What can the *Mus musculus musculus/M. m. domesticus* hybrid zone tell us about speciation?

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Introduction

One of the crucial tasks in the study of speciation is to explain the genetic basis of reproductive barriers between diverged taxa. Despite the best endeavours of generations of evolutionary biologists since Darwin and Wallace, our understanding of the genetics of speciation has lagged behind other fields of evolutionary biology. The reason may be simply that the greater the reproductive isolation, the less cross progeny we have to work with, but more probably it is because the genetic factors involved are numerous, with complex interactions. Indeed, it appears that except for a few cases (Coyne and Orr, 2004) reproductive isolation arises in many small steps rather than a few strongly selected mutations, in agreement with theoretical predictions (Walsh, 1982; Barton and Charlesworth, 1984). Obviously, the more genes with small effect that are involved in reproductive isolation, the more difficult will be their identification, making traditional laboratory hybridization experiments and association studies challenging.

It seems only common sense, therefore, to search for alternative approaches. One promising alternative is to study naturally occurring hybrid zones. The seeds for progress were sown by Barton and Hewitt (1985, 1989), who suggested the majority of hybrid zones were 'tension zones' (Box 14.1). While initially received with scepticism in some quarters, the tension zone paradigm now dominates the hybrid zone literature and is arguably the main justification for the view that hybrid zones are 'natural laboratories' (Hewitt, 1988) and 'windows on evolutionary process' (Harrison, 1990). The reason this paradigm is so important is that it unifies hybrid zone process over a diversity of species, geographic scales, and histories of contact into a single analytically tractable framework (Box 14.2) with intuitive, testable results and predictions that have been borne out repeatedly over the subsequent decades. Tension zones are measured relative to the scale of

Evolution of the House Mouse, ed. Miloš Macholán, Stuart J. E. Baird, Pavel Munclinger, and Jaroslav Piálek. Published by Cambridge University Press. © Cambridge University Press 2012.

Box 14.1 Hybrid zones and the tension zone paradigm

In this chapter we use a consensus definition of hybrid zones as areas where genetically distinct groups of individuals meet, mate, and leave at least some offspring of mixed ancestry (Barton and Hewitt, 1985, 1989; Harrison, 1990). An advantage of this rather broad notion is its independence of our knowledge of the history or geography of hybrid zones and the evolutionary forces affecting their dynamics. Hybrid zones can be maintained by various kinds of selection - for example, by balancing selection favouring hybrids within a narrow region of intermediate habitat ('bounded hybrid superiority'; Moore, 1977). In this case, a trait at equilibrium may vary gradually from place to place, independent of dispersal. However, as pointed out by Barton and Gale (1993), dispersal has a negligible effect only when character gradients (clines) are much wider than the characteristic scale of selection (i.e. the distance over which selection changes allele frequencies), $l = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{s}}$, where σ is the rate of dispersal, defined as the standard deviation of the distance between parent and offspring measured along a linear axis, and s is the magnitude of selection (Slatkin, 1973; Barton and Hewitt, 1989). In fact, clines are usually much narrower than potential environmental gradients and dispersal-independent zones are thus rare. Moreover, most hybrid zones consist of a cluster of coincident clines even for characters with no obvious functional relationship (Barton and Hewitt, 1985, 1989) and with similar width and shape across different portions of the zone, patterns that are unlikely for clines maintained directly by the external environment. Thus it appears that most hybrid zones are maintained by a balance between dispersal and selection. This selection can be exogenous (so that alleles are selected against when appearing in foreign habitat) or endogenous (so that alleles are counter-selected when appearing on foreign genetic background). If different alleles are favoured in different habitats, the hybrid zone will be located at a particular environmental gradient, whereas if selection acts against hybrids, the zone is free to move and will stop when trapped by a geographic barrier or in an area of low population density (a 'density trough'; Hewitt, 1975, 1989; Barton, 1979; Barton and Hewitt, 1985). These zones, maintained by a balance between dispersal from each side and central endogenous selection, are called 'tension zones' because, like the surface of a bubble, they minimize their extent while balancing pressure on either side (Key, 1968; Barton, 1979; Barton and Hewitt, 1985) (Fig. 14.1).

dispersal of the organism involved, and on this metric the stronger the selection against admixture the more abrupt are the changes between the taxa (clines) we see as we cross the hybrid zone. This simple contrast (strong selection = narrow cline; weak selection = wide cline) holds even when comparing snail hybrid zones to bird hybrid zones – as long as we measure width relative to their respective dispersal scales – but comparisons across clines at loci *within the same genome* are even more robust. The approach of plotting cline width for a number of loci along a linkage group to see where clines are narrow, and therefore to map genes responsible for reproductive barriers seems obvious given current technology,



Figure 14.1 When we blow a soap bubble its shape wobbles, then settles into a sphere which balances the internal and external air pressure while minimizing the extent of the soap boundary (the sphere is the shape with minimum surface area for the enclosed volume). Tension zones have similar behaviour: wobbling over the landscape they settle where the pressure of gene flow is equal from either side and the extent of the zone is minimized, smoothing the path of the zone centre towards a straight line (the shortest distance between two points). See the plate section for a colour version of this figure.

but in the 1990s when this was first discussed, multi-locus studies focused on a few unlinked loci, and it took more than a decade to bring the idea to fruition. One of the ground-breaking studies was done on the house mouse hybrid zone (HMHZ) in Europe (Payseur *et al.*, 2004), which suggested a reproductive barrier region on the central X chromosome. In the same year laboratory crosses mapped sterility genes to the same chromosomal region (Oka *et al.*, 2004; Storchová *et al.*, 2004; see Forejt *et al.*, Chapter 19 in this volume, for review). These results demonstrate the efficacy of hybrid zones as tools for speciation studies, complementary to laboratory crosses and positional cloning approaches, as well as the paramount role the house mouse can play in this research.

Despite this positive outlook we suggest caution in hybrid zone speciation research. The intuitive nature of the idea to use narrow clines to locate barriers to gene flow has led to overconfidence in its application. Just because hybrids are sampled in the field, rather than bred in the laboratory, does not mean strict

rigour is unnecessary. In fact, more rigour is needed if we hope to distinguish signals in the data from stochastic noise; laboratory-based research minimizes this noise by controlling conditions, but when sampling from nature we cannot control conditions and so we must be particularly vigilant to sources of noise (Boxes 14.3, 14.4). Ignoring such sources of uncertainty leads to overconfident inference, and overconfident inference could discredit hybrid zone speciation research before it has shown its full potential. Under these circumstances our chapter title might also have been 'What can the HMHZ not tell us about speciation?'. Knowing the limits of what we can infer is central to the scientific endeavour. The better our understanding of (I) the circumstances from which we are sampling in nature; (2) the assumptions underlying our models of those circumstances; and (3) the stochastic effects introduced by sampling and the limitations of our analytical techniques, the better we will be able to modulate and communicate our confidence in the results. Here we review each of these issues in turn with respect to inference about speciation from the HMHZ in an attempt to set a solid foundation for future research. We finish by suggesting promising future directions.

The house mouse hybrid zone in Europe

There is wide agreement that no extant house mice occupied western Eurasia before the end of the last glaciation (Thaler, 1986; Auffray *et al.*, 1990; Auffray and Britton-Davidian, 1992; Cucchi *et al.*, Chapter 3 in this volume; but see Sage *et al.*, 1990 for a different view). The mouse expansion into western Eurasia followed two colonization routes consistent with human historical patterns (Kratochvíl, 1986; Thaler, 1986; Auffray *et al.*, 1990; Cucchi *et al.*, 2005; Bonhomme *et al.*, 2011). *Mus musculus domesticus* arrived from Asia Minor, along the Mediterranean Basin, and now occurs in southern and western Europe; *M. m. musculus* followed a pathway north of the Black Sea and today occupies northern and eastern parts of the continent. Where their ranges abut, a narrow hybrid zone is created, running across the central part of the Jutland Peninsula (approximately from Vejle Fjord westwards) and from the Baltic coast *ca.* 25 km east of Kiel Fjord (East Holstein, northern Germany) through central Europe and the Balkan Peninsula to the Black Sea coast (Sage *et al.*, 1993; Macholán *et al.*, 2003; Fig. 14.2). Recently, a new portion of the zone has been localized in Norway (Jones *et al.*, 2010).

