



Current Topics in Genome Analysis
March 1, 2005



Computational Techniques in Comparative Genomics



Elliott H. Margulies, Ph.D.
Genome Technology Branch
National Human Genome Research Institute
elliott@nhgri.nih.gov

Outline

- **Fundamental concepts of comparative genomics**
- **Alignment and visualization tools**
 - Pair-wise and multi-species methods
 - Combining with transcription factor binding site data
- **Motif Identification**
- **Comparative genomics resources available at UC Santa Cruz -- <http://genome.ucsc.edu>**
 - Genome-wide sequence availability
 - Gene prediction and identification Finding orthologous sequences in other species
 - Identifying conserved sequences
- **Insights from vertebrate genome sequence comparisons**
- **Multi-species sequence analysis**

Finishing the euchromatic sequence of the human genome

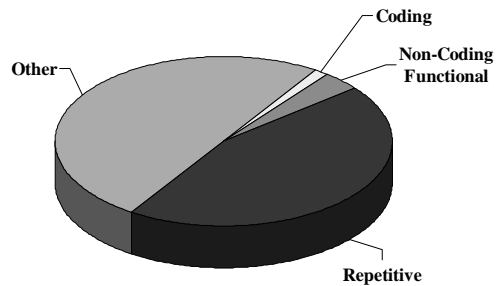
International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium*

* A list of authors and their affiliations appears in the Supplementary Information



Why Compare Genomic Sequences from Different Species?

- Explore evolutionary relationships



- Enhanced gene prediction algorithms

Charles Darwin

- Served as *naturalist* on a British science expedition around the world (1831 -- 1836)
- *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*
- ***The Origin of Species* (1859)**
 - All species evolved from a single life form
 - “Variation” within a species occurs randomly
 - Natural selection
 - Evolutionary change is gradual

Other Intellectual Foundations

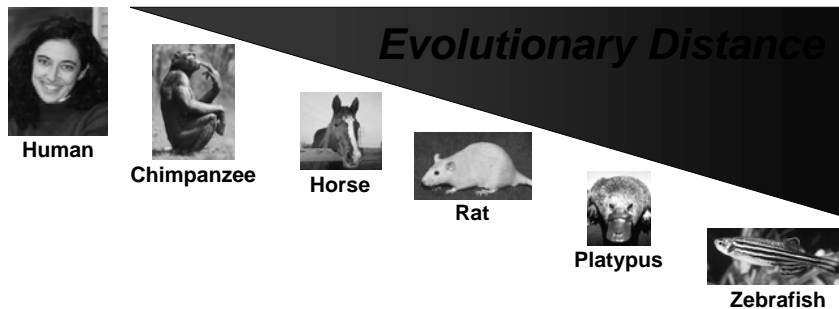
- Darwin (1859)
 - Theories of Evolution
- Mendel (1866) (*rediscovered in 1900*)
 - Genes are units of heredity
- Avery, McCarty & MacLeod (1944)
 - DNA as the “transforming principle”
- Watson & Crick (1953)
 - Structure of DNA
- Sanger (1977)
 - Methods of sequencing DNA

Rationale

- DNA represents a “blueprint” for structure and physiology of all living things
- All species use DNA
- Mutations in *functional* DNA are less likely to be tolerated

Comparative Genomics

- Find sequences that have diverged less than we expect
These sequences are likely to have a functional role
- Our expectation is related to the time since the last common ancestor



What's in a Name?

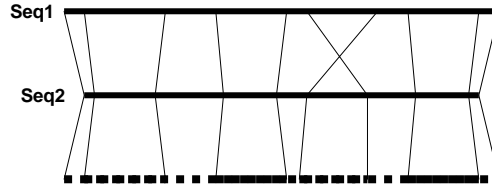
- **Highly conserved sequences**
- **Sequences under purifying selection**
- **Functionally constrained sequences**
- **ECOR – Evolutionary COnserved Region**
 - Variant: ECR
- **CNS – Conserved Non-coding Sequence**
- **CNGs – Conserved Non-Genic sequence**
- **MCS – Multi-species Conserved Sequence**

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PipMaker vs. VISTA

- Visualization
- Alignment Strategy
 - VISTA: `avid`
 - PipMaker: `blastz`
- East Coast – West Coast



Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory

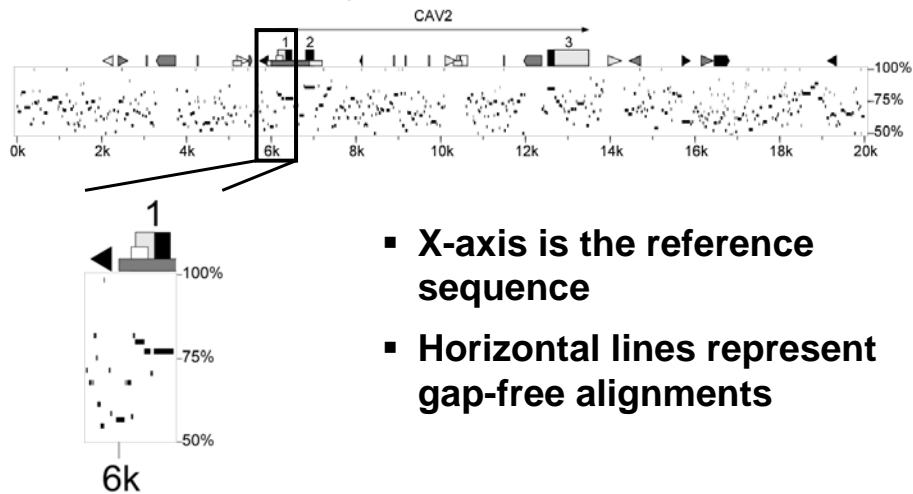


Penn State
University

PipMaker

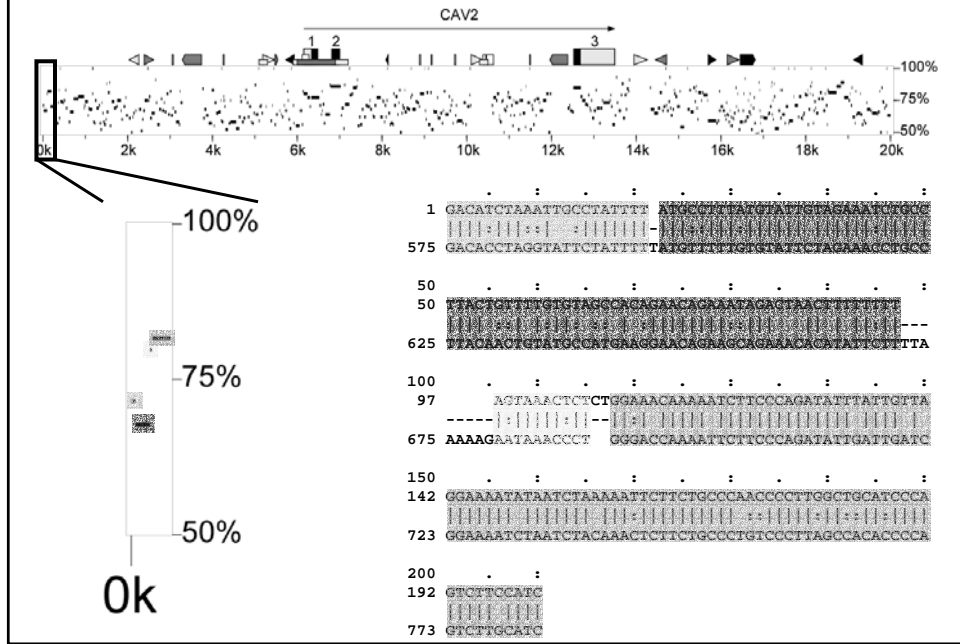
<http://bio.cse.psu.edu/pipmaker/>

- Percent Identity Plot

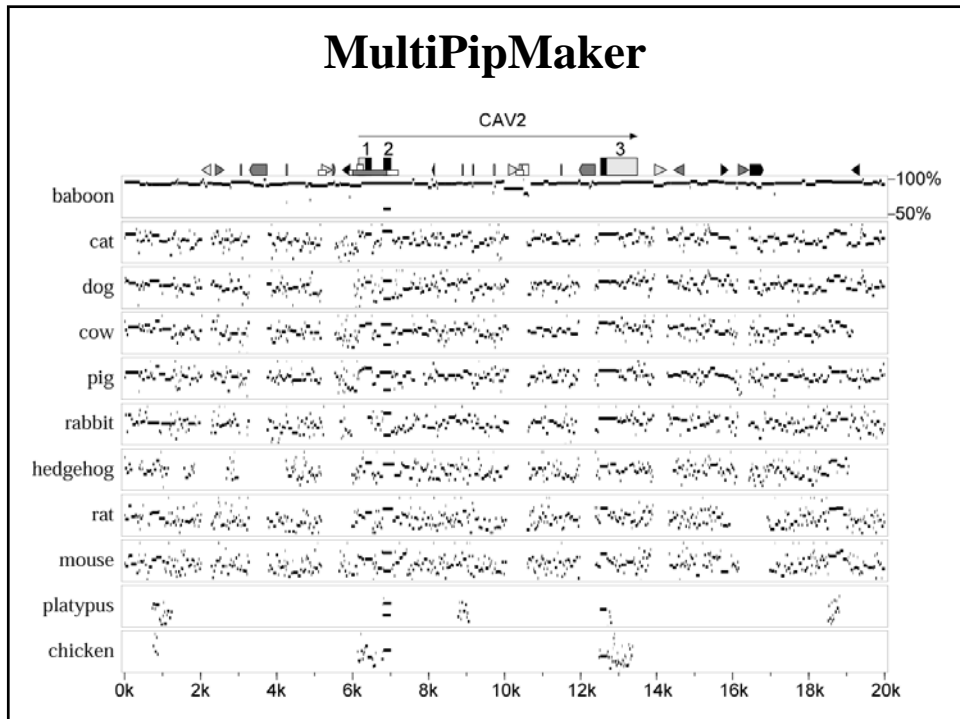


- X-axis is the reference sequence
- Horizontal lines represent gap-free alignments

