Enhancer Predictions - nonlocal features

Anurag Sethi, Jing Zhang, and Sushant Kumar P2 - TECH June 2014

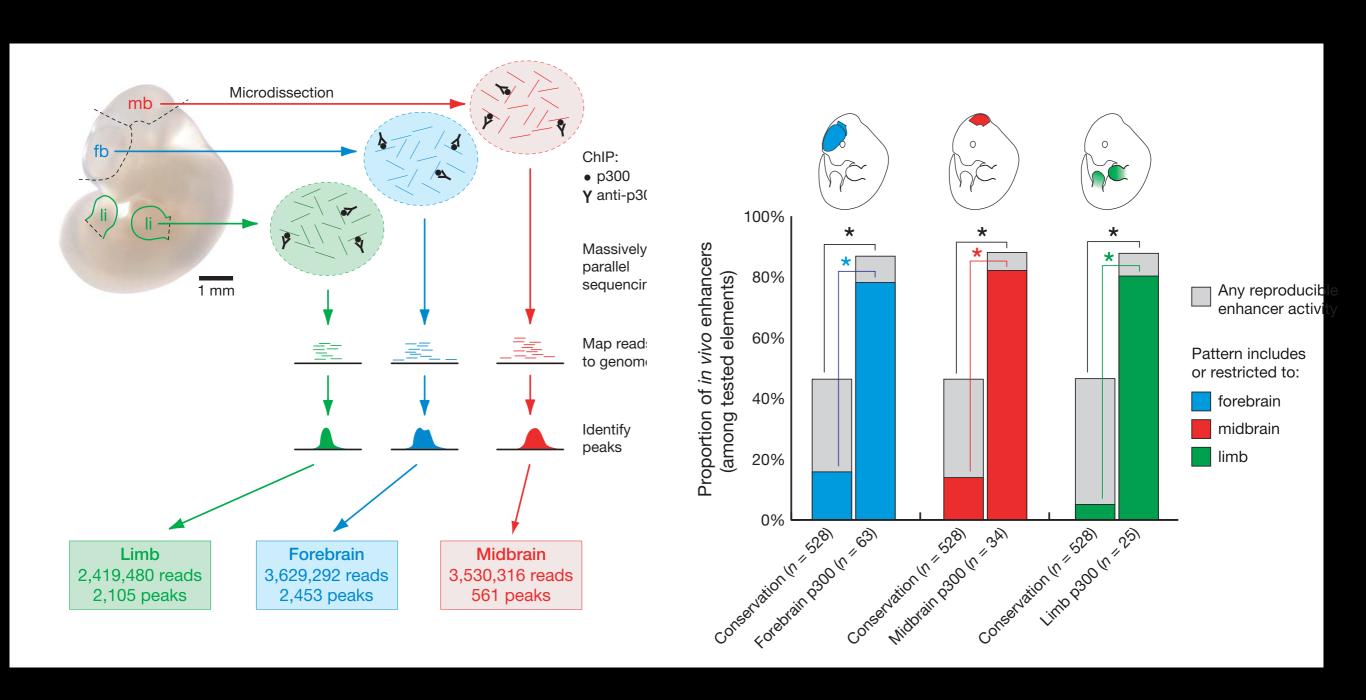
Outline of talk:

Mouse Enhancer Predictions - unsupervised predictions.

Generating a believable set of conditions to define true enhancers.

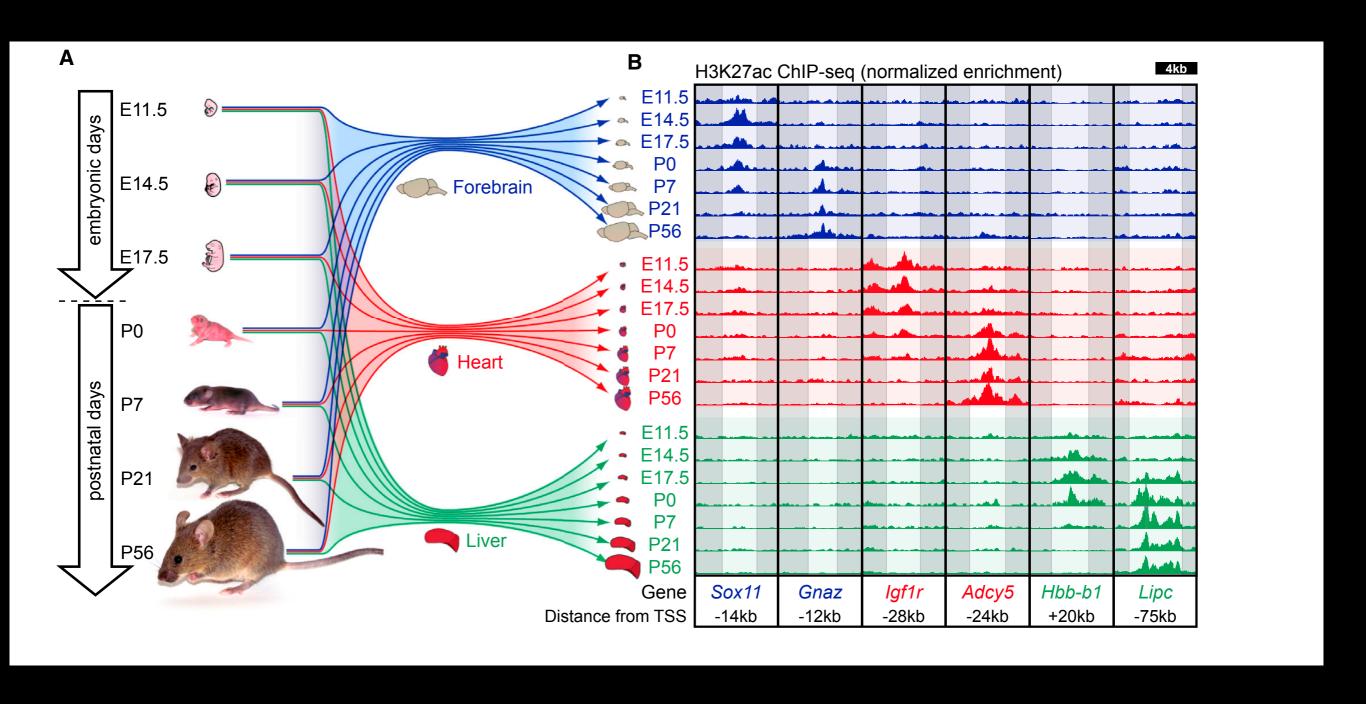
Models learned using local features versus those learned using features from flanking regions.

