

1 **Original Article**

2

3 **Title:** Regal phylogeography: Range-wide survey of the marine angelfish *Pygoplites diacanthus*  
4 reveals evolutionary partitions between the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean

5

6 **Authors:** Richard R. Coleman<sup>a, b, \*</sup>, Jeffrey A. Eble<sup>c</sup>, Joseph D. DiBattista<sup>d,e</sup>, Luiz A. Rocha<sup>f</sup>,  
7 John E. Randall<sup>g</sup>, Michael L. Berumen<sup>d</sup>, Brian W. Bowen<sup>a</sup>

8

9 **Postal Addresses:**

10 <sup>a</sup>*Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai‘i, Kāne‘ohe, HI 96744, USA,*

11 <sup>b</sup>*Department of Biology, University of Hawai‘i, Mānoa, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA, <sup>c</sup>University of*

12 *West Florida, Pensacola, FL 32514, USA, <sup>d</sup>Red Sea Research Center, Division of Biological and*

13 *Environmental Science and Engineering, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology,*

14 *Thuwal, 23955, Saudi Arabia, <sup>e</sup>Department of Environment and Agriculture, Curtin University,*

15 *PO Box U1987, Perth, WA 6845, Australia, <sup>f</sup>Section of Ichthyology, California Academy of*

16 *Sciences, San Francisco, CA 94118, USA, <sup>g</sup>Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI*

17 *96817, USA*

18

19 **Corresponding author:**

20 Richard R. Coleman

21 PO Box 1346

22 Kāne‘ohe HI 96744

23 Phone +1 (916) 524-3734

24 Fax +1 (808) 236-7433

25 [richard.colema@gmail.com](mailto:richard.colema@gmail.com)

26

27 **Abstract**

28           The regal angelfish (*Pygoplites diacanthus*; family Pomacanthidae) occupies reefs from  
29 the Red Sea to the central Pacific, with an Indian Ocean/Red Sea color morph distinct from a  
30 Pacific Ocean morph. To assess population differentiation and evaluate the possibility of cryptic  
31 evolutionary partitions in this monotypic genus, we surveyed mtDNA cytochrome *b* and two  
32 nuclear introns (S7 and RAG2) in 547 individuals from 15 locations. Phylogeographic analyses  
33 revealed four mtDNA lineages ( $d = 0.006 - 0.015$ ) corresponding to the Pacific Ocean, the Red  
34 Sea, and two admixed lineages in the Indian Ocean, a pattern consistent with known  
35 biogeographical barriers. Christmas Island in the eastern Indian Ocean had both Indian and  
36 Pacific lineages. Both S7 and RAG2 showed strong population-level differentiation between the  
37 Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.066 - 0.512$ ). The only consistent population  
38 sub-structure within these three regions was at the Society Islands (French Polynesia), where  
39 surrounding oceanographic conditions may reinforce isolation. Coalescence analyses indicate the  
40 Pacific (1.7 Ma) as the oldest extant lineage followed by the Red Sea lineage (1.4 Ma). Results  
41 from a median-joining network suggest radiations of two lineages from the Red Sea that  
42 currently occupy the Indian Ocean (0.7 – 0.9 Ma). Persistence of a Red Sea lineage through  
43 Pleistocene glacial cycles suggests a long-term refuge in this region. The affiliation of Pacific  
44 and Red Sea populations, apparent in cytochrome *b* and S7 (but equivocal in RAG2) raises the  
45 hypothesis that the Indian Ocean was recolonized from the Red Sea, possibly more than once.  
46 Assessing the genetic architecture of this widespread monotypic genus reveals cryptic  
47 evolutionary diversity that merits subspecific recognition.

48

49 **Keywords:** biogeographic barriers, coral reef fish, cryptic diversity, genetic structure,  
50 monophyly, subspecies  
51

## 52 **1. Introduction**

53           The majority of reef fishes have a pelagic larval phase typically lasting 20 to 60 days,  
54 followed by settlement at a location where they remain through juvenile and adult phases. It is  
55 during the pelagic larval phase that nearly all dispersal is accomplished, sometimes across great  
56 distances (Leis and McCormick, 2002; Hellberg, 2009). However, even closely related species  
57 with similar life histories can show markedly different genetic structure across their respective  
58 ranges (Rocha et al., 2002; DiBattista et al., 2012). Despite these differences in realized  
59 dispersal, genetic partitions frequently align with boundaries between biogeographic provinces,  
60 which mark abrupt changes in species composition accompanied by obvious geological or  
61 oceanographic barriers (Kulbicki et al., 2013; Bowen et al., 2016). However, phylogeographic  
62 reef surveys usually examine genetic partitions both within and between congeneric species (e.g.  
63 Robertson et al., 2006; Leray et al., 2010; DiBattista et al., 2013; Gaither et al., 2014; Ahti et al .  
64 2016; Waldrop et al., 2016). Less attention has been paid to monotypic genera, and it is unknown  
65 whether these species have evolutionary or ecological traits that promote species cohesion across  
66 time.

67           The family Pomacanthidae (marine angelfishes) is comprised of more than 85 species  
68 across seven genera. All of the genera have at least eight species (*Centropyge* has more than 30)  
69 except for the monotypic genus *Pygoplites*. The regal angelfish, *Pygoplites diacanthus* (Boddaert  
70 1772), has a wide distribution from East Africa and the Red Sea to the Tuamotu Archipelago in  
71 the central Pacific. This distribution encompasses four biogeographic provinces (Fig. 2 in Briggs  
72 and Bowen, 2013): the Indo-Polynesian Province (IPP), the Sino-Japanese Province, the Western  
73 Indian Ocean Province, and the Red Sea Province (which includes the Gulf of Aden; see Briggs  
74 and Bowen, 2012). Additionally, the range of *P. diacanthus* spans the Indo-Pacific Barrier, an

75 episodic land bridge separating Pacific and Indian Ocean fauna during low sea levels associated  
76 with glaciation (Randall, 1998; Rocha et al., 2007). *Pygoplites* diverged from the sister genus  
77 *Holacanthus* about 7.6 – 10.2 Ma (Alva-Campbell et al., 2010), and is monotypic despite  
78 occupying a very broad range and a variety of ecological conditions.

79         Randall (2005) noted coloration differences between an Indian Ocean morph, with a  
80 yellow chest, and a Pacific Ocean morph with a gray chest and less yellow coloring on the head  
81 (Fig. 1), invoking the possibility of nomenclatural recognition of the two morphotypes.

82 Historically color has been used for species delineation in reef fishes, however, coloration alone  
83 can be a deceptive foundation for taxonomical classification; molecular tools have been useful  
84 for identifying cryptic genetic partitions and resolving taxonomic uncertainty over color morphs  
85 (McMillan et al., 1999; Schultz et al., 2006; Drew et al., 2008; Drew et al., 2010; DiBattista et  
86 al., 2012; Gaither et al., 2014; Ahti et al., 2016; Andrews et al., 2016)

87         Here we obtained samples from across the range of *P. diacanthus* to assess genetic  
88 connectivity with mitochondrial (mtDNA) and nuclear (nDNA) markers. Our sampling allowed  
89 us to test for cryptic evolutionary partitions and evaluate the hypothesis of taxonomic distinction  
90 between Indian and Pacific morphotypes. We were further motivated to resolve the ecological  
91 and evolutionary conditions that restrict diversification within the genus *Pygoplites*, the sole  
92 genus in an otherwise speciose family of fishes.

93

## 94 **2. Material and Methods**

### 95 *2.1 Sample Collections*

96         Between 2004 and 2014, 547 tissue samples (primarily fin clips) of *P. diacanthus* were  
97 collected from 15 locations across the species distribution (Fig. 1), using nets and pole-spears

98 while scuba diving or snorkeling. Tissues were preserved in salt-saturated DMSO buffer (Amos  
99 and Hoelzel, 1991) and stored at room temperature. Total genomic DNA was isolated from  
100 preserved tissue following the “HotSHOT” method of Meeker et al. (2007) and stored at -20°C.  
101 Due to variation in DNA amplification and sequence resolution, not all specimens were resolved  
102 at all three loci outlined below, hence sample sizes in Fig. 1 do not match samples sizes provided  
103 in the tables.

104

## 105 2.2 *MtDNA Analyses*

106 A 568-base pair (bp) fragment of the mtDNA cytochrome *b* (cyt *b*) gene was resolved to  
107 identify the maternal lineage of each individual using the forward primer (5'-  
108 GTGACTTGAAAAACCACCGTTG-3') (Song et al., 1998) and reverse primer (H15573; 5'-  
109 AATAGGAAGTATCATTCGGGTTTGAT-3') (Taberlet et al., 1992). PCR was performed in 10  
110 µl reactions containing 10-15 ng of DNA, 5 µl of premixed BioMixRed™ (Bioline, Inc.,  
111 Springfield, NJ, USA), 0.2 µM primer for each primer, and nanopure water (Thermo Scientific  
112 Barnstead, Dubuque, IA, USA) to volume and using the following conditions: 4 min at 94°C, 35  
113 cycles of denaturing for 30 s at 94°C, annealing for 30 s at 50°C, extension for 45 s at 72°C, and  
114 a final extension for 10 min at 72°C.

