Local Selection Across a Latitudinal Gradient Shapes Nucleotide Diversity in Balsam Poplar, Populus balsamifera L

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ABSTRACT Molecular studies of adaptive evolution often focus on detecting selective sweeps driven by positive selection on a specieswide scale; however, much adaptation is local, particularly of ecologically important traits. Here, we look for evidence of range-wide and local adaptation at candidate genes for adaptive phenology in balsam poplar, *Populus balsamifera*, a widespread forest tree whose range extends across environmental gradients of photoperiod and growing season length. We examined nucleotide diversity of 27 poplar homologs of the flowering-time network—a group of genes that control plant developmental phenology through interactions with environmental cues such as photoperiod and temperature. Only one gene, *ZTL2*, showed evidence of reduced diversity and an excess of fixed replacement sites, consistent with a species-wide selective sweep. Two other genes, *LFY* and *FRI*, harbored high levels of nucleotide diversity and exhibited elevated differentiation between northern and southern accessions, suggesting local adaptation along a latitudinal gradient. Interestingly, *FRI* has also been identified as a target of local selection between northern and southern accessions of *Arabidopsis thaliana*, indicating that this gene may be commonly involved in ecological adaptation in distantly related species. Our findings suggest an important role for local selection shaping molecular diversity and reveal limitations of inferring molecular adaptation from analyses designed only to detect species-wide selective sweeps.

NOST species experience variable environments across their geographic range, and many show phenotypic variation that reflects local adaptation of ecologically important traits. However, molecular population genetic analyses of selection often focus on detecting selective sweeps driven by positive directional selection in a species-wide sample (Nielsen 2005). Only recently have studies started to scan patterns of gene nucleotide diversity for signatures of selection below the species level, particularly among human regional subpopulations (Tang *et al.* 2007; Nielsen *et al.* 2009; Pickrell *et al.* 2009; Chen *et al.* 2010).

doi: 10.1534/genetics.111.128041

The population genetic signatures of positive selection due to species-wide sweeps are quite different from those expected under local selection, used here to mean selection favoring different allelic variants in different parts of the range, even at broadly defined spatial scales. Sweeps due to positive selection can result in a species-wide sample that shows low levels of nucleotide variation (Maynard Smith and Haigh 1974), an excess of rare or derived polymorphisms (Tajima 1989), or reduced polymorphism relative to divergence (Hudson et al. 1987). In contrast, local selection may result in local sweeps within subpopulations and/ or reduced effective migration of selected alleles between subpopulations (Charlesworth et al. 1997; Charlesworth 1998), leading to increased subpopulation differentiation, elevated polymorphism, or an excess of common variants in species-wide samples (*i.e.*, positive Tajima's D; Nordborg and Innan 2003; Innan and Kim 2008). Empirical evidence for local selection on candidate genes of ecological significance has been found by comparing nucleotide diversity and differentiation among subpopulations found in different selective environments to empirically derived or model-based

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Manuscript received February 22, 2011; accepted for publication May 15, 2011 Supporting information is available online at http://www.genetics.org/content/ suppl/2011/05/30/genetics.111.128041.DC1.

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neutral expectations (Le Corre 2005; Ingvarsson *et al.* 2006; Hancock *et al.* 2008; Moeller and Tiffin 2008; Storz and Kelly 2008; Wachowiak *et al.* 2009; Turner *et al.* 2010; Ma *et al.* 2010).

For species with geographic ranges that span seasonally variable environments, the timing of development for traits related to growth and reproduction is often subject to local selection favoring different phenotypic optima in different parts of the species' range (Bradshaw *et al.* 2004). Among forest tree species, and plants in general, this is often manifest as variation among subpopulations in the seasonal timing of growth (*i.e.*, phenology) in response to light and temperature, with strong local adaptation often observed at the phenotypic level (Savolainen *et al.* 2007).

In eudicots, phenological variation frequently maps to homologs of the Arabidopsis thaliana flowering-time gene network (Mouradov et al. 2002; Simpson and Dean 2002; Ehrenreich et al. 2009). This network functions via chromophore signaling of light to the circadian clock, which interprets critical daylengths and controls expression of downstream genes that integrate signals from interacting pathways to control meristem development (Jackson 2009). Comparative research across diverse taxa suggests that this gene network is responsible for variation in multiple phenological traits responsive to photoperiod, including flowering, tuberization, and seasonal dormancy (Lagercrantz 2009). Based upon transgenic and QTL mapping experiments in Populus, genes in this network are also associated with flowering and vegetative bud development in trees (Frewen et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2002; Böhlenius et al. 2006; Ingvarsson et al. 2008; Jackson 2009; Ma et al. 2010; Rohde et al. 2010).

A priori, we expect genes controlling phenology to be excellent candidates for the molecular basis of local adaptation. Surveys of natural allelic variation among A. thaliana accessions sampled from diverse latitudes have identified two flowering-time genes, FRIGIDA (FRI) and FLOWERING LOCUS C (FLC), that show evidence of local adaptation with latitude (Caicedo et al. 2004; Stinchcombe et al. 2004; Le Corre 2005). In other species, local selection has targeted members of the phytochrome gene family (PHYE) in Cardamine japonica (Ikeda et al. 2009) and PHYB2 in Populus tremula (Ingvarsson et al. 2006; Ingvarsson et al. 2008) and components of the circadian clock (Böhlenius et al. 2006: Slotte et al. 2007; Brachi et al. 2010; Ma et al. 2010). These studies suggest that homologs of the A. thaliana flowering-time gene network underlie ecologically important adaptive variation in phenological responses in other species, making them promising candidates for studying the molecular basis of local adaptation, as well as testing the repeatability of evolution across taxa in genes that influence quantitative traits.

Balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera* L.) is a widespread forest tree that has recolonized most of boreal North America in a postglacial range expansion during the past 10,000– 18,000 years. On the basis of SNP data from 412 loci assayed from 474 trees sampled from across the species range, this expansion appears to have involved the spread of populations from a southwestern refugial population into the northwest and northeast (Keller *et al.* 2010). This spread is reflected in the current diversity forming three broadly distributed genetic clusters, currently situated in the northern, central, and eastern parts of the range. These clusters are weakly but significantly differentiated at SNP loci ($F_{\rm CT}$ = 0.04), but show much stronger regional structure at multiple ecophysiological traits related to growth and phenology (Keller *et al.* 2011). The covariance between SNPs, ecophysiology, and environment strongly suggests that latitude or other climate-related aspects of the environment have driven adaptation in phenology traits during and since the northward expansion.

Here, we present analyses of the molecular evolution of 27 candidate genes homologous to the A. thaliana flowering-time network and associated pathways (hereafter referred to collectively as "phenology genes") in balsam poplar. We test for evidence of nonneutral evolution in our species-wide sample by comparing (i) nucleotide diversity and the site frequency spectrum of phenology genes to a set of 219 background reference loci and to neutral expectations based on an approximate Bayesian computation (ABC) model of demographic history (Beaumont et al. 2002) and (ii) diversity and divergence of phenology genes against a reduced set of reference loci and to neutral coalescent expectations. Finally, we test for evidence of local adaptation by comparing nucleotide differentiation between high- and low-latitude accessions to neutral expectations simulated under a demographic model that reflects balsam poplar's recent history of postglacial expansion.

Methods

Sampling and DNA sequencing

We isolated DNA from a range-wide sample of 24 accessions (Figure 1) and sequenced each sample for a set of 27 phenology-associated candidate genes: 24 genes from the flowering-time network and 3 abscisic acid (ABA) genes that cosegregate with QTL for dormancy phenotypes in a P. trichocarpa \times P. deltoides mapping population (Frewen et al. 2000). The 24 sampled accessions are part of the AgCanBaP collection growing in Indian Head, Saskatchewan, Canada (for collection details, see Soolanayakanahally et al. 2009). We identified P. balsamifera homologs of A. thaliana phenology genes using BLASTN searches against the P. trichocarpa genome (Tuskan et al. 2006). Primers (supporting information, Table S2) were designed to amplify and sequence the exons of each gene, as these are most likely to contain causative polymorphisms for adaptive protein evolution, but for most genes some intron sequence was also captured. The majority of sequence data were obtained by direct sequencing of PCR products. For two genes (PiF3.1 and TOC1), some samples were sequenced from PCR products that had been cloned into pGemT vectors. For the

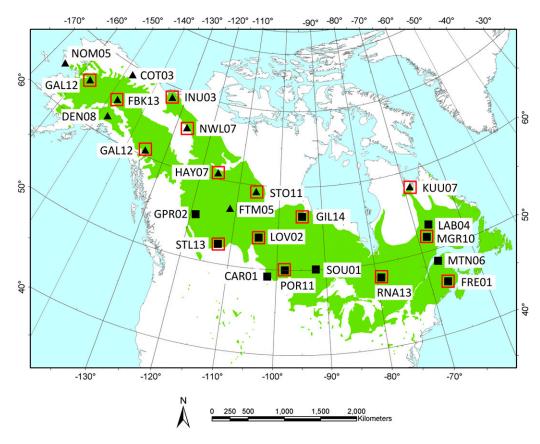


Figure 1 Sampling locations and IDs for accessions sequenced in this study. Accessions in the northern group are symbolized by triangles, and those in the southern groups as squares. Red boxes denote those accessions included in the reference gene sequences (from Olson *et al.* 2010) used for generating the empirical distributions of diversity. The geographic range of *P. balsamifera* is shown in green.

cloned sequences, all variants present in only one sample were assumed to be due to misincorporation during amplification if they could not be verified by direct sequencing of PCR products from an independent reaction. For *TOC1*, the first four exons were exclusively from cloned sequence, while sequences from exons 5–6 were direct sequenced from PCR products. This necessitated phasing one part of the alignment and not the other (see below); therefore, we report analyses for these two regions separately.

