Quantifying the selection regime in a natural *Chironomus riparius* population

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Summary

While the evolutionary fitness of natural populations is affected by a multitude of environmental factors, theory predicts that selective responses are in principle limited. However, we lack empirical knowledge on the magnitude of different selection pressures natural populations adaptively track. Here, we developed a framework to investigate the quantitative and qualitative complexity of the effectively acting selection regime using population genomic time series data. We applied the approach to a natural population of the multivoltine midge *Chironomus riparius*. Using six seasonal samples over three years from the same natural population, we could show with fitness experiments that the population continuously evolved in response to a highly variable environment. Analyses of genome-wide allele-frequencies revealed that tens of thousands of haplotypes responded at least once to selection during the monitored period. Clustering the temporal haplotype frequency trajectories revealed 46 different patterns, i.e. selection pressures. Some of these co-varied with measured environmental variables known to be selective factors for the species. Our results demonstrate that 1) adaptive tracking of multiple fluctuating selection pressures occurs in natural populations, 2) the estimated minimum number of simultaneously acting selective pressures is quite high but appears to be limited and 3) changes in intensity and direction of selective responses can be frequent. This shows that adaptation in natural populations can be rapid, pervasive and complex

Introduction

Evolution in natural populations is expected to occur when selection acts on traits with a heritable basis of phenotypic variation. There is a general agreement that selection in the wild is intense [1,2]. It is also variable in space and time [3-5], even though there is some debate whether changes in the direction of selection are frequent or not [6-8]. Recent theoretical and empirical work has shown that selection in natural population can lead to very rapid adaptation [9], in particular of polygenic traits [10]. If the rate of environmental change is not too fast and the population characteristics allows for effective selection, adaptation from standing genetic variation to track moving phenotypic optima is theoretically possible nearly in real-time [11].

However, adaptation is not without limits. Theoretical approaches suggest that if many arbitrary selection pressures are acting simultaneously (multivariate selection [12]), the ability of populations to

respond to these may be severely reduced [13,14]. The number of loci in a genome that can react to

different selection pressures is principally limited by the number of independently inherited genome

sections due to physical linkage [15]. In addition, trade-offs and pleiotropy between traits constrain

evolution further [16,17]. Calculations thus suggest that the number of genetically truly independent

traits is in the order of a few dozen, despite abundant genetic variation and strong selection [14,18].

A better understanding of the selective limits in natural populations is not only a central concern of

population genetics and macroevolution [13], it also has wide-ranging consequences for conservation [19]

and the potential for adaptation of biodiversity to global change [20]. To our knowledge an attempts to

empirically test the hypothesis of limited selective response capacity, e.g. by comprehensively

quantifying the different selective responses of a natural population, is lacking. This may be due to

principal difficulties in identifying and measuring all the relevant, yet independent phenotypic traits

in natural populations [14,21].

Here we approach this problem from a different angle. Experimental evolution has shown that

population genomic time series of evolving populations are a powerful tool to identify selected

haplotypes throughout the genome and follow their temporal trajectory [22]. We extended this

approach to natural populations. The rationale is as follows: if a selection pressure changes in

intensity and/or direction over time, allele frequencies of loci responding to this pressure - and sites

physically linked to them - should shift towards the new optimum equilibrium frequency [10], just as

allele frequencies respond along selective clines in space [23]. For quantitative traits with a broad

genetic basis, subtle adjustments of allele frequencies at many loci usually suffice and not necessarily

their fixation [24].

In environments with fluctuating selection, physically unlinked haplotypes responding to the same

selection pressure should therefore show temporally correlated allele frequency changes, following

the same evolutionary trajectory [3,25]. Given sufficiently long time series and a variable selection

regime, the number of differentiable allele frequency trajectory patterns over time should therefore

give a minimum estimate of the selective forces effectively acting on this population.

We applied this approach to a natural population of the non-biting midge *Chironomus riparius*. The

species is widely distributed in the temperate northern hemisphere [26]. *C. riparius* spends most of its

life-cycle as larva in freshwater habitats like small streams, ditches and puddles [27]. The species is

amenable for manipulation, in particular fitness measurements, in the laboratory [28] and

comprehensive genomic resources are available [29,30]. Many environmental factors are known to act

as selection pressures on this species (e.g. organic load [31], conductivity [27], nitrogen [32], temperature [33],

anthropogenic substances [34]). Its multivoltinity (about 10 generations per year in the studied

population [35]) together with the high effective and demographic population size (> 1,000,000 [36]) and

the very high number of offspring per breeding pair (400-800) allows for rapid adaptation [37,38]. The

natural and anthropogenic variability of environmental parameters in small streams situated in the

intensely used landscape of Central Europe likely creates a temporally highly variable multivariate

selective regime, i.e. a setting that allows differentiating between the evolutionary reactions to

different selective forces.

Using six seasonal samples over three years from the same natural population, we could show with

fitness experiments that the population continuously evolved in response to a highly variable

environment. Population genomic time series analyses revealed that the minimum number of

different selection pressures that the population effectively follows is quite high but limited. Changes
in intensity and direction of selective responses were frequent.

Results

Changes in environmental parameters over time

Measured physico-chemical water parameters varied substantially through time (Suppl. Fig.2). The
UPGMA dendrogram on these environmental parameters, which represented the original distance
matrix reasonably well (cophenetic distance 0.82), showed that the environmental conditions
changed continuously over the monitored period (Suppl. Fig. 3). The measured environmental regime
never returned close to any previous state. This was mirrored in the poor temporal autocorrelation
of the parameters, except for seasonal temperature changes (Suppl. Fig. 4).

