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<b>Full Title:</b>	A high-quality chromosomal genome assembly of <i>Diospyros oleifera</i>	
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	Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Non-profit Research Institution of CAF (CAFYBB2017ZA004-3)	Dr. Fangdong Li
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Background: <i>Diospyros oleifera</i>, a member of the genus <i>Diospyros</i> of the family Ebenaceae, is an economically important tree. Phylogenetic analyses have indicated that <i>D. oleifera</i> is closely related to <i>D. kaki</i>, and could be used as a model plant for studies of <i>D. kaki</i>. Therefore, development of genomic resources of <i>D. oleifera</i> will facilitate auxiliary assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome and provide insight into the molecular mechanisms of major economic traits. Findings: The <i>D. oleifera</i> genome was assembled into 443.6 Gb of raw reads using the Pacific Bioscience Sequel and Illumina HiSeq X Ten platforms. The final draft genome was approximately 812.3 Mb and had a high level of continuity with the 3.36 Mb N50. Using the Hi-C data and the draft genome assembly, 15 scaffolds corresponding to the 15 chromosomes were assembled to a final size of 721.5 Mb using 332 scaffolds, accounting for 88.81% of the genome. The identified repeat sequences accounted for 54.8% of the genome. By de novo sequencing and analysis of homology with other plant species, 30,530 protein-coding genes with an average transcript size of 7,105.40 bp were annotated; of these, 28,580 protein-coding genes (93.61%) had conserved functional motifs or terms. In addition, 171 candidate genes involved in the tannin synthesis and destringency in persimmon were identified; of these chalcone synthase (CHS) genes expanded in the <i>D. oleifera</i> genome compared with <i>D. lotus</i>, <i>C. sinensis</i>, and <i>V. vinifera</i>. Moreover, 186 positively selected genes were identified, including chalcone isomerase (CHI) gene, which is a key enzyme in the flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway. Phylogenetic tree analysis indicated that the split of <i>D. oleifera</i> and <i>D. lotus</i> likely occurred 9.0 million years ago. In addition to the ancient <math>\gamma</math> event, a second whole-genome duplication event occurred in <i>D. oleifera</i> and <i>D. lotus</i> (<math>4dtv = 0.36 \sim 0.27-0.42</math>). Conclusions: We generated a high-quality chromosome-level draft genome for <i>D. oleifera</i>, which will facilitate assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome and further studies of major economic traits in the genus <i>Diospyros</i>.</p>	
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<b>Response to Reviewers:</b>	<p>Dear Editor,</p> <p>Thank you very much for offering us the opportunity to resubmit a revised version of our manuscript. Hereby, we submit the revised manuscript entitled "A high-quality chromosomal genome assembly of <i>Diospyros oleifera</i>" (GIGA-D-19-00174) to GigaScience. We appreciate the valuable comments and suggestions from you and the reviewers, which help us to improve and clarify the manuscript. We have discussed the comments carefully and tried our best to improve the manuscript accordingly.</p> <p>This study focuses on the genome sequencing, assembly and annotation of <i>D. oleifera</i>, moreover comparative genomic analyses with other species were also included. The purpose of this study is to provide accurate genomic information for the further studies on molecular mechanisms underlying the formation and regulation of important economic traits of <i>Diospyros</i> spp. Based on this present study, some biological issues such as sex differentiation of flowers and natural deastringence of fruits in persimmon are being studied, the results of which will be reported in the future. Additionally, we heard that a similar study has been conducted by another research group, and they have submitted their manuscript to another journal. Due to this information, we deeply appreciate that if the review progress of our manuscript could be accelerated.</p> <p>Detailed responses to your and the reviewers' comments are provided in the next sections. We hope these responses are satisfactory and that the revised version will be acceptable for publication.</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions and we are looking forward to your reply.</p> <p>Thanks and Best wishes!</p> <p>Yours sincerely, YujingSuo and Jianmin Fu</p> <p>Response to Reviewer:</p> <p>Reviewer: The authors complemented their study with a number of comparative genome analyses which indeed provide some, but limited novel biological insights. Some points from the first review round should be addressed or at least there should be some explanation why these issues are not relevant:</p> <p>Q1. transcriptome data: I appreciate the addition of the paragraph on extraction, library construction and sequencing but I still wonder why these data are not used in the analysis, eg. to establish transcription levels for gene or gene families of interest. It seems that the data may be of good quality, multiple tissues etc but there is no statistics or data description anywhere. Will/is the transcriptome data deposited in some public archive?</p> <p>A: This article focuses on the genome sequencing, assembly, annotation of <i>D. oleifera</i>, and comparative genomic analyses with other species. The purpose of this article is to provide accurate genomic information for the studies of molecular mechanisms</p>

underlying the formation and regulation of important economic traits in *Diospyros* spp. Thus, the transcriptome data is mainly used for genomic annotation. Additionally, the transcriptome data is also used to analyze the expression patterns of CHS genes in different tissues of *D. oleifera*. (Revised manuscript , Page 12 , Line288-291). The transcriptome data is deposited in NCBI, you can find the data under this link: <https://dataview.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/object/PRJNA532832?reviewer=gbss3pp9p06h5hosks3vrepirg>

Q2.Phylogeny: how about the bias possibly introduced by just picking the single copy orthologs for the construction of the phylogenetic tree? This set is just a very small subset of the full gene content. To me lines 260/261, and thus construction of the phylogeny, are largely unclear.

A: Gene families were generated by Orthofinder. After clustering, 19,722 gene families were detected across *D.oleifera* and 11 other species, of which 5,599 gene families and 221 single-copy orthologs were shared by 12 species. A phylogenetic tree of the 12 plant species was constructed using Orthofinder based on phylogenetic tree constructed by FastME. Gene trees were inferred for each orthogroup by aligning the sequences using mafft-linsi and inferring a maximum likelihood tree from this alignment using FastTree. DLCpar was used to reconcile these gene trees with the known species tree. In addition, 221 single-copy orthologs were used to estimate divergence time, rather than construct the phylogenetic tree.

Q3. Gene families: I'm not sure whether there is any biological conclusion on the genes and enrichments that were identified as *D.oleifera* specific? Can the terms be related to any biological features?

A: Using GO term enrichment analysis, we performed functional annotation on the *D.oleifera* specific genes. As a result, only 98 of the 312 genes had conserved functional terms which were significantly enriched for zinc ion binding, proteolysis, and nutrient reservoir activity. Moreover, 4 and 1 of these genes were involved in the carbohydrate metabolic process and aldehyde metabolic process respectively, which may play roles in the carbohydrate accumulation and destringency of fruit in *D.oleifera*.

Q4. Expansion/Contraction: what parameters were used for CAFÉ? CHS expansion results should be outlined in the text. What does "different degrees of expansion" mean? An obvious additional and worthwhile analysis would be check expanded/contracted gene families for their expression patterns. What is the conclusion of LAC gene family contraction?

A: (1) For CAFÉ parameter Settings: Gene families with size significantly changed for species/branch: viterbi  $p \leq 0.05$ , and the others are the default parameters.

(2) The description of these results has been revised as follow: compared with *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*, chalcone synthase (CHS) genes expanded in the *D. oleifera* genome (11 genes in *D.oleifera*, 7 genes in *D.lotus*, 3 genes in *C. sinensis*, and 1 gene in *V. vinifera*;  $P\_value = 0.0089$ ). In addition, Using transcriptome data, CHS gene expression patterns in different tissues of persimmon were analyzed. (Revised manuscript , Page 12 , Line 284-291)

(3) Laccase (LAC) genes were responsible for the polymerization of persimmon tannin monomers. The contraction of these genes may explain the difference of tannin types which were defined according to the polymerization level of tannin monomers between *D. oleifera* and *V. vinifera*.

Q5. Positively selected genes: I'm really not sure about the significance of this analysis. Are the terms identified somewhat related to any biological features?

