

# **Understanding Us: What Makes Difference and What Difference Does Difference Make**

**Reading “How to Argue with a Racist” and how  
will it be integrated in class?**

**Introduction and Preface-Wed  
Part I- Fri**

# **Graphical Analysis**

**Same or Different?**

**Why do this?**

**These images should prepare you to think deeply about the way we categorize peoples and whether that categorization is biologically appropriate.**

NOTE:

1=we are all quite the SAME

10=we are all quite DIFFERENT

(from How Neanderthals Gave us Secret Powers)

## Neanderthal

Skin pigmentation,  
Immune system  
Allergies

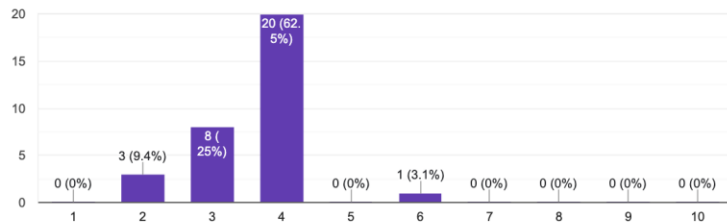
## Denisovan

Tolerance to low oxygen

1. Colored regions are the parts of the genomes that we share with Denisovans and Neanderthals.

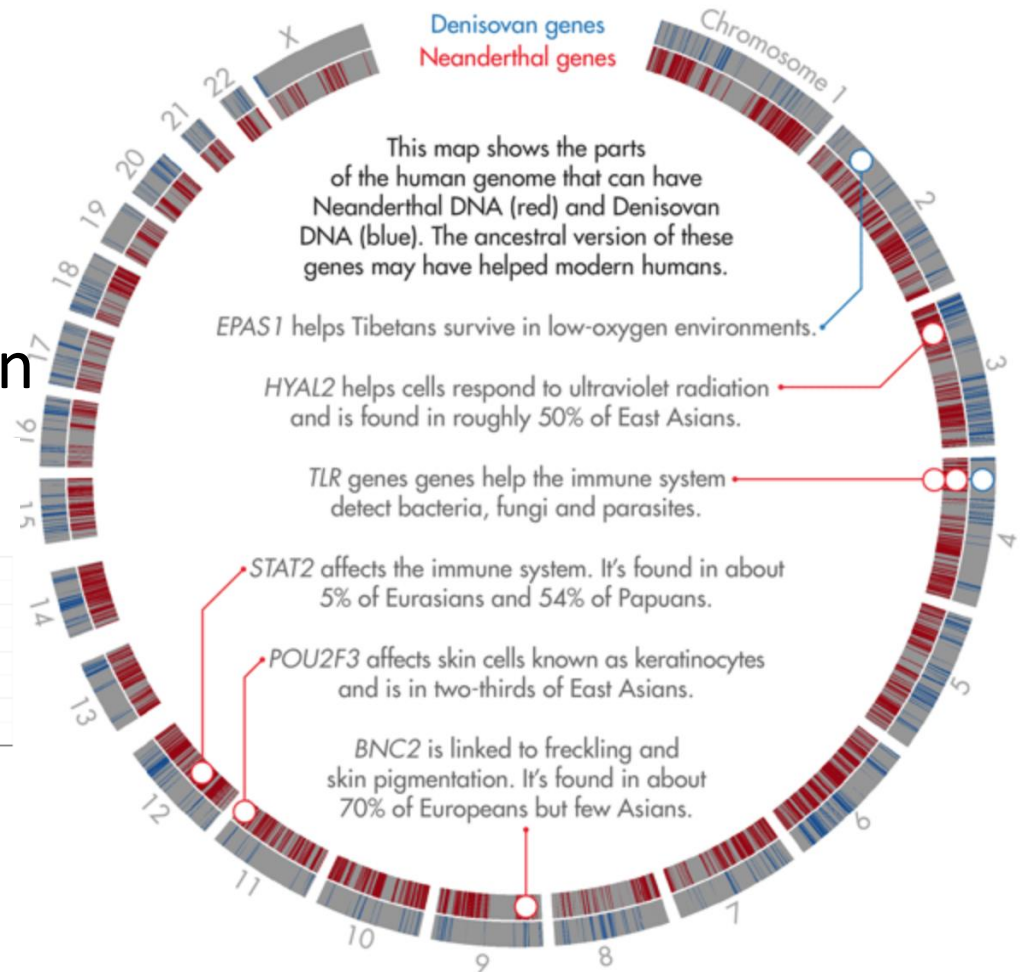
[Copy chart](#)

32 responses



1.

