Development of a Genetic Linkage Map for Cisco (Coregonus artedi) to Facilitate Integrated Studies of Adaptive Diversity



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Introduction

Throughout their circumpolar range, species within the coregonine complex are ecologically and socioeconomically important. In the Laurentian Great Lakes, overfishing has left the abundance and diversity of ciscoes well below historic levels. Accurate identification of forms (Fig. 1) is critical for the development of effective restoration and management plans. Currently, form classifications are based on morphometric variation. However, the relative influence of phenotypic plasticity and heritable genetic differences in determining these forms is not well understood.

Objectives

- 1) Construct dense sex specific linkage maps for *C. artedi* (Fig. 2) from haploid and diploid individuals
- 2) Conduct QTL analysis for phenotypic traits from the sampled population
- 3) Align the *C. artedi* linkage map to closely related previously studied species



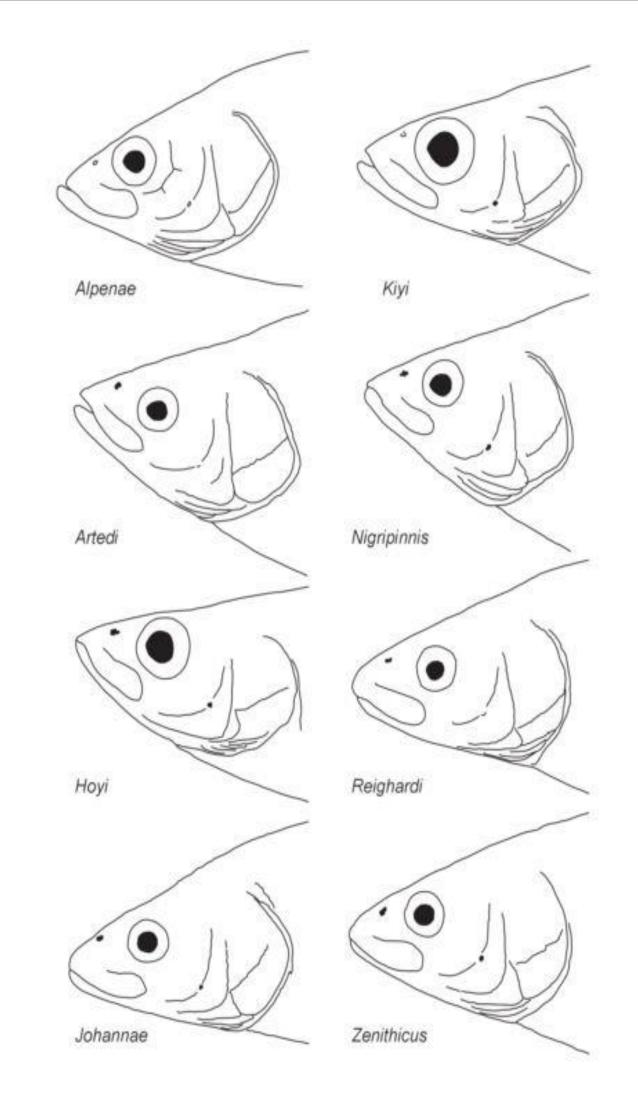


Fig. 1 Cisco forms present in the Great Lakes (Eshenroder et al. 2016).

