# Sex-biased admixture and assortative mating shape genetic variation and influence demographic inference in admixed Cabo Verdeans

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# Abstract

Genetic data can provide insights into population history, but first we must understand the patterns that complex histories leave in genomes. Here, we consider the admixed human population of Cabo Verde to understand the patterns of genetic variation left by social and demographic processes. First settled in the late 1400s, Cabo Verdeans are admixed descendants of Portuguese colonizers and enslaved West African people. We consider Cabo Verde's well-studied historical record alongside genome-wide SNP data from 563 individuals from 4 regions within the archipelago. We use genetic ancestry to test for patterns of nonrandom mating and sex-specific gene flow, and we examine the consequences of these processes for common demographic inference methods and for genetic patterns. Notably, multiple population genetic tools that assume random mating underestimate the timing of admixture, but incorporating non-random mating produces estimates more consistent with historical records. We consider how admixture interrupts common summaries of genomic variation such as runs-of-homozygosity (ROH). While summaries of ROH may be difficult to interpret in admixed populations, differentiating ROH by length class shows that ROH reflect historical differences between the islands in their contributions from the source populations and post-admixture population dynamics. Finally, we find higher African ancestry on the X chromosome than on the autosomes, consistent with an excess of European males and African females contributing to the gene pool. Considering these genomic insights into population history in the context of Cabo Verde's historical record, we can identify how assumptions in genetic models impact inference of population history more broadly.

# Introduction

Patterns of genetic variation are often used to infer human population histories, such as fluctuations in population size, the timing of gene flow, and changes in population structure (Loh et al. 2013; Schiffels and Durbin 2014; Browning and Browning 2015; Goldberg and Rosenberg 2015; Zaitlen et al. 2017; Browning et al. 2018; Ni et al. 2019). These studies have been informative about ancient and modern populations that may lack historical records (Skoglund et al. 2012; Lazaridis et al. 2014; Busby et al. 2015; Fernandes et al. 2019; Font-Porterias et al. 2019). However, by necessity, population-genetic models make a variety of simplifying assumptions that often neglect the demographic and social dynamics of human populations. For example, many classical models assume random mating, but within empirical populations mating is often nonrandom, known as assortative mating. Positive assortative mating in human populations can keep haplotype blocks together, affecting evolutionary processes and our ability to infer population history (Risch et al. 2009; James Y Zou et al. 2015; Sebro et al. 2017). Further, male and female demographic processes can differ and vary over time. Comparisons between the X chromosome and autosomes have shown that population sizes and migration rates differ between males and females of many human populations (Wilkins and Marlowe 2006; Ramachandran et al. 2008; Bustamante and Ramachandran 2009; Keinan et al. 2009; Arbiza et al. 2014).

The challenges of inferring human demographic history are particularly apparent on short
timescales of tens of generations, where changes in allele frequencies may be difficult to observe
and biased by dynamics not captured by classic models. Admixed populations provide an
opportunity to examine evolutionary processes on short timescales using admixture linkage-
disequilibrium (LD) structure rather than potentially small changes in allele frequencies.
Understanding the patterns generating the distribution of ancestry within an admixed
population is also important as genomic data has shown how widespread admixture is
throughout human evolution (Hellenthal et al. 2014; Lazaridis et al. 2014; Ruiz-Linares et al.
2014; Busby et al. 2015; Triska et al. 2015; Busby et al. 2016; Laso-Jadart et al. 2017; Korunes and
Goldberg 2021).
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In admixed populations, nonrandom mating can be driven by factors that correlate with genetic
ancestry. For example, spouse pairs within multiple Latino populations are correlated in their
genomic ancestry (Risch et al. 2009; James Y Zou et al. 2015). When mating patterns lead to a
positive correlation in genomic ancestry, this specific type of nonrandom mating, referred to as
ancestry-assortative mating, can increase the likelihood that individuals in mating pairs share
recent common ancestors. Recent work has begun to assess the implications of these patterns,
including effects on common demographic inference strategies and on genetic/phenotypic
variation (Ruiz-Linares et al. 2014; Sebro et al. 2017; Zaitlen et al. 2017). One genetic
consequence of positive ancestry-assortative mating is an increase in long runs of homozygosity
(ROH), which arise when long tracts of homozygous genotypes occur due to inheritance of
identical by descent (IBD) haplotypes from recent common ancestors. Across modern human
populations, ROH are common and typically range in length from kilobases to megabases
(McQuillan et al. 2008; Kirin et al. 2010; Pemberton et al. 2012; Blant et al. 2017). In the field of
population genetics, we are just beginning to learn about ROH dynamics and expectations in
admixed populations, which do not necessarily fit expectations built from homogenous
populations (Pemberton et al. 2012; Mooney et al. 2018). For example, we know that distinct
length classes of ROH reflect demographic factors from different timescales, but as we explore
here, it is unclear what these distributions of ROH mean in populations that have undergone
major demographic transitions such as recent admixture. Patterns of genetic variation can also
be shaped by differences in male and female demographic processes.  In many human
populations, population sizes and migration rates differ between males and females, leading to
differences in ancestry patterns on the X chromosome vs the autosomes (Wilkins and Marlowe
2006; Ramachandran et al. 2008; Bustamante and Ramachandran 2009; Keinan et al. 2009; Arbiza
et al. 2014).
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Here, we use the admixed population of Cabo Verde as a case study to investigate the patterns
of genetic variation left by multifaceted social and demographic processes in humans. Admixed
populations of African ancestry, such as the population of Cabo Verde, are often excluded in the
context of medical genetics and human evolutionary genetics, despite their importance and
widespread global presence (Popejoy and Fullerton 2016; Landry et al. 2018; Popejoy et al.
2018). The record of Cabo Verde population history is vast, including royal charters, letters from
Crown officials, captains and other sea explorers' journals, records of the economic activities in

Cabo Verde (e.g., landowners' rents and number of enslaved individuals traded), detailed ship
logs of trade activity, and church censuses from the 18th century on, which allows us to generate
realistic assumptions about colonization and demography (Barbosa, Gilda 1997; Russell-Wood
1998; Baleno 2001; Cabral 2001; Correia e Silva 2001; Correia e Silva 2002; Cabral 2012). We
consider patterns of genetic variation alongside historical records that document many aspects
of Cabo Verdean history, including settlement patterns, timing, and sociocultural dynamics.
Specifically, we use distributions of genetic ancestry to test for ancestry-assortative mating and
sex-specific gene flow. We examine the consequences of these processes for genetic variation,
such as patterns of homozygosity, and for common demographic inference methods. In turn, by
elucidating the patterns of genetic variation social processes leave in human genomes for a
population with a well-studied historical and ethnographic record, we can better use
population-genomic methods to explore the history of populations without extensive records.

