

# Testing dispersal limits in the sea: range-wide phylogeography of the pronghorn spiny lobster *Panulirus penicillatus*

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#### ABSTRACT

**Aim** To resolve phylogeographical partitions in the pronghorn spiny lobster, *Panulirus penicillatus*, which has a nine-month pelagic larval phase and the broadest distribution among spiny lobsters. With samples from the Red Sea to the East Pacific, we test genetic partitions across two-thirds of the planet, in a species with one of the longest pelagic phases.

Location Red Sea, Indian and Pacific Oceans.

**Methods** A fragment of the mtDNA cytochrome c oxidase subunit I gene (COI) was resolved in 774 individuals from 28 locations, plus 55 sequences (10 locations) from public databases. Portions of COI, 12S and 16S mtDNA regions were resolved for phylogenetic analyses on a subset of individuals. Phylogenetic and population-level analyses were used to detect evolutionary partitions and dispersal barriers.

**Results** Significant population structuring was detected (overall  $\Phi_{ST} = 0.310$ , P < 0.001). Samples from the Red Sea and East Pacific Provinces (western and eastern range edges) comprise distinct phylogenetic lineages, divergent at d = 1.1% and 1.8%, respectively, from the Indo-Pacific. Coalescent analyses indicate a Pleistocene isolation for the Red Sea (0.71 Ma) and East Pacific (1.52 Ma). Excluding the Red Sea and East Pacific, structure across the rest of the range was comparatively low, but significant ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.018$ , P < 0.001).

**Main conclusions** The Red Sea and East Pacific populations are phylogenetically distinct from populations elsewhere in the range. The East Pacific population diverged earliest, and may represent a distinct subspecies. Phylogeographical divisions align with the major Indo-Pacific biogeographical barriers, and with subsets of provincial designations from two frameworks: one based on levels of endemism and one on species composition. Tropical and temperate regions in the Pacific are significantly differentiated, potentially indicating an ecological partition. Isolation at eastern and western peripheral provinces may serve as a starting point for evolutionary diversification within this group.

#### Keywords

East Pacific, Indo-West Pacific, larval dispersal, marine biogeography, mtDNA, Palinuridae, Red Sea

## INTRODUCTION

Among reef-associated invertebrates, the species with the greatest dispersal potential are the spiny lobsters (family Palinuridae). Within the Palinuridae, there are 16 *Panulirus* spp. known in the Indo-Pacific Basin; seven have broad distribu-

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tions that extend across multiple biogeographical provinces, and four occur from the Red Sea to the Central Pacific. Of these, the pronghorn lobster, *Panulirus penicillatus* (Olivier, 1791) is the most broadly distributed (George & Main, 1967), occurring across all three major biogeographical barriers in the tropical Indo-Pacific: the break between the Red

http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/jbi doi:10.1111/jbi.12689 Sea and the Indian Ocean (Klausewitz, 1989); the Indo-Pacific Barrier between the Pacific and Indian Oceans (Briggs, 1974); and the East Pacific Barrier (EPB) that comprises the oceanic gap between the Central and East Pacific (Ekman, 1953).

The vast distribution of *P. penicillatus* is thought to be sustained by a phyllosoma larval stage that has been collected in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, 3500–4000 km from the nearest reef habitat (Johnson, 1974). Based on field collections, Johnson (1968) estimated the pelagic larval duration (PLD) of *P. penicillatus* to be > 7–8 months; estimates based on cultured larvae are 8.3–9.4 months (Matsuda *et al.*, 2006). These PLDs are much greater than the estimated 30–40 days required to cross most patches of open water in the Indo-Pacific (Mora *et al.*, 2012), and even surpass the longest estimates (100–155 days) of the time required to cross the EPB (Wyrtki *et al.*, 1981). Thus, the phyllosoma larval stage may provide a mechanism to maintain gene flow across Darwin's 'impassable' marine dispersal barrier for shallow water species (Darwin, 1872), and in turn, would designate *P. penicillatus* a truly 'trans-Pacific' species (Briggs, 1961).

In contrast to expectations based on PLD, recent evidence indicates genetic differentiation between East and West Pacific populations of *P. penicillatus* (Chow *et al.*, 2011), and between Indian Ocean and Red Sea populations (Abdullah *et al.*, 2014). There is also morphological variation across the species range. In the East Pacific, *P. penicillatus* is known as the 'red lobster' (Holthuis & Loesch, 1967; Holthuis, 1991), in contrast to the brownish-yellowish-green to blue-black coloration observed elsewhere (Holthuis, 1991; George, 2005; see Appendix S1 in Supporting Information). The longitudinal stripes on the legs also vary in colour and thickness across the species range (see Appendix S1), as do the posterolateral sternal spines of phyllosoma (McWilliam, 1995), providing additional evidence for cryptic lineages.

Here, we analyse mtDNA sequence data from the Red Sea to the East Pacific to assess genetic partitions across major biogeographical barriers and provincial boundaries for P. penicillatus (Fig. 1). Biogeographical provinces can be defined by various criteria, including high levels of endemism (> 10%, Briggs, 1974) or species presence/absence data (Kulbicki et al., 2013). Once defined, provinces provide a framework to test hypotheses concerning the origin, distribution and evolution of species. In the Indo-Pacific region, P. peni*cillatus* populations span eight of the Briggs & Bowen (2012) tropical biogeographical provinces, which are delineated by high levels of endemism in both invertebrates and fishes (hereafter called Briggs & Bowen Provinces; Fig. 1a). The P. penicillatus distribution also crosses eight of the Kulbicki et al. (2013) tropical biogeographical provinces, which are based on dissimilarity among assemblages of reef-associated species (hereafter called Kulbicki Provinces; Fig. 1b). While many species have ranges that overlap adjacent provinces, few species inhabit all of these tropical Indo-Pacific provinces. To our knowledge, this is the first study to evaluate all three major biogeographical divisions within the tropical Indo-Pacific, providing the broadest marine phylogeographical coverage to date (Keyse et al., 2013).

