



# Studies on PCV, GCV, Heritability, and Genetic Advance in Rice Genotypes for Yield and Yield Components

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## Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Author AC conducted the experiment, performed the statistical analysis, wrote the protocol, and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Author VGJ designed the study and provided scientific advice and author AMS managed literature searches and manuscript editing. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

## Article Information

DOI: 10.9734/IJPSS/2023/v35i163266

### Open Peer Review History:

This journal follows the Advanced Open Peer Review policy. Identity of the Reviewers, Editor(s) and additional Reviewers, peer review comments, different versions of the manuscript, comments of the editors, etc are available here: <https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/102626>

Original Research Article

Received: 22/04/2023

Accepted: 26/06/2023

Published: 27/06/2023

## ABSTRACT

The present experiment was carried out in twelve genotypes including IRRI introgression lines and a Japonica cultivar to analyse the genetic variability, heritability, and genetic gain. Significant differences were observed among the genotypes. All the traits under study recorded a high phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) than the genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) indicating the presence of environment controlling the traits. But, the less difference between PCV and GCV implies that the involvement had a negligible role in the trait expression. High PCV and GCV were observed for the characters plant height, number of productive tillers, 1000 grain weight, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and reducing sugar, representing that these characters in genotypes are contributed by additive gene action and the direct selection will improve the trait easily. Among the traits studied, high heritability and genetic advance were obtained for plant

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height, number of days to 50% flowering, panicle length, number of grains per panicle, grain breadth, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and ascorbic acid, representing that these characters are predominant in additive gene action.

**Keywords:** Rice; genetic advance; Genotypic Coefficient of Variation (GCV); heritability; Phenotypic Coefficient of Variation (PCV).

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most important cereal crops in the world, rice provides a significant percentage of the world's population with a staple diet [1]. Continuous attempts are being made to enhance rice's productivity and yield-related factors in order to fulfill the rising demand for grain and maintain food security. The inherent potential of rice genotypes, the heritability of characteristics, and the possibility for genetic advancement are all determined through genetic research [2]. The present study examines research on heritability, genetic advance, phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV), genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV), and genetic advance in rice genotypes with an emphasis on the effects these factors have on yield and yield-related variables.

The variability of attributes within and between various rice genotypes is measured statistically using the terms phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) and genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV). While GCV quantifies the genetic variability underlying a trait, PCV assesses the amount of variation that is seen in that trait [3].

The amount of phenotypic variation in a characteristic that may be attributable to genetic factors is estimated by heritability. High heritability suggests that genetic diversity significantly influences how a characteristic manifests, making it simpler to select for and enhance the trait. Low heritability, on the other hand, indicates that environmental influences have a stronger impact on trait expression [4].

Genetic advance examines the enhancement that can be made to a characteristic via breeding programs and calculates the probable gain through selection. It stands for the variance between the mean performance of chosen individuals and the population as a whole [5].

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was conducted in the Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, College of Agriculture, Vellayani during the year 2023.

### 2.1 Plant Materials

The rice genotypes Jyothi, Manu Ratna, White Ponni, Wayrareem, Vandana, PTB-33, PTB-21, IRRI introgression lines IR7103-121-15-B and IR65482-7-216-1-2, Japonica variety Kinandang Patong, breeding line RP2068-18-3-5 and APO were employed in the study.

### 2.2 Experimental Design

A randomized block design with twelve treatments and three replications was the experimental design followed in the present study.

### 2.3 Data Collection

The morphological observations viz., plant height (cm), number of days to 50% flowering, number of tillers, number of productive tillers, panicle length (cm), number of grains per panicle, grain weight (g), grain length (cm), LB ratio, protein content (g/100g), phenol content (mg/100g), ascorbic acid (mg/100g), reducing sugar (g/100g) were recorded from the twelve rice genotypes.

### 2.4 Data Analysis

The morphological observations recorded were subjected to calculation of following genetic parameters;

**Genetic Components of Variance:** Phenotypic and genotypic components of variance were estimated for each character by equating the expected value of mean squares (MS) to the respective variance components [6].

- i. Genotypic Variance ( $V_G$ ),  $V_G = \frac{MST - MSE}{r}$
- ii. Environmental Variance ( $V_E$ ),  $V_E = MSE$
- iii. Phenotypic Variance ( $V_P$ ),  $V_P = V_G + V_E$

**Coefficient of Variation:** Genotypic, Phenotypic, and Environmental Coefficient of Variation was estimated from  $V_P$ ,  $V_G$ , and  $V_E$ , expressed in percentage for each trait.