Results

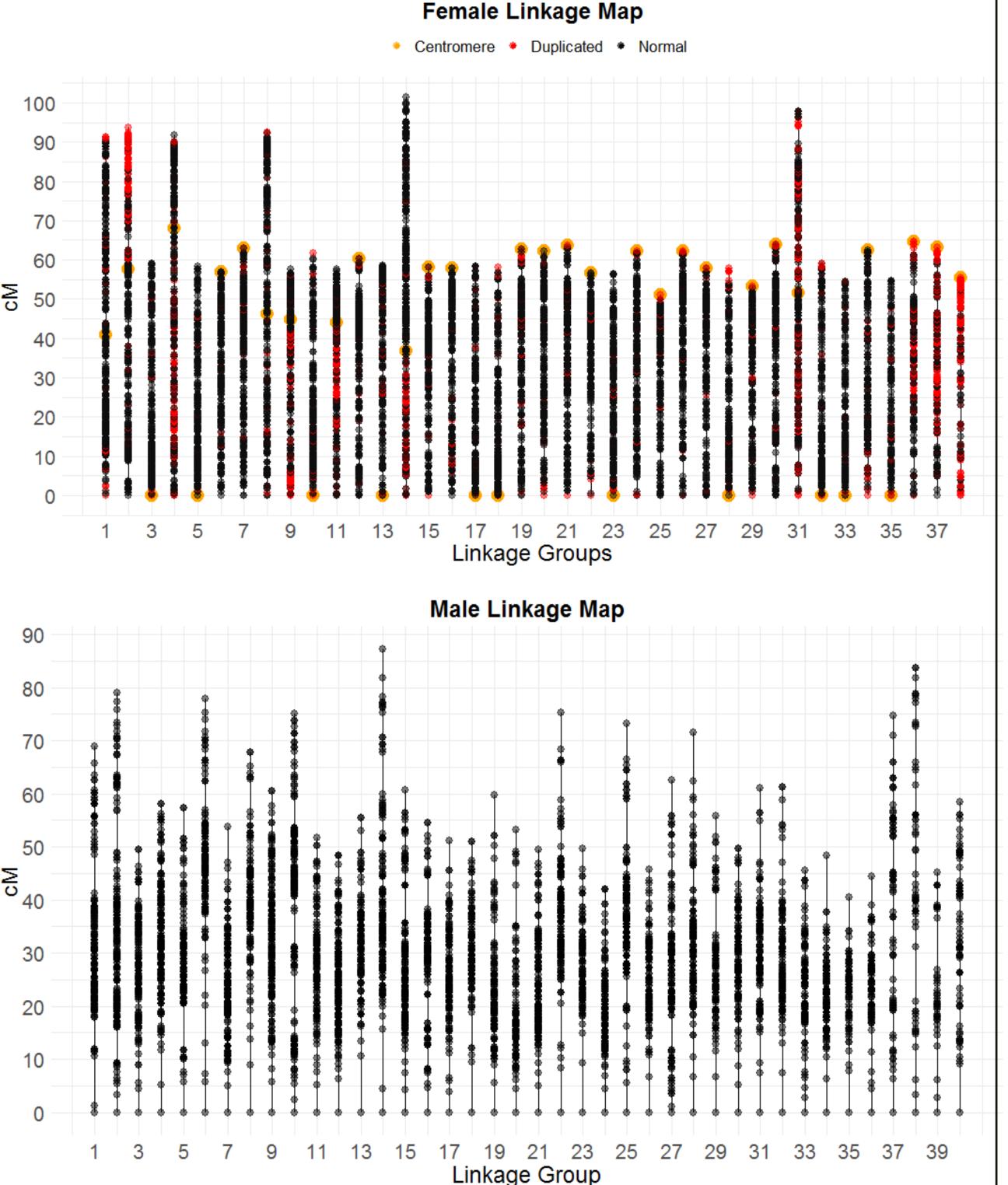


Fig. 4 Female (top) and male linkage maps (bottom) for cisco containing 20458 and 6340 loci (Table 1), respectively. Each dot represents a locus, and darker shading indicate higher density. Approximate centromere locations are placed on all LGs in the female map.

