Natural variation, hybrids and clones: opportunities and challenges for *Eucalyptus* applied genomics

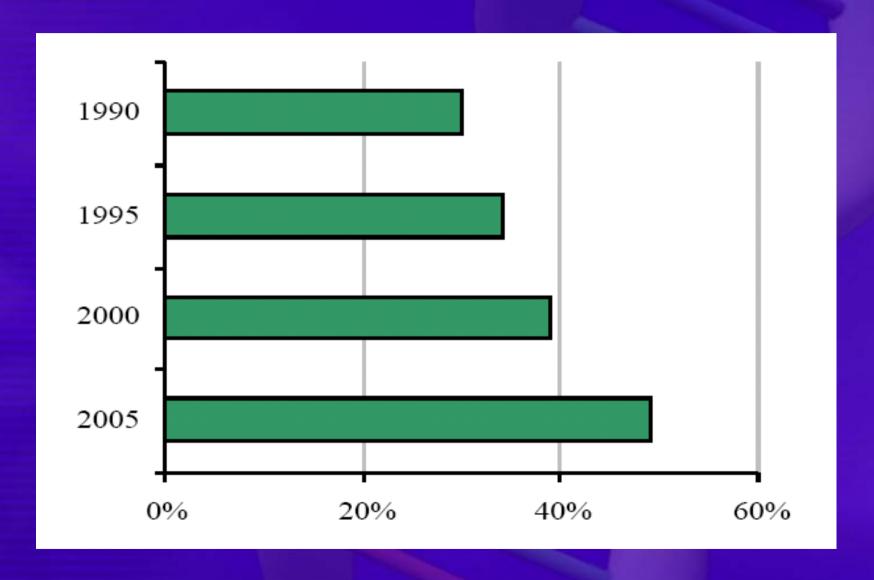




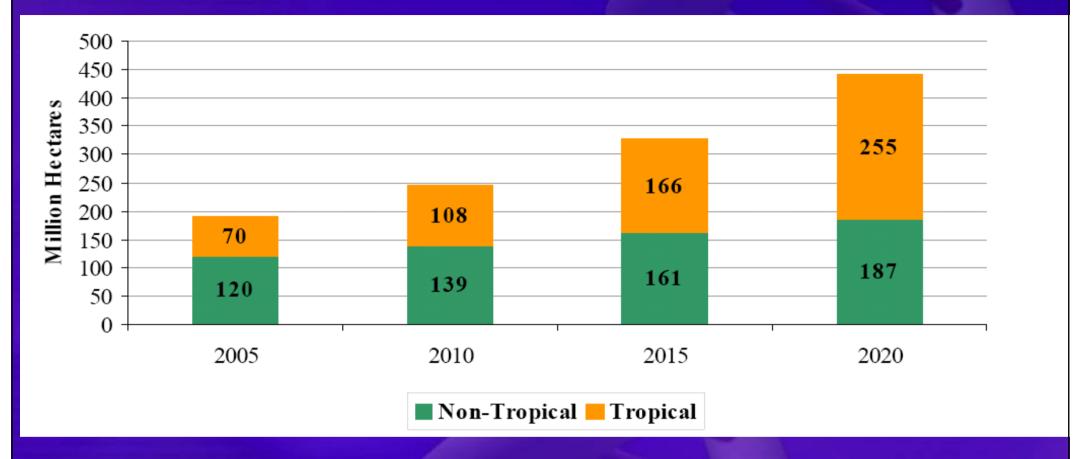
Dario Grattapaglia

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- ✓ Genomic Sciences Program Universidade Católica de Brasília

Share of *Eucalyptus* in the international trade of short fiber wood pulp



Projected world forest plantation area



- Eucalyptus is currently the most productive and main planted species in the tropics
- Key species for pulp, potential for solid wood and growing productivities and quality
- ✓ By 2020 Eucalyptus pulp will have over 60% of the international trade of short fibre pulp
- Also eucalyptus logs from plantations will have a larger share in the sawnwood and plywood industry, and will take market shares of tropical timber from natural forests

Eucalyptus industrial forests in Brazil

- Fast growing eucalypt forests
 - ✓ ~4 million hectares, 40% of the intensively world planted Eucalyptus area
 - ✓ Main supplier of woody biomass with specific wood properties for several industrial activities (pulp and paper, steel, solid wood products)
 - Main competitiveness factors:
 - ✓ Genetic material: adaptability and variability
 - Advanced breeding programs for wood quality
 - Clonal forests high selection intensity
 - Silvicultural practices
 - Growing critical mass in R&D both in industries and universities

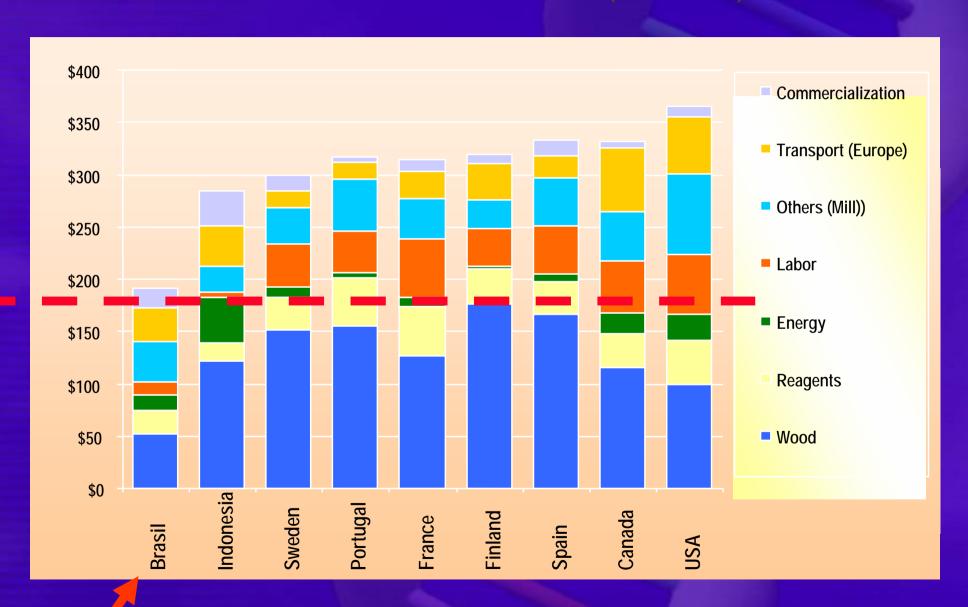
Forest based industrial products in Brazil

