

**Differential gene exchange between parapatric morphs of *Littorina saxatilis*
detected using AFLP markers**

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1 **Abstract**

2 Speciation requires the acquisition of reproductive isolation, and the circumstances
3 under which this could evolve are of great interest. Are new species formed after the
4 acquisition of generalized incompatibility arising between physically separated
5 populations, or may they arise as a result of the action of disruptive selection
6 beginning with the divergence of a rather restricted set of gene loci? Here we apply
7 the technique of Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP) analysis to an
8 intertidal snail whose populations display a cline in shell shape across vertical
9 gradients on rocky shores. We compare the F_{ST} values for 306 AFLP loci with the
10 distribution of F_{ST} estimated from a simulation model using values of mutation and
11 migration derived from the data. We find that about 5% of these loci show greater
12 differentiation than expected, providing evidence of the effects of selection across the
13 cline, either direct or indirect through linkage. This is consistent with expectations
14 from non-allopatric speciation models that propose an initial divergence of a small
15 part of the genome driven by strong disruptive selection while divergence at other loci
16 is prevented by gene flow. However, the pattern could also be the result of differential
17 introgression after secondary contact.

18

19 **Introduction**

20 The process of speciation requires the acquisition of reproductive isolation. If
21 populations are separated by a physical barrier to dispersal, speciation may follow: the
22 acquisition of intrinsic reproductive isolation is then an incidental consequence of the
23 accumulation of genetic differentiation (Mayr, 1963). Increasingly, attention has
24 shifted to the possibility that reproductive barriers might arise in populations not
25 separated by major physical features (Bush & Howard, 1986), i.e. that speciation
26 might begin with genetic diversification in spite of some gene exchange between
27 constituent populations. Empirical evidence shows, for example, that a single founder
28 population in a lake may diversify and undergo speciation following use of different
29 niches (Schliewen *et al.*, 1994; Schluter, 1996; Wilson *et al.*, 2000), and theoretical
30 work suggests that gene flow can be less of a cohesive force than previously thought
31 (Barton, 1988).

32 Barton (1988) and Rice & Hostert (1993) have reviewed the literature on
33 speciation mechanisms, showing that there are plausible and simple models of non-
34 allopatric speciation. In these models, genetic divergence may be initiated by
35 disruptive selection without a period of extrinsic isolation. This requires strong
36 selection and either pleiotropy or linkage of the genes involved in the adaptive
37 polymorphism with those affecting the probability of gene exchange. For parapatric
38 populations, where gene exchange is restricted, an initial level of differentiation may
39 be modified to increase isolation by the accumulation of different alleles in the
40 diverging genetic backgrounds. Strong selection also is needed here if gene flow is
41 other than negligible. Nevertheless, Rice & Hostert (1993) concluded that laboratory
42 experiments on the development of isolation strongly support the idea that

43 reproductive isolation can evolve between sympatric or parapatric populations if
44 divergent selection is strong relative to gene flow.

45 Although the conclusion of Rice & Hostert (1993) is well supported by laboratory
46 experiments, there is less evidence from natural populations. Host races provide the
47 best examples, especially *Rhagoletis* (Feder *et al.*, 1994; Feder *et al.*, 1997). Host
48 fidelity provides the major barrier to gene exchange, permitting further differentiation
49 under selection on the alternative hosts. Some markers (presumably those linked to
50 selected loci, or perhaps under selection themselves) show allele frequency
51 differentiation, while others do not, suggesting that gene exchange is more restricted
52 in some parts of the genome than others. This may be viewed as a signature of non-
53 allopatric speciation and is in contrast to the generalised barrier to gene flow that
54 results from physical isolation. The uniform divergence across the genome that
55 evolves in allopatry may be maintained following secondary contact due to the
56 accumulation of genetic incompatibility at many loci that is revealed in some hybrid
57 zones (Barton & Hewitt, 1981; Szymura & Barton, 1991). However, it may be eroded
58 by introgression.