A: Positively selection analysis was used to study the adaptive evolution of genes, which could help us better understand the evolution of *D.oleifera*. In this study, 186 genes were positively selected in *D. oleifera* compared with *D. lotus*, *A. chinensis*, *P. veris*, *R. delavayi* and *S. lycopersicum*. Among them, chalcone isomerase (CHI) gene, a key enzyme in the flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway, was found to be positively selected (ID:evm.model.original\_scaffold\_909.101). The positive selection of CHI gene may be one of the reasons why *D. oleifera* is different from other species in producing abundant tannin. (Revised manuscript , Page13 , Line 305-307)

	<p>Q6. Please check the formats and structure of your files provided. Testing the GFF files with Gff3Validator results in an error for example:gt gff3validator Dol.gff3gt gff3validator: error: child on line 44626 in file Dol.gff3" has different sequence id than its parent on line 44625 ('Chr4' vs. 'fragScaff_scaffold_95:::fragment_2:::debris')</p> <p>A: Thank you for pointing this out, we have checked the formats and structure of our files, and corrected the error. The revised files have been re-uploaded to the system.</p> <p>Q7.Especially the newly added text needs significant improvement in language and grammar.</p> <p>A: The English in this revised manuscript has been checked by at least two professional editors, both native speakers of English. For a certificate, please see: <a href="http://www.textcheck.com/certificate/FrAnnY">http://www.textcheck.com/certificate/FrAnnY</a></p>
<b>Additional Information:</b>	
<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
Are you submitting this manuscript to a special series or article collection?	No
<p><b>Experimental design and statistics</b></p> <p>Full details of the experimental design and statistical methods used should be given in the Methods section, as detailed in our <a href="#">Minimum Standards Reporting Checklist</a>. Information essential to interpreting the data presented should be made available in the figure legends.</p> <p>Have you included all the information requested in your manuscript?</p>	Yes
<p><b>Resources</b></p> <p>A description of all resources used, including antibodies, cell lines, animals and software tools, with enough information to allow them to be uniquely identified, should be included in the Methods section. Authors are strongly encouraged to cite <a href="#">Research Resource Identifiers</a> (RRIDs) for antibodies, model organisms and tools, where possible.</p> <p>Have you included the information requested as detailed in our <a href="#">Minimum Standards Reporting Checklist</a>?</p>	Yes
<b>Availability of data and materials</b>	Yes

All datasets and code on which the conclusions of the paper rely must be either included in your submission or deposited in [publicly available repositories](#) (where available and ethically appropriate), referencing such data using a unique identifier in the references and in the “Availability of Data and Materials” section of your manuscript.

Have you have met the above requirement as detailed in our [Minimum Standards Reporting Checklist?](#)

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# 1 A high-quality chromosomal genome assembly of *Diospyros oleifera*

2

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29 **Abstract**30 **Background:** *Diospyros oleifera*, a member of the genus *Diospyros* of the family Ebenaceae, is an31 economically important tree. Phylogenetic analyses have indicated that *D. oleifera* is closely related32 to *D. kaki*, and could be used as a model plant for studies of *D. kaki*. Therefore, development of33 genomic resources of *D. oleifera* will facilitate auxiliary assembly of the hexaploid persimmon34 genome and provide insight into the molecular mechanisms of major economic traits. **Findings:** The35 *D. oleifera* genome was assembled into 443.6 Gb of raw reads using the Pacific Bioscience

36 Sequel and Illumina HiSeq X Ten platforms. The final draft genome was approximately 812.3 Mb

37 and had a high level of continuity with the 3.36 Mb N50. Using the Hi-C data and the draft

38 genome assembly, 15 scaffolds corresponding to the 15 chromosomes were assembled to a final

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43 or terms. In addition, 171 candidate genes involved in the tannin synthesis and deastringency in  
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45 genome compared with *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*. Moreover, 186 positively selected  
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50 **Conclusions:** We generated a high-quality chromosome-level draft genome for *D. oleifera*, which  
51 will facilitate assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome and further studies of major economic  
52 traits in the genus *Diospyros*.

53

54 **Keywords:** *Diospyros oleifera*; chromosome-level genome assembly; Hi-C assembly; Tannin  
55 synthesis; sex determination genes

56

## 57 **Data Description**

### 58 **Background**

59 *Diospyros* is the largest genus in the family Ebenaceae, comprising more than 500 species, of  
60 which the ebony and fruit have considerable economic value. The ebony of more than 20 species  
61 of *Diospyros* (including *D. reticulata* from Africa, *D. ebenum* and *D. ferrea* from Asia) is used  
62 commercially for arts, crafts, and decorative building materials. In addition, *D. kaki*, *D. oleifera*,  
63 and *D. lotus* are important species for fruit production; indeed, *D. kaki* is one of the most widely

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64 distributed fruit trees worldwide. However, most *D. kaki* cultivars are hexaploid ( $2n = 6\times = 90$ ) or  
65 nonaploid ( $2n = 9\times = 135$ ) and their progenitor, origin, and polyploidization mechanisms are  
66 unclear, which has hampered molecular breeding. *D. oleifera* is diploid ( $2n = 2\times = 30$ ) and its  
67 fruit contains large quantities of tannins, important raw materials for the production of persimmon  
68 paint (Fig. 1). *D. oleifera* is also frequently selected as stock for grafting of persimmon (*D. kaki*).  
69 Phylogenetic analyses based on the chloroplast genome and protein-coding, intergenic, and intron  
70 sequences have indicated that *D. oleifera* is closely related to *D. kaki* and could be used as a  
71 model plant for studies of *D. kaki* [1]. Therefore, analysis of the genome of *D. oleifera* will  
72 contribute to auxiliary assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome.

73 The cultivars of hexaploid *D. kaki* are classified into four groups based on the mode of  
74 astringency loss by the fruits: pollination-constant non-astringent (PCNA), pollination-variant  
75 non-astringent (PVNA), pollination-constant astringent (PCA), and pollination-variant astringent  
76 (PVA) [2]. PCNA is the most desirable type because the fruits are edible without any postharvest  
77 treatment. Due to the complexity of the hexaploid *D. kaki* genome and the lack of genomic  
78 sequence information, the natural deastringency mechanism of China-PCNA (CPCNA) *D. kaki* is  
79 still unclear. Therefore, this study, which will identify tannin synthesis related genes based on  
80 genomic sequence information in *D. oleifera*, will be helpful for subsequent studies on natural  
81 deastringency mechanisms of CPCNA *D. kaki*.

82 The sexuality of *Diospyros spp.* is diverse. For example, diploid *D. lotus* is dioecious,  
83 including gynoeocious (bearing only female flowers) and androeocious (bearing only male flowers)  
84 types, whereas both diploid *D. oleifera* and hexaploid *D. kaki* contain gynoeocious, androeocious,  
85 monoecious (bearing both female and male flowers), polygamomonoecious (bearing female, male  
86 and hermaphroditic flowers), and andromonoecious (bearing male and hermaphroditic flowers)  
87 types. The sexuality of *D. oleifera* and *D. kaki* is also labile. For example, gynoeocious *D. oleifera*  
88 and *D. kaki* trees may occasionally bear male flowers [3]. The mechanism underlying such sexual



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89 diversity and lability in diploid *D. oleifera*, in contrast to the dioecy of diploid *D. lotus* deserves  
90 further investigation; greater understanding of this mechanism will also help to uncover the  
91 complicated mechanism of sexual diversity and lability in *D. kaki*. The genomic sequence  
92 information of *D. oleifera* obtained in the present study will be valuable for studies on sexuality  
93 in *D. oleifera* and other *Diospyros spp.*

94 Here, we performed a high-quality chromosome-level reference genome assembly for *D.*  
95 *oleifera* (NCBI:txid227308) using the long reads generated by the Pacific Biosciences (PacBio)  
96 DNA sequencing platform and Hi-C data. The high quality (in terms of completeness and  
97 continuity) of the genome will facilitate both assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome and  
98 further studies of major economic traits in the genus *Diospyros*.

#### 99 **Genomic DNA extraction, library construction, sequencing, and genome size estimation**

100 Genomic DNA was extracted from fresh leaves of *D. oleifera* using a DNasecure Plant Kit  
101 (Tiangen Biotech, Beijing, China). A short-read genomic library was prepared using the TruSeq  
102 DNA PCR-Free LT Library Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). Five paired-end genomic  
103 sequence libraries with a gradient insert size of 250 to 450 bp were constructed and sequenced on  
104 the Illumina HiSeq X Ten platform. A total of 104.02 Gb of raw sequence data (119.78-fold  
105 coverage of the *D. oleifera* genome) were used for genome assembly (Supplementary Table S1).

106 At least 10 µg of sheared DNA was required to generate the 40 kb insert library. Preparation  
107 of the SMRT cell template involved DNA concentration, damage repair, end repair, ligation of  
108 hairpin adapters, and template purification. Subsequently, the genome was sequenced on the  
109 PacBio Sequel platform (Pacific Biosciences, Menlo Park, CA, USA). A total of 99.76 Gb of raw  
110 sequence data (114.88-fold coverage of the *D. oleifera* genome) were used for genome assembly  
111 (Supplementary Table S1).

