

1 The *Aquilegia* genome: adaptive radiation and an 2 extraordinarily polymorphic chromosome with a 3 unique history

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17 ABSTRACT

The columbine genus *Aquilegia* is a classic example of an adaptive radiation, involving a wide variety of pollinators and habitats. Here we present the genome assembly of *A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith', complemented by high-coverage sequencing data from 10 wild species covering the world-wide distribution. Our analysis reveals extensive allele sharing among species, and sheds light on the complex process of radiation. Our analysis also led to the remarkable discovery that the evolutionary history of an entire chromosome differed from that of the rest of the genome – a phenomenon which we do not fully understand, but which highlights the need to consider chromosomes in an evolutionary context.

19 Introduction

20 Understanding adaptive radiation is a longstanding goal of evolutionary biology¹. As a classic example of adaptive radiation,
21 the *Aquilegia* genus has outstanding potential as a subject of such evolutionary studies²⁻⁴. The genus is made up of about
22 70 species distributed across Asia, North America, and Europe⁵ (**Fig. 1**). Distributions of many *Aquilegia* species overlap or

23 adjoin one another, sometimes forming notable hybrid zones^{6,7}. Additionally, species tend to be widely interfertile, especially
24 within geographic regions⁸.

25 Phylogenetic studies have defined two concurrent, yet contrasting, adaptive radiations in *Aquilegia*^{9,10}. From a common
26 ancestor in Asia, one radiation occurred in North America via Northeastern Asian precursors, while a separate Eurasian radiation
27 took place in central and western Asia and Europe. While adaptation to different habitats is thought to be a common force
28 driving both radiations, shifts in primary pollinators also play a substantial role in North America^{9,11}. Previous phylogenetic
29 studies have frequently revealed polytomies^{6,9-12}, suggesting that many *Aquilegia* species are very closely related.

30 Genomic data are beginning to uncover the extent to which interspecific variant sharing reflects a lack of strictly bifurcating
31 species relationships, particularly in the case of adaptive radiation. Discordance between gene and species trees has been widely
32 observed¹³ (and references 15,34-44 therein)^{14,15}, and while disagreement at the level of individual genes is expected under
33 standard population genetics coalescent models¹⁶ (also known as “incomplete lineage sorting”¹⁷), there is increased evidence
34 for systematic discrepancies that can only be explained by some form of gene flow^{13-15,18}. The importance of admixture as a
35 source of adaptive genetic variation has also become more evident¹⁹⁻²¹. Hence, rather than being a problem to overcome in
36 phylogenetic analysis, non-bifurcating species relationships could actually describe evolutionary processes that are fundamental
37 to understanding speciation itself. Here we generate an *Aquilegia* reference genome based on the horticultural cultivar *Aquilegia*
38 *coerulea* ‘Goldsmith’ and perform resequencing and population genetic analysis of 10 additional individuals representing North
39 American, Asian, and European species, focusing in particular on the relationship between species.

40 **Results**

41 **Genome assembly**

42 We sequenced an inbred horticultural cultivar (*A. coerulea* ‘Goldsmith’) using a whole genome shotgun sequencing strategy
43 (See **Materials and Methods** for more details). With the aid of genetic maps, we assembled sequences into a 291.7 Mb
44 reference genome consisting of 7 chromosomes (282.6 Mbp) and an additional 1,027 scaffolds (9.13 Mbp). Genes were
45 annotated using RNAseq data of a variety of tissues and species (**Supplementary Table 1**), EST data sets²², and protein
46 homology support, yielding 30,023 loci and 13,527 alternate transcripts. The *A. coerulea* v3.1 genome release is available on
47 Phytozome (<https://phytozome.jgi.doe.gov/pz/portal.html>).

48 **Polymorphism and divergence**

49 We deeply resequenced one individual from each of ten *Aquilegia* species (**Fig. 1**). Sequences were aligned to the *A. coerulea*
50 v3.1 reference using bwa mem^{23,24} and variants were called using GATK Haplotype Caller²⁵. Genomic positions were
51 conservatively filtered to identify the portion of the genome in which variants could be reliably called across all ten species (see
52 *Materials and Methods* for alignment, SNP calling, and genome filtration details). The resulting callable portion of the genome
53 was heavily biased towards genes and included 57% of annotated coding regions (48% of gene models), but only 21% of the
54 reference genome as a whole.

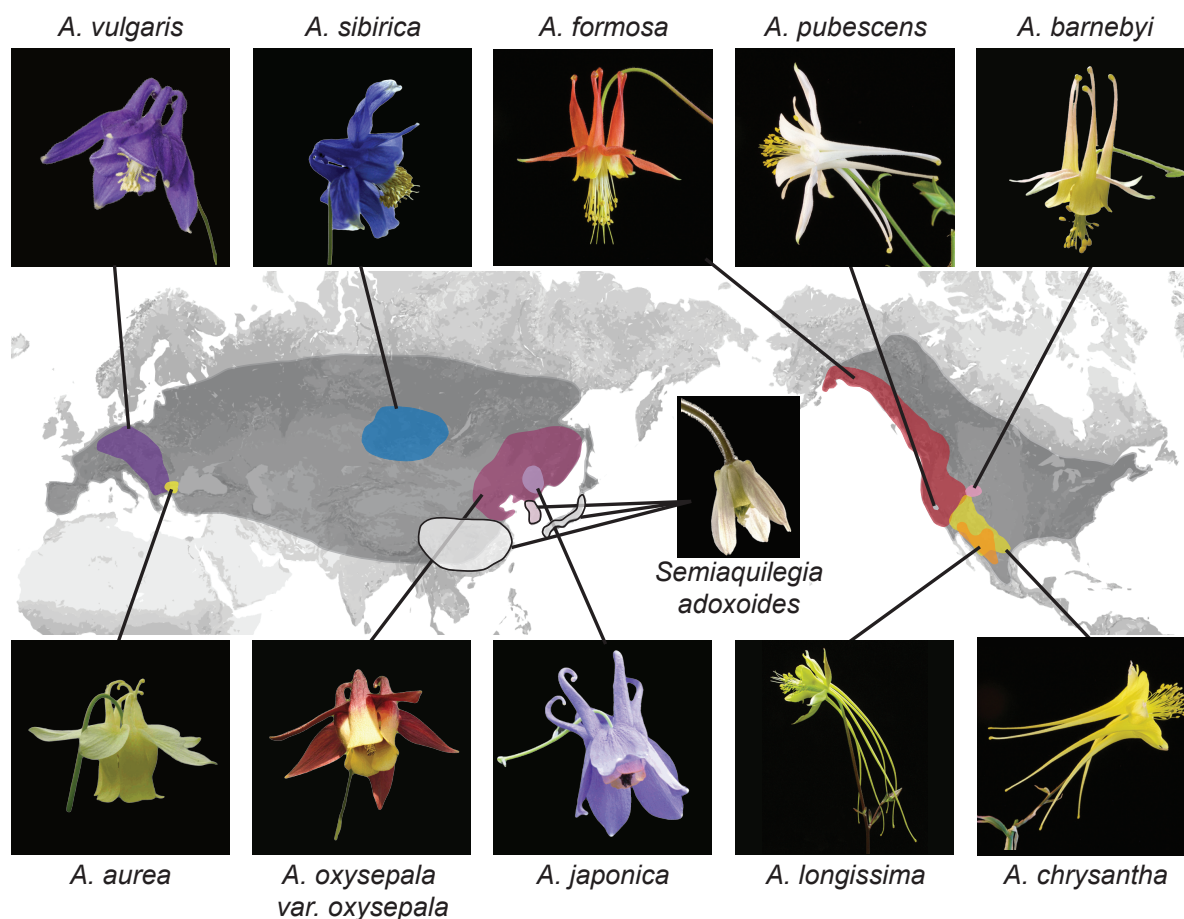


Figure 1. Distribution of *Aquilegia* species. There are ~70 species in the genus *Aquilegia*, broadly distributed across temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere (grey). The 10 *Aquilegia* species sequenced here were chosen as representatives spanning this geographic distribution as well as the diversity in ecological habitat and pollinator-influenced floral morphology of the genus. *Semiaquilegia adoxoides*, generally thought to be the sister taxon to *Aquilegia*¹⁰, was also sequenced. A representative photo of each species is shown and is linked to its approximate distribution.

55 Using these callable sites, we calculated nucleotide diversity as the percentage of pairwise sequence differences in each
56 individual. Assuming random mating, this metric reflects both individual sample heterozygosity and nucleotide diversity in the
57 species as a whole. Of the ten individuals, most had a nucleotide diversity of 0.2-0.35% (Fig. 2a), similar to previous estimates
58 of nucleotide diversity in *Aquilegia*²⁶, yet lower than that of a typical outcrossing species²⁷. While likely partially attributable
59 to enrichment for highly conserved genomic regions with our stringent filtration, these lower-than-expected heterozygosity
60 levels could also reflect inbreeding. Additionally, four individuals in our panel had extended stretches of very low levels
61 of heterozygosity (nucleotide diversity < 0.1%) consistent with recent inbreeding (Supplementary Fig. 1). Selfing does
62 appear to be common in *Aquilegia*, but estimates of inbreeding in adults are generally low, suggesting substantial inbreeding
63 depression²⁸⁻³⁰.

64 We next considered nucleotide diversity between individuals as a measure of species divergence. Divergence within a

65 region (0.38-0.86%) was often only slightly higher than within-species diversity, implying extensive variant sharing, while
66 divergence between regions was markedly higher (0.81-0.97%; **Fig.2a**). F_{ST} between regions (0.245-0.271) was similar to that
67 between common *Arabidopsis* species¹³, yet lower than between most vervet species pairs¹⁴, and higher than between cichlid
68 groups in Malawi³¹ or human ethnic groups³². The topology of trees constructed with concatenated genome data (neighbor
69 joining (**Fig. 2a**), RAxML (**Supplementary Fig. 2**)) were in broad agreement with previous *Aquilegia* phylogenies^{9-12,33}, with
70 one exception: while *A. oxysepala* is basal in our analysis, it had been placed within the large Eurasian clade with moderate to
71 strong support in previous studies^{9,10}.

