1	Large genetic diversity and strong positive selection in F-box and GPCR genes among the wild
2	isolates of Caenorhabditis elegans
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10	Key words: C. elegans, polymorphisms, positive selection, F-box, GPCR
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12	Significance statement: The small nematode Caenorhabditis elegans has emerged as an important
13	organism in studying the genetic mechanisms of evolution. F-box and chemosensory GPCR are two
14	of the largest gene families in C. elegans, but their intraspecific evolution within C. elegans was not
15	studied before. In this work, using the nonsynonymous SNV data of 330 C. elegans wild isolates,
16	we found that F-box and chemosensory GPCR genes showed larger polymorphisms and stronger
17	positive selection than other genes. The large diversity is likely the result of rapid gene family
18	expansion, high recombination rate, and gene flow. Analysis of subpopulation suggests that
19	positive selection of these genes occurred most strongly in the non-Hawaiian population, which
20	underwent a selective sweep possibly linked to human activities.
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29 Abstract

30 The F-box and chemosensory GPCR (csGPCR) gene families are greatly expanded in nematodes, 31 including the model organism Caenorhabditis elegans, compared to insects and vertebrates. 32 However, the intraspecific evolution of these two gene families in nematodes remain unexamined. 33 In this study, we analyzed the genomic sequences of 330 recently sequenced wild isolates of C. 34 elegans using a range of population genetics approaches. We found that F-box and csGPCR genes, 35 especially the Srw family csGPCRs, showed much more diversity than other gene families. 36 Population structure analysis and phylogenetic analysis divided the wild strains into eight non-37 Hawaiian and three Hawaiian subpopulations. Some Hawaiian strains appeared to be more 38 ancestral than all other strains. F-box and csGPCR genes maintained a great amount of the 39 ancestral variants in the Hawaiian subpopulation and their divergence among the non-Hawaiian 40 subpopulations contributed significantly to population structure. These genes are mostly located 41 at the chromosomal arms and high recombination rate correlates with their large polymorphism. 42 Gene flow might also contribute to their diversity. Moreover, we identified signatures of strong 43 positive selection in the F-box and csGPCR genes in the non-Hawaiian population using both neutrality tests and Extended Haplotype Homozygosity analysis. Accumulation of high frequency 44 45 derived alleles in these genes were found in non-Hawaiian population, leading to divergence from 46 the ancestral genotype found in Hawaiian strains. In summary, we found that F-box and csGPCR 47 genes harbour a large pool of natural variants, which may be subjected to positive selection during 48 the recent selective sweep in non-Hawaiian population. These variants are mostly mapped to the 49 substrate-recognition domains of F-box proteins and the extracellular regions of csGPCRs, possibly 50 resulting in advantages during adaptation by affecting protein degradation and the sensing of 51 environmental cues, respectively.

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54 Introduction

C. elegans genome contains over 350 F-box genes, compared to ~69 in human genome (Kipreos
and Pagano 2000; Thomas 2006). This great expansion of the F-box gene family is the result of

57 tandem gene duplication, which have also been observed in plants (Xu, et al. 2009). F-box genes 58 code for proteins sharing the F-box domain, a 42-48 amino acid-long motif that binds to Skp1 59 proteins during the assembly of the SCF (Skp1-Cullin-F-box) E3 ubiquitin ligase complexes, which 60 ubiquitinate protein substrates and target them for degradation. F-box proteins also contain 61 substrate-binding domains, including FOG-2 homology (FTH) domain, F-box associated (FBA) 62 domain, Leucine-rich repeats (LRR), WD40 repeats etc, which recruit the substrate protein to the 63 E3 ubiquitin ligase (Kipreos and Pagano 2000). F-box genes and the SCF complex-mediated protein 64 degradation have diverse functions in C. elegans, including the regulation of lifespan (Ghazi, et al. 65 2007), developmental timing (Fielenbach, et al. 2007), sex determination (Jager, et al. 2004), and 66 neuronal differentiation (Bounoutas, et al. 2009). The role of F-box proteins in the evolution of 67 Caenorhabditis species has been noticed before in the study of sex determination and the rise of 68 hermaphroditism. For example, through convergent evolution, C. elegans and C. briggsae 69 independently evolved the hermaphroditic reproduction system by using two different F-box genes 70 (fog-2 and she-1, respectively) to suppress the translation of tra-2 mRNA and promote 71 spermatogenesis (Guo, et al. 2009). The intraspecific variation of F-box genes and their 72 contribution to adaptation within *C. elegans* have not been studied.

73 Chemoreception is a major way for the nematodes to sense environmental cues and is 74 mediated by the chemosensory-type seven-transmembrane G-protein-coupled receptors 75 (csGPCRs). The C. elegans genome contains more than 1,300 csGPCR genes (Thomas and 76 Robertson 2008), an exceptionally large number given the small size of its nervous system (302 77 neurons in adult hermaphrodites). The csGPCR genes can be divided into four superfamilies and 78 families (in parentheses): Str (srd, srh, sri, srj, and str), Sra (sra, srab, srb, and sre), Srg (srg, srt, sru, 79 srv, srx, and srxa), and Solo (srw, srz, srbc, srsx, and srr) (Vidal, et al. 2018). Evidence of extensive 80 gene duplication and deletion and intron gain and loss were found in the srh genes among species 81 in the Caenorhabditis genus, suggesting rapid interspecific evolution (Robertson 2000). Several of 82 the csGPCRs were found to be essential for sensing some odors and pheromones (Sengupta, et al. 83 1996; Kim, et al. 2009; Park, et al. 2012), but the function of most csGPCRs is unknown. The 84 expansion of the csGPCR gene families and their roles in environmental sensing strongly suggest

85 their involvement in evolution, but the evidence for intraspecific positive selection is missing.

86 Thanks to the sampling efforts in the past, a collection of \sim 330 wild isolates of C. elegans 87 have been obtained and sequenced (Crombie, et al. 2019; Stevens, et al. 2019). Their genomic 88 sequences were recently made available (Cook, et al. 2017), providing an important resource for 89 understanding the intraspecific evolution of *C. elegans*. Here we analyzed the nonsynonymous 90 single nucleotide variants (SNVs) among the 330 wild isolates of C. elegans and compared the 91 nucleotide diversity of genes belonging to different gene families. We found that the F-box and the 92 csGPCR genes showed much larger diversity than an average gene. Population structure analysis 93 divided the wild strains into eight non-Hawaiian and three Hawaiian subpopulations. F-box and 94 csGPCR genes maintained a large amount of potentially ancestral variant sites in the Hawaiian 95 strains and their divergence among the eight non-Hawaiian groups contributed significantly to 96 population structure. Given their location at mostly the chromosomal arms, high recombination 97 rate might have contributed to the large diversity of these genes. Furthermore, both neutrality 98 tests and Extended Haplotype Homozygosity analysis identified signs of strong positive selection 99 in the F-box and csGPCR genes; their derived alleles in non-Hawaiian population may have altered 100 gene functions, leading to selective advantages. In summary, our systematic analysis suggests that 101 F-box and csGPCR genes harbour a large pool of natural variants, which were subjected to positive 102 selection during the recent selective sweep and adaptive evolution of the wild C. elegans 103 population.

104 Materials and Methods

105 **Population genetic statistics**

To obtain the genomic data of *C. elegans* wild isolates, We used the hard-filtered VCF file (20180527 release) provided by the *Caenorhabditis elegans* natural diversity resource (CeNDR; <u>https://www.elegansvariation.org/</u>) (Cook, et al. 2017). We chose the hard-filtered VCF over the soft-filtered VCF to avoid including low-quality reads and variants with low coverage depth in our analysis. The hard-filtered VCF file contained in total 2,906,135 high-quality variants, including 2,493,687 single nucleotide variants (SNVs) and 412,448 small indels, which were annotated by SnpEff (v4.3t) using the Ensemble WBcel235.94 genome assembly. About half (1,124,958) of the

SNVs were found in only one of the 330 isotypes, and they all occurred as homozygotes likely due to the hermaphroditism-driven homozygosity in *C. elegans*; we consider those SNVs as singleton (or private doubleton) and included them in most of our analysis. Among the 2,906,135 variants, 594,265 occurred in the protein-coding region (CDS) and 2,311,870 occurred in non-coding regions. 266,004 SNVs caused nonsynonymous mutations, 271,718 SNVs caused synonymous mutations, and 51,701 SNVs may affect mRNA splicing.

Among all SNV sites, we found that 665,368 SNVs in 11,199 genes had complete 119 120 sequencing data in all 330 wild strains (660 alleles) using VCFtools (v0.1.13) (Danecek, et al. 2011). 121 This dataset is referred to as "the complete-case dataset". SNVs in the complete-case dataset were 122 then subjected to calculation using DnaSP (Rozas, et al. 2017) and PopGenome (Pfeifer, et al. 2014). 123 Both software produced similar results for nucleotide diversity (Pi) and neutrality test statistic 124 Tajima's D for the synonymous, nonsynonymous, intron and UTR sites (supplementary fig. S2, 125 Supplementary Material online). Correlation analysis was done in R (v3.6.1) using Pearson 126 correlation test (R function cor.test).

127 Because the analysis of the complete-case dataset removed 73% of the variant sites, we tested whether similar results can be obtained if we include variant sites with incomplete data. For 128 129 an average strain, 76,872 (2.6%) out of the total 2,906,135 variant sites did not have high-quality 130 sequencing data, and for an average variant site, 17.5 (2.6%) out of the 660 alleles (330 strains) did 131 not have valid genotype; for the median site, 3.9 (0.6%) of the 660 alleles did not have genotype. 132 So, the portion of missing data appears to be small, but stringent complete-case analysis discarded 133 almost three quarters of the SNVs and possibly lost valuable information. To deal with this problem, 134 we used the software VariScan (Hutter, et al. 2006), which can set a threshold for the number of 135 alleles containing valid data for a given site. We first annotated the VCF to extract nonsynonymous 136 SNVs and translated the VCF formatted file to Hapmap style using Tassel (v5.0) (Bradbury, et al. 137 2007) to facilitate the calculation of Pi (NEI 1987), Tajima's D (Tajima 1989), Fay and Wu's H (Fay 138 and Wu 2000) by VariScan. We then tested the threshold (NumNuc) at 200 and 450, which gualified 139 sites with more than 200 and 450 alleles, respectively. These two conditions included 253,600 and 140 235,283 nonsynonymous variants covering 18,797 and 18,643 genes, respectively, as compared to

the complete-case dataset that contained only 85,260 sites covering only 9,948 genes. Preserving more SNVs made *Pi* bigger, but Tajima's *D* and Fay and Wu's *H* appeared similar between the results obtained using the complete-case dataset and the conditioned full dataset (supplementary fig. S2, Supplementary Material online). Thus, the inclusion of variant sites with a few missing data points did not affect the results of neutrality test but added significant amount of genetic diversity data. For most analysis, we opted to use the full dataset that qualifies all sites with >200 valid alleles (referred to simply as "the full dataset").

