

When do Scientists Change their Minds?

Week 4 – The Human Genome

EGMT-1520 Mon, Feb 7, 2022

Bill Pearson wrp@virginia.edu

Overview of this session:

- What is a genome?
- The human genome project
 - the beginnings (mapping, cloning)
 - the end (industrial sequencing, shotgun genomes)
 - the sequel (Next Generation sequencing)
- The human genome discoveries
 - number of genes
 - gene organization
 - genome conservation
- Browsing the genome

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For Wednesday:

Human genome lab (in groups) –

1. look up a gene in the human genome
2. characterize the gene
 - a. identify beginning, end
 - b. count the number of exons
 - c. count the number of mRNA isoforms
3. find the nearest gene "upstream" and "downstream"
4. characterize the "upstream" or "downstream" region
 - a. how conserved is the upstream/downstream region compared to the exons in your gene from humans to chimps (5 Mya)?
 - b. from humans to mouse (80 Mya)? Is the conservation uniform?
 - c. what features are annotated in this region? repeated sequences? other conserved regions?

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For Monday:

Repeat the human genome lab on a different gene.

1. report the name of the gene, and its chromosome location. Submit the URL of the UCSC genome browser page that shows the gene.
2. characterize the gene
 - a. report the the length of the gene
 - b. Is the gene on the forward or reverse strand?
 - c. report the number of exons
3. report the name and coordinates of the nearest gene "upstream" and "downstream"
 - a. Determine whether the gene is on the same strand, (forward/reverse) or on the opposite strand.

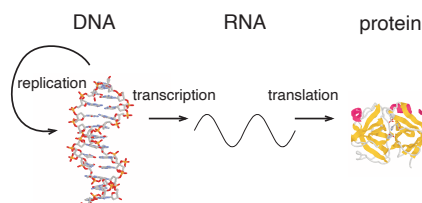
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What does a gene look like?

- Central dogma:



- Parts of a gene:

- start of transcription (beginning of the mRNA)
- start of translation (beginning of the protein)
- end of translation (end of the protein)
- poly-A addition site (end of processed mRNA)
- end of transcription

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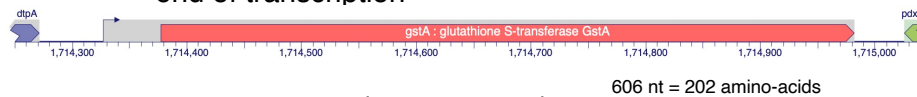
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Prokaryotes (bacteria, archaea) vs Eukaryotes

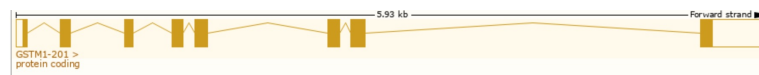
- Parts of a gene (prokaryotes, eukaryotes):

- start of transcription (beginning of the mRNA)
- start of translation (beginning of the protein)
- end of translation (end of the protein)
- poly-A addition site (end of processed mRNA)
- end of transcription



- Parts of a gene (eukaryotes):

- introns and exons



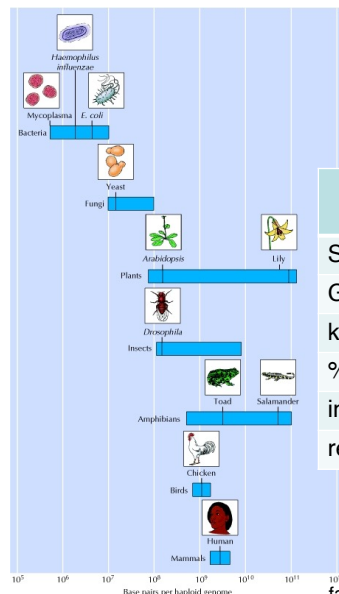
gene: 5950 nt, mRNA: 1164 nt, protein: 218 aa

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What is in a genome?