## Cabo Verdean history

The recently admixed human population of Cabo Verde presents a particularly relevant
opportunity to examine how sex-biased admixture and nonrandom mating shape genetic
patterns and influence demographic inference. Cabo Verde is an archipelago off the coast of
Senegal, inhabited today by admixed descendants of Portuguese colonizers and enslaved West
African people who settled the unpopulated islands beginning in the mid-1400s (Fernandes et
al. 2003; Beleza et al. 2012; Beleza et al. 2013; Verdu et al. 2017; Laurent et al. 2022). Since the
archipelago was unoccupied prior to the 1460s, we have historical knowledge of the start of
admixture and the contributing source populations, with written records clearly documenting
arrival times by island. Additionally, the island geography imposes population structure within
Cabo Verde, and historical records document differences in population sizes, mating patterns,
and social customs by island population (see Methods for historical data sources).
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The settlement of the islands was influenced by island geography and ecology, and is often
divided into three different temporal stages, which are associated with changes in the economy
(Correia e Silva 2002). The initial settlement stage (beginning in the 1460s) corresponds to the
peopling of the Southern island Santiago, followed by the nearby island of Fogo 20 years later
(Fig 1). During this time, the economy was centered around large cotton plantations and
expanding trade with the Senegambian coast. This trade included the exportation of great
numbers of enslaved Africans to Cabo Verde, the majority of which became part of the
commercial trade to the Americas (Russell-Wood 1998; Baleno 2001). In the 17th century,
following the decline of the slavery-based economy of Santiago and Fogo, many free farmers
seeking better farming conditions migrated to the northwestern islands of Santo Antão and São
Nicolau. These migrations comprised the second settlement stage. In contrast to Santiago and
Fogo, these northwestern islands did not become populous economic centers (Correia e Silva
2002). During the third and final settlement stage, São Vicente in the northwestern group of
islands was colonized by settlers from the neighboring islands in the mid 19th century. With the
opening of Mindelo's harbor at that time, São Vicente prospered from the advent of commercial
Atlantic shipping, becoming the second most important island of the archipelago after Santiago

in terms of population size. In the 19th century, the eastern islands Sal, Boa Vista, and Maio were
also open to English and North American ships, but these islands never became densely
populated (Russell-Wood 1998; Correia e Silva 2002).

Previous investigations of genetic ancestry in Cabo Verde (Beleza et al. 2012; Beleza et al. 2013;
Verdu et al. 2017) have shown extensive admixture in the archipelago and differences in the
mean African genetic ancestry across islands, which may reflect the differences in the settlement
history and suggest restricted gene flow between islands. These past studies of Cabo Verdean
genetic admixture have explored how genetic ancestry connects to phenotypic variation such as
skin and eye color (Beleza et al. 2012; Beleza et al. 2013), and to cultural information such as
linguistic variation (Verdu et al. 2017). Some earlier analyses of post-admixture population
structure were based on Y-chromosome diversity (Beleza et al. 2012), giving insight into male-
specific demographic processes. Here, we examine how historical and social processes influence
genetic variation and population-genetic inference of demography. We consider how the
distributions of segments of DNA shared identically by descent within and among individuals
(as measured by IBD, kinship, and ROH) relate to patterns of genetic ancestry in an admixed
population. We integrate several population genomic approaches using autosomal and X-
chromosome ancestry and genetic variation patterns to infer the sex-specific demographic
history of the last ~20 generations since founding, and we consider the potential biases of
ancestry-assortative mating on the inference of admixture timing. Overall, we provide insights
into the population history of Cabo Verde and demonstrate the need to better understand how
demographic inference methods and common summaries of genomic variation operate in
admixed populations.

# Methods

## Study population and ancestry reference panels

We used genotype data from Beleza et al. (2013) (Beleza et al. 2013), which included 563 Cabo
Verdeans from the following regions of the archipelago: Santiago (n = 172), Fogo (n = 129), Boa
Vista (n = 26), and the three northwestern islands in aggregate (Northwest Cluster; n = 236)
(Figure 1; Supp Fig 1). The genotype data exclude cryptic related individuals (first-degree
relatives) identified by kinship analyses at the time of sampling. In accordance with historical
records and previous work showing that Iberian and Senegambian populations are suitable
proxies for the ancestry sources of Cabo Verde (Verdu et al. 2017), we leveraged data from the
1000 Genomes Project to estimate admixture proportions and call local ancestry in the Cabo
Verde individuals, as described below. We merged the Cabo Verde genotypes with genotypes
from 107 GWD (Gambian in Western Division - Mandinka) and 107 IBS (Iberian Population in
Spain) samples called from high-coverage resequencing data released through the International
Genome Sample Resource (Clarke et al. 2017; Fairley et al. 2020). Our final merged dataset
consisted of 884,656 autosomal and 20,967 X chromosome SNPs shared between the Cabo Verde

samples and the reference samples, with average missingness rates of 0.0017 by SNP for
autosomes, and 0.0024 for the X chromosome.

## Historical records

Throughout our analyses, we draw comparisons between genetic results and historical records.
We used primary historical documents, mainly historical letters to the Portuguese Crown,
documenting demographic characteristics of the islands across time. Our analyses of the
historical data took into consideration the generalized interpretations of historian scholars such
as Correia e Silva (2001; 2002) (Correia e Silva 2001; Correia e Silva 2002), Cabral (2001; 2012)
(Cabral 2001; Cabral 2012) and Baleno (2001) (Baleno 2001). These sources document the dates
of the stages of settlement mentioned above, along with associated with changes in the
economy. We refer to the interpretation of genealogical data by Cabral (2012) (Cabral 2012) and
Barbosa (1997) (Barbosa, Gilda 1997) for evidence of the structure of the Fogo's society and for
evidence of first-cousin marriages within Fogo (Barbosa, Gilda 1997).

## Characterization of ancestry

To produce estimates of admixture proportions, we first performed unsupervised clustering of
the samples using ADMIXTURE v1.3.0 (Alexander et al. 2009) (see Supp Table 1 for a summary
of all computational methods used in this study). ADMIXTURE was run separately for the
autosomal and X chromosome datasets after pruning based on linkage disequilibrium (LD)
using the indep-pairwise option of PLINK v1.9 with a 50-SNP sliding window incremented by
10 SNPs, and an LD threshold of r2 = 0.5 (Purcell et al. 2007). This pruned dataset included
514,551 autosomal and 12,706 X chromosome SNPs. We estimated individual ancestries by
averaging over ten independent unsupervised ADMIXTURE runs using K = 2, given the
historical and genetic support for two source populations (Beleza et al. 2013; Verdu et al. 2017).
Using the LD-pruned dataset, we also visualized the data using PLINK's principal component
analysis (--pca) function, confirming that the samples cluster approximately based on their
geographic memberships, and that West African vs European ancestry clearly separates on the
first principal component (Supp Fig 1). We phased all samples using SHAPEIT2 (Delaneau et al.
2013). After running SHAPEIT -check to exclude sites not contained within the reference map,
we ran SHAPEIT to yield phased genotypes at 881,279 autosomal SNPs and 20,793 X
chromosome SNPs. We then called local ancestry with RFMix v1.5.4 (Maples et al. 2013)
PopPhased under a two-way admixture model using the West African and European reference
genotypes described above. These local ancestry calls are publicly available via Zenodo (Hamid
et al. 2020). Ancestry proportions estimated with ADMIXTURE and RFMix here are highly
correlated with results from Beleza et al. (2013) (Beleza et al. 2013), using the same genotype
data but with different software (*frappe* (Tang et al. 2005) and SABER (Tang et al. 2006)) and an
older reference dataset (Supp Fig 2). To test whether phasing and local ancestry calls were
robust against the choice of reference panels, we repeated the SHAPEIT and RFMix steps using
a reference dataset composed by all African (ACB, ASW, ESN, GWD, LWK, MSL, and YRI) and
European (CEU, FIN, GBR, IBS, and TSI) populations available from the high-coverage

resequencing data released by the 1000 Genomes Project (Clarke et al. 2017; Fairley et al. 2020).
The resulting local ancestry calls with all AFR and EUR reference panels correlated closely with
calls using GWD and IBS as reference panels (Supp Fig 2C). We also performed local ancestry
calling using ELAI, a method that performs both phasing and local ancestry assignment (Guan
2014). Again using the IBS and GWD reference genotypes described above, we ran ELAI under
a two-way admixture model using the following parameters: -mg (number of generations) 20, -s
(EM steps) 30, -C (upper clusters) 2, and -c (lower clusters) 10. The resulting local ancestry calls
from ELAI correlated closely with calls from RFMix (Supp Fig 2D).

