

植物蔗糖合酶研究进展

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摘要: 蔗糖合酶是一种糖基转移酶, 以基因家族形式广泛存在于植物中。由于蔗糖合酶家族各同源基因的时空表达模式不同, 其生物学功能呈多样化。蔗糖合酶主要功能可为纤维素、胼胝质和淀粉等多糖生物合成提供底物尿苷二磷酸葡萄糖(UDPG)和间接底物腺苷二磷酸葡萄糖(ADPG), 故在植物碳源分配中起关键调控作用, 并影响相关重要农艺性状和非生物逆境响应。本文拟从其结构特征、生化功能和生物学特性等方面介绍蔗糖合酶近期研究进展, 并初步提出了此类基因在植物遗传改良中的利用。

关键词: 蔗糖合酶; 碳源分配; 遗传改良; 植物抗逆

植物光合细胞光合作用碳同化的过程中, 叶绿体中固定的碳源和能量介质为磷酸丙糖, 而后转运到胞质中, 再由蔗糖磷酸合酶和蔗糖磷酸酶催化产生光合产物蔗糖。蔗糖是葡萄糖和果糖以糖苷键聚合而成的双糖, 性状稳定。蔗糖作为最初的能量和碳源供体经由韧皮部源源不断地向其它器官尤其合成代谢活跃的库器官运输, 例如植物的果实或种子、块茎等(Geigenberger和Stitt 2000; Rolland等2006)。同时, 蔗糖也可作为一种信号分子, 调节细胞的生长和发育(Eveland和Jackson 2012)。但是, 运输到库端的蔗糖并不能被细胞直接利用, 需要进一步被分解。植物中具备蔗糖分解功能的酶有两类, 分别为蔗糖合酶(sucrose synthase, SUS, 也简称SuSy/SS等, EC2.4.1.13)和转化酶(invertase, INV, EC3.2.1.26)。前者催化蔗糖和尿苷二磷酸(uridine diphosphate, UDP)产生尿苷二磷酸葡萄糖(uridine diphosphate glucose, UDPG)和果糖, 反应可逆, 后者直接将蔗糖水解为葡萄糖和果糖(Koch 2004; Rolland等2006)。INV和SUS都存在于细胞质基质中, 而SUS也广泛存在于膜系统和细胞壁, 其亚细胞定位的不同可能是导致SUS和INV调控的代谢过程不同的原因(Stein和Granot 2019)。SUS参与植物体内多个代谢过程, 包括蔗糖的运输和分配、淀粉合成、纤维素合成及细胞壁的组成、生物及非生物逆境等(Weber等2005; Fallahi等2008; Ruan等2010; Brill等2011)。近年来, 许多植物物种的SUS基因陆续被鉴定出来, SUS的功能有了新的

验证, 本文综述了植物SUS生化特点、基因分类以及生物学功能方面的研究进展。

1 SUS的生化特点

1.1 酶蛋白大小和酶活性

SUS是一种糖基转移酶, 属于糖基转移酶-4亚家族(Schmolzer等2016), 在小麦(*Triticum aestivum*)胚芽中首次被鉴定(Cardini等1955)。随后几十年的研究发现, 这种酶广泛存在于植物体内。一般植物体内同时存在2种以上的同工酶, 且同工酶之间的序列同源性较高, 生化特征相似。在绿豆(*Vigna radiata*)苗、水稻(*Oryza sativa*)种子、玉米(*Zea mays*)胚乳、大豆(*Glycine max*)和桃子(*Amygdalus persica*)等中都分别纯化得到了SUS, 每个蛋白以四聚体的形式存在。每个亚基分子量在90 kDa左右。基因大小一般为5.9 kb, cDNA大小为2.7 kb左右。编码氨基酸序列全长约800个氨基酸残基(Ross和Davies 1992)。

SUS催化可逆的反应: 尿苷二磷酸(UDP)+蔗糖 \longleftrightarrow 尿苷二磷酸葡萄糖(UDP-Glc)+果糖。蔗糖合成方向的最适pH为7.5~9.5, 蔗糖分解反应方向最适pH为5.5~7.5, 但一般认为它在植物体内主要

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起到蔗糖分解的作用(Schmolzer等2016)。SUS的底物除最适底物UDP之外,还有其它核苷二磷酸,如腺苷二磷酸(adenine diphosphate, ADP)、脱氧胸苷二磷酸(deoxythymidine diphosphate, dTDP)、胞苷二磷酸(cytidine diphosphate, CDP)和鸟苷二磷酸(guanine diphosphate, GDP),但对各底物的亲和力不同,亲和力大小依次为UDP>ADP>dTDP>CDP>GDP (Moriguchi和Yamaki 1988; Römer等2004)。SUS活性受多种物质影响,其中葡萄糖对SUS正反两个方向的活性都存在抑制(Loef等1999)。另外,体外实验发现SUS还需要Mg²⁺存在才能发挥活性。同时,其它金属离子如Cu²⁺等会抑制SUS (Pontis等1981; Elling 1995)。

