

# **Proposal to Sequence a *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel: A Community Resource for the Study of Genotypic and Phenotypic Variation**

**Trudy Mackay, Stephen Richards, Richard Gibbs**

**Overview:** We propose the sequencing of a *D. melanogaster* genetic reference panel of 192 wild-type lines from a single natural population which have been inbred to homozygosity, and for which extensive information on complex trait phenotypes has been collected. This will create: (1) A community resource for association mapping of quantitative trait loci. Within this project we will demonstrate such mapping and provide candidate quantitative trait polymorphisms for traits relevant to human health. (2) A community resource of common *Drosophila* sequence polymorphisms (SNPs and indels) with a minor allele frequency (MAF) of 0.02 or greater. These variants will be valuable for high resolution QTL mapping as well as mapping alleles of major effect, molecular population genetic analyses, and allele specific transcription studies, among others. (3) A “test bench” for statistical methods used in QTL association and mapping studies for traits affecting human disease.

The proposed genetic reference panel of sequenced homozygous lines has many advantages and creates a new innovative genetics tool for the *Drosophila* community. First and foremost, each line represents a homozygous genotype that can be made available to the entire community. The same strains can be evaluated for multiple complex traits, including ‘intermediate’ phenotypes such as whole genome transcript abundance and quantitative variation in the proteome and metabolome. This will facilitate a systems genetics approach for understanding the genetic architecture of complex traits in an economical genetic model organism. Interrogating a common resource population for genetic variation at multiple levels, traits, and environments will provide an unprecedented opportunity to quantify genetic correlations and pleiotropy among traits, as well as to quantify the magnitude and nature of genotype by environment interaction. Trait values can be ascertained with a high degree of accuracy by evaluating multiple individuals per strain. A sample of 192 strains is sufficiently large to include minor allele variants with a frequency of 0.02 or greater, and has the power to detect intermediate frequency variants with moderately small to large effects on complex traits. Re-sequencing a sample of 192 strains is also experimentally and economically feasible, given the small size and high quality of the *Drosophila* reference genome, and the use of massively parallel sequencing technology. The sequence information will be used for association mapping studies for phenotypes that are in the current database to give an immediate payoff in terms of *Drosophila* quantitative trait genes that are candidate genes for human complex traits. These strains will provide a long term resource for the *Drosophila* community. Candidate genes for any complex trait can be identified by quantifying the trait phenotype in the reference panel of sequenced strains. Since the lines are a living library of all common polymorphisms affecting natural variation for any trait of interest, they can be used by members of the *Drosophila* community to identify extreme lines for QTL mapping – the lines are already inbred and therefore can be used immediately to construct mapping populations. They can also be used as a base

population for artificial selection experiments, in which lines can be derived with trait phenotypes that greatly exceed the range of the base population. Additionally, this will facilitate the development of a common set of dense polymorphic markers that can be used to develop an economic and accurate platform for genotyping the thousands of recombinant lines or individuals required for accurate mapping of QTLs.

### The Flies – A Genetic Reference Panel for Mapping and Cloning Quantitative Trait Genes:

The Mackay lab has recently derived a set of 192 inbred lines from the Raleigh, NC natural population by inbreeding isofemale lines to homozygosity by 20 generations of full sib mating. The homozygosity of these lines has been verified by analysis of microsatellite markers and re-sequencing of several regions on all three major chromosomes; less than 5% of the lines exhibit residual heterozygosity at one locus on 3R. This genetic reference panel has been extensively phenotyped for a battery of complex traits, and constitutes a long-term resource for further phenotyping and experimentation by the *Drosophila* community. The reference panel will be sequenced to 10-12 X coverage using the 454 500bp XLR pyrosequencing technology, and additionally to 6-8X using the Illumina short read platform for error correction around homopolymers and validation of identified polymorphisms. The long read data will be assembled *de novo* to allow full characterization of insertions, deletions and inversions.

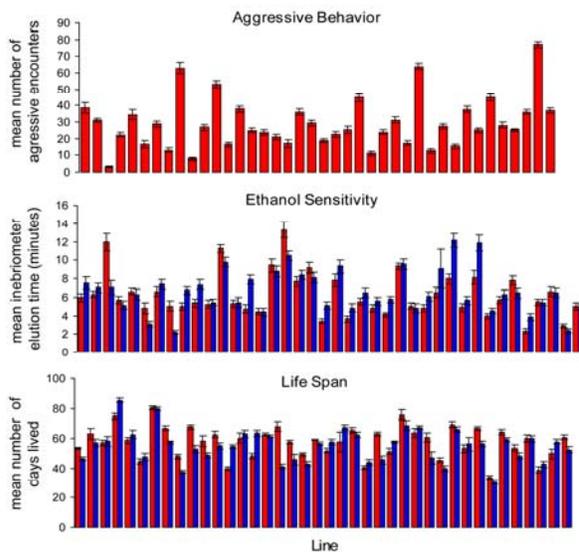


Figure 1. Variation in three quantitative traits in 40 of the proposed 192 line *Drosophila* genetic reference panel. Red: males; Blue: females.

### The Full Data Set – Quantifying Variation in Complex Trait Phenotypes:

The Mackay laboratory has quantified variation among all 192 of these lines for longevity; resistance to starvation stress and chill coma recovery; aggressive, locomotor, olfactory and mating behavior; alcohol sensitivity; and numbers of sensory bristles. We plan to initiate sequencing on a core set of 40 of the Raleigh lines, followed by the remainder of the strains. Therefore, the community is focusing initially on obtaining phenotypic information on this core set of lines. The lines exhibit a great range of variation for all traits (Figure 1, Appendix 1), with

broad sense heritabilities ranging from 0.22 – 0.78 (Appendix 2). In many cases, the range of variation among this panel of lines is comparable to, and in some cases even exceeds, the difference in mean phenotype between lines subjected to divergent artificial selection for the traits (e.g., Edwards et al., 2006).

Currently, the Mackay lab is assaying the 40 core lines for variation in oxidative stress resistance, competitive fitness, sleep, behavioral responses to a battery of drugs (e.g., dopamine, serotonin, caffeine, nicotine, alcohol), and whole genome transcript abundance

(using Affymetrix Dros2.0 GeneChips). There is no doubt that these lines will vary for every complex trait for which a quantitative phenotypic assay can be developed, including traits of direct relevance to human health, such as variation in immune competence, learning and memory, lipid metabolism, responses to addictive drugs, and 'intermediate' phenotypes such as enzyme activity. This subset of the reference panel is also ideal for assessing the magnitude of genotype by environment interaction for complex traits, since the same lines can be reared under multiple environments.

The community phenotyping effort will build upon the extensive foundation provided by the Mackay laboratory. Members of the fly community have already committed to phenotyping the genetic reference panel for a number of traits relevant to the NIH mission. This includes variation in lipid and protein levels (see letter from Dr. Maria DeLuca); learning and memory (letter from Dr. Frederic Mery); immune challenge (letter from Dr. Jeff Leips); foraging behavior (letter from Dr. Marla Sokolowski); adult olfactory behavior in response to a battery of odorants (letter from Dr. Robert Anholt); larval olfactory behavior in response to the same odorants (letter from Dr. Juan José Fanara); development time and adult body size (letter from Drs. Estaban Hasson and Juan José Fanara); ovariole number (letter from Dr. Marta Wayne); circadian rhythm, cuticular hydrocarbons and social behaviors (letter from Joel Levine); wing morphology (letter from David Houle); and sperm precedence (letter from Dr. Kimberly Hughes).

All phenotype data will be publicly available for all traits. As community members add each new phenotype to the database, they will be able to assess genetic correlations with all other traits that have been studied to date, thus building an unprecedented and comprehensive picture of the *Drosophila* phenome that would not be possible if all investigators used different strains.

**Whole Genome Association Studies:** One immediate utility of the complete genome sequences of the Raleigh inbred lines will be to perform whole genome association studies for the complex trait phenotypes in the database. The database will include variation among the lines in whole genome transcript abundance; therefore, the availability of whole genome sequence for each line will also provide the first opportunity for genome wide assessment of the relationship between DNA sequence variation, variation in transcript abundance, and variation in quantitative trait phenotypes.

**Power Considerations:** The power of using inbred lines for association studies is much greater than that of outbred individuals for two reasons. First, the genetic variance of a population of fully inbred lines is at least twice that of an outbred population at Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (Falconer and Mackay, 1996), because all individuals are homozygotes for segregating alleles. Second, the ability to obtain replicate measurements of multiple individuals per inbred line gives an accurate estimate of the mean phenotypic value of each line, greatly reducing the noise due to environmental variance. To illustrate this, consider the power to detect an association for a marker causally affecting the trait at a frequency of  $q = 0.5$ , under three scenarios: (1) a sample of 192 outbred individuals; (2) one individual from each of 192 inbred lines, and (3) many individuals from each of 192 inbred lines. Standard statistical theory gives the relationship between  $n$ , the number of

replicates per group (i.e., individuals or lines with alternate alleles at the polymorphic marker), and the magnitude of the difference in phenotype associated with the marker ( $\delta$ ) as  $n \geq 2(z_\alpha + z_{2\beta})^2 / (\delta/\sigma_P)^2$  (Sokal and Rohlf, 1981); where  $\sigma_P$  is the within-group standard deviation;  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are, respectively, the Type I and Type II significance levels set; and  $z$  is the ordinate of the normal distribution corresponding to its subscript. Let  $\alpha = 0.05$  and  $\beta = 0.1$ . (1) With 192 outbred individuals and  $q = 0.5$ , we expect 48 homozygous individuals for alternate marker genotypes, and the power to able to detect differences of  $0.661\sigma_P$  between homozygous genotypes. (2) With the core set of 40 inbred individuals and  $q = 0.5$ , we expect 96 homozygous individuals for alternate marker genotypes, and the power to able to detect differences of  $0.468\sigma_P$ . (3) If multiple individuals are measured per inbred line, the phenotypic variance is that of line means, or  $\sigma_P^2/N$ , where  $N$  is the number of individuals measured per line. If  $N = 20$ , we will be able to detect effects of  $(\sigma_P/\sqrt{20})(0.468) = 0.105\sigma_P$ ; if  $N = 40$ , we have the power to detect effects of  $0.074\sigma_P$ . To put this in perspective, the sample of 40 inbred lines is equivalent to an outbred population of 7,680 individuals for  $N = 20$  replicate measurements per line, and an outbred population of 15,360 for  $N = 40$  replicate measurements per line. For the core set of 40 lines, and  $N = 40$ , we have the power to detect effects of  $0.162\sigma_P$ , equivalent to 3,200 outbred individuals. Appendix 3 shows these effects in real units of measurement for each trait, and as a percent of the population mean. The power declines as gene frequencies depart from 0.5, but the tendency for rare alleles to have larger effects somewhat counteracts this (Carbone et al., 2006). Significant associations between molecular polymorphisms and quantitative trait phenotypes have previously been documented for *Drosophila* studies of this magnitude (Mackay and Langley, 1990; Lai et al., 1994; Long et al., 1998; Lyman et al., 1999; Robin et al., 2002; DeLuca et al., 2003; Carbone et al., 2006). There is growing evidence that the distribution of effects of alleles affecting complex traits is exponential; i.e., many alleles with small effects, but a few with large effects that contribute most of the trait variance (Robertson, 1967; Dilda and Mackay, 2002). We will have the power to detect variants in the latter, more important tail of the distribution, but not to detect variants with very small effects.

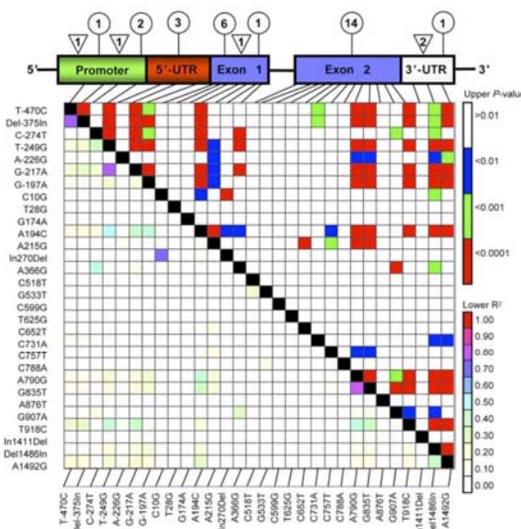


Figure 2. *Catsup* polymorphisms show an absence of haplotype blocks. The *Catsup* gene structure is depicted with the number and distribution of SNPs (circles) and InDels (triangles) in 169 *Catsup* alleles sampled from the Raleigh population. LD in *Catsup* is shown below the gene structure, with  $P$ -values from Fisher's exact test above the diagonal and estimates of  $r^2$  below the diagonal (from Carbone et al., 2006). Note the very low  $r^2$  values throughout this 2 kb region.

**Absence of Haplotype Blocks Allows Direct Allele Identification:** In humans, the average pairwise nucleotide diversity is 0.001/bp, and linkage disequilibrium between polymorphic markers follows a block-like pattern, in which polymorphisms in close physical linkage often forms blocks of markers in strong linkage disequilibrium (haplotype blocks), separated by regions of high recombination (International-HapMap-Consortium, 2005). Thus, the human scenario is excellent for using reduced numbers of markers as proxies for each haplotype block, simultaneously

reducing the genotyping effort in a whole genome association scan while increasing the number of genes and markers in the block that could be causally associated with variation in the trait. In contrast, *D. melanogaster* is highly polymorphic, with an average nucleotide diversity of 0.004/bp for coding regions and 0.01/bp for non-coding regions (Moriyama and Powell, 1996), and linkage disequilibrium between polymorphic sites decays rapidly with physical distance in normal regions of recombination (Long et al., 1998; Carbone et al., 2006). It is not uncommon for *Drosophila* polymorphic sites less than 10 bp apart to be in linkage equilibrium (Figure 2, Carbone et al., 2006). Thus, *Drosophila* is excellent for identifying polymorphisms causally associated with variation in complex traits, but the penalty is that complete sequence information is required.

**Multiple Testing, Association Tests and Followup Experiments:** The large number of association tests to be done for each trait poses a multiple testing problem. Previously, two variants of permutation tests have been used to address this issue (Churchill and Doerge, 1994; Doerge and Churchill, 1996). The first test asks whether more polymorphic sites in each gene than expected by chance are associated with variation in the trait (Lai et al., 1994; Carbone et al., 2006; Jordan et al., 2006), thus nominating a candidate gene for further study. The second asks whether a particular polymorphic site is more significant than expected by chance (Long et al., 1998; Robin et al., 2002; Carbone et al., 2006), thus selecting individual polymorphisms for further study. False discovery rate methods developed in the context of microarray data analysis (Storey and Tibshirani, 2003) will also be applicable to these analyses. The existence of comprehensive phenotypic and genotypic data is likely to spur the development of further statistical methods (letters from Drs. Rebecca Doerge and Lauren McIntyre). However, a major advantage of using *Drosophila* is that a lenient false positive rate can be tolerated. Individual investigators can test candidate genes of interest for functional significance using complementation tests of mutations in candidate genes to lines with alternative QTL alleles, and expanding the association test by phenotyping other populations for individual polymorphisms, or re-sequencing candidate genes using conventional methods.

**Genome Wide Molecular Population Genetics:** The proposed genome sequences will enable integration of population genomic analyses with patterns of phenotypic variation. Although on average *Drosophila* is highly polymorphic and linkage disequilibrium decays rapidly with physical distance, there is great variation in polymorphism and linkage disequilibrium throughout the genome, reflecting the interplay of mutation, recombination, natural selection and population history. Thus, whole genome data will be used to assess which regions are evolving according to the neutral expectation and which show the signatures of natural selection, by applying tests for departure from neutrality on a genome-wide scale. These include tests for more putatively functional mutations than expected by chance, tests for an excess or reduction of nucleotide diversity, as expected if polymorphism is maintained by a form of balancing selection or has been reduced by a recent 'sweep' of a beneficial allele, respectively; a high frequency of derived alleles, as expected in regions that have undergone a selective sweep; and regions of excess linkage disequilibrium, as expected for recently selected alleles for which recombination has not yet broken down associations with linked variants (Sabeti et al.,

2006). Several of these tests require sequence from closely related species and an outgroup sequence. The recent accumulation of whole genome polymorphism data from *D. simulans* as well as whole genome sequence of *D. yakuba* will be greatly informative in this regard. Application of this battery of tests on a genome wide scale will reveal particular genes and gene regions exhibiting patterns of polymorphism that deviate from the neutral expectation. The description of the pattern of variation along each chromosome using sliding window approaches can reveal regions that have heterogeneous evolutionary histories, which can be particularly valuable in unannotated genomic regions. Genes associated with variation in complex traits often show population genetic signatures of historical natural selection (Robin et al., 2002; DeLuca et al., 2003; Carbone et al., 2006). Merging the inferences about evolutionary history obtained from the population genomics analyses with the inferences about genes affecting quantitative traits from the phenotypic analyses will provide the first large-scale answer to the long standing question of the balance of forces that maintain genetic variation for complex traits in nature. Molecular population genetic analyses of these data will be spearheaded by Drs. Philip Awadalla, Antonio Barbadilla and Ignazio Carbone (letters attached).

