

1 **Pleistocene Mammal Population Fluctuation Patterns Inferred by Their Genomes**

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## 15 **Summary**

16 Paleoclimate fluctuations critically affect paleoecological systems and influence mammal  
17 populations, even resulting in population differentiation [1]. Historical effective population  
18 size ( $N_e$ ) can reflect these influences [2, 3]. Dozens of recent studies have investigated  
19 the relationship between variations in  $N_e$  values of one or a small number of mammalian  
20 species, inferred from genomic data, and fluctuations in paleoclimate [4-7]. However,  
21 there lacks an integrated and comprehensive study on the relationship between the  
22 fluctuations in paleoclimate and variations in  $N_e$  values inferred from genome sequencing  
23 data of a wide range of mammals. To investigate patterns in mammalian  $N_e$  values during  
24 the the Pleistocene, we gathered whole genome sequencing data of 60 mammals from  
25 35 species distributed across Afro-Eurasia and the Americas, then inferred their  $N_e$   
26 curves using the Pairwise Sequentially Markovian Coalescent (PSMC) method; 30  
27 mammalian  $N_e$  curves almost simultaneously started to contract at the turning point of the  
28 Middle Pleistocene Transition (MPT); then the population of seven mammals started to  
29 expand at the turning point of the Middle Brunhes Event (MBE), while the contraction of  
30 other mammals' populations was prolonged to the later different time periods. Eight  
31 mammals experienced a severe population contraction around the Last Glaciation  
32 Maximum, as some aves did [8], while four potential ruminant beneficiaries showed an  
33 expanding population. *Sus scrofa* and *Bos taurus* experienced an internal population  
34 differentiation in the MPT. To conclude, the phenomenon that critical paleoclimate events

35 facilitated contemporaneous animal population fluctuations in the paleoecological system

36 is showed by our  $N_e$  curve analysis.

37

38 **Keywords:** PSMC, mammal  $N_e$ , PCA, MPT

39

## 40 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

41

### 42 ***Effective population size of mammals during the Pleistocene***

43 By utilizing the nonuniform distribution of single nucleotide variants (SNVs) in the genome,  
44 the Pairwise Sequentially Markovian Coalescent (PSMC) method can reconstruct the  
45 historical effective population size ( $N_e$ ) from any single individual of the population [4]. In  
46 this work, we applied the PSMC method to obtain the  $N_e$  curves of 35 mammal species in  
47 Afro-Eurasia and the Americas (Figure S1). The  $N_e$  curves estimated from the genome  
48 data span the whole Pleistocene, yielding us that were sufficient to conduct the  
49 subsequent analysis.

50

### 51 ***Climates contributed to the mammal $N_e$ curves***

52  $N_e$  fluctuation could result from a combined effect of genetics, climate, locations, or other  
53 factors [8]. To understand the degree that climate contributed to the  $N_e$  curves, we  
54 extracted the principal components (PCs) from 60  $N_e$  curves by the principal component  
55 analysis (PCA). PC1 and PC2 contributed variance ratios of 0.508 and 0.273,  
56 respectively (Figure 1A). PC1 accounts for most of the variance; however, after  
57 hierarchical clustering, no signals could be detected to support that PC1 is correlated with  
58 genetic background (Figure S2). This finding could suggest that the complex  
59 paleoclimate impact on the mammals. We clustered these mammals hierarchically with

60 PC2 (Figure 1B) and discovered that in many mammals (*Ursus*, *Ponginae*, *Homo*, *Canis*,  
61 some subgroups in *Rhinopithecus* and some herbivorous mammals), their genetically  
62 close subgroups were clustered in the same branch, with the exception of *Bos* and *Sus*.  
63 Eurasian and African *Bos* clusters as well as Asian and European *Sus* clusters are  
64 separated by a clear boundary, reflecting a long separation time of their populations that  
65 will be elaborated in the following section. Hence, PC2 could be interpreted as the  
66 integrated effect of the inherent genetic characteristics and geographical locations on the  
67 mammals. In general, close locations imply similar climate conditions; therefore,  
68 fluctuations of mammal  $N_e$  curves can reflect the climates of the mammal ancestors  
69 confronting to some extent.

70

### 71 ***N<sub>e</sub> curve extrema clustered into seven clusters***

72  $N_e$  curve extrema are consistent with significant climate events in the Pleistocene. These  
73 extrema (Table S1) are centered at seven time points with an average silhouette  
74 coefficient of 0.64, --an acceptable cluster indicator. All seven clusters coincide with  
75 turning points of important climate events, as elaborated below.

76 The earliest cluster centered at  $0.97 \pm 0.021$  mya, with 40 extrema, coincided with  
77 the turning point of the Middle Pleistocene Transition (MPT, 0.94 mya [9]). We refer to this  
78 cluster as the MPT Cluster. In the MPT Cluster, 30  $N_e$  curves reached a peak, including  
79 those of *Sus*, *Bos*, *Ovis*, *Capra*, *Equus caballus*, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*, *Rhinopithecus*

80 *roxellana*, *Rhinopithecus strykeri*, *Ursus arctos*, *Ursus maritimus*, *Pan troglodytes verus*  
81 and *Gorilla gorilla diehli*; and ten  $N_e$  curves displayed a bottleneck, including *Homo* and  
82 five species from *Equus*. Accordingly, we categorized the mammals into three classes  
83 (Table S1): MPT Maxima Class, MPT Minima Class, and MPT Neutral Class (mammals  
84 whose  $N_e$  curves are without the first extremum in the MPT class).

85         The contraction of the MPT Maxima Class around  $0.97 \pm 0.021$  mya may result from  
86 the Jaramillo geomagnetic reversal (1.07 mya~0.99 mya) [10] or changes in solar  
87 insolation after the coeval  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{max-III}}$  event of 1.0~0.95 mya (Marine isotope stage (MIS)  
88 29–25) [11, 12]. The climate became too harsh at a large scale for mammals to survive [9]  
89 and led to massive mammal extinction or population contraction events such as  
90 warm-steppic mammals being replaced with cold-steppic mammals in European  
91 Villafrancian fauna [13] and the southern-migration mammal wreck event of  
92 Gongwangling fauna [14]. The Plio-Pleistocene contributed substantially to current  
93 biomes [15] and MP fossils of 73.3% mammals in this class, including *Ailuropoda* [16],  
94 *Bos* [17], *Capra* [18], *Equus* [19], *Rhinopithecus* [20] and *Sus* [21] are majorly distributed  
95 in the Palearctic, according to the fossil database (Figure S3A, B, D, E, K and L).  
96 Therefore, the population peak of the MPT Maxima Class in the MPT Cluster suggests  
97 that the ancient populations of MP mammals in the Palearctic could have experienced  
98 severe contractions around the turning point of the MPT.