59 We address the issue of uniform versus restricted differentiation using a system
60 where divergent populations are parapatric. They are likely to be exchanging genes
61 only in the region of contact, and the selection gradient on which they exist is
62 imposed by the physical environment and by predation. *Littorina saxatilis* (Olivi) (the
63 'rough periwinkle') is widespread on North Atlantic shores, exhibits high
64 morphological and allozyme variability, and is ovoviviparous and of low vagility - see
65 Reid (1996) for review. In Britain it is found as two morphological forms ('H' and 'M')
66 (Hull *et al.*, 1996) that show good evidence of partial reproductive isolation. This
67 interpretation was based on reduced fertility in females inferred to be hybrids, and is

68 supported by the observation of assortative mating (Hull, 1998; Pickles & Grahame,
69 1999). The observed differentiation could be attributed to secondary contact between
70 populations that had been undergoing allopatric divergence. Alternatively we may be
71 seeing divergence *in situ* due to strong selection, despite gene flow (Endler, 1977;
72 Rice & Hostert, 1993). In either case, the current pattern of differentiation is probably
73 maintained by a balance between gene flow and selection, where the selection is due,
74 at least in part, to environmental pressures rather than genetic incompatibility.

75 Predation by crabs is thought to exert strong selection on periwinkle shell form
76 (Heller, 1976; Raffaelli, 1978; Janson, 1983; Johannesson, 1986), and among
77 molluscs more widely - see Vermeij (1987) for review. Both thickness and form of the
78 periwinkle shell may vary adaptively in response to differing predation pressures, and
79 inducible phenotypic responses are considered to be involved for thickness changes in
80 at least some species (Trussell & Smith, 2000). However, there is abundant evidence
81 that in *L. saxatilis* some of the variation is genotypic (Newkirk & Doyle, 1975;
82 Grahame & Mill, 1993; Johannesson & Johannesson, 1996), and this is especially
83 likely for shell shape. Because crab predation increases down the shore in most sites,
84 clines in shell shape are often found (Grahame *et al.*, 1997). In the upper shore,
85 *L. saxatilis* H are thin-shelled, wide-apertured animals with relatively low spires. This
86 shape may come about simply as a result of the constraints on shell shape when the
87 aperture is large (Clarke *et al.*, 1999) thus affording greater foot area (Grahame &
88 Mill, 1986) for adhesion and leading to greater gravitational stability (Heller, 1976).
89 Therefore, this is probably the optimum shape for maintaining a grip on wave or
90 wind-affected substrates in the absence of crab predation. In the lower shore
91 *L. saxatilis* M are thicker shelled, with relatively smaller apertures; these features are

92 likely to be adaptive in reducing the risk of crab predation (Johannesson, 1986;
93 Boulding *et al.*, 1999).

94 Primary and secondary origins of clines are notoriously difficult to distinguish
95 (Barton & Hewitt, 1985). Wilding *et al.* (2000) considered it probable that the current
96 distribution of mitochondrial haplotypes in *L. saxatilis* in the British Isles indicated
97 expansion from different glacial refugia. However, the distribution of the H and M
98 forms is quite different from that described for these haplotypes (Wilding *et al.*,
99 2000), and Wilding *et al.* (2001) concluded that the current haplotype distribution was
100 unrelated to whether populations were H or M morph. We tentatively suggest that the
101 *L. saxatilis* H-M cline has evolved *in situ*.

102 Here we examine putative loci (hereafter, simply 'loci') revealed by the Amplified
103 Fragment Length Polymorphism technique (AFLP) (Vos *et al.*, 1995) in samples from
104 four locations on the coast of Yorkshire, England. We compare observed F_{ST}
105 distributions across loci between populations of *L. saxatilis* H and M with F_{ST}
106 distributions in within-morph comparisons, and with expected distributions. These
107 expected distributions were derived from simulations of F_{ST} values in the absence of
108 selection, using an approach analogous to that of Beaumont & Nichols (1996). We ask
109 whether the barrier to gene exchange between H and M populations is uniformly
110 effective across loci.

111 **Materials and methods**

112 **Sampling**

113 Periwinkles were collected from rocky shores at Thornwick Bay, Flamborough
114 (British Grid reference TA 233724), Filey Brigg (TA 132815), Old Peak (NZ 982024)
115 and Robin Hood's Bay (NZ 955055). The coast trends overall northwesterly in this
116 region, the straight line distances between the sites are: Flamborough - Filey Brigg, 15
117 km (we estimate that 60% of the intervening shore represents suitable habitat for
118 *L. saxatilis*); Filey Brigg - Old Peak, 26 km (80% suitable habitat); Old Peak - Robin
119 Hood's Bay, 4 km (90% suitable habitat). At each site snails were collected from each
120 of two locations (one in an area occupied by the H morph and one in an area occupied
121 by the M morph, except at Robin Hood's Bay), individual snails were taken from an
122 area of about 2 m². H and M animals were characterized on the basis of sample
123 location and shell form (by eye), and only brooding females were used to avoid
124 contaminating the H samples with specimens of *Littorina arcana* Hannaford Ellis
125 (which lay eggs on the shore). Sampling locations were 5 m apart at Flamborough, 15
126 m apart at Filey, 300 m apart at Old Peak, and 75 m apart at Robin Hood's Bay. In the
127 first three instances, these distances were dictated by the presence of workable
128 abundances of the animals, the aim being to sample from H and M populations which
129 were as close to one another as possible. At Robin Hood's Bay the samples were of M
130 animals only, 75 m was chosen as a distance likely to be considerably in excess of
131 migration distance (Janson, 1983).