**High Resolution Sequence Polymorphism Map:** The *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel is a living library of all common polymorphisms affecting natural variation. The proposed whole genome sequence analysis of these 192 lines will identify a common set of dense polymorphic markers and allow an economic and accurate platform for genotyping *Drosophila* for any purpose. The 192 lines have a 95% probability to contain alleles with MAF 1.5%. It is important to realize that this will be a polymorphism discovery effort, and that the actual allele frequencies for alleles found in only a single line will have to be independently measured using an independent genotyping platform. The molecular polymorphism data will be curated in the *Drosophila* Polymorphism Data Base (DPDB, <http://bioinformatica.uab.es/dpdb/dpdb.asp>) by Dr. Antonio Barbadilla (letter attached).

**A Test Bench for Novel Experimental and Statistical Methods:** *Drosophila* has long been a testing ground for techniques that are later applied to human genetics and other animals. For example, the whole genome assembly in eukaryotes was first tested in *Drosophila* (Myers et al., 2000) before mammals. The central problem in human genetics today is the identification of genetic loci and specific alleles contributing to common disease. Association mapping studies in humans are expensive and some have produced false positives. The *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel will serve as a test bed for novel statistical and experimental approaches that seek to increase the accuracy of quantitative trait analysis in human health, as described in the multiple testing section above. It has the advantages of known alleles with described quantitative affects, the ability to replicate experimental results in independent laboratories, and facile experimental methods, as well as tractable genome size, allowing for minimal computation time. As a fair amount of phenotypic information is already available, this test bench will be available for use as soon as the sequencing is completed.

**Sequencing Plan: (A) Platforms.** New massively parallel sequencing technologies have brought projects of this size to an extremely reasonable cost and size (see question B4

below for cost details). However the different available technologies have different yet complementary error characteristics. Data from a pilot project (see Appendix 5 for details), test sequencing four of the proposed DGRP strains including the original BDGP reference strain ( $y^1; cn^1 bw^1 sp^1$ ) suggested a mixed platform strategy.

The Illumina platform currently produces read lengths of 36bp, possibly stretching to 50bp with low quality tails. The primary error mode is substitutions, especially high near the end of the reads. The largest problem with short read data is the inherent difficulty in mapping short sequences to the reference genome in the presence of the very polymorphisms we are aiming to identify. This results in the analysis of a smaller proportion of the genome, and often lower coverage in regions that can be partially mapped, requiring additional sequence coverage.

The 454 pyrosequencing platform has longer reads – now 500bp on the XLR platform, but a different yet complementary error mode of homopolymer length issues. These longer reads are much easier to map to the genome in the presence of sequence differences from the reference sequence. Thus the longer reads have the advantage of allowing a larger proportion of the genome to be analyzed than the short reads. Additionally and importantly, the length of the new XLR reads allows facile *de novo* assembly. Comparison of assembled contigs to the reference sequence allows the identification of insertions and deletions longer than the length of a single sequence read, and is particularly useful for the characterization of larger insertions and inversions that otherwise prevent the alignment of single reads to the BDGP reference sequence.

The goal of the Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel is to identify as many polymorphisms in the genomes of the panel as possible, with a high degree of accuracy. Thus we are proposing to use both platforms, the 454 XLR long read pyrosequencing to identify larger (>3bp) insertion/deletion polymorphisms, and Illumina short read sequence to prevent the accumulation of false positives due to homopolymer errors, and to provide a genome scale verification of as many of the sequence changes as possible. This verification can be particularly important as a few of the bases in the genome, despite intensive inbreeding, can still be polymorphic within the strain, and within the DNA isolated from multiple individuals. Confirmation of such polymorphism on two different platforms allows verification of such cases and appropriate handling in downstream statistical analysis.

**(B) Coverage considerations.** Based on the pilot study, high quality consensus sequence coverage of the majority of the genome saturates at 10-12 fold 454 long read coverage (~4-5 XLR runs at the current time). For the Illumina short read platform a similar saturation profile occurs – with additional mapping problems reducing the overall coverage relative to the input coverage. We plan to use paired end sequencing for this project, which is now available on the Illumina platform; this will mitigate these mapping problems. The Illumina sequences will be primarily used for error correction and polymorphism validation, rather than discovery. Thus, we believe that 6 fold genome coverage is sufficient for the correction of homopolymer errors (and identification of true polymorphisms next to homopolymers).

**Polymorphism Identification:** In the pilot project we sequenced a few of the proposed DGRP strains and the original BDGP reference strain. From the DGRP strains we identified an average of ~660,000 polymorphisms of different types (Appendix 5). Whilst

methods may change and improve in the future, we are taking a two pronged approach to polymorphism identification. The main approach is read alignment to the BDGP reference sequence. We have successfully used an analysis pipeline based around the mosaik software package (Marth lab) to identify the small polymorphic features (<10 – 20bp). This package has the virtue of allowing alignment of both short and long read data sets simultaneously to the reference. Comparison to Sanger reads in one of the sequenced strains allowed us to estimate a SNP false positive rate of 0.008% on the pyrosequencing platform, after homopolymer error correction by the short read data. The false negative rate was 1.0%, due mainly to lack of coverage. When a sequence difference from the reference is detected by both sequencing platforms, the error probabilities are extremely low.

The second approach addresses longer polymorphic features, above 20bp in length. Here we assemble the long read XLR 454 data and align contigs to the BDGP reference. From a test assembly of 500bp XLR data we obtained N50 contig lengths of 26.7 kb and a longest contig of 267 kb. Additional paired end information produced a scaffold N50 of 3.3Mb (the largest scaffold was 17.3Mb). Alignment of these to the BDGP reference using simple blat alignment and careful parsing allowed facile and accurate identification of larger polymorphisms and their boundaries (Appendix 5). The combination of these approaches, reflecting the combination of sequencing platforms, allows a full characterization of the genomes.

A specific question in analyses such as these is the false positive rate, as a high false positive polymorphism discovery rate might confound statistical analyses. One particularly stringent test of this is to re-sequence the BDGP reference strain, which should be in large part similar to the reference sequence, but contain a small number of differences due to passage of the strain over the last 10 years. This is indeed what we observe, with 730 substitutions identified with high confidence compared to ~ 1,000,000 for the DGRP strains. Thus the proposed methods have demonstrated low error rates.

**A Planned and Managed Analysis:** The whitepaper authors believe a proactive approach to ensure timely analysis, public dissemination and publication is required. To this end, in addition to submitting all data to FlyBase, Genbank and all other appropriate public databases, we will provide rapid analysis of the QTL data already available, to provide a list of candidate quantitative trait sequence polymorphisms for the many quantitative traits already measured in these strains. We have enrolled a number of collaborators promising to perform additional analysis of traits on these lines (see multiple letters of support), and statistical experts (support letters from Drs. Doerge and McIntyre) to apply novel analyses to this unique dataset and kick start community involvement. A large number of the most promising QTLs identified will be followed up with complementation tests and other functional analyses (carried out by our collaborators). We intend to publish not just a description of sequence variation in *Drosophila* and its impact on population genetics, but also candidate polymorphisms affecting numerous traits already and promised to be measured, with many partially verified by the methods described above.

Finally, to fully leverage the use of this complete dataset, the sequence data, reference strains, all measured phenotypes and the statistical tools will be made publicly available.

The actual reference stocks will be independently maintained in the Bloomington Stock Center (letter from Kathy Matthews attached) and the Mackay laboratory, in duplicate mass cultures at both locations. Keeping the stocks in multiple locations guards against loss. Further, ensuring the stocks are maintained in mass cultures minimizes the impact of new spontaneous mutations. The lines will be checked for contamination annually using 20 polymorphic markers. Thus, *Drosophila* investigators can use these resources to quantify traits of interest in the strains, and use web based tools for analysis with association mapping tools of their choice, rapidly receiving candidate sequence polymorphisms for follow up with complementation tests, mapping or other analyses. With such tools, this dataset brings association mapping for quantitative traits to the entire *Drosophila* community.

### **Specific Points:**

#### **A. Specific Biological/Biomedical Rationales for the Utility of New Sequence Data:**

**A1. Improving Human Health:** This project will provide candidate *D. melanogaster* quantitative trait polymorphisms affecting lifespan, alcohol tolerance, aggression, and many other traits directly related to human disorders and disease. It is likely that a proportion of the identified sequence polymorphisms will have orthologous effects in humans, suggesting new diagnostic tests and suggesting new pathways as targets for drug design. It is also likely that this project will help us better define the role of non-genetic effects in these traits, and better define where lifestyle changes will likely provide better health outcomes.

**A2. Informing Human Biology:** In the same way that the study of *D. melanogaster* mutants has connected genes and proteins to phenotypes that are often found to be similar in human biology, we expect this study of biological and genotypic variation in *D. melanogaster* to be of use for the study of human variation where there are similar pathways and processes.

**A3. Expanding Our Understanding of Basic Processes Relevant to Human Health:** Most genetic variation affecting traits relevant for human health is quantitative in nature. Single gene Mendelian variants, whilst easier to understand, affect a much smaller proportion of the population. As well as providing candidate genes for specific human traits where a similar trait can be measured in flies as described in A1, this project will also generate a large number of QTLs. The analysis of this set will enable investigations into critical points in genetic pathways and determine common biological idioms in the evolution of biological redundancy. In short, the *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel will provide the data to take understanding of quantitative traits to a medically relevant level of detail.

**A4. Providing Additional Surrogate Systems for Human Experimentation:** *D. melanogaster* is already a proven surrogate for many aspects of human genetics. This project will improve our ability to measure the genetic determinants of variation of these models in response to drugs and other treatments. In many cases the quantitative trait polymorphisms identified may be more relevant to human variation in response to drug treatments than genes identified by the less subtle effects of mutational screens.

**A5. Facilitating the Ability to do Experiments:** The project will directly facilitate association mapping of quantitative traits and traditional mapping of quantitative traits.

Furthermore, it will enable the entire *Drosophila* community to perform these experiments with no additional sequencing, only phenotyping will be required. Additionally it will generate a high resolution polymorphism map and allow high resolution low cost genotyping for population studies and other uses in *Drosophila*. Finally it will be used as a low cost test bench for novel statistical and experimental methods prior to their use in human and other organisms with large genomes.

## **B. Strategic Issues in Acquiring New Sequence Data:**

**B1. The Demand for New Sequence Data:** The *Drosophila* community has a proven history of fully utilizing the excellent sequence resources it already has. In many ways it has been a model example of how genomic sequences can stimulate biological and medical research, and lead to other powerful high-throughput biological tools. Based on initial enthusiasm from the community (see attached letters) and the ease and low cost of performing association studies, once these sequences are available, we believe that community enthusiasm will be significant. Due to the large size of the *D. melanogaster* community, we do not expect any additional expansion of the community due to these sequences. In the larger biology community, there is clamoring for complete genotype and phenotype data sets to better understand the connection between genotype and phenotype. Thus, this dataset will also be used by many outside of the *Drosophila* community, for example bioinformaticians developing better quantitative trait and association mapping methods, population geneticists developing models of the inheritance of non-Mendelian traits, and as a basis data set for systems biology researchers. This has already been the case for the original *D. melanogaster* sequence that is widely used as a test bed for genome assembly and gene prediction software, as well as a platform for high throughput biological research.

**B2. The Suitability of the Organism for Experimentation:** *D. melanogaster* is a premier model organism for biological experimentation.

**B3. The Rationale for the Complete Sequence of the Organism:** Alternatives to the whole genome association studies, and high resolution whole genome mapping studies, are to use a low resolution map for mapping specific traits and then to study in high resolution regions of interest for that particular phenotype. While this is suitable for a study of a single phenotype, it does not allow the study of many quantitative phenotypes, does not provide a useful community tool allowing the amortization of costs, requires significant financial and labor investment for the high resolution follow up, and does not fully take advantage of the low costs of newly available massively parallel sequencing technologies. We believe the proposed whole genome provides tools for both traditional and association mapping, makes these available to the entire *D. melanogaster* community applicable to any phenotype at a reasonable financial cost.

A related question is our rationale for the number of lines to be sequenced. As discussed above, we believe that the 192 Raleigh lines provide excellent power for association experiments to detect moderately small genetic effects, and yet is a small enough number to be tractable for the average *Drosophila* laboratory measuring phenotypes. Variation for most, if not all, important quantitative phenotypes will be observed in this number of lines, allowing the resource to be broadly applicable. With all the proposed lines, we have the power to detect minor allele frequencies of 0.015 (the probability of not observing a single allele with a population frequency of 0.015 is 0.055

in a sample of 192 alleles). Finally, 40 of the Raleigh lines have been assayed for transcriptional activity using Affymetrix arrays. Previously, samples of smaller size have identified molecular variants significantly associated with phenotypic variation (Lai et al., 1994; Long et al., 1998; Robin et al., 2002). Further, the range of variation embraced by these lines is similar to, and sometimes greater than, the variation seen in lines selected for specific phenotypes.

**B4. The Cost of Sequencing the Genome and the State of Readiness of the Organisms DNA for Sequencing:** Based on our experience with the pilot sequencing of a number of strains, and previous experience with the reference *D. melanogaster* sequence as one of the original members of the BDGP, *D. pseudoobscura* sequencing and a number of other insects, we foresee no challenges in terms of biological features that will hinder this project. DNA has been isolated from all 192 inbred NC strains and is ready for sequencing.

Due to the amazing wealth of new sequencing technologies evolving at this time, it is impossible to predict the magnitude of the decrease in sequencing costs over the time period of this project. However, at the current time, 10-12X long read 454 genome coverage (~2Gbp) will require four high density XLR platform runs (~ 500Mb/run) and an additional paired end run to provide assembly linking data. For the short-read coverage, one half of an Illumina GA2 paired-end run will be required. Over the period of this work, we expect the throughput of the HD-XLR platform to improve to a maximum of 1Gb/run, reducing the number of runs required by half, and the Illumina platform to have a similar increase in throughput reducing the requirement to half a run per strain. Without improvements, the six runs per strain required at \$5,000 US each, add to a total of \$30,000 per strain, or approximately five and three quarter million dollars for the entire project. Whilst the sequencing cost of the project could ultimately be reduced by half, the expected improvements will come over the one year time period in which the project will be completed, so the actual cost is likely to be approximately four million dollars.

## **5. Are There Other (Partial) Sources of Funding Available or Being Sought for This Sequencing Project?**

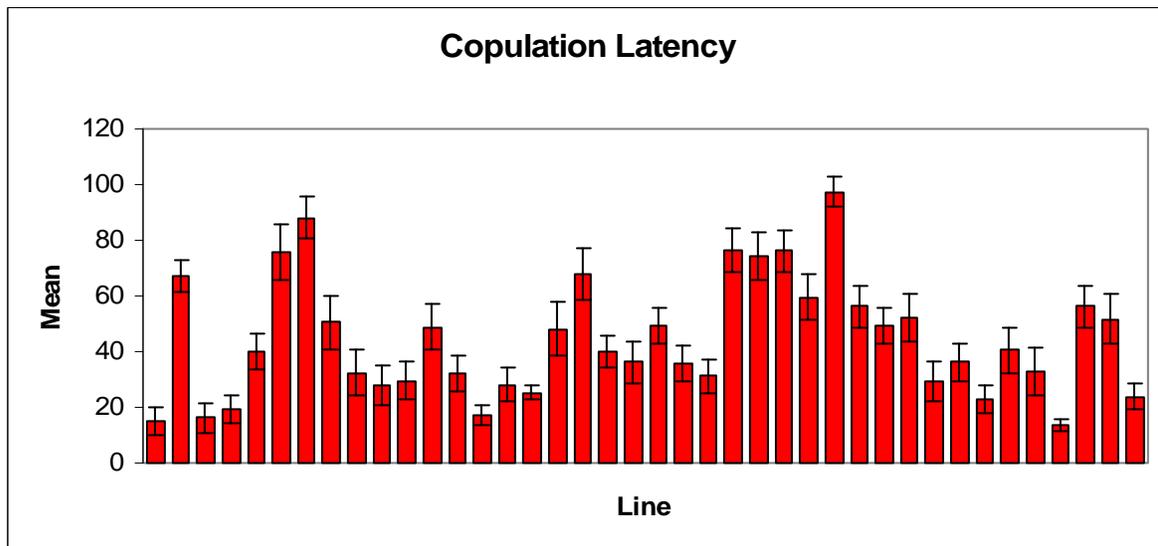
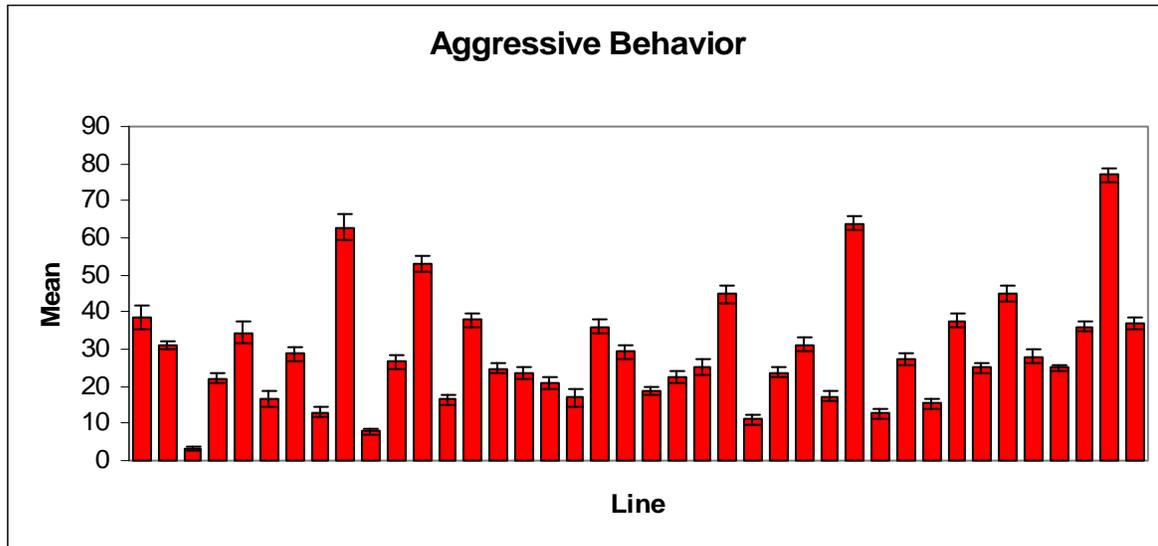
The phenotyping work both ongoing and pledged in letters of support is being funded out of ongoing funding of the individual investigators involved. In total, this amount is comparable to the amount of funds requested for sequencing due to the labor costs of a large number of individual researchers. No other additional sources of funding for the sequencing are being sought at this time.

