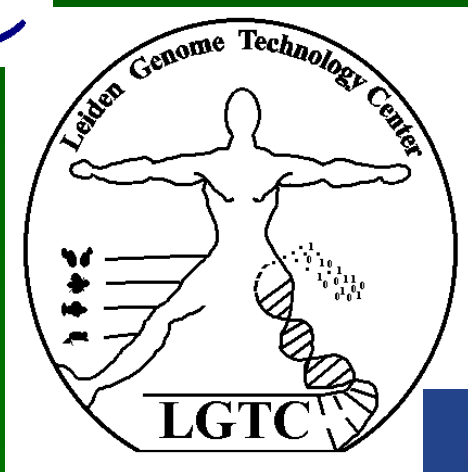


RNA variants

position and possible consequences

everything what can go wrong, will go wrong



Johan den Dunnen



Gene < > phenotype

- gene function

*gene function 'explains' phenotype
combination should make 'sense'
for analysis use affected tissue
RNA, protein analysis*

- expression

*gene expressed in affected tissue
select major reference transcript*

RNA

..the neglected molecule

under-appreciated

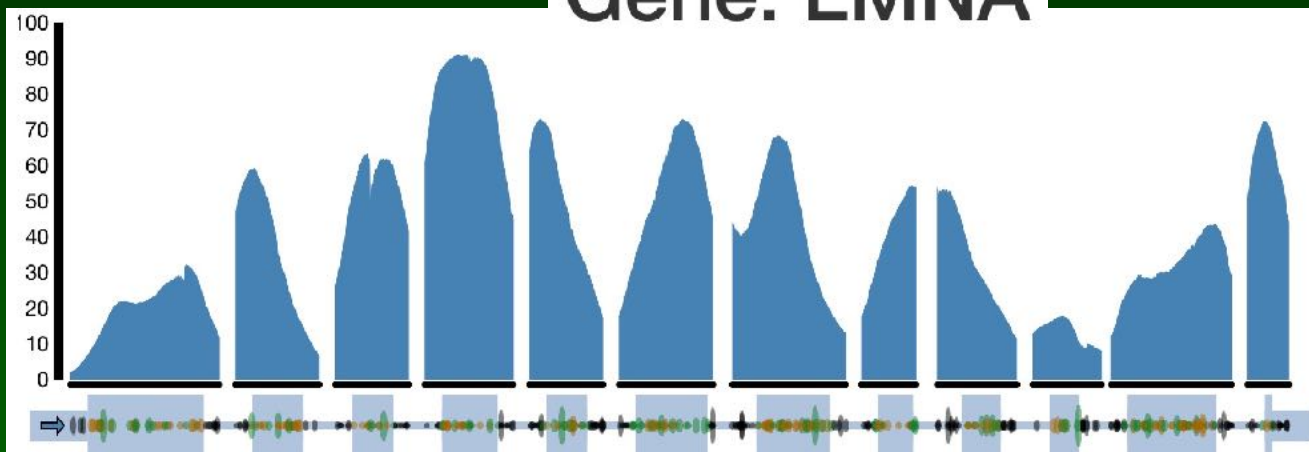
most go blindly DNA > protein

..there is much more

gnomAD / ExAC

ExAC Browser (Beta) | Exome Aggregation Consortium

Gene: LMNA



1:156084751 G 1 / A	156084751	n.80-4G>A ⁻	PASS	splice region	1	27826	0	0.00003594
1:156084753 A 1 / C	156084753	n.80-2A>C [†]	PASS	splice acceptor	1	29400	0	0.00003401
1:156084756 C 1 / A	156084756	p.Ala16Asp	PASS	missense	2	31032	0	0.00006445
1:156084760 C 1 / T (rs11549668)	156084760	p.Ser17Ser	PASS	synonymous	813	33894	8	0.02399
1:156084783 G 1 / T	156084783	p.Arg25Leu	PASS	missense	2	44832	0	0.00004461
1:156084787 C 1 / T	156084787	p.Ile26Ile	PASS	synonymous	5	46600	0	0.0001073
1:156084841 C 1 / G	156084841	p.Val44Val	PASS	synonymous	1	51050	0	0.00001959
1:156084851 C 1 / G	156084851	p.Arg48Gly	PASS	missense	2	50862	0	0.00003932
1:156084856 G 1 / A	156084856	n.355G>A [†]	PASS	splice region	1	51262	0	0.00001951
1:156084858 G 1 / A	156084858	n.356+1G>A [†]	PASS	splice donor	3	51416	0	0.00005835
1:156084859 C 1 / T	156084859	n.356+2C>T [†]	PASS	splice donor	6	52036	0	0.0001153
1:156084862 C 1 / T	156084862	n.356+5C>T [†]	PASS	splice region	1	52004	0	0.00001923

Gene: CAV3

Constraint from ExAC	Expected no. variants	Observed no. variants	Constraint Metric
Synonymous	29.9	32	$z = -0.24$
Missense	59.8	41	$z = 1.19$
LoF	4.2	1	$pLI = 0.34$
CNV	2.4	5	$z = -0.47$

Population Frequencies

Population	Allele Count	Allele Number	Number of Homozygotes	Allele Frequency
African	121	5274	2	0.02294
Other	2	532	0	0.003759
Latino	7	6052	0	0.001157
European (Non-Finnish)	1	39690	0	2.52e-05
East Asian	0	5584	0	0
European (Finnish)	0	4052	0	0
South Asian	0	10756	0	0
Total	131	71940	2	0.001821

RNA?

ClinVar DMD

no RNA

*seems blind
DNA > protein*

(linked paper may have RNA)

<input type="checkbox"/>	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3637A>G (p.Lys1213Glu)	DMD	not specified	Uncertain significance (Feb 1, 2016)	criteria provided, single submitter
825.	GRCh37: ChrX:32466722 GRCh38: ChrX:32448605				
<input type="checkbox"/>	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3631G>T (p.Glu1211Ter)	DMD	Becker muscular dystrophy	Pathogenic (Nov 1, 1997)	no assertion criteria provided
826.	GRCh37: ChrX:32466728 GRCh38: ChrX:32448611				
<input type="checkbox"/>	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3604-12T>A	DMD	not specified	Likely benign (Aug 12, 2018)	
827.	GRCh37: ChrX:32466767 GRCh38: ChrX:32448650				
<input type="checkbox"/>	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3604-14T>C	DMD	not specified	Likely benign (Nov 16, 2018)	
828.	GRCh37: ChrX:32466769 GRCh38: ChrX:32448652				
<input type="checkbox"/>	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3603+15dupA	DMD	not specified	Likely benign (Apr 28, 2015)	
829.	GRCh37: ChrX:32472764 GRCh38: ChrX:32454647				

NCBI Resources How To

ClinVar ClinVar Search ClinVar for gene symbols, HGVS expression
Advanced

Home About Access Help Submit Statistics FTP

NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3631G>T (p.Glu1211Ter)

Variation ID: 11280

Review status: (0/4) no assertion criteria provided

Interpretation Go to: ^

Clinical significance: [Pathogenic](#)

Last evaluated: Nov 1, 1997

Number of submission(s): 1

Condition(s): Becker muscular dystrophy [[MedGen](#) - [Orphanet](#) - [OMIM](#)]

[See supporting ClinVar records](#)

Allele(s) Go to: ^

NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3631G>T (p.Glu1211Ter)

LOVD DMD

27	c.3628_3665del	-	r.3628_3665del	p.Lys1210*
27	c.3630delA	-	r.(?)	p.(Glu1211Lysfs*4)
27	c.3631G>T	3839G>T	r.[3631g>u, 3604_3786del, 3604_4071del]	p.[Glu1211*; Arg1202_1262del; Arg1202_1357del]
27	c.3679C>T	-	r.(?)	p.(Gln1227*)
27	c.3697delC	Patient data (#0006974) Phenotype muscular dystrophy, Becker (BMD) Phenotype additional - Reference Japan:Kobe Remarks - Geographic origin Japan Ethnic origin - Gender M Inheritance unknown Consanguinity - Fam_Pat - # reported 1 CK level - Protein data - Submitter Masafumi Matsuo		p.(Gln1233Lysfs*4)
27	c.3700G>T			p.(Glu1234*)
27	c.3705C>T (Reported 2 times)			p.(=)

Variant data	
Allele	Parent #1
Reported pathogenicity	Pathogenic
Concluded pathogenicity	Unknown
Exon	27
DNA change	c.3631G>T (View in UCSC Genome Browser , Ensembl)
Var_pub_as	3839G>T
RNA change	r.[3631g>u, 3604_3786del, 3604_4071del]
Protein change	p.[Glu1211*; Arg1202_1262del; Arg1202_1357del]
DB-ID	DMD_00074
Variant remarks	10% diff.splice
Genet_ori	germline (inherited)
Segregation	-
Reference	Shiga, Takeshima 2010, (OMIM 0074)
Template	DNA, RNA
Technique	RT-PCR, SEQ, SSCA
Frequency	-
RE-site	-

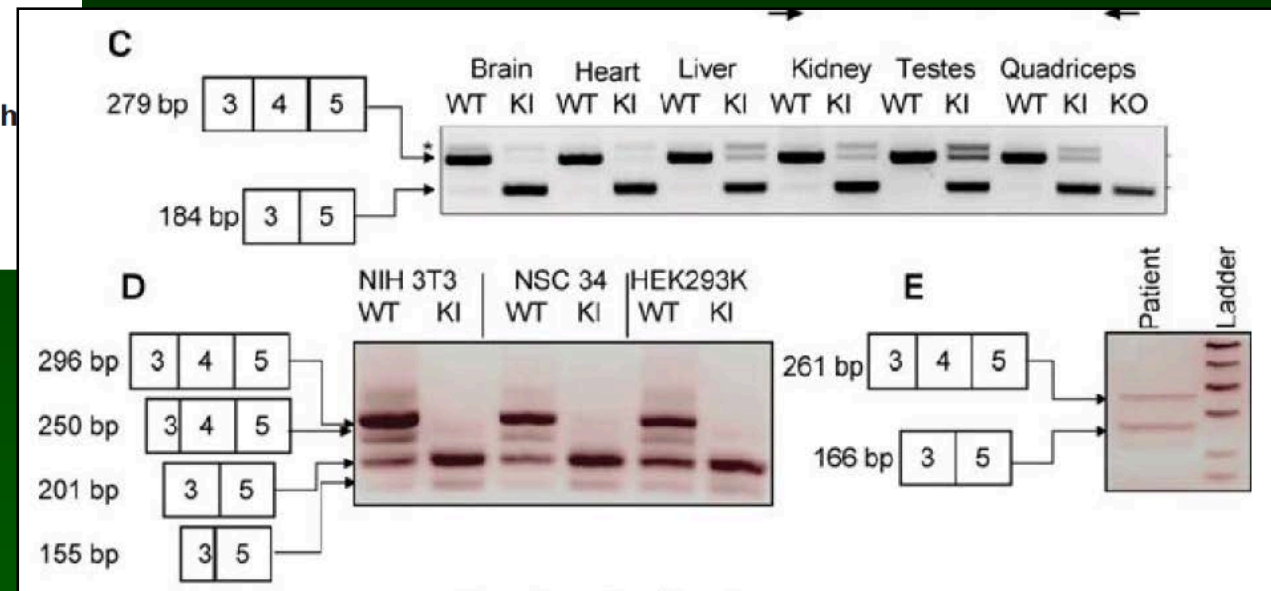
825.	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3631G>T (p.Lys1211Glu)	DMD	not specified	Uncertain significance (Feb 1, 2016)	criteria provided, single submitter
	GRCh37: ChrX:32466722 GRCh38: ChrX:32448605				
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	GRCh37: ChrX:32466767 GRCh38: ChrX:32448650				
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	GRCh37: ChrX:32466769 GRCh38: ChrX:32448652				
829.	NM_004006.2(DMD):c.3603+15dupA	DMD	not specified	Likely benign (Apr 28, 2019)	criteria provided, single submitter
	GRCh37: ChrX:32472764 GRCh38: ChrX:32454647				

Not like this

Human Molecular Genetics, 2012, Vol. 21, No. 4 811–825
doi:10.1093/hmg/ddr512
Advance Access published on November 7, 2011