132 DNA isolation

133 Genomic DNA was purified from head-foot tissue of individual *Littorina saxatilis*
134 using a modified version of Winnepenninckx *et al.* (1993). Tissue was macerated in
135 300 μ l 60°C CTAB buffer (2% CTAB, 1.4M NaCl, 20mM EDTA, 100mM Tris-HCl
136 pH 8, 0.2% β -mercaptoethanol) to which 20mg proteinase K was added and incubated
137 at 60°C for 3-16hr. Subsequently, two extractions with chloroform:isoamyl alcohol
138 (24:1) were performed, and the DNA further purified with Promega's Wizard DNA
139 Clean-Up System following the manufacturer's instructions. Concentration was
140 assessed by spectrophotometry and adjusted to 100 ng. μ l⁻¹.

141 AFLP analysis

142 AFLP analysis was performed using a modified version of Vos *et al.* (1995). Adapter
143 and primer sequences are given in Table 1. For each sample genomic DNA (500ng)
144 was digested with 5U *Eco*RI (NEB) and 3U *Mse*I (NEB) in 25 μ l total volume of 1x
145 NEB buffer #2 supplemented with 100 μ g.ml⁻¹ BSA, for 3 hours at 37°C. Following
146 enzyme inactivation at 65°C, 25 μ l of a solution containing 5pmol *Eco*RI adapter,
147 50pmol *Mse*I adapter, 200U DNA ligase (NEB) and 5 μ l 10x ligase buffer (NEB), was
148 added and samples incubated for 16 hours at 16°C. Preselective PCRs were then
149 performed on 5 μ l diluted ligation (1:9 with 0.1xTE) in 50 μ l volumes containing
150 200 μ M each dNTP, 25pmol *Eco*+(C/A) primer, 25pmol *Mse*+(C/A) primer, 1.5mM
151 MgCl₂ and 1U *Taq* in manufacturer's buffer. PCR conditions were 20x(94°C 30secs,
152 56°C 1min, 72°C 1min). Selective *Eco*+3 primers were labeled in 0.5 μ l volumes
153 containing 1xT4 PNK buffer, 0.2 μ l T4 PNK (Promega) 5ng *Eco*+3 primer and 0.1 μ l
154 γ ³³P ATP. Selective PCRs were undertaken in 20 μ l volumes containing 30ng *Mse*+3

155 primer (see Table 1), 5ng labeled *Eco*+3 primer, 200 μ M each dNTP, 1.5mM MgCl₂,
156 1x buffer (Promega) and 0.4U *Taq*. Cycling conditions in the first cycle were 94°C
157 30secs, 65°C 30sec, 72°C 1min with the annealing temperature reduced by 0.7°C over
158 next 12 cycles, then 23x(94°C 30secs, 56°C 30sec, 72°C 1min). On completion, 20 μ l
159 STOP solution (95% formamide, 10mM EDTA pH8.0, 0.025% w/v bromophenol
160 blue, 0.025% w/v xylene cyanol) was added. AFLP products were separated on 6%
161 polyacrylamide gels (Sequagel, Flowgen), for 2-2½ hours at 55W then fixed, and
162 dried to the glass plate. Kodak Biomax MR-1 film was exposed to the gel for 48
163 hours. An initial study of reproducibility showed absolute consistency of banding
164 patterns between repeated reactions. Subsequent monitoring where \approx 5% reactions
165 were repeated has confirmed this.

Table 1 about here.

166 **Data analysis**

167 Gels were scored manually for band presence/absence. The frequency of the band
168 presence allele was estimated from the band presence/absence matrix for each sample
169 as $p = 1 - ((N-C)/N)^{0.5}$ where N = sample size and C = number of individuals with the
170 band. This calculation assumes Hardy-Weinberg genotypic frequencies and
171 dominance of band presence over absence.

