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### Title

Selfish drive can trump function when animal mitochondrial genomes compete

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1 **Title: Selfish drive trumps function when animal**  
2 **mitochondrial genomes compete**

3  
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12  
13  
14 **Abstract**

15 A poorly understood competition among mitochondrial genomes determines which  
16 genomes populate cells, and which are transmitted. We introduced mitochondrial  
17 genomes from distant strains or species into *D. melanogaster* embryos. In several  
18 pairings, a functionally compromised genome, apparently benefitting from an  
19 overpowering selfish drive, outcompeted an uncompromised genome for  
20 transmission. In some of these cases, selfish drive led to the complete elimination of  
21 the functional genome over several generations with lethal consequences, while in  
22 others the advantage conferred by selfish drive was counterbalanced by a functional  
23 advantage in the other genome, resulting in stable transmission of two mitochondrial  
24 genomes. By isolating recombinant mitochondrial genomes, we mapped selfish-drive  
25 to the non-coding region that includes the origins of replication. We suggest that  
26 mitochondrial genomes evolve under the influence of both a purifying selection<sup>1-5</sup>  
27 that conserves function in the coding regions, and a selfish selection for enhanced  
28 replication that promotes divergence of noncoding sequences. Uniparental  
29 inheritance isolates mitochondrial genomes in distinct lineages, and divergence of  
30 selfish drive proceeds independently within each lineage. The differences in selfish  
31 drive can have profound consequences when genomes of different lineages are  
32 combined as we have done here, and as planned in the treatment of human  
33 mitochondrial diseases<sup>6-8</sup>.

34

35 Natural selection culls populations of compromising mutations and favors traits that  
36 enhance organismal fitness. If all else is equal, this selection guides evolution.  
37 However, transmission can be an unfair game. Selfish genetic elements, which enhance  
38 their own transmission relative to the rest of an individual's genome, can arise and  
39 spread even if neutral or damaging<sup>9-22</sup>. Transmission of nuclear genes is managed by a  
40 segregation system that limits opportunities for selfish behavior, biasing evolution  
41 toward natural selection. In contrast, mitochondrial genomes have a 'relaxed' mode of  
42 replication and random segregation. These differences increase opportunities for the  
43 spread and persistence of selfish mitochondrial variants. For example, in *S. cerevisiae*,  
44 where the mitochondrial genomes are inherited from both parents, preferential  
45 inheritance of hypersuppressive petite mtDNA has been reported apparently due to  
46 preferential replication<sup>23-25</sup>. In multicellular organisms, variant mitochondrial genotypes  
47 arising by mutation will be favored by within-organism selection if they have increased  
48 replication, or if they provide cells a proliferative advantage<sup>26</sup>. If such variant genomes  
49 arise in the germline, gains made in the individual will lead to preferential transmission  
50 that will provide an evolutionary drive. This evolutionary drive is somewhat contained  
51 by uniparental inheritance, which prevents spread of such successful genomes beyond  
52 the lineage in which they arise<sup>27</sup>. Nonetheless, within each lineage mitochondrial  
53 genomes that outcompete neighbors should overtake and succeed. However, despite  
54 expectation that selfish drive would be an influential factor in mtDNA evolution,  
55 reported examples of selfish mtDNA for transmission are extremely rare in animals<sup>28,29</sup>.  
56 Additionally, little is known about how the interplay of selections based on function and  
57 selfish drive influences the persistence and abundance of defective mitochondrial  
58 genomes in an organism and in a population<sup>30-32</sup>.

59  
60 Here, by making heteroplasmic flies carrying diverged *Drosophila* mitochondrial  
61 genomes, we show direct evidence that selection based on 'selfish drive' can promote  
62 destructive gains in the prevalence of a functionally defective genome. We then mapped  
63 the selfish drive to the non-coding region of the mitochondrial genome by isolating  
64 relevant recombinant genomes. Moreover, we show that the selfish-drive can interact  
65 with purifying selection to maintain a defective genome in a population in partnership  
66 with a functional genome (balanced heteroplasmy). These results suggest that selfish  
67 drive is an important factor defining the trajectory of mitochondrial genome evolution.

