Drainage-structuring of ancestral variation and a common functional pathway shape limited genomic convergence in natural high- and low-predation guppies

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ABSTRACT

Studies of convergence in wild populations have been instrumental in understanding

adaptation by providing strong evidence for natural selection. At the genetic level, we are

beginning to appreciate that the re-use of the same genes in adaptation occurs through

different mechanisms and can be constrained by underlying trait architectures and

demographic characteristics of natural populations. Here, we explore these processes in

naturally adapted high- (HP) and low-predation (LP) populations of the Trinidadian guppy,

Poecilia reticulata. As a model for phenotypic change this system provided some of the earliest

evidence of rapid and repeatable evolution in vertebrates; the genetic basis of which has yet to

be studied at the whole-genome level. We collected whole-genome sequencing data from ten

populations (176 individuals) representing five independent HP-LP river pairs across the three

main drainages in Northern Trinidad. We evaluate population structure, uncovering several LP

bottlenecks and variable between-river introgression that can lead to constraints on the sharing

of adaptive variation between populations. Consequently, we found limited selection on

common genes or loci across all drainages. Using a pathway type analysis, however, we find

evidence of repeated selection on different genes involved in cadherin signalling. Finally, we

found a large repeatedly selected haplotype on chromosome 20 in three rivers from the same

drainage. Taken together, despite limited sharing of adaptive variation among rivers, we found

evidence of convergent evolution associated with HP-LP environments in pathways across

divergent drainages and at a previously unreported candidate haplotype within a drainage.

INTRODUCTION

The process of adaptation in nature can be thought of as a complex interplay between random

happenstance and repeatable processes in independent lineages. The latter of these, often

termed convergent or parallel evolution [1,2], has provided a myriad of examples from which

general rules and principles of adaptation have been dissected under natural conditions.

Empirical evidence accumulated over the last decade has demonstrated that convergent

phenotypes are often underwritten by convergent changes at the genetic level across many

taxa (reviewed in [3–6]). We are now at the point where we can ask why genetic convergence

ranges from common in some systems to non-existent in others.

While, there are many definitions of genetic convergence (or parallelism) [2], here we use it

broadly to describe selection acting at any of three levels: on the same mutations (eg. [7–9]);

different mutations in the same genes (eg. [10–12]); or different genes in the same functional

pathways (eg. [13–16]). Further, variation among lineages may arise through one of three

modes: either *de novo* mutations (eg. [17,18]); as shared ancestral variation (eg. [19,20]); or

through introgression among lineages (eg. [21–24]). An emerging trend within systems is that

adaptation involving multiple traits can involve combinations of these levels and modes of

convergence. For example, stickleback adapting to freshwater experience selection on ancestral

eda haplotypes [25] and *de novo* mutation at the *pitx1* gene [10] to repeatedly evolve

freshwater bony armour plate and pelvis phenotypes respectively. Similarly, Pease et al. [26]

found all three modes of convergence occurring across a clade of wild tomato accessions:

adaptive introgression of alleles associated with immunity to fungal pathogens, selection on an

ancestral allele conferring fruit colour, and repeated *de novo* mutation of alleles associated

with seasonality and heavy metal tolerance. Further, the same phenotype may arise in

response to the same selection through any of the above modes, as observed in glyphosate-

resistance amaranths across North America [27]. In this study, the authors found glyphosate-

resistance evolved in one location by introgression and selection on a pre-adapted allele, in

another by the fixation of a shared ancestral haplotype, and in a third location through

selection on multiple, derived haplotypes.

Given the range of genetic convergence observed across empirical studies, the importance of

different contingencies have emerged. These include the redundancy in the mapping of

genotype to phenotype [28,29], i.e. how many genetic routes exist to replicate phenotypes?

Limitations in this map are expected to upwardly bias reuse of the same genes or mutations,

but redundancy can allow for the evolution of different genes in shared functional pathways. In

addition, population structure dictates the sharing of adaptive variation among lineages by

which selection may act on [30]. Finally, two lineages may experience an aspect of their

environment in a similar way, but in a multidimensional sense environmental variation may

limit genetic convergence through pleiotropic constraint [31]. This may result in the re-use of

genes with minimal constraint and minimal effects on other aspects of fitness, as suggested for

MC1R in pigmentation across vertebrates [32]. Alternatively, similarity of environments within

multivariate space can predict genetic convergence [33–35], whereby consistencies in the

multidimensional fitness landscape channel adaptation along conserved paths. These latter two

limiting factors may also explain why genetic convergence can vary for the same traits in the

same species in global comparisons, for example in comparisons of Pacific-derived vs Atlantic-

derived freshwater stickleback [35–37].

It is clear then to understand the complexity by which genetically convergent evolution might

emerge requires study systems for which we already have abundant research on interactions

between phenotype and environment. Here, we make use of a model of phenotypic

convergence, the Trinidadian Guppy (*Poecilia reticulata*), to evaluate genetic convergence in

the replicated adaptation of low-predation (LP) phenotypes from high-predation (HP) sources.

For approaching 50 years, this system has provided valuable insights into phenotypic evolution

in natural populations, including some of the first evidence of rapid phenotypic evolution in

vertebrates across ecological, rather than evolutionary, timescales [38,39]. The guppy has since

become a prominent model of phenotypic evolution in nature, but accompanying genomic

work has only recently begun to emerge.

The topography of Northern Trinidad creates rivers punctuated by waterfalls, which restrict the

movement of guppy predators upstream but not guppies themselves. This replicated

downstream/HP and upstream/LP habitat has produced convergent HP-LP guppy phenotypes;

LP guppies produce fewer, larger, offspring per brood [40,41], differ in shoaling behaviour

[42,43], swimming performance [44] and predator evasion [45], and exhibit brighter sexual

ornamentation [46]. Rearing second generation HP-LP guppies in a laboratory setting with

controlled rearing conditions confirms that much of the life history differences have a genetic

basis [47], and additional work has further demonstrated heritability for colour [48,49] and

behaviour [50]. Alongside studies of natural populations, the convergent and replicated nature

of these phenotypes has been established with experimental transplanting of HP populations

into previously uninhabited LP environments [38,51–53].