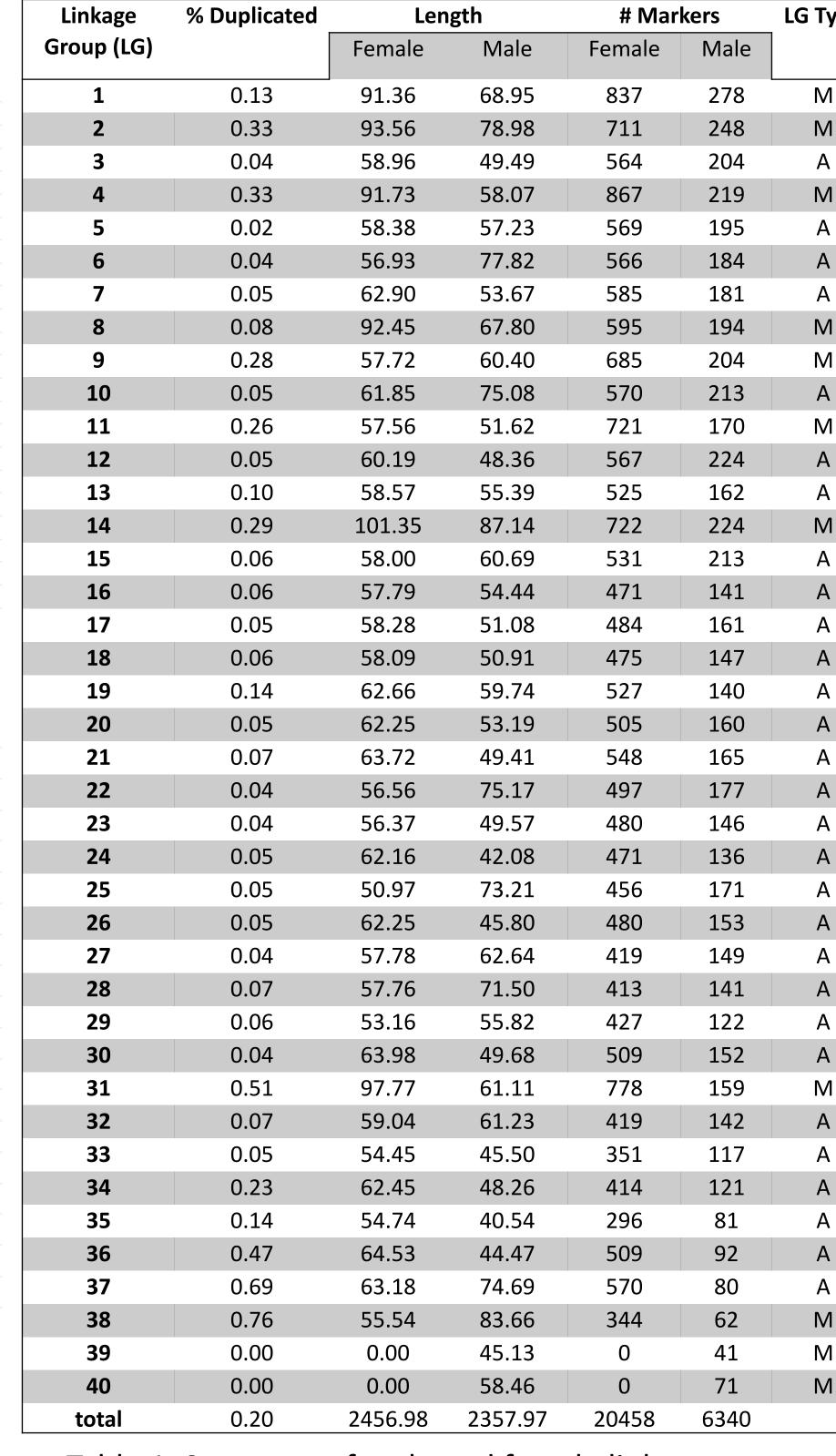


Table 1. Summary of male and female linkage maps for cisco. Linkage group type denotes acrocentric (A) and metacentric (M) Linkage groups.

Field Methods

- Spawning cisco will be collected from northern Lake Huron
- Fin clips from adults (Fig. 2) will be taken for genetic analysis
- UV irradiation of milt destroys DNA in sperm (Fig. 3)
- Irradiated sperm will be used to fertilize eggs to produce haploids
- Larvae will be collected at hatch for genetic analysis

Lab Methods

- DNA will be extracted from adults and embryos
- Genotyping will be performed by sequencing restriction site associated DNA (RADseq)
- Linkage map (Fig. 4) construction will be performed based on identified recombination events (Fig. 5)

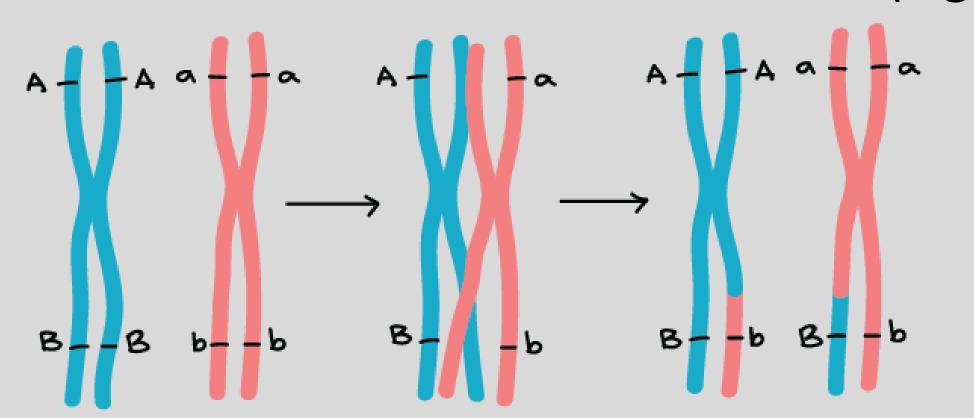


Fig. 5 Chromosomal crossing over during meiosis

Conclusion

- The C. atredi linkage map will function as a genetic resource to facilitate research with the aim of determining the degree of heritable genetic differences among cisco forms
- Linkage map construction assists in understanding the genetic basis of adaptation and can provide important insights into how chromosomes interact in polyploid organisms (Fig. 6)