112 To produce a 10X genome library, about 1 ng of input DNA (50 kb length) was used for the  
113 GEM reaction during PCR, and 16 bp barcodes were introduced into droplets. Next, the droplets

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114 were fractured following purification of the intermediate DNA library. The library comprised  
115 109.88 Gb (126.53-fold coverage of the *D. oleifera* genome) and was sequenced using 150 bp  
116 paired-end reads on the Illumina HiSeq X platform (Supplementary Table S1).

117 One Dovetail Hi-C library was prepared as described previously [4]. Briefly, for each  
118 library, chromatin was fixed in place in the nucleus using formaldehyde and then extracted. Fixed  
119 chromatin was digested with *DpnII*, the 5' overhangs were filled using biotinylated nucleotides,  
120 and free blunt ends were ligated. After ligation, crosslinks were reversed, and DNA was separated  
121 from protein. Purified DNA was treated to remove biotin outside of the ligated fragments, sheared  
122 to a mean fragment size of about 350 bp, and used to create sequence libraries with NEBNext  
123 Ultra enzymes (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA, USA) and Illumina-compatible adapters.  
124 Biotin-containing fragments were isolated using streptavidin beads before PCR enrichment of the  
125 libraries; the libraries were next sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq PE150 platform. A total of  
126 98.24 Gb of reads was produced for the libraries. Together, these Dovetail Hi-C library reads  
127 provided 113.12-fold physical coverage of the genome (Supplementary Table S1).

128 High-quality paired-end reads from *D. oleifera* were used to generate 17-mer frequency  
129 information by k-mer analysis [5]. The 17-mer distribution was dependent on the characteristics  
130 of the genome and followed a Poisson distribution (Supplementary Fig. S1). We estimated the  
131 genome to be 868.41 Mb in size with a heterozygosity of 1.08% (Supplementary Table S2).

### 132 ***De novo* assembly of *D. oleifera***

133 *De novo* assembly of the long reads generated by SMRT sequencing was performed using  
134 FALCON [6,7] (v.0.3; Falcon, RRID:SCR\_016089). Briefly, we first selected the longest  
135 coverage of subreads as seeds for error correction. Next, the data were filtered and assembled  
136 (length\_cutoff\_pr = 4000, max\_diff = 100, and max\_cov = 100). A total of 2,986 contigs was  
137 assembled with a total length of 806.74 Mb (accounting for about 92.9% of the estimated  
138 genome), an N50 of 2.92 Mb, and a longest contig of 14.72 Mb (Table 1). The primary contigs

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139 (p-contigs) were polished using Quiver [8] by aligning SMRT reads, which produced a genome of  
140 812.37 Mb and an N50 of 2.94 Mb. Finally, Pilon [9] (v.1.22; Pilon, RRID:SCR\_014731) was  
141 used to perform the second round of error correction with the short paired-end reads generated by  
142 the Illumina HiSeq platform, resulting in a genome of 811.09 Mb and a longest contig of 14.81  
143 Mb (Table 1). For the scaffolding step, Long Ranger (v. 2.1.2,) [10] was applied to build scaffolds  
144 using the 10X data. FragScaff [11] (v. 1-1) was used to build superscaffolds from the barcoded  
145 sequencing reads. The final assembly contained 2,812 scaffolds and had a total length of  
146 812.32 Mb, representing approximately 93.54% of the genome estimated by k-mer analysis. The  
147 sizes of the longest contig and scaffold were 14.82 and 17.43 Mb, respectively, and the N50s  
148 were 2.94 and 3.36 Mb, respectively (Table 1). Subsequently, the Hi-C sequencing data were  
149 aligned to the assembled scaffolds by BWA-mem [12] (v.0.7.8), and the scaffolds were clustered  
150 onto chromosomes with LACHESIS (LACHESIS, RRID:SCR\_017644)[13]. Among the 2,812  
151 scaffolds, 332 were grouped into the 15 chromosomes, with maximum and minimum lengths of  
152 61.45 Mb and 40.21 Mb, respectively (Fig. 2). The final genome was 721.45 Mb and the N50 was  
153 33.5 Mb, accounting for 88.81% of the total genome (Supplementary Table S3, Fig. 3). The  
154 continuity and integrity of the assembly for *D. oleifera* is significantly better than that of the  
155 published *D. lotus* genome, which final genome was 945.63 Mb with contigs N50 0.65Mb, and  
156 746.09 Mb (78.9%) was assembled into the 15 pseudomolecules[14].

### 157 **Assessment of the assembled genome**

158 To estimate the quality of the assembled genome, the short reads were mapped back to the consensus  
159 genome using BWA (BWA, RRID:SCR\_010910); the overall mapping rate was 98.19%, suggesting  
160 that the assembly contained comprehensive genomic information (Supplementary Table S4). The  
161 completeness of gene regions was assessed using Core Eukaryotic Gene Mapping Approach  
162 (CEGMA, RRID:SCR\_015055) [15] and Benchmarking Universal Single-Copy Orthologs (BUSCO,  
163 RRID:SCR\_015008) [16] to evaluate the completeness of the assembled genome. The CEGMA

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164 assessment showed that 215 (93.55%) of 248 core eukaryotic genes were covered (Supplementary  
165 Table S5). In contrast, 89.4% of complete BUSCOs were detected and 6.6% were missing  
166 (Supplementary Table S6), indicating that the assembled genome had a high level of completeness.

### 167 **Repetitive elements identification of *D. oleifera***

168 The *D. oleifera* genome was subjected to annotation of repetitive sequences—transposable elements  
169 (TEs) and tandem repeats. RepeatMasker [17,18] (v.4.0.5; RepeatMasker, RRID:SCR\_012954) was  
170 used to detect TEs in a repeat library derived from a known repeat library (Replibase, v. 15.02) and a  
171 *de novo* repeat library generated using RepeatModeler [4] (v. 1.0.5; RepeatModeler,  
172 RRID:SCR\_015027), RepeatScout [19] (v.1.0.5; RepeatScout, RRID:SCR\_014653), Piler (v.1.0;  
173 PILER, RRID:SCR\_017333), and LTR\_FINDER [20] (v.1.0.7; LTR\_Finder, RRID:SCR\_015247).  
174 RepeatProteinMask [18] (v.4.0.5) was used to detect TEs in the *D. oleifera* genome by comparison  
175 with a TE database. Tandem repeats were identified using Tandem Repeats Finder [21] (v.4.0.7).

176 Repetitive sequences comprised 54.8% of the *D. oleifera* genome, among which TEs accounted  
177 for 53.03%. The most frequently detected TEs were long terminal repeat (LTR) retrotransposons  
178 (46.73%), followed by DNA TEs (4.17%). Of the LTRs, 26.63% and 14.40% were Ty3/Gypsy and  
179 Ty1/Copia, respectively (Table 2).

### 180 **Genomic RNA extraction, library construction, sequencing**

181 For RNA-sequencing, we collected different tissues of *D.oleifera* from the same plant used for  
182 genome sequencing, including material from leaf, root, seed, stem and fruit. Total RNAs were  
183 extracted using TRIzol® Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA) according to the manufacturer's  
184 instructions. RNA-seq was performed using an Illumina platform.

