

# Deciphering the Analysis of the Genetic Diversity of Mangosteen (*Garcinia mangostana* L.) from Various Regions of Origin in Java, Indonesia

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.13005/bbra/3078>

(Received: 02 January 2023; accepted: 02 February 2023)

The genetic improvement of a plant to produce high-yielding varieties depends on genetic variability. It is widely known that the mangosteen plant (*Garcinia mangostana* L.) does not have genetic variability because it has an apomictic reproductive mechanism. Analysis of genetic diversity can be carried out by analysis of similarities and clusters between accessions of plants or with their close relatives of the *Garcinia* genus. This research was carried out to analyze the genetic diversity of 50 mangosteen accessions at mangosteen production centers in four provinces in Java, Indonesia (Banten, West Java, Central Java, and East Java provinces) using RAPD-based primers. RAPD-based amplification revealed a total of 30 amplicons, 28 as polymorphic and two as monomorphic, with an average percentage of polymorphism of 72.22%. The results of PCR-RAPD visualization produce bands measuring 300 bp - 1500 bp. The dendrogram shows the grouping of all types of *G. mangostana* L. in general. The primer used can amplify the samples properly. Genetic variation occurs with coefficient values ranging from 25% to 100%. This study also explains the pattern of the spread of *G. mangostana* L. in Java for the first time. These results can be used as a reference for conserving *G. mangostana* L. and future breeding.

**Keywords:** *Garcinia mangostana* L.; Genetic distance; Mangosteen; Molecular diversity; RAPD.

The mangosteen plant (*Garcinia mangostana* L.) is one of the plants that produce tasty, delicious fruit and has high vitamins and xanthenes. Mangosteen is well-known in the health sector as an anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and antioxidant drug<sup>1,2</sup>. Mangosteen comes from Southeast Asia, especially Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia<sup>2,3</sup>. *G. mangostana* L. is a fruit commodity with promising economic value to be developed. The mangosteen plant naturally breeds by breeding asexual apomictic<sup>4</sup>. The asexual way of breeding *G. mangostana* L. results in narrow

genetic diversity and inheritance of *G. mangostana* L. traits through its female elders<sup>5</sup>. In reality, mangosteen has variations in both phenotype and genetically<sup>6</sup>. Previous publications have described the presence of morphological variations in mangosteen in North Sumatra, Indonesia<sup>7</sup>, and the Philippines<sup>8</sup>. Moreover, genetic variations of some mangosteen accessions have been detected with microsatellite markers<sup>9-11</sup>. Indonesia has a high source of genetic diversity of *G. mangostana* L.<sup>12-14</sup>. The island of Java is the largest *G. mangostana* L. production center in Indonesia. Therefore,

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exploration, identification, and characterization of the diversity of *G. mangostana* L. are available in Indonesia.

Efforts to improve the genetics of *G. mangostana* L. are directed at obtaining high-yielding varieties. Superior approaches are existed to accelerate *G. mangostana* L. growth through the improved root system, fast production, high productivity, and good fruit quality<sup>15</sup>. Efforts to improve the approaches of *G. mangostana* L. have been carried out, including splicing techniques between mangosteen and its close relatives in other *Garcinia* genera, which aims to shorten the juvenile period<sup>16</sup>. Efforts to produce superior clones have also been made with gamma-ray irradiation<sup>8</sup>. A plant's genetic repair program to produce high-yielding varieties relies heavily on the availability of sources of genetic diversity<sup>17,18</sup>.

The approach of the study of the genetic diversity of plants can be carried out by analysis of heredity and crossing<sup>19</sup>. However, the mangosteen plant is a plant that has a long juvenile period, so it is less effective and efficient if performed by genetic and crossing analysis. The molecular analysis became an alternative to studying the *G. mangostana* L. garden diversity. Molecular markings with Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD) are one of the proven molecular analyses in genetic diversity studies. The RAPD marker can detect the genetic diversity of plants with unknown genome sequences, such as the *G. mangostana* L. genitive in Java. This study aims to detect genetic variability in 50 accessions of *G. mangostana* L. on Java Island by using RAPD molecular marker.

