

草莓 AP2/ERF 转录因子 AD-cDNA 文库的构建

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摘要:【目的】探究 AP2/ERF 家族成员在果实成熟过程中发挥的作用。【方法】利用 CTAB 法提取栽培草莓 (*Fragaria × ananassa*) 品种‘越心’的果实 RNA, 逆转录第 1 链 cDNA; 根据 AP2 DNA-binding domain 序列信息利用 CDART 工具在 Genbank 中获得草莓中所有 AP2/ERF 家族成员的序列信息, 设计基因编码区全长引物并获得所有家族成员全长序列; 将 AP2/ERF 家族成员基因全长序列从测序载体 pGEM-T easy 转移至 pGADT7 载体上, 转化至大肠杆菌并保存菌株, 构建完整的 AP2/ERF AD-cDNA 文库; 参照 Yeastmaker™ yeast transformation system2 (Clontech) 说明书, 利用 *DkPDC2* 启动子进行文库筛选和单一验证。【结果】从数据库获得了草莓 (*Fragaria × ananassa*) 基因组 120 个非冗余 AP2/ERF 家族成员基因全长序列, 通过设计的 7 条引物将 AP2/ERF 家族成员基因全长序列从测序载体 pGEM-T easy 转移至 pGADT7 载体上, 转化至大肠杆菌并保存菌株, 构建了完整的 AP2/ERF 的 AD-cDNA 文库。利用已报道能与 *DkERF19* 互作的柿子基因 *DkPDC2* 启动子对该文库进行酵母单杂交筛选, 获得了 2 个草莓 AP2/ERF 家族成员 *FaERF#83* 和 *FaERF#87*, 且证明了两者的均能与 *DkPDC2* 启动子互作。【结论】成功构建了一个只含有草莓 AP2/ERF 转录因子全长序列的 AD-cDNA 文库, 用 *DkPDC2* 启动子进行筛选获得了 *DkERF19* 直系同源基因 *FaERF#87* 和同亚家族基因 *FaERF#83*, 证明了该文库的有效性, 也为进一步研究潜在的 AP2/ERF 调控提供了手段。

关键词: 草莓; AP2/ERF 转录因子; cDNA 文库; 酵母单杂交技术

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The construction of AD-cDNA library of AP2/ERF transcription factors of strawberry

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Abstract: 【Objective】As one of the most numerous transcription factors in plants, the members of AP2/ERF superfamily were reported extensively to be involved both in the regulation of the process of growth and development in plant, and in the regulation of ripening process and accompanying physiological changes of fruit. Rosaceae is of great importance to be investigated, because it consists of many economically important fruits such as apple, peach, pear and strawberry. But compared with the total amount of numbers of AP2/ERF superfamily in Rosaceae, the quantity of the members reported to be functional in the process of fruit development and ripening is too small, which means large work needs to do before a comprehensive understanding of the role of AP2/ERF in fruits' development and ripening process is made. To investigate the potential targets of transcription factors like AP2/ERF, Y1H assay is one of the most effective methods to use. It is a rapid and efficient way to build an AD-cDNA library only consisting of transcription factors to be screened, which reduces the false-positive rate and great labor when using a traditional cDNA library instead. 【Methods】With the use of CTAB, RNA was extracted from strawberry (*Fragaria × ananassa*) 'Yuexin' fruits, which was then used as template in the process of reverse transcription for the synthesis of the first strand cDNA. With the help of bioinformatics, the details of the sequences of the members of AP2/ERF superfamily in strawberry were ob-

