

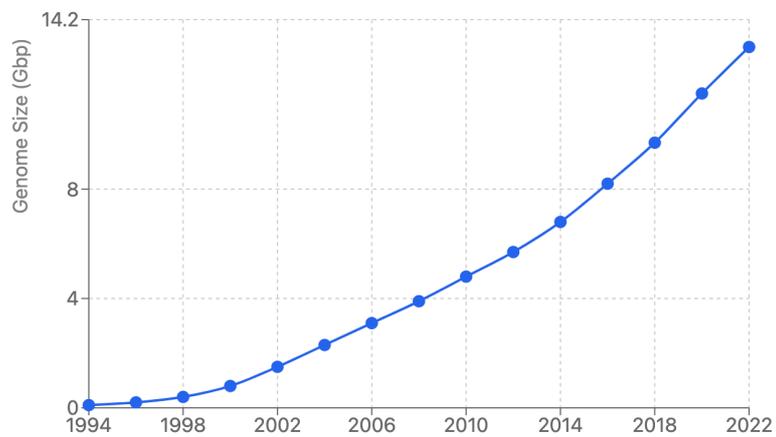
4. BASI DI BIOINFORMATICA PER LO STUDIO DELLA REGOLAZIONE GENICA

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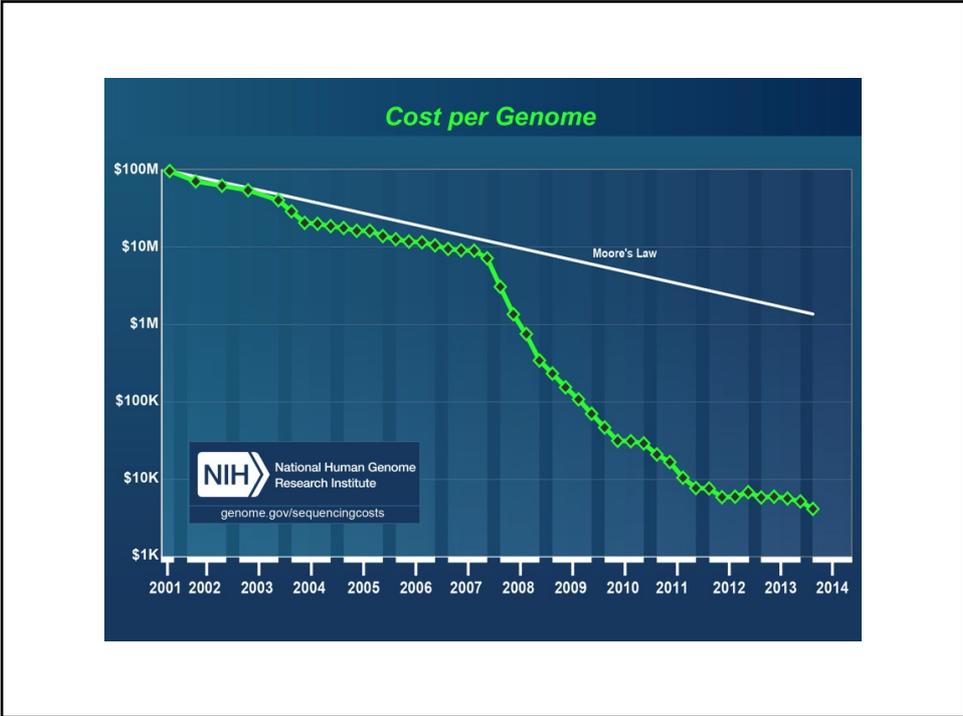
La sfida dei genome browsers

aumentare sempre di più le informazioni disponibili sulle sequenze

Genome Size Evolution (1994-2022)



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Genome Browsers Oggi

- Ensembl Genome browser
<http://www.ensembl.org>
- NCBI Map Viewer
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mapview/>
- UCSC Genome Browser
<http://genome.ucsc.edu>

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Differenze tra Ensembl, UCSC ed NCBI?

	UCSC	Ensembl	NCBI
Presentation	Genome in horizontal orientation Main page contains a single graphic displaying annotation ('tracks') Clicking on annotation element presents web page of detailed information and links to other resources	Genome in horizontal orientation Main ContigView page contains three graphics displaying annotations at different resolutions Clicking on annotation element presents box with links to other resources or Views with more detailed information	Genome in vertical orientation Annotations graphically presented in columns ('maps') Clicking on annotation elements or links in columns provides quick access to other, primarily NCBI, resources
Content	13 vertebrate, 15 invertebrate Many cross-species annotations including conservation across eight species ENCODE Project annotations	13 vertebrate, six invertebrate Heavy focus on gene annotations such as Ensembl genes and VEGA HapMap project-related Views	11 vertebrate, five invertebrate, one protozoan, 12 plant, eight fungi Annotations primarily from NCBI resources
Functionality	Text search, BLAT sequence search, isPCR primer search Advanced annotation extraction using Table Browser Ability to upload and view own	Text search, BLAST and SSAHA sequence search, e-PCR primer search Advanced annotation extraction using BioMart Ability to upload and view own annotations	Text search, BLAST sequence search, e-PCR primer search Basic annotation extraction

