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## **Genetic Diversity, Population Structure, and Demographic History of Exploited Sea Urchin Populations (*Tripneustes Gratilla*) in the Philippines**

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1 **Genetic diversity, population structure, and demographic history of exploited sea urchin populations**  
2 **(*Tripneustes gratilla*) in the Philippines**

3

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31 **Abstract**

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33           The sea urchin *Tripneustes gratilla* is ecologically and economically important in the Indo-Pacific  
34 region. We use population genetic methods to investigate the population structure and historical demography  
35 of exploited populations in the Philippines. Sea urchins sampled in 6 localities in western Luzon and 4 outgroup  
36 sites were sequenced for mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase-1 gene ( $n = 282$ ) and genotyped for seven  
37 microsatellite loci ( $n = 277$ ). No significant genetic structure was found for either class of markers, indicating  
38 either extensive gene flow across the archipelago, or that populations have high genetic diversity and have not  
39 yet attained equilibrium between genetic drift and migration following large changes in demography.  
40 Interestingly, demographic inferences from the two types of markers were discordant. Mitochondrial lineages  
41 showed demographic expansion during the Pleistocene while microsatellite data indicated population  
42 decline. Estimates for the date of each event suggest that a Pleistocene expansion could have preceded a more  
43 recent population decline, but we also discuss other hypotheses for the discordant inferences. The high genetic  
44 diversity and broad distribution of haplotypes in populations that recently recovered from fishery collapse  
45 indicate that this species is very resilient over evolutionary timescales.

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## 61 1. Introduction

62 The widely-distributed *Tripneustes gratilla* is a high-value sea urchin in the Indo-Pacific region. This  
63 ubiquitous herbivore occupies a key trophic position in nutrient cycling especially in tropical seagrass  
64 ecosystems (Koike, et al. 1987; Klumpp et al., 1993; Alcoverro and Mariani, 2002). *T. gratilla*, being an  
65 opportunistic grazer, also functions as a keystone species for coral reef and sea grass communities by controlling  
66 invasive macroalgae (Conklin and Smith, 2005; Stimson et al., 2007). Population outbreaks in some areas,  
67 however, have resulted in overgrazing of seagrasses (Eklöf et al., 2008) and foliose algae (Valentine and Edgar,  
68 2010). This is also an economically-valuable sea urchin species and primarily collected for its high quality  
69 gonad – a specialty food item primarily in Japan (Lawrence and Agatsuma, 2001; Andrew et al., 2002). Many  
70 fisheries for this species have declined over time due to indiscriminate harvesting and lack of management  
71 measures which resulted to economic losses (i.e. Shimabukuro, 1991; Talaue-McManus and Kesner, 1995;  
72 Andrew et al., 2002). While these cases documented significant fisheries impacts on *T. gratilla* populations,  
73 they need to be placed into a broader spatial and temporal context. What does the regional population structure  
74 of the species look like? What is the demographic history of the species?

75 A population genetic approach can potentially provide these much needed insights for exploited  
76 invertebrate species (Thorpe et al., 2000). Molecular methods were initially used with marine species to better  
77 understand the effects of larval dispersal on the population structure (e.g. Waples 1987; Doherty et al., 1995)  
78 and determine the spatial scales of population connectivity (Palumbi, 2003; 2004; Hedgecock et al., 2007;  
79 Cowen and Sponaugle, 2009). Development of genetic markers and analysis have since extended the utility of  
80 genetic data to direct measurement of migration, estimation of effective population size, and examination of  
81 population demographic history (Emerson et al., 2001; Pearse and Crandall, 2004; Manel et al., 2005; Hellberg,  
82 2009; Hare et al., 2011). To date, genetic assessments on *T. gratilla* populations have been limited to broad scale  
83 phylogeographic surveys of its genus (Lessios et al., 2003) and phylogenetic studies (Zigler and Lessios, 2003;  
84 Palumbi and Lessios, 2005). Mitochondrial sequence variation showed very weak regional divergence of  
85 *Tripneustes* populations across the Indo-Pacific region despite the significant local differentiation among the  
86 populations in this region (Lessios et al., 2003). This implies that *T. gratilla* in this region belongs to a large  
87 *Tripneustes* metapopulation (Lessios et al., 2003). The only finer-scale genetic survey on *T. gratilla* populations  
88 was carried out in western Luzon and eastern Philippines (Malay et al., 2002). This was conducted soon after the  
89 collapse of a local artisanal sea urchin fishery (i.e. Talaue-McManus and Kesner, 1995) to aid management of  
90 the heavily-exploited *T. gratilla* populations in northwestern Luzon (Malay et al., 2002). Based on six allozyme

91 markers, genetic differentiation of sea urchin populations within the western Luzon region was not significant,  
92 indicating extensive gene flow among populations (Malay et al., 2002). This lack of genetic structure of *T.*  
93 *gratilla* was initially explained by its potential for long-distance larval dispersal (Malay et al., 2002). This  
94 species has a relatively long planktonic larval duration of 20 to 52 days under culture conditions (Shimabukuro,  
95 1991; Juinio-Meñez et al., 1998; Lawrence and Agatsuma, 2001). The planktonic stage or echinopluteus, though  
96 capable of movement using their ciliated bands (Emlet et al., 2006), is categorized as a weakly swimming larva  
97 and considered passive to the forces of oceanographic processes (Chia et al., 1984 cited in Weersing and  
98 Toonen, 2009). Thus, there is great potential for *T. gratilla* larvae to be dispersed over large distances before  
99 settlement. It is possible, though, that limited but significant genetic differentiation was not detected with the  
100 employed genetic marker, sampling design, or analysis (Ward, 2006). The availability of DNA markers for *T.*  
101 *gratilla* and recent developments in population genetics analysis presents an opportunity to re-examine the  
102 genetic variation in this exploited species.

103           Using multiple molecular markers, this study aims to obtain a more detailed characterization of *T.*  
104 *gratilla* populations in the Philippines to make inferences about population structure, effective size, and  
105 demographic history and gain insights on the vulnerability of the species to exploitation. Mitochondrial DNA  
106 has been noted for its relatively rapid development of population genetic structure due to its small effective  
107 population size. Based on this, it has become a preferred genetic marker over allozymes for initial examination  
108 of population differentiation (Bowen et al., in press). Given its non-recombining nature, mtDNA has been useful  
109 in gaining some insights on species evolutionary history and population demographic history based on maternal  
110 lineage (Avisé et al., 1987; Liu and Cordes, 2004 but also see Ballard and Whitlock, 2004). On the other hand,  
111 microsatellites are inherited as codominant markers and thus provide insights on genetic differentiation of  
112 populations based on gene flow of both sexes (Liu and Cordes, 2004; Selkoe and Toonen, 2006). Highly  
113 polymorphic microsatellite loci also have the potential to reveal contemporary gene flow and effective  
114 population size (Ovenden et al., 2007; Saenz-Agudelo et al., 2011). The different characteristics of the DNA  
115 markers and new analytical approaches employed in this study should aid in elucidating historical and  
116 contemporary processes that influenced the current pattern of genetic variations in *T. gratilla*.

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## 118 2. Materials and methods

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### 120 2.1. Tissue collection and DNA extraction

121 Samples were collected from 6 sites along the western Luzon coast and 4 outgroup sites from other  
122 regions in the archipelago (Table 1). Only adult sea urchins with test diameter greater than 60 mm (Bangi, 2001)  
123 were collected on snorkel and tube feet and spines were sampled non-destructively. Individual tissue samples  
124 were kept in a vial and preserved in 90% ethanol. DNA was extracted from the tissue samples using a 10 %  
125 Chelex<sup>TM</sup> (Biorad) solution (Walsh et al., 1991).