	E. col	Plas.	Yeast	Plant (ARATH)	Homo
Size(Mb)	4.64	22.8	12.5	115	3289
Genes	4288	5268	5770	25.5K	~25K
kb/Gene	0.95	4.34	2.09	4.53	27
%coding	87.8	52.6	70.5	28.8	1.3
introns	0	7406	272	107K	53K
repeat%	<1	<1	2.4	15	46

Pevsner, Table 16-1

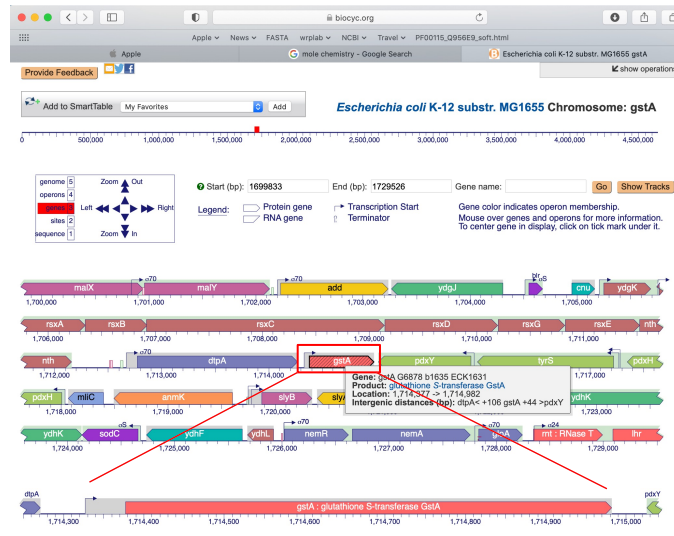
Cooper, GM (2000) The Cell: A Molecular Approach. 2nd edition. Fig 4.1

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Gene and genome complexity – E. coli (4288 genes, 4.64 Mb, 87.8% protein coding)



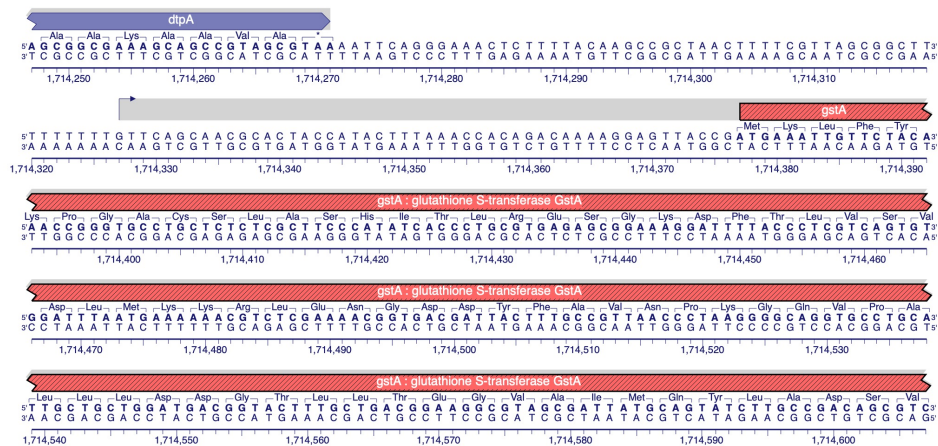
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biocyc.org

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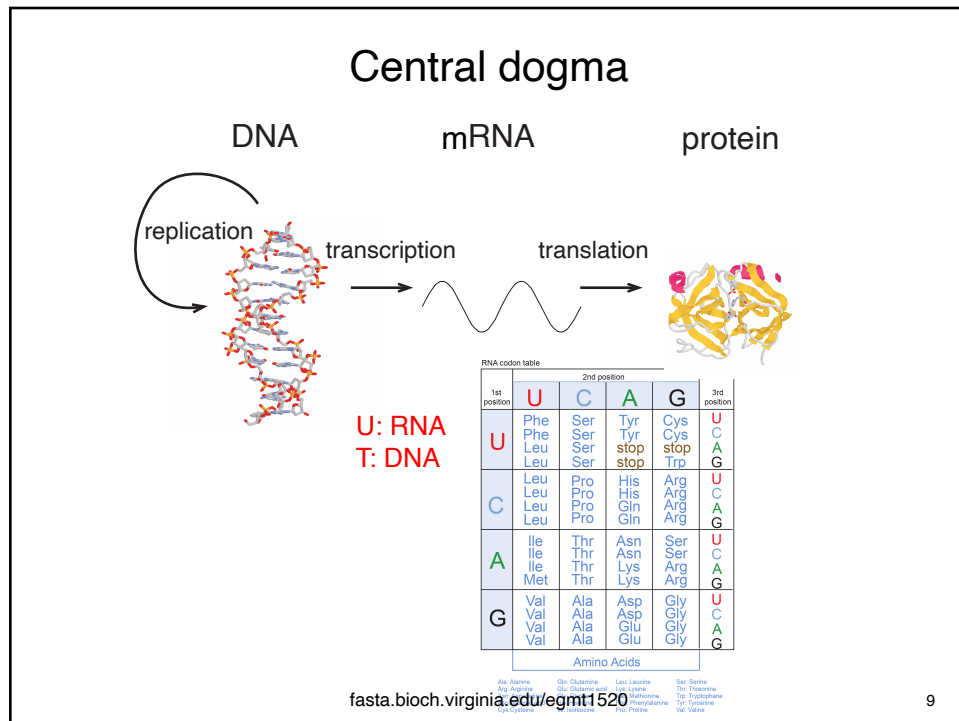
Gene and genome complexity – E. coli (4288 genes, 4.64 Mb, 87.8% protein coding)



