



Supplementary Information for

**Human-specific tandem repeat expansion and differential gene expression during primate evolution**

Arvis Sulovari, Ruiyang Li, Peter A. Audano, David Porubsky, Mitchell R. Vollger, Glennis A. Logsdon, Human Genome Structural Variation Consortium, Wesley C. Warren, Alex A. Pollen, Mark J.P. Chaisson, Evan E. Eichler

Corresponding author: Evan E. Eichler, Ph.D  
Email: [eee@gs.washington.edu](mailto:eee@gs.washington.edu)

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- Supplementary methods
- Figures S1 to S11
- Legends for Datasets S1 to S14
- SI References

**Other supplementary materials for this manuscript include the following:**

- Datasets S1 to S14

## METHODS

**Phasing of the tandem repeat loci in NHP genomes.** The SMRT PacBio data from the three NHP were aligned against GRCh38 using BLASR(25) and the same alignment parameters as those used by the HGSVC:

```
--bam --insertion 8 --deletion 8 --mismatch 4 --indelRate 3 --  
advanceExactMatches 10 --maxMatch 25 --sdpTupleSize 13 --out --nproc 8
```

The generated BAM and the 10X phased variants were processed through PhasedSV (<https://github.com/mchaisso/phasedsv>). Although PhasedSV was designed to identify and sequence-resolve SVs at a whole-genome scale, we used it in a targeted fashion, such that it assembled NHP alleles only for our genomic regions of interest. Additionally, no stitching was performed to join the haplotype-resolved contigs. Although stitching improves the contiguity of the assemblies, we do not anticipate it to affect our ability to resolve tandem repeat regions since these are relatively small in size (the vast majority measure  $\leq 10$  kbp in length). Importantly, when PhasedSV cannot haplotype-partition PacBio reads for a given locus (e.g., when we have a paucity of phased heterozygous SNVs from 10X), it will utilize all mapped reads for that region and assemble the same contig in both alleles.

**Sequence annotation and visualization.** The sequences from each of the six NHPs were analyzed with RepeatMasker v.4.0.3(1) and TRF v.4.07b(2) using the same parameter settings as those used for annotation of HGSVC tandem repeat sequences. To visualize the structure of all tandem repeats, we constructed all pairwise dotplots for a total of 18 sequence sources: GRCh38, the eight human samples (six HGSVC haplotypes, haploid hydatidiform cell line CHM13, and the haplotype unaware Yoruban individual assembly), and nine NHP samples (six haplotypes resolved in this study and three haplotype unaware assemblies from Clint (chimpanzee)(3), Susie (gorilla)(4) and Susie (orangutan)(3)). A subset of expanded and disease-associated loci were selected for detailed visualizations using dotplots, multiple sequence alignments (MSAs) of the assembled human and NHP haplotypes, and Miropeats(5). We developed the visualization tool Dottedpython (<https://github.com/ruiyangl/Dottedpython>), which uses a variety of sequence analyses methods to visualize the structure of tandem repeat sequences across different samples. It incorporates dot matrix analyses (first described by Sonnhammer and Durbin(6)), repeat length statistics from TRF(2), MSAs of the repeat motif sequence using Clustal Omega(7), and gene annotation based on RefSeq gene annotations from UCSC GRCh38. Tandem repeats sequences are analyzed using pairwise dot matrix, which are generated for each unique pair of samples (i.e.,  ${}^{18}C_2 + 18 = 173$  unique pairs including self-comparisons). To generate a dot matrix, we use prefix doubling to construct a suffix array(8). Our program searches for identical 10-mers in two sequences. It has a time complexity of  $O(n \log(n))$  and a linear memory usage.

We also created a new dynamic visualization framework, Sequence Composition Viewer, specifically designed for tandem repeats. To produce a sequence composition view, we require 1) the sequence of the tandem repeat with some flanking sequence, and 2) the periodicity (i.e.,

motif length) of the STR/VNTR. Flanking sequences for STRs and VNTRs were set to ~500 bp and ~1.5 kbp, respectively. Next, we apply KAnalyze(9) to all the available haplotype-resolved sequences from human and NHP haplotypes to establish the abundance of each available k-mer that has the same length as the motif of the tandem repeat. Next, the k-mers are ordered by decreasing order of abundance, and each k-mer sequence is paired with a specific color from “hot red” to “cold blue”, such that the most abundant k-mer corresponds to the hottest color. Our color wheel contains 50 distinct heat colors. The k-mer-to-color pairing information is used to recursively replace exact matches in the input sequence with specific colors. This is done to control for the redundant nature of the k-mer sequences and to avoid assigning multiple colors to the same k-mer. For example, consider a 4 bp motif STR, where the two most abundant k-mers are AAGA followed by AAAG. The hottest color will be assigned to each exact match of AAGA in the input sequence; if after all copies of AAGA are assigned a color, our input sequence no longer contains AAAG motifs, then the second hottest color is assigned to the next most abundant 4-mer with non-zero abundance. After all 50 unique colors have been assigned to available k-mers, the rest of the input sequence is colored in gray. To properly align these multicolor tracts across multiple samples, we force a left and right alignment of the unique flanking sequence by breaking the tract in the last occurrence of two consecutive “hot colors”; most often the break will occur at the end of the tandem repeat region. The longest pure tract length (i.e., longest tract of uninterrupted perfectly repeating motif) is reported next to each sample, along with the motif sequence and the GRCh38 coordinates.

We used the start and end coordinates of the expanded region to search for gene annotations and report the distance to the nearest gene up and downstream of the repeat based on NCBI RefSeq data. Tandem repeats located <10 kbp away from the nearest gene were classified as upstream or downstream from a gene; otherwise they were classified as intergenic. Gene enhancer annotations were extracted from the nonredundant database GeneHancer(10), which aggregates enhancer information from sources including ENCODE, FANTOM and VISTA Enhancer Browser.

Sequence motif analysis was performed using TRF(2) with the following command-line options: `trf <Input file> 2 7 7 80 10 50 2000 -h -d -ngs > <output file>`. MSAs were generated using the sequence of the motifs corresponding to the longest total length in each sample. Each STR and VNTR repeat motif was analyzed through Multiple EM for Motif Elicitation (MEME)(11).

**Identification of HSE STRs/VNTRs.** We identified HSE tandem repeats according the following four criteria. First, to control for any technical biases that may have affected the sequence or mapping accuracy, we employed the following filters: removed loci overlapping with segmental duplications or containing satellite DNA, required that the haplotype-resolved tandem repeat sequence was flanked by  $\geq 100$  bp of unique GRCh38 sequence, required  $\geq 3$  samples with contiguously assembled sequence in each primate cohort, and tandem repeats had to have a motif length  $\geq 2$  bp. Second, we tested for differences in the lengths of tandem repeats

between the two primate groups using the nonparametric two-tailed Wilcoxon rank-sum test. We adjusted for multiple hypothesis testing using the false discovery rate (FDR)(12) and required each HSE to have a q-value  $\leq 0.05$ . Third, we quantified the variance ratio of the copy number values using the  $V_{ST}$  statistic in the two primate cohorts using the following formula at each tandem repeat locus:

$$V_{ST} = (\text{Var}_{\text{Total}} - (N_{\text{NHP}} \times \text{Var}_{\text{NHP}} + N_{\text{HS}} \times \text{Var}_{\text{HS}})) / \text{Var}_{\text{Total}}$$

where  $\text{Var}_{\text{Total}}$  is the total variance of all copy number values across the human and NHP haplotypes, and  $\text{Var}_{\text{NHP}}$  and  $\text{Var}_{\text{HS}}$  represent the variance for the specific primate groups. To establish a data-driven  $V_{ST}$  threshold for the most copy number different tandem repeats, we determined the first inflection point in the probability distribution function of  $V_{ST}$  using the extreme distance estimator approach with the Chebyshev confidence interval. This inflection point was found to be at  $V_{ST} = 0.45$  [C.I. = 0.36 – 0.53]; hence, we required all candidates for human-specific repeat expansions to have a  $V_{ST} \geq 0.45$ . Lastly, to account for the copy number variability of a tandem repeat in each primate cohort, we required that the longest NHP tandem repeat and the shortest human tandem repeat (i.e., the minimal copy number difference) differ by  $>5$  tandem repeat copies. This value was determined based on the trimodal distribution of minimal human-specific versus NHP copy number differences. We observe three distinct peaks in the probability distribution function, each of which corresponds to the  $\leq 1$  copy number difference (left-most peak), between  $>1$  and  $\leq 5$  copies (middle peak), and  $>10$  tandem copies (right-most peak). Since we aimed to capture all tandem repeat loci represented by the right-most distribution, we required copy number differences larger than 5 tandem copies.

**Differential splicing analysis.** To identify splicing differences, we obtained multi-tissue RNA-seq data from five chimpanzee brains(13) (NCBI BioProject accession number: PRJNA236446) and ten human brains from the GTEx(14) project. The FASTQ files were aligned to the transcriptome in GRCh38 coordinates using the STAR (2.6.1d) aligner(15) and gene transfer format file for the full transcriptome from GENCODE v29. The following human–chimpanzee brain tissue pairings were considered for the identification of differentially spliced striatum and cortex genes, respectively: striatum versus nucleus accumbens basal ganglia and orbital prefrontal cortex versus frontal cortex BA9. Next, the LeafCutter pipeline(16) was used to identify intron clusters (defined by the presence of  $\geq 50$  RNA split reads and introns of length  $\leq 500$  kbp) followed by differential splicing analysis between the human and the chimpanzee samples. The  $\chi^2$  test p-values associated with differential splicing were conservatively adjusted using the family-wise error rate (FWER) procedure across 79,322 intron clusters of the human transcriptome, resulting in adjusted threshold  $\alpha = 0.05/79,322 = 6.3 \times 10^{-7}$ . This analysis yielded 1,397 and 977 differentially spliced cortex and striatum genes, respectively. A local R Shiny app was used for visualizing the LeafCutter results (more details on running LeafCutter can be found here: <https://davidaknowles.github.io/leafcutter>). R version 3.4.0 was used for all statistical analyses.

**Multiple regression models.** The overlap of our tandem repeats with a gene (GR), density of tandem repeats at the subtelomeres, and the overlap with differential expression gene sets were

regressed against a combination of the following: the average length of the tandem repeat in human samples (HL), the distance to the nearest gene (GD), the length of the nearest gene (GL), and a few categorical variables including subtelomere overlap (SS, i.e.,  $\leq 5$  Mbp from the chromosome arms), which we have recently shown to be significantly enriched for tandem repeats(17), *ab initio* status of the repeat (AB), HSE status (HE), cells-type associated genes (CT), STR/VNTR repeat type (RT), and overlap of the tandem repeat loci with interspersed repeat elements as defined by RepeatMasker (RM, i.e., Alu, LINE, ERVK, SVA, and transposons). Two-way interactions of the explanatory variables were considered assuming sufficient degrees of freedom. The following model represents the general framework we used for the explanatory variables tested for association with each specific response variable:

$$\ln \frac{p_i}{1-p_i} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{HL} + \beta_2 \text{GD} + \beta_3 \text{GD} + \beta_4 \text{GL} + \beta_5 \text{RT} + \beta_6 \text{RM} + (\text{HL} + \text{HE} + \text{GD} + \text{GL} + \text{RT} + \text{RM})^2 + \varepsilon$$

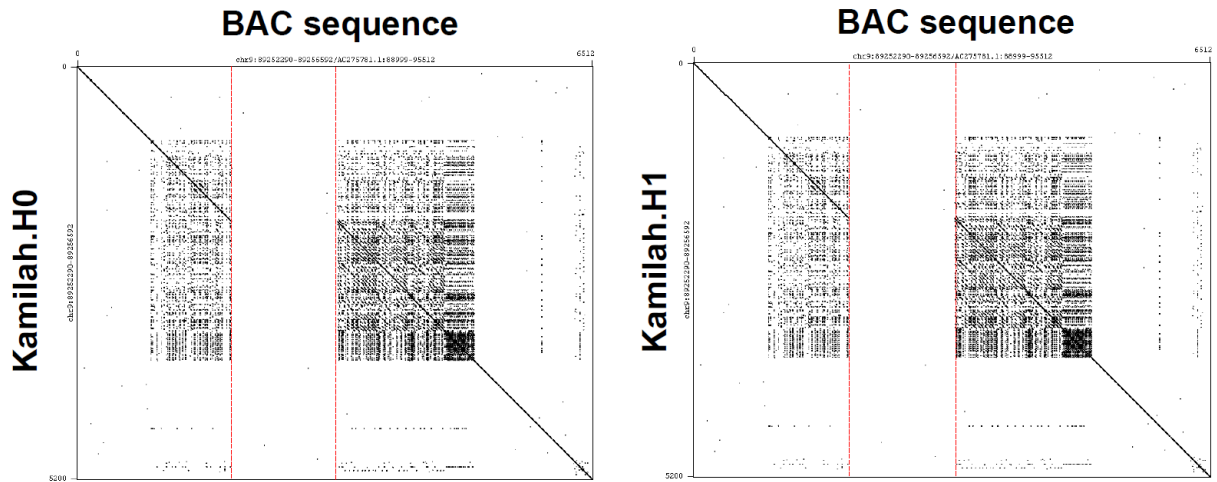
Where  $\ln \frac{p_i}{1-p_i}$  represents the natural log of the likelihood that each event  $i$  occurs (i.e., the natural log of odds), and  $\varepsilon$  represents the random effects, which are modelled as a normal distribution with  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$ . We pursued this approach for modelling our annotation data because we can test for association while controlling for potential confounders. For example, the odds of a tandem repeat overlapping with a gene might be affected by the tandem repeat's size, or the size of the gene, or the repeat's location in the genome; hence, in the generalized linear model framework above, we control for all of these confounders.

**Validation experiments.** We performed the following three independent sequence validation experiments. **BAC sequencing:** We aligned 199 NHP BAC insert sequences(21) to haplotype-resolved tandem repeat sequences from our three NHP genomes. Importantly, these BAC genomic libraries were generated using DNA from the same three NHP individuals as those used in our study: Clint (chimpanzee), Kamilah (gorilla), and Susie (orangutan). We directly compared the length and percent sequence identity of the tandem repeat sequences from BACs to the corresponding individuals' haplotype-resolved sequences generated by PacBio and 10X. We used minimap2 (v2.16)(30) to map all 199 BACs against GRCh38; the mapping coordinates were used to identify all overlapping STR/VNTR loci. Next, the overlapping tandem repeat sequences were mapped against the BACs. The cigar strings were processed using three different methods to produce percent sequence identity, as previously reported in the segmental duplication assembly pipeline(31). In order for a sequence to be considered validated, we required  $\geq 99\%$  length concordance and  $\geq 99\%$  sequence identity between our haplotype-resolved assemblies and BACs. The sequence identity metric we used considers each base pair in an indel.

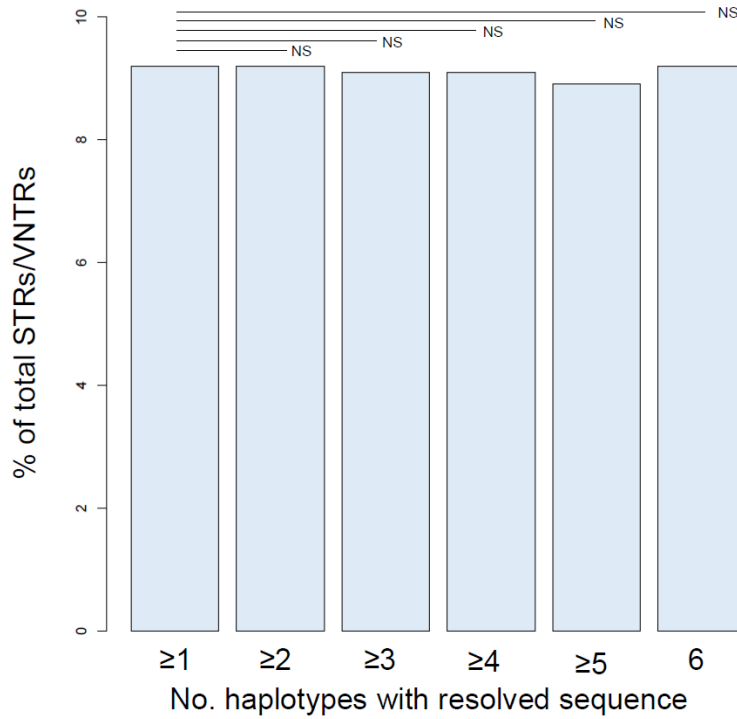
**Macaque assembly comparisons:** We used the most recent macaque genome long-read assembly (*Macaca mulatta*, GenBank accession: GCA\_003339765.3) to extract sequence from the regions homologous to the human *ab initio* and expanded tandem repeats. This assembly was chosen for two reasons: 1) macaque represents a more distant outgroup to the human lineage than our current outgroup (i.e., orangutan), allowing us to evaluate the human specificity of our tandem repeats and identify potential false positives in this set; and 2) importantly, this assembly was constructed using PacBio long reads, which unlike the older short-read assemblies, does not contain the inherent sequencing bias present over repetitive regions.

Since a LiftOver chain was not available to convert GRCh38 coordinates of tandem repeats to macaque reference coordinates, we extracted 2 kbp sequences from both flanking regions of each tandem repeat locus in GRCh38 and mapped these to the macaque primary contigs with minimap2. The resulting unique mapping positions (i.e., MAPQ  $\geq$  40) of the upstream and downstream flanks in the macaque contigs were used to guide the extraction of the homologous human tandem repeat sequences. This mapping approach is advantageous over mapping of the complete human tandem repeat locus, as it controls for potential fracturing of the alignment over the tandem repeat, or other misalignment artifacts, due to the vast structural genomic differences that may exist between the macaque and human genomes over tandem repeats. After characterizing each extracted macaque sequence with TRF, we employed separate validation criteria for the human *ab initio* and the HSE loci. In the case of *ab initio* loci, the homologous macaque sequence had to contain no tandem repeats for it to be considered validated. For each HSE locus, we required every homologous macaque sequence to contain a tandem repeat that is at most as long as the largest allele of that locus in the three NHP genomes.

Validation with orthogonal long-read sequence datasets: We carried out an additional orthogonal validation for STRs and VNTRs from the CHM13 CLR (continuous long-read) assembly, using orthogonal HiFi (high-fidelity) circular consensus sequencing data and ultra-long Oxford Nanopore Technologies (UL-ONT) sequence reads generated from the same source cell line (CHM13)(32). We considered a repeat validated if there was  $\geq$ 99% length concordance as well as  $\geq$ 99% sequence concordance between the CLR and the HiFi assemblies of STRs/VNTRs. For regions where HiFi and CLR were in disagreement (i.e.,  $>$ 1% discordance), size concordance for each of the two technologies were compared to ONT (allowing  $\leq$ 5% discordance), assuming ONT more accurately captured the true length. To assess the accuracy of the CLR sequence, we further analyzed the regions that were size-concordant between HiFi and CLR using the underlying circular consensus sequence data from HiFi restricting the analysis to the highest quality of data QV  $>$  30 (i.e.,  $<$  0.1% sequencing error).

