

1 **RNA-seq-based genome reannotation of dermatophyte**  
2 ***Arthroderma benhamiae*, characterization of its secretome and**  
3 **whole gene expression profile during infection**

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**38 ABSTRACT**

39 Dermatophytes are the most common agents of superficial mycoses in humans and  
40 animals. The aim of the present investigation was to systematically identify the  
41 extracellular, possibly secreted, proteins that are putative virulence factors and antigenic  
42 molecules of dermatophytes. A complete gene expression profile of *Arthroderma*  
43 *benhamiae* was obtained during infection of its natural host (guinea pig) using RNA-seq  
44 technology. This profile was completed with those of the fungus cultivated *in vitro* in two  
45 media containing keratin and soy meal protein as the sole source of nitrogen, and in  
46 Sabouraud medium. More than 60% of transcripts deduced from RNA-seq data differ from  
47 those previously deposited for *A. benhamiae*. Using these RNA-seq data along with an  
48 automatic gene annotation procedure, followed by manual curation, we produced a new  
49 annotation of the *A. benhamiae* genome. This annotation comprised 7405 CDSs, among  
50 which only 2662 were identical to the currently available annotation, 383 were newly  
51 identified, and 15 secreted proteins were manually corrected. The expression profile of  
52 genes encoding proteins with a signal peptide in infected guinea pigs was found very  
53 different from that during *in vitro* growth when using keratin as substrate. Especially, the  
54 sets of the 12 most highly expressed genes encoding proteases with a signal sequence  
55 only had the putative vacuolar aspartic protease gene *PEP2* in common, during infection  
56 and in keratin medium. The most upregulated gene encoding a secreted protease during  
57 infection was that encoding subtilisin SUB6, which is a known major allergen in the related  
58 dermatophyte *Trichophyton rubrum*.

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## 61 **IMPORTANCE**

62 Dermatophytoses (ringworm, jock itch, athlete's foot and nail infections) are the most  
63 common fungal infections, but their virulence mechanisms are poorly understood.  
64 Combining transcriptomic data obtained from growth in various culture conditions with data  
65 obtained during infection led to a significantly improved genome annotation. About 65% of  
66 the protein-coding genes predicted with our protocol did not match the existing annotation  
67 for *A. benhamiae*. Comparing gene expression during infection on guinea pigs versus  
68 keratin degradation *in vitro*, which is supposed to mimic the host environment, revealed the  
69 critical importance of using real *in vivo* conditions for investigating virulence mechanisms.  
70 The analysis of genes expressed *in vivo*, encoding cell surface and secreted proteins,  
71 particularly proteases, led to the identification of new allergen and virulence factor  
72 candidates.

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## 76 INTRODUCTION

77 Pathogenic dermatophytes are the most common agents of superficial mycoses, almost  
78 exclusively infecting the *stratum corneum*, nails, and hair (1, 2). The genomes of these  
79 fungi, smaller in size than those of *Aspergillus* spp., range from 22.5 to 24 Mb and are  
80 highly collinear. The number of predicted protein-coding genes varies from 7980 in  
81 *Arthroderma benhamiae* to 8915 in *Microsporum canis*. (3, 4). A large number of orthologs  
82 were found to be shared by all dermatophytes (6158 groups including paralog duplications)  
83 (4). Dermatophyte genomes were found to be enriched in genes encoding secreted  
84 proteases and depleted in genes encoding enzymes involved in sugar metabolism, as for  
85 example those typically involved in plant cell wall breakdown. These differences with other  
86 fungi attest to the high specialization of dermatophytes and their adaptation to particular  
87 proteinaceous substrates other than vegetal debris.

88 The molecular mechanisms involved in the establishment of dermatophyte infections  
89 are poorly understood and remain an open field of investigation. Host–fungus interactions  
90 involve pathogen offence, host defense and pathogen counter-attack. In these processes,  
91 fungal and host cell-associated and secreted proteins play a major role. For instance,  
92 secreted aspartic proteases are now considered important virulence factors of *Candida*  
93 *albicans*, being associated with adhesion, invasion, and tissue damage (5). Secreted  
94 enzymes referred to as ‘effectors’ are also of major importance for host attack by plant  
95 pathogens (6). Likewise, proteins secreted *in vivo*, in particular proteases, are clearly the  
96 best candidates for virulence factors of dermatophytes.

97 Current knowledge regarding dermatophyte gene expression during infection was  
98 acquired using a cDNA microarray based on transcripts of *A. benhamiae*, grown in a

99 protein medium, covering approximately 20–25% of its genome and on few selected  
100 protease-coding genes (7). As a striking result, the genes encoding most major proteases  
101 secreted by the fungus *in vitro* (8–11) were found to be not expressed *in vivo* and,  
102 therefore, these proteases appeared not to be involved during the establishment of  
103 infection. In contrast, the gene encoding the subtilisin SUB6 was found to be highly  
104 expressed during skin infection, but not when the fungus grew in any culture medium. Of  
105 particular importance, SUB6 is the ortholog of the major allergen Tri r2 in *T. rubrum* (12).  
106 Tri r2 was found to induce dual immune responses and elicit either immediate or delayed-  
107 type hypersensitivity skin test reactions in different individuals. Numerous antigenic  
108 molecules eliciting host immune responses still remain to be discovered. In view of the  
109 importance of secreted proteins, both as antigens and as possible virulence factors, the  
110 goals of this work were the following: (i) to obtain a complete gene expression profile of *A.*  
111 *benhamiae* during infection using state-of-the-art RNA-seq technology, (ii) to compare it  
112 with the expression profiles of the fungus grown *in vitro* in different media and (iii) to identify  
113 which proteins, and in particular individual proteases, are secreted *in vivo* during infection  
114 as possible new virulence factors. By exploiting RNA-seq data of *A. benhamiae* growing in  
115 different culture conditions and during infection in guinea pigs, we first established a new  
116 annotation of the genome, with 7405 protein-coding genes. The previously available  
117 genome annotation of *A. benhamiae* showed its limits, as many discrepancies were found  
118 after comparison with new experimental data.

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## 122 RESULTS

### 123 *Arthroderma benhamiae* experimental infections in guinea pigs

124 Skin samples from experimentally infected animals were used for transcriptomic analysis of  
125 *A. benhamiae* during infection. As shown in Fig. 1, at day 8 after infection, the animals  
126 showed no or minimal skin symptoms. The direct mycological examination showed  
127 numerous filaments present on the hair and skin samples with the presence of a low  
128 number of conidia (data not shown). At 14 days, the guinea pigs exhibited macroscopic  
129 skin lesions, but direct mycological examination showed fewer fungal filaments on the  
130 infected skin samples with thicker septa than at 8 days. We considered day 8 as the time  
131 point for the peak of infection and day 14 as the time point for the peak of inflammation.  
132 After 27 days, the skin lesions were still present but regressing, while very few fungal  
133 elements were observed by direct mycological examination. At day 44, the guinea pigs had  
134 fully recovered from infection, and no *A. benhamiae* filaments were observable. At this  
135 time, three animals that had recovered from primary infection were reinfected by *A.*  
136 *benhamiae* but did not develop a new infection.

### 137 RNA sequencing

138 RNA was extracted in triplicate from the fungus grown in keratin medium, soy protein  
139 medium, and Sabouraud medium and from each infected animal. Approximately 13 million  
140 strand-specific reads were obtained for each RNA sample extracted from the fungus  
141 growing in the three tested culture media (Table 1). Approximately 30 million strand-specific  
142 reads were acquired from each RNA sample extracted from infected skin samples,  
143 consisting of a mixture of reads from the fungus and from its mammalian host. As a result,

144 roughly 1 million fungal reads (2.8%) were obtained with RNA extracted from skin samples  
145 of guinea pigs at day 8 of infection, while 91.3% of the reads could be aligned with the  
146 guinea pig genome.

#### 147 **New gene annotation of the *Arthroderma benhamiae* genome**

148 A preliminary investigation of the RNA-seq reads mapped onto the *A. benhamiae* genome  
149 revealed that many gene and intron locations from the original genome annotations were  
150 not supported by our experimental data. Hence, re-annotating the CDS of the genome  
151 appeared to be a prerequisite before further analyzing the transcriptome expression.  
152 Particular attention was paid to the location of the start codons because of our interest in  
153 secreted proteins, which should be endowed with a signal peptide at the N-terminus.

154 We used *augustus* (13), a program for gene prediction in eukaryotic organisms that  
155 relies on a statistical model of an organism's gene structure. The correctness of *augustus*  
156 predictions is, however, highly dependent on this model, and great care must be used at  
157 the time of training this model (i.e., establishing the model using a training dataset).  
158 Practically, we mapped all RNA-seq reads onto the genome, deduced full-length gene  
159 transcripts, and retained only those with sufficient coverage. Then, we translated the  
160 filtered transcripts into their three possible coding frames. Full-length CDS were detected  
161 by aligning the transcripts against a set of high-quality protein sequences, namely the  
162 protein sequences reviewed by Swiss-Prot of the model organisms *S. cerevisiae* and *A.*  
163 *nidulans*. The CDS annotations were back-propagated onto the genome, introducing intron  
164 descriptions, and supplied as a training set to *augustus* to generate a new gene model.  
165 With the latter, the *A. benhamiae* genome was re-annotated and yielded 7405 protein-  
166 coding genes.



167 Table 2 compares our 7405 newly predicted genes with the original set of 7979 and  
168 shows that about 65% of the genes have been affected one way or another, for example  
169 the intron boundaries within 1246 genes were corrected and 383 new genes were  
170 recorded. In addition, 39 genes in the existing annotation were split into two genes, and, in  
171 contrast, 286 genes in the new annotation corresponded to fusions of previously annotated  
172 genes.

### 173 ***In silico* definition of the secretome**

174 We defined the *secretome* as the set of all secreted proteins, which is made of all proteins  
175 with a signal peptide, excluding trans-membrane proteins. In practice, this set is not trivial  
176 to define. The presence/absence of a signal peptide depends on the tools used to predict it,  
177 on the strength of the signal itself, and on its presence at the N-terminus, which ultimately  
178 relies on the correct detection of the start codon. Hence, all genes predicted by *augustus*  
179 were further subjected to prediction refinements as follows. For every predicted CDS,  
180 variants were enumerated by considering every AUG or CUG (14) as an alternative start  
181 codon, when found within 30 amino acids from the AUG given by *augustus*. Signal peptides  
182 were then searched for in all CDS variants. The retained CDS was finally selected manually  
183 by comparing the results of the different predictions and by considering additional evidence,  
184 such as prior biological knowledge or the presence of a GPI anchor at the C-terminus. GPI  
185 anchors affect the localization of these proteins in the plasma membrane or the cell wall,  
186 but removal of the GPI lipid moiety by phospholipases can generate soluble secreted forms  
187 of the protein (15). The overall procedure of gene prediction followed by manual correction  
188 is summarized with an example in Fig. 2.

189 A total of 634 proteins with a signal peptide, including 112 probable GPI-anchored  
190 proteins, have been predicted. Using transmembrane predictors, we removed all proteins  
191 that contained one or more transmembrane spans in addition to the signal peptide and that  
192 were probably targeted to membranes. This refinement led to a final *A. benhamiae*  
193 predicted secretome, made of 457 proteins that are listed and characterized in Table S1.

194 A handful of *A. benhamiae* proteins have been experimentally characterized, in  
195 particular secreted proteases (16) and hydrophobin HypA (17). In order to associate  
196 functional information to predicted proteins, we searched for homologs using Blast against  
197 UniProtKB (18), paying particular attention to the matches against *S. cerevisiae*, the best  
198 characterized fungus; *C. albicans*, the best characterized yeast pathogen; and filamentous  
199 fungi, such as *Aspergillus* spp. We completed functional predictions by checking for the  
200 presence of specific domains or protein family signatures by scanning the InterPro  
201 database (19, 20). We were able to associate putative functions to 316 out of our 457  
202 predicted cell surface/secreted proteins, including main functional groups such as  
203 proteases, carbohydrate/cell wall metabolism proteins or proteins with lipolytic activities  
204 (see Fig. 3A and Supplementary Results for details). In addition to thaumatin-like proteins,  
205 we identified 46 gene products showing homologies to known allergens (Table S2), of  
206 which 21 were predicted to be secreted. Among the 141 uncharacterized secreted proteins,  
207 25 had homologs in other dermatophytes, suggesting they are involved in dermatophyte-  
208 specific functions/processes.

