#### **ORIGINAL PAPER**



# **Phylogenetic and diversity analyses revealed that leek yellow stripe virus population consists of three types: S, L, and N**

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## **Abstract**

Phylogenetic and evolutionary analyses were performed on the P1 and CP genes of global isolates to clarify the phylogrouping of leek yellow stripe virus (LYSV, genus *Potyvirus*), a pathogen afecting *Allium* spp. worldwide, into diferent types based on genetic variation and host species. The constructed phylogenetic trees divided the isolates into three major groups: S, L, and N. Low nucleotide (nt) and amino acid (aa) percent identities among the three groups were observed on full ORF (75.4–99.0 and 79.1–99.0), P1 (59.1–98.3 and 36.8–98.3), and CP (76.6–100 and 75.7–100) coding regions. The dN/dS values of P1 and CP confrmed that both genes are under strong negative (purifying) selection pressure. Neutrality tests on Eastern Asian isolates suggested that the ancestors of current LYSV isolates evolved with garlic while they were in Asia before spreading to other world regions through garlic propagative materials. Genetic diferentiation and gene fow analysis showed extremely frequent gene fow from S group to L and N groups, and these phylogroups diferentiated from each other over time. Host diferences, inconsistent serological test results, substantial nt and aa variation, and phylogenetic and diversity analyses in this study supported previous reports that LYSV can be separated into three major evolutionary lineages: S, L, and N types.

**Keywords** Diversity analysis · Phylogenetic analysis · Molecular identifcation · Population study · Selection pressure

# **Introduction**

*Allium* spp. cultivations are afected by viruses from several genera [\[1](#page-9-0)[–3](#page-9-1)]. Among these viruses, leek yellow stripe virus (LYSV, genus *Potyvirus*) is of particular interest because it

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Filiz Ertunç ertunc@agri.ankara.edu.tr infects leek (*Allium ampeloprasum* L.), garlic (*Allium sativum* L.), and onion (*Allium cepa* L.) worldwide [[4–](#page-9-2)[7\]](#page-9-3). This virus' genome sequence is 10,131 nucleotide (nt) long with a single open reading frame (ORF) of 9,456 nt and encodes a polyprotein of 3,152 amino acids (aa), which is typical of *Potyvirus* [\[8](#page-9-4)].

Important information on population structures, new host adaptations, and evolutionary mechanisms of RNA viruses can be understood through molecular evolution studies [[9,](#page-9-5)

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[10](#page-9-6)]. In *Potyvirus*, the coat protein (CP) gene is commonly examined in phylogenetic and population studies since it is the most conserved region in the genome [\[11,](#page-10-0) [12\]](#page-10-1). In addition to the CP gene, the P1 gene which has the most variable nt sequences among *Potyvirus* genes is known to contribute key data for evolutionary analysis [\[13,](#page-10-2) [14\]](#page-10-3).

The phylogeny of LYSV is divided into the following six groups according to the diversity of P1 gene: N, U, Sp, L, O, and S [\[15\]](#page-10-4). However, a recent report simplifed this phylogeny into two major types: S and N [[16\]](#page-10-5). The L group is restricted to isolates from naturally infected leeks only; however, this group is combined with the N group (isolates from garlic) into the N type due to the lack of available data on L isolate sequence [[16\]](#page-10-5). Unfortunately, these phylogroups based on the P1 gene are not widely applied because molecular characterization works on LYSV mostly target the CP gene. *Allium* viruses could provide excellent data on the evolution of viruses spreading mainly through propagative materials; however, only a few evolutionary studies on these species have been conducted [[17](#page-10-6)]. A small study involving 12 fully sequenced isolates found that selection pressures are higher on P1, CP, and P3 than on other coding regions of the LYSV genome [[8\]](#page-9-4); nevertheless, this report still could not provide a complete picture of the virus evolution. In the present research, the nt sequences of P1 and CP genes of leek and garlic isolates were collected from several provinces of Turkey and other isolates from diverse regions of the world and diferent *Allium* spp. already registered in NCBI GenBank were analyzed to obtain insights into the global genomic diversity, evolution, and population structure of LYSV. The possibilities to separate the L group into a distinct type and to use the CP gene as the base for future LYSV phylogrouping were also investigated.

## **Materials and methods**

## **RT‑PCR and sequencing**

Molecular examination against LYSV using RT-PCR was conducted on 10 leek and 3 garlic samples collected from Aydın, İzmir, Osmaniye, Bursa, Kastamonu, Çanakkale, and Düzce provinces of Turkey in 2007–2008 to increase the number of available nt sequences of L isolates for population analysis. The samples were positive for LYSV as tested by DAS-ELISA with standard manufacturer protocols (Bioreba, Switzerland) shortly after collection. They were then kept in desiccated leaf tissue over silica gel at 4 °C for long-term storage.