- i. Genotypic coefficient of variation,  

$$GCV = \frac{\sqrt{V_G}}{X} \times 100$$
- ii. Phenotypic coefficient of variation,  

$$PCV = \frac{\sqrt{V_P}}{X} \times 100$$
- iii. Environmental coefficient of variation,  

$$ECV = \frac{\sqrt{V_E}}{X} \times 100$$

Where, X= Grand mean

Following are the categories for the range of variation [7],

- i. High: >20 percent
- ii. Medium: 10-20 percent
- iii. Low: <10 percent

**Broad Sense Heritability:** Ratio of genotypic variance to the total observed variance in the population and calculation expressed in percentage.

$$h^2 = \frac{V_G}{V_P} \times 100$$

Range of Heritability estimation [8] is,

- i. High: >60 percent
- ii. Medium: 30-60 percent
- iii. Low: <30 percent

**Genetic Advance:** The expected genetic gain or improvement in the next generation by selecting a superior genotype under a certain amount of selection pressure. Genetic advance was estimated by using the formula [9].

$$GA = Kh^2\sqrt{V_P}$$

Where K= selection differential, At 5% selection intensity K=2.06,  
 $H^2$ = Heritability,  $V_p$ = Phenotypic variance

#### Genetic Advance as Percent of Mean

$$GAM = GA/X \times 100$$

Where, GA= Genetic Advance, X= Grand Mean

Ranges of genetic advance are [8],

- i. High= >20 percent
- ii. Medium= 10-20 percent
- iii. Low= 10 percent

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The genetic parameters PCV, GCV, heritability, and genetic advance were estimated using the morphological observations on twelve genotypes of rice (Table 1).

**Plant height:** The plant height showed high PCV (29.095%), GCV (27.406%), heritability (88.7%), and genetic advance as per the mean (53.178%).

**Number of days to 50% flowering:** Moderate PCV (19.491%) and GCV (18.876%) with high heritability (93.8%) and genetic advance as per the mean (37.658%) were observed in the character.

**Number of productive tillers:** The trait showed high PCV (38.378%) and GCV (22.952%), moderate heritability (35.8%), and high genetic advance as per the mean (28.276%).

**Culm thickness:** The moderate PCV (12.489%) and GCV (10.555%), high heritability (71.4%), and moderate genetic advance as per the mean (18.377%) were observed for the culm thickness.

**Panicle length (cm):** Moderate PCV (13.980%) and GCV (13.320%), high heritability (90.8%), and genetic advance as per the mean (26.142%) were observed for the panicle length.

**Number of grains per panicle:** The PCV (19.730%) and GCV (19.360%) were moderate, and heritability (96.3%) and genetic advance as per the mean (39.133%) were high for the number of grains per panicle.

**1000 grain weight:** The high PCV (26.546%), GCV (25.779%), heritability (94.3%), and genetic advance as per the mean (51.571%) were observed for 1000 grain weight.

**Grain length (mm):** The grain length showed low PCV (7.886%) and GCV (7.024%), high heritability (79.3%), and moderate genetic advance as per the mean (12.887%).

**Grain breadth (mm):** Moderate PCV (16.716%), GCV (16.059%), high heritability (92.3%), and genetic advance (31.783%) were recorded for grain breadth.

**LB ratio:** The LB ratio showed high PCV (21.874%), GCV (20.857%), heritability (90.9%), and genetic advance as per the mean (40.969%).

**Protein content (g/100g):** The protein content showed high PCV (21.874%), GCV (20.857%), heritability (90.9%), and genetic advance as per the mean (40.969%).

**Phenol content (mg/100g):** The phenol content showed high PCV (31.803%), GCV (30.128%),

heritability (89.7%) and genetic advance as per the mean (58.794%).

**Ascorbic acid (mg/100g):** The ascorbic acid content recorded moderate PCV (18.224%), GCV (17.894%), high heritability (96.4%), and high genetic advance as per the mean (36.195%).

**Reducing sugar (g/100g):** The reducing sugar recorded high PCV (43.989%), GCV (40.492%), heritability (84.7%), and genetic advance as per the mean (76.783%).

