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Regions of genetic divergence in depth-separated *Sebastes* rockfish species pairs: Depth as a potential driver of speciation

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Running Title: Divergence genetics in depth-separated *Sebastes*

Abstract

Depth separation is a proposed driver of speciation in marine fishes, with marine rockfish (genus *Sebastes*) providing a potentially informative study system. *Sebastes* rockfishes are commercially and ecologically important. This genus encompasses more than one hundred species and the ecological and morphological variance between these species provides opportunity for identifying speciation-driving adaptations, particularly along a depth gradient. A reduced-representation sequencing method (ddRADseq) was used to compare 95 individuals encompassing six *Sebastes* species. In this study, we sought to identify regions of divergence

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30 between species that were indicative of divergent adaptation and reproductive barriers leading to
31 speciation. A pairwise comparison of *S. chrysomelas* (black-and-yellow rockfish) and *S.*
32 *carnatus* (gopher rockfish) F_{ST} values revealed three major regions of elevated genomic
33 divergence, two of which were also present in the *S. miniatus* (vermilion rockfish) and *S.*
34 *crocotulus* (sunset rockfish) comparison. These corresponded with regions of both elevated D_{XY}
35 values and reduced nucleotide diversity in two cases, suggesting a speciation-with-gene-flow
36 evolutionary model followed by post-speciation selective sweeps within each species. Limited
37 whole genome re-sequencing was also performed to identify mutations with predicted effects
38 between *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus*. Within these islands, we identified important SNPs in
39 genes involved in immune function and vision. This supports their potential role in speciation, as
40 these are adaptive vectors noted in other organisms. Additionally, changes to genes involved in
41 pigment expression and mate recognition shed light on how *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* may
42 have become reproductively isolated.

43

44 **Key words:** genomic islands of divergence, depth separation, speciation, *Sebastes*

45 **Introduction**

46 During allopatric speciation, genomes diverge over time by mutation, genetic drift, and natural
47 selection (Via and West 2008; Via 2009). By contrast, speciation-with-gene-flow is theorized to
48 occur based on differences in niche exploitation, where species diverge based on macro habitats
49 or environmental gradients (β -niches), or due to micro-level relationships involving partitioned
50 resources such as food (α -niches; Ingram, 2011). Speciation-with-gene-flow may involve
51 primary or secondary contact, which can alter genome structure and influence factors such as
52 genome hitchhiking (Nosil & Feder, 2012). Genomic islands of divergence, which are regions of
53 the genome that are diverged between species, may form and contain genes that are important to
54 speciation (Turner et al., 2005; Nosil et al., 2009). Many studies have identified genomic islands
55 of divergence in species comparisons (Han et al., 2017; Hess et al., 2020; Hohenlohe et al.,
56 2010).

57 Islands of divergence may be characterized by elevated relative divergence measures
58 such as fixation indexes (F_{ST}) flanked by regions of lower F_{ST} . However, re-examination of
59 several studies showed that calculating absolute divergence measures not impacted by
60 intraspecific variation, such as D_{XY} , at these elevated regions is critical to determining whether

61 regions arose pre- or post-speciation, as F_{ST} can be influenced by intraspecific variation
62 (Cruickshank & Hahn, 2014; Nei, 1987). Genomic islands of divergence that arise pre-speciation
63 should exhibit high absolute and relative measures of divergence concurrently, while
64 surrounding loci remain homogenized as a result of gene flow. Lower nucleotide diversity within
65 these islands and between species would suggest continued selection or recent selective sweeps
66 (Cruickshank & Hahn, 2014; Han et al., 2017).

67 Multiple models attempt to predict the conditions that form genomic islands of
68 divergence. Divergent natural selection resulting in reduced gene flow was initially favored (Wu,
69 2001), however divergence with gene flow via divergence hitchhiking (Feder & Nosil, 2010;
70 Via, 2009, 2012; Via & West, 2008) and other causes occurring in the absence of gene flow such
71 as resistance to introgression in these islands (Nosil & Feder, 2012) have offered alternate
72 explanations (Cruickshank & Hahn, 2014). Four non-exclusive paths to islands of divergence
73 have been proposed: differential gene flow between loci, lineage sorting of ancestral
74 polymorphisms, adaptation without differential gene flow, and the effects of divergence
75 hitchhiking and background selection (Han et al., 2017). Modeling has found that formation of
76 genomic islands of divergence relies on multiple interacting factors such as gene flow, divergent
77 selection, linkage, drift, and time since divergence (Quilodr an et al., 2020). Differential gene
78 flow is not necessary for these regions to arise; however, limited gene flow can extend the
79 number of generations that the region persists, as increasing gene flow is predicted to be
80 correlated with decreasing instances of genomic islands (Quilodr an et al., 2020). Often, genomic
81 islands are eliminated over time by consistently elevated genome-wide divergence and are more
82 apparent during earlier periods of divergence (Quilodr an et al., 2020). Due to this, speciation-
83 with-gene-flow is easier to identify in younger or slowly diverging species and harder to
84 characterize in later stage speciation (Ravinet et al., 2018).

85 Depth separation is a recognized driver of speciation in marine fishes, including species
86 in the genus *Sebastes* (Ingram, 2011; Sivasundar & Palumbi, 2010; Shum et al., 2014). *Sebastes*
87 features cases of likely parapatric speciation between species at similar latitudes based on α -
88 niche diversity involving divergence along a depth gradient (Hyde & Vetter, 2007; Ingram,
89 2011; Stef ansson et al., 2009). For example, *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus* are sister species
90 strongly separated by depth, where adult *S. miniatus* are found mainly in shallower depths
91 (<100m) and *S. crocotulus* at >100m (Hyde et al., 2008). Associations have been drawn between

92 the *rhodopsin* gene, which produces an extremely light-sensitive retinal pigment, and depth
93 preference in North Pacific *Sebastes* species (Shum et al., 2014). North Atlantic *Sebastes* species
94 share the same amino acid changes in the *rhodopsin* gene. These results are potentially indicative
95 of adaptation based on divergent environmental conditions as a result of positive selection
96 (Sivasundar & Palumbi, 2010; Shum et al., 2014). An analysis comparing *Sebastes* RNA-seq
97 data found that the hemoglobin subunit alpha gene (*HBA2*) is under strong positive selection
98 associated with species living at different depths (Heras & Aguilar, 2019). The association of
99 hemoglobin with depth lends additional credibility to the role of depth in species diversification
100 due to the variation in oxygen levels based on depth. Additionally, two immune-related genes, *E-*
101 *D α chain (HA21)* and *membrane cofactor protein (CD46)*, were under positive selection,
102 implicating a role of immune genes in depth-based speciation (Heras & Aguilar, 2019).

103 *Sebastes* are commercially and ecologically important, with approximately 110 known
104 species. Extensive variability among species, a broad range of divergence times, and cases of
105 potential divergence with gene flow provide an opportunity to investigate islands of genomic
106 divergence related to speciation (Hyde & Vetter, 2007). Rockfishes in the Northeastern Pacific
107 are found from intertidal ocean waters to depths greater than 1500m in almost every habitat type
108 from Mexico to Alaska (Love et al. 2002). Worldwide speciation mechanisms in rockfishes have
109 likely involved a variety of evolutionary processes, such as rare long-distance migrations
110 followed by geographic isolation (Love et al. 2002; Hyde and Vetter 2007). In ecological
111 speciation, prezygotic differentiation may be facilitated in *Sebastes* as a result of their internal
112 fertilization strategy, which provides the opportunity for mate choice, courtship rituals, and
113 assortative mating.

114 Several incipient sister species have recently been discovered within the genus, where the
115 species occupy overlapping ranges and are morphologically similar, with only slight differences
116 in habitat preference (Narum et al. 2004; Hyde and Vetter 2007; Hyde et al. 2008) or latitudinal
117 occurrence (Burford & Bernardi, 2008). The genetic mechanism of speciation in these sister
118 species is unknown, although truncation in ontogenetic migration from shallow juvenile
119 settlement to deep adult habitat may have been important in developing a genetic basis for niche
120 preference for *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus* (Hyde et al. 2008). In *S. chrysomelas* and *S.*
121 *carnatus*, depth segregation is initiated by preferential settlement of larvae at different depths and
122 reinforced through intense interspecific defense of highly contested territories (Larson, 1980).

123 The *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* pair was shown to have an exceptionally low background
124 allele frequency divergence (F_{ST}) and some evidence of recent introgressive hybridization
125 (Buonaccorsi et al., 2011; Narum et al., 2004). Additionally, a diverged microsatellite region was
126 characterized between them. These studies suggest that with the recent high-quality assembly of
127 the Korean rockfish/black rockfish *Sebastes schlegelii* genome as a reference, there is potential
128 to achieve high resolution of regions of divergence in sister rockfishes (He et al., 2019).