172 We wish to use the allele frequency data for H and M samples to distinguish two
173 possibilities: 1. That all loci reflect mutation/drift/dispersal balance, perhaps
174 influenced by some general intrinsic barrier to gene exchange between H and M
175 populations, or 2. That strong differentiation is maintained by selection at some
176 proportion of loci, against a background of less-differentiated loci. We followed the
177 approach developed by Bowcock *et al.* (1991) and Beaumont & Nichols (1996) by
178 using simulations to predict the expected distribution of differentiation across loci for

179 a given average divergence. Differentiation is measured by F_{ST} , calculated for each
180 locus by the method of Nei (1977) with the correction suggested by Nei & Chesser
181 (1983). Simulation is necessary because the distribution of F_{ST} across loci is
182 influenced by historical sampling in the natural populations (i.e. by genetic drift) and
183 by experimental sampling. Here there is the added complication that AFLP loci are
184 dominant and, therefore, the experimental sampling error of F_{ST} is greater for high
185 mean allele frequencies (of the 'presence' allele) than for low frequencies. This is
186 because the allele frequencies have to be estimated from the proportion of 'absence'
187 homozygotes and the errors are greatest when this proportion is low.

188 We have used a simple simulation of two populations of size N diploid individuals,
189 with mutation rate μ and migration rate m , per generation. Allele frequencies for 500
190 simulated bi-allelic loci were initiated with a uniform random distribution, equal in
191 the two populations and then allowed to drift for $10N$ generations. Samples of 50
192 individuals were then taken from each simulated population and mean allele
193 frequencies and F_{ST} values were calculated in exactly the same way as for the
194 observed data (with the band presence allele dominant to the absence allele). The
195 simulation was checked by comparing the F_{ST} calculated in this way with both the F_{ST}
196 expected from theory and the F_{ST} calculated from the whole simulated population (i.e.
197 without sampling effects). The theoretical F_{ST} was calculated from
198 $F_{ST}=1/[1+16Nm+16N\mu]$ since only two populations are considered and the mutation
199 rate may be high relative to the migration rate (see below) (Crow & Aoki, 1984). The
200 simulated values calculated from the whole population agreed precisely with this
201 expectation but the simulated sample values showed a consistent upward bias of
202 0.0093 over the range of values of Nm relevant to this study. This bias is consistent

203 with previous simulation studies using Nei's method for calculation of F_{ST} (Slatkin &
204 Barton, 1989).

205 For each comparison between observed samples, Nm in the simulation was set to a
206 value expected to return the observed mean F_{ST} allowing for the estimation bias. The
207 simulation was then repeated 50 times to generate a total of 25000 values of mean
208 allele frequency and F_{ST} (minus those loci that were monomorphic in the simulated
209 samples, approximately 5%). Simulated mean F_{ST} values differed from observed
210 means by up to 6.77% but were always higher, making the test for loci with
211 unexpectedly high levels of differentiation conservative. Observed F_{ST} values were
212 compared with the 0.99 quantile of the simulated values determined for each of 20
213 categories of mean allele frequency, because the distribution of F_{ST} values is expected
214 to vary with mean allele frequency (see below and Fig. 1).

215 **Results**

216 **Levels of polymorphism**

217 A total of 306 fragments (loci) were scored from five primer combinations for 50
218 individuals per sample (Table 2). Additional, variable fragments could not be scored
219 unambiguously and were not considered further. Levels of polymorphism were
220 particularly high with 94.8% of loci polymorphic (a locus was considered
221 polymorphic if at least one individual showed a variant pattern). There was some
222 variation in the number of scorable loci per primer combination with the *Eco*+*CTC*-
223 *Mse*+*CGA* yielding 43 polymorphic bands and *Eco*+*CAG*-*Mse*+*CGA* yielding 80.

Table 2 about here

224 This high level of polymorphism suggests a value for $N\mu$ of the order of 10^{-1} , using
225 Kimura's (1968) formula for bi-allelic loci. This formula assumes symmetrical
226 mutation, which may not be true for AFLP bands, and ignores the possible existence

227 of many loci that are monomorphic for the ‘absence’ allele. This may mean that $N\mu$
228 has been overestimated. We have used $N\mu = 0.1$ ($N = 10^3$, $\mu = 10^{-4}$) in the simulations
229 reported below but other runs have demonstrated that neither the mean nor the
230 variance of F_{ST} is sensitive to these parameters (as also observed by Beaumont &
231 Nichols 1996). We have also run simulations with the mutation rate from presence to
232 absence ten times greater than the reciprocal rate. This increases the proportion of loci
233 monomorphic for the absence allele but has no effect on the distribution of F_{ST} .

