RESEARCH ARTICLE

Biogeographical patterns and speciation of the genus *Pinguicula* (Lentibulariaceae) inferred by phylogenetic analyses

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Abstract

Earlier phylogenetic studies in the genus *Pinguicula* (Lentibulariaceae) suggested that the species within a geographical region was rather monophyletic, although the sampling was limited or was restricted to specific regions. Those results conflicted with the floral morphology-based classification, which has been widely accepted to date. In the current study, one nuclear ribosomal DNA (internal transcribed spacer; ITS) and two regions of chloroplast DNA (*matK* and *rpl32-trnL*), from up to ca. 80% of the taxa in the genus *Pinguicula*, covering all three subgenera, were sequenced to demonstrate the inconsistency and explore a possible evolutionary history of the genus. Some incongruence was observed between nuclear and chloroplast topologies and the results from each of the three DNA analyses conflicted with the morphology-based subgeneric divisions. Both the ITS tree and network, however, corresponded with the biogeographical patterns of the genus supported by life-forms (winter rosette or hibernaculum formation) and basic chromosome numbers (haploidy). The dormant strategy evolved in a specific geographical region is a phylogenetic constraint and a synapomorphic characteristic within a lineage. Therefore, the results denied the idea that the Mexican group, morphologically divided into the three subgenera, independently acquired winter rosette formations. Topological incongruence among the trees or reticulations, indicated by parallel edges in phylogenetic networks, implied that some taxa originated by introgressive hybridisation. Although there are exceptions, species within the same geographical region arose from a common ancestor. Therefore, the classification by the floral characteristics is rather unreliable. The results obtained from this study suggest that evolution within the genus *Pinguicula* has involved: 1) ancient expansions to geographical regions with gene flow and subsequent vicariance with genetic drift, 2) acquisition of a common dormant strategy within a specific lineage to adapt a local climate (i.e., synapomorphic characteristic), 3) recent speciation in a short time span linked to introgressive
hybridisation or multiplying the ploidy level (i.e., divergence), and 4) parallel evolution in floral traits among lineages found in different geographical regions (i.e., convergence). As such, the floral morphology masks and obscures the phylogenetic relationships among species in the genus.

Introduction

The family Lentibulariaceae, consisting of three carnivorous genera, Genlisea A.St.-Hill. (ca. 30 species), Pinguicula L. (ca. 100 spp.), and Utricularia L. (> 200 spp.), are widespread herbs in wetlands, from tropical to cold regions [1]. Species from the genus Pinguicula (butterwort) essentially form a basal rosette with adhesive leaves, a short stem, a true root system, and simple ebracteate scapes which bear a terminal flower at each apex [2–5], and thus the genus is a well-defined taxonomic group both morphologically [6] and phylogenetically [7, 8]; being a sister group of the other two genera.

The distribution of the genus Pinguicula encompasses Eurasia, North to South America, the Caribbean, and Morocco (Fig 1) [1, 3, 5, 9]. Although the genus presents an extensive geospatial distribution range, they are commonly restricted to nutrient-poor wet soils, such as bogs (acidic soils often with peat or sphagnums), fens (alkaline soils often with calcareous or serpentinous rocks), stream sides, pond margins, rock faces with dripping, splashing water, or water films [5, 6, 10, 11], as well as semidried soils with fogs and high precipitations providing moisture over the soil and plant body [12]. Species in the genus are terrestrial, lithophytic, or rarely epiphytic. Their microhabitat is usually confined to north-facing slopes, gorges, or forests with limited light intensity to avoid heat [13–18]. Average monthly temperature is also one of the factors restricting the distribution [19]. Population size at each microhabitat is often small or sparse.

Casper [3] recognised 46 species and divided them into three subgenera, Isoloba Barnhart, Pinguicula, and Temnoceras Barnhart, based mainly on their flower colour and corolla shape, composed of a two-lobed upper lip and a three-lobed lower lip. Hence, the subgenus Isoloba possesses subactinomorphic corollas formed by substantially equal shapes of five lobes often emarginate to bifid at the tip, the subgenus Pinguicula possesses zygomorphic corollas formed by two small upper lobes and three large lower lobes (often the mid-lobe is larger than laterals) usually darker in colour (e.g., purple or violet) while the subgenus Temnoceras are paler in colour (e.g., faint purple) or white. Casper [3] divided the three subgenera into a further 12 sections incorporating many subsections and series since the subgeneric delimitation did not consistently embrace the life-forms or chromosome numbers.

Since then, a number of additional species have been described mainly from Europe (e.g., [20–23]), Mexico (e.g., [13, 17, 24–26]), and Cuba (e.g., [27]). The International Plant Names Index [28] lists over 200 specific and infraspecific taxon names of Pinguicula. Some of them are considered to be synonymous with other taxa [29–31] (S1 Appendix); therefore, taxonomists normally recognise from 90 to over 100 species in the genus [9, 32–35]. As a result, the number of species has doubled since Casper’s [3] taxonomic treatment. In this current study, the three subgenera sensu Casper are discussed rather than his fractionated infrasubgeneric ranks. Although the structure of the plant is fundamentally uniform [6], considerable morphological diversity among species is seen, not only in the flower but also in the leaf shape and rosette size, particularly in Mexico (Fig 2), which harbours over 40 species [33, 34], ca. 90% of
Fig 1. Distribution of *Pinguicula*. Red dots indicate the distribution of *Pinguicula* based on over 7,000 herbarium specimen examinations by Shimai [9]. The distribution area is divided into nine regions: CAM = Central America; CRB = the Caribbean; EUR = Europe; MEX = Mexico; NAF = North Africa (Morocco); NAS = North America; NAS = Northeastern Asia; SAM = South America; WAS = Western Asia (for more details, see the Materials and Methods section). The number after region code indicates the number of species in each region (some species are distributed in two or more regions). The map was made with Natural Earth (https://www.naturalearthdata.com/).