## METHODS

### Plant material collection

The mangosteen leaves (*Garcinia mangostana* L.) were taken from mangosteen production centers in six areas on the island of Java. Sample collection was carried out from February to April 2022. Samples were collected from trees growing in different locations representing four provinces on Javan Island, Indonesia (Table 1). The total samples used were 40 accessions from Bogor, Sukabumi, Pandeglang, Purworejo, Banyuwangi, and ten from other genera, namely *G. malaccensis* from Taman Buah Mekarsari, Bogor (TBM) and *G.*

*celebica* from the Bogor Botanical Garden (KRB). The authenticated specimens were deposited at Herbarium Bogoriensis, BRIN, Indonesia, under assigned voucher specimen numbers. Fresh leaf samples were selected, put in a plastic bag, and stored in a Cooling Box for analysis in the Center for Cultivation and Development of Biotechnology and Genetic Resources (BPTP), Bogor, Indonesia.

### Genomic DNA isolation and extraction

Total genomic DNA was extracted using a slightly modified method<sup>17,18,20</sup>. The leaves of *G. mangostana* L. were cut in 1 cm<sup>2</sup> (without leaf bones) and inserted into a 2 mL Eppendorf tube. The leaves were soaked with liquid nitrogen, then grinded using chopsticks until they became powder. The DNA extraction method used the procedures listed in the Maxwell® RSC Plant DNA Kit by Promega Corporation with modifications. DNA quality was tested by electrophoresis on a 1% agarose gel in a 1x TAE buffer solution at a voltage of 100 Volts for 60 minutes, then visualized using UV light (Biorad, USA). The DNA quantity was calculated using a NanoDrop 2000 Spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA) based on light absorbance at  $\lambda$  260 nm. The purity of DNA is known through the comparison of the value of light absorbance at  $\lambda$  260 nm with the value of light absorbance at  $\lambda$  280 nm ( $\lambda$ 260/ $\lambda$ 280). Pure DNA has a comparison value ranging from 1.8-2.0.

### Polymerase Chain Reaction Amplification

DNA sequence process was carried out using the RAPD technique. Pure DNA from mangosteen leaves was taken and the DNA segments were amplified using a single primer. A total of ten RAPD primers from Operon Tech were used in this study (Table 2). Primers that provide firm and clear amplification tapes and produce polymorphic DNA bands were selected to amplify the DNA of the entire sample. PCR was performed with a volume of 10  $\mu$ L containing 4  $\mu$ L of 10 ng DNA, 1  $\mu$ L of 2.5 pmol primer-F, and 5  $\mu$ L of KAPA. The PCR reaction was carried out with 12 tubes for one primer by providing a regular annealing temperature range program on the Takara thermocycler machine. PCR conditions are initial denaturation of 96°C for 5 minutes, denaturation of 94°C for 45 seconds, annealing of 37°C for 1 minute, elongation of 72°C for 1 minute, and termination or final extension of 72°C for 1 minute.

PCR was performed for 35 cycles. Visualization of PCR results was carried out by horizontal electrophoresis with 2% (w/v) agarose gel in 1x TAE buffer at 50 Volts for 60 minutes. The goal is to determine how many different DNA fragments are present in a given sample<sup>17</sup>. The agarose gel was then immersed in Ethidium bromide and sprayed with Cerium (IV) Sulfate slowly to see the DNA bands on the UV-Geldoc (254 nm), then the observational data were generated from disclosing the agarose gel.

#### Data Analysis

The bands obtained from the RAPD technique were translated into binary data. The parameter observed was the appearance of bands on the agarose gel after UV irradiation. The bands that are present are assigned a value of "1" and "0" if absence. Clear and consistent polymorphic bands are used to create binary matrices for statistical analysis. Each occurrence of the ribbon represented one character. The binary data obtained were used to compile a genetic similarity matrix<sup>21</sup>. Analysis of molecular data similarity using the SIMQUAL procedure in the NTSYS program version 2.01 with the DICE coefficient method following Lamboy (1994). Cluster analysis based on genetic similarity values was carried out to see kinship relationships between accessions using the SAHN-UPGMA method displayed in the form of a tree diagram (dendrogram) through the NTSYS program version 2.01. Analysis of the main components using multivariate analysis on the Minitab program version 14.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the total amplification of the DNA genome from 50 accessions of mangosteen from Java Island, Indonesia, on a spectrophotometer produced a PCR product that can be read and suspended so that the results can be analyzed. The results showed that 90 DNA fragments were obtained with 65 (72.22%) polymorphic and 26 (28.89%) monomorphic DNA fragments. Polymorphic bands belong to some sample individuals, while monomorphic bands belong to all sample individuals. The number of polymorphic DNA bands produced determines the diversity of a population since polymorphic DNA bands describe the state of the plant genome.