99           The MPT Maxima Class population started to contract from the MPT Cluster center,  
100 and their first bottlenecks after that are distributed in five clusters (Figure 3A). The MPT  
101 Maxima Class, including African *Pan troglodytes verus* and *Bos*, wild-spread *Equus* and  
102 European *Sus Scrofa*, reached the first bottleneck at  $0.43\pm 0.018$  mya, which is referred to  
103 as the MBE (Middle Brunhes Event) Bottleneck for 0.43 mya is happens to be the turning  
104 point of the MBE (MIS13-MIS11) [22]. Eight mammals, including *Capara*, Asian *Sus*  
105 *scrofa*, *Ovis aries*, and *Bos indicus*, reached the first bottleneck of their population at  
106 approximately  $0.32\pm 0.01$  mya, the time which was known during the Mindel-Riss  
107 interglacial [23] (MRI bottleneck). These mammals, except the *Bos indicus*, were sampled  
108 at a relatively high latitude. In the Mindel-Riss interglacial, the climate was similar to the  
109 current climate. For four mammals including *Ursus arctos*, *Ursus maritimus* and two *Bos*  
110 *taurus* individuals, their ancestral  $N_e$  values synchronously reached the first bottleneck at  
111  $0.22\pm 0.010$  mya in the middle of the Riss glaciation, which is a relatively weak MIS 7  
112 period with a cool interglaciation climate [24] (MRG Bottleneck). For nine mammals from  
113 the MPT Maxima Class, including *Ovis ammon polii*, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*, *Bos*  
114 *grunniens*, *Rhinopithecus roxellana* and *Sus celebensis* as well as three *Bos taurus*  
115 individuals and one *Sus scrofa* individual, their ancestral  $N_e$  values started to show an  
116 expansion of their populations until  $0.12\pm 0.008$  mya in the warmest, last interglaciation,  
117 the Eemian interglaciation [25] (EI Bottleneck). Two species, *Gorilla gorilla diehli* and  
118 *Rhinopithecus strykeri*, reached the first bottleneck until  $0.04\pm 0.004$  mya (the most recent

119 cluster center). These mammal populations contracted almost simultaneously but started  
120 to expand at different time period.

121 Climate conditions could prompt mammal population migration and differentiation.  
122 As a result, the population of migrated mammals may have started to expand, while  
123 mammals that did not migrate sustained contraction. In the MPT Maxima Class, the  
124 mammals that experienced the MBE Bottleneck likely lived in low latitude regions, and  
125 those that experienced the MRI Bottleneck usually resided at relatively high latitudes with  
126 the exception of *Bos* and *Sus scrofa*, which will be elaborated in the following section.  
127 However, there was no obvious association between population fluctuations and habitats  
128 of the mammals that experienced the MGR and EI bottlenecks. The fact that mammals in  
129 the MPT Maxima Class spread in different latitudes, adapted themselves to different  
130 environments and developed different habits, but shared five asynchronous expansion  
131 times, could result from combined factors of environment in different latitudes and the  
132 capacity for mammalian adaptations.

133 We also noticed that ten mammals of the MPT Neutral Class (Figure 3C) reached  
134 a bottleneck while three of them reached a peak, at  $0.67 \pm 0.030$  mya, or the end of the  
135 MPT. At that time, the planet held a high ice volume but was relatively warm [24, 27]. The  
136 mammals that underwent a bottleneck around  $0.67 \pm 0.030$  mya included *Pongo*  
137 *pygmaeus*, *Ursus americanus*, *Macaca mulatta lasiota*, *Macaca thibetana* and *Canis*.  
138 Their populations began to shrink separately before 1 mya, indicating that the population



139 contraction impetus differed for mammals from the MPT Maxima Class. The mammals  
140 with a peak at that time included *Odocoileus virginianus texanus*, *Gorilla gorilla gorilla* and  
141 *Gorilla beringei graueri*.

142

### 143 ***Differentiation in mammal populations***

144 *Sus scrofa* and *Bos* populations experienced internal population differentiation between  
145 0.97 mya and 0.43 mya in the middle Pleistocene transmission.

146 *Sus scrofa* belongs to the MPT Maxima Class (Table S1); thereafter, the  
147 population of European *Sus scrofa* experienced a prolonged contraction until the MBE  
148 Bottleneck, while the population of Asian *Sus scrofa* continued contracting until the MRG  
149 Bottleneck (Figure 4A). The middle Pleistocene fossils of Asian *Sus scrofa* were only  
150 distributed in relatively low latitude areas in Asia (Figure S3L). We also noticed that some  
151 Asian mammals, such as *Capra aegagrus*, *Capra hircus* [18], and *Ailuropoda*  
152 *melanoleuca* [16], also started their population expansion at the MRG Bottleneck, while  
153 the European *Sus scrofa* population started to expand at the turning point of the MBE,  
154 which is the same time as the *Equus caballus* population did [19]. The long-term  
155 population contraction of Eurasian *Sus scrofa*, following a different fluctuation trend in the  
156 MBE Bottleneck, indicates a differentiation in Eurasian *Sus scrofa* during the MPT and  
157 MBE. Kijas estimated that Eurasian *Sus scrofa* maternity divergence time is ~0.9 mya  
158 according to the mtDNA genome sequence [32]; with synonymous and nonsynonymous

159 nucleotide substitutions of two main domains of the D-loop region in the cytochrome B  
160 gene (CytB) (1,847 bp), Alves estimated the Eurasian *Sus scrofa* divergence time to be  
161 ~0.6 mya [33]. Based on interpopulational distances for the mtDNA CytB sequence  
162 (1,140 bp), another estimated divergence time is ~0.5 mya [33, 34]. With phylogenetic  
163 analysis based on pairwise genetic distance of the mitotypes of Eurasian *Sus scrofa*,  
164 using an evolutionary rate of 2%, their divergence time was estimated as 0.28 mya;  
165 according to mtDNA D-loop sequence divergence time analysis, the Eurasian *Sus scrofa*  
166 divergence time is ~58 kya [35]. Our  $N_e$  curves analysis support that Eurasian *Sus scrofa*  
167 could have differentiated in 0.9~0.5 mya (during the long, harsh MPT [9]). The  
168 estimations that the divergence time of Eurasian *Sus scrofa* is ~0.28 mya or ~58 kya  
169 could have resulted from the inadequate sequence lengths used for the respective  
170 estimations.

