1 i. Consequences of coupled barriers to gene flow for the build-up of genomic differentiation
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3 ii. Reproductive barriers and coupling in corn borers
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40 ABSTRACT
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Theory predicts that when different barriers to gene flow become coincident, their joint effects enhance
reproductive isolation and genomic divergence beyond their individual effects, but empirical tests of this
'coupling' hypothesis are rare. Here, we analyze patterns of gene exchange among populations of European corn
borer moths that vary in the number of acting barriers, allowing for comparisons of genomic variation when
barrier traits or loci are in coincident or independent states. We find that divergence is mainly restricted to barrier
loci when populations differ by a single barrier, whereas the coincidence of temporal and behavioral barriers is
associated with divergence of two chromosomes harboring barrier loci. Furthermore, differentiation at temporal
barrier loci increases in the presence of behavioral divergence, while differentiation at behavioral barrier loci
increases in the presence of temporal divergence. Our results demonstrate how the joint action of coincident
barrier effects leads to levels of genomic differentiation that far exceed those of single barriers acting alone,
consistent with theory arguing that coupling allows indirect selection to combine with direct selection and
thereby lead to a stronger overall barrier to gene flow. Thus, the state of barriers – independent or coupled –
strongly influences the accumulation of genomic differentiation.
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58 Key words: barrier loci, speciation, pheromones, behavioral isolation, voltinism, sex chromosome, coupling,
59 divergence, large Z effect

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62 INTRODUCTION
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Understanding the origin of new species is a fundamental biological problem crucial for explaining patterns of
biodiversity. New species are thought to arise as populations diverge and accumulate trait differences that limit
interbreeding, genetic exchange, and sharing of evolutionary processes (Mayr 1942, Coyne and Orr 2004,
Harrison and Larson 2014). Consequently, there has long been an interest in understanding how barriers to
reproduction evolve and promote the independent evolution of populations in nature, as characterized by the
emergence of distinct genetic groups.
70
Most sister species are separated by multiple barriers to gene flow such as differences in mating time, differences
in mate choice, and decreased hybrid survival (Coyne and Orr 2004; Dopman et al. 2010), arguing that speciation
depends on the accumulation of barriers and strong reproductive isolation. Different barriers need not, however,
initially evolve between the same populations. Instead, independent barriers could restrict gene flow between
different populations, potentially as a gradual build-up of barriers with geographic distance (Barton 2013).
Without the coincident action of multiple barriers between the same populations, theory indicates that
differentiation will be centered at loci underlying barrier traits, reflecting weak overall reproductive isolation
and potentially migration-selection balance (Barton 1983; Barton and Bengtsson 1986; Barton and de Cara 2009;
Butlin and Smadja 2018; Flaxman et al. 2014; Schilling et al. 2018). At other genomic regions, gene flow and
recombination can allow for shared evolutionary processes within what is essentially a single population (Barton
2013).
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When multiple barrier traits become coincident in a process known as 'coupling,' their joint effects are believed
to enhance reproductive isolation and genomic divergence beyond their individual effects, potentially leading to
strong reproductive isolation sufficient for the evolution of two isolated species (Barton 1983; Barton and
Bengtsson 1986; reviewed in Butlin and Smadja 2018). Recent simulations of divergence with gene flow
suggests the presence of tipping-point dynamics, wherein a certain threshold of coupling, achieved by the
accumulation of new barrier loci or increased linkage disequilibrium (LD) among existing loci, initiates a
feedback loop of rapid differentiation across the genome (Flaxman et al. 2014, Schilling et al. 2018, reviewed in
Nosil et al. 2017). This coupling threshold may correspond to a critical point at which the strength of selection
across accumulated barrier loci, arising from both direct fitness effects of each locus and indirect fitness effects
of their non-random associations, outweighs the homogenizing impact of recombination (measured as φ, the

'coupling coefficient', Barton 1983). As coupling builds towards this tipping point, occasional recombination is
predicted to cause a lag in divergence at neutral loci resulting in heterogeneous genomic differentiation (Nosil
et al. 2017; Schilling et al. 2018). Genomic architectures that reduce recombination, including pleiotropy, tight
physical linkage, or chromosomal rearrangements, are therefore expected to promote coupling (Servedio et al.
2011; Dagilis and Kirkpatrick 2016, Ortiz-Barrientos et al. 2016; Kirkpatrick & Barton 2006). Although
coupling does not require physical linkage, in a widespread pattern known as the 'large X-effect,' sex
chromosomes often harbor more barrier loci than autosomes (Coyne and Orr, 1989; Presgraves 2008; 2018). The
X (or Z) chromosome might therefore be prone to coupling dynamics and more rapid chromosomal
differentiation (Lasne et al. 2017; Presgraves 2018). Consistent with this, 95% of 129 studies reviewed in
Presgraves (2018) find evidence between taxa of elevated differentiation on sex chromosomes relative to
autosomes, although there is no shortage of alternative hypotheses for biased sex chromosome differentiation.
104
Critical to theoretical predictions of a build-up of genomic divergence that ultimately characterizes new species
is the coupling of multiple barriers to gene flow. Understanding how coupling counteracts gene flow to allow
genomic divergence requires us to reconstruct the sequence of events, from barrier independence to barrier
coincidence, as speciation progresses. Much empirical work has indirectly studied the evolution of coupling
during speciation by quantifying genomic differentiation across lineages at differing stages of divergence
(Gagnaire et al. 2013, Seehausen et al. 2014; Shaw & Mullen 2014; Riesch et al. 2017, Xu & Shaw 2019, 2021).
Equally valuable are systems allowing direct comparisons of genomic variation when barrier traits or loci are
found in either a coincident or independent state. Such direct studies of coupling dynamics may be especially
challenging in many systems because barriers to gene flow, trait loci, and recombination landscapes are either
unknown or barriers are found exclusively in a coincident state. Consequently, strong empirical tests of coupling
theory are rare.
116
The European corn borer moth (ECB) *Ostrinia nubilalis* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) has multiple
features making it useful for studying the role of coupling dynamics during speciation. Most notable is the
presence of hybridizing population pairs that differ by uncoupled or coupled barriers. Although described as
lacking coincident effects in a recent review (Butlin and Smadja 2017), in fact European corn borer populations
differ in combinations of pheromone signaling, host-plant association, and phenology (voltinism) (Malausa et
al., 2007; Dopman et al. 2010, Coates et al. 2018). Throughout much of its introduced range in North America
and its ancestral range in Europe and Asia, two pheromone strains co-exist (Klun and Cooperators, 1975;
Anglade and Stockel 1984). In the E strain, females produce and males respond to a sex pheromone comprised
mainly of the E isomer of 11-tetradecenyl acetate (E pheromone), whereas Z moths use a blend of mainly Z
isomer (Z pheromone) (Klun 1973, Kochansky 1975). The Z strain is more widespread, including areas west of
the Appalachian Mountains where it occurs alone (Klun and Cooperators, 1975; Sorenson et al. 1992). Although
dietary generalists (Hodgson, 1928; Lewis, 1975), larvae show some host-plant specialization on cultivated
maize (Calcagno, et al. 2007; Fisher et al 2017), their predominant host plant (O'Rourke et al. 2010; Coates et
al. 2019). Only infrequent usage of non-maize hosts occurs in E strain populations of North America (O'Rourke
et al. 2010; Coates et al. 2019). In contrast, in France, the E strain shows a near complete affiliation with non-
maize hosts (Malausa et al., 2007), though this can be attributed to French populations belonging to the sister
species *O. scapulalis* (Calcagno et al. 2007; Frolov et al. 2007). Finally, three locally adaptive ecotypes have
been described in North America that differ in seasonal phenology. A northern ecotype (> 42˚N) produces one
mid-season generation (univoltine) per year, a central ecotype (~36–45˚N) makes one early-season and one late-
season generation (bivoltine), and a southern ecotype (< 40˚N) makes three or more generations (multivoltine)
(Showers et al. 1976; 1981). The northern ecotype uses the Z pheromone, whereas both Z and E pheromones are
used by central and southern ecotypes (Sorenson et al. 1992; Showers 1993). Northern and central ecotypes
become sympatric across an area stretching from Wyoming to Maine (Showers et al. 1975; 1981), resulting in
population pairs differing by voltinism alone, or both voltinism and pheromone.
141
The three main axes of phenotypic divergence (phenology, pheromone signaling, host-plant use) result in various
barrier effects. Populations of North American ECB moths can experience a temporal barrier from differences
in seasonal phenology (bivoltine versus univoltine), a behavioral barrier from differences in pheromone
communication (Z versus E), or a coincidence of the two barrier types (bivoltine E versus univoltine Z) (Figure

