

Journal of Experimental Botany, Vol. 72, No. 4 pp. 1225–1244, 2021 doi:10.1093/jxb/eraa518 Advance Access Publication 7 November 2020 This paper is available online free of all access charges (see https://academic.oup.com/jxb/pages/openaccess for further details)

RESEARCH PAPER

Differential expression of *SIKLUH* controlling fruit and seed weight is associated with changes in lipid metabolism and photosynthesis-related genes

Qiang Li^{1,2}, Manohar Chakrabarti³, Nathan K. Taitano⁴, Yozo Okazaki^{5,6}, Kazuki Saito^{5,7}, Ayed M. Al-Abdallat⁸ and Esther van der Knaap^{2,4,9,*,}

¹ State Key Laboratory of North China Crop Improvement and Regulation, Key Laboratory of Vegetable Germplasm Innovation and Utilization of Hebei, Collaborative Innovation Center of Vegetable Industry in Hebei, College of Horticulture, Hebei Agricultural University, Baoding, China

- ² Center for Applied Genetic Technologies, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA
- ³ Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, USA
- ⁴ Institute for Plant Breeding, Genetics and Genomics, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA
- ⁵ RIKEN Center for Sustainable Resource Science, Yokohama, Japan
- ⁶ Graduate School of Bioresources, Mie University, Tsu, Japan
- ⁷ Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chiba University, Chiba, Japan
- ⁸ School of Agriculture, The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan
- ⁹ Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA

* Correspondence: vanderkn@uga.edu

Received 16 June 2020; Editorial decision 19 October 2020; Accepted 2 November 2020

Editor: Fabrizio Costa, University of Trento, Italy

Abstract

The sizes of plant organs such as fruit and seed are crucial yield components. Tomato KLUH underlies the locus *fw3.2*, an important regulator of fruit and seed weight. However, the mechanism by which the expression levels of *KLUH* affect organ size is poorly understood. We found that higher expression of *SIKLUH* increased cell proliferation in the pericarp within 5 d post-anthesis in tomato near-isogenic lines. Differential gene expression analyses showed that lower expression of *SIKLUH* was associated with increased expression of genes involved in lipid metabolism. Lipidomic analysis revealed that repression of *SIKLUH* mainly increased the contents of certain non-phosphorus glycerolipids and phospholipids and decreased the contents of four unknown lipids. Co-expression network analyses revealed that lipid metabolism was possibly associated with but not directly controlled by *SIKLUH*, and that this gene instead controls photosynthesis-related processes. In addition, many transcription factors putatively involved in the KLUH pathway were identified. Collectively, we show that SIKLUH regulates fruit and seed weight which is associated with altered lipid metabolism. The results expand our understanding of fruit and seed weight regulation and offer a valuable resource for functional studies of candidate genes putatively involved in regulation of organ size in tomato and other crops.

Keywords: Fruit weight, KLUH, lipid metabolism, seed weight, tomato; transcription factor.

© The Author(s) 2020. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the Society for Experimental Biology.

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted reuse, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.



Introduction

The weight/size of plant organs is critically important for the survival of the species (Gonzalez *et al.*, 2009). The final weight of a plant organ is influenced by the combined effect of genetic and environmental signals during growth and development of the plant (Tsukaya, 2003; Horiguchi *et al.*, 2005). The weight of organs such as seed, fruit, root, tuber, and leaf is of importance to plant yield as this is one of the most critical agronomic traits in crop breeding (Ge *et al.*, 2016).

The regulation of seed and leaf size has been studied extensively in rice and Arabidopsis, respectively. These studies have led to the discovery of at least 88 key organ size regulators (Gonzalez et al., 2009; Li and Li, 2016; Vercruysse et al., 2020). The pathways that control seed size include KLUH, ubiquitinproteasome, G-protein signaling, mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK), and plant hormones (Gonzalez et al., 2009; Li and Li, 2016; Li et al., 2019). For leaf size, in addition to KLUH, the pathways that control this trait are DA1-enhancer of DA1 (EOD1), growth regulating factor (GRF)-GRF-interacting factor (GIF), SWITCH/sucrose non-fermenting (SWI/SNF), and plant hormones (Vercruysse et al., 2020). Fruit weight is most extensively studied in tomato (van der Knaap et al., 2014; Mu et al., 2017). The pathways regulating fruit weight are also KLUH, as well as cell number regulator (CNR), cell size regulator (CSR), members of the WUS-CLV3 pathway, and plant hormones (van der Knaap and Østergaard, 2018; Rothan et al., 2019). Remarkably, one of the shared components in seed, leaf, and fruit size regulation is KLUH. However, the role of KLUH and its relationship to other organ size regulatory pathways is not well understood.

KLUH is the founding member of the CYP78A subfamily that was first identified in Arabidopsis to stimulate organ size by promoting cell proliferation (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009). KLUH is proposed to be involved in the production of an unknown signaling molecule that non-cell-autonomously regulates cell proliferation (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009; Eriksson et al., 2010). However, the exact molecular and biochemical nature of the mobile signal remains unknown. Notably, other members of the CYP78A subfamily are also associated with controlling organ size in Arabidopsis (Wang et al., 2008; Fang et al., 2012; Sotelo-Silveira et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2013) as well as in other plant species (Ma et al., 2013; Nagasawa et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2013; Ma et al., 2015a, b; Wang et al., 2015a; Zhao et al., 2016; X. Sun et al., 2017; Qi et al., 2017; Maeda et al., 2019). In rice, GIANT EMBRYO (GE; CYP78A13) plays an important role in controlling the size balance of the embryo and endosperm. This gene is essential for embryo development and grain yield (Nagasawa et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2013). The rice CYP78A OsBSR2 (BROAD-SPECTRUM RESISTANCE2) is associated with seed weight and disease resistance (Maeda et al., 2019). The maize CYP78A PLASTOCHRON1 (ZmPLA1) extends the duration of cell division, leading to increased seed yield and stover biomass (X. Sun *et al.*, 2017). In soybean, wheat, sweet cherry, and pepper, *GmCYP78A10*, *GmCYP78A72*, *TaCYP78A3*, *TaCYP78A5*, *PaCYP78A9*, and *CaKLUH*, respectively, play important roles in or are strongly associated with regulating seed and fruit weight (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013; Ma *et al.*, 2013; Ma *et al.*, 2015*a*, *b*; Wang *et al.*, 2015*a*; Zhao *et al.*, 2016). Combined, these studies demonstrate the importance of CYP78A as a critical component of organ size regulation in plants.

The domestication-related *CYP78A* gene was cloned from tomato a few years ago and considered the ortholog of Arabidopsis *KLUH* (Zhang, 2012; Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013). Tomato *KLUH* underlies the fruit weight locus *fw3.2* and is a positive regulator of fruit weight by increasing the number of cell layers in the pericarp (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013). We recently demonstrated that the duplication of *SlKLUH* is the causative variant at the *fw3.2* locus, accounting for differential expression that is correlated to gene copy number (Alonge *et al.*, 2020). Given that *SlKLUH* does not affect cell size (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013), it is likely to function in the cell proliferation phase in pericarp at the early stages of fruit development. However, further cellular analyses at different fruit developmental stages are needed to determine when changes in the number of cell layers become evident.

In this study, we performed histological comparisons of fw3.2 near-isogenic lines (NILs) to investigate the changes in the number of cell layers in the pericarp at six developmental time points. We analyzed the RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) data from developing pericarp and seed in fw3.2 NILs that only differ for the allele at the locus as well as lines that are transgenically down-regulating the expression of SIKLUH by RNAi (RNAi-2Q1). The results showed many differentially expressed and co-regulated genes that have been implicated in organ size, lipid metabolism, and photosynthesis. We also analyzed the lipid profiles of 5 days post-anthesis (DPA) fruits from the NILs and RNAi-2Q1 and identified several lipid composition categories that were differentially accumulating. Moreover, the overexpression of a transcription factor (TF) gene SHINE1 (SISHN1) that affects lipid metabolism, resulted in a significant decrease in fruit and seed weight. Combined, our findings imply a tight relationship between SlKLUH-mediated regulation of organ weight and lipid metabolism as well as photosynthesisrelated processes.

Materials and methods

Plant materials and growth conditions

NILs with the cultivated and wild-type allele of fw3.2, named fw3.2(ys) and fw3.2(wt), respectively, RNAi lines down-regulating the expression of *SlKLUH* (*RNAi-2Q1* and *RNAi-2G2*), and *SlSHN1*-overexpressing transgenic lines were described previously (Zhang, 2012; Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013; Al-Abdallat *et al.*, 2014). The seeds of

the *cd2* mutant and Ailsa Craig (AC) control were obtained from Dr Cornelius Barry, Michigan State University (Nadakuduti *et al.*, 2012). The plants were grown in the greenhouse under a 16 h light/8 h dark photoperiod in Athens, GA, USA.

Developing fruit analyses for fw3.2(ys) and fw3.2(wt)

Individual flowers were tagged at anthesis every morning. Developing fruits were collected at anthesis, 5, 7, 10, and 20 DPA, and breaker stage. Developing fruits were bisected equatorially. One half of each fruit was scanned for fruit length and width measurement using ImageJ, and the other half was used for histological analysis.

For the histological analysis of ovaries and developing fruits at 5 and 7 DPA, the samples were fixed overnight in 75% ethanol and 25% acetic anhydride. Samples were then incubated in 80% ethanol at 80 °C and rehydrated in 50% and 30% ethanol for 10 min. Samples were rinsed with ddH₂O for 10 min, followed by clearing at room temperature in 0.2 M NaOH/1% SDS while shaking at 30–40 rpm. After 24 h, the samples were further cleared with ClearSee solution (10% xylitol, 15% sodium deoxycholate, 25% urea; VWR International) for 3 d at the same shaking speed and temperature. The samples were rinsed with ddH₂O for 5 min and stained for 30 min in calcofluor (0.25% Fluorescent Brightener 28; Sigma) in the dark. Lastly, the samples were rinsed in water and mounted in mounting medium CitiFlour (Electron Microscopy Supplies). The sections were imaged using a Zeiss LSM 880 upright confocal microscope and samples were excited at 405 nm with an emission band of 410–550 nm.

For developing fruits at 10 DPA, 20 DPA, and breaker stage, hand sections were stained with a solution containing one part 0.5% toluidine blue and two parts distilled water for a few seconds. Sections were then rinsed with ddH₂O. Images of the stained sections were taken using an Olympus DP70 camera that was mounted on an OLYMPUS MVX10 optical microscope using an Olympus MVX-TVO.63XC adaptor. The generated pictures were used for pericarp cell layer, maximum cell size, and thickness measurements with ImageJ software as previously described (Ramos, 2018). All phenotypic evaluations were performed with two biological replications, each with at least four plants per genotype. For each time point, at least two fruits per plant were analyzed.

Phenotypic evaluations of SISHN1-overexpressing transgenic lines

For fruit weight analysis, 10 fruits at breaker or turning stage from each plant were weighed individually. For seed weight analysis, 50 seeds from each plant were counted and weighed. Three fruits at breaker stage from each plant were used for pericarp cell layer and thickness analysis as previously described (Ramos, 2018). All phenotypic evaluations were performed independently with two biological replications, each with at least three plants per genotype.

Tissue collection and data processing of RNA-seq data

Tissues for RNA extraction were collected with four replicates from pericarp and seed at 5, 7, and 10 DPA in *fiv3.2* NILs and three replicates from pericarp and seed at 7 DPA of the *RNAi-2Q1* and *RNAi-2G2* lines down-regulating *SlKLUH*. RNA-seq library preparation and sequencing were previously described (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013). All clean reads for samples from *fiv3.2* NILs and the RNAi lines of *SlKLUH* are available in the National Center for Biotechnology Information Sequence Read Archive (NCBI SRA) under the accession numbers SRA068200 and SRA068201 (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013).

