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GENOMAS ACESSÓRIOS DA ALGA ANTÁRTICA *Prasiola crispa*: INFERÊNCIAS ESTRUTURAIS E FILOGENÉTICAS

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Dissertação apresentada ao Programa de Pós-Graduação *Stricto Sensu* em Ciências Biológicas da Universidade Federal do Pampa, como requisito parcial para obtenção do Título de Mestre em Ciências Biológicas.

Orientador: Prof. Dr. Paulo Marcos Pinto

Coorientador: Dr. Gabriel da Luz Wallau

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"Se as coisas são inatingíveis... ora! Não é motivo para não querê-las... Que tristes os caminhos, se não fora A presença distante das estrelas!"

(Mário Quintana)

RESUMO

Algas verdes da classe Trebouxiphyceae estão entre os organismos presentes no continente Antártico, onde a espécie mais relatada é a macroalga verde *Prasiola crispa* (Lightfoot) Kützing. Considerada um organismo extremófilo, pois se desenvolve com muito sucesso no habitat extremo da Antártica, ainda são raros na literatura dados moleculares sobre esta espécie, o que impede uma avaliação sobre sua taxonomia e posição filogenética. Com o advento das tecnologias de sequenciamento de nova geração, os genomas de organelas tornaram-se uma grande ferramenta para estudos de filogenia, pois fornecem inúmeros dados filogenéticos, sequências de proteínas e nucleotídeos e também informações sobre conteúdo gênico e arquitetura. Neste trabalho, foi determinada a sequência dos genomas do cloroplasto (cpDNA) e mitocondrial (mtDNA) de *P. crispa*, com o intuito de inferir as relações evolutivas deste organismos com outras espécies de plantas verdes, bem como uma análise estrutural.

Os genomas plastidial e mitocondrial foram sequenciados por Macrogen Service (Solexa-Illumina Hi-Seq 2500). A montagem, anotação, alinhamento, construção da filogenia e análise sintênica foram realizados *in silico* com softwares específicos. O cpDNA e mtDNA *P. crispa* apresentam 196.502 pb e 89.819 pb, respectivamente. Estes genomas acessórios apresentam 21 genes putativos relacionados com a fotossíntese e 18 genes relacionados com o metabolismo oxidativo. A análise filogenômica baseada no cpDNA demonstrou que *P. crispa* agrupou com alga trebouxiophyceae *Prasiolopsis sp.* formando o clado *Prasiola* juntamente com *Stichococcus bacilaris*. Nossos resultados para filogenômica embasada no mtDNA revelam que *P. crispa* agrupa com as outras espécies da classe Trebouxiphyceae. A análise de sintenia do cpDNA e mtDNA de *P. crispa* com a espécies de plantas verdes relacionadas evolutivamente demonstram que estes organismos apresentam poucos blocos gênicos sintênicos. Este trabalho pioneiro com a alga *P. crispa*, demonstra que os genomas acessórios suprem uma gama de dados moleculares que podem ser utilizados para estudos filogenômicos. Além disto, as informações geradas a partir do sequenciamento do cpDNA e mtDNA de *P. crispa* fornecem um aporte para estudos futuros mais aprofundados.

Palavras-chave: *Prasiola crispa*, genoma mitocondrial, genoma do cloroplasto, análise filogenômica, sequenciamento de nova geração.

ABSTRACT

Green algae from Trebouxiophyceae class are among the organisms in the Antarctic continent, where the most reported species is the green macroalga Prasiola crispa (Lightfoot) Kützing. This algae is considered an extremophile organism because develops successfully in the harsh Antarctic habitat, however studies reporting molecular data of this species are still lacking in the literature, which prevents an assessment of their correct taxonomy and phylogenetic position. With the advent of next generation sequencing technologies, it because easier to obtain molecular information as for example from organelle genomes making them a great tool for taxonomic studies because they provide a great number of, phylogenetic data, nucleotides, protein sequences, gene content and architecture information. In this study, we determined the sequence of the chloroplast (cpDNA) and mitochondrial (mtDNA) genome of P. crispa in order to infer the evolutionary relationships of the organisms with other species of green plants, as well as a structural analysis. Plastid and mitochondrial genome was sequenced by Macrogen Service (Illumina Solexa Hi-Seq 2500). The genome assembly, annotation, sequences alignment, phylogeny construction, and structural analyses were performed in silico with specific softwares. Plastid and Mitochondrial genomes have a total length of 196,502 bp and 89,819 bp, respectively. These genomes presented 21 putative photosynthesis related genes and 18 oxidative metabolism related genes, respectively. Phylogenetic analysis based on the cpDNA demonstrated that P. crispa grouped with Trebouxiophyceae algae Prasiolopsis sp. forming the Prasiola clade along with Stichococcus bacilaris. Our results for phylogenetic analysis grounded in mtDNA show that P. crispa groups with other species of Trebouxiphyceaen alga. Synteny analysis of P. crispa cpDNA and mtDNA with evolutionarily related species of green plants shows that these organisms have few syntenic gene blocks. This pioneering work with P. crispa provided the accessories genomes which suppled a range of molecular data that can be employed to taxonomic studies. In addition, the information generated from the sequencing of cpDNA and mtDNA of P. crispa provide a contribution for further studies.

Keywords: *Prasiola crispa*, mitochondrial genome, chloroplast genome, phylogenomic analysis, next generation sequencing.

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1. INTRODUÇÃO

1.1. A alga Prasiola crispa

Viridiplantae, ou plantas verdes, é um clado com aproximadamente 500 mil espécies que exibem uma diversidade espantosa de formas de vida (Ruhfel et al., 2014). Esta linhagem fracionou-se em duas divisões principais: Chlorophyta, que contém a maioria das algas verdes descritas e Streptophyta, contendo as algas verdes do filo Charophyta e plantas terrestres (Embriófitas) (Lewis; McCourt, 2004).

Algas verdes representam uma linhagem antiga de eucariotos fotossintetizantes, estimando-se sua origem entre 700 e 1.500 milhões de anos atrás (Leliaert et al., 2012). Enquanto as algas verdes são onipresentes em oceanos do mundo e ecossistemas de água doce, as plantas terrestres são os principais componentes estruturais dos ecossistemas terrestres (Lewis; McCourt, 2004).

Chlorophyta constitui um filo morfologicamente e ecologicamente diversificado de algas verdes. As espécies constituintes deste táxon foram classificadas com base na ultraestrutura do aparelho flagelar e citocinese durante a mitose (Mattox; Stewart, 1984). Filocogistas reconhecem quatro classes de algas verdes pertencentes ao filo Chlorophyta: Chlorophyceae, Trebouxiophyceae, Ulvophyceae e Prasinophyceae, este último o único grupo parafilético (Turmel et al., 1999).

Trebouxiophyceae abrange as algas das águas marinhas e doces (Servín-Garcideueñas; Martínez-Romero, 2012). Dentre as diversas ordens que compõe a classe Trebouxiophyceae, Prasiolales compreende um dos mais generalizados e versáteis grupos de algas verdes. Esta ordem inclui espécies distribuídas em ambientes marinhos, de água doce, habitats terrestres de regiões polares e frio temperado (Rodríguez et al., 2007). A morfologia destas algas varia desde filamentos unisseriados para talos em forma de fita, lâminas expandidas ou de pacotes como colônias, que são caracterizadas por uma grande plasticidade fenotípica relacionada a fatores ambientais (Rindi et al., 2007).

Espécies da família Prasiolaceae são caracterizadas por um talo frondoso de folhas com forma variável, com ou sem uma nítida *holdfast*, células dispostas em linhas verticais ou horizontais e um cloroplasto axial estrelado contendo um pirenóide central (John, 2002).

O gênero *Prasiola* está entre as algas presentes nas áreas de degelo do continente Antártico, onde a espécie mais relatada é *Prasiola crispa* (Lightfoot) Kützing (figura 1), um importante produtor primário (Wiencke; Clayton, 2002; Convey, 2007; Kováčik; Pereira, 2001). Esta macroalga verde talóide está amplamente distribuída na Antártica Marítima e na Antártica Continental, podendo ser encontrada em regiões supralitorais e terrestres, principalmente próximo a colônias de pinguins, onde o solo é fertilizado com o guano dessas aves (Graham et al., 2009).

Figura 1. Alga Antártica Prasiola crispa.



Fonte: Graciele Alves.

P. crispa é um organismo extremófilo que, não apenas sobrevive, mas se desenvolve com muito sucesso em um dos mais extremos ambientes da terra onde se acreditava não haver vida (Javaux, 2006). Por tolerar repetidos ciclos de descongelamento e congelamento durante a primavera e outono, temperaturas negativas durante o inverno e altos níveis de radiação ultravioleta (UV) durante o verão (Lud et al., 2001; Kosugi et al., 2010), supõe-se que esta espécie apresente expressão diferencial de genes responsivos ao frio. A expressão destes genes durante a exposição de *P. crispa* a baixas temperaturas ainda permanece pouco estudada, bem como se estes genes também estão envolvidos na proteção da mesma a alta radiação UV do continente Antártico.

