

A likelihood-based comparison of populations histories in a parasitoid guild

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Abstract

1
2 Little is known about the stability of trophic relationships in complex natural communities over evo-
3 lutionary timescales. Here, we use sequence data from 18 nuclear loci to reconstruct and compare the
4 intraspecific histories of major Pleistocene refugial populations in the Middle East, the Balkans and
5 Iberia in a guild of four Chalcid parasitoids (*Cecidostiba fungosa*, *C. semifascia*, *Hobbya steno-*
6 *Mesopolobus amaenus*) all attacking Cynipid oak galls. We develop a likelihood method to numerically
7 estimate models of divergence between three populations from multilocus data. We investigate the power
8 of this framework on simulated data, and — using triplet alignments of intronic loci — quantify the support
9 for all possible divergence relationships between refugial populations in the four parasitoids. Although
10 an East to West order of population divergence has highest support in all but one species, we cannot rule
11 out alternative population tree topologies. Comparing the estimated times of population splits between
12 species, we find that one species, *M. amaenus*, has a significantly older history than the rest of the guild
13 and must have arrived in central Europe at least one glacial cycle prior to other guild members. This sug-
14 gests that although all four species may share a common origin in the East, they expanded westwards into
15 Europe at different times.

16 The past two decades have seen a proliferation of studies that use genetic data to draw inferences about
17 the spatial history of species. Population genetic and phylogeographic studies have revealed that regional
18 faunas and floras often share characteristic historical patterns (Avice, 1987). For example, the genetic sig-
19 natures of past range contractions into southern refugia during glacial maxima followed by expansion out
20 of them into northern areas during warm period have been found in many temperate species (Hewitt, 2000;
21 Schmitt, 2007). Likewise, the same unglaciated areas have acted as refugia for many species and, in Europe,
22 genetic diversity within those southern refugia often shows a decline from east to west, suggesting an earlier,
23 longitudinal spread in that direction (e. g. Koch *et al.*, 2006; Atkinson *et al.*, 2007; Duvaux *et al.*, 2011).

24 This historical perspective, which seeks to understand how species distributions changed over evolu-
25 tionary timescales, has been largely absent from the field of community ecology (Hickerson *et al.*, 2010),
26 which instead views regional community composition in terms of the life histories of component species. It
27 therefore remains unclear how trophic links within regional communities have been affected by the drastic
28 range shifts associated with Pleistocene climate cycles. Although phylogenetic studies have demonstrated
29 co-divergence of parasitoids and their associated hosts at the species and deeper levels (Lopez-Vaamonde
30 *et al.*, 2001), few attempts have been made to systematically compare intraspecific histories within com-
31 munities (but see DeChaine & Martin, 2006; Smith *et al.*, 2011; Dolman & Joseph, 2012). While there are
32 striking examples of specialist associations with tightly linked histories such as highly specialized parasitic
33 or symbiotic interactions (e. g. Hoberg & Brooks, 2008; Espíndola & Alvarez, 2011), the great majority of
34 species share diffuse trophic links with many species rather than strong associations with few.

35 Oak gallwasps and their associated parasitoid chalcid wasp enemies are a case in point, and provide an
36 excellent model for reconstructing community assembly from genetic data (Stone *et al.*, 2012). Like many
37 insect herbivores (leaf miners, seed feeders etc), oak gall wasps support a diverse guild of chalcid parasitoids
38 (over 100 species in Europe), which although obligate parasitoids of oak galls consists mainly of generalists

39 that attack a wide range of host galls (Askew, 1961a; Bailey *et al.*, 2009). One hypothesis for the ubiquity of
40 generalism in this and similar temperate parasitoid guilds is that because of the glaciation-associated shifts
41 in climate, species interactions have been repeatedly uncoupled, which limits the potential for co-evolution
42 between hosts and parasitoid and instead selects for minimal host specificity (Stone *et al.*, 2012). If this was
43 the case, we expect to find evidence for incongruent histories within parasitoid guilds.

44 For classical phylogeography, which has in the past focused overwhelmingly on describing patterns in
45 mitochondrial sequence data, finding concordance across co-distributed species (Avice, 1987) has provided
46 perhaps the best justification for interpreting these patterns in a qualitative way in the first place. However, if
47 we want to actually test how concordant spatial histories are between species, we need a statistical, model-
48 based framework (Edwards & Beerli, 2000; Nichols, 2001; Hickerson *et al.*, 2010; Lim & Sheldon, 2011).

49 Recently, we have investigated the temporal congruence of Pleistocene histories in the oak gall commu-
50 nity by analysing a dataset of mitochondrial DNA sequences from 31 species under a hierarchical model of
51 multispecies divergence between neighbouring pairs of refugia (Stone *et al.*, 2012). This study found that,
52 with few exceptions, divergence between refugia occurred earlier in gallwasp hosts than in their parasitoids,
53 supporting the idea that gallwasps escaped their enemies as they expanded westwards. However, the vari-
54 ance of the coalescent severely limits the information contained in a single locus (Wakeley, 2009). Thus,
55 while Stone *et al.* (2012) were able to infer the number and age of multispecies divergence events across
56 each guild, there was little power to reconstruct the history of any particular species. Furthermore, the anal-
57 ysis was limited to pairs of neighbouring populations, rather than considering multiple refugia jointly, and
58 so did not examine the order of divergence (i. e. the population tree topology). Sampling multiple, indepen-
59 dent loci provides the crucial replication to resolve intraspecific histories (Felsenstein, 2006). For example,
60 Jennings & Edwards (2005) and Lohse *et al.* (2010) used likelihood (Yang, 2002) and Bayesian (Rannala &
61 Yang, 2003) methods to estimate divergence times and effective sizes of ancestral populations from nuclear

62 loci sampled from just a single individual per population. For the oak gall parasitoid *Cecidostiba fungosa*,
63 this model-based analysis supported an eastern Asian origin of Balkan and Iberian refuge populations with
64 divergence from a common ancestral population at most one glacial cycle ago (Lohse *et al.*, 2010). While
65 such minimal triplet samples are of course uninformative about the parameters of current populations, they
66 do contain information about the historical relationships of these populations and are amenable to exact
67 likelihood analysis. In other words, the likelihood of a particular model can be maximised directly from the
68 mutational patterns observed across arbitrary numbers of unlinked loci without loss of information (Yang,
69 2002; Lohse *et al.*, 2011a).