234 **Detection of differentiated loci**

235 Ten loci had F_{ST} values higher than the 0.99 quantile of the initial simulation results
236 for all three individual H-M comparisons. Since these loci are implicated as being
237 under selection or linked to areas of the genome that are under selection, Nm was
238 recalculated after their removal, simulations were repeated, and the data compared
239 with new 0.99 quantiles. This process was carried out four times. At this stage, no
240 further locus showed observed values of F_{ST} lying above the 0.99 quantiles in all three
241 H-M comparisons, and 15 loci were identified as lying above the 0.99 quantile (Fig.
242 1). If the three H-M comparisons were independent, one would expect to see $\ll 1$
243 locus falling outside the 0.99 quantile in all three cases ($0.01^3 \times 306$). However, gene
244 exchange between sites potentially means that allele frequencies do not vary
245 independently. Therefore, we repeated the analysis making the alternative extreme
246 assumption that the three H samples come from one population and the three M
247 samples from another. In this case, all 15 of the loci previously identified fell outside
248 the 0.99 quantile (now based on sample sizes of 150).

249 In all three H-M comparisons on the same shore, the same 15 loci lie above the
250 0.99 quantile, together with a much smaller number of other loci whose behaviour is

251 erratic. In comparisons within morphs, mostly also between shores, there are fewer
 252 loci above the 0.99 quantile, they are nearer to this limit, and rarely are any of the 15
 253 loci identified above involved (see Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 about
here

254 Table 3 shows that when F_{ST} is calculated using all loci, values are usually higher
 255 for H-M comparisons than they are for H-H or M-M comparisons. The few within
 256 morph comparisons which are as large as the smallest between morph ones are from
 257 samples at or near the extremes of the sample range, e.g. Old Peak H-Thornwick Bay
 258 H (0.0318). Yet overall, F_{ST} seems to be independent of distance, thus the F_{ST} for H-
 259 M at Thornwick Bay is 0.0378 (spatial distance 5 m) while the values for H at
 260 Thornwick Bay compared with the two M samples at Robin Hood's Bay (distance 45
 261 km) are 0.0350 and 0.0340. The lack of relationship between all F_{ST} values and linear
 262 distance is further suggested by a randomization test (Manly, 1996; Manly, 1997)
 263 (1000 permutations) when the value of P for association was 0.3690. However if F_{ST}
 264 is estimated after removal of the 15 loci considered to be differentiated between H and
 265 M (Fig. 2), there is evidence of association with distance, $P = 0.0020$. In the figure,
 266 and for the randomization tests, distance was transformed by taking base 10
 267 logarithms, F_{ST} by taking $F_{ST}/(1 - F_{ST})$ as recommended by Rousset (1997).

Table 3 about
here

268 Two-sample randomization tests (Manly, 1996; Manly, 1997) were carried out on
 269 the F_{ST} data in Table 3 either when the values were calculated with, or without, the 15
 270 loci considered as likely to be differentiated. For values including these 15 loci, the
 271 probability that within morph and between morph F_{ST} values were the same was $P =$
 272 0.001. When these 15 loci were excluded from the F_{ST} estimates, this probability
 273 became 0.1450, indicating no difference between the two groups of F_{ST} estimates.

274 Mean F_{ST} values after removal of these 15 loci imply that Nm between H and M

275 morphs within shores is in the range 5.5 at Old Peak, 6.3 at Thornwick Bay and 308
276 individuals per generation (respective Nm values were 1.9, 2.0 and 3.9 before
277 removal). Nm between M morphs at Robin Hood's Bay is estimated as infinity ($F_{ST} =$
278 0).

279 **Genetic variation among *L. saxatilis* populations**

280 Nei's genetic distances between samples of *L. saxatilis* H and M were used to
281 construct a neighbour-joining tree (Fig. 3a). The three samples of *L. saxatilis* H form
282 one cluster separated from the five samples of *L. saxatilis* M by the greatest internal
283 branch length and with high bootstrap support. When we omitted the data for the 15
284 loci identified as potentially under selection from the three comparisons of *L. saxatilis*
285 H and M, the revised tree showed radically altered structure (Fig. 3b). Now, instead of
286 populations clustering by morphotype (H and M), they cluster by site, with Filey H
287 and M clustering together, Old Peak H and M together, etc.