CBP/p300 is a cofactor that is important for enhancer function



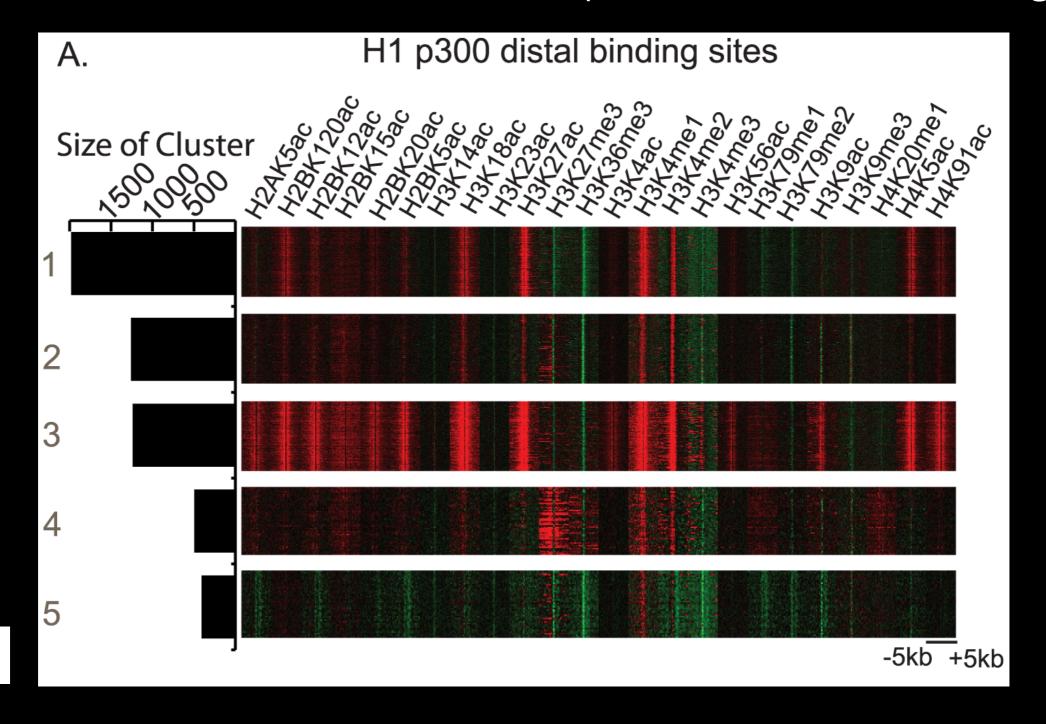
p300 peaks were shown to be good predictors of enhancer activity.

H3K27ac is an important mechanism to regulate the activity of enhancers in different developmental stages



Epigenetically, H3K27ac marks are present near active enhancers.

