



# *Bemisia tabaci* in Java, Indonesia: genetic diversity and the relationship with secondary endosymbiotic bacteria

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## Abstract

*Bemisia tabaci* is a complex of cryptic species of whitefly distributed worldwide; they are serious agricultural pests and vectors of plant viruses. Whiteflies are commonly infected by endosymbiotic bacteria, but the infection profiles among genetic groups of *B. tabaci* are highly complex. Here we analyzed the genetic variation of *B. tabaci* and endosymbiont infection patterns in Java, Indonesia. Specifically, adult *B. tabaci* were collected from four provinces and 43 partial cytochrome oxidase subunit I gene sequences were determined to identify the genotypes. Results showed that *B. tabaci* was grouped into three different cryptic species, Asia I, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7, at rates of 90.70%, 6.98%, and 2.32%, respectively. The dominant group, Asia I, was distributed throughout the island, whereas Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 were detected only in West Java. In these cryptic species, the infection rates of the secondary endosymbionts *Arsenophonus*, *Cardinium*, *Hamiltonella*, *Rickettsia*, and *Wolbachia* were 37.21%, 72.09%, 37.21%, 88.37%, and 90.70%, respectively. *Arsenophonus* and *Cardinium* were detected two subgroups (A1 and A2; C2 and C4), but *Hamiltonella*, *Rickettsia*, and *Wolbachia* were detected a one subgroup (H1, R1, and W1). The A1 and A2 subgroups were distributed in a mixed manner across the entire island; however, the C2 and C4 subgroups were distributed differentially in West Java and in Central and East Java, respectively. Multiple infections were common and their patterns were highly variable in each cryptic species. In particular, *Hamiltonella* was detected in Asia I and Asia II 5 but never coinfecting with *Arsenophonus* in the same individual. Overall, this study shows that Asia I is the dominant genetic *B. tabaci* group on Java Island and that infection by endosymbionts occurs in a highly complex and sometimes geographically related manner.

**Keywords** Cryptic species · Endosymbiotic bacteria · Genetic diversity · Symbiosis · Whitefly

## 1 Introduction

The sweet potato whitefly *Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius) (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae) is a phloem-feeding insect that causes damage to crops through direct and indirect feeding. The species is globally distributed in tropical, subtropical, and

temperate regions (Brown et al. 1995; De Barro and Hart 2000). It is polyphagous, feeding on more than 100 plant species belonging to 89 families, in particular species belonging to Compositae, Cruciferae, Cucurbitaceae, Solanaceae, and Leguminosae families (Perring 2001; Berry et al. 2004; Li et al. 2011). Moreover, *B. tabaci* indirectly devastates crop plants by transmitting plant viruses such as *Begomovirus*, *Crinivirus*, *Closterovirus*, *Ipomovirus*, and *Carlavirus* (Jones 2003).

*Bemisia tabaci* is listed as one of the world's 100 worst invasive alien species due to its unique ability to travel to and establish, evolve, and dominate in new locations (Lowe et al. 2000). *Bemisia tabaci* was first reported in Indonesia in 1938 as the vector of leaf curl disease in tobacco plants; the disease is caused by *Begomovirus*, which was transmitted in this case from the weed species *Ageratum* spp., *Synedrella* spp., and *Eupatorium odoratum* found in Sumatra and Java (Hidayat et al. 2017). Thereafter, *B. tabaci* spread throughout the country, particularly from 1994 to 1999 (De Barro et al.

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2008). The spread of the species was associated with the invasion of *Begomovirus* and incidence of *Pepper yellow leaf curl Indonesia virus* (PepYLCIV). As a vector, *B. tabaci* spread PepYLCIV from Central Thailand to the western part of Sumatra and subsequently to the southern parts of Java and Bali.

*Bemisia tabaci* shows high genetic diversity in its various globally distributed genetic groups and it is now considered a cryptic species complex. De Barro et al. (2011) suggested that the nucleotide sequence of the mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase subunit I gene (*COI*) could be used as a barcode to classify *B. tabaci* populations. Based on a 3.5% pairwise divergence in *COI* sequences within *B. tabaci* species, 44 distinct species have been reported as follows: Africa, Asia I, Asia I-India, Asia II 1–12, Asia III, Asia IV, Asia V, Australia, Australia/Indonesia, China 1–5, Indian Ocean, Ru, Middle East Asia Minor (MEAM) I-II, Mediterranean (MED), MEAM K, New World (NW) 1–2, Japan 1–2, Uganda, Italy 1, and Sub-Saharan Africa 1–5. Two new species, Asia II 13 and Spain 1, were also recently reported (Kanakala and Ghanim 2019).

Several studies have been conducted in Indonesia to identify the genetic characteristics of *B. tabaci* (Hidayat et al. 2008; Dinsdale et al. 2010; Firdaus et al. 2013; Srinivasan et al. 2013; Rahayuwati et al. 2016; Shadmany et al. 2019). As an example, Hidayat et al. (2008) investigated the biotype of *B. tabaci* collected between 2004 and 2005 using the random amplified polymorphism DNA PCR method and reported that *B. tabaci* genetic types belonged to B (MEAM1) and non-B biotypes. In further studies, *COI* sequence analysis revealed some different indigenous genotypes in Indonesia, such as Asia I, Asia II 6, Asia II 7, Asia II 12, and Australia/Indonesia. Asia I is the dominant *B. tabaci* genotype found across Indonesia (Srinivasan et al. 2013; Rahayuwati et al. 2016), whereas Asia II 6 (KJ716440) has been detected in Cirebon in West Java (Shadmany et al. 2019), Asia II 7 in the western region of Kalimantan, and Asia II 12 in the western region of Java (Firdaus et al. 2013). The Australia/Indonesia genetic group has been identified in Indonesia (Dinsdale et al. 2010). Because of climate change and increased global transportation of agricultural products, it is important to evaluate the ongoing change in the genetic diversity of *B. tabaci* on a regular basis.

Endosymbiotic bacteria are common in several plant-sapping insects such as whiteflies (including *B. tabaci*), aphids, and hoppers; they establish mutual relationships with the insects that improve their survival (Baumann 2005). Consequently, endosymbionts influence the growth and development of their hosts, as well as their physiological and ecological adaptation to their environment (Baumann 2005; Rosell et al. 2010). In general, endosymbionts can be primary or secondary (Baumann 2005): primary endosymbionts cause

permanent infection and provide essential nutrients (which are lacking from plant juices) to their hosts; secondary endosymbionts have a facultative relationship with their hosts, providing fitness benefits in reproduction, host plant specialization, and tolerance to pathogenic microbial infection and/or challenging environmental conditions (Montllor et al. 2002; Oliver et al. 2003; Tsuchida et al. 2004; Sintupachee et al. 2006; Chiel et al. 2009; Kaiser et al. 2010; Feldhaar 2011).

*Bemisia tabaci* possesses the primary endosymbiont *Portiera aleyrodidarum* along with at least seven secondary endosymbionts, i.e., *Arsenophonus*, *Cardinium*, *Frittschea*, *Hamiltonella*, *Hemipteriphilus*, *Rickettsia*, and *Wolbachia* (Gottlieb et al. 2006; Bing et al. 2013a, 2013b; Zchori-Fein et al. 2014). Secondary endosymbionts are known to affect various biological characteristics of *B. tabaci*, including reproduction (Zchori-Fein et al. 2001; Hunter et al. 2003; Zchori-Fein and Perlman 2004; Himler et al. 2011), survival (Liu et al. 2007; Kontsedalov et al. 2008; Gottlieb et al. 2010; Thierry et al. 2011), insecticide resistance (Kontsedalov et al. 2008), and capacity for disease transmission to plants (Gottlieb et al. 2010). In particular, secondary endosymbionts, such as *Hamiltonella*, play important roles in the transmission of plant viruses, including the *Tomato yellow leaf curl virus* that causes severe disease in tomato plants (Czosnek and Ghanim 2011). Therefore, endosymbionts essentially modulate the development of their host and produce environmental effects (Thao and Baumann 2004).