To assess the significance of the *D* and *H* values, we performed coalescent simulations (R.R. 1990; Librado and Rozas 2009) for each gene based on the number of segregating sites using DnaSP v5. Confidence interval was set as 95% and the number of replicates was 1000. We found that vast majority (>95%) of the *D* value smaller than -2 and *H* value smaller than -20 have a *p* value lower than 0.05.

153 **Population structure analysis**

We first used PLINK (v1.9) (Purcell, et al. 2007) to convert the VCF file containing 154 155 2,493,687 SNVs to a PED formatted file, which was then subjected to analysis using ADMIXTURE with the number of subpopulation (K value) ranging from 2 to 15. The cross-validation (CV) error 156 157 for K=11 is the smallest. The population structure was visualized using pophelper web apps (v1.0.10) (Francis 2017). The 11 ancestral groups are: Europe 1, Europe 2, Europe 3, Europe 4, 158 159 Europe 5, Europe 6, Hawaii 1, Hawaii 2, Hawaii 3, North America and Australasia, which were 160 named based on the geographic locations of most strains that carry the ancestral lineage 161 (supplementary fig. S3 and table S2, Supplementary Material online). Out of the 330 strains, 266 162 have one dominant ancestral lineage (one ancestral proportion > 0.5); the other 64 strains showed 163 considerable mixing between at least three ancestral populations. "Hawaii 1" and "Hawaii 2" are 164 the same as the previous "Hawaiian Volcano" and "Hawaiian Divergent" subpopulations, and 165 "Hawaii_3" is a combination of "Hawaiian Low" and "Hawaiian Invaded" subpopulation defined by 166 Crombie, et al. (2019) (supplementary table S3, Supplementary Material online).

167 We then grouped the 330 wild isolates into Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian populations 168 based on genetic difference in population structure instead of geographic locations

169 (supplementary table S4, Supplementary Material online). The Hawaiian population contains 45 170 strains carrying a dominant lineage (admixing proportion > 0.5) from "Hawaii 1" (10 strains), "Hawaii 2" (10 strains), and "Hawaii 3" (25 strains). The remaining 285 strains were grouped as 171 172 the non-Hawaiian population. 64 of the 285 strains did not have a dominant ancestral lineage and 173 contained extensive admixing among mostly the eight non-Hawaiian ancestral subpopulations. So, 174 they were included in the non-Hawaiian population. The 45 strains in the Hawaiian population 175 were all extracted from Hawaiian Islands except five strains (ECA36, JU3226, QX1211, ECA593, and 176 XZ2019), and five strains that were extracted from Hawaiian Islands were included in the non-177 Hawaiian population (ECA928, ECA923, ECA369, QX1791, and XZ1515) because they are genetically 178 very different from Hawaiian strains (supplementary table S4, Supplementary Material online).

This grouping of Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian populations were used for the computation of polymorphism (*Pi*), Tajima's *D*, and Fay and Wu's *H* within each population and were used for extended haplotype homozygosity (EHH) analysis. For the calculation of F_{ST} and the gene flow and migration analysis among the 11 subgroups, we removed the strains without any ancestral proportion over 0.5 and kept 221 strains for the eight non-Hawaiian subpopulations and 45 strains for the three Hawaiian subpopulations.

185 Phylogenetic analysis

To visualize the phylogenetic relationship of the Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian populations, 186 187 we used nonsynonymous SNVs from all 45 Hawaiian strains and 24 non-Hawaiian strains (3 strains 188 with the biggest ancestral proportion from each subgroup). These 24 strains represented the 189 genetic diversity of the non-Hawaiian population, allowing easy visualization without making the 190 tree too crowded. We used Tassel to convert VCF file to Phylip interleaved format and constructed 191 the neighbour-joining net with SplitsTree4 (v4.15.1) (Huson and Bryant 2006). For the trees with 192 just csGPCR and F-box genes, we used VCFtools to extract nonsynonymous SNVs of these genes 193 according to their genomic location. 1,000 bootstrap replicates were performed to make the tree 194 by SplitsTree. Edges with 100% bootstrap support are labelled with "100".

Prior to tree construction, *Caenorhabditis briggsae, Caenorhabditis remanei*, and
 Caenorhabditis brenneri were chosen as the outgroups. The coding sequences of *C. elegans* genes

197 and their orthologs in C. briggsae, C. remanei, and C. brenneri were downloaded from WormBase 198 (WS275) and then aligned using MegaX (Kumar, et al. 2018) to identify variants. We used a set of 199 algorithms, including OrthoMCL, OMA, TreeFam, ParaSite-Compara, Inparanoid 8, WormBase-200 Compara, and Hillier-set, to identify the orthologs of *C. elegans* genes in the other three species. 201 We then checked each nonsynonymous SNV that existed in the C. elegans wild isolates (VCF file 202 from CeNDR) for their presence in C. briggsae, C. remanei, and C. brenneri genomes. If the allele in 203 the three species matched the C. elegans reference (N2) sequence, it was considered as a wild-204 type; if the allele matches the alternative sequence, the species carried that variant. If neither, we 205 considered it missing for that SNV. In the case of one species having multiple orthologs of the C. 206 elegans genes, we checked the SNV against all orthologs and if any of them had the alternative 207 sequence, we considered the species to carry the variant. In total, we found 78,833, 74,274, and 208 55,234 C. elegans SNVs in C. briggsae, C. remanei, and C. brenneri respectively and included these 209 data in tree construction.

210 Gene families analysis and gene enrichment analysis

211 Based on previous publications, we compiled a list of genes in the chemosensory GPCR (csGPCR) gene family (Vidal, et al. 2018), F-box gene family (Kipreos and Pagano 2000; Thomas 212 213 2006), transcription factor family (Reece-Hoyes, et al. 2005), and protein kinase family (Manning 214 2005). For tissue-specific genes, we collected genes whose expression are enriched in muscle, 215 intestine, germline (Pauli, et al. 2006), and neurons (Von Stetina, et al. 2007). To compare Pi, 216 Tajima's D, and Fay and Wu's H values between different groups of genes, we performed non-217 parametric Wilcoxon's test to evaluate the statistical significance of the difference between groups. 218 For gene enrichment analysis, simple enrichment fold of csGPCR and F-box genes are 219 calculated as observed gene frequency divided by expected gene frequency. We also subjected a 220 list of specific genes to Gene Set Enrichment Analysis at wormbase.org (Angeles-Albores, et al. 221 2018). Q value threshold cutoff was set at 0.1 to generate results of Tissue Enrichment Analysis 222 (TEA), Phenotype Enrichment Analysis (PEA), and Gene Enrichment Analysis (GEA).

223 Fixation index (F_{ST}) calculation

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Hudson's F_{ST} (Hudson, et al. 1992) were estimated using PopGenome. SNVs from the 266

strains that have an ancestral proportion bigger than 0.5 (221 non-Hawaiian and 45 Hawaiian strains) were subjected to the calculation. Prior to computation, we removed SNVs with valid genotype data in less than 100 strains to be consistent with VariScan analysis (NumNuc = 200).

228 Gene flow analysis

229 The migration events among subpopulations were analyzed by TreeMix (Pickrell and 230 Pritchard 2012). We first used Stacks (Catchen, et al. 2013) to convert VCF file into the input format 231 required by treemix. In each run, 1000 SNP blocks were set for all genes, and 100 SNP blocks were 232 set for the analysis of csGPCR or F-box genes. Hawaii 1 was used as the outgroup and three 233 migration events were allowed. 1000 bootstrap replicates were performed for all five analyses. 234 From the bootstrap results, we extracted the common migration events and calculated the 235 probability of occurrence for each migration events among the 1000 replicates. The top three 236 events were presented. We also calculated the average migration weight for each of the three 237 events among the 1000 bootstrap replicates and the average weight were color-coded. To avoid 238 possible interference by singletons and linkage disequilibrium, we repeated the analysis after 239 removing the singletons and high linked SNPs (using plink --indep-pairwise 50 10 0.8) and got the 240 very similar results.

241 Estimation of recombination rate

Recombination rate was estimated using an R package, FastEPRR (Gao, et al. 2016). The window size was set to be 50,000 bp and the sliding step length was set as 25,000 bp. After obtaining the estimated recombination rate for each genomic window, we assigned that recombination rate (Rho value) to the genes, whose CDS range overlap with the genomic window.

246 Extended haplotype homozygosity (EHH) analysis

247 We used EHH analysis to identify regions with selection footprints (Sabeti, et al. 2002). 248 VCF file was first phased by beagle (v5.1) (Browning and Browning 2007) and then subjected to 249 haplotype analysis using the rehh (v3.0) R package (Gautier and Vitalis 2012) to calculate the 250 Integrated Haplotype Score (iHS) and the Cross-population Extended Haplotype Homozygosity 251 (XPEHH) value. Strains were grouped as non-Hawaiian and Hawaiian as described above when 252 computing iHS and XPEHH and unpolarized data were used to avoid making assumption of ancestry.

253 Assessing the influence of varying population size and bottleneck effects

254 Because different subpopulations have different numbers of strains, the varying 255 population size may create bias when calculating neutrality statistics. We assessed this potential 256 bias by comparing the SNV data extracted through different sampling schemes (scattering and 257 pooling schemes), which were previously established (Stadler, et al. 2009; Li, et al. 2010). For 258 scattered sampling, we randomly selected 5 strains from each of the 11 subpopulations based on 259 population structure; for pooled sampling, we randomly selected 15 Hawaiian strains (3 260 subpopulations) and 40 non-Hawaiian strains (8 subpopulations). We repeated the sampling 100 261 times and then calculated the average Pi, Tajima's D, and Fay and Wu's H. The small differences in 262 their values between the scattered and pooled sampling schemes suggest that the bias introduced 263 by varying population size is not significant.

264 To assess the influence of demographic history and bottleneck effects on the neutrality 265 tests, we simulated SNV data using the software MSMS (Ewing and Hermisson 2010) under constant population size model and bottleneck model. Parameters for the simulation were set 266 according to previous studies (Andersen, et al. 2012). The command for simulating the two models 267 are: msms -N 20000 -ms 440 1000 -t 100 -r 150 -SAA 500 -Sp 0.5 -SAa 200 (constant) and msms -N 268 269 20000 -ms 440 1000 -t 100 -r 150 -SAA 500 -Sp 0.5 -SAa 200 -eN 0.015 0.01 -eN 0.020 1.0 270 (bottleneck). The simulated data were then plotted as site frequency spectra (SFS), which were 271 compared to the empirical site frequency spectrum data for nonsynonymous SNVs in *C.elegans*.

We also used the software SweeD to estimate the selective sweep position. SweeD appeared to be robust against the confounding effect of bottleneck on selective sweep prediction (Nielsen, et al. 2005; Pavlidis, et al. 2013). We identified the selected sites with significant score using the likelihood threshold of 0.01. Genes that harbour these selected sites were then identified.