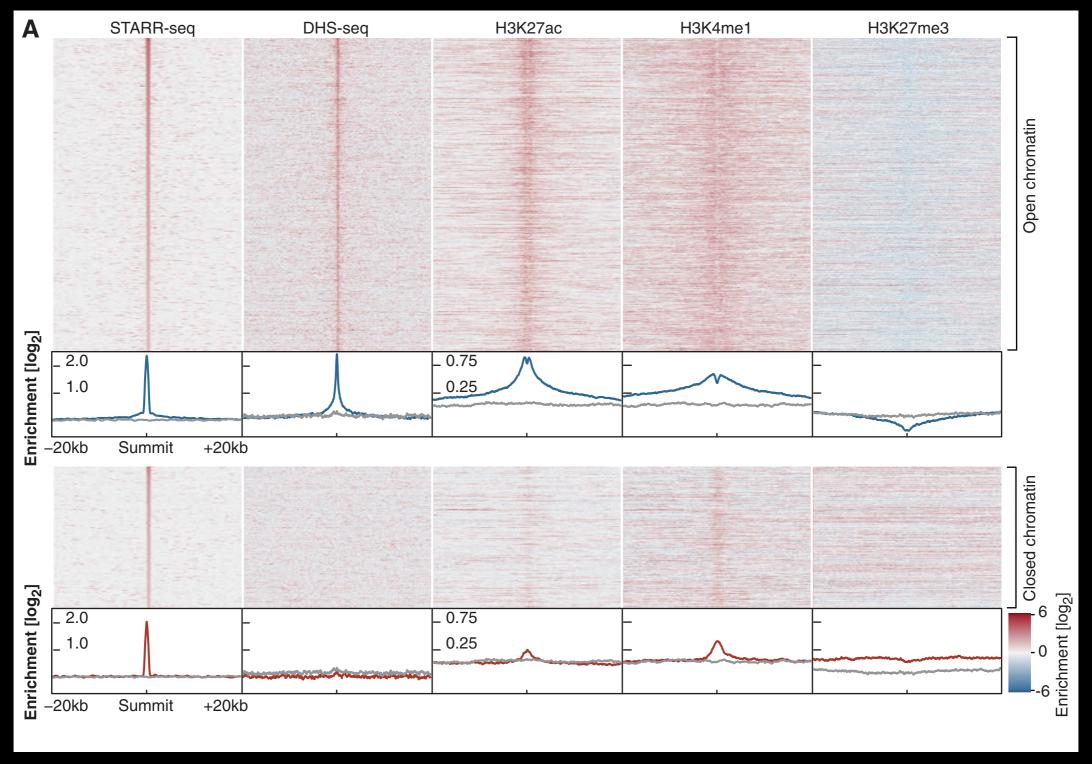
Epigenetic marks associated with putative enhancer regions



Putative enhancer sites are associated with enrichment of H3K4me1 signal and depletion of H3K4me3 signal. Different clusters of putative enhancers have varying levels of H3K27ac (activating) and H3K27me3 (repressive) signals.

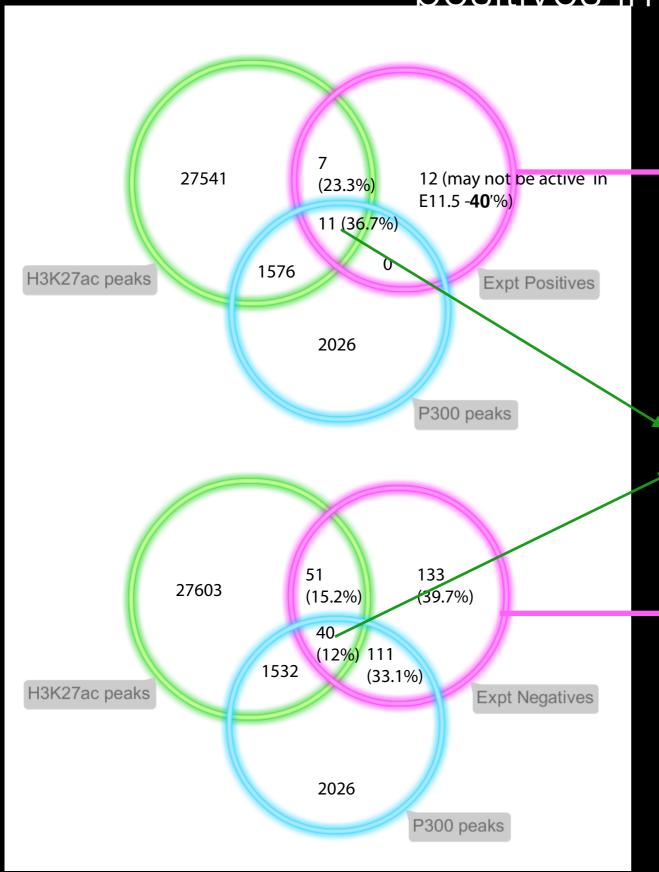
Input-adjusted RPKM

Epigenetic Properties of Enhancers from STARR-Seq assay



Enhancers intersect with DNase hypersensitive sites and are within regions with high H3K27ac/H3K4me1 signals (with higher signals in flanking regions) and H3K27me3 depleted regions.

The H3K27ac and p300 peaks are not sufficient to choose positives in the genome



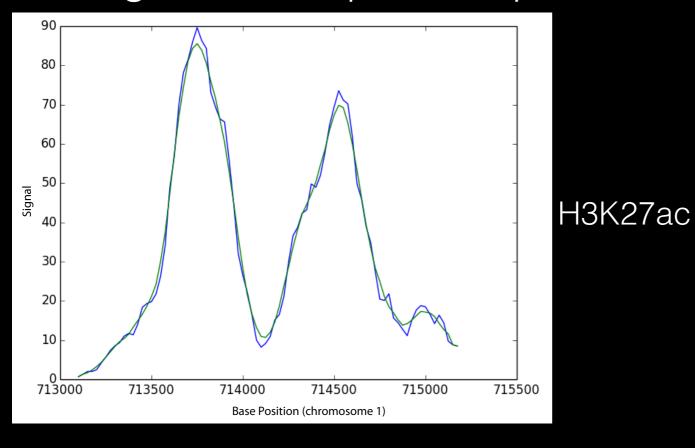
→ True Positives

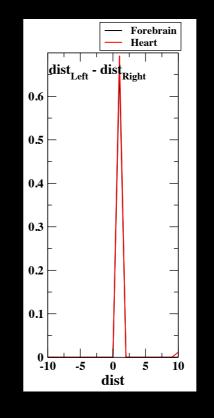
p300 peaks may miss out a number of active enhancers.