## References:

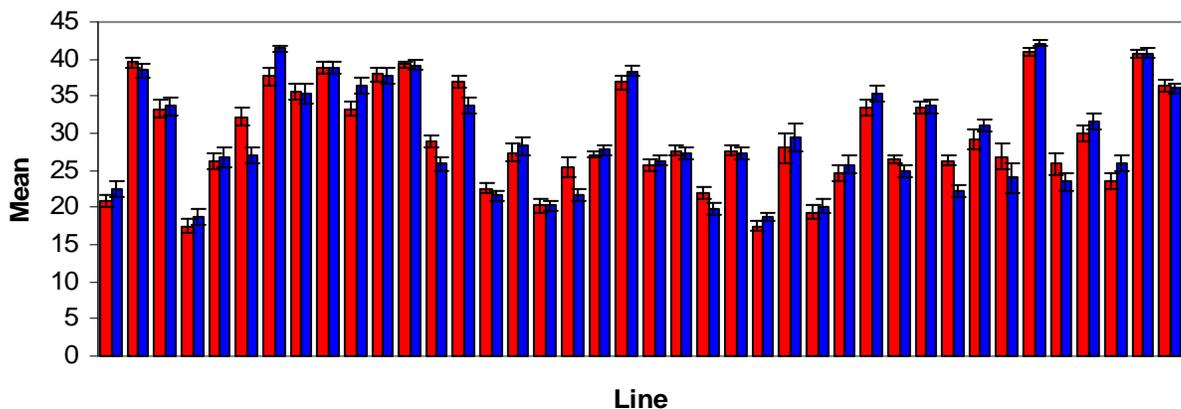
- Carbone, M. A., Jordan, K. W., Lyman, R. F., Harbison, S. T., Leips, J., DeLuca, M., Awadalla, P. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2006) Phenotypic variation and natural selection at *Catsup*, a pleiotropic quantitative trait gene in *Drosophila*. *Curr. Biol.* *16*, 912-919.
- Churchill, G. A., and Doerge, R. W. (1994). Empirical threshold values for quantitative trait mapping. *Genetics* *138*, 963-971.
- Clarke, L., and Carbon, J. (1976). A colony bank containing synthetic Col El hybrid plasmids representative of the entire *E. coli* genome. *Cell* *9*, 91-99.
- De Luca, M., Roshina, N. V., Geiger-Thornsberry, G. L. Lyman, R. F., Pasyukova, E. G. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2003) *Dopa-decarboxylase (Ddc)* affects variation in *Drosophila* longevity. *Nat. Genet.* *34*, 429-433.
- Dilda, C. L. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2002) The genetic architecture of *Drosophila* sensory bristle number. *Genetics* *162*, 1655-1674.
- Doerge, R. W., and Churchill, G. A. (1996). Permutation tests for multiple loci affecting a quantitative character. *Genetics* *142*, 285-294.
- Edwards, A. C., Rollmann, S. M., Morgan, T. J. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2006) Quantitative genomics of aggressive behavior in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *PLoS Genetics* DOI: 10.1371/journal.pgen.0020154
- Falconer, D. S., and Mackay, T. F. C. (1996). *Introduction to Quantitative Genetics*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition (Pearson Education Group).
- Jordan, K. W. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2006) Quantitative trait loci for locomotor behavior in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Genetics* *174*, 271-284.
- International-HapMap-Consortium (2005). A haplotype map of the human genome. *Nature* *437*, 1299-1320.
- Lai, C., Lyman, R. F., Long, A. D., Langley, C. H. and Mackay, T. F. C. (1994) Naturally occurring variation in bristle number and DNA polymorphisms at the *scabrous* locus in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Science* *266*, 1697-1702.
- Long, A. D., Lyman, R. F., Langley, C. H., and Mackay, T. F. C. (1998). Two sites in the *Delta* gene region contribute to naturally occurring variation in bristle number in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Genetics* *149*, 999-1017.
- Lyman, R. F., Lai, C. and Mackay, T. F. C. (1999) Linkage disequilibrium mapping of molecular polymorphisms at the *scabrous* locus associated with naturally occurring variation in bristle number in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Genet. Res.* *74*, 303-311.
- Mackay, T. F. C. and Langley, C. H. (1990) Molecular and phenotypic variation in the *achaete-scute* region of *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Nature* *348*, 64-66.
- Moriyama, E.N., and Powell, J.R. (1996). Intraspecific nuclear DNA variation in *Drosophila*. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* *13*, 261-277.
- Myers, E. W., Sutton, G. G., Delcher, A. L., Dew, I. M., Fasulo, D. P., Flanigan, M. J., Kravitz, S. A., Mobarry, C. M., Reinert, K. H., Remington, K. A., *et al.* (2000). A whole-genome assembly of *Drosophila*. *Science* *287*, 2196-2204.
- Robertson, A. (1967) The nature of quantitative genetic variation. Pp.265-280 in A. Brink (ed.), *Heritage From Mendel* (University of Wisconsin Press).
- Robin, C., Lyman, R. F., Long, A. D., Langley, C. H. and Mackay, T. F. C. (2002) *hairy*: A quantitative trait locus for *Drosophila* bristle number. *Genetics* *162*, 155-164.
- Sabeti, P. C., Schaffner, S. F., Fry, B., Lohmueller, J., Vailly, P., Shamovsky, O., Palma, A., Mikkelsen, T. S., Altshuler, D., and Lander, E. S. (2006). Positive natural selection in the human lineage. *Science* *312*, 1614-1620.
- Sokal, R.R., and Rohlf, F.J. (1981). *Biometry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (W. H. Freeman and Company).
- Storey, J. D., and Tibshirani, R. (2003). Statistical significance for genomewide studies. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* *100*, 9440-9445.

## Appendix 1

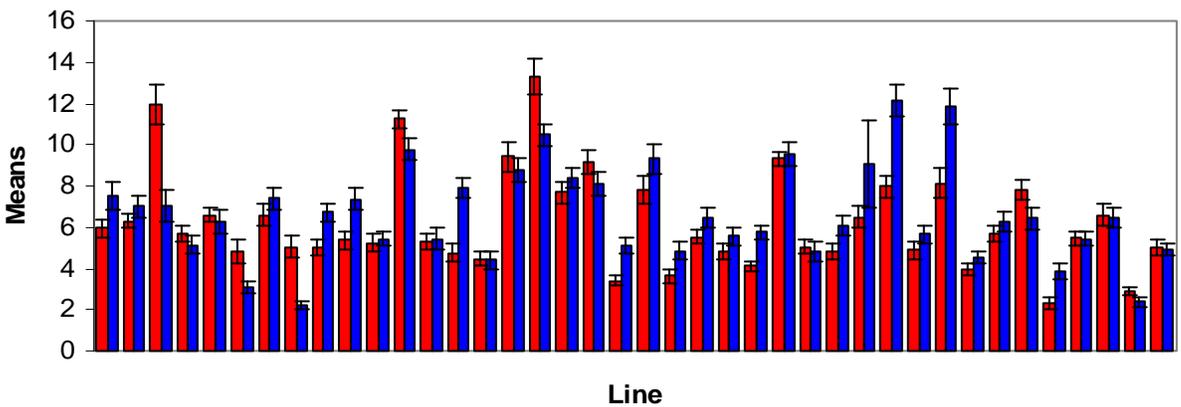
### Quantitative Variation Among the Core Set of 40 Lines From the *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel

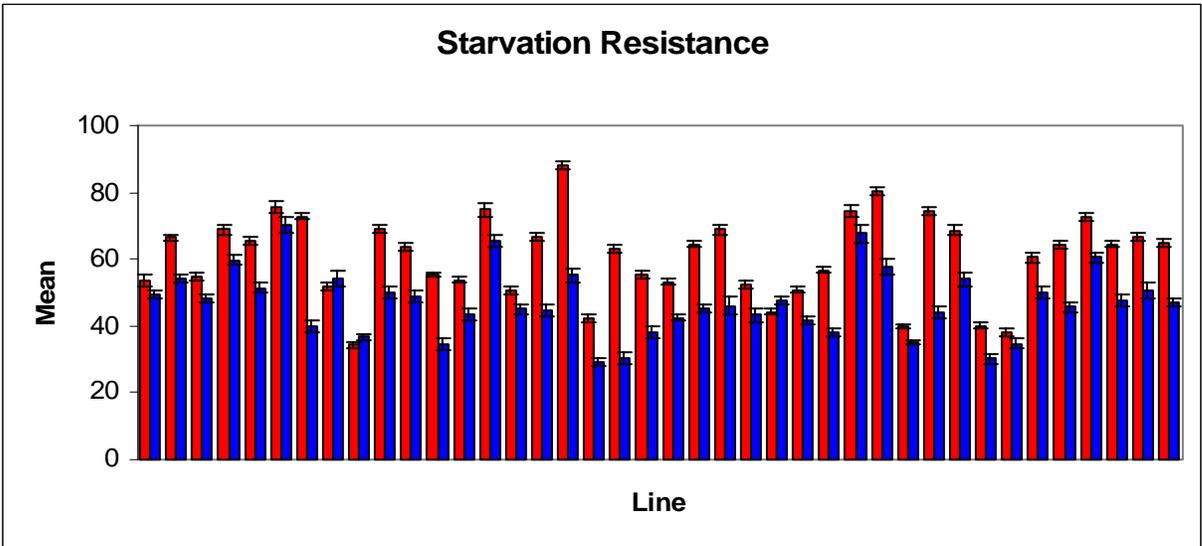
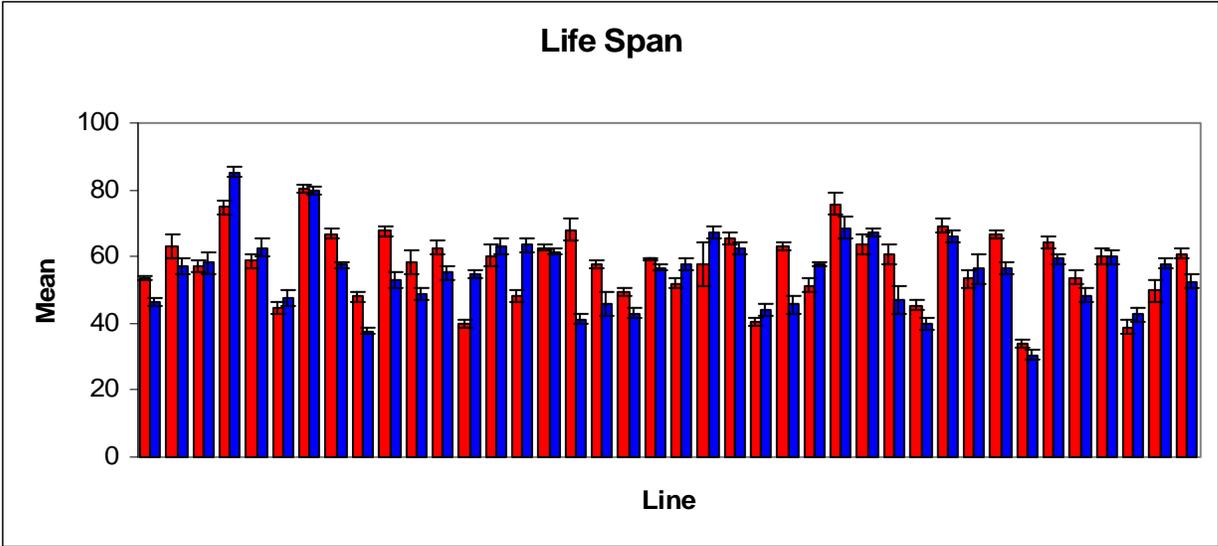


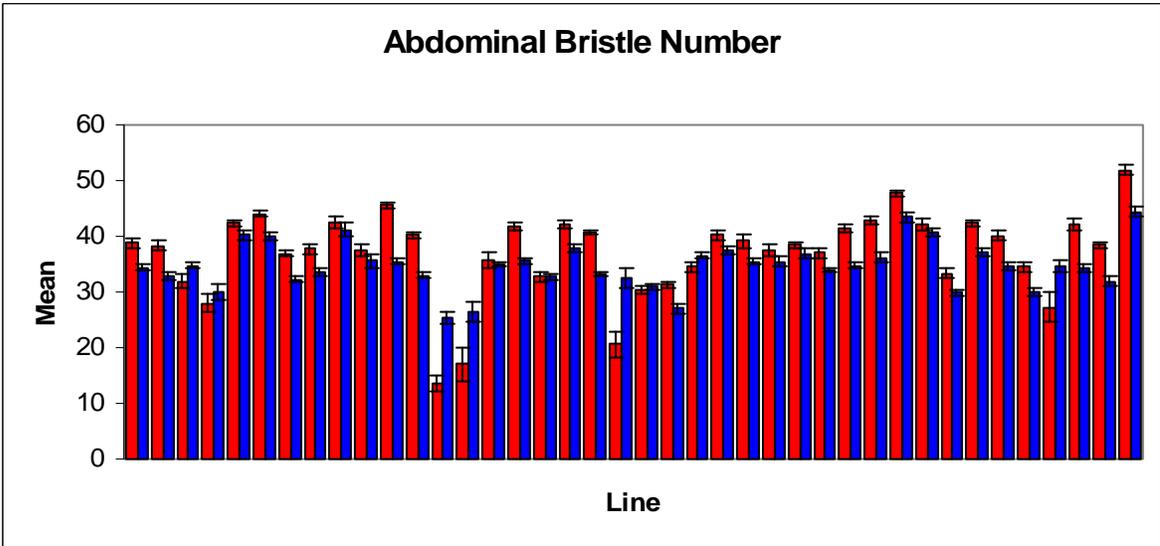
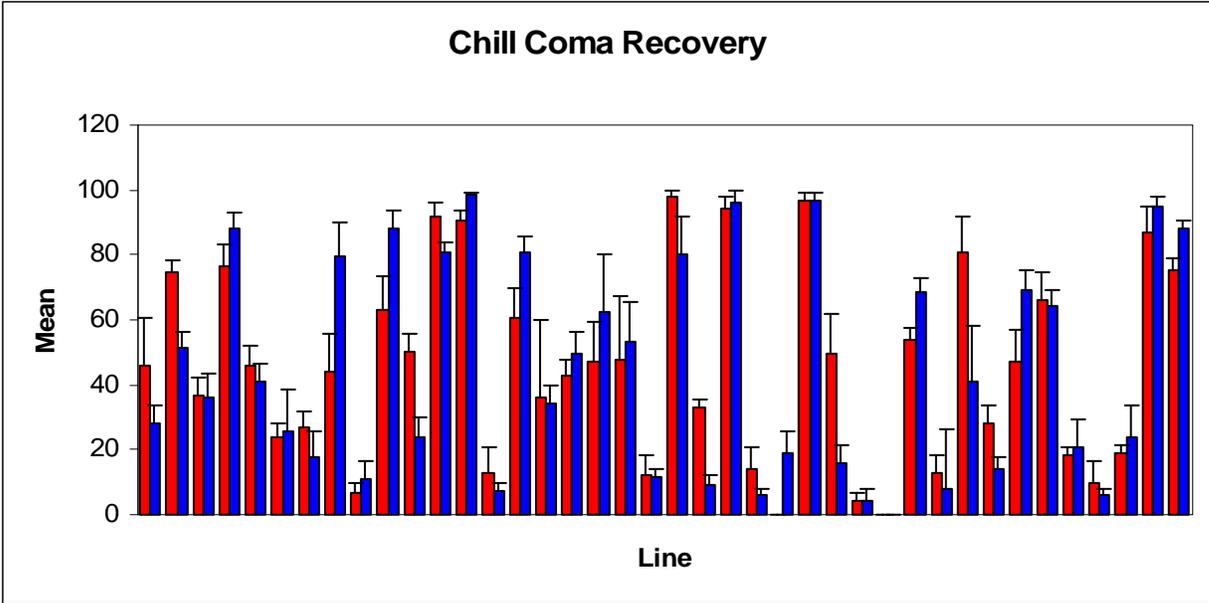
### Locomotor Reactivity Behavior