Following the pioneering works of Degerbøl (1949), Zimmermann (1949), and Ursin (1952), this zone has been studied in Denmark (Selander *et al.*, 1969; Hunt and Selander, 1973; Schnell and Selander, 1981; Ferris *et al.*, 1983; Vanlerberghe *et al.*, 1986, 1988b; Nancé *et al.*, 1990; Dod *et al.*, 1993, 2005; Fel-Clair *et al.*, 1996, 1998; Lanneluc *et al.*, 2004; Raufaste *et al.*, 2005; northern Germany (van Zegeren and van Oortmerssen, 1981; Prager *et al.*, 1993); Saxony, eastern



Figure 14.2 The course of the *M. m. musculus/M. m. domesticus* hybrid zone in Europe (bold line). In Norway, its position is only tentative (dashed bold line). Shaded rectangles depict studied transects: A: Denmark; B: East Holstein (Germany); C: Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, and Thuringia (Germany); D: west Bohemia (Czech Republic) and northeast Bavaria (Germany); E: southeast Bavaria (Germany and northwest Austria); F: east Bulgaria. The dotted line indicates where the eastern humid continental climate zone meets any of four other climate zones: anticlockwise from top these are subarctic (northern Scandinavia); humid oceanic (west); humid and dry subtropical (south); and semi arid (in the east, north of the Black Sea). For clarity the boundary between the western and southern zones is omitted, likewise the highland climate zone of the Alps (simplified from http://printable-maps.blogspot.com/2008/09/map-of-climate-zones-in-europe.html).

Germany (Teeter *et al.*, 2010); southern Bavaria (south-eastern Germany) and northwestern Austria (Sage *et al.*, 1986b; Tucker *et al.*, 1992; Payseur *et al.*, 2004; Payseur and Nachman, 2005; Teeter *et al.*, 2008, 2010; Dufková *et al.*, 2011); northeastern Bavaria and the western part of the Czech Republic (Munclinger *et al.*, 2002; Božíková *et al.*, 2005; Macholán *et al.*, 2007, 2008, 2011); and eastern Bulgaria (Vanlerberghe *et al.*, 1986, 1988a).

Despite the common belief that the *musculus/domesticus* zone has resulted from the secondary contact of the two taxa in the Holocene, the history of initial contact, including exact dating, is unclear. Almost certainly first contact was in

Box 14.2 Tension zone models

Sigmoid clines

The simplest model of a tension zone was proposed by Bazykin (1969). It assumes a homogeneous environment, heterozygote fitness to be (1-s) relative to both homozygotes, weak selection acting on each locus independently (no cross-locus associations, i.e. linkage disequilibrium), and gene flow approximated by diffusion. The allele frequency is then $p = 1/(1 + \exp[-(x-c)/l])$, where (x-c) is the distance of a site from the cline centre and l is the scale of selection defined in Box 14.1 (Slatkin, 1973; Barton and Hewitt, 1989) (Fig. 14.3a, solid line). The width of a cline in trait z is usually defined as $w = \Delta z / (\partial z / \partial x)$: this is the inverse of the maximum slope $\partial z / \partial x$ scaled by the total trait change Δz . This definition applies equally to clines in the frequency of diagnostic alleles from 0 to 1 ($\Delta z = 1$), clines in allele frequency at informative loci (o < Δz < 1), and clines in quantitative traits where Δz depends only on what is measured. It also allows explicit theoretical predictions impossible with other ad hoc width definitions such as the distance over which z changes from 20% to 80% (Endler, 1977; Barton and Hewitt, 1989). The cline width (w) depends on the selection acting: for example, when selection acts against heterozygotes it is $\sqrt{8\sigma^2 s}$ (Bazykin, 1969; Barton and Hewitt, 1989), whereas when selection favours different alleles on different sides of the hybrid zone the width equals $\sqrt{3\sigma^2 s}$ (Haldane, 1948; if we assume no dominance the cline is slightly wider: $w = 1.782\sqrt{\sigma^2 s}$; Barton and Gale, 1993).

There are several ways of expressing the shape of the single locus clines described by Bazykin (1969), and this has led to some confusion. Bazykin chose to use the hyperbolic tangent function (Tanh), giving a smooth sigmoid curve (or a straight line if plotted on a logit scale). The Tanh cline is *sigmoid* in the sense that it is equivalent to a logistic (sigmoid) curve [(tanh(x) + 1)/2 = logistic (2x)], and this is also why it is a straight line if plotted on a logit scale – the inverse of the logistic function is the logit function. The type of selection has little effect on cline shape, so this model can be used for clines caused by heterozygote disadvantage, extrinsic selection favouring different alleles in different places, or selection acting on quantitative traits (Haldane, 1948; Fisher, 1950; Bazykin, 1969; Slatkin, 1973, 1975; Nagylaki, 1975, 1976; Endler, 1977). If selection is weak the model also approximates clines in structured populations described by the stepping-stone model (Nagylaki, 1975). However, Bazykin's model is a single locus model, while selection acting in a hybrid zone typically affects several or many loci.

Stepped clines

Influx of parental gene combinations into a tension zone causes strong associations between the loci or linkage disequilibrium, D (Li and Nei, 1974; Slatkin, 1975). Since D is proportional to the gradient of allele frequencies, across-locus associations are weak at the edges of the zone, and selection affects each locus separately. However, as we move towards the zone centre, the gradient steepens, causing stronger disequilibria. As associations across loci become stronger, selection no longer affects each locus independently. Selection is strengthened by a 'hitch-hiking' effect: stronger



Figure 14.3 (a) Solid: sigmoid cline; dashed: stepped cline with the same centre and width, but more shallow tails of introgression. (b) Progress over time from steep clines at initial contact (light grey) to quasi-equilibrium width (dark grey).

selection generates stronger associations which, in turn, cause yet stronger selection. The result of these associations is a barrier to the (independent) flow of genes across the zone centre, and is manifested as a sharp step at the centre of each cline (Barton, 1983; Barton and Bengtsson, 1986; Barton and Gale, 1993). Barton (1986) models clines with a central barrier to gene flow as tripartite: allele frequencies in the central portion follow the sigmoid model, but on either side (away from the influence of central associations) the

Box 14.2 (cont.)

cline decays exponentially as $p \propto \exp(4x\sqrt{\theta}/w)$, where θ is the rate of decay on the right and left side, respectively (Fig. 14.3a, dashed line). Parameter θ can be expressed in terms of the ratio between the selection acting on an individual locus itself (s_e) and the effective selection pressure on the locus at the centre, which is primarily due to association with other loci (s^*): $\theta = s_e/s^*$ (Szymura and Barton, 1986). A stepped cline pattern suggests a zone with a central barrier to gene flow, regardless of whether this is caused by a physical obstacle or by associations with other loci. The strength of the barrier is defined as $B = \Delta p/p'$, where Δp is the height of the central step and $p' = \partial p / \partial x$ is the gradient of allele frequency on either side of this step. *B* can be estimated separately for the left and right side of the cline (Nagylaki, 1976) so the asymmetrical stepped model comprises six parameters: w, c, θ_L , B_L , θ_L , B_L , where subscripts *L* and *R* denote left and right side, respectively. The barrier strength has units of distance, and can be thought of as the distance over which unimpeded gene flow would lead to the same change in allele frequencies. Barrier strength may be different in each direction, leading to asymmetric clines that will have a tendency to move.

Another way of assessing the magnitude of the barrier is to calculate the number of generations that an allele is delayed when crossing the zone. For a neutral allele, this delay can be substantial, from hundreds to tens of thousands of generations $(T \approx (B/\sigma)^2;$ Barton and Hewitt, 1985, 1989; Barton and Gale, 1993). In contrast, even slightly advantageous alleles can cross the zone quite rapidly, at $T \approx \log[(B/\sigma)^2 \pi s_a/2]/2s_a$ generations if $s_a \gg (B/\sigma)^{-2}$, where s_a is the selective advantage (Barton and Hewitt, 1985, 1986; Barton and Gale, 1993).

Because the central barrier in a tension zone depends so crucially on the association between loci, estimation of D can be used, along with cline shape parameters, for subsequent estimation of the scale of dispersal, effective selection on marker loci, selection on selected loci, the total number of genes under selection, and the mean fitness of hybrids (see Appendix).

