Phylogenomics reveals incomplete lineage sorting and ancient hybrid drove the radiation of

macaques

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Running heads: ILS and ancient hybrid in *Macaca*

Abstract

The genus *Macaca*, with 23 species assigned into four to seven species groups, exhibits the largest

geographic range and represents the most successful adaptive radiation of nonhuman primates.

Here, we conducted phylogenomic analyses of 16 newly generated and eight published macaque

genomes and found a strong support for the division of this genus into seven species groups. Both

ancient hybrid and incomplete lineage sorting (ILS) have contributed to the radiation and

evolution of macaques. Particularly, the contradicting phylogenetic positions among *silenus/nigra,*

fascicularis/mulatta and *arctoides*/*sinica* lineages were likely resulted from high level of ILS and

potential hybridization between the ancestors of the *arctoides*/*sinica* and *silenus/nigra* lineages.

Furthermore, an integrated scenario for macaque radiation is reconstructed by the help of the dated

phylogenetic tree combined with documented history records. This study provides insights into

ancient introgression involved in the radiation of macaques, which may help us to understand the

rapid speciation of nonhuman primates.

Keywords: *Macaca*, phylogenomics, incomplete lineage sorting, hybridization.

Introduction

Introgression and hybridization are important driving forces in speciation and evolution, and over the past decade increasing attention has been paid to their role in evolutionary diversification [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]. Hybridization has been recognized as one of the most interesting topics in evolutionary biology, and the genetic introgression, caused by hybridization, is not always maladaptive and could be a potent evolutionary force [3, 8, 9, 10]. With the development of high-throughput sequencing technology and new computational tools, phylogenomics emerged and allows researchers to explicitly account for hybridization when constructing species trees [11, 12]. However, incomplete lineage sorting (ILS), an alternative explanation for contradicting gene trees, needs to be considered as well when reconstructing a species tree [13]. ILS occurs mainly during rapid speciation events, when new lineages descend within a short time period from ancestors, particularly when these have large effective population sizes (*Ne*) [14]. As a result, ILS will cause ancestral polymorphisms to persist even when descendant lineages diverged [15]. Therefore, both ILS and gene flow or hybridization can lead to topological discordance between gene trees and species trees [16, 17]. For example, Edelman et al. [18] used 20 *de novo* genome assemblies to explore the speciation history and gene flow in rapidly radiating *Heliconius* butterflies and distinguish ILS from introgression. They discovered that introgressed loci are underrepresented in low-recombination and gene-rich regions [18]. For primates, information about a genome-wide view on hybridization is still limited but genome sequencing efforts are on the way [19]. For example, Rogers, et al. [20] confirmed reticulation in baboons and documented multiple episodes of admixture and introgression during the radiation of *Papio* using a comparative genomic approach.

The genus *Macaca* (Primates: Cercopithecidae) exhibits the largest geographic range and represents the most successful adaptive radiation of nonhuman primates [21] (**Fig. 1A**). The 23 currently recognized macaque species are subdivided into four to seven species groups according to similarities in morphology, ecology, behavior, distribution and genetics [21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33] (**supplementary Fig. S1**). However, the number and composition of the species groups is disputed. Before the whole-genome age, phylogenetic analyses were mainly based on a few mitochondrial and/or nuclear markers resulting in contradicting phylogenetic

relationships [26, 34, 35, 36], which are partially caused by introgression and hybridization events
among various macaque species.

Introgression and hybridization between macaque species are common, for instance, among
Sulawesi macaques, between *M. mulatta* and *M. fascicularis*, and between *M. mulatta* and *M.*
thibetana [37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45]. Moreover, for *M. arctoides* a hybrid origin was
suggested as different molecular markers place the species into different clades [33, 34, 35, 36, 46].
However, most analyses have focused on gene flow within macaque species groups, or between
species of the *fascicularis/mulatta* and *arctoides/sinica* species groups. Few studies included
samples from all species groups when identifying genus-wide hybridization, and few attempted to
detect ancient hybridization events in macaques [36, 47]. A recent study reported the history of the
genus *Macaca* using 14 individuals from nine species and detected extensive gene flow signals,
with the strongest signals between the *fascicularis/mulatta* and *silenus* groups [48]. Introgression
signals among island species, such as Sulawesi macaques and other species, were also observed.
This put forward a variety of possible reasons for this phenomenon including the genomic
similarity of closely related species or ancestral introgression. Therefore, whether hybridization
occurred among all macaques, especially among species that are geographically distant still needs
to be investigated. Furthermore, it remains unclear how much ancient hybridization or ILS have
contributed to the diversity of the macaque genome.

In this study, we aimed to trace the complex, likely reticulated evolutionary history of
macaques and newly sequenced whole genomes of 16 individuals representing 13 Asian (*M.*
mulatta, M. cyclopis, M. fuscata, M. arctoides, M. assamensis, M. leucogenys, M. sinica, M.
leonina, M. silenus, M. nemestrina, M. maura, M. tonkeana, M. nigra) and the only African
macaque species (*M. sylvanus*). The sequences were mapped to the latest *Papio anubis* reference
genome (Panu_3.0) to obtain single nucleotide variants (SNVs). Combined with eight published
macaque genomes, we performed a comprehensive genomics analysis among 24 macaque
individuals, representing 16 species and all species groups, aiming to reconstruct the phylogeny of
the genus *Macaca,* investigate ILS and hybridization among macaque species, and trace the
evolutionary history and rapid radiation of the genus *Macaca*.