SUS在植物细胞中主要以两种形式存在,绝大部分以可溶的形式存在于胞质中(s-SUS);另外一部分与质膜、高尔基体和液泡膜等膜系统紧密结合(m-SUS) (Amor等1995; Carlson和Chourey 1996; Winter等1997; Zhang等1999)。虽然SUS不是跨膜蛋白,但其与膜结合相当紧密,需要用去污剂或蛋白变性剂才能分离。现在认为膜结合的SUS并不是由某个或某些SUS基因专门负责编码产生的,早期都以s-SUS的形式存在于胞质中,由于磷酸化修饰转移到细胞膜形成m-SUS(Cai等2011; Hardin等2004)。除此之外,在棉花(*Gossypium* spp)和烟草(*Nicotiana tabacum*)中还发现SUS存在于细胞壁中(Salnikov等2001; Persia等2008; Brill等2011)。参与棉纤维细胞发育的SUS蛋白是由一个SUS基因专门负责编码的,这个*GhSUS3*分布在棉纤维细胞质外体,在棉花次生壁合成过程特异性表达。但是结构分析发现该基因结构与其它同源基因存在较大差异,与膜结合位点没有相应的磷酸化位点(Brill等2011)。

1.2 SUS的磷酸化修饰

植物各个组织中的SUS都存在不同程度的磷酸化修饰。玉米叶片中SUS的Ser-15和Ser-170两个保守位点存在磷酸化,该磷酸化由Ca²⁺依赖蛋白激酶催化(Huber等1996)。研究表明,磷酸化可能与SUS的活性调节和细胞内定位有关(Huber等1996; Winter等1997; Winter和Huber 2000)。缺氧逆境下,大多数的SUS以去磷酸化的形式存在,这可能是导

致其向膜方向移动的原因(Subbaiah和Sachs 2001)。在大豆中也发现,与可溶形式的SUS相比,膜结合形式的SUS在Ser-11 (与玉米SUS1中Ser15位点对应)的磷酸化程度明显要低一些(Komina等2002)。

研究发现SUS的分解方向活性而非合成方向活性会受到磷酸化影响。玉米叶片中SUS蛋白Ser-15位磷酸化影响了蛋白质氨基末端的构象,进而使酶的分解活性增加(Hardin等2004)。已有的研究还发现Ser-15的磷酸化改变了SUS的酶动力学性质,磷酸化后,酶与底物(Suc/UDP)的结合力增强,从而改变了蔗糖分解方向的酶活性(Duncan等2006)。Hardin等(2004)研究发现,在玉米SUS的Ser-15位点被完全磷酸化时,其催化蔗糖分解活性更高。

2 植物中SUS基因家族

SUS基因普遍存在于植物中,从目前已鉴定的各个物种来看,多数植物中SUS以较小的基因家族的形式存在,同源基因数目多在5~7个之间(图1)。例如,在葡萄(*Vitis vinifera*)和甘蔗(*Saccharum officinarum*)中鉴定了5个(Zhang等2013; Zhu等2017),拟南芥(*Arabidopsis thaliana*, Baud等2004)、水稻(Hirose等2008)和巴西橡胶树(*Hevea brasiliensis*, Xiao等2014)中均含有6个同源基因,杨树(*Populus*)、亚洲棉(*Gossypium arboreum*, Chen等2012)、竹子(*Bambusa emeiensis*, Huang等2018)中则鉴定了7个同源基因。而在苹果(*Malus domestica*)、烟草(*Nicotiana tabacum*)、毛果杨(*Populus trichocarpa*)以及白梨(*Pyrus bretschneideri*)中同源基因更多,分别是11、14、15和30个(An等2014; Wang等2015; Tong等2018; Abdulla等2018)。

通过使用ClustalX对来自于18个物种共98个同源蛋白氨基酸序列进行比对分析,利用MEGA 7.0软件依照Neighbor-Joining算法对比对结果进行进化树分析,将植物中的SUS分为3个亚家族,分别命名为SUSI (包括Monocot SUS和Dicot SUS)、SUSII和SUSIII (图1),与之前的研究一致(Wang等2015; Zhang等2015; Zhu等2017; Stein和Granot 2019)。SUSI的Monocot和Dicot组中分别为单子叶和双子叶SUS,而SUSII和SUSIII中除了水稻(*Os-*