### 185 **Annotation of protein-coding genes**

186 *De novo*, homolog-based, and RNA sequencing (RNA-seq)-based predictions were employed to  
187 annotate the protein-coding genes in the *D. oleifera* genome. The following *ab initio* gene prediction  
188 software packages were used to predict genes: Augustus [22, 23] (v. 3.0.2; Augustus,

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189 RRID:SCR\_008417), Genescan [24] (v. 1.0; GENSCAN, RRID:SCR\_012902), Geneid [25] (v.1.4),  
190 GlimmerHMM [26] (v. 3.0.2; GlimmerHMM, RRID:SCR\_002654), and SNAP [27] (SNAP,  
191 RRID:SCR\_007936; 2013-11-29). The protein sequences of seven species (including *Arabidopsis*  
192 *thaliana* and *Daucus carota*) were downloaded from Ensembl or the National Center for  
193 Biotechnology Information (NCBI) databases. Homologous sequences were aligned against the  
194 repeat-masked *D. oleifera* genome using TBLASTN [28] (v.2.2.26, E-value  $\leq 1E-05$ ; TBLASTN,  
195 RRID:SCR\_011822). Genewise [29] (v. 2.2.0) was employed to predict gene models based on the  
196 aligned sequences. The RNA-seq data were assembled into the unique sequences of transcripts by  
197 mapping the RNA-seq data to the *D. oleifera* genome using TopHat [30] (v. 2.0.8; TopHat,  
198 RRID:SCR\_013035) and Cufflinks [31, 32] (v. 2.1.1; Cufflinks, RRID:SCR\_014597) for transcript  
199 assembly. Alternatively, Trinity [33] (v.2.1.1; Trinity, RRID:SCR\_013048) was used to assemble the  
200 RNA-seq data, and the gene structures were improved using PASA [34, 35] software (r20140417;  
201 PASA, RRID:SCR\_014656). A weighted and non-redundant gene set was generated by merging all  
202 of the gene models predicted by the above three approaches with EVidenceModeler (EVM,  
203 RRID:SCR\_014659) [36] (v.1.1.1). PASA was applied to adjust the gene models generated by EVM.  
204 The final reference gene set contained 30,530 protein-coding genes with an average transcript size of  
205 7,105.4 bp, an average coding sequence size of 1,080.74 bp, and a mean number of exons per gene  
206 of 4.62 (Supplementary Table S7). The number of annotated genes in this genome is less than that in  
207 the *D. lotus* genome (40,532 genes).

## 208 **Functional annotation**

209 Functional annotation of protein-coding genes was performed according to the best BLAST hit by  
210 BLASTP (v.2.2.28, E-value  $\leq 1E-05$ ; BLASTP, RRID:SCR\_001010) searching of the SwissProt,  
211 TrEMBL [37], and NCBI non-redundant (NR) protein databases. Motifs and domains were annotated  
212 by searching the Pfam, PRINTS, PROSITE, ProDom, and SMART InterPro (v. 29.0) databases  
213 using InterProScan [38] (v. 4.8; InterProScan, RRID:SCR\_005829). The Gene Ontology term for

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214 each gene was annotated by Blast2GO (Blast2GO, RRID:SCR\_005828) [39]. Additionally, the gene  
215 sets were mapped to Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) [40] (v. 53) pathways to  
216 identify the best match classification for each gene (BLASTp E-value  $\leq 1E-05$ ). Finally, 28,580  
217 protein-coding genes (93.61% of total 30,530 genes) had conserved functional motifs or functional  
218 terms—92.03% (28,098), 84.16% (25,695), and 71.21% (21,739) of the genes in NR, InterPro, and  
219 KEGG, respectively (Supplementary Table S8).

### 220 **Annotation of non-coding RNAs**

221 tRNA genes were predicted using tRNAscan-SE software [41] (v.1.4; tRNAscan-SE,  
222 RRID:SCR\_010835) with the default parameters. rRNAs were annotated based on their level of  
223 homology with the rRNAs of several species of higher plants (not shown) using BLASTN with an E-  
224 value of  $1e-5$ . The miRNA and snRNA fragments were identified by searching the Rfam database (v.  
225 11.0) using INFERNAL [42,43] (v.1.1; Infernal, RRID:SCR\_011809) software. Finally, 564  
226 miRNAs, 507 tRNAs, 2,207 rRNAs, and 803 snRNAs were identified, which had average lengths of  
227 114.69, 74.82, 161.40, and 111.54 bp, respectively (Supplementary Table S9).

228

### 229 **Identification of tannin synthase genes in *D. oleifera***

230 Given the importance of tannin production in *D. oleifera*, we identified genes within the tannin  
231 biosynthesis pathway, which include the chorismic acid pathway, phenylpropane metabolic pathway,  
232 flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway, and proanthocyanidin specific pathway (Supplementary Fig. S1).  
233 All of the synthase genes involved in the four pathways, as well as several closely related  
234 transcription factors (TFs) including WD40 and WIP-ZF were identified by aligning to reference  
235 genes downloaded from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) [44] or The  
236 Arabidopsis Information Resource (TAIR) [45] using Blastp (E-value $<1e-5$ , identity $\geq 50\%$ , and  
237 coverage $\geq 50\%$ ). A Pfam HMMER search was used to filter genes that did not contain the  
238 corresponding domain. TFs including MYB, MYC, and WRKY were identified and classified into

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239 different families using the iTAK pipeline (v.1.7) [46]. As a result, 171 genes and 380 TFs were  
240 identified, of which 13, 59, and 21 genes were involved in the phenylpropane metabolic pathway,  
241 flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway, and proanthocyanidin specific pathway, respectively. We also  
242 detected 18 genes encoding transport proteins such as glutathione S-transferase (GST) and multi-  
243 drug and toxic compound extrusion transporter (MATE), which were closely related to  
244 transmembrane transport of tannin. We identified the key genes of acetaldehyde metabolism, such as  
245 *ADH* (10), *ALDH* (19), and *PDC* (5), which were related to deastringency in persimmon  
246 (Supplementary Table S10). The tannin synthase genes and TFs identified in this study will provide  
247 a basis for molecular breeding of persimmon tannins.

#### 248 **Gene family cluster, phylogenetic tree construction, and divergence time estimation**

249 Ten other sequenced plant species were used to investigate the evolution of *D. oleifera*, including  
250 eight asterids (*D. lotus*, *Primula veris*, *Rhododendron delavayi*, *Camellia sinensis*, *Actinidia*  
251 *chinensis*, *Daucus carota*, *Coffea canephora*, and *Solanum lycopersicum*) and 3 rosids plants (*A.*  
252 *thaliana*, *Vitis vinifera*, and *Cucumis melo*). Gene families were generated by Orthofinder [47, 48]  
253 (v.2.3.1). First, nucleotide and protein data of 10 species were downloaded from Ensembl (Release  
254 70) and NCBI. Before executing an “all against all” BLASTP (E-value  $\leq 1E-07$ ) program, the  
255 longest transcript was selected from alternatively spliced transcripts of one gene, and genes with  $\leq$   
256 50 amino acids were removed. The alignments with high-scoring segment pairs were conjoined for  
257 each gene pair by SOLAR (Sorting Out Local Alignment Results; V0.0.19) [49]. After clustering,  
258 19,722 gene families were detected in *D. oleifera* and 11 other species, of which 5,599 gene families  
259 and 221 single-copy orthologs were shared by 12 species. Among the 5 Ericales species (*D. oleifera*,  
260 *D. lotus*, *A. chinensis*, *R. delavayi*, and *C. sinensis*), 177 gene families consisting of 312 genes were  
261 unique to *D. oleifera* (Supplementary Fig. S3). Go enrichment analysis of these genes indicated that  
262 98 genes had conserved functional terms which were significantly enriched in GO term of zinc ion

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263 binding, proteolysis, and nutrient reservoir activity. In addition, 4 and 1 of these genes were involved  
264 in the carbohydrate metabolic process and aldehyde metabolic process respectively, which may play  
265 roles in the carbohydrate accumulation and destringency of fruit in *D. oleifera*.

266 A phylogenetic tree of the 12 plant species was constructed using Orthofinder (OrthoFinder,  
267 RRID:SCR\_017118) based on phylogenetic tree constructed by FastME [50] (v.2.1.5). Gene trees  
268 were inferred for each orthogroup by aligning the sequences using mafft-linsi and inferring a  
269 maximum likelihood tree from this alignment using FastTree (FastTree, RRID:SCR\_015501).  
270 DLCpar was used to reconcile these gene trees with the known species tree. Then, the mcmctree  
271 program of PAML [51, 52] (v.4.5; PAML, RRID:SCR\_014932) was applied to estimate divergence  
272 time among 12 species using the 221 shared single-copy orthologs with main parameters burn-  
273 in=100,000, sample-number=100,000, and sample-frequency=2. 4 calibration points were selected  
274 from the TimeTree website [53] as normal priors to restrain the age of the nodes. The phylogenetic  
275 tree confirmed the grouping of Angiospermae. The split of *D. oleifera* and *D. lotus* was estimated at  
276 9.0 million years ago (Mya) (Fig.4).