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GRC Genome Reference Consortium



Wellcome Sanger Institute



The McDonnell Genome Institute at Washington University



The European Bioinformatics Institute



The National Center for Biotechnology Information



The Zebrafish Model Organism Database



Rat Genome Database

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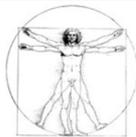
Human genome assemblies

Guard

- GRCh38 (aka hg38)
 - No gaps
 - www.ensembl.org
 - Most up-to-date and supported
- GRCh37 (aka hg19)
 - 250 gaps
 - grch37.ensembl.org
 - Limited data and software updates
- NCBI36 (aka hg18)
 - 150,000 gaps
 - ncbi36.ensembl.org
 - No longer updated



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Human

The human genome assembly was produced as part of the [Human Genome Project \(HGP\)](#). The previous assembly (NCBI36) was the last one produced by the HGP and was described in 2004 (PMID: 15496913); this was the starting point for the GRC. The assembly is based largely on assembling overlapping clone sequences.

Human assembly information

Current major assembly	GRCh38
Regions with alternate loci	178
Assembly N50	67,794,873 bp
Remaining gaps	875
Patch release version	p14
Patches released	FIX: 164 , NOVEL: 90



Mouse

The GRC has produced an updated assembly (GRCm38). This is an update of the last MGSC assembly (MGSCv37) which was described in 2009 (PMID: 19468303). The primary assembly is based on assembling overlapping BAC clones derived from the C57BL/6J strain and several loci have sequence available from other strains.

Mouse assembly information

Current major assembly	GRCm39
Regions with alternate loci	0
Assembly N50	106,145,001 bp
Remaining gaps	347
Patch release version	None



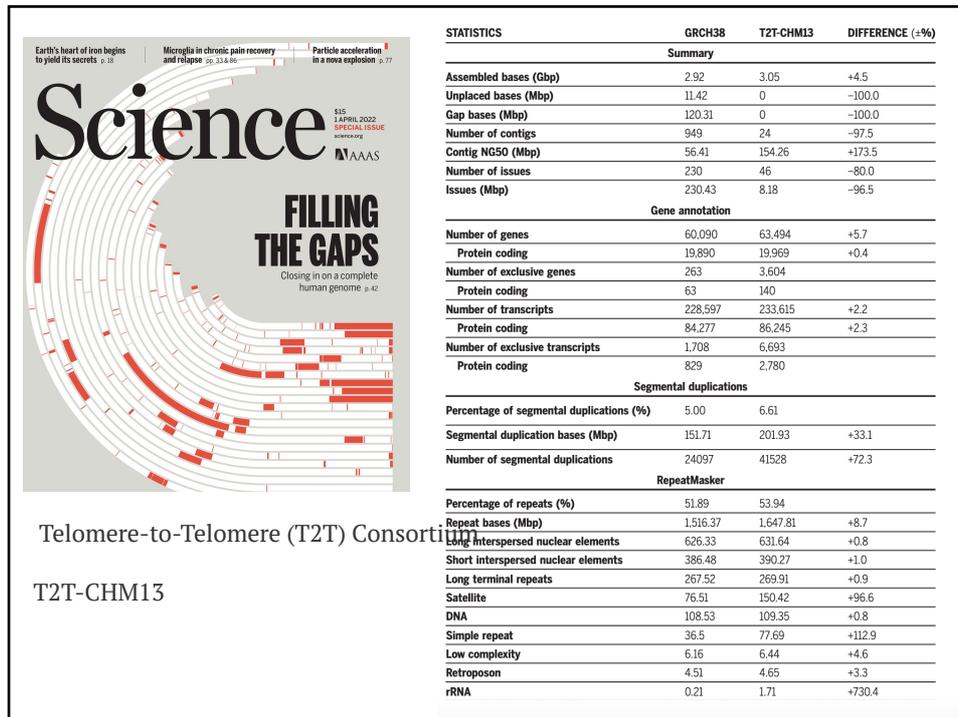
Zebrafish

The zebrafish genome assembly was produced at the [Wellcome Sanger Institute](#). The last assembly produced from the original project was Zv9 and was described in 2013 (PMID: 23594743). This assembly is the starting point for the GRC. The assembly is based on assembling overlapping BAC clones and integrating these sequences with the whole genome shotgun assembly.

Zebrafish assembly information

Current major assembly	GRCz11
Regions with alternate loci	607
Assembly N50	7,379,053 bp
Remaining gaps	18,736

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Cosa impariamo da queste annotazioni?

- **All'interno di un genoma: elementi regolatori, ordine dei geni, struttura della cromatina.....**
- **Facendo studi comparativi: evoluzione, regioni conservate, riarrangiamenti...predizione di geni.**

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Studiare i genomi con **Ensembl**

The screenshot shows the Ensembl website header with navigation links: BLAST/BLAT, BioMart, VEP, Tools, Downloads, Help & Docs, and Blog. Below the header are three main tool categories: Tools (with a link to All tools), BioMart (for exporting custom datasets), and BLAST/BLAT (for searching genomes). The Variant Effect Predictor (VEP) is also highlighted for analyzing variants. A search bar is present with a dropdown for 'All species' and a 'Go' button. Below the search bar, there are sections for 'All genomes' (with a species selector) and 'Favourite genomes' (listing Human, Mouse, and Zebrafish).