Devido às características extremas e impacto humano limitado, a Antártica tem atraído considerável interesse de pesquisadores (Moniz et al., 2012). Em recente estudo, Zemolin et al. (2014) demonstraram a ação bioinseticida de *P. crispa* sobre a mosca da fruta *Drosophila melanogaster* e a barata *Neuphoeta cinerea*. Contudo, informações a nível molecular e taxonômico desta espécie ainda são escassos (Moniz et al., 2012).

Os dados moleculares disponíveis atualmente para *P. crispa* foram produzidos nos últimos 13 anos e consistem principalmente de sequências dos genes *rbcL* (Rindi et al., 2007; Moniz et al., 2012), 18S rRNA (Rindi et al., 2004; Friedl; O'Kelly, 2002), *tufA* (Moniz; Guiry; Rindi, 2014), *psaB* (Moniz et al., 2012; Novis et al., 2013), *rpoB* (Novis et al., 2013) e *atpB* (Moniz et al., 2012).

A compreensão da diversidade e biogeografia de algas verdes vem se tornando um importante desafio. Embora muitos aspectos da biologia de *P. crispa* tenham sido completamente investigados, a escassez de dados moleculares impede uma avaliação precisa da sua taxonomia e posição filogenética (Moniz et al., 2012).

Genomas de organelas fornecem inúmeros dados filogenéticos, incluindo as sequências de proteínas e nucleotídeos, bem como informações sobre o conteúdo genético e arquitetura (Letsch; Lewis, 2012).

A compreensão da evolução do genoma mitocondrial (mtDNA) e do genoma do cloroplasto (cpDNA) dentro do Streptophyta é de grande interesse, uma vez que o uso de sequências de aminoácidos em substituição de sequências de nucleotídeos favorecem os estudos de filogenômica devido a riqueza de dados que portam (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014b).

As informações geradas nos últimos anos têm reformulado consideravelmente a visão sobre estes organismos, revelando uma diversidade genética maior do que sugere sua morfologia simples (Leliaert et al., 2012).

1.2. Análise de genomas plastidiais como ferramenta filogenética

Plastídeos são uma das principais características distintivas da célula vegetal (Wicke et al., 2007). Estas organelas fotossintetizantes fornecem a energia essencial para algas, plantas terrestres e alguns protozoários. Além da fotossíntese, outras vias metabólicas estão presentes nos plastídeos, incluindo a biossíntese de ácidos graxos, aminoácidos, pigmentos e vitaminas (Wang et al., 2013). Provavelmente a origem dos plastídeos está relacionada com um evento de endossimbiose, pelo qual um organismo protozoário unicelular, através do processo de fagocitose, englobou e manteve uma cianobactéria fotossintetizante (Reyes-Prieto et al., 2007), permitindo assim a transição de heterotrofia para autotrofia, adquirindo a capacidade de utilizar fotoenergia (Wicke et al., 2007). Em nível genômico, esta integração envolveu a perda de genes e a transferência de muitos destes genes para o genoma nuclear do hospedeiro fenômeno semelhante ao mtDNA (deKonin;, Keeling, 2006).

Comumente o cloroplasto desenvolve-se a partir de proplastídeos subdesenvolvidos (progenitor de todos os plastídeos), que contém apenas vesículas, não existindo estruturas diferenciadas. Durante a diferenciação, tilacóides são formados e organizam-se uns sobre os outros, formando estruturas denominadas *grana*. Os tilacóides são membranas internas lipídicas entrelaçadas com complexos de proteínas, que fornecem a plataforma para as reações de fotossíntese (Pribil; Labs; Leister, 2014). O espaço interno do cloroplasto é preenchido por um fluido viscoso denominado estroma onde estão presentes o material genético (DNA), enzimas e ribossomos. Possuem membrana dupla, fruto da origem dos plastídeos (Mota, 2012). Assim como as mitocôndrias, os plastídeos são, em geral, de origem materna (Harrison; Kidner, 2011).

Os plastídeos possuem um genoma próprio, circular e independente do DNA nuclear. O cromossomo plastidial é dividido em quatro segmentos principais, sendo duas regiões invertidas e repetidas (IR) que separam a região grande de cópia única (LSC), onde estão presentes a maioria dos genes plastidiais, e a região curta de cópia única (SSC) (figura 2) (Kolodner; Tewari, 1979).

A organização e a expressão do genoma de plastídeos estão sendo exaustivamente estudados. A estrutura e a sequência do genoma do cloroplasto são notavelmente conservadas em Streptophyta, divisão que compreende as algas verdes da classe Charophyceae e as plantas terrestres (Turmel; Otis; Lemieux, 2006). No entanto, estudos com genomas de cloroplastos de Chlorophyta, revelaram que este padrão não se aplica para este grupo de algas (Turmel;

Otis; Lemieux, 2009; deCambiaire et al., 2007). Por exemplo, as algas verdes Prasinophytes *Nephroselmis olivacea, Pyramimonas parkeae, Prasinoderma coloniale* e *Prasinococcus sp.*, abrigam em seu genoma plastidial genes conservados (*ndhJ*, *rbcR*, *rpl21*, *rps15*, *rps16*, *ycf66*, *rpl22* e *ycf65*) que nunca antes foram descritos para outras Chlorophyta. O genoma do cloroplasto de *N. olivacea* e *P. parkeae* exibe ainda um gene que codifica uma DNA primase, que se supõe ter sido adquirida de um vírus (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014b).

Figura 2 - Estrutura quadripartida do cromossomo plastidial.



Fonte: Motta, 2012.

A Trebouxiophyceae *Leptosira terrestris*, apresenta genoma plastidial circular de 195.081 pb e não possui uma região IR, fato este que se encontra também no genoma do cloroplasto de *Chlorella vulgaris* (150.613 pb) (Wakasugi et al., 1997), *Chlorella sorokiniana* (109.811 pb) (Orsini et al.; 2014) e *Helicosporidium sp.* (37.454 pb) (deKoning; Keeling, 2006). Por mais que estas espécies apresentem conteúdo gênico semelhante, elas diferem significativamente em densidade gênica, ordem dos genes e quantidade de íntrons. As características semelhantes apresentada por *L. terrestris* e seus homólogos em Chlorophyceae sugerem que a mesma força evolutiva gerou a ausência da região IR nessas duas linhagens de algas (deCambiaire et al., 2007).

Existem evidências que as plantas terrestres evoluíram de algas verdes e que durante esta evolução, vários rearranjos ocorreram no genoma dos cloroplastos (Graham, 1996). Portanto, para compreender o processo de evolução do genoma do cloroplasto, informações sobre sequências repetidas, regiões intergênicas e pseudogenes são extremamente úteis (Wakasugi et al., 1997).

O tamanho e a sintenia dos genomas dos plastídeos variam muito entre os grupos de algas (Kim et al., 2014). O genoma do cloroplasto da alga verde *Floydiella terrestris* (Chlorophyceae) com 521.168 pb é o maior genoma de plastídeo já sequenciado, apresentando 97 genes, 26 íntrons e teor A+T de 65,5% (Brouard et al., 2010) (figura 3A).

N. olivacea exibe um genoma plastidial de 200.799 pb e apresenta o maior repertório gênico relatado até o momento para uma Chlorophyta, 128 genes, enquanto que a maioria dos genomas dos cloroplastos de Chlorophyta apresentam um conjunto reduzido de 86 a 88 genes (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014a).

A disponibilidade de dados sobre genomas de organelas em Trebouxiophyceae é ainda limitada (Jeong et al., 2014). Contudo, informações retiradas do *Organelle Genome Resources* do NCBI (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genomes/GenomesHome.cgi?taxid=2759) mostram que atualmente 29 genomas plastidiais de algas verdes Trebouxiophyceae estão disponíveis (tabela 1). Adicionalmente, há pelo menos outros três genomas não inclusos na plataforma do NCBI, os de *Chlorella sp.* ArM0029B, (Jeong et al., 2014), *Prasiolopsis sp.* (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014b), *Prototheca wickerhamii* (Yan et al., 2015), (tabela 2), totalizando-se 32 genomas plastidiais completos sequenciados desta classe de algas verdes.

O conteúdo gênico e número de íntrons de espécies desta classe é bastante diversificado (deCambiaire et al., 2007). Além disto, estes genomas exibem uma variabilidade de tamanhos de 306.152 pb de *Prasiolopsis sp.* (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014b) a 37.454 pb da alga verde parasita não fotossintética *Helicosporidium sp.*, que codifica 26 proteínas, 3 rRNAs e 25 tRNA (figura 3B), carecendo de todos os genes envolvidos com a fotossíntese. Esta última possui apenas um íntron no grupo I do gene tRNALeu (UAA) e espaços intergênicos minúsculos. Ainda assim, a densidade gênica é alta, com apenas 5,1% de DNA não codificante. *Helicosporidium sp.* possui o menor genoma plastidial sequenciado de qualquer Viridiplantae conhecido (deKoning; Keeling, 2006).

