

Genomic research on South Africa's sardine stocks

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and Samantha Ockhuis

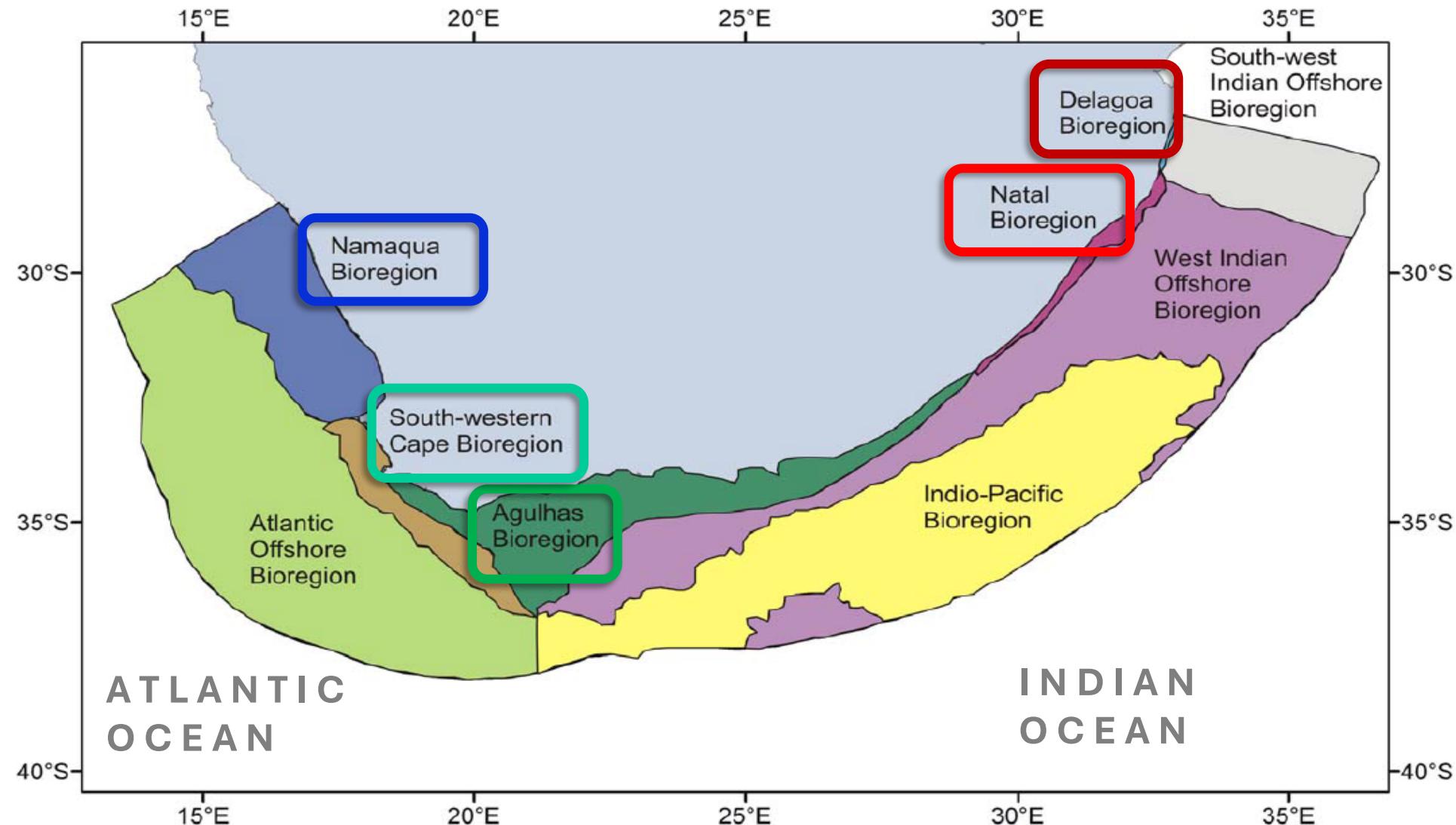


Ecological Genomics & Wildlife Conservation



South Africa's marine bioregions

Based on species assemblages, strongly linked to SST



Genetic structure often mirrors biogeography

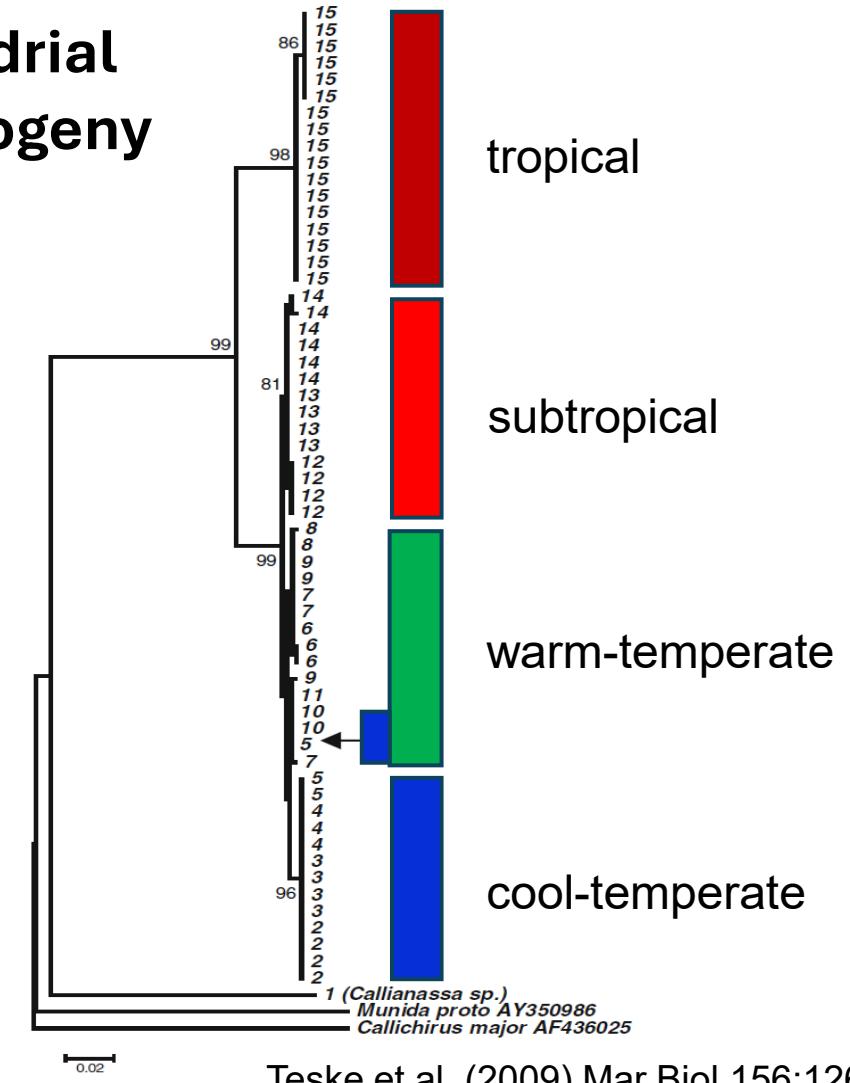
Many more examples, but not all as clearly defined

