

1 **Phylogenomics of the killer whale indicates ecotype divergence in sympatry**

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19  
20 Running title: Killer whale global phylogenomics

26 **Abstract**

27

28 For many highly mobile species, the marine environment presents few obvious barriers to  
29 gene flow. Even so, there is considerable diversity within and among species, referred to by  
30 some as the ‘marine speciation paradox’. The recent and diverse radiation of delphinid  
31 cetaceans (dolphins) represents a good example of this. Delphinids are capable of extensive  
32 dispersion, and yet many show fine-scale genetic differentiation among populations.  
33 Proposed mechanisms include the division and isolation of populations based on habitat  
34 dependence and resource specializations, and habitat release or changing dispersal corridors  
35 during glacial cycles. Here we use a phylogenomic approach to investigate the origin of  
36 differentiated sympatric populations of killer whales (*Orcinus orca*). Killer whales show  
37 strong specialization on prey choice in populations of stable matrifocal social groups  
38 (ecotypes), associated with genetic and phenotypic differentiation. Our data suggest evolution  
39 in sympatry among populations of resource specialists.

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41 **Keywords:** Sympatric speciation; Genomics; Cetacea, RAD-Seq

42

## 43 **Introduction**

44           In the marine environment, connectivity is facilitated by the lack of physical barriers  
45 across large distances, and yet considerable diversity has evolved within and among species  
46 (Palumbi, 1994; Bierne *et al*, 2003). Delphinid species provide a good study system for  
47 investigating this paradox due to their recent radiation, great diversity, and the taxonomic  
48 complexities of many lineages within the group (Steeiman *et al*, 2009; Moura *et al*, 2013).  
49 While capable of extensive dispersion (Stevick *et al*, 2002), many cetacean species show  
50 fine-scale genetic differentiation among populations (Hoelzel, 2009). In some cases there is a  
51 correlation between population structure and apparent habitat boundaries, as for the  
52 bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) populations in European waters (Natoli *et al*, 2005),  
53 or with resource specializations as for the killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) populations in the  
54 North Pacific (Hoelzel *et al*, 2007). Environmental cycles releasing habitat or  
55 opening/closing dispersal corridors may also influence the evolution of population structure  
56 in these species (Amaral *et al*, 2012; Moura *et al*, 2013). For killer whales, some well-studied  
57 populations show strong resource specializations based on consistent prey choice (ecotypes)  
58 within stable, matrifocal social groups (pods), together with genetic and phenotypic  
59 differentiation (Hoelzel *et al*, 1998; Pitman and Ensor, 2003; Hoelzel *et al*, 2007; Morin *et al*,  
60 2010). A key question is whether or not differentiation has occurred in sympatry through  
61 ecologically-based divergent selection with the potential to lead to sympatric speciation.

62           In this study we generate the first multilocus phylogeny based on nuclear DNA for  
63 this genus, providing an important test of earlier inference based on mtDNA trees (Hoelzel *et*  
64 *al*, 1998; Pitman and Ensor, 2003; Morin *et al*, 2010). We compared high resolution  
65 phylogenetic reconstructions for mtDNA (alignment length of 4,370bp) with nuclear  
66 sequence phylogenies, built from restriction associated DNA (RAD) fragments (see methods)  
67 consisting of a total alignment of 1,730,328 bp, with 5,191 bp being variable among the killer

68 whale samples. The earlier studies based on mtDNA (based on both Control Region and  
69 whole mitogenome studies; e.g. Hoelzel *et al*, 1998; Morin *et al*, 2010) showed that a lineage  
70 comprised of the marine-mammal-eating populations in the North Pacific (known as  
71 ‘transients’) branched from the most basal node. A later study based on mtDNA proposed  
72 that a North Atlantic population was derived from ancestral North Pacific lineages, perhaps  
73 during an opening in the northwest passage during the last (Eemian) interglacial (Foote *et al*,  
74 2011a). The authors further hypothesized that two fish-eating populations (known as  
75 ‘residents’ and ‘offshores’) represent a later re-invasion of the North Pacific back from the  
76 North Atlantic, establishing secondary contact and sympatry between the different ecotype  
77 populations (Foote *et al*, 2011a).

78           An alternative interpretation is that the diversity and distribution of mtDNA  
79 haplotypes have been impacted by historical demographic events (Hoelzel *et al*, 2002), and  
80 therefore don’t fully reflect the true pattern of phylogeography. The single gene tree  
81 represented by mtDNA can also be impacted by simple stochasticity and historical  
82 introgression. The mtDNA phylogenies show good support for some lineages that are  
83 consistent with geography or ecotype. However, branches are shallow, with the most distinct  
84 haplotypes differentiated by only 0.56% (consistent with a loss of diversity during a  
85 bottleneck event, as indicated by both mtDNA and nuclear genomic data; Hoelzel *et al*, 2002;  
86 Moura *et al*. 2014). To help resolve ambiguities that may have arisen from the analysis of a  
87 single gene tree, we generated a phylogenomic analysis and undertook biogeographic  
88 analyses comparing inference from the mtDNA and nuclear DNA data. We test the  
89 hypothesis that differentiation between ecotypes evolved in sympatry within the North  
90 Pacific.

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94 **Methods**

95 DNA samples were obtained from archives available from previous studies (Hoelzel  
96 *et al*, 2007), and their number and provenance is provided in Table S1. We further included  
97 new samples obtained from Marion Island (Southern Ocean), representing an Antarctic  
98 lineage (see results). Sampling design was based around the inclusion of multiple geographic  
99 populations and ecotypes. Marion Island samples were obtained as biopsies (see similar  
100 protocol in Hoelzel *et al*, 2007) from a population of known individuals (Reisinger *et al*,  
101 2011). Fieldwork at Marion Island was permitted by the Prince Edward Islands Management  
102 Committee and procedures approved by the University of Pretoria's Animal Use and Care  
103 Committee (EC023-10). Sample number and ecotypes included are described in  
104 Supplementary Table 1. For the North Atlantic we include samples from Iceland and the UK,  
105 representing both of the main mtDNA lineages identified previously for this region (Foote *et*  
106 *al* 2011b).

107

108

109 *Nuclear data*

110 Nuclear genome-wide sequence data was obtained through RAD sequencing. The RAD  
111 sequencing protocol was modified from the version described by Baird *et al*. (2008) as  
112 follows. To reduce the requirements for high levels (30-50%) of the Illumina-supplied  
113 control phiX library, the adapter from which the forward read commences (p5 adapter) was  
114 modified such that a pool of 4 adapters was employed during the initial ligation to the NotI  
115 digested DNA. These 4 adapters allow the start of the forward sequencing read to be  
116 staggered, ensuring the complexity of reads was greater over the first 5 bases and therefore  
117 improving the ability of the HiSeq instrument control software to differentiate between the

118 sequencing clusters (see similar approach in Fadrosch *et al* 2014). In addition, a 5' biotin  
119 modification in this adapter design allowed for specific selection of adapter ligated  
120 sequences. Further, the 8 bp barcodes were added within the p7 adapter region during the  
121 PCR amplification step. The index read is performed separately as per any  
122 standard Illumina TruSeq library and demultiplexing performed using CASAVA, instead of  
123 using the start of the forward reads as a barcode. To determine the success of this approach,  
124 an initial pool of 5 libraries generated using both the modified and the Baird et al. (2008)  
125 approach were sequenced on 2 separate 2x150 MiSeq runs without the presence of phiX.

126 Genomic DNA (500ng-1ug) was digested to completion overnight at 37°C with 1-2ul Not  
127 I HF restriction enzyme (NEB R3189L,20,000u/ml). The complementary adapter sequences  
128 were annealed together by mixing the individual compatible oligonucleotides at 10 mM in  
129 annealing buffer (100mM Tris pH 7.5, 500mM NaCl, 10mM EDTA). The 4 adapters were  
130 mixed in equimolar amounts. 1ul of 100nM adapter mix was used to ligate to Not I  
131 fragments (from initial starting amount of 500ng and in a volume of 34ul) using NEBnext  
132 Quick Ligation module (NEB E6056L). Adapter ligated fragments were sheared to an  
133 average size of 500bp using a Covaris S2 sonicator and selected after mixing the sample with  
134 streptavidin magnetic beads (Dynabeads® M-280 Streptavidin cat no11205D Life  
135 Technologies). Fragmented DNA was A-tailed (NEBNext® dA-Tailing Module cat no  
136 E6053L) to make it blunt ended. DNA on beads was ligated to a universal p7 sequence  
137 adapter. A series of 47 amplification primers were designed with 8bp barcodes to enable  
138 subsequent multiplexing of samples for a single lane of sequencing. A single barcoded primer  
139 and a universal primer were used to amplify each sample. Cycling conditions were 98°C for  
140 30 seconds followed by 12-14 cycles at 98°C for 10 seconds, 60°C for 30 seconds and 72°C  
141 for 30 seconds followed by an extension at 72°C for 5 minutes and 4°C hold. Samples were  
142 purified with AMPure XP (1:1) and beads washed with 80% ethanol. After drying the beads,

143 samples were resuspended in 22ul of 10mM Tris pH 7.5. Samples were assessed for quantity  
144 (Qubit high sensitivity kit – Life Technologies) and quality (Agilent Bioanalyser 2100). A  
145 fragment size distribution (‘smear’) analysis was performed for each sample between 400 and  
146 600bp and this value was used to normalize the samples for multiplexing. The pooled  
147 samples were size selected on a 1.5% Pippin prep cassette (Sage Scientific). The recovered  
148 library pools were assessed by qPCR (KAPA) for quantification. Sequencing was performed  
149 as 2 X 100bp paired end reads on 5 lanes of the Illumina HiSeq 2000 using v3 chemistry. For  
150 further detail see supplementary methods.

