



# Epigenetics and gene regulation

Dr. Chris Evelo

BWE 15-05-2013

# Genetic variations and sports

## MUTANT POWERS

If you've got one of these gene variants you could be a natural born...



### Sprinter - *ACTN3*

Sprinters and power athletes are three times as likely to have this gene as other sportspeople, suggesting that *alpha-actinin 3* is essential for fast-muscle-fibre function



### Cyclist - *CKMM*

Different variants may affect an individual's ability to improve their VO<sub>2</sub>max - the rate at which they convert oxygen into energy - in response to training



### Mountaineer - *ACE*

Two common variants exist. The II variant seems to predominate in endurance athletes and mountaineers, while the DD variant may predominate in sprint athletes



### Weightlifter - *myostatin*

A mutation in the gene which stops functional myostatin from being produced results in individuals with extremely large muscles



### Marathon runner - *PPAR-delta*

Mice engineered to produce more *PPAR-delta* grow more slow-muscle fibres - used for endurance exercise - and can run almost twice as far as normal mice

# Epigenetics and sports

[Sports Medicine](#)

February 2013, Volume 43, Issue 2, pp 93-110

## Epigenetics in Sports

Tobias Ehlert, Perikles Simon, Dirk A. Moser

We suggest that **epigenetic effects** may also play a considerable role in the determination of **athletic potential** and these effects will need to be studied using more sophisticated quantitative genetic models. In the future, epigenetic status and its potential influence on athletic performance will have to be considered, explored and validated using well controlled model systems before we can begin to extrapolate new findings to complex and heterogeneous human populations.

# **Regulation of gene expression**

## **1. Gene transcription regulation**

- Epigenetic regulation
  - DNA methylation
  - Histone modifications

## **2. mRNA translation regulation**

- microRNA

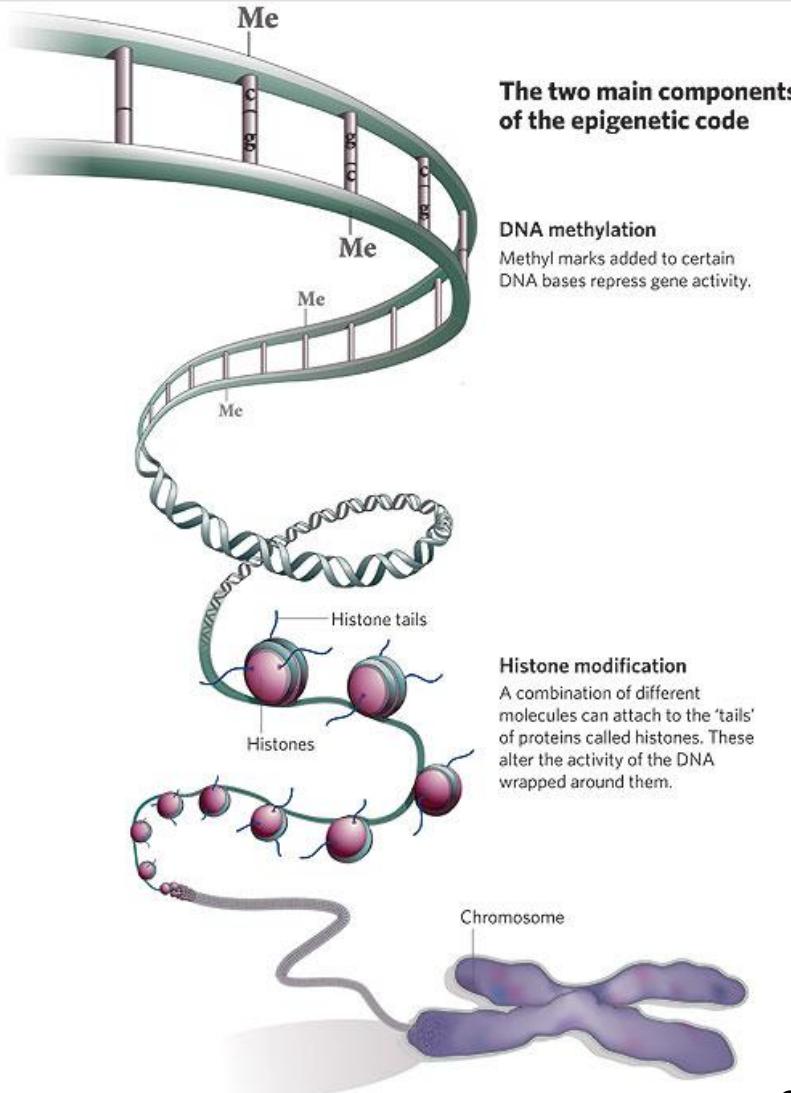
# CONTENT

- What is Epigenetics?
  - Histone modifications
  - DNA methylation
- Biological relevance of epigenetics
- Epigenetics in UCSC
- Methods to measure DNA methylation
- Motif analysis
- microRNAs

# **Epigenetics/epigenomics**

- **Epigenetics** refers to the study of changes in the regulation of gene activity and expression that are not dependent on gene DNA sequence.
- While epigenetics often refers to the study of single genes or sets of genes, **epigenomics** refers to more global analyses of epigenetic changes across the entire genome, so **genome-wide**.

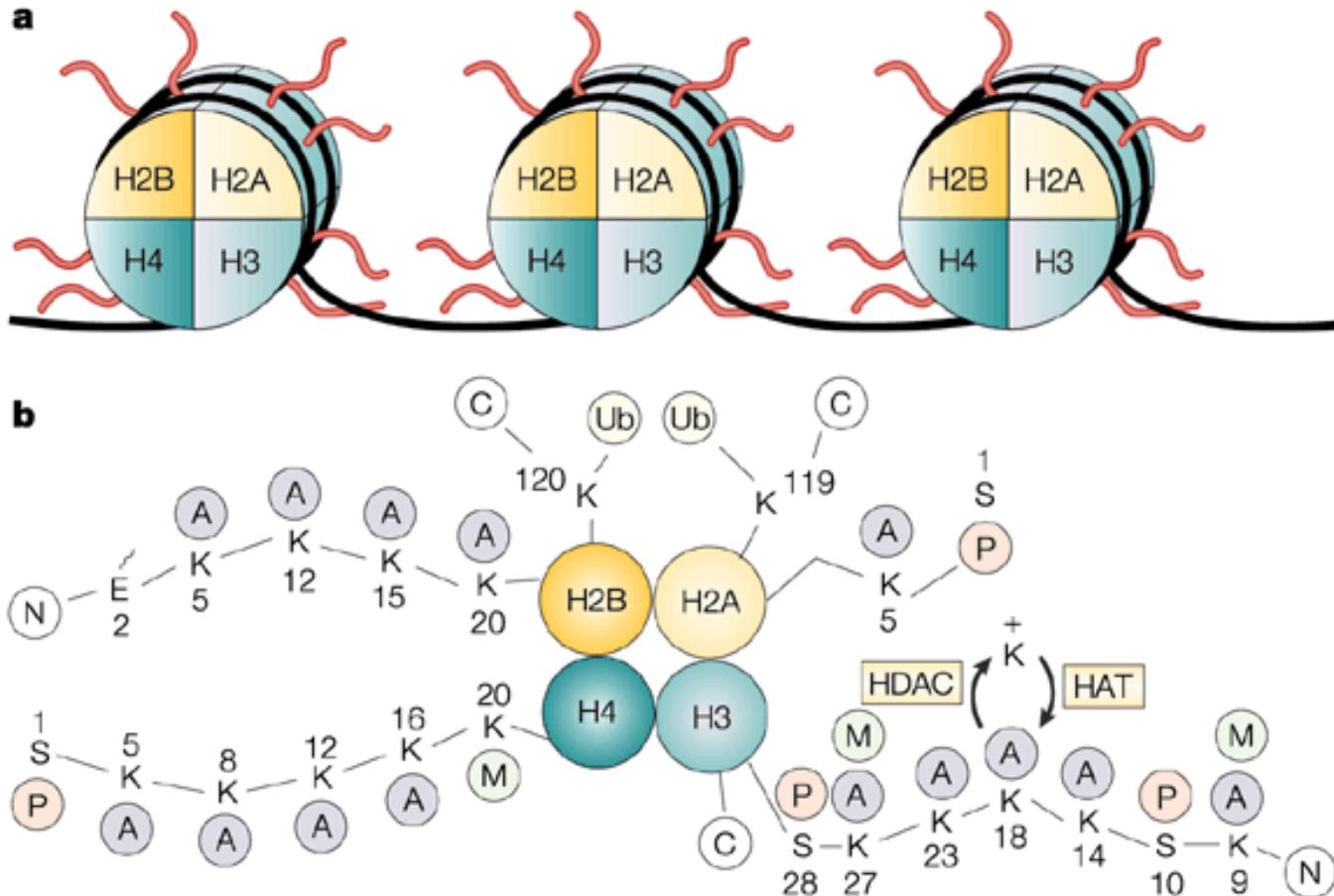
# Epigenetic regulation



## *DNA methylation*

## *Histone modifications*

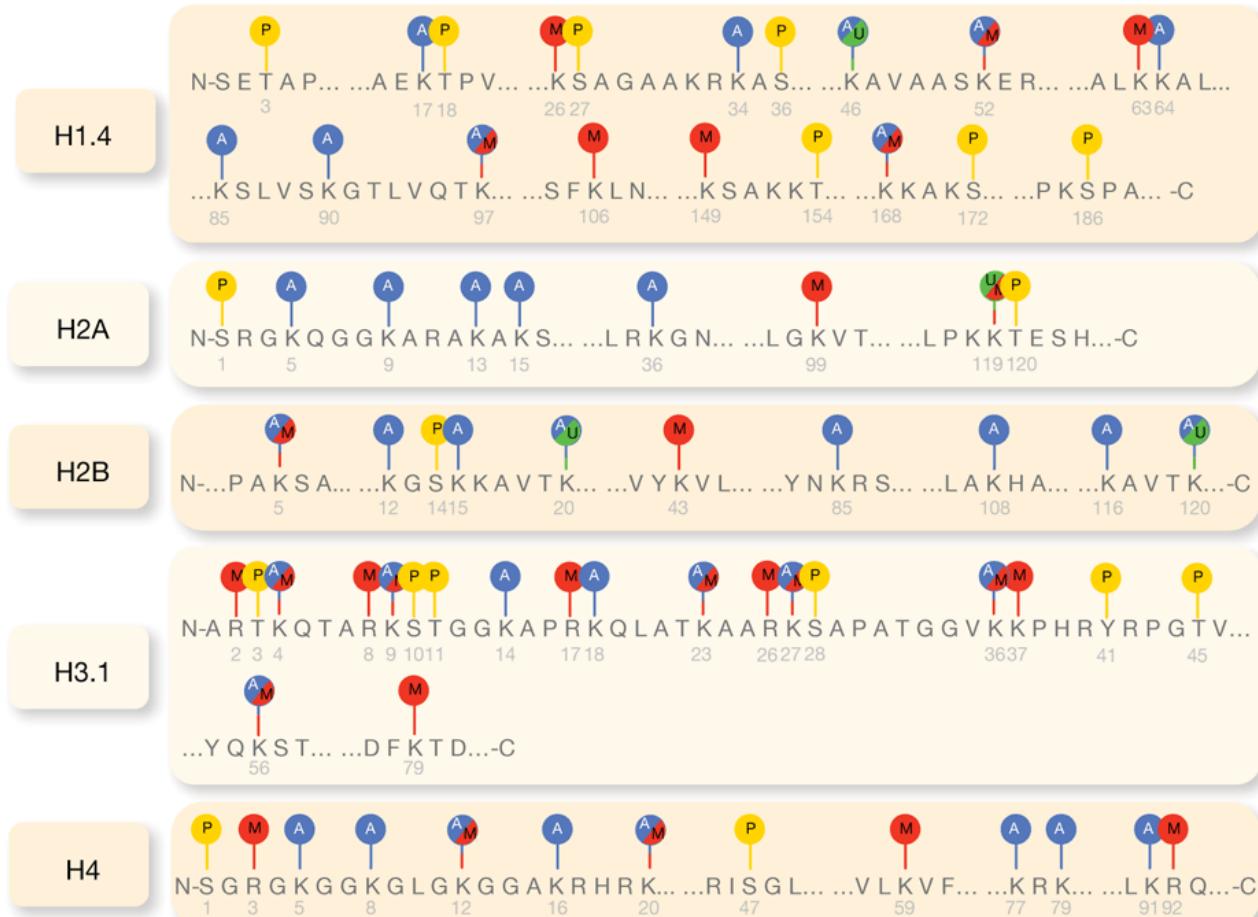
# Histones



# Histone modifications I

- A combination of different molecules can attach to the tails of histones altering the activity of DNA wrapped around:
  - Methylation, acetylation, phosphorylation, ubiquitination, SUMOylation, citrullination, and ADP-ribosylation

# Histone modifications II



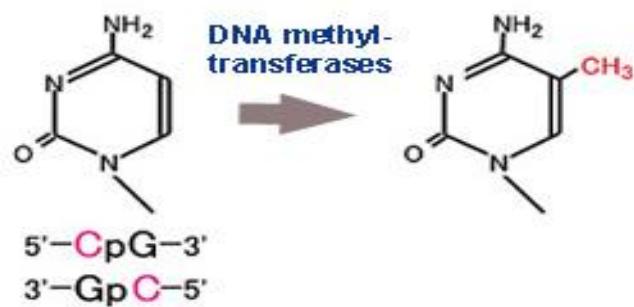
**Table 1. Histone Modifications Associated with Transcription**

Modifications	Position	Enzymes				Recognition Module(s) <sup>a</sup>	Functions in Transcription
		<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	<i>S. pombe</i>	<i>Drosophila</i>	Mammals		
Methylation	H3 K4	Set1	Set1	Trx, Ash1	MLL, ALL-1, Set9/7, ALR-1/2, ALR, Set1	PHD, Chromo, WD-40	Activation
	K9	n/a	Clr4	Su(var)3-9, Ash1	Suv39h, G9a, Eu-HMTase I, ESET, SETBD1	Chromo (HP1)	Repression, activation
	K27				E(Z)	Ezh2, G9a	Repression
	K36	Set2			HYPB, Smyd2, NSD1	Chromo(Eaf3), JMJD	Recruiting the Rpd3S to repress internal initiation
	K79	Dot1			Dot1L	Tudor	Activation
Arg Methylation	H4 K20		Set9	PR-Set7, Ash1	PR-Set7, SET8	Tudor	Silencing
	H3 R2				CARM1		Activation
	R17				CARM1		Activation
	R26				CARM1		Activation
Phosphorylation	H4 R3				PRMT1	(p300)	Activation
	H3 S10	Snf1				(Gcn5)	Activation
Ubiquitination	H2B K120/123	Rad6, Bre1	Rad6		UbcH6, RNF20/40	(COMPASS)	Activation
	H2A K119				hPRC1L		Repression
Acetylation	H3 K56					(Swi/Snf)	Activation
	H4 K16	Sas2, NuA4		dMOF	hMOF	Bromodomain	Activation
	Htz1 K14	NuA4, SAGA					Activation

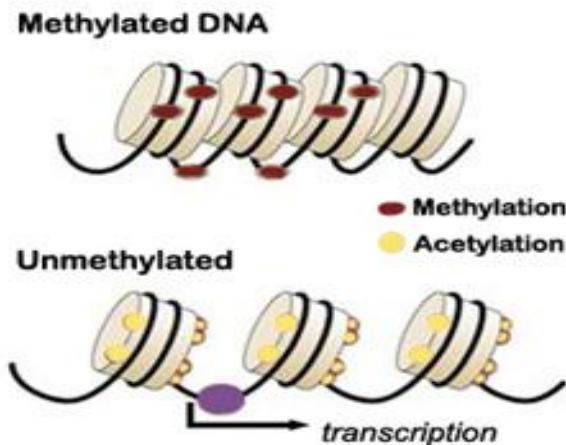
<sup>a</sup> The proteins that are indicated within the parentheses are shown to recognize the corresponding modifications but specific domains have yet to be determined.

# DNA Methylation

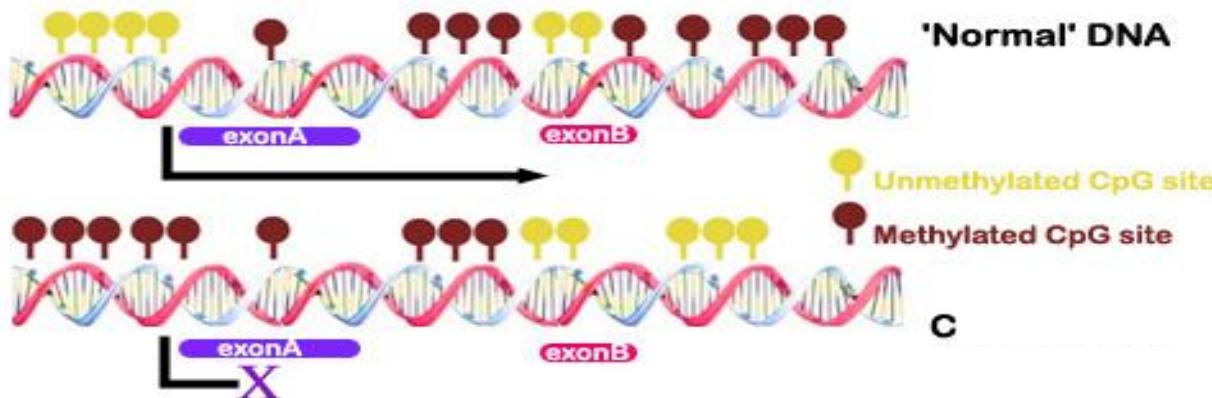
A



B



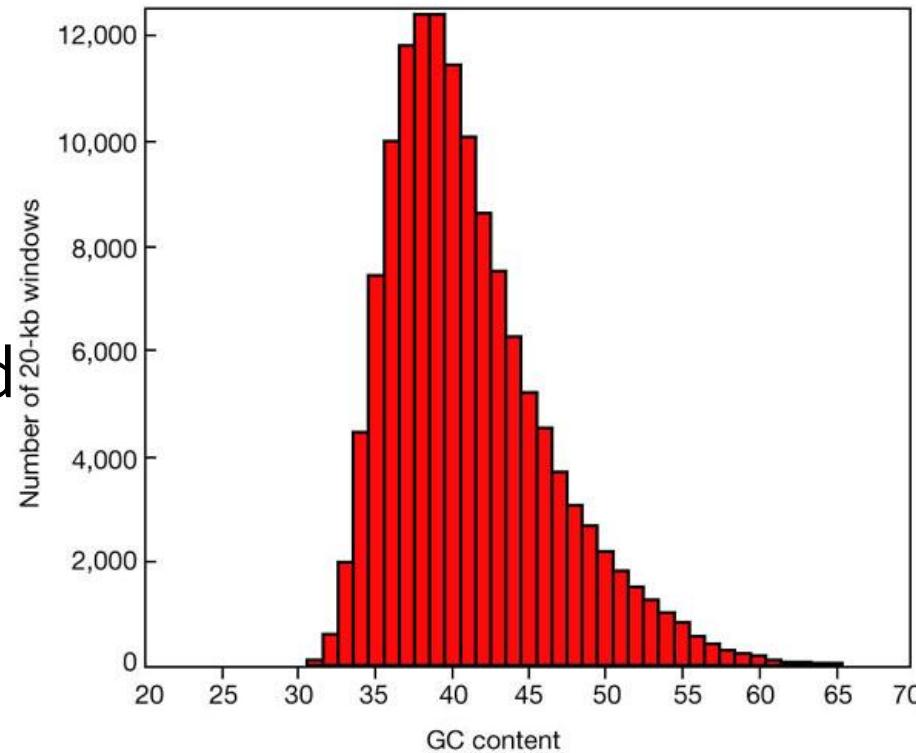
C



Hypomethylation  
Hypermethylation

# CpG islands

- CpG islands are clusters of '5-CG-3' di-nucleotides (CpGs)
- CpGs are underrepresented in the human genome, occurring at one fifth the expected frequency in genomic DNA



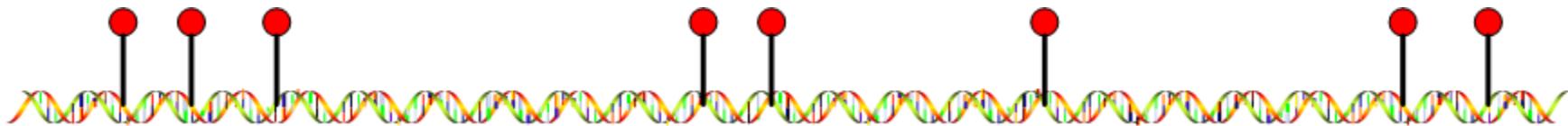
Source: IHGSC

# CpG underrepresentation

- Cause of underrepresentation:
  - CpG dinucleotides often are methylated on cytosine ( $m^5CpG$ )
  - $m^5CpG$  can turn into thymine through spontaneous deamination
- CpGs that are left in the genome, have thus been actively kept from mutating to thymine:
  - Implies functional relevance

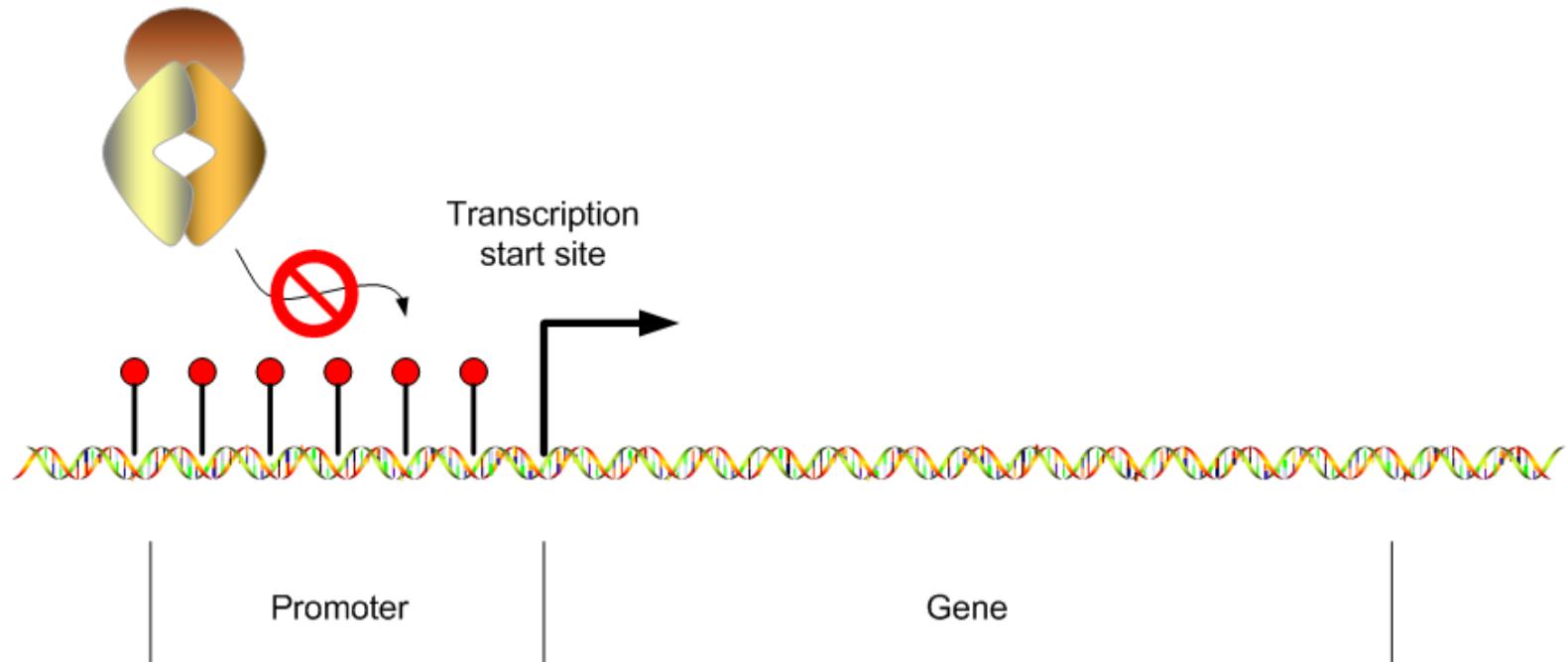
# CpG islands

- Most CpGs are present in clusters called CpG islands (CGIs).
- CGIs are located at various positions throughout genes, most notably in promoter regions, often in housekeeping genes



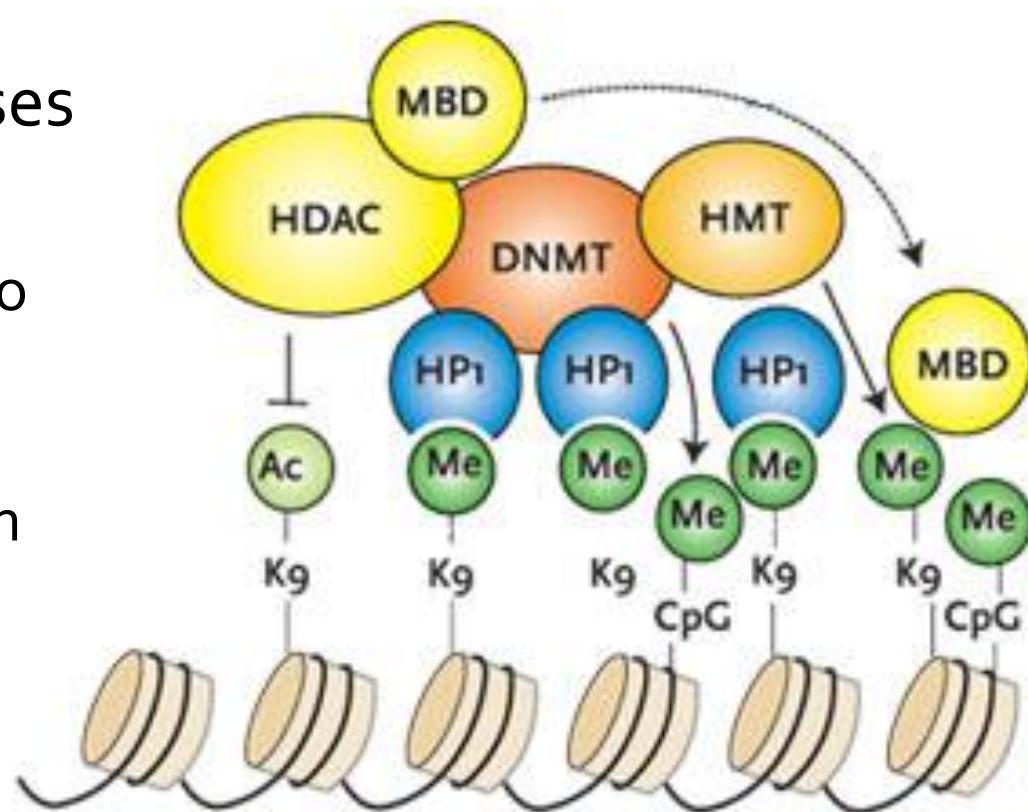
# CpG island methylation (I)

- Methylation of promoter CGIs causes gene silencing:
  - Impedes TF binding directly: decrease in binding affinity