The infection patterns of secondary endosymbionts within *B. tabaci* are highly complex, but some specific relationships occur among different genetic groups (Gueguen et al. 2010; Kanakala and Ghanim 2019; Wang et al. 2019). Moreover, these infection patterns are highly variable according to geographic regions (Gueguen et al. 2010; Zchori-Fein et al. 2014). For instance, the infection profiles of both MEAM1 and MED, which are globally invasive cryptic species, vary greatly across geographic regions (Chiel et al. 2007; Gueguen et al. 2010; Skaljic et al. 2010, 2013; Chu et al. 2011; Park et al. 2012; Bing et al. 2013a, 2013b). The dynamic diversity of endosymbiont infection patterns can be influenced by vertical, horizontal, or maternal transmission (Baumann 2005; Pan et al. 2012). Although the infection patterns of MEAM1 and MED have been investigated in several countries, data on the endosymbiont profiles of indigenous cryptic species in Asian countries are limited.

Therefore, in the present study, the genetic groups of *B. tabaci* were identified by sequencing the mitochondrial *COI* gene from individuals collected in four provinces of Java, Indonesia. Moreover, data on the endosymbionts of these individuals were collected by sequencing 16S/23S rDNA genes and analyzing the infection profiles of the endosymbionts in each genetic group of *B. tabaci*.

## 2 Materials and methods

### 2.1 Collection of whiteflies

Whiteflies were collected from ten regencies in four different provinces (West Java, Central Java, East Java, and Special Region of Yogyakarta) of Java, Indonesia (Fig. 1). Adult whiteflies were collected from various crop plants (chili pepper, cucumber, eggplant, luffa, melon, tomato, and yard long bean) and ornamental plants (angel’s trumpet and chrysanthemum) using an aspirator. They were subsequently preserved in 70% ethanol in a 1.5-ml microtube and separated based on crop plants and locations. Preserved samples were stored at -20 °C until further analysis.

### 2.2 DNA extraction

Total genomic DNA was extracted from individual *B. tabaci* specimens using a PureLink Genomic DNA Mini Kit (Invitrogen; supplied by Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA). Individual whitefly samples were extracted by homogenizing insects in 180 µl of genomic digestion buffer and 20 µl of proteinase K (50 µg/ml). DNA samples were extracted and purified using a genomic spin column as described in the kit instructions. The total DNA samples were then stored at -20 °C or directly used in the PCR assay.

### 2.3 PCR amplification and sequencing

A fragment of the *COI* gene was initially amplified based on the universal primer pair LCO-1490/HCO-2198; the same DNA was then amplified using the specific primer pair C1-J-2195/L2-N-3014. Secondary endosymbiont sequences were amplified using 16S rDNA or 23S rDNA primers. PCR was performed on a 30-µl mixture containing 2 µl of each primer (10 pmol/µl), 2 µl of DNA template (40 ng), 9 µl of distilled

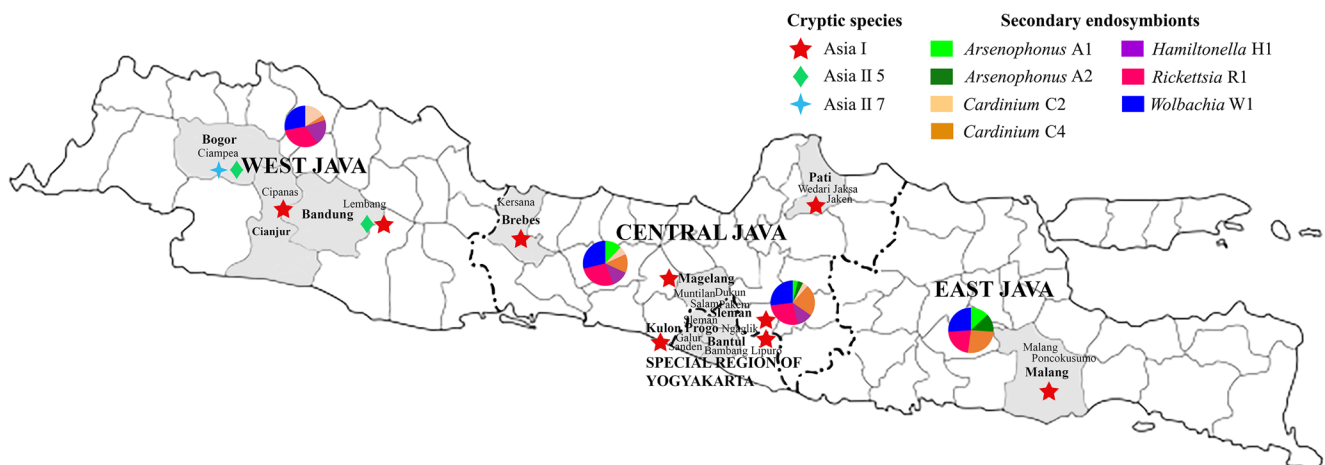
H<sub>2</sub>O, and 15 µl of PCR premix (Solgent Co., Daejeon, Korea). The reaction mixtures were amplified under particular annealing temperature conditions (Table 1) in a Veriti 96-Well Thermal Cycler (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA). PCR products were purified from the gel using the Wizard® PCR Preps DNA Purification System (Wizard® SV Gel, Promega Co., Madison, WI, USA). They were then sequenced either directly or by cloning into the T-Blunt Easy Plasmid Vector (Promega Co., Madison, WI, USA), by the Solgent Sequencing Facility (Solgent Co., Daejeon, Korea).

### 2.4 Phylogenetic analysis

All sequences of whiteflies and secondary endosymbionts were aligned using ClustalW, implemented in BioEdit v7.2.5, before being analyzed using Mega-X (Kimura 1980; Kumar et al. 2018). A phylogenetic tree was constructed using the maximum likelihood method with Kimura 2-parameter model. The phylogenies were tested using 1000 bootstraps replications (Felsenstein 1985). The whitefly sequences were assigned to species based on >3.5% pairwise sequence divergence (Dinsdale et al. 2010). All whitefly and secondary endosymbiont sequences have been submitted to the GenBank database (see results for details).

### 2.5 Genetic analysis

The genetic structure of the *B. tabaci* *COI* sequences was analyzed using DnaSP v5.10, by which the sequence polymorphism, singleton variable sites, parsimony informative sites, number of haplotypes, and haplotype and nucleotide diversity were characterized (Librado and Rozas 2009). The haplotype network of *B. tabaci* sequences was analyzed using a minimum spanning network relationship among the cryptic species via popART software.