### 209 **Validation of the new gene predictions of the secretome**

210 The secretome can be relatively easily subjected to investigation by MS because it  
211 represents a small fraction of all proteins, and those found in the supernatant of *in vitro*

212 grown cultures can be recovered easily. We conducted a new analysis of the MS data we  
213 previously published (16) regarding proteins secreted by cells grown in soy protein liquid  
214 medium, using the new secretome definition. The presence of 139 proteins in the  
215 supernatant at either pH 4 or 7 was confirmed (Table S1), including 8 of the newly  
216 predicted ones. Moreover, among the 708 proteins from the original annotation that were  
217 lost in our new prediction, 31 were supposed to be secreted, but none of them could be  
218 detected in our MS data.

219 Similarity search is another way to test the quality of gene prediction. As an example,  
220 ARB\_07403 encodes a putative A1 peptidase. In our prediction, ARB\_07403 was  
221 shortened at the N-terminus by 68 residues. This correction not only allows for the  
222 identification of a strong signal peptide at the new N-terminus but also aligns better with the  
223 sequences of orthologs in closely related species, including TRV\_06366 of *Trichophyton*  
224 *verrucosum* (UniProt D4DGR1) and MCYG\_07979 of *Arthroderma otae* (UniProt C5FZ57).

225 However, it happens that neither prediction fitted with related proteins, requiring a  
226 further step of manual sequence correction. ARB\_06467 (SUB10) and ARB\_04678 (SED3)  
227 were found by similarity search to belong to respectively the S8 and S53 families of serine  
228 proteases, but the predicted proteins missed the N-terminal signal peptide and pro-peptide.  
229 A reanalysis of the nucleotide sequence of SUB10 revealed a probable genome assembly  
230 error in a poly-T stretch localized just behind the actual initiator codon, leading to a  
231 frameshift at position 4 (Fig. S1A). An error was also identified within the coding sequence  
232 of ARB\_04677, upstream of ARB\_04678. Correcting this error removed a frameshift at  
233 residue 109 of ARB\_04677 and led to the fusion of the two ORFs (Fig. S1B). Sanger re-  
234 sequencing of the regions surrounding the two predicted errors confirmed our predictions

235 and allowed us to restore both protease sequences with clear signals and pro-peptides.  
236 The actual protein sequences of SUB10 and SED3 have been updated in the UniProtKB  
237 database (D4AQG0 and D4AK75 respectively).

238 Finally, it is interesting to note that, within the 40 new predicted ORFs, sequence  
239 alignments with other fungal proteomes revealed that two have homologs in filamentous  
240 fungi, such as *Aspergilli* species, and 22 are conserved in other dermatophyte species  
241 (Table S1).

#### 242 ***Arthroderma benhamiae* gene expression in different growth conditions**

243 Gene expression levels were computed by mapping the reads onto the newly predicted  
244 gene set and are expressed as TMM-normalized Voom-transformed counts (Table S3).  
245 The nomenclature used for the samples and the corresponding growth conditions are given  
246 in Table 3. Fig. 4 presents an overview of the gene expression in the different samples,  
247 considering either the complete genome or the secretome subset. Both hierarchical  
248 clustering and principal component analysis indicate that the biological replicates are closer  
249 to each other than to other conditions, even for the *in vivo* samples at 14 days post  
250 infection, where the number of obtained fungal reads (about 50000) is possibly too low to  
251 perform a statistically significant analysis. However, the small distinction between the Gp8  
252 and Gp14 *in vivo* conditions which is on the order of intra-Gp variations seems to indicate  
253 the consistency of Gp14 samples.

254 The expression differences are strongly dominated by the contrast between *in vivo*  
255 Gp8+Gp14 and *in vitro* S+Sa+K conditions. This result confirms and generalizes the  
256 observations made previously on a much smaller gene set (7). The analysis of the

257 expression data from the complete genome (including the secretome) and of the secretome  
258 yielded the same strong contrast, possibly even slightly reinforced for the secretome.

259 Among the *in vitro* conditions, the gene expressions in the soy and Sabouraud media  
260 appeared closer to each other in the complete gene set, while soy and keratin appeared  
261 closer in the secretome subset. None of the three *in vitro* conditions tested is a good proxy  
262 for *in vivo* growth conditions, despite the keratin medium being supposed to mimic the host  
263 environment. To address this question in more depth, we enumerated all possible partitions  
264 of growth conditions into two subsets, to contrast a subset of conditions versus the  
265 remaining ones. The list of all possible contrasts is given in Fig. 5, with the corresponding  
266 amounts of differentially expressed genes. This confirms that the *in vivo* versus *in vitro*  
267 contrast is dominant and that not much information can be expected to be gathered by  
268 separating Gp8 from Gp14. Interestingly, two other contrasts seem to carry additional  
269 signals: K:Gp8+Gp14+Sa+S in the genome complete gene set and Gp8+Gp14+Sa:S+K in  
270 the secretome subset.

271 We utilized a different statistical approach, namely WGCNA and gene ontology  
272 enrichment analysis, to further explore these additional contrasts. The unsupervised  
273 clustering algorithm of WGCNA subdivided the input gene set (genome) into 35 different  
274 modules, which are disjoint subsets of genes. Then, these modules were individually  
275 correlated with the 15 possible different contrasts to detect optimal correlations. As shown  
276 in Fig. S2, the *in vivo* versus *in vitro* contrast is again dominating the results, with 2122  
277 genes found in the *turquoise* and *blue* modules. Fig. S3A presents the gene expression  
278 heatmap for the *turquoise* module as an example. The *blue* module also showed a high  
279 correlation with the *in vivo* versus *in vitro* contrast, although the expression in Sabouraud

280 was intermediate (Fig. S3B). A few other smaller modules appeared to be correlated with  
281 different contrasts, such as the *tan* module with 209 genes that strongly correlates with  
282 K:Gp8+Gp14+Sa+S (Fig. S3C) and the *midnightblue* module with 177 genes, highly  
283 correlating with Gp8+Gp14+S:K+Sa (Fig. S3D). The 323 genes from the *yellow* module  
284 also correlate with Gp8+Gp14+S:K+Sa, despite an intermediate expression in Sabouraud  
285 (Fig. S3E).

286 We mapped about 40% of the predicted proteins of *A. benhamiae* to their orthologous  
287 counterpart in *S. cerevisiae* using *inparanoid* and propagated the latter GO annotations  
288 onto the dermatophyte genes. Table S4 presents the modules for which the most  
289 significant GO term enrichment was detected, especially the *yellow*, *midnightblue*  
290 (correlated with K+Sa:Gp8+Gp14+S) and *tan* (correlated with K:Gp8+Gp14+Sa+S)  
291 modules. The results are, however, very general, revealing changes in translational and  
292 RNA-related activities but also indicate that some proteasome-related activities might be  
293 specifically altered during growth on keratin. These somewhat modest results are certainly  
294 more related to the lack of specific gene annotation for *A. benhamiae* than to a lack of well-  
295 formed gene modules.

296 **Gene expression profile of *Arthroderma benhamiae* cell surface/secreted proteins**  
297 **during inflammatory cutaneous infection highly differs from the profile obtained**  
298 **during growth on keratin**

299 Fig. 6A lists the 25 secretome genes most highly expressed *in vivo*, including five putative  
300 protease genes. The first gene, ARB\_01183, encodes a protein which contains a thaumatin  
301 domain. The second gene, ARB\_05307, encodes the subtilisin SUB6. Four genes encode  
302 proteins for which we did not find any functional data. These include ARBNEW\_231, a

303 newly predicted gene and the third most highly expressed gene *in vivo*. Remarkably, the  
304 secretome expression pattern was completely different during growth on keratin, an *in vitro*  
305 condition that was supposed to mimic the host environment (Fig. 6B, Fig. 3B and 3C). Only  
306 five genes were found to be common to Tables 4A and 4B: two encoding putative GPI-  
307 anchored proteins (ARB\_01627 and ARB\_07696), ARB\_02741 encoding a CFEM domain  
308 protein, ARB\_06390 a putative cell wall protein, and ARB\_02369 a carboxylesterase  
309 domain-containing protein. This difference is even more striking when we focus our  
310 analysis on secreted proteases. Even if about 20% of the 100 most expressed secreted  
311 proteins are proteases in both *in vivo* and in keratin (Fig. 3B), the batch of proteins  
312 expressed in these different conditions is clearly different (Fig. 3C). This is in accordance  
313 with our above-mentioned WGCNA analysis in which relevant correlation groups were  
314 found only when *in vivo* and keratin conditions were contrasted (Gp8+Gp14:Sa+S+K,  
315 Gp8+Gp14+Sa:S+K, Gp8+Gp14+S:Sa+K, or Gp8+Gp14+Sa+S:K). Expression patterns in  
316 soy and Sabouraud are closer to that in keratin, yet they are distinct from each other (see  
317 Fig. 4), which explains their relatively neutral impact in the WGCNA contrasts.

318 Fig. S4 lists the 12 most highly expressed genes encoding proteases during infection  
319 and those expressed on keratin. The genes encoding SUB6 (ARB\_05307), SUB10  
320 (ARB\_06467), and the deuterolysin (ARB\_04336) are highly and specifically upregulated  
321 during the infection phase with fold changes of 2000x, 60x, and 100x, respectively. The  
322 gene encoding SUB8 (ARB\_00777) was relatively downregulated in keratin. PEP2  
323 (ARB\_02919), which is a putative ortholog of the vacuolar aspartic protease of *S.*  
324 *cerevisiae* PrA and has been subsequently identified in other filamentous fungi, was found  
325 to be highly expressed under all the *in vivo* and *in vitro* conditions.

326 On the other hand, the protease genes upregulated in keratin include subtilisins SUB3  
327 (encoded by ARB\_00701) and SUB4 (ARB\_01032), the metallocarboxypeptidase MCPA of  
328 the M14 family (ARB\_07026\_07027), the leucine aminopeptidases LAP1 (ARB\_03568) and  
329 LAP2 (ARB\_00494), the aspartic protease OPSB (ARB\_04170), and two extracellular  
330 metalloproteases (ARB\_05085, ARB\_05317).

331 Likewise, in the soy culture, only four protease genes were highly expressed: SUB4  
332 (encoded by ARB\_01032), LAP2 (ARB\_00494), PEP2 (ARB\_02919), and DPPV  
333 (ARB\_06651) (Table S1). With the Sabouraud culture, in addition to PEP2, SUB8  
334 (ARB\_00777), OPSB (ARB\_04170), DPPIV (ARB\_06110) and a gene encoding an  
335 uncharacterized S10 family protease (ARB\_01491) showed relatively high expression  
336 (Table S1).

## 337 **DISCUSSION**

338 Most previously available dermatophyte ORFs had been deduced by cDNA analysis and by  
339 expressed sequence tag sequencing using RNA extracted from dermatophytes grown *in*  
340 *vitro*. RNA-seq data obtained from *A. benhamiae* grown in various liquid culture conditions  
341 and most importantly during infection in guinea pigs led us to an improved gene prediction  
342 and annotation of its genome. A complete gene expression profile of *A. benhamiae* was  
343 obtained during infection of its natural host.

### 344 **New *Arthroderma benhamiae* gene annotation**

345 About 65% difference and, particularly, 383 new protein-coding genes were detected  
346 compared to the existing gene prediction. We used previously acquired MS data to validate  
347 *a posteriori* the presence of the predicted ORFs in culture supernatant. A comparable



348 approach with emphasis on proteogenomics has been recently used to review the genome  
349 and proteome of *T. rubrum* (21). In this study, the identification of 323 new peptides by MS  
350 in culture supernatant led to the refinement of 161 genes and the prediction of nine new  
351 genes. However, the RNA-seq analysis to validate the whole-genome proteomics was only  
352 performed with RNA extracted from *T. rubrum* cultured *in vitro* on potato glucose agar, but  
353 not during infection. This previous study and our results have in common the combination  
354 of experimental data with bioinformatics software and manual curation to generate an  
355 improved gene annotation. Our study focuses furthermore on the biology of infection.

