

Analysis of genotype-environment interaction and yield stability of Thai upland rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) genotypes using AMMI model

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Abstract

Genotype-environment interaction and stability analysis has been important for plant breeders and plays a vital role in identifying genotypes that are stable or unstable in a given environment. The experiments in this research were conducted to determine the effects of genotype, environment and genotype-environment interaction on grain yield using the AMMI statistical model, and to recognize the most stable rice genotypes among ten genotypes in southern Thailand's provinces of environments in Songkhla, Satun and Phatthalung. Highly significant differences were shown from the combined analysis for environments with grain yields, revealing that environments were different and indicated change ability between the genotypes and their interactions. The average grain yield assessment of the tested genotypes was around the environments where genotype G8 (Nahng Kian) had the highest grain yield 6234.11 kg/ha. AMMI biplot of the Interaction Principal Component Analysis (IPCA) scores visualized 90.7% for IPCA1 and 9.3% for IPCA2 with the genotypes and environments for grain yield. In the AMMI stability value method, G8 (Nahng Kian) was the most stable genotype followed by the genotypes G2 (Mai Tahk) and G10 (Hawm Jet Ban) Songkhla, Satun and Phatthalung environments.

Keywords: AMMI, environment, genotypes, G×E interaction, upland rice, yield stability.

Abbreviations: AMMI_additive main effect and multiplicative interaction; IPCA_interaction principal component analysis; ASV_AMMI stability value; ANOVA_analysis of variance; df_degrees of freedom; CV%_coefficient of variation; TSS_total sum of squares.

Introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is an essential staple cereal crop nourishing more than half of the world's populations making up 50 to 80% of regular caloric consumption (Amirjani, 2011). Bridhikitti and Overcamp (2011), mentioned that Japonica, Javanica and Indica are subspecies, and that irrigated, rainfed lowland, deep water, and upland comprise the various cultivation ecosystems. Upland rice is grown in rainfed, naturally well-drained soils without surface water accumulation or a phreatic water supply, and is also usually not banded. Messina et al. (2009) reported that grain yield is contingent on genotype and, environment, in addition to management practices. Given similar management situations, differences in grain yield exist mainly due to effects of genotype and environment as reported by Dingkuhn et al. (2006). Combining these double descriptive variables provides ideas for recognizing the genotype most appropriate for a given the environment.

Genotype and environment interaction (G×E) imitate the diverse reactions of the genotypes to different environmental

conditions, i.e., one genotype under certain conditions is not the best genotype for other conditions. They are influenced by the environment. Hence, the G×E interaction cannot represent all inherent possibilities under certain which associated toward environmental conditions, and makes recommendations of genotypes to the plant breeder challenging (Arciniegas-Alarcón et al., 2010). According to Rodrigues et al. (2014), different response of genotypes across environments (location-year-combinations) is often normal in multi-environmental trials and is known as G×E interaction. It governs the identification of stable genotypes suitable for an environment, as well as of genotypes with a general behaviour that are suitable across several environments (Annichiarico and Perenzin, 1996).

A strong G×E interaction slows down selection and identification of genotypes, and makes recommendations difficult. To analyze G×E interaction and phenotypic stability, several methods have been proposed, specifically univariate and multivariate stability statistics methods. A combined analysis of variance can quantify the interactions and describe

the main effects (Genotype and Environment) reported by (Lin et al., 1986). Univariate is used of G×E interaction. Among multivariate approaches, AMMI analysis has been extensively applied in statistical analyses because it captures a large portion of the G×E interaction sum of squares, and clearly separates main and interactive effects. It also often provides meaningful interpretation of records which supports a breeding program such as genotype stability which represents agronomic investigations through different types of chances. In addition, the model affords agriculturally evocative clarification of high productivity records and is increasingly well adapted to a given agronomic region, through the purpose of regionalized endorsement, plus collection of check locations (Ebdon and Gauch, 2013; Rodrigues et al., 2014).

