

# **SEMINAL FLUID PROTEIN DIVERGENCE AMONG POPULATIONS EXHIBITING POSTMATING PREZYGOTIC REPRODUCTIVE ISOLATION**

## **ARTICLE TYPE: LETTER**

### **RUNNING TITLE: Proteomics of postmating prezygotic isolation**

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## 26 **ABSTRACT**

27 Despite holding a central role for fertilisation success, reproductive traits often show elevated  
 28 rates of evolution and diversification. The rapid evolution of seminal fluid proteins (Sfps) within  
 29 populations is predicted to cause mis-signalling between the male ejaculate and female  
 30 reproductive tract between populations resulting in postmating prezygotic (PMPZ) isolation.  
 31 Crosses between populations of *Drosophila montana* show PMPZ isolation in the form of  
 32 reduced fertilisation success in both noncompetitive and competitive contexts. Here we test  
 33 whether male ejaculate proteins deriving from either the accessory glands or the ejaculatory  
 34 bulb differ between populations using liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry. We  
 35 find more than 150 differentially abundant proteins between populations which may contribute  
 36 to PMPZ isolation. These proteins include a number of proteases and peptidases, and several  
 37 orthologs of *D. melanogaster* Sfps, all known to mediate fertilisation success and which mimic  
 38 PMPZ isolation phenotypes. Males of one population typically produced greater quantities of  
 39 Sfps and the strongest PMPZ isolation occurs in this direction. The accessory glands and  
 40 ejaculatory bulb have different functions and the ejaculatory bulb contributes more to  
 41 population differences than the accessory glands. Proteins with a secretory signal, but not  
 42 Sfps, evolve faster than non-secretory proteins although the conservative criteria used to  
 43 define Sfps may have impaired the ability to identify rapidly evolving proteins. We take  
 44 advantage of quantitative proteomics data from three *Drosophila* species to determine shared  
 45 and unique functional enrichments of Sfps that could be subject to selection between taxa and  
 46 subsequently mediate PMPZ isolation. Our study provides the first high throughput quantitative  
 47 proteomic evidence showing divergence of reproductive proteins implicated in the emergence  
 48 of PMPZ isolation between populations.

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# **IMPACT SUMMARY (word count: 300)**

Identifying traits that prevent successful interbreeding is key to understanding early stages of the formation of new species, or speciation. Reproductive isolation arising prior to and during fertilisation frequently involves differences in how the sexes interact. In internally fertilising taxa, such interactions are mediated between the female reproductive tract where fertilisation occurs and the receipt of the ejaculate necessary for fertilisation. Because ejaculate proteins are at least partially responsible for these interactions, differences in male ejaculate protein composition could negatively impact fertilisation success, generating reproductive isolation. While the biological classes of ejaculate proteins are shared across all animal taxa, proteins that are secreted by males tend to show rapid evolution in gene expression and genetic sequence. Thus, reproductive proteins are suggested as prime targets facilitating reproductive isolation that arises after mating but before fertilisation (PostMating PreZygotic or PMPZ isolation). Most research on PMPZ isolation has focussed on differences between species for which it is not possible to determine the causative and temporal order of early speciation processes. Here, we test whether populations that exhibit few genetic differences but show strong PMPZ isolation also exhibit variation in ejaculate composition using quantitative high throughput proteomic analyses. We find a number of proteins are differentially abundant between populations including several known to impact fertilisation success in other species. We show that secreted proteins are evolving at an elevated rate, implicating their potential role in PMPZ isolation. We test divergence in ejaculate composition between species, finding a core set of functions that were conserved across species which last shared a common ancestor more than 40 million years ago along with species-specific investment. This work highlights the divergent evolution of reproductive proteins which may contribute to barriers between populations within a species early during speciation, extendable to similar analyses in other taxa in the future.

## 76 **INTRODUCTION**

77 For internally fertilising taxa the male ejaculate and female reproductive tract must interact  
 78 during and after mating to ensure optimal fertility (Pitnick et al. 2009, 2020). In polyandrous  
 79 species, ejaculate x female reproductive tract interactions are subject to rapid coevolution and  
 80 diversification due to postcopulatory sexual selection (sperm competition and cryptic female  
 81 choice) and sexually antagonistic coevolution (Birkhead and Pizzari 2002; Sirot et al. 2015;  
 82 Firman et al. 2017; Meslin et al. 2017). Thus, despite holding a central role for fertilisation,  
 83 ejaculate and female reproductive tract traits often show elevated rates of molecular and  
 84 morphological evolution (Rowe et al. 2015; Ahmed-Braimah et al. 2017; Meslin et al. 2017;  
 85 VanKuren and Long 2018; Simmons and Fitzpatrick 2019; McGeary and Findlay 2020).  
 86 Divergence between populations in these traits is predicted to result in the early emergence of  
 87 reproductive isolation that occurs after mating but before fertilisation (postmating prezygotic;  
 88 PMPZ) (Lande 1981; Gavrillets 2000; Panhuis et al. 2001). Studies have increasingly  
 89 documented PMPZ isolation, including prior to any postzygotic isolation (Howard et al. 2009;  
 90 Bono et al. 2011; Sagga and Civetta 2011; Manier et al. 2013; Jennings et al. 2014; Cramer et  
 91 al. 2016; Devigili et al. 2018; Garlovsky and Snook 2018; Turissini et al. 2018). In the  
 92 *Drosophila melanogaster* subgroup, PMPZ isolation accumulates quickly measured by relative  
 93 rates of evolution of different types of reproductive isolating mechanisms and suggests that  
 94 PMPZ isolation is important in promoting new species and maintaining species barriers  
 95 (Turissini et al. 2018). Despite the increasing recognition of the importance of PMPZ isolation,  
 96 there is little understanding of the molecular basis of ejaculate x female reproductive tract  
 97 interactions that may generate such barriers (McDonough et al. 2016).

98

99 The ejaculate consists of sperm and male seminal fluid proteins (Sfps) that impact fertilisation  
 100 (e.g., Avila et al. 2011; South and Lewis 2011). Most Sfps are products of male secretory

101 glands (e.g. in mammals, the prostate gland and seminal vesicles; in arthropods, accessory  
 102 glands and ejaculate ducts/bulb; for review, see Sirot et al. 2015; Fig. S1). Different secretory  
 103 organs contribute distinct sets of proteins to the ejaculate allowing increased complexity and  
 104 modulation or tailoring of the ejaculate (Bayram et al. 2019). The majority of work on insect Sfp  
 105 evolution has been done on *Drosophila melanogaster* with over 200 Sfps identified (Mueller et  
 106 al. 2005; Findlay et al. 2008, 2009). However, many of the biochemical classes of Sfps are  
 107 similar across animals; for example, proteases and protease inhibitors, and those with  
 108 antimicrobial/immune related functions (Avila et al. 2011; Sirot et al. 2015). Despite conserved  
 109 protein classes observed in the seminal fluid of all animals, a large fraction of Sfps show rapid  
 110 molecular evolution and, therefore, even Sfps of the same classes in different species are not  
 111 orthologous (Avila et al. 2011; Perry et al. 2013; Sirot et al. 2015). Functional confirmation of  
 112 Sfps, performed mostly in *D. melanogaster*, indicate they aid in sperm transfer and storage,  
 113 influence the outcome of sperm competition, and/or alter female physiology, behaviour and  
 114 reproductive tract morphology after mating (Ravi Ram and Wolfner 2007; Wong et al. 2008;  
 115 Avila and Wolfner 2009; Holman 2009; Wigby et al. 2009; Wolfner 2009; Avila et al. 2011;  
 116 Fedorka et al. 2011; Mattei et al. 2015). Moreover, some Sfps elicit PMPZ-like phenotypes  
 117 when genetically manipulated (Ravi Ram and Wolfner 2007; LaFlamme et al. 2012).  
 118 Differences in Sfp expression between species or abnormal gene expression profiles in the  
 119 female reproductive tract after mating with hetero- vs. con- specific males are associated with  
 120 PMPZ isolation (Bono et al. 2011; Ahmed-Braimah et al. 2017). These shared and divergent  
 121 patterns support Sfps as putative causative agents of PMPZ isolation.