151 Trimmed short reads were mapped against bottlenose dolphin genome version 1.68 (which  
152 does not include mitochondrial DNA sequences; only version 1.72 and higher include this  
153 information) using BWA short read mapper (Li and Durbin, 2009). Genotypes were called  
154 using a multisample Bayesian algorithm as implemented in the Unified Genotyper module  
155 (DePristo *et al*, 2011) from the Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK) software package  
156 (McKenna *et al*, 2010), with a minimum preliminary quality score filter set to 10. The  
157 resulting vcf file was processed to remove all positions with average coverage below 20 using  
158 VCFtools (Danecek *et al*, 2011), so that the final filtering is at a minimum mapping quality of  
159 Q20. All positions with indels were also removed, as were positions for which at least a  
160 single individual did not pass the set filters (i.e. all positions with missing data were  
161 removed). The resulting VCF file was converted into a fasta file using a custom perl script.

162

### 163 *mtDNA*

164 Data from (Morin *et al*, 2010) was used to identify the most informative regions of  
165 mtDNA in retrieving the same cetacean topology as from full mitogenomes. A set of 10  
166 primers was designed to target this region using standard PCR and Sanger sequencing  
167 (Supplementary Table 2), resulting in a sequence 4,370 bp long. PCR reactions were set up

168 using 1X Taq buffer, 0.2 mM dNTP's and varying concentrations of Mg<sup>+</sup>, primers and Taq  
169 (Supplementary Table 2). Thermocycling conditions were: one initial denaturation step at 95  
170 for 2 minutes, followed by 45 cycles of denaturation at 95 for 30 seconds, annealing at  
171 varying temperatures (Supplementary Table 2) for 30 seconds, extension at 72 for 1 minute,  
172 and a final extension step at 72 for 10 minutes. Sequences were obtained from 5 Marion  
173 Island samples, and one North Atlantic sample obtained in the UK to match the range of  
174 lineages represented in the nuclear phylogeny. Corresponding sequences from the other  
175 ecotypes were retrieved from (Morin *et al*, 2010), and a bottlenose dolphin sequence was  
176 used as an outgroup from (Moura *et al*, 2013).

177

### 178 *Phylogenetic analysis*

179 The adequacy of using Marion Island samples as representative of Antarctic ecotypes was  
180 assessed by inferring a phylogenetic tree based on the same 4,370bp comparing Marion  
181 Island with sequences representative of Antarctic ecotypes from (Morin *et al*, 2010). Nuclear  
182 phylogenetic trees were based on contigs up to 1,028bp in length (with 90% of the contig  
183 length range within  $\pm$  100bp of the 196bp mode) built using MRBAYES (Ronquist and  
184 Huelsenbeck, 2003) under the GTR + G model of evolution (after similar RAD-based  
185 phylogenetic reconstructions in Wagner *et al*. 2012). This model allows for rate variation  
186 along the sequence, and is therefore appropriate for concatenated alignments such as the one  
187 used here. Trials were also run using the GTR + I + G model, and no difference in topology  
188 found (data not shown). Two separate runs were started for each of 4 independent chains, 3  
189 of them heated, and runs were considered to have achieved convergence if ESS values were  
190 all over 200, the PSRF+ statistic was close to 1, further confirmed by visual inspection of the  
191 log-likelihood plots for both runs. For the mtDNA trees, the best fit model of evolution was  
192 determined using TOPALI (Milne *et al*, 2009). The initial assessment of the Marion Island

193 phylogenetic position based on mtDNA was run for 10,000,000 iterations, with the first 25%  
194 iterations discarded as burnin. For the main mtDNA tree, MRBAYES was run for 12,000,000  
195 iterations, with the first 25% iterations discarded as burnin.

196 To assess the bias created by sites potentially under positive selection, all variable  
197 positions were extracted using the software SEAVIEW (Gouy *et al*, 2009), and converted into  
198 GenePop format using a custom perl script. Signal for selection was investigated using the  
199  $F_{ST}$  outlier method implemented in LOSITAN (Antao *et al*, 2008). Mean neutral  $F_{ST}$  was  
200 calculated using the infinite alleles model, and assuming 9 demes of size 10, following the  
201 different *a priori* defined populations (based on the results obtained in Hoelzel *et al*, 2007;  
202 Parsons *et al*, 2013): Marion Island, North Atlantic, North Pacific Offshores, Alaskan  
203 Residents, Alaska Transients, California Transients, Bering Sea and Russia. Although some  
204 sample sizes were small per putative population, this is more likely to artificially inflate  $F_{ST}$ ,  
205 generating false outliers (which would be conservative in this case). An initial run to remove  
206 potential selected loci was done to calculate the baseline mean neutral  $F_{ST}$ , which was  
207 estimated using the bisection algorithm over repeated simulations (Antao *et al*, 2008). 50,000  
208 simulations were run, with a false discovery rate of 0.1. Sites identified as being under  
209 positive selection by the LOSITAN algorithm, were then removed from the full RAD  
210 alignment, and a new phylogenetic tree was constructed based on the shorter sequence. In  
211 both the full dataset and in the trimmed dataset, MRBAYES was run for 1,000,000 iterations  
212 with the first 25% iterations discarded as burnin.

213 Given the known biases that GC rich regions might impose on phylogenetic reconstruction  
214 (Romiguier *et al*, 2013), the RAD dataset was further divided between GC and AT rich  
215 regions. Reads mapped to consecutive reference positions with a gap of less than 20 bp were  
216 assembled into contigs, for which GC content was calculated. Contigs were then pooled into  
217 GC-rich and AT-rich alignments based on a 50% GC content threshold. MRBAYES was then

218 run for 10,000,000 iterations (with 25% burnin) for the full alignment where the evolutionary  
219 parameters were estimated independently (using the GTR + G model as described above) for  
220 two partitions defined according to GC content. Romiguier et al. (2013) found that for  
221 placental mammals the AT-rich regions were ‘better at retrieving well-supported, consensual  
222 nodes’, therefore we also constructed a tree using the same methods based only on the AT-  
223 rich contigs. Because the enzyme chosen for the RAD library construction (NotI) is GC-rich,  
224 the proportion of AT-rich contigs was relatively small (191,544 bp, 1,490 of which were  
225 variable).

226 Further, to assess the effect of concatenating different genomic locations in a single  
227 alignment, the CAT-GTR model (see Lartillot & Philippe 2004) implemented with the  
228 software PHYLOBAYES (Lartillot *et al*, 2009) was used in the full alignment but considering  
229 only variable sites. We focused on variable sites because the software PHYLOBAYES cannot  
230 accommodate the full sequence input file. However, for an evolution model based on site  
231 heterogeneity this should not affect the topology significantly, though it can be expected to  
232 affect branch length. The program was run for 437,000 cycles with 50,000 burnin, with trees  
233 recorded every 1,000 cycles. Convergence of the run was assessed through checking ESS  
234 values and the stability of the log-likelihood plots after burnin.

235

### 236 *Reconstruction of ancestral distributions and dating analysis*

237 To estimate phylogeographic patterns, we applied different ancestral distribution  
238 reconstruction methods as applied in the software RASP (Yu *et al*, 2013), for both mtDNA  
239 and RAD trees. Phylogenetic trees for this analysis were obtained by building a 50 %  
240 majority consensus tree in RASP from all the phylogenetic trees retained after burnin in the  
241 MrBayes analysis. Three distributional ranges were considered, Southern Ocean (Marion  
242 Island), North Atlantic (Iceland and UK) and North Pacific (Offshores, Transients, Residents,

243 Russia and Bering Sea). Bottlenose dolphin was used as an outgroup, and defined as  
244 occurring in all three areas, and therefore uninformative. S-Diva is a parsimony based method  
245 that minimises the number of dispersal and extinction events in a tree (Ronquist, 1997). The  
246 maximum number of areas per node was set to 3, and with the "Allow reconstruction" option  
247 enabled. Uncertainty was assessed using the S-Diva value (Yu *et al*, 2010) based on all the  
248 post-burnin trees inferred by MRBAYES (see above). Additionally, the Bayesian Binary  
249 MCMC method was also implemented, which uses a full hierarchical Bayesian approach to  
250 quantify uncertainty in the reconstruction of ancestral distributions (Ronquist, 2004). The  
251 maximum number of areas per node was set to 3, and the root distribution was set to null,  
252 given that the outgroup used has a wider distribution than the 3 considered for the ingroup.  
253 Analysis was run with 10 chains, 9 of which were heated, for 1,000,000 iterations with  
254 10,000 burnin.

255 Dated phylogenies were obtained using BEAST (Drummond *et al*, 2012), by applying a  
256 strict clock under a Yule speciation model. . Given the lack of robust and unambiguous  
257 calibration points to determine mutation rate in killer whales, our objective was only to gain  
258 an idea of the temporal range of possible splitting times using credible mutation rates from  
259 the literature (Dornburg *et al*, 2012; Moura *et al*, 2013). For the mtDNA tree, we used a rate  
260 of 0.03 substitutions/site/million years after (Moura *et al*, 2013), while for the RAD tree we  
261 used a rate of 0.0011 substitutions/site/million years estimated for Odontocetes (after  
262 Dornburg *et al*, 2012).

263

## 264 **Results**

265 Our mtDNA phylogeny (based on sufficient sequence data to recapitulate the  
266 topology of the published mitogenome tree; see methods) was confirmed to provide the same  
267 structure and similar inference (Figures 1 & 2) as reported in the earlier studies (Hoelzel *et al*,

268 1998; Foote *et al.*, 2011a; Morin *et al.*, 2010). A Southern Ocean population is represented in  
269 our tree using samples from Marion Island, which group tightly with the ‘type B’ Antarctic  
270 lineage haplotypes (Supplementary Figure 1a).