According to Gauch et al. (2008), the AMMI model combines ANOVA for the main genotype and environmental effects with principal component analysis of G×E. Consequently, based on the AMMI model, the AMMI stability value (ASV) has been used (Purchase et al., 2000). Formerly, the Principal Component Analysis (PCA), that affords a different model, is useful to investigate the cumulative consequences since the additive ANOVA model. According to Thillainathan and Fernandez (2001), the biplot display of PCA scores plotted against each other provides visual inspection and interaction components. Integrating biplot display and genotypic stability statistics enables genotypes to be grouped based on similarity of performance across diverse environments. Application of the AMMI model for yield trials have taken place regularly throughout the previous two eras, and there have been numerous new assessment apprenticeships (Gauch et al., 2008; Yang et al., 2009; Rodrigues et al., 2014).

The AMMI result is gaining popularity and has been widely preferred in recent years for breeding programs, judgments such as definite and extensive alterations, as well as for the assortment of the environments (Manrique and Hermann, 2002; Gruneberg et al., 2005). Hence, the objectives of this research were to 1) estimate the extension of genotype, environment and G×E interactions for grain yield, 2) evaluate rice genotypes on behalf of their yield performance in particular environments, and 3) select genotypes in terms of their stability for definite region production depending on their grain yield performance in particular environments.

Results and Discussion

Climatic differences analysis

According to Eberhart and Russell (1966), high variations occurring in this result were caused by several factors such as soil properties, total phosphorus, available phosphorus, as well as rainfall. Changeable environmental features such as relative humidity and rainfall through a single situation can underscore dissimilarity of genotypes in relation to environment across locations. For the different location trials, the location in which the field trials were undertaken showed geographical and environmental dissimilarities. Therefore, an enormous influence from the environment was expected. Consequently, tested genotypes in different environments differed in changeable environmental conditions, which suggests that a

proper method intended for choosing genotypes exists. From Table 1, it can be seen that the Phatthalung environment has very low percentage of total phosphorus (121.92 mg/kg), available phosphorus (2.95 mg/kg), available Ca (65.90 mg/kg), available Fe (162.56 mg/kg), the lowest annually average rainfall (575 mm) and the medium humidity (85%). In comparison, Satun environment has total phosphorus of 207.42 mg/kg, available phosphorus of 10.84 mg/kg, and available Fe of 353.16 mg/kg with relative humidity (81%). The Songkhla environment has available K of 33.73 mg/kg and the annually average highest rainfall (583 mm).

Single analysis

From Table 2, single analysis of variance revealed that genotype with grain yield for the Satun and Phatthalung environments showed significant differences, indicating differential performances of genotypes over these two environments. Whereas Songkhla had no significant difference for genotype. This is due to more coefficient of variation values (27.72%) for the Songkhla environment.

Combined analysis

Table 3 combines ANOVA of 10 genotypes in three environments (Satun, Phatthalung and Songkhla) showing highly significant differences for environments while no significant differences for genotypes and G×E interactions. The significant differences that AMMI analysis identifies among genotypes, environments and G×E interaction, and indicates that there are highly significant differences among environments and that each environment has a strong effect on genotypes and G×E interactions, which help in selecting high yielding and stable genotypes in each environment. The genotypes and G×E interaction had no significant differences in grain yield in this combined analysis because there are very high mean squares of pooled error. The significance of G×E interaction indicates distinct genotypes in each location. This suggests the necessity to examine patterns of adaptability of genotype across each location. These findings were also reported by Falconer and Mackay (1996). The highly significant differences for the environment and G×E interaction designate high differential behaviour (Yaghotipoor and Farshadfar, 2007).

AMMI analysis

According to Gauch (1988), AMMI is an applicable model in the preliminary arithmetical study of yield trials as it supports different logical instrument to identify other models. AMMI helps to make good plan for predicting new locations and new year. Freeman (1990) stated that the AMMI model has the capability of overall fitting and place no limitations on the multiplicative term, which results in an acceptable minimum mean square. The IPCA scores of genotypes and environments are plotted against their respective mean values in the AMMI model 1 biplot, where the average productivity of the genotypes, environments and their interactions for all possible genotype-environment combinations visualize among them.

