

# Bioinformatics: Introduction and Methods

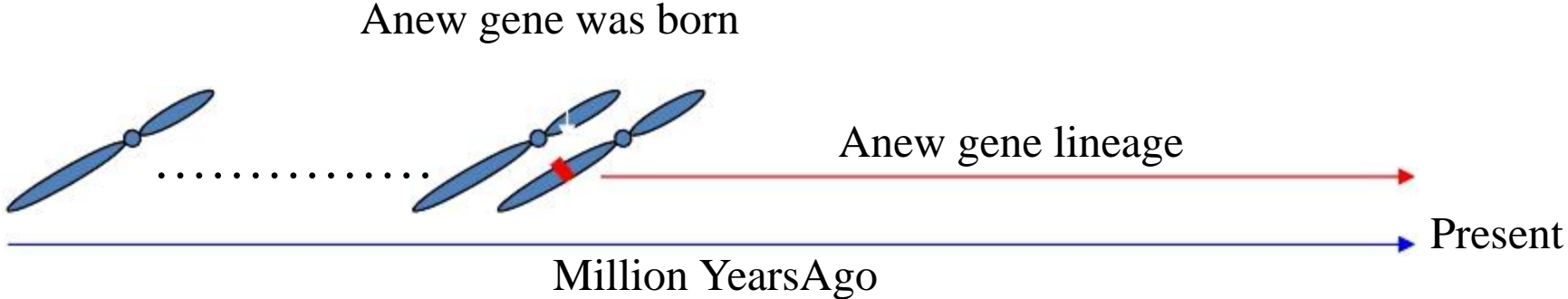
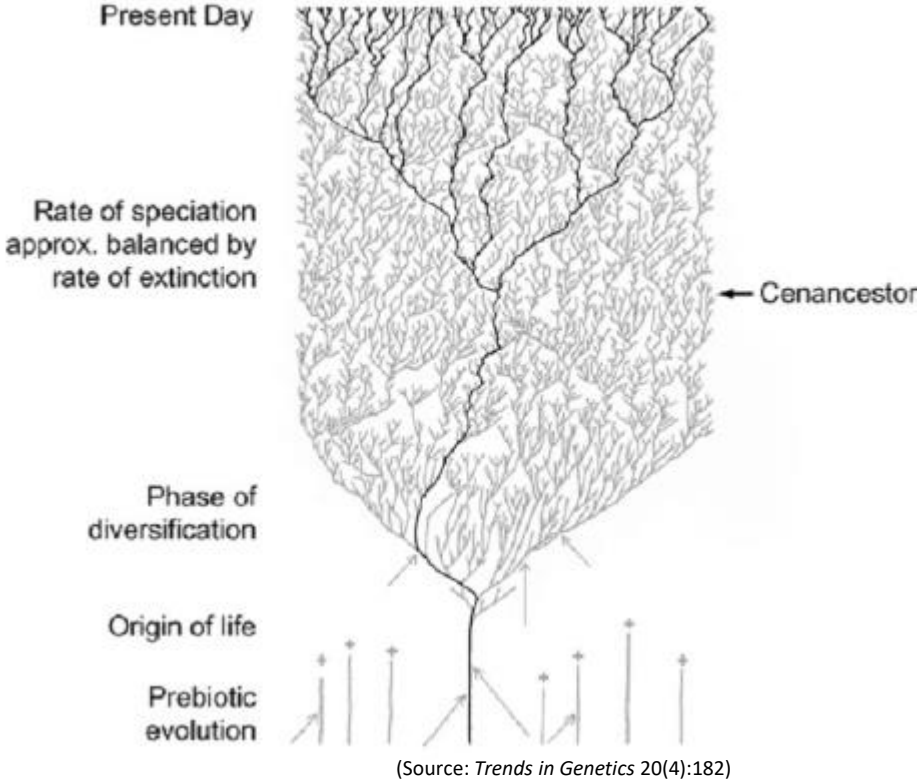
Le Zhang

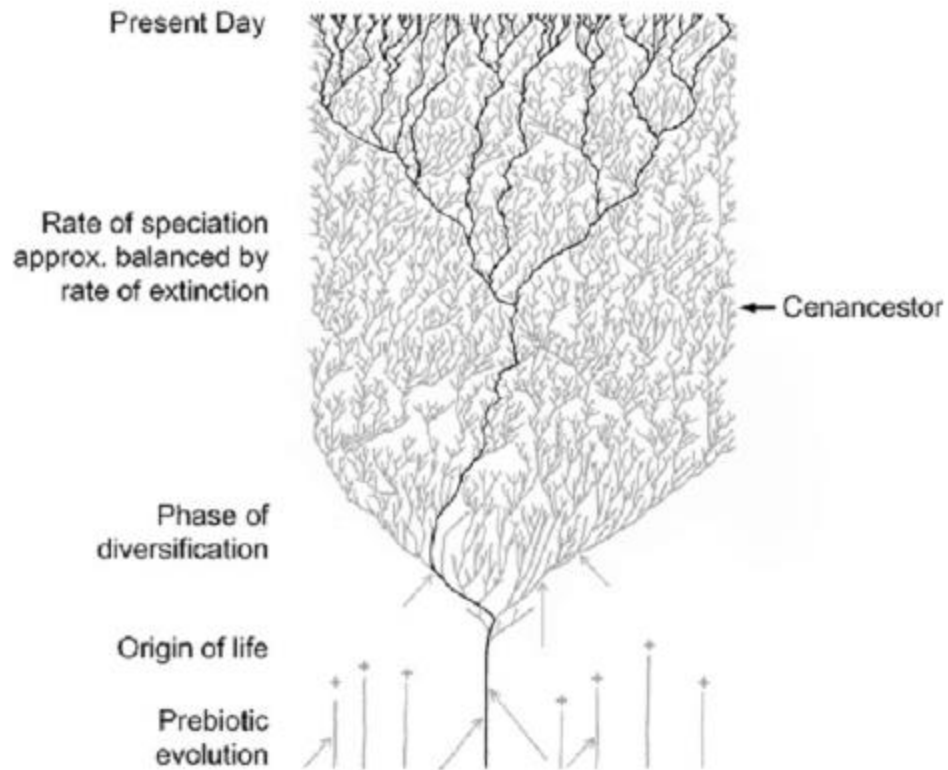
Computer Science Department, Southwest University



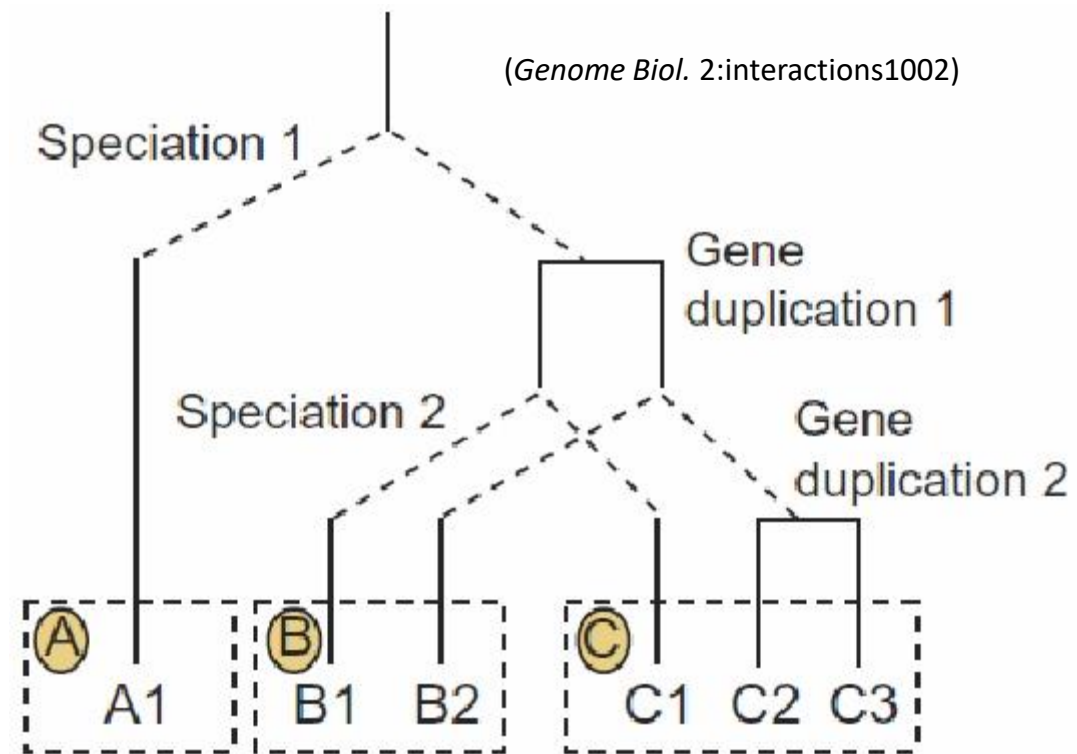


# Newly emerging genes are key sources of evolutionary novelty



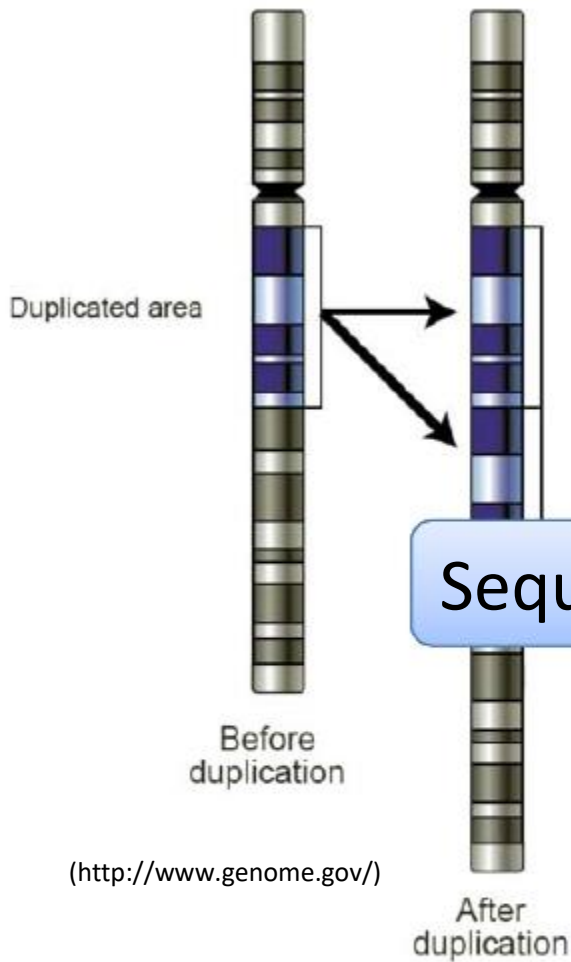


(Source: *Trends in Genetics* 20(4):182)