68  
69 We first observed selection based on selfish drive when analyzing the segregation  
70 behavior of marked genome with a temperature sensitive allele of the cytochrome  
71 oxidase I gene, *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup> + mt:CoI<sup>I3001</sup>* that we refer to as the temperature sensitive  
72 genome (Figure 1). Previously, we and another lab showed that when the temperature  
73 sensitive genome was combined with a closely related wild type genome, its abundance  
74 declined over generations at restrictive temperature and this purifying selection was due  
75 to competition among mitochondrial genomes during oogenesis<sup>2,4</sup>. Unexpectedly, when  
76 the temperature sensitive genome was partnered with the *ATP6[1]* genome, a diverged  
77 *D. melanogaster* genome distinguished by numerous sequence polymorphisms and a

78 shorter AT-rich region, the temperature sensitive genome completely displaced the  
79 *ATP6[1]* genome after several generations at either 25°C or 29°C (Figure 1A)<sup>33</sup>. This  
80 occurred despite the fact that flies homoplasmic for *ATP6[1]* are relatively healthy, and  
81 apparently more robust and fertile than flies with the temperature sensitive genome at  
82 either temperature (Figure 1B and <sup>34</sup>). At 29°C, the loss of the *ATP6[1]* genome led to a  
83 crisis: as long as the *ATP6[1]* genome was modestly abundant, the population expanded  
84 because the *ATP6[1]* genome provides *wild type mt:CoI* function, but in subsequent  
85 generations all the flies died as the functional *ATP6[1]* genome disappeared. We  
86 conclude that the temperature sensitive genome achieves a selective advantage without  
87 providing an advantage to the organism.

88  
89 Since the *ATP6[1]* genome is distinguished by numerous sequence polymorphisms and a  
90 shorter AT-rich region, its failure to thrive in heteroplasmic combination could be  
91 attributed to any of these differences. As described in a separate communication, we  
92 have shown that recombination among mitochondrial genomes occurs<sup>33</sup>. The death of  
93 the heteroplasmic stocks provided a selection for recombinants carrying the drive region  
94 of the temperature sensitive genome and the functional *mt:CoI* allele of the *ATP6[1]*  
95 genome. When five heteroplasmic lines were followed at 29°C, one line gave surviving  
96 progeny that contained a recombinant genome (Figure 1B). The recombinant genome  
97 contained the majority of the *ATP6[1]* coding sequence including the functional *mt:CoI*  
98 allele, and the entirety of the non-coding segment plus a small segment of flanking  
99 coding sequence from the temperature sensitive genome (Figure 1C)<sup>33</sup>. This  
100 combination of sequences endowed the recombinant with an ability to compete well for  
101 maintenance, as well as providing function: traits that allowed it to persist and  
102 ultimately increase in abundance to become the dominant genome (Figure 1D). Later,  
103 we isolated another recombinant with the entire coding sequence derived from the  
104 *ATP6[1]* genome but with a restriction fragment length characteristic of the regulatory  
105 region from the temperature sensitive genome (Figure S1A). Southern analysis and  
106 qPCR showed that this recombinant also became the dominant genome in later  
107 generations (Figure S1B & C). Together these data show that non-coding sequences from  
108 the temperature sensitive genome are sufficient to endow the recombinant with strong  
109 drive. We conclude that, at least in this pairing of genomes, the difference in selfish  
110 drive maps to the non-coding region of the mitochondrial genome.

111  
112 The non-coding region, which contains the origins of replication, is the most variable  
113 region in the mitochondrial genomes of many species<sup>35-38</sup>. The *D. melanogaster* version is  
114 super AT-rich (>90%) and especially large with five tandem type I repeats and four  
115 tandem type II repeats that make up > 90% of its ~4.6 kb extent<sup>39</sup> (Figure S2A).  
116 Mitochondrial genomes in this species not only exhibit frequent nucleotide changes in  
117 this region, but also exhibit length polymorphisms (e.g. Figure S2A and <sup>40,41</sup>). Other  
118 *Drosophila* species also show extensive divergence in the regulatory region (Figure S2B  
119 and <sup>42,43</sup>). We introduced mitochondrial genomes from other *Drosophila* species into *D.*  
120 *melanogaster* and examined their ability to compete.

