Genomic analyses inform on migration events during the peopling of Eurasia

High-coverage whole-genome sequence studies have so far focused on a limited number of geographically restricted populations, or been targeted at specific diseases, such as cancer. Nevertheless, the availability of high-resolution genomic data has led to the development of new methodologies for inferring population history and refueled the debate on the mutation rate in humans. Here we present the Estonian Biocentre Human Genome Diversity Panel (EGDP), a dataset of 483 high-coverage human genomes from 148 populations worldwide, including 379 new genomes from 125 populations, which we group into diversity and selection sets. We analyse this dataset to refine estimates of continent-wide patterns of heterozygosity, long- and short-distance gene flow, archaic admixture, and changes in effective population size through time as well as for signals of positive or balancing selection. We find a genetic signature in present-day Papuans that suggests that at least 2% of their genome originates from an early and largely extinct expansion of anatomically modern humans (AMHs) out of Africa. Together with evidence from the western Asian fossil record, and admixture between AMHs and Neanderthals predating the main Eurasian expansion, our results contribute to the mounting evidence for the presence of AMHs out of Africa earlier than 75,000 years ago.

The paths taken by AMHs out of Africa (OoA) have been the subject of considerable debate over the past two decades. Fossil and archaeo-logical evidence, and craniometric studies of African and Asian populations, demonstrate that Homo sapiens was present outside of Africa ~120–70 thousand years ago (kya). However, this colonization has been viewed as a failed expansion OoA since genetic analyses of living populations have been consistent with a single OoA followed by founder events. Ancient DNA (aDNA) sequencing studies have found support for admixture between early Eurasians and at least two archaic human lineages, and suggest modern humans reached Eurasia at around 100 kya. In addition, aDNA from modern humans suggests population structuring and turnover, but little additional archaic admixture, in Eurasia over the last 35–45 thousand years. Overall, these findings indicate that the majority of human genetic diversity outside Africa derives from a single dispersal event that was followed by admixture with archaic humans.

We used ADMIXTURE to analyse the genetic structure in our diversity set (Extended Data Figs 1; 2; Supplementary Information 1.1–7). We further compared the individual-level haplotype similarity of our samples using fineSTRUCTURE (Extended Data Fig. 3). Despite small sample sizes, we inferred 106 genetically distinct populations forming 12 major regional clusters, corresponding well to the 148 self-identified population labels. This clustering forms the basis for the groupings used in the scans of natural selection. Similar genetic affinities are highlighted by plotting the outgroup f2 statistic in the form f2(X, Y; Yoruba), which here measures shared drift between a non-African population X and any modern or ancient population Y from Yoruba as an African outgroup (Supplementary Information 2.2.6, Extended Data Fig. 4).

Our sampling allowed us to consider geographic features correlated with gene flow by spatially interpolating genetic similarity measures between pairs of populations (Supplementary Information 2.2.2). We considered several measures and report gradients of allele frequencies in Fig. 1, which was compared to gene flow patterns from EEMS as a validation (Extended Data Fig. 5). Controlling for pairwise geographic distance, we find a correlation between these genetic gradients and geographic and climatic features such as precipitation and elevation (inset of Fig. 1, Supplementary Information 2.2.2).

We screened for evidence of selection by first focusing on loci that showed the highest allelic differentiation among groups (Supplementary Information 3). We then performed positive and purifying selection scans (Methods), and found some candidate loci that replicate previously known and functionally supported findings (Supplementary Table 1:3.3.4-I, Supplementary Information 3.1, Extended Data Fig. 6; Supplementary Table 1:3.1-IV,VI). Additionally, we infer more purifying selection in Africans in genes involved in pigmentation (bootstrapping p value (bpv) for R_{XY} scores < 0.05) (Extended Data Fig. 6) and immune response against viruses (bpv < 0.05), while further purifying selection was indicated on olfactory receptor genes in Asians (bpv < 0.05) (Supplementary Table 1:3.1.1-II). Our scans for ancient balancing selection found a significant enrichment (FDR < 0.01) of antigen processing/presentation, antigen binding, and MHC and membrane component genes (Supplementary Information 3.2 and 3.3, Supplementary Table 1:3.3.2-I–III). The HLA (HLA-C)-associated gene (BTNL2) was the top highest scoring candidate in 8 of 12 geographic regions for the HKA test (Supplementary Table 1:3.3.1-I). Our positive selection scans, variant-based analyses (Supplementary Information 3.2 and 3.3) and gene enrichment studies also suggest new candidate loci (Supplementary Information 3.4 and 3.5, Supplementary Table 1:3.5-I–VI), a subset of which is highlighted in Supplementary Table 1:3-I.

