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The geographic mosaic of herbicide resistance evolution in the common morning glory, *Ipomoea purpurea*: Evidence for resistance hotspots and low genetic differentiation across the landscape

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46 **Abstract**

47 Strong human-mediated selection *via* herbicide application in agroecosystems has repeatedly led
48 to the evolution of resistance in weedy plants. Although resistance can occur among separate
49 populations of a species across the landscape, the spatial scale of resistance in many weeds is
50 often left unexamined. We assessed the potential that resistance to the herbicide glyphosate in
51 the agricultural weed *Ipomoea purpurea* has evolved independently multiple times across its
52 North American range. We examined both adaptive and neutral genetic variation in 44

53 populations of *I. purpurea* by pairing a replicated dose-response greenhouse experiment with
54 SSR genotyping of experimental individuals. We uncovered a mosaic pattern of resistance across
55 the landscape, with some populations exhibiting high survival post-herbicide and other
56 populations showing high death. SSR genotyping revealed little evidence of isolation by distance
57 and very little neutral genetic structure associated with geography. An approximate Bayesian
58 computation (ABC) analysis uncovered evidence for migration and admixture among
59 populations before the widespread use of glyphosate rather than very recent contemporary gene
60 flow. The pattern of adaptive and neutral genetic variation indicates that resistance in this mixed-
61 mating weed species appears to have evolved in independent hotspots rather than through
62 transmission of resistance alleles across the landscape.

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65 Key Words: Morning Glory, Glyphosate, SSR, Weed, Resistance, *Ipomoea purpurea*,
66 approximate Bayesian computation

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75 **Introduction**

76 The evolution of herbicide resistance in weedy plants is an excellent example of
77 adaptation to strong human-mediated selection (Vigueira et al., 2013), and one that, like other
78 examples of resistance to xenobiotics, carries an immense ecological and economic cost. Over
79 230 cases of resistance have evolved in the relatively short period of time in which herbicides
80 have been utilized for weed control (Heap, 2014). This resistance evolution, in practical terms,
81 can mean a dramatic loss of efficacy of weed control for large areas of land, as well as a
82 concomitant change in the weed populations inhabiting both crop fields and crop margins
83 (Culpepper, 2006; Webster & Nichols, 2012). In addition to providing novel study systems for

84 rapid evolutionary change, examination of the forces underlying the evolution of herbicide
85 resistance across populations is key to developing strategies for reducing their impact—one that
86 is estimated to be as high as 33 billion USD, yearly (Pimentel et al. 2005).

87 The ability of a population to adapt to the strong selection from herbicide application is
88 ultimately dependent on the amount and type of genetic variation that is available to selection
89 (Jasieniuk et al., 1996; Delye et al., 2013). Thus the population size, genetic architecture,
90 standing genetic variation, amount of gene flow, and the mutation rate (Hedrick et al., 1976) are
91 all interacting factors that dictate the emergence of resistance across populations. While it has
92 been hypothesized that gene flow between populations may be a more likely cause than novel
93 mutations for the appearance of resistance across the landscape (Jasieniuk et al., 1996), of the
94 few species that have been investigated, only highly self-pollinating species exhibit isolation by
95 distance in the level of resistance—a pattern consistent with the idea that gene flow contributes
96 to the spread of resistance alleles (Osuna et al., 2011; Okada et al., 2013). In comparison, the
97 outcrossing grass species *Alopecurus myosuroides* exhibits a mosaic resistance pattern and no
98 evidence of isolation by distance across populations, suggesting that resistance has evolved
99 independently on a local scale (Delye et al., 2010). Unfortunately, because the majority of
100 herbicide resistance studies are generally either descriptive examinations of the level of
101 resistance across an often limited number of natural populations (Beckie et al., 2000; Preston &
102 Powles, 2002; Neve & Powles 2005; Bernardis et al., 2012), or investigations of the molecular
103 basis of resistance (Marshall & Moss, 2008; Cseh et al., 2009; Beckie et al., 2011; Lang et al.,
104 2011; Sada et al., 2013), we currently have a very limited view of how within- and between-
105 population processes, such as gene flow and heterogeneous selection can influence herbicide
106 resistance evolution across the landscape. Such examinations are, to our knowledge, lacking in
107 species that employ mixed mating systems even though ~32% of weedy plants exhibit a mixed-
108 mating strategy (Kuester et al., 2014). Thus, in addition to the need for more examinations of
109 resistance evolution across the landscape, we also have a broad gap in our understanding of the
110 spatial context of resistance evolution in species that are predominately insect pollinated and/or
111 exhibit mixed mating.

112 The study of the spatial scale of herbicide resistance is relevant to both basic evolutionary
113 biologists and applied scientists for somewhat disparate reasons: evolutionary researchers are
114 fascinated by the repeatability of the evolutionary process whereas applied scientists, who want

115 to maintain low levels of resistance in nature, need to understand where control efforts are best
116 implemented. For example, different management recommendations would be made if resistance
117 evolved in a single population and spread compared to a scenario where herbicide resistance
118 evolved independently in separate populations. To determine which scenario is most likely for a
119 given weed species, researchers generally pair an assessment of the level of resistance across
120 populations collected from the landscape, often in a common garden study, with an examination
121 of the pattern of neutral genetic variation across these same populations. If, for example, the
122 level of resistance displays a pattern of isolation by distance, one can infer that resistance is
123 spread by gene flow either on a local scale or at greater distances; an assessment of neutral
124 genetic variation that likewise identifies isolation by distance would add further weight to the
125 idea that gene flow is responsible for the spread of resistance. If, as in *A. myosuroides*, a mosaic
126 pattern of resistance is identified such that highly resistant populations are located in close
127 proximity to susceptible populations (*i.e.*, no evidence of isolation by distance and variation in
128 resistance across populations), then it is inferred that populations are independently evolving
129 resistance across the landscape. In this case, a pattern of high neutral genetic structure across
130 populations would suggest rather limited gene exchange among populations, supporting the
131 possibility that populations are independent evolutionary units. Hence, pairing an assessment of
132 the level of resistance across the landscape with investigation of the genetic structure of a weed
133 can allow us to identify the evolutionary units of herbicide resistance (Menchari et al., 2007)—
134 and, likewise, provide initial information regarding the repeatability of the evolutionary process
135 (Ralph & Coop, 2010). Such examinations may also give insight into the ability of populations to
136 respond to other abiotic and biotic selective agents following extreme bouts of selection (*e.g.*, the
137 likelihood of evolutionary rescue; Gonzalez et al., 2013). Finally, once the level of resistance and
138 patterns of neutral genetic differentiation are characterized across the landscape, the more
139 challenging question of how resistance has arisen—*i.e.*, through selection on standing genetic
140 variation, or due to novel mutations across populations—can be addressed.

141 *Ipomoea purpurea*, the common morning glory, is a competitive crop weed within the
142 Southeastern and Midwestern regions of the US (Defelice, 2001). This species has become an
143 increasingly problematic species since the increased use of glyphosate (Culpepper, 2006;
144 Webster & Nichols, 2012), which is the main ingredient in the widely used herbicide RoundUp.
145 Previous work has uncovered both additive genetic variation in resistance to glyphosate and

146 positive selection on resistance showing that the criteria for the evolution of a higher level of
147 resistance are met (Baucom & Mauricio, 2008). Additionally, historically preserved accessions
148 exhibit genetic variability in herbicide defense, suggesting that the ability to evolve resistance in
149 this species was present ancestrally (Baucom & Mauricio, 2010). Although this species is
150 considered an emerging glyphosate resistant weed (reviewed by Sandermann, 2006), we
151 currently do not know if the level resistance varies among populations across the species' range,
152 nor do we know the extent to which populations may be connected *via* gene flow across the
153 landscape. Here, and as part of our broader goal to determine if resistance in this species has
154 arisen from independent, novel mutations within separate populations, different regimes of
155 selection across farms, or has spread *via* gene flow from a single or few sources, we examine
156 both the level of herbicide resistance and the structure of neutral genetic variation across many
157 natural populations of its range across North America. We performed a replicated glyphosate
158 dose-response experiment and assessed the pattern of neutral genetic variation within this species
159 using microsatellite markers to address the following specific questions: (1) Is there a geographic
160 mosaic pattern of glyphosate resistance in *I. purpurea*, indicating that resistance has evolved
161 independently in separate populations across the landscape, or, is there a pattern of isolation by
162 distance suggesting a single origin? (2) Does the pattern of neutral genetic structure across this
163 species' range provide evidence that populations are genetically isolated or that gene flow,
164 whether historical or contemporary, has occurred or is occurring? and (3) Is there evidence for
165 migration between populations of the southeastern US after glyphosate was put into wide-spread
166 use across the landscape, indicating that contemporary gene flow is responsible for the spread of
167 resistance? While the majority of studies that assess neutral genetic variation in herbicide
168 resistant weeds have investigated either predominantly outcrossing, wind-pollinated species, or
169 alternatively highly selfing species, the work presented herein considers a species that exhibits a
170 mixed-mating system, and, one that, by all indications, is in the early stages of glyphosate
171 resistant evolution across the landscape.