121

122 We first made a heteroplasmic line containing mtDNA from both *D. melanogaster* and *D.*  
123 *yakuba*, species that diverged ~10 mya. We introduced cytoplasm of *D. yakuba* embryos  
124 into *D. melanogaster* embryos carrying the temperature sensitive genome (Figure 2A), but  
125 the efficiency of retaining the *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome after transfer was very  
126 low and no stable lines were recovered. Thus, we applied selection against the  
127 temperature sensitive genome to select for flies retaining the *D. yakuba* genome. Among  
128 the 50 injected females that were kept at 29°C, two produced viable and fertile progeny.  
129 These progeny gave two lines that maintained the *D. yakuba* genome in heteroplasmic  
130 combination with the persisting temperature sensitive genome. The *D. yakuba* genome  
131 was carried at a low but stable level (<5%) for many generations as long as temperature  
132 selection against the temperature sensitive genome was maintained (Figure 2B).

133

134 Maintenance of both genomes appears to be due to a balance of two selections: The *D.*  
135 *yakuba* genome gains a selective advantage at 29°C because it provides a functional  
136 *mt:Col* gene, but apparently another factor gave the *D. melanogaster* genome an  
137 advantage that allowed it to persist despite its functional deficit at the high temperature.  
138 In accord with this balance of selections, *D. yakuba* mtDNA disappeared from these lines  
139 within two generations at permissive temperature. From previous work, we know that  
140 selection against the temperature sensitive genome occurred mainly during oogenesis at  
141 restrictive temperature<sup>2</sup>. If, in contrast to this time-limited selection for function, the  
142 selective advantage of the *D. melanogaster* mitochondrial genome acted through the life  
143 cycle, we might see oscillations in the relative abundances of the two genomes. In  
144 particular, after enjoying the selection for function during oogenesis, we expected the *D.*  
145 *yakuba* genome to be at a high level of abundance in newly deposited eggs. Indeed, the  
146 proportion of *D. yakuba* genome in heteroplasmic lines oscillated within one generation:  
147 it was highest in newly deposited eggs and then decreased during development, only to  
148 increase again during oogenesis (Figure 2C), suggesting that the competition between  
149 the two genomes played out, at least in part, during somatic growth. We propose that  
150 the advantage incurred by selfish drive can influence competition at many stages of the  
151 life cycle, while the functional selection is more restricted to times during oogenesis.  
152 This temporal distinction might be responsible for previous observations of oscillations  
153 in the relative abundance of heteroplasmic genomes<sup>44</sup>.

154

155 Since the *D. yakuba* genome had no PstI recognition site, whereas the temperature  
156 sensitive genome had a PstI site at mt7496, we expressed a mitochondrially-targeted PstI  
157 in the germline of the heteroplasmic lines to completely eliminate *D. melanogaster*  
158 mtDNA (Figure 3A). Interestingly, flies homoplasmic for *D. yakuba* genome (called *D.*  
159 *mel (mito-yakuba)*) were not only viable but also as healthy as *wild type* flies at various  
160 temperatures (Figure 3B). This was surprising because various examples of nuclear-  
161 mitochondrial incompatibility have been described<sup>45-48</sup>, and thus we initially thought  
162 that the selective disadvantage of the *D. yakuba* genome was the result of functional  
163 deficits resulting from a mismatch between the nuclear genes and mitochondrial genes

164 contributing to electron transport. Instead, the finding that the *D. yakuba* mitochondrial  
165 genome worked well once we had eliminated the *D. melanogaster* genome showed that  
166 the only substantial defect of the *D. yakuba* genome was in its ability to compete with the  
167 endogenous genome.

168  
169 Another cross species combination of mitochondrial genomes gave a very different type  
170 of result. When we introduced a *D. mauritiana* (diverged ~2mya) mitochondrial genome  
171 (*mal*) into *D. melanogaster* flies, *D. mauritiana* genome completely replaced the *D.*  
172 *melanogaster* genomes within a few generations at 25°C (Figure S3). A similar  
173 observation has been made when a different *D. melanogaster/D.mauritiana* heteroplasmic  
174 line was generated<sup>49</sup>. Thus, while one would expect the *D. melanogaster* mitochondrial  
175 genome to be optimized for function in its resident background, it was the weaker  
176 competitor, again suggesting that competitive success might not be based entirely on  
177 function.