126

### 127 2.2. DNA sequencing of the CO1 region

128 A region of the mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase subunit 1(CO1) gene was amplified using the  
129 universal forward primer: CO1f 5' CCTGCAGGAGGAGGAGAYCC and a *Tripneustes*-specific reverse primer  
130 CO1TR1 5'GGCATTCCAGCTAGTCCTARAAA (Lessios et al., 2003). PCR reactions were carried out in a  
131 final volume of 25- $\mu$ l containing 1  $\mu$ l genomic DNA extraction, 2.5  $\mu$ l 10x PCR Buffer (PE-II), 2.5  $\mu$ l of 8 mM  
132 dNTPs, 2.0  $\mu$ l of 25 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1.25  $\mu$ l of each primer (10 mM), 0.125  $\mu$ l of Amplitaq Gold polymerase  
133 (Applied Biosystems; 5 units/ $\mu$ l) and 14.5  $\mu$ l of molecular grade water. The PCR temperature profile was as  
134 follows: initial denaturation for 7 min at 95°C, 40 times of the main cycle: 30 s at 95°C (denature), 30 s at 52°C  
135 (anneal) and 1 min at 72°C (extension), and 10 min of final elongation at 72°C. After amplification, PCR  
136 products were run in 1% agarose gels stained with ethidium bromide to evaluate the quality and quantity of the  
137 amplified DNA. Excess dNTPs and primers were removed prior to cycle sequencing using an enzymatic  
138 method. Five (5)  $\mu$ l of the PCR product was incubated with 0.5  $\mu$ l (0.5 U) of shrimp alkaline phosphatase and  
139 0.5  $\mu$ l (5 U) of exonuclease (GE Healthcare) for 30 min at 37°C, 15 min at 80°C, and 1 min at 25°C. Purified  
140 DNA products were cycle sequenced in both directions using BigDye 3.0 terminator chemistry (Applied  
141 Biosystems, Foster City, CA). The cycle sequencing reaction was carried out in a 12- $\mu$ l volume reaction: 2.5  $\mu$ l  
142 of ABI 5x sequencing buffer, 0.5  $\mu$ l of 10 mM primer, 0.5  $\mu$ l BigDye, 0.5 $\mu$ l DMSO, 7.0  $\mu$ l molecular grade  
143 water and 1  $\mu$ l of cleaned PCR product. The sequencing program started with 25 cycles of 95°C for 10 s, 50°C  
144 for 5 s and 60°C for 5 min and a final step of 5 min at 20°C (Barber et al., 2006). Afterwards, the labelled DNA  
145 sequences were precipitated with ethanol, resuspended in formamide, and sent to Life Sciences Core  
146 Laboratories Center at Cornell University for sequencing on an Automated 3730 DNA Analyzer (Applied  
147 Biosystems, Inc.).

148

149 *2.3. Microsatellite PCR amplification and genotyping*

150           Seven out of 11 microsatellite loci developed for *T. gratilla* (Carlon and Lippé, 2007) were used  
151 (Supplementary Table S1). The other four loci were excluded due to persistence of null alleles in all  
152 subpopulations tested (Carlon and Lippé, 2007). PCR amplifications of three loci: Tgr-B11, Tgr-C117, and Tgr-  
153 D134 were carried out in multiplex while the remaining four loci (i.e. Tgr-24, Tgr-A11, Tgr-C11, and Tgr-D5)  
154 were individually amplified in separate PCR runs. The multiplex PCR consisted of 1 µl genomic DNA extracts,  
155 1 µl 10x PCR buffer, 1 µl of 8 mM dNTPs, 1 µl of 1mg/ml Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA A7030 Sigma), 0.8 µl  
156 of 25 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.05 µl of Amplitaq polymerase (5 units/µl), 2.15 µl of molecular grade water, and the  
157 forward and reverse primers (10 mM) of each locus, 0.25 µl Tgr-B11, 1.0 µl Tgr-C117, and 0.25 µl Tgr-D134  
158 adding to a final volume of 10 µl.

159           For single-locus PCR, the 10-µl reactions contained 4.15 µl of molecular grade water, 0.5 µl of the  
160 forward and reverse primers (10 mM) of a specific locus with same volume of the remaining reagents as  
161 described above. The temperature profile of the PCR was the following: an initial denaturation at 94°C for 7 min  
162 followed by several cycles (38-40 times) of denaturing at 94°C for 30 s, annealing at T<sub>A</sub> for 30 s (Supplementary  
163 Table S1), and elongation of 5 min at 72°C. PCR products were then electrophoresed in 1% agarose gels,  
164 stained with ethidium bromide, and examined under UV light.

165           For genotyping, microsatellite loci were divided into two pooling sets of PCR products. One pooling  
166 set was a mixture of 0.5 µl PCR products of locus Tgr-24 and 1.0 µl of the multiplex PCR products. The other  
167 set was comprised of 1.0 µl PCR products of locus Tgr-C11 and 0.5 µl PCR products of each locus, Tgr-D5 and  
168 Tgr-A11. In each well of a 96-well plate, a set of pooled PCR products were combined with 9 µl Formamide-  
169 GeneScan™ 500 LIZ® (Applied Biosystems) mixture. The master mix solution was initially prepared in a  
170 microcentrifuge tube by combining 985 µl of formamide and 15 µl of GeneScan™ 500 LIZ®. The latter served  
171 as internal molecular weight standard for allele calling. The PCR products were sent to Life Sciences Core  
172 Laboratories Center at Cornell University and analyzed on Automated 3730xl DNA Analyzer (Applied  
173 Biosystems, Inc.) with a fluorescent-based detection system.

174

175 *2.4 Sequence data analysis*

176           Electropherograms were visualized, proofread and compiled in Sequencher v4.8 (GeneCode, Ann  
177 Arbor, MI) and the resulting sequences were aligned in MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004). Sequence data was collapsed

178 into unique haplotypes using the web tool, FaBOX (Villesen, 2007). A haplotype network was created in TCS  
179 v1.21 (Clement et al., 2000) using a statistical parsimony procedure. A minimum spanning tree based on  
180 pairwise differences was also generated in Arlequin v3.5 (Excoffier and Lischer, 2010) and visualized in  
181 FigTree (Rambaut, 2009). To illustrate the relationships between unique haplotypes, the minimum spanning  
182 haplotype tree was edited to reflect key results from TCS v1.21 (Clement et al., 2000). The dominant haplotypes  
183 were also compared with sequences deposited in Genbank with BLASTN v2.2.24+ (Zhang et al., 2000) at the  
184 nucleotide collection (nr/nt) database. A number of sequences from different localities were downloaded and a  
185 neighbor-joining tree was generated using MEGA4 (Tamura et al., 2007) under nucleotide models of Log-Det  
186 and Kimura 2-parameter (following Lessios et al., 2003) with 1000 bootstrap replicates.

187 Genetic diversity indexes were calculated for each population with Arlequin v3.5 (Excoffier and  
188 Lischer, 2010): number of haplotypes (Nh), number of polymorphic sites (Np), haplotype diversity (h), and  
189 nucleotide diversity ( $\pi$ ). The same program was used to examine genetic differentiation among populations  
190 using an analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) based on haplotype frequency and sequence divergence ( $F_{ST}$   
191 and  $\Phi_{ST}$ , respectively). Pairwise genetic distances ( $F_{ST}$  and  $\Phi_{ST}$ ) between populations were also calculated and  
192 significance values were determined by performing 10000 permutations among the individuals between  
193 population.

194 The relationship between genetic distance and geographical distance among populations was examined  
195 using IBDWS v3.16 (Jensen et al., 2005). Mantel tests were performed with 10,000 permutations on genetic  
196 distance obtained from Arlequin v3.5 and the measured geographical distances between localities determined  
197 from Google Earth® as the shortest distance over the sea.