p300 and H3K27ac peaks alone can also have a number of false positives

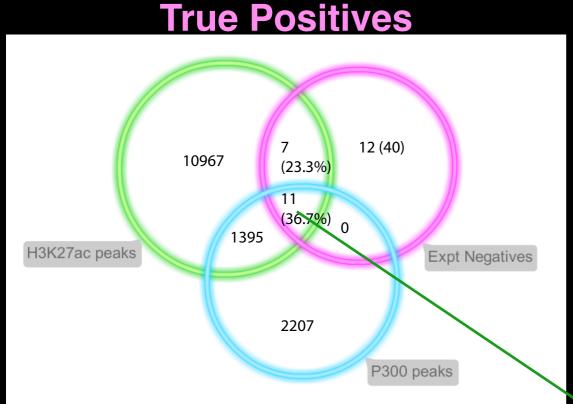
→ True Negatives

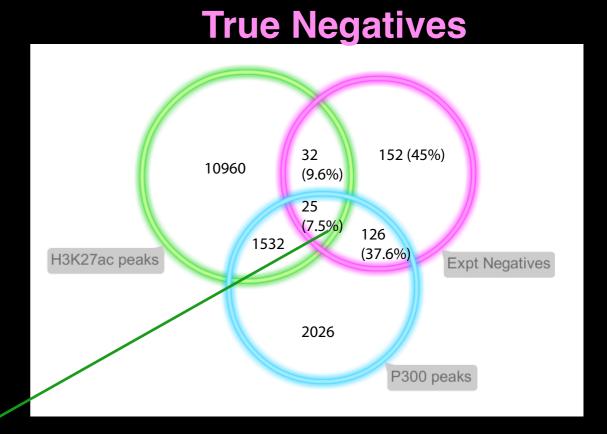
Having a double peak requirement reduces the false positive rate





Distance between peaks within 1 kb

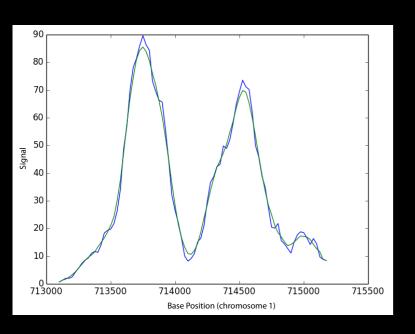


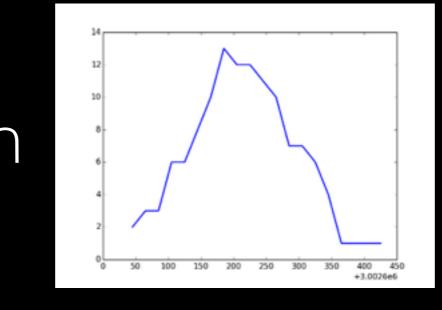


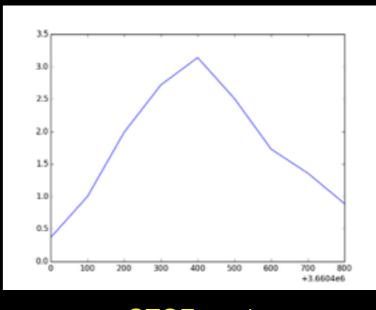
Reduction in false positive rate without affecting true positive rate

Training Data

Positive Definition







H3K27ac double peaks

DNase HS peaks

CTCF peaks

Typically 22000 100 bp bins for mouse

Negative Categories

Promoters
Random intergenic regions
H3K27me3 peaks

1.5 x bins randomly sampled of each category

Features Used for Predicting Enhancers:

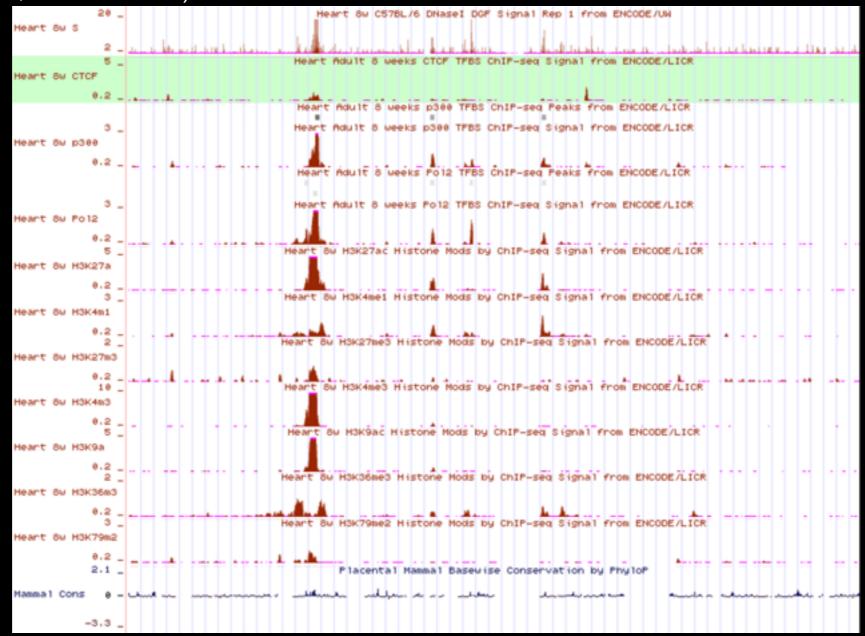
Local Model

Histone ChIP-Seq Signal (H3K27ac, H3K4me1, H3K4me3, H3K27me3 necessary) Transcription Factor ChIP-Seq Signal (p300, CTCF, maybe pol2)

