

Genetics-multistep tumorigenesis genomic integrity & cancer

Sections 11.1-11.8 from
Weinberg's 'the biology of
Cancer'

Cancer genetics and genomics
Selected publications (more of a
journal club format)

The Diploid Genome Sequence of an Individual Human



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Presented here is a genome sequence of an individual human. It was produced from ~32 million random DNA fragments, sequenced by Sanger dideoxy technology and assembled into 4,528 scaffolds, comprising 2.810 million bases (Mb) of contiguous sequence with approximately 7.5-fold coverage for any given region. We developed a modified version of the Celera assembler to facilitate the identification and comparison of alternate alleles within this individual diploid genome. Comparison of this genome and the National Center for Biotechnology Information human reference assembly revealed more than 4.1 million DNA variants, encompassing 12.3 Mb. These variants (of which 1,288,319 were novel) included 3,213,401 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), 53,823 block substitutions (2–206 bp), 292,102 heterozygous insertion/deletion events (indels)(1–571 bp), 559,473 homozygous indels (1–82,711 bp), 90 inversions, as well as numerous segmental duplications and copy number variation regions. Non-SNP DNA variation accounts for 22% of all events identified in the donor, however they involve 74% of all variant bases. This suggests an important role for non-SNP genetic alterations in defining the diploid genome structure. Moreover, 44% of genes were heterozygous for one or more variants. Using a novel haplotype assembly strategy, we were able to span 1.5 Gb of genome sequence in segments >200 kb, providing further precision to the diploid nature of the genome. These data depict a definitive molecular portrait of a diploid human genome that provides a starting point for future genome comparisons and enables an era of individualized genomic information.

Starting to get a view of genome variation & complexity; creates challenges
for interpreting cancer genomes

Levy et al (2007) *PLoS Biology* 5:e254

Table 2 | Sequencing statistics on personal genome projects

Personal Genome	Platform	Genomic template libraries	No. of reads (millions)	Read length (bases)	Base coverage (fold)	Assembly	Genome coverage (%) [*]	SNVs in millions (alignment tool)	No. of runs	Estimated cost (US\$)
J. Craig Venter	Automated Sanger	MP from BACs, fosmids & plasmids	31.9	800	7.5	De novo	N/A	3.21	>340,000	70,000,000
James D. Watson	Roche/454	Frag: 500 bp	93.2 [†]	250 [‡]	7.4	Aligned [*]	95 [†]	3.32 (BLAT)	234	1,000,000 [§]
Yoruban male (NA18507)	Illumina/Solexa	93% MP: 200 bp 7% MP: 1.8 kb	3,410 [†] 271	35 35	40.6	Aligned [*]	99.9	3.83 (MAQ) 4.14 (ELAND)	40	250,000 [§]
Han Chinese male	Illumina/Solexa	66% Frag: 150–250 bp 34% MP: 135 bp & 440 bp	1,921 [†] 1,029	35 35	36	Aligned [*]	99.9	3.07 (SOAP)	35	500,000 [§]
Korean male (AK1)	Illumina/Solexa	21% Frag: 130 bp & 440 bp 79% MP: 130 bp, 390 bp & 2.7 kb	393 [†] 1,156	36 36, 88, 106	27.8	Aligned [*]	99.8	3.45 (GSNAP)	30	200,000 [§]
Korean male (SJK)	Illumina/Solexa	MP: 100 bp, 200 bp & 300 bp	1,647 [†]	35, 74	29.0	Aligned [*]	99.9	3.44 (MAQ)	15	250,000 ^{§,¶}
Yoruban male (NA18507)	Life/APG	9% Frag: 100–500 bp 91% MP: 600–3,500 bp	211 [†] 2,075 [†]	50 25, 50	17.9	Aligned [*]	98.6	3.87 (Corona-lite)	9.5	60,000 ^{§,¶,¶¶}
Stephen R. Quake	Helicos BioSciences	Frag: 100–500 bp	2,725 [†]	32 [†]	28	Aligned [*]	90	2.81 (IndexDP)	4	48,000 [§]
AML female	Illumina/Solexa	Frag: 150–200 bp ^{††} Frag: 150–200 bp ^{†††}	2,730 ^{††} 1,081 ^{†††}	32 35	32.7 13.9	Aligned [*]	91 83	3.81 ^{††} (MAQ) 2.92 ^{†††} (MAQ)	98 34	1,600,000 ^{§§}
AML male	Illumina/Solexa	MP: 200–250 bp ^{††} MP: 200–250 bp ^{†††}	1,620 ^{††} 1,351 ^{†††}	35 50	23.3 21.3	Aligned [*]	98.5 97.4	3.46 ^{††} (MAQ) 3.45 ^{†††} (MAQ)	16.5 13.1	500,000 ^{§§}
James R. Lupski CMT1 male	Life/APG	16% Frag: 100–500 bp 84% MP: 600–3,500 bp	238 [†] 1,211 [†]	35 25, 50	29.6	Aligned [*]	99.8	3.42 (Corona-lite)	3	75,000 ^{§,¶¶}

^{*}A minimum of one read aligning to the National Center for Biotechnology Information build 36 reference genome. [†]Mappable reads for aligned assemblies. [‡]Average read-length. [§]D. Wheeler, personal communication. [¶]Reagent cost only. ^{¶¶}S.-M. Ahn, personal communication. ^{¶¶¶}K. McKernan, personal communication. ^{††}Tumour sample. ^{†††}Normal sample. ^{††††}Tumour & normal samples: reagent, instrument, labour, bioinformatics and data storage cost. E. Mardis, personal communication. ^{†††††}R. Gibbs, personal communication. AML, acute myeloid leukaemia; BAC, bacterial artificial chromosome; CMT, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease; Frag, fragment; MP, mate-pair; N/A, not available; SNV, single-nucleotide variant.

