



Summer Institute  
in Statistical Genetics

2016

# Introduction to *Genetics* and *Genomics*

## 3. Association Studies



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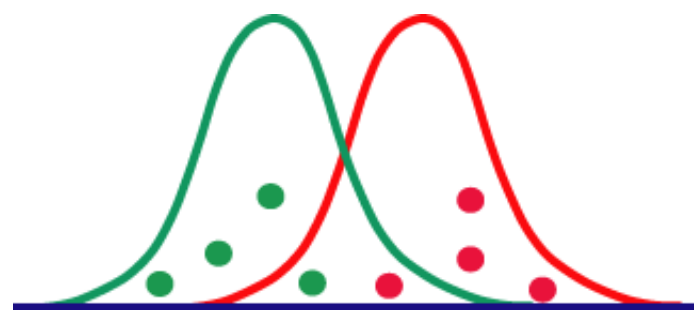
<http://www.cig.gatech.edu>

# Outline

- General overview of association studies
- Sample results
- Three steps to GWAS:  
primary scan, replication, fine mapping

# Principle of Association Studies

Individual	Site	Score
1	A T C C G A	9
2	A C T C G A	8
3	A C C A - G	3
4	T T C A G A	5
5	A T C A G A	2
6	A C C C - G	7
7	T C T A - G	4
8	A T C C G A	8



Are the phenotype scores associated with each class of SNP drawn from the same or different distributions ?

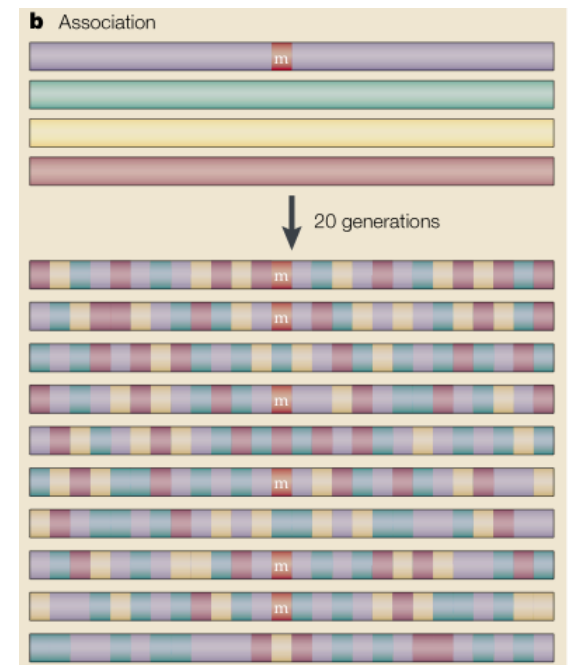
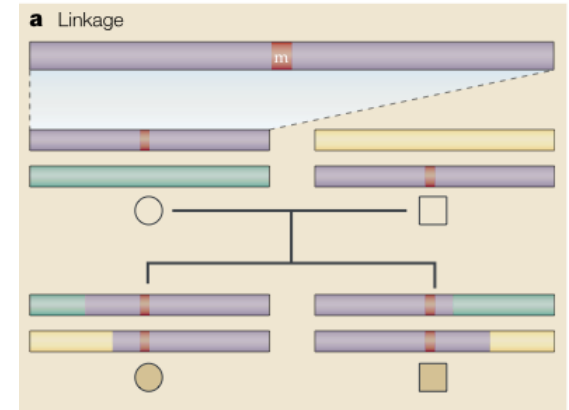
# Linkage versus Association

**Linkage examines recent recombination events in a pedigree:**

- over just several generations
- large chromosomal regions detected
- no information on allele frequency

**Association examines historical recombination events in a population:**

- basically a 10,000 generation pedigree
- resolution to single genes
- estimates effect size and frequency



# Why LD happens



When a mutation occurs, by definition it is only on one chromosome and hence “associated” with the genotypes elsewhere on that chromosome.

Over time, the mutation increases in frequency and becomes a polymorphism. It remains in LD with the genotypes on the chromosome it appeared on.

Eventually recombination breaks up the LD, in proportion to genetic distance.

## Measurement of LD

LD is the non-random association of genotypes.

		Expected					Observed		
		AA	AG	GG			AA	AG	GG
		24	48	24			24	48	24
TT	24	6	12	6	TT	24	24	0	0
TC	48	12	24	12	TC	48	0	48	0
CC	24	6	12	6	CC	24	0	0	24

# Haplotypes and Tagging SNPs

## Sequences

```

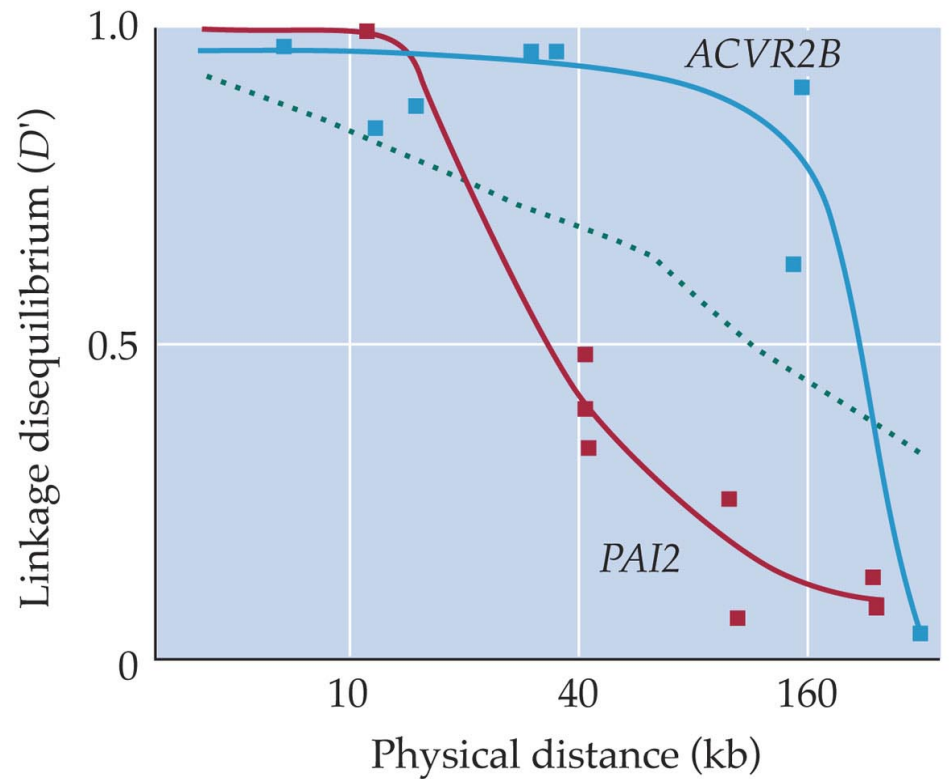
. . . T C A A G T C A A G C G A T C A T G . . .
. . . T C A A G T C A A G C G A T C A G G . . .
. . . T C A G G T C A A G T G A T C A T G . . .
. . . T C A G G T C A A G T G A T C A T G . . .
. . . T C A A G T C A A G C G A T C A G G . . .
. . . T C A A G T C A A G C G A A C A G G . . .
    
```