Here, we examine whole-genome sequencing of five replicated HP-LP population pairs across

the main drainages of Northern Trinidad. Previous work looking at HP-LP convergence in

natural HP-LP guppy populations using reduced representation RAD-sequencing found some

evidence of molecular convergence [54]. This study however only included three natural

populations pairs and inferences from RAD-sequencing can be limited by reliance on linkage

disequilibrium and an inability to pinpoint specific candidate genes. To comprehensively

explore genetic convergence in this system we first examine how genetic variation is distributed

across Northern Trinidad by quantifying population structure, between-river introgression, and

within-river demography. We then compare and contrast selection scans between HP-LP pairs

within each river to detect signals of convergent evolution. Finally, we examine a large

candidate haplotype to explain the mode and mechanisms by which convergence may have

occurred at this genomic region.

RESULTS

Population structure, admixture, and demographic history

Prior to assessing genomic convergence, it is important to contextualise neutral processes such

as population structure, introgression and past demography in order to establish expectations

regarding how potentially adaptive genetic variation is distributed and shared among

populations; this informs on the most likely mode by which genetic convergence may occur in

this system.

Both principal component analysis (PCA) and fineSTRUCTURE [55] confirmed that each river's

HP-LP pair formed sister populations and structure between pairs (as river units) was well-

defined. Expectedly, the strongest population structure separated rivers by drainage, with PC1

(33.5%) separating rivers from the Caroni drainage (Guanapo [GHP,GLP], Aripo [APHP,APLP],

Tacarigua [TACHP,TACLP]]) from the Norhern and Oropouche drainages (Madamas [MADHP,

MADLP] and Oropouche [OHP, OLP] rivers, respectively) (Figure 1A,B). PC2 (19.8%) separated

out Caroni rivers, highlighting population structure within this drainage is stronger than

structure between Madamas and Oropouche, despite these rivers being in separate drainages.

Similarly, admixture proportions inferred by fineSTRUCTURE were lower on average between

rivers within the Caroni drainage than between Oropouche and Madamas (Figure 1C). This

structure within Caroni occurs despite longer branch lengths in Madamas and Oropouche

(Figure 1B) suggesting that the ancestral split between Caroni rivers and Northern/Oropouche

rivers is more ancient than the splits between Caroni rivers themselves (Figure 1C). We also

detected signatures of introgression into APHP from all Madamas and Oropouche populations,

categorised as elevated haplotype donor proportions of individuals from these rivers into APHP

recipients (Figure 1C).

Figure 1: Sampling sites, population structure and admixture across the five rivers. Map (A) highlights sampled rivers from the three drainages in Northern Trinidad. Other major rivers are illustrated in light blue. Sampling rivers plotted alongside topography is available in Figure S1. Phylogenetic tree (B) based on chromosome painting and fineSTRUCTURE analysis, with river nodes highlighted. Heatmap (C) illustrates the proportion of painted recipient haplotypes based on donor haplotypes, used by fineSTRUCTURE to infer coancestry. PCA (D) with populations coloured according to river and shaped according to predation regime. PC3 and PC4 are presented in the insert. Heatmap (E) highlights introgression as pairwise, genome-wide D values between P2 and P3 populations. Populations within rivers were defined as P1 and P2, so all P2 and P3 pairings are between rivers. Two-dimensional site frequency spectra (2dsfs) for each river pair (F) highlighting the sharing of variants between LP and HP populations within each river. LP populations are on the x-axis and HP populations are on the y-axis. In each sfs, the frequency of sites in each population is illustrated from 0 to N, where N is the number of individuals in each population.

To quantify genome-wide introgression, we calculated D-statistics for trios with *Dsuite* (version

0.3; [56]). These were used primarily to infer introgression between populations in different

rivers, therefore we focussed on trios where P1 and P2 were HP-LP pairs from the same river.

We recovered signals of significant genome-wide introgression in the form of D-statistics

(elevated sharing of derived sites between rather than within rivers) between APHP and both

populations in the Madamas and Oropouche rivers (D_{MADHP} = 0.156, p_{MADHP} = 0; D_{MADLP} = 0.156,

p_{MADLP} = 0; D_{OHP} = 0.147, p_{OHP} = 0; D_{OLP} = 0.152, p_{OLP} = 0) (Figure 1E). Comparing donor and

recipient haplotype proportions (Figure 1C) suggests that introgression has occurred at a

greater rate into, rather than out of, APHP. Further introgression was observed between

Madamas populations and OLP (D_{MADHP} = 0.154, p_{MADHP} = 0; D_{MADLP} = 0.152, p_{MADLP} = 0).

Haplotype proportions suggest directionality is greater into OLP. We also observed weak

introgression between both Tacarigua populations and APHP (D_{TACHP} = 0.030, p_{TACHP} = 6.12e-3;

D_{TACLP} = 0.030, p_{MADLP} = 6.94e-3), and more likely into APHP. Interestingly, we also detected

significant introgression between GLP and APLP (D = 0.05, p = 1.17e-7). Evidence of an extreme

bottleneck in GLP (see below) is the probable driver of elevated D statistics in comparisons with

GHP (Figure 1E), through a loss of within-river shared sites and excessive drift of *de novo*

variants in GLP. To detect introgression in spite of this between APLP and GLP suggests the

introgression we detected may be conservative.

To assess within river population demography (i.e. LP population bottlenecks, HP-LP migration),

we performed demographic modelling based on two-dimensional site frequency spectra (2dSFS)

using *fastsimcoal2 [57]*(Figure 1F; Table 1). All demographic models performed better with the

addition of migration, which in every case was higher downstream from LP to HP. For three rivers

(Aripo, Madamas, Tacarigua) a historic LP bottleneck was detected alongside stable current

population size. Guanapo was better supported by a model with no HP population growth, and

Oropouche by a model that suggested HP population growth. The particularly high estimates of

N_e in APHP agree with the above analyses of introgression into this population.