Dynamics of secondary contact

The models above are for clines that have reached a quasi-equilibrium balance between dispersal of individuals into the centre of the zone and selection against admixture. However, at the beginning of secondary contact, clines are step-like transitions: it takes some generations for them to settle into their equilibrium shape (Fig. 14.3). At the genomic level progression towards equilibrium depends on the ratio of selection to recombination (or segregation for loci on different chromosomes), and may be very slow leaving intact blocks of the genome of each taxon long after secondary contact, a signature that can be used to date this contact (Baird, 1995, 2006).

southern regions, progressing to central and northern Europe, like a zipper being pulled up through the continent. Therefore, the northern portion of the hybrid zone may be much younger than the southern parts. According to Boursot *et al.* (1993), while mice arrived in the western Mediterranean and

Box 14.3 Spatial sampling noise

When we calculate the likelihood of a set of parameters describing cline shape and make inferences about selection affecting individual loci, several sources of error should be taken into account. These are perhaps especially strong for the house mouse, which has an aggregated spatial distribution and usually lives in small and defended demes in which most offspring are sired by a dominant male. The lifespan of these demes is rather short, adding a further source of stochasticity to the distribution of allele frequencies across localities. Calculating the effective sample size (Phillips *et al.*, 2004; Raufaste *et al.*, 2005; Macholán *et al.*, 2008) takes into account the sampling noise introduced by small samples with deviations from Hardy Weinberg equilibrium within each sampling locality and differences in relatedness across localities, but does not take into account the noise introduced by how the sampled localities fall in relation to the zone centre. This noise is particularly strong when a one-dimensional (1D) transect is used to sample a 2D hybrid zone (Fig. 14.4).

One component of spatial sampling error has recently been more rigorously assessed for the Czech-Bavarian portion of the HMHZ. The underlying orientation of this zone has been estimated with good support (Macholán et al., 2008, 2011). For this known orientation Dufková et al. (2011) used a jackknife-based procedure in which one locality at a time was removed from the dataset and cline estimates recomputed for each locus. They showed that exclusion of a single locality can result in increase of cline width estimates across loci up to 84-fold, considerably higher than the 50-fold inter-locus span found in the 39 SNP dataset from 1D sampling in southern Germany (Teeter et al., 2008). When clines are stepped, exclusion of central localities has a more severe impact on cline width estimates than omitting sites far from the centre, whereas for sigmoid clines the impact on the cline width is greater if localities further from the centre are deleted. Dense sampling of central localities is therefore vital for reliable estimates of introgression patterns and inferences of genomic regions important in speciation (Barton and Gale, 1993; Macholán et al., 2007; Dufková et al., 2011). When sampling from the central segment of the zone is sparse relative to cline width, only upper bounds can be placed on the width estimates (Macholán *et al.*, 2007).

central Europe during the Bronze Age (4000–2800 BP; Auffray *et al.*, 1990; Vigne, 1992; Auffray, 1993), northwestern and northern Europe were colonized during the Iron Age (*ca.* 2800 BP; Lepiksaar, 1980; Auffray *et al.*, 1990; O'Connor, 1992; Auffray, 1993). Sage *et al.* (1993) supposed 6000 BP for southern Europe and Gyllensten and Wilson (1987) 5000–6000 BP for central Europe. Estimates of the time of colonization of Scandinavia are even more variable: Prager *et al.* (1993) assumed spread of mice following human demic diffusion 4000–5000 BP (Sokal *et al.*, 1991), whereas Gyllensten and Wilson (1987) concurred with Clark (1975), who dated the advent of agriculture to 3500–4500 BP. On the other hand, a recent careful revision of zooarchaeological data



Figure 14.4 Spatial sampling noise. One hundred sampling localities are distributed at random across a hybrid zone of unknown orientation. (a) Assuming effective sample sizes are Poisson distributed with mean 10, pies show binomial allele frequency samples from an underlying cline (shades of grey). Pies close to a horizontal transect line are shaded in orange and cyan (see colour plate of this figure). (b) The shape of the underlying cline is compared to allele frequency estimates from the 14 locality samples close to the horizontal transect line: cline estimation would either displace the centre to the left, or overestimate the steepness of the cline. Without sampling noise there would be no displacement, and an underestimation of the cline steepness (because the horizontal transect is oblique to the path of the zone). See plate section for a colour version of this figure.

Box 14.4 Model choice in hybrid zone analysis

Suppose we choose to analyse hybrid zone samples using a two-parameter sigmoid cline model (Box 14.2), but we later find out that the hybrid zone is a multi-locus tension zone with stepped clines (Box 14.2) due to an asymmetric central barrier to gene flow. What are the consequences of having fitted the wrong model? In particular, what are the consequences of fitting a symmetric sigmoid curve model to an asymmetric cline (Figure 14.6a)? As the likelihood fitting algorithm tries to match the asymmetric data with the symmetric model it shifts the model to one side. The more asymmetric the data, the more the cline centre estimate diverges from the real position of the cline centre (Fig. 14.6b). This is not a bug in the likelihood approach. Rather, it is exactly what we expect to happen if the inappropriate model is chosen for analysis. The consequences for inference are grave. In the data we fully expect clines at different loci to have different degrees of asymmetry. Analyses of these with symmetric models will shift the centre estimates of each to a different degree, giving the impression that the zone has non-coincident cline centres. We might then mis-infer the very nature of the zone because 'coincident cline centres' is one of the most fundamental expectations of a zone with a central barrier to gene flow. It is for such reasons that we have repeatedly stressed the importance of the model-choice stage of cline analysis (Macholán et al., 2007, 2008; Vošlajerová Bímová et al., 2011). Model choice is an automatic feature of, for example, phylogenetic sequence analyses, and it is a matter of some frustration that the issue is still often ignored in the hybrid zone literature.

has suggested that western and northern Europe had not been colonized by mice before 1000 BC-AD 300 (Cucchi *et al.*, 2005, see also Cucchi *et al.*, Chapter 3). The most extreme of recent estimates are given by Sage *et al.* (1993), assuming an arrival of mice in Denmark 250 years ago, and Hunt and Selander (1973), who pointed out that stable mouse populations in western Jutland could not have been established before the beginning of the programme of reclamation of marshlands in 1850.

Why is the age of the hybrid zone so important? A hybrid zone will get wider over time unless some force acts to maintain the distinction between taxa, in which case the zone will settle into quasi-equilibrium (Box 14.2). Assuming cline widths ~10–20 km and a scale of dispersal ~1 km gen^{-1/2} (see below), a neutral allele will cross the zone after 16–32 generations. Because the zone, at all points, is thought to be much older than this, we can assume it has settled into quasiequilibrium all along its length. Current estimates suggest the width of the HMHZ is very similar in Jutland and some 700 km to the south in the Czech Republic (Macholán *et al.*, 2007). This similarity in the width of the hybrid zone despite different times of contact, and diverse locations, argues for a similar mechanism maintaining taxon separation whenever and wherever M. m. musculus and M. m. domesticus meet.

Is the zone maintained by exogenous or endogenous factors?

The European HMHZ is a ~20-km wide complex gradation of lategeneration hybrids and backcrosses with F₁ hybrids missing or extremely rare; for most markers the zone structure is unimodal with intermediate genotypes in the centre (Raufaste et al., 2005; Macholán et al., 2007). There has been some debate regarding the origins of the factors that maintain the zone. A seeming coincidence of its position and the boundary between oceanic and continental climate zones led several authors to conclude that the contact of these subspecies is regulated primarily by climatic factors (Zimmermann, 1949; Serafiński, 1965; Hunt and Selander, 1973; Thaler et al., 1981; Boursot et al., 1984; Klein et al., 1987). However, recalling the concept of the characteristic scale of selection (Box 14.2), the scale of this climatic gradient is too wide to maintain such a narrow hybrid zone (Boursot et al., 1993). Further, as human commensals, mice mostly live in artificial habitats buffered from climate influences, and there is an obvious discrepancy between the position of the hybrid zone and the climatic transition, a fact pointed out by Kraft (1985). As shown in Fig. 14.2, the HMHZ does not match the climate transition closely anywhere in Europe, suggesting climate is not an important factor in either its position or width.