356 *In silico* analysis of our predicted proteome led to the identification of 457 putative cell  
357 surface and secreted proteins. Our list of probable secreted proteins is likely to also contain  
358 proteins targeted to intracellular organelles, such as the endoplasmic reticulum or vacuole,  
359 since the exploited prediction tools cannot distinguish between such proteins and secreted  
360 ones. The Fungal Secretome and Subcellular Proteome KnowledgeBase  
361 (<http://proteomics.yzu.edu/secretomes/fungi2/index.php>) tries to address this concern by  
362 providing the prediction of secreted and organellar localization of proteins. It basically  
363 utilizes the same tools as we used in our strategy and reveals the same functional groups  
364 (22). In addition, they use WoLF PSORT (<http://www.genscript.com/wolf-psort.html>) that  
365 converts protein sequences into numerical localization features, based on sorting signals,  
366 amino acid composition and functional motifs. Nevertheless, this tool can produce a high  
367 number of false positives. Moreover, homologs of well-known intracellular proteins have  
368 been found in the secretome proteomic data. As an example, ARB\_02919 is the closest *A.*  
369 *benhamiae* homolog of the *A. fumigatus* vacuolar aspartic peptidase (PEP2) and *S.*  
370 *cerevisiae* vacuolar proteinase A (PEP4). The latter is a vacuolar enzyme required for the

371 processing of vacuolar precursors (23), whereas the former plays an additional role linked  
372 to the cell wall (24). ARB\_02919 was found as a secreted protein by MS (16), and is one of  
373 the most expressed proteins in all the five studied conditions. Contaminations cannot be  
374 ruled out, but our strategy ensures the best coverage of cell surface and secreted proteins,  
375 even if some false positives are probably still present.

### 376 **Reprogramming of gene expression from a saprophyte to a parasite lifestyle**

377 Striking differences were revealed between transcriptomes of *A. benhamiae* during growth  
378 under various conditions *in vitro* and during infection of its natural host. Such differences  
379 emphasize the importance of performing transcriptional analysis directly during infection,  
380 instead of using *in vitro* conditions that are expected to mimic the host environment. We  
381 also identified several newly predicted genes, as well as genes with unknown functions,  
382 that were differentially expressed in the contrast of *in vivo* versus *in vitro*, and, thus, might  
383 have a relevant role in infection. To sum up, the ability of dermatophytes to switch from a  
384 saprophyte to a parasite lifestyle is attested by an important reprogramming of gene  
385 expression.

386 Several comparative RNA-seq analyses were performed for other species of human  
387 pathogenic fungi (25–28), but as these studies rely on infection-mimicking conditions and  
388 not on the real *in vivo* situation, we think that they should be considered with caution. Only  
389 few studies were performed in real infection conditions. Gene expression profiles of *C.*  
390 *albicans* were obtained during infection in both the mouse kidney and the insect *Galleria*  
391 *mellonella* (29). Interestingly, gene expressions in these very distinct hosts were much  
392 closer to each other than in the *in vitro* liquid cultures used as controls. More recently,  
393 transcriptional profiling of *Blastomyces* was performed in co-cultures with human bone

394 marrow-derived macrophages and during *in vivo* pulmonary infection in a mouse model  
395 (30). They identified a number of functional categories upregulated exclusively *in vivo*,  
396 including secreted proteins, zinc acquisition proteins, as well as cysteine and tryptophan  
397 metabolism. Nine secreted protein were identified, including products of five of the ten most  
398 upregulated genes during infection. One of these genes, BDFG\_00717, encodes a CFEM-  
399 domain-containing protein, highlighting the importance of those proteins in virulence.

#### 400 **Potential non-protease virulence factors of *Arthroderma benhamiae***

401 Numerous genes that were highly expressed during infection encode uncharacterized  
402 proteins. Highly expressed protein-coding genes with a putative function other than  
403 proteolysis included ARB\_01183, encoding a putative antigenic thaumatin domain protein,  
404 and two genes encoding 1,3-beta-glucanosyltransferases (ARB\_07487 and ARB\_05770).  
405 ARB\_01183 was the most expressed secreted protein-coding gene *in vivo*. Thaumatin-like  
406 proteins (TLPs) are found in many eukaryotes and have been particularly studied in plants,  
407 in which they are involved in defense against fungal pathogens. Plant TLPs also have been  
408 shown to act as important allergens (31). TLPs are also found in fungi, such as  
409 *Moniliophthora perniciosa*, and may be involved in the inhibition of growth of fungal  
410 competitors and pathogenicity (32). The 1,3-beta-glucanosyltransferases play an important  
411 role in fungal cell wall morphology and pathogenicity. Deletion of the gene *GEL2* encoding  
412 a 1,3-beta-glucanosyltransferase in *A. fumigatus* leads to altered cell wall composition as  
413 well as to reduced virulence in a murine model of invasive aspergillosis (33). *GAS1* of the  
414 entomopathogenic fungus *Beauveria bassiana* contributes similarly to its mycoinsecticide  
415 activity (34).

416 ARB\_02741, like *Blastomyces* BDFG\_00717, encodes a GPI-anchored CFEM domain  
417 protein which is highly expressed *in vivo* and *in vitro* conditions. Its function has not been  
418 characterized yet, but it is interesting to note that the closest homologs of ARB\_02741 in  
419 the human fungal pathogen *Coccidioides posadasii* are the proline-rich antigens Ag2/PRA  
420 and Prp2, which have been reported to be leading vaccine candidates (35, 36). CFEM-  
421 domain proteins have been shown to be important for haem uptake and virulence in *C.*  
422 *albicans* (37). The ability to acquire iron from host tissues is a major virulence factor of  
423 pathogenic microorganisms. However, the exact implication of these proteins in infection  
424 processes is still unclear. As an example, the three *A. fumigatus* CFEM-domain proteins  
425 have been shown to be important for cell wall stability, not for virulence (38). Other proteins  
426 may also be involved in immune escape, such as ARB\_06975, whose *A. fumigatus*  
427 hydrophobin homolog was shown to prevent immune recognition by forming a hydrophobic  
428 layer on the cell surface (39).

#### 429 ***Arthroderma benhamiae* secreted proteases during infection**

430 *SUB6* was the most highly expressed gene encoding a secreted protease during infection  
431 in guinea pigs. In addition to *SUB6*, other *A. benhamiae* protease genes encoding the  
432 subtilisins *SUB7*, *SUB8*, and *SUB10* as well as a neutral protease of the deuterolysin family  
433 (M35) were also specifically upregulated. RNA-seq analysis results also confirmed that  
434 genes encoding major proteases secreted by the fungus during growth in a protein medium  
435 (i.e., *SUB3*, *SUB4*, *MEP3*, *MEP4*, *LAP1*, and *DPPIV*) were expressed at a relatively low  
436 level during infection as well as in Sabouraud medium and were not upregulated. These  
437 results are in accordance with recent findings by proteomic analysis (LC-MS/MS) in *T.*  
438 *rubrum*-infected nails that revealed *SUB6* as the major protein secreted by the fungus in

439 onychomycosis (40). The closely related SUB7 (subtilisin-like protease 7, Q8NID9) and  
440 DPPV (dipeptidyl-peptidase 5, Q9UW98) were also detected. Likewise, most major  
441 proteases secreted by the fungus during its growth *in vitro* in a protein medium (11, 41)  
442 were not detected and, therefore, appeared not to be involved during the establishment of  
443 onychomycosis. As a general conclusion, the proteases secreted *in vitro* during protein  
444 degradation and *in vivo* during infection are different, regardless of the dermatophyte  
445 species and the *tinea*. The view that the proteases isolated from dermatophytes grown *in*  
446 *vitro* in a protein medium are virulence attributes and exert a major role during infection  
447 appears to be too naïve and can no longer be accepted. Dermatophytes evolved from soil  
448 saprophytic fungi that are able to efficiently degrade hard keratin into amino acids and into  
449 short peptides in the process of recycling nitrogen, and the pathogenic phase of  
450 dermatophytes has to be dissociated from their saprophytic phase. Some of the multiple  
451 members of protease gene families in dermatophytes are dedicated exclusively to protein  
452 degradation while others, such as SUB6, likely fulfill specific roles during infection. The  
453 notion that proteases secreted in proteinaceous media correspond to virulence attributes  
454 has also been discarded for other pathogenic fungi. Two different *A. fumigatus* mutants  
455 unable to secrete proteolytic activity in a protein growth medium did not show attenuated  
456 virulence when tested in a leukopenic mouse model. In the first mutant, the genes coding  
457 the two major secreted proteases ALP and MEP (42) were deleted. In the other mutant, the  
458 gene coding a transcriptional activator (PRTT) which regulates transcription of genes  
459 encoding the major proteases secreted in a protein medium was deleted. Noteworthy, no  
460 homolog of PRTT in *Aspergillus* spp. (43, 44) has been identified in *A. benhamiae*.

461 Genes encoding major proteases secreted by dermatophytes during *in vitro* growth in a

462 protein medium are tightly controlled by *DNR1*, the ortholog of *AREA* in *Aspergillus*  
463 *nidulans* (45). In the absence of ammonium and glutamine, this transcription factor was  
464 found to be required for the expression of genes involved in nitrogen metabolism. Although  
465 dermatophytes infect keratinized tissues, our results suggest that the panel of proteases  
466 secreted during infection depends on other transcription factors that remain to be  
467 discovered.

#### 468 ***Arthroderma benhamiae* secreted proteins as allergens**

469 Secreted proteins are allergens that play a key role in the pathogenic process. SUB6,  
470 DPPV, and the beta-glucosidase ARB\_05770 (encoded by three of the most expressed  
471 genes of *A. benhamiae* during infection) are orthologs of the three known major  
472 dermatophyte allergens Tri t1, Tri r2, and Tri r4, which are involved in bronchial  
473 sensitization and symptomatic asthma (12, 46, 47). Dermatophyte antigens are also  
474 involved in eczematous skin reactions at a location distant from the area of dermatophyte  
475 infection (dermatophytids). The etiology of common dyshidrotic and vesicular eczema on  
476 the hands (palms and fingers) is rarely investigated and may remain elusive because no  
477 commercially standardized antigens are available to perform routine skin tests and antibody  
478 detection. Trichophytin, a fungal extract that greatly varies in its preparation and  
479 composition, was used to diagnose dermatophytids (48, 49). The secreted proteins  
480 encoded by genes highly expressed during infection are the best candidates for the  
481 detection of dermatophyte allergic diseases. At a time when quality in laboratory techniques  
482 is a key issue, it would be relevant to perform skin test reactions using standardized  
483 antigens in cases of eczematous skin reactions of unknown origin. A positive reaction could

484 be indicative of a non-detected dermatophyte infection and could suggest possible  
485 antifungal treatment.

## 486 **Conclusion**

487 Comparing gene expression during infection phase versus keratin degradation *in vitro*  
488 shows the importance of using real *in vivo* conditions to further investigate the virulence  
489 mechanisms of dermatophytes, instead of using some *in vitro* conditions supposed to  
490 mimic the host environment. Focusing our analysis on genes encoding cell-associated and  
491 secreted proteins, in particular proteases, led to the identification of strong candidates as  
492 allergens and putative virulence factors. The new genome annotation provided in this study  
493 might serve as a reference for annotation or re-annotation of other dermatophyte species  
494 and evolutionary related filamentous fungi.

## 495 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 496 **Strains and growth media**

497 *Arthroderma benhamiae* Lau2354-2 (CBS 112371) (3, 50) was used in this study. This  
498 strain, deposited in the Belgian Coordinated Collections of Microorganisms (BCCM/IHEM)  
499 under IHEM20161, is the reference strain that was chosen for *A. benhamiae* genome  
500 sequencing (3). It was isolated from a patient suffering from a highly inflammatory  
501 dermatophytosis in the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV). The *A.*  
502 *benhamiae* strain was maintained at 28 °C on Sabouraud dextrose agar medium.

503 *Arthroderma benhamiae* was grown *in vitro* in Sabouraud liquid medium, soy protein  
504 liquid medium, and keratin liquid medium as previously described (7). Soy medium was  
505 prepared by dissolving 2 g of soy protein (Supro 1711, Protein Technologies International)

506 in 1 L of distilled water. Aliquots of 100 mL of keratin medium were prepared by adding 0.2  
507 g of keratin (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany; keratin is derived from animal hooves and horns)  
508 and 5 mL of soy medium to 95 mL of distilled water. A low amount of soy protein in keratin  
509 liquid medium was found to be necessary to initiate the growth of dermatophytes with  
510 keratin as the sole substrate (7). A plug of fresh *A. benhamiae* mycelia grown on  
511 Sabouraud agar was inoculated in 100 mL of liquid Sabouraud, soy, and keratin medium  
512 and incubated for 5, 10 and 24 days, respectively, at 30 °C without shaking. At the  
513 indicated time points, growth in protein media was accompanied by substantial proteolytic  
514 activity along with clarification of the media and, in the case of keratin medium cultures,  
515 also by visible dissolution of the water-insoluble keratin granules.