Table 1: Demographic parameters of each river, inferred by *fastsimcoal2*. Values in brackets
represent confidence intervals of 95% after bootstrapping 100 SFS.
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Drainage	River	Mean HP-LP F_{ST}	HP N_e	LP N_e	HP > LP Migration	LP > HP Migration	Model
Caroni	Tacarigua	0.243	3,549 (2864-4493)	474 (347-612)	4.78e-5	1.55e-4	LP Bottleneck
Caroni	Guanapo	0.269	19,698 (19592-19698)	155 (135-183)	3.88e-6	8.34e-4	No population changes
Caroni	Aripo	0.072	43,354 (33767-59439)	6,122 (4588-9008)	2.10e-4	3.27e-4	LP Bottleneck
Oropouche	Oropouche	0.087	4,514 (4148-4910)	3,740 (3825-4411)	2.43e-4	1.21e-3	HP population growth
Northern	Madamas	0.171	1,121 (922-1355)	2,480 (2337-2743)	8.68e-5	4.88e-4	LP Bottleneck

Altogether, these analyses illustrate how genetic variation is segregated across the five rivers in

our dataset. Primarily, ancestral variation is dictated by geography, with populations defined

within rivers, then within drainages. Particularly strong population structuring is observed in

the Caroni drainage (Tacarigua, Guanapo and Aripo rivers), with limited evidence of

introgression having occurred among these rivers within drainage. In contrast, we detect

significant introgression across drainages, between the Madamas, Oropouche, and Aripo rivers,

demonstrating that these rivers are likely to share a greater proportion of genetic variation

than their drainage-structured phylogenetic history would otherwise suggest. These results are

consistent with the potential for introgression to occur between rivers through flooding, as the

mountainous regions between Tacarigua, Guanapo and Aripo rivers in the Western Caroni

drainage are higher and therefore would experience less connectivity during flooding events

(Figure S1).

Within rivers, we see evidence of population bottlenecks in LP populations, potentially limiting

the amount of available adaptive variation. This is particularly apparent in Tacarigua and

Guanapo, within which LP populations have particularly low N_e estimates, an excess of

monomorphic sites that are polymorphic in the HP founder, and only limited unique

polymorphic sites (Figure 1E). In other words, the variation within these LP populations is a

subset of that found in the corresponding HP. For all river pairs, our demographic modelling

agrees that migration upstream from HP to LP is weaker than LP to HP, compounding the

potential for limited variation upstream. Some HP-LP populations are better connected by

migration however, such as OHP and OLP, where many polymorphic sites are readily shared

between upstream and downstream.

Candidate HP-LP regions and assessing convergence

To evaluate regions associated with HP-LP adaptation, we scanned the genome using several

approaches: XtX [58], a Bayesian analogue of F_{ST} that includes a simulated distribution under

neutrality; AFD, absolute allele frequency difference, which scales linearly from 0-1 between

undifferentiated and fully differentiated [59]; and XP-EHH (extended haplotype homozygosity)

[60], which compares homozygosity between phased haplotypes between populations. To

identify selected regions, we calculated each measure in non-overlapping 10kb windows within

each river between HP and LP sites. Putatively selected windows were identified if they were

detected as outliers by at least two approaches (see methods for outlier criteria for individual

tests; Figure S2). Using an intersect of all three may be over-conservative, for example, we

would miss instances where divergent selection within a river fixes alternate haplotypes and so

both HP and LP population have similarly low heterozygosity (i.e. no XP-EHH outlier but an

outlier in XtX and AFD).

Comparing the intersecting list of candidates of XtX, AFD and XP-EHH within each river revealed

little overlap among rivers, with only a single 10kb window overlapping in more than two rivers

(Figure 2A; for genome-wide plots see Figure S3-5). We then scanned the genome further with

100kb sliding windows (50kb increments) to assess potential clustering of outlier windows in

larger regions, but this approach similarly revealed little overlap among rivers. We then

explored whether outlier regions (10kb windows overlapping in >1 selection scans) were

enriched for genes in common biological pathways between rivers using one-to-one zebrafish

orthologues, which may suggest repeated pathway modification, albeit through different

genes. Using the outlier regions defined above, no pathway was significantly overrepresented

in any river. We did however notice cases in which the same pathways exhibited fold-

enrichments >1 in multiple rivers (Figure 2B), albeit non-significant within rivers in each case.

We used permutations to explore the likelihood of observing fold-enrichment >1 in our five

independently-derived outlier sets. This analysis identified that Cadherin-signalling pathway

genes were overrepresented across all five rivers relative to by-chance expectations ($p = 0.013$)

(Figure 2B). In total, 20 genes from the Cadherin-signalling pathway were recovered from all

five river outlier sets, with some overlap between them (Table S1). This analysis may be over-

conservative, due to analysing only guppy genes with one-to-one zebrafish orthologues. Other

genes associated with cadherin-signalling were detected by our selection scans, including

Cadherin-1 and *B-Cadherin* in a differentiated region on chromosome 15 (~ 5 Mb) in Oropouche

and Tacarigua, but these genes exhibited a many-to-many orthology with zebrafish genes so

were omitted. We also examined pathways with fold-enrichment >1 in any four rivers, but

these were not significant ($p > 0.05$) according to permutation tests (Figure 2B).

Figure 2: Selection scan results and evidence of convergence. Upset plot (**A**) of overlap among
outlier sets (evidence from two of AFD, XtX, XP-EHH) highlighting no overlap beyond sets of three
rivers. Fold enrichment of pathways (**B**) associated with zebrafish orthologs of genes in outlier
regions within each river calculated from the Panther DB. Cadherin-signalling pathway was the only
pathway with fold-enrichment >1 in all rivers. Other presented pathways had fold-enrichment >1 in
four rivers. Genome-wide BayPass scan results (**C**) scanning 10kb windows for association with HP-
LP classification. Points are coloured according to quantiles: 95% = yellow, 99% = orange, 99.9% =
red. Dashed line represents the median BF, and the solid red line denotes 99.9% quantile cut-off.
Peaks on chromosomes 8 and 20 are also highlighted (**D**).

We next associated allele frequency changes with HP-LP status using BayPass' auxiliary

covariate model. This latter approach has the advantage of using all populations together in a

single analysis, whilst controlling for genetic covariance. Scans for regions associated with HP-LP

classification identified two major clusters of associated 10kb windows on chromosomes 8 and

20 (Figure 2C and 2D). In total, we highlighted 70 10kb windows corresponding to 24 annotated

genes (and a number of novel, uncharacterised genes) (Table S2). Intersecting these windows

with within-river candidate regions highlighted that most HP-LP associated candidates reflected

within-river selection scan outliers in one to three rivers (Table S3). Selection scans may

overlook some of our association outlier windows because differentiation at these loci may be

moderate, but rather we are detecting consistent allele frequency changes in the same

direction between HP-LP comparisons. Many of the associated windows mapped to a

previously unplaced scaffold in the genome (000094F), but we were able to place this at the

start of chromosome 20 along with some local rearrangements (Figure S6) using previously

published HiC data [61]. From here on and in Figure 2C-D, we refer to this new arrangement for

chromosome 20 and scaffold 000094F as chromosome 20.

