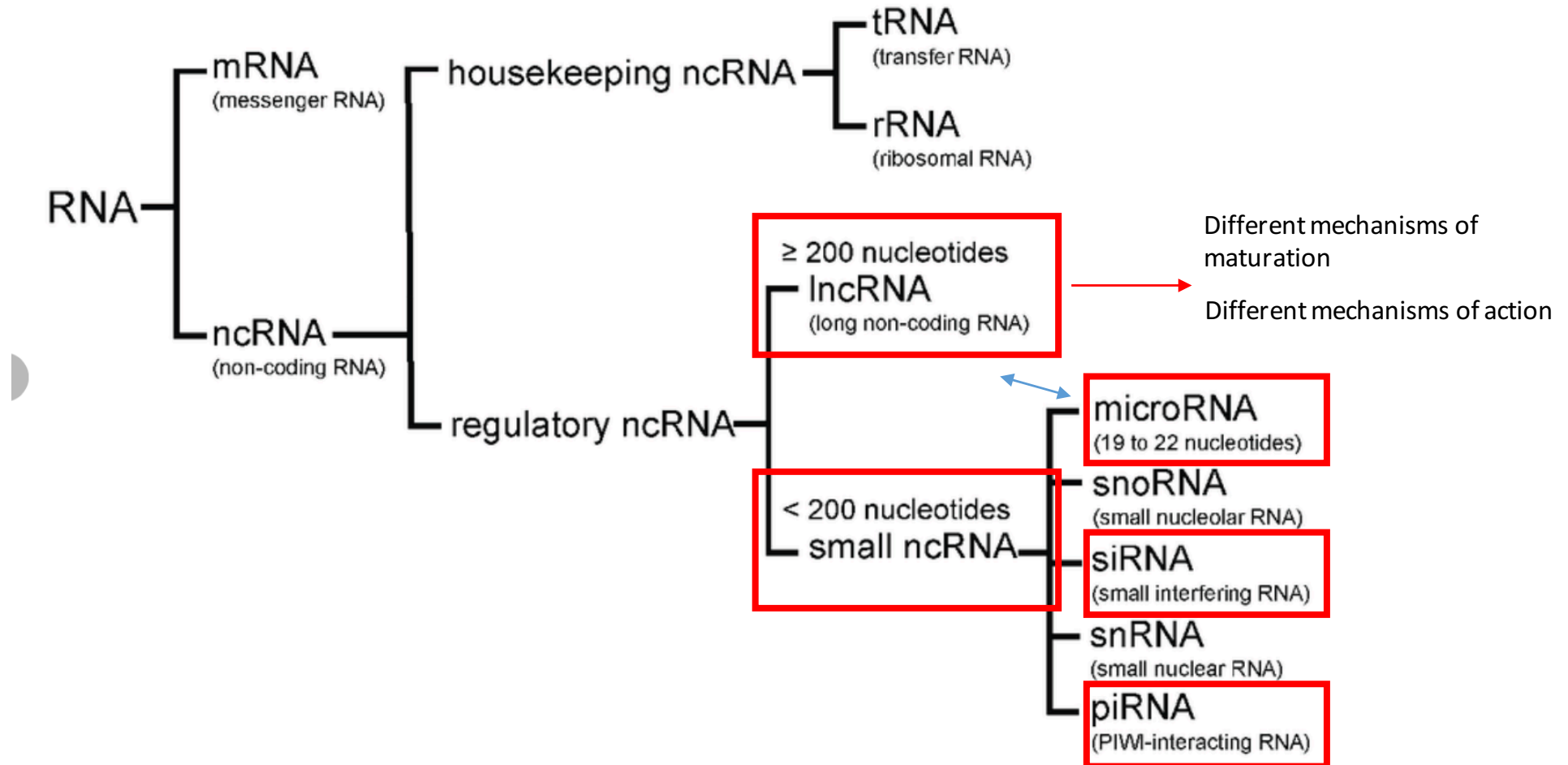


DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF ncRNAs



RNA categories. RNAs are divided into two major classes: messenger RNA (mRNA) and non-coding RNA (ncRNA). NcRNAs include housekeeping ncRNA, which consists of transfer RNA (tRNA) and ribosomal RNA (rRNA), and regulatory ncRNA. Regulatory ncRNAs are classified into long ncRNA (lncRNA) and small ncRNA. Small ncRNAs are subclassified into microRNA, small nucleolar RNA (snoRNA), small interfering RNA (siRNA), small nuclear RNA (snRNA), and PIWI-interacting RNA (piRNA).

lncRNAs

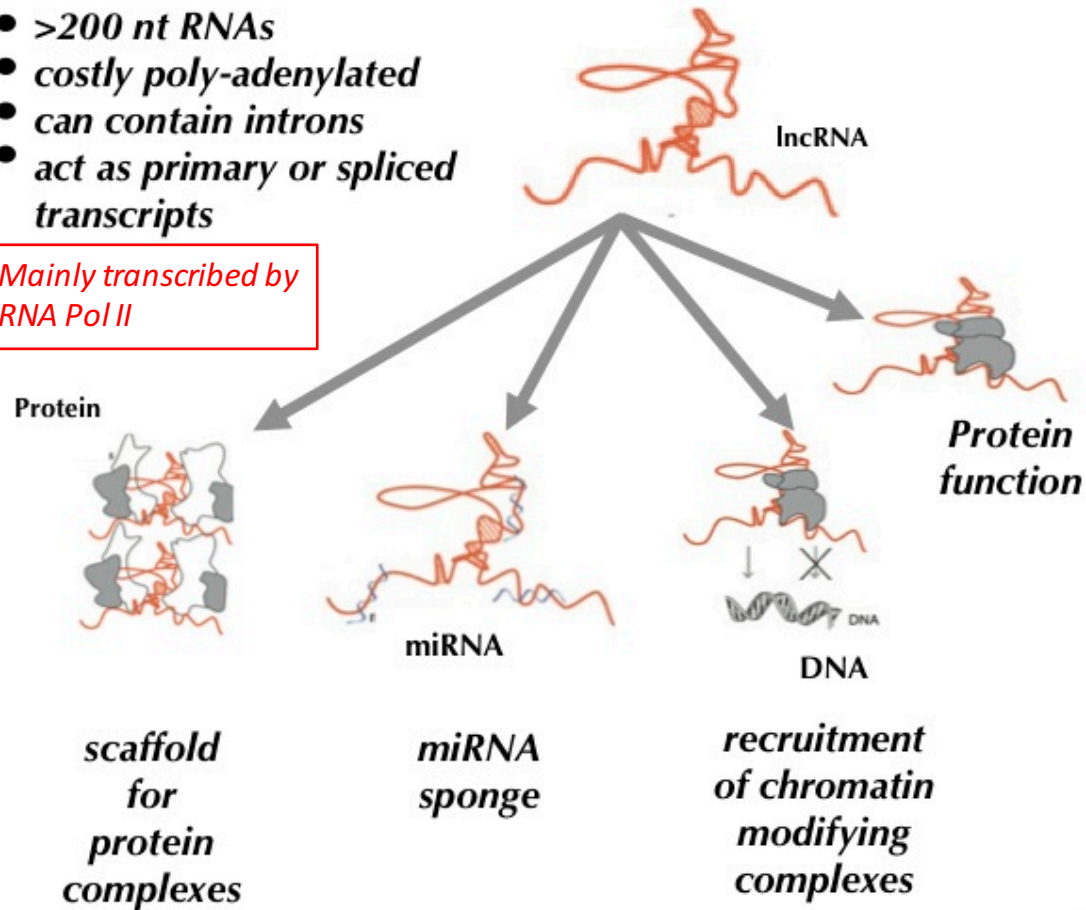
long, non-coding RNAs

Characteristics of lncRNAs

Long, non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs)