115 PCR products were visualized using a 1.5% agarose gel with GelStar™ (Cambrex Bio  
116 Science Rockland, Rockland MA, USA) and then purified by incubating with 0.75 units of  
117 Exonuclease and 0.5 units of Shrimp Alkaline Phosphatase (ExoSAP; USB, Cleveland, OH,  
118 USA) per 7.5 µl of PCR product for 30 min at 37°C, followed by 15 min at 85°C. DNA  
119 sequencing was performed using fluorescently-labeled dideoxy terminators on an ABI 3730XL  
120 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) at the University of Hawai'i

121 Advanced Studies of Genomics, Proteomics and Bioinformatics sequencing facility.  
122 Sequences were aligned and edited using GENEIOUS v.8.0.3 (Gene Codes, Ann Arbor, MI,  
123 USA) and unique sequences were deposited into GenBank (Accession numbers: RAG2,  
124 KU885737 - KU885756; S7, KU885757 - KU885843; *cyt b*, KU885844 - KU885892). A model  
125 for DNA sequence evolution was selected using the program JMODELTEST v.2.1 (Guindon and  
126 Gascuel, 2003; Darriba et al., 2012). The best-fit model of TIM1+G ( $\gamma=0.0760$ ) was  
127 identified by the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and the closest match used for subsequent  
128 analyses. Mean genetic distance between lineages was calculated in DNASP v.5.10 (Librado and  
129 Rozas, 2009). A haplotype network was constructed for each locus with NETWORK v.4.6.1.1  
130 ([http://www.fluxus-engineering.com/network\\_terms.htm](http://www.fluxus-engineering.com/network_terms.htm)) using a median-joining algorithm  
131 (Bandelt et al., 1999) and default settings.

132 To estimate the time to most recent common ancestor (TMRCA), we formatted the data  
133 with BEAUTI v.1.4.7 and used a Bayesian MCMC approach in BEAST v.2.2.0 (Drummond &  
134 Rambaut, 2007). We conducted our analysis with a strict clock of 2% per million years between  
135 lineages (Bowen et al., 2001; Reece et al., 2010a) and used a coalescent tree prior assuming  
136 exponential growth. We used default priors under the HKY+G+I model of mutation, the closest  
137 available model, and ran simulations for 10 million generations with sampling every 1000  
138 generations. Ten independent runs were computed to ensure convergence, and log files were  
139 combined and ages averaged across runs using TRACER v.1.6  
140 (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/tracer/>).

141 ARLEQUIN v.3.11 was used to generate haplotype and nucleotide diversity, as well as to  
142 test for population structure (Excoffier et al., 2005). Genetic structure among and between  
143 regions was estimated by performing an analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA). Deviations

144 from null distributions were tested with non-parametric permutation procedures ( $N = 9999$ ).  
145 Pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  statistics, an analog of Wright's  $F_{ST}$  that incorporates sequence evolution and  
146 divergence, were generated to assess structure and identify phylogeographic partitions. Locations  
147 where samples sizes were  $< 8$  were excluded from population genetic analyses but included in  
148 overall diversity estimates. False discovery rates were controlled for and maintained at  $\alpha = 0.05$   
149 among all pairwise tests (Benjamini and Yekutieli, 2001; Narum, 2006).

150 Time since the most recent population expansion was estimated for each location using  
151 the equation  $\tau = 2\mu t$ , where  $t$  is the age of the population in generations and  $\mu$  is the mutation rate  
152 per generation for the entire sequence ( $\mu = \text{number of bp} \times \text{divergence rate within a lineage} \times$   
153  $\text{generation time in years}$ ). We used a sequence divergence estimate within lineages of 1-2% per  
154 million years (Bowen et al., 2001; Reece et al., 2010a) to estimate population age. While  
155 generation time is unknown for *P. diacanthus*, we conditionally used the equation  $T = (\alpha + \omega)/2$ ,  
156 where  $\alpha$  is the age at first reproduction and  $\omega$  is the age of last reproduction (or lifespan; Pianka,  
157 1978). We obtained a generation time of 8.5 years based on an estimated reproductive age of 2  
158 years and longevity of more than 15 years (Hinton, 1962). Due to the tentative nature of  
159 generation time and mutation rates estimates, population age should be interpreted with caution,  
160 however rank-order comparisons among populations are robust to such approximations. Fu's  $F_S$   
161 (Fu, 1997) was calculated to test for evidence of selection or (more likely) population expansion  
162 using 10,000 permutations. A significant negative value of Fu's  $F_S$  is evidence for an excess  
163 number of alleles, as would be expected from a recent population expansion, whereas, a  
164 significant positive value is evidence for a deficiency of alleles, as would be expected from a  
165 recent population bottleneck.

166



167 2.3 Nuclear DNA Analysis

168 We sequenced two nuclear loci: the recombination-activating gene 2 (RAG2) and intron  
169 1 of the S7 ribosomal protein (S7). We resolved 431-bp of RAG2 using modified primers from  
170 Lovejoy (1999); the forward primer is 5'-SACCTTGTGCTGCAAAGAGA-3' and reverse  
171 primer is 5'-AGTGGATCCCCTTBTCATCCAGA-3'. We resolved 510-bp of S7 using primers  
172 S7RPEX1F and S7RPEX2R from Chow and Hazama (1998). For each intron, PCR was  
173 performed using the same reaction as described for *cyt b* but using the following temperature  
174 conditions: 5 min at 94°C, 35 cycles of denaturing for 30 s at 94°C, annealing for 30 s at 58°C,  
175 extension for 45 s at 72°C, and a final extension for 10 min at 72°C.

176 Allelic states with more than one heterozygous site were estimated using PHASE v.2.1  
177 (Stephens and Donnelly, 2003) as implemented in DNASP. Unique sequences were deposited in  
178 GenBank (Accession numbers: XXX - XXX). Three separate runs, each of 100,000 repetitions  
179 after a 10,000 iteration burn-in, were conducted for each locus; all runs returned consistent allele  
180 identities. Median-joining networks were created for each nuclear dataset as outlined above. To  
181 minimize circularity between closely related alleles, singletons were removed from the S7  
182 network. However, this did not alter our overall interpretation of the results. Pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$   
183 statistics were calculated for each nuclear dataset. The best-fit model of K80 and TPM1uf+I  
184 (proportion of invariable sites = 0.89) were identified for RAG2 and S7, respectively as  
185 determined by JMODELTEST. Observed heterozygosity ( $H_O$ ) and expected heterozygosity ( $H_E$ )  
186 were calculated for each locus and an exact test of Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium (HWE) using  
187 100,000 steps in a Markov chain was performed in ARLEQUIN.

188

189 2.4. Phylogenetic reconstruction

190 Phylogenetic reconstruction based on *cyt b* was rooted with *Holacanthus africanus*  
191 (family Pomacanthidae; GenBank accession number KC845351 and KC845352), as this genus is  
192 sister to *Pygoplites* (Bellwood et al., 2004; Alva-Campbell et al., 2010). Bayesian inference was  
193 conducted using MRBAYES v.3.1.2 (Huelsenbeck et al., 2001; Ronquist, 2004) running a pair of  
194 independent searches for 1 million generations, with trees saved every 1000 generations and the  
195 first 250 sampled trees of each search discarded as burn-in. Due to high divergence between *P.*  
196 *diacanthus* and *H. africanus* (14.7% at *cyt b*) we were unable to resolve phylogenetic  
197 relationships within the genus *Pygoplites* using an outgroup, therefore an unrooted tree was also  
198 constructed with MRBAYES based on the concatenated dataset of all loci. A maximum likelihood  
199 tree was created using PHYML v.3.0.1 (Guindon et al., 2010) as implemented in GENEIOUS with  
200 clade support assessed with 1000 non-parametric bootstrap replicates. A neighbor-joining tree  
201 was created using GENEIOUS with clade support assessed after 1000 non-parametric bootstrap  
202 replicates.