1). Ten other potential barriers to gene flow have been studied among North American populations, but they
appear comparatively weaker (Dopman et al. 2010). North American ECB are derived from Hungary and Italy
(Smith 1920, Caffrey and Worthly 1927) rather than France, where barrier effects between the ECB moth *O.*
nubilalis and its sister species *O. scapulalis* consist of a coincidence of pheromone and host, but not voltinism
(Thomas et al. 2003).
151
Four additional features of the ECB system have been shown by simulations to efficiently reduce gene flow or
promote the evolution of coupling, thereby allowing for rapid formation of distinct genotypic clusters (Flaxman
et al. 2014, Nosil et al. 2017, Schilling et al. 2018). First, evidence suggests pheromone signal and preference,
controlled by *pgFAR* (pheromone production) and *bab* (preference) genes (Unbehend et al. 2021, Lassance et al.
2010), are 'multiple-effect traits' (Smadja and Butlin 2011) that contribute to both pre- and post-zygotic isolation
(mate choice and behavioral sterility) (Glover et al. 1991; Dopman et al. 2010; Unbehend et al. 2021). Second,
in an example of 'magic trait' evolution (Servedio et al. 2011), temporal isolation arising from non-random
meeting of univoltine and bivoltine adults is an automatic, pleiotropic outcome of divergent natural selection on
diapause phenology, controlled by two interacting clock genes *per* and *Pdfr* (Dopman et al. 2005; Levy et al.
2015; Kozak et al. 2019). Third, three of four identified barrier loci (*per*, *Pdfr*, *bab*) map to the Z chromosome,
creating a 'large Z-effect' (Dopman et al. 2004; Kozak et al. 2019; Unbehend et al. 2021). Finally, a polymorphic
chromosomal rearrangement (putatively an inversion or multiple inversions), capturing at least one barrier locus
(*per*) and suppressing recombination across roughly 40% of the Z chromosome, may be abundant within some
populations using E pheromones (Wadsworth et al. 2015; Kozak et al. 2017).
166
Prior population genetic studies made observations important for understanding how coupling dynamics might
influence speciation in this system. Multiple studies have now demonstrated long distance ECB moth dispersal
of 30-60 km (reviewed in Sappington 2018), and a weak influence of geographic distance on patterns of genetic
variation (Bourguet et al. 2000; Kim et al. 2011; Coates et al. 2019). Instead, genetic structure appears more
related to barrier effects and potentially, rearrangement evolution. In France, differences in pheromone and host
plant use between sympatric *O. nubilalis* and *O. scapulalis* are associated with significant levels of genetic
differentiation (Bethenod et al., 2005; Malausa et al., 2007). The situation is more complicated in North America
where ECB moths display multiple barrier combinations. In an analysis of 65 mainly autosomal SNPs among
12 localities, pheromone signaling but not host or geography was found to significantly contribute to weak
genetic differentiation, but the influence of phenology was not measured (Coates et al. 2019). Using pooled
genome data, Kozak et al. (2017) mainly focused on estimating the size of the Z chromosome rearrangement,
but they did find elevated differentiation between a single population pair differing in both pheromone and
phenology, particularly across the ~10 Mb region of suppressed recombination (Wadsworth et al. 2015). Aspects
of these prior results appear consistent with the importance of coupling for divergence, but this interpretation
rests on incomplete genomic data and barrier effect combinations.
182
Here, we help resolve some earlier limitations by analyzing pooled genome data from 14 population samples
and compare genetic divergence between four types of population pairs characterized by 1) no major barrier
traits, 2) only phenology differences (voltinism), 3) only pheromone signaling differences, or 4) differences in
both phenology and pheromone signaling (joint divergence). We further analyze targeted amplicon sequencing
of the 'large-effect' Z chromosome and the autosomal pheromone production locus *pgFAR* from six locations
varying in barrier number. Critically, these data allow for comparisons of sympatric populations differing by
independent or coincident barriers, allowing us to ask whether we can detect empirical evidence that coupling
promotes speciation as suggested by theory. Accordingly, compared to barrier traits when acting alone, upon
coincidence we predict evidence of stronger selection or more efficient reduction of gene flow. Two expected
signatures are increased divergence around individual barrier loci as well as enhanced coupling as measured by
increased linkage disequilibrium (LD) among barrier loci. If overall selection after coupling outweighs
recombination, theory predicts tipping point dynamics and a sudden transition towards differentiation of neutral
loci. Differentiation can be genome-wide or more localized, but the combination of a 'large Z-effect' and a Z-
linked rearrangement might suffice in allowing for the build-up of sex chromosome divergence. An alternative
possibility is that coincident barriers do not lead to a detectable strengthening of the overall barrier. This could
mean that individual barriers are so weak that they evolve independently even when coincident, or possibly that

coupling effects are difficult to observe in natural systems, and theory could explore further quantitative predictions for empirical studies.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

We sampled at total of 13 localities in Eastern North America, collected between 2000 and 2014 (Figure 1). We categorized pheromone usage based on capture in Scentry *Heliothis* traps baited with either synthetic E (European corn borer, New York) or Z (European corn borer, Iowa) pheromone lures (Scentry Biologicals, Billings, MO). Traps were placed more than 12 m away from one another directly next to sweetcorn fields. Sites with more than 5 moths caught in both traps were considered to have both pheromone types present. Trap data were verified by gas chromatography of pheromone gland extracts for the presence of both E and Z isomers of 11-tetradecenyl acetate among individual females. For 7 sites, we sampled diapausing larvae from corn stalks and raised individuals under diapause breaking conditions (26˚C, 16h light) until eclosion, allowing for classification of voltinism based on post-diapause development (PDD) time (bivoltine: PDD time < 18 days; univoltine: PDD time > 38 days). For one population (Dover), we collected direct developing larvae in July. These individuals were mated as adults, larvae were exposed to diapausing inducing conditions and then phenotyped for PDD. For 5 sites, we determined voltinism by the seasonal timing of male capture in Z and E pheromone traps (bivoltine = early and late flight; univoltine = single mid-summer flight) (Glover 1991, Calvin 1994, Zaman 2008, Dopman 2010).