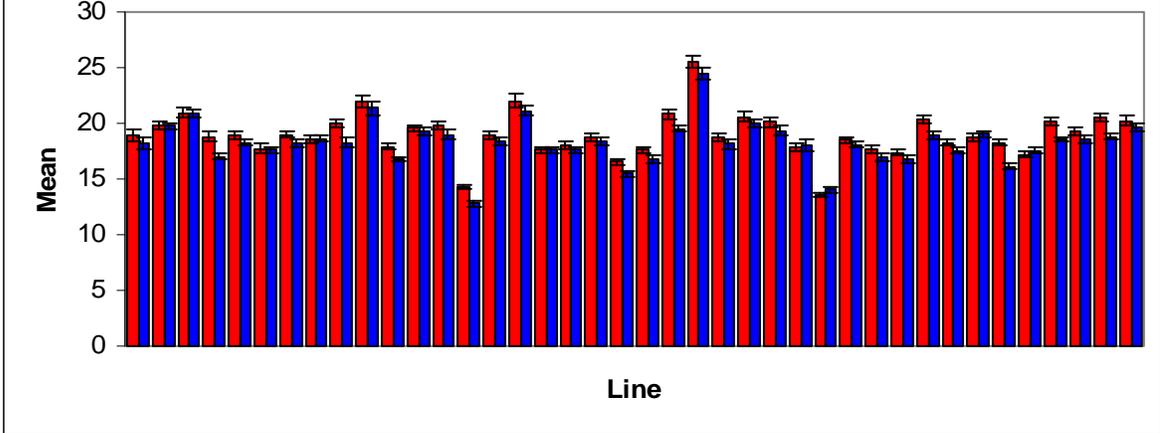
### Ethanol Sensitivity







### Sternopleural Bristle Number



## Appendix 2

### Quantitative Genetic Parameters Estimated From the Core Set of 40 Raleigh Inbred Lines

Trait <sup>a</sup>	Mean	$\sigma_G^2$ <sup>b</sup>	$\sigma_E^2$ <sup>c</sup>	$\sigma_P^2$ <sup>d</sup>	$H^2$ <sup>e</sup>	$CV_G$ <sup>f</sup>	$CV_E$ <sup>g</sup>
AG	29.22	235.801	64.845	300.646	0.784	52.552	27.559
LR	28.24	27.262	30.463	57.725	0.472	18.489	19.544
LS	54.06	102.126	89.468	191.594	0.533	18.693	17.496
SR	54.11	116.961	93.906	210.867	0.555	19.964	17.910
ER	6.54	3.869	13.674	17.543	0.221	30.148	56.516
CC	48.84	822.175	250.833	1073.008	0.766	58.714	32.430
CL	44.22	398.875	1186.83	1585.705	0.252	45.165	77.907
ST	18.65	3.645	2.313	5.958	0.612	10.237	8.155
AB	35.89	33.147	15.440	48.587	0.682	16.055	10.958
DH(x100)	7.88	19.248	76.040	95.288	0.202	55.648	110.605

<sup>a</sup> AG = aggressive behavior; LR = locomotor reactivity behavior; LS = life span; SR = starvation resistance; ER = ethanol resistance; CC = chill coma recovery; CL = copulation latency; ST = sternopleural bristle number; AB = abdominal bristle number; DH = developmental homeostasis of abdominal bristle number

$$\text{<sup>b</sup> } \sigma_G^2 = \sigma_L^2 + \sigma_{SL}^2$$

<sup>c</sup>  $\sigma_E^2$  = variance within replicates

$$\text{<sup>d</sup> } \sigma_P^2 = \sigma_G^2 + \sigma_E^2$$

$$\text{<sup>e</sup> } H^2 = \text{broad sense heritability} = \sigma_G^2 / \sigma_P^2$$

$$\text{<sup>f</sup> } CV_G = 100\sigma_G / \text{Mean}$$

$$\text{<sup>g</sup> } CV_E = 100\sigma_E / \text{Mean}$$

## Appendix 3

### Power Calculations

#### A. Core Set of 40 Lines

Trait <sup>a</sup>	Units	$\sigma_p$ <sup>b</sup>	$\delta^c$ ( $\sigma_p$ )		$\delta^c$ (% Mean)	
			$N = 20$	$N = 40$	$N = 20$	$N = 40$
AG	Number	17.34	3.97	2.81	13.6	9.62
LR	Seconds	7.60	1.74	1.23	6.16	4.36
LS	Days	13.84	3.17	2.24	5.86	4.14
SR	Hours	14.52	3.33	2.35	6.15	4.34
ER	Minutes	4.19	0.96	0.68	14.68	10.40
CC	Percent	32.76	7.50	5.31	15.36	10.87
CL	Minutes	39.82	9.12	6.45	20.62	14.59
ST	Number	2.44	0.56	0.40	3.00	2.14
AB	Number	6.97	1.60	1.13	4.46	3.15

#### B. Entire Genetic Reference Panel (192 Lines)

Trait <sup>a</sup>	Units	$\sigma_p$ <sup>b</sup>	$\delta^c$ ( $\sigma_p$ )		$\delta^c$ (% Mean)	
			$N = 20$	$N = 40$	$N = 20$	$N = 40$
AG	Number	17.34	1.82	1.28	6.23	4.38
LR	Seconds	7.60	0.80	0.56	2.83	1.98
LS	Days	13.84	1.45	1.02	2.68	1.89
SR	Hours	14.52	1.52	1.07	2.81	1.98
ER	Minutes	4.19	0.44	0.31	6.73	4.74
CC	Percent	32.76	3.44	2.42	7.04	4.95
CL	Minutes	39.82	4.18	2.95	9.45	6.67
ST	Number	2.44	0.26	0.18	1.39	0.97
AB	Number	6.97	0.73	0.52	2.03	1.45

The power to detect an association for a marker causally affecting the trait at a frequency of  $q = 0.5$  with 40 inbred lines, for  $N = 20$  individuals and  $N = 40$  individuals measured per line. Effects are shown in phenotypic standard deviation units, and as percent of the overall trait means, for complex traits that have been scored on the 40 lines to date.

<sup>a</sup> AG = aggressive behavior; LR = locomotor reactivity behavior; LS = life span; SR = starvation resistance; ER = ethanol resistance; CC = chill coma recovery; CL = copulation latency; ST = sternopleural bristle number; AB = abdominal bristle number

<sup>b</sup> Phenotypic standard deviation

<sup>c</sup>  $\delta$  = difference in mean between homozygous markers

## Appendix 4

### Letters of Support

(Note: these letters refer to an initial version of this proposal, which focused on the core 40 Raleigh lines)

Subject: Drosophila reference panel  
From: anholt@ncsu.edu  
Date: Wed, January 3, 2007 4:35 pm  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu

Dear Trudy,

I am delighted to be included in your Drosophila reference panel sequencing project.

My lab studies the genetic architecture of chemosensory behavior in Drosophila and I am very excited of having the opportunity to phenotype these lines for olfactory behavior against multiple odorants as well as for taste preferences.

This set of 40 fully sequenced lines will enable us to identify extreme lines for rapid QTL mapping to find genes that contribute to phenotypic variation for these traits, assess whole genome evolutionary trajectories of chemoreceptors, including odorant binding proteins, odorant receptors, and gustatory receptors that are known to evolve rapidly, draw correlations with available transcriptional profiles and behavioral phenotypes, identify polymorphisms that are associated with variation in chemosensory behaviors, and assess correlations between these essential survival behaviors and other traits.

I strongly support your excellent white paper and am excited to join you in this important venture.

With very best wishes,

Robert

Dr. Robert R. H. Anholt  
Professor of Zoology and Genetics  
Director, W. M. Keck Center for Behavioral Biology  
Campus Box 7617  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7617  
USA  
tel. (919) 515-1173  
fax (919) 515-1801  
e-mail: [anholt@ncsu.edu](mailto:anholt@ncsu.edu)

Subject: Re: An Invitation  
From: "Marta Wayne" <mlwayne@mac.com>  
Date: Thu, January 4, 2007 11:54 am  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu>

Dear Trudy,

Thank you so much for the invitation to participate in the project. This joint project and plan for multiple phenotypes is exactly the sort of teamwork that the fly community depends on. I would be delighted to measure ovariole number, sigma virus resistance and transmission, and flight under field conditions on these lines. I also look forward to the analysis and data mining that will be possible, associating phenotypic variance with expression and sequence variation.

With best wishes,  
Marta

Frederic Mery  
Lab Evolution Genome and Speciation  
CNRS, Gif sur Yvette  
France  
[Frederic.mery@legs.cnrs-gif.fr](mailto:Frederic.mery@legs.cnrs-gif.fr)

05 January 2007

The sequencing of the *D. melanogaster* genetic reference panel of forty wild-type lines from a single natural population would bring a large amount of information and open new perspectives for the study of the interplay between genotype and phenotype. In my laboratory we propose to measure variation in learning and memory among these lines and therefore contribute to the building of the *Drosophila* phenome initiated by the Mackay laboratory. Little is known about natural genetic variation in cognitive traits. Numerous mutants with learning or memory defects have been identified in *Drosophila*, but we know almost nothing about the nature of heritable variation in learning performance in natural populations. Yet, this variation is the raw material for evolution. Knowledge of the genetic basis of natural variation in learning ability would help to understand how evolution produces differences in learning ability and memory among populations and species but also would provide information concerning human memory disorder disease. The work proposed in this project would therefore provide key information concerning the genetic basis of cognitive abilities and the genetic correlation with all other complex traits measured in the other laboratory. This project proposed by Trudy Mackay, Stephen Richards, George Weinstock and Richard Gibbs is therefore extremely interesting and I am really glad to participate to this work.

Frederic Mery

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

School of Integrative Biology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
515 Morrill Hall  
505 S. Goodwin Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801-3799



January 8, 2007

Dear Trudy:

I am writing to give my enthusiastic support to your *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel proposal. It's a terrific idea, and I am very happy to contribute the phenotyping effort for sperm precedence traits. My lab has considerable experience in conducting large phenotype screens for traits related to sperm precedence and male fertility in *Drosophila*, and it will be highly productive to combine this phenotype with the others you propose to include in this project in lines that will be characterized with respect to sequence and mRNA expression. I look forward to the collaboration!

Sincerely,

*Kimberly Hughes*  
Associate Professor

January 8, 2007

Trudy F. C. Mackay, PhD  
WNR Distinguished Professor of Genetics  
Department of Genetics, Box 7614  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7614

Dear Trudy,

I am pleased to write this letter of support for your research proposal whose aim is to obtain funds for the sequencing of a *Drosophila melanogaster* genetic reference panel of forty wild-type inbred lines. The sequencing of these lines would be highly beneficial to other investigators and to my ongoing NIH/NHLBI funded research project "QTL mapping age-related changes in lipid storage". As you are aware, one aspect of the project is to map chromosomal regions (quantitative trait loci or QTL) at which natural genetic variation affects changes in energy storage of *D. melanogaster*. This aim will be accomplished through the: 1) screening of the forty wild-type inbred lines generated in your laboratory for energy storage, 2) selection of one pair of lines that significantly differs in this trait to construct Recombinant Inbred Lines (RIL) for use in QTL mapping, and 3) marker genotyping of RIL. The whole genome sequence analysis of the forty lines will greatly accelerate the identification of loci that differ between the parental strains and that can be genotyped at low cost. Moreover, as part of my plan to extend our genetic studies to energy expenditure, the forty lines will be phenotyped for variation in metabolic rate and mitochondrial respiration. This study will identify novel nuclear genes affecting both energy metabolism and mitochondrial dysfunctions and likely provide new models for human obesity and diabetes.

I wish you good luck with your grant application. If I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Maria De Luca, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Nutrition Sciences  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Webb 451 - 1530 3rd Ave S  
Birmingham, AL 35294-3360  
Phone (205) 934-7033  
Fax (205) 936-5775

**Department of Nutrition Sciences**  
232 Webb Nutrition Sciences Building  
1675 University Boulevard  
205.934.6103  
Fax 205.934.7049

Mailing Address:  
WEBB 232  
1530 3RD AVE S  
BIRMINGHAM AL 35294-3360

Subject: Re: An Invitation  
From: "Esteban Hasson" <estebanhasson@yahoo.com.ar>  
Date: Wed, January 10, 2007 10:05 am  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu>

Dear Trudy,

Sorry for the delay in responding to your message of Jan 3rd. I am just back from my holidays in Northwestern Argentina and found your message in my email box. Of course I am interested in joining the team sharing the objective of linking genotypic and phenotypic variation in the 40 reference lines. There are several traits on which our group of Universidad de Buenos Aires would be interested to measure, as we discuss during your recent stay in Buenos Aires. As you know we would be interested in measuring developmental time, morphological variation (body size related traits and male genital morphology), we are planning to implement protocols measuring oviposition preferences for different fruits among sets of isofemale lines available in our lab. I'll let you know whether there is variation for this trait in natural populations.

Happy 2007 for you and Robert.

Esteban Hasson (PhD)  
Dept. Ecología Genética y Evolución  
Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales  
Universidad de Buenos Aires  
Ciudad Universitaria Pab. 2  
C1428 EHA Buenos Aires  
Argentina

Subject: Letter from Dr. Fanara  
From: "Juan Jose Fanara" <juan\_jose\_fanara@hotmail.com>  
Date: Tue, January 9, 2007 3:52 pm  
To: "trudy mackay" [mackay@unity.ncsu.edu](mailto:mackay@unity.ncsu.edu)

Dr. Trudy Mackay  
Department of Genetics  
Box 7614  
N.C. State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7614

Dear Trudy,

I will be delighted to participate as a member of yours and Dr. Stephen Richards, George Weinstock and Richard Gibbs Research Collaboration Project: "Proposal to Sequence a Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel: A community Resource for the Study of Genotypic and Phenotypic Variation". Analysis of complex adaptive traits has been my principal scientific work, particularly larval olfactory behaviour, development time and adult body size. I agree with you that this proposal is innovative and it will allow to the Drosophila community to make significant progress in the study of genotypic and phenotypic variation. Thus, I will collaborate in this project in any way I can.

Dr. Juan José Fanara  
Universidad de Buenos Aires  
Research Fellow CONICET  
Argentina  
Juan Jose Fanara Ph.D.  
Departamento de Ecología, Genética y Evolución  
FCEN UBA  
Ciudad Universitaria Pab II  
Buenos Aires (1428)  
Argentina e-mail  
[jjfanara@ege.fcen.uba.ar](mailto:jjfanara@ege.fcen.uba.ar)  
[juan\\_jose\\_fanara@hotmail.com](mailto:juan_jose_fanara@hotmail.com)  
Phone +54-11-4576-3348  
fax: +54-11-4576-3384

Subject: Complete DNA sequencing project of 40 D. mel lines.  
From: "Marla Sokolowski" <msokolow@utm.utoronto.ca>  
Date: Sun, January 7, 2007 1:15 pm  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" [trudy\\_mackay@ncsu.edu](mailto:trudy_mackay@ncsu.edu)

January 7, 2007.

Dear Trudy,

I am very excited to hear about the proposal to obtain the complete DNA sequences from 40 D. melanogaster and would very much like to participate in this highly important and timely proposal.

The recent move in behavioral genetic analysis from mutant analysis to natural variants is an important one and crucial to our understanding of the mechanisms and evolution of behavior. The sequenced lines will be invaluable to my laboratory for identifying and understanding the genes and pathways involved in food-related behaviors. Our contribution will be to phenotype the lines for larval and adult food related behaviors including food related locomotion, food intake, lipid, carbohydrate and protein levels, glucose and amino acid uptake, sucrose responsiveness and social feeding. This will be done in a variety of environments where food deprivation, food quality and composition are varied. Our preliminary analyses shows that the Raleigh population from which the 40 lines were established show significant differences in many of these traits.

The lines will allow for high throughput identification of all the genes and pathways that affect these traits and vary in natural populations. We are also interested in analyzing our data for pleiotropy, gene interactions and gene by environment interactions on food related behaviors and these sequenced lines will enable us to investigate these questions at the whole genome level. The data will of course be available for you and others to do correlational analyses with other assessed phenotypes. Our preliminary data with natural variation in the foraging gene of D. melanogaster suggests that many of the genes discovered to affect food-related behaviors in the 40 lines will also affect other phenotypes including food reward learning, stress, aggression and longevity. Thus we expect our data to contribute greatly to the correlational analyses that will be the outcome of the entire groups efforts.

None of these experiments are possible with the resources available. Our research is not only expected to have far reaching implications for behavior genetic analysis of foraging but also for obesity related food disorders in mammals including humans.

I have read the proposal and I think that it is truly excellent. The long term outcome and benefits of the research generated by these lines are unsurpassed!