To conduct analyses that require an outgroup, we obtained sequence data for 24 of the candidate genes as well as 16 reference loci from either previous studies (Ingvarsson *et al.* 2006; Hall *et al.* 2007; Neiman *et al.* 2009; Ma *et al.* 2010) or PCR sequences from one to four *P. tremula* individuals. For sites that were polymorphic among *P. tremula* alleles, we assumed the ancestral state was identical to the base found in the *P. balsamifera* sample.

Sequences were trimmed of poor flanking sequence, aligned, and edited manually in Aligner v. 3.0.0 (Codon Code Corporation, Dedham, MA). Sites that were heterozygous, polymorphic, or of low sequence quality were visually examined for base call quality. Insertion–deletion polymorphisms were reconstructed from forward and reverse sequences and were removed from the alignments prior to further analysis. One gene, *HY2.2*, showed an extremely divergent haplogroup suggestive of introgression from another *Populus* species (Figure S1); thus we confined analysis of *HY2.2* to a reduced set of samples that omitted

the divergent haplogroup. No other genes showed evidence of introgression. Gene annotations were based on the *P*. *trichocarpa* genome build v. 2.0 available at Phytozome (http://www.phytozome.net/poplar.php). All new sequences have been deposited in GenBank (accession numbers in Table S1)

Data analysis

Diploid sequences were disambiguated into haplotypes using Phase v. 2.1 (Stephens *et al.* 2001; Stephens and Scheet 2005). We ran 10,000 iterations of the Bayesian MCMC chain, sampling every 10 iterations after a burn-in of 100 iterations. We then used the phased haplotypes to estimate the number of segregating sites, nucleotide diversity as Watterson's θ_W , and pairwise divergence (π) at replacement, synonymous, and silent (synonymous and noncoding) sites, and the site frequency spectra based on Tajima's *D* (Tajima 1989) and Fay and Wu's *H* (Fay and Wu 2000), using *P. tremula* as the outgroup for calculating *H*. Summary statistics were calculated using DNASP v. 5 (Librado and Rozas 2009).

To characterize range-wide diversity and search for evidence of selection in the species-wide sample, we compared synonymous nucleotide diversity (θ_W and π) and site frequency spectra (using Tajima's *D*) for phenology genes to both genome-wide empirical distributions of synonymous diversity and simulated neutral distributions. The empirical distributions were derived from a set of nuclear

reference loci (Olson et al. 2010) sequenced in 15 accessions that represent a subset of the 24 accessions sequenced for phenology genes (Figure 1). We computed distributions of summary statistics based on synonymous sites, restricting the analysis to just the 219 reference loci with \geq 100 synonymous sites (mean length = 130.3 synonymous sites). Defining expected patterns of diversity from empirical distributions of reference genes has the advantage of being free from specifying a particular model of demographic history or defining a priori how indirect selection may affect the variance among sites across the genome (Tenaillon and Tiffin 2008; Garrigan et al. 2010). However, because our reference loci were considerably shorter than our phenology genes (mean \pm SD = 617 \pm 63 bp compared to 2535 \pm 1137 bp) direct comparison of the phenology to reference loci may be confounded by sampling effects, causing the reference loci to have greater variance of summary statistics and a large number of sequences with zero segregating sites. For this reason, we also used ABC (Beaumont et al. 2002) to develop a demographic model that captured the pattern of diversity found at reference loci and could subsequently be used to generate distributions of expected neutral diversity for loci that were the same average length as our phenology genes.

The ABC modeling process involved simulating data under three demographic models: a standard neutral model, an instantaneous size change model, and an exponential growth model. We refrained from testing more complicated models that include population subdivision and migration among regional groups (e.g., Keller et al. 2010) because our initial simple models captured the major features of diversity found in the range-wide sample of 15 individuals (see Results). In other words, these ABC models should not be viewed as accurate descriptors of the demographic history as much as simplified models that capture the patterns of nucleotide diversity found in the reference loci from a widespread sample of a limited number of individuals. For each model, we generated 10⁶ simulated data sets of the neutral coalescent with recombination using Hudson's ms (Hudson 2002). Each simulated data set consisting of 219 loci containing 130.3 neutrally evolving (synonymous) sites, a fragment length for recombination of 617 bp, and a sample size of 28 chromosomes (values reflect averages for the reference loci). Demographic parameters were drawn at random from prior distributions. For all three models, the population mutation rate per locus ($\theta = 4N_{e\mu}$) had a uniform prior of $\theta \sim [0.1-4]$ and values for the population recombination rate ($\rho = 4N_{\rm e}r$) were drawn from a uniform prior of $\rho \sim$ [0–0.25]. For the instantaneous size change model, looking backward in time we estimated the first size change $(T_{\rm B})$ going from the current population size (N_0) to the previous size $(N_{\rm B})$, and then the second size change at time $(T_{\rm A})$ to the ancestral population size (N_A) . Prior distributions on timing and size parameters were uniform, and on the intervals of $T_{\rm B} \sim$ [0.01–4], $N_{\rm B} \sim$ [0.01–2], $T_{\rm A} \sim$ [$T_{\rm B}$ + 0.01–1], and $N_{\rm A} \sim [N_{\rm B}.+ 0.5-4]$. Because the instantaneous size change model allows for either increases or decreases in population size at each time this model can recreate, but is not limited to, a traditional bottleneck model. The exponential growth model followed the form $N_t = N_0^{-\alpha t}$, where N_0 is the current effective population size, t is time in $4N_0$ generations, and α is the growth parameter (positive values indicate increasing population size looking forward in time). Prior values on growth were drawn from a uniform distribution of $\alpha \sim [1-20]$, and the timing of the start of growth (T_G) was drawn from a uniform prior of $T_G \sim [0.01-10]$.

We compared the results from the simulated data to the empirical data from our 219 reference loci using five summary statistics based on only synonymous sites: mean and standard deviation of π , mean and standard deviation of Tajima's D, and the proportion of loci with zero segregating sites. From the pooled set of 3×10^6 simulations, we retained the 3000 simulations (*i.e.*, 0.1% of the pooled set) that were closest to the summary statistics from our reference loci using the Euclidian rejection algorithm, msreject, distributed with the MSBayes package (Hickerson et al. 2007), and calculated the percentage of simulations contributed by each model as our estimate of that model's posterior probability. We then used ABCREG (Thornton 2009) with the tangent transformation to perform local regression estimation of the posterior distributions of model parameters. From these posteriors, we obtained the Bayesian most probable estimate of each parameter from the median value of the distribution. These estimates were then used in a final round of coalescent simulations where the simulated length was adjusted to match the phenology genes by increasing the per-gene θ and fragment length for recombination to reflect the longer candidate gene sequences (average of 302 synonymous sites and a total length of 2535 sites). Under these conditions, we simulated 500,000 replicates of the coalescent and obtained the shape of the distribution of neutral diversity under the best fitting demographic model. Simulated distributions under neutrality were then compared with the observed values for the phenology genes. Note that although the simulated distributions were generated using the best-fit parameters obtained from the ABC model of the reference loci, because we simulated regions that are approximately four times longer than the length of the loci used to fit the model, we no longer expect the new simulated distributions to match the reference loci. In particular, because of the longer length of the simulated sequences, we no longer expect the inflation of loci with zero polymorphism that is observed in the reference loci data. The full ms command line input for ABC model development and the final simulated distributions are provided in File S1.

In addition to examining patterns of intraspecific diversity, we looked for signatures of selection in our rangewide samples using two approaches for comparing patterns of nucleotide diversity within *P. balsamifera* to divergence from *P. tremula*. First, we used J. Hey's multilocus HKA program to evaluate whether any of the candidate genes deviated from neutral expectations of diversity and divergence, using 10,000 coalescent simulations for significance testing. Second, we used the hierarchical Bayesian implementation of the MacDonald-Kreitman Poisson random fields model (MKPRF) to estimate the strength of selection $(\gamma = 2N_e s)$ on amino acid changes (Bustamante *et al.* 2002, 2005). We defined a hierarchical model that allowed selection to act differently on the phenology genes than the reference loci. For the MKPRF, we omitted eight phenology genes that had fewer than four replacement site mutations (either polymorphic or fixed differences) because they would provide little statistical power for detecting selection (e.g., Bustamante et al. 2005), leaving 16 phenology genes and 16 reference loci. We ran 10 independent mcmc chains, drawing 6000 samples from each following a burn-in of 1000 steps, and sampling every 10 steps. Input parameter values were set to default values except for ρ , the ratio of N_{e} in species 2 relative to species 1, which we set to 5.0 on the basis of previous work that showed θ (= $4N_{e\mu}$) is roughly five times larger in P. tremula than P. balsamifera (Ingvarsson 2008; Olson et al. 2010). For both HKA and MKPRF analyses, we used sequences from P. tremula, instead of P. trichocarpa, as an outgroup, because P. trichocarpa and P. balsamifera are recently diverged and share abundant ancestral polymorphism (Levsen et al., unpublished data).