276 Copy number variation (CNV) analysis

The raw sequencing data of the 330 wild isolates were downloaded from NCBI (PRJNA549503). Sequencing reads were aligned to the reference genome of *C.elegans* using BWAmem (v0.7.17). Structural variants were called using Manta (Chen, et al. 2016). The output VCF was merged by bcftools (v1.9). Structural variants with <= 5bp position difference and <=20% size

difference were merged together. Deletions and duplications were considered as copy number
 variation. Large deletions or duplications with more than 1 Mbp and chromosome-level variation

were discarded. Derived CNV allele frequency were calculated using XZ1516 as the outgroup.

284 Protein domain structure and PROVEAN score

285 We used PfamScan tools (ftp://ftp.ebi.ac.uk/pub/databases/Pfam/Tools/) to identify the 286 F-box domain and the potential substrate-recognition domains (e.g. FTH, FBA, HTH-48, WD40 LRR, 287 repeats, etc) of F-box proteins. We used the TMHMM server 288 (http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/TMHMM/) to predict the transmembrane domain (TM) and the 289 intracellular and extracellular regions of csGPCR proteins. SNVs falling into these different domains 290 were then filtered accordingly. The potential functional effect of the nonsynonymous mutations is 291 predicted by the PROVEAN (Choi and Chan 2015) web server (PROVEAN v1.1.3) at 292 http://provean.jcvi.org/index.php; a score lower than -2.5 is deemed as having significant effects 293 on the function.

294

295 Results

296 Large polymorphisms in F-box and chemosensory GPCR genes among *C. elegans* wild isolates

297 From the sequencing data of 330 distinct isotypes of C. elegans wild strains (VCF files of 298 20180527 release on CeNDR), we identified in total 2,493,687 SNVs, including 271,718 SNVs 299 synonymous and 266,004 nonsynonymous SNVs (fig. 1A). By analyzing the distribution of the 300 variants across 20,222 protein-coding genes, we found that 1,143 genes with average CDS length 301 of 0.6 kb (0.06 ~ 5.7 kb) had no nonsynonymous mutation or small indels in CDS; within the 1,143 302 genes, 302 with average gene length of 1.4 kb (0.07 ~ 14 kb) did not have any SNVs or small indels 303 in any of the CDS, intron, and UTR regions (53 of the 302 genes has no introns). The absence of 304 coding variations may be explained by the small size of these genes (the genome average for CDS 305 length is 1.2 kb and for gene length is 3.1 kb) and the fact that they tend to be enriched in genomic 306 regions with low recombination rate (Rho = 1.4 on average; see below for the genomic distribution 307 of Rho). The lack of variation might also be partly due to purifying selection, as gene ontology and 308 phenotype analysis found that many of these genes function in protein-protein interactions and

are essential for cell division and germline development (supplementary fig. S1, Supplementary

310 Material online).

311 Next, we focused on the 2,493,687 SNVs and calculated nucleotide polymorphism (Pi) 312 for each protein-coding gene and found that Pi is significantly bigger in introns and UTRs compared 313 to synonymous and nonsynonymous mutations, suggesting that coding regions had much less 314 variation than non-coding regions (supplementary fig. S2A, Supplementary Material online). For 315 nonsynonymous SNVs, we found that the F-box and csGPCR genes have much larger diversity than 316 average genes (fig. 1B-E; supplementary table S1, Supplementary Material online). For example, 317 among the 235 genes whose Pi is bigger than 0.01, 46 of them are F-box genes, indicating an over ten-fold enrichment. For the 1685 genes with Pi bigger than 0.0025, F-box genes and csGPCRs 318 319 showed 4.91- and 2.27-fold enrichment, respectively (fig. 1A). Overall, compared to other gene 320 families like the transcription factor (TF) genes (891) and the protein kinase genes (402), F-box 321 genes (336) and the csGPCRs (1301) on average have significantly bigger Pi (fig. 1D and E; 322 significance by a non-parametric Wilcoxon's test). Large genetic diversity among the wild isolates 323 hints that the F-box and csGPCR genes might contribute to the adaptation of C. elegans in the 324 natural environment.

325 The csGPCRs can be further divided into Str, Sra, Srg, and Solo superfamilies, among which the Solo superfamily genes have the biggest Pi (fig. 1F). Within the Solo superfamily, Srw-326 327 type csGPCRs appeared to have the largest polymorphism on average, although the mean of *Pi* is 328 not significantly bigger than Srz and Srbc subfamilies. Interestingly, Srw genes appeared to be more 329 ancestral than the other csGPCR families and likely originated from the large Rhodopsin GPCR 330 family before the split of the nematode lineage (Krishnan, et al. 2014). Unlike other csGPCRs, Srw 331 genes have clear phylogenetic relationship with conserved FMRFamide/peptide receptors found in 332 insects and vertebrates (Robertson and Thomas 2006); variations in Srw genes might lead to 333 selective advantages in peptide sensing.

334 Genetic divergence of F-box and csGPCR genes among *C. elegans* subpopulations

We next conducted population structure analysis on the 330 wild isolates and found 3 Hawaiian and 8 non-Hawaiian subpopulations (supplementary fig. S3, Supplementary Material

337 online), which generally agrees with a recent study that used 276 strains and also found 11 distinct 338 genetic groups (Crombie, et al. 2019). The three Hawaiian subpopulations contain strains mostly 339 found in Hawaiian islands with a few exceptions. Among the non-Hawaiian subpopulations, some 340 groups (e.g. "Europe_1" and "Europe_2") are heavily mixed with populations around the world, 341 but others show correlation between geographical separation and genetic divergence. For example, "Europe 4" group represented strains mostly found in France, and "Europe 5" and "Europe 6" 342 343 strains were mostly found on Iberian Peninsula and Portuguese islands. Similarly, strains extracted 344 from North American shared the same "North America" ancestral group.

345 Phylogenetic analysis using all nonsynymous SNVs and neighbor-joining methods (Huson 346 and Bryant 2006) showed the evolutionary relationship among the C. elegans wild isolates. We 347 rooted the tree using C. briggsae, C. remanei and C. brenneri as outgroups (fig. 2A; see Materials 348 and Methods) to show that Hawaiian strains, especially "Hawaii_1" and "Hawaii_2" groups, are 349 genetically closer to the sister species and contain more ancestral variations than the non-Hawaiian 350 strains. Two strains in the "Hawaii 1" group, XZ1516 and ECA701, are highly divergent from other 351 Hawaiian strains and appear to carry the most ancestral polymorphisms in among the C. elegans 352 wild isolates.

353 "Hawaii_3" strains cluster more closely with non-Hawaiian strains (fig. 2A) and are more admixed with non-Hawaiian subpopulations (supplementary fig. S3, Supplementary Material 354 355 online) compared to "Hawaii "1 and "Hawaii 2" strains. Gene flow analysis identified migration events from "North Amercian" and "Europe_2" to "Hawaii_3", supporting the admixing of 356 357 "Hawaii_3" with non-Hawaiian lineages (supplementary fig. S4A, Supplementary Material online). 358 Compared to the genomic average, divergence between the Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian 359 strains are more profound in F-box and csGPCR genes, as shown in expanded neighbor-joining net 360 and increased phylogenetic distance (fig. 2B and C). Within csGPCRs, Srw genes appear to show 361 even greater divergence among the subpopulations (fig. 2D). Moreover, the phylogenetic trees 362 constructed using nonsynomymous SNVs of csGPCR or F-box genes had different topologies from 363 the tree of all genes (fig. 2D). For example, looser clustering patterns and more admixture between 364 Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian strains were observed for the F-box and Srw genes, suggesting that

these genes may have a distinct evolutionary history than other genes.

366 Based on the population structure and genetic grouping, we divided the 330 wild isolates 367 into Hawaiian (45 strains) and non-Hawaiian (285) populations (supplementary table S4, 368 Supplementary Material online; see Materials and Method) and calculated polymorphism for the 369 two populations using nonsynomymous SNVs. Hawaiian population showed over two-fold larger Pi 370 than non-Hawaiian population across all genes (fig. 3A), which is consistent with the hypothesis that recent selective sweep reduced variation in non-Hawaiian population, while Hawaiian strains 371 372 kept part of the ancenstral diversity (Cook, et al. 2017; Crombie, et al. 2019). "Hawaii 3" has lower 373 diversity than the other two Hawaiian subpopulations, likely because "Hawaii 3" strains are 374 genetically more similar to the non-Hawaiian strains. Interestingly, the diversity of F-box and 375 csGPCR genes is bigger than the TF, protein kinase genes, or an average gene in both non-Hawaiian 376 and Hawaiian populations (fig. 3A). This large genetic diversity is correlated with the abundance of 377 segregating sites, as F-box and csGPCR genes carried many more sites than an average gene 378 (supplementary fig. S5, Supplementary Material online). For example, the Srw genes of the 379 csGPCRs and the F-box genes both have almost four times more variant sites than the average of all genes. In extreme cases, srw-57 has only 1071 nucleotide in the CDS but carries 124 380 381 nonsynomymous variants; fbxb-53 is 1020-bp long in the CDS and has 207 segregating sites.

382 We also found that a large number (6.3 per gene on average) of segregating sites only 383 existed in Hawaiian strains and much fewer (3.1 per gene) sites are exclusively non-Hawaiian; a 384 significant number (4.6 per gene) of sites are shared between some Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian 385 strains (fig. 3B). As expected, F-box and csGPCR genes have a lot more exclusively Hawaiian sites 386 than the TF or protein kinase genes. However, they do not carry many exclusively non-Hawaiian 387 sites, and the large diversity of the F-box and csGPCR genes in non-Hawaiian strains mostly result 388 from the large number of sites originated from the Hawaiian population (fig. 3B). This finding 389 supports that the Hawaiian C. elegans (especially the "Hawaii_1" and "Hawaii_2" groups) 390 maintains a relatively large pool of ancestral variation, and polymorphisms in the F-box and csGPCR 391 genes contribute significantly to this ancestral diversity. Although selective sweep removed many 392 ancestral alleles in non-Hawaiian population, the F-box and csGPCR genes still kept a significant

393 number of variant sites, which might be related to adaptation.