## Sample collection

We collected 774 *Panulirus penicillatus* from 28 sites (Fig. 1, Table 1). Lobsters were collected by hand or obtained from fishers. Tissue samples were preserved in salt-saturated 20% DMSO buffer or 95% ethanol, and stored at room temperature. We obtained an additional 55 COI sequences from 10 locations from GenBank for phylogeographical analyses (see Appendix S2).

## DNA extraction, PCR and sequencing

Genomic DNA was isolated using a HotSHOT method (Truett et al., 2000) or a DNeasy Animal Tissue kit (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA, USA) following manufacturer instructions. We resolved a 460 bp fragment of COI using speciesspecific primers (Iacchei et al., 2014; see Appendix S2) for all individuals. We also resolved 522 bp of the 12S and 440 bp of the 16S mtDNA region for a subset of individuals for phylogenetic analyses (see Appendix S2). Polymerase chain reactions (PCRs), sequencing and quality control were performed per Iacchei et al. (2014), but with a 50 °C PCR annealing temperature for 12S and 16S. Sequences were edited, aligned and trimmed using GENEIOUS Pro R7 (Biomatters Ltd., Auckland, New Zealand). Unique haplotypes were identified using the Haplotype Collapser and Converter in FABox 1.35 (http://users-birc.au.dk/biopv/php/ fabox/), and deposited in GenBank (accession numbers: KT954552 - KT954894).

## **Phylogenetic analyses**

An intra-specific phylogeny was produced for a geographically stratified random subsample of the lobsters (N = 24) from Indo-Pacific locations, and all individuals collected from the East Pacific and Red Sea (see Table S4 in Appendix S2). Sequences were aligned and concatenated in GENEIOUS Pro R7. We used PARTITIONFINDER 1.1.1 (Lanfear *et al.*, 2012) to determine the most appropriate model of evolution for each marker (COI, 12S, 16S) in our data set for each analysis (see Appendix S2).

To estimate the time to most recent common ancestor (TMRCA), we used the Bayesian MCMC approach implemented in BEAST 1.7.5 (Drummond & Rambaut, 2007). *Panulirus echinatus* is the most closely related species to *P. penicillatus* (Ptacek *et al.*, 2001), and resides in N.E. Brazil and the Central Atlantic Islands (Holthuis, 1991). Tourinho *et al.* (2012) estimated a divergence of 4.7 Myr based on COI between these two taxa that reside on either side of the Isthmus of Panama. Based on our phylogenetic data set, we found an average COI sequence divergence of 13.1% between these species (range = 12.0–13.9%, estimated using GENEIOUS). Assuming a separation time of 4.7 Myr, we calculated a within lineage divergence rate of 1.39% per Myr (uncorrected). BEAST





**Figure 1** Collection locations and sample sizes for *Panulirus penicillatus* across the Indo-Pacific. Colours indicate the biogeographical provinces within which sample sites have been grouped following: (a) Briggs & Bowen (2012), and (b) Kulbicki *et al.* (2013). The three predominant biogeographical barriers in the Indo-Pacific are identified by Roman numerals: I) Red Sea/Indian Ocean Barrier; II) Indo-West Pacific (IWP) Barrier; III) East Pacific Barrier (EPB). Several islands were sampled in some of the island groups: Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI: Rota, Saipan, Sarigan Island, Pagan Island), New Caledonia (Chesterfield Islands, New Caledonia), Samoa (Samoa, American Samoa), Line Islands (Palmyra Atoll, Kiritimati), Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Pearl and Hermes Reef, Lisianski Island, Maro Reef, French Frigate Shoals, Mokumanamana), and Main Hawaiian Islands (Kaua'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, Maui, Hawai'i). These sample sites were combined into the island groups after determining that there was no significant genetic structure within that group. In parentheses is the total number of individuals sampled for that group. Sample sizes and diversity statistics for each of the islands individually are reported in Table 1. Italicized sample numbers identify sites where some or all of the sequences were obtained from publicly available databases. Locations marked with an asterisk were not included in population level analyses due to low sample size (N < 5). Photo credit: Kydd Pollock.

analyses using 4.7 Myr as a calibration point at the basal node of the tree failed to converge, so we used 1.39% as our molecular clock for COI (strict clock) in all subsequent BEAST runs (see Appendix S2). A maximum clade credibility tree was constructed using TREEANNOTATOR 1.7.5.

We constructed a maximum likelihood (ML) tree using RAxML 7.2.6 (Stamatakis, 2006), and rooted trees using *P. echinatus* sequences (see Appendix S2). We created an additional ML tree using RAxML with just COI sequences for all lobsters included in the study (N = 829; see Appendix S2). We calculated genetic distance between mitochondrial lineages using Kimura's two-parameter distance model (K2P) as implemented in MEGA 6.06 (Tamura *et al.*, 2013).

