Proteomics of the wheat tan spot pathogen *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis*

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Abstract

Objectives: The fungus *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis* is a major pathogen of wheat worldwide, causing the leaf spotting disease tan spot. To best inform approaches for plant genetic resistance, an understanding of the biology and pathogenicity mechanisms of this fungal pathogen is essential. Here, intracellular and extracellular proteins of *P. tritici-repentis* were extracted, and peptides analysed via high-resolution mass spectrometry. Our objective was to generate a useful proteomics resource for *P. tritici-repentis*. A survey of proteins secreted by the pathogen into culture filtrate is especially useful, as these are likely to come in direct contact with the wheat host and may play important roles in infection/pathogenicity. The peptide data presented herein, has also been used to successfully verify and refine in silico predicted *P. tritici-repentis* gene annotations, through the validation of alternative splicing and reading frame shifts.

Data description: The data sets presented consist of peptide spectra of the extracellular and intracellular proteomes of three *P. tritici-repentis* isolates. Peptide matches to translated transcripts of the North American reference isolate Pt-1C-BFP are also provided.

Keywords: Tan spot, Yellow spot, *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis*, Wheat, Necrotroph, Fungus, Pathogen, Proteome

Objective

*Pyrenophora tritici-repentis* is a necrotrophic fungal pathogen and is the causal agent of tan spot, an economically significant global disease of wheat, typified by leaf lesions and reduced grain yield. Understanding the biology and pathogenicity mechanisms of this fungus is important for informing breeding approaches to host genetic resistance. The data described in this article is derived from mass spectrometry based proteomics, to identify fungal proteins produced under vegetative growth conditions.

Both intracellular and extracellular (culture filtrate) proteins were extracted from three isolates of *P. tritici-repentis*: two race 1 Australian isolates (PtrM4 and Ptr11137) and the race 5 North American isolate PtrDW5. Proteomes were analysed by protein OFFGEL fractionation followed by LC–MS/MS.

Our objective was to generate a useful and accessible *P. tritici-repentis* proteomics data resource. The data presented here is, to our knowledge, the first report of detectable *P. tritici-repentis* proteins in these three isolates. A previous proteomics study compared the secretomes and mycelial proteomes of an Algerian race 5 isolate and an avirulent Canadian race 4 isolate, however, only proteins detected as differentially abundant between the two isolates were subjected to MS/MS [1]. Since extracellular proteins typically include secreted cell wall degrading enzymes and necrotrophic effectors, this data is useful for identifying potential pathogenicity-related proteins, while the intracellular proteins may be helpful for identifying proteins involved in cell maintenance and growth. Furthermore, the peptide data can be used to validate and refine gene annotations, by identifying and resolving any peptide/annotation conflicts, intron/exon boundaries and identifying new loci [2]. This is especially useful for annotating genes that are complicated due to abnormal G:C content, coding frame shifts, rare intron donor and acceptor sites and unusual exon lengths.
Data description

Here, we present six datasets representing the intracellular and extracellular proteomes of three isolates of *P. tritici-repentis* (race 1: Ptr11137 and PtrM4; race 5: PtrDW5). Each dataset is comprised of a MS/MS spectra file (mgf) and an identification file (mzid), as shown in Table 1. The mzid files consist of peptides mapped to translated transcripts of the North American race 1 reference isolate Pt-1C-BFP. Data files have been deposited with the ProteomeXchange resource MassIVE [3].

As an example of data usefulness, the spectral data was utilized previously for direct-to-genome mapping of peptide sequences to support and validate unusual and novel gene annotations for all three isolates [2]. This included peptide alignment to coding sequences, putative untranslated regions (UTRs) and intronic regions to confirm codon translational frame shifts, as well as detecting the presence of genes that had previously been missed by automated annotation. A total of 1568, 1868 and 1681 genes were supported for isolates PtrM4, Ptr11137 and PtrDW5 respectively, including 79, 78 and 97 predicted candidate effector genes [2].

