

## Supporting Online Material for

### **Rapid Diversification of Cell Signaling Phenotypes by Modular Domain Recombination**

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Materials and Methods

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## **Supplementary Information**

### ***Full Methods***

#### ***Combinatorial Cloning***

All constructs were cloned using a newly developed strategy for combinatorial cloning based on the type IIIs restriction enzyme AarI, and adapted from (*s1*) and described in Fig. S1. AarI recognizes a 7bp sequence but cuts 4 bases away from it, leaving a 4-base sticky end. In particular, [N] blocks were cloned in “donor” plasmids flanked by AarI sites with the 4-base sticky ends CCCT (so called “B”) and GCGA (so called “C”). [C] blocks were cloned in donor plasmids flanked by AarI sites with sticky ends “C” and TGCG (so called “D”). Combinatorial recombination libraries were created by ligating, in a single step, an [N] and a [C] block into an acceptor plasmid flanked by sticky ends B and D. Single domain duplication libraries were cloned into B-C or C-D acceptor plasmids, gene duplication libraries were cloned into B-D acceptor libraries. All constructs were expressed in yeast, from CEN/ARS plasmids. B-D and B-C acceptors carried a Leu marker, C-D acceptors carried a His marker. In all cases, clones were expressed using a minimal CycI promoter and an AdhI transcription terminator.

#### ***Flow cytometry***

For flow cytometry experiments we used a W303-derived strain with the following genotype: *MATa, bar1::NatR, far1Δ, mfa2::pFUS1-GFP, his3, trp1, leu2, ura3*. Analysis

of pathway-dependent GFP expression by flow cytometry was performed as follows: triplicate cultures were grown to early log phase ( $OD_{600}=0.05-0.1$ ) in complete synthetic dropout media. At time 0, cultures were treated with 1  $\mu M$   $\alpha$ -factor (Zymo Research) to activate the pathway. In initial screenings, 50  $\mu L$  aliquots were taken at time 0 and after 2 hr and were immediately treated with 10  $\mu L$  of cycloheximide (30  $\mu g/mL$ ), and dispensed into 96-well culture plates. For detailed analysis of pathway activation, aliquots were taken 30 min before addition of  $\alpha$ -factor, at time 0, and then every 30 min for 2 hr. In all cases, following incubation at room temperature for 30 min in the dark to allow for GFP fluorophore maturation, plates containing treated cultures were analyzed with a BD LSR-II flow cytometer (BD Biosciences) using a high-throughput sampler. 10,000 cells were counted for each reading, and GFP fluorescence was measured with excitation at 488 nm using a 100 mW Coherent Sapphire laser. Baselines and slopes were averaged for all triplicate cultures and standard deviation were calculated. All experiments were repeated at least twice and baseline and slopes measured in different experiments were found to be in good agreement.

### ***Quantitative Mating Assays***

Triplicate cultures of “a-type” (Strain SO992, W303-derived, trp1, leu2, ura3, his3, ADE2 can1 (s2)) transformants harboring appropriate plasmids encoding each recombination variant to be tested, were grown at 30°C to mid-log phase ( $OD_{600} = 0.5$ ).  $1 \times 10^6$  “a-type” cells were mixed with  $5 \times 10^6$  “ $\alpha$ -type” cells on the surface of a polycarbonate filter and incubated for 3.5 hr at 30°C. Mating efficiency was calculated as described (s3), averages from triplicates and standard deviations were calculated.

### ***Growth Assays***

Duplicate 5 ml cultures were grown overnight and diluted next morning to O.D = 0.1 in a volume of 30 ml of fresh synthetic drop-out media in 250 ml flasks. Fresh cultures were then incubated at 30°C with shaking at 240RPM, and O.D. were measured every 30 min for about 7 hours. O.D. values were then fitted to a single exponential of the form:

$x = x_0 * e^{kt}$ , where x is the number of cells at time t,  $x_0$  is the initial number of cells and k is the growth rate. Experiments were repeated twice and found to be in excellent agreement.

### ***Fluorescence Microscopy***

All variants analyzed by fluorescence microscopy were labeled N-terminally with GFP. Note that we analyzed all GFP-labeled variants by flow cytometry to confirm that they affected mating pathway response dynamics as their parental non-labeled clones (data not shown). Cultures were grown to early log phase in complete synthetic dropout media. 1 ml samples at OD600=0.1 were sonicated for 2 sec using a Fisher Scientific model 500 sonicator with a 2mm tip at a setting of 11%. 20  $\mu$ L samples were dispensed in concavalin A-coated wells in 384-well plates and spun down for 1 min at 1500 rpm (500xg). Imaging was performed with an automated inverted Nikon microscope with Perfect Focus using a 60 $\times$  oil immersion lens (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan).  $\alpha$ -factor was added, at time 0, to a final concentration of 1  $\mu$ M. Images were taken before and 60min after addition of pheromone.

***Supplementary Figure 1: Combinatorial cloning strategy based on the Type II restriction enzyme AarI.***

We developed a strategy to facilitate the simultaneous cloning of multiple fragments in a single step, adapted from a method described by Guet et al. (*s1*). In particular, we used the Type II restriction enzyme AarI, which recognizes a 7bp sequence but cuts 4bp away from the recognition site, leaving 4bp sticky ends of the desired sequence. We used this to our advantage, designing unique non-palindromic sticky ends to facilitate the ligation of multiple fragments in a single step. [N] blocks were cloned in “donor” plasmids flanked by AarI sites with the 4-base sticky ends CCCT (so called “B”) and GCGA (so called “C”). [C] blocks were cloned in donor plasmids flanked by AarI sites with sticky ends “C” and TGCG (so called “D”). Combinatorial recombination libraries were created by ligating, in a single step, an [N] and a [C] block into an acceptor plasmid flanked by sticky ends B and D. Single domain duplication libraries were cloned into B-C or C-D acceptor plasmids, gene duplication libraries were cloned into B-D acceptor libraries.

***Supplementary Figure 2: Random mutagenesis of a duplicated Ste50 does not substantially alter mating pathway response beyond loss of function.***

To explore the hypothesis that phenotypic divergence could be mediated by gene duplication followed by sequence divergence by point mutations, we constructed a random point mutation library of Ste50 by error-prone PCR. We chose Ste50 because it is the gene that most often led to phenotypic changes when recombined in our experiments. As shown in panel A, the mutational load is in the range of 2-6 substitutions per gene, with a fairly comparable number of transitions and transversions, all well distributed

along the gene. B, the resulting baseline and slope pairs of the mating response for 50 point mutation variants are shown as green circles. As comparison, we have overlaid as geometric shapes the extent to which gene duplication (black line), domain duplication (orange line), co-expression of all pairs of domain duplications (red line) and domain recombination (blue line) affect the mating pathway response. Our results indicate that about 90% of the analyzed Ste50 point mutants did not alter pathway response, while the remaining 10% led to inhibition of pathway response. This observation is consistent with a model in which point mutations of a duplicated gene most often lead to no change in function (one copy of the duplicated gene is non-functionalized –it loses its function- or both copies are subfunctionalized –in a multi-domain protein the function of one domain is lost). Only very rarely does point mutation leads to neo-functionalization (a new function is acquired by point mutations). In the case of Ste50, mutations that decouple the N-terminal SAM domain from the C-terminal domain, while keeping the SAM domain fully functional, might lead to the inhibition of the mating pathway (as discussed before, the SAM domains of Ste50 and Stell might act as dominant negatives).

***Supplementary Figure 3: Criteria used to select recombination chimeras for further analysis.***

We chose recombination chimeras for detailed analysis according to the following criteria: (i) the (baseline, slope) values of the recombination chimera should differ in a substantial manner from the (baseline, slope) values of the corresponding co-expression pair; and (ii) from those of the WT strain. For that, we first calculated the distance in (baseline, slope) morphospace between corresponding recombination-coexpression pairs

(shown as vectors in morphospace representation in Fig. S3A). We then calculated the distribution of distances (histogram in Fig. S3B) and chose, for further analysis, the recombination variants in the top 20% of the distribution (which follows a power law) according to the Pareto Principle. Fig. S3C shows the distance vectors moved to the origin of coordinates (transformed morphospace); vectors outside of the yellow circle correspond to the top 20% of the distribution. The recombination variants selected are shown in real morphospace in Fig. S3D.

***Supplementary Figure 4: Time courses of mating pathway activation measured by flow cytometry for the 10 recombination variants chosen for further analysis.***

In all cases, dashed black traces correspond to WT strain and green traces correspond to the specific variant analyzed.

***Supplementary Figure 5: The fitness cost of pleiotropic effects could be balanced by gains in mating efficiency.***

A, activation of the mating response induces Far1-mediated cell cycle arrest, so high basal activation of the pathway could impair growth (s4, s5). In fact, one variant (Ste50 [N]-Ste18 [C]) could not be transformed into cells containing far1, consistent with its high level of basal mating pathway activation. We found that there is no correlation between mating efficiency and growth rate, though we observed a slight correlation between growth rates and baseline levels of pathway activation (data not shown).