## Haplotypes

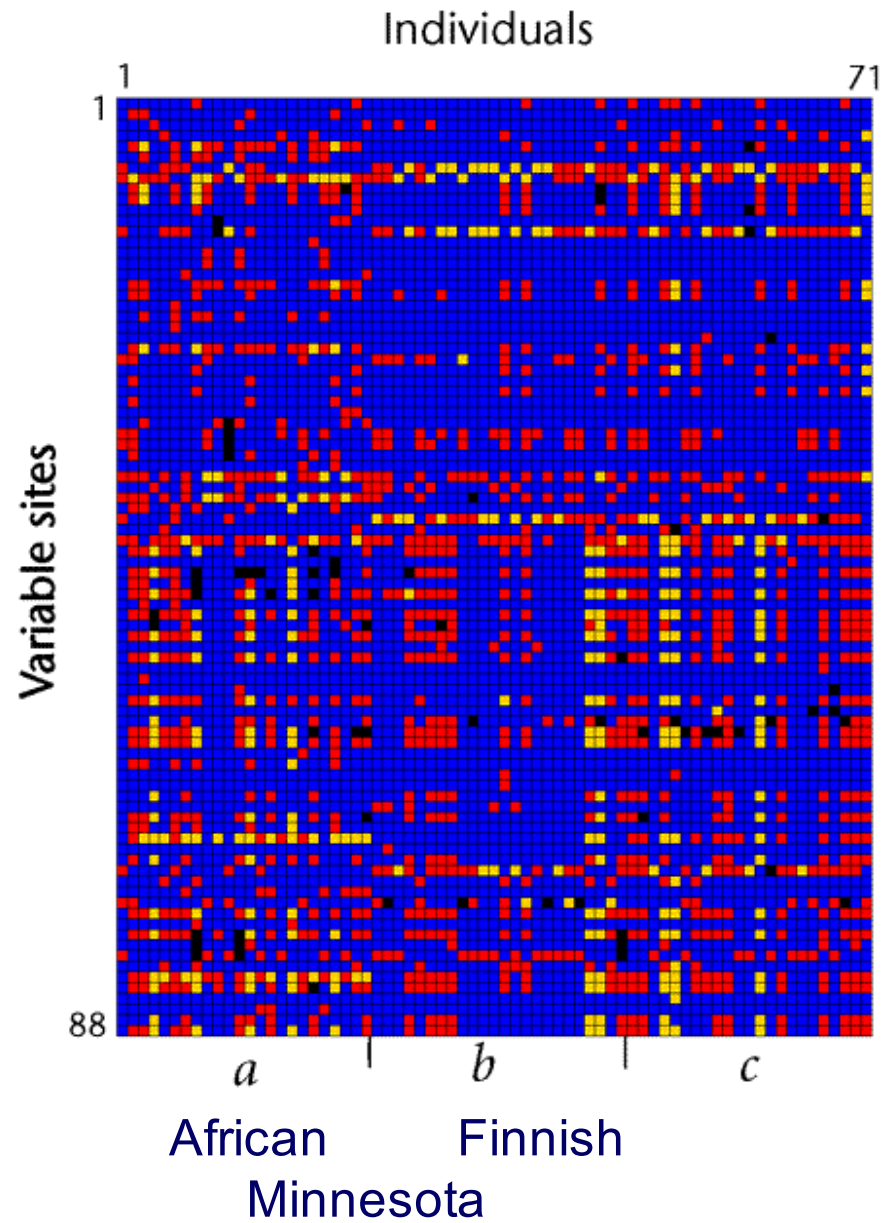
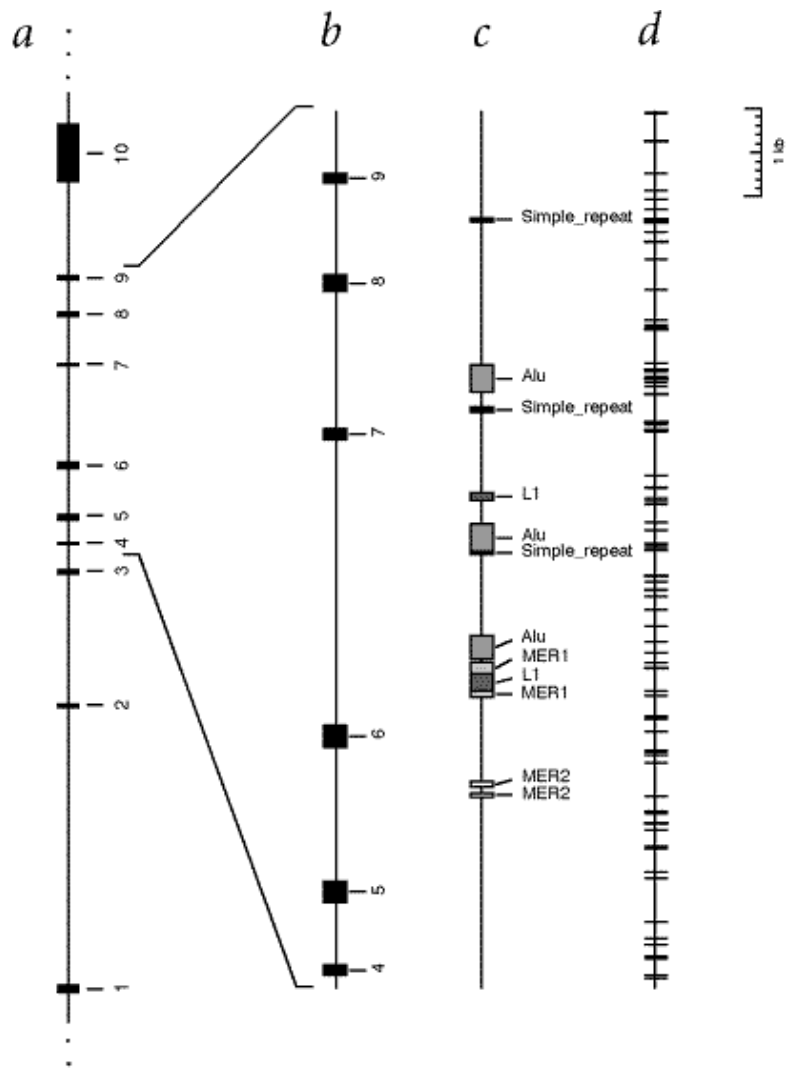
Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
A G G	T C A C T	T A G
C A T	A C A C T	G C C
A G G	A C G T T	T A G
A G G	A C G T T	T A G
A G G	T C A C T	G A G
A G G	T T A C A	G C C