Barton and Hewitt's (1985) suggestion that the HMHZ is a tension zone, maintained by a balance between dispersal and endogenous selection against hybrids, has received increasing support from genetic studies over geographically independent transects (e.g. Payseur et al., 2004; Raufaste et al., 2005; Macholán et al., 2007). Stepped clines (Box. 14.2) with stronger linkage disequilibria in the centre have been demonstrated in Denmark (Dod et al., 2005; Raufaste et al., 2005), southern Germany (Payseur et al., 2004), and the Czech-Bavarian portion of the zone (Macholán et al., 2007, 2008). Leaving aside other potential causes of the stepped pattern of the molecular clines, such as geographic barriers or epistasis (see Macholán et al., 2007 for discussion), the stepped shape can be produced either by strong selection acting on a small number of loci or weak selection affecting a moderate to large number of loci (cf. Porter et al., 1997; see Walsh, 1982 and Barton and Charlesworth, 1984 for theoretical arguments in favour of the latter possibility). A stepped cline pattern has been confirmed for allozyme markers in the Danish transect, where the number of loci under selection was estimated at 46-120, with effective selection pressure maintaining the cline $s^* \approx 3-7\%$ and fitness of hybrids ~45% (Raufaste et al., 2005); and in the Czech-Bavarian transect, with 56-99 selected loci,

 $s^* \approx 6-9\%$, and fitness of hybrids 25-60% (Macholán *et al.*, 2007). An analysis of five X chromosome markers revealed substantially stronger selection ($s^* \approx 25\%$) and a larger reduction in fitness of hybrids than selection affecting autosomal loci ($\approx 23-35\%$; Macholán *et al.*, 2007, 2008). Estimates of the number of selected X-linked loci were rather incongruent: while the original study of Macholán et al. (2007) yielded 380 loci, a later analysis of 17 X chromosome markers resulted in a much lower estimate (eight selected loci; M. Macholán, unpublished results). As the first estimate exceeds all estimates of the total number of selected loci in the genome, we favour the second of these calculations. It should be noted, however, that all these calculations assume that epistatic interactions between loci can be neglected. As suggested by several studies, such interactions may occur between X-linked genes (Oka et al., 2004; Storchová et al., 2004) and between these genes and autosomal loci (Forejt, 1981, 1996; Montagutelli et al., 1996; Britton-Davidian et al., 2005; Payseur and Hoekstra, 2005). In addition, the estimates of selection parameters are highly derived: they are calculated using values which themselves are estimates, and so should be treated with appropriate caution.

In summary, accumulation of data and better understanding of hybrid zones mean exogenous hypotheses for maintenance of the HMHZ are now seen as unlikely. At the same time, this accumulating data consistently matches tension zone predictions suggesting the zone is maintained by selection against hybridization, with causes intrinsic to the mice in contact.

What is the nature of endogenous selection against hybrids?

The genetic analyses of different transects consistently imply that hybrid mice are selectively disadvantaged. But what is the nature of this selection? Strikingly, our knowledge of this issue is still extremely limited. However, in theory we expect sterility selection to be more important than viability selection (Coyne and Orr, 2004), and the results so far are consistent with this idea.

Two potential sources of viability selection against hybrids have been investigated by multiple teams: susceptibility to parasites and developmental instability. Sage *et al.* (1986a), Moulia *et al.* (1991), and Moulia and Joly (2009) suggest increased parasite load is one of the only indications of less fit hybrids, but a much larger recent study (Baird *et al.*, 2012; see also Goüy de Bellocq *et al.*, Chapter 18) not only indicates that this pattern is inconsistent across transects, but also shows strong evidence of *reduced* load in hybrids, consistent with heterosis. Second, decreased fluctuating asymmetry (FA) in natural hybrids captured along the Danish transect, as well as in laboratory-produced hybrids (Alibert *et al.*, 1994, 1997; Debat *et al.*, 2000; Alibert and Auffray, 2003), has been taken as evidence of heterosis. A study of mandible shape in the Czech–Bavarian zone also showed decreased asymmetry in hybrids (Mikula *et al.*, 2010). However, an analysis of FA in the shape of the ventral side of the skull of these mice showed the opposite trend, i.e. higher FA in hybrid populations (Mikula and Macholán, 2008). Thus, the impact of hybridization on FA appears to be trait-specific (Mikula *et al.*, 2010).

Forejt and Iványi (1974) set out to examine sterility, rather than decreased viability, in mice. In their experiment, a wild-derived M. m. musculus inbred strain was crossed with the 'classic' laboratory strain C57BL/10 carrying predominantly M. m. domesticus alleles, yielding sterile male F₁ hybrids, in agreement with Haldane's rule (Forejt and Iványi, 1974). Moreover, backcross data suggested epistatic interactions with at least two other loci (Forejt, 1981, 1996). This gene, named Hybrid sterility I (Hst1), was mapped to chromosome 17 (Forejt et al., 1991; Trachtulec et al., 1994; Gregorová et al., 1996), close to the location of the *t*-haplotype (see Herrmann and Bauer, Chapter 12) but not involved with its function. Subsequent analyses led to identification of Hst1 with the Prdm9 gene encoding meiotic histone H₃ lysine 4-methyltransferase (Mihola et al., 2009). Another one or two sterility genes have been mapped to the *M. m. musculus* X chromosome (Hstxi, possibly Hstxi; see Forejt et al., Chapter 19 for a review). However, sterility studies of wild or wild-derived inbred mice have revealed a rather complicated picture (Forejt and Iványi, 1974; Britton-Davidian et al., 2005; Vyskočilová et al., 2005, 2009; Good et al., 2008b), suggesting the basis of reproductive isolation in the house mouse is likely to be more complex than can be revealed by the progeny of pairs of laboratory strains.

In summary, given evidence consistent with heterosis (or at least no unequivocal evidence to the contrary) for viability traits, it seems likely that selection against hybridization takes the form of sterility/fertility selection rather than viability selection. Recent studies of sperm morphology and motility and histology of seminiferous tubules across the Czech–Bavarian region of the HMHZ, showing reduced motility of sperm from hybrid males (Albrechtová *et al.*, submitted) and slightly decreased number of round spermatids relative to primary spermatocytes (G. Pražanová and M. Macholán, unpublished data), are consistent with this view.

What is the scale of dispersal and population density of mice?

Since tension zones are maintained by a balance between selection and gene flow, reliable estimates of the scale of dispersal are critical in calculations of absolute (as opposed to relative) zone measures such as effective selection or number of genes implicated (see Appendix). Assuming standardized linkage equilibrium at the zone centre $R_{ij} \approx 0.058$ and a harmonic mean recombination rate $\bar{r} \approx 0.4$ (Macholán *et al.*, 2007), we get a point estimate of the scale of dispersal

for the Czech-Bavarian transect $\sigma \approx 1.24$ km gen^{-1/2}. This is somewhat higher than the point estimate reported by Raufaste et al. (2005) for Denmark $(\sigma \approx 0.7 \text{ km gen}^{-1/2})$, but given the large degree of uncertainty we must associate with such point estimates, they are in fact reassuringly close, and consistent with a dispersal scale of around $1 \text{ km gen}^{-1/2}$. This seems to be at odds with direct observations of mouse movement to the order of several tens of metres (Pocock et al., 2005). However, direct estimates of dispersal will tend to miss longdistance dispersal events that can, along with frequent extinctions and recolonizations, greatly increase effective dispersal (Barton and Hewitt, 1985). Mouse dispersal events exceeding 1000 m have been reported by several authors (see Sage, 1981 for a review) and thus direct estimates of mouse dispersal are likely to be underestimates of the effective dispersal. As with the difference between census population size and effective population size, it is the effective dispersal scale that is the more relevant for understanding the evolutionary process, and it is this we estimate from cline widths. Typically, σ is estimated by contrasting the centre and tails of a consensus stepped multi-locus cline based on genotype data combined from several loci. Displacement of one or more loci relative to the others will result in an overestimate of cline width. Likewise, overestimated width can result from incorrect orientation of transect direction across the zone (Box 14.3). Conversely, if the central step is not just due to associations across loci, but is reinforced by a physical barrier, dispersal will be underestimated.