## Inference of admixture timing

We applied three distinct strategies for estimating the timing of the onset of admixture in Cabo
Verde: ALDER (Loh et al. 2013), MultiWaver 2.0 (Ni et al. 2019), and a method based on
patterns of linkage disequilibrium between local ancestry tracts (Zaitlen et al. 2017). These
methods differ in their strategies for inferring admixture timing and subsequently differ in their
input data and in their underlying assumptions. Specifically, ALDER uses the extent of LD
decay among neighboring loci to infer mixture proportions and dates; MultiWaver uses the
length distribution of ancestral tracks; and the strategy of Zaitlen et al. (2017) uses patterns of
linkage disequilibrium between local ancestry tracts as described below. To prepare the input
data for each of these methods, we first converted the genotypes to EIGENSTRAT format using
*convert* (Patterson et al. 2006; Price et al. 2006). We then used ALDER to date admixture timing
on each island using default parameters with mindis = 0.005 and source populations GWD and
IBS. We ran MultiWaver using the ancestry tracts inferred by RFMix, default parameters, and
100 bootstraps. Finally, we followed the pipeline of Zaitlen et al. (2017) (Zaitlen et al. 2017) and
its accompanying scripts to use the RFMix local ancestry calls to measure local ancestry
disequilibrium (LAD) decay in 10 Mb windows, overlapping by 1 Mb. Specifically, we started
with the first SNP on each autosome, used the 10 Mb window end point to identify the SNP
closest to the inside of this boundary, and then used local ancestry calls at these positions to
determine LAD. We repeated this process along each chromosome to obtain LAD in 279
autosomal windows. Using possible values of admixture generations ranging from 5-25, we
determined the best fit using island-specific mean LAD decay over the 279 autosomal windows,
assortative mating parameters estimated with ANCESTOR (see below), a starting autosomal
admixture proportion of 0.65, and either no migration or with migration (migration rate = 0.01).

## Tests for ancestry-assortative mating

We tested for ancestry-assortative mating over the last generation using ANCESTOR (James Y.
Zou et al. 2015; James Y Zou et al. 2015). ANCESTOR uses phased local ancestry tracts in the
current generation to estimate the ancestral proportions of the two parents of each individual.
Specifically, ANCESTOR uses a framework of pooled semi-Markov processes to infer the
parameters of the parental ancestries for individuals in an admixed population. Thus, we
provided the local ancestry tracts inferred using RFMix as input to ANCESTOR's ancestor.py
script. We used the inferred parental ancestries to test for assortative mating seen as a positive

correlation in ancestry between inferred mating pairs (Parent 1 vs Parent 2 African ancestry
proportion), and we used the strength of the observed positive correlation (Pearson's R for each
population, using the median value from all chromosomes) as the assortative mating parameter
in our application of the LAD-based method for inferring admixture timing. We also examined
evidence of nonrandom mating by estimating genetic relatedness within Cabo Verde using both
IBD (see below) and kinship coefficients (Ochoa and Storey 2019 May).

## Identification of IBD tracts and ROH

Following the analysis pipeline of S. R. Browning et al. (2018) (Browning et al. 2018), we
inferred segments of IBD using the haplotype-based IBD detection method Refined IBD
(Browning and Browning 2013), and we estimated ancestry-specific population size using
IBDNe (Browning and Browning 2015). After running Refined IBD, we used its gap-filling
utility to remove gaps between segments less than 0.6 cM that had at most one discordant
homozygote. We then filtered out IBD segments smaller than 5 cM, as short segments below
this threshold are difficult to accurately detect (Nelson et al. 2020). To visualize IBD sharing in
Fig 1 and Supp Fig 3, the sum of IBD shared in each pairwise comparison of individuals was
plotted by using Cytoscape 3.8 to group nodes by island, position nodes within each island
according to a prefuse force-directed algorithm, and scale the color of edges based on log-
transformed total IBD length (Shannon et al. 2003).
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We called ROH using GARLIC v.1.1.6 (Szpiech et al. 2017), which implements the ROH calling
pipeline of Pemberton et al. (2012) (Pemberton et al. 2012). We performed this analysis
separately for the autosomes and X chromosome. Based on the pipeline described in Szpiech et
al. (2017), we used a single constant genotyping error rate of 0.001, we allowed GARLIC to
automatically choose a window size for each population (--auto-winsize), and we used the
resample flag to mitigate biases in allele frequency estimates caused by differing sample sizes.
This resulted in GARLIC selecting a window size of 50 SNPs in each of the Cabo Verde regions
and in GWD, and a window size of 40 for IBS. Using a three-component Gaussian mixture
model, GARLIC classified ROH into three length groups: small/class A, medium/class B, and
long/class C ROH. Across all populations, class A/B and class B/C size boundaries were inferred
as approximately 300 kb and 1 Mb, respectively (see Supp Table 2 for population-specific
parameters, including LOD cutoffs and size boundaries). Using only the females, we then
classified ROH for the X chromosome.
274
Since levels of ROH partitioned by size class are dependent on the size classification cutoffs, we
assessed concordance of our results by repeating size classification using the --size-bounds flag
in GARLIC to impose four additional sets of size class boundaries. We first classified ROH
based on the commonly used rule of thumb that a time depth of $m$ meioses is expected to give a
mean IBD segment length of $100/m$ cM (Thompson 2013). In this case, common ancestors within
the past 20 generations (post-admixture) would give an expected IBD segment length of
approximately 2.5 Mb or longer, so we applied 2.5 Mb as the shorter/long ROH boundary. We
also collected the population-specific length classification cut-offs from the 64 worldwide

populations provided by Pemberton et al. (2012), which represents an extensive range of
classification schemes. We repeated ROH-calling with GARLIC using the minimum, mean, and
maximum of the 64 population-specific boundaries reported in Pemberton et al. (2012).

## Estimation of sex bias

To examine sex bias, we applied a mechanistic model of sex-biased admixture (Goldberg and
Rosenberg 2015) to infer admixture parameters under a model of constant migration. We ran
the script provided by Goldberg and Rosenberg to compare their model-based expectations of X
and autosomal ancestry with observed ancestry in our data using the following parameters:
grid increment size (0.02), the observed autosomal and X admixture proportions (based on
ADMIXTURE estimates described above), the proportion of females in the sample, and the
percentile cutoff for parameters to keep (0.1%). We performed this analysis for all 563 Cabo
Verdean individuals pooled together, and then repeated the analysis for each island
independently.

