

1 Is within-host viral community assembly shaped by local adaptation?

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18 Abstract

19 Host-parasite coevolution describes the continuous reciprocal selection driving host defense
20 and parasite infectivity, with direct consequences for disease dynamics. While abundant
21 evidence exists for coevolution shaping host-parasite dynamics within the ‘one host-one
22 parasite’ framework, hosts are typically infected by multiple parasites and the extent to which
23 coevolutionary processes shape within-host parasite communities remains poorly understood.
24 Investigating these interactions is essential for understanding how coevolution drives parasite
25 diversity, competition, and coexistence within hosts. Here, we conducted a local adaptation
26 experiment to investigate the effects of coevolution on within-host viral community assembly
27 in *Plantago lanceolata*. Greenhouse-grown individuals were reciprocally transplanted into
28 wild populations during natural viral epidemics. We combined small-RNA sequencing to
29 identify the viral communities and joint species distribution modelling to quantify the effects
30 of local adaptation, population and host characteristics on viral community assembly. Our
31 results show that host populations vary in the extent to which local adaptation influences
32 within-host viral diversity. Across all populations, host maternal line and origin population
33 were the main determinants of viral community composition and infection status. The effects
34 varied across virus families, suggesting virus-specific assembly processes and variation in the
35 potential for coevolution to shape these interactions.

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42 Introduction

43 Coevolutionary theory predicts reciprocal selection to drive key interaction traits in hosts and
44 parasites – resistance and infectivity, respectively (1,2). Coevolution is fundamental for
45 understanding host-parasite interactions and disease dynamics in nature, as the presence of
46 parasites depends on the availability of susceptible hosts. Indeed, host-parasite interactions
47 provide some of the most compelling evidence for the theory of coevolution, often
48 demonstrated through local adaptation experiments (3–6). However, much of this work has
49 focused on the one-host-one-parasite framework, although in nature hosts are rarely infected
50 by a single parasite and often support complex parasite communities (7–10). Despite the
51 growing interest in within-host parasite communities in natural environments, there remains a
52 gap in our understanding of how coevolution can shape these complex communities (11,12).

53 Genetic variation and genotype-genotype specificity in the interaction are prerequisites
54 for coevolution. Indeed, the ability to infect or resist infection can be genotype-dependent:
55 some parasite genotypes can infect only certain host genotypes, while some host genotypes
56 exhibit resistance to specific parasite genotypes (13–15). This variation is maintained by
57 evolutionary mechanisms, such as parasite-imposed negative frequency-dependent selection
58 and arms-race dynamics, which can favour different host genotypes in different populations,
59 contributing to local adaptation (3,15,16). Notably, the outcome of host genotype \times parasite
60 genotype interactions may be altered under multiple parasite attack (17,18), with co-occurring
61 parasites influencing community assembly either directly through parasite-parasite interactions
62 (19,20) or indirectly through host-mediated responses (14,21). If host colonization ability – a
63 trait expected to be shaped by coevolution – is sensitive to co-occurring parasites, then we may
64 expect community assembly to be shaped by both ecological and evolutionary dynamics (22).
65 The community monopolization hypothesis – evoked to explain evolutionary priority effects
66 – predicts that locally adapted resident species can have a competitive advantage over later

arriving individuals, potentially influencing parasite community dynamics (23,24). It has been demonstrated that adaptation can reduce competitive dominance with direct consequences for community assembly (24), and that locally adapted parasites can influence the composition of the entire community (25,26).

Viruses, similar to other parasites, can form highly diverse communities (20,27–32). As obligate parasites, viral reproduction relies on the virus' ability to infect and hijack host cell machinery (33), making host-virus interactions a key factor in shaping viral communities (14,34,35). Here, to investigate how viral community assembly is influenced by coevolution, we conducted a reciprocal transplant experiment, by placing naïve *Plantago lanceolata* individuals as sentinels in sympatric and allopatric populations during naturally occurring viral epidemics. We sampled the plant individuals at the end of the growth season for small-RNA sequencing to characterize viral communities and used joint species distribution modelling (36) to tease apart the effects of local adaptation, population and host characteristics on viral community assembly. Specifically, we ask: i) Can we detect viral local adaptation? ii) What is the importance of local adaptation in determining viral community assembly? iii) What is the role of population and host characteristics in viral community assembly?

Materials and Methods

Study species

The host, *Plantago lanceolata*, is a perennial herb reproducing clonally with side rosettes or sexually with wind-dispersed pollen (37). *Plantago lanceolata* occurs worldwide, and in Finland, *P. lanceolata* can be found mainly in SW Finland. In the Åland Islands (an area spanning 50 × 70 km), *P. lanceolata* forms a large network consisting of over 4000 small fragmented populations (38).

The *P. lanceolata* host populations in the Åland Islands harbour complex viral communities (19,20). Five novel *P. lanceolata* infecting viruses have been characterised from this system, and PCR primers have been developed for their detection (14,39,40). Viral symptoms in wild hosts are challenging to identify but can include yellowing or redness of the leaf, curliness and necrotic lesions (40–42). *Plantago lanceolata latent virus* (PILV) infection has been linked to yellowing of the leaf (40,43).

