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Experimental evidence for rapid genomic adaptation to a new niche in an adaptive radiation

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Abstract

A substantial part of biodiversity is thought to have arisen from adaptive radiations in which one lineage rapidly diversified into multiple lineages adapted to many different niches. However, selection and drift reduce genetic variation during adaptation to new niches and may thus prevent or slow down further niche shifts. We tested whether rapid adaptation is still possible from a highly derived ecotype in the adaptive radiation of threespine stickleback on the Haida Gwaii archipelago, Western Canada. In a 19-years selection experiment, we let giant stickleback from a large blackwater lake evolve in a small clearwater pond without vertebrate predators. 56 whole genomes from the experiment and 26 natural populations revealed that adaptive genomic change was rapid in many small genomic regions and encompassed 75% of the adaptive genomic change between 12,000 years old ecotypes. Adaptive genomic change was as fast as phenotypic change in defence and trophic morphology and both were largely parallel between the short-term selection experiment and long-term natural adaptive radiation. Our results show that functionally relevant standing genetic variation can persist in derived adaptive radiation members, allowing adaptive radiations to unfold very rapidly.

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Data availability. Aligned sequences can be accessed under accession SRP100209 on the NCBI short read archive (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra).

Code availability. Custom scripts to compute D_{XY} from the SFS, to fold 2D-SFS and to fit HMM are available on <https://github.com/marqueda>.

Author contributions

T.E.R. conceived the study, ran the experiment, collected fish and ecological data in the field and acquired morphological data; D.M.K., F.C.J. and F.D.P. generated sequencing data and genotype calls, D.A.M. designed and performed all subsequent analyses and wrote the manuscript with contributions from all co-authors.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing financial interests.
Requests for materials should be addressed to T.E.R.

The colonization of a new habitat or niche requires rapid adaptation to multiple environmental challenges, i.e. to ‘multifarious’ divergent selection. This is most dramatic in adaptive radiations, where rapid successions of niche and habitat shifts occur within a lineage¹⁻³. However, most adaptive radiations started thousands of generations ago and we don’t know whether major phenotypic and genomic adaptation occurred within the first few generations of colonizing a new habitat, or over longer time scales and thus how ‘rapid’ adaptive radiations unfold. Adaptation may be instantaneous when phenotypic plasticity is involved^{4,5} or occur over few generations of selection on standing genetic variation^{6,7} or admixture variation^{8,9}. Alternatively, adaptation may require time for beneficial *de novo* mutations to arrive, or genomic adaptation may occur slower than phenotypic adaptation if rapid phenotypic plasticity is followed by slower genetic assimilation^{4,10}. Furthermore, each new habitat shift will reduce genetic variation through drift and selection and it is unclear whether further adaptation is hampered or slowed down after a first new niche has been colonized in an adaptive radiation.

Evolution experiments and cases of contemporary evolution, such as in biological invasions, may reveal the speed of phenotypic and genomic adaptation^{11,12}. However, many ‘evolve and re-sequence’ experiments and contemporary evolution studies focussed on single selective agents instead of multifarious fitness landscapes¹³⁻²¹, or phenotypic and genomic adaptation have been studied in isolation²²⁻²⁵. Only few examples of phenotypic and genomic contemporary evolution under multifarious divergent selection have been documented, such as marine threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) colonizing freshwater habitats in artificial and natural selection experiments²⁵⁻²⁸, showing widespread parallel genomic and phenotypic adaptation compared to thousands of generations older natural populations^{7,29}.

Here, we quantify the speed of genomic adaptation to multifarious divergent selection in a 19 years selection experiment, starting from a phenotypically highly derived adaptive radiation member, and compare rates of phenotypic and genomic change. We expand on a long term investigation of the adaptive radiation of threespine stickleback from the Haida Gwaii archipelago off Western Canada³⁰, where stickleback have colonized multiple watersheds independently and adapted to diverse freshwater habitats including lakes, ponds and streams with vastly divergent biophysical features, predator and parasite communities following glacial retreat ~12,000 years ago³¹⁻³⁴. Phenotypic variation in defensive armour³⁵⁻³⁹ such as dorsal and pelvic spines, pelvic girdle and lateral plates, and in trophic morphology^{31,39,40} such as in body shape, gape and gill rakers, can be largely explained by three main predictors: predation regime, light spectrum, and lake size³⁰.

A selection experiment along these three axes of selection was initiated by T.E.R. in 1993: he transplanted 100 adult stickleback from a large, deep, dystrophic, blackwater lake (Mayer Lake) with vertebrate-dominated predation into a small, shallow, eutrophic, previously unoccupied clearwater pond (Roadside Pond) dominated by invertebrate predators⁴¹. Mayer Lake contains some of the most derived freshwater stickleback, maximally divergent from the ancestral marine phenotype and occupying the extreme morphospace edge of the Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation³⁰: 8-10 cm long, melanistic ‘giants’ with highly developed predator defence and adaptations to limnetic foraging^{42,43}, low levels of phenotypic variance³¹ but

similar levels of genetic variation as other Haida Gwaii populations^{34,44}. After evolving for 16 years in the new selective regime, six predator defence, four feeding morphology traits and eye size evolved in the expected direction (Fig. 1a), encompassing ~30% of the morphological distance between natural stickleback populations from large lakes and small ponds⁴¹ (Fig. 2a). Life history changed from two to one year age of first reproduction and melanism was reduced^{41,45}. Phenotypic evolution was fast with on average 0.15 (0-0.25) *haldanes* over 11 generations, assuming an average generation time of 1.5 years⁴¹. While strong change in the first generation for four traits suggested phenotypic plasticity, other traits showed slower change suggesting genetic change. We use whole genomes from 26 natural populations, including the source Mayer Lake (N = 12), and the transplant population Roadside Pond (N = 11) sampled after evolving for 19 years or 13 generations in the new habitat, to identify the speed and targets of genomic adaptation and the extent of genomic parallelism with the Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation.

Results

Moderate genome-wide change, but strong change in many small genomic regions

Giant stickleback evolving for 13 generations in a new habitat showed only moderate genome-wide change (Fig. 1b-c), but strong change in many small genomic regions (Fig. 3-4). Allele frequencies (AF) changed on average by 11.4 % (weighted mean $| \Delta AF |$, Fig. 1c), leading to a genomic ‘background’ differentiation between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond of $F_{ST} = 0.057$ for autosomes and $F_{ST} = 0.107$ for the female sex chromosome (weighted pairwise F_{ST} , Fig. 1b). Compared to differentiation observed between natural, postglacial populations, 13 generations of evolution encompassed 41% of the differentiation between lake and stream ecotypes and 22% of the differentiation between stickleback from the large lake Mayer Lake and three independently colonized small ponds on Haida Gwaii (Fig. 2c). Similarly, mean pairwise divergence (D_{XY}), reflecting the sorting of polymorphic, ancient divergent genomic regions between populations on these short time scales, increased marginally ($D_{XY,within\ populations} = 0.0037$, $D_{XY,between\ Mayer-Roadside} = 0.0038$, $t_{183} = -2.88$, $P = 0.004$) and encompassed 20% of the divergence between naturally occurring lake and stream ecotypes and 9% of the divergence between Mayer Lake and small ponds (Fig. 2b, Supplementary Results).

