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Supplementary Materials for

Improved de novo genomic assembly for the domestic donkey

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Supplementary Materials and Methods

section S1.

Chicago library sequencing

Two Chicago libraries were prepared as described previously (*14*). Briefly, for each library, 500 ng of high-molecular-weight genomic DNA (~50 kb mean fragment size) was reconstituted into chromatin *in vitro* and fixed with formaldehyde. Fixed chromatin was then digested with the MboI enzyme, the 5' overhangs were filled in with biotinylated nucleotides and then free blunt ends were ligated. After ligation, crosslinks were reversed and the DNA purified from protein. Purified DNA was treated to remove biotin that was not internal to ligated fragments. The DNA was then sheared to ~350 bp mean fragment size and sequencing libraries were generated using NEBNext Ultra enzymes and Illumina-compatible adapters. Biotin-containing fragments were then isolated using streptavidin beads before PCR enrichment of the library. The libraries were sequenced on the Illumina (*44*) HiSeq 2500 instrument at the Danish National DNA Sequencing Center to produce 365M 2X150 bp read pairs, providing 101x physical coverage (1-50 kb pairs). Physical coverage measures the average number of times that a read-pair of 1-100 kb span a given nucleotide in the genome.

Scaffolding the draft genome with HiRiSE and quality metrics

A draft genome assembly previously reported (*2*) , representing 2,320 Mb with a scaffold N50 of 434 kb, Illumina shotgun sequence data, and Chicago library read pairs in FASTQ format were used as input data for HiRiSE, a software pipeline designed specifically for using Chicago data to assemble genomes (*14*). Shotgun and Chicago library sequences were aligned to the draft input assembly using a modified SNAP read mapper (http://snap.cs.berkeley.edu). The separation of Chicago read pairs mapped within draft scaffolds were analyzed by HiRise to produce a likelihood model for genomic distance between read pairs, and the model was used to identify putative misjoins and score prospective joins. After scaffolding, shotgun sequences were used to close gaps between contigs. Quality metrics for this assembly were obtained with Quast (*45*) with default parameters.

Repeat masking

Repeats and low complexity DNA sequences were masked in the genome prior to gene annotation using RepeatMasker version 4.0.5 (*46*) using the species repeat database 'mammals' with RepBase Update 20150807, RM database version 20150807 **(**table S7**).**

Remaining donkey specific repetitive elements were predicted *de novo* using RepeatModeler version open-1.0.8 (*46*) on the masked genome. Subsequently, a second round of RepeatMasker was run with the model generated from RepeatModeler as custom library input on the previously masked genome **(**tables S8-S9**).**

Gene Annotation

Genome annotation was performed using the genome annotation pipeline Maker2 version 2.31.8 (*47*) with ab-initio and homology-based gene predictions. Protein sequences from *homo sapiens, Equus caballus* and *Mus musculus* was used for homology-based gene prediction. As no training gene models were available for Equids, we used CEGMA (*48*,*49*) to train the ab-initio gene predictor SNAP (*50*)**,** rather than using the *de-novo* gene predictor Augustus (*51*) . Maker2 was run with "model org=simple, softmask=1, augustus species=human" and the "snaphmm" parameter was set to the HMM generated in the manual training of SNAP. Missing proteins in complete and partial complete KOGs can be found in table S6.

Orthologs in the horse genome were obtained using OrthoFinder (*52*) with default parameters. The horse protein-coding genes were obtained from Ensembl Genes (EquCab2.0, version 86). The parsing of the output obtained in OrthoFinder was done in-house using custom scripts. The gene symbols for the horse proteins were obtained using Biomart (*53*).

Heterozygosity and estimates of effective population size

Mapping of shotgun data from different *Equus* species to the donkey reference was performed using BWA v. 0.5.9 (*54*) with default parameters. Heterozygosity rates, both globally and locally, were computed using ANGSD v. 0.915-26 (*55*). Confidence bounds for the rate of

heterozygosity were obtained using a standard error interval for a binomial distribution. The local estimates of heterozygosity were performed using a window size of 50 kb with a step of 10 kb. The effective population size over time for the different species aligned to this donkey reference was performed using PSMC v. 0.6.5-r67 (*56*) using a base quality filter of 35, and parameters "-N25 -r5 -p 4+25*2+4+6". The results were plotted using mutation rate of 7.242x10 ⁹ mutations per generation and site, and assuming a generation time of eight years. To minimize biases due to sex chromosomes, only donkey scaffolds aligning to horse autosomal chromosomes were considered.

Runs of homozygosity were identified using overlapping windows of 50 kb with a heterozygosity rate consistently less than the overall average of 0.068% with a total combined length greater than 500 kb. The analysis for pathway enrichment was performed using WebGestalt (57), using the total set of annotated genes for the donkey genomes as background reference set. Again, only genes within scaffolds that were aligned to horse autosomal chromosomes were considered. The ROHs plots were generated using the qqman package (*58*)

Genome-wide alignments

The alignment of the different scaffolds to their corresponding genome chromosomes was performed using the nucmer program part of mummer package (*59*). This correspondence was established using the same 101-mers alignments that were used for the synteny plot.

As the orientation of the scaffold was not known *a priori*, we oriented the scaffolds in order to minimize the number of rearrangements. Furthermore, by leveraging on the chromosome map between horse and donkey genomes described in (*60*), we manually reverse complemented certain scaffolds to make sure that the orientation of the scaffolds was consistent with their map. However, in the main genome-wide plot presented in Fig. 4, the orientation of the scaffolds was selected using an automated procedure which maximizes similar chromosomal strands rather than minimizing the number of rearrangements.