#### Phylogeographical analyses

ARLEQUIN 3.5 (Excoffier *et al.*, 2010) was used to estimate haplotype (*h*) and nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ) for COI, to test for hierarchical population structure using an analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) and to calculate pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  comparisons among all locations with N > 5 (see Appendix S2). We constructed a median-joining network (Bandelt *et al.*, 1999) using NETWORK 4.6.0.0 (http://www.fluxus-engineering.com/sharenet.htm) to visualize the frequencies, spatial distributions and relationships among COI haplotypes. We used the ISOLATION-BY-DISTANCE WEB SERVICE 3.23 (Jensen *et al.*, 2005) to test for correlations between genetic and geographical distances across the Western and Central Pacific (see Appendix S2).

#### RESULTS

#### Phylogenetic structure

Our phylogenetic analyses of three mtDNA loci revealed three divergent lineages with Bayesian posterior probabilities of 1.0 that correspond to the East Pacific (ML bootstrap = 52), Indo-Pacific (ML bootstrap = 97) and Red Sea (ML bootstrap = 71). The mean K2P distance within lineages ranged from d = 0.002 - 0.004, while distances between lineages were much deeper; d = 0.011-0.020. The East Pacific lineage was most distant with d = 1.8% (vs. Indo-Pacific) and 2.0% (vs. Red Sea). The Red Sea and Indo-Pacific lineages were less divergent with d = 1.1% (Fig. 3). Coalescent analyses indicate a TMRCA for P. penicillatus and P. echinatus at 6.89 Ma with highest posterior density (HPD) intervals that are narrower (95% HPD = 3.48-10.82 Ma) and are well within the values found by Tourinho et al. (2012) (reported values, 95% HPD = 0.6-11.1 Ma). TMRCA = 1.52 Ma (95% HPD = 0.8-2.31 Ma) for *P. penicillatus* lineages, while the distinct lineages were of roughly equal ages with overlapping confidence intervals [East Pacific, TMRCA = 0.22 Ma (95% HPD = 0.09–0.40 Ma); Indo-Pacific, TMRCA = 0.30 Ma (95% HPD = 0.17-0.46 Ma); Red Sea, TMRCA = 0.25 Ma (95% HPD = 0.10-0.47 Ma)].

#### Phylogeographical structure

We resolved 460 bp of COI in 829 individuals from 35 locations (including the 55 GenBank sequences) across the species range. Number of individuals (*N*), haplotype diversity (*h*) and nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ) for each location are provided in Table 1. Overall nucleotide diversity was low ( $\pi = 0.007$ ) while haplotype diversity was high (h = 0.902). We detected 221 haplotypes; 139 (62.9%) were singletons. The most common haplotypes were shared across all Indian and Pacific Ocean sites, but no haplotypes were shared among the Indo-Pacific, East Pacific and the Red Sea (Fig. 2).

Global population structure was  $\Phi_{ST} = 0.310 (P < 0.001)$ ; if the divergent Red Sea and East Pacific samples are excluded,  $\Phi_{ST} = 0.018 \ (P < 0.001)$ . Using the three dominant marine biogeographical barriers within the tropical Indo-Pacific as a priori divisions, we found significant differentiation among the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, Western and Central Pacific Ocean, and East Pacific Ocean ( $\Phi_{\rm CT}$  = 0.744, P < 0.001). When biogeographical provinces were tested, we found significant population structure among the provinces for both the Briggs & Bowen Provinces and Kulbicki Provinces frameworks (Table 2). For samples within the range from the Indo-Pacific Barrier to the East Pacific Barrier,  $\Phi_{ST} = 0.018$ (P < 0.001), but the genetic variance across this range was not partitioned significantly among island groups or among provinces of either classification (Table 2); however, the Briggs & Bowen Sino-Japanese Province was genetically distinct ( $\Phi_{\rm CT} = 0.074$ , P = 0.048). There was no pattern of IBD across the Indo-West Pacific (IWP) for any of the combinations tested (r = -0.202-0.123; P = 0.161-0.976). Across the species' range, 83 of 190 (43.7%) pairwise  $\Phi_{ST}$  comparisons between sampling locations were significant (Table 3), and significant  $\Phi_{ST}$  values ranged from 0.012 to 0.885. After correcting for false discovery rate (FDR), 76 of 83 comparisons remained significant (Table 3).

#### DISCUSSION

Our range-wide phylogeographical survey of *Panulirus penicillatus* reveals one of the highest levels of genetic structure detected in spiny lobsters to date (overall  $\Phi_{ST} = 0.310$ , P < 0.001). Despite an estimated 9-month PLD, *P. penicillatus* shows significant genetic differentiation throughout the species range, including phylogenetic-level divergences across two of the three major biogeographical barriers (EPB and Red Sea/Indian Ocean split) at the edges of the species distribution. Across the IWP, genetic structure is comparatively lower, but still significant ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.018$ ; P < 0.001). This pattern is driven by restricted gene flow between the tropical Indo-Pacific and the only warm-temperate region occupied by *P. penicillatus* (Briggs & Bowen's Sino-Japanese Province). However, even within the tropical IWP, a few locations appear relatively isolated [e.g. Fiji, Samoa, Northwestern

**Table 1** Summary statistics for 829 *Panulirus penicillatus* mtDNA cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit I (COI) sequences obtained from 35 sites: total number of individuals sequenced (*N*), haplotype diversity (*h*) and nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ). Sites are listed individually, and grouped by the biogeographical provinces as designated by Briggs & Bowen (2012) and by Kulbicki *et al.* (2013). NW Indian = Northwestern Indian Province; Offshore TEP = Offshore Tropical Eastern Pacific Province. Sites marked with an asterisk include some, if not all sequences from GenBank.