#### 516 **Animal infection**

517 Specific pathogen-free, 3-month-old female guinea pigs (cross-bred white albinos, Dunkin  
518 Hartley strain-Charles River Laboratories International, Wilmington, USA) were infected  
519 with *A. benhamiae* Lau2354-2. *Arthroderma benhamiae* mycelia scraped from freshly  
520 grown 18-day-old Sabouraud plates and suspended in 5% (w/w) poloxamer 407 (BASF,  
521 Germany) was applied to a 16-cm<sup>2</sup> back skin surface that had been clipped and scarified  
522 previously. Each guinea pig was infected with  $6 \times 10^9$ – $2 \times 10^{10}$  CFU. Non-infected control  
523 guinea pigs were subjected to the same procedure, except that the poloxamer 407 mixture  
524 did not contain any fungal elements. Three guinea pigs were sacrificed after 8, 14, 27, 44  
525 days and 14 days after reinfection once healed. The infected skin from sacrificed animals  
526 was frozen at -80 °C for subsequent total RNA isolation. Both the hair and *stratum corneum*  
527 were examined for the presence of fungal elements by direct mycological examination.



528 Animal experiments were approved by the local ethics committee (University of Liège,  
529 ethics protocol no. 1052).

### 530 **RNA extraction**

531 RNA extraction from *A. benhamiae* cultures and infected guinea pig skin was performed  
532 using a specific procedure to yield sufficient amounts of quality RNA (see Supplementary  
533 Materials).

### 534 **RNA sequencing**

535 In close collaboration with the Lausanne Genomic Technologies Facility, and using the  
536 Illumina technology (HiSeq 2000 sequencer), we performed a TruSeq stranded single read  
537 total RNA analysis, using one lane with a multiplex level of 15, acquiring approximately 30  
538 million 'strand-specific' reads with a length of 100 bp for each sample. Reads were aligned  
539 against the *A. benhamiae* and guinea pig genomes using *tophat2* (version 2.0.9) (51).

### 540 **Strain and sequence data accession number**

541 The genome assembly GCA\_000151125.2 ASM15112v2 of *A. benhamiae* Lau2354-2 was  
542 used throughout this study. The raw RNA-seq data investigated here are accessible under  
543 the BioProject accession number SRP064455. The annotation is accessible under the  
544 BioSample accession number SAMN05163190. The CavPor3 draft assembly of the guinea  
545 pig genome was used.

### 546 **Gene prediction and annotation**

547 Gene prediction was made with *augustus* (version 3.0.2) (13) using a specific gene model  
548 obtained as follows. Gene transcripts and intron locations were obtained using *cufflinks*  
549 (version 2.2.1) (52). The transcripts were three-frame translated into potential amino-acid

550 sequences using *transeq* from EMBOSS (version 6.5.7) (53). The complete proteomes of  
551 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Aspergillus nidulans* (reviewed by Swiss-Prot) were  
552 mapped onto the potential amino acid sequences with *glsearch36*, from the FASTA  
553 alignment tools (version 3.6) (54) to identify coding phase and CDS location within  
554 transcripts. Based on the alignment quality and on the presence of start and stop codons  
555 near alignment extremities (+/- 10 amino acids), a set of confidently predicted CDS was  
556 gathered and converted into gene annotations using intron locations previously given by  
557 *cufflinks*. These annotations were used as a training set to build a gene model (available  
558 upon request) with the scripts supplied in the *augustus* distribution.

### 559 ***In silico* identification of putative cell surface and secreted proteases**

560 To identify putative secreted proteins, we checked for the presence of an N-terminal signal  
561 sequence using both *Phobius* (version 1.01) (55) and *SignalP* (version 4.1) (56). Signal  
562 peptides have been confirmed by the prediction of N-terminal transmembrane spans using  
563 *TMHMM* (version 2.0) (57, 58). The presence of a potential glycosylphosphatidylinositol  
564 (GPI) anchor has been checked by using *PredGPI* (version 1.0) (59). Using the  
565 transmembrane span predictors *TMHMM* (version 2.0), *ESKW* (version 1.0) (60), and  
566 *MEMSAT* (version 1.8) (61), we refined the secretome prediction by removing the proteins  
567 that contain one or more transmembrane spans in addition to the signal peptide and that  
568 are probably targeted to membranes. All the secreted proteins have been subjected to  
569 Blast analysis against the UniProtKB database (18) as well as to InterPro scanning (19, 20)  
570 to associate and reveal some putative functions.

### 571 **Mass spectrometry and experimental validation of new secreted proteins**

572 Precipitation and separation of proteins from *A. benhamiae* cultures at pH 4 and pH 7 along  
573 with shotgun mass spectrometry (MS) experiments have been described by  
574 Sriranganadane et al. (16). A new search of MS/MS spectra against the sequences of our  
575 new predicted proteome was performed.

### 576 **Transcriptome analysis**

577 The number of reads mapped onto each newly predicted gene locus was obtained with  
578 *htseq-count* (version 0.5.4p3) (62). Genes with counts fewer than one per million in all  
579 samples were removed from the statistical analyses (i.e., 81 genes). Gene expression was  
580 normalized using the TMM-normalized Voom transformation (63); hierarchical clustering  
581 and principal component analysis was done using R (version 3.1.1). Differential gene  
582 expression analysis was performed with the R Bioconductor package *limma* (64). The cut-  
583 offs of  $1e-3$  for FDR (BY-adjusted  $p$ -value) (65) and 2 for fold change were applied to  
584 identify genes relevant to each contrast. The R software package *WGCNA* (66) was used  
585 for correlation network analysis, using the Pearson correlation.

### 586 **Pathway enrichment**

587 The predicted *A. benhamiae* proteins were aligned against *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*  
588 proteins from Swiss-Prot with *inparanoid* (version 4.1) (67) to identify the orthologs from  
589 which the Gene Ontology (GO) terms were extracted and applied to *A. benhamiae*. We  
590 then performed the GO enrichment analysis on the weighted gene correlation network  
591 analysis (WGCNA) gene modules.

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605

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811  
812

813 **TABLES**814 **TABLE 1 RNA-seq data summary**

| Library   | Total cleaned reads (M*) | Aligned to <i>A. benhamiae</i> |      | Aligned to <i>C. porcellus</i> |      |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
|           |                          | # reads                        | %    | # reads (M)                    | %    |
| 8 dpi     | 34.5                     | 0.5 M                          | 1.5  | 31.8                           | 92.3 |
|           | 31.7                     | 1 M                            | 3.3  | 28.9                           | 91.0 |
|           | 26                       | 1 M                            | 4    | 23.5                           | 90.6 |
| 14 dpi    | 31.8                     | 44.5 K*                        | 0.1  | 30                             | 94.3 |
|           | 30.6                     | 51.2 K                         | 0.2  | 28.9                           | 94.4 |
|           | 31.4                     | 24.8 K                         | 0.1  | 29.5                           | 93.8 |
| 27 dpi    | 33.8                     | 623                            | 0    | 31.6                           | 93.5 |
|           | 39                       | 657                            | 0    | 36.6                           | 94.0 |
|           | 30.8                     | 452                            | 0    | 28.8                           | 93.3 |
| 44 dpi    | 35.7                     | 458                            | 0    | 33.1                           | 92.9 |
|           | 31.9                     | 857                            | 0    | 29.6                           | 92.7 |
|           | 25.3                     | 808                            | 0    | 23.5                           | 92.8 |
| Control   | 26.1                     | 637                            | 0    | 24.3                           | 93.4 |
|           | 38.9                     | 840                            | 0    | 36.3                           | 93.3 |
|           | 35.7                     | 3143                           | 0    | 33.2                           | 93.0 |
| Keratin   | 12.4                     | 6.1 M                          | 49.2 |                                |      |
|           | 13.5                     | 7.9 M                          | 58.3 |                                |      |
|           | 13.9                     | 8 M                            | 57.6 |                                |      |
| Soy       | 11.7                     | 7.3 M                          | 62.6 |                                |      |
|           | 10.5                     | 6 M                            | 57.1 |                                |      |
|           | 12.8                     | 7.5 M                          | 58.8 |                                |      |
| Sabouraud | 12.4                     | 7.9 M                          | 63.5 |                                |      |
|           | 14.8                     | 8.7 M                          | 59.1 |                                |      |
|           | 11.6                     | 7.2 M                          | 61.6 |                                |      |

815 \* M, million; K, thousand.

816

817 **TABLE 2 Comparison between the new gene set and the original one. Matched:**818 identical old and new gene annotations; *Alternative*: conserved start and stop codons but819 different splicing; *Different*: different start or stop codons, possibly different splicing;

820 *Merged*: more than one old gene merged into a single new one; *Split*: old gene split into  
 821 several new ones; *New*: genes only found in the new predictions (708 original genes were  
 822 lost). *Auto*: gene annotations as produced by *augustus*; *Manual*: manual correction of the  
 823 start codon. The number of genes whose products were confirmed by mass spectrometry  
 824 in culture supernatants is given between parentheses. GPI: Glycosylphosphatidylinositol.

825

| New vs<br>old gene<br>prediction | Gene<br>count in<br>complete<br>genome | Gene count in secretome only |             |      |             |      |              |    |            |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|--------------|----|------------|
|                                  |  | With GPI                     |             |      | Without GPI |      |              |    |            |
|                                  |  | Auto                         | Manual      | Auto | Manual      | Auto | Manual       |    |            |
| <i>Matched</i>                   | 2662                                   | 47                           | (13)        | 2    | (2)         | 155  | (55)         | 0  |            |
| <i>Alternative</i>               | 1246                                   | 19                           | (6)         | 0    |             | 49   | (19)         | 1  |            |
| <i>Different</i>                 | 2752                                   | 31                           | (6)         | 1    |             | 83   | (19)         | 10 | (4)        |
| <i>Merged</i>                    | 286                                    | 5                            | (2)         | 0    |             | 7    | (2)          | 1  |            |
| <i>Split</i>                     | 76                                     | 1                            | (1)         | 0    |             | 5    | (2)          | 0  |            |
| <i>New</i>                       | 383                                    | 6                            |             | 0    |             | 34   | (8)          | 0  |            |
|                                  | <b>7405</b>                            | 109                          | <b>(28)</b> | 3    | <b>(2)</b>  | 333  | <b>(105)</b> | 12 | <b>(4)</b> |

826

827 **TABLE 3 Designation of samples and growth conditions**

| RNA<br>sample | Code | Growth condition<br>Description                       |
|---------------|------|---|
| Cb1           | Gp8  | <i>In vivo</i> : Guinea pig 8 days post<br>infection  |
| Cb2           |      |   |
| Cb3           |      |   |
| Cb4           | Gp14 | <i>In vivo</i> : Guinea pig 14 days post<br>infection |
| Cb5           |      |   |
| Cb6           |      |   |
| K1            | K    | <i>In vitro</i> : Keratin medium                      |
| K2            |      |   |
| K3            |      |   |

|     |    |                                    |
|-----|----|------------------------------------|
| S1  | S  | <i>In vitro</i> : Soy medium       |
| S2  |    |                                    |
| S4  |    |                                    |
| Sa1 | Sa | <i>In vitro</i> : Sabouraud medium |
| Sa2 |    |                                    |
| Sa3 |    |                                    |

828

829

830 **FIGURES**831 **FIG 1 Experimental infection of the natural host of *Arthroderma benhamiae*.**

832 Cutaneously infected guinea pigs developed skin symptoms that were the most severe on  
 833 day 14 post infection (dpi) due to inflammation, while 8 dpi was the time point for the peak  
 834 of infection.

835 **FIG 2 Prediction and manual correction of the gene coding for the autophagy protein**

836 **Atg27 (ARB\_01857: a trans-membrane protein).** (A) original gene prediction; (B)

837 automatic prediction from *augustus* (signal peptide is missing); (C) final (new) gene

838 prediction after manual correction. The re-annotation of this particular gene is remarkable,

839 as it produced a new intron, an alternative stop codon and a manually corrected start

840 codon.