The donkey divergence to the horse genome was computed using Nei's standard genetic distance (D) (*61*) using windows of 30 kb. Scaffolds were assigned as potentially coming from the Y chromosome by aligning donkey scaffolds to a set of 19 contigs from the horse Y chromosome (see table S4) using BLAT v.35 (*62*) with default parameters. To avoid spurious alignments to the X chromosome, the gene annotation for each scaffold potentially originating from the Y chromosome were aligned using NCBI Blast against the non-redundant protein database 'nr'. If a scaffold contained genes mapping to the X chromosome in horses, this scaffold was flagged as being potentially from the X chromosome rather than the Y one.

fig. S1. Venn diagram of the protein-coding genes that were annotated in the donkey assembly versus the protein-coding gene annotation for the horse. The reference for the horse (*Equus caballus)* genome was EquCab2 and Ensembl Genes (version 86) were used. The comparison to the horse annotation was performed using a single transcript per predicted proteincoding gene.

fig. S2. Venn diagram of the protein-coding genes that were annotated in the donkey assembly published by Huang *et al.* **(***15***) versus the protein-coding gene annotation for the** *E. caballus* **genome (version EquCab2.0) using Ensembl genes (version 86).**

fig. S3. Alignment of horse chromosomes to six donkey scaffolds with putative signs of translocations. These alignments were performed with MUMmer v3.23.

fig. S4. Alignment of donkey scaffolds to corresponding horse chromosomes. These alignments were performed with MUMmer v3.23.

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fig. S5. Genetic distance between scaffolds spanning the gap on ECA12 versus the background.

fig. S6. Measured heterozygosity rates for the donkey scaffolds aligned to the various horse chromosomes.

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fig. S7. Nei's genetic distance by windows of 30 kb between donkey and horse chromosomes for scaffolds with signs of inversions. The areas in blue are potentially on different strands and in red, on the same strand.

Fig. S7

fig. S8. Effective population size over time by aligning to the horse reference. PSMC reconstruction of the effective population size over time using the data from (*9*) which had been aligned to the horse genome, for different *ass* species (**A**) and zebra species (**B**). For both, the effective population over time are estimated to be lower when the new donkey reference is used which is likely due to the greater phylogenetic proximity of this new reference.

fig. S9. Measured heterozygosity rates for the African wild ass using the donkey scaffolds aligned to the horse chromosomes.

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Fig. S9 3 of 4

table S1. Translocations found between the donkey and horse scaffolds. The first three represent translocations for donkey scaffolds aligning to the same horse chromosome. The last six translocations are for donkey scaffolds that align to two different horse chromosomes.

table S2. Gene ontologies of biological processes and enriched Reactome pathways associated with genes found in donkey scaffolds with signs of inversions when compared to the horse genome.

table S3. Human phenotypes, human diseases, and pathways associated with genes enriched in detected ROHs.

table S4. Horse sequences used for the detection of donkey scaffolds pertaining to the Y chromosome.

NCBI nucleotide ID GenBank accession		Length (bp)
	406356568 JX647038.1	27711
	406356560 JX647030.1	34694
	406356544 JX647022.1	11087
	406356536 JX647014.1	10486
	406356528 JX647006.1	5528
	406356520 JX646998.1	7619
	406356512 JX646990.1	8830
	406356504 JX646982.1	9393
	406356496 JX646974.1	8508
	406356488 JX646966.1	10880
	406356480 JX646958.1	17810
	406356472 JX646950.1	18678
	406356464 JX646942.1	14899
20373117 G72338.1		400
20373114 G72335.1		528
20373118 G72339.1		255
	29126040 AB091794.1	5591
	42525419 AY532879.1	452
20373115 G72336.1		508

table S5. Heterozygosity rates for various species of asses and zebras computed when aligning to the donkey reference described in this study and recomputed on the basis of the data reported by Jónsson *et al.* **(***9***), which were aligned to the horse reference.**

table S6. Listing missing proteins in complete and partially complete Eukaryotic Orthologous Groups from the Core Eukaryotic Genes Mapping Approach.

table S7. Repeat elements and low-complexity DNA sequences masked in the donkey genome using RepeatMasker. The table is showing the number of elements for the different types of SINEs, LINEs, LTR elements, DNA elements and small rNA and satellites masked in the donkey genome. Furthermore, the total length in bp and the percentage of masked sequence for each category is listed.

* most repeats fragmented by insertions or deletions have been counted as one element

table S8. Repeat elements and low-complexity DNA sequences masked in the donkey genome using the second of the RepeatMasker using the model generated from RepeatModeler as custom library input on the previously masked genome. The table is showing the number of elements for the different types of SINEs, LINEs, LTR elements, DNA elements and small RNA and satellites masked in the donkey genome. Furthermore the total length in bp and the percentage of masked sequence for each category is listed.

* most repeats fragmented by insertions or deletions have been counted as one element

table S9. Statistics of the completeness of the different versions of the donkey genome based on 248 Core Eukaryotic Genes. 'Complete (%)' refers to the predicted proteins that could be aligned to the HMMs of a KOG for a given protein family from the CEGMA dataset consisting of 248 CEGs. 'Partial complete (%)' refers to incomplete proteins. Complete genomes will also be included in the 'Partial' set.