129 In this study, we aim to use the phylogenetic replication offered within the genus
130 *Sebastes* to examine the genomic architecture of depth-related speciation and identify functional
131 variants in regions implicated in the speciation event. Three species pairs were selected for this
132 study, *S. chrysomelas* (black-and-yellow rockfish) and *S. carnatus* (gopher rockfish), *S. miniatus*
133 (vermilion rockfish) and *S. crocotulus* (sunset rockfish), and *S. mentella* (deep-water redfish) and
134 *S. alutus* (Pacific Ocean perch). *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* are depth separated, are the most
135 recently diverged rockfishes (~0.5 MYA; Hyde and Vetter 2007), and have broadly overlapping
136 latitudinal ranges. *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus* are less recently diverged (~2.3 MYA; Hyde and
137 Vetter 2007) depth-segregated species. *S. mentella* and *S. alutus* inhabit the North Atlantic and
138 North Pacific respectively. Invasion and subsequent allopatry of Atlantic from Pacific taxa are
139 hypothesized to have occurred 4.8-5.5 MYA with the opening of the Bering Strait (Marincovich
140 & Galdenkov, 2001), after which speciation presumably occurred allopatrically. This example of
141 ancient and allopatric divergence will provide context for divergence patterns in the focal
142 comparisons. We first used ddRADseq (Peterson et al., 2012) data to test whether individuals of
143 *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus* showed evidence of recently mixed ancestry as was noted between
144 *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* previously (Buonaccorsi et al. 2011). We then identified regions
145 of divergence between paired species that were indicative of reproductive barriers leading to
146 speciation. Furthermore, we performed whole genome resequencing of a single individual each
147 from *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* to help eliminate genes with no inter-specific variation as
148 candidates for selection, and to identify possible target genes containing SNPs with functional
149 effects. Under ecological speciation, we expected a combination of genes primarily involved in
150 pre-zygotic reproductive barriers including resource partitioning, habitat preference, and mate
151 recognition system, from a small number of large (>1Mbp) divergence islands. While reduced
152 recombination associated with a centromere, sex chromosome, or inversion may facilitate
153 combinations of genes evolving in linkage disequilibrium, in the model of ecological speciation,

154 they aren't necessary. The identification of these regions will be key to understanding the genes
155 underlying speciation in *Sebastes*. It may also provide insight into how sympatric marine fish
156 species diverge in general, a long-standing question due to the lack of geographical barriers in
157 marine environments.

158 **Methods**

159 *Sampling*

160 Samples of *S. carnatus* ($N = 20$) and *S. chrysomelas* ($N = 20$) used in the present study were
161 collected from the Southern California Bight and previously reported in Buonaccorsi et al.
162 (2011). *S. miniatus* ($N = 15$) and *S. crocotulus* ($N = 16$) individuals were available from Hyde
163 (2008). *S. mentella* ($N = 8$) and *S. alutus* ($N = 16$) individuals were additionally available from
164 NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center collections for a total of 95 samples.

165 *Library Prep and Sequencing*

166 Double-digest restriction associated digestion and sequencing of genomic DNA was performed
167 (ddRADseq; Peterson et al. 2012). Genomic DNA from each individual was cut with a rare
168 cutting (6 bp; e.g. *SphI*) enzyme and a frequent cutting enzyme (4 bp; *MluCI*), following
169 manufacturer's protocols and libraries were constructed at Indiana University (IU), following
170 Peterson et al. (2012). Sixteen internal barcodes and six indices were used. The Qubit 2.0 high
171 sensitivity DNA assay (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) was used for double-stranded DNA
172 quantification and the IU genome core used gel electrophoresis for fragment size extraction with
173 an average insert size of 300bp. The library was then subject to a single lane of 2x100bp paired-
174 end Illumina sequencing on a HiSeq 2000. To obtain more exhaustive SNP information from two
175 target species, genomic DNA from a single individual each of *S. carnatus* (GW23) and *S.*
176 *chrysomelas* (GW1) were sequenced using a single lane of 75BP single-end reads from a high-
177 output Illumina NextSeq protocol from IU. Genomic DNA was prepared using Bio Rapid DNA
178 libraries.

179 *Bioinformatic Analysis*

180 The STACKS v2.52 ref_map.pl pipeline (Catchen et al., 2013) was used to process the
181 data and generate population statistics. Raw data were demultiplexed using default settings of the
182 STACKS v1.36 process_radtags script. Reads were aligned to the *S. schlegelii* genome using
183 BOWTIE2 (Langmead & Salzberg, 2013) at default settings, and then were filtered with
184 SAMTOOLS (Li et al., 2009) to remove reads that may have aligned to multiple locations

185 (mapping quality score less than ten). Construction of the STACKS catalog, SNP calling, and
186 genotype construction was performed using the `ref_map.pl` pipeline at default settings. The
187 populations sub-pipeline of STACKS v2.52 was run with all six species included in analysis,
188 with the following optional flags: F_{ST} calculations enabled for pairwise comparison, minimum
189 percentage of individuals in a population (i.e., species) required to process a locus (0.5),
190 minimum number of populations a locus must be present in to process a locus (2), minimum
191 minor allele frequency (0.05), and maximum heterozygosity (0.7). Smoothing was enabled and
192 bootstrap resampling for smoothed statistics was set to 1000 reps. Plots were generated using the
193 R packages tidyverse (R Core Development Team, 2019; Wickham et al., 2019) and qqman
194 (Turner, 2018). Loci were assessed for deviations from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium within
195 species using the probability test of GENEPOP v4.4.3. Loci were filtered for sites in Hardy-
196 Weinberg disequilibrium within a species (F_{ST} and D_{XY} by site, π by locus, $p < 0.001$). Loci
197 were also assessed for genotypic association with sequencing library pools within species using
198 the exact test of GENEPOP v4.4.3 and removed if $p < 0.001$. Nucleotide diversity was based on
199 individual sites that were variable in at least one species in a species pair (Nei and Li 1979). In
200 order to determine if the sex-determining region was involved in species divergence, the
201 previously characterized y-specific loci from Fowler & Buonaccorsi (2016) were located in the
202 *S. schlegelii* reference genome using blastn. Blastn was also used to align the *Sra.7-2*
203 microsatellite region previously identified as an F_{ST} divergence island by Buonaccorsi et al.
204 (2011) against the *S. schlegelii* genome assembly (e-value = $1e^{-6}$, max target sequences = 1).

205 The program STRUCTURE (Pritchard et al. 2000) was used to evaluate whether there
206 was evidence of recent hybridization between *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus*. For this analysis,
207 one SNP each from the first 30 loci that had a minor allele frequency of at least 0.1 in at least one
208 species, and no more than 10% missing data in either species were used. STRUCTURE was run
209 with two assumed populations, the admixture and correlated allele frequency model, 200,000
210 burn-in steps and 1,000,000 repetitions of the Markov Chains, alpha inferred, and without using
211 prior information on species of origin. Six iterations were run and processed using CLUMPAK
212 (Kopelman et al. 2015) to visualize results over all runs.

213 We explored peaks of genomic divergence and diversity in order to better understand
214 speciation mechanisms. To define peaks, we used a sliding 500 KBp window to calculate ZF_{ST}
215 (standardized F_{ST}) values following Han et al. (2017). The mean F_{ST} was taken from SNPs in the

216 window, subtracted from the mean of the whole chromosome, and divided by the standard
217 deviation of the whole chromosome. Values greater than four standard deviations from the mean
218 were considered outliers, corresponding to the 99.3% percentile of mean F_{ST} values from
219 windows for all the comparisons. Window size of 500 KBp was chosen to ensure that a
220 substantial number of SNPs were covered (~ 20) in most windows. Intervals with fewer than
221 three SNPs were not considered in ZF_{ST} calculation due to low precision. Adjacent significant
222 windows were merged. Significance of D_{XY} was then assessed for the ZF_{ST} intervals using Monte
223 Carlo simulations to assess whether ZF_{ST} peaks had greater D_{XY} values (1-tailed test) than the
224 chromosome background D_{XY} level (Manly, 2006). Genome-wide patterns of D_{XY} were
225 examined as well. Significance of nucleotide diversity (π) values was then assessed for the ZF_{ST}
226 intervals using Monte Carlo simulations to assess whether peaks values differed (in either
227 direction) from chromosome background level. Paired t-tests were performed to determine if
228 paired species differed in diversity for peak or background regions. To determine if any
229 polymorphisms were shared between the relatively shallow-water species (*S. chrysomelas* and *S.*
230 *miniatus*), or between deep-water species (*S. crocotulus* and *S. carnatus*), corresponding pairwise
231 comparisons of ZF_{ST} were calculated and examined for negative outliers.

232 For exhaustive SNP identification in regions of interest, single individuals from *S.*
233 *chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* were aligned against the *S. schlegelii* reference genome using
234 BOWTIE2 (Langmead & Salzberg, 2013) at default settings. They were then filtered with
235 SAMTOOLS (Li et al., 2009) to remove reads with a mapping quality score less than ten.
236 SAMTOOLS was used to convert bam files to mpileup format. VarScan2 (Koboldt et al., 2012)
237 was used to call both SNPs and indels ($p < 0.01$). The variant effect predictor SNPEFF was used
238 to predict function of SNPs using the *S. schlegelii* genome and annotation as reference
239 (Cingolani et al., 2012). The Unix tool GREP was used to pull SNPs from the diverged regions
240 for high or moderate effects and that were homozygous and different between *S. chrysomelas*
241 and *S. carnatus*. This involved identifying cases where SNPs in one species matched the
242 reference while the other had the alternate allele, or where SNPs in both species of interest
243 differed from the reference allele and each other. Prediction of functional effects of non-
244 synonymous SNPs was further assessed using SNAP2 (Hecht et al., 2016). Because SNAP2
245 functional predictions are based on single amino acid substitutions only, we considered genes
246 with multiple amino acid substitutions between the two focal species to be of potential functional

247 importance even if each individual mutation was considered neutral by SNAP2. Substitutions
248 where both focal species differed from the reference but were identical to each other were
249 disregarded. While some SNPs in divergence islands will represent within-species
250 polymorphisms, our approach will capture fixed differences between species. This will filter out
251 most genes in the divergence regions from further consideration. After stringent effect filtering,
252 we then identify for further exploration a finite pool of candidate SNPs that may have important
253 functional differences between species.