198 The sequence data were further analyzed for information on changes in the long-term effective  
199 population size of *T. gratilla*. Fu's  $F_S$  (1997) generated in Arlequin v3.5 was examined to test for significant  
200 departures from the neutral model. These analyses were performed for each population as well as for the pooled  
201 Philippines sequences. In addition, a Bayesian skyline plot was generated in BEAST v1.5.3 (Drummond et al.,  
202 2005) to estimate past population dynamics over time back to the most recent common ancestor of the gene  
203 sequences. The program utilizes a standard Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling procedure in  
204 estimating a posterior distribution of effective population size through time from sequence data given any  
205 specified nucleotide-substitution model (Drummond et al., 2005). Due to computational constraints for a large  
206 dataset, a subsample of 100 sequences randomly chosen from unstructured populations was analyzed on  
207 processors provided by the Cornell Computational Biology Service Unit web-computing facility



208 (<http://cbsuapps.tc.cornell.edu/beast.aspx>). The subsampled dataset was run 6 times for 40 million steps to  
209 ensure convergence under an HKY+G model of nucleotide substitution, strict clock model (fixed clock rate of  
210 1.0), and linear skyline model (skyline groups = 5) with the default priors for model parameters and statistics as  
211 specified in BEAUti ( $\kappa$ : Gamma prior [0.05, 40], initial = 1.0;  $\alpha$ : Uniform [0, 1 000], initial = 0.5;  
212 skyline.popSize: Uniform [0,  $\infty$ ], initial = 0.0030). The mutation model for this sequence data was determined  
213 through jModelTest v.0.1.1 (Posada, 2008) implementing Bayesian Information Criterion selection strategies.  
214 Logfiles and treefiles from the replicate runs were examined for convergence in Tracer v1.5 and were combined  
215 together using LogCombiner. The skyline plot was created in Tracer v1.5 from the combined treefiles and  
216 logfiles (Rambaut and Drummond, 2009). The estimates from BEAST were converted into units of time and  
217 effective population size using a lineage mutation rate of 1.4%, 1.75%, and 2.67% per million years (MY) as a  
218 heuristic values based from studies on *Tripneustes* (Lessios et al. 2003), *Echinometra* (McCartney et al., 2000)  
219 and *Protoreaster nodosus* (Crandall et al., 2012), respectively.

220

## 221 2.5. Microsatellite analysis

222 Chromatograms were examined in STRand v2.3 (Toonen and Hughes, 2001) to determine the fragment  
223 sizes (alleles) of each locus per sample. All samples were checked manually and samples with ambiguous peaks  
224 were not scored. Descriptive statistics including number of alleles, allelic richness (standardized to the smallest  
225 sample size, n=29), observed ( $H_o$ ) and expected ( $H_e$ ) heterozygosity (Nei, 1978) were determined for each  
226 population at each locus using FSTAT v. 2.9.3 (Goudet, 1995). For each locus and each sampled population, the  
227 inbreeding coefficient ( $F_{IS}$ ) was calculated and significance was estimated with 840 randomizations as  
228 implemented in the same program. Genotypic linkage disequilibrium (LD) of all locus pairs and deviations from  
229 Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) of each locus in every population were tested using the web version of  
230 Genepop v4.0.10 (Rousset, 2008). For the evaluation of HWE, data for each locus were initially analyzed by  
231 testing for the general probability of departure from HWE. When a significant departure was found, the more  
232 explicit hypotheses of heterozygote excess ( $H_e < H_o$ ) and heterozygote deficit ( $H_e > H_o$ ) were tested. In all tests,  
233 parameters were set at 1000 dememorizations, 1000 batches, and 10000 iterations per batch. The classical one-  
234 stage corrections for the false discovery rate (FDR) method (Verhoeven et al., 2005; Pike, 2010) were applied to  
235 the p-values obtained in tests with multiple comparisons (i.e. HWE, LD, heterozygote deficits, and inbreeding  
236 coefficient) to generate q-values. Micro-Checker v2.2.3 (Van Oosterhout and Hutchinson, 2004) was also used  
237 to identify possible genotyping errors due to null alleles, large allele dropout or mis-scoring of stutter peaks.

238 Results of analysis in Micro-checker indicated the possible presence of null alleles in all populations at locus  
239 Tgr-24, Tgr-A11, Tgr-B11; 4 populations at locus Tgr-D5; and 2 populations at locus Tgr-C11 and Tgr-C117.  
240 Among these loci, Tgr-24 was the most likely to have null alleles based on the highest frequency of PCR failure,  
241 significant departure from HWE in all populations, and highest level of inbreeding coefficient. Tgr-24 is thus  
242 considered a deviant locus in this study and subsequent analyses were carried out without this locus.

243 Genetic differentiation among the sampled sea urchin populations was initially examined by testing the  
244 significance of genotypic differentiation for all populations and all pairs of populations in Genepop v4.0.10 on  
245 the web (1000 dememorizations, 1000 batches, and 10000 iterations per batch). In Arlequin v3.5, genetic  
246 differentiation of populations was evaluated under the assumptions of unstructured AMOVA (or single group of  
247 populations) and infinite allele model. Because high levels of heterozygosity can lower the maximum value of  
248  $F_{ST}$ , we also measured  $G'_{ST}$  and  $D_{EST}$ , which correct for this problem using SMOGD (Crawford, 2010). Another  
249 test of population differentiation was carried out in BAPS v5 (Corander et al., 2008) which was based on a  
250 Bayesian clustering method. This population mixture analysis requires input of the maximum number of  
251 genetically diverged groups (K). In this analysis, clustering of groups of individuals was carried out using  
252 several K values (1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) and analyses were run three times for each K value. In addition we used the  
253 Bayesian coalescent sampler Migrate v3.5.1 (Beerli and Palzewski, 2010) to test a model of genetic structure  
254 ( $k=2$ , Guimaras vs. Northern Luzon sites) against no structure ( $k=1$ ). We used a Brownian motion model of  
255 mutation, and windowed, exponential priors on  $\Theta$  ( $1 \times 10^{-4}$  to  $1 \times 10^3$ ) and  $m/\mu$  ( $1 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $1 \times 10^4$ ). Each model  
256 was run for 1 million steps, with 10,000 steps removed as burnin, and 10 heated chains ranging in temperature  
257 from 1 to  $1 \times 10^5$ . Model selection was based on Bayes Factors calculated from the marginal likelihood of each  
258 model, as estimated from a Bezier approximation to thermodynamic integration over the heated chains (see  
259 Beerli and Palzewski 2010, Crandall et al., 2012). Based on unbiased genetic distance (Nei, 1978), a UPGMA  
260 (unweighted pair-group method using arithmetic averages) tree of sampled populations was generated (1000  
261 bootstraps) in TFPGA v1.3 (Miller, 1997). A Mantel test was carried out in IBDWS v3.16 (Jensen et al., 2005)  
262 to test for a positive relationship between geographical distance (measured as shortest distance by sea) and  
263 pairwise genetic differentiation obtained from Arlequin v3.5 based on 10000 random permutations.

264 To estimate contemporary effective population size of the *T. gratilla* population in Northwest Luzon,  
265 we employed a method that utilizes the mean squared correlation in allele frequencies (i.e. linkage  
266 disequilibrium) implemented in the LDNe software (Waples, 2006; Waples and Do, 2008). We combined data  
267 from all localities except for Guimaras and Lucero (which showed a small amount of non-significant structure

268 with other localities), and only included alleles with a frequency greater than 0.02, which Waples and Do (2010)  
269 have shown to balance the precision provided by many alleles with the bias created by rare alleles. Confidence  
270 intervals were determined with a one-delete jackknife over loci.