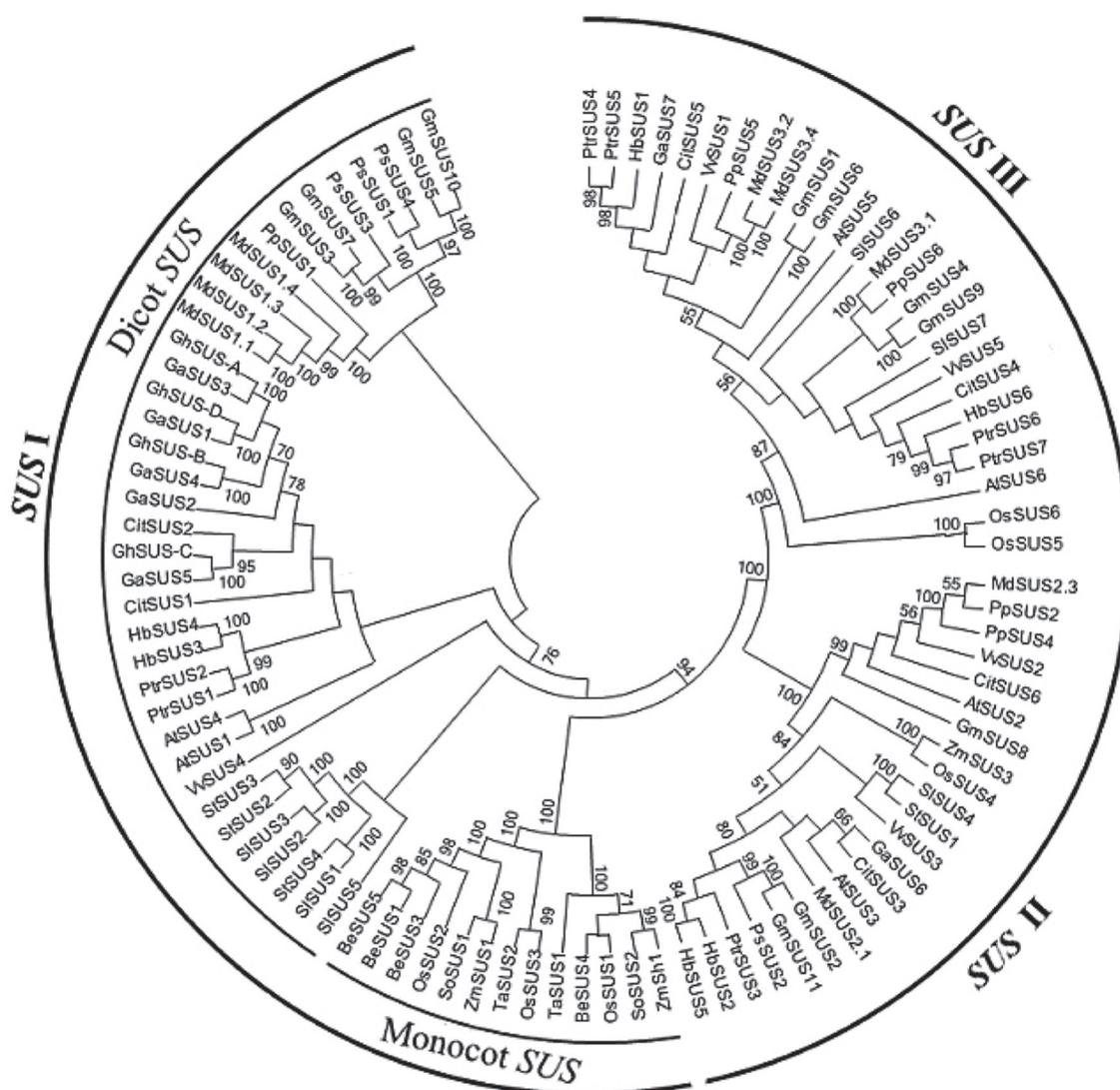


图1 不同植物SUS蛋白同源物的系统发育分析

Fig.1 Phylogenetic analysis of sucrose synthases (SUS) in plants

各物种SUS氨基酸序列来源于NCBI数据库。拟南芥: AtSUS1~AtSUS6 (AT5G20830、AT5G49190、AT4G02280、AT3G43190、AT5G37180、AT1G73370); 水稻: OsSUS1~OsSUS6 (HQ895719~HQ895725); 玉米: ZmSUS1~ZmSUS3、ZmSh1 (NP_001105411.1、NP_001105323.1、AY124703、AFW85479.1); 甘蔗: SoSUS1~2 (JX416283、AF263384); 高粱: SbSUS1~4 (XM002465116、FJ513325、XM002453052、XM002465258); 小麦: TaSUS1~TaSUS2 (AJ001117.1、AJ000153.1); 亚洲棉: GaSUS1~7 (JQ995522~JQ995528); 马铃薯: StSUS1~StSUS4 (AY205302.1、AY205084.1、U24088.1、AJ537575.1); 西红柿 SISUS1~SISUS4 (L19762.1、AJ011319.1、HM180942.1、HM180943.1); 蜜柑葡萄柚(Citrus) CitSUS1~CitSUS6和CitSUSA (CS4G06850.1、CS4G06900.1、CS5G33470.1、CS5G16700.1、CS6G15930.1、CS9G03980.1、AB022091.1); 柳枝稷: PvSUS1、PvSUS2、PvSUS4、PvSUS6 (AAN76498.1、ACP17902.1、AIO11846.1、AIO11847.1); 杨树: PtrSUS1~7 (ADR81996.1、ADR81997.1、ADR81998.1、ADR81999.1、ADV71187.1、ADV71188.1、ADV71189.1); 巴西橡胶树: HbSUS1~6 (AGM14946.1、AGM14947.1、AGM14948.1、AGM14949.1、AGM14950.1、AGM14951.1); 大豆: GmSUS1~11 (Z12632.1~Z12640.1、Z18059.1、CM000852.3); 豌豆: PsSUS1~4 (AJ012080.1、AJ001071.1、AJ311496.1、AF079851.1); 苹果: MdSUS1.1~3.4 (XM_008340067.1、XM_008393559.1、XM_008384702.1、XM_008339589.1、XM_008352962.1、XM_008352963.1、XM_008388452.1、XM_008348668.1、XM_008383171.1.); 陆地棉: GhSUSA~D; 竹子: BeSUS1.3.4.5; 葡萄: VvSUS1~5 (XM_002271860.1、XM_002271494.1、XM_002275119.1、XM_010650590.2、XM_010657781.2); 桃子: PpSUS1~6 (JQ412752、KJ493331~KJ493335)。