## Tagging SNPs

↓ G/A      ↓ C/T      ↓ C/T      ↓ A/C

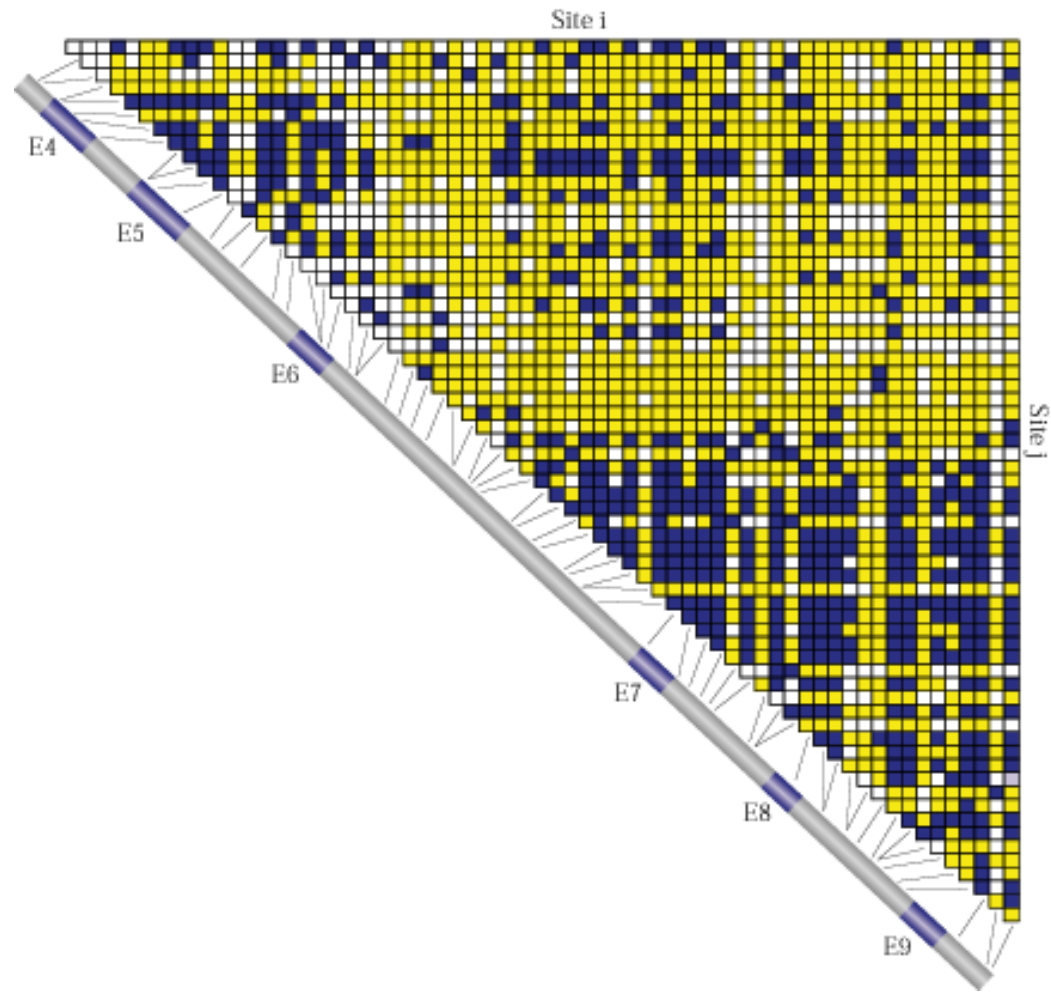


# LPL example





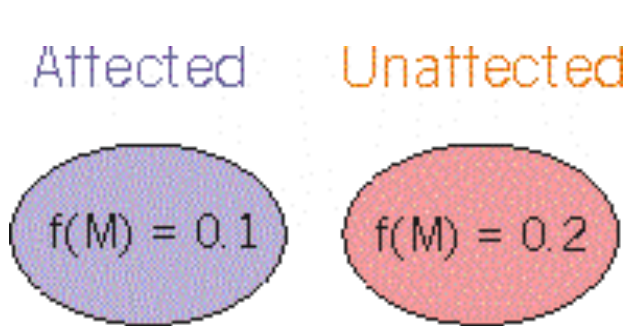
# LD plots



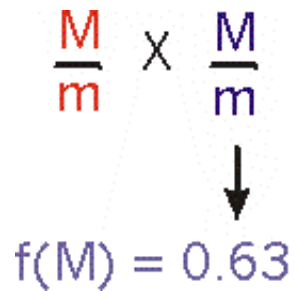
# Key Parameters for LD Mapping

- Polymorphism: Flies 1/30 bp, 10 × > Human 1/kb
- Haplotype structure/LD:  
Fly LD decays over 200 bp, Human LD decays over 100 kb
- Population structure:  
Panmixia and clinality v. Structure and admixture
- Allele frequencies:  
Much more power for common alleles (infinitesimal model)

# Case-Control and TDT designs

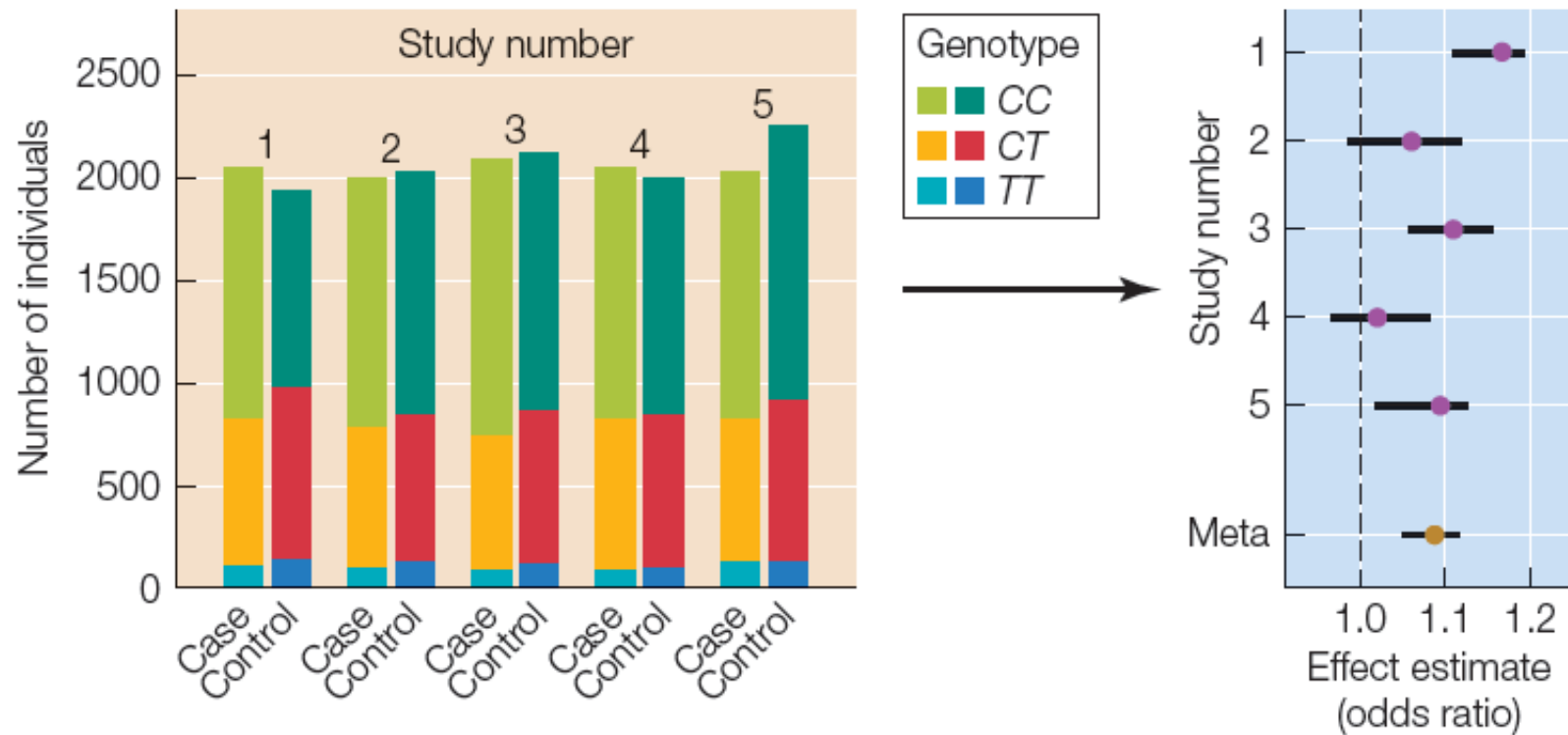


	Observed		Expected	
	Allele M	Allele m	Allele M	Allele m
Affected	34	278	61	265
Unaffected	69	256	62	269
	$\chi^2 = 14.0$		P < 0.001	