271 To infer past demographic events from the microsatellite data, Bottleneck v1.2.02 (Piry et al., 1999)  
272 was used to determine whether the sampled populations have experienced a reduction in their effective  
273 population size. In principle, a severe reduction of effective population size results in a progressive reduction of  
274 number of alleles and heterozygosity at polymorphic loci. However, the number of alleles is reduced faster than  
275 the heterozygosity ( $H_e$ ); hence, a transient excess in  $H_e$  is expected to characterize a bottlenecked population. To  
276 detect heterozygosity excess ( $H_e > H_{eq}$ ), this program compares the expected heterozygosity ( $H_e$ ) calculated from  
277 allele frequency and expected equilibrium heterozygosity ( $H_{eq}$ ) (i.e. no bottleneck) derived from the number of  
278 alleles found in the samples. The comparison of these heterozygosity parameters ( $H_e$  and  $H_{eq}$ ) is in the context  
279 of Nei's gene diversities (1978). Thus, this heterozygosity excess ( $H_e > H_{eq}$ ) should not be confused with excess  
280 of heterozygotes ( $H_e < H_o$ ) which compares the proportion of heterozygotes with expectations of Hardy-  
281 Weinberg equilibrium. The calculations were performed using the infinite allele model. Since there were fewer  
282 than 20 loci, Wilcoxon's test was used to determine the significance of the observed heterozygosity excess of  
283 the population (Piry et al., 1999). Bottleneck analyses excluding one or two and all of the putative loci with null  
284 alleles (i.e. Tgr-24, Tgr-A11, Tgr-B11) using the original and Brookfield corrected data were also carried out.

285

### 286 3. Results

#### 287 3.1. Genetic diversity

288 Mitochondrial CO1 sequences were obtained from 282 individuals of *T. gratilla* sampled from 10 sites.  
289 The 605-bp sequences were aligned without indels and collapsed into 79 unique haplotypes characterized by 69  
290 polymorphic sites (Supplementary Table S2; GenBank accession numbers: [JX661089-JX661167](#)). Most of  
291 these haplotypes occurred only once (57 singleton or 72% of the total unique haplotypes). Based on overall  
292 frequency, the haplotypes found to be dominant were sequence 1 (34.8%), 10 (11.7%), and 3 (9.3%) while the  
293 rest of the haplotypes occurred less often (<2.5%). The minimum spanning tree revealed three star-like  
294 polytomies with the dominant haplotypes separated by only one nucleotide difference (Fig. 1). All haplotypes  
295 were closely related as they differed by only 1 to 10 unique mutations. The most frequent and broadly  
296 distributed haplotype 1 was also identified by TCS v1.21 (Clement et al., 2000) as the most probable ancestral  
297 haplotype. A neighbor-joining tree generated from a number of sequences from Lessios et al. (2003) showed

298 that the dominant haplotypes in this present study were also shared with other populations from different parts  
299 of the world (Fig. 2). Interestingly, the most dominant haplotype 1 was shared by *T. gratilla* and *Tripneustes*  
300 *depressus* populations from several localities across the Indian and Pacific Oceans (Fig. 2). Haplotype 1 was  
301 also the most common haplotype in the global phylogeographic survey comprising about 18% of the pooled  
302 sample of *T. gratilla* and *T. depressus* (Lessios et al., 2003).

303 Geographical distribution and relative frequency of unique haplotypes are shown in Fig. 3. The three  
304 dominant haplotypes comprised the major proportion of the samples in all sites except Burgos where haplotype  
305 3 was not sampled. Minor haplotypes were also shared by 2 to 6 populations. Private or site-specific haplotypes  
306 were present in each population but comprised a small proportion of the samples (range 9.5 to 23.3%). In each  
307 sampled population, the number of haplotypes ranged from 12 to 20 and number of polymorphic sites ranged  
308 from 12 to 24 (Table 2) indicating high degree of genetic diversity. Overall, the haplotype diversity was high  
309 (mean  $h = 0.8554 \pm 0.0592$ ) while nucleotide diversity was low (mean  $\pi = 0.0031 \pm 0.0005$ ) (Table 2).

310 A total of 277 sea urchins from 6 localities were genotyped at seven microsatellite loci (Supplementary  
311 Table S3) but a number of individuals (no more than 12 per locus) had missing data at some loci due to  
312 technical causes (i.e. PCR failure, ambiguous peaks). There was no significant linkage disequilibrium after  
313 adjustment for multiple comparisons indicating that none of the loci were physically linked. Overall, there were  
314 153 alleles found in all loci ranging from 9 to 41 alleles per locus. When averaged across populations, the  
315 number of alleles per locus ranged from 7 to 28 alleles (or 6 to 24 alleles in terms of allelic richness). There  
316 were 27 private alleles occurring at low frequency (0.010 to 0.021) across the sampled localities. High genetic  
317 diversity is indicated by the mean and total expected heterozygosities of each locus ranging from 0.658 to 0.952  
318 and 0.663 to 0.952, respectively.

319 There were significant discrepancies in the observed and expected heterozygotes per locus averaged  
320 across the populations, indicating a high level of deviation from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE). Out of 42  
321 single locus tests per population, 27 (64.3%) did not conform to the expectations of HWE (Probability test,  
322  $p < 0.05$ , Supplementary Table S3). Further evaluation of HWE showed that majority of the populations that were  
323 not in equilibrium had deficits in the number of heterozygotes (34 out of 42 tests were significant) and none had  
324 heterozygote excesses (data not shown). In all sampled populations, more than half of the microsatellite loci  
325 used in the study had heterozygote deficiency (Supplementary Table S3). Locus Tgr-24 was the most notable for  
326 its significant HWE departure and heterozygote deficiency in all populations. Likewise, Tgr-A11 and Tgr-B11  
327 also exhibited high degree of HWE deviation. The remaining four loci had fewer departures from HWE and

328 were at equilibrium in at least three sites. Null alleles have been identified as the most probable technical cause  
329 of observed heterozygote deficit for these microsatellite loci as also reported in the primer note (Carlson and  
330 Lippé, 2007). As we found no evidence for nulls at 4 loci and estimates of  $F_{IS}$  were positive at all loci, the  
331 presence of null alleles can only partly explain the HWE departures observed in *T. gratilla* populations and  
332 other processes (e.g. selection, demographic effects) may still have significant role in reducing heterozygosity.

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### 334 3.2. Population genetic structure

335 Analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) based on mitochondrial sequence data found no significant  
336 population differentiation among population within western Luzon ( $F_{ST}=-0.004$ ,  $p=0.696$  and  $\Phi_{ST}=-0.004$ ,  
337  $p=0.727$ ). Genetic differentiation among sea urchin populations sampled across the archipelago were also not  
338 significant ( $F_{ST}=-0.003$ ,  $p=0.736$  or  $\Phi_{ST}=-0.003$ ,  $p=0.767$ ). Pairwise  $F_{ST}$  values were less than 0.02 and none  
339 were significant (data not shown). The genetic and geographic distance were not positively correlated ( $Z=-$   
340  $69.6316$ ,  $r=-0.1081$ , Mantel test,  $p=0.7202$ ).

