RPW8/HR Repeats Control NLR Activation in A. thaliana

Cristina A. Barragan1, Rui Wu1, Sang-Tae Kim1,3, Wanyan Xi1, Anette Habring1, Jörg Hagmann1,4, Anna-Lena Van de Weyer1, Maricris Zaidem1,5, William Wing Ho Ho1,6, George Wang1, Ilja Bezrukov1, Detlef Weigel1*, Eunyoung Chae1,2*

*Corresponding authors: weigel@tue.mpg.de (D.W.), dbsce@nus.edu.sg (E.C.)

1Department of Molecular Biology, Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, 72076 Tübingen, Germany
2Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, 117558, Singapore

Current addresses:
3Center for Genome Engineering, Institute for Basic Science, Daejeon, 34126, South Korea
4Computomics GmbH, 72076 Tübingen, Germany
5Center for Genomics and Systems Biology, New York University, New York, NY 10003, USA
6Melbourne Integrative Genomics, The University of Melbourne, Parkville VIC 3052, Australia

Keywords
RPW8, RPP7, NLR, natural variation, autoimmunity, hybrid incompatibility, MLKL, HET-S
Abstract

In many plant species, conflicts between divergent elements of the immune system, especially nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain-like receptors (NLR), can lead to hybrid necrosis. Here, we report deleterious allele-specific interactions between an NLR and a non-NLR gene cluster, resulting in not one, but multiple hybrid necrosis cases in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The NLR cluster is *RESISTANCE TO PERONOSPORA PARASITICA 7* (*RPP7*), which can confer strain-specific resistance to oomycetes. The non-NLR cluster is *RESISTANCE TO POWDERY MILDEW 8 (RPW8) / HOMOLOG OF RPW8 (HR)*, which can confer broad-spectrum resistance to both fungi and oomycetes. RPW8/HR proteins contain at the N-terminus a potential transmembrane domain, followed by a specific coiled-coil (CC) domain that is similar to a domain found in pore-forming toxins MLKL and HET-S from mammals and fungi. C-terminal to the CC domain is a variable number of 21- or 14-amino acid repeats, reminiscent of regulatory 21-amino acid repeats in fungal HET-S. The number of repeats in different RPW8/HR proteins along with the sequence of a short C-terminal tail predicts their ability to activate immunity in combination with specific *RPP7* partners. Whether a larger or smaller number of repeats is more dangerous depends on the specific RPW8/HR autoimmune risk variant.

Author Summary

In many plant species, conflicts between divergent elements of the immune system can cause hybrids to express autoimmunity, a generally deleterious syndrome known as hybrid necrosis. We are investigating multiple hybrid necrosis cases in *Arabidopsis thaliana* that are caused by allele-specific interactions between different variants at two unlinked resistance (R) gene clusters, *RESISTANCE TO PERONOSPORA PARASITICA 7* (*RPP7*) and *RESISTANCE TO POWDERY MILDEW 8 (RPW8) / HOMOLOG OF RPW8 (HR)*. The *RPP7* locus encodes intracellular nucleotide binding site-leucine rich repeat (NLR) immune receptors that can confer strain-specific resistance to oomycetes, while the *RPW8/HR* locus encodes atypical resistance proteins, of which some can confer broad-spectrum resistance to filamentous pathogens. There is extensive structural variation in the *RPW8/HR* cluster, both at the level of gene copy number and at the level of C-terminal, 21- or 14-amino acid long RPW8/HR repeats. We demonstrate that the number of RPW8/HR repeats and the short C-terminal tail correlate, in an allele-specific manner, with the severity of hybrid necrosis when these alleles are combined with *RPP7* variants. We discuss these findings in light of sequence similarity between RPW8/HR and pore-forming toxins MLKL and HET-S from mammals and fungi.
Introduction

The combination of divergent parental genomes in hybrids can produce new phenotypes not seen in either parent. At one end of the spectrum is hybrid vigor, with progeny being superior to the parents, while at the other end there is hybrid weakness, with progeny being inferior to the parents, and in the most extreme cases being sterile or unable to survive.

In plants, a particularly conspicuous set of hybrid incompatibilities is associated with autoimmunity, often with substantial negative effects on hybrid fitness [1–3]. Studies of hybrid autoimmunity in several species, often expressed as hybrid necrosis, have revealed that the underlying genetics tends to be simple, with often only one or two major-effect loci. Where known, at least one of the causal loci encodes an immune protein, often an intracellular nucleotide binding site-leucine-rich repeat (NLR) protein [4–13]. The gene family encoding NLR immune receptors is the most variable gene family in plants, both in terms of inter- and intraspecific variation [14–17]. Many NLR proteins function as major disease resistance (R) proteins, with the extravagant variation at these loci being due to a combination of maintenance of very old alleles by long-term balancing selection and rapid evolution driven by strong diversifying selection [18–20]. The emergence of new variants is favored by many NLR genes being organized in tandem clusters, which can spawn new alleles as well as copy number variation by illegitimate recombination, and by the presence of leucine rich repeats in NLR genes, which can lead to expansion and contraction of coding sequences [21–23]. Cluster expansion has been linked to diversification and adaptation in a range of systems [24–26]. Several complex plant NLR loci provide excellent examples of cluster rearrangement increasing pathogen recognition specificities [19]. Substantial efforts have been devoted to decomposing the complexity of the plant immune system and interactions between its components.

While many plant disease R genes are members of the NLR family, some feature different molecular architectures. One of these is RESISTANCE TO POWDERY MILDEW 8 (RPW8) in Arabidopsis thaliana, which was first identified based on an allele that confers resistance to multiple powdery mildew isolates [27]. The namesake RPW8 gene is located in a gene cluster of variable size and composition that includes multiple RPW8-like genes as well as HOMOLOG OF RPW8 (HR) genes [27–29]. The reference accession Col-0, which is susceptible to powdery mildew, has four HR genes, but no RPW8 gene, whereas the resistant accession Ms-0 carries RPW8.1 and RPW8.2 along with three HR genes [27]. NLRs are distinguished by N-terminal Toll/interleukin-1 receptor (TIR) or coiled-coil (CC) domains, which, when overexpressed alone, can often activate immune signaling [30,31]. A subset of CC-NLRs (CNLs) has a diagnostic type of coiled-coil domain, termed CC_R to indicate that this domain is being shared with RPW8/HR proteins. The latter have an N-terminal extension that might be a transmembrane domain as well as C-terminal repeats of unknown activity [32,33]. It has been noted that the CC_R domain is similar to a portion of the animal mixed-lineage kinase domain-like (MLK) protein that forms a multi-helix bundle [34] as well as the HeLo and HELL domains of fungi, which also form multi-helix bundles [35–37]. Many fungal HeLo domain proteins have a prion-forming domain that consists of C-terminal 21-amino acid
repeats. This domain can form amyloids and thereby affect oligomerization and activity of these proteins [35–39].

We have previously reported hybrid necrosis due to incompatible alleles at the RPW8/HR locus and at the complex RECOGNITION OF PERONOSPORA PARASITICA 7 (RPP7) locus, which encodes a canonical CNL and which has alleles that provide race-specific resistance to the oomycete Hyaloperonospora arabidopsidis [54,55]. Here, we investigate in detail three independent cases of incompatible RPW8/HR and RPP7 alleles, and show that two are caused by members of the fast-evolving RPW8.1/HR4 clade. We describe how variation in the number of C-terminal repeats and the short C-terminal tail predict the degree of incompatibility between two common RPW8.1/HR4 alleles and corresponding RPP7 alleles.

**Results**

**Distinct pairs of RPP7 and RPW8/HR alleles cause hybrid necrosis**

![Image of plant phenotypes](image_url)

**Fig 1. DM6–DM7 hybrid necrosis cases**

(A) Morphological variation in three independent DM6–DM7 hybrid necrosis cases. (B) Red lines indicate necrosis in F1 hybrids, black indicates normal progeny. (C, D) Variation in morphology in two DM6–DM7 cases sharing the same DM6 allele in Lerik1-3. (C) Entire rosettes of four-week-old plants. (D) Abaxial sides of eighth leaves of six-week-old plants. Inset shows Trypan Blue stained leaf of Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 F1. (E) Summary phenotypes in crosses of Lerik1-3 to 80 other accessions. Red is strong necrosis in F1, and yellow is mild necrosis in F1 or necrosis only observable in F2. Scale bars indicate 1 cm.

In a systematic intercrossing and genetic mapping program among 80 A. thaliana accessions, a series of genomic regions involved in hybrid incompatibility were identified. The underlying genes were termed DANGEROUS MIX (DM) loci. One instance, between the DM6 and DM7 regions, stood out because it is responsible for two phenotypically distinct hybrid necrosis cases (Fig 1A) [10]. Strong candidates, as previously inferred from a
combination of mapping, gene knockdown and transformation with genomic constructs, suggested that DM6 corresponds to the RPP7 cluster, and DM7 to the RPW8/HR cluster. We recently found an additional case of incompatibility between the DM6 and DM7 regions, with a third distinctive phenotype (Fig 1A and 2A). In addition to phenotypic differences between the three DM6–DM7 F$_1$ hybrids, test crosses confirmed that each case was caused by different combinations of DM6 and DM7 alleles, as only certain combinations resulted in hybrid necrosis (Fig 1B).

**Fig 2. Mapping of two DM6–DM7 hybrid necrosis cases**

(A) QTL analyses. The QTL on chromosome 1 includes RPP7 from Lerik1-3 and ICE79 (21.37-22.07 and 21.50-21.98 Mb), and the QTL on chromosome 3 RPW8/HR from ICE106/ICE107 and Don-0 (18.59-19.09 Mb, 18.61-19.06 Mb). The horizontal lines indicate 0.05 significance thresholds established after 1,000 permutations. (B) Heat map for two-dimensional, two-QTL model genome scans. Upper left triangles indicate epistasis scores (LOD$_i$) and lower right triangles joint two-locus scores (LOD$_f$). Scales for LOD$_i$ on left and for LOD$_f$ on right. (C) Manhattan plot for a GWAS of necrosis in hybrid progeny of Lerik1-3 crossed to 80 other accessions (see Table S2). The hit in the RPW8/HR region (red arrow) stands out, but it is possible that some of the other hits that pass the significance threshold (Bonferroni correction, 5% familywise error) identify modifiers of the DM6–DM7 interaction.
To corroborate the evidence from mapping experiments that DM6 alleles of Mrk-0 and ICE79 were RPP7 homologs, we designed ten artificial microRNAs (amiRNAs) based on sequences from the Col-0 reference accession. AmiRNAs targeting a subclade of five RPP7 homologs that make up the second half of the RPP7 cluster in Col-0, suppressed hybrid necrosis in all three crosses, Mrk-0 x KZ10, Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 and ICE79 x Don-0 (Fig S1 and Table S1). These rescue experiments, together with the above-mentioned test crosses, indicate that specific RPP7 homologs in Mrk-0, Lerik1-3 and ICE79 correspond to different DM6 alleles that cause hybrid necrosis in combination with specific DM7 alleles from other accessions.

**A common set of RPW8/HR haplotypes affecting hybrid performances in F1 and F2 progeny**

In the mentioned set of diallelic F1 crosses among 80 accessions [10], we noted that the DM6 carrier Lerik1-3 was incompatible with several other accessions, suggesting that these have DM7 (RPW8/HR) hybrid necrosis risk alleles that are similar to the one in Fei-0. Crosses with TueScha-9 and TueWa1-2 produced hybrids that looked very similar to Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 progeny, with localized spots of cell death spread across the leaf lamina along with leaf crinkling and dwarfism (Fig 1D and S2). Similar spots of cell death and leaf crinkling were observed in crosses of Lerik1-3 to ICE106 and ICE107, although these were not as dwarfed (Fig 1C,D and S2).