Interestingly, some clones with growth differences of only 2-3% from WT mate up to ~3 times better than WT. This suggests that the cost in asexual growth likely imposed by

recombination-induced network remodeling might be compensated for by the benefit in mating fitness it confers. B, to further explore this hypothesis, we have simulated the evolutionary dynamics between two strains, WT and Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C]. WT has a growth-rate advantage of ~3% per generation, whereas Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C] has a mating advantage of ~3-fold per round of mating. When these two strains are mixed and propagated with rounds of mating every 15 generations (Fig. S5B, left panel), WT strain prevails and slowly becomes predominant (yellow trace). In contrast, when cells mate every 10 generations (Fig. S5B, right panel) Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C] strain prevails and becomes predominant (blue trace). C, the yeast mating pathway shares several proteins with the high osmolarity pathway; thus, variants that alter the mating response could also affect the response to high osmolarity stimuli or lead to inappropriate cross-talk. We tested these possibilities for the ten recombination variants that more substantially affected mating response. In particular, we transformed these variants into a yeast strain carrying a fluorescent reporter of high osmolarity pathway activation (mCherry controlled by a STL1 promoter) and measured the osmolarity pathway response upon stimulation with 0.4M KCl. As shown in Fig. S5C, variants that substantially affect mating response (as illustrated by the blue contour in morphospace) only marginally affect the response to high osmolarity, with most baseline and slope values clustered near those of the wild type strain. In addition, we observed that none of the analyzed variants led to inappropriate mating to osmolarity or osmolarity to mating cross-talks (data not shown). These results suggest that recombination of domains involved in multiple pathways does not necessarily lead to detectable phenotypic changes in all pathways. In the particular case of the high-osmolarity response, we might hypothesize that the ability

of this pathway to perfectly adapt, as well as the presence of multiple upstream branches might buffer hypothetical effects triggered by the presence of the chimeric proteins.

***Supplementary Figure 6: Dose Response & Cell-to-Cell Variation***

Signaling responses are often characterized by both their dynamics of temporal activation, as well as by the specific dose response profile: whereas some pathways follow a graded dose response, others have switch like activation profiles. To explore whether domain recombination could also alter the dose response profile of the mating pathway, we measured pathway response at different concentrations of pheromone for two of the domain recombination variants that most markedly affected the mating pathway temporal response. In particular, yeast strains were stimulated with pheromone and GFP levels were measured after two hours by flow cytometry as described above (Fig. S6A). We found that expression of the domain recombination variant Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C] shifted the dose response curve towards slightly lower concentrations of pheromone. In addition, we observed that domain recombination could lead to small changes in the variability of the response among cells in a clonal population, measured as the coefficient of variation (CV) of the distribution of the GFP fluorescence signal (Fig. S6B; upper panels depicts histograms of GFP fluorescence before and 2 hs after induction with pheromone, lower panel depicts CV calculated for the GFP fluorescence distributions, values were averaged for two independent experiments). In particular, cells expressing domain recombination variant Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C] have a wider GFP fluorescence distribution and larger CV values. Taken together, these results suggest that

domain recombination might also alter the sensitivity of the mating pathway to pheromone levels.

***Supplementary Figure 7: Protein abundance does not correlate with phenotypic effects.***

We investigated whether phenotypic effects could simply depend on the abundance of a particular variant. In particular, we labeled the N-termini of seven domain recombination variants and four domain duplication variants with GFP and measured GFP fluorescence levels by flow cytometry as a proxy to estimate protein levels at steady state. We observed that there is no clear correlation between protein abundance and phenotypic effects, though we noticed that single domain variants appeared to be present at higher levels than domain recombination variants.

***Supplementary Figure 8: Annotated map of domain architecture and function for the 11 mating pathway genes used in this study.***

In all cases, targeting/regulatory domains are shown in purple and catalytic domains in orange; whereas [N]-terminal blocks are shown as yellow boxes and [C]-terminal blocks as pink boxes.

***Supplementary Figure 9:*** Putative mechanisms by which the analyzed domain recombination variants might alter mating pathway response.

## Supplementary References

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- s4. M. Peter, A. Gartner, J. Horecka, G. Ammerer, I. Herskowitz, *Cell* **73**, 747 (May 21, 1993).
- s5. M. J. Winters, R. E. Lamson, H. Nakanishi, A. M. Neiman, P. M. Pryciak, *Mol Cell* **20**, 21 (Oct 7, 2005).

## Supplementary List of Sequences

All constructs were expressed under control of a ~250bp fragment of the constitutive CycI promoter and include the N-t adaptor sequence (present in the vector used for combinatorial cloning):

ATGCTCGAGTCCCTA

Sequences of the different blocks used:

GpaI [C]

GGGTGTACAGTGAGTACGCAAACAATAGGAGACGAAAGTGATCCTTTCTAC  
AGAACAAAAGAGCCAATGATGTCATCGAGCAATCGTTGCAGCTGGAGAAC  
AACGTGACAAGAATGAAATAAAACTGTTACTATTAGGTGCCGGTGAGTCAGG  
TAAATCAACGGTTTAAAACAATTAAAATTATTACATCAAGGCGGTTCTCCC  
ATCAAGAAAGGTTACAGTATGCTCAAGTGAATGGGCAGATGCCATACAATC  
AATGAAAATTGATTATTCAAGGCCAGAAAACTAGGTATTCAACTGACTGTG  
ATGATCCGATCAACAATAAGATTGTTGCATGCAAGAGAAACTGCTAAA  
GGCTAAAGCTTAGATTATCAACGCCAGTGTGCCGGTGGTTCTGATTTCT  
TAAATGATTATGTAAGTACTCAGAAAGGTATGAAACTAGGAGGCGTGT  
TCAGAGTACCGGACGAGCAAAAGCTGCTTCGATGAAGACGGAAATATTCT  
AATGTAAAAGTGACACTGACAGAGATGCTGAAACGGTGACGCAAAATGAG  
GATGCTGATAGAAACAACAGTAGTAACTACAGGATATTGCAAGG  
ACTTGAACCAAGAAGGCGATGACCAGATGTTGTTAGAAAAACATCAAGGGA  
AATTCAAGGACAAATAGACGAAATCTTATTCAACGAAAGACATTGCTAAGGCA  
ATAAAGCAACTTGGAAATAACGACAAAGGTATAAAGCAGTGTGTTGCACGTT  
CTAATGAGTTCAATTGGAGGGCTCAGCTGCATACTACTTGATAACATTGAG  
AAATTGCTAGTCCGAATTATGTCTGTACGGATGAAGACATTGAAAGGGCC  
GTATAAAGACTACAGGCATTACAGAAACCGAATTAAACATCGGCTCGTCAA  
ATTCAAGGTTCTCGACGCTGGTGGCAGCGTTCTGAACGTAAGAAGTGGATT  
CATTGTTCGAAGGAATTACAGCAGTTTATTGTTAGCAATGAGTGAATA  
CGACCAGATGTTGTTGAGGATGAAAGAGTGAACAGAATGCATGAATCAATA  
ATGCTATTGACACGTTATTGAACGTTCAAAGATAACACCGTTAT

TTTGTAAAAATAAAATTGATTGTCGAGGAAAAGTAAAAAGCATGCCA  
TAAGAAAGTACTTCCTGATTACCAAGGGACGTGTCGGCGATGCAGAACGGG  
TCTAAAATTTGAGAAGATATTGAGCTGAATAAGACAAACAAACCA  
ATCTACGTAAACGAACCTGCGCTACCGATAACCAAACATGAAGTCGTAT  
TGAGTGCAGTCACCGATCTAATCATCCAGCAAAACCTAAAAAAATTGGTAT  
TATATGA

Ste4 [N]

GCAGCACATCAGATGGACTCGATAACGTATTCTAATAATGTCACCCAACAGT  
ATATACAACCACAAAGTCTACAGGATATCTCTGCAGTGGAGGATGAAATTCA  
AAATAAAATAGAGGCCGCCAGACAAGAGAGTAAACAGCTCATGCTCAAAT  
AAATAAGCAAAACACAAGATACAAGATGCAAGCTTATTCCAGATGGCCAA  
CAAAGTTACTTCGTTGACCAAAAATAAGATCAACTTAAAGCCAAATATCGT  
TTGAAAGGCCATAATAATAAACTCAGATTTCGGTGGAGTCGAGATTCAA  
AACGTATTGAGTGCAGTCAAGATGGCTTATGCTTATATGGGACAGTGCT  
TCAGGTTAAAACAGAACGCTATTCCATTAGATTCTCAATGGGTTCTTCCTG  
CGCTATTGCCATCGAGTACTTGGTAGCAAGCGCAGGATTAACAAATAAC  
TGTACCATTAGAGTTCGAAAGAAAACAGAGTAGCGCAAAACGTTGCGT  
CAATTCAAAGGACATACTGCTATTGACATTGAATTACAGATAAC  
GCACATATTGACAGCAAGTGGGATATGACATGTGCCTGTGGATATAC  
CGAAAGCAAAGAGGGTGAGAGAATATTCTGACCATTAGGTGATTTGGC  
ATTAGCTATTCTGAAGAGCCTAACTCAGAAAATTCTCGAACACATTGCTA  
GCTGTGGATCAGACGGGTATACTTACATATGGGATAGCAGATCTCCGTCGC  
TGTACAAAGCTTACGTTAACGATAGTGTATTAAATGCACCTCGTTTCA  
AAGACGGGATGTCGATTGTCAGGAAGTGACAATGGTGCATAAATATGTA  
TGATTAAAGGTCGGACTGTTCTATTGCTACTTTCTCTTCGAGGTTATGA  
AGAACGTACCCCTACCCCTACTTATATGGCAGCTAACATGGAGTACAATACC  
GCGCAATGCCACAAACTTAAAATCAACAAAGCTCAAGCTATCTAGACAACC  
AAGGCGTTCTTAGATTAGTCATGGTGGCAGAGTCAGGGTGTGCGCTCGAGTCCAGA  
TGGGTTAGCTGTATGTACAGGTTCATGGGACTCAACCATGAAAATATGGTCTC  
CAGGTTATCAATAG

Ste18 [C]

ACATCAGTTCAAAACTCTCCACGCTTACAACAAACCTCAGGAACAGCAACAGC  
AACAGCAACAGCTTCCTAAAGATAAAACAATTGAAGTTAAAAGAATCAA  
CGAACTTAACAATAAACTGAGGAAAGAACTCAGCCGTGAAAGAATTACTGCT  
TCAAATGCATGTCTTACAATAAACTATACTCGAATACAAAGATTATA  
CATTACCAGAACTATGGGCTACCCCGTAGCAGGATCAAATCATTATAGA  
GGGTTGAAAAATGCTAAAAAAATAGCCAAATGTCAAACACTCAAATAGTGT  
TGTTGTACGCTTATGTAA