72 Surprisingly, levels of polymorphism were generally strikingly higher on chromosome four (**Fig. 2b**). Exceptions were
73 apparently due to inbreeding, especially in the case of the *A. aurea* individual, which appears to be almost completely
74 homozygous (**Fig. 2a** and **Supplementary Fig. 1**). The increased polymorphism on chromosome four is only partly reflected
75 in increased divergence to an outgroup species (*Semiaquilegia adoxoides*), suggesting that it represents deeper coalescence
76 times rather than simply a higher mutation rate (mean ratio chromosome four/genome: polymorphism=2.258, divergence=1.201,
77 **Supplementary Table 2**).

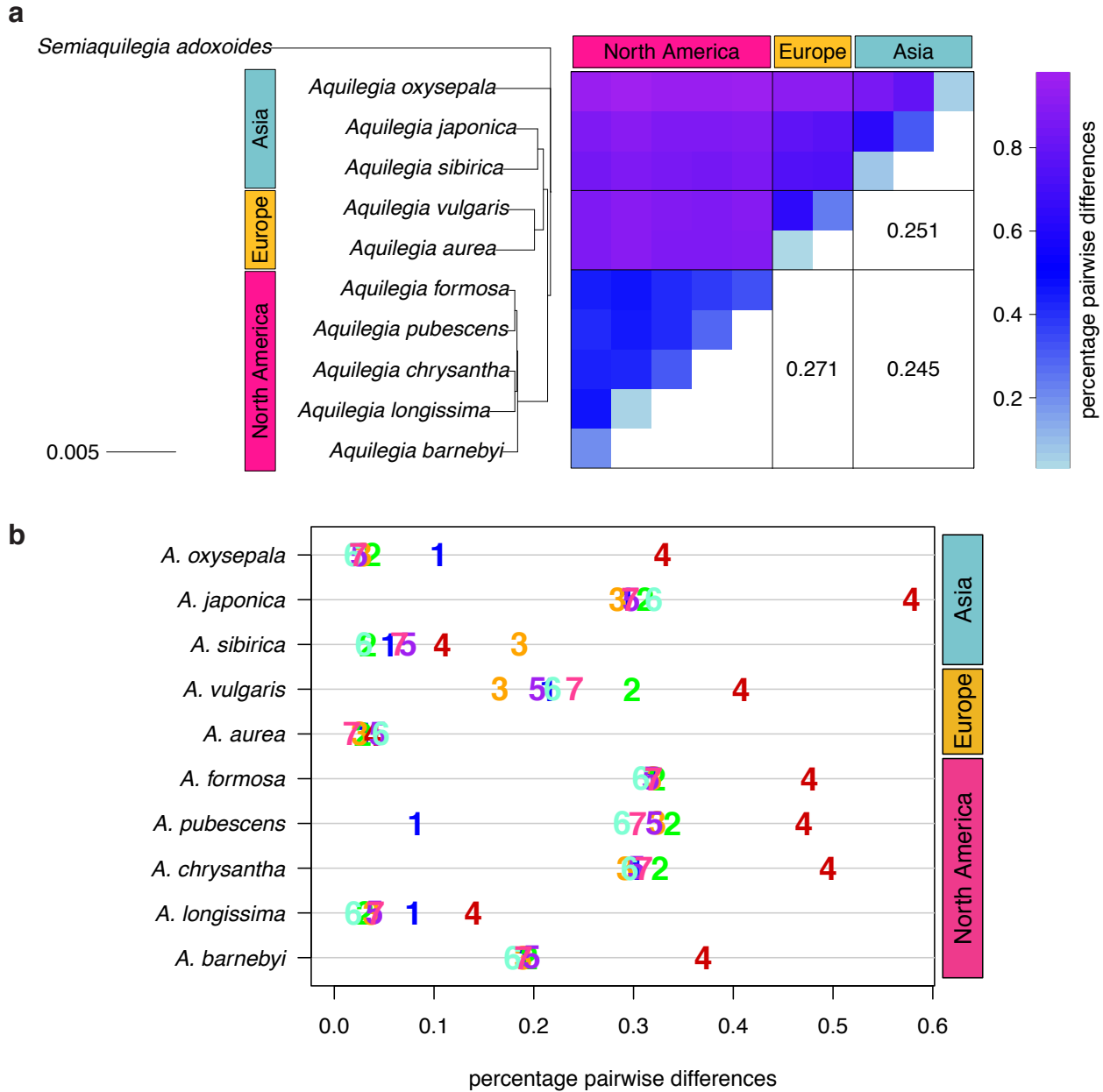


Figure 2. Polymorphism and divergence in *Aquilegia*. (a) The percentage of pairwise differences within each species (estimated from individual heterozygosity) and between species (divergence). F_{ST} values between geographic regions are given on the lower half of the pairwise differences heatmap. Both heatmap axes are ordered according to the neighbor joining tree to the left. This tree was constructed from a concatenated data set of reliably-called genomic positions. (b) Polymorphism within each sample by chromosome. Per chromosome values are indicated by the chromosome number.

78 Discordance between gene and species trees

79 To assess discordance between gene and species trees, we constructed a cloudogram of trees drawn from 100kb windows across
 80 the genome (**Fig. 3a**). Fewer than 1% of these window-based trees were topologically identical to the species tree. North
 81 American species were consistently separated from all others (96% of window trees) and European species were also clearly
 82 delineated (67% of window trees). However, three bifurcations delineating Asian species were much less common: the *A.*
 83 *japonica* and *A. sibirica* sister relationship (45% of window trees), a basal placement of *A. oxysepala* (30% of window trees),
 84 and the split demarcating the Eurasian radiation (31% of window trees). These results demonstrate a marked discordance of
 85 gene and species trees throughout both *Aquilegia* radiations.

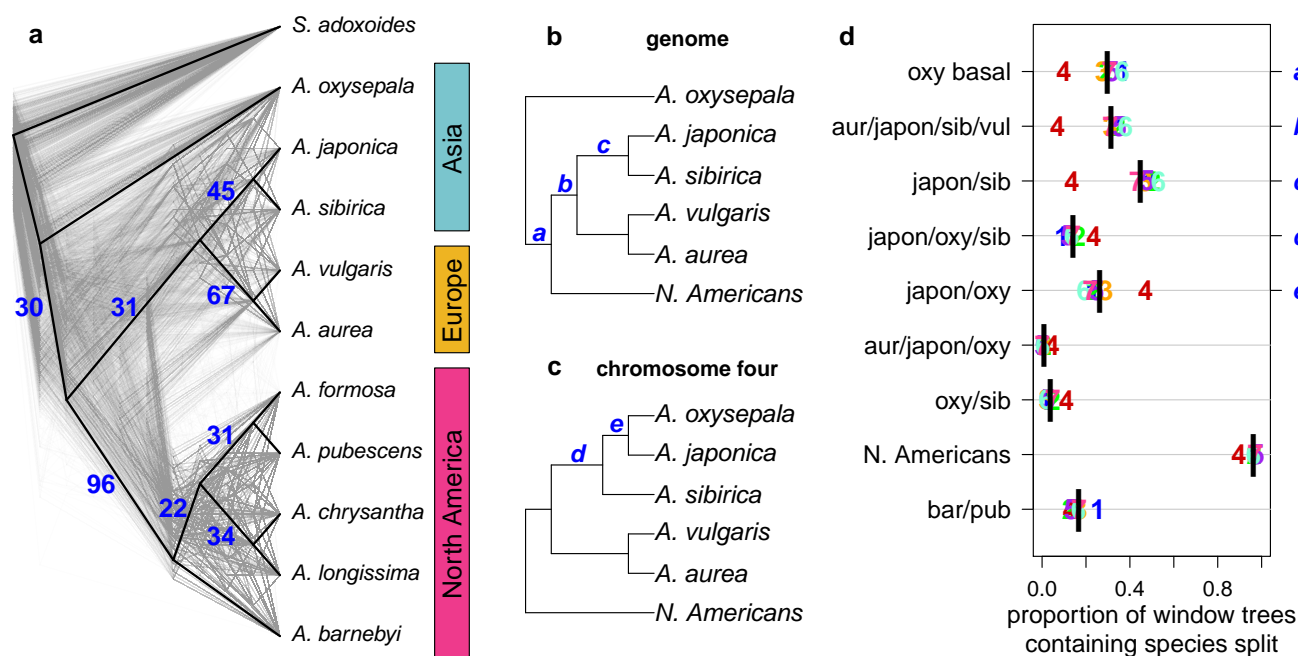


Figure 3. Discordance between gene and species trees. (a) Cloudogram of neighbor joining (NJ) trees constructed in 100kb windows across the genome. The topology of each window-based tree is co-plotted in grey and the whole genome NJ tree shown in **Fig. 2a** is superimposed in black. Blue numbers indicate the percentage of window trees that contain each of the subtrees observed in the whole genome tree. (b) Genome NJ tree topology. Blue letters a-c on the tree denote subtrees a-c in panel (d). (c) Chromosome four NJ tree topology. Blue letters d and e on the tree denote subtrees d and e in panel (d). (d) Prevalence of each subtree that varied significantly by chromosome. Genomic (black bar) and per chromosome (chromosome number) values are given.