122  
 123 However, while studies showing divergence in gene expression are associated with disrupted  
 124 ejaculate x female reproductive tract interactions, changes in gene expression may not  
 125 correlate with changes in protein abundance (Wang et al. 2019), where the molecular

126 interactions causing PMPZ isolation take place. Divergence in protein identity or abundance  
 127 between taxa could disrupt ejaculate x female reproductive tract interactions leading to PMPZ  
 128 isolation (Goenaga et al. 2015). High-throughput proteomics using liquid chromatography  
 129 tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) has revolutionised identification and quantification of  
 130 Sfps, revealing that the male ejaculate often contains hundreds of unique proteins  
 131 (McDonough et al. 2016; Bayram et al. 2019; Karr 2019; Rowe et al. 2019; Whittington et al.  
 132 2019). Using LC-MS/MS combined with genomics, Sfps can be predicted by identifying  
 133 ejaculate proteins with a signal peptide sequence, sometimes called the “secretome”, and  
 134 those secretome proteins that have an extracellular signal sequence, sometimes called the  
 135 “exoproteome” (Avila et al. 2011; Ahmed-Braimah et al. 2017; Bayram et al. 2019; Karr et al.  
 136 2019; Sepil et al. 2019). Molecular evolution analyses show that proteins with secretory signal  
 137 and/or are secreted evolve faster than non-secreted ejaculate proteins (Mueller et al. 2005;  
 138 Wagstaff and Begun 2005; Ramm et al. 2009; Bono et al. 2015; Tsuda et al. 2015; Ahmed-  
 139 Braimah et al. 2017; Karr et al. 2019)

140

141 While these results suggest Sfps are prime candidates for generating PMPZ isolation, no study  
 142 using high throughput quantitative proteomics has tested the prediction that ejaculate  
 143 composition will vary between populations exhibiting PMPZ isolation, and that these proteins  
 144 will more rapidly evolve. Similarly, while previous work has suggested that the different  
 145 ejaculate secretory organs may perform different functions (Bayram et al. 2019), their potential  
 146 contribution to PMPZ isolation has not been examined. Here we use LC-MS/MS on the  
 147 accessory glands and the ejaculatory bulb/duct, followed by molecular evolutionary rates  
 148 analysis, to test these predictions using the malt fly, *Drosophila montana*. We have focused on  
 149 two populations (Crested Butte, Colorado; Vancouver, Canada) and found that reciprocal  
 150 crosses between populations result in PMPZ isolation both after a single mating as males

transfer sperm to females who store them, but many eggs are not fertilised (Jennings et al. 2014; Garlovsky and Snook 2018), and where within- and between- population males compete for fertilisation (frequently referred to as conspecific sperm precedence) (Garlovsky et al. in review). The similar results suggest a shared mechanism generating PMPZ isolation. Genomic analysis found no fixed SNPs between these populations, likely due to a history of gene flow during divergence (Parker et al. 2018; Garlovsky et al. in review), although genes enriched for reproductive function show divergence (Parker et al. 2018). These results support focussing on Sfps as potential causative agents of PMPZ isolation. We also leverage recent high throughput mass spectrophotometry data on ejaculate composition in two other *Drosophila* species (Karr et al. 2019; Sepil et al. 2019) to provide insights into shared and divergent Sfp functions that may contribute to PMPZ isolation.

## **METHODS**

### **Fly stocks**

Adult *Drosophila montana* were collected with malt bait buckets and mouth aspirators in Crested Butte, Colorado, USA (38°49'N, 107°04'W) in 2013 (referred to as Colorado), and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (48°55'N, 123°48'W) in 2008 (referred to as Vancouver) (Fig. S1). Stocks were established by combining 20 F3 males and females from 20 isofemale lines (800 flies total per population) and cultured on Lakovaara malt media (Lakovaara 1969) in overlapping generations in constant light at 19°C. Flies were collected within 3 days of eclosion and housed in groups of between 10-20 single sex individuals in food vials until reproductively mature at 21 days old.

## 176 Tissue collection and protein extraction

177 Twenty-one-day old males were anaesthetised with ether and the accessory glands and  
 178 ejaculatory duct/bulb separated from nontarget tissues, and from each other. We collected  
 179 three biological replicates, two of which were separated into technical replicates (Fig. S1).  
 180 Following protein extraction and purification, we quantified protein concentration to standardize  
 181 loading 5µg of protein for each sample into the mass spectrometer (see supplementary  
 182 material; Fig. S2). Samples were reduced with TCEP, alkylated by addition of MMTS, and  
 183 digested with trypsin, followed by drying to completion using vacuum centrifugation. Samples  
 184 were resuspended in 20µl 3% v/v acetonitrile, 0.1% v/v trifluoroacetic acid prior to LC-MS/MS  
 185 analysis.

## 187 LC-MS/MS analysis

188 Detailed description of LC-MS/MS data acquisition and processing can be found in the  
 189 supplementary material.

190 LC-MS/MS was performed by nano-flow liquid chromatography (U3000 RSLCnano, Thermo  
 191 Fisher™) coupled to a hybrid quadrupole-orbitrap mass spectrometer (QExactive HF, Thermo  
 192 Scientific™). Peptides were separated on an Easy-Spray C<sub>18</sub> column (75 µm x 50 cm) using a  
 193 2-step gradient from 97% solvent A (0.1% formic acid in water) to 10% solvent B (0.08% formic  
 194 acid in 80% acetonitrile) over 5 min then 10% to 50% B over 75 min at 300 nL/min. The full  
 195 105-minute MS data dependent acquisition was set up from 375-1500 m/z acquired in the  
 196 Orbitrap in profile mode, resolution 120,000. Subsequent fragmentation was Top 10 in the HCD  
 197 cell, with detection of ions in the Orbitrap using centroid mode, resolution 30,000. MS  
 198 parameters; MS1: Automatic Gain Control (AGC) target 1e6 with a maximum injection time (IT)  
 199 of 60 ms; MS2: AGC target 1e5, IT of 60 ms and isolation window 2 Da.

200



201 We performed label free quantitative proteomic analysis using MaxQuant to generate relative  
202 peptide and protein intensities (Cox et al. 2014; Tyanova et al. 2016) (see supplementary  
203 material). For protein identification we matched mass spectra to the *D. montana* predicted  
204 proteome (Parker et al. 2018), generated using gene predictions from the Maker2 pipeline (Holt  
205 and Yandell 2011) reciprocally blasted against *D. virilis* proteins (Parker et al. 2018).