# Results

## Patterns of shared ancestry reflect the colonization history of the islands

Using genome-wide SNP data from 563 individuals, we examined four island regions of Cabo
Verde (Fig 1; Supp Fig 1), which differ in their settlement histories. The partitioning of the
considered island regions was also supported by genetic patterns. Namely, these regions
showed quantitatively distinct distributions of IBD tracts, as we explore below, and were
supported by clustering patterns in PCA (Supp Fig 1), in which the three northwestern islands
grouped together (and with the eastern island Boa Vista) despite the different settlement time of
São Vicente Island.
305
Global ancestry proportions reflect extensive European and West African admixture and concur
with previous results (Beleza et al. 2013) (Supp Fig 2), with the median West African autosomal
ancestry in Cabo Verdeans varying by island from 50% in Fogo, 56% in the northwestern
islands in aggregate (the Northwest Cluster), 63% in Boa Vista, and 75% in Santiago. These
inter-island differences alongside historical knowledge provide a comparative dataset for
understanding how ancestry patterns can be used to infer demographic processes. Further, the
known bound on admixture timing and the relative simplicity of the admixture history on the
islands allows genetic ancestry to be decomposed into two source populations, which makes
Cabo Verde a case study closer to population genetic models of admixture than most
worldwide human populations.
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The process of admixture can influence measures such as IBD and ROH that are often used to
inform inference of population history, and theoretical expectations for these measures are less
clear for admixed populations compared to homogeneous populations. Thus, we use multiple

methods to examine relatedness in Cabo Verde, and we use this case study to underscore the
need for further empirical and theoretical work to understand the dynamics of IBD and ROH in
admixed populations. Patterns of IBD within and between populations provide opportunities to
examine common ancestry based on the number and sizes of segments of IBD. Using these
summaries of IBD to examine relatedness between and within regions of Cabo Verde, we found
that patterns of shared ancestry reflect the successive settlement history of the islands. Notably,
Santiago has the lowest mean number and total length of IBD segments between individuals
(Supp Fig 4-5). In contrast, we observe the highest levels of IBD within and between the
Northwest Cluster and Boa Vista.
329
To summarize patterns of IBD within and between the four island regions, we built a network
of relationships with pairs of individuals connected if they have IBD levels in the top 3% of the
Cabo Verde IBD distribution (Fig 1; see Supp Fig 3 for lower levels of IBD and within-island
networks). In a non-admixed population, these edges roughly correspond to 4th-degree relatives
or closer (e.g., great-great-grandparents, great-great-grandchildren, great-aunts/uncles, or
grand-nieces/nephews). At this level of relatedness, we find that the presence of pairs of
individuals within and between islands connected by an edge is common, suggestive of recent
relatives both within and across islands. However, relatedness parameters estimated under
simple models of structure likely do not hold in many human populations, such as recently
admixed populations. Kinship estimated under a framework (Ochoa and Storey 2019 May)
specifically designed for arbitrary population structures (Supp Fig 6A) is consistent with both
the overall trends in IBD tracts (Supp Fig 4-5), and supports the presence of a subset of very
closely related individuals within the data.
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The lower levels of IBD (Fig 1, Supp Fig 3-5) and lower kinship estimates (Supp Fig 6) observed
in Santiago are consistent with expectations based on the island's history, as Santiago was the
first Cabo Verdean island to be founded and has the largest population size. Santiago is also
likely to have relatively high genetic diversity as a result of having the highest proportion of
West African ancestry, based on the expectation that kinship in human populations generally
reflects serial bottlenecks due to dispersal from Africa (Tishkoff and Williams 2002; Reed and
Tishkoff 2006). In contrast, the high levels of IBD within and between the Northwest Cluster
and Boa Vista reflect well-documented serial founding and migrations during the settlement of
the islands. In general, kinship estimates also reflect the colonization history of the islands, with
Cabo Verdeans of greater European ancestry sharing greater kinship compared to individuals
with greater West African ancestry (Supp Fig 6). Exceptions to this trend were most noticeable
in individuals from Fogo and the Northwest Cluster, where it was most apparent that some
observed relatedness patterns do not result in smooth ordering of global ancestry proportions
(Supp Fig 6B). This observation led us to hypothesize that other sociocultural processes beyond
proportions of ancestry, such as nonrandom mating, may drive patterns of relatedness in Cabo
Verde.

## Nonrandom mating shapes patterns of ancestry and influences demographic inference

To test for ancestry assortative mating within Cabo Verde, we examined whether the genomic ancestries of individuals in mating pairs correlate with each other. To this end, we applied ANCESTOR to computationally infer the parental ancestry proportions that likely preceded the ancestry haplotypes we observe today. We repeated this analysis for each chromosome independently to prevent uncertainty introduced by matching interchromosomal haplotypes. As an example, the inferred ancestries of the parental haplotypes that likely preceded chromosome 7 are significantly positively correlated for all islands except for Boa Vista (Fig 2A). We observed similar results across the full set of autosomes (Fig 2B). We found that the inferred ancestries of mating pairs in the previous generation are positively correlated, and that these correlations differ significantly from expectations under random mating (random sampling empirical distributions of parental haplotypes into pairs, shown in Supp Fig 7).

We next considered how the observed genetic evidence of assortative mating can be leveraged in the context of inferring population history. To estimate the timing of the onset of admixture, we applied the method of Zaitlen et al. (2017) (Zaitlen et al. 2017), which describes the decay of local ancestry disequilibrium (LAD) as a function of assortative mating strength, migration rate, recombination rate, and the number of generations since admixture began. Using this LAD-based method, we inferred admixture timing under random mating and under our empirical estimates of ancestry-assortative mating strength (Fig 3). The LAD-based method produced older estimates of admixture timing under a model including both assortative mating and constant migration (Fig 3, Supp Fig 8), with increasingly older timing estimates as assortative mating strength increases (Supp Fig 8). Under the same set of migration rates (0 or 1% per generation), when we varied the strength of ancestry-assortative mating from a situation of random mating to a situation of strong ancestry-assortative mating, the models that considered substantial ancestry-assortative mating (parental correlation in ancestry > 0.3), yielded admixture timing estimates closest to the historical estimates (Fig 3, Supp Fig 8). We note that the migration rates (0 or 1% per generation) demonstrate estimates under a broad range that likely includes the historical average over time (see Methods for historical data sources), although it does not capture the fluctuations in migration rate over time that occurred within the islands (Laurent et al. 2022).

We additionally applied two strategies, ALDER (Loh et al. 2013) and MultiWaver 2.0 (Ni et al. 2019), that are not intended to account for assortative mating. ALDER uses the extent of LD decay among neighboring loci to infer mixture proportions and dates of a single admixture event (i.e., under an isolation model). In contrast, MultiWaver uses the length distribution of ancestral tracks to infer the best-fitting discrete (isolation or multi-wave) or continuous admixture model and then estimates the admixture parameters under the considered model. Assuming a generation time of 25 years, decay rates estimated with ALDER suggest admixture timing in the mid to late 1700s (Fig 3; all timing estimates are shown in Supp Table 1).

