

1 **TITLE**

2 **Ecological load and balancing selection in circumboreal barnacles**

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31 **Abstract**

32 Acorn barnacle adults experience environmental heterogeneity at various spatial
33 scales of their circumboreal habitat, raising the question of how adaptation to high
34 environmental variability is maintained in the face of strong juvenile dispersal and
35 mortality. Here we show that 4% of genes in the barnacle genome experience balancing
36 selection across the entire range of the species. Many of these genes harbor mutations
37 maintained across 2 million years of evolution between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.
38 These genes are involved in ion regulation, pain reception, and heat tolerance, functions
39 which are essential in highly variable ecosystems. The data also reveal complex
40 population structure within and between basins, driven by the trans-Arctic interchange
41 and the last glaciation. Divergence between Atlantic and Pacific populations is high,
42 foreshadowing the onset of allopatric speciation, and suggesting that balancing selection
43 is strong enough to maintain functional variation for millions of years in the face of
44 complex demography.

45

46 **Introduction**

47 The relationship between genetic variation and adaptation to heterogeneous
48 environments remains a central conundrum in evolutionary biology (Botero, et al. 2015).
49 Classical models of molecular evolution predict that populations should be locally
50 adapted to maximize fitness (Williams 1966). However, species inhabiting highly
51 heterogeneous environments violate this expectation: if gene flow is high in relation to
52 the scale of environmental heterogeneity, species will harbor variation that is beneficial
53 in one condition but deleterious in another (Gillespie 1973), and the resulting ecological
54 load (i.e., the fitness difference between the best and the average genotype across the
55 range of environments where offspring may settle) will prevent local adaptation.
56 Conversely, if gene flow is low, favored alleles will become locally fixed and species should
57 display low levels of genetic variation. Paradoxically, many natural populations living in
58 variable environments possess high dispersal capabilities, and harbor more variation
59 than expected under classical models (Metz and Palumbi 1996; Mackay, et al. 2012;
60 Messer and Petrov 2013; Bergland, et al. 2014). This disconnect between nature and
61 theory has motivated the hypothesis that balancing selection, a process where selection

62 favors multiple beneficial alleles at a given locus, is at play to maintain adaptations in
63 these habitats (Levene 1953; Hedrick 2006).

64 The northern acorn barnacle (*Semibalanus balanoides*) is a model system to study
65 adaptations to ecological variability. This barnacle is a self-incompatible, simultaneous
66 hermaphrodite which outcross only with adjacent individuals. Adult barnacles are fully
67 sessile and occupy broad swaths of intertidal shores in both the North Pacific and North
68 Atlantic oceans. These habitats experience high levels of cyclical and stochastic ecological
69 heterogeneity which impose strong selection at multiple spatial scales: microhabitats
70 (intertidal shores), mesohabitats (bays and estuaries) and macrohabitats (continental
71 seaboard) (Schmidt, et al. 2008; Nunez, et al. 2020). Barnacle larvae, on the other hand,
72 engage in extensive pelagic dispersal by ocean currents, and may settle in habitats
73 completely different from those of their parents (Flowerdew 1983). This contrast between
74 strong adult selection and high juvenile dispersal prevents local adaptation. In addition,
75 *S. balanoides* has a complex demography. It originated in the Pacific, and colonized the
76 Atlantic during the many waves of the trans-Arctic interchange (1-3 mya) (Vermeij 1991).
77 Like most circumboreal species, it was subjected to drastic range shifts due to the
78 Pleistocene glacial cycles (Wares and Cunningham 2001; Flight, et al. 2012), and more
79 recently due to anthropogenic climate change (Jones, et al. 2012). As such, *S. balanoides*
80 is a premier system to study how adaptive genetic variation is maintained over broad
81 spatial and evolutionary scales, in the face of ecological load.

82 Three decades of work have shown that balancing selection, via marginal
83 overdominance (a case where the harmonic mean fitness of heterozygous genotypes must
84 be larger than that of either homozygote) (Levene 1953), maintains adaptive variation at
85 the metabolic gene Mannose-6-phosphate isomerase (*Mpi*) in barnacles across the entire
86 North Atlantic basin (Schmidt and Rand 1999; Dufresne, et al. 2002; Rand, et al. 2002;
87 Veliz, et al. 2004; Nunez, et al. 2020). These findings motivate two questions which are
88 addressed in this paper. First, how pervasive are balanced polymorphisms in the barnacle
89 genome? And, second, what genes are targets of balancing selection? To investigate
90 functional polymorphism in *S. balanoides*, we quantified genomic variation in North
91 Pacific and North Atlantic populations (**Figs. 1A-1C**). In the Pacific, we analyzed samples
92 from British Columbia, Canada (**WCAN**) as well as a sample of the sister taxon
93 *Semibalanus cariosus*. In the Atlantic, we analyzed samples from Maine (**ME**), Rhode

94 Island (**RI**), Iceland (**ICE**), Norway (**NOR**), and the United Kingdom (**UK**). For all
95 populations, we sequenced multiple libraries including: a single individual barnacle
96 genome to ~50X coverage, pools of 20-38 individuals per population (i.e., pool-seq
97 (Schlotterer, et al. 2014)), as well as ~600 bp amplicons from the mitochondrial
98 (**mtDNA**) *COX I* gene (including previously published *COX I* data(Wares and
99 Cunningham 2001)). We mapped these datasets to our newly assembled *S. balanoides*
100 genome (**SI Appendix 1**) and characterized genetic diversity across all populations (**SI**
101 **Appendix 2**). We first present our findings in the context of the barnacle's
102 phylogeography and demographic history. This is pivotal to understand the historical
103 conditions which can contribute to ecological load. Then, we characterize the
104 pervasiveness of balancing selection across the genome, as well as the age of balanced
105 polymorphisms and their putative functional significance in highly heterogeneous
106 environments.