**Fig. 1** The collection sites and distribution of three cryptic species of *Bemisia tabaci* (Asia I, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7) and their secondary endosymbionts in Java, Indonesia. The gray areas show collection sites. The colored symbols represent the cryptic species and secondary endosymbionts (as per the key)

**Table 1** Primers used to identify *Bemisia tabaci* and their secondary endosymbionts

Primer name	Sequence (5'→3')	Annealing (°C)/size (bp)	Gene	Reference
LCO1490	GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTGG	55/670	COI	Folmer et al. (1994)
HCO2198	TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAAATCA			
C1-J-2195	TTGATTTTTTGGTCATCCAGAAGT	52/800	COI	Simon et al. (1994)
L2-N-3014	TCCAATGCACTA ATCTGCCATATTA			
Ars23S-1	CGTTTGATGAATTCATAGTCAAAA	60/600	<i>Arsenophonus</i> 23S rDNA	Thao and Baumann (2004)
Ars23S-2	GGTCCTCCAGTTAGTGTACCCAAC			
CFB F	GCGGTGTAATAATGAGCGTG	56/400	<i>Cardinium</i>	Weeks et al. (2003)
CFB R	ACCTMTTCTTAACTCAAGCCT		16S rDNA	
Hb F	TGAGTAAAGTCTGGAATCTG	58/700	<i>Hamiltonella</i>	Zchori-Fein and Brown (2002)
Hb R	AGTTCAAGACCGCAACCTC		16S rDNA	
<i>Rickettsia</i> F	GCTCAGAACGAAACGCTATC	60/900	<i>Rickettsia</i>	Gottlieb et al. (2006)
<i>Rickettsia</i> R	GAAGGAAAGCATCTCTGC		16S rDNA	
<i>Wolbachia</i> F	CGGGGGAAAAATTTATTGCT	55/650	<i>Wolbachia</i>	Gottlieb et al. (2008)
<i>Wolbachia</i> R	AGCTGTAATACAGAAAGTAAA		16S rDNA	

### 3 Results

#### 3.1 Identification of *B. tabaci* cryptic species in Java, Indonesia

In total, 43 whiteflies from different populations were identified using *COI* universal and specific primer pairs (Table 1). Based on the maximum likelihood phylogram of previously known sequences in the GenBank database, the phylogenetic analysis of the determined *COI* sequences showed that *B. tabaci* was grouped into three different cryptic species, namely Asia I, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7 (Fig. 2) at rates of 90.70%, 6.98%, and 2.32%, respectively (Table 1). Asia I was distributed throughout the island; Asia II 5 was identified in Bogor and Bandung, West Java, and was newly detected in Indonesia; and one Asia II 7 sample was identified in Bogor, West Java. In terms of host plant, Asia I was collected from various crop plants, including chili (*Capsicum* sp.), cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*), cutleaf groundcherry (*Physalis* sp.), eggplant (*Solanum melongena*), luffa (*Luffa acutangula*), melon (*Cucumis melo*), tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), and yard long bean (*Vigna unguiculata* subsp. *sesquipedalis*), as well as from ornamental plants, including angel's trumpet (*Brugmansia* sp.) and chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum* sp.). In contrast, Asia II 5 was collected from jicama/Mexican yam bean (*Pachyrhizus erosus*), common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), whereas Asia II 7 was collected only from *Capsicum* sp. (Table 2).

Pairwise divergence in the *COI* nucleotide sequences among the three genetic groups varied at both intraspecific and interspecific levels. Intraspecific variation was higher in Asia I (0.12%–3.25%) than in Asia II 5 (0.12%–0.25%). Among the three groups, interspecific variation between Asia I and Asia II 5 (17.35%–20.33%) was higher than that

between Asia I and Asia II 7 (15.18%–17.76%) (Table 3), while interspecific variation between Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 was 11.19%–11.33%. All *B. tabaci* sequences were submitted to NCBI GenBank (accession numbers: MN918040 to MN918082).

#### 3.2 Genetic diversity and differentiation of *B. tabaci* cryptic species in Java, Indonesia

Table 4 shows the genetic diversity of haplotype sequence polymorphism and divergence, with Asia II 7 being excluded because only one sample was collected. The number of polymorphic sites was higher in Asia I (28 polymorphic sites, 27 singleton variable sites, and 1 parsimony informative site) than in Asia II 5 (2 polymorphic sites and 2 singleton variable sites). In total, 9 haplotypes were detected from 43 analyzed sequences: Asia I had five haplotypes, whereas Asia II 5 had three, and Asia II 7 had one. Haplotype diversity was higher in Asia II 5 (1) than in Asia I (0.24); however, nucleotide diversity was higher in Asia I (0.00182) than in Asia II 5 (0.00163).

The relationship among the haplotypes of each cryptic species was determined by minimum spanning network analysis (Fig. 3). The three cryptic species were diversified into nine haplotypes that were highly distant from each other. Among the five haplotypes of Asia I, the H6 haplotype occupied the center of network position. The single Asia II 7 haplotype was found between Asia I and Asia II 5.

#### 3.3 Infection of *B. tabaci* secondary endosymbionts and phylogenetic analysis

The infection profiles of five secondary endosymbionts showed significant variation in each cryptic whitefly species (Table 5). Overall, *Wolbachia* had the highest infection rate

**Table 2** *Bemisia tabaci* whiteflies collected in Java, Indonesia

Sample ID	Collection sites	Location coordinates	Host plants	Collection dates	Cryptic species	A	C	H	R	W
1JB	Ciampea, Bogor, West Java	6°39'41.6"S 106°41'04.5"E	<i>Pachyrhizus erosus</i>	Jan. 31, 2019	Asia II 5	–	C2	–	R1	–
2CB	Ciampea, Bogor, West Java	6°39'41.6"S 106°41'04.5"E	<i>Capsicum</i> sp.	Jan. 31, 2019	Asia II 7	–	C2	–	–	W1
3YB	Lembang, Bandung, West Java	6°48'41.6"S 107°38'35.0"E	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	Feb. 2, 2019	Asia II 5	–	–	H1	R1	–
4 TB	Lembang, Bandung, West Java	6°48'06.4"S 107°38'57.1"E	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Feb. 2, 2019	Asia II 5	–	–	H1	R1	W1
5aEB	Lembang, Bandung, West Java	6°48'40.6"S 107°38'58.0"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 2, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	H1	R1	W1
6CuB	Lembang, Bandung, West Java	6°48'28.7"S 107°39'13.1"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 2, 2019	Asia I	–	–	H1	R1	W1
15EC	Cipanas, Cianjur, West Java	6°46'22.6"S 107°02'45.1"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 6, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	–	R1	W1
16PC	Cipanas, Cianjur, West Java	6°45'22.7"S 107°03'09.2"E	<i>Physalis</i> sp.	Feb. 6, 2019	Asia I	–	–	H1	R1	W1
17EC	Cipanas, Cianjur, West Java	6°46'03.1"S 107°02'58.3"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 7, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	–	R1	W1
7CuBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'10.2"S 108°51'57.0"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 4, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
8EBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'10.4"S 108°51'54.0"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 4, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
9CBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'11.4"S 108°51'41.9"E	<i>Capsicum</i> sp.	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	H1	R1	W1
10CuBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'11.4"S 108°51'41.9"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
11LBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'00.9"S 108°51'33.3"E	<i>Luffa acutangula</i>	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	–
12YBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'13.0"S 108°51'51.2"E	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
13YBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'13.0"S 108°51'51.2"E	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	H1	–	W1
14EBr	Kersana, Brebes, Central Java	6°55'13.5"S 108°51'53.7"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 5, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
26CuMD	Dukun, Magelang, Central Java	7°33'42.2"S 110°18'32.9"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 12, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	–	R1	W1
27CMM	Muntilan, Magelang, Central Java	7°34'31.1"S 110°17'44.3"E	<i>Capsicum</i> sp.	Feb. 12, 2019	Asia I	A1	C2	–	R1	W1
28CuMS	Salam, Magelang, Central Java	7°37'34.1"S 110°18'38.1"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 13, 2019	Asia I	–	–	–	R1	W1
29EMS	Salam, Magelang, Central Java	7°38'06.2"S 110°18'10.4"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 13, 2019	Asia I	A1	C4	–	R1	W1
30EMD	Dukun, Magelang, Central Java	7°33'26.6"S 110°18'41.6"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 13, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	–	R1	W1
31EMM	Muntilan, Magelang, Central Java	7°33'50.8"S 110°17'25.5"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 13, 2019	Asia I	–	–	–	–	W1
32CuPW	Wedari Jaksa, Pati, Central Java	6°42'10.3"S 111°05'03.6"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	–	–	R1	W1
33CuPW	Wedari Jaksa, Pati, Central Java	6°40'58.1"S 111°05'15.7"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	–	–	R1	W1
34CuPW	Wedari Jaksa, Pati, Central Java	6°42'05.9"S 111°05'44.6"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	–	–	R1	W1
35EPW	Wedari Jaksa, Pati, Central Java	6°41'17.9"S 111°05'16.6"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	–	–	R1	W1
36EPJ	Jaken, Pati, Central Java	6°45'34.2"S 111°08'35.3"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	C4	–	R1	W1
37EPJ	Jaken, Pati, Central Java	6°44'24.0"S 111°06'46.1"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 14, 2019	Asia I	A1	–	–	R1	W1
18EBYBI	Bambang Lipuro, Bantul, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°57'12.2"S 110°17'37.9"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1