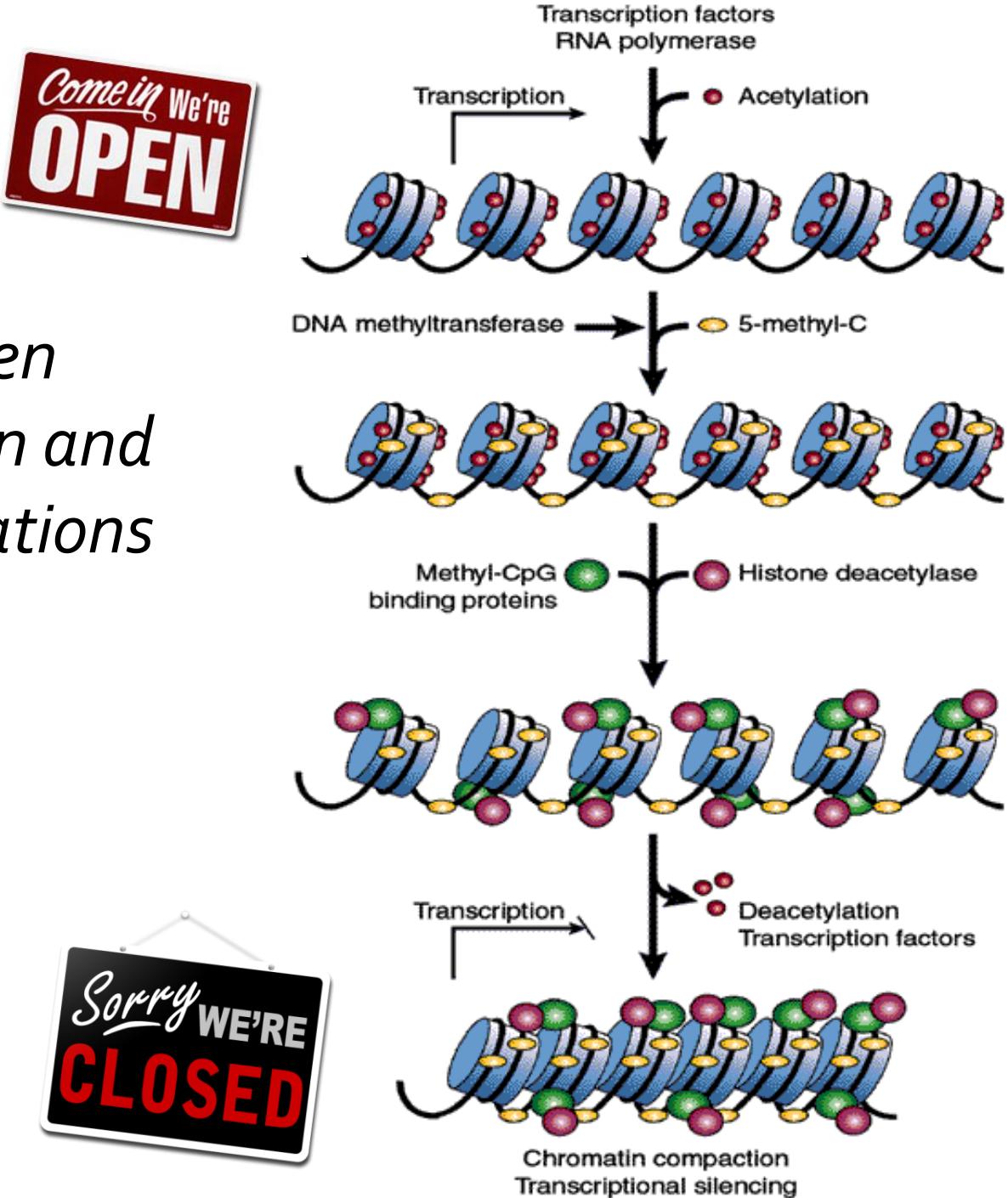
# CpG island methylation (II)

- Methylation of promotor CGIs causes gene silencing:
  - MBD protein binds to methylated CGI, recruits histone modifiers resulting in closed chromatin structure



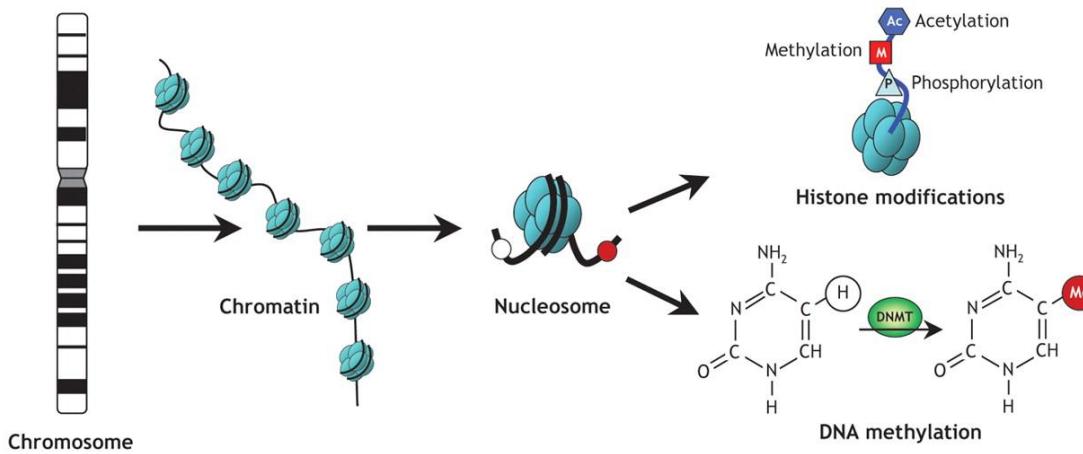
Source: *The Scientist* 2005, 19(12):18

# *Interplay between CpG methylation and histone modifications*



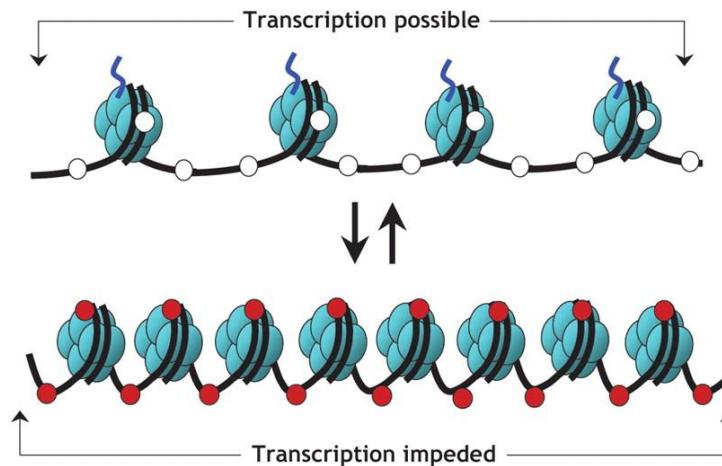
# Interplay between CpG methylation and histone modification

A



B

- Gene “switched on”
- Active (open) chromatin
  - Unmethylated cytosines (white circles)
  - Acetylated histones

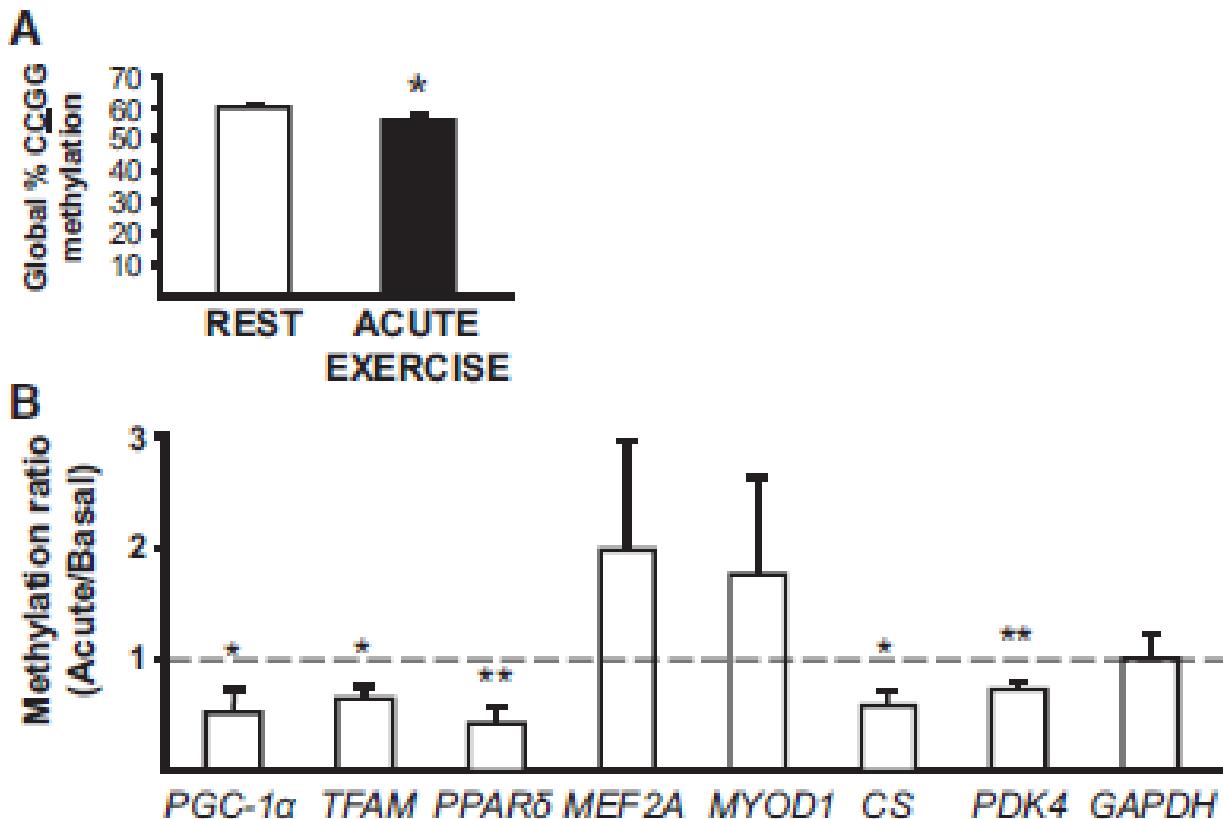


- Gene “switched off”
- Silent (condensed) chromatin
  - Methylated cytosines (red circles)
  - Deacetylated histones

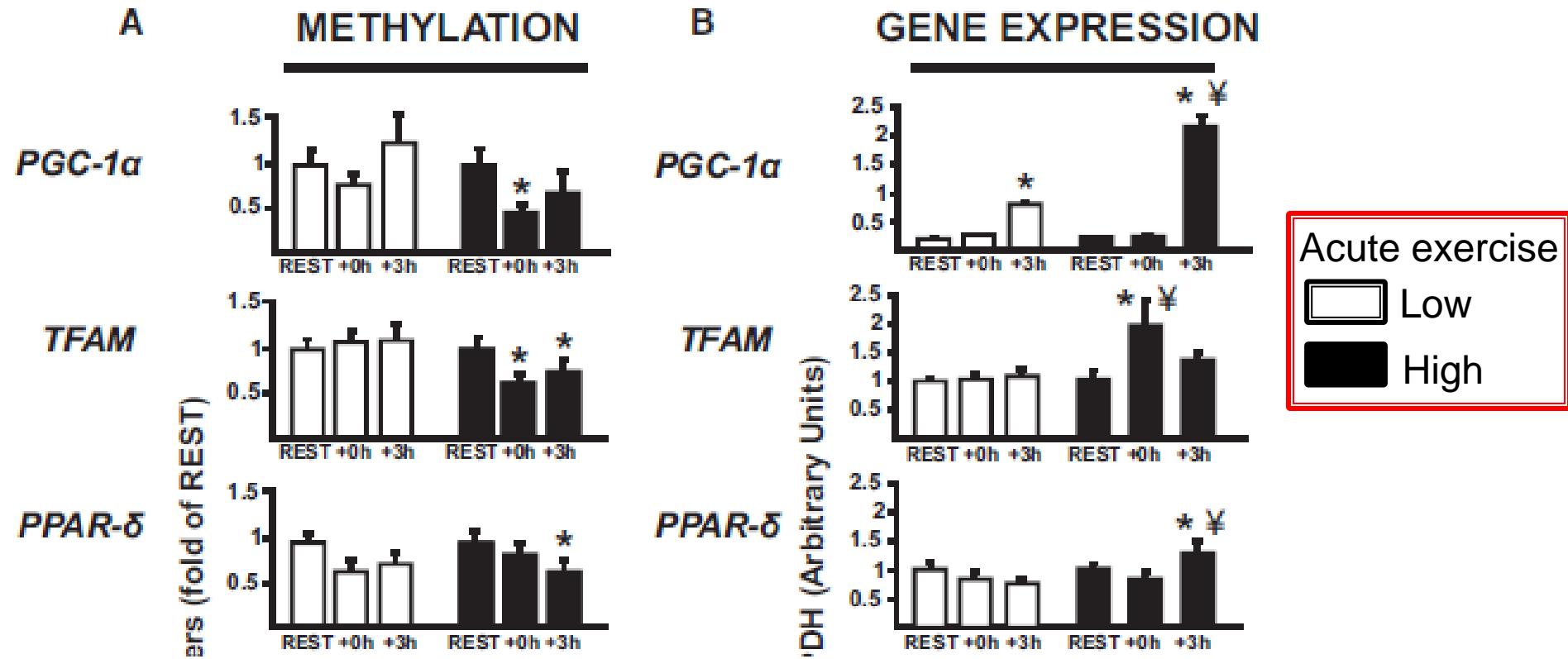
# CpG island methylation (III)

- In general CpGs in a single CGI are either all methylated or all unmethylated:
  - Gradients across tissue for multiple copies
- When comparing phenotype *X* to phenotype *R*:
  - CGI **hypermethylation** (methylated in *X*, unmethylated in *R*)
  - CGI **hypomethylation** (vice versa)
- Methylation blocks transcription, but de-methylation **does not** mediate transcription:
  - an appropriate (set of) transcription factor(s) is still required

# Acute exercise remodels DNA methylation in skeletal muscle



# Exercise-induced promoter hypomethylation



# Natural Roles of DNA Methylation in Mammalian System

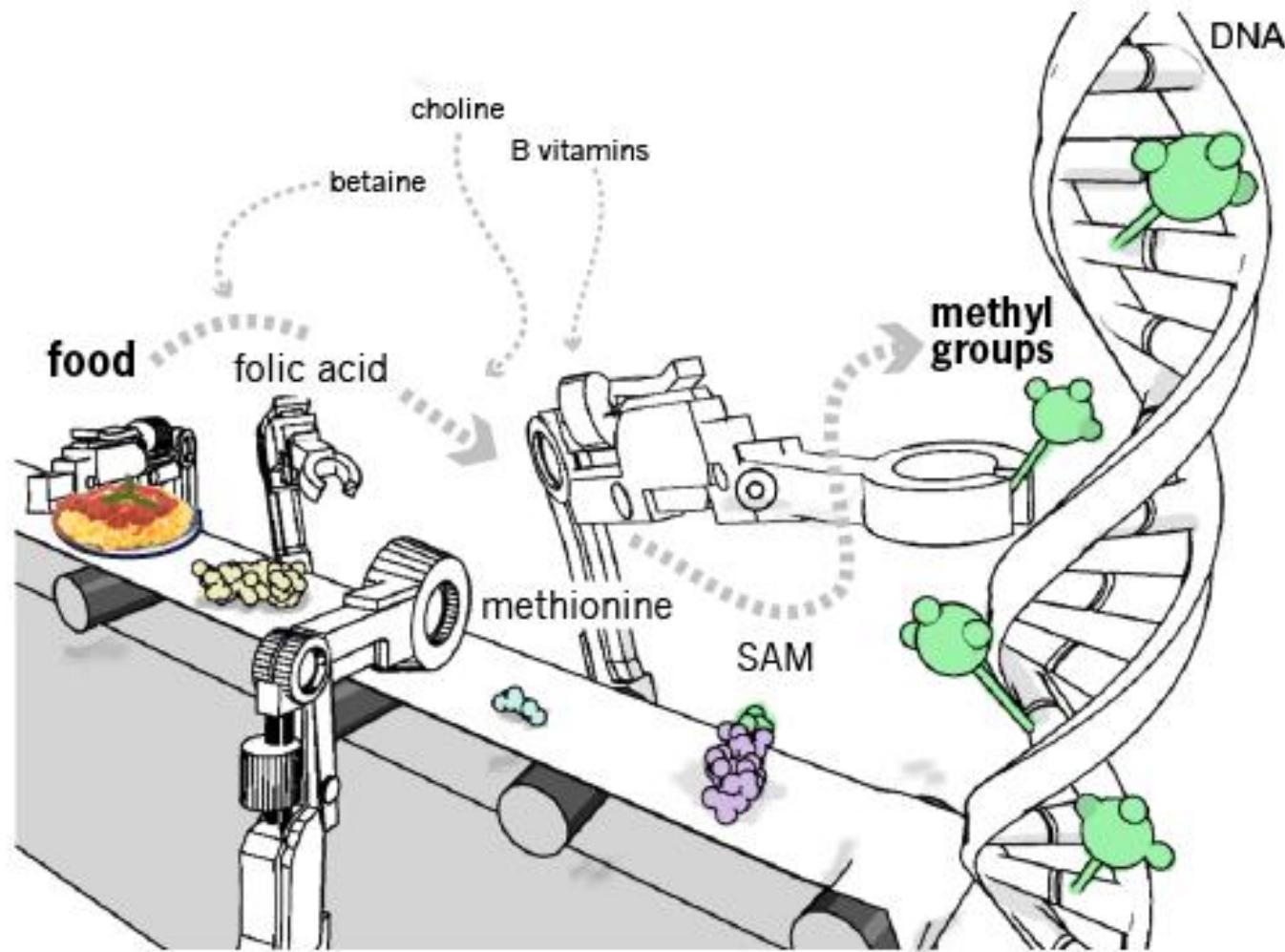
- Tissue specific expression controls
- Imprinting
- X chromosome inactivation
- Heterochromatin maintenance
- Developmental controls

# DNA methylation and disease

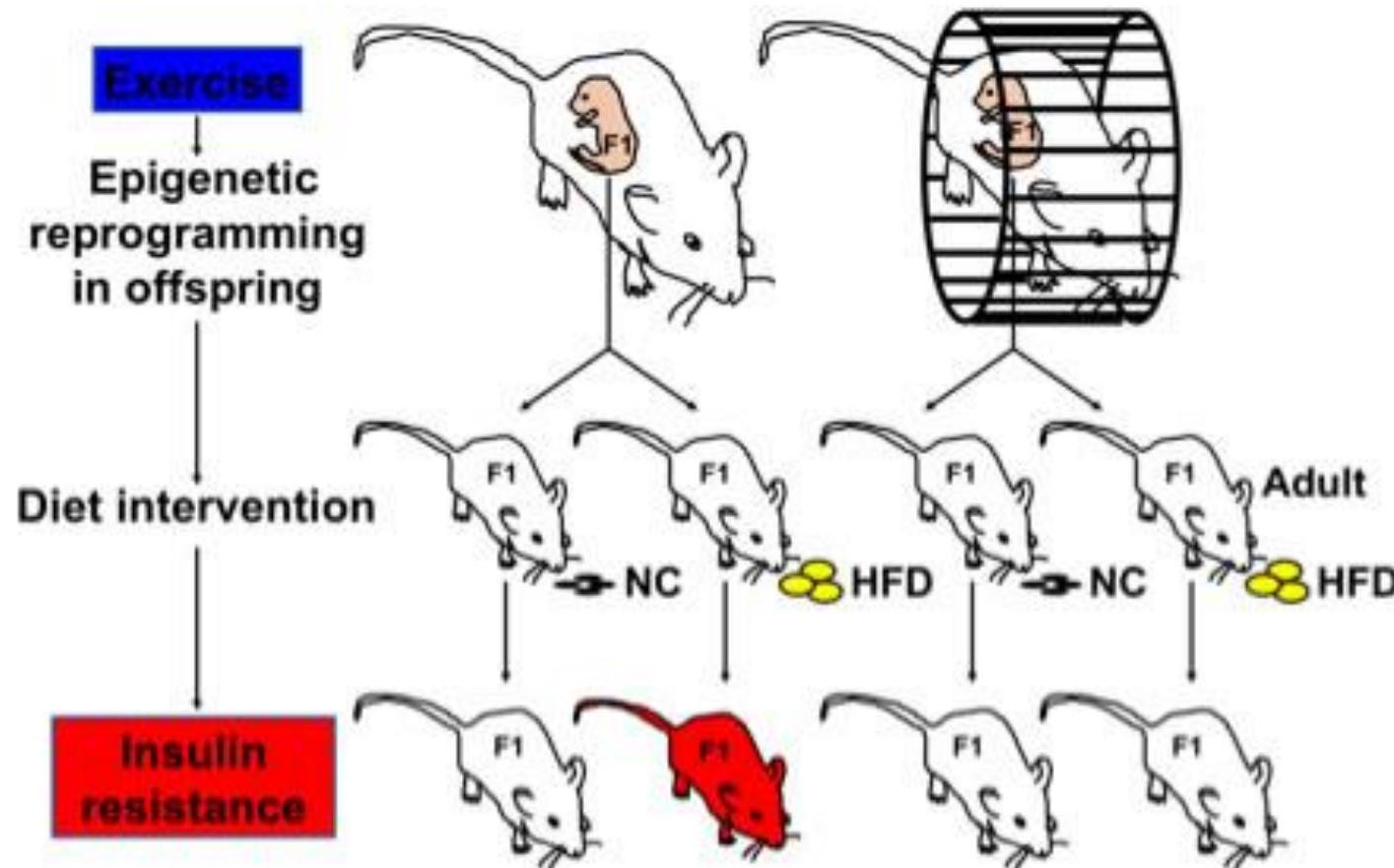
- Cancer:
  - **hypermethylation** of promotor CGIs is found in tumor suppressor genes
  - global **hypomethylation**: structural change
- CGI methylation profiles are used as biomarker profiles
  - Personalized medicine for cancer therapy (similar to SNPs)
  - Identify cancers of unknown origin based on CGI methylation profile



# DNA methylation and diet



# Epigenetics and maternal exercise



# Finding CGIs and histone modifications in UCSC

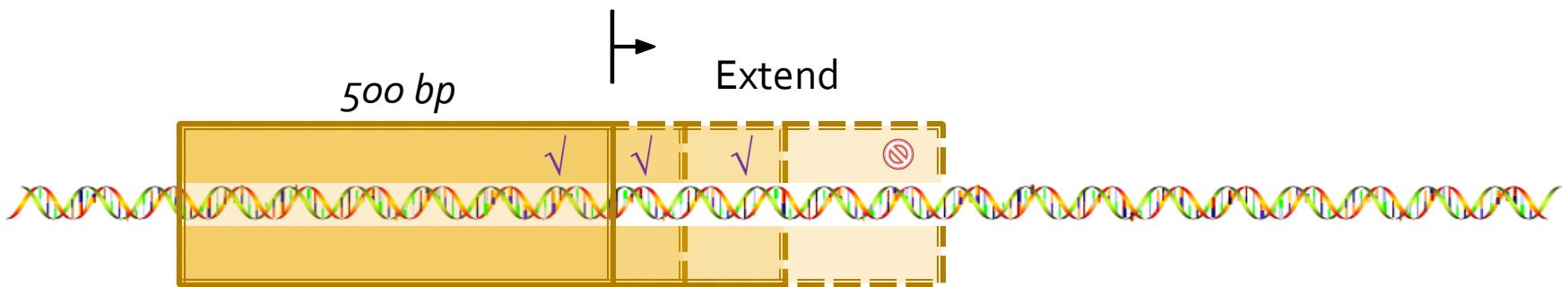
# Defining CpG islands

- Definition:
  - A CGI is a DNA sequence of at least 200 base pairs (bp) long with a GC content of at least 50% and a CpG observed/expected ratio of at least 0.6
  - observed/expected ratio =  $\frac{\text{Observed CpGs}}{\text{Length of sequence}} \times \frac{1}{[\text{No Of Cs} * \text{No of Gs}]}$
- A CpG island is genuine when it is proven to be functional:
  - susceptible to differential methylation
    - DNA methylation assay
  - with measurable effect on gene expression
    - Experimental validation of DNA methylation array results
    - Integration of DNA methylation microarray data with transcriptomics data

# Finding CpG islands

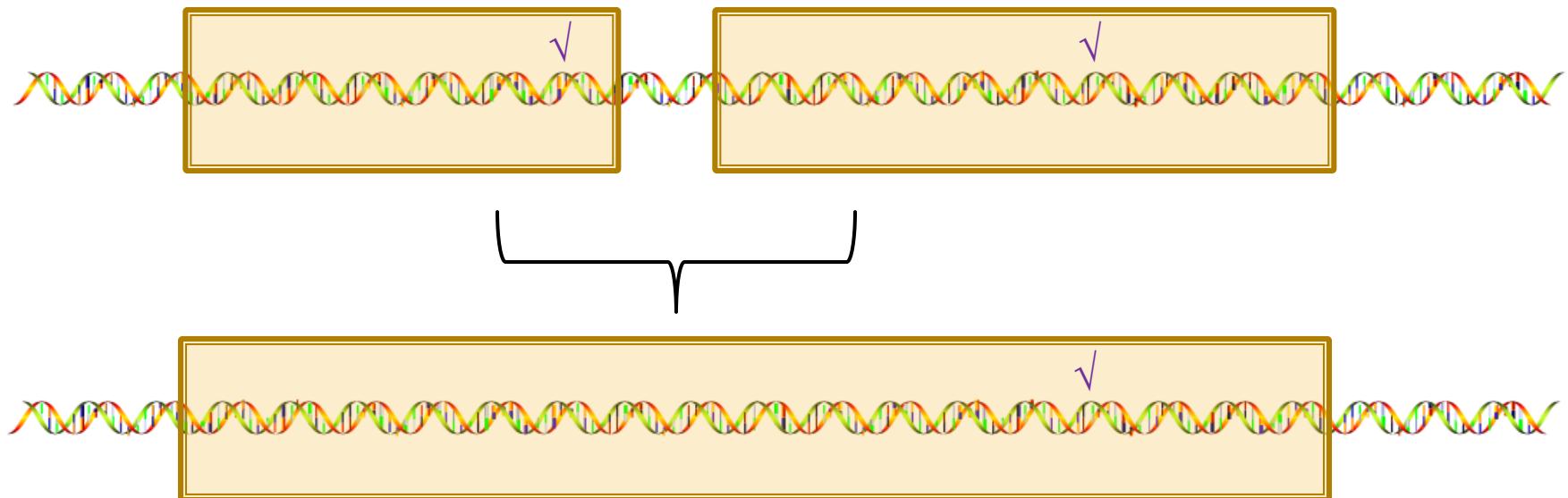
- Algorithm outline:

- Move window with **minimum length (200 – 500 bp)** over the genome
- If sequence in window meets CGI criteria:
  - Extend until it no longer meets the criteria**
  - Record the resulting sequence as **primary CpG island**



# Finding CpG islands

- Algorithm outline:
  1. Move window to end of primary CpG island and repeat
  2. Final step: take close CGIs together



# UCSC Genome Browser (<http://genome.ucsc.edu/>)

UCSC Genome Browser Home - Windows Internet Explorer

http://genome.ucsc.edu/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

UCSC Genome Browser Home Page Tools

## UCSC Genome Bioinformatics

Genomes Blat Tables Gene Sorter PCR VisiGene Proteome Session FAQ Help

**About the UCSC Genome Bioinformatics Site**

Welcome to the UCSC Genome Browser website. This site contains the reference sequence and working draft assemblies for a large collection of genomes. It also provides a portal to the ENCODE project.

We encourage you to explore these sequences with our tools. The [Genome Browser](#) zooms and scrolls over chromosomes, showing the work of annotators worldwide. The [Gene Sorter](#) shows expression, homology and other information on groups of genes that can be related in many ways. [Blat](#) quickly maps your sequence to the genome. The [Table Browser](#) provides convenient access to the underlying database. [VisiGene](#) lets you browse through a large collection of *in situ* mouse and frog images to examine expression patterns. [Genome Graphs](#) allows you to upload and display genome-wide data sets.

The UCSC Genome Browser is developed and maintained by the Genome Bioinformatics Group, a cross-departmental team within the Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering ([CBSE](#)) at the University of California Santa Cruz ([UCSC](#)). If you have feedback or questions concerning the tools or data on this website, feel free to contact us on our [public mailing list](#). To view the results of the Genome Browser users' survey we conducted in May 2007, click [here](#).

**News**

To receive announcements of new genome assembly releases, new software features, updates and training seminars by email, subscribe to the [genome-announce](#) mailing list.

**5 May 2008 - GSID HIV Data Browser Now Available**

Global Solutions for Infectious Diseases (GSID) has announced the launch of an HIV Data Browser with clinical and viral sequence data from infected subjects in the VAX004 (North American/European) Phase III clinical trial of the AIDSVAX B/B vaccine. The browser, which is a customized version of the UCSC Genome Browser developed by the UCSC Genome Bioinformatics group and hosted by GSID, provides researchers with searchable demographic and clinical data from volunteers who became HIV infected during the VAX004 trial. Using the browser, viral sequences may be aligned with one another or with reference or consensus sequences.

GSID is making these AIDSVAX data and serological samples available to the HIV research community through an agreement with VaxGen and with funding provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Future releases will include the addition of clinical and viral sequence data from infected subjects in the VAX003 (Thai) Phase III clinical trial of AIDSVAX B/E, and immunogenicity data from infected subjects in both the VAX004 and VAX003 trials. The browser may be expanded to include data from uninfected subjects in both trials as well.