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.g001

Fig 2. Morphological diversity in Mexican *Pinguicula*. Some representative Mexican species are illustrated: (a) *P. crassifolia* (winter rosette); (b) *P. cyclosecta*; (c) *P. gigantea*; (d) *P. gypsicola*; (e) *P. laxifolia*; (f) *P. moctezumae*; (g) *P. moranensis* (winter rosette); (h) *P. nivalis* (winter rosette); (i) *P. orchidioides*. Subgenera sensu Casper: *Isoloba* (c); *Pinguicula* (a, b, d, e, f, g, i); *Temnoceras* (h). Bar indicates ca. 30 mm. Drawn by H. Shimai.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.g002
which are endemic [36]. Based upon the floral characteristics, Mexican species are divided into
the three subgenera derived from multiple ancestors [3].

The number of chromosomes has been reported from a series of *Pinguicula* taxa (e.g., [3,
37, 38]); however, the number itself has little correspondence to the classification sensu Casper
[3]. Beyond the morphological classification, life-forms and distribution areas are often used
to group species [39–41]. Those groups are 1) species in Mexico which form winter rosettes
(often lenticular to subglobose in shape) with numerous small succulent leaves densely sur-
rounding the growing point to resist dry winter; 2) taxa in mild to cold or boreal (hereafter
temperate) regions of the Northern Hemisphere which form hibernacula (often ovoid) with
scale-like cymbiform leaves tightly overlapping in layers around the growing point to endure
low temperature in winter; and 3) taxa in warmer or low-altitude subtropical regions, e.g., in
the southeastern USA, the Caribbean, and South America, which grow throughout the year
(i.e., which are homophyllous). A few other homophyllous species are also distributed in West-
ern Eurasia, Morocco, Mexico, and Central America. Although the temperate climate extends
to Mexico, Mexican species present apparent distribution gaps with species in the temperate
Northern Hemisphere or the southeastern USA. Thus, the subgeneric division does not neces-
sarily correspond with those traits and geographical distributions.

Apart from the morphology-based classification, previous phylogenetic studies of the
genus *Pinguicula* including different numbers of species and DNA regions attempted to
infer the relationships of the species [32, 35, 42, 43]. An analysis with *trnK* and *matK* (here-
after *matK*) in 42 taxa, performed by Cieslak et al. [32] and updated by Beck et al. [35],
showed that each of the three subgenera was polyphyletic and lineages were geographically
dependent. Degtjareva et al. [42] and Kondo & Shimai [43] analysed taxa mainly from the
temperate Northern Hemisphere using the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region, and
they showed that taxa forming rootless hibernacula in the section *Pinguicula* were mono-
phyletic. Shimai & Kondo [44] analysed the ITS (ITS-1, 5.8S, and ITS-2) regions of 36 spe-
cies from Mexico and Central America and suggested that the species were monophyletic,
although Casper [3] had divided them into three subgenera. Overall, those phylogenetic
analyses were not consistent with the morphology-based classification. It is hypothesised in
the current study that a lineage in each geographical region is rather monophyletic, but the
floral characteristic masks the phylogenetic relationships among the species and the evolu-
tionary pathway of the genus.

The infrageneric treatment was recently rearranged by Fleischmann & Roccia [36] based
on *matK* as follows. The subgenus *Isoloba* includes the sections *Isoloba* Casper, *Cardiophyl-
lum* Casper, *Pumiliformis* (Casper) Roccia & A.Fleischm., and *Ampullipalatum* Casper; the
subgenus *Pinguicula* contains the section *Pinguicula* alone; and the subgenus *Temnoceras*
contains the sections *Temnoceras* Casper, *Micranthus* Casper, *Nana* Casper, and *Hetero-
phylliformis* (Casper) A.Fleischm. & Roccia. Nevertheless, Fleischmann and Roccia [36]
admitted that the subgenus *Temnoceras sensu* Fleischmann & Roccia was not clearly
resolved by *matK*.

Regardless of the taxonomy, the taxa are often grouped in accordance with life-forms asso-
ciated with geographical regions and climates where they can be found. A question emerges as
to whether, or not, such life-forms resulted from convergence that took place in different line-
eges within the same geographical region, as the floral morphology-based classification would
suggest. In addition, if hybridisation was involved in the speciation, the relationship among
species would not be tree-like but would be reticulations visualised by phylogenetic networks.
In our present study, ITS in nuclear ribosomal DNA (nrDNA), and *matK* and *rpl32-trnL* in
chloroplast DNA (cpDNA) are analysed to reconstruct phylogenetic trees and networks, and
to explore further the evolutionary pathway of the genus *Pinguicula*. 
Materials and methods

DNA extraction and amplification

Sampled taxa and their voucher information are summarised in Table 1. The number of sampled taxa analysed for ITS, matK, and rpl32-trnL were 79, 69, and 69, respectively. The matK analysis included 39 sequences from Cieslak et al. [32] and Beck et al. [35] deposited in the International Nucleotide Sequence Database (INSD; http://www.insdc.org/); therefore, the total number of Pinguicula taxa listed in Table 1 is 82. Some taxa sampled for the present study may be synonymous with other species; however, the original scientific names were used to be consistent with the registered names in the INSD. For DNA extraction, either fresh or dried leaves were used, depending on the availability of samples. Fresh leaves were obtained from live plants while dried leaves were collected from herbarium specimens.

DNA extraction

From fresh leaves. After washing the fresh leaves, water was removed completely using Kimwipes (Nippon Paper Crecia Co., Tokyo, Japan) and the leaves were kept at −60˚C in an ultra-low temperature freezer. The frozen fresh leaf for each sample (0.07–0.1 g per sample) was finely ground in liquid nitrogen. DNA isolation from the ground samples was carried out using the ISOPLANT II (Nippon Gene, Tokyo, Japan) kit following the manufacturer’s protocol.

From dried leaves. Dust and insects stuck on the dried leaves were carefully removed using cotton buds moistened with 70% ethanol. The dried leaf (0.020–0.025 g per sample) was finely ground in liquid nitrogen. Isolation of DNA from the ground samples was carried out using the DNeasy® Plant Mini Kit (Quiagen, Hilden, Germany) following the manufacturer’s protocol.