The coefficient of variation measures the estimates of genetic variability present in the population. All the traits under study recorded a high phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) than the genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) indicating the presence of environment controlling the traits. But, the less difference between PCV and GCV implies that the involvement had a negligible role in the trait expression (Fig. 1). The narrow gap between PCV and GCV in the traits of rice was reported [2,10,11]. High PCV and GCV were observed for the characters plant height, the number of

productive tillers, 1000 grain weight, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and reducing sugar, representing that these characters in genotypes are contributed by additive gene action and the direct selection will improve the trait easily. The same findings were reported for plant height [10], the number of tillers [2, 12], protein content [13], phenolic content [10,11], and reducing sugar [14] in rice genotypes. High PCV and GCV in the L/B ratio and 1000 grain weight were reported [15]. Moderate PCV and GCV were recorded for the characters number of days to 50% flowering, culm thickness, panicle length, number of grains per panicle, grain breadth, and ascorbic acid, indicating the scope for selection, and these traits were moderately contributed by the genetic constitution of rice genotypes. Similar results were obtained for panicle length, number of grains per panicle [16,17], culm thickness [17], and grain breadth, for the number of days to 50% flowering, panicle length [18]. Low PCV and GCV were reported in the character grain length, in which direct selection of these traits will not be effective for crop improvement. The same results were reported in the study on local rice germplasms [19].

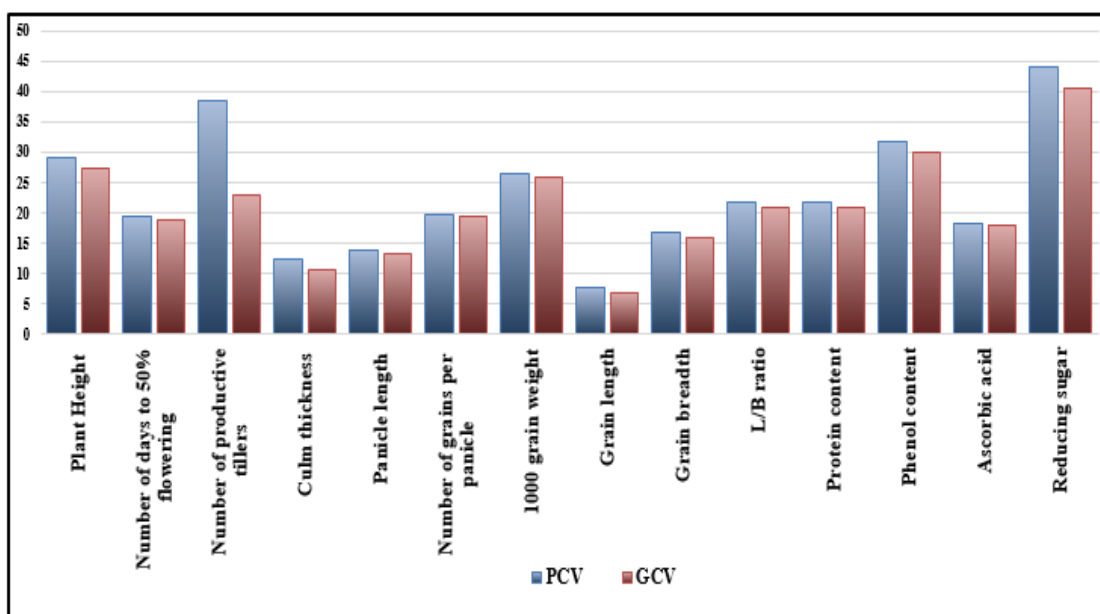
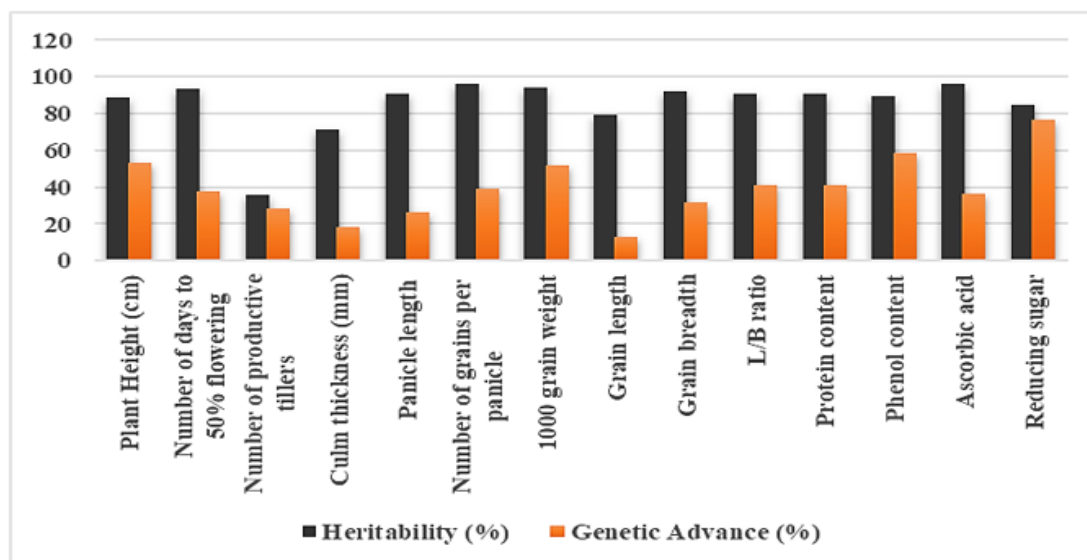