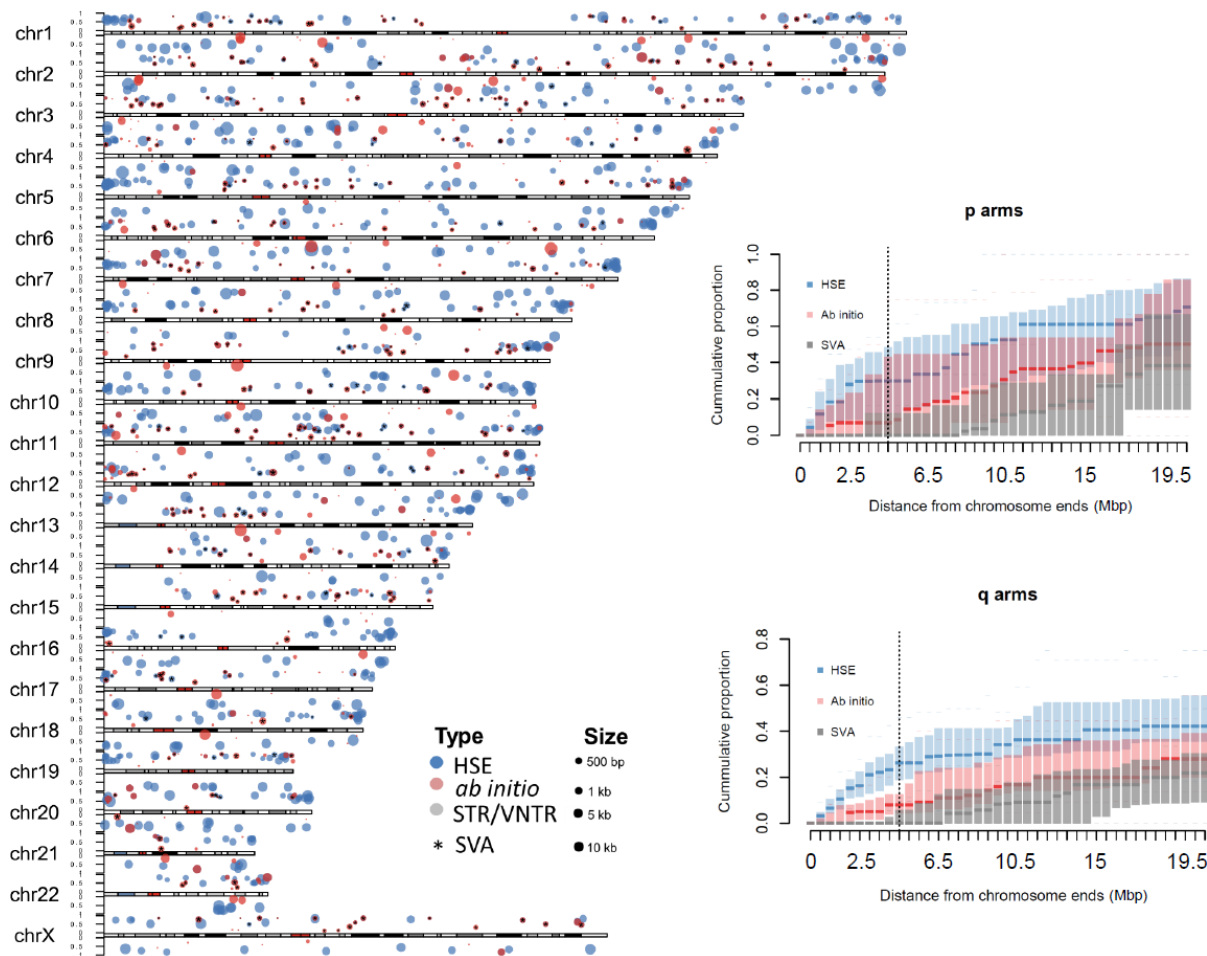


**Fig. S1. BAC propagation artefact.** An *E. coli* sequence insertion occurs in the gorilla BAC sequence and leads to a false negative validation result. Gepard(18) was used for making the dotplots. The inserted sequence is shown in between the dotted red vertical lines, representing a ~1.25 kbp insertion corresponding to the transposase *E. coli* gene.

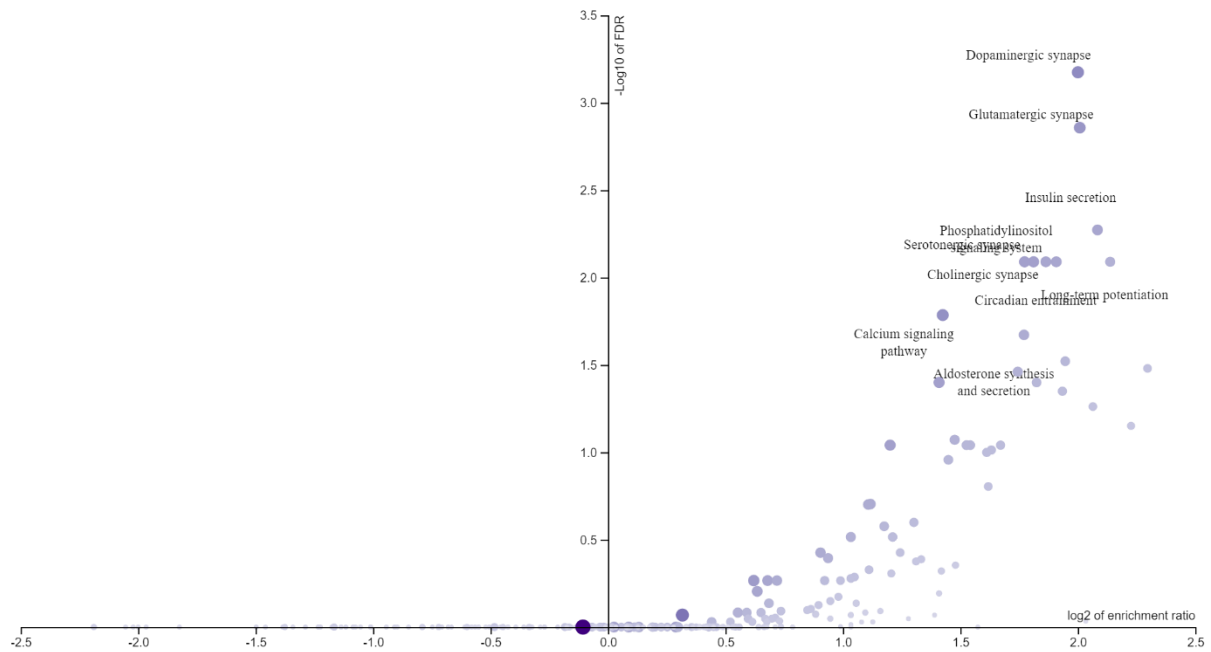
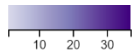


**Fig. S2. Missing data and discovery of human-specific STR/VNTR expansions.** The proportion of missing haplotype-resolved sequence is consistent for different thresholds. The x-axis indicates the number of haplotypes (from human and NHPs) that have been successfully assembled across all of the HSE and *ab initio* loci (n = 1,584). The label “NS” refers to the lack of statistical significance ( $\chi^2$  test p-value > 0.05) for tests that were conducted between different pairs of missing thresholds.

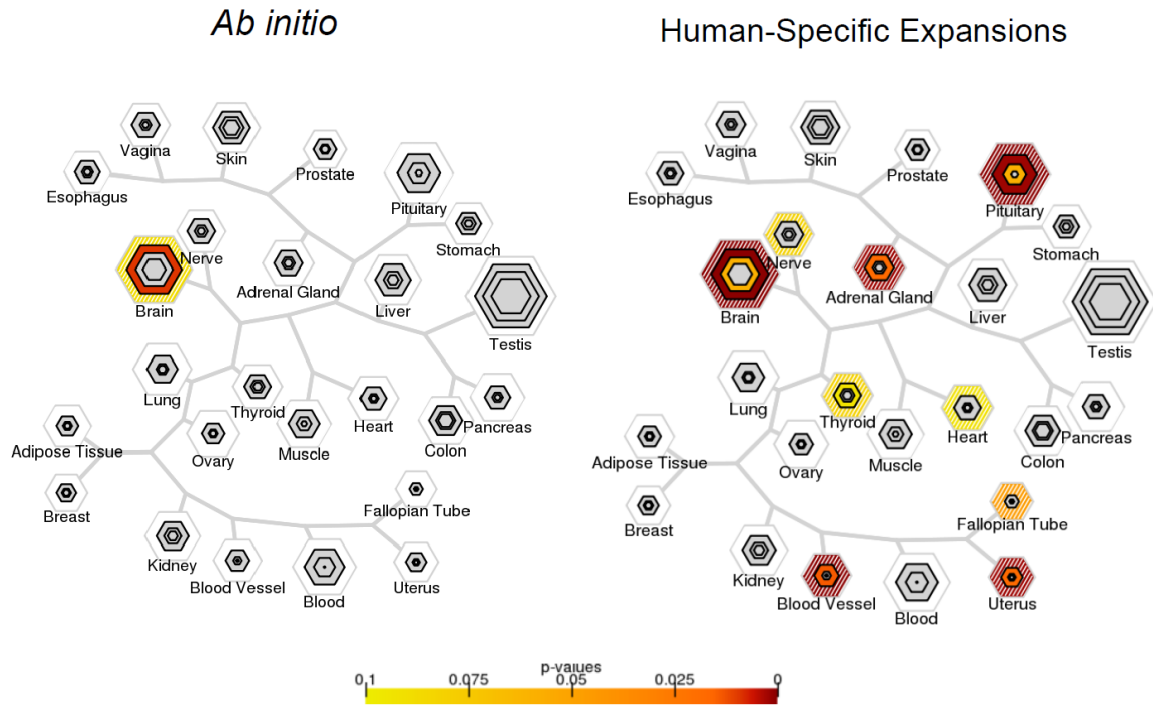




**Fig. S3. The genome-wide distribution of HSE and *ab initio* STRs/VNTRs.** The karyoplot to the left depicts the genome-wide distribution of HSE (blue) and *ab initio* (red) STRs (bottom panel) and VNTRs (top panel). The size of the filled circles corresponds to the tandem repeat size, while the star “\*” indicates loci that are SVA-associated. The y-axes of both top and bottom panels in each chromosome correspond to the  $V_{ST}$  value for each locus ranging from 0 to 1 (**Methods**). The colored boxplots to the right summarize the cumulative proportion of STRs and VNTRs observed as we move away from the telomere, towards the centromere. Three types of loci are represented for each chromosome arm, including HSE (blue), *ab initio* (red), and SV-associated (gray). The latter represent negative controls for the subtelomeric enrichment, since SVA-associated tandem repeats do not display such an enrichment. The dotted vertical line represents the boundary for the subtelomere region at 5 Mbp position away from the chromosome ends.

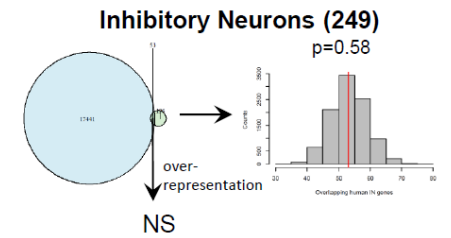
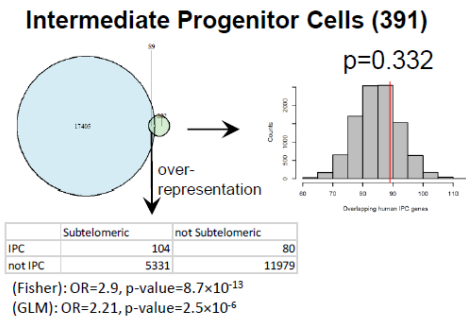
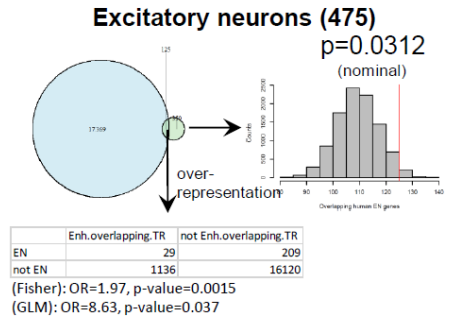
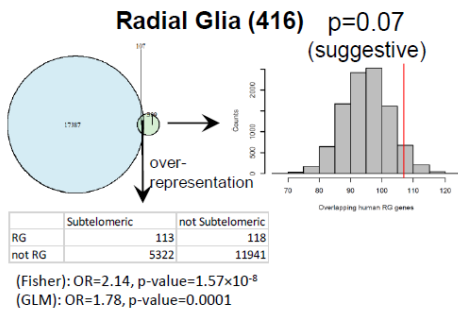


**Fig. S4. KEGG overrepresentation analysis.** A list of 814 genes overlapping with *ab initio* and HSEs was used as input. The top three enriched pathways were dopaminergic synapse (hsa04728) pathway (enrichment ratio = 4.0, FDR p-value =  $6.7 \times 10^{-4}$ ), glutamatergic synapse (hsa04724, enrichment ratio = 4.02, FDR p-value = 0.0013), and insulin secretion (hsa04911, enrichment ratio = 4.24, FDR p-value = 0.005). WebGestalt was used for this analysis.

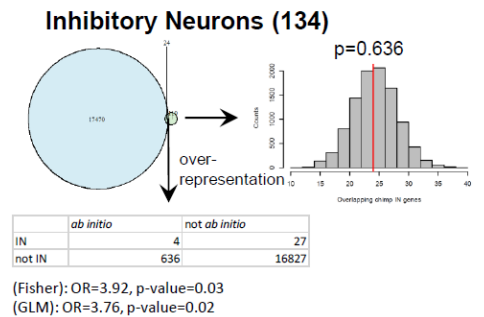
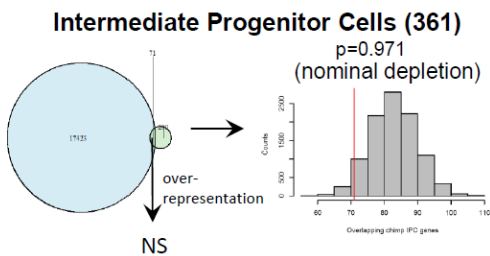
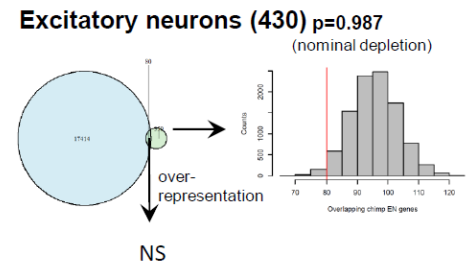
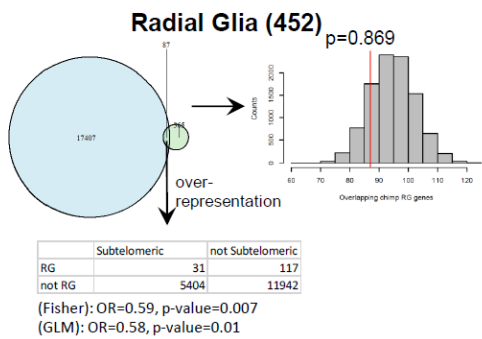


**Fig. S5. Tissue-specific enrichment analysis.** Both *ab initio* and HSE intronic events are enriched for brain-specific genes. The cell-specific enrichment tool (CSEA(19)) was used for the generation of both plots. For both bullseye plots, different stringency thresholds are shown by up to four concentric hexagons, where the “hotter” colors correspond to more significant the p-values.