In terms of evolutionary process, the effective scale of dispersal is inextricably bound up with the effective population density, their product dictating Wright's (1943) neighbourhood size $\mathcal{N} = 4\pi\rho\sigma^2$, where ρ is the effective population density. This is the inverse of the probability that two individuals sampled from a locality had the same ancestor in the previous generation, assuming Gaussian dispersal, and is a factor that repeatedly appears in spatial genetic analysis (Barton and Wilson, 1995; Barton et al., 2002; Baird and Santos, 2010). Neighbourhood size should have a central place in our understanding of tension zones because when ${\cal N}$ is small drift is strong, and this can affect the width of clines (Polechová and Barton, 2011). When we say tension zones will move towards density troughs or barriers to gene flow, it might be simpler to say they move towards regions of low neighbourhood size (or high drift). It is startling therefore to realize that we have very little information about the effective density of house mouse populations. While Macholán et al. (2007) estimated census mouse density at ~1.69/km², sampling effort has rarely been recorded in mouse surveys, and so, regarding further direct estimates, all we can say is that there are no data suggesting reduction of mouse population densities at the centre of the HMHZ. The neighbourhood size-drift relationship can, however, be used to give an indirect estimate of house mouse effective density. Applying the Rousset approach for

isolation by distance (Rousset, 1997, 2000) to microsatellite data from localities in the centre of the Czech–Bavarian zone yields estimates of ρ between 0.69/km² (for F_{ST} data) and 0.89/km² (for Rousset's coefficient).

In summary, as human commensals, house mice have a clustered distribution in space, being concentrated predominantly in places providing shelter and food. While tension zone analyses can provide us with estimates of the effective scale of dispersal and effective density sufficiently reliable to justify calculation of point estimates for absolute measures regarding the zone, these point estimates should always be associated with a large degree of uncertainty. Further, the path of the tension zone across Europe and its width from place to place will be influenced by local details of mouse distribution and barriers to movement.

What are the influences of local geography?

Theory predicts that tension zones should follow straight lines through homogeneous environments (Box 14.1). Neither Europe nor the habitats preferred by house mice are homogeneous. The Jutland Peninsula is by its nature a narrow corridor oriented north-south. We might assume any transect across the hybrid zone should follow the same axis. However, as shown by Hunt and Selander (1973), the Danish zone centre line is rotated clockwise and the zone is wider in the western part of the Jutland Peninsula than on the eastern side. Thus, either the peninsula is not a narrow corridor from the point of view of mouse dispersal or there is another process affecting the local zone orientation. Either way, extrapolating the local orientation of the zone from the global geography of the Jutland Peninsula would have introduced an error from the real orientation of between 10° and 20°. It is not difficult to show that this error would result in biased estimates of cline position and shape (Box 14.3). Similar biases will result from guessing the contact zone path anywhere else in Europe, and thus a correct course of a zone centre in the 2D field space should be precisely inferred prior to any cline analyses.

The centre of the HMHZ in Jutland coincides with a river (the Omme; Ursin, 1952; S. J. E. Baird, unpublished results). In southern Germany most of the change in gene frequencies occurs across the floodplain of the Isar River (Sage *et al.*, 1986b). In northern Germany this is true of the Elbe (Zimmermann, 1949), and in Bulgaria the Kamchiya River (Vanlerberghe *et al.*, 1988a). These observations could be coincidental, or a product of the human mind's tendency to see patterns where there are none. We therefore grade possible implications, starting with the most cautious. First, mice are small and warm blooded, and so they may avoid crossing water, a good conductor of heat. Therefore, it seems a reasonable working hypothesis that rivers act as barriers to gene flow for mice, so if one was setting out to map a

new stretch of the centre of the HMHZ, one would likely profit by focusing one's efforts around rivers. Second, if rivers are barriers to mouse gene flow, then this will be true not just along the centre of the HMHZ, but wherever there are rivers. A fine-scale study of mouse genetic variation on the Jutland Peninsula suggested that the central Omme River is not the only river on the peninsula across which there are sharp changes in allele frequencies (S.J.E. Baird, unpublished results). The Czech–Bavarian study area is in a corridor between flanking hills. These flanking hills likely form a sufficient barrier to gene flow/mouse density trough to trap the tension zone at this location without the need for any special habitat features in the contact corridor itself. The region can, however, be divided into three strips crossing the contact zone, roughly reflecting different geographic features within it (forests, valleys with steep slopes, and a central water reservoir in the north; the Eger River separates the central and southern part; Macholán et al., 2007). When analysed separately, the width estimated from a compound cline, composed of 17 X-linked markers, was almost two-fold in the southern and central sections (16.4 km and 13.9 km, respectively) when compared with the northern (water reservoir) section (7.3 km), in spite of being separated by less than 10–20 km (M. Macholán, unpublished results).

In summary, the fact that a tension zone is maintained by endogenous selection does not mean the environment has no influence. It is expected that the HMHZ has moved to fall along density troughs (e.g. the hills of the Czech–Germany border with little human population) and barriers to mouse dispersal (e.g. rivers). The estimates of zone characteristics will not be independent of these local circumstances.

What is the influence of prezygotic barriers in the HMHZ?

It has long been suggested that when the postzygotic barrier between hybridizing taxa is incomplete, selection will favour any changes resulting in avoidance of disadvantageous matings, so that eventually reproductive isolation is reinforced by the emergence of prezygotic barriers, this leading to complete speciation (see Coyne and Orr, 2004 and references therein). The idea became well known due to its inclusion in the seminal works of the architects of the Modern Synthesis (Fisher, 1930; Dobzhansky, 1937, 1940), but it can be traced back to Wallace (1889) and hence it is sometimes called the 'Wallace effect' (though as shown by Coyne and Orr (2004) its current notion is slightly different from Wallace's original version).

It is perhaps for this reason that special attention has been paid to the evolution of assortative mating (e.g. Lande, 1981; Butlin, 1987, 1995; Turelli *et al.*, 2001; Servedio and Noor, 2003; Ritchie, 2007). In the context of recognition between *M. m. musculus* and *M. m. domesticus*, the ability to discriminate and choose males

or females of the same subspecies has been demonstrated using several types of olfactory stimuli (see Bímová *et al.*, 2009 and references therein). One of the specific mate recognition systems proposed to play an important role in behavioural premating isolation is based on urinary cues (Smadja and Ganem, 2002, 2005; Smadja *et al.*, 2004; Ganem *et al.*, 2008; Bímová *et al.*, 2009; Vošlajerová Bímová *et al.*, 2011). These studies have consistently shown consubspecific preferences in *M. m. musculus* while *M. m. domesticus* displayed no preference, in agreement with experiments using either bedding (Christophe and Baudoin, 1998; Munclinger and Frynta, 2000; Bímová *et al.*, 2009; Smadja and Ganem, 2002) or individuals of the other sex as signal sources (Smadja and Ganem, 2002). Moreover, Smadja and Ganem (2005) found stronger preferences inside the HMHZ than in allopatric populations (see Ganem, Chapter 15 for a review).

Another proposed specific recognition system is based on salivary signals coded for by genes of the androgen binding protein (*Abp*) family (see Laukaitis and Karn, Chapter 7 for a review). One of these genes, *Abpa27*, was found to possess a different allele fixed in each of the three *M. musculus* subspecies (*Abpa27^d* in *M. m. domesticus*, *Abpa27^b* in *M. m. musculus*, and *Abpa27^c* in *M. m. castaneus*; Karn and Dlouhy, 1991; Laukaitis *et al.*, 2008), which can be viewed as a minimum requirement for the gene to be involved in premating isolation. However, the transition of the *Abpa27* gene across the Danish and Czech–Bavarian hybrid zone does not differ from most allozyme loci assumed to be neutral or nearly neutral (Dod *et al.*, 2005; Vošlajerová Bímová *et al.*, 2011), bringing into question its importance for maintaining the HMHZ.

