

Microbial-type terpene synthase genes occur widely in nonseed land plants, but not in seed plants

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The vast abundance of terpene natural products in nature is due to enzymes known as terpene synthases (TPSs) that convert acyclic prenyl diphosphate precursors into a multitude of cyclic and acyclic carbon skeletons. Yet the evolution of TPSs is not well understood at higher levels of classification. Microbial TPSs from bacteria and fungi are only distantly related to typical plant TPSs, whereas genes similar to microbial TPS genes have been recently identified in the lycophyte *Selaginella moellendorffii*. The goal of this study was to investigate the distribution, evolution, and biochemical functions of microbial terpene synthase-like (MTPSL) genes in other plants. By analyzing the transcriptomes of 1,103 plant species ranging from green algae to flowering plants, putative MTPSL genes were identified predominantly from nonseed plants, including liverworts, mosses, hornworts, lycophytes, and monilophytes. Directed searching for MTPSL genes in the sequenced genomes of a wide range of seed plants confirmed their general absence in this group. Among themselves, MTPSL proteins from nonseed plants form four major groups, with two of these more closely related to bacterial TPSs and the other two to fungal TPSs. Two of the four groups contain a canonical aspartate-rich “DDxxD” motif. The third group has a “DDxxxD” motif, and the fourth group has only the first two “DD” conserved in this motif. Upon heterologous expression, representative members from each of the four groups displayed diverse catalytic functions as monoterpene and sesquiterpene synthases, suggesting these are important for terpene formation in nonseed plants.

terpene synthase | specialized metabolism | nonseed plant | gene evolution

Terpenoids are the largest class of land plant secondary metabolites, but they are not uniformly distributed in the plant kingdom (1). Many seed plants (angiosperms and gymnosperms) produce terpenoids of diverse types in large quantities. However, among nonseed plants, only liverworts are known as copious producers of terpenoids (2). Terpenoids have diverse biological and ecological functions with many serving as chemical defenses against herbivores and pathogens (3, 4). Some have lineage-specific functions, such as the volatile terpenoids in flowers that are involved in attracting pollinators (5). Characterizing the biosynthesis of terpenoids in all plant lineages is therefore an important avenue to understanding their roles in the adaptation of various lineages of terrestrial plants.

Terpene synthases (TPSs) are pivotal enzymes for terpenoid biosynthesis, forming a distinctive superfamily based on both sequence identity and structure classification. However, within this group, typical plant and microbial (bacterial and fungal) TPSs share very low sequence similarity and are therefore only distantly related (6). The typical plant TPSs form subfamilies with individual

subfamilies generally associated with specific biochemical functions, such as monoterpene, sesquiterpene, or diterpene biosynthesis (7, 8). Monoterpene synthases and sesquiterpene synthases have been proposed to have evolved independently in gymnosperms and angiosperms from diterpene synthase ancestors (7, 9). Interestingly, the typical plant TPSs in the moss *Physcomitrella patens* (10) and the lycophyte *Selaginella moellendorffii* (11–13), two nonseed plants, were found to be of the diterpene synthase type. Therefore, the molecular basis underlying the biosynthesis of monoterpenes and sesquiterpenes identified in nonseed plants has long been unclear.

Recently, microbial terpene synthase-like (MTPSL) genes were identified in *S. moellendorffii* that encode monoterpene and sesquiterpene synthases (13). Unlike typical plant TPSs, which are composed of either three domains ($\alpha\beta\gamma$) or two domains ($\alpha\beta$) (14, 15), MTPSLs contain only an α -domain. Phylogenetic analysis indicated that MTPSLs from *S. moellendorffii* are more closely related to microbial TPSs, in particular fungal TPSs, than to typical plant TPSs (13). So far, MTPSLs have only been identified in *S. moellendorffii* (13), raising intriguing questions

Significance

Terpenoids are ubiquitous products made by land plants with diverse biological functions. Their formation in seed plants is catalyzed by typical plant terpene synthases (TPSs), a well-characterized group of enzymes. In contrast, our knowledge of terpenoid biosynthesis in nonseed plants is very limited. By systematically analyzing the transcriptomes and/or genomes of more than 1000 plant species, we report that microbial terpene synthase-like genes, which are only distantly related to typical plant TPS genes, are widely distributed in nonseed plants, but virtually absent in seed plants. The study provides insights into the evolution of TPS genes in early land plants and opens the door to investigating the diversity and functions of terpenoids in nonseed plants.

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about the origin, evolution, and function of this type of plant terpene synthase genes. The goal of this study was to investigate the distribution of *MTPSL* genes in the green plants, infer their evolution, and determine their biochemical functions.

Results and Discussion

Terpene Synthase Genes of the Microbial Type Are Widespread in the Transcriptomes of Nonseed Land Plants, but Not in Green Algae and Seed Plants. To determine the distribution of *MTPSL* genes in the green plants, the transcriptomes of 1,103 species (*SI Appendix, Table S1*) of green plants (779 species of seed plants, 166 species of nonseed land plants, 47 species of charophytes, and 111 species of chlorophytes) generated from the 1,000 Plant (OneKP) initiative (<https://sites.google.com/a/ualberta.ca/onekp/>) were searched for microbial type terpene synthase genes using a HMMER method as previously described (13). A total of 712 *MTPSL* genes were identified from the transcriptomes of 146 species. Strikingly, the vast majority of *MTPSL* genes (706 of the 712 *MTPSL* genes or 99.2%) were found in the transcriptomes of nonseed land plants (Fig. 1).

Bryophytes consist of three lineages: hornworts, mosses, and liverworts, which have 7, 41, and 26 species in the OneKP dataset, respectively. The number of hornwort, moss, and liverwort species whose transcriptomes contain *MTPSL* genes was 3, 30, and 24, respectively. Among the 22 lycophyte species, 21 possessed *MTPSL* genes in their transcriptomes. For monilophytes, 65 of the 70 species were found to contain *MTPSL* genes in their transcriptomes. The median number of *MTPSL* genes from the transcriptome of each species for hornworts, mosses, liverworts, lycophytes, and monilophytes was 0, 1, 8, 3, and 4.5, respectively (Fig. 1 and *SI Appendix, Table S2*). Among all species, the monilophyte *Cystopteris utahensis* (a tetraploid) was found to contain the most *MTPSL* genes with 20 members (*SI Appendix, Table S1*).

On the other hand, extremely low occurrences of *MTPSL* genes were found in the transcriptomes of seed plants and

charophytes. Among the 779 species of seed plants, only two species, *Phytolacca bogotensis* and *Opuntia* sp., both members of the Caryophyllales, were found to contain *MTPSL* genes in their transcriptomes with one and four members, respectively. Among the 47 species of charophytes, only one species, *Micrasterias fimbriata*, contained a *MTPSL* gene (one member) in its transcriptome. No *MTPSL* genes were found in the transcriptomes of 111 species of chlorophytes.

The Majority of *MTPSL* Genes Identified in Plant Transcriptomes Belong to Four Groups Clustered with Either Fungal or Bacterial Terpene Synthases. Phylogenetic analysis was performed for the 712 *MTPSL* genes identified from plant transcriptomes together with the 48 known *MTPSL* genes from *S. moellendorffii* (13) and selected terpene synthase genes from bacteria and fungi. The resulting phylogenetic tree indicates that the distribution of *MTPSL* genes in nonseed plants exhibits lineage-specific characteristics and that the majority of them (690 of 712) were clustered into four major groups with either similarity to bacterial TPS (groups I and II) or fungal TPS (groups III and IV) (Fig. 2).

Group I, the second largest *MTPSL* gene group, contains about 86% of *MTPSL* genes (152 of 177) from 23 species of liverworts, 34% of *MTPSL* genes (27 of 79) from 10 species of mosses, and 28% of *MTPSL* genes (23 of 83) from 9 species of lycophytes. Group II was composed of *MTPSL* genes primarily from mosses (about 66% of *MTPSL* genes from 24 species) and hornworts (50% of *MTPSL* genes from all three species in which *MTPSL* genes have been found). There was also one group II *MTPSL* gene found in a liverwort species, *Scapania nemorea*. Members of *MTPSL* genes in this species were also present in groups I and III. Group III, the smallest group, contains 4 *MTPSL* genes from 3 species of hornworts and 14 *MTPSL* genes from 7 species of liverworts. These 18 genes were clustered with the fungal trichodiene synthase (Tri5) genes. Group IV contains almost all *MTPSL* genes found from 65 species of monilophytes (352 of 353) and about 70% of *MTPSL* genes in lycophytes (58 of 83). The known *MTPSL* genes from *S. moellendorffii* were closely related to *MTPSL* genes from the transcriptomes of other lycophyte species.

Twenty-two *MTPSL* genes that lie outside of the four major groups were designated as “unclassified” (*SI Appendix, Table S3*). For example, the *MTPSL* genes found in two seed plant species, *Opuntia* sp. (four members) and *P. bogotensis* (one member), and one green alga, *M. fimbriata* (one member), were included in this list (Fig. 2 and *SI Appendix, Table S3*).

The Majority of *MTPSL* Genes Identified from Plant Transcriptomes Are Genuine Plant Genes. The putative *MTPSL* genes identified in the plant transcriptomes could have one of two possible origins: from plants or from plant-associated microbes. Three lines of evidence were used to judge that the vast majority, if not all, of these genes in the four major *MTPSL* clades are plant genes.