171 We noticed that for all the *Bos* individuals, their ancestral populations peaked at  
172 the MPT Maxima Class as *Sus* did, while they experienced their subsequent bottlenecks  
173 at different clusters (Figure 3A). The first population bottleneck of African *Bos indicus* and  
174 one African *Bos taurus* located in the MBE bottleneck while Eurasian *Bos taurus* reached  
175 the first bottleneck at later different cluster (Figure 4B), this phenomenon indicates that  
176 the differentiation of the *Bos taurus* population occurred prior to the MBE bottleneck.  
177 Since 92% mammals from MPT Maxima class are Palearctic mammals or Indomalayan  
178 mammals exclude African *Bos*, the potential *Bos* population could originate in Palearctic.

179 The first *Bos* fossil in Ethiopia originated in ~0.6 mya, indicating a migration of *Bos* [36].  
180 which is also consistent with our estimated *Bos taurus* differentiation event, and because  
181 of their potential ancestral population originated in the Palearctic, we could infer that their  
182 migration direction is from Eurasia to Africa. Consequently, the harsh MPT period could  
183 also result in the migration and differentiation of *Bos taurus*.

184

### 185 ***The fluctuation of mammal $N_e$ in the Late Pleistocene (LP) period***

186 The  $N_e$  curves of many mammals fluctuated during the LP period. Around the time of the  
187 LGM and Younger Dryas Event (YDE) (12.6~11.6 kya) [28, 29], the ancestral populations  
188 of seven mammal species, including *Equus hemionus onager*, *Macaca nemestrina*,  
189 *Equus quagga boehmi*, *Canis lupus*, *Odocoileus virginianus texanus*, and *Equus caballus*,  
190 displayed a sudden contraction (Figure S4A). Furthermore, the populations of four  
191 species, including *Capra aegagrus*, *Gorilla gorilla diehli* and non-African *Homo sapiens*,  
192 experienced a sharp increase (Figure S4B).

193 The aforementioned fluctuation was accompanied by a megafauna extinction  
194 during which many large mammals extricated [37-40]. The time of coincidence of the two  
195 events indicates that the causes of the megafauna extinction event could also have  
196 intensively influenced the ancestors who experienced the aforementioned decline event  
197 of the extant mammals. The LGM and the YDE could have contributed to the ancient  
198 mammal  $N_e$  decline event as well as the megafauna extinction event [37]. Many Aves

199 populations also displayed such fluctuations at the same time, as indicated by their  $N_e$   
200 curves [8]. However, neither the LGM nor the YDE was solely sufficient to extinguish  
201 megafauna [41], nor could they be the only substantial causes for the  $N_e$  decline event.  
202 Hence, there could be other factors contributing to these two events.

203 *Homo sapiens* ancestors could also have contributed to the  $N_e$  fluctuations. In our  
204 results, the  $N_e$  curves of *Canis lupus familiaris* and *Canis lupus* started their divergences  
205 ~0.1 mya, corroborating that the estimated divergence time of the early dog and wolf  
206 could be as early as 135 kya [42]. The  $N_e$  of the ancestor of *Canis lupus* experienced a  
207 sudden, sharp decline event around the YDE, while the ancestor of *Canis lupus familiaris*  
208 escaped such a decline (Figure 4C). According to recent research, *Canis lupus familiaris*  
209 was domesticated in China in ~33 kya [43], in Central Asia in ~12.5 kya or in Europe in  
210 ~15 kya [44]. The domestication events occurred around a population contraction event  
211 of *Canis lupus*, the ancestor of which lived without domestication by *Homo sapiens*.  
212 Therefore, humans could be related to the expansion of the *Canis lupus familiaris*  
213 ancestral population. In the last glaciation, *Homo sapiens* started to spread across the  
214 world from Africa with brilliant hunting ability in ~60 kya [45]. Encountering these clever  
215 hunters, megafauna seldom understood how to survive. Many mammal  $N_e$  decline events  
216 also happened after *Homo sapiens* spread, according to our results (Figure S4A). The  
217 *Homo sapiens* spreading and occupancies agree with the time and trace for the extinction  
218 of mammoths [37, 46, 47]. This hints that *Homo sapiens* could have played an essential

219 role in modern mammal ancestral  $N_e$  contractions in the LP. Furthermore, the sharp  
220 expansion of *Bos indicus-2*, *Capra aegagrus* and *Gorilla gorilla diehli* after the LGM could  
221 also be attributed to mammalian ancestor population LP contractions and megafauna  
222 extinctions. Their population contraction event vacated ecological niches; thereafter,  
223 hostile environment adaptive ruminants such as *Bos* and *Capra* could have been the  
224 potential beneficiaries during this harsh period, and the domestication of *Homo sapiens*  
225 could also have facilitated their population expansion after the YDE [48].

226

## 227 **DISCUSSION**

228 Considering earth as a system, paleoclimate fluctuations affect the rise and fall of the  
229 population of earth's creatures in the paleoecological system.  $N_e$  curves inferred by  
230 PSMC analysis offer a chance to investigate  $N_e$  dynamics in ancient times, and fossil  
231 distributions can verify these results. The influences of the MPT, MBE, LGM and other  
232 paleoclimate events on the paleoecosystem are obviously reflected in the mammal  $N_e$   
233 curves. Furthermore, the analysis of these mammal  $N_e$  curves reveals preliminary  
234 impacts of climate fluctuations on the biosphere. In addition, the mammal  $N_e$  decline  
235 events in harsh stages alert us to pay attention to the dangers that could be caused by  
236 dramatic climate change in the future.

237

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274

## 275 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

- 276 S.C.L. supervised the research and revised the manuscript; Y.L.L. collected, analyzed  
277 data and prepared the manuscript draft; B.L. participated in the literature review and

278 performed some analysis; X.X.P. collected some datasets; Z.J.X provided assistance;

279 Q.S supervised the research; S.B.L revised the manuscripts.

280

281 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

282 The authors declare no competing interests.

283



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410

411 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

412 **Figure 1. PC analysis of mammal demographic trajectories.** (A) PC1 and PC2 plots.  
413 Different colors or shapes represent different mammal classes. (B) Clusters obtained  
414 using PC2 of  $N_e$  curves. Colors represent mammal classes. *Bos* and *Sus* are marked by  
415 triangles and pentagrams, respectively. Mammals in light gray shading share a close  
416 genetic relationship and cluster closely when using PC2 of  $N_e$  curves. Mammals in dark  
417 gray shadows share a relatively close genetic relationship, live in similar habitats, and  
418 cluster closely when using PC2 of  $N_e$  curves. The scale bar represents the Euclidean  
419 distance between samples.

420 **Figure 2. Sankey diagram of mammal extrema.** Mammals in the same column possess  
421 the same extremum. Sample names are in Table S1.