203

### 204 **3. Results**

#### 205 *3.1. Phylogenetic and coalescence analyses*

206 All tree-building methods yielded identical topologies. The unrooted phylogenetic  
207 analysis recovered four lineages: a Pacific lineage that extends to Christmas Island in the eastern  
208 Indian Ocean (henceforth referred to as “Pacific lineage”), a lineage detected around Saudi  
209 Arabia and Djibouti (henceforth referred to as “Red Sea lineage”), and two lineages with  
210 overlapping ranges in the Maldives and Diego Garcia (henceforth referred to as “Indian lineage  
211 1” and “Indian lineage 2”) (Fig. 2). The phylogenetic analyses were unable to resolve branch  
212 order among these lineages using an outgroup (Fig 2a), in part because the sister genus

213 (*Holacanthus*) is deeply divergent at *cyt b* (Alva-Campbell et al., 2010). The Pacific lineage is  
214 0.6% divergent from the Red Sea lineage and 1.2% and 1.5% from Indian lineage 1 and 2,  
215 respectively. The Red Sea lineage is 0.6% divergent from Indian lineage 1 and 1.0% from Indian  
216 lineage 2, and the two Indian lineages are distinguished by 1.5% divergence. Coalescence  
217 analysis based on *cyt b* yielded a TMRCA of 1.7 Ma for the Pacific lineage, and identified the  
218 Pacific as the oldest extant lineage (Table 1). The Red Sea lineage dates to 1.4 Ma and the two  
219 Indian lineages were the youngest: Indian lineage 1 at 0.7 Ma; Indian lineage 2 at 0.9 Ma.

220

### 221 *3.2 MtDNA Sequences*

222 Mitochondrial DNA molecular diversity indices are summarized for lineages in Table 1  
223 and among populations in Table 2. Total haplotype diversity was  $h = 0.817$  with 49 unique  
224 haplotypes. Among lineages, the Red Sea had the highest haplotype diversity ( $h = 0.701$ ) with  
225 the lowest being observed in Indian Ocean lineage 2 ( $h = 0.284$ ). Within populations, Indonesia  
226 had the highest haplotype diversity ( $h = 1.00$ ) followed by Okinawa ( $h = 0.867$ ) and the  
227 Maldives ( $h = 0.808$ ). The lowest haplotype diversity was observed at Fiji ( $h = 0.427$ ) and  
228 Mo'orea ( $h = 0.483$ ). Total nucleotide diversity was  $\pi = 0.005$ . Among lineages, the Pacific  
229 Ocean and Red Sea had the higher nucleotide diversity ( $\pi = 0.002$ ) with the lowest nucleotide  
230 diversity observed in both Indian Ocean lineages ( $\pi = 0.001$ ). Among populations, the Maldives  
231 and Diego Garcia had the highest nucleotide diversity for all locations, each at  $\pi = 0.009$ ,  
232 whereas the lowest nucleotide diversity is observed at Fiji ( $\pi = 0.0008$ ).

233 The median-joining haplotype network illustrates the low level of divergence between the  
234 four evolutionary lineages recovered from the phylogenetic analysis (Fig. 3a). However, the  
235 network also reveals that Red Sea haplotypes lie between the Pacific and Indian haplotypes. The

236 presence of two Indian lineages radiating from the most common Red Sea haplotype provides  
237 evidence for two independent colonization events. The two Indonesia specimens are associated  
238 with Indian Ocean lineage 1; however, low samples size precludes any interpretation about  
239 lineage distribution. Christmas Island, located at the edge of the IPP, a region where Pacific and  
240 Indian Ocean fauna come into contact (Gaither and Rocha, 2013), had both Pacific and Indian  
241 lineages. In subsequent comparisons between ocean basins, Christmas Island specimens grouped  
242 with Indian and Pacific cohorts based on mtDNA identity.

243 Population pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  values for *cyt b* results are summarized in Table 3. Significance  
244 was determined after controlling for false discovery rates (corrected  $\alpha = 0.009$ ).  $\Phi_{ST}$  values show  
245 congruence with the haplotype network further supporting the Pacific, Indian, and Red Sea  
246 groups. There was little or no population structure detected within these groups, with two  
247 exceptions: Mo'orea (French Polynesia) shows significant genetic differentiation from all Pacific  
248 locations, with pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  values ranging from 0.123 with Pohnpei to 0.229 with Fiji.  
249 Elsewhere in the Pacific, significant genetic structure was detected between the Marshall Islands  
250 and Fiji ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.061$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ). Although population level data is not reported for the single  
251 location in the Sino-Japanese Province (Okinawa) due to low sample size ( $N = 6$ ), preliminary  
252 runs show no significant population structure between the Sino-Japanese Province and the  
253 Pacific samples of *P. diacanthus*. The Red Sea lineage shows high levels of population  
254 differentiation from all other samples (pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$ : 0.284 – 0.837). Likewise, the Indian lineage  
255 shows significant population differentiation from all other samples (pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$ : 0.284 – 0.753).  
256 The AMOVA analysis supports the Pacific, Indian, and Red Sea geographic groupings based on  
257 mtDNA (Table 4) with the majority of the variation ( $\Phi_{CT} = 0.66$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ) existing among the  
258 groups.

259           The demographic results for *cyt b* show indications of population expansion at every  
260 Pacific location with the exception of Okinawa, the Marshall Islands, and Mo‘orea (Table 2).  
261 Estimates of population expansion indicate that the youngest dates are in the Pacific: Fiji and  
262 Christmas Island, with estimates of 39,000 and 49,000 years, respectively. The oldest Pacific  
263 expansion dates are in Okinawa, Pohnpei, and American Samoa, at 271,000, 230,000, and  
264 212,000 years, respectively. Within the Red Sea Province, Saudi Arabia shows evidence for a  
265 population expansion (Fu’s  $F_S$ : - 4.73,  $P < 0.01$ ) at 65,000 – 130,000 years, whereas Djibouti  
266 shows evidence for a neutral population (Fu’s  $F_S$ :  $P = 0.35$ ) coalescing at 105,000 – 209,000  
267 years. Locations in the Indian Ocean singularly show no evidence of population expansion (Fu’s  
268  $F_S$ ,  $P > 0.02$ ) and have the oldest population expansions dates at 807,000 – 1,742,000 years.  
269 However, these estimates are shaped by the presence of two lineages that are not monophyletic  
270 (Fig. 3a). When considered individually, Indian lineage 1 has a population expansion date at  
271 48,000 – 97,000 years (Fu’s  $F_S$ : -3.70,  $P < 0.001$ ), and Indian lineage 2 has a population  
272 expansion date at 264,000 – 528,000 years (Fu’s  $F_S$ : -2.75,  $P = 0.01$ ).

273

### 274 3.3 Nuclear DNA Sequences

275           A total of 10 variable sites yielded 12 alleles at the RAG2 locus and 31 variable sites  
276 yielded 46 alleles at the S7 locus. Samples from Palau and Tokelau were out of Hardy-Weinberg  
277 equilibrium (Palau,  $P < 0.001$ ; Tokelau,  $P = 0.04$ ) with excess homozygotes at the S7 locus  
278 (Table 5). Overall expected heterozygosity ( $H_E$ ) was 0.43 and 0.86 for RAG2 and S7,  
279 respectively. Across all samples  $H_E = 0.06 – 0.64$  for RAG2 and  $H_E = 0.41 – 1.00$  for the S7  
280 intron. The median-joining networks based on intron sequences do not show distinct lineages in  
281 the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean (Fig. 3b, c). However, both RAG2 and S7

282 networks include common alleles that are observed only in the Pacific, or only in the Indian  
283 Ocean locations. For S7, an Indian Ocean specific allele is also shared with a single individual  
284 from Christmas Island.

285         The population genetic results for the nuclear dataset are strongly concordant with  
286 mtDNA analyses for *P. diacanthus*, although they differ by degree. Genetic structure was absent  
287 within the Red Sea and within the Indian Ocean. The only significant differentiation in the  
288 Pacific was in 7 of 8 comparisons to Mo'orea (Society Islands, French Polynesia) with RAG2  
289 ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.111 - 0.271$ ; Table 6). Curiously, none of the same pairwise comparisons for Mo'orea  
290 were significant with S7, however Mo'orea showed the highest differentiation from Red Sea  
291 populations.

292         Both nuclear markers show high levels of genetic structure that correspond to a Pacific,  
293 Indian, and Red Sea lineage. RAG2 was significant in 17 of 18 Pacific versus Indian  
294 comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.137 - 0.343$ ), significant in all Indian versus Red Sea comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} =$   
295  $0.091 - 0.258$ ), and significant in 15 of 18 Pacific versus Red Sea comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.066 -$   
296  $0.359$ ). The S7 differences were significant in all Pacific versus Indian comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.073$   
297  $- 0.188$ ), all Indian versus Red Sea comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.253 - 0.512$ ), and all Pacific versus  
298 Red Sea comparisons ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.159 - 0.443$ ). The exceptions to these patterns were comparisons  
299 between the Red Sea lineage and Tokelau, as well as between Saudi Arabia and Pohnpei. For S7  
300 the highest genetic structure was observed between the Indian and Red Sea populations. This  
301 contrasts with the RAG2 and *cyt b* comparisons, where the highest genetic structure  
302 differentiated the Pacific from both Indian and Red Sea regions.