Kraussillichirus kraussi (sandprawn)



Pillay et al. 2017, Mar Ecol Prog Ser 347: 1–14

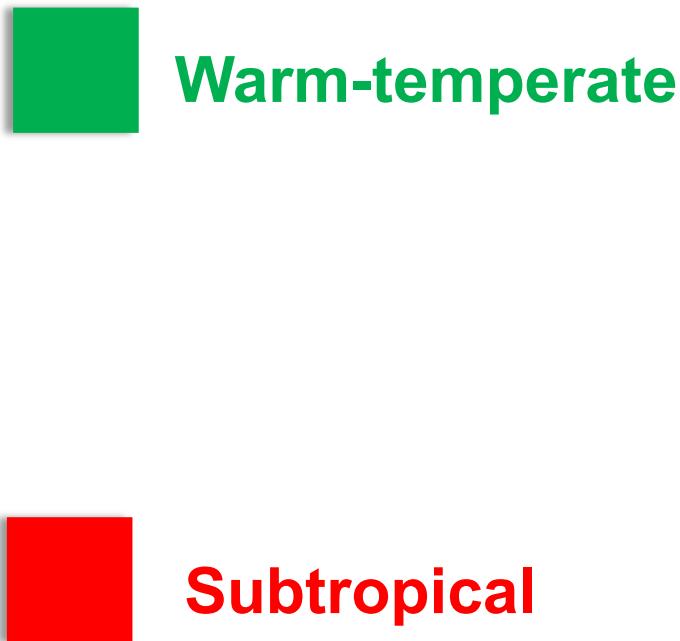
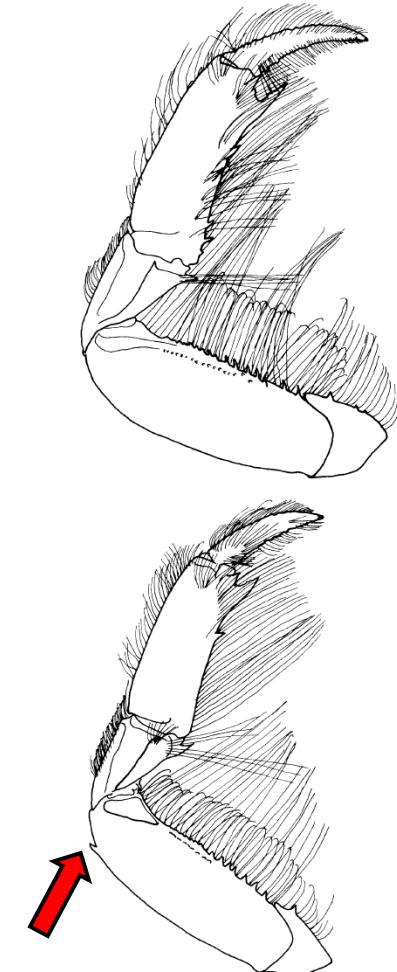
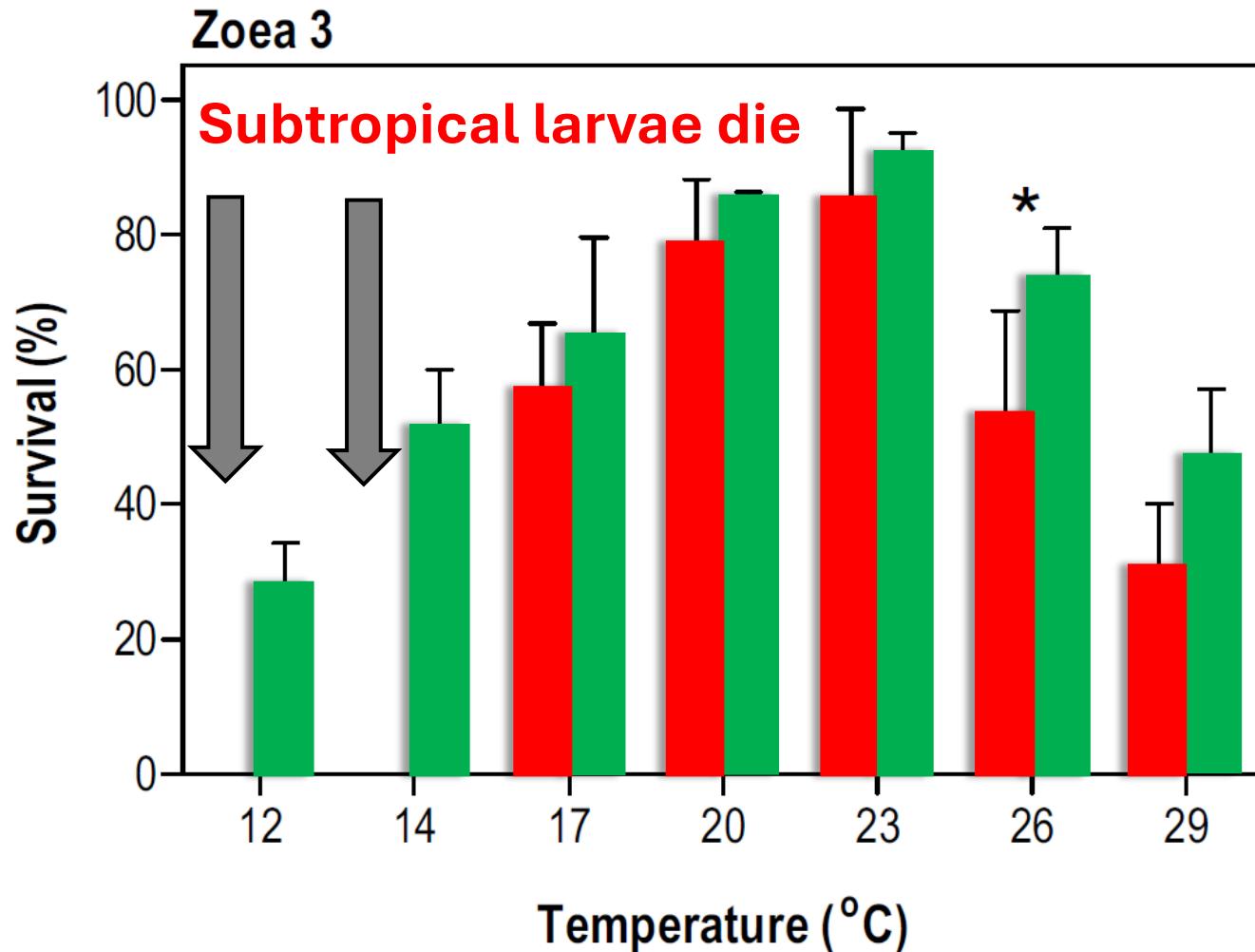
Mitochondrial DNA phylogeny