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tained, according to which the special primers of each member were designed. Each CDS (coding sequence) was cloned to pGEM-T easy vector for sequencing. After the plasmid profiles of pGEM-T easy and pGADT7 vector were compared, seven special primers were designed to transfer the CDS from pGEM-T easy to pGADT7 vector, which was then transformed to *E. coli* and sequenced. The strains containing the CDS of AP2/ERF family members were preserved with 50% glycerol separately at -80 °C before use. To avoid the potential loss of certain plasmids when all of the strains were mixed to proliferate and extracted, each strain was cultured and extracted separately. The plasmids were mixed with the same molar quantity for completing the construction of the library. To verify the effectiveness of FaERF-AD library, the promoter of *DkPDC2* which was reported to interact with an AP2/ERF transcription factor DkERF19, was screened by Y1H assay with the use of the library. The detail process of Y1H assay referred to Yeastmaker™ Yeast Transformation System 2 User Manual (Clontech) and Matchmaker™ Gold Yeast One-Hybrid Library Screening System User Manual (Clontech). After cultivation of 3 days, the colonies of Y1H transformants were recorded and photographed. 【Results】120 items of AP2/ERF in strawberry were obtained from DNA nucleotide database of NCBI after repeat records were omitted. Special primers were designed, and specific coding sequences of 120 AP2/ERF members in ‘Yuexin’ strawberry fruit were cloned with cDNA of strawberry fruits at 4 developmental stages (G, green stage; T, turning stage; IR, intermediate red stage; R, full red stage) as template. The AD-cDNA library of AP2/ERF transcription factors of strawberry was constructed successfully after all of pGADT7 vectors with specific AP2/ERF coding sequence were obtained and corresponding strains were preserved. After the screen of the library by Y1H assay with the promoter of *DkPDC2* as a bait, dozens of colonies were obtained from SD/-Leu media with 200 ng·mL⁻¹ Aureobasidin A (AbA). The PCR results of the colonies showed that only two bands with about 650 bp and 1 000 bp separately emerged on the agarose gel, which indicated at least two members of AP2/ERF superfamily in strawberry could interact with the promoter of *DKPDC2*. After sequencing of all the bands, the bands with almost the same length proved to be the same. The larger bands with 1 000 bp was *FaERF#87* and the smaller ones was *FaERF#83*. The interaction of the promoter of *DkPDC2* with *FaERF#83* and *FaERF#87* were verified by Y1H assays with AD-*FaERF#83* and AD-*FaERF#87* as prey. Both the transformants containing AD-*FaERF#83* and AD-*FaERF#87* could survive on the plate with SD/-Leu+AbA (200 ng·mL⁻¹). To investigate the relationship between the reported *DkERF19* and two AP2/ERFs obtained in this research, a phylogenetic tree was constructed, which showed that they were all members of ERF IX clade, and *DkERF19* had a closest relationship with *FaERF#87* compared with the other members of AP2/ERF in strawberry. 【Conclusion】An AD-cDNA library of AP2/ERF transcription factors of strawberry was constructed. The screen of the library with the promoter of *DkPDC2* as the bait showed two members of AP2/ERF superfamily could interact with the promoter of *DkPDC2*. The protein of *FaERF#83*, the ortholog gene of *DkERF19*, could interact with the promoter of *DkPDC2*, verifying the effectiveness of the library to prove interaction among different species. Also, *FaERF#87* interacted with the promoter of *DkPDC2*, which could validated the potential application of the library to investigate transcription regulation of AP2/ERF.

Key words: Strawberry; AP2/ERF transcription factor; cDNA library; Yeast one-hybrid

AP2/ERF 转录因子是一类植物特有的转录因子,具有一个由 60~70 个氨基酸组成的 DNA-binding domain AP2 结构域,能够结合于 DRE、GCC-box 和 CAACA motif 等顺式元件^[1-3]。根据 DNA 结合结

构域数目和结构不同,AP2/ERF 基因家族可以分为 3 个亚家族(AP2、ERF 和 RAV)和 1 个单独成员 Soloist^[4]。AP2/ERF 家族不仅参与了植物的多种生物胁迫与非生物胁迫响应^[5-6],同时也是植物果实能够发