The first line of evidence comes from the analysis of putative *MTPSL* genes from axenic culture. The liverwort *S. nemorea* was selected for this purpose. A total of eight putative *MTPSL* genes were identified in the transcriptome of *S. nemorea* (*SI Appendix, Table S4*), belonging to group I (five genes), group II (one gene), group III (one gene), and unclassified (one gene). An axenic culture of *S. nemorea* was initiated by germinating isolated spores, using sterile culture methods. This culture was therefore free of contamination of endophytic microbes. We extracted genomic DNA from axenically cultured *S. nemorea* and used PCR to amplify DNA fragments for each of the eight putative *MTPSL* genes, and the results were compared with those obtained from the transcriptome analysis. Six of the eight *MTPSL* genes (five from group I and one from group III) were amplified and confirmed by sequencing. However, the amplification of the members from group II and the unclassified group failed. The

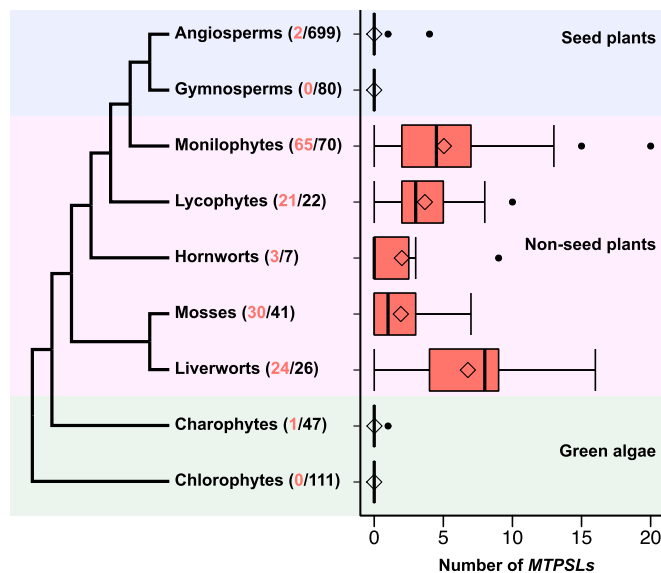


Fig. 1. Distribution of *MTPSL* genes identified from the transcriptomes of 1,103 plant species. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of transcriptomes containing putative *MTPSL*s (in red) and total transcriptomes analyzed in each lineage (in black). The phylogeny of green plants presented was modified from refs. 25 and 26. Each boxplot represents the number of *MTPSL*s found for individual species in each plant lineage. The solid black lines denote the median number of *MTPSL*s from each species. Whiskers represent 1.5 times the quartile of the data. Points outside of the range of the whiskers are outliers.

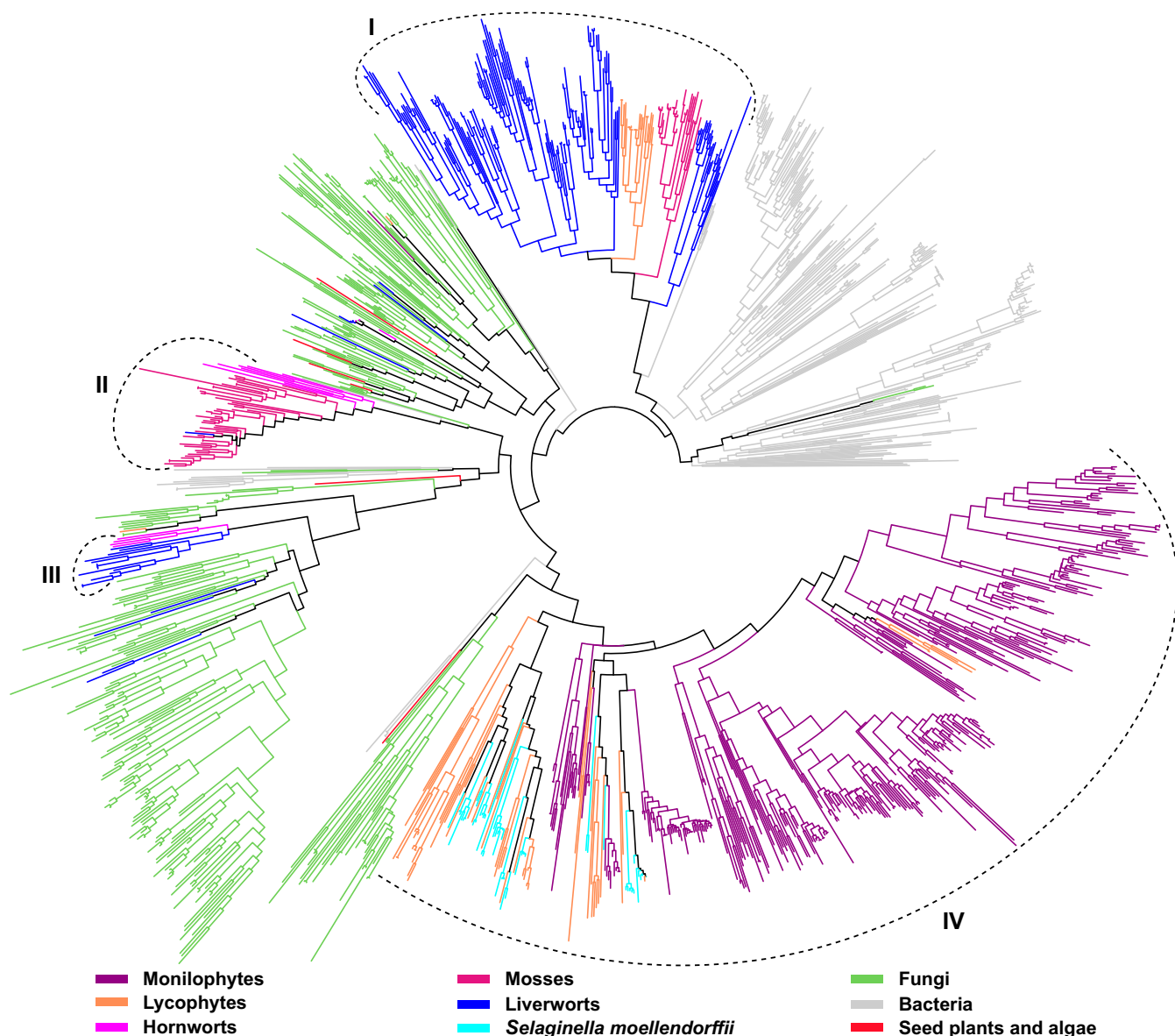


Fig. 2. Phylogeny of MTPSLs identified from OneKP with known MTPSLs from *S. moellendorffii*, bacterial TPSs, and fungal TPSs. Genes are color-coded based on their source. The majority of the newly identified MTPSLs are clustered into four major groups (I–IV).

member from the unclassified group was suggested to be a contaminant from endophytic fungi (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S1). Analysis of the OneKP transcriptomes has suggested that *S. nemorea* was contaminated with an unknown source of plant material (<https://pods.iplantcollaborative.org/wiki/display/iptol/Sample+source+and+purity>). The putative MTPSL from *S. nemorea* in group II is the only MTPSL from liverworts to be assigned to this group, suggesting that it was also derived from contamination by other plant material. Overall, this experimental study confirms that the group I and group III MTPSLs from the *S. nemorea* transcriptome are endogenous *S. nemorea* genes.

The second line of evidence for the plant origin of the majority of MTPSL genes reported is the identification of their immediate genomic neighbors as bona fide plant genes. We obtained such evidence for group II and III genes of the hornwort *Anthoceros punctatus*, whose genome has been recently sequenced (13). Assembling the raw genome sequence and then searching for MTPSL genes using the HMMER search, seven putative full-length MTPSL genes were identified; two of the seven genes

belong to group II and the remaining five to group III (*SI Appendix*, Table S5). *ApMTPSL1* from group II and *ApMTPSL2* from group III were then selected as representatives for the following study. In the assembled genome of *A. punctatus*, *ApMTPSL1* is the immediate neighbor to a cytochrome P450 gene, for which the most similar gene is from the plant *Oryza brachyantha* (Fig. 3A). Similarly, *ApMTPSL2* is the immediate neighbor to a leucine-rich receptor-like kinase gene, for which the most similar gene is from the plant *Theobroma cacao* (Fig. 3B). We extracted genomic DNA from *A. punctatus* grown in axenic culture and performed PCR to amplify the coding sequence of *ApMTPSL1* and -2 and their respective neighbors. The amplified DNA fragment was cloned and fully sequenced confirming that both *ApMTPSL1* (Fig. 3A) and *ApMTPSL2* genes (Fig. 3B) reside in the *A. punctatus* genome and are neighbors to a plant gene. Similar evidence for a group I gene was obtained from the moss *Sphagnum fallax*. The sequenced *S. fallax* genome contains 21 MTPSL genes, all of which belong to group I (*SI Appendix*, Table S6). A representative MTPSL gene (*SfMTPSL1*)

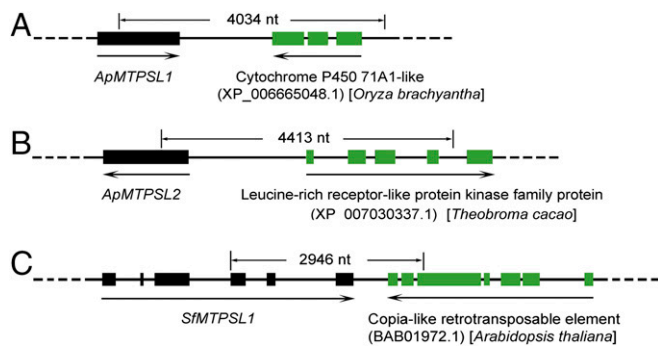


Fig. 3. Validation that representative *MTPSL* genes are of plant origin. Schematic genomic organization of representative *MTPSL* genes with their neighboring genes is shown. The genomic region spanning each *MTPSL* gene, its neighboring gene, and the intergenic region were amplified using PCR from genomic DNA and confirmed by sequencing. (A) *ApMTPSL1* with its neighboring gene annotated as a cytochrome P450 71A1-like from the hornwort *A. punctatus*. (B) *ApMTPSL2* and its neighboring gene annotated as a leucine-rich receptor-like kinase family protein from the hornwort *A. punctatus*. (C) *SmMTPSL1* with its neighboring gene annotated as a Copia-like retrotransposon element from the moss *S. fallax*. In each schematic figure, underneath the neighboring gene, the ID in parentheses represents the accession number of the best hit of this gene by searching the nonredundant database of the National Center for Biotechnology Information. The plant species indicates from which species the best hit was identified.

from *S. fallax* was confirmed to reside in its genome and neighbor with a Copia-like retrotransposable element, to which the most similar sequence is from the plant *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Fig. 3C). The genes in group IV form a clade with *SmMTPSL* genes from *S. moellendorffii*, which have already been determined to be plant genes (13). This evidence that representative *MTPSL* genes of groups I–IV originated from plant genomes supports that their apparent orthologs/homologs in each group are also of plant origin.