271 Reconstruction of the geographical distribution of ancestral nodes based on our  
272 mtDNA tree showed some inconsistencies between Statistical Dispersal-Vicariance Analysis  
273 (S-DIVA) and the Bayesian Binary (BB) method (Table 1), though both methods suggest  
274 colonization of the North Atlantic followed by a later dispersal event from the North Atlantic  
275 back to the North Pacific, consistent with the earlier study (Foote *et al.*, 2011a). However,  
276 there is some indication that the initial dispersal into the North Atlantic is more likely via the  
277 Antarctic from this analysis (Figure 2, Supplementary Figure 2), rather than over the pole (as  
278 suggested earlier; Foote *et al.*, 2011a).

279 The nuclear data generates a well-supported tree (Figure 1), though the overall level  
280 of divergence remains low (0.07% at the deepest node, HKY model based on a distance  
281 matrix constructed using GENEIOUS). The killer whale short reads from the RAD sequencing  
282 have been deposited in NCBI Genbank in BioProject PRJNA236163. Analysis of the nuclear  
283 data using LOSITAN revealed the presence of 365 SNP outliers for positive selection, but  
284 removal of these positions did not alter the topology (see Supplementary Figure 1b), so all  
285 loci were retained for further analyses.

286 The topology recovered for the nuclear phylogeny using the full alignment differed  
287 from the mtDNA tree in several key respects (Figure 1). Southern Ocean haplotypes that  
288 were nested well within North Pacific lineages in the mtDNA tree, now branch from the most  
289 basal node, while North Atlantic samples and ‘offshores’ from the North Pacific now form  
290 reciprocally monophyletic lineages (Figure 1). The ‘resident’ and ‘offshore’ fish-eating  
291 ecotypes are more clearly delineated into separate lineages, and the North Pacific ‘residents’  
292 form a broad lineage with incomplete lineage sorting among regional populations. The

293 topology of the nuclear tree was robust to partitioning with respect to GC content and to the  
294 reconstruction employing the heterogeneous CAT-GTR evolution model, with the exception  
295 that for the latter analysis Offshores and North Atlantic haplotypes were not as clearly  
296 separated into a bifurcating relationship (Supplementary Figure 2). The AT-rich tree  
297 (Supplementary Figure 2) again supported the broader topology, but the ‘offshore’ group  
298 clustered with the ‘transients’. The observed discordance between the nuclear and mtDNA  
299 phylogenies has been noted earlier in the North Pacific (Pilot *et al*, 2010) and among North  
300 Atlantic ecotypes (Foote *et al*, 2009, 2013) based on comparisons between mtDNA control  
301 region sequences and microsatellite DNA genotypes.

302         Reconstruction of the geographical distribution of ancestral nodes also recovered a  
303 phylogeographic scenario from the nuclear tree that is distinct from that obtained from the  
304 mtDNA data (Figure 2, Table 2). Since the biogeographic inference was the same for the  
305 nuclear tree reconstructions based on the full dataset without partitioning, for the partitioned  
306 tree based on GC content, for the AT-rich tree and for the CAT-GTR tree (data not shown),  
307 we report on the analyses of the full dataset as presented in Figure 1. Both S-DIVA and BB  
308 suggested that killer whales expanded from the Southern Ocean into the North Pacific, with  
309 North Atlantic ecotypes diverging from North Pacific lineages, and the divergence between  
310 North Pacific ecotypes occurring locally in sympatry (Figure 2, Supplementary Figure 3).  
311 Ancestry in the Southern Oceans is consistent with the present day abundance of killer  
312 whales in the region, and the relative stability of that habitat over the course of the  
313 Quaternary (Francois *et al*, 1997; Latimer and Filippelli, 2001). Inference about dispersal and  
314 vicariance from the BB model is shown in Figure 2. From the S-DIVA model based on the  
315 nuclear phylogeny, North Atlantic ecotypes diverged from North Pacific lineages by dispersal  
316 (at ‘2’ in Figure 2a), while the node separating the Southern Oceans from other regions

317 suggests vicariance (at '1' in Figure 2a). For the mtDNA reconstruction based on S-DIVA the  
318 inference is the same as for the BB model.

319

## 320 **Discussion**

321 In this study we generate a phylogeny for the genus *Orcinus* based on a large number  
322 of nuclear DNA loci. The topology of the nuclear tree was consistent even after partitioning  
323 for GC content and testing alternative evolution models. The CAT-GTR tree based only on  
324 variable sites showed greater depth (as expected) and poorer resolution of the North Atlantic  
325 and Offshore lineages, but retained the key aspects of topology seen in the other tree  
326 reconstructions, in particular the position of the Southern Ocean samples from Marion Island.  
327 The nuclear trees were based on relatively short, dispersed sequences, but several evolution  
328 models that account for rate variation across the sequence were applied and the trees  
329 consistently showed the same overall topology. The AT-rich tree again agreed with the  
330 overall topology, but grouped the offshores into the same lineage as the transients, a result  
331 that is consistent with inference from microsatellite DNA loci in Pilot et al. (2010).

332 When comparing the nuclear and mtDNA trees, the main differences were associated  
333 with the position of the Marion Island lineage, and the strength of support for the offshores as  
334 a lineage distinct from the North Pacific residents. Biogeographic analyses suggested a  
335 relatively uncomplicated pattern for the establishment of populations, compared to the  
336 mtDNA tree. For the nuclear tree, the pattern was consistent with the division of extant  
337 North Pacific populations within the North Pacific, and without the need for a period of  
338 allopatric divergence in the North Atlantic. Allopatric or parapatric differentiation within the  
339 North Pacific is possible, but published data suggest that both local specialization and  
340 geographic distance reduce gene flow in a similar way. In particular, sympatric ecotype  
341 populations show levels of differentiation comparable to that found between populations of

342 the resident ecotype either side of the North Pacific, and there is evidence for isolation by  
343 distance within an ecotype (Hoelzel *et al.* 2007). It may be that prey choice changes temporal  
344 and spatial patterns of habitat use enough to minimize interactions among specialist groups,  
345 thereby reducing gene flow without requiring a period of physical isolation. The extensive  
346 ranging capabilities of this species also makes allopatric or parapatric boundaries on their  
347 own seem less likely drivers within an ocean basin than resource specializations.

348 Earlier studies indicated ongoing gene flow between North Pacific ecotypes, and  
349 suggested that gene flow was generally male-mediated during temporary encounters between  
350 matrifocal pods (Hoelzel *et al.*, 2007; Pilot *et al.*, 2010). However, key distinguishing features  
351 of the nuclear phylogeny could not be explained by male mediated gene flow following  
352 secondary contact. The scenario implicit in the mtDNA phylogeny indicates isolation of a  
353 fish-eating form in the North Atlantic, derived from North Pacific ‘transient’ ancestors, and  
354 the re-invasion of this form into the North Pacific, now represented by the residents and  
355 offshores (which share similar mtDNA haplotypes). However, secondary contact could not  
356 explain why the Southern Ocean ecotype branches from the most basal node in the nuclear  
357 phylogeny, or why offshores and residents show greater divergence at nuclear loci. Instead  
358 the implication is that the mtDNA phylogeny is distorted by historical demography (possibly  
359 in conjunction with a bottleneck event, Hoelzel *et al.*, 2002; Moura *et al.* 2014) or other  
360 stochastic factors.

361 The nuclear data suggest North Pacific ancestry of at least some North Atlantic  
362 populations, similar to what was proposed based on mtDNA data (Foote *et al.*, 2011a). If  
363 movement was across the pole, this could only have happened during interglacial periods  
364 when there may have been an open passage. Using a fixed rate clock and a published average  
365 substitution rate for the Odontocete nuclear genome (Dornburg *et al.*, 2012), the node defining  
366 the separation of the North Atlantic lineage from the North Pacific falls within the Eemian

367 interglacial (~155 kya; Supplementary Figure 1c). However, the mutation rate applied was  
368 derived from relatively deep phylogenetic calibrations. As has been established in numerous  
369 publications for mtDNA (see review in Ho *et al*, 2007), calibrating for more recent events  
370 may require the use of a higher mutation rate, typically at least an order of magnitude higher  
371 for mtDNA. The correct rate to apply is not known in this case, but an order of magnitude  
372 increase would still allow for transfer during an interglacial, just prior to the beginning of the  
373 Holocene (~16 kya).

374         Although sampling was not inclusive of all populations on a global scale, two key  
375 aspects of the nuclear phylogeny indicate that inference about differentiation in sympatry is  
376 not due to incomplete taxon sampling. First, the North Pacific transient form does not branch  
377 from the ancestral node in this tree (a result that further sampling is unlikely to change), and  
378 second, the transient and resident types remain reciprocally monophyletic, with the node  
379 distinguishing the North Atlantic and North Pacific resident lineages apparently younger than  
380 the node that separates them from the transient lineage (Supplementary Figure 1c). Together  
381 these factors indicate that transients and residents most likely share ancestry in the North  
382 Pacific, and additional details about the relationship among unsampled populations from  
383 other parts of the world should not affect this interpretation. The possibility of populations or  
384 species differentiating in sympatry has remained controversial, though there are some  
385 instances that are now generally accepted (see Bolnick and Fitzpatrick, 2007). In general,  
386 most models invoke strong disruptive ecological selection (e.g. in association with  
387 differential resource use) together with high initial levels of phenotypic polymorphism, and  
388 strong mating preferences (Gavrilets, 2004). Ultimately this process may promote ecological  
389 speciation (see Nosil 2012 for various examples), and the possibility of incipient ecological  
390 speciation based on the cultural transmission of foraging specialisations has been raised  
391 previously for the killer whale (e.g. Hoelzel *et al.* 2002, Riesch *et al.* 2012).

