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*Genome Res.* published online March 21, 2011 Access the most recent version at doi:10.1101/gr.116731.110

Supplemental Material	http://genome.cshlp.org/content/suppl/2011/03/18/gr.116731.110.DC1.html
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# Revealing the genetic structure of a trait by sequencing a population under selection

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Running title: High resolution QTL mapping.

Key words: QTL mapping, artificial selection, complex traits, genetics.

### Abstract

One approach to understanding the genetic basis of traits is to study their pattern of inheritance among offspring of phenotypically different parents. Previously, such analysis has been limited by low mapping resolution, high labour costs, and large sample size requirements for detecting modest effects. Here, we present a novel approach to map trait loci using artificial selection. First, we generated populations of 10-100 million haploid and diploid segregants by crossing two budding yeast strains of different heat tolerance for up to twelve generations. We then subjected these large segregant pools to heat stress for up to 12 days, enriching for beneficial alleles. Finally, we sequenced total DNA from the pools before and during selection to measure the changes in parental allele frequency. We mapped 21 intervals with significant changes in genetic background in response to selection, which is several times more than found with traditional linkage methods. Nine of these regions contained two or fewer genes, yielding much higher resolution than previous genomic linkage studies. Multiple members of the RAS/cAMP signaling pathway were implicated, along with genes previously not annotated with heat stress response function. Surprisingly, at most selected loci, allele frequencies stopped changing before the end of the selection experiment, but alleles did not become fixed. Furthermore, we were able to detect the same set of trait loci in a population of diploid individuals with similar power and resolution, and observed primarily additive effects, similar to what is seen for complex trait genetics in other diploid organisms such as humans.

A central challenge of modern genetics is to identify genes and pathways responsible for variation in quantitative traits. In the last decade, efforts of global international collaborations have revealed numerous loci that influence disease risk in humans by genotyping and phenotyping very large cohorts of individuals. However, the effects of single alleles are almost all modest, and explain only a small portion of the heritable variability (Manolio et al. 2009). Furthermore, while trait loci are found, association peaks generally span a large region, and do not point to the underlying mechanism responsible for the association. Thus, studies in model organisms, where consequences of genetic variation can be analysed using reverse genetic tools, have been important for understanding the genetics of complex traits (Yvert et al. 2003; Deutschbauer and Davis 2005; Perlstein et al. 2006; Nogami et al. 2007; Demogines et al. 2008; Sinha et al. 2008; Smith and Kruglyak 2008; Gerke et al. 2009; Liti et al. 2009b; Romano et al. 2010).

Mapping the effect of naturally occurring alleles on traits is not straightforward even in model organisms (Hunter and Crawford 2008). Designed crosses often use substantially manipulated laboratory strains (Brem et al. 2002; Steinmetz et al. 2002), and produce segregants that have to be laboriously genotyped and phenotyped. Linkage analysis on the resulting individuals can suffer from low resolution due to a limited number of crossover events (Darvasi and Soller 1995), but more rounds of crossing alleviates the problem (Wang et al. 2003). Developing and maintaining sufficiently large outbred populations to resemble human cohorts used in association mapping is costly (Valdar et al. 2006).

Recently, analysis of a very large pool of recombinant yeast strains has been used to identify quantitative trait loci (QTLs) for multiple traits without characterizing individual segregants (Segre et al. 2006; Ehrenreich et al. 2010; Wenger et al. 2010). While many QTLs were detected, the problem of finding all responsible loci, and localising the trait genes within the linkage regions, which typically span many genes, remains. Furthermore, such analyses in yeast have previously been limited to haploid samples, in which genetic architecture may differ from that in diploids. Here, we present a precise and sensitive approach to QTL mapping, extending the method recently proposed by Ehrenreich *et al* (Ehrenreich et al. 2010) to sensitively identify trait loci at high resolution, in some cases down to single genes, in both haploid and diploid populations.