401 MultiWaver chose a multi-wave admixture model for Santiago (Fig 3A) and the Northwest
402 Cluster (Fig 3C), but selected an isolation model for Fogo (Fig 3B) and Boa Vista (Fig 3D).
403
The estimates of admixture timing that do not explicitly consider ancestry-assortative mating,
from ALDER and MultiWaver, are noticeably more recent than the known founding of Cabo
Verde in late 1400s. Results from the LAD-based method described in Zaitlen et al. (2017)
(Zaitlen et al. 2017) align more closely with historical records, particularly when we allowed for
both ancestry-assortative mating and constant migration (Fig 3, Supp Fig 8). While multiple
complex demographic factors likely impact these estimates of admixture timing (see "Patterns
of genetic variation and admixture in Cabo Verde influence demographic inference" in the
Discussion), the evidence of ancestry-assortative mating in Cabo Verde (Fig 2, Supp Fig 7) and
the LAD-based inferences incorporating assortative mating (Fig 3, Supp Fig 8) suggest that
explicitly accounting for ancestry-assortative mating improves estimates of admixture timing,
while the assumption of random mating leads to underestimation of the age of admixture.

## Runs-of-homozygosity (ROH) reflect the contributions of the source populations and patterns of nonrandom mating.

ROH arise when IBD haplotypes are inherited from a common ancestor. Thus, distinct length
classes generally reflect inheritance from ancestors at different timescales in the population's
history. However, analyzing ROH of different length classes can be sensitive to arbitrary
decision making in the classification process. To characterize long vs short ROH, we identified
ROH using several approaches, beginning with the method of Pemberton et al. (2012) as
implemented in the software GARLIC (Pemberton et al. 2012; Szpiech et al. 2017). This method
classifies ROH into three categories (short, medium, and long) based on the modeling of the
length distribution in each population as a mixture of Gaussian distributions. We also classified
ROH based on the commonly used rule of thumb that a time depth of $m$ meioses is expected to
give a mean IBD segment length of $100/m$ cM (Thompson 2013). In this case, common ancestors
within the past 20 generations (post-admixture in Cabo Verde) would give an expected IBD
segment length of approximately 2.5 Mb or longer, so we applied 2.5 Mb as the shorter/long
ROH boundary. This approximation uses the commonly applied baseline recombination rate of
1 cM/Mb, though we note that recombination varies among populations and along genomes
(Hassan et al. 2021). Under these two classification schemes, we examined the distributions of
total ROH per genome (sum of ROH segments of a specific length) within Cabo Verde,
partitioning the distributions into length classes that are enriched for pre- and post-colonization
processes. Under the ROH classification model of GARLIC, short and medium ROH formed
due to processes that largely occurred within the source populations prior to the founding of
Cabo Verde. Thus, while ROH in non-admixed populations are often modeled as three length
classes, we emphasize the differences in pre- and post-admixture dynamics in Cabo Verde by
focusing on shorter ROH (comprising both short and medium as called with GARLIC) vs. long
ROH (Fig 4A). We observed similar ROH distributions using the shorter/long length class
boundary of 2.5 Mb, based on the number of admixture generations (Fig 4B). To further support
that ROH trends are concordant across classification schemes, we repeated this analysis under

three additional length classification schemes, using empirically-based length class boundaries
from the literature (see Methods; Supp Fig 9).
444
ROH patterns in admixed populations should be interpreted with caution, since methods for
detecting and interpreting ROH have been developed primarily in non-admixed populations
(Pemberton et al. 2012; Ceballos et al. 2018). Thus, we consider ROH in Cabo Verde as an
example of ROH distributions in admixed populations where we can explore results in the
context of ancestry and population history. For example, to test for genetic evidence that
population bottlenecks contributed to observed patterns, we estimated ancestry-specific
population sizes (Supp Fig 10). Ancestry-specific population sizes in Cabo Verde suggest
bottlenecks of both source populations, followed by population expansion within the past 10
generations (Browning and Browning 2015; Browning et al. 2018). If the length of ROH in an
individual's genome is driven by distance from Africa, as expected based on previous work
(McQuillan et al. 2008; Pemberton et al. 2012), we predict the total length of ROH per genome to
negatively correlate with West African admixture proportion. Consistent with this expectation,
we observe a negative correlation between the total ROH and West African ancestry
proportions in Santiago, Fogo, and the Northwest Cluster (Supp Fig 11A; correlations and
significance values for total ROH and by length class are provided in Supp Fig 11). Breaking
total ROH into shorter and long ROH, we see that this negative correlation is driven primarily
by shorter ROH (Fig 4; Supp Fig 11B-C, Supp Fig 9).
462
Comparing the Cabo Verdean islands to each other, we observed the lowest levels of total ROH
in all length classes of ROH in Santiago (pairwise Mann-Whitney U tests $p < 1 \times 10^{-8}$). The low
amounts of all length classes of ROH in Santiago are consistent with several historical attributes
of the islands, including serial founding beginning with the settlement of Santiago. Serial
founding resulting in bottlenecks is expected to increase shorter ROH by reducing the number
of ancestral lineages. But because shorter ROH reflects background relatedness from the source
populations, shorter ROH are expected to be more sensitive to the contributions of the source
populations.
471
Despite recent colonization bottlenecks, we observed that some admixed individuals in Cabo
Verde present lower levels of ROH per genome than either of the source population proxies.
Specifically, our classification of ROH into shorter and long ROH (Fig 4; Supp Fig 9) revealed
that Santiago has significantly lower levels of shorter ROH compared the West African
reference population (Mann-Whitney U $p = 5.87 \times 10^{-7}$), while long ROH are not depleted
(Mann-Whitney U $p = 0.841$). This observation that Santiago has significantly lower levels of
shorter ROH compared to even the West African reference is perhaps surprising given the
canonical view of African source populations as generically having the lowest ROH in
worldwide samples. This is consistent with the idea that shorter ROH tend to come from older
shared ancestors in the source populations, and that these tracts can be further interrupted with
local ancestry from another source population upon admixture. In contrast, long ROH are more
likely to be driven by post-admixture dynamics such as small population size and mating
preferences, and long ROH tracts may span multiple local ancestries. Indeed, we observed that

ROH often span multiple ancestries, with long ROH spanning more switches in local ancestry
per megabase. Specifically, 1.21% of shorter ROH contained at least one ancestry switch and
18.99% of long ROH contained at least one ancestry switch. Dividing ancestry switches by tract
length, shorter ROH contain an average of 0.072 ancestry switches/Mb (standard deviation =
0.89), while long ROH contain an average of 0.089 switches/Mb (standard deviation = 0.24)
(pairwise Mann-Whitney U test $p < 1 \times 10^{-8}$).
491
While ROH patterns in Cabo Verde are consistent with several historical observations, we again
note that caution is warranted in applying methods and expectations built using non-admixed
populations. We also note that, though we used a model-based ROH detection approach that
included steps to mitigate genotyping errors and biases in allele frequency estimates, sensitivity
and specificity of ROH detection is generally lower for shorter ROH. Further, records suggest
that enslaved African individuals in Cabo Verde came from the Senegambian region of Africa,
and lack of genomic data from this vast region makes it difficult to assess how the genetic
diversity of contributing African peoples might contribute to low shorter ROH levels in Cabo
Verde. These sources of uncertainty necessitate caution in inferring population history from
ROH distributions. However, the observed differences in ROH among the islands suggest that
ROH are sensitive to population genetic processes even on the short timescale since Cabo
Verde's settlement. Together, these observations and caveats underscore the need for future
work testing the effects of admixture on ROH and on ROH detection, as we explore in the
Discussion.