To test if nucleotide diversity was structured by local adaptation to environmental conditions that covary with latitude (e.g., photoperiod, growing season length, summer and winter temperatures; Keller et al. 2011), we assigned each of the 24 individuals into either northern or southern subgroups, depending on whether individuals had been sampled from high ($>56^{\circ}$ N) or low ($<56^{\circ}$ N) latitude sites. The cutoff between north and south was chosen from the median latitude among our sampled individuals, rather than an a priori expectation of a threshold latitude effect. We then tested if the empirical differentiation between subgroups was greater than expected in the absence of selection, using an index of absolute nucleotide differentiation, $\pi_{T-S} = \pi_T - \pi_S$, in which π_T is the total nucleotide diversity across the pooled sample and π_S is the average nucleotide diversity within each of the two latitudinal groups (Charlesworth 1998). Because we lacked the sampling to explicitly model a demographic scenario of latitudinal divergence among three regional clusters (Keller et al. 2010), we simulated the expected distribution of π_{T-S} under a neutral model that captured the major biological features of balsam poplar's northward expansion from a southern refugial population. Our coalescent model consisted of a single ancestral population of $N_0 = 20,000$ that split into two equal sized subpopulations ($N_1 = N_2 = 10,000$) 650 generations before present. Assuming a 15-year generation time (Ingvarsson 2008), this corresponds to \sim 10,000 years ago, when a large proportion of the glaciated area of P. balsamifera's current range started to become ice free and available for colonization. For three reasons our demographic model should produce conservative estimates of differentiation for testing local adaptation: there was no migration between subpopulations (allowing that migration narrowed the confidence intervals on π_{T-S} ; results not shown), unaccounted-for population substructure will elevate π_s , thereby lowering the empirical estimates of π_{T-S} , and finally the northern subgroup we used for our empirical data contained individuals from all three regional genetic clusters (Keller et al. 2010), which should increase empirical estimates of π_S and lower π_{T-S} over expectations from a simple north-south demographic split. We simulated 50,000 replicates of the coalescent with Hudson's MS, conditioned on the total number of segregating sites for each phenology gene, and compared the observed π_{T-S} to the 95% confidence interval under neutrality. In addition, we scanned for regions of elevated differentiation within genes by conducting sliding window analyses of π_{T-S} using 300-bp windows with 100-bp step increment.

Results

Nucleotide diversity at phenology genes vs. expectations from demographic history

We sequenced 876–5434 bp from each of the 27 phenology candidate genes, resulting in \sim 71 kb of sequence from each of 24 individuals, sampled across the range of P. balsamifera (Figure 1). Nucleotide diversities based on segregating sites and pairwise divergence were highly variable among phenology genes ($\theta_{\rm W} = 0.000 - 0.0146$; $\pi = 0.000 - 0.0186$; Figure 2 and Table S3) and most phenology genes had synonymous site θ_{W} , π , and *D* that were well within the range of values from the genome-wide empirical distributions of reference loci (Figure 3 and File S2). However, two phenology genes, LFY and FRI, had high pairwise diversity (π_{syn} = 0.0186 and $\pi_{syn} = 0.0114$, respectively, Figure 3A) within the upper 2% and 7% tail of the empirical distribution. These two genes also harbored more segregating sites (θ_{syn}) than other candidates and were in the upper tail of the empirical distribution (LFY $\theta_{syn} = 0.0146$, upper 4%; FRI $\theta_{syn} = 0.0088$, upper 17.5% tail; Figure 3B). In contrast, four phenology genes had zero synonymous polymorphism (ABI1D, HY2.2, TFL1.1, and TOC1). Because a large number of reference loci lacked polymorphism, these were not outliers in the empirical distributions (Figure 3). Only one phenology gene, ZTL2, exhibited an excess of rare variants (D_{syn} = -1.72) relative to reference loci (lower 3% tail).

Because reference loci sequences were considerably shorter than our phenology genes, the empirical distribution was skewed toward values of zero diversity (Figure 3). For this reason, we generated distributions of expected neutral diversity using an ABC-derived demographic model. After rejecting all but 0.1% of the coalescent simulations that most closely matched our empirical data, 57.2% of our ABC simulations were from a sequential size change model, 42.2% from a standard neutral model, and 0.6% from a growth model. While the growth model was clearly rejected, the standard neutral model with a current effective population size of $N_e = 32,000$ was almost as good a fit to

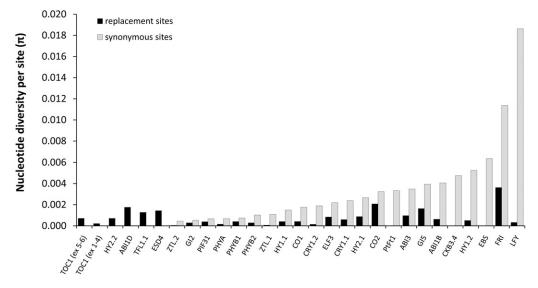


Figure 2 Phenology gene nucleotide diversity from pairwise divergence (π) estimated for replacement and synonymous sites. Genes are ranked from lowest to highest on the basis of π_{syn} .

the reference loci as the size change model, which described a large ancestral population of $N_e = 148,000$, bottlenecked ~1.7 MYA to an $N_e = 36,600$, and then reduced in size again ~639 KYA to an $N_e = 32,200$ (Table 1). Because the timing of the oldest bottleneck far exceeds the expected coalescent time within *P. balsamifera*, as well as the estimated divergence time between *P. balsamifera* and *P. trichocarpa* (Levsen *et al.*, unpublished data), this model likely is affected by the recent speciation of *P. trichocarpa* and *P. balsamifera* and possibly introgression of alleles from more distantly related *Populus* species.

Distributions of nucleotide diversity from ABC demographic models were still skewed toward low values, similar to the empirical distributions, but there was no longer a peak at zero diversity, reflecting that the simulated sequences were considerably longer than the reference loci. Moreover, *LFY* and *FRI* remained outliers in the simulated distributions; values of synonymous nucleotide diversity at *LFY* and *FRI* were in the upper 0.5% and 5% tails of π_{syn} , respectively, and in the upper 1.5% and 11.5% tails of θ_{syn} (Figure 3, A and B). The four phenology genes with zero synonymous polymorphism (*ABI1D*, *HY2.2*, *TFL1.1*, and *TOC1*) fell within the lower 1% of simulated values of π_{syn} and θ_{syn} . Similar to the empirical distribution, only *ZTL2* showed significantly negative Tajima's *D*, falling in the lower 2.5% tail of simulated values (Figure 3C).

Tests of selection based on comparisons of diversity and divergence

The average silent site divergence of phenology genes (K_s) was 0.033, and the ratio of replacement to silent site divergence (K_A/K_s) was 0.29 (Table S4). Four phenology genes (*CRY1.1, EBS, ELF3,* and *ZTL2*) showed strongly negative values of *H* (all values P < 0.05) indicating an excess of high frequency derived sites consistent with positive selection (Table S4). HKA tests comparing diversity within *P. balsamifera* to divergence from *P. tremula* revealed significant heterogeneity among phenology genes ($\chi^2 = 67.49$,

d.f. = 23, P < 0.001), with the largest deviances from neutrality driven by an excess of polymorphism in *LFY* and *FRI*, and a deficit of polymorphism in *PHYB2*, relative to divergence from *P. tremula* (Figure 4 and Table S4).

Estimates of the scaled selection coefficient on replacement sites γ (2*N*_es) revealed similar patterns of replacement site polymorphism relative to divergence at phenology and reference genes (Figure 5). Two phenology genes showed evidence of nonneutral evolution at replacement sites. *FRI* had a significantly negative selection coefficient ($\gamma = -0.626$, *P* < 0.001), indicating an abundance of replacement site polymorphism relative to neutral expectations, likely caused by either balancing/local selection maintaining polymorphism or segregating weakly deleterious mutations. The other gene, *ZTL2*, showed an excess of fixed replacement sites between *P. balsamifera* and *P. tremula* ($\gamma = 0.533$, *P* = 0.045) consistent with positive selection.

Local selection and latitudinal adaptation

The elevated range-wide diversity at *LFY* and *FRI* suggests the possibility of geographically variable local selection. To test this, we compared differentiation between high and low latitude accessions (π_{T-S}) for the phenology genes relative to expectations from a neutral model of range expansion following Pleistocene glacial retreat. This demographic model produced null distributions that frequently overlapped empirical estimates of π_{T-S} from phenology genes. At the whole-gene level, only *FRI* showed π_{T-S} in excess of the demographic model, falling in the upper 1% of neutral values (Figure 6).

