# Replication-associated mutational strand asymmetry in the human genome

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# INTRODUCTION

# **Prokaryotes:** mutation rates differ between leading and lagging strands









Replication origin ⇒ upward jump in the skew profile







asymmetry of substitution rates between transcribed and non-transcribed strands



asymmetry of nucleotide composition



Transcription: G > C and T > A on the non-transcribed strand

Beletskii A. Biol.Chem, (1998) 379:549

# Total skew = superposition of skews due to replication and transcription



Superposition of replication and transcription



# Total skew = superposition of skews due to replication and transcription





S





# length between 0.5-2 Mbp covering >1/3 of the genome













?

#### MODEL 1

#### **N-PATTERN DUE TO TRANSCRIPTION**





Transcription specifically organized

#### **MODEL 1**

#### **N-PATTERN DUE TO TRANSCRIPTION**





Transcription specifically organized

#### MODEL 2

#### **N-PATTERN DUE TO REPLICATION**





Replication specifically organized



Transcription specifically organized

Replication specifically organized

# RESULTS

# **QUESTION 1:**

# Are the upward jumps associated with replication origins?



# **REPLICATION TIMING PROFILE**



# **GERMLINE CELLS**



# Determination of a human replication timing profile

A. Rappailles, G. Guilbaud, O. Hyrien



Chen CL. et al. Genome Res. (2010) 20:447

# Comparison of upward jumps with initiation zones



Upward jump positions correspond to replication initiation zones







![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

Desprat R. et al. Genome Res. (2009) 19:2288

![](_page_29_Figure_0.jpeg)

Chen CL. et al. *Genome Res*. (2010) 20:447 Hansen RS. et al. *PNAS*. (2010) 107:139 Desprat R. et al. *Genome Res*. (2009) 19:2288

Statistical evaluation : comparison with null distribution of simulation

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_2.jpeg)

Upward jumps are significantly associated with replication initiation zones

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

Replication starts from N domain borders and propagate to center in later S phase

# **QUESTION 2:**

# Is the "N" pattern of skew profile generated by asymmetric nucleotide substitution rates?

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Computation of nucleotide substitution rates

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Computation of nucleotide substitution rates

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

upper strand:  $n(A \rightarrow G)$   $\parallel$ lower strand:  $n(T \rightarrow C)$


upper	strand:	n ( <mark>A→G</mark> )	n(T→C)
		II	Ш
lower	strand:	n(T→C)	n ( <mark>A→G</mark> )



Compare the same substitution rate on two strands



upper strand:  $n(A \rightarrow G) \leftrightarrow n(T \rightarrow C)$ 

Compare the same substitution rate on two strands



Compare the complementary substitution rates on the same strand

### Complementary substitution rates along N-domains



#### Complementary substitution rates along N-domains



#### **Reproduces perfectly the "N" pattern of skew profile**

#### Compute the predicted skew (S at equilibrium) along N-domain



#### Skew at equilibrium reproduces perfectly the "N" pattern of skew profile



The skew is not at equilibrium

N-domains result from mutation asymmetry in germline cells

> Does the "N" result from:



Transcription specifically organized

Replication specifically organized

#### > Does the "N" result from:







Replication specifically organized

> Does the "N" result from:



Previous study on transcriptional asymmetry

















### Group 2: △ = [C→T] – [G→A]

Previous study on transcriptional asymmetry





Group 2:  $\triangle = [C \rightarrow T] - [G \rightarrow A]$ 





## Group 2: △ = [C→T] – [G→A]



### Transcription only cannot explain the observed substitution patterns.







Replication specifically organized







"N" pattern of skew profile results from replication-associated mutational strand asymmetry.

## "N" pattern of skew profile results from replication-associated mutational strand asymmetry.

For the first time, the existence of replication-associated mutational asymmetry in a eukaryotic organism is demonstrated.

### **QUESTION 3:**

### What model of replication can explain this N-pattern ?



### MODEL: N-pattern results from gradient of replication fork polarity



### MODEL: N-pattern results from gradient of replication fork polarity



### MODEL: N-pattern results from gradient of replication fork polarity



DNA sequence

#### Derivative of replication timing ≈ replication fork polarity



### EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION



Derivative of replication timing profile reproduces perfectly the "N" pattern

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Derivative of replication timing profile reproduces perfectly the "N" pattern

N-pattern results from gradient of replication fork polarity

### **DOMINO MODEL FOR N-DOMAIN REPLICATION**



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#### Does this kind of replication program reflect a higher order chromatin structure ?

Study by using the data of : • Nucleosome position

- Epigenetic markers
- 3C (Chromosome Conformation Capture)
- Hi-C chromosomal interaction

# **Acknowledgments and collaborations**

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(ENS-Lyon)












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## **CONSERVATION OF N-DOMAINS IN MAMMALIAN GENOMES**



## Genes have changed but the replication program has remained identical

## Mapping of initiations/terminations along a predicted origin

G. Guilbaud, O. Hyrien (ENS Paris)



Initiations occur both at the predicted origin and elsewhere in the N-domain

A majority of forks move away from the predicted origin

## Distance between each upward jump and the closest initiation zone



Upward jumps are significantly associated with replication initiation zones