Metzger (2010) Nature Reviews Genetics 11:31

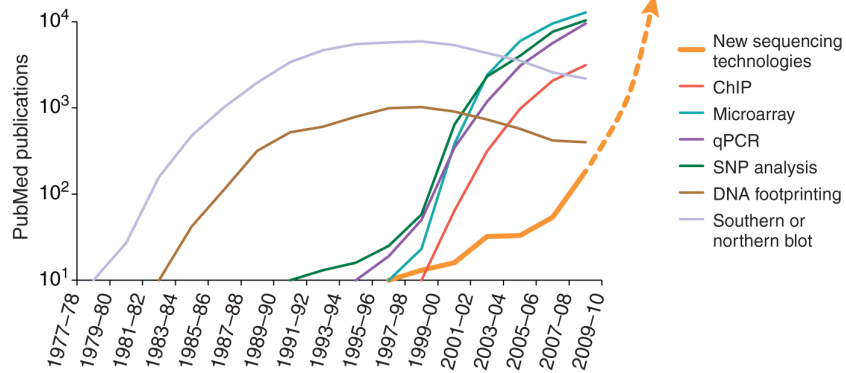
Table 1 | Comparison of next-generation sequencing platforms

Platform	Library/template preparation	NGS chemistry	Read length (bases)	Run time (days)	Gb per run	Machine cost (US\$)	Pros	Cons	Biological applications	Refs
Roche/454's GS FLX Titanium	Frag, MP/emPCR	PS	330 [*]	0.35	0.45	500,000	Longer reads improve mapping in repetitive regions; fast run times	High reagent cost; high error rates in homo-polymer repeats	Bacterial and insect genome de novo assemblies; medium scale (<3 Mb) exome capture; 16S in metagenomics	D. Muzny, pers. comm.
Illumina/Solexa's GA _v	Frag, MP/solid-phase	RTs	75 or 100	4 [†] , 9 [†]	18 [†] , 35 [†]	540,000	Currently the most widely used platform in the field	Low multiplexing capability of samples	Variant discovery by whole-genome resequencing or whole-exome capture; gene discovery in metagenomics	D. Muzny, pers. comm.
Life/APG's SOLiD 3	Frag, MP/emPCR	Cleavable probe SBL	50	7 [†] , 14 [†]	30 [†] , 50 [†]	595,000	Two-base encoding provides inherent error correction	Long run times	Variant discovery by whole-genome resequencing or whole-exome capture; gene discovery in metagenomics	D. Muzny, pers. comm.
Polonator G.007	MP only/emPCR	Non-cleavable probe SBL	26	5 [†]	12 [†]	170,000	Least expensive platform; open source to adapt alternative NGS chemistries	Users are required to maintain and quality control reagents; shortest NGS read lengths	Bacterial genome resequencing for variant discovery	J. Edwards, pers. comm.
Helicos BioSciences HeliScope	Frag, MP/single molecule	RTs	32 [*]	8 [†]	37 [†]	999,000	Non-bias representation of templates for genome and seq-based applications	High error rates compared with other reversible terminator chemistries	Seq-based methods	91
Pacific Biosciences (target release: 2010)	Frag only/single molecule	Real-time	964 [*]	N/A	N/A	N/A	Has the greatest potential for reads exceeding 1 kb	Highest error rates compared with other NGS chemistries	Full-length transcriptome sequencing; complements other resequencing efforts in discovering large structural variants and haplotype blocks	S. Turner, pers. comm.

^{*}Average read-lengths. [†]Fragment run. [‡]Mate-pair run. Frag, fragment; GA, Genome Analyzer; GS, Genome Sequencer; MP, mate-pair; N/A, not available; NGS, next-generation sequencing; PS, pyrosequencing; RT, reversible terminator; SBL, sequencing by ligation; SOLiD, support oligonucleotide ligation detection.

Metzger (2010) Nature Reviews Genetics 11:31

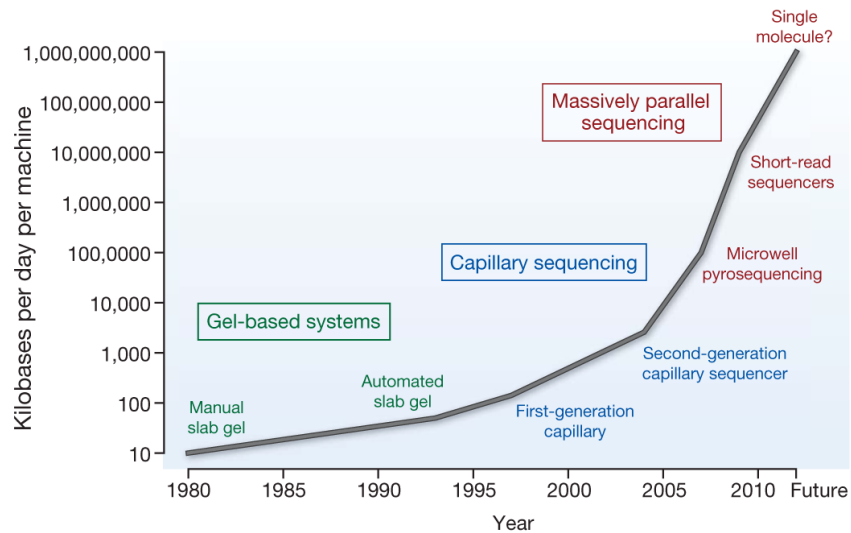
'Evolution' of genomic technologies



In general, array-based methods do not provide information on novel somatic mutations (there are exceptions: CGH array, re-sequencing arrays)