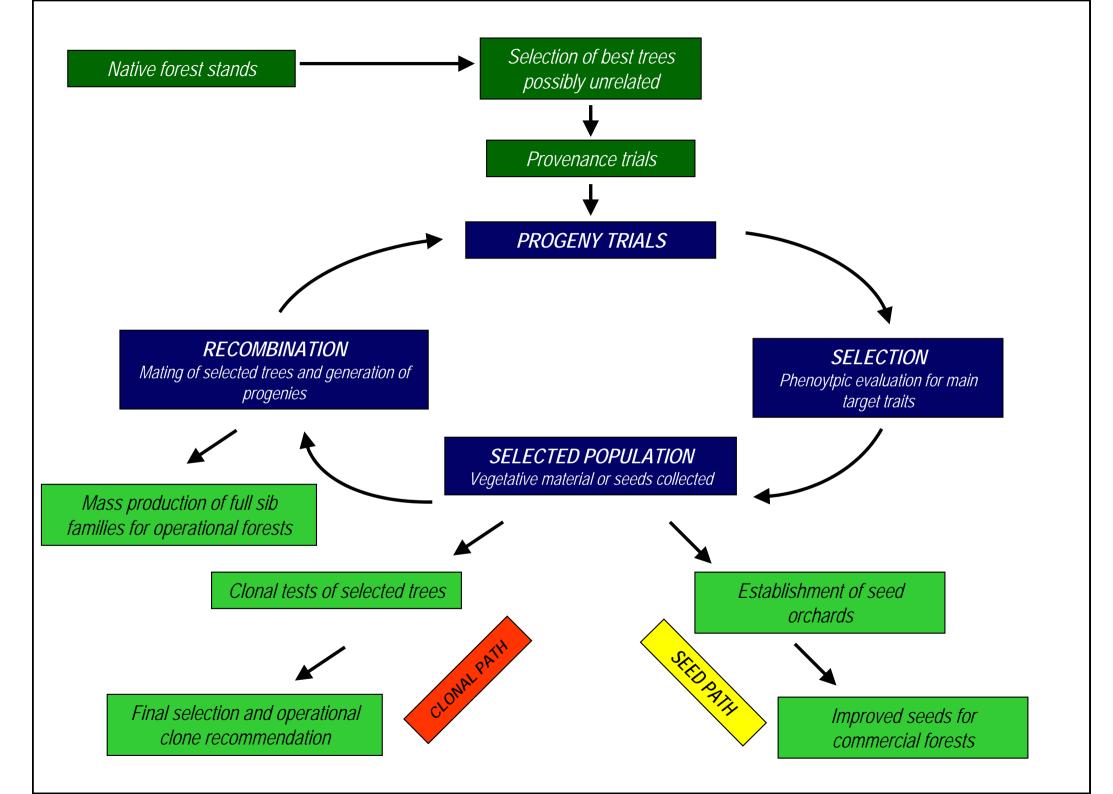
Product	UN	Production	Domestic	Sou	
	1000		Consumption	Planted ⁽¹⁾	Native ⁽²⁾
Pulp	t	8.020	5.020	100%	-
Paper	t	7.800	6.879	100%	•
Charcoal	mdc	26.200	26.200	68%	32%
Sawnwood	m³	22.300	20.000	35%	65%
Plywood	m³	2.600	900	60%	40%
MDF	m³	845	716	100%	_
Particle Board	m³	1.800	1.800	100%	-
OSB	m³	90	80	100%	-
Fiberboard	m³	507	295	100%	-
EGP	m³	285	220	100%	-
Mouldings	m³	490	50	40%	60%
Doors	um	6.300	4.700	70%	30%
Floors	M²	22,50	15,20	50%	50%
Blocks / Blanks	m³	430	360	100%	-

⁽¹⁾ Industrial roundwood: 110 millions m³

⁽²⁾ Industrial roundwood: 66 millions m^s

Production and commercialization costs of short fiber pulp in several countries in 2002 (US\$/ton)





The tree is the real pulp mill

- ✓ Increased forest productivity: m³ wood/hectare/year
- Combination of large wood volume per hectare with low specific consumption of wood per ton of pulp: reduced industrial costs
- ✓ Breeding is key to competitiveness
- ✓ Genomics will be one more tool available to the breeder

Economic value of volume growth x pulp yield in Eucalyptus

- Wood density and pulp yield are highly correlated
- Wood density and pulp yield are 3X more important than volume growth in the final cost of cellulose pulp
- ✓ Gains of 10% in wood specific consumption (ex. reducing from 3.6 to 3.24 m³/ton pulp) corresponds to a gain of 30% in volume growth (ex. going from 35 to 50 m³/ha/yr)
- ✓ Gains are made along the whole production chain (harvesting, transportation, yearly mill efficiency etc.) as these make up 2/3 of the final cost of pulp production

Interspecific variation for wood quality traits in *Eucalyptus*

ESPÉCIE	AMI m³/ha/ ano	PULP YIELD (%)	DENS (g/cm ³)	S5 (%)	SPEC. CONS. (m³/ton)	LIGNIN (%)
E. grandis	42	50	0,42	10	4,7	25,5
E. tereticornis	25	46	0,56	9	3,8	30
E.saligna	36	49	0,46	9	4,4	26
E. urophylla	30	49	0,48	11	4,2	28
E. globulus	25	54	0,55	15	3,3	22

Eucalyptus globulus: Paradigm of wood quality for pulp

- Best combination of wood properties for pulp and paper
- ✓ Requires ~25% less wood per ton of cellulose
 - ✓ E. grandis: 3.89 m³/ton of cellulose
 - √E. globulus: 2.93 m³/ton of cellulose
- Longer and thicker fiber
- Larger holocellulose content
- Better fiber flexibility
- **✓ Basic density around 550 kg/m³**
- Requires less energy in the industrial process
- Better fiber preservation during the pulping process

Wood properties and adaptation to the tropics

- √ E. globulus is adapted to latitudes below 33°S and clearly unadapted to less than 28°S
- ✓ Evidences exist that wood anatomy co-evolves with latitude and tropicality in response to high demands of transpiration and possibly disease resistance (e.g., Jansen, et al., 2004; Noshiro, and Baas, 2000); Swenson and Enquist 2007),
- This variation seems to be related mostly to vessel structure and less to fibers, the most relevant elements to wood quality
- ✓ Good perspectives of introgressing the exceptional wood traits of E. globulus into tropical Eucs



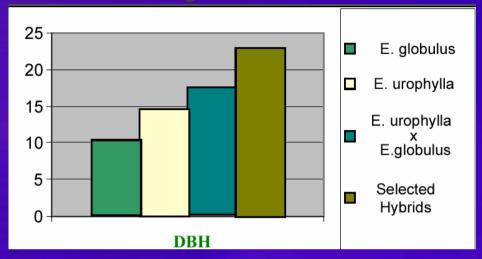
Introgressing *E. globulus* genes into tropical *Eucalyptus:* gene action for wood traits is mostly additive

