

# ***MaLAdapt* reveals novel targets of adaptive introgression from Neanderthals and Denisovans in worldwide human populations**

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## **Abstract**

Adaptive introgression (AI) facilitates local adaptation in a wide range of species. Many state-of-the-art methods detect AI with *ad-hoc* approaches that identify summary statistic outliers or intersect scans for positive selection with scans for introgressed genomic regions. Although widely used, these outlier-based approaches are vulnerable to a high false-negative rate as the power of different methods vary, especially for complex introgression events. Moreover, population genetic processes unrelated to AI, such as background selection or heterosis, may create similar genomic signals as AI, compromising the reliability of methods that rely on neutral null distributions. In recent years, machine learning (ML) methods have been increasingly applied to population genetic questions. Here, we present an ML-based method called *MaLAdapt* for identifying AI loci from genome-wide sequencing data. Using an Extra-Trees Classifier algorithm, our method combines information from a large number of biologically meaningful summary statistics to capture a powerful composite signature of AI across the genome. In contrast to existing methods, *MaLAdapt* is especially well-powered to detect AI with mild beneficial effects, including selection on standing archaic variation, and is robust to non-AI selection sweeps, heterosis, and demographic misspecifications. Further, *MaLAdapt* outperforms existing methods for detecting AI based on the analysis of simulated data and on a validation of empirical signals through visual inspection of haplotype patterns. We apply *MaLAdapt* to the 1000 Genomes Project human genomic data, and discover novel AI candidate regions in non-African populations, including genes that are enriched in functionally important biological pathways regulating metabolism and immune responses.

## 37 Introduction

38 The discovery of archaic hominins, such as the Neanderthals in Western Eurasia and the  
39 mysterious Denisovans in Asia and Oceania<sup>1,2,11–14,3–10</sup>, is one of the most important scientific  
40 findings in human evolution over the last century. The high-quality ancient genomes from both  
41 Neanderthals and Denisovans<sup>2,3,5</sup> further revealed that our ancestors not only overlapped with the  
42 archaic hominins in space and time during Out-of-Africa migrations, but also interbred with them,  
43 through a process known as archaic introgression. Subsequent work has shown the genomic  
44 variants from the archaic hominins played a key role in shaping the phenotypic and genotypic  
45 landscapes observed in modern humans<sup>10,15–18</sup>, including through adaptive introgression.  
46 Adaptive introgression refers to a process by which adaptation occurs via genetic variants that  
47 were introgressed into the modern population from the archaic population<sup>19–21</sup>. Currently, there is  
48 evidence of adaptive introgression in modern humans from both Neanderthals and Denisovans  
49 in worldwide populations<sup>7,17,19,22–27</sup>, including but not limited to the adaptation to UV  
50 radiation<sup>16,22,23,28,29</sup>, cold climate<sup>29,30</sup>, infectious diseases<sup>11,31,32</sup>, and high altitude environments<sup>33–</sup>  
51 <sup>38</sup>. Outside of modern humans, adaptive introgression also has been observed in a large range of  
52 organisms, including plants (maize, *Arabidopsis*), invertebrates (*Drosophila*, butterfly), and  
53 vertebrates (mice, fish)<sup>21,39–41</sup>.

54  
55 The traditional methodology to detect adaptive introgression typically relies on the “outlier  
56 approach”. Current implementations typically take on one of two flavors. The most commonly  
57 used method is to infer genome-wide signals of positive selection and introgressed ancestry  
58 separately, and then classify regions that are outliers for both attributes as targets of adaptive  
59 introgression<sup>7,15–17,19,22–24</sup>. Alternatively, one can use standalone summary statistics that capture  
60 signature of adaptive introgression<sup>1,19,42,43</sup>. If a genomic region is an outlier to one or two of such  
61 signature statistics, it would be identified as an adaptive introgression candidate region.

62  
63 Despite their wide use, both implementations of outlier approaches suffer from a series of issues  
64 that compromise power and precision. For the methods that intersect outliers from different  
65 methods, because methods to detect positive selection and archaic ancestry vary in power and  
66 have different error rates, intersecting outlier signals from these two signals can lead to a high  
67 false negative rate. This may particularly be an issue for the inference of archaic AI in modern  
68 humans, as the methods for detecting positive selection are generally more powerful at detecting  
69 recent sweep events, whereas archaic introgression occurred over more ancient time scales. The  
70 standalone statistics, on the other hand, are particularly prone to high false positive rates due to

71 non-adaptive mechanisms compromising the null distributions for adaptive introgression<sup>44–46</sup>. For  
72 example, recessive deleterious variants may accumulate privately in isolated populations. Once  
73 admixture occurs, their fitness effects become masked in hybrid individuals, leading to a heterosis  
74 effect, where introgressed ancestry increases in frequency in the absence of positive selection.  
75 Previous works<sup>45,46</sup> suggest that the false positives may particularly be magnified in genomic  
76 regions with high exon density and low recombination rate, due to the elevated levels of recessive  
77 deleterious mutations leading to heterosis effects in such regions upon introgression.

78  
79 In addition to challenges related to the population genetic signals of AI, genome-wide scans for  
80 selection face several statistical challenges as well. One major challenge with developing  
81 genome-wide inference tools is that the genomic regions containing the signature of interest  
82 typically represent a small proportion of the genome, compared to the proportion of genomic  
83 regions not containing the signatures. Therefore, the highly imbalanced ratio of a few true  
84 positives in a background of true negatives can easily lead to a high false discovery rate due to  
85 multiple testing<sup>47,48</sup>, even if a method has high power and a nominally low false-positive rate. In  
86 addition, genome-wide inference methods to detect selection often have low power due to the  
87 presence of various confounding factors, combined with the fact that most of the signatures are  
88 mild and hard to be distinguished from the genomic background.

89  
90 With the rapid emergence of genomic data, machine learning (ML) and deep learning-based  
91 methods have recently been increasingly applied to the study of population genomics<sup>49</sup>.  
92 Compared to traditional model-based methods, ML algorithms show great promise at overcoming  
93 the restrictions of traditional statistical methods. Specifically, ML methods can have high power  
94 to detect mild signals, high precision at distinguishing confounding mechanisms, and easier  
95 implementation of realistic, complex models. In population genetics studies, recent applications  
96 of ML include the inference of selective sweeps<sup>49–52</sup>, archaic ancestry<sup>22,53,54</sup>, population  
97 demographic models<sup>55,56</sup> and recombination rates<sup>57,58</sup>. For the detection of adaptive introgression,  
98 however, the application of ML is still in its infancy. So far, only one study<sup>59</sup> has presented a deep  
99 learning method called *genomatnn*. This method is trained using genomic haplotype images,  
100 which shows high accuracy, but is computationally expensive. Furthermore, a key challenge for  
101 ML and deep learning methods is that the underlying model is unknown, therefore the  
102 deterministic mechanism for the trained model remains a black box. Here we address this issue  
103 by using biologically meaningful features in the model, and use decision tree-based algorithm so  
104 that the importance of all features in making predictions can be retrieved.

105  
106 Here, we present *MaLAdapt*, a novel ML-based method for detecting genome-wide adaptive  
107 introgression in modern humans. *MaLAdapt* is trained using the pattern of functional elements in  
108 the human genome<sup>60,61</sup>, and modern Eurasian demographic history including single pulse of  
109 archaic introgression<sup>2,62</sup>. *MaLAdapt* utilizes a decision tree-based model called  
110 ExtraTreeClassifiers (ETC)<sup>63</sup> as its main algorithm, and shows high power and high precision at  
111 detecting adaptive introgression signals at 50kb-resolution across the whole genome. *MaLAdapt*  
112 infers AI signature through a large composite of biologically meaningful population genetic  
113 statistics, which addresses a key challenge that it is hard to get mechanistic insights from ML/deep  
114 learning predictions. *MaLAdapt* outperforms existing methods for detecting adaptive introgression,  
115 especially given highly imbalanced class ratios, and its performance is robust to demographic  
116 misspecifications and other confounding mechanisms such as recessive deleterious mutations  
117 and positive selection unrelated to introgression. By applying *MaLAdapt* to empirical human  
118 genetic variation data from the 1000 Genomes Project<sup>64</sup>, we discover targets of adaptive  
119 introgression candidate regions in all non-African human populations by both Neanderthals and  
120 Denisovans that were previously undetected. We additionally present a pre-trained version of  
121 *MaLAdapt* optimized for modern human applications, as well as the simulation and machine  
122 learning pipeline scripts that enable the application of *MaLAdapt* in non-human organisms with  
123 different genomic structures and demographic histories.

124

## 125 **Results**

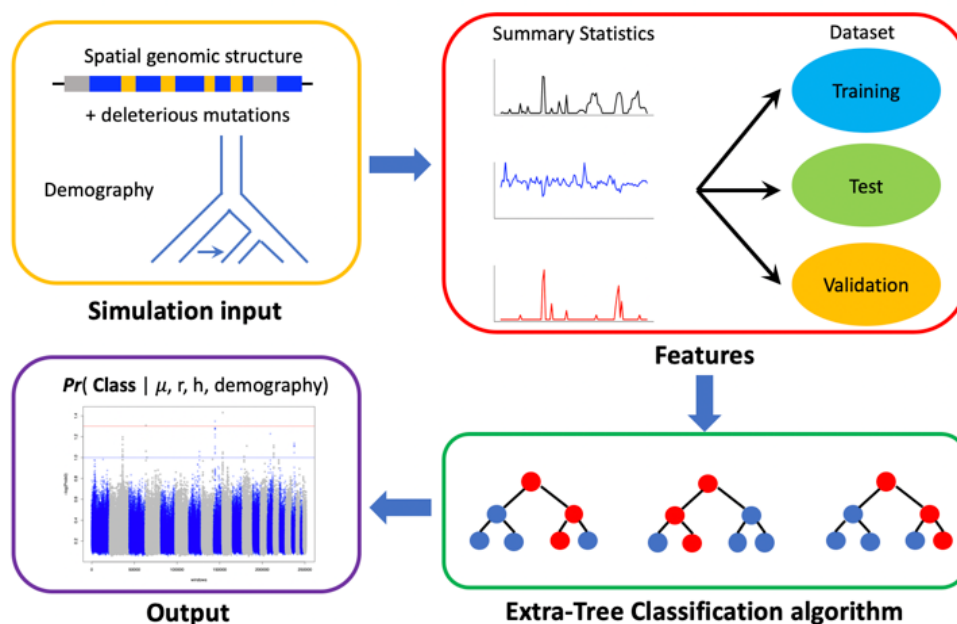
### 126 Overview of *MaLAdapt*

127 *MaLAdapt* is a supervised **M**achine **L**earning method for detecting genome-wide **A**daptive  
128 Introgression, currently optimized at detecting adaptive introgression from archaic hominins in  
129 non-African modern human populations (Figure 1). The goal of *MaLAdapt* is to predict whether  
130 an adaptive introgression has occurred in a given 50kb genomic window. Essentially, this is a  
131 binary classification problem, where each window can be classified as “AI” vs. “non-AI”. The  
132 window-length was chosen to capture the mean length of archaic introgressed haplotypes in  
133 humans (>44kb)<sup>3</sup> (see Methods). The underlying machine learning model for *MaLAdapt* is a  
134 decision tree-based algorithm called the Extra-Tree Classifier (ETC)<sup>63</sup>, which creates a  
135 hierarchical structure of numerous randomized decision trees that each takes a subset of features  
136 computed per 50kb window. The model further implements a meta estimator that fits the joint  
137 prediction of all decision trees. *MaLAdapt* relies on the genomic sequence and knowledge of the

138 demographic history of a donor population, a putatively non-introgressed outgroup population,  
139 and a recipient population that experienced introgression from the donor population.