A ampla quantidade de informações contida no genoma dos plastídeos tem demonstrado que o material genético desta organela pode ser empregado como uma ferramenta adequada e de valor inestimável para a filogenia molecular (Wang et al., 2013). Análises filogenéticas inferidas a partir do gene nuclear 18S rRNA muitas vezes são incapazes de desvendar as inter-relações das linhagens de algas verdes. Contudo, filogenias com base na análise de genomas plastidiais são bem sucedidas na resolução de questões distintas referentes às relações de algas (Brouard et al., 2010). Além de oferecer um grande

conjunto de genes para análises filogenômicas, os genomas de cloroplastos revelam as características estruturais do genoma para validação das filogenias (Turmel et al., 2008).

Tabela 1 – Exemplares da classe Trebouxiophyceae com genoma plastidial completo sequenciado.

Espécie	Acesso NCBI	Tamanho do genoma (pb)
Auxenochlorella protothecoides	NC_023775	84.576
Botryococcus braunii	NC_025545	172.826
Chlorella sorokiniana	NC_023835	109.811
'Chlorella' mirabilis	NC_025528	167.972
Chlorella variabilis	NC_015359	124.579
Chlorella vulgaris	NC_001865	150.613
Choricystis parasitica	NC_025539	94.206
Coccomyxa sp.	NC_015084	175.731
Diclosteracuatus	NC_025546	169.201
Dictyochloropsis reticulata	NC_025524	289.394
Elliptochloris bilobata	NC_025548	134.677
Fusochloris perforata	NC_025543	148.459
Helicosporidium sp.	NC_008100	37.454
Koliella longiseta	NC_025531	197.094
Leptospira terrestres	NC_009681	195.081
Lobosphaera incisa	NC_025533	156.031
Marvania geminata	NC_025549	108.470
Microthamnion kuetzingianum	NC_025537	158.609
Myrmecia israelensis	NC_025525	146.596
Neocystis brevis	NC_025535	211.747
Pabia signiensis	NC_025529	236.463
Parachlorella kessleri	NC_012978	123.994
Paradoxia multiseta	NC_025540	183.394
Planctonema lauterbornii	NC_025541	114.128
Pseudochloris wilhelmii	NC_025547	109.775
Stichococcus bacillaris	NC_025527	116.952
Trebouxiophyceae sp	NC_018569	149.707
Watanabea reniformis	NC_025526	201.425
Xylochloris irregularis	NC_025534	181.542

Fonte: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genomes/GenomesGroup.cgi?opt=plastid&taxid=3041 modificado pelo autor.

Espécie	Acesso NCBI	Tamanho do genoma (pb)
Chlorella sp. ArM0029B	KF554427.1	119.989
Prasiolopsis sp.	KM462862.1	306.152
Prototheca wickerhamii	KJ001761.1	55.636
Fonte: do autor		

Tabela 2 – Espécies da classe Trebouxiophyceae com genoma plastidial sequenciado não depositado na plataforma Organelle Genome Resources (NCBI).

Fonte: do autor.

Figura 3 - Mapas representativos dos genomas plastidiais das algas verdes Floydiella terrestris (Chlorophyceae) e Helicosporidium sp. (Trebouxiophyceae). (A) F. terrestris apresenta o maior genoma cloroplastidial já sequenciado até o momento, com 521.168 pb (B) contrariamente ao que é observado em Helicosporidium sp., que com 37.454 pb possui o menor genoma de plastídeos já sequenciado do Viridiplantae.





Fonte: Brouard et al.; 2010; deKoning; Keeling, 2006.

В

Em recente estudo, Lemieux, Otis e Turmel (2014b) valeram-se das sequências de aminoácidos de 79 genes codificantes de proteínas de 63 espécies de algas verdes para análises filogenômicas entre as principais linhagens de Trebouxiophyceae.

O sequenciamento completo de genomas plastidiais com tamanho relativamente pequeno (aproximadamente 150 kb) foram tecnicamente possíveis desde meados da década de 1980. Com uso das tecnologias de sequenciamento de nova geração (NGS), o custo e a dificuldade para o sequenciamento de genomas plastidiais foram drasticamente reduzidos o que consequentemente aumentou o número de genomas plastidiais disponíveis (Ruhfel et al., 2014).

Os dados da sequência do genoma dos plastídeos transformaram a sistemática vegetal e contribuíram para visão atual das relações entre plantas (Ruhfel et al., 2014), oferecendo uma riqueza de dados filogeneticamente informativos que são relativamente fáceis de obter e utilizar (Wicke et al., 2007), se tornando uma abordagem valiosa para inferir relações entre os eucariontes fotossintetizantes (Lemieux; Otis; Turmel, 2014b).

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1.3. Análise de genomas mitocondriais como ferramenta filogenética

Mitocôndrias são onipresentes em células eucarióticas e executam um gama de funções celulares essenciais (Douce, 1985). Consideradas a "casa de força" das células, fornecem a energia necessária para as atividades celulares (Hammani; Giege, 2014), mas também estão envolvidas nos processos de sinalização celular, regulação da proliferação celular, diferenciação e sobrevivência (Merrill; Strack, 2014). Nas plantas, além de prover a energia celular e a respiração, estas organelas estão envolvidas em outras vias metabólicas incluindo a assimilação do nitrogênio, fotorrespiração, metabolismo do dióxido de carbono, fotossíntese em plantas C4, metabolismo ácido das crassuláceas, armazenamento de carbono e nitrogênio durante a germinação das sementes (Douce, 1985) e também desempenham um papel na biossíntese de aminoácidos e ácidos graxos (Picault et al., 2004).

Supõe-se que as mitocôndrias originaram-se a partir de um procarioto de vida livre consumidor de oxigênio que por endossimbiose foi capturado por outra célula hospedeira procariótica. Durante a simbiose na célula hospedeira, o genoma mitocondrial de plantas sofreu uma perda massiva de conteúdo gênico, onde parte foi transferido para o núcleo da célula hospedeira, codificando apenas um conjunto parcial dos componentes das membranas de transdução de energia e componentes da maquinaria de expressão gênica (Hammani; Giege, 2014). Um bom exemplo desta perda é o genoma mitocondrial da Streptophyta *Marchantia polymorpha*, o qual carece de alguns tRNAs, proteínas ribossomais e subunidades do complexo succinato-ubiquinona redutase (complexo respiratório II), o que condiz com a hipótese de transferência dos genes mitocondriais para o núcleo ao longo da evolução (Schuster; Brennicke, 1994).

Dois padrões distintos de evolução do mtDNA foram atribuídos as espécies do filo Chlorophyta (Pombert et al., 2006). Os genomas com um padrão ancestral de evolução mantiveram vestígios claros da sua ancestralidade eubacteriana (Gray; Burger; Lang, 1999) com a estrutura do genoma compacta, repertório gênico substancial e sequências gênicas conservadas. Em contraste, o padrão derivado tem sido atribuído aos mtDNA de Chlorophyta que se afastam radicalmente do padrão ancestral, com pouca ou nenhuma evidência dos traços primitivos, apresentando uma perda extensa de genes, gerando um genoma diminuto em tamanho e conteúdo gênico, divergência acentuada no DNA ribossomal e estrutura do rRNA (manifestada no truncamento da sequência e fragmentação dos genes do rRNA) e acelerada taxa de divergência da sequência, tanto em codificação de proteínas e genes do rRNA (Gray; Burger; Lang, 1999; Pombert et al., 2006).

O mtDNA da alga verde Prasinophyceae *Nephroselmis olivacea* (Turmel et al., 1999) e da Trebouxiophyceae *Prototheca wickerhamii* (Wolff et al., 1994) apresentam o padrão ancestral de evolução, enquanto que o mtDNA da Chlorophyceae *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* (Michaelis; Vahrenholz; Pratje, 1990) e da Pedinophyceae *Pedinomonas minor* (Turmel et al., 1999) foram classificados como sendo do padrão derivado (Pombert et al., 2006). Assim, os dados disponíveis apontam para a existência de padrões distintos da evolução do genoma mitocondrial, não só entre Streptophyta e Chlorophyta, mas também dentro do filo Chlorophyta (Turmel et al., 1999).

As mitocôndrias de Streptophyta e Chlorophyta adquiriram características únicas que as diferem do seu ancestral procariótico assim como das mitocôndrias de outros reinos (Hammani; Giege, 2014). Em Chlorophyta o mtDNA sofreu mudanças radicais na estrutura, conteúdo gênico, organização dos genes, quantidade de íntrons e são altamente variáveis em tamanho (Lewis; McCourt, 2004; Pombert et al., 2004).

De acordo com dados do *National Center for Biotechnology Information* (NCBI), até o momento, quarenta genomas de mitocôndrias de Chlorophyta foram sequenciados, sendo sete exemplares da classe Trebouxiophyceae (Organelle Genome Resources) (tabela 3). Além destes, o genoma mitocondrial de *Chlorella sp.* ArM0029B também encontra-se sequenciado, apresentando 65.049 pb de tamanho e depositado na plataforma GenBank do NCBI sobre o número de acesso KF554428.1 (Jeong et al., 2014).

Tabela 3 – Exemplares da classe Trebouxiophyceae com genoma mitocondrial sequenciado.

