

# Charting the epigenomic landscape of human transposable elements

Erica Pehrsson, PhD

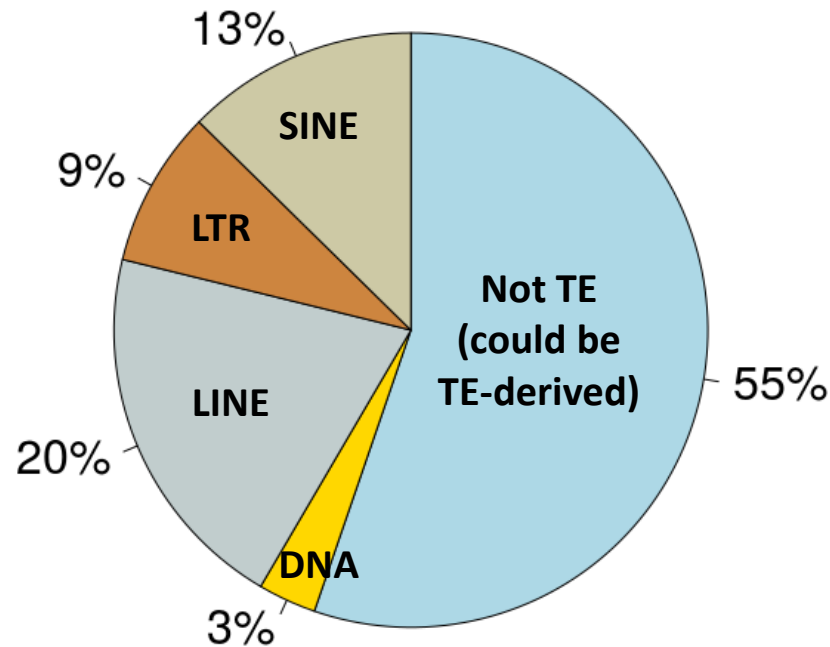
Lab of Ting Wang

Washington University in St. Louis

June 2, 2017

# Transposable elements (TEs) encode regulatory elements

Proportion of human genome



- TEs comprise ~45% of the human genome
- Can encode gene regulatory elements
- Overlap 18% of transcription start sites, 44% open chromatin regions (Djebali 2012, Jacques 2013)

# TEs contributed innovations to regulatory networks

NAS

Species-specific endogenous retroviruses shape the transcriptional network of the human tumor suppressor protein p53

Ting Wang\*, Jue Zeng<sup>†</sup>, Craig B. Lowe\*, Robert G. Sellers\*\*†, Sofie R. Salama\*\*†, Min Yang<sup>†</sup>, Shawn M. Burgess<sup>§</sup>, Rainer K. Brachmann<sup>†¶||</sup>, and David Haussler\*<sup>‡||</sup>

\*Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering, and †Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; ‡Division of

LETTERS



GENOME RESEARCH

Evolution of the mammalian transcription factor binding repertoire via transposable elements

Guillaume Bourque, Bernard Leong, Vinsensius B. Vega, et al.

nature genetics

Transposable elements have rewired network of human embryonic stem

Galih Kurnarso<sup>1,2</sup>, Na-Yu Chia<sup>3,4</sup>, Justin Jeyakani<sup>1</sup>, Catalina Hwang<sup>1</sup>, Huck-Hui Ng<sup>3,4,6-8</sup> & Guillaume Bourque<sup>1</sup>

Research

Rewirable gene regulatory networks preimplantation embryonic development of three mammalian species

IMMUNOGENOMICS

Regulatory evolution of innate immunity through co-option of endogenous retroviruses

Edward B. Chuong, Nels C. Elde,\*† Cédric Feschotte\*†

szek,<sup>2,3,4,9</sup> Shu Xiaoyi Cao, Xiaoyi Cao, had Cowan,<sup>3,4</sup> and Sheng Zhong<sup>1,7,8,10</sup>

LETTERS

Transposon-mediated rewiring of gene regulatory networks contributed to the evolution of pregnancy in mammals

Vincent J Lynch, Robert D Leclerc, Gemma May & Günter P Wagner

Endogenous retroviruses function as species-specific enhancer elements in the placenta

Edward B Chuong<sup>1</sup>, M A Karim Rumi<sup>2</sup>, Michael J Soares<sup>2</sup> & Julie C Baker<sup>1</sup>