Total RNA was isolated from the samples using the CTAB method [[18](#page-10-7)]. Complementary DNAs (cDNAs) were synthesized from the obtained total RNAs with RevertAid First Strand cDNA Synthesis Kit (Thermo Scientifc, USA). F-5ʹATCTCAACACAACTTATGCAA3ʹ plus R-5ʹGCACAC AACGACCGTCCAATCT3ʹ [[8\]](#page-9-4), and F-5ʹTCACTGCAT ATGCGCACCAT3ʹ plus R-5ʹGCACCATACAGTGAATTG AG3' [[19\]](#page-10-8) primer pairs were applied in the 1000 bp of partial P1 and 1020 bp of partial NIb + complete CP genes amplification, respectively, using 2X Emerald Master Mix (Takara, Japan) and MJ Mini Thermal Cycler (Biorad, USA).

Successfully amplifed RT-PCR products were submitted to a commercial biotech company (BM Labosis, Ankara, Turkey) for bidirectional sequencing by the Sanger method. The obtained raw sequence data were assembled in CLC Main Workbench V.20 [\(https://digitalinsights.qiagen.com/\)](https://digitalinsights.qiagen.com/) and then deposited into NCBI GenBank.

# **LYSV isolate selection and recombination analysis of CP gene**

The nt sequence of P1 gene is 1290 nt long (encoding a protein of 430 aa) and covers positions 83–1372 nt, and that of CP gene is 867 nt long (encoding a protein of 289 aa) and covers positions 8879–9745 in the LYSV genome (RefSeq: LYSV-MG [KP258216]). However, large variations exists in nt and aa lengths due to indel mutations in some isolates.

Fourteen and thirty-fve isolates with complete and partial nt sequences of P1 (for a total of forty-nine isolates), respectively, and eighty-one isolates with complete nt sequences of CP were obtained from NCBI GenBank. The sequences were aligned to novel Turkish isolates length and trimmed accordingly using ClustalW with default parameters in MEGA X [[20\]](#page-10-9) to create P1 and CP alignments. Recombination signals on each P1 or CP sequence alignment were scanned by Recombination Detection Program (RDP v.4.56). A credible recombination event should be supported by at least fve of RDP, GENECONV, BootScan, MaxChi, ChiMaera, SiScan, and 3Seq algorithms with Bonferroni-corrected *P* value of  $< 0.05$  [[21\]](#page-10-10).

# **Analysis of phylogenetic and identity percentage of P1 and CP genes**

Phylogenetic trees based on each P1 and CP nt sequence were constructed in MEGA X using the maximum likelihood statistical method. The best nt substitution model for both alignments was determined using the lowest Bayesian Information Criterion scores to be Tamura-Nei [\[22](#page-10-11)] and Gamma distributed with Invariant sites  $(TN93 + G + I)$ . The statistical signifcance of isolate clusters was tested with 1000 bootstrap replicates. The furcation of major lineages was visualized using the neighbor-net method implemented in Splitstree4 freeware (version 4.17.1, built 28 Jun 2021) [[23\]](#page-10-12). Percentages of nt and aa identity among phylogroups in P1, CP, and full ORF were estimated using Sequence Demarcation Tool v1.2 [\[24\]](#page-10-13).

#### **Amino acid variation in P1 and CP**

Fourteen and thirty-nine isolates with complete P1 and CP sequences, respectively, were aligned with eleven novel Turkish isolates. Diferences in the aa sequence of P1 and CP were examined using BioEdit v.7.2.5 [[25](#page-10-14)].

#### **Mean evolutionary distance and diversity**

The mean evolutionary distance of the P1 and CP genes of LYSV within and between the phylogroups was calculated using the Tamura–Nei parameter [\[22\]](#page-10-11) in MEGA X. Estimates of standard error (SE) were obtained by a bootstrap procedure of 1000 replicates.

# **Analysis of genetic diversity and polymorphism, neutral selection, and gene fow and genetic diferentiation among populations**