The transplant of giant Mayer Lake stickleback to Roadside Pond led to a slight loss of genetic diversity and a prominent, genome-wide distortion of the site frequency spectrum (SFS, Fig. 1b, Supplementary Fig. 2a). Mean nucleotide diversity was reduced by 7.4% from $\pi_{Mayer} = 0.0047$ to $\pi_{Roadside} = 0.0043$ (mean 10kb windows, $t_{85940} = 22.56$, $P < 0.001$, Fig. 1b), but local diversity across the genome between both populations remained strongly correlated (Pearson’s $r = 0.92$, linear regression $F_{2,43444} = 89,485$, $P < 0.001$, Supplementary Fig. 3). The distribution of Tajima’s D was shifted to a positive mean from $T_{D,Mayer} = -0.27$ to $T_{D,Roadside} = 0.60$ (mean 10kb windows, $t_{85623} = -197.11$, $P < 0.001$, Fig. 1b), indicating the loss of rare alleles relative to common alleles evident from the observed 1D-SFS (Supplementary Fig. 2a), but Tajima’s D remained correlated across the genome (Pearson’s $r = 0.53$, linear regression $F_{2,43444} = 17,277$, $P < 0.001$, Supplementary Fig. 3).

Genomic footprints of divergent selection are widespread in the genome

Genome-wide average changes such as diversity loss and a shifted Tajima's D distribution are likely a product of demographic history, while localized changes in the genome may reflect footprints of selection. To distinguish the two, we reconstructed the demographic history of Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond stickleback (see Methods). The demographic model best fitting the observed 2D-SFS features a bottleneck $\sim 8,200$ generations ago, translating to $\sim 12,300$ years, in line with the postglacial colonization of Mayer Lake and also recovered the observed population growth of the Roadside Pond population following the transplant⁴¹ (Supplementary Fig. 2). We identified signatures of divergent selection between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond in the genome from outliers for differentiation (F_{ST}), change in diversity (π) or Tajima's D (T_D) and haplotype-based selection statistics (iHS, XPEHH) against neutral expectations from demographic history by simulating genomic data under the best-fitting demographic model (Supplementary Fig. 3, see Methods). The simulations reproduced both the observed diversity loss and positive shift in Tajima's D (Supplementary Fig. 4).

Traces of divergent selection among the habitats are widespread across the genome: we found 77 outlier regions distributed across 15 chromosomes, covering 15.73Mb or 3.6% of the genome (Figs. 3-4, Supplementary Figs. 5-19 and Table 1), exceeding expectations from simulated neutral genomic data (0.16-0.25% of the genome). Outlier regions varied in size between 30kb and 940kb (mean = 204kb, median = 160kb). Three quarters of outlier regions show patterns indicating a near-complete, past selective sweep in Mayer Lake, followed by a quick rise of the previously disfavoured allele to high/intermediate frequency in Roadside Pond: negative Tajima's D in Mayer Lake, positive Tajima's D in Roadside Pond, negative XPEHH, significant differentiation and exceptional allele frequency shifts between the populations (Fig. 4, Supplementary Figs. 5-19). The remaining quarter of outlier regions shows an opposite pattern indicating a selective sweep in Roadside Pond but not in Mayer Lake: reduced Tajima's D and diversity in Roadside Pond, significant H_{12} patterns for Roadside Pond and a positive XPEHH (Supplementary Figs. 6-19). Both patterns are in agreement with divergent selection between the habitats in the experiment.

We computed linkage disequilibrium (LD) between outlier regions to test whether divergent selection acted on a single region genomic with others hitchhiking, or whether multiple regions responded independently to divergent selection. Significant inter-chromosomal LD was found mainly between outlier regions in the Mayer Lake population (Supplementary Fig. 20), indicating that several regions involved in divergent selection in the experiment are not segregating fully independently in the source population. In the transplant population Roadside Pond however, we found only seven significant inter-chromosomal associations (Supplementary Fig. 20), suggesting that while outlier regions on different chromosomes responded largely independently to divergent selection in the experiment, some uncertainty remains about the exact number of independently selected regions.

Adaptive differentiation, defined as the top 5% single SNP F_{ST} estimates from each genomic outlier region, ranged from $F_{ST} = 0.25$ to $F_{ST} = 0.76$ with a mean of $F_{ST} = 0.44$. Allele frequency change at these SNPs ranged from $| \Delta F | = 18\%$ to $| \Delta F | = 81\%$ with a mean of $| \Delta F | = 51\%$, which under a model of purely selection-driven change would correspond to

selection coefficients between $s = 0.24$ and $s = 1$ with mean $s = 0.62$. Compared to naturally evolved, postglacial ecotypes, genomic adaptive differentiation after only 13 generations of evolution in a new 'ecological theatre' thus encompassed 72% of the degree of adaptive differentiation found between postglacial lake and stream ecotypes⁴⁶ and already exceeds adaptive differentiation found between giant Mayer Lake stickleback and its corresponding parapatric stream ecotype (Fig. 2d).

Genomic targets and parallel evolution in experiment and adaptive radiation

We identified potential targets and sources of divergent selection from overlapping genes and QTL⁴⁷ and from genotype-environment and genotype-phenotype (GE/GP) associations in the Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation. In the latter, we tested whether genomic variation in each outlier region was associated with change in phenotypic and ecological properties in the selection experiment and across one marine and 25 freshwater populations on Haida Gwaii (see Methods, Fig. 5). We found 654 QTL overlapping with outlier regions and 336 candidate genes near the centre of each outlier regions' selective sweep signature, but no gene ontology term enrichment (Figs. 4 and 5, Supplementary Figs. 5-19 and Tables 2 and 3). 36 outlier regions showed parallel GE/GP associations (Fig. 5).

In line with predation landscape being the most important axis of divergent selection in the adaptive radiation³⁰, 96 QTL and one candidate gene controlling predator deference traits overlap with outlier regions. Among these are major effect QTL for lateral plate number, dorsal spine, pelvic spine and pelvic girdle length and many intermediate and minor effect QTL for these traits on additional chromosomes (Fig. 5, Supplementary Table 2).