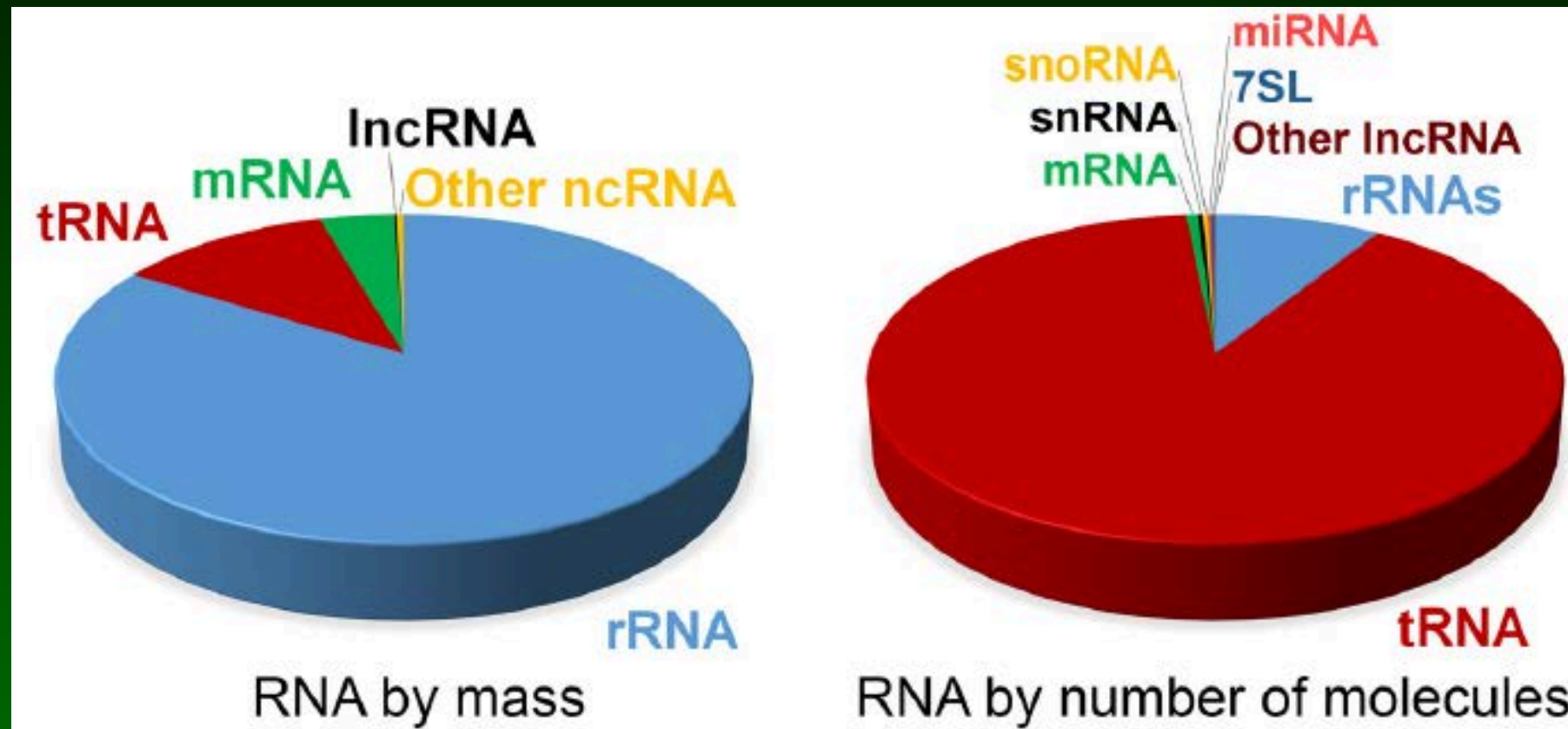
Modeling the human *MTM1* p.R69C mutation in murine *Mtm1* results in exon 4 skipping and a less severe myotubular myopathy phenotype

Christopher R. Pierson^{1,2,4,*}, Ashley N. Dulin-Smith¹, Ashley N. Durban¹, Morgan L. Marsh¹, Jordan T. Marshall¹, Andrew D. Snyder¹, Nada Naiyer¹, Jordan T. Gladman¹, Dawn S. Chandler^{1,3,4}, Michael W. Lawlor^{5,*}, Anna Buj-Bello⁶, James J. Dowling⁷ and Alan H. Beggs^{5,*}



- unclear missense effect
mouse model generated
 - > no protein in mouse
 - > RNA analysis shows splice effect
 - > confirmed in human
 - > explains severity phenotype

RNA types



Palazzo & Lee (2015) Front Genet 6:1-11

- coding (mRNA) > protein
- non-coding > regulation

amount: RNA stability, translation

1 gene / many RNAs

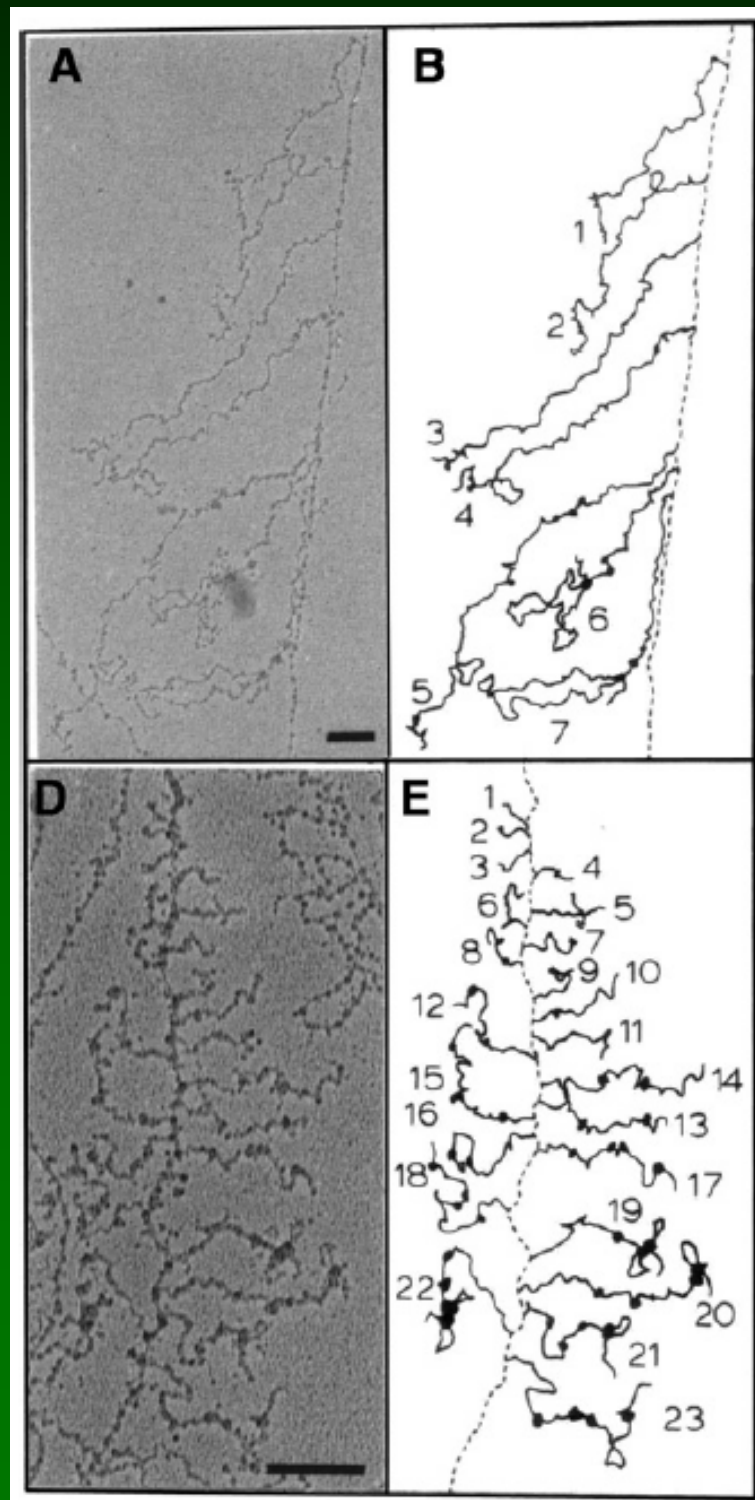
- **transcription initiation**
different promoter / first exon
stability, uORF, cap
- **splicing**
inclusion / exclusion exons
encoding different proteins
- **polyA addition**
alternative last exons
alternative polyA sites
+/- RNA regulatory sequences