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Nomenclatura in Ensembl

- **ENSG###** Ensembl **Gene** ID
- **ENST###** Ensembl **Transcript** ID
- **ENSP###** Ensembl **Peptide** ID
- **ENSE###** Ensembl **Exon** ID

- **Per specie diverse dall'uomo è aggiunto un suffisso**

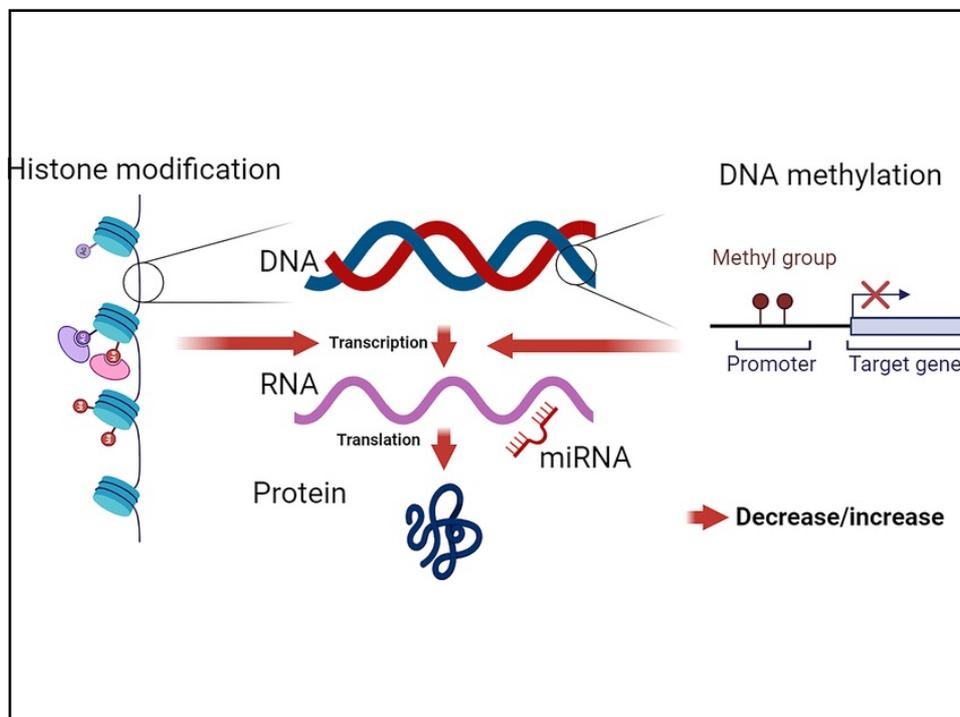
MUS (*Mus musculus*) for mouse: **ENSMUSG###**
DAR (*Danio rerio*) for zebrafish: **ENSDARG###**, etc.

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Quali annotazioni sono disponibili?

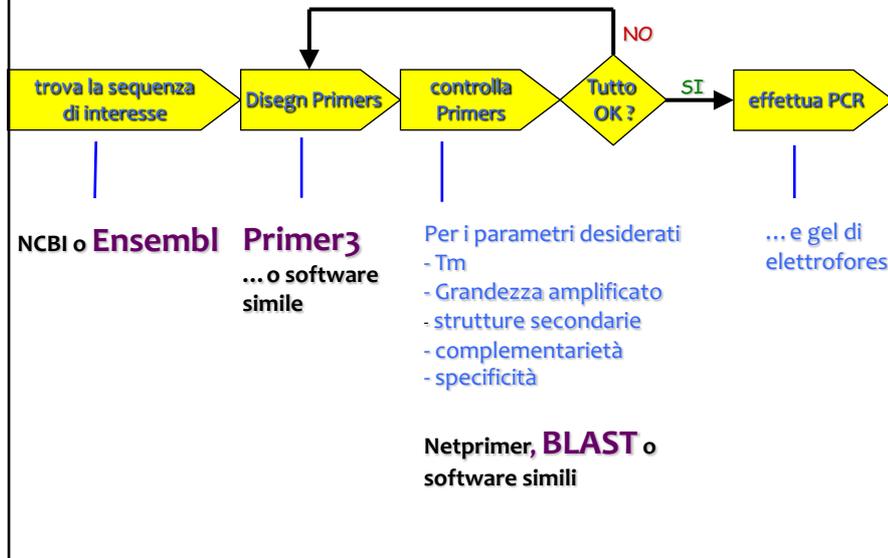
- Gene/transcript/peptide models (coding and noncoding (ncRNAs))
- IDs in other database
- Mapped cDNAs, peptides, micro array probes, BAC clones etc.
- Cytogenetic bands, markers, repeats etc.
- Comparative data:
- orthologues and paralogues, protein families, whole genome alignments, syntenic regions
- Variation data:
- Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs)
- Regulatory data:
- “best guess” set of regulatory elements from ENCODE
- Data from external sources (DAS)

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Primer design-come procedere



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disegno dei primers

Un buon disegno dei primers è la chiave di una PCR di successo !!