254 **Results**

255 An average of 1.41M paired reads were obtained per individual after quality filtering (26.98Gbp
256 total sequence), with an average overall alignment rate of 85% to the *S. schlegelii* genome. A
257 total of 62569 variable sites were found between *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* (*Sch-Sca*), a
258 total of 47500 variable sites between *S. miniatus* and *S. crocotulus* (*Smi-Scr*), and a total of
259 105195 variable sites between *S. alutus* and *S. mentella* (*Sal-Sme*) prior to filtering (Table 1).
260 Filtering for pool bias removed a total of 17 sites for *Sch-Sca*, three for *Smi-Scr*, and three for
261 *Sal-Sme*. Filtering for HW disequilibrium resulted in removal of a total of 1455 sites from *Sch-*
262 *Sca*, 571 from *Smi-Scr*, and 550 from *Sal-Sme*. STRUCTURE results showed evidence for recent
263 introgressive hybridization between *Smi-Scr* in two of the 32 individuals. Individual MY6 was
264 likely an F1 hybrid with mean ancestry to *S. miniatus* at 0.48 (mean 90% credibility interval 0.38
265 to 0.62). VMZ4 was likely a hybrid backcross to *S. crocotulus*, with mean ancestry to *S. miniatus*
266 of 0.186 (mean 90% credibility interval 0.071 to 0.325). The F1 hybrid was removed from
267 further population analysis. Backcrossed individuals were not excluded as they were considered
268 part of the gene pool for their respective (majority) species. Average F_{ST} values for each pair
269 were 0.0248 (*Sch-Sca*), 0.2297 (*Smi-Scr*), and 0.7321 (*Sal-Sme*; Table 1). Overall, average
270 nucleotide diversity was higher in *S. chrysomelas* (0.2549) than *S. carnatus* (0.2505; paired
271 $t_{60,509df} = 8.84$; $p < 2.2e-16$), higher in *S. miniatus* (0.2144) than *S. crocotulus* (0.1837; paired
272 $t_{45,624df} = 22.0$; $p < 2.2e-16$), and higher in *S. alutus* (0.2079) than *S. mentella* (0.0765; paired
273 $t_{48,043df} = 102.6$; $p < 2.2e-16$). Pairwise comparisons of ZF_{ST} between the two shallow-water and
274 two deep-water species did not reveal negative outliers that might indicate shared inter-specific
275 polymorphisms.

276 A number of divergence islands were detected between *Sch-Sca*. ZF_{ST} analysis showed
277 seven significant peaks above four standard deviations (Table 2). The most pronounced

278 divergence peaks were apparent from smoothed F_{ST} graphs and ZF_{ST} analysis on chromosomes
279 four, nine, and 13 (Figures 1-3, Figure S1). D_{XY} divergence was also significantly greater than
280 chromosomal background levels for only these three ZF_{ST} peaks of the seven (Table 2). Adjacent
281 significant windows were merged so peak sizes were 1.5 M, 0.5 Mbp and 2.5 Mbp for
282 chromosomes four, nine, and 13, respectively (Table 2). D_{XY} values similarly transformed to a
283 ZD_{XY} scale showed no outliers in any species comparison (Figure S2). Nucleotide diversity was
284 lower in *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* for ZF_{ST} peaks than chromosomal background for
285 chromosomes four and nine. For chromosome 13, diversity was lower than the background in *S.*
286 *chrysomelas* but higher than background in *S. carnatus* (Table 2). In comparisons between
287 species, nucleotide diversity was also lower in *S. chrysomelas* than *S. carnatus* for each ZF_{ST}
288 peak (significant at chromosomes nine and 13) notwithstanding that chromosome background
289 diversity was higher in *S. chrysomelas* (Table 2).

290 The ZF_{ST} peaks with significant D_{XY} between *Sch-Sca* were also examined between *Smi-*
291 *Scr*. For the peaks at chromosomes four and 13, smoothed F_{ST} and ZF_{ST} analysis also showed
292 peaks between *Smi-Scr*, but these were not significant for ZF_{ST} or D_{XY} . Diversity at peaks for
293 chromosomes four and 13 in *Smi-Scr* were lower than chromosomal background and did not
294 differ between species (Table 2). The previously characterized *Sra.7-2* microsatellite region from
295 the *Sch-Sca* study (Buonaccorsi et al., 2011) was identified within the central peak of the
296 smoothed F_{ST} defined divergence region on chromosome nine (9711013-9711162 bp). The sex-
297 determining regions from Fowler & Buonaccorsi (2016) were found via BLAST to have multiple
298 radtag hits against chromosome 17 (6958394-7237580 and 22513546-30244549 bp).

299 Six significant ZF_{ST} peaks were detected for the *Smi-Scr* comparison and none between
300 *Sal-Sme*. Of the six ZF_{ST} peaks between *Smi-Scr*, two had significant D_{XY} divergence compared
301 to background, and one overlapped the chromosome 13 peak observed for *Sch-Sca* (Table S1).
302 The chromosome four peak was also visible in both ZF_{ST} and smoothed F_{ST} graphs between *Smi-*
303 *Scr*, but was not significant (Figure 2, Figure S1). Diversity did not differ between peaks and
304 background for any peak, and diversity did not differ between species for peak regions (Table
305 S1). No distinct ZF_{ST} peaks of divergence were evident in the *Sal-Sme* comparison (Figure S1,
306 Figure 3).

307 Divergence islands did not have a higher relative gene density than background levels,
308 nor were they larger or more numerous in the most anciently diverged species pair. For the *Sca-*

309 *Sch* comparison there were three F_{ST}/D_{XY} islands with a mean size of 1.5Mbp, representing
310 0.56% of the genome. Islands contained only 0.43% of genes, which was lower than the average
311 gene density (X^2 GOF test; $P = 0.0019$). For the *Smi-Scr* comparison there were three significant
312 F_{ST}/D_{XY} islands with mean size of 0.667 Mbp, representing 0.25% of genome and 0.2% of
313 genes. This gene density was not different from expected (X^2 GOF test; $P = 0.07$).

314 Three high effect SNPs and 36 moderate effect SNPs and indels in 22 genes were
315 identified across all three *Sch-Sca* divergence regions and were 1) homozygous in both species
316 and 2) different between *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus*. From the location of these SNPs, genes
317 of interest were identified. Seven genes had SNAP2 predicted effects. Two genes had start or
318 stop loss mutations (*igsf11* and an unidentified locus), and an additional two had frameshift
319 (*CYP2F2*) or in-frame deletion mutations (*peroxisome assembly protein 12*; Table 3). These
320 genes were further examined for potential involvement in speciation based on function as
321 described in the literature (Table 4). Two genes that had SNPs of biochemical significance but
322 that failed to analyze in SNAP2 were *ryanodine receptor 2* (*RYR2*, Val2728Ala) and *pecanex-*
323 *like protein 3* (*PCNX3*, Ile200Thr). The effect of this amino acid change on *RYR2* is likely
324 neutral as both amino acids are non-polar, however the effect on *PCNX3* cannot be determined
325 with the available data.

326 **Discussion**

327 *Divergence Regions*

328 The aim of this study was to identify genomic islands of divergence in depth-separated *Sebastes*
329 species pairs, infer evolutionary models of divergence, and characterize functional variation in
330 those regions. We present genes that may play a role in speciation or adaptation, as well as
331 address the absence of genes implicated in depth-related divergence from other rockfishes,
332 *rhodopsin* and *HBA2*, in our genomic islands of divergence. Our data reflected the expected
333 relative degrees of baseline divergence between species pairs based on previous phylogeny
334 (Hyde & Vetter, 2007). For the *Sch-Sca* comparison, major trends from Buonaccorsi et al. (2011)
335 were reinforced, including low overall divergence, existence of genomic islands of high F_{ST}
336 values, and lower diversity within divergence islands, in particular within *S. chrysomelas*.
337 Furthermore, our findings are largely concordant with the theory that divergence islands reflect a
338 speciation-level event followed by recurrent selection, and that gene flow between species varies
339 among regions of the genome.

340 In the *Sch-Sca* comparison, three significant divergence regions were identified and
341 supported by both ZF_{ST} and D_{XY} analyses, consistent with divergence in those regions dating to
342 the speciation event. The regions on chromosomes four and 13 corresponded with two evident
343 divergence regions in the *Smi-Scr* comparison, one of which made the four-standard deviation
344 ZF_{ST} cutoff and the D_{XY} cutoff. This suggests that these regions may play a role in depth-based
345 divergence as they are differentiated between two species pairs that are depth-separated. It is also
346 possible that a common mate recognition mechanism is supported in the region. A common
347 region of genomic divergence providing a mechanism for variation in plumage coloration was
348 detected between pairs of warblers and within a species of finch (Kim et al., 2019). Other
349 examples of parallel evolution have been detected. For example, Ravinet et al. (2021) described
350 parallel introgression genomic sites between two species of stickleback in two different regions
351 of the species range that were associated with three QTLs conveying heterozygote advantage for
352 juvenile survival. Together with our findings, it may be common for certain regions of the
353 genome to have broad evolutionary consequences for different taxa. Two other divergence
354 islands in the *Smi-Scr* comparison were also significant at both ZF_{ST} and D_{XY} cutoffs.
355 Divergence was high between *Sal-Sme*, species that likely diverged allopatrically and did not
356 show signs of divergence islands.