**Table 2** (continued)

Sample ID	Collection sites	Location coordinates	Host plants	Collection dates	Cryptic species	A	C	H	R	W
19EBYS	Sanden, Bantul, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°58'59.8"S 110°16'38.9"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	A1	C4	–	–	W1
20MKYG	Galur, Kulon Progo, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°56'00.2"S 110°12'57.0"E	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	–	–	–	R1	W1
21EKYG	Galur, Kulon Progo, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°56'00.2"S 110°12'57.0"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
22MKYK	Kulon Progo, Kulon Progo, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°55'48.7"S 110°11'45.7"E	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	–	C2	–	R1	W1
23ESYS	Sleman, Sleman, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°41'55.1"S 110°21'10.3"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	H1	R1	W1
24ESYP	Pakem, Sleman, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°38'49.2"S 110°24'42.3"E	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Feb. 11, 2019	Asia I	A2	C4	–	R1	–
25CuSYN	Ngaglik, Sleman, Special Region of Yogyakarta	7°41'55.1"S 110°21'10.3"E	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Feb. 12, 2019	Asia I	–	C4	–	R1	W1
1TM	Malang, Malang, East Java	8°01'05.7"S 112°38'17.8"E	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Jul. 4, 2018	Asia I	A2	C4	–	R1	W1
2TM	Malang, Malang, East Java	8°01'05.7"S 112°38'17.8"E	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Jul. 4, 2018	Asia I	A2	C4	–	R1	W1
5TM	Malang, Malang, East Java	8°01'05.7"S 112°38'17.8"E	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Jul. 4, 2018	Asia I	A1	C4	–	–	W1
6TM	Malang, Malang, East Java	8°01'05.7"S 112°38'17.8"E	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Jul. 4, 2018	Asia I	A1	C4	–	R1	W1
9CP	Poncokusumo, Malang, East Java	8°02'07.6"S 112°44'03.5"E	<i>Chrysanthemum</i> sp.	Jul. 4, 2018	Asia I	A1	C4	–	R1	W1
10BP	Poncokusumo, Malang, East Java	8°02'07.6"S 112°44'03.5"E	<i>Brugmansia</i> sp.	Jul. 5, 2018	Asia I	A2	C4	–	R1	W1

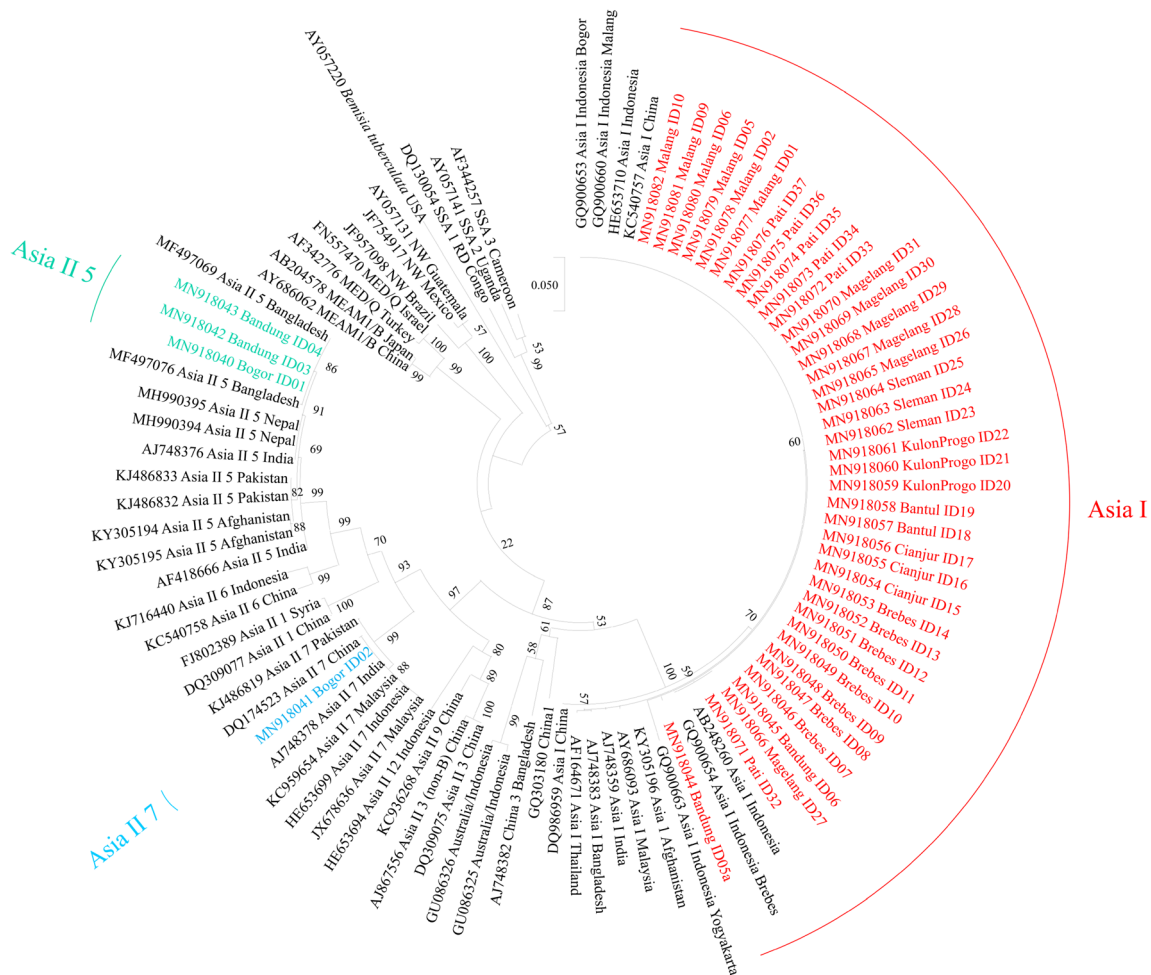
(90.70%), followed by *Rickettsia* (88.37%), *Cardinium* (72.09%), *Arsenophonus* (37.21%), and *Hamiltonella* (37.21%). *Arsenophonus* infected Asia I but not Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 (Table 5, Fig. 4). Strikingly, *Arsenophonus* was detected in all samples collected from East (Malang) and Central (Pati) Java, only a few samples (9.3%) from Central Java (Yogyakarta and Magelang), but none of the samples from West Java (Fig. 1).