Preparation of host plant material and field experiment

To investigate the role of local adaptation in viral community assembly, we conducted a reciprocal transplant experiment in three *P. lanceolata* populations (ID: s: 9205, 876, and 950) in the Åland Islands. In autumn 2020, seeds were collected from eight individuals per studied population and germinated in early April 2021 with the aim of obtaining up to 15 offspring per maternal line. The seeds from 24 maternal lines (Supplementary table 1), were sown in peat pots with a 3:1 mixture of potting soil and sand and then placed in a growth chamber with a 16:8 h light-dark cycle. After three weeks, the seedlings were transferred to the greenhouse and replanted into 10 cm × 10 cm pots filled with a 1:1 mixture of potting soil and sand. The plants were watered as needed and, when large enough, fertilized weekly with NPK fertilizer (7:2:2). During the growth period in the greenhouse, leaf samples were collected for PCR screening to confirm that each maternal line was virus-free of PILV, *Plantago latent caulimovirus*, *Plantago betapartitivirus*, *Plantago enamovirus*, and *Plantago closterovirus*, all of which are among the most common viruses in the Åland Islands populations (39,40). Two weeks prior to the transplant experiment, the plants were treated with fungicide (Bordeaux mixture).

In early June 2021, the greenhouse-grown naïve plants were taken to the Åland Islands and placed in their transplant populations. For each maternal line, five offspring were placed

in their sympatric *P. lanceolata* population and five in each of the two allopatric populations (Figure 1). For four maternal lines with fewer offspring, priority was given to sympatric placement, and the remaining individuals were distributed among the two allopatric populations (Supplementary table 1). Finally, the experiment consisted of 348 plants across the three transplant populations (Supplementary table 1). The plants were randomly placed among the natural vegetation and kept in pots placed inside plastic boxes (approximately 13 cm × 11 cm) to isolate them from the local soil. To minimize within-population spatial effects, we shuffled the plants among the plastic boxes three times per week for the duration of the experiment. The plants were watered as needed.

After six weeks of exposure, a 3 cm² piece of leaf tissue was collected for RNA extraction and snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen. At this time, we also recorded host characteristics that prior work suggests could affect viral infections on *P. lanceolata*. Plant size was measured as $n \times A$, where n is the number of leaves and $A = \pi ab$, where a is the half axis of the width of the largest leaf, and b is the half axis of the length of the largest leaf (14,19).

RNA extraction and RNA purification

Total RNA was extracted using a modified acid phenol-chloroform extraction protocol (44). A 3 cm² leaf tissue sample was ground in liquid nitrogen, after which 800 µl of warm extraction buffer was added and mixed thoroughly. The extraction buffer consisted of 2% hexadecyltrimethylammonium bromide (Sigma-Aldrich USA), 2% of polyvinylpyrrolidone K-30 (MW 40 000, Sigma-Aldrich USA), 100 mM of Tris-HCl (pH 8.0, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA), 25 mM of Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (pH 8.9, Sigma-Aldrich, USA), 2.0 M of NaCl (Sigma-Aldrich, USA) and 2% of β-mercaptoethanol (Sigma-Aldrich, USA). Next, 800 µl of acid phenol-chloroform-isoamyl alcohol (IAA; 25:24:1) was added, and the sample was

centrifuged at 13500 rpm for 15 minutes at RT. The supernatant was transferred to a clean tube, mixed with 1 ml phenol-chloroform-IAA and centrifuged under the same conditions. RNA was precipitated by adding 160 µl of 10 M LiCl and incubating overnight at +4 °C. The following day, samples were purified with chloroform-IAA (24:1) purification step and washed twice with ethanol. The RNA pellet was resuspended in 25 µl of nuclease-free water and treated with Ambion® DNA-free™ DNA removal Kit (Invitrogen, USA). RNA concentration was measured using Nanodrop 2000 (Thermo Fischer Scientific, USA) and Qubit (Thermo Fischer Scientific, USA), and RNA was stored at -80 °C.

Small-RNA sequencing and bioinformatic pipeline

To identify the viral communities present in the sentinel plants, we assigned the samples to small-RNA (sRNA) sequencing. From the 348 sampled experimental plants, we randomly selected samples from three individuals from each maternal line from each transplant population to be assigned for sRNA sequencing. From maternal line 876-4, we sequenced three samples from the sympatric transplant population but only one sample from one of the allopatric populations, resulting in 211 samples assigned for sRNA sequencing. The RNA extracted from the selected samples was diluted with nuclease-free water and sent to the sequencing facility according to the sequencing company's instructions (Fasteris SA, Switzerland).

The sRNA sequencing and library preparation were carried out at Fasteris SA (Switzerland). Small-RNA cDNA libraries were prepared using QIAseq miRNA Library Kit (Qiagen) according to Fasteris SA Small RNA-Seq Gel-free protocol with 100 ng of total RNA. Sequencing was performed using Illumina NovaSeq 6000 (Illumina Inc, San Diego, California, USA) and targeted insert sizes from 0 nt to 43 nt with an average library yield of 1779 Mb.

Inserts with sizes from 20 nt to 25 nt were selected for bioinformatic analyses. Sequencing adapter removal was done using Trimmomatics software (45), and the reads were de novo assembled to contigs using VirusDetect software (46). VirusDetect software conducts BLASTX and BLASTN searches against curated plant virus database (vrl_Plants_248_U100) of VirusDetect for each sample separately. We used default parameters BLASTX and BLASTN searches, default similarity 25 % and p-value 1e-5. We then assigned the obtained contigs to virus family level for the statistical analyses (Supplementary table 2).