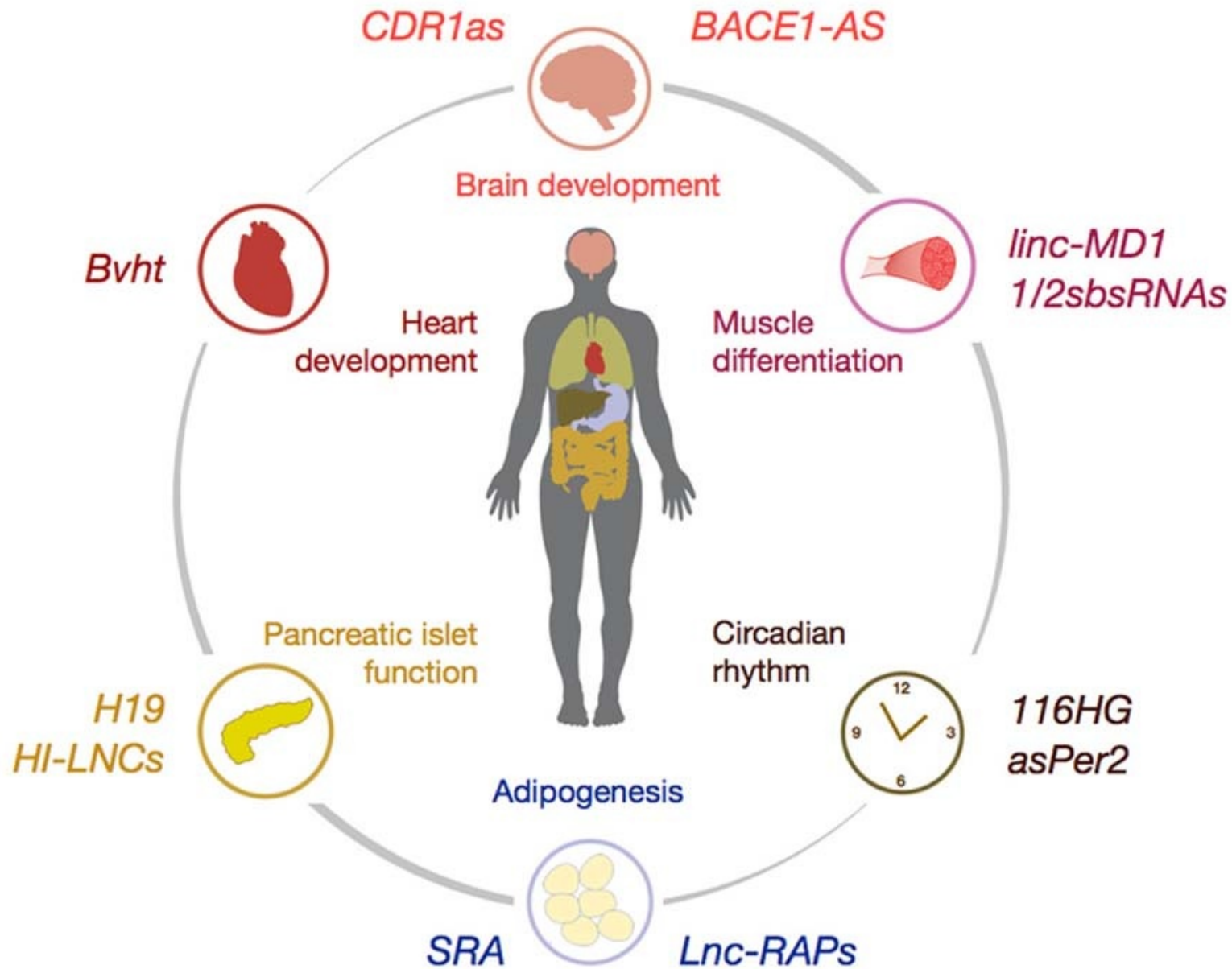
- >200 nt RNAs
- costly poly-adenylated
- can contain introns
- act as primary or spliced transcripts

Mainly transcribed by
RNA Pol II



nuclear and/or
cytoplasmic
localization

lncRNAs in physiology



COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

Resource

The GENCODE v7 catalog of human long noncoding RNAs: Analysis of their gene structure, evolution, and expression

Thomas Derrien,^{1,11} Rory Johnson,^{1,11} Giovanni Bussotti,¹ Andrea Tanzer,¹ Sarah Djebali,¹ Hagen Tilgner,¹ Gregory Guernec,² David Martin,¹ Angelika Merkel,¹ David G. Knowles,¹ Julien Lagarde,¹ Lavanya Veeravalli,³ Xiaoan Ruan,³ Yijun Ruan,³ Timo Lassmann,⁴ Piero Carninci,⁴ James B. Brown,⁵ Leonard Lipovich,⁶ Jose M. Gonzalez,⁷ Mark Thomas,⁷ Carrie A. Davis,⁸ Ramin Shiekhattar,⁹ Thomas R. Gingeras,⁸ Tim J. Hubbard,⁷ Cedric Notredame,¹ Jennifer Harrow,⁷ and Roderic Guigó^{1,10,12}

¹Bioinformatics and Genomics, Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG) and UPF, 08003 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain; ²INRA, UR1012 SCRIBE, IFR140, GenOuest, 35000 Rennes, France; ³Genome Institute of Singapore, Agency for Science, Technology and Research, Genome 138672, Singapore; ⁴Riken Omics Science Center, Riken Yokohama Institute, Yokohama, Kanagawa 351-0198, Japan; ⁵Department of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA; ⁶Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201, USA; ⁷Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1HH, United Kingdom; ⁸Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724, USA; ⁹The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA; ¹⁰Departament de Ciències Experimentals i de la Salut, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 08002 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

BASED ON ENCODE DATA → GENCODE ANNOTATION OF lncRNAs

FIRST DETAILED, GENOME-WIDE ANNOTATION OF lncRNAs

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

lncRNAs can be

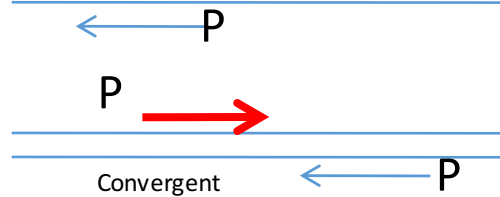
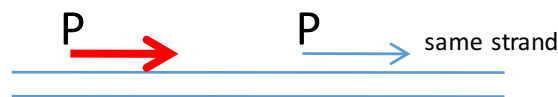
1. Intergenic (lincRNA):

Do not intersect with protein coding gene

2. Genic:

Intersect a protein coding gene

- Exonic
- Intronic
- overlapping



Intergenic lncRNA

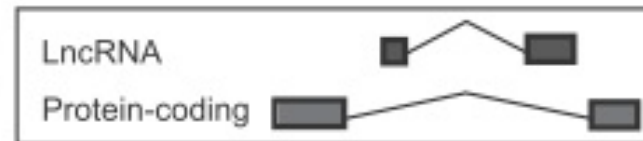


Genic lncRNA

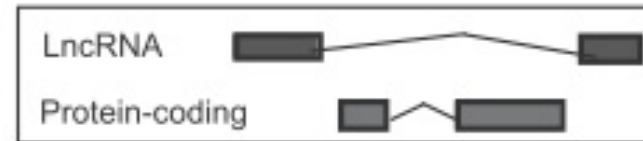
Exonic



Intronic



Overlapping



Gencode lncRNAs transcripts (14,880)									
Intergenic (9,518)					Genic (5,362)				
Same Strand	Convergent	Divergent	Exonic (2,411)		Intronic (2,784)		Overlapping (167)		
			S	AS	S	AS	S	AS	
4,165	1,937	3,416	NA	2,411	563	2,221	52	115	

P: promoter

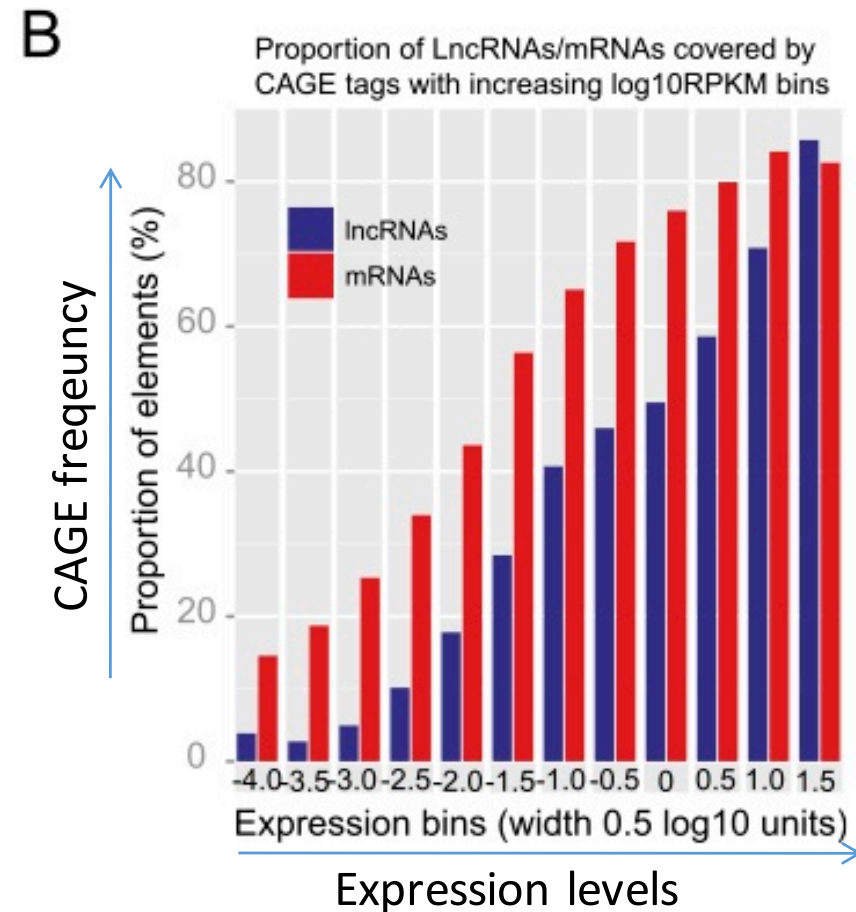
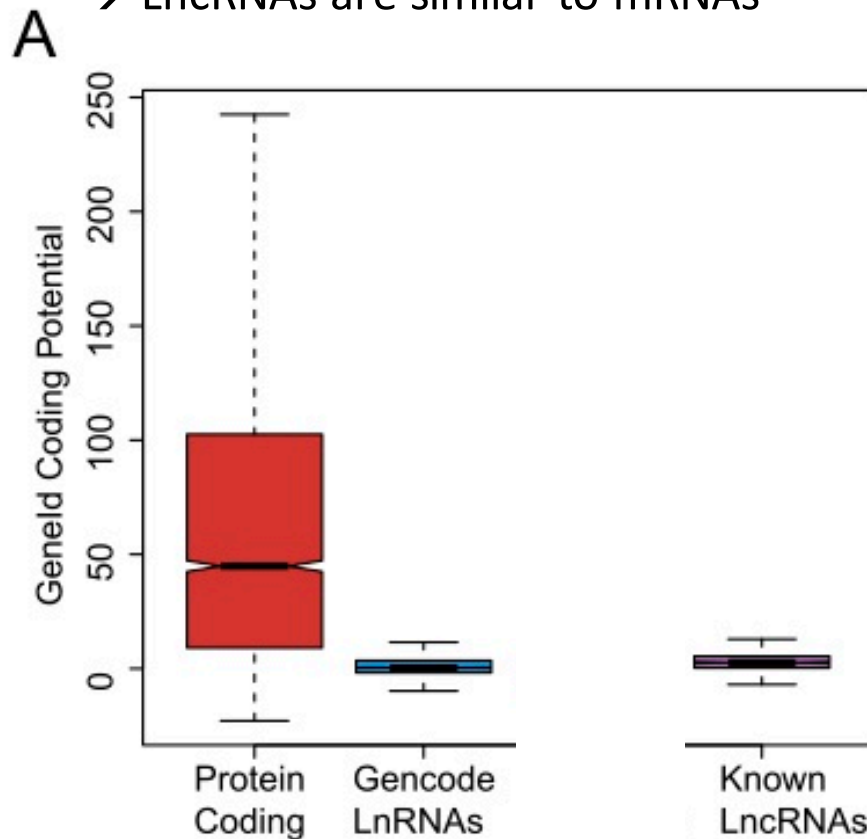
Why? Why? Why?