206

### 207 Gene Ontology (GO) and functional analysis

208 We performed network analyses and GO enrichment for Biological Processes (BP), Cellular  
209 Components (CC) and Molecular Functions (MF) with the ClueGO plugin (Bindea et al. 2009)  
210 for Cytoscape (Shannon et al. 2003) using FlyBase gene numbers (FBgns) for *D. virilis*  
211 orthologs of *D. montana* genes retrieved from Parker et al. (2018) or *D. melanogaster* orthologs  
212 converted via FlyBase.org. Specific settings for network groups are provided in figure and table  
213 legends. For GO enrichment we used right-sided hypergeometric tests with Benjamini-  
214 Hochberg multiple test correction.

215

### 216 Differential abundance analysis between *D. montana* populations and functional differences 217 between tissues

218 We performed differential abundance analysis of MaxLFQ ion intensities using the 'edgeR'  
219 (Robinson et al. 2010) and 'limma' (Ritchie et al. 2015) packages in R (v.3.5.1) (R Core Team  
220 2018) (see supplementary material). Proteins were considered differentially abundant based  
221 on an adjusted p-value < 0.05. To identify differentially abundant proteins between populations,  
222 we analysed the accessory gland proteome and the ejaculatory bulb proteome separately. We  
223 only considered proteins that were present in all five replicates of each tissue for both  
224 populations. To identify differentially abundant proteins between tissues, we analysed each

225 population separately. Again, we only considered proteins that were present in all five  
226 replicates of each population for both tissues. (Table S1).

## 227

### 228 Characterising the male seminal fluid proteome across species

229 We compared Sfp functions for three *Drosophila* species for which proteomic data generated  
230 using LC-MS/MS is available for the male accessory gland and ejaculatory duct and bulb  
231 tissues: *D. montana* (this study), *D. melanogaster* (Sepil et al. 2019), and *D. pseudoobscura*  
232 (Karr et al. 2019). We retrieved FBgns for *D. melanogaster* genes identified by Sepil et al.  
233 (2019) and *D. melanogaster* orthologs for *D. pseudoobscura* genes identified by Karr et al.  
234 (2019) and downloaded the corresponding canonical protein sequences from uniprot.org. For  
235 proteins we identified in our analysis we retrieved *D. montana* protein sequences from Parker  
236 et al. (2018). We submitted protein sequences for each species to *SignalP* (Petersen et al.  
237 2011) and *Phobius* (Käll et al. 2004) and combined the resulting lists of proteins containing a  
238 signal peptide to generate a list of secretome proteins for each species. For *D. montana* we  
239 converted the corresponding *D. virilis* FBgns for each protein to *D. melanogaster* orthologs via  
240 FlyBase.org (for 215/245, 88%). To identify Sfps for each species we submitted secretome  
241 lists to FlyBase.org to retrieve genes with GO terms containing “extracellular” (Fig. S3; Table  
242 S2). To compare GO enrichment between species we adjusted network settings in ClueGO to  
243 reflect the different numbers of proteins identified in each species.

## 244

### 245 Evolutionary rates analysis

246 To obtain sequence divergence estimates for *D. montana* proteins we used a pipeline  
247 developed previously (Wright et al. 2015). We obtained protein coding sequences for *D.*  
248 *montana* from Parker et al. (2018) and for *D. pseudoobscura* (r3.04, September 2019) and *D.*  
249 *virilis* (r1.07, August 2019) from FlyBase.org. We identified the longest isoform of each gene

for each species and determined orthology with reciprocal BLASTN (Altschul et al. 1990), using a minimum percentage identity of 30% and an E-value cut-off of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$ . We then identified reciprocal one-to-one orthologs across all three species using the highest BLAST score. We identified open reading frames using BLASTx and aligned orthologs using PRANK (Löytynoja and Goldman 2010). We calculated the ratio of non-synonymous (dN) to synonymous (dS) nucleotide substitutions, omega ( $\omega$ ), using the CODEML package in PAML (Yang 2007) (one-ratio estimates, model 0) with an unrooted phylogeny. Results were filtered to exclude orthologs with branch-specific dS  $\geq 2$  (due to potential mutational saturation) or where  $S \cdot dS \leq 1$ .

We then tested for differences in evolutionary rates between sets of proteins we identified in our LC-MS/MS analysis. We relaxed filtering criteria so that a protein need only be identified in a single replicate in a single population or tissue, but still had to be identified by two or more unique peptides. After filtering, we obtained  $\omega$  values for 757/1474 (51%) proteins with a reciprocal one-to-one ortholog. We categorised genes as having higher abundance in either the accessory gland proteome or ejaculatory bulb proteome as those proteins showing concordant differential abundance between tissues across populations (Fig. 3). We classified proteins as belonging to the secretome based on presence of a signal peptide and as Sfps as secretome proteins with extracellular annotation (see above) plus *D. melanogaster* Sfps. We classified the remainder of proteins excluding those with higher abundance in the accessory gland proteome, ejaculatory bulb proteome, secretome, or Sfps, as background tissue. Each class consisted of a unique set of proteins, such that accessory gland proteins did not include ejaculatory bulb proteins, secretome, Sfps, or remaining proteins; secretome proteins did not include Sfps, etc. We tested for differences in evolutionary rates using the Kruskal-Wallis rank

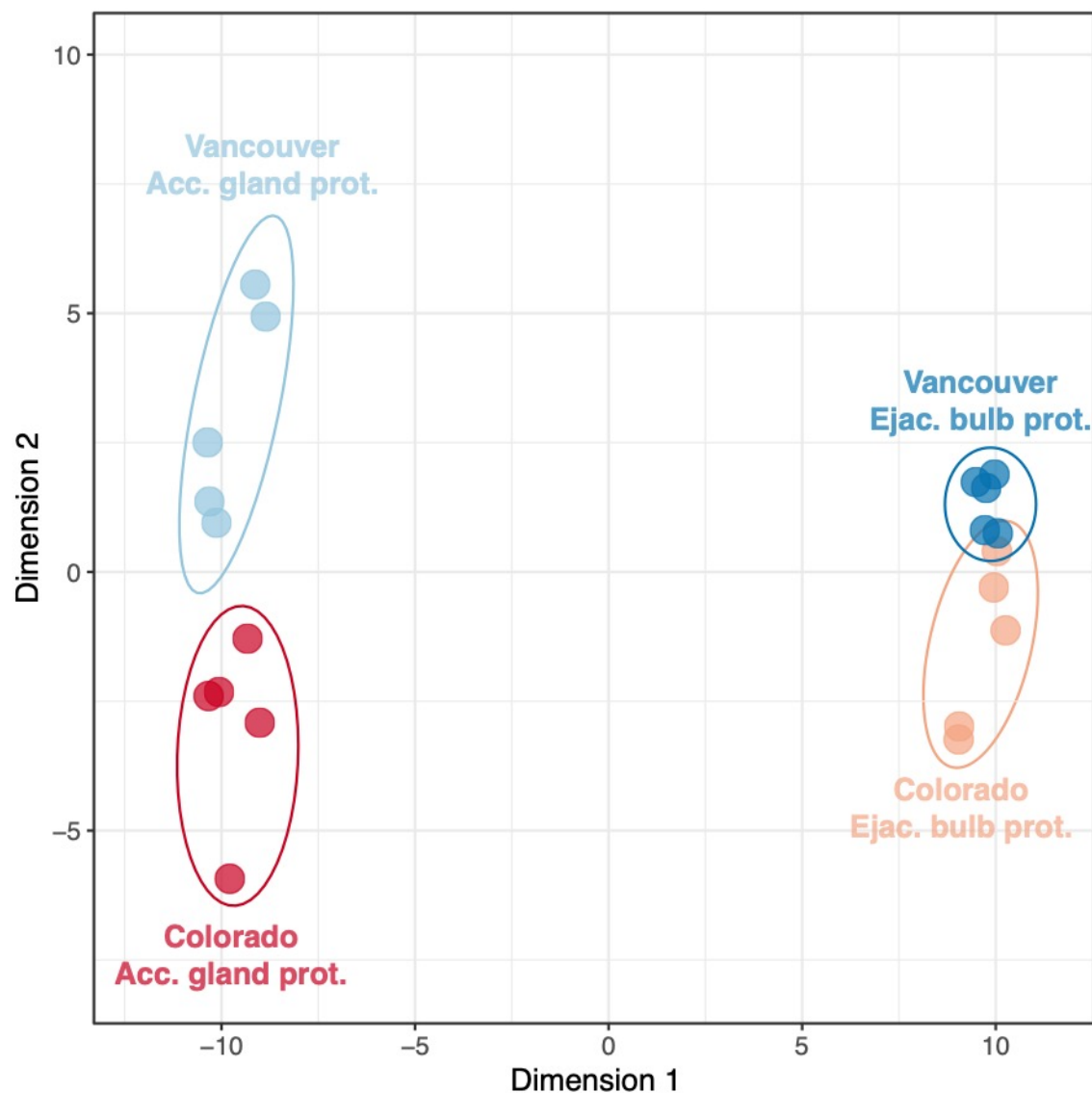
274 sum test followed by pairwise Wilcoxon rank sum tests corrected for multiple testing using the  
275 Benjamini-Hochberg method.