Fitness changes over time evidenced continuous evolution

A two-way ANOVA showed that the natural population showed highly significantly different fitness,
measured as population growth rate, among the sampling dates when exposed to three different
experimental temperature conditions ($F = 9.509$, $p = 5.07 \times 10^{-6}$, Figure 1). Also the interaction
between sampling date and three experimental temperatures (14°C, 20°C and 26°C) had a significant
influence on the measured fitness ($F = 3.631$, $p = 0.0017$, Suppl. Table 1). As expected, the
experimental temperature had the largest fitness effect ($F = 269.6$, $p = 1 \times 10^{-30}$, Suppl. Table 1).

Large parts of the genome showed evidence of selective evolution

The genome-wide mean estimate of distance-dependent linkage disequilibrium (LD) dropped to an r^2
of 0.5 within 10 base pairs and to the genome-wide background level within 120 bp (Suppl. Fig. 5).
Consequently, the expected haplotype structure was extremely short.

Allele frequency estimates for all sampling dates were obtained for 22,693,348 SNP positions in the
genome. Neutral drift simulations, taking observed sampling variance of the poolSeq approach into
account, showed that the chosen selection detection threshold of 2.0 -log10p for an allele frequency
change (AFC) between consecutive sampling times or between the first and the last sampling implied
a false discovery rate of $q < 0.001$. This corresponded to an AFC of at least 0.15. Under the condition
of at least one selected AFC between any two consecutive sampling times or the first and the last
sampling time, identified a set of 367,446 allele frequency trajectories (AFT) with signs of selection.

AFTs were combined to haplotypes by a correlation coefficient clustering threshold of 0.75 among
consecutive SNPs along the genome. This resulted in 281,153 haplotypes of which 35,574 consisted
of more than a single SNP. Of the 100 haplotypes randomly chosen for validation, 98 showed the
expected linkage between the marker SNPs of the haplotype (Suppl. Fig. 6). In two cases, both with
more than 2 haplotype marker SNPs, one of the marginal SNPs was only slightly linked ($r < 0.6$). All
haplotypes checked were distinct from their respective neighbours. Only haplotypes with more than
a single SNP were retained for subsequent analyses. In these, the average number of SNPs per
haplotype was 3.30 +/- 2.64 (mean +/- s.d.). The mean length of inferred haplotypes was 893.1 +/-
1790.3 bp. They were on average 3466.0 +/- 4293.5 bp apart. Of all 13,490 annotated genes in the
genome, 5793 (= 42.9%) harboured at least one selected haplotype, some more.

The mean selection coefficient over all retained haplotypes was 0.30 with a standard deviation of
0.68. The latter is equivalent to the intensity of selection over time, and its much larger value relative
to the mean indicated large changes in magnitude and frequent reversals in the direction of selection
[3].

Clustering of allele frequency trajectories

To avoid using an arbitrary clustering threshold, we used a Monte-Carlo simulation approach.
Clustering of simulated random AFTs, drawn from the observed AFC distribution, indicated that a
clustering threshold of 0.75 yielded informative clusters without undue lumping (Suppl. Fig. 7).
Applying this threshold, the 35,574 AFTs were grouped into 46 distinct cluster (Fig. 2). The number of
AFT cluster members was highly different. The largest cluster (AFT16) contained 17,914 individual
haplotype trajectories, the smallest merely three (AFT28), the mean was 816.8 (Suppl. Table 2).

GO term analysis of AFTs and correlation of AFTs to environmental parameters

For 44 out 46 AFT clusters, at least one significantly enriched GO term was found (Suppl. Table 2).
Most enriched terms for the individual AFT clusters were on a very high hierarchical level.
Consequently, they were rather uninformative or affected only a small minority of the genes with
overlap to a selected haplotype. However, some hinted at a specific biological process or supported
the observed association of the AFT cluster to a measured physico-chemical variable. Ten allele
trajectories were highly correlated to measured water parameters in the period before sampling.
Taking only r > 0.9 into account, three AFTs (AFT19 r = 0.922, AFT18 r = 0.901, AFT17 r = 0.926) were
correlated to changes in NO_3. Two AFTs followed variation on Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)
closely (AFT20 r = 0.902, AFT21 r = 0.916). Two other AFTs were associated to NO_2 (AFT39 r = 0.933,
AFT40 r = 0.913), AFT3 was correlated to PO_4 (r = 0.915), AFT 38 to temperature (r = 0.961), while the
strongest association was found for AFT 34 and oxygen (r = 0.984, Figure 3).

The enriched terms for AFT4 (GO terms *0051704 multiorganism process*, *0006952 defense response*)
suggested reaction to a biological interaction. The largest cluster AFT16 contained hundreds of genes
involved in osmoregulation, reflected in the enrichment for GO terms *0055085 transmembrane*
transport and *0006811 ion transport*. Despite affecting only about 20 genes, AFT36 showed an
enrichment of terms associated with *porphyrin-containing compound biosynthetic process (0006779)*
and *pigment biosynthetic process (046148)*. Genes affected by AFT40 haplotypes were enriched for
signal transduction processes (*0007186 G protein-coupled receptor signaling pathway*), perhaps in
conjunction with hormones (*1901362 organic cyclic compound biosynthetic process*, *0008202 steroid*
metabolic process). AFT3 was enriched for term (*0006811 ion transport*). AFT39, with *calcium*
(transmembrane) transport (terms *0006813* and *0071805*), which is co-annotated to *nitric-oxide*
synthase inhibitor activity. There was an enrichment of the term *0005975 carbohydrate metabolic*
process in AFT21. AFT22 was enriched *for 0007688 sensory perception of smell* and *0006979 response*
to oxidative stress.