Sliding window analyses of π_{T-S} identified windows of elevated π_{T-S} within four phenology genes. These included 13 windows in *FRI* (upper 0.2–2% of simulated values) which also showed excess north–south differentiation in the whole-gene analysis, as well as *LFY* (three windows, upper 0.2–2%), *EBS* (two windows, upper 2%), and *ZTL1* (two windows, upper 1–2%) (Figure 7 and Figure S2). Due to the large number of comparisons, some of these windows

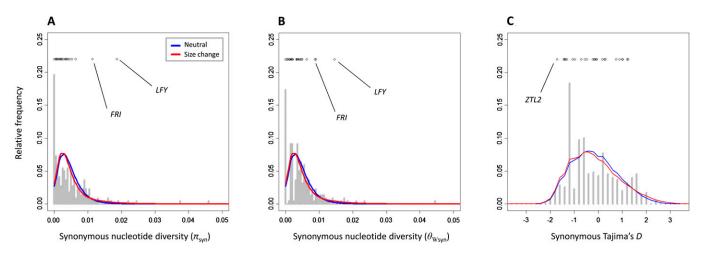


Figure 3 Comparison of nucleotide diversity (A and B) and site frequency spectrum (C) at synonymous sites for phenology genes (points), background reference loci (shaded bars), and coalescent simulations from approximate Bayesian computation (ABC) demographic models (colored lines). The two ABC models with high posterior probability are shown: a standard neutral model (blue) and a size change model (red).

may be significant by chance alone. We reiterate, however, that our tests of differentiation should be conservative since our demographic null model simulated drift between subgroups with no migration and no population structure within subgroups. Many windows of elevated differentiation were composed predominately, or at times exclusively, of polymorphisms at synonymous or intron sites that are typically assumed to be silent with regard to selection. For example, in *FRI*, latitudinal differentiation was most pronounced across the first intron (Figure 7). Similarly, in *EBS* and *ZTL1*, latitudinal differentiation was exclusively at synonymous SNPs in the regions sequenced.

Discussion

Molecular adaptation of phenology network genes

Among the 27 candidate genes for adaptive phenology, *FRI* was repeatedly identified as a potential target of selection. In particular, *FRI* harbored high intraspecific nucleotide diversity, was among the upper tail of diversity values from the empirical genome-wide and simulated ABC distributions, and showed elevated nucleotide differentiation between

northern and southern accessions. The functional role of FRI in temperature-induced phenological responses makes this gene a particularly strong candidate for local adaptation to regional differences in growing season length. Among natural accessions of A. thaliana, FRI is a major regulator of flowering-time variation by controlling expression of FLC to produce a vernalization requirement in high latitude accessions, permitting flowering only after a prolonged exposure to cold temperatures (Johanson et al. 2000; Mouradov et al. 2002; Putterill et al. 2004). In balsam poplar, our analyses implicate FRI in the response to local selection at different latitudes, probably reflecting a role of FRI in the temperaturesensitive timing of seasonal development. Because floweringtime homologs in Populus can affect a range of developmental traits, including flowering and bud dormancy (Böhlenius et al. 2006; Ingvarsson et al. 2008; Lagercrantz 2009; Ma et al. 2010), the link between allelic variation in FRI and variation in specific phenotypes in poplar awaits further study.

Interestingly, perhaps the strongest evidence for local selection in *FRI*, excess north–south differentiation, is largely due to polymorphism at synonymous and intron sites within our sequenced region, and these are separated from the

Table 1 Approximate Bayesian computation (ABC) analysis of the two best fitting models of species-wide demographic history in *P. balsamifera*

	Standard neutral model	Bottleneck model
% of retained simulations	42.2	57.2
Theta (π_s) \times 10 ⁻³	4.79 (4.34–5.30)	4.83 (4.10–6.12)
Recombination (ρ_s) × 10 ³⁻	0.66 (0.028–1.86)	1.11 (0.078–1.89)
Current population size	32,000 (28,900–35,300)	32,200 (27,300-40,800)
Time to size change ^a	-	639,000 (503,000–3,320,000)
Size change population size	-	36,600 (7,100–50,500)
Time to ancestral population ¹	-	1,740,000 (637,000–4,490,000)
Ancestral population size	-	148,000 (76,700–194,000)

A third model of exponential growth provided a poor fit to the observed data (0.6% of retained simulations), and so was not included for parameter estimation.

^a Time estimates were converted from coalescent units (= $4N_0$ generations) to absolute time (in years), assuming a neutral mutation rate per site per year of 2.5 × 10^{-9} (Tuskan *et al.* 2006).

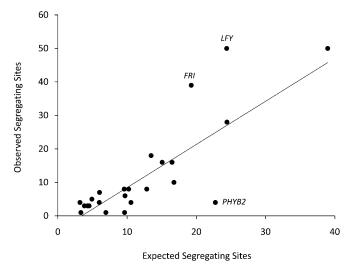


Figure 4 HKA test of genetic hitchhiking. Values are observed numbers of segregating sites at each gene *vs.* expected values based on 10,000 neutral coalescent simulations in J. Hey's HKA software. The line is the best fit excluding genes showing evidence of selection (labeled).

nearest nonsynonymous polymorphism by windows of nonsignificant differentiation. It is possible that some of the silent site variation in *FRI* results in alternate splice variants, changes to gene regulatory regions, or RNA processing. In this context, it is relevant to note that much of the natural phenotypic variation in *Arabidopsis* flowering time is associated with loss of function mutants that result in premature truncation of the *FRI* protein, rather than nonsynonymous polymorphisms (Johanson *et al.* 2000; LeCorre 2002).

Three other genes, *LFY*, *ZTL1*, and *EBS*, also showed evidence of local selection. *LFY*, a transcription factor that is part of the integrative pathway downstream from *FLC* and *FRI* that is responsible for floral meristem and organ devel-

opment (Moyroud and Tichtinsky 2009), harbored an excess of intraspecific diversity. Regions of exon 3 in *LFY* also showed greater than expected latitudinal differentiation. Multiple functional studies have shown that *LFY* affects flowering and other developmental phenotypes, including in *Populus* (Rottman *et al.* 2000). In contrast to the very high levels of segregating variation in *Populus LFY*, *Arabidopsis LFY* harbors low diversity consistent with a recent selective sweep (Olsen *et al.* 2002). The protease-encoding *EARLY BOLTING IN SHORT DAYS (EBS)* that regulates the transition from juvenile to reproductive maturity in *Populus* through transcriptional control of *FT* (Böhlenius *et al.* 2006) also showed an excess of north–south differentiation.

Finally, both ZEITLUPE paralogs (ZTL1 and ZTL2) showed evidence of selection across multiple analyses. ZTL1 showed a combination of low diversity ($\theta_{svn} = 0.00057$; <5% of values from ABC simulations), and evidence of a balanced polymorphism ($D_{syn} = 1.24$; >85% of values from ABC simulations). This was due to a single synonymous SNP at the end of exon 2 segregating at high frequency, which also showed differentiation between northern and southern accessions (Figure 7). This could reflect genetic hitchhiking during local selective sweeps, or drift during expansion (Excoffier and Ray 2008). Diversity at ZTL2 was consistent with a recent selective sweep - including an excess of rare polymorphisms and derived variants (negative Tajima's D and Fay and Wu's H) and evidence of positive selection on replacement sites (positive γ from MKPRF). ZEITLUPE genes are hypothesized to be blue light photoreceptors, known to interact functionally with the circadian clock genes GIGANTEA (GI) and TIMING OF CAB 1 (TOC1) (Somers et al. 2000; Kim et al. 2007).

Several recent studies have investigated evidence for adaptation in plant genomes (Gossman *et al.* 2010), including

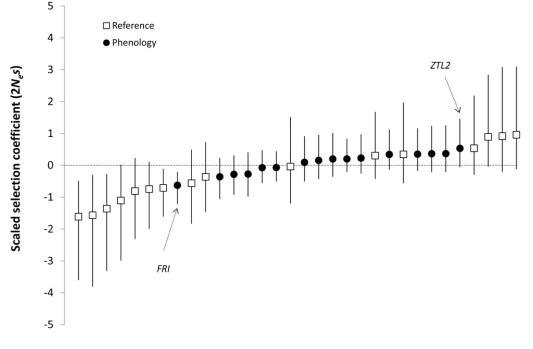


Figure 5 Strength of selection ($\gamma = 2N_es$) on replacement site variation. Error bars are 95% credible intervals from a hierarchical Bayesian MKPRF analysis. Genes showing significant deviation from zero are labeled with arrows.