## A MAP OF ANCIENT GENES

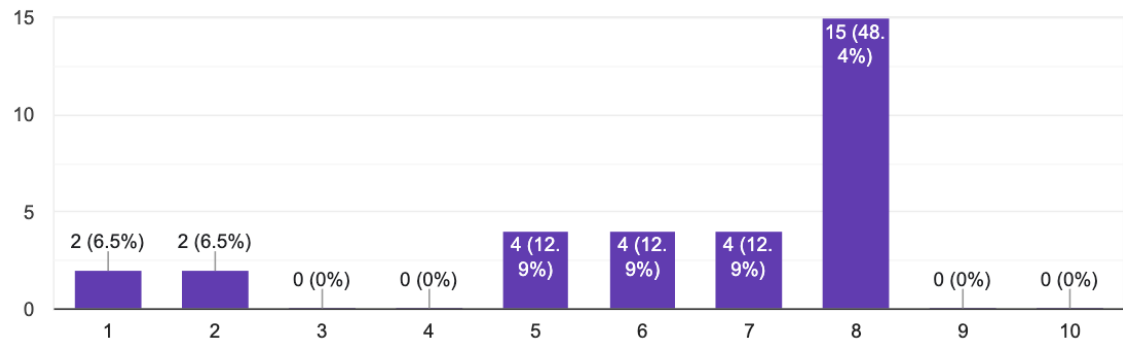




2.

 Copy chart

31 responses



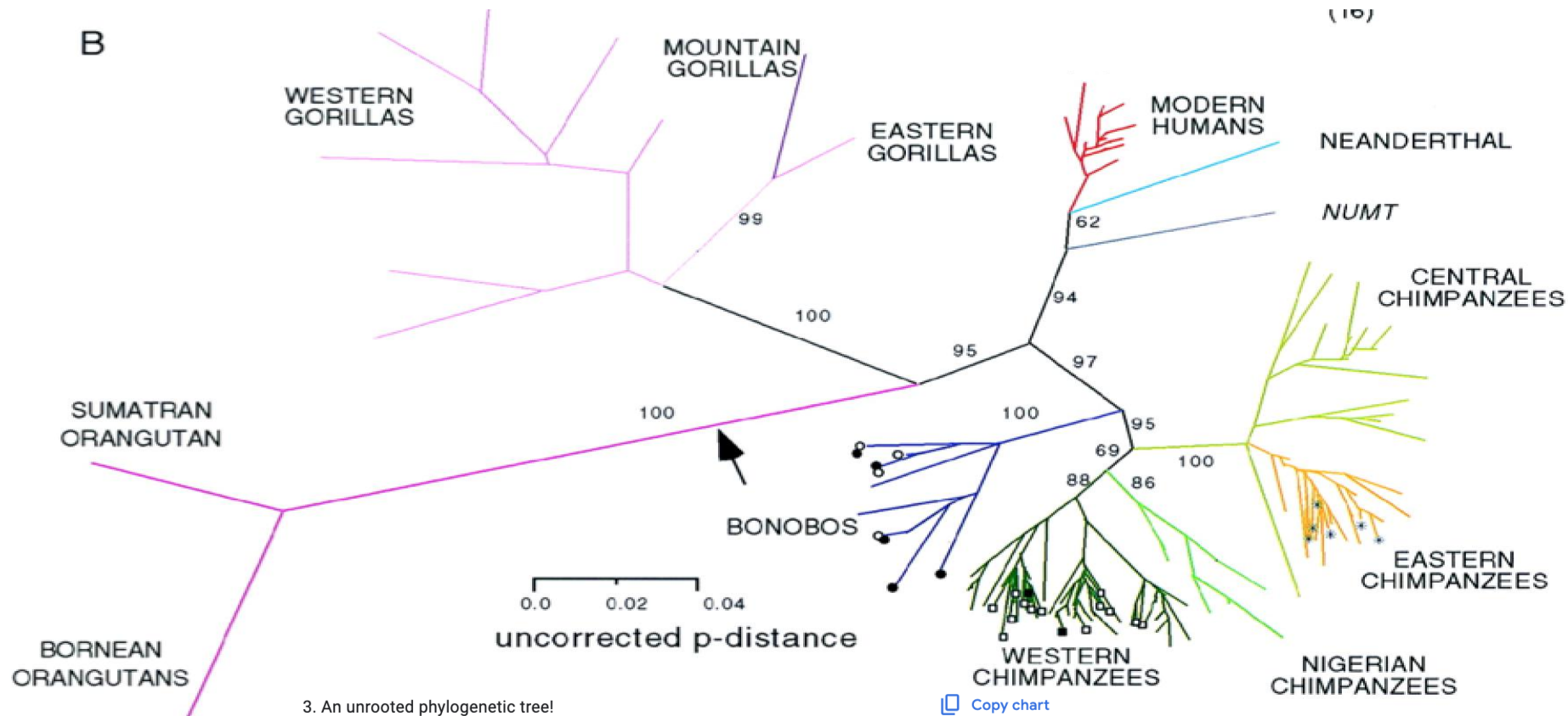
2.