Briggs & Bowen Provinces	Collection site (Abbreviation)	Ν	h	π	Kulbicki Provinces
Red Sea	Saudi Arabia (SAUD)	6	0.93	0.004	NW Indian
Western Indian Ocean	Zanzibar (ZANZ)	16	0.93	0.005	Western Indian
	Seychelles Islands (SECH)	4	1.00	0.006	
Sino-Japanese	Taiwan (TAIW)	2	0.00	0.000	Central Indo-Pacific
	Japan (JAPA)*	15	0.97	0.006	
Indo-Polynesian	India (INDI)*	2	1.00	0.007	
	Indonesia (INDO)*	4	1.00	0.005	
	Torres Strait, Australia (TORRE)*	1	1.00	0.000	
	Palau (PALA)*	1	1.00	0.000	Central Pacific
	Rota (ROTA)	26	0.86	0.005	
	Saipan (SAIP)	4	1.00	0.003	
	Sarigan Island (SARI)	36	0.85	0.004	
	Pagan Island (PAGA)	50	0.91	0.005	
	Wake Island (WAKE)	17	0.92	0.006	
	Fiji (FIJI)*	18	0.80	0.003	
	Samoa (SAMO)	37	0.91	0.006	
	American Samoa (ASAM)	25	0.96	0.006	
	Palmyra Atoll (PALM)	51	0.88	0.004	
	Kiritimati (KIRI)	63	0.92	0.005	
	Chesterfield Islands (CHEST)*	18	0.97	0.007	South-Western Pacific
	New Caledonia (NCAL)*	33	0.90	0.005	
	Tuamotu Archipelago (TUAM)*	6	0.73	0.004	Polynesian
Marquesas	Marquesas Islands (MARQ)	35	0.93	0.005	·
Hawaiian	Pearl and Hermes Reef (PEAR)	30	0.91	0.006	Hawaiian
	Lisianski Island (LISI)	18	0.96	0.006	
	Maro Reef (MARO)	5	1.00	0.007	
	French Frigate Shoals (FREN)	44	0.90	0.005	
	Mokumanamana (NECK)	5	0.90	0.005	
	Kaua'i (KAUA)	52	0.89	0.005	
	Moloka'i (MOLO)	71	0.80	0.004	
	Lāna'i (LANA)	35	0.85	0.004	
	Maui (MAUI)	24	0.75	0.004	
	Hawai'i (HAWA)	47	0.89	0.005	
Galápagos	Galápagos Islands (GALA)*	10	0.78	0.005	Offshore TEP
Panamanian	Revillagigedo Islands, Mexico (REVI)	18	0.84	0.015	

Hawaiian Islands (NWHI); Table 3]. Below, we examine these patterns in light of biogeographical theory and hypotheses regarding the evolution and radiation of this species.

#### **East Pacific**

The EPB was long thought to be an 'impassable' barrier to dispersal for nearshore marine species (Darwin, 1872; Mayr, 1954). Recent molecular data support this hypothesis for both a trans-EPB coral (*Porites lobata*; Baums *et al.*, 2012; Forsman *et al.*, 2015), and even a broadly distributed soldier-fish (Craig *et al.*, 2007). However, numerous fish species have been documented on both sides of the EPB (reviewed in Robertson *et al.*, 2004). From the perspective of vicariance biogeography, these species ranges are regarded as relics of pan-Tethyan species that were connected to the Caribbean through the Central American corridor (McCoy & Heck,

1983). Alternatively, these distributions could have been achieved via dispersal events from the IWP (Cortes, 1997). Molecular evidence indicates recent gene flow for at least 16 fishes (Lessios & Robertson, 2006) and an echinoderm (*Echinothrix diadema*; Lessios *et al.*, 1998). The magnitude, timing and direction of gene flow vary among these species, but it is primarily from the Central to East Pacific.

For *P. penicillatus*, our data support a pan-Tethyan progenitor that subsequently diverged during the late Miocene into the Pacific *P. penicillatus* and the Atlantic sister species *P. echinatus*, as proposed by George (2005). Our coalescent analyses date the TMRCA between *P. penicillatus* and *P. echinatus* at 6.89 Ma (HPD = 3.48-10.82 Ma). Our confidence intervals overlap the 4.7 Ma TMRCA estimate of Tourinho *et al.* (2012). During this time, gene flow between populations in the Atlantic and Pacific was likely restricted because trans-oceanic water flow across the



**Figure 2** Median-joining network for *Panulirus penicillatus* mtDNA, constructed using 460 base pairs of cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit I (COI) from 829 individuals in the program NETWORK. Each circle represents a unique haplotype that is proportional in size to the number of individuals with that haplotype. The smallest circle represents two individuals; the largest represents 240 individuals. Haplotypes are colour-coded according to the Briggs & Bowen (2012) biogeographical provinces. All haplotypes are separated by one base pair difference unless labeled with a number greater than one.

Panama Seaway decreased about 6 Ma (Collins *et al.*, 1996), and cessation occurred with the rise of the Isthmus of Panama approximately 2.8 Ma (Coates & Obando, 1996). Coral reef fishes that originated in the East Pacific are generally restricted to that region (Allen & Robertson,

1994; Cowman & Bellwood, 2013). *Panulirus penicillatus*, however, maintained broad connectivity across the Pacific after the closure of the Panama Seaway: the divergence of East and West Pacific lineages did not occur until 1.5 Ma (HPD = 0.89–2.3 Ma).

