Inversion frequencies and phenotypic effects are modulated by the environment

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Abstract

Understanding how environmental variation drives phenotypic diversification within species is a major objective in evolutionary biology. The seaweed fly *Coelopa frigida* provides an excellent model for the study of genetically driven phenotypes because it carries an α/β inversion polymorphism that affects body size. *Coelopa frigida* inhabits highly variable beds of decomposing seaweed on the coast in Scandinavia thus providing a suitable test ground to investigate the genetic effects of substrate on both the frequency of the inversion (directional selection) and on the phenotype (genotype x environment effects). Here we use a reciprocal transplant experiment to test the effect of the α/β inversion on body size traits and development time across four suitable natural breeding substrates from the clinal distribution. We show that while development time is unaffected by GxE effects, both the frequency of the inversion and the relative phenotypic effects of the inversion on body size differ between population x substrate combinations. This indicates that the environment modulates the fitness as well as the phenotypic effects of the inversion karyotypes. It further suggests that the inversion may have accumulated qualitatively different mutations in different populations that interact with the environment. Together our results are consistent with the idea that the inversion in *C. frigida* likely evolves via a combination of local mutation, GxE effects, and differential fitness of inversion karyotypes in heterogeneous environments.

Introduction

One of the central goals of evolutionary biology is to understand how organisms

cope with environmental heterogeneity (Savolainen et al. 2013). Phenotypic

plasticity can solve this problem but the phenotypic response to variation in an

environmental variable (i.e. phenotypic plasticity) may vary among species as

well as among genotypes of the same species. This is commonly referred to as a

Genotype-by-Environment interaction (GxE, Falconer 1990; Lynch and Walsh

1998; Via and Lande 1985). Abundant experimental data and theoretical work

now provide strong support for the idea that the relative performance of different

genotypes across environmental gradients may be involved in the maintenance

of phenotypic plasticity and genetic variation as well as the evolution of fitness

related phenotypes (Carreira et al. 2006; Ungerer et al. 2003).

The study of environmental heterogeneity has been championed by work on

geographic patterns along clines, with classic examples coming from genetic

clines in flies almost a century ago (Dobzhansky 1948; Sturtevant 1921). Other

examples include the genetic underpinnings of traits involved in adaptation to

high altitude (Storz 2002) and pigmentation (Hoekstra and Coyne 2007). Clines

hold a large attraction as natural Darwinian laboratories because they allow

researchers to quantify the gradual effects of changing environments on

genotype, phenotype, and the interaction between them (Endler 1977). These

studies have shown that while many environmental tolerance traits that vary

clinally are quantitative and polygenic (Wellenreuther and Hansson 2016), they

can also be located within chromosomal segments that segregate as a single

locus (Tigano and Friesen 2016). If environmentally adaptive variants are

chromosomally linked, either because they are found on chromosomal inversions

or are in areas of low recombination, their selective coefficients act in an additive

manner and they may be less likely to be lost via genetic drift and more likely to

contribute to rapid adaptation (Kirkpatrick and Barton 2006). In the extreme case,

complex adaptations may be accomplished through the fixation of linked sets of

adaptive variants (Yeaman 2013), often called supergenes, a case in which

polygenic adaptation may be more accurately modeled with single-locus models

(Schwander et al. 2014). Good examples for such single-locus supergene

adaptations come from *Drosophila melanogaster* where inversion polymorphisms

produce latitudinally varying phenotypes for traits including heat and cold

tolerance and body size (Reinhardt et al. 2014; Schrider et al. 2016).

Chromosomal inversion polymorphisms are being identified at a fast rate from an

increasing number of populations of organisms, e.g. insects, plants, bacteria and

humans, and are commonly linked to trait and fitness variation (Hoffmann and

Rieseberg 2008; Kirkpatrick and Barton 2006). Inversions are particularly

common in flies, and an intriguing mystery is why there are huge differences in

levels of polymorphism and rates of fixation for inversions between closely

related species and even between chromosomes in *Drosophila* spp. (Kirkpatrick

2010). The seaweed fly *Coelopa frigida* (family Coelopidae) and its sister species

C. nebularum have a large chromosomal α/β inversion polymorphism on

chromosome I encompassing about 10% of the genome and containing ~100

genes (Aziz 1975). The inversion polymorphism is known to affect a wide range

of life history and reproductive traits, such as development time (Day and

Buckley 1980), body size (Butlin et al. 1982a), longevity and female fecundity

(Butlin and Day 1984a; Butlin et al. 1982c), female resistance to male mating

attempts (Gilburn and Day 1994; Gilburn et al. 1992) and also male's ability to

overcome female resistance (Butlin et al. 1982a).