70 Here, we extend the likelihood framework of Yang (2002) for triplet samples to investigate all possible
71 population tree topologies and nested models within those topologies. We then apply this method to nu-
72 clear sequence data sampled from three refugial populations (the Middle East, the Balkans and Iberia) in
73 four species of chalcid parasitoids of oak galls to compare their longitudinal histories. These include *Ceci-*
74 *dostiba fungosa*, previously analysed by Lohse *et al.* (2010), and three other species; *C. semifascia*, *Hob-*
75 *bya stenonota* and *Mesopolobus amaenus*, all Pteromalid chalcids that exclusively attack oak galls (Askew,
76 1961b). We use likelihoods to quantify the relative support for all possible divergence scenarios in each
77 species and address three questions; i) Can we infer the order in which refugial populations diverged and –
78 specifically — do all sampled members of the guild share the same population topology and hence a com-
79 mon origin? ii) Are population splitting times compatible with simultaneous divergence of the guild or can
80 we rule out such synchrony? Using simulations we also asked how the power to distinguish between models
81 depends on the timescale of divergence and the number loci and ask how robust these inference are to the
82 presence of post-divergence gene flow.

83 **Methods**

84 **Samples and sequencing**

85 The sampling strategy followed Lohse *et al.* (2010). For each species, a single haploid male individual from
86 each of three major Western Palearctic refugia in the Middle East (East) the Balkans (Center) and Iberia
87 (West) was sequenced for a panel of 18 exon priming, intron crossing loci. These markers had previously
88 been developed (Lohse *et al.*, 2011b) and analysed (Lohse *et al.*, 2010) for *C. fungosa* and the outgroup *Cae-*
89 *nacis lauta* (GenBank accession nos HM208872-HM209026). East-Center-West triplets for 14 of these loci
90 had been sequenced for *M. amaenus* as part of the marker development (GenBank accession nos HQ596410-
91 HQ596457). Analogous datasets were generated for three individuals of two additional pteromalid species:
92 *Cecidostiba semifascia* and *Hobbya stenonota* (Supporting Information, Table S1). Primers and PCR condi-
93 tions are described in detail in Lohse *et al.* (2011b). PCR products were sequenced in both directions on an
94 ABI Sanger platform using BigDye chemistry at the NERC GenePool facility, Edinburgh. Complementary
95 reads were aligned using Sequencer v.4.8 and checked by eye. For each locus, ingroup and outgroup se-
96 quences were aligned in Muscle (Edgar, 2004). *C. lauta* was used as an outgroup for all four species (Table
97 1).

98 Custom made bio-python scripts (available from the authors upon request) were used to compute sum-
99 mary statistics (Watterson's θ), polarize alignments with respect to the outgroup and remove invariant sites
100 and indels. The polymorphism information within each locus can be summarised by counting the six pos-
101 sible types of polarized mutations. Denoting the state of a given SNP as either ancestral (0) or derived (1)
102 these can be written as (1 1 0), (1 0 1), (0 1 1), (1 0 0), (0 1 0) and (0 0 1), where entries in the list corresponds
103 to the three sampling locations i. e. (West, Central, East). Assuming an infinite sites mutation model, each
104 type of mutation corresponds to a unique branch in the genealogy (Patterson *et al.*, 2006). In particular, the

105 first three types are shared derived (i. e. parsimony informative) mutations which define a unique topology
106 and so observing more than one type of these topologically informative mutations at a locus is incompatible
107 with the assumption of infinite sites and no recombinations. We used this criterion to test for recombination
108 in each alignment by testing for the presence of more than one type of shared derived mutation . This is
109 analogous to the four-gamete test but only requires a minimum of three ingroup samples and therefore has
110 greater power to detection to detect recombination. In total, only four alignments (out of a total of 53 across
111 all four species) showed evidence for recombination and were trimmed to the longest fragment compatible
112 with the assumption of no recombination and infinite sites. All trimmed, outgroup rooted alignments are
113 available from Dryad (XXX).

114 Although the principal aim of our analysis was to compare the relative divergence of refugial populations
115 between species rather than to obtain absolute values, we also applied a molecular clock. Following Lohse
116 *et al.* (2010), a mutation rate (per site and generation) was calibrated using an estimate for the synonymous
117 mutation rate in the closely related pteromalid wasp genus *Nasonia* of 1.375×10^{-8} per year (Oliveira *et al.*,
118 2008). To apply this to our data (all four species), this rate was multiplied by the ratio of average per site
119 divergence (between *C. fungosa* and *C. lauta*) at synonymous coding sites and divergence across all sites (and
120 loci). Although rate calibrations are notoriously error-prone (Pulquério & Nicholls, 2007), this calibration
121 should at least give an order of magnitude timing of events. We initially tried to account for mutational
122 heterogeneity between loci using the relative divergence between *C. fungosa* and *C. lauta* at each locus.
123 However, given that this did not improve likelihoods and yielded qualitatively similar results (not shown), we
124 assumed the simpler model of a constant (per site) mutation rate across loci in all subsequent analyses. The
125 fact that accounting for mutational heterogeneity did not improve model fit is perhaps unsurprising given
126 that over very the recent timescales the stochastic variance of the coalescent and the mutational process
127 are expected to outweigh any differences in mutation rates between loci which are likely to be subtle in

128 comparison.

129 **Likelihood computation and model selection**

130 We assume a model of divergence between three populations (labeled A , B , C), such that populations
131 B and C split from each other at some recent time T_1 whereas their shared ancestral population split from
132 population A at a previous time T_1+T_2 . Following Yang (2002), the effective size of the ancestral population
133 of all populations is denoted N_0 while the size of the population ancestral to B and C is $N_1 = \frac{N_0}{\alpha}$. Note
134 that because only one gene copy was sampled per population and the model assumes no gene flow between
135 populations, we have no information about the current effective sizes (N_A , N_B , N_C). Divergence times are
136 scaled by twice the effective size of the common ancestral population N_0 , e. g. $t_1 = T_1 \times 2N_0 \times g$, where
137 t_1 is the absolute divergence time between B and C and g is the generation time (both in years). All four
138 species are known to have two generations per year (i. e. $g = 0.5$).