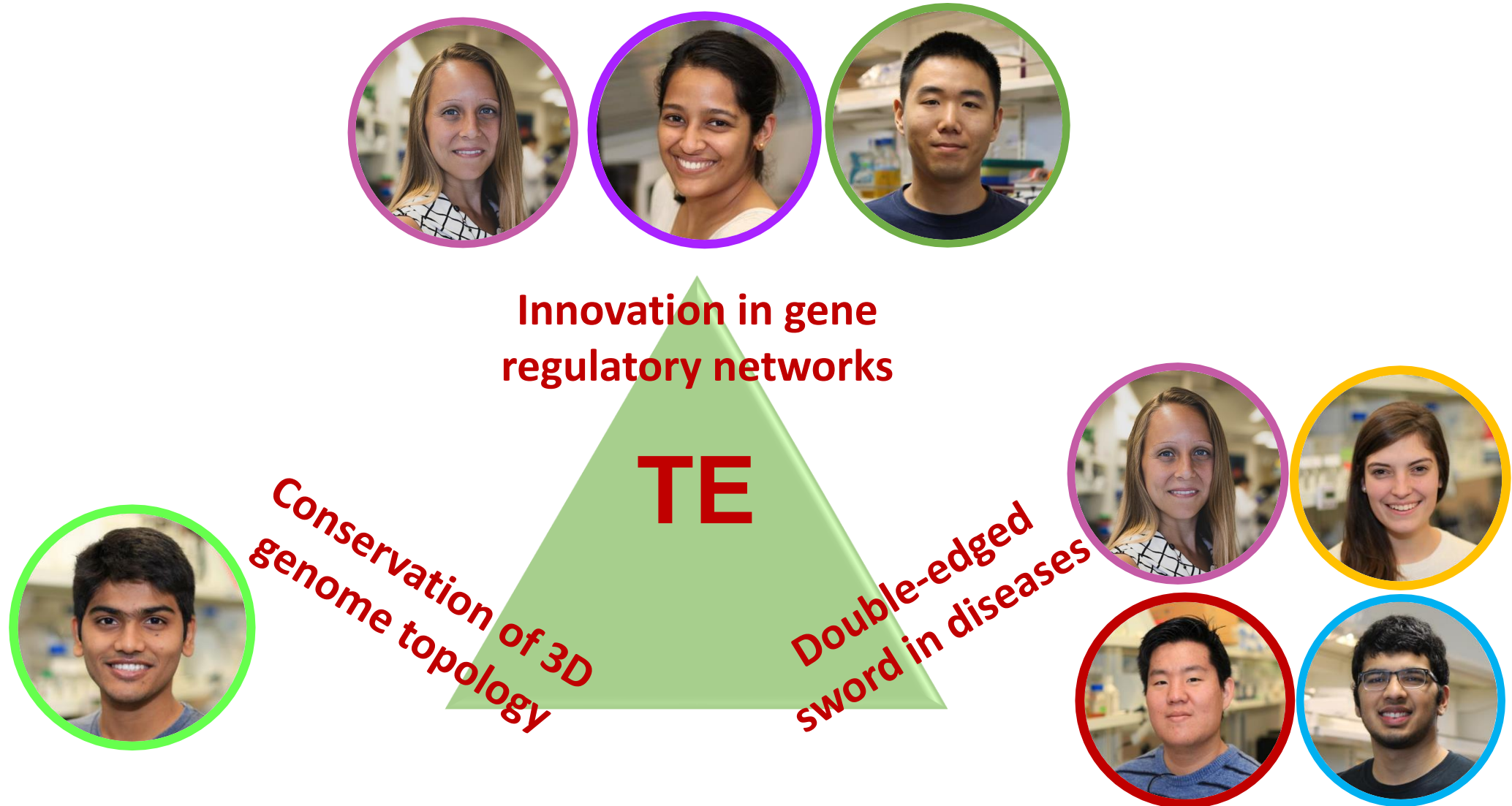
waves of Retrotransposon Expansion Remodel Genome Organization and CTCF Binding in Multiple Mammalian Lineages

Dominic Schmidt,<sup>1,2,6</sup> Petra C. Schwalie,<sup>3,6</sup> Michael D. Wilson,<sup>1,2</sup> Benoit Ballester,<sup>3</sup> Ângela Gonçalves,<sup>3</sup> Claudia Kutter,<sup>1,2</sup> Gordon D. Brown,<sup>1,2</sup> Aileen Marshall,<sup>1,5</sup> Paul Flicek,<sup>3,4,\*</sup> and Duncan T. Odom<sup>1,2,4,\*</sup>



Cell

# Impact of TEs on gene regulation and chromatin architecture – main interest/focus of our lab

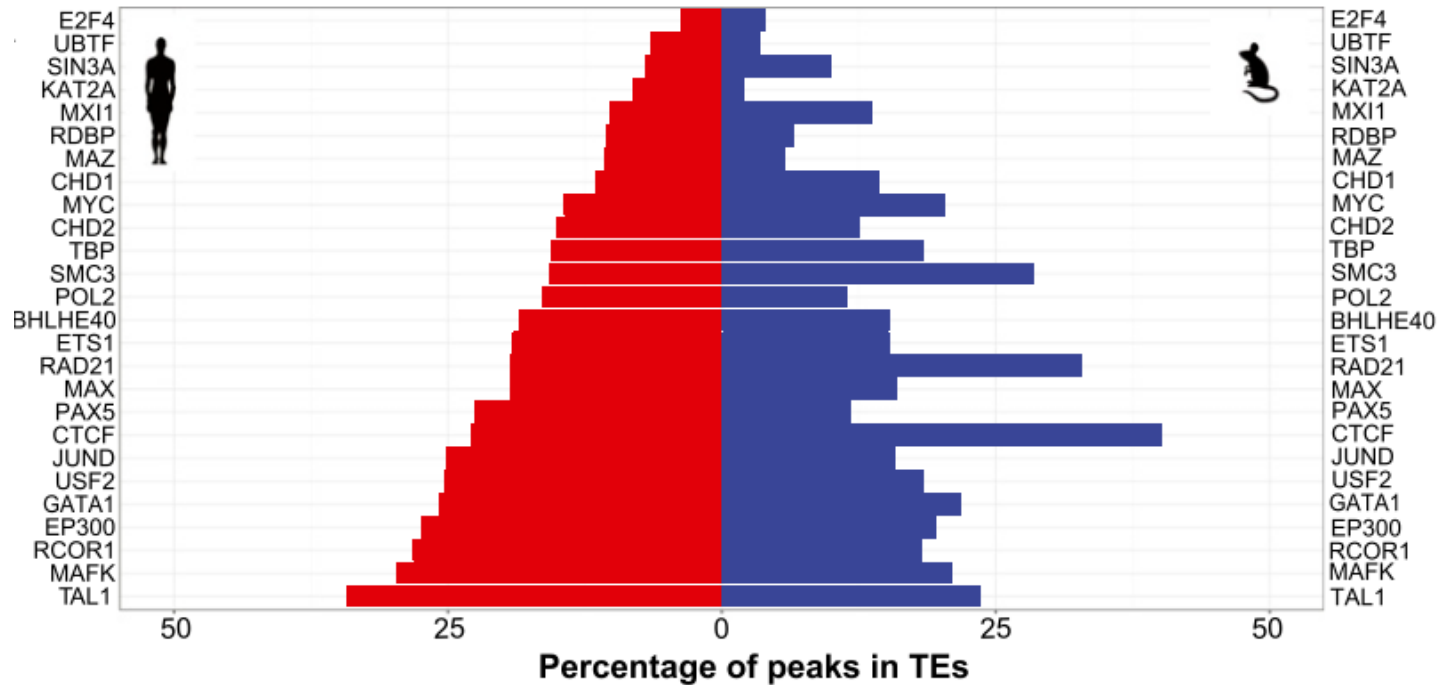


# ENCODE4 U01

Goal: to develop and apply computational methods specifically designed to analyze TEs as a source of regulatory sequences using ENCODE data.