140  
141 The ETC model is trained using labeled simulation data obtained from forward-in-time simulations  
142 in SLiM<sup>65</sup> of 5MB genomic segments with genic structure and recombination rates sampled from  
143 the empirical human genome, under a modern Eurasian demographic model that experienced a  
144 single pulse of archaic introgression. In each simulation, an adaptive mutation with a selection  
145 coefficient drawn from a prior distribution arises and becomes fixed in the archaic population prior  
146 to introgression, and become adaptive in the recipient Eurasian population. We vary the number  
147 of generations after the introgression (See Methods, Figure 2, and Supplementary Table 1).

148  
149 Features or summary statistics are computed in 50kb sliding windows across the 5MB region.  
150 Therefore, each genomic variant is predicted five times in sliding windows. Further, given that  
151 only 5 of such 50kb-sliding windows would encompass the beneficial mutation, the ratio between  
152 “A” window and “non-A” window across a 5MB segment is approximately 1:100. The simulation  
153 data is further divided into training and testing datasets. Some simulations with positive selection  
154 not related to adaptive introgression were simulated under the same demography with its data  
155 included as “non-A” labels in the training data. The trained model is evaluated for its performance  
156 by comparing against other ML algorithms and existing adaptive introgression signature statistics  
157 and methods. The finalized model is then used to predict adaptive introgression on all autosomes  
158 in 19 non-African populations from the 1000 Genomes project dataset<sup>64</sup>.



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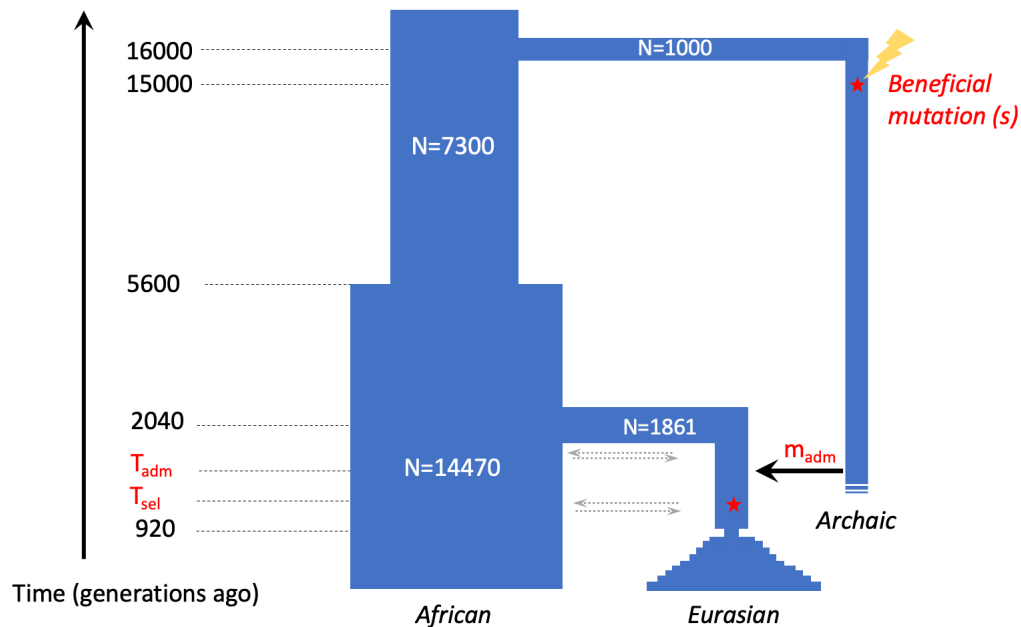
160 **Figure 1: Schematic overview of *MaLAdapt* workflow**

161 *To train MaLAdapt, we simulate 1000 randomly sampled genomic segments of 5MB length with*  
162 *realistic genic structure, recombination rates and distribution of deleterious mutations under a*  
163 *modern human demography with archaic adaptive introgression (AI). We extract summary*  
164 *statistics in sliding 50kb-windows as features, and train a hierarchical decision tree algorithm*  
165 *(ERC) with data labeled with binary AI and non-AI classes. After a comprehensive model*  
166 *optimization, testing, and feature selection, we apply the trained model to empirical modern*  
167 *human genomics data to predict AI candidates.*

168

169 *MaLAdapt* accurately detects adaptive introgression

170 We first test the accuracy of *MaLAdapt* on simulated full-5MB genomic segments under the same  
171 demography as the training data (Figure 2). Here the class ratio between *non-AI* and *AI* used for  
172 prediction, reflects the true class ratio used to simulate the test data (~1:100). The class ratio  
173 refers to the proportion of sliding 50kb windows with and without the introgressed beneficial allele.  
174 *MaLAdapt* predicts adaptive introgression (AI vs. non-AI) in each 50kb window and returns a  
175 prediction probability. We define true or false positive as whether *MaLAdapt* predicts AI in a given  
176 50kb window that contains the beneficial mutation. The prediction probabilities are further  
177 summarized by probability thresholds and we compute Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC)  
178 and Precision-Recall curves (Figure 3), in which we visualize the True Positive Rate (TPR), False  
179 Positive Rate (FPR), Precision (equivalent to 1-False Discovery Rate [FDR]), and recall  
180 (equivalent to TPR) at varying thresholds. Figure 3, shows two curves for *MaLAdapt* in red and  
181 blue colors, which represent the accuracy of *MaLAdapt* at detecting adaptive introgression (AI)  
182 and non-adaptive introgression (*non-AI*), respectively.



183

184

**Figure 2: Simulation demography in MaLAdapt**

185 *We simulated an ancestral human population that diverged into an archaic human population and*

186 *ancestral African population. The latter population subsequently split into an Eurasian population*

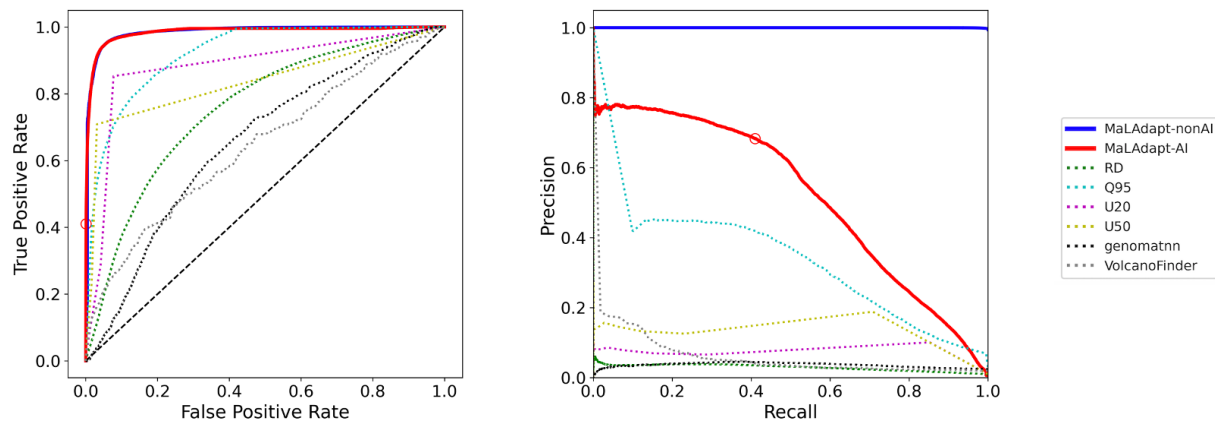
187 *experienced two bottleneck events, representing Out-of-Africa migrations and European-Asian*

188 *split, followed by an exponential growth. Sometime between the two bottleneck events, the*

189 *Eurasian population experienced a single pulse of archaic introgression at a varying time and*

190 *amount, which introduced a mutation that later became beneficial in the Eurasian population. See*

191 *Supplementary Table 1 for the full range of simulation parameters.*



192

193

**Figure 3: Accuracy of MaLAdapt and comparison to related methods**

194 To assess the *MaLAdapt* performance and accuracy, we plot Receiver Operator Characteristic  
195 (ROC, left panel) and Precision-Recall (PR, right panel) curves for the prediction probabilities of  
196 *MaLAdapt* AI class (red solid), non-AI class (blue solid), and other AI signature statistics including  
197 *RD* (green dotted), *Q95* (turquoise dotted), *U20* (pink dotted), *U50* (yellow dotted), *genomatnn*  
198 (black dotted), and *VolcanoFinder* (gray dotted) on the same testing data obtained from Figure 2  
199 demography. The red circle corresponds to *MaLAdapt* AI prediction threshold of 0.9.

200  
201 We compare the accuracy of *MaLAdapt* to other state-of-the-art methods for detecting adaptive  
202 introgression by applying all methods to the same testing dataset we obtained from the three-  
203 population archaic adaptive introgression model (different from the training data). *MaLAdapt*  
204 outperforms all other methods. Across all prediction probability thresholds, *MaLAdapt* has the  
205 highest power while maintaining the highest precision and the lowest false positive rate compared  
206 to all other methods under comparison, including the *RD*, *Q95*, *U20*, and *U50* summary statistics<sup>19</sup>,  
207 *genomatnn*<sup>59</sup> - a deep learning-based method for detecting AI leveraging haplotype structure  
208 information, and *VolcanoFinder*<sup>66</sup> a reference-free method for predicting AI using genomic  
209 polymorphic data (Figure 3, Supplementary Table 5). We reject the null hypothesis that the  
210 difference in AUROC between *MaLAdapt* (when predicting AI) and *Q95* - the second best-  
211 performing method - is zero with a  $p$ -value  $< 2.2e-16$  via jackknife, and reject the null hypothesis  
212 that the difference in AUPR between *MaLAdapt* and *Q95* is zero with a  $p$ -value=1.438e-7 via  
213 jackknife<sup>67</sup>. Thus, we can conclude that *MaLAdapt*'s improvement of power and precision over  
214 other methods is statistically significant. We note a substantial reduction of accuracy in both  
215 *VolcanoFinder* and *genomatnn*, compared to their respective originally reports. However, there  
216 are several key differences between *genomatnn*, *VolcanoFinder* and *MaLAdapt* that may explain  
217 the reduced performance of this method on our simulation data, including the complexity of  
218 underlying models considered by different methods (See Discussion).