The East Pacific P. penicillatus populations remain phylogenetically distinct, sharing no haplotypes with IWP populations (d = 1.8%; Fig. 3). These findings extend the results of Chow et al. (2011) who suggested that the EPB is a significant barrier to gene flow for P. penicillatus. Here, we add an additional East Pacific sample (Revillagigedo Islands), and show there is no genetic structure between the Revillagigedo Islands and the Galápagos ( $\Phi_{ST} = -0.004$ ; P = 0.451). This result fits the Kulbicki Provinces, which group these locations into the Offshore Tropical East Pacific Province, rather than separating them as in the Briggs & Bowen classification (Fig. 1). This also matches the species distribution data within the Panamanian Province: P. penicillatus is rarely found east of the offshore islands (Holthuis, 1991). The lack of differentiation between East Pacific locations, combined with the phylogenetic-level divergence and morphological differences between the East Pacific and IWP forms (see Appendix S1) corroborate the evolutionary distinction of the East Pacific form, and add support to the hypothesis of George (2005) that the P. penicillatus 'red' morph is a distinct taxa, isolated by the EPB. Despite a much longer PLD than species maintaining gene flow across the EPB (Lessios & Robertson, 2006), P. penicillatus may have adapted larval retention behaviours similar to other Panuliridae (Jeffs et al., 2005; Butler et al., 2011; Iacchei et al., 2013) to maintain local populations during the changing currents at the beginning of the Pleistocene (as suggested by George, 2005).

**Table 2** AMOVA results showing degrees of freedom (d.f.), sum of squares (SS), variance components (Var),  $\Phi$ -statistics ( $\Phi_{CT/ST}$ ) and *P*-values (*P*) for each biogeographical framework tested for *Panulirus penicillatus*.  $\Phi$ -statistics reported are  $\Phi_{ST}$  for the Rangewide and Indo-Pacific Rangewide comparisons, and  $\Phi_{CT}$  for all others. Bold values indicate significant differences at *P* < 0.050. All comparisons remained significant after correcting for false discovery rate (*P* > 0.0476). The major biogeographical barriers, and marine biogeographical provinces of Briggs & Bowen (2012) and Kulbicki *et al.* (2013) are shown in Fig. 1. For the island group analysis, groups could consist of one island, but had to have at least 5 individuals sampled.

Among regions	d.f.	SS	Var	$\Phi_{\rm CT/ST}$	Р
Rangewide	26	419.20	0.531	0.310	< 0.001
Indo-Pacific Rangewide (without Red Sea and East Pacific clades)	23	40.77	0.021	0.018	< 0.001
Major Biogeographical Barriers (Red Sea/Indian	3	377.51	3.499	0.744	< 0.001
Ocean/Western-Central Pacific/East Pacific)					
Briggs & Bowen Provinces: (Red Sea, Western Indian Ocean,	7	386.42	0.732	0.379	0.025
Sino-Japanese, Indo-Polynesian, Marquesas, Hawaiian, Galápagos, Panamanian)					
Kulbicki Provinces: (North-western Indian Ocean, Western Indian Ocean,	7	385.92	0.665	0.356	0.003
Central Indo-Pacific, Central Pacific, South-western Pacific, Hawaiian,					
Polynesian, Offshore Tropical Eastern Pacific)					
Pacific Briggs & Bowen Provinces: (Indo-Polynesian, Sino-Japanese, Marquesas, Hawaiian)	3	6.56	-0.002	-0.001	0.316
Pacific Kulbicki Provinces: (Central Indo-Pacific, Central Pacific, South-western	4	8.10	-0.002	-0.002	0.187
Pacific, Hawaiian, Polynesian)					
Pacific Island Groups: (Japan, CNMI, Wake Island, New Caledonia and	9	16.58	0.007	0.006	0.218
Chesterfield Islands, Fiji, Samoa and American Samoa, Tuamotu Archipelago,					
Marquesas Islands, Line Islands, Hawaiian Archipelago)					

**Table 3** Pairwise population genetic structure results for a 460 bp fragment of the mtDNA cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit I region (COI).  $\Phi_{ST}$  is below the diagonal and *P*-values are above the diagonal. Shaded boxes below the diagonal indicate significant differences at *P* < 0.05. Asterisks indicate comparisons that were no longer significant after correcting for false discovery rate (*P* > 0.015). Sites are grouped by biogeographical region and by island archipelago – only sites where *N* > 5 are included. Regional abbreviations: RS = Red Sea; WIO = Western Indian Ocean. Site Abbreviations (West to East): 1. SAUD = Saudi Arabia; 2. ZANZ = Zanzibar; 3. JAPA = Japan; 4. ROTA = Rota Island; 5. SARI = Sarigan Island; 6. PAGA = Pagan Island; 7. CHES = Chesterfield Islands; 8. NCAL = New Caledonia; 9. Wake = Wake Island; 10. FIJI = Fiji; 11. SAMO = Samoa; 12. ASAM = American Samoa; 13. PALM = Palmyra Atoll; 14. KIRI = Kiritimati; 15. TUAM = Tuamotu Archipelago; 16. MARQ = Marquesas Islands; 17. NWHI = Northwestern Hawaiian Islands; 18. MHI = Main Eight Hawaiian Islands; 19. GALA = Galápagos Islands; 20. REVI = Revillagigedo Islands.