育成熟及形成各种品质性状的重要因素,在柑橘的脱绿^[7]、香蕉的成熟^[8]以及柿子采后软化^[9]等过程中,均有AP2/ERF基因家族成员参与并发挥重要功能。

酵母单杂交技术(yeast-one-hybrid, Y1H)是一种被广泛用于研究转录因子蛋白与目的基因启动子或顺式作用元件结合的试验方法。研究者可以通过Y1H筛选特定cDNA文库获得与目的DNA序列结合的蛋白质,而筛选所用cDNA文库对于筛选结果具有很大影响。目前构建用于酵母单杂交的cDNA文库有2种方法:第一种是以特定的组织或细胞mRNA为模板,通过SMARTTM等技术获得的cDNA文库,构建操作简单,但筛选假阳性高,工作量大;另一种文库则只含有物种所有转录因子全长信息,利用完善的基因组及注释信息获得并克隆物种中所有转录因子的全长序列,将其连接于含有GAL4-AD的载体中,完成cDNA文库构建。相对于第一种方法,其特点在于筛选所需转化子少,假阳性率低^[10]。

草莓(*Fragaria × ananassa*)与苹果、梨、桃、枇杷等蔷薇科果树具有较近的亲缘关系,而相较于这些蔷薇科果树,草莓的单倍体较小(约240 Mb),生长周期也较短,有较高的遗传转化效率^[11]。笔者以草莓‘越心’为材料,克隆并利用其120个AP2/ERF基因家族成员构建草莓AP2/ERF基因家族的AD-cDNA文库,并采用已报道的能与DkERF19互作的柿子基因*DkPDC2*启动子^[12]验证文库的有效性,旨在为后续草莓以及蔷薇科果树中AP2/ERF转录调控功能研究提供更多依据。

1 材料和方法

1.1 材料

草莓(*Fragaria × ananassa*)品种‘越心’果实采自于浙江省农业科学研究院杨渡试验基地(海宁),采摘的果实均无病虫害,从绿果到成熟果实阶段。将草莓用洗干净的水果刀切成约1 cm³的小块,放入取样袋中,加入液氮至冻透,置于-80 °C冰箱中保存用于后续试验。

1.2 RNA提取和cDNA合成

总RNA的提取参照Zhang等^[13]的方法,首先将称量好的样品加入至4 mL 65 °C预热的CTAB溶液中,涡旋混匀后放入65 °C水浴5 min,充分裂解细胞后,加入4 mL 氯仿/异戊醇溶液(*V/V*=24:1)抽提2次,上清加入12 mol·L⁻¹ LiCl至终浓度2 mol·L⁻¹,

4 °C低温沉淀RNA后,分别用SSTE和氯仿/异戊醇溶液(*V/V*=24:1)抽提1次,加入2倍体积预冷无水乙醇沉淀30 min后高速离心弃上清,沉淀即为所提取的RNA,利用分光光度计测定RNA浓度和纯度,并用1%(ω ,后同)琼脂糖凝胶电泳检测其完整性。

用TURBO DNA-free kit(Ambion公司)去除RNA中含有的少量基因组DNA,然后采用HiScript-II 1st strand cDNA synthesis kit(Vazyme公司)对RNA进行cDNA的第1链合成,具体步骤参照试剂盒说明书进行操作,所用引物为Oligo dT₂₃VN。所得cDNA利用分光光度计测定浓度和纯度,并用ddH₂O将其稀释至100 ng· μ L⁻¹。

1.3 基因克隆

利用AP2/ERF转录因子家族成员特有的AP2 DNA-binding domain序列信息在Conserved Domain Architecture Retrieval Tool(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Structure/lexington/lexington.cgi>, CDART)中进行搜索,获得在草莓中所有AP2/ERF家族成员的序列信息。通过所获得的成员信息,设计了120对基因全长引物。为避免部分家族成员相似度较高而扩增出其他家族成员片段,设计的引物3'端存在2~3个与相近家族成员序列不同的碱基。