394 Fixation index F_{ST} is a measure for genetic difference between populations. F_{ST} for F-box and csGPCR genes were similar to other gene families when just considering Hawaiian and non-395 396 Hawaiian as two populations (fig. 3C). ~80% of all genes have F_{ST} < 0.2. We reasoned that this may 397 be caused by large divergence among the subpopulations within each population. When 398 calculating for the eight non-Hawaiian subpopulations (supplementary table S5, Supplementary 399 Material online), only ~60% of the genes have F_{ST} < 0.2 and that F-box and csGPCR genes, especially 400 Srw genes, have much higher mean F_{ST} than TF and protein kinase genes or an average gene (fig. 401 3D and 3F). This finding suggests that the polymorphism of F-box and csGPCR genes contribute 402 significantly to the population structure of the non-Hawaiian strains. Their divergence among 403 subpopulations and fixation within subpopulation may be linked to local adaptation. For example, 404 csGPCR srw-66 (F_{ST} = 0.76) contains 24 variants that were found in >75% of the strains in the 405 "North America" group and >55% of the "Europe 2" strains but not in any other non-Hawaiian groups. Similarly, F-box gene fbxa-181 ($F_{ST} = 0.69$) has 14 SNVs that are found in 73% of the 406 "Europe_6" strains and not in any other groups. 407

Among the three Hawaiian subpopulations, the mean F_{ST} values of F-box and csGPCR Srw 408 genes appear to be significantly lower than other gene families or the genomic average (fig. 3E and 409 410 3F), which may be explained by their large diversities even within the same Hawaiian group (fig. 411 3A). Thus, the big variation of F-box and *Srw* genes do not seem to follow the population structure 412 among the three Hawaiian subpopulations and they are not likely fixed within the Hawaiian groups. 413 Gene flow also helped shape the diversity of the F-box and csGPCR genes. F-box genes 414 have extensive gene flow between Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian populations in both directions 415 (supplementary fig. S4B, Supplementary Material online), which is consistent with the great 416 number of shared segregating sites in F-box genes between the two populations (fig. 3B). On the 417 other hand, csGPCR genes had only gene flow within the non-Hawaiian subpopulations. 418 Interestingly, when constructing the maximum-likehood population tree for gene flow analysis, we 419 found that the tree structure changed after removing the variants in F-box or csGPCR genes. 420 Instead of staying as a branch outside of the eight non-Hawaiian subpopulations, the "Hawaii_3"

group moved into the non-Hawaiian groups and was placed next to "Europe 2" and

421

422 "North America" (supplementary fig. S4C, Supplementary Material online). This finding supports 423 that variations in the F-box and csGPCR genes played critical roles in distinguishing "Hawaii 3" 424 strains from the non-Hawaiian populations and contributed significantly to intraspecific diversity. 425 High recombination rate may contribute to the polymorphism of the F-box and csGPCR genes 426 We next asked whether chromosomal locations of the csGPCR and F-box gene loci had 427 effects on their diversity. Most of the csGPCR are located on chromosome II (13%), IV (9%), and V 428 (70%), and most of F-box genes are located on the arms of chromosome II (33%), III (22%), and V 429 (26%) (fig. 4A). We found that the chromosomal arms (the two distal quarters) have larger 430 polymorphism than the center (the middle half) for all chromosomes, which is likely due to high 431 frequency of recombination (Begun and Aquadro 1992; McGaugh, et al. 2012) (fig. 4B). Thus, the 432 location of almost all F-box genes in the chromosomal arms may contribute to their high genetic 433 diversity. csGPCR genes are also relatively concentrated on the arms, especially on chromosome II and V, although to a lesser extent than F-box genes. For example, over 80% of the Srw genes are 434 435 located on the arms of V. This chromosomal clustering is likely the result of rapid gene duplication

(Robertson and Thomas 2006). In contrast, protein kinase and TF genes are more evenly spread
out across chromosomes (fig. 4A).

438 We estimated the recombination rate for Chromosome II, III, and V using the FastEPRR 439 software (Gao, et al. 2016) and all nonsynonymous SNVs. As expected, chromosomal arm regions 440 have higher estimated recombination rate (ρ or *Rho*) than the center (fig. 4C). Interestingly, the left 441 arm of chromosome III where many F-box genes are located have significantly higher 442 recombination rate than the right arm, and this high *Rho* value of F-box genes appear to correlate 443 with the large polymorphism (fig. 4D). Similarly, the arms of Chromosome V, which harbour many 444 csGPCR genes, have high recombination rate, which are correlated with large *Pi* (fig. 4D). Therefore, 445 because of the clustering of F-box and csGPCR genes on the chromosomal arms, recombination 446 likely contributed to their large diversity.

447 The analysis of copy number variants (CNVs) supports the idea that rapid expansion of F-448 box and csGPCR gene families led to large genetic diversity. By analysing the structural variants, we

found 8740 CNVs in 5586 genes. 185 (1.99 fold enrichment) F-box genes and 552 (1.54 fold
enrichment) csGPCRs carried CNVs (supplementary fig. S6A, Supplementary Material online).
Moreover, the average number of CNVs per gene is also higher for F-box and csGPCR genes
compared to genomic average. Thus, large genetic polymorphisms for these genes were reflected
in both the abundance of SNVs and CNVs.

454 Signs of strong positive selection on F-box and csGPCR genes

455 Previous studies hypothesized that positive selection of alleles that confer fitness 456 advantages under human influence reduced genetic variations in C. elegans (Andersen, et al. 2012), 457 but what genes are under selection is not clear. Using the nonsynonymous SNVs, we performed 458 neutrality tests and calculated Tajima's D and Fay and Wu's H values for every gene. The D value 459 reflects the difference between expected and observed diversity (Tajima 1989) and the H value 460 measures the abundance of high-frequency derived allele (Fay and Wu 2000). Negative D and H461 values are both indicators of selective sweep and positive selection. To calculate the H value, we 462 used XZ1516 or ECA701 as the outgroup, because these two strains likely carry the most ancestral 463 genotypes (fig. 2). H values calculated using the two strains as the outgroup were similar 464 (supplementary fig. S7, Supplementary Material online), and in the following analysis we used 465 XZ1516 as the outgroup.

466 In the neutrality tests, we found that Tajima' D were negative for the nonsynonymous 467 SNVs for most (>85%) genes and Fay and Wu's H were negative for ~50% genes (supplementary table S1, Supplementary Material online). This finding is consistent with the chromosome-wide 468 469 sweep that occurred across the genome (Andersen, et al. 2012). Interestingly, F-box and csGPCR 470 genes are overrepresented among the genes with significantly negative D and H values (fig. 5A). 471 For example, among the 1038 genes with H < -20, 260 of them are csGPCRs (3.62-fold enriched) 472 and 67 are F-box genes (3.61-fold enriched). Gene ontology analysis consistently showed strong 473 enrichment (> 5 fold) in genes involved in sensory perception of smell and chemical stimulus 474 (supplementary fig. S8, Supplementary Material online).

475 Compared with the TF and protein kinases genes or the genomic average, F-box and
476 csGPCR genes have significantly lower *D* and *H* values (fig. 5B and C), suggesting that the csGPCR

and F-box genes appear to be under stronger positive selection than other genes. Within the csGPCRs, Solo superfamily genes have the lowest *H* values and within the *Solo* superfamily, *Srw*type csGPCRs have the lowest *H*, indicating that *Srw* genes may be under the strongest positive selection among all csGPCRs (fig. 5D and E). Putative functions of the *Srw* genes in sensing environmental peptides suggest they may be involved in adaptation.

482 Within the F-box genes, we did not observe significant difference in either D or H values 483 or polymorphisms among the genes in *fbxa*, *fbxb*, and *fbxc* subfamilies (supplementary fig. S9A, 484 Supplementary Material online). F-box proteins share an F-box domain, which complexes with Skp 485 and Cullin to form the SCF complex that mediates protein ubiguitination and degradation. Five out 486 of the 20 Skp-related genes in C. elegans (skr-3, 4, 5, 10, and 15) and three out of the 6 Cullin genes 487 (cul-1, 3, and 6) have very negative H, suggesting strong selective sweep (supplementary fig. S9B, 488 Supplementary Material online). Thus, components of the ubiquitination-proteasome system (UPS) 489 may co-evolve among the *C. elegans* wild isolates; genetic variations in UPS genes may alter the 490 homeostasis of target proteins, leading to certain advantages during selection.

491 Another line of evidence for positive selection is the excess of nonsynonymous SNVs 492 compared to synonymous SNVs, which is particularly obvious for F-box genes (supplementary fig. 493 S10, Supplementary Material online). Polymorphism for synonymous SNVs is slightly bigger than 494 nonsynonymous SNVs for genomic average, and the difference is more obvious in TF and protein 495 kinase genes, which may be under purifying selection. F-box genes, however, have bigger Pi and 496 more negative D and H values for nonsynonymous SNVs compared to synonymous SNVs, 497 supporting that F-box genes are under positive selection. Interestingly, csGPCRs did not show this 498 pattern and appeared to have a lot of synonymous SNVs, which have also very negative H values. 499 The abundance of synonymous SNVs in csGPCRs may result from high recombination rate at the 500 chromosomal arms; some synonymous SNVs might also be positively selected due to effects on 501 codon usage and gene expression levels as previously seen in mammals (Resch, et al. 2007).

502 Positive selection of F-box and csGPCR genes in non-Hawaiian population

503 The above analysis detected signs of strong positive selection in F-box and csGPCR genes 504 among all wild strains, we next found that Fay and Wu's *H* value is more negative in the non-

Hawaiian strains than the Hawaiian strains across all genes (fig. 6A). "Hawaii_3" group appeared to have lower *H* values than "Hawaii_1" and "Hawaii_2" groups probably due to the admixing with the non-Hawaiian strains. These observations are consistent with the selective sweep in non-Hawaiian populations. Genes in the F-box and csGPCR (especially *Srw*) genes showed much more negative *H* than the genomic average not only in non-Hawaiian strains but also in Hawaiian strains, suggesting that they may also be under positive selection within the Hawaiian populations when considering XZ1516 as the most ancestral strain.

512 Negative H values reflects the excess of high-frequency derived alleles. Indeed, the 513 number of high-frequency (>50%) SNVs distinct from the ancestral allele in XZ1516 is much higher 514 in csGPCR and F-box genes than in an average gene for both Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian 515 populations (fig. 6B). The large number of both segregating sites and high-frequency derived alleles 516 in csGPCR and F-box genes suggest that they evolve more rapidly than other parts of the genome 517 and may contribute to the adaptation to a changing environment in *C. elegans*. Analysis of copy 518 number variants (CNVs) is consistent with the above results. The allele frequency of derived CNVs 519 is much larger for F-box and csGPCR genes than the genomic average in both the entire population 520 and the non-Hawaiian population of wild isolates, with XZ1516 as the outgroup (supplementary 521 fig. S6B and C, Supplementary Material online).

522 Since the Hawaiian populations contained relatively more ancestral polymorphism than 523 the non-Hawaiian population, we next asked whether F-box and csGPCR genes accumulated high-524 frequency derived alleles in non-Hawaiian population when considering Hawaiian strains as the 525 ancestral population. We found that H values calculated using a representative "Hawaii_1" 526 (ECA396) or "Hawaii 2" (ECA742) strain as the outgroup were significantly more negative in F-box 527 and csGPCR genes than genomic average, indicating positive selection within the non-Hawaiian 528 population, relative to the Hawaiian populations (fig. 6C and D). These H values were generally less 529 negative than the H values calculated using XZ1516 or ECA701 as the outgroup, confirming that 530 "Hawaii 1" and "Hawaii 2" strains are less distant to the non-Hawaiian strains than the two outliers XZ1516 and ECA701. 531

532 Different selection pressure on different domains of F-box and csGPCR proteins

533 F-box proteins all have two distinct funcitonal domains, a N-terminal F-box domain that 534 mediates the assembly of SCF complex and a C-terminal substrate recognition domain that binds 535 the substrate proteins and target them for ubiquitination. Using Pfam scan, we identified the F-box 536 domain and putative substrate-binding domain (e.g. FTH, FBA, etc) in all F-box proteins and 537 extracted the nonsynonymous SNVs mapped to these domains. Interestingly, Pi is much bigger and 538 H much more negative for the SNVs mapped to the substrate-binding domain compared to those 539 mapped to the F-box domain (fig. 7A). The enrichment of variants and stronger positive selection 540 in the substrate-recognition domains supports the hypothesis that variations in the F-box genes may result in selective advantages by altering the ubiquitination and degradation of certain cellular 541 542 proteins.