Recently, Kanakala and Ghanim (2019) summarized overall patterns of endosymbionts in *B. tabaci* at a subgroup level; two *Arsenophonus* (A1 and A2), four *Cardinium* (C1 – C4), one *Hamiltonella* (H1), three *Rickettsia* (R1, R2, and R3) and two *Wolbachia* (supergroups O and B). Based on Kanakala and Ghanim (2019), divergence and distribution of endosymbionts in Java Island were analyzed at the subgroup level. Our analysis of the phylogenetic tree revealed two subgroups of *Arsenophonus*, A1 and A2, in Java (Fig. 4). Interestingly, our four samples of East (Malang and Poncokusumo) and Special Region of Yogyakarta (Sleman), Java, were clustered into A2 subgroup but were separated from 11 subclades named as A2 (a-k) in the study of Kanakala and Ghanim (2019). *Cardinium* was detected in all three cryptic species and was distributed across all areas of Java. Two subgroups of *Cardinium*, C2 and C4, were detected. The C2 subgroup was found in all three cryptic species, whereas C4 was found only in Asia I (Table 5;

Fig. 5). While most of the C2 subgroup were found in West Java, the C4 subgroup was primarily found in Central and East Java (Fig. 1). Only one subgroup of *Hamiltonella* (H1) and *Rickettsia* (R1) was detected in Asia I and Asia II 5, respectively (Table 5; Figs. 6 and 7). However, H1 and R1 had different geographic distributions: H1 was distributed in some areas of Central (Brebes) and West Java (Cianjur and Bandung) but not in East Java (Malang) or other areas of Central Java (Magelang and Pati); R1 was distributed in all areas of Java (Fig. 1). *Wolbachia* was detected in all three cryptic species of *B. tabaci*. All whiteflies were infected by a single *Wolbachia* subgroup, W1, which belonged to the supergroup B and was distributed in all areas of Java (Table 5; Fig. 8). All secondary endosymbiont sequences analyzed in this study were submitted to NCBI GenBank.

### 3.4 Relationships between *B. tabaci* cryptic species and multiple infections of secondary endosymbionts

All whiteflies, except one individual, (42/43 individuals) were coinfecting by two, three, or four secondary endosymbionts in various combinations. Furthermore, multiple infections of three and four secondary endosymbionts were observed at rates of 46.15% and 46.15%, respectively, in Asia I (Table 6). All individuals were infected by at least one



**Fig. 2** Phylogenetic tree of *B. tabaci* identified in Java based on cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*) sequences. The samples from the study are indicated by the colored text in the tree; all other sequences were obtained from the GenBank database

secondary endosymbiont but never infected by all five. The Asia II 5 whiteflies were infected by various secondary endosymbionts but never by *Arsenophonus*. The single individual from Asia II 7 was infected by *Cardinium* and *Wolbachia* (Table 6). The coinfection patterns of secondary endosymbionts varied substantially in this study: 17 patterns of coinfection were detected at the subgroup level of each secondary endosymbiont. The highest rate of coinfection was by C4 + H1 + R1 + W1 subgroups (20.51%) in Asia I (Table 6). The coinfection of *Cardinium* and *Rickettsia* was common,

whereas coinfection with *Arsenophonus* and *Hamiltonella* was not detected in any individual (Table 6). Therefore, *B. tabaci* in Java were infected at high rates by various secondary endosymbionts in a complex combination of infection patterns.

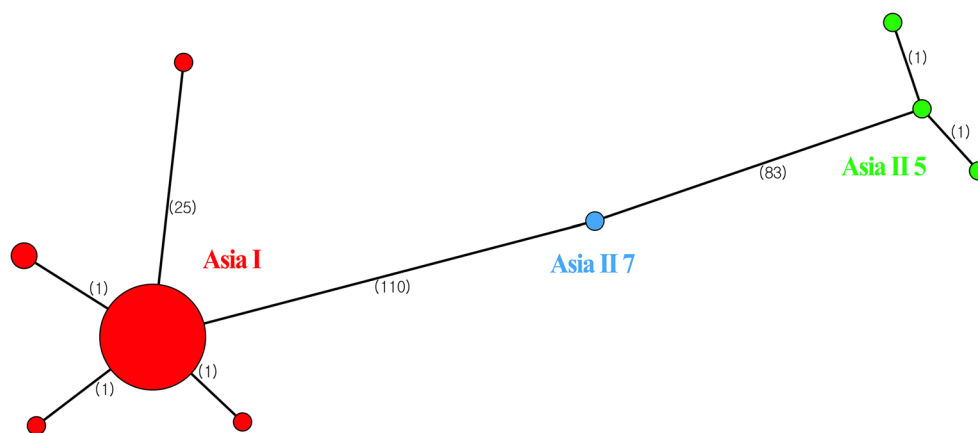
**Table 3** Pairwise comparisons of the intraspecific and interspecific variation in cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*) nucleotide sequences among the three identified cryptic *B. tabaci* species

Cryptic species	Asia I	Asia II 5	Asia II 7
Asia I	0.12%–3.25%		
Asia II 5	17.35%–20.33%	0.12%–0.25%	
Asia II 7	15.18%–17.76%	11.19%–11.33%	–

**Table 4** Comparison of the genetic structure of cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*) sequences among the three identified cryptic *B. tabaci* species

Information	Asia I	Asia II 5	Asia II 7
Number of sequences	39	3	1
Number of polymorphic sites	28	2	0
Singleton variable sites	27	2	0
Parsimony informative sites	1	0	0
Number of haplotypes	5	3	1
Haplotype diversity	0.2416	1	0
Nucleotide diversity	0.00182	0.00163	0

**Fig. 3** Minimum spanning network depicting the evolutionary relationships among the identified haplotypes of *B. tabaci* in Java, Indonesia



## 4 Discussion

Previous studies have reported that the genetic diversity of *B. tabaci* in Indonesia is composed of Asia I, Asia II 6, Asia II 7, Asia II 12, Australia/Indonesia, and the invasive MEAM1 cryptic species. Among these, Asia I is widely distributed across all Indonesian islands (Hidayat et al. 2008; Dinsdale et al. 2010; Firdaus et al. 2013; Srinivasan et al. 2013; Rahayuwati et al. 2016). In contrast, Asia II 6 (KJ716440) is found in Cirebon in West Java (Shadmany et al. 2019), Asia II 7 in the west region of Kalimantan, and Asia II 12 in the west region of Java (Firdaus et al. 2013).

Based on our *COI* sequence comparison and phylogenetic analysis, we demonstrated that *B. tabaci* populations in Java consist of three genotypes, i.e., the Asia I, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7 cryptic species. We found that Asia I was distributed throughout Java, whereas Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 were found only in West Java. Moreover, we are the first to identify Asia II 5 in Java; it was collected from three agricultural crops, i.e., *P. erosus* in Ciampea, Bogor and *P. vulgaris* and *S. lycopersicum* in Lembang, Bandung in West Java. However, we did not detect Asia II 6, Asia II 12, Australia/

Indonesia, or the invasive MEAM1 cryptic species in this study, despite them having been previously reported in the area (Hidayat et al. 2008; Dinsdale et al. 2010; Srinivasan et al. 2013).