Statistical analysis

All statistical analyses were conducted in R (version 4.2.2; (47)). To test whether local adaptation influenced host infection status (infected by any studied virus= 1, not infected by any studied virus = 0), we fitted generalized linear mixed models (GLMM) using the "glmmTMB" R-package (48) with binomial distribution and logit link function. Specifically, we constructed GLMMs to test the two key metrics of local adaptation: i) local *vs.* foreign and ii) home *vs.* away (49,50). For the local *vs.* foreign model (LF), a categorical variable representing sympatry or allopatry, nested within transplant population, was included as a fixed effect. Seed origin population and plant size were included as additional fixed effects and maternal line nested within seed origin population was included as a random effect to account for genetic variation among hosts. For the home *vs.* away model (HA), the model structure was identical, except that the categorical variable of sympatry or allopatry was nested within seed origin population and included as a fixed effect. Model assumptions were assessed using R-package "DHARMa" (51). The significance of the main effects were evaluated using Wald χ^2 tests (function "Anova" in R-package "car"; (52)). For significant effects, pairwise comparisons of the estimated marginal means were performed using functions "contrasts" and "emmeans"

from the R-package “emmeans” (version 1.8.8; (53), applying Tukey’s method for multiple comparisons.

To investigate the effects of local adaptation, population and host characteristics on within-host viral diversity, while also accounting for viral (co-)occurrence patterns in the transplant experiment, we implemented Joint Species Distribution Modelling (JSDM) using the hierarchical modelling of species communities (HMSC) framework (54,55). HMSC is a hierarchical generalized linear mixed model with Bayesian inference and allows the analysis of multiple species’ responses to ecological variables while incorporating species- and community-level parameters and accounting for covariation among species. The response variables in our HMSC model were the occurrences of the three most prevalent virus families: *Caulimoviridae*, *Partitiviridae* and *Pospiviroidae*. As fixed effect predictors, we included 1) maternal line ID, 2) seed origin population, 3) sympatry/allopatry, 4) plant size, and 5) signs of herbivory. Transplant population was included as a random effect. Including sympatry/allopatry as a fixed effect allowed us to directly estimate the effect of local adaptation in our model. We used four separate Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) chains to sample the posterior distribution. Each chain was run for 1 875 000 iterations, and the first 625 000 were discarded as burn-in. Subsequently, the remaining iterations were thinned by 5000, resulting in 250 posterior samples per chain. Finally, we obtained a total of 1000 posterior samples across all four chains. The model fit was evaluated by examining explanatory and predictive performance via ten-fold cross-validation, using Tjur’s coefficient of determination (Tjur R^2) and area under the curve (AUC), respectively. The HMSC analyses were ran using the R-package “Hmsc” (version 3.0-14).

211 Results

212 Description of the sRNA sequencing data

213 From the 211 sequenced individuals, the sRNA sequencing yielded on average 23,799,485
214 reads per plant tissue sample (min 17,364,260; max 49,152,805; SD 7,738,962). The
215 VirusDetect pipeline assembled 2374 contigs ranging from 41 to 2080 nt in length (mean length
216 of 159 nt and SD 163 nt). Of these, 11% of contigs had virus-specific BLASTN hits with 80–
217 100% identity (mean 93%), while 89% had BLASTX hits with 22–100% identity (mean 67%).

218 In total, we assembled 1151 plant virus-associated contigs across the 211 individuals,
219 representing six plant virus families: *Tymoviridae*, *Botourmiaviridae*, *Closteroviridae*,
220 *Partitiviridae*, *Caulimoviridae* and *Pospiviroidae* (Figure 2C, Supplementary table 2). From
221 each family, we identified 1 to 3 virus genera and 3 to 842 contigs for each genus. At the species
222 level, we acquired BLAST hits to 1 to 15 species, depending on the virus genus (Supplementary
223 table 2). Overall, 26% of the host individuals were infected, and of those 86% were colonized
224 by one virus family and 14% by two virus families. The most prevalent families were
225 *Caulimoviridae* and *Pospiviroidae* (both in 43% of the infected individuals), whereas
226 *Tymoviridae* and *Botourmiaviridae* were the rarest (both in 2% of the infected individuals;
227 Figure 2C).

228

229 Analysis of viral local adaptation: local vs. foreign

230 Using the local vs. foreign criterion, we observed indications of viral local adaptation in
231 transplant population 876, where local hosts had higher infection rates than foreign hosts. A
232 similar trend was observed in population 950, where local hosts showed the second-highest
233 infection rates (Figure 2A). Conversely, in population 9205, local hosts harboured fewer
234 infections than foreign hosts – suggesting viral maladaptation. However, the GLMM (LF) did

not provide statistical support for these trends (Wald $X^2 = 1.53$, $P = 0.673$; Table 1). Seed origin populations differed significantly in infection rates (Wald $X^2 = 7.37$, $P = 0.025$; Table 1), with individuals originating from population 9205 having significantly fewer infections than those originating from population 876 (Figure 2A, Supplementary table 3A; estimate = 2.071, SE = 0.778, z-ratio = 2.661, $P = 0.021$).

Analysis of viral local adaptation: home vs. away

Applying the home vs. away criterion, we found no evidence of viral local adaptation (Figure 2B). Hosts from populations 876 and 950 had lower infection rates in their respective home populations than in their away populations, suggesting viral maladaptation (Figure 2B). Our statistical analysis (model HA) did not detect significant differences in infection rates between home and away habitats. However, model coefficients for the “sympatry” term nested within seed origin population were lower, suggesting higher infection rates in away habitats (Supplementary table 4). Additionally, seed origin population significantly influenced host infection status (Wald $X^2 = 9.09$, $P = 0.010$; Table 2). Post hoc comparisons showed that individuals from population 876 had significantly higher infection rates than those from population 9205 (estimate = 1.818, SE = 0.649, z-ratio = 2.802, $P = 0.014$; Supplementary table 3B., Figure 2B and C).