The AMMI model is the recommended design for three key determinations. Firstly, the model identifies additional models; then illuminates G×E interaction and summarizes the extension and interactions of G and E (Crossa, 1990). It is evident from Table 4 for grain yield, 10 genotypes exposed 82.86% of total sum of squares is attributed to environmental effects, 1.31% to genotypic effects, and 2.44% to G × E interaction effects while IPCA1 accounted for 90.7 %, and IPCA2 accounted for only 9.3% of variation from G×E interaction. Therefore, the AMMI1 biplot gives the best model, with a fit of IPCA1 accounting for 90.7% of the total treatment variation in G×E data through grain yield (Fig 1). Large significant mean squares attributable to environments indicate large differences in the influence of environments i.e., environments are so diverse they cause the greatest variation on G×E interaction. Environments accounted for the largest proportion followed by G×E interactions and genotypes, as reported by Naveed and Nadeem (2007), and is about 41 times higher in comparison with genotypes and G×E interaction for grain yield on the productivity of genotypes. The G×E interaction sum of squares is much less for grain yield.

Less G×E interaction greatly sped up the selection process rapidly and made genotype recommendations easier. It also destroyed the high stable yields that are appropriate for yield breeders and growers, owing to its inherent configuration, and yields are greater which indicates that environments devour strong effects on the presentation of the genotypes (Zulqarnain et al., 2017). The significant contribution of G×E interaction towards grain yield variation suggests differential responses of genotypes to different environments. The partitioning of the total sum of squares indicates that the environmental effect is a leading source of variation followed by the genotype and G×E interaction, which suggests the presence of different genotypes suitable to different environments (Mohammadi et al., 2007). Highly significant G×E interaction reduces responses to a selection of superior genotypes (Flores et al., 1998). Hence, it is appropriate to assess yield stability under different environments and identify genotypes with a specific or broad adaptation. This is consistent with the findings of Islam et al. (2014). The existence of G×E interaction is visibly confirmed through the AMMI 1 model. The interaction is separated between the IPCAs, and the two IPCAs together accounted for 100% of the overall G×E interactions for grain yield: 90.7% from IPCA1 and 9.3% from IPCA2. However, 10.73% was pooled error or residual noise and was not interpretable, thus discarded (Purchase et al., 1997). Table 4 indicates that the AMMI model is good fit with the data, and that the model can predict accuracy using the IPCA (Beya et al., 2008).

The AMMI1 biplot analysis using IPCA1 and mean grain yield data from Table 4 allows visual interpretation of G × E interactions and genotype recommendation for multi-environments (Fig. 1). Here the “0” is a perpendicular line. The display shows, from the center of the perpendicular line, that genotypes with environments on the right side (both upper and lower) always bear highest mean values of grain yield. The upper right quadrant, contains more high mean grain yield values than those in the lower right quadrant, which have medium mean grain yield values. Those on the left side, have

the lowest mean grain yield values. Taking the performance of the perpendicular line as standard, genotypes with high mean values and positive interaction with IPCA1 are in the Satun environment. As a result, among the ten genotypes G8, G9, G10, G3, G7 and G4, are generally high yielding with the highest mean values (6234.11, 6115.56, 6043.44, 5893.44, 5854.78 and 5268.22 kg/ha, respectively) in the Satun environment. After that G1, G2, G5 and G6 (5546.56, 5342.89, 6115.56 and 5831.22 kg/ha, respectively) are in the Songkhla environment, and are generally lower yielding than the genotypes suited to the Satun environment. In contrast, Phatthalung is the poorest environment among the three, as shown on left side of the perpendicular line, and bore no best suited genotype. The Satun and Songkhla environments are on the right side of the vertical axis, indicating rich environments, whereas the Phatthalung environment is generally the poorest environment. Thus, the AMMI biplot shows that the studied genotypes differed from each other not only in their interactive effects but also in their mean grain yield values.