139 We used the recursion derived in Lohse *et al.* (2011a) to obtain an expression for the generating function
140 (GF) of branch lengths under this model (see Appendix 1 and the *Mathematica* given in as Supporting Infor-
141 mation). The GF allows calculation of the likelihood of model parameters given the mutational configuration
142 (i. e. the counts of the types of mutations observed at a locus). Assuming that loci are unlinked, the joint
143 likelihood of model parameters for a multilocus dataset is simply the product of likelihoods of individual
144 loci (Hey & Nielsen, 2004).

145 Note that unlike the model of Yang (2002), our likelihood calculation assumes that genealogies are
146 polarized using an outgroup sequence. All else being equal, this should increase power, but relies on the
147 assumption of an infinite sites mutation model. For a given order of divergence, the full divergence model
148 can be simplified in three ways; by setting either time interval T_1 or T_2 or both to zero. The resulting nested
149 models include a two population divergence model (where populations B and C are joined) ($T_1 = 0$), a

150 single polytomous split between all three populations ($T_2 = 0$) and – in the simplest case – a single panmictic
151 population ($T_1 = T_2 = 0$) (see Fig. 1). Given that there are three possible orders in which populations can
152 split from each other (i. e. population tree topologies), we have eight models in total. To quantify the relative
153 support for each model in each species, we numerically maximised the joint log likelihood ($\ln L$) across loci
154 using the *FindMaximum* function in *Mathematica* (Wolfram Research, 2010). We used likelihood ratio tests
155 (LRT) to compare each model against all simpler, nested alternatives. Significance was assessed assuming
156 that $2\ln L$ follows a χ^2 distribution. The most complex model that provided a significantly better fit than all
157 simpler models nested within it, it was accepted as the most parsimonious model.

158 **Simulations**

159 In order to ascertain how much power there is to distinguish between histories, we tested the model selection
160 scheme on simulated data. Triplet datasets for three different sampling schemes (10, 18 and 100 loci of
161 equal length and mutation rate) were simulated in *ms* (Hudson, 2002). Our aim was to include both the
162 minimum and maximum number of loci available per species in the present study but also consider the
163 gain in power that can be expected from increasing the number of loci by an order of magnitude, which
164 can be easily achieved using short-read sequencing technology. The power analysis was motivated by the
165 parameters estimates obtained for the four parasitoids and focused on two Pleistocene timescales: Recent
166 divergence was simulated by fixing the time of the oldest split $T_0 + T_1$ to 0.5. Assuming $\theta_0 = \theta_1 = 1.5$
167 (which for ease of comparison was fixed in all simulations) and nuclear mutation rate calibrations for insects,
168 this correspond roughly to divergence one glacial cycle ago as inferred for *C. fungosa* and *H. stenonota* (see
169 Results). More ancient divergence three glacial cycles ago (as inferred for *M. amaenus*) was simulated by
170 fixing $T_0 + T_1 = 1.5$. In both cases, we kept the time of the oldest split $T_0 + T_1$ constant but varied the
171 more recent divergence time T_1 from 0 to its maximum value. The two extremes for T_1 correspond to the

172 two-population and polytomy model respectively. We simulated 100 replicat datasets for each parameter
173 combination and sampling scheme and recorded the most parsimonious model as detemined by the LRT
174 for each dataset. Power can be measured simply as the proportion of replicats for which the true model is
175 inferred correctly.

176 **Results**

177 In addition to the 18 and 14 outgroup rooted alignments available for *C. fungosa* and *M. amaenus* respec-
178 tively, 10 and 11 loci amplified sucessfully in *C. semifascia* and *H. stenonota* (Table 1) (GenBank accession
179 nos XXX). Mean per site diversity across loci as measured by θ_W was considerably higher in *C. fungosa*
180 and *M. amaenus* than in *C. semifascia* and *H. stenonota* ($\theta_W = 0.0160$ and 0.0123 vs. 0.0050 and 0.0076
181 respectively). However, this difference was only significant for *C. semifascia* (Wilcoxon signed rank test,
182 $p = 0.041$). Both *C. semifascia* and *H. stenonota* also contained a smaller proportion of topologically
183 resolved genealogies (i.e. with parsimony informative sites) compared to the other two species (Table 1).

184 **Model selection**

185 In all four species, models that assume divergence of either the central or western population from a common
186 ancestor as the oldest split (i. e. a non-eastern topology) had no support. In all cases, the maximum likelihood
187 estimate (MLE) for T_2 , i. e. the interval between population splitting events was 0 for both topologies. In
188 other words, when fitting these two alternative orders of population splitting, the full model collapsed to
189 a polytomy model. In contrast, under an "Out of the East" topology the MLE for T_2 was non-zero in all
190 species except *H. stenonota* (Table 2).

191 In both *M. amaenus* and *C. fungosa*, the full "Out of the East" model (i. e. assuming an older divergence
192 of the eastern population from a common ancestral population followed by divergence between central and

193 western refugia, Fig. 1a) had highest $\ln L$ (Table 2). In contrast, simpler models (polytomous or a two-
194 population scenario with central and western populations joined (see fig. 1b and c)) had the highest $\ln L$ in
195 *H. stenonota* and *C. semifascia* respectively. In both species, the MLEs for the full model were identical to
196 those under simpler alternatives. However, in all species except *H. stenonota*, the models with the highest
197 $\ln L$ were rejected in favour of simpler alternatives using the LRT. In *M. amaenus* the two-population model
198 was retained as the most parsimonious model, whereas in *C. fungosa*, panmixia could not be rejected. While
199 for *H. stenonota*, panmixia could be rejected, this was not possible for *C. semifascia*.

200 **Comparing divergence parameters between species**

201 To assess the evidence for simultaneous divergence between species, we compared MLEs for population
202 divergence times under both the model retained in the LRT (Table 3 and Fig. 3) and all models that provided
203 an improvement in $\ln L$ (regardless of whether this was significant). Two conclusions emerge from this:
204 Firstly, estimates for the time of the oldest divergence event generally agree between supported models in
205 each species. Figure 3 shows that this parameter has essentially identical $\ln L$ curves under the full and the
206 two-population model in *M. amaenus* and very similar trajectories in *C. fungosa*. In contrast, the polytomy
207 model in *C. fungosa* (and to a lesser extent *C. semifascia*) was associated with a markedly more recent
208 population divergence than that estimated under the two-population model in this species (although the 95
209 % confidence intervals of these different estimates overlap considerably). Secondly, the divergence of the
210 common ancestral population occurred almost simultaneously in *C. fungosa* and *H. stenonota*. Applying
211 the *Nasonia* calibration, these divergence events fall roughly in the previous Eemian interglacial (131 KYA
212 and 125 KYA for *C. fungosa* and *H. stenonota* respectively). Although, the MLE of the oldest divergence
213 time in *C. semifascia* was more recent than that (59 KY), 95 % C. I. for all three species overlap broadly.
214 In contrast, *M. amaenus* diverged much earlier (343 KY) with 95% C. I. not overlapping those of any other

215 species regardless of whether the full or a two population model is assumed (Table 3, Fig. 3).