86 The gene tree analysis also reflected the unique evolutionary history of chromosome 4. Of 217 unique subtrees observed
 87 in gene trees, nine varied significantly in frequency between chromosomes (chi-square test p -value < 0.05 after Bonferroni
 88 correction; **Fig. 3b** and **Supplementary Tables 3 and 4**). Trees describing a sister species relationship between *A. pubescens*
 89 and *A. barnebyi* were more common on chromosome one, but chromosome four stood out with respect to eight other
 90 relationships, most of them related to *A. oxysepala* (**Fig. 3d**). Although *A. oxysepala* was basal in our genome tree, the topology
 91 of the chromosome four tree was consistent with previously-published phylogenies in that it placed *A. oxysepala* within the
 92 Eurasian clade^{9,10} (**Supplementary Fig. 2**). Subtree prevalences were in accordance with this topological variation (**Fig. 3b-d**).

93 The subtree delineating all North American species was also less frequent on chromosome four, indicating that the history of
 94 the chromosome is discordant in both radiations. We detected no patterns in the prevalence of any chromosome-discordant
 95 subtree that would suggest structural variation or a large introgression (**Supplementary Fig. 3**).

96 Polymorphism sharing across the genus

97 We next polarized variants against an outgroup species (*S. adoxoides*) to explore the prevalence and depth of polymorphism
 98 sharing. Private derived variants accounted for only 21-25% of polymorphic sites in North American species and 36-47% of
 99 variants in Eurasian species (**Fig. 4a**). The depth of polymorphism sharing reflected the two geographically-distinct radiations.
 100 North American species shared 34-38% of their derived variants within North America, while variants in European and Asian
 101 species were commonly shared across two geographic regions (18-22% of polymorphisms, predominantly shared between
 102 Europe and Asia; **Fig. 4b and c**; **Supplementary Table 5**). Strikingly, a large percentage of derived variants occurred in
 103 all three geographic regions (22-32% of polymorphisms, **Fig. 4d**), demonstrating that polymorphism sharing in *Aquilegia* is
 104 extensive and deep.

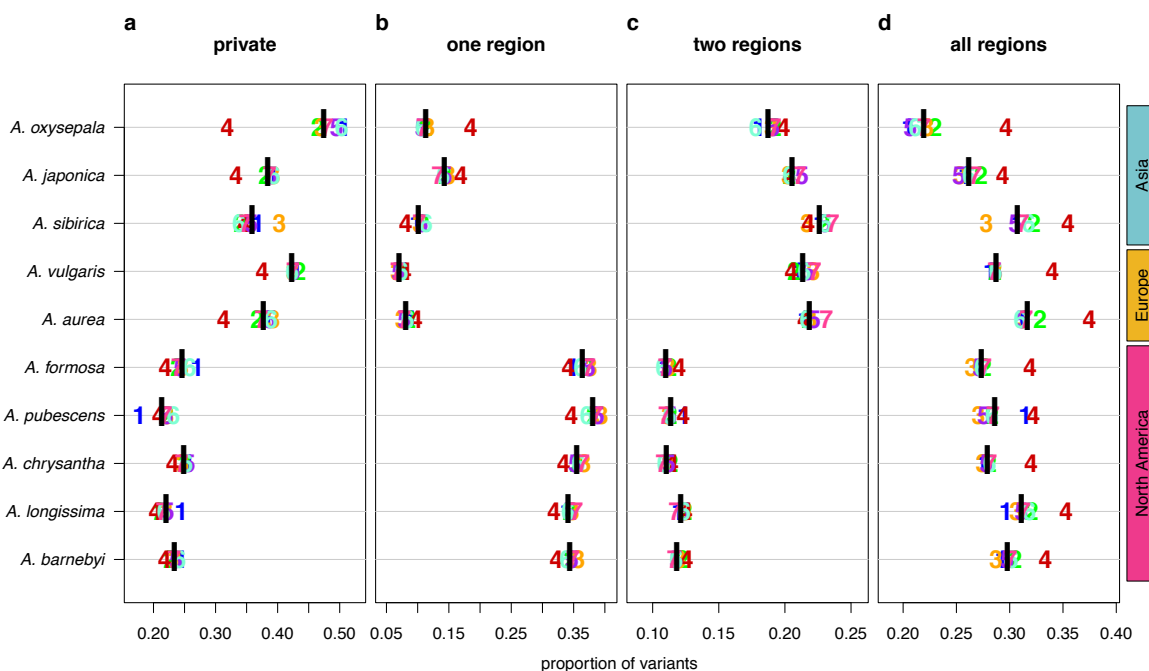


Figure 4. Sharing patterns of derived polymorphisms. Proportion of derived variants (a) private to an individual species, (b) shared within the geography of origin, (c) shared across two geographic regions, and (d) shared across all three geographic regions. Genomic (black bar) and chromosome (chromosome number) values, for all 10 species.

105 In all species examined, the proportion of deeply shared variants was higher on chromosome four (**Fig. 4d**), largely due to a
 106 reduction in private variants, although sharing at other depths was also reduced in some species. Variant sharing on chromosome
 107 four within Asia was higher in both *A. oxyssepala* and *A. japonica* (Fig. 4b), primarily reflecting higher variant sharing between
 108 these species (**Fig. 6a**).

109 Evidence of gene flow

110 Consider three species, H1, H2, and H3. If H1 and H2 are
 111 sister species relative to H3, then, in the absence of gene
 112 flow, H3 must be equally related to H1 and H2. The D
 113 statistic¹⁸ tests this hypothesis by comparing the number
 114 of derived variants shared between H3, and H1 and H2,
 115 respectively. A non-zero D statistic reflects an asymmetric
 116 pattern of allele sharing, implying gene flow between H3
 117 and one of the two sister species, i.e., that speciation was
 118 not accompanied by complete reproductive isolation. If
 119 *Aquilegia* diversification occurred via a series of bifurcat-
 120 ing species splits characterized by reproductive isolation,
 121 bifurcations in the species tree should represent combina-
 122 tions of basal and derived species with symmetric allele
 123 sharing patterns (D=0). Given the high discordance of
 124 gene and species trees at the individual species level, we
 125 focused on testing a simplified tree topology based on the
 126 three groups whose bifurcation order seemed clear: (1)
 127 North American species, (2) European species, and (3)
 128 Asian species not including *A. oxysepala*. *S. adoxoides*
 129 was used to determine the ancestral state of alleles in all
 130 tests.

131 We first tested each North American species as H3
 132 against all combinations of European and Asian (without
 133 *A. oxysepala*) species as H1 and H2 (Fig. 5a-c). As pre-
 134 dicted, the North American split was closest to resembling
 135 speciation with strict reproductive isolation, with little
 136 asymmetry in allele sharing between North American and
 137 Asian species and low, but significant, asymmetry between
 138 North American and European species (Fig. 5b). Next,
 139 we considered allele sharing between European and Asian
 140 (without *A. oxysepala*) species (Fig. 5d and e). Here we
 141 found non-zero D-statistics for all species combinations.

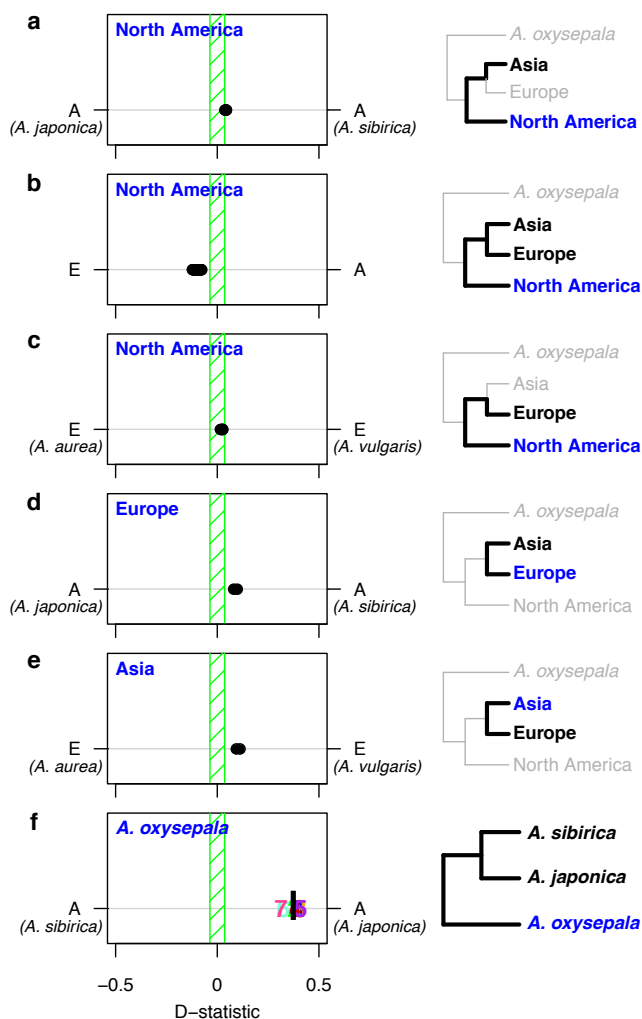


Figure 5. D statistics demonstrate gene flow during *Aquilegia* speciation. D statistics for tests with (a-c) all North American species, (d) both European species, (e) Asian species other than *A. oxysepala*, and (f) *A. oxysepala* as H3 species. All tests use *S. adoxoides* as the outgroup. D statistics outside the green shaded areas are significantly different from zero. In (a-e), each individual dot represents the D statistic for a test done with a unique species combination. In (f), D statistics are presented by chromosome (chromosome number) or by the genome-wide value (black bar). In all panels, E=European and A=Asian without *A. oxysepala*. In some cases, individual species names are given when the geographical region designation consists of a single species. Right hand panels are a graphical representation of the D statistic tests in the corresponding left hand panels. Trees are a simplified version of the genome tree topology (Fig. 2b), in which the bold subtree(s) represent the bifurcation considered in each set of tests. H3 species are noted in blue while the H1 and H2 species are specified in black.