The third line of evidence for plant origin is that the overall evolutionary relationships of *MTPSLs* are largely congruent with the relationships of the land plant species from which the *MTPSL* genes are identified. The *MTPSL* genes in each of the four groups are inferred to share a common evolutionary origin (Fig. 2). Within each group, the *MTPSLs* from the same plant lineage showed higher sequence similarity than with *MTPSLs* from a different plant lineage. For instance, in group I the *MTPSLs* from three plant groups, liverworts, mosses, and lycophytes, form three distinct subclades (Fig. 2). The *MTPSLs* from closely related species are often also most closely related. For instance, the analyzed mosses included three species from the same genus *Sphagnum*: *Sphagnum lescurii*, *Sphagnum palustre*, and *Sphagnum recurvatum*. In group I, the *MTPSLs* from these three species reside in a clade (Fig. 2). Such fine-scale correlations of *MTPSL* sequence similarity and plant phylogeny also support a plant origin for most of these genes.

On the other hand, the 22 unclassified *MTPSL* genes (*SI Appendix*, Table S3) have a high probability of being derived from plant-associated microbes because their similarities with microbial TPS genes are extremely high (*SI Appendix*, Table S3), as in the example of the *S. nemorea* gene mentioned above, and so were not considered further in this study. Nevertheless, some of these genes may have been obtained from microbes very recently through horizontal gene transfer (HGT), which will be a subject of future investigation.

***MTPSL* Genes Are Patchily Distributed in Green Plants: Evolutionary Implications.** The confirmation that the vast majority of *MTPSL* genes identified from the OneKP transcriptomes are plant genes indicates that *MTPSL* genes occur widely in nonseed plants. Group I contains *MTPSL* genes from liverworts, mosses, and

lycophytes (Fig. 2), which implies the presence of *MTPSL* genes in the common ancestor of land plants. However, our survey found that *MTPSL* genes are generally absent from the transcriptomes of green algae (Fig. 1). To provide further evidence on the presence/absence of *MTPSL* genes in green algae, we conducted a focused search on sequenced genomes for six species of chlorophytes and one species of charophyte (*SI Appendix*, Table S7). No *MTPSL* genes were detected in these sequenced green algae. The absence of *MTPSL* genes in the transcriptomes of a wide range of chlorophytes and the genome of the charophyte, *Klebsormidium flaccidum* (16) suggests that *MTPSL* genes may have their origin in an ancestral land plant rather than an algal ancestor. Broader genome sampling from green algae, especially charophytes, is needed to test this hypothesis. Nonetheless, the evolution of *MTPSL* genes may have been associated with the transition of plants from aquatic to terrestrial habitats. The pioneer land plants faced a harsh environment replete with many new biotic and abiotic stresses. Many products of TPSs are volatile hydrocarbons that may be more useful in a terrestrial environment than in an aquatic one.

MTPSLs from nonseed land plants exhibited different degrees of relatedness to bacterial TPSs and fungal TPSs. Group I is most closely related to bacterial TPSs, whereas groups III and IV are most closely related to fungal TPSs. Group II is most closely related to a number of bacterial TPSs, which, however, reside within a fungal clade (Fig. 2). These patterns suggest a complex evolutionary history of microbial type TPSs. Whereas it is possible that microbial-type TPS genes are ancestral in all kingdoms of life and took different evolutionary trajectories, their confinement to bacteria, fungi, and plants implies HGT. Assuming that bacterial and fungal TPS genes are ancestral to *MTPSLs*, the distribution pattern of *MTPSLs* can be explained by multiple HGT events from bacteria and fungi. However, it is premature to make strong claims about the donors and recipients of such transfer events because our understanding of phylogenetic relationships of TPSs in bacteria and fungi is still very limited. A better understanding of relationships among TPS genes in bacteria and fungi will allow testing of this hypothesis.

The absence of *MTPSL* genes in seed plants is also notable (Fig. 1). To gain additional evidence about the presence/absence of *MTPSL* genes in seed plants, we analyzed the genomic sequences of 48 species of seed plants (*SI Appendix*, Table S7): no *MTPSL* genes were identified in them. As mentioned previously, land plants contain typical plant TPSs, which catalyze similar biochemical reactions for the production of terpenoids as do *MTPSLs*, but typical plant TPSs are only distantly related to *MTPSLs* (13). However, in the nonseed plants that have been studied, the typical plant TPSs function as diterpene synthases (7) rather than the full range of monoterpene synthases, sesquiterpene synthases, and diterpene synthases found in seed plants. Several *MTPSL* genes from *S. moellendorffii* have been demonstrated to encode monoterpene synthases and sesquiterpene synthases (13), and we hypothesized that most *MTPSL* genes in nonseed plants function in this way.

Representative *MTPSL* Genes Encode Active TPSs with Diverse Catalytic Activities. The presence of *MTPSL* genes only in nonseed land plants poses an intriguing question about their functions. In seed plants, TPSs are responsible for the production of a diversity of terpenoids important for ecological interactions, especially as defenses against herbivores and pathogens. Some nonseed plants, such as liverworts (17) and mosses (18), also produce a vast diversity of terpenoids. However, little is known about how such terpenoids are synthesized or about their biological functions.

In general, TPSs contain two highly conserved motifs: the DDxxD and NSD/DTE motifs, which are both involved in substrate binding (14, 15, 19). Whereas the NSD/DTE motif is

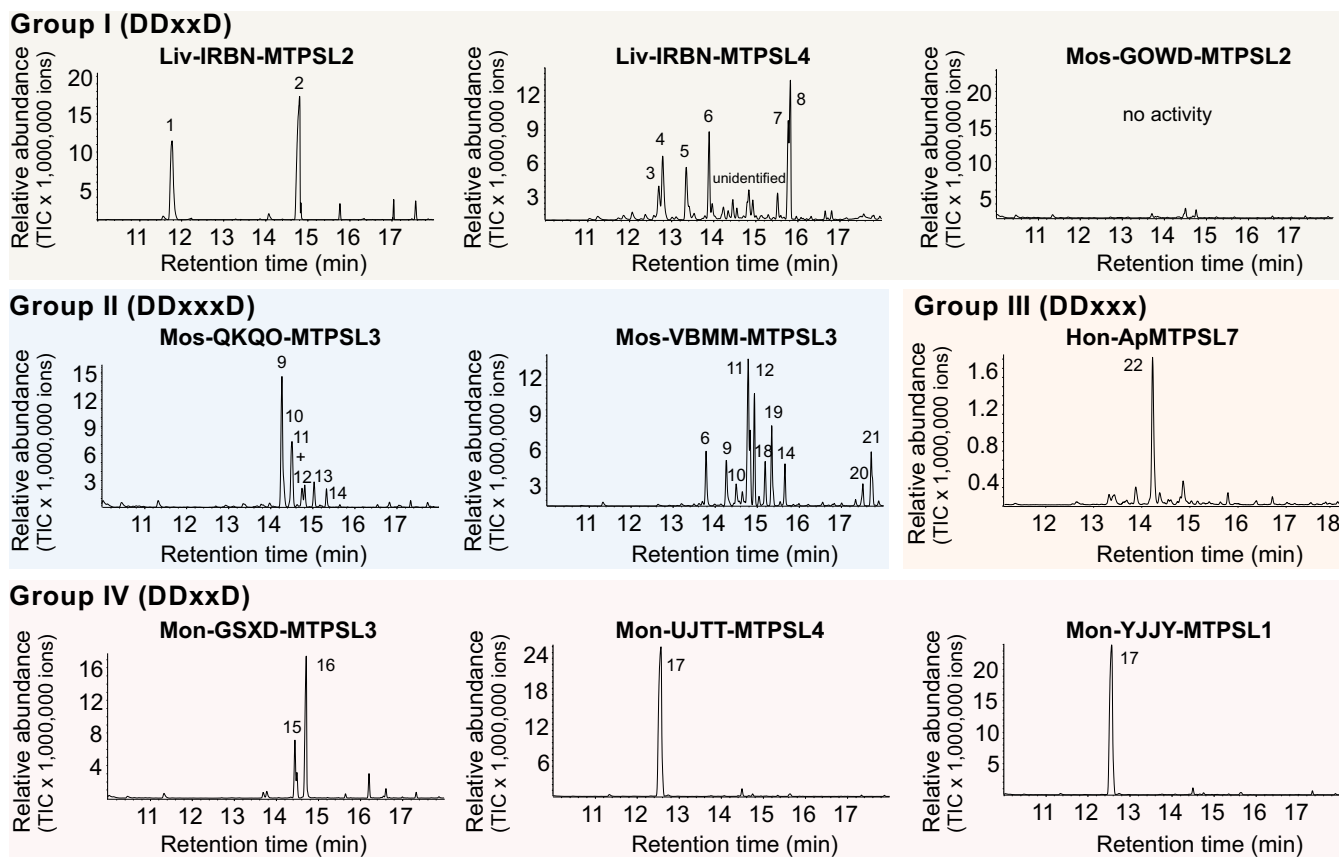


Fig. 4. Representative *MTPSL* genes from four groups (I–IV) encode active TPSs. The aspartate-rich motif associated with each group is indicated. *MTPSL* genes were heterologously expressed in *E. coli* and crude protein extracts were incubated with the potential substrate farnesyl diphosphate [(*E,E*)-FPP]. Enzyme products were collected using solid-phase microextraction and analyzed with gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. 1, bicycloelemene; 2, bicyclogermacrene; 3, α -isocomene; 4, β -elemene*; 5, (*E*)- β -caryophyllene*; 6, (*E*)- β -farnesene*; 7, nerolidol*; 8, dactylo; 9, γ -curcumene; 10, α -zingiberene; 11, β -bisabolene*; 12, β -curcumene; 13, sesquiphellandrene*; 14, (*E*)- α -bisabolene; 15, (*Z,E*)- α -farnesene; 16, (*E,E*)- α -farnesene; 17, protoillud-6-ene*; 18, (*Z*)- γ -bisabolene; 19, (*E*)- γ -bisabolene; 20, β -bisabolol; 21, α -bisabolol; and 22, β -acoradiene. Compounds marked with an asterisk (*) were identified using authentic standards. The origin of each *MTPSL* gene is listed in *SI Appendix, Table S8*. Ap, *A. punctatus*; GOWD, *S. lescurii*; GSXD, *M. eatonii*; Hon, hornwort; IRBN, *S. nemorea*; Liv, liverwort; Mon, monilophyte; Mos, moss; QKQO, *Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans*; UJTT, *Pityrogramma trifoliata*; VBMM, *Anomodon rostratus*; and YJJY, *Woodsia scopulina*.

highly conserved in the *MTPSL*s, the aspartate-rich DDxxD motif exhibits variations (*SI Appendix, Fig. S2*). Group I and IV proteins contain the canonical DDxxD motif, but group II proteins displayed a conserved DDxxxD motif. In the group III proteins, only the first two aspartates (DD) are conserved.