In order to test explicitly for potential reinforcement of postzygotic barriers by behavioural isolation in the mouse hybrid zone, a model of the transition of quantitative traits under reinforcement selection was developed (Vošlajerová Bímová *et al.*, 2011). If the two subspecies prefer cues originating from their own rather than the other taxon, then we can expect reinforcement to modify a simple sigmoid or stepped cline in preference: preference for the same taxon should be amplified close to the centre. This phenomenon is called reproductive character displacement (Butlin, 1995; Lemmon *et al.*, 2004). A reinforced cline then displays 'pulses' of higher consubspecific preferences at the zone edges, and has a shape similar to self-reinforcing solitary waves, or solitons, known from physics (Bullough and Caudrey, 1980; Lakshmanan, 1988; Barton and Hewitt, 1989; Fig. 14.5). For the Czech–Bavarian transect, reinforcement was strongly supported over all scenarios considered (i.e. symmetric *vs* asymmetric preferences; clines coincident *vs* shifted relative to the molecular consensus centre; same *vs* different levels of reinforcement) (Vošlajerová Bímová *et al.*, 2011).

In summary, it appears that there is some evidence for reinforcement selection acting on the HMHZ, mate preferences being modified in a direction consistent



Figure 14.5 An olfactory preference cline modelled as a simple sigmoid curve (solid line). If the two hybridizing taxa prefer cues originating from their own rather than the other taxon, preference is amplified close to the zone centre. A reinforced cline (dashed line) then shows 'pulses' similar to self-reinforcing solitary waves called 'topological solitons' (Barton and Hewitt, 1989).

with avoiding the production of unfit hybrids. Whether such reinforcement selection could ever lead to complete speciation is an entirely different (and unaddressed) question. The signs of reinforcement selection are yet another indirect indication that there is a postzygotic barrier to gene flow.

Use of the tension zone paradigm to infer genomic locations of barriers to gene flow in the HMHZ

The idea that if we score a sufficiently large set of molecular markers with a known position in the genome we can estimate width of their clines and hence detect genomic regions under strong selection (Payseur *et al.*, 2004; Carling and Brumfield, 2009; Payseur, 2010), is intuitively appealing. However, great rigour is necessary if we hope to distinguish signals in the data from stochastic noise. Recent studies (Dod *et al.*, 2005; Raufaste *et al.*, 2005; Macholán *et al.*, 2007, 2008, 2011; Dufková *et al.*, 2011) have shown the HMHZ is *a multi-locus tension zone with stepped clines and asymmetric tails*, but we have also seen that its shape is likely to be perturbed from place to place, with variation in mouse neighbourhood size. Estimates of the number of genes involved in the central barrier to gene flow, in the order of 50–100, are consistent with theoretical expectations that reproductive isolation is more likely to arise in many small steps than a few strongly selected mutations (Walsh, 1982; Barton and Charlesworth, 1984). Many genes of small effect means there will be a low signal-to-noise ratio for any particular gene, making the distinction between signal and stochastic effects a particularly important focus in HMHZ studies.

Sampling the hybrid zone and estimating cline parameters

Barton not only developed much of the model framework for understanding hybrid zones, he also provided the tools for researchers to estimate cline parameters using data collected in the field (ANALYSE: Barton and Baird, 1995). The explicit models of tension zones (Box 14.2) allow the likelihood of a dataset to be calculated for different values of cline parameters. The most likely parameters can be found using computational searches, and these point estimates of the parameters are made meaningful with the addition of a measure of belief in the estimate, the support interval (a point estimate with no measure of belief is no better than a guess). The efficacy of likelihood estimation has led all the geographic cline fitting software that followed Barton's work also to use likelihood inference (CLINEFIT: Porter et al., 1997; CFIT: Gay et al., 2008). Given this consistency of inference framework across hybrid zone studies it might seem unnecessary for us to discuss estimation of cline parameters, but increasingly this uniform inference framework seems also to have led to a thoughtlessness in inference about hybrid zones, which we will illustrate here with reference to the centre and width of a zone.

It is crucial that researchers distinguish between the centre and width of a hybrid zone and estimates of these parameters. To illustrate the importance of this distinction we use a reference scenario of a multi-locus tension zone with an asymmetric central barrier to gene flow such that in reality clines in many traits have coincident central steps with steep change on one side and more gradual change on the other side. What inference could we hope to make about this reference scenario? It will depend greatly on our spatial sampling of the zone (Box 14.3) and the cline model we use for analysis (Box 14.4). Let us first assume spatial sampling. If we sample localities in a line that is oblique to the path of the zone through the field area, we introduce an upward bias in our estimate of the zone width (Macholán et al., 2008). The stochastic nature of locality samples near the zone centre means such biases in width and centre estimates can be surprisingly large and erratic (Dufková *et al.*, 2011). Both of these issues can be resolved by sampling localities across a 2D area, estimating the course of the hybrid zone through that region, and then using all the locality samples in relation to their orthogonal distance from the zone centre (MacCallum, 1994; Bridle et al., 2001).

Taking the path of the zone centre into account minimizes the upward bias in width estimates, and because the set of localities near the centre of the zone is not limited to one on either side (the case for linear sampling), the erratic stochasticity of centre and width estimates is greatly reduced.

Turning to the second issue, model choice, suppose we choose to analyse field samples from the reference scenario using the two-parameter sigmoid cline model described in Box 14.2. What are the consequences of fitting this model to asymmetric stepped clines? Since the former is by definition symmetric, the resulting fitted cline is shifted to one side to try to match the asymmetry in the data: the more asymmetric the data, the more the cline centre *estimate* diverges from *the real position of the cline centre* (see Fig. 14.6). The consequences for inference are grave. Since the two-parameter analysis will give the impression that the zone has non-coincident cline centres, we might mis-infer the very nature of the zone because 'coincident cline centres' is one of the most fundamental expectations of a zone with a central barrier to gene flow.

Non-geographic alternatives

An alternative approach to spatial cline analysis, first proposed by Szymura and Barton (1986, 1991), and now called Barton's concordance (Macholán *et al.*, 2011), minimizes both of these issues of spatial sampling and model selection to some extent. When the geographic pattern of hybridization within a contact zone is complex it may be rational to disregard information on geography and fit clines against the hybrid index rather than against geographic distance. This approach can be especially useful in cases where conventional geographic cline models are not suitable for describing the spatial pattern, such as in mosaic hybrid zones or when the introgression pattern of some loci strongly deviates from that of other markers (Harrison and Rand, 1989; Arntzen and Wallis, 1991; Bridle et al., 2001; Bierne et al., 2003; Macholán et al., 2008, 2011). A similar approach of fitting clines against the hybrid index rather than against geographic distance was taken by Gompert and Buerkle (2009, 2011), who called the resulting plots 'genomic clines'. The methods are compared in Macholán et al. (2011), who note that while these non-spatial analyses may be convenient, they do not entirely escape the issues of sampling and model choice.

Studies on the X chromosome in the HMHZ

When choosing where to start a search for genetic factors causing barriers to gene flow, researchers can take as guidance two strong empirical patterns, also known as the 'two rules of speciation' (Coyne and Orr, 1989).

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Figure 14.6 Assuming a hybrid zone scenario in which every sampled locus has a stepped asymmetric cline with parameters {c, w, B_L , θ_L , B_R , θ_R } = {0, I, 0.I, I, 0.2, θ_R }, such that all clines have identical centre and width, but vary in their asymmetry as θ_I changes in the interval 0.25 < θ_R < 0.74. (a) Solid curves show the cline shapes at the extremes of this interval. The dashed lines are the corresponding MLE cline estimates from data on 100 large locality samples spaced evenly across the zone and analysed using a two-parameter {c, w} sigmoid model. (b) The centre and width estimates from this inappropriate model exceed the true centre location and width. The errors are expressed as percentages of the true value.

The first is Haldane's rule, stating that when hybrids of one sex suffer from reduced viability or fertility, it is usually the heterogametic sex (Haldane, 1922; Orr, 1997). The second is that genes contributing to reproductive isolation often map to the X chromosome, the phenomenon known as the large X-effect (Charlesworth *et al.*, 1987; Coyne and Orr, 1989; Coyne, 1992), recently dubbed 'Coyne's rule' (Turelli and Moyle, 2007). Indeed, it has been shown that sex chromosomes harbour more genes causing disruption of fertility and/or viability in hybrids than autosomes and hence will be under stronger selection (see Coyne

and Orr, 2004 and references therein; for evidence in the mouse, see Oka *et al.*, 2004; Storchová *et al.*, 2004; Harr, 2006; Good *et al.*, 2008a).

