Electronic supplementary material is available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2008.0168> or via <http://journals.royalsociety.org>.

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Figure 1. Three different ecotypes of Antarctic killer whales: (a) type A, (b) type B and (c) type C. Type designation from [Pitman & Ensor \(2003\)](#); not to scale. Illustration by U. Gorter.

Figure 2. Global phylogenetic relationships of killer whale haplotypes (majority-rule consensus of the 1530 most parsimonious trees); haplotype designations are indicated in the electronic supplementary material. Shaded boxes indicate those haplotypes that were found in Antarctic whales of known ecotype.