Teske et al. (2009) Mar Biol 156:1265–1275

Regional adaptation to temperature

Larval development in the prawn *Upogebia africana*

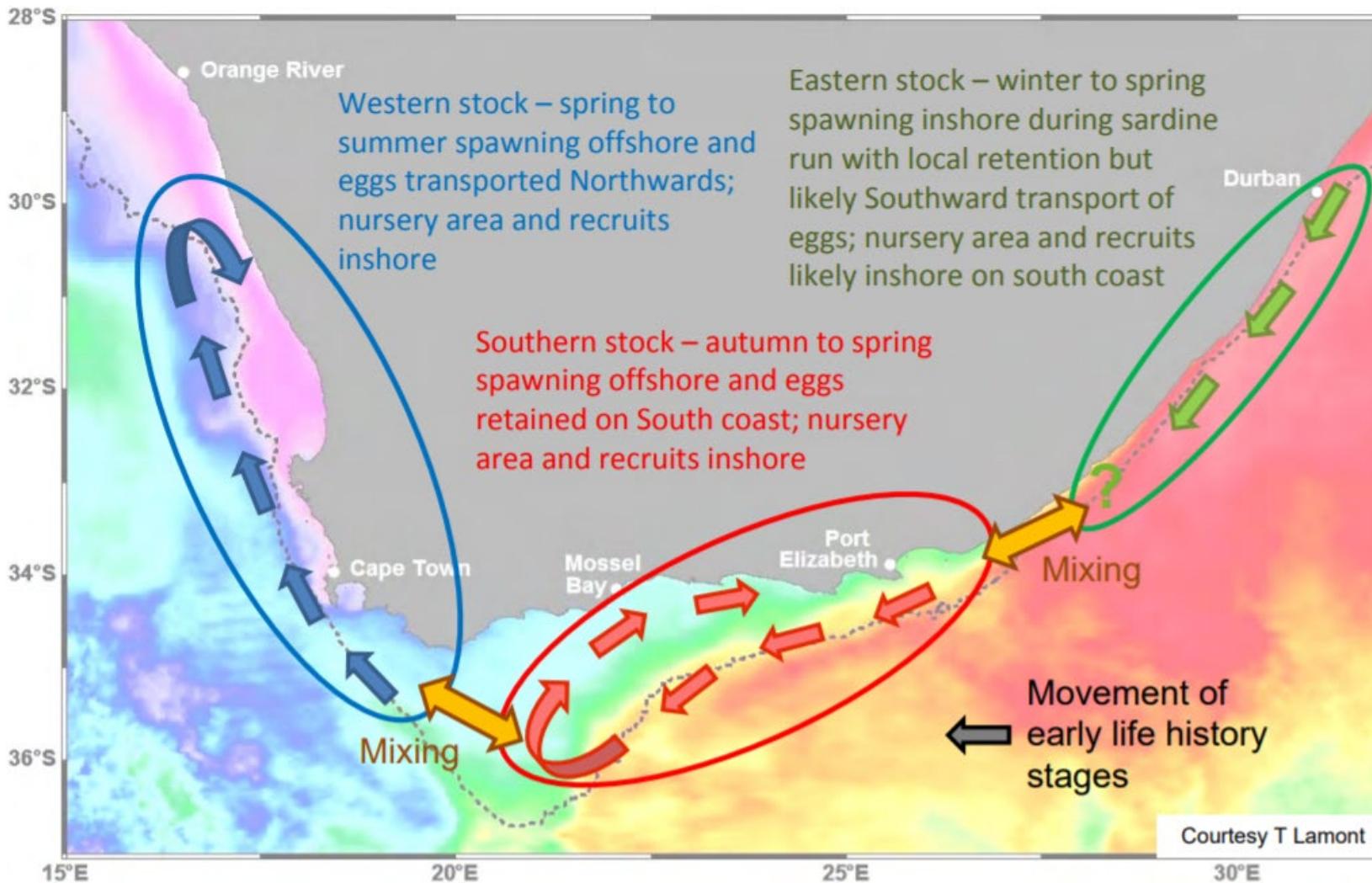


The KwaZulu-Natal Sardine Run

‘The Greatest Shoal on Earth’



Sardine: 3 stock hypothesis



van der Lingen C & Moloney C (unpublished)

Key contributors



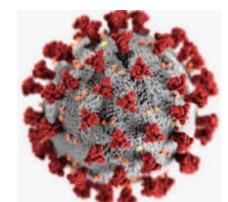
**South Africans:
Sampling and data interpretation**



**American Aussies and Iranian:
Molecular data generation and analysis**



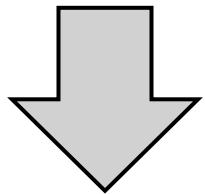
**Indian PhD student:
Never published the work, but still graduated somehow**



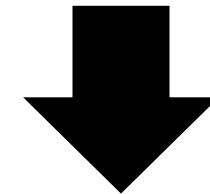
**Virus ‘of unknown origin’ and Zero Booze Lockdown:
Motivated me to write the paper, or die of boredom**

