

Species diversity of drifting fish eggs in the Yangtze River using molecular identification (#25215)

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First revision

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Species diversity of drifting fish eggs in the Yangtze River using molecular identification

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Approximately 30 species of fish lay drifting eggs in the Yangtze River. However, recent dam construction threatens the viability of drifting eggs and hence, the reproductive behavior of these species. In this study, molecular methods were used to identify specific species to analyze the constitution of drifting fish eggs. A total of 8,983 fish eggs were collected from nine stations from 2014 to 2016, 7,933 of which were sequenced successfully. Thirty-nine fish species were identified, and were assigned to four families and two orders. Approximately 64% of the species identified, and 67% of the eggs, were classified in the Family Cyprinidae. Abundance of eggs, as well as species richness, were higher in the main river than in tributaries of the river. However, tributaries may be important spawning grounds for some fish species. The Jaccard's similarity index and river-way distances among sampled stations were negatively correlated suggesting strong native relationships. Our data suggest that the environment shapes species composition in the sampled spawning grounds.

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ABSTRACT

Approximately 30 species of fish lay drifting eggs in the Yangtze River. However, recent dam construction threatens the viability of drifting eggs and ~~hence~~, the reproductive behavior of these species. In this study, molecular methods were used to identify specific species to analyze the constitution of drifting fish eggs. A total of 8,983 fish eggs were collected from nine stations from 2014 to 2016, 7,933 of which ~~were~~ sequenced successfully. Thirty-nine fish species were identified, and ~~were~~ assigned to four families and two orders. Approximately 64% of the species identified, and 67% of the eggs, were classified in the Family Cyprinidae. Abundance of eggs, as well as species richness, were higher in the main river than in tributaries of the river. However, tributaries may be important spawning grounds for some fish species. The Jaccard's similarity index and river-way distances among sampled stations were negatively correlated suggesting strong native relationships. Our data suggest that the environment shapes species composition in the sampled spawning grounds.

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INTRODUCTION

Monitoring fish spawning grounds in natural rivers provides useful information concerning fish habitat, spawning activity, and the effect of anthropogenic stressors. Data regarding spawning species, scale, and time are important for improving management and policy decisions.

The Yangtze River is the third largest river in the world. The section of the river above Yichang is generally called the "upper reaches" and the section from Yichang to Hukou is called the "middle reaches." In recent years, ~~more~~ dams have been constructed in the river, which ~~seriously~~ affect the spawning environment for fish. Such drastic ecological and environmental changes particularly affect fish that lay drifting eggs. There are approximately four hundred species of fish in the Yangtze River, and of these, approximately thirty species lay drifting eggs. Some of ~~the~~ fish are of commercial importance in China, such as grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*), silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), and bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*); these are referred to as the four domestic Chinese carps (FDC) in China. The FDC spawning activities are controlled by temperature and hydrographs (Stanley 1978; Li et al. 2013), which shape more than 40 spawning grounds within mainstream regions of the Yangtze River. The mean annual egg production was over 100 billion in the 1960's (Yih and Liang 1964). The construction of the Gezhouba dam in the 1980s, ~~and then~~ the Three Gorges dam in the early 2000s have greatly changed the hydrologic conditions in the middle Yangtze River (Yi et al. 2010). ~~These dam constructions significantly affected~~ the spawning activities of indigenous river fish. The abundance of FDC larvae in the middle Yangtze River ~~had~~ decreased to 105 million in 2005 (Duan et al. 2009), and the spawning time was ~~also~~ delayed by approximately one month (Zhang et al. 2012). In addition, there are some species of fish that prefer certain river locations

48 for spawning. For example, the largemouth bronze gudgeon, *Coreius guichenoti*, primarily spawns
49 in the Lower Jinsha River, which is the main tributary of the Yangtze River (Cao et al. 2007).
50 Impoundment of the Xiangjiaba dam in 2012 has destroyed the spawning ground of this species,
51 and as a result no eggs or larvae have been found since then (Gao et al. 2015). If this species cannot
52 find another suitable spawning ground, it is in danger of extinction (Cheng et al. 2015). Many
53 tributaries of the Yangtze River are also distributed spawning grounds of fish that lay drifting eggs,
54 and some of these fishes are endemic to one or several river sections (Xie et al. 2014; Cai et al.
55 2011; Wu et al. 2010).