Results

Genome Sequencing and Variant Discovery

Whole genome sequencing was performed with the Illumina HiSeq 2500 and 4000 platforms. In

total, more than 1,364 Gbp clean data (quality-controlled reads) were obtained and the statistics

results of the clean data for each species are shown in **supplementary table S1**. Published

genome data of eight macaques (*M. mulatta* (Chinese rhesus macaque, CR), *M. mulatta* (Indian

rhesus macaque, IR), *M. fascicularis, M. arctoides, M. assamensis, M. thibetana, M. nemestrina*

and *M. tonkeana*) were downloaded from NCBI (**supplementary table S1**) and two of them

overlapped with [48]. Clean data for each species were mapped to the *Papio anubis* reference

genome (Panu_3.0) and yielded genome-wide coverage from 16.85 to 42.34× with an average

effective depth at 28.24× (**supplementary table S1**). We picked a more distant reference genome

(*Papio anubis*) rather than the more recently evolved macaque (*Macaca mulatta*) to avoid biases

that would arise from mapping to an in-group reference genome. Even though this decision likely

led to some degree of lost data (in regions that lacked ortholog to *Papio anubis*), however, the

mapping coverage (4×) for macaques range from 93.55% to 97.59%, which is very similar to

mapping coverage (4×) for *Papio* (98.75%), suggesting a potential bias to be limited. The

mapping rate for *M. nemestrina* (2) is lower than 90%, which could be caused by low DNA quality.

The number of high-quality SNVs for each individual ranged from 15,943,244 to 21,778,812,

counting both homozygous and heterozygous alternatives (**supplementary table S2**). Genome-

wide heterozygosity varied considerably among macaques (**supplementary Fig. S2** and

supplementary table S2) which may partially reflect different demographic histories. Based on

gene annotations from the reference genome, the exonic SNVs in macaques ranged from 225,336

to 257,712 (**supplementary tables S3** and **S4**). The species-specific SNVs for each macaque

ranged from 1,279,649 to 8,688,344 (**supplementary table S2**).

Phylogeny and divergence among macaques

In order to reconstruct the phylogeny of macaques, we generated consensus sequences of all

genomes for each macaque individual. We split the aligned chromosomes into 6,351 non-

overlapping genome fragments (GFs), each 200-kilo basepair (kbp) long, which representing 46%

of the genome sequence. The multispecies coalescent (MSC) species tree based on the 6,351 GFs

was supported with posterior probabilities (PPs) of 1.0 for all branches (**Fig. 1B** and

supplementary Fig. S3). This species tree, consistent with neighbor joining (NJ) tree and

maximum-likelihood (ML) tree based on autosomal SNVs (**supplementary Fig. S4** and

supplementary Fig. S5), supported the segregation of macaques into seven well-supported clades

or lineages that correspond to the classification of the genus into seven species groups [21, 29].

Among macaques, the African *sylvanus* lineage diverged first, followed by an initial separation of

extant Asian macaques into a clade with the *silenus* and *nigra* lineages and a clade including all

other Asian lineages. The latter segregated into a clade including the *arctoides* and *sinica* lineages

and another clade with the *fascicularis* and *mulatta* lineages (**Fig. 1B** and **supplementary Figs.**

S3-S5). The ML tree based on mitochondrial genomes (mitogenomes), consistent with previous

results [32, 33], showed that among Asian macaques, the *silenus/nigra* clade separated first,

followed by the *sinica* lineage, while among the remaining lineages, *fascicularis* split first and

mulatta and *arctoides* afterwards (**supplementary Fig. S6** and **supplementary table S5**).

The quartet score 'q', which is the support value for possible phylogenetic arrangements,

identified a conflict in resolving the branch leading to the ancestor of the *fascicularis/mulatta* and

arctoides/sinica groups (**Fig. 1C-D**, branch no. 2 in **Fig. 1B** and **supplementary Fig. S3**). In

addition, the topology cluster found that these two alternative topologies are most common among

all 6,351 GF trees and represented by the colors red and blue, respectively in **Fig. 3A-B**. However,

the reason for this conflict is unclear.

A consensus network analysis [40] of the GF trees recovered a network with bifurcating

branches that emerged from a central cycle in the center of the network that indicates conflicting

signals for the position of the *silenus/nigra* clade among Asian macaques (**Fig. 1E** and

supplementary Fig. S7). At a threshold for conflicting edges of 30%, the position of the

silenus/nigra, *arctoides/sinica* and *fascicularis/mulatta* clades were unascertainable

(**supplementary Fig. S7**). When the threshold for conflicting edges was reduced, the phylogenetic

signal became even more complex, indicating additional phylogenetic conflict and extensive gene

flow in the data set (**supplementary Fig. S7**). F_{ST} analyses suggested significant differences

within (medians for F_{ST} are 0.199) and between (medians for F_{ST} are 0.467) different macaque

groups (*P* < 0.0001) (**supplementary table S6** and **Fig. 1F**). A clear division of macaques into

different clusters was also obtained by a principal component analysis (PCA) (**supplementary Fig.**

S8 and **supplementary table S7**).

The genus *Macaca* was estimated to have originated ca. 7.76 million years ago (Mya) during

the Late Miocene using MCMCTREE in PAML v4.9 [49] (**Fig. 2** and **supplementary Fig. S9**).

We revealed a divergence time for the split of *M. sylvanus* from the Asian macaques at 5.29 Mya

(95% highest posterior density, HPD, 3.65–6.70), close to the Messinian Salinity Crisis [50]. In

Asia, divergence of species groups occurred in the Pliocene, starting with the split between the

silenus/nigra clade and the other four species groups 4.01 Mya (95% HPD 5.59–2.61), followed

shortly afterwards by the separation of the ancestors of the *fascicularis/mulatta* and

arctoides/sinica clades (3.79 Mya, 95% HPD 5.28–2.50). These three clades finally diverged into

species groups 3.20 Mya (95% HPD 4.79–2.07; *silenus* and *nigra* groups), 3.01 Mya (95% HPD

4.52–1.84; *sinica* and *arctoides* groups) and 2.94 Mya (95% HPD 4.25–1.52; *mulatta* and

fascicularis groups). Speciation within species groups took place in the Pleistocene, 2.56–1.39

Mya.