Remarkably, phenotypic variation in pelvic and dorsal spine length across the Haida Gwaii radiation is associated with genomic variation in eleven and six outlier regions, respectively, and the phenotypic and genomic change observed in the selection experiment paralleled the adaptive radiation in ten (pelvic spine) and four (dorsal spine) of these region (Fig. 5). Variation in plate number across the radiation is associated with genomic variation in outlier regions IV.i and XVII.f (parallel) and XII.c (non-parallel). While most annotations for candidate genes did not allow to draw conclusions on defence phenotypes, the *eda* gene in outlier region IV.e controls lateral plate number⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰ and several associated traits such as lateral line pattern and schooling behavior^{51,52} (Supplementary Fig. 9). Genetic variation in the *eda* region may be responsible for the observed reduction of plate number in the selection experiment⁴¹, while the lack of an association across the adaptive radiation suggests an involvement of different alleles or genes in other populations.

Variation in light spectrum across the adaptive radiation, the second most important axis of divergent selection³⁰, and the presence of blackwater show many strong, parallel associations with genetic variation in outlier regions also containing multiple candidate genes involved in (colour) vision (Fig. 5). The six outlier regions most strongly associated with light spectrum in parallel between adaptive radiation and the selection experiment contain the photoreceptor *opn1sw1* sensitive to UV-light⁵³, *TRPC7* involved in eye physiology⁵⁴, *CACNA2D3* associated with night blindness in humans⁵⁵, the gene *atp6v1f* involved in retinal pigmentation^{56,57}, the nervous system development genes *dennd6b* and *cers2a* expressed in the eye, lens and retina and *adamts10* involved in lens development⁵⁸. In

old natural populations⁴¹ (Fig. 1a, 2a). Here, we found that underlying adaptive genomic variation also responded very fast to divergent selection, with on average 72% of the expected change occurring in the first 13 generations. The evolutionary rate of genomic adaptation is thus very high and comparable in speed to contemporary evolution of *Brassica rapa* adapting to drought over 7 generations¹⁸, showing adaptive differentiation of $F_{ST} = 0.17-0.44$, or to Darwin's Finches undergoing drought-induced ecological character displacement⁶⁹, with a selection coefficient of 0.59 on a major effect locus. Genomic adaptation in our selection experiment is faster than in marine stickleback adapting to freshwater habitat over approx. 17 generations in Russia²⁶, where adaptive alleles increased in frequency by 10-50%. Both phenotype, with 0.15 *haldanes* in 12 generations⁴¹, and adaptive genomic variation with a mean F_{ST} of 0.46 in 13 generations, thus evolved at a very rapid rate typical of populations colonizing a new adaptive zone in an adaptive radiation⁷⁰. Rapid adaptation to multifarious divergent selection thus seems to occur similarly fast or faster than adaptation to a single selective force or with a single major locus as in some of these other examples.

Remarkably, the genomic basis of predator defence morphology, colour vision, feeding morphology and pigmentation overlapped with adaptive genomic change in the selection experiment, including some 'master adaptation genes' such as *eda*, *opnsw1/2*, *kitlg* and *mc1r*, frequently involved in repeated divergent adaptation of body armor, colour vision and pigmentation^{48,49,59,61,65,66,71}. Many of these regions showed parallel associations with variation in traits and ecosystem variables across the Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation. This suggests that there was no major gap between phenotypic and genomic change for most of the diverging traits on the contemporary time scale of the selection experiment. Although phenotypic plasticity likely contributed to near-instantaneous phenotypic adaptation for traits such as eye size or gill raker length⁴¹, our genomic findings suggest that selection has operated on genetic variation underlying most diverging phenotypic traits. Much of the genetic variation had to be shared with the Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation as standing genetic variation within Mayer Lake and across the archipelago, as outlier regions in the selection experiment evolved in parallel to the radiation in 36 of 77 genomic outlier regions (Fig. 5). Determinism of adaptive evolution thus is not only prevalent in phenotype⁴¹, but also in the genome, predicted by the three major axes of natural selection in the radiation³⁰.

Genomic parallelism is somewhat surprising, given that a highly derived phenotype in the adaptive radiation was the source for the selection experiment. Mayer Lake stickleback are vertebrate-predation, blackwater and zooplankton adapted specialists with little phenotypic variance. It is thus conceivable that such a specialist would have lacked the necessary standing genetic variation for rapid adaptation to the opposite extreme ecological theatre. In addition, a bottleneck during the selection experiment reduced genomic variation by 7%. Indeed, some shared alleles may have been lost during 12,000 years of adaptation to a blackwater lake: strong, but non-parallel associations between blackwater habitation and outlier regions on several chromosomes in the selection experiment suggest that different alleles from the adaptive radiation were favoured once the blackwater population had to re-adapt to the clearwater Roadside Pond (Fig. 5). Nevertheless, the Mayer Lake population still retained shared genetic variation at many loci for parallel adaptation in feeding morphology, defence morphology, pigmentation and vision. Genetic variation in Mayer Lake

may have been maintained by disruptive or fluctuating selection within Mayer Lake^{37,38,72}, by a large population size in Mayer Lake (Fig. 5) or occasional introgression of adaptive alleles from adjacent stream ecotypes^{46,73} or nearby lake ecotypes. Linkage disequilibrium between physically unlinked genomic regions containing such variation in Mayer Lake suggests that standing genetic variation is correlated in some individuals (Supplementary Fig. 20), compatible with all three hypotheses. Alternatively, bottlenecks during the colonization of Mayer Lake 12,000 years ago and during the experiment may not have been strong enough to remove adaptive genetic variation, such as in biological invasions where adaptive potential is usually not hampered with reductions in genetic diversity of 15-20%^{12,74}. Drift during habitat shifts may thus rarely hamper sequential and rapid colonization of new niches in an adaptive radiation.

Our results confirm that natural selection generally overrides historical contingency at the genomic level in the adaptive radiation of threespine stickleback on Haida Gwaii, in line with phenotypic patterns³⁰ and previous genomic results for lake-stream and marine-freshwater divergence^{7,26,27,34,46}, and in spite of bottlenecks upon colonization and strong selection acting on new colonizers. Similar selection-driven phenotypic and genomic determinism has been found in other adaptive radiations, based on adaptive introgression or a hybrid swarm origin rather than on standing genetic variation as in the stickleback, e.g. in East African cichlids^{9,75,76}, in Darwin's Finches^{69,77} or in *Heliconius* butterflies⁷⁸. Except for Darwin's Finches⁷⁹ and our experiment however, it remains to be shown whether the colonization of new adaptive zones can occur similarly fast on contemporary time scales. Our findings suggests that multifarious divergent selection acts rapidly on many different genes and regions in the genome and that large steps in both phenotypic and genomic adaptation in adaptive radiations are taken within the first few generations, even when starting from a highly derived adaptive radiation member. Adaptive radiations may thus rapidly advance on contemporary time scales, given enough standing genetic variation in key functional traits and an ecological theatre offering new niche space and imposing multifarious divergent selection.