Analysis of viral (co-)occurrence patterns

We applied the HMSC approach to investigate the factors influencing the (co-)occurrence of the detected virus families in a local adaptation experiment. The model predicted virus family occurrences well, although model performance varied among virus families (Supplementary table 5). Tjur R^2 and AUC were used to quantify the explanatory and predictive performance of the model, with a mean Tjur R^2 of 0.27 (range among the detected virus families 0.10-0.47) and a mean AUC of 0.89 (0.80-0.98). The predictive power of the model was based on ten-fold

cross-validations, where the mean Tjur R^2 was 0.19 (range 0.01 - 0.4) and the mean AUC was 0.74 (range 0.54-0.88; Supplementary table 5) varying among virus families.

In terms of contributions to the explained variation in our HMSC model, host maternal line was the strongest determinant of viral occurrences, explaining on average 62% of the variance. However, the effect varied among virus families and was most pronounced for *Pospiviroidae* (73%) and less important in explaining *Partitiviridae* (60%) and *Caulimoviridae* (54%) occurrences (Figure 3, Supplementary table 6). For example, maternal line 876-6, displayed the highest infection rates, with 89% of the individuals infected (Figure 2C). Seed origin population was the second most important predictor, explaining on average of 29% of the variance. The effect of host maternal line varied among virus families, with a more pronounced role for *Caulimoviridae* (35%) and *Partitiviridae* (33%), while being less important for explaining the occurrences of *Pospiviroidae* (18%; Figure 3, Supplementary table 6). Consistent with this, individuals from seed origin population 876 harboured 50% of all detected viral infections, whereas individuals originating from population 9205 harboured only 16% of all infections (Figure 2C).

Host plant size accounted for an average of 4% of the variation in viral occurrences, with the strongest effect observed for *Caulimoviridae* (7%). Local adaptation (sympatry/allopatry) had a smaller role in contributing to explained variation, accounting for 2% on average across virus families (Figure 3, Supplementary table 6). Herbivory had minimal effect, explaining only 0% to 0.1% of the viral occurrences. The random effect of transplant population explained on average 2% of the variation across virus families and was slightly more important in explaining *Pospiviroidae* occurrences (4%, Figure 3, Supplementary table 6). Residual correlations among virus families at the random level were not significant, suggesting that after accounting for the effects of the fixed explanatory variables, viral occurrences were not influenced by interactions between virus families.

284 Discussion

285 Here, we used a reciprocal transplant experiment combined with sRNA sequencing and JSDM
286 modelling to investigate the role of local adaptation in shaping within-host viral (co-
287)occurrences. Although we observed trends suggesting viral local adaptation and maladaptation
288 when applying the local vs. foreign and home vs. away criteria, the effects were not statistically
289 significant. Instead, we found host maternal line and host seed origin population to be the most
290 important determinants of host infection status and viral community structure. The strength of
291 these effects varied across virus families, indicating virus-specific assembly processes and
292 variation in the extent to which coevolution shapes these interactions. Jointly our results
293 identify key drivers of viral community assembly and provide insight into how within-host
294 dynamics could scale up to predict the ecological and evolutionary consequences of disease in
295 natural systems.

296 Using sRNA sequencing, we detected viruses from six virus families, five of which
297 have been previously identified from this system (20,43). Overall, 21% of the sampled sentinel
298 plants were infected, exhibiting a lower infection rate than previously reported from hosts in
299 this system (20,43). Despite the low overall infection prevalence, we found individuals
300 originating from population 876 harbouring significantly higher infection rates than those from
301 population 9205. Viral community composition also varied among seed origin populations and
302 among maternal lines. Individuals from seed origin population 876 harboured viruses from five
303 different virus families (*Caulimoviridae*, *Pospiviroidae*, *Partitiviridae*, *Botourmiaviridae* and
304 *Closteroviridae*), whereas individuals from population 950 were infected by only three virus
305 families (*Pospiviroidae*, *Caulimoviridae* and *Partitiviridae*). The overall lower infection
306 prevalence may be due to differences in exposure time to viral epidemics and additionally, viral
307 prevalence may vary annually due to several factors, such as temperature, humidity and vector

behaviour — components of natural systems that are difficult to control in a field experiment (56–58).

Using a reciprocal transplant experimental approach, we were able to apply the two key metrics of local adaptation: local *vs.* foreign and home *vs.* away. While we observed signs of viral local adaptation in transplant population 876 under the local *vs.* away criterion, the pattern was not statistically significant (GLMM LF). Similarly, analysis on the home *vs.* away metric showed no statistically significant effect of local adaptation on host infection status (GLMM HA). In line with these results, when investigating the effects of local adaptation on viral (co-)occurrence patterns with JSDM in the HMSC framework, we found local adaptation to explain on average only 2.3% of the viral occurrences. However, when using the home *vs.* away criterion (GLMM HA), individuals from seed origin populations 876 and 950 harboured the lowest infection rates in their home populations, suggesting viral maladaptation. Patterns of maladaptation are not unexpected given the dynamic, cyclic nature of coevolutionary interactions between the host and its parasite (59). In the Aland Islands *P. lanceolata* populations are highly fragmented, and the connectivity levels of the populations vary (60,61) and consequently too high or low gene flow between populations could facilitate parasite maladaptation (59,62–64). Previous studies have shown that well-connected host populations are less affected by disease (65,66), a phenomenon that is likely due to higher resistance diversity in these populations maintained by gene flow (61).