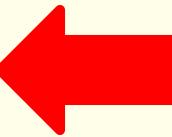
For information on accessing the GSID HIV Data Browser and background on the AIDSVAX clinical trials, visit <http://www.gsid.org/index02.html>.

**23 Apr. 2008 - Marmoset Browser Released:** We'd like to announce the release of a Genome Browser and Blat server for the marmoset genome (*Callithrix jacchus*). [Read more](#).

[Home](#) [Genomes](#) [Blat](#) [Tables](#) [Gene Sorter](#) [PCR](#) [Session](#) [FAQ](#) [Help](#)**Human (*Homo sapiens*) Genome Browser Gateway**

The UCSC Genome Browser was created by the University of California, Santa Cruz  
Software Copyright (c) The Regents of the University of California.

**PAX-6**

clade	genome	assembly	pos	or search term	image width	
Vertebrate	Human	Mar. 2006	pax6	620	submit	

[Click here to reset](#) the browser user interface settings to their defaults.[add custom tracks](#)[configure tracks and display](#)[clear position](#)**About the Human Mar. 2006 (hg18) assembly ([sequences](#))**

The March 2006 human reference sequence (NCBI Build 36.1) was produced by the International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium.

**Sample position queries**

A genome position can be specified by the accession number of a sequenced genomic clone, an mRNA or EST or STS marker, or a cytological band, a chromosomal coordinate range, or keywords from the GenBank description of an mRNA. The following list shows examples of valid position queries for the human genome. See the [User's Guide](#) for more information.

**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
chr3:1000000+2000	Displays a region of chr3 that spans 2000 bases, starting with position 1000000
D16S3046	Displays region around STS marker D16S3046 from the Genethon/Marshfield maps. Includes 100,000 bases on each side as well.
RH18061;RH80175	Displays region between STS markers RH18061;RH80175. This syntax may also be used for other range queries, such as between cytobands and uniquely-determined ESTs, mRNAs, refSeqs, etc.
AA205474	Displays region of EST with GenBank accession AA205474 in BRCA1 cancer gene on chr 17
AC008101	Displays region of clone with GenBank accession AC008101
AF083811	Displays region of mRNA with GenBank accession number AF083811
PRNP	Displays region of genome with HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee identifier PRNP
NM_017414	Displays the region of genome with RefSeq identifier NM_017414
NP_059110	Displays the region of genome with protein accession number NP_059110
pseudogene mRNA	Lists transcribed pseudogenes, but not cDNAs



## UCSC Genes

PAX6 (uc001mth.1) at chr11:31767034-31789455 - paired box gene 6 isoform a  
PAX6 (uc001mtg.1) at chr11:31767034-31789455 - paired box gene 6 isoform b  
PAX6 (uc001mtf.1) at chr11:31767034-31789434 - paired box gene 6 isoform a  
PAX6 (uc001mte.1) at chr11:31767034-31789169 - paired box gene 6 isoform a  
PAX6 (uc001mtd.1) at chr11:31767034-31788791 - paired box gene 6 isoform a  
MEIS1 (uc002sdu.1) at chr2:66516036-66653395 - Meis homeobox 1  
TCF20 (uc003bcj.1) at chr22:40885963-40941389 - transcription factor 20 isoform 1  
TRIM11 (uc001hss.1) at chr1:226648000-226661140 - tripartite motif-containing 11  
HOMER3 (uc002nkv.1) at chr19:18901012-18912983 - Homer, neuronal immediate early gene, 3  
HOMER3 (uc002nku.1) at chr19:18901012-18911444 - Homer, neuronal immediate early gene, 3

## RefSeq Genes

PAX6 at chr11:31767034-31789455 - (NM\_001604) paired box gene 6 isoform b  
PAX6 at chr11:31767034-31789455 - (NM\_000280) paired box gene 6 isoform a

## Non-Human RefSeq Genes

Pax6 at chr11:31767318-31785051 - (NM\_013001) paired box gene 6  
Pax6 at chr11:31767318-31788275 - (NM\_013627) paired box gene 6  
PAX6 at chr11:31768060-31785051 - (NM\_001097544) paired box gene 6  
PAX6 at chr11:31768060-31796040 - (NM\_001040645) paired box gene 6  
pax6 at chr11:31767318-31789183 - (NM\_001006762) paired box 6  
PAX6 at chr11:31767712-31780956 - (NM\_205066) paired box gene 6  
pax6a at chr11:31767326-31780956 - (NM\_131304) paired box gene 6a  
pax6b at chr11:31768060-31780956 - (NM\_131641) paired box gene 6b  
Pax6 at chr11:31771867-31780959 - (NM\_001032469) Pax6 protein  
PAX6 at chr11:31768060-31780958 - (NM\_001082217) paired box protein PAX6 isoform b

## Alias of STS Marker

PAX6 at chr11:31678772-31879023 - (RH27337)

## Human Aligned mRNA Search Results

AY047583 - Homo sapiens paired box protein PAX6 (PAX6) mRNA, complete cds.  
BC011953 - Homo sapiens paired box 6, mRNA (cDNA clone MGC:17209 IMAGE:3880468), complete cds.  
DQ891436 - Synthetic construct clone IMAGE:100004066; FLH176929.01X; RZPD0839B01124D paired box gene 6 (aniridia, keratitis) (PAX6) gene, encodes complete p



http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgTracks?hgId=107100861&amp;hgt.out1=1.5x&amp;position=chr11%3A31773262-31783227



File Edit View Favorites Tools Help



Human chr11:31,773,262-31,783,227 - UCSC Genom...



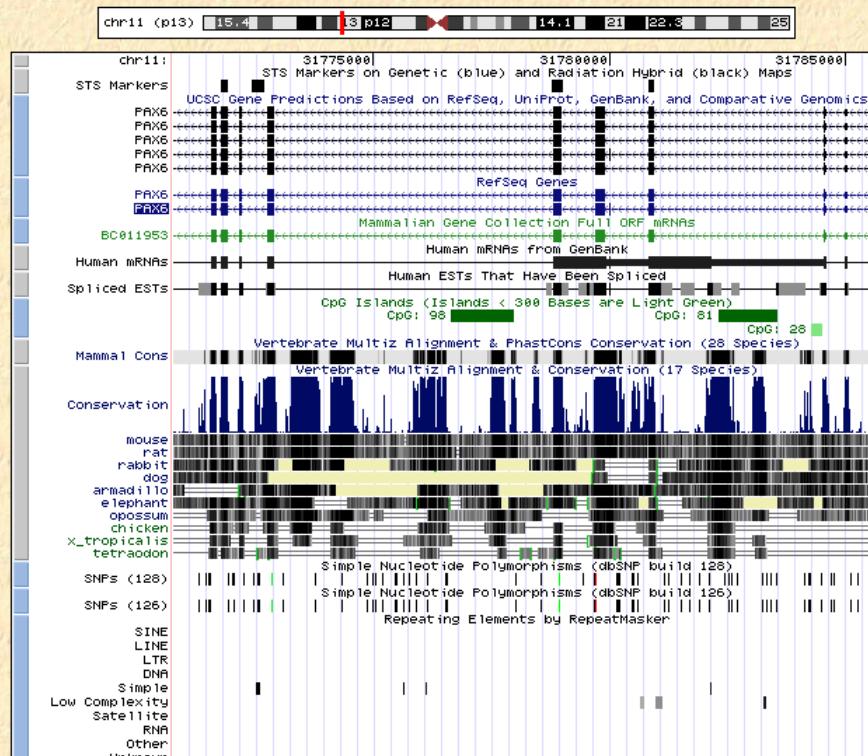
Page Tools &gt;

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

## UCSC Genome Browser on Human Mar. 2006 Assembly

move &lt;&lt;&lt; &lt;&lt; &lt; &gt; &gt;&gt; zoom in 1.5x 3x 10x base zoom out 1.5x 3x 10x

position/search chr11:31,770,771-31,785,719 jump clear size 14,949 bp. configure



move start Click on a feature for details. Click on base position to zoom in move end  
 < 2.0 > around cursor. Click gray/blue bars on left for track options and descriptions. < 2.0 >

default tracks hide all add custom tracks configure reverse 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

Repeating Elements by RepeatMasker

move start < 2.0 > move end < 2.0 >

Click on a feature for details. Click or drag in the base position track to zoom in. Click side bars for track options. Drag side bars or labels up or down to reorder tracks. Drag tracks left or right to new position.

track search default tracks default order hide all add custom tracks track hubs configure reverse resize refresh

collapse all expand all 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

- UCSC Genes GENCODE... Old UCSC Genes Alt Events CCDS RefSeq Genes
  - dense hide hide hide hide hide pack Pfam in UCSC Gene
- Other RefSeq MGC Genes ORFeome Clones TransMap... Vega Genes
  - hide hide hide hide hide hide
- Ensembl Genes AceView Genes SIB Genes N-SCAN SGP Genes Geneid Genes
  - hide hide hide hide hide hide
- Genscan Genes Exoniphy Yale Pseudo60 tRNA Genes H-Inv 7.0 EvoFold
  - hide hide hide hide hide hide
- sno/miRNA IKMC Genes Mapped lncRNAs...
  - hide hide hide

### Phenotype and Disease Associations

### Genes and Gene Prediction Tracks

### mRNA and EST Tracks

### Expression

### Regulation

Affy Exon Array Affy GNF1H Affy RNA Loc Affy U133 Affy U133Plus2 Affy U95
 

- hide hide hide hide hide hide

Allen Brain Burge RNA-seq CSHL Small RNA-seq ENC Exon Array... ENC ProtGep...
 

- hide hide hide hide hide hide

GIS RNA PET GNF Atlas 2 Illumina WG-6 qPCR Primers RIKEN CAGE Loc Sestan Brain
 

- hide hide hide hide hide hide

ENCODE Regulation... CD34 Dataset CpG Islands ENC Chromatin... ENC DNA Methylation ENC DNase/FAIRE...
 

- hide hide hide show hide hide

ENC Histone... ENC RNA Binding... ENC TF FSU Repli-chip ORegAnno
 

- show hide hide hide pack

SUNY SwitchGear TSS TFBS Conserved TS miRNA sites UMMS Brain Hist Stanf Nucleosome
 

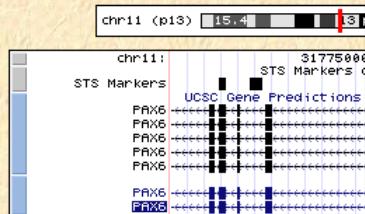
- hide hide hide hide hide hide

Vista Enhancers NKI Nuc UCSF Brain Methyl
 

- hide hide hide hide

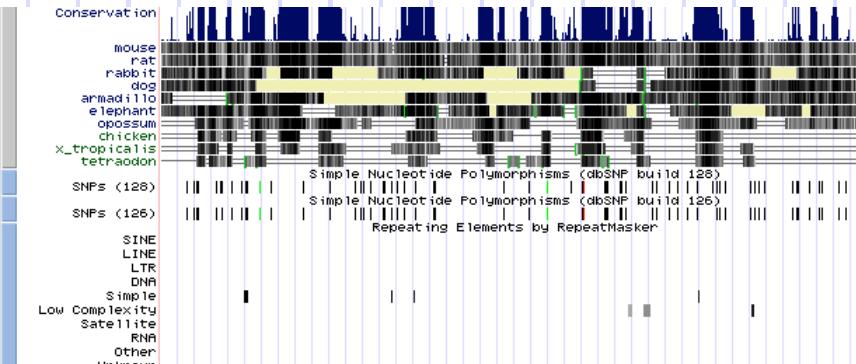
### Comparative Genomics

- Conservation Cons Indels GERP Evo Cpg Primate Chain/Net Placental Chain/Net
  - full MmCf hide hide hide hide

[Home](#) [Genomes](#) [Blat](#) [Tables](#) [Gene Sorter](#) [PCR](#) [DNA](#) [Convert](#) [Ensembl](#) [NCBI](#) [PDF/PS](#) [Session](#) [Help](#)**UCSC Genome Browser on Human Mar. 2006 Assembly**move [<<<](#) [<<](#) [<](#) [>](#) [>>](#) zoom in [1.5x](#) [3x](#) [10x](#) base zoom out [1.5x](#) [3x](#) [10x](#)position/search [chr11:31,770,771-31,783,227](#)

Left-click to get  
more information on  
the CpG island

CpG Islands (Islands < 300 Bases are Light Green)  
CpG: 98      CpG: 81      CpG:



move start [<](#) 2.0 [>](#) Click on a feature for details. Click on base position to zoom in  
move end [<](#) 2.0 [>](#) around cursor. Click gray/blue bars on left for track options and  
descriptions.

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



## CpG Island Info

### CpG Island Info

**Position:** [chr11:31776637-31777992](#)

**Band:** 11p13

**Genomic Size:** 1356

[View DNA for this feature](#)

**Size:** 1356

**CpG count:** 98

**C count plus G count:** 820

**Percentage CpG:** 14.5%

**Percentage C or G:** 60.5%

**Ratio of observed to expected CpG:** 0.79

[View table schema](#)

[Go to CpG Islands track controls](#)

**Data last updated:** 2005-12-14

## Description

CpG islands are associated with genes, particularly housekeeping genes, in vertebrates. CpG islands are typically located in promoter regions. Normally a C (cytosine) base followed immediately by a G (guanine) base (a CpG) is rare in vertebrate genomes because it is easily methylated. This methylation helps distinguish the newly synthesized DNA strand from the parent strand, which aids in replication. Over evolutionary time methylated Cs tend to turn into Ts because of spontaneous deamination. The result is that CpGs are relatively rare in vertebrate genomes.

# ENCODE data in UCSC

The screenshot shows the UCSC Genome Browser interface with several tracks listed under different categories:

- Regulation:**
  - ENCODE Regulation... (hide)
  - CD34 DnaseI (18) (hide)
  - ENC Histone... (show)
  - SUNY SwitchGear (hide)
  - Vista Enhancers (hide)
- Comparative Genomics:**
  - Conservation full (hide)
  - Vertebrate Chain/Net (hide)
  - GERP (hide)
  - Evo Cpg (18) (hide)
  - Primate Chain/Net (hide)
  - Placental Chain/Net (hide)
- Other Tracks:**
  - Affy Exon Array (hide)
  - Affy GNF1H (hide)
  - Affy RNA Loc (hide)
  - Affy U133 (hide)
  - Affy U133Plus2 (hide)
  - Affy U95 (hide)
  - Allen Brain (hide)
  - Burge RNA-seq (hide)
  - CSHL Small RNA-seq (hide)
  - ENC Exon Array... (hide)
  - ENC ProtGeno... (hide)
  - ENC RNA-seq... (hide)
  - GIS RNA PET (hide)
  - GNF Atlas 2 (hide)
  - Illumina WG-6 (18) (hide)
  - qPCR Primers (hide)
  - RIKEN CAGE Loc (hide)
  - Sestan Brain (hide)

# ENCODE regulation track

Genomes    Genome Browser    Tools    Mirrors    Downloads    My Data    About Us    Help

## ENCODE Regulation Super-track Settings

 Integrated Regulation from ENCODE Tracks ([All Regulation tracks](#))

Display mode:

All

<input type="checkbox"/> hide	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Transcription</a>	Transcription Levels Assayed by RNA-seq on 9 Cell Lines from ENCODE
<input type="checkbox"/> hide	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Layered H3K4Me1</a>	H3K4Me1 Mark (Often Found Near Regulatory Elements) on 7 cell lines from ENCODE
<input type="checkbox"/> hide	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Layered H3K4Me3</a>	H3K4Me3 Mark (Often Found Near Promoters) on 7 cell lines from ENCODE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> full	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Layered H3K27Ac</a>	H3K27Ac Mark (Often Found Near Active Regulatory Elements) on 7 cell lines from ENCODE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> dense	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">DNase Clusters</a>	Digital DNasel Hypersensitivity Clusters in 125 cell types from ENCODE
<input type="checkbox"/> hide	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">DNase Clusters V1</a>	Digital DNasel Hypersensitivity Clusters in 74 cell types (2 reps) from ENCODE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pack	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Txn Factor ChIP</a>	Transcription Factor ChIP-seq from ENCODE

---

## Description

These tracks contain [information](#) relevant to the regulation of transcription from the [ENCODE project](#). The *Transcription* track shows transcription levels assayed by sequencing of polyadenylated RNA from a variety of cell types. The *Overlay H3K4Me1* and *Overlay H3K27Ac* tracks show where modification of histone proteins is suggestive of enhancer and, to a lesser extent, other regulatory activity. These histone modifications, particularly H3K4Me1, are quite broad. The actual enhancers are typically just a small portion of the area marked by these histone modifications. The *Overlay H3K4Me3* track shows a histone mark associated with promoters. The *DNase Clusters* track shows regions where the chromatin is hypersensitive to cutting by the DNase enzyme, which has been assayed in a large number of cell types. Regulatory regions, in general, tend to be DNase sensitive, and promoters are particularly DNase sensitive. The *Txn Factor ChIP* track shows DNA regions where transcription factors, proteins responsible for modulating gene transcription, bind as assayed by chromatin immunoprecipitation with antibodies specific to the transcription factor followed by sequencing of the precipitated DNA (ChIP-seq).

# Measuring regulatory events genome wide

# **Key approach: Enrichment analysis**

DNA sample that is biologically enriched for regulatory sequences

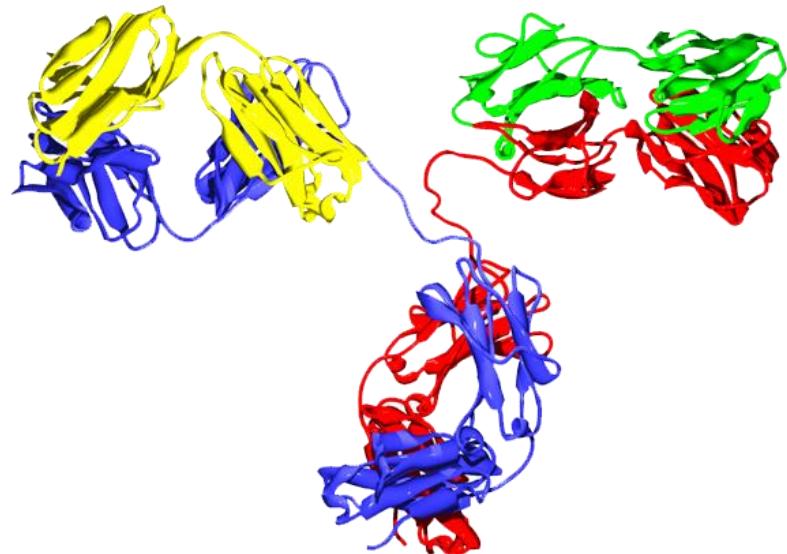
**VS**

DNA reference sample containing all sequences found in the genome

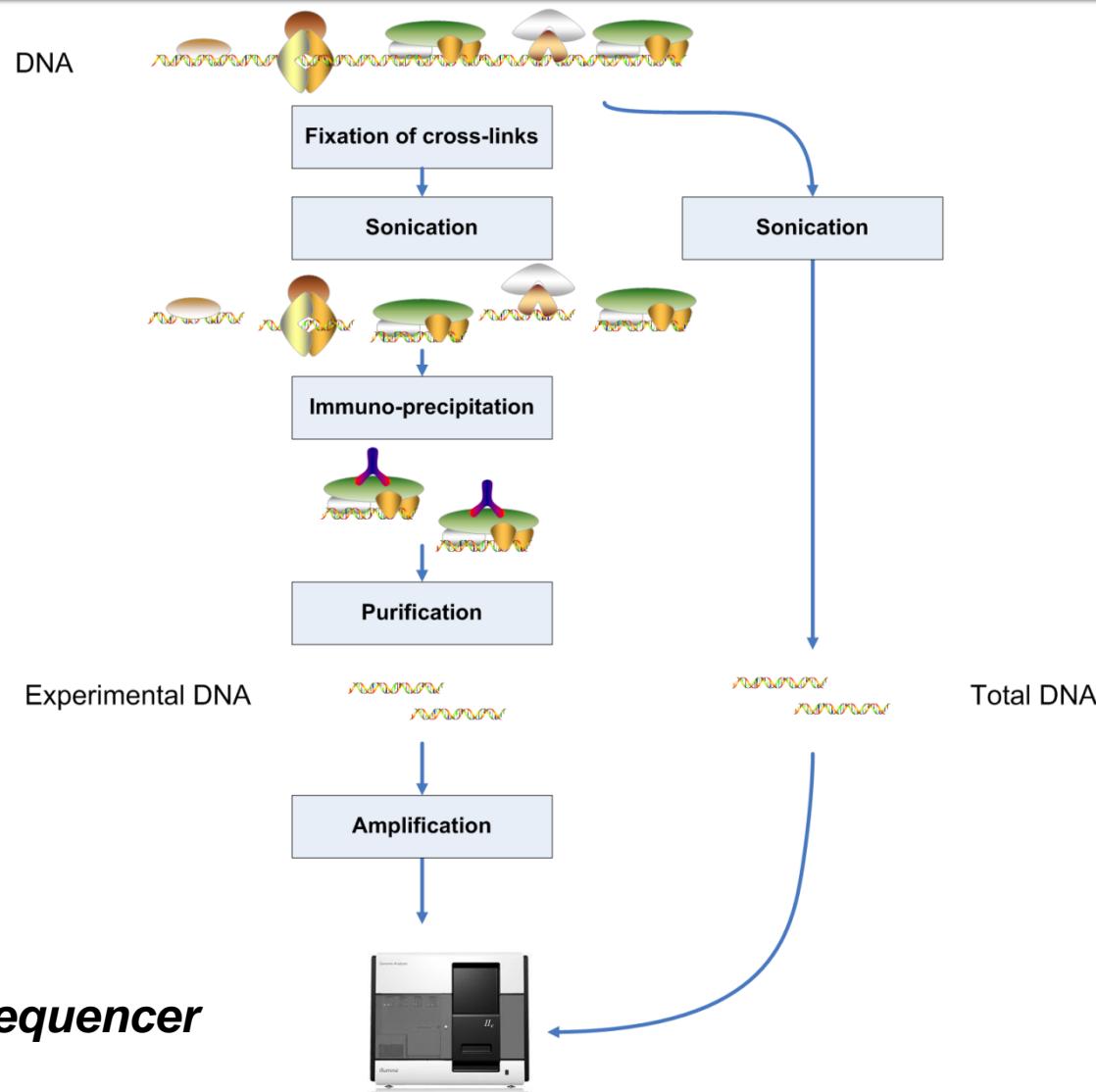
# Assays to determine enrichment

- General enrichment assay:

- Chromatin immunoprecipitation (**ChIP**)
- IP any DNA bound protein, as long as suitable anti-body is available



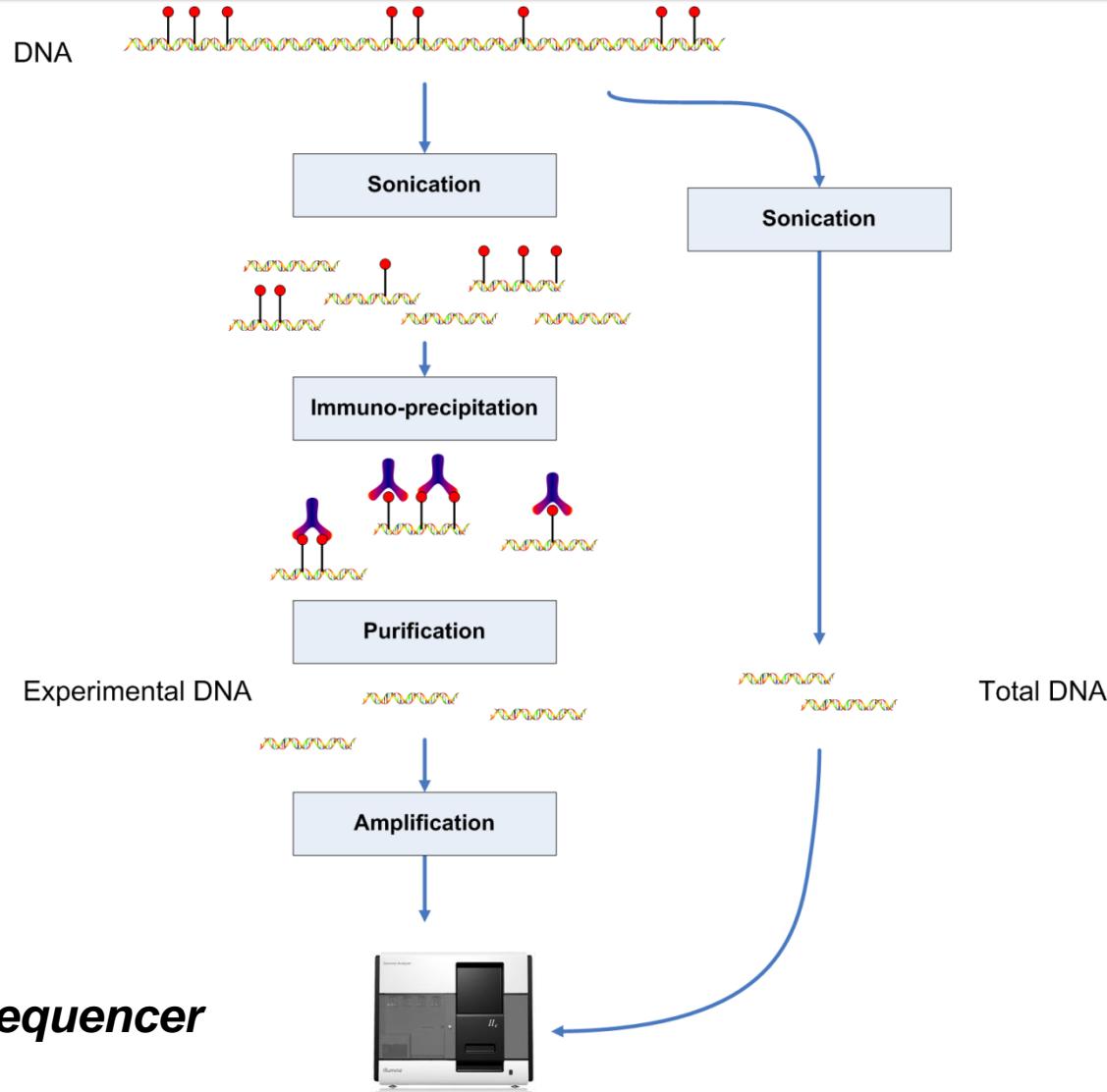
# General enrichment assay



# Assays to determine enrichment (2)

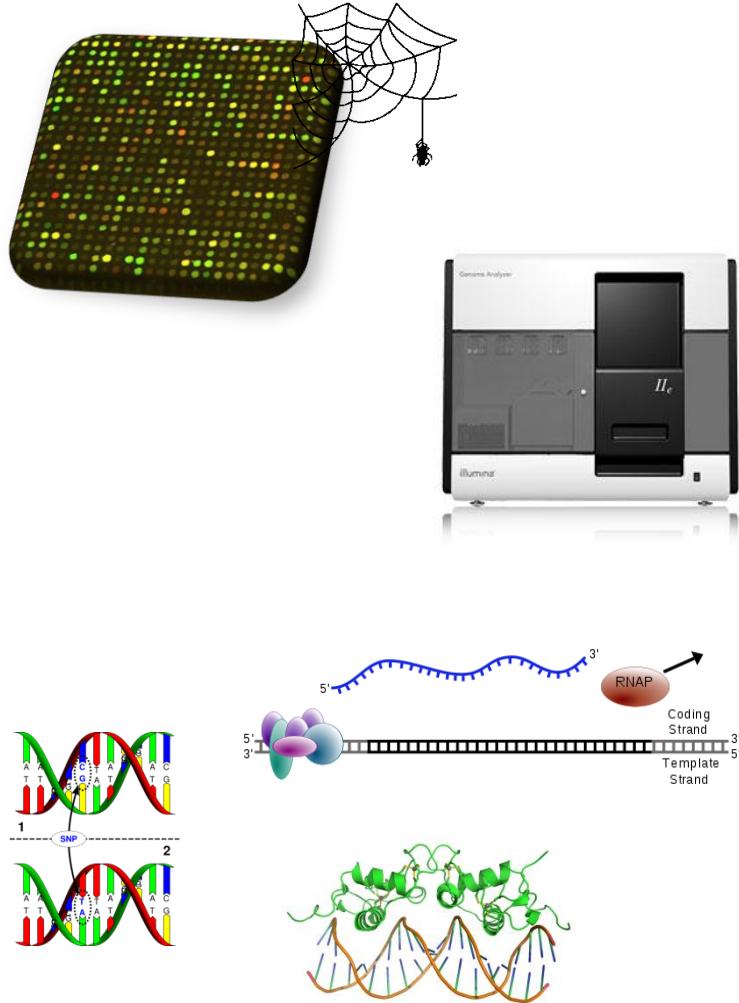
- DNA methylation:
  - Methyl-DNA immuno-precipitation (**MeDIP**)
    - IP methylated DNA directly
    - Biased towards CGI
  - Methylation sensitive restriction enzym based assay (e.g. **McrBc**)
    - Cut up methylated DNA, prevent it from being PCR amplified
    - Left with 'total DNA – methylated DNA'

# DNA methylation assay



# Technology

- Microarray technology
- Next generation sequencing
- Both have many applications
  - Gene expression
  - MicroRNA expression
  - Genetic variation
  - DNA methylation
  - DNA protein binding
  - ...