Discussion
Natural selection is thought to be a major force in the evolution of natural populations, yet we have a
poor understanding of the quantitative and qualitative complexity and dynamics of the multivariate
selective regime acting upon them. Most studies focus on a single or a few selection pressures, even
though the environment is highly complex. Using a new approach, we investigated the selective
regime effectively acting on a natural population of the non-biting midge *C. riparius* by surveying the
temporal changes on the ultimate level of selection, the changes of allele frequencies. Below, we
discuss the relevance of the findings for our understanding of evolution in natural populations and
relate them to previous work.

Complex and unpredictable multidimensional fluctuating selective regime in natural populations

The largely uncorrelated temporal changes as well as the observed range of the measured physico-
chemical water parameters suggested that the local environment presented a highly fluctuating,
multidimensional selective regime for *C. riparius*. For most of these parameters, the fitness relevance
and thus their selective potential for the species has already been shown [27,31-33,39]. Even though some

parameters showed seasonal changes, these were either overlain by long-term trends or were minor
in comparison to the observed jumps that did not seem to follow any regular pattern. In
consequence, the selective regime as a whole defined by this physico-chemical parameter set was
likely at no point in time identical or even similar to any other period. However, only a small choice of
the potentially selectively relevant biotic and abiotic parameters was measured. For example,
predation [40] and other intra- and interspecific ecological interactions are known to play an important
role for the fitness of *C. riparius* [41,42]. It is therefore reasonable to assume that an unknown, but much
larger number of selective factors is simultaneously, yet in strength and direction more or less
independently and irregularly, acting on this population. The local habitat is therefore probably
conforming to the multi-scale theory of the environment [3].

Continuous fitness evolution

The life-cycle tests showed significant differences in population growth rate as integrative fitness
measure among sampling dates, thus concurring to selective dynamics patterns generally known
from natural populations [6]. We assumed that the seasonal water temperature is the most important
environmental parameter for selection. The initial expectation was thus that, if seasonal adaptation
to temperature exists, seasonal samples should perform relatively better at experimental
temperatures that resembled the natural temperature regime experienced during the period before
the sampling took place. However, it was recently shown with the same population that the
laboratory conditions as such and not applied temperature regime constituted a by far more
important and complex selection pressure [38]. The experiment therefore rather tested the fitness
performance of the natural population, adapted to a complex natural selection regime, in another
complex experimental selection regime. The observed differences in fitness among sampling dates
therefore evidenced more or less continuous evolutionary changes in the field population that
affected fitness in the constant experimental conditions.

Rapid and pervasive selective genomic evolution

The analysis of population genomic time series showed that tens of thousands loci showed signs of at
least one selection-driven changes in allele frequencies within the less than 30 generations over the
period monitored. Rapid and substantial changes in allele frequencies were observed throughout the
genome. As the chosen approach accounted for drift and sampling variance [43], and immigration was
unlikely to change allele frequencies noticeably [44], the observed significant changes are likely due to
selection alone. This supports the increasing observations of rapid adaptive change in natural
populations (e.g. [45,46]). The observation that the standard deviation of the selection coefficients, an
equivalent to selection intensity, was much larger than the respective mean (0.68 vs. 0.30) proved
substantial changes in magnitude and frequent reversals in the direction of selection. The acting
selection regime thus corresponded to the multi-scale model of fluctuating selection advocated by
Bell [3]. In classical population genetic predictions, adaptive tracking as observed here is viewed as
unlikely to evolve, because fluctuating selection should rapidly eliminate genetic variation [47]. Several
recent models, however, have called these predictions into question. It was shown that in a
multivoltine species, adaptive tracking is more likely to evolve than phenotypic plasticity or bet-
hedging [48]. Dominance shifts of adaptive alleles [49] and boom-bust cycles [50] can additionally contribute
to the maintenance of genetic variation and are probably common in species satisfying these
conditions [51].

The propensity to rapid adaptation with simultaneous preservation of genetic variation in *C. riparius*
is thus probably due to an interplay of genomic, life cycle and demographic traits of the species. On
the genomic level, the low observed mean LD resulted in a highly fragmented haplotype structure,
comparable in scale to other insects like *Drosophila* [52]. A short range haplotype structure is a

precondition for the observed short distance between haplotypes responding to selection. Since only
haplotypes with more than a single SNP were considered, this may even present an underestimate,
because ancient selected polymorphisms may very well be completely separated from their
background by recombination. In some instances, even different parts of the same gene followed
different evolutionary trajectories. The observed fine-scaled selective response to independently
fluctuating environmental parameters requires that many different recombinational variants are
permanently present in the population. This may be one reason for the gross overproduction of
offspring in the species [44]. A large offspring number implies a respectively large number of
independent recombinational events, creating a wide variety of new genotypes from which to select.
Together with the large, fluctuating demographic and effective population size, the preconditions for
rapid, fine-scaled and variable evolutionary reaction to fluctuating changes in the selective regime
are therefore given.

The number of temporal evolutionary trajectories is limited but dynamic

In comparison to the huge number of potentially independent loci in terms of physical linkage
reacting to selection, the number of statistically distinguishable evolutionary trajectories was quite
limited (46). Despite expected trade-offs and pleiotropy between loci [17], this argued that rather the
number of acting selection pressures was limited than the capacity of the population to follow them.
That the majority of genes was not affected by selection supported the assumption of unused
adaptive potential, but could also be due to small effect size loci that did not reach statistical
significance in the present analysis.