Espécie	Acesso NCBI	Tamanho do genoma (pb)
Auxenochlorella protothecoides	NC_026009	57.274
Chlorella sorokiniana isolate 1230	NC_024626	52.528
Chlorella variabilis isolate NC64A	NC_025413	78.500
Coccomyxa sp. C-169	NC_015316	65.497
Helicosporidium sp. ex Simulium jonesi	NC_017841	49.343
Prototheca wickerhamii	NC_001613	55.328
Trebouxiophyceae sp. MX-AZ01	NC_018568	74.423

Fonte: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genomes/GenomesGroup.cgi?opt=organelle&taxid=3041 modificado pelo autor.

Estes genomas variam de 78.500 pb de *Chorella variabilis* (NC_025413) à 49.343 pb de *Helicosporidium sp.* (deKoning; Keeling, 2006). O mtDNA de *Chlorella sp.* ArM0029B (figura 4) apresenta o maior repertório gênico descrito até o momento para uma Trebouxiophyceae, com 62 genes estando 18 deles envolvidos no metabolismo oxidativo e apenas 1 íntron dentro do gene *cox1*, o menor número de íntrons descrito até o momento para a classe (Jeong et al., 2014). Contudo, a diferença de tamanho dos genomas não reflete uma capacidade de codificação maior (Turmel et al., 1999). *Chlorella sorokiniana* possui um genoma mitocondrial de 52.528 pb com 58 genes e apresenta uma densidade codificante de 97,4% (Orsini et al., 2014) enquanto o mtDNA de *Chlorella sp.* ArM0029B exibe uma capacidade de codificação de 50,2% (Jeong et al., 2014).





Fonte: Jeong et al., 2014.

Genomas mitocondriais contém um conjunto limitado de genes que codificam proteínas e RNAs (Gray; Burger; Lang, 1999). As mitocôndrias que possuem os componentes clássicos da fosforilação oxidativa, ou seja, os complexos respiratórios I (NADH-ubiquinona redutase), II (succinato-ubiquinona redutase), III (ubiquinol-citocromo *c* redutase) e IV (citocromo *c* oxidase) e ATP sintase F1-F0 (complexo V) que normalmente contém os genes *atp6*, *atp8*, *cob*, *cox1*, *cox2*, *cox3*, *nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5* e *nad6* no mtDNA. No entanto, o mtDNA de vários exemplares da linhagem Chlorophyceae e afins normalmente, não exibem os genes *atp6*, *atp8*, *cox2*, *cox3*, *nad3* e *nad4L* (Fan; Lee, 2002; Denovan-Wright et al., 1998; Vahrenholz, 1993). O sistema de tradução das organelas, pelo qual os mRNA mitocondriais são codificados, também é composto em parte por componentes especificados pelo mtDNA. Em plantas, protistas e na maioria dos fungos, algumas proteínas ribossômicas são codificadas no mtDNA (Gray; Burger; Lang, 1999).

O mtDNA é considerado um marcador molecular útil para análises filogenéticas e identificação de espécies. Recentemente, o mtDNA também tem sido utilizado como DNA *barcoding* para identificação a nível de espécies e populações (Ko et al., 2013).

Nas últimas três décadas, genes individuais do mtDNA, particularmente o gene que codifica uma citocromo c oxidase (cox1), foram utilizados para desvendar as relações filogenéticas (Hajibabaei et al., 2007). Análises tendo como referência um único gene geraram filogenias atualmente aceitas, no entanto, o poder de resolução da análise de um único gene é limitada pelo pequeno conteúdo de informações obtidas, o que no caso particular das mitocôndrias, é ainda mais afetado pelas extremas diferenças na composição gênica e na taxa de divergência da sequência do mtDNA de diferentes linhagens eucarióticas (Gray; Burger; Lang, 1999).

As informações obtidas a partir do sequenciamento do mtDNA completos estão sendo utilizadas por pesquisadores para o desenvolvimento de filogenias. A fim de determinar a posição filogenética de *Chlorokybus atmophyticus*, uma Streptophyta, foi analisado um conjunto de aminoácidos obtidos de dezoito genes que codificam proteínas (*atp4*, *atp6*, *atp8*, *atp9*, *cob*, *cox1*, *cox2*, *cox3*, *mttB*, *nad1*, *nad2*,*nad3*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5*, *nad6*, *rps3* e *rps12*), comuns à dezesseis espécies de algas verdes e plantas terrestres (figura 5) (Turmel; Otis; Lemieux, 2007). Sequências de aminoácidos traduzidas dos genes codificadores de proteínas *cob*, *cox1*, *nad1*, *nad2*, *nad4*, *nad5* e *nad6*, foram aplicados para estudos filogenéticos da alga verde trebouxiophyceae Chlorella sp. ArM0029B (Jeong et al., 2014).

Figura 5 - Posição filogenética *Chlorokybus atmophyticus* dentro do reino Viridiplantae. Análise filogenética embasada nos genes mitocondriais codificadores de proteínas *atp4*, *atp6*, *atp8*, *atp9*, *cob*, *cox1*, *cox2*, *cox3*, *mttB*, *nad1*, *nad2*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5*, *nad6*, *rps3* e *rps12*.



Fonte: Turmel; Otis; Lemieux, 2007.

As sequências codificantes de proteínas e informações do mtDNA podem auxiliar a desvendar relações filogenéticas que sequências de genes nucleares seriam incapazes de resolver. Genomas mitocondriais compreendem um repositório de genes codificadores de proteínas, cuja origem está bem estabelecida e cuja evolução parece acompanhar a do hospedeiro eucarioto. A determinação de uma maior variedade de sequências de genomas mitocôndrias de algas verdes poderá permitir uma reconstrução mais rigorosa de filogenias embasadas em sequências de aminoácidos de genes codificantes de proteínas (Gary; Burger; Lang, 1999).

2. OBJETIVOS

2.1. Objetivo Geral

Este trabalho tem como objetivo determinar a sequência do genoma do cloroplasto e o genoma mitocondrial da alga Antártica *Prasiola crispa* visando inferir as relações evolutivas deste organismo com outras espécies de plantas verdes, além de analisar a estruturas destes genomas acessórios.

2.2. Objetivos Específicos

- Sequenciar, montar e anotar o genoma do cloroplasto de Prasiola crispa;

- Sequenciar, montar e anotar o genoma mitocondrial de Prasiola crispa;

- Com base nas sequencias genômicas realizar uma análise evolutiva (filogenômica) de *Prasiola crispa*;

- Analisar a estrutura dos genomas do clado Prasiola.

3. ARTIGO 1

O artigo intitulado "Draft plastid and mitochondrial genomes from Antarctic algae *Prasiola crispa*" está *no prelo* para publicação no periódico Genome Announcements (ISSN: 2169-8287).



Evelise Leis Carvalho <eveliseleis@gmail.com>

Final Decision made for genomeA00435-15 1 mensagem

asm@msubmit.net <asm@msubmit.net>

17 de abril de 2015 14:11

Responder a: aesplin@asmusa.org, genomeAjournal@gmail.com

Para: eveliseleis@gmail.com

Dear Mrs. Carvalho:

Here is a copy of the decision letter for manuscript "Draft plastid and mitochondrial genomes from Antarctic algae *Prasiola crispa*" by Evelise Carvalho, Gabriel Wallau, Darlene Rangel, Laís Machado, Alexandre Silva, Antonio Pereira, Filipe Victoria, Juliano Boldo, Cháriston Dal Belo, and Paulo Pinto (genomeA00435-15), for which you were a contributing author.

Sincerely, Genome Announcements

Subject: genomeA00435-15 Decision Letter

Dr. Paulo Marcos Pinto Universidade Federal do Pampa Av. Antonio Trilha, 1847 II Piso - Sala 7 São Gabriel, RS 97300000 Brazil

Re: genomeA00435-15 (Draft plastid and mitochondrial genomes from Antarctic

algae Prasiola crispa)

Dear Dr. Pinto:

Your manuscript has been accepted, and I am forwarding it to the ASM Journals Department for publication in Genome Announcements (genomeA). For your reference, ASM Journals' address is given below. Before it can be scheduled for publication, your manuscript must be checked by ASM production staff to make sure that all elements meet the technical requirements for publication. Amber Esplin, assistant production editor for genomeA, will contact you if anything needs to be revised before copyediting and production can begin. Otherwise, you will be notified when your proofs are ready to be viewed.

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Draft Plastid and Mitochondrial Genome Sequences from the Antarctic Alga *Prasiola crispa*

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The organelle genomes of the Antarctic alga *Prasiola crispa* (Lightfoot) Kützing have been sequenced. The plastid and mitochondrial genomes have total lengths of 196,502 bp and 89,819 bp, respectively. These genomes have 21 putative photosynthesisrelated genes and 18 oxidative metabolism-related genes, respectively.

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A ntarctica has attracted considerable interest from biologists interested in understanding the evolutionary adaptation of extremophile organisms (1). *Prasiola* spp. are the best-known Antarctic algae found at many terrestrial and supralittoral sites, representing the most important primary producers (1–3). The species most commonly reported is *Prasiola crispa* (Lightfoot) Kützing. *P. crispa* has several interesting biological features, typically growing on moist soils fertilized by penguin guano (4), and it tolerates repeated thaw cycles in the spring and fall, freezing over winter, and high levels of UV radiation during the summer (5).