219  
220 We weigh both the ROC and Precision-Recall curve to determine a prediction probability  
221 threshold for calling AI segments that maximizes the power and precision of *MaLAdapt*. We show  
222 in Figure 3 that at  $Pr(AI) = 0.9$  (i.e.  $Pr(non-AI) = 0.1$ ), the precision of *MaLAdapt* is 0.683 (FDR =  
223 0.317), with a recall (TPR) of 0.410, and FPR at 0.001. At this threshold, *MaLAdapt* outperforms  
224 all other related methods, especially in the precision-recall curve, showing *MaLAdapt*'s  
225 outstanding ability to account for the highly imbalanced ratio between AI and non-AI classes. This  
226 is important because the class ratio is likely to be even more skewed in the human genome.  $Pr$   
227 ( $non-AI$ ) = 0.1 can also be justified as a multiple testing problem: in sliding 50kb windows, each



228 locus is scanned 5 times, and a significant value for a window being AI (*i.e.* not being non-AI)  
229 should be the default probability threshold, which is 0.5, divided by 5.

230

### 231 *MaLAdapt* is robust to misspecification of the demographic model

232 Next, we assessed the sensitivity of *MaLAdapt* to uncertainty and mis-specification of the  
233 demographic parameters. In the training process, most parameters related to adaptive  
234 introgression, including the time of introgression ( $T_{adm}$ ), the time of selection ( $T_{sel}$ ), selection  
235 coefficient ( $s$ ), introgression amount ( $m$ ), are simulated as variables drawn from uniform  
236 distributions (see Method section). Additionally, we simulated 1000 randomly sampled genomic  
237 segments of 5MB to represent the genic structure and recombination rate distribution on the  
238 empirical human genome. The rest of the demography uses a model based on the evolution of  
239 modern Eurasians<sup>62</sup> with a pulse of archaic introgression<sup>2</sup>.

240

241 To determine the robustness of *MaLAdapt* to model misspecifications, we perturb the key  
242 adaptive introgression-related parameters one at a time, and with each alternative parameter, we  
243 simulate adaptive introgression of 5MB genomic segments (100 replicates per parameter) as new  
244 testing dataset, and apply *MaLAdapt* trained on the original model to the new testing data and  
245 evaluate its accuracy. Specifically, we ask how *MaLAdapt* performs when: 1)  $T_{sel}$  is 200  
246 generations lower than the original lower bound of  $T_{sel}$  distribution (410 generations ago; denoted  
247 as " $T_{sel\_low}$ "); 2) The introgression fraction ( $m$ ) is 2-fold lower than the original lower bound (at  
248 0.5%; denoted as " $m\_low$ "); 3) The introgression fraction ( $m$ ) is 2-fold higher than the original  
249 upper bound (at 20%; denoted as " $m\_high$ "); 4) the selection coefficient ( $s$ ) is 10-fold higher than  
250 the original upper bound (0.1; denoted as  $s\_high$ ); 4) the genomic segments sampled for  
251 generating testing data are different from the ones used in the training process (denoted as  
252 " $segment$ "); and 5) the Eurasian population growth rate and Out-of-Africa bottleneck size are  
253 different than the training simulations (denoted as " $demo$ "). We did not explore the selection  
254 coefficient ( $s$ ) being smaller than the original lower bound ( $1e-4$ ) because with such weak  
255 selection, it would be difficult to generate AI simulations without the beneficial mutation being lost  
256 in the recipient population. We also did not perturb the time of introgression ( $T_{adm}$ ) because the  
257 range of  $T_{adm}$  is bounded by the split time between Eurasians and ancestral Africans, as well as  
258 the split time between Europeans and Asians.

259

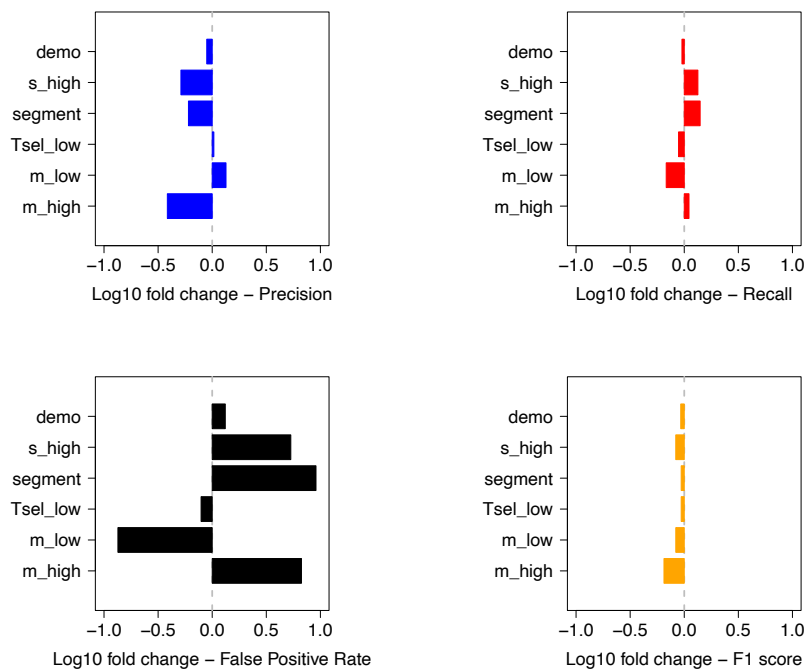
260 In addition to Precision, Recall (TPR), and FPR, we also computed the F1 score as an accuracy  
261 metric. F1 is defined as the weighted average between Precision and Recall (Methods). We

262 evaluate the performance of *MaLAdapt* at the 5 alternative parameter combinations listed above  
263 by computing the Log10 fold change of each accuracy metric when comparing against values  
264 obtained from using the original testing data (Figure 4a-b). We find that *MaLAdapt* remains robust,  
265 even when most AI-related parameters are mis-specified. Especially noteworthy, the precision of  
266 AI detection was not compromised, and even increased slightly, when the selection time is low,  
267 representing selection on standing archaic variation in very recent times (<610  
268 generations/15,000 years ago).<sup>68-70</sup> Further, performance remained high when the introgression  
269 amount is low, representing a low initial frequency of archaic variants. These observations,  
270 together with the training of *MaLAdapt* accounting for extremely low strength of positive selection,  
271 show that *MaLAdapt* is particularly powerful and reliable at detecting mild, incomplete adaptive  
272 introgression sweeps. *MaLAdapt* also shows little to moderate precision loss when the  
273 demography of the recipient population changes, as well as when the testing genomic segments  
274 are different from the training segments.

275  
276 There are two parameters that, when mis-specified, reduce the precision of *MaLAdapt* by more  
277 than 30%. These include large selection coefficients ( $s = 0.1$ , 10-fold larger than in simulations)  
278 and high introgression fraction ( $m = 20\%$ , two-fold higher than in simulations). Strong positive  
279 selection ( $s\_high$ ) led to a loss in precision since although both FPR and TPR increased under  
280 this scenario, it inflated FPR more than it did to TPR, where a high FPR is potentially caused by  
281 falsely classifying windows nearby strong positive selection focal windows as AI. A high amount  
282 of introgression, which can be interpreted as either a significant amount of single pulse or a  
283 combination of multiple pulses, reduces precision because it increases the FPR more than it does  
284 the TPR. Promisingly, the weighted average of precision and recall, which is measured by F1,  
285 changes little with regards to any of the alternative parameters, indicating *MaLAdapt*'s robust  
286 performance at model misspecification especially with highly imbalanced class ratios.

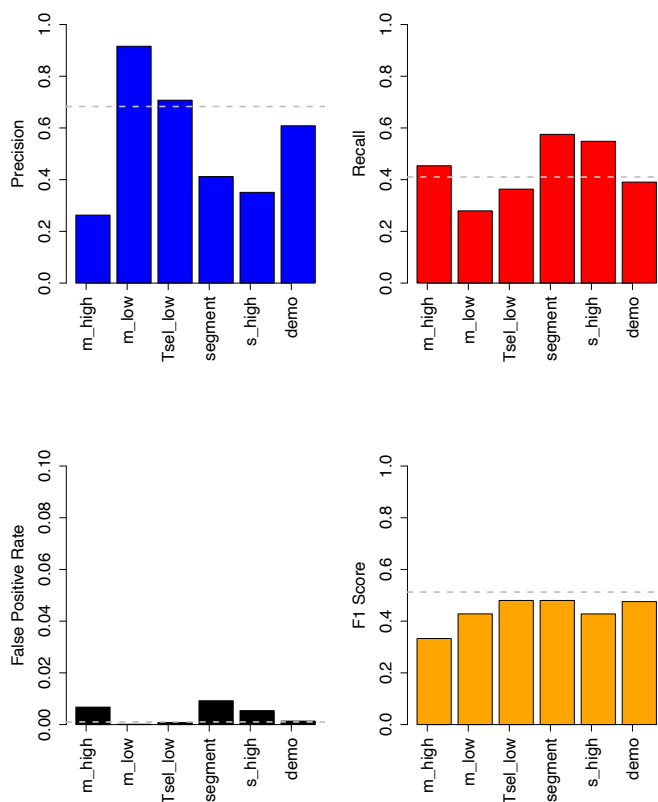
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296 (a)



297

298 (b)