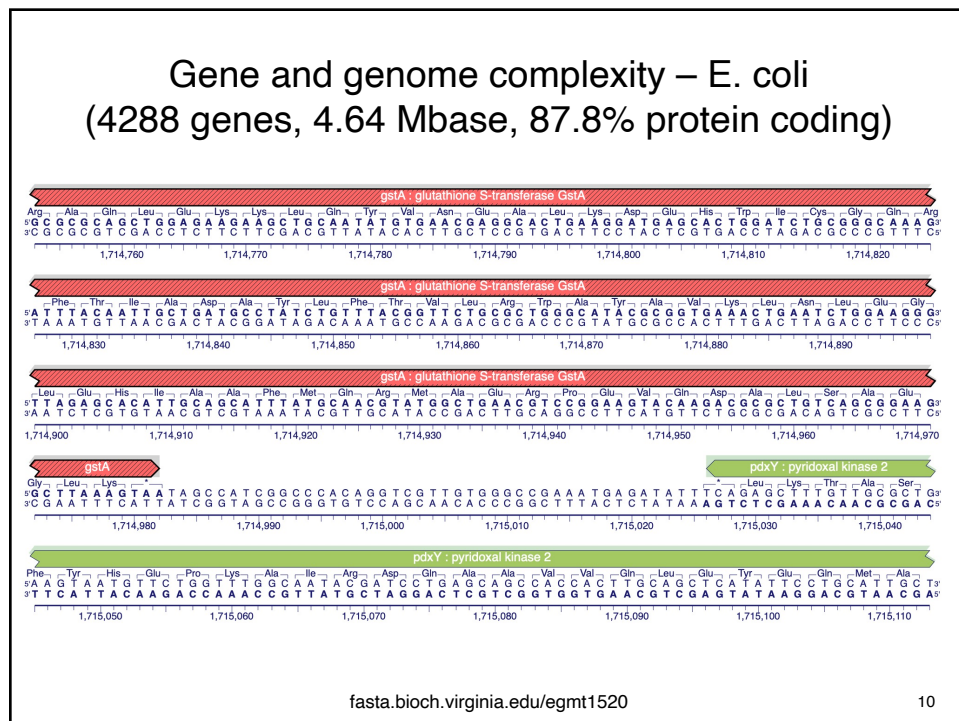
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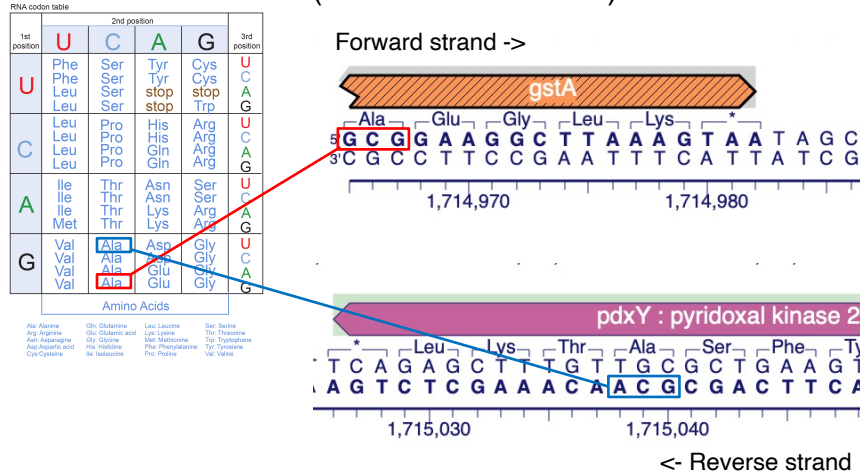


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From gene to protein: translation and the genetic code (forward and reverse)