56 Fishery resources in the Yangtze River have been undergoing a serious recession over the past
57 30 years (Chen et al. 2009; Huang & Li, 2016). In an attempt to remedy the situation, the
58 government has implemented measures to restore fish resources and the ecosystem. Several
59 parameters include setting up protected regions, closed fishing seasons, releasing artificial fish into
60 the river, and restricting fishing instruments (Chen et al. 2009). Monitoring spawning grounds
61 could assess whether these measures have been successful. During the spawning season there may
62 be more than a dozen or more species of fish spawning in the same location (Xie et al. 2014; Cai
63 et al. 2011; Wu et al. 2010). Different species are associated with different nursery habitats and
64 dispersal during early life history stages, and also have different protection requirements. Thus,
65 quantifying and classifying fish eggs is crucial for conservation, management, and assessment of
66 environmental effects. It is challenging to determine the species of the drifting eggs because most
67 of the fish with this reproductive pattern have similar morphological characters in the early egg
68 stages. In the past, several researchers tried to identify eggs species by size, color, oil droplets (Gao
69 et al. 2010; Cao et al. 2007; Yi et al. 1988), and couldn't obtain enough diagnosable information at
70 species-level, because the egg size was variable and overlapping among most fishes, and the color
71 was not so clear. Others tried to hatch eggs to identify distinguishable characteristics (Xu et al.
72 2015; Liu et al. 2014), however, it proved difficult to hatch eggs in the field.

73 DNA-based species identification is a rapid method to distinguish different species from
74 among various samples, and has recently been used as an effective tool for species identification
75 of fish eggs and larvae (Baldwin et al. 2011; Wibowo et al. 2017; Harada et al. 2015). In
76 comparison to morphological diagnosis, DNA identification has many advantages, including
77 sample preservation, finding cryptic and rare species, and large-scale surveys (Lewis et al. 2016;
78 Harada et al. 2015; Gleason and Burton, 2012). In the recent, molecular method has been used to
79 the delimitation of various taxonomic groups of fish (Hubert et al. 2010; Costa et al. 2012; Landi
80 et al. 2014; Frantine-Silva et al. 2015). It also has been successfully applied for identification of
81 fish eggs and larvae study on biodiversity and spawning activity in habitat (Harada et al. 2015;
82 Lewis et al. 2016; Ardura et al. 2016; Thompson, 2016). In this study, we have applied DNA
83 techniques for identification of drifting fish eggs sampled from several spawning grounds in the
84 Middle and Upper Yangtze River. The objective was to i) test identification efficiency for drifting
85 eggs in the Yangtze River, and ii) to investigate species composition and distribution in different
86 spawning grounds.

87

88 MATERIALS AND METHODS

89 Sampling location and egg collection

90 May to July of each year is the spawning season for most fish in the Yangtze River. During
91 this period in 2016, nine stations were set up to collect drifting fish eggs. These were the Yangtze
92 River Panzhihua section (YPZ), the Yangtze River Jiangjin section (YJJ), the Yangtze River Yidou
93 section (YYD), the Yangtze River Jingzhou section (YJZ), the Yangtze River Sanzhou section

94 (YSZ), the Yangtze River Yanwo section (YYW), the Minjiang River Yibin section (MYB), the
95 Chishui River Chishui section (CCS) and the Xiangjiang River Yingtian section (XYT) (Fig.1).
96 Among these stations, the four stations of YPZ, YJJ, CCS and MYB were located in the upper
97 reaches and the five stations of YYD, YJZ, YSZ, YYW and XYT in the middle reaches of the
98 Yangtze River. Three stations, MYB, CCS and XYT were located in tributary rivers, and the other
99 six stations were located in the main stream of the Yangtze River. Eggs were collected from YJJ
100 in 2014 and 2015, and from YSZ and YYW in 2015. These collections were also used in this study.

101 Collecting nets and methods were described as Duan et al. (2009). Trap nets were put down
102 in water at 6:00 to 9:30 and 16:00 to 19:00 every day during spawning season, and retrieved every
103 15 minutes. Each egg was recorded for morphological traits, such as developmental stage and size,
104 and then preserved in a 2 mL EP tube with absolute ethanol.

105 The sampling work has been approved by the local related management departments named
106 fishing administration supervision and administration station. This study is fully complied with
107 the relevant laws and ethics of the country.