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

*CODING POTENTIAL
INITIATION - EXPRESSION*

A. lncRNAs do not have coding potential:
→ Longest possible ORF was searched in mRNA/lncRNAs

B. CAGE tags can be found in lncRNAs → defined transcriptional start site
CAGE tag frequency increases with increased lncRNA expression levels.
mRNAs are characterized by more CAGE tags
→ lncRNAs are similar to mRNAs



TRASCRIITTOMICA

Schedule lectures– AA 2020/2021

October (18 hours)

- L1: 05.10.2020: 14-16 (2h)
- L2: 08.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- L3: 09.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- L4: 12.10.2020: 14-16 (2h)
- L5: 15.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- L6: 16.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- L7: 19.10.2020: 14-16 (2h)
- L8: 22.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- L9: 23.10.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h)

November (16 hours)

- L10: 05.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 1
- L11: 06.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 2
- L12: 12.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 3
- L13: 13.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 4
- L14: 19.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 5
- L15: 20.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 6
- L16: 26.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 7
- L17: 27.11.2020: 10:45-12:45 (2h) Seminar 8

December (12 hours)

- L18: 04.12.2020: 14-16 (2h) → EXTRA SEMINAR*
- L19: 09.12.2020: 08:45- 10:45(2h) Seminar 9*
(change with Sistemi Modelli → 03.12.2020 (10:45 – 12:45))
- L20: 10.12.2020: 16-18 (2h) Seminar 10
- L21: 11.12.2020: 11-13 (2h) Seminar 11
- L22: 17.12.2020: 16-18 (2h) Seminar 12
- L23: 18.12.2020: 16-18 (2h) Seminar 13
- L24: XX.YY,ZZZZ Presentation Studenti fuori Trieste: Seminae 14

January

- XX: 15.01.2021: 10:45-12:45 (2h)
- XX: 21.01.2021: 10:45-12:45 (2h)

48 ore = 6CFU

Edificio C1, Aula L

PPT SLIDES:

MOODLE FEDERALE

PASSWORD: Trascrittomica

Prof. Stefan Schoeftner

E-mail: sschoeftner@units.it

I only reply to official students' emails: @units.it
(no @gmail; @libero...)

Students' representatives: luca.secco@studenti.units.it

Students' representatives: federico.fierli@studenti.units.it

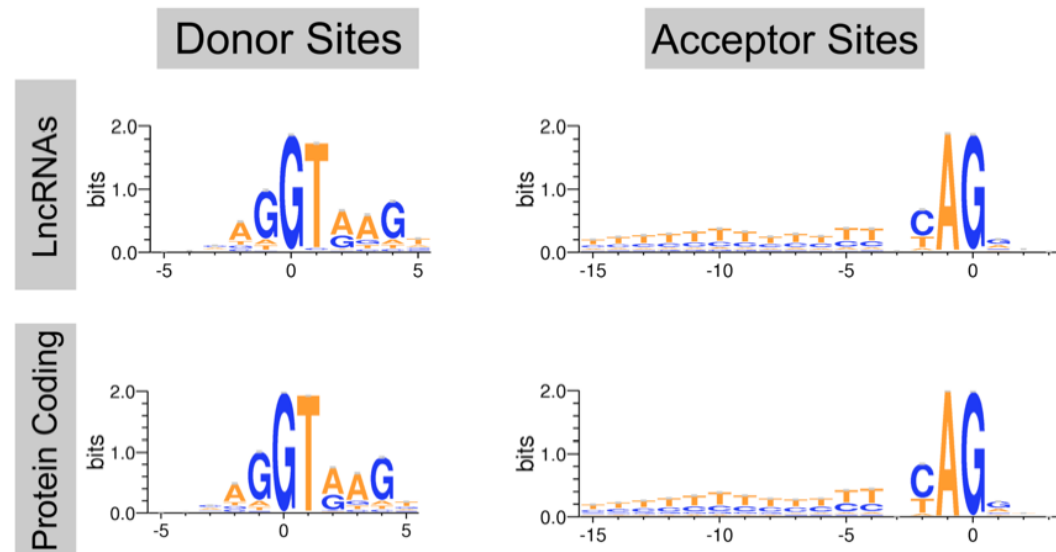
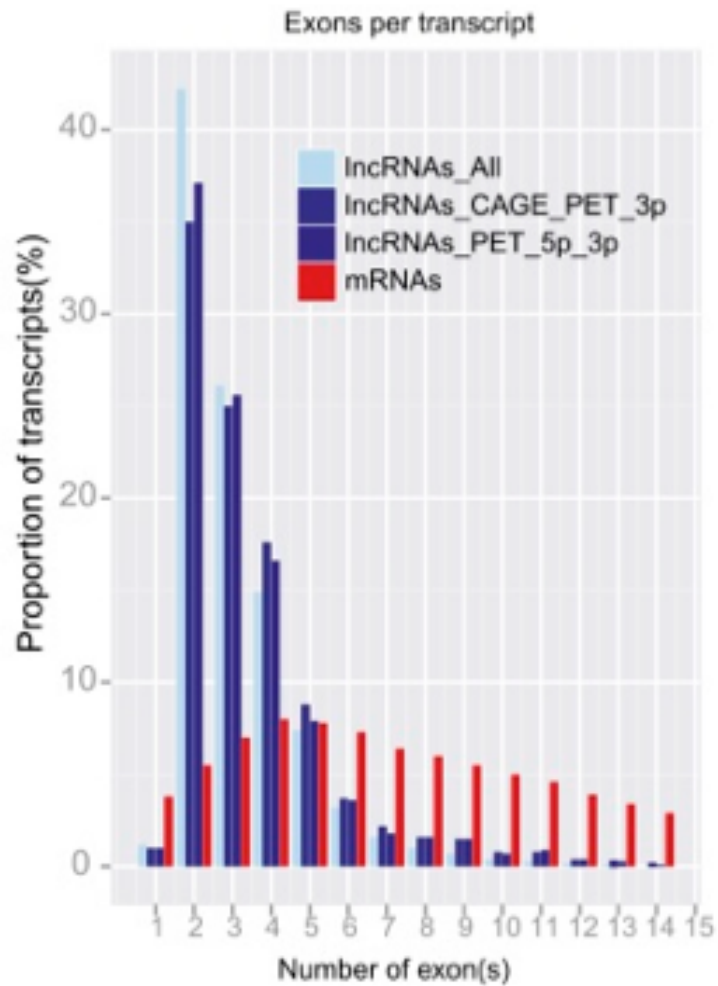
TRASCRIPTOMICA STUDENT SEMINARS