The organelle DNA was sequenced by the Macrogen Service Center in a Solexa-Illumina HiSeq 2500 next-generation sequencing device, according to the manufacturer's instructions. A paired-end approach with a read size of ~100 bp was employed. Sequence assembly was performed with the SOAP*denovo2* software version 2.01 (6). All open reading frames (ORFs) were annotated using CpGAVAS (7) and Mitofy (8) for the chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes, respectively.

The *P. crispa* plastid genome (cpDNA) information resides on a single molecule with a total length of 196,502 bp and a G+C content of 29.32%. Compared with other species from the *Prasiola* clade, the genomes of *P. crispa* are among the largest (*Prasiolopsis* sp., 306.1 kb; *Pabia signiensis* T. Friedl & O'Kelly, 236.5 kb; *Koliella longiseta* (Vischer) Hindák, 197.1 kb; *Stichococcus bacillaris* Nägeli, 116.9 kb) (9) or even compared to those of other species close to *Prasiolales*, such as *Chlorella mirabilis* V. M. Andreyeva (168.0 kb) (9). The cpDNA comprises 32 putative coding genes, 27 tRNAs, and 2 rRNAs. Among those, we were able to annotate at least 21 putative protein-coding genes related to photosynthesis, such as photosystems I and II (*ycf3*, *psaB*, *psaC*, *psbA psbB*, *psbC*, *psbD*, *psbE*, *psbH*, *psbL*, *psbN*, and *psbT*).

The *P. crispa* mitochondrial genome (mtDNA) is the first mitochondrial sequenced genome from the *Prasiolales* order. It has a total of 89,819 bp and a G+C content of 29.29%; compared with other species from the *Trebouxiophyceae* class, *P. crispa* has the largest mtDNA (*Trebouxiophyceae* sp., 74.4 kb; *Chlorella* sp. ArM0029B, 65.0 kb; *Oltmannsiellopsis viridis* [P. E. Hargraves & R. L. Steele] M. Chihara & I. Inouye, 56.8 kb; *Prototheca wickerhamii* Tubaki & Soneda, 55.3 kb; and *Chlorella sorokiniana* Shihira & R. W. Krauss, 52.5 kb) (10–14). The *P. crispa* mtDNA genome has the smallest gene content, with only 43 genes, comprising 18 putative protein-coding genes, 22 tRNAs, and 3 rRNAs. All of the annotated protein-coding genes were related to mitochondrial oxidative metabolism, such as mitochondrial respiratory chain complexes I, III, and IV (*nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*, *nad4*, *nad5*, *nad6*, *nad7*, *cobA*, and *cox1*).

These organelle genomes are the first draft genome sequences obtained from Antarctic *Trebouxiophyceae* algae. Mitochondria and chloroplast organelles play a pivotal role in energy metabolism and are great tools for taxonomic analysis in higher plants and algae. The plastid and mitochondrial genome data would be useful for further genetic studies, phylogenetic analysis, and resource protection of *P. crispa* and phylogenetic analysis of *Trebouxiophyceae* green algae.

Nucleotide sequence accession numbers. The cpDNA and mtDNA contig sequences were deposited in GenBank under accession numbers KR017748, KR017749, and KR017750, and KR017746 and KR017747, respectively.

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4. ARTIGO 2

O artigo intitulado como "Evolutionary and structural analyses of accessories genomes from an Antarctic algae *Prasiola crispa*" é um manuscrito que está disposto na forma na qual deverá ser submetido para o periódico BMC Plant Biology (ISSN:1471-2229).

Evolutionary and structural analyses of accessories genomes from an Antarctic algae *Prasiola crispa*

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Abstract

Background

Antarctica is one of the most difficult habitats for sustaining life on earth, organisms that live there can develop different strategies for survival. Within this extremophiles is the green algae *Prasiola crispa*, belonging to class trebouxiophiace. The literature on *P. crispa* taxonomy is rare and leaves many gaps in the evolutionary relationship with closest relatives. A strategy to solve taxonomic problems faithfully is the use of chloroplasts and mitochondrial genomes information. The aim of this study was to analyze and establish the evolutionary and structural patterns of *P. crispa* using plastid and mitochondrial genomes.

Results

Seventy chloroplast genomes and twenty-seven mitochondrial genomes were analyzed for a phylogenomics study. Based on the plastid genome analysis of *P. crispa* grouped with *Prasiolopsis sp.* and *Stichoccus bacillaris* forming the *Prasiola* clade. In the mitochondrial genome analysis *P. crispa* grouped with other trebouxiophician analyzed. The structure of *P. crispa* chloroplast genome has low synteny with *Prasiolopsis sp.* with some conserved genes blocks. The same can be observed in the mitochondrial genome compared to *Coccomixia sp.* In addition, this structure with many rearrangements and low synteny was observed in all analyzed genomes even when used species of the same genus as *Chorella sp.* ArM0029B and *Chlorella vulgaris.*

Conclusions

We can establish the phylogenetic position of *P. crispa* with other species of algae Trebouxiophyceae using accessories genomes. In addition, we describe the plasticity of these genomes by a structural analysis.

The Plastid and Mitochondrial genomes data would be useful for further genetics studies, phylogenetic analysis, and resource protection of *P. crispa* and phylogenetic analysis of Trebouxiophyceae green algae.

Keywords

Prasiola crispa, mitochondrial genome, chloroplast genome, phylogeny, antarctic algae.

Background

With only 0.32% of its surface ice-free, Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, and driest continent. The terrestrial ecosystems and climatic characteristics of the three zones, Sub-Antarctic, Maritime Antarctic and Continental Antarctic are distinctly different. The Continental Antarctic zone is subject to harsher conditions and more extreme temperatures, and is characterized by lower species diversity than the other two zones [1]. Due to its extreme characteristics and limited human impact, Antarctica has attracted considerable interest from biologists. However, logistical difficulties related to sampling and other fieldwork activities has hindered several studies about Antartica biological diversity [2].

In the Antarctic continent, microorganisms including prokaryotes and eukaryotes (fungi, algae, protists) thrive in ice, cold water, even within rocks where they protect themselves from desiccation and UV radiation [3]. Trebouxiophyceaen green algae of the genus *Prasiola* are among the best known Antarctic algae and at many terrestrial and supralittoral sites represent the most important primary producers [1,4,5].

The species most commonly reported is *Prasiola crispa* (Lightfoot) Kützing. This nitrophilic macroalga typically grows on moist soils that are fertilized by bird guano [6]. *P. crispa* is widely distributed in Continental Antarctica (Upper Garwood Valley and Marshall Valley) and Maritime Antarctica (Torgensen I., Sawnders I. and King George I.) [2]. It tolerates repeated freeze/thaw cycles in spring and fall and high levels of UV radiation during summer [7, 8].

The study of accessory organelles genomes can provide a major impact in the fields of evolution, biology and biotechnology [9] and hence can help us to understand which evolutionary processes generated adaptation to extreme environments at the molecular level.

In addition, such genetic information also provides many molecular characters (gene order, nucleotide and amino acid sequences) that can be used for estimating phylogenetic trees and discover the positioning of some species in a broader phylogenetic context [10,11]. The phylogenetic positioning of extremophiles species, as *P. crispa*, is of extreme importance to understand if its adaptations are unique or shared among other close related species. What can indicates when and in which ancestral organisms such adaptations appeared in the evolutionary history of green algae [2].

The chloroplast phylogenomic studies of green algae reported so far have provided valuable insights into the phylogeny of Prasionophytes [12, 13], Streptophytes [14, 15] and Chlorophyceae [16, 17], but only limited informations is currently available regarding the relationships within the Trebouxiophyceae [18].

Complete mitochondrial genomes (mtDNA) have been increasingly used to address phylogenetic questions where multi-gene analyses have been either unresolved or poorly supported [19]. Since next-generation sequencing technologies have become more accessible, many algal genomics researchers have used these techniques to generate sequence data for organellar genomes [9, 20-23]. However, relative to the total number of algae, few mitochondrial and plastid genomes have been sequenced, with many large taxonomic groups unrepresented [9].

Investigations on the taxonomy of Antartic representative of *Prasiola* genus are nonexistent the molecular level in recent literature [2]. In addition, studies on molecular characteristics that are involved in extreme environments adaptations are still lacking. Instigated by those open questions we have studied the evolutionary relationship of *P. crispa* (with organellar genomes recently sequenced by our group) and other Trebouxiophician alga using a chloroplast genome (cpDNA) and mtDNA phylogenomic approach. In addition, we

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performed a structural analysis and evaluated which groups of genes are missing in different green algae clades in order to understand its adaptation to different environments.

Results and Discussion

Species of Trebouxiophyceae and amino acid datasets

Searches in the Organelle Genomes Resouce and NCBI database resulted in an addition of 6 new species with complete chloroplast genomes to the amount of species of Trebouxiophyceae analysed by Limeux et al. 2014. All new analyzed genomes can be seen in Figure 1 (*Auxenochlorella protothecoides* - NC_023775, *Chlorella sorokiniana* -NC_023835, *Chlorella sp.* - KF554427.1, *Coccomyxa sp.* - NC_015084, *Helicosporidium sp.* - NC_008100 and *Prototheca wickerhamii* - KJ001761.1) for chloroplast genomes.