341 Similar results were found in the analysis of microsatellite data. The fixation index values were also  
342 very low ( $F_{ST}<0.01$ ) and genetic differentiation among populations were not significant (AMOVA, global  
343  $F_{ST}=0.001$ ,  $p=0.719$ ). Per-locus estimates for  $G'_{ST}$  and  $D_{EST}$  were all below 0.02 (Supplementary Tables S4 and  
344 S5). The UPGMA dendrogram also showed that the clustering of *T. gratilla* populations did not conform to the  
345 expected grouping based on geographical distance between locations (Supplementary Fig. S1). This is  
346 consistent with a lack of correlation between genetic and geographic distance ( $Z=1.4041$ ,  $r=-0.3958$ , Mantel  
347 test,  $p=0.8591$ ). For example, Lucero and Victory populations were not clustered together despite their  
348 proximity of less than 10 km apart. Further analyses also showed that genotypic differentiation for all  
349 populations and pair-wise population comparisons were not significant (Fisher's method:  $\chi^2=6.072$ ,  $p=0.965$ ).  
350 The Bayesian approach employed in BAPS v5 was also not able to partition the sampling localities. A model  
351 with a single population ( $k=1$ ) had a higher marginal likelihood value ( $\log ML=-8067.51$ ) than the rest of  
352 population models tested with probability values ranging from -8224.19 to -8916.66. Similarly, the  $k=1$  model  
353 in Migrate had a much higher marginal likelihood (-132,118) than a  $k=2$  model (-775,726), although both  
354 models showed good convergence as evaluated by effective sample sizes greater than 400.

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### 358 3.3. Demographic history inferences

359 Fu's  $F_S$  values were significantly negative (Table 2,  $p=0.0001$ ) in all sites, indicating an excess of rare  
360 haplotypes and the rejection of the null model of neutral evolution. Similarly, the Bayesian skyline plot revealed  
361 population growth in local sea urchin populations (Fig. 4). The abrupt increase of effective population size was  
362 within the range of 30000-55000 years ago (median time) assuming a lineage mutation rate maximum at 2.67%  
363 and minimum at 1.4%, respectively. Long-term coalescent  $N_e$  was estimated to range between 0.6 and 13.5  
364 million effective females depending on which mutation rate was used. LDNe estimated contemporary effective  
365 size for Northwest Luzon to be 6535.5 from six microsatellite loci, with a lower bound of 448.4 and an infinite  
366 upper bound. This infinite upper bound is consistent with the absence of significant linkage disequilibrium  
367 found by Genepop (Waples and Do, 2010). Bottleneck analysis of the microsatellite data revealed an excess in  
368 expected heterozygosity, which indicates a decline in the effective population size of *T. gratilla*. Expected  
369 heterozygosity ( $H_e$ ) was generally found to be higher than the expected equilibrium heterozygosity ( $H_{eq}$ ) in 33  
370 out of 42 comparisons (Table 3) and the multi-locus statistical test showed that the observed heterozygosity  
371 excess was significant in all sampled populations (Wilcoxon test,  $p=0.008-0.016$ , Table 3). Analyses that  
372 excluded Tgr-A11 or Tgr-B11, which were also suspected with null alleles, still showed significant  
373 heterozygosity excess in all populations (data not shown). In addition, this result stayed highly significant when  
374 genotype data were corrected for null-alleles (Brookfield, 1996) and with Tgr-24 re-added to the dataset  
375 (Supplementary Table S6).

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## 377 4. Discussion

### 378 4.1. Non-equilibrium populations and absence of genetic structure in the Philippines

379 Western Luzon populations of *T. gratilla* were found to be genetically homogeneous and not  
380 significantly distinct from populations in other regions of the Philippines. These results from seven  
381 microsatellite loci and a mitochondrial locus are consistent with the findings of the previous genetic survey that  
382 used allozyme markers (Malay et al., 2002). The observed genetic homogeneity of *T. gratilla* populations along  
383 the western Luzon coasts is consistent with its life history features that predict long-distance larval dispersal.  
384 The low and non-significant  $F_{ST}$  values ( $F_{ST} < 0.02$ ) obtained for this species indicate the persistence of enough  
385 gene flow among the sampled populations of about 10 or more migrants per generation (Lowe and Allendorf,  
386 2010). Based on a passive particle dispersal model in the Western Luzon region (Bernardo, 2011), the estimated  
387 range of dispersal distance for *T. gratilla* larvae was about 116 to 1060 km after 52 days depending on source

388 location and season (L. Bernardo, unpubl data). Considering that *T. gratilla* is a year-round spawner (Tuason,  
389 1980), larvae can be effectively supplied over a wide range of oceanographic conditions (e.g. Addison et al.,  
390 2008), exposing them to current vectors that may move in opposite directions depending on the monsoon  
391 seasons (e.g. Juinio-Meñez and Villanoy, 1994), thereby further enhancing the extent of larval exchange within  
392 the region.

393         The lack of genetic structure across the archipelago, however, could not be entirely explained by  
394 contemporary oceanographic processes. This is in contrast with the findings of other local genetic studies in the  
395 Philippines on marine species with biphasic life-histories that revealed broad to fine-scale genetic structure  
396 within the archipelago that conformed with current patterns or biogeographic divisions (e.g. *Linckia laevigata* -  
397 Juinio-Meñez et al., 2003; *Siganus fuscescens* - Magsino and Juinio-Meñez, 2008; Ravago-Gotanco and Juinio-  
398 Meñez, 2010). Perhaps a better explanation for the absence of detectable genetic structure in our data is that the  
399 underlying structure has been obscured by non-equilibrium processes such as the demographic changes  
400 described below (Excoffier et al., 2009; Marko and Hart, 2011). Based on the large effective population size  
401 estimated from microsatellites for the Northwest Luzon population ( $N_e = 6535.5$ ), and assuming an ecologically  
402 high rate of gene flow ( $m = 0.1$ ), we estimate that it would take  $\sim 4700$  generations for  $F_{ST}$  values to move  
403 halfway to their equilibrium value following any of these demographic changes (Crow and Aoki 1984). The  
404 inferred absence of equilibrium between gene flow and genetic drift is initially evidenced by the lack of  
405 significant correlation between geographic and genetic distance for both markers (Slatkin, 1993). This is further  
406 supported by the observed sharing of the dominant mitochondrial haplotypes with samples from Reunion Island  
407 in Western Indian Ocean and even with its congeneric species, *T. depressus* in the Galapagos Islands in the  
408 eastern Pacific (Lessios et al., 2003). This lack of divergence across the Eastern Pacific Barrier and the  
409 incomplete sorting of the mitochondrial lineage for the genus *Tripneustes* indicate the persistence of genetic  
410 patterns shaped by evolutionary events in the past (Benzie, 1999; Lessios et al., 2003).

411         For the microsatellite data, significant departures from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium due to  
412 heterozygote deficiency also substantiate the non-equilibrium state of *T. gratilla* populations. Heterozygote  
413 deficiency has been associated primarily with ecological processes such as inbreeding, recent admixture,  
414 selection, or accumulation of genetically distinct cohorts (e.g. Watts et al., 1990; Addison and Hart, 2004; van  
415 Oppen et al., 2008). Considering that populations in this study were genetically homogeneous and have high  
416 inbreeding coefficients without linkage disequilibrium, the most probable explanation for the heterozygote  
417 deficiency would be the significant genetic differentiation among cohorts or the temporal Wahlund effect (i.e.