Contributions of ILS to Gene Tree Heterogeneity

Our study was aimed at investigating the extent to which levels of gene tree heterogeneity found

in macaques can be attributed to incomplete lineage sorting (ILS), especially for the conflict

among the *fascicularis/mulatta*, *arctoides/sinica* and *silenus/nigra* clades showed in **Fig, 1C** and

Fig. 3A-B. To differentiate between ILS and introgression, which are both potential causes of

phylogenetic discordance, we utilized QuIBL, a recently developed tree-based method introduced

by Edelman et al. [18]. QuIBL estimates internal branch length distribution in discordant

topologies for triplets of species and calculates the likelihood that this distribution is consistent

with either ILS and introgression or ILS alone. Since this method is sensitive to recombination

[18], we generated 3,175 trees based on small, non-overlapping windows (20 kb) separated by

400-kb steps. Our study revealed that within the *fascicularis/mulatta*, *silenus/nigra*, and

sinica/arctoides clades, the Bayesian information criterion (BIC) test determined that 60.8% (73

out of 120 triplets) of triplets with internal branches of species exhibited phylogenetic

discordances solely due to incomplete lineage sorting (ILS) (ΔBIC>10). Furthermore, only 9.1%

(11 out of 120 triplets) of our tested triplets showed strong evidence of introgression (ΔBIC<-10)

(**supplementary table S8**). For instance, using QuIBL on the triplet *M. leonina_M. mulatta_M.*

thibetana, we inferred that only 1.33% of loci across the entire genome are introgressed. Moreover,

we discovered that a mere 0.29% of genetic loci supported discordant topologies and were

introgressed, indicating that interspecific introgression was limited among the species examined

(**Fig. 3F, supplementary table S8).** Consequently, QuIBL analysis suggests that incomplete

lineage sorting, rather than post-speciation introgression, is the predominant factor underlying the

phylogenetic discordance among these species.

Contributions of hybrid to Gene Tree Heterogeneity

Previous studies suggested a vital role of hybridization in shaping the evolutionary history of

macaques [35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 51]. In this study, we set out to infer footprints of

ancient introgression across macaques. To this end, we first applied the approach based on D-

statistics [52] implemented in *Dsuite* [53] to detect introgression and hybridization (**Fig. 3A-B,**

supplementary table S9). This approach estimates D and f4 statistics for all possible

combinations of trios in macaques based on two alternative topologies described in **Fig. 3A-B,**

respectively, and then performs an f-branch test to assign gene flow to specific internal branches

(**Fig. 3C-D**). The f-branch test based on the species tree suggested an event of introgression

between the ancestor of *fascicularis/mulatta* and the ancestor of *silenus/nigra* lineages (**Fig. 3C**).

While the f-branch test based on another topology suggested an event of introgression between the

ancestor of *fascicularis/mulatta* and the ancestor of *arctoides/sinica* lineages (**Fig. 3D**). The above

results suggest that the genetic background of *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage is highly heterogeneous

and the ancestor of *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage may be a hybrid lineage. In addition, ancient

hybrid speciation was also be studied by topology-based ML analysis using PhyloNet [54], which

identifies a reticulate node in the scenarios among the ancestor of *fascicularis/mulatta,*

arctoides/sinica and *silenus/nigra* lineages (**supplementary Fig. S10**).

Next, we corroborated the evidence for hybridization of the ancestor of *fascicularis/mulatta*

in HyDe [55], which can examine genome-scale data for a large number of taxa and detect the

population that may have arisen through hybrid speciation, as well as its putative parental

populations, by estimates the inheritance parameter (γ value)□ to quantify the genomic

contributions of the parents to the hybrid. In this study, HyDe was used to verify for significant p-

values in all combinations of the four taxa, which included one outgroup (*P. anubis*) and a triplet

of in-group taxa. However only one of the four significant hybridization events showed a γ value

as 0.55 (Z–score =306.84; $P = 0$), which indicated that the *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage is a hybrid

speciation and the genomic contributions of its parents (*arctoides/sinica* and *silenus/nigra* lineages)

is about 55% vs 45% (**supplementary table S11**). We further verified the hybridization for

fascicularis/mulatta lineage at the individual level and found that all 5 samples showed a γ value

as ranges from 0.534 to 0.571, which further declared a similar, but more nuanced,

characterization of high levels of hybridization for *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage (**supplementary**

table S11). Finally, bootstrap resampling of individuals within hybrid populations were performed

to obtain a distribution of gamma values to assess heterogeneity in levels of introgression (**Fig.**

3F).

Finally, F_d statistic [56] was initially used to calculate the potential introgression in 10-kb

windows firstly and genome regions with top 0.05 high F_d values were selected. Given it is of

challenge to accurately identify the introgressed regions in macaque genomes, we applied a two-

layer hidden Markov model [57] to infer local ancestry of admixed individuals of the

fascicularis/mulatta lineage. We selected the top 1% windows with high sum of the proportion of

source population (*silenus/nigra* lineage) ancestry for all SNPs in a 10 kb windows with a high F_d

values as the final potential introgression regions (**Supplementary tables S12**) and found some

functional genes (e.g., *CERS3*, *ACER3*, *GSK3B*) present in these potential introgressed regions

(**supplementary Fig. S11** and **supplementary table S13**). We then reconstructed a phylogenetic

tree based on autosomal SNVs including only SNVs located in all putatively introgressed regions

for *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage form *silenus/nigra* lineage and there is no doubt that the

arctoides/sinica lineages diverged first among Asian macaques (**supplementary Fig. S12**). In

addition, we reconstructed a phylogenetic tree excluding SNVs located in all putatively

introgressed regions for *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage form *silenus/nigra* lineage (**supplementary**

Fig. S12). The result upheld the topology displayed by the species tree (**Fig. 1B**). The

phylogenetic tree based on introgressed and non-introgressed regions form *silenus/nigra* lineage

resulted in different phylogenetic positions of the *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage.