Amplification of DNA

ITS. The DNA sample was amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using TaKaRa LA Taq™ (Takara Bio Inc., Kusatsu, Japan) with GC buffer II, included in the kit. The forward primer was 20 pmol/μL of ITS5 and the reverse primer was 20 pmol/μL of ITS4 [45]. The samples were incubated for an initial 2 min at 94˚C and then 33 cycles of 50 s denaturation at 94˚C, 1 min annealing at 48˚C and 30 s extension at 72˚C. When the amplification was insufficient, 20 pmol/μL of AB101 for forward and AB102 primers for reverse [46] were used instead of ITS5 and ITS4 primers. The samples were incubated for an initial 2 min at 94˚C and then 33 cycles of 50 s denaturation at 94˚C, 1 min annealing at 60˚C, and 30 s extension at 72˚C. The PCR products were then purified from collected agarose gels containing the targeted DNA region using the GFX™ PCR DNA and Gel Band Purification Kit (Amersham Biosciences, Piscataway, New Jersey, USA) following the manufacturer’s protocol. For cycle sequencing, the samples were incubated for an initial 1 min at 96˚C, and then 35 cycles of 10 s denaturation at 96˚C, 5 s annealing at 50˚C, and 80 s extension at 72˚C.

matK. The basic protocol used was that mentioned in Cieslak et al. [32] and primer sets used were identical with those in Cieslak et al. [32] and Beck et al. [35]. One forward primer “Ping_trnK-F2 (5’–TCC CCT CCA TCA GGG GAT TCT–3’)” was designed in this study. Apart from the sequence data (39 taxa) from Cieslak et al. [32] and Beck et al. [35], additional DNAs from 30 taxa were amplified at Kyoto University to add to this study.

rpl32-trnL. The region was amplified using Phusion Green Hot Start II High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA) with 0.6 μL of DMSO per sample following the manufacturer’s protocol at the Florida Museum of Natural History,
Table 1. Sampled taxa, accession numbers, and voucher specimens.

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Sampled taxa are listed in alphabetical order. Sequence data are available from the International Nucleotide Sequence Database (INSD; http://www.insdc.org/). Herbarium codes: FLAS = Florida Museum of Natural History; HIRO = Hiroshima University; TNS = National Museum of Nature and Science. n/a = sequence data not available.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.t001
University of Florida. The primers used were *rpL32-F* for forward and *trnL*(UAG) for reverse [47]. The samples were incubated for an initial 45 s at 98˚C and then 32 cycles of 10 s denaturation at 98˚C, 30 s annealing at 55˚C, and 40 s extension at 72˚C. Finally, the samples were kept at 72˚C for 5 min.

**Phylogenetic analyses**

The DNA sequence matrix was aligned by Genetyx-Win Version 5.2 (Software Development Co., Tokyo, Japan) using 'Multiple Alignment' function and was then adjusted manually. The sequence data are available from the INSD under the accession numbers summarised in Table 1.

Maximum likelihood (ML) analyses for each individual gene alignment were conducted using RAxML ver. 8.1.12 [48], with 1,000 replicates under the GTRGAMMA model since the best fit partition schemes identified by PartitionFinder [49] for all the datasets were equivalent (nst = 6, rates = gamma); all these analyses were implemented on the HiPerGator 2.0 at the University of Florida. *Genlisea* and *Utricularia* were selected as an outgroup. A tree from combined cpDNA datasets, *matK* + *rpl32-trnL*, was employed. All the trees were manipulated by MEGA [50] and R package phytools v0.7–00 [51].

For the Neighbor-Net analysis, each of the aligned three DNA datasets including the outgroup as done for the phylogenetic trees was imported to SplitsTree4 (Version 4. 14. 6; www.splitstree.org), and an unrooted phylogenetic network was constructed following the manual supplied by Hall [52]. The analysis was performed using the Neighbor-Net algorithm [53], loosely based on the Neighbor-Joining algorithm, to present complex evolutionary pathways and reticulate relationships among the sampled taxa [54].

**Geographical distributions**

The geographical area of the genus was divided into nine geographical regions based on the distribution ranges of taxa and geographical barriers: CAM = Central America (Guatemala to Panama); CRB = the Carribean (the Bahamas, Cuba, and Hispaniola); EUR = Europe (west of the Urals, including the British Isles, and Iceland); MEX = Mexico; NAF = North Africa (Morocco); NAM = North America (Canada, USA, the Aleutians, Greenland, but excluding Mexico); NAS = Northeastern Asia (east of the Urals, Siberia, the Russian Far East, Kamchatka, Sakhalin, the Kuril Islands, Mongolia, China, the Himalayas, and Japan); SAM = South America (from Venezuela to Tierra del Fuego through the Andes and Patagonia); WAS = Western Asia (Cyprus, Anatolia, and the Caucasus). The geographical distribution of each taxon sampled is presented in Table 2. Only a few species are ubiquitously distributed in the area, while many others occur in a single country or on a specific mountain, or island. Taxa which form hibernacula are found in the temperate regions or higher elevations of EUR, NAF, NAM, NAS, and WAS, and those geographical regions are treated as the temperate Northern Hemisphere in this article. A few species are distributed in both Mexico and Central America while most species are endemic to Mexico, and thus the species are treated as the Mexican group unless necessary to distinguish.