The most striking of these phenotypic traits is a three-fold size difference in

males: male homokaryotypes for the inversion type α are much larger (~9mm)

than β- homokaryotypes (~3mm), whereas the heterokaryotype αβ is

intermediate in size (~6mm) (Figure 1a, Wellenreuther pers. obs., Butlin and Day

1984b). Female size is not significantly affected by karyotype (Butlin and Day

1984b). Maintenance of the polymorphism is secured by strong heterosis (Collins

1978), since αβ-heterokaryotypes have higher fitness than either homokaryotype

(Butlin and Day 1984a; Butlin and Day 1989). The heterokaryotype αβ has a

higher viability during development than either homokaryotype, both in

experiments (Butlin and Day 1984a; Leggett et al. 1996) and in the field, as

indicated by heterokaryotype excess (Butlin et al. 1982c; Day et al. 1983; Day et

al. 1982b; Gilburn and Day 1994). Heterokaryotype excess increases under

interspecific competition with the congener *C. pilipes* and under intense

intraspecific competition (Butlin and Day 1984a; Leggett et al. 1996). The effect

is disproportionally strong in males, especially decreasing the frequency of αα-

homokaryotypes (Butlin and Day 1984a), possibly indicating lower viability of

males of this karyotype. However, inversion frequencies also form a cline from

the North Sea to the Baltic Sea, with the α inversion becoming more rare towards

the Baltic Sea (Day et al. 1983).

Here we explore if the environment modulates inversion frequencies and

phenotypic effects in *C. frigida*. For this, we study *C. frigida* populations in

Scandinavia that show variation in karyotype frequencies (Day et al. 1983).

Specifically, we test the possible effects of the α/β inversion polymorphism on

body traits and development time across four suitable natural breeding

substrates using a fully balanced reciprocal transplant experiment. We also

elucidate the relative fitness of the inversion karyotypes on these varying

substrates by examining the frequencies of the three karyotypes in different

environments.

Materials and methods

Study species and sites

Coelopa frigida belongs to the group of acalyptrate flies which exclusively forage

on decomposing seaweed (Cullen et al. 1987) and is found all along the

seashores of Scandinavia (Mcalpine 1991). This species plays a vital role in

coastal environment health by accelerating the decomposition of algae, allowing

for faster release of nutrients (Cullen et al. 1987), and are an important food

source for predatory coastal invertebrates and seabirds (Fuller 2003; Summers

et al. 1990). *Coelopa frigida* has 5 chromosomes with inversions occuring on 3 of

them (Aziz 1975). The largest of these is the α/β which occurs on chromosome I.

The α/β inversion occurs at stable frequencies in all populations so far studied in

Northern Europe (Butlin et al. 1982a), although there may be seasonal (Butlin

1983) and clinal variation (Day et al. 1983).

Inversion frequencies of *C. frigida* form a cline from the North Sea to the Baltic

Sea, with the α inversion becoming more rare towards the Baltic Sea (Day et al.

1983). Such clines are classic signs of selection and this cline is associated with

a decrease in salinity and tidal range and associated changes in the composition

of the wrackbed (i.e. the species of algae present). As salinity decreases from

the North Sea to the Skagerrak and Kattegat regions there is a corresponding

decrease of marine species of brown seaweeds such as *Fucus spp*. and

Laminaria spp. moving into the Baltic Sea, *Zostera* eelgrass and red algae

gradually displace the brown seaweeds (Table 1). We selected four populations

(Kämpinge, Kåseberga, Mölle and Steninge) from the southern part of the cline

that differ in tidal range, salinity, and wrackbed composition (Figure 1b, Table 1).

We extracted climate data (sea surface salinity and air temperature) for each site

from MARSPEC (Sbrocco and Barber 2013) and WorldClim databases using the

R package raster (Hijmans and van Etten 2014) (Table 1).