178  
179 To further examine the basis of competition, we re-introduced *D. melanogaster*  
180 mitochondrial genomes into the *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* line. All of several *D. melanogaster*  
181 genomes tested outcompeted the *D. yakuba* genome, even the relatively poor *D.*  
182 *melanogaster* competitor genome, *ATP6[1]* (Figure 3C). This is not selection based on  
183 function because *D. melanogaster* genomes that took over (*e.g.* the temperature sensitive  
184 genome, *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>*, and the *ATP6[1]* genomes) gave lines that were far less healthy than  
185 *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* flies (Figure S4 and <sup>34,50,51</sup>). The *D. yakuba* genome appeared to have  
186 an intrinsic replicative/transmission disadvantage, perhaps associated with its diverged  
187 and shorter (~1kb) non-coding region. It should be noted that competitive strength of *D.*  
188 *yakuba*, *ATP6[1]* and the temperature sensitive genome do not fall on a simple hierarchy:  
189 the *D. yakuba* genomes is displaced by *ATP6[1]*, suggesting that it is weaker, yet, when  
190 these genomes are paired with the temperature sensitive genome, only the *D. yakuba*  
191 genome can be maintained at high temperature, suggesting that it is the more successful  
192 competitor. This suggests competitive strength is determined by more than the potency  
193 of a single factor or interaction.

194  
195 We observed some adaptation in the *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* line after several generations.  
196 Re-introducing the temperature sensitive genome at the restrictive temperature gave  
197 balanced heteroplasmy with a higher ratio of *D. yakuba* genome compared to the two  
198 original lines (Figure 3C). Since the sequence of the *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome  
199 remained unchanged (data not shown), the adaptation is likely due to nuclear modifiers.  
200 This finding shows that nuclear genes modulate the ability of mitochondrial genomes to  
201 succeed in competition. It will be interesting to explore the nature of this interaction  
202 between nuclear and mitochondrial genomes.

203  
204 While the mechanism of selfish drive is unknown, its localization to the non-coding  
205 region constrains the possibilities. The non-coding sequences are not likely to influence  
206 drive by complex actions such as evasion of mitophagy or localizing mitochondria to the

207 germline. Furthermore, since selfish drive is independent of function, control of the  
208 transcription of the coding sequences, which would affect function, is not likely to be  
209 responsible. In contrast, the non-coding region has a direct involvement in  
210 replication. The noncoding region includes the two origins for asymmetric replication of  
211 the mitochondrial DNA (Figure S2A). These origin sequences are substantially  
212 conserved, and are associated with repeat sequences. Polymorphisms in repeat number  
213 and nucleotide changes distinguish the genomes examined in this study (Figure S2A).  
214 Little is known about the control of mitochondrial replication in *Drosophila*; nonetheless,  
215 we might anticipate that sequences throughout the control region would contribute to  
216 replication functions such as copy control, primer synthesis and initiation efficiency.  
217 Even subtle changes could result in a large competitive advantage because differences in  
218 replication would be amplified over many rounds of genome doubling. We thus  
219 hypothesize that selfish drive can be equated with replicative drive.

220  
221 If selfish selection prevails in the non-coding regions of mitochondrial genomes, while  
222 purifying selection is more pronounced in the coding regions, the evolutionary  
223 trajectory of these two regions might differ. Indeed, variations in the length of  
224 mitochondrial genomes within large laboratory fly populations has been attributed to  
225 differences in the non-coding region where longer variants, presumably with an  
226 increased number of repeat sequences, exhibited preferential transmission<sup>41</sup>. In addition,  
227 recurrent mutations at specific sites in the non-coding region related to replication were  
228 found to occur independently in multiple somatic tissues and individuals in humans<sup>26</sup>.  
229 Comparisons among related species also show that non-coding regions of mitochondrial  
230 genomes evolve much more rapidly than the coding region<sup>52-54</sup>. These distinctive  
231 behaviors of non-coding sequences could be partially explained by a positive selection  
232 for variants with increased selfish drive. In contrast, purifying selection would preserve  
233 the sequences of coding sequences. Thus, the divergence pattern of the mitochondrial  
234 genome is consistent with the idea that selfish selection and purifying selection have  
235 largely distinct targets, non-coding and coding sequences, respectively.  
236