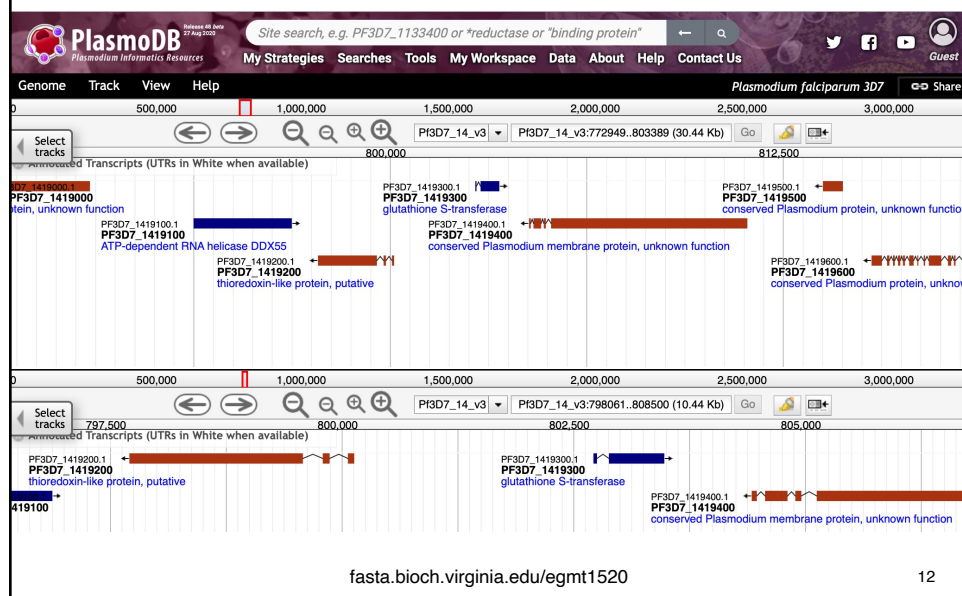


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Gene and genome complexity – Plasmodium (5268 genes, 22.8 Mbase, 52.8% protein coding)

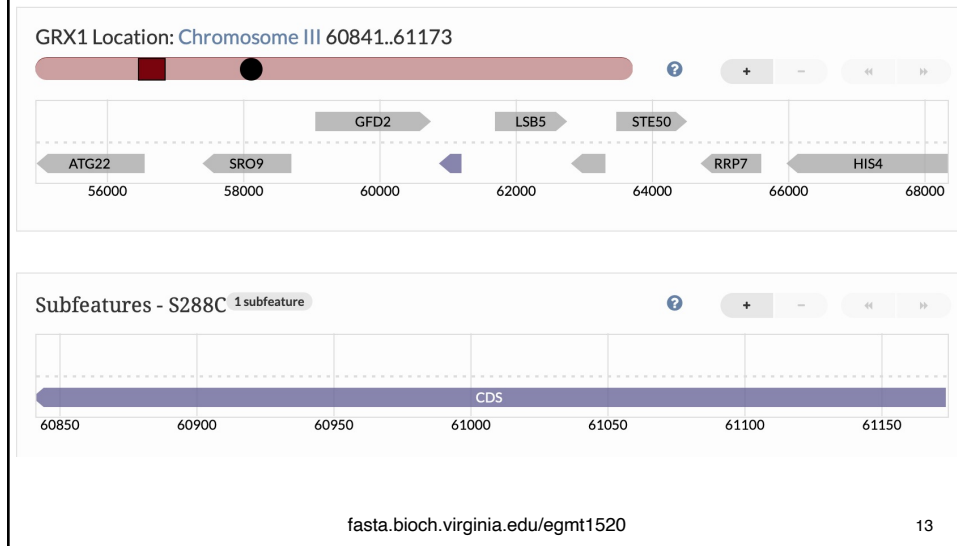


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Gene and genome complexity – Yeast