142 Interestingly, the patterns of asymmetry between these two regions were reticulate: Asian species shared more variants
143 with the European *A. vulgaris* while European species shared more derived alleles with the Asian *A. sibirica*. D statistics
144 therefore demonstrate widespread asymmetry in variant sharing between *Aquilegia* species, suggesting that speciation processes
145 throughout the genus were not characterized by strict reproductive isolation.

146 Although non-zero D statistics are usually interpreted as being due to gene flow in the form of admixture between species,
147 they can also result from gene flow between incipient species. Either way, speciation precedes reproductive isolation. The
148 possibility that different levels of purifying selection in H1 or H2 explain the observed D statistics can probably be ruled out,
149 since D statistics do not differ when calculated with only fourfold degenerate sites (p -value $< 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$, adjusted $R^2=0.9942$,
150 **Supplementary Table 6**). Non-zero D statistics could also indicate that the bifurcation order tested was incorrect, but even
151 tests based on alternative tree topologies resulted in few D statistics that equal zero (**Supplementary Table 6**). Therefore, the
152 non-zero D statistics observed in *Aquilegia* most likely reflect a pattern of reticulate evolution throughout the genus.

153 Since variant sharing between *A. oxysepala* and *A. japonica* was higher on chromosome four (**Fig. 6a**), and hybridization
154 between these species has been reported⁷ we wondered whether gene flow could explain the discordant placement of *A.*
155 *oxysepala* between chromosome four and genome trees (**Fig. 3b and c**). Indeed, when the genome tree was taken as
156 the bifurcation order, D statistics were elevated between these species (**Fig. 5f**). A relatively simple model allowing for
157 bidirectional gene flow between *A. oxysepala* and *A. japonica* (**Fig. 6b**) demonstrated that doubling the population size
158 (N) to reflect chromosome four's polymorphism level (i.e. halving the coalescence rate) could indeed shift tree topology
159 proportions (**Fig. 6c**, row 2). However, recreating the observed allele sharing ratios on chromosome four (**Fig. 6a**) required
160 some combination of increased migration (m) and/or N (**Fig. 6c**, rows 3-4). It is plausible that gene flow might differentially
161 affect chromosome four, and we will return to this topic in the next section. Although the similarity of the D statistic across
162 chromosomes (**Fig. 5f**) might seem inconsistent with increased migration on chromosome four, the D statistic reaches a plateau
163 in our simulations such that many different combinations of m and N produce similar D values (**Fig 6c** and **Supplementary Fig.**
164 **4**). This underscores the idea that D statistics are a general indicator of gene flow, but not necessarily a quantitative measure of
165 its magnitude. Therefore, an increase in migration rate and deeper coalescence can explain the tree topology of chromosome
166 four, a result that might explain inconsistencies in *A. oxysepala* placement in previous phylogenetic studies^{9,10}.

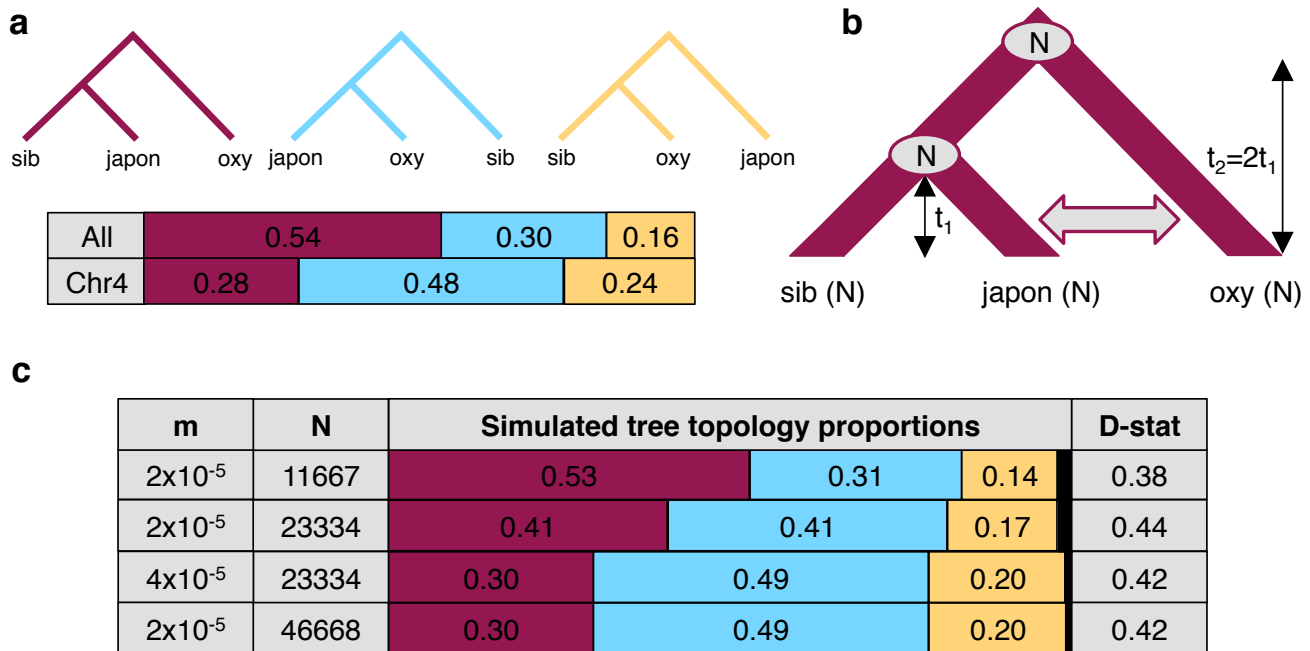


Figure 6. The effect of differences in coalescence time and gene flow on tree topologies. (a) The observed proportion of informative derived variants supporting each possible Asian tree topology genome-wide and on chromosome four. Species considered include *A. oxysepala* (oxy), *A. japonica* (japon), and *A. sibirica* (sib). (b) The coalescent model with bidirectional gene flow in which *A. oxysepala* diverges first at time t_2 (“species tree”), but later hybridizes with *A. japonica* between $t=0$ and t_1 at a rate determined by per-generation migration rate, m . The population size (N) remains constant at all times. (c) The proportion of each tree topology and estimated D statistic for simulations using five combinations of m and N values ($t_1=1$ in units of N generations). The combination presented in the first row ($m=2 \times 10^{-5}$ and $N=11667$) generates tree topology proportions that match observed allele sharing proportions genomewide. Simulations with increased m and/or N (rows 3–4) result in proportions which more closely resemble those observed for chromosome four. Colors in proportion plots refer to tree topologies in (a), with black bars representing the residual probability of seeing no coalescence event. While this simulation assumes symmetric gene flow, similar results were seen for models incorporating both unidirectional and asymmetric gene flow (**Supplementary Fig. 4** and **Supplementary Table 7**).

167 **The pattern of polymorphism on chromosome four**

168 In most of the sequenced *Aquilegia* species, the level of polymorphism on chromosome four is twice as high as in the rest of the
169 genome (**Fig. 2b**). This unique pattern could be: 1) an artifact of biases in polymorphism detection between chromosomes, 2)
170 the result of a higher neutral mutation rate on chromosome four, or 3) the result of deeper coalescence times on chromosome 4
171 (allowing more time for polymorphism to accumulate).

172 While it is impossible to completely rule out phenomena such as cryptic copy number variants, for the pattern to be entirely
173 attributable to artefacts would require that half of the polymorphism on chromosome 4 be spurious. This scenario is extremely
174 unlikely given our extensive quality control and filtering (see **Supplementary Table 8**). Similarly, the pattern cannot wholly be
175 explained by a higher neutral mutation rate. If this were the case, both divergence and polymorphism would be elevated to
176 the same extent on chromosome four³⁴. As noted above, this not the case (**Supplementary Table 2**). Thus the higher level of
177 polymorphism on chromosome four must to some extent reflect differences in coalescence time, which can only be due to
178 selection.

179 Although it is clear that selection can have a dramatic effect on the history of a single locus, the chromosome-wide pattern
180 we observe (**Supplementary Fig. 1**) is difficult to explain. It cannot be due to selection on a limited number of linked loci,
181 as we saw no pattern of recombination on chromosome four that would suggest the presence of a supergene or inversion (*A.*
182 *formosa* x *A. pubescens* F2 mapping population; **Supplementary Fig. 5**). Selection must thus be acting on a very large number
183 of loci across the chromosome. Balancing selection is known to elevate polymorphism, and chromosome four is enriched
184 for defense genes (**Supplementary Table 9**), some of which have been shown to be under balancing selection^{35,36}. However,
185 while significant, this enrichment involves a relatively small number of genes and is therefore unlikely to completely explain
186 the polymorphism pattern³⁷.

187 Another potential explanation is so-called background selection³⁸. Several characteristics of chromosome four suggest
188 that it could experience less purifying selection than the rest of the genome. Gene density is markedly lower (**Supplementary**
189 **Table 10**), it harbors a higher proportion of repetitive sites (**Supplementary Table 10**), and is enriched for many transposon
190 families such as Copia and Gypsy elements, among others (**Supplementary Table 11**). Additionally, a higher proportion of
191 genes on chromosome four were either not expressed or expressed at a low level (**Supplementary Fig. 6**). Gene models on the
192 chromosome were also more likely to contain variants that could disrupt protein function (**Supplementary Table 10**). Taken
193 together, these observations suggest less purifying selection on chromosome 4. However, there is no evidence of this leading
194 to reduced background selection, as we observed no significant correlation between gene density and polymorphism on any
195 chromosome (**Supplementary Table 12**). Reduced purifying selection could also explain the prediction of higher gene flow
196 between *A. oxysepala* and *A. japonica* on chromosome four (**Fig. 6**); the chromosome would be more permeable to gene flow if
197 loci involved in the adaptive radiation were preferentially located on other chromosomes.