## 237 **Figure Legends**

238

239 **Figure 1:** Selection based on selfish drive in a heteroplasmic line containing the *ATP6[1]*  
240 genome and the temperature sensitive double-mutant: *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>+mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>*. A) Decline  
241 of the *ATP6[1]* genome when co-existing with *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>+mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>*. A schematic (upper  
242 left) of *D. melanogaster* mitochondrial genome with base pairs indicated on the outer  
243 circle. Protein coding genes are indicated in red, rDNA loci in green and the non-coding  
244 regulatory region in brown. The key features distinguishing the *ATP6[1]* and  
245 temperature sensitive genome are indicated (upper right panel) and a PCR primer set  
246 that selectively amplifies the intact *ND2* locus of the *ATP6[1]* genome is indicated. The  
247 relative abundance of the *ATP6[1]* genome as assessed by qPCR with specific and  
248 general primers is shown (lower panels) for five lines maintained at 25°C and 29°C for  
249 multiple generations. After the *ATP6[1]* abundance fell to low level, the flies at 29°C  
250 started to die, except for one lineage (red line), which not only survived at the restrictive  
251 temperature, but also showed an increasing abundance in a genome with the *ATP6[1]*  
252 *mt:ND2* region. B) Phenotypic analysis of flies homoplasmic for either the *ATP6[1]* or  
253 *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>+mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* genome. Note that for a wild type *Canton S* stock, mean survival  
254 was about 50 days (Figure 3). Survivorship was recorded every two days at both  
255 temperatures. For the climbing test, the time required for 50% of the flies in a population  
256 of the indicated age (growing at 25°C) and sex to climb to a prescribed height in a  
257 graduated cylinder after being gently knocked down to the bottom was recorded. By  
258 day 8, *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>+mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* flies were more or less immobilized for a long time after they  
259 were knocked to bottom of the cylinder, so the data were not included in the graph.  
260 Results are means ± SD (n = 3 for each data point). C) The map of the recombinant  
261 genome sequenced by PacBio SMRT technology. Red lines indicate the distribution of  
262 SNPs characteristic of *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>+mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* genome that are present in the recombinant.  
263 The *ATP6[1]* genome also lacks ~1.6 kb of the non-coding region (two type I repeats and  
264 two type II repeats)<sup>33</sup>. D) The transmission of the recombinant genome was favored  
265 when paired with the temperature sensitive genome. The directional arrows indicate  
266 how the abundance of a particular genotype was increasing or decreasing at any given  
267 generation.

268

269 **Figure 2:** Stable transmission of the *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome in the *D.*  
270 *melanogaster* nuclear background. A) A heteroplasmic line was established by  
271 transferring cytoplasm of *D. yakuba* embryos into embryos carrying the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup> +*  
272 *mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* genome. B) The proportion of *D. yakuba* mtDNA was maintained at ~4% for  
273 over 30 generations in two independent heteroplasmic lines at 29°C. C) The abundance  
274 of *D. yakuba* mtDNA was highest in newly deposited eggs and then decreased during  
275 development in four independent lines at 29°C. Results are means ± SD (n = 3 for each  
276 data point).

277

278 **Figure 3:** Conservation in function of the mitochondrial genome cross-species, but  
279 divergence in the ability to compete. A) The *D. melanogaster* genome was eliminated



280 from a heteroplasmic line by expressing PstI that is targeted to mitochondria. B) The  
281 lifespan and the climbing ability of the *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* line are similar to *D.*  
282 *melanogaster* flies with the *wild type* mtDNA. C) *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome was  
283 quickly outcompeted by various *D. melanogaster* genomes at 25°C. After establishment  
284 of the *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* line, cytoplasm transplantation was performed using  
285 *mt:ND2<sup>de11</sup> + mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>, ATP6[1]* and *mt:ND2<sup>de11</sup>* embryos as donors and the relative  
286 abundance of the *D. yakuba* genome was followed over generations by qPCR (see  
287 methods). The differently colored lines represent independently produced  
288 heteroplasmic lines: these vary in starting abundance of the *D. yakuba* mtDNA, which  
289 reflects the degree of success of the cytoplasmic transfer. The *D. yakuba* mtDNA was  
290 only maintained when partnered with the temperature sensitive genome at 29°C.  
291