Genetic diversity and polymorphism were analyzed using DnaSP v.6.12.03 [[26](#page-10-15)]. A gene is under positive (diversifying), neutral, or negative (purifying) selection when the  $dN/dS$  ( $\omega$  ratio) is  $> 1, = 1$ , or < 1, respectively [\[26\]](#page-10-15). Three "neutrality tests" (Fu and Li's *F*\*, Fu and Li's *D*\*, and Tajima's *D*) were carried out in DnaSP v.6.12.03 (default window length of 100 sites and step size of 25 sites; with-out out-group) [\[26\]](#page-10-15). Independent  $K_S^*$ ,  $K_{ST}^*$ ,  $Z^*$ , Snn, and  $F_{ST}$  test values [[27](#page-10-16), [28\]](#page-10-17), which determine genetic differentiation in each P1 or CP population, were calculated by DnaSP v.6.12.03.  $K_{ST}^*$  is near zero when genetic differentiation does not exist (null hypothesis) [[29](#page-10-18)]. A small *Z*\* indicates minimal genetic diferentiation among populations [[27](#page-10-16)]. Snn describes the range from exact same population (value of 0.5) (null hypothesis) to distinctly diferentiated population (value of 1) [\[28\]](#page-10-17). The null hypothesis in  $K_S^*$ ,  $K_{ST}^*$ ,  $Z^*$ , and Snn is rejected by a significant *P* value  $[27-29]$  $[27-29]$  $[27-29]$  $[27-29]$  $[27-29]$ .  $F_{ST}$  ranges from the exact same population (value of 0) to fully distinct populations (value of 1) [\[27,](#page-10-16) [29](#page-10-18)].  $F_{ST}$  (fixation index) > 0.33 usually indicates large gene fow and genetic diferentiation between tested populations [[30](#page-10-19)].

### **Results**

## **RT‑PCR and sequencing**

Partial P1 sequences were obtained from 10 leek and 1 garlic isolates (Acc no. OL944631-OL944641), and complete CP sequences were obtained from 8 leek and 3 garlic isolates (Acc no. OL944620-OL944630) (Supplementary material 1-Table 1).

## **Recombination analysis of the nt sequences of CP gene**

Only the results of the recombination analysis of CP gene sequences were reported because the analysis of the highly variable P1 gene sequences did not generate reliable results. Recombinant signals in the CP gene of four isolates were detected by at least fve statistical methods and supported by Bonferroni-corrected *P* value of <0.05. Recombinant events in isolate AG1 (JX429967) occurred in two diferent regions. Among novel Turkish isolates, LYSV-18 (OL944630) was determined to be recombinant (Table [1](#page-3-0)). These isolates with multiple parents were omitted from population analysis to produce accurate results.

# **Analysis of phylogenetic and identity percentage of P1 and CP genes**

The constructed phylogenetic trees suggested that evolutionary processes occurred simultaneously and in the same direction throughout the LYSV genome because the P1 and CP trees consistently clustered all the isolates into three major lineages (S, L, and N). In addition, each isolate that provided the nt sequences of both genes was clustered in the identical group in both trees. In P1, the S-type lineage was further divided into two subtypes (named SP1a and SP1b) based on nt changes and deletions in the compared sequences. In CP, the S-type was separated into 10 subtypes (named SCPa–SCPj) (Fig. [1\)](#page-4-0). In line with the results of recombinant analysis, LYSV-18 was positioned in S lineage in P1 and in L lineage in CP trees. Congruence between the two genes was further confrmed by SplitsTree network analysis, which trifurcated P1 and CP split trees into S, L, and N-types (Fig. [2](#page-5-0)).

Comparative analysis revealed a large variation in nt and aa sequence identities of P1, not only among S, L, and N but also within the S-type. For CP, the nt and aa identity percentages among S-type isolates were lower than those among N-type isolates. S-type isolates also had higher nt and aa diferences than N-type isolates. Among the 92 complete CP sequences, the lowest nt identity percentage found among S-type and N-type isolates (76.6%) was close to the limit for *Potyvirus* species demarcation (76%), and the lowest aa identity percentage (75.7%) was well below this limit (80%) (Table [2](#page-5-1)). Further comparison on 16 complete ORF sequences determined that the lowest nt identity percentages for S-type versus N-type and L-type versus N-type isolates were also lower than the limits for *Potyvirus* species demarcation (Table [2\)](#page-5-1).

N <sub>o</sub>	Recombinant isolate (origin)	Parents: major (origin)/minor (origin)	<b>Breakpoints<sup>a</sup></b>		RDP-implemented
			begin	end	method <sup>b</sup> ( <i>P-value</i> )
1	OL944630 (LYSV-18) (Turkey)	OL944622 (LYSV-9) (Turkey)/unknown	8868	9460	B $(2.845 \times 10^{-12})$
					$M$ (5.908 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> )
					C $(2.018 \times 10^{-2})$
					S $(1.335 \times 10^{-13})$
					3S $(7.991 \times 10^{-12})$
2	JX429967 (Australia)	AB194639 (Japan)/JQ899450 (Australia)	8712	8834	G $(4.336 \times 10^{-9})$
					B $(5.846 \times 10^{-2})$
					M $(6.832 \times 10^{-5})$
					C $(6.486 \times 10^{-5})$
					$S(2.688\times10^{-7})$
					3S $(7.905 \times 10^{-8})$
3	JX429967 (Australia)	D11118 (Japan)/GU373816 (China)	8884	8984	R $(2.091 \times 10^{-10})$
					G $(3.706 \times 10^{-9})$
					$M$ (2.207 $\times$ 10 <sup>-5</sup> )
					C $(1.959 \times 10^{-5})$
					3S $(7.047 \times 10^{-8})$
4	MK336976 (Ethiopia)	MK336975 (Ethiopia)/unknown	9099	9546	R $(3.876 \times 10^{-2})$
					$M(1.276\times10^{-8})$
					C $(1.547 \times 10^{-5})$
					$S(1.207\times10^{-16})$
					3S $(5.869 \times 10^{-03})$
5	MT232838 (Iran)	AB194641 (China)/KF597283 (Mexico)	8702	8914	G $(2.413 \times 10^{-9})$
					$M(1.243\times10^{-8})$
					C $(6.423 \times 10^{-7})$
					S $(8.943 \times 10^{-16})$
					3S $(2.936 \times 10^{-6})$