Reciprocal transplant experiment

We conducted a fully balanced reciprocal transplant experiment involving all four

locations, where larvae from all locations were allowed to grow on its own

wrackbed substrate and the substrates of the remaining three locations. For each

location, fly larvae and wrackbed substrate were collected between February and

May 2014. The wrackbed substrate was placed in labelled plastic bags and then

frozen to ensure that no viable eggs or larvae remained. Fly larvae from were

reared on 150g of their own substrate in aerated plastic containers until a

puparium was formed, and then kept in individual Eppendorf tubes (to ensure

virginity) containing a small piece of cotton soaked in 5% sucrose solution. When

a fly eclosed, the Eppendorf was moved to the refrigerator to slow down aging.

Coleopa frigida is exceptionally cold tolerant and this treatment does not appear

to affect survival (E. Berdan, pers. obs.). Over a maximum of ten days, adult flies

were collected until a minimum of 25 couples could be set up per location. Eggs

were collected from 14-15 mating pairs per population and subsequently mixed

to populate three replicates of each population x substrate combination with 30

eggs each (4 populations x4 substrates x 3 replicates, each one with 30 eggs,

total eggs for the experiment: 1440). Replicate pots were kept at 25° C with a

12/12 hour light:dark cycle and each pot (190x110x70 mm) was aerated and

contained 150 g of seaweed. Pots were checked daily and all eclosing flies were

sexed and then stored at -20° C on the same day.

Morphological measurements

Morphological measurements were carried out on adult flies only. All flies were

weighed (Sartorius Quintix 124-1S microbalance) to the nearest 0.0001 grams.

The thorax width of each fly was measured with a digital calliper (Cocraft Digital

Vemier Caliper) at the widest place and to the nearest 0.01 mm. This

measurement was repeated twice and the average was used. Then, the left wing

and right middle leg were removed (if one side was damaged the other side was

used). The wing and leg were placed under a thin glass slide and placed under

the microscope and a picture was the taken using a Nikon Digital Sight DS-Fi2

mounted on a Nikon SM2800 microscope set to a magnification of two power.

The resulting image was labelled with an individual identifier. Measurements

were conducted blind to location and substrate type to avoid bias.

Molecular determination of inversion types

In *C. frigida* the two most common alcohol dehydrogenase (Adh) allozymes, Adh-

B and Adh-D are in complete linkage disequilibrium with the α and β forms of the

inversion (Day et al. 1982a). Gel electrophoresis was used to visualise the

alcohol-dehydrogenase allozymes associated with the two inversion types and

this allowed for straightforward genotyping of the inversion types. Starch gels

(12%) were prepared by combining 24.5 g potato starch (Sigma-Aldrich, S4251)

with 90 ml TEB-buffer and 90 ml dH_2O, heating the mixture, and then pouring it

onto an 18.5x10 cm glass plate with a plastic frame and left to set for 30 minutes,

after which it was put in a 4^OC refrigerator overnight.

Porcelain plates with 12 wells were kept on ice packs. On each well, a fly was

placed together with a small amount of carborundum powder (Fisher Chemical,

#C192-500) and one drop of cold dH_2O. The flies were then homogenized using

a glass rod. Once homogenized, filter paper wicks were placed in the wells to

soak up the homogenate. The wicks were then gently inserted into the starch gel.

Starch gels were put in the electrophoresis chamber, which was connected to a

power supply (Consort E863). The two chambers of the electrophoresis machine

were filled with TEB-buffer. Two cloth wicks were soaked in TEB-buffer and

placed so that they touched evenly along each of the exposed sides of the gel,

while still connected to the buffer. An ice pack was placed on top of the gel and

the electrophoresis (350 V, 50mA) took 1.5 hours.

After electrophoresis, the gel was cut horizontally with a metal thread and only

the bottom half was used for staining. The agar overlay used for staining

consisted of 20 ml of 2% agar, 10 ml HCl-Tris buffer (pH 8.6), 6 ml propan-2-ol,

1.5 ml 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazolyl-2)-2,5- diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT), 1 ml

Phenazine methosulphate (PMS), and 10 ml Nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide

(NAD). The stain was mixed and poured onto the cut surface of the gel. The

covered box with the gel was then carefully put in a dark heating cabinet at 37° C

for 40 minutes, or until the banding pattern was clear and then photographed.

Statistical analysis

We analyzed weight and development time (in days) in R (R Development Core

Team 2015) using general linear models. Weight was highly correlated with all

other morphological characters (Supplemental table S1) so we only analyzed

weight data and development time in a statistical framework. Weight data was

normally distributed and so was analyzed assuming a Gaussian distribution.