Population size history estimate

The history of the effective population size (N_e) for macaque species were modeled from the

distribution of heterozygous sites across the genome using a pairwise sequentially Markovian

coalescent (PSMC) model [58] (**supplementary Fig. 13A-D** and **supplementary Fig. S14**). With

the exception of *M. sylvanus* (**supplementary Fig. 13D**), which showed a truncated plot and most

likely due to insufficient sequencing depth, the N_e of remaining macaque species are very similar

from 5 Mya until ~ 2.5 Mya, indicating that all Asian macaque species shared the same

demographic history during the Pliocene. The Pliocene was a period of global cooling after the

warmer Miocene and the cooling and drying of the global environment may have contributed to

the enormous spread of savannas during this time [59]. The change in vegetation undoubtedly

makes a huge impact on arboreal animals, such as macaques. Subsequently, the ancestor of most

macaque species showed an upward trend of N_e after ~2.5 Mya. However, the N_e of three species

of the *nigra* group remained stable until 1.5 Mya with a subsequent upward trend at different rates,

possibly corresponding to population growth and expansion once ecological conditions allowed.

Macaques except of the *nigra* group experienced a population growth until the Pleistocene

glaciations and the *Ne* of different macaque species declined during different glaciations

indicating that they likely were restricted to smaller refugia during glacial periods. During the last

interglacial period, N_e for *M. mulatta* (CR), *M. assamensis, M. nemestrina* and *M. tonkeana*

increased rapidly but subsequently declined again.

Discussion

Phylogeny and classification of species groups

The present study enables us to verify the validity of species groups within the *Macaca* genus and

to reconstruct their evolutionary history, which represents an exciting evolutionary scenery as a

primate taxon whose "Out of Africa" spread mirrors that of non-African humans. The species tree

deduced by ASTRAL supports the division of macaques into seven well-supported clades or

lineages that correspond to the classification of the genus into seven species groups [21, 29] (**Fig.**

1B). *M. sylvanus* diverged first and F_{ST} between *M. sylvanus* and the Asian macaques is higher

than any pairs of Asian macaque groups (**supplementary table S6**). The results support the

separation of *sylvanus* from the *silenus* group, which also confirmed the classification of Delson

[23] based on morphology and geographic distribution. Asian macaques contained the *silenus* and

nigra lineages and a clade including all other Asian lineages (**Fig. 1B**). The s*ilenus* and *nigra*

lineages were grouped into a single species group (*silenus* group) by Fooden [22] and Delson [23],

but recently separated into two distinct species groups: *silenus* and *nigra* or Sulawesi [21, 25, 29,

33]. Based on the species trees, the six investigated species of the *silenus* and *nigra* groups cluster

into two clades: *silenus* groups (*M. leonina, M. silenus, M. nemestrina*) and *nigra* groups (*M.*

maura, M. tonkeana and *M. nigra*) (**Fig. 1B**).

Except for the *silenus/nigra* lineage, the Asian macaques include two further clades. The first

one includes *M. fascicularis, M. fuscata, M. cyclopis* and *M. mulatta* (**Fig. 1B**). Initially, all these

four species were grouped into the *fascicularis* group [22], but Groves [25] separated *M. fuscata,*

M. cyclopis and *M. mulatta* apart from *fascicularis* group into the *mulatta* group. The F_{ST} values

vary widely between *M. fascicularis* vs *M. mulatta* (0.171) and *M. fascicularis* vs *M. fuscata*

(0.415). Yan, et al. [41] indicated that about 30% genome of mainland *M. fascicularis* are of

Chinese *M. mulatta* origin, which shows that the lower genetic distance between *fascicularis* and

mulatta groups is reasonable and likely caused by hybridization events. Therefore, they should

still be divided into two different groups, particularly as *M. fascicularis* from the Sundaland region

might not contain any genomic contribution of *M. mulatta*. The second clade contains *M.*

arctoides, M. assamensis, M. thibetana, M. leucogenys and *M. sinica* (**Fig. 1B**). *M. arctoides* was

assigned to the *arctoides* group [22], but based on molecular data, later integrated into the *sinica*

group [23, 34, 35]. In contrast, Groves [25] recognized *M. arctoides* as member of the *fascicularis*

group. Due to all these uncertainties, *M. arctoides* was recently separated into its own *arctoides*

group [21, 29, 33].

Contributions of ILS and ancient hybird to Gene Tree Heterogeneity

292 A recent study has reported gene flow events between the *fascicularis* and *silenus* groups and

293 concluded that the introgression signals between these two groups are mainly due to genome

294 similarity in closely related species [48]. In this study, we utilized QuIBL and discovered that

295 among the 120 triplets examined, 60.8% exhibited phylogenetic discordances exclusively resulting

from ILS. Moreover, evidence of introgression was only observed in 9.1% of the tested triplets (**Supplementary tables S8**), indicating that ILS rather than introgression is the primary factor contributing to the discordance among these species. Our research also suggests that ancient hybrid speciation may have occurred among the ancestral populations of *silenus/nigra* and *arctoides/sinica* clades. However, these analyses do not differentiate between ILS and introgression, both of which can create similar phylogenetic signals [60]. Thus, a plausible explanation is that *fascicularis/mulatta* clade may have originated from an ancient hybrid speciation of the two parental lineages (the ancestral populations *silenus/nigra* and *arctoides/sinica* clades) and is accompanied by ILS. The rationale is, first, according to PSMC analysis, all species in the genus *Macaca* were experiencing a population decline during the time window of the potential hybridization event (3.79 – 4.01 Mya). This decline of the ancestral population most likely resulted in the separation of subpopulations leading to rapid ILS [61]. Secondly, our *Dsuit* results based on two most common topologies (**Fig 3C** and **3D**), phylonet (**Supplementary tables S9-S10**) and HyDe results (**Fig. 3E** and **Supplementary tables S11**) all suggested a potential formation of a hybrid species. However, the authenticity of this event could be disturbed due to two reasons. First, it is difficult to detect the superposition of multiple introgression events throughout macaque history accurately. Additionally, ancient hybridization events may have unique evolutionary histories, such as ongoing gene flow, distinct introgression histories, maintenance of assortative mating, and rate heterogeneity [62]. Secondly, the power of HyDe and D-statistic in detecting hybridization events under high ILS and ancient rapid radiations is limited [63]. Simulation analyses have found that in the case of high level of ILS, the power of HyDe decreases to 0-0.1, and the power for the D-statistic was relatively poor either (0.03–0.7). Moreover, ancient hybridization can reduce the accuracy of the γ estimates [63]. However, though they are not the sole source, both ILS and potential hybrid speciation have contributed to the conflicts of macaques.