### **Results and Discussion**

#### Strategy for High Resolution QTL Mapping

We used a three step process for QTL mapping (Fig. 1). First, we generated very large pools of progeny between two phenotypically different yeast strains. We chose YPS128, a heat tolerant North American (NA) oak tree bark strain, and DVGBP6044, a heat sensitive West African (WA) palm wine strain as parents, and placed a different selectable marker at the same genomic position in each (Table S1). We then systematically forced the yeast cells through multiple rounds of random mating and sporulation (Methods, Fig. S1 and SI), creating advanced intercross lines (AILs) with reduced linkage between nearby loci. We produced haploid as well as heterozygous diploid pools of 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> generation progeny (F6 and F12 AILs), consisting of 10-100 million random segregants each.

We applied selective pressure to half of each pool by growing it asexually in a restrictive condition (40°C), to enrich for fit individuals with beneficial alleles. In parallel, we grew the other half of the pool in a permissive condition (23°C) as a control. Finally, we sequenced the pools before and at multiple timepoints during selection to directly assess the changes in parental allele frequencies throughout the genome. The entire procedure was performed in two biological replicates starting from the same F1 hybrid.

#### Genetic Content of AIL Pools Before Selection

We confirmed that the AIL pools were well-suited for QTL mapping. First, we established that nearly all loci were segregating before selection, with both parental alleles represented. Sequencing total DNA followed by allele frequency estimation (Methods) showed that more than 99% of the mappable genome was segregating in the F6 pool, and 97% in the F12 pool with minor allele frequency greater than 10% (SI). Some other parts of the genome with minor allele frequencies above 10% were also selected for during the intercross rounds without reaching fixation, likely due to alleles favoring sporulation, mating, or resistance to selection steps used in the cross (SI). This allowed us to map several regions involved in these processes as a byproduct of our approach, including a previously uncharacterized sporulation QTL in chromosome V (Table S2 and SI).

Using many rounds of crosses should expand the genetic map due to reduced linkage between nearby loci (Fig. 2A) (Darvasi and Soller 1995). To confirm this, we genotyped 30 markers in 96 individual segregants from each of three generations, F1, F6 and F12, in three regions to assess the change in recombination fraction between adjacent markers (Dataset 1). The genetic distance (measured as 100

times the average number of recombination events) between two chromosome XIII loci separated by 204kb increased from 88 in F1 to 125 in F6 and 180 in F12 (Fig. 2A). This increase is less than expected under the assumption of independent recombination events and random mating, and is likely due to the considerable variation in recombination rates along the genome, with about half of the events concentrated in recombination hotspots (discussed in SI). We further sequenced two segregants from the F6 pool at low coverage (SI) and observed 64 and 68 recombination events (Fig. 2B), an 125% increase compared to 30 events observed on average in a set of 96 F1 segregants genotyped at ~200 evenly spaced loci (Cubillos et al. 2011).

# Changes in Population Allele Frequency in Response to Heat Selection Indicate Protective Alleles

To identify the alleles underlying variation in high temperature tolerance, we sequenced DNA from the F12 haploid pool to an average genome coverage of 25x to 150x (Table S3) after 0 (T0), 96 (T1), 192 (T2) and 288 (T3, at least 25-35 generations, discussed in SI) hours of growth at 40°C. There were 21 regions where the inferred allele frequency of the T2 pool was significantly different compared to the control experiment propagated at 23°C in both of the two biological replicates (Fig. 3A-C, Table S4, Methods). We designated these regions as QTLs, with corresponding false positive rate less than 10<sup>-3</sup> determined from the changes of allele frequencies in the control (Methods). As we chose this particular cutoff conservatively, there remains a set of lower confidence QTLs with smaller allele frequency changes that we do not consider here.