1. Reduce from 17 → 14 groups
2. Form groups only with students that do not come to Trieste

Numero gruppo	Studente 1 + email istituzionale	Studente 2 + email istituzionale	Studente 3 + email istituzionale
1	Eleonora Capezzali s266393@ds.units.it	Viviana Ippolito viviana.ippolito@studenti.units.it	Giulia Canarutto s231374@ds.units.it
2	Anna De Lucia ANNA.DELUCIA@studenti.units.it	Giuseppe Molinaro GIUSEPPE.MOLINARIO@studenti.units.it	Domenico De Angelis DOMENICO.DEANGELIS@studenti.units.it
3	Agostino Campanile AGOSTINO.CAMPANILE@studenti.units.it	Alessia Pesaresi alessia.pesaresi@studenti.units.it	Patrik Rossi patrik.rossi@studenti.units.it
4	Antonio Manai s231230@ds.units.it	Beatrice Alessandrini beatrice.alessandrini@studenti.units.it	
5	Sonia Panico s268005@ds.units.it	Francesca Cuomo s267148@ds.units.it	Lara Favero s239076@ds.units.it
6	Luca Secco LUCA.SECCO@studenti.units.it	Sara Maggiore SARA.MAGGIORE@studenti.units.it	Francesco Furio D'Amico FRANCESCOFURIO.D'AMICO@studenti.units.it
7	Silvia Aldrovandi silvia.aldrovandi@studenti.units.it	Matteo Colombo matteo.colombo@studenti.units.it	Richard Camara s271237@ds.units.it
8	Nicoletta Franco NICOLETTA.FRANCO@studenti.units.it	Camilla D'Angelo CAMILLA.D'ANGELO@studenti.units.it	Mbarsid Racaku s265766@ds.units.it
9	Catello Guida s270324@ds.units.it	Domenico Loperfido domenico.loperfido@studenti.units.it	Angelo Acito angelo.acito@studenti.units.it
10	Karim Rahhali KARIM.RAHHALI@studenti.units.it	Elena Petrini ELENA.PETRINI@studenti.units.it	William Bongiovanni WILLIAM.BONGIOVANNI@studenti.units.it
11	Giulia Visani s269271@ds.units.it	Roberta Noè s270858@ds.units.it	Camilla Volponi s270857@ds.units.it
12	Alessia Ferraro alessia.ferraro@studenti.units.it	Cinzia Bessone cinzia.bessone@studenti.units.it	Elena Di Mattia elena.dimattia@studenti.units.it
13	Federico Fierli federico.fierli@studenti.units.it	Domiziano Dario Tosi domizianodario.tosi@studenti.units.it	Giuseppe Castiglione giuseppe.castiglione@studenti.units.it
14	Rossana Putino rossana.putino@studenti.units.it	Gloria Leva gloria.leva@studenti.units.it	Elena Peresani s230866@ds.units.it
15	Camillo Balanzin s239118@ds.units.it	Michele Esposito s260507@ds.units.it	Martin Belliu MARTIN.BELLIU@studenti.units.it
16	Elisabetta Molteni ELISABETTA.MOLTENI@studenti.units.it	Federica Ruggiero FEDERICA.RUGGIERO@studenti.units.it	Maria Alessia Cucco s260331@ds.units.it
17	Ilaria Frasca ILARIA.FRASCOLLA@studenti.units.it	Elisabetta Giordano ELISABETTA.GIORDANO@studenti.units.it	Sefora Naomi Agrò SEFORANAOMI.@studenti.units.it

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

SPLICING



SPLICING:

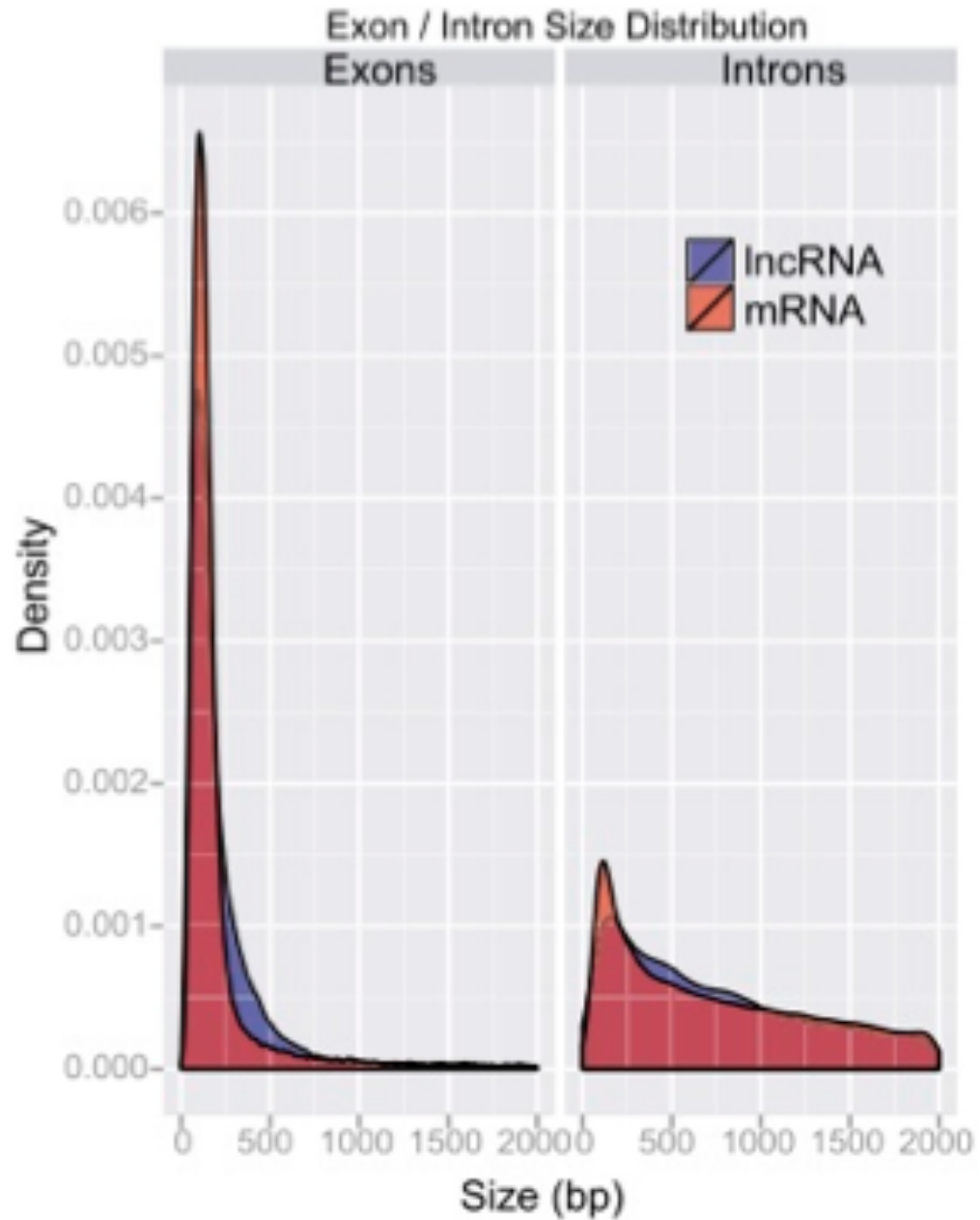
- **98%** of lncRNAs are spliced,
- Relevant Splice-site prerequisites at splice donor/acceptor are conserved
- Remarkable tendency of lncRNAs to have only 2 exons (42%, mRNAs: 6%)

BUT: lncRNAs contain fewer INTRONS!! most lncRNA have only 1 intron!!!; mRNAs 3-6

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

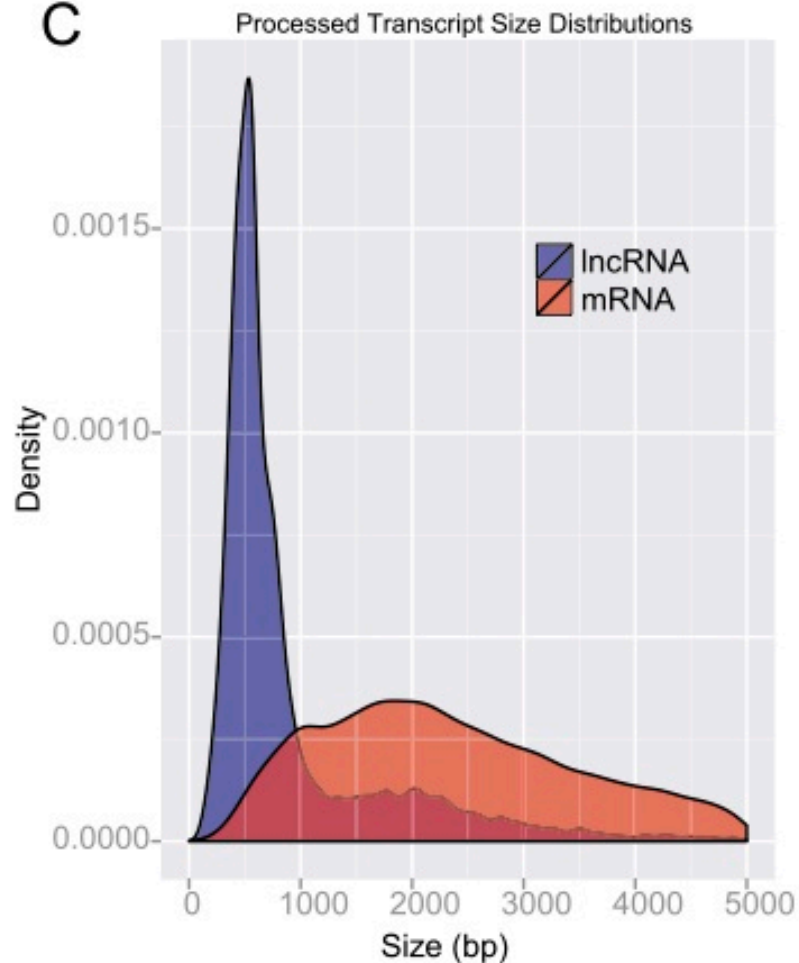
Introns/Exons from lncRNAs are slightly longer