Genomic vs. exome datasets

ddRADseq (genomics): 8 296 SNPs, 284 individuals, 40 sites

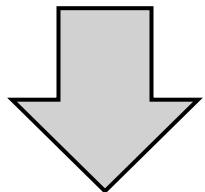


7 742 neutral

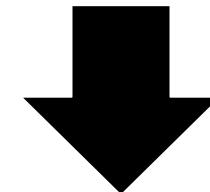


11 outliers

RNAseq (exome): 14 973 SNPs, 20 individuals, 9 sites

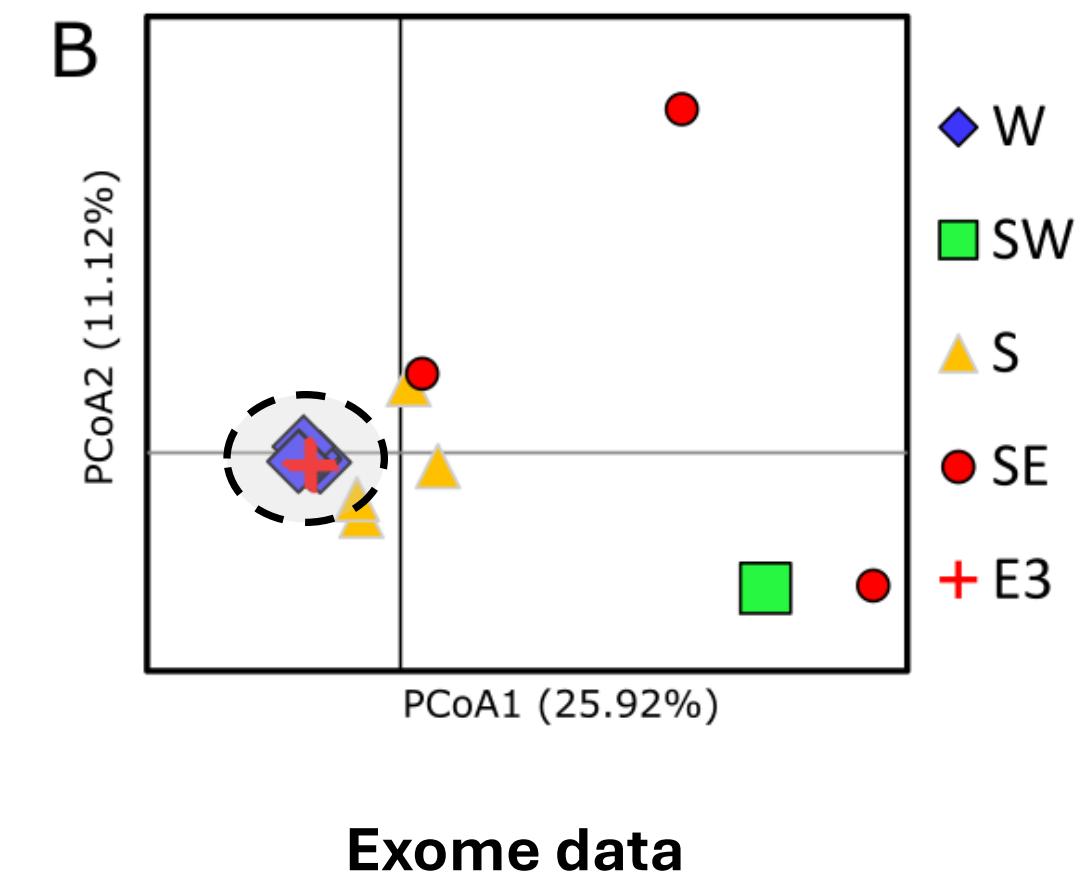
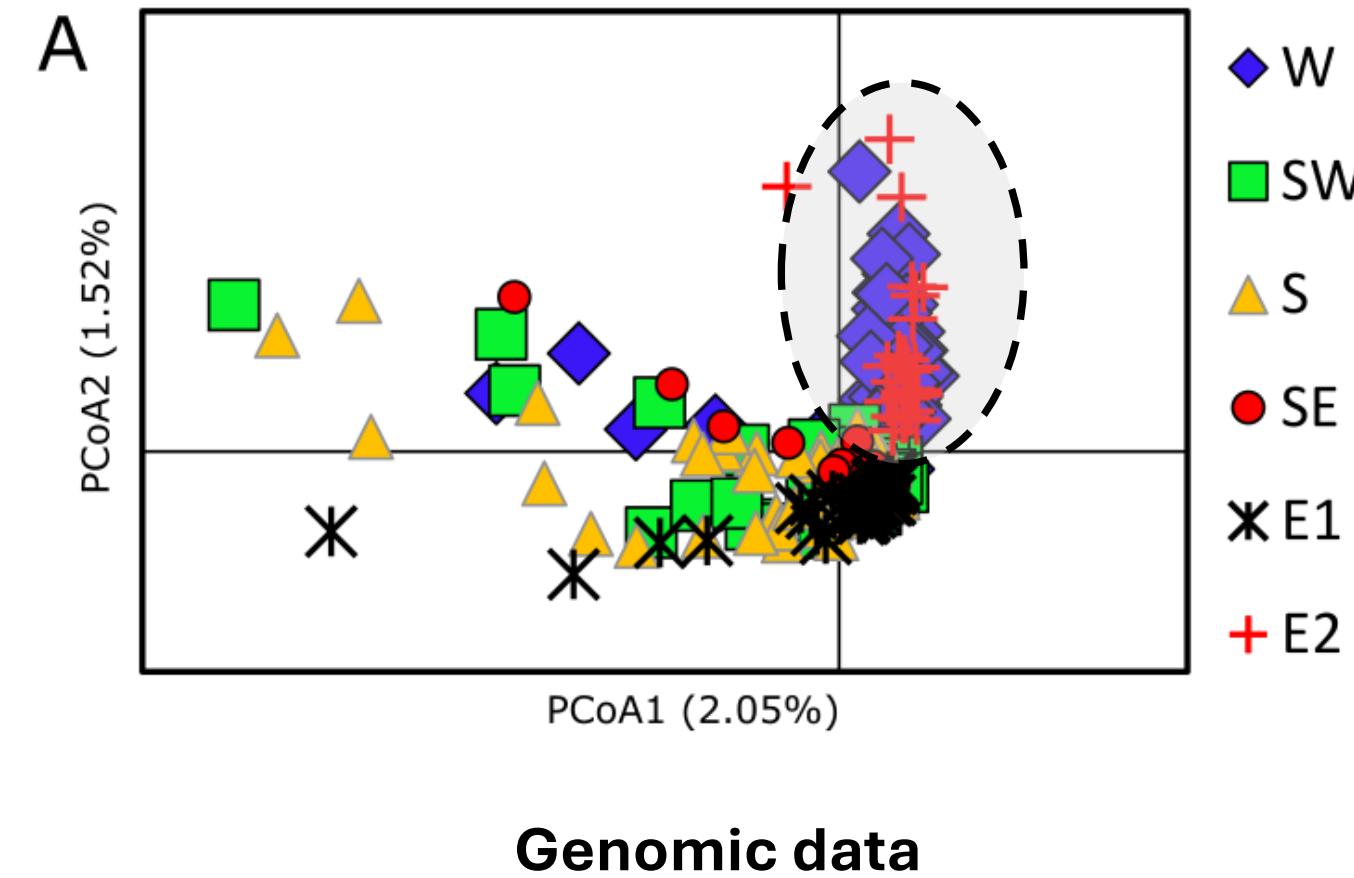