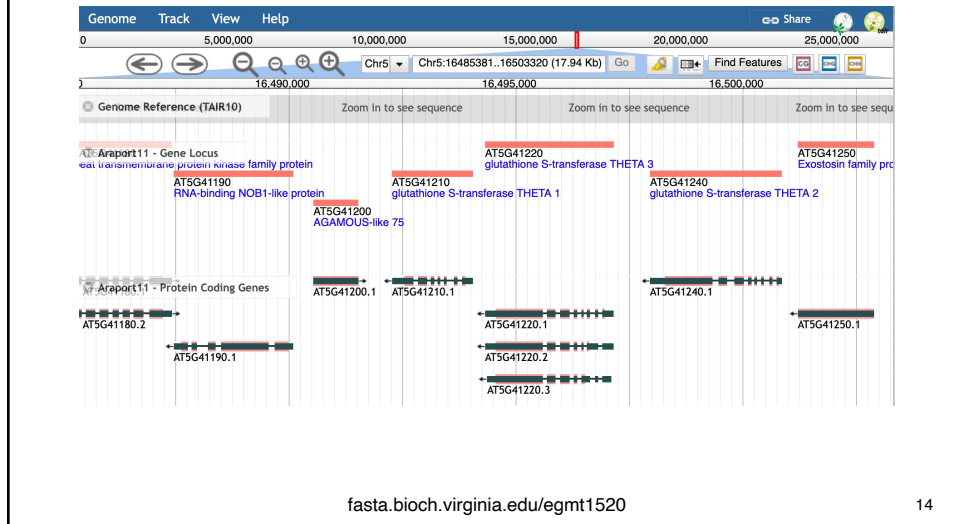
(5770 genes, 12.5 Mbase, 70.5% protein coding)



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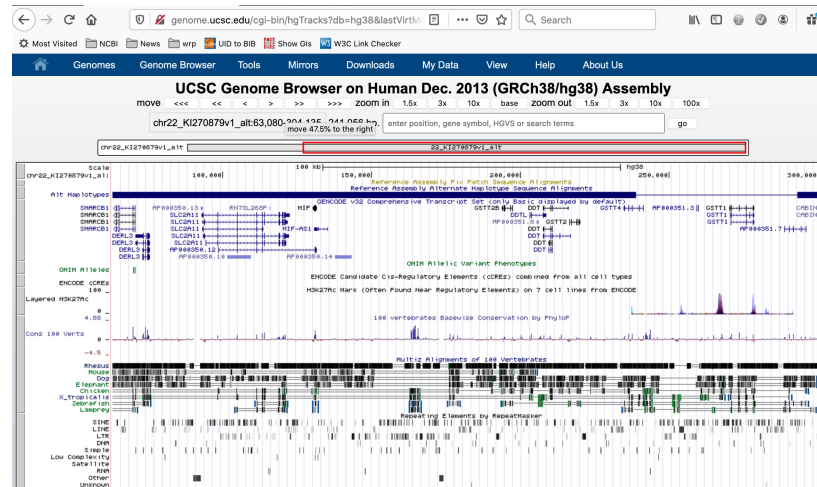
Gene and genome complexity – Arabidopsis (mouse ear cross)

(22,500 genes, 115 Mbase, 28 % protein coding)



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Gene and genome complexity – Human (~20,000 genes, 3,000 Mbase, 1.5% protein coding)

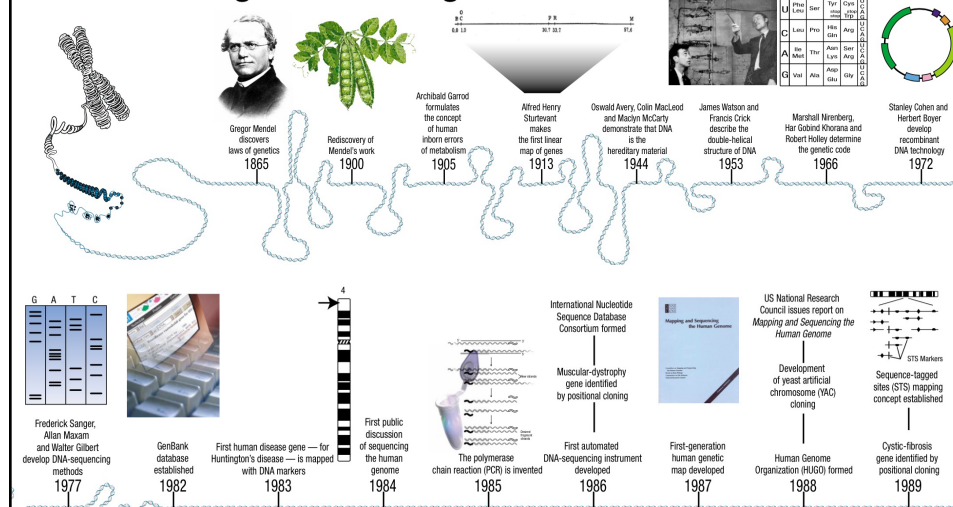


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Landmarks in genetics and genomics