198 While selection during the *Aquilegia* radiation contributes to the pattern of polymorphism on chromosome four, the
199 pattern itself predates the radiation. Divergence between *Aquilegia* and *Semiaquilegia* is higher on chromosome four (2.77%

200 on chromosome four, 2.48% genome-wide, **Supplementary Table 13**), as is heterozygosity within *Semiaquilegia* (0.16%
201 chromosome four, 0.08% genome-wide, **Supplementary Table 13**). This suggests that the variant evolutionary history of
202 chromosome four originated before the *Aquilegia/Semiaquilegia* split.

203 **The 35S and 5S rDNA loci are uniquely localized to chromosome four**

204 The observation that one *Aquilegia* chromosome is different from the others is not novel; previous cytological work described a
205 single nucleolar chromosome that appeared to be highly heterochromatic³⁹. Using fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH)
206 with rDNA and chromosome four-specific bulked oligo probes⁴⁰, we confirmed that both the 35S and 5S rDNA loci were
207 localized uniquely to chromosome four in two *Aquilegia* species and *S. adoxoides* (**Fig. 7**). The chromosome contained a single
208 large 35S repeat cluster proximal to the centromeric region in all three species. Interestingly, the 35S locus in *A. formosa* was
209 larger than that of the other two species and formed variable bubbles and fold-backs on extended pachytene chromosomes
210 similar to structures previously observed in *Aquilegia* hybrids³⁹ (**Fig. 7**, last panels). The 5S rDNA locus was also proximal to
211 the centromere on chromosome four, although slight differences in the number and position of the 5S repeats between species
212 highlight the dynamic nature of this gene cluster. However, no chromosome appeared to be more heterochromatic than others
213 in our analyses (**Fig. 7**); FISH with 5-methylcytosine antibody showed no evidence for hypermethylation on chromosome four
214 (**Supplementary Fig. 7**) and GC content was similar for all chromosomes (**Supplementary Table 14**). However, similarities
215 in chromosome four organization across all three species reinforce the idea that the exceptionality of this chromosome predated
216 the *Aquilegia/Semiaquilegia* split and raise the possibility that rDNA clusters could have played a role in the variant evolutionary
217 history of chromosome four.

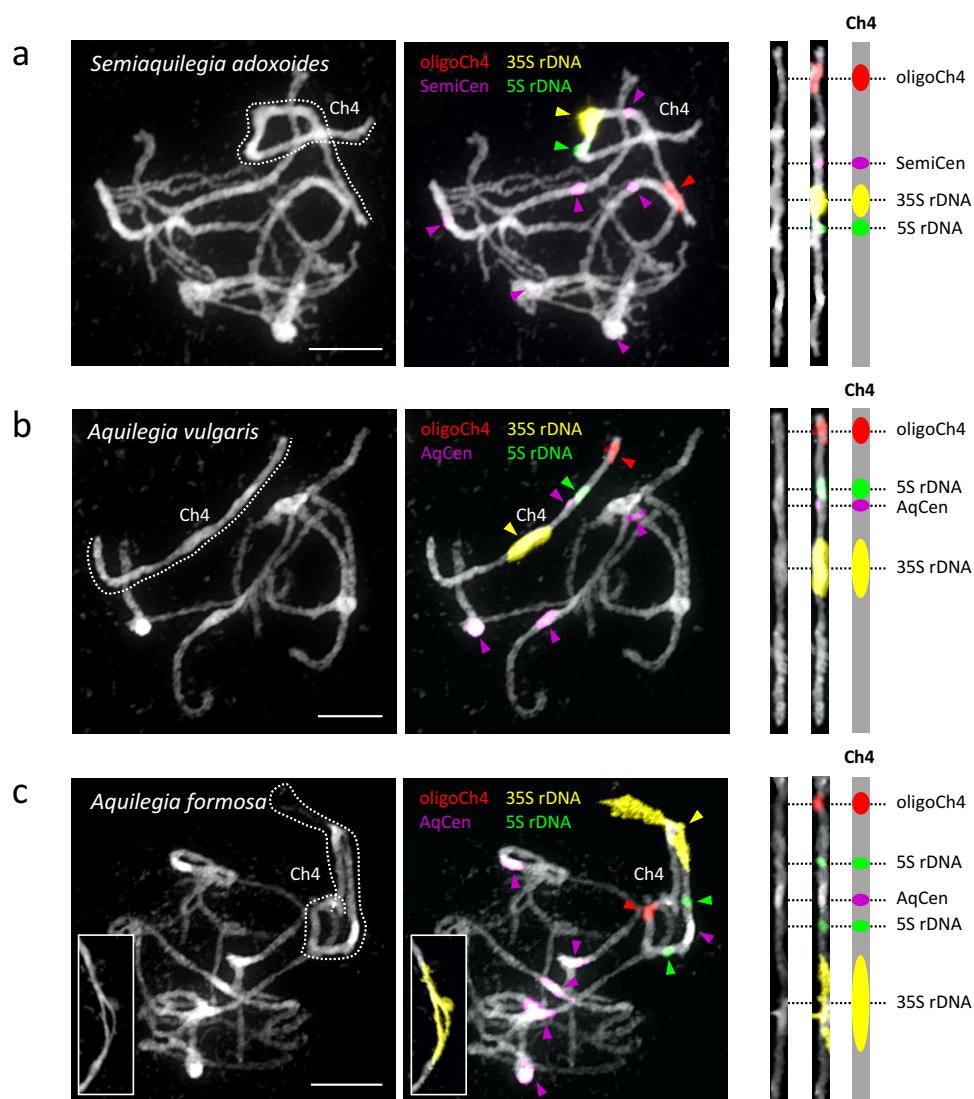


Figure 7. Cytogenetic characterization of chromosome four in *Semiaquilegia* and *Aquilegia* species. Pachytene chromosome spreads were probed with probes corresponding to oligoCh4 (red), 35S rDNA (yellow), 5S rDNA (green) and two (peri)centromeric tandem repeats (pink). Chromosomes were counterstained with DAPI. Scale bars = 10 μ m.

218 Discussion

219 We constructed a reference genome for the horticultural cultivar *Aquilegia coerulea* ‘Goldsmith’ and resequenced ten *Aquilegia*
220 species with the goal of understanding the genomics of ecological speciation in this rapidly diversifying lineage. Variant sharing
221 across the genus is widespread and deep, even across exceptionally large geographical distances. Although much of this sharing
222 is presumably due to stochastic processes, as expected given the rapid time-scale of speciation, asymmetry of allele sharing
223 demonstrates that the process of speciation has been reticulate throughout the genus, and that gene flow has been a common
224 feature. *Aquilegia* species diversity therefore appears to be an example of ecological speciation, rather than being driven by the
225 development of intrinsic barriers to gene flow^{1,41,42}. In the future, studies incorporating more taxa and/or population-level
226 variation will provide additional insight into the dynamics of this process. Given the extent of variant sharing, it will be also be
227 interesting to explore the role of standing variation and admixture in adaptation throughout the genus.

228 Our analysis also led to the remarkable discovery that the evolutionary history of an entire chromosome differed from
229 that of the rest of the genome. The average level of polymorphism on chromosome four is roughly twice that of the rest of
230 the genome and gene trees on this chromosome appear to reflect a different species relationship (**Fig. 3**). Importantly, this
231 chromosome is large and appears to be freely recombining, implying that these differences are unlikely to be due to a single
232 evolutionary event, but rather reflect the accumulated effects of evolutionary forces acting differentially on the chromosome.

233 To the best of our knowledge, with the possible exception of sex chromosomes^{43,44}, such chromosome-wide patterns have
234 never been observed before. Systematic differences between individual chromosomal regions have been described and attributed
235 to the phenomenon known as “background selection”, in which the interaction between recombination and purifying selection
236 predicts a negative correlation between the local rate of recombination and coalescence. This interaction has, for example,
237 lead to lower polymorphism in pericentromeric regions in many organisms. Although we observed no correlation between
238 recombination and polymorphism in our data (**Supplementary Table 12**), the notably lower gene density on chromosome four
239 suggests that background selection probably does play a role in elevating polymorphism on the chromosome.

240 Differences in gene content may thus be a proximal explanation for polymorphism levels on chromosome four, but we still
241 lack a concrete explanation as to why these differences would have been established on chromosome four specifically. The roots
242 of this go deep, extending at least into the genus *Semiaquilegia*. Although species with separate sexes exist in the Ranunculaceae,
243 these transitions seem to be recent⁴⁵, and all *Aquilegia* and *Semiaquilegia* species are hermaphroditic. Furthermore, no
244 heteromorphic sex chromosomes have been observed in the Ranunculales^{46,47}, making reverted sex chromosomes an unlikely
245 hypothesis. It has also been suggested that chromosome four is a fusion of two homeologous chromosomes³⁹, as could result
246 from the ancestral whole genome duplication^{48–50}, however, analysis of synteny blocks shows that this is not the case (Aköz,
247 manuscript in preparation).

248 It is tempting to speculate that the distinct evolutionary history of chromosome four is connected to its large rDNA repeat
249 clusters. Cytological^{51,52} and phylogenetic^{12,53,54} work separates the Ranunculaceae into two main subfamilies marked by
250 different base chromosome numbers: the Thalictroideae (T-type, base n=7, including *Aquilegia* and *Semiaquilegia*) and the

251 Ranunculoideae (R-type, predominantly base n=8). In the three T-type species tested here, the 35S is proximal to the centromere,
252 a localization seen for only 3.5% of 35S sites reported in higher plants⁵⁵. In contrast, all R-type species examined have terminal
253 or subterminal 45S loci⁵⁶⁻⁵⁹. Given that 35S repeats can be fragile sites⁶⁰ and 35S rDNA clusters and rearrangement breakpoints
254 co-localize⁶¹, a 35S-mediated chromosomal break could explain differences in base chromosome number between R-type and T-
255 type species. Although we propose no mechanism whereby such rDNA-mediated changes could have lead to chromosome-wide
256 decay, the rDNA cluster is, thus far, the only distinguishing physical feature of chromosome four. Comparative genomics work
257 within the Ranunculaceae will therefore be useful for understanding the role that rDNA repeats have played in chromosome
258 evolution and could provide additional insight into how rDNA could have contributed to chromosome four's variant evolutionary
259 history.