107

108 **Results**

109 **Standing variation across oceans.** Our pool-seq panels discovered ~3M high
110 quality single nucleotide polymorphisms (**SNPs**) across populations at common allele
111 frequencies (>5%). When linkage is removed at 500 bp, the SNP panel thins to ~690,000.
112 Principal component analysis (PCA), on the LD-thinned SNPs, shows that variation is
113 strongly subdivided by ocean basins (**Fig. 1D**). PC 1 captures 74% of the variation, and
114 partitions populations across basins. PC 2 (8.5% var.) partitions Atlantic populations into
115 2 discrete east-west clusters. The western cluster contains ME, RI, ICE, and the eastern
116 cluster contains UK and NOR. These clusters are supported by the abundance of mtDNA
117 haplotypes within and between ocean basins (**Fig. 1D inset; Table S1**)(Wares and
118 Cunningham 2001; Flight, et al. 2012; Nunez, et al. 2018). The large divergence between
119 oceans is also captured in levels of nucleotide diversity (π ; a metric of standing genetic
120 variation). Surprisingly, North Atlantic populations harbor more genetic variation ($\pi =$
121 1.05%) than their Pacific, ancestral, conspecifics ($\pi = 0.55%$; **Fig. 1E; Fig. S1**). We also
122 estimated the Tajimas' *D* statistic (**D**), a measure of the excess ($D < 0$), or deficit ($D > 0$), of
123 rare alleles in populations. These data indicate that all North Atlantic populations,
124 especially NOR, have negatively skewed genome-wide values of *D* (**Figs. 1E, S2**).

125 **Historical phylogeography and structure.** We reconstructed changes of
126 historical effective population sizes (N_e) with the multiple sequentially Markovian
127 coalescent model (MSMC) using individual whole genomes (Schiffels and Durbin 2014).
128 Our results provide evidence for different phylogeographic trajectories in response to the
129 events of the glaciations (**Figs. 1G, 1H**). For instance, the Eastern Cluster and the
130 Western Cluster populations shared a common demography throughout the Pleistocene
131 (**Fig. 1G**) but diverged in recent geological time. Namely, Eastern populations (especially
132 NOR) experienced striking increases in N_e in the recent past (**Fig. 1I**), likely following the
133 asynchronous deglaciation of the Fennoscandian ice sheet (Ruddiman and McIntyre 1981;
134 Patton, et al. 2017). Western populations, on the other hand, experienced a demographic
135 contraction which started during the last glacial period and ended during the last glacial
136 maxima (~20 kya; **Fig. 1J**) (Brochmann, et al. 2003; Maggs, et al. 2008; Flight, et al.
137 2012).

138 We estimated gene flow by computing f_3 statistics (Reich, et al. 2009) for all
139 possible combinations of target, source 1, and source 2 populations, using individual
140 whole genomes (**Fig. S3; Table S2**). Our analysis finds no evidence of recent gene flow
141 across oceans. This result is supported by two additional lines of evidence. First, a mtDNA
142 molecular clock analysis (Drummond, et al. 2002), which suggests that Pacific and
143 Atlantic populations have not exchanged migrants in nearly 2 million years (**SI**
144 **Appendix 3**). And second, estimates of genetic differentiation (i.e., F_{ST}) which reveal
145 large amounts of genome-wide divergence (**Fig. S4**), and foreshadows the onset of
146 allopatric speciation across oceans. Within the North Atlantic, F_{ST} is low (likely due to
147 shared demography until the glacial maximum) and the f_3 analysis suggest that admixture
148 is pervasive (**Fig. S3, Table S2**). These findings are supported by additional ABBA-
149 BABA tests for gene tree heterogeneity (Green, et al. 2010) (see **SI Appendix 4**). Overall,
150 these findings present three important points. First, they exemplify the complex
151 demography that underlie standing variation in natural populations. Second, they
152 confirm that barnacles harbor high levels of genetic variation genome-wide. And third,
153 they reveal the pervasiveness of gene flow and shared variation within ocean basins,
154 where environmental heterogeneity is extensive across “micro” (1-3 meter) and “meso”
155 (1-10 kilometer) scales. These conditions provide the environmental context for ecological
156 load at the genomic scale.

