# EXPLORING PROTEOMIC VARIATION IN PACIFIC OYSTERS (CRASSOSTREA GIGAS)



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### BACKGROUND



- Crassostrea gigas provides ecosystem services, basis for aquaculture operations in Washington<sup>1</sup>
- •Susceptible to ocean acidification and ocean warming<sup>2,3</sup>
- Limited set of experiments examining oysters' response to multiple stressors that reflect wild conditions

OBJECTIVE: Understand how different environments drive differential protein expression in response to stress.

## EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Figure 1. Map of study sites in and around Puget Sound, WA.

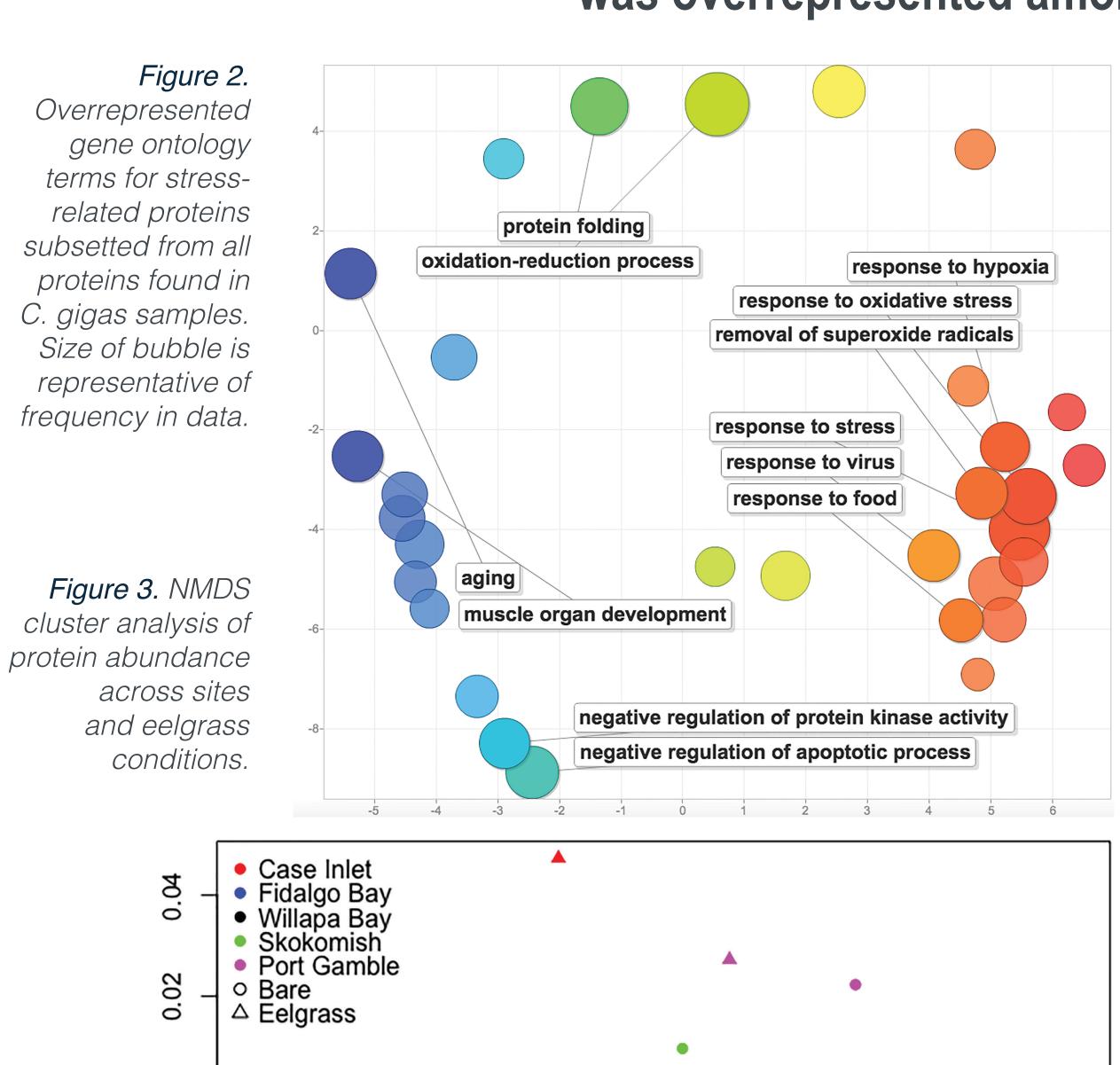
Inset. Oysters placed in both eelgrass and bare patches at each site to assess the impact of larger-scale ecological interactions on stress response.