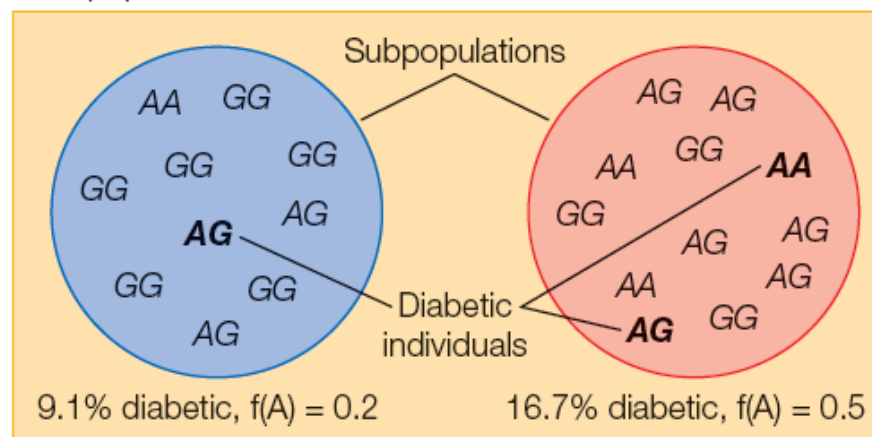
	Transmitted Allele	
	M	m
Observed	78	46
Expected	62	62
	$\chi^2 = 8.2$ P < 0.001	

# Repeatability and Forest Plots



# Population Structure

Total population



## Blue subpopulation

	AA	AG	GG
Case	80	640	1280
Control	800	6400	12,800
Case/control	0.1	0.1	0.1

## Red subpopulation

	AA	AG	GG
Case	200	400	200
Control	1000	2000	1000
Case/control	0.2	0.2	0.2

## Total population

	AA	AG	GG
Case	280	1040	1480
Control	1800	8400	13,800
Case/control	0.155	0.124	0.107

Odds ratio (A:G) = 1.2

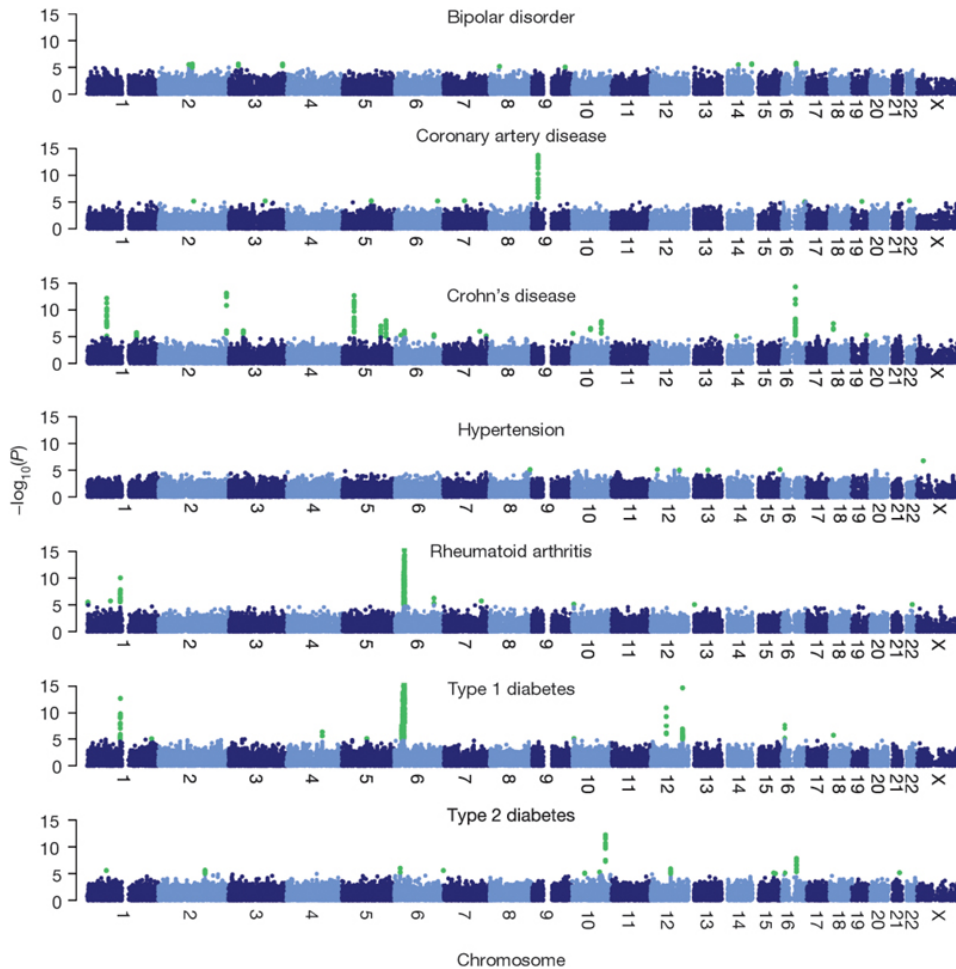
$p = 10^{-8}$

# The Genetics of 7 Diseases

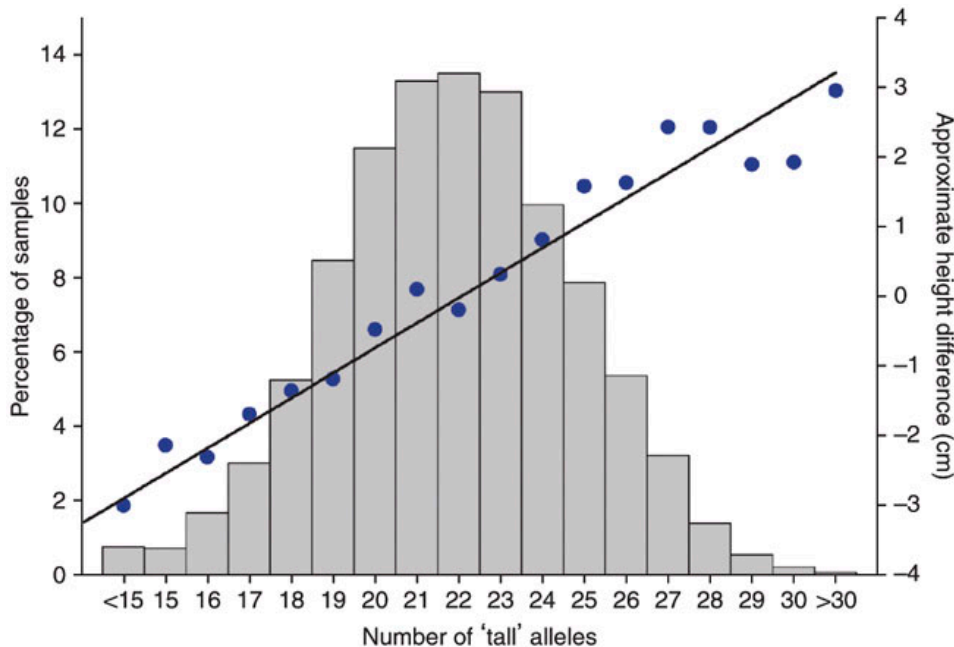
GWAS first appeared 24 months ago, now several new diseases each month

Inflammatory diseases show multiple associations, with some common variants (notably the MHC)

Depression and Hypertension show nothing: likely no variants with a relative risk greater than 1.5



# The Genetics of Height



But ... they only explain 15% of the variation for height (one fifth of the heritability)

700 loci clearly influence height in combined analysis of 250,000 people

Diverse roles:

Hedgehog signalling

Chromatin structure

Cell cycle regulation

Extracellular matrix deposition

Possible contribution of some of these loci to osteoarthritis, cancer, athleticism

Half the genes have at least two independent associations

# The Genetics of Obesity

Heritability of obesity ~ 60%

2/3 Americans BMI > 25

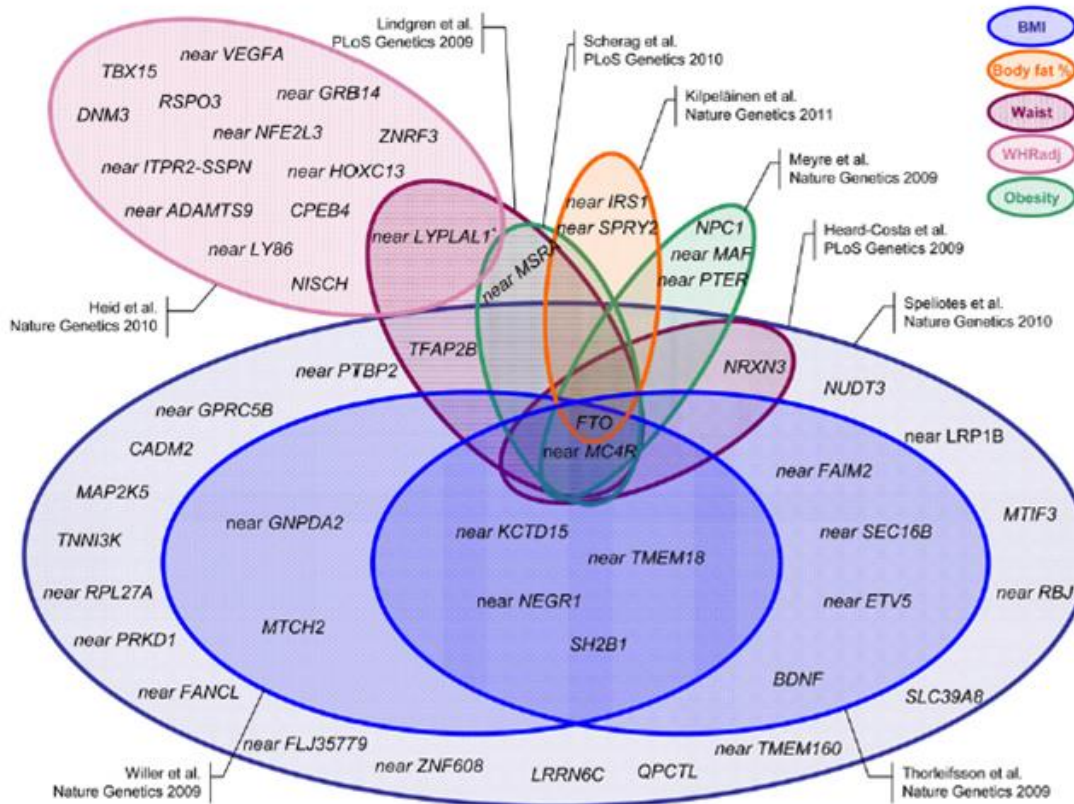
One gene, *FTO*, is repeatedly associated with BMI, hip circumference and weight, in most human populations

Homozygote classes differ in weight by up to 2 kg

Study of 230,000 people →  
49 loci for WHR, many linked to adipose, insulin biology  
20 loci only in women

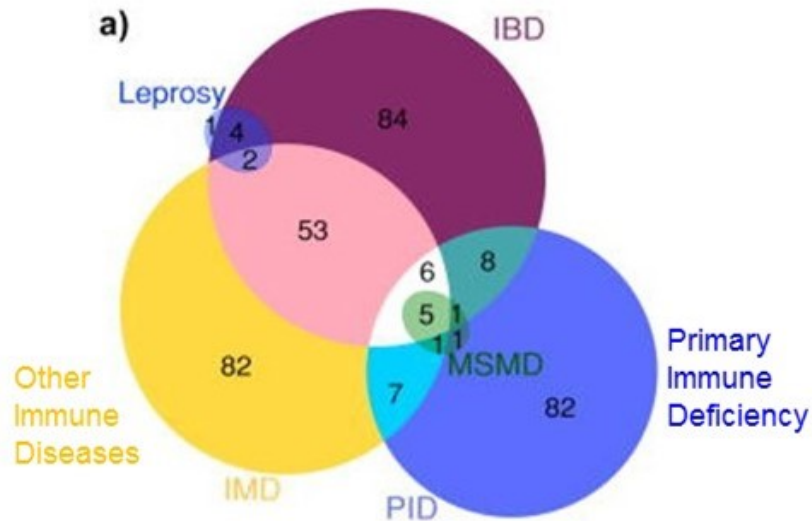
Study of 340,000 people →  
97 loci for BMI, many linked to neuronal function  
Little overlap with WHR

R.J.F. Loos / Best Practice & Research Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism 26 (2012) 211–226





# The Genetics of IBD



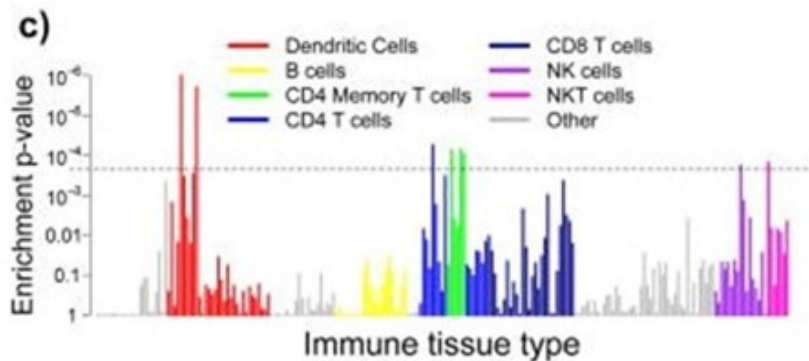
Inflammatory Bowel Disease affects ~1% of adults either as Crohn's or Ulcerative Colitis

Two genes, IL23R and NOD2, each explain 1% of the variance

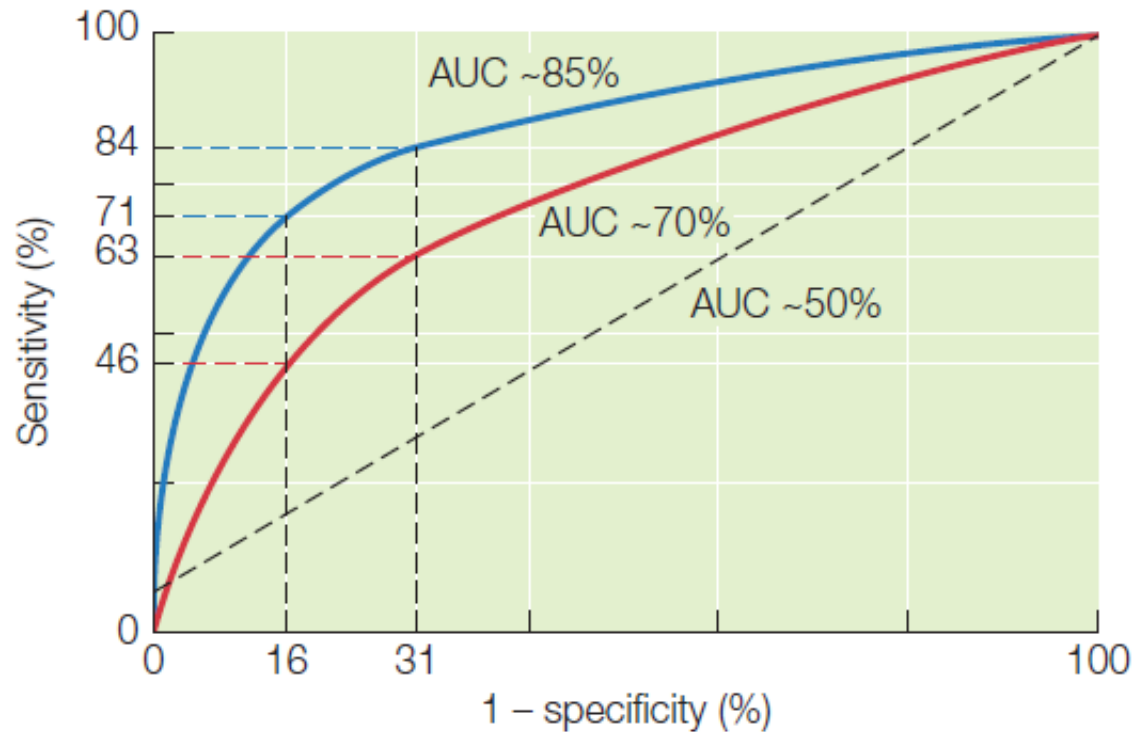
Another 160 genes each explain less than 0.25% of it