172

173 **Materials and Methods**

174 *Field collections and greenhouse resistance screens*—We collected leaf material and seeds from
175 44 populations of *I. purpurea* located within soy, cotton, corn or alfalfa fields selected at random
176 from six states across the Midwestern and Southeastern US (IN, OH, VA, NC, SC, TN; Figure

177 1a, Table S1). We collected between 20-40 seeds and leaf material from a single maternal plant
178 every 2 meters at each of our 44 sites until we had sampled from at least 30 individuals per
179 population. Each population was sampled from a discrete agricultural field, which we assume to
180 represent discrete units of selection. Populations were at least 5 km apart.

181 We planted two experiments to assay herbicide resistance across populations on June 11,
182 2013 in separate greenhouses at the University of Georgia Plant Biology Greenhouses (Athens,
183 GA). Ten seeds from each population (one seed per maternal line) were scarified then planted in
184 pine bark soil in SC10 super conetainers (Stuewe and Sons, Tangent, OR) in each of six
185 experimental treatments, described below. Individual plants were randomly assigned to racks
186 that were then randomly assigned to flow trays (4 racks per flow tray). Pots were watered daily
187 and flow trays were filled with water to prevent desiccation. Only plants that germinated prior to
188 June 26, 2013, were included in the experiment—however, germination was high (88% overall)
189 in both experiments and ranged from 50-100% among populations. A total of 4,614 plants were
190 used in our resistance assays, with 1,995 and 2,619 individuals planted in each experiment. The
191 number of individuals per population and treatment combination used in the experiment can be
192 found in Table S1 and Table S2, respectively.

193 We measured the height of the stem and number of leaves of each individual three weeks
194 after planting, when the majority of individuals were at the 5-leaf stage. Average height of the
195 plants prior to herbicide application was 13.1 ± 0.3 cm. Plants were then sprayed with RoundUp
196 PowerMax (Monsanto, St Louis, MO) at rates around the recommended field rate (1.54 kg ai/ha)
197 of 0, 0.21, 0.42, 0.84, 1.70 and 3.40 kg a.i./ha (the 0 kg a.i./ha treatment was used as a water
198 control) using a hand-held, CO₂ pressurized sprayer (Spraying Systems Co., Wheaton, IL). The
199 same applicator treated each of the two replicate experiments. We sprayed plants at a rate of 187
200 liters/ ha at 30 psi with a stride pace of 90 paces per minute at 1.5 meters above the plants. Three
201 weeks after glyphosate application we scored survival and the height of the living stem of each
202 plant.

203 *DNA extraction and genotyping*—We isolated DNA from approximately 18 maternal lines per
204 population using a modified CTAB protocol developed by T. Culley (pers. comm.). All DNA
205 samples were quantified by spectrophotometry and diluted to 20 ng/μl for subsequent PCR. We
206 identified 15 SSR loci that showed compatibility for multiplexing and were easily scorable of 20
207 that were previously described for *I. purpurea* (Table S3; Kuester et al. 2012). Forward primers

208 were fluorescently tagged with 6-FAM, VIC, NED or PET. All unlabeled and 6-FAM primers
209 were obtained from Integrated DNA Technologies (Corralville, IA). The VIC, NED, and PET
210 primers were purchased from Life Technologies (Carlsbad, CA).

211 Because fragment size and dye incompatibilities precluded running all 15 loci in one
212 multiplex, we split loci into two multiplex PCR reactions. One multiplex consisted of 0.15 μM of
213 IP8, IP2, IP27, 0.20 μM of IP31, and 0.25 μM of IP34, IP18 and IP1. The second multiplex
214 consisted of 0.05 μM IP36, 0.10 μM of IP47, 0.15 μM of IP6, and 0.25 μM of IP12, IP21, IP45,
215 IP26, and IP42. Ten μL PCR reactions were run with Qiagen Master Mix (Valencia, CA).
216 Thermocycler conditions consisted of 95 °C for 3 minutes, 35 cycles of 94 °C for 30 s, 50 °C for
217 90 s, 72 °C for 60 s, and a final extension at 72 °C for 10 minutes on an Eppendorf (New York,
218 New York) MasterCycler Pro thermacycler. One μl of PCR product was used for fragment
219 detection using an Applied Biosystems 3730 DNA Analyzer (Carlsbad, CA) at the Cornell Life
220 Sciences Core Facility (Ithaca, NY). An ABI GS500 for multiplex 1 and GS600 for multiplex 2
221 size standards were used for fragment length comparison. All sample genotypes were analyzed
222 using Applied Biosystems PeakScanner 1.0 analytical software (Carlsbad, CA). A PP (Primer
223 Peaks adjustment) sizing default was used for the analysis.

224

225 Data Analysis

226 We included populations with at least 10 germinants per experiment (all treatments
227 combined) in the analyses of spatial variation of herbicide resistance. We first report a species
228 dose response curve and then follow with patterns of survival across populations at doses above
229 the recommended field rate.

230

231 *Dose response curve*—Preliminary analysis showed a significant effect of replicate experiment
232 on the proportion that died. Thus, we used residual values after accounting for the effect of
233 greenhouse experiment to estimate our dose response curves. The use of residual is
234 recommended by Kelly & Rice (1990) to smooth curves in dose response analyses, and has been
235 performed in other dose response contexts (Kilsby et al., 2000). Replicate experiments differed
236 primarily due to a higher rate of death in one greenhouse at both the 1.7 and 3.4 kg a.i./ha
237 herbicide levels, but the correlation between proportion survival per population across each
238 greenhouse was moderate and significantly different from zero across all concentrations ($R =$

239 0.480, $P = 0.004$), showing that although we identify differences in the survival of plants in
240 separate greenhouse experiments, the populations performed similarly relative to one another in
241 the different experiments. To estimate the dose response curve, we first fit the residuals by
242 regressing a general linear model of survivorship on experiment with a binomial distribution to
243 account for the effect of replicate. The residual data were then fit to a Weibull 2.4 parameter
244 model (Weibull, 1951) using the drc package (Ritz & Streibig, 2013) in R (R Development Core
245 Team, 2012). The Weibull 2 model was used to extrapolate the effective dose at eliminating 50%
246 of a population (ED_{50}) was expressed as:

$$247 \quad Y = c + (d-c)(1 - \exp(b(\log(x) - \log(e))))$$

248 Where Y is the response (survivorship), c is the upper limit of the curve, d is the lower limit of
249 the curve, e is the ED_{50} , and b is the relative slope around e . We first estimate a species-level
250 ED_{50} using all individuals, followed by a regional (Southeastern and Midwestern US) ED_{50}
251 value, and ED_{50} values per state. We included state in the models because we hypothesized that
252 management policies and herbicide procedures might vary at the state level, and this could
253 influence the level of resistance among states.

254
255 *Survival following herbicide application*—We assessed survival at the 1.7 and 3.4 kg a.i./ha
256 treatment levels (a rate that is similar to the suggested field rate of 1.54 kg a.i./ha and a dose that
257 is twice that) to determine if there was a significant effect of population, state, and/or region of
258 origin on survival post-herbicide. To do this, survival was modeled as a binary character (1/0) in
259 a generalized linear model with a binomial distribution using the lmer option of the lme4
260 package (Bates, 2010) in R (R Development Core Team, 2012). Fixed effects in the model were
261 herbicide treatment, replicate experiment and state while random variables included population
262 nested within state and the interaction between population and herbicide treatment. We estimated
263 a 95% confidence interval for the species survival by bootstrapping across populations using a
264 non-parametric bootstrapping method in the boot package (Canty & Ripley, 2014) in R (R
265 Development Core Team, 2012).

266
267 *Spatial autocorrelation*—We calculated Moran's I to determine if there was a correlation
268 between survival following herbicide application and geographic distance. Specifically, we
269 calculated the correlation between survivorship and its spatial lag using the Spatial

270 Autocorrelation Analysis in Macroecology (SAM 4.0, Rangel et al., 2010). The significance of
271 the I value was determined by permuting around 0, where a value of 0 would reflect no spatial
272 pattern (or spatial dispersion) in the data (Bivand et al., 2008). We further performed a principle
273 coordinates analysis (PCoA) on the absolute value of the pairwise difference in survival
274 ($\Delta\text{Resistance} = \text{abs}(\text{Rpopulation}_i - \text{Rpopulation}_j)$) using the covariance standardized option in
275 GenAlEx (Peakall & Smouse, 2006) across populations to determine if populations clustered
276 according to geographic origin or to resistance status (*i.e.* survival).