357 Elevated F_{ST} and D_{XY} at the identified regions for both depth-segregated species pairs
358 suggests that these genomic islands of divergence may be the result of either reduced gene flow
359 at certain regions of the genome during speciation, or lineage sorting of ancient, diverged
360 haplotypes (Ma et al., 2017; Han et al., 2017). The high divergence at these islands has
361 developed despite evidence of recent introgressive gene flow detected between *Smi-Scr* (this
362 study) and between *Sch-Sca* species pairs (Buonaccorsi et al. 2011), reinforcing the notion of
363 reduced effective gene flow at divergence islands. Inter-specific gene combinations at divergence
364 islands must be selected against in order for us to observe nearly fixed differences at some
365 locations despite ongoing gene flow between species. Based on this evidence, in addition to F_{ST}
366 and D_{XY} divergence, we suggest that a speciation-with-gene-flow evolutionary model is more
367 likely than a model of solely post-speciation selective sweeps in these species (Ma et al., 2017;
368 Han et al., 2017).

369 In the three peak regions between *Sch-Sca*, nucleotide diversity was low compared to
370 background. This implicates the influence of post-speciation selection such as selective sweeps

371 and recurrent selection based on variation in these regions for *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus*.
372 Between species, *S. carnatus* displayed higher diversity in the peak regions than *S. chrysomelas*,
373 notwithstanding that genomic average diversity was slightly higher in *S. chrysomelas*. This
374 suggests that selective pressures in the region may have continued to act in *S. chrysomelas* after
375 speciation in a stronger way than *S. carnatus*, more intensely reducing the effective population
376 size of that region. In our study, four of seven ZF_{ST} peaks between *Sch-Sca* also did not have
377 higher D_{XY} and thus more likely represented the results of post-speciation selection, although
378 nucleotide diversity did not differ from background or between species consistently. Peaks in
379 chromosomes four and 13 in *Smi-Scr* showed lower diversity than background when defined
380 using the ZF_{ST} peak coordinates from *Sch-Sca*. Since there was additional evidence of elevated
381 D_{XY} divergence for the chromosome 13 peak between *Smi-Scr* ($p < 0.1$), this region was likely
382 important for speciation of both species pairs, suggesting common mechanisms. Either a
383 common genomic feature (e.g., region of low recombination) and/or a common genetic
384 mechanism underlying the organism's response to environmental or evolutionary challenges is
385 implicated.

386 *Candidate Genes For Adaptation Or Speciation*

387 Here we suggest hypotheses for potential roles of genes of interest in adaptation or speciation.
388 Ion transport differences between *Sch-Sca* may be related to fine tuning of the mate recognition
389 system. Rockfish are internal fertilizers and exhibit male courtship display before copulation.
390 Male rockfish are known to urinate near female's snouts before mating in some species, and this
391 is thought to send a message to females that makes coupling more probable (Helvey, 1982;
392 Shinomiya & Ezaki, 1991). Male blue rockfish (*S. mystinus*) were also shown to have larger
393 urinary bladders than females (Helvey, 1982). Here, a nonsynonymous substitution I297V in
394 *Ssc_10012345* of predicted moderate effect between *Sch-Sca* was identified as in *OAT1* (Table
395 4). This study raises the possibility of a non-olfactory receptor mechanism for generating and
396 detecting species-specific odorants, thereby facilitating mate recognition. A "remote sensing
397 hypothesis" has suggested that *OATs* are involved in non-olfactory receptor inter-organismal
398 communication (Nigam, 2018; Nigam et al., 2015; Wu et al., 2011). *OAT* expression is also
399 regulated by sex hormones, and sex-specific expression patterns have been detected (Ljubojević
400 et al., 2004). Further, the *OAT* gene family is found clustered in the genomes of humans and

401 rodents, as well as in *S. schlegelii*, indicating that other polymorphisms in this region may also
402 play a role in species divergence.

403 *Odc1* (Table 4) features two SNPs predicted as moderate effect by SnpEff and neutral by
404 SNAP2. This gene is potentially important for species-specific ability to adapt vision to varying
405 light amounts and wavelengths. *Igsf11* (Table 4), involved in pigmentation, has a high effect
406 (start codon loss) and a second SNP predicted as moderate effect by SnpEff and neutral by
407 SNAP2. As depth increases, available light decreases and the wavelength of light able to
408 penetrate becomes shorter (Smyth, 2011). Adaptations for color vision based on niche depth and
409 water clarity have been noted extensively in cichlids as a result of changes to opsins and opsin
410 expression (Carleton & Kocher, 2001; Carleton & Yourick, 2020; Dalton et al., 2015). *S.*
411 *chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* are morphologically similar except for distinct color patterns (e.g.,
412 Orr et al., 2000; Orr and Blackburn, 2004) so vision-related adaptations may be essential to
413 reproduction and color assortative mate-selection (Elmer et al., 2009). While the *odc1* gene is not
414 noted in the well-documented role of opsins in color and light adaptations, we hypothesize that
415 its function in photoreceptor development may contribute to the underlying pathway and
416 warrants further investigation. Changes to pigmentation in combination with potential visual
417 tuning may be a mechanism for reproductive isolation (RI) in *Sebastes*.

418 *NLRP12* (Table 4), an immune-related gene, featured four SNPS called as moderate
419 effect by SnpEff, one of which was also determined to have an effect by SNAP2. A
420 transcriptomic survey of adaptive evolution associated with depth and age found the immune-
421 related genes *HA21* and *CD46* to be under positive selection in *Sebastes* inhabiting different
422 depths (Heras & Aguilar, 2019). Environmental temperature has been noted to impact immune
423 response in fish, as immune system response can become adapted to specific temperatures
424 depending on when immunological memory is established (Le Morvan et al., 1998). Interactions
425 between host and pathogen are impacted by environmental temperature and in marine
426 environments, changes in temperature can increase pathogen virulence and range, as well as
427 induce stress in the host organism (Cohen et al., 2018). It is possible that these genes are
428 differentiated between *Sch-Sca* due to differences in temperature or variance in pathogen identity
429 and density in their depth ranges, leading to necessary immune adaptation by the organism.

430 Several genes have more uncertain roles in adaptation or speciation, so while they
431 featured functional SNPs, we will not provide hypotheses for them. *PHLDB2* (Table 4)

432 contained four SNPs predicted as moderate effect by SnpEff and neutral by SNAP2. In the Heras
433 & Aguilar (2019) study, pleckstrin homology domain was an enriched functional gene cluster in
434 both the age and age/depth overlap analyses. Currently, it is unclear how this gene plays a role in
435 depth-based adaptation, but its occurrence in two studies warrants further investigation.

436 Some genes that have been identified as important to divergence of rockfishes in previous
437 studies were not detected in the three focal divergence islands between *Sch-Sca*. The *rhodopsin*
438 gene from Sivasundar & Palumbi (2010) was not identified in the divergence regions in our
439 study. This is likely due to minimal divergence at this gene between *Sch-Sca*, which were
440 grouped into the same clade based on the *rhodopsin* gene (Sivasundar & Palumbi 2010). We also
441 did not observe the *HBA2* gene from Heras & Aguilar (2019). It is possible that the *HBA2* gene
442 was in a divergence island too small to be detected given the resolution of ddRADseq. However,
443 there may also be no significant divergence of the *HBA2* gene between these two species due to
444 lack of sufficient difference in depth to drive selection on this gene.

445 *Paths To Speciation*

446 Models of speciation with gene flow have proposed general patterns of divergence between
447 species pairs. Feder et al. (2012) proposed four phases of species divergence. The *Sca-Sch*
448 species pair would likely be in phase 2, divergence hitchhiking (DH), characterized by new
449 mutations that begin to diverge surrounding the locus of direct selection. The *Smi-Scr* pair would
450 likely be phase 3, genomic hitchhiking, characterized by a rise in background divergence level
451 and multiple loci under divergent selection. Finally, *Sal-Sme* would be more likely to be in phase
452 3 or phase 4, post speciation divergence, where introgression is unfavored altogether and
453 divergence becomes widespread. Many cases of heterogeneous gene flow among different
454 genomic sites in species pairs with intermediate levels of divergence have been documented
455 (Roux et al. 2016). A newer model of speciation focuses on the degree to which species are
456 reproductively isolated along a continuum (Stankowski and Ravinet, 2021). While the present
457 study was not focused on quantifying the strength of barriers to reproduction, for both the *Smi-*
458 *Scr* pair and *Sca-Sch* pair (Buonaccorsi et al., 2011) hybridization still occurs, and F1s were both
459 viable and capable of backcrossing to some extent. This demonstrates that reproductive isolation
460 is not complete for either species pair. Authors have noted that RI is essentially complete in
461 species pairs with at least 2% net nucleotide divergence (Roux et al., 2016). Levels in the species
462 pairs from this study were below 2%, although the *Sal-Sme* comparison was close (at 1.54%).