SUS4~6)和玉米(*ZmSUS3*),主要为双子叶植物的*SUS*基因。

同一物种内*SUS*基因所行使的功能不同及组织特异性可能与基因结构的差别有关。通过对水稻*OsSUS*基因结构的分析,发现*OsSUS1*有14个外显子,*OsSUS2~4*有15个。而*OsSUS5*和*OsSUS6*的结构较为特别,相比于*OsSUS2~4*,*OsSUS5*多出2个外显子,*OsSUS6*中有3对发生了合并,且最后1个外显子片段加长,导致这两个基因编码蛋白分子量增大。*OsSUS1~4*之间的相似度在68%和89%之间不等,*OsSUS5*、*OsSUS6*与另外4个基因相似度较低,但二者之间相似度达到77%。有趣的是只有*SUS1*和*SUS4*处于同一条染色体上,其它4个基因各占一条染色体(Hirose等2008)。水稻中,*OsSUS1*、*OsSUS2*和*OsSUS3*属于单子叶*SUSI*,*OsSUS4*属于*SUSII*,*OsSUS5*和*OsSUS6*编入*SUSIII*。

3 *SUS*的生物学功能

3.1 参与纤维素和胼胝质合成

*SUS*与纤维素合成方面的研究在棉花中最为深入。早期Ruan和Chourey (1998)的研究发现,正常情况下,开花当天胚珠表皮上会出现典型的芽状凸起,在此基础上进行后续的棉纤维细胞分化和纤维合成。但在无纤维突变体(*fls*)的棉花胚珠表面却没有这样的凸起。与之相对应的是,在突变体胚珠中也没有检测到*SUS* mRNA和蛋白,即使是在正常的棉花中,只有*SUS*有较高表达的胚珠表皮细胞才会进一步产生棉纤维。这些证据初步表明*SUS*可能在棉纤维细胞分化和纤维素合成过程中起作用。

Amor等(1995)发现,棉纤维细胞中,至少有50%的*SUS*与细胞膜紧密结合,分离得到的棉纤维组织可以在体外利用³²P标记的UDPG为底物合成纤维素和胼胝质。随着纤维素合酶在棉花和拟南芥中成功克隆,为*SUS*与纤维素合酶更进一步研究创造了条件(Pear等1996; Arioli等1998)。Fujii等(2010)人利用免疫技术观察到*SUS*存在于纤维素合酶复合体(cellulose synthase complex, CSC)中。通过CESA抗体免疫共沉淀CSC复合体,然后用LC-MS/MS进行质谱鉴定,可以解析CSC复合体的

组成。利用此方法在杨树和棉花的CSC复合体中均发现*SUS*的存在,说明*SUS*很有可能作为CSC复合体的一部分在纤维素合成过程中发挥作用(Song等2010; Li等2016)。