277
278 *SSR error rate, reliability, independence and neutrality*—We evaluated SSR loci for reliability,
279 independence, and neutrality under mutation-drift equilibrium to make sure interpretations of
280 downstream analyses were appropriate (*i.e.* assumptions made by analyses were not grossly
281 violated). We used MicroChecker (Van Oosterhout et al., 2004) to check for scoring errors per
282 population, which could result from stuttering, large allele drop outs, and null alleles (DeWoody
283 et al., 2006). Each SSR locus was tested for Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium (HWE) per population
284 using the Hardy Weinberg Exact Test in Genepop on the Web (Sub-option 3: Probability test;
285 Raymond & Rousset, 1995; Rousset, 2008). SSR loci were also tested for linkage disequilibrium
286 for each pair of loci in each population using the genotypic linkage disequilibrium test with
287 default Markov chain parameters in Genepop. A global test of LD for each pair of loci was
288 performed across populations using Fisher’s method. We then applied a sequential Bonferroni
289 correction (Miller, 1981) to correct for multiple tests. Loci were independently scored twice to
290 check for accuracy, and we recorded the scoring error within the species for 200 samples. Loci
291 that did not amplify after two independent attempts were scored as missing data; the frequency
292 of missing data for each locus is reported in Table S3.

293
294 *Genetic differentiation*—We assessed patterns of neutral genetic variation across this species’
295 range using a variety of metrics to determine if genetic diversity and population structure were
296 influenced by recent selection *via* herbicide application and, in addition, to assess the likelihood
297 that gene flow could introduce, or has historically introduced, resistance alleles to once-
298 susceptible populations. We first determined the genetic structure of this species by estimating
299 Weir & Cockerham’s (1984) θ using SPAGeDi-1.2 (Hardy & Vekemans, 2002). A confidence
300 interval around the global F-statistic was estimated with 1000 permutation per locus and 1000

301 jackknifed replicates to detect significant deviation from 0. This confidence interval was used to
302 compare with previous estimates of differentiation within the species (Epperson & Clegg, 1987).
303 We evaluated multi-locus estimates of R_{ST} , a measure of genetic differentiation using a step-wise
304 mutation model of marker evolution. Pending no significant difference between R_{ST} and F_{ST}
305 estimates, we report only differentiation using those based on F_{ST} . In preliminary analyses, we
306 assessed the influence of null alleles on our measure of genetic differentiation using FreeNA
307 (Chapuis & Estoup, 2007) by excluding null alleles and comparing F_{ST} to non-adjusted
308 estimates. Since the two estimates were comparable, we report a non-adjusted F_{ST} (95% C.I.
309 F_{STadj} : 0.071-0.171, 95% C.I. $F_{STunadj}$: 0.071-0.168).

310 We next implemented a hierarchical AMOVA to test the level of genetic differentiation
311 across regions (MW, SE), states within regions (IN, OH, VA, SC, NC, TN), and populations
312 nested within states using GenAlEx v. 6.1 (Peakall & Smouse, 2006). To assess the potential for
313 contemporary or historical admixture between populations, we clustered individuals across the
314 Southeastern and Midwestern US using STRUCTURE v. 2.2.3 (Pritchard et al., 2000) with an
315 admixture model and an MCMC length of 400,000 iterations (100,000 burn-in). Likelihood
316 values of the number of clusters, $\ln(P(D))$, were assessed from five runs using a range of k
317 values from 1 through 35. We used the delta- k method (Evanno et al., 2005) to determine the
318 most likely number of clusters in our data set. We also performed a principal coordinates
319 analysis to determine if the neutral genetic variation of populations clustered together according
320 to geographical distance in GenAlEx v. 6.1 (Peakall & Smouse, 2006)), and further, tested for
321 isolation by distance using Rousset's (1997) linearized F_{ST} , $F_{ST}/(1-F_{ST})$, and Cavalli-Sforza
322 distance over the natural log of geographic distance using ISOLDE, Option 6 in GenePop
323 (Raymond & Rousset, 1995; Rousset, 2008).

324 We then performed pairwise comparisons of genetic structure between populations to
325 determine if populations were significantly differentiated from one another and thus less likely to
326 share a similar evolutionary history. Pair-wise estimates of genetic differentiation among all
327 sampled populations were estimated by F_{ST} (Weir & Cockerham, 1984) using the program
328 FSTAT v. 2.9.3 (Goudet, 2001), and their significance was determined using 1000 permutations
329 and a sequential Bonferroni correction for multiple tests. Finally, we estimated Nei's pairwise
330 genetic distance and a subsequent principle coordinates analysis using the covariance
331 standardized option in GenAlEx v. 6.1 (Peakall & Smouse, 2006).

332
333 *Approximate Bayesian computation (ABC) analysis*—We next used a Bayesian coalescent
334 approach (approximate Bayesian computation; Beaumont, 2010) to examine the likelihood that
335 migration occurred recently between resistant populations in the southeastern US (see *Results*)
336 compared to a scenario of gene flow between populations prior to the widespread use of
337 glyphosate across the landscape. If the former scenario were more likely, we would reason that
338 contemporary gene flow (such as through the movement of contaminating morning glory seed
339 between farms in seed lots) is likely to be responsible for resistance across populations. If,
340 however, the latter scenario of migration before the widespread use of glyphosate were the more
341 likely one, we would infer that resistance has independently evolved in separate populations.
342 Although ABC analysis can be used to make inferences about complex population histories,
343 estimate population parameters such as effective population size (Tallmon et al., 2008), and, has
344 recently been used to model many different scenarios of herbicide resistance evolution (Okada et
345 al., 2013), we elected to model the relatively simple alternative scenarios of migration between *I.*
346 *purpurea* populations pre- or post-glyphosate use. We employed the software DIYABC v 2
347 (Cornuet et al., 2008) to test three scenarios (Figure 2) using the microsatellite data from North
348 Carolina and Tennessee populations—two areas of the landscape where we observed the highest
349 resistance (see *Results*). The first scenario assumed no admixture across populations. The second
350 scenario assumed admixture before the use of glyphosate (at time t4) and a third scenario
351 assumed admixture after the use of glyphosate (time t5) within NC and TN regions.

352 We estimated t5 as the number of generations that have occurred since 1974 (a range of
353 2-38), which is the year that RoundUp was approved for chemical weed control (Duke &
354 Powles, 2008). We included a bottleneck event across all populations around the start of
355 glyphosate use in 1974, where population size reduced by 90%, a target value of many
356 herbicides (denoted by dashed line at time t3), from an initial effective population (N_e) size
357 ranging between 250-1000 individuals, which encompasses the range of previously estimated N_e
358 for *I. purpurea* (Gonzales et al., 2012). Additional time points at which weedy populations were
359 first observed in the region and diverged (t1 and t2, 180- 210 generations from present) had
360 previously been described in Defelice (2001) and were included in the models. Parameter values
361 for tested models can be found in Table S4. The probability estimates of model scenarios were
362 compared using posterior probabilities from a local logistic regression of the scenario set, and

363 100,000 runs were assessed per scenario. We ran these simulations using 15 populations over
364 four trials with four populations per trial. Each trial included two randomly chosen populations
365 from TN and NC each with one population (30) used twice across trials.

366

367 **Results**

368 *Dose-response*—The overall species-level ED₅₀ estimate for *I. purpurea*, based on survival, was
369 1.6 kg a.i./ha (95% CI: 1.12-2.10), which is similar to the manufacturer's recommended field
370 dose of 1.54 kg a.i./ha. Twelve populations, all of which were from VA, SC, NC and TN
371 exhibited a proportion survival that was significantly higher than the species average, *i.e.*,
372 resistance values that were greater than the species 95% CI (Figure 1; Figure 3a). Nineteen
373 populations fell significantly below the species average—12 of these were from the Southeastern
374 US (SC, NC, and TN) and seven were from the Midwestern US (IN and OH) (Figure 3a).
375 Population-level ED₅₀ estimates were considerably variable; however, overall, populations
376 within the Southeastern US, principally North Carolina and Tennessee exhibited ED₅₀ values
377 above the species-level 95% CI, whereas populations in the Midwestern US, mainly Ohio and
378 Indiana exhibited response levels below the average (Table S5) though the difference was not
379 statistically significant.