Fig. 3 about here

288 **Discussion**

289 This study asks whether the *Littorina saxatilis* H-M cline represents a general barrier
290 to gene exchange or reflects divergence at a limited number of loci under selection.
291 By generating a large number of marker loci using AFLPs, and using the analytical
292 approach of Beaumont & Nichols (1996), we have identified at least 15 loci (from a
293 total of 306 studied; 5%) that seem either to be under selection or (more likely) linked
294 to loci that are. However, none of the 306 loci is implicated as under selection when
295 two populations of *L. saxatilis* M are compared from the same shore (Robin Hood's
296 Bay). It is interesting that our H-M comparisons show differentiation at these loci
297 regardless of whether they are spatially widely separate (300 m at Old Peak) or close
298 together (5 m at Flamborough). Within morph comparisons do not show such
299 differentiation, and now there is evidence of isolation-by-distance. F_{ST} values for
300 between morph comparisons are evidently higher than for within morph comparisons
301 when all loci are considered. The F_{ST} values after removal of these exceptional loci
302 are more nearly similar, but still imply that there is a general barrier to gene exchange
303 between H and M populations that is greater than would be expected from their spatial
304 separation.

305 Our simulation assumes free recombination among loci. In reality, this is clearly
306 not the case with 300 loci randomly distributed across the genome. In the extreme,
307 some AFLP bands may be allelic or very tightly linked and so their levels of
308 differentiation will not be independent. This will be detectable in hybridizing
309 populations because it will generate strong disequilibrium between differentiated loci.
310 We are currently analyzing such populations. However, in the present analysis, any
311 effect of linkage would apply equally to all comparisons and so cannot explain the
312 difference in distribution of F_{ST} between H-M and within-morph comparisons.

313 Thus, while there are no fixed differences between morphs in any of the
314 populations we have investigated, in appropriate comparisons (H versus M
315 populations), there is a small group of loci which show considerable differentiation
316 against a background of a majority where differentiation is weak. We suggest that this
317 is the most striking aspect of the data reported above: that there is a consistent group
318 of loci apparently differentiated. This point is further supported by comparing trees in
319 which the samples group by morphotype when the differentiated loci are included in
320 the analysis, but by shore when they are excluded. From this we infer that the majority
321 of the AFLP loci are in mutation/drift/dispersal equilibrium, although we cannot
322 exclude the possibility of a general reduction in gene exchange between H and M
323 populations relative to populations of the same morph. Against this background, we
324 suggest that differentiation is being maintained for the small number of differentiated
325 loci by selection on the loci themselves, or on closely linked loci. These findings are
326 consistent with earlier work demonstrating morphological, ecological and behavioural
327 differences between *L. saxatilis* H and M (Hull *et al.*, 1996; Hull, 1998; Pickles &
328 Grahame, 1999) but imply that the genetic differences underlying these characters
329 involve only a small proportion of the genome. This is what would be expected in a
330 case of non-allopatric speciation in progress. However, it could also be the result of
331 differential introgression following secondary contact resulting in homogenization of
332 allele frequencies at all loci except those under selection, or closely linked to loci
333 under selection.

334 The H and M forms of *L. saxatilis* represent one of several cases of divergence in
335 shell shape in this species. Similar variation is reported for shores in Sweden (Janson
336 & Sundberg, 1983), where it is considered to be phenotypic. It has been shown that
337 some allozyme loci are under selection, or linked to selected loci, in Swedish

338 populations (Johannesson *et al.*, 1995a; Johannesson & Tatarenkov, 1997), although
339 this has not been explicitly associated with shell form. On the Galician coast of Spain
340 very different shell forms occur in populations between which there is some
341 restriction of gene flow and evidence of selection on shell form (Johannesson *et al.*,
342 1995b; Rolán-Alvarez *et al.*, 1997). We do not have direct evidence of selection
343 operating on H and M forms on the Yorkshire coast, but it seems reasonable to infer
344 that it does. The findings from Britain and Spain suggest that a pervasive influence in
345 habitat use and subsequent diversification in *L. saxatilis* is the vertical shore gradient.
346 In turn, this suggests an unusually simple physical background (a spatially very
347 restricted cline, limited by the extent of the intertidal zones occupied by the animals)
348 against which to study speciation processes.