大量的对*SUS*基因超表达和反义抑制的研究结果都表明*SUS*促进了纤维素的合成。棉花中抑制*SUS*表达,棉花开花期胚珠表皮纤维起始基本被抑制,棉纤维细胞延伸和种子发育受到影响,最终产生基本无棉纤维的棉花种子(Ruan等2003)。棉花中超表达马铃薯(*Solanum tuberosum*) *StSUS*基因,使棉纤维长度增加,纤维产量增加(Xu等2012)。Jiang等(2012)在一个陆地棉(*Gossypium hirsutum*)优质品系中克隆得到一个新的*SUS*基因*GhSUSA1*,棉花中超表达该基因提高棉纤维产量和品质,生物质产量增加,而RNAi抑制该基因使纤维品质降低。同样,在木本植物杨树中,超表达棉花*SUS*基因增加纤维素含量、结晶度和次生细胞壁厚度(Coleman等2009)。在烟草中超表达杨树*SUS*也增加纤维素含量和木质部细胞壁厚度(Wei等2015)。最近的研究表明在水稻中超表达*OsSUS3*增加纤维素和半纤维素含量,降低纤维素结晶度,次生细胞壁增厚,转基因株系茎秆的抗倒伏能力和酶解产糖效率均增加(Fan等2017)。

免疫定位实验发现棉花纤维*SUS*与胼胝质共定位,表明*SUS*可能参与了胼胝质的合成(Salnikov等2001)。与野生型拟南芥相比,韧皮部特异性*SUS* (*sus5 sus6*)双突变体的胞间连丝中的胼胝质含量降低。以上证据表明*SUS*在纤维素和胼胝质的合成过程中起重要作用。

3.2 参与淀粉合成

淀粉是植物体内碳水化合物的主要贮存形式,是作物收获器官(玉米籽粒、水稻种子和马铃薯块茎等)的重要组成部分。植物体内,淀粉合成集中在2个区域:(1)具备光合作用功能的叶片叶绿体;(2)果实、种子和块茎等能量储存丰富的库器官细胞的淀粉体。淀粉合成在淀粉合酶和其它辅助酶的作用下完成,其合成直接底物是腺苷二磷酸葡萄糖(adenosine diphosphate glucose, ADPG)。

在叶绿体中,淀粉合成的主要途径是光合作用的两分子磷酸丙糖在醛缩酶的作用下合成果

糖-1,6-二磷酸(fructose-1, 6-bisphosphate, FBP), FBP在果糖磷酸酶的作用下生成果糖-6-磷酸, 经磷酸葡萄糖异构酶(phosphoglucosomerase, PGI)转化为葡糖-6-磷酸, 再依次由磷酸葡萄糖糖变位酶(phosphoglucomutase, PGM)和ADPG焦磷酸化酶(ADPG pyrophosphorylase, AGP)生成ADPG以合成淀粉。发生在叶片叶绿体中淀粉合成的主要途径不需要SUS分解蔗糖生成淀粉合成的底物ADPG (Bahaji等2014; Stein和Granot 2019)。但现有的研究也表明SUS参与了叶片淀粉的合成过程。虽然UDP是SUS的最适底物, 但SUS也可利用ADP生成ADPG用于淀粉的合成(Baroja-Fernández等2009)。烟草中超表达拟南芥SUS导致叶片中淀粉含量增加 (Bahaji等2011; Nguyen等2016)。基于以上研究, Bahaji等(2014)认为SUS分解蔗糖生成ADPG并转运至叶绿体用于淀粉的合成。

光合产物运输的主要形式是蔗糖, 在非光合组织或代谢库中, SUS对淀粉的合成起着至关重要的作用。在代谢库器官中, ADPG由SUS、UDPG焦磷酸化酶(UDPG pyrophosphorylase, UGP)和AGP依次参与完成。首先, 蔗糖被分解成果糖和UDPG, UDPG在UGP作用下转化成葡萄糖-1-磷酸, 再经由AGP作用最终产生ADPG (Okita 1992)。该途径中, SUS和AGP可能共同决定了ADPG的供应。尽管从大麦种子胚乳和马铃薯块茎中提取的SUS与UDP的结合更强, 但以ADP和UDP为底物反应的 K_m 值很相近; 在大麦种子发育过程中, SUS活性远高于AGP (Baroja-Fernández等2003)。马铃薯块茎中超表达SUS同时增加了UDPG和ADPG水平(Baroja-Fernández等2009)。在玉米中转入马铃薯的SUS基因*StSUS4*, 转基因玉米的SUS活性、种子中的淀粉和ADPG的含量都显著增加(Li等2013)。这些证据表明SUS可能直接分解蔗糖生成ADPG以合成淀粉。

SUS在淀粉合成过程中重要性的遗传证据最早源于玉米淀粉缺乏突变体*sh1*, 该突变体胚乳中SUS活性仅为野生型的10%, 而淀粉含量显著降低, 籽粒皱缩、干瘪。正常显性基因*Sh1*位于玉米第9号染色体, 其编码的蛋白被证实是SUS (Chourey和Nelson 1976)。对突变体*sus1-1*和双突变体*sh1 sus1-1*的研究发现, *SUS1*最早发现于淀粉缺乏突变