260 In conclusion, the *Aquilegia* genus is a beautiful example of adaptive radiation through ecological speciation, and illustrates
261 that standard population genetics models are not always sufficient to the explain the pattern of variation across the genome. A
262 better understanding, and incorporation, of chromosome evolution is needed to give us a fuller picture of these evolutionary
263 processes.

264 **Methods**

265 **1 Sequencing, Assembly, and Annotation**

266 **1.1 Sequencing**

267 Sequencing was performed on *Aquilegia coerulea* cv 'Goldsmith', an inbred line constructed and provided by Todd Perkins of
268 Goldsmith Seeds (now part of Syngenta). The line was of hybrid origin of multiple taxa and varieties of *Aquilegia* and then
269 inbred. The sequencing reads were collected with standard Sanger sequencing protocols at the Department of Energy Joint
270 Genome Institute in Walnut Creek, California and the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology. Libraries included two 2.5 Kb
271 libraries (3.36x), two 6.5 Kb libraries (3.70x), two 33Kb insert size fosmid libraries (0.36x), and one 124kb insert size BAC
272 library (0.17x). The final read set consists of 171,859 reads for a total of 3.411 Gb high quality bases (**Supplementary Table**
273 **15**).

274 **1.2 Genome assembly and construction of pseudomolecule chromosomes**

275 A total of 171,589 sequence reads (7.59x assembled sequence coverage) were assembled using our modified version
276 of Arachne v.20071016⁶² with parameters maxcliq1=120 n_haplotypes=2 max_bad_look=2000 START=SquashOverlaps
277 BINGE_AND_PURGE_2HAP=True.

278 This produced 2,529 scaffolds (10,316 contigs), with a scaffold N50 of 3.1 Mb, 168 scaffolds larger than 100 kb, and
279 total genome size of 298.6 Mb (**Supplementary Table 16**). Two genetic maps (*A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith' x *A. chrysantha* and
280 *A. formosa* x *A. pubescens*) were used to identify 98 misjoins in the initial assembly. Misjoins were identified by a linkage
281 group/syntenic discontinuity coincident with an area of low BAC/fosmid coverage. A total of 286 scaffolds were ordered

282 and oriented with 279 joins to form 7 chromosomes. Each chromosome join is padded with 10,000 Ns. The remaining
283 scaffolds were screened against bacterial proteins, organelle sequences, GenBank nr and removed if found to be a contaminant.
284 Additional scaffolds were removed if they (a) consisted of >95% 24mers that occurred 4 other times in scaffolds larger than
285 50kb (957 scaffolds, 6.7 Mb), (b) contained only unanchored RNA sequences (14 scaffolds, 651.9 Kb), or (c) were less than
286 1kb in length (303 scaffolds). Significant telomeric sequence was identified using the TTTAGGG repeat, and care was taken to
287 make sure that it was properly oriented in the production assembly. The final release assembly contains 1,034 scaffolds (7,930
288 contigs) that cover 291.7 Mb of the genome with a contig N50 of 110.9 kb and a scaffold L50 of 43.6 Mb (**Supplementary**
289 **Table S17**).

290 **1.3 Validation of genome assembly**

291 Completeness of the euchromatic portion of the genome assembly was assessed using 81,617 full length cDNAs²². The aim
292 of this analysis is to obtain a measure of completeness of the assembly, rather than a comprehensive examination of gene
293 space. The cDNAs were aligned to the assembly using BLAT3 (Parameters: -t=dna -q=rna -extendThroughN -noHead)
294 and alignments $\geq 90\%$ base pair identity and $\geq 85\%$ EST coverage were retained. The screened alignments indicate that
295 79,626 (98.69%) of the full length cDNAs aligned to the assembly. The cDNAs that failed to align were checked against the
296 NCBI nucleotide repository (nr), and a large fraction were found to be arthropods (*Acyrtosiphon pisum*) and prokaryotes
297 (*Acidovorax*).

298 A set of 23 BAC clones were sequenced in order to assess the accuracy of the assembly. Minor variants were detected in
299 the comparison of the fosmid clones and the assembly. In all 23 BAC clones, the alignments were of high quality (< 0.35%
300 bp error), with an overall bp error rate (including marked gap bases) in the BAC clones of 0.24% (1,831 discrepant bp out of
301 3,063,805; **Supplementary Table 18**).

302 **1.4 Annotation**

303 **1.4.1 Genomic repeat and transposable element prediction**

304 Consensus repeat families were predicted de novo for the *A. coerulea* v3.1 genome by the RepeatModeler pipeline⁶³. These
305 consensus sequences were annotated for PFAM and Panther domains, and any sequences known to be associated with non-TE
306 function were removed. The final curated library was used to generate a softmasked version of the *A. coerulea* v3.0 assembly.

307 **1.4.2 Transcript assembly and gene model annotation**

308 A total of 246 million paired-end and a combined 1 billion single-end RNAseq reads from a diverse set of tissues and related
309 *Aquilegia* species (**Supplementary Table 1**) were assembled using PERTRAN⁶⁴ to generate a candidate set containing 188,971
310 putative transcript assemblies. The PERTRAN candidate set was combined with 115,000 full length ESTs (the 85,000
311 sequence cDNA library derived from an *A. formosa* X *A. pubescens* cross²² and 30,000 Sanger sequences of *A. formosa*
312 sequenced at JGI) and aligned against the v3.0 release of the *A. coerulea* genome by PASA⁶⁵.

313 Loci were determined by BLAT alignments of above transcript assemblies and/or BLASTX of the proteomes of a

314 diverse set of Angiosperms (*Arabidopsis thaliana* TAIR10, *Oryza sativa* v7, *Glycine max* Wm82.a2.v1, *Mimulus guttatus*
315 v2, *Vitis vinifera* Genoscope.12X and *Poplar trichocarpa* v3.0). These protein homology seeds were further extended by
316 the EXONERATE algorithm. Gene models were predicted by homology-based predictors, FGENESH+⁶⁶, FGENESH_EST
317 (similar to FGENESH+, but using EST sequence to model splice sites and introns instead of putative translated sequence), and
318 GenomeScan⁶⁷.

319 The final gene set was selected from all predictions at a given locus based on evidence for EST support or protein homology
320 support according to several metrics, including Cscore, a protein BLASTP score ratio to homology seed mutual best hit (MBH)
321 BLASTP score, and protein coverage, counted as the highest percentage of protein model aligned to the best of its Angiosperm
322 homologs. A gene model was selected if its Cscore was at least 0.40 combined with protein homology coverage of at least 45%,
323 or if the model had EST coverage of at least 50%. The predicted gene set was also filtered to remove gene models overlapping
324 more than 20% with a masked Repeatmodeler consensus repeat region of the genome assembly, except for such cases that
325 met more stringent score and coverage thresholds of 0.80 and 70% respectively. A final round of filtering to remove putative
326 transposable elements was conducted using known TE PFAM and Panther domain homology present in more than 30% of the
327 length of a given gene model. Finally, the selected gene models were improved by a second round of the PASA algorithm,
328 which potentially included correction to selected intron splice sites, addition of UTR, and modeling of alternative spliceforms.

329 2 Sequencing of Species Individuals

330 2.1 Sequencing, mapping and variant calling

331 Individuals of 10 *Aquilegia* species and *Semiaquilegia adoxoides* were resequenced (**Fig. 1** and **Supplementary Table 19**). One
332 sample (*A. pubescens*) was sequenced at the Vienna Biocenter Core Facilities Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) unit in Vienna,
333 Austria and the others were sequenced at the JGI (Walnut Creek, CA, USA). All libraries were prepared using standard/slightly
334 modified Illumina protocols and sequenced using paired-end Illumina sequencing. *Aquilegia* species read length was 100bp, the
335 *S. adoxoides* read length was 150bp, and samples were sequenced to a depth of 58-124x coverage (**Supplementary Table 20**).
336 Sequences were aligned against *A. coerulea* v3.1 with bwa mem (bwa mem -t 8 -p -M)^{24,68}. Duplicates and unmapped reads
337 were removed with SAMtools²³. Picardtools⁶⁹ was used to clean the resulting bam files (CleanSam.jar), to remove duplicates
338 (MarkDuplicates.jar), and to fix mate pair problems (FixMateInformation.jar). GATK 3.4^{25,70} was used to identify problem
339 intervals and do local realignments (RealignTargetCreator and IndelRealigner). The GATK Haplotype Caller was used to
340 generate gVCF files for each sample. Individual gVCF files were merged and GenotypeGVCFs in GATK was used to call
341 variants.

342 2.2 Variant filtration

343 Variants were filtered to identify positions in the single-copy genome that could be reliably called across all *Aquilegia* individuals.
344 Variant Filtration in GATK 3.4^{25,70} was used to filter multiallelic sites, indels +/-10bp, sites identified with Repeatmasker⁷¹,
345 and sites in previously-determined repetitive elements (see "*Genomic repeat and transposable element prediction*" above).

346 We required a minimum coverage of 15 in all samples and a genotype call (either variant or non-variant) in all accessions. Sites
347 with less than 0.5x log median coverage or greater than -0.5x log median coverage in any sample were also removed. A table of
348 the number of sites removed by each filter is in **Supplementary Table 21**.

349 **2.3 Polarization**

350 *S. adoxoides* was added to the *Aquilegia* individual species data set and the above filtration was repeated (**Supplementary**
351 **Table 22**). The resulting variants were then polarized against *S. adoxoides*, resulting in nearly 1.5 million polarizable variant
352 positions. A similar number of derived variants was detected in all species (**Supplementary Table 23**), suggesting no reference
353 bias resulting from the largely North American provenance of the *A. coerulea* v.3.1 reference sequence used for mapping.