EXON INTRON LENGTH



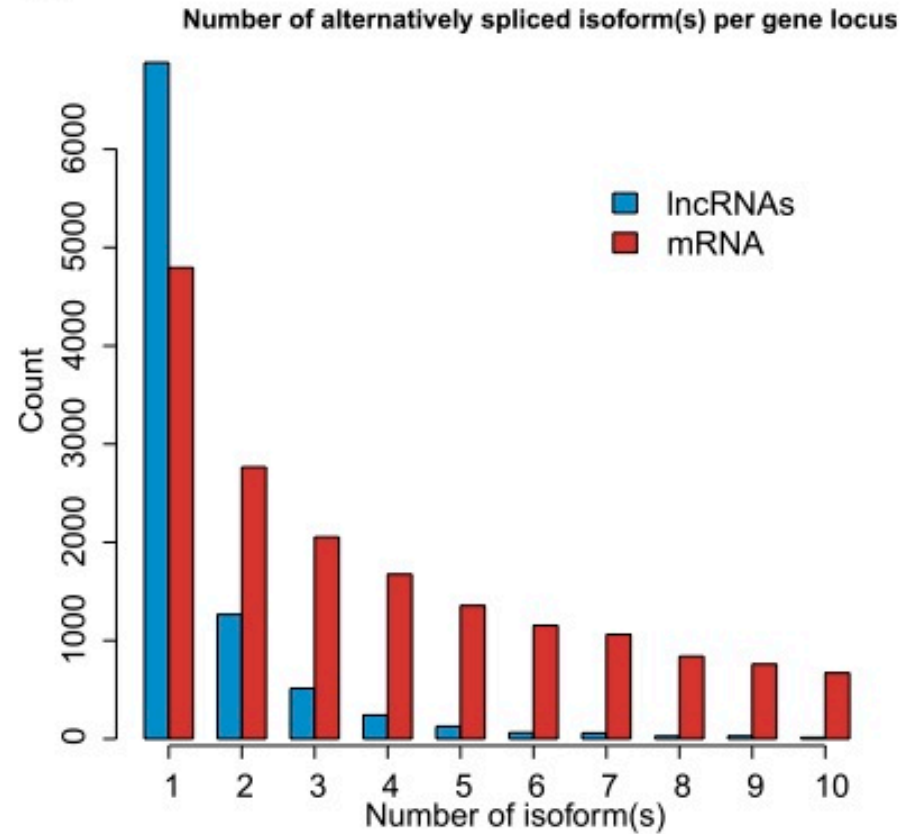
COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

LENGTH



- lncRNAs are on average much shorter: ca. 500nt
- mRNAs are longer and have wider size distribution

D



- lncRNAs are uniform → little alternative splicing
- mRNAs: large variety of alternative splicing

ISOFORMS

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

CONSERVATION

EXONS:

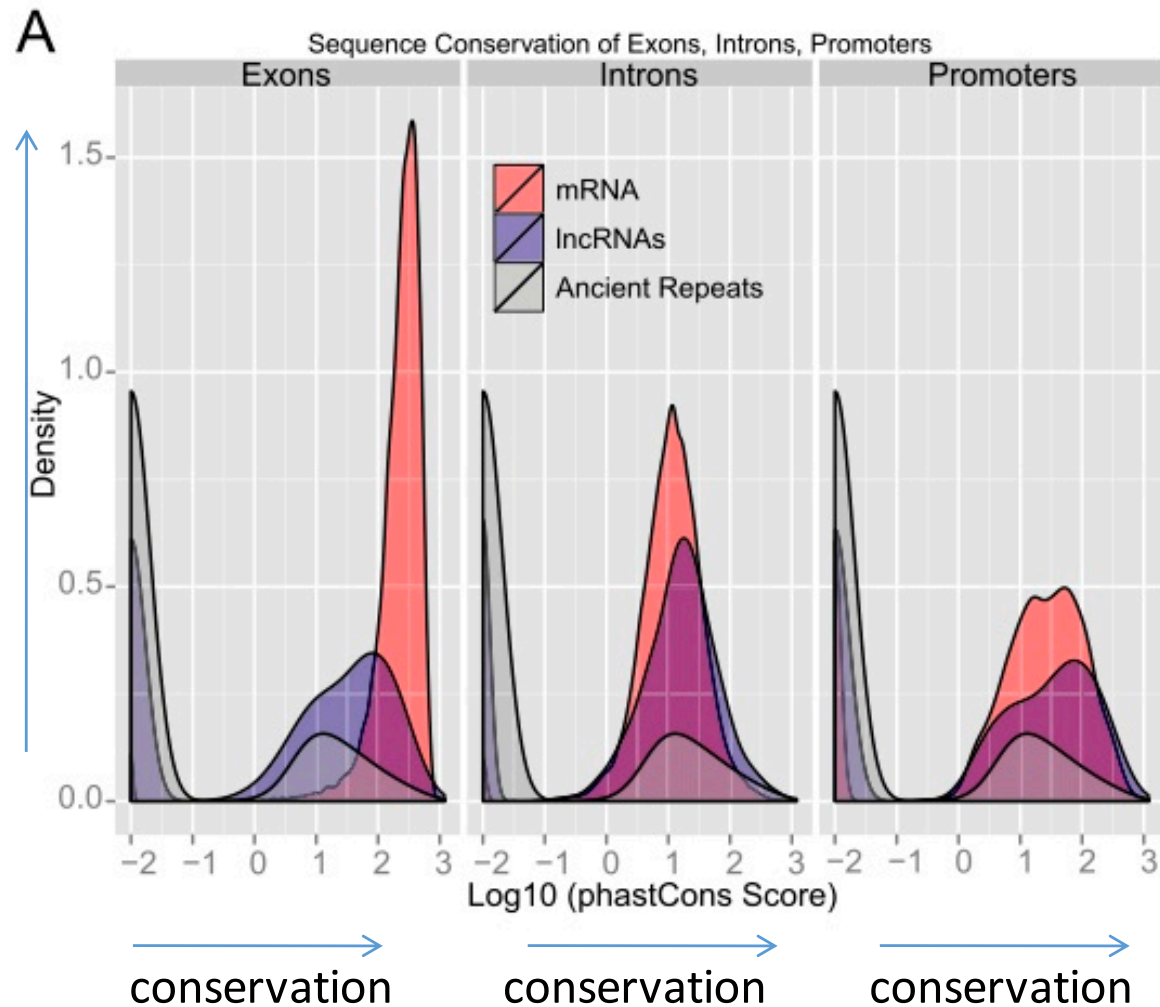
mRNA: high conservation

lncRNA: reduced conservation

But: conservation is higher than mRNA intron conservation

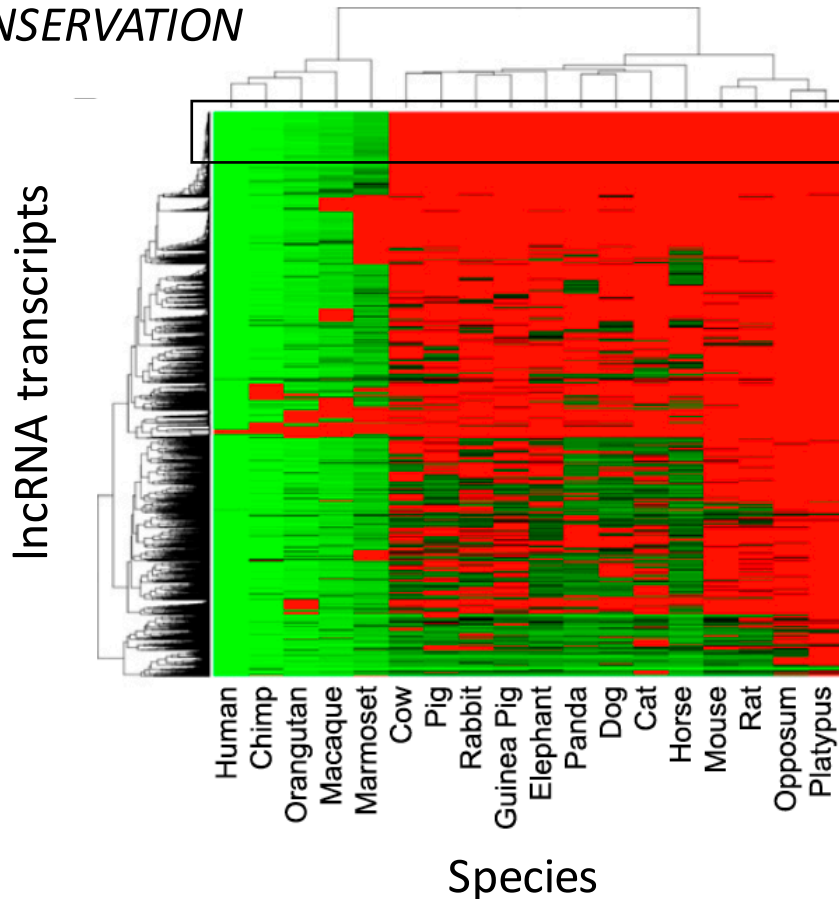
INTRONS:

mRNA: higher conservation than lncRNAs



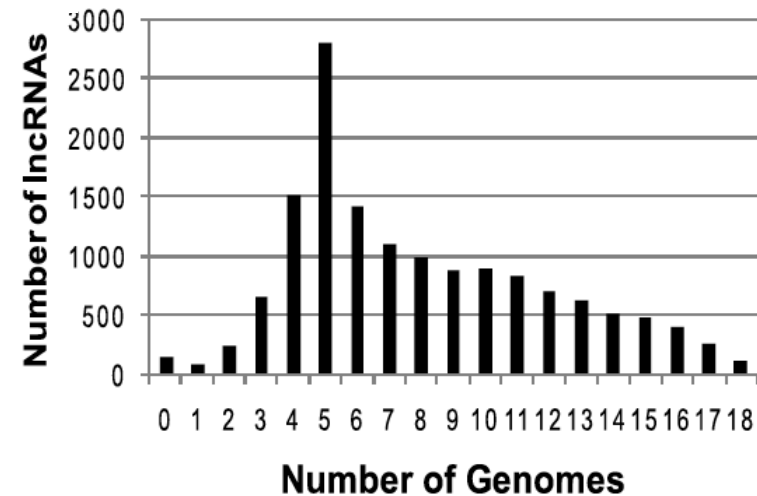
Evolutional conservation of lncRNAs

CONSERVATION



BLAST of human lncRNAs against all available mammalian genomes and identify homologous genes in other species:

30% of lncRNA transcripts (n = 4546) appear to be primate specific (green=high conservation).



Most lncRNA transcripts are conserved in 4-6 species

A total of **0.7%** (101) of transcripts appear to be **specific to the human lineage**.

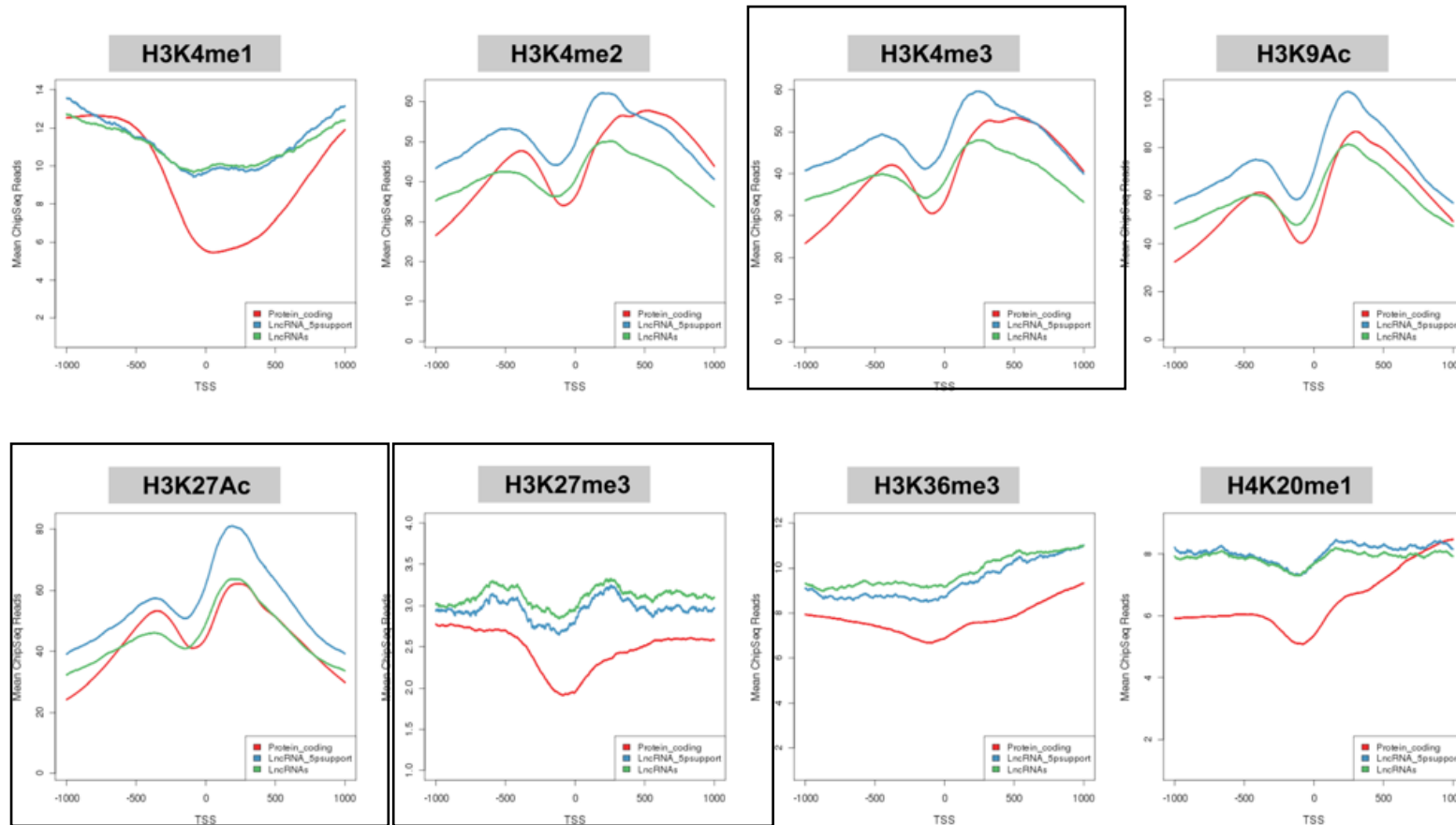
A similar number (134; **1.0%**) is **found in all of the 18 species** analyzed here.

lncRNAs show relevant species specificity

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

Chromatin signatures at transcriptional start sites are conserved between mRNAs
And lncRNAs: MOST lncRNAs ARE TRANSCRIBED BY RNA Pol II

EPIGENETICS



- mRNA
- lncRNA 5' experimental support
- lncRNA

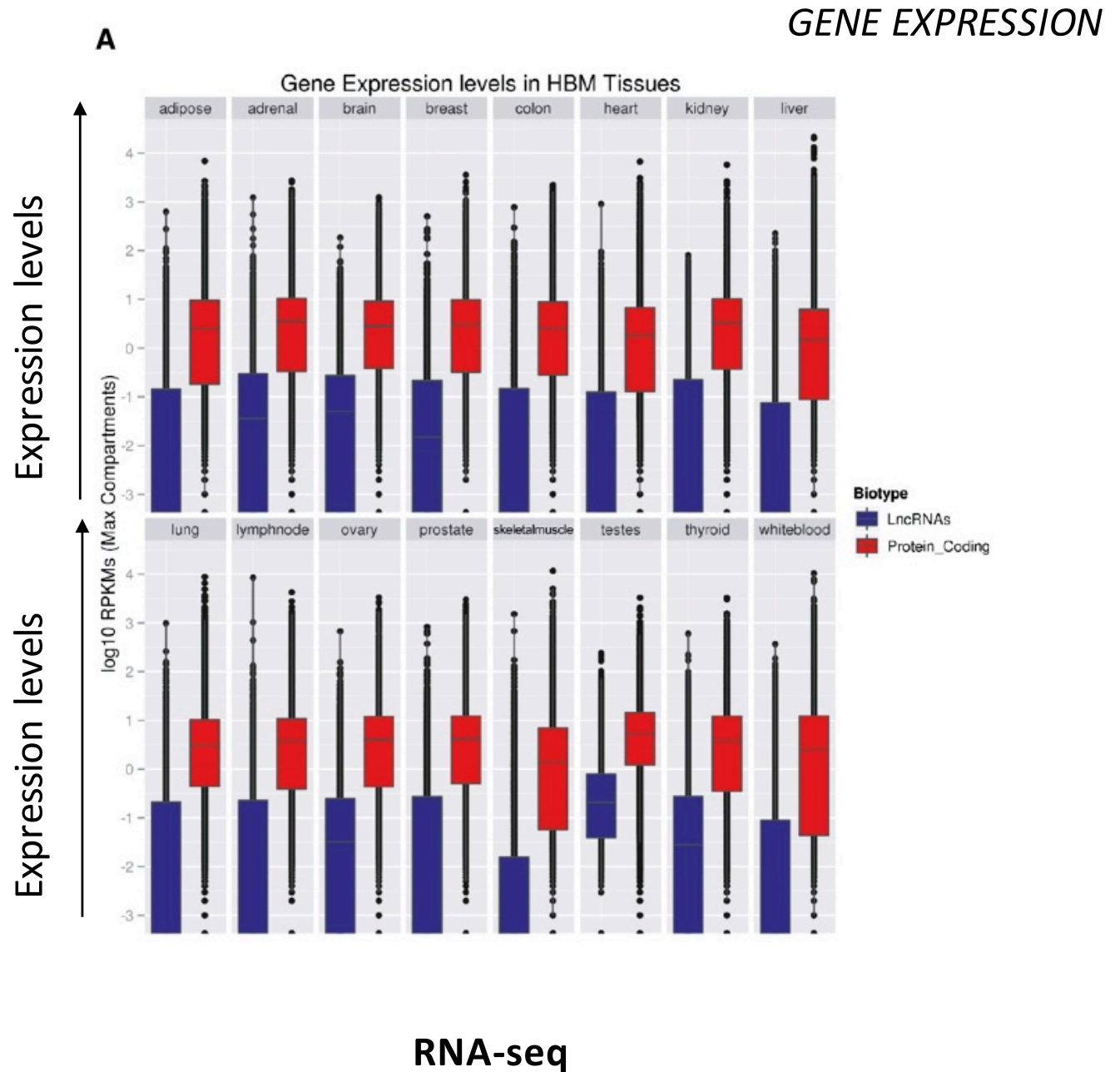
Chromatin signatures around TSS of protein-coding and lncRNA transcripts expressed in the same cell lines where the signatures were monitored by ChIP-seq. Shown on the y-axis is the average density of reads covering the TSS of various gene sets, with position plotted on the x-axis (bp relative to positive strand TSS). Protein coding genes are plotted in red, Gencode v7 lncRNAs in green, and lncRNAs with 5' experimental support (n=2,793) in blue. N.B. A more extensive analysis of histone modifications in multiple cell types is available at http://big.crg.cat/bioinformatics_and_genomics/lncrna_data.