RNA-Seq Signal

Conservation (placental, vertebrate)

GC content

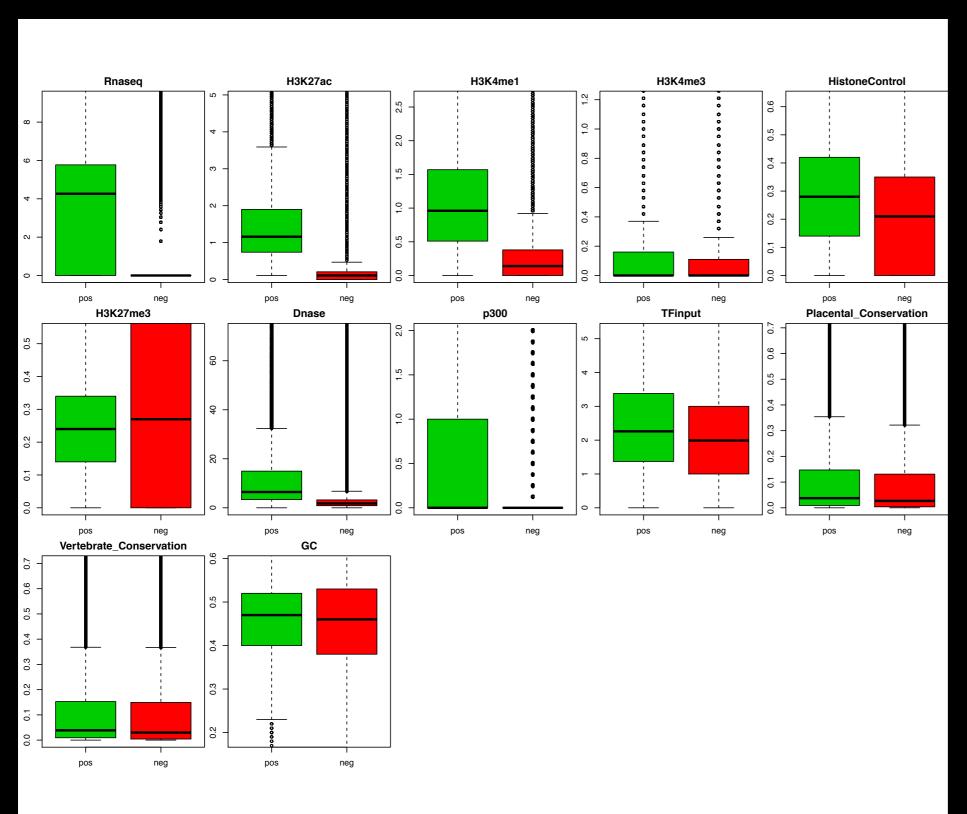


Postprocessing steps

Remove bins overlapping with promoters, gencode exons, and blacklist regions.

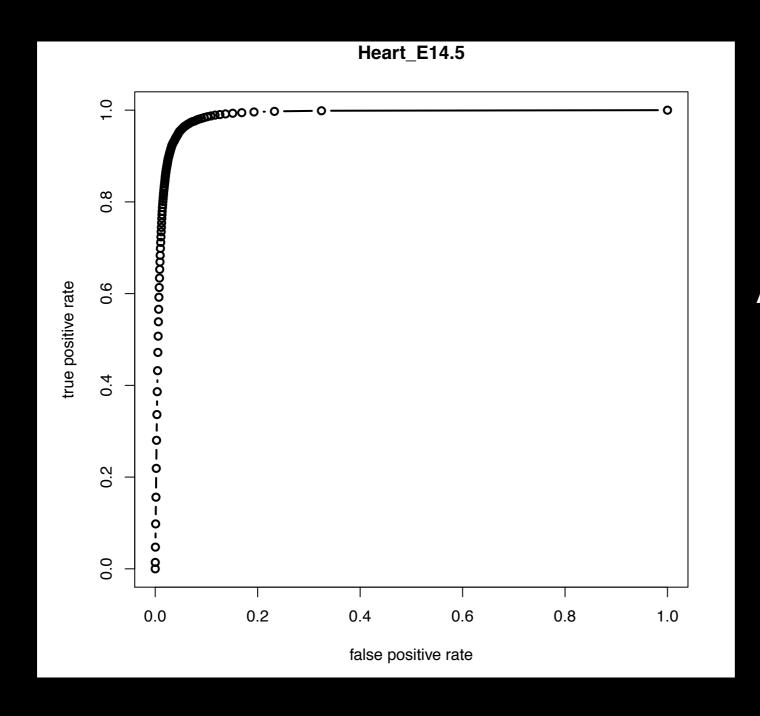
Merge bins from highest scoring bins - peaked regions 1000bp predictions - working on this step.

Local Model - Signal differences in positives and negatives



H3K27ac and H3K4me1 signals have big differences.