108

109 **DNA extraction, PCR**

110 Ethanol was decanted off specimens and eggs were soaked in 1.5 mL ddH₂O for 1 h. Water
111 was then removed with a pipette, and egg genomic DNA was extracted using an easy-DNA Kit
112 (Omega, Connecticut, USA).

113 Mitochondrial (mt) *cyt b* gene was used as a molecular marker for species identification. The
114 forward primer was L14322:5'-GAC TTG AAG AAC CAC CGT TGT TAT TCA AC-3' and the
115 reverse primer H15576: 5'-GCG CTA GGG AGG AAT TTA ACC TCC-3'. PCR reactions had a
116 final volume of 25 µl and contained 2.5 µl 10 x PCR Buffer (TaKaRa, Dalian, China), 0.2 µl of
117 10 mmol/L dNTPs, 1 µL of each 10 µmol/L primers, 0.5 u Taq enzyme (TaKaRa, Dalian, China),
118 1 µl of template DNA. The PCR reaction cycles were as follows: Pre-denaturation at 94 °C for
119 4 min, 35 cycles of denaturation at 94 °C for 30 s, annealing at 54 °C for 30 s, extension at 72 °C
120 for 90 s, and a final extension at 72 °C for 8 min.

121 PCR products were checked via 1.5% agarose gel electrophoresis and visualized with
122 ethidium bromide to verify successful amplification. PCR DNA bands with expected size were
123 purified using Cycle-Pure Kit (Omega, Connecticut, USA) and sequenced with the same primers
124 as PCR (Tianyi biotech. Co. Ltd, Wuhan, China).

125

126 **Data analysis**

127 All sequences were aligned and trimmed to the same length using Muscle (Edgar, 2004) in
128 MEGA X (Kumar et al. 2018). Sequence properties of indels, frameshift mutations, in-frame stop
129 codons were careful examined to eliminate presence of pseudogene or nonfunctional sequences.
130 The genetic distance based on Kimura 2-parameter (Kimura, 1980) between the individuals were
131 calculated using MEGA X (Kumar et al. 2018) and a neighbor-joining tree (NJ tree) (Saitou and
132 Nei, 1987) was constructed with 1000 bootstrap replicates (Felsenstein, 1985). Sequences with 2%
133 or lower of genetic distance and clustered as a monophyletic group in the NJ tree will be assigned
134 to an operational taxonomic unit (OTU) and considered as a species. One or two sequences from
135 each OTU were selected to compare with nucleotide sequences from GenBank (National Center
136 for Biotechnology Information, NCBI) with the standard nucleotide BLAST (Basic Local
137 Alignment Search Tool). Eggs were associated with a given species only if the similarity values
138 were 98% or greater.

139 Species diversity of spawning ground was characterized using Shannon-Wiener diversity

140 index (Schoener 1968). The Shannon-Wiener index is calculated as:

$$141 \quad H' = - \sum P_i \ln P_i$$

142 Where p_i is the proportion of species in total samples (egg numbers).

143 Similarities of species component between spawning grounds were evaluated by Jaccard's
144 similarity index (JI) (Real and Vargas, 1996) using the formula $JI = a/(a+b+c)$, where 'a' is the
145 number of species shared by two spawning ground, and 'b' and 'c' are the numbers of species
146 specific in each spawning ground. Correlation between JI and the river-way distance was
147 determined by the Mantel test with 1000 random permutations performed in Arlequin v3.1
148 (Excoffier and Lischer 2010).

149

150 RESULTS

151 Species identification and diversity

152 Overall, 8983 drifting eggs were recovered from the nine stations, of which 7,933 were
153 sequenced successfully. All sequences were trimmed to the same length with 605bp. Comparing
154 with sequences of adults and GenBank data, a total of 39 species were identified, representing 28
155 genera, 4 families, and 2 orders (Table 1). Approximately 64% of the species and 67% of eggs
156 belonged to the Family Cyprinidae. In addition, 26% of the species and 28% of eggs were from
157 the Family Cobitidae. The most commonly distributed species were the silver carp (*H. molitrix*),
158 grass carp (*C. idellus*), silver gudgeon (*S. argentatus*) and Yichang gudgeon (*G. filifer*). No fish
159 species were found in all sampled stations.