392 Killer whales feed on a wide variety of prey, however, this diversity results from a  
393 range of local specializations on relatively few prey species (de Bruyn *et al*, 2013). These  
394 local populations of resource specialists are often genetically differentiated, but as indicated  
395 earlier, differentiation between populations of the same ecotype is also seen, and reflects a  
396 pattern of isolation by distance (Hoelzel *et al*, 2007). Ecotypes may also exhibit differences in  
397 social structure, morphology, behavior, and vocal signatures (see de Bruyn *et al*, 2013 for a  
398 review). In the North Pacific, the resident and transient ecotypes occupy largely sympatric  
399 distribution ranges (Ford *et al*, 2000), but specialize on very different prey resources (fish and  
400 marine mammals respectively; Ford *et al*, 1998; Krahn *et al*, 2007), are genetically  
401 differentiated (Hoelzel *et al*, 1998, 2002, 2007), exhibit different social organization (Ford *et*  
402 *al*, 2000), mating systems (Pilot *et al*, 2010) and vocal behavior (Yurk *et al*, 2002; Deecke *et*  
403 *al*, 2005). Less is known about the 'offshore' ecotype, however our data indicate that we need  
404 to consider their differentiation in sympatry as well. Krahn *et al.* (2007) and Dahlheim *et al.*  
405 (2008) found that 'offshore' killer whales feed on fish resources (possibly with some overlap  
406 with residents including halibut - Jones, 2006 - but also distinct prey; Krahn *et al*, 2007), and  
407 sighting data indicates a largely but not exclusively pelagic distribution, (likely overlapping  
408 with both 'transient' and 'resident' ecotypes in some regions; Dahlheim *et al*, 2008), while the  
409 residents are more dependent on coastal resources. The average group size is larger and adult  
410 body size smaller for offshores than for either residents or transients, but data are based on  
411 just 59 sightings over 30 years (Dahlheim *et al*, 2008). Re-sightings of photographically  
412 identified pods revealed the potential for very large scale movement (>4,000km), greater than  
413 that so far conclusively documented for the other regional ecotypes (Dahlheim *et al*, 2008).

414 The first nuclear phylogenetic division within the North Pacific was between  
415 transients and offshores, followed by an apparently later division between offshores and  
416 residents. An earlier division between fish-eating and marine-mammal-eating ecotypes in

417 pelagic waters is reasonable if the nearshore habitat was unavailable at that time (under ice).  
418 Differences in dispersal range, social behaviour and prey choice between transients and  
419 offshores (Yurk *et al*, 2002) may have reinforced isolation. We suggest that dependence on  
420 learned behavior, likely transferred within social groups by tradition, serves to isolate  
421 populations of resource specialists, as discussed previously (Hoelzel *et al*, 2007). This may  
422 lead to local adaptation through disruptive selection and differentiation by drift among  
423 populations whose foraging behavior determines different spatial and temporal patterns of  
424 dispersion (e.g. Hoelzel *et al*. 2007, Riesch *et al*. 2012). The apparent conflict between ease  
425 of connectivity among these populations and their genetic differentiation may be explained  
426 by these processes. At the same time, when habitats change (as during the interglacial  
427 warming periods), changing resources may require changes in foraging strategies, and  
428 different foraging strategies that do not also lead to physical or temporal isolation need not  
429 lead to genetic differentiation (Hoelzel *et al*, 2007; de Bruyn *et al*, 2013). A recent study  
430 based on isotopic markers suggesting specialization among North Atlantic groups not clearly  
431 differentiated for nuclear or mtDNA markers (Foote *et al*, 2013) may be an example. Our  
432 data for the North Pacific suggests that in this case, life history and behavioural changes  
433 associated with resource use led to lineage differentiation between ecotypes, and the potential  
434 for incipient speciation.

435

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444 marine mammal monitoring programme at Marion Island.

445

#### 446 **Conflict of Interest**

447 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

448

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645

646 **Titles and Legends to Figures**

647

648 **Figure 1.** Bayesian phylogenetic trees of killer whale ecotypes for a) mitochondrial DNA and b)  
649 nuclear DNA obtained through RAD associated sequencing. Both trees were inferred using MRBAYES  
650 software. AT = Alaskan Transients; CT = Californian Transients; MI = Marion Island; ICE = Iceland;  
651 SR = Southern Residents; RUS = Russian residents; AR = Alaskan Residents; BS = Bering Sea; OS =  
652 Offshores.

653

654 **Figure 2.** Phylogeographical reconstruction of killer whale ancestral distributions and dispersal  
655 patterns based on a) mitochondrial DNA and b) nuclear DNA obtained through RAD associated  
656 sequencing. Inference was done in RASP software, using the Bayesian Binary MCMC method. Node  
657 numbers next to nodes refer to numbers given in Tables 1&2 and in Supplementary Figure 2.  
658 Numbers within some nodes refer to paths in map figures.

659

660

661 **Table 1.** Assignment probability for the reconstruction of ancestral distributions using the  
 662 software RASP, for key nodes of interest in the mitochondrial phylogeny (Figure 2).

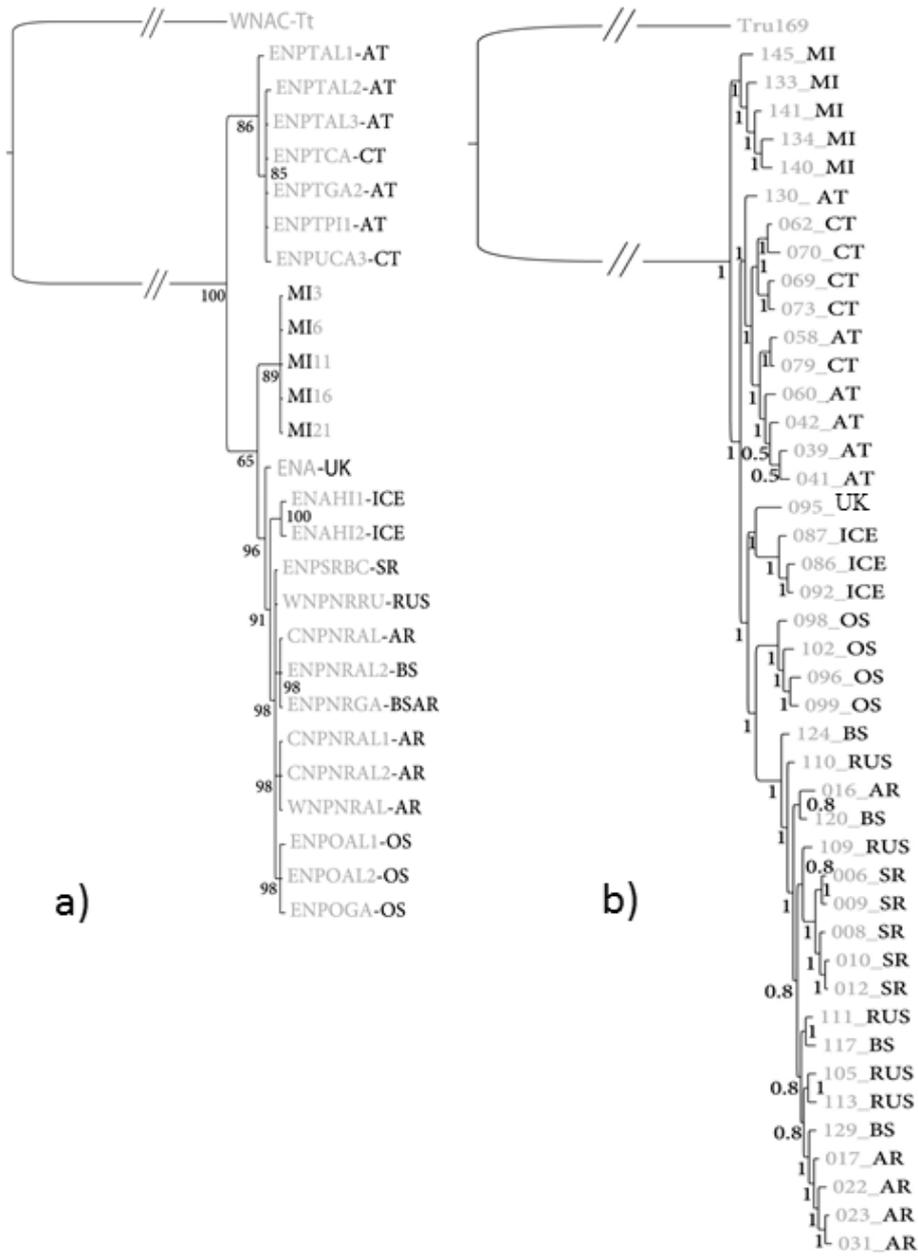
Method	Region	Node 52	Node 45	Node 44	Node 43	Node 42	Node 32	Node 51
<i>S-Diva</i>	SO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NA	0	0	47.34	0	0	<b>100</b>	0
	NP	<b>32.88</b>	0	0	0	<b>100</b>	0	<b>100</b>
	SO\NA	8.25	31.11	0	0	0	0	0
	SO\NP	23.18	<b>33.68</b>	0	0	0	0	0
	NA\NP	14.13	1.19	<b>52.66</b>	<b>100</b>	0	0	0
	SO\NA\NP	21.56	34.02	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Bayesian Binary</i>	SO	8.53	<b>43.11</b>	0.49	0.10	0	0	0.01
	NA	6.09	24.73	<b>90.75</b>	<b>80.49</b>	0.40	<b>99.27</b>	0.02
	NP	<b>68.88</b>	14.04	1.61	4.90	<b>92.23</b>	0	<b>98.4</b>
	SO\NA	0.77	9.00	1.65	0.29	0	0.31	0
	SO\NP	8.72	5.11	5.37	0.02	0.08	0	0.37
	NA\NP	6.22	2.93	0.03	14.15	7.29	0.59	1.19
	SO\NA\NP	0.79	1.07	0.10	0.05	0.01	0	0

663

664 **Table 2.** Assignment probability for the reconstruction of ancestral distributions using the  
 665 software RASP, for key nodes of interest in the nuclear phylogeny (Figure 2).