543 As an example, F-box gene fbxb-49 (H = -53.03) contains 48 high frequency derived sites 544 in the non-Hawaiian population (considering XZ1516 as the outgroup) and the frequency of those 545 sites within the Hawaiian population are much lower (fig. 7C). Most of those sites are also high frequency derived sites when using a "Hawaii 1" (ECA396) or "Hawaii 2" (ECA742) strain as the 546 547 outgroup. So, selective sweep may have fixed those sites in the non-Hawaiian population. Very few variants are located in the region encoding F-box domain, while many more sites occurred in 548 549 domains that are responsible for recognizing the substrate protein. Four of the sites have PROVEAN 550 (Protein Variation Effect Analyzer) score (Choi and Chan 2015) below -2.5, suggesting potentially 551 significant functional impacts.

552 Similarly, we mapped nonsynonymous SNVs onto the domain structure of csGPCRs and 553 found that SNVs affecting the extracellular domains or intracellular tails of csGPCRs have larger Pi 554 and more negative H than SNVs mapped to the transmembrane (TM) domains (fig. 7B). 555 Conservation of amino acid sequences in the TM domain is expected, as the membrane protein 556 topology may be maintained by purifying selection. Variation in the extracellular domains, which 557 are under stronger positive selection, could result in changes in the ability to sense envrionmental 558 signals, which may confer fitness advantages. As an example, srw-68 (H = -82.33) contains 44 high 559 frequency derived sites in the non-Hawaiian population with XZ1516 as the outgroup, and 16 of 560 them are also high frequency dervied sites compared to ECA396 and ECA742 (fig. 7D). All of those

sites are near fixation among the non-Hawaiian strains and mostly mapped to the extracellular
 regions. Four sites have PROVEAN scores below -2.5.

563 Extended Haplotype Homozygosity analysis identified selection footprints in F-box and csGPCR

564 genes

565 In addition to the neutrality tests, we also applied the Extended Haplotype Homozygosity 566 (EHH) method (Sabeti, et al. 2002) to detect the selection footprints among the nonsynonymous SNVs across the genome. EHH identifies long-range haplotypes and can discover genomic regions 567 568 with strong selective sweep. First, we computed the integrated Haplotype Score (iHS) for both non-569 Hawaiian and Hawaiian strains (supplementary table S7, Supplementary Material online). 570 Interestingly, the regions that showed extended haplotype homozygosity (high |iHS| scores) were 571 in the left arms of chromosome II and III, where F-box genes are located, and the two arms of 572 chromosome V, where most csGPCRs are located (fig. 8A and B). Indeed, among the 335 genes 573 carrying at least one SNV with |iHS| > 2 in non-Hawaiian strains, csGPCR and F-box genes are 574 enriched for 4.5 and 1.5 fold, respectively (fig. 8D), indicating that these genes may be under 575 selective pressure in the recent sweep among non-Hawaiian strains. Nevertheless, csGPCR and F-576 box genes may also be selected within the Hawaiian strains because of their enrichment in the 577 regions with high |iHS| in the Hawaiian population (fig. 8D).

This genomic pattern of haplotype homozygosity is supported by that Fay and Wu's H578 579 values of genes on the left arms of II and III are much more negative than the center and right arms 580 and that H values of genes on both arms of V are smaller than the center of V (fig. 8E). F-box and 581 csGPCR may be driving this pattern, because they tend to have even more negative H than average 582 genes in the arms. In addition, Chromosome V generally had much more negative H than other 583 chromosomes, suggesting signs of strong selective sweep, which is consistent with a previous 584 observation of high haplotype homozygosity of V among non-Hawaiian strains (Andersen, et al. 585 2012). Selection of the over 1000 csGPCR genes on V may explain this chromosomal pattern.

586 Genes that are under selection in the non-Hawaiian population but not in the Hawaiian 587 population may be associated with the adaptation. So, we conducted the XP-EHH (Cross-588 Population EHH) test to identify SNVs with such selection pattern and found the left arm of

chromosome II and both arms of V contain regions with significantly positive XP-EHH values (fig. 8C). F-box and csGPCR genes are highly enriched in those regions. 18 out of the 41 genes carrying SNVs with XP-EHH > 2 on the left arm of II are F-box genes. The enrichment of F-box and csGPCR genes is even more obvious if we only consider the outlier SNVs (the top 0.05%) or count all genes in extended regions that connect significant SNVs within a 50-kb range (Mohd-Assaad, et al. 2018) (fig. 8D). In summary, both neutrality test and EHH analysis identified signs of strong positive selection on F-box and csGPCR genes in non-Hawaiian population.

596 As examples of highly selected genes, F-box gene *fbxa-85* carries 58 SNVs with significantly positive XP-EHH score (XP-EHH > 2; p < 0.05); 13 and 29 are high-frequency derived 597 sites among non-Hawaiian strains using a "Hawaii_1" and "Hawaii_2" strain as the outgroup, 598 599 respectively. Most of the sites occurred in the FTH domain involved in substrate binding and none 600 in the F-box domain (fig. 8F). Similarly, sGPCR srw-56 contains 67 SNVs with high XP-EHH; 36 and 601 24 of those SNVs are high frequency derived sites in non-Hawaiian population with a "Hawaii 1" 602 and "Hawaii 2" strain as the outgroup, respectively. Most of them occurred in the extracellular 603 domains of SRW-56 (fig. 8G).

604 Selection patterns in F-box and csGPCR genes are not likely affected by varying population size

605 and demographic history

606 Varying population size and demographic history are known confounding factors for 607 predicting selective sweep (Wakeley and Aliacar 2001; Przeworski 2002; Nielsen, et al. 2005). We next addressed whether these two factors confounded our neutrality test results. To assess 608 609 whether the varying number of strains in the 11 subpopulation among the wild isolates had effects 610 on the neutrality test statistics, we selected strains and SNVs using two different sampling schemes 611 (scattering and pooling schemes) according to previous studies (Stadler, et al. 2009; Li, et al. 2010) 612 (see Materials and Methods). Polymorphism, Tajima's D, and Fay and Wu's H calculated using the 613 samples obtained with the two sampling methods are very similar (supplementary fig. S11, 614 Supplementary Material online), indicating that the varying population sizes among the 615 subpopulation do not significantly confound our results.

616

Previous population history analysis of C. elegans found that wild isolates in non-

617 Hawaiian population may have suffered a strong decline in population size about 10,000 618 generations ago (Thomas, et al. 2015). To assess the confounding effect of the potential bottleneck 619 on selection detection, we simulated SNV data under neutrally constant population size model or 620 bottleneck model and plotted site frequency spectra (SFS). Bottleneck leads to the enrichment of 621 low and high frequency alleles in simulated data as expected (supplementary fig. S12, 622 Supplementary Material online). However, SFS pattern of the empirical SNV data of non-Hawaiian 623 populations are more similar to the constant population size model, suggesting that the potential 624 bottleneck effect may not significantly change the site frequency in the *C. elegans* wild isolates we analyzed. 625

626 We next predicted selective sweep sites based on the site frequency spectrum using the 627 software SweeD, which analyzes composite likelihood and is robust against recombination and 628 demographic assumption (Nielsen, et al. 2005). We found that selected sites at the significance 629 threshold of 1% are mostly located in the arms of chromosomes (supplementary fig. S13, 630 Supplementary Material online), where F-box and csGPCRs are enriched, which is consistent with 631 the results of neutrality tests and EHH analysis. Among the 564 significant sites located in 233 genes 632 (mean α score, an indicator of selection coefficient, is 31), 31 sites are mapped to 10 F-box genes 633 (2.5 fold enrichment) with an average α score at 54. csGPCR genes carry 28 significant sites with 634 an average α score at 63. Thus, even considering demographic history, F-box and csGPCR genes 635 still show strong selection during the sweep.

636

637 Discussion

The nematode *C. elegans*, which is traditionally used as a model organism for molecular biology, has emerged as an important organism in studying the genetic mechanisms of evolution. The genomic sequences of over 50 species in the Caenorhabditis genus and 330 wild *C. elegans* isotypes provided an important resource for understanding the evolutionary history of *C. elegans* and nematodes in general, e.g. the rise of self-fertile hermaphroditism through convergent evolution in *C. elegans* and *C. briggsae* (Nayak, et al. 2005) and the balancing selection maintaining genetic incompatibilities among *C. elegans* wild isolates (Seidel, et al. 2008). In this study, we aimed

to identify genes or gene families that have large diversity among the *C. elegans* wild isolates and show signs of positive selection during the recent selective sweep. The F-box gene family and chemosensory GPCR genes emerged from our analysis, suggesting that they may contribute to the

648 adaptation of wild *C. elegans*.

649 Intraspecific positive selection of F-box genes

650 Compared to insects and vertebrates, C. elegans genome contains a large number of F-651 box genes. This increased number of F-box genes might have allowed selective recognition of target 652 proteins for degradation in a precisely controlled manner and the increased precision in the 653 regulation of protein turnover might have contributed to nematode evolution. In fact, an earlier 654 study calculated the nonsynonymous (dN)/synonymous (dS) ratio among paralogous F-box genes 655 in C. elegans reference genome (the N2 strain) and found evidence of purifying selection in the 656 sequence encoding the F-box domain and positive selection in the substrate recognition domain 657 (Thomas 2006). Our studies using the genomic sequences of 330 C. elegans wild isolates found large intraspecific variations in the F-box genes and signs of strong positive selection in non-658 659 Hawaiian population, which may imply their roles in adaptation. Interestingly, variants in the substrate-binding domain showed larger polymorphism and stronger selection than the variants in 660 661 the F-box domain, supporting that the function of substrate recognition but not Skp1 binding is the 662 target of positive selection.

663 What kind of selective advantages can variants in F-box genes confer? Recent studies 664 suggested a link between the SCF complex and antimicrobial immunity in C. elegans, because the 665 transcription of many components of the SCF complex were upregulated upon Orsay virus and 666 Nematocida parisii (a microsporidia fungi) infections (Chen, et al. 2017) and RNAi knockdown of 667 the core SCF components promoted the infection (Bakowski, et al. 2014). Among the upregulated 668 genes are F-box genes that show strong signs of positive selection in our studies, e.g. fbxc-19, fbxa-669 75, fbxa-135, fbxa-158, fbxa-165, and fbxa-182, whose Fay and Wu's H are all below -20. Thus, an 670 attractive hypothesis is that variations in F-box proteins allow or enhance the ability of SCF complex 671 to ubiquitinate microbial and/or host proteins required for the replication of the pathogen, thus 672 contributing to stronger immune defence. In addition to antiviral immunity, we also expect certain

alleles of F-box genes to confer other fitness advantages, given the importance of ubiquitination-

674 proteasome system in many biological processes.