1. To quantify the contribution of TEs to gene regulatory networks
2. To better understand the role of TEs in shaping genome topology
3. To identify sequence features that control epigenetic and regulatory properties of TEs
4. To create a public resource that allows investigators to display, analyze, compare, and integrate ENCODE data and their own data on TEs

# TEs encode 20% of transcription factor binding sites in human and mouse



- ChIP-seq for 26 transcription factors in leukemia and lymphoblast cell lines
- 2-40% of binding sites per transcription factor are within TEs

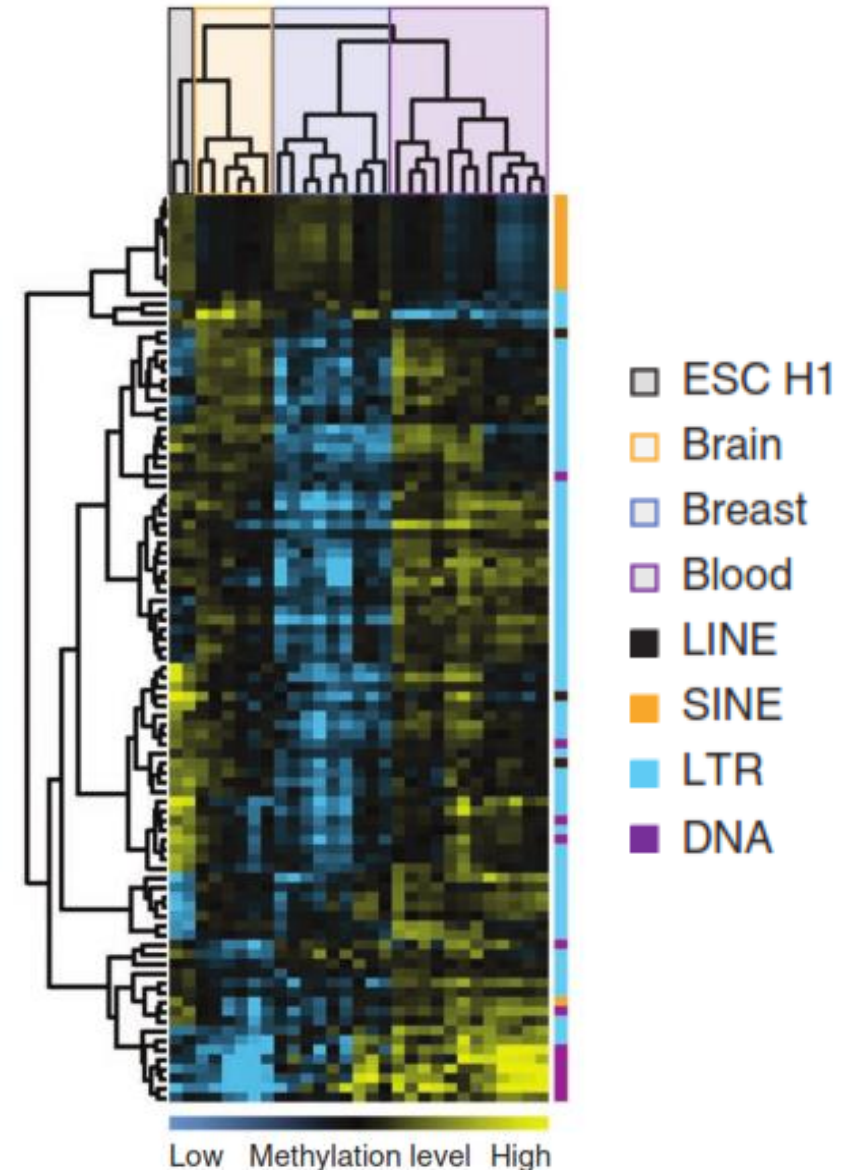


(Sundaram, *Genome Research*, 2014)