### Table 1. F2 segregation ratios at 16°C

| Cross           | n   | Phenotype | Model | χ²  |
|-----------------|-----|-----------|-------|-----|
|                 |     | Normalb   | F1-likeb | Enhancedc |
| Fei-0/Lerik1-3  | 384 | 178       | 107    | 99  | I  | 0.85 |
| TueWa1-2/Lerik1-3 | 138 | 66        | 42     | 30  | I  | 0.36 |
| TueScha-9/Lerik1-3 | 193 | 92        | 44     | 57  | I  | 0.42 |
| Lerik1-3/ICE106 | 265 | 121       | 67     | 62  | 15 | II | 0.89 |
| Lerik1-3/ICE107 | 291 | 204       | 70     | 17  | III | 0.88 |
| Cdm-0/Lerik1-3  | 260 | 173       | 71     | 16  | III | 0.68 |
| Nie-0/Lerik1-3  | 227 | 170       | 57     |     | IV | 0.59 |

a. If the model had a class of dead segregants that could not be counted, n was estimated to include the dead individuals for χ² calculation.
b. In the bottom three populations, F1 phenotypes were nearly indistinguishable from normal ones and therefore both classes were combined.
c. More severe than F1 hybrids with distinct DM6–DM7 phenotypes. For milder cases, the enhanced phenotypic classes were separated into two groups, with a rosette diameter of 1 cm as threshold. The rightmost numbers indicate the most severe class.
d. Best-fit models using F2 segregation analyses with incompatibility alleles indicated as "A" and "B".
  I: two-loci-semi-dominant; AaBb F1-like; AAAB and AaBB stronger than F1; AABB dead and not countable.
  II: two-loci-semi-dominant; AaBb F1-like; AAAB stronger than F1; AaBB and AABB almost dead, but countable.
  III: two-loci-semi-dominant; Aabb and aaBb (normal) and AaBb (F1-like) not easily distinguished; AABb and AaBB stronger than F1; AABB almost dead, but countable.
  IV: two-loci-semi-dominant; Aabb and aaBb (normal) and AaBb (F1-like) not easily distinguished; AABb and AaBB stronger than F1; AABB dead and not countable.
Hybrid necrosis often becomes more severe when the causal loci are homozygous [5,7,10,12]. To explore whether Lerik1-3 might cause milder forms of hybrid necrosis that are missed in the F1 generation, we surveyed several F2 populations involving Lerik1-3. Six segregated necrotic plants with very similar phenotypes (Fig 1D,E and S2). This makes all together for 11 incompatible accessions, which are spread over much of Eurasia (Fig 1E).

The F2 segregation ratios suggested that the DM7 allele from ICE106/ICE107 is intermediate between the Fei-0/TueWa1-2/TueScha-9 alleles and the Cdm-0/Nie-0 alleles (Table 1). Alternatively, the hybrid phenotypes might be affected by background modifiers, such that identical DM7 alleles produce a different range of phenotypes in combination with DM6Lerik1-3.

Because the phenotypic variation among hybrid necrosis cases involving Lerik1-3 could involve loci other than DM6 and DM7, we carried out linkage mapping with Lerik1-3 x ICE106 and Lerik1-3 x ICE107 crosses. We combined genotyping information from Lerik1-3 x ICE106 and Lerik1-3 x ICE107 F2 and F3 individuals for mapping, because the genomes of ICE106 and ICE107, which come from closeby collection sites, are very similar and because the two crosses produce very similar F1 hybrid phenotypes, suggesting that the responsible alleles are likely to be identical. We used F1 populations to better distinguish different phenotypic classes, since we did...
not know the number of causal genes nor there genetic behavior. QTL analysis confirmed that the DM6 and DM7 genomic regions are linked to hybrid necrosis in these crosses (Fig 2A, B).

To narrow down the DM7 mapping interval, we took advantage of having 11 accessions that produced hybrid necrosis in combination with Lerik1-3, and 69 accessions (including Lerik1-3 itself) that did not. We performed GWAS with Lerik1-3-dependent hybrid necrosis as a binary trait [40]. The by far most strongly associated marker was immediately downstream of HR4, the last member of the RPW8/HR cluster in Col-0 (Fig 2C and Table S2). An amiRNA matching HR4 sequences from Col-0 fully rescued both the strong necrosis in Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 and the weaker necrosis in Lerik1-3 x ICE106 (Fig 3A and Table S3). We confirmed the causality of another member of the RPW8/HR cluster in the KZ10 x Mrk-0 case with a CRISPR/Cas9-induced mutation of RPW8.1KZ10 (Fig 3B and Fig S3).

Naturally, we wanted to learn what the relationship, if any, was between RPP7-dependent hybrid necrosis and the previously described function of certain RPP7 alleles in conferring resistance to H. arabidopsisidis. The RPP7Col-0 allele makes Col-0 resistant to the H. arabidopsisidis isolate Hiks1 [41]. Lerik1-3, with the RPP7Lerik1-3 risk allele, is resistant to Hiks1 as well, while the Lerik1-3 incompatible accessions Fei-0 and ICE106 are not (Fig S4 and Table S4). Both Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 and Lerik1-3 x ICE106 F1 hybrids were resistant to Hiks1, although apparently somewhat less so than the Lerik1-3 parents (Fig S4). We further tested whether RPP7-like genes from Lerik1-3 are likely to be involved in Hiks1 resistance by inoculating Hiks1 on transgenic lines carrying seven different amiRNAs against RPP7 homologs (Table S1), but none of the amiRNAs reduced Hiks1 resistance. These negative results are difficult to interpret; the amiRNAs might not efficiently knock down all RPP7 homologs in Lerik1-3 (for which the exact structure of the RPP7 cluster is unknown), Hiks1 resistance in Lerik1-3 might require other RPP loci (of which there are many in the A. thaliana genome), or Hiks1 resistance might be complex, as found in other accessions [42]. Finally, given the interaction of RPP7 with RPW8/HR in hybrid necrosis, we asked whether HR4 is required for RPP7-mediated Hiks1 resistance in Col-0. Two independent hr4 CRISPR/Cas9 knockout lines were generated in Col-0 (Fig S3), but both remained completely resistant to Hiks1 (Fig S4 and Table S4), indicating that HR4 in Col-0 is dispensable for RPP7-mediated resistance to Hiks1.

**Structural variation of the RPW8/HR cluster**

For reasons of convenience, we assembled the RPW8/HR cluster from TueWa1-2 instead of Fei-0; accession TueWa1-2 interacted with RPP7Lerik1-3 in the same manner as Fei-0, the strong necrosis in Lerik1-3 x TueWa1-2 was rescued with the same amiRNA as in Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 (Table S3), and TueWa1-2 had an HR4 allele that was identical in sequence to HR4Fei-0. We found that the RPW8/HR cluster from TueWa1-2 had at least 13 RPW8/HR-like genes, several of which were very similar to each other (Fig 4A). For example, there were at least four copies of RPW8.3-like genes with 93 to 99.8% sequence similarity, and two identical RPW8.1 genes, named RPW8.1a, followed by distinct RPW8/HR copies.

Recapitulation experiments had identified HR4Fei-0 (identical to HR4TueWa1-2 and HR4TueScha-9) and HR4ICE106 as causal for hybrid necrosis (Fig 3C, D). We analyzed the phylogenetic relationship of the RPW8/HR genes in
TueWa1-2 with the ones from published RPW8/HR clusters in A. thaliana, in A. lyrata and in Brassica spp. [10,28,29,43]. In A. thaliana, RPW8/HR genes seem to have undergone at least three duplication events, with the first one generating a new A. thaliana specific clade, which gave rise to independent RPW8.1/HR4 and RPW8.2/RPW8.3 duplications.

The RPW8/HR cluster of TueWa1-2 consists of RPW8/HR members from both the ancestral and the two A. thaliana specific clades, an arrangement that has not been observed before. Using species-wide data [44], we found that accessions carrying Col-0-like HR4 alleles have simple cluster configurations, while accessions with HR4 genes resembling hybrid necrosis alleles have more complex configurations (Fig 4A). The tagging SNPs found in GWAS (Fig 4A, and Table S2) were mostly found to be associated with the complex clusters, suggesting that the tagging SNPs are linked to structural variation in the distal region of the RPW8/HR cluster (Fig 4B).

**Fig 4. Structural variation of the RPW8/HR cluster**

(A) The RPW8/HR cluster in different accessions. The extreme degree of recent duplications in TueWa1-2, with the same HR4 hybrid necrosis risk allele as Fei-0, did not allow for closure of the assembly from PCR products; assembly gaps are indicated. Color coding of HR4 alleles according to Fig 6. Tagging SNPs found in GWAS marked in TueWa1-2 RPW8/HR cluster as black vertical lines. (B) Maximum likelihood tree of RPW8/HR genes from three A. thaliana accessions and the A. lyrata and B. rapa reference genomes. Branch lengths in nucleotide substitutions are indicated. Bootstrap values (out of 100) are indicated on each branch.

**Causality of RPW8/HR C-terminal repeats**

To further narrow down the mutations that cause autoimmunity, we compared RPW8.1\(^{KZ10}\) and HR4\(^{Fei-0}\) with other RPW8/HR alleles from the global A. thaliana collection [44]. Some RPW8.1 alleles have intragenic duplications of a sequence encoding a 21-amino acid repeat (QWDDIKEAKISEMDTKLA[D/E]) at the C-terminal end of the protein [29]. In HR4, there is a related 14-amino acid repeat (IQV[H/D]QW[T/I]DIKEMKA).
Both RPW8.1 and HR4 repeats are predicted to fold into extended alpha-helices, but only RPW8.1 repeats appear to have the potential to form coiled coils [45].

The number of repeats varies in both RPW8.1 and HR4 between hybrid necrosis risk and non-risk alleles. To experimentally test the effect of repeat number variation and other polymorphisms, we generated a series of derivatives in which we altered the number of repeats and swapped different portions of the coding sequences between the RPW8.1KZ10 risk and RPW8.1Ms-0 non-risk alleles, and between the HR4Fei-0 and HR4ICE106 risk and the HR4Col-0 non-risk alleles (Fig 5A).

**Fig 5. Necrosis-inducing activity of RPW8.1 and HR4 chimeras**

N-terminal portions indicated with the initial of the accession in italics (“K”, “M”, etc.), complete repeats indicated with regular capital letters (“A”, “B”, etc.), the partial repeat in KZ10 with a lowercase letter (“c”), and the C-terminal tails with Greek letters (“α”, “β”, etc.). Non-repeat portions are semi-transparent. Repeats with identical amino acid sequences have the same letter designation. Numbers indicate amino acid positions. Constructs on the left, and distribution across phenotypic classes in T1 transformants on the right, with n given on top of each column. Natural alleles labeled in color and bold. **(A)** RPW8.1 chimeras, driven by the RPW8.1KZ10 promoter, were introduced into Mrk-0, which carries the corresponding incompatible RPP7 allele. **(B)** HR4 chimeras, driven by the HR4Fei-0 promoter, were introduced into Lerik1-3, which carries the corresponding incompatible RPP7 allele. Scale bars indicate 1 cm.
A 1.4 kb promoter fragment of RPW8.1KZ10 and a 1.2 kb promoter fragment of HR4Fei-0 in combination with coding sequences of risk alleles were sufficient to induce hybrid necrosis (Fig 3C and Fig 5A, B). To simplify discussion of the chimeras, the N-terminal portion was labeled with the initial of the accession in italics (“M”, “K”, etc.), complete repeats were labeled with different capital letters to distinguish sequence variants (“A”, “B”, etc.), the partial repeat in KZ10 with a lowercase letter (“c”), and the C-terminal tails with Greek letters (“α”, “β”, etc.).