Using fineSTRUCTURE, we find in the genomes of Papuans and Philippine Negritos more short haplotypes assigned as African than seen in genomes for individuals from other non-African populations (Extended Data Fig. 7). This pattern remains after correcting for potential confounders such as phasing errors and sampling bias (Supplementary Information 2.2.1). These shorter shared haplotypes would be consistent with an older population split. Indeed, the Papuan–Yoruban median genetic split time (using multiple sequential Markovian coalescent (MSMC)) of 90 kya predates the split of all mainland Eurasian populations from Yorubans at ~75 kya (Supplementary Table 1:2.2.3-I, Extended Data Fig. 4, Fig. 2a). This result is robust to phasing artefacts (Extended Data Fig. 8, see Methods). Furthermore, the Papuan–Eurasian MSMC split time of ~40 kya is only slightly older than splits between west Eurasian and East Asian populations dated at ~30 kya (Extended Data Fig. 4). The Papuan split times from Yoruba and Eurasia are therefore incompatible with a simple bifurcating population tree model.

At least two main models could explain our estimates of older divergence dates for Sahul populations from Africa than mainland Eurasians in our sample: 1) admixture in Sahul with a potentially unsampled archaic human population that split from modern humans either before or at the same time as did Denisova and Neanderthal; or 2) admixture in Sahul with a modern human population (extinct OoA line; xOoA) that left Africa after the split between modern humans...
The African–Papuan MSMC split curve can be qualitatively reproduced with a Denisova-like population. Furthermore, while the observed shift in the data, unless assuming an implausibly large contribution from a Papuan–African and Papuan–Eurasian split times inferred from (Supplementary Information 2.2.8). We could not simulate the large shift in MSMC dates (based on MSMC) between Africans and Papuans (Methods, Supplementary Table 1:2.2.9-I) changed the estimated split time (based on MSMC) between Africans and Papuans (Methods, Supplementary Information 2.2.8, Extended Data Fig. 8, Supplementary Table 1:2.2.8-I). Our approach therefore relies on multiple lines of evidence using haplotype-based MSMC and fineSTRUCTURE comparisons (which we show should have power at this timescale26; Supplementary Information 2.2.13).

We located and masked putatively introgressed27 Denisova haplotypes from the genomes of Papuans, and evaluated phasing errors by symmetrically phasing Papuans and Eurasians genomes (Methods). Neither modification (Fig. 2a, Supplementary Information 2.2.9, Supplementary Table 1:2.2.9-I) changed the estimated split time (based on MSMC) between Africans and Papuans (Methods, Supplementary Information 2.2.8, Extended Data Fig. 8, Supplementary Table 1:2.2.8-I). MSMC dates behave approximately linearly under admixture (Extended Data Fig. 8), implying that the hypothesized lineage may have split from most Africans around 120 kya (Supplementary Information 2.2.4 and 2.2.8).

We compared the effect on the MSMC split times of an xOoA or a Denisova lineage in Papuans by extensive coalescent simulations (Supplementary Information 2.2.8). We could not simulate the large Papuan–African and Papuan–Eurasian split times inferred from the data, unless assuming an implausibly large contribution from a Denisova-like population. Furthermore, while the observed shift in the African–Papuan MSMC split curve can be qualitatively reproduced when including a 4% genomic component that diverged 120 kya from the main human lineage within Papuans, a similar quantity of Denisova admixture does not produce any significant effect (Extended Data Fig. 8). This favours a small presence of xOoA lineages rather than Denisova admixture alone as the likely cause of the observed deep African–Papuan split. We also show (Methods) that such a scenario is compatible with the observed mitochondrial DNA and Y chromosome lineages in Oceania, as also previously argued13,28.

We further tested our hypothesized xOoA model by analysing haplotypes in the genomes of Papuans that show African ancestry not found in other Eurasian populations. We re-ran fineSTRUCTURE adding the Denisova, Altai Neanderthal and the Human Ancestral Genome sequences29 to a subset of the diversity set. FineSTRUCTURE infers haplotypes that have a most recent common ancestor (MRCA) with another individual. Papuan haplotypes assigned as African had, regardless, an elevated level of non-African derived alleles (that is, nAAs fixed ancestral in Africans) compared to such haplotypes in Eurasians. They therefore have an older mean coalescence time with our African samples.

Owing to the deep divergence between the sampled Denisova and the one introgressed into modern humans, it is possible that some archaic haplotypes have a MRCA with an African instead of Denisova and are assigned as ‘African’. We can resolve the coalescence time, and hence origin, of these haplotypes by their sequence similarity with modern Africans. To account for the archaic introgression we modelled these genomic segments as a mixture of haplotypes assigned a) as African or b) as Denisova in Eurasians and c) haplotypes assigned as ‘African’ based on the matrix of pairwise average heterozygosity and a MATLAB script that plots the hexagons of the grid with a colour coding to represent gradients. Inset, partial correlation between magnitude of genetic gradients and combinations of different geographic factors, elevation (E), temperature (T) and precipitation (R), for genetic gradients from fineSTRUCTURE (red) and allele frequencies (blue). This analysis (Supplementary Information 2.2.2 for details) shows that genetic differences within this region display some correlation with physical barriers such as mountain ranges, deserts, forests, and open water (such as the Wallace line).