# Next generation sequencing

- Sequence sonicated DNA sample:
  - Results: loads of short reads (30 ~ 50 bp)
- Map reads back to the genome (BLAST):
  - Usually keep unique hits only
- Annotate reads to genes

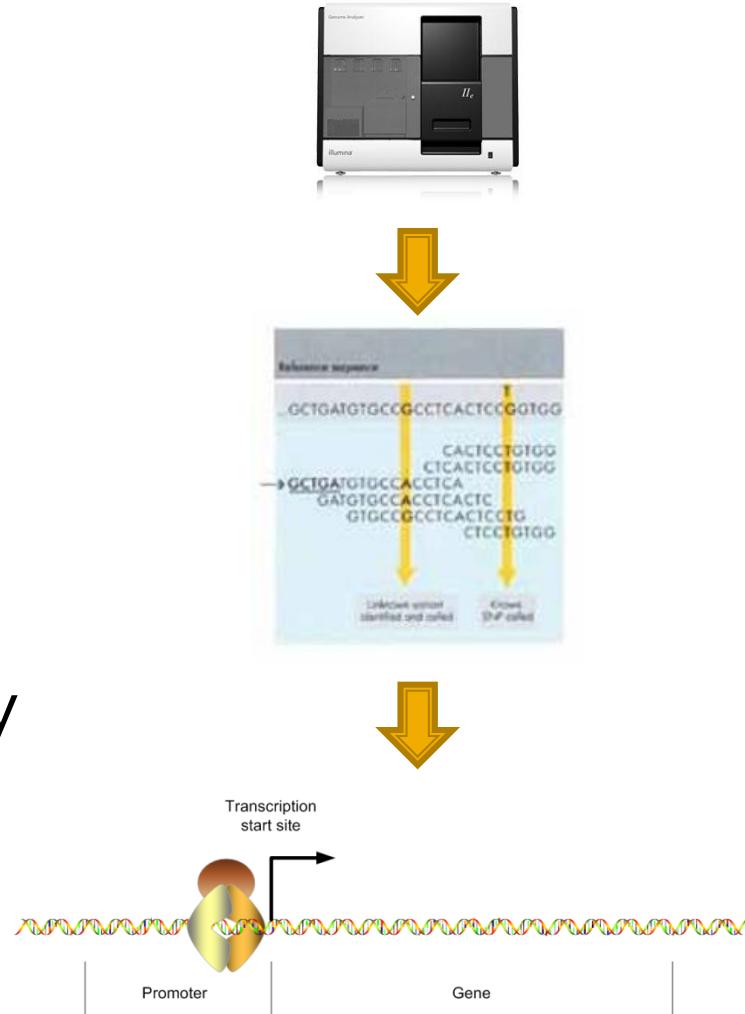
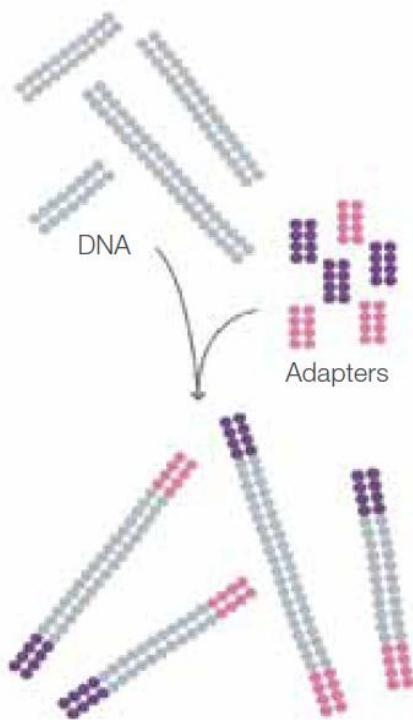
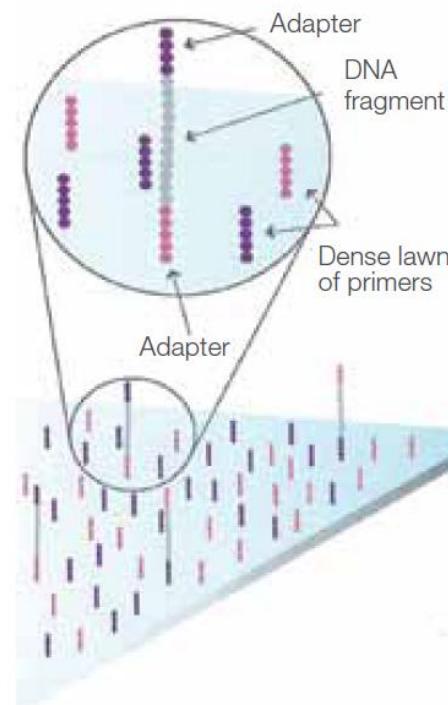


Figure 2: Prepare Genomic DNA Sample



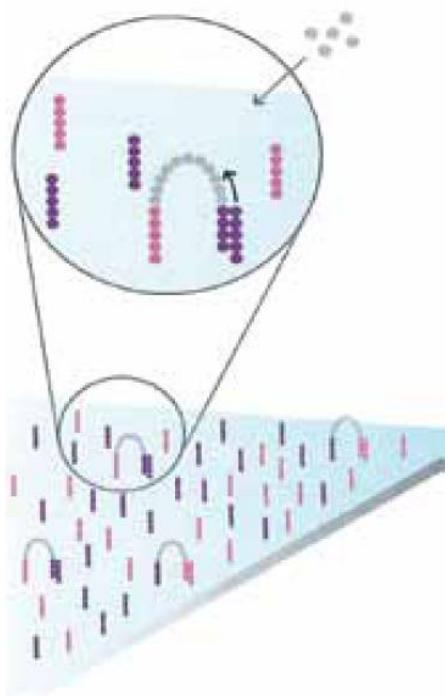
Randomly fragment genomic DNA and ligate adapters to both ends of the fragments.

Figure 3: Attach DNA to Surface



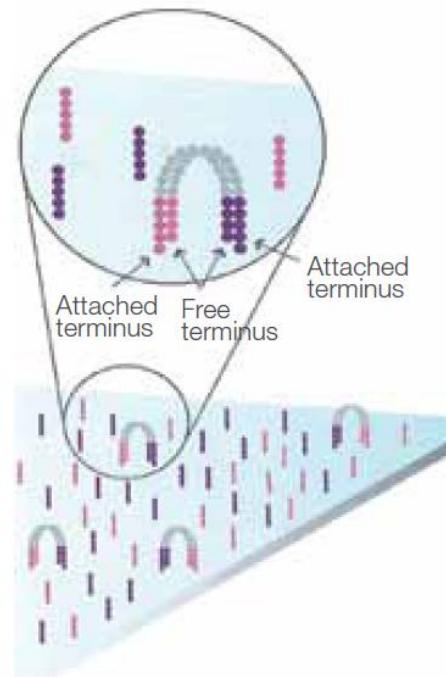
Bind single-stranded fragments randomly to the inside surface of the flow cell channels.

Figure 4: Bridge Amplification



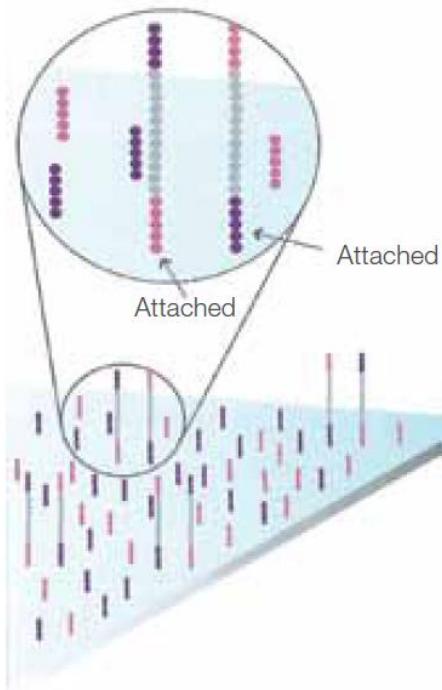
Add unlabeled nucleotides and enzyme to initiate solid-phase bridge amplification.

Figure 5: Fragments Become Double Stranded



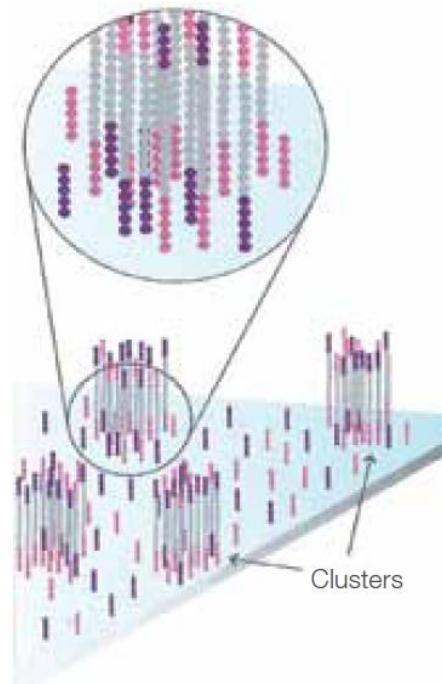
The enzyme incorporates nucleotides to build double-stranded bridges on the solid-phase substrate.

Figure 6: Denature the Double-Stranded Molecules



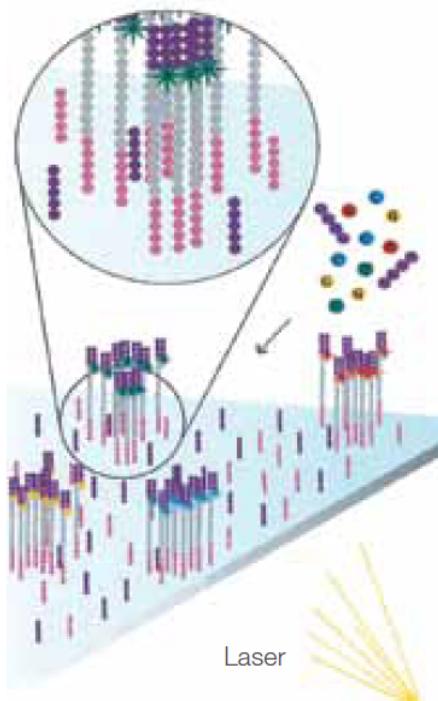
Denaturation leaves single-stranded templates anchored to the substrate.

Figure 7: Complete Amplification



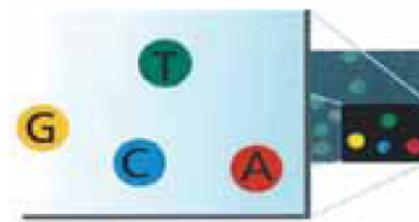
Several million dense clusters of double-stranded DNA are generated in each channel of the flow cell.

Figure 8: Determine First Base



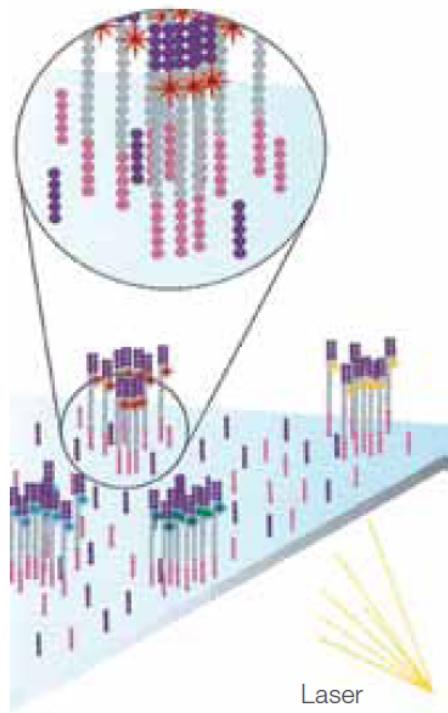
The first sequencing cycle begins by adding four labeled reversible terminators, primers, and DNA polymerase.

Figure 9: Image First Base



After laser excitation, the emitted fluorescence from each cluster is captured and the first base is identified.

Figure 10: Determine Second Base



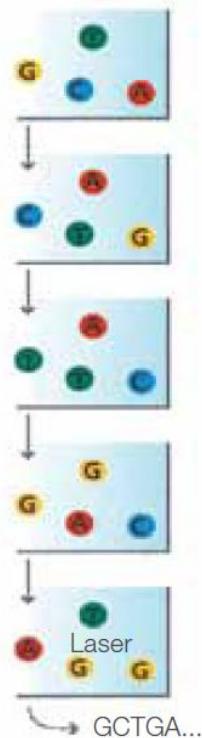
The next cycle repeats the incorporation of four labeled reversible terminators, primers, and DNA polymerase.

Figure 11: Image Second Chemistry Cycle



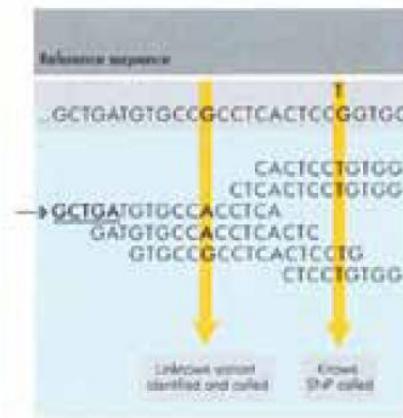
After laser excitation, the image is captured as before, and the identity of the second base is recorded.

Figure 12: Sequencing Over Multiple Chemistry Cycles



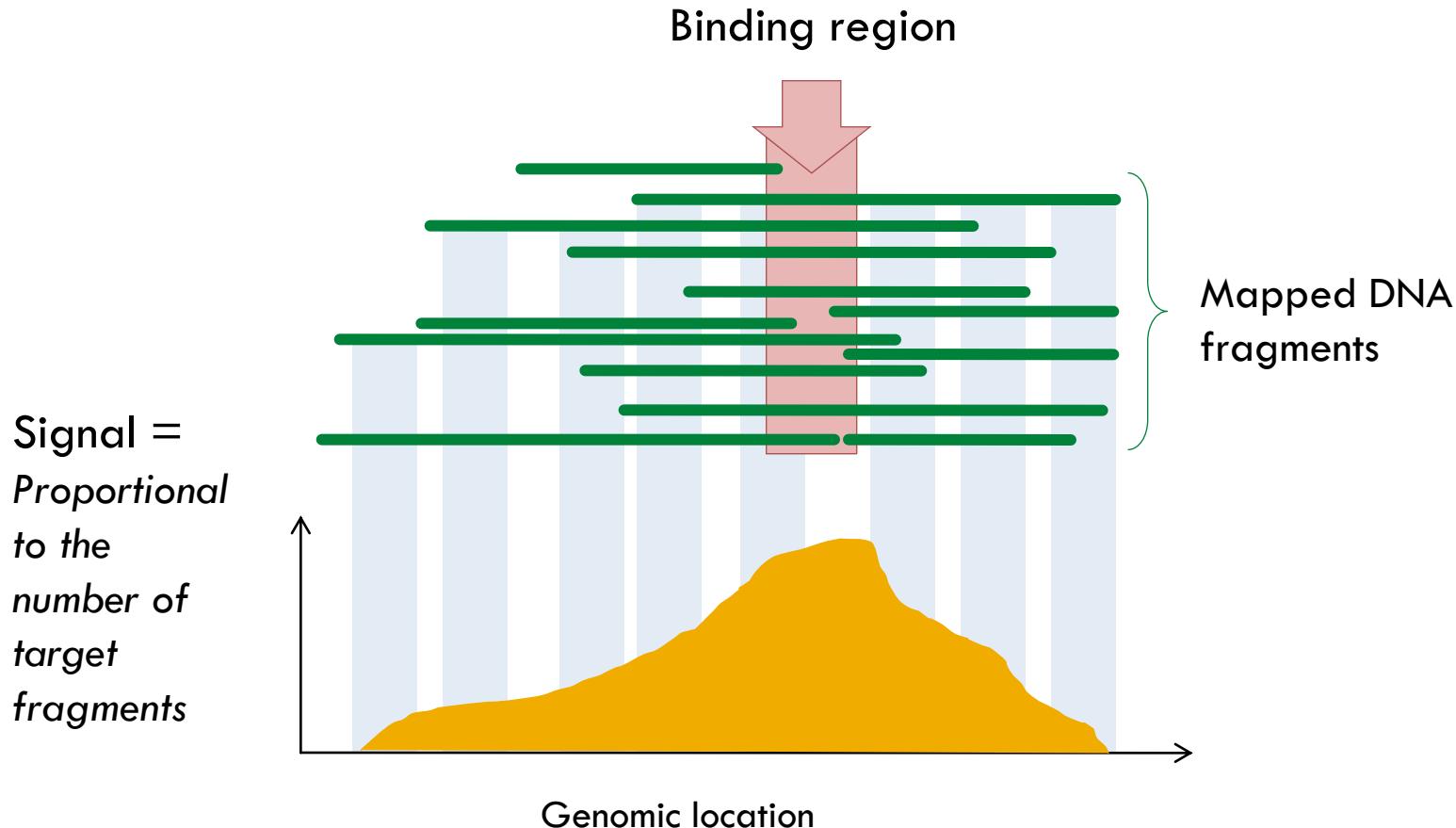
The sequencing cycles are repeated to determine the sequence of bases in a fragment, one base at a time.

Figure 13: Align Data



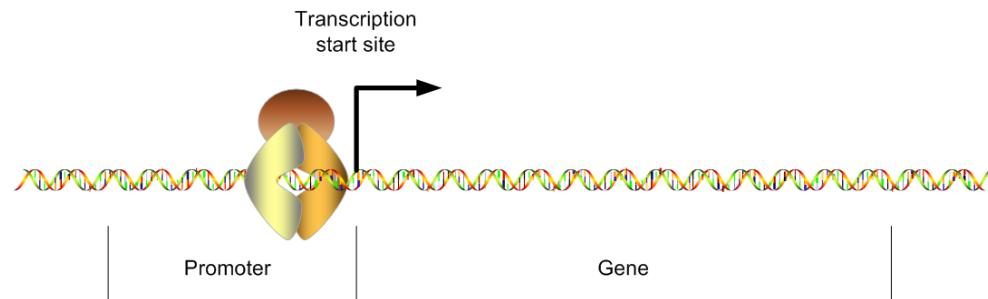
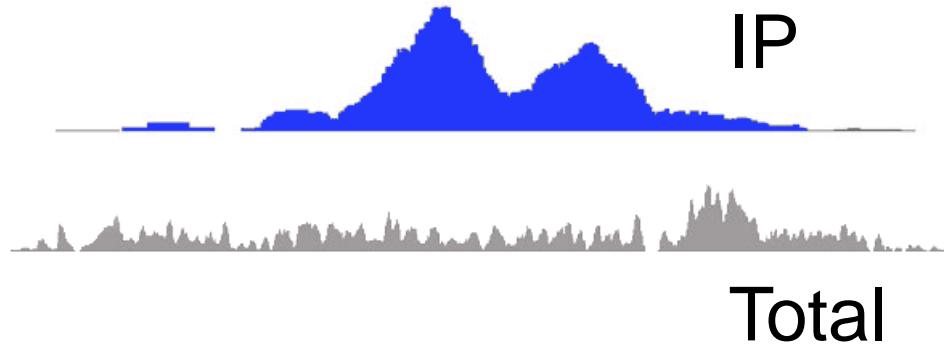
The data are aligned and compared to a reference, and sequencing differences are identified.

# Summarize after mapping

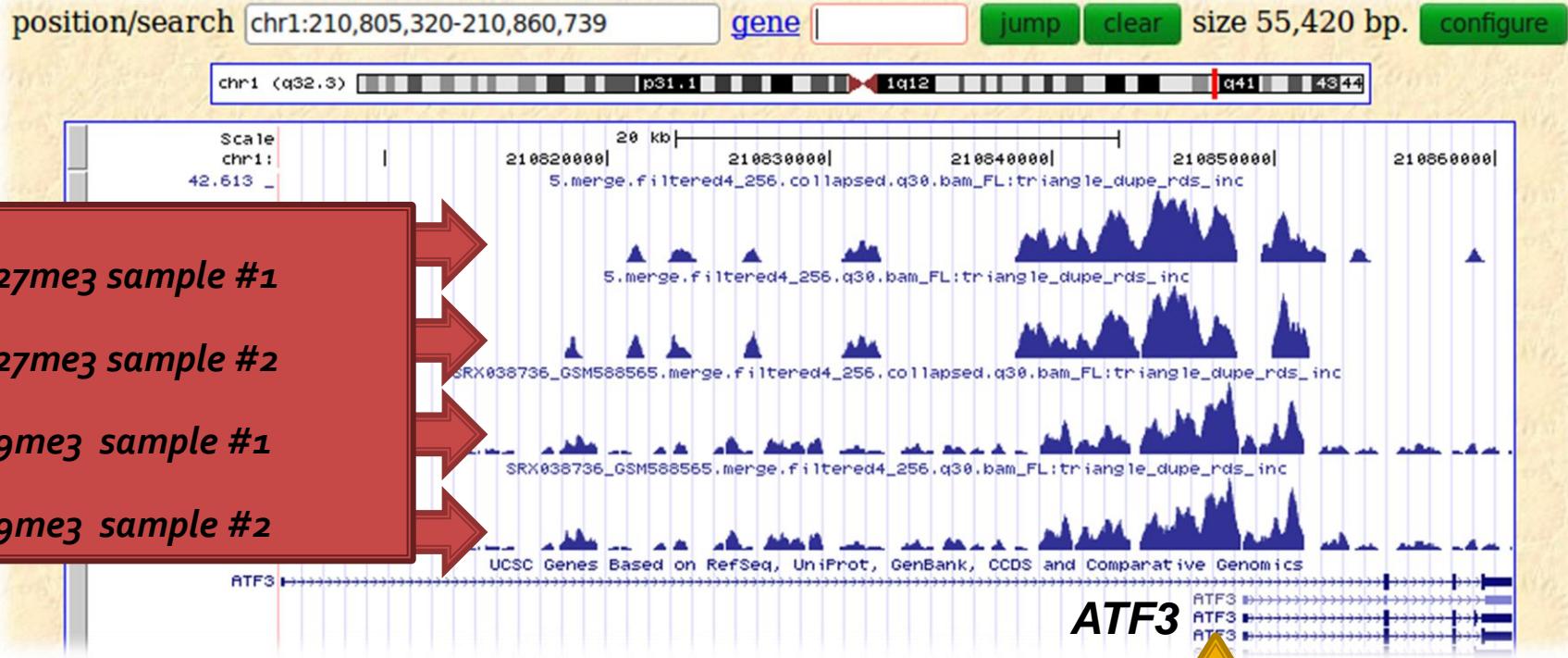


# Preprocessing ChIP-seq data

- Search for enriched regions in raw ChIP-seq data
  - IP compared to total DNA
- Annotate peaks to genes
  - Gene = whole genomic region +/- 2000 bp
  - Annotation retrieved from Ensembl (Biomart)



# Result:



- located near TSS
- all repressive marks
- expectation: gene switched off

# Biological interpretation

# Essential steps

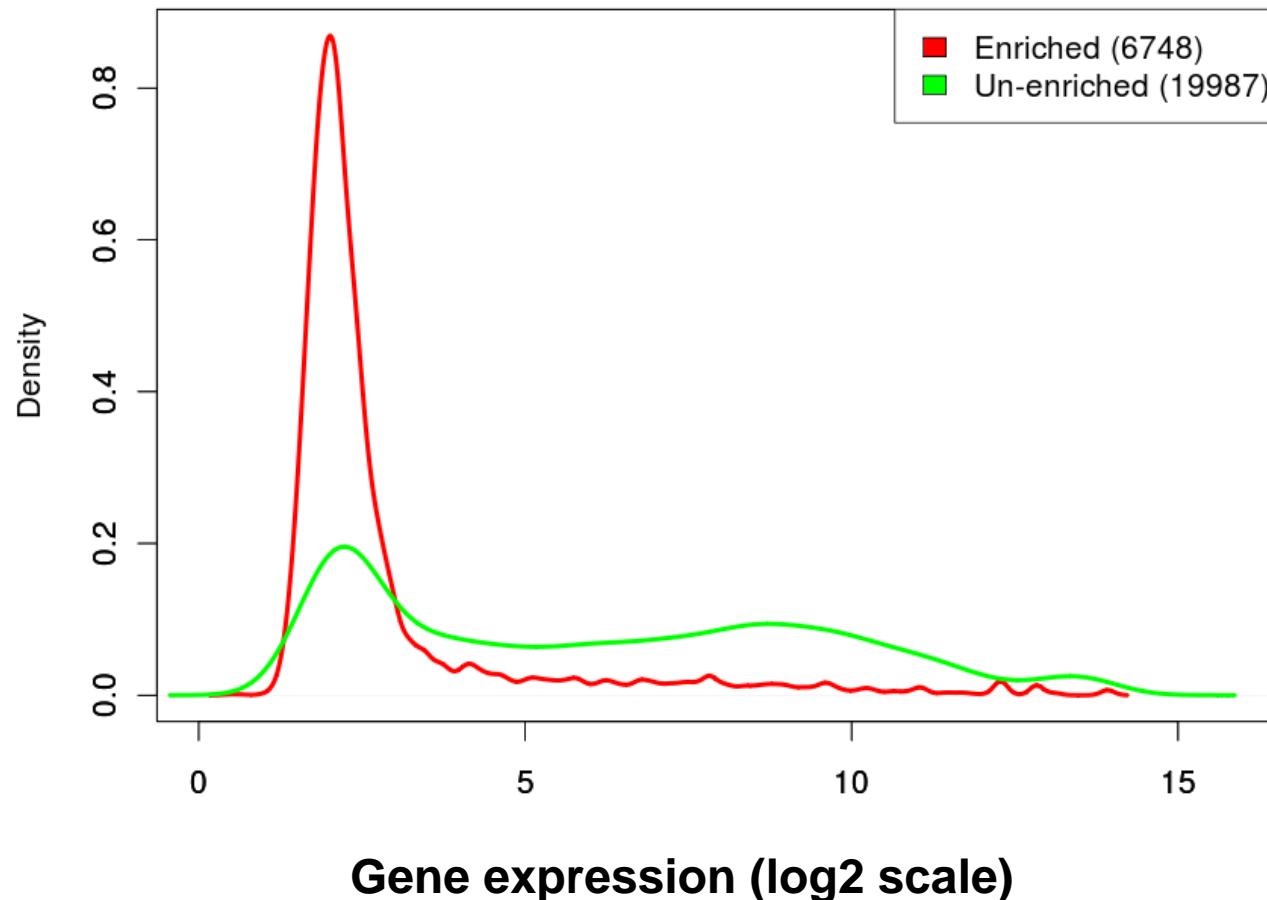
1. Integration with gene expression data
  - In most cases, you expect a strong correlation between gene expression and the investigated DNA binding protein, histone modification, DNA methylation levels, etc.
2. Sequence analysis of identified regulatory regions

# Essential steps

1. Integration with gene expression data
  - In most cases, you expect a strong correlation between gene expression and the investigated DNA binding protein, histone modification, DNA methylation levels, etc.
2. Sequence analysis of identified regulatory regions