<span id="page-3-0"></span>**Table 1** Recombination analysis of LYSV CP gene nucleotide sequences

<sup>a</sup>Nucleotide position according to RefSeq NC\_004011 sequence

b *R* RDP; *G* GENECOV; *B* BootScan; *M* MaxChi; *C* Chimaera; *S* Siscan; 3*S* 3 Seq

#### **Amino acid variation in P1 and CP**

The main aa changes in P1 among three LYSV types occurred throughout the coding sequence. SP1a isolates experienced large nt deletion at positions 320–523 (Ref-Seq: KP258216), resulting in the deletion of 68 aa residues (Supplementary material 2-Fig. 1). The nt and aa sequences of SP1b, SP1c, L, and S isolates in this position remained intact, but SP1b and SP1c had higher nt and aa identities with SP1a than L and S. In addition, L and N isolates experienced nt deletion at positions 128–142, resulting in the deletion of fve aa residues. Meanwhile, the sequences of SP1a, SP1b, and SP1c in this region were complete. Therefore, SP1b and SP1c isolates could be an intermediate form in the evolution of the P1 gene of three LYSV types.

The aa changes in CP among three LYSV types mostly occurred on the 5ʹ end half of the coding sequence, and the remaining half toward the 3ʹ end was highly conserved. SCPa, SCPe, and SCPh isolates experienced deletion at positions 9005–9007 nt (RefSeq: KP258216), resulting in single aa residue deletion at position 43 of the CP sequence. Deletion was also observed at positions 8987–8995 of the nt sequences of SCPj isolates, resulting in three aa residue deletions at positions 37–39 (Supplementary material 2- Fig. 2). DAG motif, which is important in *Potyvirus* transmission by aphids, was conserved in the CP of all tested isolates except for no. AJ409307, in which DAG was changed to DSG (Supplementary material 2- Fig. 2).

#### **Mean evolutionary distance and diversity**

The overall evolutionary distance of P1 was  $0.590 \pm 0.050$ , and the values within main lineages were  $0.570 \pm 0.050$ (S-type),  $0.190 \pm 0.020$  (L type), and  $0.090 \pm 0.010$  (N type). The evolutionary distance between phylogroups was  $0.798 \pm 0.070$  (S/L type),  $0.766 \pm 0.068$  (S/N type), and  $0.452 \pm 0.045$  (L/N type). The overall mean evolutionary distance of CP was  $0.230 \pm 0.011$ , and the values within <span id="page-4-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Phylogenetic tree constructed by Maximum Likelihood test of nucleotide sequences of LYSV Complete ORF **a**, P1 gene **b**, and CP gene **c**. Isolates printed in bold were used in both P1 and CP comparisons. Novel Turkish isolates were indicated with black squares. Bootstrap values on each branch were supported by 1000 replicates; only values greater than 50% were shown. An onion yellow dwarf virus (OYDV, *Potyvirus*) isolate was used as out-group. The bars are distance scales that shows the genetic variation (distance) among isolates



main lineages were  $0.230 \pm 0.020$  (S-type),  $0.070 \pm 0.010$ (L-type), and  $0.050 \pm 0.008$  (N-type). In addition, the evolutionary distance between the main phylogroups was  $0.277 \pm 0.019$  (S/L type),  $0.296 \pm 0.0122$  (S/N type), and  $0.205 \pm 0.019$  (L/N type).

## **Genetic diversity and evolutionary selection pressure on the P1 and CP genes of LYSV**

In general,  $\pi$  values were lower among the phylogroups and continental populations in the CP gene region compared with those in the P1 gene region. In P1, the highest  $\pi$  among the phylogroups and continent populations was 0.2883 (S-type) and 0.3614 (Africa), respectively, and the lowest was 0.0905 (N type) and 0.2684 (America).  $H<sub>d</sub>$  values, which provide important information for predicting evolutionary processes,

reached 1.000 for all phylogroups and continental populations. Haplotype values were obtained in descending order for S (31), N (18), and L (11) groups. Meanwhile, the values of S and η parameters were the highest in other Asia and East Asia populations (Table [3\)](#page-6-0). These results indicated high genetic diversities among global LYSV populations, with Asia as the diversity center.