The clusters on chromosomes 8 and 20 exhibited multiple 10kb windows above the 99.9%

quantile of window-averaged BF scores, suggesting larger regions associated with HP-LP

adaptation in multiple rivers (Figure 2D). In particular, the region at the start of chromosome 20

spanned several megabases with two distinct peaks. The larger of these peaks reflected the

strongest region of differentiation in the Aripo river (Figure S7) (which was minimally

differentiated genome-wide, Figure S5). We explored this candidate region further to evaluate:

which rivers showed evidence of HP-LP differentiation within these regions; by what mode of

convergence these regions had evolved under; and their gene content and probable candidates

for HP-LP phenotypes.

Candidate Region on Chromosome 20

Visualisation of genotypes (Figure 3A) illustrated extended haplotype structures that were

consistent with haplotypes spanning the entire chromosome 20 candidate region (Figure 2D).

Interestingly, two of the three Caroni LP populations (GLP and TACLP) were fixed or nearly fixed

for homozygous ALT haplotypes across the region (Figure 3A). We will refer to this entire region

(~0-2.5 Mb) as the 'CL haplotype' (Caroni LP haplotype). The other haplotype we will refer to as

the 'REF haplotype' due to its closer similarity to the reference genome. Moreover, a subset of

the candidate region was nearly fixed in APLP (between black lines, between ~1.53 - 2.13 Mb,

referred to as the CL-AP region Figure 3A). This CL-AP region corresponds to both the region of

highest genome-wide divergence in Aripo (Figure S7), and the largest peak in our HP-LP

association analysis (Figure 2D).

We then assessed whether ancestry of our candidate region (Figure 3B) deviated from the rest

of chromosome 20 using a local PCA analysis. This approach is sensitive to inversions, changes

in recombination and gene density [62], which may explain why such a large region appears as

HP-LP associated. This approach confirmed that the associated region exhibits distinct local

ancestry in relation to the rest of the chromosome in all five rivers (Figure 3B), albeit with some

idiosyncrasy. For example, MDS scaling along the major axis was broadly similar for GHP and

TACHP (LP populations were fixed and therefore showed minimal signal), with the entire region

segregated as a single block. In Aripo however, smaller blocks within the region were the major

drivers of local ancestry. Linkage analyses confirmed strong linkage across the several

megabases spanning the HP-LP associated region in most of the sampled populations (Figure

S8).

To understand the mode of convergence at the CL-AP region, we reconstructed the

phylogenetic history of the haplotype at this region. To start, we performed PCA analysis over

the CL-AP region, and found three clusters along a PC1 axis with large loading (PC1 = 57%,

Figure S9), consistent with individuals tending to either be homozygotes for either haplotype or

heterozygotes. We used these clusters to define homozygous individuals and explored the

phylogenetic history of these homozygote haplotypes following phasing. A maximum-likelihood

tree using RAxML-NG (version 0.9.0) illustrated that the CL haplotype at the CL-AP region is

phylogenetically distinct from the REF haplotype and separated by a long branch (Figure 3C).

This clustering of CL haplotypes and REF haplotypes contradicts the neutral expectation that

haplotypes should be predominantly structured within rivers. The clustering of Oropouche and

Madamas individuals with Caroni REF haplotypes was surprising, and in stark contrast to the

genome-wide phylogeny that clearly separates rivers by drainage (Figure 1B). We compared the

branch lengths along this tree among Caroni individuals with the CL haplotype at the CL-AP

region with non-Caroni individuals (Oropouche and Madamas) against branch lengths between

the same individuals from 50 100kb regions randomly selected from across the genome. This

analysis revealed that divergence between the REF and CL haplotype is in line with the modal

distance derived from the 50 random trees (Figure S10). This therefore suggests that the CL

haplotype may be as old as the split between Caroni and Northern/Oropouche drainage

lineages.

These patterns may be consistent with a large inversion, polymorphic in Caroni HP populations

but fixed in Caroni LP populations. Further structural variation (SV) or a recombination event

between the CL haplotype and the REF haplotype may then have released the CL-AP region

from the larger CL haplotype in Aripo only. We therefore explored the potential for inversions

and SVs with our aligned read data using smoove [63] (v0.2.5) and Breakdancer [64] (v1.4.5).

We did not find evidence for an inversion or an alternative SV spanning either the full CL

haplotype (in Guanapo or Tacarigua) or around the diverged CL-AP region in Aripo. Interestingly

however, this analysis of SVs did highlight that the strongest peak of HP-LP differentiation in the

Oropouche river (chromosome 15 at approximately 5Mb, Figure S11), was associated with a

detected 1.1 kb deletion within the *B-cadherin* gene, and exhibited high HP-LP F_{ST} (0.66).

Figure 3: Evidence of divergence along the CL haplotype (ALT alleles, chr20:1-2633448); genotypes for each individual plotted according to hierarchical clustering (**A**). Solid black lines denote the CL-AP region, corresponding to the strongest peak of HP-LP association in the dataset. (**B**) The CL haplotype region (shaded grey) shows evidence of segregated local ancestry in comparison to the rest of chromosome 20, according to MDS scores derived from local PCA analysis. The CL-AP region is again shown between solid black lines. MDS1 = 0 is shown as a dotted line in each panel. A lack of signal on MDS1 for the CL region in Guanapo LP (GLP) and Tacarigua LP (TACLP) reflects that this region is fixed. (**C**) Unrooted maximum-likelihood tree of homozygous individuals (haplogroups) across the CL-AP region, highlighting a major phylogenetic branch separating Caroni LP individuals from both Caroni HP individuals (homozygous for the REF haplotype) and populations from outside the Caroni drainage.

It is particularly interesting that given the CL haplotype may be reasonably old, it has been

broken down into smaller regions only in the Aripo river, whereas Tacarigua and Guanapo

maintain the full haplotype. One unique attribute of Aripo is evidence of introgression from

beyond its drainage. We therefore explored introgression signals (D-statistics) along

chromosome 20 between a trio of GH (P1), APHP (P2), and OH (P3) for individuals homozygous

for the REF haplotype (upper cluster, Figure 3C). We looked only at these individuals to remove

effects of haplotype heterozygosity in GH and APHP but not OH. This analysis strongly

suggested that the CL-AP region (and much of chromosome 20) in APHP has experienced

introgression with populations outside of the Caroni drainage (greater proportion of shared

sites between P2 and P3 compared with P1 and P2) (Figure S12).