Development time is essentially count data and right skewed, so we analyzed the

data assuming a Poisson distribution. For both data sets we considered

individual flies to be our unit of replication and used the lme4 package in R

(Bates et al. 2014) to construct a model with all factors (population, substrate,

sex, and karyotype) and all two and three way interactions. We also included pot

(replicate) nested within population*substrate as a random factor. We ran the

'Anova' function in the R package car (Fox and Weisberg 2011) on the full

models and then examined the F-values for each term. Starting with a model with

only an intercept we built up a series of nested models adding a single main

effect, two or three way interaction at a time by decreasing F-value (i.e. starting

with the term with the highest F-value). We then used the 'Anova' function with

the χ^2 distribution to compare the models in a nested fashion (i.e. each model is

only compared to the one above it) and used a χ^2 test to determine if they were

significantly different. We selected the model with the lowest AIC whose nested

models were not significantly better.

Visual inspection of our morphological data indicated that males were more

variable than females. We formally tested for differences in variability for each

morphological measurement in a statistical framework using Krishnamoorthy and

Lee's (2014) modified signed-likelihood ratio test (MS-LRT) implemented in the R

package cvequality (Marwick and Krishnamoorthy 2016). We used a Bonferroni

correction to account for multiple testing (Bland and Altman 1995).

We further examined the relative proportions of the three karyotypes (αα, αβ, and

ββ) in all population x substrate combinations. For these analyses we used pot

as our unit of replication. We tested for differences in two ways. First, we tested

for karyotype differences using a χ^2 test on a 3 karyotypes x 16 population-

substrate combination matrix. Second, we used a Dirichlet regression model in

the R package DirichletReg (Maier 2014). The Dirichlet regression model allows

us to analyze karyotypes (variables with a bounded interval that sum up to a

constant - in our case frequencies of karyotypes in a population) exhibiting

skewness and heteroscedasticity, without having to transform the data (Maier

2014). We used a nested approach starting with a simple model and then adding

factors. Models were tested against the one above them in a nested fashion

using the 'Anova' function in the R package car (Fox and Weisberg 2011) to

determine the best model.

Results

Phenotypic data

We had different sample sizes for different treatment combinations (see figure

legends for Figures 3 and 4) due to differential survival of the three karyotype

categories. Three of the 96 combinations had zero flies (ex: αα Kämpinge

females in Kämpinge) but we do not expect that this unduly influenced our results

as we did not investigate any 4 way interactions in any of our statistical models

and thus did not examine these three combinations directly. All morphological

characteristics were highly and significantly correlated with each other

(Supplementary Table S1).

We only examined weight in a statistical framework, as this morphological trait is

a good proxy of the other morphological measurements (Pearson correlation

coefficients with other traits varied from 0.78-0.89, Supplemental Table S1) while

still being an easily tractable and understandable measurement. Weight was not

strongly correlated with development time (Pearson's product-moment

correlation: 0.10) and therefore development time was examined separately. F-

values from the full models indicated that effect sizes were much larger for

weight than development time (Table S2). The best model for weight included all

main effects, the two-way interactions: sex*karyotype, population*sex,

population*karyotype, population*substrate, substrate*karyotype, and the three-

way interaction: location*sex*karyotype. Comparing the best model with the next

most simplified model gave a χ^2 value of 43.3 (P = 0.00073). The best model for

development time included the main effects and the two-way interaction

karyotype*sex. Comparing the best model with the next most simplified model

gave a χ^2 value of 8.6 (P = 0.0135). The best models for both weight and

development time included all main effects and a subset of interactions (Table 2).

However, a GxE interaction (as evidenced by a population x substrate

interaction) was only present for morphological characteristics, not for

development time.

For all measured traits, the Krishnamoorthy and Lee's (2014) modified signed-

likelihood ratio test (MS-LRT) showed that males had significantly more

phenotypic variation than females (Table 3). This variation could be partially

accounted for by karyotype. Previous work has shown that males are on average

bigger than females and that within male size differences are primarily driven by

the αβ inversion system: αα males are the biggest followed by αβ and ββ (Butlin

et al. 1982c). This held true in our male data set (Figure 2) but the magnitude of

these differences depended on both population and substrate type (Figure 2,

Supplementary Figures 2-5). Although the relative sizes and size differences of

the karyotypes differed between combinations of location and substrate, the

pattern of both leg length and wing length, thorax width, and weight (Figure 2,

Supplementary Figures 2-5) in relation to karyotype and sex was clear and

consistent for males, but much less pronounced for females. Likewise, across

treatments (combination of population and substrate), αα-males had the largest

mean size, followed by αβ-males and ββ-males in all different population x

substrate combinations (Figure 2). For females, less than half of the

combinations of population and substrate followed the same pattern.