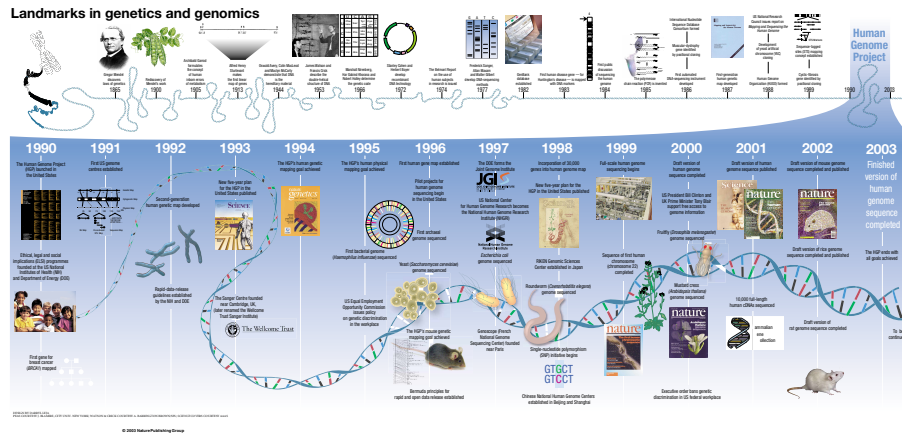
Collins, Nature (2003) 422:835

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A history of genomes



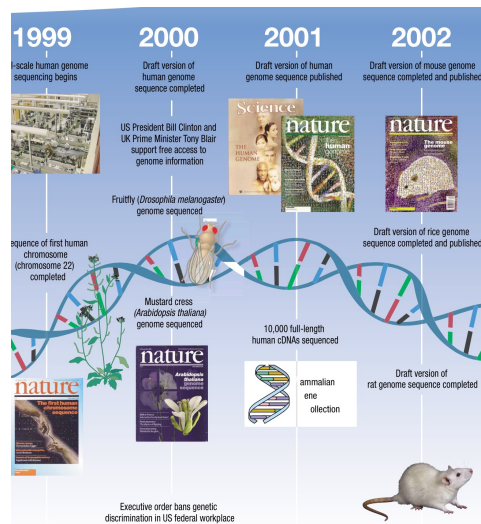
Collins, Nature (2003) 422:835

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The Human Genome Project



Collins, Nature (2003) 422:835

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15 February 2001 **nature** www.nature.com

16 February 2001 **Science** Vol. 291 No. 5507 Pages 1145-1434 \$9

the human genome

Sequencing capacity (2004)
40 million lanes/year ~ 8 billion bases – Whitehead Inst. (1 bacterial genome/day)
>40 billion bases/year, world-wide
(1000 bacterial genomes/year; 1 mammalian genome/year)

Sequencing capacity (2011) – Illumina sequencing 200 billion bases/week/machine, ~30,000 human genomes/year
Sequencing capacity (2015) – at least 300,000 human genomes/year

naturejobs genomics special

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The human genome – initial insights

1. There were reported to be about 30,000 to 40,000 predicted protein-coding genes in the human genome. Currently, ENSEMBL reports 20,300 protein coding genes. Similar to Arabidopsis (plant, 26,000 genes) and pufferfish (21,000 genes), and marginally more genes than are found in many nematode and insect genomes (14,000).
2. More than 98% of the human genome does not code for genes. Much of this genomic landscape is occupied by repetitive DNA elements such as long interspersed elements (LINEs) (20%), short interspersed elements (SINEs) (13%), long terminal repeat (LTR) retrotransposons (8%), and DNA transposons (3%). Thus half the human genome is derived from transposable elements.
3. The mutation rate is about twice as high in male meiosis than in female meiosis. This suggests that most mutation occurs in males.
4. More than 1.4 million single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were identified. SNPs are single nucleotide variations that occur once every 100 to 300 base pairs (bp). 36 million in Oct., 2014
5. Comparative sequencing of the mouse genome suggests that only about 5% of the human genome is under evolutionary selection.


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The human genome

(GRCh38.p13 Dec. 2013)



Human assembly and gene annotation


Assembly

This site provides a data set based on the December 2013 *Homo sapiens* high coverage assembly GRCh38 from the [Genome Reference Consortium](#). This assembly is used by UCSC to create their hg38 database. The data set consists of gene models built from the genewise alignments of the human proteome as well as from alignments of human cDNAs using the cDNA2genome model of exonerate.

This release of the assembly has the following properties:

- contig length total 3.4 Gb.
- chromosome length total 3.1 Gb (excluding haplotypes).

It also includes 261 alt loci scaffolds, mainly in the LRC/KIR complex on chromosome 19 (35 alternate sequence representations) and the [MHG region on chromosome 6](#) (7 alternate sequence representations).