<http://bio.cse.psu.edu/pipmaker/>

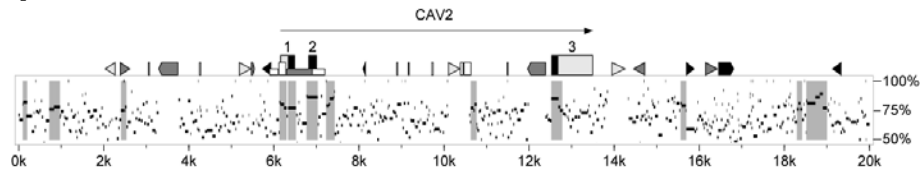


MultiPipMaker

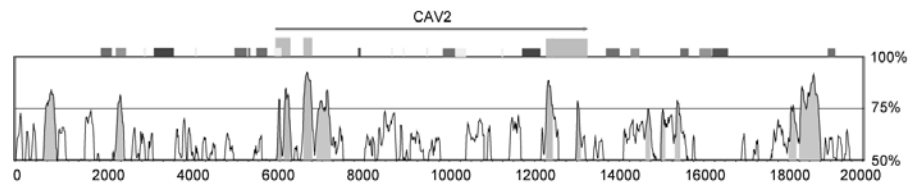


What's Your Preference?

PipMaker



VISTA



East & West Coast Unite

<http://zpicture.dcode.org/>

Resource

zPicture: Dynamic Alignment and Visualization Tool for Analyzing Conservation Profiles

Ivan Ovcharenko,^{1,2} Gabriela G. Loots,² Ross C. Hardison,³ Webb Miller,^{4,5} and Lisa Stubbs^{2,6}

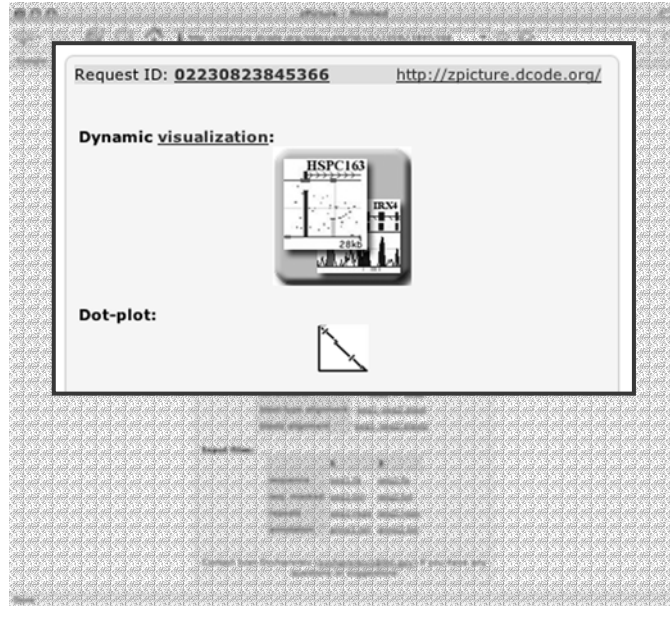
¹Energy, Environment, Biology and Institutional Computing, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550, USA; ²Genome Biology Division, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550, USA;

³Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, USA;

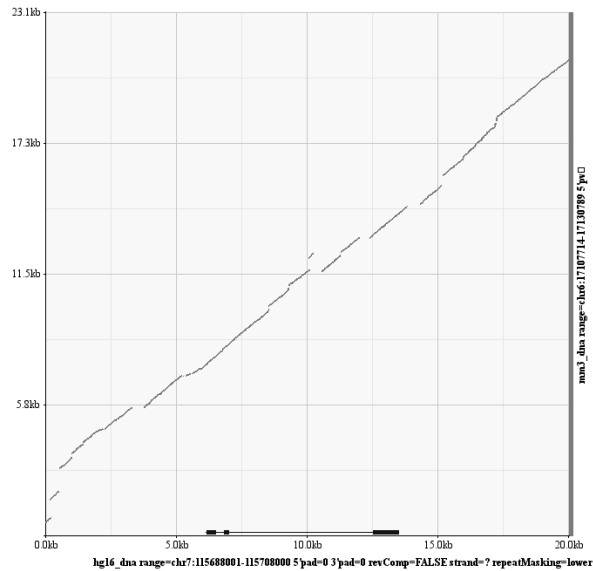
⁴Department of Computer Science and Engineering, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, USA; ⁵Department of Biology, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, USA;

Genome Research, 2004, 14(3):472-7

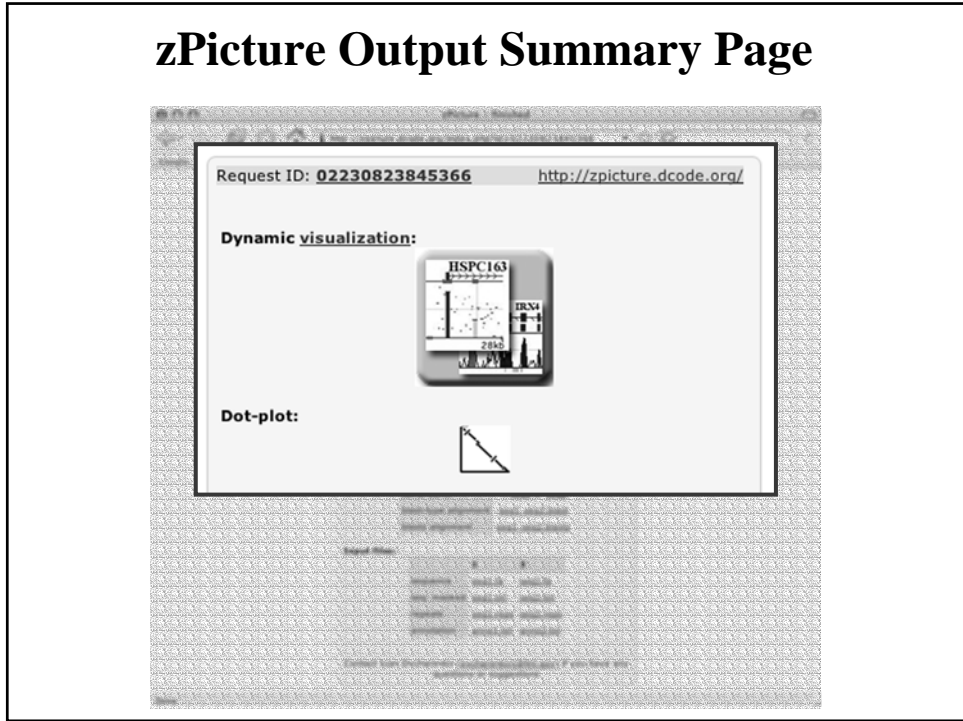
zPicture Output Summary Page



zPicture: Dot Plot View



zPicture Output Summary Page



Dynamic Visualization Options PipMaker-style

zPicture :: dynamic blastz alignment visualization

Request ID: **02230823845366** <http://zpicture.dcode.org/>

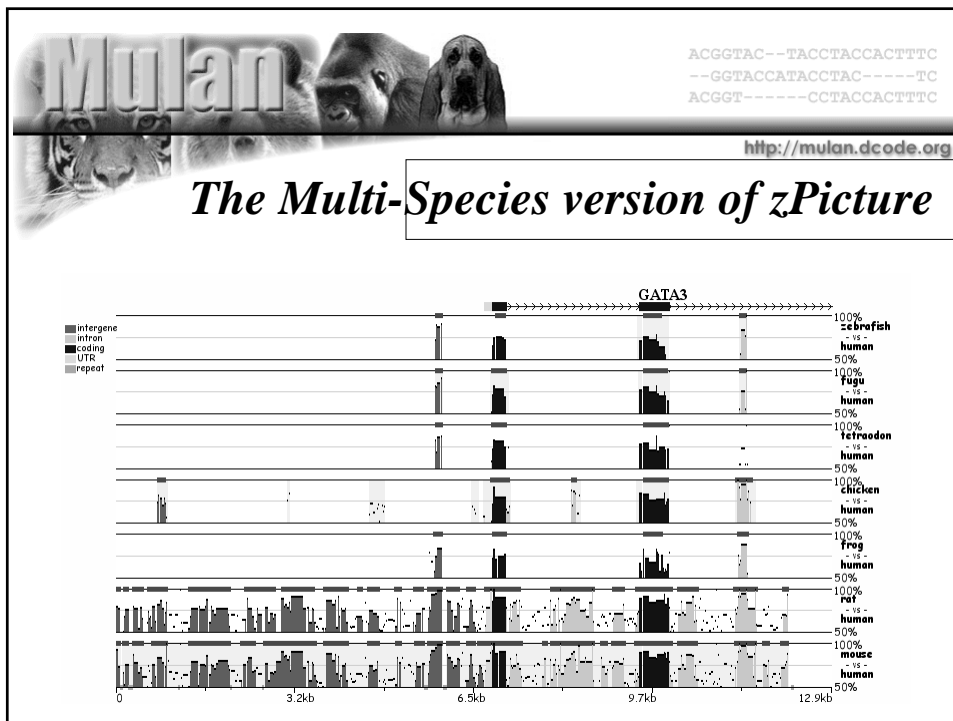
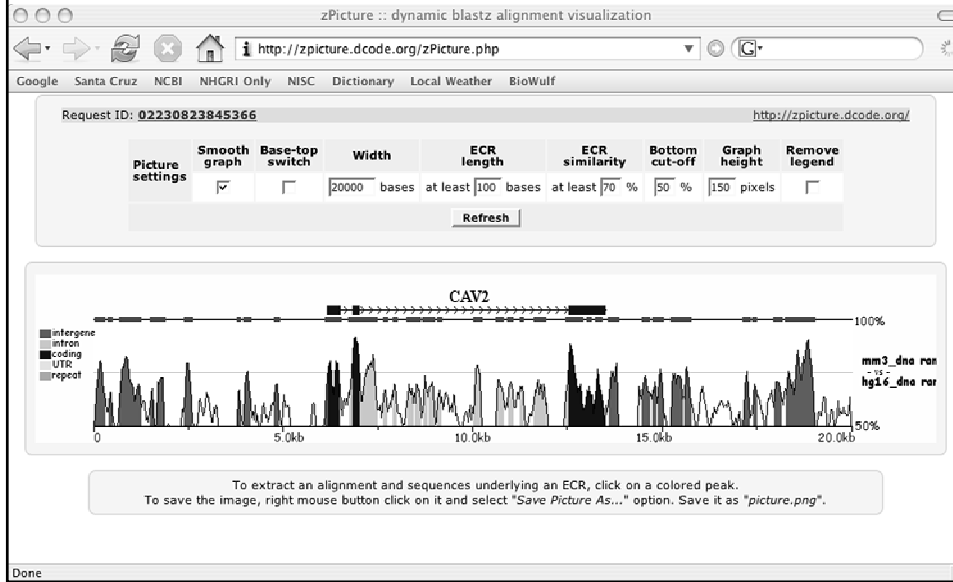
Picture settings	Smooth graph	Base-top switch	Width	ECR length	ECR similarity	Bottom cut-off	Graph height	Remove legend
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20000 bases	at least 100 bases	at least 70 %	50 %	150 pixels	<input type="checkbox"/>