Figure 1. Map of collection sites and phenotypic information. Graphs indicate the frequency of adult moths across the growing season and number of distinct generations (voltinism). Graph and circle color indicates whether there were E (blue), Z (red) or both pheromone strains present at each collection site.

Pooled genome sequencing

To evaluate how the transition between independent and joint axes of phenotypic divergence might affect genomic differentiation, we performed pooled genome sequencing on 14 population samples (425 individuals) separated by pheromone signaling and phenology (5 bivoltine E (BE) populations, 3 bivoltine Z (BZ) populations, and 6 univoltine Z (UZ) populations; see Table 1). Pheromone strain assignment used *pgFAR* genotype (E or Z homozygotes) from individuals as determined by a diagnostic banding pattern following PCR *Taq*I-alpha RFLP assay (Coates et al. 2013). DNA for genome sequencing was isolated using Qiagen DNeasy tissue kits (Qiagen, Germantown, MD) except tissues were not vortexed during isolation to preserve high molecular weight DNA. All samples were treated with RNase A (Qiagen). DNA from samples from Bellona, NY were extracted using Qiagen genomic tips (20 G). Pools combined equal amounts of DNA from all individuals (with the same *pgFAR* genotype, either EE or ZZ; number of individuals per pool shown in Table 2), after quantifying DNA concentration using a Qubit (Thermo-Fisher). Pooled libraries (2 libraries per lane; 2-5 µg/uL per pool) were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq3000 using 150 bp paired-end sequencing (with the exception of Rockspring and Ways, which had 100 bp single end sequencing) at Iowa State University DNA Facility, Ames, IA.

Genomic reads were trimmed using Trimmomatic v.35 to remove Illumina adapters (TruSeq2 single-end or TruSeq3 paired-end). Reads with quality score (q) < 15 over a sliding window of 4 and reads < 36 bp long were removed. Repetitive regions of the ECB reference genome (GenBank BioProject: PRJNA534504; Accession SWFO00000000; Kozak et al. 2019) were masked by RepeatMasker (using *Drosophila melanogaster* TE library in repbase; http://www.repeatmasker.org/; accessed March 2017), to which trimmed genomic data were then aligned using bowtie2 (Langmead and Salzberg 2012). Aligned reads were sorted and filtered using Picard and samtools to remove duplicates and reads with a mapping quality score (Q) < 20 (Li et al. 2009). We calculated coverage from the aligned, filtered, sorted bam files using bedtools and the genomeCoverageBed function (Table 2) (Quinlan 2014). As described in Kozak et al. (2019), we determined chromosomal positions of genome scaffolds by aligning genotyping-by-sequencing data from pedigree families (with and without the recombination suppressor segregating) to the genome scaffolds and constructed linkage groups from identified SNPs in rQTL (Coates and Siegfried 2015, Kozak et al. 2017). We considered SNPs from Z chromosome-linked scaffolds that showed no recombination in E x Z strain pedigrees but recombined in Z x Z strain pedigrees to be inside the region of suppression (Wadsworth et al. 2015; Kozak et al. 2017). Twenty-nine scaffolds comprising 8.96 Mb of sequence were determined to be inside the region of recombination suppression while 38 scaffolds (11.94 Mb) were outside the region. We placed a small number (3%) of the Z chromosome-linked scaffolds using positions relative to other markers if they were identified as best hits from BLASTN searches against the genome scaffolds of markers or BACs from previously published Z-linkage maps and pedigree families in *O. nubilalis* (Kroemer et al. 2009; Levy et al. 2015; Koutroumpa et al. 2016; Yasukochi et al. 2016) and also in BLASTN searches of Z chromosome-linked genome scaffolds in the sister species *O. scapulalis* against the ECB genome (Brousseau et al. 2018). Order and orientation of scaffolds was determined using linkage information from previous maps and gene order from *Bombyx mori* and approximate locations across the Z chromosomes was calculated in Mb (as described in Kozak et al. 2019). Scaffolds with no evidence for Z chromosome linkage in any pedigree were designated as autosomal. Chromosome assignment of scaffolds to various autosomes (chr 2-31) was done using linkage groups in the pedigree families and synteny of scaffolds to *Bombyx mori* and *Melita cinxia* chromosomes (as described in Kozak et al. 2019). Chromosome 12 contains the *pgFAR* gene (Dopman et al. 2004).

We used SAMtools to identify single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in populations (Li et al. 2009). Scripts from the Popoolation2 package were used to filter SNPs (removing SNPs near small indels, and those with rare minor alleles that did not appear twice in each population), calculate allele frequency and F_{ST} among populations (Kofler et al. 2011). Pairwise differences in F_{ST} were calculated on 100 kb non-overlapping sliding windows (including only windows with a minimum coverage > 14 reads and a maximum coverage < 300 and at least 20 polymorphisms within the window, as recommended by Fabian et al. 2012). We conducted pairwise F_{ST} comparisons among four categories of populations: no divergence in pheromone or phenology (Z/Z, BZ/BZ,