380

381 *Spatial variation in resistance*—Although the species' ED₅₀ value was very close to the
382 recommended field dose, we found a significant effect of population of origin ($\chi^2 = 145.34$, $P <$
383 0.001) and state on survival ($F_{5, 8182} = 2.540$; $P = 0.030$, Table 1), indicating the presence of
384 geographic variation in the level of resistance. We found no effect of region, although we
385 observed that northern sites tended to exhibit lower survival than southern populations at 1.7 and
386 3.4 kg a.i./ha (Figure 1a and 1b and Figures 3a and 3b, respectively). The interaction between
387 population and herbicide dose (Population \times Treatment $\chi^2 = 0.040$; $P = 0.980$, Table 1) was not
388 significant, suggesting that even though some populations exhibited higher survival than others,
389 the populations responded in a relatively consistent manner to the different herbicide doses,
390 namely, increasing death at a higher herbicide application rate. There was significant spatial
391 autocorrelation of resistance at distances at a local scale (within 40 miles, Moran's $I = 0.829$, $P =$
392 0.013), but we observed no isolation by geographic distance across all sampled populations in
393 survival ($R = 0.020$, $P = 0.269$). The Southeastern US exhibits greater diversity in the proportion

394 survival per population than the Midwestern US; though the most resistant populations do not, in
395 general, cluster together in a PCoA (Figure 4). An exception to this was the highly resistant TN
396 populations, which tended to cluster together.

397
398 *Genetic diversity and differentiation*—Information on scoring errors, deviations from Hardy-
399 Weinberg Equilibrium and locus pair linkage disequilibrium can be found in the ‘Supplemental
400 Materials’ section. The number of alleles per locus x population ranged from 1.60 to 2.27 (mean
401 = 2.00), and allelic richness per multilocus genotype x population combination ranged between
402 1.23 and 1.37 (mean = 1.30). Expected (H_e) and observed (H_o) heterozygosity ranged between
403 0.230-0.372 (mean = 0.304) and 0.191-0.400 (mean = 0.294), respectively (TableS6).

404 The AMOVA uncovered evidence for low but significant genetic differentiation across
405 region ($F_{RT} = 0.043$, $P = 0.001$, Table 2), states within regions ($F_{SR} = 0.119$, $P = 0.001$) and
406 populations within states ($F_{PS} = 0.157$, $P = 0.001$). The majority of genetic variation in *I.*
407 *purpurea* is found within populations ($F_{IT} = 0.428$, $P = 0.001$).

408 We estimated Weir and Cockerham’s (1984) F_{ST} across the species’ range to be 0.127,
409 (95% CI: 0.071-0.183), which is lower than a previous estimate using floral color ($F_{ST} = 0.218$,
410 Epperson and Clegg 1987). We detected no difference between R_{ST} and F_{ST} estimates ($R_{ST} =$
411 0.068, 95 % CI: 0.0681- 0.122). One hundred and eight (21%) of 595 pairwise- F_{ST} values
412 between populations were significantly greater than 0, and ranged from 0.035 (Burgaw, NC and
413 IN10; Table S7) to 0.274 (Hare Road, NC- Willis Grove, TN; Table S7). We found no evidence
414 of genetic differentiation among 79% of populations; the majority of significant F_{ST} values were
415 between populations sampled from different states (86%). Of the significant F_{ST} values among
416 states, the majority were observed between populations in TN and NC (15%) and SC (15%)—
417 interestingly, these were states in which we observed highest levels of resistance. There was,
418 however, no indication that resistant populations exhibited more or less differentiation compared
419 to other populations, since the majority (64%) of the significant pairwise- F_{ST} ’s were among
420 populations that exhibited resistance values within the species’ 95% CI, and, less than 2% of the
421 significant pairwise- F_{ST} ’s were between resistant and susceptible populations.

422 Further, although we found a moderate level of genetic differentiation across populations
423 sampled from North America, our STRUCTURE analysis uncovered a pattern of widespread
424 migration and admixture among individuals within populations (Figure 5). The most likely

425 number of genetic clusters within the sampled range for *I. purpurea* was $k = 3$ ($\ln(P(D)) = -$
426 8265.7). All 3 genotypic clusters were found within individuals sampled from North Carolina
427 suggesting that populations within this state are either the source of introduction for other weedy
428 populations, or, this state has had multiple introductions of different seed lots.

429 Our PCoA of neutral genetic variation revealed a slight clustering of Midwestern US
430 populations, which had similarly been found in the AMOVA result for regional genetic
431 differentiation ($F_{RT} = 0.043$, $P = 0.001$). However, these populations were contained within the
432 range of variation across the Southeastern US populations (Figure 6), and the first two axes of
433 the PCoA explained only 8.9% and 6.3% of the variation. Thus, geography explains only a small
434 portion of the neutral genetic diversity of this species, and the majority of neutral genetic
435 variation across this species' range in the US is present within the southern populations.

436 Wilcoxon tests on the first 2 axes of the principle coordinates found no difference, across
437 either axis, for the populations when assigned either 'resistant' (< 50% death, $N = 11$) or
438 'susceptible' (>50% death, $N = 22$) in PC1 or PC2 mean scores (Axis 1: $W = 157$, $P = 0.175$;
439 Axis 2: $W = 106$, $P = 0.585$). Hence, there was no indication that the neutral genetic variation of
440 this species clustered according to resistance status rather than geography, as would be expected
441 if propagules from, for example, resistant TN populations had migrated to the resistant Carolina
442 populations and established and/or admixed. We did not uncover evidence of isolation by
443 distance using linearized F_{ST} over geographic distance ($R^2 = 0.012$, $P = 0.142$), nor did we
444 uncover significant isolation by distance measured as the Cavalli-Sforza Edwards chord distance
445 ($R^2 = 0.010$, $P = 0.192$). Pairwise estimates of Nei's genetic distance similarly did not correlate
446 with geographical distance ($R = -0.065$, $P = 0.11$), reinforcing our finding of either widespread
447 gene flow across populations or colonization following a recent bottleneck.

448
449 *Approximate Bayesian computation analysis*—We found overwhelming support for admixture
450 prior to glyphosate use (Table 3, average posterior probability across four trials = 0.9515,
451 0.9413-0.9617) rather than the scenario of gene flow and admixture after 1974, or the time that
452 glyphosate was put into widespread use (average posterior probability = 0.0474, 0.0372-0.0575).
453 This scenario was also more likely than the scenario of no admixture (average posterior
454 probability = 0.0012, 0.0004-0.0021).

455

456 Discussion

457 Our comprehensive analysis of herbicide resistance and neutral genetic variation in the
458 weed *Ipomoea purpurea* has uncovered four major findings. First, while we find that the overall
459 species ED₅₀ value is similar to the recommended field dose, we observed considerable spatial
460 heterogeneity in resistance with some populations exhibiting ~100% survival at high doses of
461 glyphosate and others exhibiting high susceptibility. Second, we found little indication that the
462 level of resistance exhibits isolation by distance suggesting that resistance across populations of
463 this species results from either novel mutations within each population or is a result of differing
464 rates and exposures to herbicide application across the landscape. Strikingly, we uncovered little
465 evidence for a genetic signal via isolation by distance or strong geographic structuring in our
466 assay of neutral genetic variation—we instead detected a pattern of widespread migration and
467 admixture across this species' range in the US. Finally, our ABC analysis indicated that gene
468 flow between populations most likely occurred prior to the wide-spread use of the herbicide
469 rather than very recently. Overall, these results support the idea that some populations of *I.*
470 *purpurea* have rapidly developed higher levels of resistance to this herbicide within a short time
471 frame (since the wide-spread use of RoundUp beginning in the early 1990's), and, that it is
472 unlikely increased resistance is due to contemporary gene flow between populations, but rather,
473 results from independent regimes of selection *via* the herbicide. We discuss each of these main
474 points below.

475
476 *The geographic mosaic of herbicide resistance*—We uncovered broad variation in resistance
477 across populations collected from the Southeastern and Midwestern US, with a pattern that
478 indicates herbicide resistance is evolving independently in a mosaic of hotspots. Although we
479 found that the species average level of resistance is comparable to the suggested field dose (1.54
480 kg a.i./ha), we uncovered populations that exhibited very high or very low survivorship post-
481 herbicide application. Populations that exhibited high survival and thus high resistance did not
482 appear to cluster in one region of the landscape—*i.e.*, resistant populations were located near
483 susceptible populations—suggesting that resistance has independently evolved across disparate
484 areas of this species' distribution. This pattern of potentially independent resistance hotspots has
485 been shown in other resistant weed species (Menchari et al., 2007; Delye et al., 2010), and can
486 result from differences in management practices across geography (Delye et al., 2010),

487 differences in the structure of genetic variation within populations across the landscape (Mopper
488 et al., 2000; Brodie et al., 2002; Bernhardsson et al., 2013; Delye et al., 2013) or a combination
489 of differences in herbicide use patterns and variation in the standing genetic variation of
490 populations. That we detected no evidence for isolation by distance in the level of resistance
491 further strengthens the case that resistance has evolved independently several times across
492 populations of this species. We did, however, uncover evidence for local geographic structuring
493 of resistance (within 40 miles). This finding, in addition to the lack of isolation by distance
494 across all populations suggests that the individual farm is the independent unit of resistance
495 evolution, a conclusion that is similar to that of ACCase resistant blackgrass in France
496 (*Alopecurus myosuroides*) (Delye et al., 2010).