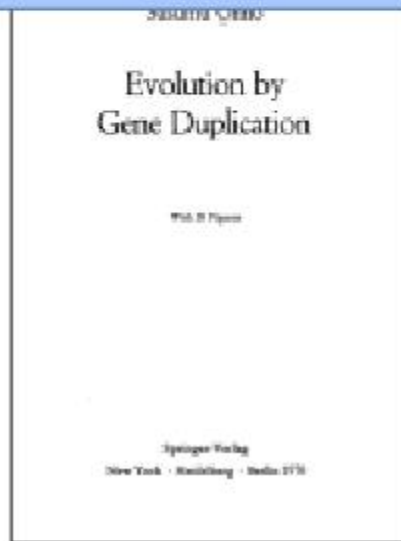
- **Orthologs**: homologous genes result from **speciation event**
- **Paralogs**: homologous genes result from **duplication event**



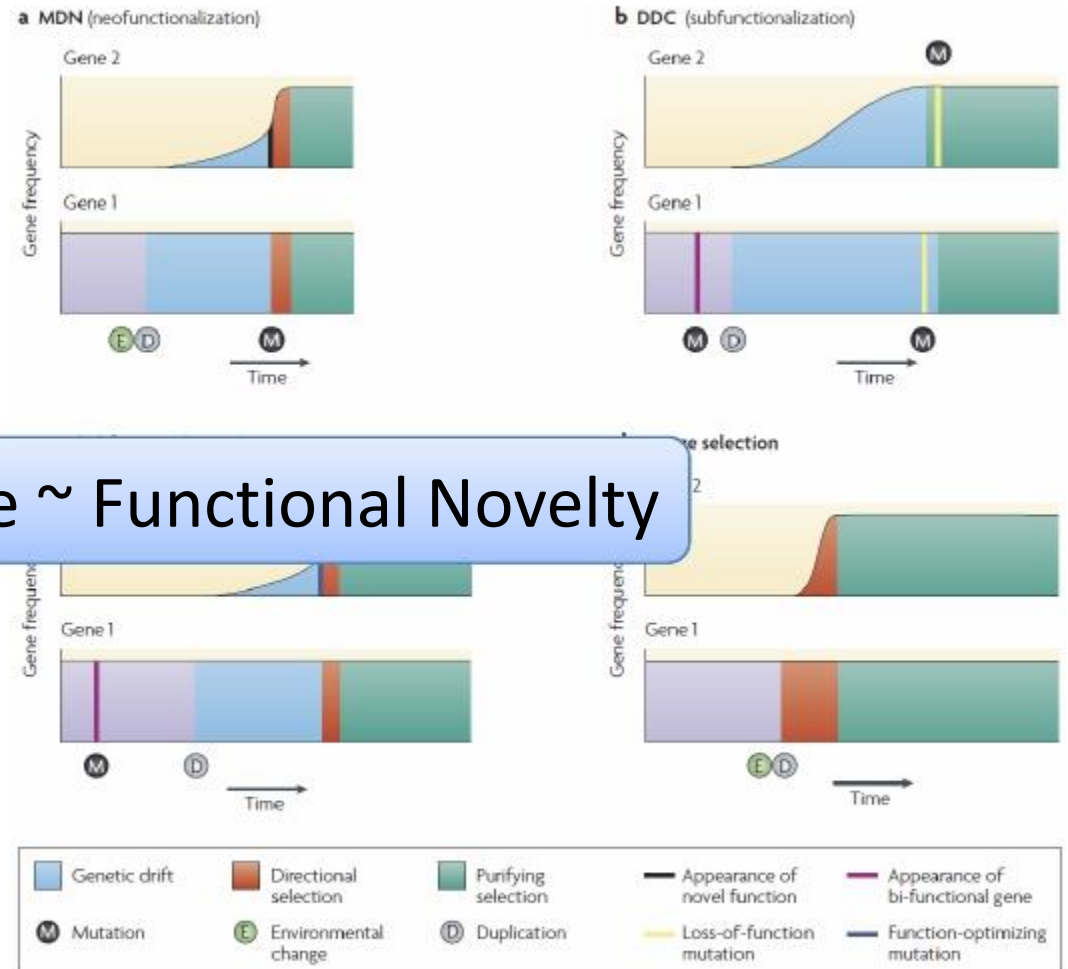


(<http://www.genome.gov/>)

*Susumu Ohno*  
 Susumu Ohno  
 February 1, 1928–January 13,  
 2000



# Sequence Divergence ~ Functional Novelty



(Conant *et al.* 2008)

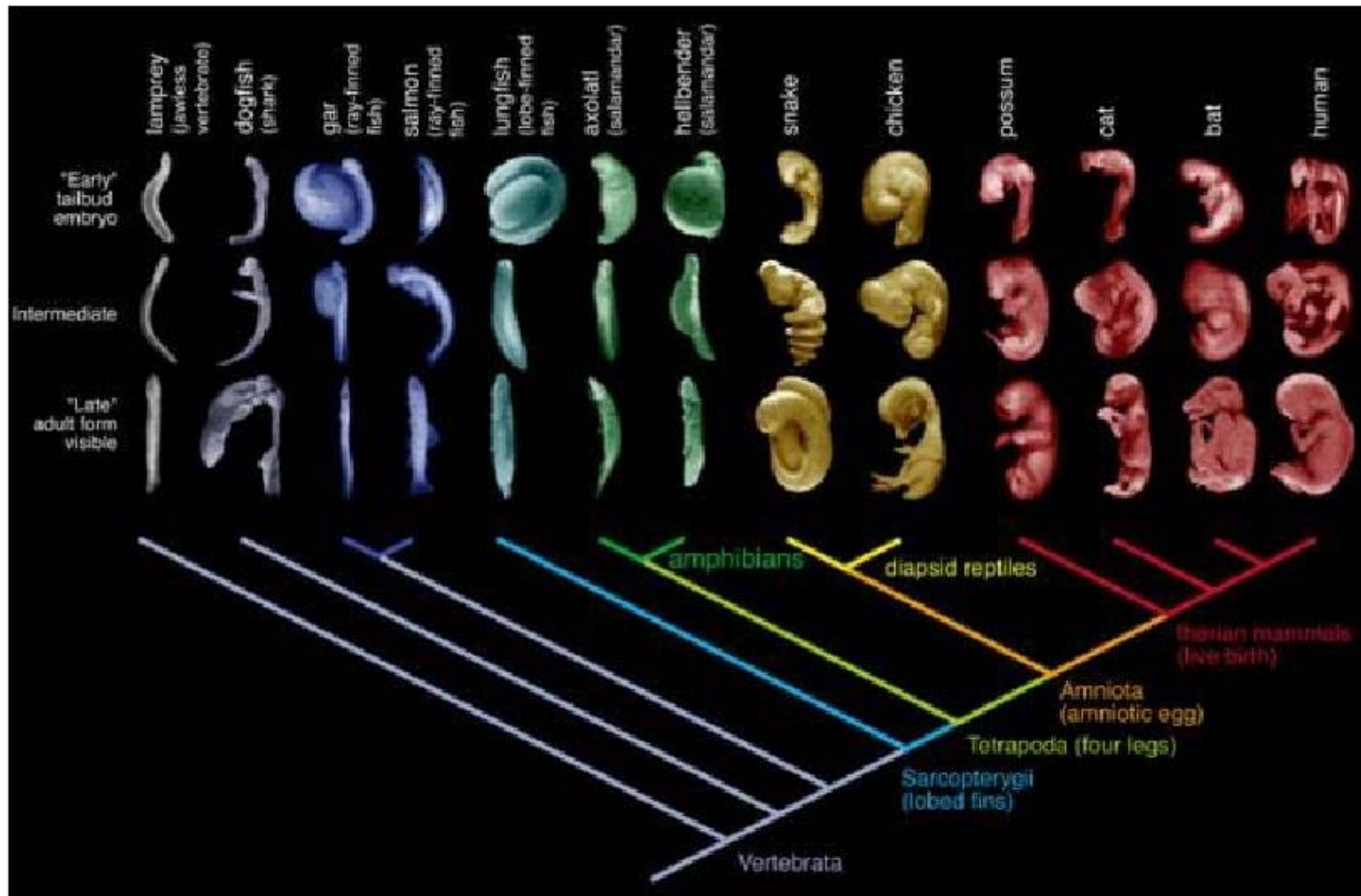
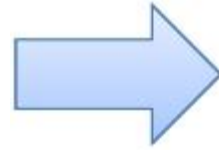


Figure 8. Developmental sequences of various vertebrates shown in phylogenetic context. Note the shared similarities of some closely related taxa, particularly the amniotes (modified from Richardson et al. 1998.) (Figure Source: [ncseprojects.org/image/icons-evolution-figure-8](http://ncseprojects.org/image/icons-evolution-figure-8))

# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



Sequences from 14 species



BLAST

Similarity Matrix

Identify similar sequences among inter-species as well as intra-species

Insert an in-video survey here.

Question: Which Scoring Matrix would you like to use here?

- A) PAM1
- B) BLOSUM80
- C) BLOSUM62
- D) PAM2

C is the right answer, but B is also okay.

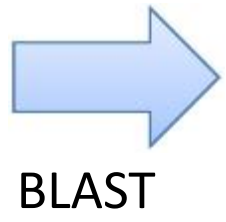
Either the answer is right or wrong, just go on.



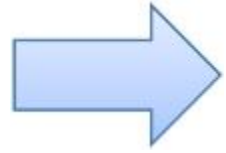
# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



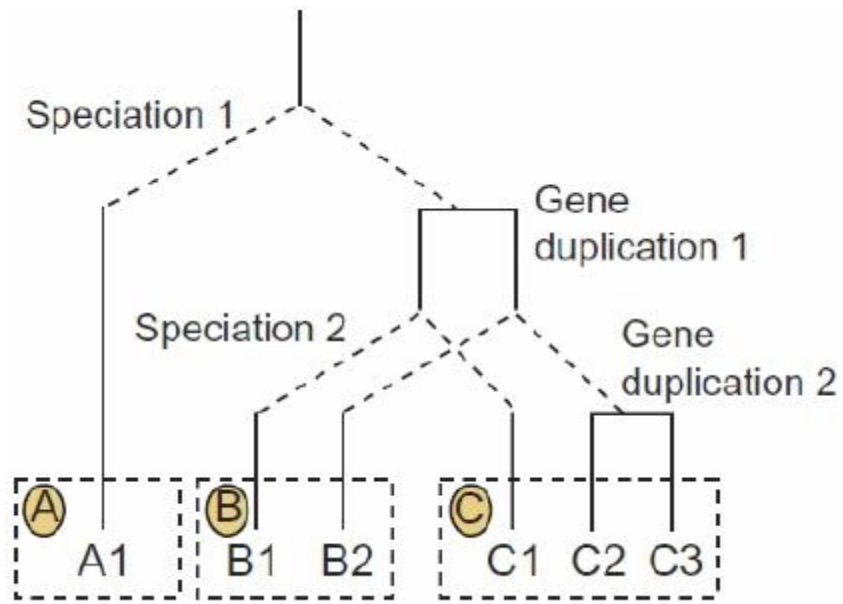
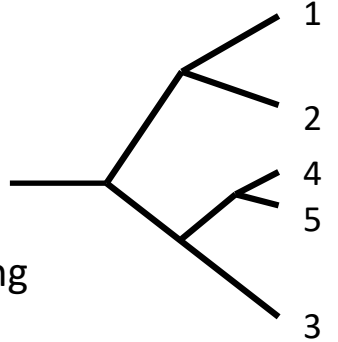
Sequences from 14 species