Ste5 [N]

ATGGAAACTCCTACAGACAATATAGTTCCCTTTACAATTGGTAGCTC  
GACACAATATAGTGGTACCTTGTGAGAACCTCCAAACCAATAATAGAGCTA

GAGAAGCCCAGTACTCTATCCCCATTGTCAAGAGGAAAAAAATGGACGGAA  
AAGTTAGCCAGGTTCAAAGAAGTAGTGCTAAAAAGAAAAGATTCTCACCTT  
CTCCTATTCCTCCTACATTTCGTCTCACCCAAATCTAGGGTCACTTCTT  
CAAACCTCTGGCAATGAAGACGGTAACCTAATGAATACACCTCTACGGTT  
TCCACTGATTATTGCCACAACACCCCTCACAGAACATCGTCTTGCCAAGACC  
TAATTCCAATCTCTTCACGCAAGTAATAGTAACCTATCCCGAGCAAATGAGC  
CCCCAAGGGCCGAAAATTATCAGATAATATACCACCCAAGGTCGCTCCATT  
TGGCTATCCAATACAAAGAACCTCTATTAAAAAATCCTTTGAATGCTTCTT  
GTACGTTATGTGACGAGCCTATTCTAACAGAAGAAAGGGAGAGAAAATTAT  
AGAGCTTGCATGTGGCCACTTAAGTCACCAAGAATGTCTTATTATCTCTTTG  
GCACCACTTCAAAGGCAGACGTTCGTGCCTATTCTTTGTACCAAATGT  
AAAAAAAGATACTAACAAAGCCGTTCAATGCATTCCAGAAAATGATGAACAA  
AGGATATTCTAATTCTGATTTTGATTCATAGATTCTGATTCTGAGTTAT  
CAATCACACCTCAGTCCCCTTCCTTATTACCACTTTGCCTCCT

Ste5 [C]

TCACCACTCTGCCTCTTGGTTATCCTATACACCTGTTGAAAGACAAAC  
GATATATTCTCAAGCTCAAGTCTAAACCCAAATCTCATATTGGCTGCACCC  
CCAAGGAAAGAAACCAAATTCCACAAAAAAATCAAACATACATTTCACA  
TTCACCCCTGGGCACAGAAGAATTCCGTCCGGAGCAAACCTATCTTAGCA  
GACACCTCTGTAGCGTTGTAGCTAATGATTCTATTCTGCTGTTCCAATTG  
GTAAGAGCAAAGGATGACGAAACCAAAACACGTTGCCGCTGTTAAGGTCA  
ATTTTATTCAAATTCTTGAACAATTCCAGGAAGAATTGCAAGGATTGGAGA  
ATAGACGGGACTATGGATTACTAACGGTTGGTAGACAAATTGATGATTCCA  
AAGATGGTCAGAGATATATAACATGCTGGTTCTATTGAAGACGCATT  
GTAATAGCAGAAGTGGATAACGATGTTGATGTTGGAAATTAGACTAAAGA  
ATTTAGAAGTATTACACCTATTGCCAACTTGAGAATGACTACACTCGAAGCT  
TCAGTACTCAAATGCACCTTAAATAAACACATTGCGCCGATTATCAGATCT  
TTACATTGTTAGAATATAAAATTCTGACGAAAGCACAACGTACAGAAATGG  
ATATCAGGTATTGAATCAGGATTGTATTCAATGAGGACAATATCACTTC  
GACCCTGCCTATTCTCCCATTATAAAGAACCTTCAAAGATGTTGGTAATG  
GTAGGCACGAGACGAGTACCTTCTAGGTTAATCAATCCTAACAAAGTTGTT  
GAAGTTGGAAATGTGCACGATAATGATACTGTAATCATAAGGAGGGATTCA  
CCTTAAATTAGGAGAATGTTCTAGGCAGAGTACTGTCGACAGTATACAATC  
TGTCTAACACGATAAGCTCAATTCTCCCTAAACGAGAAAAACCTGATA  
ATTTGGCAATAATCTACAGATCGATTACGAAATTGAAGGAAGAAGACAG  
TTAATTGTTGTTATAACAGTCTAAAGCTTAACCATTAAATTGCGCGTT  
GCAGTTGTTCTGTTGATCGAAATAATTATGTTCTGGACTATGGATCGGTAT  
TACACAAGATAGATTCACTAGATTCCATCTCAAATCTCAAATCAAAGAGTTCC  
TCGACACAATTTCACCTATTGGTTGAAAAACTCTATATCCGAAAATAT  
TCATGAACATTGGGTATTGTTGCTGTCAAATAGTAATATGGAAGCAAAA  
AAATCCATACTATTCAAGATTACAGATGCTTACAAGTTGGAAGAAGAA  
GCCCAATGAATTGAAGATTAAGGTGGCTATTGAACGTTGACTACAGTGA  
TAAAATTGATGAACTAGTCGAGGCCAGCTCCTGGACTTTGTTAGAAACTC  
TTGCTACAGTTCGGTCTAAGTTGATGAACATGATGACGATGACGAAGAG  
GATAATGATGATTGACCGATAATGAACATTGATAATAGTTAGGATCACTGT

CGGATGCTGAATCTACAACACTATTCATATTGATTCTCCATTGATAATGAA  
AATGCTACCGCAAATATGGTGAATGACAGAACCTCTCACTGAGGGTGAAC  
ATAGCAATATAGAAAACCTAGAAACTGTCGCTCTCAGTACAGCCAGCTCT  
GATTCTAATATTAGATTTCACTTCATTCTGAGGAGGAAGGTACTAATGAAA  
ATGAAAATGAAAATGATATGCCAGTATTACTTAGTGATATGGATAAAGG  
AATCGATGGCATAACCAGACGCAGTCATTCTGAGTCTTATAGAGAGCGGT  
AATAACAACGTCCCCTCCATATGGATTATATAG

Ste50 [N]

ATGGAGGACGGTAAACAGGCCATCAATGAGGGATCAAACGATGCTCGCCG  
GATCTGGACGTGAATGGCACAATATTGATGAATAATGAAGACTTTCCAGT  
GGTCGGTTGATGATGTGATAACTTGGTGTATATCCACGCTGGAGGTGGAAGA  
AACCGATCCATTATGTCAGAGACTGCGAGAAAATGATATTGTAGGAGATCTT  
TTGCCGGAATTGTGCTGCAAGATTGCCAGGACTTGTGACGGTGATTGAA  
TAAGGCCATAAAATTCAAGATACTGATCAATAAGATGAGAGACAGCAAGTTG  
GAGTGGAAAGGACGACAAGACTCAAGAGGACATGATAACGGTACTGAAAAAC  
TTGTACACTACTACATCTGCAAATTGCAAGAATTCAATCGCAGTACACAA  
GGCTGAGGATGGATGTCTGGACGTAATGAAGACCAGC

Ste50 [C]

TCAAGCTCTCTCCGATTAACACACATGGAGTGTCCACTACGGTACCTTCTTC  
AAACAAACACAATTATACCCAGTAGTGACGGTGTCTCTTCACAAACAGAC  
TATTCGACACAGTTCATAACCGACAATCACCGTCAAGGAGAGAATCCCCGG  
TAACGGTATTAGGCAACCCAGTCTTCCCCTCAAAATCTTGACAAAGGAT  
AGCAAAAACAAAGTACCCCAAATATCTACAAACCAATCTCACCCATCTGCCG  
TTTCAACAGCGAACACACCCGGGCATCACCTAACGAGGCCTTAAACAGTT  
GCGTCATCTAAAGAAGACTCCTGCGAACGGATCTGAAAAACGCAATGAAA  
AGACATAACTTAGCAGATCAGGATTGGAGACAATATGTCTGGTCATTGCT  
ATGGGGATCAAGAGAGGCTGTTAGAATTGAAACGAAAAGCCTGTGATCATATT  
CAAGAACTTAAAGCAACAGGGTTGCACCCGCCATTATGTTAAGAAGAAGA  
GGTGATTCGAAGAAGTAGCAATGATGAACGGAAGTGACAATGTCACCCCG  
GTGGAAGACTCTAA

Ste11 [N]

GAACAGACACAAACAGCAGAGGGCACTGACTTACTAATTGGTGACGAAAAG  
ACCAACGATTACCTTTGTGCAGTTATTCTGGAGGAAATAGGATGCACTCA  
ATACCTGGATAGCTTATTCACTGCAACCTGTCACAGAAGAAGAAATTAAG  
TATCTCGACAAGGATATCCTCATTGCTTGGGTGAAACAAAATAGGAGACA  
GACTCAAAATTAAAGGAAGTCAAAATGTCAGAGAGATAACGGATTGA  
ACAGGTGAATAGATTGAAAAACCTGATGGAAAAAGTAAGCTCTATCCACT  
GCTACGCTATCGATGAATTCAAGAATTGATTCTGAAAGCAC

Ste11 [C]

GAAAAGCACTGTGTTATTATCTAAACGATGGTCCGCTAAGAAAGTTAA  
TGTAAATGGTTGCTTAATGCAGATTCTATTAAAGAAAAGGCTAATCAGAAGA  
TTGCCACATGAATTATTAGCCACAAACTCCAATGGAGAAGTAACTAAAATGG