In the analysis of CP gene,  $\pi$  ranged from 0.0446 (N type) to 0.1706 (East Asia). The highest π for phylogroup and continental populations was 0.1671 (S-type) and 0.1706 (East Asia), respectively. Although the number of isolates in the N group was quite large, the S,  $\eta$ , k, and  $\pi$  values were extremely low, suggesting scarce variation among isolates. For  $H<sub>d</sub>$ , high values varying between 0.0998 and 1.000 were obtained for all phylogroups and continental populations (Table [3\)](#page-6-0).

**Table 2** Identity percentage of nucleotide and amino acid

regions among three LYSV

types



<span id="page-5-0"></span>**Fig. 2** Network visualization of leek yellow stripe virus (LYSV) isolates based on the **a** P1 and **b** CP genes analysis using the neighbor-net method in SplitsTree software. Both split trees revealed trifurcation of LYSV evolution into S, L, and N-types

<span id="page-5-1"></span>

The demographic parameter  $\pi$  value for ORF was 0.1833 for S-type and 0.0699 for N type. Furthermore, the dN/dS ratios between phylogenetic groups and continental populations ranged from 0.3019 to 0.4358 for the P1 gene and from 0.0884 to 0.1768 for the CP gene. In addition, the ω of ORF was 0.1237 (Table [3](#page-6-0)). All dN/dS results showed that the CP, P1, and ORF regions were under highly negative selection pressure.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Table 3** Summary of the genetic diversity and polymorphism analyses of partial P1 and complete CP gene sequences of LYSV from diferent populations



<sup>1</sup>East Asia: China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan; South-East Asia: Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam; Other Asia: India, Iran, Israel, Turkey, UEA; Europe: Spain, Germany, Netherlands, Italy; America: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay; Oceania: Australia, New Zealand; Africa: Tunisia, Ethiopia

*N* number of isolates, *h* number of haplotypes, *Hd* haplotype diversity, *S* number of variable sites, *η* total number of mutations, *k* average number of nucleotide diferences between sequences, π: nucleotide diversity (per site), *dN* non-synonymous nucleotide diversity, *dS* synonymous nucleotide diversity, *ω* dN/dS *nd* not determined, at least two data sets are needed for calculation

# **Neutral selection analysis**

Fu and Li's *F*\* & *D*\* assigned statistically nonsignifcant negative or positive values to the P1 and CP of all populations. The results demonstrated that diferent LYSV populations are undergoing either balancing selection or bottlenecks. Negative values with statistical signifcance were only predicted by Tajima's *D* test for Europe and Africa populations in P1 (Table [4\)](#page-7-0). Meanwhile, the positive values assigned to East Asia and America populations indicated that these species emerged from an excess of intermediate frequency alleles and can evolve out of population balancing selection, bottlenecks, or structures (Table [4\)](#page-7-0).

# **Gene fow and genetic diferentiation among populations**

Analysis of the gene fow and genetic diferentiation of LYSV populations revealed that all phylogroups (S, L, and N types) in P1, CP, and ORF comparisons had  $K_S^*$  and  $K_{ST}^*$ values that were statistically signifcant and greater than 0. The  $K_S^*$  and  $K_{ST}^*$  results indicated statistically significant genetic diferences between lineages at P1, CP, and ORF

Gene region	Tajima's D	Fu and Li $D^*$	Fu and Li $F^*$
P1			
All	$0.00816$ ns	$0.18989$ ns	$0.14101$ ns
S-type	$-0.44472$ ns	$-0.12996$ ns	$-0.28121$ ns
L-type	$0.26997$ ns	$-0.19852$ ns	$-0.08836$ ns
N-type	$-1.23510$ ns	$-1.07809$ ns	$-1.30772$ ns
Regions <sup>1</sup>			
East Asia	$0.03763$ ns	$0.12502$ ns	0.11388 ns
South-East Asia	nd	nd	nd
Other Asia	$-0.62605$ ns	$-0.22631$ ns	$-0.38720$ ns
Oceania	nd	nd	nd
Europe	$-0.92571***$	$-0.36733$ ns	$-0.50544$ ns
Africa	$-1.04247***$	$-0.34495$ ns	$-0.50872$ ns
America	$0.35555$ ns	$0.27426$ ns	0.32779 ns
CP			
All	$-0.10932$ ns	$-0.13498$ ns	$-0.14855$ ns
S-type	$-0.10059$ ns	$0.32402$ ns	$0.19817$ ns
L-type	$-0.83795$ ns	$-1.11911$ ns	$-1.21285$ ns
N-type	$-1.17661$ ns	$-1.01313$ ns	$-1.23401$ ns
Regions <sup>1</sup>			
East Asia	$0.06523$ ns	0.48996 ns	$0.40947$ ns
South-East Asia	$0.45640$ ns	$0.66386$ ns	$0.67838$ ns
Other Asia	$-0.63866$ ns	$-0.14124$ ns	$-0.36622$ ns
Oceania	$-0.00033$ ns	0.52888 ns	$0.45009$ ns
Europe	$-0.09854$ ns	$0.06839$ ns	$0.03267$ ns
Africa	nd	nd	nd
America	0.03798 ns	0.41558 ns	$0.36855$ ns
<b>ORF</b>			
All	$-0.05263$ ns	0.12458 ns	$0.08537$ ns
S-type	$-0.27410$ ns	$0.04410$ ns	$-0.03743$ ns
$N$ – type	$-0.73228$ ns	$-0.66126$ ns	$-0.74488$ ns