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Proprietà importanti di una buona coppia di primers

Ogni primers dovrà avere

- lunghezza basi compresa tra 18-24
- 40-60% G/C
- Distribuzione bilanciata di basi G/C e A/T
- T_m che permette un annealing tra 55-65° C
- NO strutture secondarie interne (hair-pins)

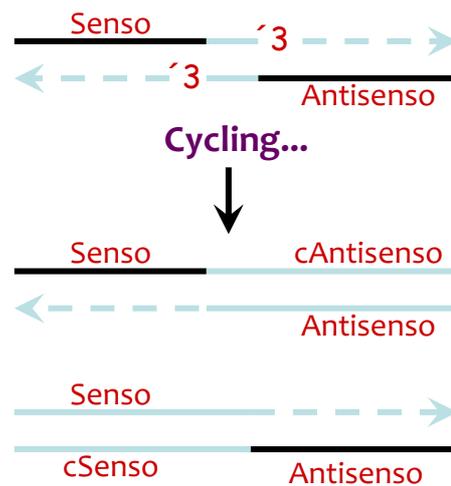
Le coppie di primers inoltre dovrebbero avere:

- T_m simile (max 2-3° C di differenza)
- **NO** complementarità (> 2-3 bp) in particolare al 3'

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Il problema dei dimeri di primers

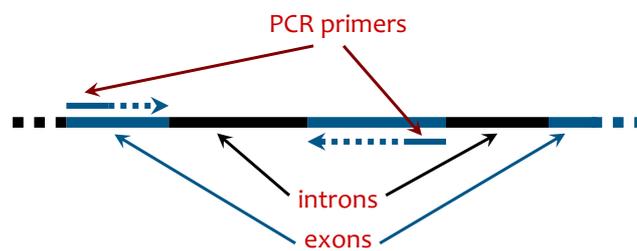
- Primers che interagiscono tra di loro sono **AMPLIFICATI** dalla PCR
- La formazione dei dimeri di primers compete con la PCR e può quindi compromettere l'efficienza della reazione.



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Considerazioni importanti

- Evitare di avere come bersaglio della qPCR delle **strutture secondarie**
- Evitare contaminazione genomica disegnando primers che **includono esoni diversi e tagliano introni**



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Links per disegno primers

- <http://www.tataa.com/>
- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/>
- www.premierbiosoft.com/netprimer/netplaunch/netplaunch.html
- www.ensembl.org
- http://www-genome.wi.mit.edu/cgi-bin/primer/primer3_www.cgi
- <http://www.bioinfo.rpi.edu/applications/mfold/dna/form1.cgi>
- <http://primer3.ut.ee/> **Primer3**

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BLAST

Basic Local Alignment Search Tool

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BLAST Programs

Program	Database (Subject)	Query
BLASTN	Nucleotide	Nucleotide
BLASTP	Protein	Protein
BLASTX	Protein	Nt. → Protein
TBLASTN	Nt. → Protein	Protein
TBLASTX	Nt. → Protein	Nt. → Protein

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BLAST confronta le sequenze

- **usa** una sequenza *“query“*
- **La confronta con** milioni di sequenze nei database *GenBank*® costruendo local alignments
- **elenca** quelle che sembrano simili alla query
- **dice perchè sono eventualmente omologhe**

NB

- *BLAST suggerisce*
- *Il ricercatore trae le sue conclusioni*

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BLAST output

**descrive in che modo le sequenze
allineate sono simili**

- *Quanto sono lunghi i segmenti allineati?*
- *BLAST ha dovuto introdurre degli spazi per allineare i segmenti?*
- *Quanto sono simili i segmenti allineati?*

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NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine
National Center for Biotechnology Information

COVID-19 Information
Public health information (CDC) | Research information (NIH) | SARS-CoV-2 data (NCBI) | Prevention and treatment information (HHS) | Español

BLAST® Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

Basic Local Alignment Search Tool
BLAST finds regions of similarity between biological sequences. The program compares nucleotide or protein sequences to sequence databases and calculates the statistical significance. [Learn more](#)

NEWS
A new feature was added to the NCBI IgBLAST webpage
IgBLAST is now able to determine Ig isotypes
Mon, 01 Nov 2021 12:00:00 EST [More BLAST news...](#)

Web BLAST

Nucleotide BLAST
nucleotide ▶ nucleotide

blastx
translated nucleotide ▶ protein

tblastn
protein ▶ translated nucleotide

Protein BLAST
protein ▶ protein

<https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>

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Graphic Display

- How good is the match?
 - **Red = excellent!**
 - **Pink = pretty good**
 - **Green = OK, but look at other factors**
 - **Blue = bad**
 - **Black = really bad!**
- How long are the matched segments?
Longer = better

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BLAST fa una lista dei migliori accoppiamenti (hits)

Per ogni accoppiamento fornisce:

- **Max Score:** the highest alignment score calculated from the sum of matched nucleotides and penalties for mismatches and gaps.
- **Tot Score:** the sum of alignment scores of all segments
- **Query Cover:** the % of the query length included in the aligned segments.
- **E[xpect] Value:** the number of alignments expected by chance with the calculated score or better. for significant alignments the E value should be very close to zero.
- **Ident[ity]:** the highest % identity for a set of aligned segments to the same subject sequence.