	RS WIO 1 2	Central	Central and West Pacific														East Pacific			
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Red Sea																				
1. SAUD		< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.002	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
WIO																				
2. ZANZ	0.739		0.023	0.062	0.026	0.080	0.330	0.057	0.399	0.010	0.522	0.240	0.090	0.331	0.431	0.185	0.329	0.048	< 0.001	< 0.001
3. JAPA	0.714	0.059*		< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.003	< 0.001	0.001	< 0.001	0.015	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.001	0.063	< 0.001	0.002	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Central and W	est Pacif	îc																		
4. ROTA	0.763	0.036	0.139		0.213	0.855	0.579	0.945	0.354	0.053	0.133	0.267	0.106	0.502	0.626	0.825	0.159	0.315	< 0.001	< 0.001
5. SARI	0.786	0.049*	0.198	0.007		0.301	0.192	0.181	0.329	0.410	0.009	0.108	0.344	0.051	0.494	0.393	0.005	0.180	< 0.001	< 0.001
6. PAGA	0.744	0.025	0.147	-0.010	0.002		0.398	0.798	0.422	0.205	0.030	0.727	0.272	0.225	0.726	0.796	0.029	0.399	< 0.001	< 0.001
7. CHES	0.699	0.004	0.081	-0.007	0.010	0		0.622	0.857	0.083	0.579	0.343	0.303	0.790	0.917	0.825	0.556	0.255	< 0.001	< 0.001
8. NCAL	0.758	0.036	0.149	-0.017	0.008	-0.008	-0.008		0.288	0.074	0.073	0.222	0.074	0.249	0.585	0.839	0.064	0.252	< 0.001	< 0.001
9. WAKE	0.709	0.001	0.104	0.002	0.003	-0.001	-0.020	0.006		0.149	0.255	0.366	0.516	0.556	0.773	0.645	0.361	0.188	< 0.001	< 0.001
10. FIJI	0.811	0.095	0.268	0.035	0	0.009	0.030	0.028	0.021		0.002	0.143	0.081	0.013	0.080	0.117	0.003	0.046	< 0.001	< 0.001
11. SAMO	0.725	-0.005	0.047	0.013	0.041	0.021*	-0.006	0.018	0.007	0.089		0.103	0.045	0.749	0.851	0.151	0.908	0.036	< 0.001	< 0.001
12. ASAM	0.716	0.011	0.122	0.005	0.014	-0.007	0.003	0.008	0.002	0.019	0.015		0.430	0.286	0.837	0.423	0.133	0.206	< 0.001	< 0.001
13. PALM	0.769	0.026	0.153	0.014	0.001	0.003	0.004	0.015	-0.004	0.025	0.019*	-0.001		0.224	0.620	0.341	0.036	0.294	< 0.001	< 0.001
14. KIRI	0.728	0.003	0.075	-0.002	0.016	0.003	-0.010	0.004	-0.005	0.044	-0.006	0.003	0.004		0.873	0.563	0.900	0.224	< 0.001	< 0.001
15. TUAM	0.787	-0.005	0.063	-0.024	-0.006	-0.029	-0.054	-0.020	-0.037	0.071	-0.045	-0.042	-0.021	-0.044		0.560	0.894	0.764	< 0.001	< 0.001
16. MARQ	0.747	0.015	0.133	-0.012	0	-0.008	-0.015	-0.011	-0.009	0.021	0.010	-0.001	0.001	-0.003	-0.016		0.243	0.286	< 0.001	< 0.001
17. NWHI	0.718	0.003	0.063	0.008	0.031	0.014*	-0.004	0.014	0.001	0.065	-0.008	0.010	0.014*	-0.005	-0.044	0.004		0.006	< 0.001	< 0.001
18. MHI	0.768	0.029*	0.147	0.002	0.005	0	0.006	0.003	0.010	0.027*	0.016*	0.006	0.001	0.002	-0.035	0.002	0.012		< 0.001	< 0.001
East Pacific																				_
19. GALA	0.880	0.849	0.835	0.858	0.871	0.848	0.820	0.856	0.827	0.885	0.836	0.836	0.862	0.837	0.868	0.847	0.832	0.863		0.451
20. REVI	0.714	0.722	0.708	0.755	0.782	0.780	0.710	0.767	0.711	0.753	0.756	0.739	0.792	0.780	0.680	0.763	0.792	0.840	-0.004	



**Figure 3** Maximum clade credibility tree for *Panulirus penicillatus* compiled from ten independent Bayesian MCMC analyses implemented in BEAST, and based on three loci: COI, 12S and 16S. Bayesian posterior probabilities (before slash) and bootstrap branch support for maximum likelihood analyses (after slash) are indicated above a cut off of 0.5 and 50, respectively. Node ages are presented as median node heights with 95% HPD intervals represented by bars.

## Red Sea

The Red Sea is connected to the Indian Ocean via the constricted (18 km) and relatively shallow (137 m) Strait of Bāb al-Mandab. Pleistocene glacial cycles repeatedly lowered sea levels in the region, isolating populations due to physical separation at Bāb al-Mandab with potential reinforcement by temperature and salinity changes in the Red Sea (Siddall *et al.*, 2004; DiBattista *et al.*, 2013). This combination of factors is likely responsible for the elevated levels of endemism (Randall, 1994; DiBattista *et al.*, 2015b), as well as the genetic distinction of Red Sea populations of crown-ofthorns seastars (Benzie, 1999), mud crabs (Fratini & Vannini, 2002) and six of eight reef fishes (DiBattista *et al.*, 2013; Fernandez-Silva *et al.*, 2015).