Development time did not follow the same pattern as observed for morphology

(Figure 3). While αα-males generally took longer to develop, this was not always

the case for every combination of population and substrate. For example, ββ flies

from Steninge, raised on Kämpinge substrate took longer to develop than any

other flies from Steninge. For females, the MS-LRT analysis demonstrated that

there was considerably less variation between karyotypes compared to males

and patterns varied substantially between populations and substrates.

Inversion types

The frequencies of αα, αβ, and ββ were significantly different across the

Population x Substrate combinations (χ^2 = 71.5, df=30, P < 0.0001). Generally

αβ was the most frequently observed karyotype, but ββ could be just as frequent

or more frequent depending on the substrate. In ¾ of the populations (all except

Steninge) ββ was the most frequent karyotype in at least one substrate and that

was usually the substrate from Mölle.

We used Dirichlet regression to see which parameters best predicted the

karyotype frequencies. With this model we were not able to examine F-values so

we compared all possible models with the 'Anova' function from the R package

car (Fox and Weisberg 2011). The best model was population + substrate +

population*substrate. Comparing this with the next most simplified model gave a

χ^2 value of 73.99 (P = 0.0002).

Discussion

Our results demonstrate that the environment modulates both the frequencies of

the karyotypes as well as their phenotypic effects in *C. frigida*. The presence of a

significant GxE term for both of these indicates that there is population specific

variation in larval fitness of the different inversion types as well as in the

phenotypic effects of the inversion. The same pool of eggs was used to seed

every substrate treatment per population so the neutral expectation (without

sampling bias) would be similar karyotype frequencies across substrates.

Instead, we found strong differences in karyotype frequencies between

substrates with some trends being consistent across multiple populations (ex:

higher frequency of ββ in Mölle substrate, Figure 4). While it is possible that

these results are due simply to sampling bias, it is unlikely that sampling bias

would produce consistent trends. Furthermore, this result confirms previous

research showing that the substrate composition has a strong selective effect on

the inversion (Butlin et al. 1982b; Day et al. 1983; Edward and Gilburn 2013;

Mérot et al. in press). Karyotypic specific survival differed across populations

suggesting that that population specific variation has accumulated in the

inversion. For example, ββ was the most common karyotype on Mölle wrack for

every population except Steninge (Figure 4). Instead, in Steninge, little variance

was seen between substrate combinations compared to other populations.

Our results also indicate that inversion-related size effects in *C. frigida* are

affected by the environment, particularly in males as females show little to no

effect of karyotype on size. Male fly inversion phenotypes from the same

population could vary two-fold for weight when grown on the same substrate (e.g.

Steninge population on Mölle substrate), and three-fold when comparing male

inversion phenotypes across all four growing substrates (e.g. Steninge, Figure 2).

Male size has a high heritability with virtually all the variance in size being

attributable to the chromosomal inversion system (Wilcockson et al. 1995). In all

of our treatment combinations, environmental effects never swamped the effect

of the inversion. Male αα were always the biggest, followed by αβ and ββ, which

is consistent with previous work (Figure 1a; e.g. Butlin et al. 1982a). Population

and substrate changed the magnitude of these differences as well as size

averages but never the pattern of the inversion size effects on males. Part of this

variation may be due to parental effects as the parents were reared in their

"home" substrate. Parental larval diet has been shown to influence offspring size

in *Drosophila melanogaster* (ex: Valtonen et al. 2012; Vijendravarma et al. 2010).