<https://www.buzzfeed.com/annamendoza/all-the-colours-of-the-world>

# Segment length is proportional to genetic difference.

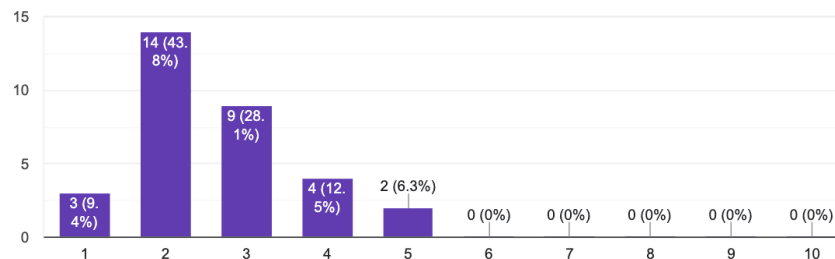
Gagneux et al. PNAS 1999;96:9:5077-5082

<https://www.pnas.org/content/96/9/5077.full>



3. An unrooted phylogenetic tree!

32 responses



3.

PNAS



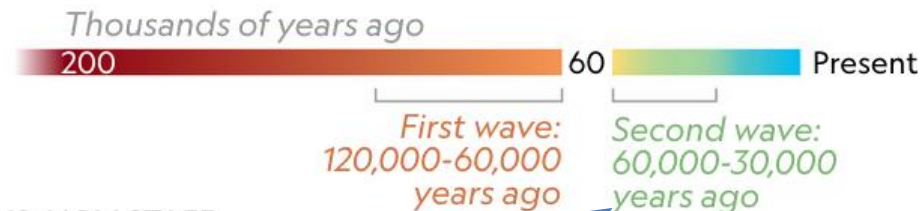
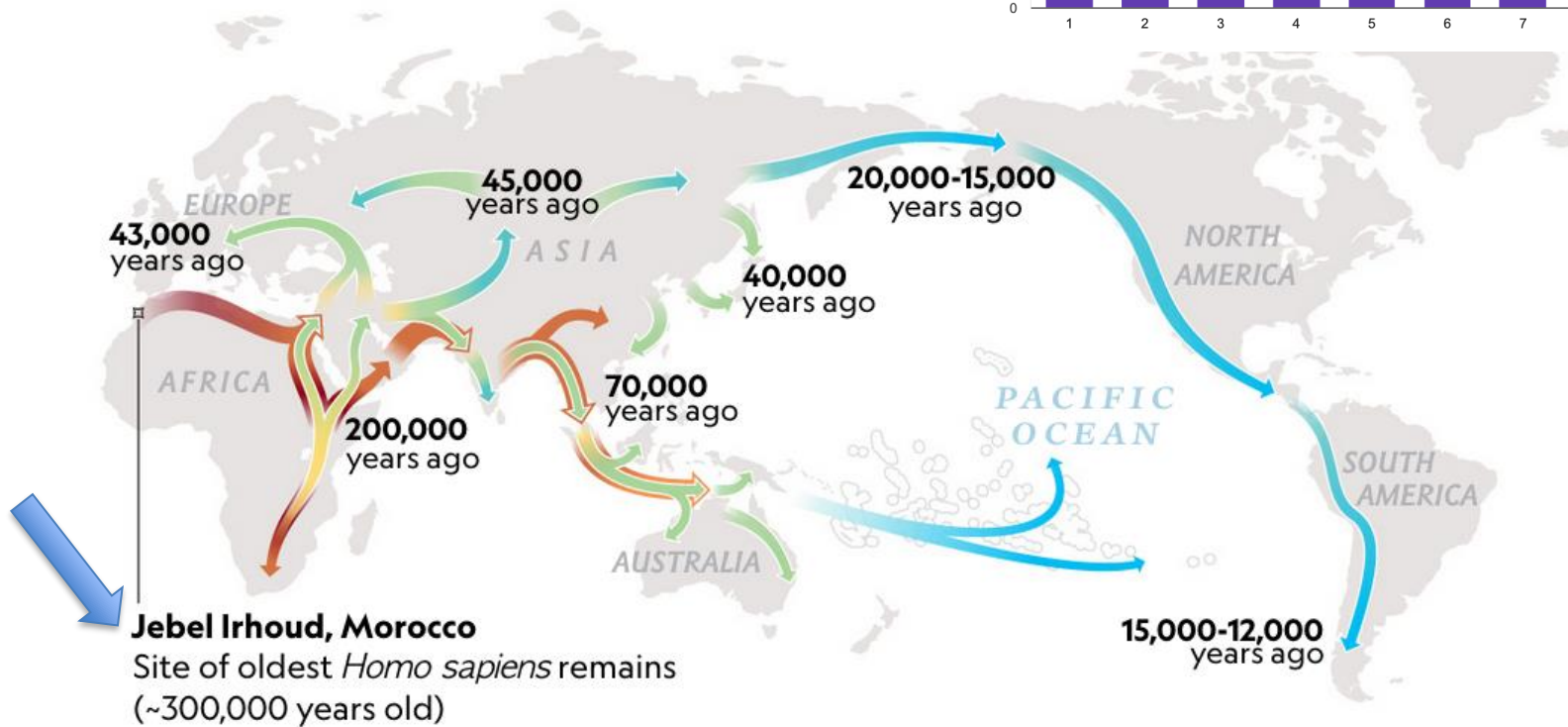
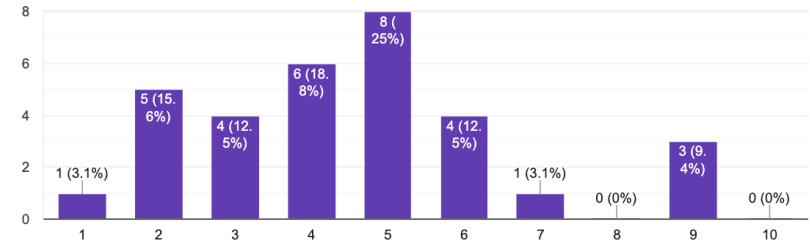
# A FORMATIVE JOURNEY