Kahvejian et al (2007) *Nature Biotechnology* 26:1125

'Evolution' of genomic capacity



Kahvejian et al (2007) *Nature Biotechnology* 26:1125

Enter the cancer genome; nextgen platforms provide an unprecedented opportunity to understand cancer genetics and evolution

What are the goals?


The screenshot shows the ICGC website homepage. At the top left is the ICGC logo and name. To the right is a search bar with the text "Enter keywords" and a "Search" button. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Cancer Genome Projects", "Committees and Working Groups", "Policies and Guidelines", and "Media". The main content area features a large green banner for "ICGC Cancer Genome Projects" with a subtext "Committed projects to date: 45" and a "Sort by: Project" dropdown menu. Below this is a grid of project cards for Bladder Cancer (United States), Blood Cancer (United States), Bone Cancer (United Kingdom), Brain Cancer (Canada), Brain Cancer (United States), and Breast Cancer (European Union / United Kingdom). To the right of the grid is a quote box with the text: "ICGC Goal: To obtain a comprehensive description of genomic, transcriptomic and epigenomic changes in 50 different tumor types and/or subtypes which are of clinical and societal importance across the globe." Below the quote box are buttons for "Launch Data Portal" and "Apply for Access to Controlled Data". At the bottom right of the page is the URL "www.icgc.org".

Gastric Cancer China 🇨🇳	Gastric Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Head and Neck Cancer Mexico 🇲🇽
Head and Neck Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Liver Cancer France 🇫🇷	Liver Cancer Japan 🇯🇵
Liver Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Lung Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Malignant Lymphoma Germany 🇩🇪
Non Hodgkin Lymphoma Mexico 🇲🇽	Oral Cancer India 🇮🇳	Ovarian Cancer Australia 🇦🇺
Ovarian Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Pancreatic Cancer Australia 🇦🇺	Pancreatic Cancer Canada 🇨🇦
Pancreatic Cancer United States 🇺🇸	Pediatric Brain Tumors Germany 🇩🇪	Prostate Cancer Canada 🇨🇦
Prostate Cancer Germany 🇩🇪	Prostate Cancer United Kingdom 🇬🇧	Prostate Cancer United States 🇺🇸

Updates

Currently, the ICGC has received commitments from funding organizations in Asia, Australia, Europe and North America for 39 project teams in 13 jurisdictions to study over 18,000 tumor genomes. Projects that are currently funded are examining tumors affecting the bladder, blood, bone, brain, breast, cervix, colon, head and neck, kidney, liver, lung, oral cavity, ovary, pancreas, prostate, rectum, skin, soft tissues, stomach and uterus. Over time, additional nations and organizations are anticipated to join the ICGC. The genomic analyses of tumors conducted by ICGC members in Australia and Canada (pancreatic cancer), Japan (liver cancer), Spain (blood cancer), the UK (breast, lung and skin cancer) and the USA (blood, brain, breast, colon, kidney, lung, ovarian, rectal, stomach and uterine cancer) are now available through the Data Coordination Center housed on the ICGC website at www.icgc.org.

International network of cancer genome projects. Nature 464, 993-998 (15 April 2010)

[Read the article](#) 

www.icgc.org

- Kidney (3)
- Liver (3)
- Lung (2)
- Ovary (2)
- Pancreas (4)**
 - [Pancreatic Cancer - Ductal adenocarcinoma](#)
 - [Pancreatic Cancer - Ductal adenocarcinoma](#)
 - [Rare Pancreatic Tumors - Endopancreatic endocrine tumors and rare pancreatic exocrine tumors](#)
 - [Pancreatic Cancer - Adenocarcinoma](#)
- Skin (1)
- Soft Tissue (0)
- Stomach (2)
- Testis and Prostate (4)
- Uterus (1)

[Research](#) | [Publication Policy](#) | [Clinic & Pathology](#)

Research

United States: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard Medical School

Research Activities

1: ICGC Goals, Structure, Policies and Guidelines Section E.3 - Publication Policy [HTML](#)

2: Template Letters to Facilitate Communications [HTML](#)

3: OICR Project Specific Moratorium [HTML](#)

Clinic & Pathology

Canada: University Health Network

United States: Mayo Clinic, Massachusetts General Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard Medical School

1: Pancreatic Cancer Project Consent Form [PDF](#)

Italy (1)

Japan (1)

Mexico (3)

Spain (1)

United Kingdom (5)

United States (20)

As a contributing member of the ICGC, the OICR will generate a comprehensive catalogue of genomic abnormalities found in pancreatic tumours. Our target is to collect the requisite 500 independent tumours and their matched controls and fully characterize 350 of these. The reduced number analyzed reflects a collaboration with the Australian teams in Sydney and Brisbane that are leading a parallel ICGC project targeting pancreatic cancer and who will analyze similar numbers (Drs. Sean Grimmond and Andrew Biankin). In order to ensure compliance with ICGC informed consent for large-scale sequencing, most samples will be collected prospectively with a few existing samples used for testing purposes only. In addition, we will establish xenografts from all samples in order to generate models for target validation and preclinical studies. Analyses will include whole genome sequencing of selected samples and for all samples: exome, whole transcriptome and miRNA sequencing; as well as structural and copy number variation determination. Complementary studies will include copy number determination using microarray technologies, DNA methylation analysis and functional studies using cell lines and xenografts.