IPCA interactions

The AMMI biplot provides a visual expression of the relationships between the IPCA1 and IPCA2 with the mean of genotypes and environments. According to Alberts (2004), Principal Component Analysis is a multivariate technique that recognizes figure arrangements in addition to correspondences and differences between the variables established and arranged in a consecration procedure of multivariate systems. Table 5 shows IPCA1 and IPCA2 scores that characterize the interaction of a genotype across environments as well as relationships between genotypes and environments. According to Yan and Hunt (2001) and Mohammadi et al. (2007), a genotype with a positive IPCA score in several environments must neutralize negative interactions in other environments. Hence, these scores exhibit an unequal genotype reaction to the environment. Nevertheless, both positive and negative signs, as well as genotypes and environments using large IPCA scores, have strong large interactions and are stable. However, genotypes with IPCA1 and IPCA2 scores at zero or close to zero have little interaction across environments, indicating that they all perform well in these environments and are stable. Conversely, genotypes with negative IPCA1 and IPCA2 values had no interaction across environments (Crossa, 1990). All these are below average yields. Similarly, those genotypes have zero scores on the IPCA1, indicating that they are less influenced by the environments. On the other hand, the genotypes list above usually yield and IPCA1 score near zero, as they are accustomed to stable environments and are general adapted to all the environments. For grain yield, the biplot shows G8 had the highest mean value (6234.11 kg/ha), followed by G9 with 6115.56 kg/ha and G5 with 6115.56 kg/ha. These were all in Satun. The maximum mean value was 8425.60 kg/ha and the interactions were strong. Among the experiments, for grain yield, G3, and the environment, Phatthalung was the most unstable and discriminate. Related symbols of the IPCA1 score on behalf of similar genotypes as well as environment indicates positive association and

Table 1. Soil property and weather condition before land preparation during the growing season.

Samples Details	Satun	Phatthalung	Songkhla
<u>Soil properties(0-30 cm)</u>			
Total N (%)	0.08	0.09	0.08
Organic matter (%)	1.9	1.9	1.9
Organic Carbon (%)	1.1	0.9	1.1
Total P (mg/kg)	207.42	121.92	165.92
Available P (Bray II method, mg/kg)	10.84	2.95	6.38
Available K (NH ₄ OAc extract, mg/kg)	26.75	28.10	33.73
Available Ca (NH ₄ OAc extract, mg/kg)	99.74	65.90	90.63
Available Fe DTPA extract (mg/kg)	353.16	162.56	238.61
Cation Exchange Capacity (meq/100g soil)	4.09	4.05	3.13
pH (1:5 H ₂ O)	5.09	4.89	4.87
Ec (μS/cm)	25.90	18.43	21.30
<u>Weather properties</u>			
Max_temp (°c)	36	35	35
Min_temp (°c)	24	25	26
Annually average rainfall (mm)	580	575	583
Humidity (%)	81	85	87

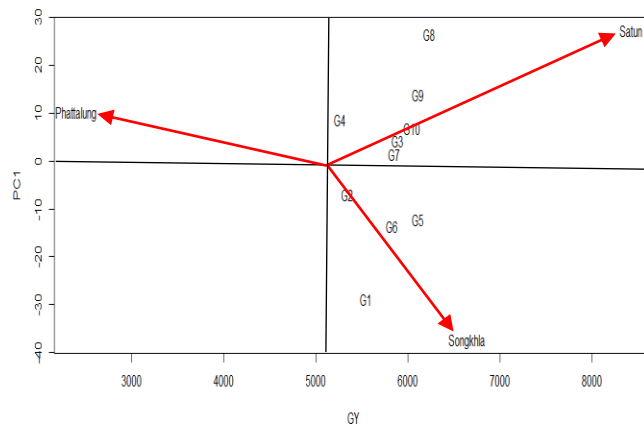


Fig 1. AMMI 1 biplot using IPCA1 and mean grain yield data for ten Thai genotypes in three environments.

Table 2. Single analysis of variance for grain yield of Thai upland rice genotypes.

Source	df	Mean squares for Grain Yield		
		Satun	Phatthalung	Songkhla
Replication	2	7159306**	1202650**	848063 ^{ns}
Genotype	9	1507255*	400517*	981513 ^{ns}
Error	18	594415	145121	3392696
CV (%)		9.15	15.90	27.72

*and ** indicate statistical significance at 5% and 1% level probability, respectively. ns indicate non-significance.