418 Watts et al., 1990). This has been suggested to be a consequence of large variance in reproductive success or  
419 differential survival during the planktonic larval stage or immediately after settlement at early benthic stage  
420 (Watts et al., 1990; Hedgecock, 1994; Hedgecock et al., 2007; Hedgecock et al., 2011). This hypothesis, also  
421 known as sweepstakes reproductive success, suggests that this large reproductive variance is due to asynchrony  
422 between oceanographic and biological conditions that may influence larval development, dispersal, and  
423 recruitment (Hedgecock, 1994; Hedgecock et al., 2007, Hedgecock et al., 2011). *T. gratilla* is predisposed to  
424 large variance in reproductive or recruitment success based on its life history features (i.e. high fecundity,  
425 broadcast spawning, long planktonic larval duration), patchy distribution, and dynamic habitat (Shimabukuro,  
426 1991; Lawrence and Agatsuma, 2001). In support of this idea, preliminary genetic analysis of *T. gratilla* recruits  
427 and adults sampled from local populations in Santiago Island, Bolinao indicate genetic variability among  
428 cohorts (Casilagan, 2011). Overall, these non-equilibrium results at the archipelagic scale are in agreement with  
429 the chaotic population structure and absence of equilibrium that has been found across the entire species range  
430 (Lessios et al., 2003).

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#### 432 4.2. Discordance in demographic trends inferred by mtDNA and microsatellites

433 Estimates of long-term coalescent effective population size from the mtDNA data were orders of  
434 magnitude larger than estimates of contemporary effective size based on linkage disequilibrium in the  
435 microsatellite data. This is unsurprising, because the two markers and methods are estimating over very different  
436 temporal and spatial scales. The mtDNA data integrates over the coalescent history of the genetic sample, and  
437 therefore reflects the population size of the global *T. gratilla* population, which may include the entire Indo-  
438 Pacific, as indicated by the vast ranges of shared haplotypes in Fig. 2 (Lessios et al., 2003). On the other hand,  
439 linkage disequilibrium is a transient phenomenon that occurs among loci, and  $N_e$  estimates from the  
440 microsatellite data reflect only the effective number of parents from which the current sample was drawn. Thus,  
441 this estimate represents the effective size of the breeding population in Northwest Luzon in 2007-2008. The  
442 linkage disequilibrium method has been shown to be robust to migration from outside the sampled region unless  
443 the percentage of migrants from outside is greater than 5%-10% (Waples and England, 2011).

444 Similarly, demographic analyses of mitochondria and microsatellite data suggested contrasting  
445 demographic events in the history of *T. gratilla* populations in the Philippines. The mitochondrial lineages  
446 indicated population expansion while microsatellite data exhibited genetic signatures of a population decline. In  
447 particular, the highly negative  $F_s$ 's  $F_s$ , star-like haplotype network, high haplotype diversity and low nucleotide



448 diversity provided initial evidence of demographic expansion in the mtDNA. As shown by the Bayesian skyline  
449 plot, the initiation of the abrupt population growth occurred during Pleistocene. Demographic expansion during  
450 the Pleistocene also been reported for other marine taxa in the Indo-Pacific region such as gastropods (Crandall  
451 et al., 2008a), echinoderms (Crandall et al., 2008b; Kochzius et al., 2009), crustaceans (Benzie et al., 2002), and  
452 fish (Rohfritsch and Borsa, 2005; Liu et al., 2007; Ravago-Gotanco and Juinio-Meñez, 2010). The Pleistocene  
453 era was characterized by changing sea levels and temperatures due to glaciations and deglaciations (Roy et al.,  
454 1996; Rohling et al., 1998; Siddall et al., 2003). Particularly in Southeast Asia, sea levels were reduced to more  
455 than 120 m below the present levels (Voris, 2000) which would have exposed reef flats causing local extinction  
456 especially of species in shallow habitats. Following the Last Glacial Maximum (~20000 years BP), flooding of  
457 the shelves provided newly-available habitat for re-colonization and subsequent population expansion (e.g.  
458 Crandall et al., 2008a, 2008b; Ravago-Gotanco and Juinio-Meñez, 2010). The populations of *T. gratilla*, being a  
459 shallow-water echinoid, were likely been influenced by these historical events.

460 On the other hand, microsatellite data indicate demographic decline in *T. gratilla* populations.  
461 Significant heterozygosity excess was observed in most loci in all populations, and indicates a deficiency in  
462 alleles that characterizes bottlenecked populations. It might at first be thought that, because microsatellites  
463 evolve relatively faster than the mitochondrial markers, the bottleneck might be of anthropogenic origin,  
464 associated with the recent collapse in the *T. gratilla* fishery (Talaue-McManus and Kesner, 1995). However, the  
465 method used here detects bottlenecks that happened around 0.2-4.0  $N_e$  generations ago (Cornuet and Luikart,  
466 1996). Based on our estimates of contemporary effective size, this means that the bottleneck could have  
467 occurred between 90 to more than 26,000 generations ago or similar values in years ago, assuming 1 year  
468 generation time (Bangi, 2001; Lawrence and Agatsuma, 2001). This estimate suggests that the bottleneck  
469 detected by the microsatellites cannot be attributed to the most recent collapse of the *T. gratilla* fishery, which  
470 occurred in the 1990's, but might be attributed to earlier undocumented anthropogenic pressure, or else to  
471 environmental changes during the late Pleistocene.

472 The seemingly discordant inferences of a population expansion in mtDNA and a bottleneck in  
473 microsatellites can be reconciled in a number of ways. First, microsatellites are better suited for detecting  
474 population declines than they are for detecting expansions (Cornuet and Luikart, 1996), so both inferences may  
475 be correct. Given the rough range of dates that we inferred for each type of marker (expansion at 30-55 kya in  
476 mtDNA, contraction at 0.009 – 26 kya in microsatellites), it is probable that a population decline detected by the  
477 microsatellites occurred after the expansion detected in the mtDNA. Second, due to lack of recombination, it is

478 also possible that the mitochondrial genome had undergone a selective sweep or introgression (Ballard and  
479 Whitlock, 2004). The sharing of dominant haplotypes among Indo-Pacific *T. gratilla* and eastern Pacific *T.*  
480 *depressus* suggests recent introgression among these species, especially since a recent global survey of  
481 *Tripneustes* using microsatellite markers revealed that *T. gratilla* can be genetically distinguished from the *T.*  
482 *depressus* at nuclear loci (Carlson, pers comm). Hence, the observed genetic signature of population growth could  
483 also be a consequence of selective sweep following introgression. Finally, it is possible that departures from the  
484 neutral model detected in both mtDNA sequence and microsatellites could be the result of purifying selection.  
485 While the mtDNA and microsatellite variation that we measured is putatively neutral, selection could have  
486 occurred on nearby linked genes (i.e. background selection). Background selection has been shown to produce  
487 patterns similar to population growth in sequence data (Fu, 1997) as well as to cause a loss of rare alleles that  
488 might indicate a bottleneck in the microsatellite data (Charlesworth et al., 1993). Discordant inferences between  
489 mtDNA and microsatellites have been noticed in a number of other marine taxa as well, and likely have to do  
490 with the large variance in genealogies that is possible in species with large effective population sizes (DiBattista  
491 et al., 2012). To disentangle the signals of historical processes related to demographic fluctuation from those of  
492 selective processes, it might be necessary to obtain sequence data from multiple nuclear regions (e.g. Calderón  
493 et al., 2008)

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#### 495 4.3. Conservation implications

496 Conservation of *T. gratilla* as a species is a relevant concern because it is the top target echinoid  
497 species for commercial harvesting in the tropical and subtropical region. In this context, identification of  
498 evolutionary significant units (ESUs, Moritz, 1994) and evaluating species vulnerability would be important.  
499 The genetic analysis did not reveal distinct ESUs or indications of cryptic speciation based on the absence of  
500 deep phylogenetic divergence. Based on the species' wide distribution range and the estimates of population  
501 genetic diversity and variability (i.e. high genetic diversity, broad distribution of major haplotypes, and  
502 extensive genetic exchange), the vulnerability of the species to extinction is low. Our data, however, also  
503 suggest that populations in the Philippines have undergone large demographic fluctuations in the past, perhaps  
504 similar to the anthropogenic changes that we are seeing now. Although recent recovery of overharvested  
505 populations was observed (Juinio-Meñez et al., 2008), the persistent harvesting and habitat degradation still pose  
506 a serious threat of local depletion. With the absence of genetic structuring particularly in western Luzon region,  
507 a precautionary approach to management (e.g. McCook et al., 2009) should be practiced with a degree of