Method	Region	Node 86	Node 81	Node 80	Node 76	Node 85	Node 54	Node 79
<i>S-Diva</i>	SO	0	0	0	0	<b>100</b>	0	0
	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>100</b>
	NP	0	<b>100</b>	0	<b>100</b>	0	<b>100</b>	0
	SO\NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SO\NP	<b>100</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NA\NP	0	0	<b>100</b>	0	0	0	0
	SO\NA\NP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Bayesian Binary</i>	SO	<b>48.45</b>	1.21	0.17	0	<b>98.96</b>	0	0.02
	NA	1.21	1.03	4.57	0.08	0.01	0.01	<b>96.02</b>
	NP	29.86	<b>93.27</b>	<b>85.63</b>	<b>98</b>	0.08	<b>99.49</b>	0.55
	SO\NA	0.77	0.03	0.02	0	0.09	0	0.13
	SO\NP	18.93	2.39	0.34	0.07	0.85	0.12	0
	NA\NP	0.47	2.03	9.24	1.73	0	0.36	3.27
	SO\NA\NP	0.30	0.05	0.04	0	0	0	0

666



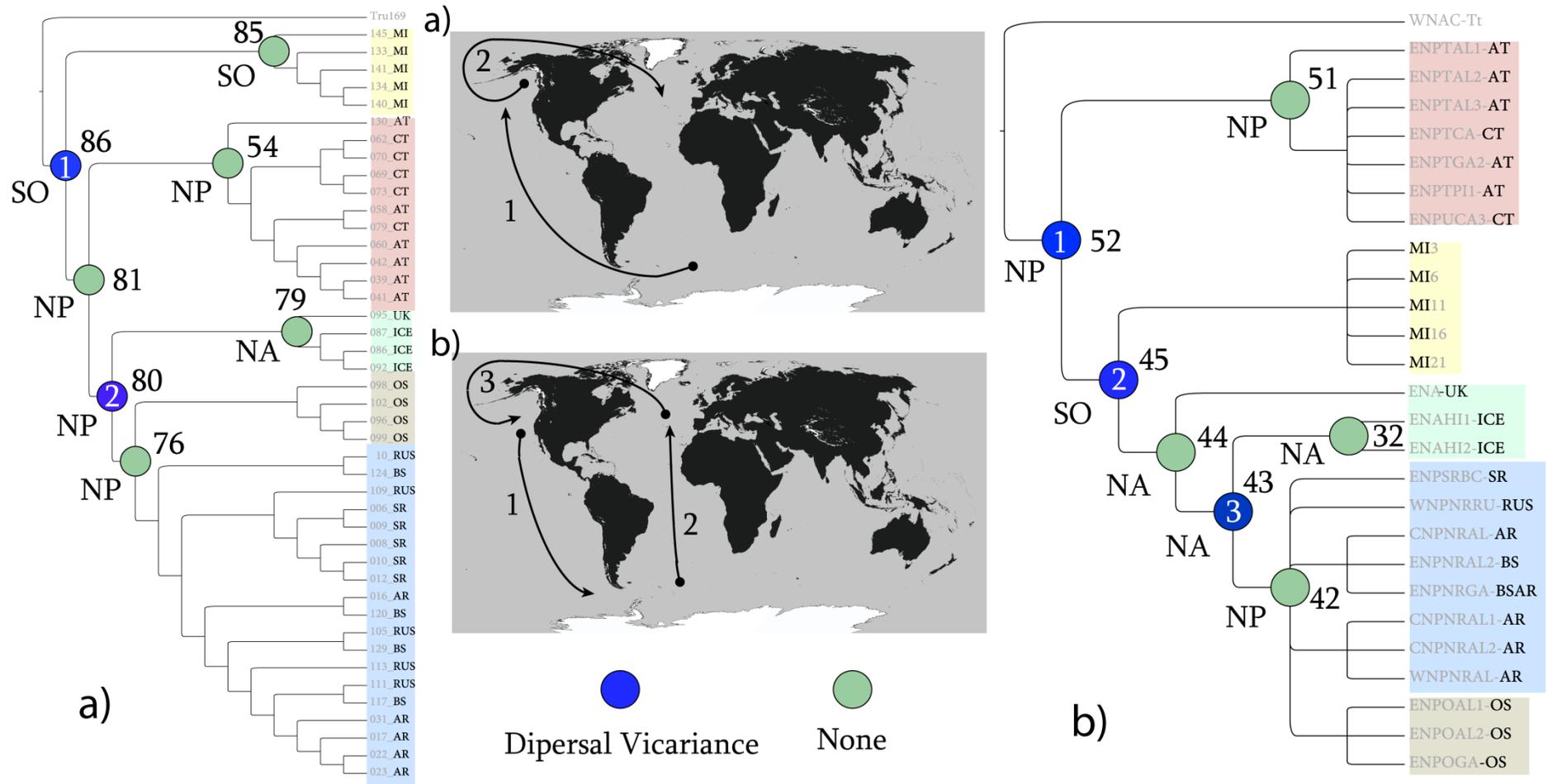
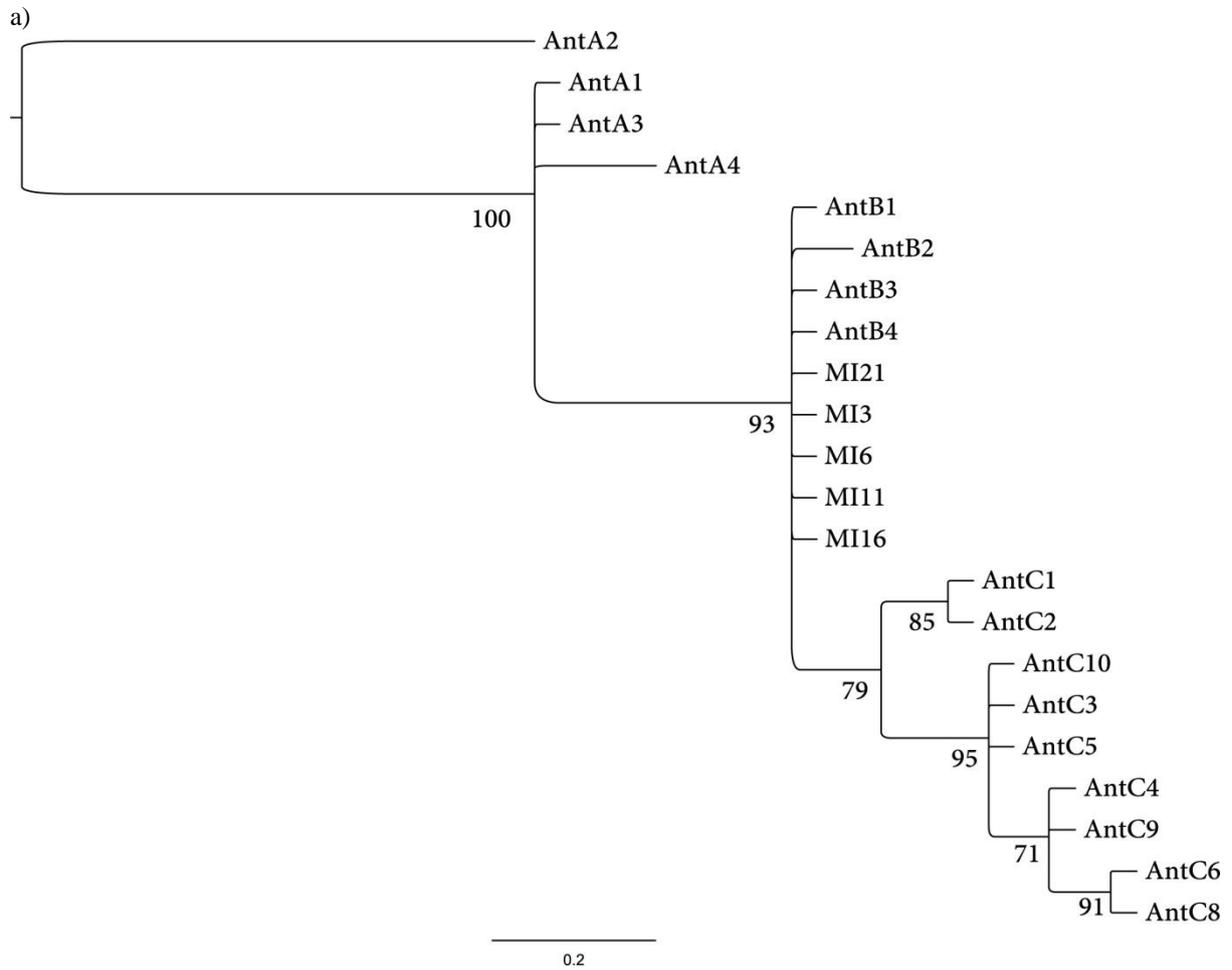
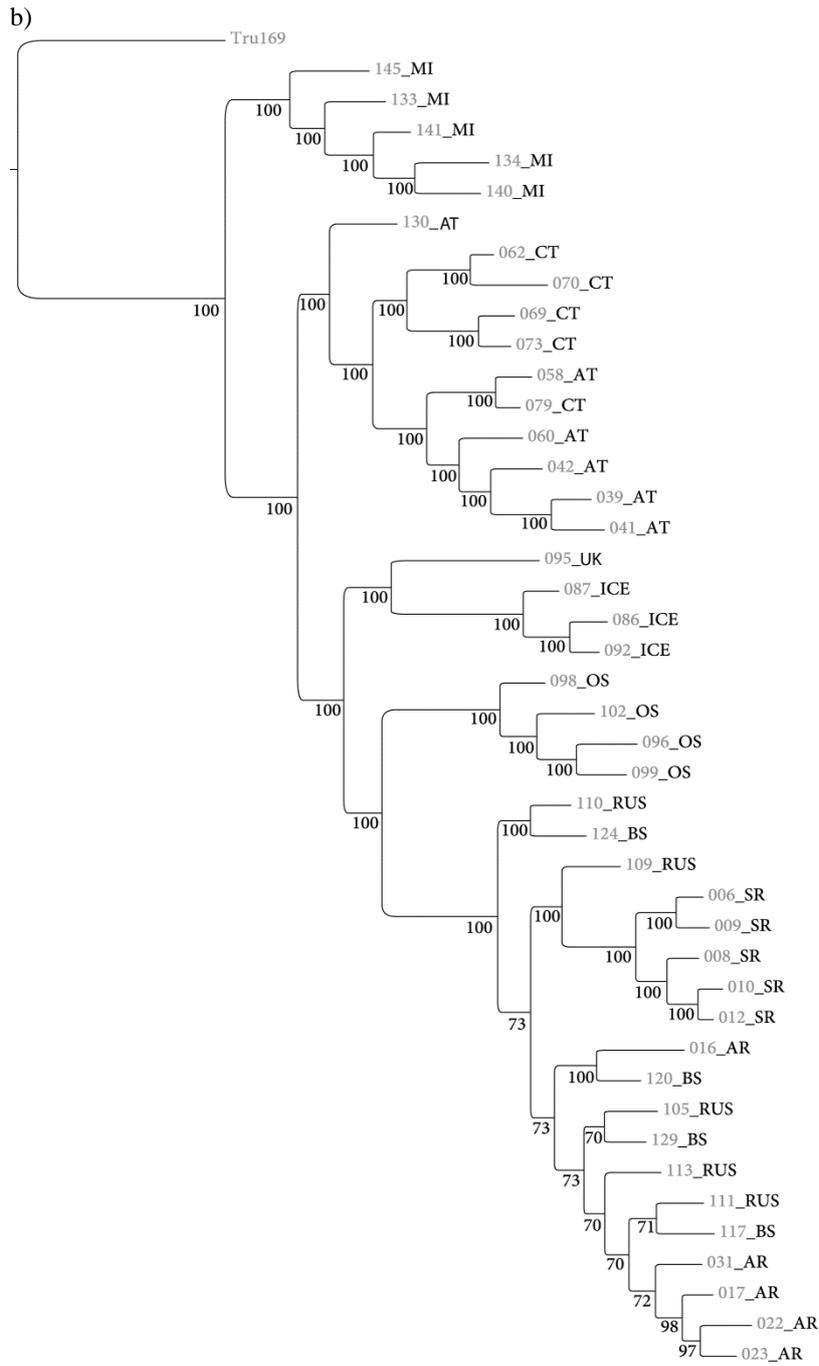