以草莓多个成熟时期果实cDNA为模板,参照FastStart Taq DNA polymerase(Roche公司)说明书,配置终体积为20 μ L的PCR反应体系,反应程序为:95 °C预变性2 min;95 °C变性30 s,58 °C退火30 s,72 °C延伸2 min 30 s,40个热循环;72 °C延伸10 min,4 °C保存。

PCR产物经1%琼脂糖凝胶电泳,回收预期长度序列连接pGEM-T easy载体,将连接产物导入大肠杆菌DH5 α ,选取阳性克隆菌进行测序,获得所有AP2/ERF家族成员序列信息。

1.4 草莓AP2/ERF的AD-cDNA文库构建

由于pGEM-T easy载体与pGADT7载体中无一致多克隆酶切位点,为将AP2/ERF全长序列转移至pGADT7载体中,根据载体序列,设计部分碱基突变的引物以产生酶切位点,再通过PCR的方法,获得带有特定酶切位点的片段,以酶切连接的方式,将AP2/ERF全长序列构建至正确的开放阅读框。

因某些基因序列含有内源酶切位点,且基因插入在pGEM-T easy载体的方向性随机(+/-),需对上述情况分别设计通用引物,根据所有情况设计了7

条带入酶切位点的突变通用引物。当基因序列正向插入时,可以根据基因序列情况选择突变为 *Nde* I/*Eco*R I/*Xma* I 的 ERF(+2+/3+)-AD-FP 作为上游引物,与此配套使用的下游引物有 2 种选择,一种是突变为 *Bam*H I 的下游通用引物 ERF(+)-AD-RP,另一种则是 M13R 引物,利用 pGEM-T easy 载体多克隆酶切位点进行构建;当基因序列反向插入 pGEM-T easy 时,可根据基因序列情况选择突变为 *Nde* I/*Eco*R I 的 ERF(-/2-)-AD-FP 作为上游引物,配套使用的下游引物选择 ERF(-)-AD-RP 或 M13F。

利用设计的突变引物进行 PCR,获得适用于构建 pGADT7 的两端序列含有酶切位点的片段,酶切回收 PCR 产物,并与相同内切酶切过的 pGADT7 载体进行连接。重组质粒转化大肠杆菌 DH5 α ,挑选阳性克隆测序并保存所有 120 个家族成员菌液,完成文库构建。文库使用时,将所有家族成员分别活化后,根据成员所属亚家族,将菌液分为 ERF(I-X)、AP2、RAV(包含 Soloist)混合,提取质粒,并分别用该子文库所有成员的基因特异引物检测质粒,以确保各子文库中包含所有对应的亚家族成员。

1.5 文库筛选

参照 YeastmakerTM yeast transformation system 2 (Clontech) 说明书制备 Y1HGOLD[pDkPDC2-AbAi] 诱饵菌株感受态细胞,分别加入 1 μ g 各子文库质粒+5 μ L 变性的 carrier DNA(10 μ g \cdot μ L⁻¹)混合物,参照说明书完成转化,用生理盐水(0.9% NaCl)重悬转化子并涂布于 SD/-Leu+AbA(200 ng \cdot mL⁻¹[12])的培养基中,等待 3~5 d,观察酵母生长情况的变化。从生长的平板中挑选 6~8 个的单菌落使用 ExTaq(TaKaRa)进行菌落 PCR,将 PCR 产物在 1%琼脂糖凝胶中进行电泳,切割其中清晰可见的条带送测,送测序列匹配的家族成员后续再进行单一验证试验。进行单一验证试验时,参照 YeastmakerTM yeast transformation system 2 (Clontech) 说明书制备 Y1HGOLD[pDkPDC2-AbAi]诱饵菌株感受态细胞,分别将含有待验证的家族成员序列的 pGADT7 AD 质粒(1 μ g)及空 pGADT7 AD 质粒(作为阴性对照,1 μ g)与 5 μ L 变性的 carrier DNA(10 μ g \cdot μ L⁻¹)混合,参照说明书完成转化,用生理盐水(0.9% NaCl)重悬转化子并涂布于 SD/-Leu+AbA(200 ng \cdot mL⁻¹)的培养基中,等待 3~5 d,观察酵母生长情况的变化。

