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The molecular characterization of new types of S. cerevisiae x S. kudriavzevii hybrid yeasts unveils a high genetic diversity

Abstract

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isolates. This is the first time that the presence of double
x S. kudriavzevii in non-fermentative substrates is reported.
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enetic analysis of the MET6 nucle New double and triple hybrid *Saccharomyces* yeasts were characterized by using PCR-restriction fragment length polymorphism of 35 nuclear genes, located at different chromosome arms, and the sequencing of one nuclear and one mitochondrial genes. Most of these new hybrids were originally isolated from fermentations, however, two of them correspond to clinical and dietary supplement isolates. This is the first time that the presence of double hybrids *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* in non-fermentative substrates is reported and investigated. The phylogenetic analysis of the *MET6* nuclear gene confirmed the double or triple parental origin of the new hybrids. The restriction analysis of gene regions in these hybrids revealed a high diversity of genome types. From these molecular characterizations, a reduction of the *S. kudriavzevii* fraction of the hybrid genomes is observed in most hybrids. Mitochondrial inheritance in hybrids was deduced from the analysis of the mitochondrial *COX2* gene sequences, which showed that most hybrids received the mitochondrial genome from the *S. kudriavzevii* parent. However, two strains inherited a *S. cerevisiae COX2*, being the first report of *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids with *S. cerevisiae* mitochondrial genomes. These two strains are those showing a higher *S. kudriavzevii* nuclear genome reduction, especially in the wine hybrid AMH. This may be due to the release of selective pressures acting on the other hybrids to maintain *kudriavzevii* mitochondria-interacting genes.

processes, is the generation of interspecific hybrids (Querol and Bond 2009). Hybrids between *S. cerevisiae* and *S. bayanus* were already identified several decades ago (for a review see Kodama *et al.* 2005). In the last years, a new type of hybrids, between *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii*, have been found both in winemaking and brewing (Bradbury *et al.* 2006; González *et al.* 2006, 2008; Lopandić *et al.* 2007).

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I Europe, and two hybrids i In the present study we characterize the genome composition of new *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids. These new hybrids include two strains isolated from wine regions located in the southernmost limits of the Oceanic and Continental Europe, and two hybrids isolated for the first time from non-fermentative sources, such as a human respiratory tract isolate (deLlanos *et al.* 2004) and a strain employed as dietary supplement. Other hybrids, molecularly characterized for the first time in this study, are some commercial wine strains described as such by Bradbury *et al.* (2006) and some of the Austrian wine hybrids (Lopandić *et al.* 2007), as well as two triple hybrids *S. bayanus* x *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* CID1 (Groth *et al.* 1999) and CBS2834 (González *et al.* 2006). The genetic characterization was performed by restriction analysis of 35 nuclear genes located in different chromosomes, and by sequencing the nuclear gene *MET6* and the mitochondrial *COX2* genes. Accordingly, these new hybrids were compared to those characterized in our previous study (González *et al.* 2008).

Materials and methods

Yeast strains and culture media

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**AJ973295 and AJ973305-AJ973322; and for COX2 seque