Red Sea *P. penicillatus* are smaller and have slower growth rates relative to *P. penicillatus* in other parts of the IWP, leading to speculation that these populations are distinct (Plaut & Fishelson, 1991). Alternatively, differences in size and growth rates may be due to environmental conditions and/or prey regimes, as has been shown for congener *P. marginatus* and the slipper lobster *Scyllarides squammosus* in Hawai'i (O'Malley *et al.*, 2012).

Our genetic data indicate a phylogenetic separation between IWP and Red Sea P. penicillatus (d = 1.1%; Fig. 3), corroborating data from Abdullah et al. (2014), and in accordance with the Briggs & Bowen Red Sea province. The isolation of the Red Sea population (0.7 Ma; HPD = 0.42-1.1 Ma) occurred after the divergence between the East Pacific and the IWP P. penicillatus populations (1.5 Ma; HPD = 0.89-2.3 Ma), and was likely due to sea level fluctuation in the mid-Pleistocene. This divergence may have been subsequently reinforced by the differences in sizes and growth rates between these populations (Plaut & Fishelson, 1991). Although P. penicillatus has been documented throughout the Red Sea as far north as the Gulf of Aquaba (Holthuis, 1968), it remains to be seen whether the Red Sea lineage extends to the adjacent Gulf of Aden, which shares many endemic species with the Red Sea (DiBattista et al., 2015b). Additional collections from the Persian Gulf or the Gulf of Oman are required to evaluate whether this population would encompass the North-western Indian Province (Kulbicki Provinces). Studies of morphology and the nuclear genome may determine if the separation between the Red Sea and the IWP has produced a Red Sea endemic.

#### Indian Ocean

The Indo-Pacific Barrier (IPB) is a widely recognized disjunction in marine faunal distributions between the Indian and Pacific Ocean basins (Briggs, 1974). At the height of the Pleistocene glaciation, sea level dropped up to 120 m below present depths, creating a nearly complete land barrier between the two oceans (Voris, 2000; Naish et al., 2009). This loss of shallow water habitat, combined with strong upwelling in the region (Voris, 2000; Naish et al., 2009), created a barrier between ocean basins and reduced population sizes of shallow fauna on both sides of the IPB (Gaither & Rocha, 2013). Signatures of isolation can be seen for a diversity of taxa (Reid et al., 2006; Barber et al., 2011; Gaither et al., 2011a), with over 80% of species surveyed across the region showing significant population structure (Gaither et al., 2010) and few exceptions (e.g. Crandall et al., 2008; Gaither et al., 2010, 2011b).

Here, we find no genetic structure in *P. penicillatus* across the IPB ( $\Phi_{CT} = 0.001$ , P = 0.180). Two of 12 pairwise comparisons between the Indian and Pacific Ocean sites were significant, but not of greater magnitude than comparisons within the tropical Pacific (Table 3). Increased sampling in the Indian Ocean will allow better resolution of genetic connectivity in this region, although our results corroborate those of Abdullah *et al.* (2014), who resolved the mtDNA control region for *P. penicillatus* samples from Indonesia and the Maldives and found no significant pairwise genetic differentiation. The lack of genetic structure across the IPB may be facilitated by adult habitat preference. *Panulirus penicillatus* adults prefer windward surf zones with high wave energy (George, 1974; Pitcher, 1993), and will move into shallow (< 0.5 m) surge channels on the reef flat to forage at night (Pitcher, 1993). This habitat was likely common in areas of high upwelling in the region, and the affinity for shallow, scoured shorelines may have allowed adult *P. penicillatus* to persist during glacial cycles, and to maintain population connectivity across the IPB.

Both Briggs & Bowen and Kulbicki provincial frameworks set the barrier between the Indian and Pacific Oceans west of the IPB, indicating that both in terms of endemism rates and overall species composition, the West Indian Ocean region is the most distinct from the Pacific. For P. penicillatus, we did not detect any significant differentiation between the WIO and the IWP ( $\Phi_{CT} = 0.008$ , P = 0.14), although more sampling will provide further insights. Notably, there may be population subdivision for P. penicillatus at the southernmost end of the WIO. Abdullah et al. (2014) report significant pairwise genetic differentiation for P. penicillatus between southern Madagascar and sites in the Maldives and in Indonesia. The South-west Indian Ocean (SWIO) also hosts divergent lineages of two other spiny lobster species (Gopal et al., 2006; Lavery et al., 2014), and isolated populations within other broadly distributed species (Castelin et al., 2013; Hoareau et al., 2013), likely reinforced by the complex current regimes in the region. Hoareau et al. (2013) provide evidence that the SWIO is a hotspot of evolutionary diversification for brittle stars, a pattern that should be evaluated for additional taxa.

## Indo-Pacific

The largest biogeographical region in the P. penicillatus distribution is the IWP, which contains three of the eight Briggs & Bowen provinces and five of the eight Kulbicki provinces (Fig. 1). This expanse of coral reefs and island archipelagos extends over half the circumference of the globe, with no oceanic gap greater than 800 km from the westernmost edge at the IPB to the Polynesian Islands in the east (Schultz et al., 2008). Most reefs throughout the region can be connected within the 30-40 day PLD typical of reef fishes and invertebrates (Mora et al., 2012). This hypothesis of highly connected metapopulations of reefs has been corroborated by biophysical dispersal models (e.g. Treml et al., 2008), population genetic and phylogenetic surveys of reef-associated species (e.g. Craig et al., 2007; Crandall et al., 2008; Gaither et al., 2010, 2011a) and the combination of dispersal models with genetic data (Crandall et al., 2012).