Strongly overlap with PID and other autoimmune diseases

Vast majority are in immune function genes, and ongoing efforts suggest activity in specific immune cell types

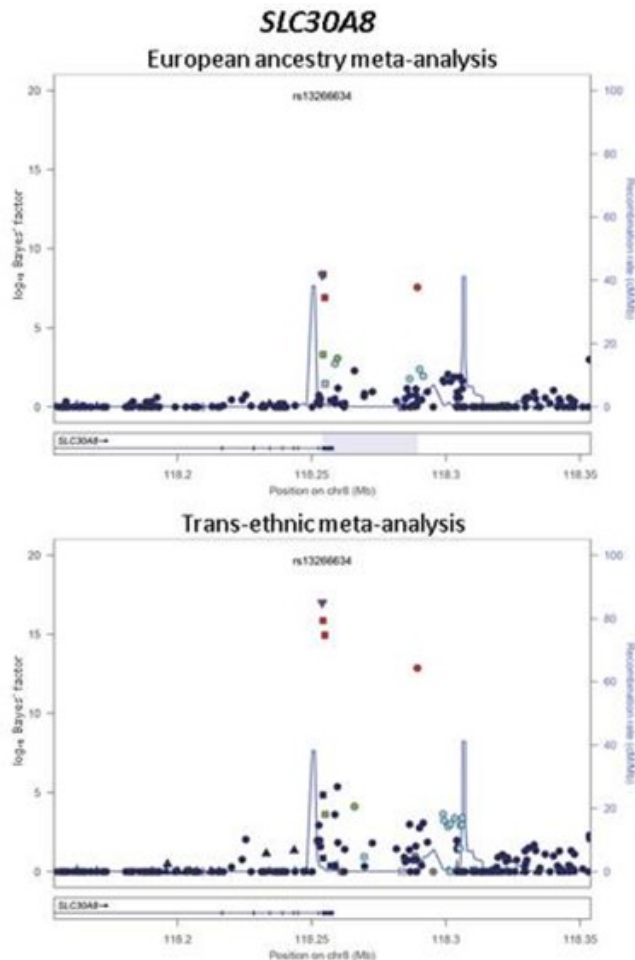


# Prediction, Specificity, and Sensitivity



	Cases	Controls	
Called positive	True positive (TP), 25	False positive (FP), 215	PPV, $(TP/[TP + FP]) = 10.4\%$
Called negative	False negative (FN), 10	True negative (TN), 1150	NPV, $(TN/[FN + TN]) = 99.1\%$
	Sensitivity, $(TP/[TP + FN]) = 71\%$	Specificity, $(TN/[FP + TN]) = 84\%$	

# The Genetics of Type 2 Diabetes



54 established Fasting Glucose or Fasting Insulin loci tend to have pancreatic islet cell functions

23 replicate in African Americans in Trans-ethnic analyses

*TCF7L2* is the strongest risk locus for T2D in Caucasians. The ancestral allele is the risk allele: it is found in 90% of Africans, 40% of Europeans, and just 5% of Asians

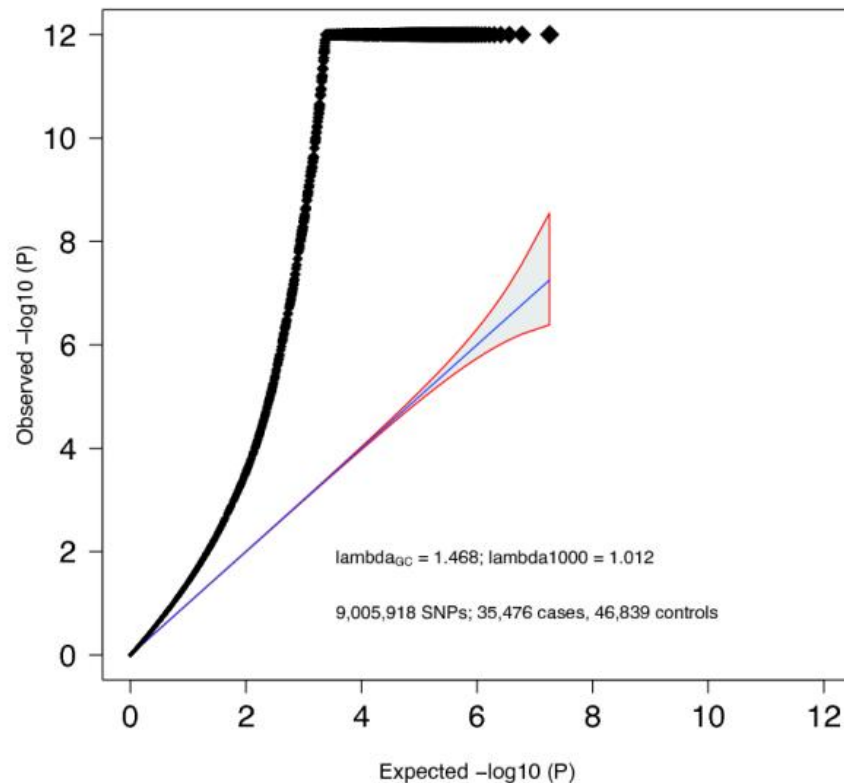
Considering the top 18 loci:

1% of CAU have >24 alleles

2% of CAU have <12 alleles

They differ 4-fold in odds of T2D

# The Genetics of Schizophrenia



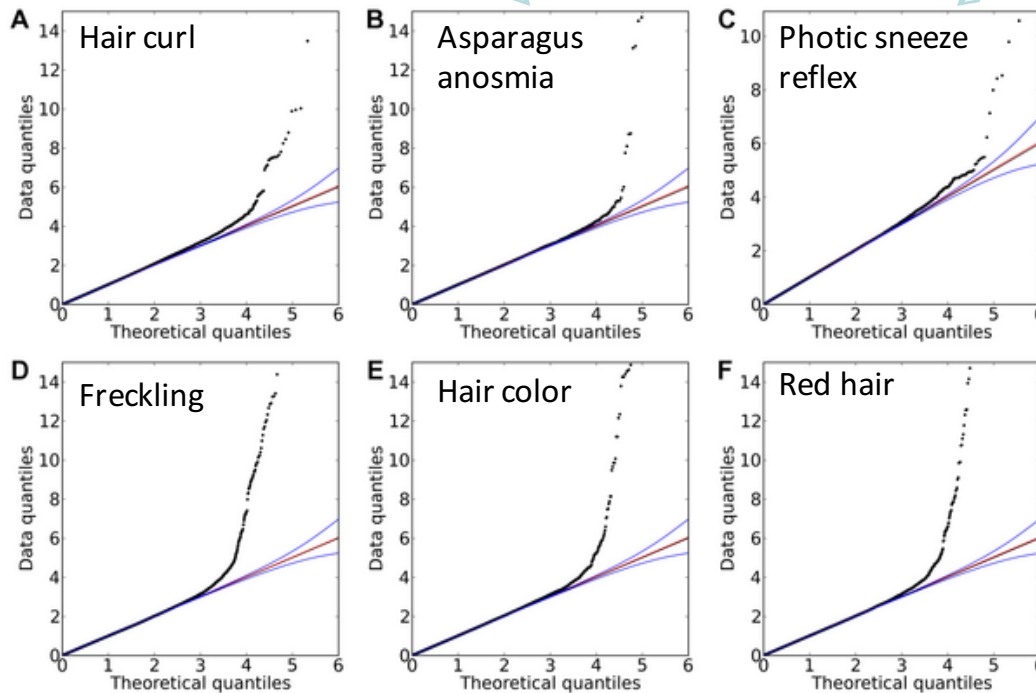
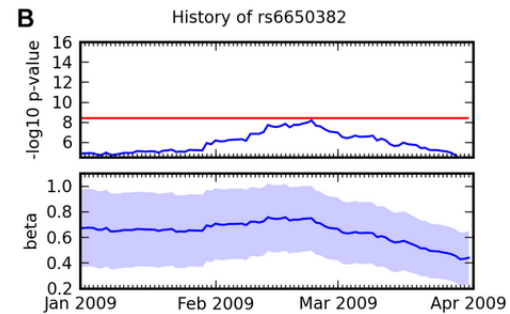
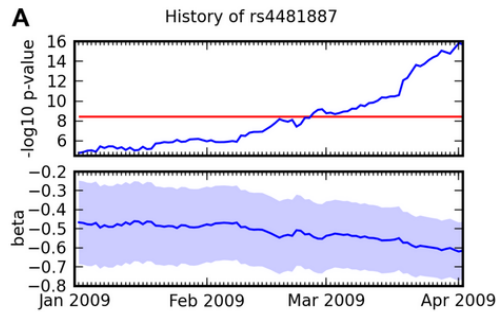
128 independent SNP associations  
from GWAS of 37,000 cases

Strong enrichment in genes expressed  
in certain neuronal cell types or  
implicated in synaptic transmission

But at least 5% of cases attributable  
to CNV: copy number variation

3 major chromosomal deletions of  
>100kb at frequency <1% are almost  
exclusively found in schizophrenics

# 23andme studies



## Other interesting traits:

Endurance Runner vs Sprinter  
(30% of people change their answer if they know their ACTN3)

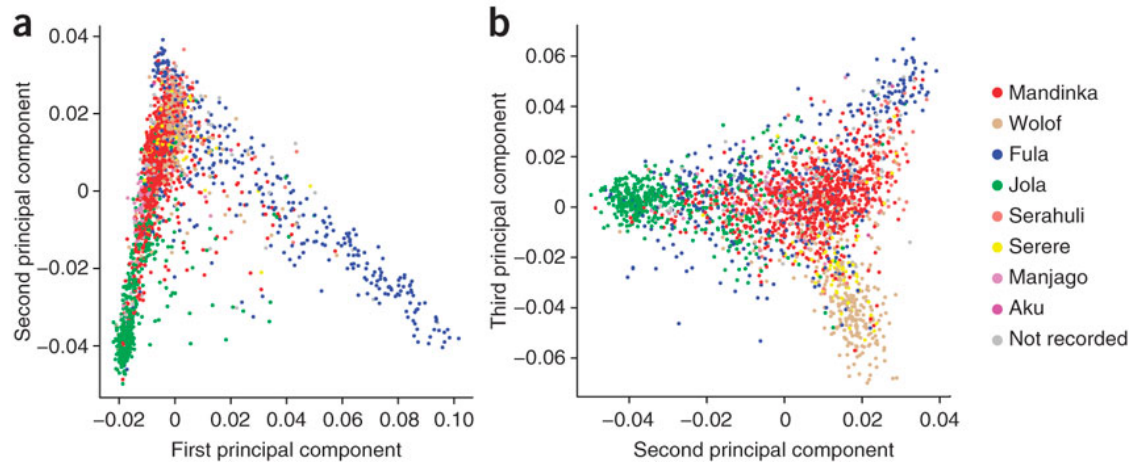
Left vs Right Handedness  
(nothing striking)

Have you ever needed braces or wisdom teeth surgery?

Breast size (finds breast cancer risk loci)

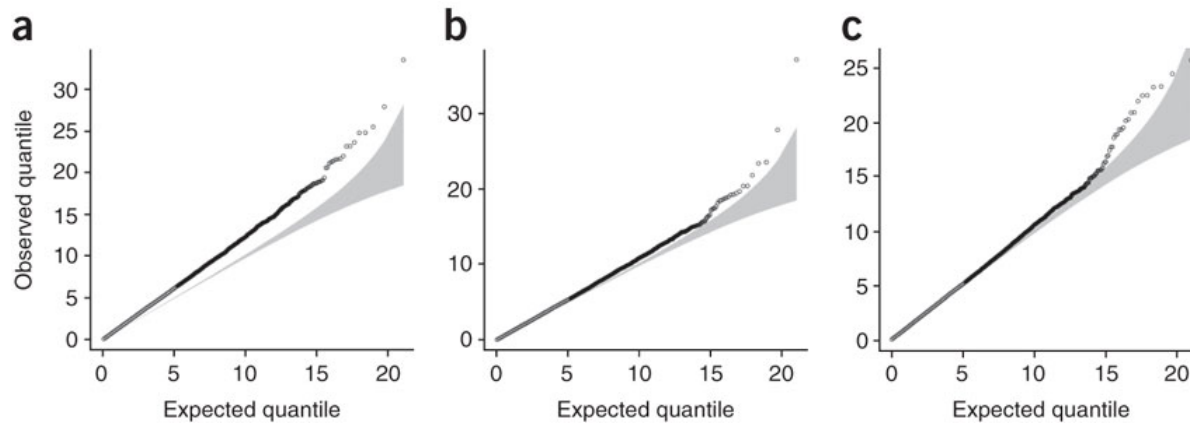
Hand-clasp dominance ...