*where, when,
how much*

structure

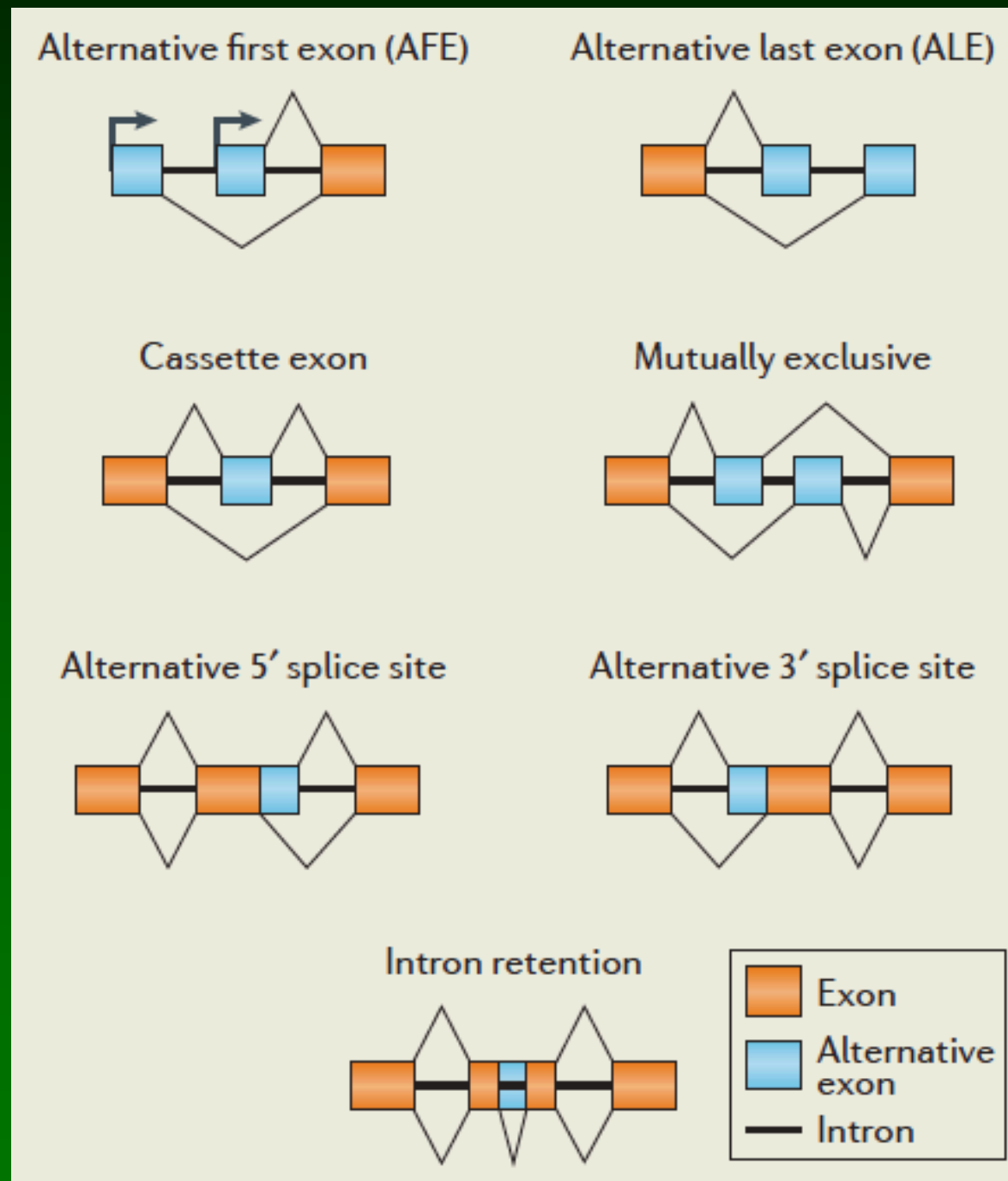
stability

Transcription



EM transcription
Drosophila

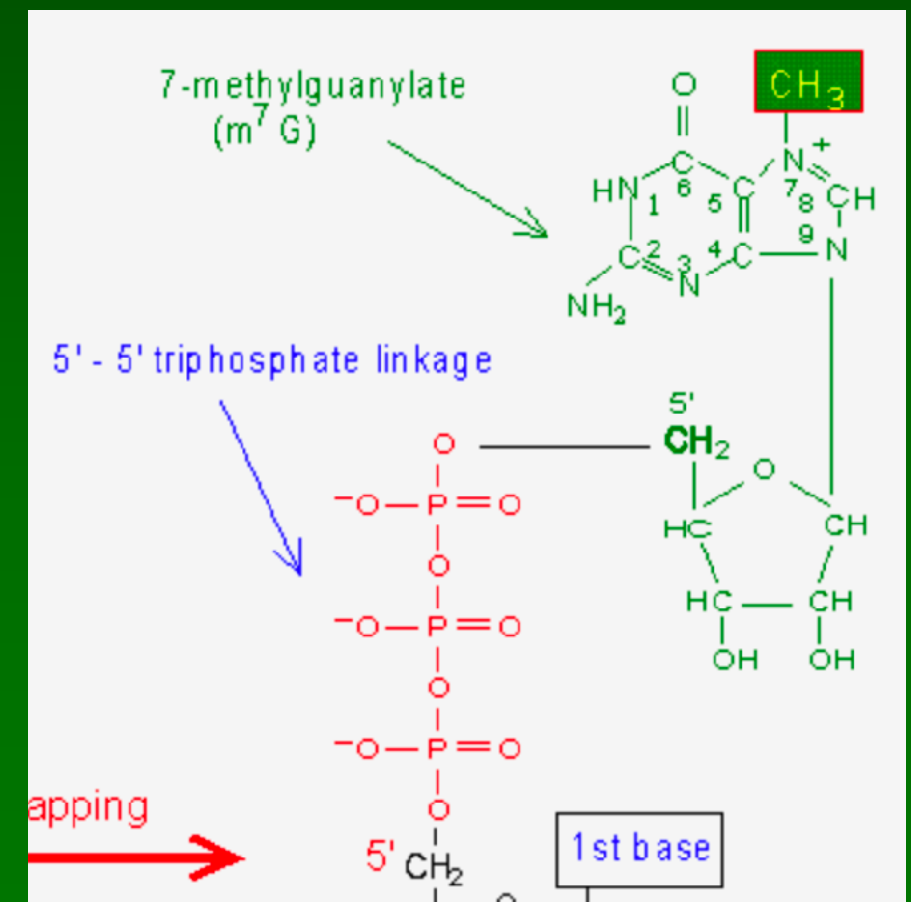
1 gene / many RNAs



Scotti & Swanson (2016) Nat Rev Genet 17:19-32

Capping

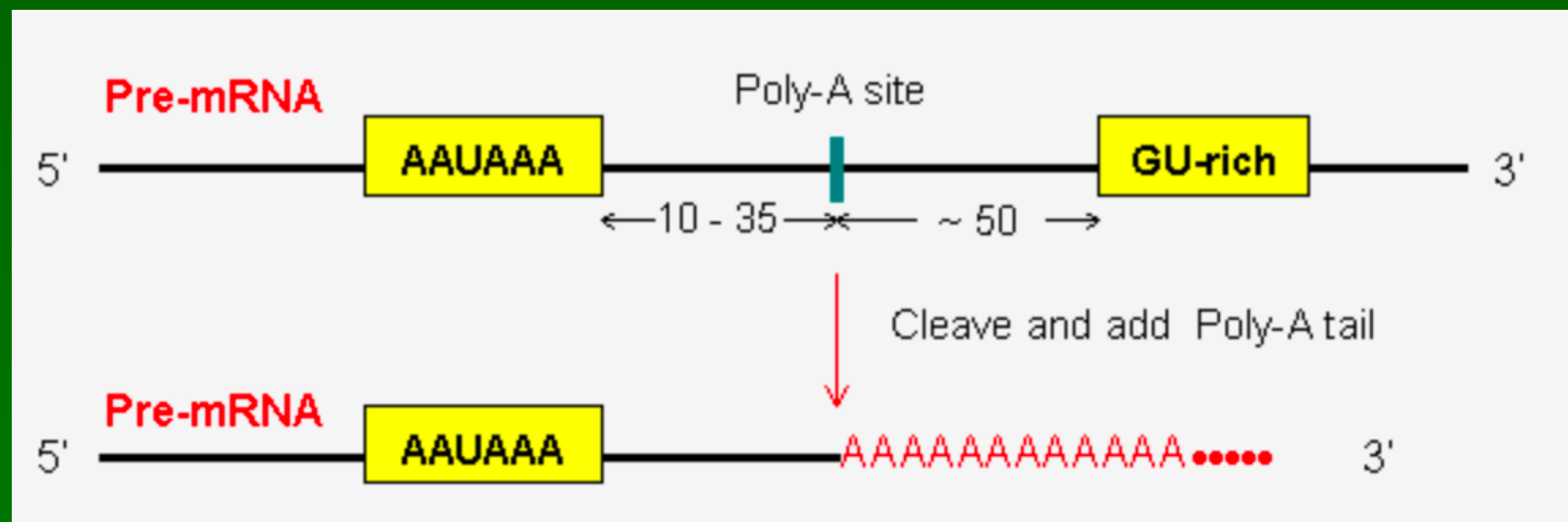
- **5' cap**
added immediately after transcription starts
- **block 5' end with 7-methylguanosine**
- **function**
*prevent degradation
by exonucleases
regulation nuclear export
promote translation
loops with polyA*



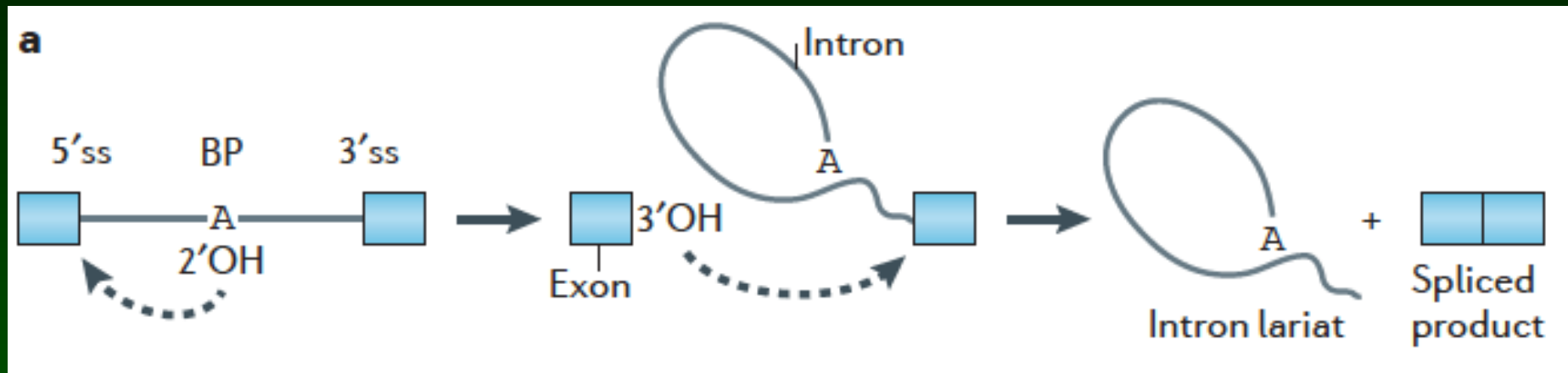
www.web-books.com/MoBio/Free/Ch5A.htm

PolyA addition

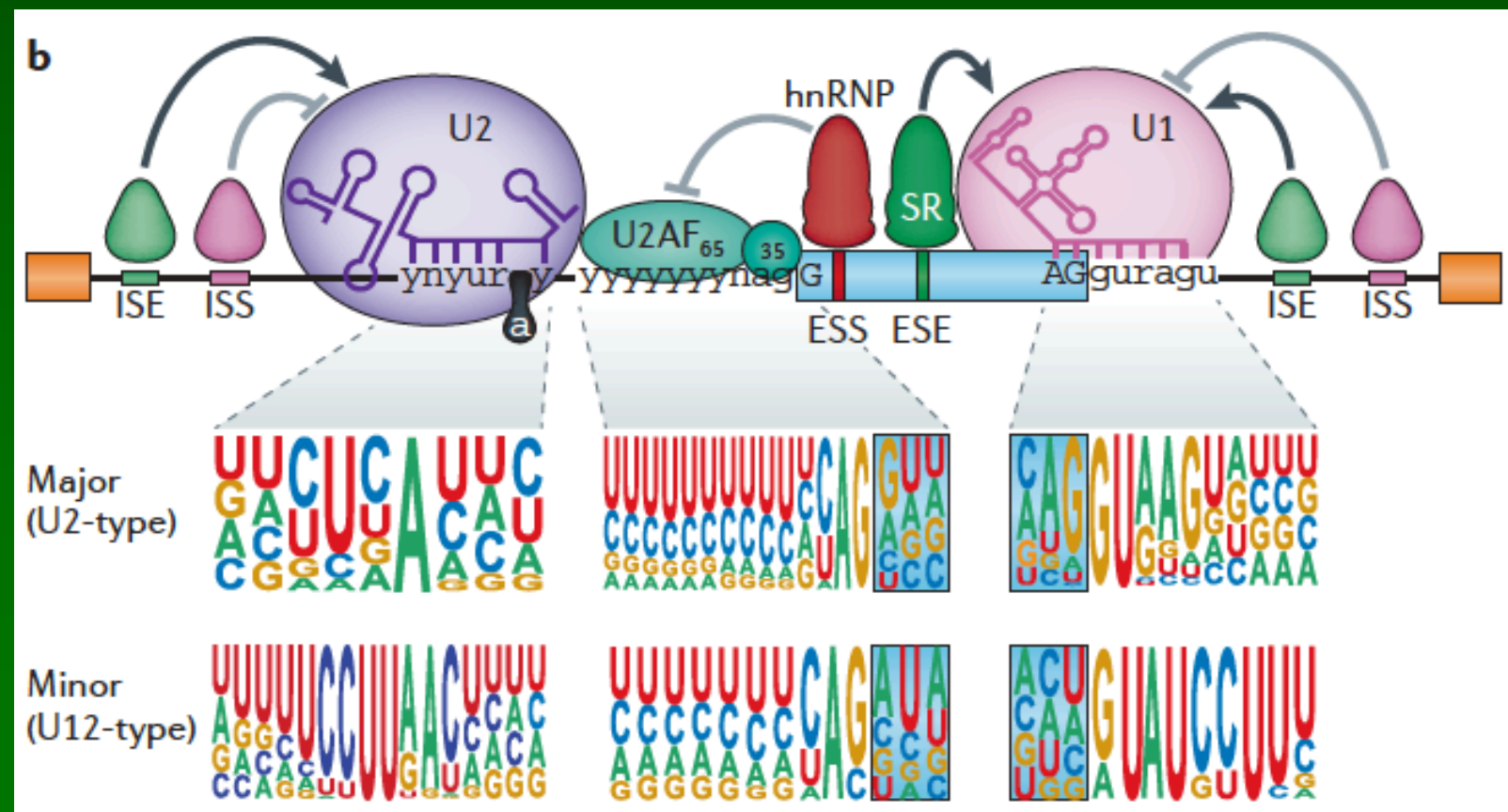
- 3' polyA-tail
added at 3' end many transcripts
- one gene often several 3' ends
- function
*prevent degradation
by exonucleases
stability, influences translation*