157 **Balancing selection in barnacles.** Balancing selection is expected to produce
158 molecular and phylogenetic footprints not consistent with neutrality (Fijarczyk and Babik
159 2015). Molecular footprints include: enrichment of old alleles (e.g., trans-species
160 polymorphisms; **TSPs**), elevated genetic variation (high π), deficit of rare alleles ($D > 0$),
161 excess SNPs at medium allele frequencies, reduced divergence around the balanced locus
162 (low F_{ST}), as well as the accumulation of non-synonymous variation in the vicinity of
163 balanced polymorphisms, a phenomenon known as sheltered load (Uyenoyama 2005).
164 Likewise, balancing selection will produce a phylogenetic signal composed of diverged
165 clades, corresponding to the balanced haplotypes. Deeply diverged clades will occur when
166 balancing selection has maintained variation over long evolutionary times (i.e., ancestral
167 balancing selection(Fijarczyk and Babik 2015)). A joint analysis of our Pacific, Atlantic,
168 and outgroup (*S. cariosus*) datasets reveal 11,917 cosmopolitan SNPs (i.e., SNPs that
169 segregate in both oceans) which are also TSPs (**Dataset S1**). TSPs, genome-wide, occur
170 in 0.14% coding regions, 0.21% in introns, 0.02 % in promoters, 0.01% in 5'UTRs, and <
171 0.01% in 3'UTRs. The remainder TSPs occur in 0.09% of intergenic regions. An
172 enrichment analysis which compares the abundance of TSPs, of each genomic class,
173 relative to all discovered SNPs, reveals that TSPs are significantly over-enriched in coding
174 loci (**Fig. 2A**), and 4,415 segregate at high frequencies in all populations (TSPs with
175 heterozygosity [H_E] > 0.30; **Fig. S5**). These patterns of variation could be the result of
176 neutral processes such as recurrent mutation (homoplasy) across all populations of either
177 species. However, the enrichment of cosmopolitan, nonsynonymous, TSPs at common
178 frequencies is not consistent with neutrality. Under a model of strict neutrality,
179 segregating mutations are eventually lost in populations after speciation (Clark 1997).
180 Moreover, coding regions are subjected to purifying selection which removes deleterious
181 and mildly deleterious nonsynonymous variants (Hartl and Clark 1997).

182 We compared patterns of genetic variation in exons bearing TSPs and other exons.
183 When accounting for exon length, we observe consistently elevated values of D and π for
184 TSP-bearing exons relative to other exons (**Figs. 2B and 2C; S6**). Except for the ME vs.
185 RI comparison (**Fig. S7**), TSP-bearing exons have consistently low F_{ST} values (**Fig. 2D**).
186 To quantify sheltered load, we compared the ratio of H_E values at nonsynonymous (**NS**)
187 and synonymous (**S**) mutations in TSP-bearing and other exons. Our results show that
188 medium sized TSP-bearing exons (~500 bp) harbor an excess of non-synonymous NS H_E

189 (**Fig. 2E**). Notably, we observed that differences between TSP-bearing and other exons
190 become less apparent as exons get longer. This regionalization of the signal occurs due to
191 the small linkage blocks in the species (Nunez, et al. 2020). We observe 1,107 TSPs that
192 cause nonsynonymous changes and occur in 312 genes with high confidence annotations
193 (4%; **Dataset S2**). Consistent with our expectation of balancing selection, site frequency
194 spectrum (**SFS**) analyses show that these 312 genes harbor an excess of SNPs at medium
195 allele frequencies relative to other annotated genes (**Fig. 2F**).

196 **Age of balanced polymorphisms.** To determine the age of balanced
197 polymorphisms, we ran topological tests on the allele trees for each TSP region across the
198 312 candidate genes. We built trees using phased haplotypes for each TSP-bearing region
199 for all single individual genomes. We used these allele trees to compute the cophenetic
200 distance (**CPD**) between tips. We classified allele trees as having or lacking highly
201 diverged alleles based on the relative mean CPD between haplotypes from the same
202 population vs. from different populations (CPD_{w-b} ; **see supplementary methods**). The
203 analysis reveals that of the 312 allele trees, 150 carry a significant signature of ancestral
204 balancing selection ($CDP_{w-b} > 0$, Bonferroni $P < 1 \times 10^{-9}$; **Fig. 2G; Dataset S2**). This
205 suggests maintenance of diverged haplotypes for more than 2 million years, with extreme
206 cases in which haplotypes are shared across species (8-10 million years)(Perez-Losada, et
207 al. 2008; Herrera, et al. 2015). The remaining genes with $CDP_{w-b} < 0$ may either represent
208 cases where the balanced alleles are younger, or oversampling of homozygous individuals
209 for any given marker.

210 **Targets of selection.** We partitioned our dataset among genes with positive and
211 negative CPD_{w-d} allele trees and conducted gene ontology (GO) enrichment analyses. The
212 150 genes with positive CPD_{w-d} trees show enrichment for terms related to “ion channel
213 regulation”, including genes involved in environmental sensing, and circadian rhythm
214 regulation (**Table S3**). We show examples for 3 candidate genes under ancestral
215 balancing selection involved in environmental sensing: 1) the painless gene (*Pain*; g1606;
216 **Fig. 3A**), which is involved in nociception (i.e., pain reception), as well as detection of
217 heat and mechanical stimuli (Tracey, et al. 2003; Xu, et al. 2006); 2) the Pyrexia gene
218 (*Pyx*; g3472; **Fig. 3B**), which is involved in negative geotaxis, and responses to heat (Lee,
219 et al. 2005); and 3) the shaker cognate w gene (*Shaw*; g3310; **Fig. 3C**), which is involved
220 in regulation of circadian rhythm (Hodge and Stanewsky 2008; Buhl, et al. 2016). These

221 three examples showcase canonical footprints of balancing selection around the TSP,
222 concomitant with a bimodal allele tree. Among genes with negative CPD_{w-d} we observe
223 enriched functions for “anatomical structure formation” including genes coding for motor
224 proteins and muscle genes (**Table S4**). In all cases, we used RNA-seq data from ME
225 individuals to confirm that these loci are expressed in adult barnacles.