Similarity Matrix  
 Identify similar sequences among inter-species as well as intra-species



Neighbor-Joining



(Genome Biol. 2:interactions1002)

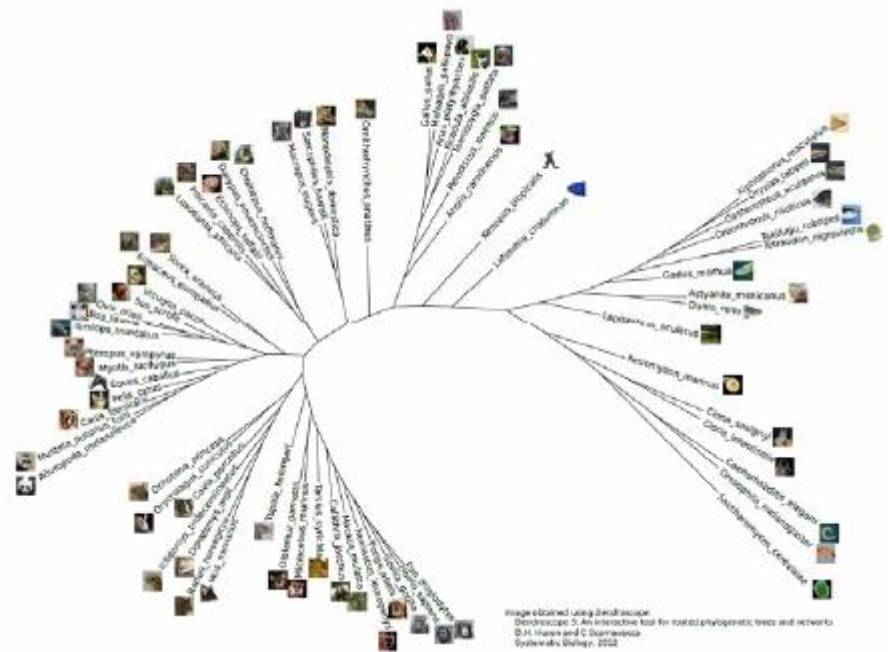
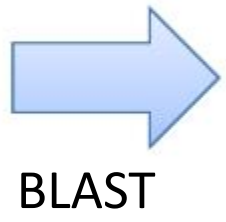


Image obtained using GeneScape  
 Describer 3: An interactive tool for rooted phylogenetic trees and networks  
 © J.L. Hansen and C. Donnellson  
 Systematic Biology 2002

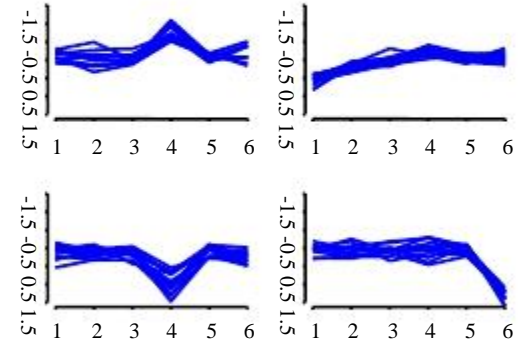
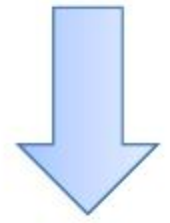
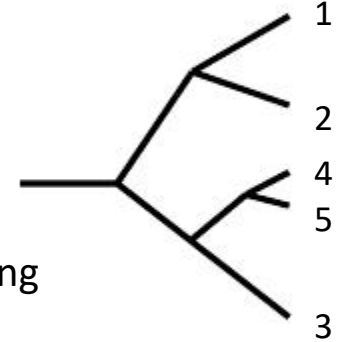
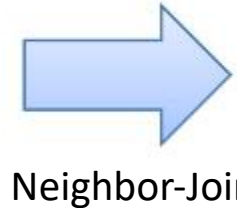
# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



Sequences from 14 species



Similarity Matrix  
Identify similar sequences among inter-species as well as intra-species



Expression Profiles

Insert an in-video survey here.

Question: Which database(s) you would NOT use here?

- A) PDB
- B) NCBI GEO
- C) NCBI SRA
- D) EBI ArrayExpress

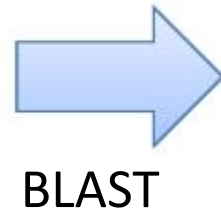
A is the right answer.

Either the answer is right or wrong, just go on.

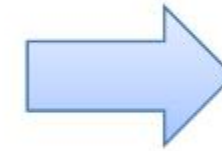
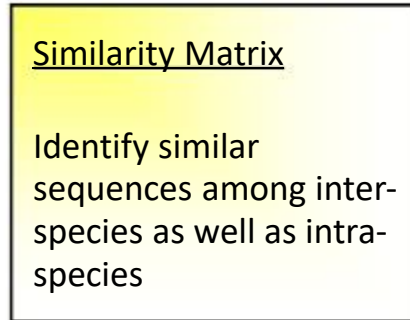
# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



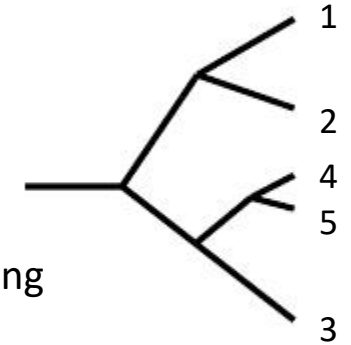
Sequences from 14 species



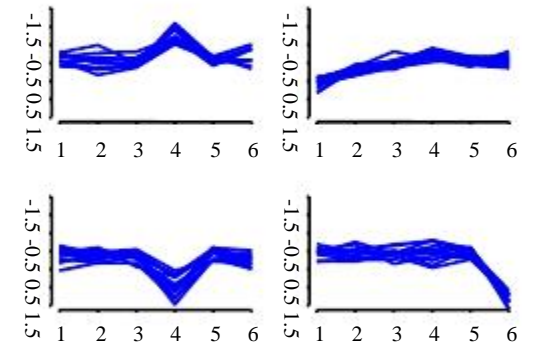
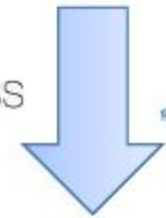
BLAST



Neighbor-Joining



ARRAYEXPRESS

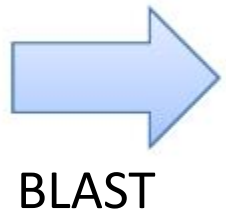


Expression Profiles

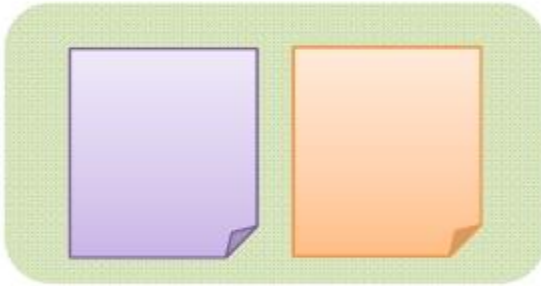
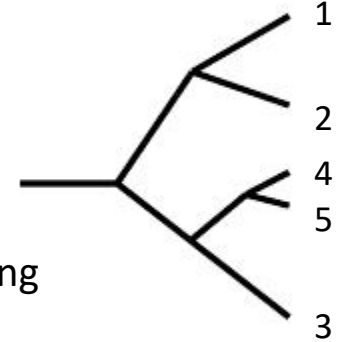
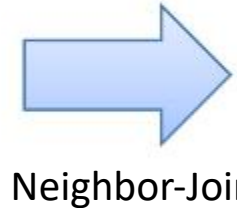
# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



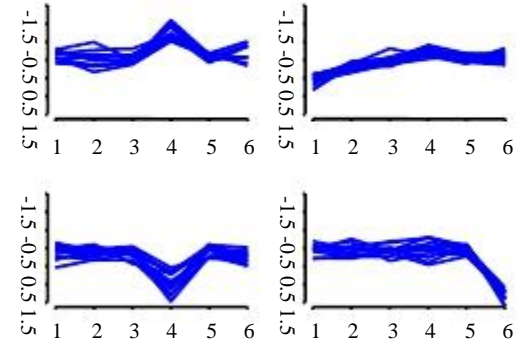
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Similarity Matrix  
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Functional annotations for duplicated genes



Expression Profiles



Insert an in-video survey here.

Question: Which database(s) would you like use here?

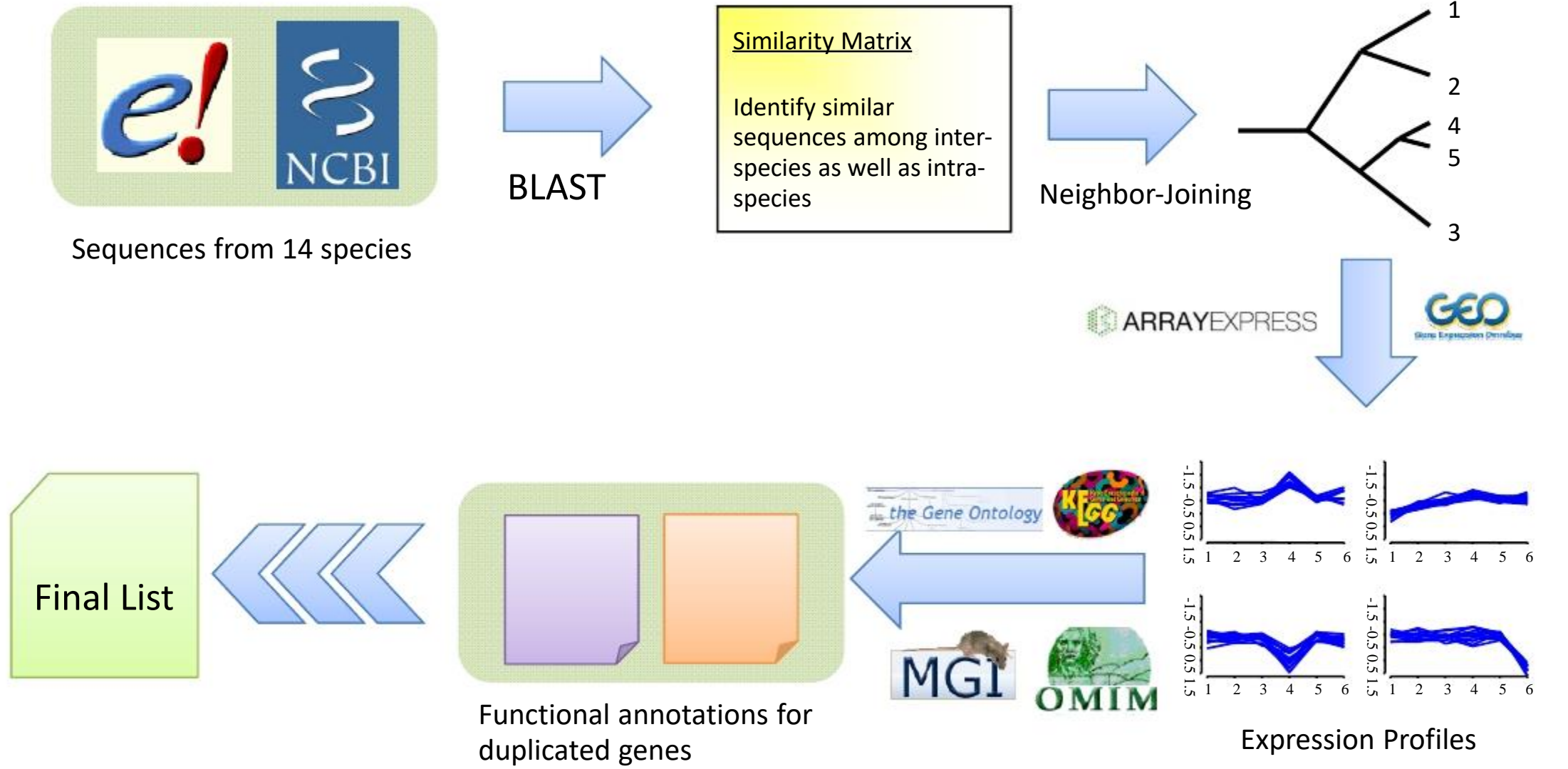
A) KEGG

B) Gene Ontology Annotation

Both A and B are correct

Either the answer is right or wrong, just go on.

# Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



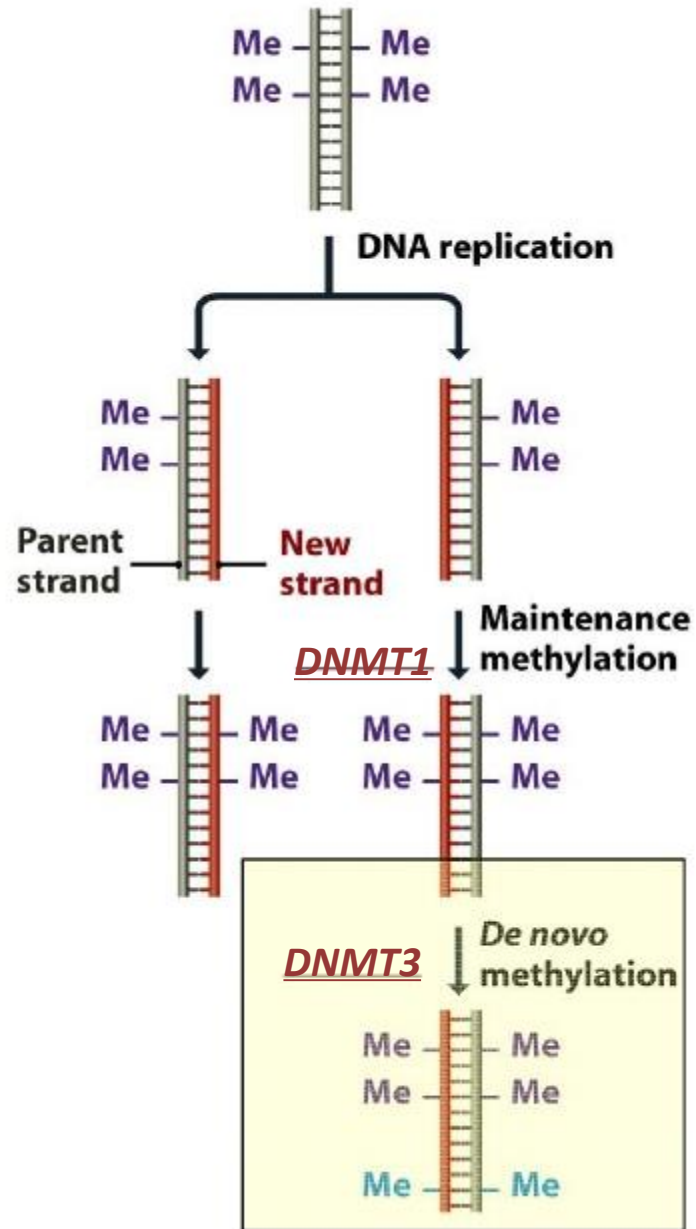


## Computationally screening for function divergenced genes involved in early development regulation

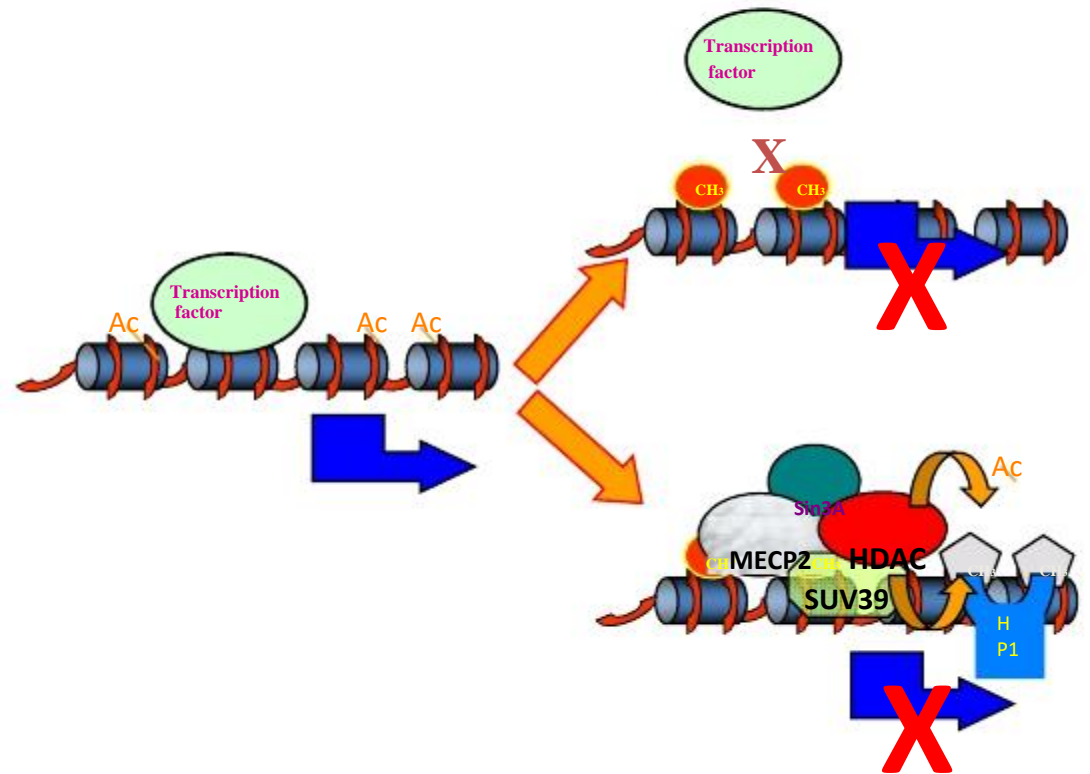
### Computational Genomic Analysis and Bioinformatics through *MAPK*:

1. Sequence databases were constructed directly from the Ensembl website;
2. Each peptide sequence in the database was used to search the database using BLAST package.
3. Phylogenetic trees were constructed and paralogous pairs are identified from the resulting alignments based on a minimal amino acid identity (e.g. 50% and 70%) and an overlap of  $\geq 35$  amino acids in the region of local alignment.
4. Coding regions of pairs that meet these criteria will be aligned with the corresponding region and inspected for putative function divergence hallmarks.
5. Local warehouse were searched for further indicators derived from high-throughput data (esp. genetic, genomic, transcriptomic, proteomic and pathway data).

**7 out of 50000+ new paralogous pairs showed clear functional divergence features involved in early development regulation.**

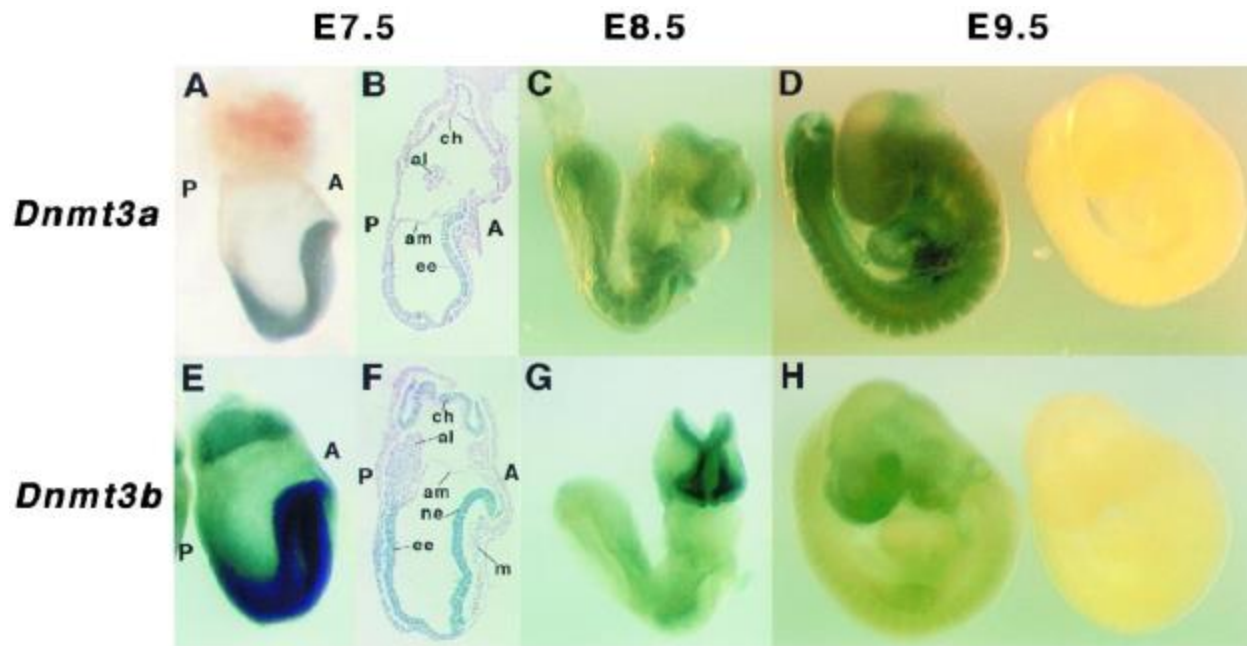


DNA methylation silences gene expression by two mechanisms



(Modified from Moshe Szyf's slide)



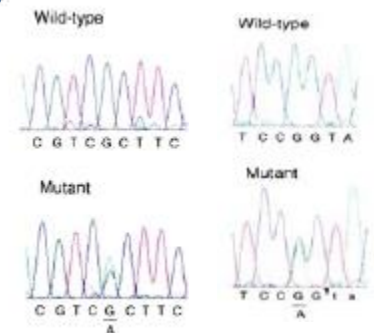


DNMT3-induced methylation is critical for early mouse embryo development



<http://www.newsoftheworld.co.uk/news/402211/Kiss-of-death-Grace-and-Luke-Hicklin-have-hereditary-ICF-syndrome.html>