<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Table 4** Summary of demography test statistics between LYSV populations, based on partial P1 and complete CP gene sequences comparison

1 East Asia: China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan; South-East Asia: Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam; Other Asia: India, Iran, Israel, Turkey, UEA; Europe: Spain, Germany, Netherlands, Italy; America: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay; Oceania: Australia, New Zealand; Africa: Tunisia, Ethiopia

*ns* not signifcant

*nd* not determined, at least four data sets are needed for calculation Statistical signifcance: Not signifcant, *P*>0.10; Statistical signifcance: Not signifcant, 0.10>*P*>0.05; \*, *P*<0.05; \*\*, P<0.01

levels and genetic diference between the three phylogroups, which was supported by the statistically significant maxi-mum Snn values (1.000) for each region (Table [5\)](#page-8-0). These fndings confrmed the existence of phylogenetic lineages and that S, L, and N types difer from each other and have unique genetic characteristics. Among the LYSV lineage populations based on P1, CP, and ORF, signifcant *Z*\* values were calculated between all main lineages (S, L, and N types). Furthermore, the *Z*\* value of the S-type for both genes was statistically signifcant and higher than that of other lineages.  $F_{ST}$  values between main lineages for all gene regions were greater than 0.33 (Table [5](#page-8-0)). These results indicated that the virus may be transmitted and spread by plant materials between geographic regions.

# **Discussion**

Although early molecular studies on LYSV revealed that leek isolates form a distinct L group (from leek) [[15](#page-10-4), [31](#page-10-20)], the genomic data of leek isolates surprisingly remained scarce because most of the newly sequenced isolates were from garlic, which belongs to either the S or N group [[1,](#page-9-0) [2,](#page-9-7) [4,](#page-9-2) [5](#page-9-8), [32](#page-10-21)]. Therefore, this population study involving recent additions of complete CP gene sequences of L isolates from onion [\[33](#page-10-22)] and leek [\[7](#page-9-3)] and P1 and CP gene sequences of L isolates could help elucidate LYSV evolution. The new Turkish isolates shared high nt and aa identities and were dispersed in the same phylogroups of previously characterized Turkish isolates in the P1 and CP trees [[7,](#page-9-3) [33](#page-10-22)] (Fig. [1](#page-4-0)). LYSV was identifed for the frst time in Aydın, İzmir, Osmaniye, Bursa, Kastamonu, and Düzce provinces of Turkey.

The previous P1 gene-based phylogenetic tree divides isolates into two major lineages (S and N types). The S-type is further split into S and O groups, and the N type into N, U, Sp and L groups [\[15\]](#page-10-4). However, this phylogrouping is not used widely because P1 is rarely targeted in the molecular detection of LYSV. Furthermore, phylogenetic analysis based on P1 is generally not reliable because the high variations in the gene could potentially generate new phylogroups every time new isolates are characterized. Given that the P1- and CP-based phylogenetic trees generated in the current study clustered isolates in the same manner, a new phylogrouping was proposed: isolates are simply clustered into S, L, and N types, and future phylogrouping of LYSV isolates should be based on CP, which is more conserved and frequently sequenced in LYSV characterization than P1.

