

# EpiGenSys

## Systems Biological Determination

### of the

## Epigenomic Structure Function

Nucleosomal

Intra/Inter

Trans

Chromatin

Relationship

Chromosome Architecture & Dynamics

Simulations of Nucleosomal

System Biology

Simulation via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform

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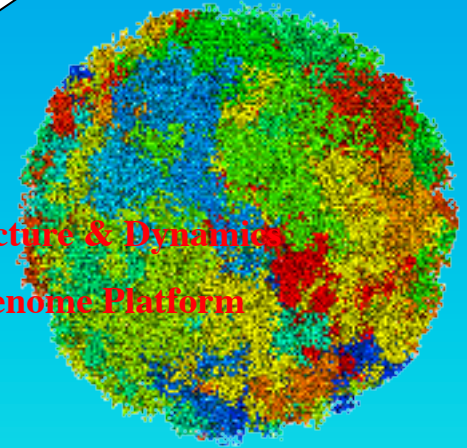
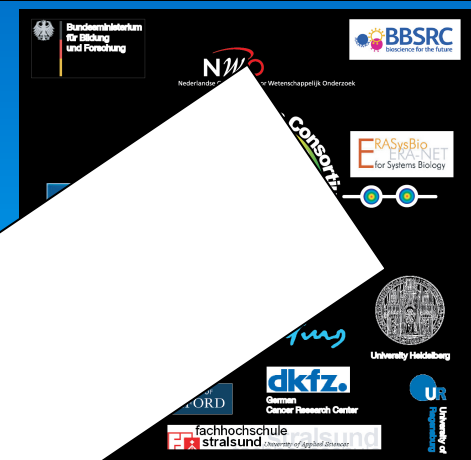
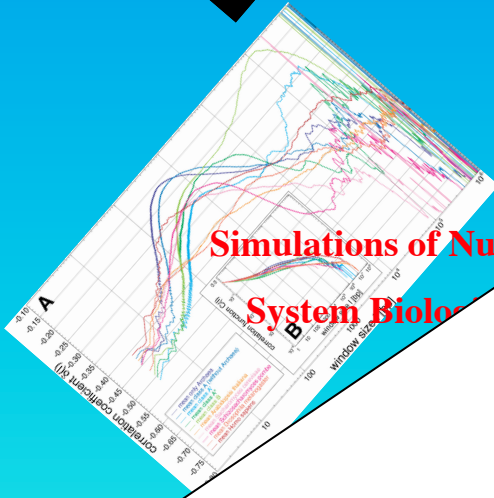
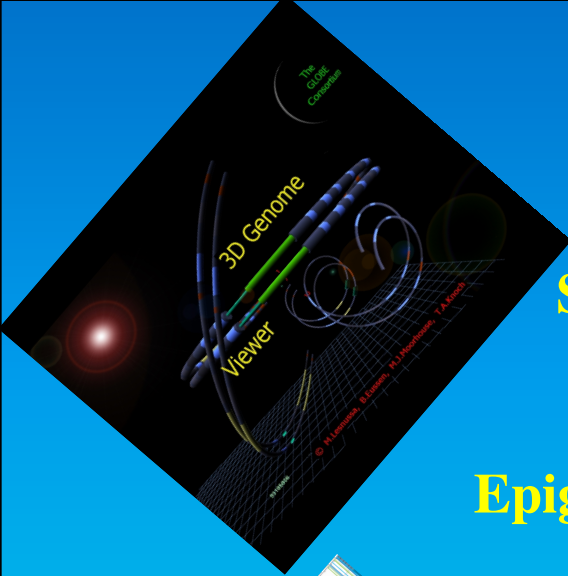
Prof. Dr. Tobias A. Knoch

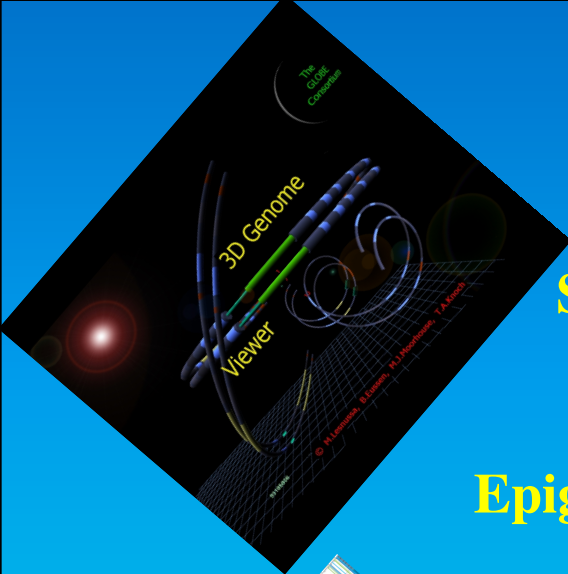
Erasmus Genomics & Erasmus Computing Grid

Peter Schupp, Gernot Längst, Gero Wedemann, & Frank G. Grosveld

Sir V. Kumar, Department of Pathology, Genome Organization & Function, NWFIII/Biochemistry, System  
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University of Oxford, BioQuant Centre / German Cancer Research Centre,  
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# EpiGenSys

## Systems Biological Determination of the

## Epigenomic Structure Function Relation

**Nucleosomal Association Changes  
Intra/Inter Chromosomal Architecture  
Transcriptional Structure Relationship**

**Simulations of Nucleosomal / Chromatin Fiber / Chromosome Architecture & Dynamics  
System Biological/Medical Result Integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform**

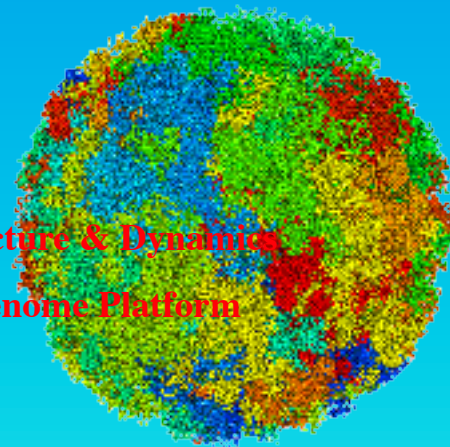
**Tobias A. Knoch**

**Biophysical Genomics & Erasmus Computing Grid**

**Peter R. Cook, Karsten Rippe, Gernot Längst, Gero Wedemann, & Frank G. Grosveld**

**Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, Genome Organization & Function, NWFH/Biochemistry, System Engineering and Information Management, Cell Biology & Genetics - Clinical Genetics & Virology**

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# EpiGenSys

Systems Biological Determination

of the

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Nucleosomal

Intra/Inter

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Chromosome Architecture & Dynamics

Simulations of Nucleosome

System Biology

Simulation via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform

**Towards a Holistic Understanding of Genomes!**

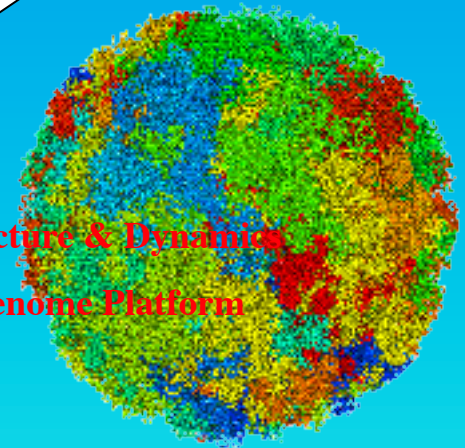
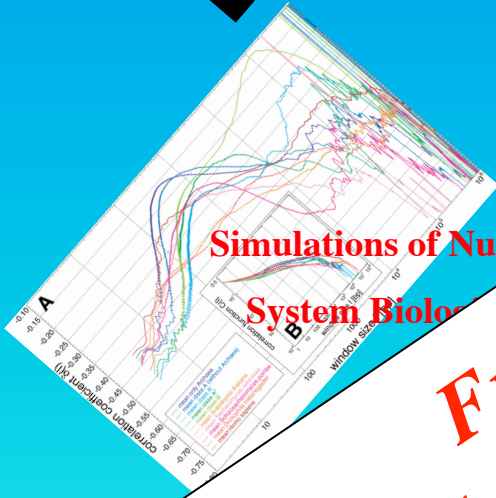
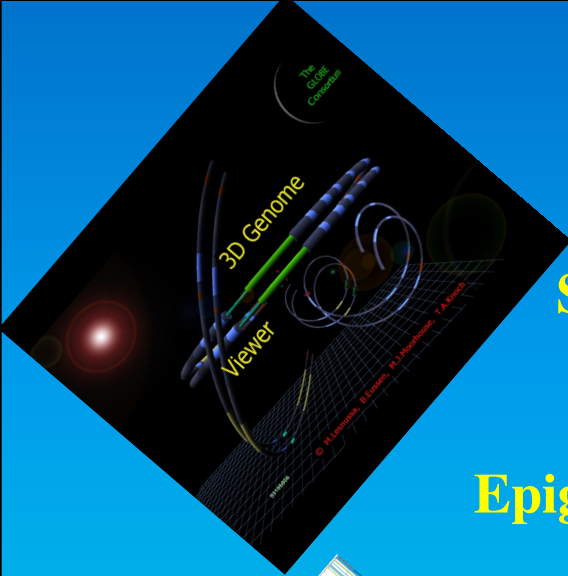
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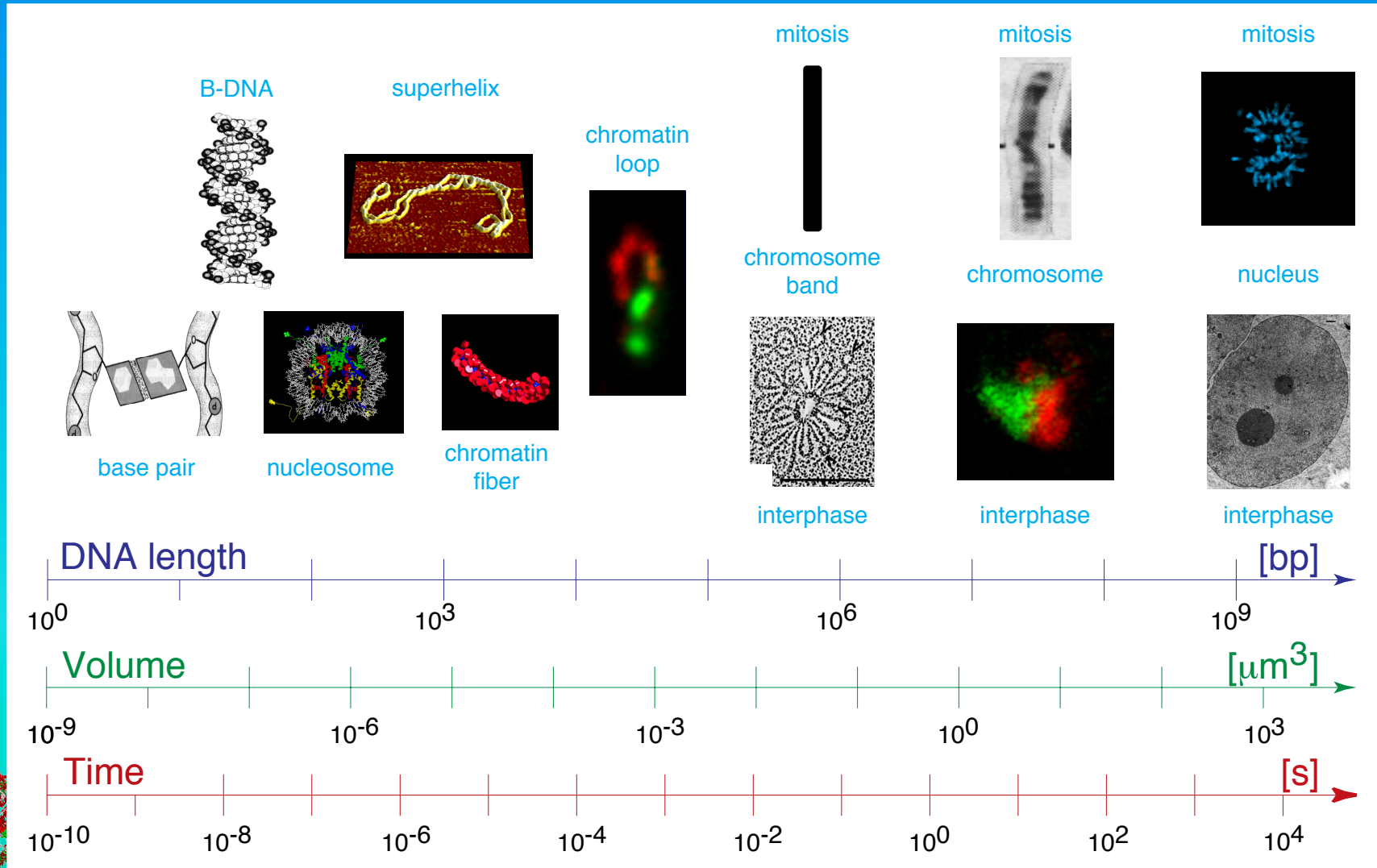
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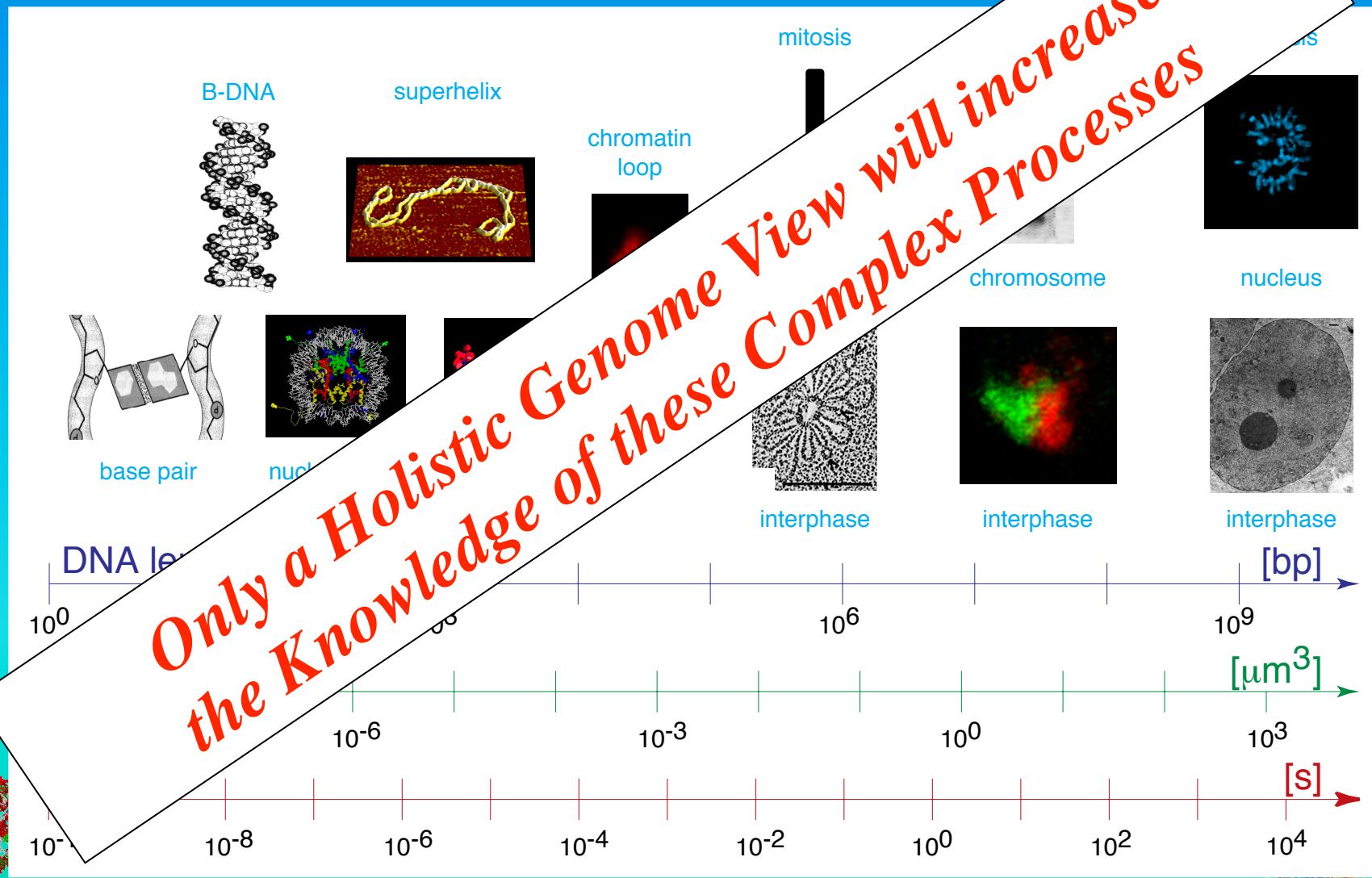
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The different organization levels of genomes bridge several orders of magnitude concerning space and time. How all of these organization levels connect to processes like gene regulation, replication, embryogeneses, or cancer development is still unclear?



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*Only a Holistic Genome View will increase the Knowledge of these Complex Processes*

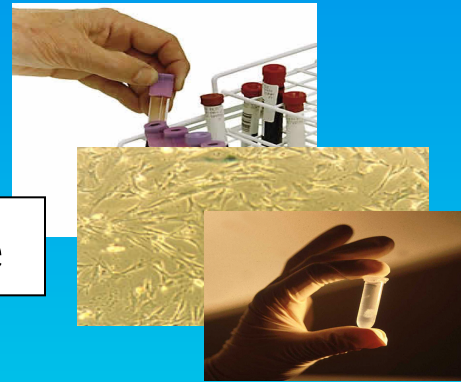
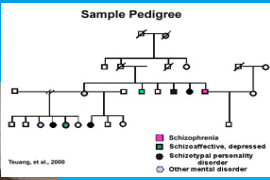


# Complexity of e.g. Cytogenetic Diagnostics & Treatment

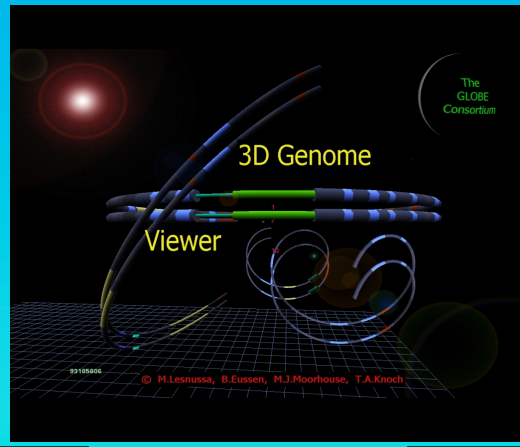
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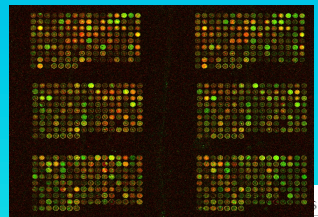
**Patient**



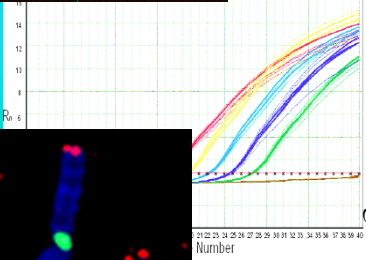
**Sample**



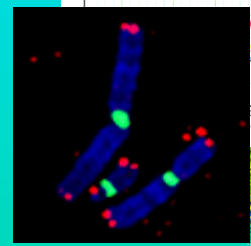
**Treatment**



**Analysis**



**Diagnosis**

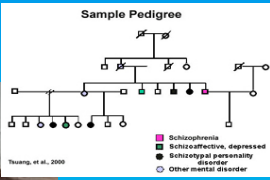


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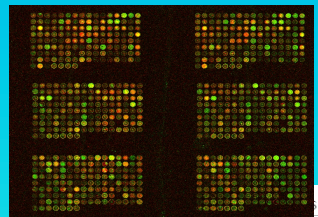
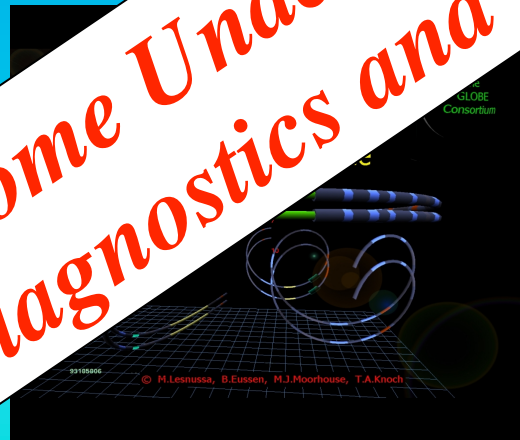
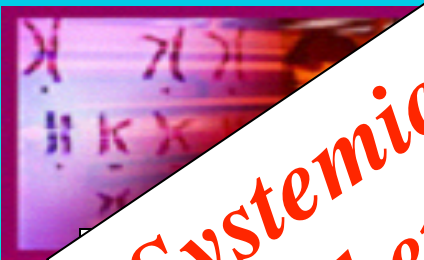


Patient



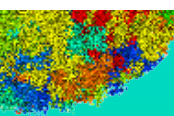
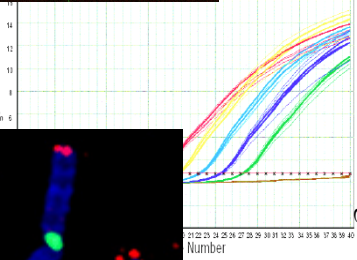
Treatment

Sample

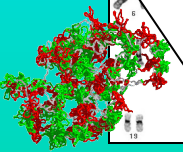


Diagnosis

Analysis



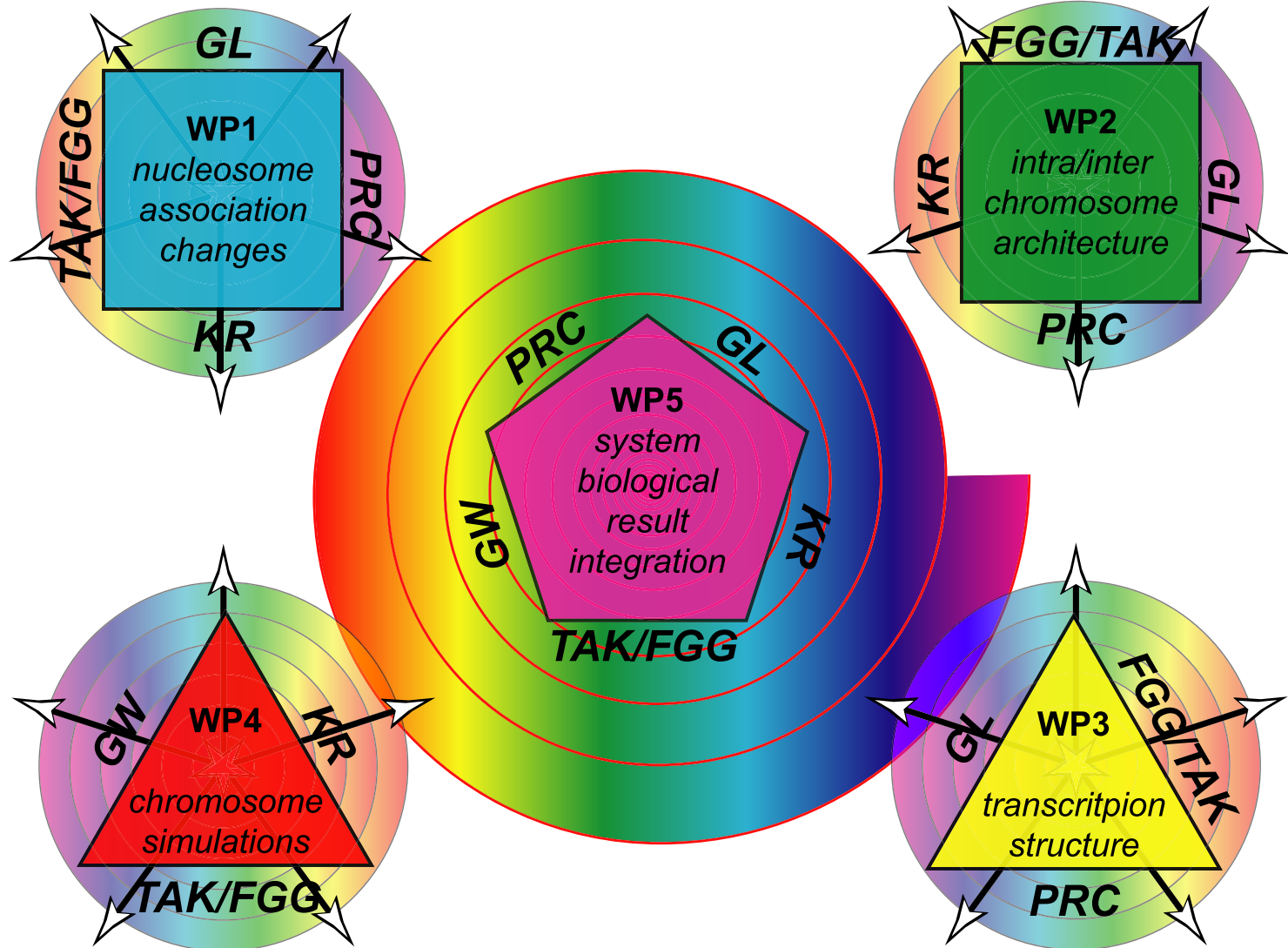
**Systemic Genome Understanding Leads to better Diagnostics and Treatment!**



# EpiGenSys

Systems Biological/Medical Determination of the Epigenomic Structure-Function Relation in:

- i) the Beta-Globin locus, ii) the Immuno Globin loci, iii) the SAMD4 region, and iv) the Prader-Willi / Angelmann Syndrom region, in mouse and human active and inactive cell states and their global context.