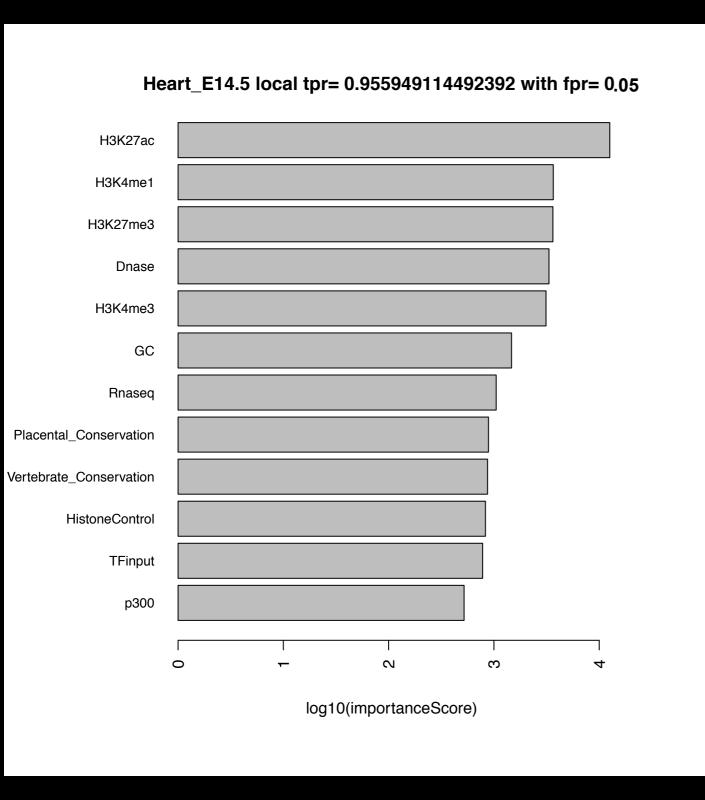
Local Model - results - AUC plot



AUC = 0.94

Local features do reasonably well in model

Local Model - results - importance of features



The usual suspects are important - H3K27ac, H3K4me1, H3K4me3, DNase, H3K27me3

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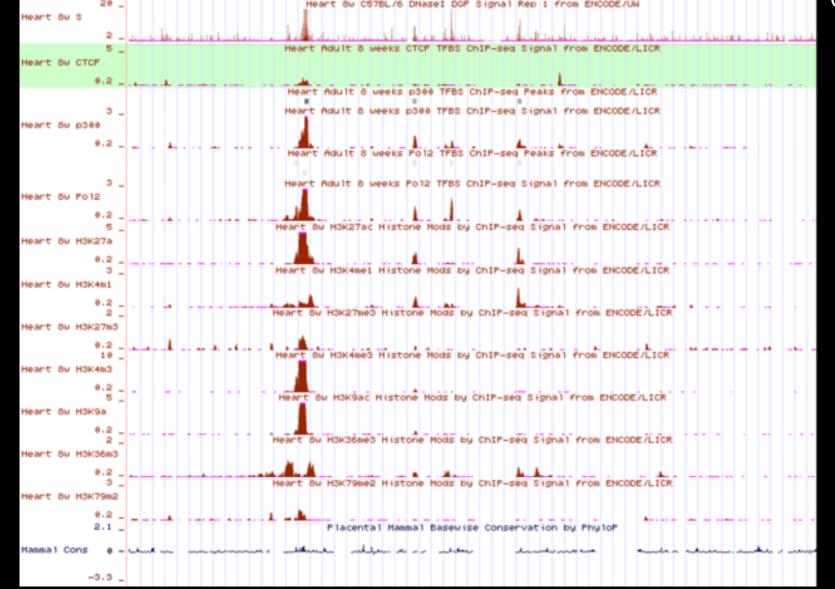
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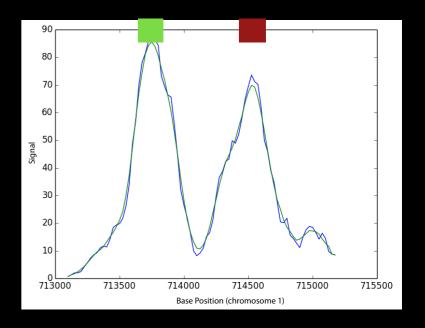
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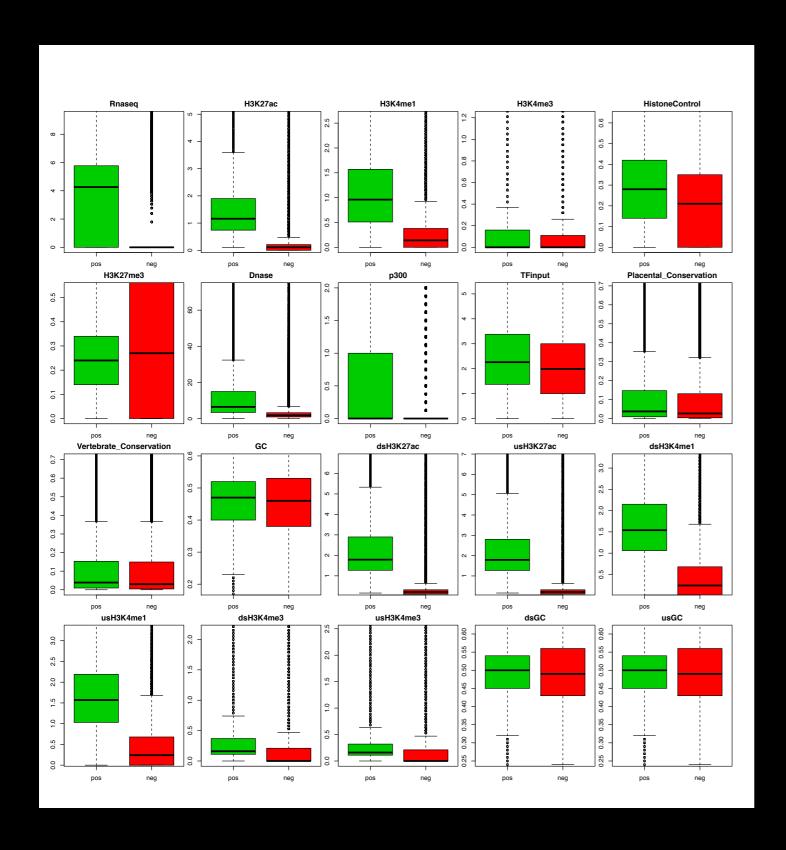