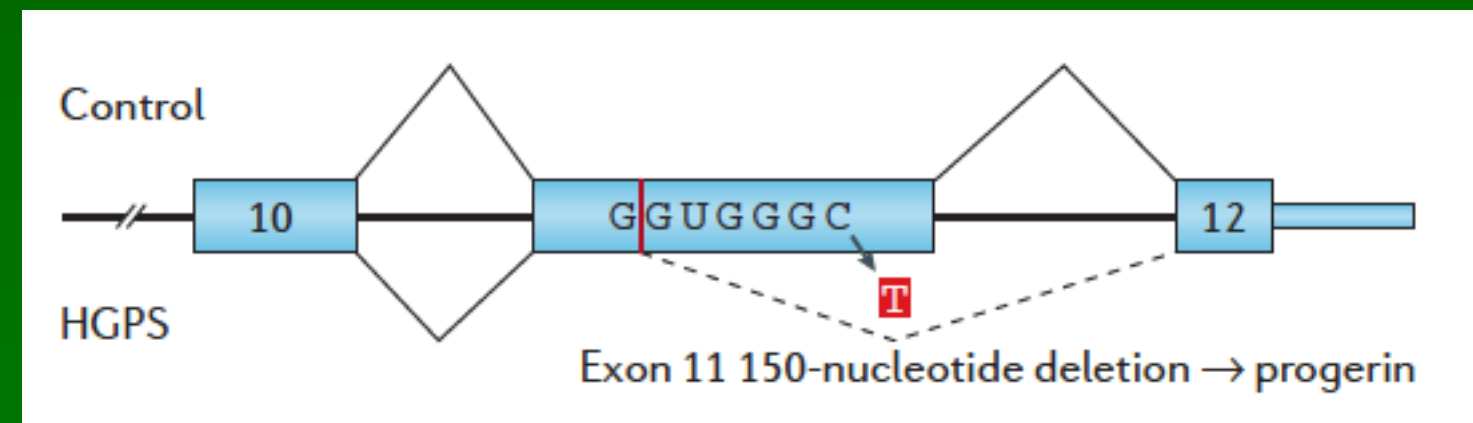
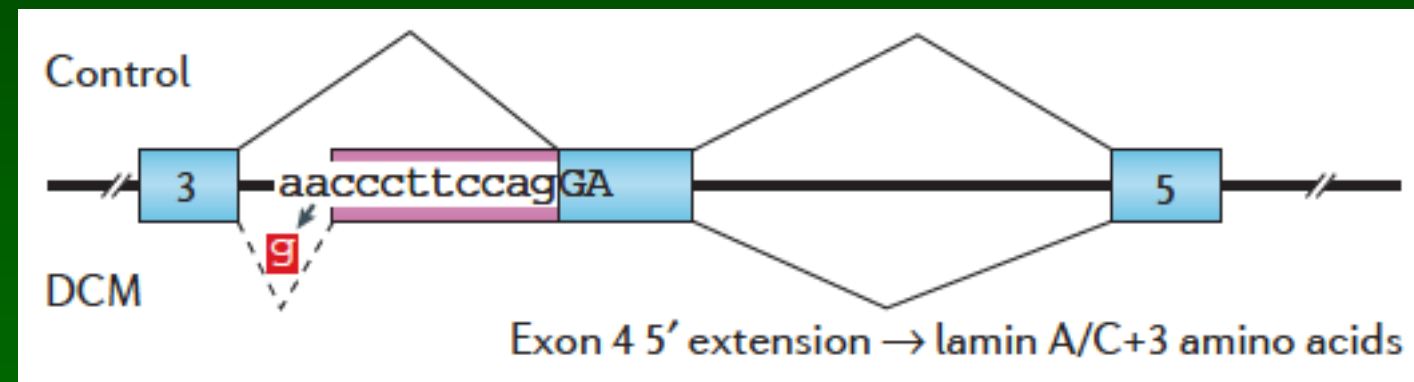
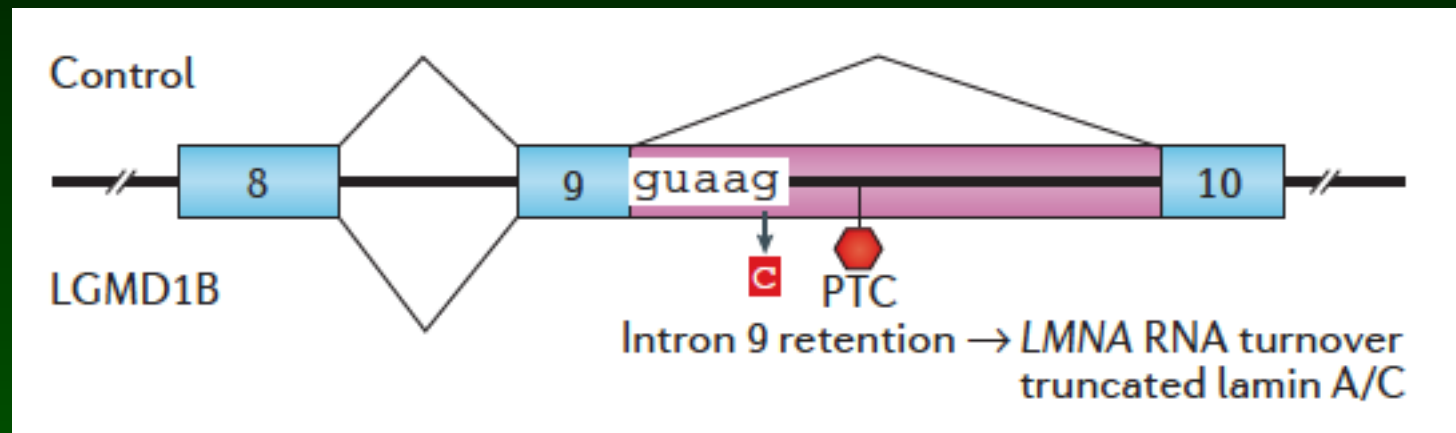
Splicing



Scotti & Swanson (2016) *Nat Rev Genet* 17:19-32



Variants & splicing

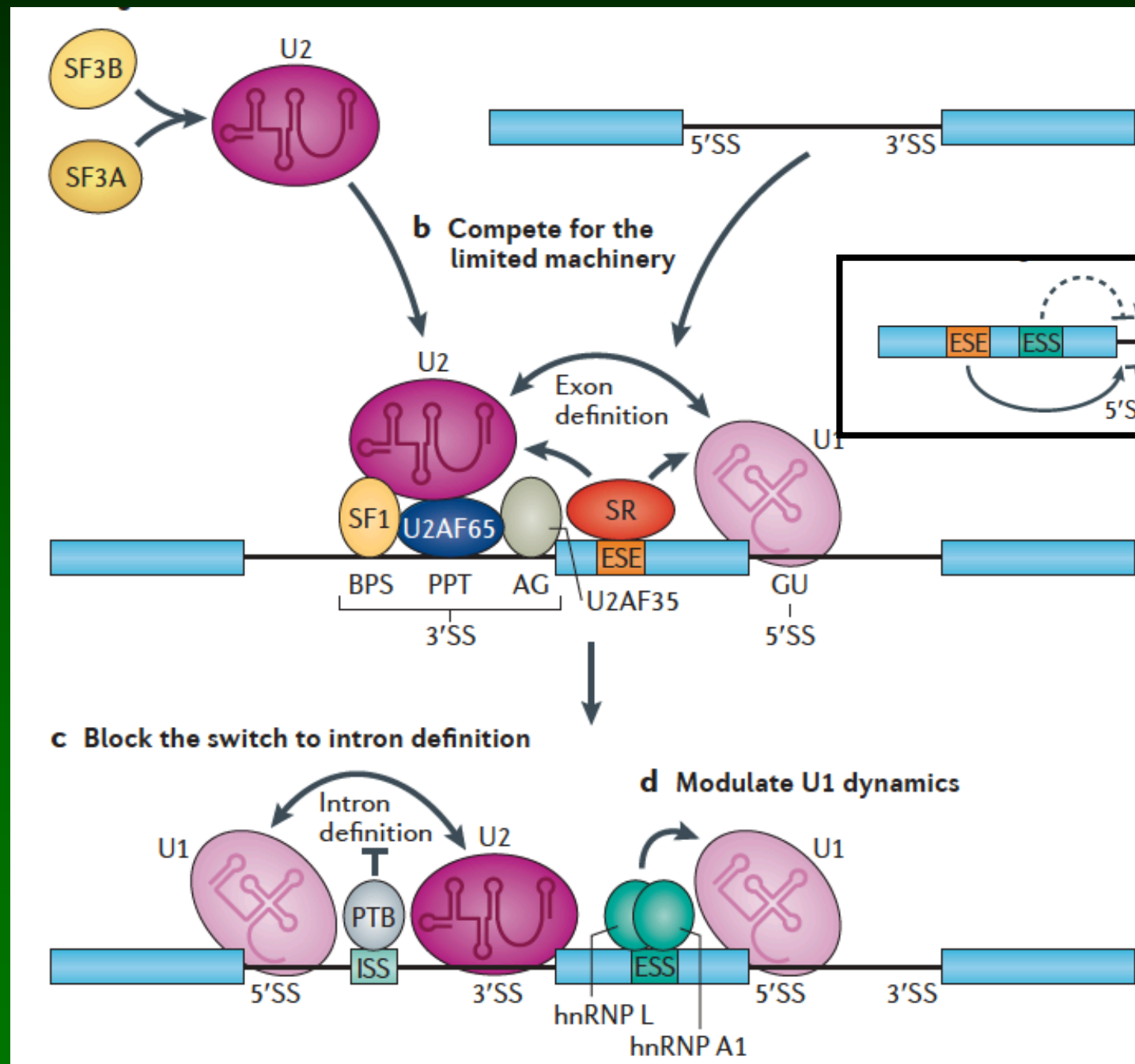


Scotti & Swanson (2016) Nat Rev Genet 17:19-32

Human and Clinical Genetics

© JT den Dunnen

Splicing regulation



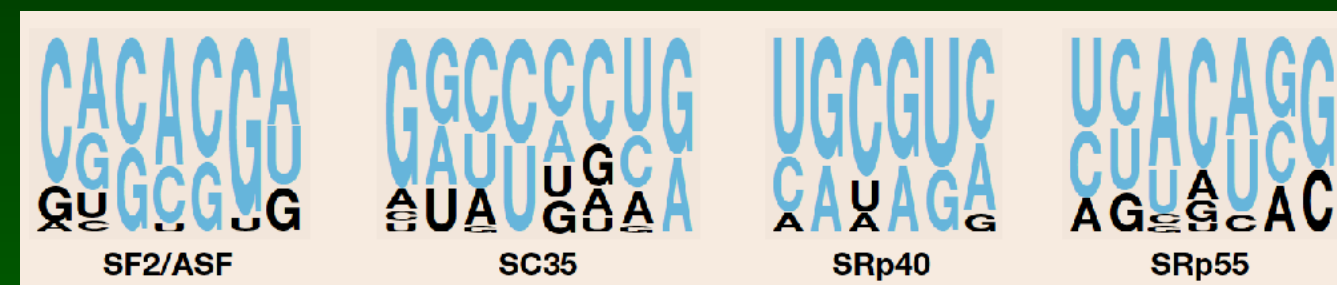
Fu & Ares (2014) Nat Rev Genet 15:689-701

Splicing regulation

- standard signals

splice donor (GT)
splice acceptor (AG)
branch point (A)

Cartegni (2002) Nat Rev Genet 3:285-298



- exonic

ESE - exonic splice enhancer

ESS - exonic splice silencer (*ESR* - repressor)