**Results**

**Phylogenetic trees**

**ITS.** The length of ITS-1 and ITS-2 was between 573 and 717 base pairs (bp). The informative site was 601 in the aligned length of 981 bp. The ITS tree could be divided into nine major clades although some bootstrap supports (BS), particularly near the base of the tree,
| Taxon                      | Subg          | CAM | CRB | EUR | MEX | NAF | NAM | NAS | SAM | WAS |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| *Pinguicula acuminata*    | Benth.        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. agnata*               | Casper        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. albida*               | C.Wright ex Griseb. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. alpina*               | L.            |     |     |     |     |     | ✓ ✓ |     |     |     |     |
| *P. antarctica*           | Vahl          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. balcanica* subsp. balcanica* | Casper      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. balcanica* subsp. pontica* | Casper    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. benedicta*            | Barnhart      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. bissei*               | Casper        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. bohemica*             | Krajina       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. caerulea*             | Walter        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. calyptra*             | Kunth         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. chilensis*            | Clos          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. chuquisacenis*        | S.Beck, A.Fleischm. & Borsch |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. colimensis*           | McVaugh & Mickel |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. conzattii*            | Zamudio & van Marm |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. corsica*              | Bernard & Gren. ex Gren. & Godr. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. crassifolia*          | Zamudio       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. crenatiloba*          | DC.           |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. crystallina*          | Sm.           |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. cubensis*             | Urquiola & Casper |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. cyclosecta*           | Casper        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. debbertiana*          | Speta & F.Fuchs |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. dertosensis* (Cañig.) | Mateo & M.B.Crespo |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. ehlersiae*            | Speta & Fuchs |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. elongata*             | Benj.         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. emarginata*           | Zamudio & Rzed. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. esseriana*            | B.Kirchner    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. filifolia*            | C.Wright ex Griseb. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. florii*               | Tammaro & Pace |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. gigantea*             | Luhrs         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. gracilis*             | Zamudio       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. grandiflora*          | Lam.          |     |     |     |     |     | ✓ ✓ |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. gypsicola*            | Brandegee     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. hemiepiphytica*       | Zamudio & Rzed. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. heterophylla*         | Benth.        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. hirtiflora*           | Ten.          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. ibarrae*              | Zamudio       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. immaculata*           | Zamudio & Lux |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. involuta*             | Ruiz & Pav.   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. ionantha*             | R.K.Godfrey   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. jackii* var. jackii*  | Barnhart      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. jackii* var. parviflora* | Ernst      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. jaumavensis*          | Debbert       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. laeana*               | Speta & F.Fuchs |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |
| *P. leptoceras*           | Rchb.         |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ✓   |

(Continued)
were weak (Fig 3). Roman numerals in the figure indicate major clade numbers. Clade I (67% BS) consisted of five species from the southeastern USA. Clade II (< 50% BS) consisted of *P. crystallina* Sm. and *P. hirtiflora* Ten. from the Mediterranean Basin and *P. crepens* DC. from Mexico and Central America. Clade III (99% BS) consisted of South American *P. antarctica* Vahl, *P. calytrata* Kunth, and *P. chilensis* Clos. Clade IV (89% BS) consisted of three

### Table 2. (Continued)

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Subgeneric division *sensu* Casper: Iso = subgenus *Isoloba*; Pin = subgenus *Pinguicula*; Tem = subgenus *Temnoceras*. Distribution area: CAM = Central America; CRB = the Caribbean; EUR = Europe; MEX = Mexico; NAF = North Africa; NAM = North America; NAS = Northeastern Asia; SAM = South America; WAS = Western Asia.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.t002
Fig 3. Phylogenetic tree of *Pinguicula* taxa from ITS inferred by RAxML. The numbers above branches show bootstrap supports (%), but those of 50% or less and those for the outgroup are not shown. Three subgenera *sensu* Casper are shown as open circles for *Isoloba*, purple squares for *Pinguicula*, and open squares for *Temnoceras*. The number after scientific name and that in brackets are chromosome number and basic chromosome number, respectively; the basic chromosome number of *x = 8* and *x = 11* are coloured in red and green, respectively, and other
small-rosetted species (< 30 mm in rosette diameter), *P. ramosa* Miyoshi, *P. variegata* Turcz., and *P. villosa* L., of which the former two were restricted to Eastern Eurasia while *P. villosa* was very widely scattered in the boreal regions of Eurasia and North America. Clade V (97% BS) consisted of 17 taxa (e.g., *P. grandiflora* Lam., *P. vulgaris* L., etc.) which were found in the temperate Northern Hemisphere. All the taxa in Clades IV and V form rootless hibernacula. Clade VI (100% BS) consisted of only two morphologically very similar, if not identical, homophyllous species *P. lilacina* Schltdl. & Cham. and *P. sharpii* Casper & K.Kondo. The former is very widely but sparsely distributed in Mexico and Central America while the latter is endemic to Chiapas, Mexico. Clade VI is closely related to Clades VII and VIII. Clade VII (99% BS) with 18 species is mostly found in the mountain ranges of western Mexico to Central America, with the exception of *P. moranensis* Kunth, which exhibits a much wider distribution range than the others. Clade VIII (98% BS) consisted of 16 species mostly found in the mountain ranges of eastern Mexico. The species in Clades VII and VIII characteristically form winter rosettes. Clade IX (100% BS) consisted of seven Cuban taxa. *Pinguicula pumila* Michx., distributed in the southeastern USA and the Bahamas, did not form a clade with other species, but it is related to Clade I. The other three species, *P. lusitanica* L., *P. alpina* L., and *P. elongata* Benj. did not belong to any of the major clades mentioned above.

**Concatenated cpDNA.** The concatenated cpDNA (*matK* + *rpl32-trnL*) tree could be divided into at least three major clades (Fig 4). Clade I (61% BS) consisted of 17 species which are from various geographical regions, such as the southeastern USA, South America, the Mediterranean Basin, or the boreal region of the Northern Hemisphere. Clade II (< 50% BS) consisted of 16 taxa, all of which form rootless hibernacula, from the temperate Northern Hemisphere. Clade III (< 50% BS) consisted of 42 taxa from Mexico, Central America, and Cuba, except *P. dertosensis* (Cañig.) Mateo & M.B.Crespo from Spain. Clade III can be divided into several subclades. Two species, *P. alpina* and *P. elongata*, did not belong to any of the major clades mentioned above. All the clades had low BS (< 50%) at the base of the tree.

**matK.** The length of *matK* sequence was approximately 2,500 bp, although there were some incomplete sequence data available from the INS. The informative site was 342 in the aligned total length of 2,674 bp. The *matK* tree could be divided into at least three major clades (S1 Fig). Clade I (98% BS) consisted of 39 taxa from Mexico, Central America, or Cuba, with the exception of *P. dertosensis* (Cañig.) Mateo & M.B.Crespo from Spain. The clade could further be divided into a number of subclades. Clade II (95% BS) consisted of 14 taxa from the temperate Northern Hemisphere. All the 14 taxa in Clade II which form rootless hibernacula were the most well-differentiated group in this analysis. Clade III (< 50% BS) with 14 species was rather a miscellaneous group in terms of the biogeography and could be divided into a few subclades. This clade contained the three small-rosetted species from the Northern Hemisphere, homophyllous *P. hirtiflora* and *P. lusitanica* from Europe, and species from the southeastern USA and South America. Two species, *P. alpina* and *P. elongata*, did not belong to any of the major clades mentioned above.