AJ93844, AJ938047, AJ938048 and AJ966727-AJ966733**

Ily, *MET6* sequences from reference or type strains of *S. t.*
 n (MCYC 623), *S. cerevisiae* (S288C), *S. kudri* Applied Biosystems automatic DNA sequencer Model ABI 3730l (Life Technologies Coorporation, Carlsbad, California). *COX2* and *MET6* sequences obtained for the present study are listed in Table 1 with their accession numbers. Other sequences from hybrids were retrieved from sequence databases (accession numbers for *MET6* sequences AJ973280-AJ973295 and AJ973305-AJ973322; and for *COX2* sequences AJ938037-AJ93844, AJ938047, AJ938048 and AJ966727-AJ966733). Finally, *MET6* sequences from reference or type strains of *S. bayanus* 136 var. *uvarum* (MCYC 623), *S. cerevisiae* (S288C), *S. kudriavzevii* (IFO 1802^T), *S.* 137 mikatae (IFO 1815^T) and *S. paradoxus* (CECT 1939^{NT}) were retrieved from the fungal alignment viewer of the *Saccharomyces* Genome Database [\(http://db.yeastgenome.org/cgi-bin/FUNGI/showAlign\)](http://db.yeastgenome.org/cgi-bin/FUNGI/showAlign). Each set of homologous sequences was aligned in MEGA 4 (Tamura *et al.* 2007). The sequence evolution model that fits our sequence data best was 142 optimized using the corrected Akaike Information Criterion (AICc) with a BioNJ tree as the initial tree, implemented in jModelTest program (Posada 2008). The best fitting model of evolution for *MET6* sequences was TIM1 model (Posada 2003) with a gamma distribution (G) of substitution rates with a shape 146 parameter α = 0.35; and for *COX2* gene sequences the TVM model (Posada 2003) with a gamma distribution (G) of substitution rates with a shape 148 parameter α = 0.123 and 46.2% of invariable sites (I). The parameters of each model, estimated in the previous analysis, were used to obtain the best trees under optimality criterion of maximum-likelihood (ML). Tree reliability was assessed using non-parametric bootstrap re-sampling of 1000 pseudo-

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All double and triple hybrids included in the analysis contain two or three

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nome characterization of Saccharomyces hybrids

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setriction of *MNT2* which was replaced in the *MET6* alleles coming from their parental species (B, C and K), except double hybrids HA1841 and AMH that lost the *S. kudriavzevii MET6* allele. These results confirm the hybrid nature of the new strains. *Nuclear genome characterization of* Saccharomyces *hybrids* The restriction patterns of the 35 genes for the differentiation of the *S. cerevisiae* and *S. kudriavzevii* alleles were described in González *et al.* (2008) with the exception of *MNT2* which was replaced in the present study by *GCN1*. The restriction analysis of the *GCN1* gene region yielded the following fragments: *Hae*III, *S. cerevisiae* 462 + 302 + 144 + 114 bp, and *S. kudriavzevii* 450 + 366 + 206 bp; *Msp*I, *S. cerevisiae* 514 + 508 bp, and *S. kudriavzevii* 1022 bp; and *Cfo*I, *S. cerevisiae* 766 + 256 bp, and *S. kudriavzevii* 634 + 388 bp. Hybrids characterized in a previous study (González *et al.* , 2008) were also assayed for this gene, resulting in the presence of both parental copies in all of them. The PCR-RFLP patterns of the 10 newly characterized *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevi* hybrids, and the 2 triple hybrids are depicted in Figures 2 and 3, respectively. The specific alleles present in each hybrid strain are given in the Supplementary Table S1 and the new restriction patterns in Supplementary Table S2. Since the *S. cerevisiae* and *S. kudriavzevii* genomes are colineal (Kellis *et al.* 2003), the locations of the gene regions under analysis were chosen to obtain information about the presence of possible chromosomal