422 **Figure 3. Sankey diagram of three classes.** (A) MPT Maxima Class. (B) MPT Minima  
423 Class. (C) MPT Neutral Class. Sample names are also in Table S1.

424 **Figure 4. three mammal  $N_e$  curves.** (A)  $N_e$  curves of *Sus scrofa* and *Sus celebensis*;  
425 (B)  $N_e$  curves of *Bos taurus*, *Bos indicus* and *Bos grunniens*; (C)  $N_e$  curves of *Canis lupus*  
426 *familiaris* and *Canis lupus-1*.

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428

429 **STAR★METHODS**

430

431 **KEY RESOURCE TABLE**

REAGENT or RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>Bos indicus</i> -1	[49]	SRR3225526
<i>Bos indicus</i> -2	[49]	SRR3546787
<i>Bos indicus</i> -3	[49]	SRR3694652
<i>Bos taurus</i> -1	[49]	SRR3656921
<i>Bos taurus</i> -2	[49]	SRR3694478
<i>Bos taurus</i> -3	[50]	SRR934409
<i>Bos taurus</i> -4	[50]	SRR934402
<i>Bos taurus</i> -5	[51]	SRR3497611
<i>Bos taurus</i> -6	[51]	SRR3499149
<i>Bos grunniens</i> -1	[51]	SRR361224, SRR361227
<i>Capra aegagrus</i> -1	[52]	SRR1576690
<i>Capra hircus</i> -1	[53]	SRR488786, SRR488791, SRR488812, SRR488787, SRR488805, SRR488813
<i>Ovis aries</i> -1	[54]	SRR1217914, SRR1217915, SRR1217916, SRR1217917, SRR1217939, SRR1217905, SRR1217906, SRR1217907, SRR1217908, SRR1217909, SRR1217937, SRR1217910, SRR1217911, SRR1217912, SRR1217913, SRR1217938, SRR1217918, SRR1217919, SRR1217920, SRR1217921, SRR1217940
<i>Ovis ammon polii</i> -1	[55]	SRR5753922
<i>Equus caballus</i> -1	[56]	SRR1055837
<i>Equus caballus</i> -2	[56]	SRR1046151
<i>Equus asinus</i> -1	[56]	SRR873443, SRR873444, SRR873445
<i>Equus quagga boehmi</i> -1	[57]	ERR660704, ERR660705, ERR660706, ERR660707, ERR660708, ERR660709, ERR660710, ERR660711, ERR660712, ERR660713, ERR660714, ERR660715, ERR660717, ERR660716, ERR660718, ERR660719, ERR660720, ERR660721, ERR660722, ERR660723, ERR660724, ERR660725, ERR660726, ERR660727, ERR660728, ERR660729, ERR660730, ERR660731, ERR660732, ERR660733, ERR660734, ERR660735, ERR660736, ERR660737, ERR660738, ERR660739, ERR660740, ERR660741, ERR660742, ERR660743, ERR660744, ERR660745, ERR660746, ERR660747, ERR660748, ERR660749, ERR660750, ERR660751, ERR660752, ERR660753, ERR660754, ERR660755, ERR660756, ERR660757, ERR660758, ERR660759, ERR660760, ERR660761, ERR660762, ERR660763,

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<i>Equus grevyi</i> -1	[57]	ERR669470, ERR669471, ERR669472, ERR669473, ERR669474, ERR669475, ERR669476, ERR669477, ERR669478, ERR669479, ERR669480, ERR669481, ERR669482, ERR669483, ERR669484, ERR669485, ERR669486, ERR669487, ERR669488, ERR669489, ERR669490, ERR669491, ERR669492, ERR669493, ERR669494, ERR669495, ERR669496, ERR669497, ERR669498, ERR669499, ERR669500, ERR669501, ERR669502, ERR669503, ERR669504, ERR669505, ERR669506, ERR669507, ERR669508, ERR669509, ERR669510, ERR669511, ERR669512, ERR669513, ERR669514, ERR669515, ERR669516, ERR669517, ERR669518, ERR669519, ERR669520, ERR669521, ERR669522, ERR669523, ERR669524, ERR669525, ERR669526, ERR669527, ERR669528, ERR669529, ERR669530, ERR669531, ERR669532, ERR669533, ERR669534, ERR669535, ERR669536, ERR669537, ERR669538, ERR669539, ERR669540, ERR669541, ERR669542, ERR669543, ERR669544, ERR669545, ERR669546, ERR669547, ERR669548, ERR669549, ERR669550, ERR669551, ERR669552, ERR669553, ERR669554, ERR669555, ERR669556, ERR669557, ERR669558, ERR669559, ERR669560, ERR669561, ERR669562, ERR669563
<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i> -1	[57]	ERR657893, ERR657894, ERR657895, ERR657896, ERR657897, ERR657898, ERR657899, ERR657900, ERR657901, ERR657902, ERR657903, ERR657904, ERR657905, ERR657906, ERR657907, ERR657908, ERR657909, ERR657910, ERR657911, ERR657912, ERR657913, ERR657914, ERR657915, ERR657916, ERR657917, ERR657918, ERR657919, ERR657920, ERR657921, ERR657922, ERR657923, ERR657924, ERR657925, ERR657926, ERR657927, ERR657928, ERR657929, ERR657930, ERR657931, ERR657932, ERR657933, ERR657934, ERR657935, ERR657936, ERR657937, ERR657938, ERR657939, ERR657940, ERR657941, ERR657942, ERR657943, ERR657944, ERR657945, ERR657946, ERR657947, ERR657948,