Best of Luck with it,

Marla

Prof. Marla B. Sokolowski BSc, PhD, F.R.S.C.  
Canada Research Chair in Genetics,  
Senior Fellow, Massey College,  
Department of Biology,  
University of Toronto at Mississauga,  
3359 Mississauga Rd.  
Mississauga, Ontario,  
Canada, L5L1C6.  
tel: office: 905-828-5326.  
fax: 905-828-3792.  
labs: 905-569-4709, 4708 and 4707.

Subject: Re: An Invitation  
From: "Jeff Leips" [leips@umbc.edu](mailto:leips@umbc.edu)  
Date: Fri, January 12, 2007 9:34 am  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <[trudy\\_mackay@ncsu.edu](mailto:trudy_mackay@ncsu.edu)>

Dear Trudy,

I'm writing in support of your proposal to sequence the *Drosophila* genetic reference panel. I am very excited about participating and look forward to the opportunity to carry out the immune response assays on the forty lines and help in whatever capacity needed to analyze the data. As you know, a major focus in our laboratory is on understanding the genetic basis of variation in the aging immune system in *Drosophila* and we have extensive experience in these phenotypic assays. The phenotypic data combined with the sequence data that emerge from this project will greatly facilitate our work. The data generated by this project will also be an important resource for the entire scientific community and we are happy to do our part to contribute to this effort.

I wish you and your collaborators the best of luck on this proposal and please let me know if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Leips

Jeff Leips  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
University of Maryland Baltimore County  
Baltimore, MD 21250  
Office Phone: 410-455-2238  
Lab Phone: 410-455-3479  
Fax: 410-455-3875

Bellaterra, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2007

**Supporting letter of Dr. Antonio Barbadilla for the sequence of 40 lines of *Drosophila melanogaster***

Antonio Barbadilla, Associate Professor of Genetics in the Department of Genetics and Microbiology of the University Autònoma of Barcelona, wants to express his most positive support to the Proposal for Sequencing a *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel as exposed in the preceding Whitepaper. I have not any doubt about the inestimable value of this community resource. In this postgenomic era, polymorphic and association studies are one of the main focuses of the biomedical research because of their promise to unveil the genetic basis of phenotypic diversity, with all their potential implications in basic biology, health and society. For this endeavour, *Drosophila*, as widely argued in the Whitepaper, is a formidable model on which to increase the discovery pace in this area.

I'm a long research trajectory of more than twenty years in the subject of genetic variation, mainly with *Drosophila* as model organism. At present, I'm leading a research group of five people working on the Bioinformatics of Genetic Diversity. The representation, analysis and interpretation of DNA variation and its relationship with the phenotypic variation is the focus of my research (SNPs and QTLs). We are participating in three funded projects, two from Spanish agencies and one from the European Commission. All three projects are intimately related with the subject of this cooperative project. We have developed a software tool that automatically can align homologous sequences and to estimate genetic diversity in different functional regions. We have also created the *Drosophila* Polymorphism Database, a secondary database designed to provide a collection of all the existing polymorphic sequences in the *Drosophila* genus. It allows, for the first time, the search for any polymorphic set according to different parameter values of nucleotide diversity. Our bioinformatic tools can conveniently be modified for this project to deal with the 40 genomes to be sequenced. So, nucleotide diversity measures can automatically be estimated along the genome considering different functional regions. The estimated values can also be stored in an appropriate database. In this way, we can offer our Bioinformatics know how on nucleotide diversity to (a) automatically estimate the diversity values of the 40 genomes along the genome; and (b) to store the raw data and the estimated values in a database which can be flexibly queried via Web in a friendly interface for a wide range of display options. Within the European project, we are a partner of a multidisciplinary team that is defining new bioinformatic standards for association studies in genetic diseases.

All members of my team are happy to participate in this project, and our contribution does not need extra money, since it can be justified within our own funded projects. My bioinformatic laboratory has the necessary infrastructure and resources for the development and implementation of the databases and their interfaces. In addition, we can use the hardware infrastructure of computer clusters and storing memory existing on both the Bioinformatic Platform of the UAB (directed by myself) and the Port d'Informació Científica (Scientific Information Port) located in my university. These

resources are very convenient both for the storage of the great amount of data that will be sequenced and analyzed during this project and for the computing power that will be needed during the estimation of parameter values.

This is really an excellent project where fundamental community resources are going to be created for association studies. I'm looking forward to be an active part of it.

Yours sincerely,

Antonio Barbadilla

---

Dr. Antonio Barbadilla

Associate Professor and Researcher of Departament de Genética y Microbiologia

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

08193 Bellaterra (Barcelona), SPAIN

Email: [antonio.barbadilla@uab.es](mailto:antonio.barbadilla@uab.es)

<http://bioinformatica.uab.es/dgm/cv/barbadilla%20prados.htm>

Tel.: +34 93 5812730

Fax: +34 93 5812387

Director de la [Plataforma de Bioinformática](#) de la UAB

#### **Ongoing funded projects:**

- Patterns of nucleotide diversity in different functional regions of *Drosophila* and Chordates. Investigadores: Antonio Barbadilla (IP), Sònia Casillas, Natalia Petit, Raquel Egea, Esther Betrán. MEC BFU2006-08640/BMC.
- Association studies assisted by Inference and Semantic Technologies. Project Coordinator: P. Mitkas (CERHT/ITI). Sixth Framework Programme. STRP: Integrated biomedical information for better health. FP6-IST-2004-027510.
- Identification of genes implied in the susceptibility to fibromyalgia and/or syndrome of chronic fatigue. Fundación para la Fibromialgia y el Síndrome de Fatiga Crónica, Fundación Echevarne, ebiointel, Dpt Genètica i Microbiologia UAB, CEGEN, bancoADN.

#### **Recent Published Papers related with the Proposal**

- Petit, N., S Casillas, A. Ruiz and A Barbadilla (2007). Protein polymorphism is negatively correlated with conservation of intronic sequences and complexity of expression patterns in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Journal of Molecular Evolution* (in press).

- Casillas, S & A. Barbadilla (2006). PDA v.2: improving the exploration and estimation of nucleotide polymorphism in large data sets of heterogeneous DNA. [Nucl. Acids Res. 2006 34: W632-W634.](#)
- Casillas, S, B Negre, A Barbadilla and A Ruiz (2006). Fast sequence evolution of Hox and Hox-derived genes in the genus *Drosophila*. [BMC Evolutionary Biology 2006, 6:106.](#)
- Egea, R, S. Casillas, E. Fernández, MA Senar & A. Barbadilla (2006). MamPol: a database of nucleotide polymorphism in the Mammalia class. [Nucl. Acids Res.](#) doi: 10.1093/nar/gkl833
- Casillas, S, N. Petit & A. Barbadilla (2005). DPDB: a database for the storage, representation and analysis of polymorphism in the *Drosophila* genus. [Bioinformatics 2005 21: ii26-ii30; doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/bti1103](#)
- Bárbara Negre, Sònia Casillas, Magali Suzanne, Ernesto Sánchez-Herrero, Michael Akam, Michael Nefedov, Antonio Barbadilla, Pieter de Jong and Alfredo Ruiz (2005). Conservation of regulatory sequences and gene expression patterns in the disintegrating *Drosophila* Hox gene complex. [Genome Research 15: 692-700, 2005](#)
- Casillas, S & A. Barbadilla (2004). PDA: a pipeline to explore and estimate polymorphism in large DNA databases. [Nucleic Acid Research, Web Server issue 32: W166-W169.](#)
- Casillas, S, A. Barbadilla & C. Bergman. *Drosophila* conserved noncoding sequence evolution. Submitted

Subject: request to participate in white paper proposal  
From: [jlevine@utm.utoronto.ca](mailto:jlevine@utm.utoronto.ca)  
Date: Sat, January 13, 2007 5:16 pm  
To: [trudy\\_mackay@ncsu.edu](mailto:trudy_mackay@ncsu.edu)

Dear Trudy,

I was excited when I heard about your generous plans to sequence 40 lines and make the lines, the sequence and the tools for analysis that you have developed available to the *Drosophila* community. The potential for discovering networks of genes affiliated with behavioral function is awesome. The entire *Drosophila* community would benefit immediately from this effort. Given the well known relationship between genes linked to behavior in the fly and in the human, the potential benefits to health minded research are great as well. I have in mind here my own field of circadian rhythms research. Identification of the genetic mechanisms underlying circadian clock function in *Drosophila* eventually led to the identification of a conserved set of genes that determine clock time in humans.

I would like to participate in this effort. Specifically, there are at least three types of assays I will perform, if you please. First, I will characterize locomotor activity rhythms in *Drosophila* for each line. Second, I will characterize the amounts of cuticular hydrocarbons in each line. Many of these are known to act as reproductive pheromones and in addition to QTL analysis, if there are lines with significantly different amounts of the pheromones, I would look for differences in latency to copulate and other reproductive measures. Third, we have developed several assays of social behavior in *Drosophila*. I would apply these to your lines as well.

I hope this letter does not arrive too late for my participation. Like many others, I have been a remote student of yours for a long time via your papers and the classic text you have written. I have enjoyed our infrequent meetings both at conferences and here in Toronto. Now, I would be delighted to enter a collaborative enterprise such as the one you are leading here.

Thanks for the opportunity. I feel sure that this effort will lead to decades of important developments in how we understand the physiology and behavior of the fly.

Yours,

Joel Levine  
Canada Research Chair in Neurogenetics  
Assistant Professor in Biology  
University of Toronto at Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd North  
Mississauga, ON  
Canada L5L 1C6  
telephone: 905-569-4931  
[jlevine@utm.utoronto.ca](mailto:jlevine@utm.utoronto.ca)



Genetics Institute  
Office of the Director

1376 Mowry Road  
PO Box 103610  
Gainesville, FL 32610-3610  
352-273-8100  
352-273-8284 Fax

January 13, 2007

Dear Trudy:

It is my pleasure to support the proposal for the sequencing of 40 *Drosophila melanogaster* lines.

I am enthusiastic about the idea to generate a large panel of sequence information on natural variants. This level of information will really advance quantitative genomics and complex trait analysis. The lines selected are optimal, there is a large amount of phenotypic, QTL, and expression data available on these lines. The sequencing will allow panels of SNPs to be developed for additional genotyping of *melanogaster* lines. Your plan to have a large number of quantitative geneticists work together and share data publicly so that we can build a more complete understanding of the 'phenome' is excellent. These data will indeed spur the development of quantitative analyses. My overall impression of this proposal is that it is an exciting and inclusive way of developing resources that can provide direction and support for complex trait genomics. For my part, I am delighted that you asked me to participate, and I will happily lend my wholehearted support and effort to this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lauren M McIntyre'.

Lauren McIntyre  
Associate Professor  
University of Florida Genetics Institute



Jan. 14, 2007

Trudy F. C. Mackay  
WNR and Distinguished University Professor of Genetics  
Department of Genetics, Box 7614  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7614

Dear Trudy,

I enthusiastically support this project to combine the collection of sequence data with collection of phenotype data for multiple traits. A truly monumental hole in our current knowledge is how effectively infinite number of phenotypic traits are related to each other. The approach you outline of relating each to the same set of replicated genotypes is a critical next step to unraveling these complex relationships. The use of inbred lines in this genetically tractable but phenotypically complex organism should prove relevant to the genotype-phenotype relationship of other complex organisms, including humans.

My laboratory will undertake the measurement of adult wings in both the initial 40 inbred lines designated for sequencing and eventually the entire 345 lines you have generated. I will also participate in the analysis of genotypic associations for these data. Our automated system generates an essentially complete representation of the position of the wing veins and blade, and captures this in a model with 108 parameters. This system allows us to measure wings at the rate of about one per minute, so measuring 20 wings of each sex for each of the 40 lines can be accomplished in about 1 week. In addition, at publication, we will make available the raw wing images through the Morphbank (<http://www.morphbank.net/>) to allow additional details of wing form to be extracted from these images, such as bristle numbers and positions.

I look forward to the results of this exciting project.

Sincerely,

David Houle  
Associate Professor

Subject: Re: An Invitation  
From: "Ignazio Carbone" <ignazio\_carbone@ncsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, January 15, 2007 8:35 pm  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu>

Dear Trudy,

I am very excited about this proposal to sequence the complete genome from a population of 40 *D. melanogaster* and would very much like to contribute to the evolutionary population genetic analyses.

From an evolutionary biology perspective these 40 genomes will be a wonderful resource for whole genome phylogenetic analyses. Although linkage disequilibrium decays rapidly in *D. melanogaster* I anticipate that there will be regions where recombination is suppressed and can be used for reconstructing the ancestral relationships among these 40 lines. The availability of whole genome sequences will allow phylogenetic inferences to be based on several hundred loci spanning all chromosomes. This will provide an unprecedented view into eukaryotic genome evolution and allow us to ascertain the power of current phylogenetic/simulation methods that focus on estimation of population parameters from only a few loci.

From a practical perspective, these genealogies will provide a robust inference of the patterns of descent underling these 40 lines that can be integrated with association studies and for examining the evolution of complex traits.

Best wishes,  
Ignazio

Ignazio Carbone  
Assistant Professor  
Center for Integrated Fungal Research  
Department of Plant Pathology  
North Carolina State University  
Office: 919-513-4866  
Lab: 919-513-4867  
Fax: 919-513-0024  
<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/plantpath/people/faculty/carbone/>

Subject: RW Doerge in support of Sequencing a Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel  
From: R.W. Doerge" <doerge@stat.purdue.edu>  
Date: Tue, January 16, 2007 12:36 pm  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu>

Dear Trudy:                    January 16, 2007

First, apologies for sending my support for your proposal as an email. I have been out of the office, and away from letterhead.

I strongly support your proposal for the sequencing of 40 *Drosophila melanogaster* lines. As you know my group has worked in the area of quantitative trait loci (QTL) analysis for years, and we are very excited with the renewed interest in QTL/association mapping; and, even more excited by what advances in technology are allowing us to accomplish.

We are currently developing novel QTL methods for application to larger and more complex data sets; the data you propose to generate will fit perfectly with our plans. Coupled with these new QTL ideas are novel applications of resampling/permutation theory. The idea of having a "test bench" for statistical methods used in QTL association and mapping studies is terrific, and has huge potential to unite the statistical genetics community in their efforts to develop powerful methods to map QTL affecting a variety of diseases and traits.

Thank you for including me in your efforts. I am hugely supportive of your proposal, and if funded will participate freely.

Regards,  
R.W. Doerge  
Professor of Statistics

\*\*\*\*\*

R.W. Doerge, Ph.D.  
Professor of Statistics

Department of Statistics  
Purdue University  
150 N. University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2067

phone: 765-494-6030  
fax: 765-494-0558  
[doerge@purdue.edu](mailto:doerge@purdue.edu)

[www.stat.purdue.edu/~doerge](http://www.stat.purdue.edu/~doerge)

Subject: Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel  
From: Philip Awadalla" [pawadalla@ncsu.edu](mailto:pawadalla@ncsu.edu)  
Date: Thu, January 18, 2007 4:48 pm  
To: "Trudy F. C. Mackay" <[trudy\\_mackay@ncsu.edu](mailto:trudy_mackay@ncsu.edu)>

Dear Trudy,

Thank you very much for your invitation to participate in this proposal to sequence 40 complete genomes of *Drosophila melanogaster*. Having completely sequenced genomes of 40 inbred lines will be invaluable to the community. Not only is this an excellent resource for genome-wide association studies for the community, but complete resequencing and identifying both common and rare snps from this panel will be an invaluable reference for the community, much like the reference panel for the Human Hapmap project. Much can be done with this dataset on its own and we are happy to help spearhead the population genetic analysis of this data. We have been developing and analysing whole genome analyses from a panel of isolates of the main agent of malaria; in this context we have been developing whole-genome approaches to performing association studies with complex phenotypes. We are also developing MCMC approaches to evaluate evolutionary histories across the genome using both population and comparative data. This allows us to identify regions of the genome evolving in a non-neutral manner. Because we explicitly model evolutionary histories such as selection and population demography we are able to estimate important evolutionary parameters, such as the mode and strength of natural or artificial selection. A whole genome dataset from a single population of this size is extremely rare; perhaps only seen in humans and even there it is not complete. For the first time we will also be able to not just focus on coding but on non-coding portions of the genome as well and ask how these regions are mutating and recombining in a rigorous manner. Again, we have developed approaches to make inferences of historical rates of recombination and gene conversion which will be critical to these and any population genetic analyses.

Again, this proposal has my fullest support. It is in the community's best interest to have this data collected and made completely available. It will lead to very exciting insights in evolutionary genetics.

Sincerely,  
Philip

Philip Awadalla  
Department of Genetics,  
North Carolina State University  
Gardner Hall,  
Raleigh, NC 27695

INDIANA UNIVERSITY



Kathleen A. Matthews, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology  
Indiana University  
1001 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bloomington, IN 47405-7005  
USA  
matthewk@indiana.edu  
812-855-5782

DEPARTMENT OF  
BIOLOGY

January 2, 2007

Dear Trudy, Stephen, George, and Richard,

Thank you for sharing your proposal to produce a reference panel of 40 sequenced homozygous lines of *Drosophila melanogaster*. The proposed set of extensively characterized strains would constitute an important new genetic resource for the *Drosophila* research community. If your proposal is successful, the Bloomington *Drosophila* Stock Center would be happy to maintain and distribute these sequenced strains. Your generous offer to provide annual genotype testing of the lines after they have been deposited at Bloomington is appreciated and would be a critical step in assuring the integrity of these accessions at Bloomington. I look forward to working with you on this aspect of the project and wish you good luck with your proposal.