### 277 **Expansion and contraction of gene families**

278 We determined the expansion and contraction of the gene families by comparing the cluster size  
279 differences between the ancestor and each species using the CAFÉ program [54]. For parameter  
280 Settings: Gene families with size significantly changed for species/branch: viterbi  $p \leq 0.05$ , and the  
281 others are the default parameters. A random birth and death model was used to study changes in gene  
282 families along each lineage of the phylogenetic tree. A probabilistic graphical model was introduced  
283 to calculate the probability of transitions in gene family size from parent to child nodes in the  
284 phylogeny. Using conditional likelihoods as the test statistics, we calculated the corresponding p-  
285 value for each lineage; a p-value of 0.05 was used to identify families that were significantly  
286 expanded and contracted. Compared with the common ancestor of *D. oleifera* and *D. lotus*, 175 gene



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287 families (1,896 genes) have expanded in *D. oleifera* (Supplementary Fig. S4); these were enriched in  
288 several KEGG pathways including ubiquitin mediated proteolysis, ABC transporters, carbon fixation  
289 in photosynthetic organisms. By contrast, 333 gene families (1,021 genes) were contracted in *D.*  
290 *oleifera*; these were enriched in several KEGG pathways including plant–pathogen interaction,  
291 phenylpropanoid biosynthesis, cyanoamino acid metabolism.

292 In addition, the reference sequences of tannin synthase genes identified in *D. oleifera* were  
293 used for a blast query to identify homologous genes in *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*. A  
294 sequence with similarity greater than the cutoff (50%) and coverage greater than the cutoff (50%)  
295 was selected as a preliminary candidate gene, followed by searching for the domain using  
296 hmmsearch. When the query was identical with that in the subject, the candidate gene was retained.  
297 Fisher’s exact test ( $p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$ ) was performed on the number of individual genes related to  
298 tannin synthesis in the genomes of the four species to see whether the corresponding gene expanded  
299 or contracted. Compared with *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*, chalcone synthase (*CHS*) genes  
300 expanded in the *D. oleifera* genome (11 genes in *D. oleifera*, 7 genes in *D. lotus*, 3 genes in *C.*  
301 *sinensis*, and one gene in *V. vinifera*;  $P\text{-value} = 0.0089$ ) (Supplementary Table S11). *CHS* is the first  
302 key enzyme in the flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway; expansion of the *CHS* gene may be related to the  
303 abundant tannin production in *D. oleifera*. In addition, the expression of *CHS* gene in different  
304 tissues of *D. oleifera* was analyzed using transcriptome data. The result showed that the expression  
305 of *CHS* genes were spatiotemporal specific, with 3 genes highly expressed in leaves, 6 in roots and 1  
306 in seeds (Supplementary Fig. S5). A contraction of laccase (*LAC*) genes that were responsible for the  
307 polymerization of persimmon tannin monomers [55, 56], was observed in *D. oleifera* compared with  
308 *V. vinifera* (21 *LAC* genes in *D. oleifera* and 53 in *V. vinifera*). This phenomenon may explain the  
309 difference of tannin types which were defined according to the polymerization level of tannin  
310 monomers between *D. oleifera* and *V. vinifera*.

### 311 **Positively selected genes in *D. oleifera***

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312 To understand the evolution of *D. oleifera*, positively selection analysis was performed to study the  
313 adaptive evolution of genes. The coding sequence (CDS) alignments of 789 single-copy gene  
314 families in *D. oleifera*, *D. lotus*, *A. chinensis*, *P. veris*, *R. delavayi* and *S. lycopersicum* were  
315 generated using MUSCLE (MUSCLE, RRID:SCR\_011812). Gblocks (Gblocks,  
316 RRID:SCR\_015945) [57] was applied to filter poorly aligned positions and divergent regions of the  
317 CDS alignments. With *D. oleifera* as the foreground branch, positive selection sites were detected  
318 based on branch-site models [58] of PAML [51] using the CDS alignments. P-values were computed  
319 using the  $\chi^2$  statistic and adjusted by FDR method. Finally, 186 genes were positively selected in *D.*  
320 *oleifera* (Supplementary Table S12). Among them, chalcone isomerase (*CHI*) gene, a key enzyme in  
321 the flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway, was found to be positively selected  
322 (ID:evm.model.original\_scaffold\_909.101). The positive selection of *CHI* gene may be one of the  
323 reasons why *D. oleifera* is different from other species in producing abundant tannin.

#### 324 **Whole-genome duplication and macrosynteny analysis**

325 We used BLASTP (E-value < 1e-5) to perform homolog and paralog searches with *D. oleifera* and  
326 other genomes (*A. chinensis*, *C. canephora*, *C. sinensis*), and MCScanX (s = 5, e = 1e-5) [59] was  
327 used to detect syntenic blocks. Then, transversion substitutions at fourfold degenerate sites (4dtv)  
328 rates for all syntenic genes were calculated to identify putative whole genome duplication or species  
329 split events in *D. oleifera*. In addition to the ancient whole-genome duplication (WGD) event that  
330 occurred in all dicot species,  $\gamma$  event (all core eudicots share an ancient WGD, 4dtv = 0.66), a second  
331 WGD event occurred in *D. oleifera* and *D. lotus* (4dtv = 0.36 ~0.27-0.42) that might have  
332 contributed to the divergence of Ebenaceae with *A. chinensis* and *C. sinensis* (Fig. 5). We obtained  
333 431 syntenic blocks between *D. olerifera* and *D. lotus*. On the whole, except for the translocation of  
334 some loci, the sequence of genes between *D. olerifera* and *D. lotus* was relatively conservative  
335 (Supplementary Fig. S6). However, compared with the *D. olerifera* genome, the *D. lotus* genome

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336 lacked some regions on each chromosome, that may have been lost in the process of anchoring  
337 contigs to 15 pseudo-chromosomes using genetic maps. This result further demonstrated the integrity  
338 and accuracy of *D. oleifera* genome assembly.

### 339 **Conclusions**

340 We generated a high-quality chromosome-level draft genome of *D. oleifera* based on long reads  
341 generated by the third-generation PacBio Sequel sequencing platform. The final draft genome was  
342 approximately 812.3 Mb, slightly smaller than the 868.4 Mb estimated by k-mer analysis. The Hi-  
343 C data were combined with the assembled draft genome to generate chromosome-length scaffolds.  
344 As a result, 15 scaffolds corresponding to the 15 chromosomes were assembled; these comprised  
345 721.5 Mb and 332 scaffolds, with an N50 of 33.5 Mb, and accounted for 88.81% of the genome. A  
346 total of 30,530 protein-coding genes were predicted, and 93.61% (28,580 genes) of all protein-  
347 coding genes were annotated. Also, repeat sequences accounted for 54.8% of the genome, and 564  
348 miRNAs, 507 tRNAs, 2,207 rRNAs, and 803 snRNAs were identified. In addition, 171 candidate  
349 genes involved in tannin synthesis and deastringency were identified; of these, *CHS* genes  
350 expanded in the *D. oleifera* genome compared with *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*.  
351 Moreover, 186 positively selected genes were identified, including *CHI* gene, a key enzyme in the  
352 flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway. The divergence time between *D. oleifera* and *D. lotus* was  
353 estimated at 9.0 Mya, and two WGD events occurred in the *D. oleifera* genome. The high-quality  
354 chromosomal genome assembly of *D. oleifera* will facilitate both research on the major economic  
355 traits in the genus *Diospyros* and assembly of the hexaploid persimmon genome.

### 356 **Editors Note**

357 Please also note another genome assembly of *Diospyros oleifera* has been published during the data  
358 curation and acceptance of this paper[60].

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### 360 **Availability of supporting data**

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361 Raw sequencing data is available in the NCBI Sequence Read Archive [Accessions: PRJNA532832],  
362 and assemblies, annotations, alignments, expression data and BUSCO/CEGMA results are available  
363 from the *GigaScience* database GigaDB [61].  
364

365

### 366 **Additional files**

367 Fig. S1. k-mer distribution of the *D. oleifera* genome.

368 Fig. S2. Tannin synthesis genes and the destringency process in *Diospyros*.

369 Fig. S3. Venn diagram of gene family clusters of five Ericales species.

370 Fig. S4. Gene family expansion and contraction analysis of 12 species.

371 Fig. S5. Expression of *CHS* genes in different tissues of *D. oleifera*.

372 Fig. S6. Macrosynteny analysis between the *D. oleifera* genome and the *D. lotus* genome. a: gene  
373 density; b: LINE transposon density; c: LTR transposon density; d: DNA transposon density; and  
374 e: GC density (density is calculated in units of 500 kb).

