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## Construction of cDNA microarray during early embryo of *Bombyx mori*

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Embryogenesis is a complex process that requires the interaction of large groups of genes and is accompanied by changes in gene expression. To identify and analyze the expression patterns of Bombyx mori during embryogenesis, we constructed a Bombyx cDNA microarray containing 2446 unique genes identified from normalized and subtracted embryo cDNA libraries. We examined the patterns of gene expression during early embryo development in the *Bombyx* between six time points relative unfertilization(0hr), fertilization(2-4h after oviposion), Blastoderm formation(8-10hr), Germband formation(24hr, HCl treatment for artificial hatching at this time), Spatula stage(48hr) and the abdominal leg appendages formation(72hr). On the basis of two repeated experiments, a student's t-test was performed and then we chose  $\geq 2.0$  as the cutoff value for up-regulated genes and  $\leq 0.5$  for down-regulated genes. A total of 241 genes exhibited signal intensity. Differentially expressed genes can be grouped into two categories, early genes that are expressed until 24hr and lately genes expressed at 48/72hr. Of those, many genes of unknown function were identified that may be involved in the control and execution of development. Genes of known function were cataloged molecular function, biological process and cellular component. Our study provides the first utilization of cDNA microarray in the Bombyx and reveals changes in levels of gene expression in relative to early embryo development.