216 **Simulations and sensitivity analysis**

217 Our simulations clearly show that for a large and biologically relevant parameter range the power to distin-
218 guish between divergence scenarios is limited. As one might expect power depends both on the number of
219 loci and the depth of population divergence (Fig. 4). When divergence is recent ($T_1 + T_2 = 0.5$), the most ex-
220 treme null model of a panmictic population can be rejected less than 50 % of the time, regardless of whether
221 10 or 18 loci are sampled. However, panmixia is almost always rejected (>95 %) for older divergence histo-
222 ries (i. e. $T_1 + T_2 = 1.5$). However, even then, it is virtually impossible to correctly identify the (true) full
223 divergence model with 18 loci or less. Instead, LRT almost always favours either one of the two simpler,
224 nested model (polytomy or a 2-population scenario). Which of these two alternatives is supported depends
225 on the relative timing of the more recent split, T_1 . If the split is recent ($T_1 < 0.7$), there is strong support
226 for the two population model, if divergence is old, the polytomy model wins out (Fig. 4B). Importantly, the
227 simulation results mirror our inferences on the real data. For example, if we assume that the history inferred
228 under the full model for *M. amaenus* was correct, figure 4B confirms that there is little power to reject the
229 two-population model in favour of the (true) full model. in contrast, panmixia and a polytomous split are
230 comparatively easy to reject, which is exactly what we observe for *M. amaenus*.

231 A disproportionate number of loci failed to amplify in *C. semifascia* and *H. stenonota*. Given that simpler
232 models generally had higher support in these species compared to *C. fungosa* and *M. amaenus*, an obvious
233 question is how robust our inferences are to the variation in the number of loci. To test for this, we repeated
234 all analyses for *C. fungosa* and *M. amaenus* on two subsets of the data, in each case subsampling only those
235 loci which amplified in either *C. semifascia* or *H. stenonota* (1 and 2 in Supporting Information Table S2).
236 Note that using the same loci rather than just equal numbers in each species also controls for any bias in

237 amplification success (e. g. longer and hence more informative loci failed to amplify disproportionately in
238 *C. semifascia* or *H. stenonota*). In both species we found that in almost all cases the same models were
239 supported regardless of whether all (18 and 16 respectively) loci or only a subset were used in the analysis
240 (Supporting Information Table S2). Specifically, the ranking of models according to $\ln L$ was the same in
241 the subsampled and full analyses in all cases. Likewise, estimates of divergence times and ancestral N_e
242 were comparable to those obtained from the full data in both species (Supporting Information Fig. S2). This
243 confirms that our main results are robust to the differences in sampling effort between species.

244 Discussion

245 Our results highlight that even with multiple (10-18) independent loci it is surprisingly difficult to distin-
246 guish between simple alternative divergence histories. This is despite the fact that unlike methods that rely
247 on summaries of the data (summary statistics or genetrees), our likelihood calculation uses all available in-
248 formation. As our simulations show, the historical signal contained in sequence data is inherently limited if
249 histories are young. Importantly, the intraspecific histories considered here are recent both on the timescale
250 of mutations and coalescence. In other words, most loci only contained a few variable sites and many were
251 topologically unresolved and a considerable fraction only coalesce in the common ancestral population (Ta-
252 ble 1). The same will be true for the Pleistocene histories of any species with large N_e . Despite this, there
253 is no shortage of phylogeographic studies that claim to find signatures of much more complex histories than
254 those we were able to investigate here. However, as has been pointed out before (Nichols, 2001; Knowles,
255 2002; Hey & Machado, 2003; Beaumont *et al.*, 2010; Barton *et al.*, 2010), few of these provide statistical
256 tests for the historical scenarios they try to infer. While recent histories are hard (or indeed impossible) to
257 resolve using the replication that has been possible using Sanger sequencing, our tests on simulated data
258 show that hundreds of loci. This is encouraging, given the ease with .

259 Despite the limited ability to distinguish between models, our results demonstrate that key parameters,
260 the time of the oldest split and the effective size of the common ancestral population, are robust to model
261 uncertainty. Firstly, although we cannot rule out alternative divergence histories under which either central
262 or western populations diverged first for *C. fungosa*, *C. semifascia* and *H. stenonota* (particularly if the
263 internode interval T_2 is short), our finding of improved likelihood under an "Out of the East" model is
264 most compatible with a shared eastern origin of the entire guild, albeit a recent one in most cases. Support
265 for an eastern origin has previously been found for several other parasitoid species (Hayward & Stone,
266 2006; Nicholls *et al.*, 2010) and their gallwasp hosts (Rokas *et al.*, 2003; Stone *et al.*, 2007; Challis *et al.*,
267 2007). Secondly, our comparison of relative divergence times across species shows that *M. amaenus* split
268 into distinct refugial populations long before any of the other three species did and so we can rule out a
269 strictly synchronous history in this parasitoid guild. This is in contrast to a recent meta-analysis based on a
270 single locus (mitochondrial DNA) which found no evidence for different divergence times between eastern
271 and central refugial populations across 15 parasitoid species (Stone *et al.*, 2012). Notably however, *M.*
272 *amaenus*, the outlier species in the present analysis, was not included in the Stone *et al.* (2012) study. It
273 is worth pointing out that while our comparison between species does not rely on absolute molecular clock
274 calibrations, it does assume that the genome wide mutation rate is comparable between these four species.
275 Although the inferred difference in divergence time between *M. amaenus* and the other 3 species could in
276 theory also be explained by a 2.5-3 fold lower mutation rate in *M. amaenus*, we believe that this is highly
277 unlikely given that all species have the same generation time and are closely related.