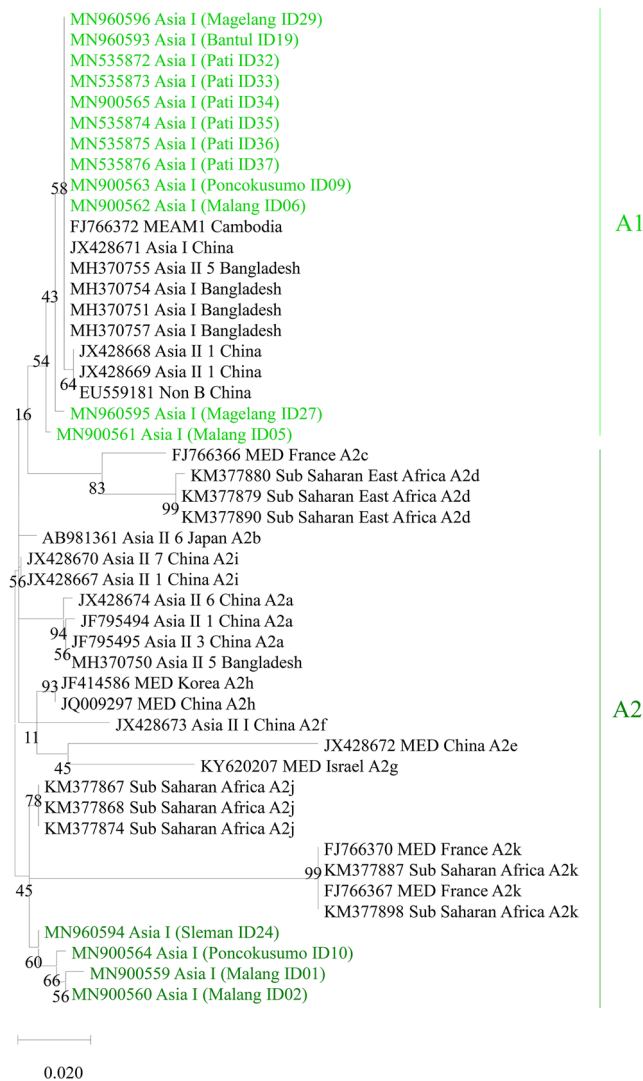
Similar to previous reports, we found that Asia I was the dominant cryptic species in the study area. Indeed, this cryptic species is widely distributed in several Asian countries, including Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Taiwan, and Japan (Hu et al. 2015; Götz and Winter 2016; Kanakala and Ghanim 2019). Thus, Asia I can be considered the dominant genetic group of *B. tabaci* in Asia. In the present study, Asia I was clustered with one dominant haplotype, which was found in all the collection sites, and four minor haplotypes, which were dispersed from it. The dominant haplotype found here was more similar to that in China than that in India (unpublished observation). Hu et al. (2015) reported a similar result, i.e., the same dominant haplotype is distributed in China and Indonesia but differentiated into several minor haplotypes.

The Asia II 5 cryptic species identified in this study is newly reported in Indonesia. Asia II 5 has previously been

**Table 5** Infection rates and frequency of secondary endosymbionts in the three cryptic species of *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia

Secondary endosymbionts	Infection rates [% (individual numbers)] of each cryptic species				
	Subgroups	Asia I	Asia II 5	Asia II 7	Overall
<i>Arsenophonus</i>	A1	30.77 (12)	–	–	27.91 (12)
	A2	10.26 (4)	–	–	9.30 (4)
	A1+A2	41.03 (16)	–	–	37.21 (16)
<i>Cardinium</i>	C2	17.95 (7)	33.33 (1)	100 (1/1)	20.93 (9)
	C4	56.41 (22)	–	–	51.16 (22)
	C2+C4	74.36 (29)	–	–	72.09 (31)
<i>Hamiltonella</i>	H1	35.90 (14)	66.67 (2)	–	37.21 (16)
<i>Rickettsia</i>	R1	89.74 (35)	100 (3)	–	88.37 (38)
<i>Wolbachia</i>	W1	94.87 (37)	33.33 (1)	100 (1/1)	90.70 (39)
% (total number of individuals)		90.70 (39)	6.98 (3)	2.32 (1)	43





**Fig. 4** Phylogenetic tree of *Arsenophonus* populations present in *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia. Sequences obtained from the Java samples collected in the present study are shown in colored text

reported in Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Nauru (Ellango et al. 2015; Khatun et al. 2018; Kanakala and Ghanim 2019; Acharya et al. 2020). Our finding adds to the evidence suggesting that Asia II 5 is widely distributed across the countries of South Asia. We specifically identified Asia II 5 in only three regions of West Java, suggesting that this cryptic species is not abundant on the island. Similar findings have been reported in other countries such as Bangladesh (Khatun et al. 2018); however, Asia II 5 is the major genetic group in Nepal (Acharya et al. 2020).

The Asia II 7 cryptic species has a wide distribution in several Asian countries (Kanakala and Ghanim 2019). To date, it has been identified in Pakistan (Ashfaq et al. 2014; Islam et al. 2018), India (Ellango et al. 2015), Malaysia (Shadmany et al. 2019), Indonesia (Firdaus et al. 2013), China (Qiu et al. 2011), and Taiwan (Hsieh et al. 2006). Asia II 7, also known as the Cv biotype, is a common genetic

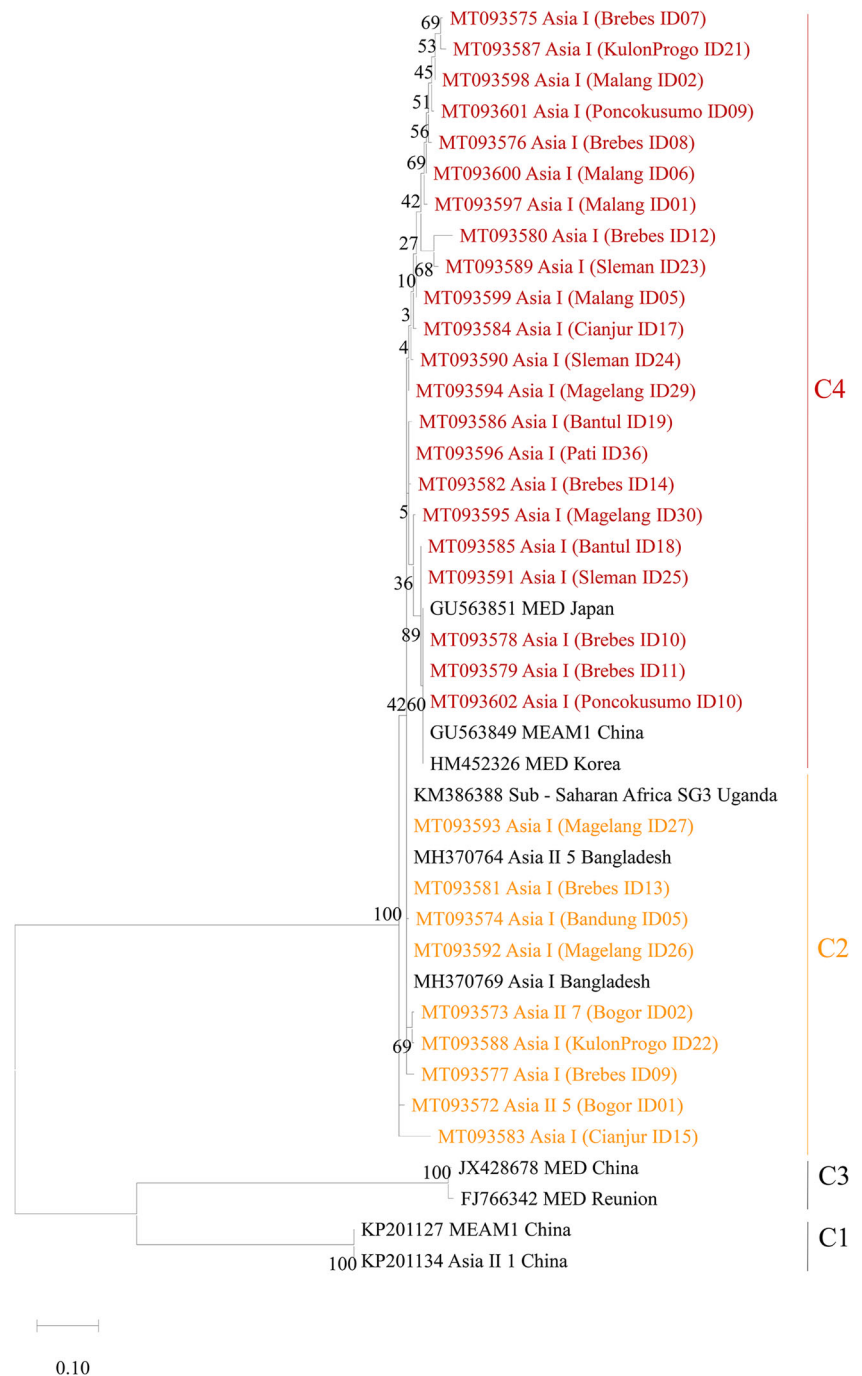
group of *B. tabaci* in South China, which prefers ornamental plants over vegetable plant, unlike MEAM1 (B biotype) (Dinsdale et al. 2010; Qiu et al. 2011). However, its distribution is restricted to small areas of other countries. In Indonesia, for example, Asia II 7 was previously reported only in the western region of Kalimantan, a finding similar to that reported in studies on the Malaysian part of the same island (Firdaus et al. 2013). In the present study, we newly identified Asia II 7 in one specific site, a pepper field at Ciampea in Bogor, which is located in the western region of Java. West Java is active in terms of exchange and transportation of agricultural crops and products (Subdirector of Horticulture Statistics 2019); therefore, the discovery of Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 in this region suggests that they may have invaded via agricultural products from other Asian countries.

