Genetic basis and signatures of selection around loci underlying adaptation and speciation

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European Research Council Consolidator Grant



7) E C

MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

Male threespine stickleback

What is the molecular basis of adaptive divergence?

Two parts:

- 1. Methods used to identify loci underlying adaptive divergence
 - Forward genetic mapping
 - Population genomics
- 2. CASE STUDIES of molecular signatures of selection around known loci
 - EDA
 - Pitx1

(what patterns might we expect to see at other adaptation loci?)

How to identify and test the loci and alleles underying adaptation?

- Number and type of natural mutations?
- Functional effects on phenotype?
- Molecular mechanisms?
- Evolutionary processes & constraints?
- Affect on fitness and reproductive isolation?



Marine and freshwater sticklebacks differ in many traits



Different types of sympatric "Species-Pairs" have evolved







Repeated & independent evolution provides biological replicates of the evolutionary process



A broad suite of genetic and genomic tools in sticklebacks



Easy husbandry, viable inter-crosses



Transgenic techniques for reporter assays, knock-outs, knock-ins, & genome editing





Small (0.45GB), well-assembled Ref Genome >> hundreds of short-read sequenced genomes What is the molecular basis of adaptive divergence and speciation?

Identifying and functionally testing adaptive loci

- 1. Forward genetics: from trait to basepairs
- 2. Population genomics

Finding the genes using forward genetics: Quantitative Trait Locus (QTL) mapping in sticklebacks



Finding the genes using forward genetics: Quantitative Trait Locus (QTL) mapping in sticklebacks



Finding the genes using forward genetics: QTL mapping in sticklebacks has been very successful



Arnegard et al (2014), Miller et al (2014), Greenwood et al (2011), Kitano et al (2009), Miller (2007), Colosimo et al (2004), Shapiro et al (2004) ...

Forward genetics:

Narrowing QTL intervals to causal base pairs or haplotypes



Forward genetics: Narrowing QTL intervals using association mapping in natural populations



Association mapping using a polymorphic natural population (Friant River, California)

16kb candidate interval



Colosimo et al 2005 Science

Forward genetics: Narrowing QTL intervals by demonstrating functional significance of genes

Transgenic Rescue using candidate gene (EDA) within interval



Rescuing plates on low plated fish

Colosimo et al 2005 Science

Forward genetics: Narrowing QTL intervals using Allele-Specific Expression tests for cis-regulatory element

Allele specific expression reveals a cis-acting regulatory mutation



O'Brown et al 2015 ELife

Forward genetics: Narrowing QTL intervals to causal base pairs or haplotypes using exceptional / unusual populations



Forward genetics:

Narrowing QTL intervals to causal base pairs or haplotypes



Sequencing of an unusual exception (Low Plated Japanese Fish) identifies a single 3' substitution



O'Brown et al 2015 ELife

Forward genetics: Narrowing QTL intervals using reporter assays to demonstrate the functional significance of a single 1bp mutation

Regulatory enhancer assays functionally demonstrate loss of expression caused by 1bp change.



Wildtype marine enhancer expression pattern.

Single bp substitution reduces expression pattern.

Forward genetics:

Narrowing QTL intervals to causal base pairs or haplotypes

1. QTL mapping	0.63cM ~500kb (many genes)
2. Association mapping in naturally polymorphic population	16kb (3 genes)
3. Functional Assay: Rescue of plates using transgenics	1 gene (EDA)
4. Allele specific expression assay reveals cis-acting element	Cis-acting element underlies differences in EDA expression.
5. Sequencing of a population that is an unusual exception (low plated phenotype but high plated haplotype)	1bp substitution, 3' of EDA
6. Functional Assay: Regulatory enhancer assays show sufficiency of substitution	1bp substitution, 3' of EDA

Forward genetics:

Narrowing QTL intervals to causal base pairs or haplotypes

1. QTL mapping

0.63cM ~500kb (many genes)

2. Association mapping in naturally polymorphic population

16kb (3 genes)

3. Functional Assay: Rescue of plates using transgenics	1 gene (EDA)
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5. Sequencing of a population that is an unusual exception (low plated phenotype but high plated haplotype)

6. **Functional Assay:** Regulatory enhancer assays show 1bp substitution, 3' of EDA sufficiency of substitution

Fine mapping, Allele-specific expression & Transgenic assays identify *cis*-regulatory elements controlling adaptive traits



Plates (EDA) Colosimo et al (2005) Science O'Brown et al (2015) ELife

Pelvis (*Pitx1*) Shapiro et al (2004) Nature Chan et al (2010) Science

Single bp mutation

in a 3' *cis*-regulatory element causes loss of EDA expression

O'Brown et al (2015) ELife

488bp deletion

of a 5' *cis*-regulatory element causes loss of Pitx1 expression

Chan et al (2010) Science

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Loss of lateral plates has evolved repeatedly via re-use of an ancient EDA haplotype



Loss of lateral plates has evolved repeatedly via re-use of an ancient EDA haplotype



Leveraging parallelism to identify adaptive loci [Whole genome sequencing of replicate marine - freshwater species pairs] (21 stickleback genomes, Jones et al 2012 Nature)