508 “spatial bet-hedging” (sensu Larson and Julian, 1999). This would entail region-wide management interventions  
509 to protect adequate spawning stocks and ensure reliable recruitment in the localities. This can be carried out, for  
510 example, by establishing network of marine protected areas and sea urchin grow-out cage culture sites along the  
511 western Luzon coasts which serves as reproductive reserves and recruitment sites (Malay et al., 2002; Junio-  
512 Meñez et al., 2008; 2009). Consideration of genetic impacts is also still vital especially in implementing the  
513 culture-based management interventions such as the release or grow-out culture of hatchery-produced juveniles  
514 (Ward, 2006). As with all fisheries species, hatchery-based supportive breeding efforts should aim to maximize  
515 genetic diversity in the captive population released into the wild (Ryman and Laikre 1991). Integration of these  
516 insights with other information (i.e. recruitment patterns, demographic data) would facilitate the development of  
517 an effective management scheme that would ensure sustainability of the *T. gratilla* fishery.

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829 **Fig. 1** Minimum spanning tree for the CO1 haplotypes of *T. gratilla*. Filled circle represents a unique haplotype  
830 which was sized proportionally to its absolute frequency, ranging from 1– 98. The dominant haplotypes were  
831 identified by their sequence number. The asterisk denotes the most probable root haplotype while the square  
832 represents unsampled haplotypes as revealed by TCS v1.21 (Clement et al. 2000).

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834 **Fig. 2** Neighbor-joining tree illustrating the relationship of the major CO1 haplotypes in this study and the CO1  
835 sequences from Lessios et al. (2003) based on LogDet substitution model. Numbers next to nodes indicate  
836 bootstrap support from 1000 iterations and nodes with less than 50% support have been collapsed.

837

838 **Fig. 3** Relative frequency of mitochondrial haplotypes per population. Represented in the pie graph are the  
839 major haplotypes (sequence 1, 10, and 3), minor haplotypes (pooled haplotypes with frequency of 2 to 7), and  
840 private haplotypes (haplotypes found in only one site).

841

842 **Fig. 4** Bayesian skyline plots of effective population size ( $N_e$ ) scaled by generation time for CO1 mitochondrial  
843 DNA. The plots run from the present to their median time to most recent common ancestor ( $T_{MRCA}$ ). Grey dotted  
844 lines represent the 95% CI for Net.

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**Table 1**

Sampling location, population code, collection dates, and the number of individuals (n) screened at mitochondrial (CO1) and microsatellite markers.

Sampling sites	Lat (N)	Long (E)	Population Code	Collection date	Mitochondrial	Microsatellite	
					n	Collection date	n
<b>Study Region: Western Luzon</b>							
Bubon, Burgos, Ilocos Norte	18°30'31"	120°34'45"	Burgos (BUR)	Nov-08	29	Nov-08	34
Dadalaquiten, Sinit, Ilocos Sur	17°53'34"	120°26'28"	Sinit (SIN)	Dec-08	28	<i>n.d.</i>	<i>n.d.</i>
Lucero, Bolinao, Pangasinan	16°24'09"	119°54'30"	Lucero (LUC)	Nov-08	21	Nov-09	50
Victory, Bolinao, Pangasinan	16°23'35"	119°57'59"	Victory (VIC)	Nov-08	24	Nov-09	49
Panglit Is., Masinloc, Zambales	15°29'42"	119°55'09"	Masinloc (MAS)	Apr-09	30	Apr-09	48
Matuod, Lian, Batangas	13°59'11"	120°37'40"	Lian (LIA)	Feb-09	30	Feb-09	47
<b>Outgroup Sites</b>							
Bacon, Sorsogon	13°02'24"	124°02'56"	Sorsogon (SOR)	Jul-08	21	<i>n.d.</i>	<i>n.d.</i>
Lawi, Jordan, Guimaras	10°32'45"	122°31'16"	Guimaras (GUI)	Jan-09	47	Dec-09	49
Cantaan, Guinsiliban, Camiguin	09°06'25"	124°48'14"	Camiguin (CAM)	Mar-09	32	<i>n.d.</i>	<i>n.d.</i>
Simunul, Tawi-Tawi	04°54'03"	119°50'56"	Tawi-tawi (TAW)	May-09	20	<i>n.d.</i>	<i>n.d.</i>

**Table 2**

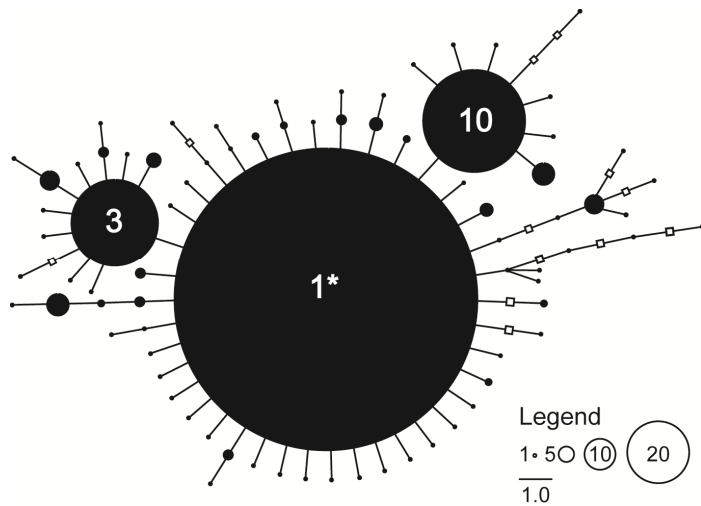
Summary statistics of *Tripneustes gratilla* populations based on CO1 sequences. Population, sampling size (n), measures of genetic diversity (Nh = no. of haplotypes; Np = no. of polymorphic sites; h = haplotype diversity;  $\pi$  = nucleotide diversity; s.d. = standard deviation), and Fu's neutrality test (Fu 1997). All  $F_S$  values were found to be significant ( $p=0.0001$ ) indicating deviation from neutral equilibrium model.

Population	n	Nh	Np	h (s.d.)		$\pi$ (s.d.)		Neutrality test ( $F_S$ )
Burgos	29	13	15	0.7660	(0.0816)	0.0030	(0.0020)	<b>-7.851</b>
Sinit	28	15	16	0.9101	(0.0370)	0.0033	(0.0022)	<b>-10.583</b>
Bolinao	45	20	21	0.8737	(0.0415)	0.0030	(0.0020)	<b>-17.172</b>
Lucero	21	11	11	0.9143	(0.0380)	0.0029	(0.0020)	
Victory	24	14	16	0.8333	(0.0767)	0.0031	(0.0020)	
Masinloc	30	13	12	0.7678	(0.0749)	0.0022	(0.0015)	<b>-10.235</b>
Lian	30	15	21	0.8736	(0.0498)	0.0035	(0.0022)	<b>-9.610</b>
Sorsogon	21	12	13	0.9095	(0.0479)	0.0036	(0.0023)	<b>-6.915</b>
Guimaras	47	18	23	0.8372	(0.0403)	0.0026	(0.0018)	<b>-14.628</b>
Camiguin	32	17	24	0.8347	(0.0646)	0.0036	(0.0023)	<b>-12.468</b>
Tawi-tawi	20	13	13	0.9263	(0.0431)	0.0033	(0.0021)	<b>-9.810</b>