rearrangements in the hybrid genomes, as described in other hybrids (González

trated for some hybrids (Belloch *et al.*, 2009). This resulted
to the missing segment by the homologous segment from
e of different parental origin (see Figures 2 and 3).
way, chromosomal rearrangements can be postulated *et al.* 2008; Belloch *et al.* 2009). This way, the absence in the hybrids of *S. kudriavzevii* alleles for genes located in the same chromosome likely resulted 203 from the loss of the whole chromosome. However, the loss of one gene located 204 in a chromosome but not the other genes of the same chromosome can be postulated as a result of recombination between homeologous chromosomes, as demonstrated for some hybrids (Belloch *et al.*, 2009). This resulted in the replacement of the missing segment by the homologous segment from the other chromosome of different parental origin (see Figures 2 and 3). This way, chromosomal rearrangements can be postulated as occurred in 210 chromosomes IV (AMH), V (IF6), VII (AMH, VIN7, IF6 and MR25), IX (IF6, MR25), X (IF6, MR25), XI (PB7 and IF6), XIII (IF6, MR25), XIV (MR25), XV (AMH) and XVI (IF6). In four wine hybrids (SOY3, from Croatia, and HA 1835, HA 1837 and HA 1842 from Austria) no rearrangement can be deduced because they contain both parental alleles for all genes. In general, the *S. cerevisiae* genome fraction is maintained in all these double hybrids whereas a progressive loss of the *S. kudriavzevii* genes is 217 observed. This reduction is more evident in the case of hybrid AMH, which has lost most of the *S. kudriavzevii* chromosomes*.* In the case of the triple hybrids (Fig. 3), the typical restriction pattern of *S. bayanus var. uvarum* was found in addition to those of *S. cerevisiae* and *S. kudriavzevii* alleles, indicating that they contain chromosomes from the three parental species. The *S. cerevisiae* and *S. kudriavzevii* chromosomes are co-lineal (synthenic), however, the chromosomes of *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* contain 4 differential reciprocal translocations (Kellis *et al.* 2003), as depicted in

Figure 3. In the case of triple hybrids, a higher preservation of the *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* fraction is observed.

if hybrids, although certain similarities among strains are oldingly, double hybrid strains can be classified in three group of the parental genome rearrangements. The first group int maintain the complete genome from both 227 The comparison of the RFLP patterns obtained in this study for the new hybrids and those described by González *et al.* (2008, see their figure 3) reveals a considerable diversity in the genome structure of *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids, although certain similarities among strains are observed as well. Accordingly, double hybrid strains can be classified in three groups according to the parental genome rearrangements. The first group includes hybrids that maintain the complete genome from both parents (most HA strains and SOY3) or have independently lost from 1-2 chromosomes or chromosome regions from *S. kudriavzevii* (wine strains PB7, VIN7 and most brewing hybrids), the second group comprises strains with a moderate loss (3-4) of *S. kudriavzevii* chromosomes or chromosome regions, including 3 shared events (Swiss wine hybrids and the brewing strain CECT 11003), and the third group includes strains with moderate (MR25, 6 losses) to large *S. kudriavzevii* gene losses (CECT 11002, IF6 and AMH, with 9, 11 and 13, respectively). *Mitochondrial inheritance in hybrids* The analysis of mitochondrial *COX2* gene sequences has been shown as useful to decipher which parental species contributed with their mitochondria to the hybrid strains (González *et al.* 2006). The comparative analysis of *COX2* sequences with those previously described (González *et al.* 2006), showed the presence of new haplotypes in hybrids PB7, AMH and IF6 (Fig. 2 and 3). The wine hybrids AMH and IF6 contain COX2 sequences more related to *S. cerevisiae* (1 and 14 differences,

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ype is closely related to haplotypes K2 and K3 from Swiss
and 2 nucleotide differences, respectively) and haplotypes
anese type (haplotype K1, 5 differences) and European strevii (haplotypes K8 and 9, with 1 and 3 differen respectively being the first description of *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids that received their mitochondrial genomes from a *S. cerevisiae* parent. The other new hybrids contain *COX2* sequences that correspond to previously described haplotypes. Thus, with the exception of PB7, all new wine hybrids contain haplotype K4, already described in the triple hybrid CBS 2834. This haplotype is closely related to haplotypes K2 and K3 from Swiss wine hybrids (1 and 2 nucleotide differences, respectively) and haplotypes exhibited by the Japanese type (haplotype K1, 5 differences) and European strains from *S. kudriavzevii* (haplotypes K8 and 9, with 1 and 3 differences, respectively). The clinical isolate MR25 exhibits the same haplotype K6 described in brewing hybrids, which is related to haplotype K10 present in the wine hybrid PB7 (6 nucleotide differences). However, a detailed analysis of the *COX2* sequence alignment suggested the possibility of reticulate evolution due to recombination (Table 2). This way, haplotypes K5 (triple hybrid CID1), K6 (brewing hybrids CECT 1388, 1990, 11002, 11011 and the clinical strain MR25) and K10 (wine hybrid PB7) appear as putative recombinant sequences with similarities to *S. kudriavzevii*, *S.*

cerevisiae and *S. paradoxus* sequences in their 5'-end, central and 3'-end regions, respectively (see Table 2).