## 292 Online Methods

### 293 Fly stocks

294 The *D. melanogaster* mutant alleles *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* and *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* were previously described  
295 <sup>2,55</sup>. These alleles were present either alone, or on a double mutant genome *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* +  
296 *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>*. Flies homoplasmic for the *ATP6[1]* mitochondrial genome was kindly  
297 provided by Michael Palladino (University of Pittsburgh, U.S.). *D. mauritiana* and *D.*  
298 *yakuba* flies were obtained from *Drosophila* species stock center, San Diego. Flies with  
299 different mitochondrial genomes were out-crossed to *Canton S* for 10 generations to  
300 homogenize the nuclear background. Other strains used included *UAS-mito-PstI* and  
301 *nos-Gal4*. The stocks were cultured at 18-25°C on standard fly medium.

302

### 303 Establishment of heteroplasmic lines

304 Poleplasm transplantation was used to generate heteroplasmic flies and the method was  
305 described in <sup>2</sup>. For the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>/ATP6[1]* line ('+' indicates alleles on the  
306 same genome and '/' indicates the co-residence of the two indicated genomes), *ATP6[1]*  
307 flies were used as the recipient during poleplasm transplantation in order to obtain  
308 lineages with high initial abundance of the *ATP6[1]* genome. Numerous female progeny  
309 (G0) from injected embryos were individually crossed to *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* males for  
310 2 days at 25°C. After progeny collection, mothers were sacrificed for total DNA  
311 extraction and the proportion of *ATP6[1]* genome was estimated by qPCR as described  
312 below. The progeny (G1) of the mothers were either maintained at 25°C, or shifted to  
313 29°C and maintained at 29°C for multiple generations.

314

315 For the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>/mt:D. yak* line, cytoplasm from *D. yakuba* embryos was  
316 transplanted into the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* embryos and eclosed adults were kept at  
317 29°C to select for flies with the *D. yakuba* genome. By doing this, two independent lines  
318 were established and both stably transmitted *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome (~4%)  
319 from generation to generation at 29°C. Subsequently, a mitochondrially-targeted  
320 restriction enzyme, *mito-PstI*, was expressed in the germline of the two heteroplasmic  
321 lines to eliminate the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* genome, as only the *D. melanogaster*  
322 mitochondrial genome contain a *PstI* site. Through this, several lines with only *wild type*  
323 *D. yakuba* mtDNA were established. The *D. mel (mito-yakuba)* line was then used a  
324 recipient for subsequent cytoplasm transplantations.

325

326 For the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>/mt:D. mau* line, cytoplasm from *D. mauritiana* embryos was  
327 transplanted into the *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* or *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* embryos. Several G0 mothers  
328 were crossed to *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>* males for 2 days at 25°C to produce G1 females in  
329 order to establish independent lineages.

330

### 331 Phenotypic analysis of flies with different mitochondrial genotypes

332 Flies homoplasmic for *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* + *mt:CoI<sup>T3001</sup>*, *ATP6[1]*, *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>* and *D. yakuba*  
333 mitochondrial genome were backcrossed to *Canton S* males for 10 generations. To assay

334 the lifespan, newly eclosed flies were separated by sex and around 10 flies were placed  
335 in one vial. The flies were transferred to fresh vials and survivorship was recorded every  
336 two days at both 25°C and 29°C. At least 100 flies were used to plot the longevity curve.  
337 The climbing assay was performed as described in Ma et al<sup>2</sup>. Basically, 20 flies of various  
338 ages were transferred to a plastic cylinder (22 cm long, 1.5 cm diameter) with a mark 10  
339 cm line from bottom. After 1 h for acclimation, the flies were knocked down to the  
340 bottom by gently tapping the tubes. The time required for 50% of the flies to climb to the  
341 marked 10 cm line was recorded. Three trials were conducted for each group, and three  
342 groups were used for each genotype. For all the above phenotypical studies, individual  
343 flies were picked randomly and no blinding was done.