Methodology

**Protein sample preparation**

Extracellular proteins of the three isolates were obtained from 3-week old Fries 3 liquid culture filtrates that had been sequentially filtered [4] and extracted via TCA/acetone as described previously [2]. Briefly, culture filtrate was dialyzed, incubated with TCA/acetone solution in a 1:4 part ratio and centrifuged. Pellets were resuspended in 100% acetone, washed three times with acetone/Tris, air-dried and resuspended in 20 mM Tris pH 7. Any residual Tris was removed by dialysis.

Intracellular proteins of each isolate were obtained from mycelia of 3-day old minimal media liquid cultures. Mycelia were flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen, freeze-dried overnight and ground into a fine powder. Proteins were solubilized in 10 mM Tris–Cl pH 7 prior to centrifugation as previously described [2]. The supernatant was desalted and concentrated via TCA/acetone precipitation [2].

**LC–MS/MS and data analysis**

All protein samples were quantified via BCA and run on a 16.5% Tris/tricine gel to check for integrity. Samples were separated into 24 fractions by isoelectric focusing (OFFGEL) and the proteins of each fraction were then reduced, alkylated with iodoacetamide and trypsin-digested as described previously [5]. Peptides were separated on a C18 column via liquid chromatography and analysed by high-resolution mass spectrometry (LTQ Orbitrap Velos and XL) [2, 5].

A proteome search of the mass spectral data was conducted against the translated transcript database of the American reference isolate Pt-1C-BFP [6], as well as contaminant sequences of keratins, trypsin, BSA, plus a decoy database (reversed Pt-1C-BFP database) using the Mascot search engine [7] (variable modifications: Ox(M), Deamidation (N,Q); fixed modification: Carbamidomethyl (C); peptide tolerance.: 20 ppm, MSMS tolerance.: 0.8 Da; trypsin, 2 missed cleavages). Peptide/protein identifications were validated with Scaffold3 [8] with a minimum of 2 peptides, 95% peptide probability and 99% protein probability. The combined peak lists and peptide and protein identification results were exported using Scaffold4 with a 0.01 threshold FDR, and have been deposited with MassIVE [3] a full member of the ProteomeXchange consortium and are available for download.

**Limitations**

The peptide hits are relative to the isolate Pt-1C-BFP, and therefore isolate-specific peptides may be missing. Peptides were searched against translations of predicted

### Table 1 Overview of data files/data sets

| Label   | Name of data file/data set          | File types (file extension)                                      | Data repository and identifier (DOI or accession number) |
|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Data set 1 | PtrM4 extracellular spectra     | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083060) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083060 |
| Data set 2 | PtrDW5 extracellular spectra     | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083059) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083059 |
| Data set 3 | Ptr11137 extracellular spectra   | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083061) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083061 |
| Data set 4 | PtrM4 intracellular spectra      | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083062) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083062 |
| Data set 5 | PtrDW5 intracellular spectra      | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083063) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083063 |
| Data set 6 | Ptr11137 intracellular spectra   | Peak file (mgf) Result file for peptide hits to Pt-1C-BFP (mzid) | MassIVE (MSV000083064) ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000083064 |
transcripts of Pt-1C-BFP, therefore will not match novel unannotated genes in Pt-1C-BFP. Only one biological replicate was utilized for each protein sample. Extracellular and intracellular peptides detected are constrained by the fungal growth conditions utilised and the time point that the tissue was harvested.

Abbreviations
LC–MS/MS: liquid chromatography tandem–mass spectrometry; MS: mass spectrometry; TCA: trichloroacetic acid; UTR: untranslated region; CDS: coding sequence; BCA: bicinchoninic acid.

Authors’ contributions
CM wrote the manuscript, extracted the proteins and led the project conceptualisation. TS analysed the proteins via mass spectrometry. PM conducted the bioinformatics. All authors reviewed the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Availability of data materials
The six datasets described herein can be freely and openly accessed via MassIVE. Please refer to Table 1 for links to the individual datasets.

Consent for publication
Not applicable.

Ethics approval and consent to participate
Not applicable.

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