463 The others were lower (*Smi-Scr* 0.72%; *Sca-Sch* 0.46%), concordant with our observations that
464 RI was not complete for these comparisons. While the *Sal-Sme* pair live in different oceans, the
465 high divergence suggests they are approaching complete RI if they were they to come into
466 contact.

467 Some predictions of the genomic architecture of the divergence hitchhiking model of
468 speciation were not met. Speciation with gene flow may occur more easily if divergence islands
469 were gene-rich, allowing for a greater chance of linked selection on adaptive polymorphisms,
470 and evidence for this pattern has been found (Schreiber and Pfenninger, 2021). However, lack of
471 a higher gene density in divergence islands in the present study points to the importance of the
472 particular genes in the region, rather than an abundance of random evolutionary targets. The fact
473 that the divergence islands were shared among species pairs supports the notion that these certain
474 locations may be particularly significant for speciation. Pre-zygotic isolating mechanisms are
475 expected to evolve more quickly in cases of ecological speciation, and of our candidate genes,
476 *OAT1*, *odc1*, and *igsf11* are likely pre-mating barriers between species due to their anticipated
477 roles in mate recognition. *PEX12* is likely also a pre-mating barrier due to a role in niche
478 exploitation (Table 4). *NRFKB*, *CYP2F2*, *B4galnt2*, and *NLRP12* are likely post-mating/post-
479 zygotic barriers (Table 4).

480 We expected the number and size of divergence islands to be greater in the species pair
481 with greater divergence time, following the theory of divergence hitchhiking (Feder et al., 2012).
482 While we did not detect that pattern, F_{ST} outliers are statistically harder to detect as background
483 divergence increases, which may have limited resolution. Also, islands may not be in the process
484 of growing, but rather have reached different equilibrium divergence levels reflecting factors
485 specific for the species comparison, like strength of selection, recombination, and gene flow.
486 Alternatively, islands may also be in the process of growing, but the pairs are approaching RI at
487 different rates due to variation in demographic history or environmental challenges.

488 Speciation of marine organisms has been historically difficult to characterize (reviewed
489 in Faria et al., 2021), however, our analysis provides valuable insight into patterns of genomic
490 divergence. In the most recently diverged species *Sca-Sch* (~0.5 MYA; Hyde and Vetter 2007),
491 F_{ST} was low across the genome except for the peaks we note to be potentially involved in
492 divergence. Peak size was consistent with expectations of ecological divergence of a small
493 number of large islands, allowing multiple traits to diverge simultaneously. The evidence for

494 recent gene flow, along with low diversity of some divergence peaks implies their continued
495 importance in maintaining species divergence. By contrast, the less recently diverged *Smi-Scr*
496 (~2.6 MYA; Hyde and Vetter 2007) has higher average F_{ST} and fewer discernible peaks. *Sme-Sal*
497 (~4.8-5 .5MYA; Marinovich & Galdenkov, 2001) has the highest average F_{ST} and no
498 discernible peaks due to high overall divergence and a likely allopatric speciation mechanism.
499 Therefore, there is likely a divergence time at which F_{ST} becomes unusable for this purpose,
500 which is described by Quilodr n et al. (2020) and the difficulty of identifying divergence islands
501 in more diverged species is noted by Ravinet et al. (2018). This study shows how parapatric
502 speciation might arise across a depth gradient and shape the division of marine organisms. Our
503 candidate gene hypotheses provide groundwork for further investigation of depth-separation as a
504 driver of speciation. Previously, metabolic adaptations have been proposed in deep-sea
505 organisms, however adaptations related to mate recognition, vision, and immune response may
506 characterize important facets of differentiation between species (Childress, 1995).

507 *Study Limitations*

508 A limitation of this study is detecting and estimating size of genomic islands due to the
509 resolution of the sequencing technology. Here, with approximately 50,000 SNPs to cover an 800
510 Mbp genome, an average of one SNP per 16,000 bp is obtained. Windows of 500 Kbp would
511 have an average of 31 SNPs if randomly distributed. Larger windows than in some previous
512 studies were used here in order to ensure a minimum sample size to statistically compare mean
513 ZF_{ST} , D_{XY} and P_i values. Another limitation was related to the whole genome sequencing, as
514 only a single individual from each species was used to evaluate SNPs in divergent regions. While
515 we excluded heterozygous SNPs, it is possible that the SNPs we detected are normally
516 segregating polymorphic loci within species rather than divergent between species, and this is
517 impossible to differentiate with our sample size. RADseq, as a reduced representation method
518 does not capture the entire genome, so some loci and smaller regions that are significant to
519 speciation may not have been captured in this study.

520 *Conclusions*

521 This study provides an example of genomic islands of divergence in recently diverged species
522 and contributes to the existing knowledge of depth-driven adaptive evolution in *Sebastes* and
523 other marine fishes. The genomic regions of divergence and the genes within them present a
524 convincing argument for speciation as a result of depth separation, which may be applicable to a

525 broader range of marine organisms. These distinct islands represent in-depth insight into a recent
526 speciation event, prior to genome-wide divergence rendering them undetectable over time. While
527 it is not possible to completely elucidate the cause of divergence islands in these species, gene
528 flow noted between *Sca-Sch* supports the hypothesis modeled by Quilodrán et al. (2020) that low
529 gene flow between diverging populations may extend how long divergence islands persist. This
530 provides insight for other studies examining similar species, where RI is not complete. *Smi-Scr*
531 and *Sal-Sme* provide context for the potential future landscape of the *Sch-Sca* genomes as the
532 species become more diverged. Within the islands, we identified genes involved in immune
533 function and vision featuring significant SNPs. This supports their potential role in speciation, as
534 these are adaptive vectors noted in other organisms. Additionally, changes to genes involved in
535 pigment expression and mate recognition shed light on how *S. chrysomelas* and *S. carnatus* may
536 have become reproductively isolated. Whole genome re-sequencing on additional *S. chrysomelas*
537 and *S. carnatus* individuals would help validate that SNPs were not within-species
538 polymorphisms. RNAseq gene expression studies and functional molecular studies such as
539 CRISPR modification of the genes containing interesting SNPs would provide insight into the
540 role of these potentially adaptive genes and those whose function is unknown. In summary, the
541 presence of divergence islands and the genes they contain provide insight into the speciation
542 process of organisms.

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801 **Data Accessibility**

802 The raw sequences are available in the NCBI Short Read Archive (NCBI project PRJNA307574)
803 and STACKS output files are available in Dryad ([doi:10.5061/dryad.c866t1g6z](https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.c866t1g6z)).

804

805 **Author Contributions**

806 J.H. collected samples, V.P.B. and A.S. designed the research, K.A.B., V.P.B., and Q.L.G
807 performed analyses, and all authors contributed towards interpreting results and writing the
808 manuscript.

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Tables

Table 1. Summary of mean F_{st} , D_{xy} , variable sites, and unique loci for species pairs based on *Stacks* generated population statistics. HWE and pool bias filtering (p-value < 0.001), means are for HWE/pool bias filtered data, standard error in parentheses.

	chrysomelas/carnatus	miniatus/crocotulus	mentella/alutus
Total variable sites prior to filtering	62569	47500	105195
Total unique loci prior to filtering	40153	32052	54712
Variable sites where $F_{st} > 0.75$	49	10	43835
Variable sites in HWE	61309	46929	104748
Unique loci in HWE	39630	31809	54601
Variable sites in HWE where $F_{st} > 0.75$	49	10	43695
Variable sites in HWE where $F_{st} > 0.5$	94	10	104116
Mean F_{st}	0.0248 (0.0002)	0.2746 (0.0004)	0.7321 (0.0003)
Mean D_{xy}	0.00641 (6.6×10^{-6})	0.0080 (8.6×10^{-6})	0.01691 (1.1×10^{-5})

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Table 2. Analysis of genomic divergence islands within *S. carnatus* and *S. chrysomelas* defined using ZFST methodology. Columns include species or species comparison (Sca = *S. carnatus*, Sch = *S. chrysomelas*, Smi = *S. miniatus*, Scr = *S. crocotulus*), chromosome (Chr), starting and ending coordinates, statistic being compared (Pi = nucleotide sequence diversity), mean value of the statistic for the peak or background levels (or for species for pi comparisons), p-value, and sample sizes for comparisons.