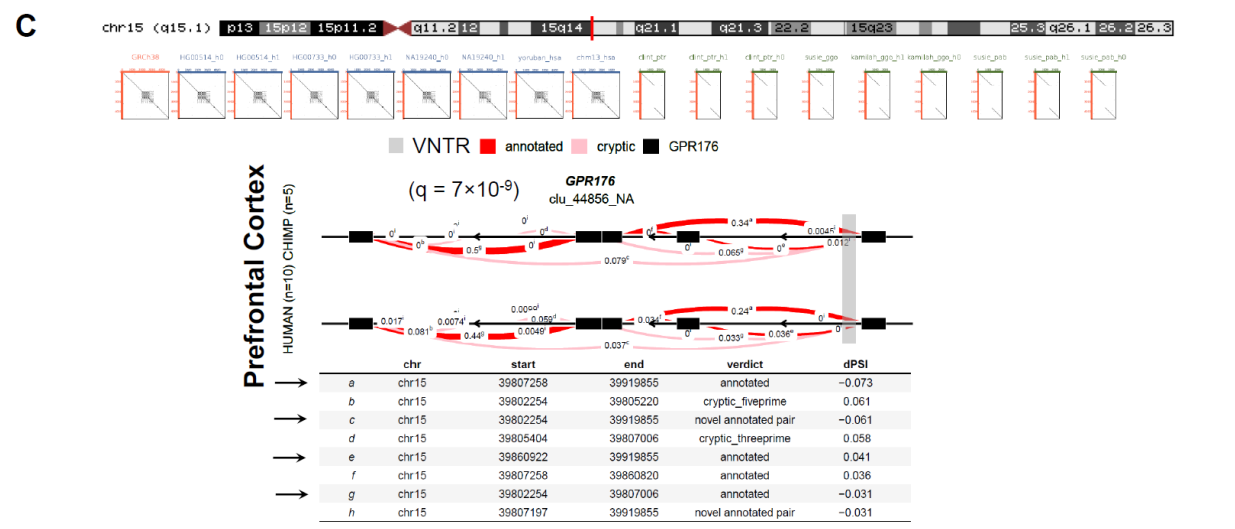
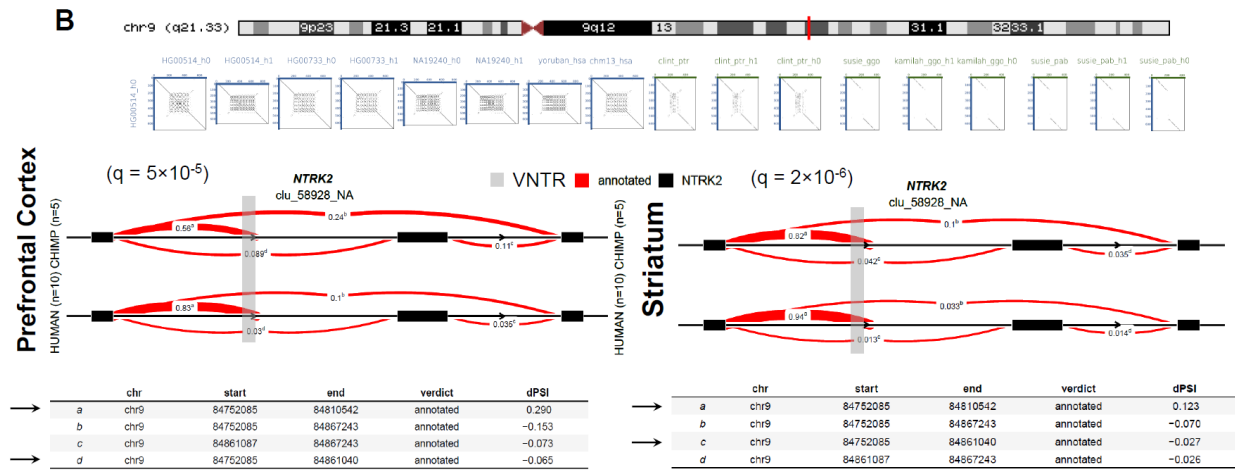
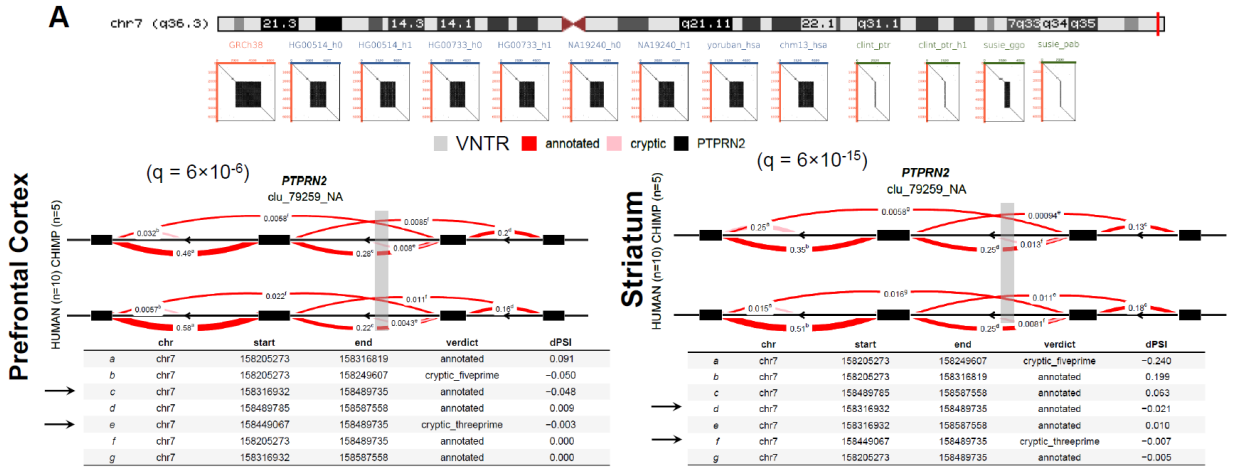
# A Cell-type specific genes upregulated in human brain organoids relative to chimpanzee

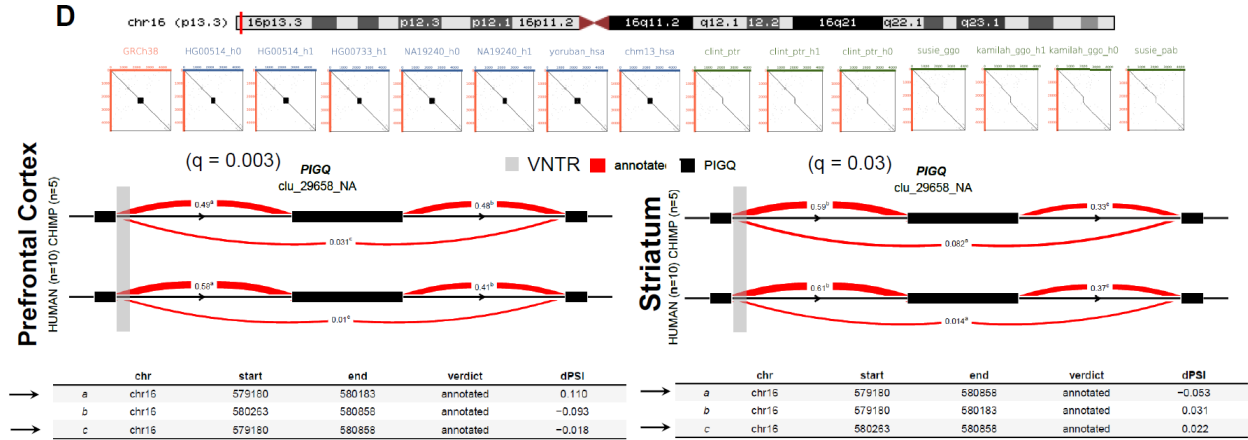


# B Cell-type specific genes downregulated in human brain organoids relative to chimpanzee

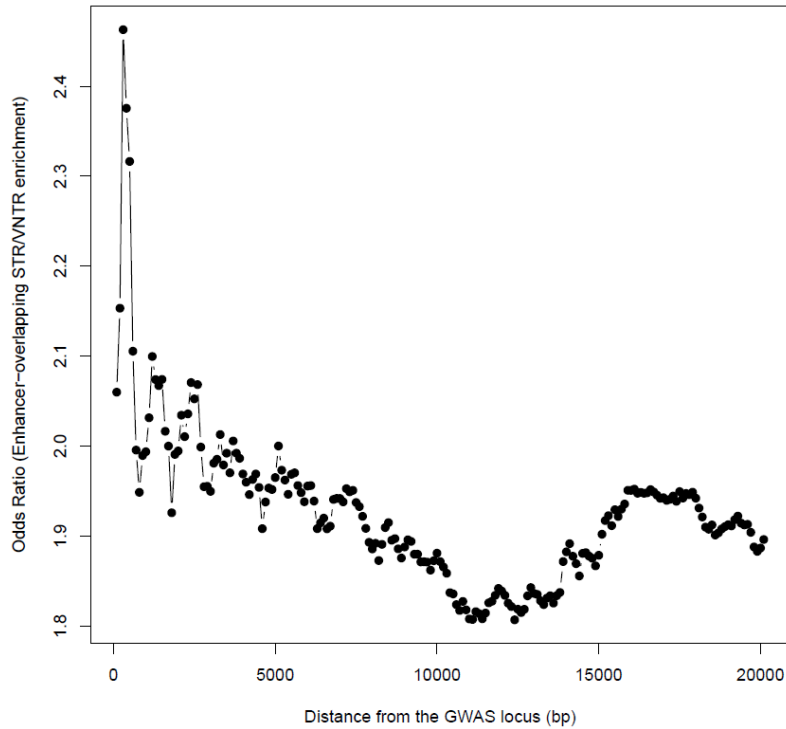


**Fig. S6. Association between STRs/VNTRs and cell-specific gene expression.** A visual summary of the cell-type-specific enrichment analyses. The two plots represent the **A)** human brain organoid upregulated genes and **B)** human brain organoid downregulated genes, both with respect to the chimpanzee brain organoid gene levels. In each category we tested for enrichment with four different cell types: RG, EN, IPC and IN. The intersection of our STRs/VNTRs (n=17,494) and these gene lists were evaluated from overrepresentation using both a generalized linear model (i.e., GLM; **Methods**) as well as a Fisher's exact test for count data. Additionally, each histogram represents the null distribution of the expected overlaps between our set of tandem repeats and each respective gene list, determined by 100,000 genome-wide shuffles. After multiple-testing correction, we observe a significant overrepresentation of STRs/VNTRs for genes that are human upregulated in radial glia and intermediate progenitor cells, as supported by at least one of the three statistical models.



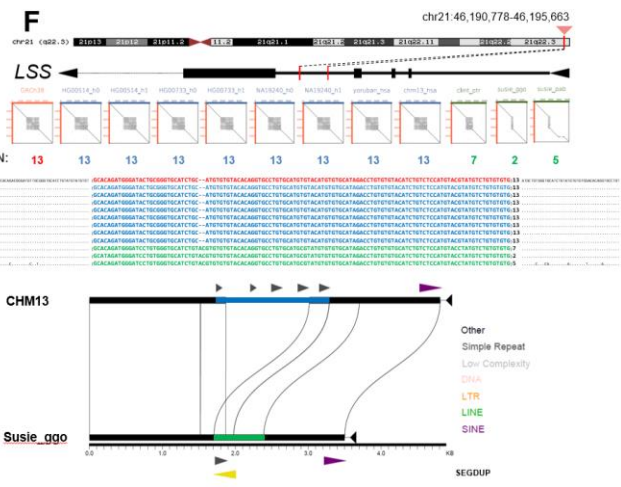
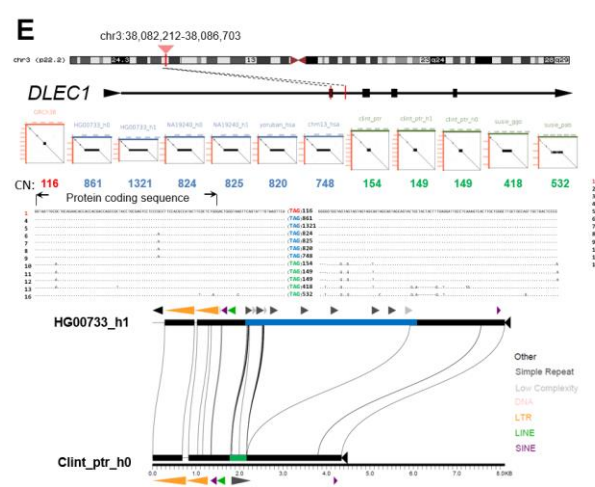
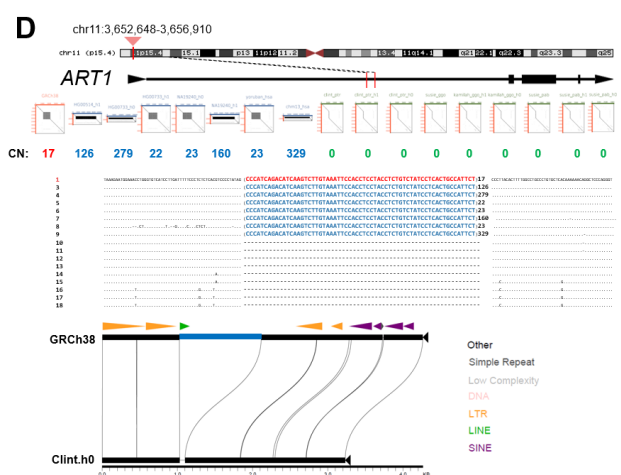
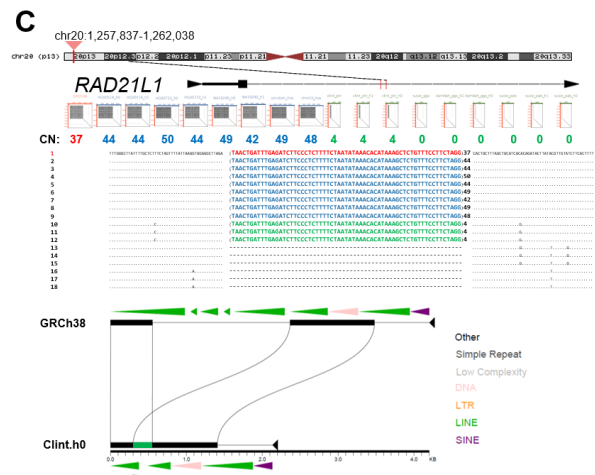
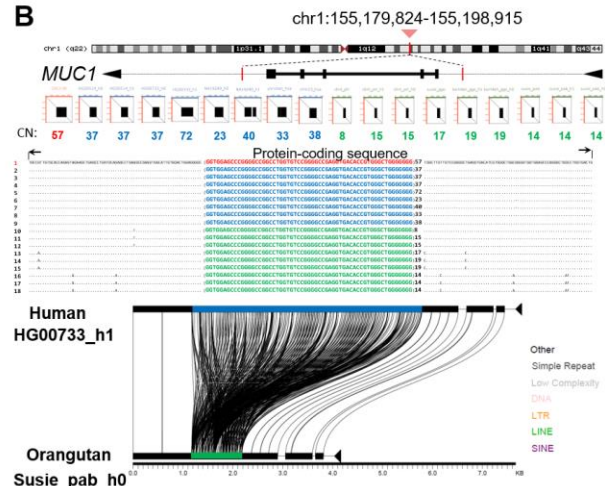
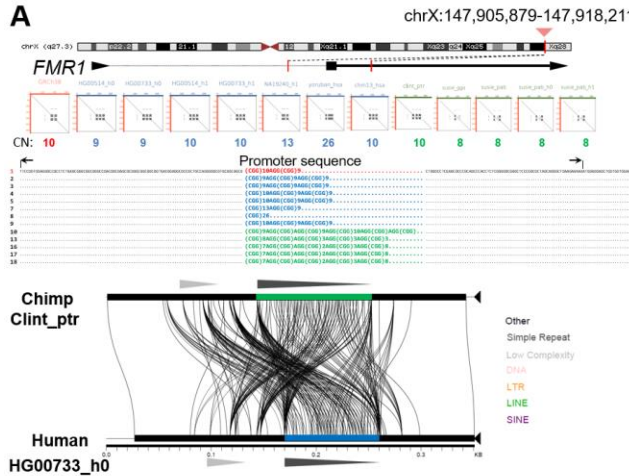


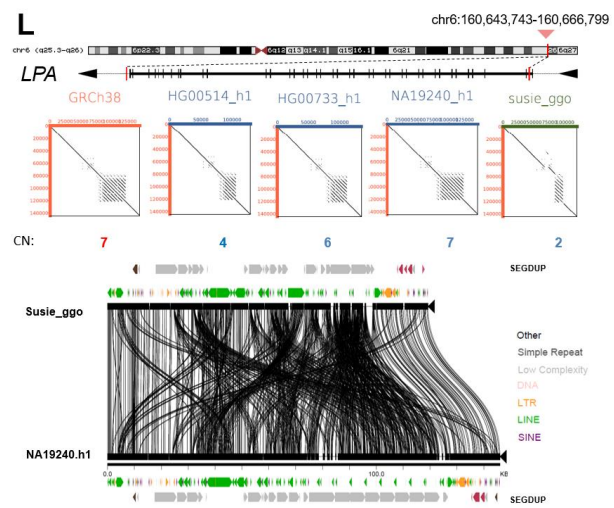
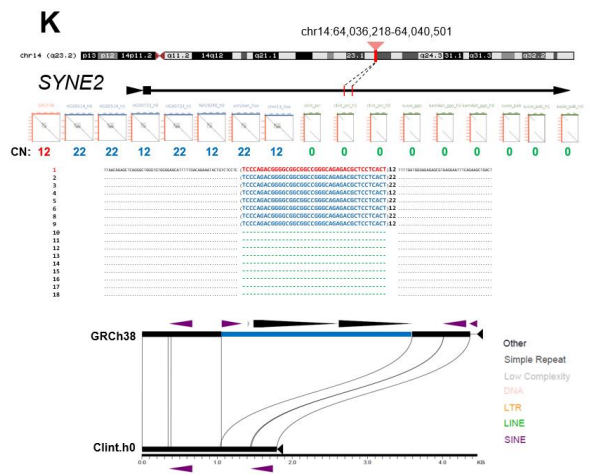
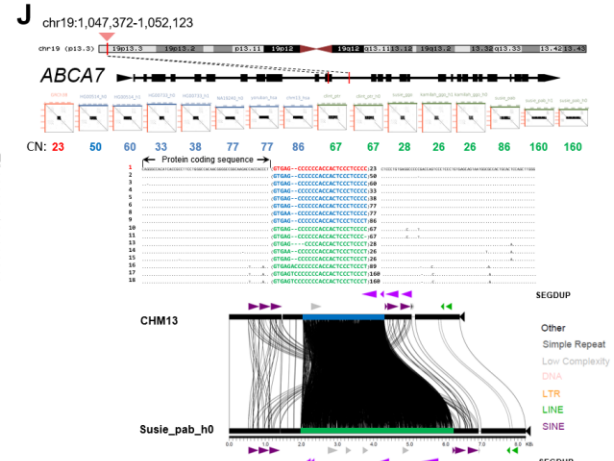
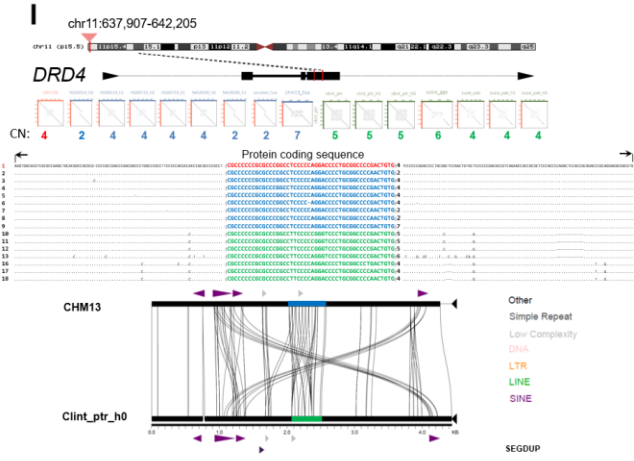
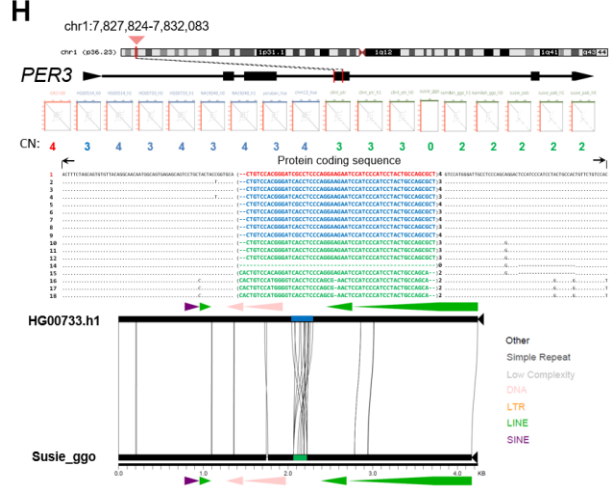
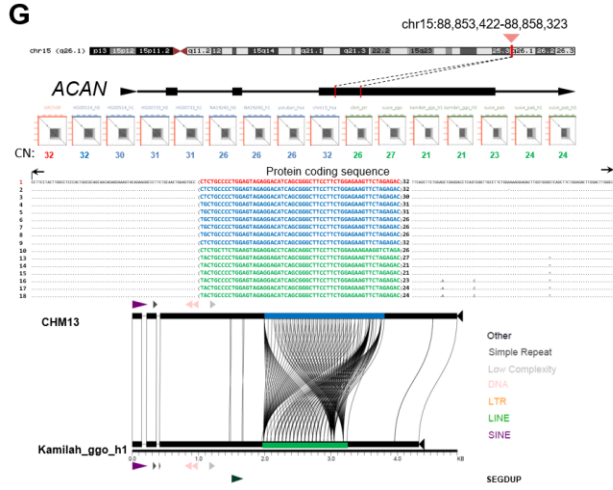
**Fig. S7. Differential splicing analysis.** RNA-seq analysis identifies differential isoform usage between human and chimpanzee brains tissues over human-specific tandem repeat expansions. These four VNTRs were predicted to overlap with splice variants according to SpliceAI predictions(20). HSE tandem repeats harboring potential splice variants were located in the introns of *PTPRN2* (A) and *NTRK2* (B), while two *ab initio* VNTRs contained splice variants for *GPR176* (C) and *PIGQ* (D). The corresponding donor gain SpliceAI scores were consistently the highest of all four possible splicing variants categories: *PTPRN2* (delta score = 0.6951), *NTRK2* (delta score = 0.8607), *GPR176* (delta score = 0.6936), and *PIGQ* (delta score = 0.8567). For each gene we show the results from LeafCutter(16), which include dPSI (i.e., delta PSI, which is the difference in the proportions of reads spliced in at a given splice junction between human and chimpanzee samples) and FDR-corrected differential splicing significance (i.e., q-value). A positive dPSI suggests a higher PSI value for a given splice junction in human tissues compared to chimpanzee, and vice versa. The black horizontal arrows to the left of the table indicate the exon-exon junction that overlaps with the tandem repeat displayed at the top of each plot. *GPR176* is differentially spliced in cortex but not in striatum.