Sequences producing significant alignments:

Select: All None Selected 0

Alignments Download GenBank Graphics Distance tree of results

Description	Max score	Total score	Query cover	E value	Ident	Accession
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X8, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529250.2
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X7, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529249.2
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X6, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_017027879.1
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X4, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529246.2
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X5, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529248.1
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X3, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529247.1
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X2, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529245.1
<input type="checkbox"/> PREDICTED: Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant X1, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	XM_011529244.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Homo sapiens preproenkephalin (enkeB) gene, partial cds	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	AF4002816.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant 1, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	NM_024411.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant 4, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	NM_001190899.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Homo sapiens prodynorphin (PDYN), transcript variant 2, mRNA	1585	1585	100%	0.0	100%	NM_001190898.2

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Che cos'è l'E-value?

- **E-value**

La probabilità che quel determinato accoppiamento non è casuale

+ basso è l'E-value, + significativo è l'accoppiamento

- **E = 10^{-4}** è considerato il **cutoff point**
- **E = 0** significa che le due sequenze sono statisticamente **identiche**

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Software to predict CpG islands?

MethPrimer is an online platform which provides a number of tools and databases to facilitate the study of DNA methylation and epigenetics, including tools for designing prim

<http://www.urogene.org/cgi-bin/methprimer/methprimer.cgi>

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Software to predict miRNA binding ??



<http://mirdb.org/index.html>

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growing evidence suggest the importance of both environmental and genetic factors in the influence of DNA methylation.

DNA methylation can be influenced by cis-acting DNA sequence variation located on the same chromosome.

- Mill et al., *Am J Hum Genet* 2008
- Zhang et al., *Am J Hum Genet* 2010
- Milani et al., *Genome Res* 2009
- Docherty et al., *Behav and Brain Func* 2012
- Ball et al., *Genome Biol.* 2011

new models have to be developed to integrate genetic variants and DNA methylation.