Displacement of some cryptic species has occurred in several countries. For example, Chu et al. (2010) demonstrated the displacement of MEAM1 (B biotype) by MED (Q biotype) in China. In addition, Ashfaq et al. (2014) reported that both MEAM1 and Asia I had displaced Asia II 1, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7 and expanded their ranges in Punjab and Sindh in Pakistan. Götz and Winter (2016) also showed that MEAM1 invaded Vietnam from South China and replaced the indigenous species Asia II 1. Displacement of cryptic species might be influenced by factors such as variation in life history traits, mating behaviors, and insecticide resistance (Crowder et al. 2010), as well as by genetic variation in whiteflies (Wang et al. 2013) and species diversity and geographic distribution of host plants (Chu et al. 2012). Moreover, a suggested mechanism of biotype formation, i.e., that a mating interaction between two biotypes could produce more males and that the secondary endosymbiont *Wolbachia* could induce cytoplasmic incompatibility in *B. tabaci*, may also affect displacement (De Barro and Hart 2000). Another possibility explaining the displacement of *B. tabaci* complex species is the movement of the species among countries due to human activities such as international trade.

Infection of secondary endosymbionts is common in sap-sucking insects such as *B. tabaci* (Gueguen et al. 2010; Skaljic et al. 2010). The infection rate of secondary endosymbionts can be affected by various factors, such as biotype, sex, host plant, and geographical location (Pan et al. 2012). In the present study, all individuals of each cryptic species were infected by at least one secondary endosymbiont at various rates. For example, Asia I in Java was infected by all five secondary endosymbionts but at different rates (infection rate from highest to lowest: *Wolbachia* > *Rickettsia* > *Cardinium* > *Arsenophonus* > *Hamiltonella*). This infection profile differs from that reported in Bangladesh, where the highest infection rate was from *Arsenophonus* followed by *Cardinium* and *Wolbachia* (Khatun et al. 2019).

Interestingly, we detected *Hamiltonella* in the Asia I and Asia II 5 cryptic species of Java. Previous studies have shown that

**Fig. 5** Phylogenetic tree of *Cardinium* populations present in *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia. Sequences obtained from the Java samples collected in the present study are shown in colored text



*Hamiltonella* can be found in MEAM1, MED, and NW2 cryptic species but has been absent from Asian cryptic species, including Asia I, Asia II 1, Asia II 3, Asia II 5, Asia II 6, Asia II 7, Asia II 10, and China 1 (Gueguen et al. 2010; Chu et al. 2011; Bing et al. 2013a; Fujiwara et al. 2015; Kanakala and Ghanim 2019; Khatun et al. 2019). According to our phylogenetic analysis, all the *Hamiltonella* species identified in the present study belonged to the H1 subgroup of *Hamiltonella defensa*, which infects MEAM1 and MED in China, Japan, and Korea. Our analysis also indicated that the 16S rDNA sequence of *Hamiltonella* was

identical in all the tested individuals but differed by 0.16%–0.64% from that of MEAM1. We can only speculate as to how Asia I and Asia II 5 acquired *Hamiltonella*. It is possible that *Hamiltonella* in the Asian indigenous cryptic species has been displaced from MEAM1, which is known to have invaded Indonesia (Hidayat et al. 2008).

Phylogenetic analysis of secondary endosymbionts has revealed that each endosymbiont is genetically diverse and classified into several subgroups (Kanakala and Ghanim 2019). Consistently, we found that both *Arsenophonus* and

**Fig. 6** Phylogenetic tree of *Hamiltonella* populations present in *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia. Sequences obtained from the Java samples collected in the present study are shown in colored text