The NA allele was selected in two thirds (14/21) of the cases, consistent with it being the more heat resistant strain (Liti et al. 2009a). However, seven WA alleles were also selected for, indicating antagonistic variants whose effect could only be observed when decoupled from the rest of the genetic context. The selected alleles are specific to the heat stress condition, as the same pool propagated at 23°C had no significant changes in allele frequency after 192 hours, and selection under oxidative stress (paraquat, 1.5 mM) yielded a different set of loci with large allele frequency changes (Fig. S2).

There is a risk that long term culturing under stress conditions will select for adaptive mutations rising to high frequencies and dominating the pool. However, theoretical models suggest this result is unlikely (SI). We genotyped 960 segregants from the F12 haploid pool after 240 hours of selection (T2.5) at 24 loci (Methods,

Dataset 2), and observed 787 unique haplotypes, with no haplotype (meaning here the set of QTL genotypes) represented more than six times. This is consistent with expectation under the model of independent selected segregants; if an adaptive clone had become dominant, its haplotype would have risen to high frequency (SI). This suggests that the selection we observe is against haplotypes that cannot survive or grow at high temperature, rather than for a haplotype that performs better than all the others.

In addition to changes in chromosomal allele frequencies, all the mitochondrial genes were greatly reduced in copy number upon heat selection (Table S5). Interestingly, 960/960 of the genotyped segregants exhibited a *petite*, no-respiration phenotype when grown using a non-fermentable carbon source (glycerol and ethanol), indicating the loss of mitochondrial genome, most probably as response to accumulation of reactive oxygen species during heat stress (Davidson and Schiestl 2001; Rikhvanov et al. 2001). In contrast, none of 96 F6 and F12 segregants isolated before heat selection exhibited the *petite* phenotype.

# Prolonged Artificial Selection on AILs Improves Sensitivity and Resolution

The additional value in using prolonged artificial selection is twofold. First, it allows alleles with smaller fitness effects to rise in frequency and become detectable (Fig. 3D). Only 10 of the 21 QTLs had significantly changed in allele frequency compared to the control experiment during the first 96 hours under selection (T1), indicating that a longer experiment is required to find all QTLs (Table S6). Second, extended selection can drive allele frequencies to an equilibrium, with no further significant changes taking place apart from random drift. Indeed, we observed that the largest inferred allele frequency change between T2 and T3 was 4%, and frequencies of 19/21 beneficial alleles changed less than 3% (Table S6). We estimate by resampling that no changes larger than 5% take place after T2 even though frequencies of 19 QTL alleles are more than 13% from fixation (SI, Table S6).

Our method is more sensitive than conventional linkage mapping. Analysis of 96 genotyped and phenotyped F1 segregants from the same cross has previously found one strong QTL for growth in high temperature at the right end of chromosome XIII (Cubillos et al. 2011) (LOD=12.8, variance explained 66%). However, none of the other 20 QTL regions had a LOD score above the 5% FDR cutoff.

The advantage of using AILs with reduced linkage is evident from narrow mapped intervals, in some cases localising to single genes (Fig. 3C-D, Fig. S3). We designated mapped intervals as the segregating sites for which the allele frequency change is within one standard deviation of the change of the QTL peak (SI, Table S4). The resulting regions had median size of 6.4 kb, and overlapped a median number of four genes (Table S4), in contrast to regions selected during the intercross, which had median size 16.3 kb, overlapping a median number of 10.5 genes (Table S2). For example, for a chromosome II QTL, we could visually map the selected variant down to a small region of the IRA1 gene (Fig. 3C), that also harbours the strongest candidate genetic variant from bioinformatic analysis (Table S7-8, Fig. S4). This resolution is in contrast to that from previous studies based on crosses between strains, including (Ehrenreich et al. 2010), which typically map to large regions containing many genes, and can be further improved by using more advanced statistical methods for estimating the selected interval. The effects of many rounds of crossing and prolonged selection on mapping resolution have been quantitatively addressed in earlier work (Darvasi and Soller 1995), and are explored in simulation studies in the Supporting Information.