675 Intraspecific adaptive evolution of csGPCRs

676 The csGPCR family is the largest gene family in *C. elegans* and contains over 1,300 genes. 677 Through the studies of specific phenotypes, a few csGPCRs were previously connected to 678 adaptation. For example, the deletion of two csGPCR genes, srg-36 and srg-37, which resulted in 679 insensitivity to the dauer pheromone ascaroside and defects in entering dauer diapause, were 680 acquired independently by two domesticated C. elegans strains grown in high density (McGrath, 681 et al. 2011). Similar loss-of-function deletions in srg-36 and srg-37 were also found in natural 682 isolates across the globe, suggesting that niche-associated variation in pheromone receptors may 683 contribute to the boom-and-bust population dynamics (Lee, et al. 2019). In addition, a frameshift-684 causing deletion in another csGPCR, str-217, in Hawaiian strain CB4856, led to resistance to the 685 insect repellents N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET) (Dennis, et al. 2018) and similar deletions were found in nine other wild isotypes (our unpublished results), suggesting that C. elegans may 686 687 have evolved to acquire resistance to harmful environmental chemicals by inactivating csGPCRs. The above examples showcased how the intraspecific evolution of individual csGPCR genes can 688 689 have significant functional consequences and contribute to adaptation. Our study, in a more 690 systematic way, indicates that csGPCRs are highly diverse and are under strong positive selection 691 in the C. elegans wild population.

692 Among the four csGPCR superfamilies (Str, Sra, Srg, and Solo), our analysis using 693 nonsynonymous SNVs found that Str genes had larger polymorphism and stronger positive 694 selection than Sra and Sra genes (fig. 1F and 5D), which is consistent with previous observation on 695 the intraspecific variations of Str genes (Stewart, et al. 2005). In fact, these variations created ~200 696 pseudogenes Str genes in C. elegans reference genome (the N2 strain) through often times only 697 one apparent defect. Compared to Str genes, we found that Solo superfamily csGPCRs, especially 698 Srw genes have even larger diversity and stronger positive selection. Given that Srw genes are the 699 only csGPCRs that have clear homology with vertebrate GPCRs and likely code for 700 FMRFamide/peptide receptors (Robertson and Thomas 2006), large variations in these genes

701 might reflect the need to detect a wide range of environmental peptides. Moreover, most of the 702 high frequency derived sites of *srw* genes in non-Hawaiian population are mapped to the regions 703 that code for the extracellular domains, suggesting that altered ligand recognition might be 704 positively selected. A similar observation was made for Srz genes in the Solo superfamily based on 705 that dN/dS ratios among paralogous groups of Srz genes in C. elegans and C. briggsae peak in the 706 extracellular loops (Thomas, et al. 2005). Thus, the large gene pool of csGPCRs may facilitate the 707 adaptation to a changing environment by supplying alleles with specific ligand binding properties 708 for positive selection.

709 The correlation between large diversity and strong positive selection

710 Compared to other gene families, F-box and csGPCR genes not only have large genetic 711 diversity but also show strong signs of positive selection. This correlation is counterintuitive, 712 because selection tends to reduce variation. We reason that gene families such as the TFs and 713 protein kinases have low polymorphism because they play critical roles in the development of C. elegans and thus may be under purifying selection. In comparison, F-box and csGPCR genes 714 715 maintain large polymorphism likely due to the lack of strong purifying selection, as well as high recombination rate and frequent gene flow. High recombination rate results from their clustering 716 717 in the chromosomal arms, and gene flow between genetically divergent subpopulations helps 718 maintain genetic diversity.

719 Rapid expansion of the F-box and csGPCR gene families and high rate of gene gain and 720 loss also contributed to their large diversity and facilitated positive selection and adaptation. 721 Indeed, our analysis of copy number variants found more frequent gene duplication and deletion 722 in F-box and csGPCR genes than genomic average, supporting fast intraspecific evolution of these 723 genes. Previous studies found that the C. elegans genome shows a higher duplication rate than 724 Drosophila and yeast genomes (Lipinski, et al. 2011). This pattern is mostly likely driven by the 725 duplication of F-box and csGPCR genes. Functional diversification of the duplicated genes could 726 lead to novel functional characteristics. Although the function of most F-box and csGPCR genes in 727 C. elegans are unknown, their expression pattern, to certain extent, reflects their potential 728 functions. For example, among the 39 positively selected (H < -20) csGPCRs whose expression were

729 studied before (Vidal, et al. 2018), we found that these csGPCRs show distinct expression patterns 730 in a diverse range of tissues (supplementary fig. S14, Supplementary Material online). Although 731 expression is heavily enriched in sensory neurons, most csGPCRs are expressed in unique sets of 732 cells and identical expression patterns for two csGPCRs are rare. We suspect the diversification in 733 expression regulation is correlated with diversification in functions. Thus, our data supports a 734 model that duplications of F-box and csGPCR genes and accumulation of nonsynonymous SNVs 735 lead to functional diversities in protein degradation and chemosensation pathways, which allowed 736 positive selection to act upon during adaptation.

737

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746

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Correction: A Randomised, Double-Blind, Controlled Efficacy Trial of the LiESP/QA-21 Vaccine in Naive
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904 Figure legends

905 Figure 1. Large genetic polymorphism of csGPCR and F-box genes. (A) Flowchart of the 906 analysis of SNVs among the wild isolates of C. elegans. (B) Genes with large Pi for 907 nonsynonymous SNVs tend to be enriched in csGPCR and F-box gene families. Pi values of individual genes can be found in Table S1. (C) A histogram for the distribution of Pi across all 908 genes. (D) The cumulative distribution of the Pi values for all genes, csGPCR, F-box, 909 transcription factor (TF) and Protein kinases genes. (E) The mean and median of Pi for different 910 911 gene families. (F) The mean and median of Pi for different csGPCR superfamilies and families. The number of genes are in the parentheses. For statistical significance in a non-parametric 912 913 Wilcoxon's rank-sum test, ns means not significant, a single asterisk means p < 0.05, and 914 double asterisks mean p < 0.01. Similar annotations apply for the rest of the Figures.

915

916 Figure 2. Phylogenetic relationship of the *C. elegans* wild isolates. Neighbour-joining nets 917 plotted using the nonsynonymous SNVs of all genes (A), F-box genes (B), csGPCRs (C), or *Srw* 918 genes (D). *C. brenneri, C. remanei*, and *C. briggsae* were used as outgroups for tree 919 construction. Three representative non-Hawaiian strains (in black) with high ancestral 920 population fraction were chosen from each of the eight non-Hawaiian groups. Edges are

labelled with "100", if 100% bootstrap support was attained in 1,000 bootstrap replicates. To
fit the trees into one figure, some branches connecting the three outgroups and the root are
manually shortened (dashed lines).

924

925 Figure 3. csGPCR and F-box genes contribute to the large divergence of Hawaiian strains and 926 the differentiation among non-Hawaiian subpopulations. (A) The mean of Pi for 927 nonsynonymous SNVs in all genes, csGPCRs, Srw genes, F-box genes, TF, and Protein kinase for 928 non-Hawaiian and Hawaiian populations, as well as the three Hawaiian subpopulations. (B) 929 The average number of segregating sites that belong to only Hawaiian or non-Hawaiian strains 930 and the sites that are shared by Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian strains for the six gene families. The number is also normalized to the CDS length of individual genes. The number of non-931 932 singleton segregating sites are in the parentheses. (C-E) The cumulative distribution of 933 Hudson's F_{st} values for different gene families between the non-Hawaiian and Hawaiian populations (C), among the eight non-Hawaiian subpopulations (D), and among the three 934 935 Hawaiian subpopulations (E). (F) The average F_{st} value of different gene families among non-Hawaiian and among Hawaiian subpopulations. 936

937

Figure 4. High recombination rate may contribute to the large diversity of csGPCR and F-box 938 939 genes. (A) Genomic location of F-box, csGPCR, Protein kinase, and TF genes plotted using 940 TBtools. (B) The mean of Pi values for the nonsynonymous SNVs in all genes, csGPCR, and F-941 box genes in the arm or center of chromosome (Chr) II, III, IV and V. Chromosomes were 942 divided into three regions according to genomic coordinates: the left arm (one-fourth of the 943 chromosome from the start), the center (the central half), and the right arm (one-fourth of 944 the chromosome close to the end). The values in parentheses indicated gene numbers. (C) Recombination rates (Rho) across Chr II, III and V in 50-kb windows. (D) The Pearson 945 946 correlation between recombination rate and Pi for F-box genes on Chr III and csGPCR genes 947 on Chr V.

948

949 Figure 5. Positive selection on F-box and csGPCR gene. (A) Enrichment of csGPCR and F-box 950 genes among the genes with Tajima's D < -2 and Fay and Wu's H < -20, respectively. Overlap 951 set include genes that fits both criteria. (B) The mean and median of Tajima's D and Fay and 952 Wu's H values of all genes, csGPCRs, F-box, TF, and Protein kinase. (C) The cumulative 953 distribution of different gene families. (D) The mean and median of Fay and Wu's H values of genes in csGPCR superfamilies and Solo gene families. The number of genes are in parentheses. 954 955 (E) The cumulative distribution of genes in csGPCR subfamilies and *Solo* families. *H* values were 956 calculated using XZ1516 as the outgroup. The statistical significance was determined by Wilcoxon rank-sum test. 957

958

959 Figure 6. Accumulation of high-frequency derived alleles in F-box and csGPCR genes in non-960 Hawaiian population. (A) The average Fay and Wu's H values of all genes, csGPCRs, Srw genes, 961 F-box genes, TFs, and Protein kinase for the non-Hawaiian and Hawaiian populations, as well as the three Hawaiian subpopulations. (B) The average number of high frequency (>50%) 962 963 derived sites in genes from different gene families with XZ1516 as the outgroup. The right panel shows the Pearson correlation between Fay and Wu's H and number of high-frequency 964 965 derived sites. (C) The average Fay and Wu's H value in non-Hawaiian population calculated 966 using different strains as the outgroup. XZ1516 and ECA701 are distant from all other strains 967 and may be considered to contain the most ancestral alleles. ECA396 and ECA742 are representative strains from "Hawaii_1" and "Hawaii_2" subpopulations. (D) The cumulative 968 969 distribution of the H values of all genes, F-box, or csGPCR genes calculated using ECA396 or 970 ECA742 as the outgroup.