Sample acquisition will require the collaboration of multiple sites. The OICR has established collaborations locally, at the Mayo Clinic,

www.icgc.org

ARTICLES

A comprehensive catalogue of somatic mutations from a human cancer genome

Erin D. Pleasance^{1*}, R. Keira Cheetham^{2*}, Philip J. Stephens¹, David J. McBride¹, Sean J. Humphray², Chris D. Greenman¹, Ignacio Varela¹, Meng-Lay Lin¹, Gonzalo R. Ordóñez¹, Graham R. Bignell¹, Kai Ye³, Julie Alipaz⁴, Markus J. Bauer², David Beare¹, Adam Butler¹, Richard J. Carter², Lina Chen¹, Anthony J. Cox², Sarah Edkins¹, Paula I. Kokko-Gonzales², Niall A. Gormley², Russell J. Grocock², Christian D. Haudenschild², Matthew M. Hims², Terena James², Mingming Jia¹, Zoya Kingsbury², Catherine Leroy¹, John Marshall¹, Andrew Menzies¹, Laura J. Mudie¹, Zemin Ning¹, Tom Royce⁴, Ole B. Schulz-Trieglaff², Anastassia Spiridou², Lucy A. Stebbings¹, Lukasz Szajkowski², Jon Teague¹, David Williamson⁵, Lynda Chin⁶, Mark T. Ross², Peter J. Campbell¹, David R. Bentley², P. Andrew Futreal¹ & Michael R. Stratton^{1,7}

Whole genome and transcriptome sequencing of MM metastasis and lymphoblastoid cell lines from same patient

Of 292 somatic base substitutions in coding regions, 187 cause amino acid changes

Pleasance *et al* (2010) *Nature* **463**:191

ARTICLES

A small-cell lung cancer genome with complex signatures of tobacco exposure

Erin D. Pleasance¹, Philip J. Stephens¹, Sarah O'Meara^{1,2}, David J. McBride¹, Alison Meynert³, David Jones¹, Meng-Lay Lin¹, David Beare¹, King Wai Lau¹, Chris Greenman¹, Ignacio Varela¹, Serena Nik-Zainal¹, Helen R. Davies¹, Gonzalo R. Ordóñez¹, Laura J. Mudie¹, Calli Latimer¹, Sarah Edkins¹, Lucy Stebbings¹, Lina Chen¹, Mingming Jia¹, Catherine Leroy¹, John Marshall¹, Andrew Menzies¹, Adam Butler¹, Jon W. Teague¹, Jonathon Mangion², Yongming A. Sun⁴, Stephen F. McLaughlin⁵, Heather E. Peckham⁵, Eric F. Tsung⁵, Gina L. Costa⁵, Clarence C. Lee⁵, John D. Minna⁶, Adi Gazdar⁶, Ewan Birney³, Michael D. Rhodes⁴, Kevin J. McKernan⁵, Michael R. Stratton^{1,7}, P. Andrew Futreal¹ & Peter J. Campbell^{1,8}

Whole genome and transcriptome sequencing of SCLC and lymphoblastoid cell lines from same patient

Of 134 somatic base substitutions in coding regions, 98 cause amino acid changes

Pleasance *et al* (2010) *Nature* **463**:184

Staggering range of genomic alterations

Table 1 | Somatic mutations identified in COLO-829

Type of change	Count	Percentage
Substitutions	33,345	100.0
Coding	292	0.9
Silent	105	0.3
Missense	172	0.5
Truncating	15	<0.1
Non-coding	319	1.0
UTR	205	0.6
ncRNA	113	0.3
miRNA	1	<0.1
Intronic	9,543	28.6
Splice	7	<0.1
Other intronic	9,536	28.6
Intergenic	23,191	69.6
Small insertions and deletions	66	100.0
Coding	0	0.0
UTR	2	3.0
Intronic	27	40.9
Intergenic	37	56.1
Rearrangements	37	100.0
Breakpoints	74	
Coding	1	1.4
UTR	0	0.0
Intronic	36	48.6
Intergenic	37	50.0
Classes	37	100.0
Intrachromosomal	34	91.9
Deletions	25	67.6
Inversions	6	16.2
Duplications	2	5.4
Other	1	2.7
Interchromosomal	3	8.1

miRNA, microRNA; ncRNA, non-coding RNA; UTR, untranslated region.