In RPW8.1KZ10, there are two complete repeats and one partial repeat, while RPW8.1Ms-0 has only one repeat (Fig 5A). Modifying the number of repeats in RPW8.1 affected the frequency and severity of necrosis in T1 plants in a Mrk-0 background, which carries the interacting RPP7 allele, dramatically. Deletion of the first full repeat in RPW8.1KZ10 (“K-Bcβ”, with the KZ10 configuration being “K-BBcβ”) substantially reduced the number of plants that died in the first three weeks of growth. The additional deletion of the partial repeat (“K-Bβ”) reduced death and necrosis even further (Fig 5A). That K-Bβ still produces some necrosis, even though its repeat structure is the same as in the inactive K-Aα suggests that the polymorphism in the C-terminal tail makes some contribution to necrosis activity. It is less likely that the polymorphism in the repeats plays a role, as there is only a very conservative aspartate-glutamate difference between α and β repeats.

In contrast to repeat shortening, the extension of the partial repeat (“K-BBBβ”) or addition of a full repeat (“K-BBBcβ”) increased the necrosis-inducing activity of RPW8.1KZ10, such that almost all T1 plants died without making any true leaves. However, it appears that not all repeats function equally, as removal of the partial repeat slightly increased necrosis-inducing activity (“K-Bβ”). Polymorphisms in the N-terminal non-repeat region seemed to contribute to necrosis, as swaps of the N-terminal Ms-0 fragment (“M-BBcβ” or “M-BBBβ”) induced weaker phenotypes than the corresponding variants with the N-terminal fragment from KZ10. Nevertheless, we note that the normal KZ10 repeat configuration was sufficient to impart substantial necrosis-inducing activity on a chimera in which the N-terminal half was from Ms-0, which is distinguished from KZ10 by nine nonsynonymous substitutions outside the repeats.

Compared to the RPW8.1 situation, the relationship between HR4 repeat length and necrosis-inducing activity is more complex. The natural alleles suggested a negative correlation of repeat number with necrosis-inducing activity when crossed to Lerik1-3, since the non-risk HR4 allele from Col-0 has five full repeats, while weaker risk alleles such as the one from ICE106 have two, and the strong risk allele from Fei-0 has only one (Fig 5B). Addition of a full repeat to HR4Fei-0 (“F-RTδ”, with the original Fei-0 configuration being “F-Tδ”) reduced its activity to a level similar to that of HR4ICE106 (“I-RTδ”). Deletion of a full repeat from HR4ICE106 (“I-Tδ”) modestly increased HR4 activity (Fig 5B). Together, the chimera analyses indicated that the quantitative differences between crosses of Fei-0 and ICE106 to Lerik1-3 (Fig 1 and S2) are predominantly due to variation in HR4 repeat number. This is further supported by the necrosis-inducing activity of a chimera in which the repeats in the Col-0 non-risk allele were replaced with those from HR4Fei-0 (“C-Tδ”, with the original Col-0 configuration being “C-QQRyS”) (Fig 5B and S5). However, repeat number alone is not the only determinant of necrosis-
inducing activity of HR4 in combination with RPP7Lerik1-3. Adding another repeat to the “F-RTδ” chimera, resulting in “F-RRTδ”, increased the activity of HR4Fei-0 again, perhaps suggesting that there is an optimal length for HR4 to interact with RPP7Lerik1-3.

Unlike RPW8.1, the C-terminal tails of HR4 proteins beyond the RPW8/HR repeats (fragments “γ” and “δ”) differ in length between hybrid necrosis-risk and non-risk variants (Fig 5B). Swapping only these two fragments affected HR4 activity substantially, and converted two chimeras with weak necrosis-inducing activity (“F-QQRSγ” to “F-QQRSδ” and “F-QQRSγ” to “F-QQRSδ”) into chimeras with activity resembling that of HR4ICE106 (which is “I-RTδ”).

Taken together, the swap experiments led us to conclude that naturally occurring variation in the configuration of RPW8/HR repeats play a major role in quantitatively modulating the severity of autoimmune phenotypes when these RPW8/HR variants are combined with RPP7 alleles from Mrk-0 and Lerik1-3. At least in the case of HR4, we could show directly that the short C-terminal tail also affects the hybrid phenotype, while for RPW8.1 this seems likely as well, given that the repeats between different alleles differ less from each other than the tails.

**Prediction of RPP7-dependent hybrid performance using RPW8.1/HR4 haplotypes**

To obtain a better picture of RPW8.1/HR4 variation, we remapped the raw reads from the 1001 Genomes project to the longest RPW8.1 and HR4 alleles, RPW8.1KZ10 and HR4Col-0, as references (Table S5 and S6). The results suggested that HR4-carrying accessions are more rare than those carrying RPW8.1 alleles (285 vs. 903 out of 1,221 accessions). The short, necrosis-linked, HR4 risk alleles (Fig 6A) were predicted to be as frequent as the long non-risk variants (Fig 6A, B and Table S5), whereas for RPW8.1, only seven accessions were predicted to have the long RPW8.1KZ10-type risk variant (Fig 6A and Table S6).

To confirm the short read-based length predictions, RPW8.1 was PCR amplified from 28 accessions and HR4 from 113 accessions (Fig 6A-D and Table S5 and S6). This not only confirmed that the Illumina predictions were accurate, but also revealed new variants with different arrangements of HR4 repeats, although none were as short as HR4Fei-0 or HR4ICE106 (Fig 6A, B). The short necrosis-risk HR4 variants are found across much of the global range of A. thaliana (Fig 6C), whereas the much rarer necrosis-risk RPW8.1KZ10-like variant was exclusive to Central Asia. We also observed that sequences of the two short HR4 types were more conserved than the longer ones, with each short type belonging to a single haplotype, while the long necrosis-risk HR4 alleles belonged to multiple haplotypes (Fig 6D).
Fig 6. Sequence variation of a large collection of RPW8.1 and HR4 alleles

(A) Repeat polymorphisms in RPW8.1 and HR4 proteins (grey background). N-terminal regions and tails are semi-transparent. (B) Distribution of HR4 types across 113 Sanger sequenced alleles (see Table S5). (C) Distribution of HR4 allele types in Eurasia and North America. (D) Haplotype network of HR4 alleles, with a 1-bp minimum difference. (E) F1 progeny of Mrk-0 crossed to accessions with different RPW8.1 alleles. Short RPW8.1 variants do not induce hybrid necrosis. (F) F1 progeny of Lerik1-3 crossed to accessions with different HR4 alleles. The shortest HR4 alleles (red) cause strong hybrid necrosis, whereas the second-shortest HR4 allele causes mild hybrid necrosis. (G) Rosette growth of F1 progeny from Lerik1-3 and accessions carrying different HR4 alleles. The shortest HR4 allele causes a strong growth reduction, while the second-shortest HR4 allele has a milder effect. Scale bars indicate 1 cm.

The extensive information on RPW8.1/HR4 haplotypes allowed us to use test crosses to determine whether interaction with either RPP7Mrk-0 or RPP7Lerik1-3 is predictable from sequence, specifically from repeat number (Fig 6E, F). As expected, accessions with the longest, Type 1, RPW8.1KZ10-like alleles (Fig 6E, pink) produced necrotic hybrid progeny when crossed to Mrk-0, whereas accessions carrying the two shorter Type 2 and 3 alleles did not (Fig 6E and Table S7). The situation was similar for HR4; all but two of the tested accessions with the shortest HR4Fei-0-like alleles (Fig 6F, red) produced strongly necrotic progeny when crossed to Lerik1-
3, while accessions carrying the second shortest \( HR4^{\text{ICE106}} \)-like alleles (Fig 6F and Table S8) produced more mildly affected progeny. Hybrid progeny of Lerik1-3 and accessions carrying other \( HR4 \) alleles did not show any signs of necrosis (Fig 6F). Necrosis was correlated with reduction in overall size of plants, which in turn correlated with RPW8.1/HR4 repeat length (Fig 6F and Table S9). Finally, \( HR4^{\text{Fei0}} \)-like alleles in two accessions caused a mild phenotype similar to \( HR4^{\text{ICE106}} \), suggesting the presence of genetic modifiers that partially suppress autoimmune symptoms.

**Discussion**

The RPW8/HR cluster is remarkably variable in terms of copy number, reminiscent of many multi-gene clusters carrying NLR-type R genes [16]. While the first three genes in the cluster, \( HR1 \), \( HR2 \) and \( HR3 \), are generally well conserved, there is tremendous variation in the number of the other genes in the cluster, including RPW8.1/HR4. Nevertheless, that the \( HR4 \) hybrid necrosis-risk allele is not rare and widely distributed, accounting for half of all \( HR4 \) carriers (Fig 6B, C), suggests that it might provide adaptive benefits, as postulated before for ACD6 hybrid necrosis-risk alleles [12].

The N-terminal portion of RPW8 and HR proteins can be homology modeled on a multi-helix bundle in the animal MLKL protein [34], which in turn shares structural similarity with fungal HeLo and HELL domain proteins [37]. In both cases, the N-terminal portions can insert into membranes (with somewhat different mechanisms proposed for the two proteins), thereby disrupting membrane integrity and triggering cell death [36,46–48]. For both proteins, insertion is regulated by sequences immediately C-terminal to the multi-helix bundle [36,46–50]. It is tempting to speculate that the RPW8/HR repeats and the C-terminal tail, which together make up the C-terminal portions of the proteins, similarly regulate activity of RPW8.1 and HR4. In agreement, our chimera studies, where we exchanged and varied the number of RPW8/HR repeats and swapped the C-terminal tail, indeed point to the C-terminal portion of RPW8/HR proteins having a regulatory role. A positive regulator of RPW8-mediated disease resistance, a 14-3-3 protein, interacts specifically with the C-terminal portion of RPW8.2, consistent with this part of the protein controlling RPW8/HR activity [51]. Perhaps even more intriguing is the fact that in many fungal HeLo domains this C-terminal region is a prion-forming domain composed of 21-amino acid repeats. RPW8.1 also has 21-amino acid repeats, while HR4 has 14-amino acid repeats, although different from the fungal proteins, these are not interrupted by a spacer. In fungal HET-S and related proteins, the repeats exert regulatory function by forming amyloids and thereby causing the proteins to oligomerize [35–39]. While it remains to be investigated whether the RPW8/HR repeats and the C-terminal tail function in a similar manner, their potential regulatory function makes them a possible target for pathogen effectors. In such a scenario, at least some RPP7 proteins might act as guards for RPW8/HR proteins and sense their modification by pathogen effectors [16,52].

Can we conclude from the MLKL homology that RPW8 and HR proteins form similar pores as MLKL? Unfortunately, this is not immediately obvious, as a different mechanism has been suggested for fungal proteins...
with HeLo and HELL domains [35–37]. For MLKL, it has been suggested that the multi-helix bundle directly inserts into the membrane, whereas for the fungal protein, it has been proposed that the multi-helix bundle regulates the ability of an N-terminal transmembrane domain to insert into the membrane. An N-terminal transmembrane domain has been predicted for RPW8 [27], but although RPW8 proteins can be membrane associated [53,54], the insertion of this domain into the membrane has not been directly demonstrated.

We have shown that differences in protein structure, rather than expression patterns or levels, are key to the genetic interaction between RPW8/HR and RPP7. While we do not know whether the proteins interact directly, allele-specific genetic interactions are often an indicator of direct interaction between the gene products [55]. Moreover, reminiscent of RPW8/HR and RPP7 interaction, the activity of the fungal HeLo domain protein HET-S is regulated by an NLR protein [38].