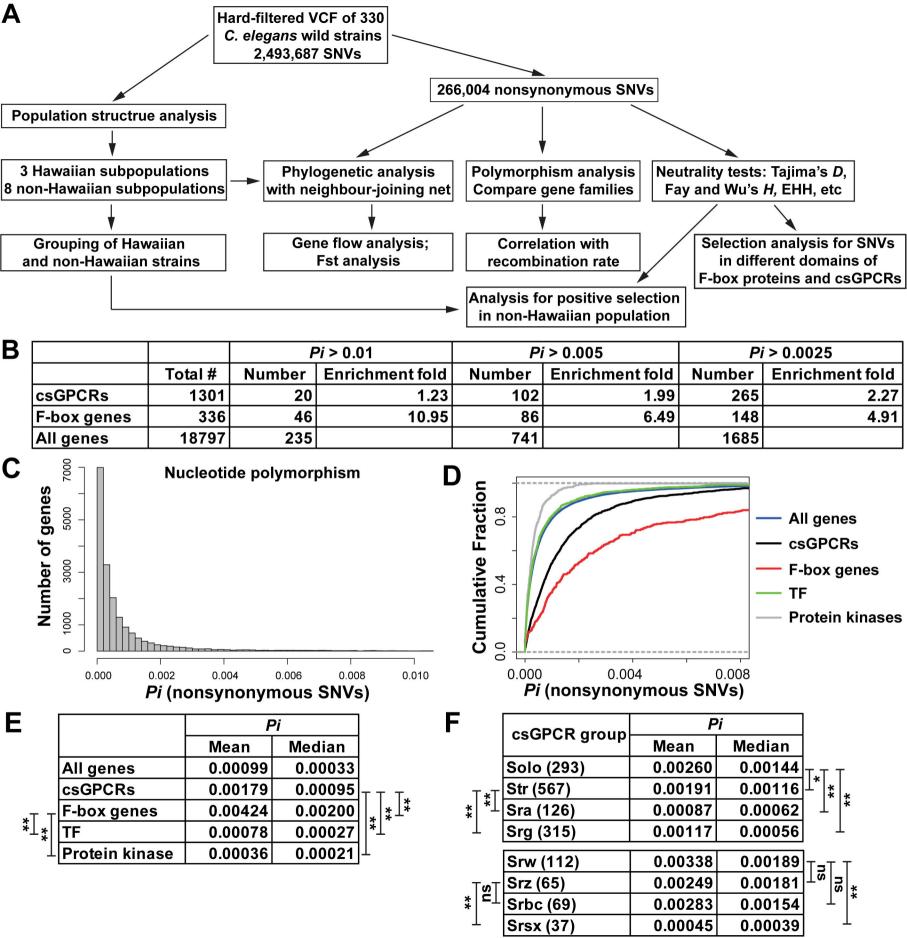
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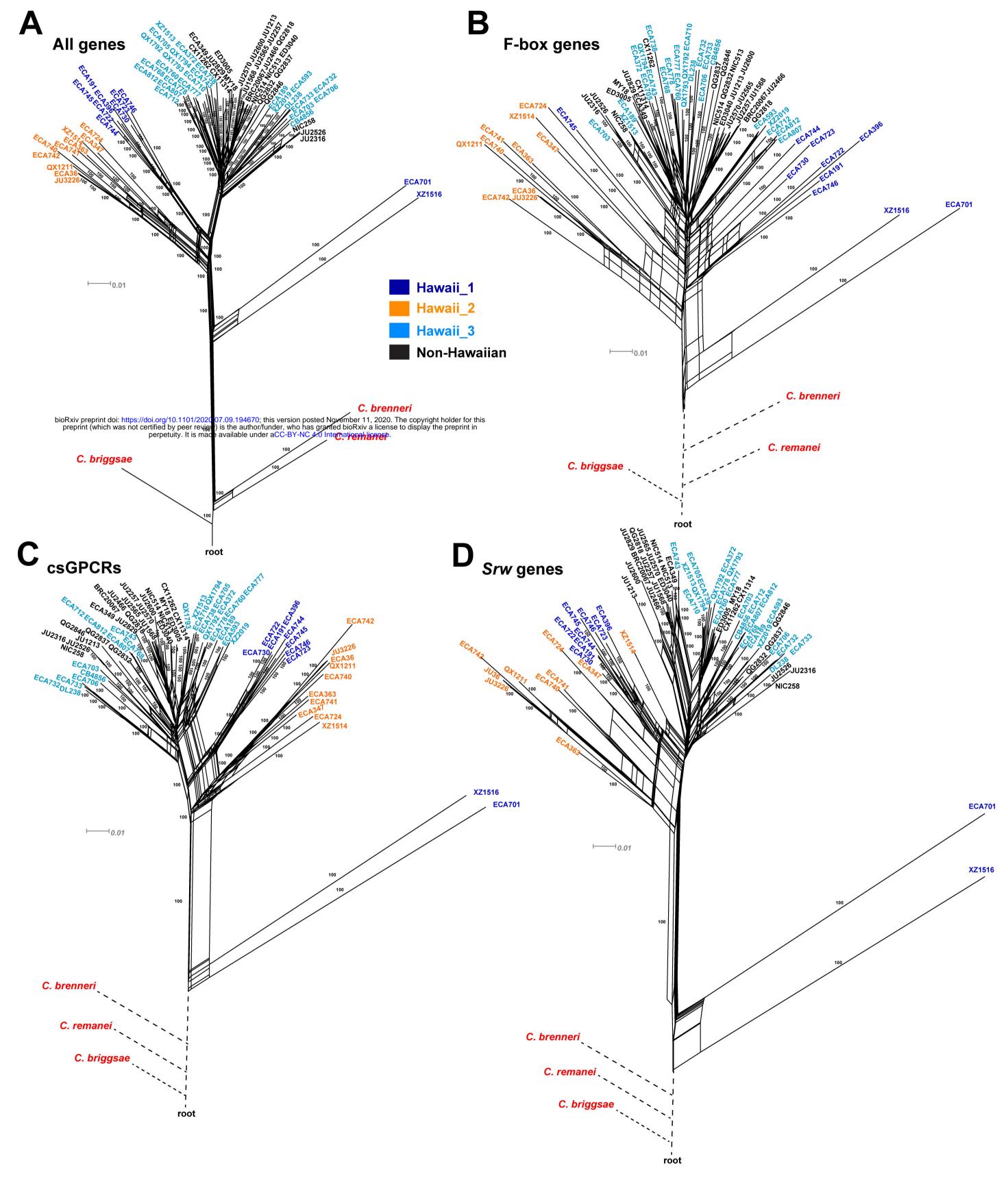
Figure 7. Different selective pressure on different domains of F-box and csGPCR proteins. (A)
Cumulative distribution of *Pi* and Fay and Wu's *H* for nonsynonymous SNVs in the F-box domain
or putative substrate-binding domains of F-box proteins. (B) Distribution of *Pi* and *H* for SNVs
in the transmembrane domain or extracellular or intracellular domains of csGPCRs. (C) The
domain structure of an F-box protein encoded by *fbxb-49*. The F-box domain is in blue, and

977 the type 2 F-box associated (FBA 2) domain, likely involved in binding substrate, is in cyan. (D) The domain structure of a csGPCR encoded by *srw-68*. The predicted transmembrane (TM) 978 979 domain is in green. Extracellular loops (Out.) and intracellular (In.) tails are indicated. In both 980 (A) and (B), the panels immediately below the domain structure indicate the position of high-981 frequency (>0.5) derived sites in non-Hawaiian populations using XZ1516 as the outgroup. Y-982 axis indicates the frequency of the derived alleles among the non-Hawaiian population (black 983 dots) or the Hawaiian population (red dots). Each dot indicates a nonsynonymous SNVs. SNVs 984 causing amino acid substitution with PROVEAN score below -2.5 were shown. The lower two 985 panels showed the high-frequency derived sites in the non-Hawaiian population calculated using ECA396 ("Hawaii 1" strain; purple dots) or ECA742 ("Hawaii 2" strain; blue dots) as the 986 987 outgroup.

988

989 Figure 8. F-box and csGPCR genes are enriched in the genomic regions with selective 990 footprint identified by extended haplotype homozygosity (EHH) analysis. (A-C) Manhattan 991 plots of the extent of haplotype homozygosity measured by the integrated Haplotype Score (iHS) within the non-Hawaiian population (A) and Hawaiian population (B). (C) Regions of 992 993 selection in non-Hawaiian population but not the Hawaiian population indicated by the Manhattan plots of cross-population EHH (XPEHH). (D) The number of F-box and csGPCR genes 994 995 that contain SNVs with significant iHS or XPEHH and their folds of enrichment. For extended 996 regions, significant SNVs that are less than 50-kb apart were connected to generate regions 997 with selective footprints. (E) The mean Fay and Wu's H values for all genes, F-box, and csGPCR 998 genes in the arms and the center of chromosome (Chr) II, III, and V. (F) The domain structure 999 of a representative F-box protein coded by *fbxa-85*; the F-box domain is in blue and the FTH 1000 domain in cyan. (G) The domain structure of a representative csGPCR coded by srw-56; the 1001 predicted transmembrane (TM) domain is in green, and extracellular loops (Out.) and 1002 intracellular (In.) tails are also indicated. Among the sites whose XPEHH > 2 in the two genes, 1003 the ones that are also high-frequency (> 0.5) derived sites with ECA396 (purple dots) and 1004 ECA742 (blue dots) as the outgroup are shown.