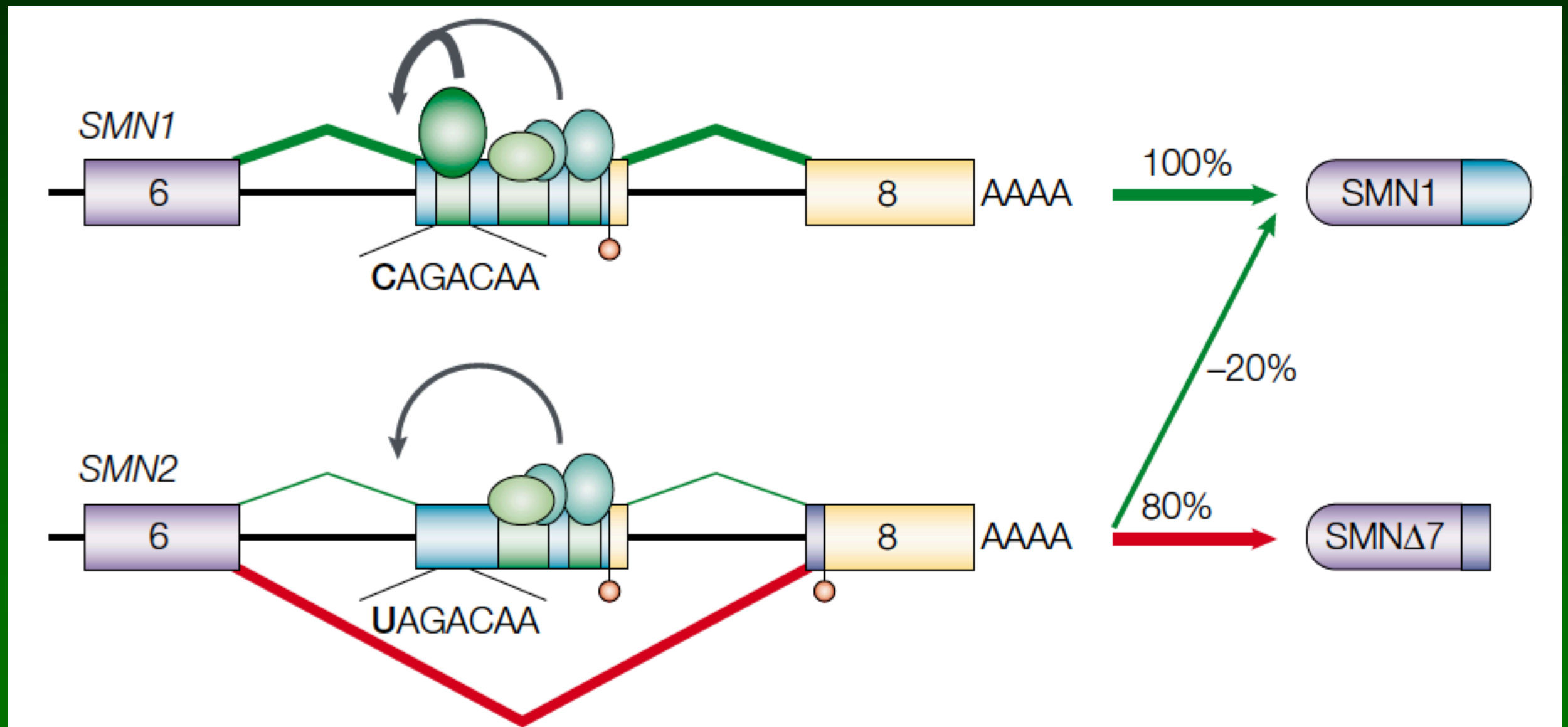
- intronic

ISE - intronic splice enhancer

ISS - intronic splice silencer

Splicing regulation

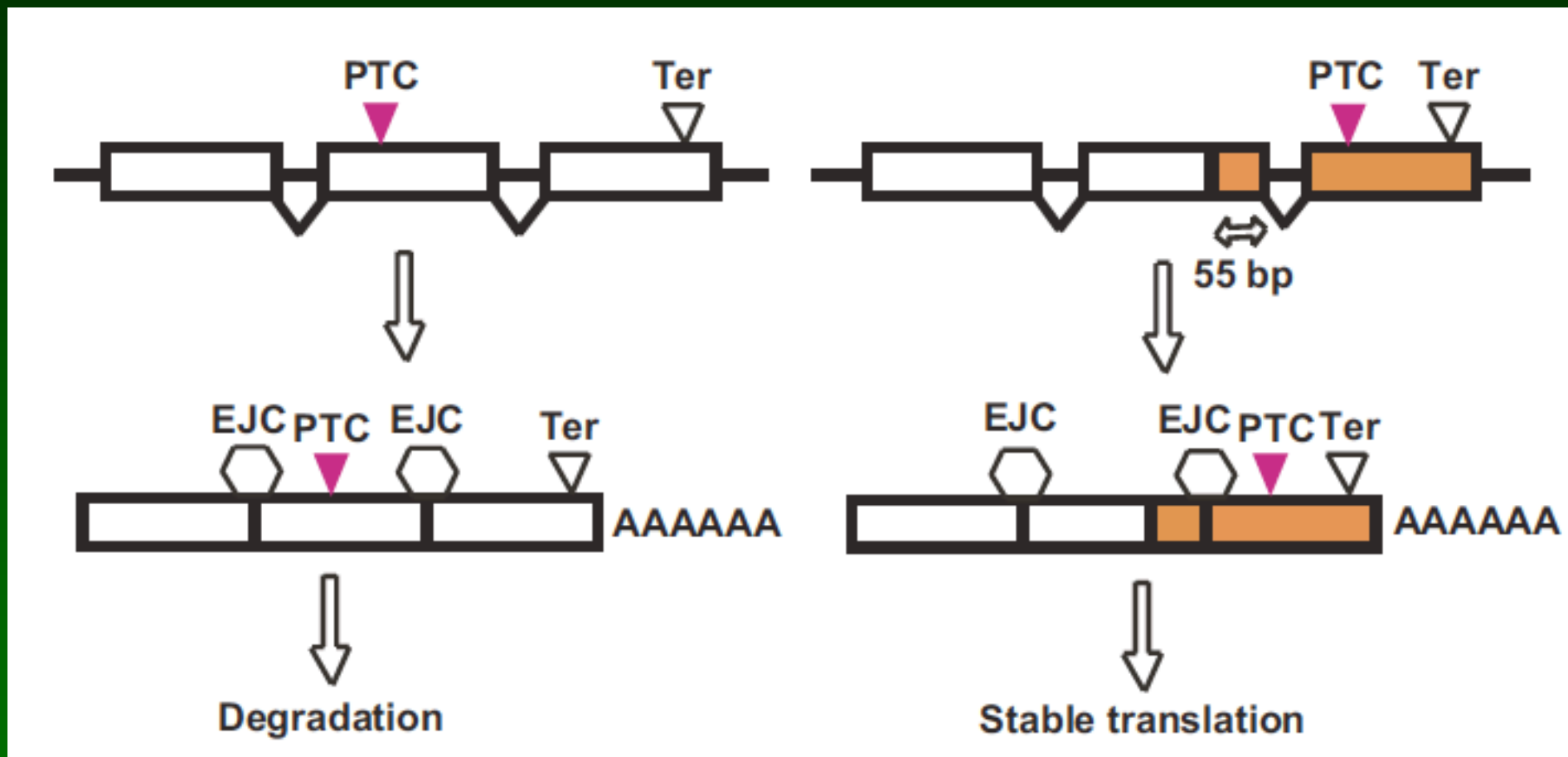
Cartegni (2002) Nat Rev Genet 3:285-298



SMA: masking ISS used in therapy

NMD

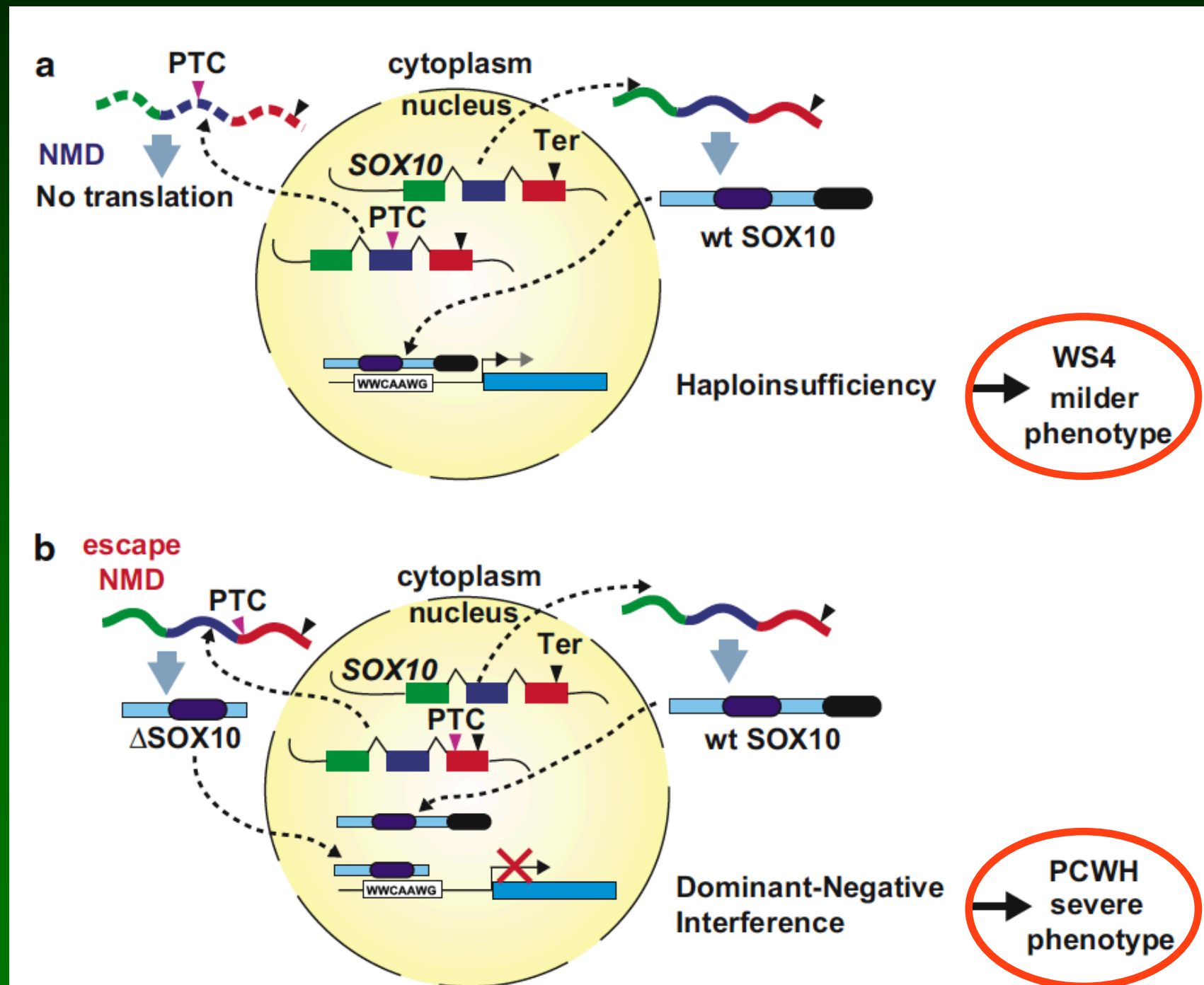
nonsense mediated mRNA decay



EJC = exon junction complex
PTC = premature termination codon
Ter = termination codon

Khajavi (2006) Eur j Hum Genet 14:1074-1081

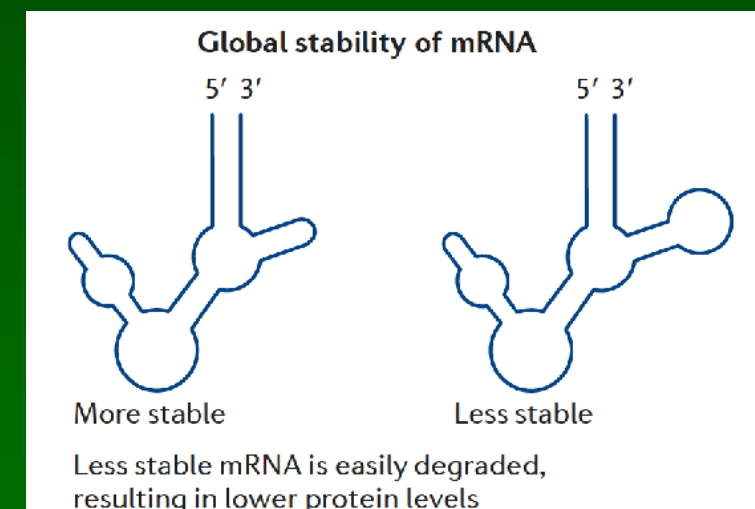
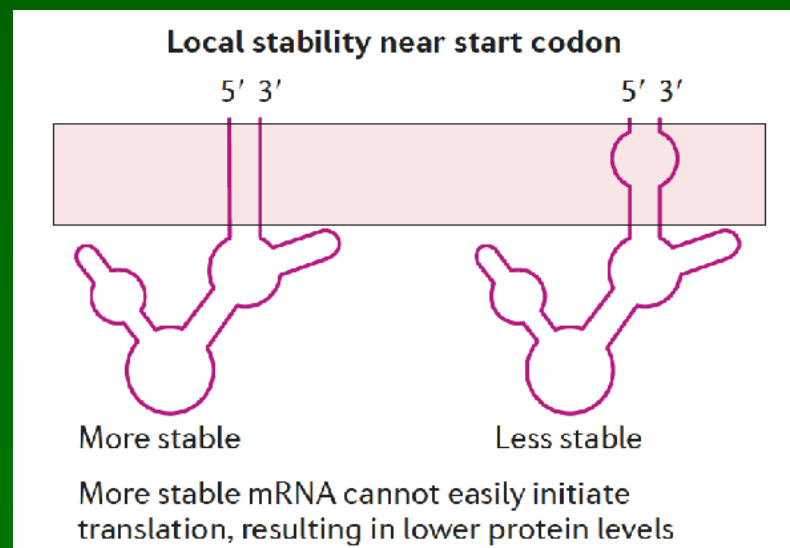
NMD



Khajavi (2006) *Eur j Hum Genet* 14:1074-1081

mRNA stability

- single stranded RNA unstable
quickly degraded
nonsense mediated decay
protected by cap, polyA tail, folding
- variants will affect stability
...and binding of RNAs and proteins



Sauna & Kimchi-Sarfaty (2011) Nat Rev Genet 12:683-691

RNA variants

- **change of encoded protein**
- **affecting processing**
splicing, capping, polyA addition
- **change in stability**
less stable (NMD) / more stable
folding (hairpin structures)
- **change in interactions**
binding other molecules
miRNA, proteins
change in cellular localisation
altered traffickin, subcellular localisation

RNA...