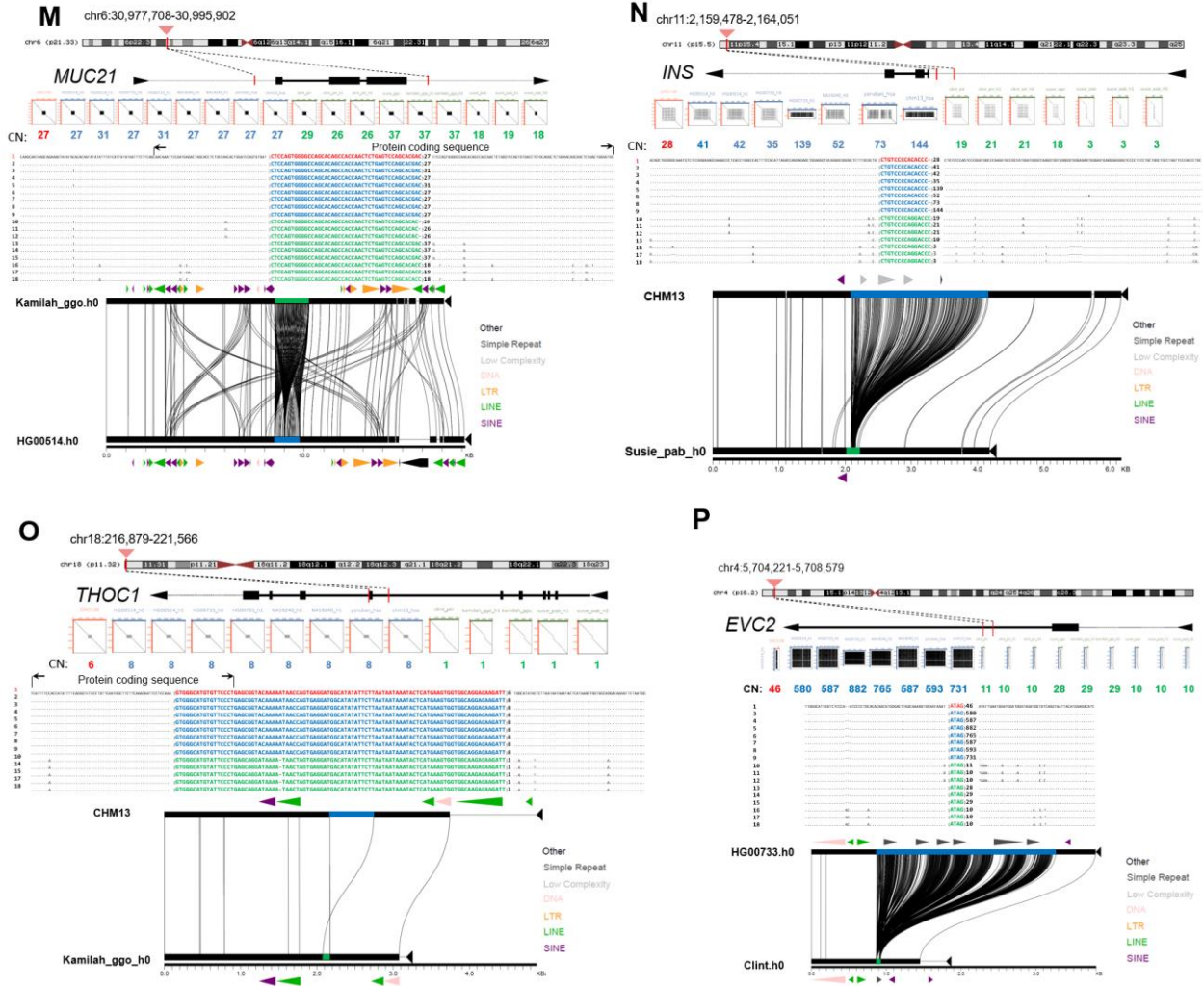


**Fig. S8. Proximity of enhancer-overlapping STRs/VNTRs to GWAS signals.** Enhancer-overlapping tandem repeats are enriched for GWAS SNPs, compared to non-enhancer-overlapping tandem repeats. The y-axis indicates the odds ratio of the Fisher's exact test conducted in every window around the GWAS SNP. We used 100 bp windows and increased the window size by 100 bp each time until we reached 20 kbp from the GWAS SNP. The null observation for the GWAS-enhancer overlap was 9.17%, based on 1,000 permutations of the enhancer region coordinates, corresponding to a significant enrichment (OR=1.47 [1.42-1.52], p-value  $< 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$ ).



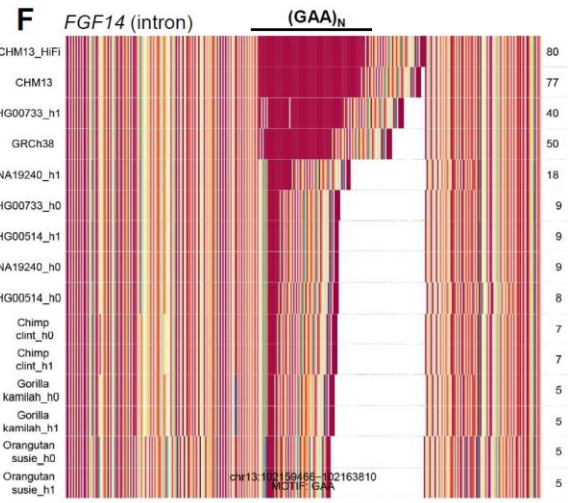
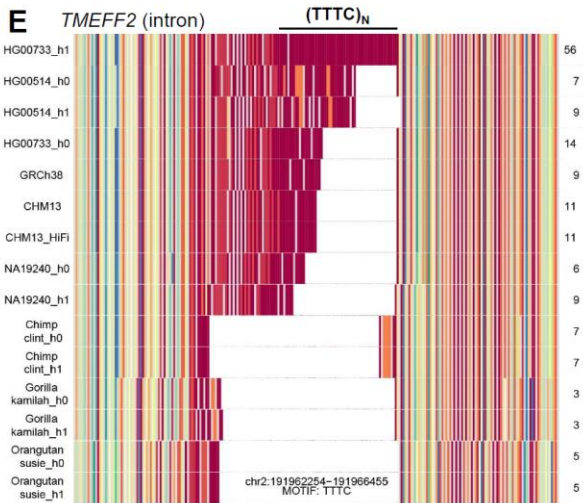
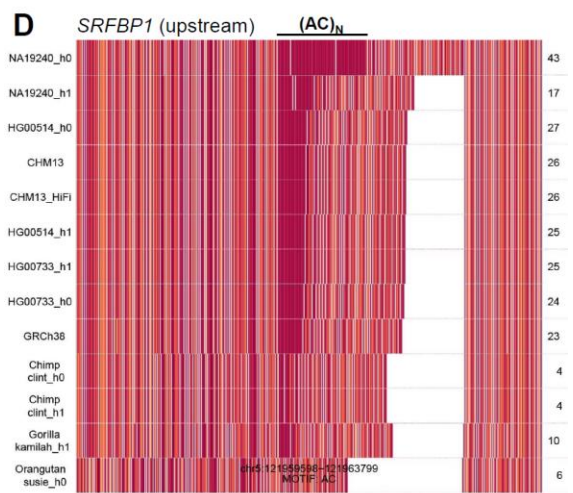
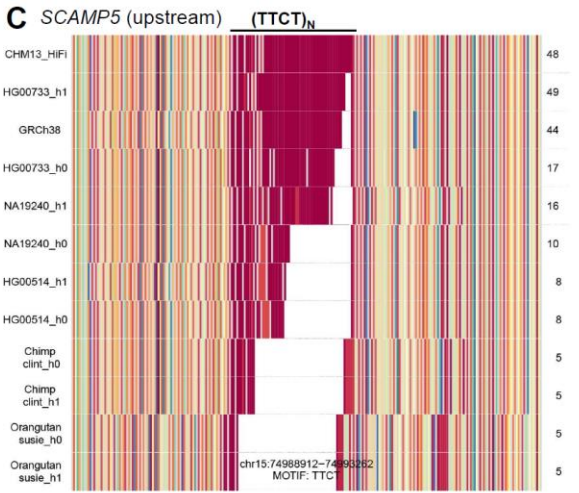
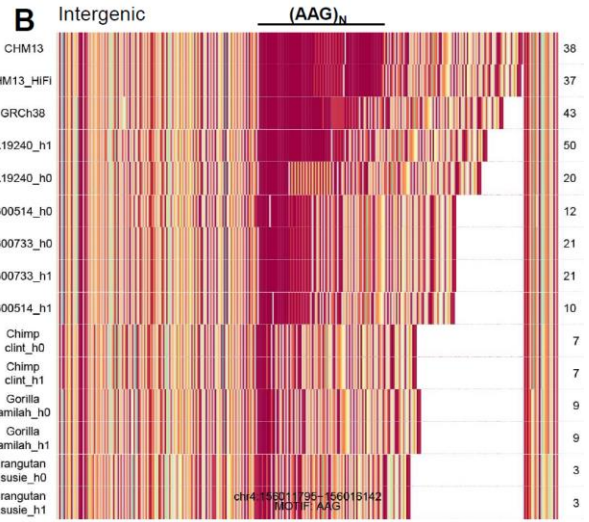
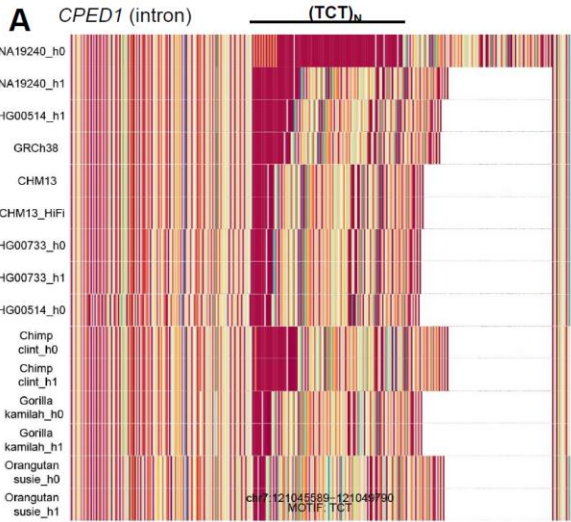


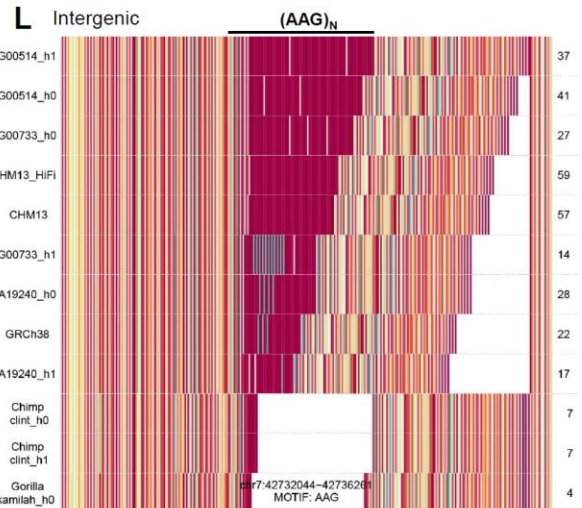
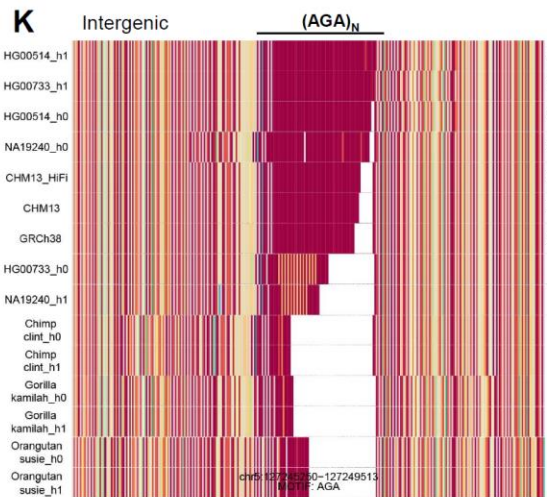
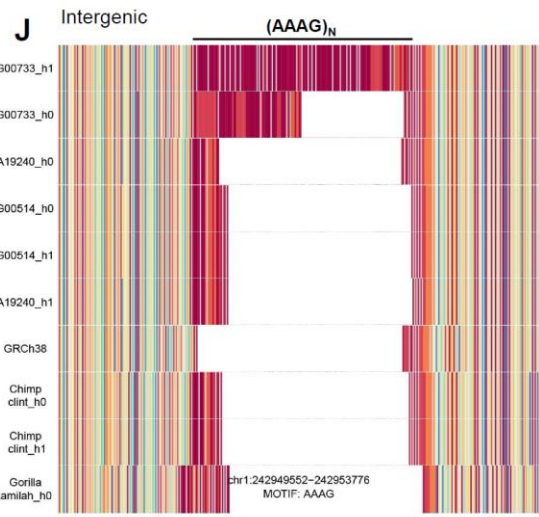
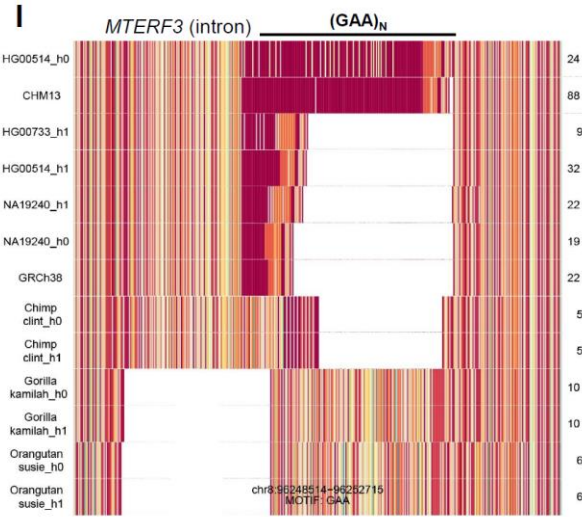
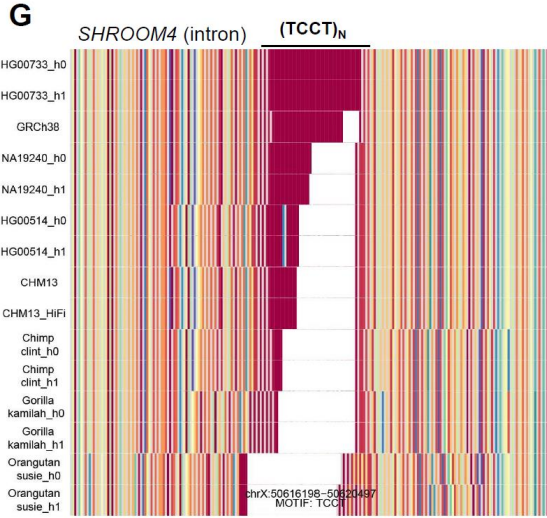