The read mapping was performed using the latest version of the Tuxedo protocol with HISAT2 and StringTie (Pertea et al., 2016). After

filtering out adaptor sequences, low-quality reads, and ribosomal reads, the clean reads from each library were mapped to the Heinz 1706 tomato genome version SL3.0 using HISAT2. To quantify all the genes in ITAG (International Tomato Annotation Group) version 3.20, the mapping results were normalized via Stringtie to obtain RPKM (reads per kilobase per million mapped reads). Summary statistics for each of the RNA-seq libraries are shown in Supplementary Table S1. Correlations between samples were determined by using the Spearman correlation coefficient (SCC) to check the reproducibility among replicates. For principal component analysis (PCA) of sample replicates, the count data were rlog transformed using DESeq2 and the PCA plot was generated using the ggplot2 R package.

Differential gene expression analysis

Differential gene expression analysis was performed using the DESeq2 R package (Love et al., 2014) with the count data which were extracted with a Python script included in Stringtie (http://ccb.jhu.edu/software/ stringtie/dl/prepDE.py). The genes that were significantly differentially expressed in pericarp and seed at each developmental time point between the NILs as well as in 7 DPA pericarp and seed between fw3.2(ys)and RNAi-2Q1 were identified by Wald test. Genes with |log2ratio|>2 and a false discovery rate (FDR) significance score <0.05 were determined to be significantly differentially expressed genes (DEGs). A differential expression analysis of RNA-seq data from the NILs was also performed using linear factorial modeling to further assess the effects of genotype, the interaction between genotype and developmental stage $(G \times D)$, and the interaction between genotype and tissue $(G \times T)$ on the gene expression patterns. The likelihood ratio test was used to assess three separate null hypotheses. Null hypothesis 1 was tested to identify genes with significant genotype effects with full model=~genotype+ti ssue+developmental stages and reduced model=~tissue+developmental stages; Null hypothesis 2 was tested to identify genes significantly affected by G×D with full model=~genotype+tissue+developmental stages+genotype:developmental stages and reduced model=~genot vpe+tissue+developmental stages; Null hypothesis 3 tested whether each gene was affected by G×T with full model=~genotype+tissue+ developmental stages+genotype:tissue and reduced model=~genotype +tissue+developmental stages. The P-values were corrected using the Benjamini-Hochberg method, and the threshold of corrected P-value <0.05 was used for selecting DEGs in the three null hypotheses. A further filtration was performed to eliminate the genes expressed at a low level. Genes with average RPKM>1 among pericarp and seed samples were considered as DEGs. Additionally, the linear factorial modeling can only be applied to sufficiently large data sets with multiple treatments or time points. Since there is only one developmental time point in RNAi-2Q1, we cannot perform the linear factorial modeling with that specific dataset.

Lipid profiling

Lipid profiling was done at RIKEN, Japan, using LC–quadrupole timeof-flight–MS (LC-Q-TOF-MS) as described before (Okazaki *et al.*, 2013; Okazaki and Saito, 2018). Briefly, 5 DPA whole fruit samples from *fiw3.2(ys)*, *fw3.2(wt)*, and *RNAi-2Q1* were pooled from four plants each, and each sample was replicated five times. These samples were lyophilized and milled to a fine power. The sample powder was extracted with a mixture of chloroform, methanol, and water by the method of Bligh and Dyer (Bligh and Dyer, 1959; Okazaki and Saito, 2018). The crude lipid extract was finally reconstituted in ethanol and subjected to LC-MS analysis (Okazaki and Saito, 2018). Electrospray ionization was employed for sample ionization. The lipidome dataset obtained in the negative ion mode was subjected to multivariate analysis, orthogonal projection to a latent structure-discriminant analysis (OPLS-DA) (Wiklund *et al.*, 2008), to find the discriminative metabolites among tested samples.

Construction and visualization of the co-expression network

The co-expression network analysis was performed in R using the Weighted Correlation Network Analysis (WGCNA) package (Langfelder and Horvath, 2008). The co-expression network was constructed using RNA-seq data from each NIL independently. For each co-expression network, the genes (cumulative RPKM >6 and variance >1) used for the network were from 24 samples of three time points (5, 7, and 10 DPA), using each biological replicate as an individual dataset (total of 24 samples for each network). To show an approximate scale-free topology, the soft thresholding power of β =17 was chosen for both networks by the pickSoftThreshold function in the WGCNA package. The modules were obtained using the one-step network construction function (blockwiseModules) with default parameters. The top 50 genes with the highest $k_{\rm ME}$ values were regarded as intramodular hub genes in this study. The networks were visualized using Cytoscape _v.3.7.1.

Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis

GO enrichment analysis of the DEGs was performed using the topGO R package (Alexa *et al.*, 2006; Alexa and Rahnenfuhrer, 2020). The reference GO annotation list was downloaded from Plant Transcriptional Regulatory Map (http://plantregmap.gao-lab.org/go.php). The significantly enriched GO terms were determined by FDR-adjusted *P*-value <0.05. The heatmaps of DEGs and GO terms were generated using the pheatmap R package (Kolde, 2012).

Statistical analyses

Normality, Student's *t*-test, and Duncan's test were calculated for each trait using R software. The data of all the investigated traits follow a normal distribution as determined by Lilliefors test (Abdi and Molin, 2007).

Results

Fruit growth and histological comparisons of fw3.2 NILs

Phylogenetic analysis revealed that SlKLUH was clustered into the same clade with Arabidopsis CYP78A5/KLUH and CYP78A10, wheat CYP78A5, and soybean CYP78A10 and CYP78A12 (Fig. 1) that act as key regulators of organ size (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009; Yang et al., 2013; Ma et al., 2015b; Wang et al., 2015a; Zhao et al., 2016). Of these, AtCYP78A5 and TaCYP78A5 have been demonstrated to stimulate cell proliferation at the early stages of seed development (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009; Ma et al., 2015b). To gain more insight into the function of SIKLUH in regulating fruit development, we explored fruit growth at six developmental time points from anthesis to breaker stage (Supplementary Fig. S1). Both fruit length and width started to show differences between 10 and 20 DPA (Supplementary Figs S1, S2A, B). This change in length and width was preceded by a significant change in the number of cell layers as early as 5 DPA (Fig. 2A-C; Supplementary Fig. S2C). The maximum cell size showed no significant difference between the NILs at breaker stage (Fig. 2D; Supplementary Fig. S2D) which is consistent with previous findings (Chakrabarti et al., 2013). The pericarp thickness started to show a significant difference between 10 and 20 DPA which corresponded well to the increase in fruit



Fig. 1. Phylogenetic analysis of CYP78As from tomato, Arabidopsis, rice, wheat, soybean, maize, and sweet cherry. The alignment of protein sequences was performed using ClustalX 1.81, and the phylogenetic tree was constructed by MEGA4 using the neighbor–joining (NJ) method with the following parameters: Poisson correction, pairwise deletion, and bootstrap (1000 replicates; random seed). Tomato and Arabidopsis CYP78As are labeled with red and green dots, respectively.

size (Fig. 2E; Supplementary Fig. S2E). The significant difference in cell layers of the pericarp (Fig. 2C; Supplementary Fig. S2C) did not lead to a significant difference in pericarp thickness at 5, 7, and 10 DPA (Fig. 2E; Supplementary Fig. S2E), which was probably due to the small cell size (Fig. 2D; Supplementary Fig. S2D). These results indicate that SIKLUH stimulates pericarp cell proliferation during the early stages of fruit development (5–7 DPA).

Differential gene expression between the NILs during pericarp and seed development

To gain further insights into the molecular mechanisms of SlKLUH governing fruit and seed weight in tomato, a gene expression analysis was performed using RNA isolated from the NIL tissues corresponding to developing pericarp and seed at 5, 7, and 10 DPA. The SCC analysis showed high reproducibility between the four replicates, ranging from 0.97 to 0.98 (Supplementary Fig. S3). Moreover, the PCA showed that the samples clustered based on tissue type and developmental time point but less based on genotype (Fig. 3A). This suggests that the overall transcriptome profiles did not differ dramatically between the NILs.

RNA expression analyses showed that SlKLUH (*Solyc03g114940*) was significantly more highly expressed in *fw3.2(ys)* than in *fw3.2(wt)* in most of the samples analyzed (Fig. 3B). DEGs between the NILs were identified by six



Fig. 2. Histological analyses of the pericarp at six developmental time points in the *fw*3.2 NILs. (A) Representative sections of *fw*3.2(*w*s) pericarp. (B) Representative sections of *fw*3.2(*w*t) pericarp. Scale bars=100 μ m (0, 5, 7, and 10 DPA) and 1 mm (20 DPA and breaker stage). (C–E) Cell layer (C), maximum cell size (D), and pericarp thickness (E) comparisons of the NILs. For the cell layer numbers at 10 DPA, 20 DPA, and breaker stage, the endoderm layer and several cell layers below the exoderm were not counted because they were difficult to discern in these sections, hence a decrease in cell layers from 7 to 10 DPA. Asterisks denote significant differences (**P*<0.05; ***P*<0.01; ****P*<0.001) as determined by Student's *t*-tests. DPA, days post-anthesis. NS, non-significant difference.

pairwise comparisons of pericarp and seed at each developmental time point (Fig. 3C; Supplementary Dataset S1). In the small-fruited NIL fw3.2(wt), 48 unique DEGs exhibited significantly lower expression and 61 unique DEGs exhibited significantly higher expression at different time points in the developing pericarp and seed compared with the large-fruited NIL fw3.2(ys). Notably, fewer DEGs were found in seed (16) unique genes) than in the pericarp (97 unique genes) (Fig. 3C; Supplementary Dataset S1), demonstrating more changes in gene expression during the development of the pericarp than during development of the seed as a consequence of differential expression of SlKLUH. This was despite the fact that SIKLUH itself was much more highly expressed in the seed (Fig. 3B). GO enrichment analysis of up-regulated DEGs in the pericarp of fw3.2(wt) indicated that the DEGs are enriched for three processes related to lipid metabolism, namely 'Fatty acid metabolic process' (six genes), 'Cutin biosynthetic process' (three genes), and 'Monocarboxylic acid metabolic process' (seven genes) (Fig. 3D). However, no significantly enriched biological processes were identified for the down-regulated DEGs in pericarp and in seed of fw3.2(wt). Consequently, this finding implied that lower expression of *SlKLUH* led to up-regulation of lipid metabolism-related processes.

To systematically explore the RNA-seq data, linear factorial modeling was applied to identify DEGs significantly affected by genotype, genotype by tissue interaction (G×T), and genotype by developmental stage interaction (G×D). A total of 72 DEGs, which were consistently up- or down-regulated in *fw3.2(wt)* across all samples, were identified with significant genotype effects (Supplementary Dataset S2). As expected, *SlKLUH* was a DEG significantly affected by genotype, with lower expression in pericarp and seed at all developmental stages in *fw3.2(wt)* compared with *fw3.2(ys)* (Fig. 3B; Supplementary Dataset S2). No DEGs were found with significant G×T and G×D effects.

RNA-seq analysis of the RNAi lines of SIKLUH

Even though the natural fw3.2 NILs show changes in SlKLUH expression, further down-regulation of the gene may lead to the identification of additional DEGs in the SlKLUH pathway. RNAi-2Q1 and RNAi-2G2 were two independent transgenic lines that down-regulated the expression of SlKLUH in the



Fig. 3. Differential gene expression analyses in developing pericarp and seed between the *fw3.2* NILs. (A) PCA plot showing the clustering of transcriptomes from pericarp and seed tissues at different time points in the *fw3.2* NILs. Each data point represents a biological replicate. (B) Expression of *SIKLUH* in pericarp and seed tissues at different time points in the *fw3.2* NILs. Asterisks denote significant differences (**P<0.01; ***P<0.001) as determined by Student's *t*-tests. NS, non-significant difference. (C) DEGs at different developmental time points of pericarp and seed. (D) Different expression patterns (left panel) and GO enrichment (right panel) of up-regulated DEGs in the pericarp of *fw3.2*(*wt*). The size of the circles indicates the number of DEGs in the given GO term. The color coding indicates the gene ratio calculated as the number of DEGs in the given GO term divided by the total number of genes in the term. The numbers 5, 7, and 10 indicate 5 DPA, 7 DPA, and 10 DPA, respectively. P, pericarp; S, seed.

fw3.2(ys) background. These plants showed significantly reduced fruit and seed weight compared with *fw3.2(ys)* and *fw3.2(wt)* (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013). RNA-seq was performed using total RNA isolated from the 7 DPA pericarp and seed of the *RNAi-2Q1* and *RNAi-2G2* lines. The correlation coefficient between the three biological replicates of different tissues varied from 0.97 to 0.98, indicating the high correlation among the samples (Supplementary Fig. S4). A PCA was performed to obtain a general view of the transcriptome changes between the *RNAi-2Q1* and *RNAi-2G2* lines and their control *fw3.2(ys)*. The analysis revealed that PC1 separated pericarp tissues from seed tissues, explaining 86% of the variance. PC2 separated the tissues based on genotype, explained 6% of the variance, and showed clear clustering in the pericarp based on genotype (Fig. 4A).