 [Watch a video on YouTube](#) about patches and haplotypes in the Human genome.

Patches

As the GRC maintains and improves the assembly, patches are being introduced. Currently, assembly patches are of two types:

- Novel patch: new sequences that add alternative sequence at a loci and will remain as haplotypes in the next major assembly release by GRC
- Fix patch: sequences that correct the reference sequence and will replace the given region of the reference assembly at the next major assembly release by GRC.

Other assemblies

GRCh37 Full Feb 2014 archive with BLAST, VEP and BioMart

www.ensembl.org

Statistics

Summary

Assembly	GRCh38.p13 (Genome Reference Consortium Human Build 38), INSDC Assembly GCA_000001405.28 , Dec 2013
Base Pairs	4,537,931,177
Golden Path Length	3,096,649,726
Annotation method	Full genebuild
Genebuild started	Jan 2014
Genebuild released	Jul 2014
Genebuild last updated/patched	Jun 2019
Database version	101.38
Gencode version	GENCODE 34

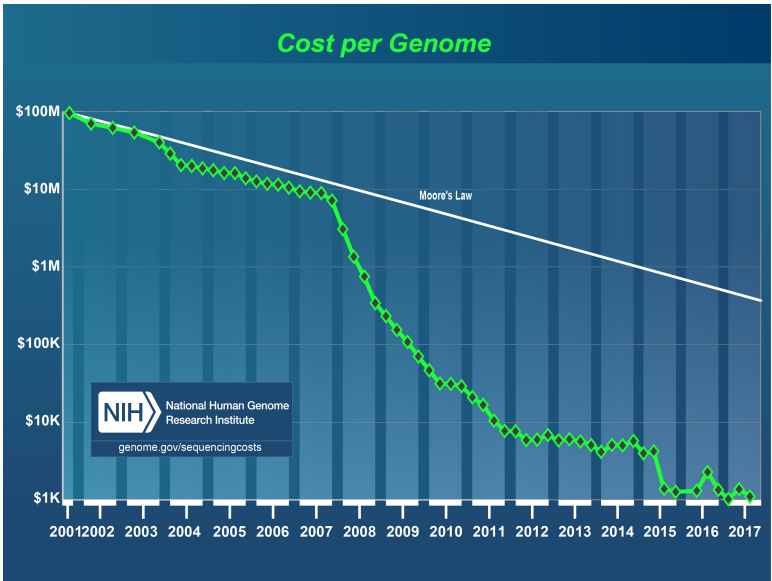
Gene counts (Primary assembly)

Coding genes	20,440 (incl 633 readthrough)
Non coding genes	23,995
Small non coding genes	4,867
Long non coding genes	16,907 (incl 306 readthrough)
Misc non coding genes	2,221
Pseudogenes	15,222 (incl 6 readthrough)
Gene transcripts	229,649

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Sequencing Costs

Cost per Genome



NIH National Human Genome Research Institute
genome.gov/sequencingcosts

Moore's Law

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

\$100M
\$10M
\$1M
\$100K
\$10K
\$1K

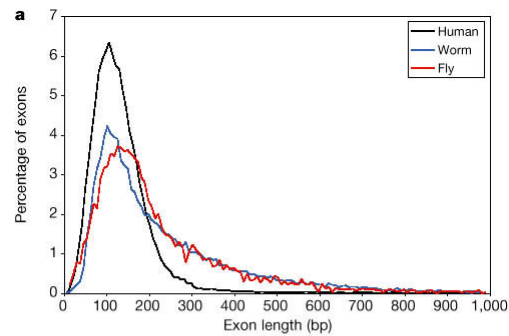
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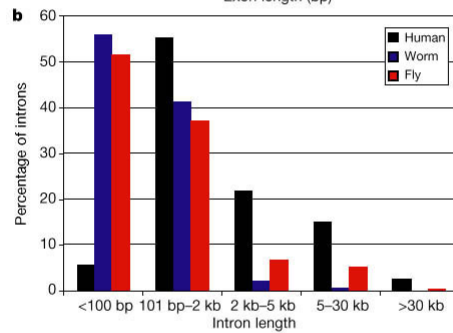
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Exon Length