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<i>Equus kiang</i> -1	[57]	ERR669419, ERR669420, ERR669421, ERR669422, ERR669423, ERR669424, ERR669425, ERR669426, ERR669427, ERR669428, ERR669429, ERR669430, ERR669431, ERR669432, ERR669433, ERR669434, ERR669435, ERR669436, ERR669437, ERR669438, ERR669439, ERR669440, ERR669441, ERR669442, ERR669443, ERR669444, ERR669445, ERR669446, ERR669447, ERR669448, ERR669449, ERR669450, ERR669451, ERR669452, ERR669453, ERR669454, ERR669455, ERR669456, ERR669457, ERR669458, ERR669459, ERR669460, ERR669461, ERR669462, ERR669463, ERR669464, ERR669465, ERR669466, ERR669467, ERR669468, ERR669469
<i>Equus hemionus onager</i> -1	[57]	ERR654542, ERR654543, ERR654544, ERR654545, ERR654546, ERR654547, ERR654548, ERR654549, ERR654550, ERR654551, ERR654552, ERR654553, ERR654554, ERR654555, ERR654556, ERR654557, ERR654558, ERR654559, ERR654560, ERR654561, ERR654562, ERR654563, ERR654564, ERR654565, ERR654566, ERR654567, ERR654568, ERR654569, ERR654570, ERR654571, ERR654572, ERR654573, ERR654574, ERR654575, ERR654576, ERR654577, ERR654578, ERR654579, ERR654580, ERR654581, ERR654582, ERR654583, ERR654584, ERR654585, ERR654586, ERR654587, ERR654588, ERR654589, ERR654590, ERR654591, ERR654592, ERR654593, ERR654594, ERR654595, ERR654596, ERR654597, ERR654598, ERR654599, ERR654600, ERR654601, ERR654602, ERR654603, ERR654604, ERR654605, ERR654606, ERR654607, ERR654608, ERR654609, ERR654610, ERR654611, ERR654612
<i>Equus africanus somaliensis</i> -1	[57]	ERR650570, ERR650571, ERR650572, ERR650573, ERR650574, ERR650575, ERR650576, ERR650577, ERR650578, ERR650579, ERR650580, ERR650581, ERR650582, ERR650583, ERR650584, ERR650585, ERR650586, ERR650587, ERR650588, ERR650589, ERR650590, ERR650591, ERR650592, ERR650593, ERR650594, ERR650595, ERR650596, ERR650597, ERR650598, ERR650599, ERR650600, ERR650601, ERR650602, ERR650603, ERR650604, ERR650605, ERR650606, ERR650607, ERR650608, ERR650609, ERR650610, ERR650611, ERR650612, ERR650613, ERR650614, ERR650615, ERR650616, ERR650617, ERR650618, ERR650619, ERR650620, ERR650621,

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<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	[58]	SRR4069803, SRR4069806, SRR4069810, SRR4069815
<i>Canis lupus</i> <i>familiaris-1</i>	[59]	SRR2827578
<i>Canis lupus</i> <i>familiaris-2</i>	[59]	SRR2827588
<i>Canis lupus</i> <i>familiaris-3</i>	[59]	SRR2827594
<i>Canis lupus</i> <i>familiaris-4</i>	[59]	SRR2827563
<i>Canis lupus</i> <i>familiaris-5</i>	[60]	SRR1138369
<i>Canis lupus-1</i>	[59]	SRR2827600
<i>Macaca mulatta</i> <i>lasioti-1</i>	[61]	SRR278719, SRR278720, SRR278721, SRR278722, SRR278723, SRR278724, SRR278725, SRR278726, SRR278727, SRR278728, SRR278729, SRR278730, SRR278731, SRR278732, SRR278733, SRR278734, SRR278735, SRR278736, SRR278737, SRR278738, SRR278739, SRR278740
<i>Macaca nemestrina-1</i>		SRR1698391, SRR1698394
<i>Macaca thibetana-1</i>	[62]	SRR1024051
<i>Rhinopithecus</i> <i>roxellana-1</i>	[63]	SRR2017664
<i>Rhinopithecus</i> <i>avunculus-1</i>	[63]	SRR1588565
<i>Rhinopithecus</i> <i>strykeri-1</i>	[63]	SRR1588563
<i>Rhinopithecus</i> <i>brelichi-1</i>	[63]	SRR1588562
<i>Sus scrofa-1</i>	[64]	ERR173181
<i>Sus scrofa-2</i>	[64]	ERR173202

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<i>Sus scrofa</i> -3	[64]	ERR173217
<i>Sus scrofa</i> -4	[64]	ERR173222
<i>Sus scrofa</i> -5	[64]	ERR173176
<i>Sus scrofa</i> -6	[64]	SRR652446, SRR652448, SRR652449, SRR652450
<i>Sus celebensis</i> -1	[64]	ERR173210
<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i> -1	[65]	SRR748012, SRR748013, SRR748014
<i>Pan troglodytes verus</i> -1	[65]	SRR748081, SRR748082, SRR748083, SRR748084
<i>Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii</i> -1	[65]	SRR726412, SRR726413, SRR726415, SRR726416
<i>Pan paniscus</i> -1	[65]	SRR740831, SRR740832, SRR740835
<i>Gorilla gorilla gorilla</i> -1	[65]	SRR748177, SRR748178
<i>Gorilla gorilla diehli</i> -1	[65]	SRR748109, SRR748110, SRR748111, SRR748112
<i>Gorilla beringei graueri</i> -1	[65]	SRR747961, SRR747962
<i>Homo sapiens</i> -1	[66]	1000genomes
<i>Homo sapiens</i> -2	[66]	1000genomes
<i>Homo sapiens</i> -3	[66]	1000genomes
<i>Homo sapiens</i> -4	[67]	ERZ324532
<i>Homo sapiens</i> -5	[67]	ERZ324535
<i>Ailuropoda melanoleuca</i> -1	[68]	SRR2716726, SRR2717569, SRR2717570, SRR2717571
<i>Ursus maritimus</i> -1	[7]	SRR518683
<i>Ursus arctos</i> -1	[7]	SRR518712, SRR518713
<i>Ursus americanus</i> -1	[7]	SRR518723
<i>Ailuropoda</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	13293, 36729, 36730, 36868, 38649, 40341, 51100, 92781, 92787, 107996, 108001, 120834
<i>Bos</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	11803, 21197, 22584, 32093, 32113, 32124, 34105, 36134, 36136, 40497, 40692, 40695, 42866, 43008, 43016, 43619, 43645, 43657, 43657, 43664, 43689, 43699, 43701, 43702, 44090, 48890, 49087, 49089, 49092, 51817, 60530, 67660, 73757, 73758, 73760, 73761, 92786, 96782, 107875, 109703, 115167, 184245
<i>Canis</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	11803, 20123, 20126, 20127, 20129, 20130, 20134, 20137, 20138, 20143, 20143, 20148, 20150, 20150, 20150, 20157, 20166, 20173, 20178, 20187, 20205, 20237, 20273, 20273, 20277, 20280, 20281, 20283, 20283, 20283, 20285, 20285, 20289, 20290, 20290, 20293, 20295, 20295, 20297, 20299, 20301, 20302, 20302, 20302, 20302, 20308, 20319, 20323, 20327, 20327, 20329, 20329, 20334, 20335, 20342, 20342, 20342, 20346, 20347, 20347, 20351, 20351, 20360, 20375, 20376, 20387, 20387, 20398, 20400,