Collaboration with Mike Snyder

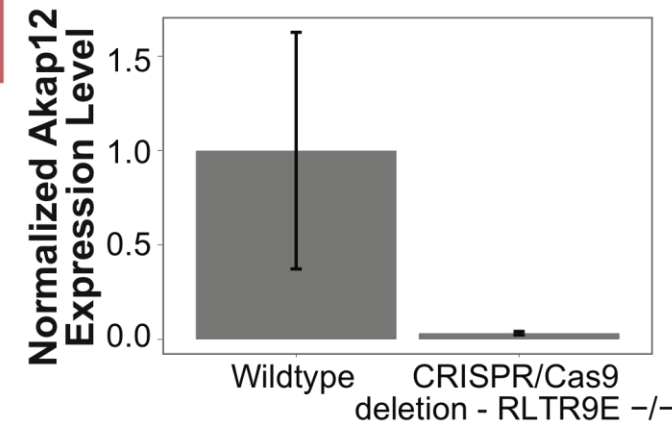
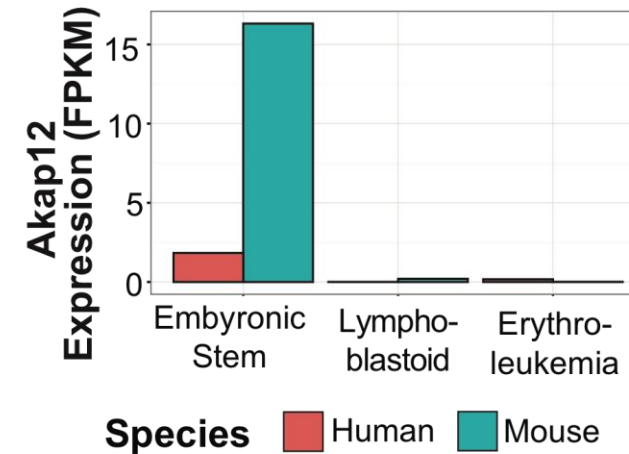
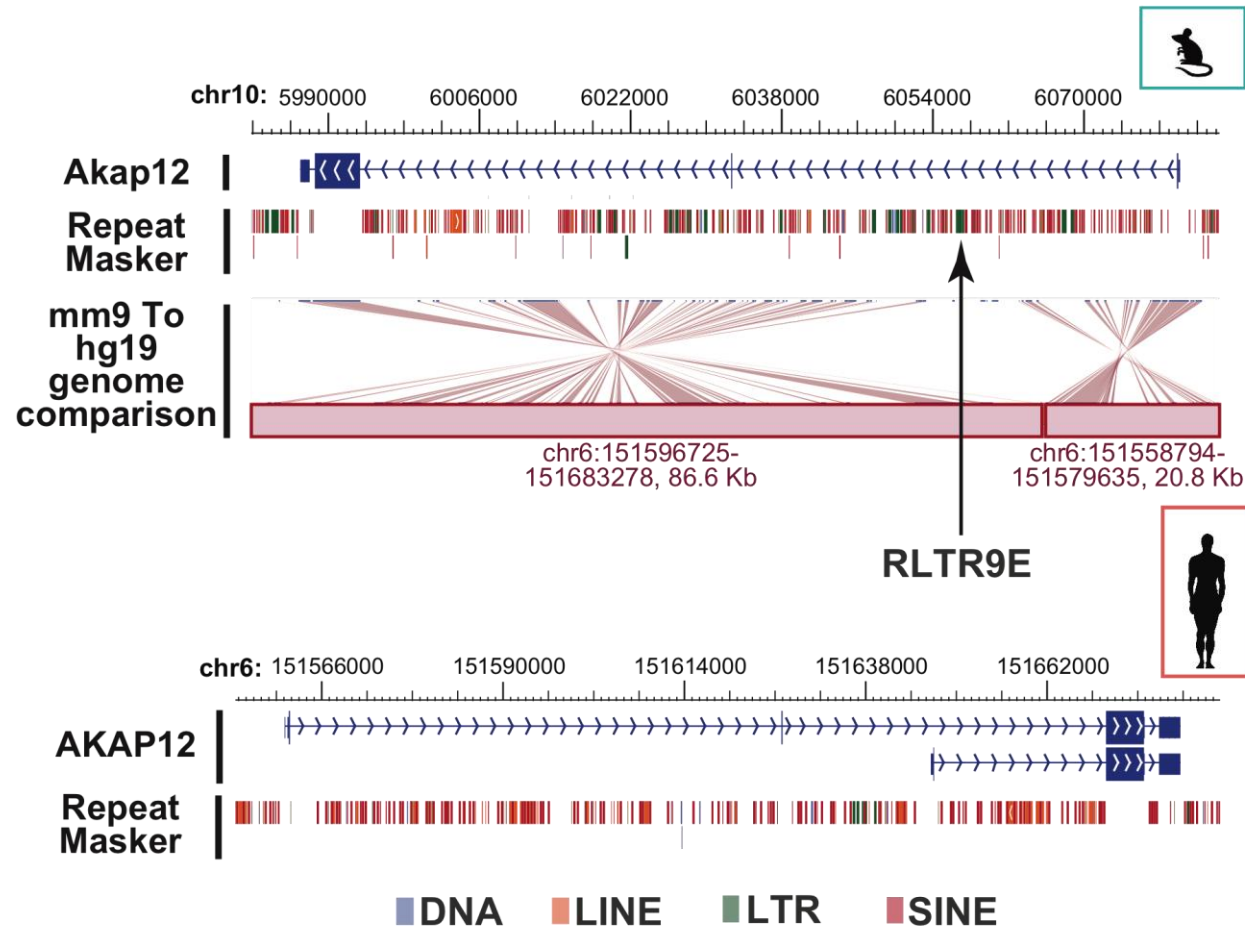
# TEs encode tissue-specific enhancers in normal tissue

- TE subfamilies exhibit tissue-specific DNA hypomethylation
- Correlates with enhancer epigenetic marks, transcription factor binding sites
- Enriched near tissue-specific genes
- Examples
  - LFSINE (brain)
  - LTR77 (blood)





# TEs encode complex *cis*-regulatory modules – a battery of cooperating TFBSs



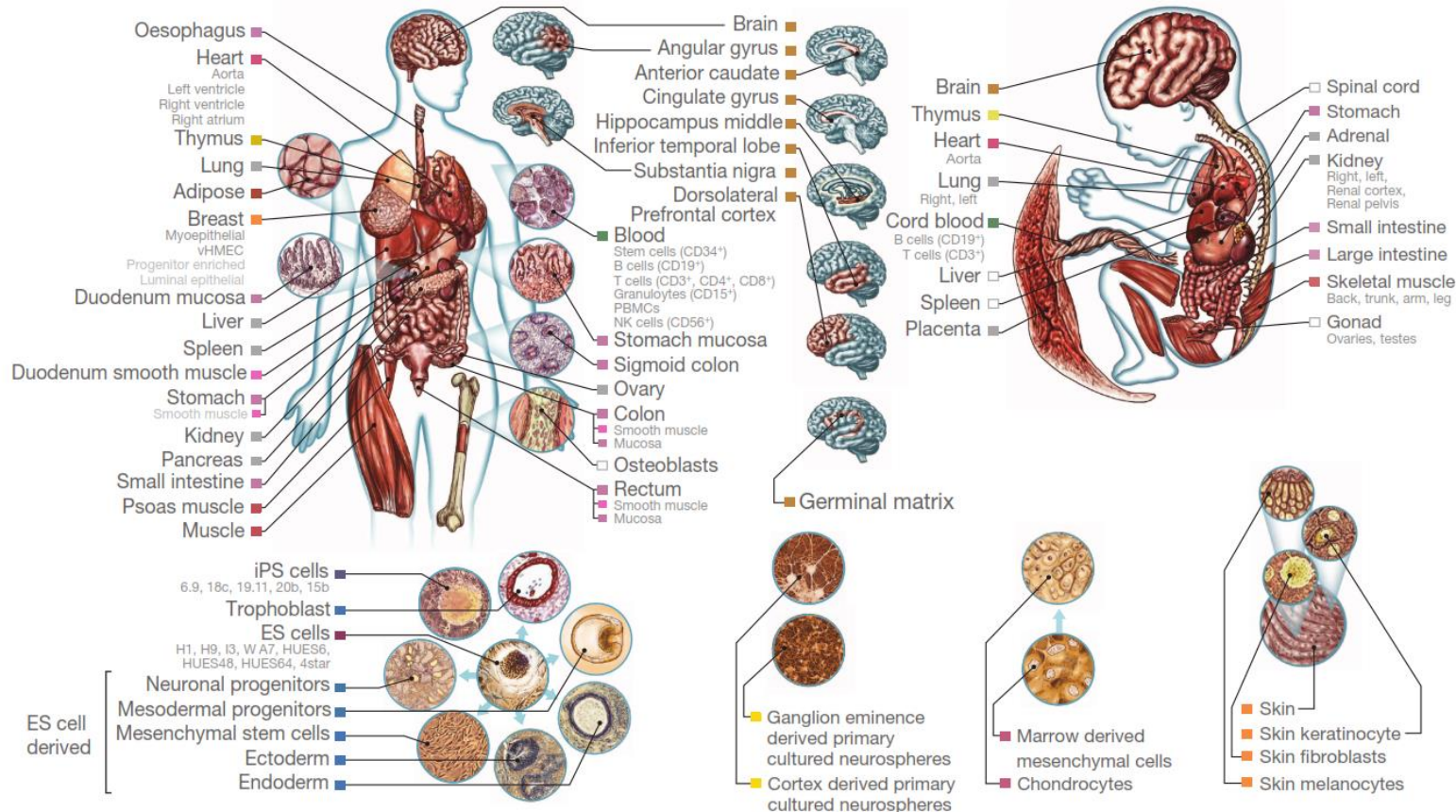
(Sundaram, *Nat Comms*, 2017)