Within the CL haplotype region there are 56 annotated genes (Table S4), several of which may

have important roles in HP-LP phenotypes. Due to the elevated differentiation observed across

the haplotype, it is difficult to pinpoint specific candidates. However, the breakdown of the

haplotype in Aripo at the CL-AP region, corresponding to our association peak, provides a

unique opportunity to narrow down candidate genes given it is the only part of the larger

candidate region that is differentiated in all Caroni HP-LP comparisons. Interestingly, analyses

of coverage across the CL-AP region uncovered repeatable low coverage in all Caroni LP

populations that corresponded with deletions of several kb (viewed in *igv*) in the LP populations

(Figure S13). Five of these deletions overlapped with the *plppr5* gene, including a deletion

subsuming the final exon of the gene (Figure S13B). This gene also spanned the HP-LP

associated windows with the highest association scores (Table S4). The adjacent *plppr4* gene

included the individual SNP (000094F_0:556282) with the highest HP-LP association score of all

SNPs in the genome (Figure S13A). This particular SNP was observed in the intron between the

second and third exons of *plppr4*.

In summary, this region presents a fascinating example of genetic convergence of an

ancestrally-inherited large haplotype among rivers in the Caroni drainage. As such, subsequent

genetic divergence of HP-LP adaptation is observed in non-Caroni rivers due to the presumed

loss of the CL haplotype in the lineage ancestral to non-Caroni rivers. Additionally, Aripo

exhibits a unique signature of stronger HP-LP differentiation at a subregion of the haplotype

due to a potentially more recent recombination event between the larger, diverged haplotypes

themselves. The CL-AP region exhibits a strong, whole-region signature of introgression with

rivers beyond the Caroni drainage (namely neighbouring Oropouche), suggesting that this

region of the genome has experienced between-river introgression that may have facilitated

haplotype breakdown of the larger CL haplotype.

DISCUSSION

Using a whole genome sequencing approach, we found a strong candidate haplotype for HP-LP

convergence within the Caroni drainage of Northern Trinidad (the only drainage where we have

multiple rivers sequenced), but we also found molecular convergence at specific loci is limited

among rivers from different drainages. Further, we find evidence that convergence at the level

of functional pathways among rivers may facilitate phenotypic convergence across all rivers.

Our convergent LP candidate region exhibited a strong signal of divergent selection between

HP-LP sites on chromosome 20. This region contains a large haplotype fixed or nearly fixed in LP

populations in all three Caroni rivers examined, and contained promising candidate genes for LP

phenotypes. This haplotype has largely been maintained as a tightly linked unit, with the

exception of Aripo, and likely evolved in these LP populations from shared variation common

within, and limited to, the Caroni HP sources. Our analysis of population structure, admixture,

and demographic histories across Northern Trinidad suggest that the reduced re-use of the

same alleles among drainages may be due to strict structuring of genetic variation between

some rivers and recurrent bottlenecks during the founding of LP populations from HP sources.

Combined, these processes limit shared ancestral genetic variation from which convergent

genetic adaptation may occur. This is not true for all rivers however, with some gene flow

taking place between rivers outside of the Caroni drainage and LP populations (APLP and OLP in

particular) with no evidence of limited genetic variation.

The candidate region on chromosome 20 was a clear outlier, with by far the strongest signal of

HP-LP association, and the majority of windows spanning the first 2.5 Mb of chromosome 20

were above the 99.9% BF cutoff. Interestingly however, most of these windows were only

outliers in Aripo for within-river selection scans. Further analysis found allele frequency

patterns of a large haplotype nearly fixed in all three LP Caroni drainage rivers (Aripo, Guanapo,

and Tacarigua). We termed this large haplotype the 'CL haplotype', and within this haplotype

the 'CL-AP region' as the strongest candidate for convergent HP-LP adaptation due to its

particularly strong HP-LP association peak and high within-river differentiation in Aripo. The

breakdown of the CL haplotype in Aripo, uniquely, may have been facilitated by introgression

from beyond the Caroni drainage. This observation stems from ABBA/BABA D-statistics

suggesting the CL-AP region in APHP has experienced introgression with OHP (Figure S12).

Recent empirical work has also shown the importance of large haplotype regions containing

many genes in convergent evolution. In *Littorina* these large divergent haplotypes are

maintained by inversions in crab vs wave ecotypes [65,66]. Similarly, sunflower species

repeatedly experience selection on large haplotypes [23], most, but not all, of which are

underwritten by inversions. This recent empirical evidence suggests a fundamental role of large

haplotype blocks in adaptation by bringing together and maintaining clusters of adaptive

alleles, although we cannot rule out genetic draft occurring around a single functional locus

within the CL haplotype. We did not detect evidence of inversions within this region, but given

that we detect deviations in local ancestry in all rivers (Figure 3B) relative to the rest of the

chromosome, and the acrocentric nature of guppy chromosomes [67], it is possible that

recombination is reduced over the CL haplotype due to proximity to the telomere. This

mechanism could maintain this haplotype in the absence of an inversion. We noted however

that, whilst the CL haplotype was fixed (at the CL-AP region) in Caroni LP populations, it was

polymorphic in all Caroni HP populations. Large haplotypes may bring together beneficial alleles

but they can generate constraint if different loci within the haplotype experience contrasting

selection. Through breakdown of the haplotype, potentially facilitated by introgression in Aripo,

release of genetic background constraints may have allowed for stronger HP-LP differentiation

at the CL-AP region uniquely in this river.

Within the CL-AP region we highlighted the *plppr5* and *plppr4* genes as strong candidates for

HP-LP adaptation. These genes correspond to the strongest signals of HP-LP association within

the CL-AP region, and in particular the *plppr5* allele on the CL haplotype is associated with an

exon-subsuming deletion (Figure S13B). There is limited functional evidence for these genes,

but evidence suggests a possible role in growth and body size. Transcriptome analysis has

shown that *PLPPR4* is among genes upregulated in slow-growth vs fast-growth Jinghai Yellow

Chicken chicks [68], and transgenic mice studies have demonstrated phenotypic effects of

Plppr4 on body size and growth phenotypes [69]. In humans, *PLPPR4* expression is limited to

the brain, but *PLPPR5* expression occurs more broadly.