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<i>Capra</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	11803, 22584, 32059, 32062, 32082, 32086, 34985, 43008, 43008, 43645, 43657, 43657, 43689, 43689, 43701, 48890, 90036, 184245
<i>Equus</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	22626, 22627, 26548, 26550, 27671, 27679, 28221, 28222, 28225, 28621, 32090, 32090, 32090, 32093, 32093, 32113, 32113, 32113, 32115, 32115, 32115, 32119, 32124, 32124, 32125, 32126, 32126, 32126, 32138, 32138, 34010, 34105, 34269, 34330, 34382, 34382, 34842, 34848, 34925, 34926, 34927, 34981, 34985, 34985, 35045, 35180, 35928, 35930, 36015, 36134, 36136, 36206, 36214, 36214, 36219, 36219, 36220, 36220, 36706, 37999, 38314, 40258, 40259, 40259, 40259, 40262, 40496, 40497, 40695, 40695, 40808, 40808, 40808, 40984, 41740, 42866, 43008, 43008, 43013, 43015, 43016, 43018, 43617, 43618, 43619, 43619, 43628, 43629, 43629, 43630, 43630, 43631, 43631, 43632, 43645, 43649, 43650, 43657, 43664, 43664, 43664, 43701, 43702, 43702, 43704, 43704, 44090, 47832, 48581, 48587, 48592, 49087, 49087, 49087, 49089, 49092, 49813, 49813, 49814, 49814, 49816, 49816, 49816, 49989, 49989, 49999, 50049, 50049, 50056, 50059, 50196, 50198, 50199, 50247, 50257, 50257, 50258, 50259, 50260, 51187, 51188, 51817, 58089, 58421, 63337, 63424, 63515, 67660, 67660, 67660, 68070, 70704, 71265, 71267, 71270, 71277, 71278, 71279, 71283, 71284, 71286, 71287, 71290, 71294, 71296, 71303, 71306, 71307, 71308, 71314, 71322, 71331, 71332, 71334, 71345, 71346, 73686, 73691, 73693, 73720, 73721, 73722, 73726, 73752, 73757, 73757, 73759, 73760, 73761, 73763, 74141, 74142, 74144, 74235, 74292, 74293, 74294, 74336, 74336, 74361, 74470, 74471, 74498, 74954, 76059, 76059, 76060, 76060, 76060, 76068, 77754, 78577, 78580, 79548, 79548, 79581, 79582, 79634, 79654, 79750, 79759, 79768, 79778, 79919, 80233, 82530, 83069, 83072, 83073, 84195, 85144, 85156, 85159, 85314, 92786, 93103, 93103, 93103, 93103, 93141, 93142, 93143, 93178, 93181, 93182,

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<i>Homo</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	14243, 21277, 21294, 21337, 21360, 21368, 21402, 21402, 21403, 21403, 21413, 21413, 21415, 21441, 21441, 21449, 21455, 21455, 21514, 21520, 21822, 21970, 22466, 22499, 22584, 22618, 22622, 22622, 32059, 34269, 36016, 36134, 42866, 43631, 43704, 50199, 51100, 51188, 67660, 68020, 68055, 68056, 68058, 68063, 68064, 68066, 68067, 68068, 68070, 68474, 74292, 83069, 83072, 90070, 92781, 92786, 92787, 93141, 93521, 93523, 93524, 93537, 93597, 107997, 107999, 115167, 115188, 120834, 125671, 125672, 154805, 155393, 182079, 182940, 184245
<i>Macaca</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	13293, 13293, 13293, 13293, 36206, 36729, 36730, 36868, 38649, 40341, 40341, 40341, 43655, 43695, 43700, 48891, 48912, 49816, 50196, 50259, 51100, 92781, 92781, 92787, 92787, 93521, 93523, 93524, 101899, 107997, 120834, 176213
<i>Odocoileus</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	13066, 20124, 20125, 20126, 20127, 20128, 20129, 20138, 20142, 20143, 20155, 20169, 20178, 20187, 20199, 20258, 20272, 20281, 20289, 20290, 20295, 20299, 20302, 20307, 20308, 20318, 20319, 20323, 20327, 20342, 20347, 20351, 20354, 20382, 20384, 20385, 20387, 20390, 20400, 20401, 20403, 20415, 20417, 20431, 20440, 20442, 20454, 20475, 20477, 20478, 20479, 20482, 20491, 20492, 20494, 20495, 20520, 20530, 20555, 20556, 20558, 20569, 20571, 20572, 20573, 20579, 20580, 20581, 20585, 20586, 20587, 20593, 20594, 20595, 20600, 20602, 20603, 20604, 20608, 20609, 20612, 20613, 20615, 20622, 20624, 20629, 20633, 20634, 20635, 20636, 20638,

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<i>Ovis</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	20272, 20273, 20297, 20428, 20472, 20477, 20615, 20621, 35045, 36729, 36730, 74176, 74953, 74954, 79548, 85144, 93141, 93181, 93277, 93278, 93281, 93339, 93528, 93555, 115167, 155393
<i>Ponginae</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	13293, 38649, 40341, 51100, 92781, 92781, 92781, 92781, 93524, 107995, 107996, 107997, 107999, 108000, 108001, 108001, 108001, 120834
<i>Rhinopithecus</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	13293, 36724, 40341, 92787, 120834
<i>Sus</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	11803, 13293, 21893, 34679, 34981, 34985, 36134, 36206, 36214, 36729, 36730, 36868, 38649, 38649, 40341, 40808, 40984, 43008, 43016, 43618, 43629, 43645, 43653, 43655, 43657, 43657, 43664, 43664, 43689, 43697, 43699, 43700, 43701, 44090, 44092, 47832, 48891, 49087, 49089, 49092, 49813, 49814, 49815, 49816, 50196, 50199, 50258, 50259, 51100, 51100, 58421, 90036, 92781, 92781, 92781, 92787, 92787, 93521, 93523, 93523, 93524, 93828, 109704, 120834, 120834, 184245,
<i>Ursus</i>	<a href="http://fossilworks.org">http://fossilworks.org</a>	11803, 13293, 20273, 20290, 20297, 20302, 20302, 20302, 20302, 20354, 20479, 20491, 20520, 20554, 20556, 20569, 20571, 20572, 20600, 20636, 20647, 34010, 34012, 34269, 34330, 34368, 34842, 34848, 34925, 35045, 35045, 35472, 35476, 36206, 36214, 36214, 36219, 36220, 36729, 36730, 36868, 38649, 40341, 40497, 40808, 43008, 43008, 43016, 43617, 43617, 43618, 43619, 43628, 43629, 43630, 43643,

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155393, 155409, 162543, 162544, 184245

Software and  
Algorithm

Soapnuke (v1.5.6)	[52]	<a href="https://libraries.io/github/BGI-flexlab/SOAPnuke">https://libraries.io/github/BGI-flexlab/SOAPnuke</a>
BWA (v0.7.17)	[53]	<a href="http://bio-bwa.sourceforge.net">http://bio-bwa.sourceforge.net</a>
PSMC	[4]	<a href="https://github.com/lh3/psmc">https://github.com/lh3/psmc</a>
QGIS(v3.2.3)		<a href="https://qgis.org/en/site/">https://qgis.org/en/site/</a>
$N_e$ curve analysis	This paper	<a href="https://github.com/Solenyalyl/Ne-curve-analysis">https://github.com/Solenyalyl/Ne-curve-analysis</a>

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432

433 **CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING**

434 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and

435 will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Shuaicheng Li ([shuaicli@gmail.com](mailto:shuaicli@gmail.com)).