841 **FIG 3 Characterization of the secretome.** (A) Pie chart showing the main functional

842 groups identified within the 457 proteins of the secretome. See detailed description in

843 Supplementary Results. (B) Pie charts showing the same functional groups as in A, but

844 within the 100 most expressed genes in Gp8 (*in vivo* 8 dpi), K (*in vitro* in keratin medium),

845 and S (*in vitro* in soy medium). (C) Venn diagram of proteases (top) and carbohydrate/cell

846 wall metabolism proteins (bottom) present in the 100 most expressed secreted proteins in

847 the 3 conditions described in B. Proteases represent about 20% of the 100 most expressed



848 proteins in the 3 conditions, however, the batch of proteins is clearly different in Gp8 when  
849 compared to K and S. This trend is not as significant when comparing carbohydrate/cell  
850 wall metabolism proteins.

851 **FIG 4 Hierarchical clustering (A, C) and principal component analysis (B, D) of RNA**  
852 **sequencing samples considering the genes from the complete genome (A, B) or only**  
853 **the secretome subset (C, D).** The sample names reflect the growth conditions: Cb, *in vivo*  
854 in guinea pig; S, *in vitro* in soy medium; Sa, *in vitro* in Sabouraud medium; K, *in vitro* in  
855 keratin medium. The *in vivo* samples cluster together.

856 **FIG 5 Number of differentially expressed genes versus the enumeration of all**  
857 **possible contrasting conditions in the genome and the secretome,** using a cut-off of  
858  $1e-3$  for FDR and 2 for the fold change.

859 **FIG 6 (A) Twenty-five most highly expressed genes encoding secreted proteins**  
860 **during infection compared to *in vitro* expression; (B) Twenty-five most highly**  
861 **expressed genes encoding secreted proteins *in vitro* (keratin medium) compared to**  
862 ***in vivo* expression.**

863

864

865 **SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES**866 **TABLE S1 The secretome: predicted cell surface/secreted proteins, putative**  
867 **functions, and expression**868 <sup>1</sup> Open reading frame (ORF) names in this study869 <sup>2</sup> The status indicates the changes between previous proteome annotation and our  
870 predictions871 <sup>3</sup> ORF names in the previous genome annotation (Burmester et al. 2011)872 <sup>4</sup> Names attributed to some proteases by Burmester et al. (2011) and Sriranganadane et al.  
873 (2011)874 <sup>5</sup> UniProt accession numbers corresponding to the previous prediction. When two ORFs  
875 have been merged in the new prediction and both are present in UniProtKB, the two  
876 corresponding ACs are indicated.877 <sup>6</sup> The presence of a signal peptide is indicated by SIG. SIG + GPI indicates that the gene  
878 product is predicted to have a GPI anchor.879 <sup>7</sup> Mass spectrometry data were extracted from Sriranganadane et al. (2011). For each  
880 identified gene product, we indicate the medium pH in which it was detected (either pH 4 or  
881 7).882 <sup>8</sup> Function has been assigned based on homology search in well-characterized fungi and/or  
883 from InterPro scanning to identify specific domains and families. Green identifies proteins  
884 with a potential role in proteolytic activity; red, proteins involved in carbohydrate  
885 metabolism; and orange, proteins involved in lipid metabolism.886 <sup>9</sup> Homologous fungal allergens extracted from the Allergome database  
887 (<http://www.allergome.org/>)

888 <sup>10</sup> Name of weighted gene correlation network analysis (WGCNA) gene co-expression  
889 module

890 <sup>11</sup> Summary of differential gene expression *in vivo* versus *in vitro*. Cut-offs: FDR = 1e-3 and  
891 2-fold change.

892 <sup>12</sup> Significant expression trends from RNA sequencing data are indicated. The cut-off of -1  
893 for the z-score of transcripts per million was applied.

894 <sup>13</sup> Mean expression values expressed in transcripts per million for every growth condition.  
895 The detailed counts per sample are given in Table S3.

#### 896 **TABLE S2 Potential allergens based on sequence homology**

897 <sup>1</sup> Open reading frame (ORF) names in this study that have homologues acting as allergens  
898 in other fungi (and wasp in the case of ARB\_02861).

899 <sup>2</sup> Allergens were retrieved from the Allergome database (<http://www.allergome.org/>).

900 <sup>3</sup> The (+) indicates *A. benhamiae* allergen homologs identified as encoding putative cell  
901 surface/secreted proteins in our study.

902 <sup>4</sup> Function has been assigned based on homology search in well-characterized fungi and/or  
903 from InterPro scanning to identify specific domains and families.

#### 904 **TABLE S3 Detailed counts per sample, differential expression, and weighted gene** 905 **correlation network analysis module attribution**

906 **TABLE S4 Pathway enrichment analysis of weighted gene correlation network**  
907 **analysis modules.** Only the most significant Gene Ontology terms are reported.

908

909

## 910 **SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES**

### 911 **FIG S1 Manual curation on SUB10 and SED3.**

912 Actual and previous open reading frame predictions for SUB10 (A) and SED3 (B). N-  
913 terminal signal peptides, pro-peptides and peptidase domains are illustrated with boxes of  
914 different hues. The correction of assembly errors in actual open reading frames are  
915 indicated in red. Full ORFs were restored by the manual addition of the missing T in the  
916 SUB10 DNA sequence and G in the SED3 DNA sequence. These corrections have been  
917 confirmed by Sanger re-sequencing. The actual protein sequences of SUB10 and SED3  
918 are available on the UniProtKB database (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) with respective  
919 accession numbers D4AQG0 and D4AK75.

### 920 **FIG S2 Module-contrast correlations**

921 **FIG S3 Heatmap of the (A) turquoise module; (B) blue module; (C) tan module; (D)**  
922 **midnightblue module; (E) yellow module**

923 **FIG S4 Twelve most highly expressed genes encoding secreted proteases during**  
924 **infection (left table) and during *in vitro* growing in keratin medium (right table).**

925 **FIG S5 Quality of RNA extracted using the QIAGEN RNA extraction kit (A) and the**  
926 **protocol described in material and method section (B).** The 18s rRNA and 28s rRNA  
927 absorbance peaks are shown in purple and blue, respectively.

## 928 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND RESULTS**

929 Supplementary.pdf

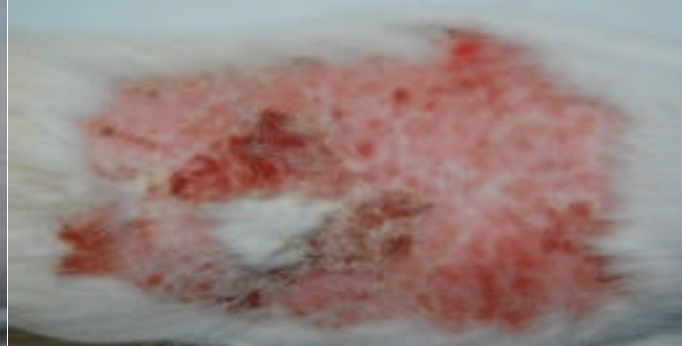
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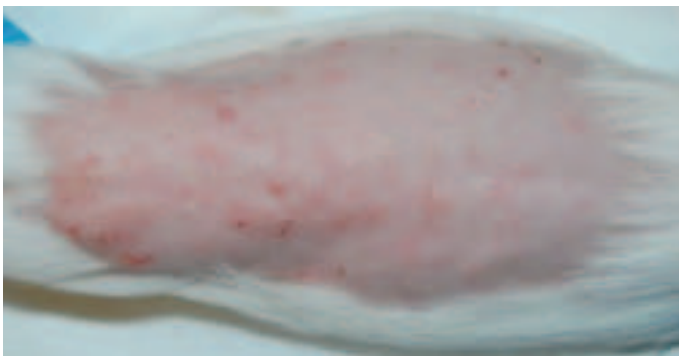
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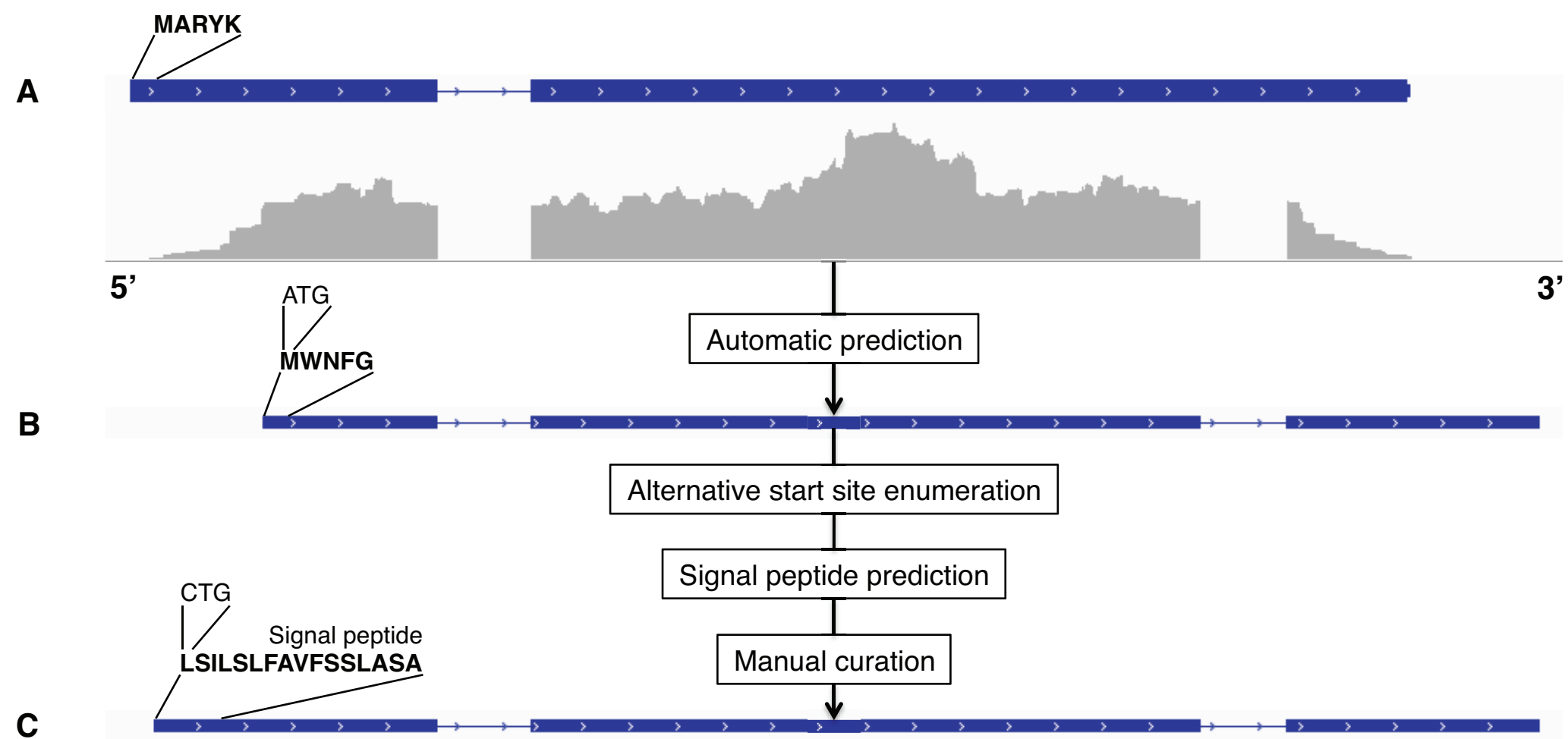
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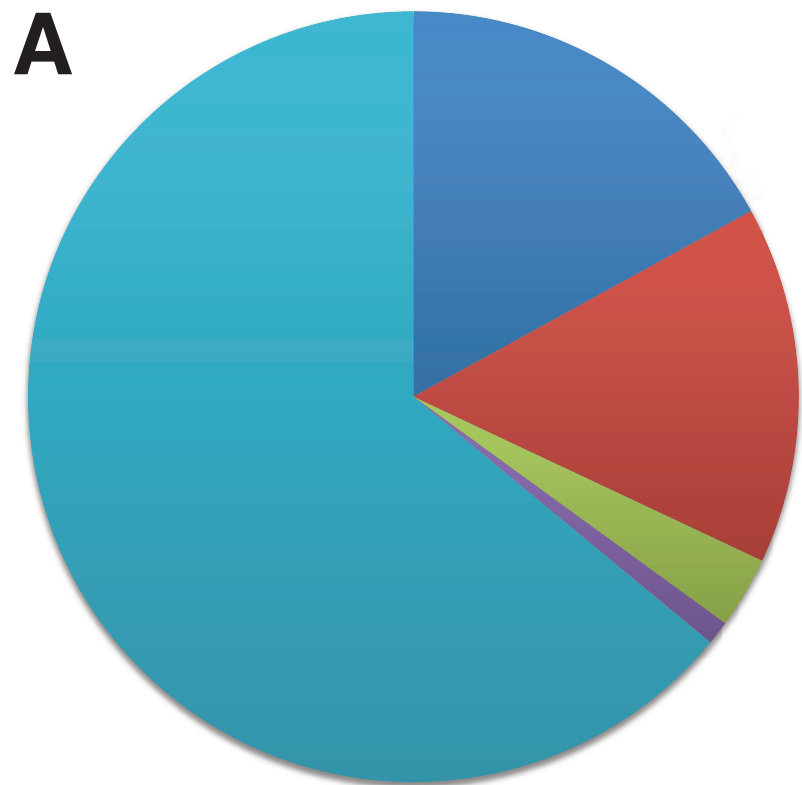