226

227 **Discussion**

228 In intertidal barnacles, the dichotomy of strong adult selection and high offspring
229 dispersal means that any allele that is beneficial to parental fitness in one generation may
230 be neutral or deleterious in the next (Gillespie 1973). This leads to a fundamental question
231 in evolutionary biology: how are adaptations maintained in the face of extreme ecological
232 variability? In this paper, we provide evidence that balancing selection is widespread
233 across the barnacle genome, with 4% of annotated genes harboring functional balanced
234 polymorphisms. Notably, these polymorphisms occur in genes with important functions
235 for life in variable environments, and many have been maintained for at least 2 million
236 years despite a complex phylogeographic history (Wares and Cunningham 2001; Flight
237 and Rand 2012). Naturally, the heterogeneous nature of the rocky intertidal imposes a
238 segregation ‘cost’ for these balanced polymorphisms, as they occur in individuals that,
239 due to high dispersal, recruit in sub-optimal habitats for any given genetic makeup. This
240 ecological load, defined as $L_e = (W_{max} - \bar{W}) / W_{max}$ (where \bar{W} is mean fitness, and W_{max}
241 is optimal fitness, across all habitats), will be substantial, as demonstrated by
242 comprehensive recruitment studies in natural habitats (Bertness 1989; Bertness, et al.
243 1992; Pineda, et al. 2006). For example, at initial settlement, barnacle density can be as
244 high as 76 individuals per cm^2 , but at maturity, it can be as low as 0.15 individuals per
245 cm^2 (0.2% survival)(Pineda, et al. 2006). This mass mortality is habitat- and genotype-
246 dependent (Schmidt and Rand 2001). This is the type of ‘fitness cost’ envisioned in the
247 Levene model of balancing selection (Levene 1953). As such, our data suggests that the
248 problem of ecological load is a defining condition of the barnacle life cycle. And, more
249 generally, it argues in favor of balancing selection, via marginal overdominance, as the
250 fundamental process underlying maintenance of adaptation in variable environments.

251 **Is pervasive balancing selection plausible in nature?** Under classical
252 models of population genetics, when loci are considered to be independent of each other,
253 the additive effects of widespread balanced polymorphism results in unbearable amounts
254 of fitness variance and genetic death (Kimura and Crow 1964; Lewontin and Hubby 1966).
255 However, if balanced loci have interactive effects (e.g., epistasis), multiple
256 polymorphisms could be maintained with minimum effects on the distribution of fitness
257 variance (King 1967; Milkman 1967; Sved, et al. 1967; Wittmann, et al. 2017). Based on
258 this theoretical framework, multiple models have been developed to describe the
259 conditions that favor the long-term maintenance of functional variation in spatially
260 varying environments (Gillespie 1973; Hedrick, et al. 1976). Moreover, polymorphisms
261 will be less likely to be lost if there is a large number of ecological niches available, if there
262 is migration among niches, and if individuals are proactive in choosing niches where their
263 fitness is maximized (Hedrick, et al. 1976). We argue that barnacles satisfy these
264 conditions to some degree.

265 First, while it is useful to summarize intertidal heterogeneity in the form of discrete
266 microhabitats (Schmidt, et al. 2000), individual barnacles experience the rocky shore as
267 a complex tapestry of interactive stressors at three spatial levels. At microhabitats scales,
268 the upper and lower tidal zones pose diametrically different ecological challenges in terms
269 of food availability, competition, predation, and risk of desiccation (Bertness, et al. 1991;
270 Schmidt and Rand 1999, 2001). At mesohabitat scales, open coasts vs. sheltered estuaries
271 vary in their exposure to wave action, upwelling dynamics, and biotic interactions
272 (Sanford and Menge 2001; Dufresne, et al. 2002; Veliz, et al. 2004). These, in turn,
273 modify micro-level stressors. Lastly, at macrohabitat scales, topological differences across
274 shores and latitudinal variations in tidal range produce a mosaic of thermal stress along
275 continents (Helmuth, et al. 2002). Consequentially, what selection pressures are more
276 important for any given barnacle will emerge from the interactions among these stress
277 gradients. This complex landscape of selection has been captured in studies of the
278 barnacle *Mpi* gene. Accordingly, the locus is under selection at micro-levels in the Gulf of
279 Maine (Schmidt and Rand 1999; Schmidt, et al. 2000), at meso-levels in the gulf of St.
280 Lawrence (Canada)(Dufresne, et al. 2002; Veliz, et al. 2004), yet it shows tepid signs of
281 selection in the Narragansett Bay (Rhode Island)(Rand, et al. 2002; Nunez, et al. 2020).
282 Similar complexity has also been captured in temperate populations of *Drosophila*. In

283 these, idiosyncratic weather effects can alter the dynamics of seasonal adaptation
284 (Bergland, et al. 2014; Machado, et al. 2019). Second, the high dispersal capacity of the
285 larval stage ensures constant migration between these niches across generations. Finally,
286 barnacles also have the ability to choose preferred substrates during settlement. This
287 occurs during the spring when barnacle larvae extensively survey microhabitats for
288 biological, chemical and physical cues produced by previous settlers before making final
289 commitments of where to settle (Bertness, et al. 1992). Unfortunately for the barnacle,
290 this capacity for substrate choice does not mitigate mass mortality during late summer,
291 which leads to strong selection for particular genotypes (Schmidt and Rand 2001).
292 Nevertheless, these behaviors may constitute a form of adaptive plasticity, helping
293 barnacles choose habitats where their fitness may be marginally improved. Overall, this
294 suggests that the barnacle's life history is conducive to the maintenance of balanced
295 polymorphisms.