8 191 neutral

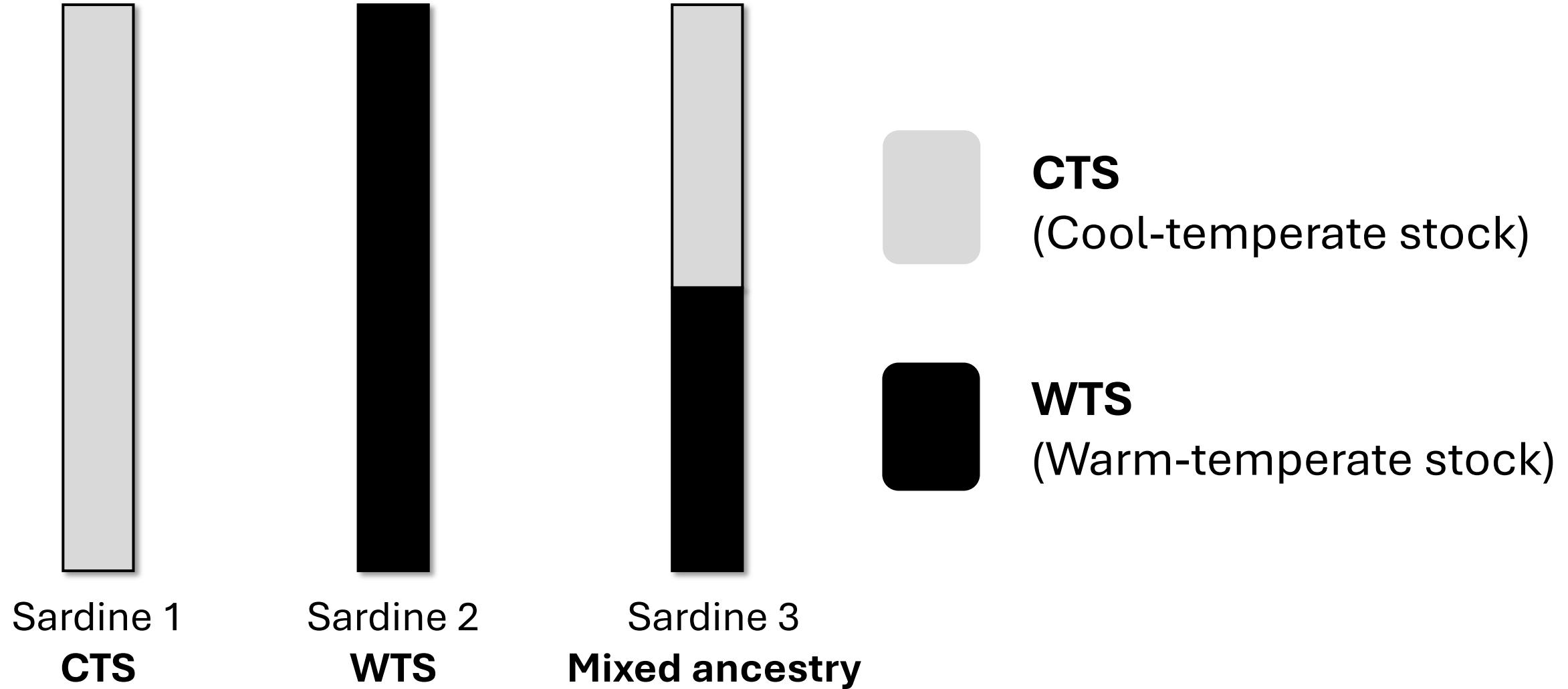


198 outliers

Selectively neutral SNPs

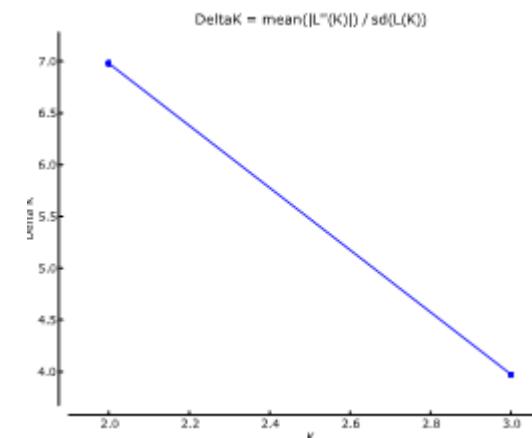


Ancestry barplots (for outliers)