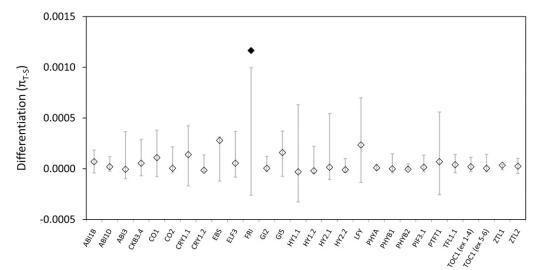


Figure 6 Coalescent analysis of nucleotide differentiation between high and low latitude samples. Shaded bars denote 95% confidence intervals around the simulated distribution from the neutral demographic model. Diamonds are observed values of differentiation, with values falling outside of the simulated distributions depicted by solid diamonds.

specifically on the flowering-time gene network (Flowers et al. 2009, Hall et al. 2011), and have found scant evidence for adaptive evolution (but see Ingvarsson 2010 and Hall et al. 2011 for Populus, and Slotte et al. 2010 for Capsella). However, the generally employed sampling schemes and analytical methods in these and similar studies are designed to detect positive selection on a species-wide scale, and less attention has been paid to scanning sequence data for signatures of local selection within a species (Tenaillon and Tiffin 2008; Siol et al. 2010). In our species-wide tests, we found only weak evidence of selective sweeps in P. balsamifera. This is in contrast to P. tremula, which shows evidence of positive selection at a large fraction of substitutions (Ingvarsson 2010). Thus, had we confined our analyses in P. balsamifera to just the species-wide scale, there would have been little to suggest adaptation in phenology genes, despite their prominent role in controlling important life-history traits. Theoretical studies of geographically variable selection on quantitative traits indicate that local adaptation may be difficult to detect from QTL or DNA sequence data, unless adaptation involves genes of major effect (Latta 2003; Kelly 2006). Our findings of local selection in Populus, along with several recent studies in other plant species, contribute empirical evidence that geographically variable selection can be detected at the level of DNA sequence (LeCorre 2002; Ingvarsson et al. 2006; Moeller and Tiffin 2008; Wachowiak et al. 2009; Ma et al. 2010; Turner et al. 2010), and may constitute a major cause of adaptive evolution in plant genes that underlie ecologically important traits. Local selection on poplar phenology genes is also consistent with previous results showing elevated phenotypic differentiation along a latitudinal gradient for traits such as bud set and height growth (Keller et al. 2011).

Common targets of selection on plant phenology genes

In addition to our study, the molecular population genetics of the phenology network have been investigated in *P. tremula* (25 genes; Hall *et al.* 2011) and *A. thaliana* (52 genes;

Flowers et al. 2009), and many of the individual genes involved in developmental phenology have been investigated in related species in the Brassicaceae. These data provide an opportunity to investigate the repeatability of ecological adaptation at the molecular level (Stern and Orgogozo 2009), and in a gene network that is known to control important life-history phenotypes (Mouradov et al. 2002; Putterill et al. 2004; Lagercrantz 2009). In both P. balsamifera and A. thaliana, the strongest candidate for local adaptation to conditions that covary with latitude is FRI, which harbors high polymorphism as well as elevated subpopulation differentiation between northern and southern accessions in both species (LeCorre 2002, 2005; Caicedo et al. 2004; Stinchcombe et al. 2004; this study). FRI alleles also display an excess of long-range haplotypes in A. thaliana, consistent with a recent history of selection (Flowers et al. 2009). Population genetic analysis of FRI has not yet been done in P. tremula. Two aspects of FRI may explain why it has been the target of independent local selection in these phylogenetically distant species. First, FRI shows relatively low "connectedness" with other genes in the network, especially compared to core circardian clock genes that participate in many epistatic interactions, which may lessen the amount of constraint of FRI's rate of evolution (Rausher et al. 1999; Yukelivich et al. 2008; Stern and Orgogozo 2009). Studies have shown that FRI interacts directly with FLC to affect flowering in Arabidopsis, but FRI does not appear to interact with any other core components of the network. Second, at least in A. thaliana, loss-of-function mutations hasten development and produce earlier flowering and potentially provide adaptive phenotypic variation (Johanson et al. 2000; Scarcelli and Kover 2009). Given that loss-of function mutations are much more common than gain-of function, this may result in an evolutionary bias toward ecologically relevant allelic variation in FRI underlying adaptation to local variation in growing season. At this stage, it is not possible to identify which trait(s) mediate local selection in FRI, as multiple different developmental phenotypes are probably affected by the

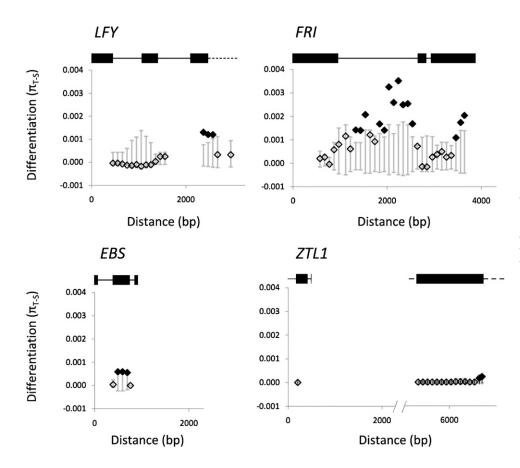


Figure 7 Sliding window analysis of latitudinal differentiation within phenology candidate genes. At the top of each plot is shown the gene boundaries, including exons (rectangles), introns (thin solid lines), and UTR. Note that the current gene model from v. 2.0 of the *P. trichocarpa* genome divides *ZTL1* into two separate coding regions separated by intergenic space. See Figure 6 legend for additional details.

outputs from this network, including, but not limited to, flowering time and bud traits.

Members of the phytochrome family of light-signaling genes also appear to be repeat targets of local selection in some taxa, although they do not appear to be under local selection in P. balsamifera. In P. tremula, PHYB2 shows excess polymorphism as well as strong latitudinal clines (Ingvarsson et al. 2006; Hall et al. 2007; Ma et al. 2010; Hall et al. 2011) and in Cardamine nipponica, a close relative of Arabidopsis, PHYE shows elevated replacement site divergence between northern and southern populations, and a significant excess of intermediate frequency polymorphism in species-wide samples (i.e., positive Tajima's D) (Ikeda et al. 2009). In P. tremula, a role in local adaptation is bolstered by an association between PHYB2 alleles and adaptive variation in bud set-a key phenotypic trait that controls local adaptation to photoperiod (Ingvarsson et al. 2008; Ma et al. 2010). In contrast, the phytochromes in P. balsamifera (this study) show low nucleotide diversity and little evidence of positive selection (Table S4 and Figure 2), nor do phytochrome genes cosegregate with bud set QTL in Populus trichocarpa \times P. deltoides mapping populations (Chen et al. 2002; Rohde et al. 2010). Although congenerics, P. balsamifera and P. tremula, are geographically isolated and estimated to have last shared a common ancestor ${\sim}40$ million years ago (Hamzeh and Dayanandan 2004); thus they have presumably migrated and adapted to northern latitude environments independently. The difference in selection on phenology genes suggests that despite showing convergent phenotypic clines in bud set with latitude, these two poplar species differ in the genetic basis of local adaptation.

In summary, we found evidence for local selection driving patterns of polymorphism and latitudinal differentiation in at least one and up to four members of the phenology gene network of *Populus balsamifera*, while evidence for specieswide selection was confined to a single gene. The finding of local selection on the phenology gene network of both balsam poplar and European aspen, along with the apparently different genic targets of selection in each species, suggests that *Populus* may be a promising system for understanding the genetic basis of local adaptation, and how different forms of selection, along with the historical contingencies of population demographic history, combine to affect the evolution of genes underlying ecologically important phenotypes.

Acknowledgments

We thank Bill Schroeder for kindly sharing tissue samples for DNA extraction, Jennifer Reese and Riya Jayachandran for assistance with sequencing, Amanda Robertson and Naoki Takebayashi for discussions and programming advice, and computational support from the Life Science Informatics cluster at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute at the University of Minnesota. We also appreciate the comments of Outi Savolainen and two anonymous reviewers. This work was funded by National Science Foundation Plant Genome award DBI-0701911 to M.S.O. and P.T., and the Swedish Research Council to P.K.I.

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Communicating editor: O. Savolainen

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Local Selection Across a Latitudinal Gradient Shapes Nucleotide Diversity in Balsam Poplar, Populus balsamifera L

Stephen R. Keller, Nicholas Levsen, Pär K. Ingvarsson, Matthew S. Olson, and Peter Tiffin

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File S1

Below is ms command line code for generating simulated datasets of neutral polymorphism when testing for selection on balsam poplar phenology candidate genes.

(ms, number of chromosomes, number of loci, options)

For ABC analysis:

(1) Standard Neutral Model:

ms 28 219 -t {0.01 4} -r {0 0.25} 617

(2) Exponential Growth Model:

ms 28 219 -t {0.01 4} -r {0 0.25} 617 -G {1 20} -eG {0.01 10} 0.0

(3) Bottleneck (Serial Size Change) Model:

ms 28 219 -t {0.01 4} -r {0 0.25} 617 -eN {0.01 4} {0.01 2} -eN {TEB + (0.01-1)} {Nb + (0.5 4)}

For simulating datasets under the best fitting demographic model from ABC to test for selection on candidate genes:

(1) Standard Neutral Model:

ms 38 500000 -t 1.4484 -r 0.4089 2534

(2) Bottleneck Model:

ms 38 500000 -t 1.4596 -r 0.5892 2534 -eN 0.3308 0.7155 -eN 0.9004 2.9013

For simulating a neutral model of population differentiation to test for local selection between northern and southern accessions:

ms NumTotal 1 -- s NumSegSites -- I 2 NumHigh NumLow -- ej 0.01625 1 2

where, NumTotal, NumHigh, and NumLow are the chromosome counts in the pooled sample, and the high and low latitude subgroups, respectively, and NumSegSites is the number of segregating sites in the total sample.