299

300

**Figure 4: *MaLAdapt* is robust to demographic misspecification**

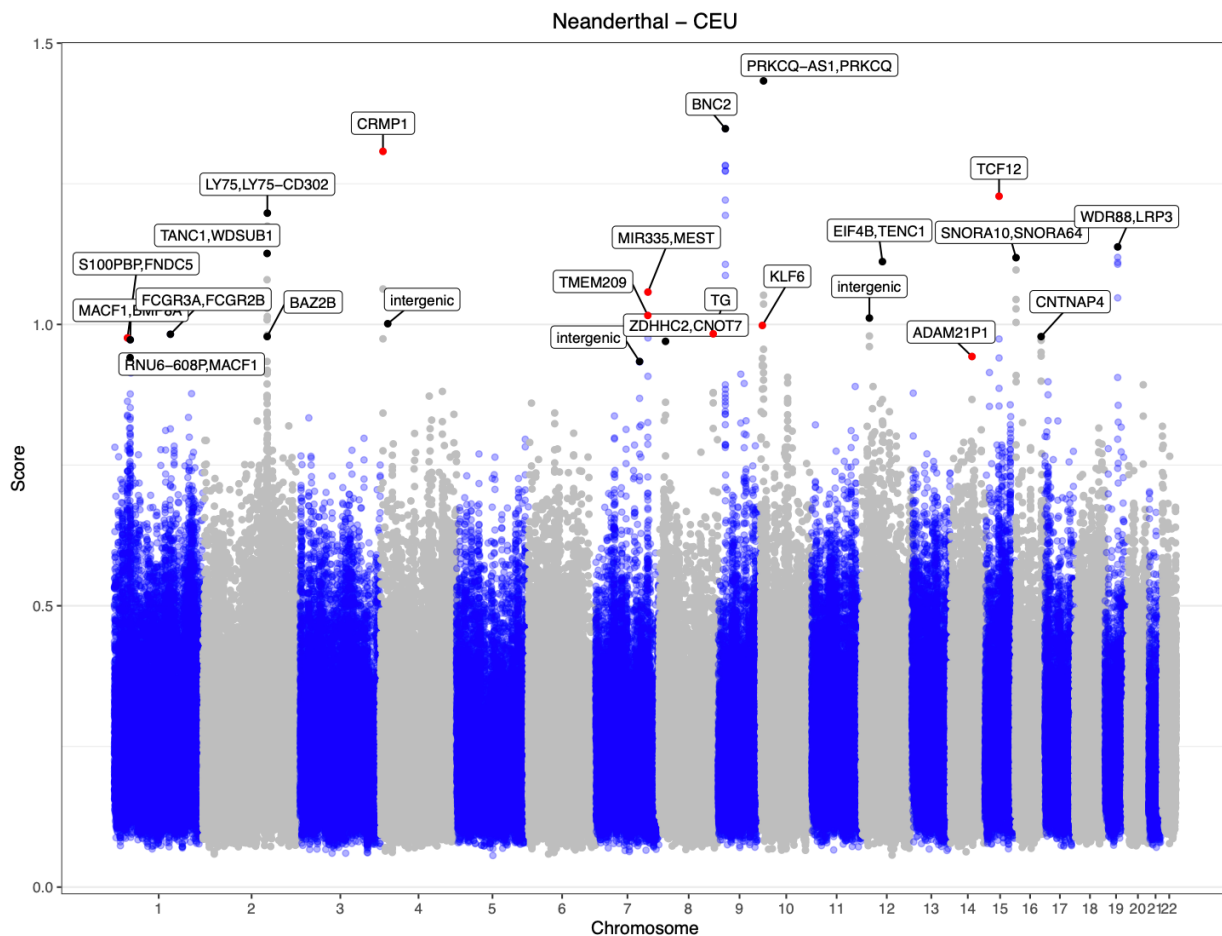
301 *We evaluated MaLAdapt’s robustness by applying the model to different sets of testing data with*  
302 *out-of-bound values of key demographic parameters compared to the training data. We compute*  
303 *the performance metrics (including Precision, Recall, False Positive Rate and F1 score) and*  
304 *compare them against the original data (gray dotted line) under each testing scenario. Panel (a)*  
305 *shows the log of the value difference (testing scenario minus the original), in which a longer bar*  
306 *indicates a higher fold change for the given metric, and the sign of the bar indicates whether the*  
307 *testing metric value increases (positive) or decreases (negative). Panel (b) shows the absolute*  
308 *value of the performance metric under each testing scenario.*

309  
310 Additionally, we assess the ability of *MaLAdapt* to distinguish adaptive introgression from positive  
311 selection unrelated to adaptive introgression. We simulated non-introgressed positive selection  
312 scenarios using 1000 genomic segments that were different from those used in the training data,  
313 with the rest of the demography and parameter distributions the same as the training data. We  
314 show in a confusion matrix (Supplementary Table 4) that *MaLAdapt* correctly assigned non-  
315 introgressed sweeps (to “*non-AI*” class) at 99.87% of the time, in contrast to “*AI*” class at 0.13%  
316

### 317 *MaLAdapt* reveals novel adaptive introgression targets in worldwide population from 318 Neanderthals and Denisovans

319 We computed features in 50kb sliding windows across the genome using Neanderthals (Altai  
320 individual) and Denisovan (Altai Denisovan) as reference genomes respectively, and predicted AI  
321 from Neanderthals and Denisovans in 19 non-African populations from the 1000 Genomes  
322 Project<sup>64</sup>. In all comparisons, we use the Yorubans (YRI) as the non-introgressed outgroup. We  
323 intersected the 50kb windows predicted as AI with GENCODE database to get lists of genes  
324 overlapping with the regions, and we merged overlapping AI windows. Here we show Neanderthal  
325 AI in Europeans (CEU) as an example in the main text, and the information on Neanderthal AI in  
326 other populations as well as Denisovan AIs can be found in the Supplementary Figure 16-17 and  
327 Supplementary Table 5-6. By summarizing previously reported Neanderthal AI candidates from  
328 relevant studies, and intersecting the findings from *MaLAdapt*, we report novel Neanderthal AI  
329 candidates in all non-African populations, highlighted in the Manhattan plots (Figure 5).

330



331  
332 **Figure 5. Adaptive Introgression from Neanderthals in European population (CEU)**

333 We applied *MaLAdapt* to predict AI in overlapping 50kb windows (step size 10kb) along the  
334 genome of non-African populations of the 1000 Genomes data. Here we show the AI prediction  
335 results of the European population (CEU), using African (YRI) as non-introgressed outgroup and  
336 Altai Neanderthal as the introgression donor. The Y-axis shows the AI prediction score, which  
337 equals the  $-\text{Log}_{10}$  transformed value of  $[1-\text{Pr}(\text{AI})]$ . Each dot in the plot represents a 50kb window.  
338 The windows that did not reach the *MaLAdapt* AI threshold are colored in blue or gray depending  
339 on the chromosomes. The windows detected as AI are colored in black if they have been reported  
340 by previous studies before, or in red if they are novel findings from this study. The labels highlight  
341 the gene names that overlap with the AI windows.

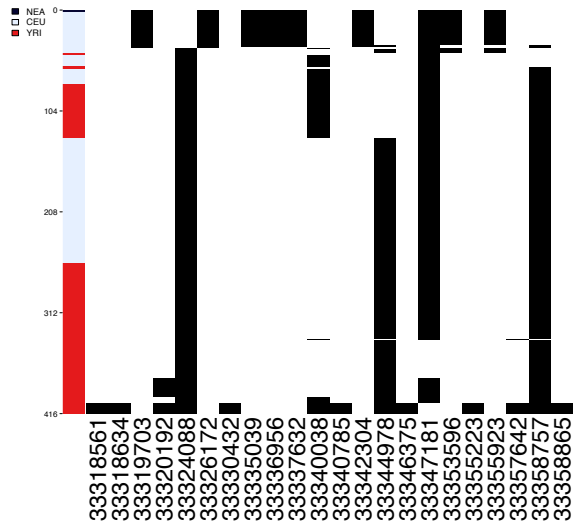
342  
343 We use a two-step process to evaluate the legitimacy of the novel AI discoveries by *MaLAdapt*.  
344 First, we summarize the canonical hits found by previous studies<sup>10,16,17,19,23,59,66,71,72</sup>. These are  
345 defined as genes that have been reported as a target of Neanderthal AI by more than 1 study.  
346 We ask what proportion of such canonical AI hits did *MaLAdapt* manage to discover. We show

347 that the we found 100% of the most reported hits (those seen by at least 5 studies). On average,  
348 *MaLAdapt* detected more than 50% of other repeatedly reported Neanderthal AI hits (Table 1).  
349 For the repeatedly identified hits that *MaLAdapt* did not detect as AI, we further examined the  
350 prediction probabilities in such regions. We found that that *MaLAdapt* predicted  $Pr(AI)$  being no  
351 less than 0.7, suggesting that *MaLAdapt* did find evidence of AI, despite these genes did not  
352 making it over the 0.9 cutoff (Supplementary Figure 6). Next, we examined the haplotype structure  
353 of our AI candidates to visually validate the legitimacy of our hits. We show in Figure 6 and  
354 Supplementary Figure 5 that all 9 newly-discovered gene regions in CEU appear to be legitimate  
355 adaptive introgression candidates. Specifically, under AI, we expect to see a clear block of  
356 haplotypes in the introgressed population (e.g. The Europeans) that have close affinity to the  
357 archaic genome (e.g. The Neanderthals), and we do not expect such blocks of haplotypes to be  
358 present in the non-introgressed population (e.g. Yoruba)<sup>38,73</sup>. Note that this pattern is present in  
359 all of these candidate regions.  
360

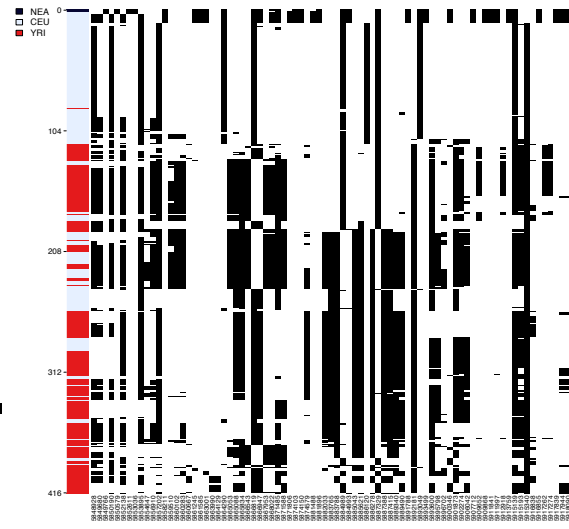
Number of times reported as Neanderthal AI	Number of genes	Percentage of genes detected by <i>MaLAdapt</i>
5	4	100%
4	13	76.93%
3	25	24.00%
2	110	54.54%

361 **Table 1: Percentage of previously reported Neanderthal AI regions detect by *MaLAdapt***  
362 *We summarize gene regions on the human genome by the number of times they have been*  
363 *reported by previous studies as Neanderthal AI candidates (column 1). We count the number of*  
364 *genes in each category (column 2), and examine the percentage of repeatedly reported AI*  
365 *genes that is recovered by *MaLAdapt* (column 3).*  
366  
367  
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373  
374