TCCAAGATTATGATGTGTTGTCTTAGATTATACCAAGAACGTACTGCATTG  
 CTATATGACGTGGAATTAGTCACTATTGCCACGCAAATGATCGTGTGAGAA  
 AAATAGGCTAATTTGTTCCAAAGACCAAACACCAAGTGATAAAGCTATA  
 TCCACATCCAAAAAACTATATCTAAGAACGTTGAGTGCATTGAGCCAGGTTG  
 GGCCATCCTCGTCAAATTGTTGGCACAGAACACAAGGGGATTTCGCATAACAA  
 TGCTGAAGGAAACTCCGGATCGACAACACAGAAAAGGACAGAATTAGACA  
 GATTTTAATCAGAGGCCTCTAGCGAATTATTCTACCAATTGGCCGGAT  
 ATTTCTCATACAGACATGAAGCGGTGCAAAAGACGATGAGAGAGTCATT  
 TCGCCATTCAAGGCTAACGATTGCTCAAAGAACGCTTAAGTGCAGAA  
 TCAAATAATATCGGTGACATACTATTGAAACACTCAAACGCTGTTGATATGG  
 CCCTATTACAAGGATTAGATCAGACAAGATTAAGCAGTAAACTGACACAAC  
 TAAAATTCCGAAGCTTGCCTCATAAAAGGCCAGAACAGATAATGATGCCATATCT  
 AACCAAGTTAGAACTATTAAGTAGAGTCTGGTGAAGAACAGATCACGATT  
 TCTTGGGAGGACAGTGACATTGTTCATACCGACGAAAATTGCCACGCC  
 AAGAATTGGTAAAGGTGCTGCATTGGATCAGGCAGTTTGGGAGTGT  
 ACTTGGGCATGAATGCTCACACTGGTAACATGGCAGTAAAGCAAGTGG  
 GATAAAAATAATAACATTGGTGTCCCACAGACAACAATAAACAGCCAAT  
 TCTGATGAGAATAATGAGCAGGAGGAACAACAAGAGAAAATAGAACAGATGTT  
 GGGCGGTAAGTCATCCAAAAACCAATCAAATATTCAAGAACAGATGGTTG  
 ATGCTTACAGCATGAAATGAATTATTGAAGGAGTTACATCATGAGAACAT  
 TGTTACTTATTATGGTGTCTCAAGAAGGCGGAAATTAAATATTCTTG  
 AATACGTTCCCTGGGGGTTCGGTTCCATGCTGAATAATTACGGTCCATT  
 GAGGAATCACTGATTACTAATTCACTAGGCAAATACTGATTGGGTTGCGT  
 ATTCGATAAGAACATTATTCAAGAGATATCAAGGGTCAAATATT  
 GATTGATATCAAAGGTTCGTAAAATTACTGATTGGTATTCAA  
 TATCACCTTGAATAAAAACAAAATAAGAGAGCTTCAAGGTTCCGT  
 ATTCTGGATGTCACCAGAGGTGGTCAAACAGACCGCTACTACTGCTAAAGCG  
 GATATATGGTCTACAGGATGTGTTGCATTGAAATGTTACCGTAAGCATCC  
 TTTCCAGATTTCTCAAATGCAAGCGATCTCAAATAGGCACAAACACGA  
 CCCCCGAGATACCTCCTGGCTACGTCAAGGAAAGAATTCTTAAGAAA  
 GGCATTGAGTTGGATTATCAATACAGGCCTAGTGCCCTGAATTGCTGCAGC  
 ATCCATGGCTGGATGCACACATAATTGA

### Ste20 [N]

AGCAATGATCCATCTGCTGTATCGGAACCTACCAAGACAAGGACAGTCTTGATA  
 ACGGTATCAGCAATGACAATGAAAGGGCATGGCGGGCAATGGCGATGGCG  
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 AGCAGTCACTCCAAACATAAATACCAGCAATATAACCCGGATCATTCTGCT  
 GACAACACATTTCACCATAATGCGTCCGAGTCAGATCACCAGTTAATGA  
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CTCTAAACCATCGATGACAACCACGCCAAGACAGATCAATTAGCTTCCCATT  
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AAAATTGTTGACTTCTAGTGGTATTCCAAGAGAGAACACAGCAAAACATG  
CAAGCAGTCATGGATATTGTCAAATTCTATCAGGATGTCACGGAAACAAACG  
GTGAAGATAAA

Ste20 [C]

GAAGATAAAATGTTCAAGACTTCAACACAAACCACAGGATTGCCGGGAAGTC  
CTCAAGTTCAACACCGCCTGCAAACCTATTCAATAAAATTCCCTCGACAG  
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Cdc42 [N]

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TCATCGAGAAGTTGCAAAGACAAAGATTACGTCCGATTACATCAGAACAGG  
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Cdc24 [N]

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TCTGTGAAGCCGCAATTAAATTACCGTAATAGCATCTGACGATTGAAAGT  
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TTAACGATGAGGAGCTTCACTATATCCGACGTTTGCCAACCTACTTCC  
CAGCTGGTCAAAGTGTAGAAGTAGAAGAACGCTAATGAATTCCAGCCCTA  
CT

Cdc24 [C]

TCCAGCCCTACTATTTCCCCCTAAAGAGTAAGACACAGCAAATCATGAACG  
CAGAAAACCAACACCGACATCAGCCTCAGCAGTCTCGAAGAAGCATAACG  
AGTATGTTAAAATTATCAAGGAATTGTTGCAACCGAAAGAAAATATGTTCA  
CGATTGGAAATTGGATAAAATATAGACAGCAGTTATTAGACAGCAATCTA  
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ATTTCGAATACACATAATAACAACATTCAACCAATCACCAAGATCAAATATC  
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TATTGA

Ste7 [N]

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TTGGATGCGTT

Ste7 [C]

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CGCAAAATGAACCTGTTAGTTCTGTCTCTATCACAACTCCCGTGTGTT  
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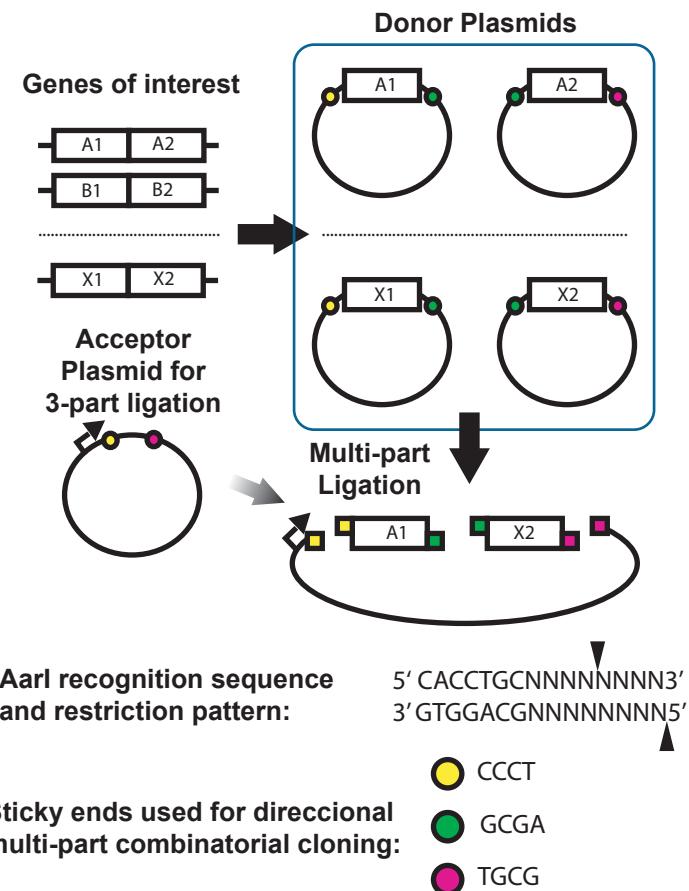
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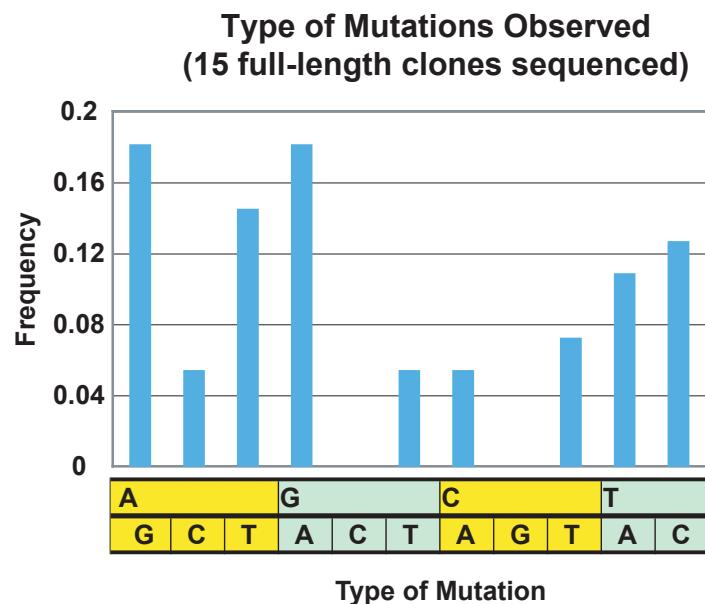
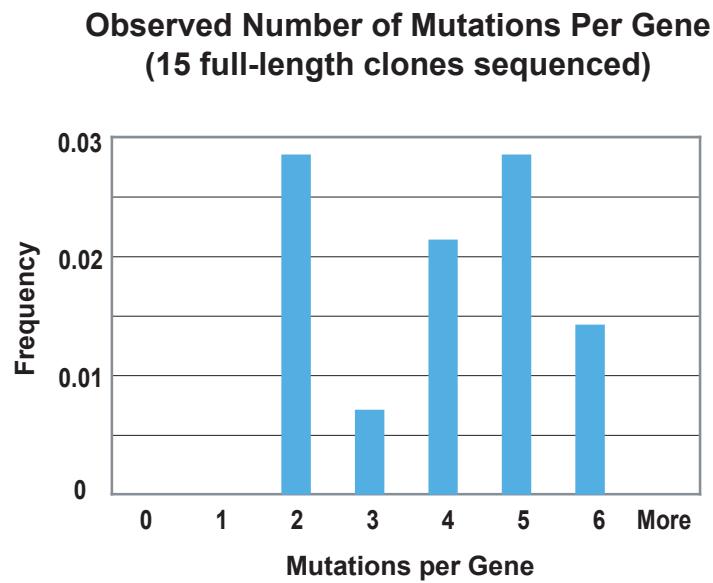
Fus3 [C]