Table 1 | Somatic acquired genomic variants of all classes in a SCLC genome

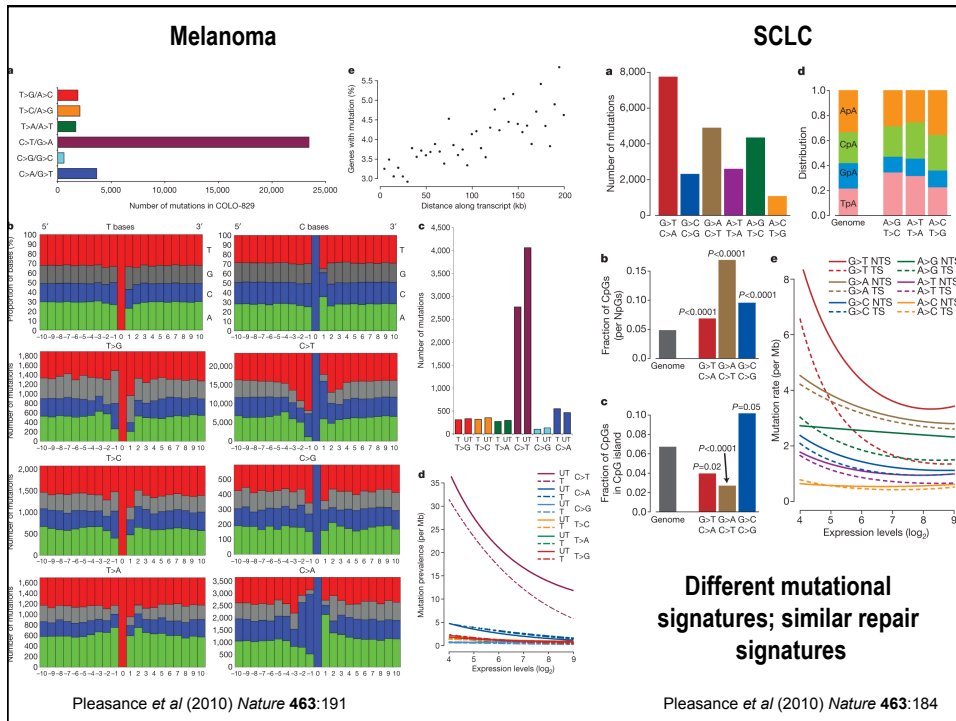
Variant	Number
Somatic substitution	22,910
Coding	134 (0.6%)
Nonsense	4
Non-synonymous	94
Synonymous	36
Non-coding, transcribed	182 (0.8%)
Untranslated region	119
Non-coding RNA	63
Intronic	6,463 (28%)
Splice site	5
Other intronic	6,458
Intergenic	16,131 (70%)
Insertions and deletions	65
Coding (frameshift)	2 (3%)
Intronic	25 (38%)
Intergenic	38 (58%)
Genomic rearrangements	58
Deletions	18 (31%)
Tandem duplications	9 (16%)
Other non-inverted intrachromosomal rearrangements	9 (16%)
Inverted intrachromosomal rearrangements	15 (26%)
Interchromosomal rearrangements	7 (12%)
Copy number segments	334

Melanoma

Pleasance *et al* (2010) *Nature* 463:191

SCLC

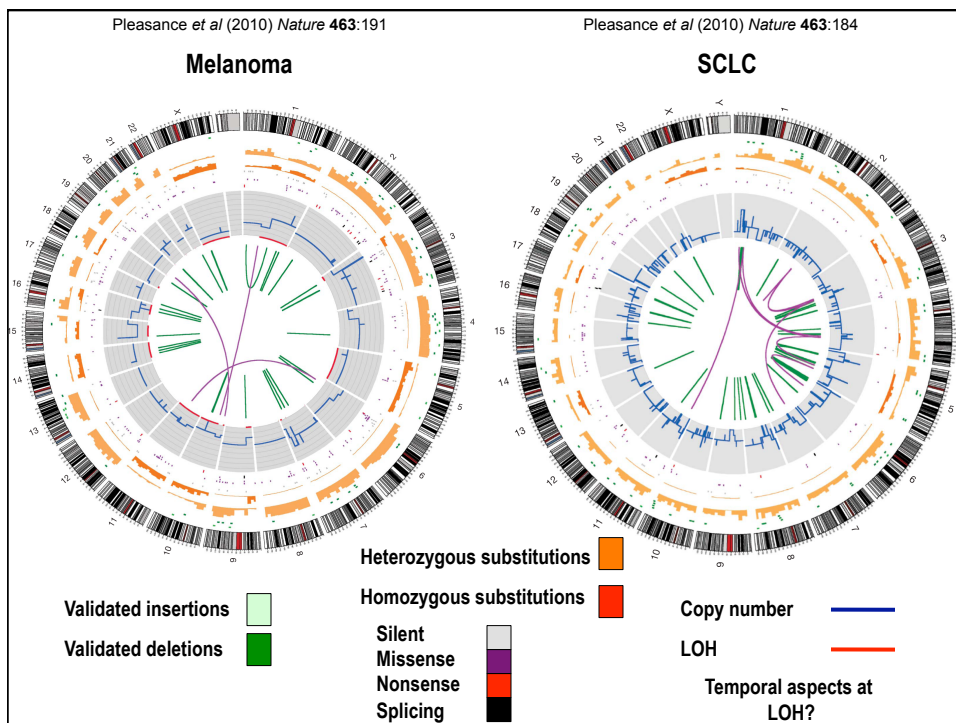
Pleasance *et al* (2010) *Nature* 463:184



Doing the math

- ❑ Lung cancer after 50 pack-years (7,300 cigarettes/year, pack a day)
- ❑ Mutation spectra here similar to primary lung cancers
- ❑ Clone of cells that gives rise to cancer accumulates 1 mutation per 15 cigarettes
- ❑ Substantial mutation over the bronchial tree (cells not cancerous)