To date, three surveys of X chromosome introgression heterogeneity across the European HMHZ have been carried out. Working from a 1D transect of samples that straddle this zone in Bavaria, to the south of the Czech-Bavarian portion (Fig. 14.2), Payseur et al. (2004) fitted geographic stepped clines to data for 13 loci, identifying a central-X region of reduced introgression, and also proposing the X inactivation locus Xist as marking an adaptive introgression into musculus territory. Teeter et al. (2010), working with the same Bavarian dataset, and an additional 1D transect sampling across the zone in Saxony (to the north of the Czech–Bavarian zone, Fig. 14.2), found the resulting likelihood surfaces for the six-parameter geographic cline model impracticably complex, so instead chose to fit sigmoid clines to 41 SNPs (but only three X markers, a subset of Payseur *et al.* (2004): *Emd*, *Polar*, and *Xist*) drawn from both datasets. However, in recognition of the difficulty introduced by geographic complexity, the authors also used the non-geographic genome clines approach of Gompert and Buerkle (2009). They concluded that 'the differences between transects raise the possibility that there may not be a single genetic architecture of isolation between these species' (Teeter et al., 2010: 10), though two out of the three X markers did not show any difference between transects, but noted that 'it is possible that stochastic variation, differences in sampling between transects, or a combination, could have contributed to these differences' (Teeter et al., 2010: 10).

The third study (Macholán et al., 2011) was of a 24-locus superset of the Payseur et al. (2004) study, on a sample of more than 2870 mice from a geographically intensively sampled 145 × 50 km 2D (rectangular) section of the Czech-Bavarian portion of the HMHZ. In order to distinguish geographic stochastic effects from deterministic introgression patterns they compared both non-geographic clines analysis approaches (Barton's concordance and genomic clines) to analysis using a spatially explicit Bayesian model-based clustering algorithm (GENELAND 3.1.4; Guillot et al., 2005). Analysis of the Czech–Bavarian zone (lying between the two focal transects of the Teeter study) found the same central-X-reduced introgression region as Payseur et al. (2004) found for one of their transects, and concluded that there is some evidence of common architecture of reproductive isolation over the transect studied, and no reliable evidence to the contrary. We suggest that once it is taken into account that 1D sampling across a 2D zone (Box 14.3) and that fitting a sigmoid model to an asymmetric hybrid zone (Box 14.4) can introduce large sources of stochastic error, the differences between transect estimates in the Teeter *et al.* (2010) study does not justify the suggestion of multiple genetic architectures maintaining the HMHZ.

Two other interesting findings arose from the Macholán et al. (2011) X chromosome study. In the GENELAND analysis, several loci showed the geographic pattern known as 'footprints of a moving hybrid zone' (Arntzen and Wallis, 1991), indicating a history of movement of the zone from east to west. More recently, a study of linkage disequilibrium across 1401 loci came to the same conclusion regarding zone movement in Bavaria (Wang et al., 2011; see Tucker et al., Chapter 20). A tendency for M. m. musculus to gain territory from M. m. domesticus could explain a number of disparate characteristics of the HMHZ. (1) The geographic asymmetry of the zone across multiple transects the long tails of introgression on the *musculus* side being the result of many small domesticus 'footprints' left behind the zone front. (2) The Jutland musculus 'colony', which persists despite being essentially a closed system faced by hybridization with a comparatively infinite *domesticus* range. (3) The eight-fold greater incidence of tapeworms in *domesticus* – parasites capable of disrupting reproduction in rodents (see Goüy de Bellocq et al., Chapter 18). The second interesting finding from Macholán et al. (2011) is evidence of a proximal-X, male-biased westward introgression, despite the central X barrier to gene flow between the taxa. This proximal X introgression was in fact predicted by Macholán et al. (2008) in their study of the Y chromosome invasion across this section of the HMHZ (see below), and an accompanying mtDNA introgression.

Future perspectives

Much as theoretical expectations and empirical evidence for the large X-effect made the X chromosome the natural candidate for the studies summarized above, we should let our current understanding of speciation direct future efforts as we expand the search for genes involved in reproductive barriers across the rest of the genome.

A model independently proposed by Bateson (1909) and later by Dobzhansky (1936) and Muller (1940, 1942) is now widely accepted as a framework for understanding the genetic basis of postzygotic isolation. The Dobzhansky– Muller (DM) model solves Darwin's paradox that postzygotic incompatibilities arising within a population should be counter-selected, making their fixation unlikely. According to the DM model this problem can be circumvented if hybrid sterility is brought about through interaction of loci accumulating different mutations in allopatry that are only revealed to be incompatible at secondary contact. Thus, speciation can occur even if the allopatric populations have not passed through an adaptive valley. (For the sake of completeness it should be noted that the model can also be derived for a single locus.)

Although the DM model has become a cornerstone of the genetics of speciation (Orr, 1996; Coyne and Orr, 2004), it does not address the following questions: (1) What kind of genes might produce such epistatic interactions between alleles? (2) Do these genes drift to fixation in allopatry, or is their fixation driven by natural selection? (3) To what degree is their evolution within the diverging subpopulations influenced by intragenomic processes such as genetic conflict? For example, there is growing empirical evidence that genes implicated in postzygotic isolation are also associated with meiotic drive, suggesting their fixation in allopatry could have been through selection at the level of the gene rather than through Darwinian adaptation of individuals to the external environment or by random drift (Tao et al., 2003; Orr and Irving, 2005; Orr et al., 2007; Phadnis and Orr, 2009; Presgraves, 2010). Twenty years ago genetic conflict was suggested as an explanation for Haldane's rule of speciation (Frank, 1991; Hurst and Pomiankowski, 1991), but the idea fell into disfavour, with models invoking faster substitution on the sex chromosomes being preferred (Charlesworth et al., 1993). The recent evidence associating genetic conflict with speciation genes (Presgraves, 2010) therefore adds new interest to an old debate.

Here, in the context of the HMHZ hybrid zone, we are prompted to ask: what is the expected outcome when a genetic conflict system is split into independent isolates, and subsequently comes into secondary contact? In natural hybrid zones we may observe outcomes of many generations of recombination, numbers entirely impractical in the laboratory. Such natural experiments can therefore give high-resolution estimates of the number and locations of genes or genomic regions causing reproductive isolation ('speciation' genes), but also allow us to spot the converse pattern: genes that appear to preferentially cross and break down the taxon boundary ('anti-speciation' genes), *even when the two types of gene are neighbours on the same chromosome* – the central X barrier to introgression and the proximal X invasion, respectively (Macholán *et al.*, 2011).

Introgression of the Y chromosome

In accordance with the idea that introgression of sex chromosomes in a hybrid zone should be severely impeded, virtually no introgression of the mouse Y chromosome has been found in Denmark (Vanlerberghe *et al.*, 1986; Dod *et al.*, 2005), Bulgaria (Vanlerberghe *et al.*, 1988a), or northern Germany (Prager *et al.*, 1997). This picture, seemingly consistent along 2500 km of the zone of secondary contact, began to crumble during a survey of the distribution of several autosomal and sex-linked markers across the Czech and Slovak Republics, which revealed an unexpectedly gradual introgression of the Y chromosome, substantially higher and shifted to the *domesticus* territory compared to the diagnostic autosomal and X-linked loci analysed (Munclinger *et al.*, 2002). This pattern was later corroborated and quantified using a larger dataset from the Czech–Bavarian transect (Macholán *et al.*, 2008) and is possibly also the case in Saxony (K. C. Teeter and P. K. Tucker, personal communication).

Macholán et al. (2008) showed that the most likely direction of change of the Y chromosome is rotated about 45° clockwise relative to other loci. When estimated along this axis, the width of the Y transition was not significantly different from an X chromosome locus (Btk), while using the consensus direction based on seven autosomal and one X-linked loci resulted in considerably broader cline and significantly worse fit. Inspection of the spatial introgression pattern showed the musculus Y chromosome has spread across the zone up to 22 km into the *domesticus* range, covering – at minimum – a triangular area approximately 330 km². This introgression is accompanied by differences in the census sex ratio: while this ratio is significantly female-biased in the *musculus* territory (0.45, p = 0.0005) and in *domesticus* localities without the introgressed musculus Y (0.44, p = 0.0065), in the domesticus area with the introgressed *musculus* Y it is not different from parity (0.51, p = 0.2037) and significantly different from the former two areas (Macholán et al., 2008). Reconciling the Y chromosome introgression and sex ratio distribution led to a hypothesis that a genetic conflict between the Y and X (and possibly some autosomal) elements is the underlying cause of both the invasion and sex ratio distortion patterns. According to this hypothesis, the musculus Y is successful on the naïve domesticus background. As a consequence, the former spreads across the zone at the expense of the latter. The recent results of Jones et al. (2010), who found the musculus Y in Norway far behind the zone in domesticus territory, seem consistent with this hypothesis.