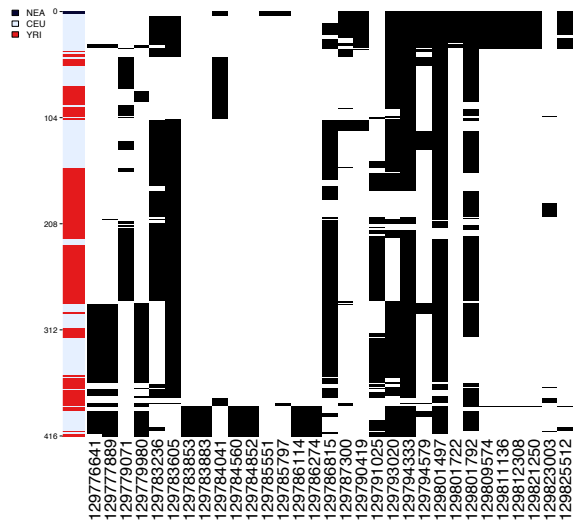
375 a) *S100BP*



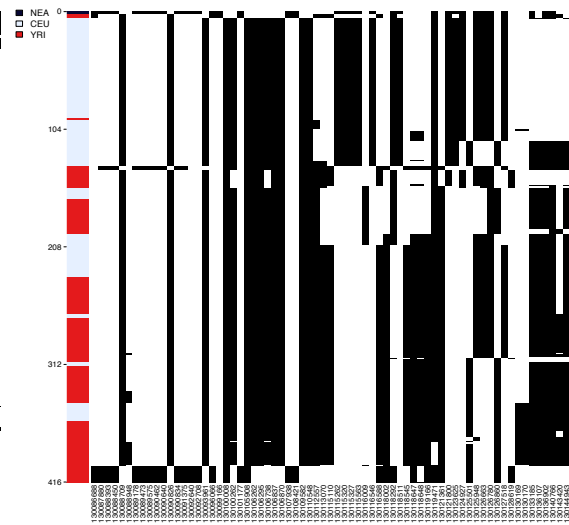
b) *CRMP1*



377 c) *TMEM209*



d) *MEST*

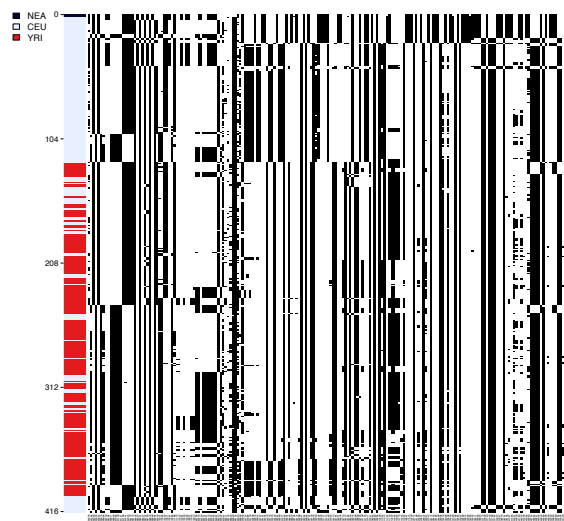
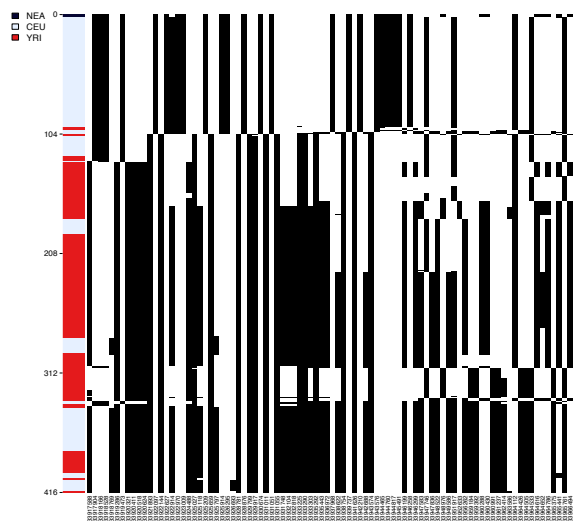


379 e) *TG*



f) *KLF6*



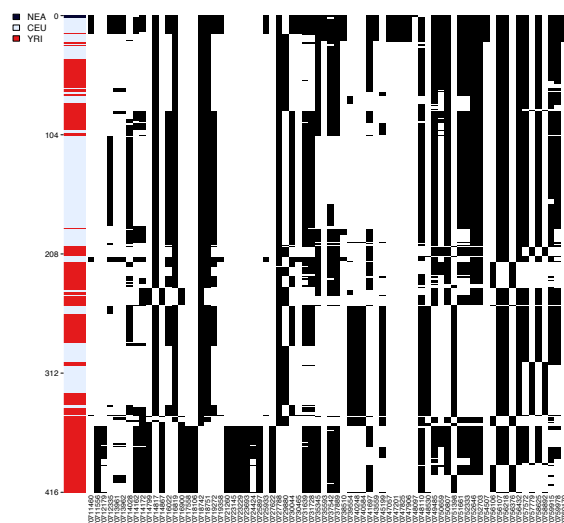
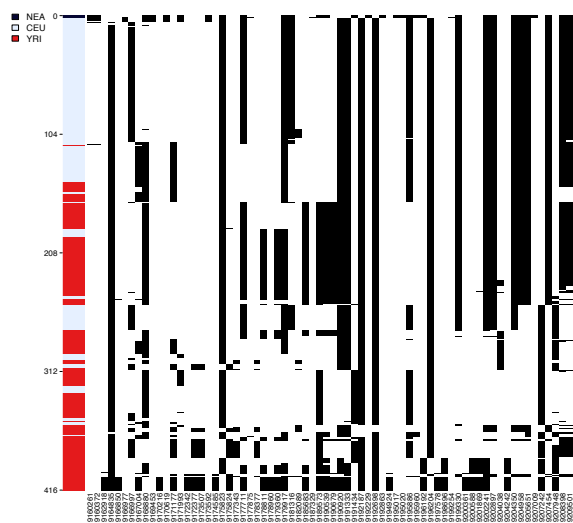


380

381

382 g) Intergenic

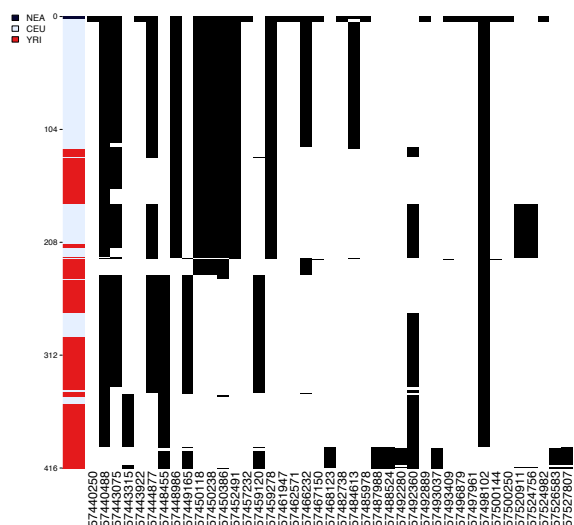
h) *ADAM21P1*



383

384 i) *TCF12*





385  
386 **Figure 6: Haplotype structure of the novel Neanderthal AI candidate regions in the CEU**

387 *We plotted the haplotype structure of 9 candidate regions predicted by MaLAdapt as AI from*  
388 *Neanderthals in CEU. For each region, we plotted the haplotypes of Altai Neanderthal (black),*  
389 *CEU individuals (blue) and YRI individuals (red), and clustered and sorted the haplotypes by*  
390 *decreasing distance to the Neanderthal genome. In other words, rows closer to the top of the plot*  
391 *represent haplotypes that are more similar to that of the Neanderthal. In the haplotype structure,*  
392 *each row represents a haplotype, and the column denotes a SNP (black lines indicate the*  
393 *presence of alternative allele).*

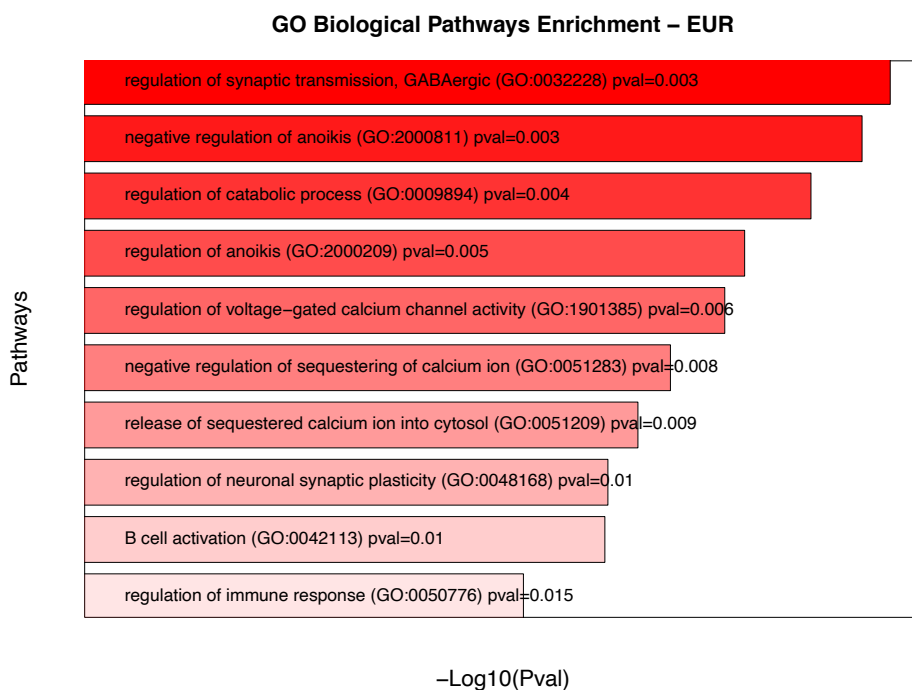
394  
395 To examine the biological implications of adaptive introgression in non-African populations, first  
396 we performed a Gene Ontology (GO) biological processes<sup>74</sup> enrichment analysis of Neanderthal  
397 AI candidates using the *Enrichr* tool<sup>75,76</sup>. We combined the Neanderthal AI candidates identified  
398 by *MaLAdapt* in all 19 non-African populations into 4 superpopulations as defined by the 1000  
399 Genomes study. Namely, we grouped the populations as Europeans (EUR), East Asians (EAS),  
400 South Asians (SAS) and Americans (AMR). We found that on a global level, introgressed variants  
401 from the Neanderthals played a key role in facilitating biological processes involved in metabolism  
402 regulation, adaptation to environments, and immune responses (Figure 7).

403  
404 Next, we compared the distribution of Neanderthal AI probabilities as predicted by *MaLAdapt* in  
405 genes that code for proteins that interact with RNA viruses (the VIP genes) to other genes and  
406 genomic regions. Previous work suggests that the RNA viruses drove the adaptive introgression  
407 between Neanderthals and modern humans<sup>77</sup>. Although we find a slight enrichment of AI in VIP

408 genes compared to non-VIP genes (Supplementary Figure 14-15), this difference is not significant  
409 (Supplementary Table 8, Fisher's exact  $p$ -value=0.846, odds ratio=1.060). However, VIP genes  
410 that were reported as AI candidates<sup>77</sup> show a substantial increase in AI probability in Europeans  
411 when compared to the genomic background ( $p$ -value < 2.2e-16) and other VIP genes ( $p$ -value <  
412 2.2e-16), further validating our method's power.