**rpl32-trnL.** The total length of sequence including *rpl32-trnL* was between 504 and 695 bp. The informative site was 361 in the aligned sequence length of 1,109 bp. The *rpl32-trnL* tree consists of four major clades (S2 Fig). A number of low BS (< 50%) were found on the tree. Clade I (81% BS) consisted of 18 taxa, all of which forming hibernacula are from the temperate Northern Hemisphere. Clade II (75% BS) was a geographically miscellaneous group that consisted of 11 taxa from Europe, Anatolia, the southeastern USA, or South America.
Clade III (< 50% BS), which could be divided into three or four subclades, consisted of 31 species from Mexico, except South American *P. elongata*. Clade IV (< 50% BS) consisted of six Cuban taxa. Three small-rosetted species, *P. ramosa*, *P. variegata*, and *P. villosa*, did not belong to any of the major clades mentioned above.

**Incongruence between phylogenetic trees.** Incongruence was apparent between the nrDNA and combined cpDNA trees as shown in Fig 5, which illustrates topological differences. The branching order and the number of clades were inconsistent between the trees. Taxa from the temperate Northern Hemisphere which form rootless hibernacula were the most well-differentiated lineage in each tree. Species from Mexico which form winter rosettes showed a similar tendency, although those species and Cuban taxa appeared in the same clade in the combined cpDNA tree. Such incongruence was also seen among the trees based on the individual markers.

**Phylogenetic networks**

**ITS.** The ITS phylogenetic network accorded with the ITS phylogenetic tree. The edge groups in the network (Fig 6) and major clades in the tree are basically consistent. However, *P. crenatiloba* divided from the edge group of *P. crystallina* and *P. hirtiflora*, all of which were in the same clade in the ITS tree. The edge groups largely corresponded with geographical distributions, basic chromosome numbers (haploidy), and life-forms, but were inconsistent with the three subgenera *sensu* Casper. Reticulation events, identified as parallel edges in the network, among the ancestors of the edge groups were active in this DNA region, suggesting ancient gene flow or introgression.

**matK.** The *matK* phylogenetic network (S3 Fig) also accorded with the *matK* phylogenetic tree. The edge groups contain miscellaneous taxa in terms of geographical distributions, life-forms, and basic chromosome numbers as well as the three-subgeneric division except the edge group containing the taxa from the temperate Northern Hemisphere. Reticulation events among the ancestors of the edge groups were suggested to be inactive in this DNA region.

**rpl32-trnL.** Similarly, the *rpl32-trnL* phylogenetic network (S4 Fig) accorded with the *rpl32-trnL* phylogenetic tree. The edge groups and major clades largely corresponded, although the edges of *P. lusitanica* and *P. crystallina* were somewhat independent within the edge group. Only two edge groups from the temperate Northern Hemisphere and Cuba were well-differentiated in terms of geographical distributions and life-forms. Reticulation events among the ancestors of the edge groups were active in this DNA region.

**Discussion**

**Phylogenetic analyses**

**ITS.** The ITS tree and network are well-supported by the biogeographical patterns of the genus *Pinguicula* as well as life-forms and basic chromosome numbers (Figs 3 and 6). The results give strength to the hypothesis that a specific lineage acquired the same life-form in a geographical region. The network suggests that gene flow in nrDNA had been extensive among ancestral taxa of the genus prior to their geographical isolation. Low BS at the base of the tree can be attributed to complex reticulation events in the early evolutionary history [55], although each major clade in the tree has higher BS. After geographical and genetic isolation of the ancestral taxa by changes in climate, rapid speciation took place in association with migration. The short branch length on the tree represents rapid speciation in each lineage and a number of species seen today are rather modern. In Mexico, for example, considerable morphological diversity among species is seen (Fig 2); however, they have emerged from a common ancestor in a short time span and are phylogenetically close relatives. The results suggest
Fig 4. Phylogenetic tree of *Pinguicula* taxa from concatenated cpDNA inferred by RAxML. See Fig 3 for figure legends.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.g004
Fig 5. Phylogenetic comparison of nrDNA (ITS) and concatenated cpDNA. The figure shows topological incongruence between the ITS and combined cpDNA (matK + rpl32-trnL) trees. Vertical bars and connected lines are coloured based on major clades in the ITS tree; red for Clade I (the southeastern USA), blue for Clades IV and V (the temperate Northern Hemisphere), green for Clade III (South America), gold for Clades VI, VII, and VIII (Mexico and Central America), purple for Clade IX (Cuba), and black for others and the outgroup.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581.g005
that the common ancestor of Clades VII and VIII in Mexico acquired the formation of winter rosettes before extensive speciation. Similarly, that of Clades IV and V in the temperate
Northern Hemisphere acquired the formation of rootless hibernacula (Fig 6). Therefore, dormant strategies in the two lineages are different evolutionary modes.

**Concatenated cpDNA.** Regarding the concatenated cpDNA markers (*matK + rpl32-trnL*), the topology shows no clear correspondence with the morphology-based classification, physiological character, or geographical distribution (Fig 4), suggesting that the result is inconclusive. Topological incongruence is clearly seen between nrDNA (ITS) and cpDNA (*matK + rpl32-trnL*) (Fig 5). It would be better to discuss *matK* and *rpl32-trnL* individually rather than the combined cpDNA dataset.

**matK.** In this DNA region, presenting larger clades, higher BS (> 89% BS) is seen at the base of clades in the tree (S1 Fig). The network suggests relatively infrequent reticulation events among the ancestral taxa (S3 Fig). The results indicate that taxa in Clade II from the temperate Northern Hemisphere form a well-differentiated group. It is unclear why Spanish *P. dertosensis* appears in the Mexican group, but this could be for several possible reasons (see [53, 56]), of which the most plausible is higher homology in the DNA region between taxa. Alternatively, some incomplete sequence data available from the INSD may have affected the analysis. It could be interpreted, although this is disputable, that the genus acquired the dormant strategy in the early evolutionary stage, but it was then lost in some lineages, as also suggested by Beck et al. [35]. The results here showed that the three small-rosetted species (*P. ramosa, P. variegata, and P. villosa*) were related to species from the southeastern USA and South America, which differ from the results in Beck et al. [35], showing the three were more closely related to Mexican species. The topological difference between the two *matK* trees can be attributed to the number of samples used.