Seed origin population was a strong predictor of host infection status. Individuals originating from population 876 were more frequently infected and harboured the most diverse viral communities. In contrast, hosts from population 9205 exhibited high resistance to viral infection and consequently harboured less complex viral communities. Our HMSC analysis mirrored these findings, identifying maternal line and seed origin population as the strongest determinants of viral occurrence across virus families, explaining on average 62% and 29% of

the variation, respectively (Figure 3). The variation in infection rates among host origin populations, together with the strong maternal line effects for viral occurrences across virus families, highlights host genetic diversity as a key driver of viral community assembly and composition in this system. Although evidence for viral local adaptation was limited, the variation in infections prevalence among host maternal lines indicates strong potential for coevolution, as genetic variation is a main driver of coevolution (67–69). Moreover, high host genetic diversity in natural populations can mitigate disease risk, a phenomenon known as the monoculture effect (70,71).

Hosts encounter a myriad of parasites throughout their lives (43,72–74), and these interactions can have far-reaching consequences for host-parasite coevolution and population dynamics (75). Despite this, much of the research on local adaptation has focused on pairwise host-parasite interactions (76–78), with little focus on the role of parasite communities in coevolutionary processes. To our knowledge, our study is among the first to study viral local adaptation within a community ecology framework. After accounting for host attributes, we found no evidence of virus-virus interactions shaping within-host viral diversity. Instead, host characteristics, represented by maternal line and host seed origin population, emerged as the most important predictor of viral community structure and host infection status. Our findings highlight the importance of host genetic variation in shaping viral communities and contribute to the growing field of viral community ecology research. Understanding the drivers of complex host-parasite interactions and processes at the community level is essential for predicting how disease dynamics scale up from individuals to populations and understanding the ecological and evolutionary conditions from which novel viral diseases may emerge.

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364 Author contributions

365 M.J., H.S. and A.-L.L. designed the study. M.J. performed the field experiment, data collection,
366 and statistical analysis. M.J., H.S. and A.-L.L. prepared the manuscript.

367 Conflict of Interest

368 The authors declare no conflict of interests.

369 Data availability Statement

370 The data and R scripts used in this study have been submitted to GitHub
371 (<https://github.com/maiijajoki/ViRAL21>).

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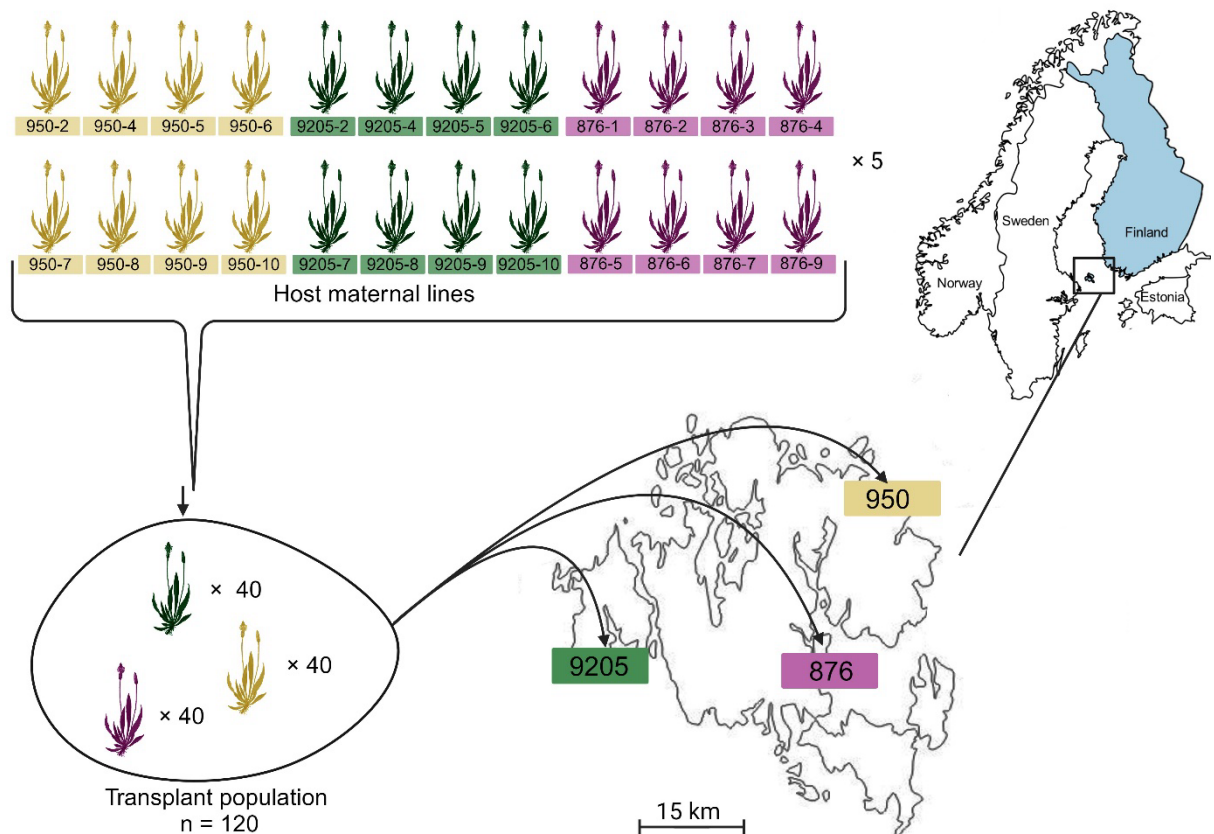
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568 Figure 1. Reciprocal transplant experiment where *Plantago lanceolata* individuals from 24
 569 maternal lines originating from three populations were transplanted into their sympatric and
 570 two allopatric populations during natural viral epidemics. We placed 40 individuals into
 571 sympatric population and ~80 individuals into two allopatric populations, with a total of 348
 572 plant individuals across three populations in the Åland Islands SW Finland.