K562 human immortalised myelogenous leukemia cell line

NOTE: Histone exclusion at TSS: (Not shown: RNA Pol II peaks at transcription start site of most lncRNAs)

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

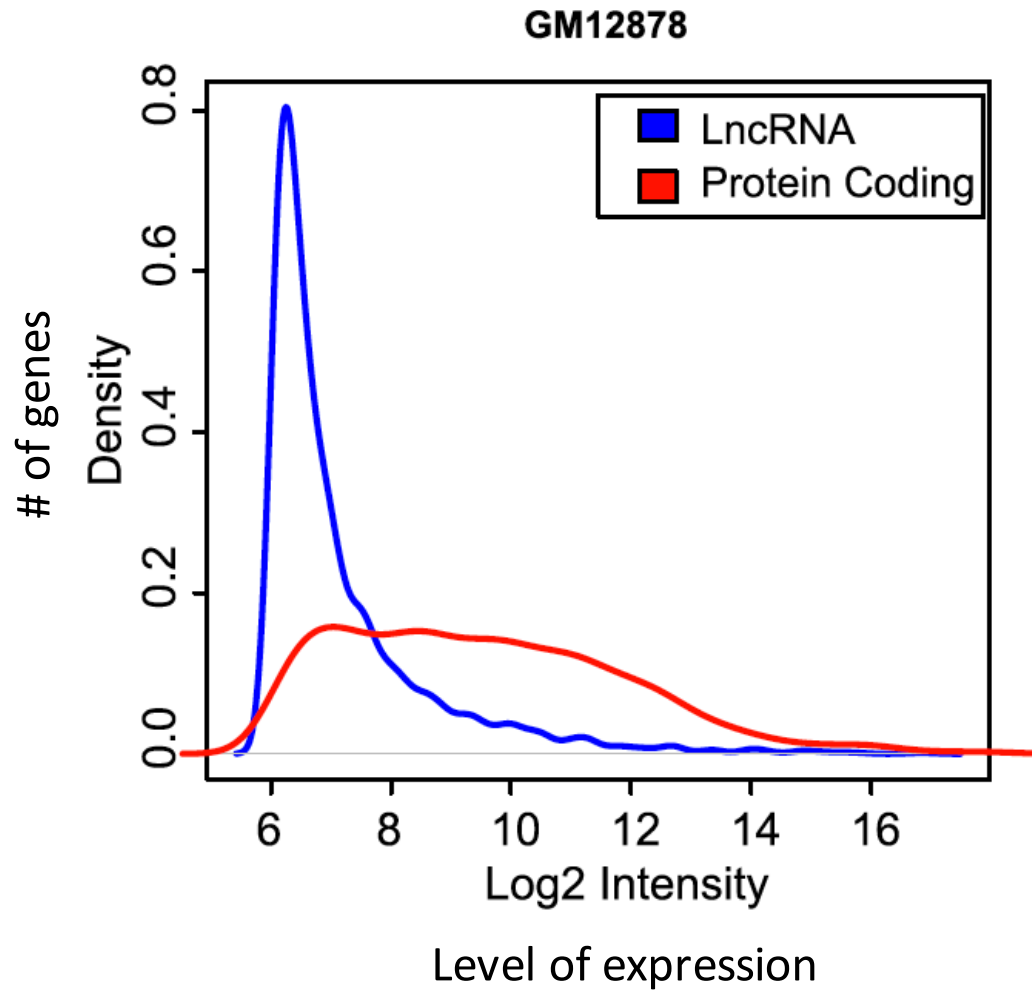
Absolute expression of lncRNAs is much lower than mRNA expression



COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

GENE EXPRESSION

Absolute expression of lncRNAs is much lower than mRNA expression



Microarray data

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

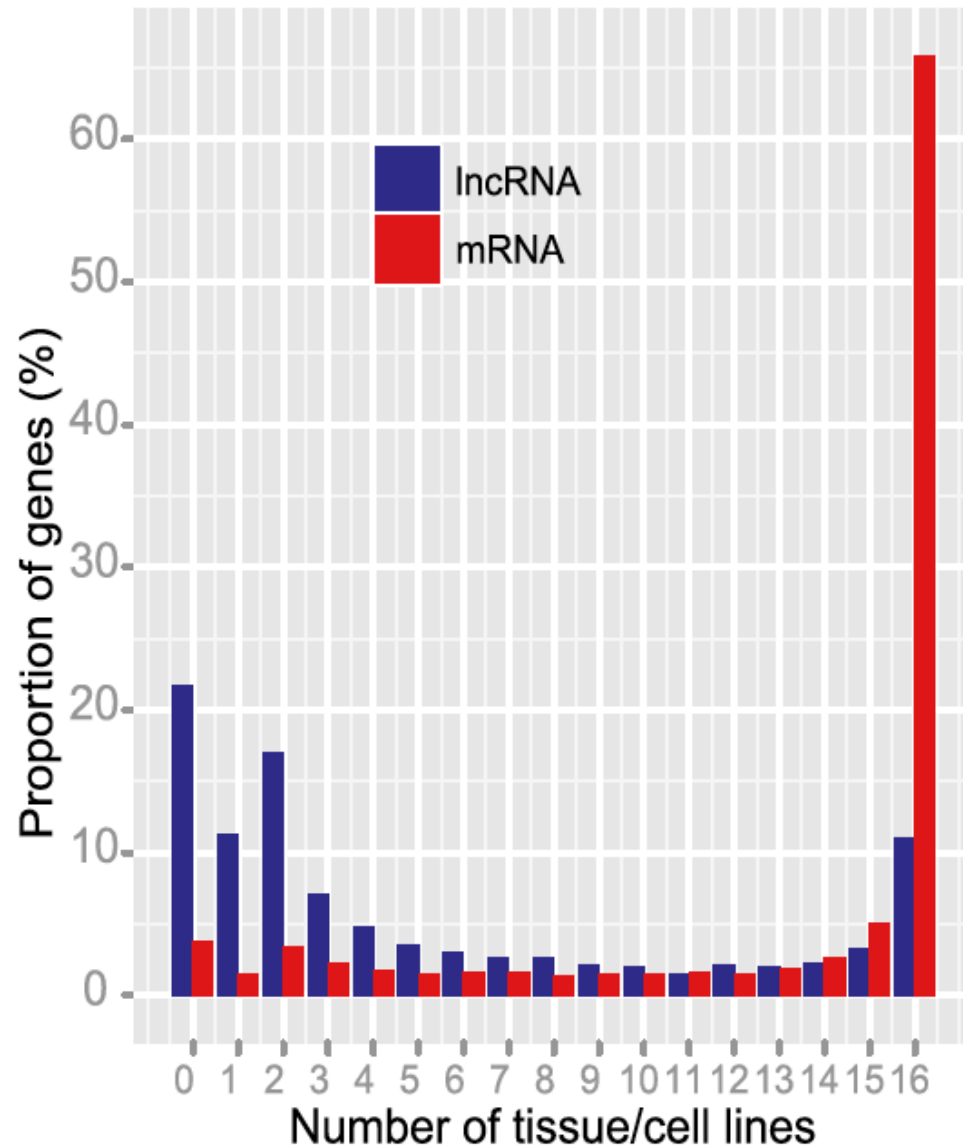
SPECIFICITY OF GENE EXPRESSION

Breadth of Expression

mRNAs show broad expression in different tissues –
65% of mRNAs are expressed in 16 tissues

lncRNAs show tissue/cell specific expression –
50% of lncRNAs expressed in 4-5 tissues.