However, despite strong environment and inversion effects on male size, the

inversion, the population, and the environment exhibited negligible size effects in

females. Specifically, our data show much lower between inversion variation in

size and considerably less variation across environments for females. Thus, if

maternal effects are present they are not influencing males and females in a

similar manner. A similar difference in effect size between males and females

has also been found in a common garden study on *C. frigida* grown on artificially

mixed substrates containing in excess either the seaweed genus *Laminaria* or

Fucus (Edward and Gilburn 2013). The study by Edward and Gilburn (2013) also

found that flies grown on an excess of *Laminaria* showed greater among

inversion size differences compared to *Fucus*, suggesting that the type of

seaweed itself, or the associated microbiome of the seaweed, causes phenotypic

differences in size. The wrackbed composition differs markedly along the

populations studied, as a consequence of the declining salinity from the North

Sea to the Baltic Sea (See Figure 1 and 2 in Wellenreuther et al. 2017) , and

have likely been major selective environmental factors in modulating *C. frigida*

populations. Development time, another trait known to be affected by inversion

type, also showed significantly higher variation across male karyotypes, but

exhibited less extreme environmentally induced effects compared to size, and

consequently no significant GxE effects. These results together with previous

studies (Butlin and Day 1984a; Day et al. 1980) underscore that the inversion

related phenotype effects in *C. frigida* are significantly affected by sex, with male

phenotypes being more labile compared to female phenotypes.

Interactions between genotypes and the environment are commonly observed in

quantitative traits (Gupta and Lewontin 1982), particularly those associated with

fitness (e.g. Fanara et al. 2006), and are thought to provide a potent force for

maintaining genetic variation (Fernández Iriarte and Hasson 2000; Gillespie and

Turelli 1989; Hedrick 1986). The habitat used by *C. frigida* is heterogeneous and

the resulting local population structure is similar to Levene's migration model of

subdivided populations, namely by a single pool of individuals that mate at

random and breed on discrete and ephemeral resources. Environmental

fluctuations in seaweed substrate composition likely favors the persistence of

alternative rearrangements (i.e. the α/β inversion) containing sets of co-adapted

alleles via balancing selection (Carroll et al. 2001; Filchak et al. 2000; Weinig

2000), with each set being optimal under different conditions (Dobzhansky 1970).

This hypothesis may account for the so called "supergene" idea (Schwander et

al. 2014) such as those determining mating types found in heterostylous plants

and wing mimicry polymorphisms found in *Heliconius* butterflies (Thompson and

Jiggins 2014). Balancing selection resulting from seasonal and stochastic

temporal and spatial wrackbed changes may thus be a significant contributor to

maintaining the fitness related inversion variation in size. Other examples for

selection on fitness trade-offs come from introduced apple *Malus pumila* and

native hawthorn *Crataegus* spp. hosts which has led to divergence in phenology

and thermal physiology in the true fruit fly *Rhagoletis pomonella* (Filchak et al.

2000).

Balancing selection has also been implicated in the maintenance of other

inversion polymorphisms, but whether balancing selection can maintain genetic

polymorphisms over long time scales is still debated (Bernatchez 2016).

Theoretical studies indicate that balancing selection may primarily be a short-

term process because the genetic load that it creates then has a negative

feedback that hinders the long-term maintenance of adaptive alleles (Fijarczyk

and Babik 2015). Furthermore, rapid environmental changes may cause dramatic

allele frequency shifts that could cause the loss of formerly stable polymorphisms

(Fijarczyk and Babik 2015). Despite this, recent studies have provided some

evidence that balancing selection can operate even over longer time scales.

Lindtke et al. (2017) investigated the inversion related cryptic colour

polymorphism in *Timema cristinae* walking stick insects using a comprehensive

dataset of natural populations and population genetic analyses. They were able

to demonstrate that inversion colour variation has likely been maintained over

extended time periods by balancing selection, which has previously been thought

to be only possible over short time frames. Balancing selection (via spatially

variable selection) on chromsomal inversions has been widely demonstrated in

Drosophila species (Wellenreuther and Bernatchez 2018). The most well studied

of these is the In(3R)Payne inversion in *Drosophila melanogaster*, which shows

stable parallel clines pertaining to latitude on 3 continents (Kapun et al. 2016). In

Drosophila pseudoobscura many different arrangements on the third

chromosome form clines across the Southwestern United States that are

maintained by a migration selection balance between different environmental

niches (Schaeffer 2008).

In conclusion, our results indicate that the inversion in *C. frigida* likely evolves via

a combination of local mutation, GxE effects, and differential fitness of

karyotypes in heterogeneous environments. Future work should apply high-

resolution genome-wide approaches that target the regions inside the inversion

to identify the true genic targets of varying selection. This approach would also

elucidate which genes inside the inversion are linked to these large size effects in

males, and how the environment has shaped the differentiation between these

genes along gradients.