...and also for human ICF Syndrome

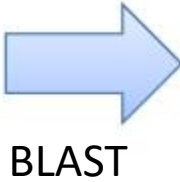




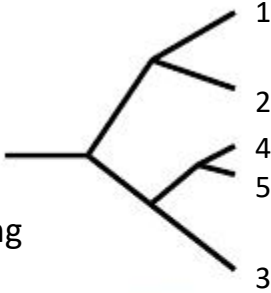
Computationally screening for function divergent genes involved in early development regulation



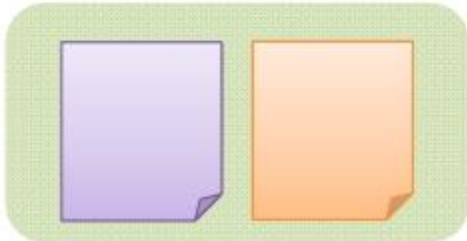
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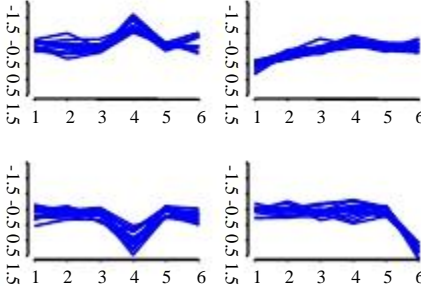
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Final List



Functional annotations for duplicated genes



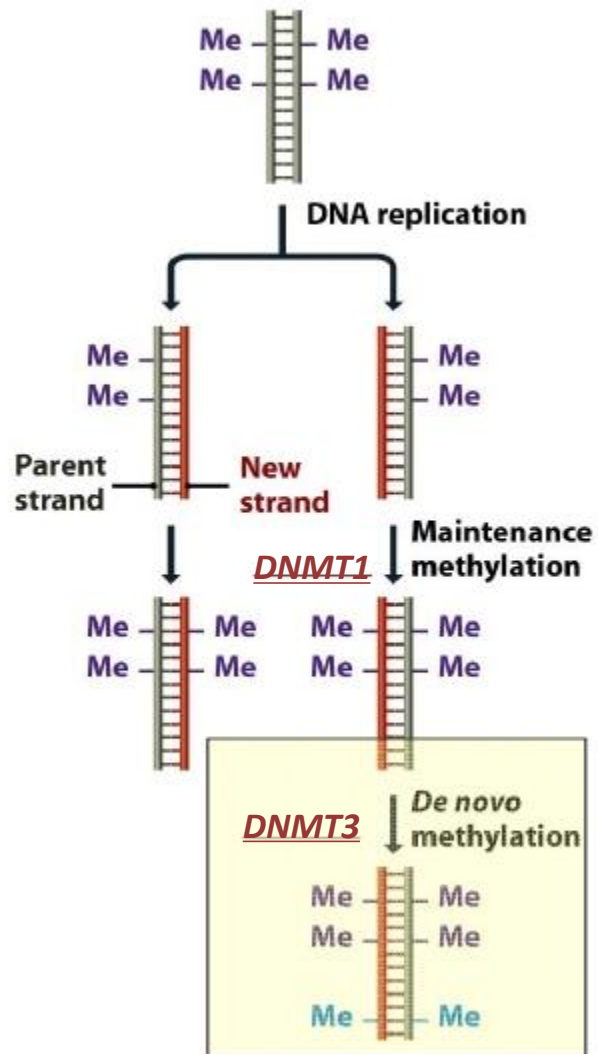
Expression Profiles

## Computationally screening for function divergenced genes involved in early development regulation

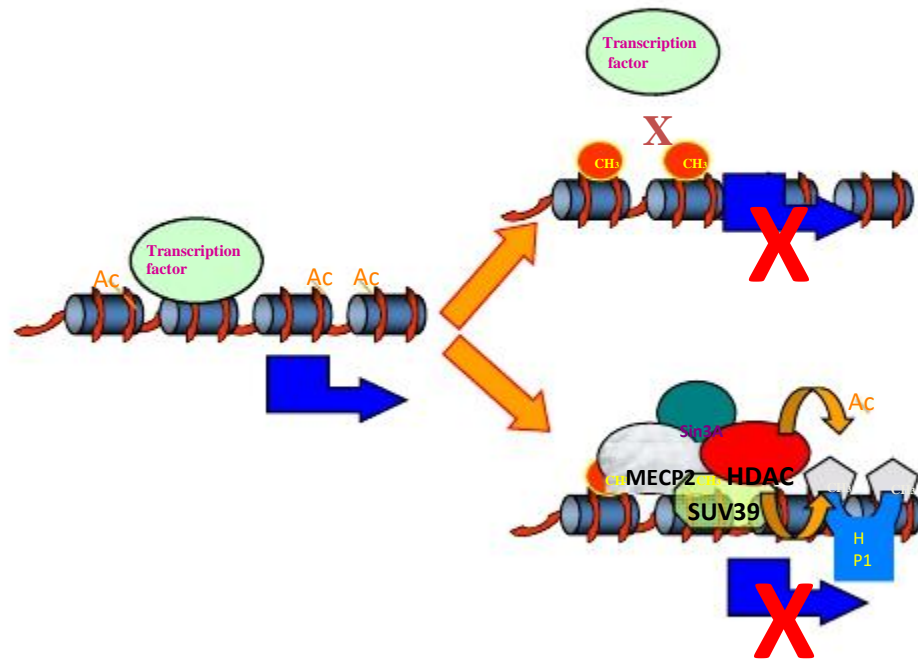
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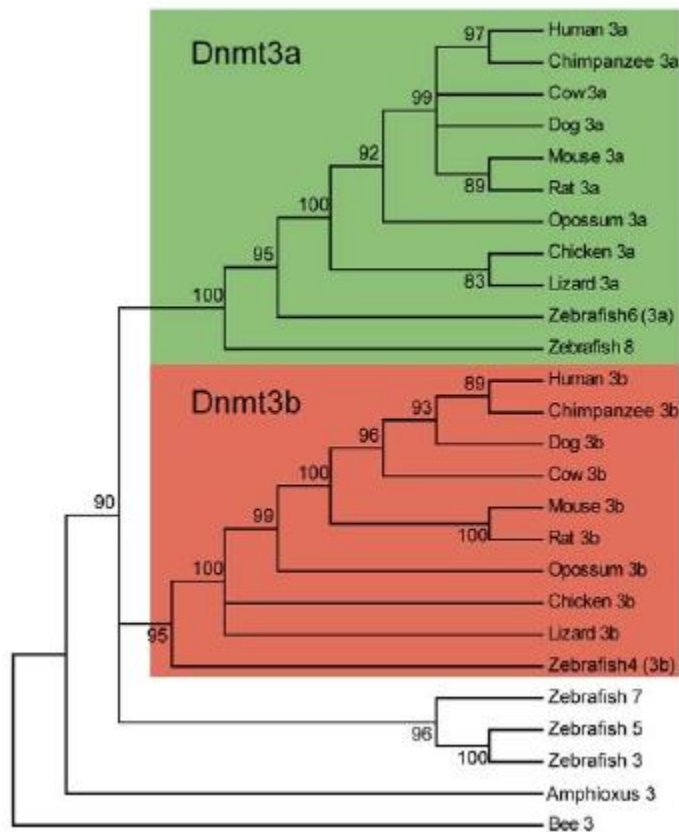
DNA methylation silences gene expression by two mechanisms



(Modified from Moshe Szyf's slide)



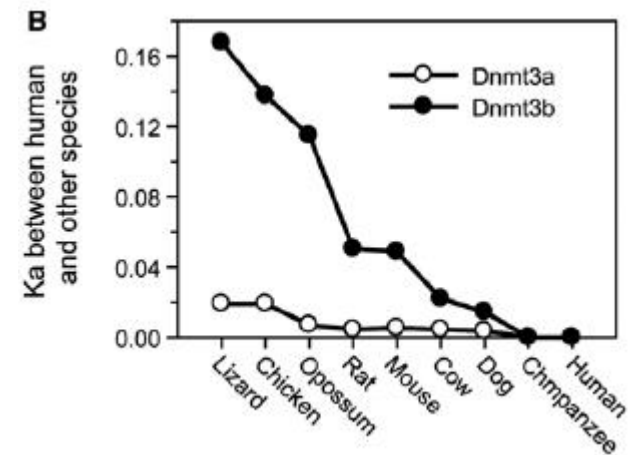
# DNMT3 raised around the separation of vertebrates

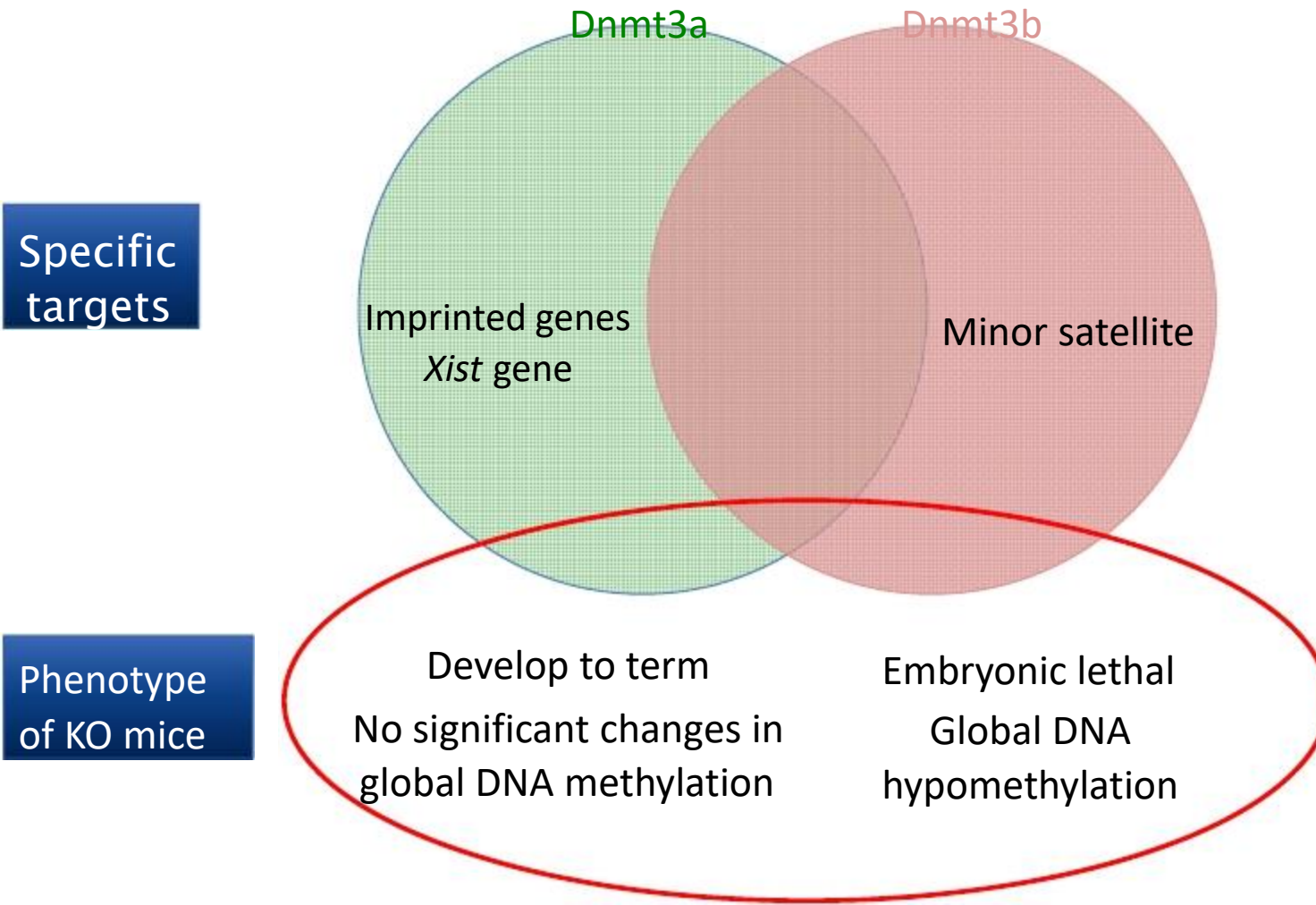


(Shen *et al. Nucle Acids Res.* 2010)