Given that the overall transcriptome profiles of 7 DPA pericarp and seed were similar between *RNAi-2Q1* and *RNAi-2G2* (Fig. 4A; Supplementary Fig. S4), we focused on

RNAi-2Q1 expression data for further analysis. A total of 899 and 247 DEGs were identified in 7 DPA pericarp and seed of the *RNAi-2Q1* line, respectively (Fig. 4B; Supplementary Dataset S3). As expected, the total number of DEGs in the *fw3.2(ys)–RNAi-2Q1* dataset was much higher than that of the *fw3.2(ys)–fw3.2(wt*) dataset (Figs 3C, 4B), possibly resulting from the more extensive down-regulation of *SlKLUH* by RNAi compared with the NILs (Chakrabarti *et al.*, 2013). In 7 DPA pericarp, six down-regulated and 33 up-regulated genes were shared in both datasets (Supplementary Fig. S5; Supplementary Table S2). Interestingly, *SlKLUH* was the only common DEG that was down-regulated in both RNA-seq datasets in 7 DPA seed (Supplementary Fig. S5; Supplementary Table S2).

Similar to the GO term enrichment of the up-regulated DEGs in pericarp of the fw3.2(wt), the DEGs that were up-regulated in RNAi-2Q1 pericarp were also enriched for 'Fatty acid metabolic process', 'Cutin biosynthetic process', and 'Monocarboxylic acid metabolic process' (Figs 3D, 4C). Again, the reduced expression of SlKLUH led to enhanced expression of lipid metabolism-related genes. The enriched GO terms of the down-regulated genes in 7 DPA pericarp of RNAi-2Q1 included terms related to cellular processes, such as 'Microtubulebased process', 'Cell cycle process', and 'Microtubule cytoskeleton organization'. Genes involved in these processes included putative orthologs of the Arabidopsis ATAURORA1 (Solyc08g066050), ARABIDOPSIS NPK1-(AUR1)ACTIVATING KINESIN 1 (ATNACK1) (Solyc03g119220), MICROTUBULE-ASSOCIATED PROTEIN 65-3 (MAP65-3) (Solyc03g007130), and TETRASPORE (Solyc07g042560). In addition, down-regulated DEGs in the RNAi-2Q1 developing seeds were primarily associated with processes related to transport and homeostasis, whereas up-regulated DEGs in the seeds were not enriched for any biological processes (Fig. 4C). Collectively, the GO enrichment analyses of DEGs from both expression studies suggested that decreased expression of SlKLUH in fw3.2(wt) and the RNAi-2Q1 results in smaller sizes of fruit and seed possibly by increasing lipid metabolism.

Characterization of DEGs involved in lipid metabolism pathways

The DEGs were mapped onto pathways using the ACYL-LIPID METABOLISM database (http://aralip.plantbiology. msu.edu/pathways/pathways). We detected 23 and 101 lipid metabolism-related DEGs in the fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2(wt) dataset and in the fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 dataset (Supplementary Table S3), respectively. 'Cutin synthesis and transport' and 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' were the two most abundant lipid metabolism pathways shared by the fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2(wt)and the fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 datasets (Supplementary Fig. S6). We found 16 DEGs (seven DEGs were shared between the two datasets) and 31 DEGs (six DEGs were shared between the two datasets) involved primarily in 'Cutin synthesis and



Fig. 4. Transgenic down-regulation of *SIKLUH* affects the transcriptome of pericarp and seed at 7 DPA. (A) PCA plot showing the clustering of transcriptomes from 7 DPA pericarp and seed in *fw3.2(ys*) and the *RNAi-2G2* and *RNAi-2Q1* lines that down-regulate the expression of *SIKLUH*. Each data point represents a biological replicate. (B) DEGs in 7 DPA pericarp and seed in the *fw3.2(ys)*–*RNAi-2Q1* comparison. 7, 7 DPA; P, pericarp; S, seed; (C) Heatmap showing different expression patterns (left panel) and GO enrichment (right panel) of DEGs in the *fw3.2(ys)*–*RNAi-2Q1* comparison. The gray boxes in the right-hand panel represent missing GO terms. Only the enriched GO terms with adjusted *P*-value <0.05 are shown.

transport' (Fig. 5) and 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' (Fig. 6), respectively. Importantly, most of the DEGs (15 out of 16 DEGs involved in 'Cutin synthesis and transport' and 20 out of 31 DEGs involved in 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis') were more highly expressed in fw3.2(wt) and/or the RNAi-2Q1 line than in $fw3.2(\gamma s)$. The increased expression of the lipid-related genes involved in the two pathways and the concomitant decreased fruit and seed weight in the fw3.2(wt)and the RNAi-2Q1 lines suggested a functional correlation between lipid metabolism and fruit/seed size regulation.

Differential accumulation of lipids

The gene expression data implied that changes in lipid metabolism were a consequence of the differential expression of SIKLUH. To further investigate the effects of SIKLUH on lipid metabolism, we performed lipid profiling of 5 DPA fruits from the NILs and RNAi-2Q1. A total of 425 metabolites were detected and 58 were annotated as signals derived from known lipids (Supplementary Fig. S7). An OPLS-DA (Wiklund et al., 2008) was performed to identify the major difference in the lipid profile between the different genotypes. The OPLS-DA (Fig. 7A) and OPLS loading S-plot (Fig. 7B) revealed that the discriminative metabolites with significantly increased levels in fw3.2(wt) and RNAi-2Q1 were non-phosphorus glycerolipids, including monogalactosyldiacylglycerol (MGDG) and digalactosyldiacylglycerol (DGDG), and phospholipids, including phosphatidylcholine (PC), phosphatidylethanolamine

(PE), phosphatidylinositol (PI), and four unknown lipids (Table 1). Only four unknown lipids were significantly decreased in fw3.2(wt) and the RNAi-2Q1 line (Table 2). This result provides information about the effects of SlKLUH expression levels on lipid metabolites. However, details of the biosynthesis of the discriminative lipids and the mechanisms by which SlKLUH affects their accumulation remain unknown.

Identification of gene co-expression modules in fw3.2(ys) and fw3.2(wt) by WGCNA

To identify pathways that are consistently associated with SIKLUH expression, WGCNA was performed using the RNA-seq data from either fw3.2(ys) or fw3.2(wt). The networks identified from this analysis might be directly linked to the function of SlKLUH in regulating organ size. A total of 11 modules (comprised of 43-4199 genes) were identified in fw3.2(ys) (Fig. 8A; Supplementary Dataset S4), and 10 modules (comprised of 48-4845 genes) were recognized in fw3.2(wt) (Fig. 8B; Supplementary Dataset S5). SlKLUH was assigned to the vellow module (YYM) in $fw3.2(\gamma s)$ containing 1676 genes (Supplementary Dataset S4), whereas this gene was assigned to the green module (WGM) in fw3.2(wt) containing 1245 genes (Supplementary Dataset S5). The eigengenes of fw3.2(ys)YYM (Fig. 8C) and fw3.2(wt) WGM (Fig. 8D) showed consistently higher expression in seeds compared with pericarp, which mirrored the expression levels of SlKLUH.



Fig. 5. *SIKLUH* expression is associated with genes involved in 'Cutin synthesis and transport' pathway. Schematic overview of the 'Cutin synthesis and transport' pathway was modified from the ARABIDOPSIS ACYL-LIPID METABOLISM database (http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/pathways). For additional details on genes involved in this pathway, see http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/cutin_synthesis_transport and http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/cutin_synthesis_transport_2. The filled upright and inverted triangles indicate up- and down-regulated DEGs in the *RNAi-2Q1* line compared with *fw3.2(ys)*, respectively. The open upright triangle indicates up-regulated DEGs in *fw3.2(wt*) compared with *fw3.2(ys*); red gene ID indicates the DEGs shared between the two DEG datasets.

Of the 1676 genes in YYM, 421 (~25.1%) were shared with the co-expressed genes in WGM (Supplementary Fig. S8). This relatively low overlap suggested that the module-specific transcriptome profile was noticeably changed as a result of higher *SlKLUH* expression. Genes with the highest k_{ME} values are referred to as intramodular hub genes and are thought to play critical roles in maintaining network structure and function (Barabási *et al.*, 2011; Langfelder *et al.*, 2013). We found that *SlKLUH* (k_{ME} =0.971) ranked 32nd and formed a hub gene in YYM (Fig. 9A; Supplementary Dataset S4). This suggested that *SlKLUH* acted to maintain the network structure and function for this module. In contrast, *SlKLUH* (k_{ME} =0.885) in the *fw3.2*(*wt*) dataset ranked 366th, and was therefore not a hub gene (Fig. 9B; Supplementary Dataset S5).

GO term enrichment analysis identified genes in YYM related to 'Photosynthesis', 'Response to stimulus', and 'mRNA metabolic process' (Fig. 10). The genes in WGM were enriched for 'Plastid organization' and 'Cellular metabolic/catabolic/ biosynthetic process' (Fig. 10). Even though no common enriched GO terms were identified, many enriched GO term categories relate to photosynthesis, chloroplast organization, and chlorophyll biosynthesis. These results suggested a common theme of *SlKLUH*-co-expressed genes in fw3.2(ys)and fw3.2(wt) that impact chloroplast functioning such as in carbon fixation which might possibly be directly related to organ growth. In addition, no GO terms were enriched in the shared set of 421 genes.

Differentially and co-expressed transcription factors are implicated in tomato fruit and seed weight control mediated by SIKLUH

Gene expression dynamics of those involved in lipid metabolism and photosynthesis-related processes are regulated directly by TFs. In the DEG analyses, nine TFs were shared in



Fig. 6. *SIKLUH* impacts genes involved in 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' pathway. Schematic overview of the 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' pathway was modified from the ARABIDOPSIS ACYL-LIPID METABOLISM database (http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/pathways). For additional details on genes involved in this pathway, see http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/fatty_acid_elongation_wax_biosynthesis. The filled upright and inverted triangles indicate up- and down-regulated DEGs in the *RNAi-2Q1* line compared with *fw3.2(ys)*, respectively. The open upright triangle indicates up-regulated DEGs in *fw3.2(wt*) compared with *fw3.2(ys)*; red gene ID indicates the DEGs shared between the two DEG datasets.