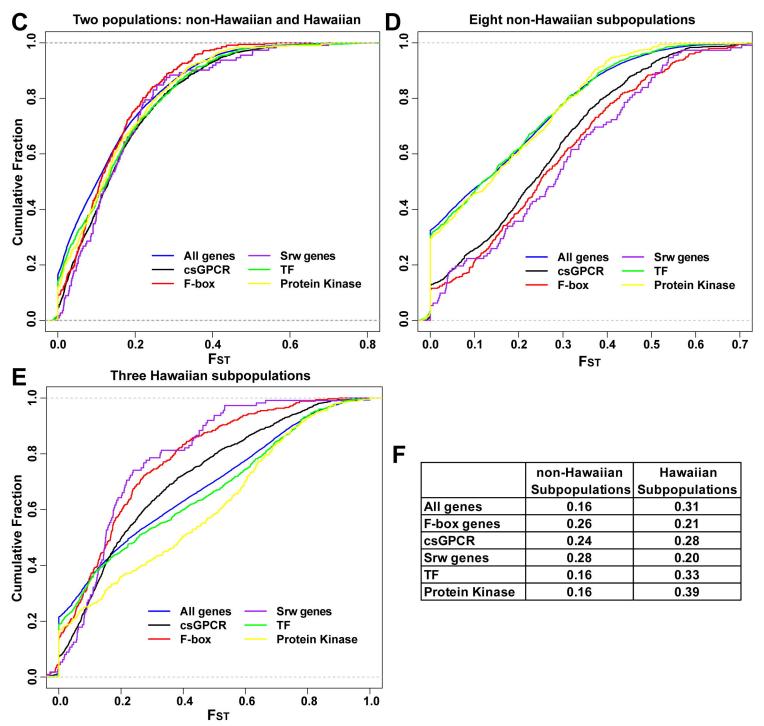


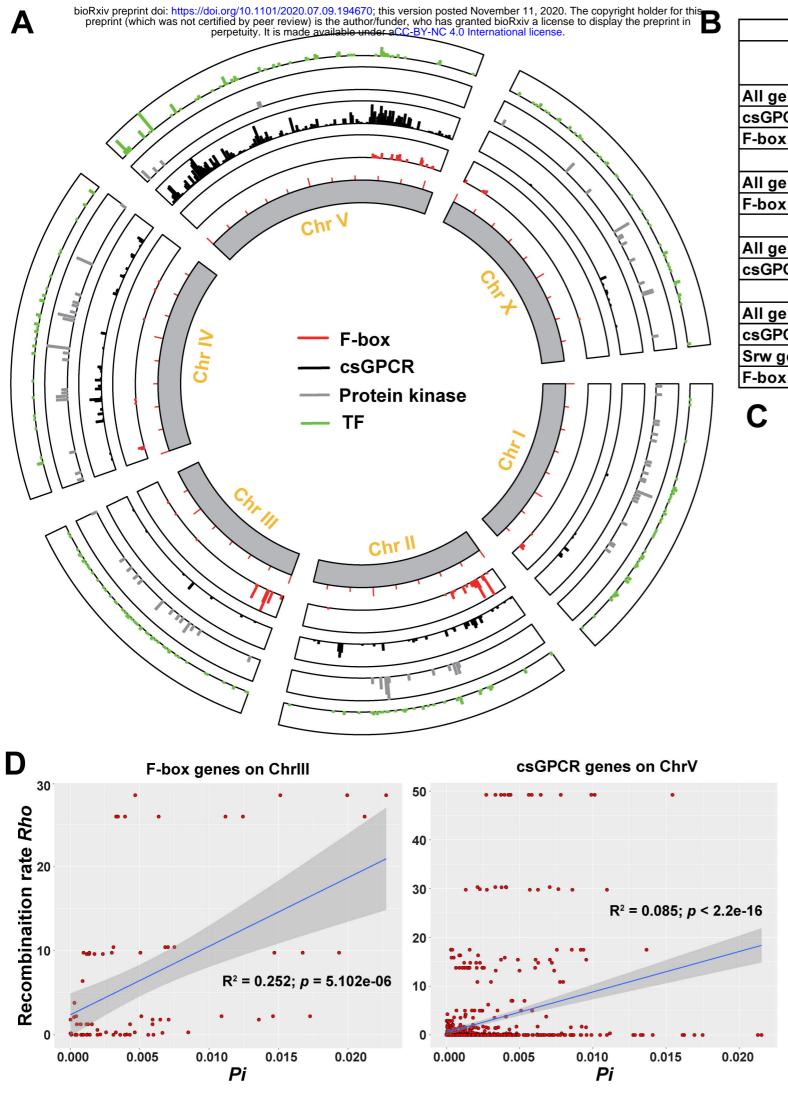


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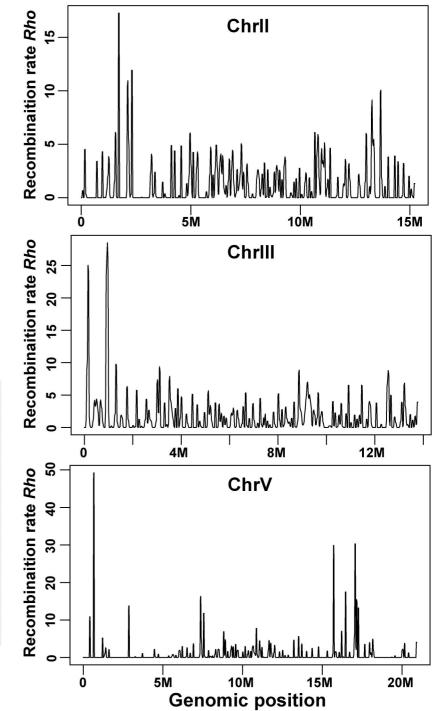
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		All strains	Non-Hawaiian	Hawaiian	Hawaii_1	Hawaii_2	Hawaii_3	
	All genes	0.0010	0.0007	0.0017	0.0017	0.0012	0.0010	
	csGPCRs	0.0018	0.0013	0.0032	0.0035	0.0026	0.0019	
	Srw GPCRs	0.0034	0.0026	0.0059	0.0066	0.0052	0.0035	
	F-box genes	0.0042	0.0033	0.0069	0.0077	0.0064	0.0046	
	TF	0.0008	0.0005	0.0014	0.0014	0.0010	0.0009	
	Protein kinase	0.0004	0.0003	0.0007	0.0006	0.0004	0.0003	

Segregating sites (non-singletons)									
	Exclusively	/ Hawaiian site	Exclusively n	onHawaiian sites	Shared sites				
	Number	Normalized	Number	Normalized	Number	Normalized			
All genes	6.3 (2.7)	0.006 (0.0026)	3.1 (1.3)	0.0029 (0.0012)	4.6	0.0045			
csGPCRs	10.7 (4.4)	0.011 (0.0044)	4.3 (1.8)	0.0043 (0.0019)	9.1	0.0092			
Srw genes	18.5 (7.1)	0.017 (0.0067)	6.3 (3.4)	0.0060 (0.0033)	19.5	0.0182			
F-box genes	18.2 (7.4)	0.018 (0.0071)	7.2 (3.5)	0.0073 (0.0035)	20.2	0.0204			
TFs	6.4 (2.7)	0.005 (0.0022)	3.2 (1.3)	0.0025 (0.0010)	4.5	0.0037			
Protein kinase	5.6 (2.5)	0.003 (0.0014)	3.9 (1.7)	0.0020 (0.0008)	2.6	0.0014			

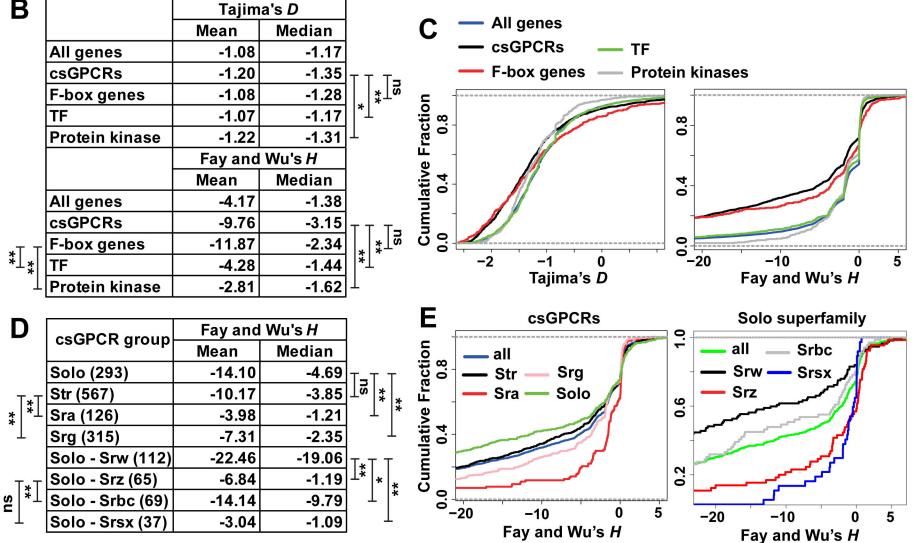




		Pi	
	Left arm	Center	Right arm
	ll: 0% ~ 25%	ll: 25% ~ 75%	ll: 75% ~ 100%
All genes	0.0034 (998)	0.0004 (1811)	0.0010 (687)
csGPCR	0.0025 (70)	0.0006 (55)	0.0016 (46)
F-box genes	0.0058 (104)	0.0004 (8)	0.0028 (4)
	III: 0% ~ 25%	III: 25% ~ 75%	III: 75%~100%
All genes	0.0024 (552)	0.0003 (1572)	0.0006 (547)
F-box genes	0.0056 (65)	0.0002 (6)	0.0023 (9)
	IV: 0% ~ 25%	IV: 25% ~ 75%	IV: 75%~100%
All genes	0.0009 (731)	0.0003 (1957)	0.0010 (617)
csGPCR	0.0012 (28)	0.0005 (85)	0.0009 (42)
	V: 0% ~ 25%	V: 25% ~ 75%	V:75%~100%
All genes	0.0017 (1216)	0.0005 (2662)	0.0032 (1194)
csGPCR	0.0021 (326)	0.0009 (320)	0.0034 (257)
Srw genes	0.0025 (41)	0.0025 (21)	0.0055 (36)
F-box genes	0.0018 (6)	0.0011 (23)	0.0055 (63)

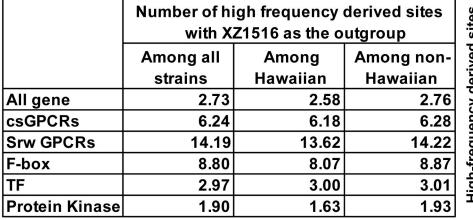


ł			Tajima's <i>D</i> < -2		Fay and Wu's <i>H</i> < -20		Overlap set	
		Total number	Number	Enrichment fold	Number	Enrichment fold	Number	Enrichment fold
	csGPCRs	1301	192	2.82	260	3.62	119	3.97
	F-box genes	336	55	3.12	67	3.61	18	2.33
	All genes	18797	985		1038		432	

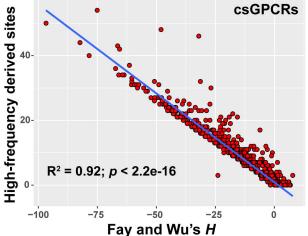


Β

Fay and Wu's <i>H</i> (XZ1516 as outgroup)							
	All strains	Non-Hawaiian	Hawaiian	Hawaii_1	Hawaii_2	Hawaii_3	
All genes	-4.17	-4.24	-2.48	-2.24	-2.64	-3.45	
csGPCRs	-9.76	-10.19	-7.13	-6.09	-6.47	-8.57	
Srw GPCRs	-22.46	-23.68	-17.69	-14.40	-13.54	-20.91	
F-box genes	-11.87	-12.31	-6.53	-4.22	-6.10	-9.22	
TF	-4.28	-4.67	-2.85	-2.74	-3.14	-3.76	
Protein kinase	-2.81	-3.03	-1.43	-1.56	-1.83	-2.45	



Β



С		Fay and Wu's <i>H</i> in non-Hawaiian Population							
-	Outgroup	XZ1516 (ancestral)	ECA701 (ancestral)	ECA396 (Hawaii_1)	ECA742 (Hawaii_2)				
	All genes	-4.24	-4.03	-2.42	-2.90				
	csGPCRs	-10.19	-11.01	-4.09	-5.61				
	F-box genes	-12.79	-16.78	-9.54	-9.51				