CAV2

To extract an alignment and sequences underlying an ECR, click on a colored peak.
To save the image, right mouse button click on it and select "Save Picture As..." option. Save it as "picture.png".

Done

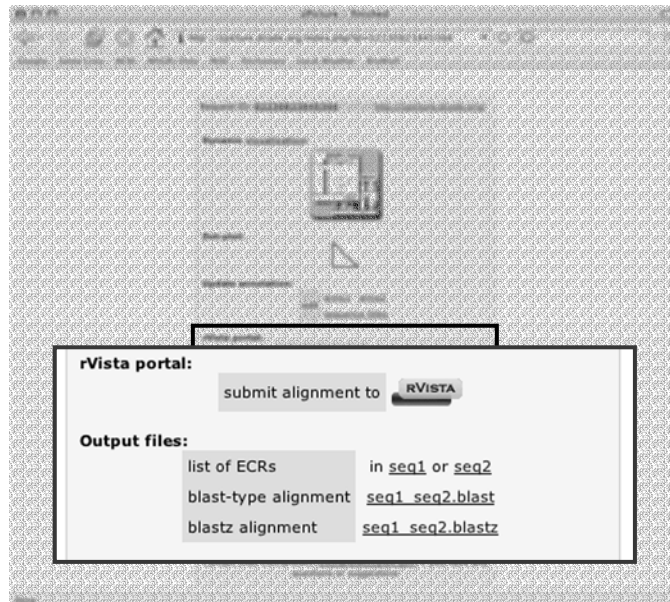
Dynamic Visualization VISTA-style



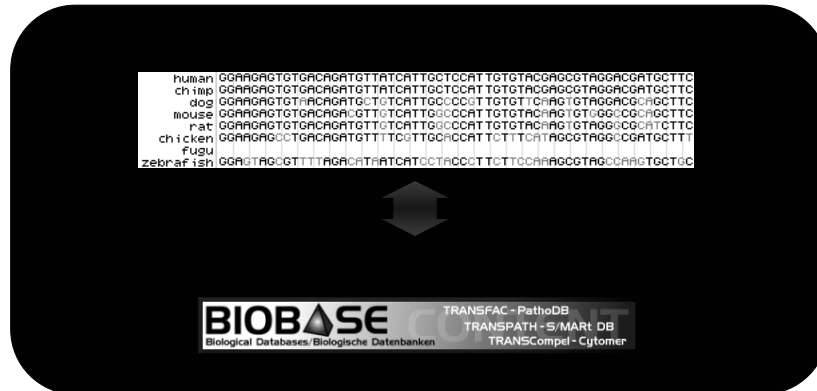
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zPicture Output Summary Page



Are there any transcription factor binding sites in my alignment?



TRANSFAC



<http://www.gene-regulation.com/>

- A database of:
 - Eukaryotic transcription factors
 - Their genomic binding sites
 - And DNA binding profiles
- Data are collected from published studies
 - Non curated
 - Redundant data

JASPAR: An Alternative to TRANSFAC

Nucleic Acids Research, 2004, Vol. 32, Database issue D91–D94
DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkh012

JASPAR: an open-access database for eukaryotic transcription factor binding profiles

Albin Sandelin, Wynand Alkema, Pär Engström, Wyeth W. Wasserman¹ and Boris Lenhard*

Center for Genomics and Bioinformatics, Karolinska Institutet, Berzelius väg 35, S-17177 Stockholm, Sweden and
¹Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, Department of Medical Genetics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

- **Differences from TRANSFAC:**
 - Manually curated for “high quality” experiments
 - Non redundant collection

<http://jaspar.cgb.ki.se/>

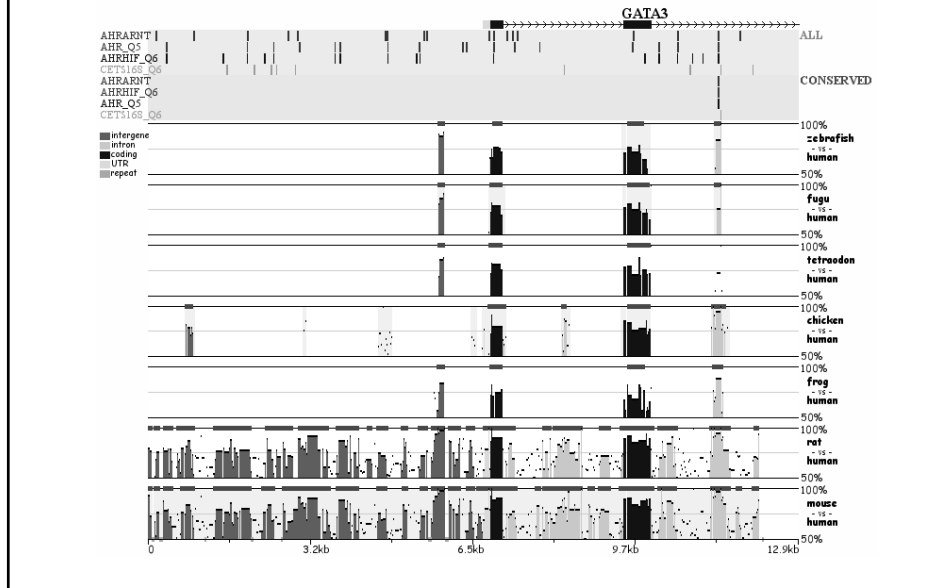


TRANSFAC Data are inherently “noisy”

- **Binding sites are very short**
6-10 bases in length
- **Low complexity**
Only 4 “letters” in the DNA alphabet
- **Frequently observe binding site by chance**
- ***Conservation can help reduce the noise***



Example of multiTF Output



Summary of Alignment Tools

- PipMaker (blastz)
- VISTA (avid)
- zPicture and MULAN
- Lagan and mLagan (glocal alignments)
- <http://lagan.stanford.edu/>
- rVISTA 2.0

- **Box 1** from:

Ureta-Vidal, Ettwiller, and Birney (2003) Comparative Genomics: Genome-Wide Analysis in Metazoan Eukaryotes *Nature Reviews Genetics* 4: 251-262

- **Table 1** from:

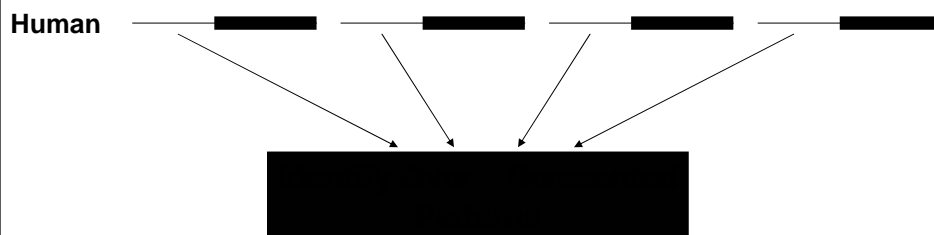
Miller, Makova, Nekrutenko, and Hardison (2004) Comparative Genomics *Annual Reviews in Human Genetics* 5:15-56

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Motif Finding

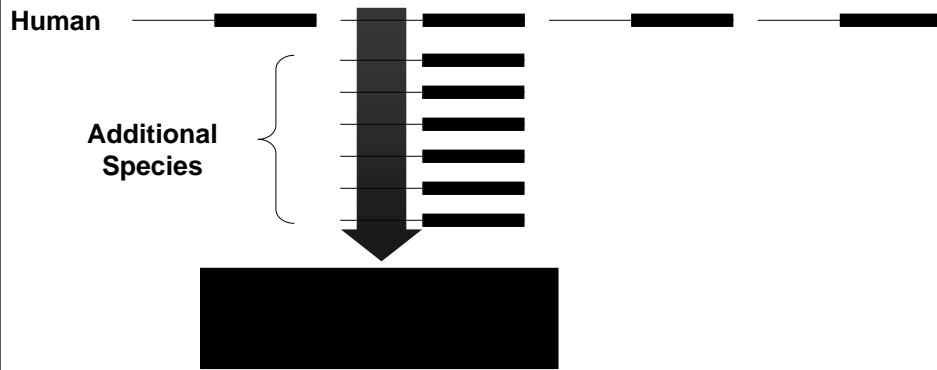
- **Identify Transcription Factor Binding Sites**
- **What sequences should be searched?**
Coordinately Regulated Genes