497 Although we uncovered evidence of a geographic mosaic of resistance, we also found
498 regional differences in survivorship—states in the Southeastern US tended to have higher $-ED_{50}$
499 estimates and survivorship compared to Midwestern US populations. Because management
500 practices are often regulated at the state level, it is possible that the difference in resistance
501 between regions may result from differences in the recommended dose across areas. For
502 example, TN has the highest recommended application rate in corn (0.75-1.5 lb a.i./ha, Steckel et
503 al., 2014) whereas OH and IN have the lowest recommended application rate (0.56-1.12 lb
504 a.i./ha, Loux et al., 2013); our ED_{50} values for TN and OH and IN align with the upper end of
505 these recommended rates (TN = 1.5 lbs a.i./ha; OH = 1.12 lbs a.i./ha; IN = 1.12 lbs a.i./ha) as
506 does survival post-herbicide (Figure 1a).

507
508 *Patterns of genetic variation and population structure*—With some notable exceptions (Okada
509 al. 2013), the neutral genetic variation of many weeds exhibits little structure or spatial
510 patterning (*e.g.*, Bommarco et al., 2010; Delye et al., 2010; Campitelli & Stinchcombe, 2012),
511 potentially due to either their recent expansion across the landscape, few barriers to gene flow, or
512 human-mediated modes of dispersal (*e.g.* dispersal through farm machinery or through
513 contaminated crop seed; Thill & Mallory-Smith, 1997; Owen & Zelaya, 2005). While we find
514 evidence for low to moderate genetic structure across populations ($F_{ST} = 0.127$, $P = 0.001$), we
515 find little evidence for a geographic pattern to that structure beyond the slight clustering of
516 Midwestern US populations identified in the PCoA. In particular, we found no isolation by

517 distance within the species, suggesting a scenario of either widespread gene flow between
518 populations or their relatively recent colonization.

519 We hypothesize that recent colonization and introduction patterns are responsible for the
520 lack of geographic structure in this species. *I. purpurea* is a very popular ornamental that has
521 been re-introduced to the Southeastern US (Defelice, 2001; Fang et al., 2013) many times
522 following flower color domestication (Glover et al., 1996), and this species does particularly well
523 in warm climates as it is native to central Mexico. Thus, the Southeastern US in particular may
524 have experienced repeated re-introduction and establishment of this species, following which
525 subsequent range expansion or colonization into more northern areas occurred. Perhaps the
526 presence of *some* genetic structure and yet evidence for migration and admixture between
527 populations of this species is due to the re-introduction of a limited but variable pool of
528 germplasm, a scenario similar to that posited for *I. purpurea*'s sister species, *I. hederacea*
529 (Campetilli & Stinchcombe, 2014). The Carolinas (specifically NC) have a relatively high
530 density of populations of *I. purpurea* compared to other states—and populations within this
531 range contain all of the genotypes that we detected in our survey, suggesting NC as a possible
532 source for subsequent introductions into other areas of the Southeastern and the Midwestern US.

533 The low level of genetic structure across populations of this species could also be due to
534 contemporary migration and admixture between populations, and this scenario would strongly
535 suggest that gene flow could be a major driver of resistance evolution in this species. If this were
536 the case, however, we would expect to see patterns of isolation by distance in either our
537 phenotypic resistance data or in patterns of neutral genetic variation—admittedly, a line of
538 reasoning that assumes little chance of long distance propagule or pollen movement *via* human
539 influence. Thus, the overall mosaic pattern of phenotypic variation in this system suggests
540 resistance has emerged through independent evolutionary events whereas the genetic data
541 provide little evidence that the populations are genetically independent. To resolve these two
542 patterns, we used a Bayesian coalescent approach and explicitly considered two scenarios of
543 population connectedness—one in which migration among populations occurred primarily
544 before the commercial approval and widespread use of the herbicide (1974; Fig. 1 of Baucom &
545 Mauricio, 2004) and another that examined the probability associated with very recent, post-
546 widespread glyphosate use. This analysis consistently identified support for the pre-herbicide

547 migration scenario compared to a scenario of recent, and post-herbicide use migration, pointing
548 to the independent evolution of resistance across populations in a mosaic fashion.

549 An interesting and remaining question is whether or not the potential independent
550 evolution of resistance is due to selection on pre-existing and hence similar genetic variation, or
551 due to novel mutations in the same or different genomic architecture. Previous work in this
552 species has identified genetic variation for glyphosate defense in accessions of *I. purpurea*
553 collected in the 1980's, prior to the widespread use of RoundUp in the early 1990's (Baucom &
554 Mauricio, 2010), such that the genetic potential for resistance was present ancestrally within this
555 species. This would suggest that independent and increasing regimes of selection on standing
556 genetic variation *via* the use of RoundUp is responsible for resistance uncovered in separate
557 populations. Our data taken in a geographic context also show that it is highly unlikely that there
558 was a single origin of resistance, as the landscape of resistance is heterogeneous even at small
559 areas. It is more plausible that rapid and relatively recent (post-Columbian), but still historical
560 gene flow is responsible for the low genetic differentiation. Populations then went through rapid
561 adaptation of increased resistance across separate areas within the past ~20 years due to the
562 prevalent use of Roundup herbicide. To conclusively rule out the possibility that rare gene flow
563 events may have introduced resistance alleles across disparate areas, however, we will need to
564 determine if the genetic basis of resistance across populations differs, and perform an analysis of
565 the phylogeographic history of resistance alleles.

566

567

568

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573

574 **Data Archiving Statement**

575 Data available from the Dryad Digital Repository: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.p3v3s>

576

577 **Literature Cited**

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- 754 Data Accessibility:
 755 Sampling locations, morphological data and microsatellite data: uploaded to Dryad doi (upon
 756 acceptance).
- 757
- 758 **Table 1.** Generalized linear mixed effects model of plant survival as a response of the fixed
 759 effects of treatment, experimental replicate, state, and random effects of populations (nested

760 within state) and the population x treatment interaction. Shown are the degrees of freedom (df), F
761 or χ^2 statistic and associated P value.

762

Effect	df	F	P
<i>Fixed Effects</i>			
Treatment	5	155.47	<0.001
Replicate	1	8.28	0.004
State	5	2.54	0.026
<i>Random Effects</i>			
		χ^2	P
Population(State)	2	145.34	<0.001
Population(State) \times Treatment	2	0.04	0.980

763

764 Populations used for this test are listed under the column "2012 Survivorship" in Table S1

765 **Table 2.** Analysis of Molecular Variance (AMOVA) of neutral genetic data. Shown are the main
766 effects of Region (Midwestern and Southeastern US), State, Population and Individual, F-
767 statistic, and F and P values.

768

Effect	F-statistic	F	P
Region	F _{RT}	0.043	0.001
State (Region)	F _{SR}	0.119	0.001
Population(State)	F _{PS}	0.157	0.001
Individual	F _{IT}	0.428	0.001

769

770 **Table 3.** The posterior probabilities and associated confidence intervals for different histories of *I. purpurea* populations, based on the
 771 logistic estimate from the ABC analysis. Logistic regressions were performed using three scenarios: Scenario 1, no admixture;
 772 Scenario 2, admixture before the wide-spread use of the herbicide; and Scenario 3, admixture after the herbicide was put into
 773 widespread use in agriculture. The populations used in each trial are shown, along with the posterior probability and associated 95%
 774 confidence interval of each scenario for 4 replicate trials and their overall average. Posterior probabilities that are significant are
 775 indicated in bold text.

776

Trial	Populations	Scenario 1		Scenario 2		Scenario 3	
		Posterior Probability	95% Confidence Interval	Posterior Probability	95% Confidence Interval	Posterior Probability	95% Confidence Interval
1	2,14,30,31	0.0001	0.0000-0.0002	0.9918	0.9889-0.9948	0.0081	0.0051-0.0110
2	29,4,20,26	0.0005	0.0001-0.0009	0.9682	0.9596-0.9768	0.0313	0.0227-0.0398
3	11,10,46,23	0.0001	0.0000-0.0011	0.9399	0.9244-0.9554	0.0600	0.0445-0.0755
4	19,21,30,32	0.0039	0.0015-0.0063	0.9060	0.8923-0.9196	0.0901	0.0766-0.1036
Average		0.0012	0.0004-0.0021	0.9515	0.9413-0.9617	0.0474	0.0372-0.0575

777

778

779 **Figure 1.** Survival three weeks post- RoundUp herbicide application among *I. purpurea* populations at the rate of (a) 1.7 kg a.i./ha and
 780 (b) 3.4 kg a.i./ha. The proportion survival within each population is indicated by color.