436

437 **METHOD DETAILS**

438

439 ***Mammal and fossil distribution***

440 Mammalian SRA data came from different studies, and not all of their locations were  
441 recorded. Mammalian place of origin was regarded as the location if a sample was  
442 collected from the zoo; domestication location was taken to be the location if it was  
443 assured; and when it was ambiguous, sampling location was regarded as the location.  
444 For each of the remaining samples without location recorded, we researched the species  
445 distribution in the world and then chose a representative place as the location. Our  
446 mammals were distributed among 15 genera, and their fossil records were found in  
447 <http://fossilworks.org/> except for *Pan* and *Gorilla*. Those fossils originated in the Calabrian  
448 (1.8-0.781 mya), middle Pleistocene (0.781-0.126 mya) or late Pleistocene (0.126-0.0117  
449 mya). Mammal location and fossil data distribution were plotted using QGIS (Figure S1  
450 and Figure S3).

451

#### 452 ***Data collection and preprocessing***

453 We downloaded mammalian Illumina sequence data from public SRA datasets  
454 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/>), Chinese BAM files were downloaded from  
455 <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/>, and non-Chinese BAM files were collected from  
456 <http://www.internationalgenome.org/>. Including 60 specimens from 35 species, these  
457 SRA data were sequenced by Illumina paired-end sequencing technology using different  
458 sequencing platforms, therefore our first step was transforming all the Illumina sequence  
459 data into uniform Q+33 Illumina format. All the raw sequencing reads were filtered by



460 Soapnuke [52] (<http://soap.genomics.org.cn/>) and each was aligned to its respective  
461 reference genome or the most related genome from the same genus by BWA 0.7.17 [53].  
462 Samples with genome coverage depth less than 6X were excluded.

463

#### 464 ***N<sub>e</sub> curve generation***

465 The historical  $N_e$  curve of mammals was inferred by PSMC based on genome data [4]. A  
466 PSMC-based consensus genome sequence was obtained by using ‘mpileup’ in  
467 SAMTOOLS. When the RMS (root-mean-squared) quality of reads was below 20, their  
468 covered sites were marked N for missing data. The sites whose read depths were less  
469 than a third or more than twice the average depth across the genome were masked to  
470 avoid collapsed regions in the assembly. When we ran PSMC, the upper limit of TRMCA  
471 was set to 15, the initial  $\theta/\rho$  value was set to 5 and time interval was set to  
472 ‘1\*4+25\*2+1\*4+1\*6’ as Li and Durbin [4] did. The mutation rate and generation time we  
473 applied are in Table S3. The genome coverage depth, coverage ratio, and false-negative  
474 ratio are in Table S2. For statistical analysis of these  $N_e$  curves see sections below.

475

#### 476 **QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

477

#### 478 ***PC analysis and hierarchical clustering***

479 PCA was used to identify the principal components of  $N_e$  curves. Every  $N_e$  curve contains  
480 58 points. We standardized these data to unit standard deviation and centralized these  
481 points approximately 0, then extracted their principal components to conduct hierarchical  
482 clustering. The distance matrix between samples was calculated from Euclidean distance  
483 and distance between two clusters was calculated by the UPGMA (unweighted pair group  
484 method with arithmetic mean) method.

### 485 ***$N_e$ curve extrema analysis***

486 To obtain the extrema of every curve, we marked increasing trends as '1' and decreasing  
487 trends as '-1' in curves, then the latter trend number was used to subtract the former trend  
488 number to obtain the extrema. '-2' and '2' represent crest and trough, respectively. To  
489 verify whether these extrema are distributed randomly, we compared these extrema with  
490 a uniform distribution to obtain Hopkins statistics. After obtaining a clustering trend, these  
491 extrema were clustered by the K-means method to get a pattern. Then we used this  
492 pattern to predict every curve extrema into seven clusters by removing those neglectable  
493 extrema (difference within 0.1).

494

### 495 **DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY**

496  $N_e$  curve analysis code is available from <https://github.com/Solenyalyl/Ne-curve-analysis>.

497

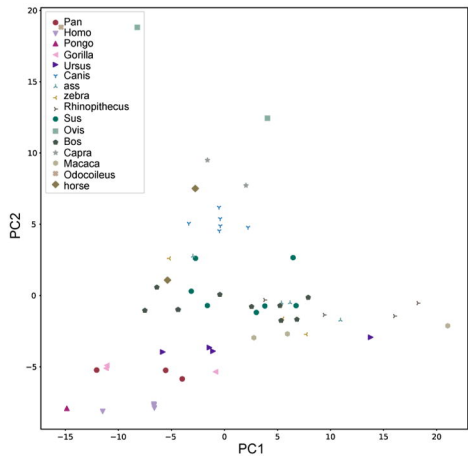
### 498 **Excel table Legends**

499 **Table S1.  $N_e$  curve extrema seven clusters (related to Figure 2,3)**

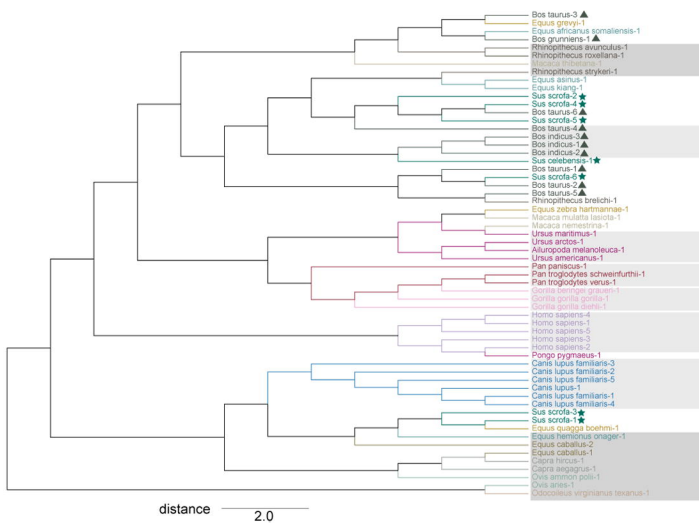
500 **Table S2. coverage depth, coverage ratio, and false-negative ratio of 60 mammal**