D-statistics also reveal asymmetric results for *fascicularis/mulatta* lineages which suggested introgression for *fascicularis/mulatta* lineages. In addition, PhyloNet and HyDe analyses suggested high levels of introgression or hybridization occurred for all macaques from *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage whether its current distribution is isolated or not. Furthermore, the

phylogenetic tree based on SNVs from introgressed and non-introgressed regions, which was

identified by F_d statistic and a two-layer hidden Markov model, resulted in different phylogenetic

positions of the *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage. And the phylogenetic tree excluding SNVs located in

all putatively introgressed regions for the *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage from *silenus/nigra* lineage

(**supplementary Fig. S12**) upheld the topology displayed by the species tree (**Fig. 1B**). All these

results suggested that potential ancient hybridization occurred in the *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage.

Ancient admixture of ancestral variation is a powerful means for rapid radiations to occur

[64]. Hybridization analyses and QuIBL tests support this idea. However, apart from ancient

introgression between macaque groups, secondary introgression and recent gene flow can also

result in differences in D-statistics. Though HyDe and the D-statistics are powerful for detecting

hybridization in most of scenarios [63], to what extent the ILS or potential hybrid have shaped the

macaque history may require large-scale genomic data sets to perform optimally under complex

evolutionary scenarios in future.

The radiation of macaques

Fossil data suggest that the genus *Macaca* arose about 7 Mya in North Africa during the Late

Miocene [23, 59, 60, 61], which is consistent with our MCMCTree result (7.76 Mya, **Fig. 2**). The

Messinian Salinity Crisis (5.9-5.3 Mya), in which the level of the Mediterranean Sea fluctuated

and occasionally dried out, may have facilitated macaque dispersal from North Africa [51]. A large

number of macaque fossils have been reported in Europe near the Mediterranean [33, 51].

Macaque ancestors likely invaded Europe via the arid Mediterranean during Messinian stage [26,

33, 46, 51]. The ancestor of *M. sylvanus* split from the main stem ~5.29 Mya and settled around

the Mediterranean (**Fig. 2** and **Fig. 4**). Dental specimens of the oldest known Asian fossil referred

to the genus *Macaca* are *M. palaeindicus* from the Late Pliocene Tatrot formation of the Siwalik

Hills [23, 59, 62]. Hence, the ancestor of Asian macaques spread eastward step by step likely

along the Siwalik Hills to the Hengduan Mountains, which are a potential diversification hotspot

for primates [1, 65, 66, 67, 68], and diverged into different lineages. Firstly, the ancestor of

silenus/nigra split ~4.01 Mya and then hybridized with the ancestor of other Asian macaques and

formed a pattern of three clades (**Fig. 4**).

Conclusions

In this study, we conducted a phylogenetic analysis of 24 whole macaque genomes of which 16 are newly generated. We identified ~20 million high-quality SNVs in each macaque individual, which can be invoked as important baseline data in other studies. We support the division of macaques into seven species groups and found that there were visible differences in F_{ST} within and between species groups. Importantly, our results reveal *fascicularis/mulatta* clade may have originated from an ancient hybrid speciation of the two parental lineages (the ancestral populations *silenus/nigra* and *arctoides/sinica* clades) and is accompanied by high levels of ILS. Most prominently, we have used the available fossil data and the literature to reconstruct the radiation scenario of the genus macaques. In summary, this study suggests that high level of ILS and potential hybrid speciation play important roles in the radiation of macaques.

Materials and methods

Sample collection and library preparation

Samples of 16 macaque individuals were obtained from the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academic of Sciences and the German Primate Center (**supplementary table S1**). In addition, genome data of eight other macaque individuals and one *Papio anubis* individual were obtained from the NCBI Short Read Archive (accession no. show in **supplementary table S1**). The present study was approved by the Animal Ethics Committee of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. The procedure of blood and tissue collection was in strict accordance with the Animal Ethics Procedures and Guidelines of the People's Republic of China. DNA was isolated from blood or tissue samples with the Qiagen Blood and Tissue Kit. Sequencing libraries were prepared based on KAPA library preparation kit with insert sizes of 300-500 bp and sequenced using Illumina Hi-Seq 2500 and 4000 technologies. Quality control was performed using FastQC with default parameters (www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/).

Data Processing

Paired-end reads for all samples were mapped to the *Papio anubis* reference genome (Panu_3.0, GCA_000264685.2) with Burrows-Wheeler Aligner (BWA) mem v0.7.17 [69], except for *M. nemestrina* (2), which was trimmed by cutadapt.2.4 [70] firstly because of the poor sequencing quality due to DNA degradation. The output bam files were sorted using samtools [71] and duplicates were marked with GATK-v4.1.2.0 [72]. Single-nucleotide variants (SNVs) were called using GATK 4.1 [72] following best practice. We obtained the GVCF file for each individual using the "HaplotypeCaller" method in GATK and then all samples were merged based on "CombineGVCFs". We used the GenotypeGVCFs-based method with the "includeNonVariantSites" flag to get the vcf files. After that, we applied the "SelectVariants" to exclude indels and split the variant and nonvariant sites. All nonvariant sites were filtered in subsequent analyses. We applied the hard filter command "VariantFiltration" to exclude potential false-positive variant calls with the following criteria: "-filterExpression QD< 5.0 || FS > 60.0 || MQ < 40.0 || ReadPosRankSum< -8.0 || MQRankSum < -12.5" and "-genotypeFilterExpression DP < 4.0" [73]. All variant calls that failed the filters were removed. All SNVs were annotated by ANNOVAR v2013–06-21 [74]. (**supplementary tables S3** and **S4**) based on gff3 file from

Ensembl (Papio_anubis.Panu_3.0.104.gff3). Heterozygosity is defined as the rate of heterozygous

SNVs in the genome, which were further filter by the following parameters: "--minGQ 20" and "--

minDP 8" to ensure data quality based on VCFtools. We calculated the heterozygosity rate in a

nonoverlapping window (window = 100 kb) for all 24 macaques. Genome-wide distribution of

heterozygosity was shown in a box plot using boxplot in R package (**supplementary table S2** and

supplementary Fig. S2).