Across the CL haplotype region, HP populations were polymorphic, which is likely why we fail to

detect this region as within-river outliers in Guanapo and Tacarigua. Further, these rivers have

small LP populations and elevated signatures of genome-wide drift. That the CL haplotype

region is variable within HP populations suggests that there is selection on the CL haplotype in

LP populations but not against it in HP populations, or that downstream-biased migration is

strong enough to maintain the CL haplotype in downstream HP populations. At the CL-AP

region, we note that haplotypes derived from Oropouche and Madamas cluster with REF

haplotypes from Caroni (Figure 3C), despite genome-wide data suggesting the split between

Caroni and Northern/Oropouche drainage rivers is the deepest in our data (Figure 1B). Such

patterns can arise when diverged haplotypes are introgressed from more ancient lineages, or

even different species, as observed in flatfish [70], sunflowers [23], and *Heliconius* butterflies

[24]. We found, however, that branch lengths between the CL and REF haplotype clusters were

in keeping with internal branch lengths derived elsewhere in the genome (Figure S10),

suggesting it is unlikely that the CL haplotype has evolved elsewhere in an unknown lineage

before more recently introgressed into the Caroni drainage. This pattern suggests the CL

haplotype may have evolved prior to the splitting of Caroni, Northern, and Oropouche drainage

lineages, but was subsequently lost due to drift or selection outside of the Caroni drainage.

By using whole-genome data, we were able to explore in fine-detail how genetic variation is

structured and distributed across natural guppy populations across Northern Trinidad. Our

observations support previous work suggesting downstream-biased migration, strong drainage-

based structuring, and variable gene flow among rivers [71,72]. Using within-river demographic

analyses we also found downstream-biased migration in all rivers, but with variable rates, and

three LP populations experiencing bottlenecks; these bottlenecks likely represent historical

founding bottlenecks as opposed to recent crashes [71]. Such demographic processes, if strong

enough, can obscure signals of genetic convergence, or even produce false-positives by

manipulating the relative efficacy of selection and neutral processes across the genome [73].

An interesting observation from our introgression analyses was strong signals of introgression

in the Aripo HP population from the Oropouche and Madamas rivers. Aripo represents the most

easterly river within the Caroni drainage, whilst Oropouche/Quare is the most westerly river in

the Oropouche drainage (Figure 1A). Thus, admixture between these populations may be

possible, and indeed has been suggested elsewhere [52,72,74]; likely facilitated by flooding

during the wet season. We also found weaker, but significant, signals of introgression between

APLP and GLP which are upstream and adjacent. Introgression between upstream LP

populations has also been reported between the Paria and the Marianne rivers in the Northern

drainage [75], but is surprising given the more restrictive topography in the Caroni drainage

(Figure S1). The Aripo river may be particularly susceptible to contemporary human

translocations of guppies from across Trinidad, as it is heavily involved in active research

including experimental introductions.

These population structure results have important implications for the likelihood of observing

genetic convergence because they identify constraints on the sharing of ancestral genetic

variation through LP founding bottlenecks and limitations on adaptive variants being shared

among rivers [3]. Such structuring of genetic variation, typical of riverine populations, stands in

contrast to other prominent systems with abundant evidence of genomic convergence, such as

sticklebacks [76] and atlantic herring [77], where largely panmictic marine populations share

much adaptive variation. Standing genetic variation is a major contributor of adaptive variation

[78–80], and the sharing of this variation among lineages acts a significant contingency to

genetic convergence [81] in varied systems including fish [25,82] and insects [83].

Redundancy in the mapping of phenotype to genotype is expected for highly polygenic traits,

whereby many loci may be adapted to modify a phenotype, and in instances where phenotypes

are derived from complex functional pathways [28]. Indeed, convergence at the level of

pathways has been described for human pygmy phenotypes [15] and hymenopteran caste

systems [14]. In our selection scans, we found a greater proportion of genes associated with

cadherin-signalling than expected across five replicated datasets, suggesting this pathway may

be under selection at different genes in all rivers. Cadherin genes *cadherin-1* and *B-cadherin*

have previously been detected as under selection in experimentally transplanted LP

populations derived from GHP [54], however these specific genes, whilst also detected here,

were omitted from our pathway analysis due to many-to-one orthology with zebrafish genes.

Genes in this pathway have important roles in cell-cell adhesion, and are associated with tissue

morphogenesis and homeostasis by mediating interfacial tension and orchestrating the

mechanical coupling of contact cells [84]. Cadherin signalling pathways interact with the

signalling of various growth hormones and are involved in differential growth phenotypes. For

example, cadherin signalling genes were differentially expressed between transgenic and wild-

type coho salmon with divergent muscle fibre phenotypes that affect growth and the energetic

costs of maintenance [85]. Cadherin genes are also expressed during oogenesis in *Drosophila*

[86]. Assessing the functional roles of the cadherin signalling genes identified in our study

(Table S1) is beyond the scope of this work, but in identifying this pathway across rivers we

provide evidence for a potentially shared mechanism by which HP-LP phenotypes may similarly

evolve across Northern Trinidad.

It is also likely that contrasting demographic contexts within rivers, particularly migration

between HP-LP, can influence the genetic architecture of traits or the regions of the genome

where adaptive alleles reside. Theory predicts that with increasing sympatry, if multiple genetic

routes to a phenotype exist then traits should be underwritten by simpler genetic architectures

with fewer loci, each of larger effect [87,88]; such that favourable combinations of alleles are

less likely to be broken down by introgression. Empirical support from cichlid species pairs

suggests this is the case for male nuptial colour traits in sympatric vs allopatric pairs [89]. Given

demographic histories vary between our HP-LP populations (Table 1), these natural conditions

may moderate the selective benefits of different genetic routes to phenotypes.

In conclusion, we have investigated whether convergent HP-LP phenotypes that have evolved

repeatedly within rivers across Northern Trinidad are underpinned by convergent genetic

changes. We found convergence of genetic pathways not specific genes across drainages. This

is in keeping with recent work suggesting a predominant role of shared standing genetic

variation in driving convergent changes at the gene-level, a mechanism that is restricted in

natural guppy populations by limited between-river gene flow and recurrent founding

bottlenecks during LP colonisations. Within our drainage with multiple rivers sampled, we did

however find convergent evolution of a large haplotype region nearly fixed in Caroni LP

populations that is likely derived from shared ancestral variation between these populations.