Fig. 7. OPLS-DA of lipidome data of 5 DPA fruit from *fw3.2(ys)*, *fw3.2(wt)*, and *RNAi-2Q1*. (A) Score plot (R2X[1]=0.167933, R2X[2]=0.379057). The samples from *fw3.2(ys)*, *fw3.2(wt)*, and *RNAi-2Q1* are clearly separated. Each dot represents an individual sample. (B) S-plot of OPLS-DA based on ANOVA of the cross-validated residuals (CV-ANOVA). Each point represents a lipid molecule. The variables that did not significantly vary are plotted in the middle. The lipids that changed most contributed to the class separation and are plotted at the top or bottom of the S-shaped plot in red. The discriminative metabolites whose levels found in *fw3.2(wt)* and *RNAi-2Q1* were higher than those from *fw3.2(ys)* are shown in the upper right region of the S-plot, while the discriminative metabolites whose levels from *fw3.2(wt)* and *RNAi-2Q1* were lower than those of *fw3.2(ys)* are shown in the lower left region. Details of discriminative metabolites in the upper right and lower left are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

the *fw3.2(ys)–fw3.2(wt*) and *fw3.2(ys)–RNAi-2Q1* datasets (Supplementary Table S4), suggesting that these TFs might play important roles in regulating fruit and seed weight in the KLUH pathway. For example, *Solyc04g074990* (ZF-HD),

Solyc08g079800 (GRF), and *Solyc04g077510* (GRF) were down-regulated in 7 DPA pericarp in both *fw3.2(wt)* and the *RNAi-2Q1* line (Supplementary Figs S5, S9; Supplementary Datasets S1, S3; Supplementary Table S4). GRFs are known as

Retention time (min)	m/z	Annotation	Averaged intensity (mean ±SD)		
			fw3.2(ys)	fw3.2(wt)	RNAi-2Q1
4.49	716.522	PE_34:1 ([M-H]⁻)	0.40±0.092	0.48±0.068	0.57±0.067
4.31	740.522	PE_36:3 ([M-H] ⁻)	0.75±0.13	1.1±0.14	1.25±0.29
4.39	745.556	Unknown	0.60±0.059	0.72±0.060	0.71±0.11
4.40	744.553	Unknown	1.3±0.11	1.6±0.078	1.6±0.26
4.20	768.553	Unknown	0.82±0.12	1.1±0.10	1.3±0.29
4.40	804.575	PC_34:1 ([M+HCOO] ⁻)	4.8±0.50	5.6±0.21	5.7±0.92
3.82	819.526	MGDG_36:6 ([M+HCOO] ⁻)	21±1.7	24±2.2	26±1.5
4.20	828.575	PC_36:3 ([M+HCOO] ⁻)	3.4±0.33	4.3±0.42	5.3±0.99
3.99	835.533	PI_34:1 ([M-H]⁻)	1.3±0.16	1.6±0.099	1.5±0.22
4.81	832.606	PC_36:1 ([M+HCOO] ⁻)	0.85±0.14	0.93±0.021	0.93±0.20
3.56	935.574	Unknown	13±0.71	14±0.86	14±0.56
3.56	981.579	DGDG_36:6 ([M+HCOO] ⁻)	9.7±0.49	10±0.69	10±0.37

Table 1.	Discriminative metabolites	predicted by	OPLS-DA with increased	levels in fw3.2(wt) and RNAi-2Q1
----------	----------------------------	--------------	------------------------	----------------------------------

DGDG, digalactosyldiacylglycerol; MGDG, monogalactosyldiacylglycerol; SQDG, sulfoquinovosyldiacylglycerol; PC, phosphatidylcholine; PE, phosphatidylethanolamine; PI, phosphatidylinositol.

Table 2. Discriminative metabolites predicted by OPLS-DA with decreased levels in *fw3.2(wt)* and *RNAi-2Q1*

Retention	m/z	Annotation	Averaged intensity (mean ±SD)				
time (min)			fw3.2(ys)	fw3.2(wt)	RNAi-2Q1		
4.17	786.528	Unknown	0.58±0.028	0.56±0.10	0.45±0.07		
4.57	814.559	Unknown	1.1±0.094	1.0±0.12	0.9±0.11		
0.27	1068.510	Unknown	5.4±0.80	5.5±1.0	5.1±0.58		
0.31	1126.515	Unknown	0.74±0.26	0.79±0.33	1.2±0.25		

positive regulators of primary cell proliferation and play important roles in regulating organ size in plants (Horiguchi *et al.*, 2005;Vercruyssen *et al.*, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2016; Shimano *et al.*, 2018; Zhang *et al.*, 2018). *Solyc04g074990* encodes a ZF-HD TF that is closely related to Arabidopsis HB22, HB25, and HB33. In Arabidopsis, overexpression of *ATHB25* results in wider siliques and larger seeds, while simultaneous knockdown of *ATHB25, ATHB22,* and *ATHB31* leads to smaller seeds (Bueso *et al.*, 2014). Therefore, the down-regulation of *Solyc04g074990, Solyc08g079800,* and *Solyc04g077510* was associated with smaller fruit and seed in *fw3.2(wt)* and *RNAi-2Q1,* suggesting that they may function as positive regulators of tomato fruit and seed size. However, further study is required to dissect their exact roles in fruit and seed weight regulation mediated by KLUH in tomato.

The DEGs in the TF category are considered to change expression as an indirect consequence of the expression level of *SlKLUH*. However, these DEGs may or may not be found in the same module as *SlKLUH*. TF genes that are found in the same module as *SlKLUH* may be more directly involved in the entire KLUH network. To obtain further insight into the transcriptional regulation of the KLUH pathway, we sought out the TFs in these two modules. The YYM harbored 117 TFs (6.98%) which were classified into 35 families. The 10

most abundant TF families in YYM were bHLH (13), C2H2 (11), MYB (9), MYB-related (6), B3 (6), Trihelix (5), bZIP (5), ERF (5), AP2 (4), and NAC (4) (Supplementary Fig. S10A; Supplementary Table S4). The WGM contained 76 TFs (6.10%) mainly from families classified as bHLH (12), C2H2 (6), HD-ZIP (4), GRAS (4), MYB (3), MYB-related (3), NAC (3), Trihelix (3), bZIP (3), and Dof (3) (Supplementary Fig. S10B; Supplementary Table S4). Thirty-seven TFs were shared by YYM and WGM (Supplementary Table S4). The orthologs of some of common TFs were known from other studies to participate in organ size regulation in plants. For example, VAL1 (AT2G30470) (Solyc06g082520), a member of the B3 domain TFs and a negative regulator of oil production, plays a major role in plant embryo development (Tsukagoshi et al., 2005, 2007; Suzuki et al., 2007; Schneider et al., 2016). The putative ortholog of Arabidopsis SUPERMAN (SUP; AT3G23130), Solyc09g089590, encodes a zinc-finger protein that in Arabidopsis has been proposed to control cell proliferation by regulating the transcription of genes that affect cell division, thus regulating organ size (Hiratsu et al., 2002; Nibau et al., 2010). Interestingly, three of the 37 TF geness (Solyc02g089540, Solyc06g060830, and Solyc11g072470) were also identified as DEGs in the fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 dataset (Supplementary Table S4). The putative tomato HB2 (Solyc06g060830) was up-regulated in pericarp of RNAi-2Q1. In Arabidopsis, overexpression of AtHB2 (AT4G16780) significantly affects the α -linolenic acid and total fatty acid contents as well as plant growth and seed dry weight (Vigeolas et al., 2011; Nehlin, 2015; Ivarson et al., 2017). One of the LATERAL ORGAN BOUNDARIES DOMAIN (LBD) family of TF genes, Solyc11g072470, was also up-regulated in the pericarp of RNAi-2Q1. Populus LBD1 is involved in the regulation of secondary growth in Populus and an activationtagged mutant of PtaLBD1 showed increased stem diameter and smaller leaves (Yordanov et al., 2010).



Fig. 8. Co-expression analyses with *SIKLUH* in developing pericarp and seed in the *fw3.2* NILs. (A) Hierarchical cluster tree of genes showing co-expression modules based on WGCNA in *fw3.2(ys)*. (B) Hierarchical cluster tree of genes showing co-expression modules based on WGCNA in *fw3.2(wt)*. Each 'leaf' in the tree represents one individual gene. The branches correspond to modules labeled with different colors. The color rows below the dendrograms indicate module membership in *fw3.2(ys)* (A) and in *fw3.2(wt)* (B). (C) Heatmap of gene expression (upper panel) and expression levels of the corresponding eigengene across the samples (lower panel) in the *fw3.2(ys)* NIL. The heatmap (upper panel) and barplot of eigengene expression (lower panel) have the same samples (*x*-axis). Rows of the heatmap correspond to genes, columns to samples. Red and green in the color key denote overexpression and underexpression, respectively. (D) Similar to (C) but instead for *fw3.2(wt)*.

Other TF genes previously described as organ size regulators were co-expressed with SlKLUH in either YYM or WGM. For example, four AP2 TF genes were identified in YYM but not in WGM (Supplementary Figs S10, S11; Supplementary Table S4). Of these, three AP2 TF genes (Solyc02g064960, Solyc10g084340, and Solyc04g049800) were clustered with the APETALA-like subfamily (Supplementary Fig. S11). AT4G36920, a member of the APETALA-like subfamily, plays an important role in determining seed size and oil contents without substantial changes in seed fatty acid composition (Jofuku et al., 2005; Ohto et al., 2009; Yan et al., 2012). In rice, SUPERNUMERARY BRACT (OsSNB) was identified as a negative regulator of seed weight (Jiang et al., 2019). In tomato, AP2a (Solyc03g044300) was identified as a major negative regulator of fruit ripening via regulation of ethylene biosynthesis and signaling (Chung et al., 2010; Karlova et al., 2011). The RNAi lines of SlAP2a showed smaller fruit size than the wild type (Chung et al., 2010). Another AP2TF gene, Solyc02g030210, is one of the orthologs of WRINKLED1 (WRI1) (Supplementary Fig. S11). The positive roles of AtWRI1 and its orthologs in regulating lipid metabolism and seed mass have been extensively demonstrated (Baud et al., 2009; Shen et al., 2010; Qu et al., 2012; Ma et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2014; Ivarson et al., 2017). In addition, putative auxin response factor (ARF) genes (Solyc07g043620, Solyc07g043610, and Solyc07g016180) and WUSCHEL-related homeobox (WOX) (Solyc02g077390) were identified as co-expressed genes of SlKLUH in WGM only (Supplementary Table S4). Many ARFs regulate gene expression in response to auxin, and have been identified as important regulators of organ size, including ARF2 in Arabidopsis (Schruff et al., 2006), ARF1 in rice (Ava et al., 2014), ARF18 in rapeseed (Liu et al., 2015), ARF2 in sea buckthorn (Ding et al., 2018), and ARF19 in the woody plant Jatropha curcas (Y. Sun et al., 2017). In addition, several ARFs in cucumber were identified which putatively regulate carpel number variation through interaction with the orthologs of CLV3 and WUS (Che et al., 2020). WOXs are also well known to be associated with organ size. For example, overexpression of STENOFOLIA (STF), a WOX family TF gene, significantly increases plant size, including leaf width and stem thickness, through enhancing cell proliferation (Wang et al., 2017). These data suggest that TFs may play a key role in fruit and seed weight regulation in the KLUH pathway in tomato.



Fig. 9. Network depiction of the *SIKLUH*-containing modules with hub genes. (A) YYM network in *fw3.2(ys*); (B) WGM network in *fw3.2(wt*). Fifty hub genes with the edge weight higher than 0.25 (A) and 0.2 (B), respectively, are visualized by Cytoscape. The pink circles represent TFs. Red lines show the edges of *SIKLUH* to its neighbor genes. Nodes represent genes, and node size is correlated with connectivity of the gene.



Fig. 10. Significantly enriched GO terms of the YYM (left panel) and WGM (right panel). The size of the circles indicates the number of co-expressed genes in the given GO term. The color coding indicates the gene ratio calculated as the number of co-expressed genes in the given GO term divided by the total number of genes in the term. The *x*-axis indicates the FDR-adjusted *P*-value.