Pleasant et al (2010) *Nature* 463:184



- ❑ Need to distinguish ‘drivers’ from passengers’
- ❑ Known mutations or pathways
- ❑ Novel pathways or mechanisms; back to the bench

Exome sequencing: higher throughput but limited genome coverage

LETTERS

nature
genetics

Exome sequencing identifies GRIN2A as frequently mutated in melanoma

Xiaomu Wei¹, Vijay Walia^{1,12}, Jimmy C Lin^{2,12}, Jamie K Teer³, Todd D Prickett¹, Jared Gartner¹, Sean Davis⁴, NISC Comparative Sequencing Program⁵, Katherine Stemke-Hale⁶, Michael A Davies^{6,7}, Jeffrey E Gershenwald^{8,9}, William Robinson¹⁰, Steven Robinson¹⁰, Steven A Rosenberg¹¹ & Yardena Samuels¹

Opportunities for gene and pathway discovery

Wei et al (2011) *Nature Genetics* 43:4442

Targeted sequencing of the exome

- ❑ 14 matched normal and metastatic tumor DNAs (untreated individuals); ‘discovery set’
- ❑ Targeted exon capture (37Mb/genome; ~1%)
- ❑ Exons and flanking regions from 20,000 genes
- ❑ 180-fold coverage (12Gb/genome)
- ❑ Multiple filtering steps to distinguish driver/passenger mutations
- ❑ Further validation by targeted re-sequencing in additional melanoma samples

Limiting the genome content analyzed can afford much higher coverage

Wei et al (2011) *Nature Genetics* 43:4442

Genes with frequent mutations in melanoma

Table 2 Whole exome sequencing in melanoma revealed sixteen highly mutated genes

Gene name	UCSC ID	P	Exome capture (n = 14)			Prevalence screen (n = 38)			Combined exome capture and prevalence screen (n = 52)		
			No. of non-synonymous mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected	No. of non-synonymous mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected	No. of non-synonymous mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected
<i>BRAF</i>	uc003wvc.2	4.80 × 10 ⁻⁵	7	7	50.0	27	27	71.1	34	34	65.4
<i>GRIN2A</i>	uc002czq.1	6.36 × 10 ⁻³	6	6	42.9	11	11	28.9	17	17	32.7
<i>CCDC63</i>	uc001trv.1	3.34 × 10 ⁻³	4	4	28.6	2	2	5.3	6	6	11.5
<i>TMEM132B</i>	uc001uhe.1	7.59 × 10 ⁻³	5	4	28.6	5	5	13.2	10	9	17.3
<i>ZNF831</i>	uc002yan.1	1.29 × 10 ⁻²	5	4	28.6	5	5	13.2	10	9	17.3
<i>PLCB4</i>	uc010gbx.1	4.39 × 10 ⁻²	4	4	28.6	4	4	10.5	8	8	15.4
<i>AKR1B10</i>	uc003wrr.1	5.21 × 10 ⁻³	3	3	21.4	1	1	2.6	4	4	7.7
<i>TAS2R60</i>	uc003wdb.1	5.46 × 10 ⁻³	3	3	21.4	2	2	5.3	5	5	9.6
<i>KHDRBS2</i>	uc003peg.2	7.26 × 10 ⁻³	3	3	21.4	2	2	5.3	5	5	9.6
<i>PTPRO</i>	uc001rda.1	9.09 × 10 ⁻³	3	3	21.4	1	1	2.6	4	4	7.7
<i>SYT4</i>	uc002law.1	1.23 × 10 ⁻²	3	3	21.4	1	1	2.6	4	4	7.7
<i>UGT2B10</i>	uc003hee.1	2.13 × 10 ⁻²	3	3	21.4	1	1	2.6	4	4	7.7
<i>SLC6A11</i>	uc003bvz.1	2.84 × 10 ⁻²	3	3	21.4	0	0	0.0	3	3	5.8
<i>SLC17A5</i>	uc003phn.2	7.91 × 10 ⁻³	4	3	21.4	0	0	0.0	4	3	5.8
<i>C12orf63</i>	uc001tet.1	4.46 × 10 ⁻²	4	3	21.4	2	2	5.3	6	5	9.6
<i>PCDH8</i>	uc003liu.1	4.80 × 10 ⁻²	3	3	21.4	1	1	2.6	4	4	7.7

Based on genome build hg 18 (NCBI 36.1).

Identified 16 genes with >2 distinct mutations; further validation in 38 samples; *GRIN2A* had a very high frequency (1/3)

Wei et al (2011) *Nature Genetics* 43:4442

- Unprecedented ability to understand cancer evolution**
- New insight & hypotheses for cancer biology**
 - Mutagenesis**
 - Repair**
 - Pathways**
- Therapeutics & treatment**
- Personalized therapy**

- Need to consider germline variation as well**
- GWAS studies and the role of rare alleles; the few vs. the many**

GWAS: discovery of rare alleles

Genome-wide association study identifies a new melanoma susceptibility locus at 1q21.3

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We performed a genome-wide association study of melanoma in a discovery cohort of 2,168 Australian individuals with melanoma and 4,387 control individuals. In this discovery phase, we confirm several previously characterized melanoma-associated loci at *MC1R*, *ASIP* and *MTAP-CDKN2A*. We selected variants at nine loci for replication in three independent case-control studies (Europe: 2,804 subjects with melanoma, 7,618 control subjects; United States 1: 1,804 subjects with melanoma, 1,026 control subjects; United States 2: 585 subjects with melanoma, 6,500 control subjects). The combined meta-analysis of all case-control studies identified a new susceptibility locus at 1q21.3 (rs7412746, $P = 9.0 \times 10^{-11}$, OR in combined replication cohorts of 0.89 (95% CI 0.85–0.95)). We also show evidence suggesting that melanoma associates with 1q42.12 (rs3219090, $P = 9.3 \times 10^{-8}$). The associated variants at the 1q21.3 locus span a region with ten genes, and plausible candidate genes for melanoma susceptibility include *ARNT* and *SETDB1*. Variants at the 1q21.3 locus do not seem to be associated with human pigmentation or measures of nevus density.