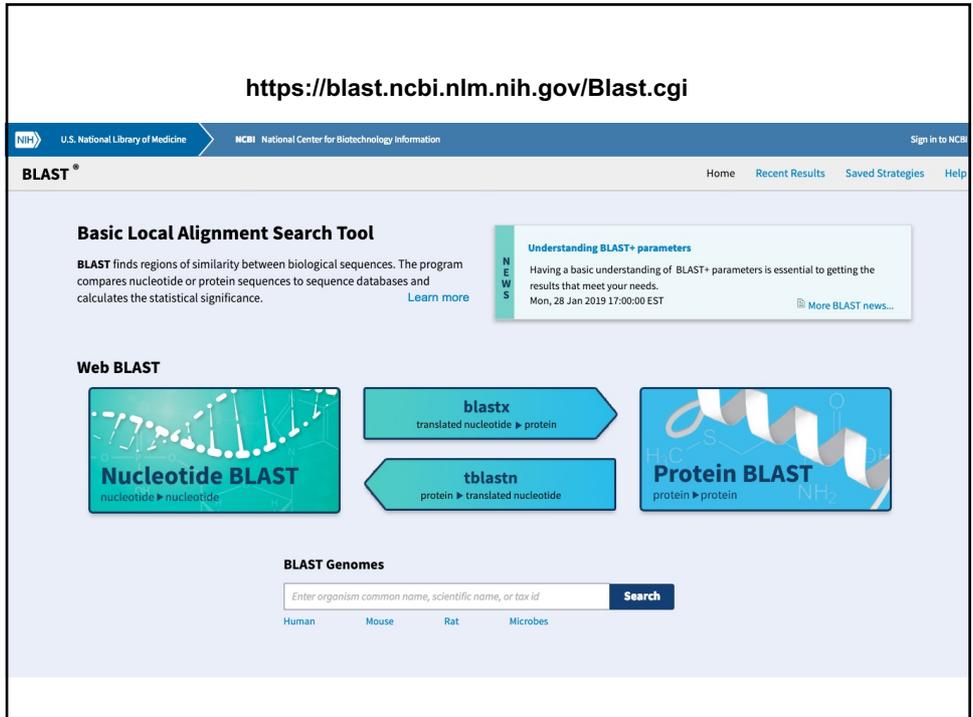
31

miRdSNP

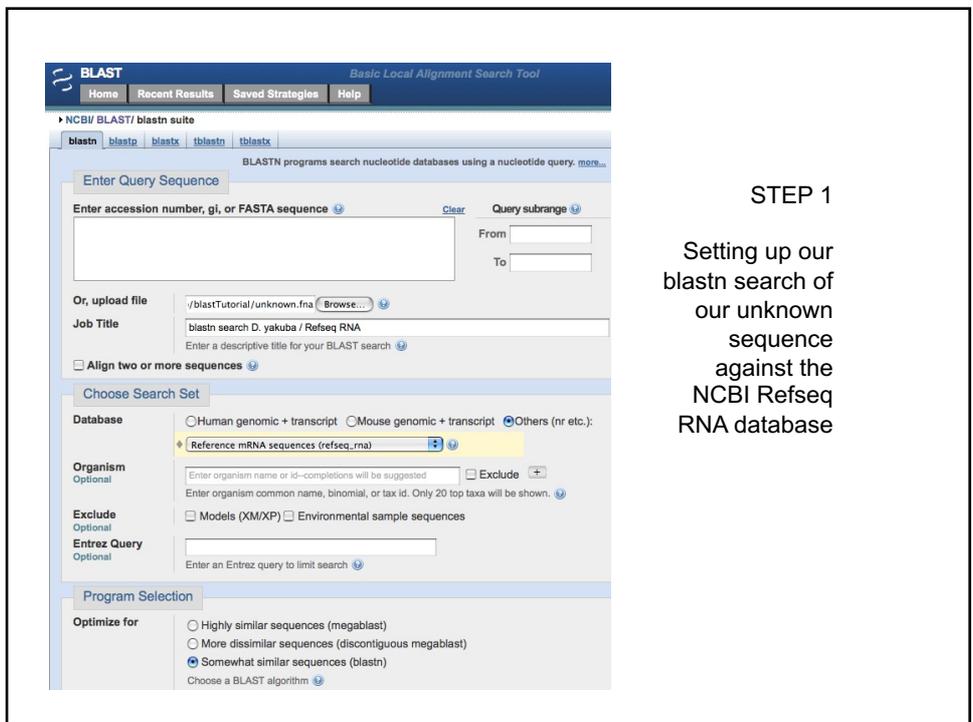
a database of disease-associated SNPs and microRNA target sites on 3'UTRs of human genes

<http://mirdsnp.ccr.buffalo.edu/>

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[NCBI/BLAST/Formatting Results - 56RFPSX1012](#) [\[Formatting options\]](#)

Job Title: blastn search D.yakuba / Refseq RNA search

WAITING

Request ID **56RFPSX1012**
 Status Searching
 Submitted at Tue May 22 17:17:42 2007
 Current time Tue May 22 17:17:45 2007
 Time since submission 00:00:03

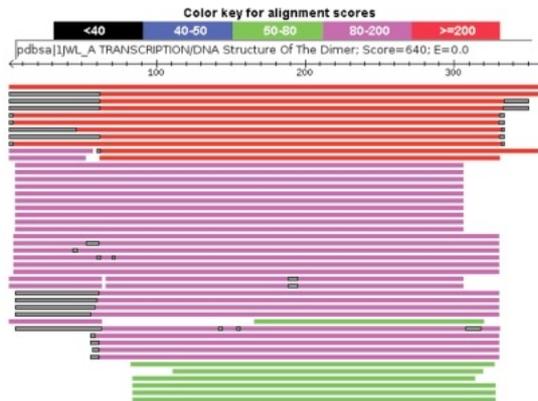
This page will be automatically updated in 13 seconds until search is done

[Copyright](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Contact](#) | [Send feedback on new interface](#)

When the NCBI web server is busy, the search may take 5 minutes or more

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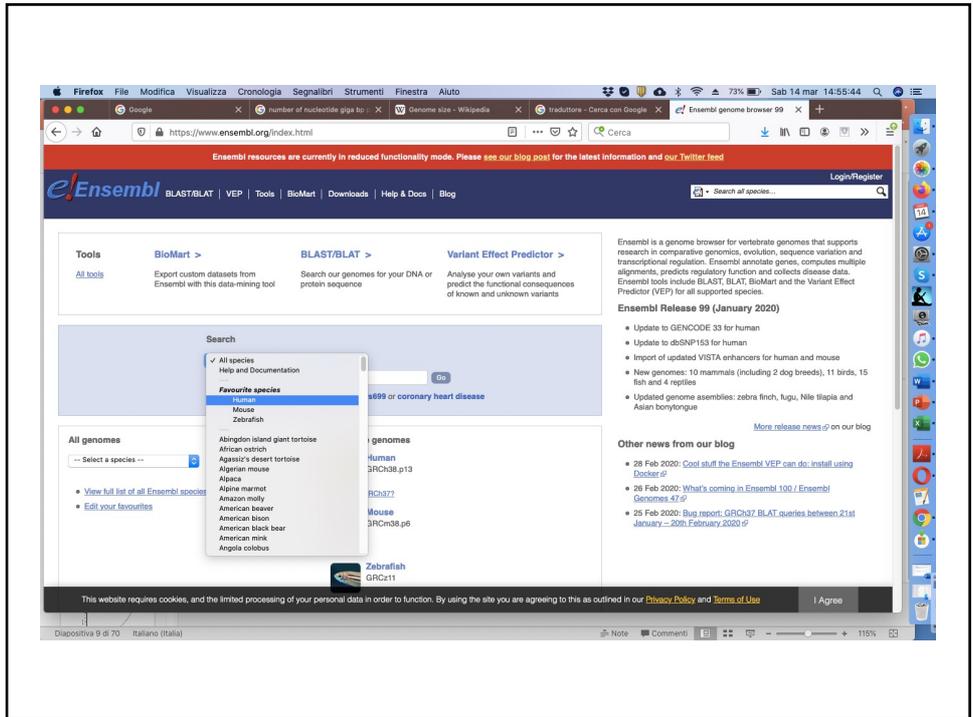
BLAST report