# The RAS/cAMP signalling pathway regulates quantitative growth at high temperature

The two loci that were fixed in the selected population were *IRA1* on chromosome II and a subtelomeric locus of chromosome XIII (Fig. 3). *IRA1* is a GTPase-activating protein that negatively regulates the RAS signaling module (Tanaka et al. 1989). The RAS pathway is a general hotspot for natural variation (Smith and Kruglyak 2008), a known target of adaptive mutation (Kao and Sherlock 2008), and a regulator of protein kinase A (PKA) that in turn controls the synthesis and activity of stress response genes (Santangelo 2006). Interestingly, three additional regulators of the same RAS/cAMP module (*IRA2, GPB1* and *CYR1*), as well as some of its targets (*BCY1*) were contained in QTL intervals with an increase in NA allele frequencies in the F12 pool, indicating the involvement of PKA signalling pathway components both upstream and downstream of cAMP in the heat resistance phenotype (Fig. 4D).

We validated the three strongest mapped QTLs. The QTL at the right end of chromosome XIII was previously confirmed by decreased growth rate of the F1 hybrid of parents upon truncation of the NA subtelomere (Cubillos et al. 2011). However, due to lack of assembled sequence in the region in the founder strains for

this experiment, we could not identify the responsible gene. We validated by reciprocal hemizygosity (Steinmetz et al. 2002), deleting both alleles from a diploid hybrid in turn, that *IRA1* and *IRA2* alleles affect high temperature growth. The effect was evident from a plating assay, growth curves, and competition experiments (Fig. 4A-B and Fig. S5A-B). These genes affect both growth rate (doubling time) and efficiency (final density) of segregants, with *IRA1* having a stronger effect than *IRA2*, consistent with the difference in their final allele frequencies (Fig. S5A-B). Interestingly, the same *IRA1* and *IRA2* alleles do not have a strong differential effect on growth in other stress conditions (Fig. S5C), even though RAS activity is involved in the response to these stresses (Park et al. 2005).

We further constructed all four possible double hemizygous combinations of *IRA1* and *IRA2* and grew them at 40°C. The doubling time for the strain with WA alleles was 3.3-fold longer compared to the multiplicative expectation (SI), indicating a negative epistatic interaction between these alleles, which is consistent with partially redundant function (Fig. S6). Furthermore, at 40°C we detected a 9-fold higher level of internal cAMP in the hybrid carrying WA alleles of the IRA genes compared to the hybrid carrying NA alleles (p < 0.005, one-sided t-test, Fig. 4C). This is consistent with RAS hyperactivity in the WA strain due to loss of negative regulation from IRA genes, resulting in a higher level of internal cAMP, contributing to its heat sensitivity (Fig. 4D). The RAS/cAMP signaling pathway has previously been implicated in the accumulation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) under stress (Hlavata et al. 2003). Our results are consistent with this functionality being under selection alongside the selection for removal of the mitochondria.

#### Different QTL Haplotypes are Maintained After Selection

It is surprising that for 19 QTLs both alleles remained segregating in the pool after 192 hours under selection (T2), and did not significantly change in frequency in a further 96 hours in the restrictive condition (Fig. S7-8, Table S6). This suggests that we have saturated for individual alleles with strong independent effects that are present in the founding strains. It also indicates that all the haplotypes remaining in the pool have nearly equal fitness in this stress condition, or are so rare even by T3 that change in their frequency does not have a major effect on the average pool genotype. These observations are consistent with an abundance of negative epistatic interactions, where particular combinations of alleles are selected against.

To test this explanation, we isolated and genotyped 960 segregants from the F12 pool after 240 hours of selection (T2.5), and looked for scarcity and abundance

of specific allele combinations at 19 QTLs (Table S9, Dataset 2 and SI). None of the interchromosomal two-locus genotype combinations was significantly different from the expectation under independence after correcting for multiple testing (lowest multiple testing corrected p>0.1, two-sided Fisher's exact test, Table S9).