Searches in the Organelle Genomes Resouce database and BLASTn analyses resulted in an addition of 7 species with complete mitochondrial genomes to the amount of species of Trebouxiophyceae analysed by Turmel et al. 2007. All new analyzed genomes can be seen in Figure 2 (*Auxenochlorella protothecoides* - NC_026009, *Chlorella sorokiniana* – NC_024626, *Chlorella sp.* - KF554427.1, *Chlorella variabilis* - NC_025413, *Coccomyxa sp. C-169* - NC_015316, *Helicosporidium sp.* - NC_017841 and *Trebouxiophyceae sp.* - NC_018568) for mitochondrial genomes.

Sevent-nine coding genes were used for the chloroplast phylogenomic analysis that after Gblocks analysis resulted in a final alignment with 14460 amino acids. For the mitochondrial dataset eighteen genes were used resulting in a final alignment 2516 amino acids.

Phylogenetic positioning of P. crispa to other trebouxiophycean algae

Among the new species of Trebouxiophyceae analyzed in this work all 7 species, including *P*. *crispa* (sequenced by our group) and 6 species obtained from NCBI website, has an unknown phylogenetic positioning based on molecular data.

Chloroplast phylogenomic analysis

Overall the phylogenomic analysis presented high branch support all over the tree, with some few exception as: a basal node grouping Prasinophyceae, Pedinophyceae, Trebouxiophyceae, Ulvophycea and Chlorophyceae (aLRT-like = 0.604); the basal positioning of *Parietochloris pseudoalveolaris* in relation to the *Prasiola* clade and *Neocystis brevis* (aLRT-like = 0.716); and the grouping of *Pabia signensis/Kaliella longiseta* and '*Chlorella' mirabilis* (aLRT-like = 0.355) (Figure 1).

Based on the chloroplast phylogenomic analysis, *P. crispa* grouped consistently (aLRT-like branch support of 1) as a sister species of *Prasiolopsis sp.*, a species of the *Prasiola* clade, which includes more four species: *Stichoccus bacillaris*, *Pabia signensis*, *Koliella longiseta* and *'Chlorella' miriabilis* (Figure 1).

Cocoomyxa sp. grouped as a sister species of *Coccomyxa subellipsoidea* also with a high branch support (aLTR-like = 1) inside of the *Choricystis/Botryococcus* clade (Figure 1). The two species from the *Chlorella* genus (*Chlorella sp.* and *Chlorella sorokiniana*) grouped closely to other two *Chlorella* species: *Chlorella vulgaris* and *Chlorella variabilis* (with a high branch support of 1 and 0.995) which belong to the order Chlorellales. However, both *Chlorella sp.* and *C. sorokiniana* branched before the sister species *C. vulgaris/C. variabilis* being the last one that branched first (Figure 1). The last three species (*Auxenochlorella protothecoides*, *Protetheca wickerhamii* and *Heliscosporium sp.*) formed a sister monophyletic group of the clade consisting of *Marvania germinata/Pseudochloris wilhelmii*, the species from the *Chlorella* genus and *Dicloster acuatus/Parachlorella kessleri*, with high branch supports (aLRT-like – 0.918 and 1) (Figure 1). *Heliscosporidium sp.* showed a long branch length suggesting that this species have been evolving under a high evolutionary rate. It is in agreement with the parasitic life stile of this species, once it is know that parasitic species usually have a genome reduction and high evolutionary rates [24]. However, even with this high variability of amino acid sequences, this species still could be confidently positioned in the Trebouxiophyceae tree, since no long branch attraction could be observed in the chloroplast phylogenomic analysis.

Mitochondrial phylogenomic analysis

In addition to the chloroplast phylogenomic analysis we also performed a mitochondrial phylogenomic analysis including 9 Trebouxiophyceae species. In this analysis we also observed a high branch support for most nodes with the exception of the node joining Streptophyta and Prasinophyceae/Ulvophyceae/Trebouxiophyceae clades (aLRT-like = 0.745); the node joining Prasinophyceae, Ulvophyceae and Trebouxiophyceae (aLRT-like = 0.257); and the node supporting *Marchantia polymorpha/Phycomitrella patens/Chara vulgaris* and *Arabidopsis thaliana* (aLRT-like = 0.166).

Even though, a much smaller number of mitochondrial genomes are available for Treboixiophyceae species compared with plastid genomes, we still could reconstruct the phylogenetic positioning of some branches. Overall, our mitochondrial phylogenomic tree (Figure 2) matches well with tree reconstructed plastid tree (Figure 1). All three species from the *Chlorella* genus (*Chlorella sp., Chlorella variabilis* and *Chlorella sorokiniana*) formed a

monophyletic group having as a sister clade *Auxenochlorella protothecoides*, *Protetheca wickerhamii* and *Heliscosporium sp*. Which is the reconstruction of the Chlorella clade observer in the plastid tree (Figure 1). The two most basal lineages comprise *P. crispa* and a clade leading to *Trebouxiophyceae sp*. and *Coccomyxa sp*. All those nodes inside of the Trebouxiophyceae family presented aLTR-like supports higher than 0.900 (Figure 2).

We also established the phylogenetic placing of *Micromonas sp.*. This species formed a monophyletic group with *Nephroselmis olivaceae* another species from the Prasinophyceae class [25].

In addition, we analyzed the phylogenetic positioning of *Neochloris aquatica* regarding the analyzed mitochondrial genomes. This species is considered as belonging to the Chlorophyta phylum and Chlorophyceae class [26]. However, in our analysis this species was placed as an early diverged lineage that branched before the split between Chlorophyta and Streptophyta phylum.

Incongruences between the plastid and mitochondrial analysis

The first and most evident incongruence between the mitochondrial and plastid phylogenomic analysis in the Trebouxiophyceans species. In the plastid tree species from the class Trebouxiophyceae form a paraphyletic clade with the "core Trebouxiophyceans" named by Limeux 2014 forming a monophyletic group and the Trebouxiophyceans from the Chlorellales order forming a basal monophyletic group in respect to the monophyletic group of species from Ulvophyceae/Chlorophyceae/core Trebouxiophyceae classes (Figure 1) [18]. Whereas, in the mitochondrial tree all core Trebouxyophyceans (*Coccomyxa sp.* and *Trebouxiophyceae sp.*) and the Trebouxiophyceae from the Chlorellales order forming a monophyletic group (Figure 2) having *Oltmannsiellopsis viridis*, and Ulvophyceae species as

a basal outgroup. Based on the plastid dataset this species was grouped with the *Pseudendoclonium akinetum* species and several species from the Chlorophyceae class forming a sister clade of the core Trebouxiophyceae class. But in the mitocondrial dataset this species was positioned as a basal lineage of all core Trebouxyophyceae and the Trebouxyophyceae from the Chlorellales order. Such positioning may be due to the low number of mitochondrial genomes from species of the Ulvophyceae class. However, the high branch supports observed in Figure 2 (aLTR-like support = 0.993) suggests that it is a real placing based on the mitochondrial data.

Two species of the Prasinophyceae class also were included in the mitochondrial phylogenomic analysis and were positioned as a sister group of Ulvophyceae/Trebouxiophyceae class which is incongruent with what was observed for the plastid dataset (a basal paraphyletic group). However, such positioning presented a week node support of only 0.257, hindering any other conclusion about this clade.

Incongruences between plastid and mitochondrial phylogenetic analysis is a related phenomenon among species from the Streptophyta phylum [27, 28], however, among Chlorophyta species this is the first phylogenomic work to show such incongruences. Is has been hypothesized that processes can generate such patterns is an interspecific hybridization is a well-established source of phylogenetic incongruence [29], and incongruence is expected when plastid and mitochondrial genomes exhibit contrasting paternal and maternal modes of inheritance. Furthermore, directional differences in the diploid-only organellar topology indicate that homoplasyis not exclusively caused by reticulation/hybridization associated with allopolyploid events, but also by stochastic processes including incomplete lineage sorting via biparental inheritance of organelles and/or parallel identical mutations [28].

Genome structure and organization

The draft plastid genome of *P crispa* encodes 32 putative protein coding genes, 3 oxidative related genes, 2 rRNA and 27 tRNA genes (Table 1). No genes from the oxidative phosphorilation - complex II have been found. However, the draft aspect of the plastid genomes hinder any conclusion about losses of genes or genes complexes. The draft mitochondrial genome presented 18 protein coding genes, 3 rRNA and 22 tRNA genes [30].

In order to understand the gene rearrangement that took place during the evolutionary history of plastid and mitochondrial genomes of *P. crispa* and related species we performed syntheny analysis and placed it an evolutionary context (Figure 3 and 4).