2 结果与分析

2.1 AP2/ERF 基因克隆

利用 AP2 domain 序列在 Conserved Domain Architecture Retrieval Tool (CDART, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Structure/lexington/lexington.cgi>) 中进行搜索,发现草莓中有 120 个具有 AP2-DNA 结合结构域的基因;并根据结构域数目进行分类,具体各亚家族或亚类成员数目情况见表 1,其中 ERF 亚家族成员数目最多,包括 95 个成员,在其下 10 个分组当中 III、V、VIII、IX 占主要部分,分别有 15、11、11、20 个家族成员,其余分组的成员数都少于 10 个。AP2 和 RAV 分别有 18 个和 6 个成员,Soloist 只有 1 个成员。

表 1 草莓 AP2/ERF 家族分类以及各家族成员分析

Table 1 The classification of AP2/ERF superfamily of strawberry

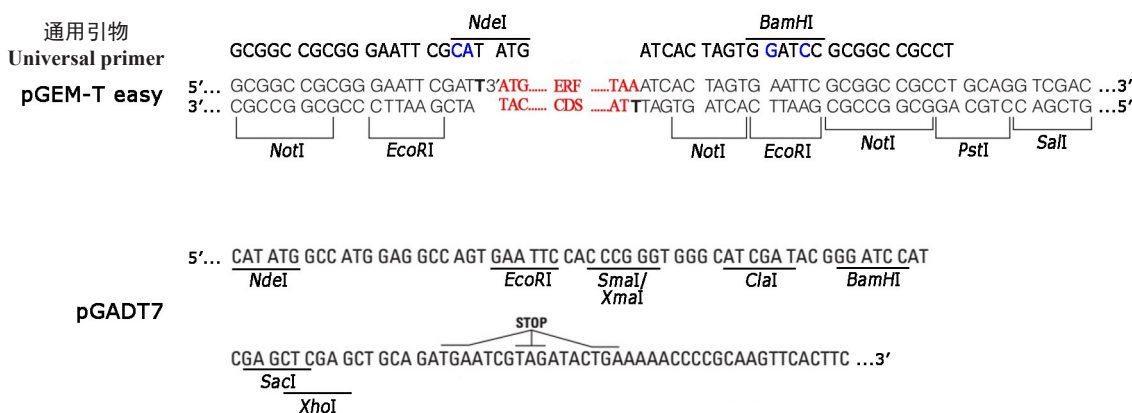
家族分类 Family classification	亚家族 Subgroup	成员数 Number of member
ERF 家族 ERF family	I	5
	II	6
	III	15
	IV	7
	V	11
	VI	9
	VII	3
	VIII	11
	IX	20
	X	8
AP2 家族 AP2 family		18
RAV 家族 RAV family		6
Soloist		1
合计 Total		120

2.2 AP2/ERF 的 AD-cDNA 文库构建

利用图 1 所示的方法,共设计了 7 条通过突变引入酶切位点的通用引物,具体引物序列及引入的酶切位点见表 2,利用这 7 条突变引物和 2 条 M13 引物(pGEM-T easy 测序引物),成功克隆了 120 个两端带有特定酶切位点的草莓 AP2/ERF 家族成员全长序列,通过酶切连接的方式成功构建了 120 个含有草莓 AP2/ERF 家族成员全长序列的 pGADT7 载体,并保存其大肠杆菌甘油菌。

2.3 AD-FaERF 文库筛选与验证

将文献[12]报道受柿子 DkERF19 直接调控的 *DkPDC2* 基因的启动子作为诱饵 DNA 序列进行酵母单杂文库筛选试验,研究结果表明,在 SD/-Leu+



蓝字代表通用引物中引入酶切位点突变的碱基, 红字代表 AP2/ERF 全长序列。

Blue words indicate the mutated bases in the primers, red words indicate CDS of AP2/ERF.