Intron Length



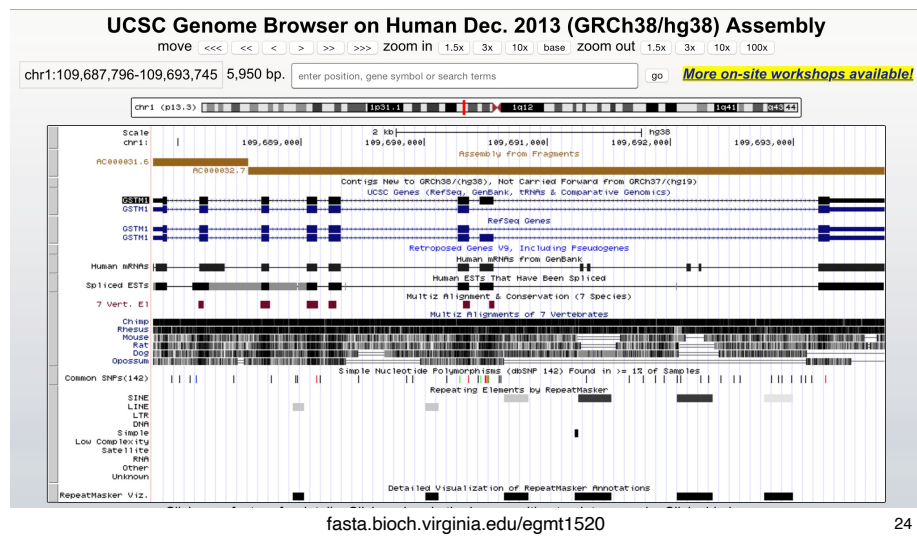
Lander *Nature* 409, 860–921 (2001), Fig. 35

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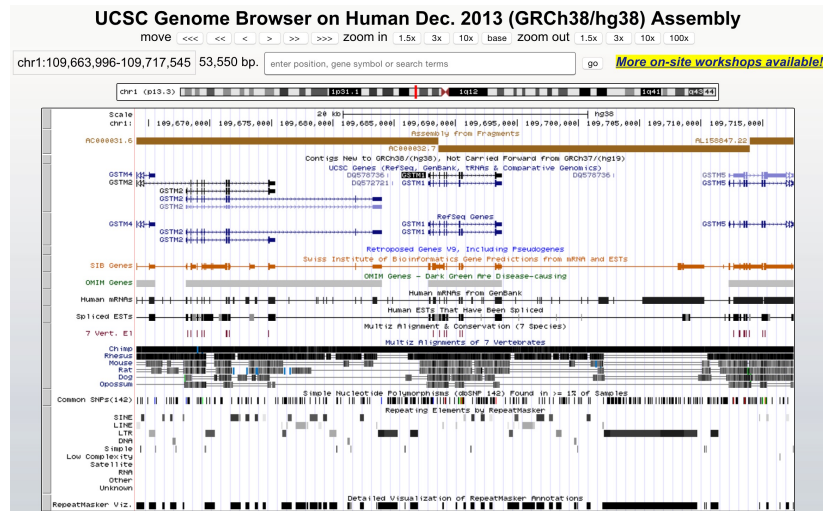
Retrieving the data: Genome Browsers (UCSC)



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Genome Browsers (genome.ucsc.edu)

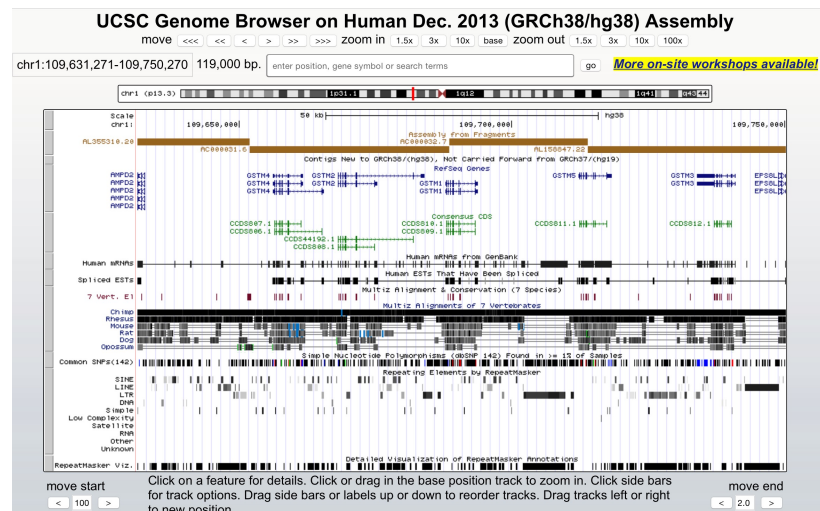


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Genome Browsers (UCSC)



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