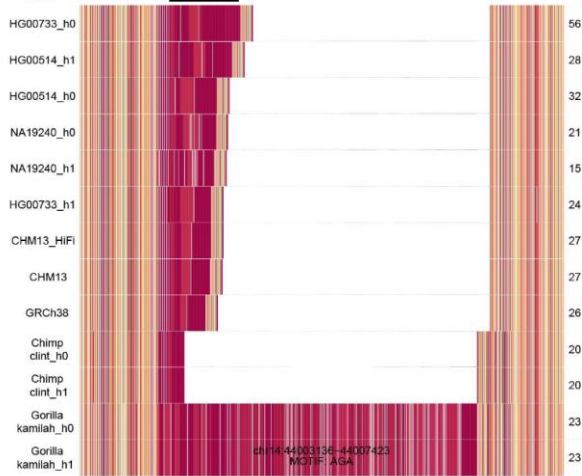
**Fig. S9. Sequence annotation of human-expanded and disease-associated STRs/VNTRs.** A collection of visualizations and MSAs for *ab initio*, HSE, and disease-associated tandem repeats. The left to right order of samples in the dotplots corresponds to the top to bottom order in the MSA. The numbers to the left of the MSA correspond to the following samples: 1 - GRCh38, 2 - HG00514 h0, 3 - HG00514 h1, 4 - HG00733 h0, 5 - HG00733 h1, 6 - NA19240 h0, 7 - NA19240 h1, 8 - Yoruban human assembly (collapsed), 9 - CHM13, 10 - chimpanzee collapsed, 11 - chimpanzee h0, 12 - chimpanzee h1, 13 - gorilla collapsed, 14 - gorilla h0, 15 - gorilla h1, 16 - orangutan collapsed, 17 - orangutan h0, and 18 - orangutan h1. “CN” represents the copy number of the tandem repeat. **A)** The trinucleotide repeat for the fragile X locus, which is located in the promoter of *FMR1*; the longest uninterrupted tract of CGG repeats is 13 copies in humans and 10 copies in the NHPs. **B)** An HSE VNTR overlaps directly with the protein-coding portion of *MUC1*; the largest human haplotype contains 72 tandem repeat copies of a 60-mer, and the largest NHP haplotype contains 19 copies of the same motif. A 1 bp insertion in one of the copies of this 60-mer has been shown to cause medullary cystic kidney disease type I(11). **C)** An HSE in the intron of *RAD21L1*, with the largest human allele measuring 50 copies of a 63-mer, and the largest NHP allele containing 4 tandem copies. **D)** A large *ab initio* VNTR in the intron

of *ART1* is not associated with retrotransposable elements, and it contains 329 tandem copies of a 63-mer in the largest human haplotype. **E)** A large HSE STR is located near the splice site of *DLEC1*; it is composed of 1,310 tandem repeat copies of a trinucleotide in the largest human haplotype and 415 copies of the same trinucleotide in the largest NHP haplotype. **F)** An HSE VNTR located in the intron of *LSS* contains 13 copies of a 117-mer in the largest human haplotype and 7 copies of a 119-mer in the largest NHP haplotype. **G)** A disease-associated VNTR is located in the exon of *ACAN* and contains 26-32 copies of a 57-mer in the human haplotypes and 21-24 copies in the NHP haplotypes. A contraction of this VNTR down to 13 copies has been associated with osteochondritis dissecans risk in humans(21). **H)** A disease-associated VNTR is located in the protein-coding portion of *PER3* and is composed of 3-4 copies of a 54-mer in the human haplotypes and 2-3 copies of a similar but not identical motif in the NHP haplotypes. The disease-associated event is an additional copy gain of the 54-mer motif, which is associated with an earlier age of onset for bipolar disorder(22). **I)** A disease-associated VNTR is located in the exon of *DRD4* and contains 2-7 copies of a 48-mer in the human haplotypes and 4-6 copies in the NHP haplotypes. The seven copy allele of this repeat has been associated with a higher risk of ADHD(23) and OCD(24) onset. **J)** An Alzheimer's disease risk VNTR is located directly in a splice site of *ABCA7*(25). The largest representation of this locus in human haplotypes is an 86-copy 25-mer, while the largest NHPs representation is 160 copies of a 27-mer. **K)** An *ab initio* VNTR in the intron of *SYNE2* is part of an SVA element, and all human alleles contain an invariable 12 copies of a 40-mer. **L)** The *LPA* Kringle-IV locus is a ~5.6 kbp motif, where each copy contains multiple exons of the *LPA* gene; it is likely collapsed in our assemblies, with the largest human haplotype containing 7 copies, which is consistent with the GRCh38 representation, and the collapsed reference of the gorilla genome, which contains 2 copies of the same motif. **M)** A disease-associated VNTR is located in the protein-coding portion of *MUC21* and is composed of 27-31 copies of a 45-mer in the human haplotypes and 18-37 copies of the same 45-mer or a 1 bp shorter motif in NHP haplotypes. A 4 bp deletion in this VNTR has been shown to increase disease risk for diffuse panbronchiolitis(26). **N)** The first VNTR reported in the literature(27) is also associated with type I diabetes(28). This repeat is located in the promoter region of *INS* and consists of 35-144 copies of a 14 bp motif in human haplotypes and 3-21 copies of a 15 bp motifs in the NHP haplotypes. **O)** An HSE and *ab initio* VNTR overlapping directly with the splice site of *THOC1* contains 8 and 1 copies of a 95- and 94-mer in the largest human and NHP haplotypes, respectively. **P)** A large HSE located in the intron of *EVC2* contains 882 copies of a tetranucleotide repeat in the largest human haplotype, compared to only 29 copies of the same motif in the largest NHP haplotype.

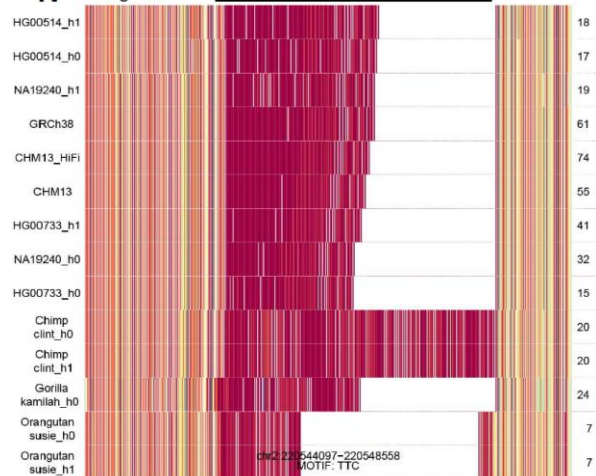




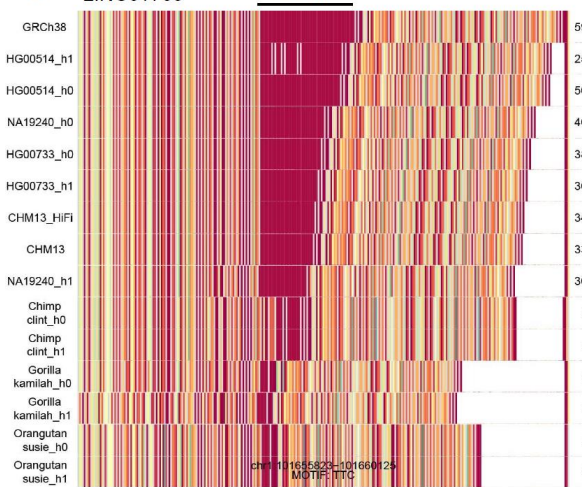
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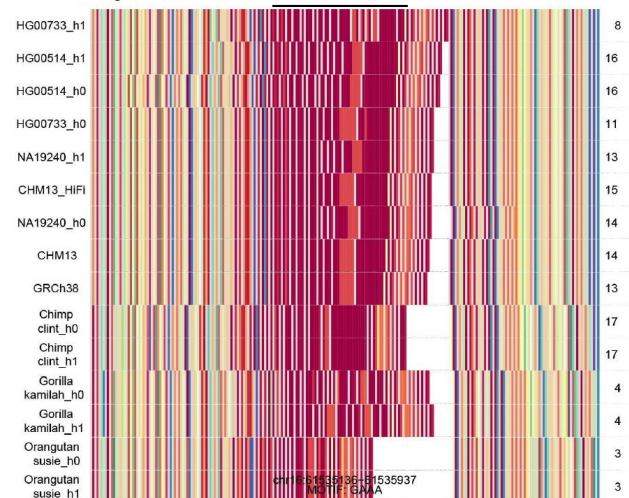
**N** Intergenic (TTC)<sub>N</sub>



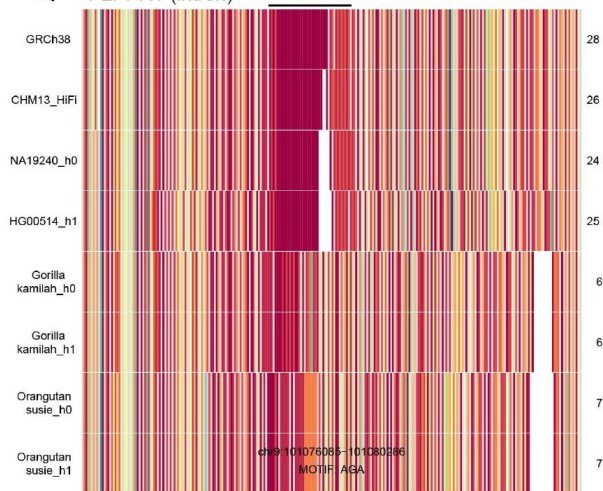
**O** *LINC01709* (TTC)<sub>N</sub>



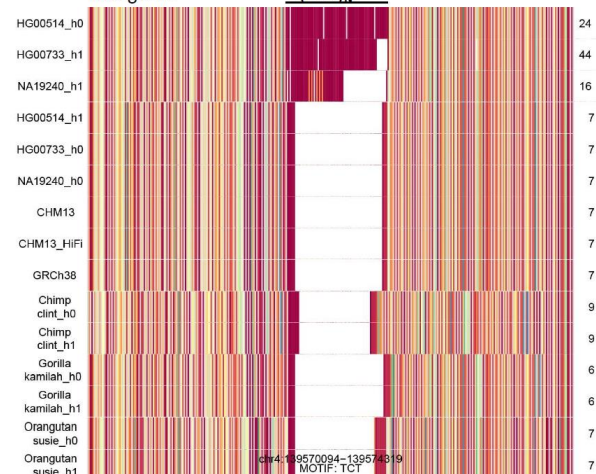
**P** Intergenic (GAAA)<sub>N</sub>

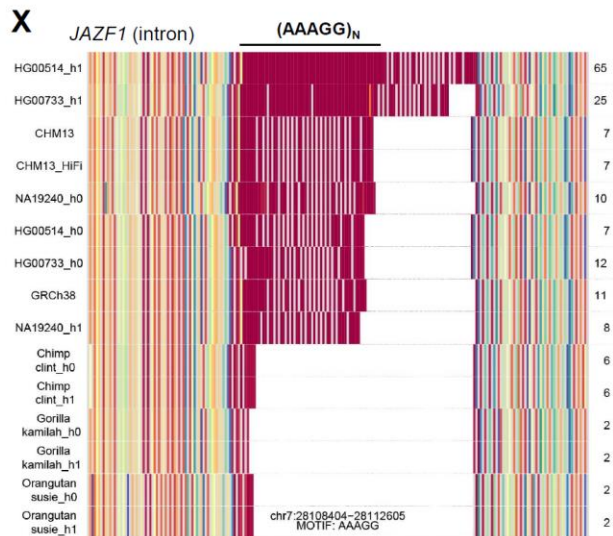
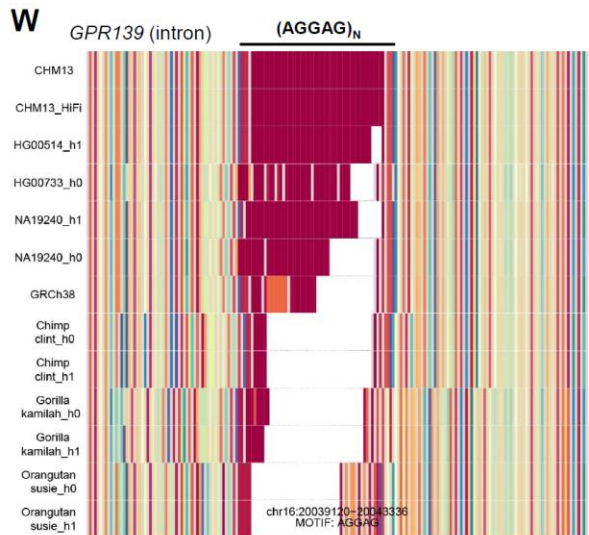
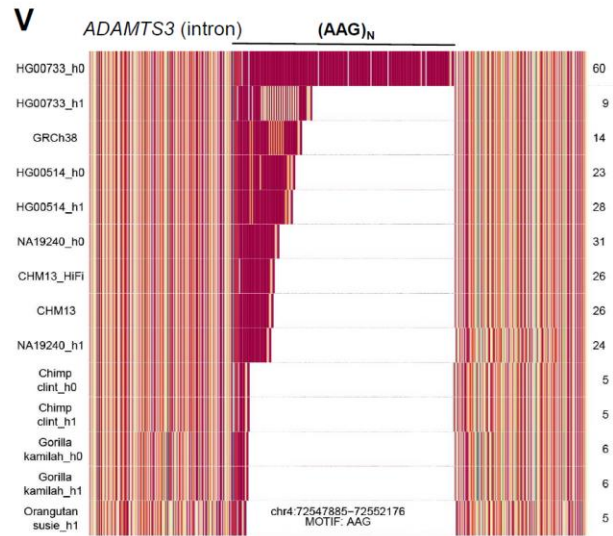
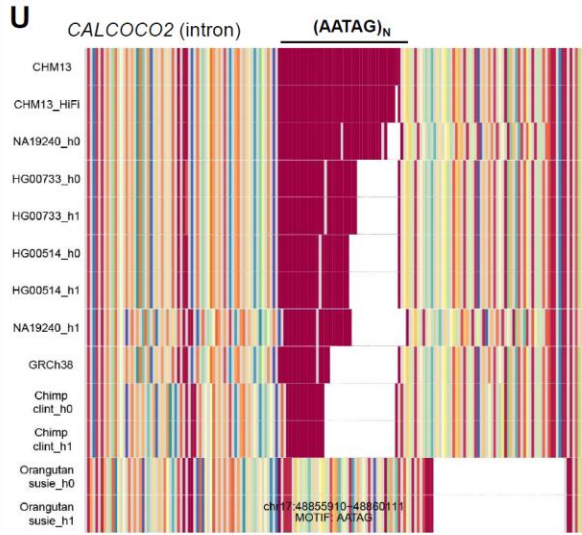
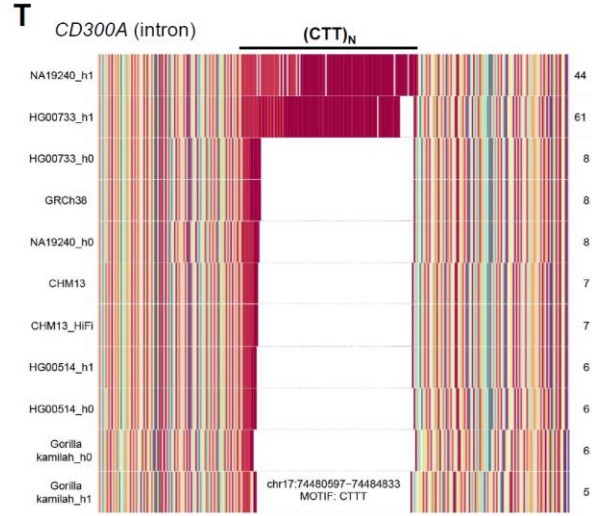
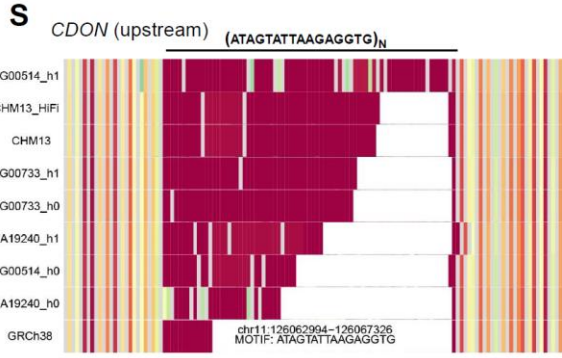


**Q** *PLPPR1* (intron) (AGA)<sub>N</sub>

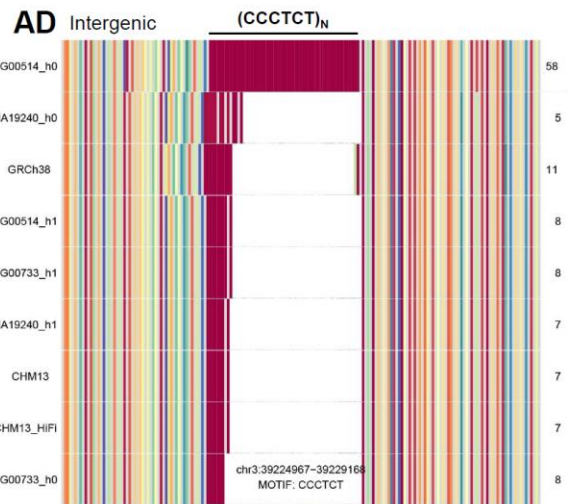
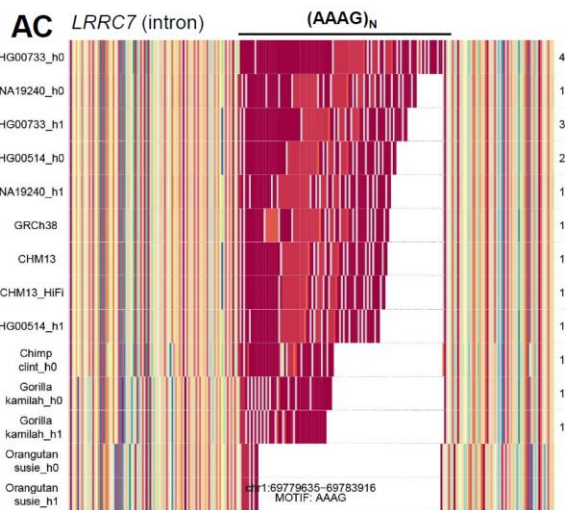
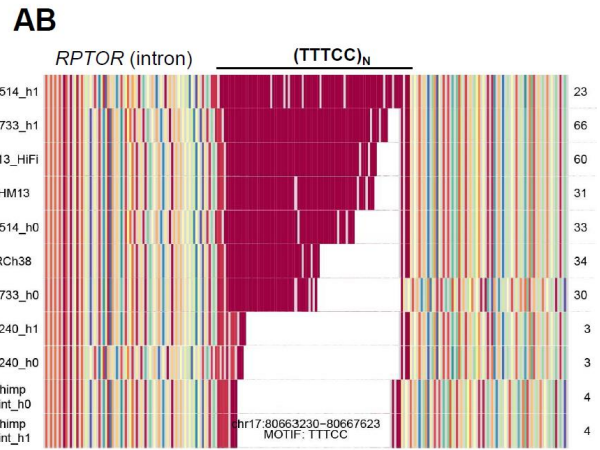
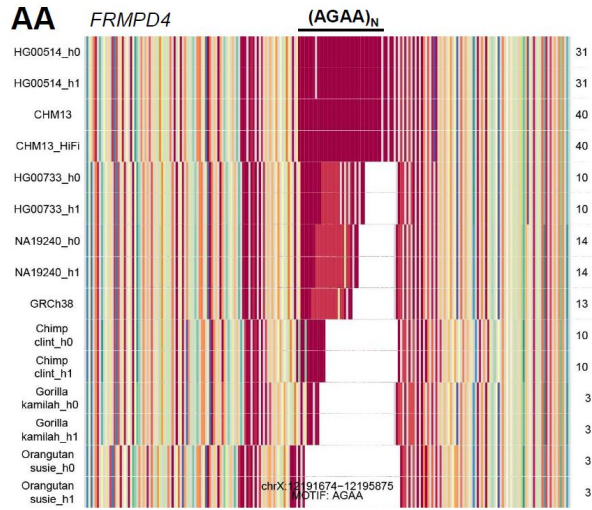
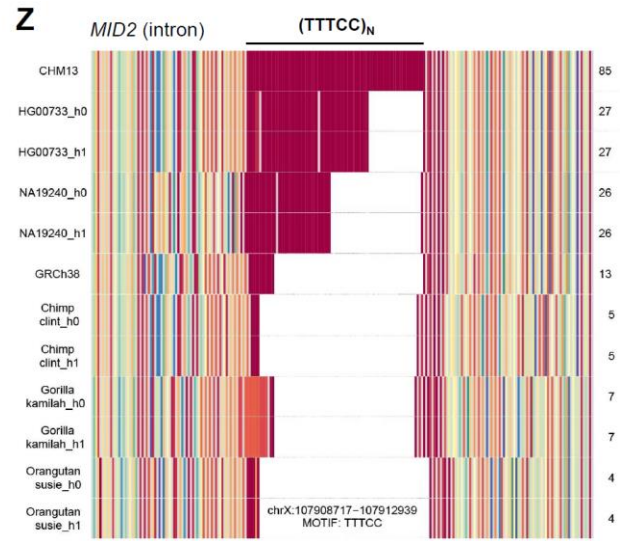
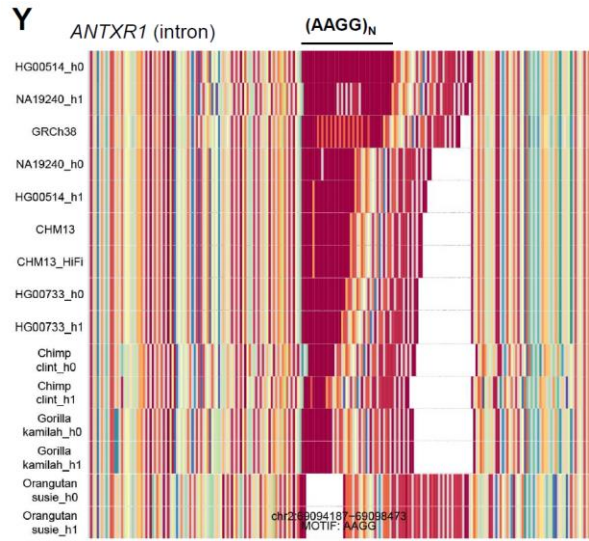