278 Inferring intraspecific divergence histories comes with several challenges (Knowles, 2002; Hey & Machado,
279 2003). First, the order of divergence (i. e. the population tree topology) is generally not known *a priori*, but
280 is rather one of the parameters to be inferred. Second, it is unclear to what extent a "population tree" is a
281 useful description of population history in the first place. More realistic models of population relationships

282 may include secondary gene flow (Hey & Nielsen, 2004) or admixture between populations (Hellenthal
283 *et al.*, 2008) or view individuals living in a spatial continuum with no discrete structure at all (Wright, 1943;
284 Barton *et al.*, 2010). However, with few exceptions (Hey & Nielsen, 2004), we lack quantitative methods to
285 estimate parameters under such more complex scenarios or compare them to simpler alternatives. Further-
286 more, an exhaustive search of model space quickly becomes unfeasible for more parameter-rich models. For
287 example, there are thousands of ways to simplify a divergence and migration model for three populations
288 (Hey, 2010). The advantage of our likelihood method and an analogous Bayesian scheme recently devel-
289 oped by Yang (2010) in the context of species delimitation is that — rather than assuming a known history
290 of divergence — they quantify the support for a set of alternative scenarios. In fact, for a minimal sampling
291 scheme of a single haploid individual per population, evaluating all possible topologies and nested models
292 within them is equivalent to testing all possible assignments of individuals to populations. Thus our method
293 does not even rely on defining population limits *a priori* and so could be used to detect cryptic population
294 structure or reproductive barriers. In practice, maximising the information contained in a single sample per
295 population also minimizes the bias against rare and/or poorly sampled species. The potential importance
296 of rare species when comparing population histories within communities is illustrated by our finding of a
297 different history for *M. amaenus*. Because only a single rearing from the Middle East was available for this
298 species, we were unable to include it in the Stone *et al.* (2012) analysis.

299 Lohse *et al.* (2010) previously analysed the *C. fungosa* data using the method of Yang (2002), which was
300 originally designed to estimate species splits given a known topology. As expected, this study found almost
301 identical parameter estimates as those obtained here under the full model (which has the highest $\ln L$, Table
302 2). However, what our previous analysis was unable to reveal was that simpler models may also fit the data.
303 *C. fungosa* stands out from the other parasitoid species analysed here in three key aspects. Firstly, it has
304 the greatest model uncertainty despite the fact that the largest number of loci was available in this species.

305 Secondly, the effective size of its common ancestral population (N_0) is around 2.5 fold larger than estimates
306 for the three other parasitoid species regardless of the model (Supporting Information Fig. S1). This is also
307 reflected by the fact that *C. fungosa* has the highest per site diversity (θ_W) across loci (Table 1) despite its
308 recent population divergence time. It is tempting to speculate that the larger ancestral N_e is a consequence of
309 the greater abundance and host range of *C. fungosa*, which has been recorded in over twice as many different
310 gall types than any of the other species (Askew, 1961b; Bailey *et al.*, 2009). However, this assumes that its
311 lifehistory has remained unchanged at least over the last glacial cycle. While positive correlations between
312 census size and nuclear diversity have been found across insects generally (for a recent review see Frankham,
313 2011), correlations of N_e and lifehistory traits remain to be explored within communities. However, this of
314 course requires comparisons across larger sets of taxa. Finally, under the full model, estimates of T_2 , the
315 time between population divergence events and the effective population size N_1 during this interval, both
316 converge to zero in *C. fungosa* (both in the present study and the Lohse *et al.* (2010) analysis). Lohse
317 *et al.* (2010) showed that even when increasing the number of individuals sampled per population, these
318 two parameters remain highly confounded. This may suggest that an important aspect of the history of
319 *C. fungosa* is not captured by simple divergence models. For example, a strong bottleneck accompanying
320 divergence between central and western refugia would be compatible with low and uncertain estimates of
321 these parameters and gene flow following divergence could have the same effect. We performed additional
322 simulations to investigate how robust our inferences are to such model misspecification. Specifically we
323 asked, given the timing of divergence inferred for *M. amaenus* (under the full model), what level of post
324 divergence gene flow is required to erode the signal for a two population model? In other words, is it possible
325 that some of the species inferred to have diverged more recently, actually co-diverged with *M. amaenus* but
326 experienced gene flow following divergence? To roughly match the parameters inferred for *M. amaenus* we
327 fixed $T_1 + T_2 = 1.5$ and $T_1 = 0.26$ (see vertical line in Fig. 4B) and simulated replicate datasets (of 18 loci)

328 with increasing amounts of symmetric migration between all populations (varying $M = 4Nm$, the number
329 of migrants per generation, from 0-2). In agreement with a previous simulation study (Eckert & Carstens,
330 2008), our robustness analysis revealed that migration does indeed erode phylogenetic signal (Supporting
331 Information Figure S3). Although rather high levels of postdivergence gene flow ($M > 0.5$) are required for
332 there to be an appreciable chance of erroneously inferring a polytomous split or panmixia, we can of course
333 not exclude the possibility of postdivergence gene flow without modelling it explicitly.

334 In general, there is much scope for increasing the realism of model based inference and analogous ex-
335 pressions for the likelihood of triplet genealogies under more complex models including population size
336 changes, migration and admixture can be derived (Lohse *et al.*, 2011a). However, because of the inherent
337 stochasticity of the coalescent, much larger volumes of data are required to distinguish those more realistic
338 models from simpler alternatives in practice. Whole genomes which can now be sequenced cost-effectively
339 even in non-model organisms offer maximum replication across loci and should make it possible to ac-
340 curately estimate recent divergence and pick up signatures of secondary gene flow (Green *et al.*, 2010).
341 Likelihood analysis and model selection based on it provides an efficient way to extract information from
342 such genomic datasets in the gallwasp community and other systems.