HIGH VALUE OF lncRNAs AS BIOMARKER – EXPRESSION SIGNATURES IN CANCER

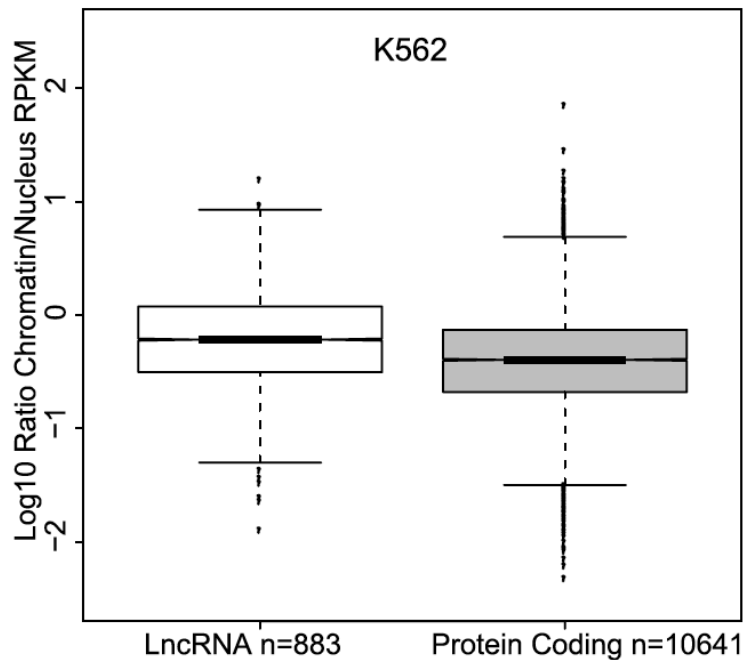


COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

LOCALIZATION

Determination of transcript abundance Chromatin/nucleus

Wilcox Test P-value < 2.2e-16

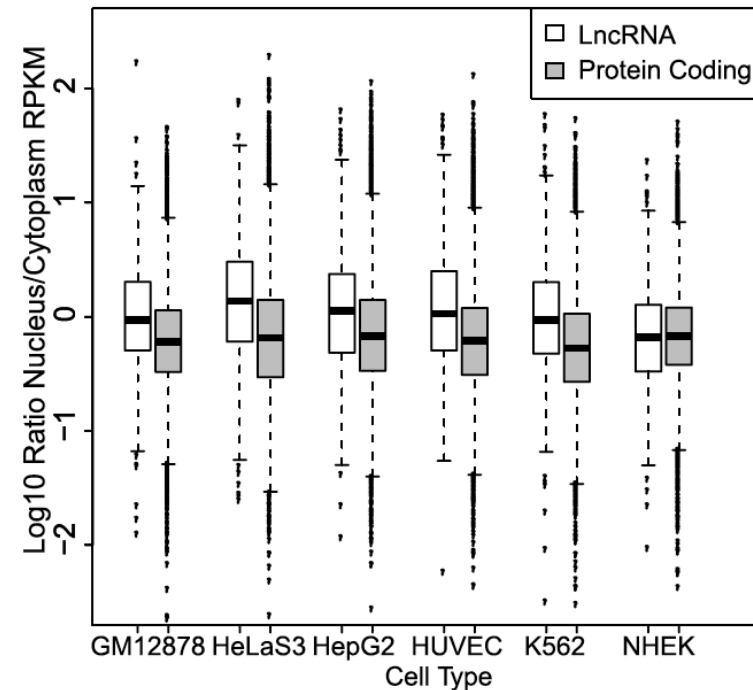


lncRNAs locate more frequently to chromatin than mRNAs

Data: RNA seq of RNAs located in the nucleoplasm and sticking to chromatin

Determination of transcript abundance Nucleus/cytoplasm

Wilcox Test P-value < 2.2e-16 for all pairs except NHEK (P=0.7)



lncRNAs locate more frequently to the nucleus than mRNAs

Data: RNAseq of RNAs located in the nucleoplasm and cytoplasm

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

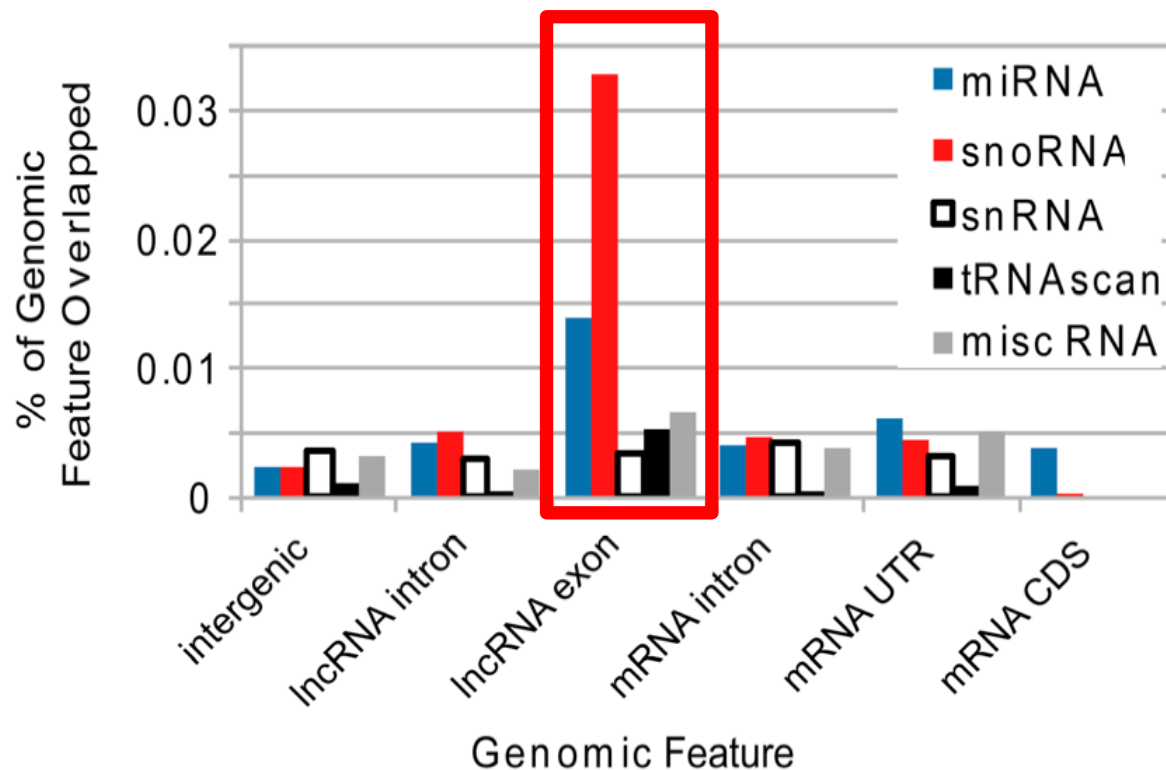


Figure S7: lncRNAs as a source of small RNAs. Shown is the proportion of nucleotides in exons/introns/(UTRS) from protein-coding genes and lncRNAs that overlap different classes of annotated small RNAs. Note that all values refer to cases where the small RNA is on the same strand as the indicated lncRNA/mRNA.

lncRNA exons have a remarkable potential to encode functional **small RNAs (sRNAs)**

HIGHER THAN EXONS OF mRNAs!!!!

miRNA: small RNAs that target mRNAs to reduce protein expression

snoRNA: Small nucleolar RNAs (snoRNAs) are a class of small RNA molecules that primarily guide chemical modifications of other RNAs, mainly ribosomal RNAs, transfer RNAs and small nuclear RNAs.

snRNA: Small nuclear ribonucleic acid (snRNA), also commonly referred to as U-RNA, is a class of small RNA molecules that are found within the splicing speckles and Cajal bodies of the cell nucleus in eukaryotic cells.

tRNA: translation

miscRNAs: MiscRNA is short for miscellaneous RNA, a general term for a series of miscellaneous small RNA. It serves a variety of functions, including some enzyme-like catalysis and processing RNA after it is formed. Besides, some of these small RNAs may serve as switches.

COMPARING mRNAs - lncRNAs

lncRNAs represent a big class of functional elements that

- show controlled gene expression
- are processed
- lack protein coding potential
- defined localization
- frequently encode small RNAs
- low overall conservation
- 35% of lncRNAs are primate specific
- expression is rather low – but controlled!
- mostly transcribed by RNA Pol II

FUNCTION: FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF lncRNAs THE BIOLOGICAL FUNCTION IS UNKNOWN!!!!