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Identification of SNPs

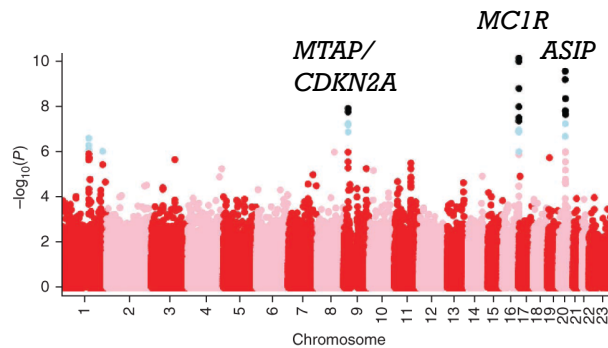
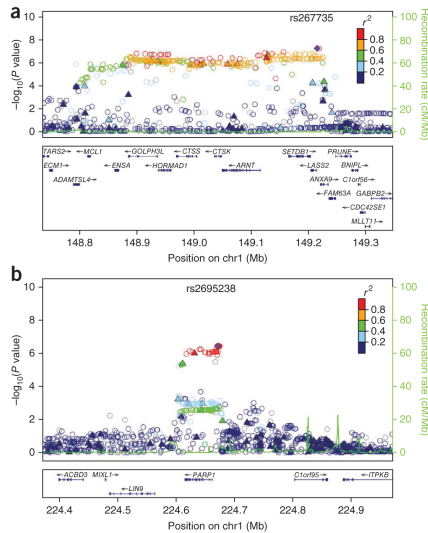


Figure 1 Association results for SNPs directly genotyped in all Australian samples. SNPs with P values exceeding genome-wide significance ($P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) are shown in black, and SNPs with $5 \times 10^{-8} < P < 1 \times 10^{-6}$ are shown in blue. The y axis is truncated at 1×10^{-9} ; however, some SNPs from previously identified loci exceeded this threshold (specifically at ~88 Mb on chromosome 16 near *MC1R* and at the *ASIP* locus at 33 Mb on chromosome 20). The significant genome-wide signal on chromosome 9 is in the vicinity of the *MTAP/CDKN2A* region.

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Detailed chromosome 1 SNP analysis



SETDB1 appears as the leading candidate; accounts for only 0.1% of genetic risk

Figure 2 Discovery sample association results at two loci on chromosome 1 for both SNPs directly genotyped in all Australian samples and imputed SNPs. (a,b) Genotyped SNPs are indicated by filled-in triangles and imputed SNPs by empty circles. The top-ranked SNP at each locus is shown as a filled-in purple diamond. (This SNP is an imputed SNP at both loci.) Imputation P values for all SNPs are plotted. Note imputed and genotyped P values for genotyped SNPs differ slightly, because for the imputed result, analysis was based on dosage scores, whereas with genotyped SNPs, hard genotype calls were used. Association results shown are for the chromosome 1 locus near 149 Mb (a) and SNPs in the vicinity of the *PARD1* association signal (b). The color scheme indicates linkage disequilibrium between the most strongly associated SNPs for the 149 Mb and *PARD1* regions (shown in purple, rs267735 and rs2695238, respectively) and other genotyped SNPs in the two regions.

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Development of resistance

The next step in clonal evolution

Dissecting Therapeutic Resistance to RAF Inhibition in Melanoma by Tumor Genomic Profiling

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A B S T R A C T

A detailed understanding of the mechanisms by which tumors acquire resistance to targeted anticancer agents should speed the development of treatment strategies with lasting clinical efficacy. RAF inhibition in *BRAF*-mutant melanoma exemplifies the promise and challenge of many targeted drugs; although response rates are high, resistance invariably develops. Here, we articulate overarching principles of resistance to kinase inhibitors, as well as a translational approach to characterize resistance in the clinical setting through tumor mutation profiling. As a proof of principle, we performed targeted, massively parallel sequencing of 138 cancer genes in a tumor obtained from a patient with melanoma who developed resistance to PLX4032 after an initial dramatic response. The resulting profile identified an activating mutation at codon 121 in the downstream kinase MEK1 that was absent in the corresponding pretreatment tumor. The *MEK1^{C121S}* mutation was shown to increase kinase activity and confer robust resistance to both RAF and MEK inhibition in vitro. Thus, *MEK1^{C121S}* or functionally similar mutations are predicted to confer resistance to combined MEK/RAF inhibition. These results provide an instructive framework for assessing mechanisms of acquired resistance to kinase inhibition and illustrate the use of emerging technologies in a manner that may accelerate personalized cancer medicine.

J Clin Oncol 29:3085-3096. © 2011 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

Wagle et al (2011) *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 29:3085



Fig 2. A 38-year-old man with *BRAF*-mutant melanoma and miliary, subcutaneous metastatic deposits. Photographs were taken (A) before initiation of PLX4032, (B) after 15 weeks of therapy with PLX4032, and (C) after relapse, after 23 weeks of therapy.