Phylogenetic Footprinting

- **FootPrinter** – <http://bio.cs.washington.edu/software.html>
- **Takes the phylogeny into account**

Orthologous Genes



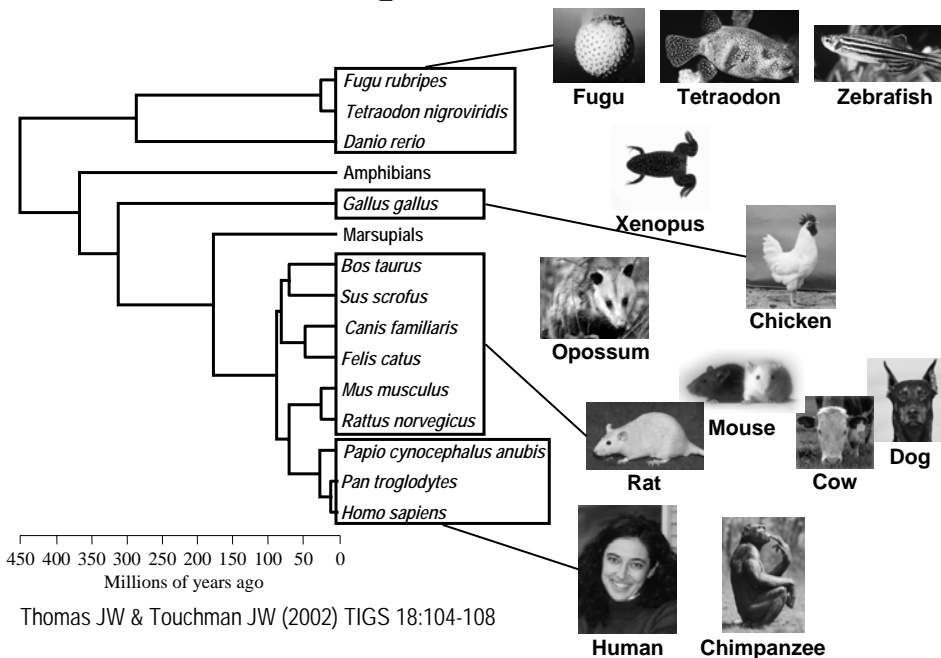
Summary of Phylogenetic Footprinting Tools

- **FootPrinter** – <http://bio.cs.washington.edu/software.html>
 - Blanchette and Tompa (2003) *Nucleic Acids Research* **31**:3840–3842
- **phyloCon** – <http://oldural.wustl.edu/~twang/PhyloCon/>
 - Wang and Stormo (2003) *Bioinformatics* **19**:2369-80
- **phyME**
 - Sinha, Blanchette, and Tompa (2004) *BMC Bioinformatics* **28**:170
- **List of motif finding algorithms:**
 - [Box 1](#) of Ureta-Vidal et al. (2003) *Nature Reviews Genetics* **4**:251-262
- **Bayesian Approaches (and home of the Gibbs sampler)**
 - <http://www.wadsworth.org/resnres/bioinfo/>
- **Example of motif finding limited by mouse conservation:**
 - Wasserman et al. (2000) *Nature Genetics* **26**:225-228

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Genome-Wide Sequences



Genome Browsers

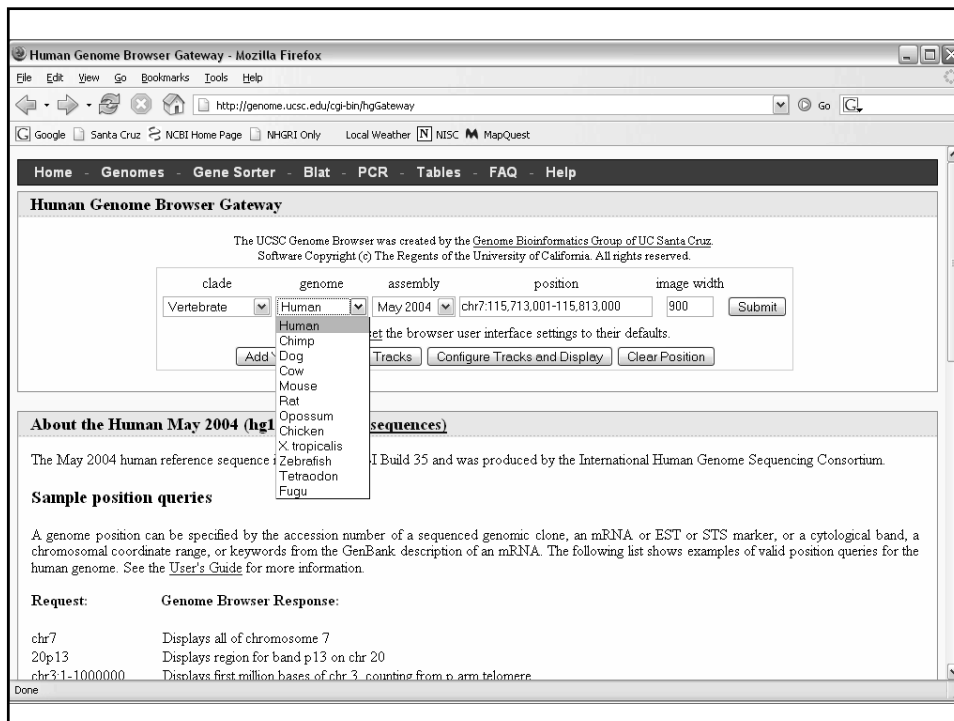
UCSC Genome Bioinformatics

 project **Ensembl**
<http://www.ensembl.org>



NCBI Map Viewer

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mapview/>



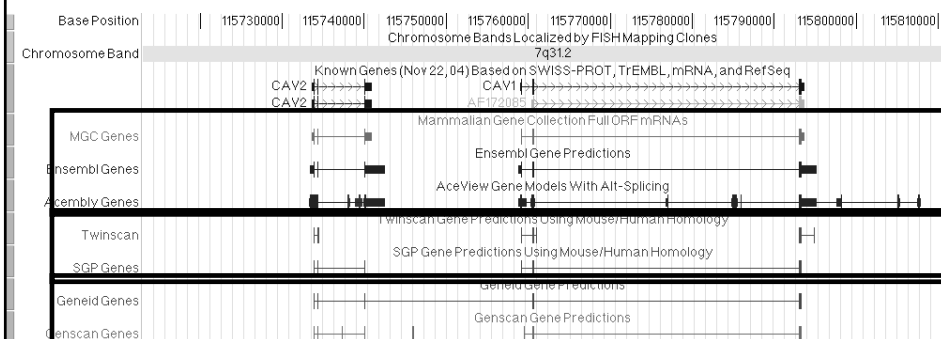
The screenshot shows the UCSC Genome Browser Gateway interface. The browser window title is "Human Genome Browser Gateway - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL "http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgGateway". The page content includes a navigation menu with links for Home, Genomes, Gene Sorter, Blat, PCR, Tables, FAQ, and Help. The main heading is "Human Genome Browser Gateway". Below this, there is a paragraph stating: "The UCSC Genome Browser was created by the Genome Bioinformatics Group of UC Santa Cruz. Software Copyright (c) The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved." A search form is present with the following fields: "clade" (set to Vertebrate), "genome" (set to Human), "assembly" (set to May 2004), "position" (set to chr7:115,713,001-115,813,000), and "image width" (set to 900). There is a "Submit" button. A dropdown menu is open under the "genome" field, listing various species: Human, Chimp, Dog, Cow, Mouse, Rat, Opossum, Chicken, X. tropicalis, Zebrafish, Tetraodon, and Fugu. Below the search form, there are buttons for "Add", "Tracks", "Configure Tracks and Display", and "Clear Position". The page also features sections for "About the Human May 2004 (hg1)", "Sample position queries", and "Request: Genome Browser Response:" with a table of queries and their corresponding responses.

Request:	Genome Browser Response:
chr7	Displays all of chromosome 7
20p13	Displays region for band p13 on chr 20
chr3:1-1000000	Displays first million bases of chr 3, counting from p arm telomere

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Approaches to Gene Prediction



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence-Based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – MGC – Acembly – Ensembl | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ab Initio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Genscan – Geneid | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dual-Genome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Twinscan – SGP |
|--|---|---|

Additional Gene Prediction Resources

- **Fugu BLAT Track at UCSC**
- **SLAM** – <http://baboon.math.berkeley.edu/~syntenic/slam.html>
 - Cawley et al. (2003) *Nucleic Acids Research* **31**:3507-3509
- **Exoniphy**

Siepel and Haussler. Computational identification of evolutionarily conserved exons. *Proc. 8th Annual Int'l Conf. on Research in Computational Biology*, pp. 177-186, 2004.
<http://www.soe.ucsc.edu/~acs/recomb2004.pdf>

 - **Also see genome “test” browser for data**
- **Box 1 from:**
 - Ureta-Vidal et al. (2003) *Nature Reviews Genetics* **4**:251-262

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Chaining Alignments

- Chaining bridges the gulf between large syntenic blocks and base bybase alignments.