This study showed that the RAPD primer used had a high level of polymorphism (>50% polymorphic tape). Ten primers produce 3-11 detectable and discussional DNA bands. The highest number of polymorphic bands is found in the OPA-18 primer (Table 1). Observations of amplified DNA band patterns showed different DNA profiles. This difference was due to differences in nucleotide sequences in the four primers used, thus causing the primary attachment along the DNA of the sample genome also to differ.

The RAPD of 50 accession fingerprint profiles of *G. mangostana* L. with ten primers selected shows the resulting tape ranges from 3 (SBH-12) to 10 (OPA-18) with the resulting band size ranging from 300 bp to 1,500 bp so that it can discourse (Fig. 1). The number and intensity of DNA bands produced after DNA amplification with PCR depend primarily on how the primer recognizes its complementary DNA sequences on the DNA prints (template DNA) used. DNA amplification results using the above ten random primers do not always obtain bands of the same intensity. The intensity of the amplified DNA bands in each primer is strongly influenced by the purity and concentration of DNA molds<sup>22</sup>. DNA prints containing polysaccharides, phenolic compounds, and too small concentrations of molded DNA often result in dim or obscure amplification of DNA bands<sup>23</sup>.

The distribution of primary pasting sites in DNA molds and the competition of primary attachment sites to DNA molds cause one fragment to be amplified in large quantities and the other fragments to be few<sup>24</sup>. The amplification process may be initiated in some places, but only a few sets can be detected as bands after Amplification<sup>25</sup>. The primary selection in RAPD analysis affects the resulting band polymorphism<sup>26</sup>. Each primer has its attachment site, resulting in the polymorphic DNA bands produced by each primer becoming different, both in the size of the number of base pairs and the number of DNA bands<sup>17,25</sup>.

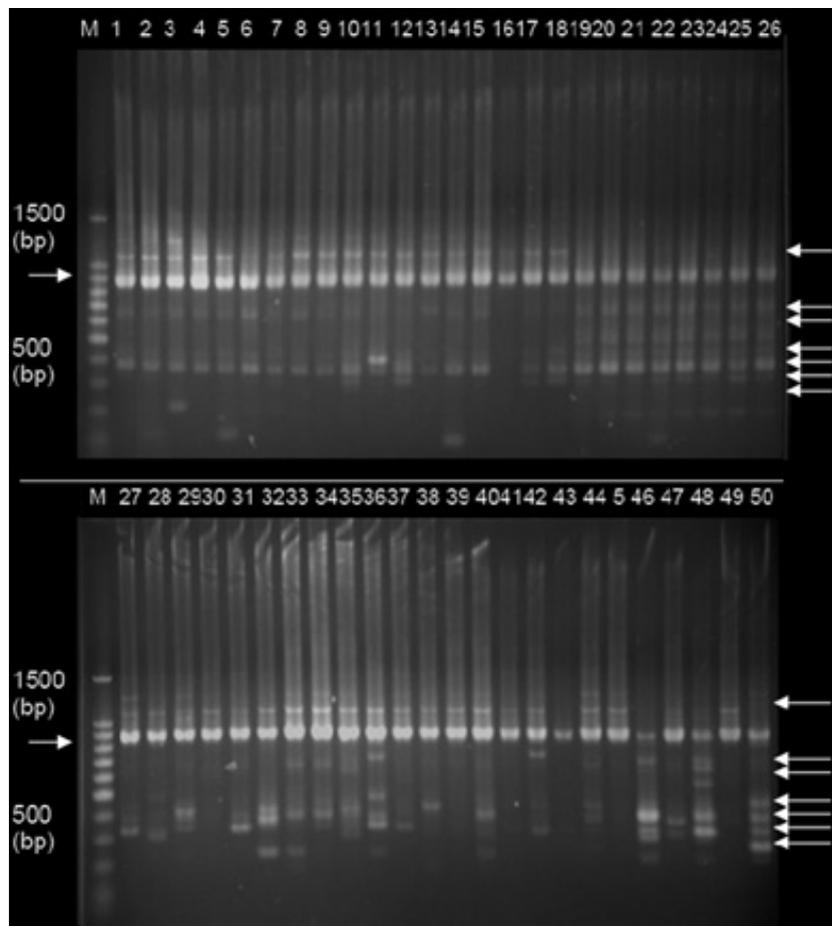
Cluster analysis showed the separation of 50 accessions of *G. mangostana* L. into two clustered clusters, namely, cluster A with a similarity coefficient of 0.87 and cluster B with a similarity coefficient of 0.82 (Fig.2). Cluster A consisted of two sub-clusters consisting of H (accession nos. 9 and 10 respectively from