Figure 2

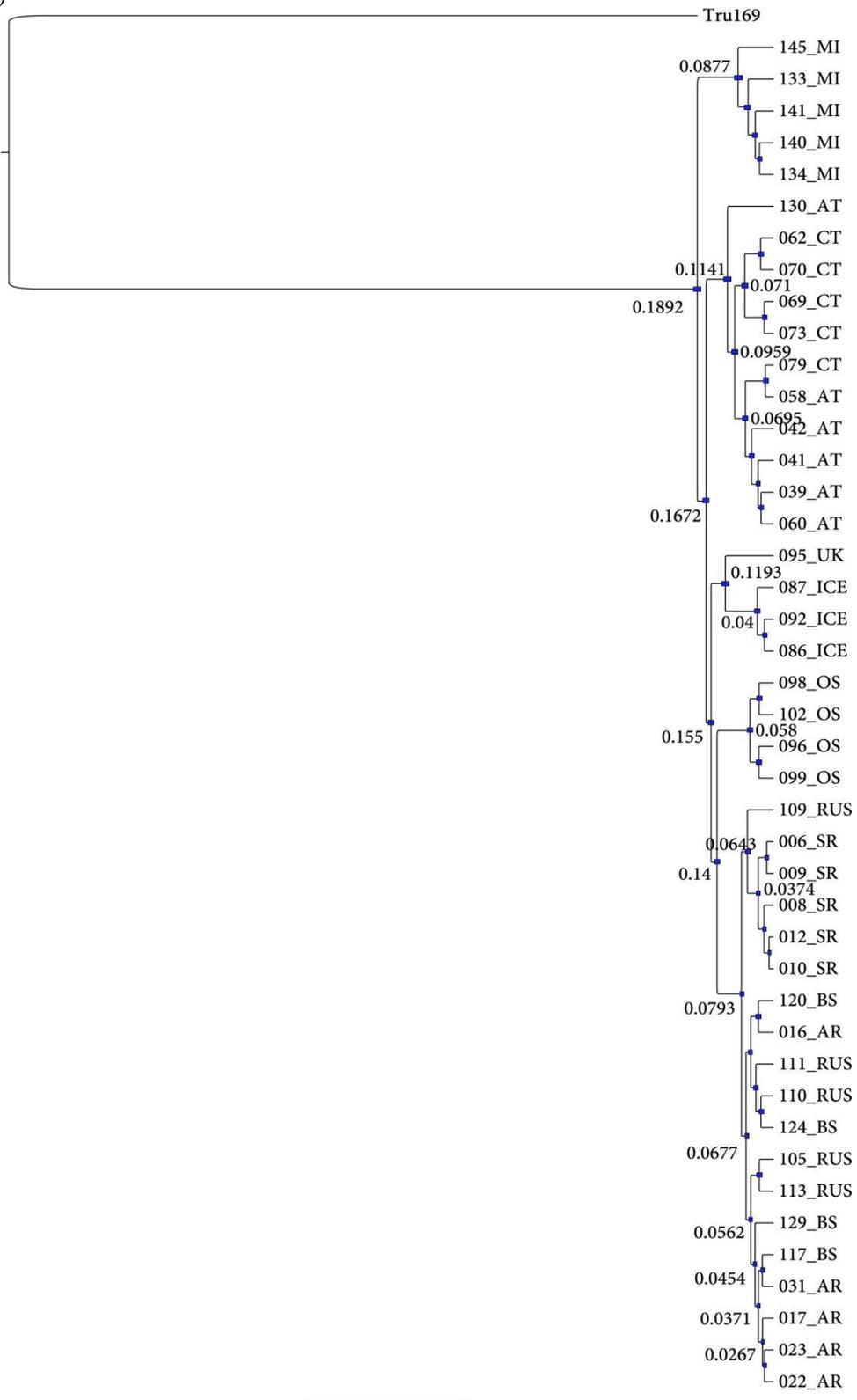
## Supplementary Data

Figure S1: a) Bayesian phylogeny including mtDNA haplotypes from Marion Island and all unique Antarctic haplotypes from [1]. b) Construction of the RADtag sequence tree after removal of outlier loci for positive selection. c) Divergence dates for the nuclear phylogeny, based on a strict clock following the mutation rate calculated for odontocetes in [2]. Time is represented in 1 million year's units.





c)



0.4





c)