60,0

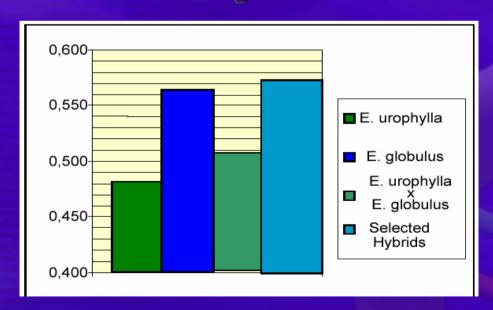
55.0

50.0

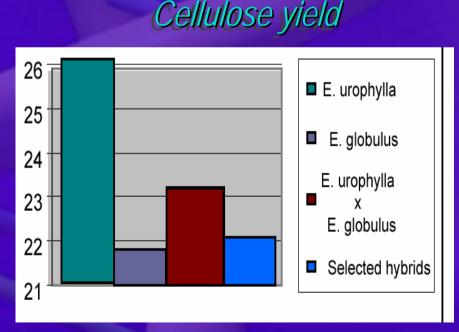
45,0



Volume growth



40,0



E. urophylla

E. globulus

E. urophylla

Selected

Hvbrids

E. globulus

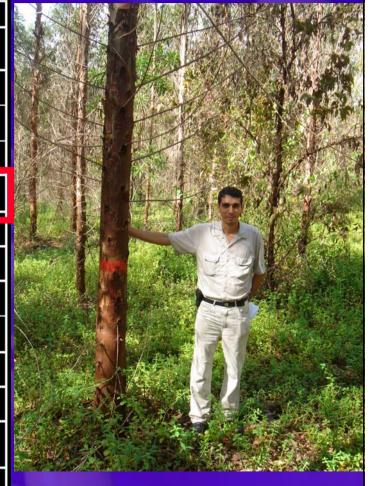
Total lignin content

Wood specific gravity

Data from Teotônio F. De Assis Klabin , 2003

PERFORMANCE OF SOME OF THE FIRST GENERATION E. globulus TROPICAL HYBRID CLONES

E. globulus hybrids							
CLONE	DENS. Kg/m³	P.Y. %	Sp. Cons. m³/tsa	Ss %	Visc. cm/g	LIG. %	
8067	606	55,7	2,96	13,5	1040	22,3	
8064	561	56,6	3,15	12,8	1070	22,2	
8084	594	54.7	3.08	14.3	1110	22.7	
8063	574	57,5	3,02	13,2	1020	21,0	
8009	584	56,5	3,06	15,1	1120	21,4	
8047	600	55,8	2,98	14,3	1020	21,4	
8095	602	55,3	3,10	12,8	1000	23,6	
8056	565	55,0	3,21	14,6	1020	22,2	
8057	628	55,2	2,88	13,7	1010	22,3	
8046	582	55,4	3,10	14,1	1030	21,8	
Average	590	55,6	3,05	13,8	1040	22,7	
E. globulus	550	54	3,3	15	1100	22	



E. urophylla x E. globulus hybrid in Minas Gerais – Cenibra 2006

Data from Teotônio F. De Assis – Klabin 2003

GRANDIS X GLOBULUS WHY ARE THEY SO DIFFERENT ??

- Contrasting species are genetically and genomically very close, can be easily interbred and generate fertile intermediate hybrids
- What are the genetic and molecular bases of the observed phenotypic differences
 - Differences in coding regions: enzymes?
 - Differences in regulatory elements: cis, trans, microRNA?
 - By understanding these differences it should be possible to exploit the natural variation in a more directed way through both molecular and conventional breeding

Large scale phenotyping in segregating populations

Genetic map of transferable markers and QTLs

High resolution genetic map (SNPs)

Minimum tiling path physical map (BAC *Fingerprinting*)

Identification and validation of target genes

Genetic mapping of candidate genes

Association mapping (whole genome scan, candidate genes)

Full genome sequence assembly

assembly

< 1.0 cM ~ 10 cM ~ 500 a Cross 1000 kpb validated QTL LOD >>3,0

Forward genomics approach from phenotypes to genes

Functional tests by transformation (complementation, superexpression, interference)

GENOLYPTUS forward genomics strategy:

from phenotypes to genotypes

Growth, flowering

FIELD EXPERIMENTS

- 22 connected full sib families amongst divergent trees
- ✓ Large progeny sizes (> 1200) individuals)
- Several genetic backgrounds and locations.

PHYSICAL MAPPING

- ✓ BAC library
- Anchoring with genetic map
- ✓ BAC shotgun sequencing
- ✓ Full gene identification
- New microsats development

WOOD PROPERTIES

PHENOTYPES

LINKAGE AND ASSOCIATION MAPPING

QTL & candidate genes

GENES & LINKED
MARKERS

Disease resistance

GENE DISCOVERY

- Several cDNA libraries
- ✓ EST sequencing
- Bioinformatics: data mininig
- ✓ Microarrays
- ✓ Candidate gene mapping -SFP

OTIL MAPPING

- Genetic map construction in multiple families
- ✓ Genome scan with 200+
 microsats in multiplexes
 - **QTL** detection & validation

Mating design used to generate segregating families to understand wood properties and adaptation and map QTLs

	E. grandis Atherton Aracruz	<i>E. urophylla</i> Timor Cenibra	<i>E. globulus</i> K-Riocell	<i>E. dunni</i> K-Riocell	E.camaldulensis V-Mannsmann	E. uro. x E. glob. K-Riocell
E. grandis Coffs Harb. VCP	G1 x G2 (est. VCP x pól. AR)	G1 x U2 (est. VCP x pól. CE)	G1 x GL2 (est. VCP x pól. K-R)	G1 x D2 (est. VCP x pól. K-R)		G1 x (UxGL) (est. VCP x pól. K R)
E. urophylla	U1 x G2	U1 x U2	U1 x GL2	U1 x D2	U1 x C2	U1 x (UxGL)
(Flores) IP	(est. IP x pól. AR)	(est. IP x pól. CE)	(est. IP x pól. K-R)	(est. IP x pól. K-R)	(est. IP x pól. V-M)	(est. IP x pól. K-R)
E. globulus K-Riocell	G2 x GL1 (est. AR x pol. K-R)	U2 x GL1 (est. CE x pól. K-R)			C2 x GL1 (est. V-M x pól. K-R)	
<i>E. dunni</i>	D1 x G2	D1 x U2	D1 x GL2	D1 x D2		D1 x (UxGL)
Rigesa	(est. RG x pól. AR)	(est. RG x pól. CE)	(est. RG x pól. K-R)	(est. RG x pól. K-R)		(est. RG x pól. K-R)
E. camaldulensis	G2 x C1	U2 x C1	C1 x GL2	C1 x D2	C1 x C2	C1 x (UxGL)
V-Mannesmann	(est. AR x pól. V-M)	(est. CE x pól. V-M)	(est. V-M x pól. K-R)	(est. V-M x pól. K-R)	(est. V-M x pól. V-M)	(est. V-M x pól. K-R)
E. gran. x E. dunni	(GxD) x G2	(GxD) x U2	(GxD) x GL2	(GxD) x D2	(GxD) x C2	(GxD) x (UxGL)
K-Riocell	(est. K-R x pól. AR)	(est. K-R x pól. CE)	(est. K-R x pól. K-R)	(est. K-R x pól. K-R)	(est. K-R x pól. V-M)	(est. K-R x pól. K-R)