In the case of reticulate evolution due to recombination, a better representation of the phylogenetic relationships is obtained by a Neighbor-net network analysis (Figure 4). Most wine hybrids (except PB7 and AMH) and two Trappist beer hybrids (CECT 11003 and 11004) inherited their mitochondrial genomes (haplotypes K2, K3 and K4) from *S. kudriavzevii*, AMH and IF6 received their mitochondrial genomes from *S. cerevisiae*, although IF6 *COX2*

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combined analysis of the nuclear and mitochondrial genom
ms of *S. kudriavzevii* double and triple hybrids indicates a h
ersity. Strains that differed appears in a striking intermediate position between *S. cerevisiae* and *S. paradoxus*-*S.mikatae* clades, likely due to its highly divergent 3' end. Finally, most brewing hybrids and the clinical isolate (haplotype K6), the cider CID1 (K5) and the wine PB7 (K10) hybrids appear in an intermediate position due to their chimerical *COX2* sequences. *Different groups of hybrids according to their nuclear and mitochondrial genome constitutions* The combined analysis of the nuclear and mitochondrial genome compositions of *S. kudriavzevii* double and triple hybrids indicates a higher genetic diversity. Strains that differed in a few chromosomal rearrangements contain different mitochondrial haplotypes (e.g. PB7 and the Austrian and Croatian hybrids) and others showing important chromosomal differences share the same mitochondrial sequences (e.g. MR25 and brewing hybrids). In other cases, there is a certain association between the nuclear and mitochondrial diversities. This way, the two hybrids with a *S. cerevisiae* mitochondrial DNA are those that lost a higher fraction of *S. kudriavzevii* nuclear genome. As well, with the mentioned exception of PB7, wine hybrids appear in two closely related clusters, the Austrian-Croatian cluster (also including VIN7) with low number of chromosomal rearrangements and the sharing the same *S. kudriavzevii*-like mitochondrial haplotype K4, and the Swiss cluster (also including Trappist hybrids CECT11003 and 11004), which share several fixed rearrangements (Belloch *et al.* 2009) and the *S. kudriavzevii*-like mitochondrial haplotype K2 (including the derived K3).

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> the geographical distribution range of this type of hybrids as well as the sources whence they can be isolated.

This way, the new wine hybrids (PB7 and SO3) were isolated from wine fermentation in the southernmost locations where this kind of hybrids has been isolated so far (Pajares de los Oteros, in Northwestern Spain, and Daruvar, in Central Croatia, respectively). These new descriptions extend the distribution limits of *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids to the Southern limit of the European wine regions of Oceanic and Continental climate, where these hybrids have been found so far associated to fermentation processes. In these wine regions, hybrids can be predominant (Schütz and Gafner 1994; González *et al.* 2006; Lopandić *et al.* 2007) likely due to a better adaptation to lower temperatures compared to *S. cerevisiae* (González *et al*. 2007).

adia, respectively). These new descriptions extend the dist

cerevisiae x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids to the Southern limit of

wine regions of Oceanic and Continental climate, where the

reveloped for a ssociated to ferment The molecular characterization of PB7 showed that, although its nuclear genome composition is similar to other wine hybrids, exhibits a recombinant mitochondrial genome different but closely related to brewing hybrids. Its marginal distribution and its peculiar genome characteristics are indicative of a putative independent origin from other wine hybrids. However, the genome composition of the Croatian SOY3 hybrid was identical to Austrian hybrids, predominant in another wine region of the same Pannonian basin (Lopandić *et al.* 2007), with similar climatologic characteristics as well as historical links in the development of viticulture and enology.