# Outstanding questions

1. What is the overall contribution of TEs to gene regulation?
2. How many TEs possess the potential to be regulatory?
3. How specific is TE activity to tissues or cell types?
4. Which TEs perform regulatory roles?
5. How do TEs evolve – obtain or lose – their regulatory capacity?
6. Are regulatory functions conserved between species?

# Profiling regulatory role of TEs using Roadmap Epigenomics Project data



## • Histone modification ChIP-seq:

- H3K4me3 (promoter)
- H3K4me1 (enhancer)
- H3K36me3 (transcribed)
- H3K27me3 (Polycomb repression)
- H3K9me3 (heterochromatin)

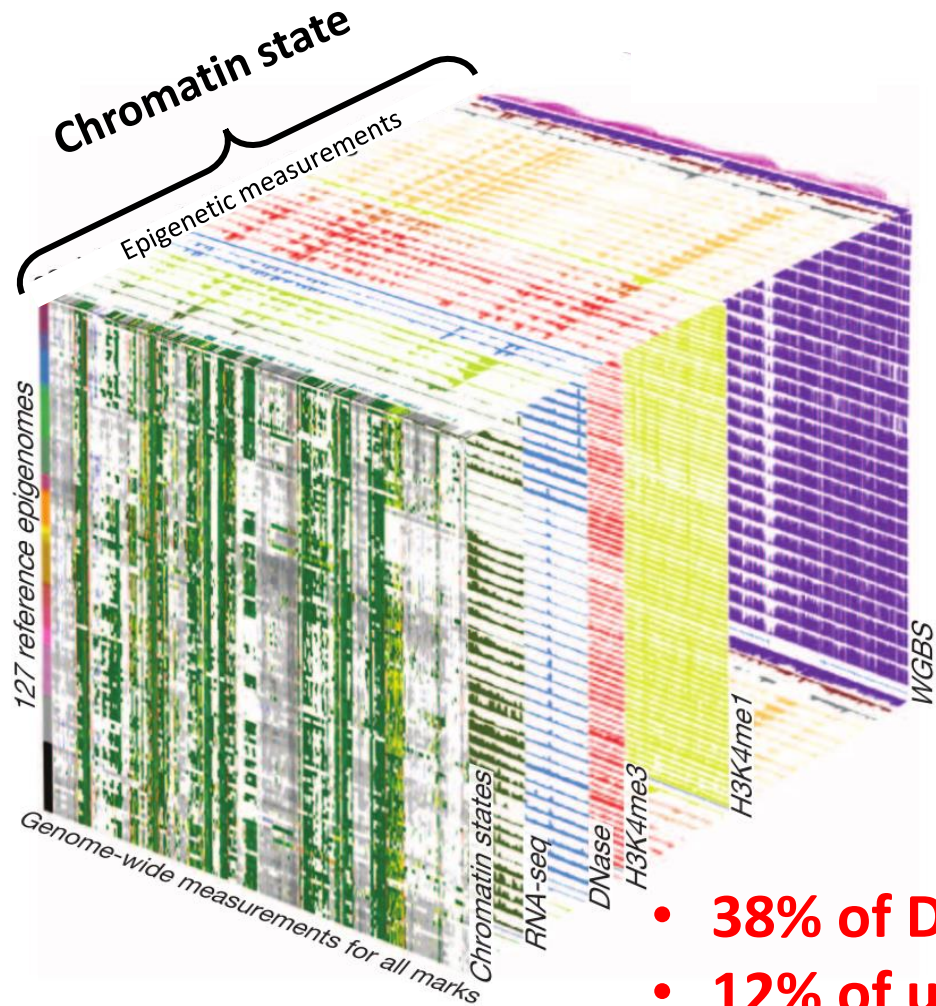
## • Additional:

- H3K27ac/H3K9ac ChIP-seq (enhancer/promoter increased activation)
- DNase hypersensitivity (accessible chromatin)
- DNA methylation
- Expression