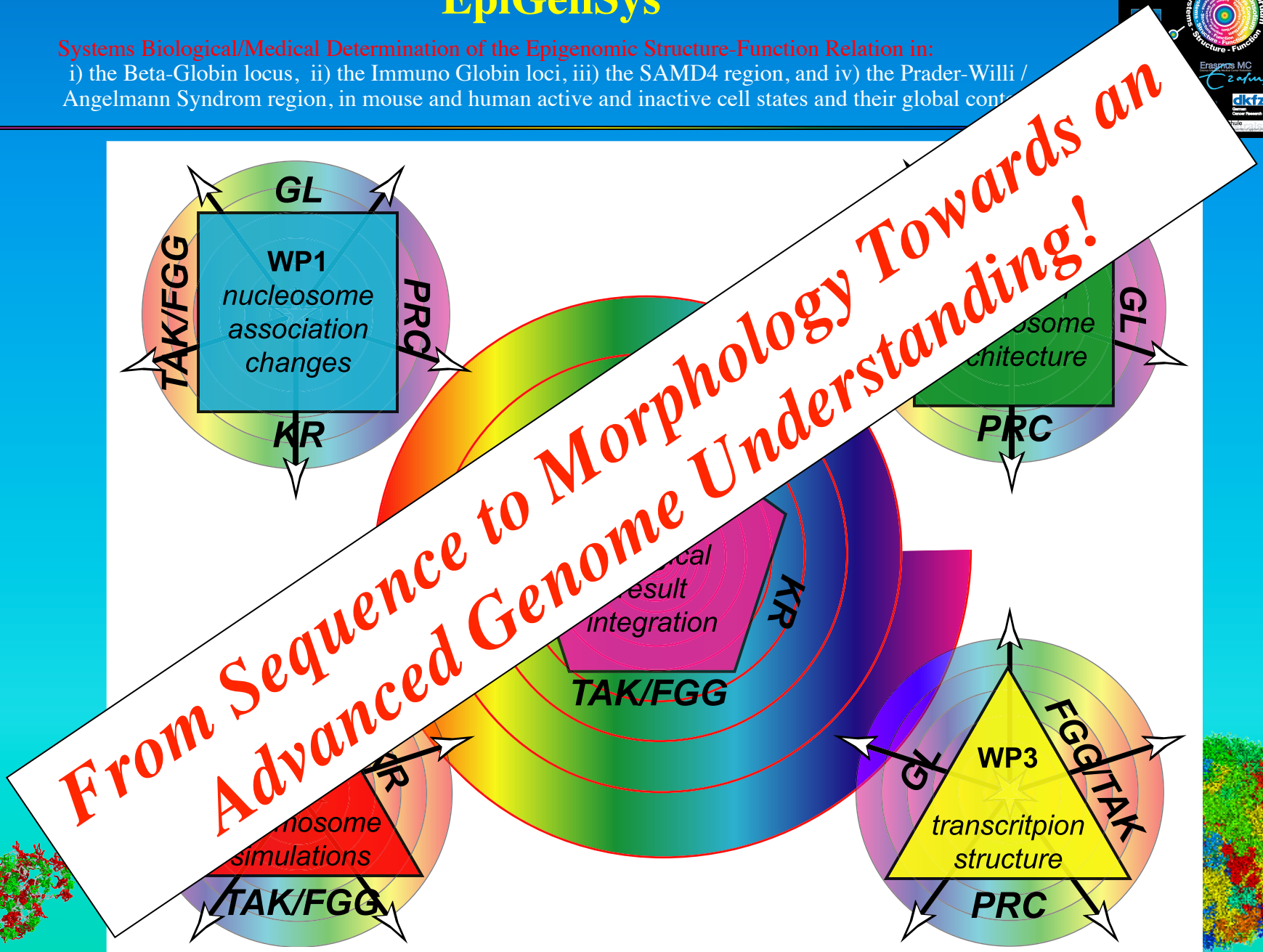




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# Work Together and Communication in EpiGenSys

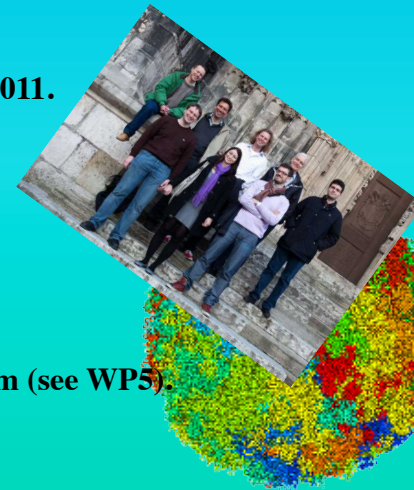
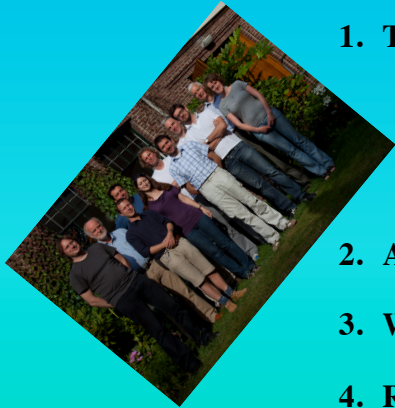
The work packages are implemented in such a way that they utilize the established expertise of individual partners (each with their own established network of contacts) while providing maximum benefit to the groups. Maximum output is guaranteed by our virtual laboratory communication management.



- WP1:** Nucleosomal association changes (Längst, Rippe, Wedemann, Knoch/Grosveld; **T1-T5**)
- WP2:** Intra/inter chromosomal architecture (Grosveld/Knoch, Cook, Rippe, Längst; **T1-T3**)
- WP3:** Transcription structure relationship (Cook, Grosveld/Knoch, Längst; **T1-T4**)
- WP4:** Simulations of nucleosomal, chromatin fiber and chromosome architecture and their dynamics (Wedemann, Knoch/Grosveld, Rippe; **T1-T3**)
- WP5:** System biological result integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform (Knoch/Grosveld, Cook, Rippe, Längst, Wedemann; **T1-T5**):



1. Two major meetings per year where all participants meet:
  - ❖ The first meeting took place in Den Haag from 7th to 8th July 2010.
  - ❖ The second meeting was held in Regensburg from 6th to 8th April 2011.
2. A monthly online conference of lab heads according to theme.
3. Weekly conferences of the work force related to the specific tasks
4. Regular work meetings in participant labs with several exchanges.
5. Use of a web-based communication platforms with project database and forum (see WP5).



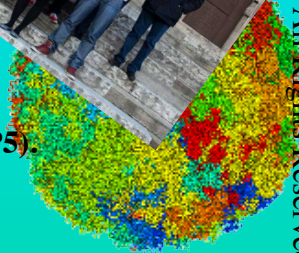
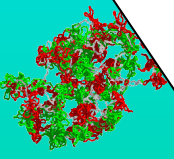
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**The EpiGenSys Virtual Laboratory is Working with ever Increasing Efficiency!**

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# M&D Timeplan in EpiGenSys

The time plane according to the work packages is currently on track.



## WP1

### Milestones and deliverables:

WP1-1	months 6	Isolation of nucleosomal DNA by <i>in situ</i> MNase digestions; differential MNase digestion.
WP1-2	months 12	Sequencing analysis of nucleosomal positions and epigenetic modifications; annotation of DNA sequences obtained.
WP1-3	months 24	Effects of 'knocked-down/in' remodellers on nucleosomal position
WP1-4	months 27	Determination of nuclear localization of nucleosomal DNAs by FISH.
WP1-5	months 30	Bioinformatic analysis of nucleosomal sequences and epigenetic modifications.

## WP2

### Milestones and deliverables:

WP2-1	months 9	Availability of interaction maps obtained by deep sequencing.
WP2-2	months 18	Microscopic investigation of chromosome architecture.
WP2-3	months 24	Theoretical determination of 3D chromosome architecture.
WP2-4	months 36	Refined systems biological model of chromosome topology.

## WP3

### Milestones and deliverables:

WP3-1	months 6	Use of 3C established; 4C and expression arrays designed.
WP3-2	months 12	Use of 4C and expression arrays established, and first results.
WP3-3	months 18	Final 4C and expression results obtained.
WP3-4	months 24	Final results obtained for all regions; confirm selected 4C contacts using DNA FISH.
WP3-5	months 30	Confirm transcriptional activity of selected contacts by qRT PCR and RNA FISH.

## WP4

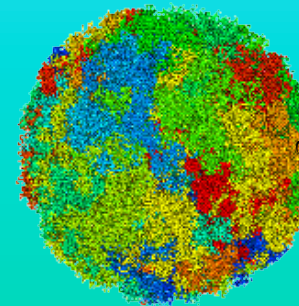
### Milestones and deliverables:

WP4-1	months 6	Implement a nucleosome chain model for variation of local nucleosome geometry, the nucleosomal interactions potential, the linker DNA length.
WP4-2	months 12	Simulations of fibers with ~500-1000 nucleosomes.
WP4-3	months 18	Implementation of the chromatin bead model for 20 Mb genomic regions.
WP4-4	months 30	Whole chromosome and nuclei simulation models.
WP4-5	months 36	Comparative analysis interaction maps by nucleosome and nuclei models.

## WP5

### Milestones and deliverables:

WP5-1	months 6	Central data base and the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform available to the consortium.
WP5-2	months 12	Integrating nucleosome positioning (experimental, sequence prediction, remodeller activity).
WP5-3	months 18	Predicting local fiber compaction from nucleosome positions and other signals (e. g. epigenetics).
WP5-4	months 24	Full integration of interaction maps, DNA FISH and RNA FISH data higher order simulation data.
WP5-5	months 36	Full system biological model of EpiGenSys.



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### Milestones and deliverables:

WP2-1	months 6	Chromatin sequencing.
WP2-2	months 12	Chromatin architecture.
WP2-3	months 18	Chromatin architecture.
WP2-4	months 24	Chromatin architecture.

## WP3

### Milestones and deliverables:

WP3-1	months 6	Use of 3C established; 4C and expression arrays.
WP3-2	months 12	Use of 4C and expression arrays.
WP3-3	months 18	Final 4C and expression results.
WP3-4	months 24	Final results obtained for 4C and expression arrays.
WP3-5	months 30	Confirm transcript levels by RNA FISH.

## WP4

### Milestones and deliverables:

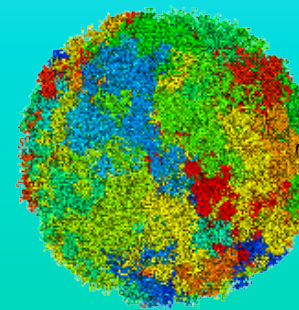
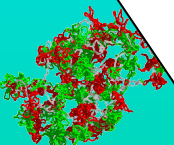
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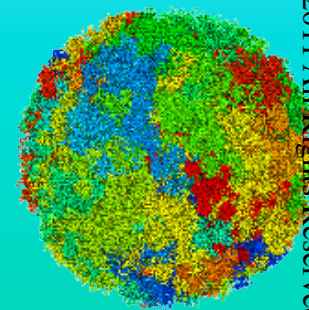
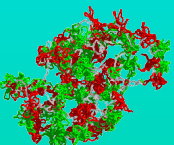
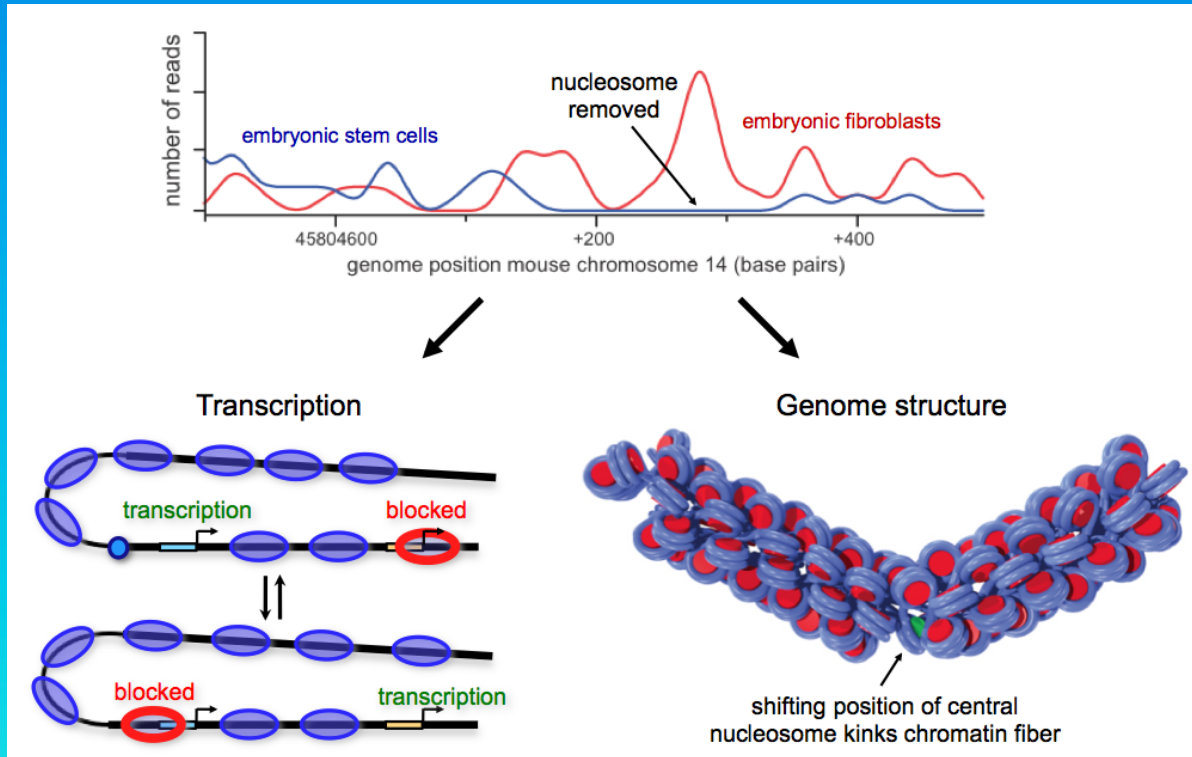
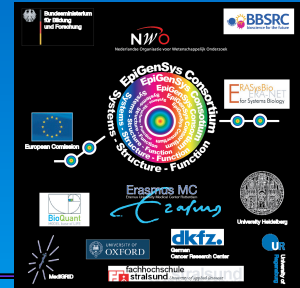
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**The EpiGenSys Project is on Track with the M&D Timeplan!**



# Nucleosomal Association Changes WP1

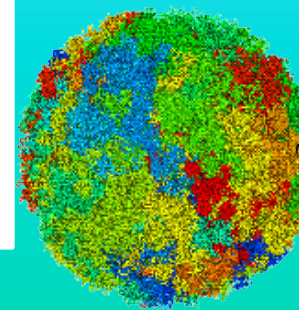
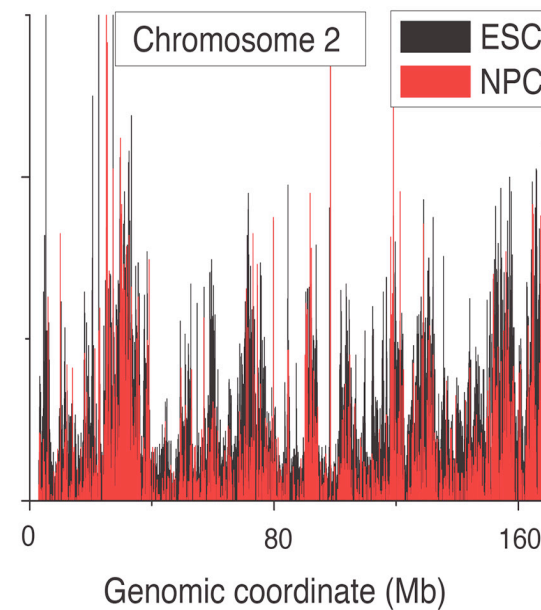
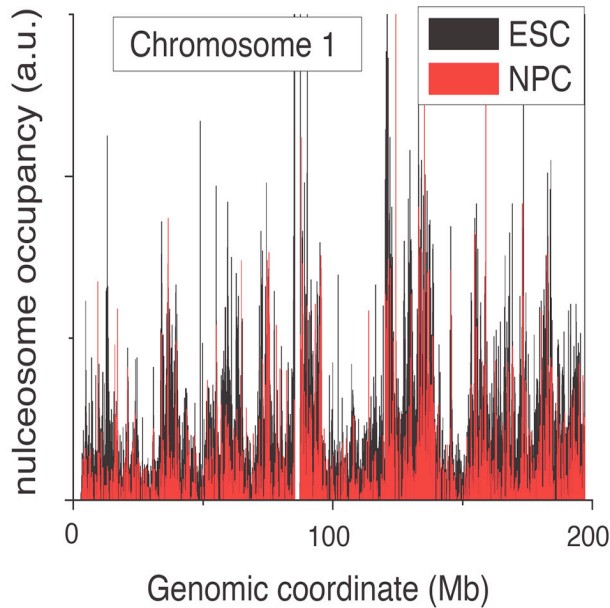
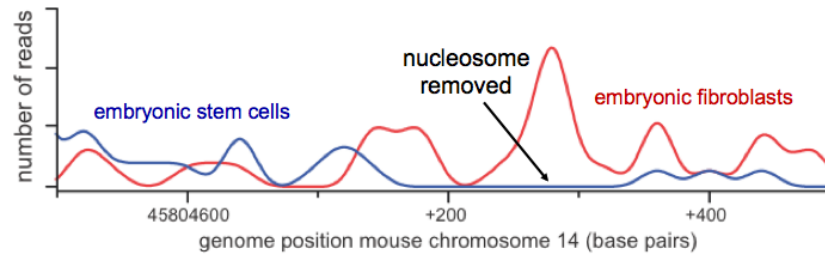
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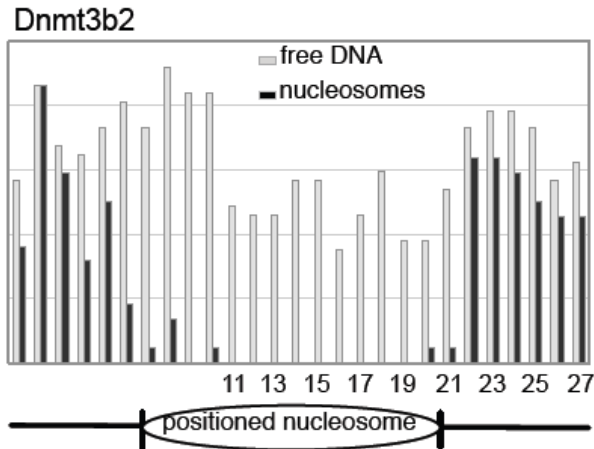


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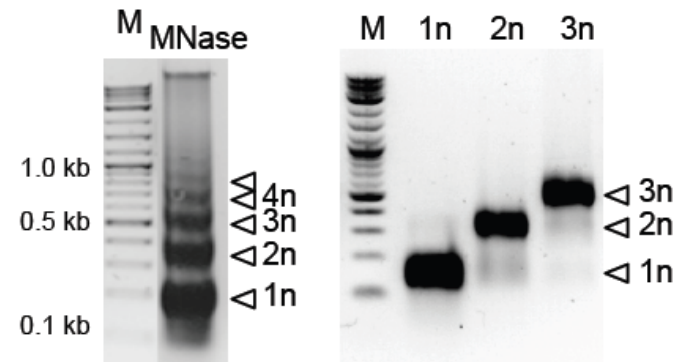
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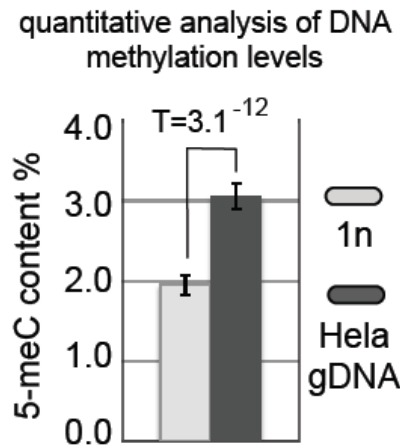
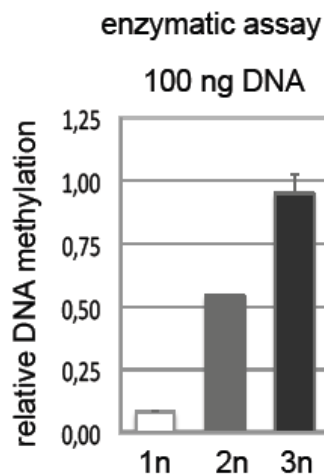
## In vitro DNA methylation assay



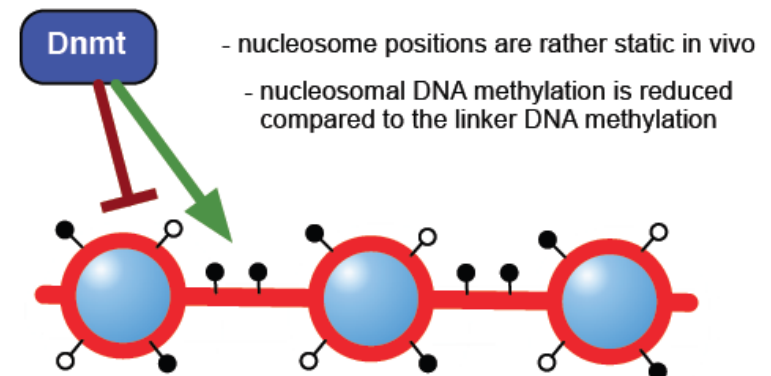
## Isolation of cellular mono-, di- and trinucleosomes