Upstream and downstream features



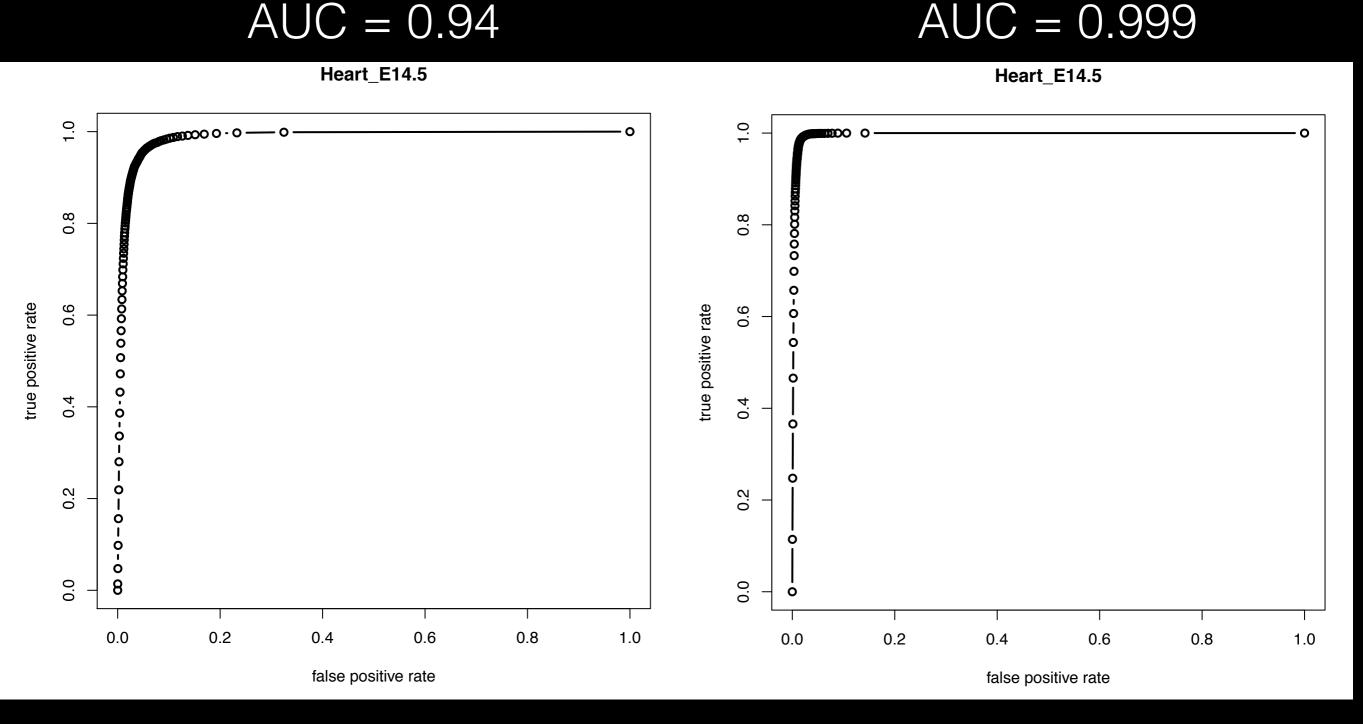
H3K27ac H3K4me1 H3K4me3 GC content

Nonlocal Model - Differences between positives and negatives



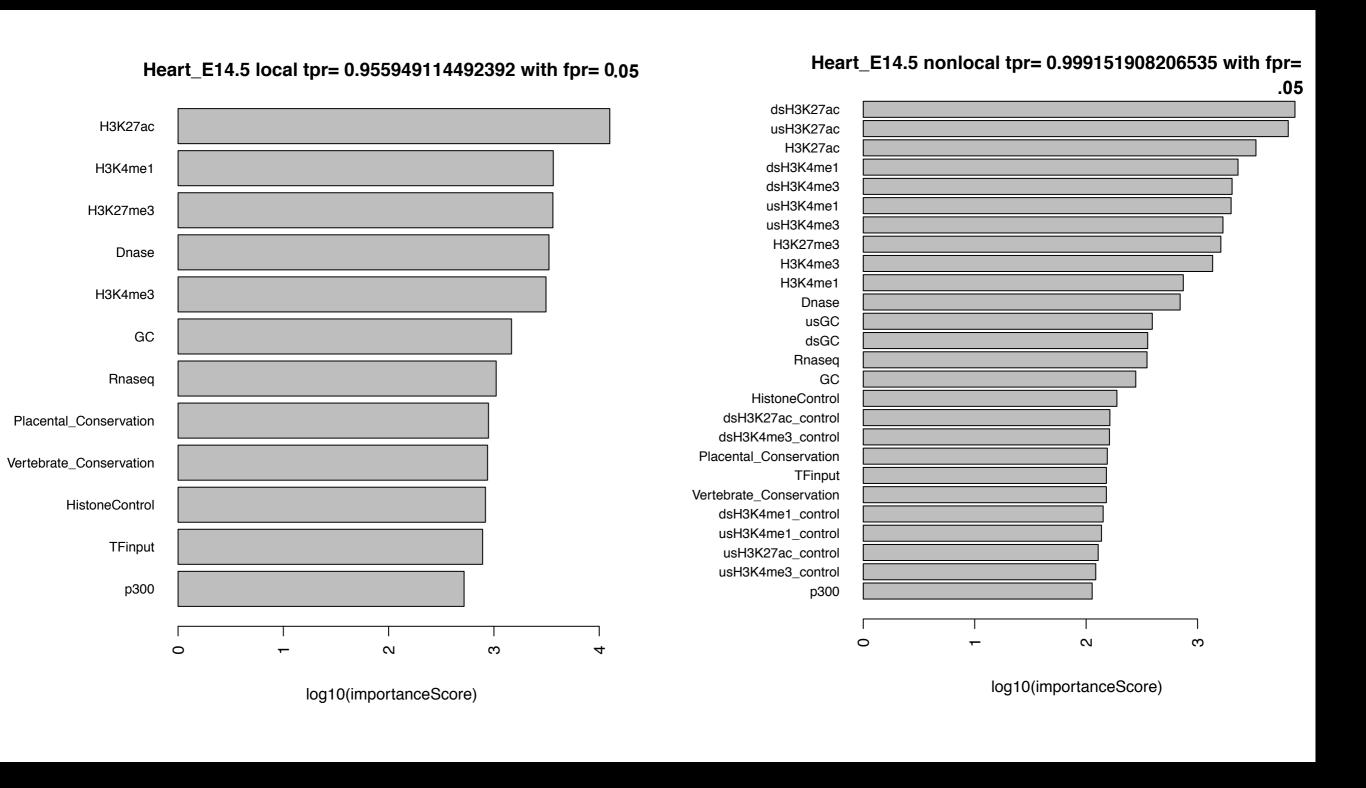
upstream and downstream
H3K27ac and
H3K4me1 signals have big differences.

Nonlocal Model - AUC plot



Including features from flanking regions improves the accuracy of model

Nonlocal Model - results - importance of features



Conclusions

Nonlocal features rock!