303

#### 304 **4. Discussion**

305 *4.1 Summary of results*

306 Our data demonstrates that cryptic diversity exists within the monotypic genus *Pygoplites*  
307 as evidenced by significant levels of genetic structure among three regions: the Pacific Ocean  
308 (which includes a cohort at Christmas Island), the Indian Ocean (with two sympatric mtDNA  
309 lineages), and the Red Sea (Table 4). This pattern of genetic structure corresponds to known  
310 biogeographic provinces and phylogeographic barriers observed in other reef fishes (Rocha et al.,  
311 2007; Briggs and Bowen, 2013; DiBattista et al., 2013; Eble et al., 2015; Gaither et al., 2015).  
312 The Red Sea biogeographic province is distinguished by a faunal break at the Gulf of Aden, and  
313 the Indo-Pacific Barrier is an intermittent terrestrial bridge between Australia and SE Asia that  
314 impedes water movement between Pacific and Indian Oceans during glacial low-sea levels (see  
315 Gaither & Rocha, 2013). The Sino-Japanese Province shows no genetic differentiation from the  
316 Pacific population (based on  $N = 6$ ), but Mo'orea is highly isolated, a finding we attribute to  
317 prevailing oceanographic conditions (see Gaither et al., 2010). Below we discuss the  
318 phylogenetic implications of cryptic lineages and examine each of these regions in light of  
319 biogeographic theory

320

321 *4.2 Phylogenetic considerations*

322 Differences in coloration reviewed by Randall (2005) suggested that cryptic lineages of *P.*  
323 *diacanthus* might exist in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The three loci evaluated here support  
324 this Indian-Pacific distinction with diagnostic (albeit shallow) mtDNA differences and strong  
325 population genetic separations at two nuclear loci. A rooted phylogeny was unable to resolve  
326 relationships within the genus *Pygoplites* due to shallow separations and the deep divergence  
327 from the outgroup, *H. africanus*, ( $d = 15.5\%$  at *cyt b*, this study), despite being the most closely

328 related species to *P. diacanthus* (Alva-Campbell et al., 2010). Therefore we were unable to  
329 determine the basal lineage from among the four lineages recovered. The oldest TMRCA in *P.*  
330 *diacanthus* is the Pacific lineage at 1.7 Ma, but the divergence between *Pygoplites* and  
331 *Holocanthus* is much older, estimated at 7.6 – 10.2 Ma (Alva-Campbell et al., 2010). Hence  
332 much of the evolutionary? history of *Pygoplites* has been erased, at least for the loci examined  
333 here.

334         There are two possible explanations for the lack of diversity within the genus. First, there  
335 has been no evolutionary or selective pressure for *P. diacanthus* to diversify, a feature that may  
336 be attributed to the species ability to occupy a variety of ecological niches. *P. diacanthus* is  
337 considered a generalist in that its range occupies more than half the globe in subtropical and  
338 tropical environments, its diet consists of sessile invertebrates, such as sponges and tunicates,  
339 and it appears to be a reef-habitat generalist where its range extends from the surface to depths  
340 greater than 60 m, a zone where shallow coral reef habitat is replaced by mesophotic ecosystems  
341 (Puglise et al., 2009). An alternative explanation is that other species within the genus went  
342 extinct while *P. diacanthus* persisted. However, with a poor fossil record, the evolutionary  
343 history of the marine angelfishes is poorly understood and limited to extant species. Therefore  
344 we know of no species that may have existed during the 10 million year separation between  
345 *Holocanthus* and *Pygoplites*. Nonetheless, the phylogeographic record for *Pygoplites* begins with  
346 a radiation in the last 2 MY. Although phylogenetic reconstruction was unable to determine  
347 branch order among the four lineages, the median-joining network indicates that the Red Sea  
348 lineage is basal to the two mtDNA lineages in the Indian Ocean. Coloration differences  
349 distinguish the Pacific lineage from both Indian and Red Sea lineages (Fig. 1); however, a



350 preliminary morphological examination by L.A.R. revealed no additional morphological  
351 characters that discriminate between Indian and Red Sea lineages.

352         The geographical delineation between the Pacific and Indian lineages correspond with the  
353 exposure of the Sunda Shelf, which separates the Pacific and Indian Oceans during low sea level.  
354 The Red Sea lineage corresponds to the Red Sea biogeographic province, which encompasses the  
355 adjacent Gulf of Aden (Briggs and Bowen, 2012) and whose populations have a disjunct  
356 distribution with the remainder of the range (see below). During glacial maxima the Red Sea is  
357 effectively cut off from the Indian Ocean by closure of the Strait of Bab al Mandab, the only  
358 natural gateway into the Red Sea, allowing sufficient time for populations to diverge into distinct  
359 evolutionary lineages (DiBattista et al., 2013, 2016a).

360         The mechanisms facilitating two sympatric mtDNA lineages in the Indian Ocean are less  
361 clear. Coalescence estimates indicate that the lineages arose independently during roughly the  
362 same period (0.72 – 0.93 Ma). As there are no known phenotypic differences within this region,  
363 the unexpected recovery of two distinct lineages requires further investigation. Indian Ocean  
364 samples contained similar numbers of each lineage (Maldives: Lineage 1,  $N = 8$ ; Lineage 2,  $N =$   
365  $8$ ; Diego Garcia: Lineage 1,  $N = 17$ ; Lineage 2,  $N = 11$ ) indicating that the two lineages are  
366 approximately equally represented.

367         The recovery of multiple evolutionary partitions within the monotypic genus *Pygoplites*  
368 may not be indicative of other monotypic genera. Cryptic evolutionary partitions are routinely  
369 discovered within species of marine fishes (Colborn et al., 2001; Rocha et al., 2008; DiBattista et  
370 al., 2012; Fernandez Silva et al., 2015), and in this regard *P. diacanthus* is similar to the more  
371 speciose inhabitants of Indo-Pacific reefs. The factors that produce a deep, monotypic lineage are  
372 therefore not reflected in an unusual phylogeographic architecture. However, part of the

373 explanation for this monotype may be that five to eight million years after the divergence of  
374 *Pygoplites* and *Holocanthus*, the ancestor of all modern *Pygoplites* likely radiated out of the West  
375 Pacific Ocean, an extensive source of Indo-Pacific diversity (Cowman and Bellwood, 2013).

376 In considering the phylogenetic results through a taxonomic lens, there are several issues.  
377 First, the Pacific and Indian morphs are distinguished by diagnostic differences, but they are not  
378 monophyletic. The Indian Ocean contains two mtDNA lineages, each more closely related to the  
379 Red Sea lineage than to each other. Second, the coloration difference between Pacific and Indian  
380 forms, now matched by  $d = 0.006$  divergence, could be a platform to describe them as separate  
381 species. Third, the genetic divergence observed at all three loci is low in comparison to typical  
382 divergences for fish species ( $d = 0.03 - 0.12$ ; Grant and Bowen, 1998; Johns and Avise, 1998).  
383 Fourth, the two morphs form mixed groups where they co-occur at Christmas Island (Hobbs and  
384 Allen, 2014). Since we lack diagnostic nDNA alleles for the two morphs, we do not have the  
385 power to test for hybrids between the lineages, but this is certainly a possibility. Given these  
386 considerations, we believe that it is problematic to invoke species status for these three regional  
387 forms and we endorse subspecies recognition distinguishing the Pacific lineage from the Indian  
388 and Red Sea lineages based on shallow but diagnostic distinctions in genetics and morphology.  
389 We propose the name *P. diacanthus flavescens* for the Indian Ocean and Red Sea lineages to give  
390 recognition to the yellow chest coloration, a character not found in individuals from the Pacific  
391 lineage (*P. d. diacanthus*).

392

#### 393 4.3 Red Sea isolation and refugia

394 The Red Sea Province is distinguished from the Indian Ocean by high levels of endemism  
395 found across a suite of taxa (Randall, 1994; Cox and Moore, 2000) as well as many fish species

396 whose ranges extend from the Red Sea into the Gulf of Aden (Briggs and Bowen, 2012;  
397 DiBattista et al., 2016b). This distinction is supported by our findings that show the Djibouti  
398 population of *P. diacanthus* forms a genetically homogenous population with the Red Sea,  
399 coupled with a population break separating these two locations from adjacent populations in the  
400 Indian Ocean.