781 **Figure 2.** Three simple scenarios used in the ABC analyses of *Ipomoea purpurea* populations sampled from NC and TN. Four
 782 populations each trial were used to model (a) no gene flow among populations, (b) admixture (denoted r) that occurred before the
 783 widespread use of the herbicide, and (c) admixture after widespread glyphosate use. The origin of the populations occurred at t_1 , or

784 the time at which the species was identified as an agricultural weed in the United States, taken from (Defelice 2001). Population
785 divergence between TN and NC populations are indicated by t_2 . Widespread glyphosate use is indicated in t_3 and denoted with a
786 dotted line, corresponding to the year at which glyphosate was released for commercial use in US agriculture (1974). Admixture
787 events are indicated either with t_4 (gene flow prior to glyphosate use) or t_5 (gene flow after glyphosate use). Also included in the
788 model were the effective population size of each population at t_2 (N_e) and subsequent effective size post-glyphosate bottleneck (N_1).
789 Parameter estimates are shown in Table S4.

790

791 **Figure 3.** *I. purpurea* populations greater or less than the species' average of resistance at (a) 1.7 and (b) 3.4 kg a.i./ha. Horizontal
792 dashed bars indicate the bootstrap estimates of the 95% confidence interval around the species' mean. Asterisks indicate populations
793 that fall outside the 95% confidence interval.

794

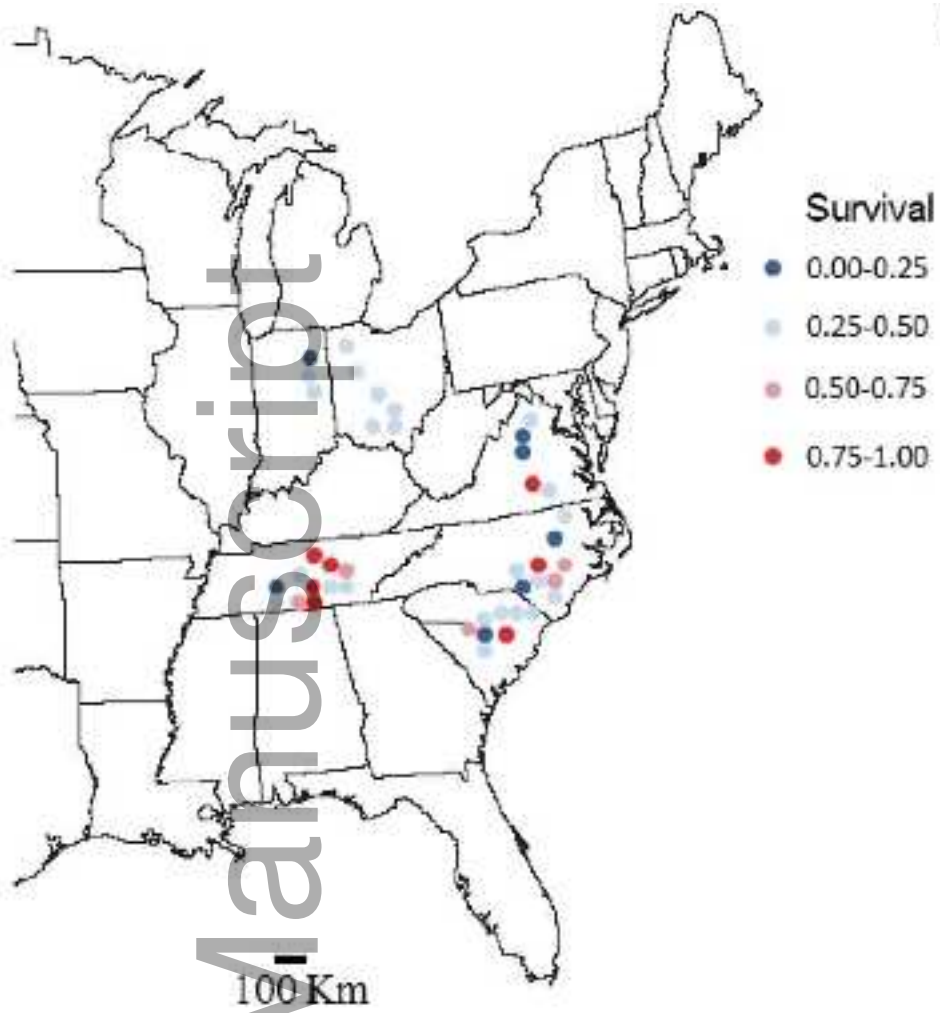
795 **Figure 4.** PCoA of pairwise differences in resistance values between populations at 1.7 kg a.i./ha. Populations are assigned to state
796 (shape), and resistance level by color (red-blue gradient). Coordinate 1 explained 16.4 % and Coordinate 2 explained 13.5 % of the
797 variation in survival. The dashed open circle represents the coordinate space representing all of the Midwestern US populations.

798

799 **Figure 5.** STRUCTURE assignment of individuals to genetic clusters. Small bars represent the assignment of individuals to clusters,
800 with sampling locations differentiated by thick black lines for 35 populations sampled. Shown are each population denoted by State:
801 IN = Indiana, OH = Ohio, NC = North Carolina, SC = South Carolina, TN = Tennessee, VA = Virginia and population ID number.

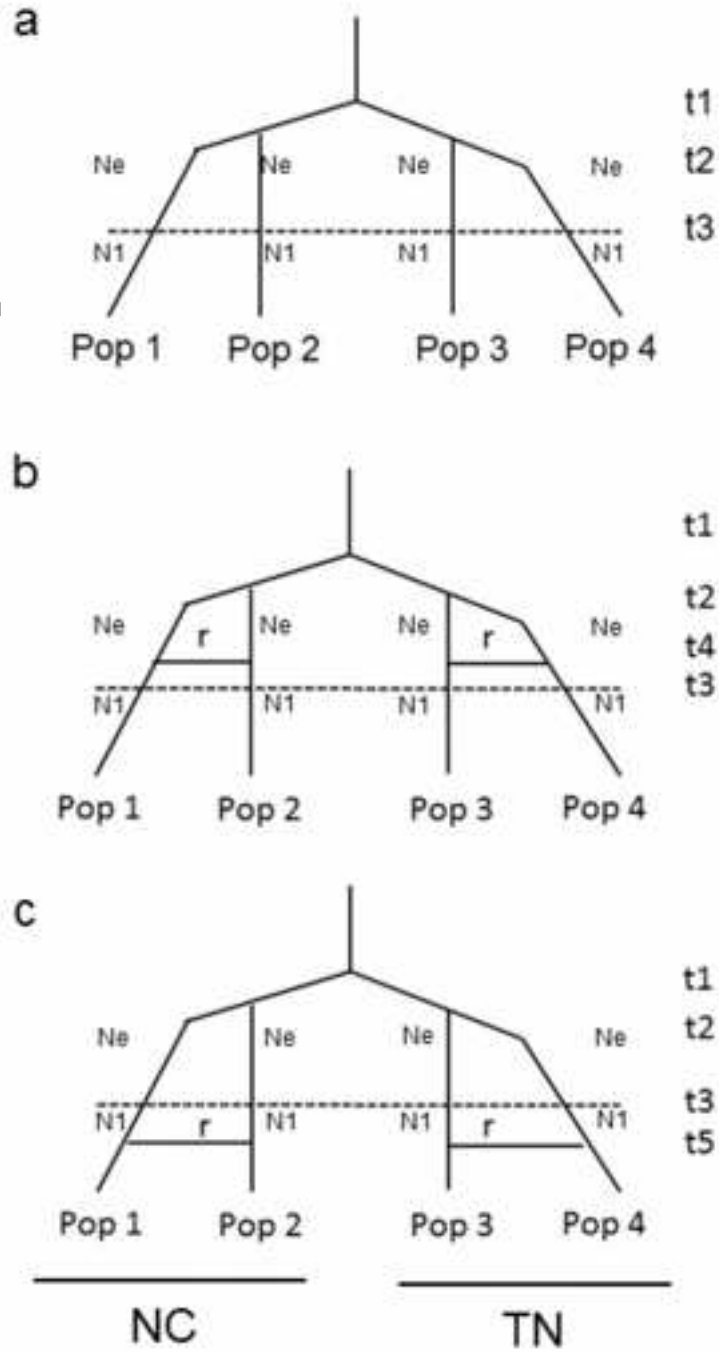
802

803 **Figure 6.** Principle coordinate analysis of pairwise Nei's genetic distance. Populations are assigned to state (shape) and resistance
804 level by color (red-blue gradient). The proportion of genetic variance explained by coordinates 1 and 2 were 8.9 and 6.3 %,
805 respectively. The dashed open circle represents the coordinate space representing all of the Midwestern US populations.