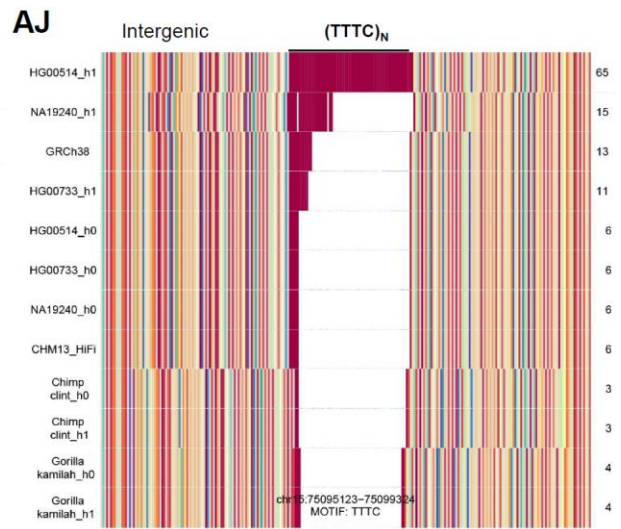
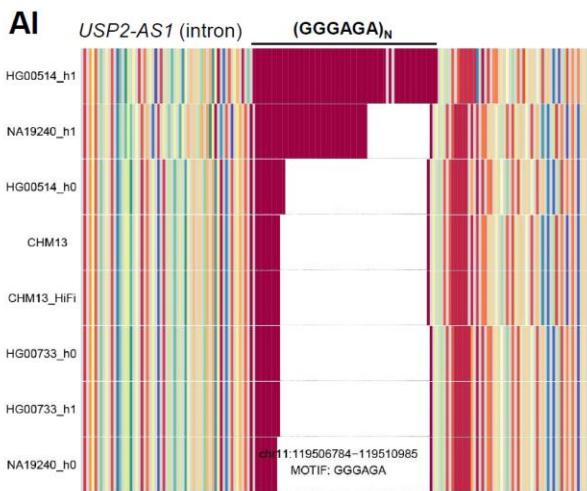
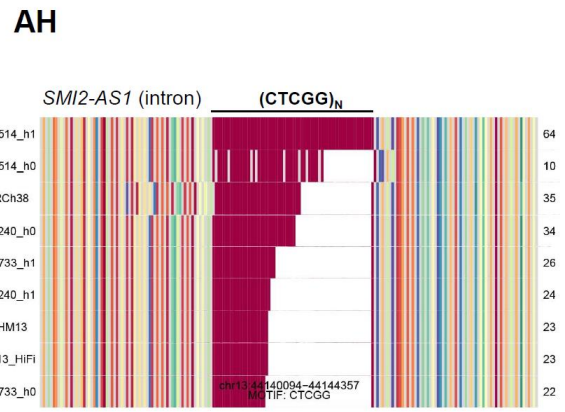
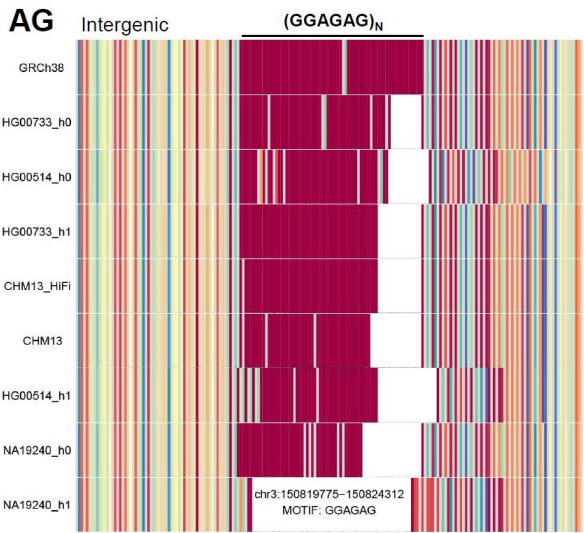
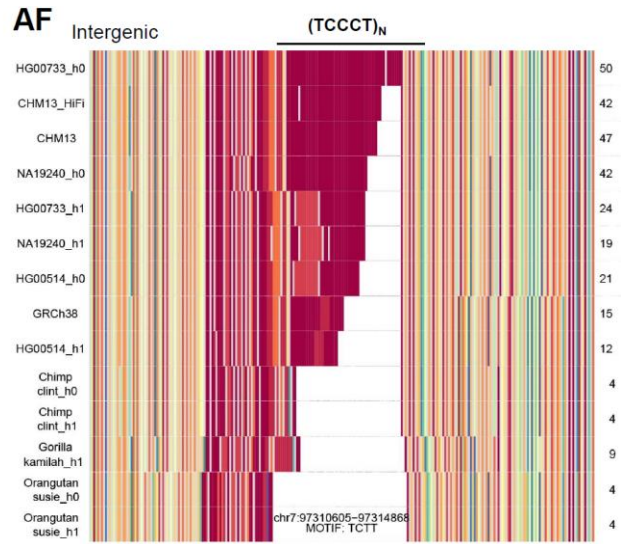
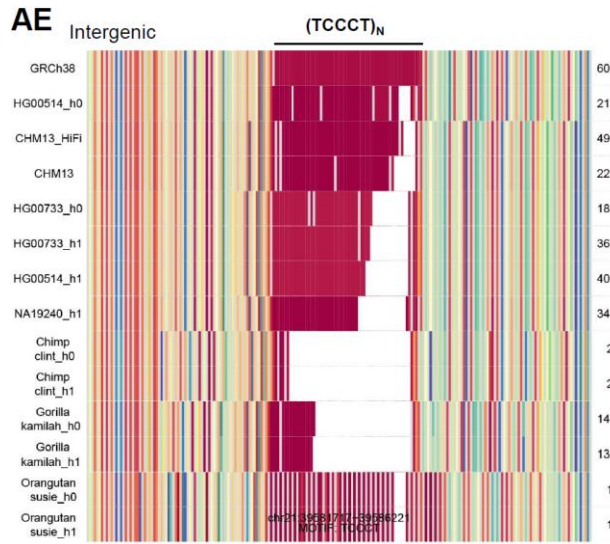
**R** Intergenic (TCT)<sub>N</sub>

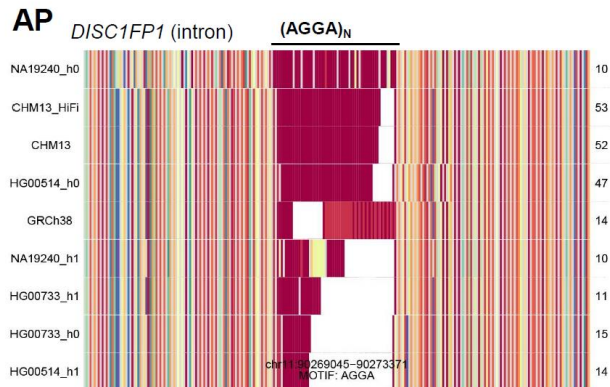
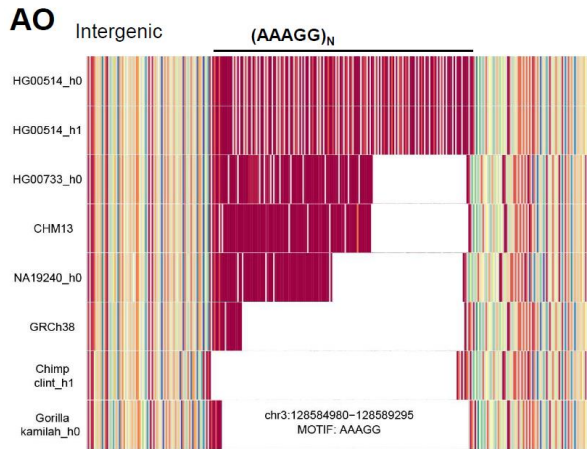
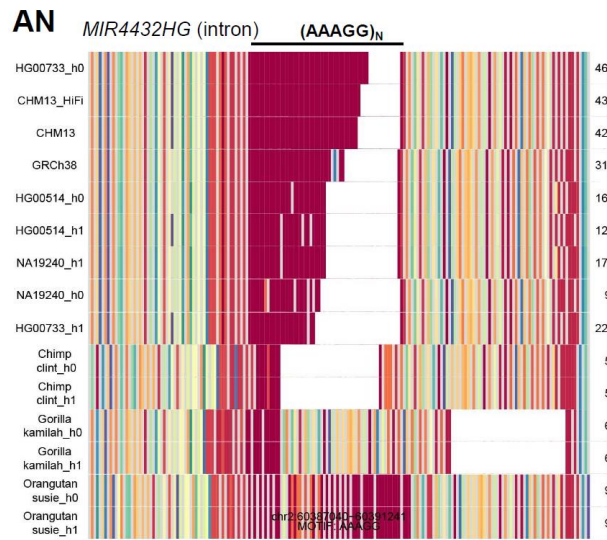
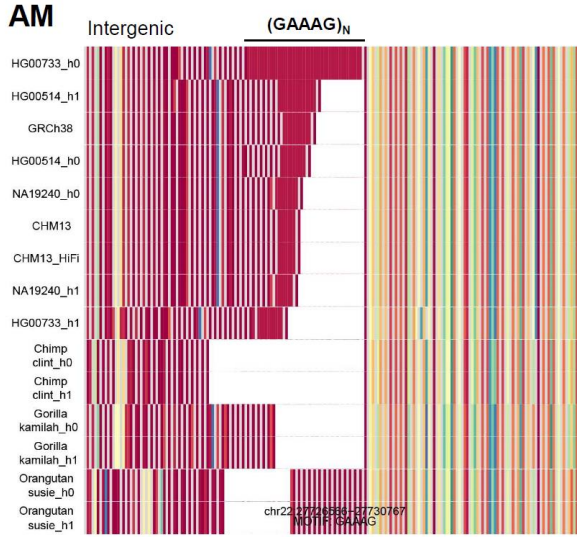
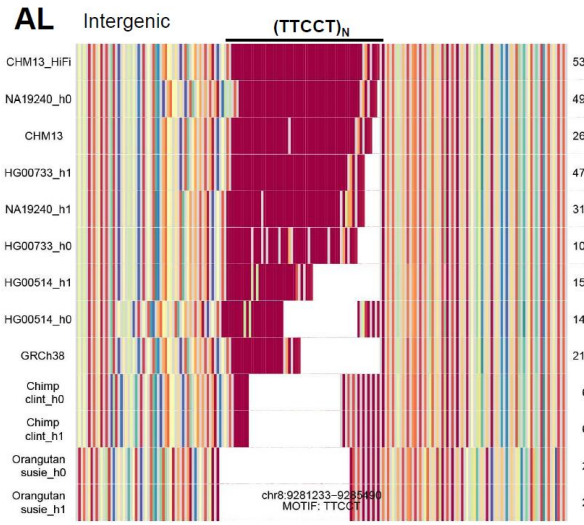
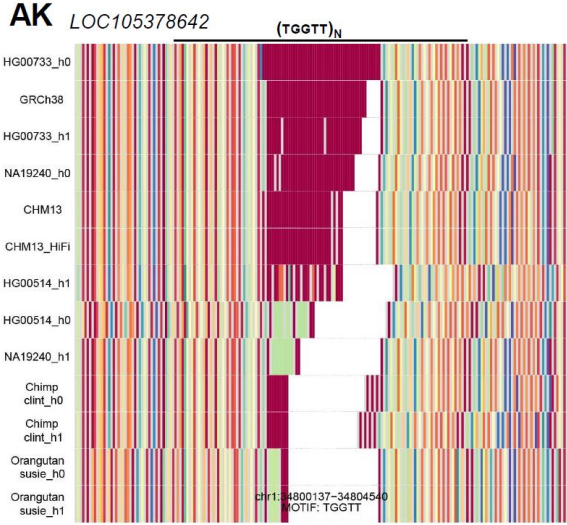


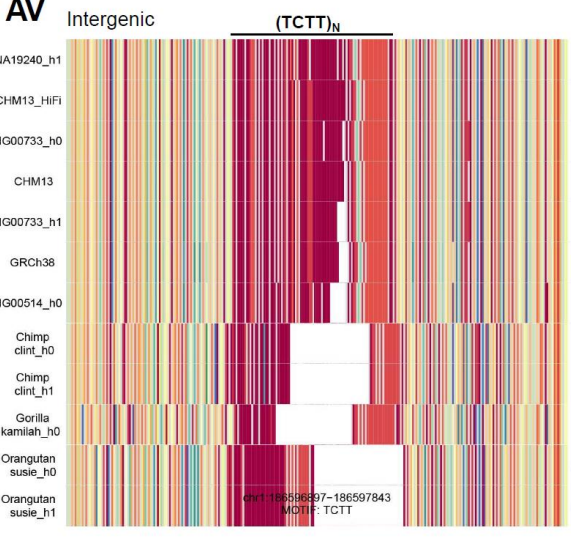
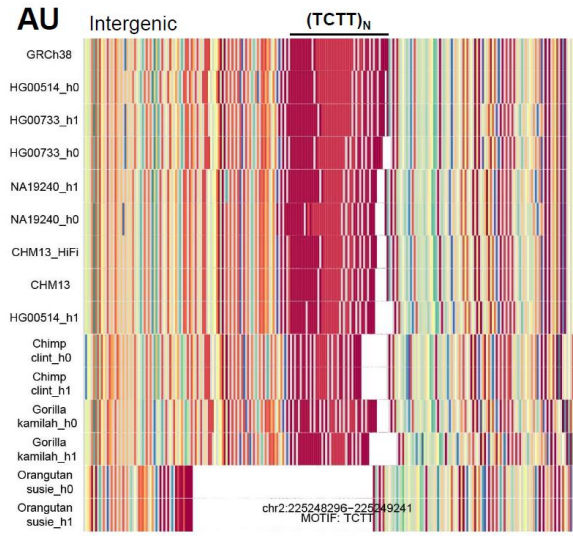
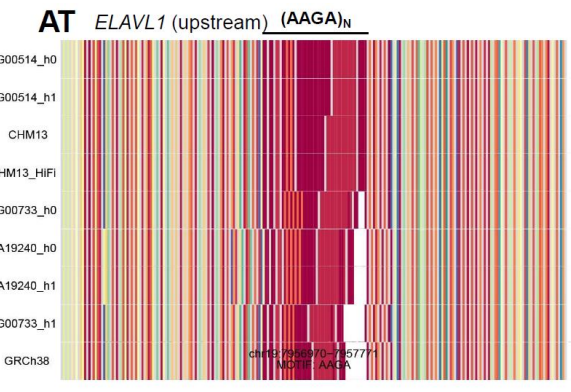
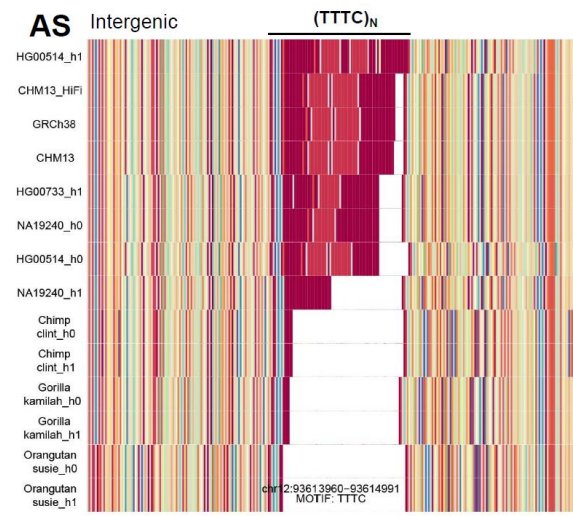
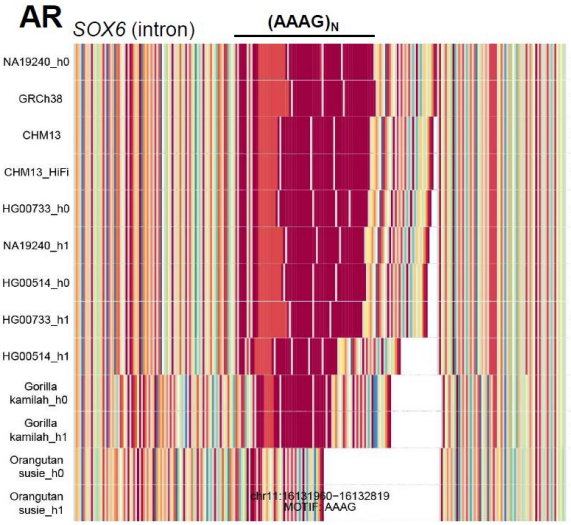
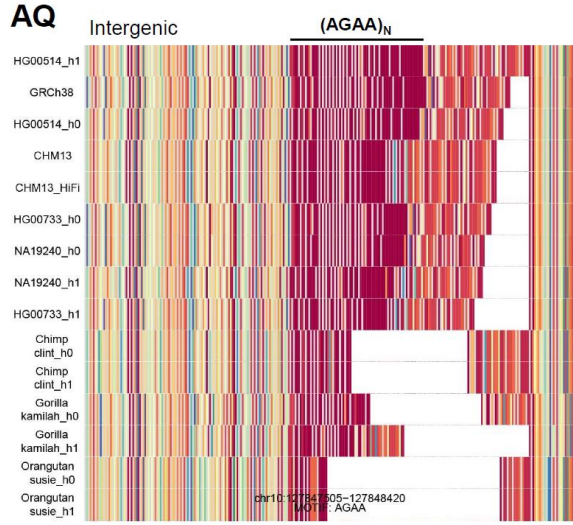