Spp	Chr	Start	End	Statistic	Mean: peak	Mean: background	P- value	N:peak	N:background
Sch vs Sca	3	3.90E+07	39500000	D_{XY}	0.0071	0.0069	0.4118	8	1612
Sch vs Sca	4	18500000	2.00E+07	D_{XY}	0.0097	0.0072	0.0079	24	1409
Sch vs Sca	6	3.60E+07	36500000	D_{XY}	0.0059	0.0067	0.5176	5	1843
Sch vs Sca	8	3500000	4.00E+06	D_{XY}	0.0060	0.0067	0.5307	8	1812
Sch vs Sca	9	10500000	11000000	D_{XY}	0.0109	0.0065	0.0047	8	1602
Sch vs Sca	13	3.00E+07	3.25E+07	D_{XY}	0.0087	0.0068	0.0134	34	1426
Sch vs Sca	15	1500000	2.00E+06	D_{XY}	0.0098	0.0067	0.0541	6	1598
Smi vs Scr	4	18500000	20000000	D_{XY}	0.0090	0.0085	0.3052	36	1222
Smi vs Scr	13	30000000	32500000	D_{XY}	0.0090	0.0082	0.2726	17	1401
Sca	4	18500000	2.00E+07	Pi	0.1358	0.2494	0.0013	26	2335
Sch	4	18500000	2.00E+07	Pi	0.0724	0.2530	0.0001	26	2335
Sca	9	10500000	11000000	Pi	0.1745	0.2468	0.0905	11	2493
Sch	9	10500000	11000000	Pi	0.0610	0.2540	0.0042	11	2493
Sca	13	3.00E+07	3.25E+07	Pi	0.3277	0.2495	0.0017	46	2305
Sch	13	3.00E+07	3.25E+07	Pi	0.0791	0.2540	0.0000	46	2305
Smi	4	18500000	20000000	Pi	0.0752	0.2312	0.0010	23	1938
Scr	4	18500000	20000000	Pi	0.1112	0.1848	0.0557	23	1938
Smi	13	30000000	32500000	Pi	0.1501	0.2154	0.0874	20	1766

Scr	13	30000000	32500000	Pi	0.0752	0.1768	0.0288	20	1766
Mean:									
					sca	Mean: sch		N: sca	N: sch
Sca vs Sch:									
Peak	4	18500000	2.00E+07	Pi	0.1358	0.0724	0.1213	26	26
Sca vs Sch:									
Background	4	1	3.90E+07	Pi	0.2494	0.2530	0.1846	2335	2335
Sch vs Sca:									
Peak	9	10500000	11000000	Pi	0.1745	0.0610	0.0058	11	11
Sch vs Sca:									
Background	9	1	35190670	Pi	0.2468	0.2540	0.0081	2493	2493
Sca vs Sch:									
Peak	13	3.00E+07	3.25E+07	Pi	0.3277	0.0791	0.0000	46	46
Sca vs Sch:									
Background	13	1.00E+00	3.23E+07	Pi	0.2495	0.2540	0.0830	2305	2305
Mean:									
					smi	Mean: scr	P-value	N:smi	N: scr
Smi vs Scr:									
Peak	4	18500000	20000000	Pi	0.0752	0.1112	0.4215	23	23
Smi vs Scr:									
Background	4	1	38958735	Pi	0.2312	0.1848	0.0464	1938	1938
Smi vs Scr:									
Peak	13	30000000	32500000	Pi	0.1501	0.0752	0.1574	20	20
Smi vs Scr:									
Background	13	1	3.23E+07	Pi	0.2154	0.1768	0.0000	1766	1766

852 Table 3. Peak variant summary information for *Sch-Sca*. Entries in bold represent individual SNPs or combinations
853 most likely to have an effect.

Gene symbol	Gene name	BlastHit	Scaff old	BP	CDS change	AA change	SNP Eff Type	SNP Effect Prediction	SNAP Effect, Score, Exp Accuracy
Ssc_1001 2318	MAP7 domain-containing protein 2a (MAP7D2A)	XP_037604 095.1	4	18606 476	c.2455C>T	p.Arg819Cys	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 29, 63%
Ssc_1001 2325	pleckstrin homology-like domain family B member	XP_037605 714.1	4	18683 830	c.1801G>A	p.Val601Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -44, 72%

Ssc_1001 2325	pleckstrin homology-like domain family B member 2	XP_037605 714.1	4	18686 254	c.1507A>G	p.Lys503Glu	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -3, 53%
Ssc_1001 2325	pleckstrin homology-like domain family B member 2	XP_037605 714.1	4	18686 304	c.1480C>A	p.Pro494Thr	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -29, 61%
Ssc_1001 2325	pleckstrin homology-like domain family B member 2	XP_037605 714.1	4	18698 151	c.13T>C	p.Phe5Leu	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -29, 61%
Ssc_1001 2333	Ryanodine receptor 1	KAF67289 34.1	4	18845 851	c.505G>A	p.Glu169Lys	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -12, 57%
Ssc_1001 2334	Ryanodine receptor 2	XP_037610 012.1	4	18898 683	c.8183T>C	p.Val2728Ala	Missense_variant	Moderate	NC†
Ssc_1001 2335	nuclear factor related to kappa-B-binding protein NFRKB	XP_037605 694.1	4	18945 673	c.3803C>T	p.Pro1268Leu	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect,55,75%
Ssc_1001 2345	solute carrier family 22 member 6	XP_037604 807.1	4	19264 725	c.889A>G	p.Ile297Val	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -97, 97%
Ssc_1001 2349	neurexin-2-like	XP_037604 828.1	4	19366 254	c.616G>A	p.Gly206Ser	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -70, 82%
Ssc_1001 2351	pecanex-like protein 3	XP_037604 181.1	4	19507 073	c.1199T>C	p.Ile400Thr	Missense_variant	Moderate	NC†
Ssc_1002 0815	immunoglobulin superfamily member 11	XP_037603 604.1	4	19645 230	c.577G>A	p.Glu193Lys	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -75, 87%
Ssc_1002 0815	immunoglobulin superfamily member 11	XP_037603 604.1	4	19648 635	c.1A>G	p.Met1?	Start_lost	High	N/A
Ssc_1002 0814	dihydrolipoyllysine-residue acetyltransferase component of pyruvate dehydrogenase complex, mitochondrial	XP_037604 519.1	4	19663 337	c.34G>T	p.Ala12Ser	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -90, 93%
Ssc_1002 0812	cilia- and flagella-associated protein 54-like	XP_037604 654.1	4	19720 288	c.5957G>A	p.Ser1986Asn	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -91, 97%
Ssc_1002 0812	cilia- and flagella-associated protein 54-like	XP_037604 654.1	4	19733 796	c.3328C>T	p.Leu1110Phe	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -46, 72%
Ssc_1002 0812	cilia- and flagella-associated protein 54-like	XP_037604 654.1	4	19734 571	c.2998G>A	p.Val1000Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, -89, 93%

Ssc_1002 0812	cilia- and flagella-associated protein 54-like	XP_037604 654.1	4	19744 392	c.193A>G	p.Lys65Glu	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 82, 93%
Ssc_1002 0803	reverse transcriptase	AGO18322 .1	4	19817 040	c.958G>A	p.Asp320Asn	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 42, 71%
Ssc_1002 0803	reverse transcriptase	AGO18322. 1	4	19817 058	c.940C>T	p.Arg314*	Stop_gained	High	N/A
Ssc_1002 0803	reverse transcriptase	AGO18322. 1	4	19818 333	c.436C>T	p.Leu146Phe	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 42,72%
Ssc_1002 0801	V-set and immunoglobulin domain-containing protein 10-like 2	XP_037605 109.1	4	19836 828	c.1139C>T	p.Thr380Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 12, 57%
Ssc_1002 0800	uncharacterized protein, ID'd as "HLA" in one species		4	19868 037	c.479A>G	p.Asp160Gly	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 17, 59%
Ssc_1002 0798	inositol polyphosphate 5-phosphatase K	XP_037603 664.1	4	19912 111	c.680G>A	p.Ser227Asn	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 83, 93%
Ssc_1001 5597	cytochrome P450 2F2-like	XP_037612 192.1	9	10810 706	c.1411delT	p.Tyr471fs	Frameshift_variant	High	N/A
Ssc_1000 7501	ornithine decarboxylase-like	XP_037649 018.1	13	30148 084	c.114G>T	p.Glu38Asp	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 84, 93%
Ssc_1000 7501	ornithine decarboxylase-like	XP_037649 018.1	13	30148 701	c.538C>G	p.Leu180Val	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 29, 61%
Ssc_1000 7506	peroxisome assembly protein 12 (PEX12)	XP_037649 027.1	13	30391 708	c.856_861delCA GCAG	p.Gln286_Gln 287del	Conservative_inframe deletion	Moderate	N/A
Ssc_1000 7506	peroxisome assembly protein 12	XP_037649 027.1	13	30391 894	c.676G>A	p.Ala226Thr	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 8, 53%
Ssc_1000 7506	peroxisome assembly protein 12	XP_037649 027.1	13	30393 092	c.601G>A	p.Val201Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 80, 87%
Ssc_1000 7506	peroxisome assembly protein 12	XP_037649 027.1	13	30393 186	c.507G>C	p.Trp169Cys	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 19, 59%
Ssc_1000 7506	peroxisome assembly protein 12	XP_037649 027.1	13	30394 929	c.64G>A	p.Val22Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 23, 61%
Ssc_1000 7508	collagen, type I, alpha 1a	XP_037648 990.1	13	30476 101	c.1976A>G	p.Asn659Ser	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 59, 78%
Ssc_1000 7511	beta-1,4 N-acetylgalactosaminyltransferase 2-like	XP_037649 015.1	13	30608 673	c.1541G>A	p.Gly514Glu	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 31, 66%
Ssc_1000 7512	NACHT, LRR and PYD domains-containing protein 12-	XP_037647 125.1	13	30667 896	c.1729G>A	p.Glu577Lys	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 51, 78%

	like								
Ssc_1000 7512	NACHT, LRR and PYD domains- containing protein 12- like	XP_037647 125.1	13	30667 905	c.1720G>A	p.Asp574Asn	Missense_variant	Moderate	effect, 66, 80%
Ssc_1000 7512	NACHT, LRR and PYD domains- containing protein 12- like	XP_037647 125.1	13	30672 446	c.427G>A	p.Val143Ile	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 37, 66%
Ssc_1000 7512	NACHT, LRR and PYD domains- containing protein 12- like	XP_037647 125.1	13	30672 586	c.287G>A	p.Gly96Asp	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 49, 72%
Ssc_1000 7513	alpha-1,3- galactosyltransferase 2- like	XP_037633 122.1	13	30695 942	c.161T>C	p.Leu54Pro	Missense_variant	Moderate	neutral, - 38, 66%

854 † Not called, SNAP2 unable to process. The amino acid substitution in *pecanex-like protein 3* may be biochemically significant.