401         Population breaks between the Red Sea and Indian Ocean have previously been  
402 documented in *P. diacanthus*, in addition to other species (Vogler et al., 2008; DiBattista et al.,  
403 2013; Fernandez Silva et al., 2015). One possible explanation for breaks across multiple species  
404 in this region is the presence of an ecological barrier. Based on differences in fish assemblages,  
405 Kemp (1998) proposed that such a barrier separated the Red Sea and western Gulf of Aden from  
406 the eastern Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean. Furthermore, the upwelling that occurs along the  
407 Arabian coast of southern Yemen, Oman, and the Indian Ocean coast of Somalia impedes the  
408 formation of continuous reefs from Djibouti to Oman and southern Somalia, limiting  
409 opportunities for dispersal from the Gulf of Aden (for review see DiBattista et al., 2016a).  
410 Notably, we did not detect *P. diacanthus* during collection efforts in the Socotra Archipelago,  
411 Oman, and Somalia, which are located at the periphery of the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea.  
412 This observation coincides with previous surveys conducted in the region indicating a gap in the  
413 distribution of *P. diacanthus* between the Gulf of Aden and the western Indian Ocean, a  
414 phenomenon found in other wide-ranging species (Kemp, 1998).

415         The parsimonious conclusion that a population of *P. diacanthus* has been in the Red Sea  
416 Province (including western Gulf of Aden) for over a million years implies that this population  
417 has been subjected to and survived Pleistocene glacial conditions. The only natural connection to  
418 the Indian Ocean is through the narrow (18 km) and shallow (137 m) Strait of Bab al Mandab at

419 the southern end of the Red Sea. During periods of low sea level associated with glaciation, the  
420 connection from the Indian Ocean through the strait is reduced, and the Red Sea experiences  
421 extreme fluctuations in temperature and salinity (Bailey, 2009). During the last 400,000 years in  
422 particular, the Red Sea has undergone at least two periods of hypersalinity (c. 19,000 and 30,000  
423 years ago) that caused an aplanktonic environment in which larvae of many marine organisms  
424 presumably could not survive (Siddal et al., 2003; DiBattista et al., 2016a). Coalescence analysis  
425 dates the Red Sea lineage to 1.44 Ma (95% HPD = 0.51 – 2.53 Ma), which coupled with the  
426 Saudi Arabian population expansion (65,000 – 130,000 years) indicates that *P. diacanthus* likely  
427 survived the temperature and salinity crises that occurred during these periods, a conclusion that  
428 is corroborated by other species (DiBattista et al., 2013). Our neutrality tests show no evidence  
429 for changes in population size (Fu's  $F_s = -3.60$ ,  $P = 0.035$ ) providing evidence that refugia may  
430 have existed in the Red Sea Province (possibly in the Gulf of Aden) to support a large stable  
431 population of *P. diacanthus* despite the extreme environmental conditions.

432

#### 433 *4.4 Biogeographic inferences in the Indian Ocean*

434 Christmas Island is located in the eastern Indian Ocean, a region (which includes Cocos-  
435 Keeling Island) of secondary contact between Indian and Pacific species that diverged in  
436 allopatry during Pleistocene glacial cycles (Gaither and Rocha, 2013). Indian and Pacific Ocean  
437 phenotypes of *P. diacanthus* have both been recorded in the eastern Indian Ocean region, and  
438 both Pacific and Indian Ocean mtDNA haplotypes are present at Christmas Island, indicating an  
439 area of overlap (Hobbs and Allen, 2014 , Fig 3a). This region is recognized as a hybridization  
440 hotspot (suture zone) with interbreeding documented between at least 27 reef fish species-pairs  
441 from across eight families, and it has been suggested that Indian and Pacific *P. diacanthus*

442 lineages hybridize in this region (Hobbs and Allen, 2014). However, additional molecular work  
443 will be needed to evaluate this hypothesis.

444 Genetic differences between Indian and Pacific Ocean populations are consistent with  
445 Pleistocene closures of the Indo-Pacific Barrier. Despite being located in the Indian Ocean basin  
446 and the presence of haplotypes that are associated with Indian Ocean lineages, our results  
447 indicate that Christmas Island is genetically differentiated from other locations in the Indian  
448 Ocean and instead has a stronger affiliation with the Pacific Ocean. A barrier to dispersal has  
449 been previously proposed to exist west of the Cocos-Keeling Islands and east of the Chagos-  
450 Laccadive ridge based on the presence of many Pacific species with distributions that extend no  
451 further west than Christmas and Cocos-Keeling Islands (Blum, 1989; Hodge and Bellwood,  
452 2016).

453 Elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, the Maldives and Diego Garcia (Chagos Archipelago) are  
454 genetically differentiated from the Pacific and Red Sea, but not from each other. Both  
455 archipelagos are located in the central Indian Ocean, which is the western extent of the IPP,  
456 although they also share faunal affinities with the Western Indian Ocean Province (Winterbottom  
457 and Anderson, 1997; Eble et al., 2011; Gaither et al., 2011; Briggs and Bowen, 2012). The  
458 grouping of Diego Garcia and the Maldives within the IPP is further evidenced by Pacific Ocean  
459 mtDNA being found at Diego Garcia (Fig. 3a), which provides a signal that some degree of gene  
460 flow occurs between the Indian and Pacific Ocean. Coalescence estimates of the two Indian  
461 Ocean *P. diacanthus* lineages indicate they arose from an ancestor affiliated with the Red Sea.

462 The ability of *P. diacanthus* to persist throughout major geological and climatic shifts is  
463 demonstrated by the age of expansion for all populations of *P. diacanthus* which predate the Last  
464 Glacial Maximum, peaking at 26.5 – 19 ka (Clark et al., 2009), when global sea levels dropped

465 130 m below present levels (Voris, 2000). During this period, habitable shelf in the Pacific was  
466 reduced by as much as 92% from present day values and this reduction in habitat area has been  
467 linked to population bottlenecks (Ludt and Rocha, 2014), a feature not observed in *P.*  
468 *diacanthus*. As previously discussed, *P. diacanthus* can be considered an ecological generalist  
469 with a vertical range that extends to mesophotic depths. Thus, a reduction of shallow reef habitat  
470 due to sea level change may not have substantially reduced suitable ecological niches for this  
471 species.

472

#### 473 4.5 Gene flow within the Pacific

474 Despite the wide expanse of the central and western Pacific Ocean, many species exhibit  
475 a high degree of genetic connectivity across the region (Schultz et al., 2006; Reece et al., 2010b;  
476 Gaither et al., 2011). However, population breaks have been associated with isolated regions  
477 such as the Hawaiian Archipelago and the Marquesas, which are also known for high levels of  
478 endemism (Randall, 2005; Briggs and Bowen, 2012). Here we found population genetic  
479 differentiation of Mo'orea (Table 3, Table 6), a pattern observed in other widely distributed  
480 Pacific species (Planes, 1993; Bernardi et al., 2001; DiBattista et al., 2012; Timmers et al., 2012;  
481 Lemer and Planes, 2014).

482 The isolation of Mo'orea may be attributed to ocean circulation patterns. The westward  
483 flow of the Southern Equatorial Current (SEC) and eddies created in the wake of Tahiti, located  
484 approximately 17 km east of Mo'orea, contribute to a strong counterclockwise flow around the  
485 island promoting the local retention of larvae (Leichter et al., 2013). Plankton tows conducted in  
486 this region revealed that fish larvae were not recovered more than 300 km from the nearest reef  
487 (Lo-Yat et al., 2006). Additionally, Bernardi et al. (2012) found that 14% of juvenile damselfish

488 (*Dascyllus trimaculatus*) recruiting to reefs around Mo'orea were very close relatives, including  
489 full siblings, indicating that the larvae traveled and settled together despite a PLD of several  
490 weeks.

491         Although the counterclockwise flow surrounding Mo'orea may explain local retention of  
492 larvae, it does not explain how larvae produced elsewhere in the Pacific are restricted from  
493 emigrating and settling onto Moorean reefs. One possible explanation may be that the westward  
494 flowing SEC restricts larvae from dispersing in an easterly direction. The SEC, located between  
495 4°N and 17°S (Wyrтки and Kilonsky, 1984; Bonjean and Lagerloef, 2002), has been implicated in  
496 limiting connectivity between the Marquesas, located 1300 km northeast of Mo'orea, and other  
497 Pacific locales (Gaither et al., 2010; Szabo et al., 2014). Populations of *P. diacanthus* west of  
498 Mo'orea, located at the southern extent of the SEC, may be restricted in easterly dispersal by the  
499 strong current; however, the SEC may facilitate a western dispersal. American Samoa is the  
500 closest sample location downstream from Mo'orea; it is the only sample location that is not  
501 significantly differentiated from Mo'orea at RAG2 ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.039$ ,  $P = 0.054$ ) and has one of the  
502 lowest levels of differentiation from Mo'orea at *cyt b* ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.128$ ). Fine-scale sampling across  
503 French Polynesia would be required to determine the extent of genetic isolation. Additionally,  
504 further sampling from neighboring localities east and west of Mo'orea are needed to test our  
505 hypothesis regarding the SEC. It is likely that a number of physical processes surrounding  
506 Mo'orea promote local retention of larvae and prevent the recruitment of larvae from elsewhere  
507 in the Pacific.