- **amount**
too much / too little
stability (protein turnover)
- **timing**
expression at wrong time (development)
in reaction to wrong stimulus
- **place**
wrong tissue

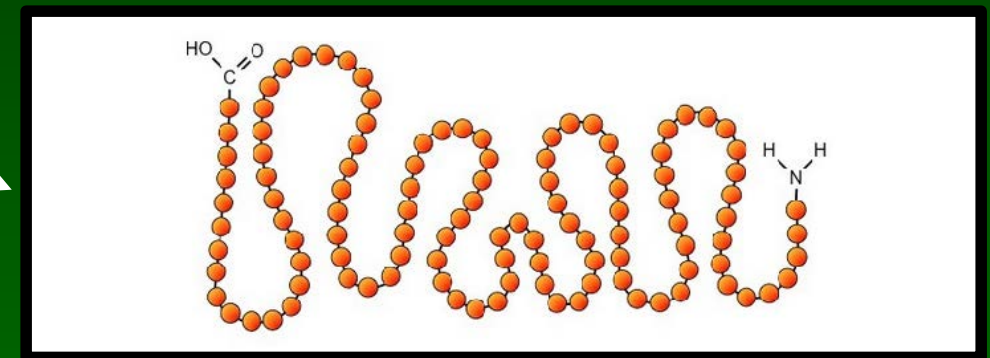
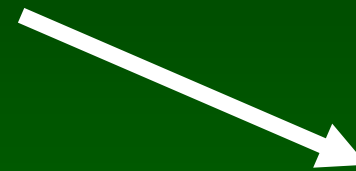
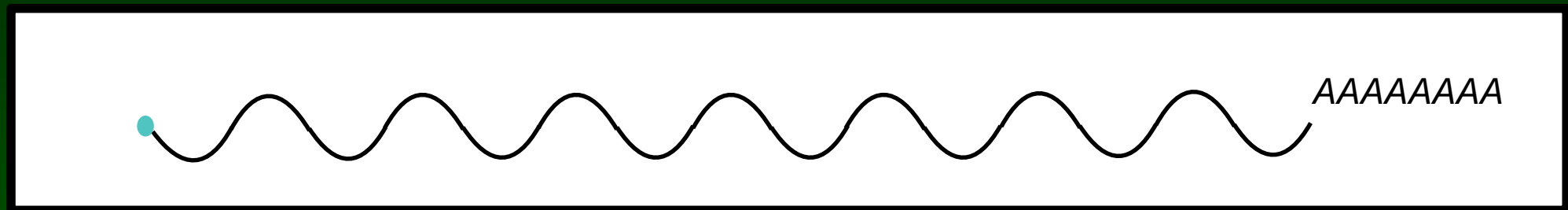
Dosage

- dosage-sensitive genes
too much/little protein is deleterious
incl. at wrong time, wrong place
- dosage-insensitive genes
missing/extra copy not deleterious
while variants in a copy are
- dosage
deletion / duplication
deletion often more deleterious
- partial deletion / duplication
intragenic
incl. 5' or 3' end (gene / transcript / translation)
leaves one normal copy

*ClinGen is working on a list
of proven links*

Translation

mRNA



translation initiation site (start codon)

Kozak sequence

translation termination site (stop codon)

uORF

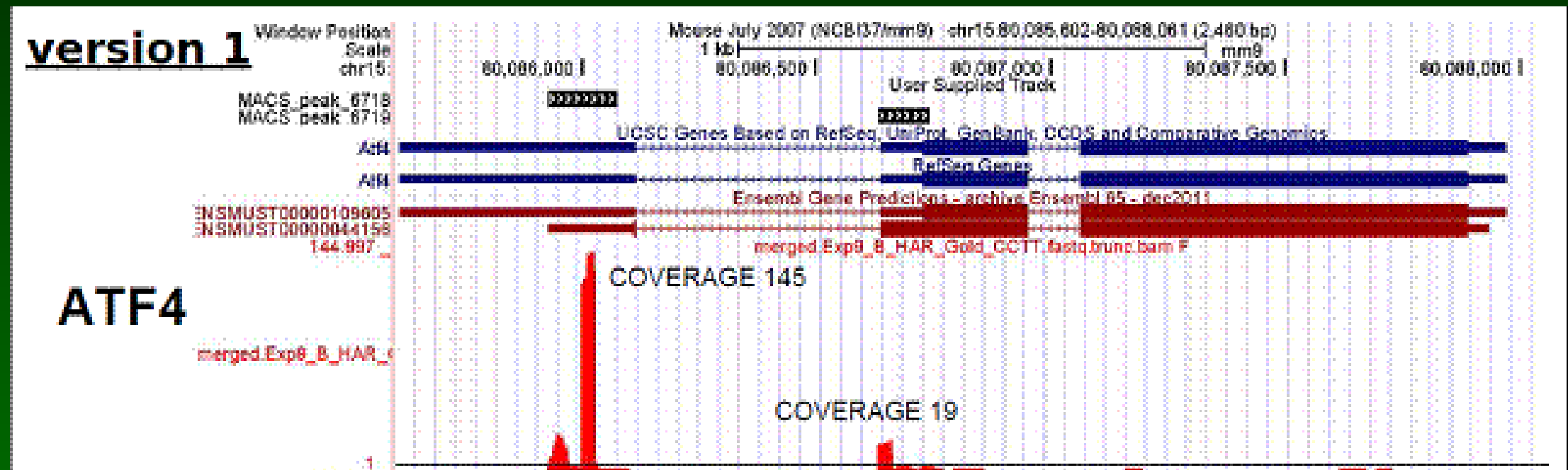
codon usage > translation speed > protein folding

RNA/protein binding > stability, amount of protein

...

uORFs

untranslated OpenReadingFrame



uORFs

translation start (ATG) not
annotated

RNA assays

- **expression cloning**
clone exon(s) in splice construct
transfect and express (cell line)
analyse splice products generated
- **NOTE** **TEMPERATURE**
artificial situation
not complete gene/intron
expression in other cell type (tissue specificity)
- **RNA of patient preferable**
cell line, biopsy, IPS cells, ...

RNA > protein

- gene expression profiling

(m)RNA \neq protein
extensive regulation of translation
stored RNA

- to confirm RNA results

Western blot, stain cells (IHC), ...
proteomics (mass spec)

ribosome profiling
bound = translated

Protein variant

- p.Phe159Leu

on DNA

c.477C>A
c.477C>G
c.479T>C

in vitro test of p.Phe159

are all three variants identical ?

Protein variant

- **p.Phe159Leu**

on DNA

c.477C>A

c.477C>G

c.479T>C

in vitro test of p.Phe159

are all three variants identical ?

NO

check potential consequences on RNA

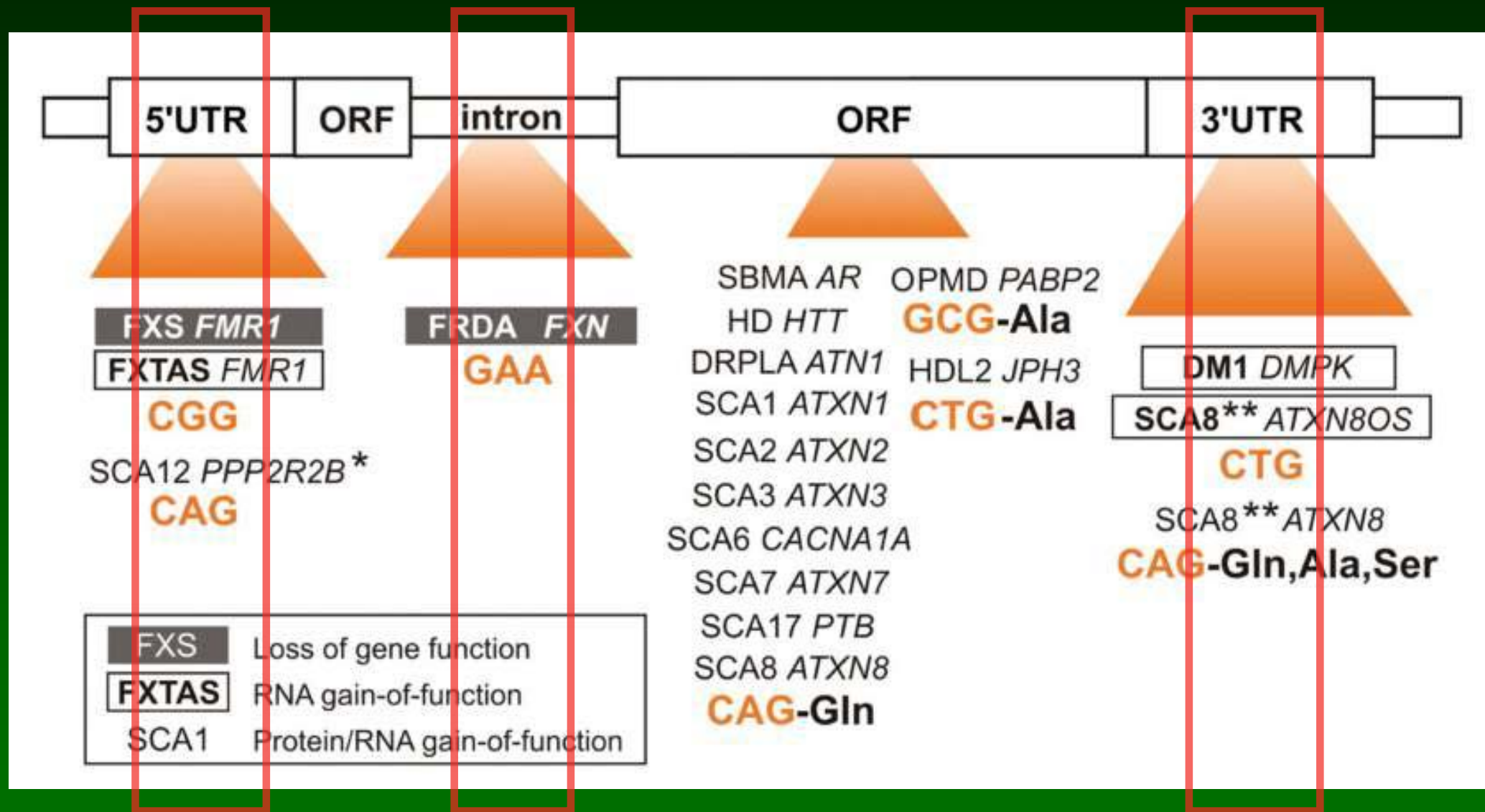
RNA sequence changes affect

stability RNA, RNA folding, binding motifs

codon changes > influence translation speed

***be careful with classification of one variant based on
other report giving same AA substitution***

Repeat expansions



*not all consequences understood,
nor the size range*

Fusion RNA

- from specific rearrangements
translocation (leukemia)
- consider when 3' end gene missing
*transcription needs to end somewhere
deletion might be in upstream gene (EPCAM)*
- in general deleterious consequences

RNA in practice

RNA +5 splice site

Splicing mutations in DMD/BMD detected by RT-PCR/PTT: detection of a 19AA insertion in the cysteine rich domain of dystrophin compatible with BMD

J Med Genet 1996;33:935-939

Pauline A M Roest, Mattie Bout, Astric C van der Tuijn, Ieke B Ginjaar, Egbert Bakker, Frans B L Hogervorst, Gert Jan B van Ommen, Johan T den Dunnen

proof of effect

*in-frame insertion
> BMD*

	exon 64	exon 65
wild type	protein-L C L	D L S
	mRNA -CTTTGCT	TGGATCTCTTGAGC
	genomic-CTTTGCT	gtaa ^g tattggccagtatattgaagatcttgatactatgtcctttgcttagaataaaaa gtaggttgggta
BL207.1	mRNA CTTTGCT	gtaactattggccagtatattgaagatcttgatactatgtcctttgcttagaataaaaa TGGATCTCTTGAGC
	protein-L C C	N Y W P V F E D L D T M S L L R I K M D L L S
	exon 64	inserted sequences exon 65

*culture cells in with cycloheximide
(inhibit nonsense-mediated mRNA decay)*

X-linked TOD

- **Terminal Osseous Dysplasia**
pigmentary anomalies skin
skeletal abnormalities limbs
recurring digital fibromatosis childhood
- **X-linked** (*Xq25-ter*)
dominant
male lethal
female skewed X_i



American Journal of Medical Genetics 94:91–101 (2000)

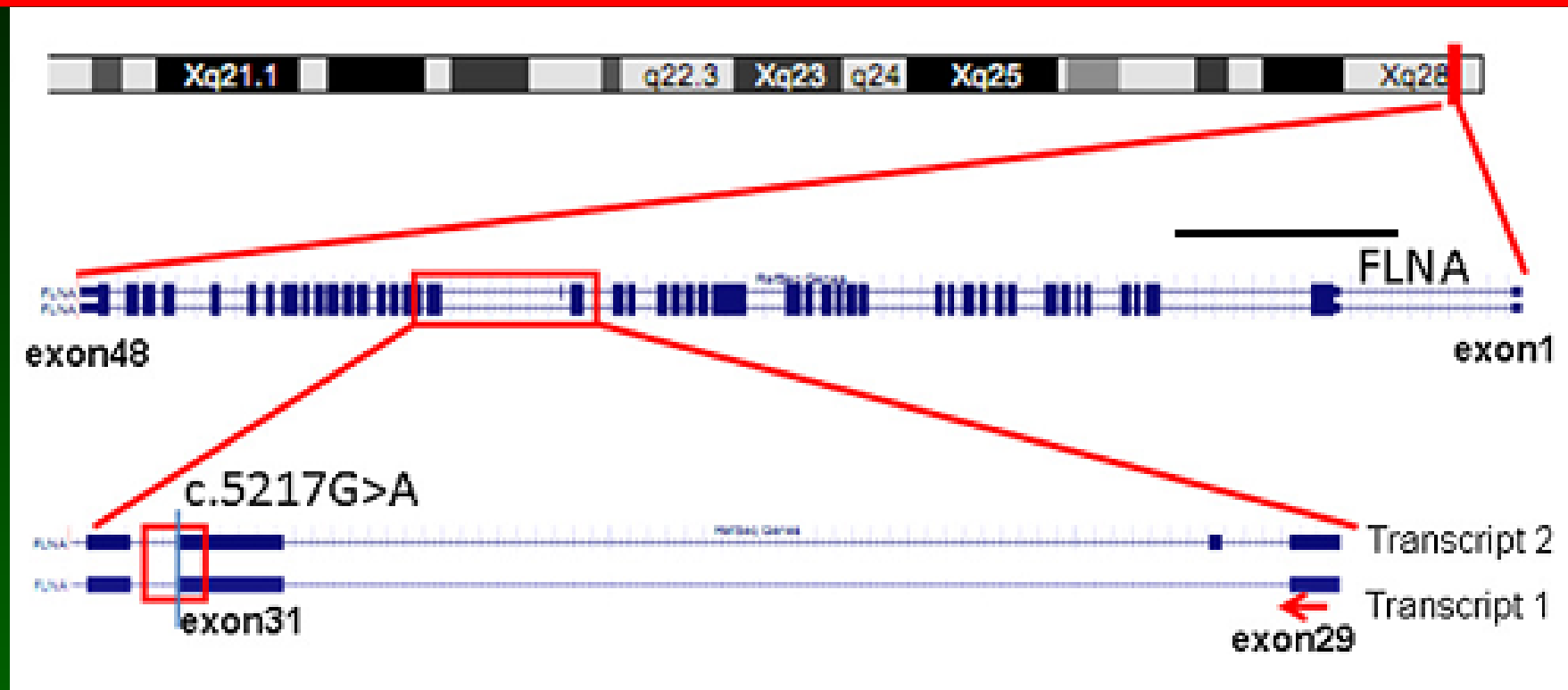
New Syndrome?