344

#### 345 **DNA isolation:**

346 Total DNA was extracted from adults as described in Ma et al<sup>2</sup>. Frequencies of  
347 mitochondrial genotypes were measured in individual founding females (G0) and their  
348 further generations via qPCR. When populations were analyzed, we extracted DNA  
349 from groups of 40 individuals.

350

#### 351 **Sequencing the *D. yakuba* mtDNA**

352 Three long-range PCR reactions using Expand Long Template PCR system (Roche) were  
353 performed using the total DNA from *D. yakuba* and *D. mel* (*mito-yakuba*) as template:  
354 mt186-7519, mt7229-14797 and mt12822-400 with the following program: 1 cycle of 93°C  
355 for 3min, 30 cycles of 93°C 15s, 50°C 30s, 60°C 8 min, and 1 cycle of 60°C for 10 min.  
356 Primers were designed all around the *D. yakuba* mitochondrial genome (Table S1) for  
357 sequencing by QuintaraBio (Albany, CA).

358

#### 359 **qPCR Parameters:**

360 qPCR assays were performed as described in Ma et al<sup>2</sup>. Basically, the total mtDNA copy  
361 number of heteroplasmic flies was measured by qPCR of a 52 bp region (mt361-mt412)  
362 present in all mtDNA genotypes (primer mt361F and mt412R, Table S1). To measure  
363 copy number of genomes with *ATP6[1]*, or *D. yakuba*, or *D. mauritiana* allele of *mt:ND2*  
364 in the presence of *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup>*, qPCR of the 51 bp *ATP6[1]*, or *D. yakuba*, or *D. mauritiana*  
365 *mt:ND2* region was performed (See Table S1 for primers). Standard curves were  
366 constructed using a series of 10-fold dilutions of purified PCR fragment containing both  
367 the common region and *ATP6[1]*, or *D. yakuba*, or *D. mauritiana mt:ND2* region. The  
368 efficiency of the 2 primer sets was normalized each time by comparing total mtDNA  
369 copy number estimated for the same *wild type* DNA sample. qPCR was performed with  
370 the following reaction conditions: 95°C for 10 min, 40 cycles of 95°C 30 s and 48°C 30 s.  
371 For each 20 µl qPCR reaction, 1% of a fly's total DNA was used as template. The Ct  
372 values used ranged from 13 to 33 and each reaction was repeated >3 times. To  
373 distinguish the *ATP6[1]* genome from the *D. yakuba* mtDNA, two different sets of  
374 primers were designed for the qPCR assay (Table S1): mt6237F and mt6314R as the  
375 common primers; and mt6652F and mt6811R as primers specific for recognizing *D.*  
376 *yakuba* mtDNA.

377

378 **Monitoring abundance of *D.yakuba* genome during development**

379 Four females heteroplasmic for *D.yakuba* and *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup> + mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* genomes were  
380 individually crossed (in separated vials) to *mt:ND2<sup>del1</sup> + mt:CoI<sup>T300I</sup>* males for 2 days at  
381 29°C. The mothers of each vial were transferred to new vials to collect eggs for 16 h.  
382 Subsequently, the mothers and half of the collected eggs were sacrificed to measure the  
383 abundance of *D. yakuba* genome via qPCR described above. The rest of the eggs were  
384 allowed to developed into late 3<sup>rd</sup> instar larvae before they were sacrificed to measure  
385 the abundance of *D. yakuba* genome.

386

387 **Southern analysis**

388 Southern blotting was used to detect the recombinant genome and monitor the length  
389 variation in the non-coding region of the mitochondrial genomes. It was performed as  
390 described in Ma and O'Farrell<sup>33</sup>. Basically, digested DNA was separated on a 0.8%  
391 agarose gel by electrophoresis and transferred to Hybond N+ membrane by the capillary  
392 method. The blot was hybridized with PCR-generated probes (mt1577-2365 or mt21-400,  
393 see Table S2) that were labeled with DIG-11-dUTP.

394

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401

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