While the order of magnitude of estimated effectively acting selection pressures is certainly correct,
the exact value may not be. On the one hand, the statistically derived clustering threshold was
possibly too rigid and therefore distinguished too many clusters, as indicated by the correlation of
some very similar AFT clusters (AFT21, AFT22 and AFT17, AFT18, AFT19) to the same environmental
variables (Fig. 3). On the other hand, in longer time series other selection pressures could have
elicited additional statistically detectable AFCs or split co-varying but distinctive selection pressures
into distinguishable trajectories, thus increasing the estimate of acting selective agents. A hint in this
direction was the increase from distinguishable 36 AFCs in a preliminary analysis after five temporal
samplings (data not shown) to 46 after six. It was therefore possible that the number of selection
pressures that the population can effectively follow independently within few generations may be
finally limited, but could be different than estimated here. However, general conclusions will require
the application of the framework presented here to more populations and different species.

Changes in intensity and direction of AFTs were observed frequently. Since these changes could be
attributed to the action of selection, this was contrary to expectations derived from the evolution of
phenotypic traits [6]. It is difficult to distinguish whether this discrepancy is due to the nature of the
measured traits (mainly morphological and life-history phenotypic traits vs. genomic traces of
selection), the relatively short monitoring periods (usually a few generations vs. ~30 generations
here) or differences in the dynamics of the temporal selection regime (annual or longer living
organisms vs. multivoltine species here). The number of haplotypes that showed a continuous
increase or decline in allele frequency over the monitored period were relatively limited (AFT4, 724
loci), suggesting that adaptation proceeds mainly by short time scale tracking of varying selection
pressures and not by slow fixation of alleles.

As expected from studies on *Drosophila*, AFT patterns reflecting seasonal variation were identified.
AFT38, highly correlated to temperature and AFT40 showed respective patterns, accounting for
about 1.2% of all selected haplotypes. This is in the range found for seasonal fluctuations of allele
frequencies in *Drosophila* [53,54]. However, compared to the high variability of the remaining AFT

patterns, the seasonal variations in temperature, precipitation, resource availability etc. were
surprisingly of relatively minor importance.

Environmental associations and functional gene enrichments of AFTs

The number of AFTs in each cluster was highly different, ranging from a few to many thousands. On
average, many independent loci were therefore involved in the same adaptive response, which is
typical for polygenic traits [55]. However, enrichment analyses in the GO category Biological Process for
genes overlapping with haplotypes from respective AFT clusters rarely yielded clearly interpretable
patterns. This was probably as much due to the patchy functional annotation of genes in the
C. riparius genome [30] as to the scant knowledge of the biological processes in which individual genes
are involved in different organism [56] s. However, in some instances, hypotheses on the acting
selection pressures could be gained from the enrichment analyses. In particular AFT4 suggested a
biological interaction [57], perhaps in defence to parasites. Immune genes adaptively tracking the
abundance of potential pathogens over seasons were also found in wild *D. melanogaster*
populations. Another interesting set of enriched genes associated with porphyrin containing pigment
metabolism was found in AFT36. The most important pigments in Chironomids are hemoglobins,
giving the characteristic red colour to these midges (also called "bloodworms"). They play an
important role in hypoxia/anoxia [58] and are negatively influenced in their function by nitrite [59]. It was
thus not surprising that the highest correlations of this AFT were to oxygen (r = 0.74) and NO_2 (r =
0.78), respectively. Less than a quarter of the AFT patterns were highly (> 0.9) correlated with the
few measured environmental parameters, indicating that only a small proportion of selectively
relevant parameters were measured. Some correlations suggestively matched the inferred functions
from the enrichment analysis. AFT39, enriched for genes involved in *nitric-oxide synthase inhibitor*
activity, was highly correlated to NO_2, underlining the importance of nitrogen metabolism for the
species. Another match was found for AFT21, strongly associated with biological oxygen demand,
which reflects the availability of organic matter in the stream, an important food source for the
midges [39]. Among the enriched GO terms, *carbohydrate metabolism* was found, insinuating an
adaptive reaction to the food availability.

Conclusion

The introduced approach of correlating the temporal trajectory of selected haplotypes provided a
first glimpse on the extent and dynamics of the multivariate selection regime acting on natural
populations and their evolutionary potential. It showed empirically that adaptive tracking of
environmental changes is possible at least for *C. riparius*. Species following such an evolutionary
regime should be able to cope also with long term trends as imposed by global change. The next
logical step will be to increase the temporal sampling and analyse the spatial dimension. This
promises to obtain statistically reliable associations whose functional causalities may then be
experimentally validated (but see [38]). Beyond these important scientific questions, the presented
framework opens the possibility to use population genomic time series for applied functional
environmental monitoring. While currently rather the presence or absence of species is used to
evaluate the state of environments, the monitoring of selective changes associated with certain
anthropogenic or environmental factors could serve as an early warning system before any
community change would be visible. Such knowledge may soon be of crucial importance to direct
conservation and mitigation strategies in a rapidly changing world.

Material and Methods
Sampling

In February 2016, than 500 living red *thummi*-type chironomid larvae were sampled with a sieve at a
single site situated in a small river (Hasselbach, Hessen, Germany 50.167562°N, 9.083542°E)
following the protocol of [28]. The specimen's specific identity was ascertained by DNA-barcoding of a
mitochondrial (COI) and a nuclear locus (L44). Eighty thus identified *C. riparius* were pooled and
subjected to PoolSeq sequencing (see below). The sampling was likewise repeated in September
2016, assuming that the two annual samples thus were subjected to the selective extremes of the
winter and summer season, respectively. This sampling scheme was repeated for the two following
years, 2017 and 2018, resulting in a time series of six population pools (NP0-NP5). From February to
September, the population produced about seven generations, in the period from autumn to early
spring about three. The entire sampling period thus covered about 27 generations (Suppl. Fig. 1). We
used additional *C. riparius* individuals from the field, sampled at the same time as the individuals for
genomic analysis except for September 2018, to perform standardised life cycle fitness tests at three
temperatures (14°C, 20°C and 26°C).