Serological methods have low sensitivity for LYSV detection have been reported. Immunocapture-RT-PCR and standard RT-PCR are  $10^2 - 10^4$  times more sensitive than DAS-ELISA in LYSV detection [\[34](#page-10-23)]. One study described that DAS-ELISA results were erratic and unreliable for the detection of isolates no. GQ475411–13 (N type) but consistent and reliable for the detection of onion yellow dwarf virus (OYDV, genus *Potyvirus*) and garlic common latent virus (GarCLV, genus *Carlavirus*) [[1\]](#page-9-0). DAS-ELISA was also found to be less sensitive than RT-PCR in the detection of isolates no. MN070130–31 and MN864794–95 (L-type) [[33](#page-10-22)]. These phenomena could be caused by the antibodies used in DAS-ELISA that are produced from the CP of isolates of one of the types and failed to cross-react with

<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Table 5** Genetic diferentiation estimates for LYSV lineages, based on the comparisan partial P1 and complete CP gene sequences

Comparison	${}^aK_S^*$	${}^{\rm a}K_{\rm ST}$ *	$a_{Z^*}$	Snn	${}^{b}F_{ST}$
P1 gene					
S-type $(n=31)/L$ -type $(n=11)$	$4.56981(0.0000***)$		$0.06711(0.0000***)5.11292(0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.46419
S-type $(n=31)/N$ -type $(n=18)$	$4.29568(0.0000***)$		$0.10724 (0.0000***) 5.31652 (0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.53040
L-type $(n=18)$ /N-type $(n=25)$	$4.07356(0.0000***)$		$0.12906(0.0000***)$ 4.39955 $(0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.60744
Regions <sup>1</sup>					
EastAsia ( $n = 26$ )/Other Asia ( $n = 14$ )	$4.76785(0.0000***)$	$5.48983(0.0000***)5.48983(0.0020**)$		$0.82500(0.0010**)$	0.12394
EastAsia ( $n=26$ )/Oceania ( $n=3$ )	4.75023 (0.4960 ns)	$-0.00063$ (0.4960 ns) 5.01308 (0.3990 ns)		$0.91379(0.0300*)$	$-0.01830$
EastAsia ( $n = 26$ )/Europe ( $n = 4$ )	4.75745 (0.2090 ns)		$0.00486$ (0.2090 ns) 5.06919 (0.2650 ns)	$0.90000(0.0220*)$	0.00430
EastAsia ( $n = 26$ )/Africa ( $n = 4$ )	4.71040 (0.1130 ns)		$0.00844$ (0.1130 ns) 5.04565 (0.1250 ns)	$0.93333(0.0080**)$	0.01854
EastAsia ( $n = 26$ )/America ( $n = 8$ )	$4.69783(0.0230*)$		$0.02095$ (0.0230*) 5.25599 (0.0500 ns)	$0.79902(0.0240*)$	0.09881
CP gene					
S-type $(n=43)/L$ -type $(n=28)$	4.47571 (0.0000***)		$0.07421 (0.0000***) 6.24524 (0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.40952
S-type $(n=43)$ /N-type $(n=17)$	4.48495 (0.0000***)		$0.08135(0.0000***)5.88205(0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.47446
L-type $(n=28)$ /N-type $(n=17)$	$3.69765(0.0000***)$		$0.14209(0.0000***)5.26988(0.0000***)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.65472
Regions <sup>1</sup>					
EastAsia $(n=31)$ /South-East Asia $(n=5)$	$4.81443(0.0160*)$		$0.01288(0.0160*)5.38414(0.0440*)$	$1.00000(0.0000***)$	0.11413
EastAsia $(n=31)$ /Other Asia $(n=28)$	$4.58418(0.0000***)$		$0.04165(0.0000***)6.28347(0.0000***)$	$0.86885(0.0000***)$	0.16604
EastAsia ( $n=31$ )/Oceania ( $n=8$ )	4.82480 (0.3630 ns)	$000,022$ (0.3630 ns)	$5.66711(0.4120 \text{ ns})$	$0.6500(0.4830)$ ns)	$-0.00944$
EastAsia $(n=31)$ /Europe $(n=8)$	4.74016 (0.0750 ns)	$0.00964$ (0.0750 ns) 5.52633 (0.0170*)		$0.84615(0.0080**)$	0.04819
EastAsia $(n=31)/A$ frica $(n=2)$	4.80248 (0.0180*)		$0.00986(0.0180*)$ 5.26597 (0.0160*)	$0.92647(0.0310*)$	0.28008
EastAsia $(n=31)$ /America $(n=6)$	4.79641 (0.0260*)		$0.01148$ (0.0260*) 5.45808 (0.0860 ns)	$0.91892(0.0040**)$	0.04734
ORF					
S-type $(n=9)$ /N-type $(n=6)$	6.95861 $(0.0010**)$		$0.05648(0.0010**)2.90015(0.0010**)$	$1.00000(0.0010**)$	0.46169

 ${}^{\text{a}}K_{S^*}$ ,  $K_{ST^*}$ ,  $Z^*$  and Snn are test statistics of genetic differentiation

 ${}^{b}F_{ST}$  is coefficient of gene differentiation, which measures inter-population diversity

<sup>1</sup>East Asia: China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan; South-East Asia: Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam; Other Asia: India, Iran, Israel, Turkey, UEA; Europe: Spain, Germany, Netherlands, Italy; America: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay; Oceania: Australia, New Zealand; Africa: Tunisia, Ethiopia

*ns* not signifcant

\*0.01<*P-value*>0.05; \*\*0.001<*P-value*>0.01; \*\*\**P-value*<0.001

the other types due to large genomic sequence diferences (Table [2](#page-5-1)). Therefore, specifc antibodies for the detection of each LYSV type must be developed.