349 Whether the differentiation of the small proportion of loci between H and M is
350 primary (the result of divergent selection) or secondary (the result of renewed
351 contact), the main point is that differentiation is maintained for a small portion of the
352 genome, while gene exchange continues to prevent divergence at the majority of loci.
353 Detailed investigation of these loci in particular may provide important insights into
354 the nature of the barrier between these two forms of intertidal snail, and into the
355 evolution of barriers to gene exchange in general.

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359 discussions. We are grateful to two anonymous referees for their constructive
360 criticisms.

Table 2. Levels of polymorphism of scored AFLP markers.

Restriction site	Primer combination					Total
	A	B	D	E	F	
No. of variable bands	43	80	54	54	59	290
No. of fixed bands	0	3	8	1	4	16
Total	43	83	62	55	63	306

Table 3. F_{ST} (below diagonal) between populations of *Littorina saxatilis* (mean over 290 loci). Above diagonal, F_{ST} following removal of 15 loci. Standard errors of F_{ST} estimates range from 9.80-22.15% (below diagonal) and 10.19-22.20% (above diagonal) of the mean. TH, Thornwick Bay; OP, Old Peak; FY, Filey Brigg; RB, Robin Hood's Bay (two samples, M only).

	TH-H	TH-M	OP-H	OP-M	FY-H	FY-M	RB1	RB2
TH-H		0.0190	0.0311	0.0372	0.0242	0.0227	0.0301	0.0298
TH-M	0.0378		0.0397	0.0293	0.0322	0.0217	0.0260	0.0255
OP-H	0.0318	0.0633		0.0204	0.0223	0.0256	0.0254	0.0247
OP-M	0.0489	0.0292	0.0396		0.0309	0.0241	0.0221	0.0212
FY-H	0.0247	0.0551	0.0238	0.0480		0.0095	0.0204	0.0207
FY-M	0.0328	0.0236	0.0402	0.0244	0.0247		0.0148	0.0142
RB1	0.0350	0.0308	0.0347	0.0241	0.0286	0.0156		0.0055
RB2	0.0340	0.0299	0.0339	0.0230	0.0291	0.0153	0.0052	

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Figure legends

Fig. 1

F_{ST} values estimated from 290 variable AFLP loci plotted against mean allele frequency in three H-M comparisons (Thornwick Bay, Old Peak and Filey), one M-M comparison (Robin Hood's Bay) and six representative between shores, within morph comparison. The solid line represents the 0.99 quantile estimated from a simulation model (see methods). The position of each of the 15 loci implicated as linked to a region under selection due to their presence outside the region defined by the 0.99 quantile consistently in all three H-M comparisons (see Results) is labeled with the locus identifier (where A-F = primer combination, see Table 1).

Fig. 2

Relationship of mean F_{ST} with linear distance, 15 differentiating loci removed.

Fig. 3.

Neighbour-Joining tree calculated from allele frequency data in PHYLIP (Felsenstein, 1993). Data were bootstrapped (x100) using SEQBOOT and Nei's genetic distance calculated using GENDIST. Distances were clustered with NEIGHBOR and the consensus tree constructed with CONSENSE. Bootstrap values are shown at the nodes of a representative non-consensus tree in order to retain branch length information. a), using all 290 AFLP loci; b), after removal of 15 differentiated loci.