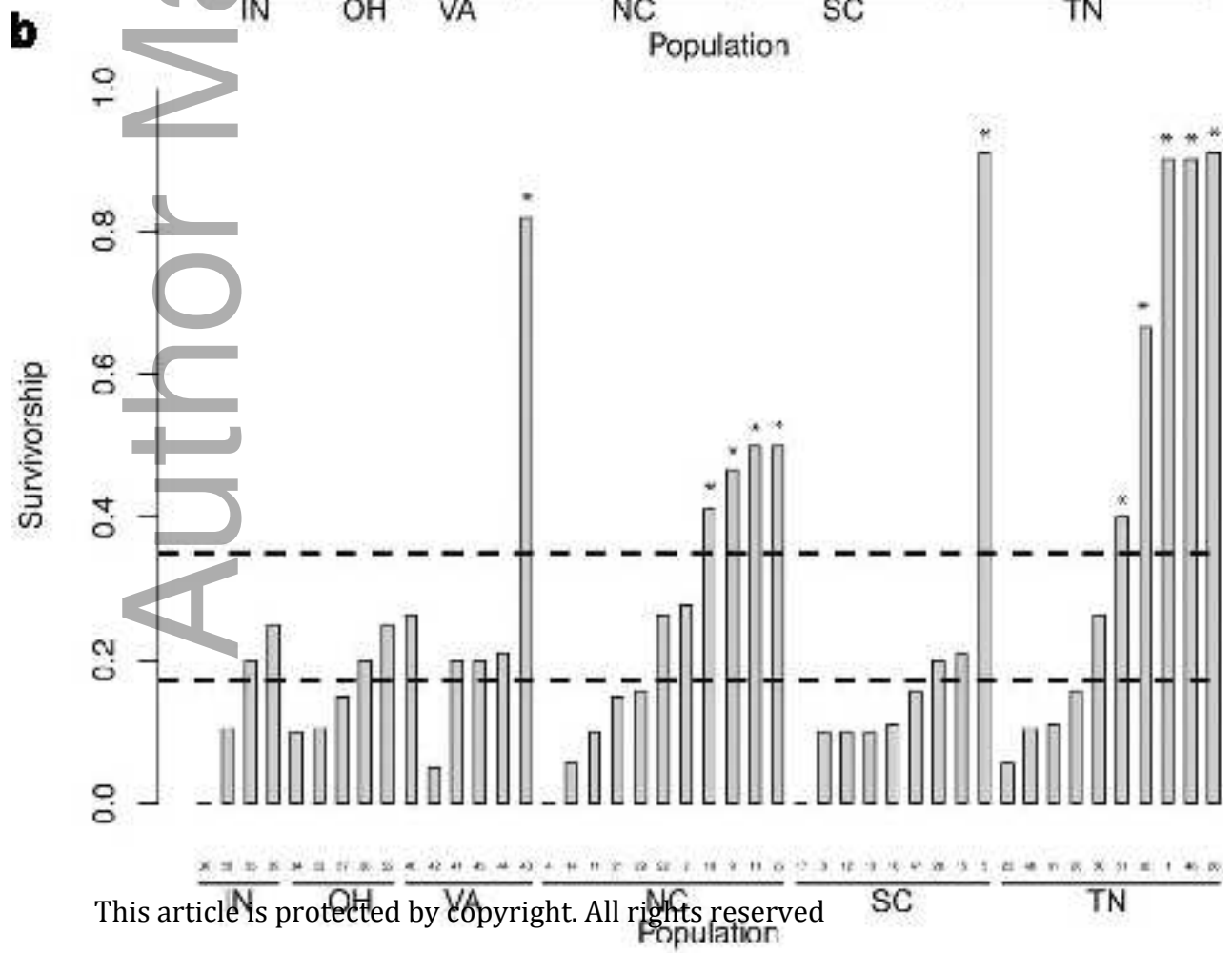
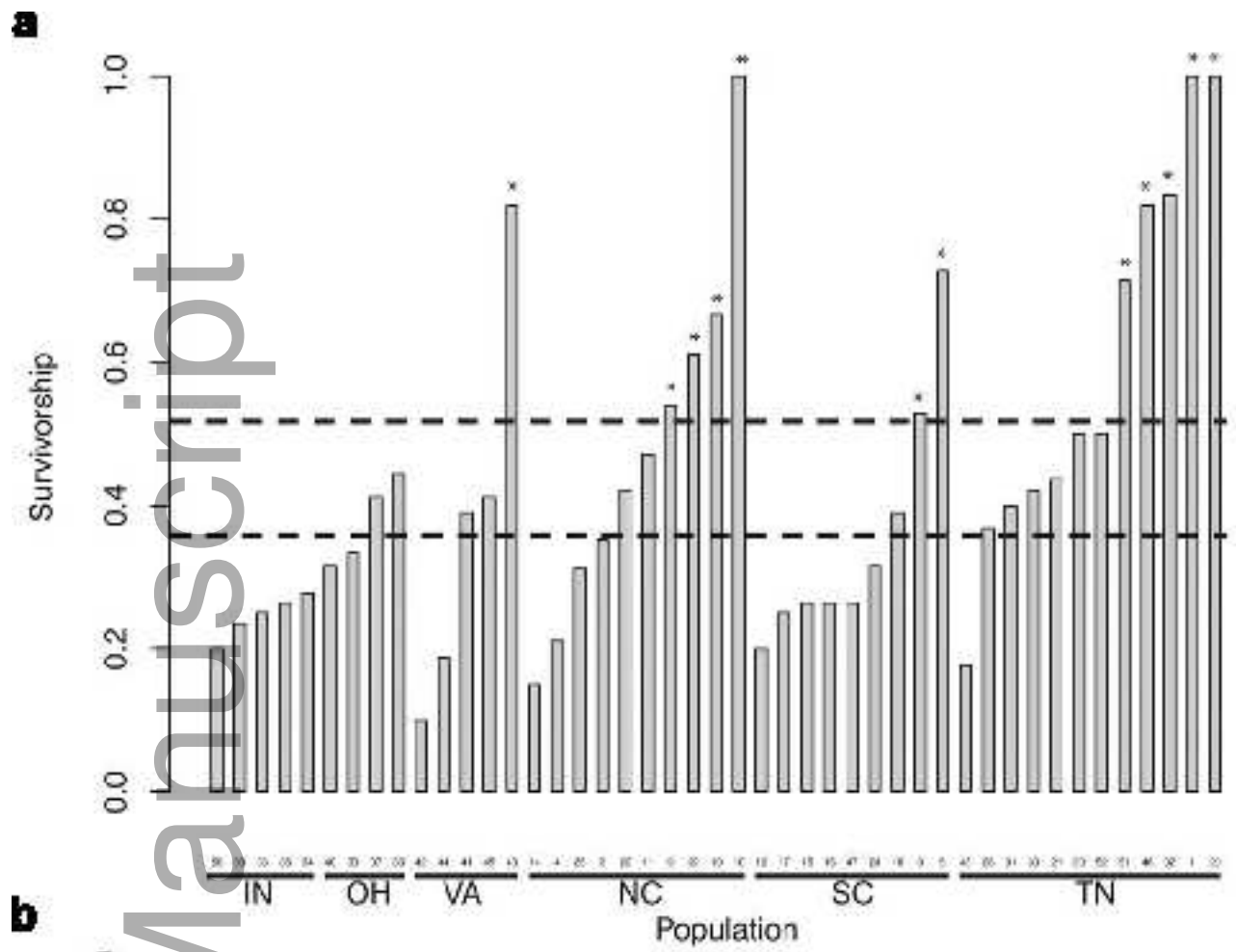
a**b**