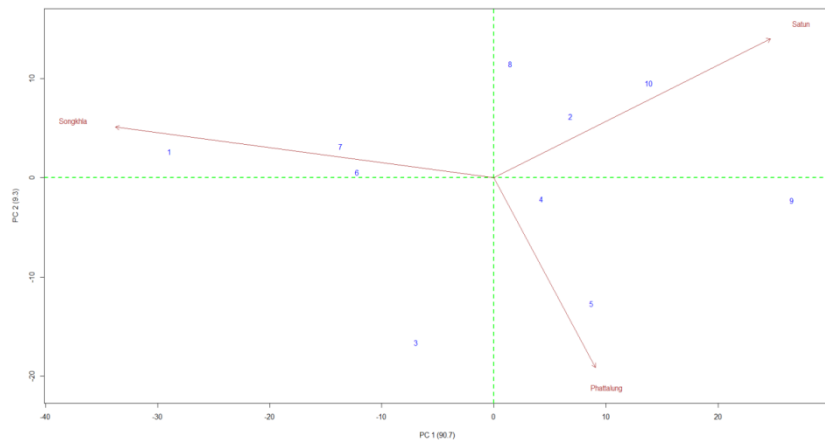


Fig 2. AMMI 2 biplot using (IPCA1 and IPCA2) scores data for grain yield with ten Thai genotypes in three environments.

Table 3. Mean squares of analysis of variance (ANOVA) for grain yield of 10 Thai upland rice genotypes across 3 locations.

Source of variation	df	Mean squares for Grain Yield
Environment (E)	2	287119472 ^{**}
Replication within E	6	3070006
Genotype(G)	9	1009507 ^{ns}
G×E	18	939889 ^{ns}
Pooled error	54	1377744
C.V. (%)		20.15

^{**} indicates statistical significance at 1% level probability and ^{ns} indicates non-significance.

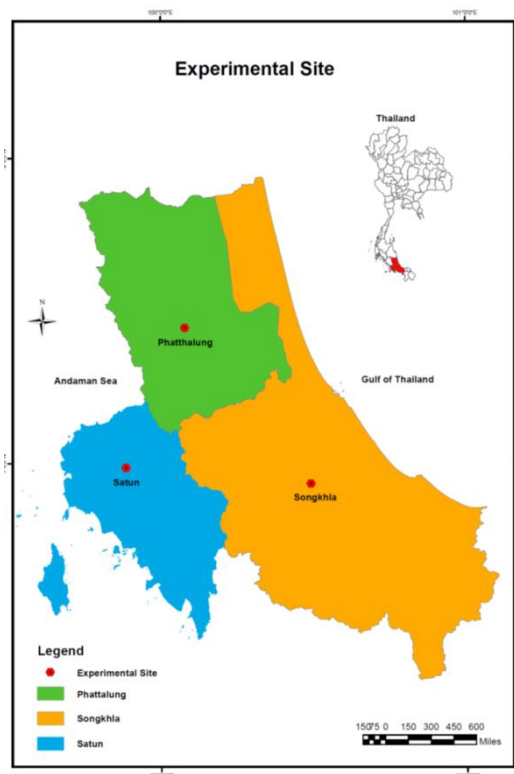


Fig 3. Map of three experimental sites.

Table 4. AMMI analysis of grain yield in ten Thai upland rice genotypes over 3 locations.

Source of variation	df	Total Sum of squares	Explained TSS (%)	Percent of IPCA
Environment(E)	2	574238944	82.86	
Replication within E	6	18420038	2.66	
Genotype(G)	9	9085564	1.31	
G x E	18	16917998	2.44	
IPCA1	10	15338587	-	90.7
IPCA2	8	1579411	-	9.3
Pooled error	54	74398169	10.73	
Total	87	693060713		

Table 5. AMMI analysis showing means with IPCA1, and IPCA2 scores of grain yield for 10 Thai upland rice genotypes grown in 3 locations.