Methods

Experimental setup, sampling, ethics statement

In May 1993, 100 adult giant threespine stickleback, 50 males and 50 females, were captured in Mayer Lake and transferred to Roadside Pond (aka 'Mayer Pond' in Leaver and Reimchen⁴¹). In 2004, 12 females were captured in Mayer Lake and in 2012, 11 females were caught in Roadside Pond corresponding to ~13 generations after release, assuming a population-average generation time of 1.5 years. In addition, stickleback from 25 freshwater populations across the Haida Gwaii archipelago representing the range of successfully colonized freshwater habitats, were sampled between 1993 and 2012 (see Table 1 in Marques, et al.⁵⁹). Stickleback were captured using minnow traps and euthanized with an overdose of tricaine methanesulfonate (MS-222) in agreement with British Columbia's guidelines for scientific fish collection, under Ministry of Environment permits SM09-51584 and SM10-62059 and University of Victoria Aquatic Unit facility Standard Operating Procedure OA2003. Collections in Naikoon Provincial Park and Drizzle Lake Ecological

Reserve were carried out under park use permits: 103171, 103172, 104795 and 104796. Samples were stored in 70% ethanol and the genomes of 58 individuals, including 12 Mayer Lake, 11 Roadside Pond and 1-4 individuals from 25 Haida Gwaii freshwater populations and two mainland British Columbia freshwater populations and one marine population were re-sequenced and are listed in Table 1 in our previous study focussing on the evolution of colour vision⁵⁹. Alignment, variant and genotype calling and filtering is described in Marques, et al.⁵⁹. Note that we aligned against an improved ordering of scaffolds of the reference stickleback genome and all genomic coordinates refer to this improved reference⁸⁰. For the analyses in this study, we used either raw aligned reads with mapping quality ≥ 17 and bases with quality ≥ 17 for statistics computed on genotype likelihoods or one of two subsets from the SNP dataset containing 7,888,602 high-quality SNPs among the 58 sequenced individuals for principal component analysis (unphased SNPs) and haplotype-based statistics (phased and imputed SNPs). The first, ‘selection experiment’ subset contained 4,180,622 SNPs among 12 Mayer Lake and 11 Roadside Pond individuals and the second ‘adaptive radiation’ dataset 6,564,510 SNPs among one marine and 25 natural Haida Gwaii freshwater populations (including Mayer Lake) with one randomly picked individual per population. Read-backed phasing and imputation in both adaptive radiation and selection experiment SNP datasets was performed with SHAPEIT v2.r790⁸¹, with phase-informative reads covering on average 7.5% of all heterozygote genotypes and 30.9% of all graph segments.

Population genomic analyses

We described genomic change in the selection experiment with the statistics absolute allele frequency change ($|\Delta AF|$), differentiation (F_{ST}), nucleotide diversity (π), and site frequency spectrum (Tajima’s D) computed from genotype likelihoods. We first computed the unfolded two-dimensional site frequency spectrum (2D-SFS) between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond from aligned autosomal reads with angsd v0.915 and the reference genome as ancestral state. We used the 2D-SFS as prior to estimate F_{ST} at single sites as well as F_{ST} , Tajima’s D and π in windows of 10kb width, either non-overlapping or sliding with 2kb step size from raw aligned reads in angsd⁸²⁻⁸⁴ with the filters as outlined above. Single site F_{ST} was calculated from site alphas and betas computed by angsd. We also estimated minor allele frequencies in each population in angsd to calculate absolute allele frequency change ($|\Delta AF|$). We calculated a weighted mean $|\Delta AF|$ with the weighted.mean function in R, using each SNP’s ‘starting allele frequency’, the minor allele frequency estimated for the Mayer Lake population, as weights.

We compared the amount of genomic change in the selection experiment to natural populations in the Haida Gwaii radiation for genome-wide differentiation (F_{ST}) and absolute divergence (D_{XY}). For absolute divergence between the populations, we computed the unfolded 2D-SFS for pairs of individuals and calculated mean pairwise D_{XY} from the SFS using custom scripts. We computed pairwise D_{XY} within populations Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond to get a baseline of expected pairwise D_{XY} . Then we computed pairwise D_{XY} between populations Mayer Lake vs. Roadside Pond, three lake vs. stream ecotype populations (Mayer Lake vs. Gold Creek, Drizzle Lake vs. inlet and outlet, Spence Lake vs. outlet) and three large lake vs. small pond populations (Mayer Lake vs. Branta, Laurel,

Solstice). We also estimated absolute divergence from the proportion of fixed differences among polymorphic sites between pairs of individuals. We annotated SNPs in the 'adaptive radiation' dataset using the Ensembl Variant Effect Predictor⁸⁵ and used the Picard Tool LiftoverVCF v2.7.0⁸⁶ to move the SNPs into the original annotation⁷. We partitioned SNPs into missense, synonymous, intron, regulatory and intergenic SNPs using SnpSift v4.2⁸⁷ and computed the proportion of fixed differences from the 012 output format of vcfTools v0.1.15⁸⁸. Genome-wide differentiation between populations (F_{ST}) was calculated from previously published SNP array data^{34,46} for the lake vs. stream and large lake vs. small pond comparisons. We ran a locus-by-locus AMOVA for SNPs with at least 3 genotypes per population in arlequin v3.5.2.2⁸⁹ (Supplementary Table 4), resulting in >400 SNPs per comparison that should give an unbiased genome-wide F_{ST} estimate⁹⁰. For lake vs. stream comparisons with multiple stream populations (e.g. Drizzle: inlet and outlet; Mayer: Gold, Woodpile and Spam Creek⁴⁶), we used hierarchical AMOVAs with each population retained as separate sample but grouped into either lake or stream group (Supplementary Table 4). Alpha and beta estimates from the AMOVA and the F_{ST} computation in angsd for Mayer vs. Roadside were pooled to sums of nominators and denominators to get a weighed mean F_{ST} estimate⁹¹.

We identified likely genomic targets of divergent selection between the source and transplant population with a two-step outlier approach. First, we inferred an optimal, neutral demographic model on the 2D-SFS using fastsimcoal2 v2.6⁹². Second, we simulated neutral genomic data under the best demographic model, against which we identified outlying genomic regions in the observed data. We folded the 2D-SFS using custom scripts, fit 12 different demographic models (Supplementary Fig. 2b and Data 1) to the observed 2D-SFS with fastsimcoal2 and compared their likelihoods using the Akaike information criterion (AIC) following Excoffier, et al.⁹². We maximized the likelihood of each model from 100 random starting parameter combinations in 10 to max. 50 ECM cycles, with a stopping criterion of 0.001. 100,000 coalescent simulations were used to approximate the expected 2D-SFS. In all simulations, we used a mutation rate of 1.7E-8, following Feulner, et al.⁹³, a founding population size of $2N = 200$ individuals for the Roadside Pond population and generated Mayer Lake samples 5 generations prior to Roadside Pond to account for different sampling years (Supplementary Data 1). Likelihood and parameter estimates for each model were obtained from the run with the highest likelihood among the 100 optimizations. For the parameters of the best model, we estimated 95%-confidence intervals as empirical percentiles on parameters from the best of 10 optimization runs on 100 bootstrap replicates of the observed 2D-SFS, with each optimization started from the original parameters of the best model. We computed bootstrap replicates for each autosome separately in angsd and combined 2D-SFS from different autosomes with custom scripts. We simulated neutral genomic data under the best demographic model with fastsimcoal2 for four different recombination rates, high = 4-16 cM/Mb, intermediate = 1.5-4 cM/Mb, low = 0.5-1.5 cM/Mb and very low = 0-0.05 cM/Mb. For each recombination range, we generated 1,000 replicate DNA segments of 1Mb length, with a mutation rate of 1.7E-8 and a random recombination rate from that range, assuming a uniform distribution (very low, low recombination rate) or log-uniform distribution (intermediate, high recombination rate) that reflect the frequency of recombination rate variation in the stickleback genome⁸⁰. We