The Challenge:

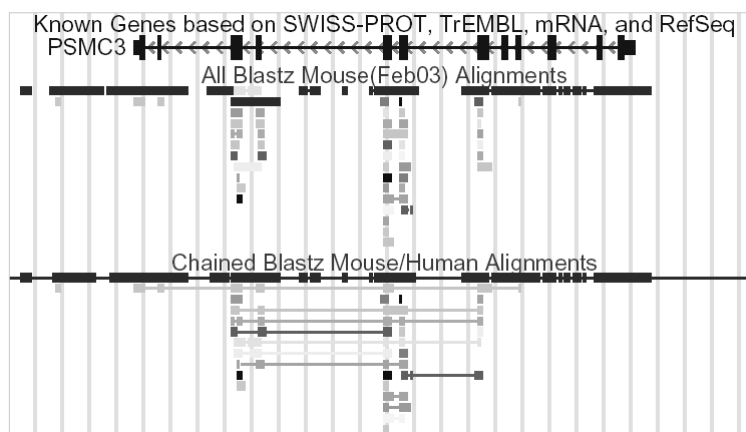
- Local alignments tend to break at transposon insertions, inversions, duplications, etc.
- Global alignments tend to force non homologous bases to align.

The Solution:

- Chaining is a rigorous way of joining together local alignments into larger structures.

Slide (though modified) Courtesy of Jim Kent

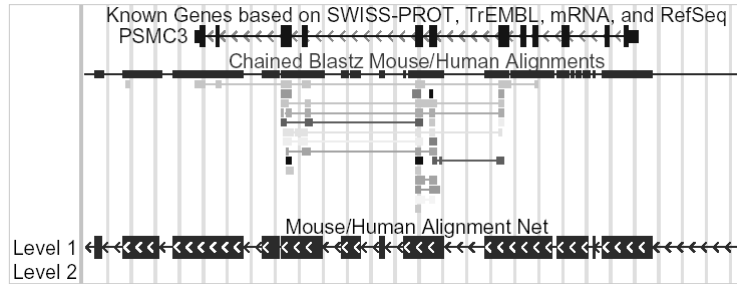
Chains join together related local alignments



Protease Regulatory Subunit 3

Slide Courtesy of Jim Kent

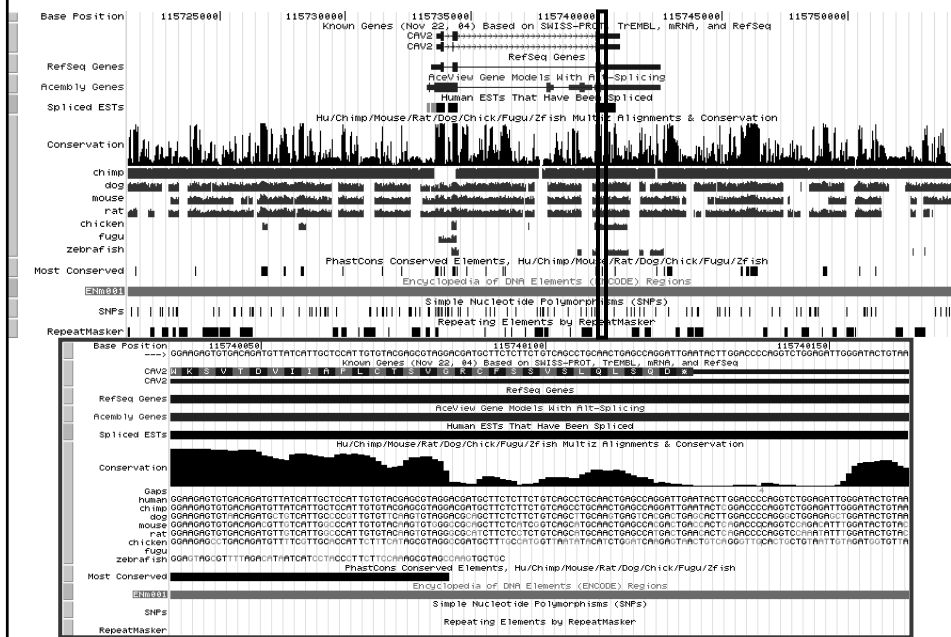
Net Alignments: Focus on Orthology



- Frequently, there are numerous mouse alignments for any given human region, particularly for coding regions.
- Net finds best mouse match for each human region.

Slide (though modified) Courtesy of Jim Kent

Genome-wide Multiple Sequence Alignments

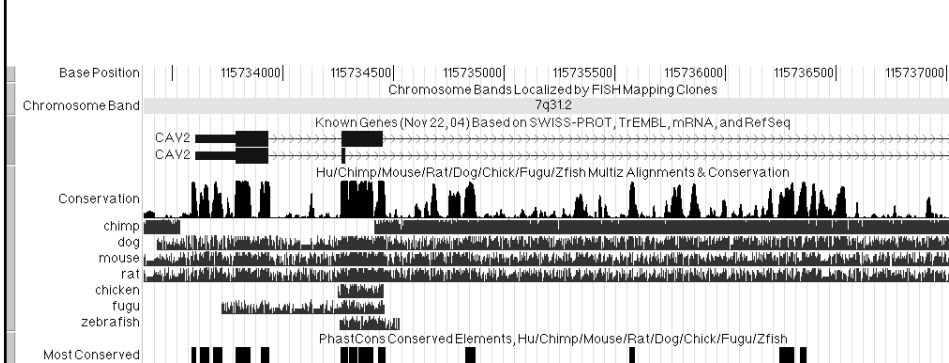


Conservation Score at UCSC

- Displays evolutionary conservation based on a phylogenetic hidden Markov model

- “Most Conserved” track represents highly conserved regions
 - Tuned to cover ~4% of the genome

“Most Conserved” Track at UCSC



Human chr7:115,733,372-115,737,074 - UCSC Genome Browser v100 - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgTables

Google Santa Cruz NCBI Home Page NHGRI Only Local Weather NISC MapQuest

Home Genomes Blat PCR DNA Tables Gene Sorter Convert Ensembl NCBI PDF/PS Help

UCSC Genome Browser on Human May 2004 Assembly

move <<< << < > >> >>> zoom in 1.5x 3x 10x base zoom out 1.5x 3x 10x

position chr7:115,733,372-115,737,074 jump clear size 3,703 bp configure

chr7 (q31.2) 115,734,000 115,734,500 115,735,000 115,735,500 115,736,000 115,736,500 115,737,000

Base Position
Chromosome Band
Known Genes (Nov 22, 04) Based on S1SS-FROT, TRENEL, mRNA, and RefSeq
Conservation
chr:imp
dog
mouse
rat
chicken
fish
zebrafish
Most Conserved

move start < 2.0 > move end < 2.0 >

Click on a feature for details. Click on base position to zoom in around cursor. Click on left mini-buttons for track-specific options.

default tracks hide all configure refresh

Use drop down controls below and press refresh to alter tracks displayed. Tracks with lots of items will automatically be displayed in more compact modes.

Mapping and Sequencing Tracks

Base Position	Chromosome Band	STS Markers	RGD QTL	FISH Clones
dense	dense	hide	hide	hide
Recomb Rate	Map Contigs	Assembly	Gap	Coverage

http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgTables?db=hg17&position=chr7:115733372-115737074&hgta_regionType=range&hgtsid=39729767

Using the Table Browser to get Highly Conserved Sequences

Output phastCons as Custom Track - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgTables?hgtsid=39729767

Google Santa Cruz NCBI Home Page NHGRI Only Local Weather NISC MapQuest

Home Genomes Gene Sorter Blat PCR Tables FAQ Help

Output phastCons as Custom Track

Custom track header:

name= tb_phastCons

description= table browser query on phastCons

visibility= pack

url=

Select type of data output:

BED format (no data value information, only position)

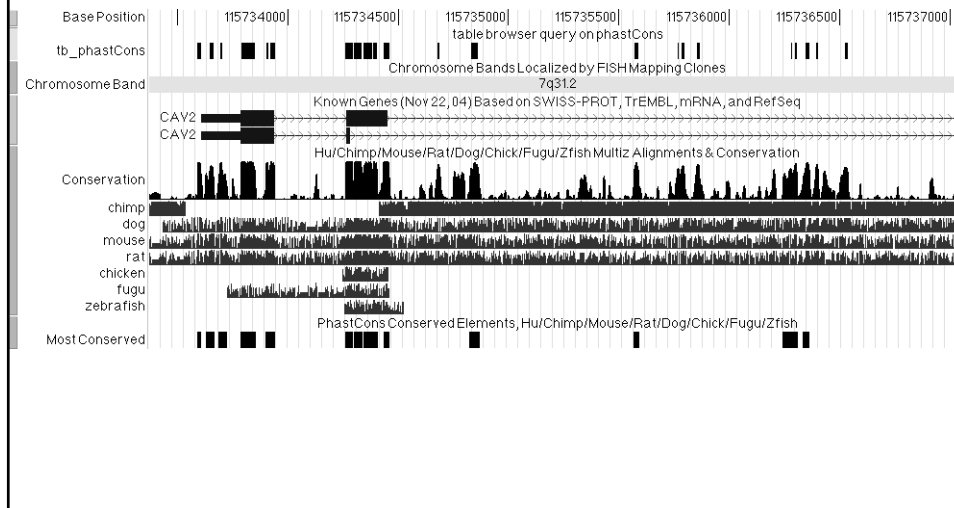
DATA VALUE format (position and real valued data)

Get Custom Track in Table Browser Get Custom Track in File

Get Custom Track in Genome Browser Cancel

Done

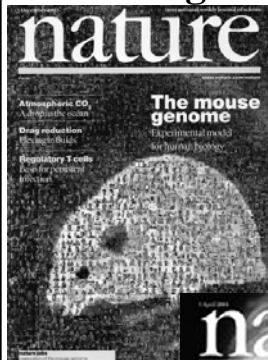
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Insights from Human-Rodent Sequence Comparisons



Nature 420:520, 2002



- **Similar gene content and linear organization**
 - ~340 syntenic blocks
- **Difference in genome size**
 - Mouse genome is 14% smaller
- **Sequence Conservation**
 - ~40% in Alignments
 - ~5% Under Selection
 - ~1.5% Protein Coding
 - ~3.5% Non-Coding
- **See Jan 2003 & April 2004 issues of *Genome Research***