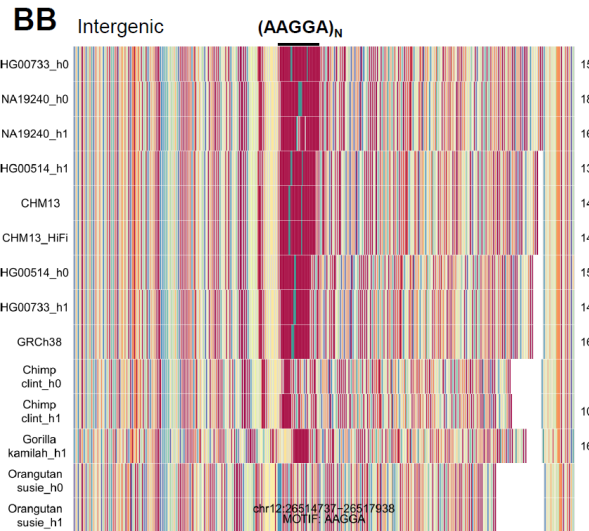
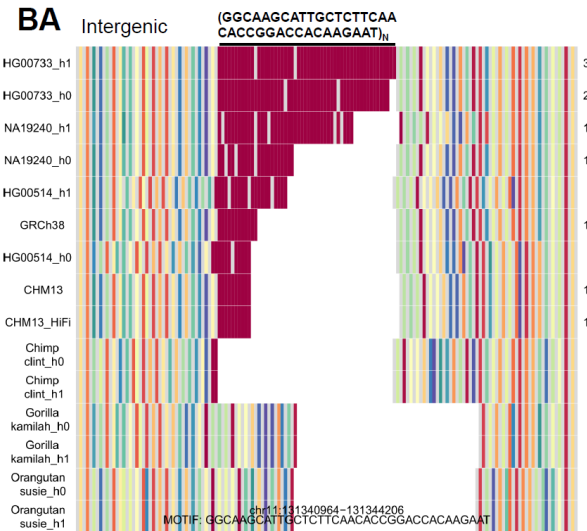
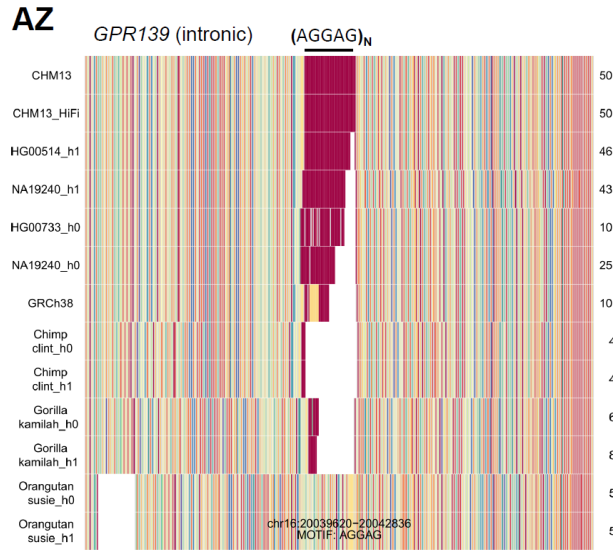
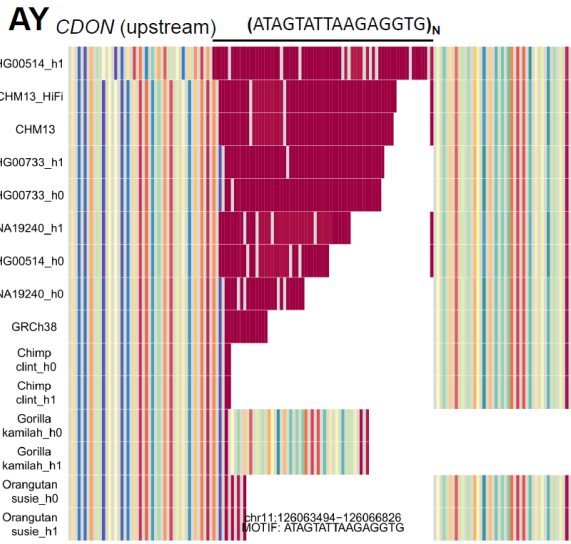
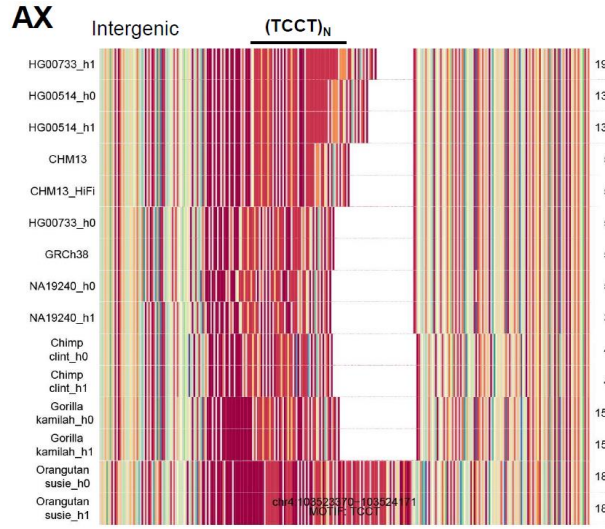
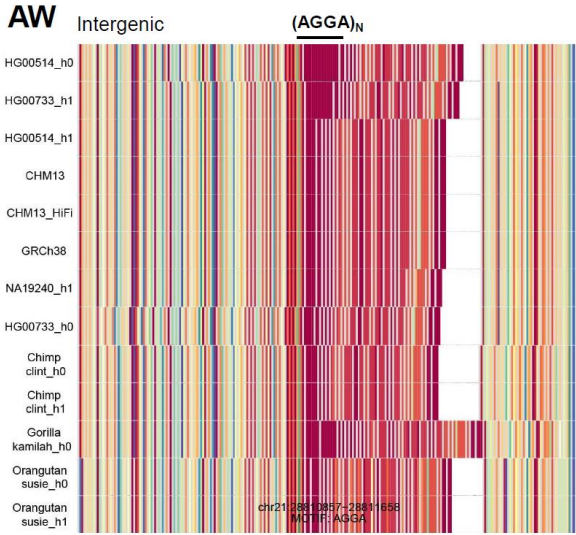


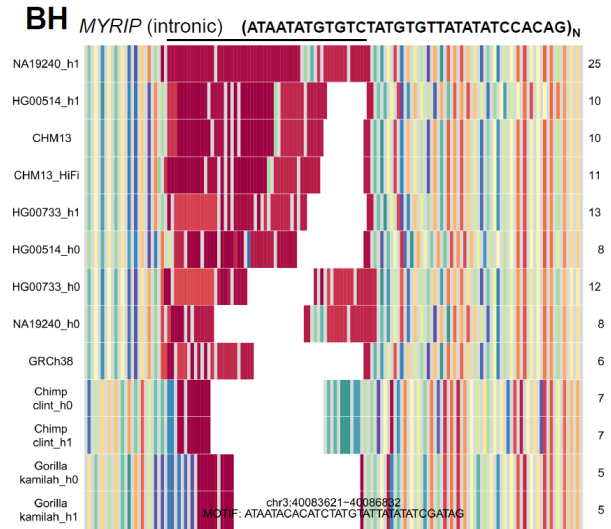
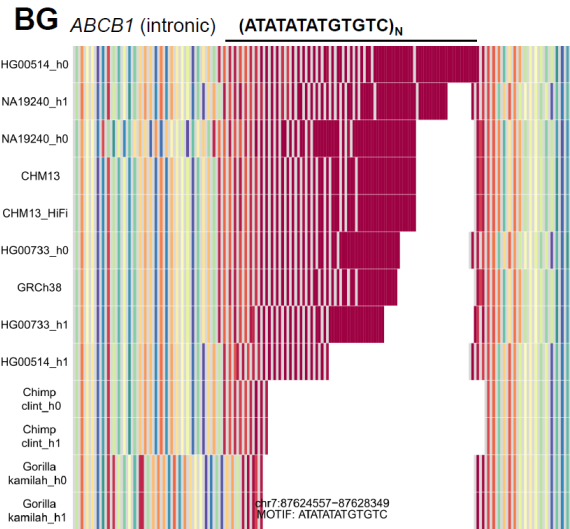
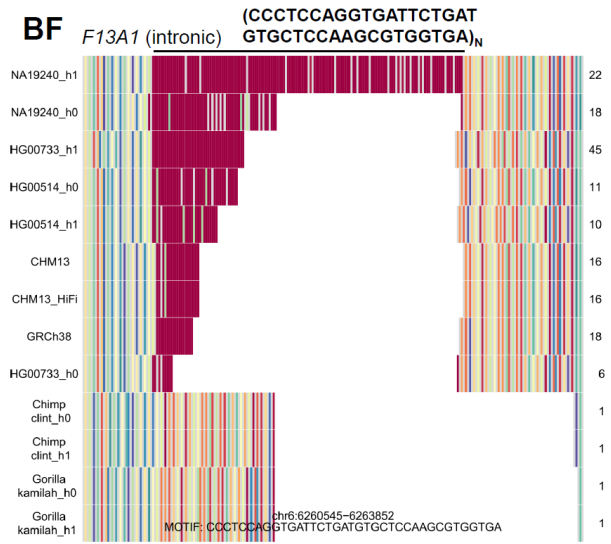
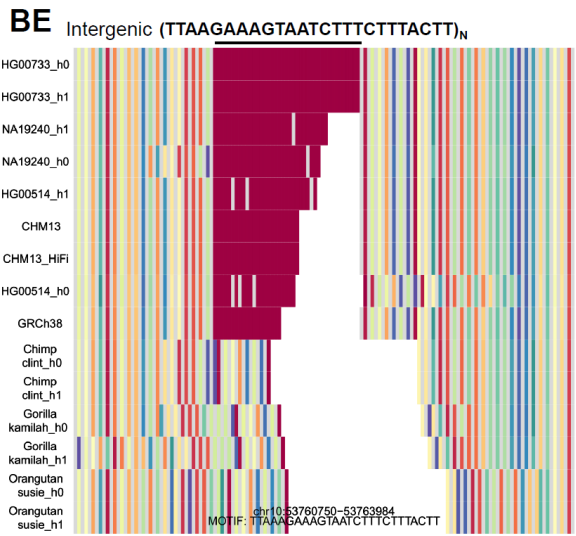
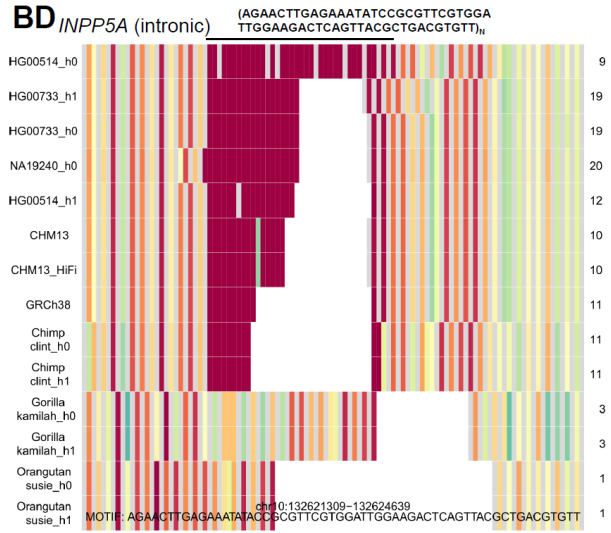
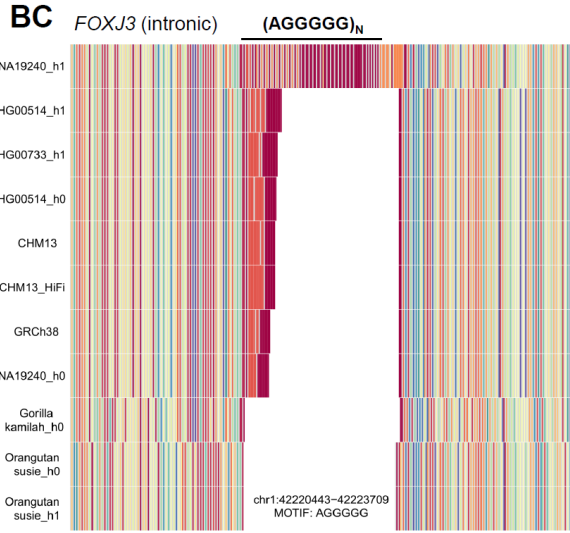




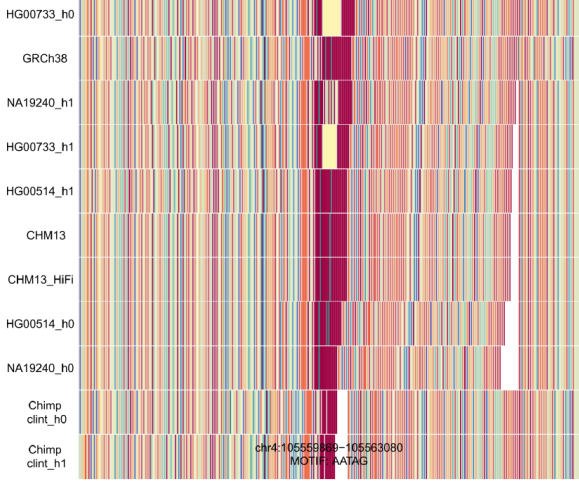




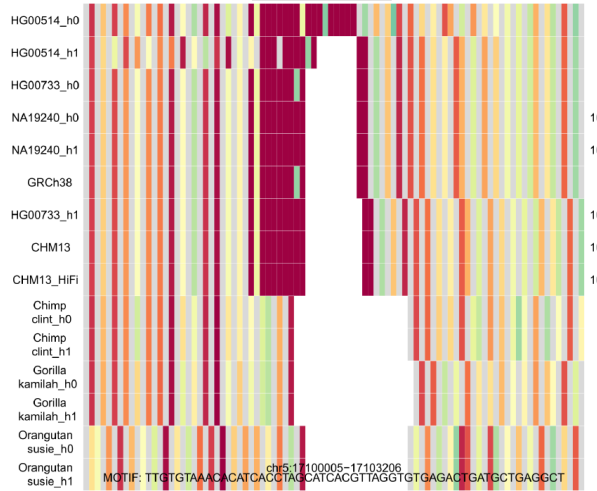




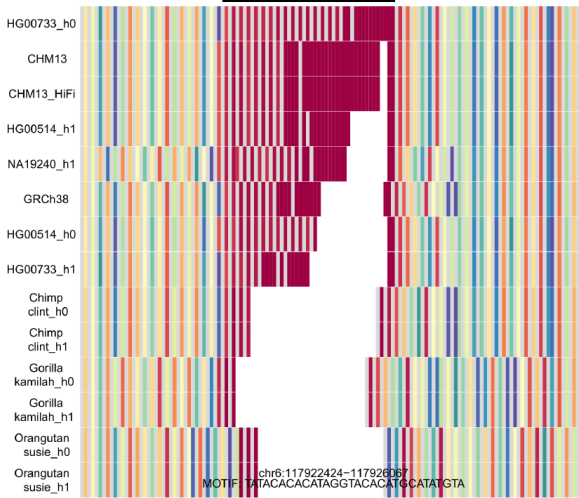
**BI** *ARHGEF38* (intronic) (AATAG)<sub>N</sub>



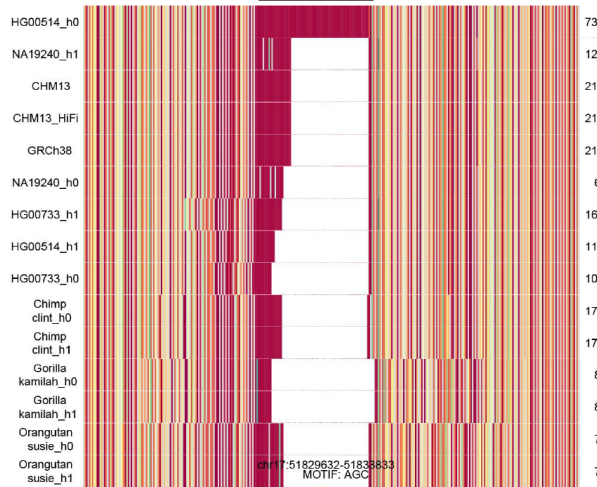
**BJ** Intergenic (TTGTGTAACACATCACCTAGCATCACG TTAGGTGTGAGACTGATGCTGAGGCT)<sub>N</sub>