## DNA methylation is enriched in the DNA linker region



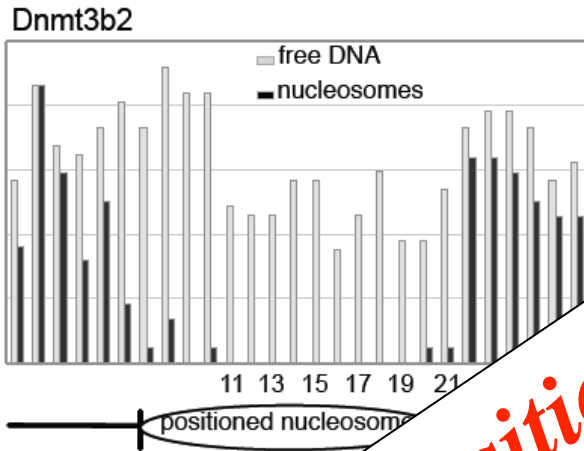
## Nucleosome positions determine the localization of methylated CpGs in vivo



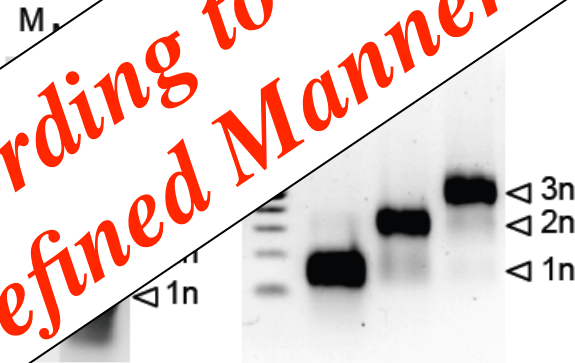
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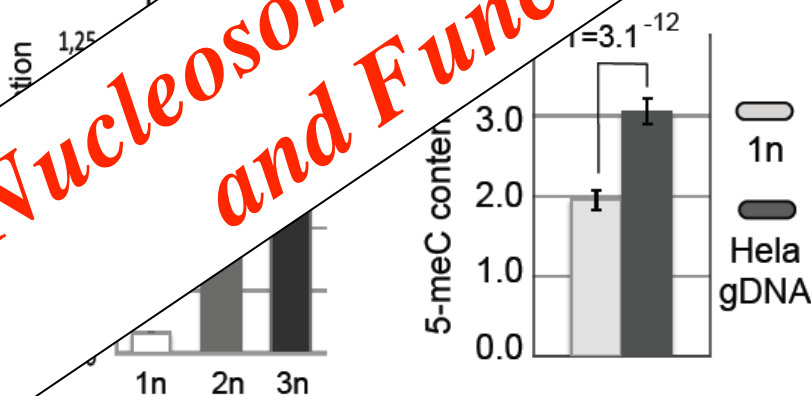
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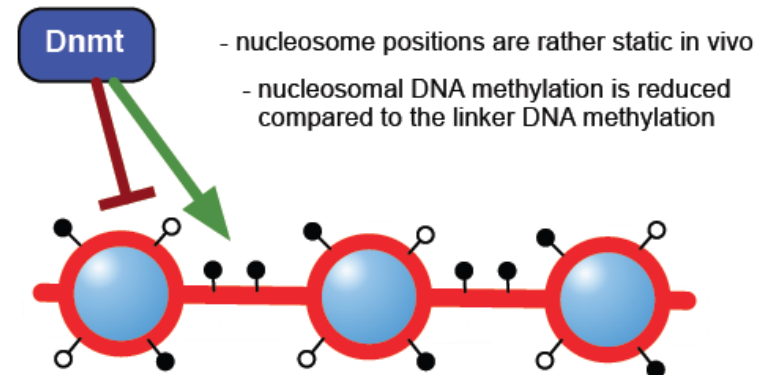
Isolation of cellular mono...



DNA methylation is enzymatic... of DNA levels



Nucleosome positions determine the localization of methylated CpGs in vivo



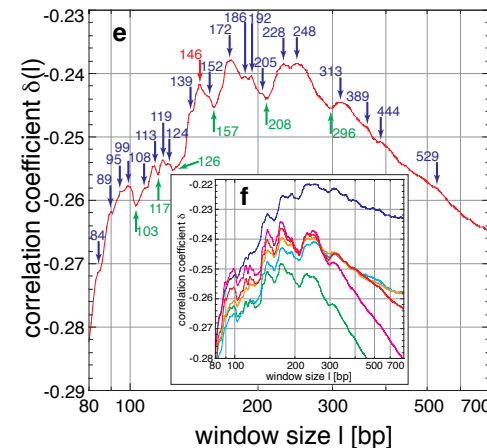
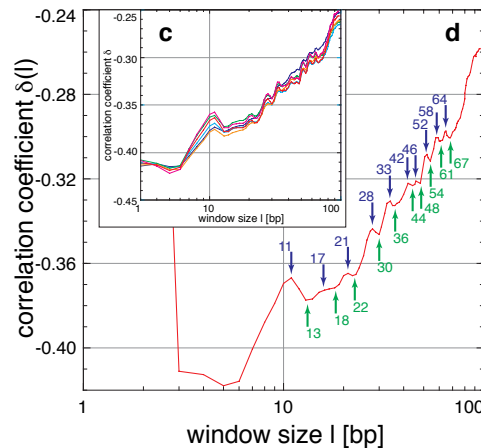
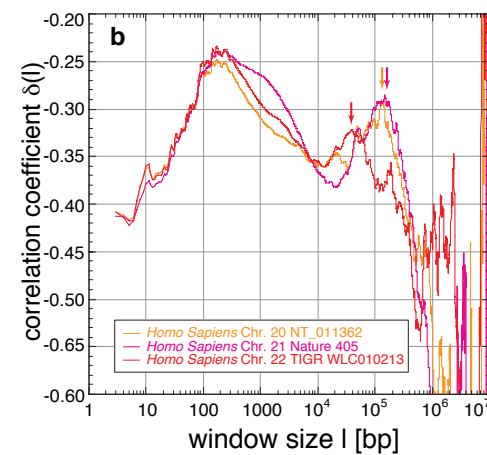
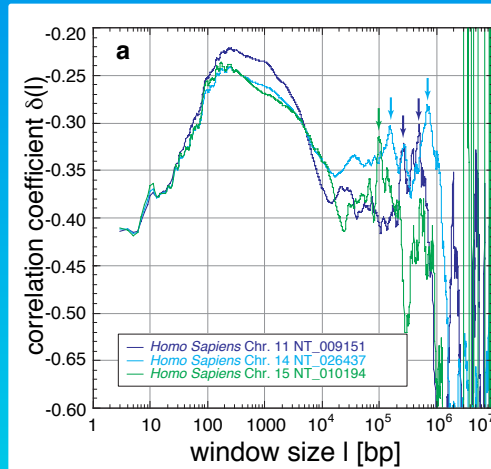
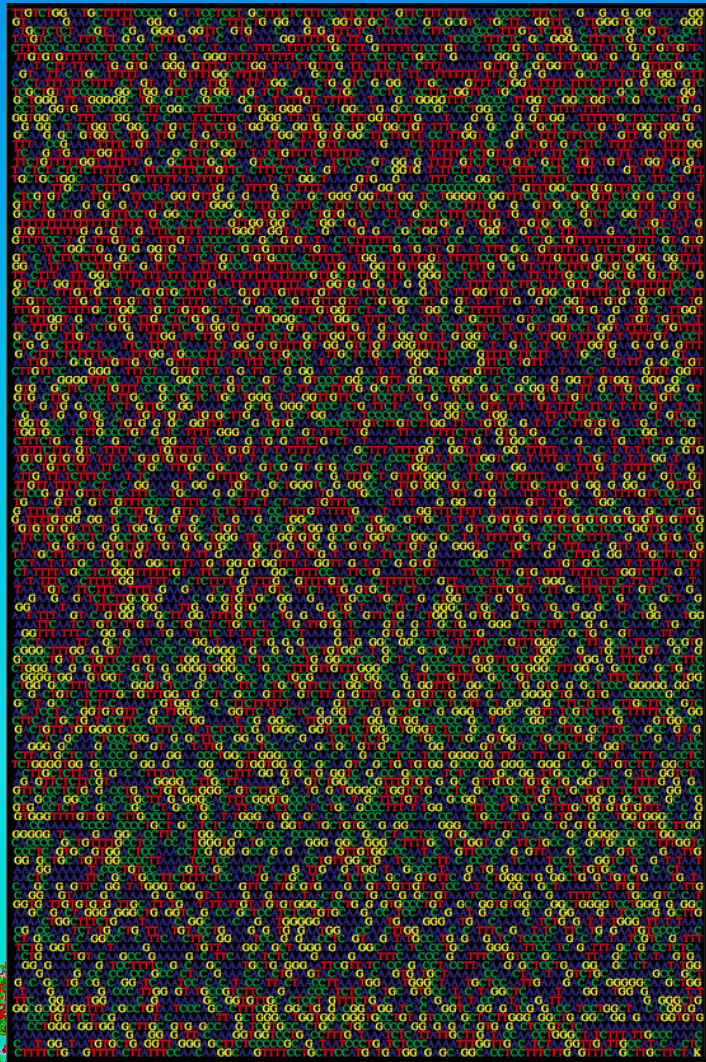
**Nucleosomes Position According to Structure and Function in a Defined Manner!**





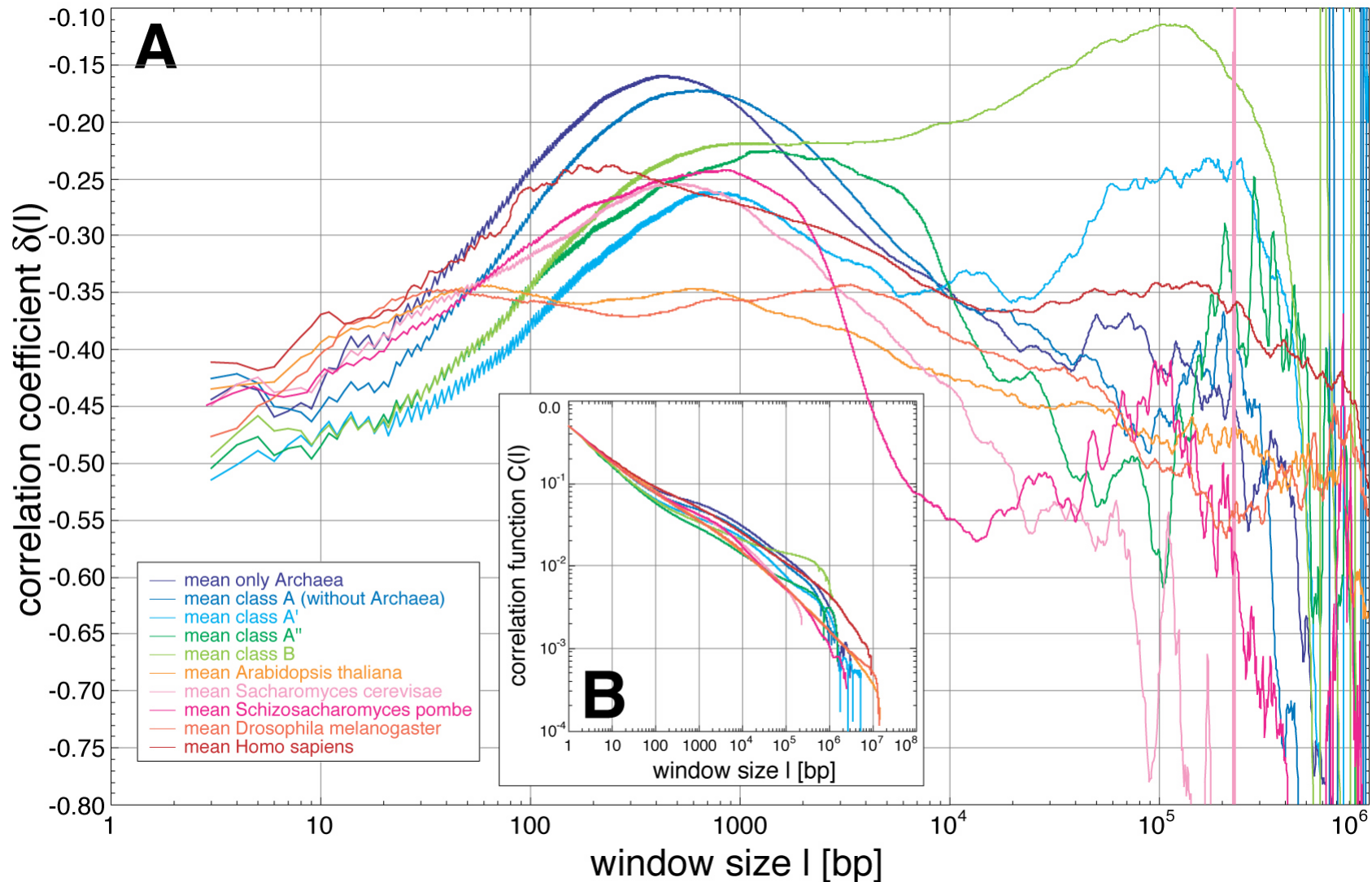
# Nucleosomal Positioning Prediction WP1

The DNA sequence is analyzed by the most simplest scaling analysis to find unprejudiced patterns as e.g. nucleosome positions as well as chromatin loops and rosettes. The analysis is done using our grid infrastructures and here especially our volunteer grid.



# Nucleosomal Positioning Prediction WP1

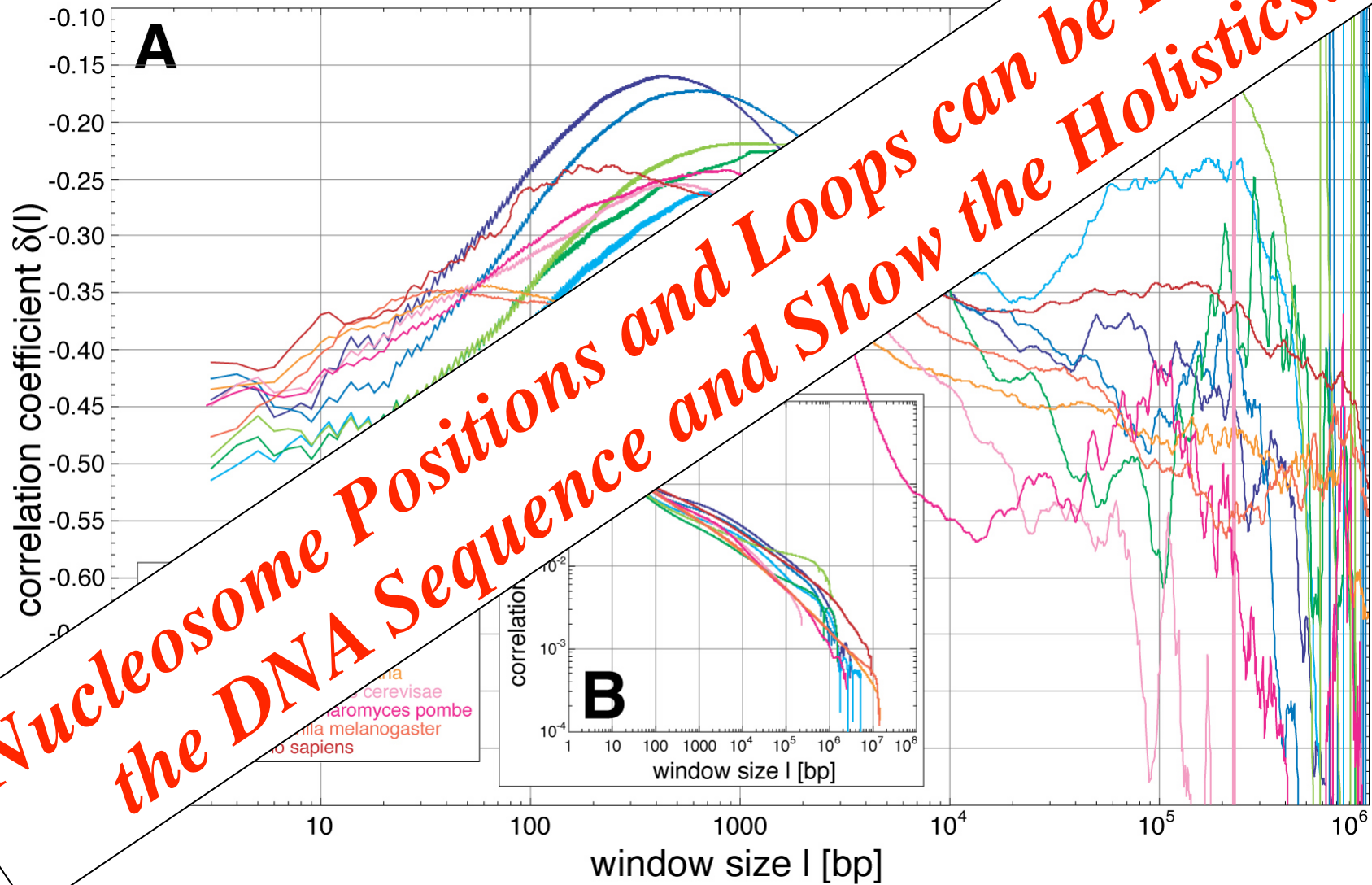
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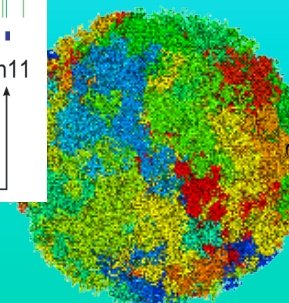
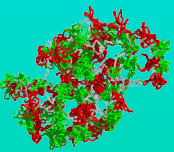
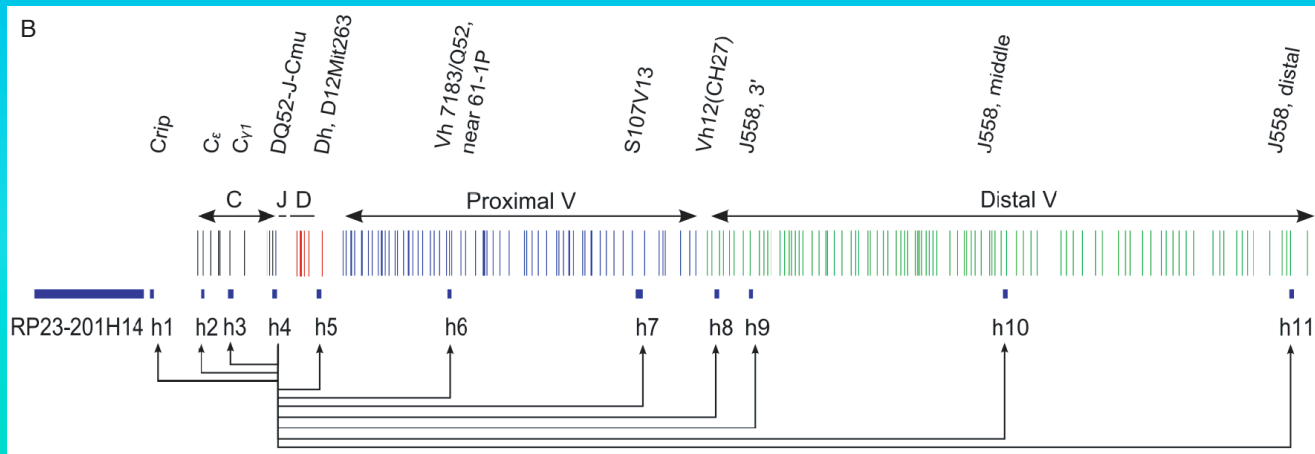
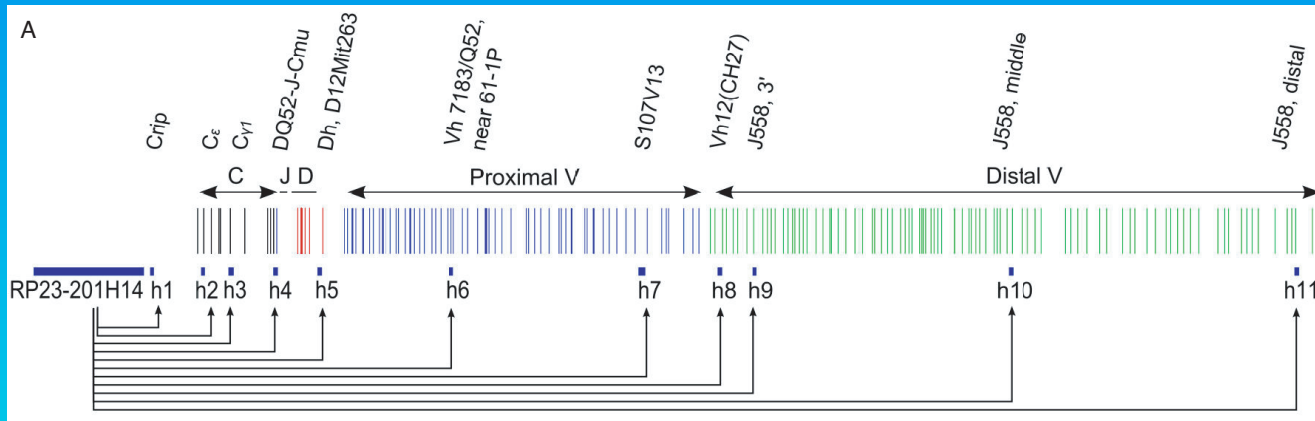
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# Intra/Inter Chromosomal Spatial Architecture WP2

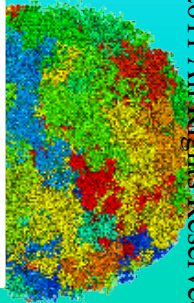
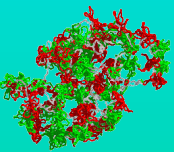
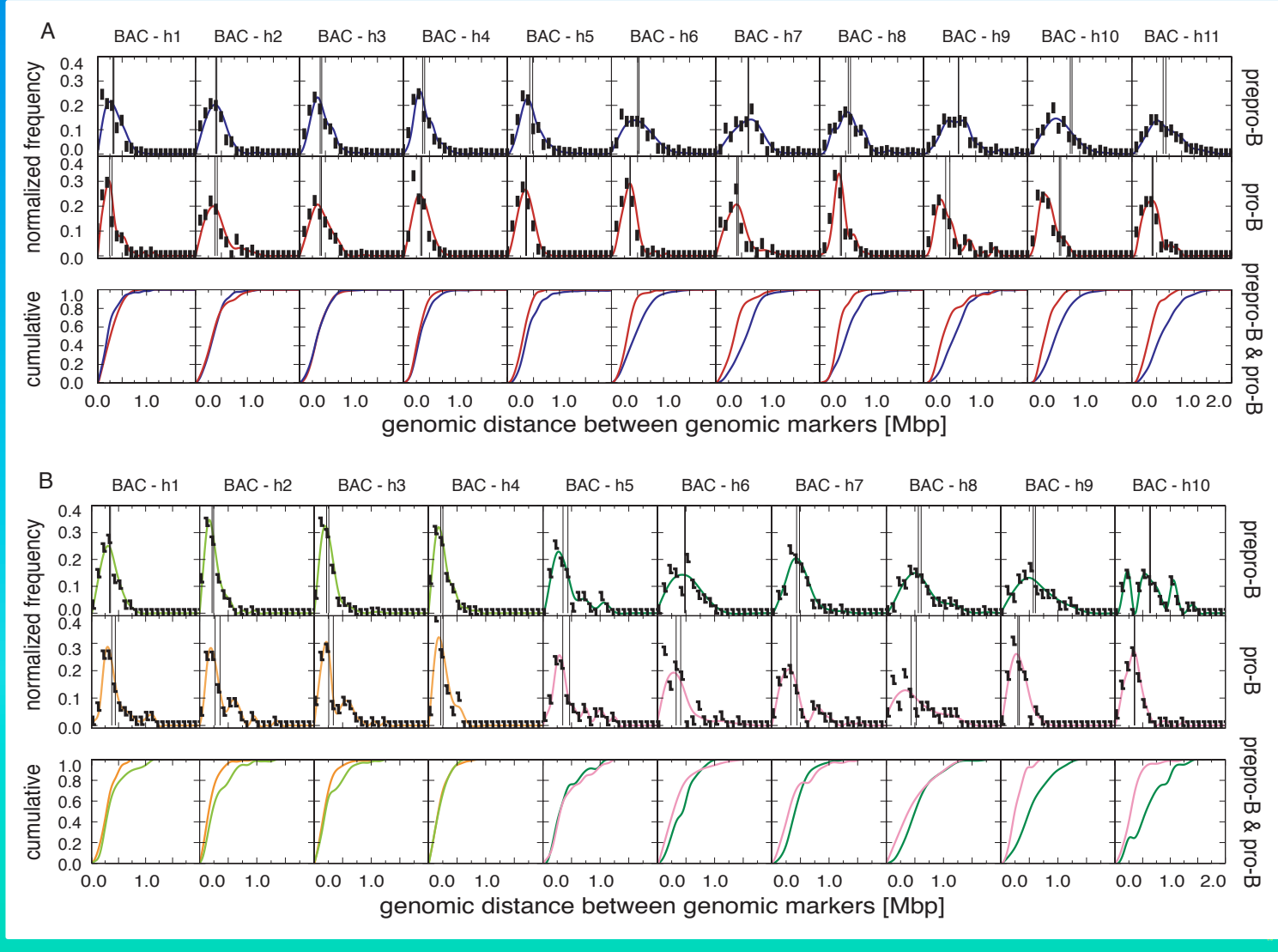
Intra/inter chromosomal contacts are determined using a combination of chromosome conformation capture technology and highest-throughput deep sequencing. From the interaction maps 3D chromatin conformations and its higher-order structure is derived, i.e. its folding into loops and loop clusters.