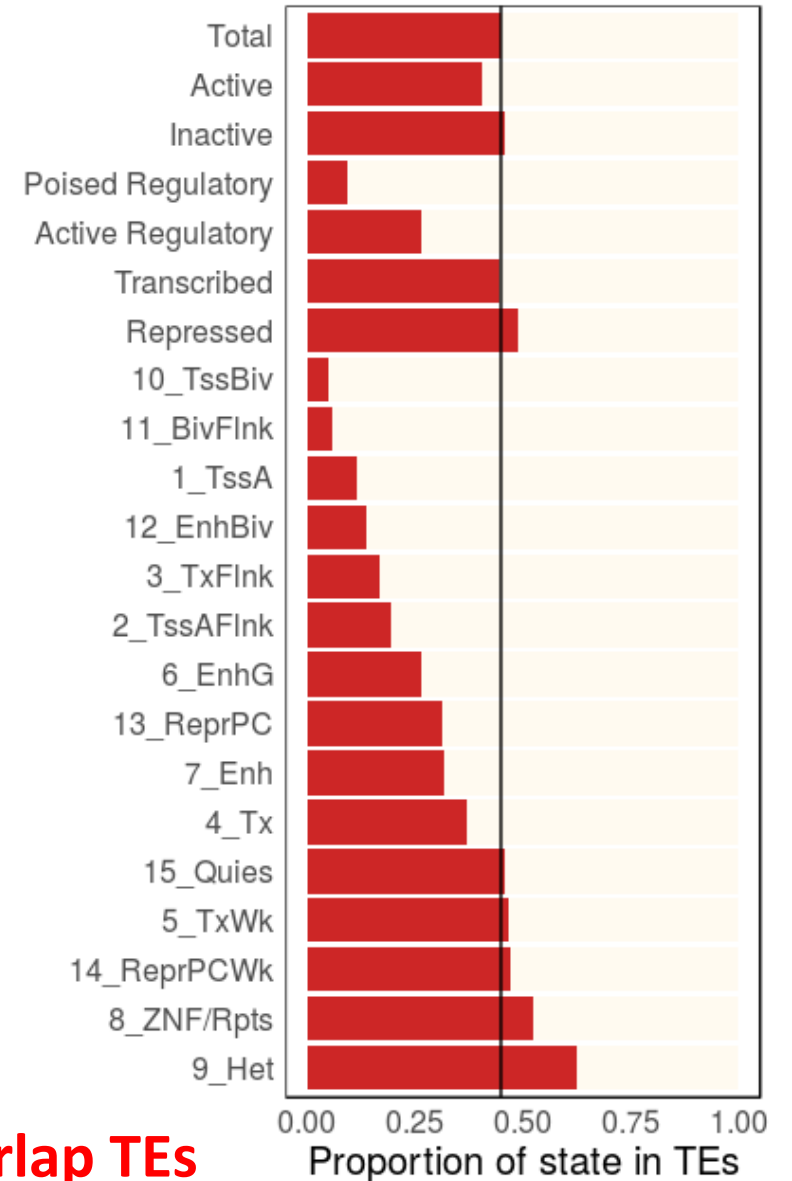
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# TEs have a large contribution to active and regulatory chromatin states



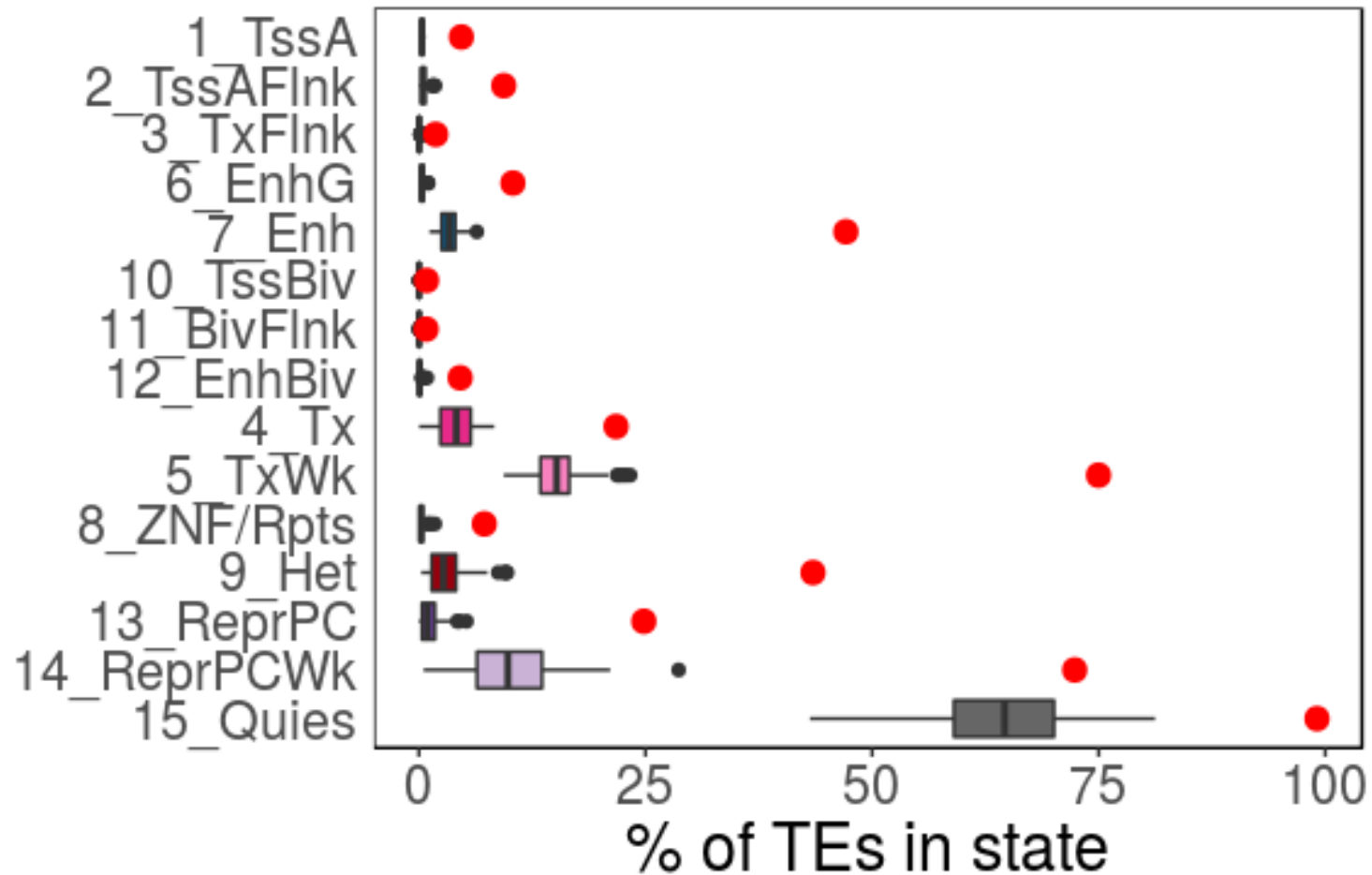
- 38% of DHS peaks overlap TEs
- 12% of unmethylated CpGs overlap TEs