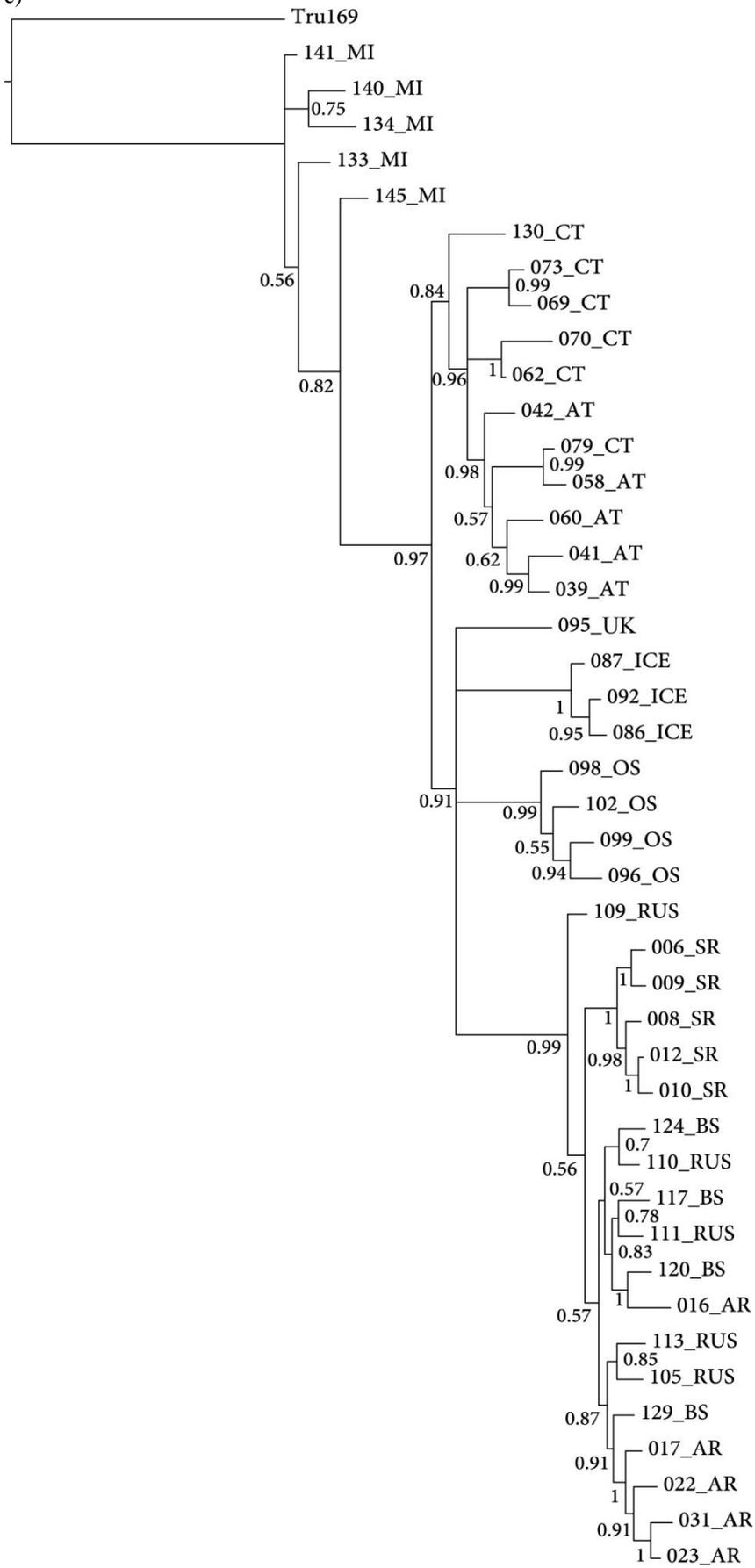
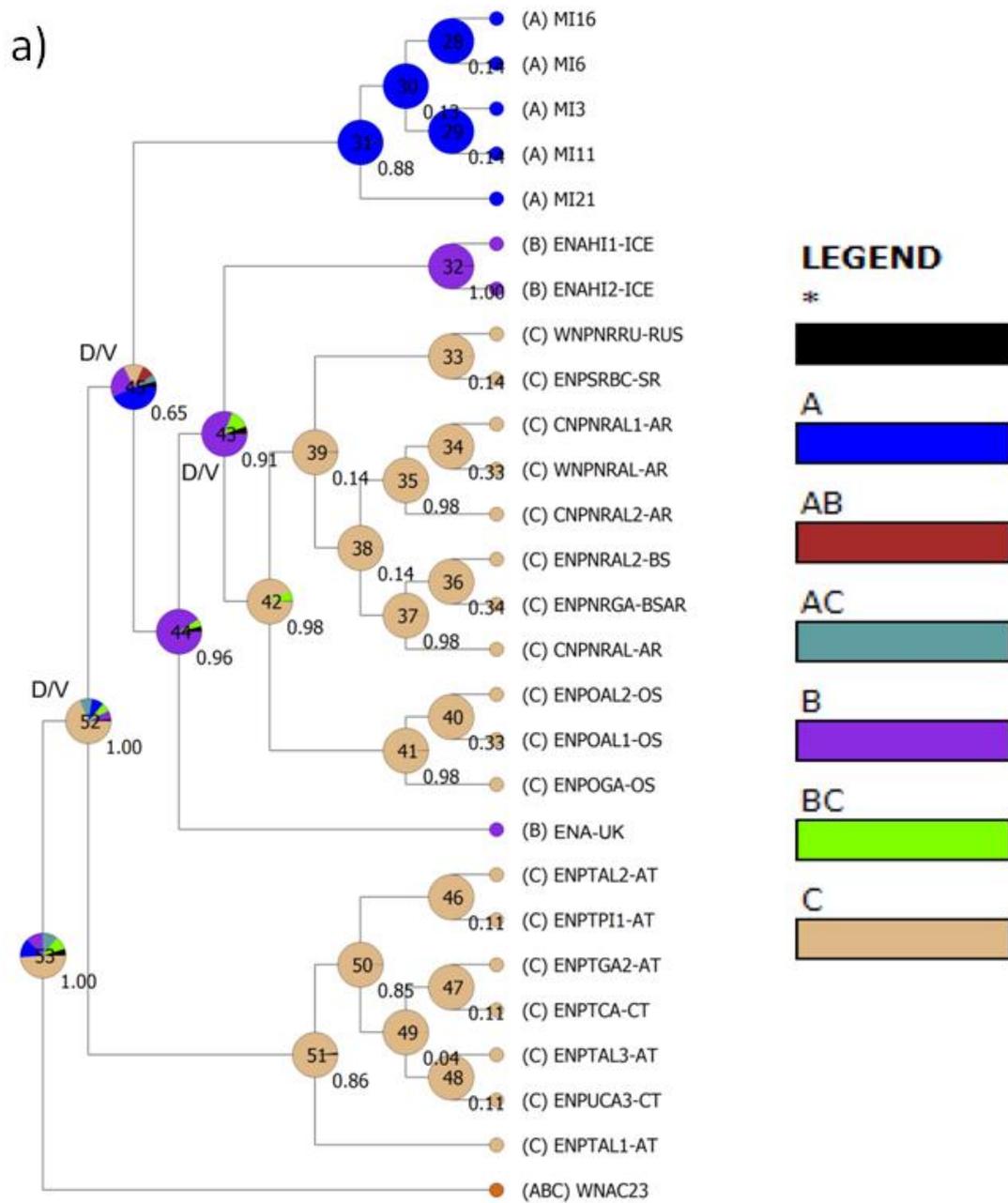
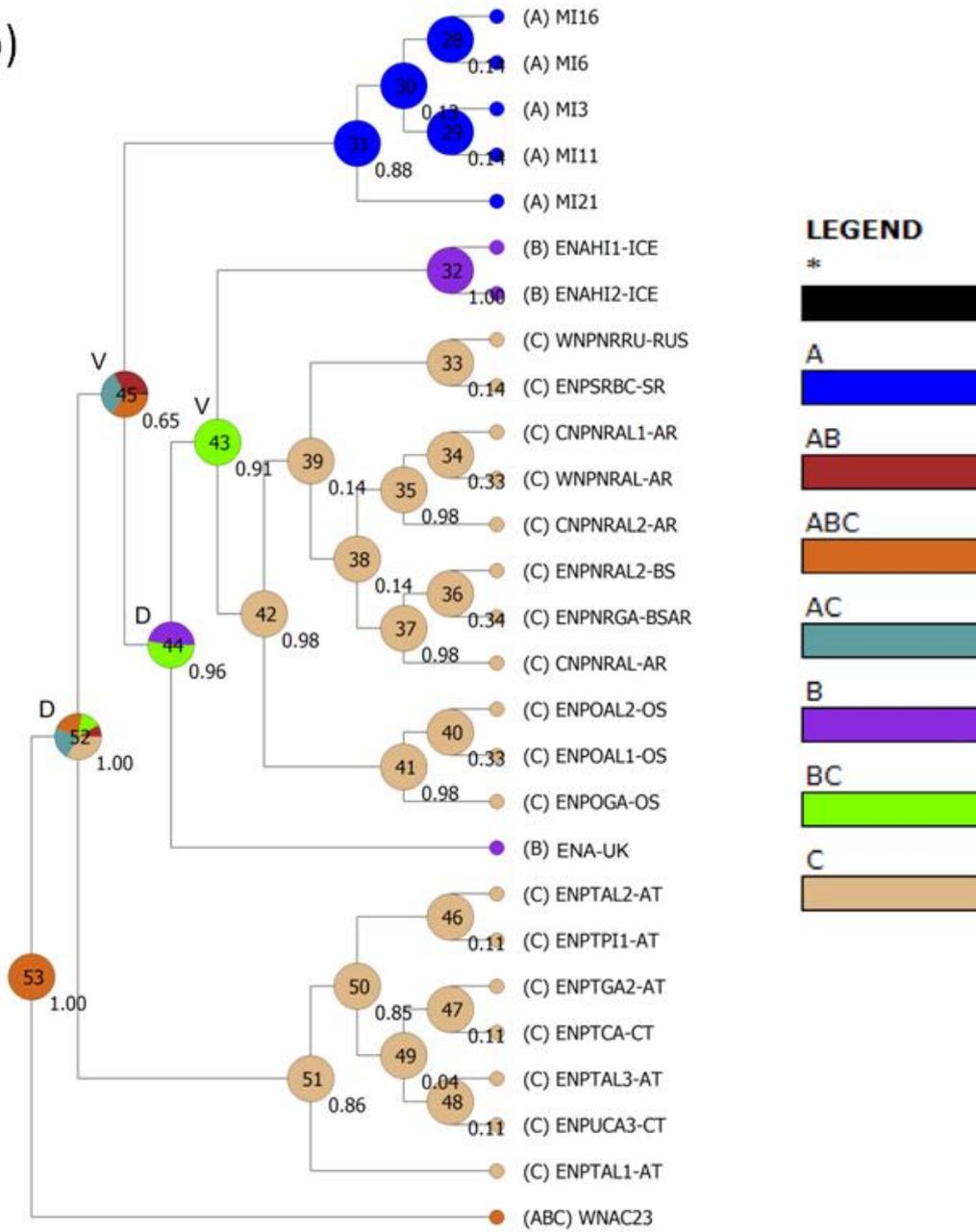