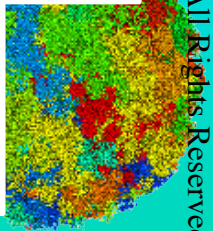
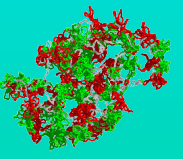
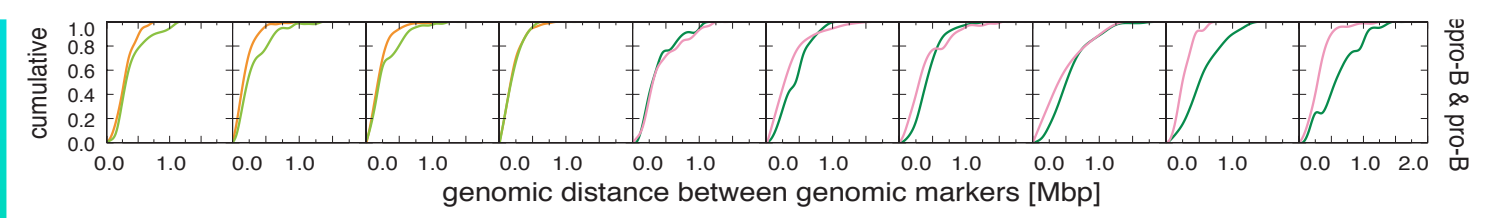
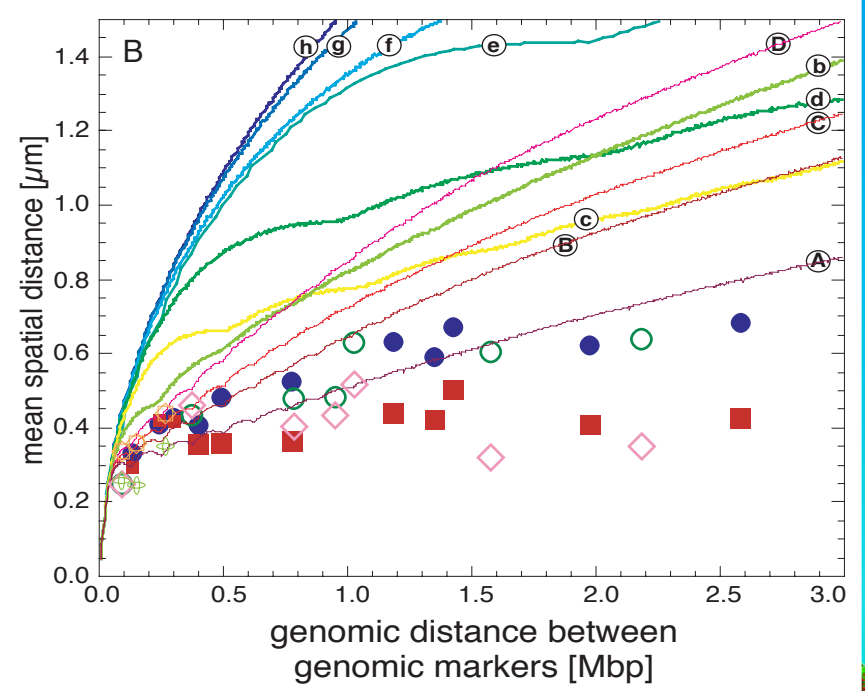
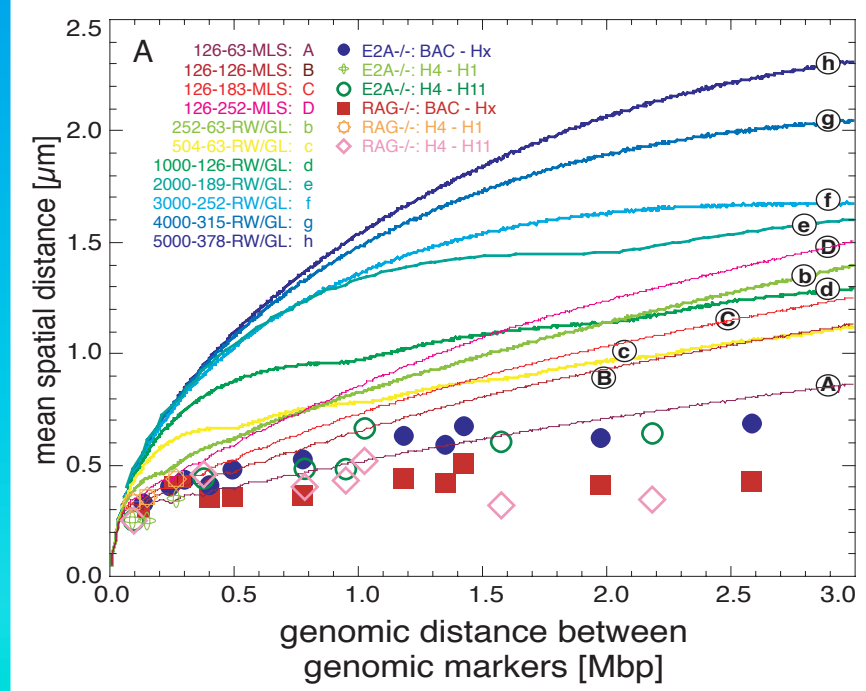
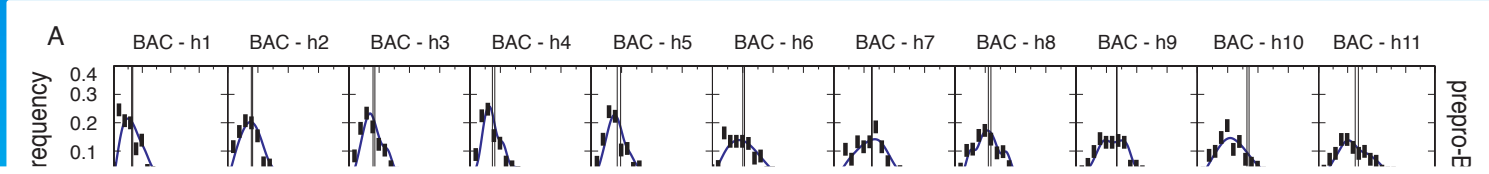
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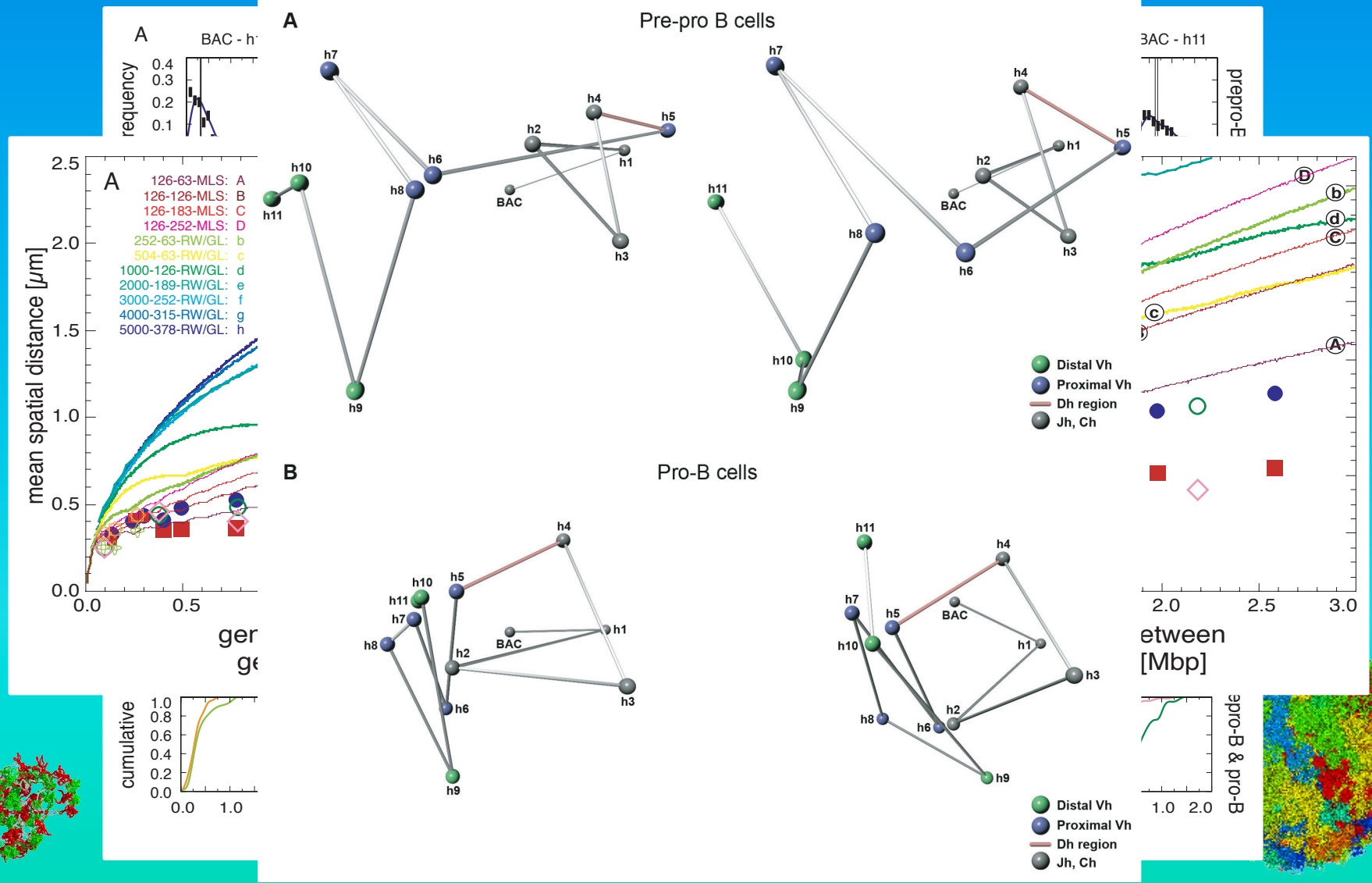
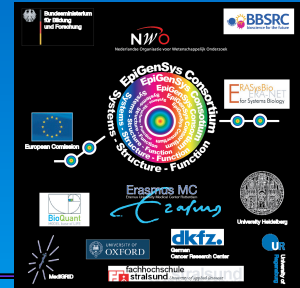
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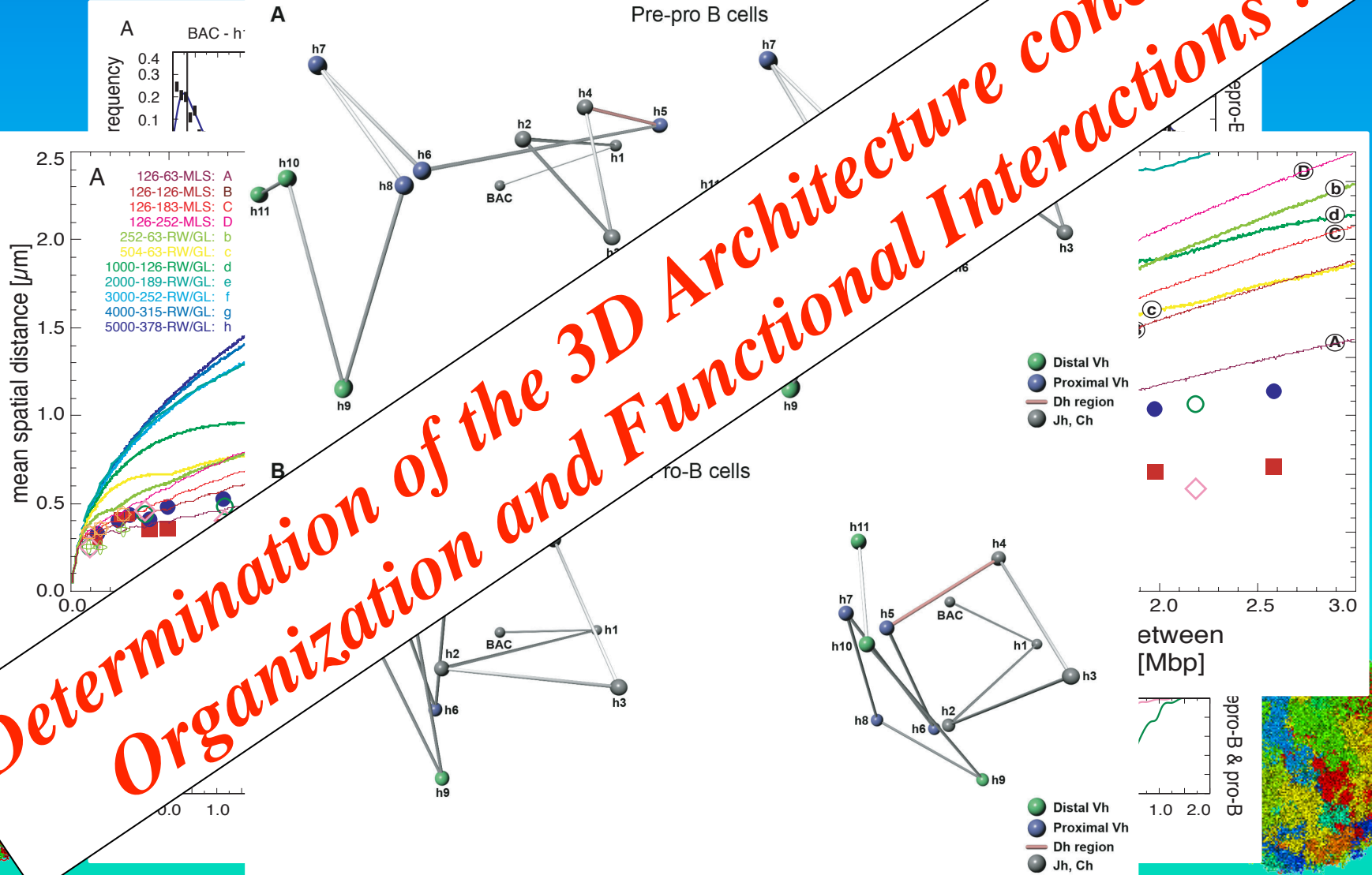
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**Determination of the 3D Architecture concerning Organization and Functional Interactions!**



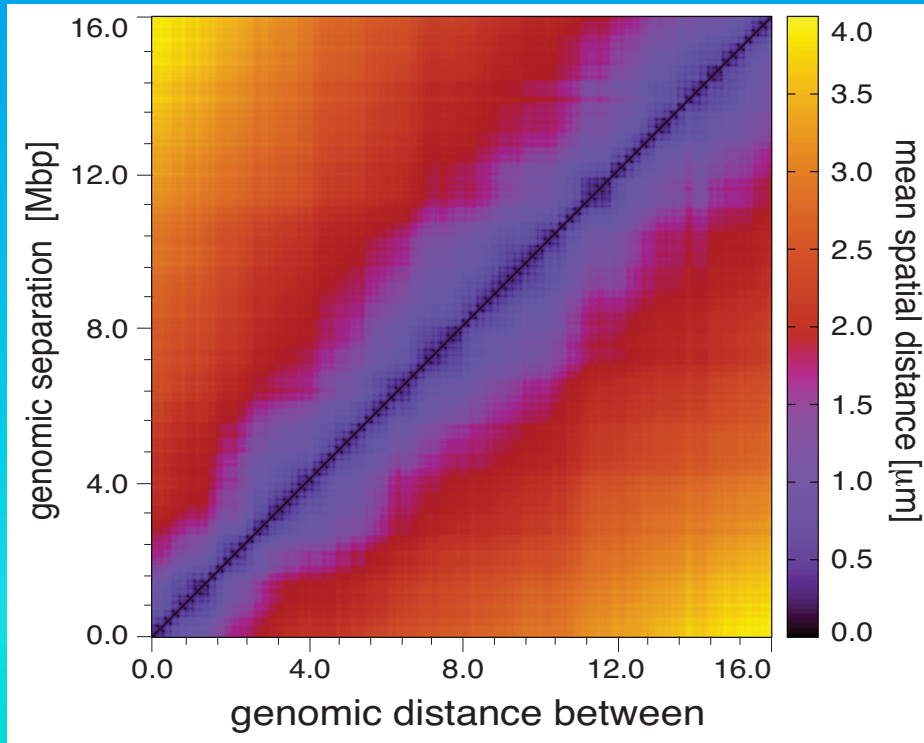


# Intra/Inter Chromosomal Interaction Architecture WP2

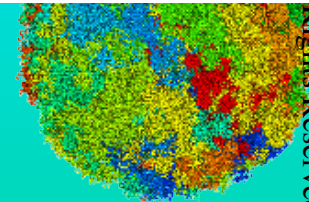
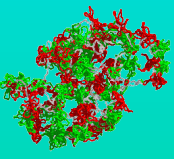
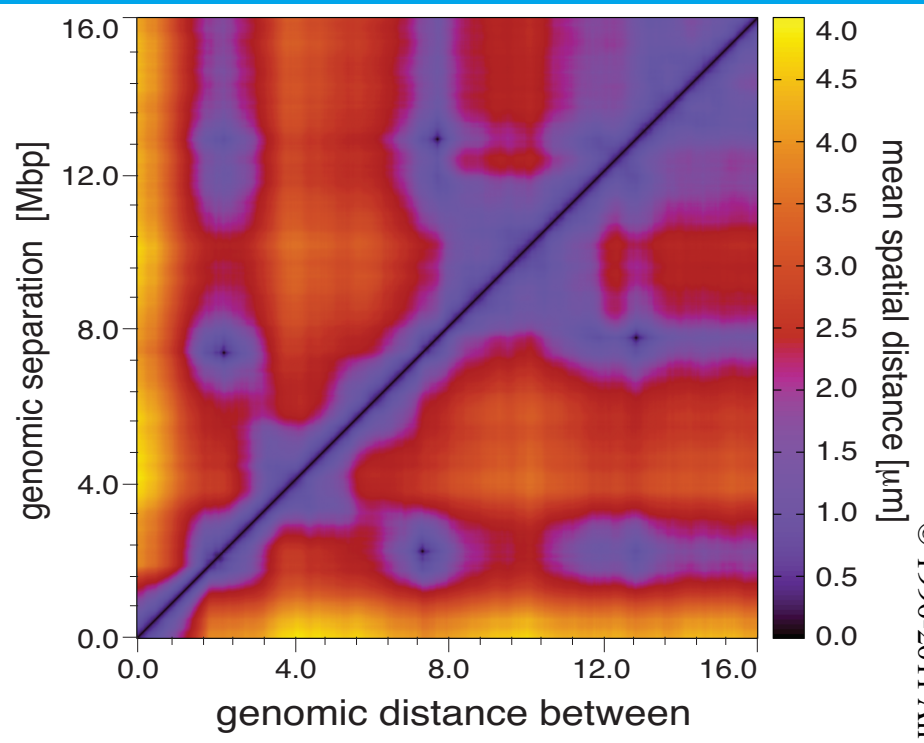
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### Small Chromatin Loops 126 kbp

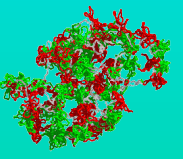
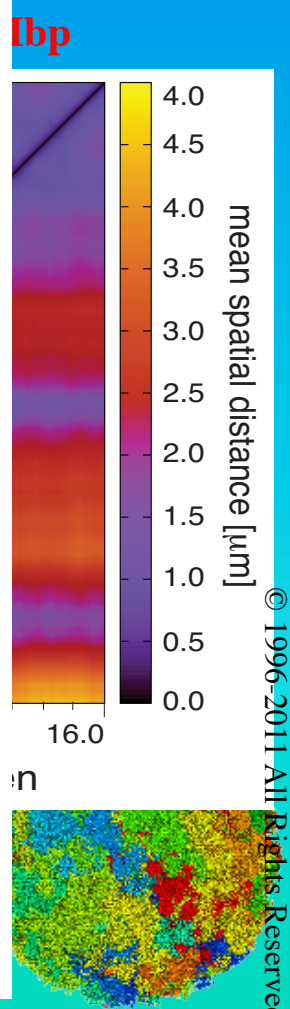
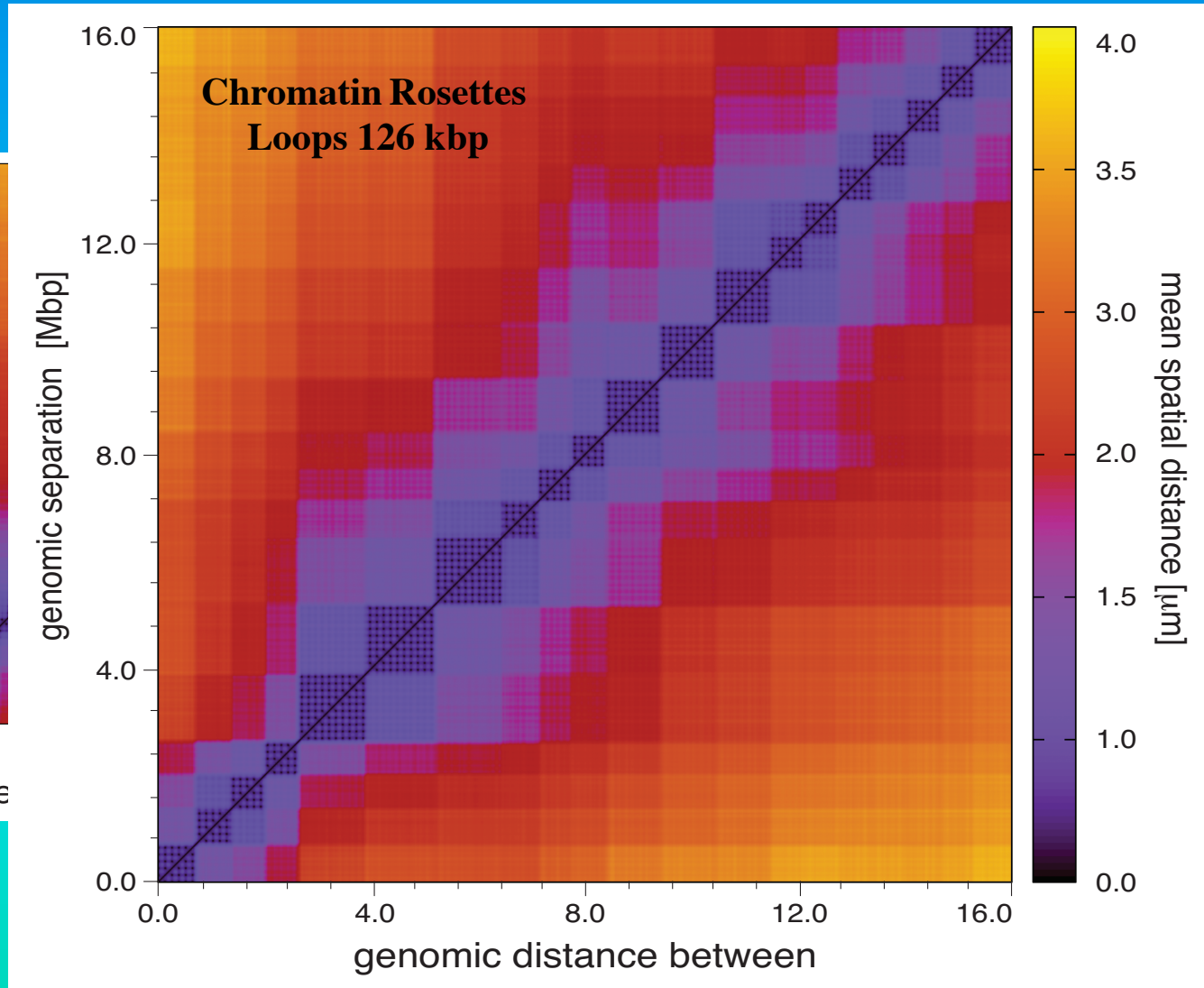
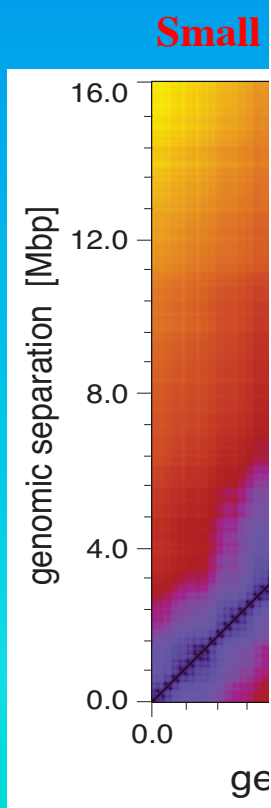