**rpl32-trnL.** Although it is not as clear as in the ITS tree, clades in the *rpl32-trnL* tree are partially geographically dependent (S2 Fig). In contrast to the *matK* tree, Mexican and Cuban taxa are different lineages. Clade II consists of geographically various taxa, which are from the Mediterranean Basin, the southeastern USA, or South America. The *rpl32-trnL* tree, in comparison to the ITS tree, seems to demonstrate the relationship between biogeographical patterns and life-forms less clearly. It does not, however, completely deny the hypothesis that the evolutionary history of the genus is associated with geographical distributions. More extensive ancient reticulation events are suggested by the network (S4 Fig), in contrast to the *matK* network, suggesting different modes of inheritance within the same organelle.

**Incongruence between nrDNA and cpDNA.** Low congruence and different branching orders are seen between nrDNA and cpDNA (Fig 5). Such incongruence is not uncommon [57–60]. In angiosperms, more than 80% are maternal inheritance in cpDNA [61]; however, lateral gene transfer or gene capture has also been reported [62]. Namely, it is possible that different inheritances in nrDNA and cpDNA linked to introgressive hybridisation resulted in incongruence between the DNA regions. Even in the same organelle, topological discrepancies in the phylogenetic trees between *matK* and *rpl32-trnL* are clearly seen. Some factors, such as genetic heterogeneity, genetic polymorphism, or incomplete lineage sorting, may cause discrepancies among phylogenetic trees [53, 56, 62]. Topological incongruence among the DNA datasets suggests complex gene flows.

**Life-forms**

At least three life-forms of *Pinguicula* can be distinguished; 1) forming winter rosettes to resist a dry winter, 2) forming hibernacula to survive during a frigid winter, and 3) growing throughout the year. Based on the *matK* analysis, Beck et al. [35] hypothesised that hibernaculum formation evolved only once, but some species subsequently lost the dormant strategy or transformed into winter rosette formation in the section *Temnoceras sensu* Fleischmann &
Roccia, which includes Mexican and Cuban taxa. The results obtained from ITS, on the other hand, suggest that the formations of winter rosette and hibernaculum are different synapomorphies that have arisen independently in different lineages and geographical regions for adaptation to local climates. However, Eurasian *P. alpina*, which form rooted hibernacula, and South American *P. elongata*, which form ovoid winter rosettes (resembling rooted hibernacula), are exceptions having the dormant strategy as a result of parallel evolution (Fig 6). In Mexico and Europe, both year-round growth and dormant species are occasionally seen sympatrically within a microhabitat, but the latter species are more specialised and advantageous for winter survival.

**Floral morphology**

Floral morphology in the genus is still believed to be an important characteristic for the classification and identification, but the similarity of flowers between allopatric geographical regions is more likely as a result of convergent evolution according to the results obtained in this study. For example, Casper [3] placed *P. vulgaris*, from the temperate Northern Hemisphere, and *P. moranensis*, from Mexico and Guatemala, both having zygomorphic purple flowers, into the subgenus *Pinguicula*; however, none of the present results support his treatment as they are phylogenetically different lineages. The corolla tube continuing into a nectar spur in taxa from the temperate Northern Hemisphere is dorsally compressed, but that from Mexico often is not. Mexican species exhibiting floral diversity are divided into the three subgenera; however, the results suggest that they are monophyletic, except *P. crenatiloba*.

**Evolutionary history**

Both major clades in the tree and edge groups in the network based on ITS accord well with life-forms. All the taxa in Clades IV and V from the temperate Northern Hemisphere form rootless hibernacula, and all the species in Clades VII and VIII from Mexico form winter rosettes (exceptionally, *P. emarginata* Zamudio & Rzed. and *P. moctezumae* Zamudio & R.Z. Ortega form winter rosettes only under a severe dry conditions, and *P. gigantea* Luhrs does not form a conspicuous winter rosette). Taxa in the remaining major clades grow year-round, although note that some may form smaller rosettes with shorter leaves or reduce their growth rate in winter but maintain the summer rosette form. It could be interpreted that the formation of winter rosettes or hibernacula is not a result of convergent evolution among different subgenera from multi-ancestors, but it is, according to the results, evaluated to be a phylogenetic constraint within a lineage (as stated, *P. alpina* and *P. elongata* being the exception). Such a genetically closely related group acquired a winter dormant strategy as a morphological adaptation to a local climate, but the rest of species remain homophyllous. Taxa forming hibernacula spread to cooler regions and higher mountains of the Northern Hemisphere, and those forming winter rosettes spread to Mexico.

In contrast to ITS, incomplete lineages in cpDNA caused by hybridisation and/or introgression do not always allow us to trace their phylogenetic relationships. The results of cpDNA, concerning biogeographical patterns and other traits, are ambiguous and are not fully explainable. Soltis et al. [62] reported that if chloroplast capture via hybridisation was involved in speciation, which commonly occurred in angiosperms, phylogenetic constructions using cpDNA could not resolve relationships within a taxonomic group. Even if a foreign chloroplast capture through introgressive hybridisation is evident, a nuclear genome may have been retained [62]. Fior et al. [63] stated that ITS was potentially more precise than *matK*. As stated, ITS was more informative than the other datasets due to higher substitutions. Therefore, further discussions focus mainly on the results of ITS.
According to the present ITS results, all the species in Clades VI, VII, and VIII are confined to Mexico except for a few that extend farther south into Central America. In Clade VI, *P. lilacin*a is sparsely widespread from Mexico to Central America while *P. sharpii* is known only from the type locality in the state of Chiapas, Mexico. Both are annual to short-lived perennial homophyllous species. Eighteen species in Clade VII are mostly found in the Sierra Madre Occidental in Mexico to Central America through the Sierra Madre del Sur, with the exception of *P. moranensis*, which extends to the Sierra Madre Oriental and farther north to the state of Tamaulipas [64]. Sixteen species in Clade VIII are mostly found in the Sierra Madre Oriental, although a major conjunction of Clades VII and VIII is seen in the Central Mexican Plateau. Many of the species in Clades VII and VIII are confined to small geographical areas as micro-endemics often at higher elevations, e.g., *P. crassifolia* Zamudio is endemic to El Chico (2,800–3,000 m) in the state of Hidalgo.