296 **What variation is under selection?** Our analyses indicate that 4% (312) of all
297 annotated genes are experiencing some form of balancing selection across the entire
298 range of the species. This number of genes harboring ancestral polymorphisms is similar
299 to that observed in *Arabidopsis thaliana* and its close relative *Capsella rubella* (433
300 genes)(Wu, et al. 2017). Similar to *Semibalanus*, these plants diverged ~8 mya, and their
301 natural populations experience high levels of ecological heterogeneity (Bakker, et al.
302 2006). We must acknowledge that our number may be an underestimation driven by the
303 nascent state of the genomic tools in *Semibalanus*. Future genome assemblies, combined
304 with improved annotations, will undoubtedly yield a more complete picture of functional
305 variation in the species. In addition, it will allow for a more comprehensive
306 characterization of selection in structural variants and regulatory loci, which have been
307 shown to be fundamental in the evolution of complex phenotypes (Wray 2007; Faria, et
308 al. 2019). Despite these limitations, our analysis recovered a large number of genes
309 involved in key functions for life in variable environments. These will be subjects of future
310 validation studies. For instance, the general enrichment for ion channel genes suggests
311 selection related to osmotic regulation (Sundell, et al. 2019). This hypothesis is highly
312 plausible given that intertidal ecosystems experience strong salinity fluctuations,
313 repeatedly exposing barnacles to osmotic challenges at all spatial scales. In addition, we
314 observe targets of selection involved in environmental sensing loci (e.g., *pain*, *pyx*, and

315 *shaw*; **Fig. 3**). Similar to osmotic regulation, selection on these genes is entirely plausible
316 given the inherent variability of intertidal habitats. An important hypothesis from the
317 allozyme era is the idea that balancing selection would target genes at the node of
318 metabolic fluxes (Eanes 1999; Watt and Dean 2000). In such cases, balanced variation
319 would provide biochemical flexibility to cope with environmental heterogeneity. In the
320 same vein, we hypothesize that balancing selection may act more often on “sensor genes”
321 which control plastic responses to ecological variation. Testing this hypothesis is beyond
322 the scope of this paper and would require the use of allele-specific differential expression
323 experiments in barnacles.

324 **Complex demography and speciation.** Our demographic analyses provide
325 clues about how historical events affected genetic variation in barnacle populations. In
326 the Atlantic, our evidence suggests a shared demography throughout the Pleistocene, and
327 that the modern Eastern and Western clusters formed in response to recent events of last
328 glacial cycle. These findings highlight that the low F_{ST} values observed within the basins
329 arise due to shared ancestry. Moreover, they also suggest that population structure
330 persists in the presence of gene flow. As such, while larvae have the capacity to disperse
331 for hundreds of kilometers, ocean currents (Nunez, et al. 2018) and different estuarine
332 flushing times (Brown, et al. 2001) allow regions to retain some level of geographical
333 structuring (Johannesson, et al. 2018; Nunez, et al. 2018). Comparisons between oceans
334 reveal a stark pattern of genome wide divergence. This pattern is driven by the separation
335 of Pacific and Atlantic populations following the events of the trans-Arctic interchange
336 (Vermeij 1991). Accordingly, the negative levels of D in the north Atlantic may reflect the
337 effect of bottlenecks during the trans-Arctic interchange. Notably, the high levels of π in
338 the Atlantic is not concordant with predictions of common colonization models in which
339 variation of the younger population is a subset of the ancestral population (Maggs, et al.
340 2008). We hypothesize this could be the result of ancient admixture due to repeated
341 trans-Arctic invasions from the Pacific (Väinölä 2003). We recognize that ancestral
342 admixture could generate artificial signatures of balancing selection via the mixing of
343 highly differentiated haplotypes. However, such an occurrence would affect most genes
344 in the genome. Our evidence shows that the signatures of balancing selection are highly
345 localized in TSP-regions. For example, while D is elevated in TSP-regions, it is negatively
346 skewed genome-wide. Our data does not support recent gene flow between ocean basins.

347 As such, after 2 million years of separation, neutral divergence appears to be driving
348 Atlantic and Pacific populations to speciate in allopatry. A closer look to this hypothesis
349 will require crossing individuals from both basins, and surveying offspring fitness and
350 viability. More salient, however, is the observation of shared haplotypes between oceans
351 in our candidate genes for balancing selection. In light of such strong background
352 divergence, this provides evidence that balancing selection on most of these genes is
353 strong, and that polymorphisms have been maintained for long periods of time.