### Large Chromatin Loops 3 Mbp



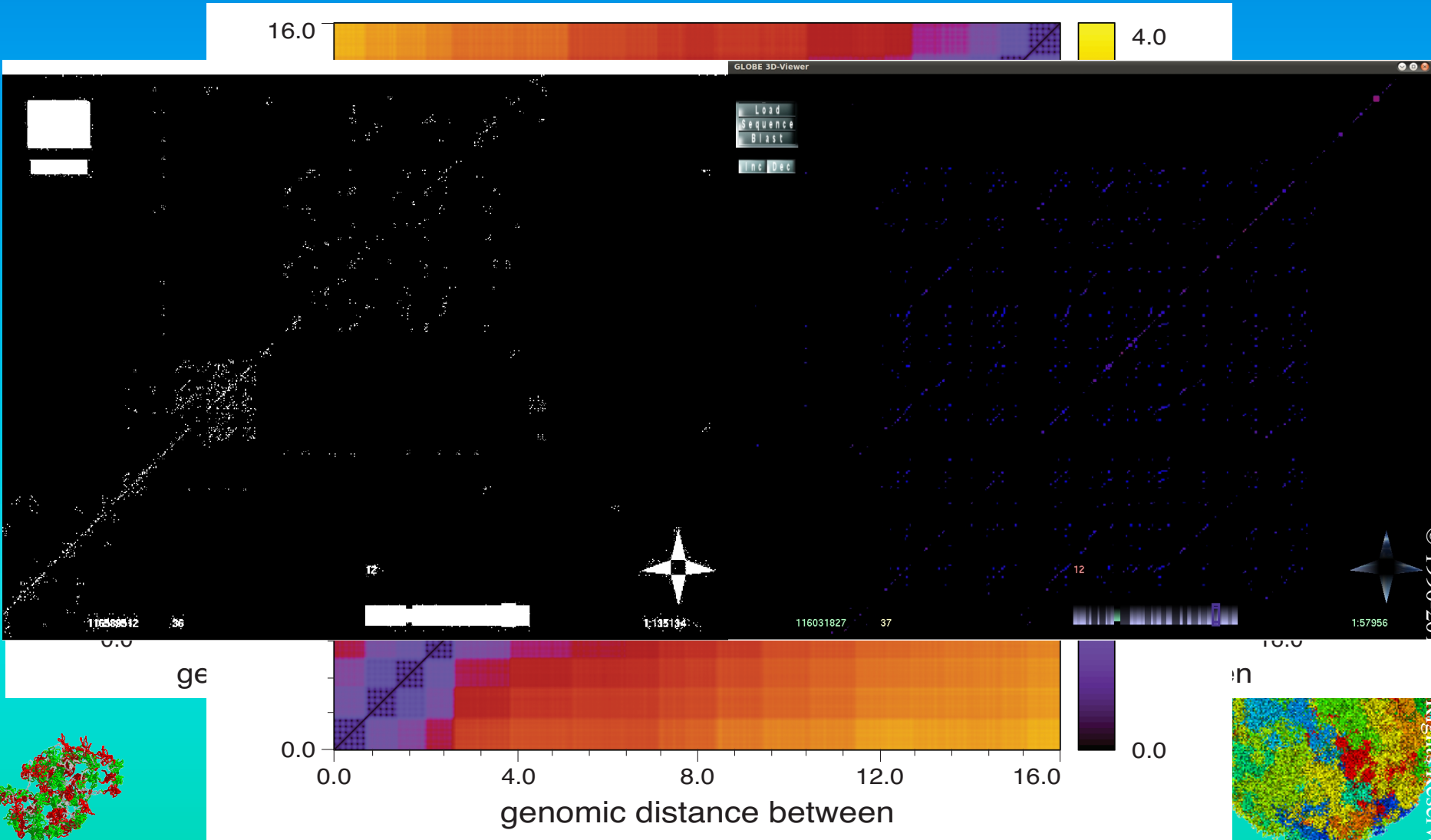
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**The Combination of Modelling and Experiment Reveals the Chromosomal Architecture !**

16.0

GLOBE 3D-Viewer

Load  
Sequence  
Blast  
[...]

0.0

0.0

4.0

8.0

12.0

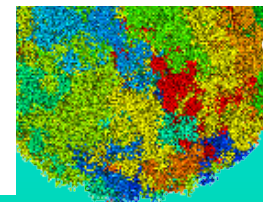
16.0

genomic distance between

0.0

16.0

1:57956



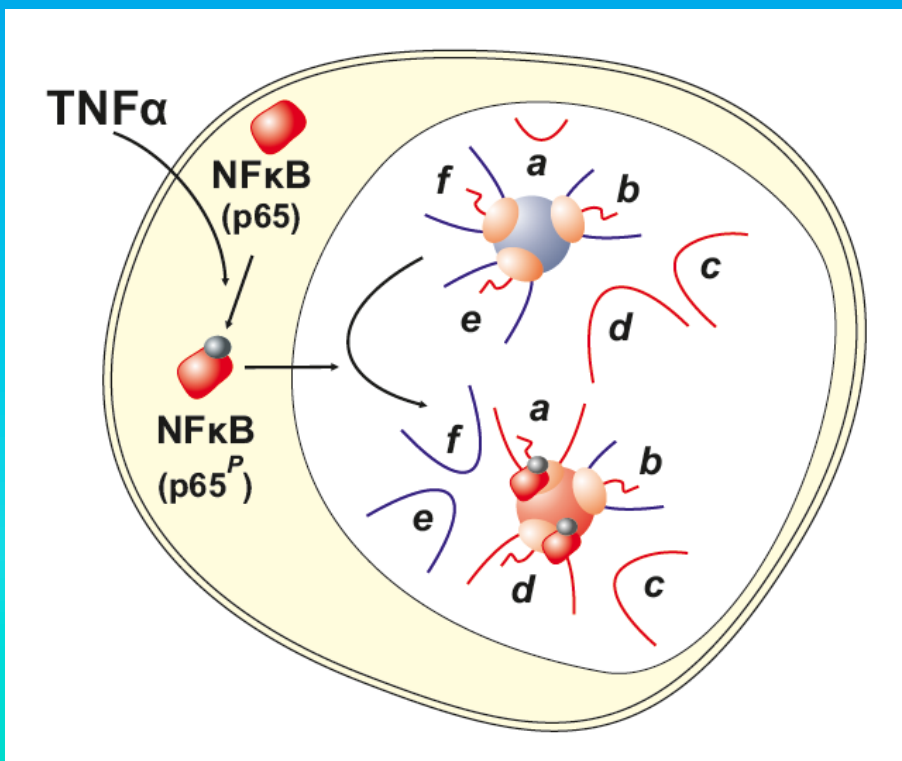


# Transcription Structure-Function Relationship WP3

Transcription rates are determined by qRT-PCR, RNA and DNA FISH using intronic probes and high-resolution laser scanning and single molecule imaging. Transcription-dependent changes of active and inactive loci compared result in the transcription structure-function relationship.

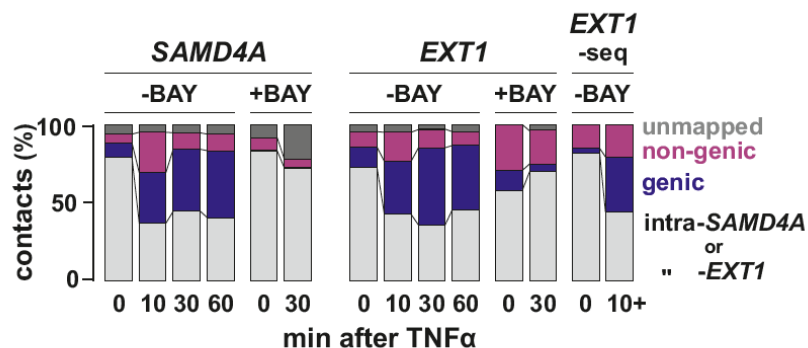


## Hypothesis Transcriptionfactories

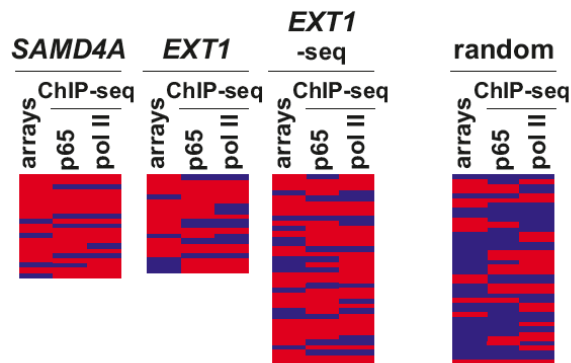


## TNFα induces SAMD4A/EXT1 to Associate with other Responsive Genes

### a Circular 3C libraries



### b Pooled contacts



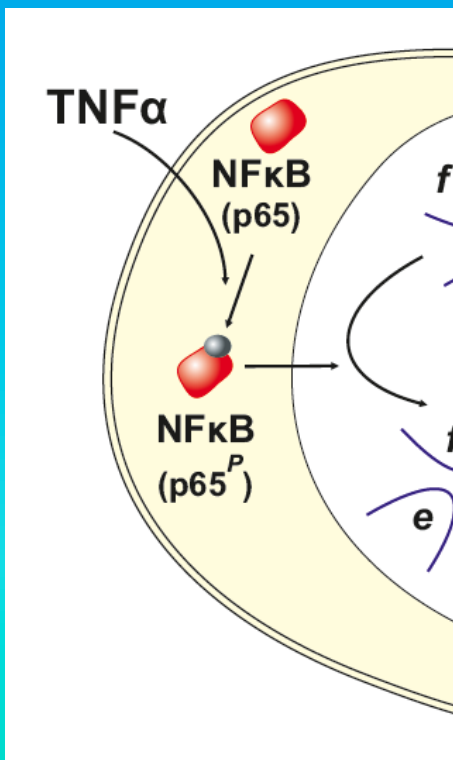
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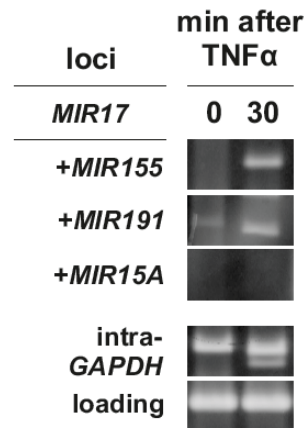
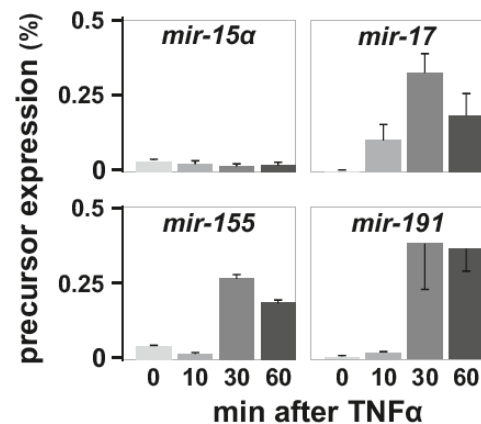


## TNF $\alpha$ -Responsive Genes hosting miRNAs Co-Associate

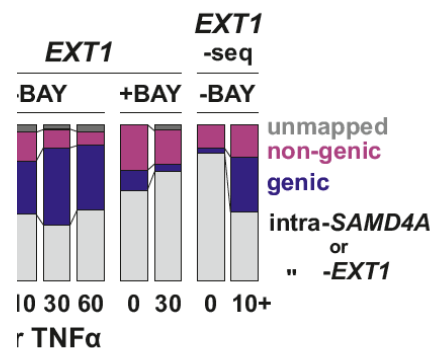
### Hypothesis Trans



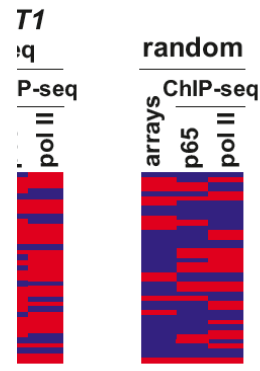
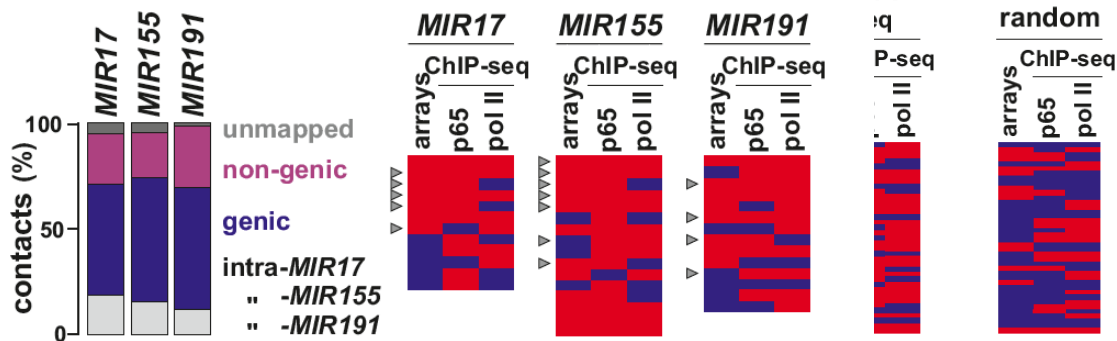
### a Precursor miRNA (qRT-PCR)      b Contacts (3C)



## SAMD4A/EXT1 Other Responsive Genes



### c Circular 3C libraries (30 min after TNF $\alpha$ )

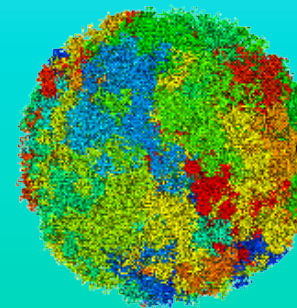
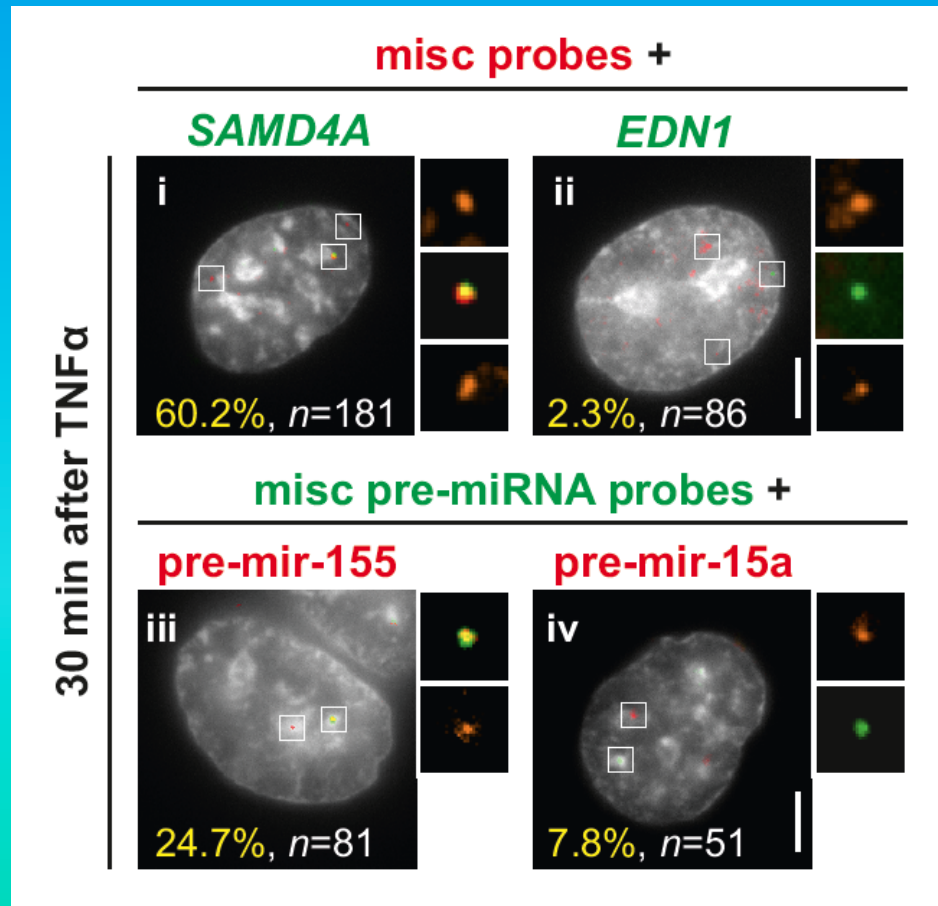


# Transcription Structure-Function Relationship WP3

Transcription rates will be determined by qRT-PCR, RNA and DNA FISH using intronic probes and high-resolution laser scanning and single molecule imaging. Transcription-dependent changes of active and inactive loci compared result in the transcription structure-function relationship.



## Nascent Transcripts Colocalize with Responsive Genes



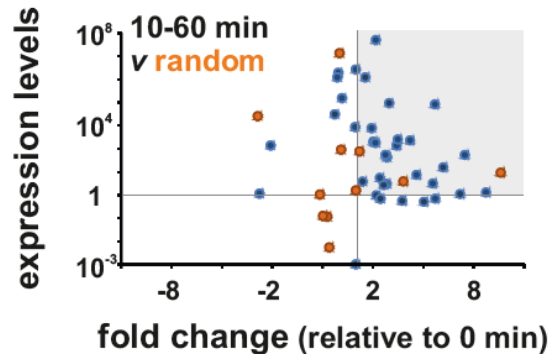
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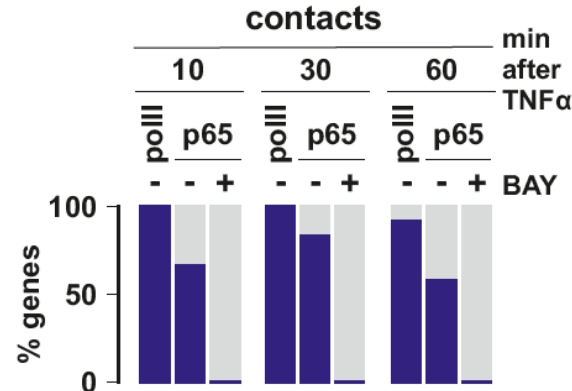


## Range of Responsiveness & RNA Polymerase II and NFκB

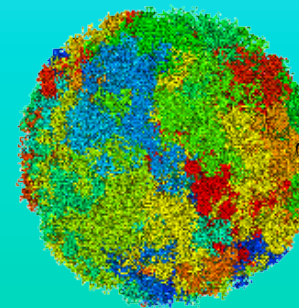
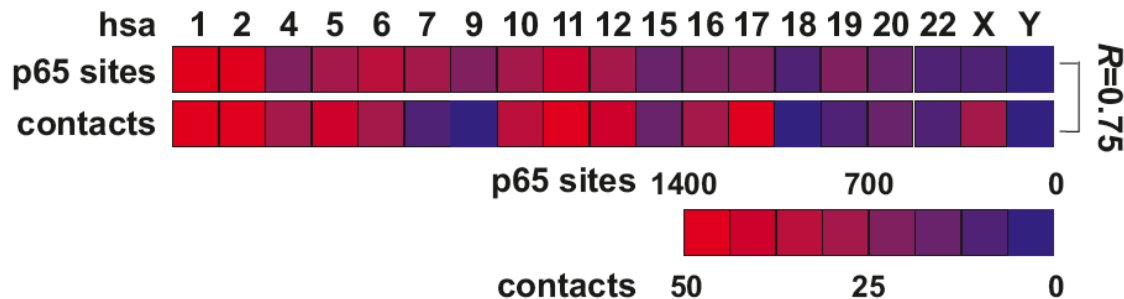
**a** Correlating responsiveness with nascent RNA levels