In conclusion, we have described in detail an intriguing case of hybrid necrosis in A. thaliana, where three different pairs of alleles at a conventional complex NLR resistance gene cluster, RPP7, and alleles at another complex, but non-NLR resistance gene cluster, RPW8/HR, interact to trigger autoimmunity in the absence of pathogens. Our findings suggest that within the immune system, conflict does not occur randomly, but that certain pairs of loci are more likely to misbehave than others. Finally, that genes of the RPW8/HR cluster can confer broad-spectrum disease resistance, while at least one RPP7 member can confer race-specific resistance, provides yet another link between different arms of the plant immune system [56].

Materials and Methods

Plant material

Stock numbers of accessions used are listed in Supplementary Material. All plants were stratified in the dark at 4°C for 4-6 days prior to planting on soil. Late flowering accessions were vernalized for six weeks under short day conditions (8 h light) at 4°C as seedlings. All plants were grown in long days (16 h light) at 16°C or 23°C at 65% relative humidity under Cool White fluorescent light of 125 to 175 μmol m⁻² s⁻¹. Transgenic seeds were selected either with 1% BASTA (Sigma-Aldrich), or by mCherry fluorescence. Constructs are listed in Table S10.

Genotyping by sequencing and QTL mapping

Genomic DNA was isolated from Lerik1-3 x ICE106/ICE107 F₂ and F₃ individuals and from ICE79 x Don-0 F₂ individuals using a Biosprint 96 instrument and the BioSprint 96 DNA Plant Kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). The individuals represented all classes of segregating phenotypes. Genotyping-by-Sequencing (GBS) using RAD-seq was used to genotype individuals in the mapping populations with KpnI tags [57]. Briefly, libraries were single-end sequenced on a HiSeq 3000 instrument (Illumina, San Diego, USA) with 150 bp reads. Reads were processed with SHORE [58] and mapped to the A. thaliana Col-0 reference genome. QTL was performed using R/qtl with
the information from 330 individuals and 2,989 markers for the Lerik1-3 x ICE106/107 populations, and 304 individuals and 2,207 markers for the ICE79 x Don-0 population. The severity of the hybrid phenotype was scored as a quantitative trait.

**GWAS**

Lerik1-3-dependent hybrid necrosis in F1 progeny from crosses with 80 accessions [10] was scored as 1 or 0. The binary trait with accession information was submitted to the easyGWAS platform [40], using the FaSTLMM algorithm. A -\log_{10}(p\text{-value}) was calculated for every SNP along the five *A. thaliana* chromosomes.

**RPW8.1/HR4 length prediction**

Short reads from the 1001 Genomes project (http://1001genomes.org) were mapped using SHORE[58] with 5 mismatches allowed per read. Sequences of the RPW8/HR clusters from Col-0 and KZ10 were provided as references and the covered region for RPW8.1KZ10 and HR4Col-0 was retrieved.

**RPW8.1/HR4 sequence analysis**

Overlapping fragments covering the HR4/RPW8.1 genomic region were PCR amplified from different *A. thaliana* accessions (oligonucleotides in Table S11). Fragments were cloned and Sanger sequenced. A maximum-likelihood tree of coding portions of exons and introns was computed using RaxML [59] and visualized with Figtree.

**Population genetic analysis**

The geographical distribution of the 113 accessions carrying different HR4 alleles was plotted using R (version 0.99.903). Packages maps, mapdata, mapplots and scales were used. A haplotype network was built using a cDNA alignment of 113 HR4 alleles from different accessions. The R packages used were ape (dist.dna function) and pegas (haploNet function).

**Histology**

Cotyledons from 18 day-old seedlings were collected and 1 ml of lactophenol Trypan Blue solution (20 mg Trypan Blue, 10 g phenol, 10 ml lactic acid, 10 ml glycerol and 10 ml water) diluted 1 : 2 in 96% ethanol was added for 1 hour at 70°C. Trypan Blue was removed, followed by the addition of 1 ml 2.5g/ml chloral hydrate and an overnight incubation. The following day, the de-stained cotyledons were transferred to 50% glycerol and mounted on slides.

**Oligonucleotides**

See Table S11.
**Data availability**

DNA sequences have been deposited with GenBank under accession numbers MK598747 and MK604929-MK604934.

**Supporting information**

**Fig S1.** Role of the RPP7 cluster in DM6–DM7 dependent hybrid necrosis. Related to Fig 1.

**Fig S2.** Phenotypic variation in Lerik1-3 F1 hybrids. Related to Fig 1.

**Fig S3.** HR4 and RPW8.1 CRISPR/Cas9 knockout lines. Related to Fig 3 and Fig S4.

**Fig S4.** Resistance and susceptibility to H. arabidopsidis isolate Hiks1.

**Fig S5.** Hybrid necrosis by introduction of chimeras. Related to Fig 5.

**Fig S6.** Predicted lengths of HR4 and RPW8.1 coding sequences from remapping of short reads from the 1001 Genomes Project. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S1.** Rescue of hybrid necrosis by amiRNAs against RPP7 homologs. Related to Fig 1.

**Table S2.** GWAS hits on chromosome 3 from Lerik1-3 x 80 accessions panel and tagging SNPs present in accessions carrying different HR4 types. Related to Fig 2.

**Table S3.** Rescue effects of amiRNAs targeting RPW8 homologs. Related to Fig 1 and Fig 3.

**Table S4.** Resistance to the H. arabidopsidis isolate Hiks1. Related to Fig S4.

**Table S5.** Accessions for HR4 survey. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S6.** Accessions for RPW8.1 survey. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S7.** Hybrid necrosis in F1 plants of Mrk-0 F1 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S8.** Hybrid necrosis in F1 plants of Lerik1-3 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S9.** Accessions and hybrids in which growth was analyzed with the automated phenotyping platform RAPA. Related to Fig 6.

**Table S10.** Constructs.

**Table S11.** Oligonucleotides used for amplifying RPW8.1/HR4 genomic fragments and swap constructs. Related to Fig 3 and Fig 5.

**Acknowledgements**

We thank Jane Parker for the H. arabidopsidis Hiks1 isolate, Katrin Fritschi and Camilla Kleinhempel for technical support, Gautam Shirsekar for help with the pathology assays and discussions, and Christian Kubica for help with visualization of PacBio sequence data.
Author contributions

Conceptualization: CB, DW, EC.
Data curation: EC.
Formal analysis: CB, STKJH, ALVdW, IB, GW, EC.
Funding acquisition: RW, DW, EC.
Investigation: CB, RW, AH, WX, MZ, WWHH, EC.
Methodology: CB, EC.
Project administration: DW.
Supervision: DW.
Validation: CB, EC.
Writing – original draft: CB, EC.
Writing – review & editing: CD, DW, EC.

References

1. Bomblies K, Weigel D. Hybrid necrosis: autoimmunity as a potential gene-flow barrier in plant species. Nat Rev Genet. 2007;8: 382–393.
2. Chen C, Zhiguo E, Lin H-X. Evolution and Molecular Control of Hybrid Incompatibility in Plants. Front Plant Sci. 2016;7: 1135.
3. Vaid N, Laitinen RAE. Diverse paths to hybrid incompatibility in Arabidopsis. Plant J. 2019;97: 199–213.
4. Krüger J, Thomas CM, Golstein C, Dixon MS, Smoker M, Tang S, et al. A tomato cysteine protease required for Cf-2-dependent disease resistance and suppression of autonecrosis. Science. 2002;296: 744–747.
5. Bomblies K, Lempe J, Epple P, Warthmann N, Lanz C, Dangl JL, et al. Autoimmune response as a mechanism for a Dobzhansky-Muller-type incompatibility syndrome in plants. PLoS Biol. 2007;5: e236.
6. Jeukens MJW, Zhang NW, McHale LK, Pelgrom K, den Boer E, Lindhout P, et al. Rin4 causes hybrid necrosis and race-specific resistance in an interspecific lettuce hybrid. Plant Cell. 2009;21: 3368–3378.
7. Alcázar R, García AV, Parker JE, Reymond M. Incremental steps toward incompatibility revealed by Arabidopsis epistatic interactions modulating salicylic acid pathway activation. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 2009;106: 334–339.
8. Alcázar R, García AV, Kronholm I, de Meaux J, Koornneef M, Parker JE, et al. Natural variation at Strubbbelig Receptor Kinase 3 drives immune-triggered incompatibilities between Arabidopsis thaliana accessions. Nat Genet. 2010;42: 1135–1139.
9. Yamamoto E, Takashi T, Morinaka Y, Lin S, Wu J, Matsumoto T, et al. Gain of deleterious function causes an autoimmune response and Bateson-Dobzhansky-Muller incompatibility in rice. Mol Genet Genomics. 2010;283: 305–315.
10. Chae E, Bomblies K, Kim ST, Karelina D, Zaidem M, Ossowski S, et al. Species-wide genetic
incompatibility analysis identifies immune genes as hot spots of deleterious epistasis. Cell. 2014;159: 1341–1351.

11. Chen C, Chen H, Lin Y-S, Shen J-B, Shan J-X, Qi P, et al. A two-locus interaction causes interspecific hybrid weakness in rice. Nat Commun. 2014;5: 3357.

12. Todesco M, Kim ST, Chae E, Bombles K, Zaidem M, Smith LM, et al. Activation of the Arabidopsis thaliana immune system by combinations of common ACD6 alleles. PLoS Genet. 2014;10: e1004459.

13. Sicard A, Kappel C, Josephs EB, Lee YW, Marona C, Stinchcombe JR, et al. Divergent sorting of a balanced ancestral polymorphism underlies the establishment of gene-flow barriers in Capsella. Nat Commun. 2015;6: 7960.

14. Cesari S. Multiple strategies for pathogen perception by plant immune receptors. New Phytol. 2017; doi:10.1111/nph.14877

15. Zhang X, Dodds PN, Bernoux M. What Do We Know About NOD-Like Receptors in Plant Immunity? Annu Rev Phytopathol. 2017;55: 205–229.

16. Monteiro F, Nishimura MT. Structural, Functional, and Genomic Diversity of Plant NLR Proteins: An Evolved Resource for Rational Engineering of Plant Immunity. Annu Rev Phytopathol. 2018;56: 243–267.

17. Kourelis J, van der Hoorn RAL. Defended to the Nines: 25 Years of Resistance Gene Cloning Identifies Nine Mechanisms for R Protein Function. Plant Cell. American Society of Plant Biologists; 2018;30: 285–299.

18. Gos G, Slotte T, Wright SI. Signatures of balancing selection are maintained at disease resistance loci following mating system evolution and a population bottleneck in the genus Capsella. BMC Evol Biol. 2012;12: 152.

19. Jacob F, Vernaldi S, Maekawa T. Evolution and Conservation of Plant NLR Functions. Front Immunol. 2013;4: 297.

20. Karasov TL, Horton MW, Bergelson J. Genomic variability as a driver of plant-pathogen coevolution? Curr Opin Plant Biol. 2014;18: 24–30.

21. Wicker T, Yahiaoui N, Keller B. Illegitimate recombination is a major evolutionary mechanism for initiating size variation in plant resistance genes. Plant J. 2007;51: 631–641.

22. Nagy ED, Bennetzen JL. Pathogen corruption and site-directed recombination at a plant disease resistance gene cluster. Genome Res. 2008;18: 1918–1923.

23. Baggs E, Dagdas G, Krasileva KV. NLR diversity, helpers and integrated domains: making sense of the NLR IDentity. Curr Opin Plant Biol. 2017;38: 59–67.