**Figure 1** | **Genetic barriers across space.** Spatial visualization of genetic barriers inferred from genome-wide genetic distances, quantified as the magnitude of the gradient of spatially interpolated allele frequencies (value denoted by a colourbar; grey areas have been land during the last glacial maximum but are currently underwater). Here we used a spatial kernel smoothing method based on the matrix of pairwise average heterozygosity and a MATLAB script that plots the hexagons of the grid with a colour coding to represent gradients. Inset, partial correlation between magnitude of genetic gradients and combinations of different geographic factors, elevation (E), temperature (T) and precipitation (R), for genetic gradients from fineSTRUCTURE (red) and allele frequencies (blue). This analysis (Supplementary Information 2.2.2 for details) shows that genetic differences within this region display some correlation with physical barriers such as mountain ranges, deserts, forests, and open water (such as the Wallace line).
Figure 2 | Evidence of an xOoA signature in the genomes of modern Papuans. a, MSMC split times plot. The Yoruba–Eurasia split curve shows the mean of all Eurasian genomes against one Yoruba genome. The grey area represents top and bottom 5% of runs. We chose a Koinanbe genome as representative of the Sahul populations. b–d, Decomposition of Papuan haplotypes inferred as African by fineSTRUCTURE. b, Semi-parametric decomposition of the joint distribution of haplotype lengths and non-African derived allele rate per SNP, showing the relative proportion of haplotypes in K = 20 components of the distribution, ordered by non-African derived allele rate, relative to the overall proportion of haplotypes in each component. The four datasets produced by considering haplotypes inferred as (African/Denisova) in (Europeans/Papuans) are shown with our inferred ‘extra Out-of-Africa’ (xOoA) component. aFR, African; DEN, Denisova; PNG, Papuans; EUR, Europeans. c, The properties of the components in terms of non-African derived allele rate, on which the components are ordered, and length. d, The reconstruction of haplotypes inferred as African in the genomes of Papuan individuals, using a mixture of all other data (red) and with the addition of the xOoA signature (black).

this approach disentangles lineages that coalesce before the human/Denisova split from those that coalesce after.

We found that the xOoA signature (Fig. 2b–d; Supplementary Information 2.2.10) was necessary to account for the number of short haplotypes with ‘moderate’ nAAs density in the data (that is, proportion of non-African-derived sites higher than that of Eurasian haplotypes assigned as African but significantly lower than that of those assigned Denisova in either Eurasians or Papuans). Consistent with our MSMC findings (Supplementary Information 2.2.4), xOoA haplotypes have an estimated MRCA 1.5 times older than the Eurasian haplotypes in Papuan genomes, while the Denisovan haplotypes in Papuans are four times older than the Eurasian haplotypes. Adding up the contributions across the genome (Methods) leads to a genome-wide estimate of 1.9% xOoA (95% confidence interval 1.5–3.3) in Papuans, which we view as a lower bound.

Our results consistently point towards a contribution from a modern human source for derived alleles that are found in the genome sequence of Papuans but not in Africans. Possible confounders could involve a shorter generation time in Papuan and Philippine Negrito populations, different recombination processes, or alternative demographic histories that have not been investigated here. We therefore strongly encourage the development of new model-based approaches that can investigate further the haplotype patterns described here.

In conclusion, our results suggest that while the genomes of modern Papuans derive primarily from the main expansion of modern humans out of Africa, we estimate that at least 2% of their genome sequence reflects an earlier, otherwise extinct, dispersal (Extended Data Fig. 10). The inferred date of the xOoA split time (~120 kya) is consistent with fossil and archaeological evidence for an early expansion of *H. sapiens* from Africa. Furthermore, the recently identified modern human admixture into the Altai Neanderthal before 100 kya is consistent with a modern human presence outside Africa well before the main OoA split time (~75 kya). Further studies will confirm whether the Papuan genetic signature reported here and the one observed in Altai Neanderthals reflect the same xOoA human group, as well as clarify the timing and route followed during such an early expansion. The high similarity between Papuans and the Altai Neanderthal reported in Extended Data Fig. 1 may indeed reflect a shared xOoA component. Further studies are needed to explore this model and suggest that understanding human evolutionary history will require the recovery of aDNA from additional fossils, and further archaeological investigations in under-explored geographical regions.

Online Content Methods, along with any additional Extended Data display items and Source Data, are available in the online version of the paper; references unique to these sections appear only in the online paper.

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METHODS

No statistical methods were used to predetermine sample size. The experiments were not randomized and the investigators were not blinded to allocation during experiments and outcome assessment.