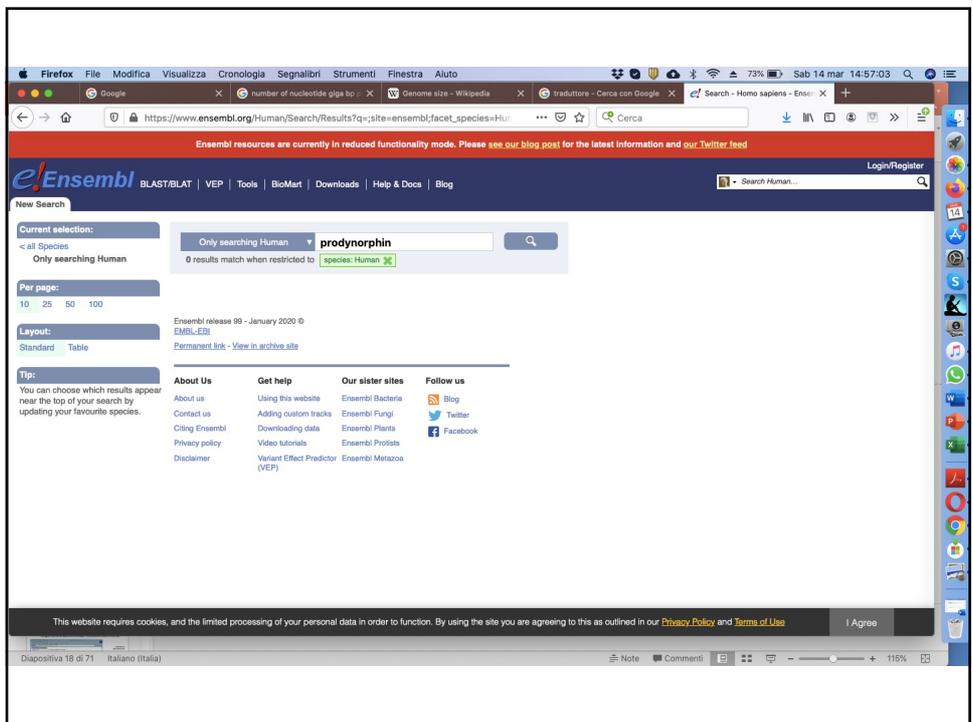
Sequences producing significant alignments:

	Score (bits)	E value	Source DB	NCBI Entrez	Cath Prot/chain
pdbsa 11EG_A	688	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11EH_A	688	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11EF_A	669	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11VE_A	666	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11VL_A	640	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11FA_A	640	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11FA_C	640	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11VL_C	640	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11FA_B	640	0	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot
pdbsa 11LF_A	575	1e-164	SDB	NCBI	CATH Prot

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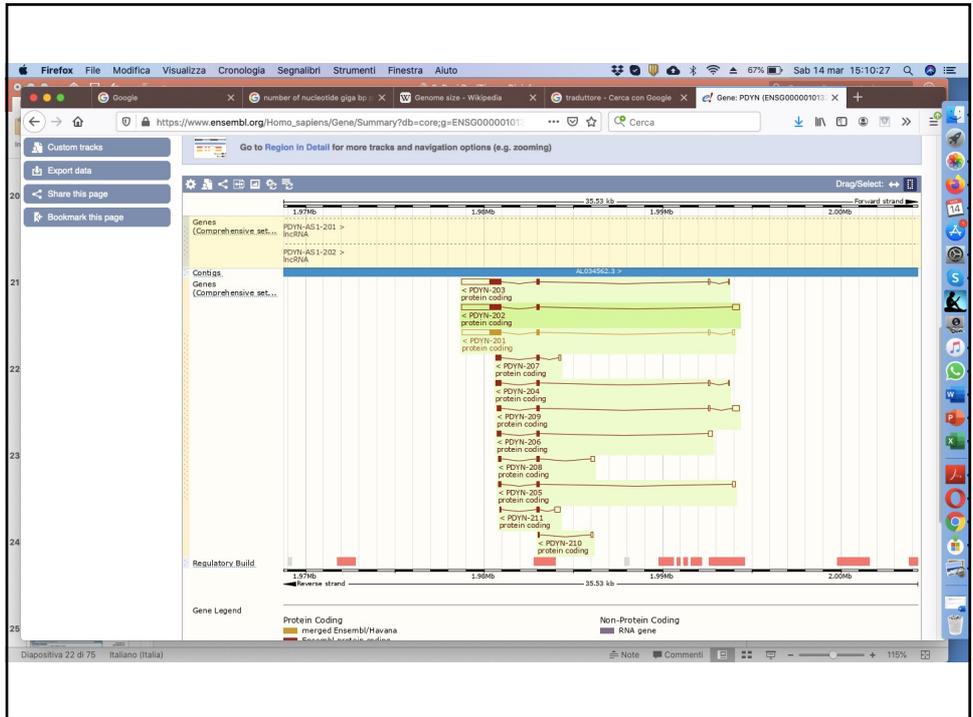
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The screenshot shows the Ensembl search results for 'prodynorphin'. The search bar at the top contains 'prodynorphin' and indicates '545 results match prodynorphin'. On the left, there are filters for 'Restrict category to:' (Gene: 244, Transcript: 301) and 'Restrict species to:' (Human: 12, Mouse: 60, Zebrafish: 3, etc.). The main content area lists several gene records, including 'PDYN (Human Gene)' with its Ensembl ID 'ENSG00000101327' and a description: 'PRODYRNORPHIN, PDYN [131340] (MIM gene record; description: PRODYRNORPHIN, PDYN; ENKEPHALIN B; PREPROENKEPHALIN B) is an external reference matched to Gene ENSG00000101327'. Below this, several transcripts are listed, such as 'PDYN-210 (Human Transcript)' with Ensembl ID 'ENST0000051882' and 'PDYN-209 (Human Transcript)' with Ensembl ID 'ENST0000051882'. A 'Tip' section at the bottom suggests that users can choose which results appear near the top of their search by updating their favourite species.