Neutral Evolution

- **No selective pressure/advantage to keep or change the DNA sequence**
- **Rate of variation should correlate with:**
 - Mutation rate
 - Amount of time since the last common ancestor
- **The neutral rate can vary across the genome**

Types of Neutrally Evolving DNA

- **4-Fold Degenerate Sites**

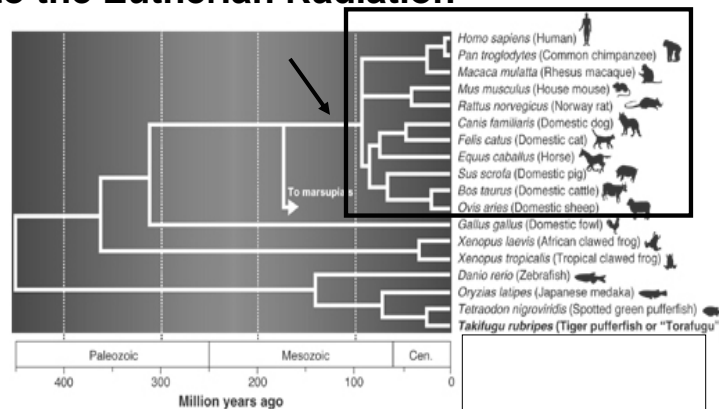
- Third position of codons which can be any base and code for the same amino acid

First	Second				Last
	U	C	A	G	
U	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Cys	U
	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Cys	C
	Leu	Ser	Stop	Stop	A
	Leu	Ser	Stop	Trp	G
C	Leu	Pro	His	Arg	U
	Leu	Pro	His	Arg	C
	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	A
	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	G
A	Ile	Thr	Asn	Ser	U
	Ile	Thr	Asn	Ser	C
	Ile	Thr	Lys	Arg	A
	Met	Thr	Lys	Arg	G
G	Val	Ala	Asp	Gly	U
	Val	Ala	Asp	Gly	C
	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	A
	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	G

Types of Neutrally Evolving DNA

- **Ancestral Repeats**

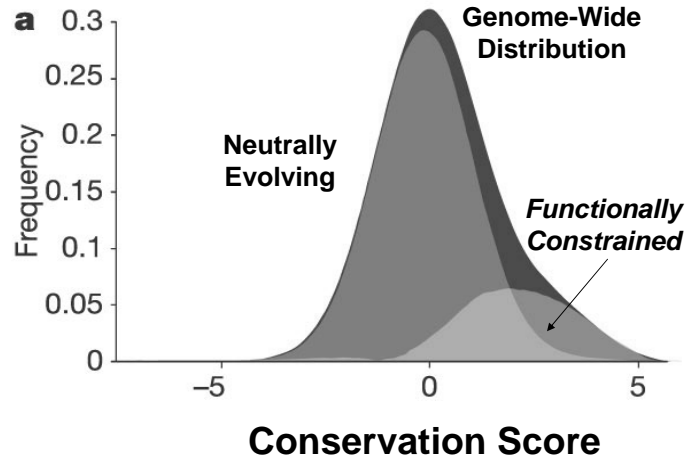
- Ancient Relics of Transposons Inserted Prior to the Eutherian Radiation



Adapted from Hedges & Kumar, *Science* 297:1283-5

Determining the Fraction of Sequence Under Purifying Selection

Adapted From Figure 28, *Nature* 420:553



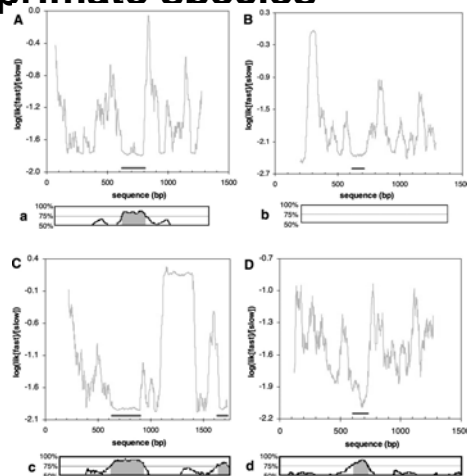
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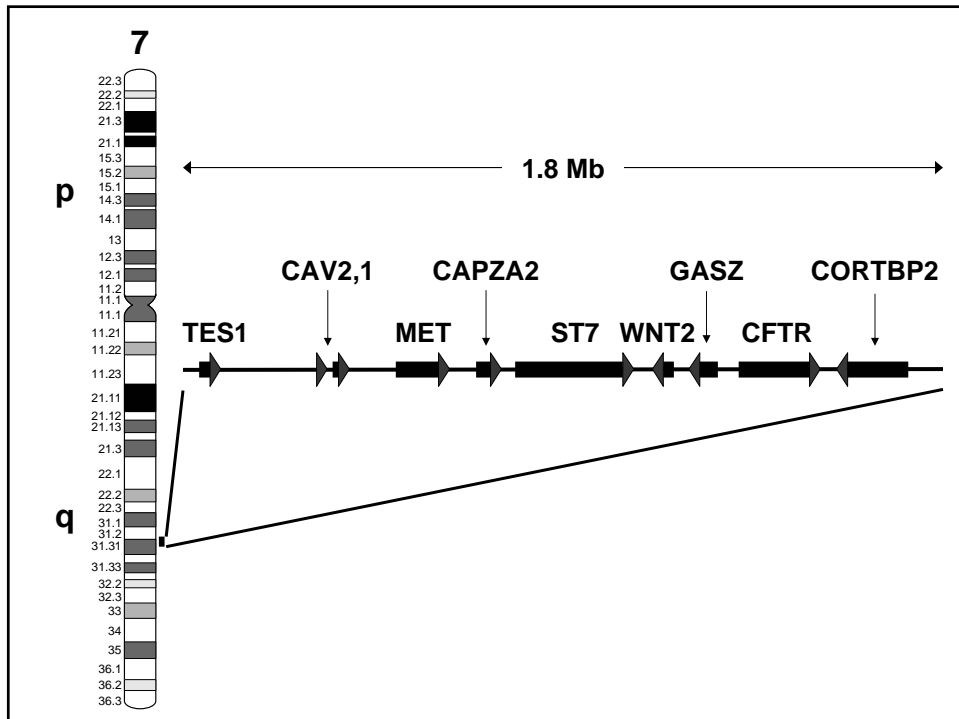
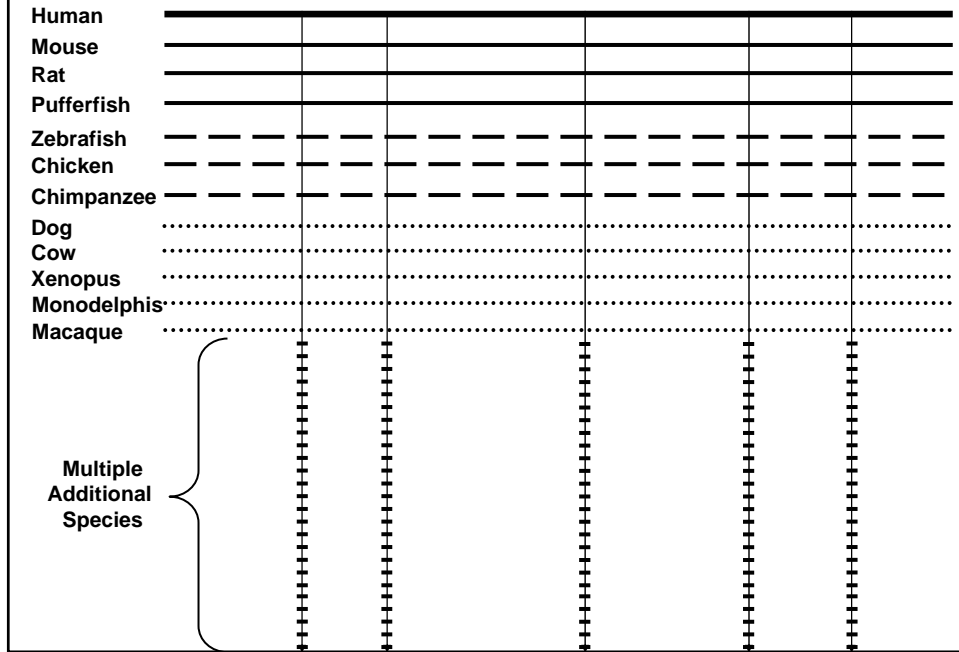
Phylogenetic Shadowing