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TACGTACGCTCGTGAATAAGATCCTGAAGCACTCAAGCACGAAAATAT  
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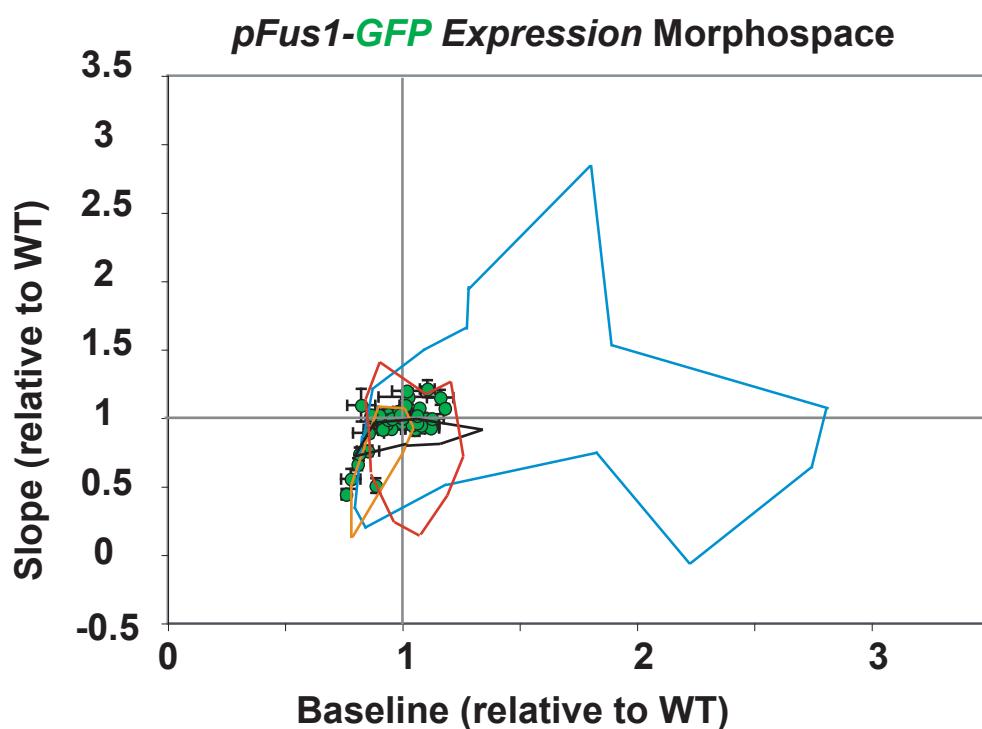
**Supplementary Table 1: Mating Efficiency (relative to WT) of the analyzed recombination variants.**

	Relative mating efficiency	Standard deviation
Ste20 [N]-Fus3 [C]	0.09	0.01
Ste50 [N]-Ste20 [C]	0.35	0.02
Ste20 [N]-Ste11 [C]	0.6	0.1
Cdc42 [N]-Ste18 [C]	1.4	0.3
Ste50 [N]-Ste11 [C]	1.7	0.3
Ste4 [N]-Ste5 [C]	1.76	0.01
Ste50 [N]-Cdc24 [C]	1.8	0.2
Ste5 [N]-Ste11 [C]	3.2	0.9
Ste50 [N]-Ste7 [C]	3.30	0.07

**A****Strategy for Multi-Part Combinatorial Cloning of Domain Recombination Libraries**

**A****Characterization of the Random Point Mutation Ste50 Library**

**Observed Distribution of Mutations Along Ste50 Gene  
(15 full-length clones sequenced)**

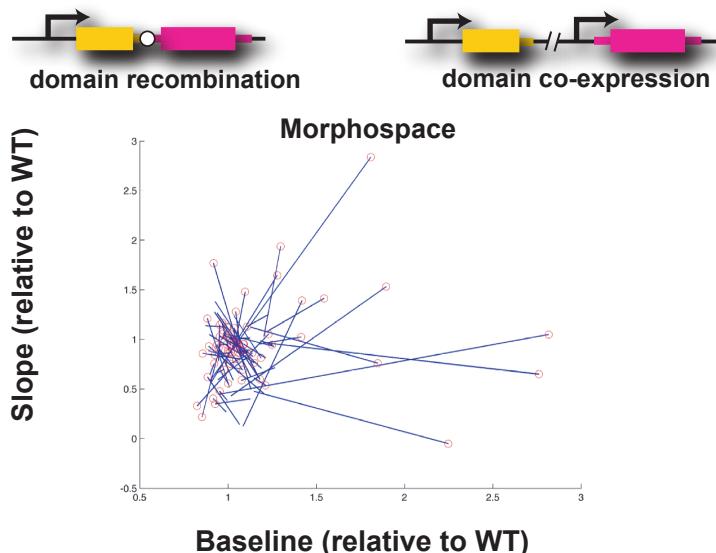
**B**

**Recombination Chimeras differing from WT and from the corresponding co-expression variants were chosen for further analysis**

**Supplementary Figure 3**

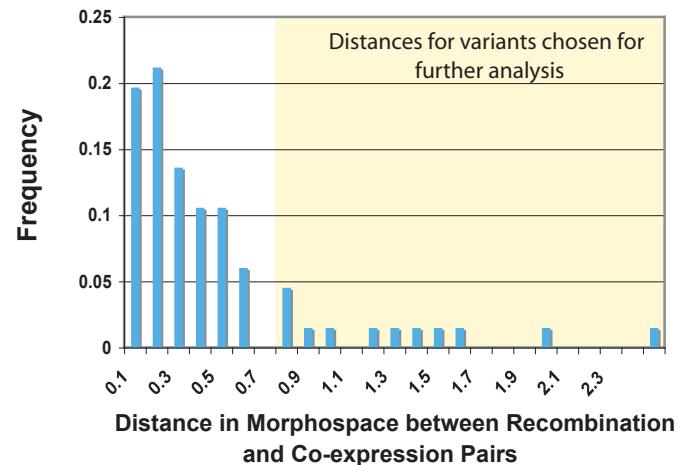
**A**

Distance in Morphospace between corresponding Recombination and Co-expression Pairs.  
For every vector, the (slope,baseline) values of the recombination variant is marked with a circle.



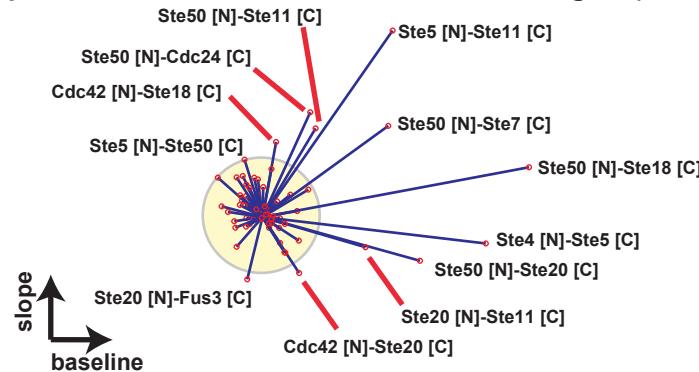
**B**

Distribution of distances in Morphospace  
Top 20% of the distribution where chosen for further analysis according to the Pareto Principle.



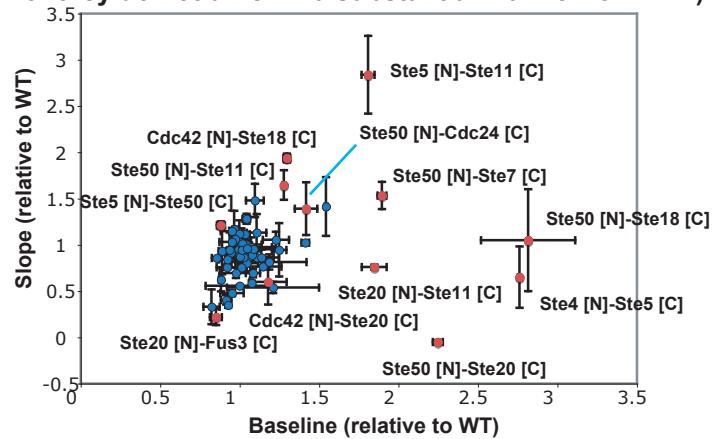
**C**

Transformed Morphospace  
(all vectors moved to the origin of coordinates  
vectors outside of the yellow circle correspond to the top 20% of the distribution shown in the histogram)