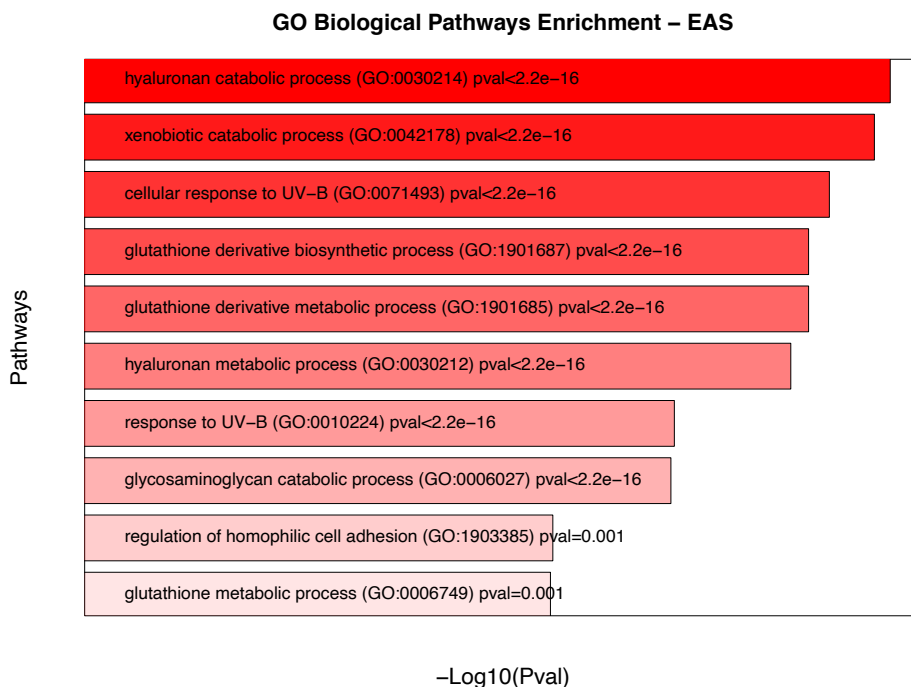
413

#### 414 a) Neanderthal AI candidates in Europeans (EUR)



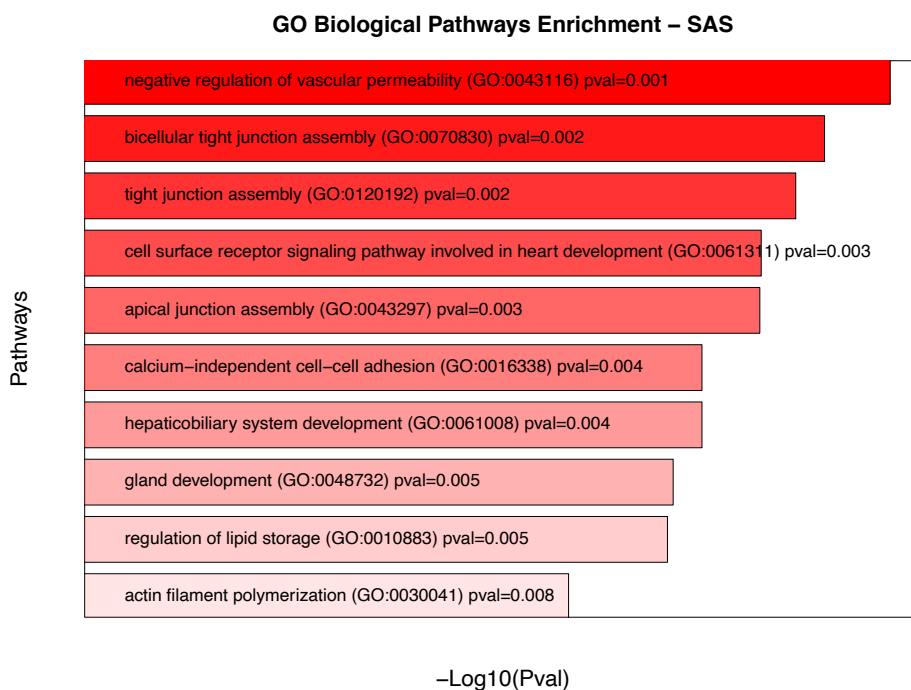
415

416 **b) Neanderthal AI candidates in East Asians (EAS)**



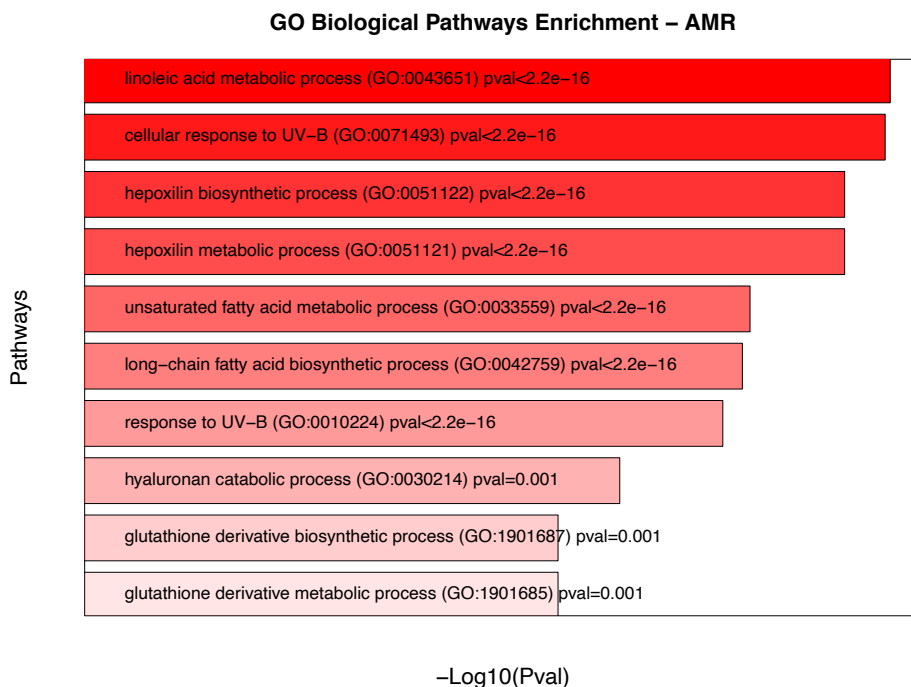
417

418 **c) Neanderthal AI candidates in South Asians (SAS)**



419

#### 420 d) Neanderthal AI candidates in Americans (AMR)



421  
422 **Figure 7: Gene Ontology (GO) Enrichment by Neanderthal adaptive introgression**  
423 **candidates in worldwide non-African superpopulations**  
424 *We performed Gene Ontology enrichment test of Gene Ontology biological pathways using all AI*  
425 *candidates predicted in Europeans (EUR, Panel a), East Asians (EAS, Panel b), South Asians*  
426 *(SAS, Panel c), and Americans (AMR, Panel d) when using Neanderthal as the donor and African*  
427 *(YRI) as the outgroup population. We show the top 10 pathways in the enrichment test of each*  
428 *population (all pathways that reached significant p-values can be found in Supplementary Table*  
429 *7). The length and the color intensity of bars indicate the significance of p-values, with the bar*  
430 *length being -log<sub>10</sub>(p value).*

#### 431 432 **Discussion**

433 In this study, we present *MaLAdapt* – a machine learning algorithm for detecting signals of  
434 adaptive introgression from genome-wide data. Compared to existing methods, such as  
435 approaches based on summary statistics, *MaLAdapt* has more power to detect AI, despite the  
436 challenges presented by a highly imbalanced class ratio. It is also particularly good at detecting  
437 mild, incomplete AI regions, and is robust to most model misspecifications and non-AI sweeps.  
438 We have applied *MaLAdapt* to genetic variation data from modern human populations outside of

439 Africa, most of whose ancestral populations experienced at least one archaic introgression event.  
440 In doing so, we have discovered AI candidate regions in all non-African populations from both  
441 Neanderthals and Denisovans, including novel AI candidates that have not been reported by  
442 previous studies.

443  
444 A key challenge for ML methods is that the deterministic mechanism for the trained model typically  
445 remains unknown. Here we address this issue by using biologically meaningful features in the  
446 model, and use a decision tree-based algorithm so that the importance of all features in making  
447 predictions can be retrieved. By ranking the features by their importance scores (Figure 8,  
448 Supplementary Figure 2), we optimize the model by performing feature selection, and in doing so,  
449 obtain biological knowledge of adaptive introgression by examining key features being used in  
450 the predictions. We show that, the exon density and recombination rates played a critical role in  
451 *MaLAdapt's* underlying prediction mechanism, as both factors jointly determine the extent of  
452 heterosis effect<sup>44,46,78</sup>. Additionally, summaries of genetic diversity, such as the number of  
453 segregating sites and heterozygosity, are also important factors to distinguish adaptive  
454 introgression from other population genetic processes.

455  
456 One major challenge in genome-wide studies of AI is that the proportion of genome undergoing  
457 AI is likely to be substantially smaller than the part of the genome not experiencing AI, resulting  
458 in the so-called imbalanced class ratios. If the class ratio is extremely imbalanced, it can lead to  
459 an inflated False Discovery Rate (FDR) when performing multiple comparisons. This of course is  
460 a general statistical challenge in genome-wide studies. Depending on the signature of interest,  
461 different types of studies have used different strategies to account for the multiple testing issue.  
462 For example, GWAS studies typically use Bonferroni correction<sup>79-81</sup> to obtain a genome-wide  
463 significant  $p$ -value threshold of  $5e-8$ <sup>82-84</sup>, which efficiently controls the proportion of false positives  
464 in the outstanding signals. However, it can sometime be overly stringent and can lead to a high  
465 False Negative Rates<sup>85</sup>. Other ML or deep learning applications rely on the use of imbalanced  
466 datasets in the training process, followed by statistical corrections (*e.g.* *genomatnn* uses a beta  
467 correction to adjust class ratio in training and testing data sequentially). However, the main  
468 problem in this strategy is that none of the arbitrary ratios used in the training or testing data may  
469 be close enough to the empirical ratio. In the development of *MaLAdapt*, by utilizing a hierarchical  
470 structured algorithm with numerous randomly generated decision trees, we show that in our model,  
471 varying class ratios in the training data led to little change in the TPR and FPR (Supplementary  
472 Figure 4), so long as the trained model has learned from sufficient observations of both classes,

473 as well as the confounders. To best evaluate the performance of methods on highly imbalanced  
474 empirical data, we apply *MaLAdapt* along with other related methods to full 5MB-long genomic  
475 segments, which class ratio is approximately 1:100 (*i.e.* 1 window of true positives to 100 windows  
476 of true negatives). We also show that at this ratio, *MaLAdapt* greatly outperforms all existing  
477 methods across all thresholds in terms of Precision, Recall, FPR (Figure 3). Even if the empirical  
478 ratio is more extreme than our testing data, all methods including *MaLAdapt* would suffer from a  
479 higher FDR, but *MaLAdapt* should still retain the highest precision among all.

480  
481 Another major motivation for developing *MaLAdapt* is to control for potential false-positive signals  
482 due to recessive deleterious mutations in studies of AI. It is known from multiple previous  
483 studies<sup>44,46,78</sup> that the presence of recessive deleterious mutations can lead to an increase in  
484 introgressed ancestry, similar to the manner of adaptive introgression, and thus is a confounder  
485 of AI detection. This effect is caused by heterosis or heterozygote advantage upon admixture,  
486 and is particularly pronounced in genomic regions that have high exon density and low  
487 recombination rates. Zhang et al. showed that existing methods for detecting adaptive  
488 introgression, such as the signature summary statistics<sup>1,19,42,43</sup>, can have exaggerated FPRs in  
489 such compact genomic regions when most deleterious mutations are recessive, and likely can  
490 explain the AI signature in *HLA* and *HYAL2* genes, which have been repeatedly discovered as AI  
491 candidates in European and Asian populations<sup>26,86</sup>.

492  
493 *MalAdapt* attempts to control for this potential confounder of recessive deleterious mutations by  
494 including them in the simulations used to train the classifier. However, this training process is not  
495 without challenges. Similar to the class ratio discussed above, the main challenge for the potential  
496 heterosis confounding effect is that the degree of dominance of deleterious mutations in the  
497 human genome is poorly known. Most of the studies use models that assume all mutations are  
498 either strictly additive or fully recessive, while neither of these extreme assumptions reflect the  
499 empirical distribution of dominance. In *MaLAdapt*, we address the uncertainty in the dominance  
500 parameters by including three dominance models in the training data, which include an equal ratio  
501 of simulations where all deleterious mutations are additive, recessive, or partially recessive.