## Ancestry patterns on the X chromosome vs the autosomes reflect sex-biased demographic processes

To further understand population structure in Cabo Verde, we next consider how autosomal
and X-chromosome ancestry and genetic variation patterns can be used to infer the sex-specific
demographic history of the last ~20 generations since founding. Some earlier analyses of post-
admixture population structure using Y-chromosome diversity suggested sex-biased
demographic processes (Beleza et al. 2012). Here, we examine autosomal and X-chromosome
ancestry to test for sex-biased migration. On all islands, autosomal versus X chromosome
ancestry patterns suggest that male and female contributions differ significantly by source
population (Fig 5A). Specifically, there is higher West African ancestry on the X chromosome
than the autosomes (mean African ancestry proportion for the X chromosome = 0.76; mean
African ancestry proportion for autosomes = 0.60; Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test $p < 1 \times 10^{-8}$ for
Santiago, Fogo, and the Northwest Cluster; p = 0.0013 for Boa Vista), consistent with sex-biased
contributions of the founders. To quantitatively explore these differences in male vs female
demographic history, we used a model-based approach to estimate differences between male
and female contributions (Goldberg and Rosenberg 2015). A model of constant admixture is
supported over a model of instantaneous admixture by historical records (see Methods for
historical data sources) and by our comparison of admixture timing estimates (above). Using
the method of Goldberg and Rosenberg for a model of constant admixture, we compared
observed and expected X-chromosomal and autosomal ancestry over a grid of possible

parameter values. Following the implementation from Goldberg et al. (2017) (Goldberg et al.
2017), Fig 5B presents results from the 0.1% of parameter sets closest to observed data based on
a Euclidean distance between observed population mean ancestries on the X and autosomes
and expected ancestries under the model (Supp Fig 12 shows the same data represented by
plotting the male contributions). These estimated sex-specific contributions from West African
and European source populations under a model of constant admixture suggest greater
contributions from West African females and European males.
533
Given our observation that source populations make distinct contributions to ROH in Cabo
Verde (Fig 4), we next investigate differences in autosomal vs X chromosome ROH content.
Differences in autosomal vs X chromosome ROH may arise in part due to the source
populations contributing in a sex-biased manner. Notably, this effect would be seen most in
shorter ROH, since shorter ROH reflect the homozygosity of older haplotypes and background
relatedness from the source populations. However, it is challenging to disentangle processes
shaping X vs autosomal ROH, due to the smaller effective population size of the X chromosome.
Our results suggest that sex-biased admixture processes in Cabo Verde are reflected in ROH,
with lower levels of shorter ROH on the X chromosome than on autosomes (Fig 6A). European
individuals have higher levels of ROH than West African individuals, and the higher
contributions of African X chromosomes (vs European X chromosomes) may drive the lower
levels of short ROH in Cabo Verde on the X chromosome vs the autosomes (Fig 6A). Long ROH
reflects different dynamics, potentially including the reduced post-admixture population size
and other sex-specific processes.

# Discussion

In this study, we leveraged patterns of genetic variation in Cabo Verde to infer the demographic
history of the past ~20 generations. We found that distinct genetic patterns of four island
regions within the archipelago reflect the colonization history of the islands, including island-
specific settlement timing, admixture dynamics, mating patterns, and sex-biased demography.
Together these results demonstrate how patterns of ancestry and genetic variation are shaped
by social and demographic forces on short timescales. By better understanding how complex
population histories generate genetic variation, we can improve interpretation of inference from
populations without historical records.

**Patterns of genetic variation and admixture in Cabo Verde reflect colonization history and subsequent sociocultural dynamics**

The observed island-specific genetic patterns reflect the complex ecological and social factors
that shaped the settlement of Cabo Verde. Historical evidence suggests that the islands were
founded in a stepping-stone pattern, with settlement stages that were accompanied by
important economic and sociocultural shifts (Correia e Silva 2002). Early written records of the
population (described below) suggest that admixture began early during the settlement of Cabo
Verde, despite the highly racially stratified, slavery-based system that characterized the first

settlement stage (Cabral 2001). The second and third stages were carried out by mostly already-
admixed individuals who had become a significant group within Cabo Verdean society and
who migrated from the southern to the northern islands (Correia e Silva 2001). We found that
the staggered settlement history and the island-specific population dynamics shaped patterns of
ancestry and genetic variation within Cabo Verde.
570
Admixture in Cabo Verde is consistent with a model of continuous gene flow from Europe and
West Africa, with European males and African females contributing predominantly to the Cabo
Verdean gene pool, as seen in other admixed populations that result from the trans-Atlantic
slave trade (Eltis et al. 2010; Micheletti et al. 2020). PCA (Supp Fig 1), IBD (Fig 1, Supp Fig 3-5),
and kinship (Supp Fig 6) are consistent with genetic drift occurring during the archipelago's
settlement history of consecutive founder effects and subsequent relative isolation of the
islands. Specifically, individuals are genetically more related within an island than among
islands, and considerably more individuals from the northern islands and Fogo are connected to
each other by high IBD pairwise connections (Supp Fig 4-5). We observed differences in IBD
that reflect the contributions of the source populations, such as Santiago having both the highest
West African ancestry proportions and the lowest overall levels of IBD sharing. The higher
African genomic ancestry on Santiago is consistent with previous results (Beleza et al. 2012;
Beleza et al. 2013), and indicates differences in settlement patterns despite the fact that
colonization of the other islands involved migrations from Santiago and was based on the same
slavery-based system.
586
Using a mechanistic model of sex-biased admixture (Goldberg and Rosenberg 2015), we used
differences in ancestry on the X chromosome vs the autosomes to examine sex-biased migration
in Cabo Verde. We found that admixture occurred primarily through the mating of European
males and African females, consistent with historical work that documents sex bias during the
settlement of Cabo Verde. First records of the demographic distribution in Cabo Verde are
found in a letter by a judicial official Pero de Guimarães to the Portuguese King in 1513, which
stated the presence of 118 European individuals in Santiago, of which only four were (single)
women (Pero de Guimarães 1991). The marginal presence of European females throughout the
founding of Cabo Verde contributed to the extensive genetic admixture currently found in the
archipelago. The distribution of ROH in autosomes versus X chromosome is influenced by
initial male versus female contributions to the admixed population's gene pool. Throughout the
islands, the higher contributions of African X chromosomes (vs European X chromosomes) may
drive the lower levels of short ROH in Cabo Verde on the X chromosome vs the autosomes (Fig
6A). These results underscore the long-lasting genetic impacts of the trans-Atlantic slave trade,
as has been recently shown in admixed populations across the Americas (Micheletti et al. 2020).
602
Despite only a few hundred years of unique population histories among the islands, we also
found that patterns of genetic variation reflect island-specific patterns in post-admixture
dynamics. Observed patterns of IBD, kinship, and long ROH are all consistent with overall high
levels of relatedness within Cabo Verde, particularly in Fogo and the northwestern islands. In
other worldwide populations, similarly high IBD levels have been attributed to founder effects