Seventeen taxa which form rootless hibernacula in Clade V are found in the temperate Northern Hemisphere. Only a few species, such as *P. macroceras* Link or *P. vulgaris*, are more widely distributed while some others are endemics. At lower latitudes, they are mostly found at higher elevations with a cool climate as relics [65–67]. For example, *P. alpina*, widespread in Eurasia but more commonly found in the Alpes, the Scandinavian Peninsula, and the Himalayas, is regarded as a glacial relic [65]. In Europe, higher elevations of the Mediterranean Basin surrounded by warm and semiarid areas harbour more endemics than northern Europe. The three small-rosetted species, which form rootless hibernacula, in Clade IV, sister to Clade V, are more commonly found in north circumpolar regions or eastern Eurasia. Taxa in Clade V produce two or more scapes per year while the three species in Clade IV develop only a single scape. In addition, taxa in Clade V bear a few to numerous gemmae at the base of hibernacula for their vegetative reproduction, but those in Clade IV less frequently do so. Five species in Clade I and eight in Clade IX are endemic to the southeastern USA and Cuba, respectively.

Cuban and Mexican taxa are suggested to be a single group by the *matK* analysis. The ITS tree, however, shows that the two are phylogenetically differentiated groups, although both have arisen from a common ancestor. The ITS tree also suggests that *P. crenatiloba* from Mexico and Central America is more closely related to *P. crystallina* and *P. hirtiflora* from the Mediterranean region than the other Mexican species. The relationship between the two well-differentiated groups, European and Mexican, is unclear, but Eurasian *P. alpina* and South American *P. elongata* are related to the two groups.

The ITS results largely correspond with the basic chromosome numbers (haploidy) as well as geographical distributions (Fig 6). This suggests a correlation between the basic chromosome numbers and nrDNA evolution associated with hybridisation or subsequent speciation. It is known that allopolyploid hybridisation has a principal role in speciation of angiosperms [68–70]. Within a taxon, chromosome evolution generally increases the number of chromosomes or ploidy level which may subsequently result in morphological evolution [71–73] while reduction of the number is rather rare [74]. According to this theory, the higher basic chromosome number \((x = 11)\) arose from the lower number. The taxa in the temperate Northern Hemisphere with the basic chromosome number of \(x = 8\) multiplied the ploidy level in their evolutionary history. For example, *P. corsica* Bernard & Gren. ex Gren. & Godr. \((2n = 16\), endemic to higher elevations in Corsica, possesses the lowest ploidy level (diploid) in this group, whereas other taxa that spread across continental Europe are mostly polyploid, e.g., tetraploid \((2n = 4x = 32)\) or octoploid \((2n = 8x = 64)\).

In Europe, hybrid speciation between *Pinguicula* taxa having different chromosome numbers could theoretically be possible in \(16 \times 48 = 32\) (tetraploid) or \(32 \times 64 = 48\) (hexaploid), although species with \(2n = 48\) are rare. Symatric hybridisation between diploid species occasionally induces tetraploid offspring. Therefore, speciation in Europe involved the doubling of
chromosome sets. Polyploid species are vigorous and potentially more adaptive to novel environments than diploid species [75]. In Mexico, on the other hand, chromosome evolution and morphological diversity (i.e., speciation) caused by increasing chromosome numbers cannot be explained since most species have $2n = 22$. Thus, the basic chromosome number of $x = 11$ in Mexican species is a synapomorphic characteristic. The basic chromosome number in the species from the northeastern USA is either $x = 8$ or $x = 11$, and that in taxa from Cuba is either $x = 8$ or $x = 9$ [38], varying within each lineage. A further study on the cytology in those two groups will be needed to explain the variability or the possibility of parallel evolution in the basic chromosome numbers between lineages.

Although considerable morphological diversity among species, such as flower colour, leaf shape, or plant size, is seen at the local level, particularly in Mexico (Fig 2), the results suggest that they are basically monophyletic in a region. Similar examples have been reported in Gaertnera Lam. (Rubiaceae) [76] or taxa in Valerianaceae [77]. As presented in Lamiales including Lentibulariaceae by Müller et al. [8], much shorter branch lengths in Pinguicula were found on their matK tree, suggesting rapid speciation. The results presented here suggest that ancestral taxa migrated at least twice into Mexico and South America in their early evolutionary histories as there are two lineages in each of the regions, specifically the ancestors of P. crenatiloba and the other species in Mexico, and those of P. elongata and the other species in South America. The ITS results here suggest that South American P. elongata is phylogenetically related to Mexican species, but the other South American species are not. Ancestors of European taxa had more complex migrations.

No fossils of Pinguicula have hitherto been documented [32]; however, the divergence of Pinguicula and Utricularia was estimated to take place ca. 40 million years before present (yr BP) [78]. Which geographical region the genus originated remains still unspecified. Pinguicula villosa, widespread in Sphagnum bogs in the circumpolar and excessively cold regions of Eurasia and North America, is assumed to be an old species [19, 79], but it is not evident here. Although the expansion or intercontinental dispersal mechanism is unknown, land bridges in an ice age may be a possible explanation involving gene selection, fixation, and subsequent speciation [80]. It is plausible that ancestral taxa migrated through the land bridges in the north, but more evidence is needed to understand the dynamics of global dispersal of the genus. Rapid speciation occurred during or after the geographical isolation. Hybridisation and polyploidisation play important roles in generating rapid speciation [70]. Smith et al. [81] showed that nrDNA with biparental heredity in putative hybrids had higher coalescence than cpDNA. The phylogenetic incongruence among DNA regions found in the present study could be explained by introgression often caused by hybridisation among closely related parental taxa (e.g., [57–60, 80]).