375

376 Table S1. Sequencing data size by various sequencing platforms.

377 Table S2. Estimation of *D. oleifera* genome size by k-mer analysis.

378 Table S3. Chromosome lengths using HiC reads.

379 Table S4. Mapping rate of reads to *D. oleifera* genome assembly.

380 Table S5. CEGMA assessment of the *D. oleifera* genome.

381 Table S6. BUSCO notation assessment of the *D. oleifera* genome.

382 Table S7. Gene annotation of the *D. oleifera* genome via three methods.

383 Table S8. *D.oleifera* genome gene annotation statistics using different databases.

384 Table S9. *D.oleifera* genome ncRNA annotation statistics using different databases.

385 Table S10. Genes involved in tannin synthesis genes and the destringency process in *D. oleifera*.

386 Table S11. Expansion and contraction of tannin synthase genes in *D. oleifera*.

387 Table S12. Positively selected genes in *D. oleifera*.

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388

389 **Abbreviations**

390 BWA: Burrows-Wheeler Aligner; BLAST: Basic Local Alignment Search Tool; BUSCO:  
391 Benchmarking Universal Single-Copy Orthologs; NCBI: National Center for Biotechnology  
392 Information; PacBio: Pacific Biosciences; RNA-seq: RNA-sequencing; SMRT sequencing: single  
393 molecule real time sequencing; TE: transposable element; WGD: whole-genome duplication.

394

395 **Competing interests**

396 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

397

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402

403 **Author contributions**

404 J.M.F. and F.D.L. conceived the project. W.J.H., H.W.L. and S.F.D. collected the samples, Y.J.S., P.S.  
405 and Y.N.M. conducted genome assembly and data analysis, X.Z. provided intellectual insights,  
406 Y.J.S., P.S. and H.H.C. wrote the paper. All authors read and wrote part of the manuscript.

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408 The English in this document has been checked by at least two professional editors, both native  
409 speakers of English. For a certificate, please see: <http://www.textcheck.com/certificate/FrAnnY>

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Table 1 Summary of the *D.oleifera* genome assembly using Pacbio long-read, Illumina reads and 10X genomics data

Program	SampleID	Length		Number	
		Contig(bp)	Scaffold(bp)	Contig	Scaffold
<b>Falcon</b>	Total	806,744,914	-	2,986	-
	N50	2,916,360	-	72	-
<b>Quiver</b>	Total	812369941	-	2,986	-
	N50	2,938,972	-	72	-
<b>Pilon</b>	Total	811,094,501	-	2986	-
	N50	2,937,127	-	72	-
<b>10X</b>	Total	811,094,501	812,323,628	2,986	2,812
	Max	14,814,786	17,432,797	-	-
	Number>=2000	-	-	2,803	2,629
	N50	2,937,127	3,359,874	71	62
	N60	2,314,962	2,662,781	103	89
	N70	1,622,862	1,911,995	144	125
	N80	790,034	1,007,083	214	182
N90	196,816	257,477	421	333	

Table 2 Classification of repetitive elements in *D.oleifera* genome

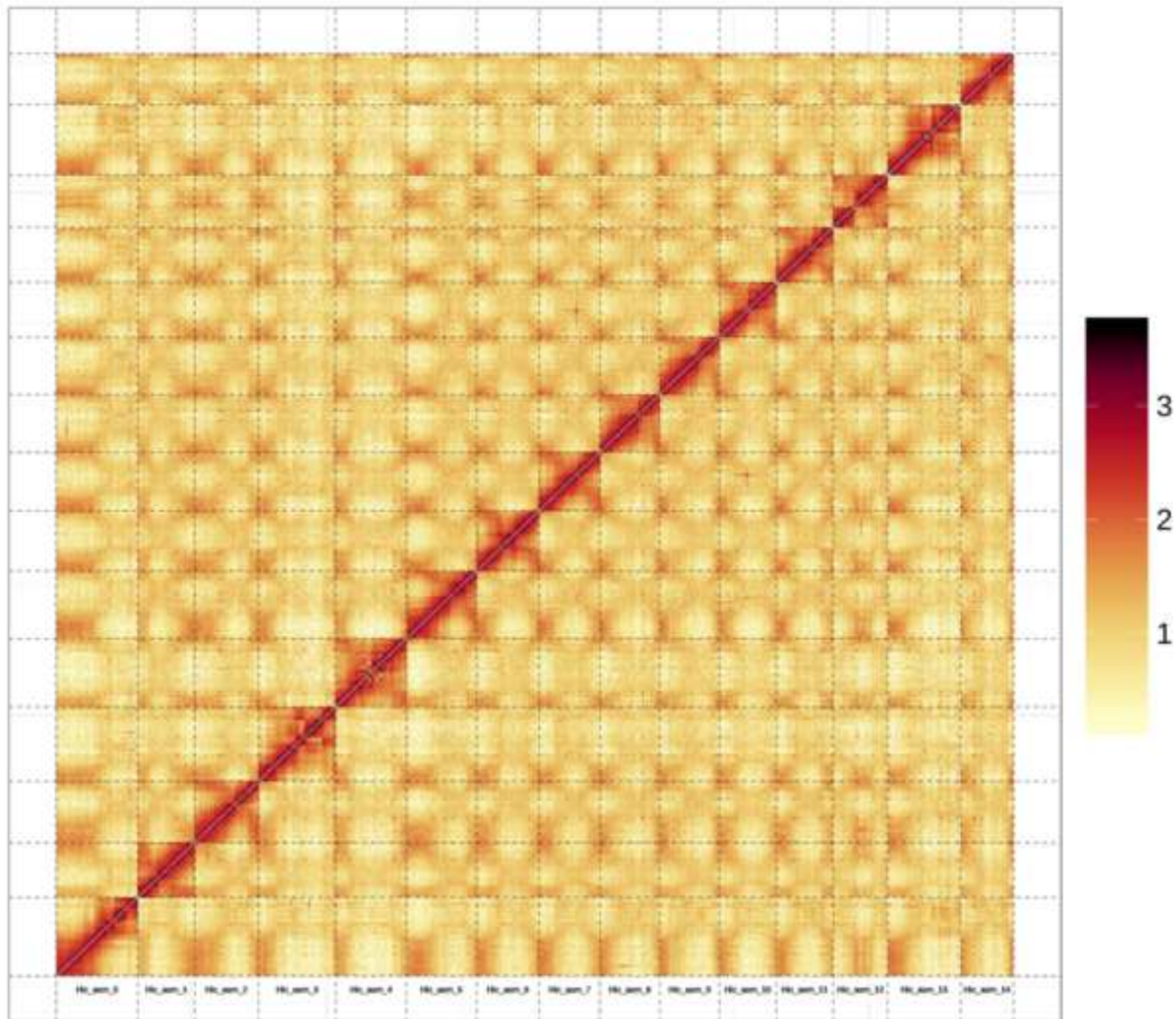
# total repetitive elements		
Program	Repeat Size(bp)	% of genome
Trf	79,886,467	9.83
Repeatmasker	408,623,327	50.3
Proteinmask	22,154,795	2.73
Total	445,187,963	54.8
# Transposons elements		
Type	Transposons Elementss Length(bp)	% in Genome
DNA	33,844,732	4.17
LINE	13,187,364	1.62
SINE	74,819	0.01
	total	379,582,766
		46.73
LTR	Gypsy	216,328,284
		26.63
	Copia	116,970,626
		14.40
	other	46,283,856
		5.70
Unknown	10,513,280	1.29
Total	430,778,122	53.03

