



UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)

Shedding light on the multiple functions of the geminivirus Replication initiator protein

Maio, F.

Publication date

2019

Document Version

Other version

License

Other

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Maio, F. (2019). *Shedding light on the multiple functions of the geminivirus Replication initiator protein*.

General rights

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: <https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact>, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

Acknowledgments

Whenever somebody asked me “Don’t you regret doing the PhD?”, I would promptly say “No, never!”. Looking back at these years, I can safely say that I do not regret at all starting this incredible adventure that allowed me to learn a lot about science and about myself and to meet so many fantastic people. From the happiest to the most stressful experience, I enjoyed every single moment of this journey, because I was surrounded by amazing people that accompanied me and helped me to successfully reach the end. Now, it is the moment to thank them all.

First of all, it is difficult to properly express the deep gratitude I have to the two people that made possible the realization and completion of this work: Marcel and Harrold. Dear **Marcel**, thank you for the immense trust you gave me in the first place and kept showing me during all these years. Your optimism and enthusiasm for every small progress helped me to overcome the frustration that often generated by lab work and to positively face the challenges of being an independent scientist. The support that you genuinely showed in every presentation or meeting and the freedom you gave me allowed me to boost my self-confidence and have more faith in my capabilities. Dear **Harrold**, without your help and supervision I would have not been able to make so many progresses in the project and write this amazing thesis. Thanks a lot for the time and effort you put in analyzing the results, discussing the experiments, giving me advices, reading and correcting the chapters. Also, thanks for always caring about me and being supportive in every situation. Your broad knowledge of multiple topics and your passion for science will always be, for me, an example to follow.

Ben, thanks for allowing me to start my PhD in the MPP department and for the great job you made to establish this awesome group. Dear **Martijn** and **Frank**, thanks for all the advices and suggestions about science (and more) you gave me during group meetings and social occasions. Dear **Petra H.** and **Bas**, I truly admire your ability to keep such an organized lab and taking care of all the issues and the people of the group. Thanks a lot for your help in the lab, for supporting all the crazy requests I had (blue box, UV lamp, etc.) and always making sure that I had all the equipment and tools for my experiments.

I was very lucky to have the possibility during my PhD to collaborate with different labs and people. Dear **Eduardo**, thanks for all the material and know-how about geminiviruses you shared with us. I am very glad we set up such a fruitful collaboration and managed to publish together. Dear **Blanca**, it was great to have you here in Amsterdam and to work side-by-side. I wish you all the best for the conclusion of your PhD and the publication of your results. I am also grateful to the other people from the University of Malaga, especially **Araceli** and **Ana**, that helped us with the bioassays and provided us useful tips and tools for our research.

I deeply acknowledge KeyGene for financially supporting my PhD. **Martin**, thanks for recommending me for this PhD position and for following the project during these years. Thanks also to **Ellen** for the help with the bioassays and for being our host every time we came to KeyGene, to **Paul** for taking care of our plants and to all the other people at KeyGene involved in the geminivirus project.

I am also grateful to **Petra B.** for her interesting and insightful discussions about our work during the company meetings, **Benjamin Bobay** for generating for us the splendid models of the Rep protein and **Sjef Boeren** for the mass spec analysis.

Dear **Manolo**, I was very fortunate to work with you. Thanks for the help with the (sometimes gigantic) experiments, the knowledge about geminiviruses you shared with me, your hard work, your guidance in Malaga (in the lab, but most importantly in the city) and your immense patience. I really enjoyed our numerous brainstorming sessions and the scientific (and not) discussions we had. **Mark**, thanks a lot for your input and support in the project and for your expertise about microscopy and cell biology. I am also grateful to all the students that directly and indirectly contributed to the project, especially to **Miguel** for taking care of the proteomic project and **Inam** for performing the last missing experiments.

My PhD would have not been such an amazing experience without all the fantastic colleagues of the MPP group. Dear **Maria**, thanks for being my paranymp, for your constant optimism, for all the lunches, chats, movies and nights together and in general for your support as a colleague but also as a friend. You are a super talented scientist and I am sure you will do great in your career. **Fran**, thanks for your company, for giving me feedback on the thesis, for your crazy Spanish stories and all the funny parties. I wish you all the best for a smooth and not too stressful conclusion of your PhD. Dear **Magda** and **Valentin**, you were very special to me and you helped me a lot to get started in the group. As you had foreseen, I became part of the SUMO team! **Val**, thanks for all the moments we shared together at the university but also outside in the beautiful city of Amsterdam. **Magda**, thanks for your friendship and the support you gave me and keep on showing me. Without your help in the lab and the tools you created it would have been much more difficult for me. I hope we will be colleagues again in the future. **Tieme**, as the 'younger virologist' I wish you all the best for the conclusion of your PhD and I thank you for taking care of some of my experiments. **Manon**, thanks for your positive spirit, your cheerfulness, the social activities and for being such a caring person. **Marijn**, thanks for your jokes, the (political, cultural and scientific) discussions and for proofreading part of my thesis. Even though I complained for your noise, it was great to share the office with you! I am grateful to **Sayantani**, for the gossips during the breaks; **Nico**, for the chats in the lab and the help with the protein work; to **Jim**, for the lunches and the conversations; **Machiel** for designing this awesome cover! A big thank you to

all the other MPP members **Mara, Thomas, Like, Mila, Simone, Marieke, Lingxue, Xiaotang, Lotje, Peter, Heni, Sarah, Ido, Shermineh** that contributed to create such a great group. Thanks also to **Ruy, Dorota, Till, Paula, Marc, Georgios, Ola** and all the other plant people for all the funny activities we had together.

Cara **Sara**, ancora una volta siamo sopravvissute insieme all'ennesima sfida: il dottorato! Grazie per aver condiviso con me questi altri 4 anni e mezzo e per l'aiuto materiale (semi, luci, protocolli) e spirituale. In bocca a lupo per la discussione di dottorato e per il tuo nuovo lavoro!

Grazie a tutti gli amici vicini e lontani che continuano ad essere presenti nella mia vita. Un grazie speciale a **Candida, Carlo, Leo e Dario** per averci fatto sentire parte della loro famiglia e per la compagnia in questi anni di permanenza ad Amsterdam. Alla mia splendida famiglia, i miei fratelli **Marco** (grazie per l'ospitalità a Malaga) e **Pierluigi** e i miei genitori, grazie per aver supportato la mia decisione di fare il dottorato e per l'affetto e la fiducia che nutrite per me. **Mamma e Papá**, spero che la gioia e la soddisfazione per i traguardi raggiunti possa compensare almeno un po' la distanza che ci separa e che, comunque vada, mai potrà scalfire il mio amore nei vostri confronti.

Caro **Tati**, trovare le parole giuste per esprimere la mia gratitudine per avermi seguito ad Amsterdam, per avermi sopportato e supportato in questo viaggio, per essere cresciuto con me in questi anni, per tutto l'aiuto che mi hai dato nel mio lavoro e nella vita quotidiana, sembra essere un'impresa ancora piú difficile che finire il PhD. Allora forse ne sceglieró solo una: grazie.