Fig. 2

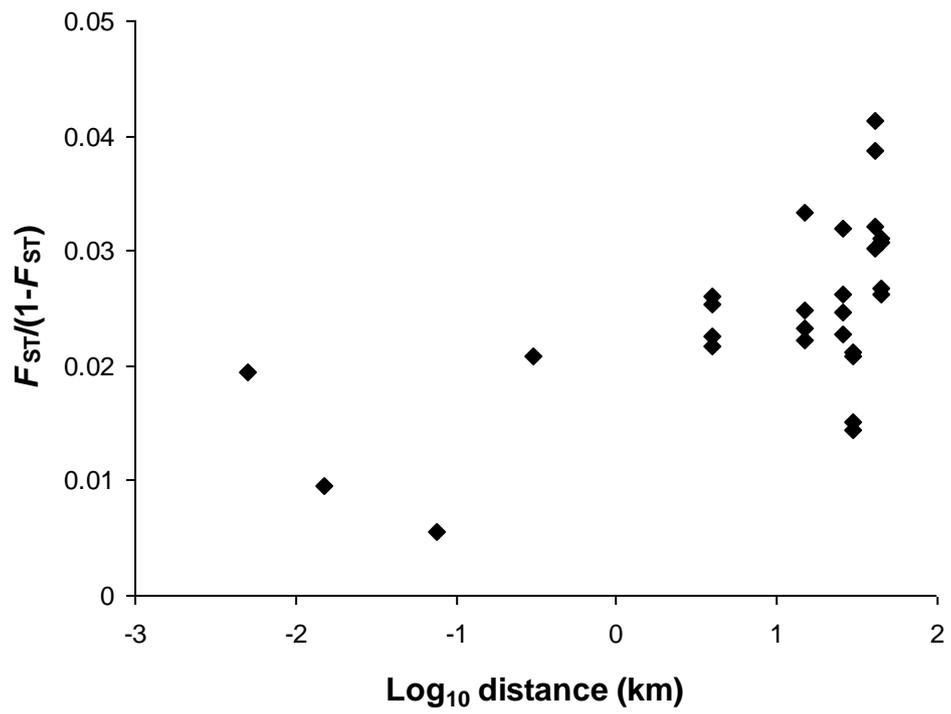


Fig. 3.

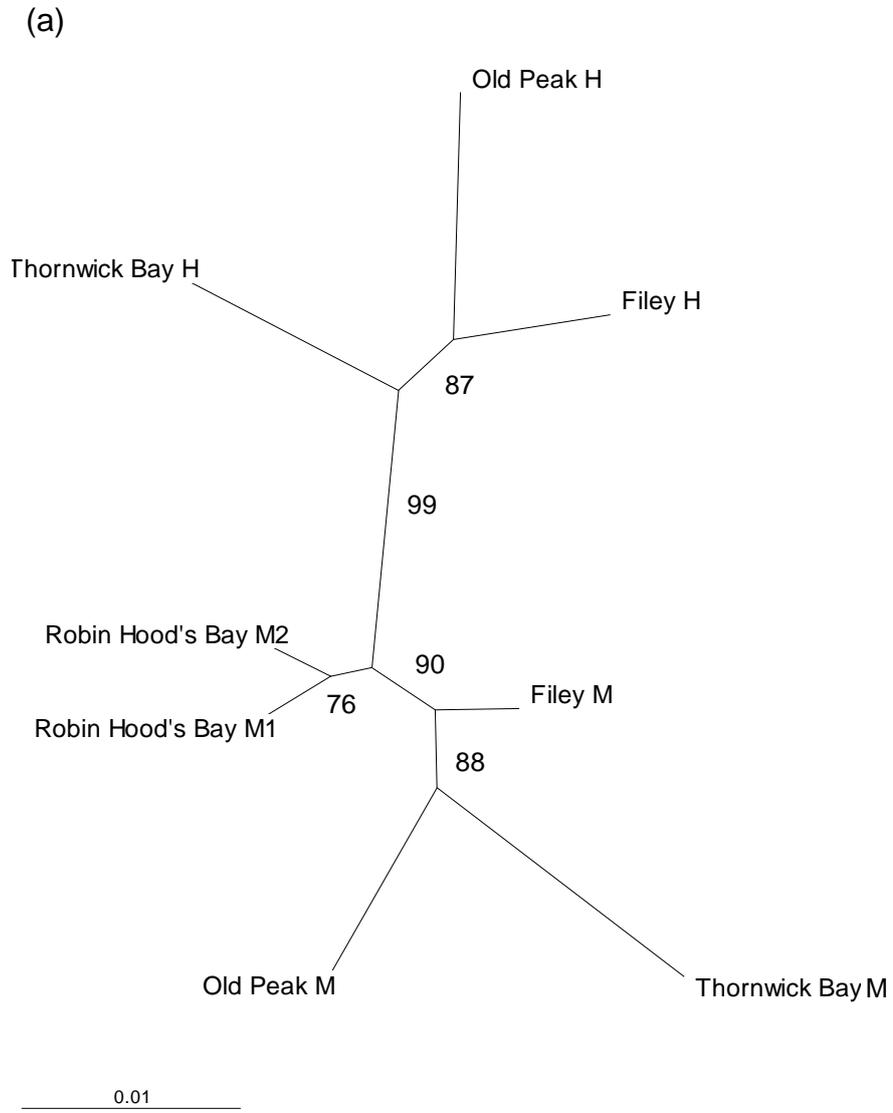


Fig. 3