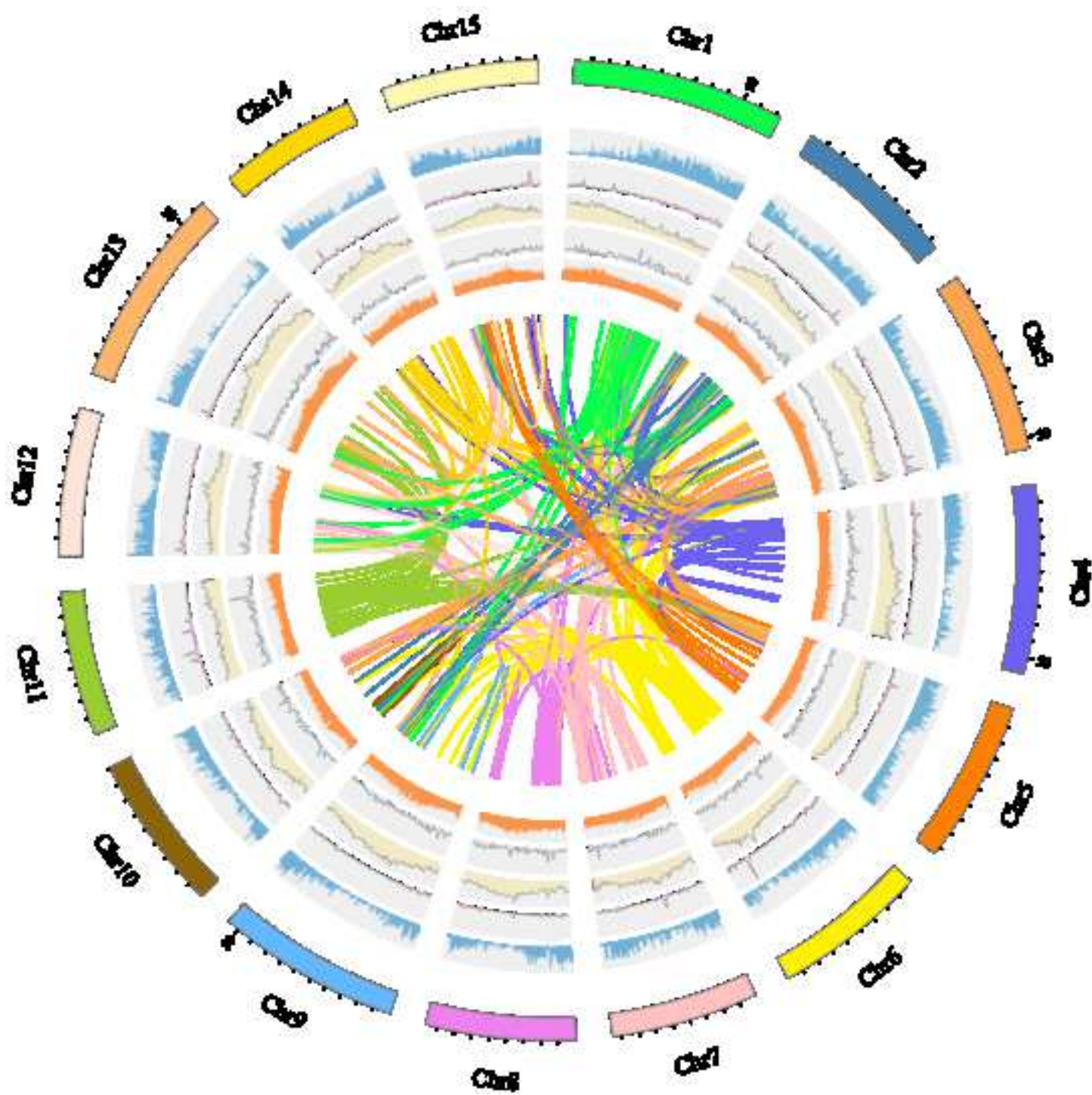


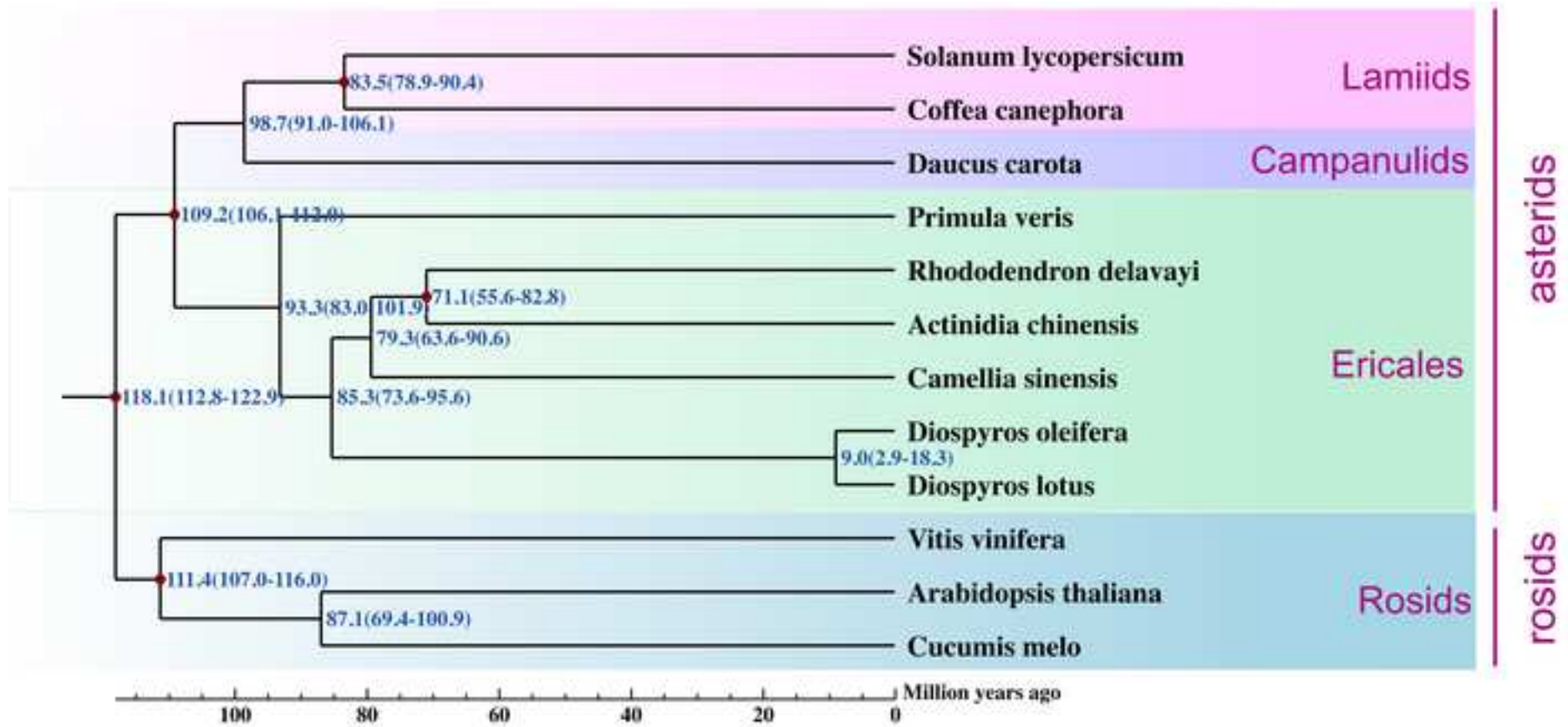
	b	e
a	c	f
	d	

Fig. 2

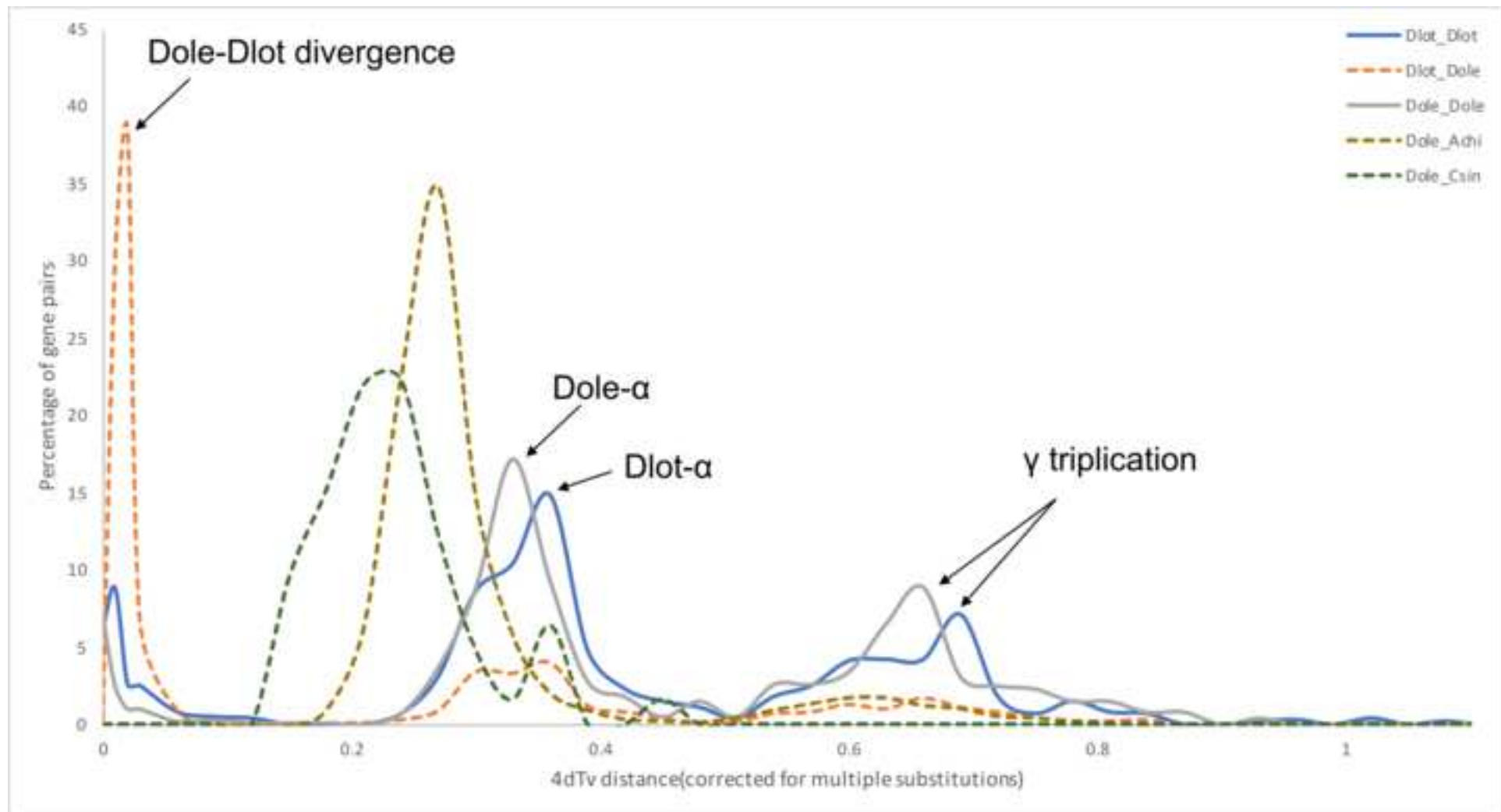
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Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for offering us the opportunity to resubmit a revised version of our manuscript. Hereby, we submit the revised manuscript entitled “**A high-quality chromosomal genome assembly of *Diospyros oleifera***” (GIGA-D-19-00174) to **GigaScience**. We appreciate the valuable comments and suggestions from you and the reviewers, which help us to improve and clarify the manuscript. We have discussed the comments carefully and tried our best to improve the manuscript accordingly.

This study focuses on the genome sequencing, assembly and annotation of *D. oleifera*, moreover comparative genomic analyses with other species were also included. The purpose of this study is to provide accurate genomic information for the further studies on molecular mechanisms underlying the formation and regulation of important economic traits of *Diospyros spp.* Based on this present study, some biological issues such as sex differentiation of flowers and natural deastringence of fruits in persimmon are being studied, the results of which will be reported in the future. Additionally, we heard that a similar study has been conducted by another research group, and they have submitted their manuscript to another journal. Due to this information, we deeply appreciate that if the review progress of our manuscript could be accelerated.

Detailed responses to your and the reviewers' comments are provided in the next sections. We hope these responses are satisfactory and that the revised version will be acceptable for publication.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions and we are looking forward to your reply.

Thanks and Best wishes!

Yours sincerely,

YujingSuo and Jianmin Fu

## Response to Reviewer:

Reviewer: The authors complemented their study with a number of comparative genome analyses which indeed provide some, but limited novel biological insights. Some points from the first review round should be addressed or at least there should be some explanation why these issues are not relevant:

Q1. transcriptome data: I appreciate the addition of the paragraph on extraction, library construction and sequencing but I still wonder why these data are not used in the analysis, eg. to establish transcription levels for gene or gene families of interest. It seems that the data may be of good quality, multiple tissues etc but there is no statistics or data description anywhere. Will/is the transcriptome data deposited in some public archive?

A: This article focuses on the genome sequencing, assembly, annotation of *D. oleifera*, and comparative genomic analyses with other species. The purpose of this article is to provide accurate genomic information for the studies of molecular mechanisms underlying the formation and regulation of important economic traits in *Diospyros spp.* Thus, the transcriptome data is mainly used for genomic annotation. Additionally, the transcriptome data is also used to analyze the expression patterns of *CHS* genes in different tissues of *D. oleifera*. (Revised manuscript, Page 12, Line 288-291).

The transcriptome data is deposited in NCBI, you can find the data under this link: <https://dataview.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/object/PRJNA532832?reviewer=gbss3pp9p06h5hoks3vrepig>

Q2. Phylogeny: how about the bias possibly introduced by just picking the single copy orthologs for the construction of the phylogenetic tree? This set is just a very small subset of the full gene content. To me lines 260/261, and thus construction of the phylogeny, are largely unclear.

A: Gene families were generated by Orthofinder. After clustering, 19,722 gene families were detected across *D.oleifera* and 11 other species, of which 5,599 gene families and 221 single-copy orthologs were shared by 12 species. A phylogenetic tree of the 12 plant species was constructed using Orthofinder based on phylogenetic tree constructed by FastME. Gene trees were inferred for each orthogroup by aligning