Regarding to the chloroplast syntheny analysis we can observe a low syntheny between *Prasiolopsis sp.* and *P. crispa*. However, some conserved blocks still can be detected in the 5' (*psbE, mind and fstH* genes), in the middle (*tufA* gene) and 3' (*infA, rps8, rpl5, rpl14, rpl16, rps3, rps19, rpl2, rpl23* genes) portion of the *P. crispa* plastid genome. In addition, we also can observe three major inversions in blue involving the block of genes *chlN, chlB, psbK, ycf12* and *psaM; atpB* and *atpE*; and *rpoB, rpoC1, rpoC2*.

In a broader phylogenetic context, we could observe a very conserved synthenic pattern between '*Chlorella' miriabilis, Pabia signensis* and *Koliella longiseta*. These synthenic blocks match perfectly with the phylogenetic relationship of those species (Figure 3). In addition, we can observe that two major inversions (in the middle and 3' region of the genome) can be detected between '*Chlorella' miriabilis* and *Koliella longiseta/Pabia signiensis* clade and only one inversion between *Koliella longiseta* and *Pabia signiensis*. cpDNAs in most land plants share a highly conserved gene content and similar gene orders [31]. Most cpDNAs include two identical regions in opposite orientations called the inverted repeat (IR), flanked by large single copy (LSC) and small single copy (SSC) regions. The IRs generally contain the bacterial-like rRNA gene clusters, and the genes involved in photosynthesis (photosystem I/II, cytochrome b_6f , and ATP synthase) are arranged similarly in chloroplast and cyanobacterial genomes [32-34].

Photosynthesis-related	
Photosystem I	psaB, psaC, ycf3
Photosystem II	psbC, psbD, psbE, psbH, psbL, psbN, psbT, psbB, psbA,
	psbM
Cytochrome b ₆ f complex	petA, petB, petD
ATP synthase	atpA, atpB, atpH, atpI
Calvin cycle	rbcL
Ribosomal proteins	
Large subunit	rp114, rp116, rp136
Small subunit	rps12, rps19
RNA polymerases	rpoB, rpoC1, rpoC2
Others	accD, clpP, ccsA
Hypothetical proteins	
rRNAs	rrn16S, rrn23S
tRNAs	trnC-GCA, trnfM-CAT, trnG-TCC, trnH-GTG, trnI-CAT,
	trnI-GAT, trnL-CAA, trnM-CAT, trnN-GTT, trnP-TGG,
	trnQ-TTG, trnR-ACG, trnS-GCT, trnT-TGT, trnV-CAC,
	trnW-CCA, trnV-TAC, trnA-TGC, trnD-GTC, trnF-GAA,
	trnK-TTT, trnL-TAA, trnG-GCC, trnS-TGA, trnL-TAG,
	trnY-GTA, trnR-TCT
Oxidative metabolism-related	
NADH: ubiquinone oxidoreductase	nad1, nad2, nad3, nad4, nad4L, nad5, nad6, nad7
(complex I)	
Cytochrome bc_1 complex (complex	cob_a, cob_b
III)	
Cytochrome <i>c</i> oxidase (complex IV)	cox1_0_a, cox1_0_b, cox1_1_a, cox1_1_b
ATP synthase	atp1, apt6, atp8, atp9
rRNAs	rrnL, rrnS, rrnS
tRNAs	trnR-ACG, trnN-GTT, trnQ-TTG, trnF-GAA, trnD-GTC,
	trnE-TTC, trnG-TCC, trnH-GTG, trnL-TAA, trnK-TTT,
	trnM-CAT, trnF-AAA, trnP-TGG, trnS-GCT, trnT-TGT,
	trnV-TAC, trnA-TGC, trnC-GCA, trnL-TAG, trnM-CAT,
	trnS-TGA, trnW-CCA

Table 1 Genes identified in the chloroplast and mitochondrial genome of Prasiola crispa

Despite these well-characterized patterns, it is unknown to what extent the conserved gene order reflects a slow intrinsic rate of neutral chromosomal rearrangements, rather than selection against alternative gene orders [35].

Whereas gene order is generally conserved among land plant cpDNAs, very little synteny is observed between this group and cpDNAs of the chlorophytic green algae *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* [36, 37] and *Chlorella vulgaris* [38]. Jeong et al., (2014) describes in cp genomes of different *Chlorella* species many conserved gene clusters in comparison with one Pedinomonadales and two Chlorellales species. However, the gene order of "*trnC-rpoB-rpoC1-rpoC2-rbcL-rps14*" is well conserved among the four analysed *Chlorella* species but not in related species *Coccomyxa* sp. and *Trebouxiophyceae* sp., suggesting that the gene order is well conserved and may be specific to *Chlorella* species. Other phenomenon described in *Chlorella* species is two genes overlapping, that occurs frequently in the genomes of viruses, prokaryotes, mitochondria, and eukaryotes, including humans [9].

Our results highlight the very dynamic plastid genome of *P. crispa* and its related species (*Prasiolopsis sp.* and *Stichococcus bacillaris*) when compared with *Pabia signensis/Koliella* longiseta/'Chlorella' mirabilis clade. It suggests that the ancestral of those species presented a stable cpDNA genome in terms of gene order and in the ancestral lineage leading to *P. crispa/S. bacillaris* and *Prasiolopsis sp.* several genome arrangements took place and are still happening after the split of those species.

For the mitochondrial genomes we have found only minor regions of synthenic blocks comparing *P. crispa* and *Coccomyxa sp.* species (Figure 4). Those region comprises the genes *rrnL* and *cox1* and an inversion of the gene *rrnS*. Moreover, well conserved synthenic blocks can be seen between *Coccomyxa sp.* and *Trebouxiophyceae sp.* and among all species from the Chlorellales order (Figure 4). The only comparison that resulted in only one small

synthenic block was between *Helicosporidium sp.* and *Trebouxiophyceae sp.* what is in agreement with the phylogenetic positioning of such species (Figure 1 and 2) and with the mtDNA genome reduction in the first species.

Based on the low levels of gene order conservation in other green algal mitochondrial genomes, we might expect to see few blocks of conservation between mtDNA analyzed. This close resemblances probably is best explained by a recent split between these two species. In the Chlorophyceae, the gene-poor mtDNAs of *Chlorogonium* and *C. eugametos* also display an appreciable level of synteny, with 8 of their 12 genes (66%) being located in shared clusters, although this percentage is still lower than that observed between *Helicosporidium sp.* and *Prototheca* mtDNAs (75%) [39]. Our data is incongruent with Pombert et al., (2010) describing surprisingly high level of similarity between *Helicosporidium* and *Prototheca* mtDNA [39]. The first mitochondrial sequenced genome from the Prasiolales order, *P. crispa* mtDNA [30], as expected to green algae, has few conserved blocks.

Conclusion

In the present work we established the phylogenetic positioning of *P. crispa* as a sister species of *Pransiolopsis sp.* In addition, we also established the phylogenetic positioning of other Trebouxiphycean algae based on a phylogenomic cpDNA analysis and compared it with the mtDNA tree. Several incongruences emerged, but future studies will be necessary on the biology of these algae species in order to understand the source of such incongruences. Moreover, we observed that *P. crispa* accessory genomes are very plastic with several inversions and rearrangements what is in agreement with other findings of Trebouxiophyceans accessory genomes.

Methods

Chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes

Most of mitochondrial and chloroplast genomes sequences were obtained from Turmel et al. 2007 and Lemieux et al. 2014, respectively [18, 40].

In order to include as many as Trebouxoiphyceae genomes available we performed three types of searches at the NCBI website. A text based search using the string "Chloroplast genome" AND "Trebouxiophyceae" in the nucleotide databank of NCBI. A "Browse by Organism" search in the Genome resources (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/) of the NCBI. And a BLASTn [41] search with default parameter using the *P. crispa* contigs against the non-redundant database.

For the accession numbers and the description from which search approach each genome was obtained see Additional files 1 and 2.

Phylogenomic analyses

The phylogenomic analysis was performed with 79 chloroplast coding genes and 18 mitochondrial coding genes. Those genes were aligned individually using Mafft v. 7.220 [42] with default parameters. Following, each alignment were computationally edited using Gblocks v. 0.91 [43] with the "Allowed gap positions" set up with "With Half" option. All genes were concatenated with Phyutility 2.2.6 [44].

The phylogenetic reconstruction was performed by maximum likelihood using PhyML 3.0 [45] webserver (http://www.atgc-montpellier.fr/phyml/). The amino acid substitution model used were the CpREV+G and LG+I+G for the mitochondrial and plastid dataset as suggested

by AIC and BIC parameter of Prottest 2.4 [46]. The branch support was evaluated by the aLRT SH-like method, a fast likelihood-based method described by Anisimova 2006 [47].

Comparative analysis of organelle genomes

Syntheny analysis of the *P. crispa* accessories genomes and close related ones based on the reconstructed trees where performed with BLASTn with default parameters. Then the Artemis Comparison Tool (ACT) was used to plot the synthenic blocks with more than 100 bp in size and its corresponding annotation.

Abbreviations

cpDNA, chloroplast genome; mtDNA, mitochondrial genome; NCBI, National Cent r for Biotechnology Information; ACT, Artemis Comparison Tool.

Competing interests

The authors declare they have no competing interests.