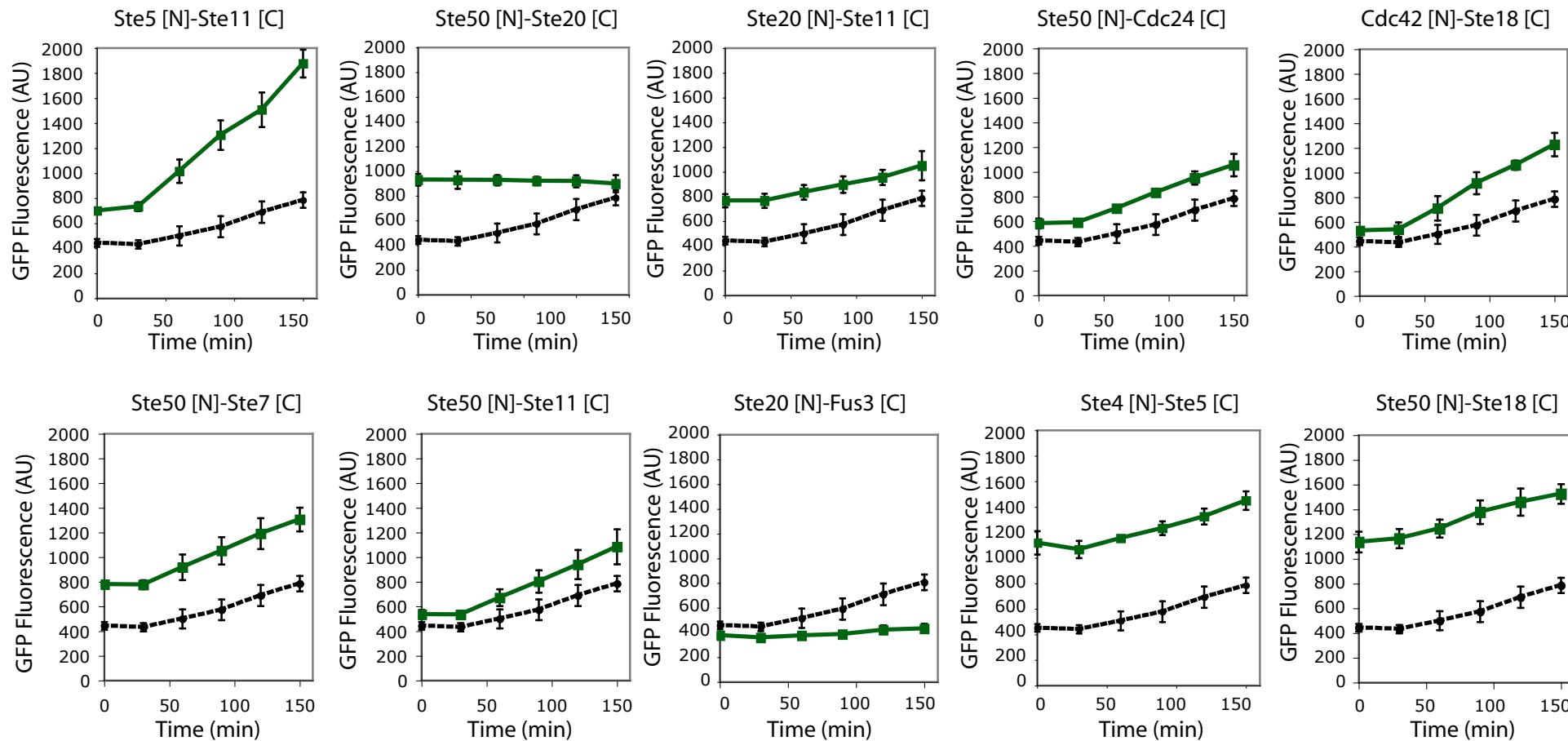
**D**

Location on Morphospace of variants chosen for further analysis  
(Variants Ste5[N]-Ste50[C] and Cdc42[N]-Ste20[C] were not analyzed for they do not differ in a substantial manner from WT)

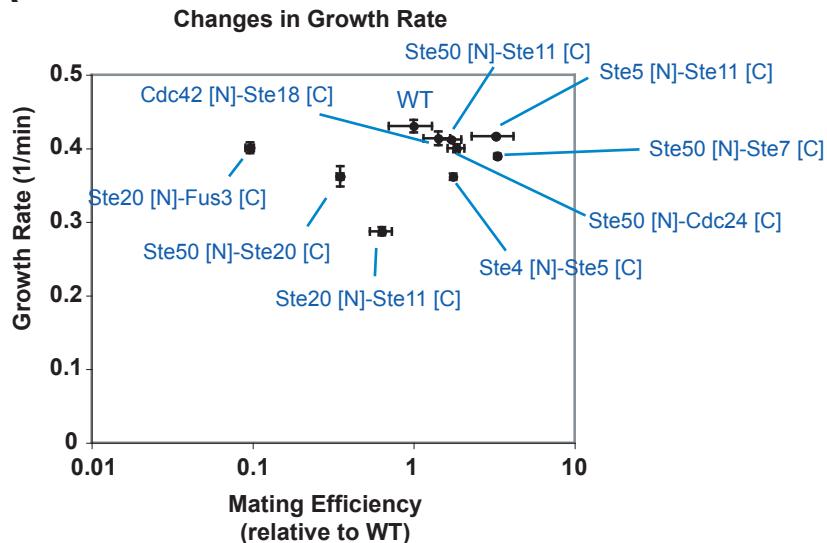


Supplementary Figure 4

Time Courses of Mating Pathway Activation Measured by Flow Cytometry  
In all cases, dashed black trace corresponds to WT strain

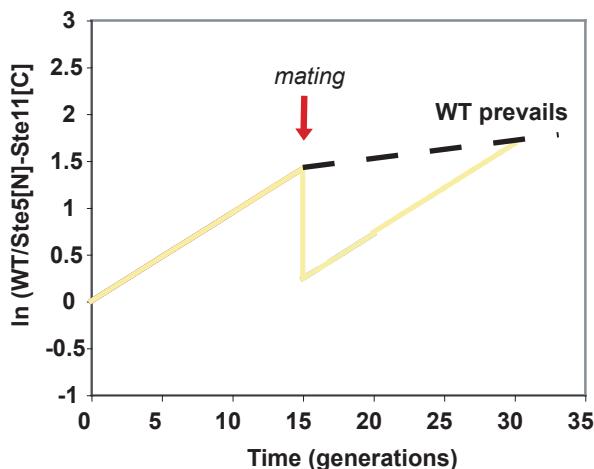


# The fitness cost of pleiotropic effects could be balanced by gains in mating efficiency

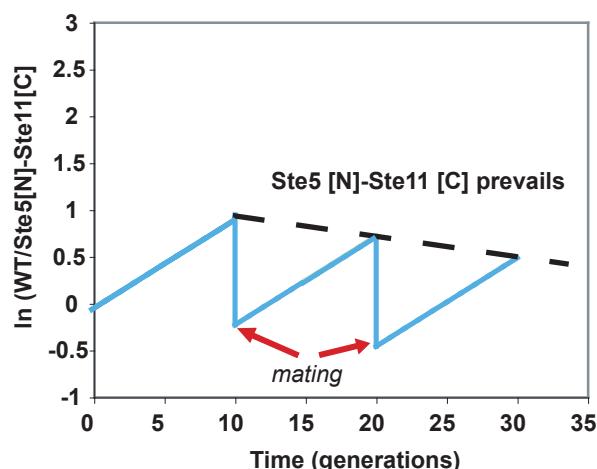
**A****B**

Selective advantages might depend on the frequency of mating

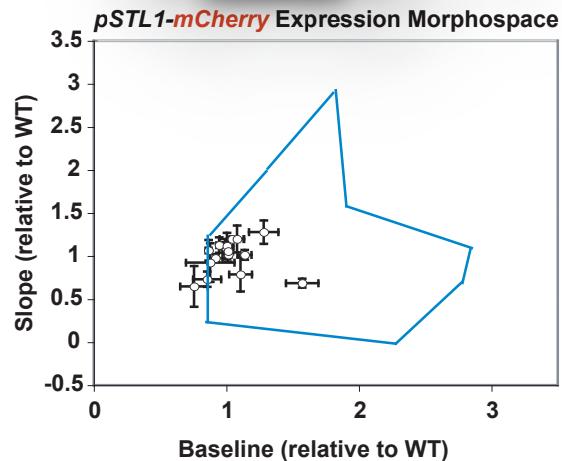
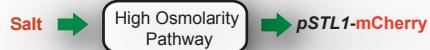
Mating every 15 generations