**A**

	Synonymous			Non-Synonymous		
	S <sub>3a</sub>	S <sub>3b</sub>	P-value	N <sub>3a</sub>	N <sub>3b</sub>	P-value
Human	221	228	0.377	294	343	0.025*
Chimpanzee	222	227	0.413	294	343	0.025*
Dog	227	236	0.340	298	342	0.041*
Cow	230	222	0.366	299	347	0.029*
Mouse	220	228	0.342	300	345	0.040*
Rat	227	229	0.460	298	340	0.049*
Opossum	247	257	0.319	298	357	0.011*
Chicken	226	208	0.196	307	350	0.047*
Lizard	231	229	0.463	305	353	0.031*

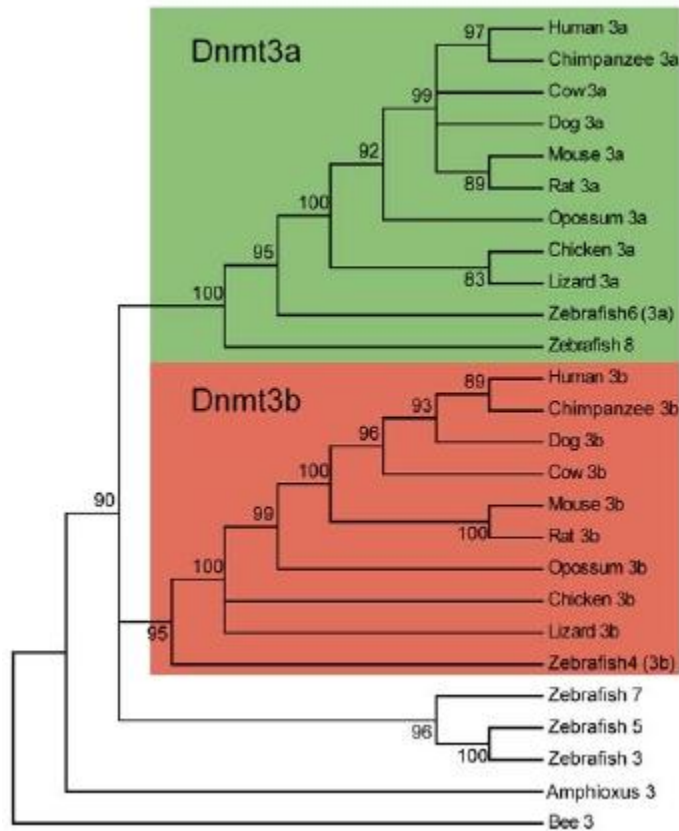




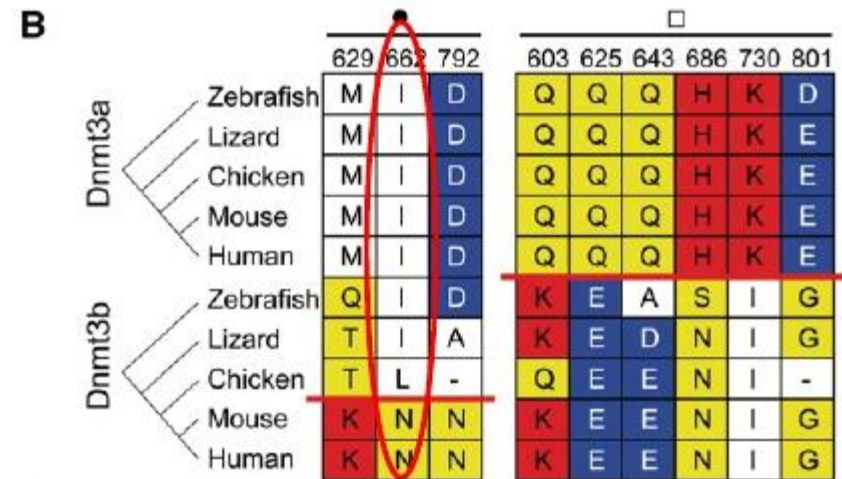
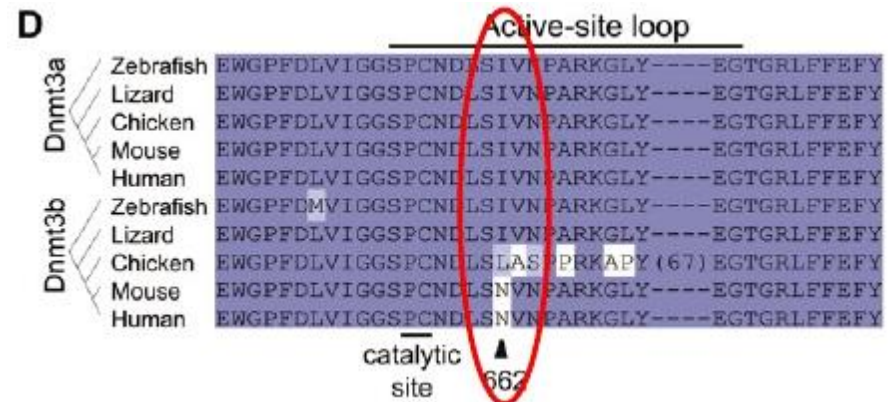
(Source: Li Shen, 2010)



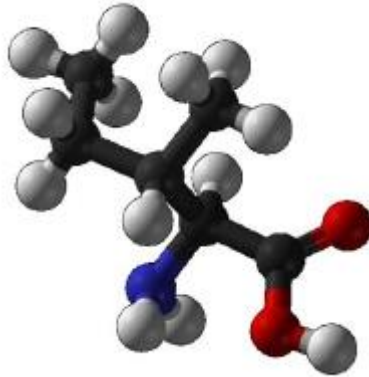
# A mammalian DNMT3b-specific amino acid change appeared near catalytic site



(Shen *et al. Nucle Acids Res.* 2010)

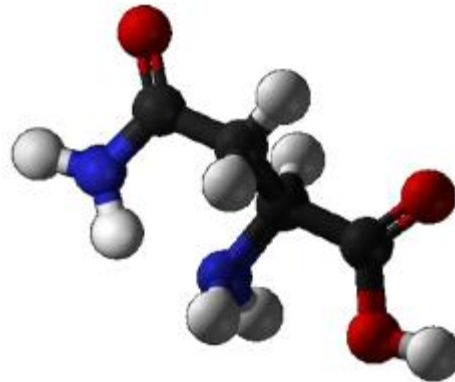


**Isoleucine (I)**  
异亮氨酸

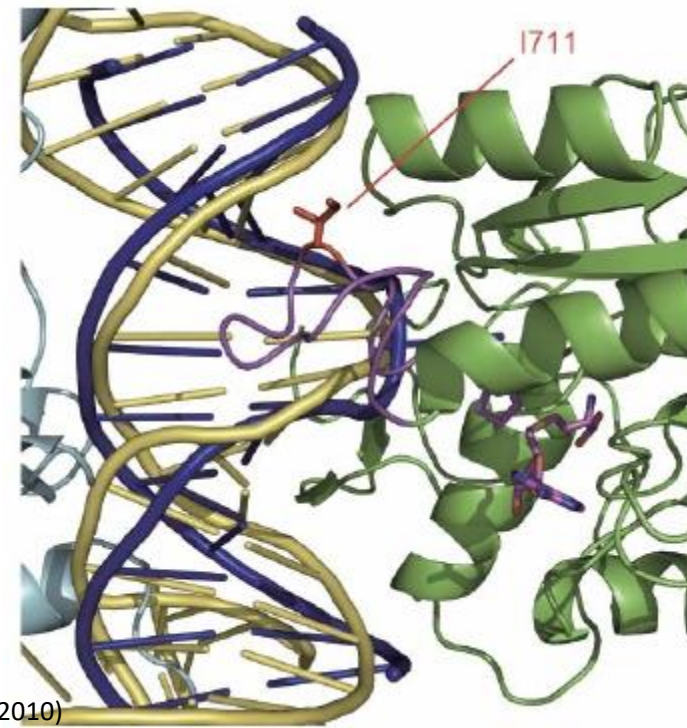
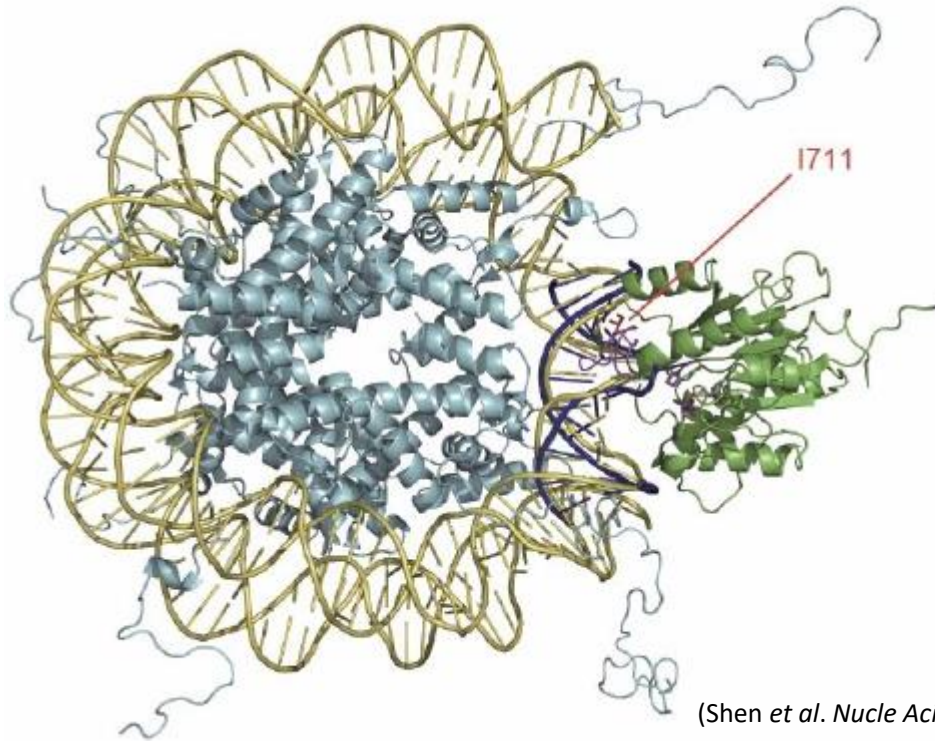


- non-Polar,
- Hydropathy index = 4.5
- pI at 25° C = 6.04

**Asparagine (N)**  
天冬酰胺



- Polar,
- Hydropathy index = -3.5
- pI at 25° C = 10.76



(Shen et al. Nucle Acids Res. 2010)

Structural analysis suggested that the I→N results in a tighter enzyme-DNA interaction

*Observation*  
I → N in mammalian Dnmt3b



Tighter interaction with phosphate group  
of DNA backbond



*Hypothesis*

- 1) Higher methylation activity in **mammalian Dnmt3b** than of **Dnmt3a** and **non-mammalian Dnmt3b**
- 2) which is the direct result of changed physicochemical property.