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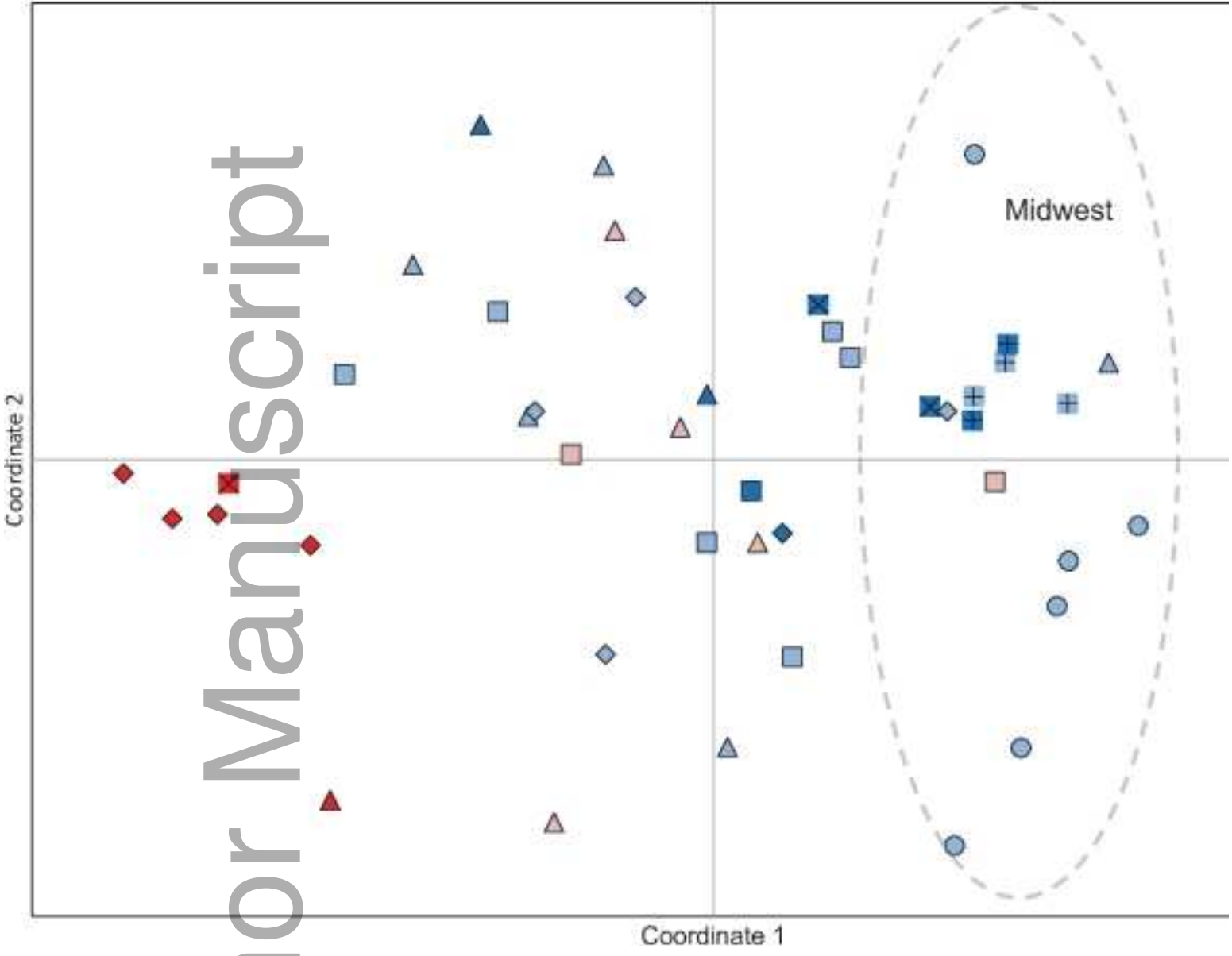


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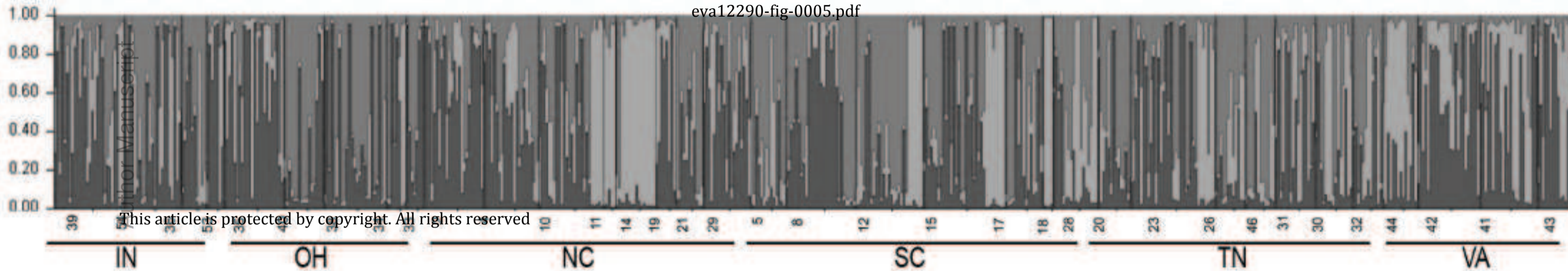
Principal Coordinates (PCoA)



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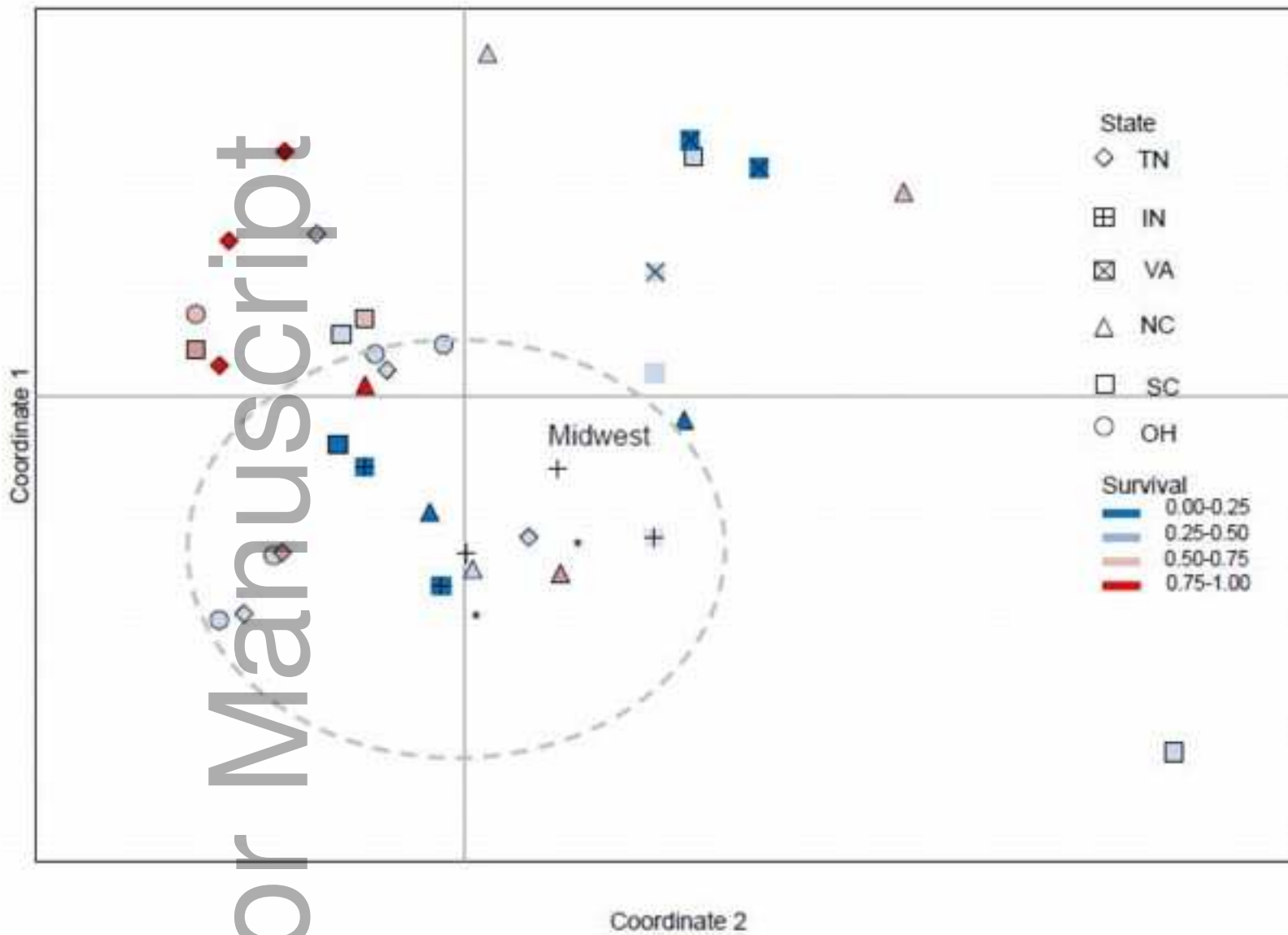
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