Fig. 1. PCV and GCV of yield and yield-related traits in rice genotypes

**Table 1. Genetic parameters studied for yield and yield-related traits**

<b>Characters</b>	<b>Genotypic variance</b>	<b>Phenotypic variance</b>	<b>Environmental variance</b>	<b>PCV</b>	<b>GCV</b>	<b>Heritability (%)</b>	<b>Genetic Advance (%)</b>
Plant Height (cm)	852.300	960.612	108.312	29.095	27.406	88.7	53.178
Number of days to 50% flowering	297.656	317.356	19.700	19.491	18.876	93.8	37.658
Number of productive tillers	1.652	4.617	2.967	38.378	22.952	35.8	28.276
Culm thickness (mm)	0.005	0.007	0.002	12.489	10.555	71.4	18.377
Panicle length (cm)	8.930	9.838	0.908	13.980	13.320	90.8	26.142
Number of grains per panicle	559.675	581.275	21.600	19.730	19.360	96.3	39.133
1000 grain weight	33.361	35.376	2.015	26.546	25.779	94.3	51.571
Grain length (mm)	0.311	0.392	0.081	7.886	7.024	79.3	12.887
Grain breadth (mm)	0.180	0.195	0.015	16.716	16.059	92.3	31.783
L/B ratio	0.282	0.306	0.024	21.874	20.857	90.9	40.969
Protein content	3.716	4.087	0.371	21.874	20.857	90.9	40.969
Phenol content	0.009	0.010	0.001	31.803	30.128	89.7	58.794
Ascorbic acid	34.613	35.900	1.287	18.224	17.894	96.4	36.195
Reducing sugar	0.194	0.229	0.035	43.989	40.492	84.7	76.783



**Fig. 2. Heritability and genetic advance of yield and yield-related traits in rice genotypes**

The heritable amount of genetic variation present in a trait is estimated using the measures of heritability. Heritability estimations serve as a predictive tool for expressing the accuracy of phenotypic value. Genetic advancement is a helpful indicator of the advancement that may be anticipated as a result of applying selection to the relevant population. So, both heritability and genetic advance helps in the effective selection of a trait. A more accurate estimate of selection value would result from the combination of heritability and genetic advancement [8]. Among the traits studied, high heritability and genetic advance were obtained for plant height, number of days to 50% flowering, panicle length, number of grains per panicle, grain breadth, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and ascorbic acid, representing that these characters are predominant in additive gene action (Fig. 2). Similar findings were earlier reported for panicle length, grain breadth, and L/B ratio, number of grains per panicle, the number of days to 50% flowering, plant height, protein content, and total phenol content [17,18].

#### 4. CONCLUSION

All the traits under study recorded a high phenotypic coefficient of variation (PCV) than the genotypic coefficient of variation (GCV) indicating the presence of environment controlling the traits. But, the less difference between PCV and GCV implies that the involvement had a negligible role in the trait expression. High PCV and GCV were observed for the characters plant

height, the number of productive tillers, 1000 grain weight, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and reducing sugar, representing that these characters in genotypes are contributed by additive gene action and the direct selection will improve the trait easily. Among the traits studied, high heritability and genetic advance were obtained for plant height, number of days to 50% flowering, panicle length, number of grains per panicle, grain breadth, L/B ratio, protein content, phenol content, and ascorbic acid, representing that these characters are predominant in additive gene action.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur for providing research funding and the Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, College of Agriculture, Vellayani, for research facilities.

#### COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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Peer-review history:

The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:

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