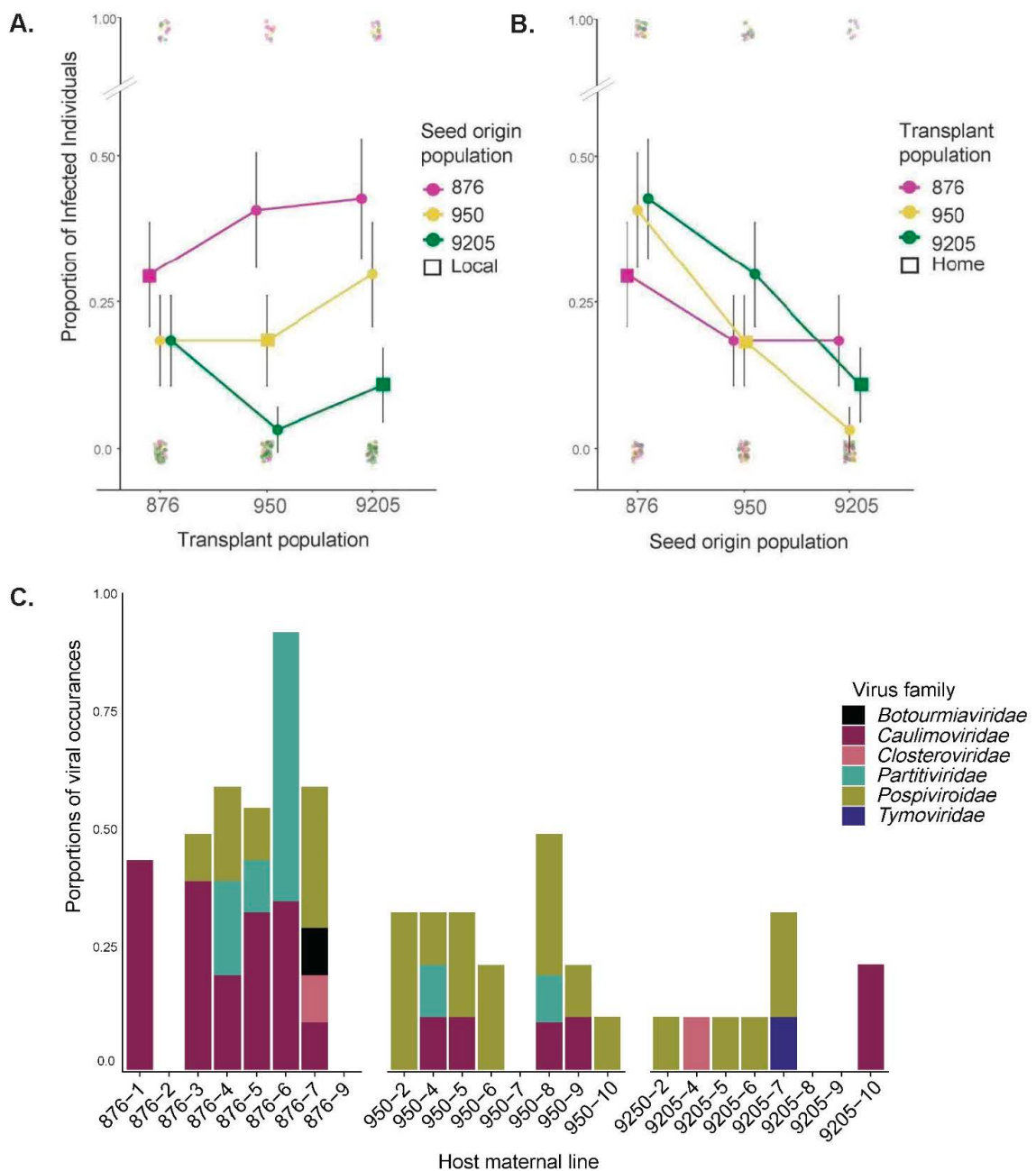


Figure 2. Proportions of virus infected *Plantago lanceolata* host individuals in a reciprocal transplant experiment using (A) local vs. foreign, (B) home vs. away metrics of local adaptation, and (C) infection pattern across host maternal (n =24) line grouped by seed origin population. In panel A, colours indicate the seed origin populations and the squares mark the local host. In panel B, the colours represent the transplant populations and the squares mark the home habitat of the host (purple = seed origin/transplant population 876 yellow = seed origin/transplant population 950, and green = seed origin/transplant population 9205). In panel C colours represent the six virus families detected with sRNA sequencing.