354 **3 Evolutionary analysis**

355 **3.1 Basic population genetics**

356 Basic population genetics parameters including nucleotide diversity (polymorphism and divergence) and F_{ST} were calculated
357 using custom scripts in R⁷². Nucleotide diversity was calculated as the percentage of pairwise differences in the mappable
358 part of the genome. F_{ST} was calculated as in Hudson *et al.*⁷³ To identify fourfold degenerate sites, four pseudo-vcls replacing
359 all positions with A,T,C, or G, respectively, were used as input into SNPeff⁷⁴ to assess the effect of each pseudo-variant in
360 reference to the *A. coerulea* v3.1 annotation. Results from all four output files were compared to identify genic sites that caused
361 no predicted protein changes.

362 **3.2 Tree and cloudogram construction**

363 Trees were constructed using a concatenated data set of all nonfiltered sites, either genome-wide or by chromosome. Neighbor
364 joining (NJ) trees were made using the ape⁷⁵ and phangorn⁷⁶ packages in R⁷² using a Hamming distance matrix and the nj
365 command. RAxML trees were constructed using the default settings in RAxML⁷⁷. All trees were bootstrapped 100 times.
366 The cloudogram was made by constructing NJ trees using concatenated nonfiltered SNPs in non-overlapping 100kb windows
367 across the genome (minimum of 100 variant positions per window, 2,387 trees total) and plotted using the densiTree package in
368 phangorn⁷⁶.

369 **3.3 Differences in subtree frequency by chromosome**

370 For each of the 217 subtrees that had been observed in the cloudogram, we calculated the proportion of window trees on each
371 chromosome containing the subtree of interest and performed a test of equal proportions (prop.test in R⁷²) to determine whether
372 the prevalence of the subtree varied by chromosome. For significantly-varying subtrees, we then performed another test of equal
373 proportions (prop.test in R⁷²) to ask whether subtree proportion on each chromosome was different from the genome-wide
374 proportion. The appropriate Bonferroni multiple testing correction was applied to p -values obtained in both tests ($n=217$ and
375 $n=70$, respectively).

376 **3.4 Tests of D-statistics**

377 D-statistics tests were performed in ANGSD⁷⁸ using non-filtered sites only. ANGSD ABBABABA was run with a block size of
378 100000 and results were bootstrapped. Tests were repeated using only fourfold degenerate sites.

379 **3.5 Modelling effects of migration rate and effective population size**

380 We simulated a simple coalescent model with the assumptions as follows: (1) population size is constant (N alleles) at all
381 times, (2) *A. oxysepala* split from the population ancestral to *A. sibirica* and *A. japonica* at generation $t_2=2*t$, (3) *A. sibirica*
382 and *A. japonica* split from each other at generation $t_1=t$, and (4) there was gene flow between *A. oxysepala* and *A. japonica*
383 between $t=0$ and t_1 . A first Markov Chain simulated migration with symmetric gene flow ($m_1=m_2$) and coalescence between
384 $t=0$ and t_1 (*Five-State Markov Chain, Supplementary Table 24*). This process was run for T ($t*N$) generations to get the
385 starting probabilities for the second process, which simulated coalescence between t_1 and t_2+1 (*Eight-State Markov Chain,*
386 **Supplementary Table 25**). The second process was run for N generations. After first identifying a combination of parameters
387 that minimized the difference between simulated versus observed gene genealogy proportions, we then reran the process with
388 increased migration rate and/or N to check if simulated proportions matched observed chromosome 4-specific proportions. We
389 also ran the initial chain under two additional models of gene flow: unidirectional ($m_2=0$) and asymmetric ($m_1=2*m_2$).

390 **3.6 Robustness of chromosome four patterns to filtration**

391 Variant filtration as outlined above was repeated with a stringent coverage filter (keeping only positions with $\pm 0.15x$ log median
392 coverage in all samples) and nucleotide diversity per chromosome was recalculated. Nucleotide diversity per chromosome
393 was also recalculated after removal of copy number variants detected by the readDepth package⁷⁹ in R⁷², after the removal of
394 tandem duplicates as determined by running DAGchainer⁸⁰ on *A. coerulea* v3.1 in CoGe SynMap⁸¹, as well as after the removal
395 of heterozygous variants for which both alleles were not supported by an equivalent number of reads (a log read number ratio
396 <-0.3 or >0.3).

397 **4 Construction of an *A. formosa* x *A. pubescens* genetic map**

398 **4.1 Mapping and variant detection**

399 Construction of the *A. formosa* x *A. pubescens* F2 cross was previously described⁸². One *A. pubescens* F0 line (pub.2) and one
400 *A. formosa* F0 line (form.2) had been sequenced as part of the species resequencing explained above. Libraries for the other *A.*
401 *formosa* F0 (form.1) were constructed using a modified Illumina Nextera library preparation protocol⁸³ and sequenced at at
402 the Vincent J. Coates Genomics Sequencing Laboratory (UC Berkeley). Libraries for the other *A. pubescens* F0 (pub.1), and
403 for both F1 individuals (F1.1 and F1.2), were prepared using a slightly modified Illumina Genomic DNA Sample preparation
404 protocol⁸⁴ and sequenced at the Vienna Biocenter Core Facilities Next generation sequencing (NGS) unit in Vienna, Austria.
405 All individual libraries were sequenced as 100 bp paired-end reads on the Illumina HiSeq platform to 50-200x coverage. A
406 subset of F2s were sequenced at the Vienna Biocenter Core Facilities Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) unit in Vienna,

407 Austria (70 lines). Libraries for the remaining F2s (246 lines) were prepared and sequenced by the JGI (Walnut Creek, CA). All
408 F2s were prepared using the Illumina multiplexing protocol and sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq platform to generate 100 bp
409 paired end reads. Samples were 96-multiplexed to generate about 1-2x coverage. Sequences for all samples were aligned to the
410 *A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith' v3.1 reference genome using bwa mem with default parameters^{24,68}. SAMtools 0.1.19⁸⁵ mpileup (-q
411 60 -C 50 -B) was used to call variable sites in the F1 individuals. Variants were filtered for minimum base quality and minimum
412 and maximum read depth (-Q 30, -d20, -D150) using SAMtools varFilter. Variable sites that had a genotype quality of 99 in the
413 F1s were genotyped in F0 plants to generate a set of diagnostic alleles for each parent of origin. To assess nucleotide diversity,
414 F0 and F1 samples were additionally processed with the mapping and variant calling pipeline as described for species samples
415 above.

416 4.2 Genotyping of F2s and Genetic Map Construction

F2s were genotyped in genomic bins of 0.5 Mb in regions of moderate to high recombination and 1 Mb in regions with
very low or no recombination, as estimated by the *A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith' x *A. chrysantha* cross used to assemble the *A.*
coerulea 'Goldsmith' v3.1 reference genome (see "**Genome assembly and construction of pseudomolecule chromosomes**").
Ancestry of each bin was independently determined for each of the four parents. The ratio of:

$$\frac{\text{reads containing a diagnostic allele}}{\text{reads potentially containing a diagnostic allele}}$$

417 was calculated for each parent in each bin. If this ratio was < 0.1, the bin was assigned to the opposite parent and if the ratio
418 was between 0.4 and 0.6, the bin was assigned to the parent containing the diagnostic allele. Otherwise, the bin was scored as
419 missing data. Bin genotypes were used as markers to assemble a genetic map using R/qtl v.1.35-3⁸⁶. To measure recombination
420 in each F1 parent, genetic maps were initially constructed for each chromosome of a homolog pair in the F2s. After the two F1
421 homologous chromosome maps were estimated, data from each chromosome was combined to estimate the combined genetic
422 map.

423 5 Chromosome four gene content and background selection

424 Unless noted, all analyses were done in R⁷².

425 5.1 Gene content, Repeat content, and Variant Effects

426 Gene density and mean gene length were calculated considering primary transcripts only. Percent repetitive sequence was
427 determined from annotation. The effects of variants was determined with SNPeff⁷⁴ using the filtered variant data set and
428 primary transcripts.

429 **5.2 Repeat family content**

430 The RepeatClassifier utility from RepeatMasker⁷¹ was used to assign *A. coerulea* v3.1 repeats to known repetitive element
431 classes. For each of the 38 repeat families identified, the insertion rate per Mb was calculated for each chromosome and a
432 permutation test was performed to determine whether this proportion was significantly different on chromosome four versus
433 genome-wide. Briefly, we ran 1000 simulations to determine the number of insertions expected on chromosome four if
434 insertions occurred randomly at the genome-wide insertion rate and then compared this distribution with the observed copy
435 number in our data.

436 **5.3 GO term enrichment**

437 A two-sided Fisher's exact test was performed for each GO term to test whether the term made up a higher proportion of
438 genes on chromosome four versus the proportion in the rest of the genome. *P*-values were Bonferroni corrected for the number
439 of GO terms (n=1936).

440 **5.4 Background selection**

441 A linear model was used to assess whether nucleotide diversity (polymorphism) in a 1MB window could be explained by gene
442 density (bp genic/cM) within that window. Polymorphism was calculated as above, cM was determined from F2 analysis, and
443 gene density (bp) was calculated using primary gene models from the *A. coerulea* v3.1 annotation.