To gain an initial assessment of the biochemical functions of *MTPSL*s, a total of nine genes representing the four *MTPSL* groups (*SI Appendix, Table S8*) were selected for experimental work. Recombinant *MTPSL*s produced from *Escherichia coli* were tested for TPS activity with geranyl diphosphate [(*E*)-GPP], farnesyl diphosphate [(*E,E*)-FPP], and geranylgeranyl diphosphate [(*E,E,E*)-GGPP], the substrates for monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes, and diterpenes, respectively. With the exception of Mos-GOWD-MTPSL2, all tested enzymes were able to convert (*E,E*)-FPP into individual sesquiterpenes or complex sesquiterpene mixtures (Fig. 4). Whereas most of the *MTPSL* sesquiterpene products are also known as products from typical plant TPSs, Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 and Mon-YJJY-MTPSL1, which are closely related to fungal TPS, produced protoillud-6-ene, a sesquiterpene that has only been reported from a fungus so far (20). Mos-GOWD-MTPSL2 showed exclusively monoterpene synthase activity and converted (*E*)-GPP into (*Z*)- β -ocimene and some minor monoterpene products (*SI Appendix, Fig. S3*). In addition to sesquiterpene synthase activity, Liv-IRBN-MTPSL2, Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4, and Hon-Ap-MTPSL7 were able to produce monoterpenes from (*E*)-GPP and Liv-IRBN-

MTPSL4 and Mos-VBMM-MTPSL3 were able to convert (*E,E,E*)-GGPP into diterpenes (*SI Appendix, Fig. S4*). Recently, it was shown that certain typical plant TPSs naturally use *cis*-prenyl diphosphates as substrates for terpene production (21). Because most of the representative *MTPSL*s tested showed sesquiterpene synthase activity using (*E,E*)-FPP (Fig. 4), we performed additional assays to determine whether (*Z,E*)-FPP and (*Z,Z*)-FPP, the *cis*-isomers of FPP, could serve as substrates for these enzymes. Mos-GOWD-MTPSL2 was inactive with either substrate, whereas all of the other eight characterized *MTPSL*s showed activity with either (*Z,E*)-FPP or (*Z,Z*)-FPP or both (*SI Appendix, Fig. S5*). It is interesting to observe that some enzymes, such as Mos-QKQO-MTPSL3, produced the same products using the *cis*-FPP isomers as with (*E,E*)-FPP, whereas others such as Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 produced different products (Fig. 4 and *SI Appendix, Fig. S5*). Nevertheless, the fact that the *Myriopteris eatonii* UJTT-MTPSL4 forms a single distinctive product from (*E,E*)-FPP and broad mixtures of over 10 products from each of the *cis*-FPP isomers suggests that (*E,E*)-FPP is the natural substrate. However, more information about the actual occurrence of these assay products in *M. eatonii* is needed before the natural substrates of these enzymes can be determined with certainty.

The substrates actually used by seed plant TPSs depend on their subcellular locations because the various prenyl diphosphate substrates are restricted to different subcellular compartments

(GPP and GGPP to plastids and FPP to the cytosol) (22). Thus, in seed plants, mono- and diterpene synthases are present in plastids and sesquiterpene synthases in the cytosol. However, information on TPS enzyme and substrate localization is not yet available for nonseed plants. To learn more, we used an *in silico* protein-targeting program (Target P, www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/TargetP) for Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4, an enzyme that produced a single sesquiterpene from (*E,E*)-FPP but also formed monoterpenes from (*E*)-GPP. Because the program suggests a cytosolic, nonplastid location for Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4, and FPP is known to be cytosolic in seed plants, this enzyme is likely to act as a sesquiterpene synthase in planta. Under steady-state conditions, the apparent K_M and k_{cat} values of Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 using (*E,E*)-FPP as substrate were determined to be $2.13 \pm 0.23 \mu\text{M}$ and 0.15s^{-1} , respectively. Such kinetic parameters are very comparable to those of typical plant TPSs (23), suggesting that MTPSL enzymes function in almost the same way as typical plant TPSs.

Based on the *in vitro* biochemical activities of representative MTPSLs, one could speculate that the MTPSLs have been the primary enzymes to make mono- and sesquiterpenes in early land plants and that the evolution of monoterpene and sesquiterpene synthases among the typical plant TPS family allowed the eventual loss of MTPSL genes in seed plants.

Conclusions

In this study, microbial-type terpene synthase genes, once thought to be confined to bacteria and fungi, were systematically mined from large-scale plant transcriptomes. Of 779 seed plant species, only 5 MTPSL genes were found in 2 species, whereas 706 MTPSL genes were found in 143 nonseed land plant species. So, in addition to the previous report on *S. moellendorffii* (13), MTPSL genes are widely distributed in nonseed land plants, but generally absent from seed plants and green algae. Although these genes are also found in fungi and bacteria, their occurrence in plants is in most cases not due to microbial contamination of the plant samples used for sequencing, based on experiments with axenic cultures,

phylogenetic analyses, and their embedment in plant genomes with bona fide plant genes as neighbors. MTPSL genes form four lineage-specific groups that exhibit diverse structural features, which implies multiple evolutionary origins. Biochemical studies of selected MTPSL genes showed that they encode sesquiterpene and monoterpene synthases. However, much more remains to be done to investigate the biological functions of their products and how they have influenced the evolution of the MTPSL gene family in nonseed land plants.

Materials and Methods

MTPSL genes were searched against the assembled transcriptomes for 1,103 nonmodel plant species derived from the OneKP (sites.google.com/ualberta.ca/onekp/) (24). Fresh materials of three axenically cultured plants, *A. punctatus*, *S. nemorea*, and *S. fallax*, were used for the extraction of genomic DNA that served as template for PCR analysis. For TPS activity assays, crude proteins extracted from *E. coli* expressing individual representative MTPSL genes were assayed with individual prenyl diphosphates. The kinetic properties of Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 were measured with its purified recombinant enzyme following a radiochemical protocol as previously described (23). Details on transcriptome and genome assembly, sequence searches, phylogenetic reconstruction, plant cultures, and biochemical analysis of MTPSLs are provided in *SI Appendix*.

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Supplementary Information

Microbial-type terpene synthase genes occur widely in nonseed land plants, but not in seed plants

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Materials and Methods

Identification of terpene synthases of the microbial type from transcriptomes and sequenced genomes

The One Thousand Plants Project (OneKP; <https://sites.google.com/a/ualberta.ca/onekp/>) has sequenced transcriptomes for over 1000 non-model plant species spanning almost all major plant clades (from green algae to flowering plants) (1). All transcriptomes were pre-assembled with the SOAPdenovo-Trans (2) assembler. Transcriptomes of 1103 representative species (Table S1) were analyzed in this study. For all the assembled contigs, the longest regions without stop codons were annotated and translated using the getorf program from the EMBOSS package (3) with a minimum length of 150 amino acids. The resulting peptides were searched against the Pfam-A database locally using HMMER 3.0 hmmsearch (4) with an E-value of $1e^{-5}$. Only sequences with best hits from the following four HMM profiles were considered as putative terpene synthases:

Terpene_synth_C (PF03936) and Terpene synthase N-terminal domain (PF01397), TRI5 (PF06330) and SmMTPSLs (a profile created by using 48 microbial type TPSs identified from *S. moellendorffii*). For sequences from the same species that had 100% identity, only the longest one was retained, to reduce redundancy. All the putative TPS sequences were subjected to a BLASTP search against the NCBI's non-redundant database using default parameters. A TPS was annotated as “Microbial TPS-like protein” (MTPSL) if all the top ten best hits were from bacteria and/or fungi or identical/highly similar to SmMTPSLs.

Assembly of hornwort *Anthoceros punctatus* genome and identification of *MTPSL* genes

For *Anthoceros punctatus*, the Illumina paired-end whole genome sequencing data (access number: SRR1278954) (5) were retrieved from NCBI's Sequence Read Archive (SRA) database. The reads were assembled using SPAdes-3.1.1 (6) and the resulting contigs and singletons were further assembled by CAP3 (7). The final CAP3 assembly contains 34448 sequences (16272 contigs and 18176 singletons) a total length of 97Mb, of which 15596 sequences have a minimum length of 500 bp. The N50 contig length based on these 15596 sequences is 12,462 bp. The assemblies were searched for occurrences of terpene synthases using homology-based methods and *ab initio* predictors. A TBLASTN search was performed with an E-value cutoff of $1e^{-30}$ using the 716 *MTPSL* genes identified from OneKP transcriptomes. We also ran SNAP (8) trained for *Arabidopsis thaliana* on the assembly. The resulting protein sequences of predicted genes were subsequently subjected to a HMMER search against four HMM profiles (PF03936, PF01397, PF06330 and SmMTPSLs generated by using 48 microbial type TPSs from *S. moellendorffii*).