**b** RNA polII and p65 binding



**c** Correlating 3C contacts with p65 binding sites



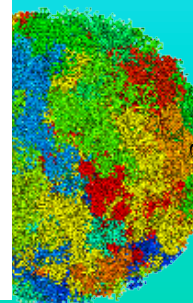
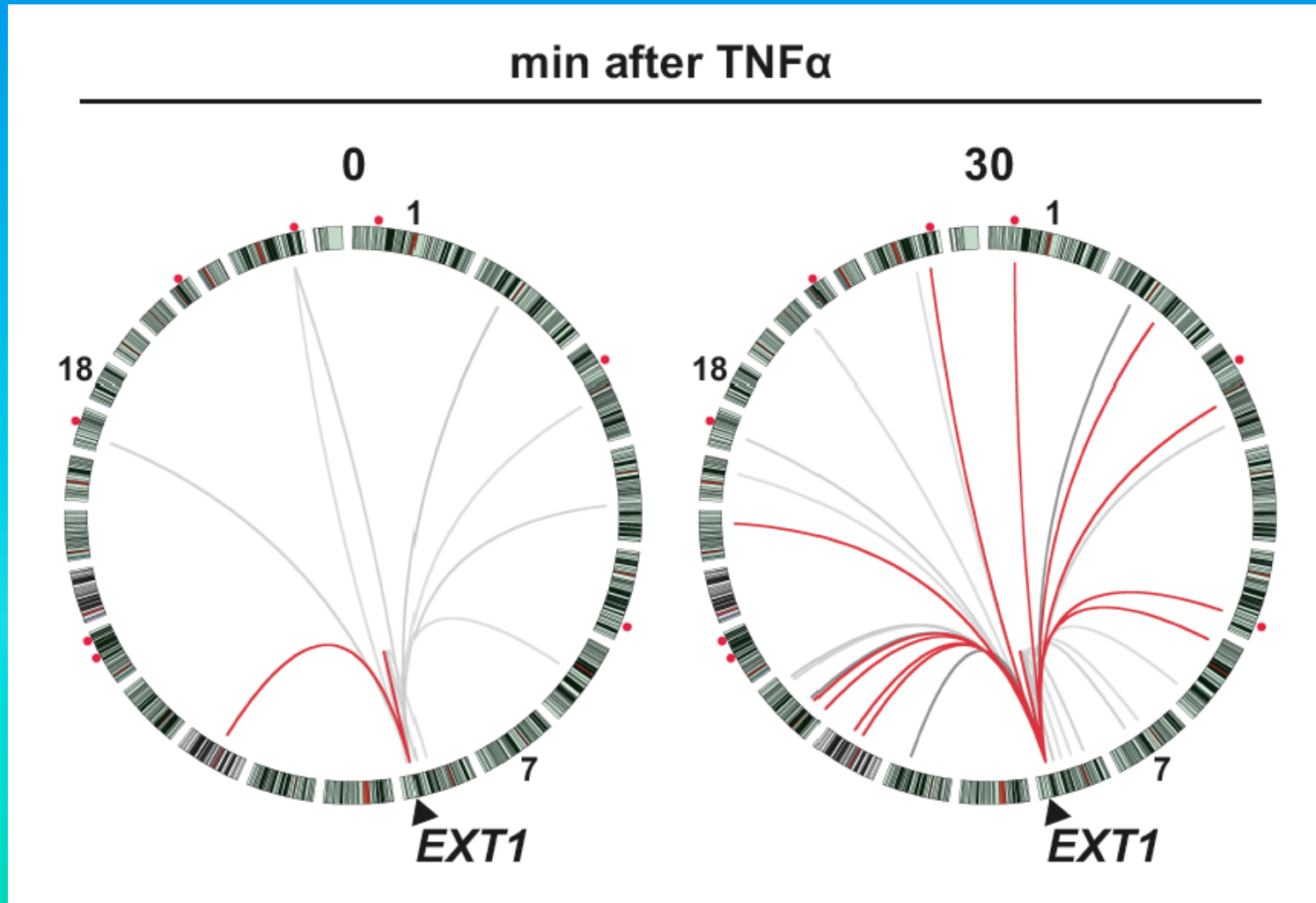


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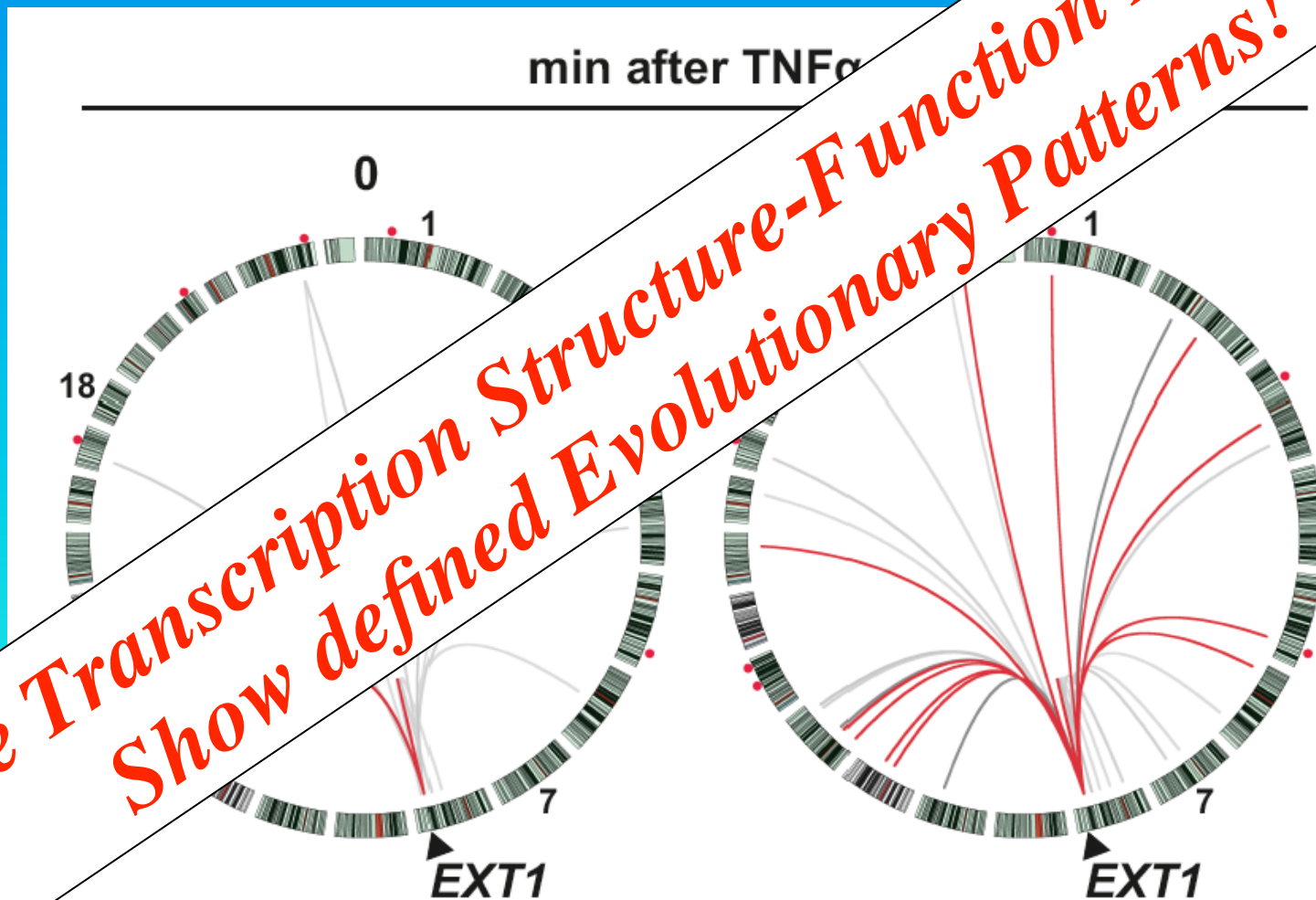
## Contacts Evolve over Time



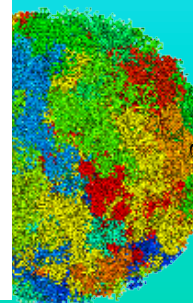
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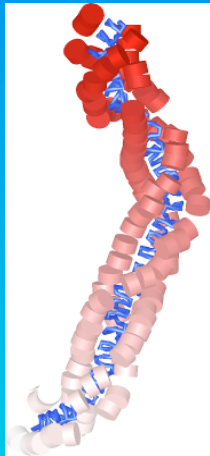


**The Transcription Structure-Function Relation  
Show defined Evolutionary Patterns!**

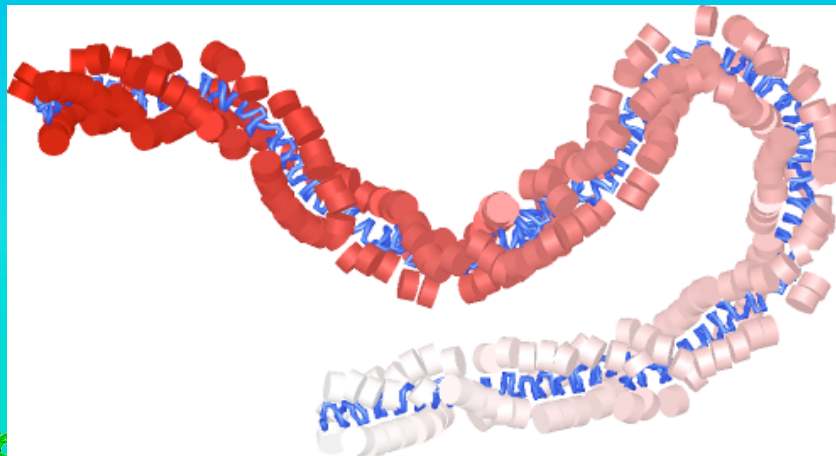


# Simulation of Nucleosomes & Chromatin WP4

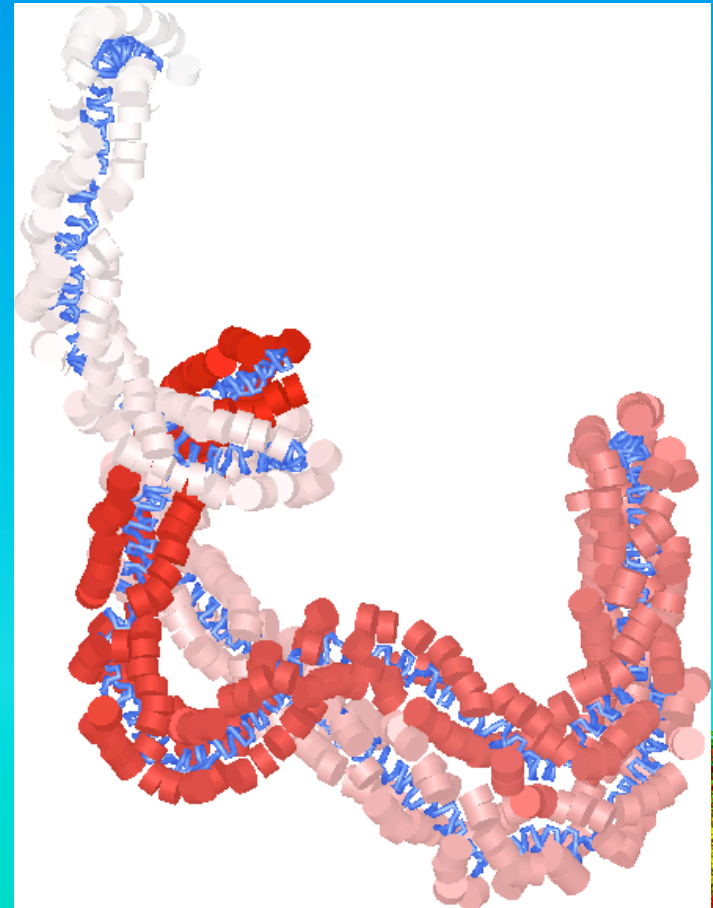
By parallel super-computer simulations using novel algorithms allow to simulate nucleosome and chromatin fibers up to 1000 nucleosomes, with variations of the nucleosomal position and linker length inbetween. The unprecedented scale and variation leads to new before unseen chromatin states.



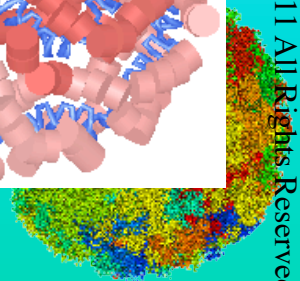
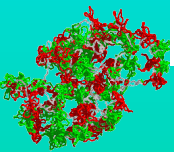
**100 nucleosomes**



**250 nucleosomes**



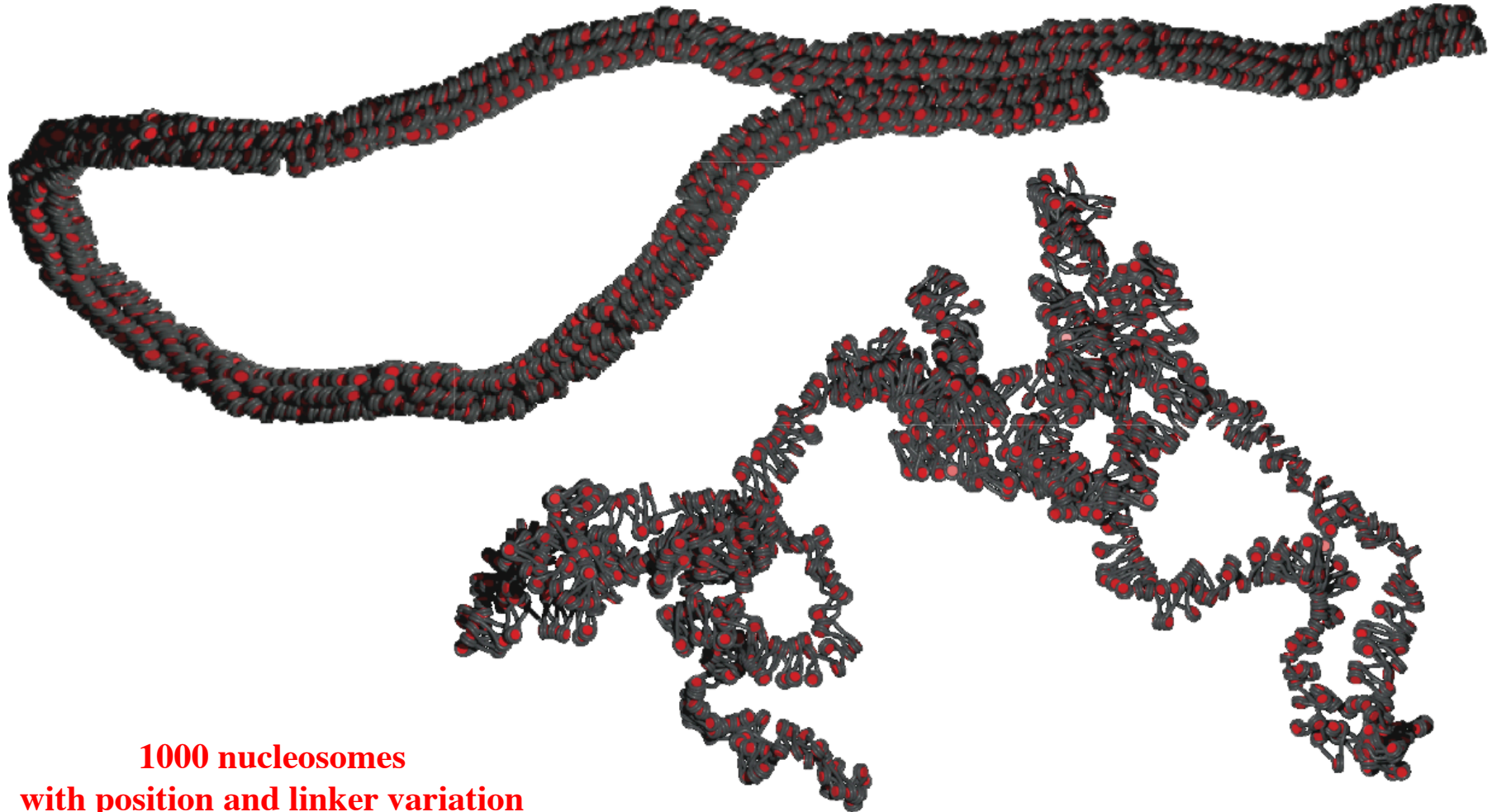
**500 nucleosomes**



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A collage of logos for various research institutions and funding agencies, including the German Research Foundation (DFG), BBSRC, NWO, European Commission, Erasmus MC, University of Oxford, and others. A central circular logo features the text 'ExGenSys Chromatin' and 'Structure - Function'.

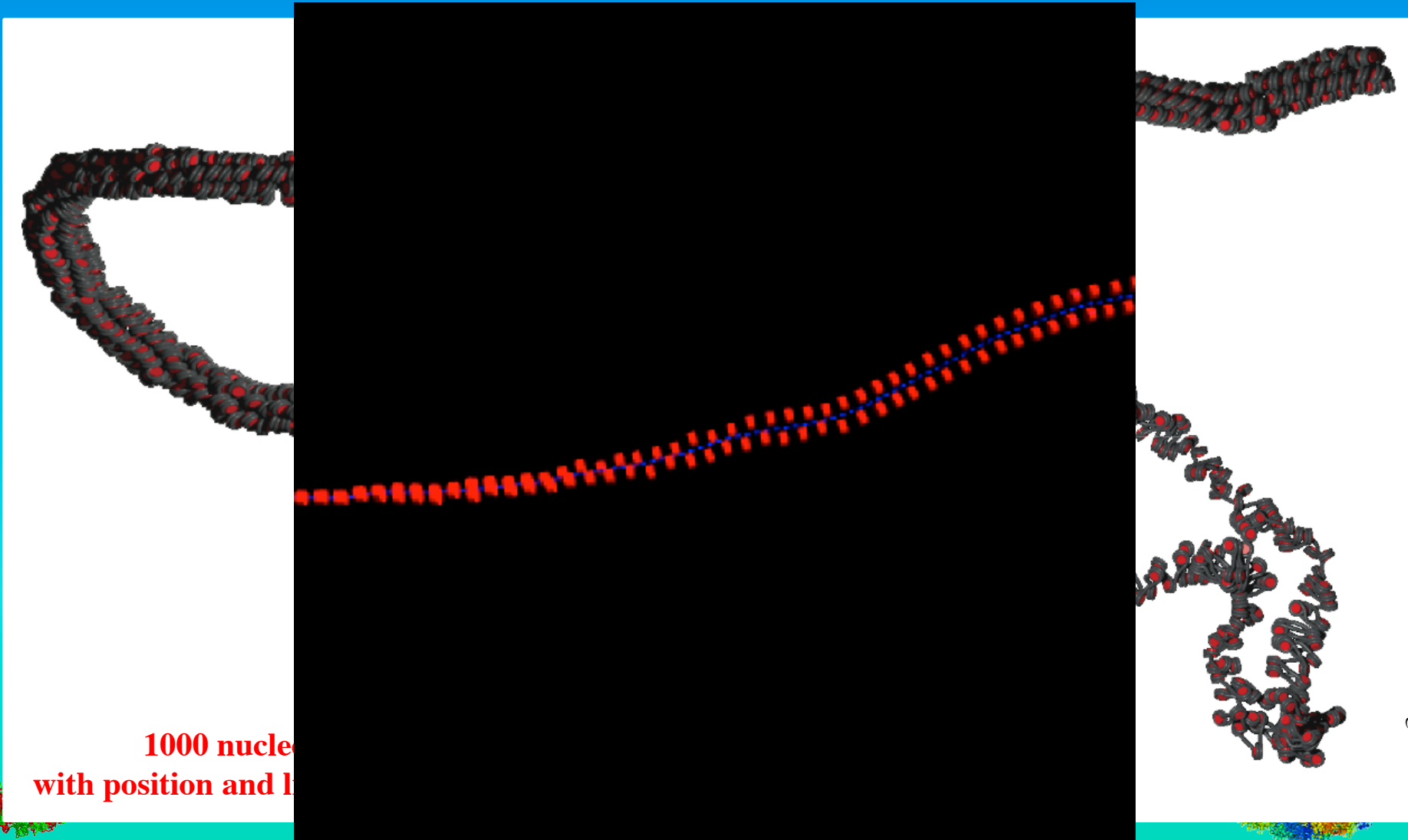


**1000 nucleosomes  
with position and linker variation**



# Simulation of Nucleosomes & Chromatin WP4

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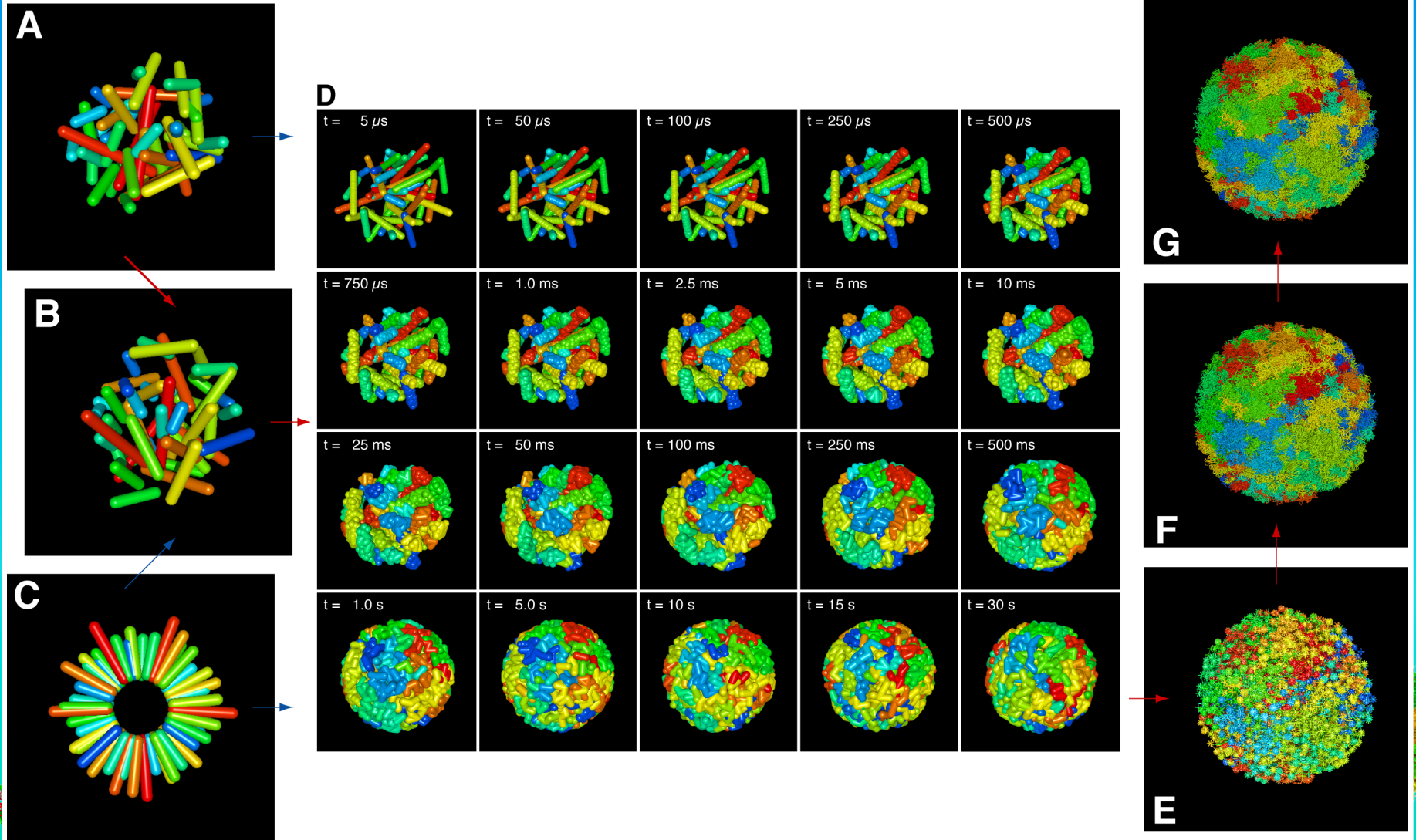


**Simulations Reveal the Connection between Nucleosome Position & Fiber Structure !**

with nucleosome position and linker length

# Simulation of Nucleosomes, Chromatin, & Nuclei WP4

By parallel super-computer simulations using novel Monte Carlo and Brownian Dynamics approaches simulate chromosomes and whole nuclei with unprecedented resolution, resulting in novel predictions for the detailed folding of the chromatin fiber with corresponding impact on the experimental evaluation.

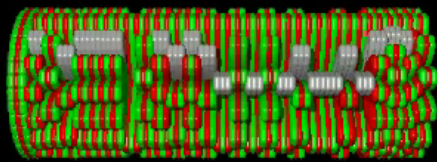


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A



1S

1n

1S

1S



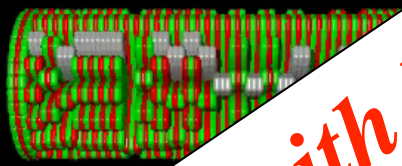
E



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A



5  
10  
15

*Simulations with Better Statistics and Resolutions  
Reveal Genome Structure and Dynamics!*



E

# Systems Biological Result Communication via Internal and External Communication Windows WP5

Three classic internal and external communication windows were opened: i) the EpiGenSys website communicates with the public, ii) the EpiGenSys Wiki functions is used for exchange, and iii) the EpiGenSys SysMO DB archives in a virtual labnote the data. All allow access to the systems and are the basis for the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform.