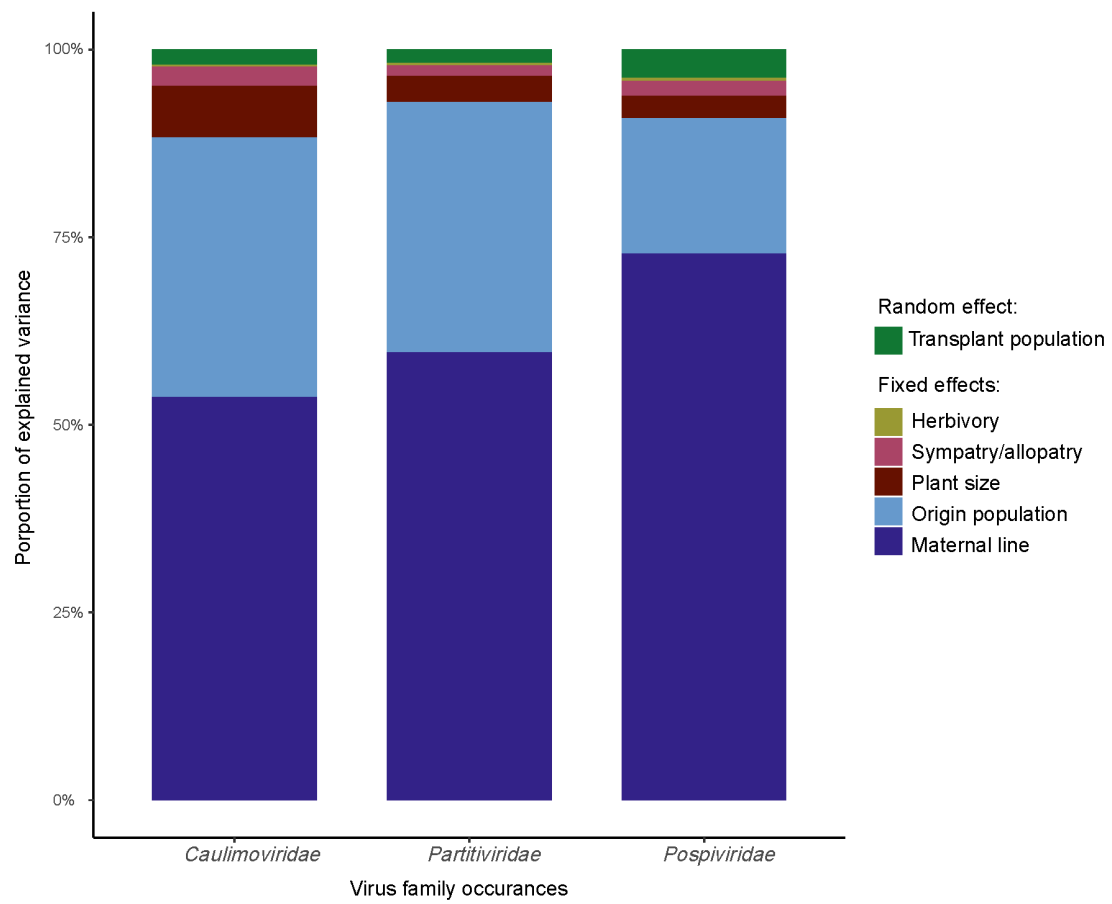
Table 1. Type II Wald X^2 test for Generalizer linear mixed model estimating the effects of plant size, seed origin population, transplant population and local vs. foreign metric of local adaptation on host infection status (1=infected, 0=uninfected) in a reciprocal transplant experiment in the Åland Islands (model LF).

Fixed effect	Wald X^2	Df	p-value
Plant size	1.71	1	0.190
Seed origin population	7.37	2	0.025
Transplant population	1.99	2	0.369
Transplant population : sympatry/allopatry	1.53	3	0.673

Table 2. Type II Wald X^2 test for Generalizer linear mixed model testing for the effects of plant size, seed origin population, transplant population and home vs. away metric of local adaptation on host infection status (1=infected, 0=uninfected) in a reciprocal transplant experiment in the Åland Islands (model HA).

Fixed effect	Wald X^2	Df	p-value
Plant size	1.71	1	0.190
Seed origin population	9.09	2	0.010
Transplant population	1.64	2	0.438
Seed origin population : sympatry/allopatry	1.53	3	0.673

Figure 3. Variance partitioning of the fixed and random effects in the Hierarchical Modelling of Species Communities model for the three most prevalent virus families (*Caulimoviridae*, *Partitiviridae*, *Pospiviridae*) in the reciprocal transplant experiment. The six variables explaining the occurrences the three virus families were: maternal line, seed origin population, plant size, sympatry/allopatry, herbivory and transplant population (random effect).



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Supplement

Supplementary table 1. The host maternal lines included in a reciprocal transplant experiment studying viral local adaptation in *Plantago lanceolata* host populations in the Åland Islands during naturally occurring viral epidemics. In the table are included the ID of each maternal line, the ID of the origin population of each maternal line, the ID of the transplant population where the plants were placed during the experiment and the number of individuals, and finally, the number of sequenced individuals.

Maternal line	Seed origin population	Transplant population	No individuals in the experiment	Number of individuals sequenced
876-1	876	876	5	3
876-1	876	950	5	3
876-1	876	9205	5	3
876-2	876	876	5	3
876-2	876	950	5	3
876-2	876	9205	5	3
876-3	876	876	5	3
876-3	876	950	5	3
876-3	876	9205	5	3
876-4	876	876	5	3
876-4	876	950	1	1
876-4	876	9205	0	0
876-5	876	876	5	3
876-5	876	950	4	3
876-5	876	9205	3	3
876-6	876	876	5	3
876-6	876	950	5	3
876-6	876	9205	5	3
876-7	876	876	5	3
876-7	876	950	5	3
876-7	876	9205	5	3
876-9	876	876	5	3
876-9	876	950	5	3
876-9	876	9205	5	3
950-10	950	876	5	3
950-10	950	950	5	3
950-10	950	9205	5	3
950-2	950	876	5	3
950-2	950	950	5	3
950-2	950	9205	5	3
950-4	950	876	5	3
950-4	950	950	5	3
950-4	950	9205	5	3
950-5	950	876	5	3
950-5	950	950	5	3
950-5	950	9205	5	3
950-6	950	876	5	3
950-6	950	950	5	3
950-6	950	9205	5	3
950-7	950	876	5	3
950-7	950	950	5	3
950-7	950	9205	5	3
950-8	950	876	5	3
950-8	950	950	5	3
950-8	950	9205	5	3
950-9	950	876	5	3
950-9	950	950	5	3
950-9	950	9205	5	3