444 **6 Quantification of gene expression**

445 We sequenced whole transcriptomes of sepals from 21 species of *Aquilegia* (**Supplementary Table S1**). Tissue was collected
446 at the onset of anthesis and immediately immersed in RNAlater (Ambion) or snap frozen in liquid nitrogen. Total RNA was
447 isolated using RNeasy kits (Qiagen) and mRNA was separated using poly-A pulldown (Illumina). Obtaining amounts of mRNA
448 sufficient for preparation of sequencing libraries required pooling multiple sepals together into a single sample; we used tissue
449 from a single individual when available, but often had to pool sepals from separate individuals into a single sample. We prepared
450 sequencing libraries according to manufacturer's protocols except that some libraries were prepared using half-volume reactions
451 (Illumina RNA-sequencing for *A. coerulea*, and half-volume Illumina TruSeq RNA for all other species). Libraries for *A.*
452 *coerulea* were sequenced one sample per lane on an Illumina GAII (University of California, Davis Genome Center). Libraries
453 for all other species were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq at the Vincent J. Coates Genomics Sequencing Laboratory (UC
454 Berkeley), with samples multiplexed using TruSeq indexed adapters (Illumina). Reads were aligned to *A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith'
455 v3.1 using bwa aln and bwa samse⁶⁸. We processed alignments with SAMtools⁸⁵ and custom scripts were used to count the
456 number of sequence reads per transcript for each sample. Reads that aligned ambiguously were probabilistically assigned to a
457 single transcript. Read counts were normalized using calcNormFactors and cpm functions in the R package edgeR^{87,88}. Mean
458 abundance was calculated for each transcript by first averaging samples within a species, and then averaging across all species.

7 Cytology

7.1 Chromosome preparation

Inflorescences of the analyzed accessions were fixed in ethanol:acetic acid (3:1) overnight and stored in 70% ethanol at -20°C. Selected flower buds were rinsed in distilled water and citrate buffer (10 mM sodium citrate, pH 4.8; 2 × 5 min) and incubated in an enzyme mix (0.3% cellulase, cytohelicase, and pectolyase; all Sigma-Aldrich) in citrate buffer at 37°C for 3 to 6 h. Individual anthers were disintegrated on a microscope slide in a drop of citrate buffer and 15 to 30 µl of 60% acetic acid. The suspension was spread on a hot plate at 50°C for 0.5 to 2 min. Chromosomes were fixed by adding 100 µl of ethanol:acetic acid (3:1). The slide was dried with a hair dryer, postfixed in 4% formaldehyde dissolved in distilled water for 10 min, and air-dried. Chromosome preparations were treated with 100 µg/ml RNase in 2× sodium saline citrate (SSC; 20× SSC: 3 M sodium chloride, 300 mM trisodium citrate, pH 7.0) for 60 min and with 0.1 mg/ml pepsin in 0.01 M HCl at 37°C for 2 to 5 min; then postfixed in 4% formaldehyde in 2× SSC, and dehydrated in an ethanol series (70%, 90%, and 100%, 2 min each).

7.2 Probe preparation from oligo library

An oligonucleotide library consisting of 20,628 oligonucleotide probes to the 2 Mb region spanning the positions 42-44 Mbp of chromosome 4 (oligoCh4) was designed and synthesized by MYcroarray (Ann Arbor, MI). This library was used to prepare the chromosome 4-specific painting probe⁴⁰. Briefly, oligonucleotides were multiplied in two independent amplification steps. First, 0.2 ng DNA from the immortal library was amplified from originally ligated adaptors in emulsion PCR using primers provided by MYcroarray together with the library. Emulsion PCR was used to increase the representativeness of amplified products⁸⁹. Droplets were generated manually by stirring of oil phase at 1000 × g at 4°C for 10 min and then the aqueous phase was added. 500 ng of amplified product was used as a template for T7 in vitro transcription with MEGAscript T7 Kit (Invitrogen) – the second amplification step. RNA was purified on RNeasy spin columns (Qiagen) and labeled in reverse transcription with biotin-labeled R primer. The product – RNA:DNA hybrid – was washed using Zymo Quick-RNA MiniPrep (Zymo Research), hydrolysed by RNase and obtained DNA was cleaned again with Zymo Kit to get the final single-stranded DNA probe.

7.3 Fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH)

Species resequencing data was used to determine the (peri)centromeric satellite repeats of *Semiaquilegia* (SemiCen) and *Aquilegia* (AqCen)⁹⁰; the AqCen sequence corresponds to the previously-described centromeric repeat⁹⁰. Bulk oligonucleotides specific for chromosome 4 (oligoCh4), (peri)centromeric satellite repeats, *Arabidopsis thaliana* BAC clone T15P10 (AF167571) containing 35S rRNA genes, and *A. thaliana* clone pCT4.2 (M65137) corresponding to a 500-bp 5S rRNA repeat were used as probes. All DNA probes were labeled with biotin-dUTP, digoxigenin-dUTP or Cy3-dUTP by nick translation⁹¹. Selected labeled DNA probes were pooled together, ethanol precipitated, dissolved in 20 µl of 50% formamide, 10% dextran sulfate in 2× SSC and pipetted onto microscope slides. The slides were heated at 80°C for 2 min and incubated at 37°C overnight. Posthybridization washing was performed in 20% formamide in 2× SSC at 42°C (2 × 5 min). Hybridized probes were

491 visualized through fluorescently labeled antibodies against biotin or digoxigenin⁹¹. Chromosomes were counterstained with
492 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI, 2 µg/ml) in Vectashield antifade. Fluorescence signals were analyzed and photographed
493 using a Zeiss Axioimager epifluorescence microscope and a CoolCube camera (MetaSystems). Individual images were merged
494 and processed using Photoshop CS software (Adobe Systems). Pachytene chromosomes in Fig. 7 were straightened using the
495 “straighten-curved-objects” plugin in the Image J software⁹².

496 **7.4 5-methylcytosine (5mC) immunodetection**

497 For immunodetection of 5mC, chromosome spreads were prepared according to the procedure described above. Denaturation
498 mixture containing 20 µl of 50% formamide, 10% dextran sulfate in 2× SSC was pipetted onto each microscope slide. The
499 slides were heated at 80°C for 2 min, washed in 2× SSC (2 × 5 min) and incubated in bovine serum albumin solution (5%
500 BSA, 0.2% Tween-20 in 4× SSC) at 37°C for 30 min. Immunodetection was performed using 100 µl of primary antibody
501 against 5mC (mouse anti 5mC, Diagenode, diluted 1 : 100) at 37°C for 30 min. After washing in 2× SSC (2 × 5 min) the slides
502 were incubated with the secondary antibody (Alexa Fluor 488 goat anti-mouse IgG, Invitrogen, diluted 1 : 200) at 37°C for 30
503 min, followed by washing in 2× SSC (2 × 5 min) and a dehydration in an ethanol series (70%, 90%, and 100%, 2 min each).
504 Chromosomes were counterstained with DAPI, fluorescence signals analyzed and photographed as described above. The slides
505 were washed in 2× SSC (2 × 5 min), dehydrated in an ethanol series (70%, 90%, and 100%, 2 min each), and rehybridized with
506 35S rDNA probe as described above.

507 **8 Data availability**

508 **8.1 Species resequencing**

509 *A. barnebyi* (SRRxxxxxx), *A. aurea* (SRR405095), *A. vulgaris* (SRR404349), *A. sibirica* (SRR405090), *A. formosa* (SRR408554),
510 *A. japonica* (SRR413499), *A. oxysipala* (SRR413921), *A. longissima* (SRRXXXXXX), *A. chrysantha* (SRR408559), *A.*
511 *pubescens* (SRRXXXXxx (GMI - D14R)) are available in the Short Read Archive (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra>).

512 **8.2 Whole genome *Aquilegia coerulea* 'Goldsmith'**

513 Sanger sequences used for genome assembly are available in the NCBI Trace Archive (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Traces>)

514 **8.3 *Aquilegia coerulea* 'Goldsmith' ESTs**

515 Available in the NCBI Short Read Archive (SRR505574-SRR505578)

516 **8.4 *Aquilegia formosa* 412 ESTs**

517 Available in the NCBI dbEST (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/>)

518 **8.5 *Aquilegia coerulea* 'Goldsmith' X *Aquilegia chrysantha* mapping population**

519 Available in the NCBI Short Read Archive: SRRXXXXXX - SRRXXXXXXXX

520 **8.6 *Aquilegia formosa* x *Aquilegia pubescens* mapping population**

521 Available in the NCBI Short Read Archive : SRRXXXXXX - SRRXXXXXX (JGI) and SRRXXXXXX - SRRXXXXXX (GMI)

522 **8.7 RNAseq**

523 Available in the NCBI Short Read Archive: SRRXXXXXX - SRRXXXXXX (UCSB)

524 **8.8 Other files**

525 vcf's of variants called in the *Aquilegia* species samples (both with and without *S. adoxoides*) are available for download at
526 www.xxxxx.gmi.oeaw.ac.at.

527 **9 URLs**

528 The *A. coerulea* 'Goldsmith' v3.1 genome release is available at: <https://phytozome.jgi.doe.gov/pz/portal.html>

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701 **Author contributions statement**

702 M.N. and S.A.H. conceived the study; J.S., J.J., J.G., U.H., and K.B. sequenced and assembled the reference; S.S. and R.H.
703 annotated the reference; G.A. performed coalescent-based modelling; E.B. performed F2 mapping; N.D. contributed RNAseq
704 data and analysis; T.M. and M.A.L. performed cytology; M.K. labeled the oligo paint library; J.Y., S.M., and V.N. constructed
705 and sequenced libraries; D.F. analyzed species resequencing data, performed population genetics, and wrote the manuscript
706 (with input from M.N., G.A., A.B., N.D., S.A.H., T.M., and M.A.L.); All authors read and approved the manuscript.

707 **Additional information**

708 **Accession codes**

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710 *A. aurea* - SRR405095

711 *A. vulgaris* - SRR404349

712 *A. sibirica* - SRR405090

713 *A. formosa* - SRR408554

714 *A. japonica* - SRR413499

715 *A. oxysepala* - SRR413921

716 *A. longissima* - SRRXXXXXX

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719 **Competing financial interests.**

720 The authors declare no competing interests.