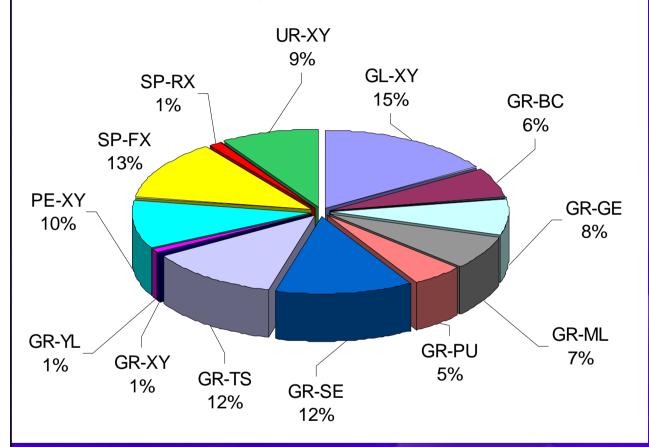


Crosses made with elite parents from different companies

Field experiment network of the GENOLYPTUS project: planted in 07-10/2003

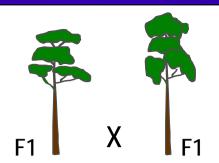


Genolyptus libraries



GENOLYPTUS EST database

- ✓ 4 species
- ✓ 11 libraries
- ✓ 124,851 reads
- ✓ 21,442 consensi

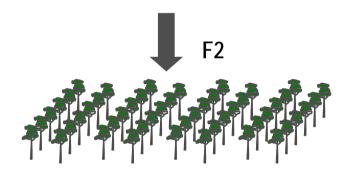


MAS STAGE

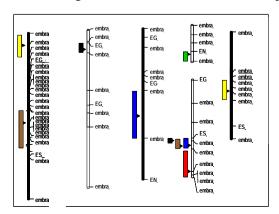
2TL mapping information to be used in MAS

Mating between plus hybrid trees to maximize segregation for several traits in the outbred F2

QTL MAPPING STAGE



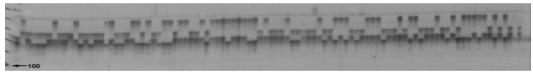
QTL mapping for wood properties traits such as lignin, fiber and wood density



F2

Deployment of a large number (> 1000) of F2 progeny individuals to maximize probability of generating a recombinant individual with a superior multiple QTL allele content



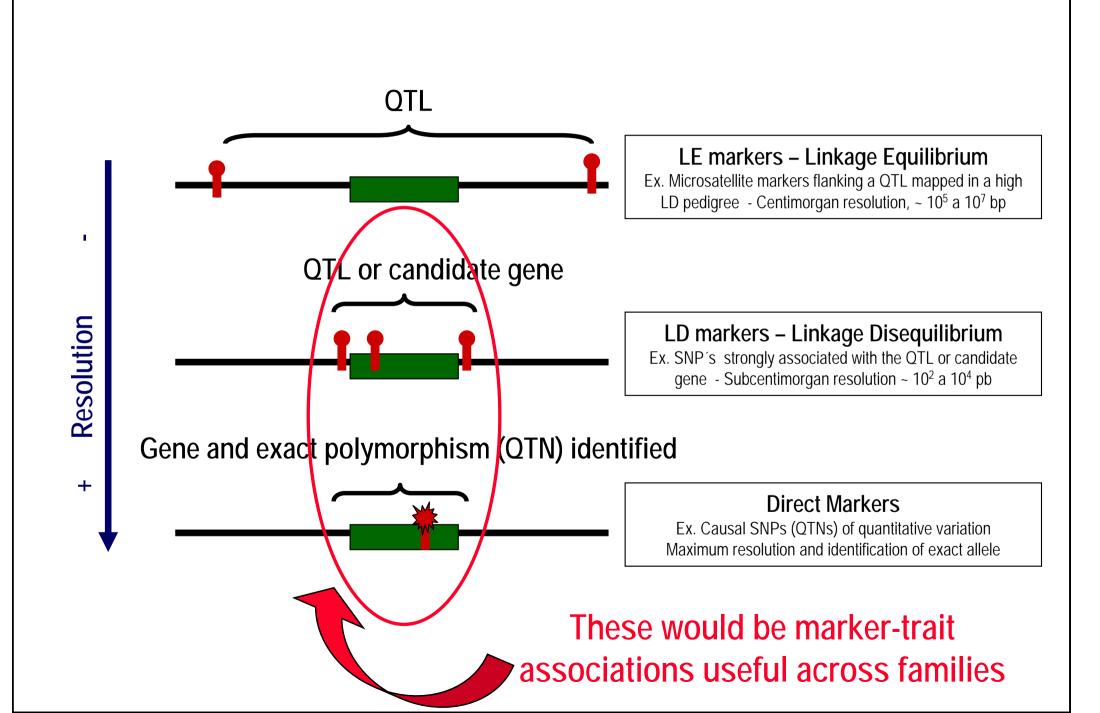


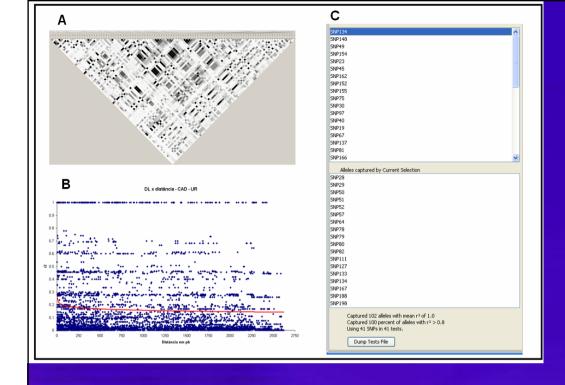
Genotyping > 1000 seedlings with a small (~ 6 to 10) set of flanking markers for a targeted number of QTL for wood quality traits

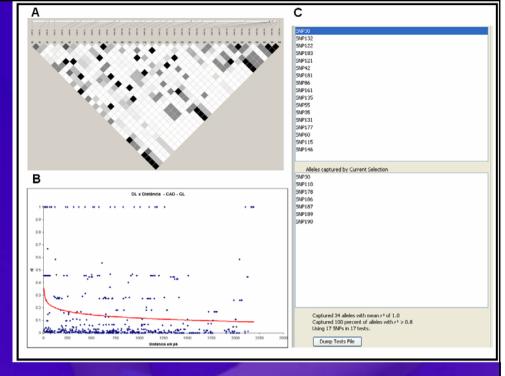


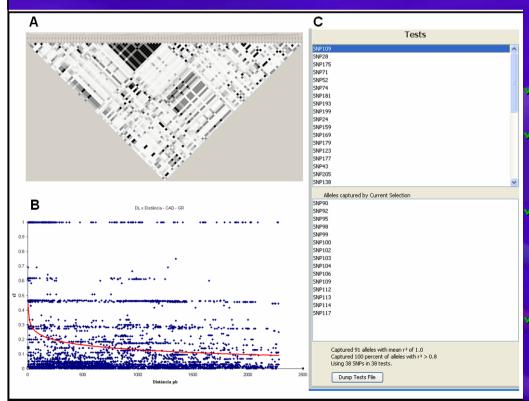
Early marker assisted selection. Selection intensity is increased by MAS for late expressing traits but number of trees commonly deployed in progeny (~100) test is kept the same, thus allowing large variation to select for other traits such as volume growth, form and branching habit.