Overexpression of SISHN1 significantly decreases fruit and seed weight

In tomato, certain lipid metabolism-related genes have been experimentally characterized for their involvement in fruit cutin biosynthesis and fatty acid elongation. To evaluate if genes that impact these two pathways also play roles in fruit and seed weight, we identified the sources of transgenic or natural mutant lines that differ in their lipid metabolism. One example is WAX INDUCER1/SHINE1 (WIN/SHN1) which encodes a transcription factor that regulates the 'Cutin synthesis and transport' and 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' pathways in Arabidopsis (Aharoni et al., 2004; Broun et al., 2004; Kannangara et al., 2007; Li-Beisson et al., 2010, 2013). In tomato, SHINE1 (SISHN1; Solyc03g116610) and SISHN2 (Solyc12g009490) are putative orthologs of Arabidopsis WIN/SHN1. SISHN2 showed significantly higher expression in the pericarp of fw3.2(wt) (Supplementary Dataset S2) and the RNAi-2Q1 line (Supplementary Dataset S3) compared with fw3.2(ys). On the other hand, SISHN1 showed low or undetectable expression in our datasets (0-0.1 RPKM). Overexpression of SlSHN1 increases cuticular wax accumulation, resulting in improved drought tolerance in tomato (Al-Abdallat et al., 2014). To assess whether overexpression of SISHN1 affects fruit and seed weight, we evaluated these traits in the previously described SISHN1-overexpressing lines (Al-Abdallat et al., 2014). The results showed that high and ubiquitous expression of SlSHN1 significantly decreased fruit weight by reducing the number of cell layers and pericarp thickness compared with the nontransgenic control (Fig. 11). Seed weight was also reduced in the overexpression lines (Fig. 11). The results imply that fruit and seed weight may be directly affected by changes in lipid metabolism by the paralog of SISHN1, SISHN2.

Tomato CD2 (Solyc01g091630), a HD-Zip TF gene, was found in the WGM, and is involved in cutin biosynthesis and wax deposition (Nadakuduti *et al.*, 2012; Kimbara *et al.*, 2013). We evaluated the fruit and seed weight of the *cd2* mutant in the AC background. No significant differences in fruit and seed w eight were found between *cd2* and the control under greenhouse conditions (Supplementary Fig. S12A). In the field trial, fruit weight in *cd2* was significantly higher than in the control, whereas seed weight was significantly lower than in the control (Supplementary Fig. S12B). The inconsistent results between the greenhouse and field trials as well as between the fruit and seed suggested that these traits were not significantly affected by *CD2*.

Discussion

SIKLUH appears to function in the cell proliferation phase at the early stages of fruit development

CYP78A is a highly conserved plant-specific subclade in the CYP450 family (Nelson, 2006; Mizutani and Ohta, 2010). Members of CYP78A are recognized to positively regulate

KLUH regulates tomato fruit and seed weight. | 1237

organ weight and size as well as development in plants such as Arabidopsis (Wang et al., 2008; Fang et al., 2012; Sotelo-Silveira et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2013), rice (Nagasawa et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2013; Maeda et al., 2019), wheat (Ma et al., 2015a, b), maize (X. Sun et al., 2017), soybean (Wang et al., 2015a; Zhao et al., 2016), J. curcas (Tian et al., 2016), sweet cherry (Qi et al., 2017), tomato, and pepper (Chakrabarti et al., 2013). Different CYP78As regulate organ size differently. For example, Arabidopsis KLUH/CYP78A5 appears to affect cell proliferation at the early stages of integument growth, therefore regulating the seed size (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009). In contrast, EOD3/CYP78A6 and CYP78A9 are primarily involved in the regulation of cell expansion phases during the later stages of integument development (Fang et al., 2012). Moreover, the rice and maize PLASTOCHRON1 (PLA1) genes stimulate leaf growth by prolonging the duration of cell division (Miyoshi et al., 2004; Mimura and Itoh, 2014; X. Sun et al., 2017). In this study, we found that SlKLUH affects pericarp cell proliferation in the early stages of fruit development (5-7 DPA). The phylogenetic analysis supported the notion that SlKLUH controls cell proliferation as it is the closest ortholog to AtCYP78A10 and AtCYP78A5 (Fig. 1).

The link between organ weight and lipid metabolism in plants

Arabidopsis KLUH is proposed to produce an unknown signaling molecule that non-cell-autonomously regulates cell proliferation in different organs (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Adamski et al., 2009; Eriksson et al., 2010). It has been hypothesized that the unknown signaling molecule might be fatty acid-derived molecules (Anastasiou et al., 2007; Eriksson et al., 2010; X. Sun et al., 2017) based on the following evidence: (i) Arabidopsis CYP78A5, CYP78A7, and CYP78A10, and maize PLA1 hydroxylate short-chain fatty acids, including lauric acid (C12:0), myristic acid (C14:0), myristoleic acid (C14:1), and palmitic acid (C16:0) (Imaishi et al., 2000; Kai et al., 2009). Similarly, activation of rice CYP78A13 decreases nicotinic acid, shikimic acid, and quinic acid contents and increases the contents of glyceric acid and palmitic acid (Xu et al., 2015). These results suggest that OsCYP78A13 might control organ growth via modification of short-chain fatty acid-derived molecules. Furthermore, OsCYP78A13 rescued the klu-4 mutant, implying that the signals produced by the CYP78A subfamily proteins are identical in rice and Arabidopsis (Yang et al., 2013; Xu et al., 2015). However, the application of exogenous 12-hydroxylated lauric acid did not rescue the major phenotype of the cyp78a5/a7 double mutant (Kai et al., 2009), suggesting that the substrates catalyzed by CYP78A subfamily proteins remain elusive in plants. (ii) Cytochrome P450s catalyze various types of oxygenation reactions using fatty acids as substrates (Pinot and Beisson, 2011). Eight cytochrome P450 genes involved in fatty acid modification are transcriptionally regulated by KLUH/CYP78A5



Fig. 11. Overexpression of *SISHN1* results in decreased fruit and seed weight. (A) Medio-lateral section of mature fruits of cultivar Moneymaker and *SISHN1* overexpression lines in the Moneymaker background. Scale bar=1 cm. (B) Hand cut section of pericarp from representative mature green fruit stained with toluidine blue. Scale bar=2 mm. (C) Representative seeds from Moneymaker and the *SISHN1* overexpression lines. Scale bar=2 mm. (D) Quantitative analysis of fruit weight, pericarp thickness, cell layer number, and seed weight. For pericarp cell layer analysis, the endoderm layer and the small cells below the exoderm were not counted since in many cases they are not clearly visible which could skew the results. The letters in the boxplots indicate significant differences among different genotypes evaluated by Duncan's test (α <0.05).

activity in Arabidopsis (Anastasiou et al., 2007). (iii) Many studies revealed a mechanistic link between lipid metabolism and seed size. For example, overexpression of miRNA167A results in lower α -linolenic acid content and larger seed size via decreased transcription of fatty acid desaturase3 (CsFAD3) in Camelina sativa (Na et al., 2019). Similarly, GmFAD3-silenced plants contain reduced levels of linolenic acid (18:3) and produce significantly larger seeds in soybean (Singh et al., 2011). Down-regulation of BnDof5.6 in canola reduces both embryo size and fatty acids content (Deng et al., 2015). Moreover, reduced expression of HECT E3 ligase in canola results in larger seeds with increased lipid content (Miller et al., 2019). Other studies have also supported a link between lipid metabolism and seed weight (Chen et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2016; Lunn et al., 2018; Meru et al., 2018; Guo et al., 2019). For example, the mutation of Arabidopsis TRANSPARENT TESTA2 (TT2) significantly increased the seed fatty acid content and decreased seed weight (Chen et al., 2012). Overexpression of rice ACYL-CoA-BINDING PROTEIN 2 (OsACBP 2) confers an increase in grain size and seed oil content (Guo et al., 2019). Similarly, the increased seed oil is also concomitant with an increase in seed weight in transgenic lines overexpressing Arabidopsis Seipin1 (AtSEI1) (Lunn et al., 2018).

In the present study, the *fw3.2* NILs and the *RNAi-2Q1* that down-regulate the expression of *SlKLUH* offer opportunities

to reveal the molecular mechanisms controlling fruit and seed weight by this CYP78A member. DEGs between the two expression datasets, the NILs and the fw3.2(ys)–RNAi-2Q1, were enriched for genes that were part of several lipid metabolism pathways (Figs 3D, 4C; Supplementary Fig. S6). These results provide an indication of a possible link between SIKLUHmediated fruit and seed weight regulation and lipid metabolism in tomato such that decreased expression of SIKLUH results in increased expression of many lipid metabolism-related genes. In addition, the transgenic lines overexpressing SISHN1 that show a significant decrease in fruit and seed weight also indicate a correlation between fruit and seed weight and lipid metabolism.

In our study, we found that fruit and seed weight were significantly different between *cd2* and the control under field conditions and in opposite directions (Supplementary Fig. S12B). Furthermore, the lack of consistency between field and greenhouse and the differing response suggest that *CD2* has no dramatic effect on fruit and seed weight in tomato (Supplementary Fig. S12). Moreover, altered expression of other lipid metabolism-related genes such as *GDSL1* (*Solyc11g006250*) and *GLYCEROL-3-PHOSPHATE ACYLTRANSFERASE 6* (*SIGPAT6*, *Solyc09g014350*) have no demonstrable effect on fruit weight (Girard *et al.*, 2012; Petit *et al.*, 2016). These results indicate the complicated relationship between lipid metabolism and fruit and seed weight. Furthermore, co-expression analyses also did not show a tight link between *SlKLUH* and lipid metabolism. In fact, only 37 (~2.2%) and 44 (~3.5%) lipid metabolism-related genes were identified in YYM and WGM (Supplementary Table S5), respectively. Therefore, it is possible that lipid metabolism is associated with but not directly regulated by *SlKLUH*, and that this pathway instead is associated with photosynthesis-related processes. However, little is known about the relationships among KLUH, photosynthesis-related processes, and lipid metabolism, which need to be further studied.

DEG and co-expression network analyses provide a valuable resource of candidate genes putatively involved in organ weight regulation in tomato and other plants

The molecular mechanisms underpinning KLUH-mediated fruit and seed weight are poorly understood in tomato. The differential expression and co-expression analyses led to the identification of a number of candidate genes putatively involved in organ weight regulation mediated by SIKLUH in tomato.

In addition to the nine TFs which are common DEGs in both the fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2(wt) and the fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 datasets (Supplementary Table S4), many DEGs encoding enzymes or transporters in 'Cutin synthesis and transport' and 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis' pathways were also identified (Figs 5, 6). Moreover, some of them are putatively involved in both plant development and lipid metabolism based on previous studies, including HOTHEAD (HTH; AT1G72970) (Solyc06g062600), DEFECTIVE IN CUTICULAR RIDGES (DCR; AT5G23940) (Solyc03g025320), ATP-BINDING CASSETTE G11 (ABCG11; AT1G17840) (Solvc01g105450), and lipid transfer protein (LTP) genes. HTH, catalyzing the biosynthesis of long-chain α -, ω -dicarboxylic fatty acids, is required for the prevention of organ fusions in floral organs in Arabidopsis and rice (Krolikowski et al., 2003; Kurdyukov et al., 2006; Akiba et al., 2013; Xu et al., 2017). DCR is involved in cutin and triacylglycerol biosynthesis (Panikashvili et al., 2009; Rani et al., 2010). The dcr mutants had wider and longer seeds than the wild type (Rani et al., 2010). ABCG11 is involved in sterol/lipid homeostasis and vascular development in addition to plant growth (Panikashvili et al., 2010, 2011; Le Hir et al., 2013; Yadav et al., 2014). Seven out of eight LTP genes were down-regulated in RNAi-2Q1 compared with fw3.2(ys) (Fig. 6). LTPs are known to affect cuticle biosynthesis and transport, as well as seed development (Kim et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2015b; Deng et al., 2016; Kouidri et al., 2018). Notably, tomato CUTIN SYNTHASE1 (SlCUS1; Solyc11g006250), an important gene involved in the 'Cutin synthesis and transport' pathway, was up-regulated in 7 DPA pericarp of fw3.2(wt) and RNAi-2Q1 (Fig. 5). It encodes GDSL-motif esterase/acyltransferase/lipase protein and has been shown to be associated with both lipid

metabolism and epidermal cell development (Segado et al., 2020).

In Arabidopsis, nine cytochrome P450 genes were transcriptionally affected by mutations in CYP78A5/KLUH (Anastasiou *et al.*, 2007) of which eight were linked to fatty acid modifications. In our datasets, only *CYP76C4* (*Solyc02g090350*, *AT2G45550*) was identified as a down-regulated DEG in 7 DPA pericarp and seeds in *RNAi-2Q1* (Supplementary Dataset S3), but not in the NILs, suggesting a role for *CYP76C4* in the KLUH pathway in both tomato and Arabidopsis. Further studies are required to confirm the biological and biochemical functions of *CYP76C4* and its relationship to KLUH in Arabidopsis and tomato.