(Campbell et al. 2012 Jul 31; Moreno-Estrada et al. 2013). In Cabo Verde, patterns of relatedness
may be shaped by both founder effects and by post-admixture dynamics such as nonrandom
mating keeping similar haplotypes together rather than distributing them randomly throughout
mating pairs in the population. Indeed, we inferred a positive correlation between mating pairs
of the previous generation, suggesting ancestry-assortative mating on the short timescale since
the founding of the islands. This correlation between mating pairs was significant within all
islands except for Boa Vista, though the inferred Pearson's R in Boa Vista still differed
significantly from the distribution of random samples of parental haplotypes, shown in Supp
Fig 7. Thus, we expect that the lack of significance of Boa Vista's correlation in parental
ancestries in Fig 2 may simply be because the sample size was lowest for Boa Vista (n = 26).
Nonetheless, we highlight differences in mating patterns among the islands as a topic that could
be explored further in future studies. For example, our inferences suggest that assortative
mating appears the strongest in Santiago. Santiago has many unique demographic features,
such as being the oldest population and having the largest population size of the islands. As we
learn more about ancestry-assortative mating, future investigations may shed light on how
these demographic attributes and others contribute to mating patterns.
624
Mating patterns and sex-biased admixture are distinct—but interacting—processes in the
history of Cabo Verde. Sex-biased migration determined the gene pool within Cabo Verde,
while patterns of nonrandom mating within the islands shaped subsequent generations of
admixture. These mating patterns were tied to social and economic structure. European
enslavers sexually coerced enslaved African women during slavery. After the end of slavery,
racially unbalanced control of landownership and higher social status of Europeans resulted in
continued socioeconomic pressures for African women to have children with European men.
Such unions often resulted in improved socioeconomic status for both the women and their
children. For example, the first admixed individual to assume an important position within the
administration of Santiago was recorded in 1546 (Seibert 2014 Jun 1). Over generations, Cabo
Verde became a population of extensively admixed ancestry, with mating patterns shaped by
the interconnected effects of social position and skin color. This type of nonrandom mating may
have been more prominent in the second half of the 17th century, due to the large exodus of the
white population following the decay of the slave trade. With this population shift, historical
sources say that the socioeconomic elite of the islands became predominately the "white
children of the islands" (Cabral 2001), leading to further racial segregation. This historical
evidence of nonrandom mating patterns—together with our genetic observations—
demonstrates how quickly changes in social structure can impact population homozygosity and
differentiation.
644
The island of Fogo stands out as having unique social and historical processes, even though it
was settled shortly after Santiago. Fogo's society was, since its origins, a conservative rural
society whose main economic activity was to produce goods to trade in the African coast. The
socioeconomic elite was patriarchal and aristocratic (Cabral 2012), and composed primarily of
related families, which promoted first-cousin marriages (Barbosa, Gilda 1997). The sustenance
of this class depended on land ownership, which allowed the slavery-based system to be

perpetuated longer in Fogo than in Santiago (Correia e Silva 2002; Cabral 2012). The unique
attributes of Fogo are reflected in population genetic patterns. For example, we found that
African ancestry proportion align with kinship patterns overall, but exceptions were most
obvious in individuals from Fogo and the Northwest Cluster, where some observed relatedness
patterns are not as clearly explained by global ancestry proportions. In our estimation of
admixture timing using local ancestry disequilibrium, we observed that Fogo has greater levels
of local ancestry disequilibrium than the other islands. Higher local ancestry disequilibrium
may be driven by ancestry-assortative mating. Additionally, it may be that Fogo has
experienced stronger founder effects, which would decrease the number of ancestral lineages.
Indeed, the higher levels of shorter ROH within Fogo (Fig 4; Supp Fig 9) are consistent with
founder effects increasing background relatedness and thus increasing shorter ROH. Though
we emphasize the need for further work to understand the dynamics of ROH in admixed
populations, these patterns are in agreement with the lower Y-chromosome haplotype diversity
observed in Fogo compared to the other islands (Beleza et al. 2012). Long ROH and IBD
patterns gives us further insights about the post-admixture demographic processes in the
archipelago, including uncovering genetic consequences of consecutive founder effects.

## Patterns of genetic variation and admixture in Cabo Verde influence demographic inference

The admixture dynamics, founder effects, and mating patterns within Cabo Verde shape
summaries of genetic variation that are often used to inform demographic inference, such as
local ancestry disequilibrium, IBD, and ROH.  To investigate the effects of these population
dynamics on demographic inference, we estimated admixture timing using multiple population
genetic tools. Estimates of admixture timing from genetic data were most concordant with
historical records when using inference based on local ancestry disequilibrium (Zaitlen et al.
2017), allowing for ancestry-assortative mating and migration after the founding of the admixed
population. Under this method, we tested a range of ancestry-assortative mating strengths (0 vs
values inferred using ANCESTOR in Fig 2 and a broader range of values in Supp Fig 8) and
migration rates (0 vs 1% each generation). The migration levels are used to demonstrate the
trends of timing estimates using constant migration and assortative mating, rather than to
obtain a specific estimate of the migration parameters. Consistent with previous theoretical
work on the impact of assortative mating on the timing of admixture, we find that estimates
that do not account for ancestry assortment are more recent than historical records and than
estimates that include ancestry assortment (Zaitlen et al. 2017; Goldberg et al. 2020). Under
random mating, haplotypes are distributed randomly in mating pairs in a population, allowing
recombination to shuffle haplotypes over generations. In contrast, ancestry-assortative mating
can keep ancestral haplotypes more intact, leading to underestimation of the number of
generations of admixture when estimating admixture timing. Zaitlen et al. (2017) and Goldberg
et al. (2020) theoretically demonstrate that certain models of non-random mating in admixed
populations drive variation in the ancestry proportion and maintain linkage over time—
summary statistics that will make admixture appear more recent than it is when mating
patterns are not considered (Zaitlen et al. 2017; Goldberg et al. 2020). Our evidence of ancestry-

assortative mating in Cabo Verde underscores the importance of accounting for nonrandom
mating in understanding admixture and inferring demographic history. Assortative mating has
been documented with respect to genetic ancestry, socioeconomic factors, and phenotypic
characteristics (Risch et al. 2009; James Y Zou et al. 2015; Robinson et al. 2017; Sebro et al. 2017;
Zaitlen et al. 2017), but remains an under-recognized force in human population genetics and
demographic inference.
698
Notably, admixture timing estimates were most concordant with the historical records when
allowing both assortative mating and constant admixture. An admixture scenario that allows
multi-wave or constant admixture model is compatible with historical work suggesting
constant migration from both Europe and West African throughout the settlement of the
islands. Importantly, the authors of ALDER and MultiWaver point out that methods for
inferring admixture timing have varying sensitivities to different admixture scenarios (Loh et al.
2013; Ni et al. 2019). ALDER notes that multi-wave or continuous admixture can lead to more
recent estimates of admixture timing, as these processes can lead to an increase of LD due to
admixture in every generation when compared to the isolation model. Despite this caveat,
ALDER is frequently applied in cases where admixture is not strictly instantaneous.
MultiWaver inferred more complex admixture models for two out of the four island regions,
but the consideration of additional migration parameters in the calculation of the admixture
times led to results similar to our LAD model with random mating. We also note that
MultiWaver may not be able to accurately infer demographic histories that deviate from its pre-
defined admixture models. In general, all available demographic inference methods must make
simplifying assumptions about demographic history. Our findings suggest that two simplifying
assumptions (random mating and single-pulse admixture) push inferred estimates of admixture
timing to appear more recent than the historical estimates.
717
While allowing both assortative mating and constant admixture yielded admixture timing
estimates that were most consistent with the historical records, it is important to note that none
of the inferred ranges of admixture timing captured the historically-documented onset of
admixture. This may be due to additional simplifying assumptions underlying the demographic
inference methods, such assumptions about the stationary of effective population size, the
composition of the sample (i.e., that the sampled individuals are a random sample from the
population), or the neutrality of evolution. All of the timing methods we used placed admixture
timing for the different islands closer together than historical dates of settlement, consistent
with historical expectations that the initial admixture in the southern islands was significant,
and that many individuals that occupied the northern and eastern islands during the second
and third settlement stages of Cabo Verde were already admixed. For example, the serial
founding of the islands may explain why estimates of admixture timing for Boa Vista were
closer to historical records. While Boa Vista was founded most recently, it was founded by
already admixed individuals. This observation, together with IBD and kinship patterns, support
the serial founding of the groups of islands as the main model of settlement of Cabo Verde, as
opposed to their independent settling as some historical data suggest (Correia e Silva 2002).
This type of serial founding scenario is common throughout recent human migration,