Linkage disequilibrium in the CAD gene in three *Eucalyptus* species

- \checkmark LD: very rapid decay, < 500 bp
- MUCLEOTIDE DIVERSITY: very high, 1 SNP every 70 to 100 bp in coding regions
- TAG SNPs: very little redundancy still lots of tagSNPs needed to cature all the haplotype variation
- SNP VARIATION: SNPs vary widely across species

Danielle Faria 2007

Association mapping approaches

- WHOLE GENOME SCAN
 - How many markers do we need?
- **CANDIDATE GENE BASED**
 - How good are the candidate genes?

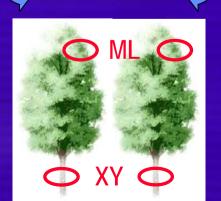
GENOLYPTUS microarray base experiment

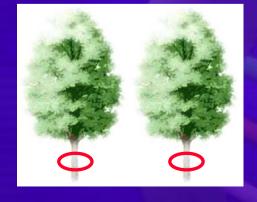
Eucalyptus grandis (GR)

- Fast growth
- High adaptability
- High lignin
- Low cellulose yield







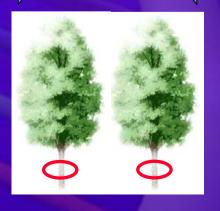


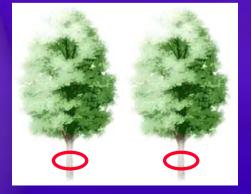
Eucalyptus globulus (GL)

- Slow growth
- Low adaptability in the tropics
- Low lignin
- High cellulose yield

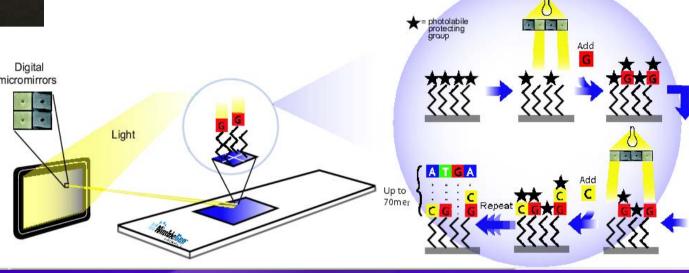












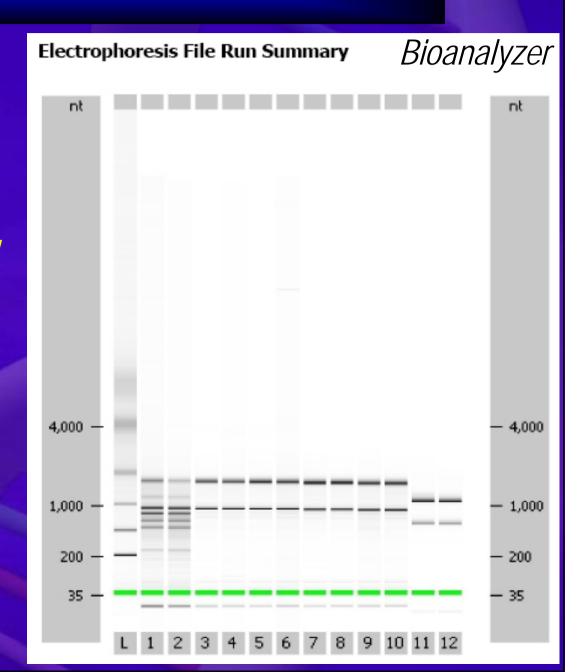
50 n

- ~ 800 bp EST contig
 - Each probe synthesized twice on chipRandomized distribution of probes onto the chip

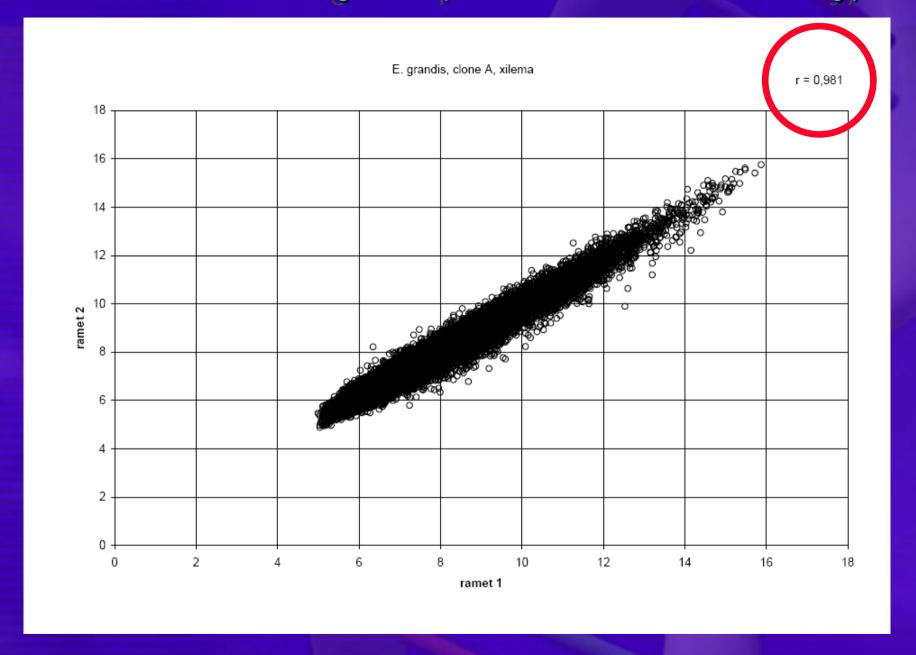
GENOLYPTUS microarray base experiment

NimbleGen Systems, Inc. Reykjavik, Iceland

- "On-chip" probe synthesis 50mer
- Up to 9 probes per unigene contig
- Replicated probes (2X)
- 21,442 sequences ("unigene")
- 385,856 features per chip
- 10 identical chips
- Cy3-labelled cDNA synthesis
- Hybridization
- Washing
- Scanning
- Data collection and normalization