Phylogenetic reconstruction using the window-based strategy

We constructed the consensus sequences for all individual genomes and aligned them per

chromosome (sex chromosomes, mitogenomes and scaffolds were excluded) based on VCF, which

did not include variants present in the Papio reference but were invariant among macaques. In

addition, indels, repetitive regions and low-quality regions were removed from the consensus

sequences. Per-chromosome alignments were split into nonoverlapping windows of 200 kbp. The

maximum likelihood (ML) trees for each window were performed with RAxML v8 [75] with 100

bootstrap replicates and the GTR + CAT substitution model. From all 200 kbp window trees, we

reconstructed a species tree with ASTRAL v4.10.5 [76] under the multispecies coalescent model

returning quartet scores and posterior probabilities. The species tree was rooted with *Papio anubis*.

Consensus networks of the window trees were generated using SplitsTree5 [40] with different

thresholds. Genealogical discordance across the genome of rhesus macaque was assessed by

Twisst [77]. All GF trees were clustered based on PhyBin (https://github.com/rrnewton/PhyBin)

and the top two topologies were visualized by DensiTree [78].

Phylogenetic analysis of concatenated whole-genome SNV data

SNVs were extracted from the filtered VCF file and converted into individual FASTA sequences

using a python script (https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2540861). Merging all FASTA sequences

into a single file provided a multiple sequence alignment of all individuals and all concatenated

SNVs. Phylogenetic trees were reconstructed with maximum-likelihood (ML) using RAxML v8

[75] with 100 bootstrap replicates and the GTR + CAT substitution model. In addition, a neighbor-

joining (NJ) tree was constructed using the program TreeBeST V.1.9.2

(http://treesoft.sourceforge.net/treebest.shtml), which has a build-in algorithm to build the best tree

that reconciled with the species tree and rooted with the minimized number of duplications and

losses. To further visualize genetic relationships among macaques, we performed principal

components analysis (PCA) on the filtered autosomal SNVs using the Eigensoft package (version

5.0) [79].

Phylogeny of whole mitochondrial genomes

We used NOVOPlasty [80] to *de novo* reconstruct the mitochondrial genomes (mitogenomes) for

18 macaques representing 15 species (**supplementary table S5**) and then annotated the genome

sequences using MitoZ [81]. In addition, we downloaded 15 mitogenomes for the genus *Macaca*

(**supplementary table S5**) from NCBI based on the filter criteria mentioned in Roos, et al. [33].

The 33 mitogenomes were aligned using MAFFT version 7 [82] and indels and poorly aligned

positions were removed with Gblocks version 0.91b [83]. A ML tree was reconstructed using

RAxML v 8 [75] with a GTR + CAT substitution model and applying 1000 bootstrap replicates to

verify nodal support.

QuIBL

We used QuIBL [18] to assess the likelihood of introgression and ILS for each locus in every

species triplet under evaluation. QuIBL provides estimates of the proportion of introgression and

the probability of a locus falling into a model with either introgression or ILS alone. To begin,

QuIBL estimated the internal branch length distribution for each locus in the triplet of species.

Given its sensitivity to recombination [18], we extracted 20-kb windows separated by 400-kb from

each sample to minimize the risk of including a recombination breakpoint in the window. We

filtered the inferred ML trees based on the number of parsimony-informative sites ($\geqq 10$), resulting

in a total of 3,175 trees that served as QuIBL inputs. We used the species tree topology to assign

the outgroup to each triplet and also calculated the percentage of loci that supported discordant

topologies and showed significant evidence for introgression.

In order to determine whether ILS (scenario 1) or a combination of ILS and introgression

reflected the inner branch lengths, QuIBL evaluated the probability values (Bayesian Information

Criterion test, BIC) (scenario 2). The scenario of ILS only with the lower BIC value is preferred

when Delta. BIC ($BIC_{scenario2}$-$BIC_{scenario1}$) is larger than 10 and the BIC value is less than 0. The

combination of ILS and introgression with the lower BIC value, however, is preferred when

Delta.BIC is smaller than -10.

D-statistics

We implemented D-statistics with *Dsuite* [53] across all combinations of the 16 macaques

described above. The topology required for *Dsuite* was consistent with two alternative topologies

described in **Fig. 3A-B**, respectively. Then, the D-statistics of all possible combinations with

Papio anubis as the outgroup (Out) and three different macaque species with a phylogenetic

topology following (((M1, M2), M3), Out) were calculated with the Dtrios module. In total, 566

groupings were analyzed for each topology. After that, D-statistics were calculated for each branch

of the alternative topologies using the f-branch module, and visualized the statistical results using

dtools.py script provided in the *Dsuite* software.