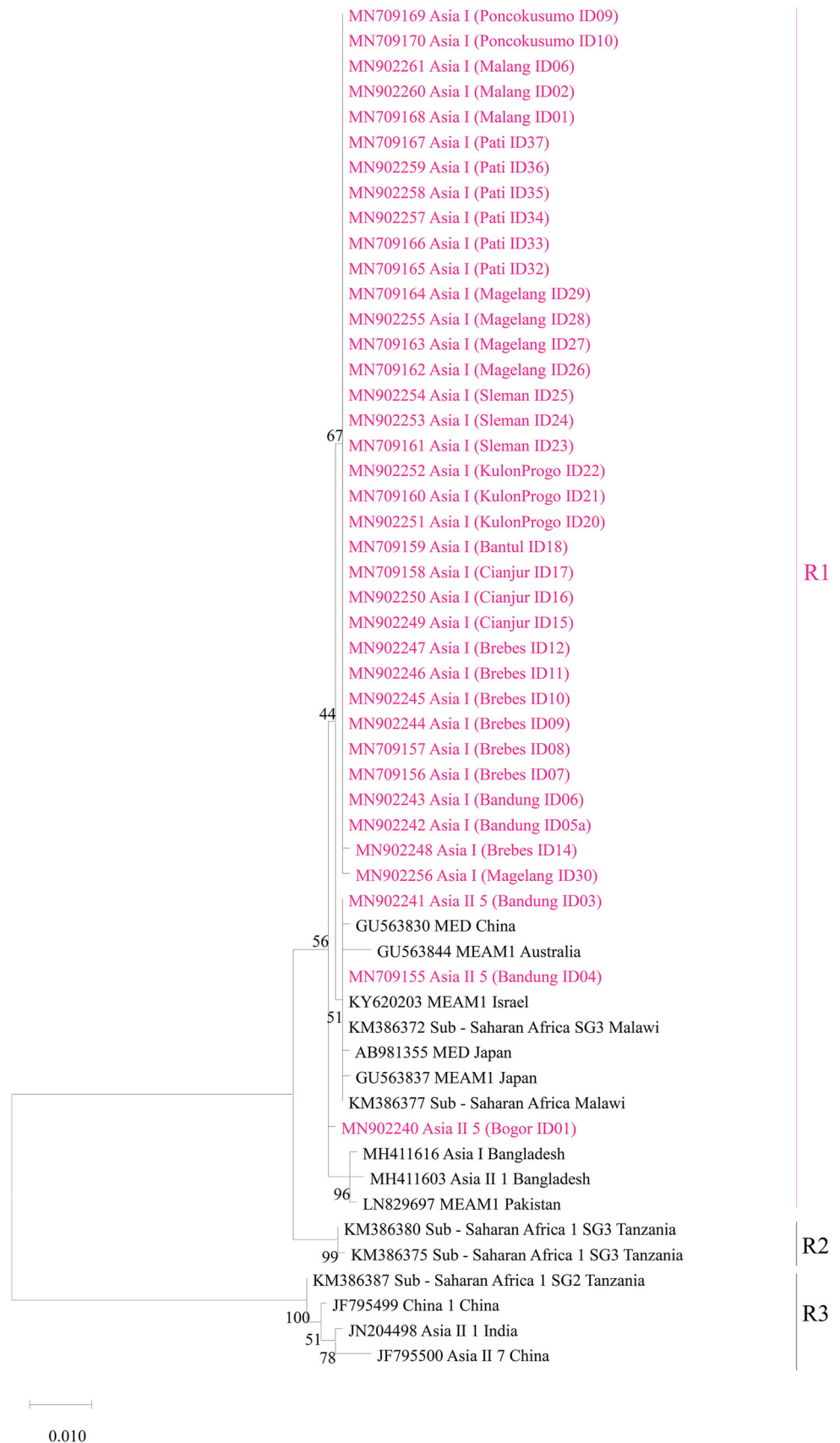
*Cardinium* could be classified as two subgroups, A1 and A2 and C2 and C4, which had 0.74%–9.34% and 0.31%–11.63% 16S rDNA sequence variation, respectively. Of these subgroups, A1 and C4 infected Asia I at a rate three times that of A2 and C2. In contrast, the three other endosymbionts were detected in the *B. tabaci* of Java as single subgroup only: *Hamiltonella* H1, *Rickettsia* R1, and *Wolbachia* W1.

In our previous study, we suggested that a relationship existed between the genetic variation and geographic distribution of some *B. tabaci*-infecting endosymbionts (Khatun et al. 2019). For instance, two subgroups of *Rickettsia*, R1 and R2, were differentially distributed in Bangladesh: R1 was detected in the northern region, whereas R2 was detected in the southern region. In contrast, two subgroups of *Arsenophonus* (A1 and A2) were widely distributed in a mixed manner. Similarly, the present study revealed that *Cardinium* is found in all areas of Java, but that its two subgroups are differentially distributed; C2 is found in West Java while C4 is generally found in Central and East Java. However, the two subgroups of *Arsenophonus* (A1 and A2) are distributed in a mixed manner in East and Central Java only and are absent from West Java. Thus, similar to the cases of *Rickettsia* and *Arsenophonus* in

Bangladesh, we found that two subgroups of *Cardinium* were distributed differentially, whereas two subgroups of *Arsenophonus* were distributed in a mixed manner. A similar geographic distribution for the two subgroups of *Rickettsia* has been reported in India, with R1 and R2 detected in the northern and central regions, respectively (Singh et al. 2012). Taken together, these results suggest that endosymbiont infection in *B. tabaci* is highly associated with geographic distribution as well as the genetic group of the host insect.

Multiple infections of different endosymbionts are common in various cryptic species of *B. tabaci* (Gueguen et al. 2010; Zchori-Fein et al. 2014). Our study demonstrated that Asia I, which is the dominant cryptic species in Java, exhibited 15 combinations of multiple infections among 5 endosymbionts at the subgroup level. Contrastingly, Asia II 5 and Asia II 7 had few coinfection combinations due to their small sample size. Relative to the 6–8 coinfection combinations observed for Asia I and Asia II 1 in Bangladesh (Khatun et al. 2019), our findings for Asia I in Java represent a highly diversified multiple infection pattern. In addition, we demonstrated here that coinfection of *Hamiltonella* and *Arsenophonus* never occurred in the same *B. tabaci* individual. This finding is

**Fig. 7** Phylogenetic tree of *Rickettsia* populations present in *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia. Sequences obtained from the Java samples collected in the present study are shown in colored text





**Fig. 8** Phylogenetic tree of *Wolbachia* populations present in *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia. Sequences obtained from the Java samples collected in the present study are shown in colored text

**Table 6** Multiple infection (coinfection) patterns of secondary endosymbionts in the three cryptic species of *B. tabaci* from Java, Indonesia

No.	Combinations of endosymbionts (subgroups)	Infection rates [% (individual numbers)] of each cryptic species		
		Asia I	Asia II 5	Asia II 7
1	A1+C2+R1+W1	5.13 (2)	–	–
2	A1+C4+R1+W1	5.13 (2)	–	–
3	A2+C4+R1+W1	10.26 (4)	–	–
4	C2+H1+R1+W1	5.13 (2)	–	–
5	C4+H1+R1+W1	20.51 (8)	–	–
6	A2+C4+R1	2.56 (1)	–	–
7	A1+C4+W1	5.13 (2)	–	–
8	A1+R1+W1	12.82 (5)	–	–
9	C4+H1+R1	2.56 (1)	–	–
10	C2+H1+W1	2.56 (1)	–	–
11	C2+R1+W1	7.69 (3)	–	–
12	C4+R1+W1	7.69 (3)	–	–
13	H1+R1+W1	5.13 (2)	33.33 (1)	–
14	C2+R1	–	33.33 (1)	–
15	C2+W1	–	–	100.00 (1)
16	H1+R1	–	33.33 (1)	–
17	R1+W1	5.13 (2)	–	–
18	W1	2.56 (1)	–	–
	Total no. of whiteflies	39	3	1

consistent with those of previous studies (Gueguen et al. 2010; Duron 2014). The reason why coinfection with *Hamiltonella* and *Arsenophonus* is not observed remains to be elucidated. However, a recent study showed that the secondary symbionts *Hamiltonella* of *B. tabaci* and *Arsenophonus* of *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* coexist with the primary endosymbiont *Portiera* in the bacteriocyte, and that they similarly affect the sex ratio of whiteflies by regulating fertilization and supplying B vitamins (Wang et al. 2020). Therefore, the infection patterns of endosymbionts seem to be influenced by the potential roles, e.g., symbiotic or competitive association, of each endosymbiont (Gueguen et al. 2010; Wang et al. 2020).

To summarize, three cryptic species of *B. tabaci*, namely Asia I, Asia II 5, and Asia II 7, were found in Java. These were infected by different secondary endosymbionts in highly diversified combinations. The infection patterns of each endosymbiont were strongly associated with the geographical distribution of the host species. In particular, the infection of *Hamiltonella* was identified for the first time in Asian indigenous cryptic species from Java. Overall, this study provides useful insights that enhance understanding of the relationship between Asian cryptic species of *B. tabaci* and their endosymbionts in Java, Indonesia.

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