Recurrent Digital Fibroma, Focal Dermal Hypoplasia, and Limb Malformations

M.H. Breuning,^{1*} A.P. Oranje,² R.A.Th.M. Langemeijer,³ S.E.R. Hovius,⁴ A.F.M. Diepstraten,⁵ J.C. den Hollander,⁶ N. Baumgartner,⁷ J.R. Dwek,⁸ A. Sommer,⁹ and H. Toriello⁷

TOD X-exome

©Yu Sun



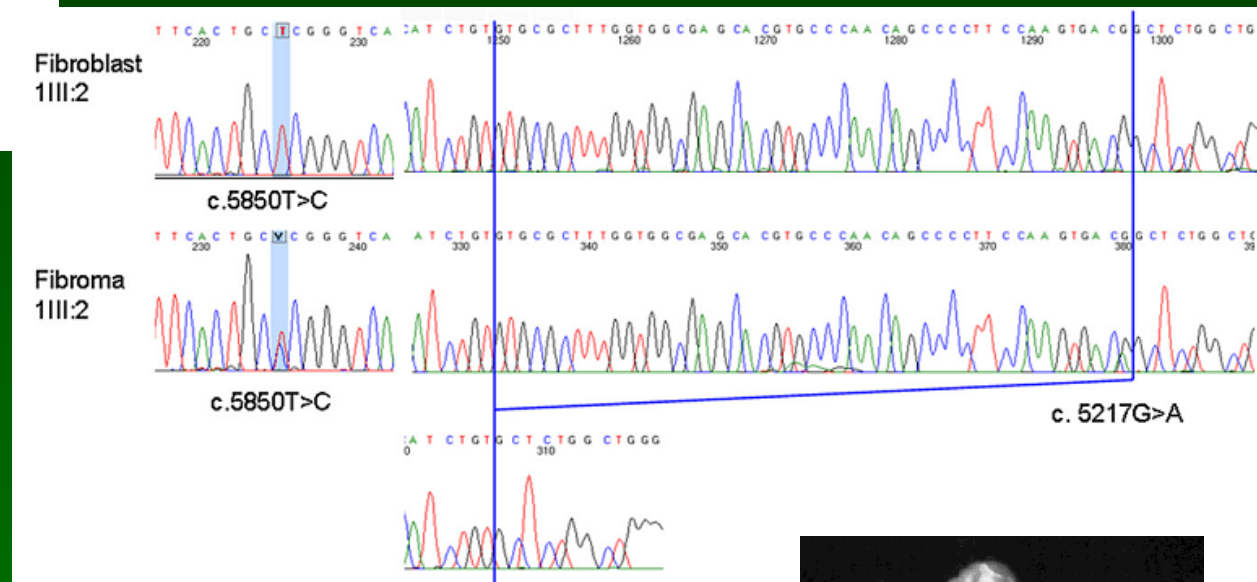
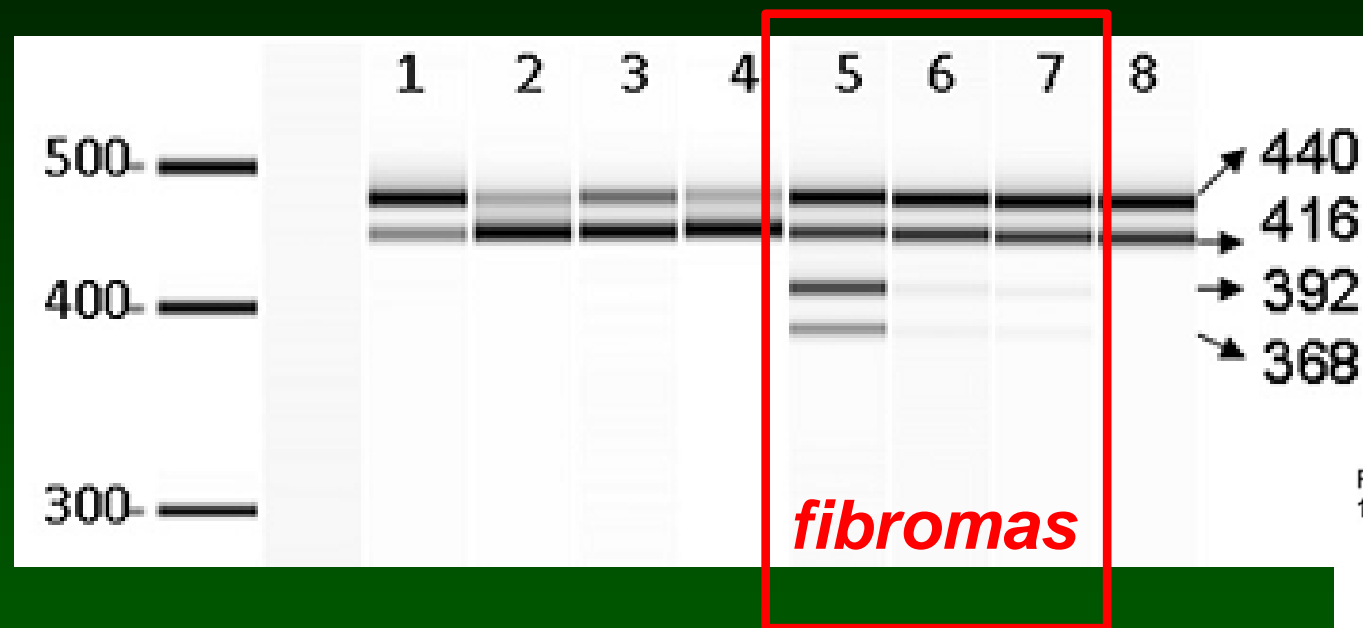
- variant last nucleotide exon
alters splicing !?

- RNA expression
cultured cells / blood
100% X_i , only normal allele expressed
 X_i "affected chromosome"

Sun et al. 2010
Am.J.Hum.Genet. 87: 146

TOD X-exome₃

©Yu Sun



- archived fibroma tissue
(15 year old)
both alleles expressed
activated cryptic exonic splice site



Sun et al. 2010 Am.J.Hum.Genet. 87: 146

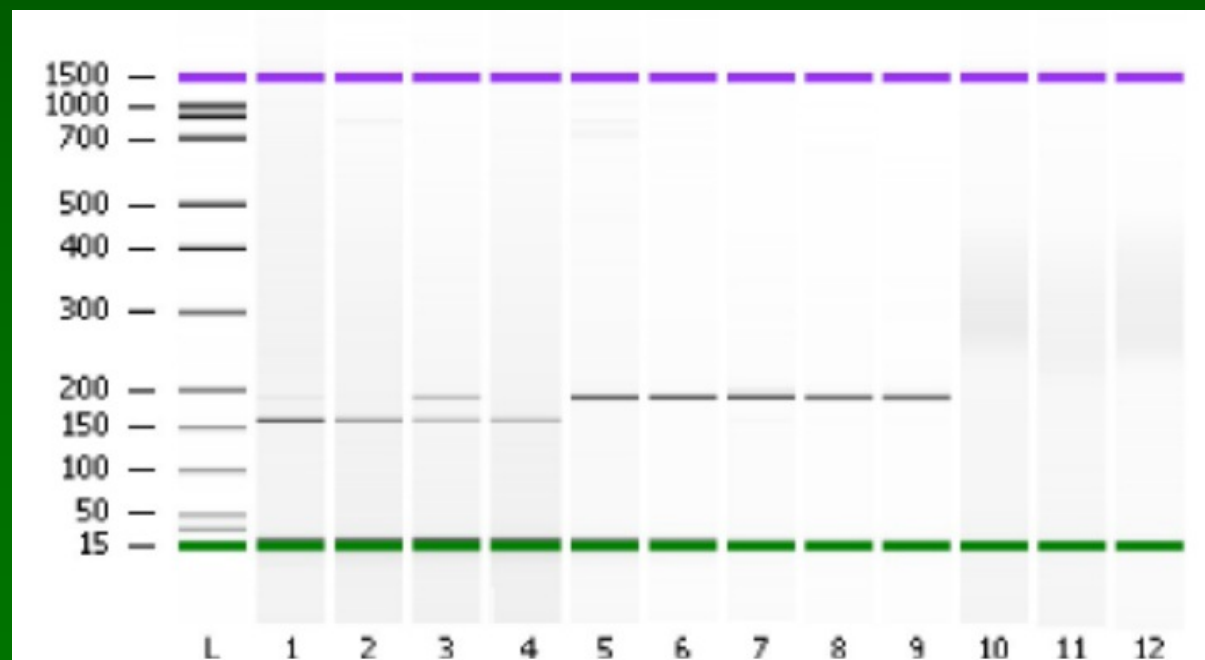
Aarskog-Scott syndrome

©Yu Sun
Emmelien Aten

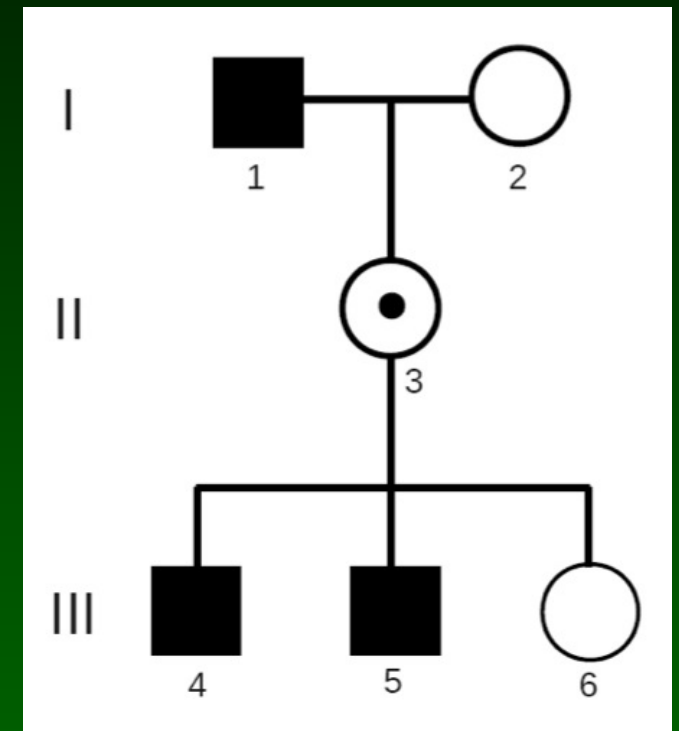
- **Aarskog-Scott syndrome**
AAS (OMIM305400)
faciogenital dysplasia
short proportionate stature, short limbs,
broad hands/feet, genital hypoplasia,
facial dysmorphisms
- **X-linked recessive form**
FGD1 gene
Xp11.21
- **other forms**
autosomal dominant & recessive
genes involved ?

Aarskog-Scott syndrome

- FGD1 gene variant
intron -35delA
predicted branch site
- RNA analysis
expressed in blood / fibroblasts



P P C P controls



©Yu Sun
Emmelien Aten

Aarskog-Scott syndrome

- why FGD1 variant missed ?