Hybridization Detection

To obtain further support for the ancient introgression suggested by the above approach based on

the D-statistics, we applied HyDe (Hybridization Detection) [55], which can automate the

detection of hybridization across large numbers of species despite ILS and can perform hypothesis

tests at the population or individual level by estimating the amount of admixture (γ). The detailed

analysis procedure is as follows: We applied the population approach in "run_hyde_mp.py" script

to test hybridization events on all triples among macaque lineages in **Fig. 1C** (*fascicularis/mulatta*

clade, *arctoides/sinica* clade, *silenus/nigra* clade, and *sylvanus* clade) with *Papio anubis* as the

outgroup. Results are first filtered based on whether there are significant *P* values (*P* values <0.05)

for hybridization. In addition, different γ values represent different events. For example, a 50:50

hybrid is characterized by a γ value of about 0.5 and a very low levels of admixture (e.g., 0.01

means close to parent P1 while 0.99 means close to parent P2) can be indicators of different

processes such as ILS and more ancient hybridization. We found that a 50:50 hybrid was

significantly concentrated among the *silenus/nigra*, *fascicularis/mulatta*, and *arctoides/sinica*

clades. We then used the script "run_hyde_mp.py" to test each individual within a putative hybrid

population (*fascicularis/mulatta* clade) using specified triples and then performed bootstrap

resampling (500 replicates) of the individuals within the putative hybrid lineages for each

specified triple based on "bootstrap_hyde.py" script.

Maximum likelihood inference for reticulation with PhyloNet

We used the InferNetwork_MPL program in PhyloNet [54], which is based on Maximum Pseudo

Likelihood (MPL) algorithm, to analyze a set of every 3th GF ML tree, that is, 2150 trees in a

coalescent framework that accounts for incomplete lineage sorting (ILS) while allowing different

numbers of reticulation events. In addition, the individual "2" in all macaque species were pruned

from the input gene trees to reduce complexity and computational demand. We set the numbers of

reticulation events as 1 and 2 to conduct two independent analyses and each analysis was run with

100 iterations, yielding the five networks with the highest likelihood scores. We visualized the

optimal networks in Dendroscope v3 [84] and present it in **supplementary Fig. S10.**

F_d **value**

To identify putatively introgressed regions in macaques, we screened these segments according to

the strategy of Martin, et al. [56] and van der Valk, et al. [6]. The method predicts that

introgression between species at a specific genome region should reduce the between-species

divergence in this region as compared to the rest of the genome [6, 56]. We computed the F_d value,

which is sensitive to the number of informative sites within windows, for each 10-kb window

across the whole genome of each macaque.

Introgression analysis with efficient local ancestry inference

The two-layer admixture model implemented in efficient local ancestry inference [57] was used to

infer introgressed segments in *fascicularis/mulatta* (the admixture population, -p 1) with the

silenus/nigra as source population 2 (-p 11) and *arctoides*/*sinica* were used as source population 1

(-p 10). We run 30 iterations with mixture generation values of 2,910,000, 3,200,000 and

3,450,000, which was estimated based on MCMCTree result, and the averaged results over the

three independent runs were used for detecting introgression tracts. Sites with a proportion of

source population 2 ancestry greater than 1.5 were defined as introgression sites from

silenus/nigra lineage which may cause position conflict of *fascicularis/mulatta* lineage in species

tree. We sum the proportion of source population 2 ancestry in each 10 kb windows, which is

same to F_d and the top 1% windows were defined as putatively introgression tracts.

Analysis of demographic history using genome-wide data

We applied the pairwise sequentially Markovian coalescent (PSMC, v0.6.5-r67) analysis [58] to

estimate the demographic history of each macaque individual (**supplementary Fig. S2**). We use

the Samtools mpileup [71] to generate the input files for PSMC with the parameter "-C" set to be

50 to improve mapping quality. In addition, only autosomal SNVs were reserved to generate the

diploid sequence for PSMC. PSMC was run with 25 iterations (-N), a maximum 2N0 coalescent

time (-t) of 15, an initial theta/rho ratio (-r) of 5, and the 64 time-intervals were parameterized as

"4 + 25*2 + 4 + 6". PSMC plots were scaled with a mutation rate (μ) of 0.9×10^{-8} and a generation

time (g) of 11 years for all macaque species [85]. Bootstrap analyses (100 bootstrap replications)

were performed for each species (**supplementary Fig. S14**).

Divergence time calibration

Coding sequences (CDSs) and protein sequences for different representative outgroup species and

three macaques (*M. mulatta, M. fascicularis, M. nemestrina, Papio anubis, Homo sapiens, Pan*

troglodytes and *Pongo abelii*) were retrieved from Ensembl (release-98). The single-copy

orthologue gene list shared by these species was obtained using OrthoFinder [86]. The macaques

were mapped to the Panu_3.0 genome and thus their CDSs have the same genomic coordinates.

Therefore, the CDSs of all macaques were extracted after ortholog detection. CDSs of these

single-copy genes were aligned by PRANK (v.170427) [87] under codon model and concatenated

into a single super-matrix. Fourfold degenerate (4D) sites were extracted from them using

MEGA7 [88] and concatenated to calibrated the divergence time of the genus *Macaca* with

MCMCTree program in PAML v4.9 (Phylogenetic Analysis of ML, v4.9) package [49]. Four

calibration points were applied to constrain the divergence time of the nodes: Catarrhini 20–38 Ma,

Hominidae 13–18 Ma, *Homo-Pan* 6–7 Ma and *Papio-Macaca* 5–8 Ma [33, 89]. To check for

convergence of the stationary distribution, the analysis was run in duplicate, and the results were

compared between runs and similar results for divergence time of macaques were obtained

(**supplementary Fig. S9**).

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Author contributions

ML conceived this study, and X.Z. and C.R. contributed to the idea for this study. X.T., J.Q. and Z.L. performed experiments, analyzed data and wrote the draft manuscript. G.L., L.Z. and Y. S. help to analyze data. P.F. C.R. and J.L. provided samples. M.L., X.M. and C.R. revised the draft manuscript. All authors contributed to the final text.

Data accessibility

Whole genome resequencing data produced in this study were deposited at the NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA) under Bioproject PRJNA732172.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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 Figures and Legends

Figure 1. Macaque phylogenetics and differentiation.

