra width) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----------|-------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
|                               | (% of GFP control)   | GFP | Treatment | F           | Р        | F                | Р                  |
| HDAC1 knockdown               |                      |     |           |             |          |                  |                    |
| mandible length (ML)          | -3.00%               | 20  | 20        | 1.733       | 0.196    | 4.074            | 0.051              |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | -9.80%               | 20  | 20        | 20.286      | 0.000    | 1.918            | 0.175              |
| mandible width (MW)           | -4.90%               | 20  | 20        | 5.316       | 0.027    | 0.007            | 0.934              |
| gena width (GW)               | -1.60%               | 20  | 20        | 1.345       | 0.254    | 0.204            | 0.654              |
| prothorax width (PW)          | -1.50%               | 20  | 20        | 5.952       | 0.020    | 0.64             | 0.429              |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | -0.30%               | 20  | 20        | 0.001       | 0.980    | 0.292            | 0.592              |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | -0.40%               | 20  | 19        | 0.15        | 0.700    | 3.485            | 0.070              |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | 1.10%                | 20  | 20        | 1.306       | 0.261    | 0.821            | 0.371              |
| mid femur length (MFL)        | 0.20%                | 19  | 20        | 0.332       | 0.568    | 0.621            | 0.436              |
| mid femur width (MFW)         | 1.50%                | 19  | 20        | 1.883       | 0.178    | 0.001            | 0.974              |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | 0.80%                | 20  | 20        | 0.011       | 0.916    | 4.072            | 0.051              |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 0.30%                | 20  | 19        | 0.255       | 0.616    | 2.587            | 0.116              |
| genitalia length (GL)         | -0.70%               | 17  | 20        | 0.877       | 0.356    | 0.089            | 0.767              |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | 4.40%                | 20  | 19        | 16.14       | 0.000    | 0.205            | 0.654              |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | 3.90%                | 20  | 19        | 11.435      | 0.002    | 0.456            | 0.504              |
| HDAC3 knockdown               |                      |     |           |             |          |                  |                    |
| mandible length (ML)          | -                    | 20  | 20        | -           | -        | 5.459            | 0.025              |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | 12.80%               | 20  | 20        | 34.394      | 0.000    | 2.561            | 0.118              |
| mandible width (MW)           | 20.00%               | 20  | 20        | 70.231      | 0.000    | 0.205            | 0.653              |
| gena width (GW)               | -0.30%               | 20  | 20        | 0.084       | 0.773    | 1.386            | 0.247              |
| prothorax width (PW)          | -                    | 20  | 20        | -           | -        | 7.573            | 0.009              |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | -1.90%               | 20  | 20        | 5.466       | 0.025    | 2.346            | 0.134              |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | -1.80%               | 20  | 18        | 2.133       | 0.153    | 1.405            | 0.244              |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | -0.80%               | 20  | 20        | 0.44        | 0.511    | 2.306            | 0.138              |
| mid femur length (MFL)        | -0.20%               | 19  | 20        | 0.6         | 0.444    | 0.69             | 0.412              |
| mid femur width (MFW)         | 2.00%                | 19  | 20        | 3.285       | 0.078    | 0.966            | 0.332              |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | -0.60%               | 20  | 20        | 0.52        | 0.475    | 1.44             | 0.238              |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 2.30%                | 20  | 19        | 2.984       | 0.093    | 1.435            | 0.239              |
| genitalia length (GL)         | -0.60%               | 17  | 19        | 0.271       | 0.606    | 0.001            | 0.978              |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | -2.40%               | 20  | 18        | 5.631       | 0.023    | 0.181            | 0.673              |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | -3.50%               | 20  | 18        | 10.312      | 0.003    | 0.12             | 0.731              |

### Table S6. Effects of HDAC1 and HDAC3 late-knockdowns on trait sizes.

Relative trait sizes were calculated as estimated marginal means (adjusted means) at mean body size with elytra width as a covariate by ANCOVA. Bold letters indicate significant size changes when compared with the GFP RNAi control.