Data preparation. We analyse a set of genomes sequenced by the same technology (Complete Genomics Inc.) which results in minimal platform differences between batches of samples analysed by slight modifications of CG proprietary pipeline (Extended Data Fig. 2; Supplementary Information 1.6). Informed consent forms and REC approvals were obtained for all samples newly collected for this study. We see good concordance between CG sequence and Illumina genotyping array results for the same samples with minor reference bias in the latter data (Extended Data Fig. 2; Supplementary Information 1.6). In the final dataset, we retained only one second-degree (Australians, to make use of all the available samples) and five third-degree relatives pairs (Supplementary Table 1:1.7-I). All genomes were annotated against the Ensembl GRCh37 database and compared to dbSNP Human Build 141 and Phase 1 of the 1000 Genomes Project dataset32 (Supplementary Information 1.1–1.6). We found 10,212,117 new SNPs, 401,911 of which were exonic. As expected from our sampling scheme, existing lists of variable sites have been extended mostly by the Siberian, Southeast Asian and South Asian genomes, which contribute 89,836 (22.4%), 63,964 (15.9%) and 40,758 (10.1%) of the new exonic variants detected in this study.

Compared to the genome-wide average, we see fewer heterozygous sites on chromosomes 1 and 2, and an excess on chromosomes 16, 19 and 21 (Extended Data Fig. 2). This pattern is independent of simple potential confounders, such as large-scale differences in mutation rates among chromosomes. We confirmed this general pattern using 1000 Genomes Project data (Supplementary Information 1.8).

The ‘ancient genome diversity panel’ consisted of 106 samples from the main Diversity panel along with Altai Neanderthal, Denisova and the Modern Human reference genome. Sites that are heterozygous in archaic humans were removed.

Geographic gradient analyses. We used a Gaussian kernel smoothing (based on the shortest distance on land to each sample) to interpolate genetic patterns across space. Averaging over all markers, we obtained an expression for the mean square gradient of allele frequencies in terms of the matrix of genetic distance between pairs of samples (Supplementary Information 2.2.2). This provides a simple way to identify spatial regions that contribute strongly to genetic differences between samples, and can be used, in principle, for any measure of genetic difference (for fineSTRUCTURE data, we used negative shared haplotype length as a measure of differentiation).

To quantify the link between the magnitude of geographic gradients (from fineSTRUCTURE and allele frequency data) and geographic factors, we fitted a generalized linear model to the sum of genetic magnitude gradients on the shortest paths between samples to elevation, minimum quarterly temperature, and annual precipitation summed in the same way, controlling for path length and spatial random effects (Supplementary Information 2.2.2), and calculated partial correlations between genetic gradient magnitudes and geographic factors.

FineSTRUCTURE analysis. FineSTRUCTURE32 was run as described in Supplementary Information 2.2.1. Within the 106 genetically distinct genetic groups, labels were typically genetically homogeneous—113 of the 148 population labels (76%) were assigned to only one ‘genetic cluster’. Similarly, genetic clusters were typically specific to a label, with 66 of the 106 ‘genetic clusters’ (62%) containing only one population label.

Correction for phasing errors. To check whether phasing errors could produce the shorter Papuan haplotypes, we focused on regions of the genome that had an extended (>500 kb) run of homozygosity. We ran ChromoPainter for each individual over these regions, meaning each individual was only painted where it had been perfectly phased. This did not change the qualitative features (Supplementary Information 2.2.1).

Removal of similar samples. Papuans are genetically distinct from other populations due to tens of thousands of years of isolation. We wanted to check whether the length of haplotypes assigned as African was biased by the inclusion of a large number of relatively homogeneous Eurasians with few Papuans. To do this we repeated the analysis by excluding only those regions, meaning each individual was only painted where it had been perfectly phased. This did not change the qualitative haplotype length features (Supplementary Information 2.2.1).

Inclusion of ancient samples. We ran our smaller individual panel with \( n = 109 \) and without \( n = 106 \) ancient samples (Denisova, Neanderthal and ancestral human). This did not change the qualitative haplotype length features (Supplementary Information 2.2.1).

Selection analyses. We investigated balancing, positive and purifying selection for a part of the dataset with larger group sizes which was defined as the Selection subset (Supplementary Table 1:3.1-1 and 3.2-1) using a wide range of window-based as well as variant-based approaches. Furthermore, we investigated how these signals relate to shared demographic history. Where possible we contextualized our findings by integrating them with information from various functional databases. Detailed descriptions of all methods used are available in Supplementary Information section 3.

MSMC. Denisova merging, simulations of alternative scenarios and assessment of phasing robustness. Genetic split times were initially calculated following the standard MSMC procedure8, and subsequently modified as follows. To estimate the effect of archaic admixture, putative Denisova haplotypes were identified in Papuans using a previously published method27 and masked from all the analysed genomes. Particularly, whether a putative archaic haplotype was found in heterozygous or homozygous state within the chosen Papuan genome, the ‘affected’ locus was inserted into the MSMC mask files and, hence, removed from the analysis.