508

## 509 **5. Conclusion**

510 *Pygoplites diacanthus* is the first large angelfish to be surveyed across the Indo-Pacific. It  
511 appears to be highly dispersive, joining the ranks of smaller Pomacanthids such as the pygmy  
512 angelfish in showing little structure across ocean basins (Schultz et al., 2006; DiBattista et al.,  
513 2012). Pelagic larval duration tends to be shorter in the large angelfishes (~25 days in *Pygoplites*  
514 compared to 30 days or more in pygmy angelfishes; Thresher and Brothers, 1985), but this does  
515 not seem to restrict dispersal among the closely associated islands of the West and Central  
516 Pacific. However, this monotypic genus exhibits deep population genetic partitions between  
517 ocean basins. In every case, historical barriers existed at the junctions between observed  
518 populations, and in at least two cases (Red Sea and Mo'orea) oceanographic conditions may  
519 contribute to contemporary isolation. On the genetic continuum between isolated populations and  
520 evolutionary distinctions (Wright, 1978; Frankham et al., 2002), the deep divergences between  
521 oceans indicate that the monotypic *Pygoplites* may be on the pathway to three emerging species.  
522 The genetic and morphological divergences are certainly sufficient to recognize subspecific  
523 evolutionary (and taxonomic) partitions.

524

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- 780



781 **Figure Captions**

782

783 **Figure 1.** Map of collection locations, sample sizes (in parentheses), and the two recognized  
784 morphotypes of *Pygoplites diacanthus*. (*left*) Indian Ocean and Red Sea individuals are  
785 characterized by a yellow chest and head, whereas the (*right*) Pacific Ocean morph is  
786 characterized by a gray chest and head. *Photos by L. Rocha (Djibouti; Great Barrier Reef,*  
787 *Australia)*

788

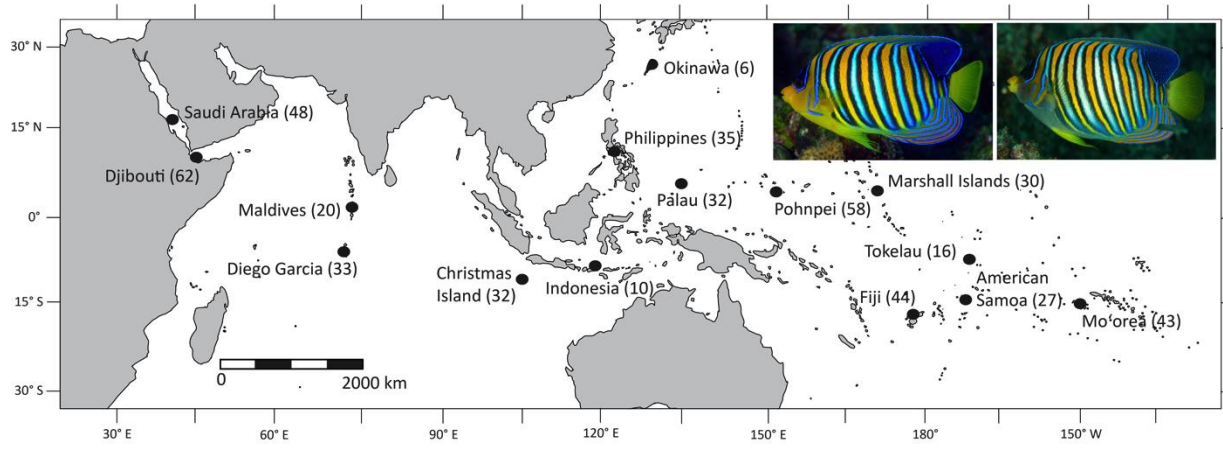
789 **Figure 2.** Molecular phylogenetic reconstruction of *Pygoplites diacanthus*. A) Rooted Bayesian  
790 tree based on mitochondrial cytochrome *b* with posterior probabilities, B) an unrooted  
791 maximum-likelihood tree based on mitochondrial and nuclear markers (cytochrome *b*, intron 1 of  
792 the *S7* ribosomal protein, and the recombination-activating gene 2) with consensus values based  
793 on posterior probabilities from Bayesian inference (BI), maximum-likelihood bootstrap support  
794 (ML), and neighbor-joining bootstrap support (NJ). Percent sequence divergence is represented  
795 on the scale bar. The sizes of black triangles are proportional to the number of individuals within  
796 the lineage. Abbreviations: Red Sea Province, RS; Indian Ocean, IO.

797

798 **Figure 3.** Median-joining network for *Pygoplites diacanthus* constructed using NETWORK for A)  
799 cytochrome *b* sequences (568 bp) from 386 individuals, B) alleles for RAG2 (431 bp) from 366  
800 individuals, and c) alleles for the *S7* intron (510 bp) from 288 individuals. Each circle represents  
801 a unique mitochondrial haplotype or nuclear allele, with the size being proportional to the total  
802 frequency. Open circles represent unsampled alleles, branches and crossbars represent a single

803 nucleotide change, and color represents collection location (see key). All singleton alleles ( $N =$   
804 22) were removed from the S7 analysis to minimize circularity between closely related alleles.

805 Figure 1.



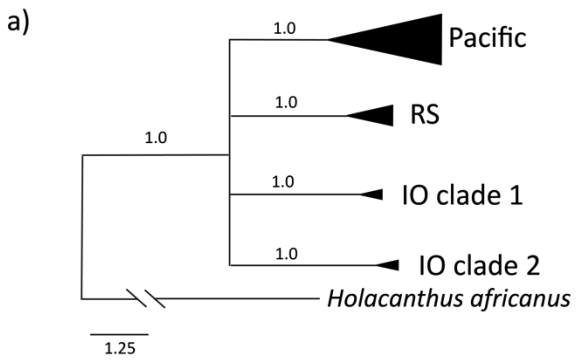
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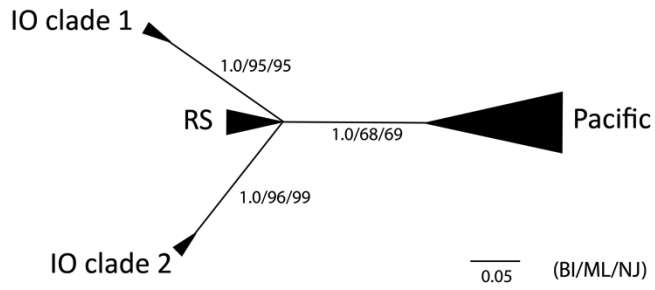
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809 Figure 2.

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b)



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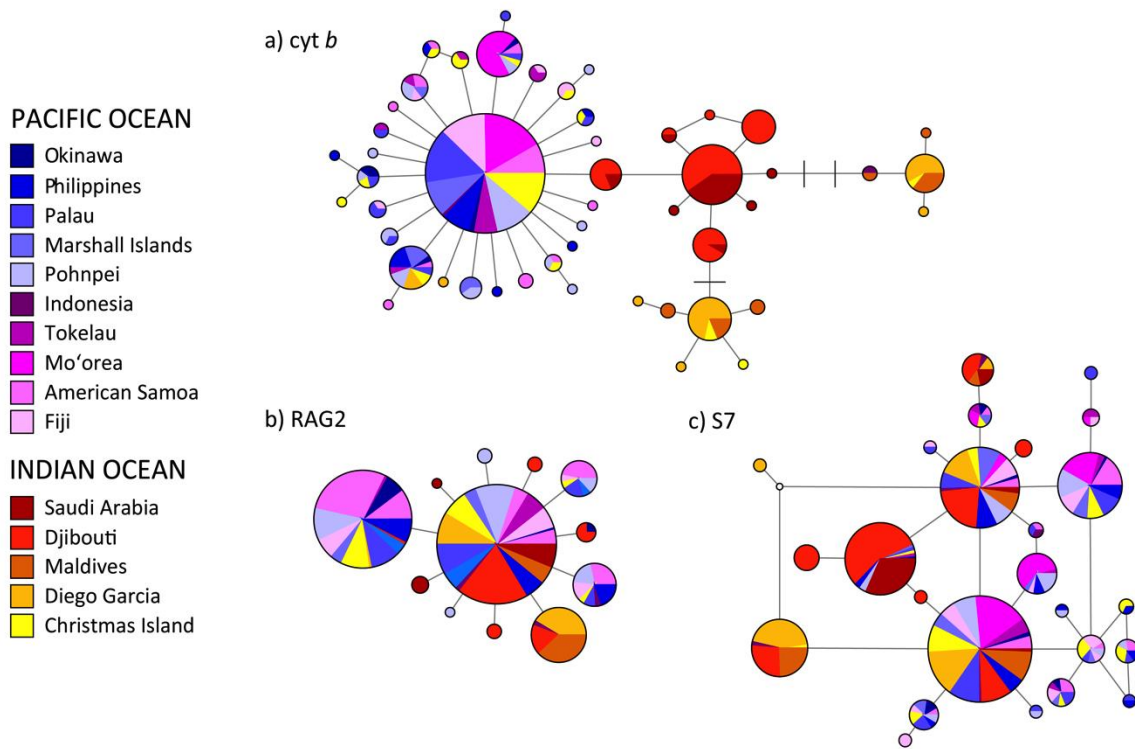
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815 Figure 3.