274 UZ/UZ), differing only in voltinism (BZ/UZ), differing only in pheromone (BE/BZ), and differing in both
275 pheromone and voltinism (BE/UZ).
276
We compared F_{ST} for autosomal loci, Z chromosome loci inside the region of reduced recombination
("rearranged") and Z chromosome loci outside the region ("collinear"). We removed and separately analyzed
genomic scaffolds containing loci known to contribute to voltinism [*per* (voltinism; scaffold 532; Z chromosome
inside "rearranged" region; Kozak et al. 2019), and *Pdfr* (voltinism; scaffold87, Z chromosome "collinear"
region; Kozak et al. 2019)] and pheromone trait differences [*pgFAR* (female pheromone production: scaffold178,
chr 12; Lassance et al. 2009); *bab* (male flight response; scaffold662, scaffold50; Z chromosome "collinear"
region; Unbehend et al. 2021)]. We calculated and plotted F_{ST} separately for 100 kb windows overlapping
seasonal timing genes (*per, Pdfr,* N = 4 windows each scaffold), windows overlapping the *bab* locus (N = 4
windows), and windows overlapping the *pgFAR* locus (N = 5 windows). We calculated the average F_{ST} for all
population pairs of a given type within each 100 kb window and then took the mean of all windows for each
genomic region. We performed comparison among windows using a Kruskal-Wallis test and pairwise posthoc
Dunn's tests in the PMCMRplus package in R (Pohlert 2014).
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290 **Targeted amplicon sequencing**
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To specifically test how the transition from independent to coincident barrier effects in sympatry influences the
build-up of genomic differentiation, we performed amplicon sequencing of the 'large-effect' Z chromosome and
pgFAR on population samples at six locations (260 individuals, 6 sites) experiencing either no phenotypic
divergence or barrier effects (1 allopatric BZ population, 1 allopatric UZ population), pheromone divergence
and behavioral isolation (2 sympatric BE/BZ population pairs), or joint phenotypic divergence and cumulative
temporal and behavioral isolation (2 sympatric BE/UZ population pairs) (Table 2). Females were classified by
gas chromatography of pheromone gland extracts, and both sexes by diagnostic SNPs at the *pgFAR* gene.
Phenology classification was described above, using adult eclosion time as a proxy for PDD (except at Dover as
described above). At Delaware, only female samples were analyzed, but all other locations had both male and
female samples in approximately equal proportion.
302
We utilized a set of 67 primers for multiplexed PCR (Table S1). Primers were distributed over the length of the
Z-chromosome, including near one of the two temporal barrier genes (*Pdfr*) and one near the autosomal region
containing *pgFAR* (on chromosome 12; Figure S1). We designed primers using scaffolds from a draft ECB
genome targeting 450-470 bp product sizes. We tested primers in single reactions on both known E and Z strain
moths (from laboratory maintained phenotyped lines; not included in panel), and only included loci in the final
multiplex which successfully amplified DNA from both. We carried out two multiplexed reactions using a
Qiagen multiplex PCR kit following standard protocols in two 384-well plates. Following amplification, we
pooled all products and transferred them to one 384-well plate for barcoding. We created a single library by
pooling these products after dual barcoding using Nextera N5/N7 primers and OneTaq Polymerase (New
England Biolabs). We then cleaned the library using a with Ampure XP (Beckman Coulter) for 350-600bp
product sizes. We quantified it using a Qubit fluorometer (ThermoFisher Scientific) and sequenced it on a single
Illumina MiSeq (2x250) lane at the Cornell Institute of Biotechnology Genomics Facility, Ithaca, NY.
315
We demultiplexed and trimmed raw reads using a quality threshold of 20 with a custom Perl script. For each
locus, we aligned reads using the ClustalW algorithm (Larkin et al. 2007), generated a haplotype table for each
sample at all loci and called genotypes from the two most common haplotypes (minimum 4 reads total). If the
ratio of the most common haplotype to the second most common was above 0.8, a homozygous genotype was
called. We removed from analysis all individuals with ≥ 50% missing data, then loci with > 35% missing data.
Following these cutoffs, we re-filtered all individuals and removed those with ≥ 35% missing data. We tested
lower missingness cutoffs but found that a 35% missingness filter produced STRUCTURE and PCA results with
no discernable differences to lower filters. Applying quality filters resulted in a total of 217 moths (85 male, 132
female).
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Using Z chromosome data, we inferred the presence of distinct populations, assigned individuals to populations,
and identified admixed individuals using STRUCTURE (Pritchard et al. 2000). Since hemizygous females only
carry one Z chromosome, we treated all samples as haploid with males contributing two haploid sets of markers
(170 male haploid samples and 132 female haploid samples). To assure that this design was not biasing results,
we conducted separate STRUCTURE runs using only male samples (treated as diploid) or only female samples
(treated as haploid). Further, we conducted separate runs for each of these excluding autosomal markers. In all
cases, we demonstrated qualitatively similar results and could not detect any bias. The presented results include
all samples and all markers, unless otherwise specified. We tested K values from 1 to 7 with a burn-in phase of
10,000 repetitions and a run phase of 100,000 repetitions and used default model assumptions with no weight
given to location as a prior. A principal components analysis (PCA) complemented the analysis of genetic
structure using the ade4 package in R (Dray & Dufour 2007).
337
Finally, we measured linkage disequilibrium to quantify the strength of coupling at barrier loci (*pgFAR*, *Pdfr*)
and the degree to which selection and assortative mating are counteracting neutral gene flow and recombination
at each of the six sites. After filtering for a 0.15 minor allele frequency cutoff, we calculated r^2 values for every
pair of biallelic SNPs in the female moth dataset using custom scripts in R. Following calculations, we estimated
mean r^2 value per locus and then combined results by barrier effect type (i.e., no barrier, one barrier, two barriers).
We thinned this dataset to include only *pgFAR* and a single randomly selected locus per Z chromosome-linked
scaffold. This resulted in a final dataset including 27 loci: 11 Z chromosome-linked markers outside the
rearrangement (including *Pdfr*), 15 Z chromosome-linked markers within the rearrangement, and *pgFAR*.
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348   RESULTS
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350   **Pooled genome sequencing**
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As some population pairs were collected from the same site ("sympatric") and some from geographically distant
sites ("allopatric"), we tested for an effect of geographic distance on the matrix of all pairwise F_{ST} differences
using Mantel tests in the R package vegan. We used a matrix of geographic distance between sites (circle
distance) as the explanatory matrix but consistent with previous studies (Bourguet et al. 2000; Kim et al. 2011;
Coates et al. 2019), there were no significant effects of geography on genetic differentiation (for any category:
Z chromosome inside the region of reduced recombination $p = 0.47$, Z chromosome outside $p = 0.57$, autosomal
$p > 0.14$; 1000 permutations). A conservative analysis was restricted to those population pairs within ~100 km
(1-3 generations of dispersal, Sappington 2018) (6 population samples in NY, 7 population samples in PA). In
all cases, we demonstrated qualitatively similar results and could not detect any bias (Figure S2). Thus, we
included all pairwise comparisons regardless of site of collection to increase the number of comparisons that
could be analyzed.
363
All predicted chromosomes not genetically linked to trait loci showed little genetic differentiation regardless of
the number of phenotypic differences between population samples (mean $F_{ST} \leq 0.05$, $p > 0.1$, Figure 2). In
contrast, differentiation at Z chromosome and chromosome 12 loci increased as the number of barriers
accumulated. Differences in pheromone signaling led to a minor but significant elevation (25%) of
differentiation on chromosome 12 (no phenotypic divergence, Z/Z, mean $F_{ST} = 0.04$; pheromone divergence,
BE/BZ, mean $F_{ST} = 0.05$; Dunn's test, $p = 0.03$), whereas differences in phenology (voltinism) did not, as
expected since phenology barrier loci do not occur on chromosome 12 (no phenotypic divergence, Z/Z, mean
$F_{ST} = 0.04$; phenology divergence, BZ/UZ, mean $F_{ST} = 0.04$; $p = 0.86$). The largest change of differentiation on
chromosome 12 (50% increase) occurred upon joint divergence of pheromone and phenology (no phenotypic
divergence, Z/Z, mean $F_{ST} = 0.04$; joint divergence, BE/UZ, mean $F_{ST} = 0.06$; $p = 6.7 \times 10^{-5}$), but the increase
was not significantly greater than pheromone divergence alone ($p = 0.17$).
375

Figure 2. Genetic differentiation (mean F_{ST}) estimated in 100 kb windows plotted by predicted chromosome between population pairs lacking differences in barrier traits (Z/Z; red) or differing in phenology (BZ/UZ; green), pheromone signaling (BE/BZ; blue), or both phenology and pheromone (BE/UZ; purple). Scaffolds linked to barrier trait loci *pgFAR*, *per*, *Pdfr*, and *bab* were excluded from F_{ST} calculations on the Z chromosome and chromosome 12. Statistically significant differences via Dunn's test $p < 0.05$ are labeled with brackets.