We note that a fraction of the Denisova and Neanderthal contributions to the Papuan genomes may be indistinguishable, owing to the shared evolutionary history of these two archaic populations. As a result, some of the removed ‘Denisova’ haplotypes may have actually entered the genome of Papuans through Neanderthal. Regardless of this, our exercise successfully shows that the MSMC split time estimates are not affected by the documented presence of archaic genomic component (whether coming entirely from Denisova or partially shared with Neanderthal).

We further excluded the role of Denisova admixture in explaining the deeper African–Papuan MSMC split times through coalescent simulations (using ms to generate 30 chromosomes of 5 Mb each, and simulating each scenario 30 times). These showed that the addition of 4% Denisova lineages to the Papuan genomes does not change the MSMC results, while the addition of 4% xOoA lineages recreates the qualitative shift observed in the empirical data.

Phasing artefacts were also taken into account as putative confounders of the MSMC split time estimates. We re-ran MSMC after re-phasing one Estonian, one Papuan and 20 West African and Pygmy genomes in a single experiment. This way we ruled out potential artefacts stemming from the excess of Eurasian over Sahul samples during the phasing process. Both the archaic and phasing corrections yielded the same split time as of the standard MSMC runs.

Emulation of all pairwise MSMC split times. We confirmed that none of the other populations behaved as an outlier from those identified in the \( n = 22 \) full pairwise analysis by estimating the MSMC split times between all pairs. We chose 9 representative populations (including Papuan, Yoruba and Baka) from the 22, and compared each of the 447 diversity panel genomes to them. For each individual \( l \) not in our panel, we obtain the positive mixture weights \( \alpha_{l,j} \) using the model

\[
\hat{\alpha}_j = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{9} \alpha_{k,l} t_k}{\sum_{k=1}^{9} \alpha_{k,l} t_k} \text{ for } j \in (1,9) \]

The parameters are estimated using the \( j \in (1,9) \) observations for which we have data using a quadratic loss function. We can then predict the unobserved values

Examination of this matrix (Supplementary Information 2.2.3, Supplementary Table 1:2.2.3-III) implies no other populations are expected to have unusual MSMC split times from Africa.

Mixture model for African haplotypes in Papuans. Obtaining haplotypes from painting. We define African or Archaic haplotypes in Eurasians or Papuans as genomic loci spanning at least 1,000 bp, and showing SNPs that were assigned and non-African derived allele mutation rate in haplotypes. We fit \( K = 20 \) components to the joint distribution. Each component has a characteristic length \( l_v \), variability \( \sigma_v^2 \) and mutation rate \( \mu_v \). A haplotype of length \( l_i \) with \( X_i \) such mutations from component \( I \) is defined as

\[
X_i\{ l_i, \sigma_v^2, I = k \} \sim \text{log-Normal}(l_i, \sigma_v^2) 
\]

\[
X_i\{ \mu_v, I = k \} \sim \text{Binomial}(l_i, \mu_v) 
\]
This model for haplotype lengths is motivated by the extreme age of the split times we seek to model. Recent splits would lead to an exponential distribution of haplotype lengths. However, to haplotype fixation caused by finite population size, very old splits have finite (non-zero) haplotype lengths. Additionally, the data are left-censored since we cannot reliably detect haplotypes that are very short. We note that while this makes a single component a reasonable fit to the data, as $K$ increases the specific choice becomes less important.

We then impose the prior $p(I = k) = 1/K$ and use the expectation-maximization algorithm to estimate the mixture proportions $\pi_k = E(I_k | X_k)$ along with the maximum likelihood parameter estimates $(\lambda_k, \sigma_k^2, \mu_k)$. We do this for the four combinations of haplotypes assigned as African (AFR) and Denisova (DEN) found in Papuans (PNG) or Europeans (EUR), in order to learn the parameters. Supplementary Information 2.2.10 describes this in more detail. We then describe the distribution of haplotypes for each class of haplotype in terms of the expected proportion of haplotypes found in each component,

$$\pi_k = \frac{\pi'_{ck}}{\sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi'_{ck}}$$

where $N_c$ is the number of haplotypes of class $c$. $\pi_k$ is a vector of the proportions from each of the $K$ components.

**Single-out-of-Africa model.** We fit haplotypes assigned as African in Papuans as a mixture of the others in a second layer of mixture modelling:

$$\pi_{PNG.AFR} = \sum_{c \in \{PNG.DEN,EUR.AFR,EUR.DEN\}} \alpha_c \pi_c$$

where $\alpha_c$ sum to 1. This is straightforward to fit.