**Table 1.** Sample collection of *G. mangostana* L. from four provinces on Java island

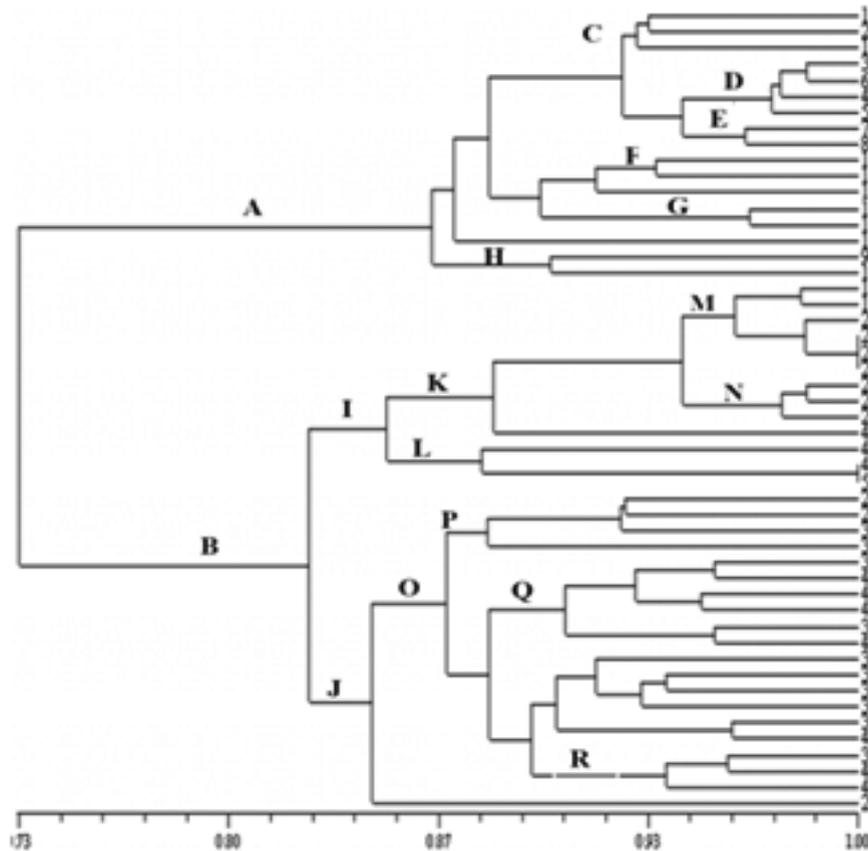
Provincial	Regency	Collection Code	Accession Number	Location (latitude and longitude)
West Java	Bogor	BG1	1	6°36'36.1"S 106°46'36.0"E
	Bogor	BG2	2	6°34'41.2"S 106°44'20.2"E
	Bogor	BG3	3	6°34'37.4"S 106°44'15.0"E
	Bogor	BG4	4	6°33'32.5"S 106°36'02.9"E
	Bogor	BG5	5	6°34'40.0"S 106°45'06.1"E
	Sukabumi	SK1	6	6°57'31.2"S 106°49'19.0"E
	Sukabumi	SK2	7	6°58'07.9"S 106°49'09.1"E
	Sukabumi	SK3	8	6°58'10.5"S 106°49'06.0"E
	Sukabumi	SK4	9	6°57'00.0"S 106°46'51.5"E
	Sukabumi	SK5	10	6°56'43.5"S 106°46'52.6"E
Central Java	Cilacap	PW1	11	7°37'07.6"S 109°02'29.9"E
	Cilacap	PW2	12	7°35'54.3"S 109°01'50.2"E
	Cilacap	PW3	13	7°37'34.1"S 108°59'50.3"E
	Cilacap	PW4	14	7°37'07.4"S 108°57'44.9"E
	Cilacap	PW5	15	7°30'23.7"S 109°07'03.9"E
	Purworejo	PW6	16	7°43'25.1"S 109°59'41.8"E
	Purworejo	PW7	17	7°42'59.5"S 109°59'46.0"E
	Purworejo	PW8	18	7°42'48.3"S 110°01'15.1"E
	Purworejo	PW9	19	7°41'50.1"S 110°00'51.0"E
	Purworejo	PW10	20	7°41'43.6"S 110°00'53.1"E
East Java	Banyuwangi	BY1	21	8°13'39.5"S 114°20'58.3"E
	Banyuwangi	BY2	22	8°13'28.0"S 114°21'03.7"E
	Banyuwangi	BY3	23	8°13'28.0"S 114°21'03.7"E
	Banyuwangi	BY4	24	8°13'39.7"S 114°20'53.8"E
	Banyuwangi	BY5	25	8°11'51.5"S 114°21'45.1"E
	Banyuwangi	BY6	26	8°12'04.6"S 114°21'31.2"E
	Banyuwangi	BY7	27	8°12'03.0"S 114°21'17.1"E
	Banyuwangi	BY8	28	8°12'03.0"S 114°21'17.1"E