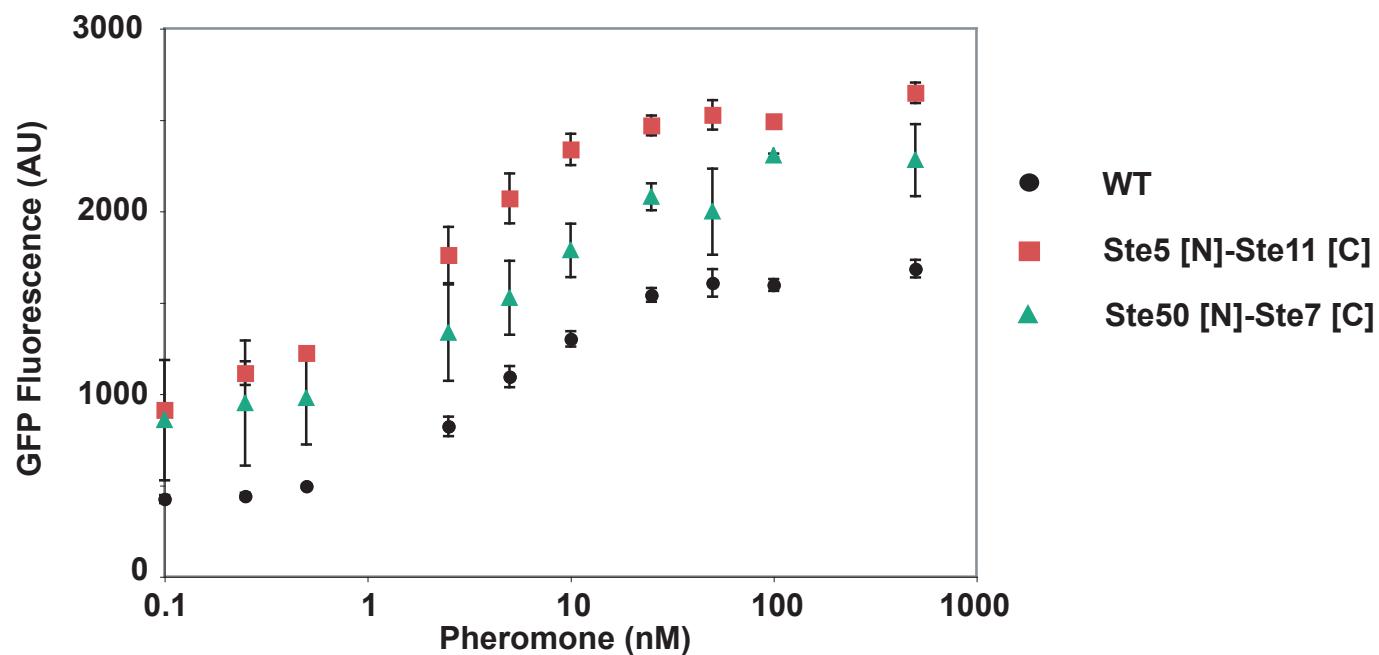
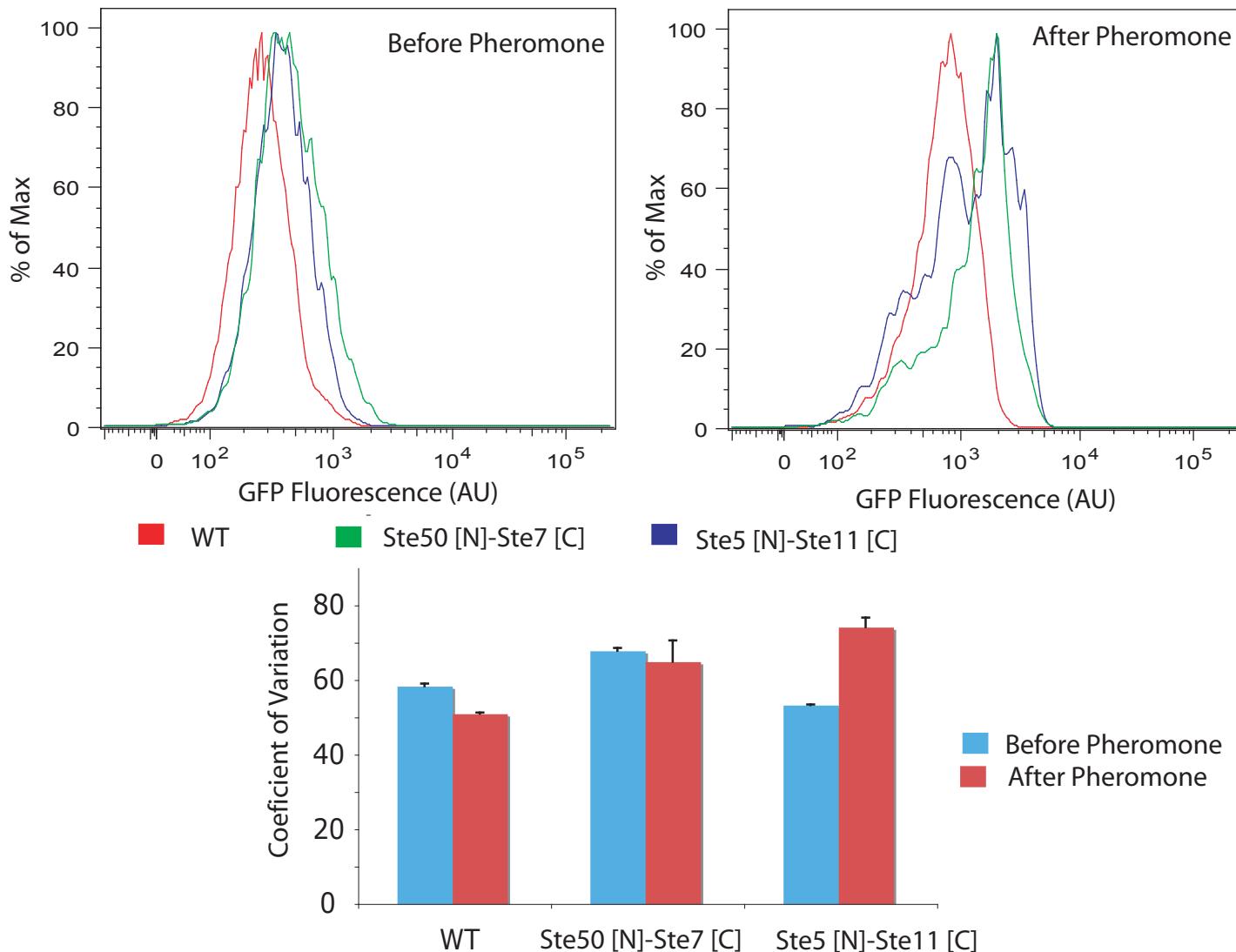