Genotype	Grain Yield			
	Mean (kg/ha)	IPCA1	IPCA2	ASV
G1	5546.56	-28.93	2.65	27.25
G2	5342.89	4.24	2.11	13.39
G3	5893.44	-6.93	-16.60	90.19
G4	5268.22	8.73	-12.68	30.00
G5	6115.56	12.18	-0.55	37.97
G6	5831.22	-13.68	3.19	42.74
G7	5854.78	-26.58	2.26	82.86
G8	6234.11	1.49	11.51	12.40
G9	6115.56	13.83	-9.55	44.15
G10	6043.44	6.85	6.20	22.24
Phatthalung	2403.53	10.08	-21.24	37.91
Satun	8425.60	27.43	15.56	86.89
Songkhla	6644.60	-37.51	5.68	117.03

Table 6. Details of ten popular Thai upland rice genotypes in different provinces in Thailand.

SL	Name of the genotypes	Collection site (Province)
G1	Dawk Pa-yawm (white rice)	Phatthalung
G2	Mai Tahk (white rice)	Songkhla
G3	Bow Leb Nahng (white rice)	Satun
G4	Dawk Kha (red rice)	Krabi
G5	Dawk Kahm (red rice)	Chumphon
G6	Khao ¹ Trai (white rice)	Krabi
G7	Nual Hawm (white rice)	Songkhla
G8	Nahng Kian (white rice)	Chumphon
G9	Nahng Dum (white rice)	Chumphon
G10	Hawm Jet Ban (red rice)	Krabi

Table 7. Description of the experimental sites.

Parameters	Environments		
	Songkhla	Satun	Phatthalung
Latitude	7.13° N	6° 39' 13" N	7°37'04"N
Longitude	100.26° E	100° 4' 59"E	100°04'40"E
Altitude (m)	63	6	14

therefore greater yield of the genotypes in that particular environment. The Satun environment, G8 and G10 had positive IPCA1 scores and registered above average yields. G4 and G5 had negative IPCA2 values, thus the Phatthalung environment was favourable for these genotypes. Likewise, G1, G6 and G7 in the Songkhla environment had negative IPCA1 scores and thus the Songkhla environment was found to be the most favorable environment for these genotypes (Fig. 2).

Materials and methods

Plant materials and conduction of experiment

The experimental plant materials i.e., the best ten upland rice genotypes (Table 6) were selected from the report of Chuchert (2018). The experiments were carried out at the farmers' fields of Songkhla, Satun and Phatthalung Provinces under the rainfed upland conditions. Here we used a limited number of genotypes because we had to select genotypes that retained characteristics of survival under upland conditions. These genotypes were already tested under rainfed upland conditions without surface water accumulation using different experiments. Another important point was that availability of rainfed condition tolerant genotypes are limited in Thailand. The soils were tested in the soil analysis laboratory of Natural Resources Faculty, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai campus, Thailand with results displayed in Table 1. The experiment was laid out with a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with three replications in each environment. Each replication consisted of four rows (5 meters per row) and ten genotypes which were randomized and replicated within each block. Each genotype was planted 30 cm apart between rows and 25 cm within the rows. Three locations differing in latitude, longitude and altitude, from sea level, are shown in Table 7 and Fig.3. 15:15:15 N-P-K fertilizers was applied at the rate of 15 kgs of N, P and K per hectare as urea, super phosphate and muriate of potash before planting. Agronomic actions, were done manually, e.g., weed and insect control. Insect pests were controlled by the application of 20 ml per 1 L Cypermethrin 10% w/v EC and 50 ml per 1 L Benfuracarb 20% w/v EC with water. At 30 days after planting, urea fertilizer (46-0-0) was applied.

Data collection

Grain yield data were documented on a single plant basis using sixteen plants per genotype in each replication. At the maturity stage, data were collected and observations were recorded on the basis of plant height (cm), number of tillers (no), number of panicles (no), panicle length (cm), flag leaf length (cm), flag leaf width (cm), leaf area index, harvest index (%), total dry weight (gm), total grain weight (gm), 1000 seed weight (gm), filled grains per panicle and unfilled grains per panicle, all of which were used to estimate grain yield per genotypes (kg/ha). The G×E interaction is evaluated only for yield contributing characters and grain yield per genotypes (kg/ha).