The apparent lack of allele fixation and strong interchromosomal interactions after 12 days under selection could be explained by various models involving one or more loci. First, it is possible that individual beneficial alleles are still changing in frequency, albeit slowly, and would fix if the selection was carried out for a much longer period. Second, there could be two-locus epistasis within a linked region that we are unable to detect from the genotyping data. Finally, the data are also consistent with complex control and interactions involving multiple genes (Phillips 2008).

#### QTL Mapping in a Heterozygous Diploid Population

Importantly for drawing comparisons with genetic studies of complex traits in humans and other diploid organisms, 18 of 21 heat resistance QTL alleles significantly changed in frequency in the pool of heterozygous diploid individuals (Table S6 and Dataset 3). The process of selection was slower for the diploid pool, as allele frequencies continued to change between T2 and T3 (Table S6, Fig. 3D). Examining the diploid pool allele frequency after selection at T3, the NA chrXIII QTL allele is dominant with only the homozygous deleterious genotype (WA/WA) being removed from the pool, and the NA *IRA1* allele is recessive with the beneficial allele (NA/NA genotype) being fixed. For 10 of the other 16 detected loci it is surprising that the allele frequencies after 12 days of selection on the diploid segregants were within 5% of the haploid pool after selection (Table S6, Dataset 3), consistent with the selected alleles having additive effects as observed for most human GWAS hits (Manolio et al. 2009). However, as we did not observe data from consecutive timepoints without significant allele frequency changes for the diploid pools, it is also possible that the allele frequencies had not yet reached equilibrium.

#### Extensions and applications of the method

It is straightforward to apply our method to any selectable trait, including ones that do not affect fitness. For example, cell sorting (Ehrenreich et al. 2010) to select for cell size or GFP expression on specific promoters, ageing the population for detecting chronological life span QTLs (Fabrizio and Longo 2003), or washing the plate to detect cell adhesion traits (Reynolds and Fink 2001) can all be used. A

similar approach may also be adapted to other model genetic systems, including *Drosophila melanogaster* and *Caenorhabditis elegans*, that are amenable to crossing in bulk and large experimental population sizes. In these other models, the ratio of recombination rate to gene density determines the ability to identify responsible genes.

The heterozygous diploid intercross pool can be used for other genetic studies, such as dissecting mechanisms that contribute to heterosis (Lippman and Zamir 2007), and extended to include more of the genetic diversity in the species. We expect to be able to cross a larger number of parental strains to expand the range of standing variation segregating in the pool. Therefore, we have the potential to establish an artificial outbred yeast population that can be used as a model for natural diploid genome-wide association studies as carried out in humans.

#### Methods

Intercross. Parental strains YPS128 (Mat a, ho::HphMX4, ura3::KanMX4) and DBVPG6044 (*Mat \alpha, ho::HphMX4, ura3::KanMX4, lys2::URA3*) were crossed in complete media (YPDA) and grown overnight. Patches were replica plated in synthetic minimal media (MIN) to select for diploid F1 hybrids. F1 hybrids were isolated and stored at -80°C. Two F1 hybrid replicas were grown overnight and replica plated on KAc at 23°C to be sporulated for 10 days until 90% sporulation efficiency. Cells were collected and resuspended in 0.5 ml of sterile water, treated with an equal amount of ether and vortexed for 10 minutes to kill unsporulated cells (Dawes and Hardie 1974). Cells were washed 4 times in sterile water, resuspended in 900 µl of sterile water and treated with 100 µl of Zymolase (10 mg/ml) to remove ascus. Cell mixtures were vortexed for 5 minutes to increase spore dispersion and inter-ascus mating. For the heterozygous diploid pool, we forced one extra round of mating and selection for LYS+/URA3+ cells. Full details are presented in SI. **Selection experiment.** Pools of 10-100 million cells were collected from sporulation media and treated with ether and zymolase. Spores were plated in YPDA and incubated until full growth was obtained. Each plate was incubated for 48 hours, and then resuspended in distilled water. Ten percent of the cells were used for next replating, and rest for DNA extraction.