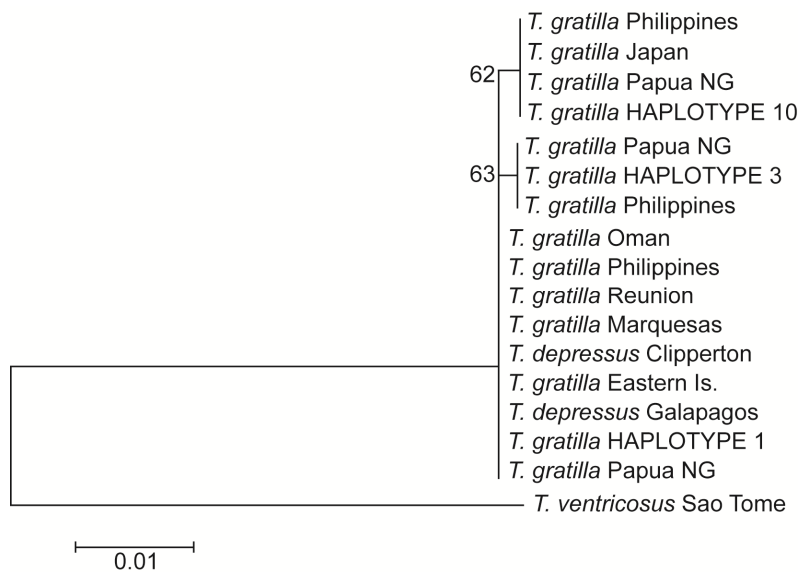
**Table 3**

Bottleneck analysis on *Tripneustes gratilla* microsatellite data from 6 loci (without Tgr-24) under the assumption of infinite allele model. Asterisk (\*) indicate heterozygosity excess ( $H_e > H_{eq}$ ) based on the comparison of expected heterozygosity ( $H_e$ ) and expected equilibrium heterozygosity ( $H_{eq}$ ) of each locus per population. Wilcoxon's test determined the significance of heterozygosity excess across loci in a population. All p-values were significant ( $p < 0.05$ ).

<b>Population</b>	<b>Tgr-A11</b>	<b>Tgr-B11</b>	<b>Tgr-C11</b>	<b>Tgr-C117</b>	<b>Tgr-D134</b>	<b>Tgr-D5</b>	<b>Wilcoxon's test (p-value)</b>
Burgos	*	*	*	*	*	*	<b>0.008</b>
Lucero	*	*	*	-	*	*	<b>0.008</b>
Victory	*	*	*	-	*	*	<b>0.016</b>
Masinloc	*	*	*	*	*	*	<b>0.008</b>
Lian	*	*	*	*	*	*	<b>0.008</b>
Guimaras	*	-	*	*	*	*	<b>0.016</b>

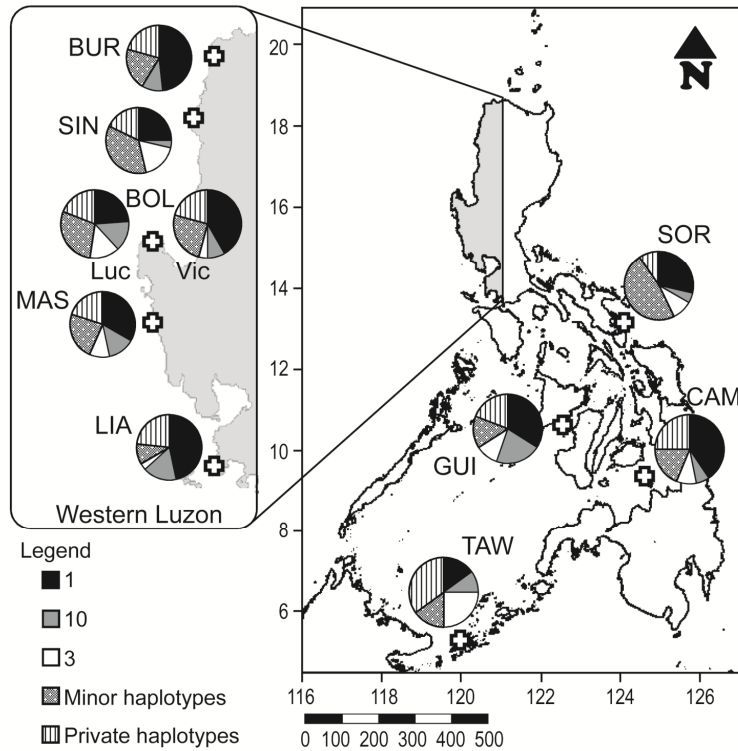


**Fig. 1** Minimum spanning tree for the CO1 haplotypes of *T. gratilla*. Filled circle represents a unique haplotype which was sized proportionally to its absolute frequency, ranging from 1– 98. The dominant haplotypes were identified by their sequence number. The asterisk denotes the most probable root haplotype while the square represents unsampled haplotypes as revealed by TCS v1.21 (Clement et al. 2000).

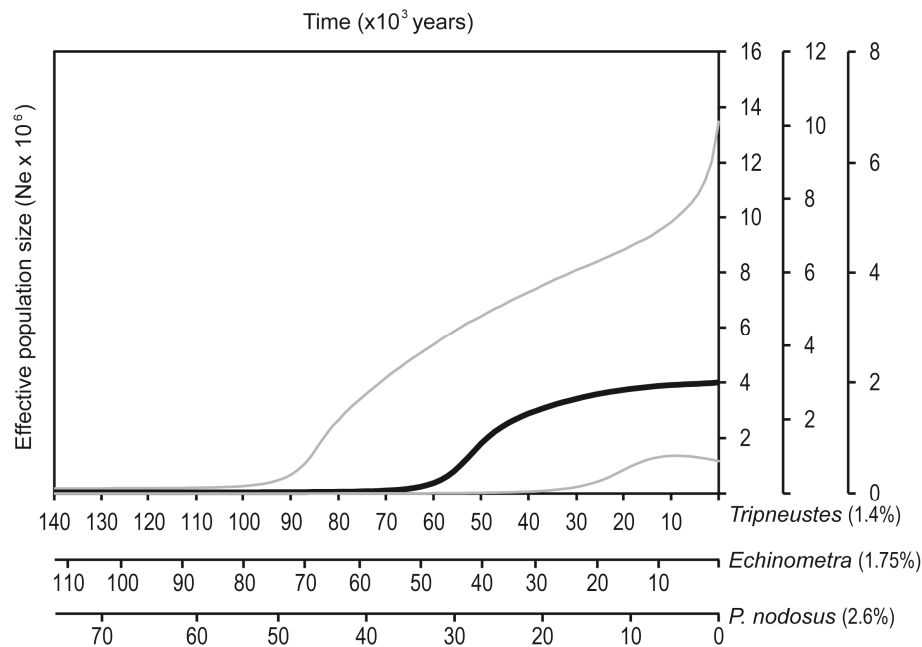


**Fig. 2** Neighbor-joining tree illustrating the relationship of the major CO1 haplotypes in this study and the CO1 sequences from Lessios et al. (2003) based on LogDet substitution model. Numbers next to nodes indicate bootstrap support from 1000 iterations and nodes with less than 50% support have been collapsed.





**Fig. 3** Relative frequency of mitochondrial haplotypes per population. Represented in the pie graph are the major haplotypes (sequence 1, 10, and 3), minor haplotypes (pooled haplotypes with frequency of 2 to 7), and private haplotypes (haplotypes found in only one site).



**Fig. 4** Bayesian skyline plots of effective population size ( $N_e$ ) scaled by generation time for CO1 mitochondrial DNA. The plots run from the present to their median time to most recent common ancestor ( $T_{MRC A}$ ). Grey dotted lines represent the 95% CI.