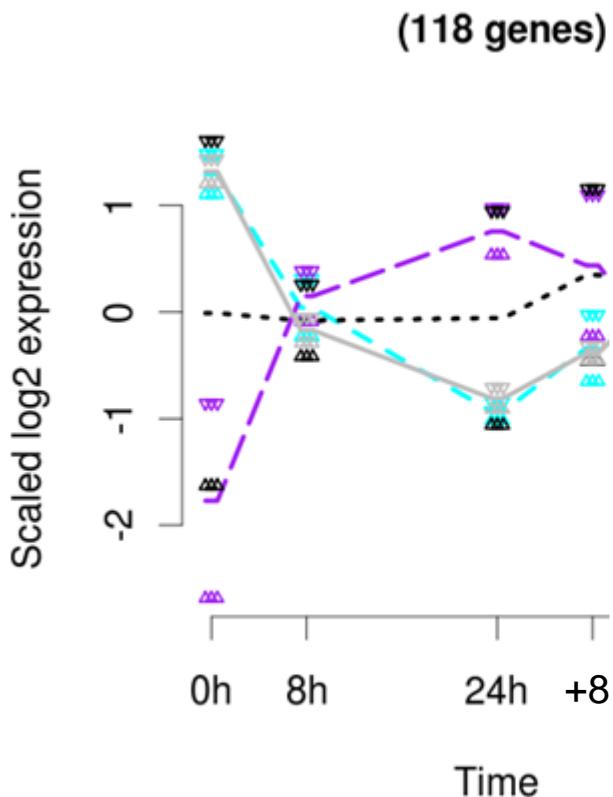
# Gene expression integration

Histogram of H3K27me3 enriched/unenriched genes

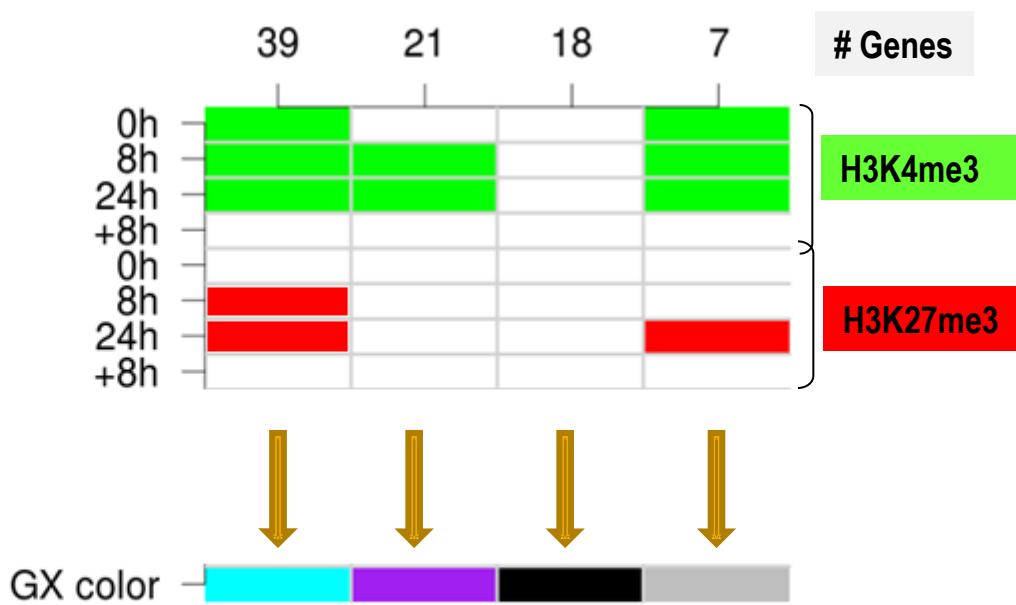


# Gene expression integration (2)

Gene expression clusters



Histone mark occupancy in promoter



# Essential steps

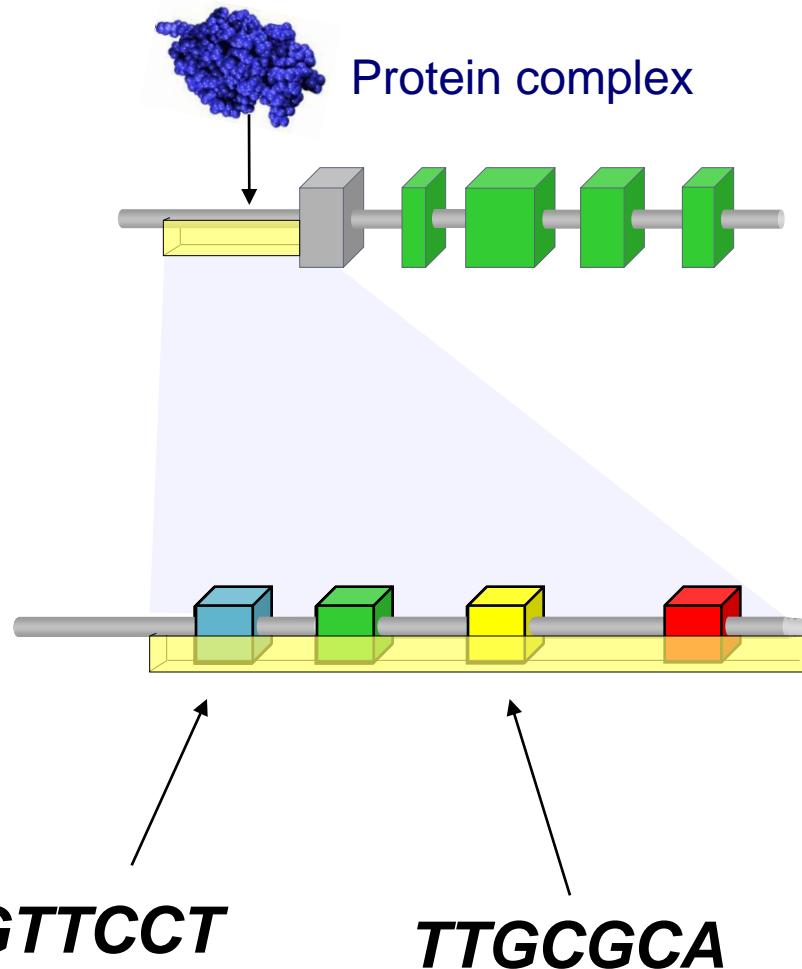
1. Integration with gene expression data
  - In most cases, you expect a strong correlation between gene expression and the investigated DNA binding protein, histone modification, DNA methylation levels, etc.
2. Sequence analysis of identified regulatory regions

# Motives for motif analysis

- **Validation of known motifs**
  - ChIP on protein X → scan for motif of protein X in enriched regions
  - DNA methylation array → scan for CpG islands in regions showing differential methylation
- **Identifying other motifs**
  - **Known:**
    - Scan for other transcription factor binding sites (which might be **functionally associated** with the ChIP'd protein)
  - **Novel:**
    - Identify novel motifs associated with the enriched regions

# Transcription factor

- A transcription factor does **not** bind randomly
- They bind to **conserved** motifs of nucleotides called a **transcription factor binding site** (TFBS)



# Transcription factor (2)

- Experimentally determined TFBSs are often referred to as **consensus sites**, which have a more statistical flavour (*caused by noise, variation, redundancy*):
  - By aligning multiple sequences (for instance ChIP-seq reads) a position weight matrix is constructed
  - The columns are the positions in the consensus site
  - The rows represent the relative frequency of each nucleotide for each position:

Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	0	0.0000	0.8238	0.3333	0.3333	0	0.6667	0	0.3333	0	0	0.0000	1	0	0.0000	0.0875	0
C	0	0.3667	0.0000	0.3333	0.0000	1	0.0000	0	0.6667	0	0	0.6667	0	0	0.0762	0.5500	1
G	1	0.4500	0.1762	0.3333	0.6667	0	0.3333	0	0.0000	0	1	0.0000	0	1	0.0000	0.2749	0
T	0	0.1833	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0	0.0000	1	0.0000	1	0	0.3333	0	0	0.9238	0.0875	0

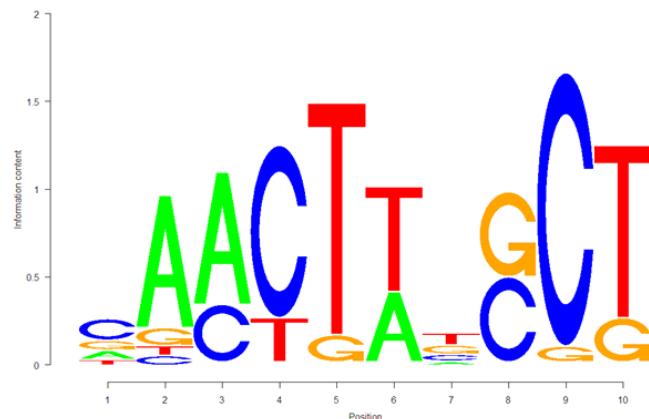
# Transcription factor (3)

- Matrices are difficult to interpret. Hence, usually a **sequence logo** is created:
  - The **relative frequencies** are converted into **information entropies**. The information content at position  $w$  of a motif is given by:

$$ic(w) = \log_2(J) + \sum_{j=1}^J p_{jw} \log_2(p_{jw})$$

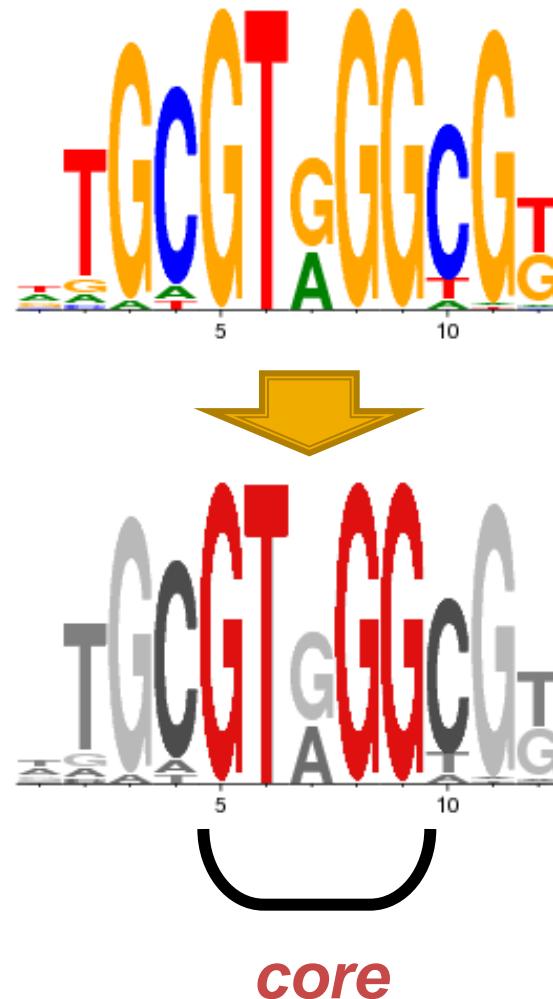
where  $J$  is the number of letters in the 'alphabet' (4 for DNA sequences)

- In a sequence motif, the **height of a nucleotide letter** on a specific position corresponds to the relative **conservation** of that nucleotide on that position:



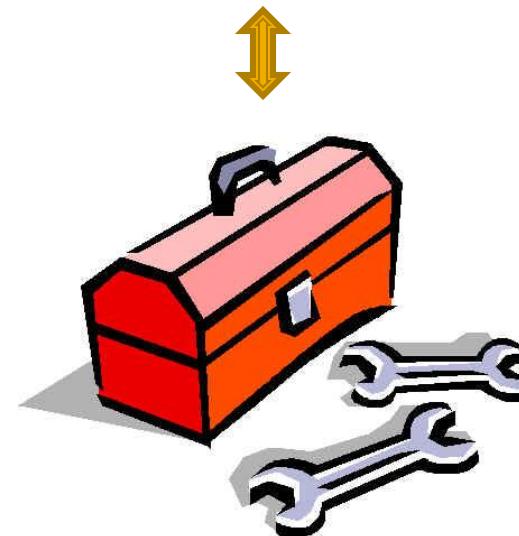
# Scanning sequences for motifs

- Motifs are searched using algorithms
- In general to be called a 'hit':
  - 100% match with core
  - >70% match for whole motif



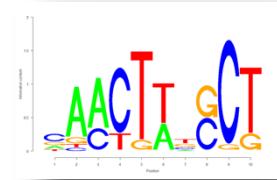
# tools require databases require tools

- Databases:
  - TRANSFAC
  - JASPER\_CORE
  
- Analysis tools:
  - CORE\_TF
  - JASPER tools



# TRANSFAC

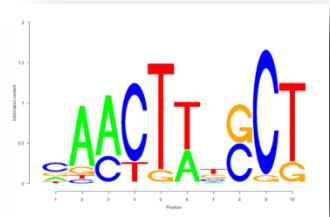
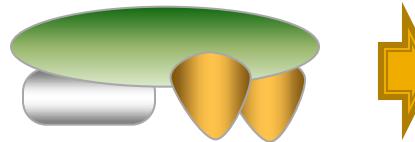
- TRANSFAC contains data on circa 10,000 transcription factors in species ranging from vertebrates viruses.
- It is the most comprehensive cross-species compilation of data regarding TFs:
  - Structural features of a factor
  - Expression pattern
  - Regulatory network
  - Functional properties (what does it do)
  - Interacting factors
- Simple interface
  - Great database, not so great tools
  - Hard to curate the results you get



# JASPAR

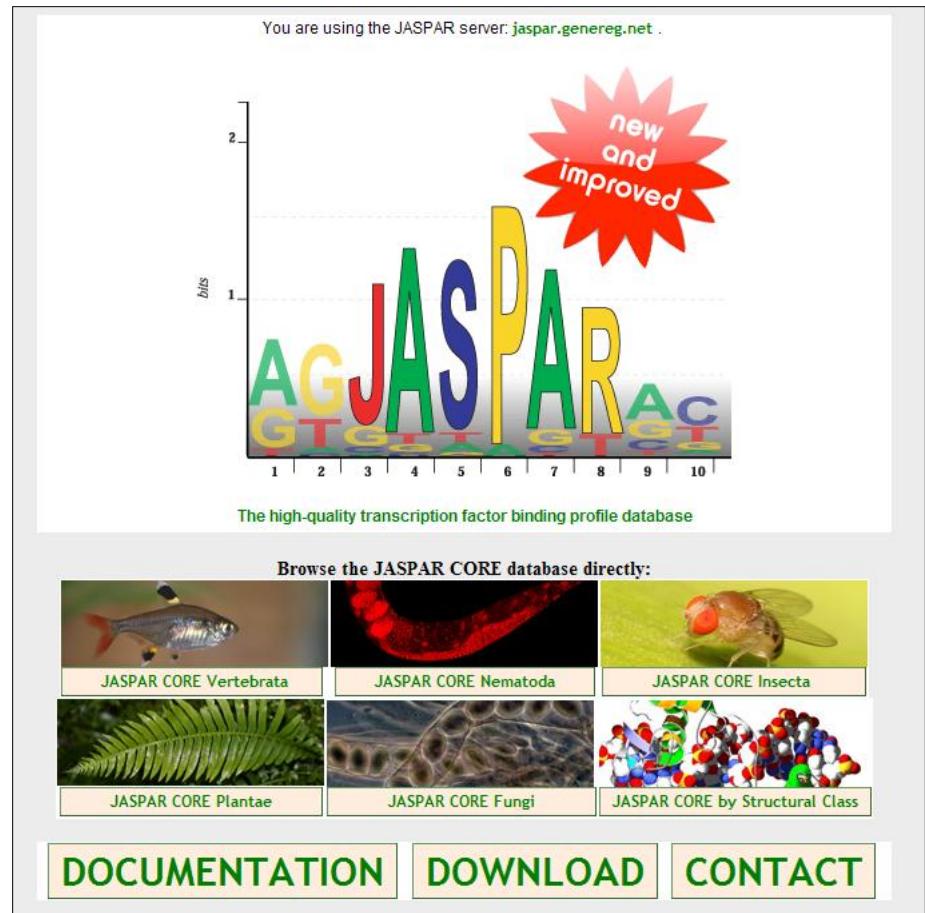
- <http://jaspar.cgb.ki.se/>
- The JASPAR database (JASPER\_CORE) contains a curated, non-redundant set of profiles from published articles.
- One of the central goals with JASPAR\_CORE is to give the single, “best” model for each transcription factor.

*one factor, one model:*



# JASPAR (2)

- The prime difference to similar resources (TRANSFAC, etc) consist of the **open data access, non-redundancy and quality**



# Pros and cons of JASPER

- **Pros:**
  - Open-access
  - Curated database
  - Motifs are fully annotated, including sequence logos
  - Various useful tools for transcription factor scanning
- **Cons:**
  - Curated database, but also relatively small
  - **Can only scan one sequence at a time!**

# CORE\_TF

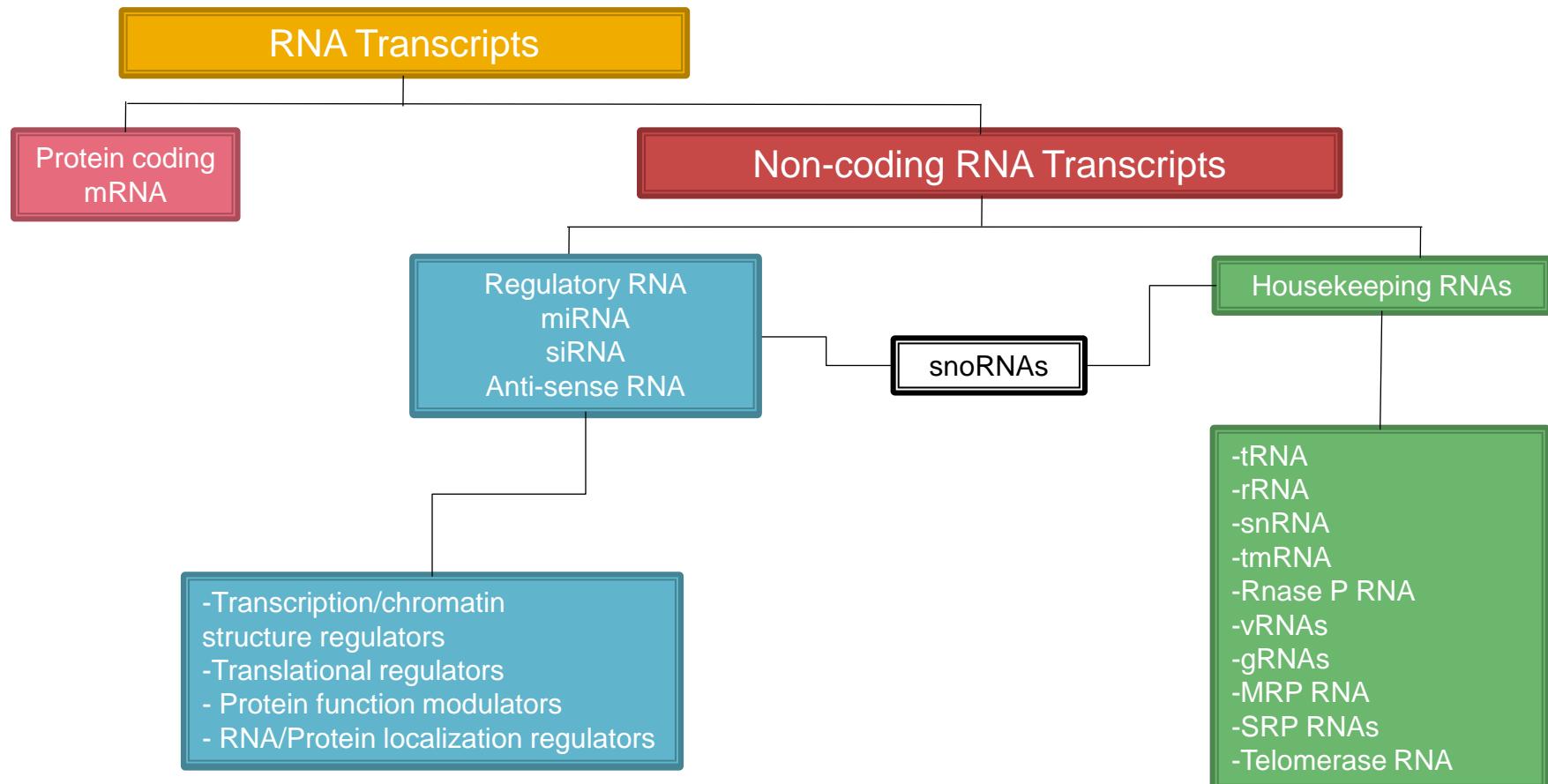
- [http://grenada.lumc.nl/HumaneGenetica/CORE\\_TF/](http://grenada.lumc.nl/HumaneGenetica/CORE_TF/)
- Uses the public TRANSFAC database
- Focused on overrepresentation analysis:  
what TFs are **overrepresented in your query compared to a random set**

# Pros and cons of CORE\_TF

- Pros:
  - Open-access
  - Can do TF overrepresentation analysis
  - Takes both sequences and IDs as input
- Cons:
  - No sequence logos of TF motifs
  - Additional information on the used motifs hidden from user -> *find elsewhere*

# miRNAs

# Non-Coding RNA: Formerly known as “JUNK”



# microRNAs (miRNAs)

- Small non-coding RNAs, approximately 22 nt long.
- Regulate gene expression in a sequence-specific manner.
- The human genome may encode over 1000 miRNAs.
- May target about 60% of mammalian genes
- Abundant in many human cell types
- Well-conserved

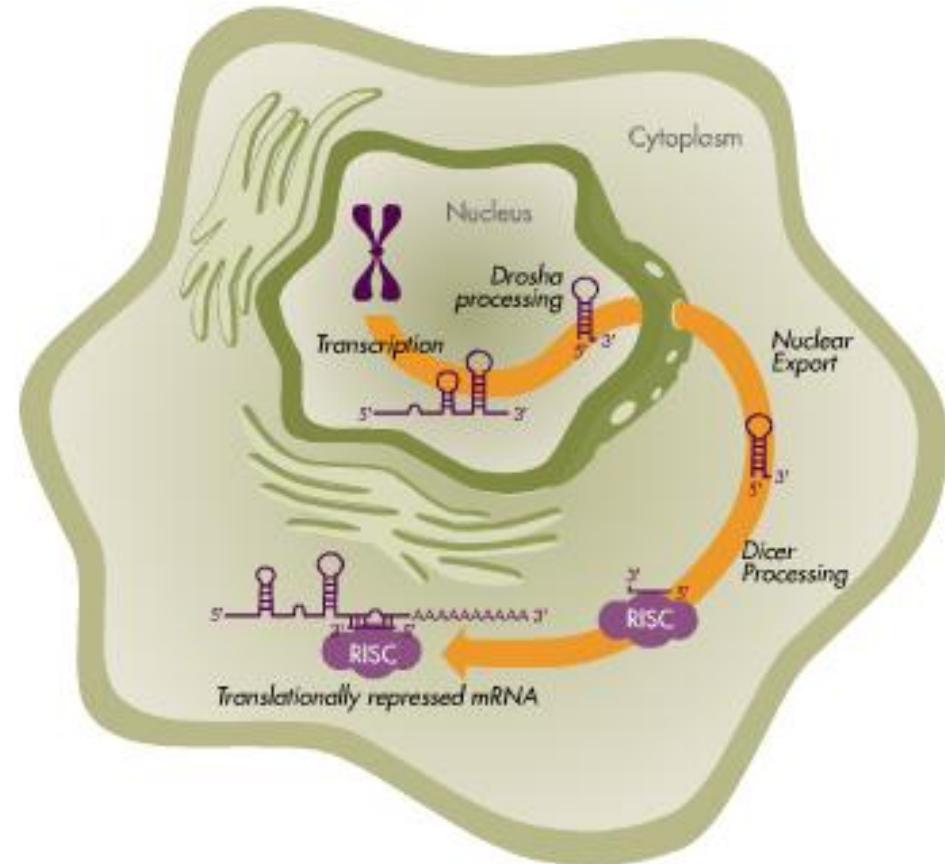
# myomiRs : muscle specific miRNAs

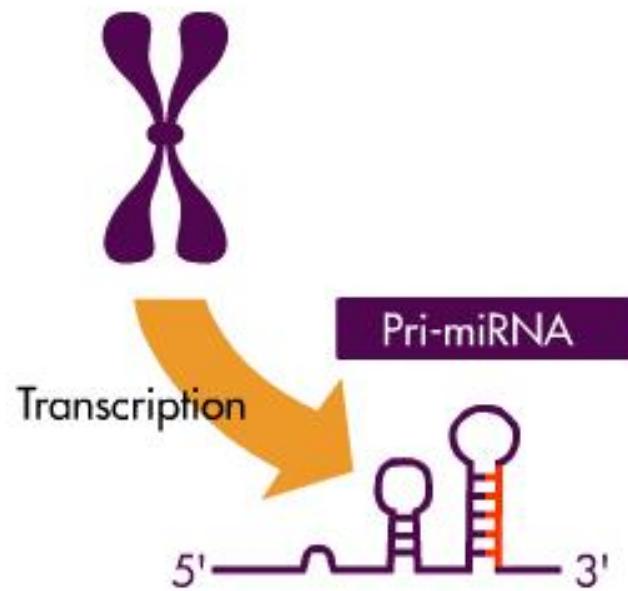
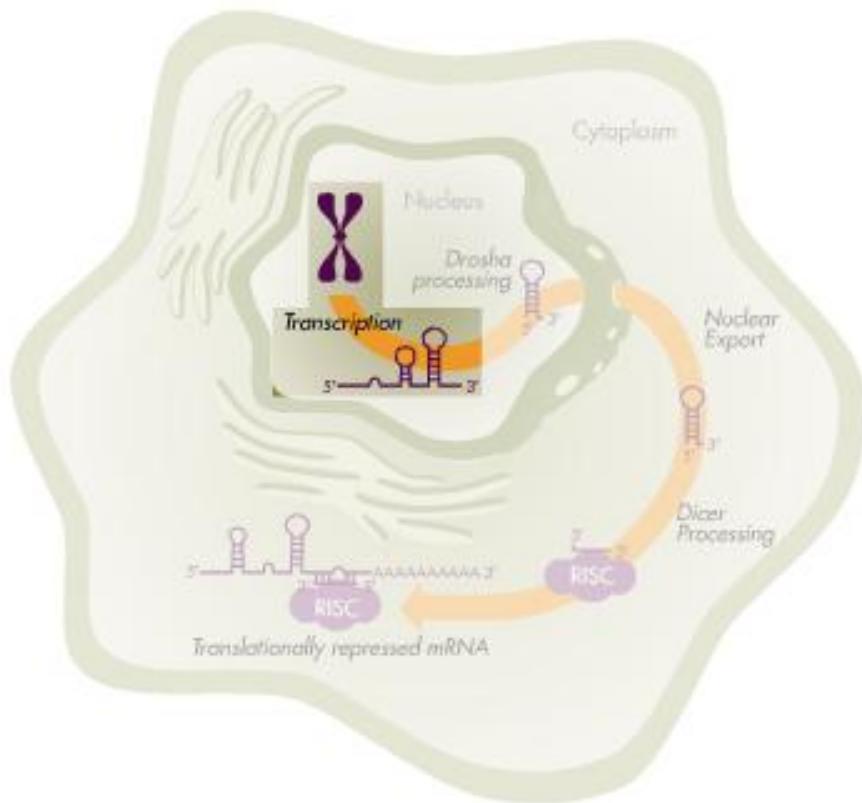
TABLE 1. MyomiR: muscle-specific microRNA.