| Trait                         | Relative size change | San | nple size | Effect (tre | eatment) | Effect (treatme | nt x elytra width) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                               | (% of GFP control)   | GFP | Treatment | F           | Ρ        | F               | Р                  |
| HDAC1 early-knockdown         |                      |     |           |             |          |                 |                    |
| mandible length (ML)          | -9.50%               | 20  | 20        | 12.626      | 0.001    | 0.265           | 0.610              |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | -13.49%              | 20  | 20        | 27.950      | 0.000    | 0.015           | 0.902              |
| mandible width (MW)           | -14.22%              | 20  | 20        | 35.832      | 0.000    | 0.447           | 0.508              |
| gena width (GW)               | 0.49%                | 20  | 20        | 0.858       | 0.360    | 0.012           | 0.912              |
| prothorax width (PW)          | -0.70%               | 20  | 20        | 1.120       | 0.297    | 0.076           | 0.784              |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | -0.40%               | 20  | 20        | 0.743       | 0.394    | 0.139           | 0.711              |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | 0.32%                | 20  | 20        | 0.131       | 0.719    | 2.738           | 0.107              |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | -0.32%               | 20  | 20        | 0.250       | 0.620    | 2.351           | 0.134              |
| mid femur length (MFL)        | -0.59%               | 20  | 20        | 1.225       | 0.276    | 0.006           | 0.941              |
| mid femur width (MFW)         | -1.10%               | 20  | 20        | 1.804       | 0.187    | 0.020           | 0.888              |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | -0.95%               | 20  | 20        | 2.845       | 0.100    | 0.221           | 0.641              |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 0.79%                | 20  | 20        | 0.812       | 0.373    | 0.184           | 0.671              |
| genitalia length (GL)         | 0.27%                | 20  | 20        | 0.046       | 0.832    | 0.000           | 0.995              |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | 1.61%                | 20  | 20        | 9.223       | 0.004    | 0.159           | 0.692              |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | 1.62%                | 20  | 20        | 9.189       | 0.004    | 0.484           | 0.491              |
|                               |                      |     |           |             |          |                 |                    |
| HDAC3 early-knockdown         |                      |     |           |             |          |                 |                    |
| mandible length (ML)          | 2.44%                | 20  | 20        | 1.453       | 0.236    | 0.079           | 0.781              |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | 7.48%                | 20  | 20        | 31.931      | 0.000    | 0.229           | 0.635              |
| mandible width (MW)           | 12.46%               | 20  | 20        | 31.262      | 0.000    | 0.017           | 0.898              |
| gena width (GW)               | -0.17%               | 20  | 20        | 0.135       | 0.716    | 0.318           | 0.576              |
| prothorax width (PW)          | -0.69%               | 20  | 20        | 1.273       | 0.267    | 0.018           | 0.895              |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | -0.25%               | 20  | 20        | 0.286       | 0.596    | 0.019           | 0.892              |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | 0.28%                | 20  | 20        | 0.169       | 0.684    | 0.016           | 0.900              |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | 1.19%                | 20  | 20        | 2.602       | 0.115    | 0.028           | 0.868              |
| mid femur length (MFL)        | 0.92%                | 20  | 20        | 1.703       | 0.200    | 0.307           | 0.583              |
| mid femur width (MFW)         | 0.48%                | 19  | 20        | 0.112       | 0.740    | 0.175           | 0.679              |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | -0.67%               | 20  | 20        | 1.402       | 0.244    | 2.819           | 0.102              |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 0.78%                | 20  | 20        | 0.275       | 0.603    | 1.458           | 0.235              |
| genitalia length (GL)         | -0.56%               | 20  | 20        | 0.256       | 0.616    | 0.028           | 0.868              |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | 0.47%                | 20  | 20        | 0.576       | 0.453    | 0.224           | 0.639              |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | 0.39%                | 20  | 20        | 0.426       | 0.518    | 1.562           | 0.219              |

# **Table S7.** Effects of HDAC1 and HDAC3 early-knockdowns on trait sizes.

Relative trait sizes were calculated as estimated marginal means (adjusted means) at mean body size with elytra width as a covariate by ANCOVA. Bold letters indicate significant size changes when compared with the GFP RNAi control.