Phylogenetic analyses of terpene synthases.

Bacterial and fungal terpene synthases were obtained from Pfam (version 27.0). Considering that certain MTPSLs from plants may contain a transit peptide that is absent in bacterial and fungal TPSs and certain fungal TPSs contain an extended N-terminal domain, to reduce ambiguities in sequence alignment, only the terpene synthase C terminal domains were included. Sequences were aligned using MAFFT (linsi) (9) with 1000 iterations of improvement. ProtTest (10) was used to select the most appropriate protein evolution model for the protein alignment under the Akaike Information Criterion. For the maximum likelihood analyses, we used RAxML (11) with 1000 bootstrap replicates under the best substitution model (LG+G+F) selected by ProtTest.

Plant material, genomic DNA isolation and PCR

Scapania nemorea, *Anthoceros punctatus* and *Sphagnum fallax* were cultured axenically in Hatcher's medium (12), Knop medium (13) and BCD medium (14), respectively.

Genomic DNA from each species was isolated using the VIOGENE plant genomic DNA isolation kit (Viogene BioTek Corp., Taiwan) and used for PCR with primers listed in Table S9. PCR products were cloned into the pGEM®-T Easy Vector (Promega, USA) and fully sequenced.

Reagents

(*E*)-GPP, (*E,E*)-FPP, (*Z,Z*)-FPP and (*E,E,E*)-GGPP were purchased from Echelon Biosciences (Salt Lake City). (*Z,E*)-FPP was kindly provided by Nathalie Gatto and Wilhelm Boland from Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena, Germany. [1-³H](*E,E*)-FPP was a product of American Radiolabeled Chemicals (St. Louis).

Terpene synthase enzyme assays and kinetic measurements

Representative members from each of the four groups of *MTPSL* genes were selected for gene synthesis. The synthesized cDNAs were cloned into a protein expression vector pEXP5/CT-TOPO (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA). Protein expression in *E. coli* and terpene synthase enzyme assays were performed as previously described (15). To determine the kinetic properties of Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4, its cDNA was first amplified via PCR using a pair of primers listed in Table S9. The PCR product was cloned into pET32a, in which the Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 coding sequence was fused to the his-tag coding sequence at its N-terminal. *E. coli*-expressed recombinant Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 was purified through the his-tag using the HisTrap HP column (GE Lifesciences, USA). The purified Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4 was used for kinetic measurements using [1-³H](*E,E*)-FPP as substrate via a radiochemical method as previously described (16).

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Table S1. List of screened plant species and the number of *MTPSLs* in each species. All these 1103 transcriptomes were from 1KP (<https://sites.google.com/a/uualberta.ca/onekp/>). *MTPSLs* are found from 146 species.

Table S1. List of screened transcriptomes and the number of *MTPSLs* in each sample. All these 1103 transcriptomes were from 1KP ([www.onekp.com](https://onekp.com/)). *MTPSLs* are found from 146 species.

Monophytes	353	Lycophytes	77	Charophytes	1	Angiosperms (Continued)	Angiosperms (Continued)
<i>Adiantum alatum</i>	5	<i>Chondryliopodiella obscurum</i>	2	<i>Bambusa bambusa</i>	0	<i>Allium compositum</i>	0
<i>Adiantum tenerrimum</i>	8	<i>Diplazium digitatum</i>	0	<i>Chaetochloa gibbosa</i>	0	<i>Allium sativum</i>	0
<i>Anemone tomentosa</i>	12	<i>Huperzia lucidula</i>	1	<i>Chara vulgaris</i>	0	<i>Allium serotinum</i>	0
<i>Anemone hepatica</i>	5	<i>Huperzia muricata</i>	0	<i>Chionodoxa amoeboides</i>	0	<i>Alcea vera</i>	0
<i>Agrostis alba</i>	10	<i>Huperzia selago</i>	7	<i>Oosterium lunula</i>	0	<i>Alternanthera brasiliana</i>	0
<i>Asplenium nidus</i>	6	<i>Huperzia squarrosa</i>	2	<i>Colobanthus quadrifidus</i>	0	<i>Alternanthera caracasana</i>	0
<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	2	<i>Isotria medeolae</i>	6	<i>Coleochaete scutata</i>	0	<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>	0
<i>Athyrium filix femina</i>	2	<i>Isotria medeolae</i>	7	<i>Cosmarium broomei</i>	0	<i>Alternanthera tenella</i>	0
<i>Azola cf. caroliniana</i>	5	<i>Isotria medeolae</i>	5	<i>Cosmarium granatum</i>	0	<i>Amaranthus caudatus</i>	0
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	15	<i>Lygodium apressa</i>	1	<i>Cosmarium rhinoides</i>	0	<i>Amaranthus patens</i>	0
<i>Blythia virginiana</i>	6	<i>Lygodium arizonicum</i>	1	<i>Cosmarium subulatum</i>	0	<i>Amaranthus retrofractus</i>	0
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	7	<i>Lygodium deuterodensum</i>	4	<i>Cosmarium tritatum</i>	0	<i>Amaryllidaceae</i>	0
<i>Cibotium glaucum</i>	5	<i>Phylloglossum drummondii</i>	4	<i>Cosmosciadium cf. constrictum</i>	0	<i>Amborella trichopoda</i>	0
<i>Cipripedium venosum</i>	0	<i>Phylloglossopodia caroliniana</i>	3	<i>Cyrtodictya bicknellii</i>	0	<i>Ameletaceae canadensis</i>	0
<i>Cryptogramma acrostichoides</i>	3	<i>Selaginella acarifolia</i>	3	<i>Cyrtodictya cuscutae</i>	0	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	0
<i>Cyclophorus maculatus</i>	1	<i>Selaginella selaginoides</i>	1	<i>Cyrtodictya cuscutae</i>	0	<i>Anastrophyllum</i>	0
<i>Cyrtopogon fragilis</i>	8	<i>Selaginella selaginoides</i>	8	<i>Desmoulinia apogonum</i>	0	<i>Anemone pulsatilla</i>	0
<i>Cyrtopogon praevenia</i>	1	<i>Selaginella stanantonia</i>	2	<i>Entrania emarginata</i>	0	<i>Angelica archangelica</i>	0
<i>Cyrtopogon utahensis</i>	20	<i>Selaginella stanantonia</i>	2	<i>Entostema affine</i>	0	<i>Angelica officinalis</i>	0
<i>Danaea sp.</i>	7	<i>Selaginella wilsonii</i>	5	<i>Goniatonopsis linariae</i>	0	<i>Annona muricata</i>	0
<i>Davallia feenensis</i>	8			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Davallia pinnatifida</i>	3			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Deparia lobata</i>	8			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Diplazium truncatula</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Diplazium villosum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Diplazium villosum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	0			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	6			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Gymnocarpium robertsonianum</i>	6			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Homalium pycnanthum</i>	6			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Hymenophyllum wilsonii</i>	1			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Leucostegium imbricatum</i>	1			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Lindsaea linearis</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Lindsaea microphylla</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Lycopodium japonicum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Marattia sp.</i>	3			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Myriophyllum asplenifolium</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Myriophyllum asplenifolium</i>	13			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Notholaena monticola</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Osmunda japonica</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	0			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Osmunda sp.</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i>	0			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phalaria globifera</i>	1			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	1			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	5			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	2			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	4			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	11			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	9			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	10			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>	0	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	0
<i>Phylloglossum trifidatum</i>	7			<i>Intarfium brachylobum</i>			

Table S2. Summary statistics of *MTPSLs* in 9 plant lineages.

Lineage	Species Count	MTPSL Count	Mean	Median	St. Dev.	Min	Max
Angiosperms	699	5	0.01	0	0.16	0	4
Gymnosperms	80	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monilophytes	70	353	5.04	4.50	3.81	0	20
Lycophytes	22	83	3.77	3	2.65	0	10
Hornworts	7	14	2	0	3.32	0	9
Mosses	41	79	1.93	1	1.82	0	7
Liverworts	26	177	6.81	8	4.15	0	16
Charophytes	47	1	0.02	0	0.15	0	1
Chlorophytes	111	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table S3. 22 MTPSL genes designated as Unclassified and their top hits from Non redundant (NR) database of NCBI