	Banyuwangi	BY9	29	8°12'10.1"S 114°21'44.6"E
	Banyuwangi	BY10	30	8°12'10.1"S 114°21'44.6"E
Banten	Pandeglang	PD1	31	6°24'23.5"S 106°03'23.6"E
	Pandeglang	PD2	32	6°24'23.7"S 106°03'01.5"E
	Pandeglang	PD3	33	6°24'32.9"S 106°02'43.5"E
	Pandeglang	PD4	34	6°24'32.9"S 106°02'43.5"E
	Pandeglang	PD5	35	6°29'40.0"S 105°56'05.3"E
	Pandeglang	PD6	36	6°29'42.6"S 105°55'47.2"E
	Pandeglang	PD7	37	6°40'08.7"S 105°53'30.1"E
	Pandeglang	PD8	38	6°40'24.7"S 105°53'30.8"E
	Pandeglang	PD9	39	6°41'28.7"S 105°46'04.3"E
	Pandeglang	PD10	40	6°41'20.1"S 105°45'32.1"E
Collection garden	TBM	TB1	41	6°24'52.9"S 106°59'11.7"E
	TBM	TB2	42	6°24'52.9"S 106°59'11.7"E
	TBM	TB3	43	6°24'52.9"S 106°59'11.7"E
	TBM	TB4	44	6°24'52.4"S 106°59'10.4"E
	TBM	TB5	45	6°24'52.4"S 106°59'10.4"E
	KRB	KR1	46	6°36'00.2"S 106°48'04.5"E
	KRB	KR2	47	6°36'00.2"S 106°48'04.5"E
	KRB	KR3	48	6°36'01.4"S 106°48'00.0"E
	KRB	KR4	49	6°36'01.4"S 106°48'00.0"E
	KRB	KR5	50	6°35'44.6"S 106°48'04.7"E

**Table 2.** The primary and number of amplified DNA bands and polymorphism rates at 50 accessions of *G. mangostana* L

Primer	Sequence 5'-3'	Annealing (°C)	Bands		Qty.
			Polymorphic	Monomorphic	
OPA-16	AGCCAGCGAA	36	5	1	6
OPA-17	GACCGCTTGT	32	6	3	9
OPA-18	AGGTGACCGT	33	10	2	11
SBH-12	ACGCGCATGT	37	3	6	9
SBH-13	GACGCCACAC	36	4	1	5
OPB-1	GTTTCGCTCC	36	9	1	10
OPB-2	TGATCCCTGG	36	7	2	9
OPB-3	CATCCCTGG	36	6	4	10
OPA-4	AATCGGGCTG	36	9	1	10
OPA-5	AGGGGTCTTG	36	6	5	11
Amount			65	26	90
Percentages			72.22%	28.89%	100%