图1 pGEM-T easy 和 pGADT7 载体多克隆位点情况和通用引物设计
Fig. 1 The MCS of pGEM-T easy and pGADT7 and the design of the universal primer

表2 所设计的上下游通用引物序列信息

Table 2 The information of the universal designed primers

引物名称 The name of primers	引物序列(5'-3') The sequence of primers(5'-3')	基因插入方向 Direction of insertion	突变酶切位点 Restriction enzyme cutting site
ERF(+)-AD-FP	GCCGCGGGAATTCGCATATG	+	<i>Nde</i> I
ERF(2+)-AD-FP	GCGGCCGCGGGAATGAATTCATG	+	<i>EcoR</i> I
ERF(3+)-AD-FP	CGGCCGCGGGAACCCGGGATG	+	<i>Xma</i> I
ERF(+)-AD-RP	GCCGCGGATCCACTAGTGATT	+	<i>BamH</i> I
ERF(-)-AD-FP	CCGCGAATTCACTAGTGCATATG	-	<i>Nde</i> I
ERF(2-)-AD-FP	GGCCGCGAATTCACTAGAATTCATG	-	<i>EcoR</i> I
ERF(-)-AD-RP	GCGGCCGCGGGATCCGATT	-	<i>BamH</i> I

注:“+”表示引物序列方向与 pGADT7 载体的正链一致,“-”表示引物序列方向与 pGADT7 载体的负链一致。

Note: “+” indicated the orientation of the primer was in line with the plus strand of pGADT7, while “-” indicated the orientation of the primer was in line with the minus strand of pGADT7.

AbA(200 ng·mL⁻¹)的培养基上,只有 ERF 第 IX 亚族的培养基上有大量单菌落生长,而其他亚家族的培养基上并无菌落生长。从中随机挑选了 48 个酵母单菌落进行菌落检测,电泳结果显示,所挑取的 48

个单菌落检测条带出现 2 种长度(部分电泳结果见图 2)。其中较长的条带 a 在 1 000 bp 左右(箭头 a 所指),而另一个条带较小的条带 b 长度约为 650 bp (箭头 b 所指)。对 PCR 产物回收后测序,测序结果

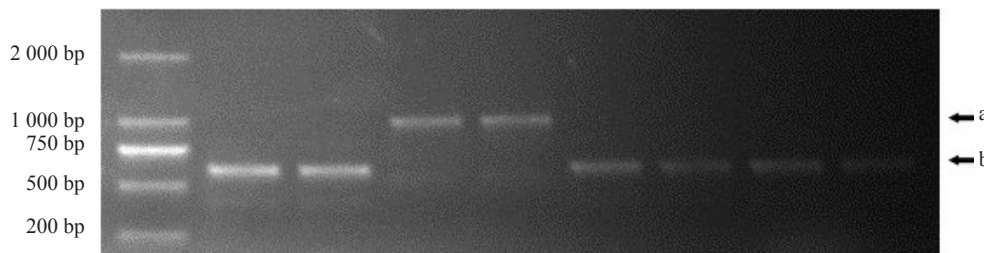


图2 酵母单杂交筛选单菌落 PCR 电泳检测

Fig. 2 The detection of PCR from colonies screened by Y1H

表明,条带 a 测序为 *FaERF#87*, 条带 b 测序为 *FaERF#83*,均为 ERF 第 IX 亚家族成员。

将含有 *FaERF#83* 和 *FaERF#87* 序列的

pGADT7 载体分别通过单独转化的方式转化至 Y1Hglod[pDkPDC2-AbAi]菌株中进行单一验证,结果如图 3 所示,转化有 *FaERF#83* 和 *FaERF#87* 的转