Future Work

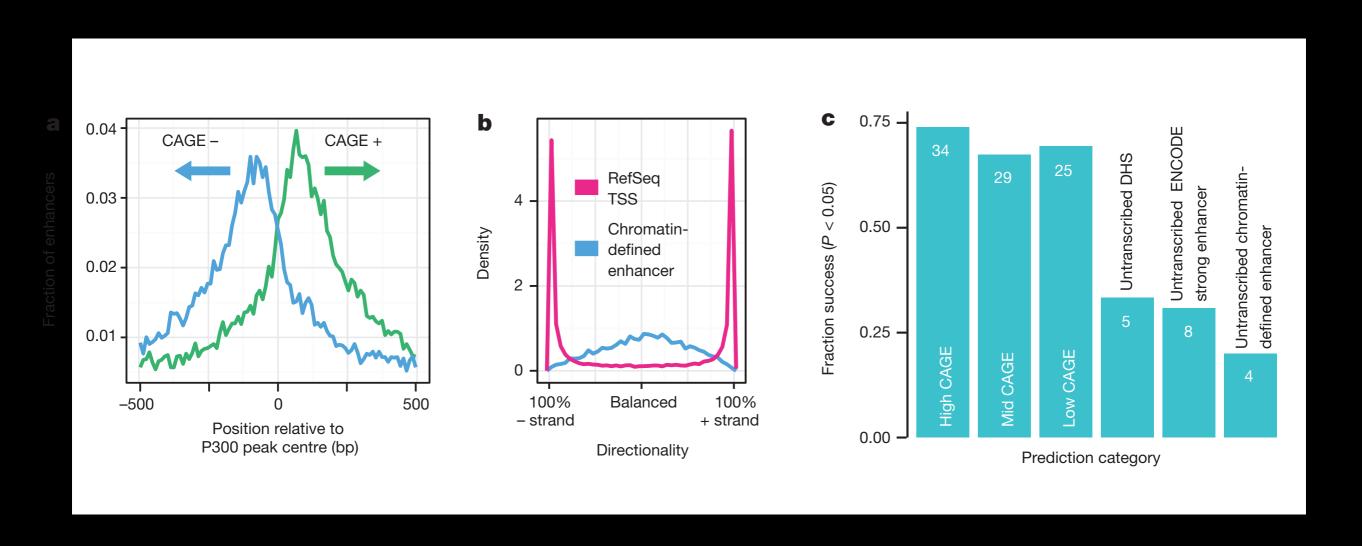
Add new datasets from mouse ENCODE and redo the models. Analyze overlap of different predictions with our predictions (similar analysis with VISTA positives and negatives).

Use new method on human data.

Move on to developing methods for target predictions.

Extra Slides

A Trend that Didn't Work Out



This pattern of CAGE peaks was only present in 1 out of experimentally verified active enhancers in mouse E11.5