## EpiGenSys Public Website

System Biological Determination of the Epigenomic Structure – Function Relation – EpiGenSys –

**The Project**

Despite our knowledge of the sequence of the human genome, the relation of its dynamic three-dimensional architecture with its function – the storage and expression of genetic information – remains one of the central unresolved issues in biology. However, it became very clear meanwhile, that this chromatin architecture (and changes thereof) are central factors for the epigenetic regulation of gene expression and other important genomic processes on multiple scales, comprising: i) the nucleosome, in which 147 DNA base pairs are wrapped around a histone octamer protein core, ii) folding of the nucleosome chain into the chromatin fiber, iii) its higher-order organization into loops and iv) loop aggregates, as well as v) the chromosome. Despite recent advancements showing these levels to control holistically the function of genes under normal and disease conditions we still remain unable to predict how active e.g. a gene might be when inserted into any one genomic location, i.e. another global context.

Therefore, EpiGenSys will in a unique interdisciplinary systems biology virtual laboratory combine experiment with theory to analyze the (epi-)genomic structure-function relationships within the dynamic organization of several important genetic loci and the genome in general. We will investigate: i) the nucleosome and chromatin fiber organization, ii) 3D architecture of the genome, and iii) the transcription structure-function relationship. Therefore, we will use advanced high-throughput methods and highest-resolution microscopy. With extreme parallel super-computer simulations of the biological structures/architectures based on the experiments we will be able to evaluate and predict their outcome. Altogether the experimental and theoretic framework will be combined into a systems biology model using our GLOBE 3D EpiGenSys Platform – a completely novel virtual ‘paper tool’ for the analysis, manipulation and understanding of complex genome-wide data sets. Consequently, the relation between DNA sequence, epigenetic modifications and spatial chromatin organization will be integrated with functional cell states in a truly systems biology approach – an essential requirement to fulfill the dreams for better diagnostics and treatment e.g. by gene therapy in the 21st century.

## EpiGenSys Wiki

Edited Yesterday at 8:27 AM by epigenysys...

✳ **Epi-genomic structure-function**

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Group leader: T.A. Knoch, F. Grosveld, P. Cook, K. Rippe, G. Wedemann, G. Längst

- [Project Overview](#) - [EpiGenSys Meetings](#) - [Login for Members](#) - [Funding agencies](#) - [Publications](#) - [NEWS](#) - [Contact](#) -

**Work Packages**

- [WP1](#) Nucleosomal association changes
- [WP2](#) Intra/inter chromosomal architecture
- [WP3](#) Transcriptional structure relationship
- [WP4](#) Simulations of nucleosomal, chromatin fiber and chromosome architecture and dynamics
- [WP5](#) System biological result integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform

## EpiGenSys SysMO DB

Find, share and exchange **Data, Models and Processes** within the EpiGenSys, EpiSys, CancerEpiSys & MycNet Consortia.

**People** Projects Institutions Investigations Studies Assays Data Models SOPs Publications Forums Events Help

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- Biochemistry Cell and tissue culture chromosome 15
- d-geometry Computational and theoretical biology Data Management Database Disease
- Metric Genetics 3D-geometry Isolation purification and separation Mathematical modeling
- Molecular Dynamics Monte Carlo simulations Nucleosome Physics 3D Software Engineering Transcriptional structure-function
- Organisms
- Homo sapiens
- Mus musculus

<b>Peter Cook</b>	<p><b>Disciplines:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Roles:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Expertise:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Email:</b> peter.cook@path.ox.ac.uk</p> <p><b>Web page:</b> http://users.path.ox.ac.uk/~pcook</p>	<p><b>Projects:</b> EpiGenSys WP2: Intra/inter chromosomal architecture, EpiGenSys WP3: Transcriptional structure relationship, EpiGenSys WP5: GLOBE 3D Genome Platform</p> <p><b>Institutions:</b> The Sir Vivian Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> +44 1865 275528</p> <p><b>Skype:</b> peter.r.cook</p>
<b>Tobias A. Knoch</b>	<p><b>Disciplines:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Roles:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Expertise:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Email:</b> ta.knoch@ukrnoch.org</p> <p><b>Web page:</b> http://www.ta-knoch.org</p>	<p><b>Projects:</b> EpiGenSys WP1: Nucleosome positioning, EpiGenSys WP2: Intra/inter chromosomal architecture, EpiGenSys WP3: Transcriptional structure relationship, EpiGenSys WP4: Multi-scale simulations of chromatin architecture, EpiGenSys WP5: GLOBE 3D Genome Platform</p> <p><b>Institutions:</b> DKFZ, Eukaryotic Medical Center</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Skype:</b> tga-knoch</p>
<b>Gernot Längst</b>	<p><b>Disciplines:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Roles:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Expertise:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Email:</b> gernot.laengst@uk.uni-regensburg.de</p> <p><b>Web page:</b> http://www.uni-regensburg.de</p>	<p><b>Projects:</b> EpiGenSys WP1: Nucleosome positioning, EpiGenSys WP2: Intra/inter chromosomal architecture, EpiGenSys WP3: Transcriptional structure relationship, EpiGenSys WP5: GLOBE 3D Genome Platform</p> <p><b>Institutions:</b> University of Regensburg, NWFH, Biochemistry</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 0941 943 2849</p> <p><b>Skype:</b> Laengst Gernot</p>

**Work packages**

- WP1 Nucleosomal association changes  
May 14, 2011 3:30 PM
- WP5 System biological result integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform  
May 14, 2011 2:58 PM
- WP4 Simulations of nucleosomal, chromatin fiber and chromosome architecture and dynamics  
May 14, 2011 2:58 PM
- WP3 Transcriptional structure relationship  
May 14, 2011 2:54 PM
- WP2 Intra/inter chromosomal architecture  
May 14, 2011 2:53 PM

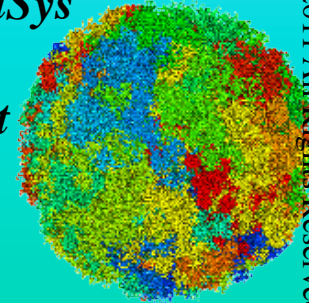
**What's Hot**

No items tagged with hot.

**Recent Changes**

Publications  
Yesterday at 8:57 AM  
Diana, Madsen

Joined with:  
**EpiGenSys**  
**CancerEpiSys**  
**EpiSys**  
**MycNet**



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# Systems Biological Result Communication via Internal and External Communication Windows WP5

Three classic internal and external communication windows were opened: i) the EpiGenSys website communicates with the public, ii) the EpiGenSys Wiki functions is used for exchange, and iii) the EpiGenSys SysMO DB archives and labnote the data. All allow access to the systems and are the basis for the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform.

## EpiGenSys Public Website

**System Biological Determination of the Epigenomic Structure – Function Relation – EpiGenSys –**

**The Project**

Despite our knowledge of the sequence of the human genome, the relation of its dynamic three-dimensional architecture with its function – the storage and expression of genetic information – remains one of the central unresolved issues in biology. However, it became very clear meanwhile, that this chromatin architecture (and changes thereof) are central factors for the epigenetic regulation of gene expression and other important genomic processes on multiple scales, comprising: i) the nucleosome, in which 147 DNA base pairs are wrapped around a histone octamer protein core, ii) folding of the nucleosome chain into the chromatin fiber, iii) its higher-order organization into loops and iv) loop aggregates, as well as v) the chromosome. Despite recent advancements showing these levels to control holistically the function of genomes under normal and disease conditions we still remain unable to predict how active e.g. a gene might be when inserted into any one genomic location, i.e. another global context.

Therefore, EpiGenSys will in a unique interdisciplinary systems biology virtual laboratory combine experiment with theory to analyze the (epi-)genomic structure-function relationships within the dynamic organization of several important genetic loci and the genome in general. We will investigate: i) the nucleosome and chromatin fiber organization, ii) 3D architecture of the genome, and iii) the transcription structure-function relationship. Therefore, we will use advanced high-throughput methods and highest-resolution microscopy. With extreme parallel super-computer simulations of the biological structures/architectures based on the experiments we will be able to evaluate and predict their outcome. Altogether the experimental and theoretic framework will be combined into a systems biology model using our GLOBE 3D EpiGenSys Platform – a completely novel virtual ‘paper tool’ for the analysis, manipulation and understanding of complex genome-wide data sets. Consequently the relation between DNA sequence, epigenetic modifications and spatial chromatin organization will be integrated with functional cell states in a truly systems biology approach – an essential step to fulfill the dreams for better diagnostics and treatment e.g. by gene therapy in the 21st century.

**EpiGenSys has Three Internal and External “Classic Windows” for Communication!**

**Structure-function**

Despite our knowledge of the sequence of the human genome, the relation of its dynamic three-dimensional architecture with its function – the storage and expression of genetic information – remains one of the central unresolved issues in biology.

EpiGenSys consortium will combine experiment with theory to analyze the epigenomic structure-function relationships. We will investigate: i) the nucleosome and chromatin fiber organization, ii) 3D architecture of the genome, and iii) the transcription structure-function relationship.

Group leader: T.A. Knoch, F. Grosvedel, P. Cook, K. Rippe, G. Wedemann, G. Längst

- [Project Overview](#) - [EpiGenSys Meetings](#) - [Login for Members](#) - [Funding agencies](#) - [Publications](#) - [NEWS](#) - [Contact](#) -

**Work Packages**

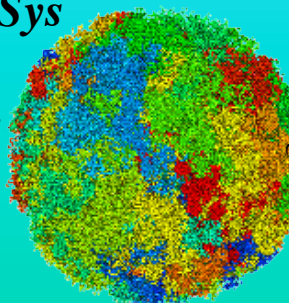
- [WP1](#) Nucleosomal association changes
- [WP2](#) Intra/inter chromosomal architecture
- [WP3](#) Transcriptional structure relationship
- [WP4](#) Simulations of nucleosome, chromatin fiber and chromosome architecture and dynamics
- [WP5](#) System biological result integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform

**Tobias A. Knoch**

**Disciplines:** Not specified  
**Roles:** Not specified  
**Expertise:** Not specified  
**Email:** ta.knoch@tuebingen.uni-tuebingen.de  
**Web page:** http://www.tuebingen.uni-tuebingen.de

**Projects:** EpiGenSys WP2: Intra/inter chromosomal architecture, EpiGenSys WP3: Transcriptional structure relationship, EpiGenSys WP5: GLOBE 3D Genome Platform  
**Institutions:** The Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford  
**Tools:** Not specified  
**Phone:** +44 1865 275528  
**Skype:** peter.r.cook

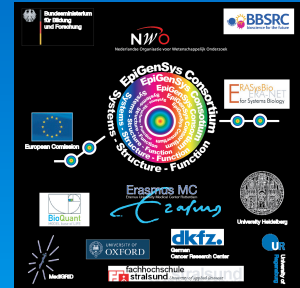
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**MycNet**





# EpiGenSys International Large-Scale High-Throughput Data Analysis Centers and Grid Gateway WP5

The GLOBE 3D Genome Platform consists of individual components: i) the Sequence Archiving System stores complete genome sequences, ii) the Galaxy platform allows the analysis of genomes, and iii) for data analysis a gateway allows access to super-computer and grid access as our own established volunteer grid with a high public impact.



## EpiGenSys Sequence Archiving Systems of Completely Sequenced Genomes

**Search for EMBL entries**

**Genomes**

Primary Accession Number:  
Accession Number:  
Sequence Version Number:  
Sequence Update Version:  
Sequence Type:  
Molecule:

**Visible genome attributes in the results**

Primary Accession Number  
Accession Number  
Sequence Version Number  
Sequence Update Version  
Sequence Type  
Molecule  
Data Class  
Taxonomic Division  
Creation Date  
Latest Update Date  
Description  
Keyword  
Organism Species  
Organism Classification  
Protein Existence  
Total Base Length  
Length A (adenine)  
Length C (cytosine)  
Length G (guanine)  
Length T (thymine)  
Length U (uracil)  
Main Class  
Path Id  
File Id

**Visible correlation attributes in the results**

Correlation Status  
Correlation Policy  
Current Correlation Stage  
Total Correlation Stages

**Other in the results**

link to email file  
link to raw sequence file  
link to correlated sequence file (if exists)

**Browse the Sequence Archive System**

Click [here](#) to browse the EMBL entries.  
Click [here](#) to browse the raw sequences.  
Click [here](#) to browse the correlated sequences.

**Database statistics**

Totals

**Latest 20 inserted entries**

Entry Date	Primary Accession Number	Accession Number	Sequence Version Number	Sequence Update Version	Main Class	Description
2011-09-07	CP002830	(CP002830)	1	2	Bacteria	Mycobacterium tuberculosis H37Rv, complete genome
2011-09-07	CP000896	(CP000896)	1	5	Bacteria	Schlotheimia latilava PCA, complete genome
2011-09-04	CP005232	(CP005232)	2	3	Bacteria	Actinobacter baumanni TDCD-AR015, complete genome
2011-09-04	AE014133	(AE014133;AE014853;AE015037)	2	5	Bacteria	Streptococcus mutans UA159, complete genome
2011-09-04	CP002893	(CP002893;AJ004010000-ADJ01000100)	1	2	Bacteria	Thermotoga bacteriophila TBB-21, complete genome
2011-09-04	U00096	(U00096;AE00111;AE000510)	1	27	Bacteria	Escherichia coli str. K-12 substr. MG1655, complete genome
2011-09-04	CP002883	(CP002883)	1	2	Bacteria	Halobacterium salinarum DSM 9890, complete genome
2011-08-31	CP000679	(CP000679;AA001000000-ADL001000136)	1	5	Bacteria	Caldiveribacterium saccharolyticum DSM 8903, complete genome
2011-08-31	F0312029	(F0312029)	1	2	Bacteria	Streptococcus pneumoniae INV209 genome
2011-08-31	F0312027	(F0312027)	1	2	Bacteria	Streptococcus pneumoniae OK141 genome
2011-08-31	CP003026	(CP003026)	1	1	Bacteria	Enterobacter adurans LF7a, complete genome
2011-08-31	CP002243	(CP002243)	1	2	Bacteria	Candidatus Marnefella endobia P-CT, complete genome
2011-08-31	CP002244	(CP002244)	1	2	Bacteria	Candidatus Tremblaya princeps P-CT, complete genome
2011-08-31	F0312030	(F0312030)	1	2	Bacteria	Streptococcus pneumoniae INV104 genome
2011-08-30	CP002989	(CP002989)	1	1	Bacteria	Halobacterium pylon Pylon120, complete genome
2011-08-30	F0312002	(F0312002)	1	3	Bacteria	Haemophilus parainfluenzae T211 complete genome
2011-08-30	CP002882	(CP002882)	1	1	Bacteria	Halobacterium pylon Pylon35, complete genome
2011-08-30	CP002992	(CP002992)	1	1	Bacteria	Mycobacterium tuberculosis H37Rv, complete genome
2011-08-30	CP002457	(CP002457;AA010100000-ADY01000094)	1	3	Bacteria	Shewanella putrefaciens 296, complete genome
2011-08-30	CP002993	(CP002993;ADP10100000-ADP101000050)	1	1	Bacteria	Streptomyces sp. StrexA-E, complete genome

**Introduction**

An entry is a file containing DNA or RNA sequences and annotation of that sequence. Entries are uniquely identified by an accession number with a version.

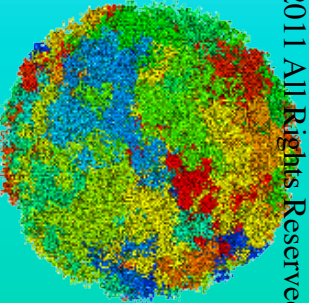
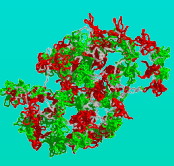
This page allows you to query/search for EMBL entries, which will be returned in a list on another page. Each entry matches specified conditions, which can be set in the fields below. Only entries for which all conditions are valid true, will be returned in the list (e.g. searching for a human accession number with "human" as domain, will result in an empty list, since there are no human accession numbers in the bacteria domain).

The domain conditions allow you to specify in which domain the entry must be queried.

Leaving a text field (e.g. Version) empty means that the conditions will match ANY value. \*\*\* Leaving all checkboxes of the domains empty means that all domains will be queried. This will be changed in the future. \*\*\*

## EpiGenSys Galaxy Analysis

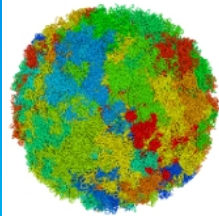
The screenshot shows the Galaxy web interface with a workflow titled "FASTQ quality score". The workflow includes steps like "FASTQ quality score", "FASTQ quality score".





# EpiGenSys International Large-Scale High-Throughput Data Analysis Centers and Grid Gateway WP5

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## Project

Correlizer

Background

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Acknowledgements

## Participants

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## Community

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Profiles

User search

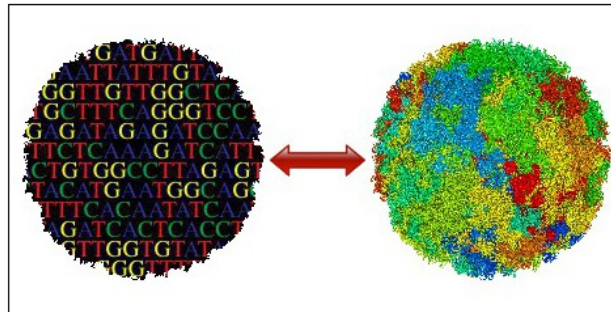
Message boards

Statistics

Languages

## Revealing the Mysteries of Genome Organization

Genomes are fantastic keepers of genetic information and are the outcome of evolutionary replication, mutation and selection. Genomes organize functions from the cellular level, via the organismic level, up to the complex basis of mind. In human cells the genetic information controlling most processes from the cellular level, over embryogenesis to cognitive ability, manifests in a diploid set of 23 DNA molecules (chromosomes), combined they consist of  $\sim 3 \times 10^9$  base pairs (bp) stored in  $\sim 2.80$  GB of data. This whole genome, whose added molecular length totals  $\sim 2$  m, is kept in comparably small cell nuclei with typical diameters of  $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$  or volumes of  $500 \mu\text{m}^3$ . The sequential organization of genomes, i.e. the relations between distant base pairs and regions within sequences, and its connection to the three-dimensional architectural organization of genomes is still a largely unresolved problem.



**Correlizer** has been set up to unravel these mysteries, and we found long-range power-law correlations on almost the entire observable scale of 132 completely sequenced chromosomes of  $0.5 \times 10^6$  to  $3.0 \times 10^7$  bp. Varying from Archaea, Bacteria, Arabidopsis thaliana, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Schizosaccharomyces pombe, Drosophila melanogaster, and Homo sapiens. The local correlation coefficients show a species-specific multi-scaling behavior: close to random correlations on the scale of a few base pairs, a first maximum from 40 to 3,400 bp (for Arabidopsis thaliana and Drosophila melanogaster divided in two submaxima), and often a region of one or more second maxima from  $10^5$  to  $3 \times 10^5$  bp. Within this multi-scaling behavior, an additional fine-structure is present and attributable to codon usage in all except the human sequences, where it is related to nucleosomal binding.

Computer-generated random sequences assuming a block organization of genomes, the codon usage, and nucleosomal binding explain these results. Mutation by sequence reshuffling destroyed all correlations. Thus, the stability of correlations seems to be evolutionarily tightly controlled and connected to the spatial genome organization, especially

## User of the Day



Jeff17

I work in information technology. My primary interest is in the mathematical projects, but I have recently picked up an interest in some of the biology projects as well.

Jeff17
Correlizer
Credits: 56,038
BSrac: 862
Rank: 42
Rank%: 91.102
boincstats.com user stats

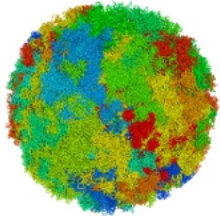
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## Project status

Server software version: 23903M / 7 Sep 2011 | 12:34:36 UTC

### Server status

Program	Host	Status
data-driven pages	web svahe srv2	Running
upload/download server	svahe srv2	Running
scheduler	svahe srv2	Running
feeder	svahe srv2	Running
transitioner	svahe srv2	Running
file_deleter	svahe srv2	Running
db_purge	svahe srv2	Running
ego_validator	svahe srv2	Running
ego_assimilator	svahe srv2	Running
ego_beta_validator	svahe srv2	Running
ego_beta_assimilator	svahe srv2	Running

**Running:** Program is operating normally

**Not Running:** Program failed or the project is down

**Disabled:** Program is disabled

### Computing status

Work	#	Users	#
Tasks ready to send	28,078	with recent credit	435
Tasks in progress	50,451	with credit	472
Workunits waiting for validation	1	registered in past 24 hours	4
Workunits waiting for assimilation	1	<b>Computers</b>	<b>#</b>
Workunits waiting for file deletion	3	with recent credit	1,158
Tasks waiting for file deletion	2	with credit	1,262
Transitioner backlog (hours)	0	registered in past 24 hours	16
		current GigaFLOPs	1,422

### Tasks by application

application		unsent	in progress	avg runtime of last 100 results in h (min-max)	users in last 24h
BioMedical Correlations	Genome	26,860	45,034	0.48 (0.29 - 1.07)	165
Correlizer Applications	Beta	834	5,779	0.46 (0.15 - 1.07)	30

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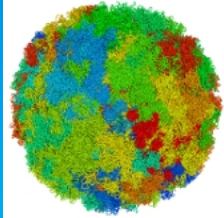
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file_deleter	svahe srv2	Running
db_purge	svahe srv2	Running
ego_validator	svahe srv2	Running
ego_assi	svahe srv2	Running
ego	svahe srv2	Running