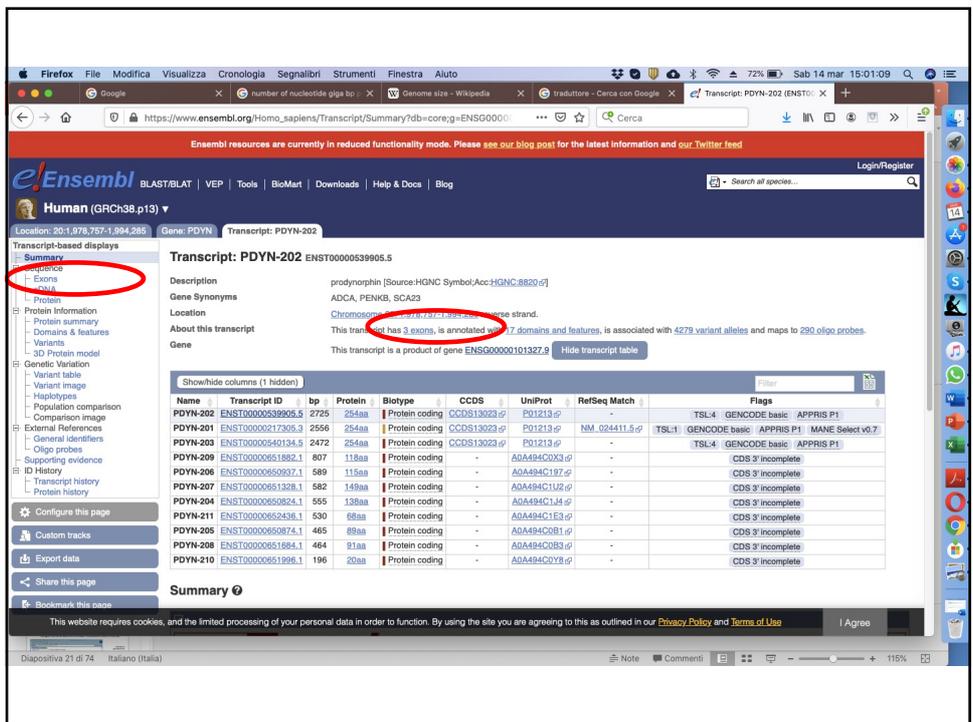
39

The screenshot shows the Ensembl gene summary page for 'PDYN' (ENSG00000101327). The page is titled 'Human (GRCh38.p13) Gene: PDYN'. The 'Description' section states: 'prodynorphin [Source:HGNC Symbol;Acc:HGNC:8820]'. The 'Location' is 'Chromosome 20: 1,878,757-1,994,285 reverse strand'. The 'About this gene' section contains the text: 'This gene has 11 transcripts (splice variants), 22 orthologues, 2 paralogues, is a member of 1 Ensembl protein family and is associated with 2 phenotypes'. The 'Transcripts' section is currently hidden. Below this, a table lists various transcripts with columns for Name, Transcript ID, bp, Protein, Biotype, CCDS, UniProt, RefSeq Match, and Flags. The table includes entries for PDYN-202, PDYN-201, PDYN-203, PDYN-209, PDYN-206, PDYN-207, PDYN-204, PDYN-211, PDYN-205, PDYN-208, and PDYN-210. The 'Flags' column indicates various annotations such as 'TSL4', 'GENCODE basic', 'APPRIS P1', and 'CD5 3' incomplete'. A 'Summary' section is partially visible at the bottom.

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