276

## 277 **RESULTS**

### 278 *The D. montana accessory gland proteome and ejaculatory bulb proteome*

279 We identified 1711 proteins, of which 1474 (86%) were identified by two or more unique  
280 peptides. The majority of proteins (1013/1474; 69%) were shared across male secretory  
281 tissues, while 138 (9%) and 323 (22%) proteins were unique to the accessory glands and  
282 ejaculatory bulb, respectively (Fig. S4a). Proteins identified only in the accessory gland  
283 proteome showed a 3.2-fold lower mean abundance compared to the remainder of proteins  
284 whereas proteins identified only in the ejaculatory bulb proteome showed a 14.9-fold reduction.  
285 These proteins likely represent missed rather than truly unique proteins and are not considered  
286 further. We identified 79 *D. montana* Sfps, consisting of 38 orthologs of *D. melanogaster* Sfps  
287 identified by converting *D. virilis* FBgns on FlyBase.org, plus 55 secretome proteins with  
288 extracellular annotations identified by 2 or more unique peptides (14 of which overlapped) (Fig.  
289 S4a; Table S3) (Mueller et al. 2005; Findlay et al. 2008, 2009). A multidimensional scaling  
290 (MDS) plot of normalised intensities using all proteins (n = 1474) showed a clear separation of  
291 samples by tissue type (dimension 1), and separation by population (dimension 2) with clear  
292 separation of populations for the accessory gland proteome and marginal overlap between  
293 populations in the ejaculatory bulb proteome (Fig. 1).



294

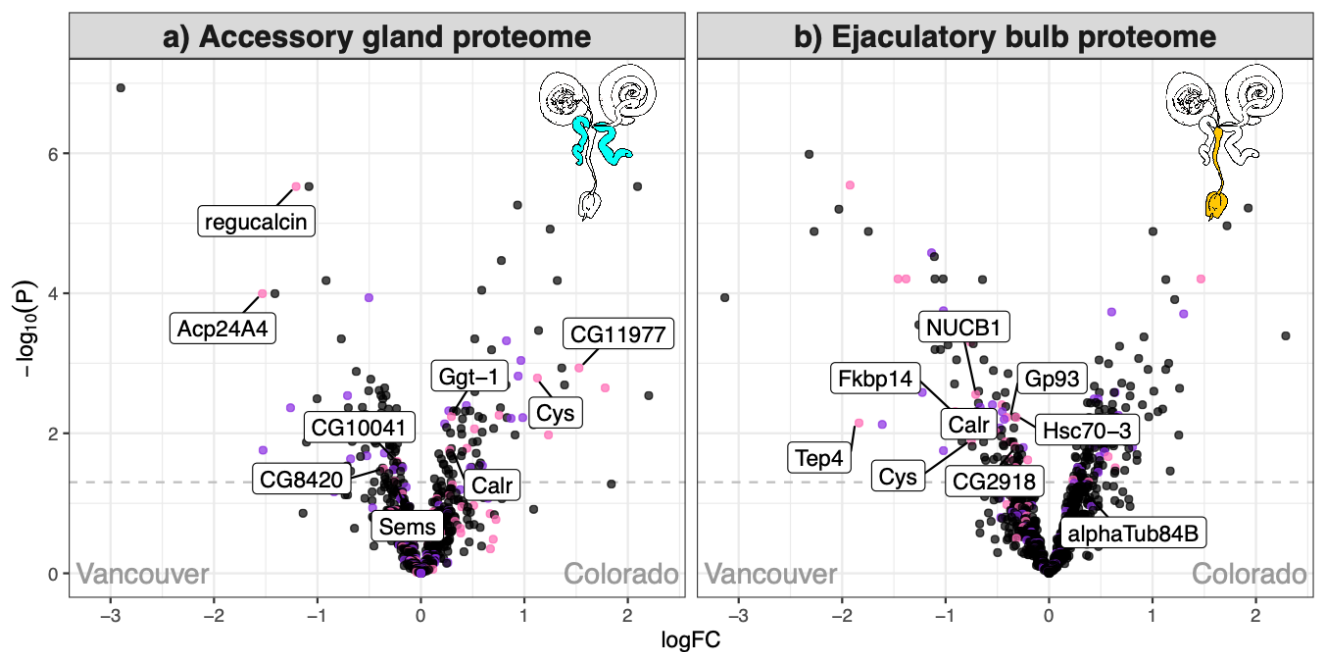
295 **Figure 1.** Multidimensional scaling (MDS) plot of normalised intensities for proteins identified  
 296 by two or more unique peptides ( $n = 1474$ ) in each replicate (points). Dimension 1 separates  
 297 the two tissue types (accessory glands and ejaculatory bulbs). Dimension 2 separates the two  
 298 populations (Colorado and Vancouver).

299

### 300 Differential abundance of reproductive proteins between populations

301 The majority of proteins were identified in both populations (1322/1474; 90%), while 45 (3%)  
 302 and 107 (7%) were only identified in Colorado, and Vancouver, respectively (Fig. S4b).  
 303 Proteins only identified in one population showed a 263-fold, and 171-fold, lower mean

304 abundance compared to the rest of proteins in Colorado, and Vancouver, respectively. As  
305 above, these low abundance proteins are not considered further. For shared proteins, we then  
306 tested for differential abundance. We identified 154 (out of 725) differentially abundant proteins  
307 produced in the accessory glands between populations (Fig. 2a), including nine *D.*  
308 *melanogaster* Sfps (Table 1). We identified 244 (out of 929) differentially abundant proteins  
309 produced in the ejaculatory bulbs (Fig. 2b). Again, this included nine *D. melanogaster* Sfps,  
310 two of which overlapped with those identified in the accessory gland proteome (Table 1). In the  
311 accessory gland proteome, Sfps and proteins with a predicted secretory signal were not  
312 overrepresented in the cohort of proteins showing differential abundance (Chi-squared test,  $X^2$   
313 = 1.57, df = 2, p = 0.456) but were overrepresented in the cohort of differentially abundant  
314 proteins in the ejaculatory bulb proteome ( $X^2$  = 44.56, df = 2, p < 0.001; Fig. S5). Out of 45  
315 proteins that were differentially abundant between populations in both male reproductive  
316 tissues, 36 showed higher abundance in one population in both tissues (Fig. S6). Significantly  
317 enriched gene ontology (GO) categories for proteins showing differential abundance between  
318 populations are in Tables S4-S6.  
319



**Figure 2.** Differentially abundant proteins between Colorado and Vancouver in a) the accessory glands ( $n = 725$ ) and b) the ejaculatory bulbs ( $n = 929$ ). Secretome proteins are shown in purple and Sfps in pink. Significantly differentially abundant proteins with a known Sfp ortholog in *D. melanogaster* are labelled.