354

355 **Materials & Methods**

356 **Barnacle Collections.** Barnacle samples were collected from Damariscotta
357 (Maine, United States; ME), Jamestown (Rhode Island, United States, RI), Calvert Island
358 (British Columbia, Canada; WCAN), Reykjavik (Iceland; ICE), Porthcawl (Wales, United
359 Kingdom; UK), and Norddal (Norway; NOR). Additional samples were collected in
360 Bergen (Norway), Tórshavn (Faroe Island), and Tjärnö (Sweden). For all samples, species
361 identities were confirmed using Sanger sequencing of the mtDNA COX I region (Bucklin,
362 et al. 2011). For the WCAN, RI, ME, ICE, UK, and NOR population we collected a single
363 individual for DNA-seq, and a group of 20-40 individuals for pool-seq (**SI Appendix 2**).
364 RNA-seq was done on four individuals from Maine. DNA-seq was done on a single
365 individual from the sister taxa *S. cariosus*. DNA/RNA was extracted using Qiagen
366 DNeasy/RNeasy kits. All pools and single individuals were sequenced in their own lanes
367 of an Illumina machine by GENEWIZ LLC using 2x150 paired-end configuration.

368 **Mapping datasets to the genome.** Samples were mapped to a genome
369 assembled *de novo* for the species (Sbal3.1; NCBI GenBank: VOPJ00000000; **SI**
370 **Appendix 1**). The genome was assembled using a hybrid approach which combines
371 PacBio reads and Illumina reads using DBG2OLC (Ye, et al. 2016) and Redundans (Pryszcz
372 and Gabaldon 2016). Gene models were constructed using an *ab initio* method,
373 AUGUSTUS (Stanke and Waack 2003), informed by evidence from the RNA-seq. A gene
374 feature file (GFF) is available as **Dataset S4**. The model used for gene prediction was
375 trained in *Drosophila melanogaster*. Genes were annotated by pairwise blast against the
376 *Drosophila melanogaster* genome (Dmel6; NCBI GenBank: GCA_000001215.4). All
377 annotations are available as **Dataset S5**. DNA reads from all populations were mapped

378 to Sbal3.1 using bwa mem(Li 2013). RNA reads were mapped using HiSat2(Kim, et al.
379 2015). SNPs were called using the samtools pipeline(Li, et al. 2009).

380 **Genome analyses.** Estimates of π and D were done using the popoolation-1
381 suite(Kofler, Orozco-terWengel, et al. 2011). Estimations of allele frequencies and F_{ST}
382 were done using the popoolation-2 suite(Kofler, Pandey, et al. 2011). Demographic
383 reconstructions were done using MSMC(Schiffels and Durbin 2014). The f_3 statistics were
384 estimated using treemix(Pickrell and Pritchard 2012). Bayesian molecular clock analyses
385 were done in BEAST2(Bouckaert, et al. 2014). ABBA/BABA statistics were calculated in
386 *Dsuite*(Malinsky, et al. 2020). Phylogenetic inferences were done in iQtree(Chernomor,
387 et al. 2016). GO enrichment analysis was done using GOrilla(Eden, et al. 2009) and GO
388 terms inferred from our *Drosophila* annotation. The enrichment was assessed by
389 comparing 2 genes list. The first composed of the genes of interest (i.e., the gene targets),
390 the second one by all the genes annotated in Sbal3.1 (i.e., the gene universe). A detailed
391 description of our analyses can be found in the supplementary methods section, as well
392 as in GitHub: <https://github.com/Jcbnunez/BarnacleEcoGenomics>.