体中, 表明该基因参与籽粒中淀粉积累; *Sh1*被证实参与细胞壁纤维素合成过程(Chourey等1998; Carlson等2002)。另外, 重要的粮食作物马铃薯主要成分是淀粉, SUS在马铃薯块茎糖代谢和淀粉积累方面的研究较多。对马铃薯SUS基因进行RNAi抑制后, 马铃薯块茎中的SUS活性降低, 尽管参与淀粉合成的其它酶没有变化, 但还是导致马铃薯块茎中淀粉含量降低, UDPG和ADPG仅为对照的30%和35%。可见SUS参与了淀粉合成及库强度代谢调控过程(Zrenner等1995)。在拟南芥*sus1-6*突变体的研究中发现, 突变体植物的叶片和茎的SUS活性是WT叶片的85%, 可以支持正常的纤维素和淀粉的生物合成(Baroja-Fernández等2012)。上述结果表明SUS在淀粉合成中起着重要作用。

3.3 参与蔗糖转运

在果实发育过程中, 蔗糖由光合组织经韧皮部运输至果实中积累, 并在果肉细胞中转化为果糖、葡萄糖等在液泡中富集。这样的转运过程中, 需要参与蔗糖代谢的酶如SUS、INV和蔗糖磷酸酶等来完成, 尤其是SUS和INV尤为重要, 它们在库端将蔗糖分解, 形成从源到库的蔗糖浓度梯度, 为蔗糖由韧皮部向果实的运输提供压力, 保证蔗糖向库中的持续供应。例如, 在柑橘属中, 有研究表明, SUS在葡萄柚(*Citrus paradisi*)的果实发育以及汁囊糖分积累过程起到关键作用(Lowell等1989)。尤其是在干旱逆境下, SUS的作用显得更为重要。Hockema和Etxeberria (2001)报道, 干旱条件下, 柑橘果实中糖分增加的同时, 伴随着SUS活性的升高和pH的下降, 但是参与蔗糖代谢的其它酶(蔗糖磷酸合酶和INV)的活性却没有变化, 柑橘果实汁囊中增加的糖分主要来源于SUS表达量上升, 促进了光合产物向果实中的转运, 保证了逆境下果实的正常生长。另外在Moriguchi等(1990)对梨的蔗糖含量和蔗糖代谢相关酶活性进行了相关性分析, 发现蔗糖含量与SUS的相关性最高, 在对其它一些蔗糖含量丰富的植物的分析也得到了相似的结果(Batta和Singh 1986; Moriguchi等1990, 1992)。最近的研究还发现, 通过RNAi技术抑制草莓(*Fragaria ananassa*) *FaSUS1*基因, 花青素积累延后, 草莓果实的成熟显著延迟(Zhao等2017)。

3.4 参与氧胁迫响应

SUS除了参与广泛的代谢过程,已有研究表明SUS参与氧胁迫响应。蔗糖分解代谢的两种途径,以分解蔗糖得到同样的最终产物葡萄糖-1-磷酸来看,INV催化的途径需要消耗两分子的ATP,而SUS仅需要一分子的PPi (Huber和Akazawa 1986; Stitt 1998)。可见SUS途径更加节省能量,如果考虑到PPi可被循环利用的话,后者所需能量更低。更多的能量(ATP)消耗意味着需要更多的氧气供应。已有发现植物能量代谢活跃的库器官的氧含量偏低,例如土豆块茎、发育中的种子和果实等(Geigenberger和Stitt 2000; Gibon等2002)。在供氧量正常的情况下,为了维持正常的代谢,植物就需要对代谢旺盛的库器官中的蔗糖分解方式进行调整,倾向于耗氧量更低的SUS途径。另外,在缺氧逆境下,植物则通过提高SUS相对于INV的比例,来抵抗低氧胁迫(Geigenberger和Stitt 2000)。类似的证据在多个物种中都有体现。例如,豌豆籽粒中的SUS活性是中性INV的10倍,在马铃薯块茎中这一比值达到20倍(Edwards和ap Rees 1986; Ross等1994)。与之相对应的是,能量代谢较为缓慢的植物根系中,这一比值就要低很多(Biemelt等1999; Albrecht和Mustroph 2003; Schubert等2003)。早期有文章报道,玉米SUS突变体植株根系的抗氧胁迫能力降低(Ricard等1998)。特别的是在低氧环境下,玉米中SUS表达量上升,INV表达下降,最终导致SUS在根中的表达占据了主导地位(Zeng等1998, 1999)。这些表达水平方面的证据都充分说明SUS在抗氧胁迫方面的重要作用。

转基因验证方面, Bologa等(2003)在马铃薯中超表达INV基因,转基因株系中INV活性升高,但块茎中淀粉积累量下降。相应地,氧含量下降,ATP/ADP比值下降,参与糖酵解代谢的相关酶表达量上调。但当氧气供应充足时,ATP/ADP比例、淀粉合成速率等恢复正常。这说明,增加INV虽然可以促进蔗糖的分解,使氧含量(或ATP)消耗过高,反而限制了淀粉的合成。反义抑制黄瓜*CsSUS3*使其抗氧胁迫能力降低,经过6 d水淹氧胁迫处理后,与对照相比,转基因黄瓜根系中SUS表达量及活性、UDPG含量、ATP/ADP比例都明显降低(Wang等