MyomiR	Host Gene	Expression Pattern	Knockout Phenotype	Study
MiR-1-1	<i>Mib1</i>	Heart, skeletal muscle	No knockout	—
MiR-1-2	Intergenic	Heart, skeletal muscle	50% lethal, cardiac defect	Zhao <i>et al.</i> , 2007 (38)
MiR-133a-1	<i>Mib1</i>	Heart, skeletal muscle	No overt phenotype	Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2008 (22)
MiR-133a-2	Intergenic	Heart, skeletal muscle	No overt phenotype	Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2008 (22)
MiR-206	Intergenic	Skeletal muscle (Type I)	No overt phenotype	Williams <i>et al.</i> , 2009 (37)
MiR-208a	<i>Myh6</i>	Heart	Blunted stress response Conduction defects	van Rooij <i>et al.</i> , 2007 (36) Callis <i>et al.</i> , 2009 (5)
MiR-208b	<i>Myh7</i>	Heart (low), skeletal muscle (Type I)	No overt phenotype	van Rooij <i>et al.</i> , 2009 (35)
MiR-486	<i>Ank1</i>	Heart, skeletal muscle	No knockout	—
MiR-499	<i>Myh7b/14</i>	Heart, skeletal muscle (Type I)	No overt phenotype	van Rooij <i>et al.</i> , 2009 (35)

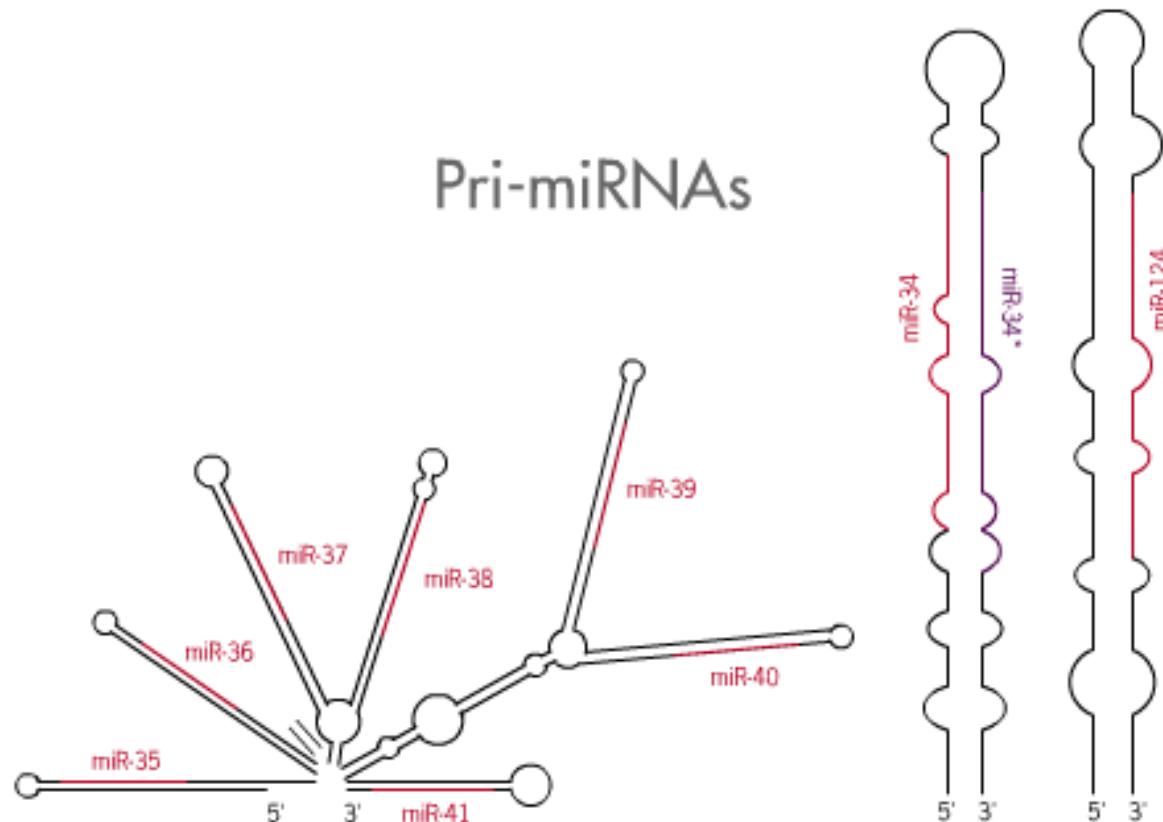
# miRNA processing

Single-stranded RNA which is 17-25 nucleotides long, regulating the expression of other genes.

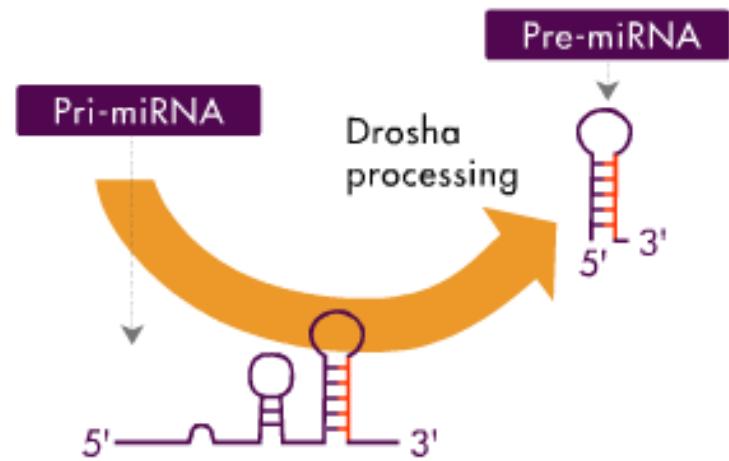
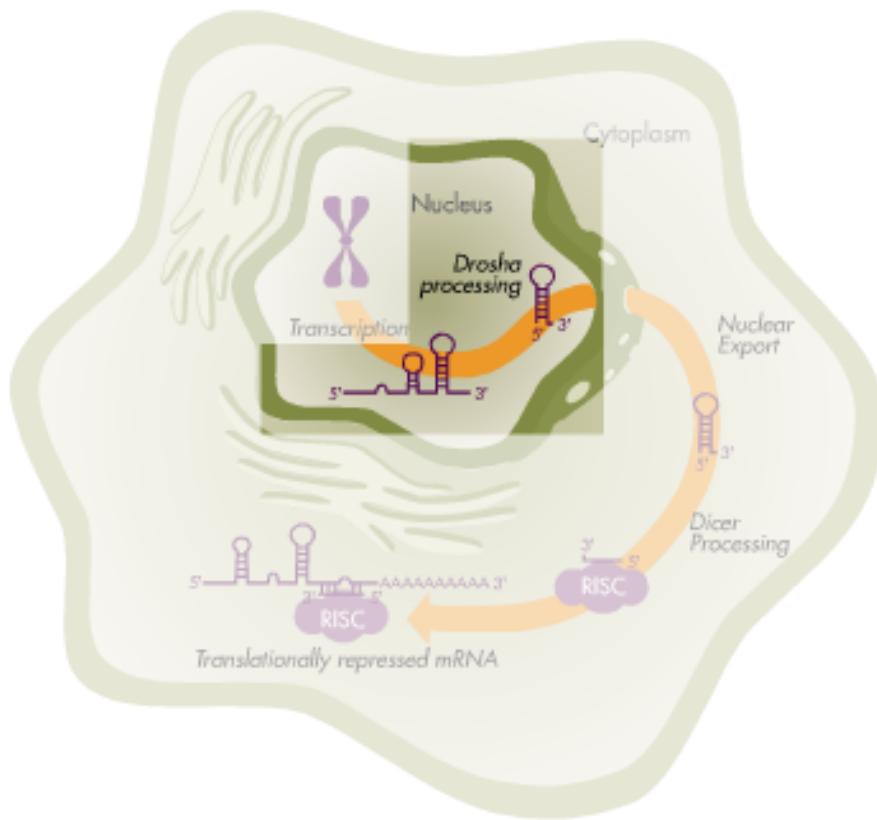




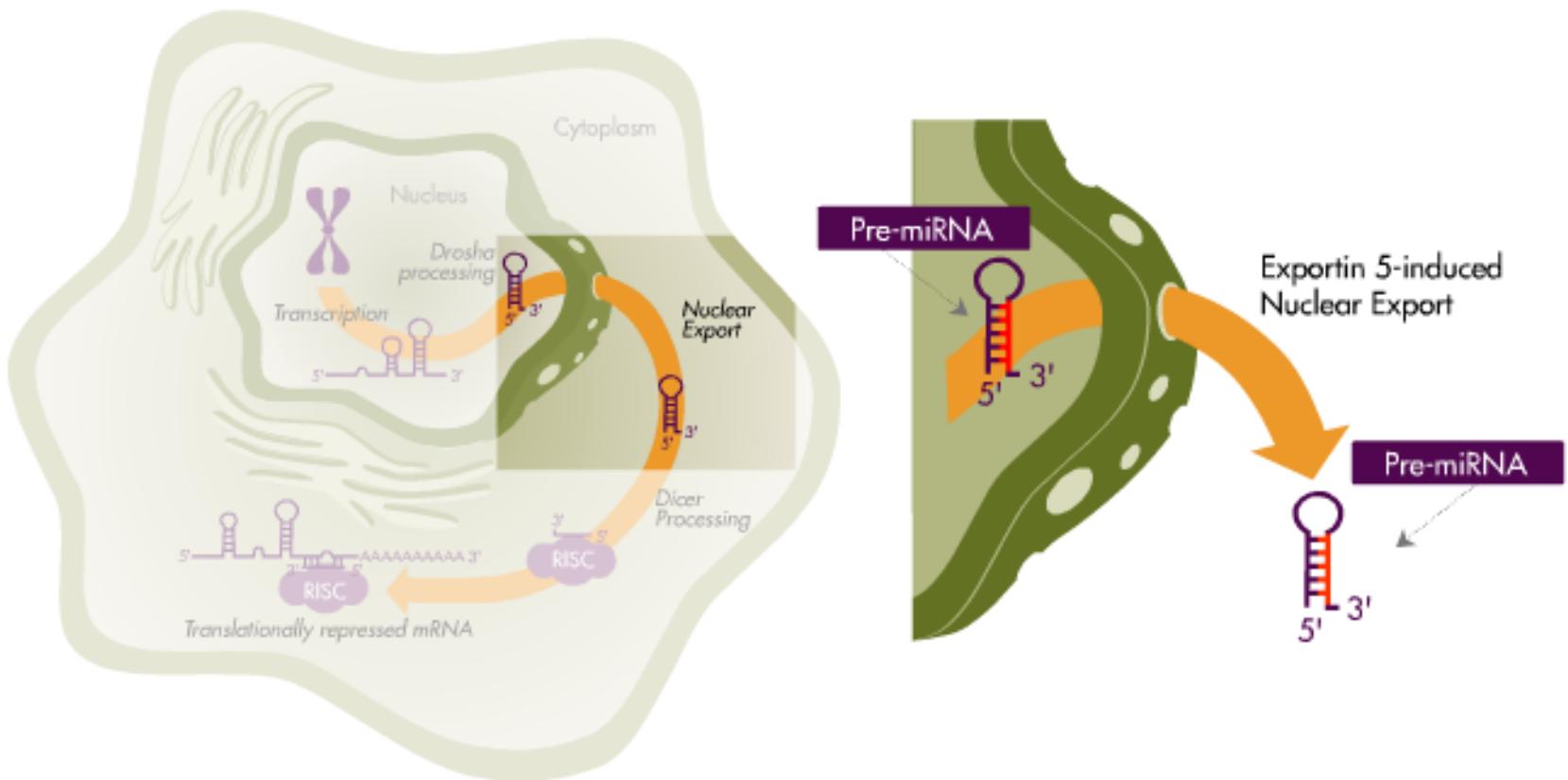
Approximately 60% of miRNAs are expressed independently, 15% are expressed in clusters, and 25% in introns.



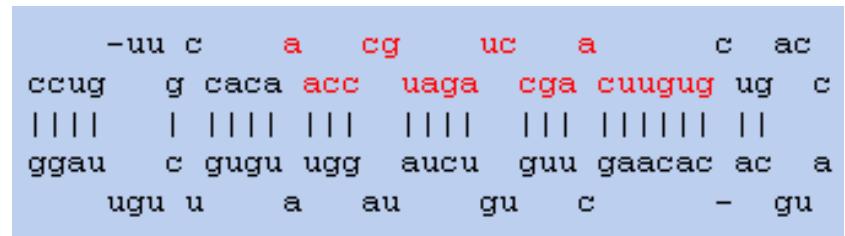
Drosha (a dsRNA-specific ribonuclease): Pri-miRNA → Pre-miRNA (70-100 nt)



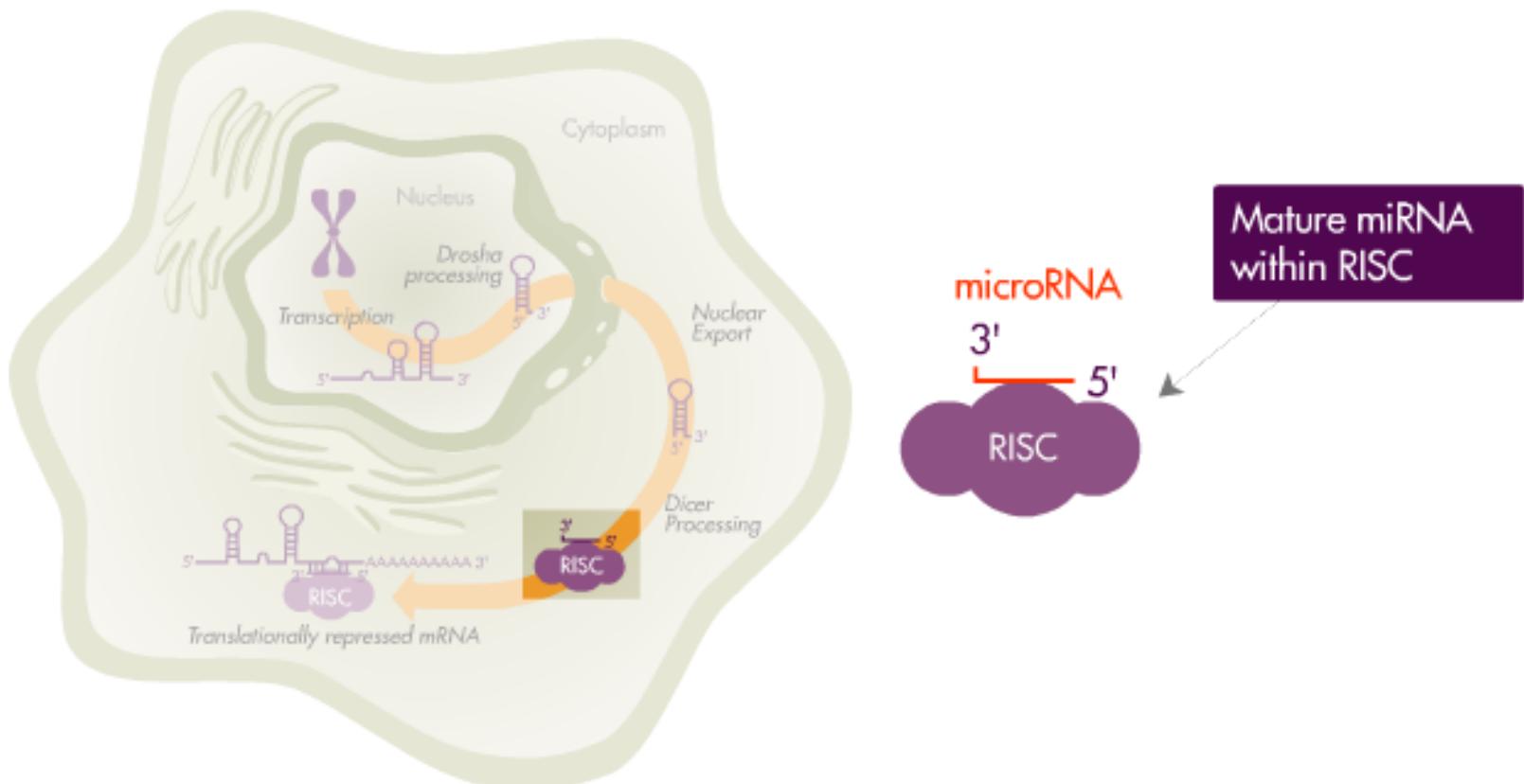
## Exportin 5 - induced nuclear export:



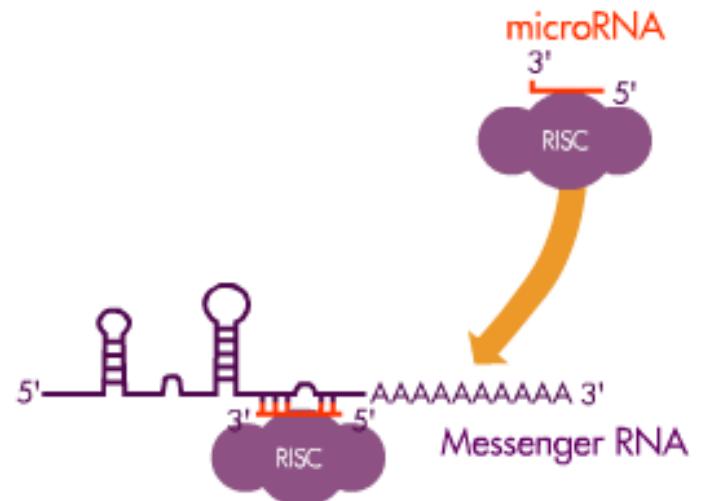
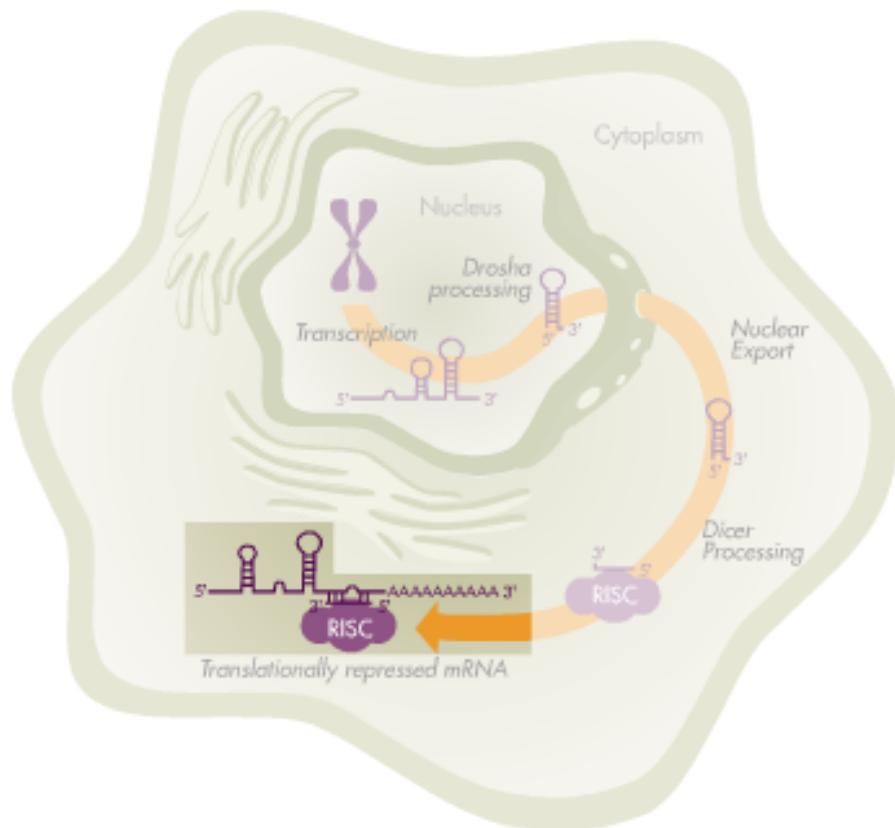
Dicer (a dsRNA-specific ribonuclease): Pre-miRNA → mature miRNA (17-25 nt)



The miRNA is bound by a complex similar to RNA-Induced Silencing Complex (RISC) that participates in RNA interference (RNAi)

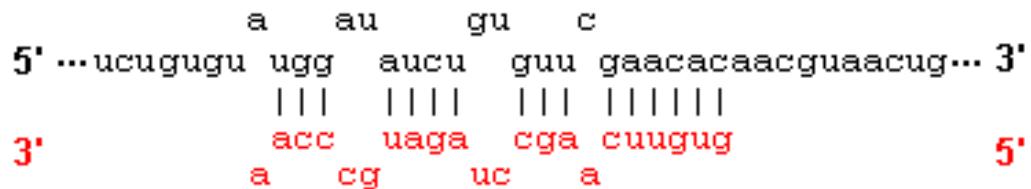
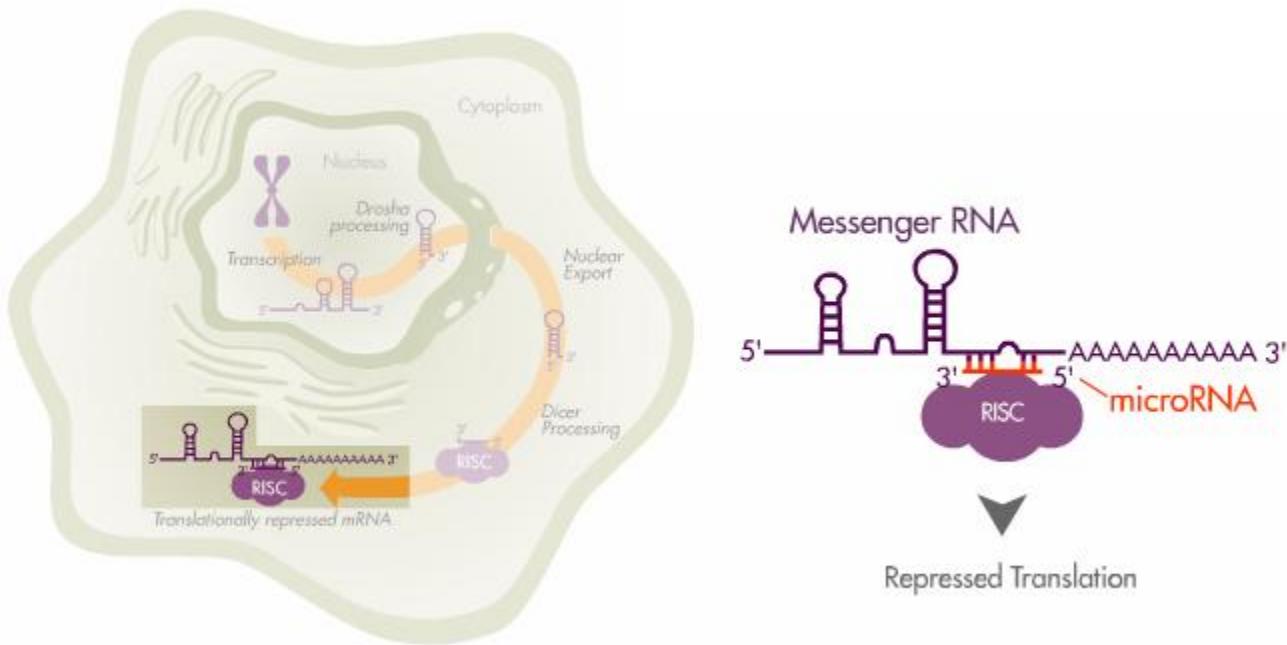


miRNA-RISC complex binds target mRNA:

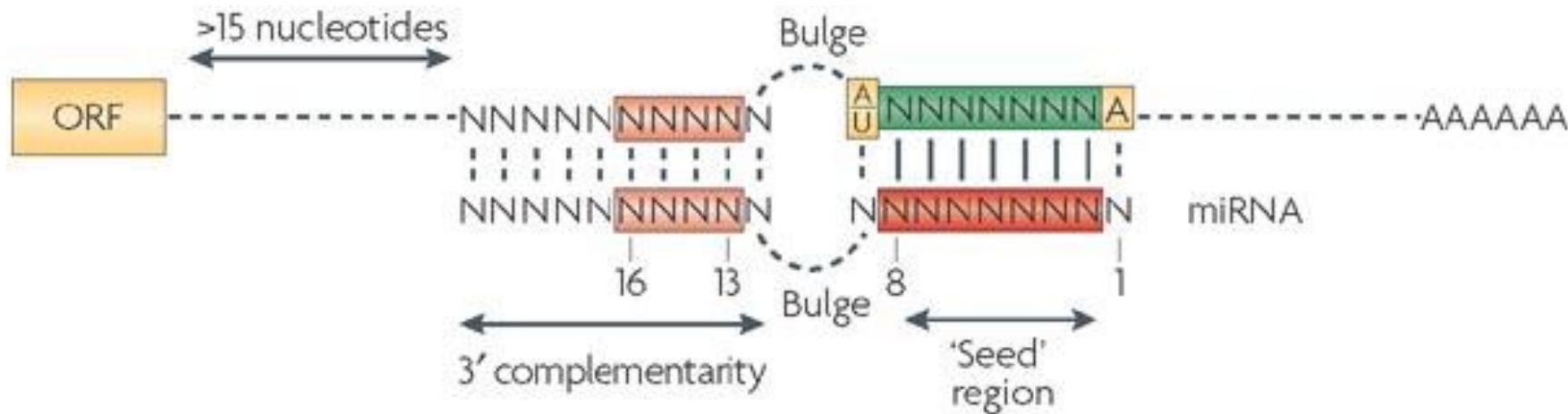


The annealing of the miRNA to the mRNA may

1. inhibit protein translation
2. facilitate cleavage of the mRNA.



# miRNA-mRNA interactions



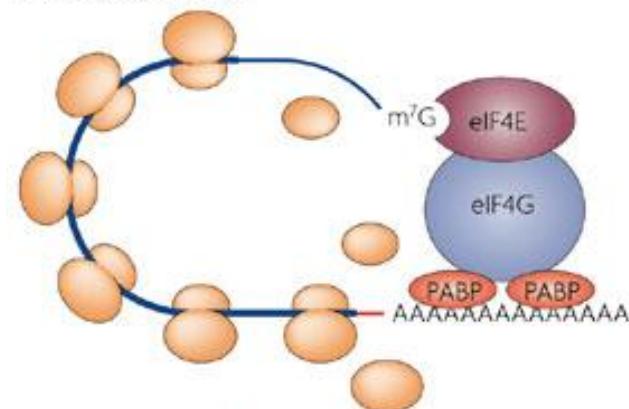
Nature Reviews | Genetics

# miRNA function

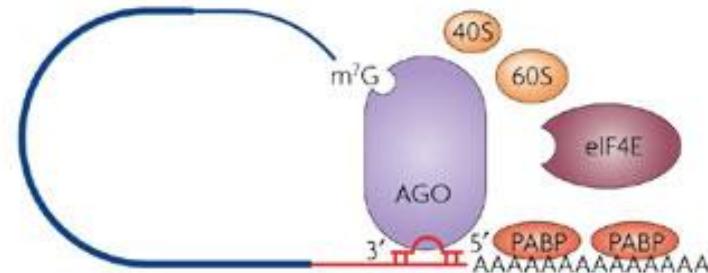
- Involved in the post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression
- Important in development
- Metabolic regulation (miR-375 & insulin secretion)
- Multiple genomic loci (different expression patterns)

# Differences in miRNA Mode of Action

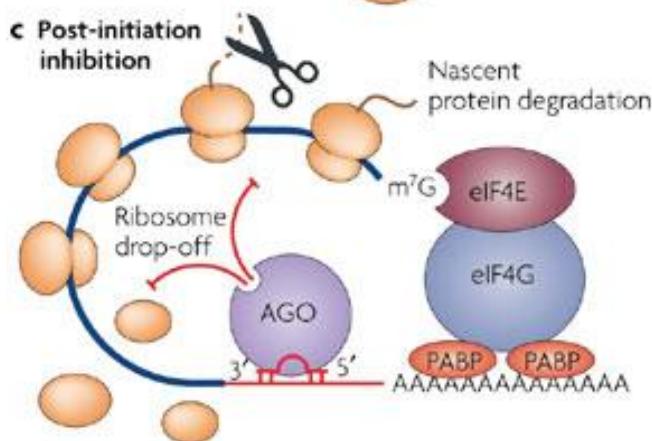
a Active translation



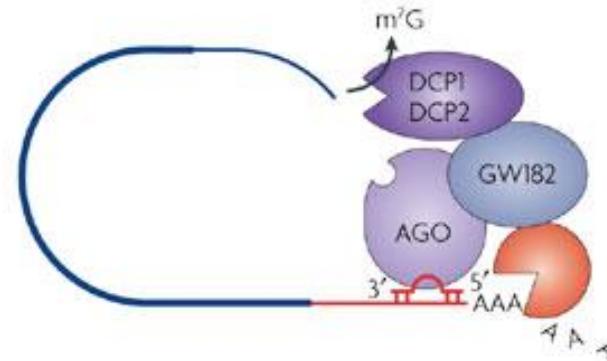
b Inhibition of initiation



c Post-initiation inhibition



d mRNA degradation



# microRNA nomenclature (1)

General form for mature microRNA: [hsa-miR-195](#)

- Uncapitalized "mir-" refers to the pre-miRNA,
- A capitalized "miR-" refers to the mature form
- The prefix "mir" or "miR" is followed by a dash and a number, the latter often indicating order of naming
- Species of origin is designated with a three-letter prefix,  
For example:  
**hsa**-miR-195 is a human (*Homo sapiens*) miRNA and  
**mmu**-miR-123 is a mouse (*Mus musculus*) miRNA.

# microRNA nomenclature (2)

- Distinct precursor sequences and genomic loci but **identical mature** sequences:  
hsa-miR-16-1 = uagcagcacguaaauauuggcg  
hsa-miR-16-2 = uagcagcacguaaauauuggcg
- Lettered suffixes denote **closely related mature** sequences:  
hsa-miR-15-a = uagcagcacauaaugguuugug  
hsa-miR-15-b = uagcagcacau**ca**ugguuu**aca**

## PREVIOUS

- Two sequences which originate from the **same predicted precursor**:  
**use relative abundancies:**

miR-56 = the predominant product

miR-56\* – from the opposite arm of the precursor

- **predominant form unknown:**

miR-142-5p = from the 5' arm

miR-142-3p = from the 3' arm

**NOW: only the 3p/5p annotation is used!**

- **let-7 and lin-4** are exceptions to the numbering scheme, these names are retained for historical reasons.