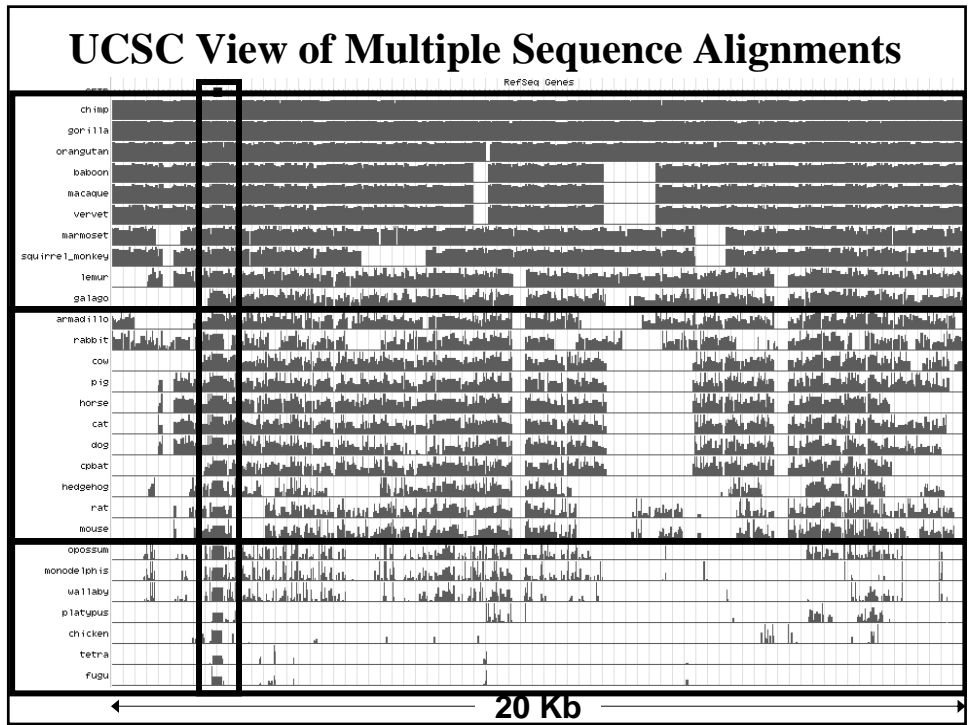
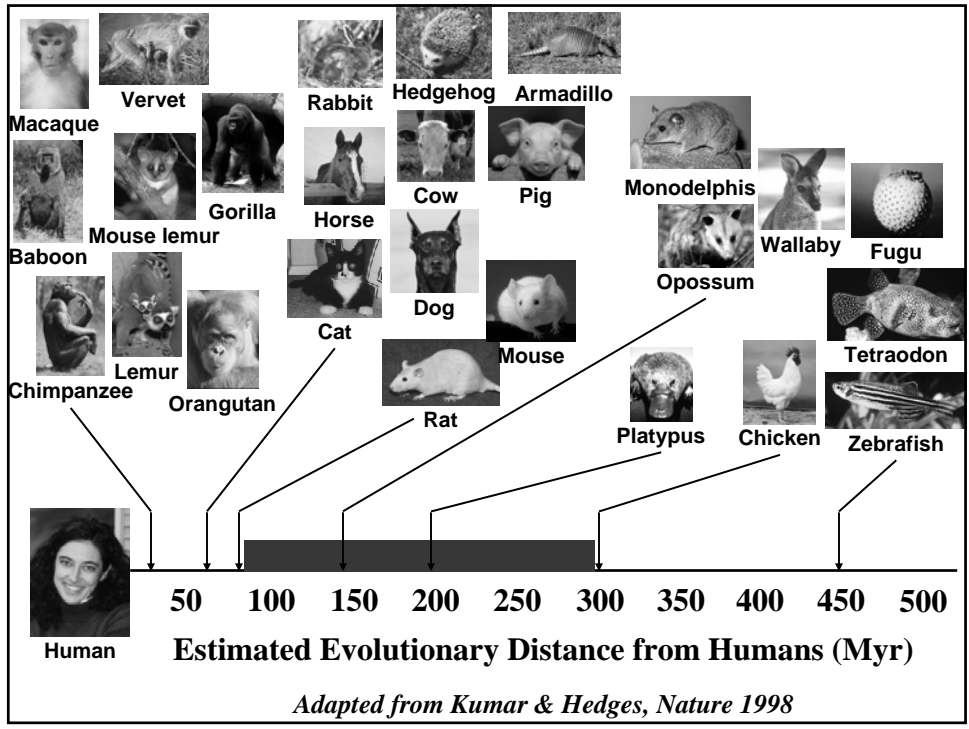
Boffelli et al. (2003) *Science* 299:1391-1394.

- Identifying sequence *differences* between multiple primate species



Multi-Species Comparative Sequence Analysis





Multi-Species Weighted Conservation Score

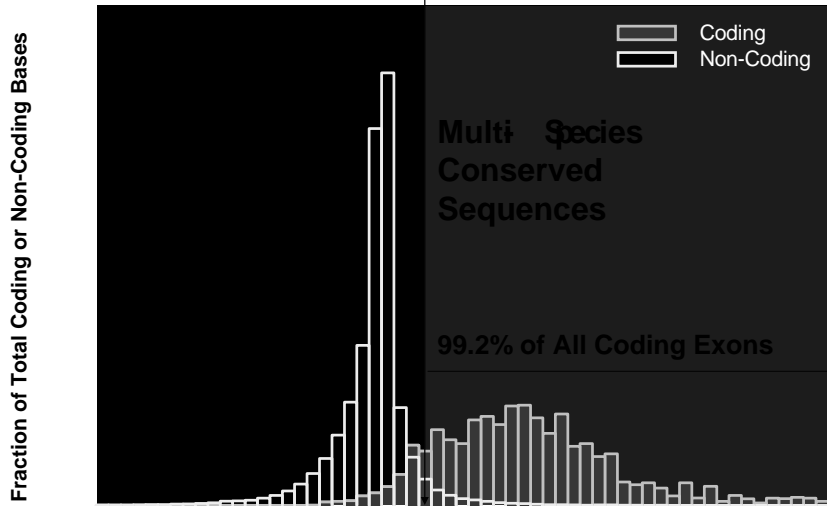
- Takes into Account the Different Divergence Rates of Each Species
 - “A Chicken Alignment Will Contribute More Than a Baboon Alignment”
- Based On the Substitution Rates at Bases under Neutral Selection
 - Calculated from 4-Fold Degenerate Positions

Human	GCGGGGGCCTTCGGACCGCGGGCG	
Cat	iiiiiiiiiiiiimimiiiiiiiiii	
Chicken	m+miiiiiiiiimimiiim++iiiiiiim	
Chimpanzee	iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii	
Baboon	iiiiiiiiiiiiimiiiiiiiiiiiiii	
Dog	iiiiiiiiiii+++++++iiii	
Cow	immiiiiimmmiiiiiiiiiiiiimii	
Pig	iiimiiiiiiiiimmiiiiiiiiimii	
Rat	im+++++++mimiiimmmmm	
Mouse	immiiiiimii+++miiimmmmm	
Fugu	-----	
Tetraodon	-----	
Zebrafish	-----	



skip

Multi-Species Conservation Score Distribution



Multi-Species Conservation Score

Article

Identification and Characterization of Multi-Species Conserved Sequences

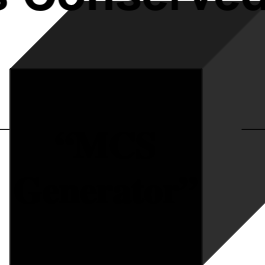
Elliott H. Margulies,¹ Mathieu Blanchette,³ NISC Comparative Sequencing Program,^{1,2} David Haussler,^{3,4,5} and Eric D. Green^{1,2,5}

Genome Research (2003) 13:2507-2518

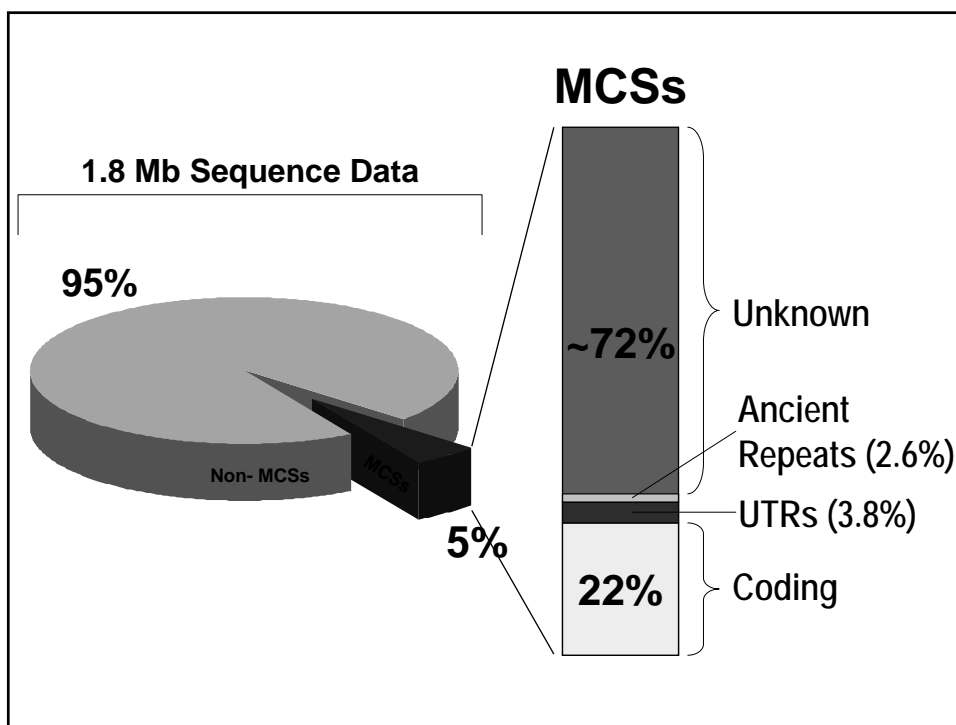
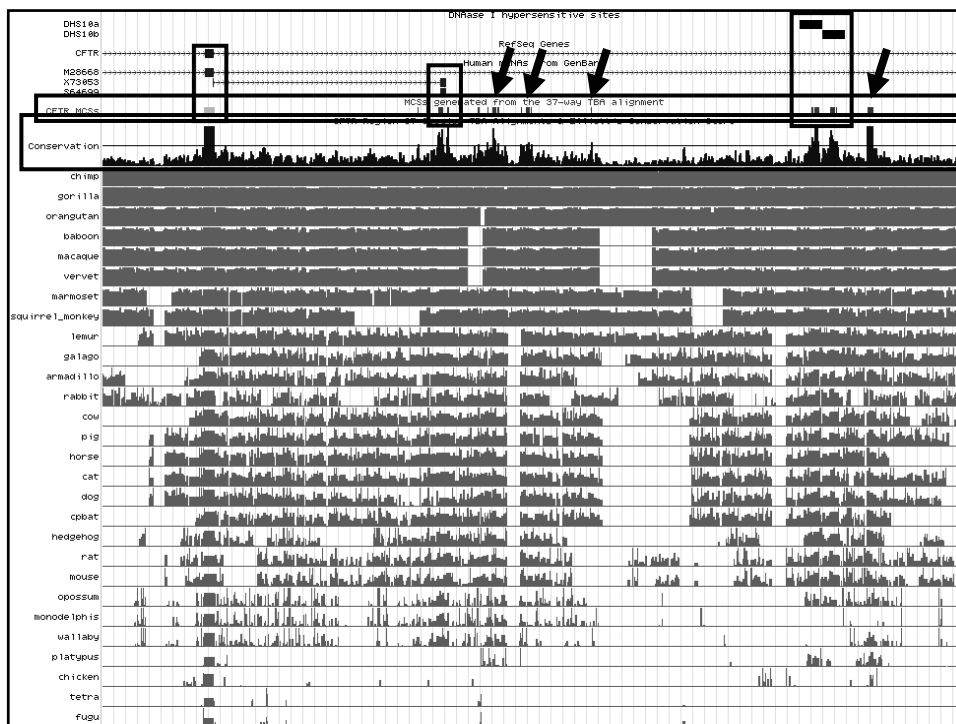
MCS