336 Table 1. Differentially abundant proteins between *D. montana* populations with a known *D.*  
337 *melanogaster* seminal fluid protein (Sfp) ortholog. Gene names were retrieved from  
338 FlyBase.org using the corresponding *D. virilis* FBgns for *D. montana* proteins we identified via  
339 LC-MS/MS. The population for which each protein showed higher abundance is given. Proteins  
340 found in both tissue comparisons indicate in which population there was higher abundance.  
341 Abbreviations: Acgs, accessory glands; Ebs, ejaculatory bulbs.

Tissue comparison	Gene name	Higher abundance
Accessory glands	CG11977	Colorado
	gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase	Colorado
	Acp24A4	Vancouver
	CG10041	Vancouver
	CG8420	Vancouver
	Regucalcin	Vancouver
	Seminase	Vancouver
Ejaculatory bulbs	alpha-Tubulin at 84B	Colorado
	CG2918	Vancouver
	FK506-binding protein 14	Vancouver
	Glycoprotein 93	Vancouver
	Heat shock 70-kDa protein cognate 3	Vancouver
	NUCB1	Vancouver
	Thioester-containing protein 4	Vancouver
Both	Calreticulin	Colorado <sup>Acgs</sup> /Vancouver <sup>Ebs</sup>
	Cystatin-like	Vancouver <sup>Acgs</sup> /Colorado <sup>Ebs</sup>

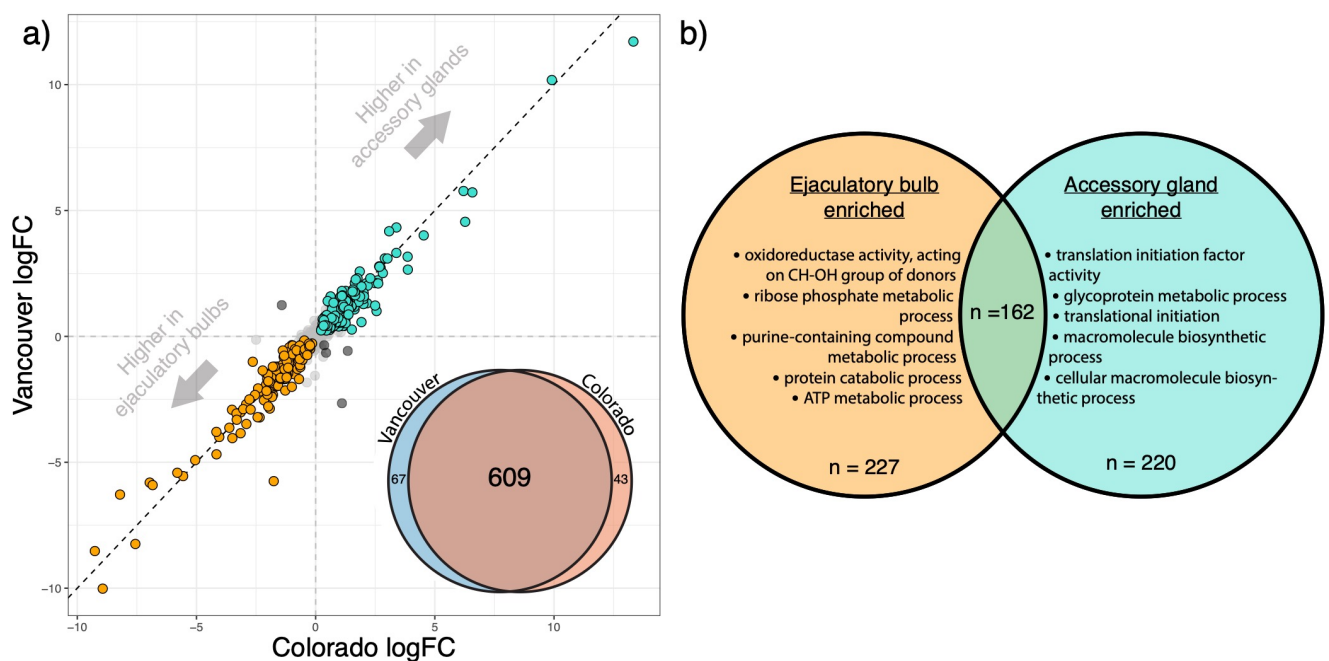
342

### 343 The accessory gland and ejaculatory bulb proteomes differ in function

344 To test whether the accessory glands and ejaculatory bulb provide different functions we  
345 performed differential abundance analysis between tissues for Colorado and Vancouver  
346 separately. We found 524 (out of 652) differentially abundant proteins between tissues in  
347 Colorado. Similarly, in Vancouver we found 557 (out of 676) differentially abundant proteins.  
348 The majority of these proteins were found in both populations (609 proteins). To identify  
349 consistently differentially abundant proteins between tissues, we compared the log2-fold  
350 change in abundance in each population of these 609 proteins. Proteins with higher abundance



351 in the accessory gland proteome or ejaculatory bulb proteome in Colorado generally also  
 352 showed higher abundance in Vancouver (Spearman's rank correlation,  $\rho = 0.945$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ,  $n$   
 353  $= 609$ ) (Fig. 3a). GO analyses identified both tissues as having functions expected for highly  
 354 metabolically active secretory organs (Table S7). Different GO terms were enriched in each  
 355 tissue highlighting that the two secretory organs provide distinct reproductive functions to the  
 356 ejaculate (Fig. 3b; Table S7).  
 357



358  
 359 Figure 3. Populations show consistent differential abundance between secretory organs. a)  
 360 Concordance between populations in log<sub>2</sub>-fold change in abundance of proteins found in either  
 361 the accessory gland proteome or ejaculatory bulb proteome. Positive values indicate proteins  
 362 with higher abundance in the accessory glands in both populations (top right), negative values  
 363 indicate proteins with higher abundance in the ejaculatory bulb (bottom left). Proteins are  
 364 coloured based on whether they showed a concordant pattern of significantly higher  
 365 abundance in the accessory gland proteome (turquoise,  $n = 220$ ), the ejaculatory bulb  
 366 proteome (orange,  $n = 227$ ), were discordant (black,  $n = 5$ ), or were not significantly  
 367 differentially abundant between tissues (grey). Dashed black line shows 1:1. Inset: Venn