Regards,

**Kathy  
Matthews**

Digitally signed by Kathy Matthews  
DN: cn=Kathy Matthews,  
email=matthewk@indiana.edu,  
o=Indiana University,  
ou=Department of Biology, c=US  
Date: 2007.01.02 17:16:29 -0500

Kathy Matthews  
Senior Scientist

Jordan Hall 142  
1001 East Third Street  
Bloomington, Indiana  
47405-7005

Fax: 812-855-6705



Baylor College of Medicine

**HUMAN GENOME  
SEQUENCING CENTER**

ONE BAYLOR PLAZA  
ALKEK BUILDING, 15<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030  
713-798-6539  
713-798-5741 FAX

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Dear Stephen, Trudy, Richard, and George,

This is to confirm my enthusiastic support for your Proposal to Sequence a Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel. I see a major role for the Genboree system and the Pash program in your project. By providing the computing technologies my laboratory will contribute to the success and utility of the Genetic Reference Panel to the worldwide research community.

During the past several years, the Genboree system has been employed to support a collaborative genome analysis in the context of a number of genome projects, including the projects to sequence the genomes of human, rat, cow, sea urchin, rhesus macaque, and a number of smaller genomes. Genboree allows integration of sequencing data with any other data provided in the form of annotation tracks. The integrated data can be analyzed using a number of built-in tools such as track operators. The set of tools can be extended through a plug-in model in order to allow integration of project-specific analytical and visualization programs.

Building on our experience and established track record, my laboratory will provide support for collaborative community-based analysis of the data generated by your project. The data will be freely downloadable from the Genboree database and will be in the form compatible with Flybase. The Genboree plug-in model will allow integration for any analytical tools that may be specifically useful for the Genetic Reference Panel.

In the context of our NIH-funded project "Genboree system for translational studies of genome variation", my laboratory is developing an extension of the Genboree system to study medically relevant variation in the human genome, assayed by comprehensive PCR-based resequencing of human genes. Genome variations in large numbers of samples are being tracked and analyzed using Genboree plug-in tools. The same system will be applicable with minimal modifications to your Reference Panel with a key difference being that instead of samples being individual human samples, the samples now correspond to specific Drosophila strains.

Finally, I anticipate working closely with you on the problem of anchoring sequence reads to original genomic loci so that sequence variants can be reliably discovered. Our recently developed Pash program is designed from the outset to specifically address the anchoring problem. Pash employs low-level parallelism, thus enabling fast anchoring of tens of millions of reads on computer clusters in reasonable time.

In summary, I see a great potential synergism between computational and software developments in my laboratory and your proposal to sequence a Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel. The computational tools will help engage the community of researchers outside HGSC in the project, will provide a platform for data integration, for testing of new analytical tools through a Genboree plug-in model, for data processing using Pash, and dissemination of raw data and results to the worldwide research community. I am therefore looking forward to working with you on the project.

Yours sincerely,

Aleksandar Milosavljevic, PhD  
Associate Professor of Molecular and Human Genetics  
Alkek Building, Room N1619.04

Subject: 40 genomes data  
From: "Peter Andolfatto" <pandolfa@biomail.ucsd.edu>  
Date: Mon, March 12, 2007 8:26 pm  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu

Hi Trudy,

I'm sorry we didn't get a chance to chat at the fly meeting - I hope we can do so next time. I wanted to write to you supporting your proposed work on the 40 genomes - I think its a great idea and will be an amazingly useful resource.

Mike Eisen and I were discussing high throughout genotyping methods for looking at recombination rates in *D. melanogaster*. We would like to design our SNP assays using your whole genome polymorphism data to maximise the use of the reagents we make as a community resource. Will you allow us to access the data for this purpose?

Thanks,

Peter

---

Peter Andolfatto  
Assistant Professor  
Division of Biological Sciences  
University of California, San Diego  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0116

email: [pandolfatto@ucsd.edu](mailto:pandolfatto@ucsd.edu)  
Phone (858) 334-8039  
Fax (858) 534-7108

<http://www.biology.ucsd.edu/labs/andolfatto/>

Subject: support your reference strain work  
From: "David Arnosti" <arnosti@msu.edu>  
Date: Thu, March 15, 2007 9:55 am  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu

Dear Trudy,

March 15th, 2007

It was good to hear about your work with the *Drosophila* reference stocks at the 48th Annual *Drosophila* Conference. If you were at the Gene Expression session, you might have heard about our work in mathematical modeling of enhancers, using quantitative data obtained from defined cassettes that we test in transgenic embryos. Our objective in this work is to develop tools that will quantitatively predict the activity of enhancers, to better understand how small changes in spacing or addition of a binding site will affect enhancer activity.

Based on previous studies, I think that many of the QTLs that will be mapped in your reference strains will be to regulatory regions, and they would provide an excellent test bed for enhancer modeling studies, because the changes in enhancers will already be tied to observable phenotypes. Long-term, the ability to interpret QTLs (in some cases) as alterations in the transcriptional control machinery will be of great interest to medical studies. I strongly support your proposal to establish these strains as reference stocks, and to have them sequenced.

Yours,

David Arnosti

-----  
David Arnosti  
Associate Professor  
Dept. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1319  
[arnosti@msu.edu](mailto:arnosti@msu.edu)  
[www.bch.msu.edu](http://www.bch.msu.edu)  
tel: 517-432-5504  
fax:517-353-9334

---

Subject: 40 genomes project  
From: "Koen Norga" <koen.norga@uz.kuleuven.ac.be>  
Date: Mon, March 19, 2007 6:01 am  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu  
Cc: Patrick Callaerts" [Patrick.Callaerts@med.kuleuven.be](mailto:Patrick.Callaerts@med.kuleuven.be)

Dear Trudy,

To determine the genome sequence of 40 of the inbred *D. melanogaster* lines that you recently derived from nature is an extremely valuable endeavour. In a joint effort with Patrick Callaerts we will carry out quantitative morphological analyses of the nervous system of these lines, as we have done before for viable mutants with behavioural phenotypes (cfr our submitted manuscripts). In addition, we are designing a number of other morphometric assays to conduct on these lines. These experiments are of high priority in the lab as the detailed comprehensive quantitative analysis of this unique resource of naturally derived lines will constitute a significant leap forward in understanding the molecular and genetic nature of natural variation in *D. melanogaster*. Apart from being of great value for my own research, having the complete genome sequence of these 40 lines available will create unprecedented opportunities for the *Drosophila* research community at large by helping to link the data from molecular and developmental genetics studies with population genetics data. In addition, for the advancement of insight into the molecular and genetic basis of human diseases (also including determinants of disease predisposition, severity and response to therapy), the fruitfly represents an essential complement to the mouse model. These genome sequences will be invaluable for comparative analyses with related mammalian resources.

I look forward to receiving the lines!

Best regards,  
Koen

Prof. Dr. Koen Norga, M.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium  
Adjunct Head of Clinic, Pediatric Oncology, Children's Hospital Leuven  
Associate Group Leader, Laboratory of Developmental Genetics, Flanders  
Interuniversity Institute of Biotechnology (V.I.B.)  
Co-Director, Graduate Program Genetics and Development, Katholieke Universiteit  
Leuven

Herestraat 49 Mailbox 07003  
B-3000 Leuven  
Belgium  
Tel: 016/34.38.41  
Fax: 016/34.38.42



**Brian P. Lazzaro**  
Department of Entomology  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853-2601

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

March 17, 2007

Dear Trudy,

I write this letter in support of your proposal to sequence the genomes of 40 genetic lines of *D. melanogaster*, and to make the lines and the genotype data available to the larger community of *Drosophila* researchers. The *Drosophila* community has for several years now been in sore need of a genome-wide set of polymorphisms that can be applied to population genetic and population genetic experiments. I am particularly excited, however, by the prospect of having a standard set of lines available to multiple labs for comparative quantitative genetic experimentation, and by the proposed database to manage and distribute the results from those experiments.

My own lab would be most interested in examining the genetic basis for resistance to bacterial infection. We have in my lab a catalog of pathogenic and avirulent bacteria, including over 100 isolates obtained from the hemolymph of wild-caught *D. melanogaster*. We would challenge flies representing the 40 lines with a subset of these bacteria and measure differential resistance. Importantly, the bacteria we would employ use different virulence mechanisms to exploit the fly. A comparative experiment would give insight into the genetic independence of resistance to different bacteria, testing the alternative hypotheses of selective independence and pleiotropic constraints. The complete genome sequences would allow unbiased genotype-phenotype association analyses after infection with each of the bacteria, allowing us to test whether genetic variation in physiological processes targeted by bacterial virulence leads to phenotypic variation in resistance. These association analyses could also be used as a discovery tool to generate new mechanistic hypotheses regarding host pathogen interactions.

Experiments in my lab would be coordinated with experiments in the lab of Prof. Jeff Leips, who is interested in immunity to bacteria and parasitoids and in the effects of aging on immunity. Our labs would use standardized experimental protocols to facilitate direct comparison of the phenotypes we measure, testing especially for tradeoffs among resistance to bacteria, resistance to parasitoids, and aging. The communal nature of your proposal means that there would also be many other phenotypes to which we could compare our data in meta-analyses. And our data from this and any other experiments would of course be made available to the broader community such that they could be analyzed by other researchers.

Thank you for volunteering to organize the effort to sequence and distribute these *D. melanogaster* lines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Lazzaro".

**Brian Lazzaro**  
Assistant Professor, Insect Genomics  
Cornell University



**Department of Biological Sciences**  
University of Cincinnati  
PO Box 210006  
Cincinnati OH 45221-0006

614 Rieveschl Hall  
Phone (513) 556-9700  
Fax (513) 556-5299

March 19, 2007

Dr. Trudy F. C. Mackay  
Department of Genetics  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7614

Dear Trudy,

I am delighted to learn about the sequencing of a genetic reference panel of forty wild-type *Drosophila melanogaster* lines from a natural population. I am very interested in participating in the project which will provide an invaluable resource for the examination of genotypic and phenotypic variation. As you are aware, my lab investigates the genetic architecture of olfactory and gustatory mediated behaviors. We would be glad to participate in the project by measuring the forty lines for gustatory perception of sugars and aversive behavior to noxious food stimuli. Your exciting proposal has my full support and I would be happy to help in any way.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie'.

Dr. Stephanie M. Rollmann  
Department of Biological Sciences  
University of Cincinnati  
P. O. Box 210006  
614 Rieveschl Hall  
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0006  
Phone: 513-556-9729  
Fax: 513-556 5299



Subject: support for Drosophila sequencing project  
From: "Rudi D'Hooge" <Rudi.DHooge@psy.kuleuven.be>  
Date: Fri, March 23, 2007 8:18 am  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu  
Cc: koen.norga@uz.kuleuven.be

Dear Dr Mackay,

Your intention to start a unique sequencing project of inbred Drosophila lines that have been phenotypically characterized has been explained to me by pediatrician and geneticist Dr Koen Norga. As you know we are mouse behaviourists & electrophysiologist interested in the psychobiological mechanisms of memory & the pathophysiology of memory disorders. The use of lines of lab mice, genetically altered or otherwise, have been instrumental in this field - but of course the use of mice as experimental animals does has some obvious technical and ethical drawbacks. We and many others in the competitive fields of behavioural neuroscience and phenomics have recognized for many years that invertebrate organisms like Drosophila are more easily accessible for neurogenetic & neurobiological research, and could represent a fast track to identify genes that are also important in the behaviour and brain diseases of mammals including humans. It could be complementary to as well as facilitate research in mammals.

We therefore would like to support this initiative, and sincerely hope that research on behavioural genetics using Drosophila lines will further increase. Apart from the tremendous scientific value of this research for our understanding of the complicated relationship between genes and behaviour, we like to think that this kind of research could be the only hope for millions of patients suffering brain disease and their families.

I would like to offer my full and emphatic support to this initiative any way possible.

Good luck,  
Rudi D'Hooge

Rudi D'Hooge, DSc, PhD  
Professor of Biological Psychology  
Laboratory of Biological Psychology  
Psychological Institute  
Tiensestraat 102, B-3000 Leuven  
Belgium

<<http://ppw.kuleuven.be/ppw/english/index.htm>>

<http://ppw.kuleuven.be/ppw/english/index.htm>

tel. secr. +32 (0)16 326001

tel. +32 (0)16 326142

mobile phone +32 (0)474 798 422

fax +32 (0)16 326099

March 28, 2007

Dear Trudy,

I want to offer my enthusiastic support for your effort to have the genomes of the forty *Drosophila* lines that have been derived in your lab. I see these sequences as being an amazing resource for the *Drosophila* research community. I am absolutely certain that my lab would make heavy use of these sequences in our efforts to define the effects of genetic variation on the dopamine homeostasis network. Moreover, it is very likely that our work will soon expand into networks controlling other neurotransmitters (for example, we have recently initiated work on nitric oxide signaling), and I fully expect that we would use these lines and their sequences as we move into these new projects.

Best wishes

Janis O'Donnell  
Professor, Biological Sciences  
University of Alabama

---

Subject: 40 fly line sequence project  
From: "Gunter, Chris" <c.gunter@naturedc.com>  
Date: Wed, March 28, 2007 8:11 pm  
To: trudy\_mackay@ncsu.edu

Dear Trudy,

It was lovely to see you here in Philadelphia for the *Drosophila* meeting. I thought the project you described sequencing 40 well-phenotyped *Drosophila melanogaster* lines sounded very interesting, and I hope you are able to round up support from the community and from funding agencies to pursue it. Speaking for Nature, we would be quite interested in seeing the outcome of the project, and considering it for publication.

Best wishes,  
Chris

Chris Gunter, PhD  
Senior Editor  
Nature  
75 Varick St, 9th floor  
New York, NY 10013  
212-726-9200



Dear Trudy Mackay,

March 29, 2007

Your proposal to sequence 40 inbred lines of *Drosophila melanogaster* is an exciting opportunity, which will generate much-needed polymorphism information for the *Drosophila* community. I would be very interested in analyzing the data for signatures of disequilibrium and other signs of selective interference among loci (Hill-Robertson effects). The data are ideal for this purposes, as all SNPs in these lines will be uncovered, eliminating the selection bias caused by only genotyping common SNPs.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sarah P. Otto

Professor

Phone: (604) 822-2778

FAX: (604) 822-2416

e-mail: [otto@zoology.ubc.ca](mailto:otto@zoology.ubc.ca)



**Prof. Dr. Christine Van Broeckhoven**  
Department of Molecular Genetics  
University of Antwerp  
Universiteitsplein 1  
BE-2610 Antwerpen  
Belgium



Date: March 29, 2007

Prof. Dr. Trudy MacKay  
Department of Genetics  
North Carolina State University  
Campus Box 7614  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
USA.

Dear Prof. MacKay, Dear Trudy,

As you know, my research is on human molecular genetics of neurological and psychiatric disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease, peripheral neuropathies, epilepsy and bipolar disorders.

I am extremely excited to hear about your plans to spearhead a community effort to sequence the genomes of 40 drosophila lines that you derived from the natural population. In conjunction with the comprehensive quantitative phenotyping that is being performed on these lines this sequencing effort will yield a treasure trove of candidate genes for human brain disorders as well as highly detailed insight on the molecular basis of natural variation that will greatly aid progress of human genetics.

I am very interested in a collaborative comparative genomics project to compare mapping and linkage data of brain and behavioral phenotypes in these flies with our large collection of pedigrees of affected families. I would like to express my strong and most enthusiastic support to this sequencing project. It will yield great return on investment towards the cure for human brain diseases!

Friendly greetings,

Prof. Dr. Christine Van Broeckhoven  
Scientific Director

Subject: Re: white paper  
From: "Louisa Wu" [wul@umbi.umd.edu](mailto:wul@umbi.umd.edu)  
Date: Thu, April 12, 2007 11:55 am  
To: [trudy\\_mackay@ncsu.edu](mailto:trudy_mackay@ncsu.edu)  
Cc: "Jeff Leips" [leips@umbc.edu](mailto:leips@umbc.edu)

Hi Trudy,

Jeff Leips told me about the white paper at the Fly meeting last month. I wanted to write and let you know that I support the goals of the white paper and believe that the sequence of the 40 genomes could be very valuable to both the Drosophila and larger scientific community. On our end, we would be interested in screening the collection of wild lines for differences in susceptibility or resistance to virus infection (Drosophila X virus and Drosophila C virus) and for differences in ability to phagocytose bacteria. I believe this wouldn't duplicate the efforts of other labs (Leips, Lazzaro, Schenke), but if it does I'm open to the possibility of collaborating.