Plant migration is often associated with changes in climate. In Mexico, altitudinal vegetation shifts caused by climatic changes are evident as it was cooler and wetter in the early Holocene [82, 83]. It is estimated that during the late glacial period (14,000–10,000 yr BP), the vegetation in Central Mexico descended at least 900 m, temperature was 5°C lower, and precipitation was 30% higher than today [84]. The temperature in Mexico started to rise rapidly ca. 10,000 yr BP, resulting in the plant distributions seen today [85]. Temperature and precipitation changes in the Holocene led to a decline in the plant population size. Some ancestral taxa might have been extinct due to habitat loss. With declining the population size, gene flow among ancestral taxa in neighboring populations occurred, and migration resulting in further isolation consequently accelerated genetic diversification [85]. However, vegetation shifts involving climate changes in the highlands of Central Mexico seem to be much more complex because of the geological structures associated with orogenies [82, 86]. A characteristic feature in the region is tephra deposits related to volcanic activities, affecting geological aspects [82].
Similar climatic conditions to those of Mexico existed in the Mediterranean Basin in the late Glacial to early Holocene period [87]. Divergence time within the genus is uncertain; however, the ancestral taxa might have been more widely distributed in the region. After a rise in temperature, the taxa remained in small patchy refugia at higher elevations or deep gorges surrounded by larger semi-arid or warmer areas, often unfavourable for *Pinguicula*. In the Iberian Peninsula, as well as Mexico and other regions, *Pinguicula* is often found in alkaline calcareous soils, such as limestone or tufa, where other plant species are scarce. The complexity of mosaic landscapes, geographical variations, soil types, and cool climates at higher elevations resulted in their patchy distributions in specific ecological niches seen today, e.g., *P. vallisneriifolia* Webb in Andalusia (600–1,700 m), Spain. A few widespread species, such as *P. alpina*, *P. villosa*, or *P. vulgaris*, more commonly seen in the north, seem to have higher ecological adaptations to expand their distribution ranges.

It is expected that vicariance and allopatric parallel evolution by migration occurred within an incredibly short time span. Convergence and parallelism result in similar floral characteristics which sometimes mask and obscure phylogenetic relationships since such phenotypes are under rather simple genetic control [62]. Similar floral morphology in geographically separated regions is attributed to the convergence of pollination strategy associated with the local pollinator communities. Therefore, introgressive hybridisation which generated floral variations and subsequent gene selection involving bottleneck effects or founder effects could have promoted the floral diversity, or species richness, particularly in Mexico. Nonetheless, a further investigation of *P. moranensis*, which shows considerable morphological diversity, would be necessary to study whether it fits into a single species.

There is evidence supporting the idea of hybrid speciation in the genus. Interspecific natural hybrids (e.g., *P. grandiflora* × *P. vulgaris* = *P. × sculleyi* Druce and *P. grandiflora* × *P. longifolia* subsp. *longifolia* Ramond ex DC.) have been reported from Europe [3–5]. Even though no apparent natural hybrids have been reported from Mexico, artificial hybrids can be easily produced through hand pollination among Mexican species [39]. Hybrids between Mexican species can further backcross or hybridise with other Mexican species and they are often fertile. This supports the hypothesis of rapid speciation with selection caused by introgressive hybridisation following geographical isolation (genetic drift). Indeed, some recently described species, particularly from Europe, resemble morphologically intermediates between species that have previously been described.

In some lineages, the chromosome numbers may be one of the clues to consider the evolutionary pathway of the genus. Allopolyploid speciation, multiplying the ploidy level, played a role in the temperate Northern Hemisphere (particularly in Europe). Some new species with increased ploidy levels are potentially more adaptive to vacant ecological niches and are able to expand their distributions [75]. On the other hand, homoploid hybridisation played a role and promoted species richness in Mexico.

A few widespread neospecies also crossed the land bridges before sea level rose to isolate their distribution areas. These species then became established in their new surroundings. For example, *P. grandiflora* migrated from the Iberian Peninsula or France to Ireland, but absent from the island of Great Britain, in the early postglacial age before sea levels were restored (the so-called Lusitanian floral elements) [5]. Another example is that *P. macroceras*, distributed in the northern Pacific regions, crossed the Bering Land Bridge (Beringia) and expanded its distribution range to Japan through the Kurils [88].

Major diversification of *Pinguicula* is particularly seen locally at higher elevations of semi-arid areas, including Mexico and the Mediterranean Basin, where a dry climate often plays a role in the geographical isolation of species [21, 89]. Such unfavourable environmental barriers limit the availability of pollinators [70], which could have consequently promoted parallel floral evolution (or convergent floral evolution) among different geographical regions causing
the morphological diversity within the genus. It is noteworthy that species richness of the genus, seen in small patchy refugia surrounded by unfavourable semiarid areas, was accelerated by environmental stress.

The results from the ITS sequence show that the major clades are basically geographically dependent. This is supported by life-forms and cytology. The genus Pinguicula is an example of a plant group in which floral morphology has masked and obscured phylogenetic relationships among species. It should be noted that the traditional classification, although it is important, is artificial. Those lineages presented by ITS in this study do not, therefore, fit to the three-subgeneric concept. In conclusion, we submit that the taxonomic revision of the genus Pinguicula based upon nrDNA is necessary.

Supporting information
S1 Appendix. List of synonymous manes. (DOCX)
S1 Fig. Phylogenetic tree of Pinguicula taxa from matK inferred by RAxML. See Fig 3 for figure legends. (DOCX)
S2 Fig. Phylogenetic tree of Pinguicula taxa from rpl32-trnL inferred by RAxML. See Fig 3 for figure legends. (DOCX)
S3 Fig. Phylogenetic network of Pinguicula taxa from matK inferred by Neighbor-Net analysis. See Fig 6 for figure legends. (DOCX)
S4 Fig. Phylogenetic network of Pinguicula taxa from rpl32-trnL inferred by Neighbor-Net analysis. See Fig 6 for figure legends. (DOCX)

Acknowledgments
The authors thank Professor Jim Groombridge (University of Kent) and Dr. Martin Cheek (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) for their valuable comments on the earlier version of the manuscript, and Ing. Kamil Pásek (Dovroslavice, Czech Republic) and Mr. Akio Shintani (Kawachinanago, Japan) for supplying plant materials. We dedicate this article to our colleague and friend, the late Dr. William Mark Whitten (Florida Museum of Natural History), a remarkable scientist in the field, lab, and herbarium. He also generously contributed to this project.

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PLOS ONE | https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252581 June 7, 2021 25 / 26