Marine Freshwater

Parallel evolution via reuse of pre-existing genetic variation



Selective sweep of "pre-screened" adaptive variation

Low Plated EDA alleles 'hide' at low frequency (0-6%) in the High Plated marine population

Colosimo *et al* (2005) Science O'Brown et al (2015) ELife







Jones et al (2012) Nature



Jones et al (2012) Nature

P-values calculated by permutation tests





Bayesian 'Data-Driven' Clustering to identify other types of clustering patterns in the genome



Group 1



Jones et al (2012) Nature

Bayesian 'Data-Driven' Clustering to identify other types of clustering patterns in the genome


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Jones et al (2012) Nature

sticklebrowser.stanford.edu

Two different statistical approaches to identify parallel adaptive loci



Clear signals of parallel marine-freshwater divergence



High resolution signals = good for functional follow-up



Whole genome sequencing of marine – freshwater species pairs revealed parallel adaptive divergence at ~81 genomic loci



Jones et al (2012) Nature

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The EDA locus explains as much as 70% of variation in plate number



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Parallel evolution via reuse of pre-existing genetic variation



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Colosimo *et al* (2005) Science O'Brown et al (2015) ELife

Molecular signatures of selection



Neutral alleleAdaptive allele

Molecular signatures of selection



Neutral alleleAdaptive allele

Within population statistics:

Reduction in genetic diversity Excess of derived alleles Aberrant site frequency spectrum Extended haplotype block size (Elevated rates of protein evolution)

Cross population statistics: Elevated genetic divergence Difference in haplotype size Molecular signatures of selection around EDA using high density genotyping arrays



Felicity Jones & Frank Chan

SNPs 400kb window

Molecular signatures of selection around EDA using high density genotyping arrays



Felicity Jones & Frank Chan

400kb window



Chromosomal Position (Mb)





How is high resolution achieved?

Comparisons *across* populations help narrow the EDA region < 6.7kb



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400kb window

Parallel evolution via reuse of pre-existing variation





shared haplotype

Plates (EDA) Colosimo et al (2005) Science
Pigmentation (KITLG) Miller et al (2009) Cell
81 new genomic loci Jones et al (2012) Nature

An alternative mode of parallel evolution



Pelvis (PITX1) Chan et al (2010) Science

An alternative mode of parallel evolution



Pelvic spine loss has evolved repeatedly







A major QTL explaining close to 80% variation on linkage group VII



Pitx1 allele-specific expression assay in F1 hybrids

- Higher expression of complete-pelvis Pitx1 allele than pelvic-reduced allele
- Cis-regulatory element, rather than transacting factor



Association mapping in two populations polymorphic for pelvic-reduction identifies a 23kb region 5' of Pitx1



A high density genotyping array reveals deletions in pelvic-reduced populations with a minimum shared interval of 488bp



Transgenic assays reveal a regulatory element and phenotypic rescue



Fig. 3. (**A**) Juvenile pelvic-reduced BEPA stickleback expressing a *Pitx1* transgene driven by the *Pel*-2.5-kb^{SALR} enhancer compared with (**B**) uninjected sibling. External spines form only in transgenic fish (arrowhead). (**C** and **D**) Alizarin red—stained pelvic structures of adult transgenic fish compared with BEPA parental phenotype. BEPA fish normally develop only a small ovoid vestige (OV) of the anterior pelvic process (AP). Transgenic fish show clear development of the AP, ascending branch (AB), and posterior process (PP) of the pelvis, and a prominent serrated pelvic spine. Pectoral fin (PF) rays develop in both fish.

Molecular signatures of selection at the Pel regulatory element in pelvic reduced populations



Chan et al (2010) Science

Pelvic spine loss has evolved repeatedly (including in two benthic populations)





Benthic and limnetic ecotypes evolved following a "Double Invasion" event caused by isostatic rebound



What is the genetic basis of the divergence? At neutral loci, fish cluster together by lake

Genome wide SNP genotyping array (~1000 SNPs)





Jones et al (2012) Current Biology

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Jones et al (2012) Current Biology

But at selected loci, fish cluster by ecotype

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Jones et al (2012) Current Biology

But at selected loci, fish cluster by ecotype

Genome wide SNP genotyping array (~1000 SNPs)





At selected loci,

benthic fish carry freshwater alleles, limnetic carry marine alleles

Genome wide SNP genotyping array (~1000 SNPs)


Whole genome sequencing of 48 benthic & limnetic ecotypes from 4 lakes



Parallel benthic-limnetic divergence across large parts of the genome



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TODAY's EXERCISE: Molecular signatures of selection around Pitx1 in Benthic fish?

Lessons from case studies of known adaptive loci: EDA and PITX1

Association mapping in natural populations is extremely helpful at narrowing the relevant interval (EDA ~20kb; PITX1 ~23kb)

The signature of phenotype-genotype association is so small that reduced representation sequencing methods (eg GBS, RAD) may miss it entirely.

Whole genome sequencing (including low pass "skim" sequencing) can give excellent high resolution signal

In the case of EDA, whole genome sequencing of individuals from different populations (as opposed to many individuals from a single population) helped narrow the boundaries of the region.

Signatures of selection can be narrow narrow: 20-50kb wide are not unusual.











Summarising Polymorphism Data with a Site Frequency Spectrum



Summarising Polymorphism Data with a Site Frequency Spectrum