24. Trowsdale J. The gentle art of gene arrangement: the meaning of gene clusters. Genome Biol. 2002;3: COMMENT2002.

25. Lemons D, McGinnis W. Genomic evolution of Hox gene clusters. Science. 2006;313: 1918–1922.

26. Zeng G, Zhang P, Zhang Q, Zhao H, Li Z, Zhang X, et al. Duplication of a Pks gene cluster and subsequent functional diversification facilitate environmental adaptation in Metarhizium species. PLoS Genet. 2018;14: e1007472.

27. Xiao S, Ellwood S, Calis O, Patrick E, Li T, Coleman M, et al. Broad-spectrum mildew resistance in
Arabidopsis thaliana mediated by RPW8. Science. 2001;291: 118–120.

28. Xiao S, Emerson B, Ratnasut K, Patrick E, O’Neill C, Bancroft I, et al. Origin and maintenance of a broad-spectrum disease resistance locus in Arabidopsis. Mol Biol Evol. 2004;21: 1661–1672.

29. Orgil U, Araki H, Tangchaiburana S, Berkey R, Xiao S. Intraspecific genetic variations, fitness cost and benefit of RPW8, a disease resistance locus in Arabidopsis thaliana. Genetics. 2007;176: 2317–2333.

30. El Kasmi F, Nishimura MT. Structural insights into plant NLR immune receptor function. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2016; doi:10.1073/pnas.1615933113

31. Wróblewski T, Spiridon L, Martin EC, Petrescu A-J, Cavanaugh K, Truco MJ, et al. Genome-wide functional analyses of plant coiled-coil NLR-type pathogen receptors reveal essential roles of their N-terminal domain in oligomerization, networking, and immunity. PLoS Biol. 2018;16: e2005821.

32. Collier SM, Hamel L-P, Moffett P. Cell death mediated by the N-terminal domains of a unique and highly conserved class of NB-LRR protein. Mol Plant Microbe Interact. 2011;24: 918–931.

33. Zhong Y, Cheng Z-MM. A unique RPW8-encoding class of genes that originated in early land plants and evolved through domain fission, fusion, and duplication. Sci Rep. 2016;6: 32923.

34. Bentham AR, Zdrzalek R, De la Concepcion JC, Banfield MJ. Uncoiling CNLs: Structure/Function Approaches to Understanding CC Domain Function in Plant NLRs. Plant Cell Physiol. 2018;59: 2398–2408.

35. Greenwald J, Buhtz C, Ritter C, Kwiatkowski W, Choe S, Maddelein M-L, et al. The mechanism of prion inhibition by HET-S. Mol Cell. 2010;38: 889–899.

36. Seuring C, Greenwald J, Wasmer C, Wepf R, Saupé SJ, Meier BH, et al. The mechanism of toxicity in HET-S/HET-s prion incompatibility. PLoS Biol. 2012;10: e1001451.

37. Daskalov A, Habenstein B, Sabaté R, Berbon M, Martinez D, Chaignepain S, et al. Identification of a novel cell death-inducing domain reveals that fungal amyloid-controlled programmed cell death is related to necroptosis. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2016;113: 2720–2725.

38. Daskalov A, Habenstein B, Martinez D, Debets AJM, Sabaté R, Loquet A, et al. Signal transduction by a fungal NOD-like receptor based on propagation of a prion amyloid fold. PLoS Biol. 2015;13: e1002059.

39. Daskalov A, Dyrka W, Saupé SJ. Theme and variations: evolutionary diversification of the HET-s functional amyloid motif. Sci Rep. 2015;5: 12494.

40. Grimm DG, Roqueiro D, Salomé PA, Kleeberger S, Greshake B, Zhu W, et al. easyGWAS: A Cloud-Based Platform for Comparing the Results of Genome-Wide Association Studies. Plant Cell. 2017;29: 5–19.

41. Holub EB, Beynon JL. Symbiology of Mouse-Ear Cress (Arabidopsis Thaliana) and Oomycetes. In: Andrews JH, Tommerup IC, Callow JA, editors. Advances in Botanical Research. Academic Press; 1997. pp. 227–273.

42. Nemri A, Atwell S, Tarone AM, Huang YS, Zhao K, Studholme DJ, et al. Genome-wide survey of Arabidopsis natural variation in downy mildew resistance using combined association and linkage mapping. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2010;107: 10302–10307.

43. Jorgensen TH, Emerson BC. Functional variation in a disease resistance gene in populations of Arabidopsis thaliana. Mol Ecol. 2008;17: 4912–4923.
45. Zimmermann L, Stephens A, Nam S-Z, Rau D, Kübler J, Lozajic M, et al. A Completely Reimplemented MPI Bioinformatics Toolkit with a New HHpred Server at its Core. J Mol Biol. 2018;430: 2237–2243.

46. Hildebrand JM, Tanzer MC, Lucet IS, Young SN, Spall SK, Sharma P, et al. Activation of the pseudokinase MLKL unleashes the four-helix bundle domain to induce membrane localization and necroptotic cell death. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2014;111: 15072–15077.

47. Su L, Quade B, Wang H, Sun L, Wang X, Rizo J. A plug release mechanism for membrane permeation by MLKL. Structure. 2014;22: 1489–1500.

48. Chen X, Li W, Ren J, Huang D, He W-T, Song Y, et al. Translocation of mixed lineage kinase domain-like protein to plasma membrane leads to necrotic cell death. Cell Res. 2014;24: 105–121.

49. Murphy JM, Czabotar PE, Hildebrand JM, Lucet IS, Zhang J-G, Alvarez-Diaz S, et al. The pseudokinase MLKL mediates necroptosis via a molecular switch mechanism. Immunity. 2013;39: 443–453.

50. Wang H, Sun L, Su L, Rizo J, Liu L, Wang L-F, et al. Mixed lineage kinase domain-like protein MLKL causes necrotic membrane disruption upon phosphorylation by RIP3. Mol Cell. 2014;54: 133–146.

51. Yang X, Wang W, Coleman M, Orgil U, Feng J, Ma X, et al. Arabidopsis 14-3-3 lambda is a positive regulator of RPW8-mediated disease resistance. Plant J. 2009;60: 539–550.

52. Jones JDG, Vance RE, Dangl JL. Intracellular innate immune surveillance devices in plants and animals. Science. 2016;354. doi:10.1126/science.aaf6395

53. Wang W, Zhang Y, Wen Y, Berkey R, Ma X, Pan Z, et al. A comprehensive mutational analysis of the Arabidopsis resistance protein RPW8.2 reveals key amino acids for defense activation and protein targeting. Plant Cell. 2013;25: 4242–4261.

54. Berkey R, Zhang Y, Ma X, King H, Zhang Q, Wang W, et al. Homologues of the RPW8 Resistance Protein Are Localized to the Extrahaustorial Membrane that Is Likely Synthesized De Novo. Plant Physiol. 2017;173: 600–613.

55. Phizicky EM, Fields S. Protein-protein interactions: methods for detection and analysis. Microbiol Mol Biol Rev. American Society for Microbiology; 1995;59: 94–123.

56. Thomma BP, Nürnberger T, Joosten MH. Of PAMPs and effectors: the blurred PTI-ETI dichotomy. Plant Cell. 2011;23: 4–15.

57. Rowan BA, Seymour DK, Chae E, Lundberg DS, Weigel D. Methods for Genotyping-by-Sequencing. In: White SJ, Cantsilieris S, editors. Genotyping: Methods and Protocols. New York, NY: Springer New York; 2017. pp. 221–242.

58. Ossowski S, Schneeberger K, Clark RM, Lanz C, Warthmann N, Weigel D. Sequencing of natural strains of Arabidopsis thaliana with short reads. Genome Res. 2008;18: 2024–2033.

59. Stamatakis A. RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and post-analysis of large phylogenies. Bioinformatics. 2014;30: 1312–1313.
Supplemental Information

**RPW8/HR Repeats Control NLR Activation in* A. thaliana**

*Cristina A. Barragan, Rui Wu, Sang-Tae Kim, Wanyan Xi, Anette Habring, Jörg Hagmann, Anna-Lena Van de Weyer, Maricris Zaidem, William Wing Ho Ho, George Wang, Ilja Bezrukov, Detlef Weigel, Eunyoung Chae*

**Supplemental Figures**

- **Fig S1.** Role of the *RPP7* cluster in DM6-DM7 dependent hybrid necrosis. Related to Fig 1.
- **Fig S2.** Phenotypic variation in Lerik1-3 F1 hybrids. Related to Fig 1.
- **Fig S3.** *HR4* and *RPW8.1* CRISPR/Cas9 knockout lines. Related to Fig 3 and Fig S4.
- **Fig S4.** Resistance and susceptibility to *H. arabidopsidis* isolate Hiks1.
- **Fig S5.** Hybrid necrosis by introduction of chimeras. Related to Fig 5.
- **Fig S6.** Predicted lengths of *HR4* and *RPW8.1* coding sequences from remapping of short reads from the 1001 Genomes Project. Related to Fig 6.

**Supplemental Tables**

- **Table S1.** Rescue of hybrid necrosis by amiRNAs against *RPP7* homologs. Related to Fig 1.
- **Table S2.** GWAS hits on chromosome 3 from Lerik1-3 x 80 accessions panel and tagging SNPs present in accessions carrying different HR4 types. Related to Fig 2.
- **Table S3.** Rescue effects of amiRNAs targeting *RPW8* homologs. Related to Fig 1 and Fig 3.
- **Table S4.** Resistance to the *H. arabidopsidis* isolate Hiks1. Related to Fig S4.!!
- **Table S5.** Accessions for *HR4* survey. Related to Fig 6.
- **Table S6.** Accessions for *RPW8.1* survey. Related to Fig 6.
- **Table S7.** Hybrid necrosis in F1 plants of Mrk-0 F1 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.
- **Table S8.** Hybrid necrosis in F1 plants of Lerik1-3 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.
- **Table S9.** Accessions and hybrids in which growth was analyzed with the automated phenotyping platform RAPA. Related to Fig 6.
- **Table S10.** Constructs.
- **Table S11.** Oligonucleotides used for amplifying *RPW8.1/HR4* genomic fragments and swap constructs. Related to Fig 3 and Fig 5.

**Supplemental Experimental Procedures**

**Supplemental References**
Fig S1. Role of the *RPP7* cluster in DM6-DM7 dependent hybrid necrosis. Related to Fig 1. 

(A) *RPP7* cluster in the Col-0 reference genome. The left portion of the cluster consists of three NLR genes, *At1g58390, At1g58400* and *At1g58410* (green arrows). The right portion includes five NLR genes, *At1g58602, At1g58807, At1g58848, At1g59214* and *At1g59218* (brown arrows). Twenty-two non-NLR genes in this region are not shown. 

(B) Maximum-likelihood tree of NLR genes in the *RPP7* cluster based on the NB domain. *At1g59124* and *At1g58807* sequences are identical, as are *At1g59218* and *At1g58848*. Same colors as in (A). Bootstrap values (out of 100) are indicated on each branch. 

(C) Representative rescue experiment using an amiRNA construct targeting *RPP7* homologs (see Table S1). *ICE79* was transformed with the amiRNA construct *EK21* and T1 plants were crossed to Don-0, resulting in rescued and non-rescued plants segregating in the F1 progeny. Parental genotypes were confirmed with CAPS markers, shown below. Five-week old plants grown in 16°C are shown.
Fig S2. Phenotypic variation in Lerik1-3 F₁ hybrids. Related to Fig 1.
Major differences were observed in rosette size of F₁ hybrids (A) and spotted cell death on the abaxial side of leaves (B). Scale bar represents 1 cm (A) and 1 mm (B). Plants were five weeks old.
Fig S3. HR4 and RPW8.1 CRISPR/Cas9 knockout lines. Related to Fig 3 and Fig S4.  
(A) Two alleles of HR4 in Col-0 with a 1-bp insertion (#8/18) or a 19-bp deletion (#8/6) were identified by amplicon sequencing.  
(B) An allele of RPW8.1 in KZ10 with a 1-bp insertion was recovered. The stop codons are marked with an asterisk and the first amino acid after a frameshifting event is in bold.
Fig S4. Resistance and susceptibility to *H. arabidopsidis* isolate Hiks1.