These results provide a comprehensive, whole-genome perspective of genetic convergence in

the Trinidadian guppy, a model for phenotypic convergence.

METHODS

Sampling, Sequencing and SNP calling
Individuals were sampled from naturally-occurring downstream HP and upstream LP
environments in rivers from each of Northern Trinidad's three drainages (Figure 1) between
2013 and 2017. Three of these rivers (Aripo, Guanapo, Tacarigua) share a drainage (Caroni),
whilst Oropouche (Oropouche) and Madamas (Northern) are found in separate drainages.
Numbers of individuals from each population were: TACHP = 12, TACLP = 14, GHP = 19, GLP =
18, APHP = 19, APLP = 19, OHP = 19, OLP = 20, MADHP = 20, MADLP = 16. Samples were stored
in 95% ethanol or RNeasy at 4° C prior to DNA extraction. Total genomic DNA was extracted
using the Qiagen DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit (QIAGEN; Heidelburg, Germany), following the
manufacturer's guidelines. DNA concentrations ≥ 35ng/µl were normalised to 500ng in 50µl and
were prepared as Low Input Transposase Enabled (LITE) DNA libraries at The Earlham Institute,

Norwich UK. LITE libraries were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq4000 with a 150bp paired-end
metric and a target insert size of 300bp, and were pooled across several lanes so as to avoid
technical bias with a sequencing coverage target of ≥10x per sample. Data from the Guanapo
and Oropouche rivers has been previously published as part of Fraser et al. [61].
556
Paired-end reads were quality-controlled with fastQC (v0.11.7) and trimmed with trim_galore
(v0.4.5) before being aligned to the long-read, male guppy genome assembly [61] with bwa
mem (v0.7.17). Appropriate read groups were added followed by alignment indexing,
deduplication and merging to produce final bams. Merged, deduplicated alignments were
recalibrated using a truth-set of variants generated from high-coverage, PCR-free sequencing
data from 12 individuals [61]. GVCFs were produced using GATK's (v4.0.5.1) HaplotypeCaller
and consolidated to chromosome/scaffold intervals with GenomicsDBImport prior to
genotyping with GenotypeGVCFs.
565
566 SNPs were filtered on the basis of QD < 2.0, FS > 60.0, MQ < 40.0, HaplotypeScore > 13.0 and
567 MappingQualityRankSum < -12.5 according to GATK best practices. We retained only biallelic
568 sites with a depth ≥ 5. SNPs were also removed if missing in > 50% of individuals within a
569 population, if they were not present in all ten populations, and had a minor allele frequency <
570 0.05 (relative to all individuals). This produced a final dataset of 3,033,083 high-quality SNPs.
571
572 ***Population structure and introgression***
573 Principal Component Analysis was performed over all ten populations using a linkage-pruned (--
574 indep-pairwise 50 5 0.2) set of SNPs (N = 217,954) using plink (v2.00).
575
Prior to further estimates of population structure, chromosomes and scaffolds were phased
individually with beagle (v5.0; [90]), which performs imputation and phasing, and then phased
again using shapeit (v2.r904; [91]) making use of phase-informative reads (PIR). This method
has been effective elsewhere [92]. Phased chromosomes were re-merged into a single file for
analysis with fineSTRUCTURE (v4.0.1; [55]). FineSTRUCTURE first makes use of chromosome
painting before assessing admixture based on recombinant haplotype sharing among all
individuals. FineSTRUCTURE was run with a uniform recombination map and an inferred *c*-value
of 0.344942 with successful convergence.
584
We also estimated D-statistics for all 120 possible trios of the 10 populations using Dsuite [56].
Here, sequencing data from 10 *P. picta* individuals (5 males, 5 females) was aligned to the male
guppy genome using the protocol above to be used as an outgroup. bcftools consensus was
used to create a *P. picta* fasta file based on the final SNP variant calls and ancestral alleles were
inserted into the *P. reticulata* VCF files using *vcftools fill-aa*. We highlighted introgression
candidates as trios with significant D values (Bonferroni-corrected *p*-value < 0.05) between
populations from different rivers i.e. we retained trios for which P1 and P2 were assigned to the
same river by including the tree structure in Figure 1B to examine the possibility of
introgression between rivers. To examine further introgression along chromosomes, we
calculated D-values in non-overlapping windows of 100 SNPs.
595

Demographic inference
We explicitly modelled the demographic history of each HP-LP population pair using
fastsimcoal2 [57]. Fastsimcoal2 uses a continuous-time sequential Markovian coalescent
approximation to estimate demographic parameters from the site frequency spectrum (SFS). As
the SFS is sensitive to missing data, a --max-missing filter of 80% was applied to each population
vcf containing both monomorphic and polymorphic variants, and to remove LD, the vcf was
thinned at an interval of 20kb using *vcftools* [93]. For each HP-LP population pair, we generated
a folded two-dimensional frequency spectrum (2dSFS) using the minor allele frequency, which
were generated via projections that maximised the number of segregating sites using easySFS
(https://github.com/isaacovercast/easySFS).
606
Five demographic models were used to explore the demographic history of the population
pairs, all of which contained a uniform distribution divergence of 1 to 6e7 and log uniform
distribution N_E of 1 to 50000: Model A) HP-LP split with no population growth; Model B) HP-LP
split with no population growth and a post-founding bottleneck in the LP population; Model C)
HP-LP split with historical population growth in HP; Model D) HP-LP split with historical
population growth in HP and a post-founding bottleneck in the LP population; Model E) HP-LP
split with bottlenecks in both LP and HP populations. All five models were also run with the
inclusion of a migration matrix between LP and HP with a log uniform distribution of 1e-8 to 1e-
2. Fastsimcoal2 was used to estimate the expected joint SFS generated from 100 independent
runs, each consisting of 200,000 simulations per estimate (-n), generated by 100 ECM cycles (-
L). Model choice was assessed by computing the log likelihood ratio distributions based on
simulating 100 expected SFS from the run with the lowest delta (smallest difference between
MaxEstLhood and MaxObsLhood) as per Bagley et al. [94]. The most likely model was selected
for each population pair and the run with the lowest delta likelihood was used as input for
bootstrapping by simulating 100 SFS. We report the median and 95% confidence intervals for
N_E and probabilities of migration as provided by bootstrapping.
623
Scans for selection
We used three approaches to scan the genome for signatures of selection between HP-LP
populations. We first estimated XtX (a Bayesian approximation of F_{ST}) within each river using
Baypass [58], which has the advantage of including a genetic covariance matrix to account for
some demographic variation. Genetic covariance matrices were estimated using LD-pruned
(plink --indep-pairwise 50 5 0.2) VCFs for each river, and averaged over 10 independent runs.
We determined a significance threshold within each river by simulating neutral XtX of a POD
sample of 10,000 SNPs with the *simulate.baypass()* function in R. We then marked 10kb
windows as outliers if their mean XtX value exceeded the 0.95 quantile of the neutrally
simulated distribution. Secondly, absolute allele frequency differences (AFD) were estimated by
taking allele counts from each population (vcftools --counts2) and estimating frequency
changes per SNP. To convert per SNP values to 10kb non-overlapping windows we removed
invariants within each river, calculated the median AFD, and filtered windows that contained
fewer than 6 SNPs. We marked outliers as windows above the upper 0.95 quantile, or with an
AFD > 0.5 if this quantile was > 0.5. The linear association with AFD and differentiation,
compared to the non-linear equivalent for F_{ST} makes this comparable measure of allele