501 **genomes(related to Figure 1-4)**

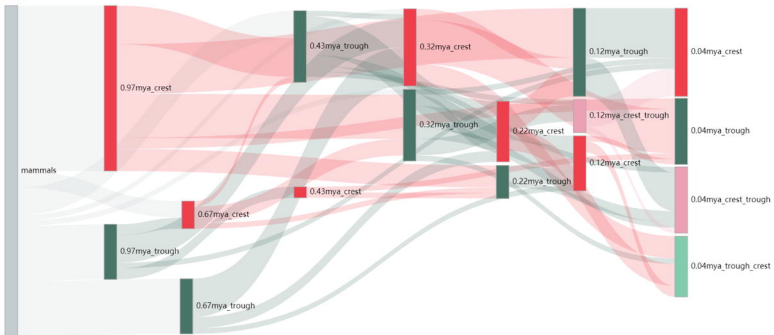
A



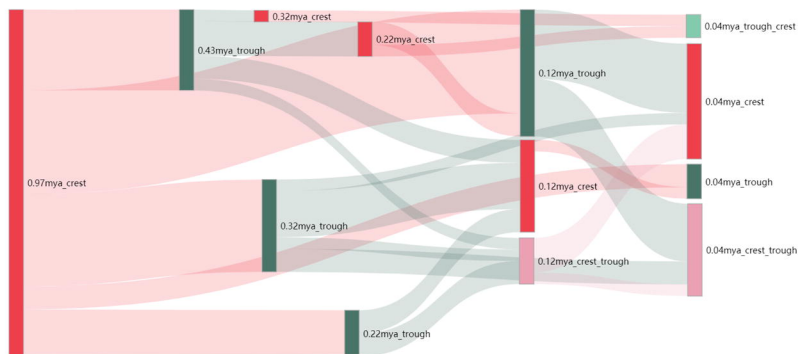
B



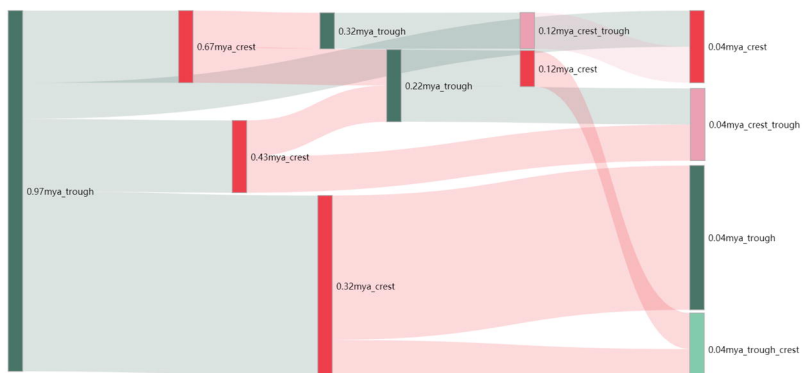
# Mammals



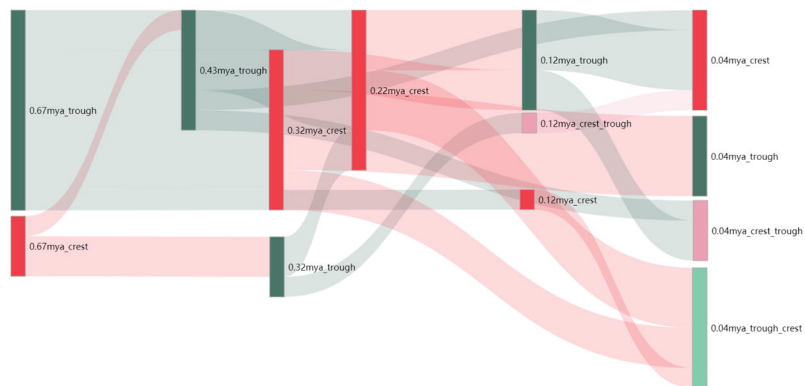
A

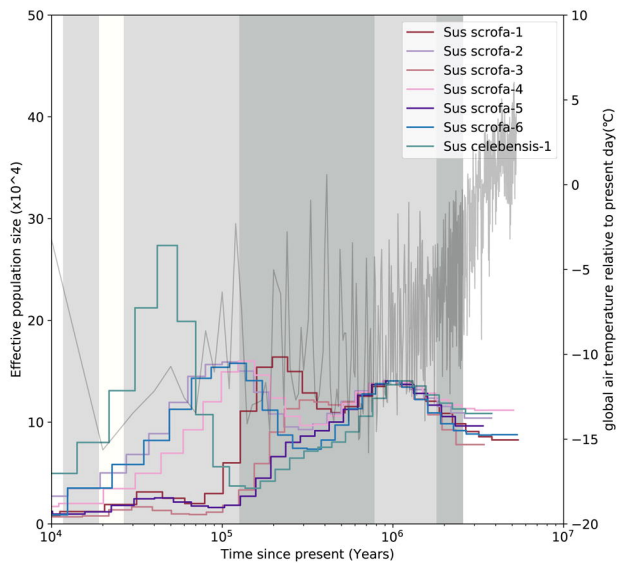
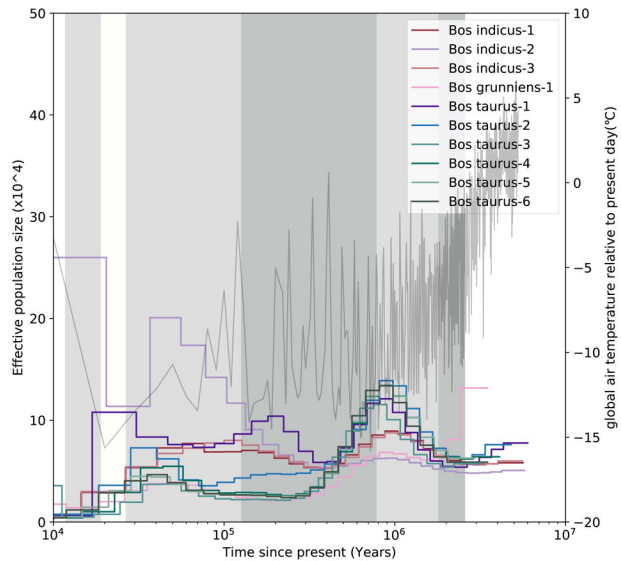


B



C



**A****B****C**