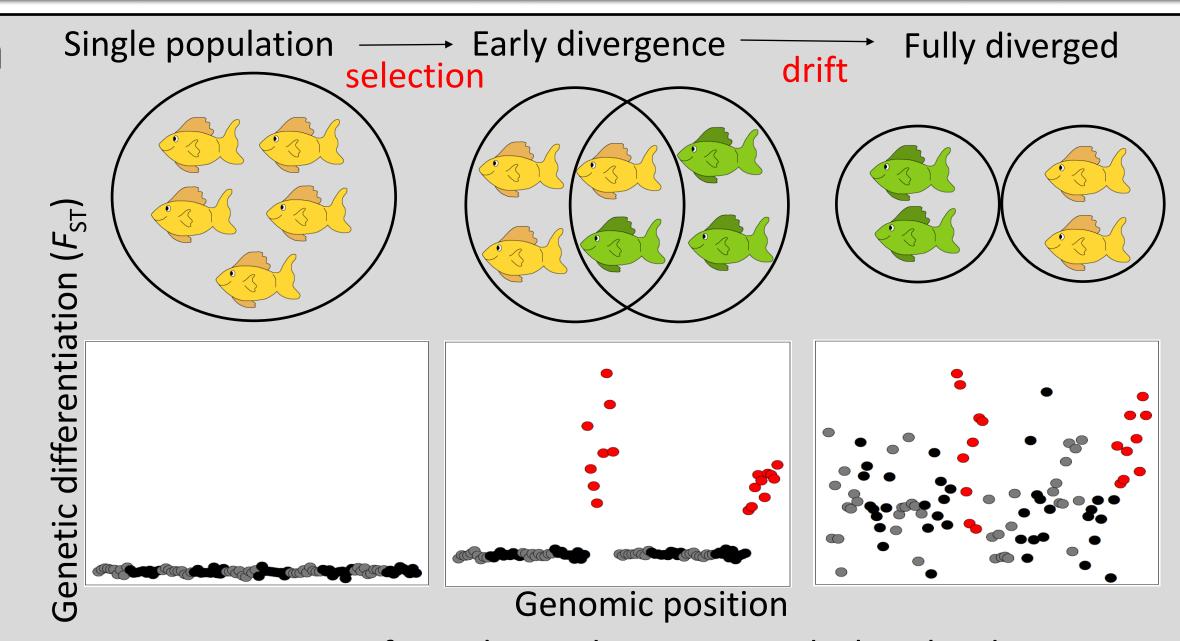


Fig. 6 A scenario of population divergence and what this divergence looks like across the genome.

Acknowledgments

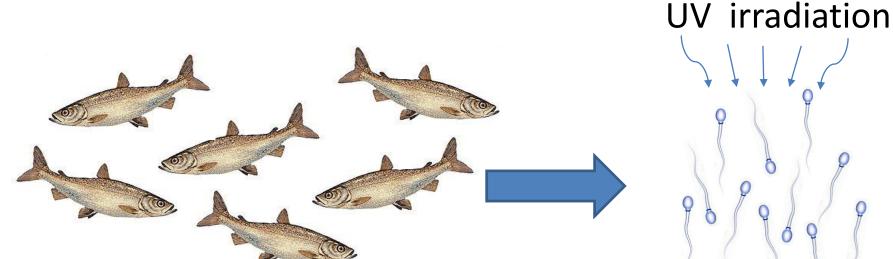
We would like to thank USFWS crew for assistance in field sampling, USGS Great Lakes Science Center Aquatic Research Wet Lab for egg rearing, and the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point Molecular Conservation Genetics Lab for assistance in lab work.

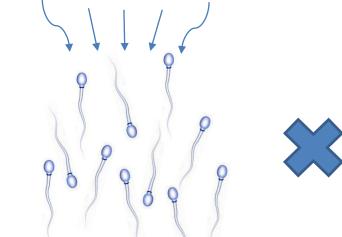
References

Eshenroder RL, Vecsei, P., Gorman, O.T., Yule, D.L., Pratt, T.C., Mandrak, N.E., Bunnell, D.B., and Muir, A.M. (2016) Ciscoes of the Laurentian Great Lakes and Lake Nipigon [online].

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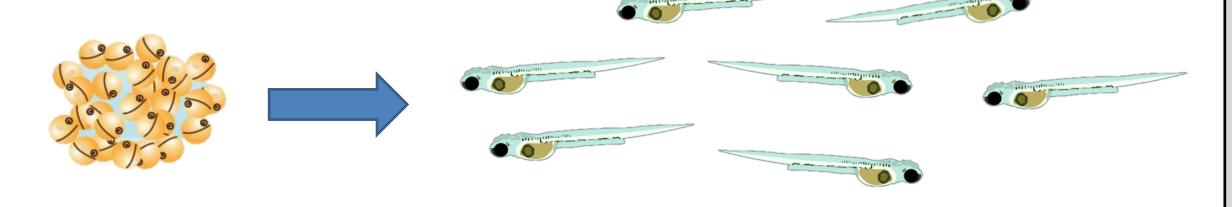


Fig. 3 Modified spawning method to create haploid individuals.