160 The spawning ground with the highest species diversity was YJJ with 27 species identified,
161 ~~from 2014–2016~~. The next were YYD and YJZ, with 20 species found in both. The Shannon-
162 Wiener (H) diversity index of these three spawning grounds were greater than 2.0, and the other
163 five were under 1.9. Stations with the lowest species diversity were YPZ, having 8 species.

164

165 Species similarity among sites

166 Pairwise Jaccard's similarity index and river-way distances among sampled stations are listed
167 in Table 2. There are only one or two identical species among 19 to 28 species between YPZ and
168 the four stations in the Middle Yangtze River (YYD, YJZ, YSZ, and YYW) and XYT station in
169 the Xiangjiang River, which obtained the least JI values, ranging from 0 to 0.0952. However, JI
170 values among the four stations in the Middle Yangtze River had the highest values, ranging from
171 0.5652 to 0.7391.

172 A ~~Strongly~~ negative correlation was found between the JI and river-way distance (Mantel test,
173 $R=-0.9003$).

174

175 DISCUSSION

176 In previous studies, Cao et al. (2007) and Li et al. (2013) ~~have shown~~ that approximately 25
177 species of fish lay drifting eggs in the Yangtze River. Here we identified 39 species from captured
178 drifting fish eggs in seven sampled stations using the mitochondrial Cyt *b* gene sequences. All
179 obtained sequences had 98% identity with sequences in GenBank, indicating that reference data
180 of the fish are available. Thus, fish eggs can successfully be identified to the species level.
181 Intraspecific similarity of Cyt *b* gene sequence was greater than 98%, and interspecific distance
182 higher than 2% for all these fish species. These studies indicate that mitochondrial sequence data
183 are a power tool of species identification of drifting eggs in the Yangtze River, and may also
184 contribute to identify rare or endangered species of fish. For example, some fish such as
185 *Saurogobio gymnocheilus*, *Botia reevesae*, *Paracobitis potanini*, and *Jinshaia abbreviata*, have

186 had a low catch rate in recent years, but were detected in one or two spawning grounds in this
187 study (Table 1). This observation may suggest that there are also smaller populations living in the
188 river. However, two common fish species that lay drifting eggs in the Upper Yangtze River, *C.*
189 *guichenoti* and *Rhinogobio ventralis* (Xiong et al. 2014; Liu et al. 2010; Xiong et al. 2016), were
190 not found in this study. This may indicate that their spawning grounds were not in our monitoring
191 stations. In addition, two recorded Leuciscin carps laying drifting eggs, *Ochetobius elongatus* (still
192 found in Pearl River) and *Luciobrama macrocephalus* in the middle Yangtze River, were also not
193 found from analysis of eggs. Since they have been not captured in recent years it is possible that
194 these species are endangered to extinction in the Yangtze River.



195 Several species from the *Culter* genus were found in the collected eggs, such as *Culter*
196 *alburnus*, *Culter mongolicus*, and *Cultrichthys erythropterus*. Interestingly, these are not typical
197 fish that lay drifting eggs. They generally spawn weakly viscous eggs among water plants or in
198 river gravel and can also spawn in still water (Cao et al. 2008). They were detected in the YJJ
199 station due to falling off from plants or gravels by river torrents. *Glyptothorax sinensis* which is
200 distributed in the Yangtze River and its tributaries and lakes, also produces viscous eggs not
201 drifting, and their eggs usually adhere to stones in the water (Ding, 1994; Chu et al. 1999). Two
202 eggs of *G. sinensis* were found in the YPZ station, where the current velocity could be greater than
203 2 m/s (Xu et al. 2013).

204 The negative correlation between species similarity and river way distance reflected the
205 diversity of ecological conditions in the Yangtze River. The nearer river stations have similar
206 ecological characteristics, such as temperature, current velocity, and water flow, which attract
207 more of the same fish to spawn. There are distinct differences in hydrology between the middle
208 and upper reaches of the Yangtze River. The river is narrow, swift, and with a steep fall in elevation
209 in the upper reaches compared with the wider, slower, and gradual fall in the middle reaches.
210 Ecological differences shape the specificity of fish in the spawn ground. Six species, including
211 *Squaliobarbus curriculus*, *Elopichthys bambusa*, *Parabramis pekinensis*, *Pseudobrama simoni*,
212 *Xenocypris argentea* and *Parabotia banarescui* are only found in the YYD, YJZ and/or YSZ, and
213 YYW stations, consistent with their endemic presence in the middle Yangtze River. The upper
214 Yangtze River involved fourteen species, including *S. gymnocheilus*, *Hemiculterella sauvagei*,
215 *Xenophysogobio boulengeri*, *Xenophysogobio nudicorpa*, *Leptobotia rubrilabris*, *Leptobotia*
216 *microphthalma*, *Leptobotia elongata*, *B. reevesae*, *Botia superciliaris*, *P. potanini*, *Jinshaia*
217 *sinensis*, and *J. abbreviate*. Adults of *L. elongate*, the largest fish in the Family Cobitidae, were
218 also found in the middle Yangtze River, but no eggs were detected in stations there. Larvae of *L.*
219 *elongate* born upstream should have crossed the Three Gorges Dam to the middle reaches of the
220 river.