**Genotyping.** SNP genotypes were obtained by real time PCR coupled to high resolution melting (HRM) using the Corbet Rotorgene and Quantace PCR HRM mix. Sequenom genotyping of 960 segregants was performed using the iPLEX<sup>™</sup> Gold Assay (Sequenom® Inc.) (SI).

**DNA isolation, library preparation, and sequencing.** DNA was extracted using the phenol chloroform protocol. Multiplexed PCR-free Illumina sequencing libraries were prepared as in (Kozarewa et al. 2009) with modifications (SI). Fragments with 200-300bp inserts were gel purified and sequenced using standard Illumina SBS v4 chemistry for 2x76 cycles plus extra 7 cycles to determine the tag sequence of each cluster.

**Sequencing data handling.** Sequencing reads were mapped to the S288c reference genome obtained from the SGRP project website

(http://www.sanger.ac.uk/research/projects/genomeinformatics/sgrp.html) using BWA (Li and Durbin 2009), with option "-n 8". Pileup files comprising the genotypes of mapped reads were created for segregating sites inferred from both low-coverage capillary sequencing (Liti et al. 2009a) and the parental strain shotgun sequence mapping to the S288c assembly, and sites further filtered.

**Parental strain analysis.** The parental strain sequence was mapped similarly to selection experiment. We used the samtools (Li et al. 2009) variant caller with default settings to call differences from the reference sequence, and used these data to update the list of segregating sites used in the allele frequency analysis.

**Segregant analysis.** A site was called to be from one parent, if it was covered by at least 15 sequencing reads with base and mapping qualities at least 30, and 80% of them had the parental allele. We conservatively refrained from making a call at low-coverage variants, subtelomeric regions up to 30Kb, and variants with ambiguous mapping data. We called a recombination event if a region of at least 2kb from one parent was followed by a region of at least 2kb from the other, and at least 5 calls were made in both regions.

Allele frequency inference. Under a simple model, there is an unobserved WA allele frequency  $f_i$  at each locus l; we want to infer the posterior distribution of  $f_i$  after observing the sequence data. We assume all reads to come from different segregants after filtering segregating sites to be distant, thus every segregant i has one allele  $a_i$  observed at some locus l' distance  $d_i$  away from l. We take d to be infinity if the loci are on different chromosomes. For that segregant, there is an unobserved allele  $b_i$  at locus l, and the probability that these loci are linked, with no recombination event occurring during the intercross between them, is  $q_i = \exp(-d_i r)$ , where r is the recombination rate. We took r = 30 (1 + (g-1)/2), where g is the number of intercross rounds, as there is on average 30 crossovers per tetrad, and every intercross after the first one has a 50% chance of introducing a switch between parental haplotypes. The likelihood of the allele frequency at locus l is thus  $P(D | fl) = \prod_i P(ai | fl)$ , where

$$P(ai | fl) = P(ai, bi = 'WA' | fl) + P(ai, bi = 'NA' | fl) =$$
  
= P(ai | bi = 'WA')P(bi = 'WA' | fl) + P(ai | bi = 'NA')P(bi = 'NA' | fl) =  
= q\_i^{a\_i = 'WA'} (1-q\_i)^{a\_i = 'NA'} fl + q\_i^{a\_i = 'NA'} (1-q\_i)^{a\_i = 'WA'} (1-fl) \approx  
 $\approx q_i ff^{a_i = 'WA'} (1-fl)^{a_i = 'NA'}$ 