*primer on variant site
not standard to screen to -50*

- exome capture

*lower coverage into intron
variant filtering to -10
many additional variants
difficult to confirm*

- few branch site variants

*rare, easily missed,
difficult to proof*

**exome performed, RNA analysis
would be simpler ...& much cheaper**

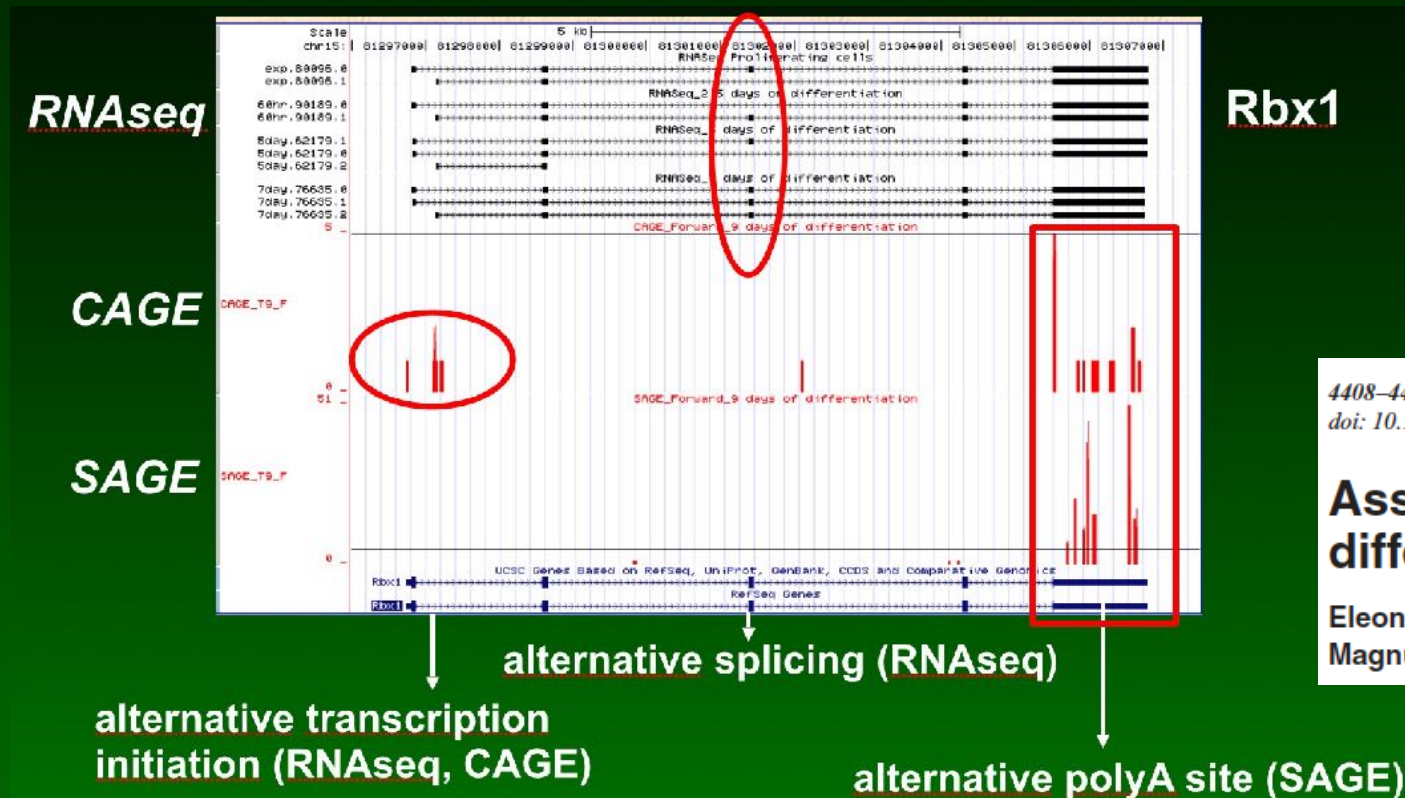


www.LOVD.nl/FGD1

Exome + RNAseq

- **next to exome perform RNAseq**
5 - 50 million reads
- **analyse RNA**
variants & allelic expression differences
splice variants
- **expression profiling** (*blood*)
compare to reference database
5,000 control samples
expression changes
individual genes
disturbed pathways

Gene annotation



*detailed RNA studies
reveal many new
transcripts*

4408–4428 *Nucleic Acids Research*, 2015, Vol. 43, No. 9
doi: 10.1093/nar/gkv281

Published online 14 April 2015

Assessing the translational landscape of myogenic differentiation by ribosome profiling

Eleonora de Klerk¹, Ivo F.A.C. Fokkema^{1,†}, Klaske A.M.H. Thiadens^{2,†}, Jelle J. Goeman³, Magnus Palmblad⁴, Johan T. den Dunnen¹, Marieke von Lindern² and Peter A.C. 't Hoen^{1,*}

Published online 6 July 2012

Nucleic Acids Research, 2012, Vol. 40, No. 18 9089–9101
doi:10.1093/nar/gks655

Poly(A) binding protein nuclear 1 levels affect alternative polyadenylation

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Cell. Mol. Life Sci. (2014) 71:3537–3551
DOI 10.1007/s00018-014-1637-9

Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences

REVIEW

RNA sequencing: from tag-based profiling to resolving complete transcript structure

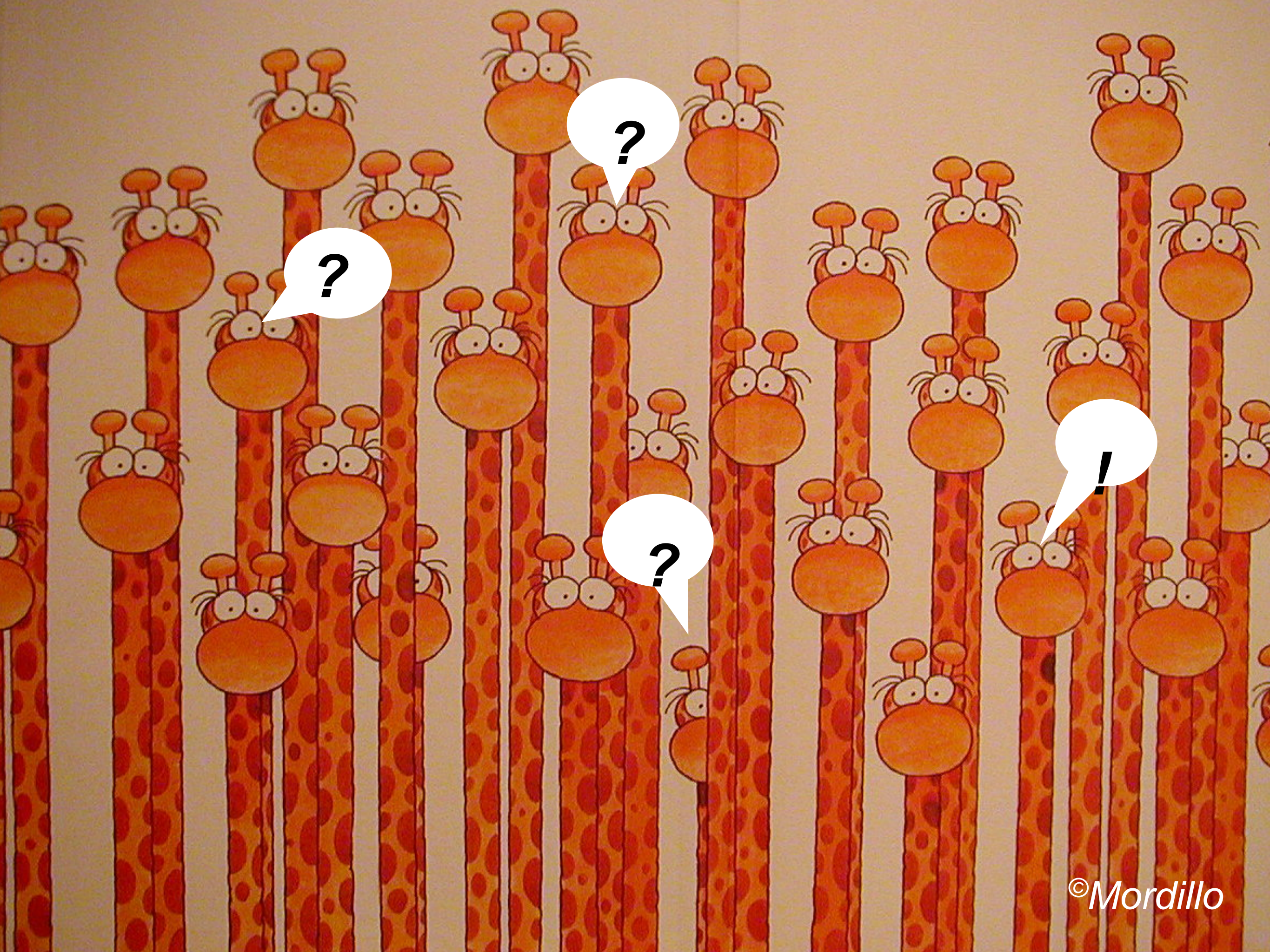
Eleonora de Klerk · Johan T. den Dunnen · Peter A. C. 't Hoen

Published online 7 July 2010

Nucleic Acids Research, 2010, Vol. 38, No. 16 e165
doi:10.1093/nar/gkq602

Tissue-specific transcript annotation and expression profiling with complementary next-generation sequencing technologies

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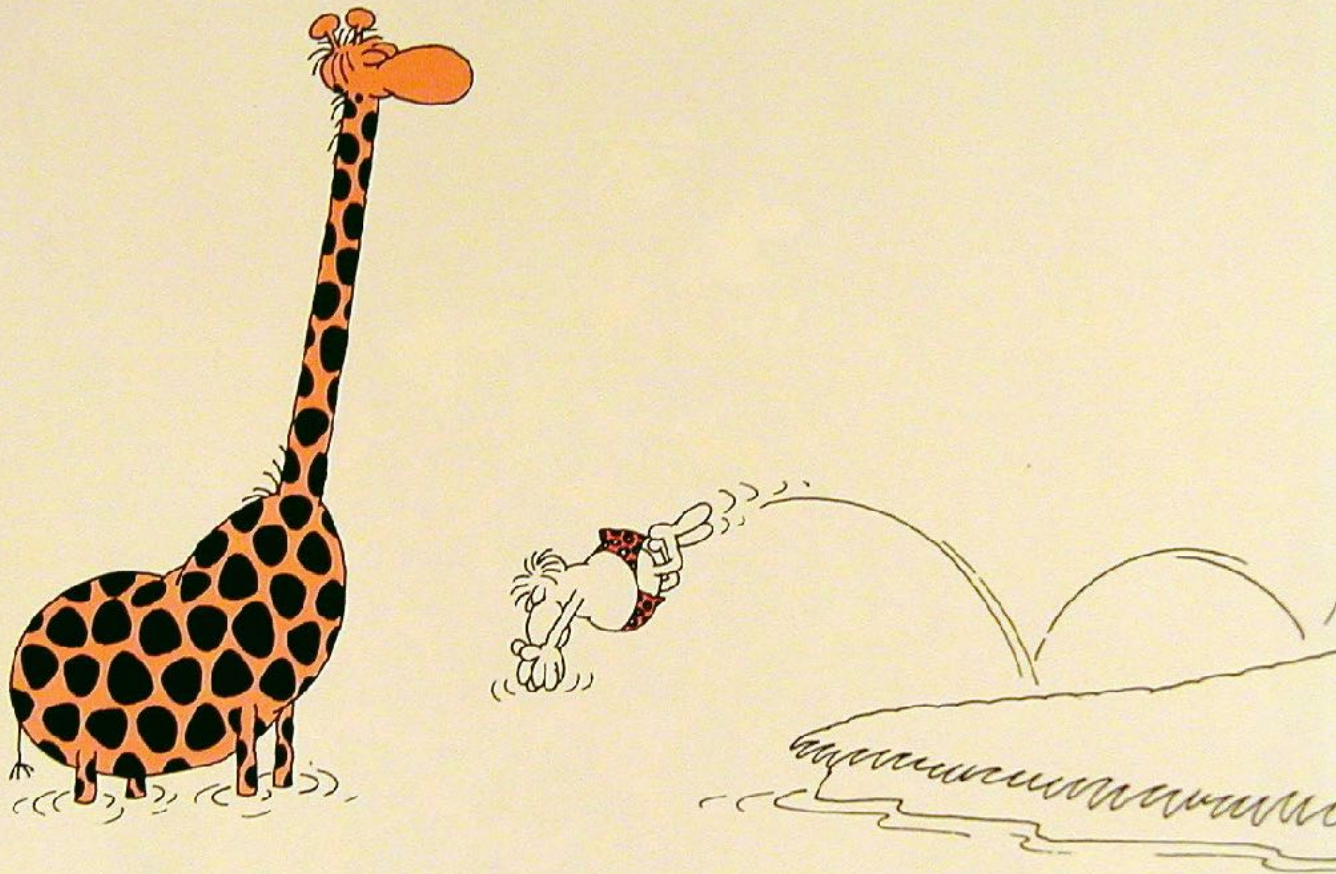
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date: April 2019

*variant classification
without RNA analysis*



*variant classification
without RNA analysis*