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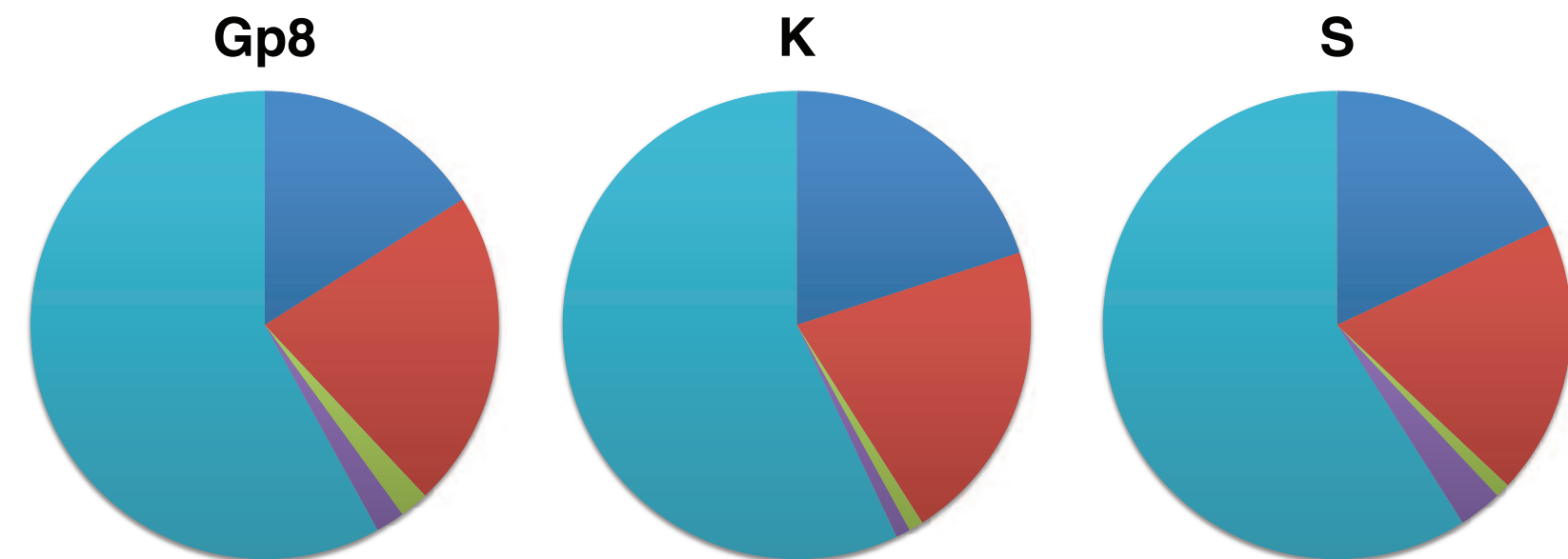
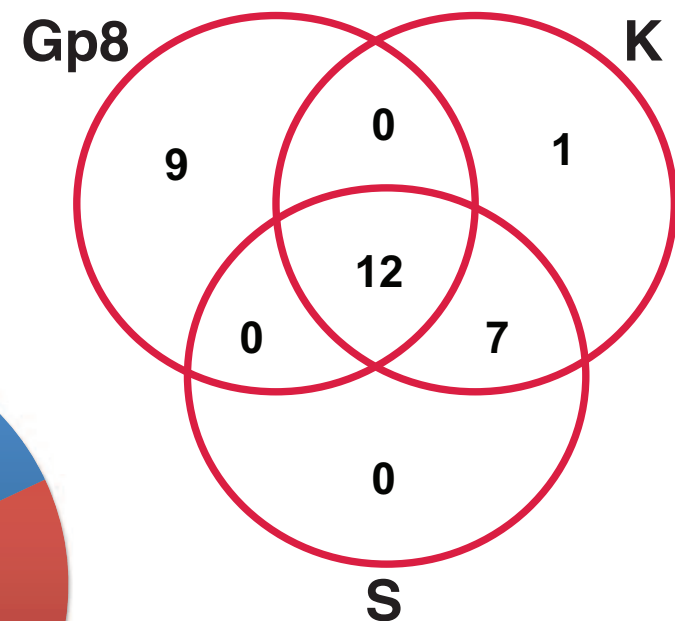
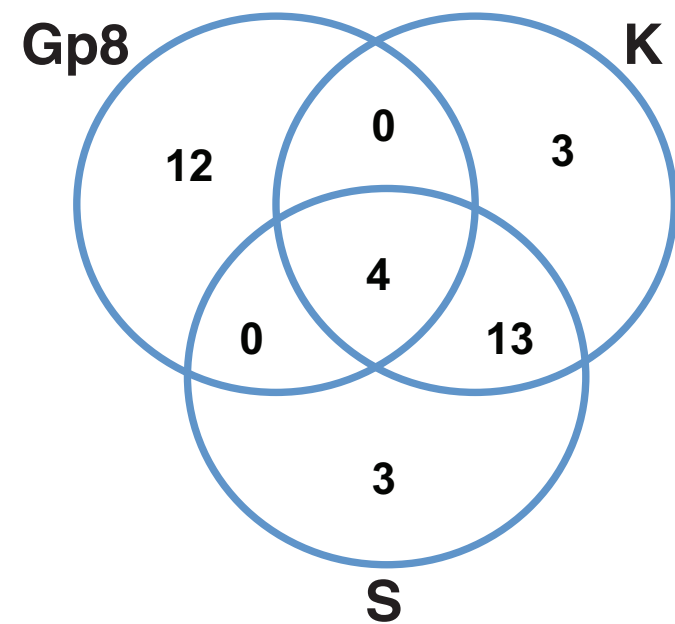


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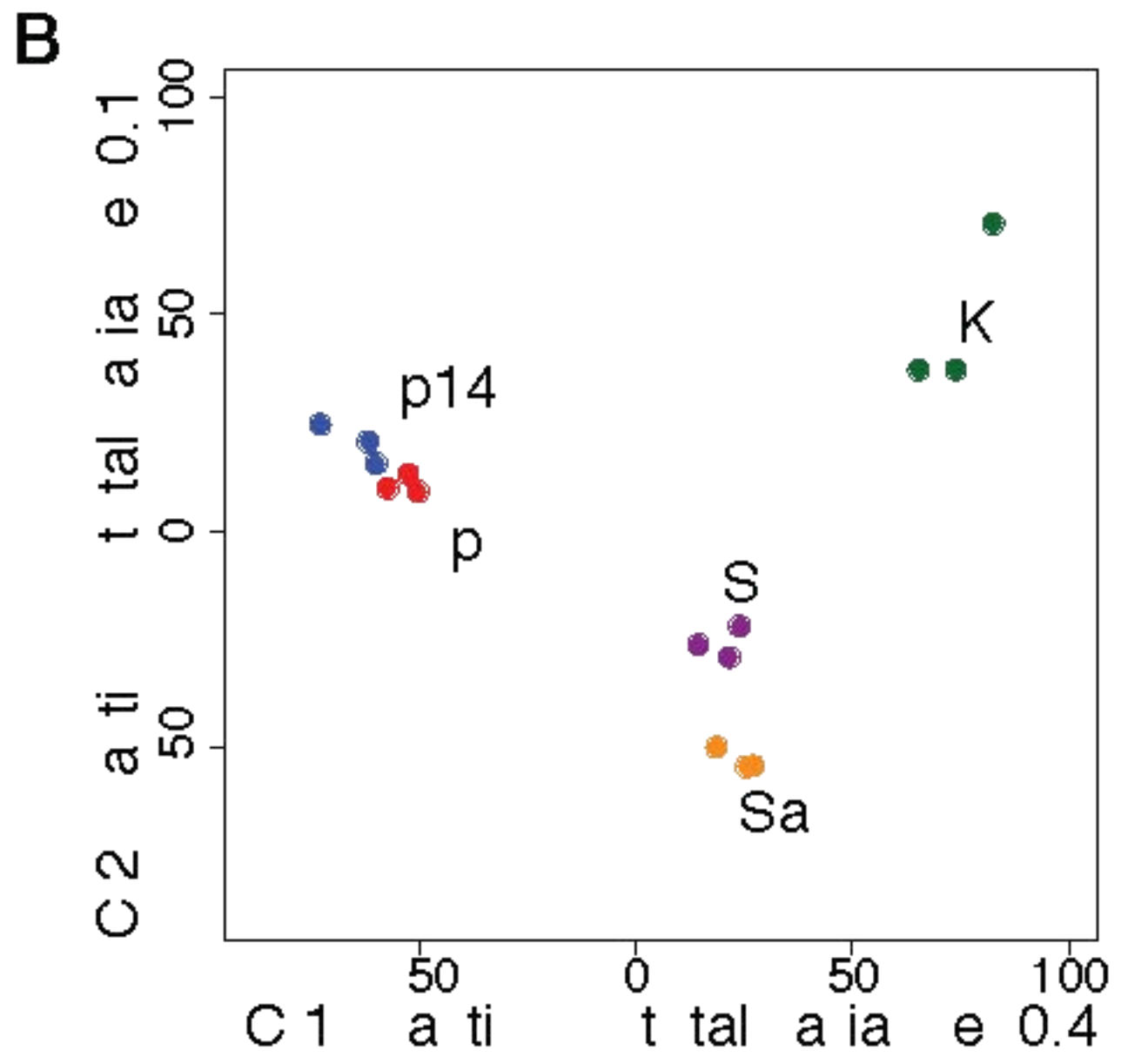
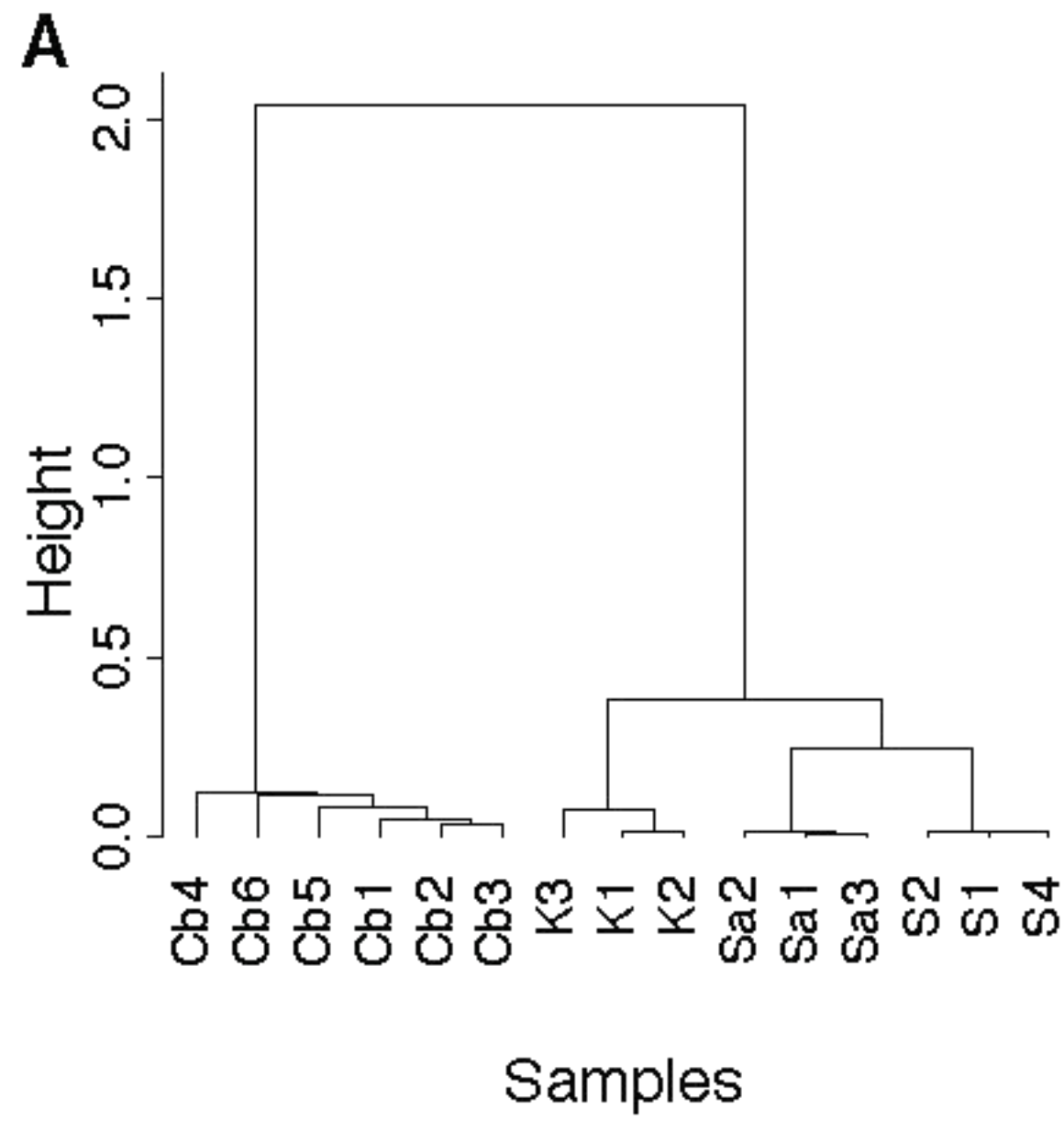