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Table 4. Functional information for genes with individual SNPs or combinations most likely to have an effect.

Gene Name	Gene ID	Function
<i>organic anion transporter</i>	<i>OAT1</i> (<i>SLC22a6</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regulates multiple metabolic and signaling pathways (Nigam et al., 2015) expressed primarily in the basolateral membrane of proximal tubule cells in the kidney, facilitates anions crossing membranes (Burckhardt, 2012)
<i>Nuclear factor related to kappa-B-binding protein</i>	<i>NFRKB</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> part of the chromatin remodeling complex INO80, involved in transcriptional regulation, DNA replication, and DNA repair (Conaway & Conaway, 2009, Audard et al., 2012; Nishi, 2015)
<i>peroxisome assembly protein 12</i>	<i>PEX12</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> intermediary lipid metabolism and oxidize long chain fatty acids providing an important energy source (Braverman et al., 2013) produce and break down reactive oxygen species such as H₂O₂, which can serve as a signaling molecule for autophagy or growth at low concentration (Schrader, 2006; reviewed in Dubreuil, 2020) important in peroxisome biogenesis, involved in peroxisome matrix protein import (Okumoto et al.,

		1998)
<i>ornithine decarboxylase-like</i>	<i>odc1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eye development, specifically in the retina and in photoreceptor development (Posner et al. 2019, Houbrechts et al. 2016)
<i>immunoglobulin superfamily member</i>	<i>igsf11</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • domains located in the cell surface that are involved in cell surface recognition and cell adhesion (Aricescu & Jones, 2007; Williams & Barclay, 1988) • expressed in melanophores, adult pigment cells, essential to migration and cell adhesion (Eom et al., 2012)
<i>pleckstrin homology-like domain family B member 2</i>	<i>PHLDB2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • found in enzymes with regulatory functions, pleckstrin homology domains bind proteins and inositolphosphates (Shaw, 1996) • cytoskeletal function and microtubule organization (Hotta et al., 2010; Paronavitane et al., 2003)
<i>cytochrome P450 2F2-like</i>	<i>CYP2F2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oxidative reactions of internal and external-origin chemicals (Goldstone et al., 2010; Zhang et al., 2014) • metabolism of styrene and naphthalene in the lungs to reduce toxicity (Li et al., 2011; Shen et al., 2014)
<i>beta-1,4 N-acetylgalactosaminyltransferase 2-like</i>	<i>B4galnt2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • glycosyltransferase that is related to blood groups and expressed in the gastrointestinal tract, playing a role in host-microbe interactions (Vallier et al., 2017) • influence pathogen resistance, the microbiome in the intestine, and immune responses from the host organism (Rausch et al., 2015)
<i>NACHT, LRR, and PYD domains-containing protein 12-like</i>	<i>NLRP12</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • involved in multiple pathways, including inflammatory and anti-inflammatory functions (Normand et al., 2018) • inhibit inflammation and promote bacterial tolerance (Normand et al., 2018)

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859 **Figure Captions**

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861 Figure 1. Smoothed F_{ST} estimates for each variable site between *S. chrysomelas* vs. *S. carnatus*. A) Manhattan plot

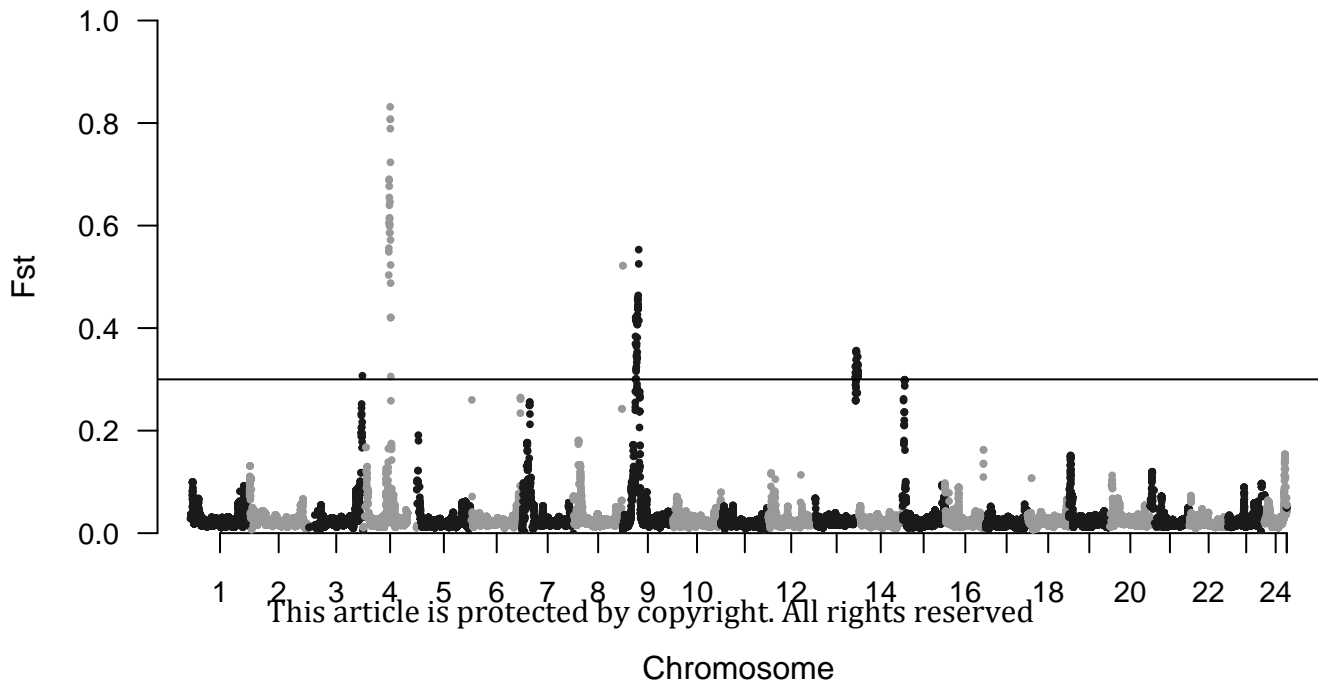
862 of variant sites showing smoothed F_{ST} against chromosome position, alternating black and gray shading
863 distinguishes chromosomes. Line indicates cut-off for peaks. B) Detailed scatterplots of smoothed F_{ST} by base pair
864 position for variant sites on three chromosomes that had regions of elevated F_{ST} .

865

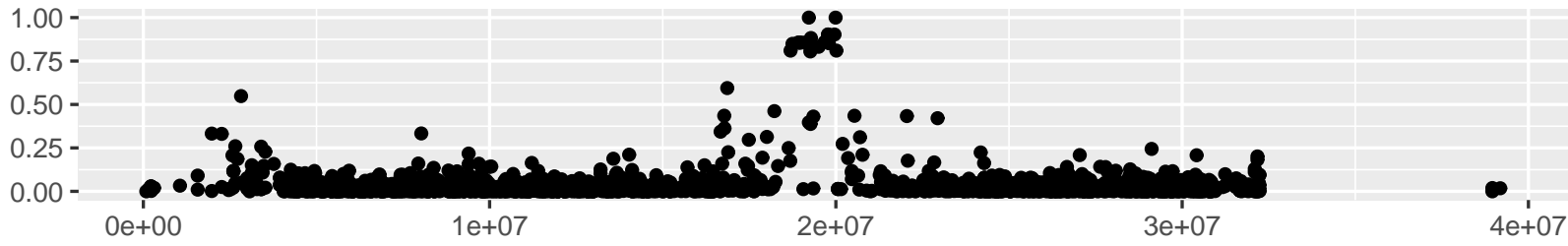
866 Figure 2. Smoothed F_{ST} estimates for each variable site between *S. miniatus* vs. *S. crocotulus*. A) Manhattan plot of
867 variant sites plotted by chromosome on the x-axis and smoothed F_{ST} on the y-axis, alternating black and gray
868 shading distinguishes chromosomes. B) Detailed scatterplots of smoothed F_{ST} by base pair position for variant sites
869 on two chromosomes that had regions of elevated F_{ST} corresponding with islands in the *S. chrysomelas* vs. *S.*
870 *carnatus* comparison

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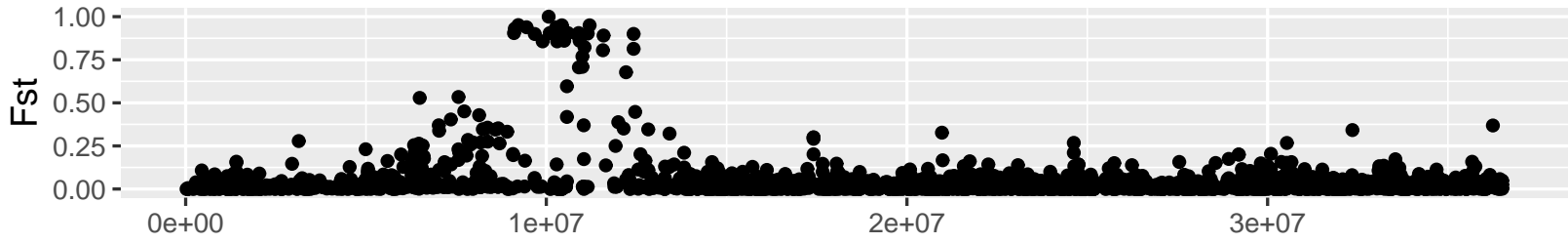
872 Figure 3. Smoothed F_{ST} estimates for each variable site between *S. alutus* vs. *S. mentella*. Manhattan plot of variant
873 sites plotted by chromosome on the x-axis and smoothed F_{ST} on the y-axis, alternating black and gray shading
874 distinguishes chromosomes.