221 Species diversity of the YJJ station was shown to be the richest, and it harbored not only some
222 importantly economic fish, such as FDC, also some unique fish, such as *S. gymnocheilus* (Table
223 1). This river reach is a very important spawning ground for fish laying drifting eggs. The numbers
224 of species in the tributary river is less comparing with the Main River, but the rivers could be
225 important spawning grounds for particular species. For example, the number of the small eye
226 loach, *L. microphthalma* accounted for more than 86% of the total eggs in the MYB station, where
227 in down reaches of Minjiang River. In the CCS station, located in the Chishui River, the species
228 and egg numbers of species in the Family Cobitidae accounted for 50% and 36% of the total
229 captures, respectively.

230 Though spawning and egg development of most of the fish identified in this study rely on
231 running water, dependency levels were different. For example, FCD are apt to spawn in sudden

232 floods (Duan et al. 2009, Li et al. 2011). However, spawning activity of *G. filifer* is negatively
233 correlated with water discharge and water velocity (Tian et al. 2017). Understanding the
234 composition of fish species at each spawning ground helps to assess the impact of environmental
235 changes on fish, and molecular methods could be a useful tool for conducting this task effectively.

236 Our study presented a highly effective approach for rapid species identification of drifting
237 eggs in Yangtze River, and it should due to reference data obtained in [Genbank](#). A small percentage
238 of collected eggs were not sequenced (approximately 11%) , which can be attributed to several
239 errors along the path from collection to sequencing, such as improper egg preservation, DNA
240 extraction and PCR failure. For large scale survey, the lab time as well as amplification and
241 sequencing costs cannot to be ignored. Using high-throughput  lines as an automatization of
242 egg sorting, and a 96-well system for DNA extraction and for PCR amplification (Hofmann et al.
243 2017) and/or multiplex arrays (Gleason and Burton, 2012) is recommended. **Another problem** 
244 **using a single gene of mtDNA for species identification is presence of heteroplasmy or incomplete**
245 lineage sorting within or among some species, which lead to aborted identification at species-level
246 (Hubert et al.2008;April et al. 2011; Shen et al. 2016). Using more loci, for example COI, control
247 region and ITS of rDNA, can improve the success rate of identification.

248

249 CONCLUSIONS

250 Mitochondrial DNA sequence is a powerful and effective tool for identifying species of
251 drifting fish egg in Yangtze River. Species diversity in main river is higher than that in tributaries,
252 however some fish species prefer to spawn in tributaries.

253

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- 364 Fig.1 Location of nine sample stations (YPZ, MYB, CCS, YJJ, YYD, YJZ, YSZ, YYW, XYT) and species
365 composition in Family
366 1-Gezhouba Dam, 2- Three Gorges Dam, 3- Xiangjiaba Dam

Figure 1

Location of nine sample stations and species composition in Family

1-Gezhouba Dam, 2- Three Gorges Dam, 3- Xiangjiaba Dam.