Environmental parameters

Mean monthly water parameters for the period 2009-2018 were obtained from the Hasselbach
water treatment plant of the Abwasserverband Freigericht. The values were continuously measured
automatically in the river past the outflow, less than 50 m from the sampling site. The following
parameters were recorded: water temperature [°C], conductivity [mS/cm], oxygen, biological oxygen
demand, chemical oxygen demand, NH_4, NO_3, NO_2, N_{tot} and PO_4, all [mg/l]. To assess the similarity of
the entirety of the parameters over time, the monthly means were summarised in a seasonal mean
for the period before sampling, *i.e.* from March to September and from October to February. The
standardised values (zero means, standard deviation of one) were clustered with UPGMA, using their
pairwise correlations as similarity matrix. Temporal autocorrelation was calculated in Past 3
{Hammer, 2001 #28016}.

Fitness test of seasonal samples

The life cycle fitness test involved recoding of several biological parameters, including mortality and
emergence time (EmT_{50}), the latter being a proxy for speed of development and, hence, the
generation length. From these parameters, the population growth rate as inclusive population fitness
measure was calculated. A detailed description of the life cycle fitness test can be found in Foucault
et al. (2018a).

Genomic analyses of pooled samples

DNA was extracted for each pool from the field or the experiment using the Quiagen blood and
tissue extraction kit on pooled samples of 80 larval head capsules, respectively. Integrity and quality
of extracted DNA was controlled using electrophoresis, and the DNA concentration for each samples
measured with a Qubit fluorimeter (Invitrogen).

Whole genome pool-sequencing was carried out on an Illumina MySeq with 250bp paired end reads.
Reads were trimmed using the wrapper tool autotrim [36] that integrates trimmomatic [60] for trimming
and fastQC [61] for quality control. The trimmed reads were then mapped on the latest *C. riparius*
reference genome [30] using the BWA mem algorithm [62]. Low quality reads were subsequently filtered
and SNPs were initially called using samtools [63]. The pipelines Popoolation and Popoolation2 [64,65]
were used to call SNPs, remove indels, and to estimate genetic diversity as Watterson's theta each
pool. Allele frequencies for all SNPs with coverage between 15x and 70x were estimated with the R
library PoolSeq [43].

Inference of Linkage Disequilibrium

The expected length of segregating haplotypes depends on the recombination rate and their age. The
former can be approximated by an estimate of linkage disequilibrium (LD) [52]. We estimated the
extent of LD and its decay using the maximum likelihood method of Feder et al. [52] on one of the pools
(NP0). This method exploits the haplotype information contained in (paired) reads and has been
shown to yield accurate estimates if mean LD decay to background levels is shorter than the read
length [52].

Identification of allele frequency trajectories with signs of selection

Selected SNP loci were identified by their allele-frequency change (AFC) larger than expected by
neutral drift. First, Fisher's exact tests for the AFCs among all consecutive time points (NP0 > NP1
etc.) and among the first and last sampling were calculated. This test identifies AFC larger than
expected by chance, but does not account for genetic drift expected. Therefore, neutral simulations
were used to compute false discovery rate q-values < 0.001 with parameters (number of SNPs,
starting allele frequencies in the ancestral population, sequence coverage, number of generations)
matching those of the respective sample. As effective population size, we used 15,000, which
constitutes a very conservative estimate (see [36]). All calculations and simulations were performed
with the R-library poolSeq [43]. A SNP locus was considered showing signs of selection if at least one
sampling interval or between the first and the last sample period had an AFC significantly larger than
expected. The allele frequency trajectory (AFT) of such SNPs was recorded, resulting in 367,446 AFTs.

Clustering of spatially coherent SNPs along the scaffolds into haplotypes

The extent of haplotypes on scaffolds was determined following the rationale of [22] that physically
linked variants following the same evolutionary trajectory should show correlated AFTs through time.
However, contrary to an experimental evolution situation with a constant selection pressure, it could
not be expected that the observed allele frequency shifts were always in the same direction. Walking
along a scaffold, an AFT was added to a haplotype if the absolute correlation coefficient to any of the
SNPs already in the haplotype equalled or exceeded the given threshold. This was repeated until the
next SNP did not meet the criterion. The number of ATF in the haplotype, its start and end and the
mean AFT were recorded and a new haplotype was started. The analysis was carried out with a
custom Python script.

Validation of haplotypes

Inferred haplotypes were validated with 30 whole genome resequenced individuals (25X coverage,
150 bp paired end reads) from all sampling periods. The reads from these individuals were quality
checked, mapped against the reference genome as described above and the genotypes called with
the GATK pipeline. Consensus sequences of one hundred randomly chosen haplotypes with more
than 2 SNPs, including one neighbouring haplotype were extracted from the individual VCF-files,
aligned and phased with FastPhase in DNAsp {Librado, 2009 #27798}. The resulting phased
alignments were manually checked for linkage of the previously identified target haplotype's typical
alleles and linkage equilibrium to the neighbouring haplotypes.

Calculation of selection coefficients for haplotypes

390 The selection coefficient *s* was calculated from the change in mean allele frequencies between
391 samplings for all selected haplotypes by the formula given in [66] Assuming codominance (i.e. h = 0.5),
392 the selection coefficient *s* can be calculated as

$$s = 2 * (\ln\left(\frac{p_t}{1 - p_t}\right) - \ln\left(\frac{p_0}{1 - p_0}\right)) * t^{-1}$$

393 where p_0 is the allele frequency of the rising allele in the ancestral population and p_t its frequency in
394 generation t.