# miRBase ([www.mirbase.org](http://www.mirbase.org))

The primary online repository for all microRNA sequences and annotation

miRBase version 19 contains:

- 21,264 hairpins
- 25,141 mature microRNAs
- 193 species



# miRBase homepage

The screenshot shows the miRBase homepage in Mozilla Firefox. The title bar reads "miRBase - Mozilla Firefox". The main content area features the miRBase logo and navigation links for Home, Search, Browse, Help, Download, Blog, and Submit. A banner at the top right says "MANCHESTER RNA". The left sidebar contains "Latest miRBase blog posts" with entries about website downtime and the release of version 19. The main content area includes sections for "miRBase count: 21264 entries", "Search by miRNA name or keyword", "Download published miRNA data", and "This site is featured in: NetWatch - Science 303:1741 (2004) Highlights, Web watch - Nature Reviews Genetics 5:244 (2004)". The bottom section is titled "References" and lists various publications related to miRBase.

**Latest miRBase blog posts**

**miRBase web site down time, Oct 22nd-23rd**  
Essential network and electrical work in our server room work means that the web site is at risk of intermittent down time on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd October. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**miRBase 19 released**  
miRBase 19 is now available, brought to you from the Benasque RNA meeting in the sunny Pyrenees, and with a slightly [larger](#) time gap than usual. In that extended time, we have added more than the usual number of new sequences — 3171 new hairpins and 3625 novel mature products, bringing the totals to 21264 [...]

**miRBase: the microRNA database**

miRBase provides the following services:

- The [miRBase database](#) is a searchable database of published miRNA sequences and annotation. Each entry in the miRBase Sequence database represents a predicted hairpin portion of a miRNA transcript (termed mir in the database), with [information](#) on the location and sequence of the mature miRNA sequence (termed miR). Both hairpin and mature sequences are available for [searching](#) and [browsing](#), and entries can also be retrieved by name, keyword, references and annotation. All sequence and annotation data are also [available for download](#).
- The [miRBase Registry](#) provides miRNA gene hunters with unique names for novel miRNA genes prior to publication of results. Visit the [help pages](#) for more information about the naming [service](#).

To receive email notification of data updates and feature changes please subscribe to the [miRBase announcements mailing list](#). Any queries about the website or naming service should be directed at [mirbase@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:mirbase@manchester.ac.uk).

miRBase is hosted and maintained in the [Faculty of Life Sciences](#) at the [University of Manchester](#) with funding from the [BBSRC](#), and was previously hosted and supported by the [Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute](#).

**References**

If you make use of the data presented here, please cite the following articles in addition to the primary data sources:

**miRBase: integrating microRNA annotation and deep-sequencing data.**  
Kozomara A, Griffiths-Jones S.  
NAR. 2011 39(Database Issue):D152-D157

**miRBase: tools for microRNA genomics.**  
Griffiths-Jones S, Saini HK, van Dongen S, Enright AJ.  
NAR. 2008 36(Database Issue):D154-D158

**miRBase: microRNA sequences, targets and gene nomenclature.**  
Griffiths-Jones S, Grocock RJ, van Dongen S, Bateman A, Enright AJ.  
NAR. 2006 34(Database Issue):D140-D144

**The microRNA Registry.**  
Griffiths-Jones S.  
NAR. 2004 32(Database Issue):D109-D111

**The following publications provide guidelines on miRNA annotation:**

**A uniform system for microRNA annotation.**  
Ambros V, Bartel B, Bartel DP, Burge CB, Carrington JC, Chen X, Dreyfuss G, Eddy SR, Griffiths-Jones S, Marshall M, Matzke M, Ruvkun G, Tuschl T.  
RNA. 2003 9(3):277-279

**Criteria for annotation of plant MicroRNAs.**  
Meyers BC, Axtell MJ, Bartel B, Bartel DP, Baulcombe D, Bowman JL, Cao X, Carrington JC, Chen X, Green PJ, Griffiths-Jones S, Jacobsen SE, Mallory AC, Martienssen RA, Poethig RS, Qi Y, Vaucheret H, Voinnet O, Watanabe Y, Weigel D, Zhu JK.  
Plant Cell. 2008 20(12):3186-3190

# miRBase Search

The screenshot shows the miRBase search interface in Mozilla Firefox. The title bar reads "miRBase - Mozilla Firefox". The main header features the miRBase logo and the word "miRBase". A purple banner on the right says "MANCHESTER". The navigation bar includes links for Home, Search, Browse, Help, Download, Blog, and Submit. Below the navigation is a search bar with placeholder text "Enter a miRNA accession, name or keyword:" and buttons for "Submit Query", "Reset", and "Example".

**Search miRBase**

**By miRNA identifier or keyword**  
Enter a miRNA accession, name or keyword:

**By genomic location**  
Select organism, chromosome and start and end coordinates. Leave the start/end boxes blank to retrieve all miRNAs on the selected chromosome.  
Choose species:  Chr:  Start:  End:

**For clusters**  
Select organism and the desired inter-miRNA distance.  
Choose species:  Inter-miRNA distance:

**By tissue expression**  
Select organism and tissue.  
Choose species:  Select tissue:

**By sequence**

**Single sequence searches:**  
Paste a sequence here to search for similarity with miRBase miRNA sequences (max size 1000 nts). You can choose to search against hairpin precursor sequences or mature miRNAs. This search may take a few minutes. Please note: this facility is designed to search for homologs of microRNA sequences, not to predict their target sites. For target site prediction, please use the available bespoke tools.

Search sequences:    
Search method:    
Choose BLASTN to search for a miRNA homolog in a longer sequence. SSEARCH is useful for finding a short sequence within the library of miRNAs (for instance, find a short motif in a miRNA or precursor stem-loop, or find mature sequences that are related to your query).  
E-value cutoff:   
Maximum no. of hits:   
Show results only from specific organisms:  
 human  mouse  worm  fly  Arabidopsis  
or choose a taxonomic classification:

Or: Select the sequence file you wish to use

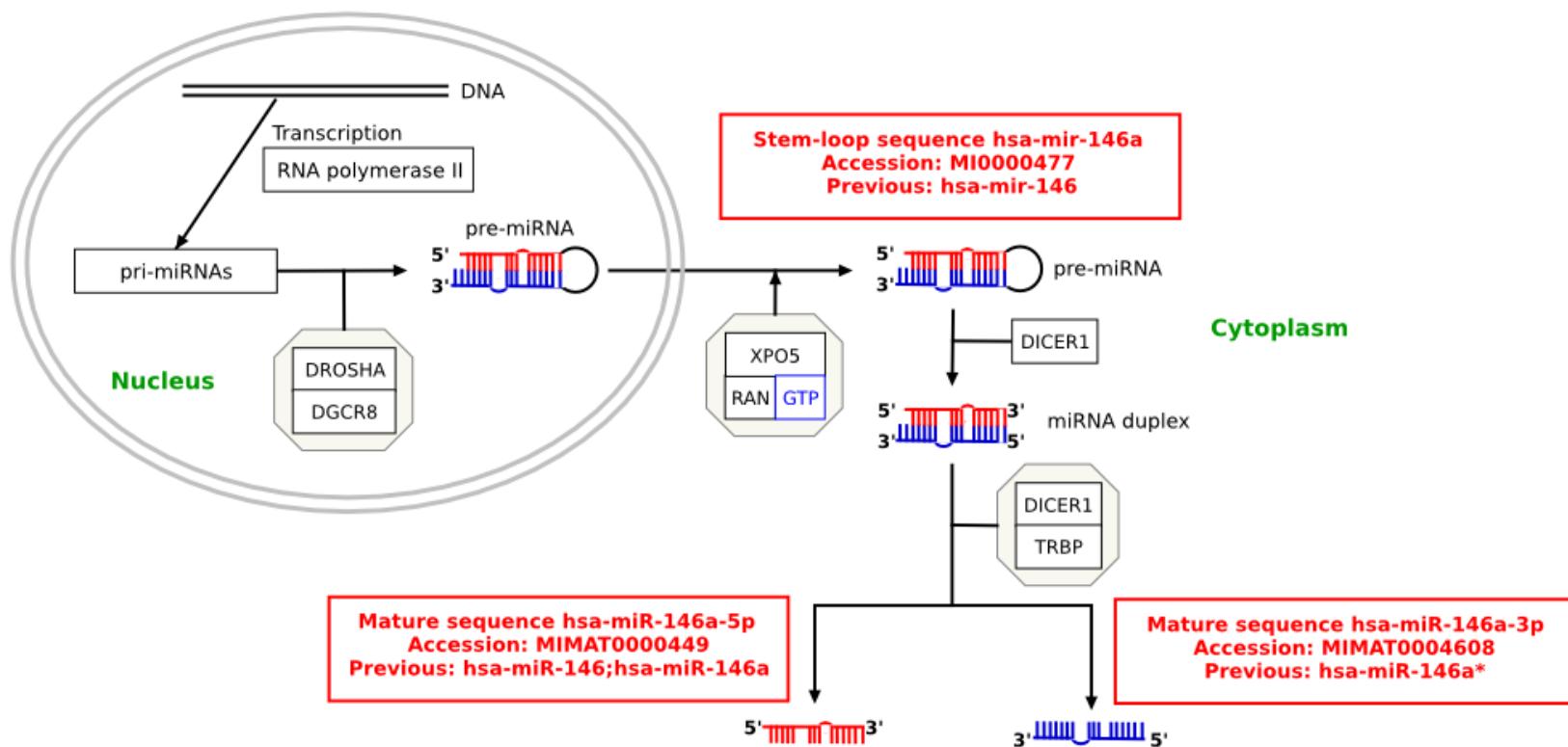
Comments, questions? Email [mirbase@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:mirbase@manchester.ac.uk)

# Identifiers in miRBase

- In addition to a name or ID, each miRBase Sequence entry has a unique **accession number**.

stem-loop sequence: MI0000069

mature sequence: MIMAT0000068



# miRBase: mmu-mir-455 entry

miRNA Entry for M0004679 - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

miRNA Entry for M0004679

www.mirbase.org/cgi-bin/mirna\_entry.pl?acc=M0004679

Google

miRBase

MANCHESTER BSI

Home Search Browse Help Download Blog Submit mmu-mir-455

Search

### Stem-loop sequence mmu-mir-455

Accession	MI0004679
Symbol	MGI:Mir455
Description	Mus musculus miR-455 stem-loop
Gene family	MIPF0000129; <a href="#">mir-455</a>
Stem-loop	<pre>cuuccu u ug c u a c aa gg g ag g<u>uaugugccu</u>uggacu cau ug c                           g cu c uc<u>causauacgg</u>acttga <u>ua cac c</u> ----a c gu s c c c c ga</pre> <a href="#">Get sequence</a>
Deep sequencing	41813 reads, 94 experiments  CUCCUGGUUGUUGGUAGUGGCCUUGGAGUUGGGAGCAGCGACUUCAGACUUCUCA
Genome context	Coordinates (GRCh38) chr4: 63256851-63256932 [+] sense Overlapping transcripts OTIMUST0000054116; Col27a1-004; intron 7 OTIMUST0000054101; Col27a1-001; intron 10 OTIMUST0000054115; Col27a1-003; intron 10 OTIMUST0000054102; Col27a1-002; intron 10 ENSMUST00000156519; Col27a1-004; intron 7 ENSMUST00000365300; Col27a1-001; intron 10 ENSMUST00000148751; Col27a1-003; intron 10 ENSMUST00000125504; Col27a1-002; intron 10
Database links	ENTREZGENE: 735262; <a href="#">Mir455</a> MGI: 3629649; <a href="#">Mir455</a>

### Mature sequence mmu-miR-455-5p

Accession	MIMAT0003485
Previous IDs	mmu-miR-455; mmu-miR-455-5p; mmu-miR-455*
Sequence	17 - <u>uaugugccuuggacuacucg</u> - 38 <a href="#">Get sequence</a>
Deep	5444 reads, 76 experiments

# miRBase: mmu-mir-455 entry

miRNA Entry for M0004679 - Mozilla Firefox  
File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help  
www.mirbase.org/cgi-bin/mirna\_entry.pl?acc=M0004679  
Mature sequence mmu-mir-455-5p

Accession: MIMAT0003485  
Previous IDs: mmu-miR-455;mmu-miR-455-5p;mmu-miR-455\*  
Sequence: 17 ~ [uaugugccuuaggcucacauyc](#) ~ 38  
Get sequence  
Deep sequencing: 5444 reads, 76 experiments  
Evidence: experimental; MPSS [1], miRAP-cloned [2], Solexa [4-5]  
Predicted targets: DIANA-MICROT: [mmu-miR-455-5p](#)  
MICRORNA.ORG: [mmu-miR-455-5p](#)  
MIRDB: [mmu-miR-455-5p](#)  
RNA22-MMU: [mmu-miR-455-5p](#)

Mature sequence mmu-mir-455-3p

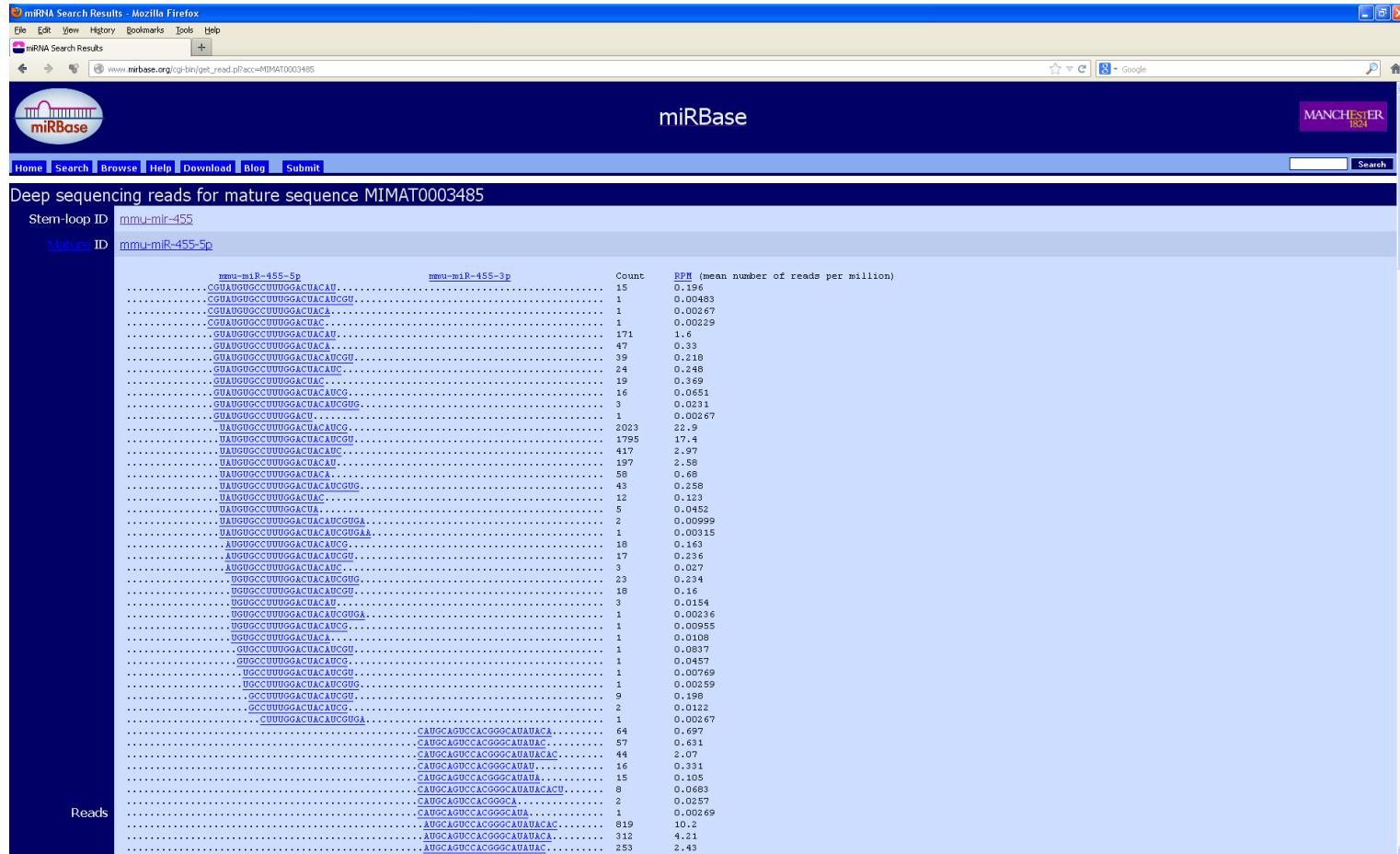
Accession: MIMAT0003742  
Previous IDs: mmu-miR-455-3p;mmu-miR-455  
Sequence: 54 ~ [gcaguccacgggcacuacae](#) ~ 74  
Get sequence  
Deep sequencing: 14716 reads, 78 experiments  
Evidence: experimental; MPSS [1], miRAP-cloned [2], cloned [3], Solexa [4-5]  
Predicted targets: DIANA-MICROT: [mmu-miR-455-3p](#)  
MICRORNA.ORG: [mmu-miR-455-3p](#)  
MIRDB: [mmu-miR-455-3p](#)  
RNA22-MMU: [mmu-miR-455-3p](#)  
TARGETSCAN-VERT: [mmu-miR-455](#)

References

1 PMID: [16582102](#)  
["The expression profile of microRNAs in mouse embryos"](#)  
Mineno J, Okamoto S, Ando T, Sato M, Chono H, Izu H, Takayama M, Asada K, Mirochnitchenko O, Inouye M, Kato I  
Nucleic Acids Res. 34:1765-1771(2006).

2 PMID: [16973894](#)  
["Mouse microRNA profiles determined with a new and sensitive cloning method"](#)  
Takada S, Berezikov E, Yamashita Y, Lagos-Quintana M, Kloosterman WP, Enomoto M, Hatanaka H, Fujiwara S, Watanabe H, Soda M, Choi YL, Plasterk RH, Cuppen E, Mano H  
Nucleic Acids Res. 34:e115(2006).

# mmu-miR-455-5p deep sequencing



# mmu-miR-455-5p deep sequencing

miRNA Search Results - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

miRNA Search Results

www.mirbase.org/cgi-bin/get\_read.pl?acc=MMAT0003485

ER0000000234	53	bone marrow	GEO : GSM539852	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000235	60	bone marrow	GEO : GSM539854	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000236	15	spleen	GEO : GSM539855	strain: RAG-, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000237	259	thymus	GEO : GSM539856	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000238	17	spleen	GEO : GSM539857	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000239	28	spleen	GEO : GSM539858	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000240	7	spleen	GEO : GSM539859	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000241	2	lymph nodes/spleen	GEO : GSM539860	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000242	7	lymph nodes/spleen	GEO : GSM539861	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000243	11	lymph nodes/spleen	GEO : GSM539862	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000244	333	spleen	GEO : GSM539863	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male, isolation: fluorescence activated cell sorting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000245	31	lymph nodes/spleen	GEO : GSM539864	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000246	103	lymph nodes/spleen	GEO : GSM539865	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male, isolation: fluorescence activated cell sorting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000247	268		GEO : GSM539866	strain: C57BL/6-129
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000248	278		GEO : GSM539867	strain: C57BL/6J, developmental stage: E13.5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000249	25	heart	GEO : GSM539868	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000250	123	brain	GEO : GSM539869	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000251	121	lung	GEO : GSM539870	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000252	421	liver	GEO : GSM539871	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000253	577	kidney	GEO : GSM539872	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000254	62	pancreas	GEO : GSM539873	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000255	397	skin	GEO : GSM539874	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000256	58	skeletal muscle	GEO : GSM539875	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000257	183	salivary glands	GEO : GSM539876	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000258	18	testes	GEO : GSM539877	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000259	324	ovary	GEO : GSM539878	strain: C57BL/6J, gender: female
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000260	38	spleen	GEO : GSM539879	strain: BclXL transgenic BalbC, gender: male
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ER0000000261	287	lymph nodes	GEO : GSM539880	strain: BclXL transgenic BalbC, gender: male

by # mismatches 0 ▾ Display untemplated ends □

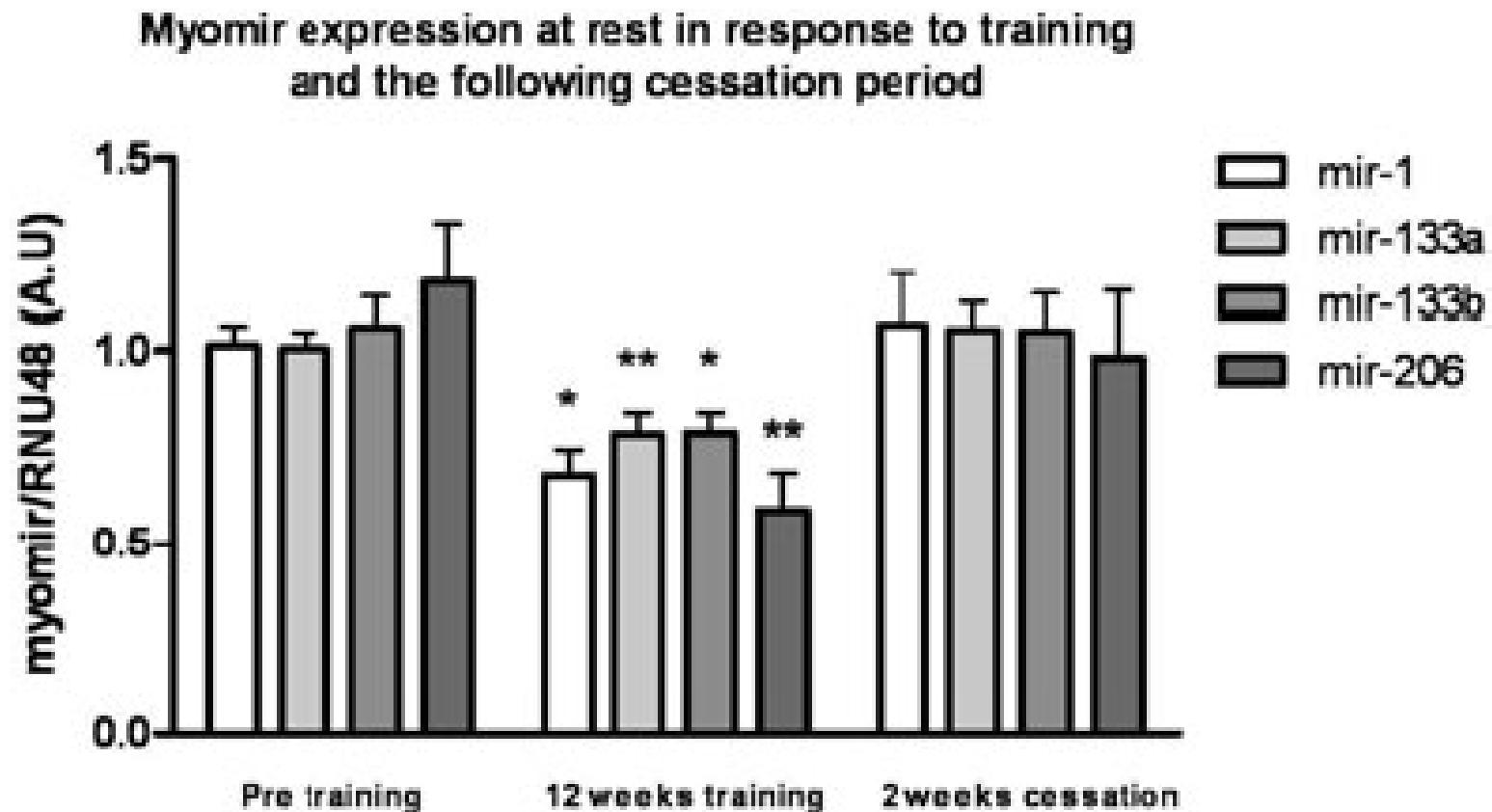
by read count min [ ] max [ ]

Select all Reset Submit

References

1 PMID: 20413612  
"Mammalian microRNAs: experimental evaluation of novel and previously annotated genes"  
Chiang HR, Schoenfeld LW, Ruby JG, Auyeung VC, Spies N, Baek D, Johnston WK, Russ C, Luo S, Babiarz JE, Blelloch R, Schroth GP, Nusbaum C, Bartel DP  
Genes Dev. 24:992-1009(2010).

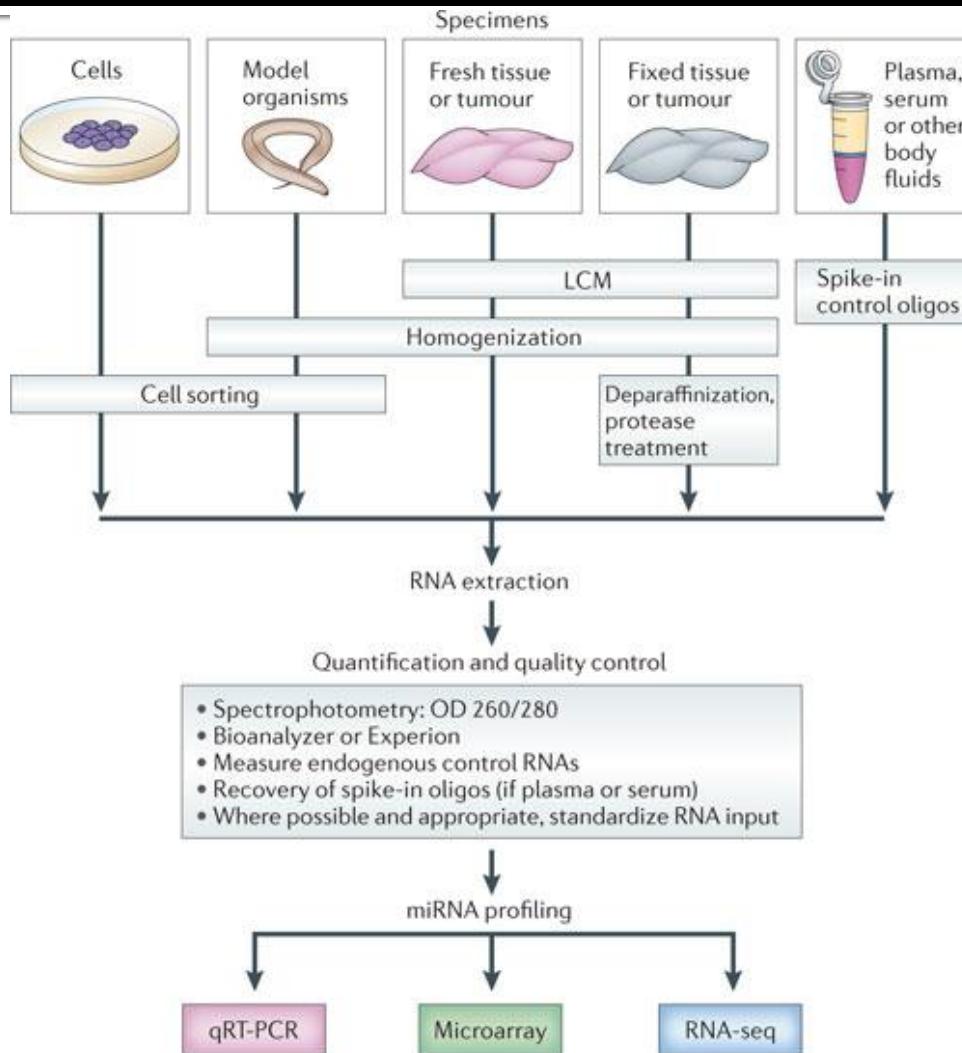
# miRNAs and endurance training



# miRNA and disease

- Cancer:
  - Several miRNAs have been found to be overexpressed in specific types of cancer.
  - Patterns of miRNA activity can be used to distinguish several types of cancers: **biomarker profiles**
  - Useful to identify cancers of unknown origin
- Heart disease:
  - Specific miRNAs change in diseased human hearts: **biomarker profiles**

# microRNA profiling (1)



# microRNA profiling (2)

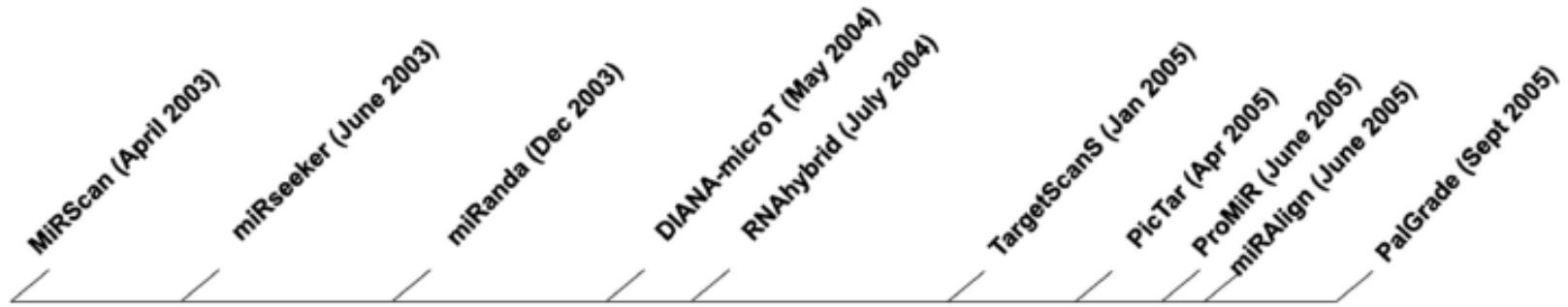
**Table 1** | Platform comparison for microRNA profiling

	<b>qPCR</b>	<b>Microarray</b>	<b>Sequencing</b>
Throughput time	~6 hours	~2 days	1–2 weeks
Total RNA required	500 ng	100–1,000 ng	500–5,000 ng
Estimated cost per sample, including reagents and supplies	\$400 (754 human microRNAs queried per sample)	\$250–\$350 (at least 950 microRNAs queried per sample)	\$1,000–\$1,300 (theoretically, all microRNAs queried per sample)
Dynamic range detected	Six orders of magnitude	Four orders of magnitude	Five or more orders of magnitude
Infrastructure and technical requirements	Few	Moderate	Substantial

Results reported by the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities. Newer protocols and equipment may have different prices, throughput, output and requirements.