For the Z chromosome (Figure 2), phenology divergence led to a weak (20%) non-significant increase of differentiation (no phenotypic divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.05$; phenology divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.06$; $p = 0.28$), whereas a significant (80%) increase was seen in the presence of pheromone divergence (no phenotypic divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.05$; pheromone divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.09$; $p = 0.01$). Joint divergence led to the greatest (140%) increase of Z chromosome differentiation (no phenotypic divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.05$; joint divergence, mean $F_{ST} = 0.12$; $p = 5.3 \times 10^{-9}$) and was statistically significant compared to phenology alone (100% increase, $p = 2.7 \times 10^{-6}$) and pheromone alone (33.3% increase, $p = 8.2 \times 10^{-3}$). This effect was primarily driven by elevated F_{ST} inside the region of reduced recombination among populations that differed in both pheromone and phenology (Figure 3, Figure 4). F_{ST} inside the region of reduced recombination ("rearranged region") was elevated in joint divergence comparisons relative to the remaining three population categories (all $p < 0.0001$; Figure 3D). F_{ST} on the Z outside the region of reduced recombination ("collinear" region) was significantly elevated between populations with joint divergence in barrier traits compared to populations that showed no differences in barrier traits and populations that only differed in phenology ($p < 0.0027$; Figure 3E). However, it was not quite significantly increased from populations that differed only in pheromone ($p = 0.092$). In populations that differed in just pheromone, F_{ST} inside the region of reduced recombination was elevated compared to populations lacking barrier effects ($p = 0.007$), but not populations differing in phenology ($p = 0.20$; Figure 3D).

Phenotypic divergence

Figure 3. A. Genetic differentiation (F_{ST}) at phenology barrier loci *per* and *Pdfr* between population pairs lacking differences in barrier traits (Z/Z; red) or differing in phenology (BZ/UZ; green), pheromone signaling (BE/BZ; blue), or both phenology and pheromone (BE/UZ; purple). B. Genetic differentiation at pheromone response barrier locus *bab* across population pairs. C. Genetic differentiation at pheromone production barrier locus *pgFAR* across population pairs. D. Genetic differentiation at neutral Z chromosome loci inside a ~10 Mb "rearranged" region of suppressed recombination across population pairs. E. Genetic differentiation at neutral Z chromosome loci outside a ~10 Mb region of recombination suppression ("collinear" region) across population pairs. Asterisks indicate significantly different comparisons.

With respect to barrier trait loci, the phenology loci (*per/Pdfr*) had elevated F_{ST} in jointly diverged population pairs compared to population pairs without phenology differences (all $p < 0.0012$), as well as those differing only in phenology ($p = 0.01$; Figure 3A). F_{ST} in the *bab* region increased in all populations that differed in pheromone compared to populations that did not ($p < 0.0002$; Figure 3B), and increased further in populations that differed in phenology and pheromone, although this was not statistically significant compared to pheromone alone ($p = 0.096$). F_{ST} in the *pgFAR* region increased in all populations that differed in pheromone compared to populations that did not differ in pheromone, but it did not increase in populations that showing joint divergence compared to only pheromone divergence. The 100 kb window with the highest mean F_{ST} on the Z chromosome in populations differing only in phenology overlapped the voltinism gene *per* (scaffold532: $F_{ST} = 0.23$; Figure S4), in populations differing only in pheromone signaling it was within the *bab* region (scaffold50: $F_{ST} = 0.39$), and the highest window in jointly diverged populations was inside the region of recombination suppression (scaffold804: $F_{ST} = 0.61$).

Targeted amplicon sequencing

The number of distinct genotypic clusters and degree of admixed ancestry varied across localities by the number of acting barriers. The most likely number of clusters across populations was two for all STRUCTURE runs ($K = 2$, Evanno et al. 2005). The two locations lacking any known barrier effect (Table 1) showed minimal admixture (Figure 4), and for all 73 individuals, more than 98% of their Z chromosome loci belonged to the same cluster (Q2 > 0.98; Figure 4A). The two locations differing in pheromone but not phenology (BE/BZ)

showed evidence of two genotypic clusters and greater admixture. At these sites, 22% (N = 19 of 83) of
individuals showed admixture (defined as 0.1 < Q < 0.9). The two locations where pheromone and phenology
could act coincidentally (BE/UZ) also showed two genotypic clusters, but unlike at sites where insects differed
only in pheromone signaling, most individuals showed limited admixture of the Z chromosome and the
proportion of admixed individuals was reduced by comparison. 96% of individuals at BE/UZ sites had a high
probability of belonging to either cluster 1 (N = 21, Q1 ≥ 0.9) or cluster 2 (N = 37, Q2 ≥ 0.9).

437
438   Figure 4. STRUCTURE plots partitioned by population category. Plotted on the right are the number of individuals that are
439   considered admixed (Q-value greater than 0.1 and less than 0.9) and not-admixed (Q value greater than 0.9 or less than 0.1). A. All
440   Z chromosome markers; B. rearranged Z markers; C. collinear Z markers. Red indicates assignment to cluster 1 (Z clade), blue
441   indicates assignment to cluster 2 (E clade).

442
Separate analyses of Z chromosome loci inside and outside the rearranged region showed that admixture
depended on marker location (Figure 4), in addition to barriers to gene flow. Population types significantly
differed in degree of admixed collinear regions (Fisher's exact test: $p = 7.63 \times 10^{-14}$), with an excess of admixture
at sites with insects differing only in pheromone signaling compared to sites without phenotypic divergence or
sites with joint differences in phenology and pheromone, whereas admixture of rearranged regions was similarly
low across all three population types (Fisher's exact test: $p = 0.386$). At sites where insects differed only in
pheromone signaling, nearly half (42%) of 83 individuals were estimated to have admixed collinear loci (0.1 <
Q < 0.9), whereas only 2 showed appreciable admixture at loci in the rearranged region (Fisher's exact test, p-
value = 1.64×10^{-10}). In contrast, at sites differing in both pheromone signaling and phenology, both collinear
and rearranged regions were relatively free of admixture and the estimated proportion of admixed Z
chromosomes did not significantly differ (3.3% vs 6.6%, Fisher's exact test, $p = 0.68$). Consistent with a low
per generation rate of admixture across the rearrangement, a large percentage of individuals of mixed ancestry
inferred from the rearranged region resembled F_1 hybrids (Q = 0.4 – 0.6; 3 of 4 admixed, 75%) compared to
regions with normal recombination rates (11 of 39 admixed, 28.2%) (Fisher's exact test, $p = 0.094$). The former
may represent F_1 heterokaryotype male offspring.
458

460
461 Figure 5. The accumulation of barrier traits leads to increase concordance between *pgFAR* and STRUCTURE clade assignment.
462 Bead-and-string plots depict association between sample genotypes at *pgFAR*, the autosomal locus controlling pheromone
463 production (border color) and Z chromosome marker-based STRUCTURE assignment (inner color). Samples were considered E-
464 clade if they were assigned to an E-strain associated STRUCTURE background at a 0.9 threshold or above, mixed if between 0.1
465 and 0.9, and Z-clade if below 0.1 (see Figure 4). Number of individuals listed inside beads.