MTPSL_id	Lineages	NR_top_hit	evaluate	bit_score	Scientific_name	Kingdom
(RXRQ_WCZB)_MTPSL7	Hornworts	gi 751680917 gb KIM31075.1	0	1019	Serendipita vermifera MAFF 305830	Fungi
(RXRQ_WCZB)_MTPSL8	Hornworts	gi 353240956 emb CCA72799.1	0	981	Piriformospora indica DSM 11827	Fungi
(RXRQ_WCZB)_MTPSL9	Hornworts	gi 353240956 emb CCA72799.1	7E-130	391	Piriformospora indica DSM 11827	Fungi
MCHJ_MTPSL1	Charophytes	gi 913451420 ref WP_050430829.1	0.001	50.8	Chondromyces crocatus	Bacteria
MRKX_MTPSL1	Angiosperms	gi 588255974 ref XP_006957163.1	0	558	Wallemia mellicola CBS 633.66	Fungi
QAIR_MTPSL1	Angiosperms	gi 751178290 gb KIL64254.1	5E-177	508	Amanita muscaria Koide BX008	Fungi
QAIR_MTPSL2	Angiosperms	gi 751175026 gb KIL61028.1	0	620	Amanita muscaria Koide BX008	Fungi
QAIR_MTPSL3	Angiosperms	gi 751174784 gb KIL60790.1	7E-143	427	Amanita muscaria Koide BX008	Fungi
QAIR_MTPSL4	Angiosperms	gi 751181225 gb KIL67171.1	0	691	Amanita muscaria Koide BX008	Fungi
JKAA_MTPSL1	Lycophytes	gi 927407765 ref XP_013949969.1	0	541	Trichoderma virens Gv29-8	Fungi
ZYCD_MTPSL1	Lycophytes	gi 238496645 ref XP_002379558.1	1E-130	390	Aspergillus flavus NRRL3357	Fungi
AEXY_MTPSL1	Liverworts	gi 389636521 ref XP_003715910.1	6E-178	513	Magnaporthe oryzae 70-15	Fungi
IRBN_MTPSL6	Liverworts	gi 751680917 gb KIM31075.1	0	934	Serendipita vermifera MAFF 305830	Fungi
JHFI_MTPSL16	Liverworts	gi 751680917 gb KIM31075.1	6E-101	313	Serendipita vermifera MAFF 305830	Fungi
LGOW_MTPSL3	Liverworts	gi 629725325 ref XP_007822988.1	7E-56	196	Metarhizium robertsii	Fungi
NWQC_MTPSL8	Liverworts	gi 629725325 ref XP_007822988.1	6E-36	144	Metarhizium robertsii	Fungi
OFTV_MTPSL7	Liverworts	gi 751680917 gb KIM31075.1	0	931	Serendipita vermifera MAFF 305830	Fungi
RTMU_MTPSL4	Liverworts	gi 667838359 ref XP_007783348.1	3E-128	386	Coniosporium apollinis CBS 100218	Fungi
WJLO_MTPSL3	Liverworts	gi 549052256 emb CCX30236.1	4E-68	231	Pyronema omphalodes CBS 100304	Fungi
WJLO_MTPSL4	Liverworts	gi 549052256 emb CCX30236.1	1E-71	240	Pyronema omphalodes CBS 100304	Fungi
YBQN_MTPSL8	Liverworts	gi 648165817 gb KDR79494.1	0	596	Galerina marginata CBS 339.88	Fungi
QIAD_MTPSL2	Monilophytes	gi 629662947 ref XP_007805277.1	2E-77	251	Endocarpon pusillum Z07020	Fungi

Table S4. Eight MTPSLs identified from the transcriptome of the liverwort *Scapania nemorea*

Gene	Group
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL1	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL2	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL3	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL4	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL5	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL6	II
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL7	III
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8	U^a

^aunclassified

Table S5. *MTPSL* genes from the genome of the hornwort *Anthoceros punctatus*

Gene	Protein	Group
ApMTPSL1	408	II
ApMTPSL2	430	III
ApMTPSL3	436	II
ApMTPSL4	401	III
ApMTPSL5	413	III
ApMTPSL6	421	III
ApMTPSL7	427	III

Table S6. *MTPSL* genes from the genome of the moss *Sphagnum fallax*

Gene	Protein size	Group
SfMTPSL1	472	
SfMTPSL2	341	
SfMTPSL3	328	
SfMTPSL4	482	
SfMTPSL5	489	
SfMTPSL6	477	
SfMTPSL7	481	
SfMTPSL8	484	
SfMTPSL9	377	
SfMTPSL10	481	
SfMTPSL11	440	
SfMTPSL12	487	
SfMTPSL13	455	
SfMTPSL14	456	
SfMTPSL15	472	
SfMTPSL16	472	
SfMTPSL17	341	
SfMTPSL18	457	
SfMTPSL19	453	
SfMTPSL20	455	
SfMTPSL21	455	

Table S7. A list of sequenced genomes searched for *MTPSL* genes

Species	Data version
<i>Amaranthus hypochondriacus</i>	v1.0
<i>Amborella trichopoda</i>	v1.0
<i>Ananas comosus</i>	v3
<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i>	v1.1
<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i>	v3.1
<i>Arabidopsis halleri</i>	v1.1
<i>Arabidopsis lyrata</i>	v1.0
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	TAIR10
<i>Boechera stricta</i>	v1.2
<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i>	v3.1
<i>Brachypodium stacei</i>	v1.1
<i>Brassica rapa</i>	FPsc v1.3
<i>Capsella grandiflora</i>	v1.1
<i>Capsella rubella</i>	v1.0
<i>Carica papaya</i>	ASGPBv0.4
<i>Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i>	v5.5
<i>Citrus clementina</i>	v1.0
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	v1.1
<i>Coccomyxa subellipsoidea C-169</i>	v2.0
<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	v1.0
<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>	v2.0
<i>Eutrema salsugineum</i>	v1.0
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	v1.1
<i>Glycine max</i>	Wm82.a2.v1
<i>Gossypium raimondii</i>	v2.1
<i>Kalanchoe marnieriana</i>	v1.1
<i>Klebsormidium flaccidum</i>	v1.0
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i>	v1.0
<i>Malus domestica</i>	v1.0
<i>Manihot esculenta</i>	v6.1
<i>Medicago truncatula</i>	Mt4.0v1
<i>Micromonas pusilla CCMP1545</i>	v3.0
<i>Micromonas</i> sp. RCC299	v3.0
<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>	v2.0
<i>Musa acuminata</i>	v1
<i>Oryza sativa</i>	v7_JGI
<i>Ostreococcus lucimarinus</i>	v2.0
<i>Panicum hallii</i>	v2.0
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	v1.1
<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	v1.0
<i>Physcomitrella patens</i>	v3.3
<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	v3.0
<i>Prunus persica</i>	v2.1
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	v0.1
<i>Salix purpurea</i>	v1.0
<i>Selaginella moellendorffii</i>	v1.0
<i>Setaria italica</i>	v2.2
<i>Setaria viridis</i>	v1.1
<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	iTAG2.3
<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	v3.4
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i>	v3.1
<i>Sphagnum fallax</i>	v0.5
<i>Spirodela polyrhiza</i>	v2
<i>Theobroma cacao</i>	v1.1
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	v2.2
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Genoscope.12X
<i>Volvox carteri</i>	v2.1
<i>Zea mays</i>	6a
<i>Zostera marina</i>	v2.2

Table S8. A list of representative *MTPSL* genes experimentally studied.

Sequence ID	Lineage	Species	Group
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL2	Liverworts	<i>Scapania nemorea</i>	I
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL4	Liverworts	<i>Scapania nemorea</i>	I
Mos-GOWD-MTPSL2	Mosses	<i>Sphagnum lescurii</i>	I
Mos-QKQO-MTPSL3	Mosses	<i>Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans</i>	II
Mos-VBMM-MTPSL3	Mosses	<i>Anomodon rostratus</i>	II
Hon-ApMTPSL7	Hornworts	<i>Anthoceros punctatus</i>	III
Mon-GSXD-MTPSL3	Monilophytes	<i>Myriopteris eatonii</i>	IV
Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4	Monilophytes	<i>Pityrogramma trifoliata</i>	IV
Mon-YJJY-MTPSL1	Monilophytes	<i>Woodsia scopulina</i>	IV

Table S9. Primers used in this study

Region amplified	Primer	DNA sequences
ApMTPSL1 and its neighboring gene	Forward	5'-CACTACTGCGTCGGCTTCATG-3'
	Reverse	5'-CGCACAGCATTCAACAATTCACCT-3'
ApMTPSL2 and its neighboring gene	Forward	5'-CAGGTAGGAGCCCCGCGATTT-3'
	Reverse	5'-AGGGAAAAGGAGGGTGGTG-3'
SfMTPSL1 and its neighboring gene	Forward	5'-CAGAAGCAAAGTATCGGTCTCTTAC -3'
	Reverse	5'-CACTGTTAGCAGGGTATGGTGAAC-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL1	Forward	5'-TTCTGAGGACGAGCGTATTCTTC-3'
	Reverse	5'-GCAAAACGTCAACTAAACGAGAAG-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL2	Forward	5'-TCATACTCGCCTCCATATCCTGTG-3'
	Reverse	5'-GATTTGAAATGTCAGTCATGTGTGC-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL3	Forward	5'-GATGCCAACGCAGCCATACAGAC-3'
	Reverse	5'-GCCTGATACCCAGTTTCTGACGG-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL4	Forward	5'-CAGTATGTGTGAACTCCTCTGGGTC-3'
	Reverse	5'-GCACTCCTTTTCTGTACCGACTGG-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL5	Forward	5'-TCAAAGGCATCACCTGAAGTCTG-3'
	Reverse	5'-ATATTATCGGTGTCCAATCCTCC-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL6	Forward	5'-AATGCTTGGTGTGTGTTTCGTCTC-3'
	Reverse	5'-CCTCCATGTGATTTGCAAAGTAG-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL7	Forward	5'-CTGGCAGATGATTTAGATGAGATAGC-3'
	Reverse	5'-CAGAAACAACCCGCAAACCATTC-3'
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8	Forward	5'-TCTCCCTGTTGCCACTGCTTTCC-3'
	Reverse	5'-GTTGGTCCTGGTACGGCGACTGA-3'
Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4-pET32a	Forward	5'-CATGCCATGGCATCCATTATATTAGGAAGCTC-3'
	Reverse	5'-CCCAAGCTTAGTTAAAGGCCATCATGACAC-3'

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*           20           *           40           *           60
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : MA--SPATIRLPDILSAMDRFELRTHPDEREVTRASNEWFNSYNMMPAPIFEKFKCDFG : 58
gi|751680917   : MASPSPATIRLPDILSAMDKFELRTHPDEREVTRASNEWFNSYNMMPAPIFEKFKCEFG : 60
MA SPATIRLPDILSAM4FELRTHPDEREVTRASNEWFNSYNMMPAPIFEKFKVKG FG

*           80           *           100          *           120
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : LMTAMSYPDTDATRLRITADYMSILFAYDDLMDLPSSDLMHDRIASSKAAKIMMQVLTHP : 118
gi|751680917   : LMTAMSYPDTDATRLRITADYMSILFAYDDLMDLPSSDLMHDRIASSKAAKIMMQVLTHP : 120
LMTAMSYPDTDATRLRITADYMSILFAYDDLMDLPSSDLMHDRIASSKAAKIMMQVLTHP