Hierarchical clustering of allele frequency trajectories

396 The matrix of absolute pairwise correlation coefficients among mean AFT per haplotype was
397 transformed into a distance matrix (1 – correlation coefficient), hierarchically clustered with UPGMA
398 and the resulting dendrogram plotted. The number of clusters was determined by applying a
399 clustering threshold of 0.25, corresponding to a minimum similarity of 0.75 of all AFT within a cluster
400 (for choice of clustering threshold, see below).

Determination of the clustering threshold for haplotypes with similar temporal trajectories

To determine a clustering threshold sensibly balancing between arbitrary lumping of actually
different trajectories and over-splitting of trajectories differing rather by stochastic fluctuations, we
applied a randomisation approach. Starting with a distance threshold of 0.05, we iteratively
increased the threshold by 0.05. In each iteration, we randomly drew from the empirical AFC
distribution of all SNPs in the analysed set (i.e. at least one significant AFC among consecutive
sampling periods or between the first and last sampling period, see above), 1,000 times the
empirically found number of trajectories, satisfying the same conditions. For each of the 1,000
replicates, the trajectories were hierarchically clustered as described above and the number of
resulting clusters recorded. The simulated distribution was then compared to the empirically
observed number of clusters, applying the same threshold. The smallest distance threshold for which
the observed number of clusters fell below the 0.05 quantile of the randomly simulated distribution
was deemed appropriate for the analysis. This was the case for a distance threshold of 0.25; i.e. the
trajectories within each cluster showed a correlation of at least 0.75. The analysis was performed
with a custom Python script.

GO-term enrichment analysis

417 The annotated gene overlapping with a haplotype was identified as putative selection target. The
418 resulting gene lists for all member haplotypes of each mean AFT pattern were tested for over-
419 representation of GO terms in the category "biological function" in the R-library TopGO with a
420 Fisher's exact test [67].

Correlation of environmental parameters and mean AFTs

422 The seasonal mean environmental parameters (see above) before the first and the respective period
423 between two sampling times were correlated to the means of all AFT patterns. Given the obviously
424 lacking statistical power, this proceeding should be rather viewed as an attempt to generate
425 hypotheses.

Author Contributions
428 Conceptualization MP, Methodology Development MP, Software Programming MP,Validation MP,
429 Formal Analysis MP, Investigation QF, MP, Resources MP, Data Curation MP, Writing – Original Draft
430 Preparation MP, Writing – Review & Editing Preparation QF, MP, Visualization Preparation MP,
431 Supervision MP, Project Administration Management MP, Funding Acquisition MP.

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Declaration of interests

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Data and Code Availability

Sequencing data is publicly available on ENA (project ERP115516, samples ERS4040036-ERS4040041).

Core scripts and sync-files were made available on DRYAD (doi.org/10.5061/dryad.fxpnvx0nd).

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Figures

600 Figure 1. Population growth rate as fitness measure of natural population when exposed to different
601 experimental temperatures. The differences between sampling dates are significant (F = 9.509, p =
602 5.07 x 10^{-6}) as well as the interaction between sampling date and experimental temperature (F =
603 3.631, p = 0.0017).

Figure 2. Temporal dynamics and complexity of allele frequencies trajectories with signs of selection.
The left side of the panel shows a UPGMA-dendrogram on the pairwise distance (1 - correlation
coefficients) of all 35,574 haplotype AFTs with at least one significant AFC. The hatched vertical line
presents the inferred clustering threshold of 0.25. The right side of the panel shows the AFTs for each
cluster. For better visibility and comparability, the individual AFTs in each cluster were polarised into
the same direction and normalised by substracting the respective mean.

Fig 3. Correlations between measured environmental parameters and AFTs. A: AFT19 and NO$_3$, B: AFT17 and NO$_3$, AFT39 and NO$_2$, AFT38 and temperature, AFT34 and oxygen. Please note that the direction of the correlation depends on the arbitrary polarisation of the alleles in the allele frequency trajectory.

SUPPLEMENT

621 SUPPL. RESULTS

622 Table 1. Results of two way ANOVA on fitness data of the field population to three experimental
623 temperatures (14°C, 20°C, 26°C) at 5 different sampling dates (Feb. 16, Sept. 16, Feb. 17, Sep. 17,
624 Feb. 18).

Factor	Sum of sqrs	d.f.	Mean square	F	p (same)
Sampling date	0.037	4	0.009	9.509	5.07E-06
Exp. Temp	0.527	2	0.263	269.6	1.05E-30
Interaction	0.028	8	0.004	3.631	0.001668
Within	0.059	60	0.001		
Total	0.651	74			

626 Table 2. Frequency distribution of AFT cluster patterns, environmental parameter with correlation
627 coefficient > 0.9, number of genes affected and first four most significantly enriched GFO terms for
628 the 46 observed AFT clusters.