What does the mouse hybrid zone tell us about speciation?

The first evidence arising from the HMHZ of genes causing barriers to gene flow came from the X chromosome. But this was the first place we looked. With the accelerating accumulation of large genomic datasets, such as SNP maps now available for the mouse (Lindblad-Toh *et al.*, 2000; Wade *et al.*, 2002; Abe *et al.*, 2004; Pletcher *et al.*, 2004; Shifman *et al.*, 2006; Frazer *et al.*, 2007; Yang *et al.*, 2009), applying similar methods as for the X chromosome we may expect to find more and more such factors. While this work will gradually build up a detailed picture of which genes are involved in the species barrier between two subspecies of house mouse, perhaps the more exciting results concern the speciation process in general. If hybridizing genomes involve complex mixtures of DM incompatibility genes intermingled with universally advantaged and/or

invasive conflict elements, as suggested by the contrasting patterns of central and proximal X chromosome variation (Macholán *et al.*, 2011) in association with the Y chromosome invasion (Macholán *et al.*, 2008), then the latter may counter the action of the former. That is: conflict genes may act as anti-speciation genes. While laboratory-based speciation research has focused on DM incompatibilities and the circumstances that favour them, perhaps the most important thing hybrid zone speciation research has shown us is that to understand speciation it is also necessary to consider what might *counter* the action of DM incompatibilities, and what circumstances might *disfavour* their accumulation (Baird *et al.*, 2012; Goüy de Bellocq *et al.*, Chapter 18).

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Appendix

Linkage disequilibrium can be computed as the product of the ratio between the variance of the distance parents to offspring (σ^2) and recombination rate (r) and the gradients at loci i and j ($\partial p_i / \partial x_i$ and $\partial p_j / \partial x_j$, respectively):

$$D_{ij} = \frac{\sigma^2}{r} \frac{\partial p_i}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial p_j}{\partial x_j},$$
(14.A1)

since at the centre these gradients are the inverse of the cline widths, $D_{ij} = \sigma^2 / (rw_i w_j)$. Linkage disequilibria can also be estimated as the covariance between quantitative traits:

$$\operatorname{cov}(z_i, z_j) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2r} \frac{\Delta z_i}{w_i} \frac{\Delta z_j}{w_i}, \qquad (14.A2)$$

where Δz_i and Δz_j are differences between populations on either side of the zone for loci *i* and *j*, respectively. These equations are based on the assumption that genetic variance is additive. On the other hand, different loci are not required to coincide in strength and direction and alleles need not be fixed on either side. To overcome a potential problem of varying allele frequencies across loci, which can also cause linkage disequilibria to vary, the standardized measure, $R_{ij} = D_{ij}\sqrt{p_i q_i p_j q_j}$, should be used instead of D_{ij} .

The stepped cline model consists of three functions: the central segment is described by a Tanh ('sigmoid') function, whereas the tails of the cline are modelled with exponential functions. The left tail can be expressed as (Raufaste *et al.*, 2005; Macholán *et al.*, 2007):

$$p(x_i) = \frac{w}{2\sqrt{\theta_L}} \frac{\Delta u}{B_L} \exp\left[\frac{2(x_i - c)}{w}\sqrt{\theta_L}\right],$$
(14.A3)

and similarly for the right tail:

$$p(x_i) = 1 - \frac{w}{2\sqrt{\theta_R}} \frac{\Delta u}{B_R} \exp\left[\frac{x - 2(x_i - c)}{w}\sqrt{\theta_R}\right],$$
(14.A4)

where

$$\Delta u = \frac{(2/w)B_L\sqrt{\theta_L}B_R\sqrt{\theta_R}}{B_L\sqrt{\theta_L} + B_R\sqrt{\theta_R} + (2/w)B_L\sqrt{\theta_L}B_R\sqrt{\theta_R}},$$
(14.A5)

which simplifies to $\Delta u = B\sqrt{\theta}/(w + B\sqrt{\theta})$ when the cline is symmetrical.

If we assume that fitness is not frequency-dependent and linkage disequilibria are weak $(R_{ij} \ll I)$ the rate of dispersal can be estimated as

$$\sigma = w \sqrt{\frac{R_{ij}\bar{r}}{1+\bar{r}}},\tag{14.A6}$$

where \bar{r} is the harmonic mean recombination rate among loci (Barton and Gale, 1993; see Szymura and Barton, 1991; Porter et al., 1997; Macholán et al., 2007 for the computation of \bar{r}). Assuming selection acting against heterozygotes, the effective selection pressure maintaining the cline is given as $s^* = 8(\sigma/\omega)^2$ (Szymura and Barton, 1986, 1991). If we further assume that the number of selected loci is large and that linkage disequilibrium is generated predominantly by dispersal, then the barrier B can be approximated as $B = \sigma \sqrt{2ns/\bar{r}}$ (Barton and Shpak, 2000) and $ns/\bar{r} = 2\ln(B/w)$ (Barton and Bengtsson, 1986; Raufaste, 2001), where s is selection at loci responsible for reproductive barrier and *n* is the number of these loci. From these equations we can derive formulae for s and n (Raufaste et al., 2005; Macholán et al., 2007), with the total selection pressure against hybrids S = ns. Finally, assuming fitnesses are not density-dependent, we may use estimates of cline width, the strength of the barrier, and the harmonic mean recombination rate to derive mean fitness of a hybrid population relative to parental populations (Barton and Bengtsson, 1986): $\overline{W}_H/\overline{W}_P = (w/B)^r$; in the zone centre, where we expect p = q = 0.5, $\overline{W}_H/\overline{W}_P$ can be approximated as $\approx \exp(-S/2)$ (Szymura and Barton, 1991; Macholán et al., 2007).

To cope with potential non-independence of samples due to relatedness and deviations from the Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium, we can calculate the effective number of alleles first introduced by Phillips *et al.* (2004) and described in full by Macholán *et al.* (2008). If N is the number of diploid individuals sampled at a site, F_{IS} is the measure of deficit/excess of heterozygosity in an individual relative to a 371

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subpopulation (Wright, 1978), and $F_{\rm ST}$ is the measure of relatedness in each subpopulation, then the effective number of alleles is

$$N_e = \frac{2N}{2NF_{ST} + (1 - F_{ST})(1 + |F_{IS}|)}.$$
 (14.A7)

If all sampled individuals are completely related, N_e will be 1, whereas if the individuals are completely unrelated N_e will range from N (when $F_{IS} = 1$) to 2N (when $F_{IS} = 0$). Thus, for high F_{ST} we are avoiding giving undue weight to large samples. For haploid markers $F_{IS} = 0$ and so Eq. (14.A7) simplifies to:

$$N_e = \frac{N}{2NF_{ST} + 1 - F_{ST}}.$$
 (14.A8)

A slightly more complex formula must be used for the X chromosome, which is diploid in females and haploid in males. If we denote the number of sampled males and females as N_m and N_f , respectively, and N_{ISf} is the measure of deficit/excess of heterozygotes in females, then the effective number of alleles is:

$$N_e = \frac{2N_f + N_m (1 + |F_{ISf}|)}{2N_f F_{ST} + [1 - F_{ST} (1 - N_m)] (1 + |F_{ISf}|)}.$$
 (14.A9)

As pointed out by Macholán *et al.* (2008), in some cases estimation of F_{IS} may lead to confusing results. For example, if one of the genotype classes equals 0 and the second one is close to 0, then the maximum likelihood estimate of F_{IS} will be 1 (e.g. when pp = 50, pq = 0, qq = 1) or -1 (e.g. when pp = 0, pq = 1, qq = 50) irrespective of the 'true' value. In these cases some arbitrary decisions must be taken – for instance, if one of the counts is 0 and the second lowest count is less than some critical value (say, 3), then we set F_{IS} to 0 (Macholán *et al.*, 2008).