**Fig. 1.** PCR results of 50 samples of *G. mangostana* L. with OPA-18 primer. Description: M=DNA marker (mega); arrow → = monomorphic, arrow ← = polymorphic



**Fig. 2.** Dendrogram illustrating genetic relationship among 50 accessions of *G. mangostana* L. using UPGMA clustering

Sukabumi) and other sub-clusters that group into several small groups (C, D, E, F, and G). This was due to the group having the smallest or most different similarity value compared to the accession in sub-cluster H. Small similarity values can be possible because the accessions in that group were different or not found in groups in sub-cluster H. The absence of this locus can occur because the locus has been lost or does not exist, so the marker/primary used cannot recognize the locus contained in the group.

Cluster B consisted of two sub-clusters, namely sub-cluster I, which was further divided into two small groups, L and K, which group again by population. The exciting thing is that the *G. mangostana* L. group from Banyuwangi is closer in kinship to the *G. mangostana* L. from Bogor. Sub-cluster J is dominated by groups from the Pandeglang and TBM areas, although few are from

the Banyuwangi area (accession number 29). An interesting phenomenon from the results of this cluster analysis is the grouping of individuals from different populations into one cluster. This indicates the presence of genetic diversity in *G. mangostana* L., which may be due to the presence of genetic recombination. This gives rise to the conjecture that the apomictic seeds of *G. mangostana* L. are not apomictic obligates.

Cluster analysis shows the separation of samples into clusters that cluster randomly and not based on clones. This was decided because the RAPD profile in the score was based on the similarity of DNA band sizes. Thus, if the clones analyzed group into one cluster, it indicates a high degree of similarity between the DNA loci. Molecular markers have become an effective way to obtain information on the existence of genetic diversity and to study population structures<sup>22,27</sup>.

The diversity of phenotypes arises from the interaction between genetic and environmental factors. Diversity at the genetic level of *G. mangostana* L. as an apomixis plant in different growing environments on the island of Java needs to be identified. The characterization of germplasm is essential to utilize the potential for plant genetic diversity<sup>23,28</sup>.

The RAPD marker used in this study has proven effective in providing information on the existence of genetic diversity of *G. mangostana* L. in Java. Although the results of DNA quality and quantity tests from this study showed less than optimal results. However, this research can be well amplified. Polymorphic DNA bands can be eluted, cloned, and sequenced to determine sequence uniqueness. Functional assignment requires interdisciplinary approaches such as functional genomics, bioinformatics, etc<sup>22</sup>. The emergence of mangosteen genetic clusters or diversity can be influenced by climatic conditions and soil conditions that are different in each location<sup>29</sup>.

The genetic diversity of mangosteen in Indonesia is proven to be wide. This study validates the results of *G. mangostana* L. research in Indonesia<sup>12</sup>. Although research on the genetic diversity of *G. mangostana* L. in Indonesia has been reported<sup>18,30</sup>. However, the results of this study complement the *G. mangostana* L. molecular data even better. These results can be used to add information to other researchers who focus on the development of *G. mangostana* L. cultivars. The presence of genetic variability and polymorphism among mangosteen accessions in Java indicates that the genetic richness of the *G. mangostana* L. in Indonesia is very high. Thus, extensive efforts need to be increased.

### CONCLUSION

Molecular markers are an effective way to obtain information on the existence of genetic diversity. Interpretation of DNA banding patterns from 50 accessions of *G. mangostana* L. from five provinces in Java showed that there were various genetic variability and polymorphisms. The polymorphic bands of *G. mangostana* L. accessions obtained in this study can then be used to describe the nature of polymorphism between cultivars of *G. mangostana* L. in Indonesia and the world.

Therefore, further investigation is needed for the possibility of developing molecular cultivation to find quality *G. mangostana* L. seeds.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This research was supported by grants from the Universitas Muhammadiyah Prof. DR. HAMKA Charity with project number 139/F.03.07/2021

### Ethics approval

Not Applicable.

### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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