393

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418

419 **Data deposition**

420 Data used in this paper are available in the National Center for Biotechnology
421 Information (NCBI), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>. Raw reads were deposited under
422 submission id: SUB6188969. SRAs are as follows: DNaseq datasets: SRR10011798,
423 SRR10011802, SRR10011804, SRR10011805, SRR10011807–SRR10011810,
424 SRR10011812–SRR10011814, SRR10011819, SRR10011825; PacBio dataset:
425 SRR10011818; RNAseq datasets: SRR10011820–SRR10011823. MtDNA sequences for the
426 COX I genes can be accessed from the following GeneBank accessions MG925538–
427 MG925662, MG928281–MG928323, and MT329074–MT329592. Whole mtDNAs were
428 deposited under accessions MGO10647, MGO10648, MGO10649, MT528636, MT528637.
429 The barnacle genome (Sbal3.1) is available at NCBI (accession no. VOPJ00000000). A
430 GitHub repository with code as well as with the supplementary datasets S1, S2, S3, S4,
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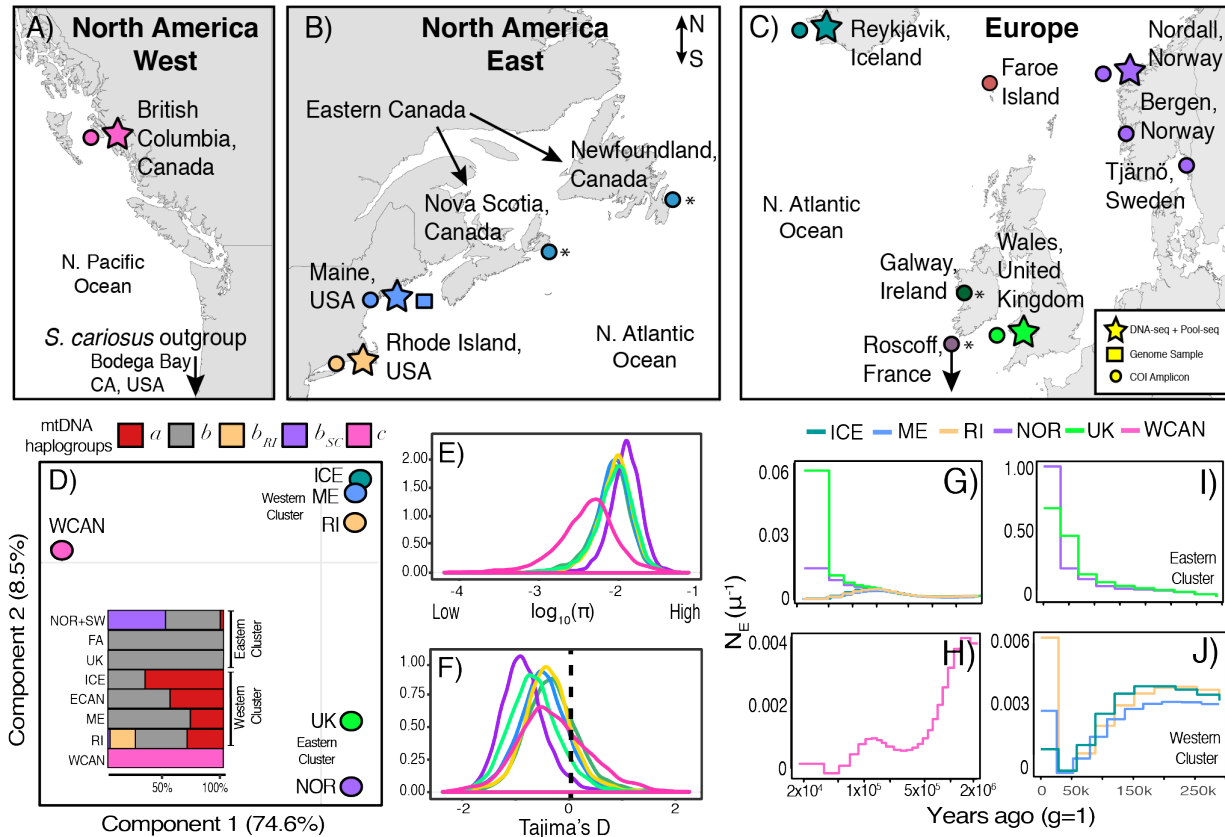
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640

641 **Figure 1. Genetic variation and phylogeography**

642



643

644 **A.** Map of the North Pacific coast of North America with collection sites indicated.

645 **B.** Collections in the Atlantic Eastern coast of North America. **C.** Collections in the

646 Atlantic European coast. For A, B, and C, stars indicate sites where a single individual and

647 a pool of multiple individuals were collected, the hexagon indicates the site from which

648 the reference genome was constructed, and the circles indicate sites where *COX I* data was

649 collected. The asterisks indicate cases where *COX I* data was downloaded. **D.** PCA with

650 Pool-seq data from all populations. The colors represent populations. Pacific Canada

651 (WCAN; pink), Maine (ME; blue), Rhode Island (RI; yellow), Iceland (ICE; dark green),

652 Norway (NOR; purple), United Kingdom (UK; light green). **D-inset.** Distribution of

653 mitochondrial haplotypes across all populations. The names *a*, *b* (including *b_{RI}* and *b_{SC}*),

654 and *c* represent common mtDNA haplotypes observed in populations. **E.** Nucleotide

655 diversity ($\log_{10} \pi$) for all nuclear genes across all populations. **F.** Tajima's *D* for all nuclear