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9205-10	9205	876	5	3
9205-10	9205	950	5	3
9205-10	9205	9205	5	3
9205-4	9205	876	5	3
9205-4	9205	950	5	3
9205-4	9205	9205	5	3
9205-5	9205	876	5	3
9205-5	9205	950	5	3
9205-5	9205	9205	5	3
9205-6	9205	876	5	3
9205-6	9205	950	5	3
9205-6	9205	9205	5	3
9205-7	9205	876	5	3
9205-7	9205	950	5	3
9205-7	9205	9205	5	3
9205-8	9205	876	4	3
9205-8	9205	950	5	3
9205-8	9205	9205	5	3
9205-9	9205	876	5	3
9205-9	9205	950	5	3
9205-9	9205	9205	5	3
9250-2	9205	876	5	3
9250-2	9205	950	5	3
9250-2	9205	9205	5	3

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Supplementary table 2. Virus families detected by small-RNA sequencing on *Plantago lanceolata* individuals (n = 211) included in a transplant experiment in the Åland Islands studying viral local adaptation. The genera belonging to each virus family are shown as well as the number of contigs and virus species within each virus family. Reference to the literature describing the detected family listed in the “reference” column [1–3].

Family	Genus	Contigs	Species	References
<i>Botourmiaviridae</i>		3	1	
	<i>Gammascleroulivirus</i>	3	1	
<i>Caulimoviridae</i>		896	21	[1,2,3]
	<i>Badnavirus</i>	1	1	
	<i>Caulimovirus</i>	842	15	
	<i>Soymovirus</i>	52	5	
<i>Closteroviridae</i>		13	5	[1,2,3]
	<i>Ampelovirus</i>	1	1	
	<i>Closterovirus</i>	11	3	
	unclassified	1	1	
<i>Partitiviridae</i>		212	11	[1,2,3]
	<i>Betapartitivirus</i>	113	8	
	unclassified	99	3	
<i>Pospiviridae</i>		24	1	[3]
	<i>Pospiviroid</i>	24	1	
<i>Tymoviridae</i>		3	1	[1,2,3]
	<i>Maculavirus</i>	3	1	

Supplementary table 3. Post hoc test comparing the infection status of the host *Plantago lanceolata* from the three seed origin populations in a local adaptation experiment in the Åland Islands during naturally occurring viral epidemics. Pairwise comparison of the estimated marginal means calculated from both generalized linear mixed effects models A) model LF and B) model HA (Table 1 and 2). P-values are Tukey adjusted.

A.

Contrast	Estimate	SE	Df	Z ratio	p-value
Seed origin population 876 – Seed origin population 950	1.283	0.703	Inf	1.825	0.161
Seed origin population 876- Seed origin population 9205	2.071	0.778	Inf	2.661	0.021
Seed origin population 950 – Seed origin population 9205	0.788	0.736	Inf	1.070	0.532

B.

Contrast	Estimate	SE	Df	Z ratio	p-value
Seed origin population 876 – Seed origin population 950	0.703	0.597	Inf	1.176	0.467
Seed origin population 876- Seed origin population 9205	1.818	0.649	Inf	2.802	0.014
Seed origin population 950 – Seed origin population 9205	1.115	0.664	Inf	1.679	0.213

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Supplementary table 4. Model coefficients (model HA) testing for the effects of local adaptation on host infection status using the home *vs.* away metrics of local adaptation. For all variables one levels is a reference level included in the intercept.

Parameter	Coefficient	Std. Error	z-ratio	p-value
(Intercept)	0.46958	0.76237	0.61595	0.53792
Plant size	-0.00088	0.00067	-1.31035	0.19008
Seed origin population 950	-1.28293	0.70295	-1.82505	0.06799
Seed origin population 9205	-2.07082	0.77828	-2.66078	0.00780
Transplant population 950	-0.47045	0.67071	-0.70142	0.48304
Transplant population 9205	0.28314	0.59902	0.47267	0.63645
Seed origin population 876 × sympatric	-0.86730	0.80862	-1.07257	0.28346
Seed origin population 950 × sympatric	0.29316	0.83422	0.35141	0.72528
Seed origin population 9205 × sympatric	-0.36200	0.92003	-0.39346	0.69398

Supplementary table 5. Explanatory and predictive performance of the HMSC model of viral occurrence in the experimental plant individuals in terms of Tjur R^2 and AUC. The model predictive performance is based on 10-fold cross-validation.

Response variable	Model explanatory performance		Model predictive performance with 10-fold cross validation (cv)	
	Tjur R^2	AUC	Tjur R^2 (cv)	AUC (cv)
<i>Caulimoviridae</i>	0.24	0.91	0.16	0.81
<i>Partitiviridae</i>	0.47	0.98	0.4	0.88
<i>Pospiviroidae</i>	0.1	0.8	0.01	0.54

Supplementary table 6. Exact values of the HMSC model variance partitioning for the three most prevalent virus families detected in a reciprocal transplant experiment studying local adaptation. Six variables explaining the virus family occurrence in a reciprocal transplant experiment were: maternal line ID, seed origin population ID, sympatry/allopatry, plant size, herbivory and transplant population ID (random).

Model parameter		Response variable		
Fixed effects:		<i>Caulimoviridae</i>	<i>Partitiviridae</i>	<i>Pospiviroidae</i>
	Maternal line	0.54	0.60	0.73
	Seed origin population	0.35	0.33	0.18
	Sympatry/allopatry	0.03	0.02	0.02
	Plant area	0.07	0.03	0.03
	Herbivory	0	0	0
Random effect:				
	Transplant population	0.02	0.02	0.04

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