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# 50% of TEs can be in an active regulatory state

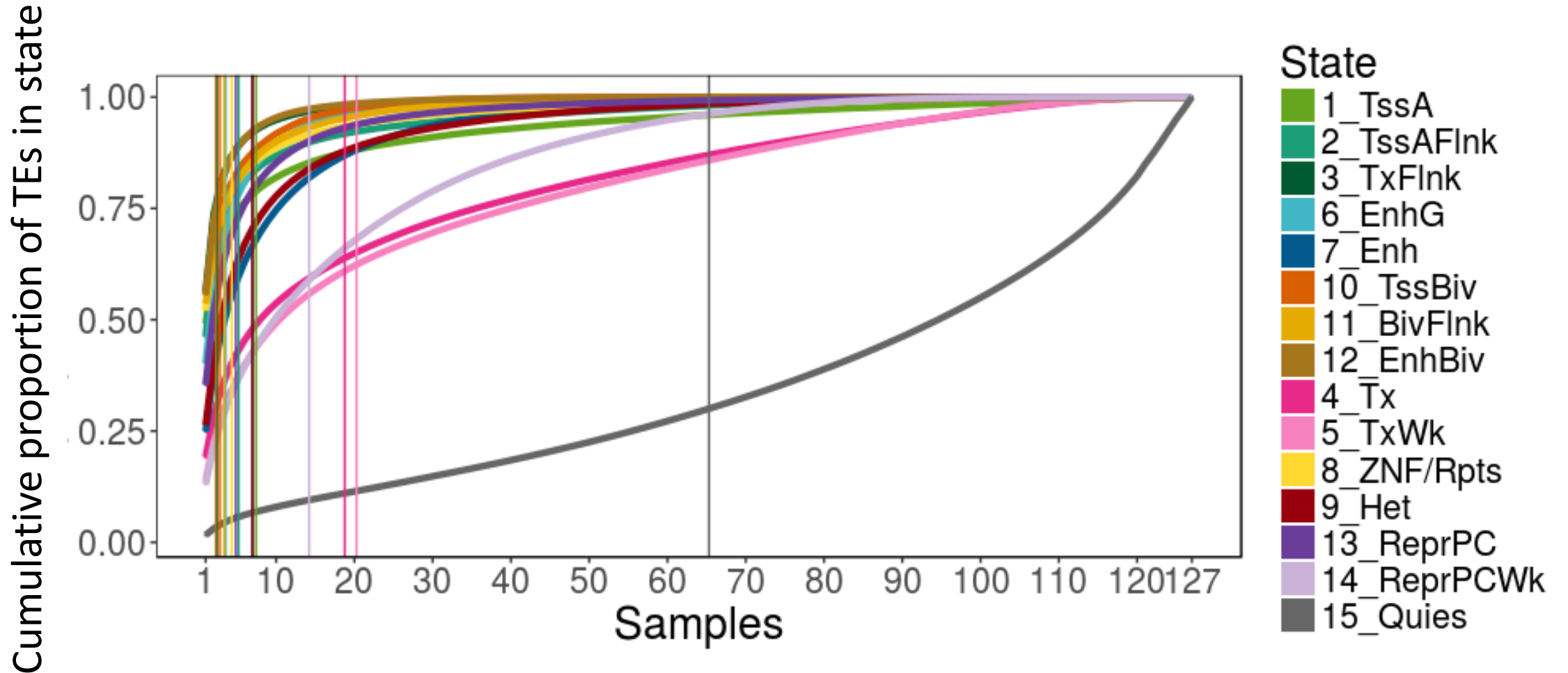


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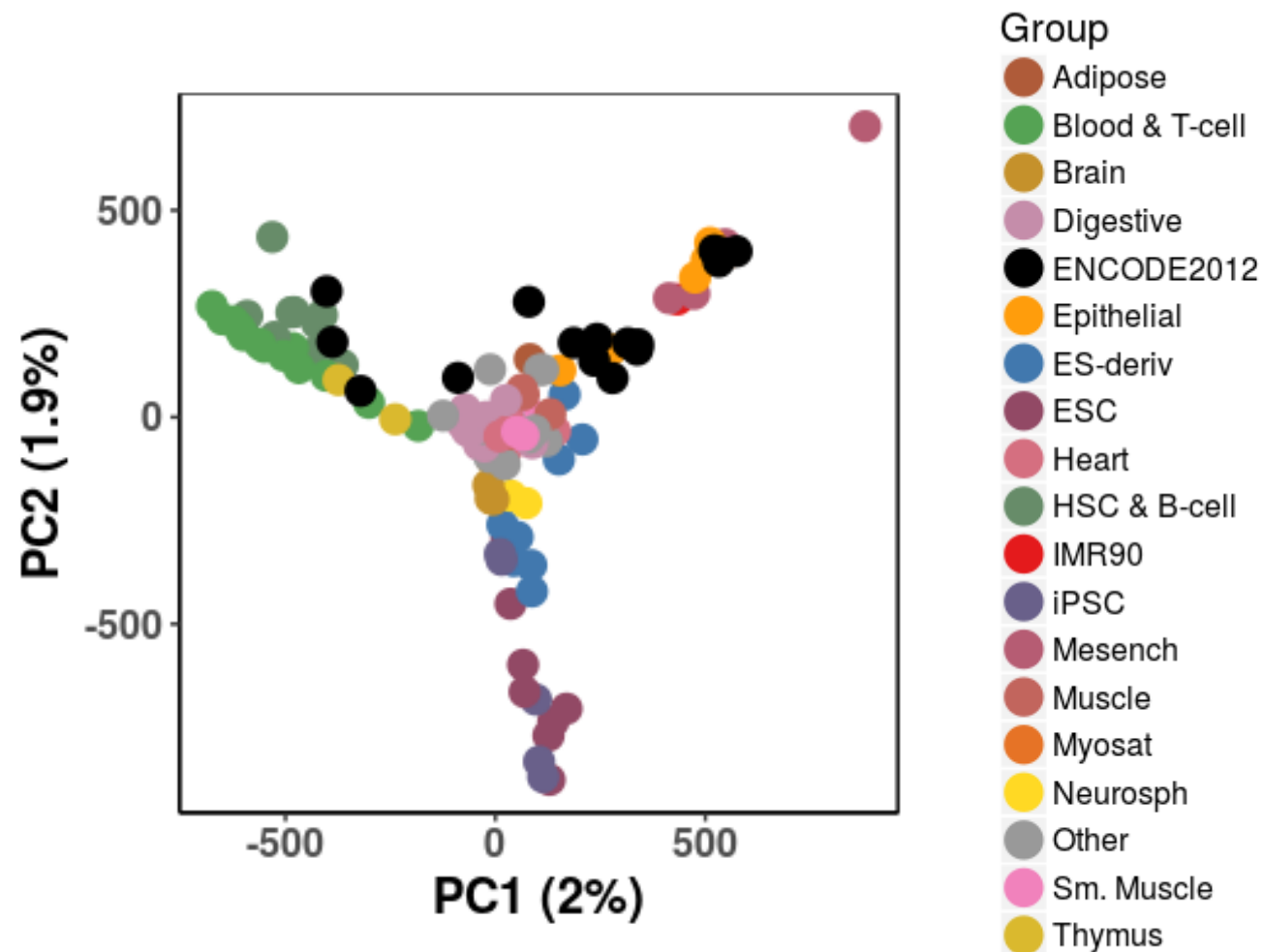
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# TE activity is cell type-specific