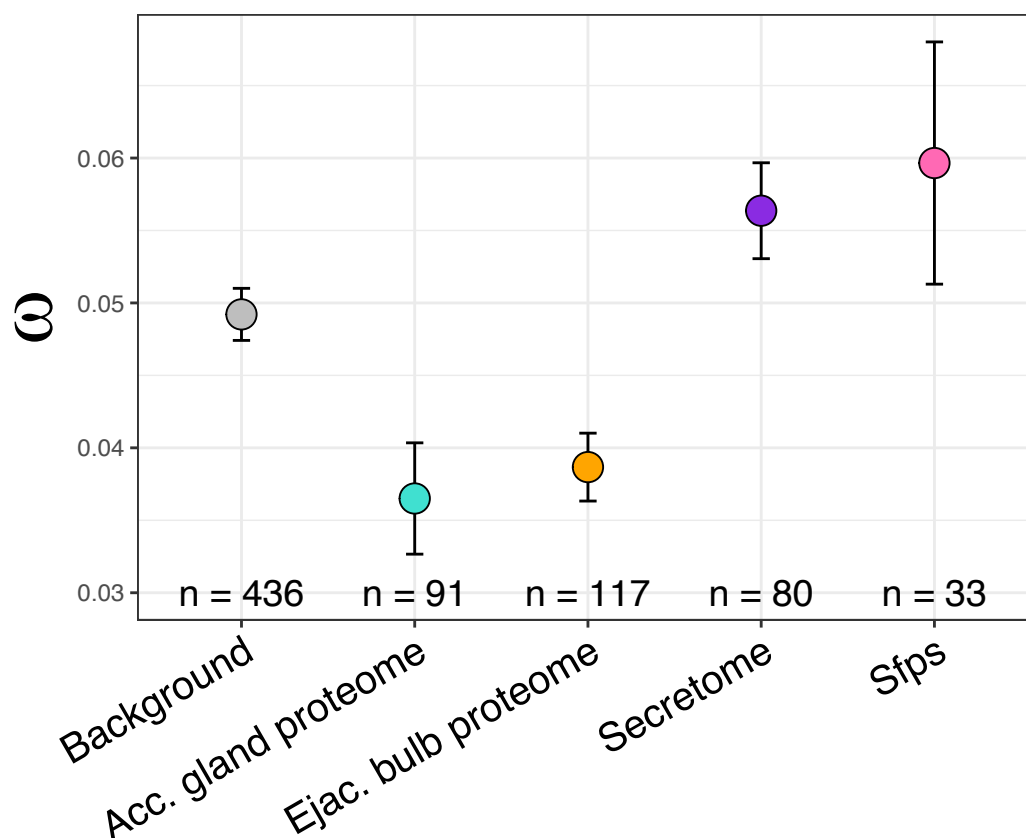
368 Diagram showing numbers of proteins included in separate differential abundance analysis  
369 between tissues in each population and overlap. b) Top 5 significantly enriched Biological  
370 Process GO terms ranked by percent identity of proteins to each tissue (see Table S7 for full  
371 list).

372

### 373 Evolutionary rates analysis

374 We tested whether genes with higher protein abundance in either the accessory gland  
375 proteome, ejaculatory bulb proteome (excluding the secretome and Sfps), secretome  
376 (excluding Sfps), or Sfps (secretome proteins with extracellular annotation), were evolving at  
377 different rates compared to background proteins, defined as those proteins that do not differ in  
378 protein abundance between the accessory glands and ejaculatory bulb and excluding  
379 secretome and Sfps. There was a significant difference between protein groups in evolutionary  
380 rates (Kruskal-Wallis test,  $X^2 = 40.51$ ,  $df = 4$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) (Fig. 4). The secretome and Sfps were  
381 evolving at similar rates (pairwise Wilcoxon rank sum test with Benjamini-Hochberg adjustment,  
382  $p = 0.668$ ). The secretome was evolving faster than proteins with higher abundance in the  
383 accessory gland proteome, ejaculatory bulb proteome, or background (all  $p < 0.007$ ). Sfps  
384 were also evolving faster than proteins with higher abundance in the accessory gland proteome  
385 ( $p = 0.001$ ) and ejaculatory bulb proteome ( $p = 0.007$ ) but at a similar rate to background ( $p =$   
386  $0.171$ ). Proteins with higher abundance in the accessory gland proteome and ejaculatory bulb  
387 proteome were evolving at similar rates ( $p = 0.089$ ), and slower than the remaining background  
388 proteome (accessory gland proteome vs. background,  $p < 0.001$ ; ejaculatory bulb proteome  
389 vs. background,  $p = 0.011$ ).

390



391

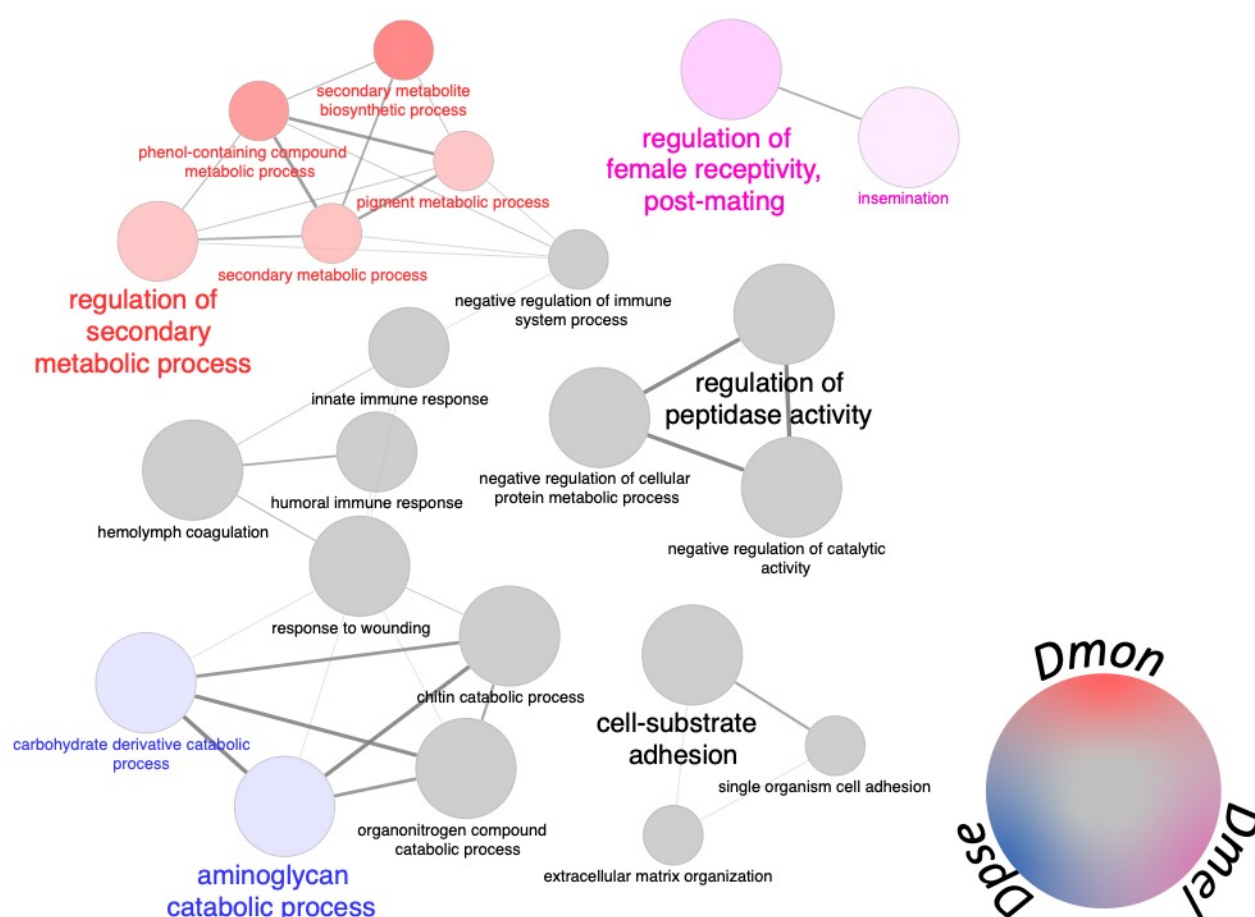
392 Figure 4. Mean non-synonymous (dN) to synonymous (dS) base substitution rate ( $\omega$ ) estimates  
393 ( $\pm$  standard error) for *D. montana* genes identified in our LC-MS/MS analysis with equal  
394 abundance in the accessory gland proteome and ejaculatory bulb proteome ('background';  
395 grey), higher abundance in the accessory gland proteome (turquoise), ejaculatory bulb  
396 proteome (orange), or found in the secretome (purple) or Sfps (pink). See Fig. S7 for separate  
397 dN and dS plots.