underscoring that settlement patterns, in addition to settlement timing, are critical components
of accurately inferring human demographic history.
737
We found that Cabo Verde's island-specific demographic history and admixture dynamics have
important genomic consequences, as observed with ROH. Despite the relatively recent
colonization of the islands, some individuals presented even lower overall levels of ROH than
African reference populations. We found that low overall levels of ROH in Cabo Verde are
driven by shorter length ROH.  This observation is consistent with the idea that shorter ROH
can be attributed to older shared ancestors from the source populations, and these tracts can be
interrupted with admixed ancestry upon admixture. However, many admixed individuals still
present excess long ROH, likely reflecting post-admixture processes such as serial founding and
ancestry-assortative mating. The observed island-specific distributions of ROH are consistent
with the colonization history of the islands. For example, the cultural dynamics and higher rates
of first-cousin marriages in Fogo (Barbosa, Gilda 1997), possibly driving high levels of long
ROH (Fig 4). In contrast, Santiago has both the oldest population and the largest population
size, and has comparatively low levels of both shorter and long ROH. These observations
suggest that more work, both empirical and theoretical, is needed to understand the interacting
forces of local ancestry and ROH.
753
In sum, we provide insights into the population history of Cabo Verde and demonstrate how
admixed populations can provide powerful test cases for understanding demographic processes
and genomic consequences in recent human history. We show that patterns of shared ancestry
between and within the islands (quantified with IBD and kinship estimates) reflect serial
founder effects as well as settlement patterns such as post-admixture nonrandom mating. We
find that accounting for nonrandom mating allows us to improve inference of admixture timing
and better contextualize genomic consequences of admixture dynamics, such as ROH. We find
that differences in ancestry on the X chromosome vs the autosomes reflect sex-biased
demographic processes.  Given the ubiquity of admixture throughout modern human
population, these results provide important, generalizable considerations for the study of recent
human evolution.
765

## Data and Code Availability

The de-identified local ancestry calls, ROH calls, and IBD calls will be made publicly available
by the time of publication.  Inferred local ancestry information can be found at
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4021277, and inferred ROH and IBD tracts can be found at
[link/DOI to be inserted by the time of publication]. Code generated for this study can be found
at https://github.com/agoldberglab/CaboVerde_Demographic_Analyses. Sampling consent
forms do not allow for public release of genotype data, which were provided by Beleza et al.
(2013). However, the original genotype data will be made available upon signing a material
transfer agreement assuring that the data will only be used in accordance with the restrictions
of the informed consent, and agreeing that the data will be destroyed after the research is
complete.

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## Declaration of interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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# Figure Legends

**Fig 1 | Shared ancestry between and within the islands in the context of geography.** Each island has a corresponding cluster of nodes representing all sampled individuals, with the individuals localized to be adjacent to the island where they were sampled. Node placement within islands is determined by a force-directed algorithm using pairwise shared IBD, meaning that the spread of each cluster reflects the level of relatedness in each population. Edges between the nodes represent total IBD tract length for pairs of individuals sharing more than 150 cM of total IBD, with edges colored using the log transformed total IBD length.

**Fig 2 | Correlation between inferred parental ancestries.** (A) For each Cabo Verdean individual, the inferred Parent 1 vs Parent 2 ancestry proportions are shown for an example chromosome (Chromosome 7), colored by island. (B) shows the set of correlation coefficients between inferred parental ancestries for each autosomal chromosome.

**Fig 3| Timelines of inferred generations of admixture for each island of Cabo Verde.** The island regions are listed in order of known settlement timing beginning with Santiago (A), followed by Fogo (B), and then the later migrations to the Northwest Cluster (C) and Boa Vista (D). For each island, admixture timing inferred with population genetic methods are shown in comparison to historical records. Historical estimates of when each island was first settled are shown in generations, based on a range of generation times (20-30 year generation time). For the LAD-based estimates of admixture timing, we tested a range of ancestry-assortative mating strengths. Specifically, we tested an assortative mating strength of 0 (results shown in green) vs values inferred using ANCESTOR in Fig 2 (results shown in blue). Within each of these LAD-based estimates of admixture timing, the presented interval reflects the range of estimates generated under the assumption of constant migration rate (m = 0.01; yielding older estimates) to the assumption of no migration (m = 0; yielding more recent estimates). MultiWaver results show the admixture generations inferred under the admixture model selected by MultiWaver, with 0.95 CI.

**Fig 4 | ROH content by island and in the context of ancestry.** The total length of ROH per individual genome is plotted under (A) GARLIC-inferred ROH class boundaries (shorter/long ROH boundary of approximately 1.08 Mb for Santiago, 1.08 Mb for NW Cluster, 1.12 Mb for Fogo, 1.14 Mb for Boa Vista, 1.26 Mb for West African reference individuals, and 0.91 Mb for European reference individuals); and (B) under class boundaries estimated based on the number of admixture generations (shorter/long ROH boundary of 2.5 Mb). Violin plots show the population-specific distributions of the total (summed over each genome) length of autosomal ROH per individual. Solid black dots represent the within-population means. Scatter plots show the total length of autosomal ROH per individual plotted against West African ancestry proportions and colored by population.

**Fig 5 | Sex-biased admixture in Cabo Verde.** (A) The distribution of West African ancestry proportion on the autosomes and X chromosome for each of the island regions, estimated with

ADMIXTURE. (B) Under a model of constant admixture over time, the fraction of the total contribution of genetic material originating from females for West African and European source populations. Here, we show the distribution of parameter sets for the smallest 0.1% of Euclidean distances between the model-predicted and observed X and autosomal ancestry from a grid of possible parameter values. The range of sex-specific contributions from West African and

European source populations that produce ancestry estimates closest to those observed in Cabo Verde are shown for Cabo Verde as a whole (left), and then broken down by region, with medians (dashed lines).

**Fig 6 | Autosomal (chromosome 7) vs X chromosome distributions of ROH by class.** (A) shows the population-specific distributions of the total length of shorter ROH per individual on the X chromosome compared to an autosome. Chromosome 7 was chosen as the autosomal point of comparison, given that it is the autosome most similar in size to the X chromosome. Totals are shown for females only, so that the same samples are being compared across the X chromosome and chromosome 7. Totals are plotted per Mb to account for slight differences in chromosome lengths. (B) shows the same information for long ROH.

**A.  Santiago**

**B.  Fogo**

**C.  NW Cluster**

**D.  Boa Vista**

Generations until present

**A.** ROH classification boundaries based on GARLIC

**B.** ROH classification boundaries based on admixture generations

Region
- Santiago
- Fogo
- NW Cluster
- Boa Vista
- European (IBS)
- African (GWD)