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Table 1. Somatic Alterations in the PLX4032-Resistant and PLX4032-Sensitive Tumor Samples in a Patient With Metastatic Melanoma

Gene	PLX4032-Resistant Tumor				PLX4032-Sensitive Tumor Protein Change
	Genomic Change	Protein Change	Mutation Type	Allele Frequency (%)	
<i>BRAF</i>	g.chr7:140099605A>T	p.V600E	Missense	37	p.V600E
<i>BRCA1</i>	g.chr17:38497417C>T	p.E1172E	Synonymous	75	p.E1172E
<i>BRCA1</i>	g.chr17:38499682G>A	p.T417T	Synonymous	77	p.T417T
<i>ERBB4</i>	g.chr2:211956862C>T	p.G1217E	Missense	24	p.G1217E
<i>FGFR4</i>	g.chr5:176454998C>T	p.I527I	Synonymous	20	p.I527I
<i>FLT1</i>	g.chr13:27903435C>T	p.A276T	Missense	66	p.A276T
<i>MEK1</i>	g.chr15:64516208G>C	p.C121S	Missense	16	WT
<i>PDGFRB</i>	g.chr5:149477517G>A	p.L998L	Synonymous	57	p.L998L
<i>PTPRD</i>	g.chr9:8490976C>T	p.E623K	Missense	55	p.E623K
<i>PTPRD</i>	g.chr9:8497431G>A	p.P503L	Missense	55	p.P503L
<i>RET</i>	g.chr10:42930184G>C	p.K710N	Missense	28	WT
<i>RUNX1T1</i>	g.chr8:93052172C>T	p.D477N	Missense	76	p.D477N
<i>TERT</i>	g.chr5:1331863C>T	p.E727K	Missense	58	p.E727K
<i>TERT</i>	g.chr5:1331864C>T	p.T726T	Synonymous	58	p.T726T

NOTE. All the exons from the 138 cancer genes were targeted for sequencing by massively parallel sequencing in the PLX4032-resistant sample. Fourteen somatic base substitutions were found. The original (PLX4032-sensitive) sample was queried for the presence of these mutations using mass spectrometric genotyping, demonstrating WT *MEK1* and *RET*.
Abbreviation: WT, wild type.

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Table 2. Exemplary Mechanisms of Acquired Resistance to Kinase Inhibitors

Targeted Agent	Target Gene	Acquired Resistance via Secondary Mutation, Amplification, or Activation of Target		Acquired Resistance via Bypass	Acquired Resistance via Downstream Mutation	
Imatinib	<i>ABL</i>	T315I		<i>IGF1R</i> amplification AXL overexpression*†		
		Y253F/H				
		E255K/V				
		<i>ABL</i> amplification				
	<i>KIT</i>	T670I				
		V654A				
		D816A/G/H/V				
		D820A/E/G/Y				
	<i>PDGFRA</i>	Y823D				
		<i>KIT</i> amplification				
	<i>EGFR</i>	T674I				
Gefitinib or erlotinib		<i>EGFR</i>	T790M		<i>MET</i> amplification	
			D761Y		HGF overexpression*†	
			L747S		IGFBP3 loss*†	
	T854A					
		<i>EGFR</i> amplification*				
Trastuzumab	<i>HER2</i>					
Lapatinib	<i>HER2/EGFR</i>					
PKC412	<i>FLT3</i>	N676K				
	<i>FGFR</i>					
AZD6044	<i>MEK1</i>	MEK1 P124L				
		<i>BRAF</i> amplification*				
PLX4032	<i>BRAF</i>	NRAS Q61K		COT overexpression† PDGFRβ overexpression† CRAF overexpression*† AXL overexpression*† HER2 overexpression*†	MEK1 C121S	
Crizotinib	<i>ALK/MET</i>	L1196M C1156Y F1174L				

Abbreviations: IGF1R, insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor; HGF, hepatocyte growth factor; IGFBP3, insulin-like growth factor receptor binding protein-3; PDGFRβ, platelet-derived growth factor β; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2.
*Mechanisms that have been described in vitro.
†Nongenetic mechanisms.

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KEY CONCEPTS:

- Genome complexity**
- Understanding contribution of germline variation**
- Drivers vs. Passengers**
- Haploid coverage and the identification of rare events (clones)**
- Clonal evolution & development of resistance**
- Epigenetic changes (need to analyze in parallel); just becoming possible**
- Emerging therapies dependent on genetic state of the tumor**
- Move towards PERSONALIZED THERAPY**

- Further reading (if you're interested)**
- Implementing genomics into patient treatment**

Leading Edge
Review

Cell

The Genetic Basis for Cancer Treatment Decisions

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DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2012.01.014

Personalized cancer medicine is based on increased knowledge of the cancer mutation repertoire and availability of agents that target altered genes or pathways. Given advances in cancer genetics, technology, and therapeutics development, the timing is right to develop a clinical trial and research framework to move future clinical decisions from heuristic to evidence-based decisions. Although the challenges of integrating genomic testing into cancer treatment decision making are wide-ranging and complex, there is a scientific and ethical imperative to realize the benefits of personalized cancer medicine, given the overwhelming burden of cancer and the unprecedented opportunities for advancements in outcomes for patients.

Dancey et al (2012), Cell | Online first: February 3