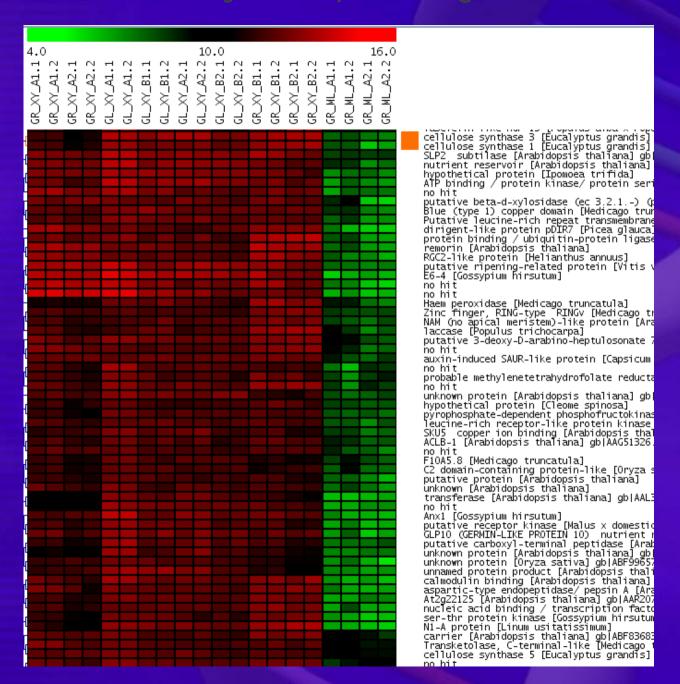


Variation between biological replicates of the same *Eucalyptus* tree

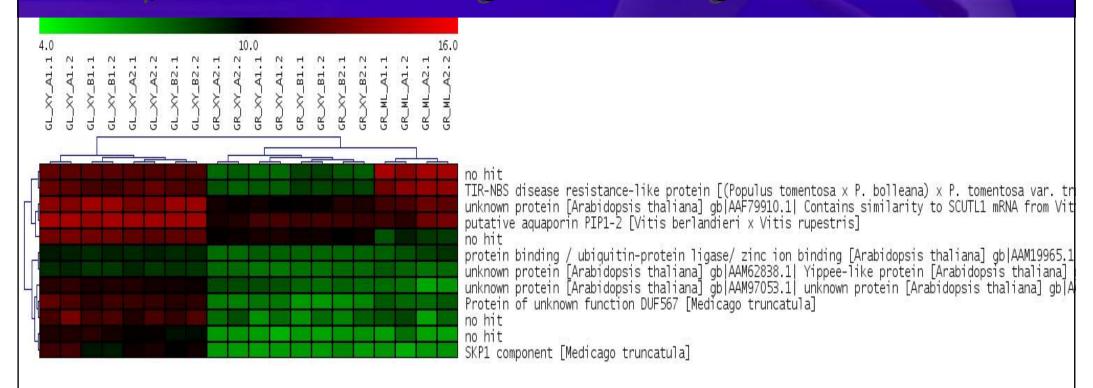


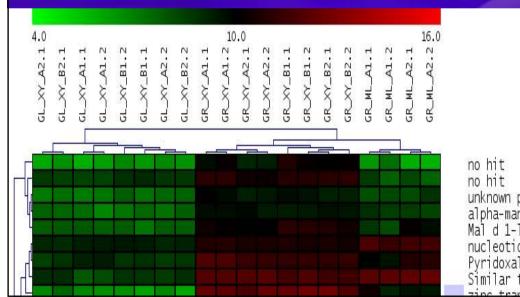
At alpha=0.01 no gene showed significant difference in expression between the two biological replicates

Xylem specific genes



Interspecific variation: E. globulus x E. grandis

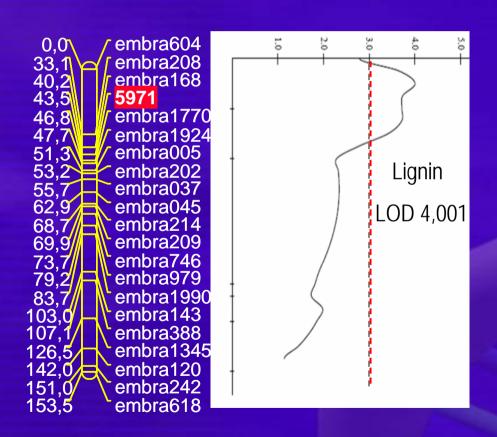


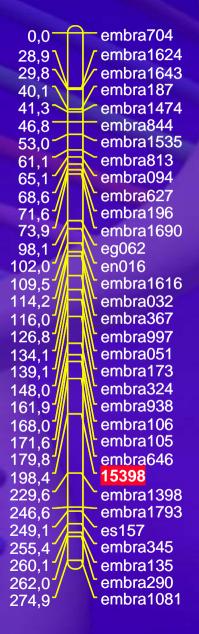


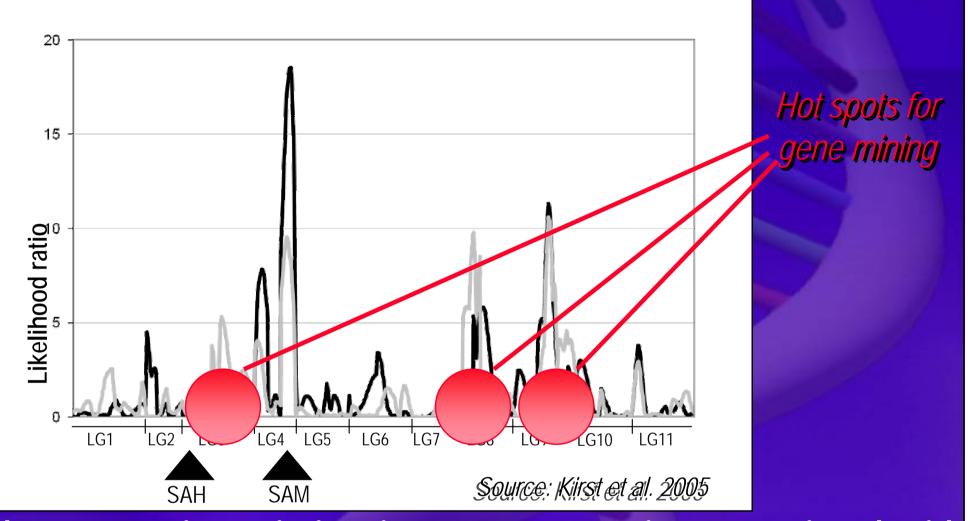
unknown protein [Arabidopsis thaliana] gb|AAD10685.1| Hypothetical protein [Arabidopsis thaliana] alpha-mannosidase [Arabidopsis thaliana] gb|AAM47314.1| AT3g26720/MLJ15_12 [Arabidopsis thaliana] Mal d 1-like [Malus x domestica]

nucleotide binding [Arabidopsis thaliana] gb|AAL47352.1| WD-repeat protein-like [Arabidopsis thali Pyridoxal phosphate biosynthetic protein pdxA [Rhizobium sp. NGR234] Similar to gb|X84260 POS5 gene product from Saccharomyces cerevisiae. EST gb|W43879 comes from thi

Co-location of differentially expressed genes (*E. grandis x E. globulus*) with OTLs







To what extent is variation in gene expression associated with variation in complex traits at the phenotypic level?