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Conflict of Interest

447 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Data Archiving

450   All raw phenotypic data and karyotype frequencies will be deposited on Dryad

451   upon acceptance.

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Tables

Table 1. Spatial coordinates (WGS 1984 DD), sea surface salinity (PSU), mean air temperature, inversion frequency, and wrackbed composition of the study sites.

| | Coordinates (WGS84, DD) | | Sea surface salinity (PSU)[a] | | Air Temperature (°C)[b] | Inversion frequency[c] | Wrackbed composition | | | |
	Latitude	Longitude	Mean annual	Annual SD	Mean annual	Frequency of the α inversion	Percentage *Fucus spp.*	Percentage Kelp[d]	Percentage red algae[e]	Percentage eelgrass[f]
Steninge	56.77	12.63	15.79	16.62	7.5	0.49	50	20	30	0
Mölle	56.28	12.49	15.38	16.88	7.8	0.42	30	30	30	10
Kämpinge	55.4	12.98	12.82	11.74	8.1	0.35	30	0	30	40
Kåseberga	55.38	14.06	9.91	5.4	8.0	0.34	30	0	50	20

[a] Data source: Sbrocco & Barber (2013), accessed on 1 November 2016.
[b] Data source: WorldClim database (1.4) , accessed in May 2018
[c] Day et al. (1983).
[d] *Saccharina* and *Laminaria spp.*
[e] *Furcellaria lumbricalis*
[f] *Zostera marina*

Table 2. Best models for adult weight and development time. An X indicates that a main effect or interaction was present in the best model.

	Main Effects				2-way interactions						3-way interactions
	Karyotype	Population	Sex	Substrate	Karyotype:Population	Karyotype:Sex	Karyotype:Substrate	Population:Sex	Population:Substrate	Sex:Substrate	Karyotype:Population:Substrate
Weight	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Development Time	x	x	x	x		x					

Table 3. Results from Krishnamoorthy and Lee's (2014) modified signed-likelihood ratio test (MS-LRT) looking to see if the coefficient of variation is different between males and females. Bolded p-values are significant at the P< 0.0001 level after a Bonferroni correction.

Trait	MS-LRT Statistic	P-value
Weight	79.22	**0**
Thorax Width	83.79	**0**
Leg Length	61.64	**4.11E-15**
Wing Length	118.05	**0**
Development Time	22.09	**2.61E-06**

Titles and legends to figures

Figure 1: A. Picture of an αα, αβ, and ββ male showcasing the size differential. B. Map of *C. frigida* fly populations used in this study. Base map from d-maps (http://d-maps.com/carte.php?num_car=23102).

Figure 2: Boxplot of weight across populations (listed at Top), substrate (listed on x-axis), sex (indicated by top (male) and bottom (female) charts), and karyotype (indicated by color, red - αα, blue - αβ, and green-ββ). Outliers are not shown for clarity. N for each population x sex combination (from left to right for each karyotype and substrate as listed in the figure): Kåseberga Male: 10, 19, 5, 2, 11, 6, 5, 9, 10, 2, 9, 6, Kämpinge Male: 3, 20, 15, 1, 9, 4, 3, 13, 19, 1, 21, 6, Mölle Male: 10, 14, 1, 6, 8, 13, 6, 12, 13, 2, 6, 10, Steninge Male: 7, 17, 7, 0, 3, 2, 5, 15, 5, 7, 16, 14, Kåseberga Female: 7, 24, 11, 2, 3, 6, 4, 12, 18, 5, 13, 5, Kämpinge Female: 1, 12, 11, 0, 5, 4, 0, 13, 18, 3, 17, 9, Mölle Female: 4, 9, 4, 4, 10, 4, 6, 6, 5, 4, 3, 8, Steninge Female: 8, 21, 8, 2, 5, 4, 8, 19, 6, 7, 21, 7.