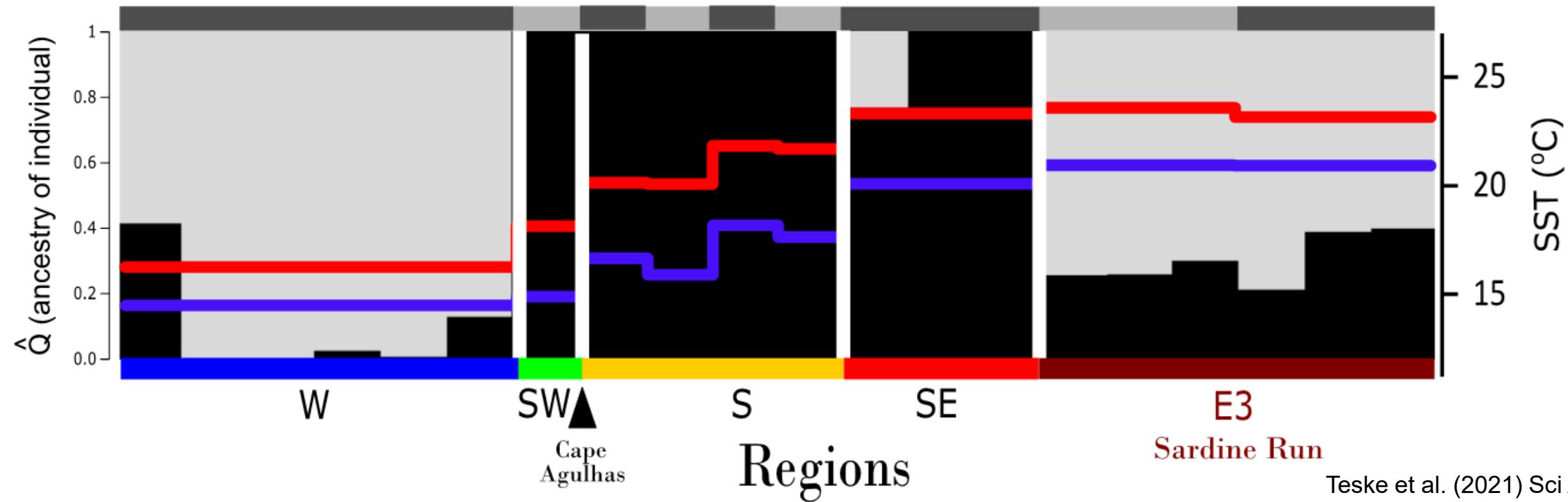


Exome outlier data

Assignment of sardines to 2 stocks

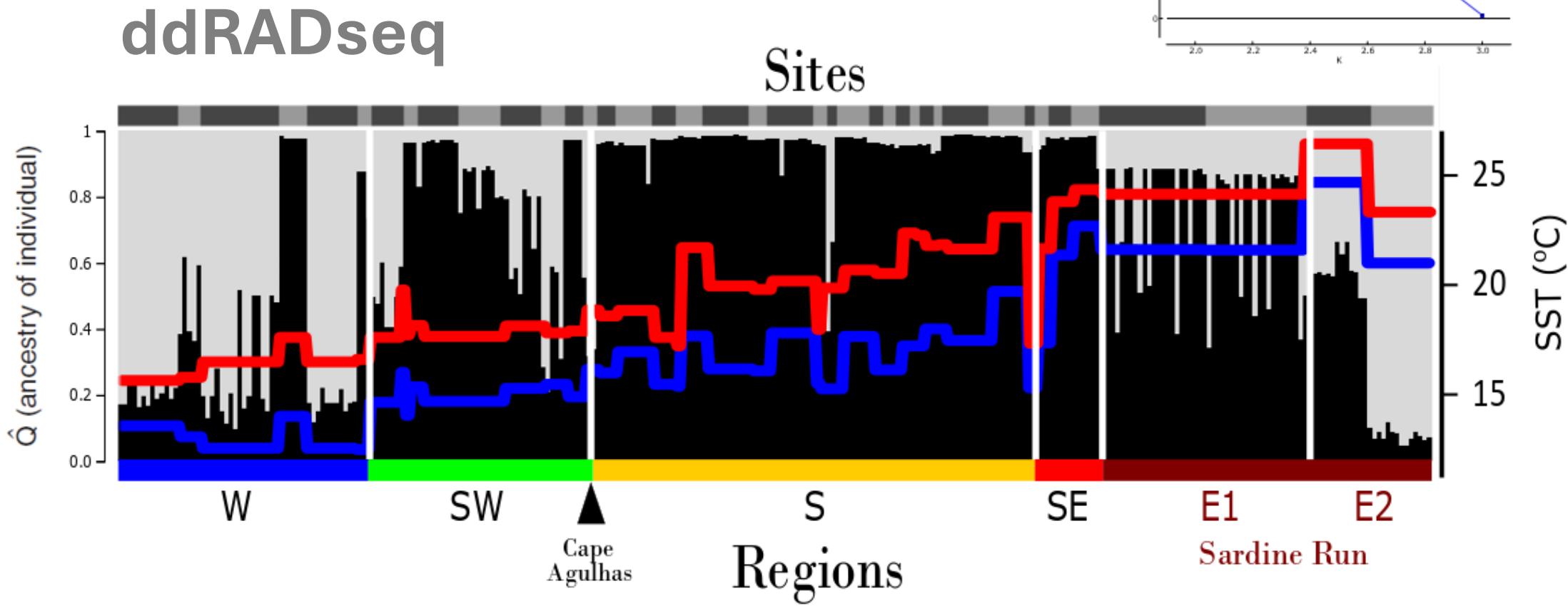


Sites



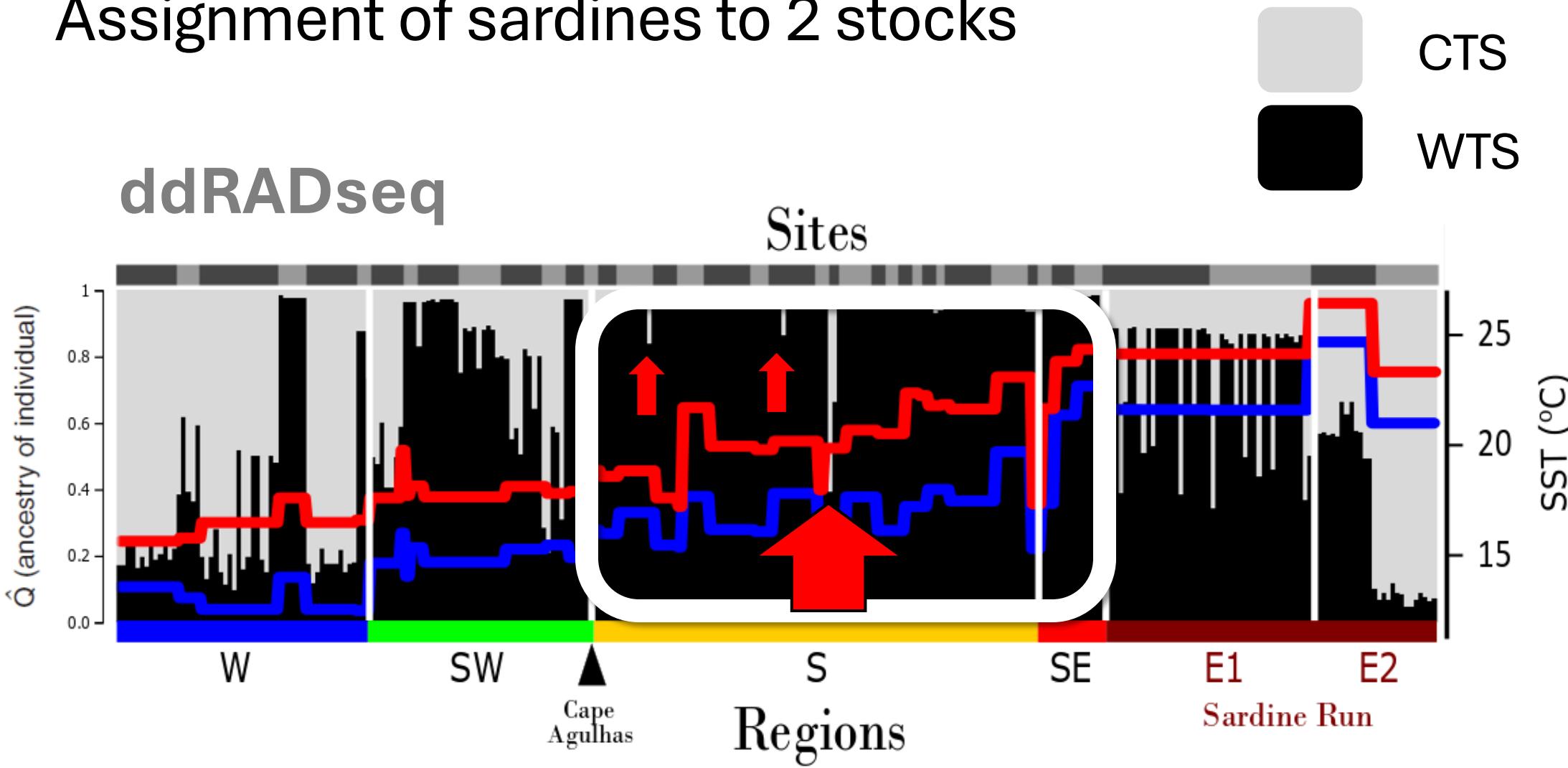
Genomic outlier data