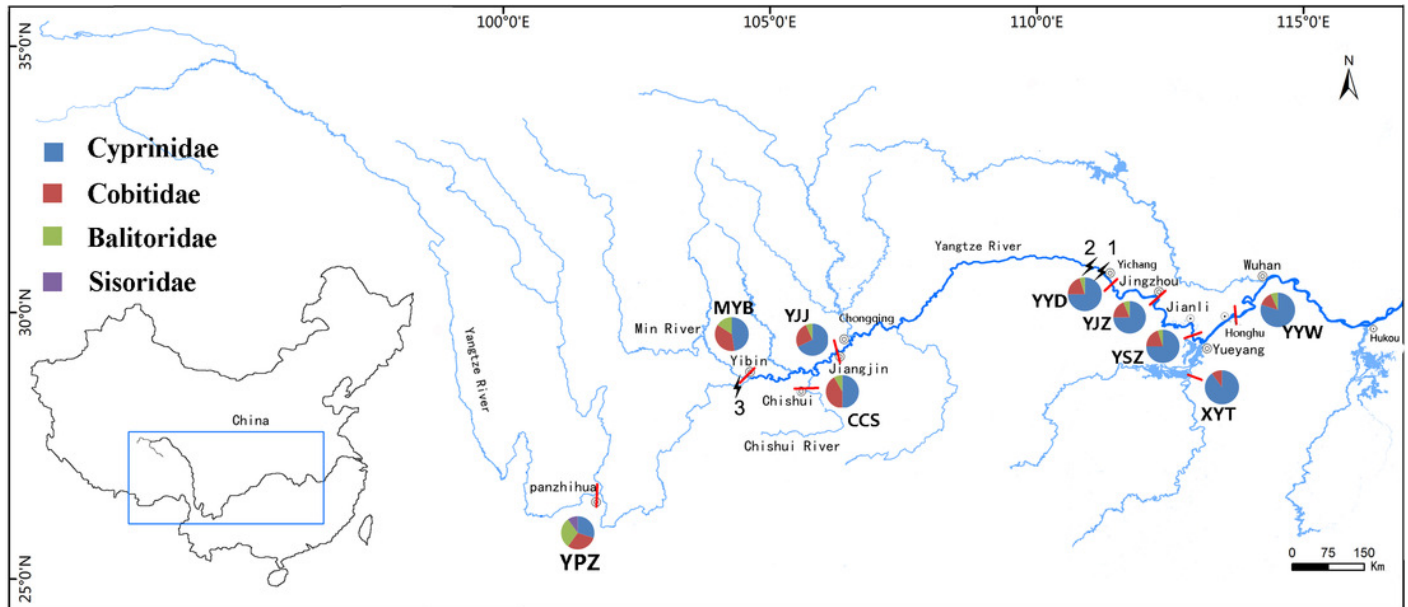


Table 1 (on next page)

Species composition and diversity in nine sampled stations of the Yangtze River

1 Table 1 Species composition and diversity in nine sampled stations of the Yangtze River

Orders	Families	Species	Stations & Years													Total number of eggs	Ratio (%)	GenBank	
			YPZ	MYB	CCS	No.			No.	YJZ	YSZ		YYW		XYT			No.	Identity ,%
			2016	2016	2016	2014	2015	2016	2015	2015	2015	2016	2015	2016	2016				
Cypriniformes	Cyprinidae	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>		2		28	39	97	169	28	1	2	8	6	11	391	4.929	EU315941	98-100
		<i>Aristichthys nobilis</i>			1			5		1			1	1	9	0.113	EU343733	99-100	
		<i>Ctenopharyngodon idellus</i>		9		27	44	88	68	49	2	3	3	1	1	295	3.719	EU391390	99-100
		<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>			8	7	12	13	7				1		48	0.605	EU979307	99-00	
		<i>Squaliobarbus curriculus</i>						1	8				1		10	0.126	JX910141	98-100	
		<i>Elopichthys bambusa</i>						2	23						25	0.315	KM196112	99-100	
		<i>Parabramis pekinensis</i>						40	37	9		19	7	14	126	1.588	NC_022678	99-100	
		<i>Hemiculter bleekeri</i>			7	9	23	50	113	274	19	43	52	213	803	10.122	KT361083	98-100	
		<i>Hemiculter leucisculus</i>	40			1	9								50	0.630	AY089718	98-100	
		<i>Pseudolaubuca engraulis</i>		15	1	84	320	407	1	4				3		835	10.526	NC_020462	99-100
		<i>Pseudolaubuca sinensis</i>			36	1	1	148	136	2						324	4.084	KY471356	99-100
		<i>Culter mongolicus</i>			1	3										4	0.050	AP009060	99
		<i>Culter alburnus</i>			1	6			1							8	0.101	KX829023	99-100
		<i>Cultrichthys erythropterus</i>				3										3	0.038	AF051859	99
		<i>Coreius heterokon</i>			49	30	93	5								177	2.231	NC_020041	99-100
		<i>Rhinogobio typus</i>		9	43	124	322	1	26	2		6	5			538	6.782	KU323963	98-100
		<i>Saurogobio dabryi</i>				1										1	0.013	NC_022845	99
		<i>Hemiculterella sauvagei</i>		5	2	5	15									27	0.340	KP316066	98-100
		<i>Saurogobio gymnocheilus</i>			1	28	35		4	21					9	98	1.235	KR362925	98-100
		<i>Squalidus argentatus</i>		1	31	1	38	63	13	111	36	5	3	20	171	493	6.215	KM654503	98-100
		<i>Gobiobotia filifer</i>		42	92	48	197	418	1	27	15	1	5	5	6	857	10.803	KP325413	98-100
		<i>Xenophysogobio boulengeri</i>	3	54	2		16				7					82	1.034	KM052390	98-100
		<i>Xenophysogobio nudicorpa</i>		2												2	0.025	KM373519	98-100
		<i>Pseudobrama simoni</i>									20					20	0.252	KF537571	99-100
		<i>Xenocypris argentea</i>							41	10			4	1		56	0.706	AP009059	98-100
		Cobitidae	<i>Leptobotia rubrilabris</i>	1	1	1	5	15								23	0.290	AY625717	98-100
			<i>Leptobotia tientaiensis</i>						3	32	3	9	6		1	54	0.681	AY625725	98-100
			<i>Leptobotia microphthalrna</i>		1303	1	1	11	365	1						1682	21.203	NC_024049	99-100