*           140          *           160          *           180
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : HKFKPVPGLPVATAFHDFWTRFCATSTPSMQKRFTETTYEYVMAVKNQVGNRASSVCPSI : 178
gi|751680917   : HKFKPVPGLPVATAFHDFWTRFCATSTKSMQKRFTETTYEYVMAVKNQVGNRQSSVCPSI : 180
HKFKPVPGLPVATAFHDFWTRFCATST SMQKRFTETTYEYVMAVKNQVGNR SSVCPSSI

*           200          *           220          *           240
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : EEYVSLRRDTSIAKVTYACIEYCLNIDCPDEAFYHPSLALQEAGNDILSWANDVYSFDN : 238
gi|751680917   : EEYVSLRRDTSIAKVTYACIEYCLNIDVPDEAFYHPSLALQEAGNDILSWANDVYSFDN : 240
EEYVSLRRDTSIAKVTYACIEYCLNID PDEAFYHPSLALQEAGNDILSWANDVYSFDN

*           260          *           280          *           300
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : EQCSGDCHNLIAVVAINKNITVQAAMEYAMGMIDSAINRFFEECSNVPSFGPDVDPKVQA : 298
gi|751680917   : EQCSGDCHNLIAVVAINKNITVQAAMEYAMGMIDSAIARFFEECANVPSFGPDVDPKVQA : 300
EQCSGDCHNLIAVVAINKNITVQAAMEYAMGMIDSAI RFFEEC NVPSFGPDVDPKVQA

*           320          *           340          *           360
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : YIKGVELYLSGSVFWHLESERYFGPRVKHVKDTLMVELRPLDEGAKPAFDLIYKLP SNLT : 358
gi|751680917   : YIKGVELYLSGSVYVWHLESERYFGPRVKHVKDTLMVELRPLDEGAKPAFNLIYKLP SNLT : 360
YIKGVELYLSGSV5VWHLESERYFGPRVKHVKDTLMVELRPLDEGAKPAF1LIYKLP SNLT

*           380          *           400          *           420
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : SNVLAAVSNRTPTP-PAPVEAAP-AAPSPPPRTTRGTPT-----PAHHAPEIHAPVPIS : 410
gi|751680917   : SNVLAAVTPTTKTPEVPVAAAPTVAAPSPPPRCSSNSSTGTVRASPVQH--EIHAPTPI : 418
SNVLAAV3 T TP P PV AAP APSPPPR 3 3 T P H EIHAP PIS

*           440          *           460          *           480
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : PFNPNFPTVSPVPPPSYEHQRAFAQYMAAQLDEKMRAEQYVYVQAPQYYSAPQSPYQDQ : 470
gi|751680917   : PFNPNFPTSNPNMPPPSYEQQRVFAQFMAAQLDEKMRAEQW-QVPQYYSAPQSPYQPQ : 477
PFNPNFPT P 6PPPSYE QR FAQ5MAAQL KMRAEQ 5 Q PQYYSAPQSPYQ Q

*           500          *           520          *           540
Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : QQ---KLRQNSLMEVLLSRPTSELTNILVIASVLMASSPLALVPFVPLLVLVLLFPEAPA : 526
gi|751680917   : QQQQLTKARQNSLMEALLNRPTSELTNILVIASVLMASSPLALIPFVPLLVLVLLYPEAPA : 537
QQ K RQNSLME 6L RPTSELTNILVIASVLMASSPLAL6PFVPLLVLVLL5PEAPA

Liv-IRBN-MTPSL8 : VLLS : 530
gi|751680917   : VLLA : 541
VLL

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Fig. S1. Sequence alignment of IRBN_MTPSL6 identified from the transcriptome of the liverwort *Scapania nemorea* with its top hit in nr database at NCBI. “gi:751680917” is putative terpene synthase gene identified in the fungus *Serendipita vermifera*. The two sequences are 91% identical.

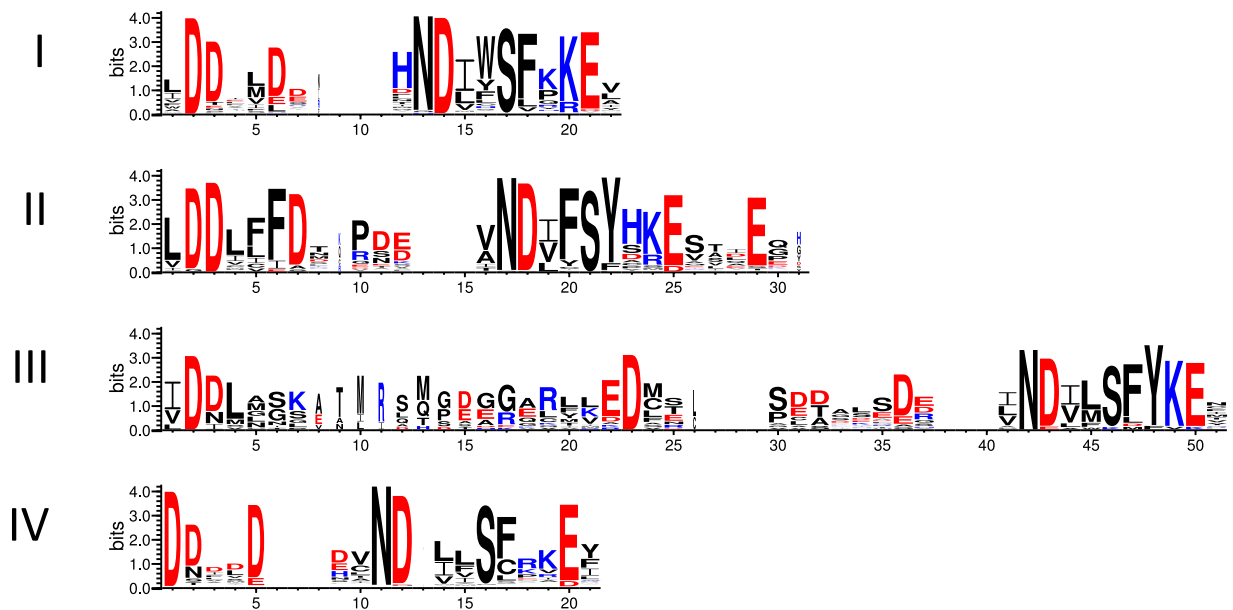


Fig. S2. Identification of conserved motifs among the four groups (I, II, III and IV) of microbial type (MTPSL) terpene synthases. The ‘NDxxSxxxD/E’ motif is highly conserved among all MTPSLs. The canonical ‘DDxxD’ motif was present in group I and IV proteins, but group II proteins displayed a conserved ‘DDxxxD’ motif, whereas in the group III enzymes only the first two aspartates (‘DD’) are conserved. Sequence motif logos made using weblogo 3.0, showing the conserved motifs found in each group of terpene synthase genes of microbial type.

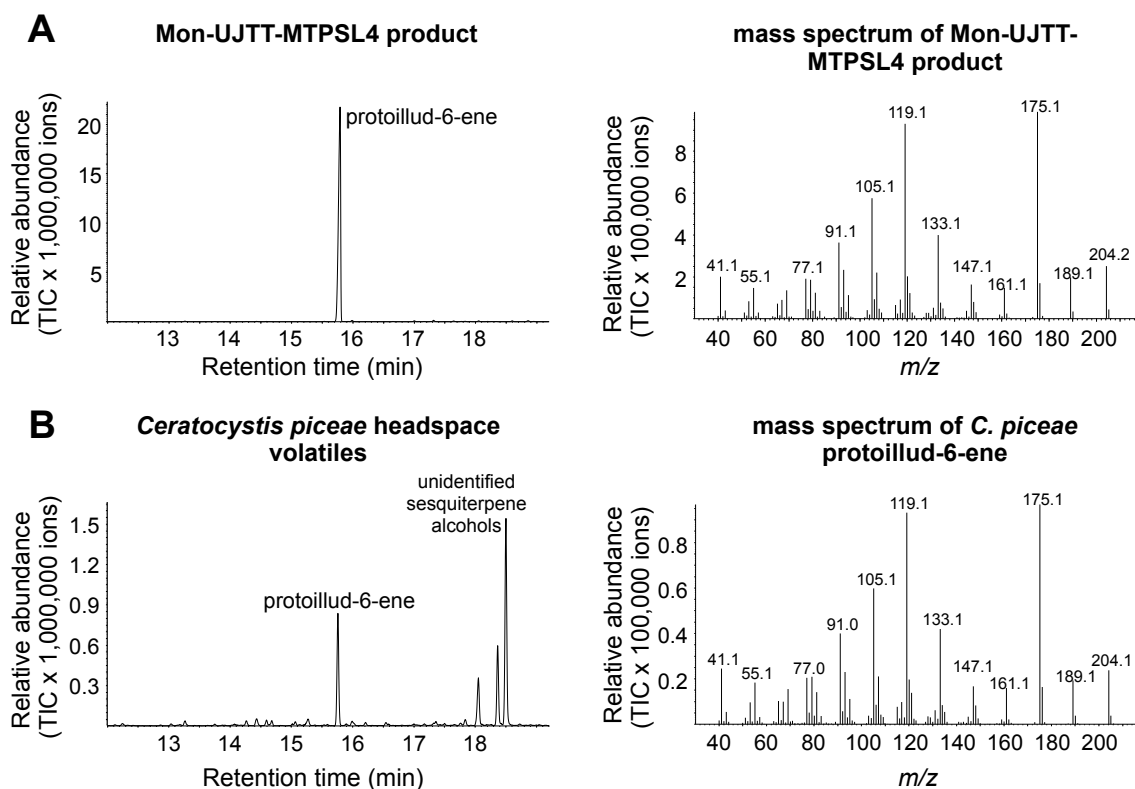
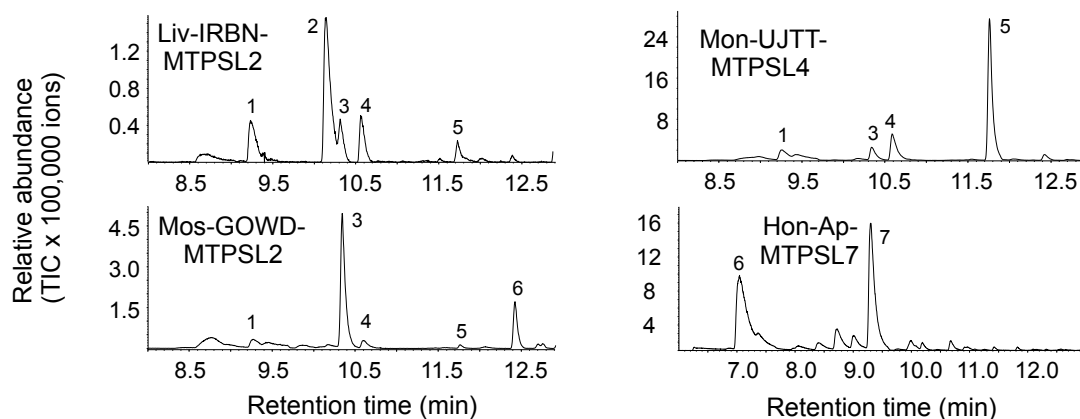