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472 Appendix

473 Assuming the full divergence model described above (Methods) and a sample of three sequences a , b and c
 474 (the labelling corresponds to the sampled population), we can write down an expression for the generating
 475 function (GF) of the vector of branch lengths $\underline{t} = (t_a, t_b, t_c, t_{ab}, t_{ac}, t_{bc})$. Using the recursion of Lohse
 476 *et al.* (2011a, eq. 5 and 12) it is simplest to initially assume a slightly different model where population
 477 divergence times are exponentially distributed with rates Λ_1 and Λ_2 . The GF under this model is defined as
 478 $\psi[a/b/c] = E[e^{-\underline{t} \cdot \underline{\omega}}]$ where $\underline{\omega} = (\omega_a, \omega_b, \omega_c, \omega_{ab}, \omega_{ac}, \omega_{bc})$ is a vector of dummy variables corresponding
 479 to the branch lengths \underline{t} and is given by the following set of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \psi[a/b/c] &= \frac{1}{\Lambda_1 + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c} \Lambda_1 \psi[a/b, c] \\
 \psi[a/b, c] &= \frac{1}{\alpha\beta + \Lambda_2 + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c} (\Lambda_2 \psi[a, b, c] + \alpha \psi[a/\{b, c\}]) \\
 \psi[a, b, c] &= \frac{1}{3\beta + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c} \left(\frac{1}{\beta + \omega_a + \omega_{ab}} + \frac{1}{\beta + \omega_b + \omega_{ac}} + \frac{1}{\beta + \omega_c + \omega_{bc}} \right) \\
 \psi[a/\{b, c\}] &= \frac{\Lambda_2}{(\Lambda_2 + \omega_a + \omega_{bc})(1 + \omega_a + \omega_{bc})}
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

480 β is an inheritance scalar (1 for diploids and 4/3 for haplodiploids as in the analysis above) and $\alpha = \frac{N_0}{N_1}$.

481 This has solution:

$$\psi[a/b/c] = \frac{\Lambda_1 \Lambda_2 \left(\frac{2\beta + \omega_b + \omega_c + \omega_{ab} + \omega_{ac}}{(\beta + \omega_c + \omega_{ab})(\beta + \omega_b + \omega_{ac})} + \frac{3\alpha\beta + \Lambda_2 + (1 + \alpha)\omega_a + \alpha\omega_b + \alpha\omega_c + \omega_{bc}}{(\beta + \omega_a + \omega_{bc})(\Lambda_2 + \omega_a + \omega_{bc})} \right)}{(3\beta + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c)(\Lambda_1 + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c)(\alpha\beta + \Lambda_2 + \omega_a + \omega_b + \omega_c)} \tag{2}$$

482 We denote the GF for the case of interest, i. e. divergence at discrete times T_1 and $T_1 + T_2$ as $P[\underline{\omega}]$.

483 Because $\psi[a/b/c] = \int \Lambda_1 \Lambda_2 P[\underline{\omega}] e^{-\underline{\Lambda} \cdot \underline{T} d\underline{T}}$, $P[\underline{\omega}]$ is given by dividing (2) by Λ_1 and Λ_2 and inverting

484 with respect to Λ_1 and Λ_2 . The expression can be obtained using the *InverseLaplaceTransform* function in

485 *Mathematica* but is cumbersome (see Supporting Information, nb.file). However, a drastic simplification is

486 achieved if we condition on a particular topology of the genealogy by taking the limit with respect to those
487 ω that are incompatible with that topology (see Lohse *et al.*, 2011a). A further simplification arises from the
488 symmetries in branch lengths. For a given topology, $P[\underline{\omega}]$ only depends on the interval between successive
489 coalescence events. For example, for topology $\{\{b, c\}, a\}$, $t_b = t_c = t_3$, $t_{bc} = t_2$ and $t_a = t_3 + t_2$. in
490 other words, t_2 and t_3 are the time intervals during which there are two and three lineages respectively.
491 Defining the corresponding dummy variables ω_2 and ω_3 , the GF for a genealogy congruent with the order of
492 population divergence is:

$$P[\omega_2, \omega_3 | G_{bc}, T_1, T_2, \alpha] = \lim_{\substack{\omega_{ab} \rightarrow \infty \\ \omega_{ac} \rightarrow \infty}} P[\underline{\omega}] = \frac{e^{-\omega_2 T_1} \left(\frac{e^{-\omega_2 T_2} (-3\alpha\beta - \alpha\omega_3)}{-\alpha\beta + \omega_2 - \omega_3} + \frac{e^{(-\alpha\beta - \omega_3) T_2} (2\alpha\beta + \omega_2 - \omega_3 + \alpha\omega_3)}{-\alpha\beta + \omega_2 - \omega_3} \right)}{(\beta + \omega_2)(3\beta + \omega_3)} \quad (3)$$

493 where G_{bc} is a shorthand notation for a congruent topology $\{\{b, c\}, a\}$.

494 Similarly, the GF for an incongruent (either with branch t_{ab} or t_{ac}) genealogy is:

$$P[\omega_2, \omega_3 | G_{ac}, T_1, T_2, \alpha] = \lim_{\substack{\omega_{ab} \rightarrow \infty \\ \omega_{bc} \rightarrow \infty}} P[\underline{\omega}] = \frac{e^{-\omega_3 T_1 - (\alpha\beta + \omega_3) T_2}}{(\beta + \omega_2)(3\beta + \omega_3)} \quad (4)$$

495 Note that if we set all ω to zero (and assume $\beta = 1$), 2 goes to 1 and 3 and 4 above reduce to the
496 well-known result of Takahata *et al.* (1995) for topological probabilities, i. e. $1 - \frac{2}{3}e^{-\alpha T_2}$ and $\frac{1}{3}e^{-\alpha T_2}$ for
497 congruent and incongruent genealogies respectively.

498 Assuming that mutations in interval t_2 and t_3 are Poisson distributed with rates $2\theta/2$ and $3\theta/2$ respec-
499 tively, where the per locus mutation rate is $\theta/2 = 2N_0\mu$, the joint probability of observing k_2 and k_3
500 mutations can be obtained by taking successive derivatives of (3) and (4) with respect to ω_2 and ω_3 (eq. 1
501 Lohse *et al.*, 2011a):

$$p(k_2, k_3 | G_i, T_1, T_2, \alpha) = (-1)^{k_2+k_3} \frac{\theta^{k_2} (3\theta/2)^{k_3}}{k_2! k_3!} \left(\frac{\partial^{k_2+k_3} P[\omega_2, \omega_3 | G_i, T_1, T_2, \alpha]}{\partial \omega_2^{k_2} \omega_3^{k_3}} \right)_{\substack{\omega_2=\theta \\ \omega_3=3\theta/2}} \quad (5)$$

502 For a known triplet topology G_i , there are only four possible branches and the corresponding mutations
 503 can be classed into three types, those on the internal branch, k_i , those on the two shorter external branches
 504 k_{eS} and those on the longer external branch k_{eL} . Their joint probability $p(k_i, k_{eS}, k_{eL})$ can be found from
 505 (5) by summing over all possible ways these can be partitioned amongst the two coalescent intervals (Lohse
 506 *et al.*, 2011a, Supporting Information):

$$p(k_i, k_{e1}, k_{e2} | G_i, T_1, T_2, \alpha) = \sum_{j=0}^{k_{e2}} \binom{k_{e1} + k_{e2} - j}{k_{e2} - j} \frac{1}{3} \frac{2^{k_{e2}-j}}{3} \frac{2^{k_{e1}}}{3} \binom{k_i + j}{j} \frac{1}{2} \frac{2^{k_i+j}}{2} p(k_i + j, k_{e1} + k_{e2} - j | G_i, T_1, T_2, \alpha) \quad (6)$$

507 where the last term corresponds to (5).