Among all the isolates, the mean evolutionary distance of P1 was signifcantly higher than that of CP. This fnding indicated that the P1 gene region plays active roles in the formation of new types/variants of LYSV through host selection and environmental adaptation. The evolutionary processes of the P1 gene are highly affected by recombination and gene duplication and help potyviruses adapt to diferent host species [[13\]](#page-10-2). In addition, the evolutionary distance for both gene regions was particularly high within the S-type lineage. The distance of S-type to L and N-types was also high, suggesting the larger genetic variation of S-type than that of L and N-types. The high evolutionary distance of S-type to L and N-types may be related to host species selection instead of geographic adaptation. Current attempts to identify resistant *Allium* spp. varieties only involved feld observations [\[35,](#page-10-24)

[36](#page-10-25)]. The fndings of the present study showed that leek is highly resistant to S and N types and garlic is highly resistant to L type. This observation should be considered in future breeding programs using advanced DNA marker techniques.

The obtained  $\omega$  values were all < 1, showing that the P1 and CP genes were both under negative (purifying) selection pressure, with the CP gene being under stronger pressure compared with the P1 gene. The evolutionary rates of P1 and CP genes were estimated to be 0.40 and 0.16, respectively, similar to those obtained in [\[8\]](#page-9-4) at 0.49 and 0.19, respectively. Evolutionary analysis on soybean mosaic virus, another *Potyvirus*, also revealed that its CP gene ( $\omega$  = 0.02) was more constrained for diversifcation than its P1 gene  $(ω=0.2)$  [\[14](#page-10-3)].

In this study, neutrality tests performed on both genes assigned a positive number to Eastern Asian populations (China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan) and a negative number to other Asian, Oceanian, European, and African

populations (Table [4\)](#page-7-0). Analysis of genetic diferentiation and gene flow between East Asia versus other regions consistently produced  $F_{ST}$  values < 0.33 (Table [5](#page-8-0)). These results suggested that the ancestors of current LYSV isolates may have evolved with garlic while they were endemic in East Asia and then spread to different regions of the world through garlic propagation materials. This fnding was in line with the conclusion in  $[15]$  $[15]$  and the assumption that the dissemination of garlic started from its genetic center in Central Asia and then spread to two major destinations: China/ India and Europe/Russia [\[37\]](#page-10-26). In particular, S-type might represent the strained isolates showing strict host selection; so far, onion is not a natural host for these viruses because they were mostly detected in garlic and sometimes in leek (no. DQ925452-53) (Supplementary material 1-Table 1). The extensive adaptation of S-type isolates to garlic as a natural host was also confrmed in the phylogenetic analysis of the current study.

The large  $F_{ST}$  values between main nodes (S, L, and N) strongly supported the existence of three LYSV types, the high genetic diversity among them, and the high reliability rates of dendrograms created for both genes. These values also indicated a frequent gene fow from S-type to L and N-types, and these phylogroups diferentiate from each other over time. Therefore, neutrality analysis may also corroborate the conclusion in [[15\]](#page-10-4) stating that the sequences missing in the P1 of S-type are present in the common ancestor of S and N types.

# **Conclusion**

Host diferences, inconsistent serological test results, substantial nt and aa variation, and phylogenetic and diversity analyses supported earlier studies on the separation of LYSV into three distinct evolutionary lineages: S, L, and N types [[15,](#page-10-4) [31](#page-10-20)]. Recognition of these three types and other new variants that might emerge among LYSV isolates could lead to the development of accurate and specifc diagnostic tools and the identifcation of resistant genes, which in turn will help epidemiologically control the virus.

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**Author contributions** All authors contributed to the study conception and design. P1 and CP gene sequence alignments and phylogenetic and evolutionary distance analyses were performed by AIS. Genetic diversity and evolutionary selection pressure, neutral selection, and genetic diferentiation analyses were performed by FR-Z. DAS-ELISA, RT-PCR, and nucleotide sequencing were performed by AK. Sample collection and maintenance were performed by SK. Phylogenetic analysis was supervised by SH. Funding acquisition and experiments were supervised by FE. The frst draft of the manuscript was written by AIS and FR-Z. All authors commented on previous versions of the manuscript and have read and approved the fnal manuscript.

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**Data availability** The data supporting the fndings of this study are included in this published article (and/or) its supplementary materials. The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

#### **Declarations**

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare no conficts of interest relevant to the content of this article.

**Ethical approval** This article does not contain any studies with the human participant or animal performed by any of the authors.

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