Fig. S3. Product identification of Mon-UJTT-MTPSL4. (A) The gene was heterologously expressed in *Escherichia coli* and the crude bacterial protein extract was incubated with FPP. The enzyme product was collected using solid phase micro extraction (SPME) and analyzed with gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC-MS). (B) Volatiles from the headspace of a liquid culture of *Ceratocystis piceae* were collected using SPME and analyzed with GC-MS. *C. piceae* has been reported to produce protoillud-6-ene as main sesquiterpene hydrocarbon (17).

A Monoterpene synthase activity



B Diterpene synthase activity

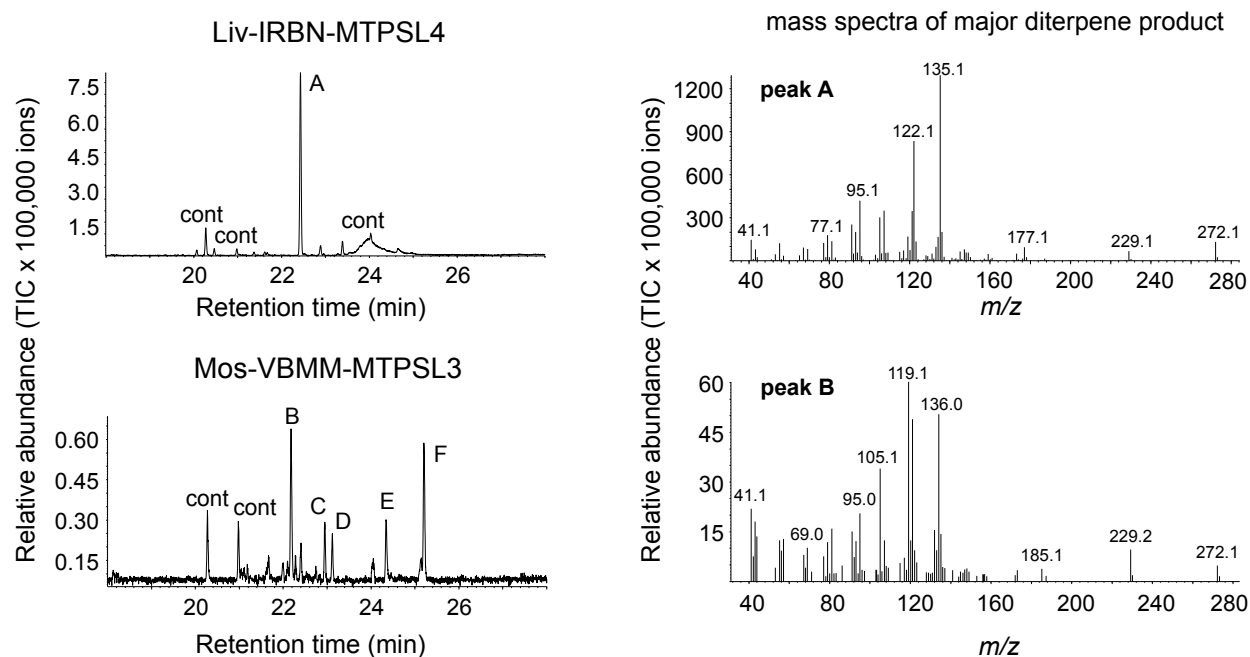


Fig. S4. Monoterpene synthase and diterpene synthase activities of MTPSLs. *MTPSL* genes were heterologously expressed in *Escherichia coli* and crude protein extracts were incubated with the potential substrates GPP (A) and GGPP (B), respectively. Monoterpene products were collected using solid-phase micro-extraction and diterpene products were extracted with hexane. Products were analyzed using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. 1, myrcene*; 2, limonene*; 3, (*Z*)- β -ocimene; 4, (*E*)- β -ocimene*; 5, linalool*; 6, allo-ocimene; 6, α -pinene; 7, β -phellandrene. A-F, unidentified diterpenes. Compounds marked with an asterisk (*) were identified using authentic standards.

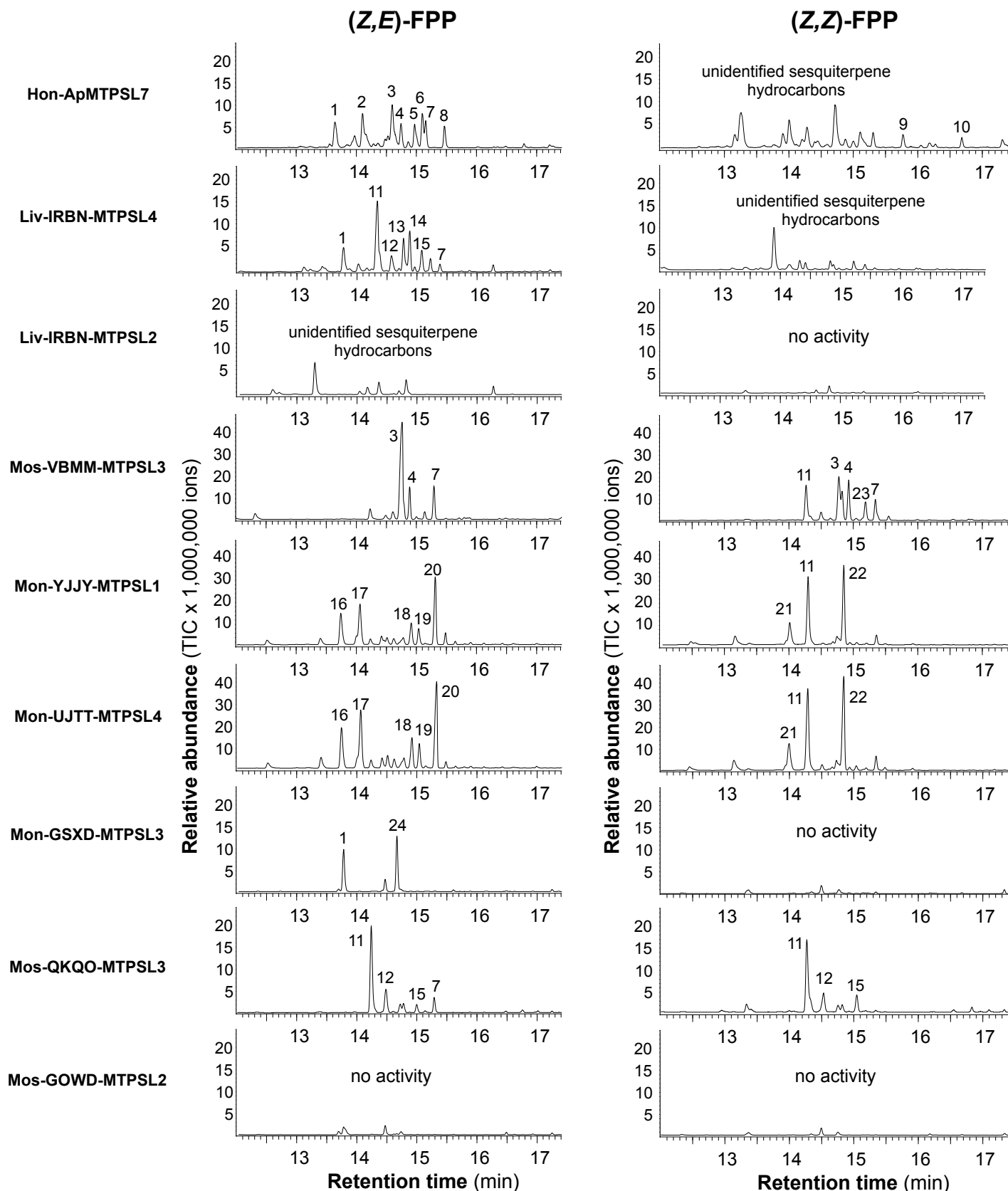


Fig. S5. Sesquiterpene synthase activity of representative MTPSLs with (Z,E)-FPP and (Z,Z)-FPP. MTPSL genes were heterologously expressed in *Escherichia coli* and crude protein extracts were incubated with the potential substrates (Z,E)-FPP and (Z,Z)-FPP. Enzyme products were collected using solid-phase micro-extraction and analyzed with gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. 1, (*E*)- β -farnesene; 2, β -acoradiene; 3, β -bisabolene; 4, (*Z*)- γ -bisabolene; 5, unidentified ST; 6, unidentified ST; 7, (*Z*)- α -bisabolene; 8, nerolidol; 9, unidentified oxygenated ST; 10, unidentified oxygenated ST; 11, γ -curcumene; 12, zingiberene; 13, unidentified ST; 14, unidentified ST; 15, β -sesquiphellandrene; 16, unidentified ST; 17, *epi*-bicyclosesquiphellandrene; 18, γ -cadinene; 19, δ -cadinene; 20, α -cadinene; 21, unidentified ST; 22, unidentified ST; 23, (*E*)- γ -bisabolene; 24, (*E,E*)- α -farnesene. ST, sesquiterpene.