| Trait                         | PC1 (71.0%) | PC2 (11.1%) | PC3 (9.8%) | PC4 (8.5%) | PC5 (7.2%) |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| mandible length (ML)          | 0.859       | 0.321       | -0.105     | 0.208      | 0.28       |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | 0.724       | 0.617       | 0.096      | 0.293      | 0.131      |
| mandible width (MW)           | 0.622       | 0.695       | 0.1        | 0.263      | 0.208      |
| gena width (GW)               | 0.967       | 0.061       | -0.245     | 0.086      | -0.336     |
| prothorax width (PW)          | 0.912       | -0.101      | -0.278     | 0.291      | -0.509     |
| maximum prothorax width (MPW) | 0.955       | -0.109      | -0.346     | 0.056      | -0.231     |
| fore femur length (FFL)       | 0.946       | -0.077      | 0.136      | 0.15       | 0.054      |
| fore femur width (FFW)        | 0.95        | -0.085      | -0.128     | -0.081     | 0.206      |
| mid femur length (MFL)        | 0.888       | -0.135      | -0.021     | -0.18      | 0.057      |
| mid femur width (MFW)         | 0.874       | -0.036      | -0.326     | -0.611     | 0.042      |
| hind femur length (HFL)       | 0.723       | -0.025      | 0.689      | -0.236     | -0.159     |
| hind femur width (HFW)        | 0.792       | 0.119       | 0.521      | -0.488     | -0.174     |
| genitalia length (GL)         | 0.758       | 0.077       | 0.537      | 0.501      | -0.091     |
| wing vein length-1 (WVL-1)    | 0.726       | -0.603      | -0.05      | -0.034     | 0.499      |
| wing vein length-2 (WVL-2)    | 0.729       | -0.603      | 0.001      | 0.057      | 0.406      |

Table S8. Factor loadings for principal component analysis.

Note that detrended data (residuals of linear regression on body size (elytra width) were subjected to PCA. Strong loading factors in given PCs (correlation coefficient between the trait and the PC at P < 0.001 level) are highlighted in bold letters.

|                               |                      | -   |            |             |          |                   |                 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----|------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Trait                         | Relative size change | Sa  | mple size  | Effect (tre | eatment) | Effect (treatment | x elytra width) |
|                               | (% of GFP control)   | GFP | Treatmernt | F           | Р        | F                 | Р               |
| EZH2 knockdown                |                      |     |            |             |          |                   |                 |
| mandible length (ML)          | -                    | 20  | 20         | -           | -        | 18.633            | 0.000           |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | -                    | 20  | 20         | -           | -        | 4.337             | 0.044           |
| mandible width (MW)           | -29.40%              | 20  | 20         | 112.134     | 0.000    | 2.394             | 0.131           |
|                               |                      |     |            |             |          |                   |                 |
| PCGF3 knockdown               |                      |     |            |             |          |                   |                 |
| mandible length (ML)          | -                    | 20  | 20         | -           | -        | 19.167            | 0.000           |
| mandible outline length (MOL) | -                    | 20  | 20         | -           | -        | 9.667             | 0.004           |
| mandible width (MW)           | -25.80%              | 20  | 20         | 98.233      | 0.000    | 1.926             | 0.174           |

### Table S9. Effects of EZH2 and PCGF3 knockdowns on mandible sizes.

Relative trait means were calculated as estimated marginal means (adjusted means) at mean body size with elytra width as a covariate by ANCOVA. Bold letters indicate significant size changes when compared with the GFP RNAi control.

Table S10. List of primer sequences for quantitative RT-PCR.

| Gene   | Foreword primer 5' - 3' | Reverse primer 5' - 3' |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| HDAC1  | TGCAAACACGCTGTTAGTGC    | CAAAACCTTCGCACTAGACTTG |
| HDAC3  | ACAACACCTCGCTTCTCGTT    | TGAAGCTCCTTCCACACGTA   |
| HDAC4  | TTAAAACAACGCGTGATGGA    | GCTCTTGAGGAGGTGATTCG   |
| HDAC6  | GGATAAGAAGAAGGGCAGAGG   | CAACGACAATGGTTTCATCG   |
| HDAC11 | ACGGGAAATGAACACTTTGG    | CGCAAACACAAACAAACTGC   |
| EZH2   | CGCTGATGCAGTACCAAGAA    | AGGAAATTGCGTGGAAATTG   |
| PCGF3  | GGTCCCTGAATTGCAGAAAG    | GTACGTCGGCTGATGGTTTT   |
| ACTIN  | CCCATACCGACCATGAC       | TCCGGTATGTGCAAAGCC     |