transformed the simulated data into VCF format using custom scripts and computed weighted F_{ST} , Tajima's D and π in non-overlapping 10kb windows using vcftools v0.1.14⁸⁸.

A selective sweep caused by divergent selection between habitats is expected to lead to excess differentiation (F_{ST}) between populations at and around the site under selection, to reduced diversity in the population experiencing the selective sweep and to a shifted SFS, reflected by a strongly negative Tajima's D upon completion of the sweep. In addition, haplotype-based statistics are able to detect soft and incomplete sweeps within a populations (iHS⁹⁴ and H12⁹⁵) or completed sweeps in one of two populations (XPEHH)⁹⁶. We computed the haplotype-based selection statistics integrated haplotype score (iHS)⁹⁴, H12⁹⁵, and cross-population extended haplotype homozygosity (XPEHH)⁹⁶ for phased and imputed bi-allelic SNPs with minor allele frequency > 5% in the 'selection experiment' dataset and for simulated SNP data. We computed iHS and H12 separately for Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond populations, using only SNPs with minor allele frequency >5% the respective population. We calculated the proportion of extreme iHS and XPEHH values ('w-iHS', the proportion of $|iHS| > 2$, following Voight, et al.⁹⁴ and 'w-XPEHH', the proportion of $|XPEHH| > 2$) in non-overlapping 10kb windows containing more than 10 iHS or XPEHH estimates, respectively, for both observed and simulated datasets. We used selscan v1.1.0b⁹⁷ with default parameters to compute iHS and XPEHH and the proportion of extreme values in 10kb windows. We also computed H12 for the observed dataset using scripts published alongside the H12 method⁹⁵, with 81 SNPs bin width, resulting in on average 8.3kb wide windows close to the 10kb windows identified as optimal and robust to various demographic scenarios by Garud, et al.⁹⁵.

We identified outliers against neutral expectations for six 10kb non-overlapping window statistics: F_{ST} , change in nucleotide diversity ($\pi = \pi_{Roadside} - \pi_{Mayer}$), change in Tajima's D ($T_D = T_{D,Roadside} - T_{D,Mayer}$), w-iHS_{Mayer}, w-iHS_{Roadside} and w-XPEHH. Our ability to detect signatures of selective sweeps with window-based statistics depends on local recombination rate, with stronger hitchhiking in low recombination rate regions leading to more prominent signals and a greater variation in such statistics (Supplementary Figs. 3-4). We therefore identified outlier windows separately in genomic regions with high, intermediate, low and very low recombination rate (see above and Supplementary Fig. 4). We assigned 10kb windows to recombination rate bins according to local recombination rates estimated in the middle of each 10kb window as described previously⁵⁹. For each 10kb window, we computed the empirical quantile of the observed F_{ST} , π , T_D , w-iHS_{Mayer}, w-iHS_{Roadside} and w-XPEHH value against the simulated distribution of the statistic in the respective recombination bin with the function 'ecdf' in R v3.3.1⁹⁸. We converted quantiles to two-sided p-values for π and T_D and one-sided p-values for the other statistics.

We identified genomic regions likely under divergent selection between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond ('outlier regions') based on overlapping outlier signatures in these six selection statistics. To capture the shared signal, we applied Fisher's combined probability test to the four to six p-values in each 10kb window, as implemented in the R-package 'metap'. P-values from Fisher's combined probability test were corrected for multiple testing using the false discovery rate method⁹⁹ implemented in 'p.adjust', converted to q-values ($= 1 - p_{adj}$) and z-transformed using the R function 'qnorm'. We used a Hidden

Markov model (HMM) approach to group adjacent 10kb windows into outlier regions. The z-transformed q-values were used as input to HMMs with two or three normally distributed states. We optimized parameters of both HMMs from 1,000 random starting parameters using the Baum-Welch algorithm implemented in the R-package ‘HiddenMarkov’. The three-state HMM better fit the data according to the Akaike information criterion and was thus used to assign all 42,996 10kb-windows to the three states using the Viterbi algorithm. Preliminary outlier regions were obtained from joining adjacent windows assigned to the state capturing highly significant Fisher’s combined probability test p-values. Then, only outlier regions that contained significant outliers with $p < 0.01$ for each of the statistics (a) F_{ST} , (b) π or T_D and (c) $w\text{-iHS}_{Mayer}$, $w\text{-iHS}_{Roadside}$ or $w\text{-XPEHH}$ as well as outlier regions with strongly aligned signatures for these statistics plus $H12_{Mayer}$ or $H12_{Roadside}$ were retained in the final set of outlier regions reflecting divergent selection between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond. We did not further analyse signatures of e.g. shared directional or background selection, which should result in reduced diversity and Tajima’s D or significant haplotype-based statistics in both populations, but not in differentiation between the populations.

We quantified adaptive differentiation between the source and transplant population by computing single SNP F_{ST} and retaining the top 5% F_{ST} SNPs in each outlier region, thereby containing likely the few SNPs under selection and many more linked, hitchhiking SNPs in each region affected by divergent selection. We compared this distribution of adaptive differentiation to adaptive differentiation among three postglacial pairs of lake and stream ecotypes on Haida Gwaii, using F_{ST} estimates from only those SNPs previously identified to be under selection in the respective ecotype comparison⁴⁶, which also likely reflect SNPs hitchhiking and to a lesser degree direct targets of selection. For the top 5% F_{ST} SNPs in each outlier region, we computed the expected selection coefficient under a pure selection model, based on the allele frequency changes at these SNPs over 12.7 generations and assuming incomplete dominance $h = 0.5$ following equation 3.2 in Gillespie¹⁰⁰. These calculations likely overestimate selection coefficients due to unaccounted contributions of drift and should thus be interpreted with caution.