Co-expression network analyses identified common and unique gene sets between YYM and WGM including many TFs putatively associated with fruit and seed weight in tomato (Supplementary Table S4). Co-expressed genes of interest that are not TF genes in YYM and WGM were also found. For example, the RING-type E3 ubiquitin ligase EOD1 (AT3G63530) (Solyc11g062260) was identified as a negative regulator of organ size (Disch et al., 2006; Li et al., 2008; Li and Li, 2015; Vanhaeren et al., 2017). The eod1 mutants had larger organs and increased biomass, while overexpression of EOD1 resulted in reduced organ growth (Disch et al., 2006; Xia et al., 2013). Arabidopsis DWF4 (AT3G50660) (Solyc02g093540) encodes a C-22 hydroxylase that catalyzes a rate-determining step in brassinosteroid biosynthesis. Overexpression of DWF4 significantly increased seed number and weight, thus increasing seed yield in Arabidopsis (Choe et al., 2001), Brassica napus (Sahni et al., 2016), and rice (Wu et al., 2008).

Together, we propose many DEGs and co-expressed genes that are putatively involved in the fruit and seed weight regulation mediated by SlKLUH. This knowledge is helpful to elucidate the whole picture of the KLUH pathway regulating organ size in tomato and other crops. However, the exact functions of these candidate genes remain to be studied in tomato.

Conclusion

Our results reinforce the notion that lipid metabolism is involved in SlKLUH-mediated regulation of fruit and seed weight through a possible mechanism as proposed in Fig. 12. The differential expression of *SlKLUH* between the NILs results in different co-expression networks that are associated with fruit and seed development, possibly through modulating photosynthesis-related processes. The TFs identified in YYM and WGM are putative upstream regulators of *SlKLUH*. In the small-fruited NIL *fw3.2(wt)* and *RNAi-2Q1*, lower expression of *SlKLUH* is associated with increased expression of many genes involved in lipid metabolism, especially for genes involved in 'Cutin synthesis and transport' and 'Fatty acid elongation and wax biosynthesis'. Thus, the contents of certain non-phosphorus glycerolipids and phospholipids were



Fig. 12. Proposed model of *SIKLUH*-mediated regulation of fruit and seed weight in tomato. The differential expression of *SIKLUH* results in altered expression of many lipid-related genes, photosynthesis-related processes, and lipid profiles that can determine genotype-specific fruit and seed size. The font size of 'KLUH' and 'Lipid-related genes' corresponds to the expression levels. The font size of 'Non-phosphorus glycerolipids and phospholipids' and 'Four unknown lipids' indicates the contents of the lipids.

increased while the contents of the four unknown lipids were decreased. Importantly, a number of lipid-related genes and TFs putatively involved in the regulation of fruit and seed weight in tomato were also identified, providing potential targets for further dissecting the molecular mechanisms underlying fruit and seed weight in tomato and other crops.

Supplementary data

The following supplementary data are available at *JXB* online. Table S1. Summary of RNA-seq mapping for all samples.

Table S2. Shared DEGs in 7 DPA pericarp and seed in *fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2 (wt)* and *fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1* comparisons.

Table S3. Lipid-related DEGs in the fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2(wt) and fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 comparisons.

Table S4. Common transcription factors identified in fw3.2(ys)-fw3.2(wt) and fw3.2(ys)-RNAi-2Q1 comparisons and transcription factors in YYM and WGM.

Table S5. Lipid-related genes in YYM and WGM.

Fig. S1. Developing fruit at six developmental time points in the fw3.2 NILs.

Fig. S2. Phenotypic evaluations of the NILs in the second replication.

Fig. S3. Spearman correlation coefficient (SCC) analysis of transcriptomic profiles of the 48 replicates from fw3.2 (*ys*) and fw3.2(*wt*).

Fig. S4. Spearman correlation coefficient (SCC) of transcriptomic profiles of all 12 replicates from transgenic lines *RNAi-2G2* and *RNAi-2Q1* that down-regulate *SlKLUH*.

Fig. S5. Up- and down-regulated genes in pericarp and seed at 7 DPA in the *RNAi-2Q1* or *fw3.2(wt*) compared with the *fw3.2* (*ys*).

Fig. S6. Overview of the distribution of the DEGs in lipid metabolism pathways.

Fig. S7 Comparison of known lipids of 5 DPA fruits from *fw3.2 (ys), fw3.2(wt)*, and *RNAi-2Q1*.

Fig. S8. Comparison of co-expressed genes in YYM and WGM.

Fig. S9. Expression profiles of *Solyc04g074990* (ZF-HD), *Solyc08g079800* (GRF), and *Solyc04g077510* (GRF) in developing pericarp and seeds in the NILs.

Fig. S10. Overview of distribution of TF families that were co-expressed with *SlKLUH* in YYM and WGM.

Fig. S11. Phylogenetic analysis of AP2 transcription factors from tomato, Arabidopsis, and five WRI1 orthologs from other plant species.

Fig. S12. Fruit weight and 50 seeds weight of *cd2* and Ailsa Craig (AC) control from the greenhouse and field trial.

Dataset S1. DEGs at different developmental time points of pericarp and seed in the fw3.2 NILs.

Dataset S2. DEGs significantly affected by genotype in the *fw3.2* NILs.

Dataset S3. DEGs in 7 DPA pericarp and seed between *fw3.2(ys)* and *RNAi-2Q1*.

Dataset S4. Co-expressed genes in the 11 modules identified in fw3.2(ys) using WGCNA.

Dataset S5. Co-expressed genes in the 10 modules identified in fw3.2(wt) using WGCNA.

Acknowledgements

This study was supported by the National Science Foundation (IOS 0922661) and the Office of the Vice President for Research at UGA start up fund to EvdK. QL was also supported by a 1 year fellowship from the China Scholarship Council. We thank Dr Cornelius Barry from Michigan State University for the *cd2* and wild-type control seeds.

Author contributions

Conceptualization, QL and EvdK; Investigation, QL, MC, NKT, YO, KS, AA-A, and EvdK; Software, QL, NKT, and YO; Resources, AA-A and EvdK; Data curation, QL, MC, YO, KS, and EvdK; Formal analysis, QL, MC, and YO; Visualization, QL and YO; Validation, QL, MC, and EvdK; Supervision, EvdK; Project administration, EvdK; Writing—original draft, QL; Writing—review and editing, MC, NKT, YO, KS, AA-A, and EvdK; Funding acquisition, QL and EvdK;

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no competing interests.

Data availability

The data supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author, EvdK, upon request.

References

Abdi H, Molin P. 2007. Lilliefors/Van Soest's test of normality. In: Salkind N, ed. Encyclopedia of measurement and statistics. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 1–10.

Adamski NM, Anastasiou E, Eriksson S, O'Neill CM, Lenhard M. 2009. Local maternal control of seed size by KLUH/CYP78A5-dependent growth signaling. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **106**, 20115–20120.

Aharoni A, Dixit S, Jetter R, Thoenes E, van Arkel G, Pereira A. 2004. The SHINE clade of AP2 domain transcription factors activates wax biosynthesis, alters cuticle properties, and confers drought tolerance when overexpressed in Arabidopsis. The Plant Cell **16**, 2463–2480.

Akiba T, Hibara K, Kimura F, et al. 2014. Organ fusion and defective shoot development in oni3 mutants of rice. Plant & Cell Physiology 55, 42–51.

Al-Abdallat AM, Al-Debei HS, Ayad JY, Hasan S. 2014. Over-expression of SISHN1 gene improves drought tolerance by increasing cuticular wax accumulation in tomato. International Journal of Molecular Sciences **15**, 19499–19515.

Alexa A, Rahnenfuhrer J. 2020. topGO: enrichment analysis for gene ontology. R package version 2.40.0.

Alexa A, Rahnenführer J, Lengauer T. 2006. Improved scoring of functional groups from gene expression data by decorrelating GO graph structure. Bioinformatics **22**, 1600–1607.

Alonge M, Wang X, Benoit M, *et al.* 2020. Major impacts of widespread structural variation on gene expression and crop improvement in tomato. Cell **182**, 145–161.e23.

Anastasiou E, Kenz S, Gerstung M, MacLean D, Timmer J, Fleck C, Lenhard M. 2007. Control of plant organ size by KLUH/CYP78A5dependent intercellular signaling. Developmental Cell **13**, 843–856.

Aya K, Hobo T, Sato-Izawa K, Ueguchi-Tanaka M, Kitano H, Matsuoka M. 2014. A novel AP2-type transcription factor, SMALL ORGAN SIZE1, controls organ size downstream of an auxin signaling pathway. Plant & Cell Physiology **55**, 897–912.

Barabási AL, Gulbahce N, Loscalzo J. 2011. Network medicine: a network-based approach to human disease. Nature Reviews. Genetics **12**, 56–68.

Baud S, Wuillème S, To A, Rochat C, Lepiniec L. 2009. Role of WRINKLED1 in the transcriptional regulation of glycolytic and fatty acid bio-synthetic genes in Arabidopsis. The Plant Journal **60**, 933–947.

Bligh EG, Dyer WJ. 1959. A rapid method of total lipid extraction and purification. Canadian Journal of Biochemistry and Physiology **37**, 911–917.

Broun P, Poindexter P, Osborne E, Jiang CZ, Riechmann JL. 2004. WIN1, a transcriptional activator of epidermal wax accumulation in Arabidopsis. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **101**, 4706–4711.

Bueso E, Muñoz-Bertomeu J, Campos F, Brunaud V, Martínez L, Sayas E, Ballester P, Yenush L, Serrano R. 2014. ARABIDOPSIS THALIANA HOMEOBOX25 uncovers a role for gibberellins in seed longevity. Plant Physiology **164**, 999–1010.

Chakrabarti M, Zhang N, Sauvage C, et al. 2013. A cytochrome P450 regulates a domestication trait in cultivated tomato. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **110**, 17125–17130.

Che G, Gu R, Zhao J, *et al.* 2020. Gene regulatory network controlling carpel number variation in cucumber. Development **147**, dev184788.

Chen M, Wang Z, Zhu Y, Li Z, Hussain N, Xuan L, Guo W, Zhang G, Jiang L. 2012. The effect of transparent TESTA2 on seed fatty acid biosynthesis and tolerance to environmental stresses during young seedling establishment in Arabidopsis. Plant Physiology **160**, 1023–1036.

Choe S, Fujioka S, Noguchi T, Takatsuto S, Yoshida S, Feldmann KA. 2001. Overexpression of DWARF4 in the brassinosteroid biosynthetic pathway results in increased vegetative growth and seed yield in Arabidopsis. The Plant Journal **26**, 573–582.

Chung MY, Vrebalov J, Alba R, Lee J, McQuinn R, Chung JD, Klein P, Giovannoni J. 2010. A tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) APETALA2/ERF gene, SIAP2a, is a negative regulator of fruit ripening. The Plant Journal **64**, 936–947.

Deng T, Yao H, Wang J, Wang J, Xue H, Zuo K. 2016. GhLTPG1, a cotton GPI-anchored lipid transfer protein, regulates the transport of phosphatidylinositol monophosphates and cotton fiber elongation. Scientific Reports **6**, 26829.

Deng W, Yan F, Zhang X, Tang Y, Yuan Y. 2015. Transcriptional profiling of canola developing embryo and identification of the important roles of BnDof5.6 in embryo development and fatty acids synthesis. Plant & Cell Physiology **56**, 1624–1640.

Ding J, Ruan C, Guan Y, Krishna P. 2018. Identification of microRNAs involved in lipid biosynthesis and seed size in developing sea buckthorn seeds using high-throughput sequencing. Scientific Reports **8**, 4022.