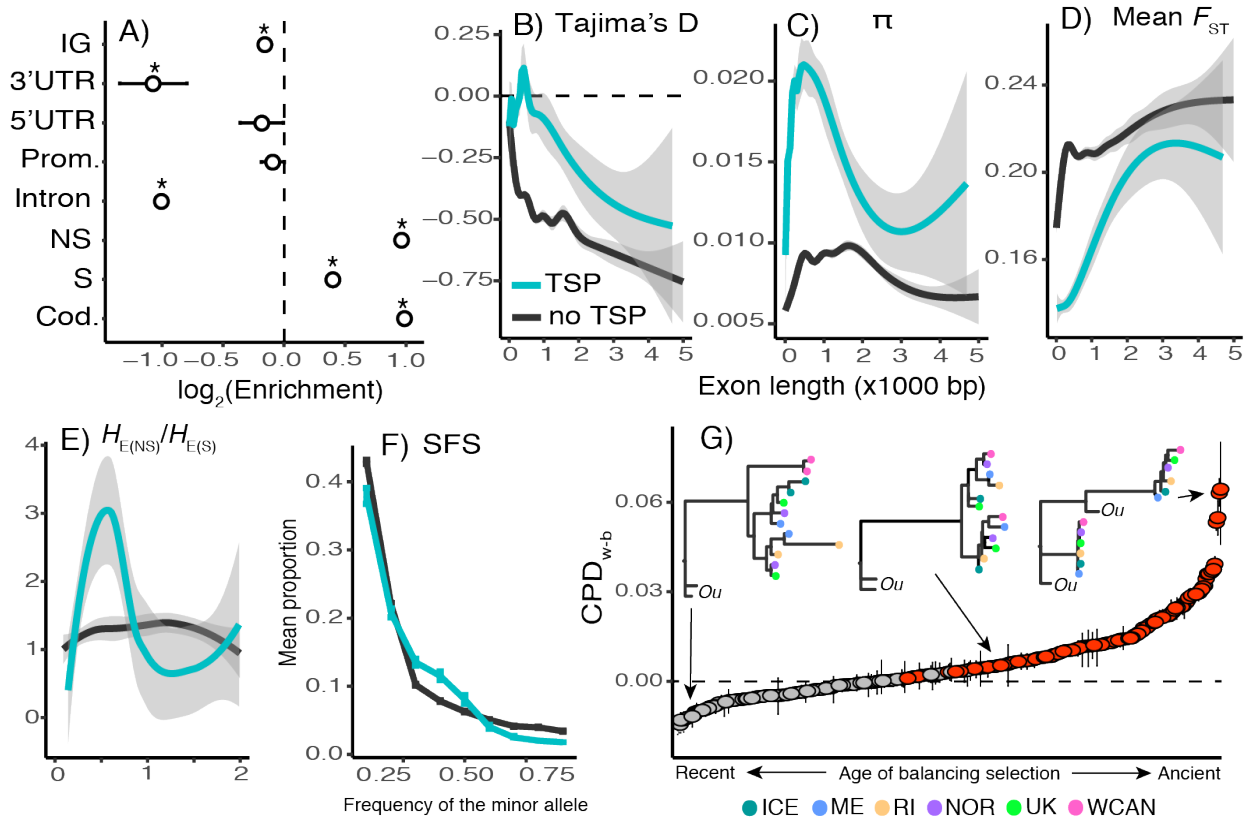
656 genes across all populations. The dashed vertical line marks 0, the expected value under

657 a neutral model. The y-axis in E and F show the density of observations. **G.** Demographic

658 reconstruction for North Atlantic individuals showing demographic changes from 2 mya
659 to 200 kya. **I.** demographic changes in British and Norwegian individuals. **H.** North
660 Pacific individual showing demographic changes from 2 mya to 200 kya. **J.** Plot of recent
661 (today – 250 kya) demographic changes in the North American and Icelandic individuals.

662 **Figure 2. Evidence for balancing selection across the genome**

663



664

665 **A.** Enrichment analysis of TSPs across the genome of *S. balanoides* based on all

666 populations studied. The asterisks symbols represent statistical significance.

667 Abbreviations: promoters (Prom.), nonsynonymous loci (NS), synonymous loci (S),

668 coding loci (Cod.). **B.** Plot of Tajima's D (as a function of length) of exons bearing TSPs

669 versus all other exons not bearing TSPs. **C.** Same as B but for nucleotide diversity (π). **D.**

670 Same as B but for mean F_{ST} . **E.** Same as B but for the ratio of nonsynonymous

671 heterozygosity to synonymous heterozygosity. **F.** Site frequency spectrum for whole genes

672 with TSPs vs other genes. Vertical bars are 95% confidence intervals. **G.** Candidate genes

673 under balancing selection ranked according to their CPD_{w-b} values (interquartile ranges

674 shown as error bars). Red values indicate statistical significance. Horizontal dashed line

675 indicates $CPD_{w-b} = 0$. Three example allele tree topologies are shown. The sister taxon, *S.*

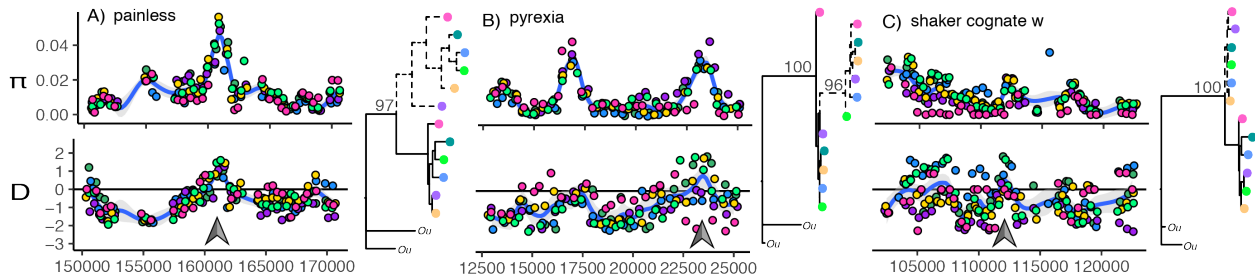
676 *cariosus*, is shown as "Ou" (for outgroup). The x-axis for B, C, D, and E is exon length (x

677 1000 bp).

678

679 **Figure 3. Balancing selection on ecologically important genes**

680



681

682

683 We present patterns of genetic variation (π and D estimated from pool-seq data,
684 and allele tree topologies estimated from single individuals) for 3 example genes: A)
685 painless (*Pain*), B) pyrexia (*Pyx*), C) shaker cognate w (*Shaw*). Grey arrows show regions
686 that contain TSPs. In Tajima's D panels, the horizontal line marks the $D = 0$ point. For all
687 trees, the sister taxon, *S. cariosus*, is shown as "*Ou*". The colors represent populations.
688 WCAN (pink), ME (blue), RI (yellow), ICE (dark green), NOR (purple), UK (light green).
689 The x-axis shows base pair position within scaffolds.