the sequences using mafft-linsi and inferring a maximum likelihood tree from this alignment using FastTree. DLCpar was used to reconcile these gene trees with the known species tree. In addition, 221 single-copy orthologs were used to estimate divergence time, rather than construct the phylogenetic tree.

Q3. Gene families: I'm not sure whether there is any biological conclusion on the genes and enrichments that were identified as *D.oleifera* specific? Can the terms be related to any biological features?

A: Using GO term enrichment analysis, we performed functional annotation on the *D.oleifera* specific genes. As a result, only 98 of the 312 genes had conserved functional terms which were significantly enriched for zinc ion binding, proteolysis, and nutrient reservoir activity. Moreover, 4 and 1 of these genes were involved in the carbohydrate metabolic process and aldehyde metabolic process respectively, which may play roles in the carbohydrate accumulation and deastringency of fruit in *D.oleifera*.

Q4. Expansion/Contraction: what parameters were used for CAFÉ? CHS expansion results should be outlined in the text. What does "different degrees of expansion" mean? An obvious additional and worthwhile analysis would be check expanded/contracted gene families for their expression patterns. What is the conclusion of LAC gene family contraction?

A: (1) For CAFÉ parameter Settings: Gene families with size significantly changed for species/branch: viterbi  $p \leq 0.05$ , and the others are the default parameters.

(2) The description of these results has been revised as follow: compared with *D. lotus*, *C. sinensis*, and *V. vinifera*, chalcone synthase (*CHS*) genes expanded in the *D. oleifera* genome (11 genes in *D.oleifera*, 7 genes in *D.lotus*, 3 genes in *C. sinensis*, and 1 gene in *V. vinifera*;  $P\_value = 0.0089$ ). In addition, Using transcriptome data, *CHS* gene expression patterns in different tissues of persimmon were analyzed. (Revised manuscript, Page 12, Line 284-291)

(3) Laccase (LAC) genes were responsible for the polymerization of persimmon tannin monomers. The contraction of these genes may explain the difference of tannin types which were defined according to the polymerization level of tannin monomers between *D. oleifera* and *V. vinifera*.

Q5. Positively selected genes: I'm really not sure about the significance of this analysis. Are the terms identified somewhat related to any biological features?

A: Positively selection analysis was used to study the adaptive evolution of genes, which could help us better understand the evolution of *D.oleifera*. In this study, 186 genes were positively selected in *D. oleifera* compared with *D. lotus*, *A. chinensis*, *P. veris*, *R. delavayi* and *S. lycopersicum*. Among them, chalcone isomerase (*CHI*) gene, a key enzyme in the flavonoid-anthocyanin pathway, was found to be positively selected (ID:evm.model.original\_scaffold\_909.101). The positive selection of *CHI* gene may be one of the reasons why *D. oleifera* is different from other species in producing abundant tannin. (Revised manuscript, Page13, Line 305-307)

Q6. Please check the formats and structure of your files provided. Testing the GFF files with Gff3Validator results in an error for example: `gt gff3validator Dol.gff3` `gt gff3validator: error: child on line 44626 in file Dol.gff3" has different sequence id than its parent on line 44625 ('Chr4' vs. 'fragScaff_scaffold_95:::fragment_2:::debris')`

A: Thank you for pointing this out, we have checked the formats and structure of our files, and corrected the error. The revised files have been re-uploaded to the system.

Q7.Especially the newly added text needs significant improvement in language and grammar.

A: The English in this revised manuscript has been checked by at least two professional editors, both native speakers of English. For a certificate, please see: <http://www.textcheck.com/certificate/FrAnnY>