There is significant genetic structure across the IWP for *P. penicillatus* ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.018$ ; *P* < 0.001); however, this structure is not driven by differences among provinces within either framework (Table 2), among archipelagos (Table 2) or by IBD. For example, *P. penicillatus* at the Marquesas is not significantly differentiated from sites in the Indo-Polynesian or Hawaiian provinces (Table 3), unlike many fish species (Bernardi *et al.*, 2002; Planes & Fauvelot, 2002; Gaither *et al.*, 2010). Rather, there are specific sites that are driving the pattern [the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

(CNMI), Fiji, Samoa and the NWHI; Table 3]. The isolation of the most northern atolls, the NWHI and CNMI, matches dispersal pathways predicted by Treml *et al.* (2008). Similar site-specific, rather than regional patterns of genetic differentiation, have been documented in five fishes (Drew *et al.*, 2008), and two *Panulirus* spp. hypothesized to be panmictic based on long (> 6 month) PLDs (Iacchei *et al.*, 2013, 2014). In isolation, these significant pairwise comparisons may be statistical artifacts, but as more species are surveyed across this geographical range, it will be informative to reassess potential patterns (e.g. Toonen *et al.*, 2011; Selkoe *et al.*, 2014), with a particular emphasis on utilizing new methodologies to identify potential drivers of site-specific population differentiation (e.g. Iacchei *et al.*, 2013; Selkoe *et al.*, 2014; Gaither *et al.*, 2015).

#### **Sino-Japanese Province**

Within the Indo-Pacific, the most genetically distinct *P. penicillatus* population is in Japan and Taiwan, aligning with the Briggs & Bowen provincial classification of this region. The Sino-Japanese Province represents the northernmost range of *P. penicillatus*, and is the only warm-temperate region inhabited by *P. penicillatus*. Few large-scale phylogeographical studies include sampling from this region. The most well studied island in this transition zone, Taiwan, has fish fauna on the north-western coast affiliated with the warm-temperate mainland, but fauna on the south-eastern coast are tropical in origin (Shao *et al.*, 1999). The persistence of tropical reef species, including *P. penicillatus*, likely depends on the magnitude and location of the Kuroshio Current, a northerly flowing, western boundary current that originates near the tropical Philippines and Taiwan (Ujiie *et al.*, 2003).

Population genetic separations of this region for *P. penicillatus* ( $\Phi_{ST} = 0.047-0.268$ ) are greater than most significant comparisons within the Indo-Pacific, including sites separated by greater than ten thousand kilometres (Table 3). Our results are concordant with findings of genetic structure for sea cucumbers (Skillings *et al.*, 2011) and yellow tang (Eble *et al.*, 2011), but not soldierfish (Craig *et al.*, 2007). Surveys that have sampled the Sino-Japanese Province and the tropical IWP are limited in number, but the heretofore evidence of restricted gene flow or isolated populations in this temperate/tropical transition zone suggest a fruitful topic for future phylogeographical investigations.

#### CONCLUSION

Our genetic survey of the pronghorn spiny lobster *Panulirus penicillatus* indicates that even a species with an extremely long pelagic larval duration (*c.* 9 months), and one of the broadest distributions in the sea, is influenced by the same barriers to gene flow that have facilitated speciation in other taxa. Genetic connectivity for *P. penicillatus* is not impeded by the ephemeral Indo-Pacific Barrier, but is clearly restricted by the Red Sea/Indian Ocean divide, and

most notably by the East Pacific Barrier. We find genetic partitions are aligned with biogeographical provinces from both the Briggs & Bowen and Kulbicki provincial frameworks (Offshore TEP, Sino-Japanese, Red Sea). Notably, our data indicate potential for evolutionary divergence at the periphery of the range, as demonstrated for other marine species across this region (e.g. Malay & Paulay, 2010; Gaither *et al.*, 2011b, 2015; Lavery *et al.*, 2014; DiBattista *et al.*, 2015a,b). In light of this, the partition between the tropical Indo-Pacific and the warm-temperate Sino-Japanese Province may emerge as a general pattern when more taxa are examined.

While many *Panulirus* spp. have broad distributions, approximately half of the Pacific species are archipelagic endemics or regionally restricted (Holthuis, 1991). These species have likely evolved mechanisms to increase local retention within their restricted ranges (reviewed in Jeffs *et al.*, 2005). Here, our data indicate that even the most broadly distributed *P. penicillatus* may have evolved similar mechanisms for larval retention, especially the East Pacific form, which warrants taxonomic recognition as the red form described by George (2005).

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# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article:

**Appendix S1** Photographs depicting regional variation in *P. penicillatus* specimens.

**Appendix S2** Sample list, detailed methods, additional analyses.

Appendix S3 Acknowledgements.

## DATA ACCESSIBILITY

DNA Sequences: GenBank accession numbers for unique COI haplotypes for the full dataset: KT954552 - KT954772. Genbank accession numbers for phylogeny sequences (see Appendix S2): KT954773 - KT954894.

## BIOSKETCH

**Matthew lacchei** is a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Hawai'i. This data set is part of his PhD dissertation in the Zoology Department at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, entitled, "Population genetic and phylogeographic insights into the phyllosomal odyssey", which was completed under the supervision of **Robert J. Toonen** and **Brian W. Bowen**, with assistance and inspiration from **Michelle R. Gaither**.

Author contributions: M.I., M.R.G, B.W.B and R.J.T conceived the ideas for this study, collected samples and contributed to the writing of the paper. M.I. produced the DNA sequence data; M.I. and M.R.G. analysed the data; and M.I. was the primary author.

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