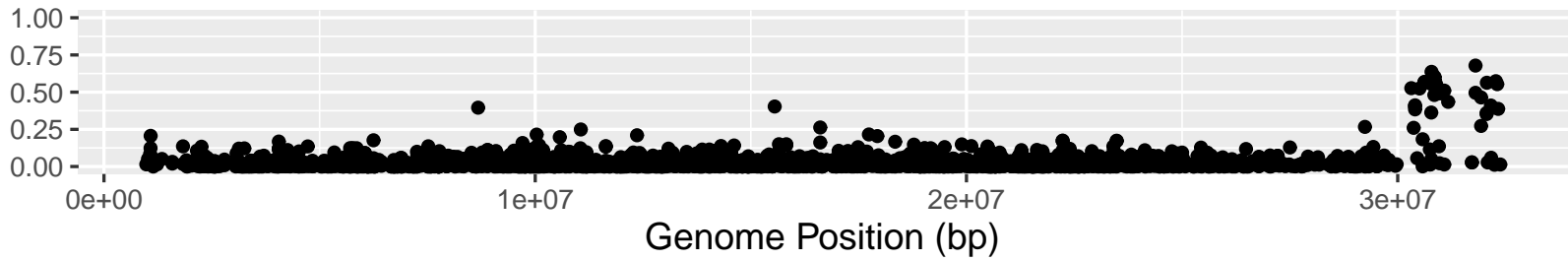
Chromosome 4



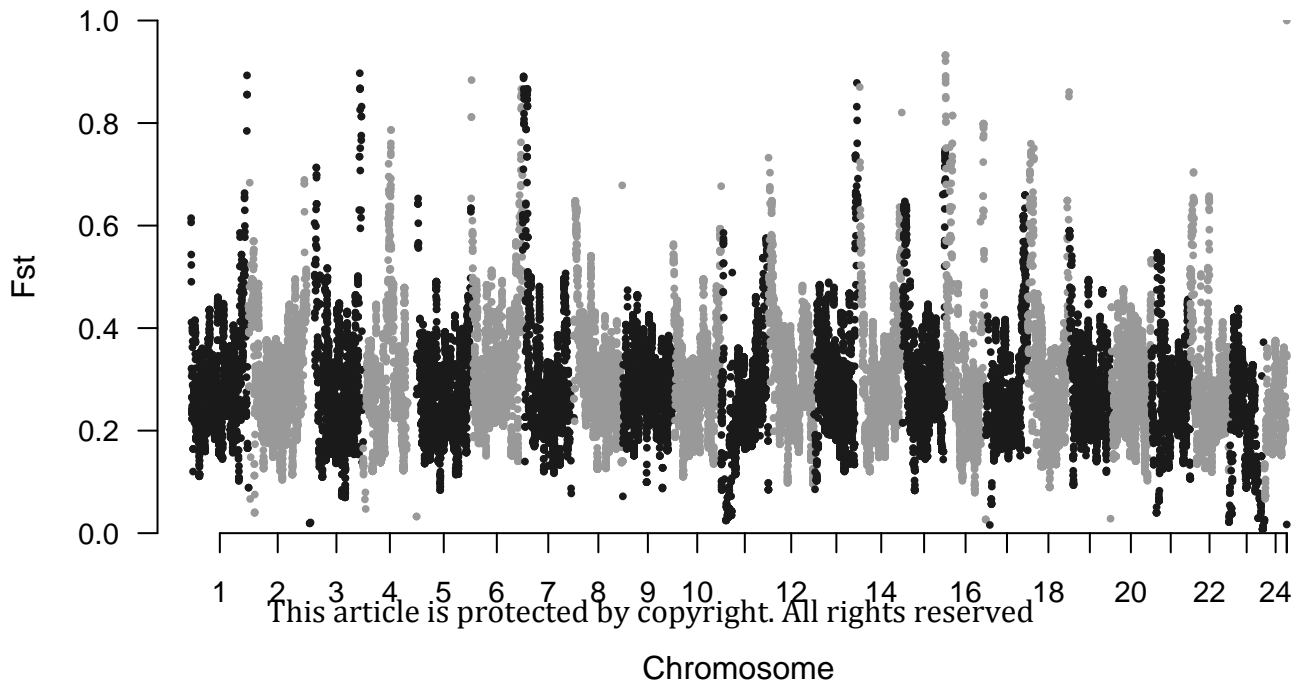
Chromosome 9



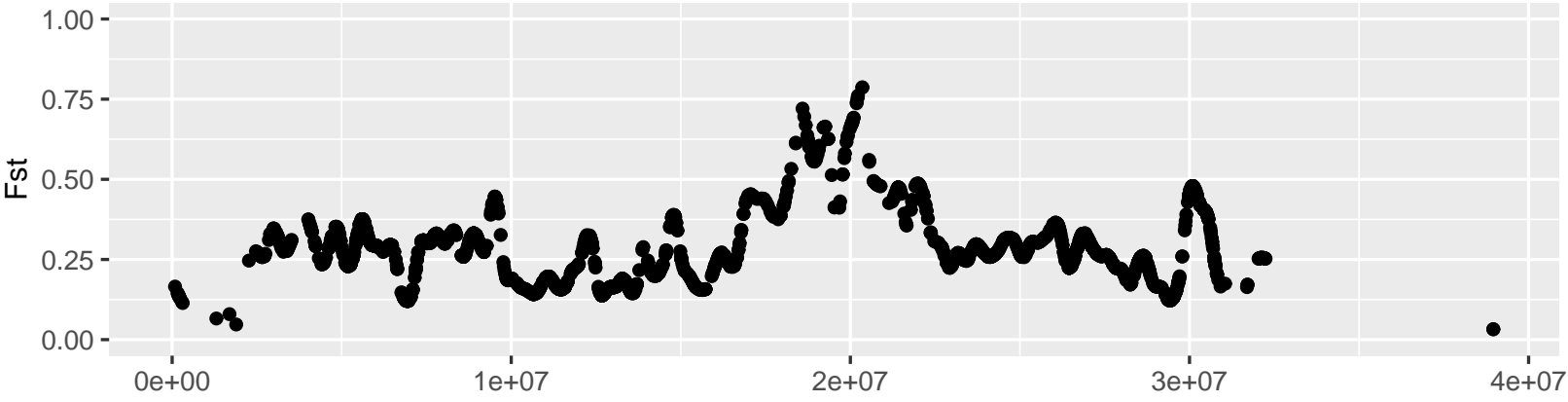
Chromosome 13



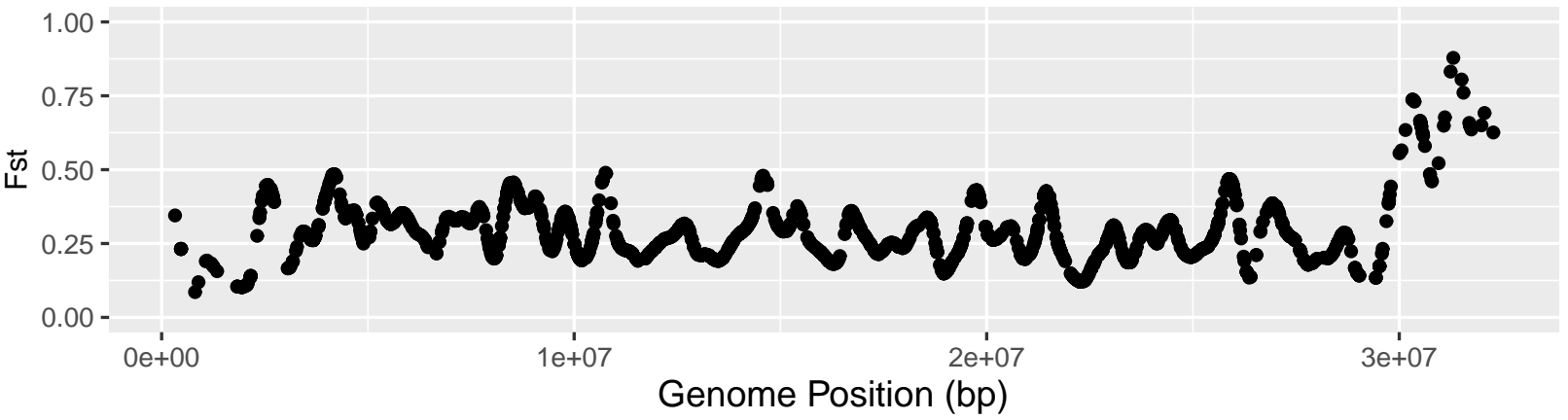
mec_16046_f1b.eps



Chromosome 4



Chromosome 13



mec_16046_f2b.eps