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**Table 1.** Molecular diversity indices for lineages of *Pygoplites diacanthus* based on mitochondrial DNA (cytochrome *b*, 568 bp). Number of individuals sequenced (*n*), number of haplotypes ( $N_h$ ), number of segregating (polymorphic) sites (*S*), haplotype diversity (*h*), and nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ) are presented. Times to most recent common ancestor (TMRCA) are presented as million years. Bolded numbers denote significance at  $P < 0.02$ .

Lineage	<i>n</i>	$N_h$	<i>S</i>	<i>h</i> ± SD	$\pi$ ± SD	TMRCA (95% HPD)	Fu's $F_S$	Fu's $F_S$ <i>P</i> -value
Pacific Ocean <sup>a</sup>	257	33	37	0.628 ± 0.034	0.002 ± 0.010	1.71 (0.91 - 2.65)	<b>-29.51</b>	<0.001
Red Sea <sup>b</sup>	81	9	8	0.701 ± 0.042	0.002 ± 0.003	1.44 (0.51 - 2.53)	-3.602	0.035
Indian Ocean Lineage 1	28	6	5	0.439 ± 0.114	0.001 ± 0.001	0.72 (0.14 - 1.52)	<b>-3.695</b>	<0.001
Indian Ocean Lineage 2	20	4	3	0.284 ± 0.128	0.001 ± 0.001	0.92 (0.27 - 1.75)	<b>-2.749</b>	0.001
All Locations	386	49	45	0.817 ± 0.018	0.005 ± 0.003	--	<b>-25.90</b>	<0.001

<sup>a</sup>Pacific includes all Pacific Ocean populations plus Christmas Island

<sup>b</sup>Red Sea includes Saudi Arabia and Djibouti

**Table 2.** Molecular diversity indices for populations of *Pygoplites diacanthus* based on mitochondrial DNA (cytochrome *b*, 568 bp) divided into phylogeographical groupings. Number of individuals sequenced (*n*), number of haplotypes ( $N_h$ ), number of segregating (polymorphic) sites (*S*), haplotype diversity (*h*), and nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ) are presented.  $\tau$  is used to estimate the age of most recent population expansion (population age) using the equation  $\tau = 2\mu t$  (see Material and Methods).  $\infty$  denotes values that could not be resolved. Bolded numbers denote significance at  $P < 0.02$ .

Sample Location	<i>n</i>	$N_h$	<i>S</i>	<i>h</i> ± SD	$\pi$ ± SD	$\tau$	Population Age (years)	Fu's $F_S$	Fu's $F_S$ <i>P</i> -value
<u>Pacific Ocean</u>									
Okinawa	6	4	3	0.867 ± 0.129	0.002 ± 0.002	1.54	135,000 - 271,000	-1.454	0.052
Philippines	21	7	8	0.657 ± 0.104	0.001 ± 0.001	1.04	92,000 - 183,000	<b>-3.473</b>	0.003
Palau	32	9	8	0.488 ± 0.109	0.001 ± 0.001	0.67	59,000 - 118,000	<b>-7.928</b>	< 0.001
Marshall islands	23	4	3	0.549 ± 0.105	0.001 ± 0.001	0.78	69,000 - 138,000	-0.936	0.208
Pohnpei	33	12	13	0.760 ± 0.076	0.002 ± 0.001	1.30	115,000 - 230,000	<b>-8.754</b>	< 0.001
Indonesia	2	2	7	1.000 ± 0.500	0.012 ± 0.013	$\infty$	$\infty$	1.946	0.519
Tokelau	16	6	5	0.617 ± 0.135	0.001 ± 0.001	0.92	81,000 - 162,000	<b>-3.692</b>	< 0.001
Mo'orea	42	2	1	0.483 ± 0.039	0.001 ± 0.001	0.73	64,000 - 128,000	1.766	0.738
American Samoa	25	10	9	0.730 ± 0.094	0.002 ± 0.001	1.20	106,000 - 212,000	<b>-7.128</b>	< 0.001
Fiji	25	6	5	0.427 ± 0.122	0.001 ± 0.001	0.56	49,000 - 98,000	<b>-4.423</b>	< 0.001
Christmas Island	32	13	19	0.720 ± 0.087	0.004 ± 0.003	0.44	39,000 - 77,000	<b>-5.445</b>	0.006
<u>Red Sea Province</u>									
Saudi Arabia	23	7	7	0.522 ± 0.124	0.001 ± 0.001	0.74	65,000 - 130,000	<b>-4.731</b>	< 0.001
Djibouti	58	6	4	0.738 ± 0.034	0.002 ± 0.001	1.19	105,000 - 209,000	-0.879	0.349
<u>Indian Ocean</u>									
Maldives	16	6	11	0.808 ± 0.069	0.009 ± 0.005	9.89	871,000 - 1,742,000	1.858	0.804
Diego Garcia	32	7	17	0.692 ± 0.059	0.009 ± 0.005	9.17	807,000 - 1,614,000	3.177	0.898
Pacific Ocean	257	33	37	0.628 ± 0.034	0.002 ± 0.009	0.94	83,000 - 165,000	<b>-29.511</b>	< 0.001
Red Sea Province	81	9	8	0.701 ± 0.042	0.002 ± 0.003	1.09	96,000 - 192,000	-3.602	0.035
Indian Ocean	48	11	19	0.738 +/- 0.045	0.009 ± 0.008	9.37	825,000 - 1,649,000	1.013	0.700
All Locations	386	49	45	0.817 ± 0.018	0.005 ± 0.003	3.61	318,000 - 636,000	<b>-25.897</b>	< 0.001

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**Table 3.** Matrix of pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  statistics for 13 populations of *Pygoplites diacanthus* based on mitochondrial DNA (cytochrome *b*, 568 bp) sequences. Bolded numbers indicate significance after controlling for false discovery rates at  $\alpha = 0.05$  (as per Narum, 2006). The corrected  $\alpha = 0.009$ . Owing to low sample size, Okinawa and Indonesia have been excluded. Abbreviations: Red Sea Province, RS; Indian Ocean, IO.

Sample location	Pacific Ocean									RS		IO
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Philippines	--											
2. Palau	0.02286	--										
3. Marshall Is.	-0.00690	0.04436	--									
4. Pohnpei	-0.00113	-0.00003	-0.00602	--								
5. Tokelau	-0.00088	0.00970	0.02593	-0.00273	--							
6. Mo'orea	<b>0.21137</b>	<b>0.15115</b>	<b>0.24879</b>	<b>0.12293</b>	<b>0.21718</b>	--						
7. American Samoa	0.00241	0.01337	0.01878	-0.00796	-0.00602	<b>0.12806</b>	--					
8. Fiji	0.04077	0.00310	<b>0.06141</b>	0.00599	-0.00058	<b>0.22924</b>	0.01738	--				
9. Christmas Is.	0.02264	0.04064	0.02876	0.02685	0.01493	<b>0.13152</b>	0.02805	0.03767	--			
RS 10. Saudi Arabia	<b>0.76918</b>	<b>0.80926</b>	<b>0.80834</b>	<b>0.73676</b>	<b>0.79578</b>	<b>0.83717</b>	<b>0.75536</b>	<b>0.82668</b>	<b>0.55505</b>	--		
11. Djibouti	<b>0.73859</b>	<b>0.76222</b>	<b>0.75577</b>	<b>0.72292</b>	<b>0.74532</b>	<b>0.78731</b>	<b>0.73266</b>	<b>0.76756</b>	<b>0.58986</b>	0.05789	--	
IO 12. Maldives	<b>0.64673</b>	<b>0.71028</b>	<b>0.67118</b>	<b>0.67292</b>	<b>0.63123</b>	<b>0.75342</b>	<b>0.65734</b>	<b>0.69346</b>	<b>0.53679</b>	<b>0.42875</b>	<b>0.50323</b>	--
13. Diego Garcia	<b>0.51036</b>	<b>0.56474</b>	<b>0.52244</b>	<b>0.53912</b>	<b>0.49451</b>	<b>0.61025</b>	<b>0.52284</b>	<b>0.54533</b>	<b>0.41311</b>	<b>0.28493</b>	<b>0.35104</b>	-0.00728



**Table 4.** Results of the analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) based on mitochondrial DNA (cytochrome *b*) sequence data for *Pygoplites diacanthus*. Bolded values denote significance at  $P < 0.05$ .