Mating every 10 generations

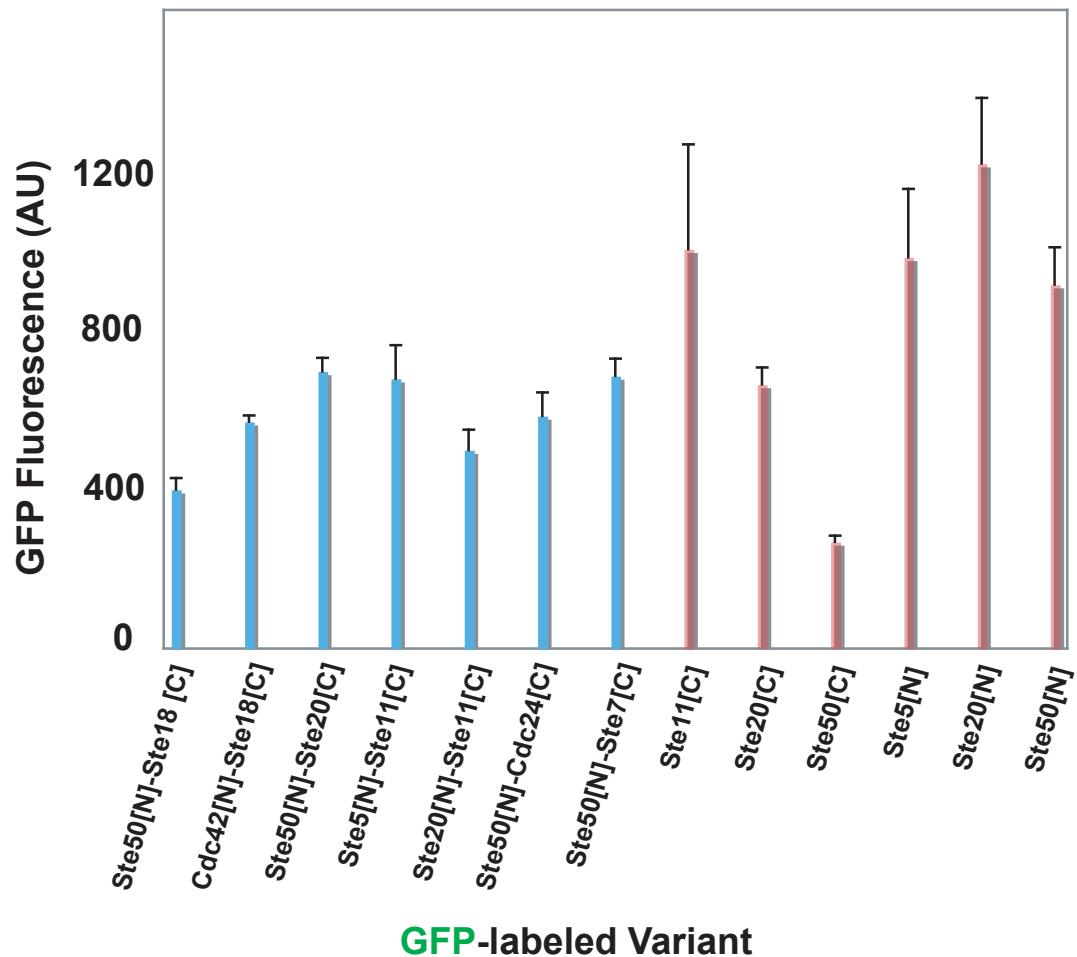
**C**

The High Osmolarity Pathway is only marginally affected

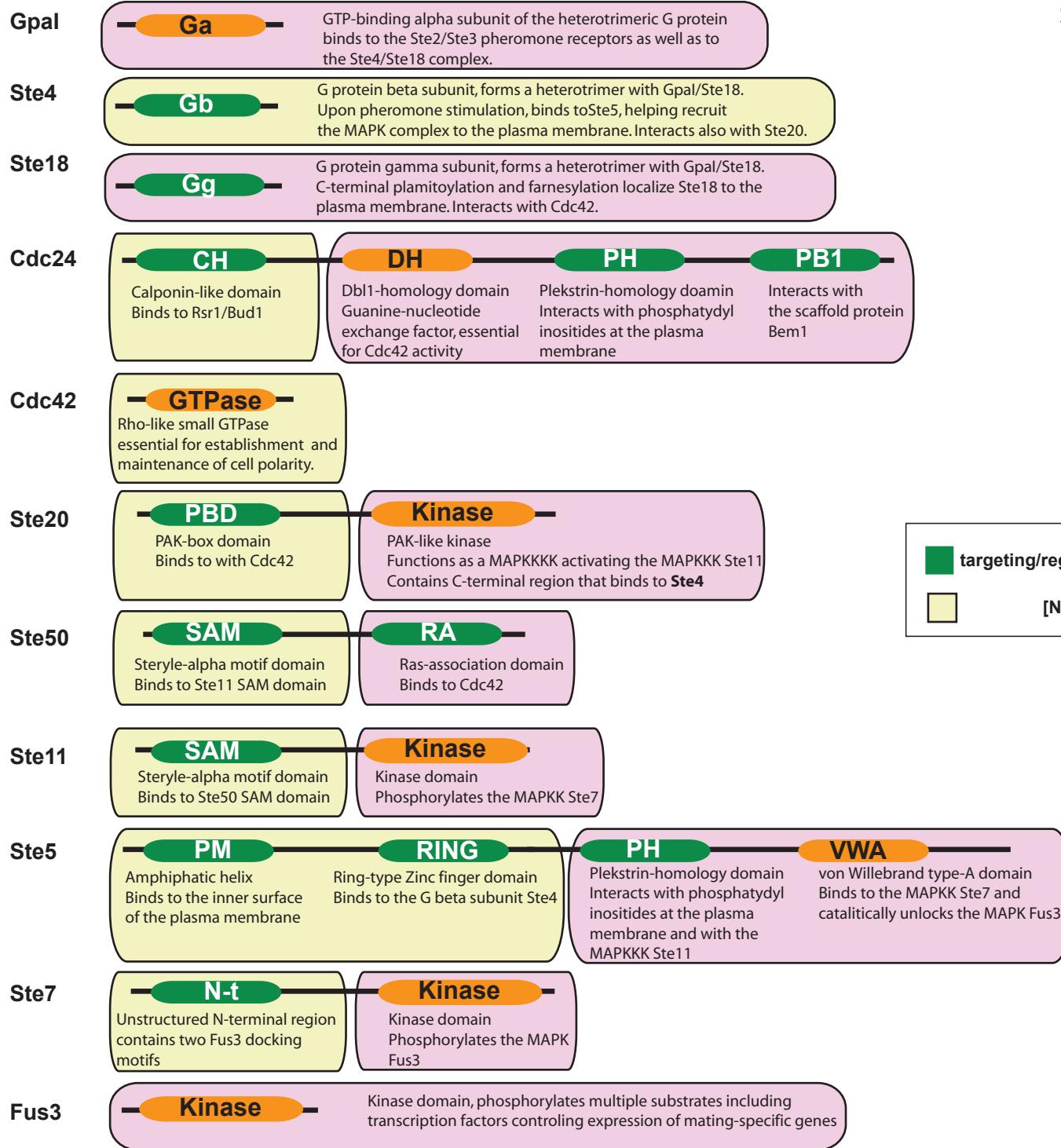


**A****Pheromone Dose Response Curves****Supplementary Figure 6****B****Analysis of Cell-to-Cell Variability in Pathway Response**

There is no correlation between protein abundance and effects on mating pathway response

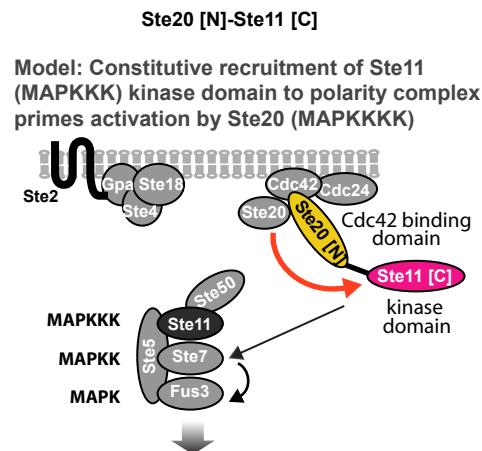


Supplementary Figure 8

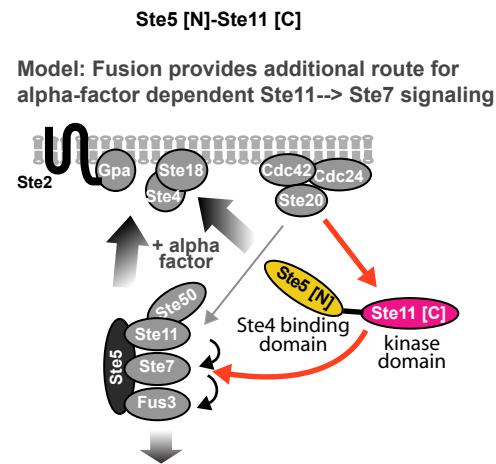


Supplementary Figure 9

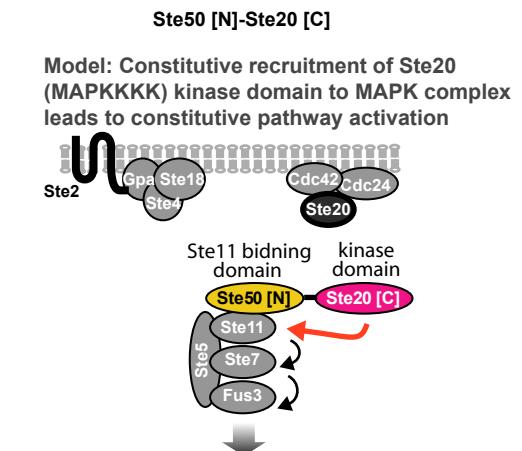
A



B



C



## List of Plasmids used in this study

Library Type	Clone #	Clone Name	Promoter	Clone Identity
<b>Full length</b>	1 Cdc24 2 cdc42Y 3 Fus3P 4 gpalP 5 Ste11 6 Ste18P 7 Ste20 8 Ste4Y 9 Ste5 10 Ste50 11 Ste7	CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI		Cdc24 cdc42 Fus3 gpal Ste11 Ste18 Ste20 Ste4 Ste5 Ste50 Ste7
<b>BLOCKS</b>	1 Cdc24P 2 Cdc24Y 3 Ste11P 4 Ste11Y 5 Ste20P 6 Ste20Y 7 Ste50P 8 Ste50Y 9 Ste5P 10 Ste5Y 11 Ste7P 12 Ste7Y	CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI		Cdc24[C] Cdc24[N] Ste11[C] Ste11[N] Ste20[C] Ste20[N] Ste50[C] Ste50[N] Ste5[C] Ste5[N] Ste7[C] Ste7[N]
<b>Domain Recombination</b>	1 C10 2 C11 3 C3 4 C4 5 C7	CycI CycI CycI CycI CycI	Ste7[N] Cdc42[N] Ste4[N] Ste20[N] Ste50[N]	Ste5[C] Ste5[C] Ste5[C] Ste5[C] Ste5[C]

6 C8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste5[C]
7 C9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Ste5[C]
8 D1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Ste50[C]
9 D10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Ste50[C]
10 D11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Ste50[C]
11 D3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Ste50[C]
12 d4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Ste50[C]
13 d8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste50[C]
14 D9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Ste50[C]
15 E1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Ste18[C]
16 E10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Ste18[C]
17 E11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Ste18[C]
18 E3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Ste18[C]
19 E4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Ste18[C]
20 E7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Ste18[C]
21 E8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste18[C]
22 E9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Ste18[C]
23 f1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Ste20[C]
24 f10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Ste20[C]
25 f11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Ste20[C]
26 f3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Ste20[C]
27 f7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Ste20[C]
28 f8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste20[C]
29 f9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Ste20[C]
30 g1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Ste11[C]
31 g10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Ste11[C]
32 g11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Ste11[C]
33 g3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Ste11[C]
34 g4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Ste11[C]
35 g7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Ste11[C]
36 g8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste11[C]
37 h1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Fus3[C]
38 h10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Fus3[C]
39 h11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Fus3[C]
40 h3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Fus3[C]
41 h4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Fus3[C]

42 h7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Fus3[C]
43 h8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Fus3[C]
44 h9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Fus3[C]
45 j1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Cdc24[C]
46 j10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Cdc24[C]
47 j11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Cdc24[C]
48 j3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Cdc24[C]
49 j4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Cdc24[C]
50 j7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Cdc24[C]
51 j9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Cdc24[C]
52 k1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Ste7[C]
53 k11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Ste7[C]
54 k3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Ste7[C]
55 k4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Ste7[C]
56 k7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Ste7[C]
57 k8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Ste7[C]
58 k9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Ste7[C]
59 l1	CycI	Ste5[N]	Gpa[C]
60 l10	CycI	Ste7[N]	Gpa[C]
61 l11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	Gpa[C]
62 l3	CycI	Ste4[N]	Gpa[C]
63 l4	CycI	Ste20[N]	Gpa[C]
64 l7	CycI	Ste50[N]	Gpa[C]
65 l8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	Gpa[C]
66 l9	CycI	Ste11[N]	Gpa[C]

Co-expression of unlinked domains	1 C10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	2 C11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	3 C3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	4 C4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	5 C7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	6 C8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	7 C9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Ste5[C]
	8 D1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
	9 D10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
	10 D11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]

11 D3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
12 d4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
13 d8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
14 D9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Ste50[C]
15 E1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
16 E10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
17 E11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
18 E3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
19 E4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
20 E7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
21 E8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
22 E9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Ste18[C]
23 f1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
24 f10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
25 f11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
26 f3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
27 f7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
28 f8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
29 f9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Ste20[C]
30 g1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
31 g10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
32 g11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
33 g3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
34 g4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
35 g7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
36 g8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste11[C]
37 h1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
38 h10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
39 h11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
40 h3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
41 h4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
42 h7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
43 h8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
44 h9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Fus3[C]
45 j1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
46 j10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]

47 j11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
48 j3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
49 j4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
50 j7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
51 j9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Cdc24[C]
52 k1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
53 k11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
54 k3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
55 k4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
56 k7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
57 k8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
58 k9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Ste7[C]
59 l1	CycI	Ste5[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
60 l10	CycI	Ste7[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
61 l11	CycI	Cdc42[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
62 l3	CycI	Ste4[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
63 l4	CycI	Ste20[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
64 l7	CycI	Ste50[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
65 l8	CycI	Cdc24[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]
66 l9	CycI	Ste11[N]	CycI	Gpa[C]