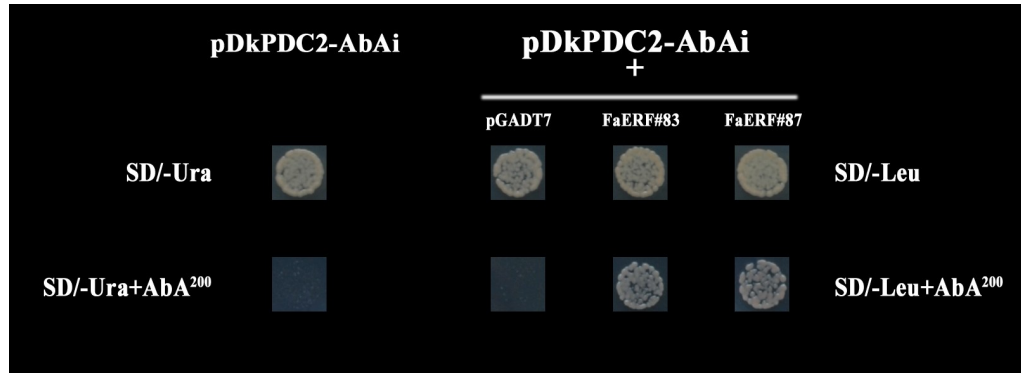
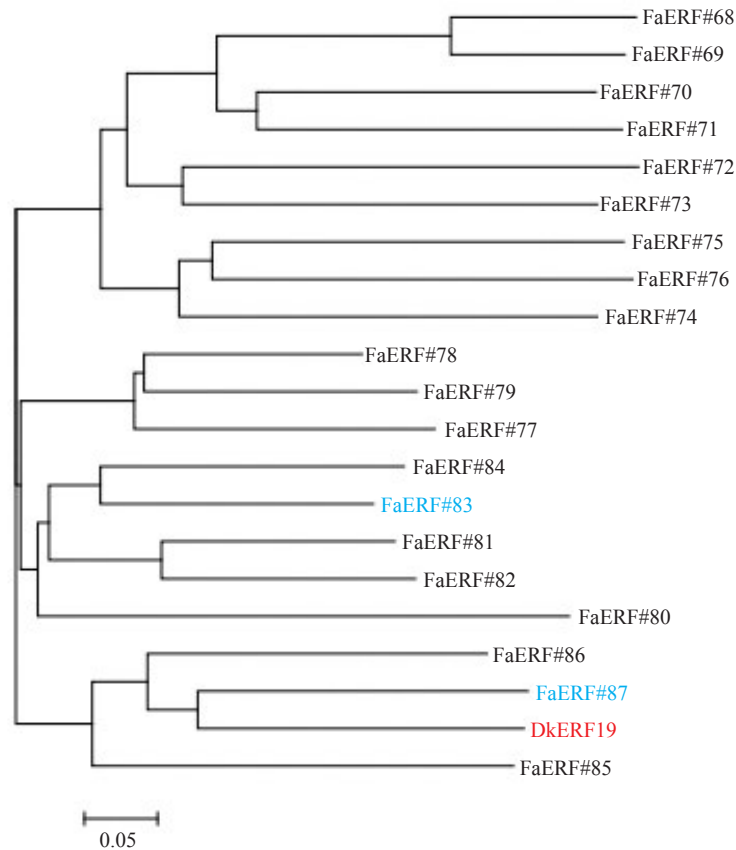


图 3 FaERF#83、FaERF#87 与 DkPDC2 启动子互作验证

Fig. 3 The verification of the interaction of FaERF#83, FaERF#87 with the promoter of DkPDC2

化子均能够在含有 $200 \text{ ng} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}$ AbA 的 SD/-Leu 培养基中正常生长, 而阴性对照(转化空 pGADT7 载体)则无法在该培养基中生长。这一结果证明了通过筛选得到的 FaERF#83 和 FaERF#87 能够与 *DkPDC2* 的启动子发生结合。