Best wishes,  
Louisa

Louisa Wu  
Associate Professor  
Center for Biosystems Research  
Univ. of Maryland Biotechnology Institute  
5115 Plant Sciences Bldg.  
College Park, MD 20742  
301-405-5151

## Appendix 5

### Pilot Project: Results from sequencing four inbred *Drosophila melanogaster* strains.

#### Summary

As a pilot project for the *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel (DGRP), we have sequenced three DGRP lines, and additionally the BDGP original reference strain. One line (DGRP 360) was sequenced at multiple depths on two platforms (454 and Illumina) to assess sequencing strategies for the rest of the project. The main conclusions are:

1. High genome sequencing coverage (12X) is required to get high quality sequence for the majority of bases in the genome. After 12X coverage, additional sequencing brings diminished returns.
2. Short read sequences (36bp) map poorly to the *D. melanogaster* reference sequence, resulting in the analysis of a lesser percentage of the genome. Less mapped coverage per unit input sequence coverage also reduces the consensus quality of regions of the genome that are sequenced. Additionally, the short reads have a relatively high substitution error rate.
3. 11% of SNPs were missed with short reads. Of these, 98% were due to the clustering of polymorphisms preventing alignment. To avoid false alignment, we do not allow alignments with greater than 10% mis-alignment for a 36bp read. Mild clusters of SNPs and other polymorphisms within a 36bp region prevent alignment and analysis. The relatively high polymorphism rate in *Drosophila* exacerbates the problems aligning short reads. Clusters of polymorphisms may have a greater effect on gene function or expression than isolated SNPs. Paired end sequencing and longer read lengths will resolve this problem in the future.
4. Homopolymer errors in long pyrosequencing reads require correction, which is best done on a genome scale with the short read technologies. Such verification is especially important for bases that have remained polymorphic within the inbred strain, to avoid the possibility of sequence error.
5. For larger polymorphisms – insertions, deletions, inversions, long substitutions – *de novo* assembly of long read sequence data is mandatory. For insertions longer than 50-100bp (not represented in the reference sequence) alignment of assembled sequence is the ideal method, and allows accurate delineation of junction sites.
6. A combination of 12X XLR 454 long read coverage and 12X Illumina short read coverage is required. Additionally, a combination of analysis methods – read alignment to both a reference, and a *de novo* assembly, followed by alignment of assembled contigs to the reference – is required for full polymorphism analysis. The short reads need to be aligned to the *de novo* assembly for full utility.

#### Introduction

We previously submitted a white paper entitled “Proposal to Sequence a *Drosophila* Genetic Reference Panel: A Community Resource for the Study of Genotypic and Phenotypic Variation.” where we proposed to sequence 192 *D. melanogaster* strains with extensive quantitative phenotypic data as a community resource for association studies and quantitative trait mapping. This white paper was received enthusiastically, but

questions of methodology were brought up, and it was recommended that a pilot project determine the ideal sequence coverage and technology platform for the project. We sequenced a single strain to high coverage using multiple methodologies and used this comparison to determine the ideal sequencing strategy, and then followed this with sequencing additional strains. The BDGP reference strain ( $y^1; cn^1 bw^1 sp^1$ ) was included at the request of the NHGRI coordinating committee. This is a particularly interesting choice: The strain was originally isogenized for P1 library construction by the BDGP but had been reared for some time prior to DNA isolation for the BAC and WGS libraries used to generate the majority of *D. melanogaster* reference sequence. Despite the ten years since its creation, the strain is an excellent test for false positives in sequencing technologies, and the data is useful for many researchers using the strain for the Drosophila ENCODE project. However, it is not as relevant for the core task of any re-sequencing project – identifying differences from the reference. For this task the proposed DGRP inbred lines are more informative.

Here we present the results of this demonstration project, and based upon these results we have re-submitted a revised white paper with an updated sequencing plan.

## Results

**Table 1: Sequence performed and polymorphic bases identified by Mosaik alignment to the 5.1 *D. melanogaster* reference sequence. (\* - see discussion on insertions and deletions below)**

Line	Sequence	Polymorphic bases*			SNP rate	Total
		Substitutions	Insertions*	Deletions*		
DGRP 360	12X 454	549,388	91,497	23,075	1 in 217	663,960
DGRP 360	12X Illumina 12X XLR	436,894	12,236	8,575	1 in 272	457,705
DGRP 375	454	509,682	96,282	22,442	1 in 234	628,406
DGRP 825	12X 454	579,604	93,022	24,324	1 in 205	696,950
BDGP reference strain	12X 454	730	260	279	1 in 163,054	1,269

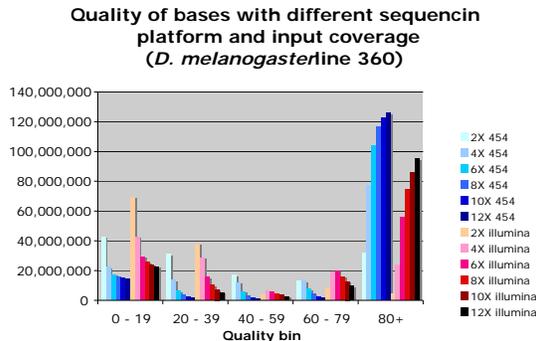
***Input sequence coverage and aligned sequence coverage.*** The sequence generated from both platforms was partitioned into bins representing 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 fold genome coverage, aligned to the genome using Mosaik (at the time of analysis this was the only software platform that could align Illumina, 454 and Sanger reads taking account of indels – thus allowing a single software platform to be used with all three data types). Multiple alignment parameters were tried to obtain optimal alignments, however we believe there is room for improvement in this area, and we continue to test new alignment software as it becomes available.

First we plotted the observed base coverage in alignments in comparison with the input sequence. As can be seen in Fig. 3, the modal read coverage tracks well with the input coverage for the longer reads, but significantly less sequence is aligned for the short reads (in line with theoretical considerations). To assess whether this is a software issue we repeated the 12X Illumina data alignment with Eland, alignment software provided by

Illumina. Although slightly more reads were aligned, there was also a higher false positive alignment rate, and the software does not currently allow indel alignment. In conclusion, 36bp reads are difficult to align to complex eukaryotic genomes. The Illumina paired end kit is currently being deployed (April 2008), and we hope that alignment of paired end reads will reduce this problem.

**Longer read lengths align to, and assay a larger portion of the *Drosophila* genome.**

More important than coverage is the proportion of the genome that can be sequenced with



**Fig. 3.** Total *D. mel* reference bases covered at different aligned consensus qualities. Qualities manufacturers values summed in the alignment with a maximum value of 90.

a given read length. Whilst portions of *D. melanogaster* centromeres, telomeres and other heterochromatic regions are highly repetitive and resistant to current assembly techniques even with 800bp Sanger sequence reads, approximately 30Mb of the *D. melanogaster* reference genome is available in heterochromatin sequence files which added to ~ 110Mb of euchromatin gives a reference sequence length of ~ 140Mb for an estimated total genome size of ~180Mb. We asked what proportion of the genome could be accessed by the different sequencing platforms. As can be seen in Fig. 3, the longer read lengths allow

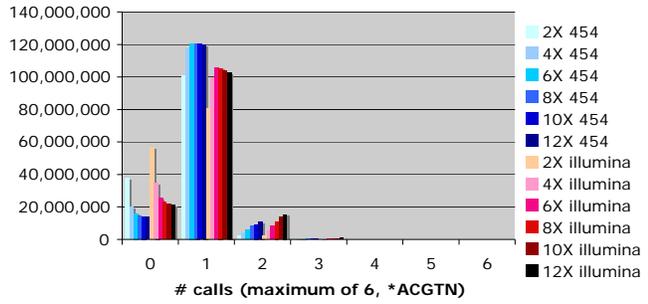
approximately 20Mb of additional *D. melanogaster* sequence to be assayed – or ~11% of the 180Mb genome. The higher quality of the sequenced bases is a function of the increased read coverage – i.e. because of the easier mapping of the longer reads – more reads cover each base, and thus the consensus call quality is higher.

**Increased coverage does not lead to increased error rate.** Is it possible that the increase number of sequence reads aligning to the reference sequence increases the number of possibilities that errors may accumulate? Whilst this is clearly true for any individual platform we wondered if the relative increase in aligned sequence coverage between the two platforms would translate into a relative increase in reference bases where more than a single base was called. The number of different bases (a maximum of 6 – ACGTN and \*(insertions)) called at every position was tabulated and is presented in Fig 4. As can be seen the number of reference bases with a single base call in the aligned reads is higher for the long read platform, and zero or two or more calls less for the long read platform. We believe this is because of the high error rate at the end of the short reads (the reads are short because the signal noise ratio is poor at the end of the read preventing further cycles of base addition increasing the read length), whereas for the 454 pyrosequencing the main cause of error is homopolymer length determination.

**Comparison to a 1Mb Sanger “gold standard” sequence set.** Sanger sequence is the gold standard of sequencing as long high quality reads with well defined quality scores allow accurate estimation of final assembled consensus sequence quality. 1Mb of “gold standard” sequence was produced with the following characteristics. (1) Read alignments were filtered for unique read alignments only – this sequence set should be eminently sequencible using short read technologies. (2) A minimum Phred quality score of 40 (note: we used the *Phred* base caller due to its higher accuracy compared to the *AB KB basecaller* software). Because this data is comprised of single reads aligned to the

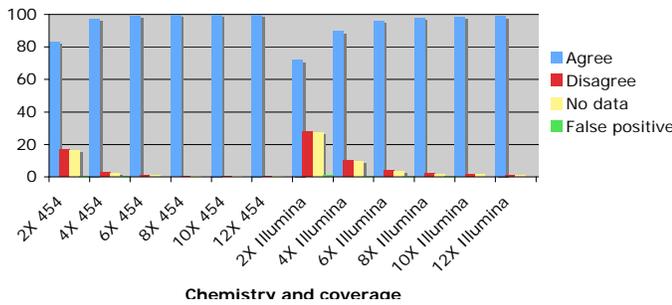
reference, a small number of errors were expected and found. These were removed from the analysis where both 454 and Illumina sequencing disagreed with the Sanger sequence. The error rate of the filtered single read coverage Sanger data set was approximately 1 in 18,500 in line with the minimum Phred score of 40 (1 in 10,000).

**Number of base calls for *D. mel* 360 using different platforms and input**

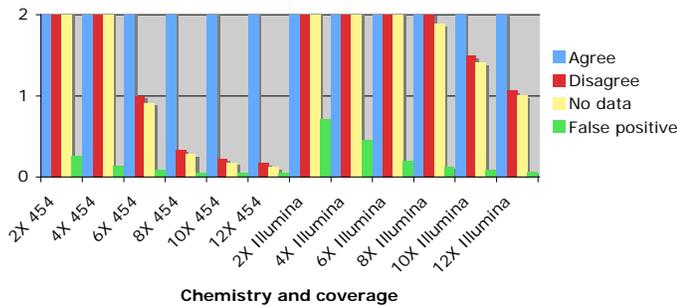


**Fig. 4.** Number of base calls for each *D. melanogaster* reference base. Red: Illumina, Blue: 454.

**Potential False Positives vs Gold Standard Sanger Sequence**



**Potential False Positives vs Gold Standard Sanger Sequence (Zoom for False Positives)**



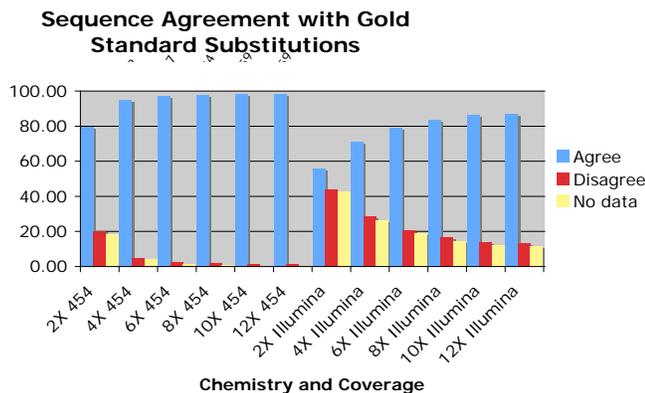
**Fig. 5.** Comparison of DGRP line 360 sequence to Sanger sequence in agreement with the *D. melanogaster* 5.1 reference sequence. Disagreements are potential false positives. **Top:** Entire Y scale showing up to 99.83% (12X 454) and 98.94% (12X Illumina) agreement with the reference sequence. **Bottom:** Zoom in on disagreements below 2%. Numbers are for the potential false positive rate, although most of these would fail low quality filters for identification of a polymorphism.

reads aligned to the reference, a small number of errors were expected and found. These were removed from the analysis where both 454 and Illumina sequencing disagreed with the Sanger sequence. The error rate of the filtered single read coverage Sanger data set was approximately 1 in 18,500 in line with the minimum Phred score of 40 (1 in 10,000).

Fig. 5. Shows the agreement of different coverage levels of the two platforms with the 1Mb of Sanger sequence that agreed with the *D. mel* 5.1 reference. Although both platforms show good agreement, the additional aligned coverage of the long read dataset leads to almost 1% of additional agreement, and at higher consensus qualities. In the bottom part of Fig. 5,

failures to agree with the gold standard which would manifest as false positives are presented. The major source of disagreement in this case is no data, which would not be seen as false positives. Of the remaining differences, approximately half are due to homopolymers in the case of 454, and substitutions in low coverage regions in the case of Illumina. Another cause of error was poor alignments to the reference in the presence of an insertion. In the absence of the correct data the alignment program often makes mistakes around insertion breakpoints. In almost all cases, the difference to the reference sequence would not pass quality filters to be identified as a polymorphism. In addition, putative polymorphisms filtered out of 454 alignments due to proximity to a homopolymer greater than 5bp in length can be corrected by the complementary short read data.

**Polymorphisms: Substitutions.** The Sanger gold standard sequence set had 5,364 substitutions – 0.52% or ~ 1 in 200bp of the gold standard sequence, in line with previously published estimates. The longer reads enable a maximum of 98.6% of these to be identified, compared with 86.9% with the short reads. The discrepancy between the



**Fig. 6.** The Gold Standard sequence contains 5,364 substitutions. Blue bars: percentage of substitutions found by different sequence coverage and platforms included both high and low quality agreements. Red bars: Disagreements with Gold Standard reference substitutions. Yellow: Disagreement due to no sequence coverage of the substitution. \* Note that the vast majority of false negatives are due to no sequence coverage. Also the numbers in this graph have improved since an earlier version in Nov 2007 due to the removal of badly aligned Sanger reads in the gold standard set.

low false positive rate of the short reads, and the high false negative rate here is due to alignment problems in the presence of differences to the reference sequence. Specifically, the low number of differences from the reference that can be tolerated by the alignment program is a maximum of 3 substitutions, or a 3 bp indel. Manual inspection of 100 cases of failure to detect a SNP (Table 2) in the Sanger gold standard set due to lack of sequence coverage revealed that in 98 cases other polymorphisms nearby within a window of 36bp surrounding the gold standard SNP pushed the alignment outside the

Mosaik alignment parameters. An example is shown in Fig. 7 at the end of this document. Because the SNP rate in *Drosophila* is ~ 1 in 200, with additional insertions and deletions, it is possible for multiple polymorphisms to cluster within a 36bp region. Additionally, an error rate of 2% over the 36bp of the Illumina read (equivalent to ~1% in the statistics reported by Illumina software comparing the first 25bp to a reference sequence, due to the clustering of substitution errors at the end of the read) suggests that 16% of reads will have a single error. In regions of already low coverage only 3

substitutions, and some random bad luck (to be expected with ~ 60 million attempted sequence alignments to the genome sequence) may be enough to preclude sequence alignment. Finally, one should note that these alignment issues affect clustered SNPs, and so the numbers of SNPs affected look worse than the numbers of read alignments affected. We fully expect that the latest update in the Illumina chemistry with the improved quality and paired end reads, as well as the possibility of 50bp reads, will greatly reduce these problems when compared to the data generated in the fall of 2007. However, the higher polymorphism rate of *Drosophila* compared with human sequences suggests that longer reads are even more important for the proposed project, and the clusters of polymorphisms may have a greater effect on gene function or expression than isolated SNPs.

**Table 2. Categories and sub categories of clustered polymorphisms causing alignment issues for short read SNP false negatives.**

No-aligned sequence, false negative category	Number
Total manually inspected	100
polymorphism in 36bp window (3 or more bp affected)	98
2 snps in window (+ bad luck?)	2
clustered subs (including single bp indels)	46
larger indels (>1bp)	25
indels + subs	27

**Insertions and Deletions.** On both short and long (250bp) read platforms, the ability to identify insertions and deletions is hampered by read alignment strategies. Our read alignment strategy (Mosaik) was used with fairly stringent parameters (95% identity) to prevent false positive alignments. For example, if >5% of a 250bp sequence read was not aligned, the alignment was considered potentially bad. As a result, indels greater than 10bp were not detected. Table 3 shows the maximum sizes of insertions and deletions identified with the Mosaik read alignment pipeline. We also have experience aligning 250bp pyrosequencing reads with Atlas SNP – a pipeline based upon BLAT mapping followed by Smith-Waterman alignment using CROSSMATCH. AtlasSNP identified deletions up to 40kb and insertions up to 10% of the read length when analyzing the genome of James Watson.