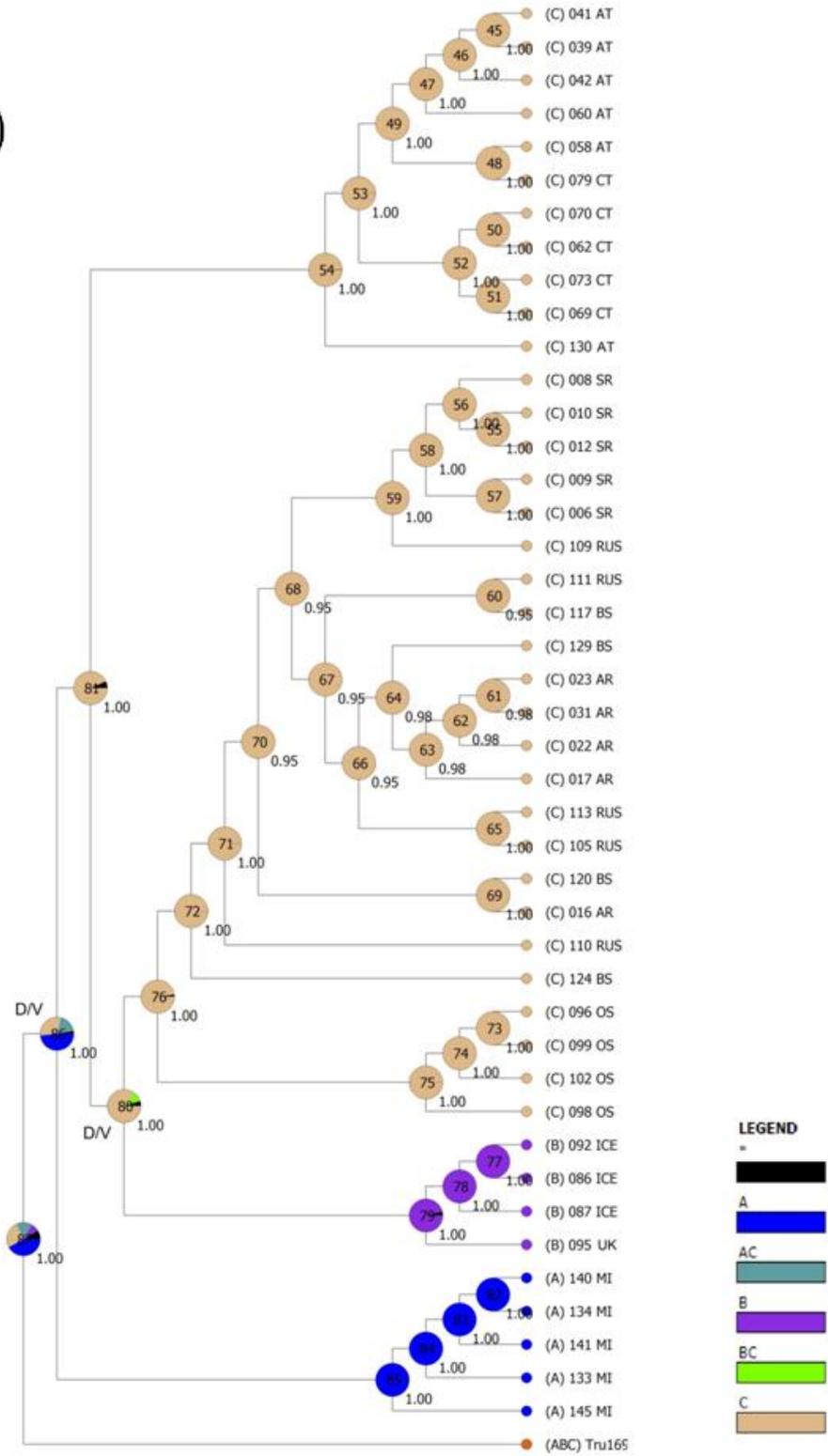
Figure S3: results from a) BB for mtDNA, b) S-DIVA for mtDNA, c) BB for the RADtag data, d) S-DIVA for the RADtag data.



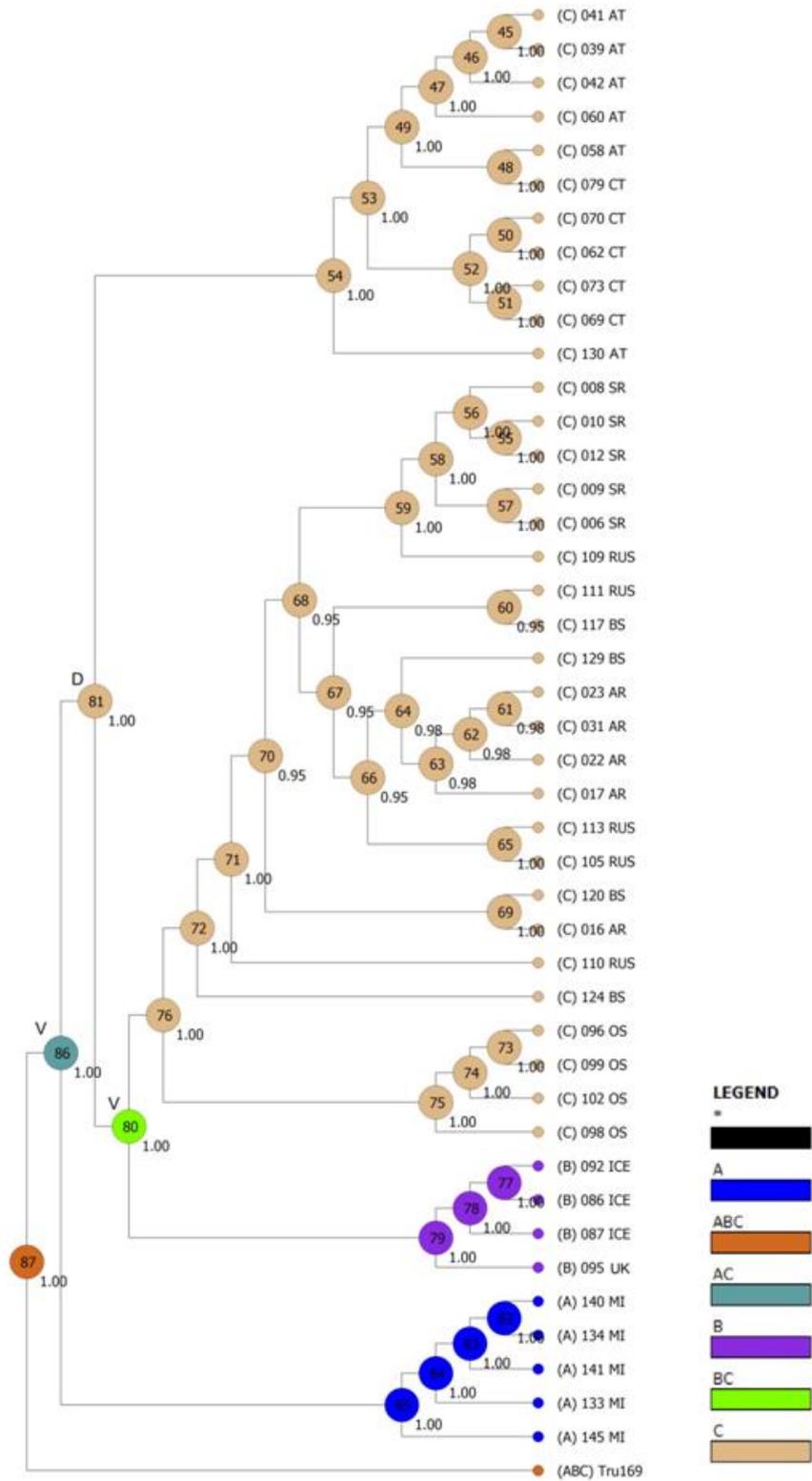
b)



c)



d)



**Table S1.** Number of samples analysed per ecotype in the present study, for both mtDNA and nuclear data.

<b>Marker</b>	<b>Ecotype description</b>	<b>Ecotype code</b>	<b>Number of samples</b>
<i>mtDNA</i>	Alaska residents	AR	4
	Southern residents	SR	1
	Russian residents	RUS	1
	Bering Sea residents	BS	2
	Alaska transients	AT	5
	California transients	CT	2
	Pacific offshores	OS	3
	North Atlantic	ICE\UK	3
	Marion Island	MI	5
<i>RadTag</i>	Alaska residents	AR	5
	Southern residents	SR	5
	Russian residents	RUS	5
	Bering Sea residents	BS	4
	Alaska transients	AT	6
	California transients	CT	5
	Pacific offshores	OS	4
	North Atlantic	ICE\UK	4
	Marion Island	MI	5

**Table S2.** List of primers and specific PCR conditions used to amplify the mtDNA fragment used in this study.

mtDNA Region	Primers	[ ] primers	[ ] Mg <sup>+</sup>	Taq	Annealing Temp
<i>Cyt B</i>	5'-ACGCCACATCGGACGTRGC -3' 5'-CCAGCTTTGGGTGTTGGTGGTGA -3'	0.16 μM	1.3 mM	1.25 U	57
<i>Control region</i>	5'-TTCTACATAAACTATTCC -3' 5'-ATTTTCAGTGTCTTGCTTT -3'	0.16 μM	1 mM	0.5 U	43.7
<i>ND6</i>	5'- ARCTATACAACGCAGCAATCCC -3' 5'- CCTCAGGGTAGGACATAGCC -3'	0.16 μM	2 mM	0.5 U	60
<i>12S</i>	5'- ACAAGCCCCATAATGAAATTATACA - 3'	0.16 μM	2 mM	0.5 U	59
<i>16S</i>	5'-AAATAATTTAGTGTGGGTTAT -3' 5'- AAGAATAGAATGCTTAATTG -3' 5'- AAATAGTTTAGTGTAGGTTAT -3'	0.18 μM	1.5 mM	0.5 U	46

**References**

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