Cluster ID	N AFT	Env. Parameter r r > 0.9	N genes	Significant GO Terms			
1	244	-	72	0045454, cell redox homeostasis, 41, 2, 0.28, 0.031	0006606, protein import into nucleus, 6, 1, 0.04, 0.040	0006355, regulation of transcription, DNA-templat..., 322, 6, 2.2, 0.040	0007165, signal transduction, 397, 8, 2.71, 0.046
2	521	-	152	0007205, protein kinase C-activating G protein-co..., 5, 2, 0.06, 0.0016	0007017, microtubule-based process, 64, 4, 0.82, 0.0163	0007264, small GTPase mediated signal transductio..., 55, 3, 0.7, 0.0233	
3	3943	PO$_4$	1126	0006811, ion transport, 300, 33, 22.94, 2.7e-05	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 7, 1.91, 0.0021	0006836, neurotransmitter transport, 14, 5, 1.07, 0.0028	0042737, drug catabolic process, 11, 4, 0.84, 0.0072
4	742	-	262	0051704, multi-organism process, 7, 2, 0.14, 0.0081	0006952, defense response, 9, 2, 0.18, 0.0136	0055085, transmembrane transport, 439, 16, 8.99, 0.0226	0006816, calcium ion transport, 17, 2, 0.22, 0.0372
5	289	-	94	0006355, regulation of transcription, DNA-templat..., 322, 7, 2.12, 0.012	0007268, chemical synaptic transmission, 6, 1, 0.04, 0.039		
6	352	-	111	0055114, oxidation-reduction process, 433, 10, 4.14, 0.0099	0009116, nucleoside metabolic process, 23, 2, 0.22, 0.0199	0072522, purine-containing compound biosynthetic ..., 58, 2, 0.55, 0.0373	0006120, mitochondrial electron transport, NADH t..., 5, 1, 0.05, 0.0469
7	1183	-	354	0035556, intracellular signal transduction, 132, 11, 3.54, 0.0030	0007275, multicellular organism development,	0006836, neurotransmitter transport, 14, 3, 0.38, 0.0055	0042246, tissue regeneration, 5, 2, 0.13,

					25, 4, 0.67, 0.0040		0.0068
8	2611	-	816	0015698, inorganic anion transport, 15, 5, 0.93, 0.00043	0006811, ion transport, 300, 32, 18.57, 0.00378	0055085, transmembrane transport, 439, 41, 27.17, 0.01175	0006629, lipid metabolic process, 189, 13, 11.7, 0.02091
9	660	-	215	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 4, 0.44, 0.00087	0034220, ion transmembrane transport, 88, 4, 1.56, 0.01161	3, 0009072, aromatic amino acid family metabolic pro..., 13, 2, 0.23, 0.02137	0055085, transmembrane transport, 439, 16, 7.79, 0.02999
10	208	-	61	0007264, small GTPase mediated signal transductio..., 55, 2, 0.25, 0.025	0006207, 'de novo' pyrimidine nucleobase biosynth..., 6, 1, 0.03, 0.027		
11	29	-	13	-			
12	102	-	24	0032269, negative regulation of cellular protein ..., 6, 1, 0.01, 0.012	0006417, regulation of translation, 9, 1, 0.02, 0.018	0006413, translational initiation, 13, 1, 0.03, 0.026	2000113, negative regulation of cellular macromol..., 14, 1, 0.03, 0.028
13	355	-	136	0007165, signal transduction, 397, 14, 4.61, 0.00043			
14	1580	-	569	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 6, 1.15, 0.00076	0007155, cell adhesion, 49, 11, 2.26, 0.00373	0035556, intracellular signal transduction, 132, 10, 6.1, 0.02015	0006012, galactose metabolic process, 6, 2, 0.28, 0.02816
15	514	-	175	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 3, 0.4, 0.0069	0006979, response to oxidative stress, 22, 2, 0.35, 0.0471		
16	17914	-	4831	0055085, transmembrane transport, 439, 202, 159.22, 1.5e-05	0007166, cell surface receptor signaling pathway, 53, 32, 19.22, 9.9e-05	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 18, 9.07, 0.00029	0006811, ion transport, 300, 139, 108.81, 0.00059
17	333	NO$_3$	106	0006813, potassium ion transport, 46, 5, 0.33, 0.0016	0071805, potassium ion transmembrane transport, 11, 2, 0.08, 0.0027	0051260, protein homoolimerization, 14, 2, 0.1, 0.0044	0010646, regulation of cell communication, 53, 3, 0.39, 0.0273
18	66	NO$_3$	19	0006364, rRNA processing, 20, 1, 0.02, 0.023			
19	25	NO$_3$	6	0009072, aromatic amino acid family metabolic pro..., 13, 1, 0.01, 0.0088			

20	340	-	100	0007156, homophilic cell adhesion via plasma memb..., 25, 3, 0.19, 0.00079	0006486, protein glycosylation, 36, 2, 0.27, 0.02938	0006072, glycerol-3-phosphate metabolic process, 5, 1, 0.04, 0.03700	
21	242	BOD	83	0005975, carbohydrate metabolic process, 172, 4, 1.21, 0.015			
22	324	BOD	110	0007608, sensory perception of smell, 12, 2, 0.11, 0.0055	0006979, response to oxidative stress, 22, 2, 0.21, 0.0182	0006368, transcription elongation from RNA polyme..., 5, 1, 0.05, 0.0469	
23	67	-	24	0006955, immune response, 6, 1, 0.01, 0.012	0051604, protein maturation, 20, 1, 0.04, 0.040	0018205, peptidyl-lysine modification, 22, 1, 0.05, 0.044	
24	253	-	91	0006979, response to oxidative stress, 22, 2, 0.16, 0.011	0051259, protein complex olimerization, 16, 2, 0.12, 0.014	0055114, oxidation-reduction process, 433, 7, 3.15, 0.033	0005975, carbohydrate metabolic process, 172, 4, 1.25, 0.035
25	392	-	128	0042325, regulation of phosphorylation, 7, 2, 0.07, 0.0093	0006811, ion transport, 300, 8, 2.87, 0.0113	0043086, negative regulation of catalytic activit..., 5, 1, 0.05, 0.0469	0007205, protein kinase C-activating G protein-co..., 5, 1, 0.05, 0.0469
26	325	-	111	0044262, cellular carbohydrate metabolic process, 20, 2, 0.21, 0.018	0007264, small GTPase mediated signal transductio..., 55, 3, 0.58, 0.019	0034220, ion transmembrane transport, 88, 3, 0.92, 0.031	
27	197	-	57	0009395, phospholipid catabolic process, 6, 1, 0.02, 0.023	0007179, transforming growth factor beta receptor..., 7, 1, 0.03, 0.027		
28	3	-	1	-			
29	8	-	4	0007264, small GTPase mediated signal transductio..., 55, 1, 0.03, 0.025			
30	29	-	8	0032012, regulation of ARF protein signal transdu..., 7, 1, 0, 0.0032			
31	406	-	125	0042133, neurotransmitter metabolic process, 8, 2, 0.08, 0.0024	0007205, protein kinase C-activating G protein-co..., 5, 1, 0.05, 0.0469		