# Genetics of malaria susceptibility



*The Gambia*

## Population structure



Raw

Self-report

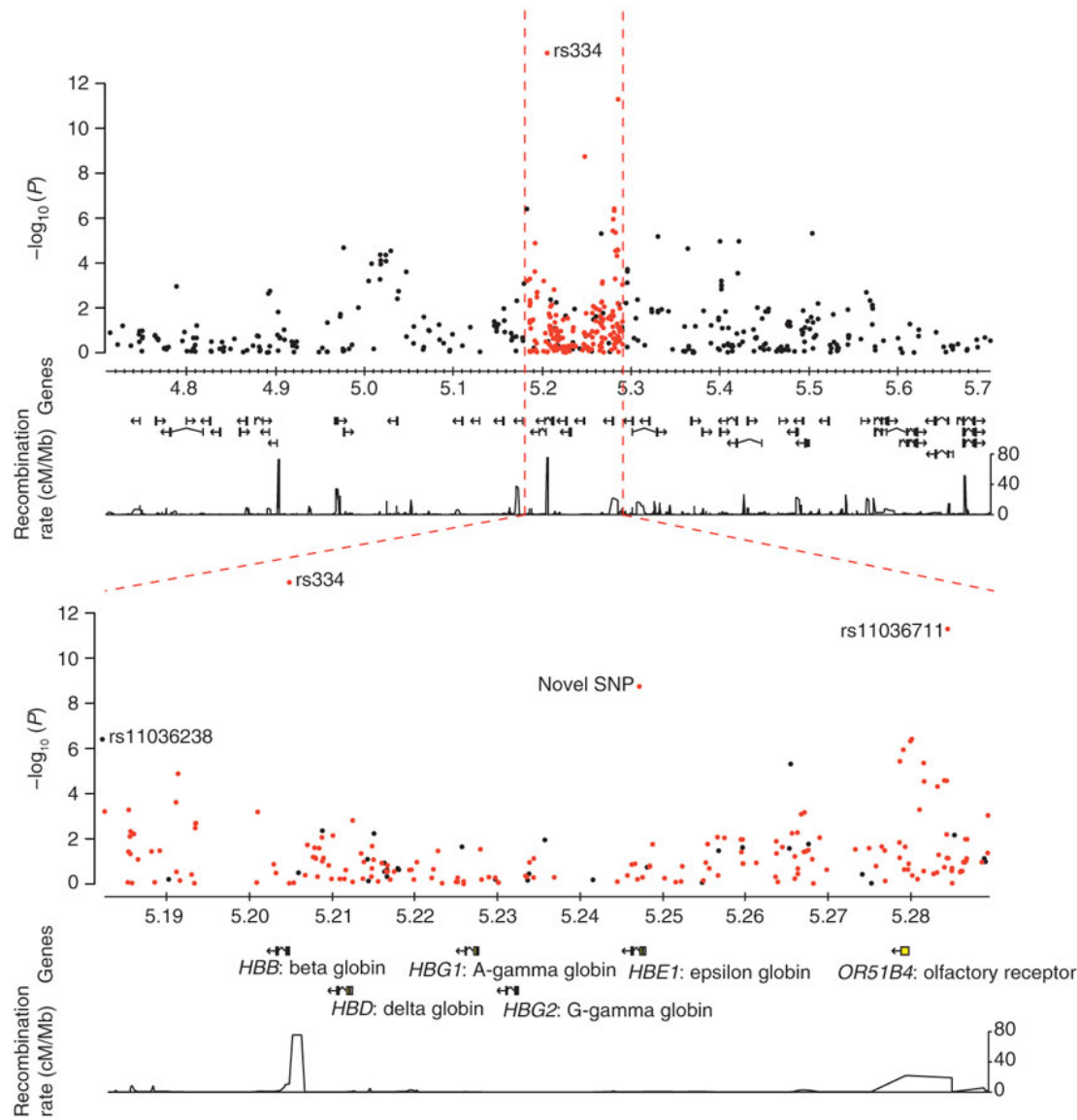
PC adjusted

# Imputation and resequencing

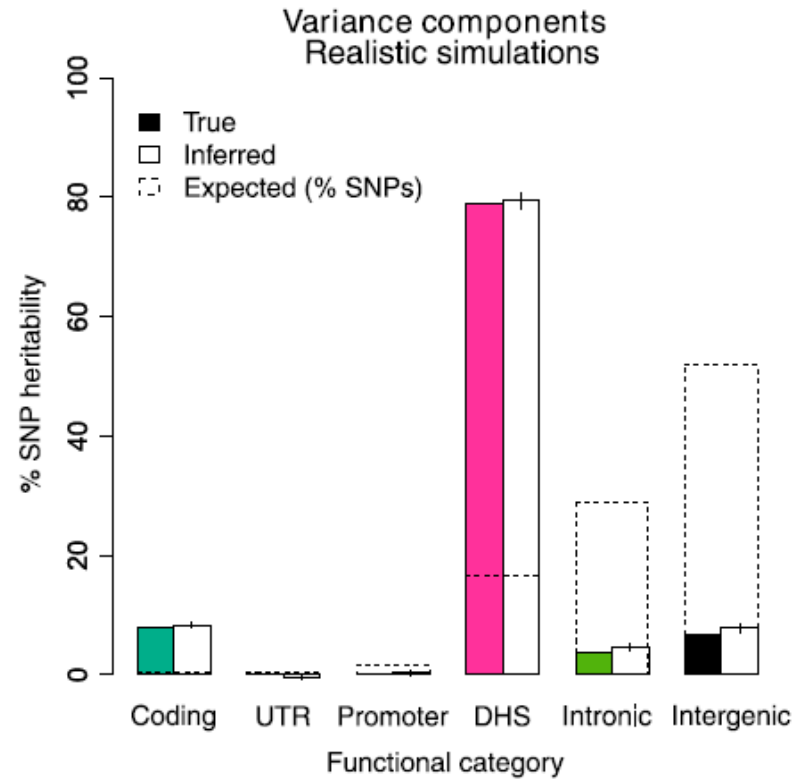
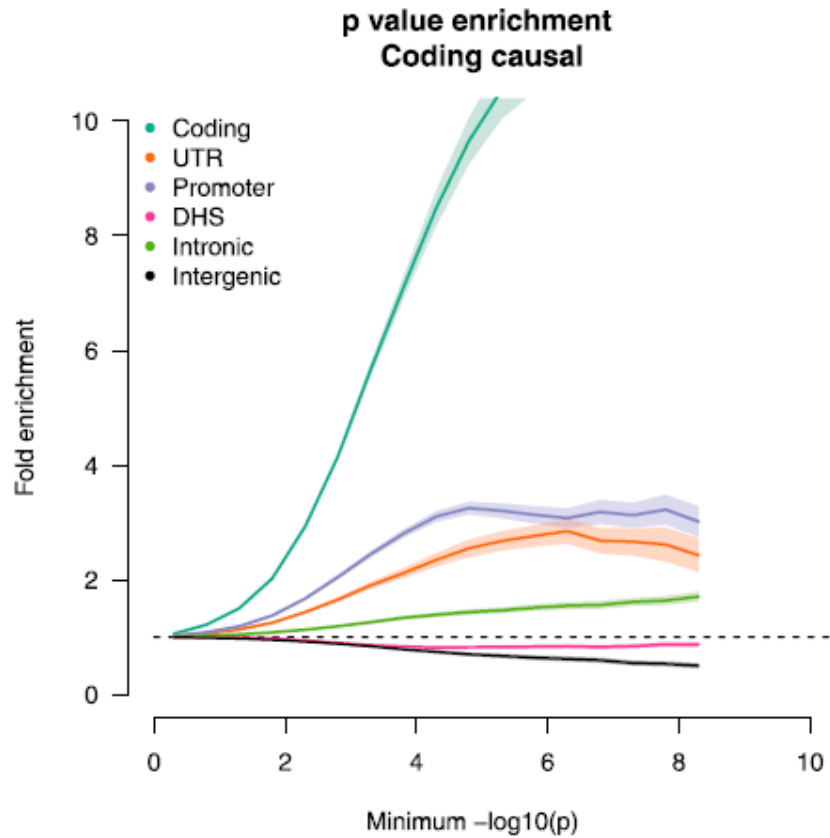
Black SNPs on 550K genotyping panel; red ones imputed after sequencing a subset of participants

rs334 is the *HbS* sickle cell variant that explains 2% of malaria susceptibility

Direct typing rs334 yields NLP > 27! The original hit rs11036238 is not strictly GWAS



# Partitioning Heritability



Most GWAS variants are regulatory



# Some references

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