We computed linkage disequilibrium (LD) as r^2 between the most divergent 15 SNPs polymorphic in both Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond for each outlier region using *vcftools*, both within and between chromosomes. We assessed whether LD between outlier regions on different chromosomes exceeded neutral expectations of no linkage disequilibrium. We derived the neutral distribution of LD with the observed sample sizes by randomly choosing SNPs outside outlier regions from each chromosome with at least 500kb distance between SNPs on the same chromosome ($N = 617$) and computing inter-chromosomal LD between these SNPs. Then, we determined whether the mean observed LD between two outlier regions is greater than the 95%-quantile of the neutral observed inter-chromosomal LD distribution.

We associated the genomic signatures of divergent selection with potential sources of selection in the experiment and the adaptive radiation by studying their gene content and the gene’s functional annotations, from their overlap with previously described stickleback QTL that have been mapped in genetic studies of specific phenotypes⁴⁷, and from genotype-

phenotype/ecology associations across the Haida Gwaii radiation. First, we identified candidate genes by inspecting the patterns of 10kb sliding window statistics F_{ST} , π_{Mayer} , $\pi_{Roadside}$, Tajima's D and single locus statistics iHS_{Mayer} , $iHS_{Roadside}$, $H12_{Mayer}$, $H12_{Roadside}$, XPEHH and $|AF|$ visually (Fig. 4, Supplementary Figs. 5-19) and retained a list of genes centred on or adjacent to selective sweep signatures (Supplementary Table 3). Then, we tested this list of candidate genes for enrichment of gene ontology terms using the String database v10¹⁰¹ and retrieved functional and expression information from zebrafish⁵⁸ and related mouse, rat and human databases^{102,103}. In addition, we identified overlap between outlier regions and QTL previously identified in other stickleback populations in the Northern Hemisphere using the list of Peichel and Marques⁴⁷ and the peak marker location and confidence intervals reported there. QTL were grouped into major, intermediate or minor effect size classes respectively, when they explained > 25%, between 5% and 25%, or < 5%, respectively, of the phenotypic variation in the experiments⁴⁷.

Finally, we determined whether outlier regions in the selection experiment evolved in predictable directions given the environmental contrast. In the absence of replicate experimental ponds, we used genotype-phenotype and genotype-environment associations across the larger Haida Gwaii stickleback adaptive radiation with many natural replicates to infer whether the same genomic regions evolved in parallel direction. For each outlier region, we identified the SNPs with the strongest allele frequency change between Mayer Lake and Roadside Pond (top 1% $|AF|$), assigned the alleles as Mayer Lake-like or Roadside Pond-like based on in which population they are more frequent, extracted the genotypes for those SNPs from the adaptive radiation SNP dataset containing single genomes of one marine and 25 freshwater populations including Mayer Lake, recoded the alleles as 0 (Mayer-like) or 1 (Roadside-like), combined them into multi-dimensional scaling (MDS) factors and polarized the MDS factors for Mayer Lake to be represented by low and Roadside Pond by high values in R. Next, we used the genomic MDS factor of each outlier region as response variable in a generalized linear model with 12 phenotypic and ecological properties of the 26 Haida Gwaii populations as predictors (see below). For each outlier region's generalized linear model, we performed variable selection by iteratively removing non-significant predictors (χ^2 tests, $P > 0.1$). Parallelism was inferred if the MDS factor of an outlier region was positively associated with the predictors, no parallelism if the association was negative.

We used the presence of blackwater (transmission at 400nm < 74%), of vertebrate predators in a population, and whether the population consists of predominantly melanistic phenotypes as binary predictors. Continuous predictors were lake area (log-transformed), light spectrum, mean body size (standard length), mean lateral plate number (excluding fully plated individuals), mean dorsal spine length, mean pelvic spine length, mean jaw length and mean gill raker number, the linear measurements size-corrected as described in Reimchen, et al.³⁰ and all scaled and standardized to mean zero and standard deviation one. We polarized all predictors so that the change from Mayer Lake to Roadside Pond would represent a positive shift, i.e. a shift from blackwater to clearwater, from melanism to reduced melanism, a decrease in lake area, body size, lateral plate number, pelvic spine length and gill raker number, and an increase in jaw length⁴¹. As last predictor, we included geographic structuring by using the first principal components axis from genomic variation in the

adaptive radiation SNP dataset. We used genotype likelihoods from the adaptive radiation SNP dataset, computed the site allele frequency spectrum to get a covariance matrix as implemented in *angsd* and *ngsCovar*⁸⁴ and performed the eigenvalue decomposition in R to get the first principal component. We visualized phenotypic change in the selection experiment⁴¹ and phenotypic divergence between Mayer Lake, its stream ecotype (Mayer Stream = Gold Creek⁴⁶), Laurel, Branta and Solstice³⁹ from the data of this earlier work by using the size-correction of Leaver and Reimchen⁴¹ within each population for all datasets combined. Analyses were performed on Compute Canada's WestGrid computer cluster infrastructure (www.westgrid.ca).

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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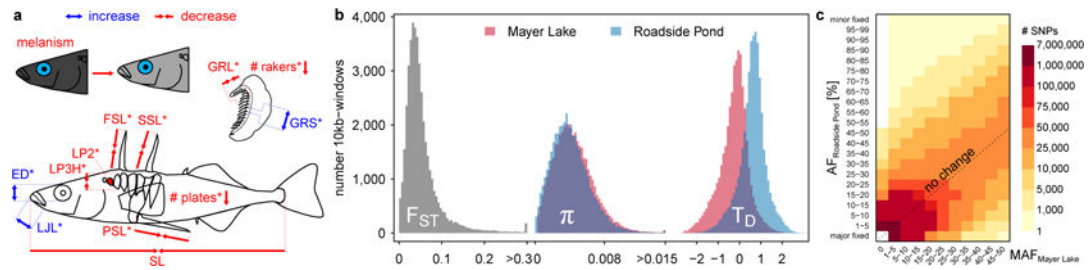


Fig. 1. Phenotypic and genomic change in the selection experiment

a Summary of the phenotypic change observed in the selection experiment, as reported in Leaver and Reimchen⁴¹, with colours indicating trait increase or decrease and asterisks indicating significant change. Phenotypic change in six bony predator defence traits (FSL: first dorsal spine length, SSL: second dorsal spine length, PSL: pelvic spine length, # plates: number of lateral plates, LP3H: lateral plate 3 height, LP2: lateral plate 2 frequency), four feeding morphology traits (LJL: lower jaw length, # rakers: number of gill rakers, GRL: gill raker length, GRS: gill raker spacing) and eye diameter (ED) was in the expected direction, i.e. parallel, given the shift from vertebrate- to invertebrate-dominated predation and zooplankton- to invertebrate-dominated diet and observed phenotypic divergence between large lake and small pond populations in the adaptive radiation on Haida Gwaii⁴¹. SL: standard length. **b** Transplant of 100 adult giant threespine stickleback from Mayer Lake into Roadside Pond and evolution for 13 generations led to moderate genomic differentiation (F_{ST}), a minor reduction nucleotide diversity (π) and to a positive shift in the Tajima's D (T_D) distribution. **c** Even though several rare alleles were fixed, allele frequencies (AF) did not change much over 13 generations. MAF: minor allele frequency.