**De novo assembly is required for accurate characterization of insertions and deletions.** In both cases it is clear that for the accurate identification and characterization of inserted sequences, *de novo* assembly is an absolute requirement. To this end, we have taken advantage of longer pyrosequencing reads, improvements in the Newbler assembler (454 Inc.) which can now handle insect sized genomes, and optionally the newly available protocols for 454 paired end sequencing with ~20kb insert sizes. DGRP line 375 was sequenced using the new XLR platform, and assembled in collaboration with 454. Note that the Newbler assembler is already used for the automatic assembly of bacteria genomes for the human microbiome project, and as such is already automated for the 200 assemblies required for the proposed project. Table 4 Shows the assembly

statistics for the 12X 500bp read sequencing of DGRP line 375. Whilst analysis of the assembly is progressing and the other strains are in line for assembly, it is clear that this approach yields a full analysis of insertions and deletions. Figure 8 at the end of this document shows some examples of large insertions and deletions that can be easily identified. There are many of these in the *Drosophila* genome. We are currently using a modification of the Atlas SNP procedure of BLAT followed by CROSSMATCH and custom parsing to fully analyze this data. The examples shown however are straight-forward identifications of pure insertions and deletions. The *de novo* assembly also allows characterization and sequencing of far more complex combinations of insertions, deletions and large-scale substitutions, which are impossible to analyze with read alignment methods.

**Table 3: Detection of insertions and deletions by the Mosaik reference pipeline with different read lengths.**

Indel Size	454 12X DGRP line 360		Illumina 12X DGRP line 360		1Mb Sanger - Line 360		12X 454 BDGP reference strain	
	insertions	deletions	insertions	deletions	insertions	deletions	insertions	deletions
1	54793	12676	10497	8044	1615	714	551	540
2	26276	5330	2108	371	642	174	49	30
3	18651	1292	483	59	387	88	26	10
4	14543	1		25	289	49	14	
5	11238				215	24	7	
6	9372				163	35	6	
7	7158				129	11	6	
8	5822				102	21	7	
9	4590				87	15	9	
10						11		
11						14		
12						14		
13						8		
14						8		
15						5		
16						5		
17						7		
18						5		
19						2		
20						3		
21						4		
22						2		
23						2		
25						3		
27						2		
28						2		
32						1		
33						2		
34						1		
42						1		
50						1		
57						1		
60						1		
85						1		

Read Length	250 bp reads	36 bp reads	750 bp reads	250 bp reads
-------------	--------------	-------------	--------------	--------------

## Conclusions and Revised Sequencing Plan for the Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel.

This pilot project, performed at the request of the NHGRI sequencing committee, has demonstrated that the originally proposed sequencing plan of 5-6X short read genome coverage is not adequate for the proposed task. Surprisingly, the 36bp reads fail to identify a large number of SNPs where they are clustered, and also fail to analyze larger insertions and deletions, due solely to alignment problems to unknown sequences. Where the sequence data is very similar to the reference, as in the case of the BDGP reference strain, the data look quite good, but the true test is the identification of polymorphism. It is hoped that the advent of longer Illumina reads and paired end sequencing which have become available since this pilot project was completed will greatly resolve these problems. We hope to test these new methodologies as soon as possible.

Statistics for the de-novo assembly of DGRP line 375	
Contig #	12,314
total contig size	116.4Mb
contig N50	26.7kb
largest contig	267
Scaffold #	2,308
total scaffold size	127.7 Mb
Scaffold N50	3.3 Mb
largest scaffold	17.3Mb

**Table 4. Newbler assembly of DGRP line 375 using 500bp reads and paired end data with insert sizes of 3kb and 20kb.**

Long pyrosequence reads also have homopolymer issues which have to be corrected by the different error profile of the short read technology; however, they cannot be aligned to the reference sequence for a comprehensive analysis. Instead *de novo* assembly is absolutely required, and short read correction of possible homopolymer errors must be done by alignment to the *de novo* assembled sequence to allow the comprehensive alignment as seen against the BDGP reference strain. Finally, all assembled sequence projects must be compared to the reference to identify polymorphisms. 12X (2.1Gb) sequence coverage is required to allow analysis of the vast majority of the genome at high consensus quality. A single paired end run is also required, although we do not at this time believe that the larger insert sized paired end libraries will be required, as the shorter scaffolds will be long enough to identify the majority of larger insertions and deletions in the genome.

Because the 454 HD-XLR platform currently delivers ~ 500Mb of sequence in 500bp read lengths we expect this project will use per strain, 4 runs of the HD-XLR platform, 1 run of the Illumina platform, and 1 5kb insert paired end library. The costs of all these runs are approximately \$5,000 each, and so a total cost of \$30,000 per DGRP line is calculated at the current time. Whilst we do not expect the cost per run to decrease, it is likely that the yield per run will increase over the time of the project. We thank the NHGRI and the sequencing committee for the funding of this pilot project.

**Fig. 7. An example of clustered polymorphisms preventing alignment of 36bp reads to a known SNP**  
**Note: only the 2 center SNPs were not identified.**

**Illumina 36bp read 12X alignment – 40 bp of alignment at position 14,995,143 on chromosome 2L.**  
**Yellow highlight = no aligned sequence due to polymorphisms in DGRP line 360.**

Alignment Position	----*----		----A----		----C----		----G----		----T----		----N----		consensus cal	consensus qual	ref base	ref position
15040586	0	0	2	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	47	G	14995143.0
15040587	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	47	0	0	0	0	G	47	G	14995144.0
15040588	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	47	0	0	T	47	T	14995145.0
15040589	0	0	2	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	47	A	14995146.0
15040590	0	0	1	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	24	A	14995147.0
15040591	0	0	0	0	1	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	19	C	14995148.0
15040592	0	0	1	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	24	A	14995149.0
15040593	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24	0	0	T	24	T	14995150.0
15040594	0	0	1	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	14	A	14995151.0
15040595	0	0	1	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	19	A	14995152.0
15040596	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24	0	0	T	24	T	14995153.0
15040597	0	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	9	A	14995154.0
15040598	0	0	1	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	14	A	14995155.0
15040599	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	17	0	0	T	17	T	14995156.0
15040600	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	6	C	14995157.0
15040601	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	6	C	14995158.0
15040602	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	0	T	13	T	14995159.0
15040603	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995160.0
15040604	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	A	14995161.0
15040605	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995162.0
15040606	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	A	14995163.0
15040607	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995164.0
15040608	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995165.0
15040609	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	G	14995166.0
15040610	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	A	14995167.0
15040611	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	C	14995168.0
15040612	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	G	14995169.0
15040613	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995170.0
15040614	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	A	14995171.0
15040615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	T	14995172.0
15040616	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	G	14995173.0
15040617	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	A	14995174.0
15040618	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	T	23	A	14995175.0
15040619	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	23	C	14995176.0
15040620	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	23	A	14995177.0
15040621	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	T	23	T	14995178.0
15040622	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	T	23	T	14995179.0
15040623	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	G	23	G	14995180.0
15040624	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	23	C	14995181.0
15040625	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	23	A	14995182.0
15040626	0	0	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	23	A	14995183.0

**Filtered alignment of 1Mb Sanger reads to same region.  
 Green highlight = substitutions making alignment of 36bp read unlikely in this region.**

Alignment Position	-----*----- #calls qual	----A----- #calls qual	----C----- #calls qual	----G----- #calls qual	----T----- #calls qual	----N----- #calls qual	consensus cal	consensus qual	consensus base	ref position
14995896	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	G	14995143.0
14995897	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	G	61	G	14995144.0
14995898	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	T	57	T	14995145.0
14995899	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995146.0
14995900	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995147.0
14995901	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	61	C	14995148.0
14995902	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995149.0
14995903	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995150.0
14995904	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995151.0
14995905	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995152.0
14995906	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	T	61	T	14995153.0
14995907	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995154.0
14995908	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995155.0
14995909	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995156.0
14995910	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	61	C	14995157.0
14995911	0 0	0 0	0 1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	61	C	14995158.0
14995912	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	T	61	T	14995159.0
14995913	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	T	14995160.0
14995914	0 0	1 57	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	57	A	14995161.0
14995915	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995162.0
14995916	0 0	1 55	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	55	A	14995163.0
14995917	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995164.0
14995918	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995165.0
14995919	0 0	1 52	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	52	G	14995166.0
14995920	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995167.0
14995921	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	61	C	14995168.0
14995922	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 44	0 0	0 0	G	44	G	14995169.0
14995923	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995170.0
14995924	0 0	1 51	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	51	A	14995171.0
14995925	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 51	0 0	T	51	T	14995172.0
14995926	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	G	61	G	14995173.0
14995927	0 0	1 33	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	33	A	14995174.0
14995928	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	A	14995175.0
14995929	0 0	0 0	1 52	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	52	C	14995176.0
14995930	0 0	1 55	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	55	A	14995177.0
14995931	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 55	0 0	T	55	T	14995178.0
14995932	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	T	61	T	14995179.0
14995933	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 51	0 0	0 0	G	51	G	14995180.0
14995934	0 0	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	C	61	C	14995181.0
14995935	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995182.0
14995936	0 0	1 61	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	A	61	A	14995183.0

**Fig. 8. Example insertions and deletions comparing the de-novo assembled DGRP line 375 to the *D. melanogaster* 5.1 reference sequence.**

**Example 1: 1,414 bp chromosome X deletion in line 375 relative to D.mel 5.1 ref**

```

Query: 4681      accagaatttgtaaattaattaaagcgcttggtgttcctttcctttttttgggtgga 4740
                |||
Sbjct: 10444706 accagaatttgtaaattaattaaagcgcttggtgttcctttcctttttttgggtgga 10444765

Query: 4741      aaatgtccgaaaattgtttcgaggctcccggaggccattgatggggtcaagtattggca 4800
                |||
Sbjct: 10444766 aaatgtccgaaaattgtttcgaggctcccggaggccattgatggggtcaagtattggca 10444825

Query: 4801      gggtcgagatcccaaacgccaaccaaaggaactggccatttttaaaatttttacgact 4860
                |||
Sbjct: 10444826 gggtcgagatcccaaacgccaaccaaaggaactggccatttttaaaatttttacgact 10444885

Query: 4861      ttcgaagcgaagcaagtgcggaagaaagtgaaaaatgtgccaatgggaatg 4910
                |||
Sbjct: 10444886 ttcgaagcgaagcaagtgcggaagaaagtgaaaaatgtgccaatgggaatggtgggacca 10444945

```

**Sequence deleted in Strain 375, but present in D.mel 5.1 reference sequence**

```

Sbjct: 10444946 gagaactgcaaggggtggcactttttaccactcgactcacaccctacaattttgggtgcg 10445005
Sbjct: 10445006 ggtgctactcgccacgcacatcgcggtacttacaacacacagataaaatcgaacatg 10445065
Sbjct: 10445066 cagacaagacaccccgttgtgtgcgaccceaatcaatacgggtgttttgcgtcggggtg 10445125
Sbjct: 10445126 ccgctcacacagtgcttaaaaagggatgagtgagaaaaaaccttgggggtataccgttaa 10445185
Sbjct: 10445186 acacatgggtgtttccaaaaatactcgggtgtttccaaaaatactcgagtggtctcgtag 10445245
Sbjct: 10445246 gtagtcgagtcaaatggcgccatacataatgattgttgagttcttgtgtctttgggtccag 10445305
Sbjct: 10445306 tgtctcggctgttaattgccccctttttgtttttacgatgcaattactagcttggtagg 10445365
Sbjct: 10445366 attcagatattttggaagcacaaggaaggtcacaataatggcagaagcggctgattt 10445425
Sbjct: 10445426 cgttaaaaataaaatgaacatggaacatactcagttgccaataaaacataaaggaaaaag 10445485
Sbjct: 10445486 tgttatttggagcattttatgtgacattttaaggaagatgaaactgttctggacggatg 10445545
Sbjct: 10445546 gctgttctgcaggcaatgcccagaaagtgtcacaatttttacacaaaaaacctccaattt 10445605
Sbjct: 10445606 atcccgcataaaatgtgtctaacattaagacgccaacggaaatataaaatgttttcgga 10445665
Sbjct: 10445666 aaacgacaagaaagtagctattgaaaaatgcacccaatgggttgtccaagattgtcggcc 10445725
Sbjct: 10445726 gttttctgcagtaaccggagccgatttaaaaatttgggtgaagtttttctcaaaatcgg 10445785
Sbjct: 10445786 cgctatctatggggaacaggtagacgtcgatgacttactacctgatccaacaacattaag 10445845
Sbjct: 10445846 tccttatatttaataagatacttttaagcccactatgtttttattatttagattgagaca 10445905
Sbjct: 10445906 ttaaaaaacgtaaaaaatcaacaatgcccgtctttaaattgcaattactttatgtgttgaa 10445965
Sbjct: 10445966 atgggagaccaccattgagtcacaaagagcaaaagacatgagcacaaaaattttcttgg 10446025
Sbjct: 10446026 gtattcccttttaccttcatttctataaccgctcagcttccaccatacaaaattttag 10446085
Sbjct: 10446086 gcgtacaaaaatgaccagagaactgcagcccgcatcaaaaaatgacctgcggccgatc 10446145
Sbjct: 10446146 gttgactgtgctccactcaccatacggctcttgcgcagcaggcctcgggtgggttttt 10446205
Sbjct: 10446206 tactcgtacaaaaacacaacgctcggtaaaaactcgagatatttgtgttgcgcaagta 10446265
Sbjct: 10446266 ggggtgcaaaaaaacgggtgcttagagtagcagtggttatcgggtggacgtagagtg 10446325
Sbjct: 10446326 cgagtggcgggtgcagttctctg 10446349

```

Score = 686 bits (1770), Expect = e-198 Identities = 351/351 (100%) Strand = Plus / Plus

```

Query: 4911      gttgggaccactggtgtcctgtaattaaataatgcccttgctgctgccacgcccccaatg 4970
                |||
Sbjct: 10446350 gttgggaccactggtgtcctgtaattaaataatgcccttgctgctgccacgcccccaatg 10446409

Query: 4971      ccatctgaccccgacgaccgccactttacggcatgaaaaacacaaacagaaagtatctt 5030
                |||
Sbjct: 10446410 ccatctgaccccgacgaccgccactttacggcatgaaaaacacaaacagaaagtatctt 10446469

Query: 5031      aacggcatttgaagttgaaggagccgaggtcttgcggtggacagaagttatatccgtgtt 5090
                |||
Sbjct: 10446470 aacggcatttgaagttgaaggagccgaggtcttgcggtggacagaagttatatccgtgtt 10446529

```

**Example 2. 126 bp insertion into DGRP line 375 chromosome 2R Vs 5.1 reference**

Query: 4832    tacagatagatggtttaaactgtcccaccccgtaaaagtactgtcaaaagttcaagttca 4891  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 860872    tacagatagatggtttaaactgtcccaccccgtaaaagtactgtcaaaagttcaagttca 860931

Query: 4892    cccattcaacagtctcagaacaatgagatgcctcaaaaaggagaaccaggagagatt 4951  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 860932    cccattcaacagtctcagaacaatgagatgcctcaaaaaggagaaccaggagagatt 860991

Query: 4952    tcaaggaacttttagatagggcagcttatgagtacagctatagttcctattcagctacga 5011  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 860992    tcaaggaacttttagatagggcagcttatgagtacagctatagttcctattcagctacga 861051

Query: 5012    aaaagtataagtagtagaagtattcttcggcagaaaagtgaagacaaacccggactaata 5071  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861052    aaaagtataagtagtagaagtattcttcggcagaaaagtgaagacaaacccggactaata 861111

Query: 5072    cgaagcagccagccaagataaacattgaaagcatttaaaacaaacattttattccccaata 5131  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861112    cgaagcagccagccaagataaacattgaaagcatttaaaacaaacattttcttcc----- 861165

**Query: 5132    tctacccatatcccagaaaaattatgaaatttcgcggttcgcactcacactagctgagtaa**

**Query: 5192    cgqgtatctgatagtcgqgaaactcgactacagcattctctcctggtttttttataatt**

**Query: 5252    taaaaaaaaat 5262 - BOLD = 126 bp insertion in DGRP line 375 vs reference**

Score = 646 bits (1667), Expect = e-186 Identities = 332/334 (99%) Strand = Plus / Plus

Query: 5263    cctttttgccacgaccattctaaggcactaaaaccgcacaaaaatgccaactcaagagg 5322  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861166    cctttttgccacgaccattctaaggcactaaaaccgcacaaaaatgccaactcaagagg 861225

Query: 5323    attgatgtgagcaacatagaattccacgtcatagccgacgaaggcatgaaattcattgcg 5382  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861226    attgatgtgagcaacatagaattccacgtcatagccgacgaaggcatgaaattcattgcg 861285

Query: 5383    attttaggtagaactcgttttctaatgatagacatgaaaaccaggaagggtcgtactaaa 5442  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861286    attttaggtagaactcgttttctaatgatagacatgaaaaccaggaagggtcgtactaaa 861345

Query: 5443    gtcataccaagatcagacagggaggtagtgacggggctcaaaaagcaggtccaggatgga 5502  
                  |||||  
Sbjct: 861346    gtcataccaagatcagacagggaggtagtgacggggctcaaaaagcaggtccaggatgga 861405