**A**

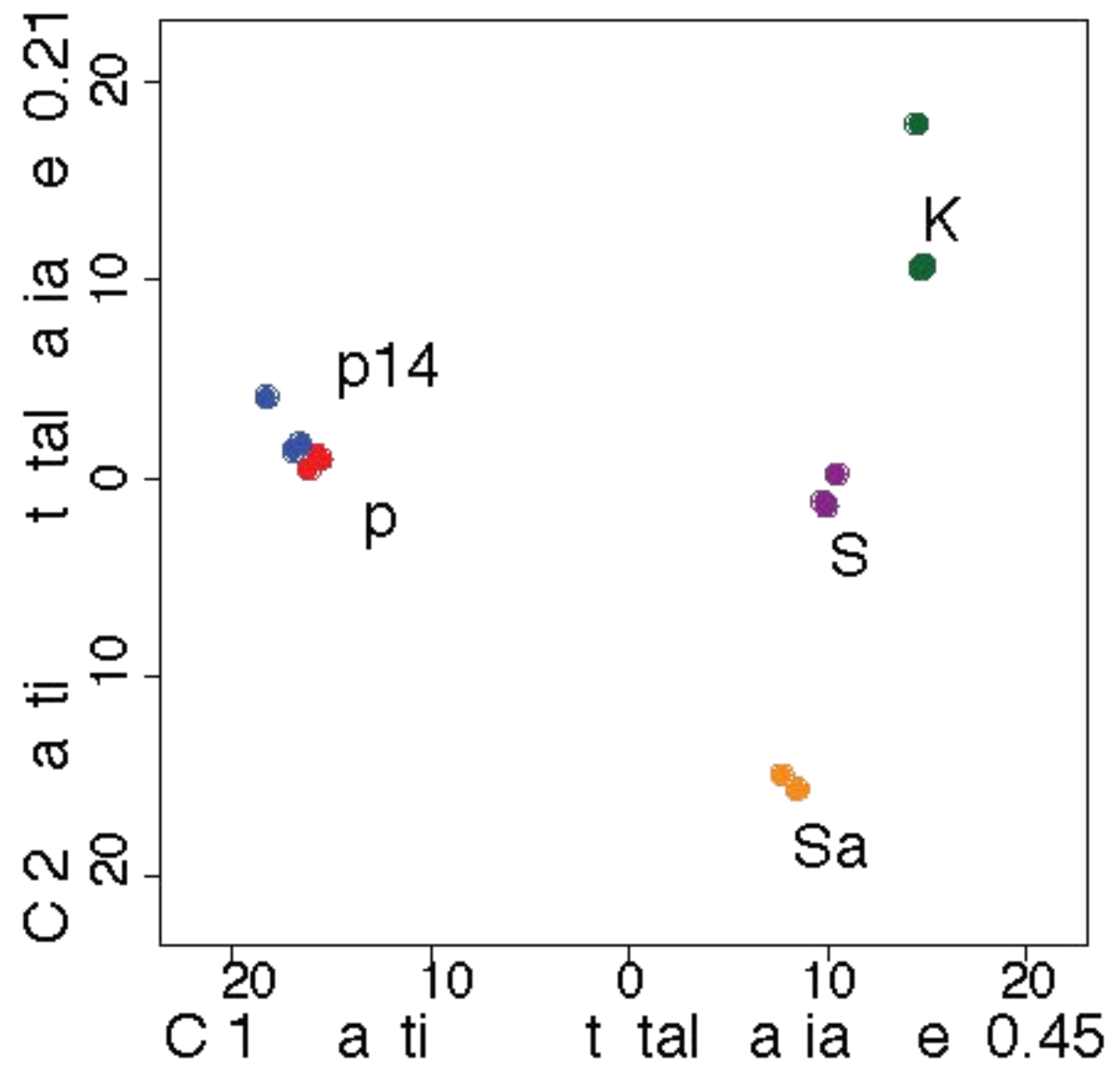
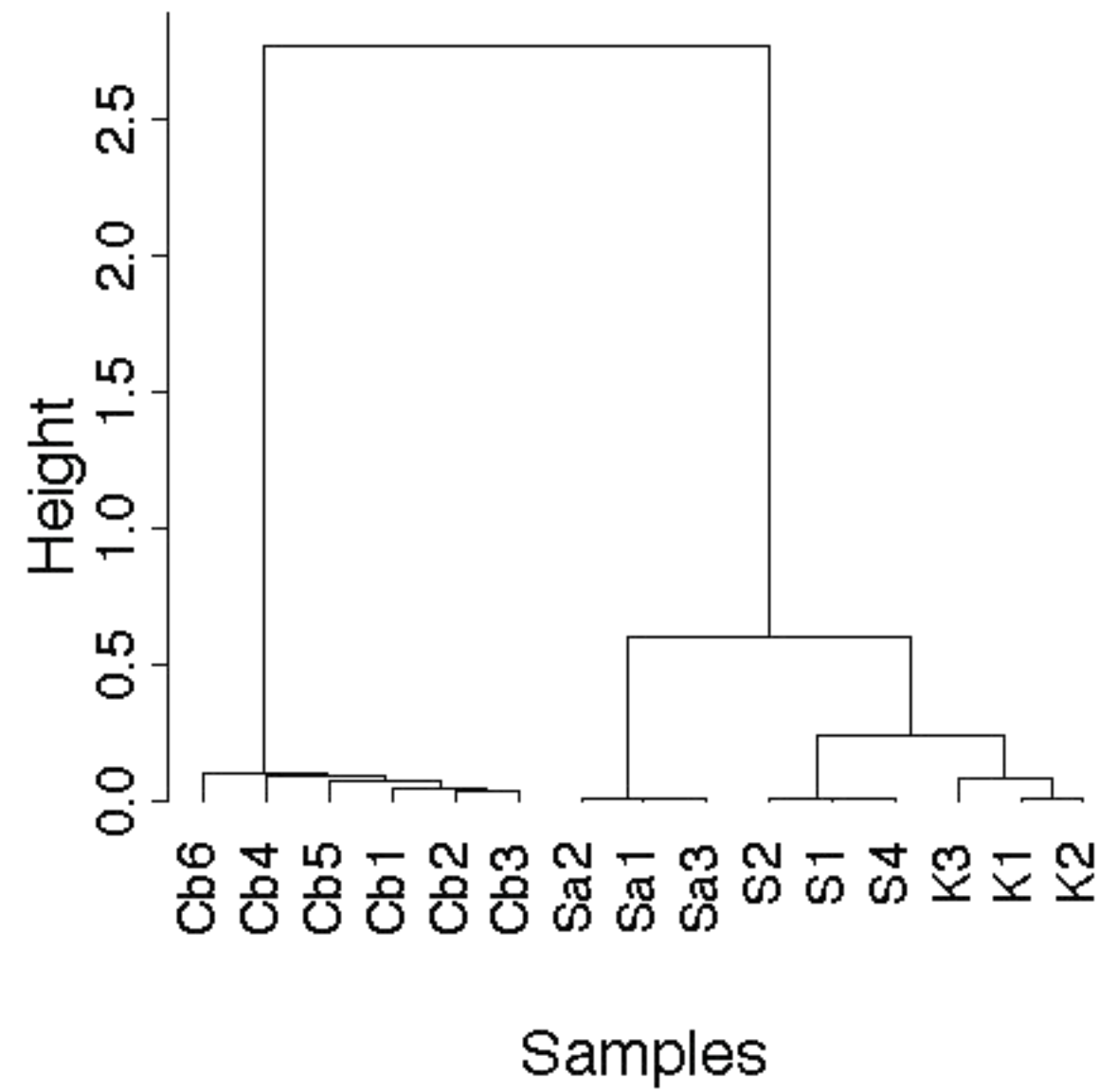
- Proteolytic activity
- Carbohydrate/cell wall metabolism
- Lipolytic activity
- CFEM-domain proteins
- Other