- Five experimental sites: Case Inlet, Fidalgo Bay, Port Gamble Bay, Skokomish River Delta, and Willapa Bay
- •Outplanted 150 adult sibling C. gigas, 30 per site
- Eelgrass presence: assess effect of large-scale ecological interactions
- Continuous environmental chemistry monitoring
- Gill tissue collected after one month
- •Data-independent mass spectrometry and shotgun proteomic methods used to generate peptide spectra for samples<sup>4,5</sup>
- •Protein abundance data based on oyster seed spectra<sup>4,5</sup>

## DATA-INDEPENDENT PROTEOMICS

RESULTS: Matched peptide spectra in ten oyster samples with stress-related proteins present in the *C. gigas* proteome<sup>4,5</sup>. We identified 6,688 proteins across five sites and two eelgrass conditions, of which 43 were stress-related. Additionally, the carbohydrate metabolism pathway was overrepresented amongst all samples.

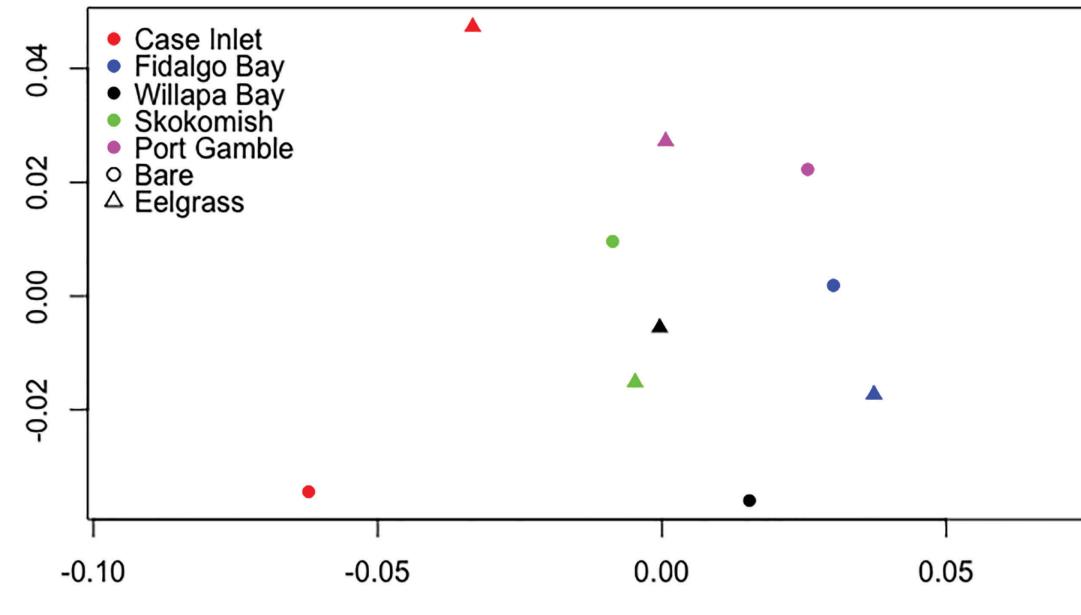




PROTEIN

ATP-binding cassette sub-family A member 1

Table 1.
Coefficients
of variation for
abundance
of stressrelated proteins
across sites
and eelgrass
conditions. The
values indicate a
level of variation
in stress-related
proteins between
samples.



IMPORTANCE: Differences in protein abundance across sites and eelgrass conditions suggests site-specific environmental variables influence *C. gigas* physiology (i.e. stress response and energy metabolism).

**VARIATION** 

#### FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Preliminary insight demonstrates how stress-response is impacted by different environmental conditions
- Use data-specific peptide spectra
- Repeat proteomic analyses with increased sample size
- Develop targeted assay for stress-related proteins

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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