File S2

File S2 is available for download as an Excel file at http://www.genetics.org/content/suppl/2011/05/30/genetics.111.128041.DC1.

These data are population genetic summary statistics for 219 of the 590 reference loci (where L >= 100 synonymous sites), sequenced in a range-wide sample of 15 individuals.

Original sequence data for these loci are available from the Poplar Population Genomics website (http://www.popgen.uaf.edu/data/data_search_seqs.php)

Functional annotation for loci in the upper 5% tail of the distribution of synonymous pairwise nucleotide diversity is based on Phytozome's genome build 2.0 for Populus trichocarpa.

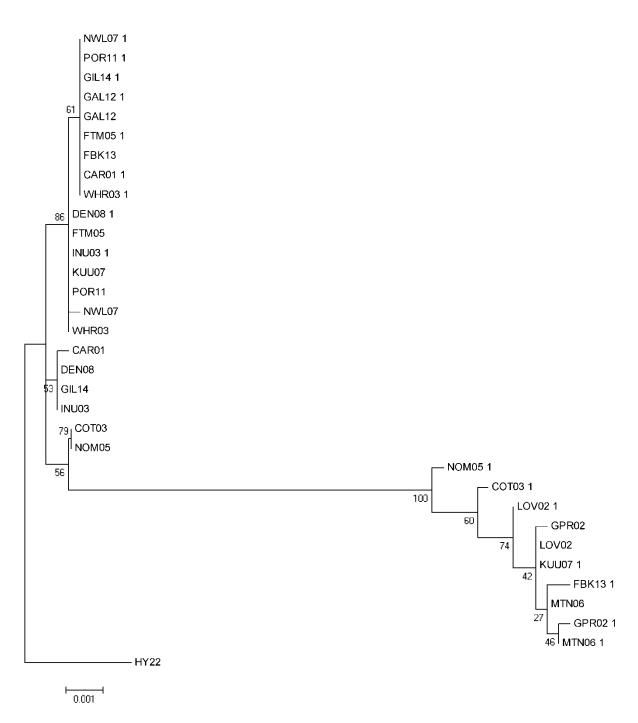


Figure S1 Maximum-likelihood gene genealogy of *HY2.2*, rooted with *P. trichocarpa*. The model of evolution was $GTR + I + \Gamma$, and topology was optimized using a heuristic search with NNI branch swapping. Numbers at nodes are bootstrap percentages from 100 replicates.

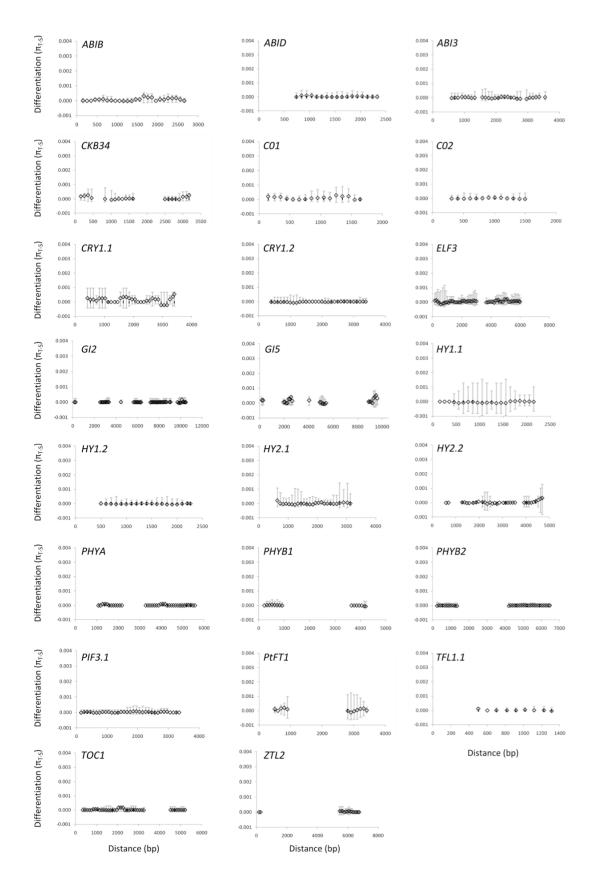


Figure S2 Sliding window analysis of nucleotide differentiation between high and low latitude samples for additional genes in the flowering time network and abscisic acid pathways. Symbols are as described in Figure 6.

Table S1 Genomic location and annotation of 27 phenology candidate genes and 16 reference genes in Populus balsamifera and P. tremula

Gene	Locus name		Locus name		Genbank accession # (P. balsamifera)	Genbank accession # (P. tremula)
ABI1B	POPTR_0006s24100	VI	JN047546-JN047563	AM690430		
ABI1D	POPTR_0018s04570	XVIII	JN047564-JN47585	N/A		
ABI3	POPTR_0002s25330	II	JN047586-JN047601	JN235114		
СКВЗ4	POPTR_0002s14080	II	JN047602-JN047618	JN23098-JN230400		
CO1	POPTR_0017s14410	XVII	JN047619-JN047640	HQ833365-HQ833366		
CO2	POPTR_0004s10800	IV	JN047641-JN047664	AM600895		
CRY1.1	POPTR_0005s17100	V	JN047665-JN047672	JN235115		
CRY1.2	POPTR_0002s09730	II	JN047673-JN047695	JN235116		
BS	POPTR_0002s21570	II	JN047696-JN047713	JN230405-JN230408		
ELF3	POPTR_0003s04040; POPTR_0003s04030	Ш	JN047714-JN047749	JN235117		
RI	POPTR_0015s12160	XV	JN047750-JN047764	JN235118		
G12	POPTR_0002s06490	П	JN047765-JN047786	JN235119		
G15	POPTR_0005s21870	V	JN047787-JN047808	JN235120		
HY1.1	POPTR_0006s06900	VI	JN047809-JN047824	JN230409-JN230412		
IY1.2	POPTR_0018s13160	XVIII	JN047825-JN047845	JN23094-JN23097		
IY2.1	POPTR_0009s05270	IX	JN047846-JN047866	JN23092-JN23093		
1Y2.2	POPTR_0001s26050	I	JN047867-JN047882	N/A		
.FY	POPTR_0015s11820	XV	JN047883-JN047902	JN230401-JN230404		
РНҮА	POPTR_0013s00220	XIII	JN047903-JN047925	JN235121		
PHYB1	POPTR_0008s10470	VIII	JN047926-JN047943	JN235122		
РНҮВ2	POPTR_0010s15600	Х	JN047944-JN047961	AM072312		
PIF31	POPTR_0013s00310	XIII	JN047962-JN047983	JN235123		
PtFT	POPTR_0008s07730	VIII	JN047984-JN048000	JN230413-JN230416		
FL1.1	POPTR_0009s16670	IX	JN048001-JN048018	N/A		
TOC1	POPTR_0015s07300; POPTR_0015s07310	XV	JN048019-JN048039	N/A		
ZTL1	POPTR_0018s09800; POPTR_0018s09810	XVIII	JN048040-JN048085	HQ833402		
TL2	POPTR_0006s18000	VI	JN048086-JN048104	HQ833403		
optrdraft_195487	POPTR_0004s16360	IV	GU272964-GU272993	JN235124		
optrdraft_201675	POPTR_0009s10570	IX	GU273220-GU273245	JN235125		
optrdraft_205970	POPTR_0005s24980	V	GU273336-GU273365	JN235126		
optrdraft_278850	POPTR_0010s02000	Scaffold 2116	GU275328-GU275357	JN235127		
optrdraft_424878	POPTR_0003s01410	Ш	GU276088-GU276117	JN235128		

poptrdraft_428500	POPTR_0006s15750	VI	GU276326-GU276355	JN235129
poptrdraft_428609	POPTR_0006s10810	VI	GU276356-GU276385	JN235130
poptrdraft_557502	POPTR_0009s09260	IX	GU277714-GU277743	JN235131
poptrdraft_558011	POPTR_0009s04300	IX	GU277774-GU277803	JN235132
poptrdraft_566362	POPTR_0010s10940	х	GU278640-GU278669	JN235133
poptrdraft_717415	POPTR_0006s03560	VI	GU282644-GU282673	JN235134
poptrdraft_757865	POPTR_0003s16660	III	GU283954-GU283983	JN235135
poptrdraft_759621	POPTR_0004s15720	IV	GU284072-GU284101	JN235136
poptrdraft_762490	POPTR_0006s10000	VI	GU284276-GU284305	JN235137
poptrdraft_830425	POPTR_0002s18590	П	GU287866-GU287895	JN235138
poptrdraft_831588	POPTR_0005s23170	V	GU288014-GU288043	JN235139