32	697	-	206	0006596, polyamine biosynthetic process, 9, 2, 0.12, 0.0064	0006508, proteolysis, 618, 16, 8.58, 0.0076	0007165, signal transduction, 397, 11, 5.51, 0.0088	0018393, internal peptidyl-lysine acetylation, 9, 2, 0.12, 0.0137
33	230	-	67	0006470, protein dephosphorylation, 28, 2, 0.16, 0.011	0007018, microtubule-based movement, 39, 2, 0.22, 0.020	0055085, transmembrane transport, 439, 7, 2.5, 0.035	0034030, ribonucleoside bisphosphate biosynthetic..., 7, 1, 0.04, 0.039
34	222	O_2	81	0007275, multicellular organism development, 25, 2, 0.18, 0.013	1901642, nucleoside transmembrane transport, 5, 1, 0.04, 0.035	0007169, transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine ..., 6, 1, 0.04, 0.042	0046173, polyol biosynthetic process, 6, 1, 0.04, 0.042
35	151	-	44	0007205, protein kinase C-activating G protein-co..., 5, 1, 0.02, 0.020	0005978, glycogen biosynthetic process, 5, 1, 0.02, 0.020	0006207, 'de novo' pyrimidine nucleobase biosynth..., 6, 1, 0.02, 0.024	0006013, mannose metabolic process, 6, 1, 0.02, 0.024
36	71	-	20	0006779, porphyrin-containing compound biosynthet..., 5, 1, 0.01, 0.0091	0046148, pigment biosynthetic process, 7, 1, 0.01, 0.0127	0006629, lipid metabolic process, 189, 2, 0.34, 0.0434	
37	504	-	157	0006979, response to oxidative stress, 22, 4, 0.32, 0.00025	0055114, oxidation-reduction process, 433, 13, 6.31, 0.00833	0006928, movement of cell or subcellular componen..., 41, 3, 0.6, 0.02827	0006813, potassium ion transport, 46, 3, 0.67, 0.02866
38	187	Temp.	60	0007179, transforming growth factor beta receptor..., 7, 1, 0.04, 0.035	0000226, microtubule cytoskeleton organization, 9, 1, 0.05, 0.044		
39	52	NO_2	19	0070588, calcium ion transmembrane transport, 14, 1, 0.01, 0.0095			
40	269	NO_2	90	0007186, G protein-coupled receptor signaling pat..., 137, 4, 0.9, 0.012	0006355, regulation of transcription, DNA-templat..., 322, 6, 2.12, 0.017	1901362, organic cyclic compound biosynthetic pro..., 533, 8, 3.52, 0.027	4, 0008202, steroid metabolic process, 6, 1, 0.04, 0.039
41	52	-	17	0006368, transcription elongation from RNA polyme..., 5, 1, 0, 0.0045	0005975, carbohydrate metabolic process, 172, 2, 0.16, 0.0087	0016570, histone modification, 21, 1, 0.02, 0.0190	0007186, G protein-coupled receptor signaling pat..., 137, 1, 0.12, 0.1190
42	5	-	-	0006368, transcription elongation from RNA polyme..., 5,	0005975, carbohydrate metabolic process, 172,	0016570, histone modification, 21, 1, 0.02, 0.0190	0007186, G protein-coupled receptor

				1, 0, 0.0045	2, 0.16, 0.0087		signaling pat..., 137, 1, 0.12, 0.1190
43	120	-	45	0006511, ubiquitin-dependent protein catabolic pr..., 52, 2, 0.19, 0.015	0007268, chemical synaptic transmission, 6, 1, 0.02, 0.022	0006506, GPI anchor biosynthetic process, 8, 1, 0.03, 0.029	
44	63	-	19	0008272, sulfate transport, 8, 1, 0.01, 0.011	0016055, Wnt signaling pathway, 10, 1, 0.01, 0.014		
45	556	-	198	0006468, protein phosphorylation, 215, 7, 3.23, 0.041			
46	138	-	46	0006012, galactose metabolic process, 6, 1, 0.03, 0.026	0018342, protein prenylation, 6, 1, 0.03, 0.026	0045892, negative regulation of transcription, DN..., 9, 1, 0.04, 0.038	

630   Suppl. Figure 1. Experimental design. The grey circles indicate the sampling periods.

	Suppl. Fig. 2. Temporal changes in mean seasonal environmental parameters in the period from
	2009-2018 in the Hasselbach. The period relevant for the population genomic analyses is highlighted
	in grey.

645   Suppl. Fig 4. Temporal autocorrelations of environmental parameters.

Suppl. Fig 5. Genome wide mean decay of linkage disequilibrium (r²) in dependence of distance in
basepairs.

Suppl. Fig. 6. Example for inferred haplotypes of 30 re-sequenced individuals for haplotype 24 and
the first SNP of haplotype 25 on scaffold 1 (positions 30800 – 31050). The marker SNPs for haplotype
24 are indicated in blue, for haplotype 25 in orange. The SNPs of haplotype 24 are in full linkage and
unlinked to the SNP of haplotype 25.

Suppl. Fig. 7. Determination of clustering threshold. Plot of clustering threshold against log number
of clusters. In blue, the simulated values with 95% confidence intervals, in yellow with black outline
the observed value.

663