# miRNA target prediction

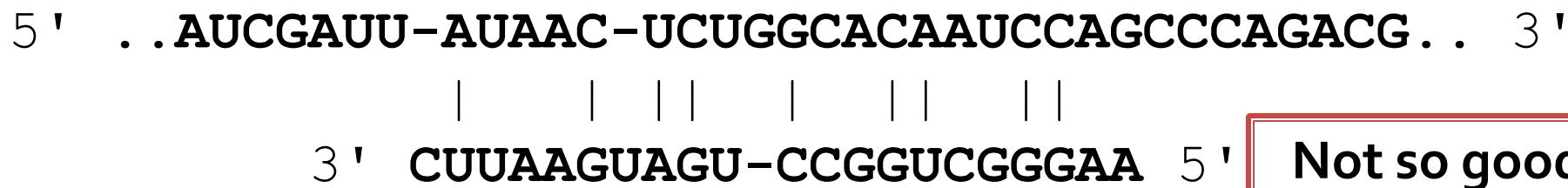
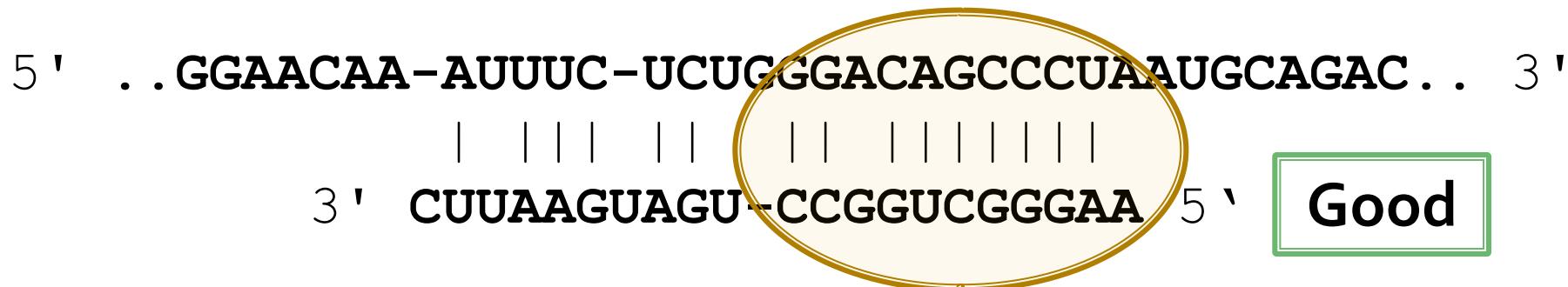
# Target prediction history



- **Solutions make use of:**
  1. alignment algorithms
  2. conservation rates
  3. thermodynamics

# Alignment scores

Nucleotides 2–7 of the miRNA ('seed region') need to be perfectly complementary:



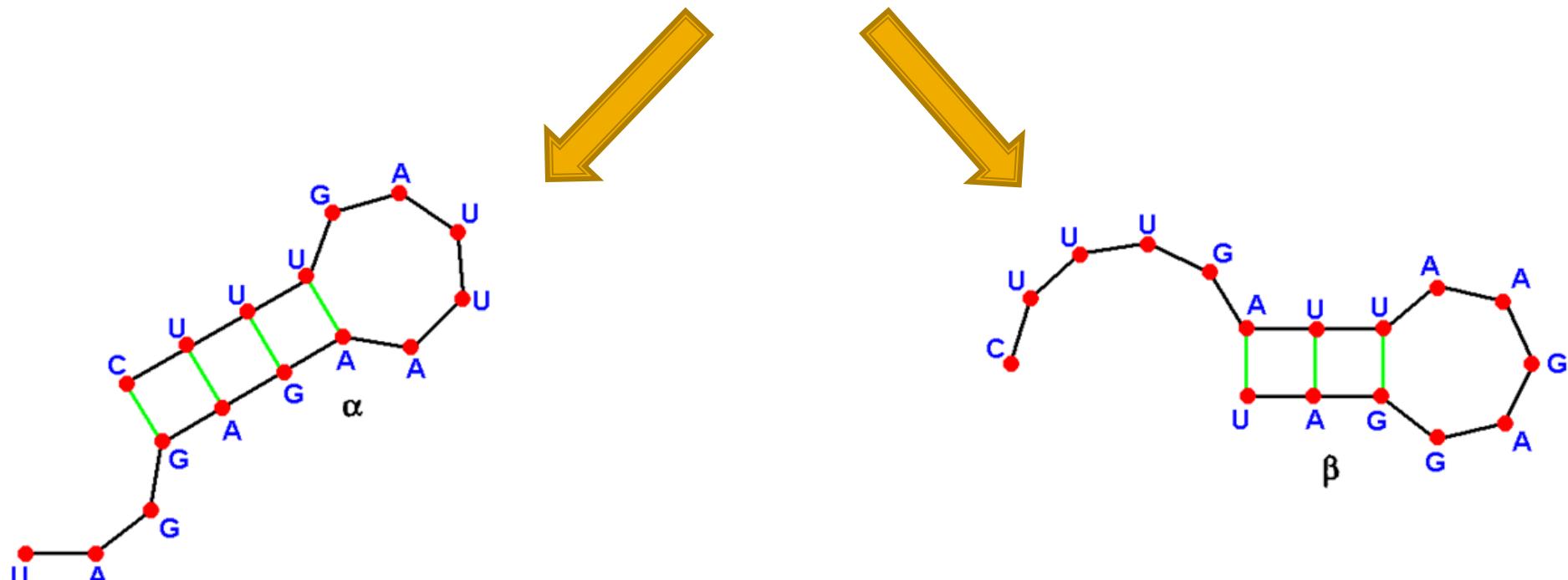
# Conservation

miR-155    3'    GGGGAUAGUGCUAAUCGUAAUU    5'  
hAT<sub>1</sub>R mRNA    5'..UUCACUACCAAAUGAGCAUUAG..3'  
(70-90 bp)

<i>H. Sapiens</i> AGTR1	5'	UUCACUACCAAAUGAGCAUUAG	3'
<i>P. Troglodytes</i> AGTR1	5'	UUCACUACCAAAUGAGCAUUAG	3'
<i>C. Familiaris</i> AGTR1	5'	UUCACUAUCAAAUGAGCAUUAG	3'
<i>M. Musculus</i> AGTR1	5'	CUCACGACCAAAGGACCAGNNN	3'
<i>R. Norvegicus</i> AGTR1	5'	CUUACGACCAAAGGACCAGAUCA	3'

# Thermodynamics: free energy

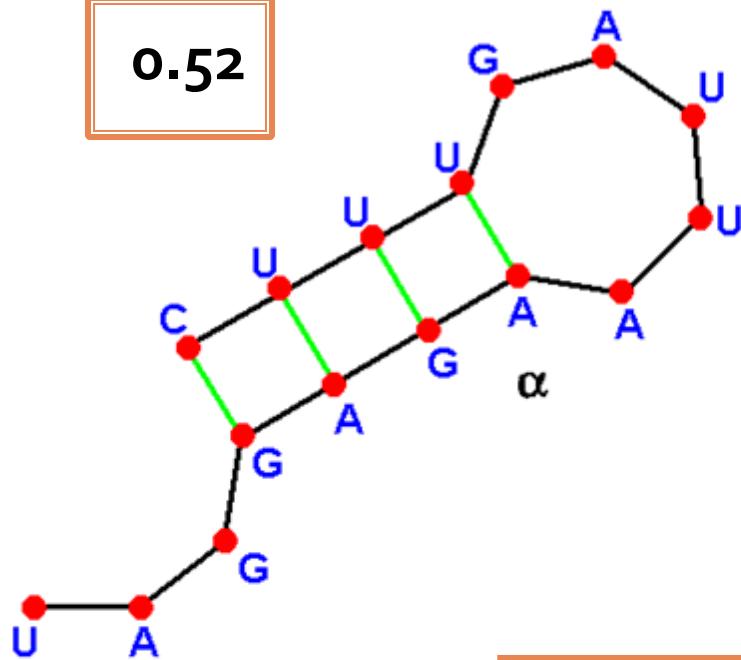
UAGGAGAAUUAGUUUC



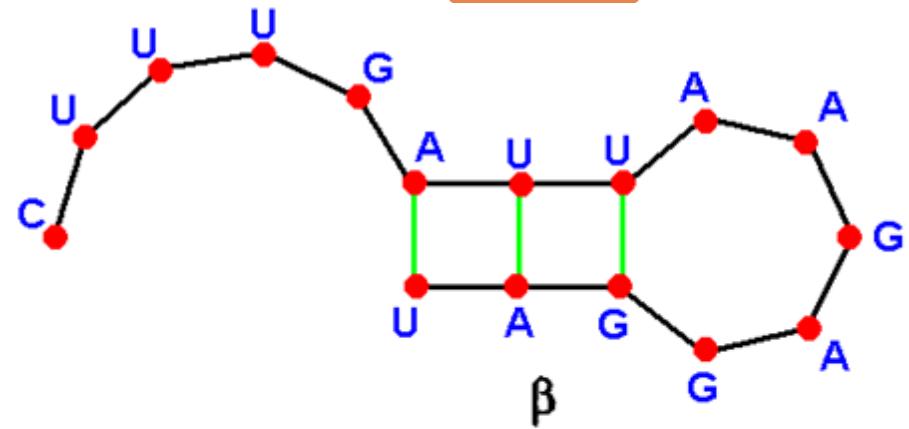
Stronger bond = Higher free energy

# Different configurations

0.52



0.03



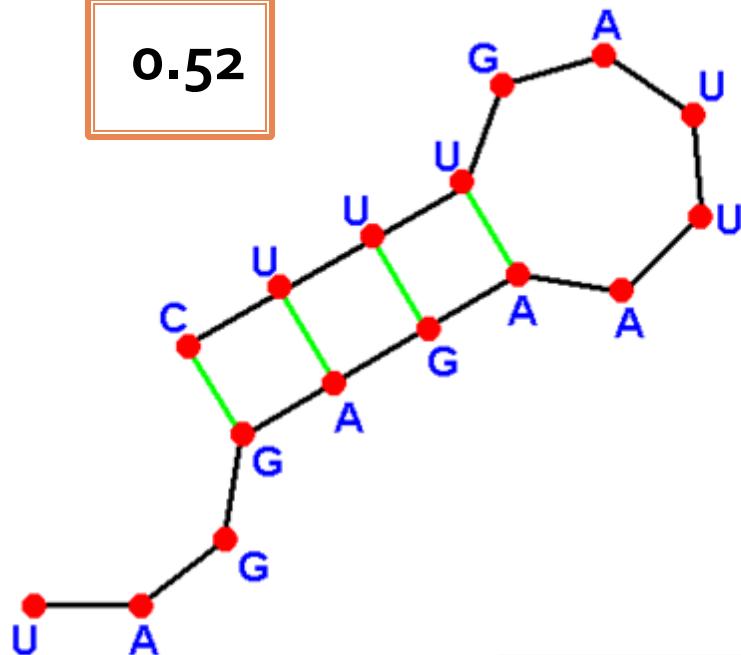
Different configurations

=

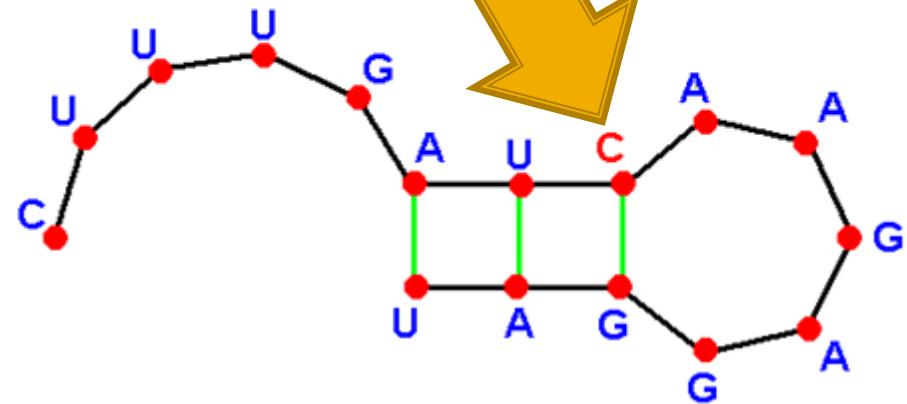
Different free energy

# Different configurations

0.52



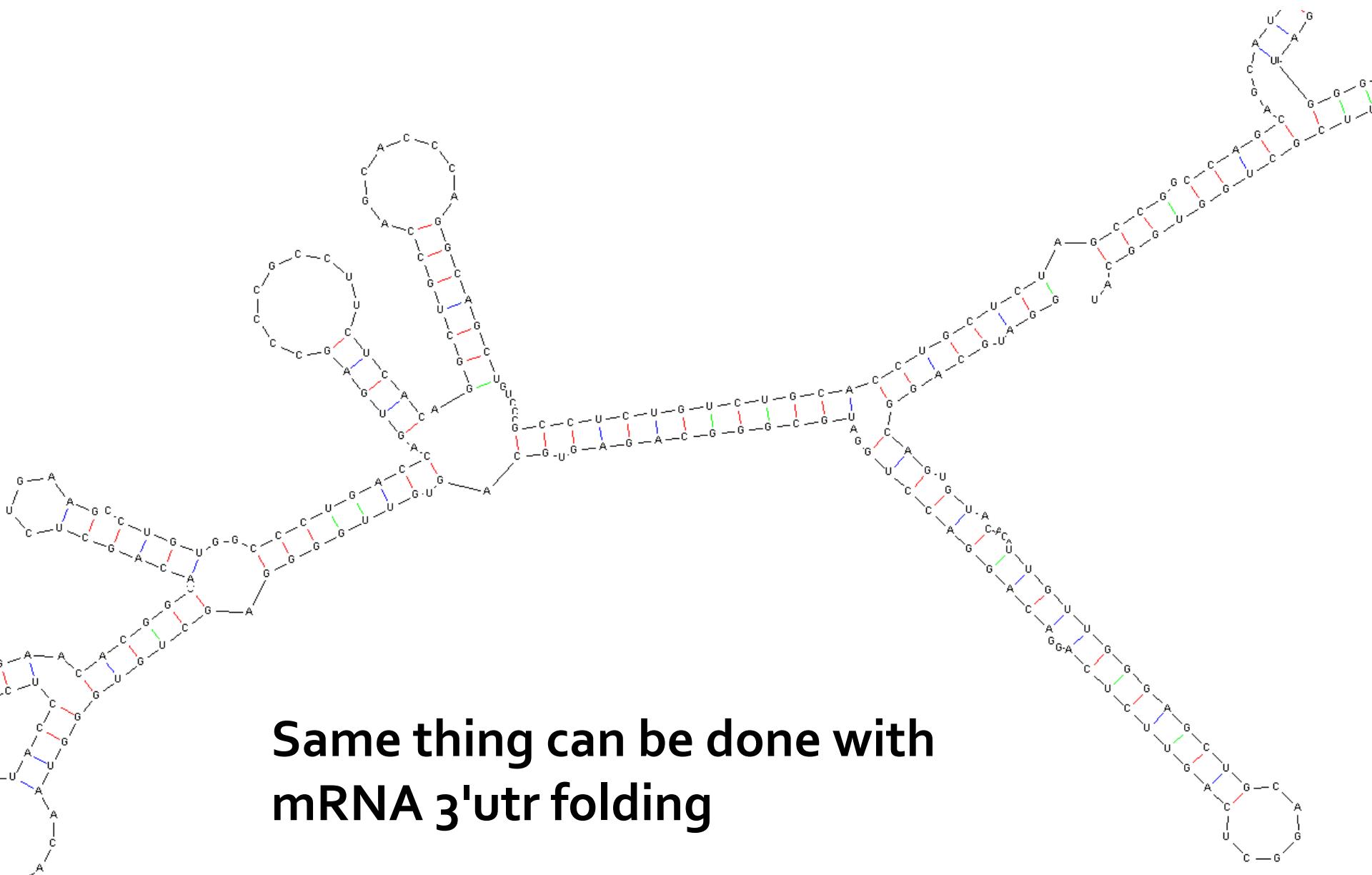
0.43



Different configurations

=

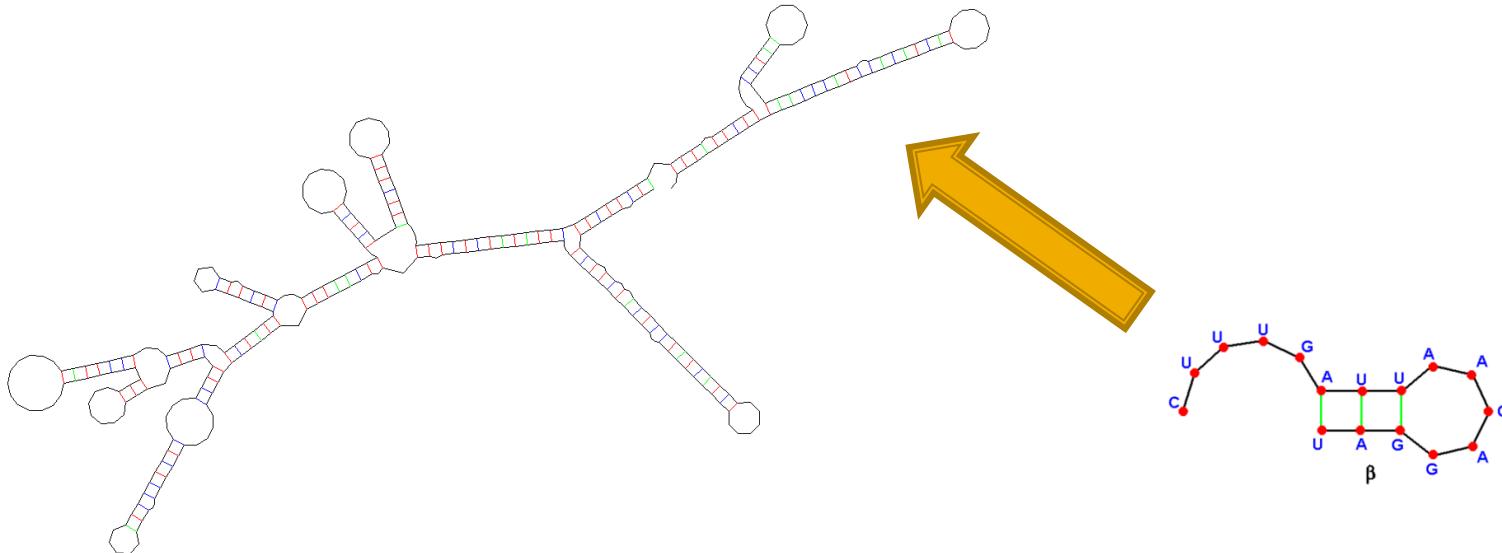
Different free energy



**Same thing can be done with  
mRNA 3'utr folding**

# Potential target sites

- Thermodynamical requirements:
  - low energy of self-binding for both the miRNA and mRNA
  - high energy of resulting 3'utr - miRNA binding



# Database overview

TABLE 1

## Methods and resources for miRNA target prediction

Method	Type of method	Refs	Method availability	Data availability	Resource
Stark <i>et al.</i>	Complementarity	[21]	Online search	Yes	<a href="http://www.russell.embl.de/miRNAs/">http://www.russell.embl.de/miRNAs/</a>
miRanda	Complementarity	[22]	Download	Yes	<a href="http://www.microrna.org/">http://www.microrna.org/</a>
miRanda miRBase	Complementarity	[1]	Online search	Yes	<a href="http://microrna.sanger.ac.uk/">http://microrna.sanger.ac.uk/</a>
TargetScan	Seed complementarity	[18]	Online search	Yes	<a href="http://www.targetscan.org/">http://www.targetscan.org/</a>
TargetScanS	Seed complementarity	[17]	Online search	Yes	<a href="http://www.targetscan.org/">http://www.targetscan.org/</a>
DIANA microT	Thermodynamics	[24]	Download	Yes	<a href="http://diana.pcbi.upenn.edu/">http://diana.pcbi.upenn.edu/</a>
PicTar	Thermodynamics	[33]		Yes	<a href="http://pictar.bio.nyu.edu/">http://pictar.bio.nyu.edu/</a>
RNAHybrid	Thermodynamics and statistical model	[25]	Download		<a href="http://bibiserv.techfak.uni-bielefeld.de/rnahybrid/">http://bibiserv.techfak.uni-bielefeld.de/rnahybrid/</a>
miTarget	SVM	[37]	Online Search		<a href="http://cbit.snu.ac.kr/~miTarget/">http://cbit.snu.ac.kr/~miTarget/</a>
TarBase	Experimentally validated targets		N/A	Yes	<a href="http://diana.pcbi.upenn.edu/tarbase.html">http://diana.pcbi.upenn.edu/tarbase.html</a>

Abbreviation: N/A, not available.

# Scanning is done by going to the MicroCosm Targets website (linked on front page of miRBase)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the MicroCosm Targets Version 5 website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Databases, Tools, Research, Training, Industry, About Us, Help, Site Index, and a feedback link. On the left, a sidebar lists EMBL-EBI services: Enright Lab, Services (MicroCosm Targets, MapMi, Sylamer), and MicroCosm Targets Home. The main content area features a central graphic with a large blue circle containing the text "Targets" above "MicroCosm". Surrounding this central circle are six smaller blue ovals labeled "Enter", "Information", "FAQ", "Search", "Statistics", and "Download". Above the central graphic, the text "MicroCosm Targets Version 5" is displayed, along with an email address "Email [microcosm@ebi.ac.uk](mailto:microcosm@ebi.ac.uk) with queries or problems.". Below the central graphic, the text "miRBase Targets Release Version v5" is shown, followed by a detailed description of the resource.

EMBL-EBI 

Enter Text Here  Help | Feedback

Databases Tools Research Training Industry About Us Help Site Index  

▪ EMBL-EBI  
: Enright Lab  
▪ Services  
  - MicroCosm Targets  
  - MapMi  
  - Sylamer  
▪ MicroCosm Targets  
  - Home

EBI > Enright Group > MicroCosm

**MicroCosm Targets Version 5**

Email [microcosm@ebi.ac.uk](mailto:microcosm@ebi.ac.uk) with queries or problems.

Enter

Information

FAQ

Targets

MicroCosm

Statistics

Search

Download

miRBase Targets Release Version v5

MicroCosm Targets (formerly miRBase Targets) is a web resource developed by the Enright Lab at the EMBL-EBI containing computationally predicted targets for microRNAs across many species. The miRNA sequences are obtained from the [miRBase Sequence database](#) and most genomic sequence from [EnsEMBL](#). We aim to provide the most up-to-date and accurate predictions of miRNA targets and hence this resource will be updated regularly to incorporate new miRNAs or EnsEMBL sequences. For more information about the computational protocol used for these analyses, please see the [information page](#).

# All miRNA hits for *Rattus norvegicus* and let-7a

500 hits found.

Page 1 of 10

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [next >>](#)

Gene Name	Transcript	Gene	Description	GO Terms	Total Score	Total Energy	Best P value	Total Sites	No. Cons Species	No. miRNAs
NP_001013247.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000014386</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000010673</a>	Era (G-protein)-like 1 (E. coli) (predicted) [Source:RefSeq_peptide;Acc:NP_001013247]		138	-214	9.15469e- 8 10		5	6 [+]
Q71KM5_RAT	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000028130</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000020733</a>	CRAMP (Fragment). [Source:Uniprot/SPTREMBL;Acc:Q71KM5]		37	-23	6.3227e- 2 09		4	25 [+]
	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000032786</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000007654</a>	leucine-rich repeats and immunoglobulin-like domains 3 [Source:RefSeq_peptide;Acc:NP_700356]leucine-rich repeats and immunoglobulin-like domains 3 [Source:RefSeq_peptide;Acc:NP_700356] BY ORTHOLOGY TO:ENST00000320743		64	-78	1.08549e- 4 08		10	5 [+]
ACADS_RAT	<a href="#">ENSRNOT0000001556</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000001177</a>	Acyl-CoA dehydrogenase, short-chain specific, mitochondrial precursor (EC 1.3.99.2) (SCAD) (Butyryl-CoA dehydrogenase). [Source:Uniprot/SWISSPROT;Acc:P15651]		178	-221	1.97468e- 11 08		8	16 [+]
XP_213226.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000005899</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000004461</a>	PREDICTED: similar to 2810417J12Rik protein [Source:RefSeq_peptide_predicted;Acc:XP_213226]		37	-25	2.08358e- 2 08		4	15 [+]
XP_216873.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000006903</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000005102</a>	PREDICTED: similar to RIKEN cDNA 2900091E11 [Source:RefSeq_peptide_predicted;Acc:XP_216873]		82	-60	3.00314e- 5 08		7	36 [+]
NP_001004211.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000006642</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000004670</a>	DEAD (Asp-Glu-Ala-Asp) box polypeptide 56 [Source:RefSeq_peptide;Acc:NP_001004211]		95	-103	3.15554e- 6 08		4	30 [+]
NP_001020047.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000005376</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003964</a>	RIKEN cDNA 1110014D18 gene (1110014D18Rik), mRNA [Source:RefSeq_dna;Acc:NM_026746]RIKEN cDNA 1110014D18 gene (1110014D18Rik), mRNA [Source:RefSeq_dna;Acc:NM_026746] BY ORTHOLOGY TO:ENSMUST00000079703		69	-70	3.89717e- 4 08		4	13 [+]
CBPB2_RAT	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000014909</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000010935</a>	Carboxypeptidase B2 precursor (EC 3.4.17.20) (Carboxypeptidase U) (Thrombin-activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor) (TAFI) (Carboxypeptidase R) (CPR). [Source:Uniprot/SWISSPROT;Acc:Q9EQV9]		20	-7	6.12503e- 1 08		2	10 [+]
XP_343784.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000004733</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003554</a>	PREDICTED: similar to Pig-a precursor [Source:RefSeq_peptide_predicted;Acc:XP_343784]		90	-62	1.13116e- 5 07		7	21 [+]
NP_001008889.1	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000030476</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000025704</a>	HIV-induced protein-7-like protease [Source:RefSeq_peptide;Acc:NP_001008889]		80	-94	1.1802e- 5 07		9	5 [+]
XP_220798.3	<a href="#">ENSRNOT00000036814</a>	<a href="#">ENSRNOG00000027711</a>	PREDICTED: similar to ubiquitin specific protease 32 [Source:RefSeq_peptide_predicted;Acc:XP_220798]		34	-33	1.27342e- 2 07		8	3 [+]

# Practical session, May 16th