**xOoA model.** We jointly estimate an additional component $\pi_{xOoA}$ and the mixture contributions $\beta_c$ under the mixture

$$\pi_{PNG.AFR} = \sum_{c \in \{PNG.DEN,EUR.AFR,EUR.DEN,xOoA\}} \beta_c \pi_c$$

This is non-trivial to fit. We use a penalization scheme to simultaneously ensure we a) obtain a valid mixture for $\beta_c$; b) give a prediction $x_k$ that is also a valid mixture; c) leave little signal in the residuals; and d) obtain a good fit. Cross-validation is used to obtain the optimal penalization parameters ($A$ and $B$) with the loss function:

$$\text{loss} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \epsilon_k^2 + AP_k + BP_k,$$

where $\epsilon_k$ are the residuals in each component, $P_k = \left| \sum_{c} \beta_c \right| - 1 + \left| \sum_{k} x_k \right| - 1$ (for a valid mixture) and $P_B = s \cdot d(\epsilon_k)$ (for requirement c, good solutions will have similar residuals across components). The loss is minimized via standard optimization techniques. Supplementary Information 2.2.10 details how initial values are found and explores the robustness of the solution to changes in $A$ and $B$—the results do not change qualitatively for reasonable choices of these parameters, and the mixtures are valid to within numerical error.

**Genome-wide $xOoA$ estimation.** We used the estimated $xOoA$ derived allele mutation rate estimate $\theta_{xOoA}$ to estimate the $xOoA$ contribution in haplotypes classed as Eurasian or Papuan by ChromoPainter. First we obtained estimates of $\pi_{PNG.EUR}$ and $\pi_{PNG.PNG}$ using the single out-of-Africa model above, additionally allowing for a EUR.EUR contribution. We then estimate $\alpha_{xOoA}$ using the observed mutation rate $\theta_{obs}$ and that predicted under the mixture model $\theta_{mix}$ by rearranging the mixture:

$$\theta_{obs} = \alpha_{xOoA} \theta_{xOoA} + (1 - \alpha_{xOoA}) \theta_{mix}$$

Estimates less than 0 are set to 0. The genome-wide estimate is obtained by weighting each $\theta$ by the proportion of the genome that was painted with that donor. Neanderthal and Denisova haplotypes were assumed to be proxied by PNG.DEN (0% xOoA by assumption); African haplotypes by PNG.AFR; Papuan and Australian by PNG.PNG and all other haplotypes by PNG.EUR. We obtain confidence intervals by bootstrap resampling of haplotypes for each donor/recipient pair.

We estimate the proportion of $xOoA$ in Papuan haplotypes assigned as both Eurasian (0.1%, 95% CI 0.2–6.2) and Papuan (4%, 95% CI 2.9–4.5) (Supplementary Information 2.2.10), by using the estimated mutation density in xOoA.

**Y chromosome and mtDNA haplogroup analysis.** The presence of an extinct xOoA trace in the genome of modern Papuans may seem at odds with analyses of mtDNA and Y chromosome phylogenies, which point to a single, recent origin for all non-African lineages (mtDNA L3, which gives rise to all mtDNA lineages outside Africa has been dated at $\sim$70,000 years old$^{33,34}$). However, uniparental markers inform on a small fraction of our genetic history, and a single origin for all non-African lineages does not exclude multiple waves OoA from a shared common ancestor. We show analytically (Supplementary Information 2.2.12) that, if the xOoA signature entered the genome of Papuan individuals > 40 kya, their mtDNA and Y lineages could have been lost by genetic drift even assuming an initial xOoA mixing component of up to 35%. Similar findings have been reported recently$^{31}$.

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Extended Data Figure 1 | Sample Diversity and Archaic signals.

a. Map of location of samples highlighting the diversity/selection sets. The trend line represents only non-African samples. The inset shows the waypoints used to arrive at the distance in kilometres for each sample.

b. Sample-level heterozygosity is plotted against distance from Addis Ababa. The trend line represents only non-African samples. The inset shows the waypoints used to calculate the distance in kilometres for each sample.

c. ADMIXTURE plot (K = 8 and 14) which relates general visual inspection of genetic structure to studied populations and their region of origin.