QTL mapping experiments are now being expanded to expression QTL mapping experiments to provide a global analysis of *cis* and *trans* eQTLs and identify candidate genes for complex traits

Single Feature Polymorphism pseudo-testcross screening

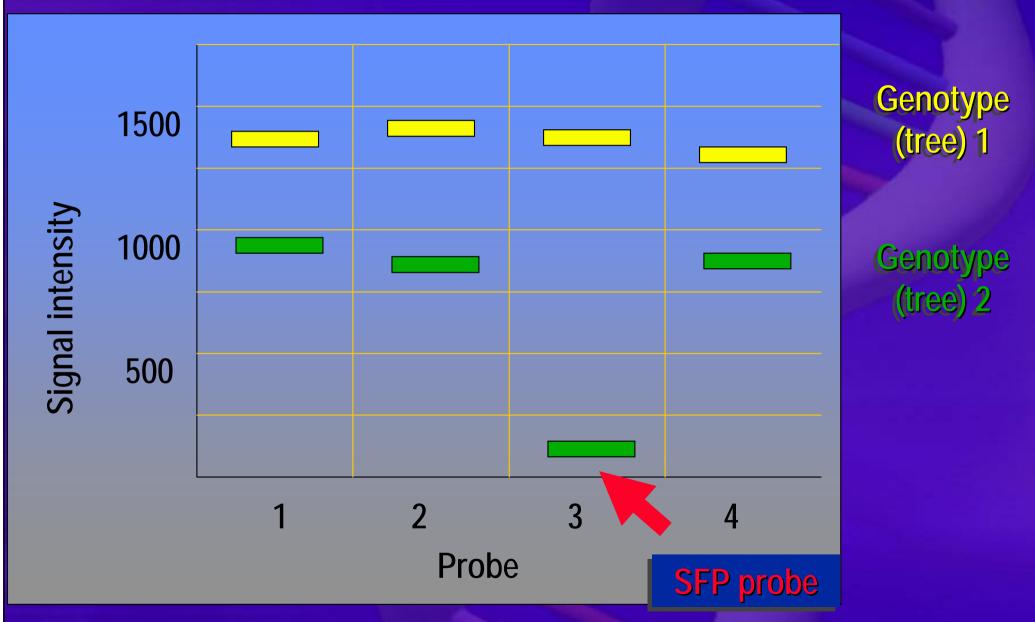
PLANT MATERIAL

- ✓ Two segregating F1 families (both have a ~250 microsat map)
 - ✓ E. grandis x E. urophylla = G38 x U15
 - √ (E. dunnii x E. grandis) x (E. urophylla x E. globulus) = DG x UGL
 - **✓ Both parents and 6 F1 progeny individuals**

MICROARRAY DESIGN

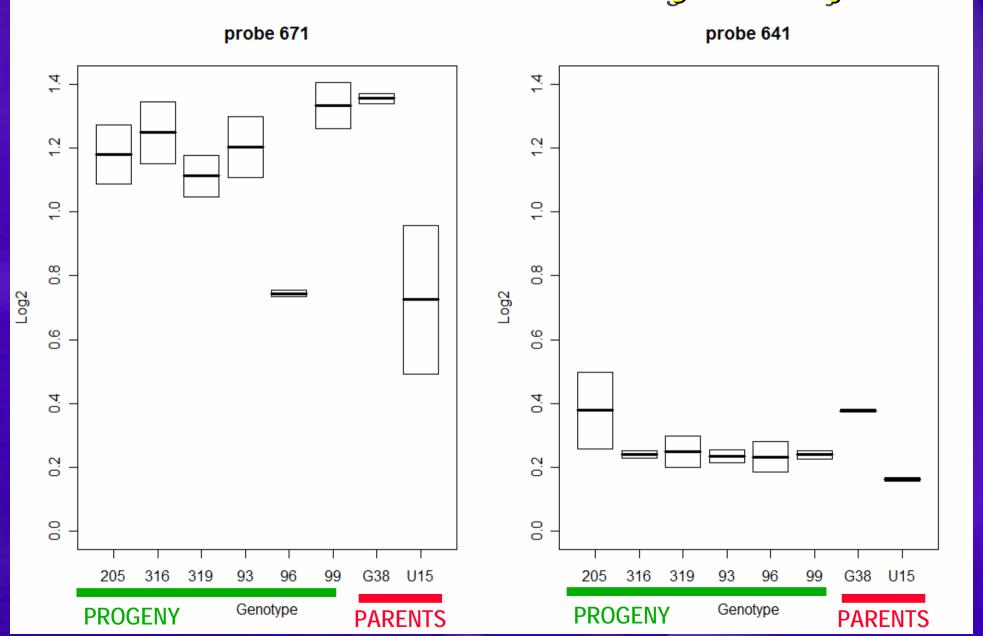
- √ 1518 EST consensi from Genolyptus database longer consensi
- ✓ 10 probes per EST consensus (designed by Agilent to cover consensus)
- ✓ 25-mers higher probability of SNP and/or short indels detection
- ✓ RNA from leaves; cDNA+ Alexa 555; two biological reps

Detection of putative SFPs by analyzing *probe x genotype* interaction



Significant SFP by LSM and K-means clustering

Significant SFP by K-means clustering but not by LSM



EFFICIENCY OF SFP FOR MAPPING GENES

- Family screening by pseudotestcross allows robust declaration of SFPs
- Using a second family almost doubles the number of mappable genes
- ✓ For the current 21,403 unigenes using a stringent statistical analysis we expect at least ~ 3500 genes to be mapped;
- ✓ Many more could be mapped if using only cluster analysis cut-off FAMILY AND SFP SCREENING PHASE: two-step screening:
 - Family screening in small array (15,000 probes)
 - Probe screening in large array (200,000 probes)
- **✓ SFP GENOTYPING AND MAPPING PHASE:**
 - ✓ Family specific SFP array: selected probes small array 15,000 probes
 - ✓ Selective genoyping: ~96 more informative progeny individuals based on SSR recombination map data

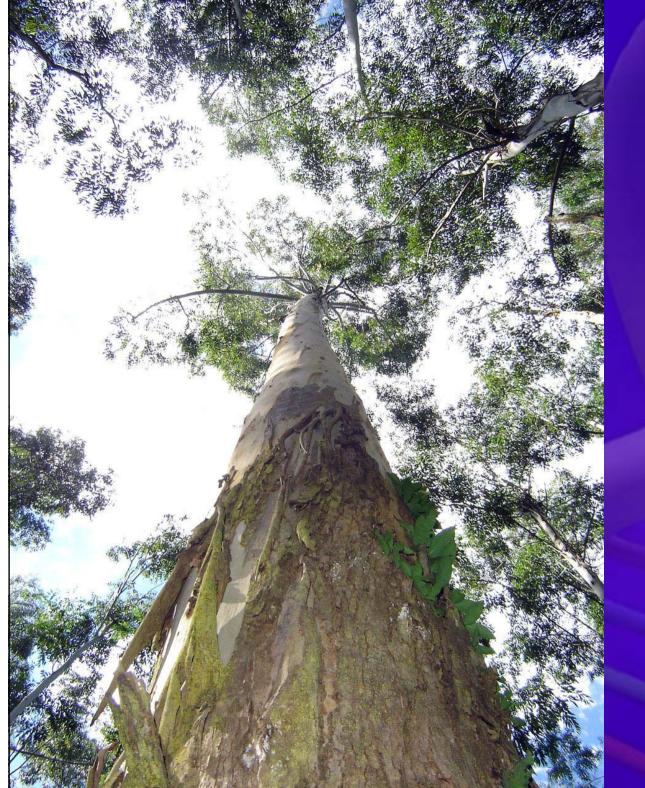
Perspectives of applied genomics in Eucalyptus breeding