398

### 399 Comparison of male Sfps across species

400 We identified 61 Sfps (secretome proteins with extracellular annotations) for *D. montana*, 249  
401 Sfps for *D. melanogaster*, and 131 Sfps for *D. pseudoobscura* (Fig. S3; Table S2). Comparing  
402 functional enrichment of Sfps across species identified a number of shared and unique GO  
403 categories. Shared Biological Processes included chitin catabolic process, innate immune  
404 response, cell-substrate adhesion, and regulation of peptidase activity (Fig. 5; see Table S8

for CC and MF terms). Uniquely enriched BP functions included regulation of secondary metabolic process (*D. montana*); postmating regulation of female receptivity (*D. melanogaster*) and amino glycan catabolic processes (*D. pseudoobscura*) (Fig. 5; see Table S8 for CC and MF terms).



**Figure 5.** Seminal fluid protein (Sfps) comparisons for GO BP terms across species. Circle size is associated with level of significance with increasing size indicating increasing significance. Node colour indicates proportion of genes from each species associated with a term: *D. montana* (red. Dmon), *D. melanogaster* (pink; Dmel), and *D. pseudoobscura* (blue; Dpse), shared terms are shown in grey. Min. GO level = 3, max. GO level = 8. Number of genes/% genes per group: *D. montana* 3/3%, *D. pseudoobscura* 6/6%, *D. melanogaster* 12/12%. Percentage significance = 55%, kappa-score threshold = 0.25.

## 418 **DISCUSSION**

419 The molecular basis of mechanisms underlying PMPZ isolation are poorly understood. Seminal  
 420 fluid proteins are likely to contribute to PMPZ isolation due to their effects on sperm use,  
 421 fertilisation success, and rapid divergent evolution. We used quantitative proteomics to identify  
 422 proteins produced in the accessory glands and ejaculatory duct and bulb in populations  
 423 exhibiting PMPZ isolation and found a number of differentially abundant proteins between  
 424 populations including several orthologs of *D. melanogaster* Sfps. The accessory glands and  
 425 ejaculatory bulb showed different functions and there were more differentially abundant  
 426 proteins found in the ejaculatory bulb than the accessory glands. For proteins found in both  
 427 populations, but in separate tissues, there was strong concordance in abundance between  
 428 populations. We found secretome proteins evolved at a faster rate than non-secretome  
 429 proteins, both those differentially abundant between male secretory organs and those showing  
 430 similar abundance between male tissues. Sfps did not show elevated rates of molecular  
 431 evolution, likely because identification by extracellular annotation required orthology in *D.*  
 432 *melanogaster*. Despite shared Sfps, and a core set of shared Sfp biological processes across  
 433 three *Drosophila* species, there was species-specific enrichment of Sfp function.

434  
 435 *D. montana* from Colorado and Vancouver show low genome-wide divergence and a history  
 436 of gene flow (Parker et al. 2018; Garlovsky et al. in review), yet show enrichment of genes with  
 437 reproductive function that are divergent between populations (Parker et al. 2018). Crosses  
 438 between Colorado and Vancouver show reduced fertilisation success after a single mating  
 439 (Jennings et al. 2014; Garlovsky and Snook 2018) and exhibit conpopulation sperm  
 440 precedence (Garlovsky et al. in review). Between different *Drosophila* species, mechanisms  
 441 causing PMPZ isolation include abnormal sperm transfer and displacement, or mismatches  
 442 between sperm length and female tract morphology (Price et al. 2001; Manier et al. 2013).

443 Females receiving a foreign ejaculate comprising an abnormal Sfp complement might also  
444 result in mismatched ejaculate x female reproductive tract interactions measured by gene  
445 expression differences (Bono et al. 2011; Plakke et al. 2015), although variation between  
446 species in ejaculate composition has not been quantified in those studies.

447

448 We identified a number of differentially abundant proteins between populations exhibiting  
449 PMPZ isolation, including several orthologs of *D. melanogaster* Sfps. Intriguingly, 11 of 14 of  
450 these proteins were more abundant in Vancouver males than Colorado males. PMPZ isolation  
451 between *D. montana* populations is asymmetric, with matings between Vancouver males and  
452 Colorado females having lower fertilisation success compared to the reciprocal cross  
453 (Jennings et al. 2014; Garlovsky and Snook 2018). If Vancouver males transfer more of these  
454 Sfps to their mates, then the chemical environment in the reproductive tract of Colorado  
455 females may be mismatched, more so than the reciprocal cross.

456

457 Additionally, a number of proteases and peptidases (or inhibitors) were differentially abundant  
458 between populations. Proteases and peptidases are central to reproduction across taxa,  
459 regulating proteolytic activity and initiating cascades of interactions among downstream  
460 proteins (LaFlamme et al. 2012; LaFlamme and Wolfner 2013; Plakke et al. 2015, 2019;  
461 Bayram et al. 2017, 2019). Divergence in proteases has been implicated in PMPZ isolation  
462 between other insect species in both the male ejaculate and female reproductive tract  
463 secretions (Kelleher et al. 2007; Kelleher and Pennington 2009; Marshall et al. 2009, 2011;  
464 Meslin et al. 2017; Al-Wathiqui et al. 2018; Plakke et al. 2019).