In these Southern locations where the new wine hybrids were isolated, hybrids did not appear as predominant. In both cases, these wine hybrids were found at low frequencies and coexisting with the dominant *S. cerevisiae* strains during the first stages of the wine fermentations. Perhaps the milder

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species level (Berger and Yaffe 2000), but this is the first time that is described in hybrids at the between-species level. However, we suspect that these recombination events are limited to this *COX2* region because sequences from the next downstream gene, *COX3*, correspond to *S. kudriavzevii* (data not shown).

iltion, the existence of natural triple *S. bayanus* var. *uvarun*
x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids can be explained by secondary
n between either *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids wi
r. uvarum strains or *S. bayanu* In addition, the existence of natural triple *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* x *S*. *cerevisiae* x *S*. *kudriavzevii* hybrids can be explained by secondary hybridization between either *S. cerevisiae* x *S. kudriavzevii* hybrids with *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* strains or *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* x *S. cerevisiae* hybrids with *S. kudriavzevii* strains. Although both types of double hybrids have been found associated to fermentation environments, the first type of secondary hybridization event could be more probable because *S. kudriavzevii* seems to be present only in natural environments (Sampaio and Gonçalves 2008; Lopes *et al.* 2010) and is outcompeted by *S. cerevisae* in experimental wine fermentations (Arroyo-López *et al.* 2011), whilst *S. bayanus* var. *uvarum* coexists with, or even replaces, *S. cerevisiae* in wine fermentations from cold regions of Europe (Torriani *et al.* 1999; Naumov *et al.* 2000; 2002; Rementería *et al.* 2003; Demuyter *et al.* 2004). However, a secondary hybridization event in natural environments, involving a *S. kudriavzevii* and a *S. bayanus* x *S. cerevisiae*, cannot be totally discarded. After hybridization, the hybrid genome suffers random genomic rearrangements mediated by crossing-over between homeologous chromosomes (Belloch *et al.* 2009). If these rearrangements were randomly fixed, hybrids with a higher number of rearrangements should derive from older

-
- hybridization events, and hybrids with no rearrangements should be very

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iling conditions constrains the loss of the *S. cerevisiae* fra
genome, and only the *S. kudriavzevii* genome fraction of se
for the hybrid (e.g. involved in adaptation to low fermentat
es) would be maintained. The fact th recent. However, double hybrids showed a trend to maintain the *S*. *cerevisiae* genome and to reduce the *S. kudriavzevii* that can only be explained by selection acting under the strong restrictive conditions prevailing during fermentation (nutrient depletion, osmotic stress, fermenting temperature, increasing levels of ethanol, etc.). The better adaptation of *S. cerevisiae* to these prevailing conditions constrains the loss of the *S. cerevisiae* fraction of the hybrid genome, and only the *S. kudriavzevii* genome fraction of selective importance for the hybrid (e.g. involved in adaptation to low fermentation temperatures) would be maintained. The fact that hybrids with a *S. kudriavzevii* mitochondrial genome maintain a larger fraction of the *S.kudriavzevii* genome than hybrids with a *S. cerevisiae* mitochondrial DNA, such as AMH and IF6, is also indicative that the inheritance of a *S. kudriavzevii* mitochondrial genome constrains to maintain those *S. kudriavzevii* genes involved in the proper function and maintenance of the mitochondria. Incompatibility between nuclear and mitochondrial genes has been reported for artificial *S. cerevisiae* x *S. bayanus* hybrids (Lee *et al.* 2008). Accordingly, strains possessing *S. cerevisiae-*inherited mitochondria overcome this restriction and may lose these *S. kudriavzevii* mitochondrial-related genes from their nuclear genome. **Acknowledgements** We thank Helmut Gangl, Rosa de Llanos, Silvia LLopis, Sandi Orlić, Lallemand Bio and Anchor Wine Yeasts for providing yeast strains. This work was supported by Spanish Government projects AGL2009-12673-CO2-01 and AGL2009-12673-CO2-02 to AQ and EB, respectively, and Generalitat