Here, we have discarded likelihood terms that require a recombination event, as we will filter  $q_i$  to be large. We calculated the posterior (beta) distribution of  $f_i$  by applying Bayes rule:  $P(f_i | A) \propto P(A | f_i) P(f_i) = \prod_i P(a_i | f_i) P(f_i)$  where the beta prior  $P(f_i)$  is uninformative, and we filter  $q_i > 0.9$  (0.75 for Fig. 3A-B for smoothness). This inference procedure corresponds to a smoothing approach within a fixed window with the width determined by the recombination rate (~6kb for  $q_i > 0.9$ ), and has the effect of discriminating against extreme allele frequencies. The posterior mean and confidence intervals were obtained from the approximated Beta distribution.

**Allele frequency change.** We called a QTL if the inferred allele frequency changed in the same direction by at least 10% in both biological replicas, and the change was larger than four times the average standard deviation of the inferred allele frequencies. One QTL was called in any 50kb window, corresponding to the variant with largest combined allele frequency change over two replicas. We assessed the significance of the calls using the null distribution of allele frequency changes from the control experiment, where the initial pool was propagated in permissive temperature alongside the selected pool for 144h (T2). Due to repetitive nature of subtelomeric regions resulting in lack of assemblies and low sequencing coverage, we did not consider loci within 30kb of the end of chromosomes. We fit a normal distribution to the allele frequency changes at the 26,871 loci assessed (Fig. S9), and calculated the probability of observing a change of at least 10% in either direction to be less than 10<sup>-7</sup>. After Bonferroni-correcting for the 26,871 tests, the p-value remained less than 10<sup>-3</sup>.

**F1 segregants.** We used standard marker regression for 200 genotyped markers and heat growth rate phenotype to map QTLs significant at 5% false discovery rate (FDR) using a standard linear model and 1000 permutations in rQTL (Broman et al. 2003).

**Interaction tests.** We tested for scarcity and abundance of two-locus genotype combinations by two-sided Fisher's exact test using fisher.test function in R on the two-locus genotype counts for each pair of genotyped loci.

**Reciprocal hemizygosity.** *IRA1* and *IRA2* were deleted individually or in the four possible combinations (Table S1) in hybrid strain YCC22F using standard single-step PCR gene deletion method (Wach et al. 1994). We performed a temperature growth

assay by plating serial dilutions of cells in YPDA and incubated the plates at 30°C and 40°C for 48 hours.

**Competitive growth.** We competed the reciprocal hemizygous hybrids ( $na\Delta/WA vs.$   $wa\Delta/NA$ ) by mixing an equal numbers of cells, and growing at either 30°C or 40°C for 96 hours. Pyrosequencing was used to assess the allele frequency in the pools. **Phenotyping.** Individual yeast segregants and reciprocal hemizygous were phenotyped using high-resolution micro-cultivation instruments Bioscreen C (Growth curve Oy, Finland) for quantitative growth as previously described (Warringer and Blomberg 2003; Liti et al. 2009a).

**cAMP determination.** Intracellular cAMP was determined using a commercially available kit (LANCE cAMP 384 kit, Perkin-Elmer). Values presented are averages values determined in 3-6 replicate cultures per strain and error bars indicate SEM.

# **Acknowledgements**

We thank all the members of the Sanger Sequencing, Sequenom Genotyping, and Sample Logistics teams for generating the sequence and genotype data, and G. Russo, E. Scovacricchi, A. Mott for technical help. We thank C. Nieduszynski for comments and suggestions, and V. Mustonen for discussions on epistasis. Research at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute (L.P, S.J.B., M.A.Q., J.S. and R.D.) is supported by the Wellcome Trust (WT077192/Z/05/Z). G.L., F.A.C., K.J., F.S. and E.J.L. were supported by the Wellcome Trust (WT084507MA), the Royal Society and the BBSRC (BBF0152161). F.S. was supported by the Mecesup (UCH0604) and Becas Chile. J.W. was supported by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and The Carl Trygger Foundation. M.M was supported by Magnus Bergvalls Stiftelse. A.M.M. and A.Z. were supported by Canada Foundation for Innovation.