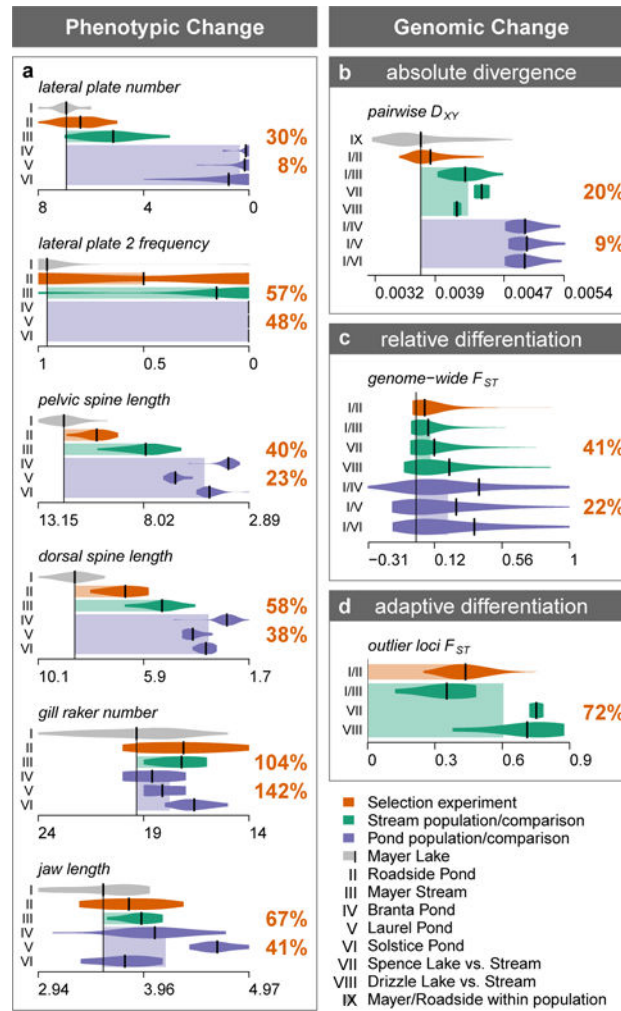


Fig. 2. Comparison of the extent of phenotypic and genomic evolution in the 19 years selection experiment with the ~12,000 years old adaptive radiation

Phenotypic divergence and adaptive genomic differentiation arose rapidly in the selection experiment, comparable in extent to postglacial divergence between large lake and pond or stream ecotypes. **a** Population means and distributions for six phenotypic traits in Mayer Lake (source population), Roadside Pond (transplant population, orange), postglacial stream (green) and pond (blue) ecotype populations⁴¹. **b** Absolute divergence (D_{XY}), **c** relative differentiation (F_{ST}) and **d** adaptive differentiation (F_{ST}) between postglacial large lake and stream (green) or pond (blue) ecotype populations as well as in the selection experiment (orange). F_{ST} estimates for lake-stream and large lake vs. small pond comparisons are based on SNP chip data from a previous study⁴⁶. Adaptive differentiation SNPs are outlier SNPs in this previous study⁴⁶ and top 5% F_{ST} SNPs in each outlier window for the selection experiment. Numbers are mean percentages of phenotypic or genomic change in the selection experiment compared to postglacial lake vs. stream divergence (upper) and large lake vs. small pond divergence (lower number).

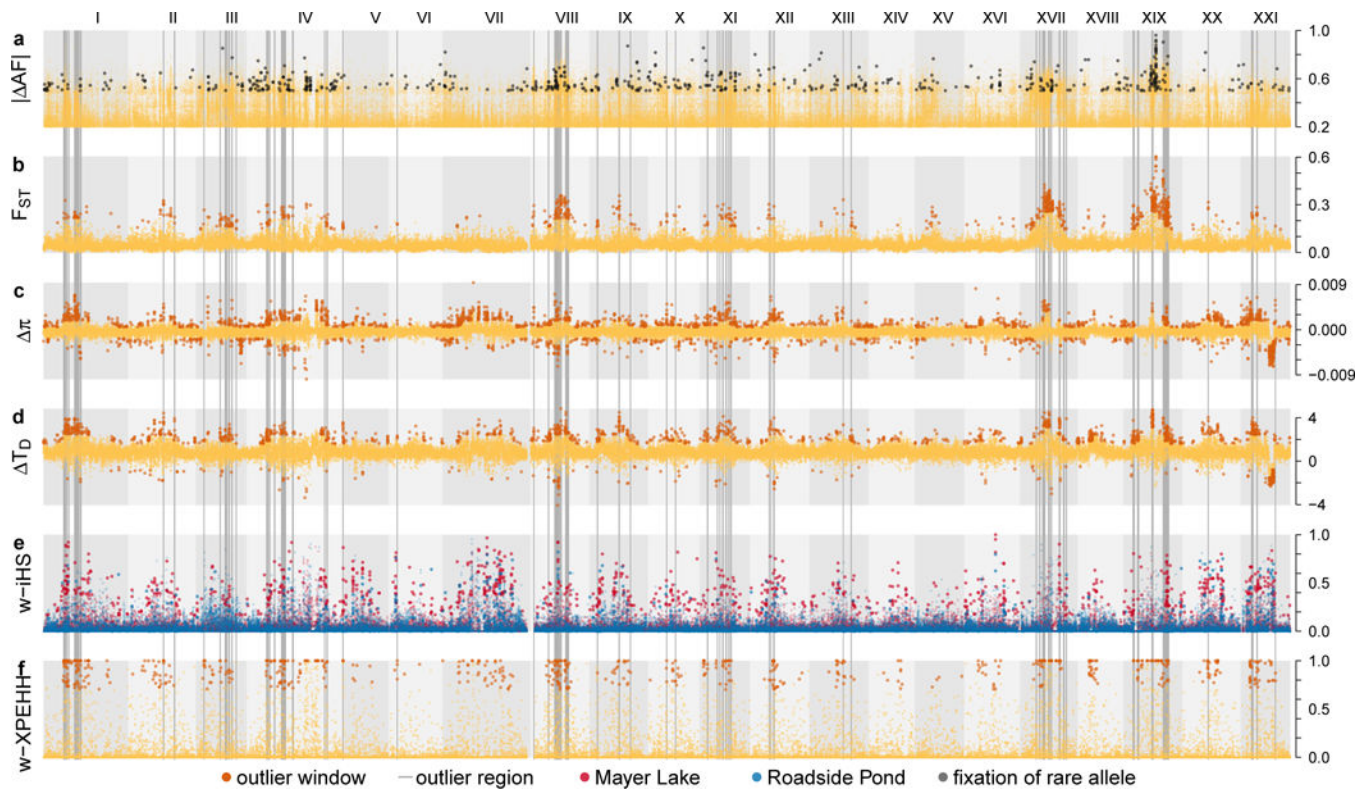


Fig. 3. Genomic footprints of divergent selection are widespread across the genome

a Absolute allele frequency change ($|\Delta AF|$) at the top 0.1% strongest $|\Delta AF|$ -SNPs, with black points highlighting SNPs for which the rarer allele in Mayer Lake went to fixation in Roadside Pond. Grey vertical bars highlight 77 outlier regions across 15 of the 21 stickleback chromosomes (roman numerals) with overlapping top 1% outlier 10kb windows against neutral demographic expectations highlighted with larger, darker points, for the statistics **b** high differentiation (F_{ST}), **c** change in diversity ($\Delta \pi$) and **d** Tajima's D (T_D) and haplotype-based selection statistics **e** w -iHS and **f** w -XPEHH (see Methods).