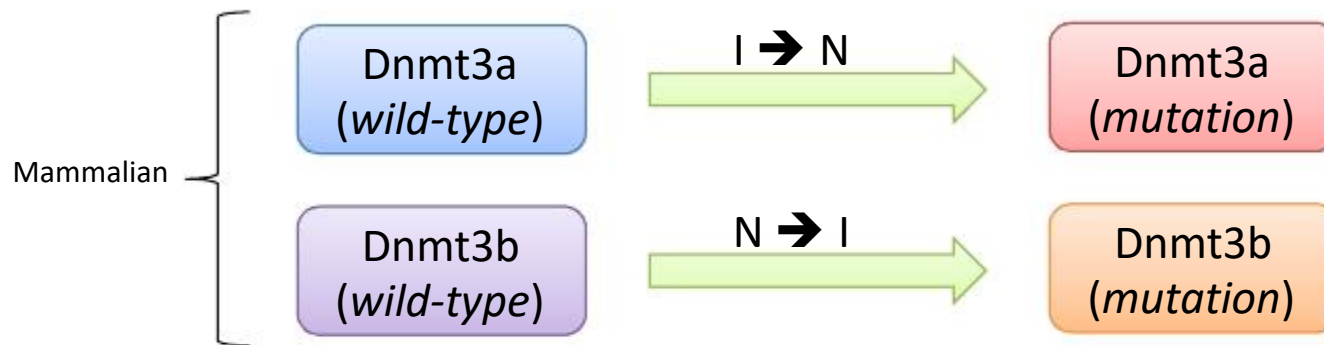


Dr. Li Shen  
Research Fellow, Harvard

**Test!**



# Test the hypothesis with wet experiences

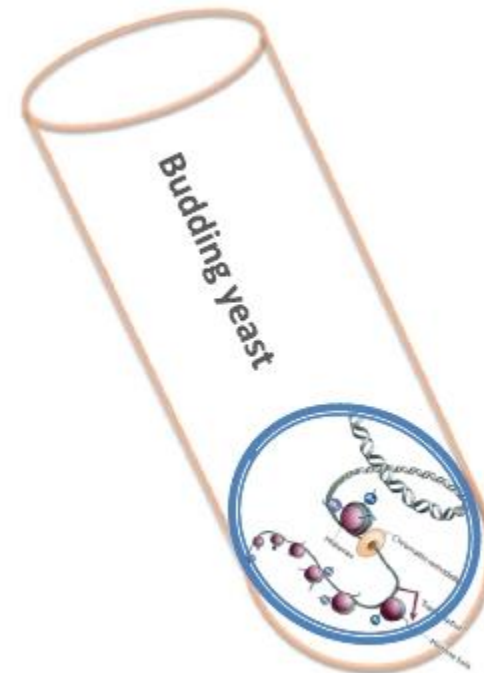


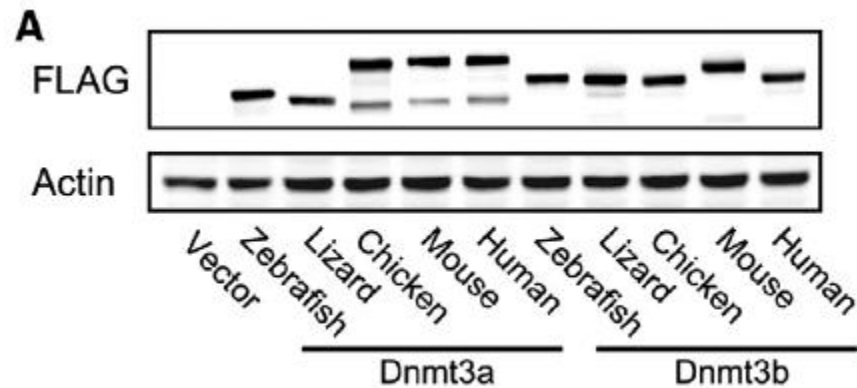
*“Site-directed mutagenesis is a molecular biology method that is used to make specific and intentional changes to the DNA sequence of a gene and any gene products. Also called site-specific mutagenesis or oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis, it is used for investigating the structure and biological activity of DNA, RNA, and protein molecules, and for protein engineering. With decreasing costs of oligonucleotide synthesis, artificial gene synthesis is now occasionally used as an alternative to site-directed mutagenesis.”* (Source: wikipedia.org)

endogenous DNMTs ??

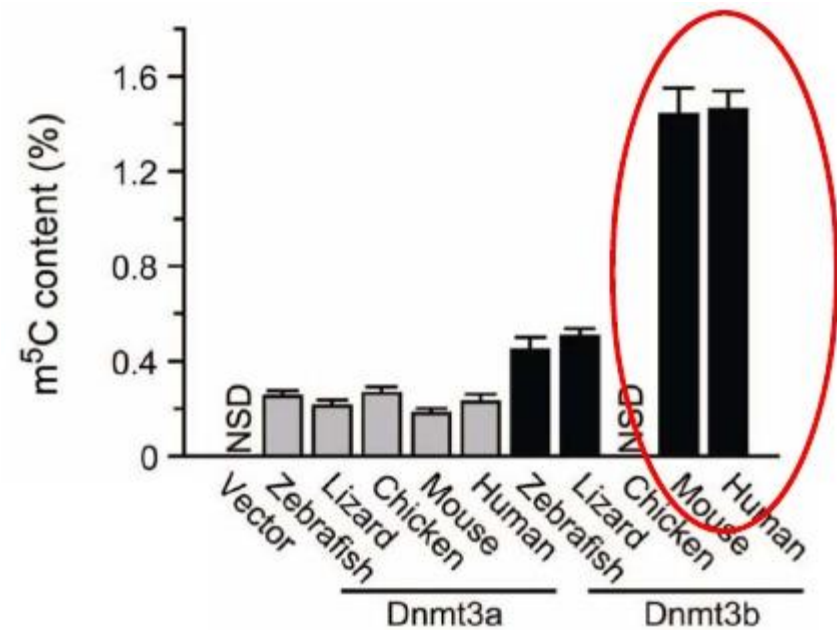
# Using budding yeast as the "*in vivo* test tube"

Epigenetic features	mammals	budding yeast
Chromatin	Yes	Yes
Histone acetylation	Yes	Yes
H3K4	Yes	Yes
H3K36	Yes	Yes
H3K79	Yes	Yes
SWI/SNF complexes	Yes	Yes
CHD1 ATPase	Yes	Yes
SWR1 ATPase	Yes	Yes
ISWI ATPase	Yes	Yes
Endogenous methylation	Yes	No



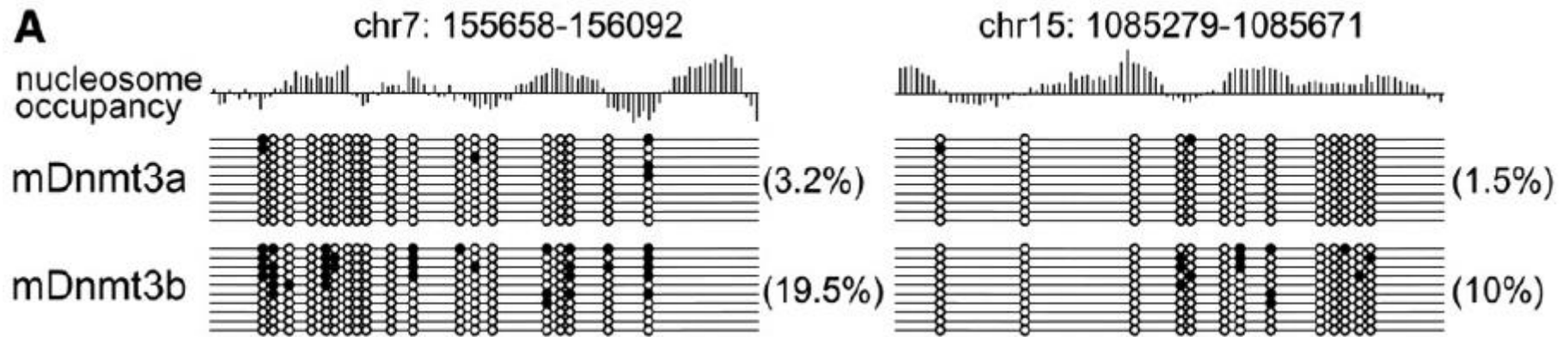


(Shen *et al. Nucle Acids Res.* 2010)



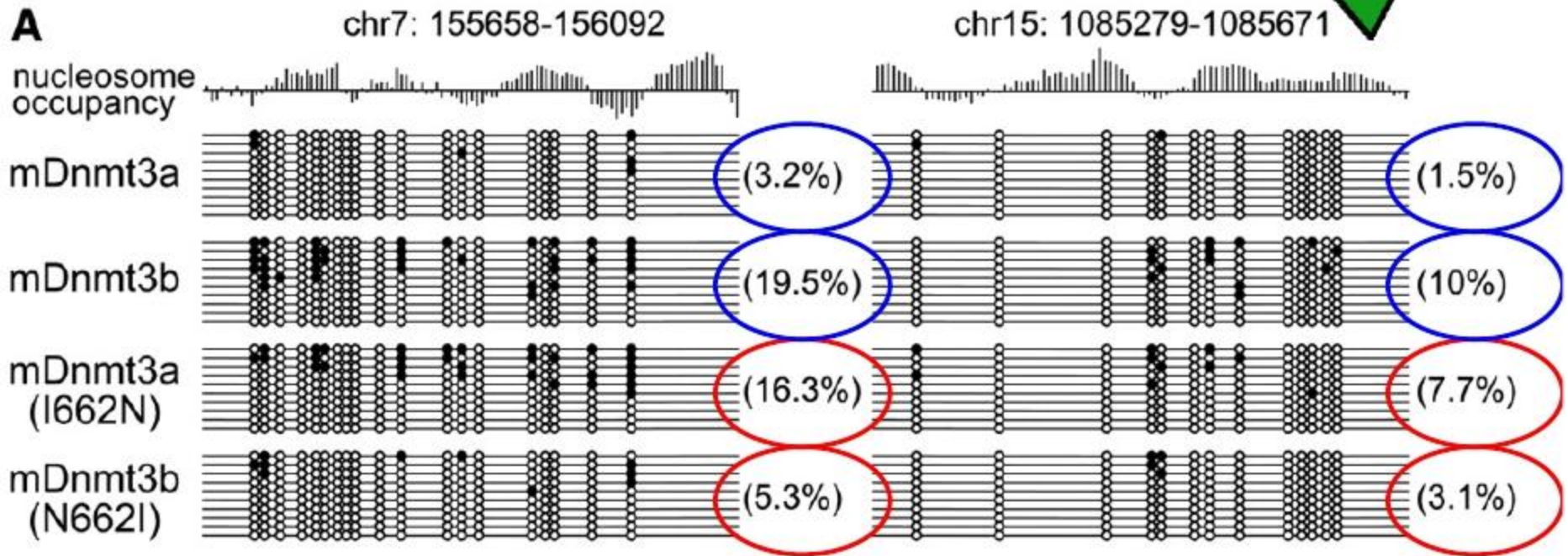
Mammalian Dnmt3b possesses higher chromatin DNA methylation activity than Dnmt3a and non-mammalian Dnmt3b

Would I662N substitution accounts for the increased nucleosome DNA methylation activity in mammalian DNMT3b?