508 Loci with no topologically informative mutations (i. e. $k_i = 0$) constitute a separate class G_0 . Finding
 509 the probability of mutational configurations for this case involves summing over the contributions from the
 510 three topology classes. Analogous to 6, these are weighted by the binomial probabilities of distributing the
 511 k_{eS} mutations onto the two shorter external branches (with k_{eS1} and k_{eS2} mutations on each).

$$p(k_a, k_b, k_c | G_0, T_1, T_2, \alpha) = \sum_i \frac{1}{2} \binom{k_{eS1} + k_{eS2}}{k_{eS1}} p(0, k_{eS}, k_{eL} | G_i, T_1, T_2, \alpha) \quad (7)$$

Table 1: Length (excluding indels) of the alignment with the outgroup, number of polymorphic sites (S) and topologically informative mutations (those on the internal branches, k_i) in triplet for 18 nuclear loci. The topology of the triplet genealogy at each locus is denoted according to which sample is basal (east = E, center = C, west = W, no topologically informative sites = 0) and given in brackets. The bottom row gives the mean θ_W per site across loci. *indicates alignments that were trimmed to exclude likely recombinant portions.

	<i>C. fungosa</i>			<i>C. semifascia</i>			<i>H. stenonota</i>			<i>M. amaenus</i>		
Locus	length	S	k_i	length	S	top	length	S	top	length	S	top
AntSesB	606	2	1 (E)							563	3	
nAcRbeta	748	0	0				234	0	0			
RACK	560	3	0	561	1	0				738*	6	2 (E)
ran	499	2	0	472	1	0	476	2	0	447	3	1 (E)
RpL10ab	955	3	1 (E)							966	9	1 (E)
RpL13a	446*	14	4 (E)	776	5	1 (C)						
RpL15	618	2	0							608	6	3 (E)
RpL27	501	14	6 (E)				508	2	0	518	2	2 (E)
RpL37a	220	0	0	220	0	0	220	2	0	218	0	0
RpL37	866	20	1 (W)	666	0	0	679	3	0	370*	9	2 (W)
RpL39	463	0	0				467	2	1 (C)	545	5	1 (E)
RpS15	739	28	7 (C)									
RpS18	813	6	1 (E)	768	2	2 (E)						
RpS23	268	6	3 (E)	268	0	0	267	2	0	268	1	1 (E)
RpS4	754	1	0	250*	5	1 (W)	705	3	1 (C)	531*	4	1 (C)
RpS8	422	5	1 (E)	470	1	0	468	4	1 (E)	452	1	0
sansfille	446	2	1 (C)	433	1	0				434	2	0
Tctp	493	3	0	465	2	0	477	3	1 (C)	389*	6	1 (E)
Mean θ_W		0.0160			0.0050			0.0076			0.0123	

Table 2: $\ln L$ and of all models nested within the full divergence model of three populations with topology (E, (C, W)) (Fig. 1a) for four parasitoid species. The 2nd column gives the number of model parameters (k). The model with the highest $\ln L$ in each species is shown in bold, the simplest model retained in likelihood ratio tests of nested models is indicated by *. Models with alternative order of population divergence had no support.

Model	k	<i>C. fungosa</i>	<i>C. semifascia</i>	<i>H. stenonota</i>	<i>M. amaenus</i>
panmixia	1	-122.82*	-44.97*	-49.15	-86.92
polytomy	2	-122.59	-44.67	-46.71*	-84.98
2 pop.	3	-120.77	-44.34	-46.71	-79.01*
full model	4	-120.01	-44.34	-46.71	-78.90
C & W topologies	3	polytomy	polytomy	polytomy	polytomy

Table 3: Maximum likelihood estimates of scaled divergence times and ancestral population sizes θ for the model retained in the LRT and all models with a higher $\ln L$ (see Table 2) for four parasitoid species. For ease of comparison between models, the time of the oldest population split is given in each case and —for the full model only— the time inbetween population splits T_2 . Corresponding absolute values of N_e and τ are shown in brackets.

Model	$\theta_1 (N_0)$	$\theta_2 (N_1)$	$T_2 (\tau_2)$	oldest $T (\tau)$
<i>C. fungosa</i>				
panmixia	5.70 (7.84×10^5)			
polytomy	5.25 (7.23×10^5)			0.046 (33 KY)
two-pop.	5.09 (7.00×10^5)	2.76 (3.79×10^5)		0.158 (111 KY)
full model	5.26 (7.19×10^5)	$\rightarrow 0$	$\rightarrow 0$	0.182 (131 KY)
<i>C. semifascia</i>				
panmixia	1.87 (2.57×10^5)			
polytomy	1.46 (2.01×10^5)			0.177 (35.6 KY)
two-pop.	1.35 (1.85×10^5)	2.71 (3.73×10^5)		0.322 (59.7 KY)
<i>H. stenonota</i>				
polytomy	1.20 (1.65×10^5)			0.755 (125 KY)
<i>M. amaenus</i>				
two-pop.	1.58 (2.17×10^5)	3.45 (4.57×10^5)		1.58 (343 KY)
Full	1.67 (2.30×10^5)	2.79 (3.21×10^5)	1.20 (277 KY)	1.46 (335 KY)

Figure 1: The full divergence model between three populations with a population tree topology (E,(W, C)) (a) can be further simplified by setting either interval T_1 or T_2 or both to zero resulting in three nested models; (b) divergence between two populations (with C and W merged into a single population), (c) a polytomous split of the common ancestral population and (d) a single panmictic population.