### **Author contributions**

L.P. and G.L. conceived the project with input from R.D. and E.J.L. G.L. designed the intercross approach. G.L., F.A.C., K.J. and F.S. performed the genotyping, crossing, selection, and validation experiments. S.B. and L.P. designed the Sequenom genotyping assay and analyzed the data. M.A.Q. prepared the sequencing libraries. JS assembled the parental strains. J.W. performed the phenotyping and M.M. measured the cAMP levels. L.P. analyzed the sequencing data and performed the simulation experiments. A.Z. and A.M.M. performed individual allele analysis. E.J.L. and R.D. contributed reagents, materials and tools. L.P., G.L., and R.D. wrote the paper with input from all authors.

# Footnotes

Supporting Information is available online at <u>http://www.genome.org</u>. Sequence data were submitted to the Short Read Archive (study accession ERP000500), with individual sample accession numbers provided in Table S3.

# **Figure legends**

#### Fig. 1. Overall strategy.

A 3-step QTL mapping strategy by crossing two phenotypically different strains for many generations to create a large segregating pool of individuals of various fitness, and growing the pool in a restrictive condition that enriches for beneficial alleles that can be detected via sequencing total DNA from the pool.

#### Fig. 2. Recombination landscape after mulptiple rounds of intercrosses.

A) Expansion of the genetic map, measured in recombination units (ru) of 100 times the average number of recombination events from first to twelfth generation (bottom of panel) of a 200-kb chromosome XIII locus genotyped at 9 markers (top of panel).
B) Genetic background of two segregants from a first (F1) and 6th (F6) generation cross show a sharp increase in recombination events.

#### Fig. 3. Changes in allele frequencies pinpoint QTLs.

A-C) WA allele frequency of whole genome (A), chromosome II (B), and *IRA1* region (C) of the F12 pool before (blue) and after selection (green). Lines in gene regions in (C) denote segregating sites (black) and non-synonymous segregating sites (red). The sites with intolerable mutations determined by SIFT analysis (SI and Dataset S3) are highlighted with arrows and designated with the amino acid change.
D) Individual examples of mapped QTLs that show differences in QTL strength, beneficial allele, effect of intercross rounds, and ploidy. Each window spans 80kb and is centered on the locus with the largest allele frequency change in F12 T2 across two replicas. Shaded regions indicate 90% and 95% confidence intervals of the allele frequencies (SI).

#### Fig. 4. IRA1 and IRA2 are high temperature growth QTLs.

**A**) Reciprocal hemizygosity confirms that *IRA1* and *IRA2* are high temperature growth QTLs. WA/NA hybrids were individually deleted for the IRA alleles and used to assess their contribution to high temperature growth. Plate spotting assay using 10-fold serial dilution demonstrates better growth of the hybrid when the NA allele is present.

**B**) Competition experiment on hybrids with IRA1/IRA2 reciprocal hemizygous deletions (as **A**) that resembles the selective step applied to the pool. Hybrids

carrying the NA allele outcompete ones with WA allele after 192 hours (T2) of growth at 40°C.

**C**) Internal level of cAMP is reduced at 40°C, but unchanged at 30°C for WA/NA hybrids with WA alleles deleted at both *IRA1* and *IRA2* loci, compared to NA alleles deleted.

**D**) RAS/cAMP signaling contributes to natural variation in heat sensitivity. Defective function of the WA alleles of *IRA1* and *IRA2* at high temperature results in hyperactive RAS, leading to high level of cAMP and high PKA activity inhibiting the heat transcription induction. As a response to heat stress, the majority of the QTLs selected in the pool are from the NA genetic background (red: NA; blue: WA). Dashed arrow indicates unknown mechanism. Figure adapted from Figure 2 of (Santangelo 2006).

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Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

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Figure 4