(A) Distribution ranges of the 16 macaque species investigated in this study. The range overlaps

are shown in blended colors (orange, purple, green, blue and yellow). (B) A MSC species tree was

constructed from 6,351 individual genome fragments. Branches with low q1 (<0.8) are numbered

1 to 6. All branches receive maximal support (P = 1.0, ASTRAL analysis). Branch lengths were

calculated from a ML analysis. Different species groups are represented by different background

colors which are show to the left. (C) ASTRAL quartet-score analyses for branches 1 to 6 in Fig.

1B. Quartet scores were calculated for the three possible arrangements (q1 to q3) for the

respective branch. The principal quartet trees are depicted, with q1 representing the species tree.

Two alternative topologies for branch no. 2 as shown in Fig. 1C. (D) Genealogical discordance

across the genome of rhesus macaque, demonstrated by a window analysis (200-kb window size)

of a full-genome alignment mapped to Panu_3.0 (chromosomes showed at the bottom). The y axis

indicates the percentage of windows within a given interval (every 5 windows next to each other)

that conform to (red) or reject (blue and grey) the species tree. (E) Consensus networks for

macaques from 6,351 genome fragments with a minimum threshold of 30% to form an edge. (F)

Distributions of F_{ST} within (blue) and between (yellow) different macaque species groups. The

exact P value of above were computed based on Wilcoxon test.

Figure 2. Divergence time tree of genus *Macaca*, estimated from 3,319,411 4d sites from

10,641 single-copy genes. Blue bars indicate 95% HPDs of divergence times and the time scale

below shows million years ago (Mya). Abbreviations: L = late, M = middle, E = early. Four fossil-

based calibration points are as follows: Catarrhini 20–38 Mya, Hominidae 13–18 Mya, *Homo-Pan*

6–7 Mya and *Papio-Macaca* 5–8 Mya.

Figure 3 High levels of ILS and footprints of introgression contribute to gene tree

heterogeneity. (A), (B) All samples' DensiTree plots were created using 200 bp window trees

spanning the whole genome. The top two most common topologies are represented by the colors

red (A) and blue (B), respectively. (C), (D) The top two most popular topologies are taken as the

reference trees, and a heatmap is shown to illustrate the statistical support for introgression

between species pairs inferred from the Dsuit software. The Fbranch function was used to further

process the Dtrios results for every branch on the tree, The black arrows refer to the infiltration of

the *fascicularis/mulatta* clade with the *silenus/nigra* (C) and *sinica/arctoides* (D) clades,

respectively. (E) The diagram illustrates the complex evolutionary relationships between macaque

species, highlighting instances of hybridization and incomplete lineage sorting (ILS). The

fascicularis/mulatta clade have a hybrid origin, while the reticulated patterns on the blue

(*silenus/nigra*) and red (*sinica/arctoides*) γ correspond to the estimated probabilities of inheritance

from the respective ancestral clades. (F) QuIBL results for the triplets. Relationships between

internal branch length in coalescent units (C_2) and total proportion of introgressed loci, blue

symbols represent triplets with true topology, orange symbols represent triplets with discordant

topology. Total proportion of introgressed loci was obtained by multiplying the probability that

each topology corresponds to introgression by its genomic frequency.

Figure 4 Scenario for the radiation of macaques. Macaques originated in Africa and after the

split of *M. sylvanus* the ancestor of Asian macaques invaded Asia and initially split into three

lineages, *silenus/nigra*, *arctoides/sinica* and *fascicularis/mulatta*. *fascicularis/mulatta* clade may

have originated from an ancient hybrid speciation of the two parental lineages (the ancestral

populations *silenus/nigra* and *arctoides/sinica* clades) at about 3.79 – 4.01 Mya ago.

M. mulatta
1.86
M. cyclopis
2.34
M. fuscata
2.94
M. fascicularis
3.79
M. thibetana
1.71
M. assamensis
2.17
M. leucogenys
2.56
M. sinica
3.01
M. arctoides
4.01
M. leonina
1.39
M. silenus
2.39
M. nemestrina
3.2
M. maura
1.88
M. tonkeana
2.27
M. nigra
5.29
M. sylvanus
7.76
Papio anubis
Pan troglodytes
6.21
Homo sapiens
16.69
Pongo abelii
20-38

Mya
20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0

Miocene

E | L | E | M/L

Pliocene | Pleistocene

A

M. sylvanus

Papio anubis

M. nigra

M. maura

M. tonkeana

M. tonkeana(2)

M. leonina

M. silenus

M. nemestrina

M. nemestrina(2)

M. fascicularis

M. fuscata

M. cyclopis

M. mulatta(CR)

M. mulatta(IR)

M. arctoides

M. arctoides(2)

M. sinica

M. leucogenys

M. leucogenys(2)

M. leucogenys(3)

M. leucogenys(4)

M. assamensis

M. assamensis(2)

M. thibetana

Top1 topology   24%

B

Papio anubis

M. sylvanus

M. nigra

M. maura

M. tonkeana

M. tonkeana(2)

M. leonina

M. silenus

M. nemestrina

M. nemestrina(2)

M. fascicularis

M. fuscata

M. cyclopis

M. mulatta(CR)

M. mulatta(IR)

M. arctoides

M. arctoides(2)

M. sinica

M. leucogenys

M. leucogenys(2)

M. leucogenys(3)

M. leucogenys(4)

M. assamensis

M. assamensis(2)

M. thibetana

Top2 topology 9.3%

C

f_b

D

f_b

E

M. sylvanus

M. nemestrina

M. leonina

M. silenus

M. nigra

M. maura

M. tonkeana

M. fascicularis

M. fuscata

M. cyclopis

M. mulatta

M. arctoides

M. sinica

M. leucogenys

M. thibetana

M. assamensis

F

high levels of ILS

Bootstrap Distribution of γ

Total Non-ILS proportion

◆ nonsignificant
● significant

minor topology
major topology

Proportion of topologies
0.25
0.50
0.75

C_2

Density

γ

Density

γ

M. sylvanus
~5.29 mya

Ancestor
~7.76 mya

Ancestor of
Asian macaques

~4.01 mya

~3.79 mya

Ancestor of different
macaque group