Assignment of sardines to 2 stocks



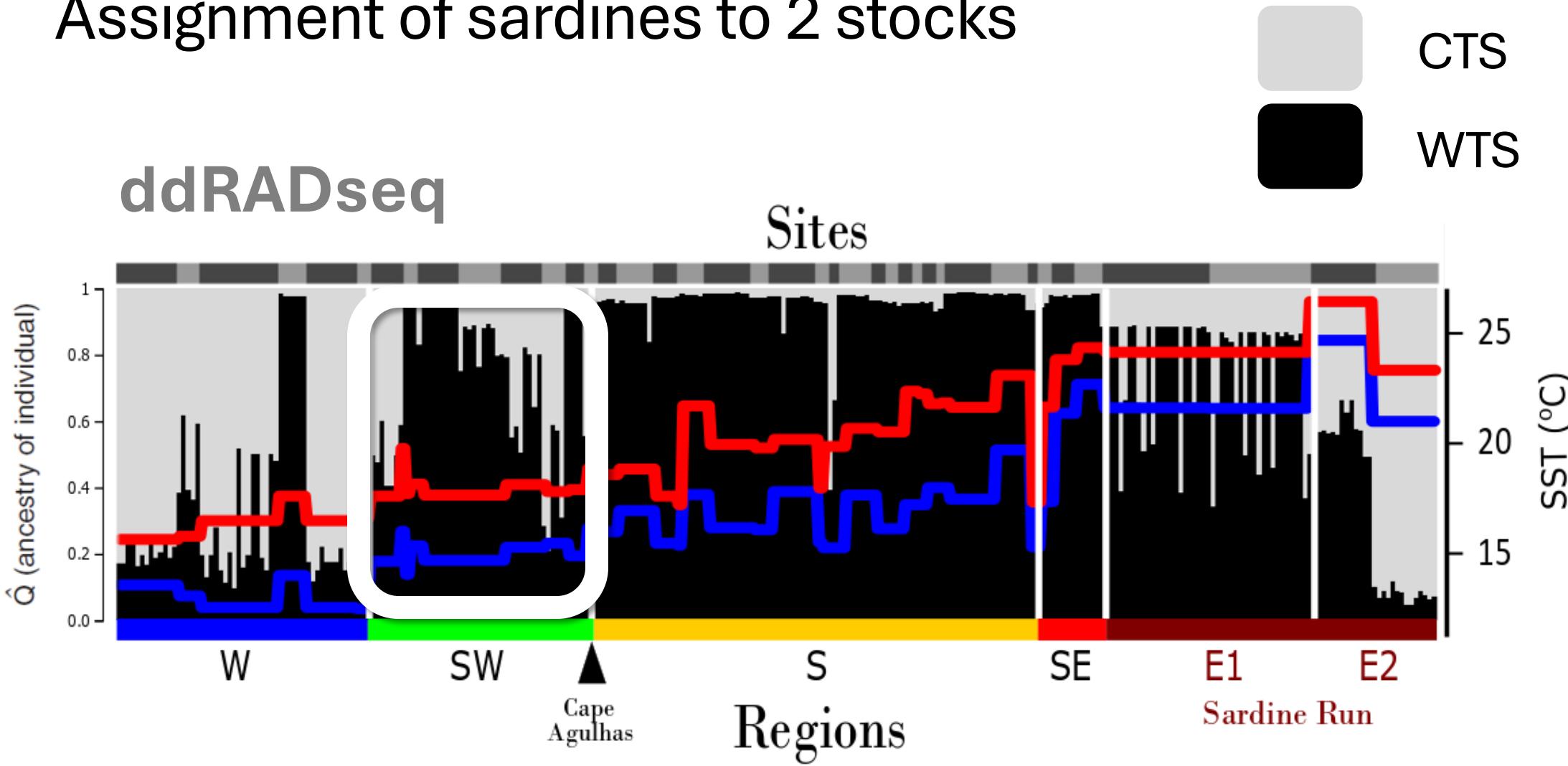
Genomic outlier data

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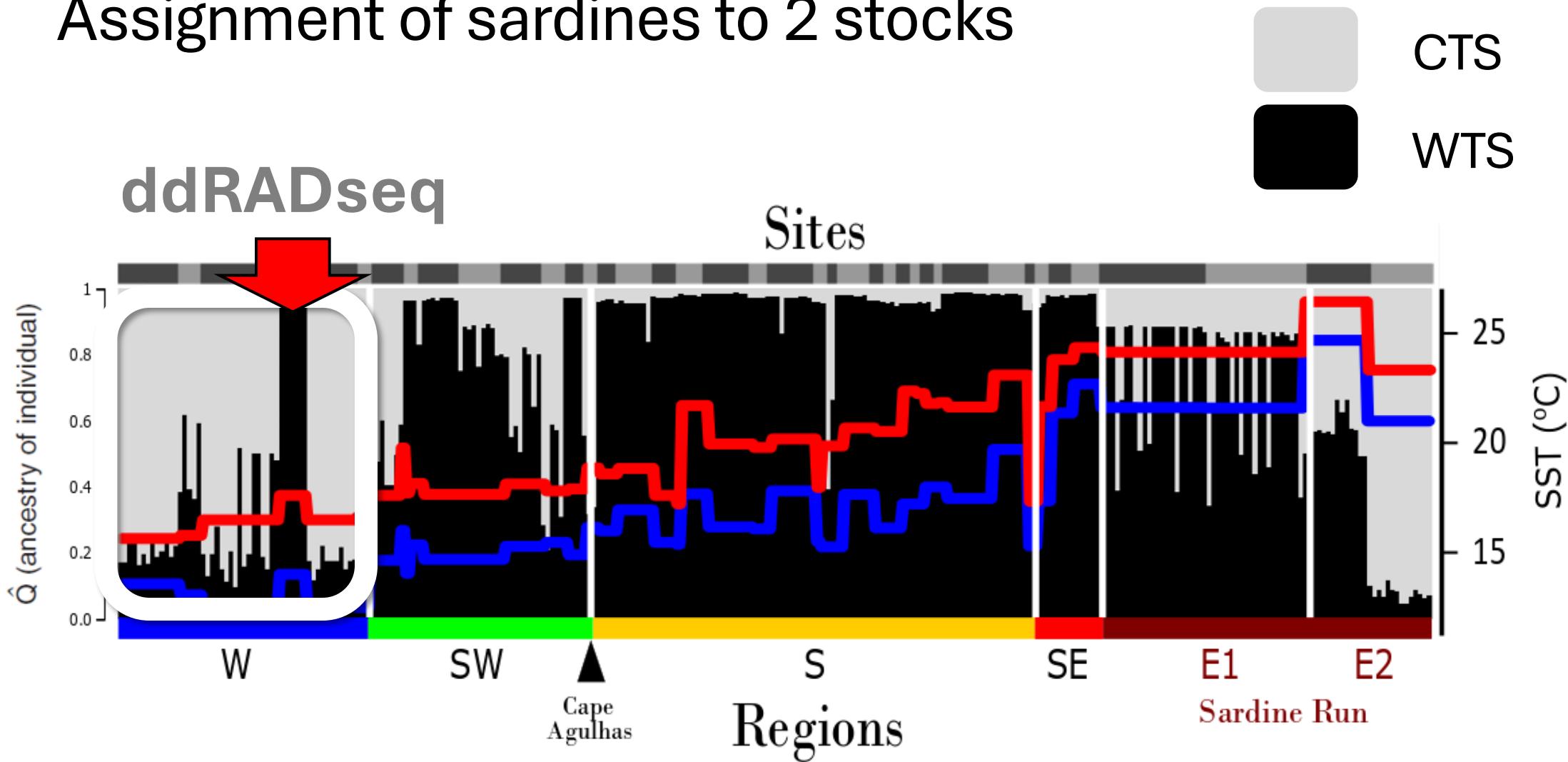
Genomic outlier data