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Figures

Figure 1 Phylogenomic analysis of 70 chlorophytes clhoroplast genomes using 14469 amino acid positions from 79 cpDNA-encoded proteins. The tree presented was reconstructed using a ML approach under the LG+I+G amino acid substitution model. Branch support values were estimated (over each branch) using the approximate likelehhod ratio test (aLRT). Bars at the right side of the figure represents the taxonomic levels quoted in the text. ¹ Species obtained in the Organelle genome database (NCBI).

Figure 2 Phylogenomic analysis of 27 mitochondrial genomes encompassing all 8 chlorophyte mtDNA genomes available. The tree presented was reconstructed using a ML approach under the LG+Gamino acid substitution model using 2277 amino acid positions from 18 mtDNA-encoded proteins. Branch support values were estimated (over each branch) using the approximate likelehhod ratio test (aLRT). Bars at the right side of the figure represents the taxonomic levels quoted in the text. ¹ Species obtained in the Organelle genome database (NCBI); ² Species obtained by blast using the *P. crispa* contigs as query.

Figure 3 Chloroplast synteny blocks analysis performed using blastn with default parameters and Artemis ACT software. Only regions with => 100bp were showed. Red and blue traces connectioning cpDNA genomes represents synteny blocks in one or other strand.

Figure 4 Mitochondrial synteny blocks analysis performed using blastn with default parameters and Artemis ACT software. Only regions with => 100bp were showed. Red and blue traces connectioning mtDNA genomes represents synteny blocks in one or other strand.



Figure 1





0.3



Figure 4



Additional files

Additional files 1. Numbers and the description of cpDNA genomes found using different search approach.

Species Chloroplast Genome	Acess number NCBI
Auxenochlorella protothecoides ¹	NC_023775
Botryococcus braunii SAG 807-12	KM462884
Chlamydomonas moewusii ²	EF587443 - EF587503
Chlamydomonas reinhardtii ²	NC_005353
'Chlorella' mirabilis SAG 38.88 ²	KM462865
Chlorella sorokiniana ¹	NC_023835
Chlorella sp. ArM0029B ¹	KF554427.1
Chlorella variabilis NC64A ²	NC_015359
Chlorella vulgaris C-27 ²	NC_001865
Chlorokybus atmophyticus ²	NC_008822
Choricystis minor SAG 17.98 ²	KM462878
Coccomyxa sp. ¹	NC_015084
Coccomyxa subellipsoidea NIES 216 ²	NC_015084
Dicloster acuatus SAG 41.98 ²	KM462885
Dictyochloropsis reticulata SAG 2150 ²	KM462860
Dunaliella salina ²	NC_016732
Elliptochloris bilobata CAUP H7103 ²	KM462887
Floydiella terrestris ²	NC_014346
Fusochloris perforata SAG 28.85 ²	KM462882
Helicosporidium sp. ¹	NC_008100
Geminella minor SAG 22.88 ²	KM462883
Geminella terricola SAG 20.91 ²	KM462881
Gloeotilopsis sterilis UTEX 1704 ²	KM462877
Koliella longiseta UTEX 339 ²	KM462868
'Koliella' corcontica SAG 24.84 ²	KM462874
Leptosira terrestris UTEX 333 ²	NC_009681
Lobosphaera incisa SAG 2007 ²	KM462871
Marsupiomonas sp. NIES 1824 ²	KM462870
Marvania geminata SAG 12.88 ²	KM462888
Mesostigma viride ²	NC_002186
Micromonas sp. RCC 299 ²	NC_012575
Microthamnion kuetzingianum UTEX 318 ²	KM462876
Monomastix sp. OKE-1 ²	NC_012101
Myrmecia israelensis UTEX 1181 ²	KM462861
Neocystis brevis CAUP D802 ²	KM462873
Nephroselmis astigmatica ²	KJ746600
Nephroselmis olivacea ²	NC_000927
Oedogonium cardiacum ²	NC_011031
Oltmannsiellopsis viridis ²	NC_008099
Oocystis solitaria SAG 83.80 ²	FJ968739
Ostreococcus tauri ²	NC_008289
Pabia signiensis SAG 7.90 ²	KM462866
Parachlorella kessleri SAG 211-11 ²	NC_012978

Paradoxia multiseta SAG 18.84 ²	NC_025540
Parietochloris pseudoalveolaris UTEX 975 ²	KM462869
Pedinomonas minor UTEX LB 1350 ²	NC_016733
Picocystis salinarum ²	KJ746599
Planctonema lauterbornii SAG 68.94 ²	KM462880
Pleurastrosarcina brevispinosa UTEX 1176 ²	KM462875
Prasinococcus sp. CCMP 1194 ²	KJ746597
Prasinoderma coloniale CCMP 1220 ²	KJ746598
Prasinophyceae sp. CCMP1205 ²	KJ746601
Prasinophyceae sp. MBIC 106222 ²	KJ746602
Prasiola crispa	KR017748, KR017749,
-	KR011750
Prasiolopsis sp. SAG 84.81 ²	KM462862
Prasiolopsis sp. SAG 84.81 ²	KM462862
Prototheca wickerhamii ¹	KJ001761.1
Pseudendoclonium akinetum ²	NC_008114
Pseudochloris wilhelmii SAG 1.80 ²	KM462886
Pycnococcus provasolii ²	NC_012097
Pyramimonas parkeae ²	NC_012099
Scenedesmus obliquus (Acutodesmus obliquus) ²	NC_008101
Schizomeris leibleinii ²	NC_015645
Stichococcus bacillaris UTEX 176 ²	KM462864
Stigeoclonium helveticum ²	NC_008372
Trebouxia aggregata SAG 219-1D ²	EU123962, EU124002
Trebouxiophyceae sp. MX-AZ01 ²	NC_018569
Volvox carteri f. nagariensis ²	GU084820
Watanabea reniformis SAG 211-9b ²	KM462863
Xylochloris irregularis CAUP H7801 ²	KM462872

¹Species obtained in the Organelle genome database (NCBI) ²Species obtained Lemieux et al. 2014. Additional files 2. Numbers and the description of mtDNA genomes found using different search approach genome.

Species Mitochondrial Genome	Acess number NCBI
Auxenochlorella protothecoides ¹	NC_026009
Chlorella variabilis ¹	NC_025413
Coccomyxa sp. C-169 ¹	NC_015316
Helicosporidium sp ¹	NC_017841
Neochloris aquatica ¹	NC_024761
Trebouxiophyceae sp ¹	NC_018568
Andalucia godoyi ²	NC_021124.1
Chlorella sorokiniana ²	KM241869.1
Chlorella sp. ArM0029B ²	KF554428.1
Colpomenia peregrina ²	NC_025302.1
Micromonas sp.RCC 299 ²	FJ859351.1
Phytophthora andina ²	NC_015619.1
Phytophthora ipomoeae ²	NC_015622.1
Reclinomonas americana ²	NC_001823.1
Arabidopsis thaliana ³	NC_001284
Chaetosphaeridium globosum ³	NC_004118
Chara vulgaris ³	NC_005255
Chlorokybus atmophyticus ³	EF463011
Chondrus crispus ³	NC_001677
Cyanidioschyzon merolae ³	NC_000887
Marchantia polymorpha ³	NC_001660
Nephroselmis olivacea ³	NC_008239
Oltmannsiellopsis viridis ³	NC_008256
Physcomitrella patens ³	NC_007945
Porphyra purpurea ³	NC_002007
Prototheca wickerhamii ³	NC_001613
Prasiola crispa	KR017746, KR017747
Cussies abtained in the Oreanella and	Intel and (NCDI)

¹Species obtained in the Organelle genome database (NCBI).

²Species obtained in the organistic generative genera

5. CONSIDERAÇÕES FINAIS

Considerando os dados obtidos no presente estudo pode-se concluir que os genomas de organelas fornecem uma riqueza de dados filogeneticamente informativos, tornando-os uma abordagem valiosa para embasar estudos filogenômicos. Contudo, a determinação de uma maior variedade de sequências de genomas mitocondriais de algas verdes poderá permitir uma reconstrução mais rigorosa das relações taxonômicas destes organismos. Os genomas plastidiais da maioria das plantas terrestres compartilham genes conservados, ordem e conteúdo gênico semelhantes, fato este que não foi observado em nosso estudo, visto que a baixa sintenia observada entre os genomas plastidiais do clado Prasiola não condiz com o encontrado em plantas terrestres. Os dados gerados a partir do sequenciamento dos genomas acessórios da alga Antártica *P. crispa* fornecem um aporte para estudos futuros mais aprofundados.

6. PERSPECTIVAS FUTURAS

- Gerar mais sequências dos genomas das organelas na tentativa de fechar os *gaps* entre os *contigs* de cpDNA e mtDNA.

- Após o fechamento do genoma, reanotaremos os genomas para confirmar a atual anotação e buscar possíveis novos genes.

- Realizar uma análise e categorização funcional dos genes pertecentes ao cpDNA e mtDNA de *P. crispa*.

- Sequenciar o genoma nuclear de *P. crispa*, em busca de genes relacionados com o metabolismo oxidativo e fotossistemas que possam ter sido transferidos durante a endossimbiose.

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