此外, 将柿子中能与 *DkPDC2* 结合的 DkERF19 与草莓 ERF 第 IX 亚家族成员进行序列比对分析, 并根据氨基酸序列相似度构建同缘关系进化树, 结果如图 4 所示, DkERF19 和草莓中 FaERF#87 同源关系最近, 为直系同源基因, 其与 FaERF#83 同源关系也



红字为进行亲缘关系分析的 DkERF19, 蓝字为文库筛选得到的草莓 AP2/ERF 家族成员。

Red words indicate DkERF19, blue words indicate the members of strawberry AP2/ERF superfamily got by screening of the library.

图 4 DkERF19 与草莓 AP2/ERF 家族第 IX 亚家族成员同源关系进化树

Fig. 4 The phylogenetic relationship among DkERF19 and members of strawberry AP2/ERF superfamily subgroup IX

十分相近。

3 讨论

近年来,草莓基因组研究进展较快^[14-17],使草莓中目的基因序列与信息的获取更容易。笔者利用AP2 domain的保守性,通过CDART工具获得了草莓中所有AP2/ERF家族成员的序列信息。这种方式相较于使用转录组测序、EST文库测序等传统方式获得家族成员信息更快速也更完整。

酵母单杂交是一种常用、稳定、高效的研究转录因子的转录调控实验体系。通常,酵母单杂交是利用SMARTTM等技术所构建的含有特定细胞或组织转录本信息的cDNA文库筛选获得转录因子,但这种方式构建的文库存在以下几个问题:(1)所构建的cDNA文库中包含大量非转录因子的cDNA序列,其形成的融合蛋白也可能与DNA序列有高亲和性(如组蛋白),或者是能够加快酵母生长繁殖速度,从而造成假阳性结果,使得筛选真正的阳性结果的工作量大大提高;(2)真正具有调控作用的转录因子存在移码可能,无法形成正确的融合蛋白,也容易造成假阴性结果;(3)获得的cDNA文库容易受到人员操作和RNA质量等因素干扰,造成不同批次cDNA文库间质量参差,影响结果重复性。针对以上问题,笔者构建了一个包含草莓AP2/ERF转录因子全长序列的AD-cDNA文库。在拟南芥中,Mitusda等^[18]构建了一个包含所有拟南芥转录因子(约1500个)序列的AD-cDNA文库,其筛选效率较之前文库高,且筛选获得了许多新型的转录因子/启动子互作;而相比拟南芥文库,笔者所建文库采用传统的酶切、连接方式进行构建,并利用pGEM-T easy和pGADT7的特点设计突变通用引物进行扩增以解决现有酶切位点不适用的问题,更为省时省力。另外,整个文库依据亚家族可分为12个子文库,每个子文库的信息更加清晰,便于后续分析判断;同时每个库的基因容量减少,使得为保证所有基因得到转化所需要的转化子数量大大减少,研究者无需进行大规模的转化便能获得阳性克隆。

利用文库质粒对柿子*DkPDC2*启动子进行筛选,结果发现,草莓AP2/ERF家族中第IX亚家族成员*FaERF#83*和*FaERF#87*所编码的蛋白能够结合于*DkPDC2*的启动子,进一步通过进化树分析,发现*FaERF#87*和*DkERF19*为直系同源基因,而*FaERF#*

83为新型转录因子,这也进一步证明本研究文库的实效性。因此,笔者通过构建一个完整的AP2/ERF转录因子家族文库,旨在发掘将所有潜在的调控,获得完整的家族参与目的基因调控的情况,为以后的转录调控研究提供新思路。

4 结论

成功构建了1个只含有草莓AP2/ERF家族所有成员序列信息的cDNA-AD文库,利用该文库进行酵母单杂交文库筛选试验,结果表明,可筛选获得与文献报道相近的AP2/ERF基因家族成员,证明文库有效,能用于证明和探究AP2/ERF转录因子-启动子互作。

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