Valenciana (project PROMETEO/2009/019) to AQ, EB and CB. DP and JMA-P

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Figure 4. Phylogenetic Neighbor-net network obtained with partial sequences of

- the mitochondrial *COX2* gene from hybrid strains and reference
- *Saccharomyces* strains. The new hybrids are indicated in bold gray characters.
- The different *COX2* sequence haplotypes are named by the initial of the species
- name of the closest parental (C, for *S. cerevisiae*; and K, for *S. kudriavzevii*)
- followed by a number, according to González *et al.* (2008). The new *COX2*
- rese,
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Conditions of the Conditions of the Condit haplotypes described in the present study are indicated in italics. Strains

sharing the same haplotype are given at the left.

Table 1. List of strains used in this study. Double hybrids correspond to S. cerevisiae x S. kudriavzevii hybrids and triple hybrids to S.

bayanus x S. cerevisiae x S. kudriavzevii hybrids. Accession numbers of new gene sequences are indicated.

Table 2. Comparison of COX2 haplotype sequences from hybrid and type and reference strains of Saccharomyces species. A dot indicates nucleotides identical to that from the type strain of S. cerevisiae CECT 1942^T. COX2 regions in hybrids that exhibit a higher similarity to S. cerevisiae, S. kudriavzevii and S. paradoxus COX2 sequences are indicated in squared white, black and grey backgrounds, respectively.

Figure 1. Phylogenetic tree obtained with partial sequences of the nuclear MET6 gene from hybrid strains and reference strains of Saccharomyces. The new hybrids are indicated in bold gray characters. Hybrid strains contain one, two or three different MET6 alleles named C (S. cerevisiae), B (S. bayanus var. uvarum) or K (S. kudriavzevii) according to the closest parental relative. Numbers at the nodes correspond to bootstrap values based on 1000 pseudo-replicates. The scale is given in nucleotide substitutions per site. 119x175mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 2. RFLPs analysis of 35 nuclear genes from double hybrids. Each square corresponds to a copy of each gene region according to its chromosome location, indicated on the left map. Alleles of S. cerevisiae are indicated as white squares and S. kudriavzevii alleles are represented as black

squares. 115x86mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 3. RFLPs of 35 nuclear genes from triple hybrids. Each square corresponds to a copy of each gene region according to its chromosome location, indicated on the left map. Alleles of S. cerevisiae are indicated as white squares, S. kudriavzevii alleles are represented as black squares and S. bayanus var. uvarum alleles are depicted in grey squares. Squares filled with two colors indicate that the presence of any of these alleles is possible. Gene orders are the same for S. cerevisiae and S. kudriavzevii because their genomes are colineal, however, gene orders differ for S. bayanus var. uvarum because this species exhibits a series of reciprocal translocations as depicted. 160x232mm (600 x 600 DPI)

Figure 4. Phylogenetic Neighbor-net network obtained with partial sequences of the mitochondrial COX2 gene from hybrid strains and reference Saccharomyces strains. The new hybrids are indicated in bold gray characters. The different COX2 sequence haplotypes are named by the initial of the species name of the closest parental (C, for S. cerevisiae; and K, for S. kudriavzevii) followed by a number, according to González et al. (2008). The new COX2 haplotypes described in the present study are indicated in italics. Strains sharing the same haplotype are given at the left. 115x86mm (600 x 600 DPI)

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Table S1. Conformation of the S. cerevisiae x S. kudriavzevii hybrids for each gene region according to the composite restriction patterns exhibited. For a description of the composite restriction patterns, see Gonzalez et al. (2008); Lopes et al. (2010) and Table S2. C: S. cerevisiae alleles, K: S. kudriavzevii alleles, B: S. bayanus var. uvarum alleles

Table S2. New restriction patterns found in S. cerevisiae x S. kudriavzevii hybrids deriving from those described in González et al. (2008) and Lopes et al. (2010).

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