Figure 3: Boxplot of development time across populations (listed at Top), substrate (listed on x-axis), sex (indicated by top (male) and bottom (female) charts), and karyotype (indicated by color, black - αα, grey - αβ, and white-ββ). Outliers are not shown for clarity. N for each population x sex combination (from left to right for each karyotype and substrate as listed in the figure): Kåseberga Male: 10, 19, 5, 2, 11, 6, 5, 9, 10, 2, 9, 6, Kämpinge Male: 3, 20, 15, 1, 9, 4, 3,

13, 19, 1, 21, 6, Mölle Male: 10, 14, 13, 1, 6, 8, 6, 12, 13, 2, 6, 10, Steninge Male:

7, 17, 7, 0, 3, 2, 5, 15, 5, 7, 16, 14, Kåseberga Female: 7, 24, 11, 2, 3, 6, 4, 12,

18, 5, 13, 5, Kämpinge Female: 1, 12, 11, 0, 5, 4, 0, 13, 18, 3, 17, 9, Mölle

Female: 4, 9, 4, 4, 10, 4, 6, 6, 5, 4, 3, 8, Steninge Female: 8, 21, 8, 2, 5, 4, 8, 19,

6, 7, 21, 7.

Figure 4: Box plot of frequencies of different karyotypes (black - αα, grey - αβ,

and white-ββ) across populations (listed at the top of each graph) and substrates

(listed on the x-axis).

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Supplemental Material

Table S1. Pearson correlations of morphological factors.

	Adult Weight	Thorax Width	Wing Length	Leg Length
Weight	1	0.8306678	0.8850752	0.7786367
Thorax Width	0.8306678	1	0.8452453	0.7628986
Wing length	0.8850752	0.8452453	1	0.865498
Leg Length	0.7786367	0.7628986	0.865498	1

Table S2. ANOVA tables for the full models adult weight (A) and development time (B). Bolded terms are included in the final models.

A.

Term	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	F-Value
Population	**3**	**201.08**	**67.03**	**13.6683**
Substrate	**3**	**327.74**	**109.25**	**22.2781**
Sex	**1**	**1559.27**	**1559.27**	**317.9702**
Karyotype	**2**	**2589.74**	**1294.87**	**264.0532**
Population:Substrate	**9**	**185.65**	**20.63**	**4.2065**
Population:Sex	**3**	**422.75**	**140.92**	**28.7363**
Population:Karyotype	**6**	**228.57**	**38.09**	**7.7683**
Substrate:Sex	3	18.59	6.2	1.264
Substrate:Karyotype	**6**	**116.87**	**19.48**	**3.9719**
Sex:Karyotype	**2**	**1406.79**	**703.4**	**143.4383**
Population:Substrate:Sex	9	64.31	7.15	1.4572
Population:Substrate:Karyotype	**18**	**220.67**	**12.26**	**2.5**
Population:Sex:Karyotype	6	36.49	6.08	1.2401
Substrate:Sex:Karyotype	6	53.67	8.95	1.8242

B.

Term	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	F-Value
Population	**3**	**11.039**	**3.6796**	**3.6796**
Substrate	**3**	**35.277**	**11.759**	**11.759**
Sex	**1**	**20.778**	**20.7776**	**20.7776**
Karyotype	**2**	**6.958**	**3.4792**	**3.4792**
Population:Substrate	9	9.476	1.0528	1.0528
Population:Sex	3	6.46	2.1533	2.1533
Population:Karyotype	6	0.461	0.0769	0.0769
Substrate:Sex	3	0.598	0.1994	0.1994
Substrate:Karyotype	6	1.639	0.2732	0.2732
Sex:Karyotype	**2**	**6.725**	**3.3625**	**3.3625**
Population:Substrate:Sex	9	3.591	0.399	0.399
Population:Substrate:Karyotype	18	4.861	0.2701	0.2701
Population:Sex:Karyotype	6	0.263	0.0438	0.0438
Substrate:Sex:Karyotype	6	0.534	0.0889	0.0889

Figure S2: Boxplot of thorax width across populations (listed at Top), substrate (listed on x-axis), sex (indicated by top (male) and bottom (female) charts), and karyotype (indicated by color, red - αα, blue - αβ, and green-ββ). Outliers are not shown for clarity.

Figure S3: Boxplot of leg length across populations (listed at Top), substrate (listed on x-axis), sex (indicated by top (male) and bottom (female) charts), and karyotype (indicated by color, red - αα, blue - αβ, and green-ββ). Outliers are not shown for clarity.

Figure S4: Boxplot of wing length across populations (listed at Top), substrate (listed on x-axis), sex (indicated by top (male) and bottom (female) charts), and karyotype (indicated by color, red - αα, blue - αβ, and green-ββ). Outliers are not shown for clarity.

Figure S2

Figure S3

Figure S4