Table S2 Primers for PCR and sequencing of 27 phenology genes in Populus balsamifera

Gene	forward primer name	forward primer sequence (5'>3')	reverse primer name	reverse primer sequence (5'>3')
ABI1B	ABi1B_F1_683	AAACCTCTTGCTCACATTCCA	ABi1B_R2_686	TCTCGGTTTGGCTAAGATAAGA
	ABi1B_F3_687	GAAAGAACCAATGGCATTATCAG	ABi1B_R4_690	GAACTAGCCAGTAGATGGCAAC
ABI3	Abi3_F1_S1_542	ACAGCGGCCTTGTCTTCCAC	Abi3_R1_S1_546	TCCGAAATCCTCCATCACGTC
	Abi3_NEW_F1_555	TGGACTCCAAGAAGGGGATTTC	Abi3_NEW_R1_559	GATCCACAGCAATGCGCAAG
	Abi3_NEW_F2_556	AACCACTTGGTGGGGGGTGTC	Abi3_NEW_R2_560	GAACCCCTAAGCCGGGTCTG
	Abi3_F1_S2_550	GAGGGCAGGAAAATCGCAAAG	Abi3_R1_S2_551	GCAGCAGCTGGACAATTTGC
BID	ABI1D_F_437	AGGTGATTAGCTTACATTCCGCTGGC	ABI1D_675254_532_R3	GAAGGCAGATGTATGCGACA
	ABI1D_675254_535_F24	TGGGCATCCAATGACTATTCG	Abi1D-675254-507-R2	TTGAACTTCCTCTGCGCCTTCAGATC
СКВЗ4	CKB_F1	TTGAAACTGATAGAGAGAAG	CKB_R5	AAGCCGTAGTCCTATTTACAACAG
	CKB_F3	CATTTGCACATTCTCAGGTG	CKB_R1	TCTTACTTCCAGCGAACACAC
201	CO1_F	CAATTGGGCACGCGTATGTGACACG	CO1_R	GTCTGGTCTCTGCATAGGCCTTCC
CO2	CO2_F	GCTCCGGCTGCCTTCTTRTGCAAGGC	CO2_R	ACAATGCCATATCCWGTTTCTGCCA
CRY1.1	CRY11_X1F	AAAGATGTCAGGAGGTGGG	CRY11_X2R	TTCATAAAGCAAGTCCGCG
	CRY11_2F	ACCCCTTGTCACTGGTTAGGGATCAC	CRY11_4R	AGTTTGAGATAGCCGCCTCCAATTGA
	CRY12_x1F	AGAGATGTCAGGTGGTGGC	CRY12_4R	AGTTTGAGATAGCCGCCTCCAATTGA
BS	POP_EBS_F2	GTCGCGGGATATTACAGCAG	POP_EBS_R2	CTATTCAAGGGAAGCCACCA
ELF3	ELF3_F1_581	AAATGAGAGGGGCAAAGGAT	ELF_R2_584	AACGACCCAGATTGCTTGTC
	ELF_F3_585	ACAATGCCCGACAAGACTGT	ELF_R4_588	GCATCTGACAAGATAGGTAGCAA
	ELF_F5_589	GAAAAAGGAACCTACAAGTTTCAA	ELF_R5_590	TCCCTCAATTTTCCCTCCTAA
	ELF_F6_591	CAAATTGTGCCTTCTGTTTGC	ELF_R6_592	TTCATACAAAATGACACATGCAAC
	ELF_F7_593	TCTGCTTCCAACATATCCAGT	ELF_R9_598	CAGGCATTCCCAACAAACTA
RI	FRI_F1	TATCAGTGATTTACCAGCAC	FRI_R4	AAACTTGTCCTCGATTCC
	FRI_F4	TACTGCAGATATCATAGAGGG	FRI_R1	CATGTAAGATGAATGGTGG
GI2	GI2_F1	TTTGGTATTTTGAAGGGCAG	GI2_R1	TTTATATCTCCATTCTACCG
	GI2_F2	ACAAATTACTGCTTATGTTGAG	GI2_R2	AACGAAAGTAGTCACTTCTG
	GI2_F4	TATCGTGTTAGCTTCTTCTCGC	GI2_R4	TTACCCTTATGCCAGATGCATG
	GI2_F5	ATGTGTTCATTTGTGCAGCTTCC	GI2_R5	AACATTGCATAGTGCGTCC
	GI2_F6	ATTGCAACCTTGGATTGCC	GI2_R6	TTGCCATAAGCTAAGACGTC
GI5	GI5_F2	ACAAATTACTGCCTATGTCGAC	GI5_R2	AGGTGCAGCAAGCAATATATCG
	GI5_F4	AAACATCCTCAGCTCATCC	GI5_R4	ATGCATAATCTTCAGCAGCTCG
	GI5_F6	ATTGCAGCCTTGGATCGCG	GI5_R6	TGAAATGGCTGGCAAGAGCTC
IY1.1	HY1.1_F1_703	ATTGGCAAACATGGCTTCTC	HY1.1 R2_706	ACCTTTATGCAAACCAGACCA

	HY1.1_F3_707	CGTTTACATGGATGGAGCTGT	HY1.1_R_710	TCCTGCGTTTCAACACTACG
HY1.2	HY1.2_F1_711	ATGGCTTCTCACACCAATC	HY1.2_R2_714	TACTTGCGTGCAAACATCAA
	HY1.2_F3_715	TCAAATGATTGGGAGGAAGG	HY1.2_R4_718	TACAGATTGGCCAAATGATTGT
HY2.1	HY2.1_F1_675	ACTGCGATGGACGGAACTAC	HY2.1_R2_678	TCCTGACTTGGAGGAAACTTG
	HY2.1_F3_679	TCAATGCCTCTTGTGGAACA	HY2.1_R4_682	ACCACCGATGAATTCTCCTCTTG
HY2.2	HY2.2_563_F1	GAAAACGGTGAGGTAATGTTGA	HY2.2_568_R2	TGTGCCTGTAACTGTGTTTGC
	HY2.2_569_F3	TGCGCTTGTCCTATTCATGT	HY2.2_572_R4	CGTTTTGCAGTTGAGAGCAT
	HY2.2_573_F5	GCCAATCAACTGGGCAGTAA	HY2.2_576_R6	TGGAGTACAAAATGTGATATAGGG
	HY2.2_F_751	TTTCATCACAAGGCTCATGGC	HY2.2_R_752	GGATCAGGAAACAAACAAGTCA
LFY	LFY_F1_599	TCGTCCTGTTAAGGGCAGTT	LFY_R2_602	CTCTCTCCTTGGCAATGCTT
	LFY_F3_603	CGGTCTTGATTACCTCTTCCA	LFY_R4_606	ACATGGCATTTTGCATGTTGG
	LFY_F4_605	TTCTGTTTTGTTTTGTGTTTGG	LFY_R5_608	CTGTCACGCTCAATTTCCAA
ΡΗΥΑ	PHYA_F1	TGTCTTCTTCAAGGCCAAGC	PHYA_R2	CTCGGAGAGCCAAAAAGCTA
	PHYA_2F1	GCAAAGAAGAGCAAAACATACAA	PHYA_4R1	ATGCCCTTTTTTGCGATTTA
PHYB1	PHYB1_1F1	TGGCATCACAATCACAAAGA	PHYB1_1R2	AACCATGAGGAGCTCGAAGA
	PHYB1_ex2F1	TGAGGAGGATAAGAACGTGGA	PHYB1_ex2R1	CCATTTTCGATGCTCTCAAG
	PHYB1_3F2	TAGCAGACATATCCTAACGAGAGG	PHYB1_4R3	TACAGTTATACCTCTCACAC
PHYB2	PHYB2_F1	ATGGCATCACAATCACAAAGG	PHYB2_R3	CTTTTACTGCACGATGAATAAGC
	PHYB2_F4	TGTTTAACTAATGCAGGCGAAG	PHYB2_R6	TCATGTGTGAGTTATTGATCTGGAC
PIF31	PIF31_F	ACTGAGCAGAAGCGTTGCTAACC	PIF31_Ra	AGTTGGCTTGCTCCTAGACAGTGC
PtFT	PTFT1_F1_613	GCAACGTGTATTCTGTTGATGG	PTFT1_R1_614	GAGAGAGAGAGAGAGCCACGTAA
	PTFT1_F5_621	AAAGAGTGGACGGGGATTGT	PTFT1_R5_622	TGATACCTTGACGTGATTAGGTG
	PtFT1_FOR1_741	TGAATTTCTTGTCACGTGAACTC	PtFT1_REV2_742	GACTGAGTACGTAGGAATGTAGACAA
TFL1.1	TFL1.1_F1_609	AGAGGCTCCCACCCTCAAT	TFL1.1_R1_610	CATACCGAATGTGGCATCTG
	TFL1.1_F2_611	AAGGCTGATTCTATCGTTTCCA	TFL1.1_R2_612	TTAACCCTCTCCTGCTGCAT
TOC1	TOC1_F1	CCTTCTCCTGGTGATCCACAG	TOC1_R4	TGTTCATGTAAGCCAAAATCTCG
	TOC1_F5	AAATATCGACCTGATGTGCC	TOC1_R6	TTGATGCTTGCTCATCACCGTCC
ZTL.1	ZTL1_F1	AAGGAAAAGAAATGGAGTGGG	ZTL1_R1	AGAAAACATACCAATTACGG
	ZTL1_F3	ACTATGCTTGTTGTTACAGCCG	ZTL1_R3	ATTAGGTGGCTGAACTTGC
ZTL.2	ZTL2_F1	TTCATGGGATAAGAATTTTATTGTC	ZTL2_R1	AACAAACAGAGTAGATTGAAGAG
	ZTL2_F3	TGATACTATGCTTGTTACAGC	ZTL2_R3	TAACTGAACTAGCCAAGGACAG