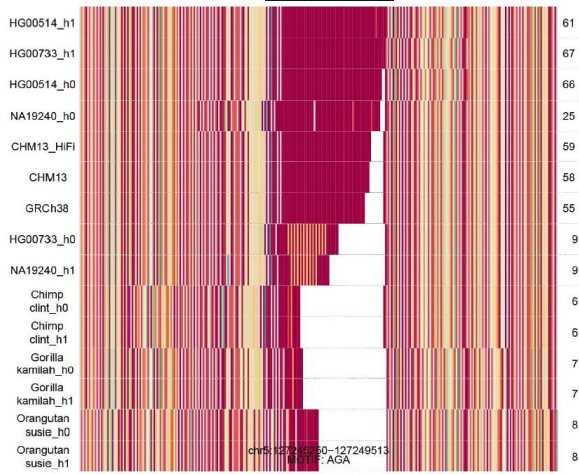
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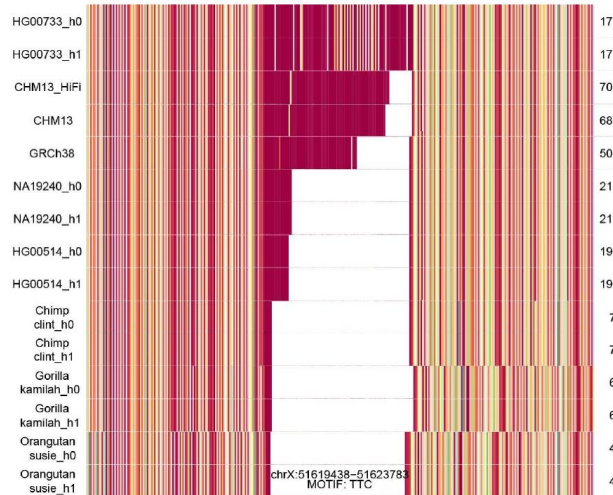
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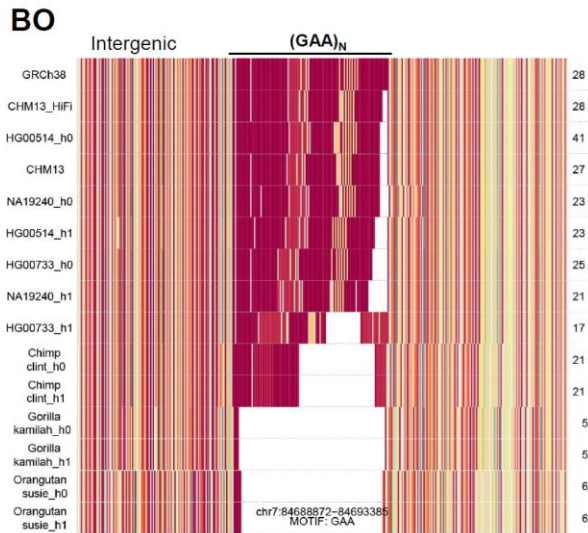


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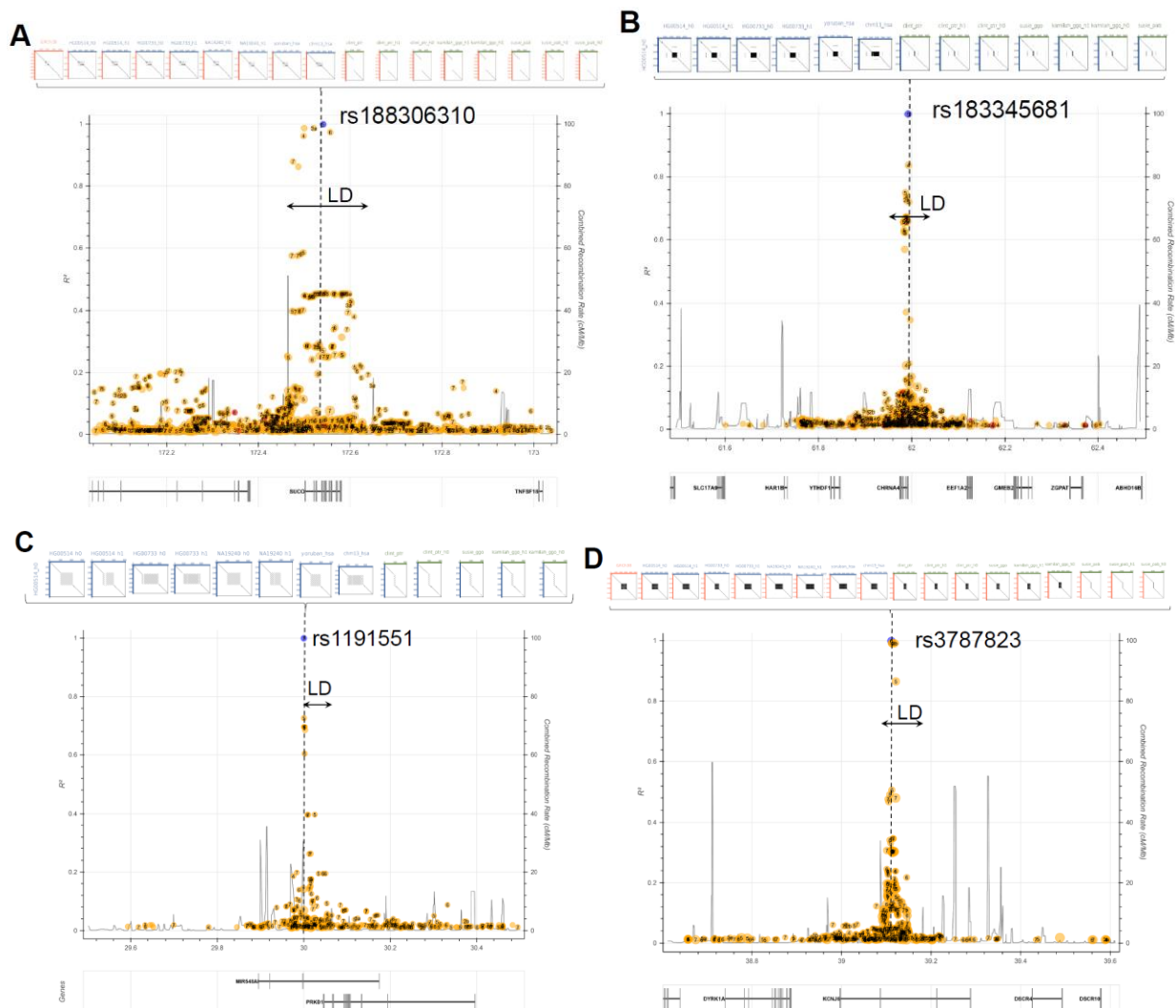
**BN** *CENPVL3* (upstream) (TTC)<sub>N</sub>





**Fig. S10. STR/VNTR sequence composition plots.** The sequences from each human and NHP haplotype were colored according to their k-mer abundance, from hot to cold colors for the most to least abundant k-mers, respectively. The order of the tracts reflects the order of overall sequence size from largest to smallest human samples, followed by the NHP samples ordered by their evolutionary distance to human. See Methods for more details. The number to the right of each row represents the maximal LPT (i.e., longest pure tract) copy number. For the CHM13 sample, sequence from both CLR and HiFi assemblies have been included as technical replicates. Some of the clustered STR/VNTR interruptions include: 11 tandem copies of (GTAGTATTAAGAGGTG) in CHM13 (**AY**), (AGGG)<sub>n</sub> interruptions in GRCh38 (**AZ**), (GAA)<sub>n</sub> interruptions in multiple human samples (**BC**), 13-17 copies of (AATGG) interruptions in both haplotypes of HG00733 (**BI**), and 4-8 copies of (ATAATACACATCTATGTATTATCTATCGATAG) interruptions in CHM13 and h1 of HG00733 (**BH**). An STR located in the intron of *CA10* is composed of 6-73 uninterrupted tandem repeat copies of AGC in human haplotypes. Interspersed interruptions of AGCC exist in both Yoruban haplotypes, while single interruptions of AG and AGG occur in both orangutan haplotypes (**BL**). An intergenic STR is composed of 9-67 uninterrupted tandem repeat copies of AGA in humans, while periodic interruptions of AGG occur in two unrelated human haplotypes. Interestingly, a comparably sized AT-rich region is located upstream of the variable AGA region of all human and NHP haplotypes with the exception of the orangutan haplotypes (**BM**). An STR located upstream of *CENPVL3* is composed of 17-70 uninterrupted tandem repeat copies of TTC in humans (**BN**). Interestingly, interruptions of CTC exist in CHM13, while interspersed interruptions of both TCC and TC exist in both haplotypes of the Puerto Rican sample. An intergenic STR is composed of 17-41 uninterrupted tandem repeat copies of GAA in humans. All human haplotypes contain two distinct clustered interruptions of GGA and GCA repeats, and the largest expansion of these interruptions exists in the same Puerto Rican haplotype (**BO**).





**Fig. S11. Linkage between STRs/VNTRs and GWAS SNPs.** Each circle in the plot corresponds to the 1000 Genomes Project (phase III) SNPs, and their linkage disequilibrium (LD) is measured by applying the  $R^2$  statistic to the genotype frequencies from all 26 world populations. The GWAS SNPs correspond to the following phenotypes: **(A)** daytime sleep phenotypes(29), **(B)** emphysema imaging phenotypes(30), **(C)** schizophrenia(31), and **(D)** math ability(32). The position of the tandem repeat is shown with the dotted vertical line, while the two-sided horizontal arrow indicates the high-LD region, which was identified using  $R^2$  values as guides. The vertical peaks correspond to the estimated recombination rate, and the corresponding cM/Mb values are shown on the right-hand vertical axis. The numbers inside each of the circles correspond to the RegulomeDB score, which predicts *in silico* the potential for involvement in gene regulation(33). The dotplots at the top of each plot compare the GRCh38 sequence (y-axis) that that assembled in all of the human and NHP haplotypes (x-axis), unless otherwise stated.

**Dataset S1 (separate file).** Summary of the total STRs/VNTRs identified in the human assemblies.

**Dataset S2 (separate file).** Summary of the human tandem repeats stratified by motif length.

**Dataset S3 (separate file).** 281 STRs/VNTRs missing from the GRCh38.p12 assembly.

**Dataset S4 (separate file).** Per-sample statistics of STR and VNTR motif size, variability, and overall repeat purity.

**Dataset S5 (separate file).** Summary of samples used in our study.

**Dataset S6 (separate file).** Number of STRs/VNTRs successfully phased in human and NHP haplotypes.

**Dataset S7 (separate file).** Sequence identity between assembled haplotypes and BAC sequences in NHP samples.

**Dataset S8 (separate file).** Ultra-long ONT validation of STRs/VNTRs with inconsistent representations in CLR and HiFi assemblies of CHM13.

**Dataset S9 (separate file).** Full list of *ab initio* and HSE loci and their tandem repeat annotation in human and NHP haplotypes.

**Dataset S10 (separate file).** Association results using generalized linear models.

**Dataset S11 (separate file).** Genes associated with the largest differential expression between human and chimpanzee cerebral organoids.

**Dataset S12 (separate file).** Summary of 1,719 GWAS signals located  $\leq 2$  kbp from the haplotype-resolved STRs/VNTRs.

**Dataset S13 (separate file).** Known disease-associated STRs/VNTRs.

**Dataset S14 (separate file).** STRs/VNTRs with  $\geq 40$  uninterrupted tandem repeat copies.

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## The Human Genome Structural Variation Consortium

Mark J.P. Chaisson<sup>1,2</sup>, Ashley D. Sanders<sup>3</sup>, Xuefang Zhao<sup>4,5</sup>, Ankit Malhotra<sup>6</sup>, David Porubsky<sup>7,8</sup>, Tobias Rausch<sup>3</sup>, Eugene J. Gardner<sup>9</sup>, Oscar L. Rodriguez<sup>10</sup>, Li Guo<sup>11,12,13</sup>, Ryan L. Collins<sup>5,14</sup>, Xian Fan<sup>15</sup>, Jia Wen<sup>16</sup>, Robert E. Handsaker<sup>17,18,19</sup>, Susan Fairley<sup>20</sup>, Zev N. Kronenberg<sup>1</sup>, Xiangmeng Kong<sup>21,22</sup>, Fereydoun Hormozdiari<sup>23,24</sup>, Dillon Lee<sup>25</sup>, Aaron M. Wenger<sup>26</sup>, Alex R. Hastie<sup>27</sup>, Danny Antaki<sup>28</sup>, Thomas Anantharaman<sup>27</sup>, Peter A. Audano<sup>1</sup>, Harrison Brand<sup>5</sup>, Stuart Cantsilieris<sup>1</sup>, Han Cao<sup>27</sup>, Eliza Cerveira<sup>6</sup>, Chong Chen<sup>15</sup>, Xintong Chen<sup>9</sup>, Chen-Shan Chin<sup>26</sup>, Zechen Chong<sup>15</sup>, Nelson T. Chuang<sup>9</sup>, Christine C. Lambert<sup>26</sup>, Deanna M. Church<sup>29</sup>, Laura Clarke<sup>20</sup>, Andrew Farrell<sup>25</sup>, Joey Flores<sup>30</sup>, Timur Galeev<sup>21,22</sup>, David U. Gorkin<sup>31,32</sup>, Madhusudan Gujral<sup>28</sup>, Victor Guryev<sup>7</sup>, William Haynes Heaton<sup>29</sup>, Jonas Korlach<sup>26</sup>, Sushant Kumar<sup>21,22</sup>, Jee Young Kwon<sup>6,33</sup>, Ernest T. Lam<sup>27</sup>, Jong Eun Lee<sup>34</sup>, Joyce Lee<sup>27</sup>, Wan-Ping Lee<sup>6</sup>, Sau Peng Lee<sup>35</sup>, Shantao Li<sup>21,22</sup>, Patrick Marks<sup>29</sup>, Karine Viaud-Martinez<sup>30</sup>, Sascha Meiers<sup>3</sup>, Katherine M. Munson<sup>1</sup>, Fabio C.P. Navarro<sup>21,22</sup>, Bradley J. Nelson<sup>1</sup>, Conor Nodzak<sup>16</sup>, Amina Noor<sup>28</sup>, Sofia Kyriazopoulou-Panagiotopoulou<sup>29</sup>, Andy W.C. Pang<sup>27</sup>, Yunjiang Qiu<sup>32,36</sup>, Gabriel Rosanio<sup>28</sup>, Mallory Ryan<sup>6</sup>, Adrian Stütz<sup>3</sup>, Diana C.J. Spierings<sup>7</sup>, Alistair Ward<sup>25</sup>, AnneMarie E. Welch<sup>1</sup>, Ming Xiao<sup>37</sup>, Wei Xu<sup>29</sup>, Chengsheng Zhang<sup>6</sup>, Qihui Zhu<sup>6</sup>, Xiangqun Zheng-Bradley<sup>20</sup>, Ernesto Lowy<sup>20</sup>, Sergei Yakneen<sup>3</sup>, Steven McCarroll<sup>17,18,38</sup>, Goo Jun<sup>39</sup>, Li Ding<sup>40</sup>, Chong Lek Koh<sup>41</sup>, Bing Ren<sup>31,32</sup>, Paul Flicek<sup>20</sup>, Ken Chen<sup>15</sup>, Mark B. Gerstein<sup>21,22,42,43</sup>, Pui-Yan Kwok<sup>44</sup>, Peter M. Lansdorp<sup>7,45,46</sup>, Gabor T. Marth<sup>25</sup>, Jonathan Sebat<sup>28,31,47</sup>, Xinghua Shi<sup>16</sup>, Ali Bashir<sup>10</sup>, Kai Ye<sup>12,13,48</sup>, Scott E. Devine<sup>9</sup>, Michael E. Talkowski<sup>5,19,49</sup>, Ryan E. Mills<sup>4,50</sup>, Tobias Marschall<sup>8</sup>, Jan O. Korbel<sup>3,20</sup>, Evan E. Eichler<sup>1,51</sup> & Charles Lee<sup>6,33</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Genome Sciences, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA 98195, USA. <sup>2</sup>Quantitative and Computational Biology, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089, USA. <sup>3</sup>European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Genome Biology Unit, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany. <sup>4</sup>Department of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA. <sup>5</sup>Center for Genomic Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Neurology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA. <sup>6</sup>The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine, Farmington, CT 06032, USA. <sup>7</sup>European Research Institute for the Biology of Ageing, University of Groningen, University Medical Centre Groningen, Groningen, AV NL-9713, The Netherlands. <sup>8</sup>Center for Bioinformatics, Saarland University and the Max Planck Institute for Informatics, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany. <sup>9</sup>Institute for Genome Sciences, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21201, USA. <sup>10</sup>Department of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY 10029, USA. <sup>11</sup>The School of Life Science and Technology of Xi'an Jiaotong University, 710049 Xi'an, China. <sup>12</sup>MOE Key Lab for Intelligent Networks & Networks Security, School of Electronics and Information Engineering, Xi'an Jiaotong University, 710049 Xi'an, China. <sup>13</sup>Ye-Lab For Omics and Omics Informatics, Xi'an Jiaotong University, 710049 Xi'an, China. <sup>14</sup>Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Genomics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02115, USA. <sup>15</sup>Department of Bioinformatics

and Computational Biology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA. <sup>16</sup>Department of Bioinformatics and Genomics, College of Computing and Informatics, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC 28223, USA. <sup>17</sup>Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02115, USA. <sup>18</sup>The Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA. <sup>19</sup>Program in Medical and Population Genetics, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA. <sup>20</sup>European Molecular Biology Laboratory, European Bioinformatics Institute, Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1SD, United Kingdom. <sup>21</sup>Yale University Medical School, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Program, New Haven, CT 06520, USA. <sup>22</sup>Department of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, Yale University, 266 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06520, USA. <sup>23</sup>Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of California Davis, Davis, CA 95616, USA. <sup>24</sup>UC Davis Genome Center, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA 95616, USA. <sup>25</sup>USTAR Center for Genetic Discovery and Department of Human Genetics, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, UT 84112, USA. <sup>26</sup>Pacific Biosciences, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA. <sup>27</sup>Bionano Genomics, San Diego, CA 92121, USA. <sup>28</sup>Beyster Center for Genomics of Psychiatric Diseases, Department of Psychiatry University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA. <sup>29</sup>10X Genomics, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA. <sup>30</sup>Illumina Clinical Services Laboratory, Illumina, Inc., 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122, USA. <sup>31</sup>Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA. <sup>32</sup>Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA. <sup>33</sup>Department of Graduate Studies – Life Sciences, Ewha Womans University, 52, Ewhayeodae-gil, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul 03760, South Korea. <sup>34</sup>DNA Link, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul, South Korea. <sup>35</sup>TreeCode Sdn Bhd, Bandar Botanic, 41200 Klang, Malaysia. <sup>36</sup>Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Graduate Program, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA. <sup>37</sup>School of Biomedical Engineering, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA. <sup>38</sup>Program in Medical and Population Genetics, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA. <sup>39</sup>Human Genetics Center, School of Public Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX 77225, USA. <sup>40</sup>Department of Medicine, McDonnell Genome Institute, Siteman Cancer Center, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MI 63108, USA. <sup>41</sup>High Impact Research, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. <sup>42</sup>Department of Computer Science, Yale University, 266 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06520, USA. <sup>43</sup>Department of Statistics and Data Science, Yale University, 266 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT 06520, USA. <sup>44</sup>Institute for Human Genetics, University of California–San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94143, USA. <sup>45</sup>Terry Fox Laboratory, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver, BC V5Z 1L3, Canada. <sup>46</sup>Department of Medical Genetics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4, Canada. <sup>47</sup>Department of Pediatrics, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA. <sup>48</sup>The First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, 710061 Xi'an, China. <sup>49</sup>Center for Mendelian Genomics, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA. <sup>50</sup>Department of Human

Genetics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA. <sup>51</sup>Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA.