

Molecular cytogenetic characterization of alien introgressions with gene *Fhb3* for resistance to *Fusarium* head blight disease of wheat

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Abstract *Fusarium* head blight (FHB) resistance was identified in the alien species *Leymus racemosus*, and wheat-*Leymus* introgression lines with FHB resistance were reported previously. Detailed molecular cytogenetic analysis of alien introgressions T01, T09, and T14 and the mapping of *Fhb3*, a new gene for FHB resistance, are reported here. The introgression line T09 had an unknown wheat-*Leymus* translocation chromosome. A total of 36 RFLP markers selected from the seven homoeologous groups of wheat were used to characterize T09 and determine the homoeologous relationship of the introgressed *Leymus* chromosome with wheat. Only short arm markers for group 7 detected *Leymus*-specific fragments in T09, whereas 7AS-specific RFLP fragments were missing. C-banding and genomic in situ hybridization results indicated that T09 has a compensating Robertsonian translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S involving the long arm of wheat chromosome 7A and the short arm of *Leymus* chromosome 7Lr#1 substituting for chromosome arm 7AS of wheat.

Introgression lines T01 ($2n = 44$) and T14 ($2n = 44$) each had two pairs of independent translocation chromosomes. T01 had T4BS·4BL-7Lr#1S + T4BL-7Lr#1S·5Lr#1S. T14 had T6BS·6BL-7Lr#1S + T6BL·5Lr#1S. These translocations were recovered in the progeny of the irradiated line Lr#1 (T5Lr#1S·7Lr#1S). The three translocation lines, T01, T09, and T14, and the disomic addition 7Lr#1 were consistently resistant to FHB in greenhouse point-inoculation experiments, whereas the disomic addition 5Lr#1 was susceptible. The data indicated that at least one novel FHB resistance gene from *Leymus*, designated *Fhb3*, resides in the distal region of the short arm of chromosome 7Lr#1, because the resistant translocation lines share a common distal segment of 7Lr#1S. Three PCR-based markers, BE586744-STS, BE404728-STS, and BE586111-STS, specific for 7Lr#1S were developed to expedite marker-assisted selection in breeding programs.

Introduction

Fusarium head blight (FHB), caused by the fungus *Fusarium graminearum* Schwabe [telomorph = *Gibberella zeae* (Schw.) Petch], is a devastating disease in warm and humid wheat-growing areas worldwide with increasing importance in Europe and North America during the last 15 years (Johnson et al. 2003). Host-plant resistance offers the most cost-effective and environmental friendly method of FHB disease control. Finding diverse sources of FHB resistance is critical for maintaining genetic diversity of resistance in wheat breeding-programs. Deployment of only one or a few sources of resistance over large crop production areas poses a danger of resistance breakdown and disease epidemics. Evaluation of thousands of accessions from the USDA germplasm collection, CIMMYT, and several other countries

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revealed a potential hazard for current FHB-resistance breeding, because only a few sources, mainly Sumai 3 and its derivatives, are now being used widely around the globe (Bai and Shaner 2004). Thus, additional resistance sources are needed in order to broaden the genetic base of FHB resistance.

Tens of thousands of wheat land races and wild relatives were screened at Nanjing Agricultural University, Jiangsu Province, China, a major hotspot for FHB epidemics. The most potent levels of FHB resistance were identified in the alien species *L. racemosus* (Tein.) Tzvelev (syn *Elymus giganteus* Vahl.), *Roegneria kamoji* (Ohwi) Ohwi ex Keng (syn. *E. tsukushiensis* Honda), and *R. ciliaris* (Trin). Nevski [syn. *E. ciliaris* (Trin) Tzvelev] (Weng and Liu 1989; Chen et al. 1993, 1995). A large number of disomic alien addition lines (DA) in wheat were developed, cytogenetically characterized, and screened for FHB resistance (Qi et al. 1997; Wang SL et al. 1999; Wang et al. 2001; Kishii et al. 2004). Chromosome engineering of these lines was attempted (Chen et al. 1998, 2005) by means of homoeologous recombination (Sears 1977), irradiation (Sears 1956), and gametocidal (Gc) gene activity (Endo 1988). Nine wheat-*Leymus* translocation lines were produced, five using irradiation, and four using the Gc gene (Chen et al. 2005). However, all translocations were of the non-compensating type, leading to duplications/deficiencies and, hence, may not be deployed in agriculture.

Induced homoeologous pairing and recombination is the method of choice for producing compensating translocations that have a much higher chance of being agronomically desirable. The first step in chromosome engineering by homoeologous recombination is the production of wheat-alien, whole-arm translocations by using the centric breakage-fusion mechanism of univalents at meiotic metaphase I (Sears 1952; Friebe et al. 1996). Although a large number of the wheat-alien translocations were produced, only a few were successfully used in wheat-breeding programs (Jiang et al. 1994; Friebe et al. 1996). Molecular cytogenetic analyses revealed that many of the transfers from the tertiary gene pool were between non-homoeologous chromosomes, and thus, non-compensating making them unsuitable for use in cultivar improvement (Jiang

et al. 1994; Friebe et al. 1996). However, the wheat-rye T1BL·1RS and T1AL·1RS compensating translocations are present in the world's highest yielding wheats because they have a battery of genetic factors that combat both biotic and abiotic stresses and the entire 1RS arms are inherited as a single Mendelian units. Similarly, a wheat-*Agropyron* compensating translocation carrying *Lr19/Sr25* not only provides resistance to rusts, but also contributes to higher biomass (Sharma and Knott 1966; Friebe et al. 1996). Other compensating translocations from *Haynaldia villosa* L. (Qi et al. 1993; Zhang et al. 2005) and *Thinopyrum intermedium* (Host) Barkword and D.R. Dewey (Friebe et al. 1991, 1996) have been deployed in agriculture. In the present study, we report the discovery of a genetically compensating translocation involving the long arm of wheat chromosome 7A and the short arm of *Leymus* chromosome 7Lr#1 (T7AL·7Lr#1S) conferring FHB resistance. This translocation may be directly used in breeding programs.

Materials and methods

Plant materials

The wheat-*Leymus* introgression lines (T01, T09 and T14) analyzed in the present study were selected from the progenies of radiation-treated backcrosses of wheat × *Leymus* (Table 1). Other plant materials used in the study included the *Triticum aestivum* cultivars Chinese Spring (CS), Sumai 3, Yangmai 158, Wheaton (Busch et al. 1984), and Roblin (CN 43847); and the *L. racemosus* accession TA10298. A BC₁ population between introgression line T09 and CS *ph1b* (T09 / 2* CS *ph1b*) was developed in order to initiate a further round of chromosome engineering. Other genetic stocks included: six nullisomic-tetrasomics (in NTs a missing pair of chromosomes is compensated by four doses of a homoeologous chromosome); one monotelosomic (Mt); nine ditelosomic (Dt) stocks (Sears 1954, 1966); and four deletion lines of the short arm of chromosome 7A (Table 2). The fraction length

Table 1 Wheat-*Leymus* introgression lines used in the study

TA#	Original plant	Chromosome no. (2n)	Previous designation of translocation chromosome ^a	New designation of translocation chromosome in this study	Pedigree
5607	02G543 T01	44	T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S	T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S T4BL·7Lr#1S·5Lr#1S	Yangmai 5 × (C.S/L.r//C.S) ^{1000R}
5608	04G666 T09	42	TW?·Lr.7	T7AL·7Lr#1S	(C.S/L.r//C.S) ^{600R}
5609	04G874 T14	44	T6BL·6BS·5Lr#1L	T6BS·6BL·7Lr#1S T6BL·5Lr#1S	Mianyang 11 × (C.S/L.r//C.S) ^{1000R}

^a P. D. Chen, personal communication

Table 2 Genetic stocks used in the study. All lines are in the Chinese Spring background unless otherwise indicated

TA no. ^a	Genetic stocks	Description	Reference
TA3063	N5AT5D	Nullisomic 5A tetrasomic 5D	Sears (1954)
TA3065	N5BT5D	Nullisomic 5B tetrasomic 5D	Sears (1954)
TA3067	N5DT5B	Nullisomic 5D tetrasomic 5B	Sears (1954)
	Mt5AS ^b	Monotelosomic 5AS	Qi unpublished data
TA3107	Dt5AL	Ditelosomic 5AL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3118	Dt5BL	Ditelosomic 5BL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3127	Dt5DL	Ditelosomic 5DL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3281	N7AT7D	Nullisomic 7A tetrasomic 7D	Sears (1954)
TA3284	N7BT7D	Nullisomic 7B tetrasomic 7D	Sears (1954)
TA3286	N7DT7B	Nullisomic 7D tetrasomic 7B	Sears (1954)
TA3108	Dt7AS	Ditelosomic 7AS	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3109	Dt7AL	Ditelosomic 7AL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3119	Dt7BS	Ditelosomic 7BS	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3120	Dt7BL	Ditelosomic 7BL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3130	Dt7DS	Ditelosomic 7DS	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA3069	Dt7DL	Ditelosomic 7DL	Sears and Steinitz-Sears (1978)
TA4519, 2	7AS-1	Deletion 7AS-1, FL 0.89	Endo and Gill (1996)
TA4511, 5	7AS-5	Deletion 7AS-5, FL 0.59	Endo and Gill (1996)
TA4546, 8	7AS-8	Deletion 7AS-8, FL 0.45	Endo and Gill (1996)
TA4546, 6	7AS-6	Deletion 7AS-6, FL 0.21	Endo and Gill (1996)
TA7646	DA5Lr#1	Wheat- <i>Leymus</i> disomic addition	Qi et al. (1997)
TA7648	DA7Lr#1	Wheat- <i>Leymus</i> disomic addition	Qi et al. (1997)
TA7652-2	DA?Lr#1	Wheat- <i>Leymus</i> disomic addition	Qi et al. (1997)

^a WGGRC collection accession number

^b Mt5AS was selected from a cross between ditelo 5AS monotelosomic 5AL and N5AT5D
FL fraction length

(FL) value of a deletion stock identifies the position of the breakpoint from the centromere relative to the length of the complete arm (Endo and Gill 1996). All materials are maintained at the Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resources Center, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA.

RFLP analysis

Procedures used for genomic DNA isolation, restriction endonuclease digestion, gel electrophoresis, and DNA gel blot hybridization were as described in Qi et al. (2003). Genomic DNAs were digested with restriction enzymes *Dra*I, *Eco*RI, *Eco*RV, and *Hind*III. The RFLP and EST clones used are listed in Table 3. These clones were kindly provided by Dr. M. E. Sorrells, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA (designated BCD, CDO, and WG), Dr. M. D. Gale, John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK (designated PSR), Dr. A. Kleinhofs, Washington State University, Pullman, WA, USA (designated ABG), and Dr. O. Anderson, USDA-ARS-WRRC Albany, California, USA (designated BE).

STS primer design and analysis

We developed user-friendly STS markers to expedite selection of critical genotypes in a wheat-breeding program. A

Table 3 Molecular markers used in the study

Probe	Group	Probe	Group	SSR marker	Group
PSR596	1S	BE443187	5L	GWM493	3BS
PSR544	1L	BE443610	5L	BARC133	3BS
BE446010	1L	PSR580	5L	GWM533	3BS
BCD433	2S	PSR627	6S	GWM233	7AS
PSR388	2L	CDO497	6L	GWM471	7AS
PSR909	3S	BE443120	7S	GWM350	7AS
BCD589	3L	BE586111	7S	BARC127	7AS
PSR584	4S	BE489090	7S	GWM130	7AS
PSR141	4S	BE585543	7S	GWM635	7AS
PSR920	4L	BE443596	7S	CFD62	7AS
BCD873	5S	BCD385	7S	CFA2049	7AS
ABG705	5S	CDO595	7S	GWM60	7AS
BE444720	5S	BE585744	7S	BARC105	7AS
PSR945	5S	BE442797	7S	CFA2174	7AS
PSR628	5S	BE445222	7L	CFD242	7AS
PSR360	5L	KSUE9	7L	GWM260	7AS
WG909	5BL	PSR129	7L	GWM666	7AS
BE443021	5L	PSR311	7L	CFA2028	7AS

sample of 82 wheat expressed sequence tags (ESTs) previously mapped from the centromere to the telomere in the short arm of chromosome 7A were selected from data in the

wheat EST Mapping Project (http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html). The sequences of these ESTs were used to design primers using the Primer 3 software (Rozen and Skaletsky 2000). The conditions for PCR amplification were according to Qi et al. (2007). To achieve higher rates of polymorphism, the amplified products were digested with four-base cutter enzymes *AluI*, *HaeIII*, *MspI*, and *RsaI*, fractionated on 1% agarose gels, and visualized by ethidium bromide staining and UV irradiation. The PCR products for microsatellites (SSRs) were separated in 2.3% agarose gels and visualized under UV light (Röder et al. 1998).

C-banding and genomic in situ hybridization (GISH)

C-banding and chromosome identification were according to Gill et al. (1991). The procedure for GISH was as described in Zhang et al. (2001) with some modifications. *Leymus* genomic DNA was isolated using DNeasy Plant Mini Kit following the manufacturer's instructions (Qiagen, Valencia, CA, USA). One microgram of genomic DNA was labeled with fluorescein-12-dUTP (FITC, yellow and green fluorescein, Enzo Life Sciences Inc, Farmingdale, NY, USA) using nick translation. The hybridization mixture containing 50% deionized formamide, 2× SSC, 10% dextran sulfate, 0.3 mg/ml of sheared salmon testes DNA, and ~1 µg/ml of labeled genomic DNA and was denatured by boiling for 7 min. Thirty microliter of denatured hybridization mixture was applied to each slide and allowed to hybridize overnight in a humidity chamber at 37°C. No wheat genomic DNA was used as blocking DNA in the present study. Post-hybridization washes were in 2× SSC at 42°C for 10 min, 50% formamide in 2× SSC at 42°C for 10 min (equivalent to 82% stringency), 2× SSC at 42°C for 10 min, and 1× PBS at room temperature for 5 min. Chromosomes were counterstained with propidium iodide (PI) and fluorescein red. Fluorescent images were captured using a SPOT 2.1 charge-coupled device (CCD) camera (Diagnostic Instruments) attached to an epifluorescence Zeiss Axioplan 2 microscope and processed with Photoshop v5.5 (Adobe Systems, Inc, San Jose, CA, USA).

FHB resistance evaluation

All experimental lines, the FHB-resistant line Sumai 3, and the FHB-susceptible lines Roblin and Wheaton were screened for FHB response with three replications per experiment in three greenhouse seasons, with a total of approximately 15 plants per entry per experiment. At anthesis, 10 µl macroconidia (1×10^7 /ml) of *F. graminearum* isolate Z-3639 (NRRL accession 29169) were placed in a central floret and plants transferred to a humidity tent. Humidity was applied overnight (15 h) by mist irrigation for 15 s every 12 min for three nights following inocula-

tion. Pots were returned to the greenhouse and evaluated for disease spread at 14 and 21 day post-inoculation. The numbers of symptomatic spikelets and total spikelets were recorded for each spike (Dill-Macky 2003). Analysis of variance and least significant differences were calculated based on a randomized complete block design using Proc GLM of SAS v.8.1 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA).

Results

Identification of a wheat-*Leymus* compensating translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S in T09

A total 58 wheat-*Leymus* introgression lines from 14 siblings were introduced from Nanjing Agricultural University. These lines were repeatedly tested for scab resistance in China. We further screened these lines for resistance to spread of infection within spikes under controlled conditions in the greenhouses at Kansas State University. Among 24 lines with high levels of resistance to FHB, we determined that three lines (T01, T09, and T14) lacked Sumai 3-type alleles at three marker loci linked to *Fhb1* (Liu and Anderson 2003), indicating that the FHB resistance in these lines was likely derived from *L. racemosus* (Table 4). The line T09 had 42 chromosomes with a pair of unknown wheat-*Leymus* translocation chromosomes. A total of 36 RFLP markers from all seven homoeologous groups of wheat were used to screen this line. Only the markers located in the short arm of group-7 chromosomes detected *Leymus* polymorphic fragments in T09 (Table 5) indicating that the translocated chromosome in this line belonged to homoeologous group 7. These markers also detected missing 7AS-specific RFLP fragments. All 7AL-specific RFLP fragments were present. We concluded that the short arm of the *Leymus* chromosome was translocated to the long arm of wheat chromosome 7A. The RFLP pattern in line T09 was the same as that in disomic addition 7Lr#1 (Table 5). C-banding and GISH analyses using *Leymus* genomic DNA as probe further indicated that the translocation chromosome in T09 was a whole-arm Robertsonian translocation (Fig. 1) designated as T7AL·7Lr#1S.

For shortening the 7Lr#1S arm we crossed the T7AL·7Lr#1S translocation stock with the *CSph1b* mutant stock. The F₁ was backcrossed as a male and female with *ph1b* and the chromosome constitution of the backcross progeny was determined by molecular marker analysis. When the F₁ was used as the female parent (T7AL·7Lr#1S X *CSph1b*) × *CSph1b*) 13 plants had the translocation chromosome (54%) and 11 plants were lacking it (46%). On the contrary, when the F₁ was used as the male parent [*CSph1b* X (T7AL·7Lr#1S X *CSph1b*)], 125 plants had the translocation chromosome (96%) and 5 plants were lacking

Table 4 Evaluation and genotyping of alien introgressions and control wheat lines for *Qfhs.ndsu-3BS* QTL and FHB disease severity

Line	GWM493	BARC133	GWM533	Disease Severity (%) ^b
DA5L#1	N/A	N/A	N/A	62
DA7Lr#1	N/A	N/A	N/A	17 ^a
Sumai 3	1 ^c	1	1	11
T4BS-4BL-7Lr#1S, TW-7Lr#1S-5Lr#1S	2	2	2	16 ^a
T6BS-6BL-7Lr#1S, TW-5Lr#1S	2	2	2	22 ^a
T7AL-7Lr#1S	2	2	2	23 ^a
CS	2	2	2	48
Wheaton	2	2	2	95
Roblin	2	2	2	100
LSD _{0.05}				13

N/A not available

^a Disease severity means not significantly different from Sumai 3

^b Disease severity means calculated using SAS LSMEANS based on replicated inoculation experiments conducted from 2004-2007

^c Sumai 3-type alleles designated as 1, all other alleles as 2

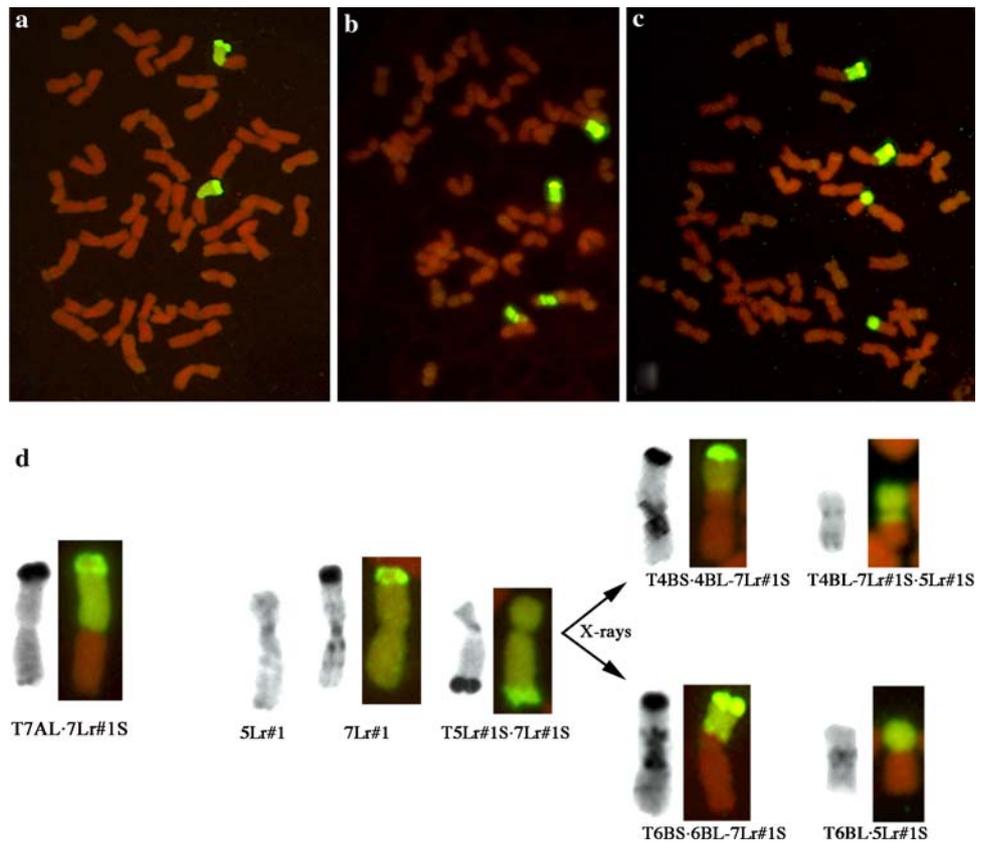
Table 5 RFLP clones from homoeologous group-5 and -7 used to detect *Leymus*-specific fragments in wheat-*Leymus* introgression lines

Clone/enzyme	Chromosome bin location ^a	DA5Lr#1	T6BS-6BL-7Lr#1S T6BL-5Lr#1S (T14)	T4BS-4BL-7Lr#1S T4BL-7Lr#1S-5Lr#1S (T01)	T7AL-7Lr#1S (T09)	DA7Lr#1
BCD873/ <i>DraI</i>	5S-0.78-1.00	+	+	+	–	–
ABG705/ <i>HindIII</i>	5S-0.67-0.78	+	+	+	–	–
BE444720/ <i>EcoRI</i>	5S-0.63-0.67	+	+	+	–	–
PSR945/ <i>HindIII</i>	5S-0.63-0.67	+	+	+	–	–
PSR628/ <i>HindIII</i>	5S-0.63-0.67	+	+	+	–	–
BE443426/ <i>HindIII</i>	C-5S-0.40	+	+	+	–	–
BE443446/ <i>EcoRI</i>	C-5S-0.40	+	+	+	–	–
PSR360/ <i>DraI</i>	C-5L-0.29	+	–	–	–	–
WG909/ <i>HindIII</i>	C-5L-0.29	+	–	–	–	–
BE443021/ <i>DraI</i>	C-5L-0.29	+	–	–	–	–
BE443187/ <i>HindIII</i>	5L-0.29-0.55	+	–	–	–	–
BE443610/ <i>EcoRI</i>	5L-0.61-0.67	+	–	–	–	–
PSR580/ <i>EcoRV</i>	5L-0.82-1.00	+	–	–	–	–
BE443120/ <i>EcoRV</i>	7S-0.89-1.00	–	+	+	+	+
BE586111/ <i>DraI</i>	7S-0.89-1.00	–	+	+	+	+
BE489090/ <i>HindIII</i>	7S-0.59-0.89	–	+	+	+	–
BE585543/ <i>DraI</i>	7S-0.59-0.89	–	+	+	+	+
BE443596/ <i>DraI</i>	7S-0.45-0.59	–	+	+	+	+
BCD385/ <i>HindIII</i>	7S-0.29-0.45	–	–	+	+	+
CDO595/ <i>HindIII</i>	7S-0.29-0.45	–	–	+	+	+
BCD349/ <i>DraI</i>	7S-0.21-0.26	–	–	+	+	+
BE585744/ <i>EcoRV</i>	C-7S-0.36	–	–	+	+	+
BE442797/ <i>EcoRI</i>	C-7S-0.21	–	–	+	+	+

+ and -: presence and absence of *Leymus* polymorphic fragments

^a Chromosome bin locations of RFLP clones were from Hohmann et al. 1994 and Qi and Gill 2001. The bin locations of EST clones were from http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html

Fig. 1 C-banding and GISH patterns of wheat-*Leymus* addition and translocation lines. **a–c** from left to right GISH pattern of T09 ($2n = 42$), T01 ($2n = 44$), and T014 ($2n = 44$); **d** from left to right C-banding and GISH patterns T7AL·7Lr#1S in T09; C-banding pattern of 5Lr#1; C-banding and GISH patterns 7Lr#1, T5Lr#1S·7Lr#1S, and derived translocations following irradiation. Both arms of 5Lr#1S and 7Lr#1S are present as a part of T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S + T4BL·7Lr#1S·5Lr#1S in T01 (top); but in T14 (T6BS·6BL·7Lr#1S + T6BL·5Lr#1S, bottom) proximal part of 7Lr#1S has been lost (see also molecular marker data in Table 5). The translocation chromosomes were visualized by yellow-green FITC fluorescence using GISH



it. The data show that T7AL·7Lr#1S translocation is transmitted at about 50% through the female gametes, whereas its transmission frequency through the male side is almost 100%.

We evaluated the scab responses of 61 BC₁ progeny from the cross T09/2*CS *ph1b* and grouped them based on molecular marker classification as homozygous for T7AL·7Lr#1S, heteromorphic for chromosomes 7A/T7AL·7Lr#1S, and those with 7A (CS). The mean disease severity in plants with only one copy of T7AL·7Lr#1S (heteromorphic) was not significantly different (LSD_{0.05}) than CS, whereas progeny homozygous for T7AL·7Lr#1S had significantly lower disease severity (Fig. 2); similarly, homozygous T7AL·7Lr#1S progeny (disease severity mean = 34%) had significantly lower disease severity than those heteromorphic for chromosomes 7A/T7AL·7Lr#1S (disease severity mean = 52%) in this experiment based on the LSD 0.05 of 8.3%.

Double wheat-*Leymus* translocation lines T01 and T14

RFLP analysis

Previous cytogenetic data revealed that T01 and T14 had non-compensating translocations T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S and T6BL·6BS·5Lr#1L, respectively (PD Chen, personal communication). A total of 13 group-5 specific and 12 group-7S specific RFLP markers providing full chromo-

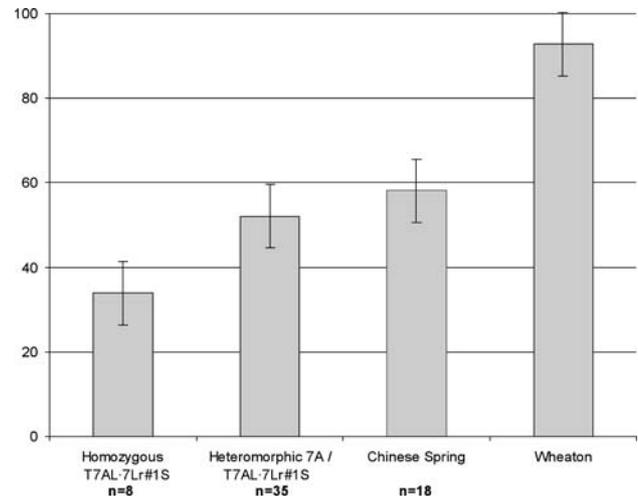


Fig. 2 Disease severity means for genotypes segregating for translocation chromosome, T7AL·7Lr#1S, scored 21 d after central floret inoculation of *F. graminearum*. Error bars represent the LSD_{0.05} for disease severity measurements in this experiment (8.3%) based on ANOVA with SAS PROC GLM. Spring wheat cultivar ‘Wheaton’ is included as a susceptible check

some coverage for 5Lr#1 and 7Lr#1S were used to test the two lines. T09 (T7AL·7Lr#1S), DA5Lr#1, and DA7Lr#1 were used as controls. The short arm markers of group-5 chromosomes detected *Leymus* polymorphic fragments in

both T01 and T14 with the same pattern as in DA5Lr#1 (Fig. 3); these were absent in T09 and DA7Lr#1 (Table 5). The *Leymus* specific group-5 long arm polymorphic fragments were absent in T01 and T14 and only observed in DA5Lr#1. These data indicated that both lines contained the 5Lr#1S arm in the form of a non-compensating translocation with a wheat chromosome.

Testing of lines T01 and T14 with the chromosome group-7 short arm markers indicated that T01 was polymorphic for all the tested markers similar to T7AL-7Lr#1S. However, in T14 only four of ten markers covering the distal 50% of 7Lr#1S were polymorphic (Table 5) indicating complex introgression of whole arms or parts of *Leymus* chromosome arms 5Lr#1S and 7Lr#1S and wheat chromosomes 6B. Therefore, C-banding and GISH were employed to further resolve the chromosome composition and the nature of the alien introgression in these two lines (Fig. 1).

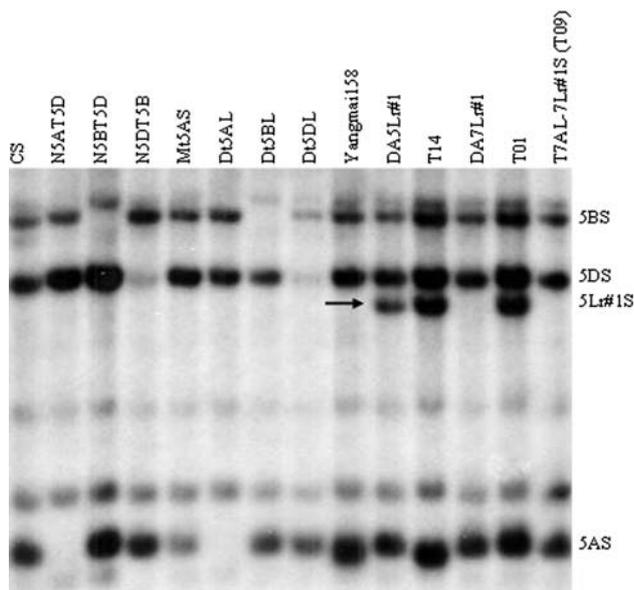


Fig. 3 An autoradiograph of the Southern hybridization of clone PSR628 to genomic DNAs digested with *Hind*III of nullisomic-tetrasomic (NT) and ditelosomic (Dt) lines of group-5 chromosomes and wheat-*Leymus* addition and translocation lines. The arrow indicates the *Leymus* 5Lr#1S-specific fragment that is present in DA5Lr#1 and lines T14 and T01

C-banding and GISH analysis

C-banding and GISH data indicated both T01 and T14 each harbor two pairs of wheat-alien translocations (Fig. 1b and c). In addition to T4BS-4BL-7Lr#1S, line T01 has a reciprocal translocation T4BL-7Lr#1S-5Lr#1S. Because T01 has all the 7Lr#1S-specific polymorphic fragments, the distal half of the 7Lr#1S arm must be present in T4BS-4BL-7Lr#1S as indicated by the distal C-band which is an excellent cytological marker. The proximal part of 7Lr#1S is present at the interstitial position in 4BL-7Lr#1S-5Lr#1S. Because T01 was polymorphic for 5Lr#1S-specific markers, the short arm of T4BL-7Lr#1S-5Lr#1S must come from 5Lr#1S.

In addition to T6BS-6BL-7Lr#1S previously identified as T6BS-6BL-5Lr#1L (Table 1; Fig. 1), line T14 has a reciprocal translocation T6BL-5Lr#1S. The RFLP mapping data and GISH results indicated that the T6BS-6BL-7Lr#1S has only 50% of the distal portion of 7Lr#1S including the landmark terminal C-band. Because this line was polymorphic for 5Lr#1S-specific markers, T6BL-5Lr#1S must have the complete arm 5Lr#1S.

Development of alien-chromatin-specific PCR-based markers

Polymerase chain reaction based molecular markers specific for 7Lr#1S were developed to expedite marker-assisted selection in breeding programs. A total of 82 EST-based primers were used to screen the two parents, CS and translocation line T7AL-7Lr#1. The 7Lr#1S-specific fragment was amplified in the translocation line with primer BE585744. Two additional polymorphic primers, BE404728 and BE586111, were found after amplified PCR products were digested with the four-base cutter restriction enzymes *Alu*I, *Hae*III, *Msp*I, or *Rsa*I (Table 6). BE585744 and BE404728 were previously mapped to the proximal regions of group-7 chromosomes and BE586111 to the distal regions (http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF/project/mapping_data.html). Three polymorphic PCR markers were tested in line T01, line T14, and a set of NT and Dt stocks of the group-7 chromosomes to identify 7AS-specific

Table 6 Primer sequences of the STS markers derived from wheat ESTs on the short arm of wheat chromosome 7A and primer/enzyme combinations producing polymorphic PCR products

Marker	EST	Forward primer 5'–3'	Reverse primer 5'–3'	Annealing temperature (°C)	Enzyme producing polymorphic PCR product
BE585744-STS	BE585744	GCTATGGCATTCTCAGCTC	GCCCAAGCCATATCTATCCA	58.0	–
BE404728-STS	BE404728	GGTGGTGCCTGTCAAGATTT	TTGATGGATCCTGGCTTAGG	58.0	<i>Msp</i> I
BE586111-STS	BE586111	GGCAAAGAACTTGACCTGCT	CTGTCCGGTAAACAAGGCGAAT	57.0	<i>Rsa</i> I

fragments. All produced dominant markers where the 7AS fragment co-migrated with those of 7B and 7D, but 7Lr#1S was polymorphic (Fig. 4). Line T14 lacked the BE585744-specific *Leymus* fragment but retained the BE586111 fragment (Fig. 4), consistent with the RLFP results indicating that only a distal portion of 7Lr#1S was present in the translocation chromosome T6BS·6BL-7Lr#1S.

The PCR-based dominant STS markers developed in the present study cannot be used to distinguish between homozygous and heterozygous wheat-alien translocation lines. To solve this problem, we selected 15 SSR markers covering the entire short arm of chromosome 7A (Table 3, Sourdille et al. 2004) to screen for T7AL·7Lr#1S. Seven SSR markers detected missing 7AS-specific fragments in 7AL·7Lr#1S (Table 7; Fig. 5). The chromosome locations of these SSR markers were further confirmed with NT, Dt,

and deletion lines of group-7 chromosomes (Table 7; Fig. 5). The combination of SSR and 7Lr#1S-specific STS markers can be used to select homozygous translocation carriers during cultivar development.

Discussion

Isolation of a FHB-resistant T7AL·7Lr#1S line is the culmination of a long-term breeding effort spanning 25 years

Because of its recent origin, common wheat has a narrow genetic base. Interspecific and intergeneric hybridizations have been used for over a century to enrich and broaden the genetic base of cultivated wheat (reviewed in Sharma and

Fig. 4 PCR patterns of primers BE585744 (proximal marker) and BE586111 (distal marker). a, *Leymus* 7Lr#1S-specific fragment amplified by primer BE585744 is present in *L. racemosus*, DA7Lr#1S, and translocation lines T01 and T09 but absent in line T14. b, *Leymus* 7Lr#1S-specific fragment amplified by primer BE586111 and digested with enzyme *RsaI* is present in *L. racemosus*, and DA7Lr#1S, translocation lines T01, and T09, as well as in line T14, indicating that only a distal portion of 7Lr#1S was transferred to the translocation chromosome in line T14. The arrows indicated 7Lr#1S-specific fragments

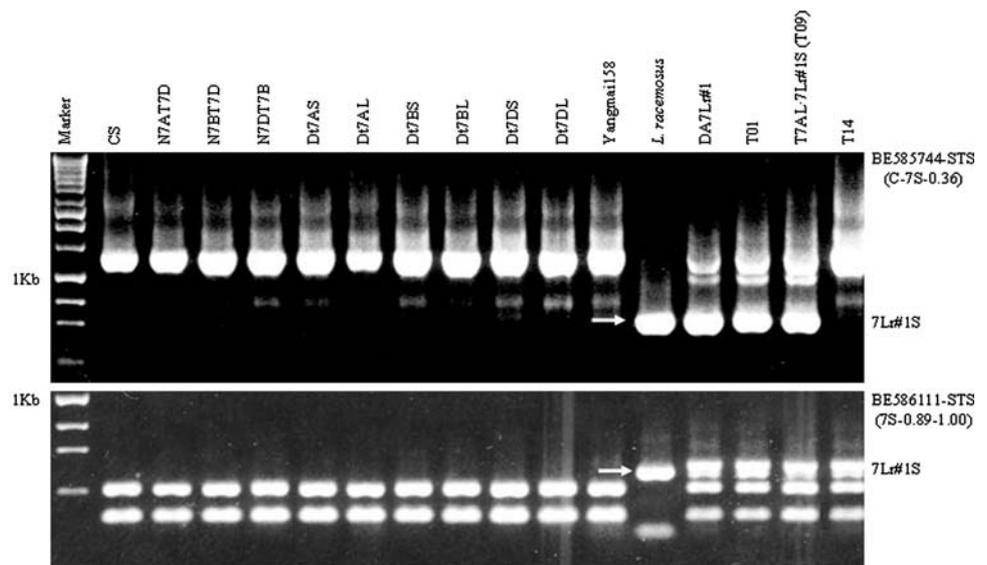


Table 7 SSR markers detected missing 7AS in the translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S and their locations in 7AS

Line	GWM233	GWM471	BARC127	CFA2049	GWM60	CFA2174	GWM260
TA10298, <i>L.r</i>	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T7AL·7Lr#1S	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
CS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
N7AT7D	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
N7BT7D	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
N7DT7B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dt7AS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dt7AL	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
del7AS-6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
del7AS-8	–	–	–	–	–	–	+
del7AS-5	–	–	–	–	–	–	+
del7AS-1	–	–	+	+	+	+	+
Location	7AS1-0.89-1.00	7AS1-0.89-1.00	7AS5-0.59-0.89	7AS5-0.59-0.89	7AS5-0.59-0.89	7AS5-0.59-0.89	7AS6-0.21-0.45

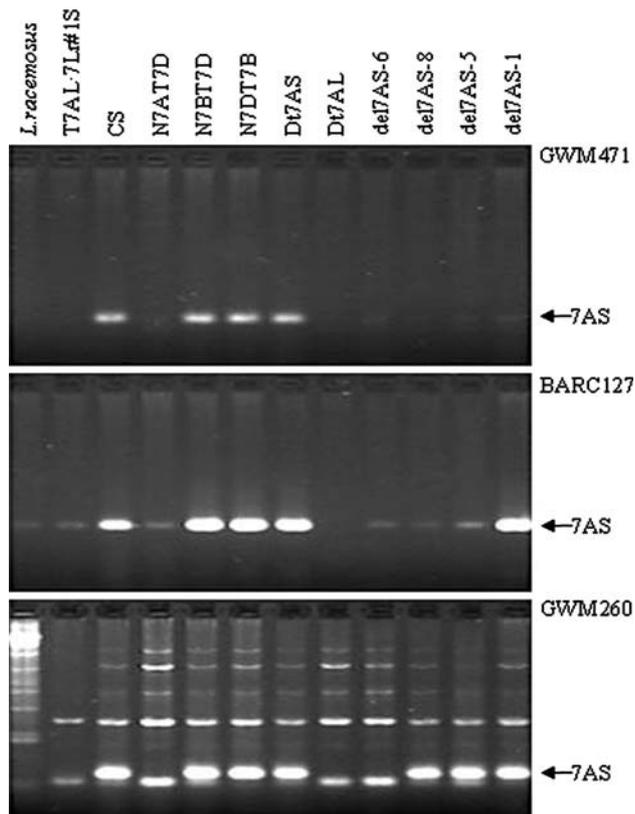


Fig. 5 Polymerase chain reaction patterns of three SSR markers, GWM471, BARC127, and GWM260, in *L. racemosus*, translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S, nullisomic 7A-tetrasomic 7D (N7AT7D), N7BT7D, N7DT7B, ditelosomic 7AS (Dt7AS), Dt7AL, deletion 7AS-6 (del7AS-6), del7AS-8, del7AS-5, and del7AS-1. 7AS-specific fragments detected by these SSR markers are missing in the translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S

Gill, 1983; Jiang et al. 1994). The identification of a compensating T7AL·7Lr#1S translocation line with high levels of resistance to FHB is the culmination of a long-term breeding effort that began in the 1980s. *L. racemosus* is an allotetraploid species ($2n = 4 \times = 28$, genomically JJNN) (Dewey 1984). The first wheat-*L. racemosus* hybrids reported by Mujeeb-Kazi and Rodriguez (1981) were produced to tap genes for salt and drought tolerance and disease resistance present in this species. Further wheat-*L. racemosus* hybrids and backcross derivatives with scab resistance were reported by Wang et al. (1986, 1991). Early attempts were made to produce a set of wheat-*Leymus* addition lines (Chen et al. 1993, 1995; Kishii et al. 2004). The homoeologous relationship of the added *Leymus* chromosomes with wheat were determined by RFLP analyses (Qi et al. 1997; Kishii et al. 2004). Several wheat-*Leymus* translocation lines with FHB resistance were developed using radiation treatment or gametocidal gene action (Chen et al. 2005). These studies showed that the FHB resistance in *Leymus* may be located on three different chromosomes,

because translocation lines involving *Leymus* chromosomes 5Lr#1, 7Lr#1, and Lr.7 had FHB resistance (Chen et al. 2005). Our study revealed that a previously unknown translocation chromosome involving *Leymus* chromosome Lr.7 in line T09 is a compensating translocation, T7AL·7Lr#1S. Backcross derivatives of T7AL·7Lr#1S in an elite wheat background are fully fertile (our unpublished results). Similar to other whole-arm translocations such as T1BL·1RS (Rajaram et al. 1983), T1AL·1RS (Wood et al. 1974), T6AL·6VS (Qi et al. 1993), and T4DL·4Ai#1S (Friebe et al. 1991) that have been deployed in agriculture, T7AL·7Lr#1S may have agronomic potential, and has often been the experience, the wider use of this translocation in breeding programs may reveal additional desirable or undesirable features. In anticipation of this outcome, we have initiated further engineering of the alien arm to isolate recombinant chromosomes.

The FHB resistance conferred by translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S in the CS background is novel and the level of resistance is similar to that of Sumai 3 (Table 4). However, our screening results of a population segregating for T7AL·7Lr#1S showed that the resistance gene in 7Lr#1S is likely hemizygous ineffective (Fig. 2). We are presently transferring the T7AL·7Lr#1S translocation to commercial cultivars, which will allow us to evaluate the effect in other genetic backgrounds.

The translocated chromosome in T01 was previously designated as T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S (PD Chen, pers. commun.). However, our data show that, in addition to T4BS·4BL·7Lr#1S, T01 has a second translocation designated T4BL·7Lr#1S·5Lr#1S. The chromosome constitution in T14 was previously reported as T6BL·6BS·5Lr#1L. However, our analysis indicated that wheat chromosome 6B was translocated to 7Lr#1S to form T6BS·6BL·7Lr#1S. In addition, T14 has a reciprocal translocation, T6BL·5Lr#1S. Thus, both T01 and T14 are double translocation lines with four translocation chromosomes of independent origin (Fig. 1d). The distal 50% of the short arm of chromosome 7Lr#1 is a common segment present in all three lines (Table 5). FHB tests indicated that the resistance level in DA7Lr#1 was similar to those in the three translocations, whereas, DA5Lr#1 was susceptible (Table 4). These data indicate that a novel FHB-resistance gene, designated as *Fhb3*, is located in the distal 50% region of the short arm of chromosome 7Lr#1.

Origins of T7AL·7Lr#1S and the double wheat-*Leymus* translocations

Origin of T7AL·7Lr#1S: The process of alien-crop plant hybridization may be described as evolutionary breeding where spontaneous chromosomal changes generate unique genotypes that have selective advantages. Wheat-*Leymus*

derivatives were subjected to scab screening and fertile derivatives with resistance were repeatedly selected (Chen et al. 1993, 1995, 1998, 2005). We hypothesize that T7AL·7Lr#1S conferring a high level of scab resistance, fertility, and stable meiotic behavior is the end product of this evolutionary breeding process. Chromosome 7Lr#1 (and other group-7 chromosomes, see Marais 1990) has meiotic drive and is preferentially transmitted to progeny, creating double monosomics during backcross breeding, and hence opportunities for generating compensating translocations through breakage-fusion (Sears 1952; Fribe et al. 2005). Thus, T7AL·7Lr#1S probably arose in the progeny of a plant double monosomic for chromosomes 7A and 7Lr#1. We have evidence that the meiotic drive gene is located on the short arm of 7Lr#1, because T7AL·7Lr#1S is preferentially transmitted through male gametes. Thus, we speculate that the presence of both FHB resistance and meiotic-drive genes was responsible for generating and selecting this chromosome during breeding efforts.

Origin of double translocations: group-5 chromosomes also harbor meiotic-drive genes (Okamoto 1957; Riley and Chapman 1958; Sears and Okamoto 1958; Sears 1977; Jiang and Gill 1998; Kumar et al. 2007), and the same evolutionary process with some variations may have led to the production and selection of the more complex translocation lines T01 and T14. Both *Leymus* chromosomes 5Lr#1 and 7Lr#1 were isolated as individual addition lines in wheat and are structurally conserved in relation to wheat group-5 and -7 chromosomes (Qi et al. 1997). These two chromosomes did not show cross hybridization patterns between markers for groups 5 and 7. In a previous study, however, we identified one line (DA?Lr#1, $2n = 44$, 96-1012 = TA7652-1) that hybridized with short arm markers of both groups 5 and 7, and another line, 96-1021 ($2n = 44$, TA7652-2) with a hybridization pattern similar to that of line 96-1012. None of the long-arm markers from wheat homoeologous chromosome groups 5 and 7 detected polymorphic *Leymus* fragments in these two lines (Qi et al. 1997). It now appears that chromosome Lr#1 originated from a Robertsonian translocation event involving *Leymus* chromosomes 5Lr#1 and 7Lr#1. These two chromosomes broke at the centromere and their short arms fused to form a new chromosome now designated as T5Lr#1S·7Lr#1S (Fig. 1d). We do not know if this translocation chromosome existed in the *L. racemosus* accession used as a parent or occurred during selection among wheat \times *L. racemosus* hybrid progenies because the original *Leymus* accession has been lost. However, we did see one pair of C-banded chromosomes in *L. racemosus* accession TA12096 that is similar to chromosome Lr#1 (Qi et al. 1997). Line 96-1021, with chromosome T5Lr#1S·7Lr#1S, was used for further chromosome engineering by the use of irradiation.

Thus, the double translocations present in lines T01 and T14 trace their origin to this chromosome (see Fig. 1e). Because both 5Lr#1 and 7Lr#1 have meiotic drive and resistant lines were selected during backcrossing, they provided an opportunity for the selection of these translocation chromosomes.

EST-based STS markers vs. SSR markers

Developing PCR-based molecular markers for a specific alien chromosome can accelerate selection in a breeding program. The high level of informativeness and co-dominance of microsatellite markers make SSRs markers of choice in many species. Many wheat SSR markers have been developed, their primer sequences published, and their chromosomal locations determined (Ma et al. 1996; Röder et al. 1998; Somers et al. 2004; Sourdille et al. 2004). However, most SSR markers are genome-specific, and their transferability across related species is low (Mullan et al. 2005). We screened 64 SSR markers mapped in the short arms of wheat group-7 chromosomes in the two parents, CS and translocation T7AL·7Lr#1S, as well as in *Leymus*. None detected polymorphic fragments in *Leymus* and the translocation line (data not shown). Most of the wheat SSR primers failed to amplify fragments in *Leymus* and some others amplified PCR products in *Leymus*, but were not polymorphic.

The US wheat EST Mapping Project has mapped nearly 7,000 ESTs in chromosome bins covering all 21 wheat chromosomes, providing an excellent resource for marker development for specific chromosome regions (Qi et al. 2004; <http://wheat.pw.usda.gov/NSF>). Alternatively, EST-based PCR products can be digested with frequent-cutting restriction enzymes to increase polymorphism. We developed three EST-STS markers specific for 7Lr#1S from 58 selected EST primers. However, all are dominant markers that cannot distinguish between homozygous and heterozygous translocations. This problem was solved by selecting 7AS-specific SSR markers that detect a missing 7AS in 7AL·7Lr#1S homozygous translocation lines. Among 15 7AS-specific SSRs, seven detected the homozygous translocation. The advantage of engineered alien segments is their large phenotypic effect and simple inheritance. 7Lr#1S-specific STS markers combined with selected 7AS-specific SSR markers will facilitate their rapid deployment in wheat-breeding programs. Alternately, we could identify SNPs and use them to develop 7AS and 7Lr#1S-specific markers.

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