465

466 In *D. montana* females receive and store motile sperm from incompatible males, but fertilisation  
467 success is reduced (Jennings et al. 2014). Failure to either properly orient sperm in storage

(Manier et al. 2013), release sperm from storage, or have sperm release coincide with ovulation (Mattei et al. 2015) could explain PMPZ in this system (Jennings et al. 2014). Some notable differentially abundant Sfps and proteases we identified, and their potential relationship to PMPZ isolation in *D. montana* are seminase,  $\gamma$ -glutamyl transpeptidase, and regucalcin. Seminase (CG10586), is a serine protease and a member of the Sex Peptide (SP) network (Singh et al. 2018). Seminase acts early in the SP network and is required to process other Sfps in the mated female essential for proper sperm storage (Acp36DE) and ovulation (ovulin) (LaFlamme et al. 2012; Singh et al. 2018). RNAi knockdown of seminase in male *D. melanogaster* results in failure of mated females to release sperm from the seminal receptacle (LaFlamme et al. 2012).  $\gamma$ -glutamyl transpeptidase (CG6461) functions to maintain a protective redox environment for sperm (Walker et al. 2006). Mismatches between the male ejaculate and the redox environment of the female reproductive tract in which sperm are stored could reduce fertilisation success as sperm subject to increased oxidative stress are less fertilisation competent (Reinhardt and Ribou 2013). Regucalcin (CG1803), a  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$  binding protein, may also play an anti-oxidative role and, in mammals, is hypothesized to have an anti-capacitation role for sperm (Pillai et al. 2017). One aspect of capacitation, hyperactivation, increases sperm motility which is important for sperm storage in *Drosophila* (Köttgen et al. 2011). Sperm motility behaviour and how this may affect release from storage is unknown. Regucalcin gene expression varies between *D. montana* populations and has been suggested as a cold tolerance gene in diapausing females (Vesala et al. 2012) although it's expression in males has not been studied. These examples provide strong candidates for eliciting PMPZ isolation and will be subject to future studies, for instance using CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing, to further understand the molecular interactions causing PMPZ isolation in *D. montana*.

491



Reproductive proteins are predicted to evolve rapidly, driven by postcopulatory sexual selection and sexual conflict (Sirot et al. 2015; Ahmed-Braimah et al. 2017; Firman et al. 2017; Meslin et al. 2017). We found that proteins showing secretory signals (secretome) evolve faster than proteins without this signal. Sfps and secretome proteins were evolving at a similar rate. However, Sfps were not evolving faster than proteins with similar abundance between male tissues, possibly due to showing greater variation than other categories despite having a higher mean rate. The requirement to have extracellular annotation determined from work in *D. melanogaster* limits our ability to identify rapidly evolving Sfps in *D. montana*. Thus, the putative number of Sfps in *D. montana*, 79, is a conservative estimate. Isotopically labelling males to identify proteins transferred to females increased the number of identified *D. melanogaster* Sfps (Findlay et al. 2008, 2009). Future work on *D. montana* can use this technique to identify additional Sfps.

504

One goal of this work was to assess whether the different male reproductive secretory organs had different functions, which would not be possible using the heavy labelling technique. Our work provides one of the first proteomic descriptions of both major Sfp secretory organs in *Drosophila*. Previous research in seed beetles has shown that division of labour across secretory organs enables increased complexity to the ejaculate and potential for ejaculate tailoring (Bayram et al. 2019). Most proteins we identified were found in both tissues but showed higher abundance in either the accessory glands or ejaculatory duct and bulb, suggesting these organs provide different functions to the ejaculate. The accessory gland proteome was enriched for translation and biosynthetic processes, whereas the ejaculatory bulb proteome showed enrichment for mainly metabolic processes. We found secretome proteins and Sfps were significantly overrepresented in the set of differentially abundant proteins in the ejaculatory bulb proteome but not the accessory gland proteome, suggesting



517 the two male secretory organs may contribute differently to PMPZ isolation. Most past work on  
518 Sfp evolution has focused on the accessory glands, which could skew understanding of not  
519 only molecules involved in reproduction but those reproductive molecules that may elicit PMPZ  
520 isolation.

521

522 We took advantage of recent accessory gland proteomes for three *Drosophila* species  
523 generated using high throughput LC-MS/MS to characterise shared and enriched functions of  
524 Sfps between species. Using the same identification criteria for all species (secretory sequence  
525 and extracellular annotation), we identified a set of shared GO categories between species  
526 that last shared a common ancestor 40 million years ago. This core set included immune-  
527 related genes, which are associated with sexual conflict in *D. melanogaster* (Innocenti and  
528 Morrow 2009). We also found species-specific GO-enrichment of Sfps, suggesting divergence  
529 in how they contribute to male ejaculate function between species. Differences may reflect how  
530 selection has targeted particular ejaculate traits in different mating systems (Markow 2002).  
531 Differences will also reflect the use of *D. melanogaster* as the reference for GO annotation. For  
532 instance, *D. melanogaster* showed enrichment for reproductive genes but Sfps in the other  
533 species clearly have reproductive functions. It is likely that reproductive genes which  
534 experience strong divergent selection may no longer resemble *D. melanogaster* genes. Our  
535 work offers a first insight into the proteomic composition of male ejaculate characteristics  
536 across species. As understanding of the molecular interactions between the sexes matures, it  
537 will be important to determine whether shared or divergent functions between species are more  
538 likely to contribute to PMPZ isolation and when during speciation such divergence occurs. Are  
539 shared functions more likely to diverge within populations early during speciation or are Sfps  
540 that already show some species specificity more likely to contribute to early PMPZ isolation?

541

542 Here we have tested whether reproductive proteins show differential abundance between  
 543 populations that exhibit PMPZ isolation. Our study has focussed on *Drosophila*, a model  
 544 system for studying the evolution of reproductive processes and the evolution of reproductive  
 545 isolation in metazoans. However, reproductive processes, classes of reproductive proteins,  
 546 and the action of PMPZ isolation across animals show similarities. For example, differentially  
 547 abundant proteins between *D. montana* populations we found included a number of proteases  
 548 or peptidases which are common and important mediators of reproductive processes in all  
 549 animals. Differentially abundant proteins also included several orthologs of *D. melanogaster*  
 550 Sfps with functions that may be similar to altered reproductive processes generating PMPZ  
 551 isolation in *D. montana*, such as noncompetitive gametic isolation and conspecific sperm  
 552 precedence (Jennings et al., 2014; Garlovsky et al. in review). These reproductive isolating  
 553 mechanisms are found in many other metazoan taxa (for brief review, see Turissini et al. 2018).  
 554 We also showed secretome proteins are evolving faster than other proteins found in the  
 555 accessory glands or ejaculatory duct and bulb, and at the same rate as Sfps. Such rapid  
 556 evolution is frequently attributed to sexual selection and sexual conflict, and these dynamic  
 557 processes may contribute to speciation (Gavrilets 2000; Panhuis et al. 2001). Male  
 558 reproductive secretory tissues had divergent functions with the ejaculatory bulb contributing  
 559 more differentially abundant proteins than the accessory glands, and the direction and severity  
 560 of asymmetrical PMPZ isolation mirrors differential abundance. We also identified shared and  
 561 species-specific GO enrichment of male reproductive proteins that influence reproductive  
 562 processes, although whether PMPZ isolation more likely arises due to divergence in one or the  
 563 other of these categories requires additional data. Democratisation of high throughput  
 564 proteomics will facilitate understanding the evolution of male reproductive proteins, their  
 565 influence on reproductive processes per se, and their contribution to reproductive isolation.  
 566

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582

## 583 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

584 RRS, TLK and CE conceived the study. RRS and MDG received funds for the work. MDG and  
585 CE collected the data. MDG and TLK analysed the data. MAR provided additional analysis  
586 tools. MDG and RRS wrote the manuscript with contributions from all authors. All authors  
587 agreed on the final version of the manuscript.

588

## 589 **DATA ACCESSIBILITY**

590 Supplementary material, data and R code used to perform analyses can be found at:  
591 [https://github.com/MartinGarlovsky/Dmon\\_ejaculate\\_proteomics](https://github.com/MartinGarlovsky/Dmon_ejaculate_proteomics). Additional data has been

submitted to Dryad (<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.pvmcvdnhw>). The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium (<http://proteomecentral.proteomexchange.org>) via the PRIDE partner repository (Vizcaíno et al. 2016) with the dataset identifier PXD019634.

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