Statistical analysis

This paper mainly focused on grain yield at 12 % moisture level. The grain yield of each genotype in each location was subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) using the R program with agricolae package (Mendiburu and Simon, 2007). Homogeneity variances were checked with F_{max} and verified homogeneous if it was less than 5 (Tabachnick and Fidell, 2001). If they were homogeneous, the quantitative trait means of the genotypes that were evaluated in all three locations were used for pooled ANOVA. The mean trait values of the 10 genotypes evaluated in three replications were subjected to statistical analysis depending on the additive part (main effect) and PCA to examine the non-additive part that remained after the ANOVA analysis (Sabaghnia et al., 2008).

Additive main effect and multiplicative interaction (AMMI) method

The AMMI method was applied with additive effects to 10 genotypes in three environments, and multiplicative was used for G×E interaction. According to Sabaghnia et al. (2008), the AMMI method at first adjusts additive effects for host genotypes and environments through the normal additive analysis of variance (ANOVA) technique and fits multiplicative effects for G×E by PCA. It affords a symbolic view of the transformed G×E interaction for any interpretation (Kempton, 1984) based on the following AMMI equation:

$$Y_{ger} = \mu + \alpha_g + \beta_e + \sum \delta_n \gamma_{gn} \partial_{en} + \rho_{ge} + \varepsilon_{ger}$$

Where,

Y_{ger} = Yield for genotype g, environment e and replication r

μ = Grand mean value for trait

α_g = Mean deviations for genotype (genotype means minus grand mean)

β_e = Mean deviations for environment

n = PCA axis number reserved in the model

δ_n = Singular value for PCA axis n

γ_{gn} = Genotype eigenvector values for PCA axis n

∂_{en} = Eigenvector for environment

ρ_{ge} = Residuals

ε_{ger} = Error is used

AMMI stability value

The AMMI stability value (ASV) catalogue has recommended for measurements and ranks genotypes according to their yield stability. Purchase et al. (2000), described the AMMI stability value (ASV) which is calculated as follows:

$$\sqrt{\frac{\text{IPCA1 Sum of square}}{\text{IPCA2 Sum of square}} (\text{IPCA1score})^2 + (\text{IPCA2score})}$$

Where,

$SS_{\text{IPCA1}}/SS_{\text{IPCA2}}$ is the weight given to the Interaction Principal Component Analysis (IPCA1) significance through allotting the IPCA1 sum of squares by the IPCA2 sum of squares. The higher

the IPCA significance, whether negative or positive significance, the higher the explicitly adjusted genotype suits the environments. Lower ASV values, designate an additional stable genotype crosswise environment.

Conclusion

This study demonstrated statistically significant differences for environment (E) and non-significant differences for genotypes (G) and for G×E interaction. In the AMMI model, the mean highest and lowest grain yield values indicated that G8 (Nahng Kian: 6234.11 kg/ha) and G4 (Dawk Kha: 5268.22 kg/ha) positioned according to the performance ranges with 8425.60 kg/ha in Satun, to 2403.53 kg/ha from Phatthalung. It showed 82.86%, interaction followed by environment, at 1.31% to genotypic effect, and only 2.44% to G×E interaction effects. In addition, the analysis showed that low G×E interaction had high stability, which is desirable for plant breeders, farmers, and that their yields are higher, indicating the genotypes had less effect on the performance of environments. AMMI biplot of the interaction (IPCA) scores visualized 90.7% for IPCA1 and 9.3% for IPCA2 and total scores 100% for grain yield suggesting that IPCA1 performed better with the genotypes and environments than with grain yield. The best genotypes for Satun were G8 (Nahng Kian), G10 (Hawm Jet Ban) and G2 (Mai Tahk). The Songkhla environment is suitable for G1 (Dawk Pa yawm), G6 (Khao Trai) and G7 (Nual Hawm). Phatthalung is suitable for G4 (Dawk Kha), G5 (Dawk Kahm) and G9 (Nahng Dum). According to the AMMI stability value method, the G8 (Nahng Kian) is the most stable for three environments.

Conflict of interests

The authors have declared no conflicts of interest.

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