Multispecies Conserved Sequence

“Noisy”
Sequence Alignments



Discrete Regions
of
Highly Conserved
Sequence



Lineage-Specificity of MCSs in Mammals

Carnivores



Cat Dog

Artiodactyls



Cow Pig

Rodents



Mouse Rat

Monotreme



Platypus

Marsupials



Wallaby Opossum



skip



Cow Pig

Artiodactyls



Cat Dog

Carnivores



Mouse Rat

Rodents



Platypus

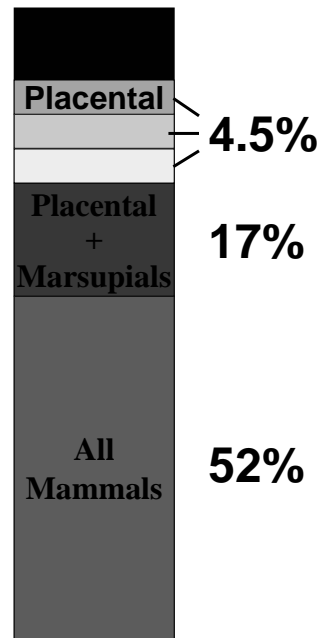
Monotreme



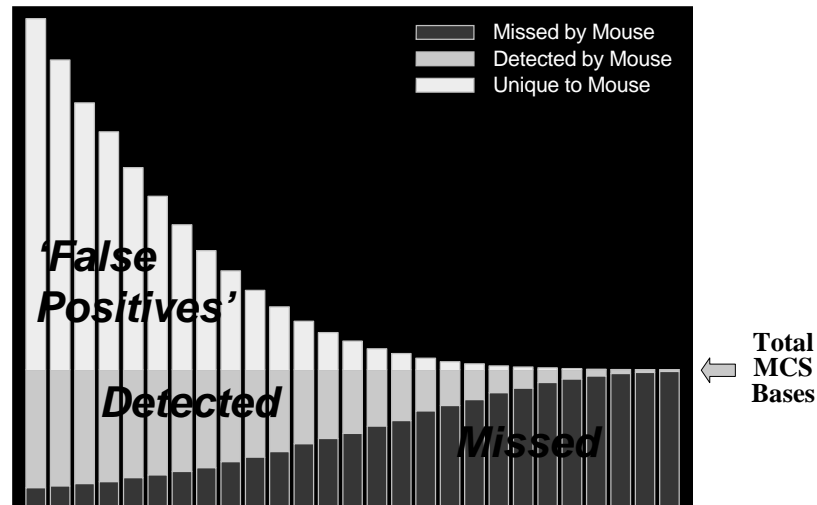
Wallaby Opossum

Marsupials

MCSs



MCS Overlap with Mouse Alignments



Detection of MCSs with Different Species

- Investigating the Relative Contribution of Different Species' Sequences to MCS Detection using More Quantitative Approaches
- Re-Compute Conservation Score for All* Possible Subsets of Species
- Compare to a 'Reference Set' of MCSs
 - Generated with All Species
 - Surrogates for Conserved *Functional* Elements

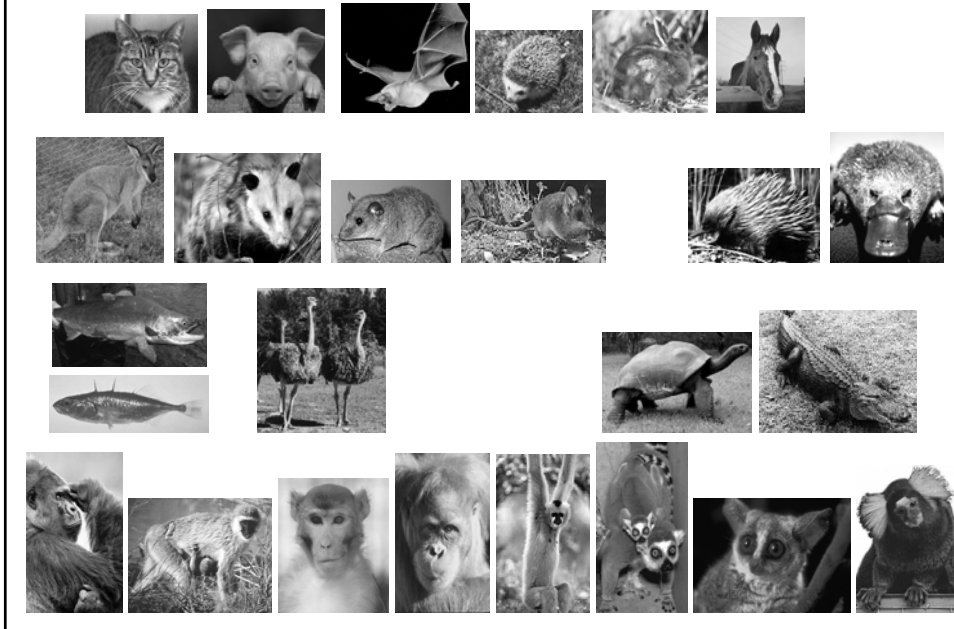
Single Species Performance



Best Performing Subsets



More Species is Better



MCS Detection and Sequence Quality

- To date, MCS detection has been with reasonably high-quality sequence
- What quality of sequence is desired for MCS detection — especially provided a set of high-quality reference sequences?

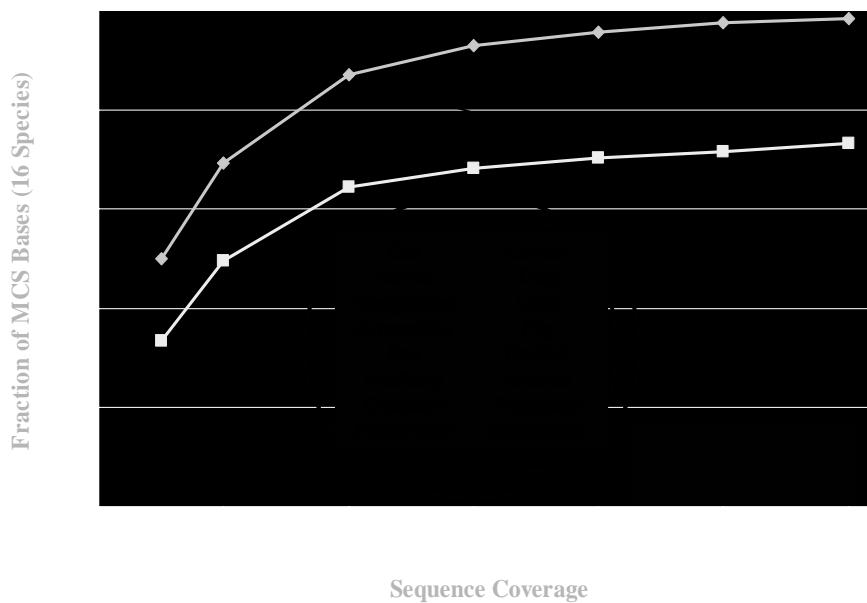
MCS Detection and Sequence Quality

- What Tradeoffs are encountered between sequence coverage vs. number of species?

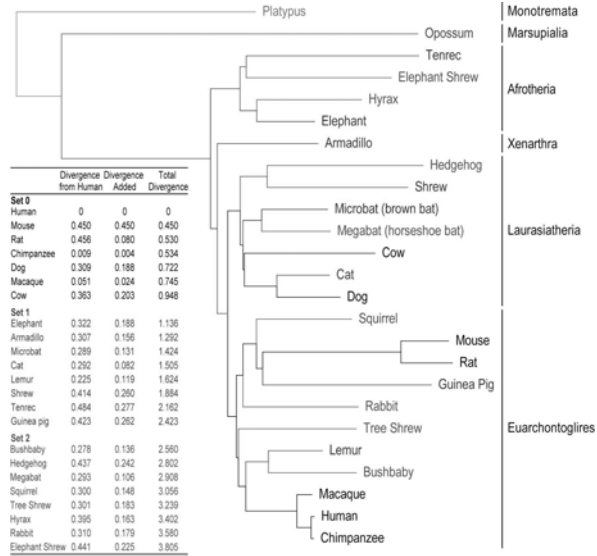


- 1) Re-create 0.5X, 1X, 2X... Read-Coverage Datasets
- 2) Analyze for MCSs
- 3) Compare to “Finished” MCSs

Sequence Coverage vs. MCS Detection



Low-Redundancy Sequencing of Multiple Vertebrate Genomes



Margulies et al., (2005) *PNAS*, 102:3354-3359