frequency change more interpretable [59]. A cutoff of AFD = 0.5 therefore represents the
minimum by which to observe a change in the major allele between HP and LP. Finally, we
estimated the extended haplotype homozygosity score XP-EHH between each river with selscan
(v1.2.0a; [95]) and normalised in windows of 10kb. We limited this analysis to chromosomes
and scaffolds > 1 Mb in size, due to extreme estimates on smaller scaffolds distorting
normalisation. Outliers were marked as those with normalised XP-EHH > 2.
646
Enrichment analyses were performed by extracting one-to-one zebrafish orthologues for guppy
genes in outlier windows using Ensembl's BioMart (release 101; [96]). Orthologues were then
assessed for enrichment within rivers by comparing outlier genes against a background set of
all genome-wide guppy-zebrafish one-to-one orthologues using PantherDB [97]. Results from
all rivers were then compared in a single analysis to assess the above-expected enrichment of
functional groups across the entire dataset. We performed random permutations (N=10,000) to
draw equivalently sized within-river sets of outliers with weightings based on the number of
genes within each functional pathway group within the guppy-zebrafish orthologue background
gene set. Based on permuted random outlier sets, we then assessed the by-chance likelihood of
observing within-river enrichment >1 for all five or any four rivers for each of the functional
groups where this had been observed (groups plotted in Figure 2B).
658
For associated allele frequency changes with HP-LP classification, we also applied BayPass's
auxillary covariate model, which associates allele frequencies with an environmental covariate
whilst accounting for spatial dependency among SNPs with an Ising prior (-isingbeta 1.0). We
used a genetic covariance matrix including all 10 populations estimated as above. We split our
SNP data into 16 subsets, allocating alternate SNPs to each subset such that all subsets included
SNPs from all regions of the genome, and merged outputs as recommended in the manual. We
averaged per SNP BayesFactor scores within 10kb and marked as outliers those above the 0.999
quantile. We also explored alternative windowing strategies here, such as marking outlier SNPs
above the 0.999 quantile and determining window significance as windows with significantly
more outlier SNPs than a binomial (99.9%) expectation, however this made a minimal impact
on which windows were deemed outliers.
670
Characterisation of structural variants
To assess whether candidate regions may contain structural variants, particularly inversions, we
first used local PCA analysis within each population for each chromosome with the R package
lostruct (v0.0.0.9) [62]. This method explores phylogenetic relationships between individuals
using windows of N SNPs along a chromosome, and then uses multidimensional scaling to
visualise chromosomal regions that deviate from the chromosomal consensus among
individuals. We filtered each population's chromosome for invariants, prior to running local PCA
in windows of 100 SNPs. For each run, we retained the first two eigenvectors (k=2) and
computed over the first two PCs (npc=2).
680
We used two methods to call structural variants from our final bam files: smoove (v0.2.5; [63])
(a framework utilising lumpy [98]) and Breakdancer (v1.4.5; [64]). For both methods we called
structural variants across all HP and LP individuals within a river. For smoove variants, we

excluded repetitive regions of the genome prior to variant calling, and filtered the subsequent
VCF for SVs marked as imprecise; <1kb in size; less read pair support (SU) than the per-river
median; without both paired-end and split-read support (PE | SR == 0). Breakdancer was run
per river, per chromosome, with results filtered for SVs <1kb in size; less support than per river,
per chromosome median support; quality < 99. We calculated F_{ST} using smoove VCFs within
each river to explore structural variants that may have diverged within rivers. To validate SVs of
interest, we plotted all bam files within a river using samplot [99] and visualised regions in *igv*.
691
Phylogenetic relationships of haplotypes
To examine phylogenetic relationships of the CL haplotype, we calculated maximum likelihood
trees among homozygote haplogroups using RAxML-NG (v0.9.0; [100]). We limited this analysis
to the CL-AP region, which was subsumed within the larger CL haplotype in Guanapo and
Tacarigua and included the strongest region of HP-LP association (CL-AP region). Haplogroups
were defined on the basis of PC1 clusters (Figure S9). We retained a random haplotype from
homozygote individuals from all populations and constructed a tree using the GTR + Gamma
model with bootstrap support added (500 trees) with a cut-off of 3%.
700
701 To compare against other regions of genome, we randomly sampled 50 regions of the genome
702 of 100kb for the same individuals, repeated the above method for tree calculations, and
703 estimated branch lengths between individuals Caroni drainage individuals from the CL
704 haplogroup and Oropouche/Madamas individuals from the REF haplogroup.
705

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

708 JRW wrote the manuscript and performed all statistical and genomic analyses with the exception
709 of demographic modelling, which was done by JRP and MJvdZ. JRP, MJvdZ and PP were involved
710 in wet lab work including DNA extraction and library preps. DW procured grants for sampling.
711 BAF conceived and supervised the project, wrote and edited parts of the manuscript, undertook
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728
729

730 **DATA ACCESSIBILITY (To be updated upon acceptance)**
731
732 Population genomics data are available on ENA: Study: XXX
733 Scripts used to analyse data are available from an archived github repository: Zenodo DOI: XXX
734

735 **COMPETING INTERESTS**
736
737 The authors declare no competing interests.
738

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