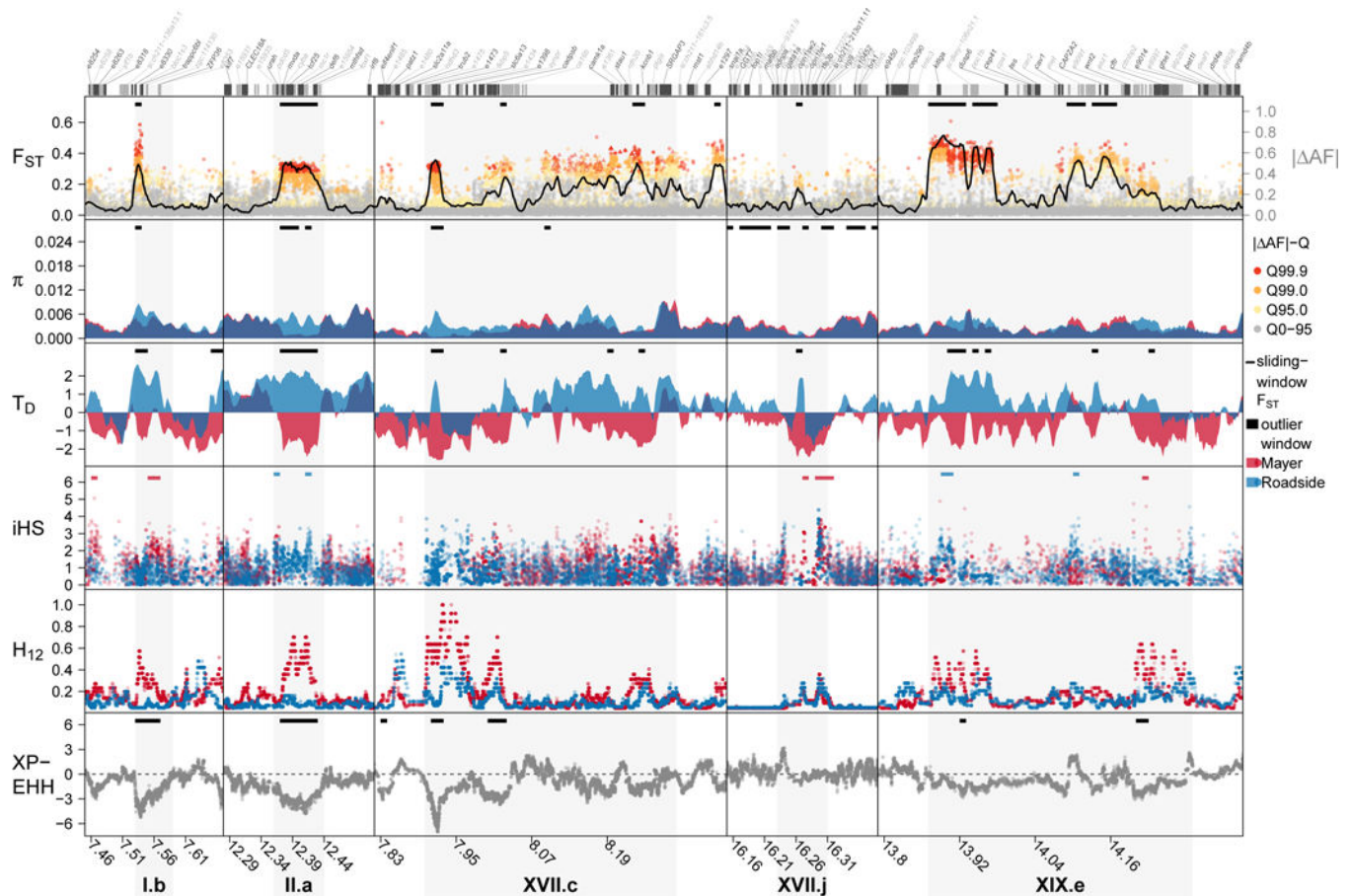


Fig. 4. Local signatures of divergent selection in the genome

For five of the 77 outlier regions in the genome (grey shading), patterns of differentiation (F_{ST}), allele frequency change ($|\Delta AF|$), nucleotide diversity (π), Tajima's D (T_D) and iHS , H_{12} and $XP-EHH$ are shown. Outlier region I.b is centred on a two genes, *trappc6bl* and *bloc1s3*, controlling pigmentation in the retina, II.a contains the pigmentation gene *mc1r*, XVII.j the blue-sensitive colour vision gene *opnsw2*, likely targets of divergent selection on pigmentation and visual perception. See Supplementary Figs. 5-19 for further outlier regions. The top panel colour code indicates quantiles in the $|\Delta AF|$ distribution, black horizontal bars show significant non-overlapping 10kb outlier windows against neutral expectations, gene exons are shown on top (gene names 'ENSG000000012345' shortened to 'e12345'). Genomic coordinates refer to an improved version of the reference genome⁸⁰. Lines are sliding-window estimates for 10kb sliding windows with 2.5kb step size, dots are single SNP estimates ($|\Delta AF|$, iHS , $XP-EHH$) or 81-SNP windows (H_{12}).



Fig. 5. Outlier regions and overlapping QTL, candidate genes and genome-phenotype/ecology associations across the adaptive radiation
a Distribution of overlapping quantitative trait loci (QTL). Circles indicate QTL peak markers, horizontal bars confidence intervals and colour codes the effect sizes: major (percentage variance explained, PVE > 25%), intermediate (25% > PVE > 5%) and minor effect QTL (PVE < 5%). **b** Genome vs. environment and phenotype associations (GE/GP assoc.) and directionality of phenotypic and genomic change between selection experiment and Haida Gwaii adaptive radiation. Predictors retained in generalized linear model for each outlier region are shown in coloured squares, with blue boxes representing parallel genomic and phenotypic/ecological change and red boxes non-parallel change (except for genomic PC1, for which directionality cannot be inferred). The colour code shows the relative effect sizes (β). **c** List of candidate genes centred on divergent selection patterns in outlier regions.