466
We next evaluated Z chromosome admixture relative to the association of alleles at the autosomal pheromone
production gene *pgFAR* and found that sex-linked genotypic clusters 1 and 2 mainly corresponded to E and Z
pheromone signaling alleles, respectively. Moths assigned with high probability to either of the two clusters (Q1
or Q2 ≥ 0.9, N = 195) were usually homogenous for E or Z alleles at *pgFAR* (148; 76%), whereas moths showing
evidence of admixture (0.1 < Q < 0.9) also had heterozygote *pgFAR* SNP genotypes. We used a simple network
to visualize the E genotypic cluster (Q1 > 0.9), the Z genotypic cluster (Q2 > 0.9), and the admixed cluster (0.1
< Q1 < 0.9) separated by *pgFAR* genotype (Figure 5). The majority of moths demonstrating a mismatch between
their autosomal *pgFAR* genotype and their sex chromosome genotypic cluster assignment (N = 50) were
collected at sites differing only in pheromone (N= 40 / 77) (Figure 5). In contrast, sites differing in both
pheromone and phenology had fewer discordant individuals (N = 8 / 43).
477

Figure 6. Principal components analyses of (A) collinear and (B) rearranged Z chromosome markers. Individual labels are based on geographic location and population type. Percentages indicate the amount of variance explained by that axis.

Results from principal coordinate analysis (Figure 6, Figure S3) were consistent with STRUCTURE results. The first coordinate axis (15.0% explained variance) of a PCA using all Z chromosome markers was broadly consistent with *pgFAR* assignment (Figure S3A), and the samples that were assigned as intermediates were primarily admixed individuals within BE/BZ sites (Figure S3B). Variance across PC1 was largely driven by markers within the rearrangement, as shown by separate analysis of Z chromosome-linked marker sets in collinear (Figure 6A) and rearranged regions (Figure 6B). While PC1 in both datasets divided individual genotypes in cluster 1 and cluster 2, significantly more variance was explained by that axis with the rearranged marker dataset (22.3%) compared to the collinear marker dataset (9.5%), and a clear gap between clusters is evident in PCA of the rearranged marker dataset. The relative lack of clustering within the collinear dataset was largely driven by BE/BZ locations where moths diverged only in pheromone signaling, as these largely occupied the intermediate coordinate space. These same individuals, when assessed using solely rearrange markers, were assigned to coordinate space of cluster 1 or cluster 2.

Linkage disequilibrium across the entire Z chromosome increased as the number of barrier traits increased. r^2 values were lowest at geographic locations without barrier traits (mean=0.027), but were ~120% higher at locations with a single barrier trait (pheromone signal divergence, BE/BZ, mean= 0.060, Mann-Whitney U test no phenotypic divergence vs. pheromone signal divergence $p = 1.00$ x 10^{-20}) and ~310% higher at locations with two barrier traits (joint divergence, BE/UZ, mean 0.112, Mann-Whitney U test no signal divergence vs. joint divergence $p = 5.64$ x 10^{-54}). Linkage disequilibrium between markers located within collinear regions of the Z chromosome increased with the number of barriers, but to a lesser extent relative to rearranged regions (Figure 7). The lowest mean r^2 values occurred in locations without phenotypic divergence at barrier traits (0.031) while they were ~80% higher in locations with pheromone signal divergence (0.056, Mann-Whitney U test $p = 1.33$ x 10^{-09}) and ~130% higher at sites with joint divergence of pheromone signal and phenology (0.071, Mann-Whitney U test $p = 3.47$ x 10^{-4}). The most substantial increase in LD occurred within rearranged regions. Mean r^2 values were slightly lower within rearranged regions relative to collinear regions at sites locations with no barrier traits (no phenotypic divergence, 0.022 vs 0.031, Wilcox test $p = 3.15$ x 10^{-4}). At sites that differed only in pheromone signaling (BE/BZ), r^2 values were significantly higher in rearranged portions of the Z chromosome relative to collinear regions (0.097 vs 0.056, Mann-Whitney U test $p = 3.91$ x 10^{-5}). At sites with two barriers, r^2 values were highest among markers within the rearranged region (0.153) relative to collinear regions (0.071, Mann-Whitney U test $p = 9.86$ x 10^{-4}).

513
514 Figure 7. Linkage disequilibrium (r^2) between all Z chromosome SNPs separated by population type. The mean value is indicated
515 by a vertical black line. Significance from Mann-Whitney U tests comparing rearranged and collinear r^2 is shown.
516
Linkage disequilibrium between *pgFAR* and *Pdfr* increased as populations accumulated barriers (Figure 8). At
sympatric locations with no phenotypic divergence, mean r^2 between markers at *pgFAR* and *Pdfr* was 0.070. At
locations diverged only in pheromone signal, r^2 was 71% higher, at 0.120. For BE/UZ populations characterized
by joint divergence in pheromone signal and phenology, r^2 was remarkably higher (0.445), 536% higher than at
monotypic Z locations and 271% higher than at locations only differing in pheromone signal (means shown as
stars in Figure 8). Across population types, LD between *pgFAR* and Z chromosome markers showed increases
when comparing locations with divergence of pheromone signal (BE/UZ) to populations without barrier trait
divergence (Mann-Whitney test $p = 1.1 \times 10^{-5}$) and BE/BZ populations (Mann-Whitney test $p = 1.7 \times 10^{-5}$).
Comparisons between sites without barrier trait divergence and sites divergent only in pheromone signaling were
not significantly different (Mann-Whitney U test $p = 0.79$).

527
528 Figure 8. Linkage disequilibrium (r^2) calculated between the autosomal *pgFAR* gene and SNPs on the Z-chromosome, separated
529 by population type. The mean value is indicated by a vertical black line. The star depicts mean LD between SNPs at *pgFAR* and
530 the Z-linked *Pdfr* gene. Significance from Mann-Whitney U tests comparing population types are shown.
531
532 DISCUSSION
533
The origin of distinct genotypic clusters as speciation progresses is thought to depend on 1) the number and
genomic architecture of segregating barrier loci, 2) strength of selection or assortative mating on each locus, and
3) features that reduce the rate of recombination among barrier loci (Butlin et al. 2021, Felsenstein 1981, Nosil
et al. 2017, Seehausen et al. 2014). The ECB moth system is interesting because many of these factors are at
least partially understood. Genomic locations of barrier loci and a Z-chromosomal rearrangement are known,
the strength of relevant barriers have been estimated, and barrier effects among populations can be independent
or coincident, allowing insight into how the transition from a weaker barrier(s) to a stronger overall barrier relates
to the emergence of exclusive genetic groups.
542

Figure 9. A graphical overview of genomic differentiation as barriers to gene flow accumulate. Patterns reflect key findings but are not real data. A. Differentiation at locations differing only in phenology (temporal barrier), B. only in pheromone signaling (behavioral barrier), or C. joint divergence along both phenotypic axes (temporal and behavioral barriers). D. An illustration of how coincidence shapes differentiation of barrier loci by allowing both direct and indirect selection.

Phenology divergence alone

Our findings indicate that a >20 day shift in phenology between univoltine Z (UZ) and bivoltine Z (BZ) populations results largely in regions of differentiation overlapping Z-linked *per* and *Pdfr* loci controlling the timing of diapause termination (Figure 2, 3A, 3C, 3D). Lack of widespread genetic differentiation was somewhat unexpected because the estimated strength of assortative mating using Coyne and Orr's (1989) method indicates intermediate reproductive isolation (mean *RI* = 0.66, Dopman et al. 2010). Moreover, as a 'magic trait,' reproductive isolation would be enhanced if hybrid individuals suffer low fitness because their intermediate phenology causes a temporal mismatch with the seasonal environment (Kozak et al. 2017; 2019; Servedio et al. 2011). Among interacting populations, the chromosomal rearrangement spanning ~10 Mb of the Z-chromosome (from ~6 Mb to ~16 Mb) (Wadsworth et al. 2015; Kozak et al. 2017) might conceivably help reduce the number of such intermediate genotypes, as it includes *per* located at ~13.5 Mb (but not *Pdfr* at ~18 Mb) (Kozak et al.