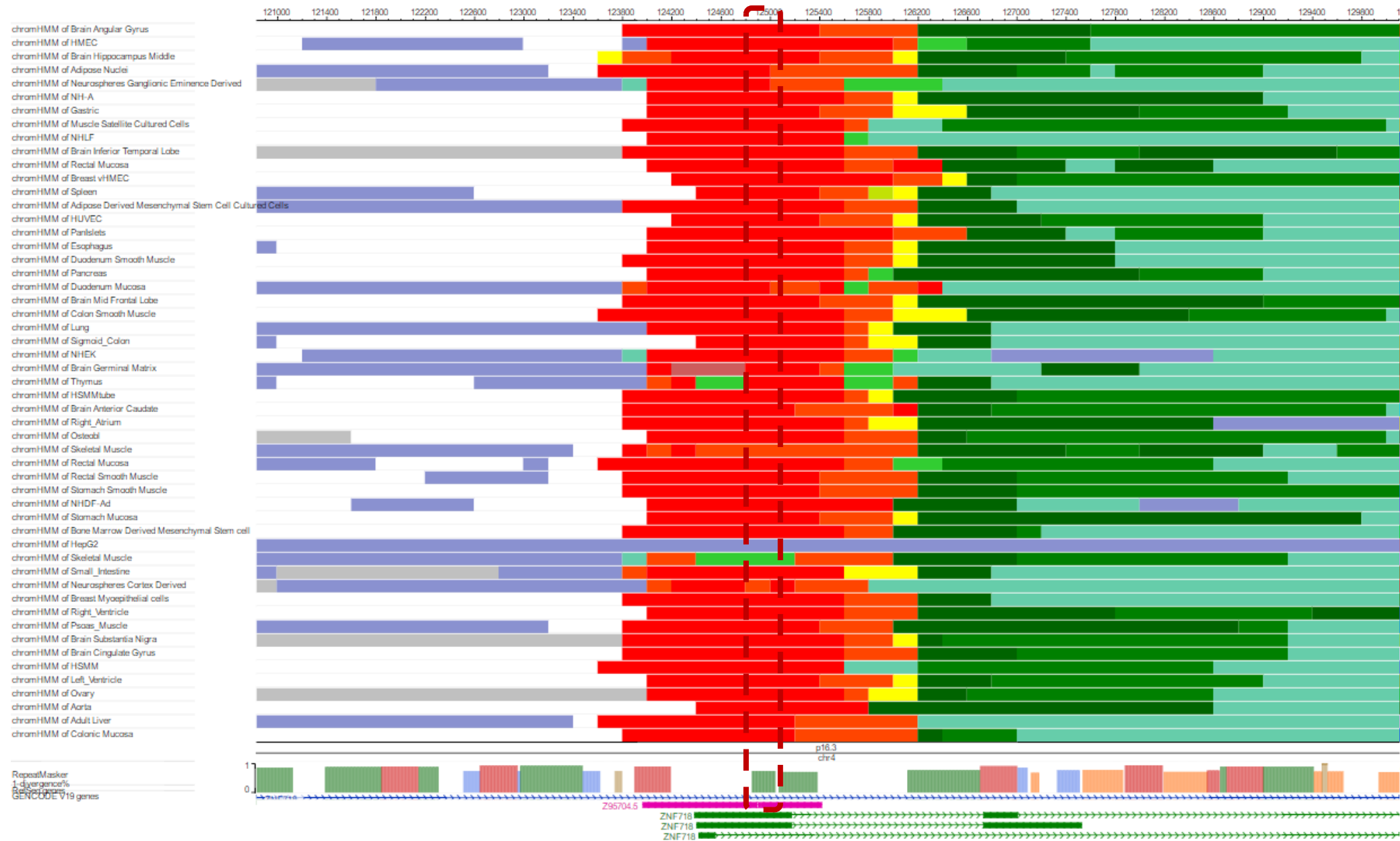
# Enhancer activity differs by sample type



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# MER57E3



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# Acknowledgements

## Ting Wang lab

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## Collaborators

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