(A) Trypan Blue stained cotyledons 5 days after infection. Lerik1-3 is resistant, while Fei-0 and ICE106 are fully susceptible. The F1 hybrids Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 and Lerik1-3 x ICE106 appear to be less resistant than Lerik1-3. Ws-0 eds1-1 is a positive infection control. (B) Two different *hr4* loss-of-function alleles (see Fig S3) are as resistant as Col-0 wild-type plants. *eds1-1* and *rpp7-15* are positive infection controls.
**Fig S5.** Hybrid necrosis by introduction of chimeras. Related to Fig 5. Effects of chimeric *HR4* transgenes introduced into Lerik1-3, with negative and positive controls shown to the left and right. Scale bar represents 1 cm. Five week-old plants are shown.
Fig S6. Predicted lengths of *HR4* and *RPW8.1* coding sequences from remapping of short reads from the 1001 Genomes Project. Related to Fig 6. 

**A** *HR4* type assignments based on information from Sanger sequencing. **B** *RPW8.1* type based on information from Sanger sequencing.
Supplemental Tables

Table S1. Rescue of hybrid necrosis by amiRNAs against RPP7 homologs. Related to Fig 1.

| amiRNA | Sequence | Predicted Col-0 targets | Rescue |
|--------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
|        |          |                         | Mrk-0 x KZ10 | Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 | Lerik1-3 x ICE106 | ICE79 x Don-0 |
| EK19   | TAAATGACCATATTCCCTGTC | AT1G58602, AT1G59218, AT1G58807, AT1G58848, AT1G59214 | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| EK20   | TTTTCAGGTATTTTCAGTCAA | AT1G58602, AT1G59218, AT1G58848, AT1G58807, AT1G59214 | partial | yes | yes | yes |
| EK21   | TCGAGGTATTTCAATCCGCTT | AT1G58602, AT1G59218, AT1G58807, AT1G58848, AT1G59214 | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| EK22   | TAAAGTTAGTCTTTCGGCCA | AT1G58602, AT1G59218, AT1G58807, AT1G58848, AT1G59214 | yes | yes | not tested | not tested |
| EK26   | TTAGATCACGTTTTAGCAGCAG | AT1G58390 | no | no | no | no |
| EK27   | TATGTCTAGATAGATCGGCCA | AT1G58400, 3’ portion | no | no | not tested | not tested |
| EK28   | TAAGTTAGTTTGTTGATGCCGC | AT1G58400, 5’ portion | partial | no | not tested | not tested |
| EK29   | TCTTAATTCGATCCATCCGAT | AT1G58390, 3’ portion | no | no | no | no |
| EK30   | TATATCAGACGCAAGTTCCCT | AT1G58410 | no | no | not tested | not tested |
| EK31   | TAAAGTCGCTTTCGTAAGGCCGC | AT1G58390, 5’ portion | no | no | not tested | not tested |

AmiRNAs were designed based on NLR sequences of the RPP7 cluster in Col-0 (Table S1) using WMD3 (http://wmd3.weigelworld.org/). Constructs were introduced into Mrk-0, Lerik1-3 or ICE79, and T1 lines were crossed to incompatible parents. Hybrid necrosis was scored at 16°C. Examples of F1 plants are shown in Fig S1.
**Table S2.** GWAS hits on chromosome 3 from Lerik1-3 x 80 accessions panel and tagging SNPs present in accessions carrying different HR4 types. Related to Fig 2.

| Position  | -log(P-value) | HR4 type       |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
|           |               | No-0 | ICE21 | ICE106 | TueWa1-2 |
| 18,743,818| 26.95         | A    | A     | G      | G        |
| 18,745,470| 11.22         | C    | T     | T      | T        |
| 18,741,733| 8.67          | C    | C     | C      | C        |
| 18,742,020| 8.67          | G    | G     | G      | G        |
| 18,742,285| 8.67          | G    | G     | G      | G        |
| 18,742,408| 8.67          | C    | C     | C      | C        |
| 18,742,741| 8.67          | G    | G     | G      | G        |
| 18,742,864| 8.67          | T    | T     | T      | T        |
| 18,741,725| 8.08          | A    | A     | A      | A        |
| 18,742,108| 8.08          | A    | NA    | A      | A        |
| 18,742,821| 8.08          | C    | C     | C      | C        |

Location of HR4 (At3g50480) is 18,733,287 to 18,734,180 bp on chromosome 3 of the reference Col-0 genome. The next protein-coding gene is At3g50500 (18,741,805 to 18,743,904 bp), with At3g50490 (18,738,630 to 18,739,261 bp) encoding a transposable element (see Fig 4A). SNPs in bold italics differ from the Col-0 reference.
**Table S3.** Rescue effects of amiRNAs targeting *RPW8* homologs. Related to Fig 1 and Fig 3.

| amiRNA | Sequence | Predicted targets | Predicted non-targets | Rescue |
|--------|----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------|
|        |          |                   |                       | Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 | Lerik1-3 x ICE106 | Lerik1-3 x TueWa1-2 |
| MZ110  | TTCAAGGAAACA CGTGAGACG | *RPW8.1a, RPW8.1b, HR4* | *RPW8.2* | partial | partial | not tested |
|        | MZ137    | TGATACTAATGA TTGTAGCG | *RPW8.1b* | *RPW8.1a, HR4* | no | not tested | not tested |
|        | MZ141    | TCAGAACGTAAA TCGGATCGC | *RPW8.2* | *RPW8.1, HR4* | no | not tested | not tested |
|        | KB amiR- *RPW8.1 b* | TATGATTGTAGC GCAGAGACG | *RPW8.1a, RPW8.1b* | *HR4* | no | not tested | not tested |
| ACB HR4.2 | TCTTAATTCATGC ATCCGCAT | *HR4* | *RPW8.1a, RPW8.1b* | yes | yes | yes |

AmiRNAs were designed based on sequence information of *RPW8/HR* clusters from Col-0, Ms-0 and KZ10. Constructs were introduced into Fei-0 or ICE106, and T1 lines were crossed to the incompatible accession Lerik1-3. Hybrid necrosis was scored at 16°C. Parental genotypes and the presence of amiRNA constructs were confirmed with by PCR genotyping (see Fig 3A).
Table S4. Resistance to the *H. arabidopsidis* isolate Hiks1. Related to Fig S4.

| Accession / F₁ cross | Hiks1 resistance* |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Col-0                | weak resistance   |
| Lerik1-3             | strong resistance |
| ICE106               | no resistance     |
| Fei-0                | no resistance     |
| Ws-0                 | no resistance     |
| Ws-0 eds1-1          | no resistance     |
| Oy-0                 | no resistance     |
| Col-0 rpp7-15        | no resistance     |
| Col-0 hr4 #6/8       | strong resistance |
| Col-0 hr4 #8/18      | strong resistance |
| EK29                 | strong resistance |
| EK28                 | strong resistance |
| EK27                 | strong resistance |
| EK26                 | strong resistance |
| EK22                 | strong resistance |
| EK21                 | strong resistance |
| EK19                 | strong resistance |
| Lerik1-3 x Fei-0     | strong resistance |
| Lerik1-3 x ICE106    | weak resistance   |

*strong resistance: no conidiophores; weak resistance: 1-5 conidiophores/cotyledon, with some sporulation; very weak resistance: 6-19 conidiophores/cotyledon, with low to medium sporulation; no resistance: >20 conidiophores/cotyledon, heavy sporulation.

†See Table S1 for amiRNA key.
Table S5. Accessions for HR4 survey. Related to Fig 6.