Gene	N ^a	L _{total} b	L _{rpl}	L _{syn}	Sc	θ_{total}	θ_{rep}	θ_{syn}	π_{total}	π_{rep}	π_{syn}	Tajima'sD
ABI1B	36	2553	1262.1	382.0	15	0.0014	0.0006	0.0032	0.0017	0.0006	0.0041	0.6077
ABI1D	44	1884	304.5	112.2	13	0.0016	0.0031	0.0000	0.0007	0.0018	0.0000	-1.6302
ABI3	32	2858	1438.7	415.3	20	0.0017	0.0012	0.0036	0.0015	0.0010	0.0035	-0.5299
СКВ34	34	2150	654.0	198.0	20	0.0023	0.0000	0.0049	0.0019	0.000	0.0048	-0.5285
CO1	44	1775	748.3	229.7	26	0.0034	0.0015	0.0020	0.0024	0.0004	0.0018	-0.9764
CO2	48	1480	698.4	210.6	13	0.0020	0.0019	0.0043	0.0019	0.0021	0.0032	-0.1327
CRY1.1	16	3205	1444.4	442.6	17	0.0016	0.0006	0.0034	0.0012	0.0006	0.0024	-0.9791
CRY1.2	46	3271	1455.4	443.6	18	0.0013	0.0005	0.0021	0.0011	0.0002	0.0019	-0.2836
EBS	36	634	378.8	107.2	4	0.0015	0.0000	0.0090	0.0011	0.0000	0.0064	-0.7163
ELF3	36	5434	1537.4	445.6	66	0.0029	0.0022	0.0043	0.0019	0.0008	0.0022	-1.3416
FRI	28	3262	1217.5	381.5	85	0.0067	0.0032	0.0088	0.0088	0.0036	0.0114	1.2116
GI2	44	4834	2173.7	715.3	24	0.0011	0.0010	0.0013	0.0005	0.0003	0.0005	-1.7920
GI5	44	2679	997.3	325.7	39	0.0034	0.0012	0.0035	0.0039	0.0016	0.0039	0.4519
HY1.1	32	2287	554.3	150.7	19	0.0021	0.0005	0.0017	0.0019	0.0004	0.0015	-0.3043
HY1.2	42	2019	559.1	148.9	17	0.0020	0.0004	0.0047	0.0019	0.0005	0.0053	-0.1584
HY2.1	42	2698	462.2	128.8	61	0.0053	0.0010	0.0036	0.0042	0.0009	0.0027	-0.7190
HY2.2	22	3338	728.7	204.3	7	0.0006	0.0004	0.0000	0.0006	0.0007	0.0000	0.2988
LFY	40	1880	799.4	241.6	50	0.0064	0.0003	0.0146	0.0069	0.0003	0.0186	0.3084
ΡΗΥΑ	46	3786	1952.0	580.0	6	0.0004	0.0002	0.0004	0.0004	0.0002	0.0007	0.1448
PHYB1	36	1620	1255.4	358.6	7	0.0010	0.0008	0.0020	0.0005	0.0004	0.0008	-1.5197
РНҮВ2	40	3732	1725.3	497.7	6	0.0004	0.0003	0.0009	0.0003	0.0003	0.0010	-0.5633
PIF31	44	3487	1371.6	395.4	18	0.0012	0.0010	0.0017	0.0006	0.0004	0.0007	-1.5617
PtFT1	34	1397	360.0	11.0	20	0.0035	0.0000	0.0063	0.0033	0.000	0.0033	-0.2035
TFL1.1	36	1071	396.3	122.7	4	0.0009	0.0006	0.0000	0.0013	0.0013	0.0000	1.0814
TOC1(ex1-4)	33	3182	277.0	80.0	11	0.0009	0.0009	0.0000	0.0005	0.0002	0.0000	-1.3290
TOC1(ex5-6)	44	980	938.3	267.7	5	0.0012	0.0014	0.0000	0.0006	0.0007	0.0000	-1.2813
ZTL1	46	1718	1187.2	399.8	2	0.0003	0.0002	0.0006	0.0003	0.0001	0.0011	0.2514
ZTL2	38	1755	1300.3	349.0	4	0.0005	0.0002	0.0010	0.0001	0.0001	0.0005	-1.8826

Table S3 Nucleotide diversity at 27 phenology candidate genes for adaptation to latitude in P. balsamifera.

^aN: Number of haploid samples ^bL: Length of sequence in bp for the entire region (total), and at just replacement (repl) or synonymous (syn) sites

^cS: Number of segregating polymorphisms

Gene	N	L_{total}^{a}	K _{total} b	Ka	Ks	K _a /K _s	H ^c	HKA ^d	S _s ^e	S _a	Fixed _s ^f	Fixeda	γ ^g
ABI1B	36	2375	0.016	0.011	0.020	0.57	0.05	0.14	8	3	6	14	0.35
ABI3	32	2362	0.023	0.015	0.033	0.47	0.50	0.80	8	6	32	20	0.20
СКВ34	34	872	0.015	0.000	0.022	0.00	0.70	0.10	7	0	12	0	
CO1	44	1474	0.027	0.007	0.045	0.16	-0.82	0.01	16	5	31	4	-0.36
CO2	48	1357	0.026	0.017	0.035	0.50	0.85	0.78	6	6	23	10	-0.08
CRY1.1	16	1894	0.012	0.007	0.029	0.23	-1.90	0.00	5	3	10	9	0.09
CRY1.2	46	1902	0.011	0.006	0.031	0.18	0.56	0.44	4	3	13	8	0.15
EBS	36	634	0.014	0.008	0.022	0.35	-2.37	0.16	4	0	4	3	
ELF3	36	1213	0.034	0.028	0.040	0.71	-4.09	0.25	8	7	22	13	-0.07
FRI	28	2077	0.017	0.013	0.020	0.62	0.60	6.64	39	14	12	8	-0.63
GI2	44	1650	0.027	0.016	0.046	0.35	0.40	2.14	4	4	28	17	0.34
GI5	44	2290	0.023	0.007	0.034	0.21	0.30	0.17	28	5	40	5	-0.28
HY1.1	32	2282	0.013	0.003	0.017	0.21	-0.18	0.66	18	1	25	1	
HY1.2	42	2003	0.016	0.002	0.021	0.10	-0.73	0.03	16	1	26	1	
HY2.1	42	2448	0.029	0.004	0.034	0.12	-0.46	0.71	50	2	60	1	
LFY	40	1880	0.021	0.001	0.036	0.04	-0.32	8.48	50	1	25	1	
ΡΗΥΑ	46	2535	0.016	0.006	0.049	0.12	-1.23	4.28	1	2	28	11	0.37
PHYB1	36	1620	0.008	0.003	0.025	0.13	0.52	0.13	3	4	9	4	-0.28
РНҮВ2	40	3660	0.021	0.006	0.034	0.17	0.66	5.09	4	2	66	10	0.36
PIF31	44	981	0.020	0.016	0.025	0.63	0.43	0.28	3	3	10	9	0.20
PtFT1	34	1091	0.044	0.008	0.062	0.14	-0.66	1.04	10	0	43	3	
TOC1	44	979	0.034	0.020	0.064	0.32	0.45	3.18	1	4	20	13	0.23
ZTL1	46	1518	0.007	0.001	0.020	0.05	0.57	1.27	1	1	9	1	
ZTL2	38	1497	0.016	0.012	0.024	0.52	-4.05	0.36	3	1	10	12	0.53

Table S4 Tests of selection based on *P. balsamifera* diversity and divergence from *P. tremula*

^aL: Length of sequence in bp

^bK: Per-site nucleotide divergence between *P. balsamifera* and *P. tremula* at all sites (K_{total}), just replacement sites, (K_a) or just silent sites (K_s)

^cH: Fay and Wu's *H* statistic (normalized).

^dHKA: Deviance score from J. Hey's HKA test based on the difference between observed polymorphism and expectations under neutral coalescent simulations.

^eS: Segregating sites within *P. balsamifera*

^f Fixed: Nucleotide differences between *P. balsamifera* and *P. tremula*

^g γ: Scaled selection coefficient (2*N*_es) on replacement sites estimated using the mkprf program. Dashes indicate omitted loci with fewer than 4 replacement site mutations (see Methods)