**B****C**

# Genome

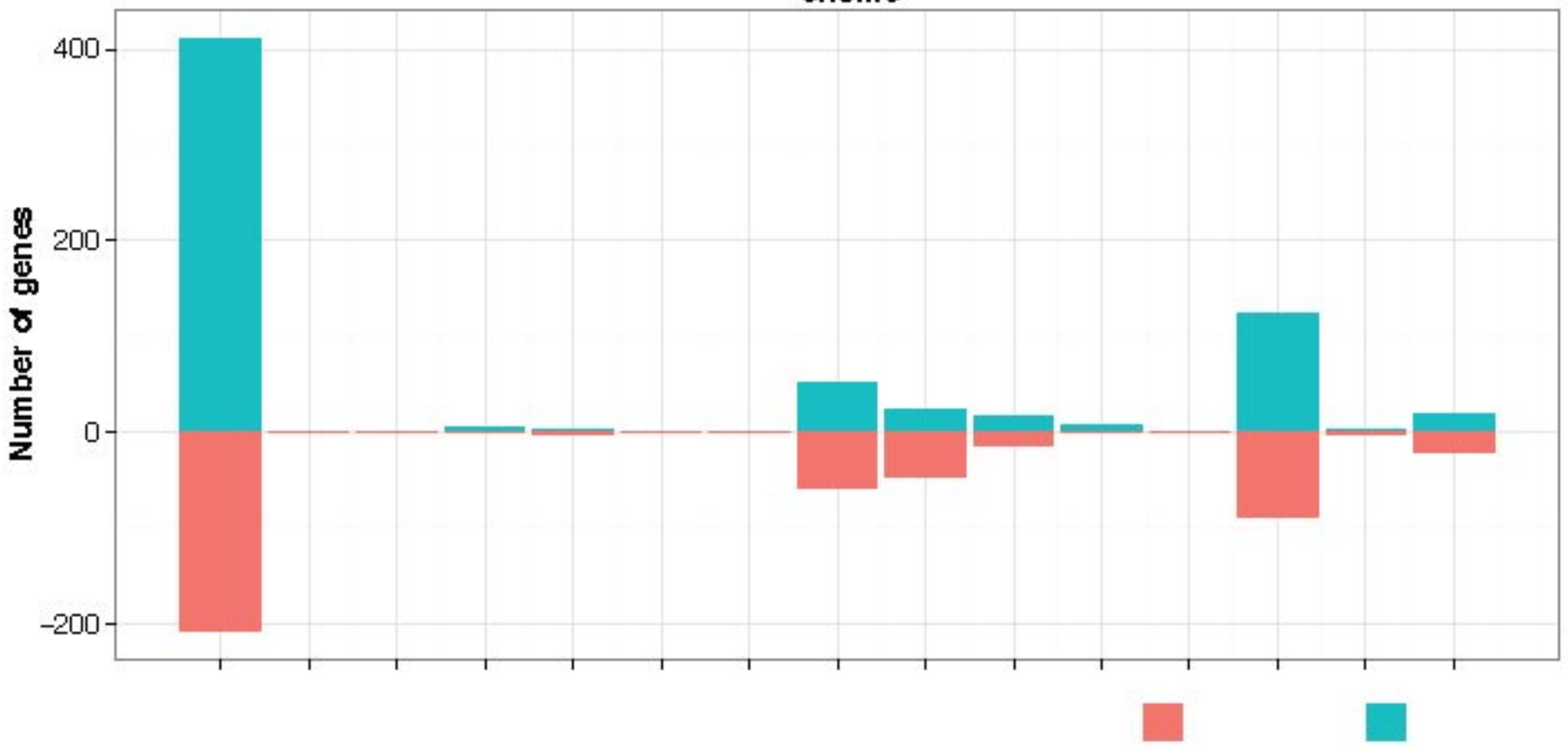


# e e ome

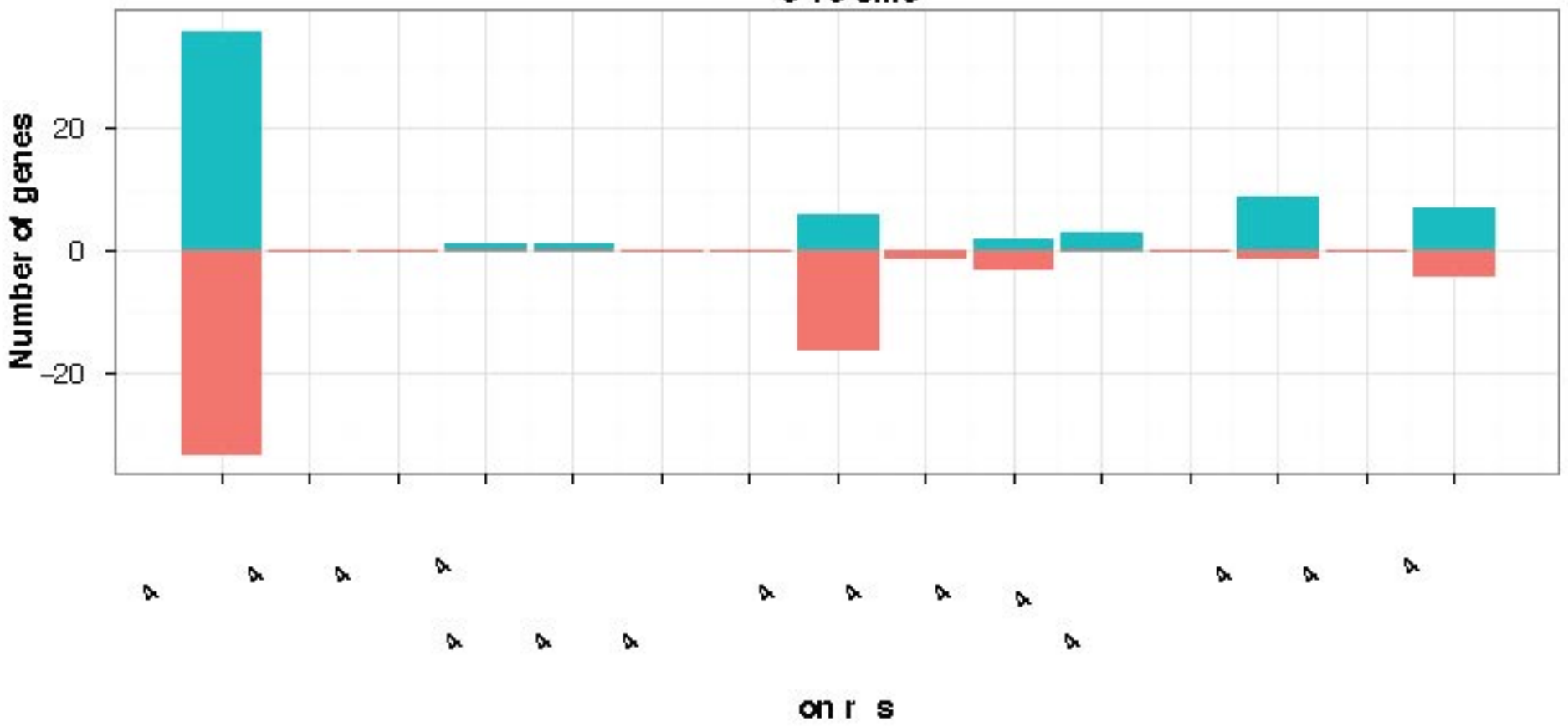




enome



e re ome



A

|   | Gp8     | Gp14    | K        | S       | Sa       |
|---|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Antigenic thaumatin-like protein : ARB_01183                              | 6131.2  | 7203.45 | 30.04    | 34.6    | 257.26   |
| <b>Subtilisin-like protease SUB6 (peptidase S8 family) : ARB_05307</b>    | 5036.99 | 2631.96 | 1.21     | 1.7     | 2.79     |
| Uncharacterized protein conserved in filamentous fungi : ARBNEW_231       | 4218.62 | 1752.17 | 0.34     | 0.1     | 1375.82  |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_03496                                       | 4021.16 | 3952.23 | 11.68    | 9.2     | 17.83    |
| GPI-anchored CFEM domain protein : ARB_02741                              | 3503.48 | 3821.21 | 14805.46 | 8079.51 | 2149.45  |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_05215_05217                                 | 3074.2  | 3499.98 | 41.92    | 107.17  | 215.76   |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_02803                                       | 3064.4  | 3092.76 | 7272.66  | 6071.91 | 10321.25 |
| Glycoside hydrolase : ARB_07954   | 2746.09 | 4707.54 | 163.59   | 866.05  | 2986.3   |
| GPI-anchored cell wall protein : ARB_01627                                | 2663.98 | 2756.38 | 2548.84  | 1539.09 | 2111.72  |
| GPI-anchored cell wall protein : ARB_02697                                | 2413.1  | 3204.93 | 1052.9   | 1075.17 | 1072.41  |
| Ribosomal protein-like : ARB_06463  | 2092.63 | 1674.07 | 827.51   | 2732.89 | 3796.79  |
| GPI anchored serine-threonine rich protein : ARB_07696                    | 1628.54 | 1424.67 | 3462.73  | 2765.99 | 7210.23  |
| 1,3-beta-glucanosyltransferase (glycosyl hydrolase 72 family) : ARB_07487 | 1464.52 | 1220.67 | 612.62   | 529.91  | 439.93   |
| GPI-anchored CFEM domain protein : ARB_01545                              | 1229.73 | 1192.05 | 41.93    | 331.29  | 352.46   |
| <b>Neutral protease 2 homolog (peptidase M35 family) : ARB_04336</b>      | 1156.36 | 1120.08 | 12.73    | 13.09   | 9.48     |
| 1,3-beta-glucanosyltransferase (glycosyl hydrolase 72 family) : ARB_05770 | 947.52  | 1298.82 | 461.92   | 368.72  | 411.9    |
| <b>Aspartic-type endopeptidase PEP2 (peptidase A1 family) : ARB_02919</b> | 843.45  | 970.31  | 691.09   | 1136.3  | 549.54   |
| Secreted lipase (type-B carboxylesterase family) : ARB_02369              | 828.2   | 291.04  | 1727.24  | 561.67  | 10.69    |
| <b>Subtilisin-like protease SUB10 (peptidase S8 family) : ARB_06467</b>   | 791.13  | 789.18  | 11.62    | 13.26   | 12.92    |
| PGA52-like protein (Asp f 4 homolog) : ARB_06390                          | 759.55  | 749.58  | 2380.81  | 1307.5  | 2003.33  |
| Sialidase : ARB_02206   | 692.21  | 1026.03 | 10.2     | 5.39    | 5.24     |
| Extracellular matrix protein : ARB_06538                                  | 669.18  | 911.13  | 193.05   | 281.04  | 699.93   |
| <b>Subtilisin-like protease SUB8 (peptidase S8 family) : ARB_00777</b>    | 642.2   | 682.55  | 188.06   | 669.86  | 437.99   |
| Putative stress-responsive protein : ARB_05496                            | 640.41  | 945.37  | 16.64    | 111.83  | 47.77    |
| NAD-dependent malate dehydrogenase : ARB_00653                            | 615.04  | 591.45  | 499.85   | 820.57  | 1216.75  |

B

|  | K        | Gp8     | Gp14    | S       | Sa       |
|--|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Extracellular serine-threonine rich protein : ARB_04464                                | 18998.65 | 257.33  | 202.32  | 8714.47 | 4491.1   |
| GPI-anchored CFEM domain-containing protein : ARB_02741                                | 14805.46 | 3503.48 | 3821.21 | 8079.51 | 2149.45  |
| <b>Subtilisin-like protease SUB3 (peptidase S8 family) : ARB_00701</b>                 | 14610.88 | 3.14    | 1.06    | 480.52  | 6.78     |
| GPI-anchored cupredoxin : ARB_05732-1  | 10424.52 | 1.49    | 0       | 5772.18 | 7327.84  |
| <b>Subtilisin-like protease SUB4 (peptidase S8 family) : ARB_01032</b>                 | 8947.14  | 13.79   | 2.88    | 2202.73 | 49.24    |
| <b>Uncharacterized protein : ARB_02803</b>   | 7272.66  | 3064.4  | 3092.76 | 6071.91 | 10321.25 |
| Uncharacterized protein also found in T. rubrum : ARBNEW_164                           | 6855.24  | 31.26   | 21.24   | 2399.47 | 901.77   |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_06477  | 4857.97  | 317.32  | 208.33  | 1119.65 | 894.74   |
| Extracellular proline-rich protein : ARB_00287   | 4151.91  | 19.38   | 16.72   | 2129.67 | 634.51   |
| GPI anchored serine-threonine rich protein : ARB_07696                                 | 3462.73  | 1628.54 | 1424.67 | 2765.99 | 7210.23  |
| Cell wall serine-threonine-rich galactomannoprotein : ARB_04561                        | 3214.38  | 93.86   | 31.1    | 1873.43 | 2727.56  |
| <b>Leucine aminopeptidase 1 LAP1 (peptidase M28 family) : ARB_03568</b>                | 3064.29  | 20.64   | 35.07   | 582.67  | 5.81     |
| Probable extracellular glycosidase : ARB_05253   | 2954.99  | 241.44  | 261.81  | 1050.91 | 1522.99  |
| GPI-anchored cell wall protein : ARB_01627   | 2548.84  | 2663.98 | 2756.38 | 1539.09 | 2111.72  |
| PGA52-like protein (Asp f 4 homolog) : ARB_06390                                       | 2380.81  | 759.55  | 749.58  | 1307.5  | 2003.33  |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_00449  | 2360.49  | 112.57  | 70.9    | 1119.05 | 1029.48  |
| Uncharacterized protein : ARB_06937  | 2279.82  | 15.62   | 38.19   | 1305.48 | 654.83   |
| <b>Metalloprotease MCPA (peptidase M14 family) : ARB_07026_07027</b>                   | 2133.1   | 44.96   | 35.41   | 282.48  | 5.12     |
| <b>Aspartic-type endopeptidase OPSB (peptidase A1 family) : ARB_04170</b>              | 2112.63  | 58.04   | 50.79   | 579.23  | 888.52   |
| Exo-beta-1,3-glucanase (glycosyl hydrolase 5 family) : ARB_04467                       | 1818.36  | 380.53  | 286.59  | 427.51  | 86.85    |
| <b>Extracellular metalloprotease (peptidase M43B family) : ARB_05317</b>               | 1796.25  | 80.29   | 59.69   | 470.8   | 6.88     |
| <b>Leucine aminopeptidase 2 LAP2 (peptidase M28 family) : ARB_00494</b>                | 1792.08  | 37.5    | 32.86   | 2387.84 | 36.43    |
| Secreted lipase (type-B carboxylesterase family) : ARB_02369                           | 1727.24  | 828.2   | 291.04  | 561.67  | 10.69    |
| GPI anchored serine-rich protein : ARB_05667   | 1394.28  | 575.78  | 479.78  | 1935.09 | 3152.56  |
| <b>Extracellular metalloprotease/fungalsin MEP3 (peptidase M36 family) : ARB_05085</b> | 1370.48  | 1.75    | 1.21    | 34.71   | 6.55     |