| Accession                   | 1001 Genomes Project ID | Stock center ID | HR4 type | HR4 haplotype | Covered region (bp) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|---------------------|
| IP-Tol-7                    | 9588                    | CS77371        | 1        | XV            | 885                 |
| IP-Trs-0                    | 9590                    | CS77387        | 1        | XV            | 880                 |
| El-0                        | 7117                    | CS76479        | 1        | XIV           | 894                 |
| Wu-0                        | 7415                    | CS78858        | 1        | XIV           | 835                 |
| Castelfed-1-199             | 9683                    | CS76748        | 1        | XIII          | 887                 |
| ICE79/Voeran-1              | 9979                    | CS76352        | 1        | XIII          | 868                 |
| T960                        | 6148                    | CS77325        | 1        | XII           | 894                 |
| ICE60/Stepn-2               | 9955                    | CS76377        | 1        | XI            | 773                 |
| ICE36/Dobra-1               | 10018                   | CS76369        | 1        | X             | 848                 |
| No-0                        | 7208                    | CS77128        | 1        | X             | 802                 |
| Knjas-1                     | 9749                    | CS76971        | 1        | X             | 834                 |
| LP3413.31                   | 8464                    | CS79030        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Zdarec3                     | 403                     | CS78873        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Del-10                      | 10016                   | CS76397        | 1        | IX            | 554                 |
| Lan-0                       | 7208                    | CS76539        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Col-0                       | 6909                    | CS76539        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Noveg-3                     | 9638                    | CS77133        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Pu2-7                       | 6956                    | CS76580        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Wil-2                       | 7413                    | CS78856        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| PT2.21                      | 8077                    | CS77191        | 1        | IX            | 894                 |
| Bsch-0                      | 7031                    | CS76457        | 1        | IX            | 890                 |
| Wc-1                        | 7404                    | CS76627        | 2        | V             | 887                 |
| Ven-1                       | 7384                    | CS76624        | 2        | V             | 856                 |
| UKNW06-481                  | 5644                    | CS78798        | 2        | V             | 885                 |
| Tu-0                        | 7375                    | CS76617        | 2        | V             | 894                 |
| ICE21/Petro-1               | 10017                   | CS76370        | 2        | V             | 778                 |
| Lu-1                        | 8334                    | CS77056        | 2        | V             | 863                 |
| LIN-S-5                     | 915                     | CS77040        | 2        | V             | 785                 |
| Tsu-0                       | 7373                    | CS77389        | 2        | V             | 847                 |
| Bd-0                        | 7013                    | CS76445        | 2        | V             | 854                 |
| Bai-10                      | 9779                    | CS76682        | 2        | V             | 871                 |
| Kus3-1                      | 9802                    | CS76991        | 2        | V             | 877                 |
| Lag1-4                      | 9102                    | CS76999        | 2        | IV            | 894                 |
| Lag1-5                      | 9103                    | CS77000        | 2        | IV            | 894                 |
| HKT2-4                      | 9995                    | CS76404        | 2        | V             | 789                 |
| Dr-0                        | 7106                    | CS78897        | 2        | V             | 875                 |
| Pi-0                        | 7298                    | CS76572        | 2        | V             | 880                 |
| For-2                       | 5741                    | CS78783        | 2        | V             | 844                 |
| Erg2-6                      | 9784                    | CS76845        | 2        | V             | 892                 |
| Bay-0                       | 6899                    | CS22633        | 2        | V             | -                   |
| Sq-8                        | 6967                    | CS76604        | 2        | V             | 889                 |
| Name     | Chromosome | Type | Accession Number |
|----------|------------|------|------------------|
| Li-7     | 7231       | VI   | CS77035          |
| Bs-1     | 7003       | V    | CS78888          |
| Tottarp-2| 6243       | V    | CS77381          |
| Xan-6    | 9070       | VII  | CS78862          |
| Nemrut-1 | 9993       | VII  | CS76398          |
| Lerik2-3 | 9081       | VII  | CS77026          |
| Xan-5    | 9069       | VII  | CS78861          |
| Ty-1     | 7351       | III  | CS78790          |
| Or-1     | 6074       | III  | CS77150          |
| Bil-5    | 6900       | III  | CS76709          |
| T510     | 6109       | III  | CS77301          |
| Mnz-0    | 7244       | III  | CS76552          |
| Bil-7    | 6901       | III  | CS76710          |
| Cimin-1  | 9661       | VIII | CS76771          |
| ICE112/Moran-1 | 9967   | VIII | CS76427          |
| Bivio-1  | 9649       | II   | CS76713          |
| Cdm-0    | 9943       | II   | CS76410          |
| IP-Mot-0 | 9560       | II   | CS77109          |
| Nicas-1  | 9658       | II   | CS77127          |
| Wei-0    | 6979       | II   | CS76628          |
| Rhen-1   | 7316       | II   | CS78916          |
| ICE106/Mammo-1 | 9964 | II   | CS76365          |
| ICE92/Angit-1 | 9981 | II   | CS76366          |
| IP-Bea-0 | 9522       | II   | CS76695          |
| IP-Ala-0 | 9515       | II   | CS76650          |
| IP-Cum-1 | 9537       | II   | CS76787          |
| Paw-26   | 2171       | II   | CS77164          |
| IP-Vav-0 | 9511       | II   | CS78835          |
| KBG2-13  | 9770       | II   | CS76966          |
| ICE107/Mammo-2 | 9965 | II   | CS76364          |
| Com-1    | 7092       | II   | CS76469          |
| UKID74   | 5779       | II   | CS78789          |
| PHW-34   | 8244       | II   | CS77174          |
| PLO-1    | 9923       | II   | CS77180          |
| IP-Tri-0 | 9900       | II   | CS77386          |
| ICE7/Lecho-1 | 9987 | II   | CS76371          |
| RUM-20   | 9925       | II   | CS77226          |
| Lu4-2    | 9792       | II   | CS77058          |
| Gy-0     | 8214       | II   | CS78901          |
| Ra-0     | 6958       | II   | CS76582          |
| IP-Fue-2 | 9541       | II   | CS76871          |
| Nie1-2   | 9996       | II   | CS76402          |
| Pra-6    | 9948       | II   | CS76416          |
| 328ME059 | 8584       | I    | CS76641          |
| Abd-0    | 6986       | I    | CS76429          |
| Sample Name | Accession | Count | Haplotypes | Length |
|-------------|-----------|-------|------------|--------|
| CIBC-5      | CS78894   | 6     | I          | 367    |
| Cnt-1       | CS78782   | 6     | I          | 294    |
| Durh-1      | CS76477   | 6     | I          | 243    |
| Edinburgh-1 | CS76832   | 6     | I          | 341    |
| Fei-0       | CS76412   | 6     | I          | 346    |
| Ha-0        | CS76500   | 6     | I          | 356    |
| Hart-2      | CS76913   | 6     | I          | 377    |
| HR-10       | CS76940   | 6     | I          | 317    |
| IP-Rds-0    | CS77206   | 6     | I          | 361    |
| Kin-0       | CS76527   | 6     | I          | 325    |
| Liri-1      | CS77041   | 6     | I          | 65     |
| Mdn-1       | CS77077   | 6     | I          | 314    |
| NFA-8       | CS78913   | 6     | I          | 367    |
| PNA3.40     | CS77184   | 6     | I          | 303    |
| Pog-0       | CS76576   | 6     | I          | 294    |
| QUI-8       | CS77199   | 6     | I          | 894    |
| Rmx-A180    | CS77218   | 6     | I          | 344    |
| Rou-0       | CS76591   | 6     | I          | 243    |
| Sarno-0     | CS77236   | 6     | I          | 330    |
| Seattle-0   | CS76598   | 6     | I          | 324    |
| Ste-40      | CS77278   | 6     | I          | 284    |
| TueScha-9   | CS76401   | 6     | I          | 413    |
| TueWa1-2    | CS76405   | 6     | I          | 414    |
| UKNW06-003  | CS78792   | 6     | I          | 343    |
| UKNW06-403  | CS78797   | 6     | I          | 296    |
| UKSE06-533  | CS78806   | 6     | I          | 307    |
| Uod-1       | CS76621   | 6     | I          | 314    |
| Vind-1      | CS76625   | 6     | I          | 252    |

Covered region indicates the length of HR4Col-0 (894 bp) covered by reads from the 1001 Genomes Project (http://1001genomes.org), allowing for five mismatches. HR4 types are categorized according to the number of RPW8/HR repeats, and the haplotype is based on the entire HR4 coding sequence.
Table S6. Accessions for RPW8.1 survey. Related to Fig 6.

| Accession | 1001 Genomes Project ID | Stock center ID | RPW8.1 type | Covered region (bp) |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| KZ-10     | 10019                   | CS28435        | 1           | 749                 |
| KZ-9      | 6931                    | CS76537        | 1           | 749                 |
| Lebja-2   | 9632                    | CS77016        | 1           | 749                 |
| Shu-1     | 14318                   | CS78930        | 1           | 749                 |
| Ulies-1   | 9737                    | CS78815        | 1           | 749                 |
| Lebja-1   | 9631                    | CS77015        | 1           | 749                 |
| Kolyv-3   | 9626                    | CS76978        | 1           | 749                 |
| Knox-10   | 6927                    | CS76973        | 2           | 741                 |
| Ang-0     | 6992                    | CS76436        | 2           | 735                 |
| Kolyv-6   | 9628                    | CS76980        | 2           | 727                 |
| Lag2-2    | 9990                    | CS76390        | 2           | 713                 |
| IP-Pro-0  | 9571                    | CS78914        | 2           | 713                 |
| Qui-0     | 9949                    | CS76417        | 2           | 708                 |
| Uk-1      | 7378                    | CS76620        | 2           | 697                 |
| Ms-0      | 6938                    | CS76555        | 3           | 672                 |
| Tamm-2    | 6968                    | CS76610        | 3           | 657                 |
| TueWa1-2  | 10002                   | CS76405        | 3           | 568                 |
| TueScha-9 | 10000                   | CS76401        | 3           | 501                 |
| Fei-0     | 9941                    | CS76412        | 3           | 461                 |
| En-1      | 8290                    | CS76841        | 3           | 414                 |
| Hn-0      | 7165                    | CS76513        | 3           | 315                 |
| CIIBC-5   | 6908                    | CS78894        | 3           | 301                 |
| NFA-8     | 6944                    | CS78913        | 3           | 295                 |
| Ha-0      | 7163                    | CS76500        | 3           | 197                 |
| Bg-2      | 6709                    | CS28069        | 3           | 186                 |
| Yeg-4     | 9130                    | CS78865        | 3           | 130                 |
| Yeg-5     | 9131                    | CS78866        | 3           | 0                   |
| Yeg-2     | 9128                    | CS78864        | 3           | 0                   |
**Table S7.** Hybrid necrosis in F₁ plants of Mrk-0 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.

| Cross                  | RPW8.1 type | Hybrid necrosis |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Mrk-0 x KZ-10          | 1           | strong          |
| Mrk-0 x KZ-9           | 1           | strong          |
| Mrk-0 x Lebja-2        | 1           | strong          |
| Mrk-0 x Shu-1          | 1           | intermediate    |
| Mrk-0 x Ulies-1        | 1           | strong          |
| Mrk-0 x Lebja-1        | 1           | intermediate    |
| Mrk-0 x Kolyv-3        | 1           | strong          |
| Mrk-0 x Knox-10        | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Ang-0          | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Kolyv-6        | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Lag2-2         | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x IP-Pro-0       | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Qui-0          | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Uk-1           | 2           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Ms-0           | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Tamm-2         | 3           | none            |
| TueWa1-2 x Mrk-0       | 3           | none            |
| TueScha-9 x Mrk-0      | 3           | none            |
| Fei-0 x Mrk-0          | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x En-1          | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Hn-0          | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Wei-0         | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x CIBC-5        | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x NFA-8         | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Ra-0         | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Ha-0          | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Bg-2         | 3           | none            |
| Yeg-4 x Mrk-0         | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Yeg-5        | 3           | none            |
| Mrk-0 x Yeg-2         | 3           | none            |

Strong hybrid necrosis equals what is observed in KZ10 x Mrk-0 hybrids.
**Table S8.** Hybrid necrosis in F\textsubscript{1} plants of Lerik1-3 crossed to other accessions. Related to Fig 6.

| Cross                  | HR4 type | Hybrid necrosis |
|------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Lerik1-3 x Col-0       | 1        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Noveg-3     | 1        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Lerik2-3    | 2        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Ven-1       | 2        | none            |
| Ty-1 x Lerik1-3        | 3        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Bil-5       | 3        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Bil-7       | 3        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Or-1        | 3        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x ICE112      | 4        | none            |
| Lerik1-3 x Cimin-1     | 4        | none            |
| Lu4-2 x Lerik1-3       | 5        | mild            |
| Lerik1-3 x Lu4-2       | 5        | mild            |
| Lerik1-3 x Tri-0       | 5        | mild            |
| Nicas-1 x Lerik1-3     | 5        | mild            |
| Lerik1-3 x IP-Cum      | 5        | mild            |
| Lerik1-3 x RUM20       | 5        | mild            |
| Lerik1-3 x PAW26       | 5        | mild            |
| Uod-1 x Lerik1-3       | 6        | intermediate    |
| Lerik1-3 x Liri-1      | 6        | intermediate    |
| Lerik1-3 x Vind-1      | 6        | strong          |
| Ste-40 x Lerik1-3      | 6        | strong          |
| Pog-0 x Lerik1-3       | 6        | strong          |
| Lerik1-3 x RmA180      | 6        | strong          |
| Lerik1-3 x Edinburgh-1 | 6        | strong          |
| Lerik1-3 x PNA3.40     | 6        | strong          |

Strong hybrid necrosis equals what is observed in Lerik1-3 x Fei-0 F\textsubscript{1} hybrids.
**Table S9.** Accessions and hybrids in which growth was analyzed with the automated phenotyping platform RAPA. Related to Fig 6.

| Population               | HR4 type |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Lerik1-3                 | -        |
| Lerik1-3 x TueWa1-2      |          |
| TueWa1-2                 |          |
| TueScha-9 x Lerik1-3     | 6        |
| TueScha-9                |          |
| Lerik1-3 x Fei-0         |          |
| Fei-0                    |          |
| Lerik1-3 x ICE106        |          |
| ICE106                   |          |
| Nie1-2 x Lerik1-3        | 5        |
| Nie1-2                   |          |
| Lerik1-3 x Cdm-0         |          |
| Cdm-0                    |          |
| Lerik1-3 x HKT2-4        |          |
| HKT2-4                   |          |
| Lerik1-3 x ICE21         | 2        |
| ICE21                    |          |
| Nemrut-1 x Lerik1-3      |          |
| Nemrut-1                 |          |
| ICE36 x Lerik1-3         |          |
| ICE36                    |          |
| ICE60 x Lerik1-3         | 1        |
| ICE60                    |          |
| ICE79 x Lerik1-3         |          |
| ICE79                    |          |
Table S10. Constructs.