561   2019; Unbehend et al. 2021). Yet we found limited evidence of enhanced differentiation in this part of the Z
562   chromosome (Figure 3C), which would have been expected if a rearrangement differed in frequency and was
563   helping maintain high fitness genotypes by preventing recombination (Kirkpatrick & Barton 2006).
564
Shallow phenology-associated genetic structure is also seen in other insect systems, for example summer and
winter forms of the pine processionary moth (Santos et al. 2007, 2011), as well as marine midge populations
living in different phenological niches (Fuhrmann et al. 2021). One possible explanation for weak, localized
genetic isolation in these systems is if temporal barriers are commonly conditionally dependent, and therefore
unstable. Like other insect species, year-to-year differences in weather alters breeding cycle phenology in the
ECB moth (Beck 1983), which can lead to occasional increased overlap of allochronic mating flights or possibly
ease fitness consequences of intermediate hybrid phenology, thereby allowing genomic regions not tightly linked
to selected barrier loci to be exchanged. In possible agreement with conditional dependence, Dopman et al.
(2010) found the barrier effect to vary by as much as two-fold across years. Despite the potential for divergent
selection on phenology to efficiently reduce gene flow, allochrony does not therefore appear to be strong enough
to promote divergence by itself, a question recently considered across a variety of taxa (Taylor and Friesen
2017). Instead it may more commonly function when combined with other barriers, such as habitat or resource
partitions (Doellman et al. 2018), or when reinforcing pre-existing divergence (Lowry et al. 2008; Møller et al.
2011).
579
580   **Behavioral divergence alone**
581
There is general agreement that many of the ~160,000 moth species remain separate because of changes in
pheromone preference and pheromone blend. However, as with ongoing discussions on phenology, current
debate centers on whether this phenotypic axis suffices to initiate the origin of new species (reviewed in Allison
and Cardé 2016). The buildup of genome-wide differentiation that ultimately characterizes species is thought to
be favored by 'multiple-effect traits' like pheromone signaling in ECB moths, because they are highly efficient
at reducing gene flow (Smadja and Butlin 2011). Indeed, the two routes of reproductive isolation that evolved
from pheromone divergence (mate choice and behavioral sterility) are predicted to eliminate almost 90% of gene
flow between Z and E strains, at least under laboratory conditions (mean RI = 89; Glover et al. 1991; Dopman
et al. 2010). In the field, Unbehend et al. (2021) recently showed that male moths carry either E type or Z type
alleles at *bab* (pheromone preference) and at *pgFAR* (pheromone blend) genes ~80% of the time, indicating
coupled pre- and post-zygotic isolation is strong enough in nature to counteract randomization of these physically
unlinked genes.
594
Our findings corroborate prior inferences of selection and assortative mating on *bab* and *pgFAR* barrier loci in
field populations (Figure 3B, 3C), but they go on to suggest that divergence of pheromone signaling alone may
not necessarily lead to the emergence of genome-wide differentiation (Figure 2). Nevertheless, bivoltine E (BE)
and bivoltine Z (BZ) populations do exhibit broad differentiation of chromosomes harboring *bab* and *pgFAR*
genes (Z chromosome and autosome 12) (Figure 2, 3D, 3E), as well as long-range LD between sympatric
populations (Figure 7). Differentiation was unexpectedly high within rearranged regions of the Z chromosome
(Figure 3D, 3E), despite *bab* (~18.7 Mb) being collinearly located ~3 Mb away from the nearest estimated
rearrangement breakpoint (Figure S1). This might indicate that divergent selection acts on another component
of the pheromone system controlled by loci within the rearrangement. If true, two prime suspects are the
tandemly repeated odorant receptor loci *OR4* and *OR6* (~12.14 Mb) required for physiological perception of E
and Z pheromone components within the male antenna (Koutroumpa et al. 2014). Overall, the apparent stability
of chromosome but not genome-wide differentiation implies the sex pheromone system of moths might reduce
gene flow enough to allow a partial build-up of differentiation, but this phenotypic axis alone may not lead to
substantial progress towards the emergence of well-defined species.
609
610   **Joint phenotypic divergence**
611
Our analyses of bivoltine E (BE) and univoltine Z (UZ) moths indicate that joint divergence along multiple
phenotypic axes (phenology and pheromone signaling) is associated with intensified genetic differentiation. The

expected progression towards enhanced coupling as behavioral and temporal barriers coincide in sympatry was
detected as elevated LD between unlinked behavioral barrier and temporal barrier genes (*pgFAR* and *Pdfr*)
(Figure 8). Differentiation at temporal barrier loci (*per*, *Pdfr*) increased in the presence of behavioral divergence
(Figure 3A, phenology vs. joint divergence). Likewise for the behavioral barrier locus *bab* in the presence of
phenology divergence (Figure 3B, pheromone vs. joint divergence). Unlike *bab*, differentiation was not elevated
at *pgFAR* (Figure 3C, pheromone vs. joint divergence), a result likely explained by exclusion of *pgFAR*
heterozygotes when creating phenotypically divergent population pools for sequencing. As shown by the
amplicon data (Figure 5), *pgFAR* heterozygotes are more than twice as frequent at sites differing only in
pheromone signaling (BE/BZ), compared to sites that also differ in phenology (BE/UZ). Therefore their removal
may have artificially inflated estimated *pgFAR* genetic differentiation in BE/BZ comparisons (e.g., Landisville,
Dover). In contrast, levels of differentiation at this locus in comparisons of jointly diverged sites may be more
reflective of reality, since heterozygotes are relatively rare (e.g., Rockspring, Harner).
626
The wider genomic landscape appears to be similarly influenced by joint divergence. On the Z chromosome,
both long-range LD (Figure 7) and inter-chromosomal LD with *pgFAR* (Figure 5, 8, S4) increased upon the
coincidence of behavioral and temporal barriers in sympatry. Furthermore, whereas evidence of reduced
admixture (or greater clustering) on the Z was mainly limited to the rearrangement when sympatric populations
differed in pheromone signaling, this signature expanded into collinear regions when sympatric populations also
differed in phenology (Figure 4, Figure 6). Finally, overall differentiation of the two chromosomes containing
the four barrier loci (Z chromosome and autosome 12) increased by more than two-fold (Figure 2).
634
All of these features are congruent with prior estimates of cumulative reproductive isolation. When differences
in sex pheromone communication as well as phenology act as barriers, their cumulative effects are estimated to
result in almost complete reproductive isolation (mean *RI* = 0.96, Dopman et al. 2010). The process underlying
heightened genetic differentiation is unlikely to simply involve a sudden increase in fitness effect on each barrier
locus (direct selection). Instead, as barrier loci increase their non-random associations during coupling, a higher
mean fitness differential can be achieved between alternative multi-locus genotypes (indirect selection). Since
each locus can have its own fitness effect and also be indirectly influenced by the fitness effect of other loci
(Barton 1983), overall selection is more effective at each locus, as is the overall barrier to gene flow at each
locus, making it more difficult for neutral alleles to cross population boundaries (Barton and Bengtsson 1986).
644
645 **Conclusions**
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We argue that our study provides support for the coupling hypothesis of speciation (Felsenstein 1981; Smadja
and Butlin 2011; Seehausen et al. 2014) and helps close a gap between theoretical predictions of this hypothesis
and empirical systems. Our population comparisons show that whether barriers are independent or coupled make
important contributions to a hallmark of the speciation process, the build-up of genomic differentiation. Genetic
distances fit expectations from estimates of reproductive isolation, with locus-specific differentiation associated
with the weakest barrier (temporal), differentiation across much of a chromosome with the barrier of moderate
strength (behavioral), and chromosome-wide differentiation when the two barriers operate cumulatively. These
results demonstrate that the joint action of multiple, coincident barrier effects lead to levels of genomic
differentiation that far exceed those of single barriers acting alone, consistent with theory in which coupling
allows indirect selection to combine with direct selection and thereby result in a stronger overall barrier.
657
It is tempting to speculate that the association between biased Z chromosome differentiation and biased Z linkage
of barrier loci is due to a special role the sex chromosome plays during speciation. While the 'large X-effect'
does represent a strong hypothesis to account for the nearly universal pattern of elevated X (or Z) versus
autosome differentiation (reviewed in Presgraves 2018), biased differentiation could arise in the absence of
barriers as a simple byproduct of intrinsic differences between autosomes and the sex chromosome (e.g.,
effective sizes, recurrent selection). Therefore, a stronger test of the role of the 'large X' during speciation is
whether the enrichment of barrier loci on sex chromosomes exaggerates any sex-linked differentiation
attributable to these 'intrinsic' processes. Our population comparisons allow us to apply such a test. Z
chromosome differentiation is 1.2-fold greater than autosomal differentiation in the absence of barrier effects,