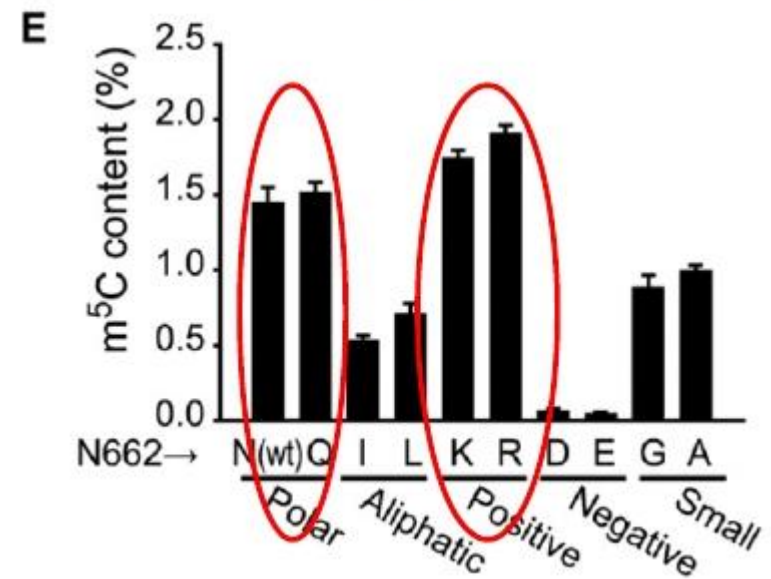
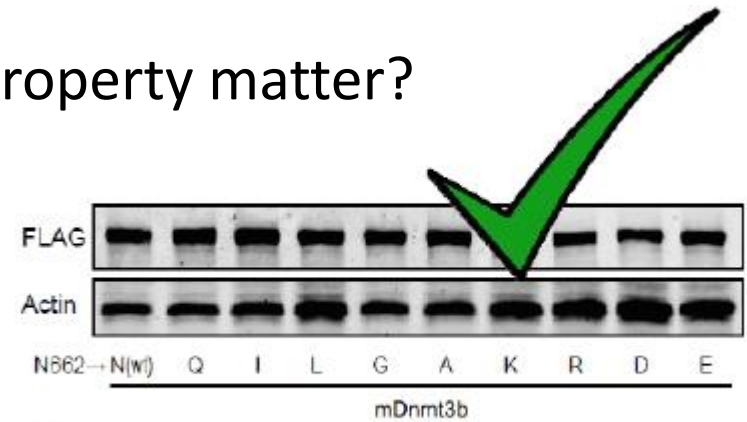
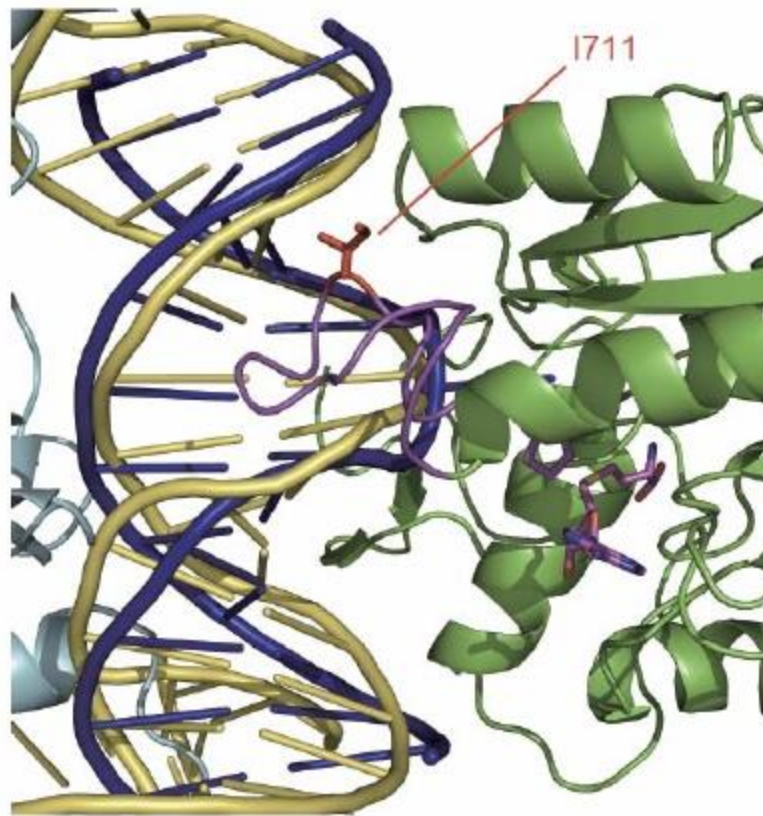




Would I662N substitution accounts for the increased nucleosome DNA methylation activity in mammalian DNMT3b?



Does the changed physicochemical property matter?



*Observation*  
I → N in mammalian Dnmt3b



Tighter interaction with phosphate group  
of DNA backbond



*Hypothesis*

- 1) Higher methylation activity in **mammalian Dnmt3b** than of **Dnmt3a** and **non-mammalian Dnmt3b**
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*Observation*  
I → N in mammalian Dnmt3b



Tighter interaction with phosphate group  
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*Hypothesis*

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**Selective Advantage?**



A (hypothesis) connection of the chromatin DNA methylation activity of Dnmt3b with the density of repetitive sequences in the genome?

Percentage of  
repeats in the genome

Chromatin DNA  
methylation activity of Dnmt3b



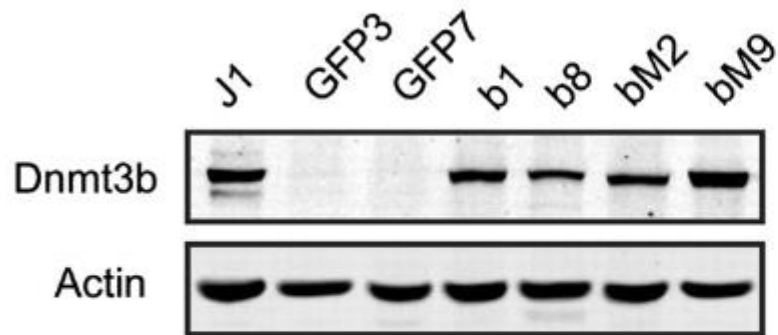
~ 40-50%

highest



~10%

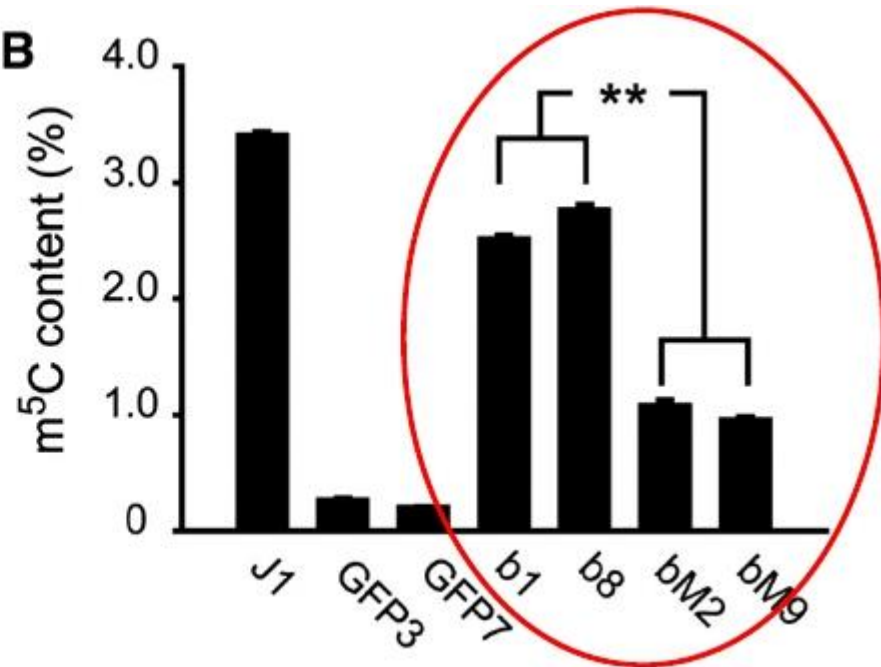
inactive

**A**

GFP: GFP3, GFP7

mDnmt3b: b1, b8

mDnmt3b(N662I): bM2, bM9

**B**

The substitution (I662N) is crucial for mammalian Dnmt3b to efficiently methylate repetitive sequences in mammalian cells

*Observation*  
I → N in mammalian Dnmt3b



Tighter interaction with phosphate group  
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*Hypothesis*

- 1) Higher methylation activity in **mammalian Dnmt3b** than of **Dnmt3a** and **non-mammalian Dnmt3b**
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More  
effectively  
silent  
repetitive  
sequences?

# Summary

- Evolution-guided bioinformatics analysis successfully identified interesting genes involved in early development regulation showed clear functional novelty during evolution, and also provided strong hints for the key substitution, its biochemical effort, and the eventually functional significance.
- Key single substitution could result in significant functional novelty and help novel gene (re-)wired itself into existing circuits.
- An integrated, genome-scale bioinformatic analysis combined with targeted experimental assay is effective in studying complex biological system.



# **Bioinformatics: an interdisciplinary field that develop and apply computer and computational technologies to study biomedical questions**

- As a technology, bioinformatics is a powerful technology to manage, search, and analyze big data in life sciences.
- As a methodology, bioinformatics is a top-down, holistic, data-driven, genome-wide, and systems approach that generates new hypotheses, find new patterns, and discover new functional elements.



# Bioinformatics: Introduction and Methods

Computer Science Department, Southwest University

Thank you