d. Box plots were used to visualize the Denisova (red), Altai (green) and Croatian Neanderthal (blue) D distribution for each regional group of samples. Oceanian Altai D values show a remarkable similarity with the Denisova D values for the same region; in contrast with the other groups of samples where the Altai box plots tend to be more similar to the Croatian Neanderthal ones. Boxes show median, first and third quartiles, with 1.5 interquartile range whiskers and black dots as outliers.
Extended Data Figure 2 | Data quality checks and heterozygosity patterns. a, b, Concordance of DNA sequencing (Complete Genomics Inc.) and DNA genotyping (Illumina genotyping arrays) data (ref-ref; het-ref-alt and hom-alt-alt, see Supplementary Information 1.6) from chip (a) and sequence data (b). c, Coverage (depth) distribution of variable positions, divided by DNA source (blood or saliva) and complete genomic calling pipeline (release version). d, Genome-wide distribution of transition/transversion ratio subdivided by DNA source (saliva or blood) and by complete genomic calling pipeline. e, Genome-wide distribution of transition/transversion ratio subdivided by chromosomes. f, Inter-chromosome differences in observed heterozygosity in 447 samples from the diversity set. g, Inter-chromosome differences in observed heterozygosity in a set of 50 unpublished genomes from the Estonian Genome Center, sequenced on an Illumina platform at an average coverage exceeding 30×. h, Inter-chromosome differences in observed heterozygosity in the phase 3 of the 1000 Genomes Project. The total number of observed heterozygous sites was divided by the number of accessible base pairs reported by the 1000 Genomes Project.
Extended Data Figure 3 | FineSTRUCTURE shared ancestry analysis. ChromoPainter and FineSTRUCTURE results, showing both inferred populations and the underlying (averaged) number of haplotypes that an individual in a population receives (rows) from donor individuals in other populations (columns). 108 populations are inferred by FineSTRUCTURE. The dendrogram shows the inferred relationship between populations. The numbers on the dendrogram give the proportion of MCMC iterations for which each population split is observed (where this is less than 1). Each 'geographical region' has a unique colour from which individuals are labelled. The number of individuals in each population is given in the label; for example, ‘4Italians; 3Albanians’ is a population of size 7 containing 4 individuals from Italy and 3 from Albania.
Extended Data Figure 4 | See next page for caption.
Extended Data Figure 4 | MSMC genetic split times and outgroup $f_3$ results. 