502  
503 When applying *MaLAdapt* to empirical human population data, we do not detect *HLA* as an AI  
504 candidate in any of the populations. This suggests that *HLA* likely was a false identified AI  
505 candidate in previous studies<sup>86–88</sup>. However, although we did not detect AI at *HYAL2* in most Asian  
506 populations except one (CHB), we detected AI signatures in the upstream regions of *HYAL2* that

507 overlap with multiple genes. A possible explanation for this observation is that the earlier reports  
508 of *HYAL2* being an AI candidate could have been due to linkage to another legitimate AI region  
509 upstream of it. However, future studies of the functional changes by the archaic variants in this  
510 region are needed to test this hypothesis. Furthermore, it is worth noting that the novel discoveries  
511 by *MaLAdapt* show similar distribution of exon density and recombination rates as previously  
512 identified AI candidates (Supplementary Figure 9-10), further supporting the conclusion that AI  
513 predictions made by *MaLAdapt* are not likely to be false positives due to heterosis from recessive  
514 deleterious mutations.

515  
516 We compared the accuracy of *MaLAdapt* against other state-of-the-art AI detection methods, and  
517 noticed that two of the recently developed AI methods - the deep learning-based *genomatnn* and  
518 the polymorphism pattern-based *VolcanoFinder* – both suffered from substantial loss of power  
519 and robustness compared to what was originally reported when applied to our simulation data  
520 (Figure 3). When applied to empirical human genomic data, we noticed that more than half of the  
521 candidates predicted by *genomatnn* as well as *VolcanoFinder* received low prediction probabilities  
522 by *MaLAdapt* (Supplementary Figure 12). There are some essential differences between  
523 *MaLAdapt*, *genomatnn*, and *VolcanoFinder* that may explain the differences in their accuracy. For  
524 *genomatnn*, it is trained on simulations of short segments (100kb) that do not contain genic  
525 structure (coding/non-coding regions) similar to what is observed on the empirical human genome.  
526 *VolcanoFinder*, on the other hand, models the volcano shape of heterozygosity around the  
527 beneficial allele that is introgressed from a diverged population. This pattern is sensitive to  
528 adaptive introgression but could also be changed by other non-AI processes and the inherent  
529 characteristics of the genome, including the alignability and mappability of sequences. The  
530 simulations in our study used a considerable proportion of genomic regions with a high density of  
531 exons and low recombination rates due to concerns of heterosis effect and background  
532 selection<sup>46,78</sup>. In addition, the demographic parameters differ between the methods. For example,  
533 both *VolcanoFinder* and *genomatnn* assumed a fixed introgression amount and a fixed  
534 introgression time in their models, in contrast to *MaLAdapt*, *VolcanoFinder* is also optimized to  
535 detect AI with strong selection strength, whereas *MaLAdapt* considers weaker and recent sweeps  
536 on introgressed variants. Altogether, the reduction in power/accuracy could reflect the sensitivity  
537 of *genomatnn* and *VolcanoFinder* to mis-specification of the demographic model and genomic  
538 structures used by *MaLAdapt*.

539

540 To further disentangle the potential causes for the discrepancy in accuracy in different methods,  
541 we examined the exon density and recombination rates in the AI candidate regions in CEU  
542 predicted by *MaLAdapt*, *genomatnn* and *VolcanoFinder* (Supplementary Figure 11). The AI  
543 regions predicted by *genomatnn* tend to have both lower exon density and lower recombination  
544 rates than *MaLAdapt* and *VolcanoFinder* predictions, which are also lower than the whole-  
545 genome distributions. Next, we examined the haplotype structure of the *genomatnn* candidates  
546 using *Haplostrips* program (Supplementary Figure 18) that ranks European (CEU) and African  
547 (YRI) haplotypes by their affinity to the Neanderthal genome. To our surprise, the *genomatnn*  
548 candidates that received low *MaLAdapt* prediction scores also did not produce a clear AI pattern  
549 through this ranking of the haplotypes. This could be due to the fact that *Haplostrips* sorts and  
550 ranks the modern human haplotypes by distance to the archaic reference genome, which is  
551 different from the method of haplotype sorting in *genomatnn* that group haplotypes by populations.  
552 We visually inspected the haplotype structure patterns and annotated them as true positive, false  
553 positive, or uncertain labels (Supplementary Figure 13). We found that the *genomatnn* candidates  
554 that were not identified by *MaLAdapt* have strikingly low exon density and low recombination rates  
555 than the other two groups. In contrast, the visually false positive predictions by *MaLAdapt* are  
556 mainly driven by an excess of African (outgroup) haplotypes that also show close affinity to the  
557 archaic genome, in which case it is unclear whether it is a result of false detection or legitimate  
558 adaptive introgression due to back-to-Africa gene flow from Europeans<sup>24</sup>. Altogether, we believe  
559 *MaLAdapt* is more accurate in predicting AI in regions that contain a low number of mutations and  
560 few recombination events.

561  
562 *MaLAdapt* can be used for the study of AI in other populations and organisms with different  
563 demographic histories and genomic structures. The simulation and training of *MaLAdapt* is easy  
564 to implement and computationally efficient, and is modifiable for other organisms. We provide all  
565 necessary scripts not only to replicate our results, but also for modifying the trained model for  
566 other population genetics studies. However, application of *MaLAdapt* to other systems requires  
567 several additional pieces of information that may not always be available. First, an accurate  
568 demographic model of the donor and recipient populations is necessary. For example, *MaLAdapt*  
569 currently relies on a well-understood Eurasian population history as its demographic model  
570 backbone. This model may not accurately describe the evolutionary history of human populations  
571 distantly related to Eurasians, such as the Americans. Further, the current model does not  
572 account for the complex demography in some of the regional populations, especially in Asia and  
573 Oceania where populations are known to have experienced complex archaic introgression and



574 admixture patterns<sup>6,8,9,11</sup>. However, since *MaLAdapt* can be easily retrained, we expect to  
575 continually revisit and revise our model, when better-characterized demographic models for  
576 regional human populations become available. And despite the possible deficiencies of the  
577 demographic model in simulations, *MaLAdapt* demonstrates its power and accuracy by  
578 recovering most of the canonical AI candidates that have been reported by previous studies.

579  
580 Another requirement for the use of *MaLAdapt* is an archaic reference genome. The empirical  
581 findings reported in this study are based on using the Altai Neanderthal individual<sup>3</sup> as the  
582 Neanderthal reference genome, and the Altai Denisovan<sup>5</sup> as the Denisovan reference genome.  
583 Without further discovery of more high-quality archaic hominin genomes, we do not have power  
584 to detect AI from unknown, “ghost” introgressions<sup>24,54</sup> from archaic hominin that are distantly  
585 related to either Neanderthal or Denisovan. Nevertheless, we discovered numerous novel AI  
586 candidates in all non-African populations by Neanderthals and/or Denisovans that went  
587 undetected in previous studies, and have been verified by visual inspection of the haplotype  
588 structure<sup>73</sup> (Figure 6). These genes are enriched in a wide range of biological pathways, which  
589 shed light on the functional influence of archaic introgression in general and their contributions to  
590 the phenotype spectrum, local adaptation, and health in our species. We provide a  
591 comprehensive summary of AI candidates in all non-African populations, with informative  
592 annotations of studies that reported them. We hope this can serve as a useful resource for future  
593 studies that are interested in the function and evolutionary history of specific genes of interest,  
594 especially for the novel AI discoveries in understudied populations with unique archaic ancestry  
595 distribution, such as the East Asians and South Americans.

596  
597 In conclusion, *MaLAdapt* provides an example of how machine learning, especially feature-based  
598 algorithms, can help solve complex population genetics and human genomics problems. Such  
599 ML models can particularly be powerful at tackling questions with highly imbalanced classes, mild  
600 signals, and various confounding factors. We look forward to integrating new knowledge of  
601 archaic genomes and human evolutionary history into the *MaLAdapt* model, and to seeing novel  
602 methods at detecting AI in other biological systems inspired by *MaLAdapt*.

603  
604 **Materials and Methods**

#### 605 Simulation settings

606 We used the software SLiM (version 3.2.0)<sup>65</sup> throughout this work for the simulations. We  
607 simulated adaptive introgression between archaic humans and modern humans under a three-

608 population demographic model, shown in Figure 2 and Supplementary Table 1. This demographic  
609 model is adapted from Gravel et al. 2011<sup>62</sup> and Prüfer et al. 2017<sup>2</sup>. In this demography, an archaic  
610 hominin population ( $N_{arc} = 1,000$ ) splits from the ancestral African population ( $N_{anc} = 7,300$ ) at  
611 16,000 generations ago. The ancestral African population further splits into a modern African  
612 population at 5,600 generations ago ( $N_{afr} = 14,470$ ) and a modern Eurasian population at 2,040  
613 generations ago ( $N_{eur\_OoA} = 1,861$ ). The Eurasian population further experiences a population  
614 bottleneck at 920 generations ago ( $N_{eur\_split} = 550$ ), representing the split of European and East  
615 Asian populations, followed by a population expansion at exponential rate of 0.55% per  
616 generation until the end of the simulation. In the archaic population, a beneficial mutation with a  
617 selection coefficient ( $s \in [1e-4, 1e-2]$ ) arises in an exon of the simulated genomic region at 15,000  
618 generations ago and is simulated as fixed in the archaic population by introducing the mutation to  
619 all haplotypes. A single pulse of introgression occurs at a random time ( $T_{adm} \in [1530, 2030]$ ) at  
620 a random proportion ( $m \in \{1\%, 2\%, 5\%, 10\%\}$ ). The introgressed beneficial mutation does not  
621 necessarily become immediately beneficial in the Eurasian population, depending on the selection  
622 time ( $T_{sel} \in [610, T_{adm}-1]$ ). All simulations are conditioned on the introgressed beneficial mutation  
623 not being lost in the recipient Eurasian population by the end of simulations.

624  
625 We simulated 1,000 randomly sampled genomic regions from the modern human genome build  
626 GRCh37/hg19 with length of 5MB. As such, the simulated segments represent the empirical  
627 distribution of exon density and recombination rates on the human genome so that the inference  
628 of *MaLAdapt* accounts for the confounding effect by heterosis due to recessive deleterious  
629 mutations<sup>46</sup>. Specifically, we use the exon ranges defined by the GENCODE v.14 annotations<sup>60</sup>  
630 and the sex-averaged recombination map by Kong et al.<sup>61</sup> averaged over a 10kb scale. The per  
631 base pair mutation rate was fixed at  $1.08e-8$ . Deleterious mutations can only occur in exonic  
632 regions of the segment with fitness effect drawn from a distribution estimated from modern  
633 humans<sup>89</sup>, with a shape parameter of 0.186 and average selection coefficient of -0.01315, as well  
634 as a 2.31:1 ratio of nonsynonymous to synonymous mutations<sup>90</sup>. Additionally, to account for the  
635 heterosis effect in the inference of adaptive introgression while accounting for the fact that the  
636 dominance distribution on the human genome is poorly understood, we simulated three models  
637 of dominance effects. In the first model, all deleterious mutations were fully additive ( $h=0.5$ ). In  
638 the second, all were fully recessive ( $h=0$ ). In the third model, all were partially recessive ( $hs$   
639 relationship)<sup>91</sup>, where more strongly deleterious mutations were more likely to be recessive. For  
640 each of the sampled genomic segments, we repeated simulations 1,000 times under the Figure  
641 2 demography using a given dominance model (deleterious mutations being additive, recessive,

642 or partially recessive). Because there are three dominance models and 1,000 sampled segments  
 643 in total, this exercise resulted in  $3 \times 1,000 \times 1,000 = 3$  million simulation replicates.