but with coupled divergence of the *per–Pdfr–bab* complex on the Z chromosome, Z differentiation is 3-fold
greater than autosomal differentiation (excluding the *pgFAR* autosome 12) (Figure 2). The substantial difference
in biased differentiation suggests that the evolution of a 'large Z-effect' disproportionately renders the sex
chromosome resistant to gene flow whereas autosomal loci are more freely exchanged. At least in this system,
the sex chromosome appears to have a major role during speciation.
672
Finding chromosome-wide but not genome-wide differentiation when populations diverge along multiple
phenotypic axes suggests that the overall barrier upon coupling may only partly outweigh gene flow and
recombination. Thus, a critical tipping point or threshold of coupling that could allow for sudden differentiation
of most of the genome was not reached (Nosil et al. 2017). When barriers are coincident, much of the genome
appears well mixed and moderate genetic differentiation (F_{ST} = 0.05 – 0.15) is observed for only two
chromosomes containing barrier loci, making further divergence challenging without evolution of either more
barrier loci or stronger selection/assortative mating. Simulations demonstrate that, in certain cases, many
divergently selected loci may be required for genome-wide differentiation (Feder et al. 2014, Flaxman et al.
2014). Some empirical studies seem to support these predictions, including Midas cichlids, where a transition
from locus-specific to genome-wide divergence coincides with a transition from simple to polygenic barriers
(Kautt et al. 2020). Strengthening of the overall barrier in the ECB moth could in time be facilitated by the
evolution highly polygenic traits, perhaps in the form of intrinsic post-zygotic barriers. However, it is also
possible that many intermediate stages of speciation seen in nature, including the ECB moth, are either stably
maintained or even temporary, and that barrier traits may not remain coincident should ecological or geographic
shifts take place (Seehausen 2006). If so, then coupling and current population differentiation will disappear or
rebound according to external environmental factors.
689
Understanding how and why barrier traits evolve and become coincident or disappear remains as a critical
problem for speciation biology, and few empirical systems have been able to directly assess coincidence of
known barrier traits in different stages of coupling. Future work on this study system will reconstruct the
evolutionary and demographic history of this group and provide a framework for inferring the timing and
selective history of genes underlying barrier phenotypes. Ultimately, we must reconstruct not only the sequence
of evolution of individual barriers, but also the timing and causal factors responsible for their coupling. Although
byproduct explanations have been proposed that do not require coupling itself to be selectively favored (Butlin
and Smadja 2017), adaptive coupling seems likely in the ECB moth and can be experimentally studied by
measuring fitness of full allelic combinations in nature. Indirect approaches are equally promising for identifying
factors associated with changes of coupling in nature. Since it is now possible in this system to precisely estimate
population differentiation and the extent of coupling of all major barrier loci (*bab, pgFAR, per, Pdfr*) across
various spatial, ecological, and historical contexts, the causal links that establish barrier coupling and facilitate
neutral divergence during speciation appear to be within reach.
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900   TABLES
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902   Table 1. Characteristics and locations for pooled data.

Site	Pheromone	Voltinism	Number Males	Number Females	Collection Method	Coverage after alignment
Bouckville-Madison, NY	Z	Univoltine	14	6	DI	37.0
Bellona, NY	E	Bivoltine	31	0	PT	53.18
Bellona, NY	Z	Univoltine	25	0	PT	41.52
Dover, MA	Z	Bivoltine	17	5	DD	15.83
East Aurora, NY	Z	Bivoltine	16	18	DI	32.35
Geneva, NY	Z	Univoltine	13	12	DI	5.94
Harner, PA	E	Bivoltine	31	0	PT	7.25
Harner, PA	Z	Univoltine	27	0	PT	4.59
Landisville, PA	E	Bivoltine	41	0	PT	19.29
Landisville, PA	Z	Bivoltine	39	0	PT	5.04
Penn Yan, NY	Z	Univoltine	11	15	DI	23.54
Rockspring, PA	E	Bivoltine	34	0	PT	10.36
Rockspring, PA	Z	Univoltine	33	0	PT	10.26
Ways, PA	E	Bivoltine	37	0	PT	13.33

903   PT = pheromone trap, DD = direct-developing larvae, DI = Diapausing larvae
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907   Table 2. Characteristics and locations for amplicon sequencing data.

Site	Population Type	Number Females	Number Males	Frequency of *pgFAR* genotypes EE	EZ	ZZ	Difference in average eclosion time between *pgFAR* ZZ and EE insects (Days) [†]
Dover, MA	Bivoltine E / Bivoltine Z	22	27	50.0%	29.5%	20.5%	[‡]
East Aurora, NY	Bivoltine Z	18	15	0.0%	3.5%	96.5%	-
Farmington, NY	Bivoltine E / Univoltine Z	26	19	27.8%	8.3%	63.9%	20.1
Laurel & Newark, DE	Bivoltine E / Bivoltine Z	51	0	12.8%	34.0%	53.2%	1.74
Penn Yan, NY	Bivoltine E / Univoltine Z	20	9	24.0%	16.0%	60.0%	34.63
Union Springs, NY	Univoltine Z	24	29	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	-

908   † Time to adult eclosion for diapausing insects (26˚C, 16h light) acts as a proxy for post-diapause development
909   time
910   ‡ Time to eclosion data was not available for these samples, but was calculated for the subsequent F_1 generation
911   in the lab and confirmed to be bivoltine (see Material and Methods for more detail).