**a**, The MSMC split times estimated between each sample and a reference panel of nine genomes were linearly interpolated to infer the broader square matrix. **b, c**, Summary of outgroup $f_3$ statistics for each pair of non-African populations or an ancient sample using Yoruba as an outgroup. Populations are grouped by geographic region and are ordered with increasing distance from Africa (left to right for columns and bottom to top for rows). Colour bars at the left and top of the heat map indicate the colour coding used for the geographical region. Individual population labels are indicated at the right and bottom of the heat map. The $f_3$ statistics are scaled to lie between 0 and 1, with a black colour indicating those close to 0 and a red colour indicating those close to 1. Let $m$ and $M$ be the minimum and maximum $f_3$ values within a given row (that is, focal population). That is, for focal population $X$ (on rows), $m = \min Y, Y \neq X f_3(X, Y; \text{Yoruba})$ and $M = \max Y, Y \neq X f_3(X, Y; \text{Yoruba})$. The scaled $f_3$ statistic for a given cell in that row is given by $f_{3\text{scaled}} = (f_3 - m)/(M - m)$, so that the smallest $f_3$ in the row has value $f_{3\text{scaled}} = 0$ (black) and the largest has value $f_{3\text{scaled}} = 1$ (red). By default, the diagonal has value $f_{3\text{scaled}} = 1$ (red). The heat map is therefore asymmetric, with the population closest to the focal population at a given row having value $f_{3\text{scaled}} = 1$ (red colour) and the population farthest from the focal population at a given row having value $f_{3\text{scaled}} = 0$ (black colour). Therefore, at a given row, scanning the columns of the heat map reveals the populations with the most shared ancestry with the focal population of that row in the heat map.
Extended Data Figure 5 | Geographical patterns of genetic diversity.
Isolation by distance pattern across areas of high genetic gradient, using Europe as a baseline. The samples used in each analysis are indicated by coloured lines on the maps to the right of each plot. a–d, The panels show $F_{ST}$ as a function of distance across the Himalayas (a), the Ural mountains (b), and the Caucasus (c) as reported on the colour-coded map (d). e, Effect of creating gaps in the samples in Europe. f, g, We tested the effect of removing samples from stripes, either north to south (f) or west to east (g), to create gaps comparable in size to the gaps in samples in the dataset. h, Effective migration surfaces inferred by EEMS.
Extended Data Figure 6 | Summary of positive selection results. a, Bar plot comparing frequency distributions of functional variants in Africans and non-Africans. The distribution of exonic SNPs according to their functional impact (synonymous, missense and nonsense) as a function of allele frequency. Note that the data from both groups was normalized for a sample size of n = 21 and that the Africans show significantly $\chi^2 P < 1 \times 10^{-15}$ more rare variants across all sites classes. b, Result of 1,000 bootstrap replica of the $R_x^Y$ test for a subset of pigmentation genes highlighted by Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS, n = 32). The horizontal line provides the African reference ($x = 1$) against which all other groups are compared. The blue and red marks show the 95th and the 5th percentile of the bootstrap distributions respectively. If the 95th percentile is below 1, then the population shows a significant excess of missense variants in the pigmentation subset relative to the Africans. Note that this is the case for all non-Africans except the Oceanians. c, Pools of individuals for selection scans. fineSTRUCTURE-based co-ancestry matrix was used to define twelve groups of populations for the downstream selection scans. These groups are highlighted in the plot by boxes with broken line edges. The number of individuals in each group is reported in Supplementary Table 1:3.2-I.
Extended Data Figure 7 | Length of haplotypes assigned as African by fineSTRUCTURE as a function of genome proportion. a, 447 Diversity Panel results, showing label averages (large crosses) along with individuals (small dots). b, Relative excluded Diversity Panel results, to check for whether including related individuals affects African genome fraction. Individuals that shared more than 2% of genome fraction were forbidden from receiving haplotypes from each other, and the painting was re-run on a large subset of the genome (all run of homozygosity (ROH) regions from any individual). c, ROH-only African haplotypes. To guard against phasing errors, we analysed only regions for which an individual was in a long (>500 kb) run of homozygosity using the PLINK command `-homozyg-window-kb 500000–homozyg-window-het 0–homozyg-density 10`. Because there are so few such regions, we report only the population average for populations with two or more individuals, as well as the standard error in that estimate. Populations for which the 95% confidence interval passed 0 were also excluded. Note the logarithmic axis. d, Ancient DNA panel results. We used a different panel of 109 individuals which included three ancient genomes. We painted chromosomes 11, 21 and 22 and report as crosses the population averages for populations with two or more individuals. The solid thin lines represent the position of each population when modern samples only are analysed. The dashed lines lead off the figure to the position of the ancient hominins and the African samples.
Extended Data Figure 8 | See next page for caption.
Extended Data Figure 8 | MSMC Linear behaviour of MSMC split estimates in presence of admixture. a–c, The examined Central Asian (a), East African (b), and African–American (c) genomes yielded a signature of MSMC split time (truth, left-most column) that could be recapitulated (reconstruction, second left-most column) as a linear mixture of other MSMC split times. The admixture proportions inferred by our method (top of each admixture component column) were remarkably similar to the ones previously reported from the literature. d, MSMC split times calculated after re-phasing an Estonian and a Papuan (Koinanbe) genome together with all the available West African and Pygmy genomes from our dataset to minimize putative phasing artefacts. The cross coalescence rate curves reported here are quantitatively comparable with the ones of Fig. 2a, hence showing that phasing artefacts are unlikely to explain the observed past-ward shift of the Papuan–African split time. e, Box plot showing the distribution of differences between African–Papuan and African–Eurasian split times obtained from coalescent simulations assembled through random replacement to make 2,000 sets of 6 individuals (to match the 6 Papuans available from our empirical dataset), each made of 1.5 Gb of sequence. The simulation command line used to generate each chromosome made of 5 Mb was as follows, where $x$ is the variable for the divergence time used. $x = 0.064, 0.4$ or $0.8$ for the xOoA, Denisova (Den) and Divergent Denisova (DeepDen) cases, respectively. ms0ancient2 -t 1.065.05 -t 5000. -r 3000. 5000000 -I 171111 1 2 2 2 -en 0.1 0.1 -en 0.2 0.2 -en 0.3 0.3 -en 0.4 0.4 -es .025 7.96 -en .025 8.2 -ej .03 7 6 -ej .04 6 5 -ej .060 8 3 -ej .061 4 3 -ej .062 2 1 -ej .063 3 1 -ej x 1 5.
Extended Data Figure 9 | Modelling the xOoA components with FineSTRUCTURE. a, Joint distribution of haplotype lengths and derived allele count, showing the median position of each cluster and all haplotypes assigned to it in the maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate. Note that although a different proportion of points is assigned to each in the MAP, the total posterior is very close to 1/K for all. The dashed lines show a constant mutation rate. Haplotypes are ordered by mutation rate from low to high. b, Residual distribution comparison between the two-component mixture using EUR.AFR and EUR.PNG (left), and the three-component mixture including xOoA (using the same colour scale) (right). The root mean square error (RMSE) residuals without xOoA are larger (RMSE = 0.0055 compared to RMSE = 0.0018) but more importantly, they are also structured. c, Assuming a mutational clock and a correct assignment of haplotypes, we can estimate the relative age of the splits from the number of derived alleles observed on the haplotypes. This leads to an estimate of 1.5 times older for xOoA compared to the Eurasian–Africa split.
Extended Data Figure 10 | Proposed xOoA model. A schematic illustrating, as suggested by the results presented here, a model of an early, extinct Out-of-Africa (xOoA) signature in the genomes of Sahul populations at their arrival in the region. Given the overall small genomic contribution of this event to the genomes of modern Sahul individuals, we could not determine whether the documented Denisova admixture (question marks) and putative multiple Neanderthal admixtures took place along this extinct OoA. We also speculate (question mark) people who migrated along the xOoA route may have left a trace in the genomes of the Altai Neanderthal as reported by Kuhlwilm and colleagues.

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