644  
 645 For computational efficiency of the simulations, we scale the simulation parameters by a scaling  
 646 factor of  $c$  ( $c=10$ ). In all simulations, the population size is rescaled to  $N/c$ , generation times to  $t/c$ ,  
 647 selection coefficient to  $s \cdot c$ , mutation rate to  $\mu \cdot c$ , and the recombination rate to  $0.5(1-(1-2r)c)$ .  
 648 Other evolutionary parameters remained the same.

649  
 650 Features used by *MaLAdapt*

651 We consider biologically meaningful summary statistics that are likely informative of archaic  
 652 adaptive introgression. The untrained *MaLAdapt* model learns which features are most important.  
 653 All statistics are calculated in Python3. For each simulation replicate, we compute features in  
 654 sliding 50kb windows (step size 10kb) throughout the simulated segments. We used 50kb as the  
 655 prediction window size because it encompasses the average archaic introgressed haplotype  
 656 length in modern humans, which is approximately 44kb<sup>3</sup>. We define adaptive introgression (label  
 657 “AI”) as genomic windows in the admixed Eurasian population that contain beneficial mutations  
 658 originating from archaic introgression. In contrast, windows with label “non-AI” do not contain the  
 659 beneficial mutation, even if such windows are on the same genomic segment as the “AI” windows.  
 660 Therefore, at most only 5 out of 496 windows per segment contain the beneficial mutations.

661  
 662 A full list of features used by the *MaLAdapt* can be found in Table 2, which include summary  
 663 statistics that are informative about archaic introgression<sup>1,42,43</sup>, positive selection<sup>19,92</sup>, linkage  
 664 disequilibrium<sup>93–96</sup>, genetic diversity<sup>97–100</sup>, and the genic structure and recombination rates<sup>60,61</sup>.

Information	Statistics	Description
Archaic Introgression	$D$	ABBA-BABA statistics
	$fD$	
Adaptive Introgression	$R_D$	Sequence divergence ratio
	$U_{20/50/80}$	Number of uniquely shared alleles
	$Q_{90/95}$	Quantile of derived allele frequency distribution
Selection	$H_{12}, H_2/H_1$	Haplotype homozygosity
Spatial structure	$r^2$	Linkage disequilibrium

	<b>ZnS</b>	
<i>Genetic Diversity</i>	<b>2pq</b>	Expected heterozygosity
	<b>S</b>	Number of segregating sites
	$\theta_H, \theta_S, \pi$	Estimates of $\theta$
Genic Structure	<b>e</b>	Exon density
	<b>r</b>	Recombination rate

**Table 2: Features used by *MaLAdapt***

665  
 666 *From left to the right, this table summarizes the features used by MaLAdapt, including the*  
 667 *biological signature they capture, notation in model, and a brief description.*

668  
 669 Training *MaLAdapt* and the choice of the ETC algorithm

670 Using features computed from all windows in all simulated replicates, we further divided the  
 671 dataset into training and testing datasets at 9:1 ratio. For the training dataset, we added additional  
 672 segments containing selective sweeps due to de novo beneficial mutations. As these windows  
 673 were not due to AI, these simulations were added to the “non-AI” labels. Up to 10% of the training  
 674 dataset was comprised of these particular windows. In these selective sweep simulations, the  
 675 beneficial mutations are de novo mutations in the Eurasian populations (rising at  $T_{sel}$ ), rather than  
 676 introduced by archaic introgression. In the testing data, the original simulation class ratio (*AI:non-*  
 677 *AI* ~ 1:100) and genomic segment structures are preserved. In the training data, on the other  
 678 hand, we shuffle the dataset to break down the genomic structure of the segments, and we further  
 679 evaluate the influence of class ratios on the performance of *MaLAdapt* (Supplementary Figure 4).  
 680 We show that in the training data, a relatively balanced class ratio optimizes the performance of  
 681 *MaLAdapt* as the model is trained by observing sufficient examples of both classes. Therefore,  
 682 we downsize the “non-AI” labeled windows to be twice the amount of the “AI” labeled windows.  
 683 The final training data contains “AI” and “non-AI” windows at approximately 1:2 ratio.

684  
 685 We compared the performance of five machine learning algorithms to be used in *MaLAdapt*  
 686 including Logistic Regression, LASSO, Ridge, traditional Random Forest, and ETC. The  
 687 algorithms are trained and tested using the same datasets, and are evaluated in terms of different  
 688 performance metrics including the True positive rates (TPR), False positive rates (FPR), Precision  
 689 (1-False Discovery Rates), Recall (TPR), and F1 Score at different prediction probability  
 690 thresholds (Supplementary Figure 1). We show that ETC is the best-performing algorithm at

691 detecting genome-wide adaptive introgression, as its hierarchical structure is optimized at  
692 detecting mild adaptive introgression signature, especially when the class ratio is highly  
693 imbalanced. Therefore, we chose to use the ETC algorithm.

694

#### 695 Feature selection for model optimization

696 We additionally performed a feature selection process based on the feature importance score  
697 ranking from the original ETC-based *MaLAdapt*. We first determined 6 sets of features that  
698 contain different subsets of all 39 summary statistics given the feature importance scores from  
699 the pre-feature selection version of *MaLAdapt* (Supplementary Figure 2): 1) top high-ranking  
700 features (18 in total); 2) top high-ranking features minus  $Q_{max}$  (17 in total); 3) mid-ranking  
701 features (top features minus the  $Q$  stats; 18 in total); 4) all features minus the  $Q$  stats (37 in total);  
702 5) all features minus the  $Q_{max}$  stat (38 in total); 6) all features (39 in total). For each model trained  
703 by a unique set of features, we apply them to the same testing data and evaluate the accuracy of  
704 predictions (Supplementary Figure 3). We show that despite all models have consistently low  
705 false positive rates (FPRs) across most prediction thresholds, the performance on other accuracy  
706 metrics, such as true positive rates (TPRs), false discovery rates (FDR) and F1 score (harmonic  
707 mean between precision and true positive rates), varies substantially between sets of features.  
708 We chose a subset that contains most of the summary statistics except the  $Q$  statistics (“set4”) to  
709 be the features included in the final version of *MaLAdapt* because of its low false discovery rate  
710 and the best F1 score across all thresholds. We use this version as the trained model reported in  
711 this study and for further application to empirical data.

712

#### 713 *MaLAdapt* robustness and model misspecification analysis

714 To evaluate the robustness of *MaLAdapt* to model misspecifications, we obtained a different set  
715 of testing data that includes 6 independent scenarios where one of the key parameter variables  
716 in the simulation model is perturbed (Supplementary Table 1). Specifically, we define 1) “ $T_{sel\_low}$ ”  
717 as the selection time being 200 generations lower than the original lower bound, 2) “ $m\_low$ ” as  
718 the introgression fraction ( $m$ ) being 2-fold lower than the original lower bound, 3) “ $m\_high$ ” as the  
719 introgression fraction ( $m$ ) being 2-fold higher than the original upper bound, 4) “ $s\_high$ ” as the  
720 selection coefficient ( $s$ ) being 10-fold higher than the original upper bound, 5) “ $segment$ ” as the  
721 genomic segments in simulations being different from the training data, and 6) “ $demo$ ” as the  
722 Eurasian population growth rate and Out-of-Africa bottleneck size being different than the training  
723 simulations. We did not explore the selection coefficient ( $s$ ) being smaller than the original lower  
724 bound due to extremely low chance of generating sensible amount of successful AI simulations

725 conditioned on the beneficial mutation not being lost by the end of the simulation. We also did not  
726 perturb the time of introgression as its range is bounded by the split time between Eurasians and  
727 ancestral Africans, as well as the split time between Europeans and Asians.

728  
729 We applied *MaLAdapt* to each of the above 6 perturbation testing datasets, and computed  
730 accuracy metrics including False Positive Rate (FPR), Precision, True Positive Rate (TPR, Recall),  
731 and F1 score with prediction probability threshold being at 0.9. We compared the metrics with the  
732 values obtained from *MaLAdapt* applying to the original testing dataset (without parameter  
733 perturbation), and compute the log<sub>10</sub>-fold change of the metrics to the original values.

734

### 735 Analysis of AI in the 1000 Genomes Data

736 For the application of trained *MaLAdapt* on empirical modern human population data, we scanned  
737 the autosomes of human genomes data from Phase 3 of the 1000 Genomes Project, and  
738 computed the features used in Table 2 in 50kb sliding windows (step size = 10kb). Specifically,  
739 we first defined the genomic coordinates of the sliding 50kb windows throughout each of the  
740 autosomes (excluding the telomere and centromere regions). Within each window, we use the  
741 start and end position to extract the genotypes from the Yoruba (YRI, phased) as the non-  
742 introgressed population/outgroup, one of the 19 non-African populations (phased) as the  
743 introgressed population/recipient group, and one of the high-quality archaic genomes (Altai  
744 Neanderthal<sup>3</sup> or Altai Denisovan<sup>5</sup>, unphased) as the introgressing population/donor group. We  
745 join the genotypes together as a matrix, and additionally removed sites in the archaic genomes  
746 having potential quality issues (quality score < 40 and/or mapping quality < 30). We computed all  
747 summary statistics included in the feature set in *MaLAdapt*, and repeated the process across all  
748 windows across all autosomes. We computed features for Neanderthal introgression and  
749 Denisovan introgression separately for all populations. We applied the trained model to all 19  
750 non-African populations and obtained prediction probabilities in all windows across the whole  
751 genome for Neanderthal or Denisovan adaptive introgression, respectively. We further converted  
752 the prediction probability of  $Pr(AI)$  to a prediction score, which equals  $-\log_{10}(1-Pr(AI))$ . We plot  
753 the prediction scores of all windows for each population, and label the gene names in AI regions.

754

### 755 **Author contribution**

756 BK and AD conceived the study. XZ designed the study, carried out the simulations, machine  
757 learning implementation, empirical data analyses, and wrote the manuscript. BK, AD, SS, KEL  
758 contributed to the design of the study, data analysis, and participated in manuscript writing. BK

759 designed the simulation framework. AS participated in code optimization and machine learning  
760 data analysis. All authors read and approved the manuscript.

761

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770

## 771 **Data Availability Statement**

772 All scripts necessary to recreate the simulations, machine learning training and testing,  
773 robustness analysis, and empirical predictions can be found at GitHub:

774 <https://github.com/xzhang-popgen/maladapt>

775

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