## Computing

Computers	#
with recent credit	435
with credit	472
registered in past 24 hours	4
Computers	#
with recent credit	1,158
with credit	1,262
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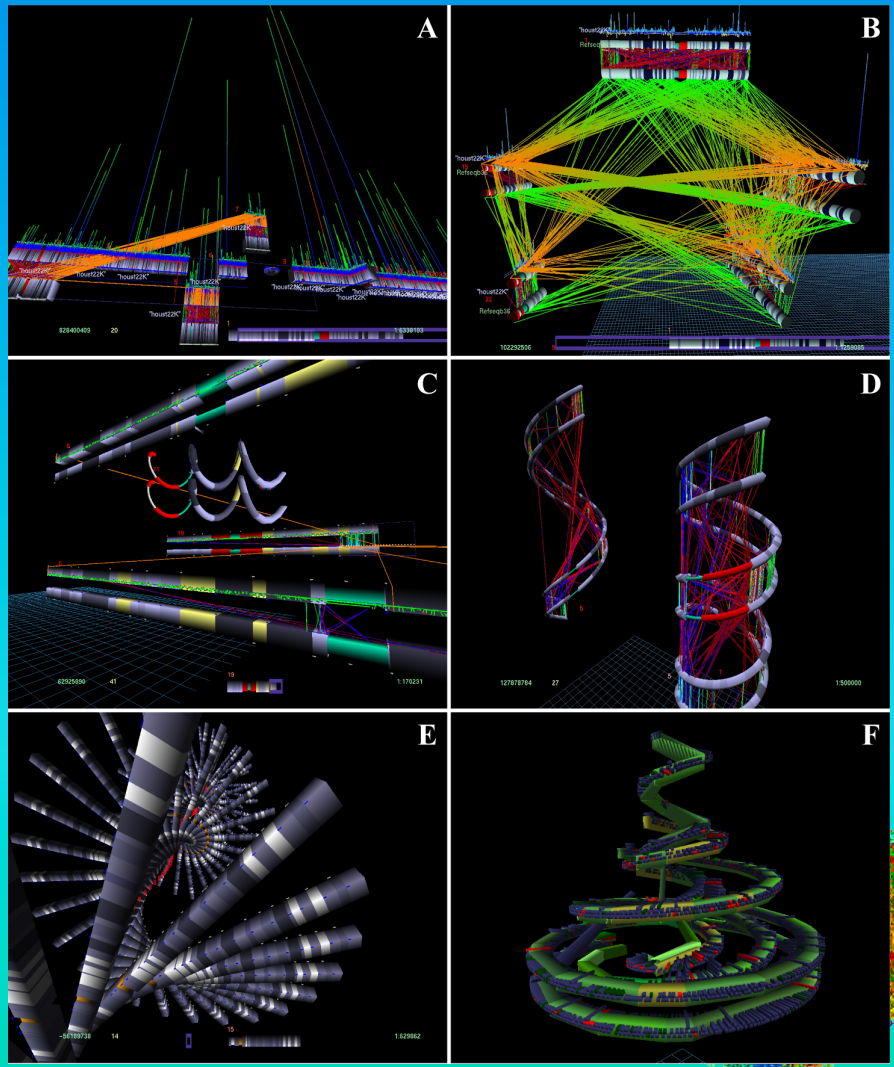
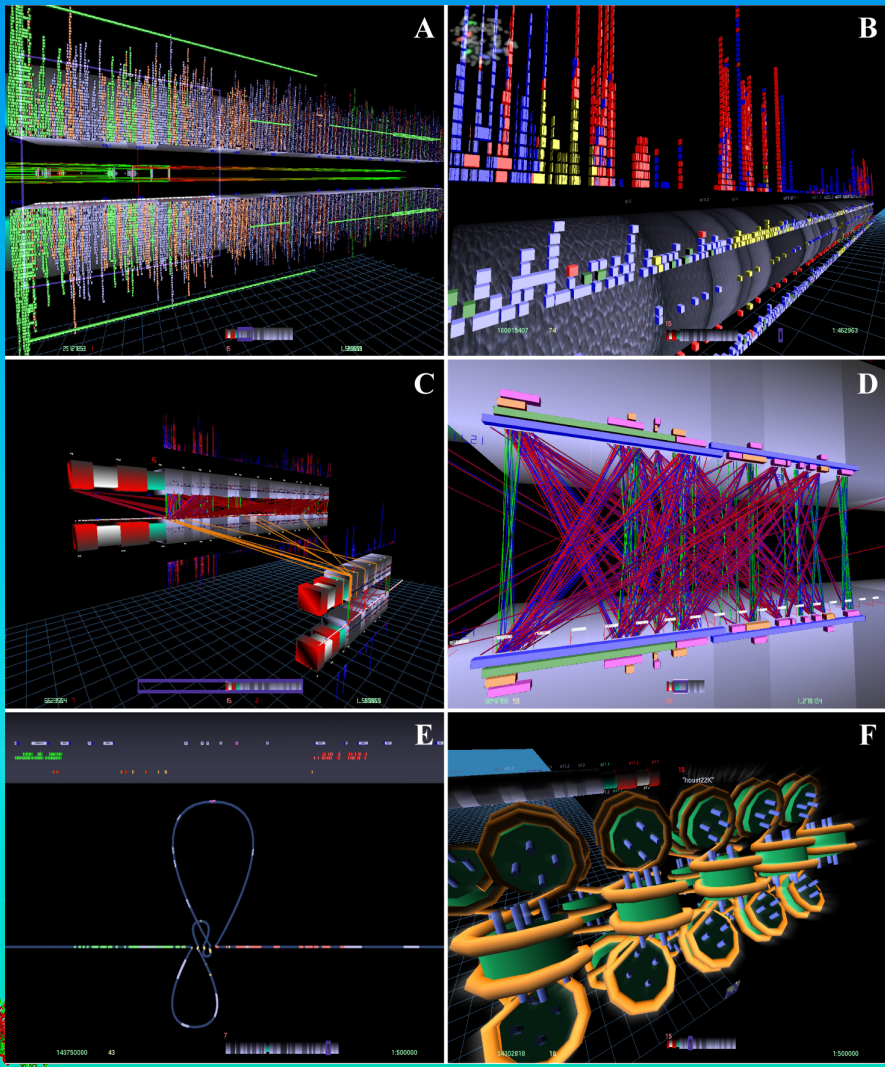
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**EpiGenSys created New Data Analysis Centers and a Volunteer Grid with High Public Impact!**



# EpiGenSys Systems Biological Result Integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform WP5

All results will be integrated using our GLOBE 3D Genome Platform, established for analysis, manipulation and understanding of multi-dimensional complex genome wide data. Thus in reiterative cycles between experiments and simulations a systems biological/medical genome model will be achieved.





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**The GLOBE 3 D Genome Platform is the System-Biological/Medical Integrator!**

# Publications of EpiGenSys

The EpiGenSys consortium approach will be exploited and disseminated in interdisciplinary research publications. Until now 12 research articles and reviews are published or in press. Currently, several are under way and will be published soon.

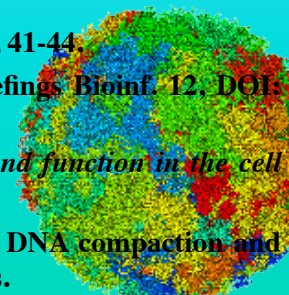


## Research Articles:

1. Melnik, S., Deng, B., Papantonis, A., Babbo, S., Carr, I.M. & Cook, P.R. The proteomes of transcription factories containing polymerases I, II, or III. *Nat. Methods*, in press.
2. Ettig, R., Kepper, N., Stehr, R., Wedemann, G. & Rippe, K. Dissecting DNA-histone interactions by molecular dynamics simulations of unwrapping DNA from the nucleosome, *Biophys. J.*, in press.
3. Felle, M., Hofmeister, H., Rothhammer, J., Fuchs, A., Exler, J., & Längst, G. Nucleosomes protect DNA from DNA methylation in vivo and in vitro. *Nucleic Acids Res.* DOI: 10.1093/nar/gkr263, 2011.
4. Teif, V. & Rippe, K. Nucleosome mediated cross-talk between transcription factors, *Phys. Biol.* 8, 044001, DOI: 10.1088/1478-3975/8/4/044001, 2011.
5. Kepper, N., Ettig, R., Stehr, R., Wedemann, G., & Rippe, K. Force spectroscopy of chromatin fibers: extracting energetics and structural information from Monte Carlo simulations. *Biopolymers* 95, 435-447, 2011.
6. Skrowny, D., Dickmann, F., Löhnhardt, B., Knoch, T. A., & Sax, U. Development of an information platform for new grid users in the biomedical field. *Stud. Health Techno. Inform.* 159, 277-282, 2010.
7. Kepper, N., Ettig, R., Dickmann, F., Stehr, R., Grosveld, F. G., Wedemann, G., & Knoch, T. A. Parallel high-performance grid computing: capabilities and opportunities of a novel demanding service and business class allowing highest resource efficiency. *Stud. Health Techno. Inform.* 159, 264-271, 2010.
8. Kepper, N., Schmitt, E., Lesnussa, M., Weiland, Y., Eussen, H. B., Grosveld, F. G., Hausmann, M., & Knoch, T. A. Visualization, analysis, and design of COMBO-FISH probes in the grid-based GLOBE 3D genome platform. *Stud. Health Techno. Inform.* 159, 159-171, 2010.

## Reviews:

1. Papantonis, A. & Cook, P.R. Fixing the model for transcription: the DNA moves, not the polymerase. *Transcription*, 2, 41-44.
2. Teif, V. & Rippe, K. Calculating transcription factor binding to nucleosomal DNA for large genomic regions, *Briefings Biomf.* 12, DOI: 10.1093/bib/bbr037, 2011.
3. Längst, G., Teif, V. B., & Rippe, K. Chromatin remodeling and nucleosome positioning. In *Genome organization and function in the cell nucleus*, Rippe, K., ed., pp. 111-139, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, 2011.
4. Rippe, K., Stehr, R., Wedemann, G. Monte Carlo simulations of nucleosome chains to identify factors that control DNA compaction and access. In *Innovations in Biomolecular Modeling and Simulation*, Schlick, T., ed., RSC Publishing, Cambridge, in press.



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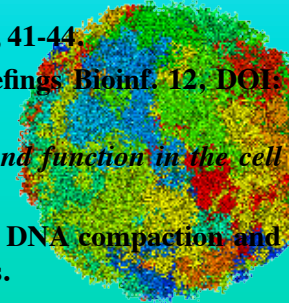
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1. Melnik, S., Deng, B., Papantonis, A., Babbo, S., Carr, I.M. & Cook, P.R. The proteomes of *S. pombe* and *S. cerevisiae* during transcription by polymerases I, II, or III. *Nat. Methods*, in press.
2. Ettig, R., Kepper, N., Stehr, R., Wedemann, G. & Rippe, K. Dissecting DNA-histone interactions by molecular dynamics simulations of unwrapping DNA from the nucleosome, *Biophys. J.*, in press.
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**The Dissemination of Results of EpiGenSys is Underway and Taking Up Speed!**



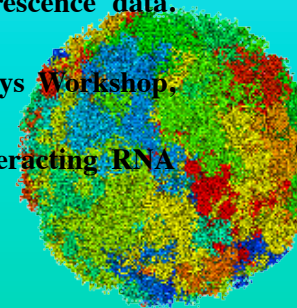
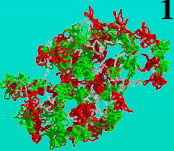


# Presentations of EpiGenSys (before Holidays)

A major aim of the EpiGenSys consortium is to considerably contribute to systems biology in the genomic sector and increase the awareness and understanding of genomic complexity within society. Scientifically that means presenting our work at conferences. The list shown has increased over the holiday period tremendously.



1. Papantonis A., & Cook P. R. Active RNA polymerases are immobile molecular machines tethering dynamic intra- and inter-genic loops. 9<sup>th</sup> EMBL Conference “Chromatin and Transcription”, EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany, 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010.
2. Cook, P.R. Active RNA polymerases are immobile molecular machines. The 69<sup>th</sup> Harden Conference ("RNAP2010 - Structure, function and evolution of RNA polymerases. A joint Biochemical Society / Wellcome Trust conference"), The Wellcome Trust, Hinxton, Cambridge, UK, 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010.
3. Cook, P. R. A model for all genomes: the role of RNA polymerases fixed in factories. GENOFIELD2011 ("International Symposium on the Physicochemical Field for Genetic Activities"), Awaji Island, Japan from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011.
4. Cook, P. R. Active RNA polymerases are immobilized molecular machines. at ‘The 46<sup>th</sup> WINTERSEMINAR (“Biophysical Chemistry, Molecular Biology and Cybernetics of Cell Functions”’), Klosters, Switzerland, 15<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2011.
5. Kepper, N., & Knoch, T. A. Parallel high-performance grid computing: capabilities and opportunities of a novel demanding service and business class allowing highest resource efficiency. HealthGrid 2010 (“Healthgrid Applications and core Technologies”), University XI, Orsay, France, 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.
6. Kepper, N., & Knoch, T. A. Visualization, analysis, and design of COMBO-FISH probes in the grid-based GLOBE 3D genome platform. HealthGrid 2010 (“Healthgrid Applications and core Technologies”), University XI, Orsay, France, 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.
7. Müller, O., Stehr, R., Schöpflin, R., Ettig, R., Kepper, N., Rippe, K., & Wedemann, G.: Computer simulation of chromatin: Modeling the influence of nucleosome repositioning. DPG conference, Verhandl. DPG(VI) 46, 1/2011, p. 231, Dresden., 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011.
8. Rippe, K. Dissecting epigenetic networks. Workshop: Spatio-temporal dynamics challenges from fluorescence data. Symposium series Complexity and Systems Biology. Warwick University, UK, July 13-16<sup>th</sup> 2010.
9. Rippe, K. Chromatin remodelers - from in vitro measurements to studies in living cells. Chromatin Days Workshop. Interdisciplinary Research Institute USR 3078 CNRS, Lille, France, October 7-8<sup>th</sup> 2010.
10. Schubert, T., Pusch, M., Diermeier, S., Gröbner-Ferreira, R., Imhof, A. and Längst, G. Chromatin interacting RNA maintains accessible higher order structures of chromatin, EMBL Transcription Meeting, Heidelberg 2010.





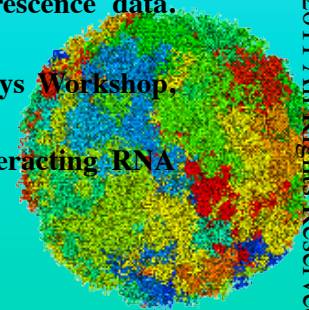
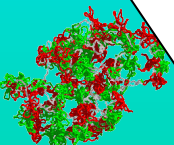
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**The EpiGenSys and EraSysBio+ is very well Disseminated via Presentations!**



# Patents and Additional Funding

Each of the technologies used (and their future developments), plus the synergies that might arise from their combined use, have potential for commercialization due to their uniqueness, novelty, and frontier position, e.g. concerning academic, diagnostic and commercial aspects. These successes also generates new funding opportunities.

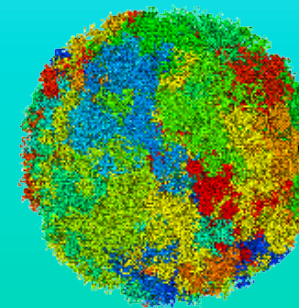
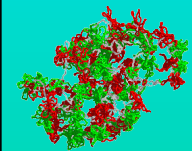


## Patens:

1. Patent 1 by the Knoch/Grosveld group. WP 2.
2. Patent 2 by the Knoch/Grosveld group. WP 2.

## Funding due to EpiGenSys:

1. 1,000,000 Euros on funding the Erasmus Computing Grid over 5 years in end 2009 due to the EpiGenSys expected granting. WP 1 to WP 5.
2. Computer time at the supercomputer center in Hannover twice: i) 24,500 Euros for computation time 2008/2009, and ii) 42,000 Euros for computation time in 2009/2010. WP 1 and WP 2.



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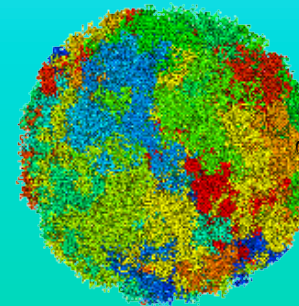
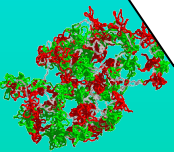
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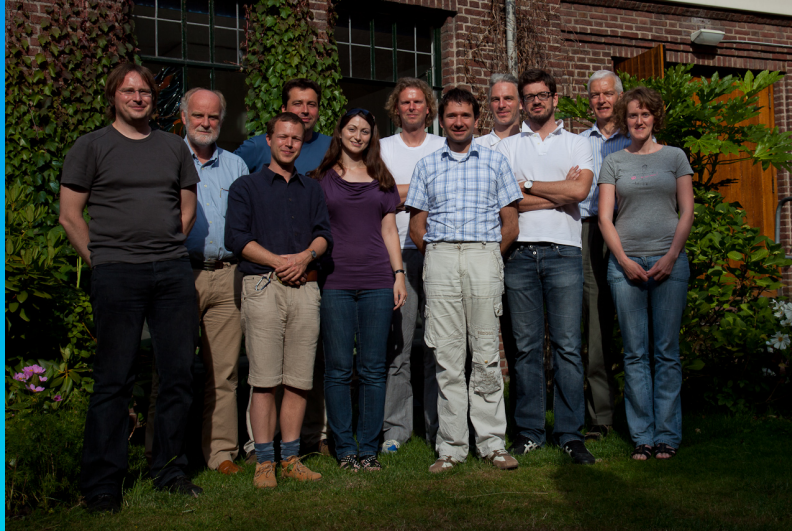
**Exploitation and Refunding is Underway!**



# Acknowledgements

Thanks go to all the lab local lab members, those people who supported this work in the last decades, the institutions providing their infrastructure, and the national and international computing infrastructures.

Special thanks go to the reviewers, the EraSysBio Plus initiative and the national and EU funding bodies.





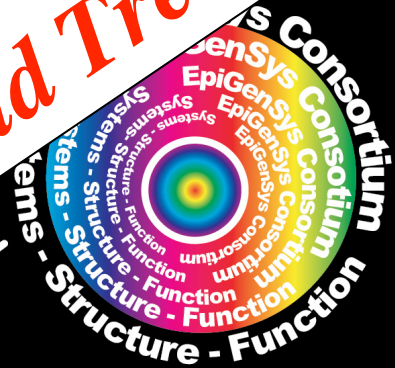
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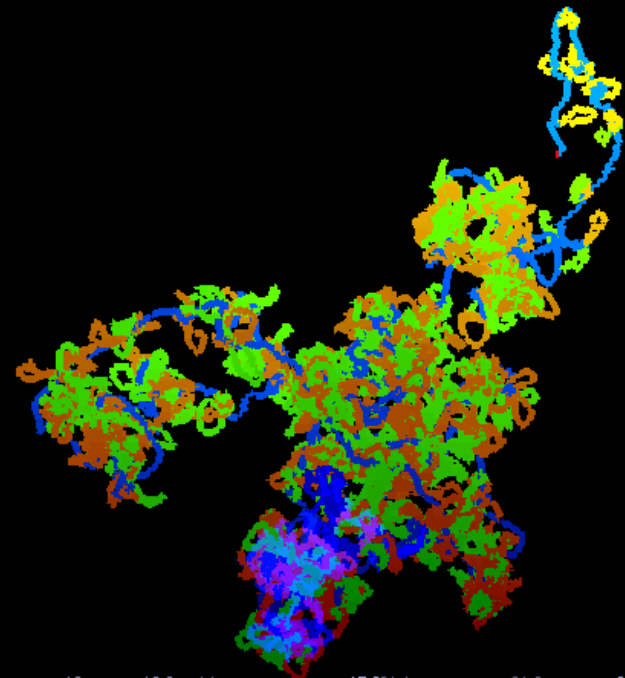
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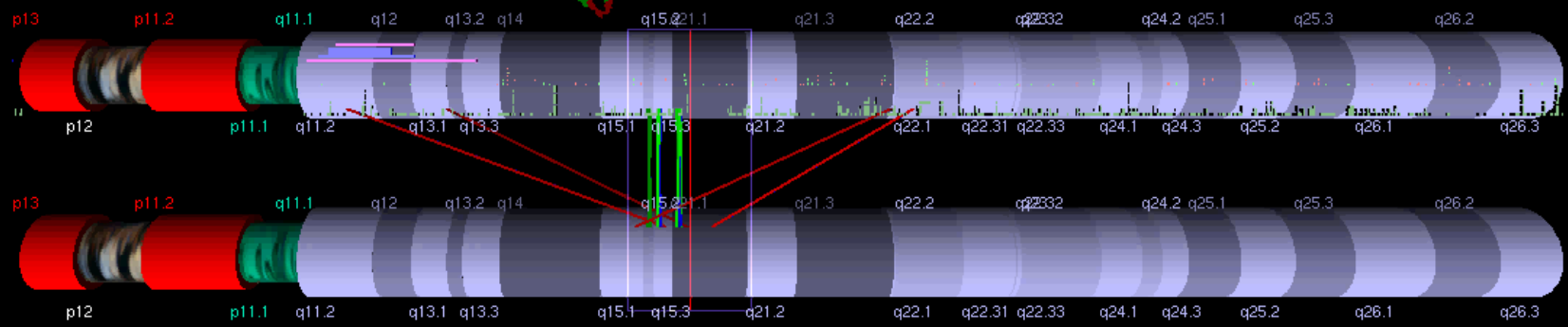


**Towards a Holistic Genome Understanding  
by a Systems Biological/Medical Model for  
Research, Diagnostics and Treatment!**





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# EpiGenSys

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## **Systems Biological Determination of the Epigenomic Structure Function Relation: Nucleosomal Association Changes, Intra/Inter Chromosomal Architecture, Transcriptional Structure Relationship, Simulations of Nucleosomal/Chromatin Fiber/Chromosome Architecture and Dynamics, and Systems Biological/Medical Result Integration via the GLOBE 3D Genome Platform.**

**Knoch, T. A.**

*EpiGenSys Midterm Meeting and Evaluation Conference, Hotel Kaiserwasser, Vienna, 15th September, 2011.*

### *Abstract*

Although the sequence of the human genome is known, the relation of its three-dimensional dynamic architecture with its function – the storage and expression of genetic information – remains one of the central unresolved issues of our time. Here we show how simulations of the structural-, scaling- and dynamic properties of interphase chromosomes and cell nuclei with Monte Carlo and Brownian Dynamics methods (WP4) can be combined with experimental structure preserving 3D FISH combined with high-resolution fluorescence microscopy that allows determination of the centre of mass of target fluorophors at a resolution of ~30 nm – beyond the classical resolution limit (WP2), *in vivo* chromatin labelling (WP2) as well as our newly developed combination of chromosome conformation capture technology and high-throughput deep sequencing (WP2). Best agreement is reached both for the Prader-Willi/Angelman region and the Immunoglobulin heavy-chain (Igh) locus for a Multi-Loop-Subcompartment (MLS) model of chromosome organization predicting 60-150 kbp loop aggregates separated by a similar linker. Beyond, DNA sequence correlation analysis of completely sequenced genomes reveals fine structured multi-scaling long-range correlations. The fine structure in the human case is attributable to nucleosome positioning (WP1) and transcription (WP3). In summary, genomes show a complex sequential and three-dimensional organization related closely to each other in a system biological/medical co-evolutionarily developed entity.

Corresponding author email contact: [TA.Knoch@taknoch.org](mailto:TA.Knoch@taknoch.org)

### Keywords:

Genome, genomics, genome organization, genome architecture, structural sequencing, architectural sequencing, systems genomics, coevolution, holistic genetics, genome mechanics, genome statistical mechanics, genomic uncertainty principle, multilism genotype-phenotype, genome function, genetics, gene regulation, replication, transcription, repair, homologous recombination, simultaneous co-transfection, cell division, mitosis, metaphase, interphase, cell nucleus, nuclear structure, nuclear organization, chromatin density distribution, nuclear

morphology, chromosome territories, subchromosomal domains, chromatin loop aggregates, chromatin rosettes, chromatin loops, chromatin quasi fibre, chromatin density, persistence length, spatial distance measurement, histones, H1.0, H2A, H2B, H3, H4, mH2A1.2, DNA sequence, complete sequenced genomes, molecular transport, obstructed diffusion, anomalous diffusion, percolation, long-range correlations, fractal analysis, scaling analysis, exact yard-stick dimension, box-counting dimension, lacunarity dimension, local nuclear dimension, nuclear diffuseness, parallel super computing, grid computing, volunteer computing, polymer model, analytic mathematical model, Brownian Dynamics, Monte Carlo, fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH), targeted chromatin capture (T2C) confocal laser scanning microscopy, fluorescence correlation spectroscopy, spatial precision distance microscopy, super-resolution microscopy, two dimensional fluorescence correlations spectroscopy (2D-FCS) auto-fluorescent proteins, CFP, GFP, YFP, DsRed, fusion protein, *in vivo* labelling, information browser, visual data base access, holistic viewing system, integrative data management, extreme visualization, three-dimensional virtual environment, virtual paper tool, human ecology, e-human grid ecology, society, social systems, e-social challenge, inverse tragedy of the commons, grid phenomenon, micro-sociality, macro-sociality, autopoietic tragedy of social sub-systems, micro subsystems, macro subsystems, micro operationality, macro operationality, grid psychology micro riskmanagement, macro riskmanagement.

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