Disch S, Anastasiou E, Sharma VK, Laux T, Fletcher JC, Lenhard M. 2006. The E3 ubiquitin ligase BIG BROTHER controls Arabidopsis organ size in a dosage-dependent manner. Current Biology **16**, 272–279.

Eriksson S, Stransfeld L, Adamski NM, Breuninger H, Lenhard M. 2010. KLUH/CYP78A5-dependent growth signaling coordinates floral organ growth in Arabidopsis. Current Biology **20**, 527–532.

Fang W, Wang Z, Cui R, Li J, Li Y. 2012. Maternal control of seed size by EOD3/CYP78A6 in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The Plant Journal **70**, 929–939.

Ge L, Yu J, Wang H, Luth D, Bai G, Wang K, Chen R. 2016. Increasing seed size and quality by manipulating BIG SEEDS1 in legume species. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **113**, 12414–12419.

Girard AL, Mounet F, Lemaire-Chamley M, et al. 2012. Tomato GDSL1 is required for cutin deposition in the fruit cuticle. The Plant Cell **24**, 3119–3134.

Gonzalez N, Beemster GT, Inzé D. 2009. David and Goliath: what can the tiny weed Arabidopsis teach us to improve biomass production in crops? Current Opinion in Plant Biology **12**, 157–164.

Guo ZH, Haslam RP, Michaelson LV, Yeung EC, Lung SC, Napier JA, Chye ML. 2019. The overexpression of rice ACYL-CoA-BINDING PROTEIN2 increases grain size and bran oil content in transgenic rice. The Plant Journal **100**, 1132–1147.

Hiratsu K, Ohta M, Matsui K, Ohme-Takagi M. 2002. The SUPERMAN protein is an active repressor whose carboxy-terminal repression domain is required for the development of normal flowers. FEBS Letters **514**, 351–354.

Horiguchi G, Kim GT, Tsukaya H. 2005. The transcription factor AtGRF5 and the transcription coactivator AN3 regulate cell proliferation in leaf primordia of *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The Plant Journal **43**, 68–78.

Imaishi H, Matsuo S, Swai E, Ohkawa H. 2000. CYP78A1 preferentially expressed in developing inflorescences of *Zea mays* encoded a cytochrome P450-dependent lauric acid 12-monooxygenase. Bioscience, Biotechnology, and Biochemistry **64**, 1696–1701.

Ivarson E, Leiva-Eriksson N, Ahlman A, Kanagarajan S, Bülow L, Zhu LH. 2016. Effects of overexpression of WRI1 and hemoglobin genes on the seed oil content of *Lepidium campestre*. Frontiers in Plant Science **7**, 2032.

Jiang L, Ma X, Zhao S, et al. 2019. The APETALA2-like transcription factor SUPERNUMERARY BRACT controls rice seed shattering and seed size. The Plant Cell **31**, 17–36.

Jofuku KD, Omidyar PK, Gee Z, Okamuro JK. 2005. Control of seed mass and seed yield by the floral homeotic gene APETALA2. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **102**, 3117–3122.

Kai K, Hashidzume H, Yoshimura K, Suzuki H, Sakurai N, Shibata D, Ohta D. 2009. Metabolomics for the characterization of cytochromes P450-dependent fatty acid hydroxylation reactions in Arabidopsis. Plant Biotechnology **26**, 175–182.

Kannangara R, Branigan C, Liu Y, Penfield T, Rao V, Mouille G, Höfte H, Pauly M, Riechmann JL, Broun P. 2007. The transcription factor WIN1/SHN1 regulates cutin biosynthesis in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The Plant Cell **19**, 1278–1294.

Karlova R, Rosin FM, Busscher-Lange J, Parapunova V, Do PT, Fernie AR, Fraser PD, Baxter C, Angenent GC, de Maagd RA. 2011. Transcriptome and metabolite profiling show that APETALA2a is a major regulator of tomato fruit ripening. The Plant Cell **23**, 923–941.

Kim H, Lee SB, Kim HJ, Min MK, Hwang I, Suh MC. 2012. Characterization of glycosylphosphatidylinositol-anchored lipid transfer protein 2 (LTPG2) and overlapping function between LTPG/LTPG1 and LTPG2 in cuticular wax export or accumulation in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Plant & Cell Physiology **53**, 1391–1403.

Kimbara J, Yoshida M, Ito H, et al. 2013. Inhibition of CUTIN DEFICIENT 2 causes defects in cuticle function and structure and metabolite changes in tomato fruit. Plant & Cell Physiology 54, 1535–1548.

Kolde R. 2012. Pheatmap: pretty heatmaps. R package.

Kouidri A, Baumann U, Okada T, Baes M, Tucker EJ, Whitford R. 2018. Wheat TaMs1 is a glycosylphosphatidylinositol-anchored lipid transfer protein necessary for pollen development. BMC Plant Biology **18**, 332.

Krolikowski KA, Victor JL, Wagler TN, Lolle SJ, Pruitt RE. 2003. Isolation and characterization of the Arabidopsis organ fusion gene HOTHEAD. The Plant Journal **35**, 501–511.

Kurdyukov S, Faust A, Trenkamp S, Bär S, Franke R, Efremova N, Tietjen K, Schreiber L, Saedler H, Yephremov A. 2006. Genetic and biochemical evidence for involvement of HOTHEAD in the biosynthesis of long-chain alpha-,omega-dicarboxylic fatty acids and formation of extracel-lular matrix. Planta **224**, 315–329.

Langfelder P, Horvath S. 2008. WGCNA: an R package for weighted correlation network analysis. BMC Bioinformatics 9, 559.

Langfelder P, Mischel PS, Horvath S. 2013. When is hub gene selection better than standard meta-analysis? PLoS One 8, e61505.

Le Hir R, Sorin C, Chakraborti D, Moritz T, Schaller H, Tellier F, Robert S, Morin H, Bako L, Bellini C. 2013. ABCG9, ABCG11 and ABCG14 ABC transporters are required for vascular development in Arabidopsis. The Plant Journal **76**, 811–824.

Li N, Li Y. 2015. Maternal control of seed size in plants. Journal of Experimental Botany 66, 1087–1097.

Li N, Li Y. 2016. Signaling pathways of seed size control in plants. Current Opinion in Plant Biology **33**, 23–32.

Li N, Xu R, Li Y. 2019. Molecular networks of seed size control in plants. Annual Review of Plant Biology 70, 435–463.

Li S, Gao F, Xie K, *et al.* 2016. The OsmiR396c–OsGRF4–OsGIF1 regulatory module determines grain size and yield in rice. Plant Biotechnology Journal **14**, 2134–2146.

Li Y, Zheng L, Corke F, Smith C, Bevan MW. 2008. Control of final seed and organ size by the DA1 gene family in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Genes & Development **22**, 1331–1336. **Li-Beisson Y, Shorrosh B, Beisson F, et al.** 2010. Acyl-lipid metabolism. The Arabidopsis Book **8**, e0133.

Li-Beisson Y, Shorrosh B, Beisson F, et al. 2013. Acyl-lipid metabolism. The Arabidopsis Book 11, e0161.

Liu J, Deng S, Wang H, Ye J, Wu HW, Sun HX, Chua NH. 2016. CURLY LEAF regulates gene sets coordinating seed size and lipid biosynthesis. Plant Physiology **171**, 424–436.

Liu J, Hua W, Hu Z, Yang H, Zhang L, Li R, Deng L, Sun X, Wang X, Wang H. 2015. Natural variation in ARF18 gene simultaneously affects seed weight and silique length in polyploid rapeseed. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA **112**, E5123–E5132.

Love MI, Huber W, Anders S. 2014. Moderated estimation of fold change and dispersion for RNA-seq data with DESeq2. Genome Biology **15**, 550.

Lunn D, Wallis JG, Browse J. 2018. Overexpression of *seipin1* increases oil in hydroxy fatty acid-accumulating seeds. Plant & Cell Physiology **59**, 205–214.

Ma M, Wang Q, Li Z, Cheng H, Li Z, Liu X, Song W, Appels R, Zhao H. 2015a. Expression of *TaCYP78A3*, a gene encoding cytochrome P450 CYP78A3 protein in wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.), affects seed size. The Plant Journal **83**, 312–325.

Ma M, Zhao H, Li Z, Hu S, Song W, Liu X. 2015b. TaCYP78A5 regulates seed size in wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). Journal of Experimental Botany **67**, 1397–1410.

Ma W, Kong Q, Arondel V, Kilaru A, Bates PD, Thrower NA, Benning C, Ohlrogge JB. 2013. Wrinkled1, a ubiquitous regulator in oil accumulating tissues from Arabidopsis embryos to oil palm mesocarp. PLoS One 8, e68887.

Maeda S, Dubouzet JG, Kondou Y, Jikumaru Y, Seo S, Oda K, Matsui M, Hirochika H, Mori M. 2019. The rice CYP78A gene BSR2 confers resistance to *Rhizoctonia solani* and affects seed size and growth in Arabidopsis and rice. Scientific Reports **9**, 587.

Meru G, Fu Y, Leyva D, Sarnoski P, Yagiz Y. 2018. Phenotypic relationships among oil, protein, fatty acid composition and seed size traits in *Cucurbita pepo*. Scientia Horticulturae **233**, 47–53.

Miller C, Wells R, McKenzie N, Trick M, Ball J, Fatihi A, Dubreucq B, Chardot T, Lepiniec L, Bevan MW. 2019. Variation in expression of the HECT E3 ligase UPL3 modulates LEC2 levels, seed size, and crop yields in *Brassica napus*. The Plant Cell **31**, 2370–2385.

Mimura M, Itoh J. 2014. Genetic interaction between rice PLASTOCHRON genes and the gibberellin pathway in leaf development. Rice 7, 25.

Miyoshi K, Ahn BO, Kawakatsu T, Ito Y, Itoh J, Nagato Y, Kurata N. 2004. PLASTOCHRON1, a timekeeper of leaf initiation in rice, encodes cytochrome P450. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA 101, 875–880.

Mizutani M, Ohta D. 2010. Diversification of P450 genes during land plant evolution. Annual Review of Plant Biology **61**, 291–315.

Mu Q, Huang Z, Chakrabarti M, Illa-Berenguer E, Liu X, Wang Y, Ramos A, van der Knaap E. 2017. Fruit weight is controlled by cell size regulator encoding a novel protein that is expressed in maturing tomato fruits. PLoS Genetics **13**, e1006930.

Na G, Mu X, Grabowski P, Schmutz J, Lu C. 2019. Enhancing microRNA167A expression in seed decreases the α -linolenic acid content and increases seed size in *Camelina sativa*. The Plant Journal **98**, 346–358.

Nadakuduti SS, Pollard M, Kosma DK, Allen C Jr, Ohlrogge JB, Barry CS. 2012. Pleiotropic phenotypes of the sticky peel mutant provide new insight into the role of CUTIN DEFICIENT2 in epidermal cell function in tomato. Plant Physiology **159**, 945–960.

Nagasawa N, Hibara K, Heppard EP, Vander Velden KA, Luck S, Beatty M, Nagato Y, Sakai H. 2013. GIANT EMBRYO encodes CYP78A13, required for proper size balance between embryo and endosperm in rice. The Plant Journal **75**, 592–605.

Nehlin J. 2015. Fatty acid analysis of *Arabidopsis thaliana* seeds transformed with class 2 non-symbiotic hemoglobins. http://lup.lub.lu.se/ student-papers/record/7370747.

Nelson DR. 2006. Plant cytochrome P450s from moss to poplar. Phytochemistry Reviews 5, 193–204.

Nibau C, Di Stilio VS, Wu HM, Cheung AY. 2011. Arabidopsis and Tobacco superman regulate hormone signalling and mediate cell proliferation and differentiation. Journal of Experimental Botany **62**, 949–961.

Ohto MA, Floyd SK, Fischer RL, Goldberg RB, Harada JJ. 2009. Effects of APETALA2 on embryo, endosperm, and seed coat development determine seed size in Arabidopsis. Sexual Plant Reproduction 22, 277–289.

Okazaki Y, Kamide Y, Hirai MY, Saito K. 2013. Plant lipidomics based on hydrophilic interaction chromatography coupled to ion trap time-of-flight mass spectrometry. Metabolomics **9**, 121–131.