		<i>Leptobotia elongata</i>	2	2	5	11	6	32							58	0.731	JQ230103	99-100	
		<i>Leptobotia taeniaps</i>		3	9	3	5	19	3	19	4		2	3	1	71	0.895	KM386686	99-100
		<i>Parabotia fasciata</i>			4		18	13	10	30	2				77	0.971	AY625709	98-100	
		<i>Parabotia banarescui</i>							2	4					6	0.076	AY625711	98-100	
		<i>Botia reevesae</i>		1	2										3	0.038	KU954768	98-100	
		<i>Botia superciliaris</i>	11	37	87	3	22	110							270	3.404	AY625704	98-100	
		<i>Paracobitis potanini</i>		1											1	0.013	KP749475	99	
	Balitoridae	<i>Lepturichthys fimbriata</i>	32	8	33	33	50	121		35	4			3	319	4.021	KJ830772	99-100	
		<i>Jinshaia sinensis</i>	26	7		8	14	27							82	1.034	KJ739867	99-100	
		<i>Jinshaia abbreviata</i>		2											2	0.025	DQ105211	99	
Siluriformes	Sisoridae	<i>Glyptothorax sinensis</i>	2	1											3	0.038	KJ739617	99	
total			117	1505	303	361	974	2314	577	704	403	39	100	108	428	7933	100		
species number			8	20	12	21	21	26	20	20	16	6	11	13	11	40			
Shannon H			1.552	0.686	1.781	2.317	2.185	2.441	2.018	2.506	1.322	1.396	1.831	1.759	1.117	2.710			

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Table 2 (on next page)

Fish Jaccard's similarity index (JI) and river-way distances among sampled stations in the Yangtze River

- 1 Table 2 Fish Jaccard's similarity index (JI) and river-way distances among sampled stations in the Yangtze River (Mantel test, R=-
2 0.9003)

Stations	YPZ	MYB	CCS	YJJ	YYD	YJZ	YSZ	YYW	XYT
YPZ	0	780	1045	1085	1855	1955	2140	2305	2255
MYB	0.3333	0	265	305	1075	1175	1360	1525	1475
CCS	0.2667	0.4545	0	150	920	1020	1205	1370	1320
YJJ	0.2800	0.4687	0.3437	0	770	870	1055	1220	1170
YYD	0	0.2187	0.2800	0.4242	0	100	285	450	400
YJZ	0.0370	0.2581	0.2800	0.4242	0.7391	0	185	350	300
YSZ	0.0952	0.2593	0.3333	0.4333	0.5217	0.5652	0	165	115
YYW	0.0909	0.2593	0.2500	0.3548	0.6500	0.6364	0.5500	0	210
XYT	0	0.1852	0.1579	0.2667	0.4762	0.4286	0.6667	0.5625	0

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