2014)。这说明黄瓜自身*CsSUS3*基因参与抵抗氧胁迫。

另外值得讨论的是,SUS基因家族中并非所有基因都参与了抗氧胁迫。拟南芥在氧胁迫下,*AtSUS1*~*6*这六个同源基因中,只有*AtSUS1*和*AtSUS4*的表达量上升,其它4个基因表达没有变化(Klok等2002; Baud等2004)。在*sus1*和*sus4*单突变体根中,无论是正常情况还是缺氧环境下,SUS活性主要来自于*AtSUS1*和*AtSUS4*的表达。在双突变体中,SUS活性基本丧失,植株抗氧胁迫能力大幅下降。说明家族中主要是*AtSUS1*和*AtSUS4*参与了抗氧胁迫反应(Bieniawska等2007)。缺氧逆境会诱导玉米根系中胍胍质的产生(Subbaiah和Sachs 2001)和小麦根系中纤维素的增加(Albrecht和Mustroph 2003)。玉米中胍胍质的产生主要依赖于玉米SUS同源蛋白Sh1,在缺氧时,该蛋白去磷酸化,与细胞膜结合的蛋白量上升,为胍胍质的合成提供底物UDPG(Subbaiah和Sachs 2001)。

3.5 其它生物学功能

除了参与氧胁迫响应之外,同时也有报道指出SUS可能还参与其它非生物逆境胁迫过程。例如,在甜菜中的研究发现,低温、干旱、高盐 and 伤害等都会诱导SUS的表达上调(Klotz和Haagenson 2008)。早期的报道中提到,大豆中SUS调控蔗糖代谢和固氮能力,进而提高大豆的抗旱能力(González等1995);而小麦在遭遇冷害时SUS蛋白量升高了5~6倍,说明SUS可能参与小麦冷驯化过程,极有可能是通过调节细胞内可溶性糖和渗透压的方式(Crespi等1991)。最新的研究发现SUS还可能参与抵抗高温胁迫,在水稻种子受到高温胁迫时,*OsSUS3*基因的过表达可使种子垩白减少,从而降低高温对水稻产量和品质的危害(Takehara等2018)。此外,在小麦中也发现了潜在的耐热SUS,其在50°C时仍能保持稳定(Verma等2018)。

4 SUS在遗传改良上的应用

由于SUS在淀粉合成、纤维素合成以及碳源分配中发挥作用,因此其对农作物以及木本植物具有较好的改良效果。例如,棉花中超表达外源马铃薯SUS基因后,转基因棉花叶片变大,种子败

表1 植物SUS的生物学功能

Table 1 Biological functions of sucrose synthases in plants

物种	基因	组织特异性	生物学功能	参考文献
拟南芥	<i>AtSUS1,4</i>	根	参与抗氧胁迫反应 缺氧条件下高量表达	Baud等2004 Bieniawska等2007; Klok等2002
	<i>AtSUS2</i>	种子	参与种子成熟	Bieniawska等2007; Baud等2004
	<i>AtSUS3</i>	种子	参与种子脱水	Bieniawska等2007; Baud等2004
水稻	<i>OsSUS1</i>	根、叶片、茎节间	参与纤维素合成	Hirose等2008
	<i>OsSUS2</i>	组成型表达	抵抗氧胁迫等环境逆境	Hirose等2008
	<i>OsSUS3</i>	茎秆, 种子	超表达植株茎秆纤维素和半纤维素含量, 纤维素 结晶度降低, 次生细胞壁增厚, 抗倒伏能力和酶 解产糖效率均增加; 抵抗高温胁迫, 减少糙米垩 白的形成	Fan等2017; Takehara等2018
玉米	<i>OsSUS4</i>	种子	参与种子胚乳淀粉合成	Hirose等2008
	<i>ZmSh1</i>	茎、种子	参与纤维素合成, 突变体种子萎缩, 淀粉含量 减少	Hardin等2004; Chourey等1998
	<i>ZmSUS1</i>	根、茎、叶、种子	为淀粉合成产生底物, 突变体降低了缺氧耐受性	Hardin等2004; Ricard等1998
	<i>ZmSUS2(3)</i>	胚乳、根、幼芽	参与淀粉合成, 抗氧胁迫	Hardin等2004; Zeng等1998, 1999
棉花	<i>GhSUSA1</i>	棉纤维细胞	超表达植株中棉纤维产量和品质提升; 突变体纤维品质降低, 棉铃变小	Jiang等2012
	<i>GhSUS1</i>	棉纤维细胞	参与棉纤维细胞的起始、伸长和种子发育	Ruan等2003
	<i>GhSUS2</i>	棉纤维细胞	影响纤维素合成积累	
	<i>GhSUS3</i> (SUSC)	棉纤维细胞	直接参与纤维素合成, 次生细胞壁增厚	Amor等1995; Coleman等2009
马铃薯	<i>GaSUS3</i>	根	参与耐盐胁迫	王敏华等2014
	<i>StSUS1~4</i>	块茎	RNAi导致SUS活性、淀粉含量降低	Zrenner等1995
	<i>StSUS2</i>	块茎	参与抗氧胁迫	Geigenberger和Stitt 2000
	<i>StSUS4</i>	块茎	超表达植物块茎中淀粉含量显著提升UDPG和 ADPG含量增加	Baroja-Fernández等2009
黄瓜	<i>CsSUS3</i>	根系	反义抑制降低抗氧胁迫能力	Wang等2014
柳枝稷	<i>PvSUS1</i>	组成型表达	生物质产量提高10%左右	Poovaiah等2015
胡萝卜	<i>DcSUS1</i>	叶片、根系	影响植株生长, 反义叶片和根缩小	Tang和Sturm 1999
大豆	<i>PvSUS</i>	根系	调控蔗糖代谢和固氮能力, 增强抗旱能力	González等1995;
柑橘	<i>CitSUS</i>	果实	抵抗干旱逆境; 促进光合产物运输	Lowell等1989; Hockema和 Etxeberria 2001
梨	<i>PsSUS</i>	果实	与蔗糖含量高度相关	Batta和Singh 1986; Moriguchi等 1992
小麦	<i>TaSUS</i>	叶片、茎秆	参与小麦冷驯化过程	Crespi等1991
毛白杨	<i>PtSUS</i>	组成型表达	参与源库运输和碳分配	雷炳琪等2016