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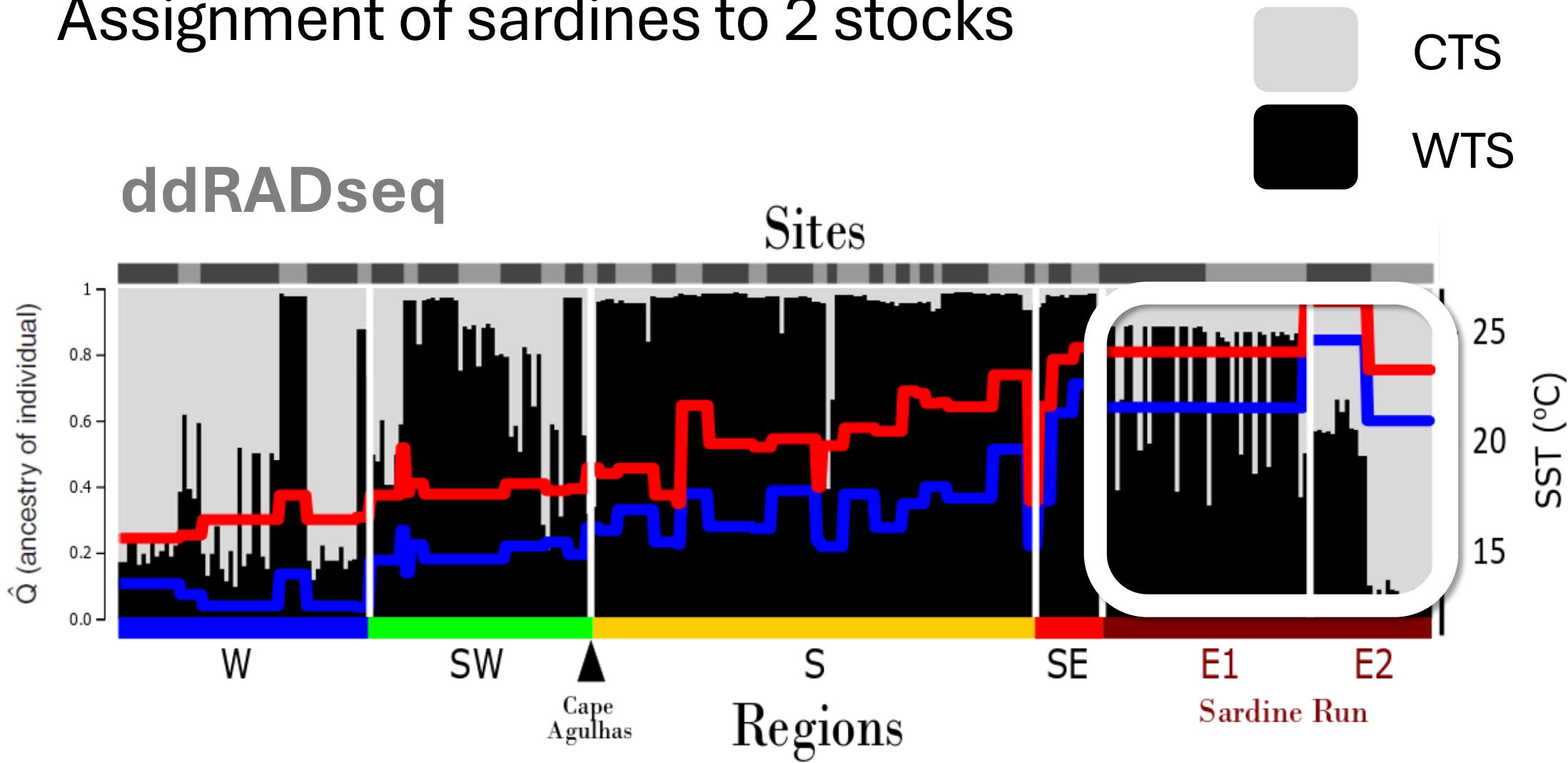
Genomic outlier data

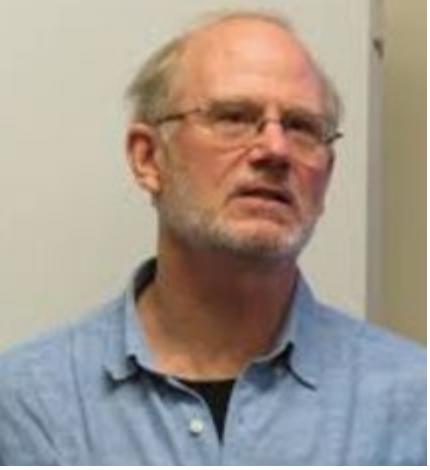
Assignment of sardines to 2 stocks



Genomic outlier data

Assignment of sardines to 2 stocks





2023 panel: key suggestions

P-values vs. magnitude of correlation coefficient

Extract more information from the genomic dataset by using more environmental variables (not only SST)

Explore selection

Finding genetic structure in such a high-dispersal species means there is strong selection (low genetic drift means fewer adaptive loci are stochastically lost)

Exome data vs. Genomic data

Generate more data using the more informative approach