Okazaki Y, Saito K. 2018. Plant lipidomics using UPLC-QTOF-MS. Methods in Molecular Biology **1778**, 157–169.

Panikashvili D, Shi JX, Bocobza S, Franke RB, Schreiber L, Aharoni A. 2010. The Arabidopsis DSO/ABCG11 transporter affects cutin metabolism in reproductive organs and suberin in roots. Molecular Plant **3**, 563–575.

Panikashvili D, Shi JX, Schreiber L, Aharoni A. 2009. The Arabidopsis DCR encoding a soluble BAHD acyltransferase is required for cutin polyester formation and seed hydration properties. Plant Physiology **151**, 1773–1789.

Panikashvili D, Shi JX, Schreiber L, Aharoni A. 2011. The Arabidopsis ABCG13 transporter is required for flower cuticle secretion and patterning of the petal epidermis. New Phytologist **190**, 113–124.

Pertea M, Kim D, Pertea GM, Leek JT, Salzberg SL. 2016. Transcriptlevel expression analysis of RNA-seq experiments with HISAT, StringTie and Ballgown. Nature Protocols **11**, 1650–1667.

Petit J, Bres C, Mauxion JP, Tai FW, Martin LB, Fich EA, Joubès J, Rose JK, Domergue F, Rothan C. 2016. The glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase GPAT6 from tomato plays a central role in fruit cutin biosynthesis. Plant Physiology **171**, 894–913.

Pinot F, Beisson F. 2011. Cytochrome P450 metabolizing fatty acids in plants: characterization and physiological roles. The FEBS Journal **278**, 195–205.

Qi X, Liu C, Song L, Li Y, Li M. 2017. PaCYP78A9, a cytochrome P450, regulates fruit size in sweet cherry (*Prunus avium* L.). Frontiers in Plant Science **8**, 2076.

Qu J, Ye J, Geng YF, Sun YW, Gao SQ, Zhang BP, Chen W, Chua NH. 2012. Dissecting functions of KATANIN and WRINKLED1 in cotton fiber development by virus-induced gene silencing. Plant Physiology **160**, 738–748.

Ramos A. 2018. Mining QTL for fruit weight quality traits in uncharacterized tomato germplasm. University of Georgia.

Rani SH, Krishna TH, Saha S, Negi AS, Rajasekharan R. 2010. Defective in cuticular ridges (*DCR*) of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, a gene associated with surface cutin formation, encodes a soluble diacylglycerol acyltransferase. Journal of Biological Chemistry **285**, 38337–38347.

Rothan C, Diouf I, Causse M. 2019. Trait discovery and editing in tomato. The Plant Journal 97, 73–90.

Sahni S, Prasad BD, Liu Q, Grbic V, Sharpe A, Singh SP, Krishna P. 2016. Overexpression of the brassinosteroid biosynthetic gene *DWF4* in *Brassica napus* simultaneously increases seed yield and stress tolerance. Scientific Reports 6, 28298.

Schneider A, Aghamirzaie D, Elmarakeby H, Poudel AN, Koo AJ, Heath LS, Grene R, Collakova E. 2016. Potential targets of VIVIPAROUS1/ ABI3-LIKE1 (VAL1) repression in developing Arabidopsis thaliana embryos. The Plant Journal **85**, 305–319.

Schruff MC, Spielman M, Tiwari S, Adams S, Fenby N, Scott RJ. 2006. The *AUXIN RESPONSE FACTOR 2* gene of Arabidopsis links auxin signalling, cell division, and the size of seeds and other organs. Development **133**, 251–261.

Segado P, Heredia-Guerrero JA, Heredia A, Domínguez E. 2020. Cutinsomes and CUTIN SYNTHASE1 function sequentially in tomato fruit cutin deposition. Plant Physiology **183**, 1622–1637.

Shen B, Allen WB, Zheng P, Li C, Glassman K, Ranch J, Nubel D, Tarczynski MC. 2010. Expression of ZmLEC1 and ZmWRI1 increases seed oil production in maize. Plant Physiology **153**, 980–987.

Shimano S, Hibara K-I, Furuya T, Arimura S-I, Tsukaya H, Itoh J-I. 2018. Conserved functional control, but distinct regulation, of cell proliferation in rice and Arabidopsis leaves revealed by comparative analysis of GRF-INTERACTING FACTOR 1 orthologs. Development **145**, dev159624.

Singh AK, Fu DQ, El-Habbak M, Navarre D, Ghabrial S, Kachroo A. 2011. Silencing genes encoding omega-3 fatty acid desaturase alters seed size and accumulation of *Bean pod mottle virus* in soybean. Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions **24**, 506–515.

Sotelo-Silveira M, Cucinotta M, Chauvin AL, Chávez Montes RA, Colombo L, Marsch-Martínez N, de Folter S. 2013. Cytochrome P450 CYP78A9 is involved in Arabidopsis reproductive development. Plant Physiology **162**, 779–799.

Sun X, Cahill J, Van Hautegem T, et al. 2017. Altered expression of maize PLASTOCHRON1 enhances biomass and seed yield by extending cell division duration. Nature Communications 8, 14752.

Sun Y, Wang C, Wang N, *et al.* 2017. Manipulation of auxin response factor 19 affects seed size in the woody perennial *Jatropha curcas*. Scientific Reports **7**, 40844.

Suzuki M, Wang HH, McCarty DR. 2007. Repression of the LEAFY COTYLEDON 1/B3 regulatory network in plant embryo development by VP1/ABSCISIC ACID INSENSITIVE 3-LIKE B3 genes. Plant Physiology 143, 902–911.

Tian Y, Zhang M, Hu X, Wang L, Dai J, Xu Y, Chen F. 2016. Overexpression of CYP78A98, a cytochrome P450 gene from *Jatropha curcas* L., increases seed size of transgenic tobacco. Electronic Journal of Biotechnology **19**, 15–22.

Tsukagoshi H, Morikami A, Nakamura K. 2007. Two B3 domain transcriptional repressors prevent sugar-inducible expression of seed maturation genes in Arabidopsis seedlings. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA 104, 2543–2547.

Tsukagoshi H, Saijo T, Shibata D, Morikami A, Nakamura K. 2005. Analysis of a sugar response mutant of Arabidopsis identified a novel B3 domain protein that functions as an active transcriptional repressor. Plant Physiology **138**, 675–685.

Tsukaya H. 2003. Organ shape and size: a lesson from studies of leaf morphogenesis. Current Opinion in Plant Biology **6**, 57–62.

van der Knaap E, Chakrabarti M, Chu YH, et al. 2014. What lies beyond the eye: the molecular mechanisms regulating tomato fruit weight and shape. Frontiers in Plant Science 5, 227.

van der Knaap E, Østergaard L. 2018. Shaping a fruit: developmental pathways that impact growth patterns. Seminars in Cell & Developmental Biology **79**, 27–36.

Vanhaeren H, Nam YJ, De Milde L, Chae E, Storme V, Weigel D, Gonzalez N, Inzé D. 2017. Forever young: the role of ubiquitin receptor DA1 and E3 ligase BIG BROTHER in controlling leaf growth and development. Plant Physiology **173**, 1269–1282.

Vercruysse J, Baekelandt A, Gonzalez N, Inzé D. 2020. Molecular networks regulating cell division during Arabidopsis leaf growth. Journal of Experimental Botany **71**, 2365–2378.

Vercruyssen L, Tognetti VB, Gonzalez N, Van Dingenen J, De Milde L, Bielach A, De Rycke R, Van Breusegem F, Inzé D. 2015. GROWTH REGULATING FACTOR5 stimulates Arabidopsis chloroplast division, photosynthesis, and leaf longevity. Plant Physiology **167**, 817–832.

Vigeolas H, Hühn D, Geigenberger P. 2011. Nonsymbiotic hemoglobin-2 leads to an elevated energy state and to a combined increase in polyunsaturated fatty acids and total oil content when overexpressed in developing seeds of transgenic Arabidopsis plants. Plant Physiology **155**, 1435–1444.

Wang H, Niu L, Fu C, et al. 2017. Overexpression of the WOX gene STENOFOLIA improves biomass yield and sugar release in transgenic grasses and display altered cytokinin homeostasis. PLoS Genetics **13**, e1006649.

Wang JW, Schwab R, Czech B, Mica E, Weigel D. 2008. Dual effects of miR156-targeted SPL genes and CYP78A5/KLUH on plastochron length and organ size in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The Plant Cell **20**, 1231–1243.

Wang X, Li Y, Zhang H, Sun G, Zhang W, Qiu L. 2015*a*. Evolution and association analysis of GmCYP78A10 gene with seed size/weight and pod number in soybean. Molecular Biology Reports **42**, 489–496.

Wang X, Zhou W, Lu Z, Ouyang Y, O CS, Yao J. 2015b. A lipid transfer protein, OsLTPL36, is essential for seed development and seed quality in rice. Plant Science **239**, 200–208.

Wiklund S, Johansson E, Sjöström L, Mellerowicz EJ, Edlund U, Shockcor JP, Gottfries J, Moritz T, Trygg J. 2008. Visualization of GC/TOF-MS-based metabolomics data for identification of biochemically interesting compounds using OPLS class models. Analytical Chemistry **80**, 115–122.

Wu CY, Trieu A, Radhakrishnan P, et al. 2008. Brassinosteroids regulate grain filling in rice. The Plant Cell 20, 2130–2145.

Wu XL, Liu ZH, Hu ZH, Huang RZ. 2014. BnWRI1 coordinates fatty acid biosynthesis and photosynthesis pathways during oil accumulation in rapeseed. Journal of Integrative Plant Biology **56**, 582–593.

Xia T, Li N, Dumenil J, Li J, Kamenski A, Bevan MW, Gao F, Li Y. 2013. The ubiquitin receptor DA1 interacts with the E3 ubiquitin ligase DA2 to regulate seed and organ size in Arabidopsis. The Plant Cell **25**, 3347–3359.

Xu F, Fang J, Ou S, et al. 2015. Variations in CYP78A13 coding region influence grain size and yield in rice. Plant, Cell & Environment **38**, 800–811.

Xu Y, Liu S, Liu Y, Ling S, Chen C, Yao J. 2017. HOTHEAD-like HTH1 is involved in anther cutin biosynthesis and is required for pollen fertility in rice. Plant & Cell Physiology **58**, 1238–1248.

Yadav V, Molina I, Ranathunge K, Castillo IQ, Rothstein SJ, Reed JW. 2014. ABCG transporters are required for suberin and pollen wall extracellular barriers in Arabidopsis. The Plant Cell **26**, 3569–3588.

Yan X, Zhang L, Chen B, Xiong Z, Chen C, Wang L, Yu J, Lu C, Wei W. 2012. Functional identification and characterization of the *Brassica napus* transcription factor gene BnAP2, the ortholog of *Arabidopsis thaliana* APETALA2. PLoS One **7**, e33890.

Yang W, Gao M, Yin X, *et al.* 2013. Control of rice embryo development, shoot apical meristem maintenance, and grain yield by a novel cytochrome p450. Molecular Plant **6**, 1945–1960.

Yordanov YS, Regan S, Busov V. 2010. Members of the LATERAL ORGAN BOUNDARIES DOMAIN transcription factor family are involved in the regulation of secondary growth in Populus. The Plant Cell **22**, 3662–3677.

Zhang D, Sun W, Singh R, Zheng Y, Cao Z, Li M, Lunde C, Hake S, Zhang Z. 2018. GRF-interacting factor1 regulates shoot architecture and meristem determinacy in maize. The Plant Cell **30**, 360–374.

Zhang N. 2012. Fine mapping and characterization of *fw3.2*, one of the major QTL controlling fruit size in tomato. Ohio State University.

Zhao B, Dai A, Wei H, Yang S, Wang B, Jiang N, Feng X. 2016. Arabidopsis KLU homologue GmCYP78A72 regulates seed size in soybean. Plant Molecular Biology **90**, 33–47.