| Construct     | Description               | Backbone   | Promoter         | CDS        |
|---------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| ACB066        | genomic HR4               | pMLBart    | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB067        | genomic HR4               | pMLBart    | HR4^{CE106}      | HR4^{CE106}|
| ACB011        | genomic RPW8.1a           | pMLBart    | RPW8.1a^{fei-0}  | RPW8.1a^{fei-0}|
| ACB012        | genomic RPW8.1b           | pMLBart    | RPW8.1b^{fei-0}  | RPW8.1b^{fei-0}|
| ACB068        | amiR-RPW8.1               | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S3|
| MZ110         | amiR-RPW8.1               | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S3|
| MZ137         | amiR-RPW8.1               | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S3|
| MZ141         | amiR-RPW8.1               | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S3|
| KB amiR-RPW8.1 b |               | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S3|
| ACB074        | amiR-RPP7 EK19            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB075        | amiR-RPP7 EK20            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB076        | amiR-RPP7 EK21            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB077        | amiR-RPP7 EK22            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB078        | amiR-RPP7 EK26            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB079        | amiR-RPP7 EK27            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB080        | amiR-RPP7 EK28            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB081        | amiR-RPP7 EK29            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB082        | amiR-RPP7 EK30            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB083        | amiR-RPP7 EK31            | pFK210     | CaMV 35S         | see Table S1|
| ACB042        | HR4 CRISPR/Cas9 Col-0     | pRW006     | CaMV 35S         | see Fig S3 |
|               | RPW8.1 CRISPR/Cas9 KZ10   | pGGZ001    | MAS              | see Fig S3 |
| pWX031        |                            |            |                  |            |
| pRW016        | K-0                       | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| pRW017        | M-0                       | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{Ms-0}|
| pRW020        | M-Aα                      | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{Ms-0}|
| pRW021        | K-Aα                      | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| pRW018        | K-Bβ                      | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| pRW019        | K-Bcβ                     | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| ACB085        | K-BBβ                     | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| ACB086        | K-BBcβ                    | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| ACB087        | M-BBcβ                    | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{Ms-0}|
| ACB088        | K-BBBβ                    | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| ACB089        | K-BBBcβ                   | pMCY2      | RPW8.1^{KZ10}    | RPW8.1^{KZ10}|
| ACB045        | C-O                       | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB044        | I-0                       | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB050        | F-0                       | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB046        | C-QQRSRγ                  | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB048        | F-QQRSRγ                  | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB058        | F-QQRSγ                   | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB069        | F-QQRSRδ                  | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB070        | F-QQRSδ                   | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|
| ACB051        | I-RT                      | pMCY2      | HR4^{fei-0}      | HR4^{fei-0}|

S19
|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| ACB054 | F-RTδ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
| ACB047 | F-RRTδ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
| ACB071 | F-RRTγ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
| ACB053 | C-Tδ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
| ACB052 | I-Tδ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
| ACB065 | F-Tδ | pMCY2 | $\text{HR}4^{\text{Fei-0}}$ |
Table S11. Oligonucleotides used for amplifying *RPW8.1/HR4* genomic fragments and swap constructs.
Related to Fig 3 and Fig 5.

| Primer  | Sequence                                                                 | Purpose                      |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| G-41108 | GCCACATTGGGTCTCTCAAATTGTTT       | PCR HR4 genomic fragments    |
| G-40245 | CTCCATTAATCTGCAAATTTGCTAA      |                             |
| G-40185 | TCTGGGCTATTTCAAATTCTCATAT      |                             |
| G-12714 | GACCCGTCAGTACTAAGTCTA          |                             |
| G-41573 | CAATCATTGTTGGGAAGAAAGAAAGA    |                             |
| G-41558 | gctttcaATGCCGATTGTTGAGTTTGC   | PCR *RPW8.1* genomic fragments |
| G-39847 | TAGATCATTGTCAGTAAA             |                             |
| G-37615 | AGATAAGCCATAAGAATTCAATTGATAC  | Lerik1-3 Clal CAPS          |
| G-37616 | GGGTTTGGCTTTAGAATTGAGGCTG      | ICE79 Clal CAPS             |
| G-37354 | TAAGTCTTGATATTGTGATTCCAGGATG  | Don-0 Xhol CAPS             |
| G-36173 | CCAATGAAACTCTATTTCAAGGAATCTGG |                             |
| G-36174 | AAGCCGGGAAAGATATCGAGATAAGA    |                             |
| G-37109 | CTGATGATACTTTGTGATTCCAGGATG  | Fei-0 Xhol CAPS             |
| G-37110 | AGTCAATTTCACAGTCTACCATAGA     |                             |
| G-36261 | ATCAAGTAATACAGGAGGACTCATC     | ICE106 Xbal CAPS            |
| G-36262 | GAGAGCTTGGAAACTGAACAAGAAGTA   |                             |
| G-41539 | gctttcaagTTGCTCCAAATTGTGCAAGACTC | *RPW8.1* KZ10 promoter     |
| G-41556 | gctttcacatTTTTTTAAAGTAGTTGGTTAGCTCGAGG | *RPW8.1* Ms-0 CDS truncation |
| G-41558 | see above                     |                             |
| G-41925 | gctttctATCAAACCTTGAATCCACAACCTATTATGC | *RPW8.1* Ms-0 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41558 | see above                     |                             |
| G-42151 | gctttcacaaCTAATCAACTTGAATCCACAACTATTAT | *RPW8.1* Ms-0 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41558 | see above                     |                             |
| G-42150 | gctttcacaaCTAATCAACTTGAATCCACAACTATTATCC | *RPW8.1* KZ10 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41927 | gctttcaagTGCCACATGGTCTCAATTTGT | HR4Fei-0 promoter          |
| G-41928 | gctttcacatTTTTTTAAAGTAGTTGGTTAGCTCGA | *RPW8.1* KZ10 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41929 | gctttcaATGCCGTTCTGGAGCTTGC   | HR4Fei-0 CDS truncation     |
| G-41930 | gctttcaCTCAAGTACTAGCCTAATTTAAGTT | HR4Fei-0 CDS truncation     |
| G-41929 | see above                     |                             |
| G-41931 | gctttcaCTCAAGTACTACCTACTAATTCAAGTT | HR4ICE106 CDS truncation  |
| G-41932 | gctttcaATGCCAGTTGCTAGCTTGC   | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation     |
| G-41933 | gctttcaCTCCAGTGTCTACCCCTAATTTCAAGTT | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation     |
| G-41929 | see above                     |                             |
| G-42152 | gctttcaCCACTACTCAAGTACTAGCCTAATTTCAAGTT | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41929 | see above                     |                             |
| G-42153 | gctttcaCCACTACTCAAGTACTACCCCTAATTTCAAGTT | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation + TAG |
| G-41932 | gctttcaATGCCGATTGCTAGCTTGC   | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation     |
| G-42154 | gctttcaCCACTACTCAGTGTCTACCCCTAATTTCAAGTT | HR4Col-0 CDS truncation + TAG |
Supplemental Experimental Procedures

**RPP7 phylogeny**
The NB domain was predicted using SMART (http://smart.embl-heidelberg.de/). NB amino acid sequences were aligned using MUSCLE [1]. A maximum-likelihood tree was generated using the BLOSUM62 model in RaxML [2]. Topological robustness was assessed by bootstrapping 1,000 replicates.

**RAPA phenotyping**
Images were acquired daily in top view using two cameras per tray. Cameras were equipped with OmniVision OV5647 sensors with a resolution of 5 megapixels. Each camera was attached to a Raspberry Pi computer (Revision 1.2, Raspberry Pi Foundation, UK) [3]. Images of individual plants were extracted using a predefined mask for each plant. Segmentation of plant leaves and background was then performed by removing the background voxels then a GrabCut-based automatic postprocessing was applied [4]. Lastly, unsatisfactory segmentations were manually corrected. The leaf area of each plant was then calculated based on the segmented plant images.

**Pathology**
The *Hyaloperonospora arabidopsidis* isolate Hiks1 was maintained by weekly subculturing on susceptible Ws-0 eds1-1 plants [5]. To assay resistance of susceptibility, 12- to 13-day old seedlings were inoculated with $5 \times 10^4$ spores/ml. Sporangiophores were counted 5 days after infection.

**Constructs and transgenic lines**
Genomic fragments were PCR amplified, cloned into pGEM®-T Easy (Promega, Madison, WI, USA), and either directly transferred to binary vector pMLBart or Gateway vectors pJLblue and pFK210. amiRNAs [6] against members of the *RPP7* and *RPW8/HR* clusters were designed using the WMD3 online tool (http://wmd3.weigelworld.org/), and placed under the CaMV 35S promoter in the binary vector pFK210 derived from pGreen [7]. amiRNA constructs were introduced into plants using *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation [8]. T1 transformants were selected on BASTA, and crossed to incompatible accessions. For the chimeras, promoters and 5’ coding sequences were PCR amplified from genomic DNA, repeat and tail sequences were synthesized using Invitrogen’s GeneArt gene synthesis service, all were cloned into pBlueScript. The three parts, promoter, 5’ and 3’ coding sequences, were assembled using Greengate cloning [9] in the backbone vector pMCY2 [10]. Quality control was done by Sanger sequencing. Transgenic T1 plants were selected based on mCherry seed fluorescence. For CRISPR/Cas9 constructs, sgRNAs targeting HR4 or RPW8.1 were designed on the Chopchop website (http://chopchop.cbu.uib.no/), and assembled using a Greengate reaction into supervector pRW006 (pEF005-sgRNA-shuffle-in [11] Addgene plasmid #104441).
mCherry positive T2 transformants were screened for CRISPR/Cas9-induced mutations by Illumina MiSeq based sequencing of barcoded 250-bp amplicons. Non-transgenic homozygous T3 lines were selected based on absence of fluorescence in seed coats.
Supplemental References

1. Edgar, R.C., *MUSCLE: multiple sequence alignment with high accuracy and high throughput.* Nucleic acids research, 2004. 32(5): p. 1792-1797.
2. Stamatakis, A., *RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and post-analysis of large phylogenies.* Bioinformatics, 2014. 30(9): p. 1312-1313.
3. Vasseur, F., et al., *Image-based methods for phenotyping growth dynamics and fitness components in Arabidopsis thaliana.* Plant Methods, 2018. 14(1): p. 63.
4. Cheng, M.M., et al., *DenseCut: Densely Connected CRFs for Realtime GrabCut.* Computer Graphics Forum, 2015. 34(7): p. 193-201.
5. Holub, E.B.B., J.L., *Symbiology of Mouse-Ear Cress (Arabidopsis thaliana) and Oomycetes.* Advances in Botanical Research, 1997. 24: p. 227-273.
6. Schwab, R., et al., *Highly specific gene silencing by artificial microRNAs in Arabidopsis.* Plant Cell, 2006. 18(5): p. 1121-33.
7. Hellens, R.P., et al., *pGreen: a versatile and flexible binary Ti vector for Agrobacterium-mediated plant transformation.* Plant Mol Biol, 2000. 42(6): p. 819-32.
8. Weigel, D. and J. Glazebrook, *Arabidopsis: a laboratory manual.* 2002: Cold Spring Harbor (N.Y.) : Cold Spring Harbor laboratory press.
9. Lampropoulos, A., et al., *GreenGate - A Novel, Versatile, and Efficient Cloning System for Plant Transgenesis.* PLOS ONE, 2013. 8(12): p. e83043.
10. Emami, S., M.-c. Yee, and J.R. Dinneny, *A robust family of Golden Gate Agrobacterium vectors for plant synthetic biology.* Frontiers in Plant Science, 2013. 4: p. 339.
11. Wu, R., et al., *An efficient CRISPR vector toolbox for engineering large deletions in Arabidopsis thaliana.* Plant Methods, 2018. 14(1): p. 65.