- ✓ Genomic resources will be abundant and public
- ✓ No need to choose candidate genes
- ✓ Cost reduction of genomic methods: SNPs will be typed by simply resequencing the whole genome (today 2Gb at ~3,000 USD)
- ✓ Several genomes will be sequenced for association genetics studies
- ✓ Short reads will be mapped onto the reference sequence of E. grandis
- Main limitation: availability of appropriate structured material, sufficiently replicated across field sites and precisely pinenotyped for traits of interest
- ✓ Genome-wide selection methods to capture all relevant genetic variation
- Perspectives of applied genomics in Eucalyptus are encouraging given the existing variation, the upcoming draft genome and the evolution of better and cheaper genotyping technologies

Some thoughts on the use of GM *Eucalyptus*

- ✓ Transpets of modification: what genes and how to modify?
- ✓ Transformation protocols: genotype dependence, efficiency
- ✓ Long term stability and tissue specificity of gene expression
- ✓ Tree sterility, gene flow, propagation system
- **✓ Economic issues**
 - Relative gain: GMI x natural variation
 - ✓ Intellectual property: patent licensing, freedom to operate, royalties
 - ✓ Biosafety : GM trial time +rotation time (harvest) x duration of patent
 - Who has the technology x who has the genetic material
 - ✓ Investiment risk: regulaiton and biosafety issues still unclear
- ✓ Political issues, public perception, client demand
 - ✓ Forest certification (FSC)

HOWEVER GM TREES LIKE IN ANNUAL CROPS COULD REPRESENT A TECHNOLOGY DIVIDE AND NECESSARY CONDITION FOR A FOREST BASED INDUSTRY TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE





Shinitiro Oda Suzano breeder who developed and selected BRASUZ1

Why did we want a more homozygous genome?

- Eucalyptus is preferentially outcrossing (~90% outcrossing rate) with late acting self incompatibility
- Heterozygosity throughout the genome is very high
- ✓ Nucleotide variation in *Eucalyptus* is also very high (1 SNP/~100 bp)
- Difficulties expected for whole-genome shotgun assembly due to high within-individual haplotype variation
- ✓ Humans: recent paper of the Venter genome developed methods to assemble the two
 alternaive alleles.
- Ex. Grape genome project: looked for a more homozygous variety

All grapevine varieties are highly heterozygous; preliminary data showed that there was as much as 13% sequence divergence between alleles, which would hinder reliable contig assembly when a wholegenome shotgun strategy was used for sequencing. Our consortium therefore selected the grapevine PN40024 genotype for sequencing. This line, originally derived from Pinot Noir, has been bred close to full homozygosity (estimated at about 93%) by successive selfings, permitting a high-quality whole-genome shotgun assembly.

History of the target tree BRASUZ1

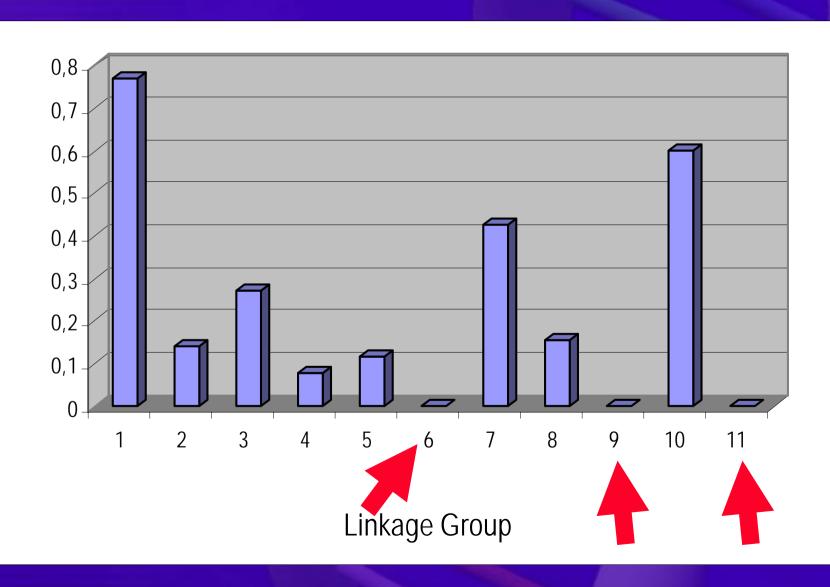
- 1968: Seeds from E. grandis Coffs Harbor (Australia) were bought by Suzano and a commercial stand was planted in 1968 in São Paulo state
- √ 1974: mass selected trees in this commercial stand for volume and form and collected seeds from them
- ✓ 197/5: establishment of an open pollinated progeny trial with seeds
- √ 1979/1980: best trees selected between and within families in the progeny trial; trees cloned by grafting
- √ 1982: clonal seed orchard established with selected trees
- √ 1986: selfing program of all trees in seed orchard
- √ 1990: surviving S1 seedling established a seedling seed orchard composed exclusively of S1 trees among which 7D now BRASUZ1 is one of them.
- 2008: BRASUZ1 is now 18 years old. It has good general combining ability. and is resistant to Puccinia rust





RESULTS: increase in homozygosity by linkage group

Significant variation across linkage groups suggests variable tolerance to homozygosity due to variable distribution of genetic load



BRASUZ1 increased homozygosity in relation to a regular Eucalyptus grandis tree was estimated at 21%

Linkage group	сМ	# markers	# inf.markers	Homozygous	Heterozygous	% homozygosity	% adj.homozy.
1	76	16	13	10	3	0,77	0,06
2	117	28	21	3	18	0,14	0,02
3	54	14	11	3	8	0,27	0,02
4	60	16	13	1	12	0,08	0,01
5	110	26	17	2	15	0,12	0,01
6	115	30	11	0	11	0,00	0,00
7	63	17	14	6	8	0,43	0,03
8	77	17	13	2	11	0,15	0,01
9	60	18	13	0	13	0,00	0,00
10	72	16	10	6	4	0,60	0,05
11	98	14	11	0	11	0,00	0,00
	902	212	147	33	114	0,23	0,21

BRASUZ1 total homozygosity estimated from microsatellites:

212 microsats 65 already homozygous 33 went into homozygosity following selfing 98 microsatellites are homozygous

98/212 = 46% homozygosity



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 - **✓** CNPq















