育率降低, 纤维产量增加(Xu等2012)。超表达棉花自身*GhSUSA1*, 棉花产量和棉纤维质量都有提高, 表现为棉纤维长度和强度增加(Jiang等2012)。能源植物柳枝稷中存在6个同源基因, 超表达其中一个基因*PvSUS1*后, 其生物质产量提高了10%左右(Poovaiah等2015)。在木本植物杨树中超表达陆地棉(*Gossypium hirsutum*) SUS基因, 其纤维素含量增加了2%~6%, 而且主要是晶体纤维素的增加(Coleman

等2009)。在水稻中超表达*OsSUS3*其纤维素和半纤维素含量增加, 提高水稻茎秆抗倒伏能力、秸秆酶解效率和乙醇产率(Fan等2017)。

对于库器官淀粉合成代谢活跃的农作物, 通过超量表达SUS基因, 可以增加淀粉积累, 从而提高作物产量。例如, 玉米中超表达拟南芥SUS基因*AtSUS4*, 转基因玉米成熟期籽粒中淀粉积累增加了10%~15%(Baroja-Fernández等2003)。马铃薯中,

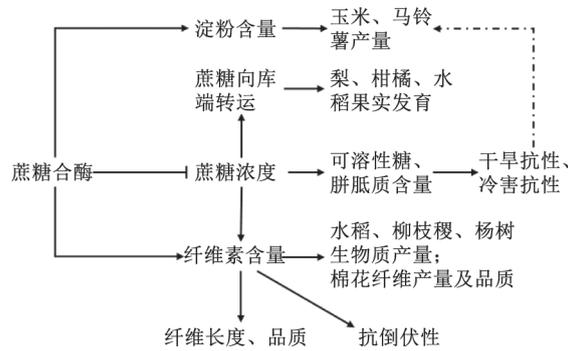


图2 SUS在遗传改良上的应用

Fig.2 Genetic engineering of sucrose synthases to improve agronomic traits of crops

超表达SUS基因后,其块茎中淀粉含量显著上升,总块茎产量也显著增加(Baroja-Fernández等2009)。另外,SUS参与多个逆境过程,因此通过过量表达SUS基因能够提高植物抵抗逆境胁迫能力。综上,SUS基因在遗传改良上具备较高应用价值,对于林木植物纤维产量以及重要粮食作物产量的提高都具有显著的作用(图2)。

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Research progress of sucrose synthase in plants

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Abstract: Sucrose synthase (SUS) is a glycosyltransferase occurred in the most highly plants, and the *SUS* family genes are distinctively expressed in different plant tissues. As the SUSs play a key regulation role in carbon partitioning by providing UDP-glucose and ADP-glucose substrates for cellulose, callose, and other polysaccharides biosynthesis, they dynamically influence major agronomic traits and abiotic stress resistances in crops. In this review, we performed a phylogenetic analysis of *SUS* genes examined in plants, and updated their biochemical function and biological feature. Finally, this review proposed an engineering strategy of *SUS* for potential genetic improvements of major agronomic traits in crops.

Key words: sucrose synthase (SUS); carbon partitioning; genetic improvement; plant stress defense

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