Markers for resistance to white spot syndrome virus in black tiger shrimp (P. monodon) and correspondence to cSNPs in white shrimp (L. vannamei)

White spot syndrome virus disease

• Worldwide problem limiting shrimp aquaculture
• Causes 100% mortality in 7-10 days
• Many epizootic outbreaks in India
• 60% wild caught gravid females infected
• No effective prevention, vaccination or treatment
• Few genetic resources
Genes affecting WSSV resistance in shrimp?

- Many genes of small & large effect (quantitative trait)
- Shrimp show a limited adaptive immune response (eg. lack immunoglobulin, T-cell receptor and MHC loci)
- Innate immune system likely to be important
Aim

- Find gene markers in *P. monodon* that can be used to
  - Breed shrimp with high resistance to WSSV
- Improve knowledge of genes affecting resistance to disease in shrimp
Latest sequencing technology to find variation in the genome

Gene expression

Gene
RNA
Protein

Transcription

Code (sequence)
Copy number (level of expression)

Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP)
Mapping SNPs associated with WSSV resistance

- Expressed genome of *P. monodon* sequenced
- High density gene linkage map for *P. monodon* (~4000 markers, 44 linkage groups)
- Seven families (~200 full-sibs per family) sexed & challenge tested with WSSV (intramuscular injection)
- 1024 progeny genotyped (most susceptible and resistant 40 percentiles of progeny in terms of hrs survival)
Analysis- WSSV resistance

- Trait- Continuous (hrs survival)
- LA (GridQTL) & GWAS (GenAbel & PLINK)
- Threshold for calling association a QTL
  - Bonferroni correction → Benjamini Hochberg q-value ~ 0.98

Overview of findings

- Significant associations with WSSV resistance found on several linkage groups
  - Many map near genes with putative innate immune function
- Sex determining region identified
WSSV resistance on LG 17

\[ P < 0.01 \text{ (genome-wide)} \]

\[ P < 0.05 \text{ (chromosome-wide)} \]
Mitogen activated protein kinase

LG 17

- MAP kinases → regulate interleukin-1 expression (role in host defence & immune response). Direct cellular response to stimuli (including viral infections)
• Lectins → immune recognition & micro-organism phagocytosis in crustaceans

• *P. monodon* surviving more than 84hrs post-WSSV infection have higher haemocyte expression of c-type lectin

• Lectin more highly expressed in hepatopancreas of resistant *L. vannamei* and resistant *P. japonicas* than more susceptible shrimp
GridQTL positions locus for sex at 45 cM on LG 30
• 15 SNP loci (all on LG30) significantly associated with gender \((P<0.01)\)

• Three SNPs of highest significance map to a small (0.8cM long) region of this LG

• Mapping to this 0.8cM long stretch is FEM-1 homolog

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Feminization-1 (Fem-1)

- Known signal transducing regulator affecting sex determination in nematodes
- FEM-1, FEM-2 and FEM-3 form a complex which promotes proteolysis of the male-repressing transcription factor TRA-1

Strong candidate for effect on sex-determination!
Do the same genes affecting WSSV resistance in monodon affect WSSV resistance in vannamei?
Choice of *L. vannamei* SNPs for genotyping

Expressed genome naïve Columbian *L. vannamei*
- Gill, pleopod & muscle
- 50 Pacific (selected 3 gens for WSSV resistance)
- 50 Atlantic (3 gens GR & TSV resistance) lines

172 homologous *vannamei* contigs identified, 2805 SNPs

Gene contigs mapping to QTL regions (370 total)

Filter SNPs
- 100 bases each side
- >5 X coverage
- MAF >0.2

168 *vannamei* contigs containing 1990 SNPs

SNPs found in 10 *vannamei* contigs with homology to *monodon* contigs of significance (+22 genes with putative immune or sex-determining function mapping to QTL regions)

P. monodon
Plan for *L. vannamei* QTL scan

- Challenge ~30 families with WSSV
- Record hrs survival and sex
- Genotype upper and lower percentiles (hrs survival) for ~ 50 SNPs
Summary

• Scanned *P. monodon* genome & found gene markers associated with WSSV resistance & sex determination
  → Tests for genomic or marker assisted selection to increase disease resistance in selective breeding programs
  → Possibility to produce an all female crop
  → Leads about genes and pathways involved in affecting these traits in shrimp
  → Follow up work in *L. vannamei* underway
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