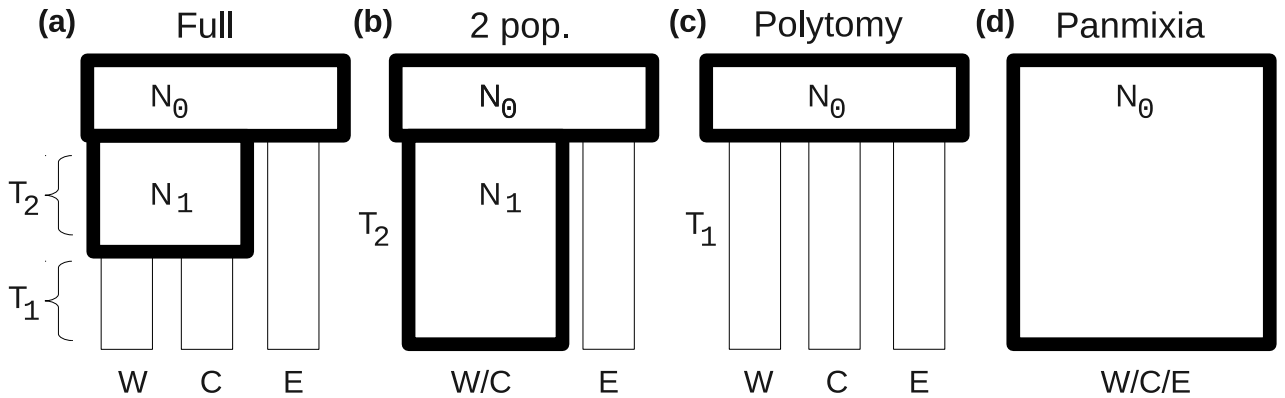


Figure 2: Assuming infinite site mutations and an outgroup, each polymorphic site can be placed onto a unique branch in the underlying genealogy unambiguously. For example, there are 6 polymorphic sites in *RpS18* in *C. fungosa*. These can be classified into 3 types according to the genealogical branch they fall on (0 denotes the ancestral, 1 the derived state relative to the outgroup *C. lauta*). In *RpS18* a single shared derived mutation, i. e. parsimony informative site (white dot), defines the topology (E,(C,W)).

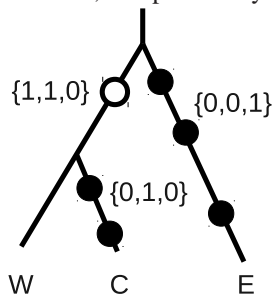


Figure 3: $\Delta \ln L$ plots for divergence times (in KY) between refugial populations for four oak gall parasitoid species. In each species, plots for the divergence times under the most parsimonious model as determined by LRT and all models with a higher $\ln L$ are shown. Full model = thick dashed lines, two-pop. = thin dashed lines and polytomy = solid lines. The horizontal line delimits the region of 95 % confidence. Note that there are two curves for the full model one for each divergence time (T_1 and $T_2 + T_2$). However, because in *C. fungosa* the MLE for T_2 converges to zero, the $\ln L$ curves are near identical and appear as one.

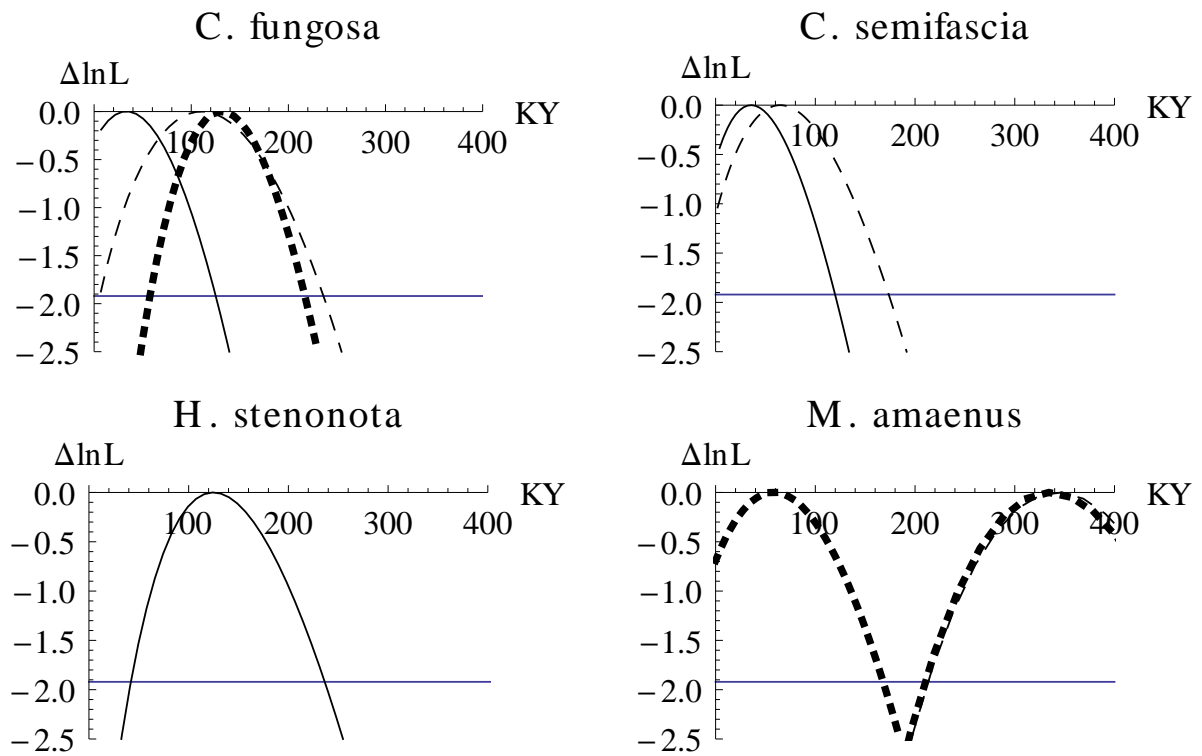


Figure 4: The power to distinguish between alternative models of population divergence plotted against T_1 the time of the more recent split. Each point shows the proportion of replicates (out of 100) for which a particular model was retained using LRT. Points were joined for ease of comparison with the same labelling as in Fig. 3, i. e. full model = thick dashed, two-pop. = thin dashed, polytomy = solid lines and panmixia = dotted lines. Panels in the top row (A–C) correspond to old $T_1 + T_2 = 1.5$, those in the bottom row (D–F) to recent $T_1 + T_2 = 0.5$ divergence histories. Power was determined from simulated datasets for varying numbers of loci: 10 (A, D), 18 (B, E) and 100 (C, F). The MLE estimate for T_1 inferred for *M. amarus* under the full model is shown in B) as a vertical line