Regions	Among groups			Among populations (within groups)			Within populations		
	$\Phi_{CT}$	<i>P</i> -value	% variation	$\Phi_{SC}$	<i>P</i> -value	% variation	$\Phi_{ST}$	<i>P</i> -value	% variation
Pacific Ocean vs. Indian Ocean	0.60	0.058	59.91	<b>0.19</b>	< 0.001	<b>7.46</b>	<b>0.67</b>	< 0.001	<b>32.63</b>
Pacific <sup>a</sup> vs. Indian <sup>b</sup> vs. Red Sea <sup>c</sup>	<b>0.66</b>	< 0.001	<b>65.53</b>	<b>0.04</b>	0.017	<b>1.44</b>	<b>0.67</b>	< 0.001	<b>33.03</b>
Indian <sup>b</sup> vs. Red Sea <sup>c</sup> vs. Christmas Is.	0.44	0.078	44.09	<b>0.02</b>	< 0.001	<b>0.92</b>	0.45	0.269	54.99
Pacific <sup>a</sup> vs. Mo'orea	0.08	0.184	7.92	<b>0.05</b>	< 0.001	<b>4.82</b>	<b>0.13</b>	< 0.001	<b>87.26</b>

<sup>a</sup>Pacific includes all Pacific Ocean populations plus Christmas Island.

<sup>b</sup>Indian includes the Maldives and Diego Garcia.

<sup>c</sup>Red Sea includes Saudi Arabia and Djibouti.

**Table 5.** Molecular diversity indices for populations of *Pygoplites diacanthus* based on nuclear DNA (introns RAG2 and S7) for all populations. Number of individuals sequenced ( $n$ ), number of alleles ( $N_a$ ), number of segregating (polymorphic) sites ( $S$ ), observed heterozygosity ( $H_o$ ), expected heterozygosity ( $H_E$ ), and the corresponding  $P$ -value

Sample Location	RAG2						S7					
	$n$	$N_a$	$S$	$H_o$	$H_E$	$P$ -value	$n$	$N_a$	$S$	$H_o$	$H_E$	$P$ -value
<u>Pacific Ocean</u>												
Okinawa	6	3	1	0.50	0.59	1.00	5	8	8	0.80	0.93	0.37
Philippines	21	3	2	0.38	0.46	0.32	15	11	9	0.73	0.85	0.19
Palau	30	4	3	0.47	0.41	0.67	22	14	12	0.88	0.82	< 0.001
Marshall islands	27	3	2	0.26	0.29	0.55	14	9	8	0.71	0.82	0.16
Pohnpei	39	5	4	0.38	0.43	0.20	21	15	16	0.76	0.87	0.24
Indonesia	4	3	2	0.50	0.46	1.00	3	6	7	1.00	1.00	1.00
Tokelau	16	2	1	0.06	0.06	1.00	8	8	8	0.63	0.81	0.04
Mo'orea	31	4	3	0.61	0.64	0.83	30	7	7	0.80	0.71	0.33
American Samoa	18	3	2	0.44	0.54	0.40	16	10	10	0.75	0.85	0.14
Fiji	21	4	3	0.43	0.43	0.83	16	12	10	0.88	0.85	0.74
Christmas Island	25	4	3	0.28	0.39	0.14	18	12	11	0.78	0.84	0.58
<u>Red Sea Province</u>												
Saudi Arabia	19	3	2	0.21	0.20	1.00	15	5	7	0.47	0.41	1.00
Djibouti	59	6	5	0.22	0.22	0.61	52	8	7	0.85	0.80	0.43
<u>Indian Ocean</u>												
Maldives	19	2	1	0.37	0.46	0.61	18	5	5	0.61	0.70	0.24
Diego Garcia	31	3	2	0.39	0.38	0.25	31	8	9	0.84	0.72	0.93
All Locations	366	12	10	0.35	0.43	<0.001	284	44	31	0.77	0.86	< 0.001

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**Table 6.** Matrix of pairwise *F*-statistics for 13 populations of *Pygoplites diacanthus*.  $\Phi_{ST}$  values for RAG2 (below diagonal) and *S7* (above diagonal). Bolded numbers indicate significance after controlling for false discovery rates at  $\alpha = 0.05$  (as per Narum, 2006). The corrected  $\alpha = 0.009$ . Owing to low sample size, Okinawa and Indonesia have been excluded. Abbreviations: Red Sea Province, RS; Indian Ocean, IO.

Sample location	Pacific Ocean									RS		IO		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1. Philippines	--	-0.00920	-0.01362	-0.01360	-0.01687	0.01687	0.01128	-0.00514	0.01515	<b>0.34364</b>	<b>0.17142</b>	<b>0.10393</b>	<b>0.09571</b>	
2. Palau	-0.00538	--	0.00508	-0.00296	-0.02460	0.02700	0.00922	-0.01550	-0.00726	<b>0.38275</b>	<b>0.22126</b>	<b>0.09033</b>	<b>0.08852</b>	
3. Marshall Is.	0.00818	-0.01120	--	-0.00031	-0.00704	0.05734	0.00961	-0.00460	0.04995	<b>0.34476</b>	<b>0.15924</b>	<b>0.14964</b>	<b>0.13677</b>	
4. Pohnpei	-0.00668	-0.01082	-0.00789	--	-0.02035	0.01691	0.00989	-0.00473	0.01182	<b>0.30090</b>	<b>0.18403</b>	<b>0.07945</b>	<b>0.08287</b>	
5. Tokelau	0.07767	0.04393	0.04048	0.02592	--	0.00217	-0.01313	-0.02998	-0.01183	<b>0.37543</b>	<b>0.20290</b>	<b>0.09332</b>	<b>0.09858</b>	
6. Mo'orea	<b>0.11389</b>	<b>0.13061</b>	<b>0.16703</b>	<b>0.16493</b>	<b>0.27102</b>	--	0.07372	0.03949	0.03840	<b>0.44338</b>	<b>0.25787</b>	<b>0.07336</b>	<b>0.07570</b>	
7. American Samoa	-0.00096	0.02568	0.05152	0.03906	<b>0.17279</b>	0.03921	--	-0.01129	0.02085	<b>0.36682</b>	<b>0.24862</b>	<b>0.18011</b>	<b>0.18764</b>	
8. Fiji	-0.02068	-0.01577	-0.00644	-0.01574	0.05125	<b>0.12489</b>	0.01209	--	0.00554	<b>0.40033</b>	<b>0.23471</b>	<b>0.13818</b>	<b>0.13340</b>	
9. Christmas Is.	-0.00815	-0.01338	-0.01051	-0.00520	0.07526	<b>0.11113</b>	0.00810	-0.01339	--	<b>0.43065</b>	<b>0.26948</b>	<b>0.09838</b>	<b>0.10584</b>	
RS	10. Saudi Arabia	<b>0.10905</b>	<b>0.08062</b>	<b>0.08407</b>	0.06289	0.02759	<b>0.29673</b>	<b>0.19761</b>	<b>0.08516</b>	<b>0.11256</b>	--	0.07234	<b>0.51195</b>	<b>0.50068</b>
	11. Djibouti	<b>0.12103</b>	<b>0.08643</b>	<b>0.07487</b>	<b>0.06583</b>	0.00215	<b>0.3587</b>	<b>0.22863</b>	<b>0.09234</b>	<b>0.11642</b>	0.02992	--	<b>0.25737</b>	<b>0.25281</b>
IO	12. Maldives	<b>0.23970</b>	<b>0.23544</b>	<b>0.26566</b>	<b>0.23347</b>	<b>0.28203</b>	<b>0.34276</b>	<b>0.27897</b>	<b>0.23017</b>	<b>0.25607</b>	<b>0.25779</b>	<b>0.22058</b>	--	-0.00921
	13. Diego Garcia	<b>0.16033</b>	<b>0.14521</b>	<b>0.15459</b>	<b>0.1368</b>	0.13833	<b>0.31590</b>	<b>0.22167</b>	<b>0.14479</b>	<b>0.16565</b>	<b>0.13958</b>	<b>0.09067</b>	0.01181	--

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