As humans migrated out of Africa—in two waves, so scientists say—they adapted to new environments ways. Skin color is just one; high-altitude population example, adapted to breathing low-oxygen air.

4. Dispersal of different groups of *Homo sapiens* out of Africa from Science Magazine.

[Copy chart](#)

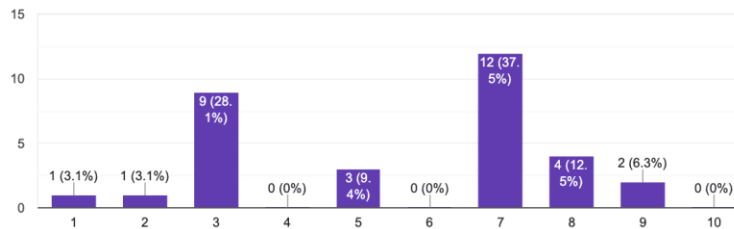
32 responses



4.

JASON TREAT AND RYAN T. WILLIAMS, NGM STAFF  
SOURCE: CHRISTOPHER BAE AND OTHERS, *SCIENCE*, 2017

32 responses

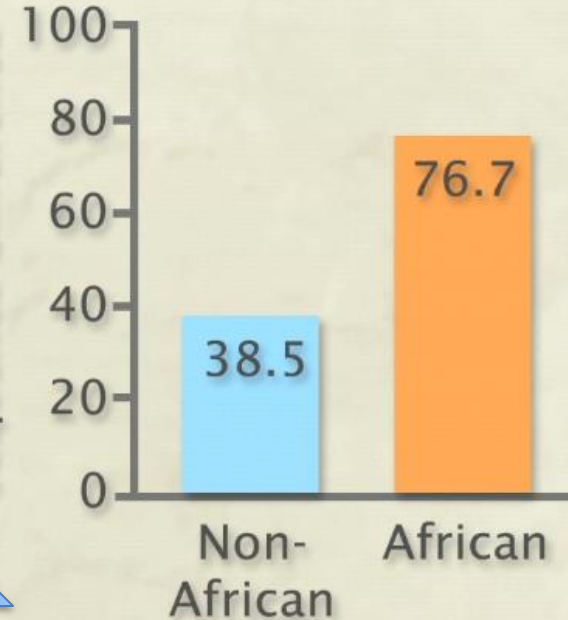


## mtDNA sequence differences

Sequence 1: ...GCGTATATGT...

Sequence 2: ...GGGTATCTGT...

Mean pairwise sequence difference

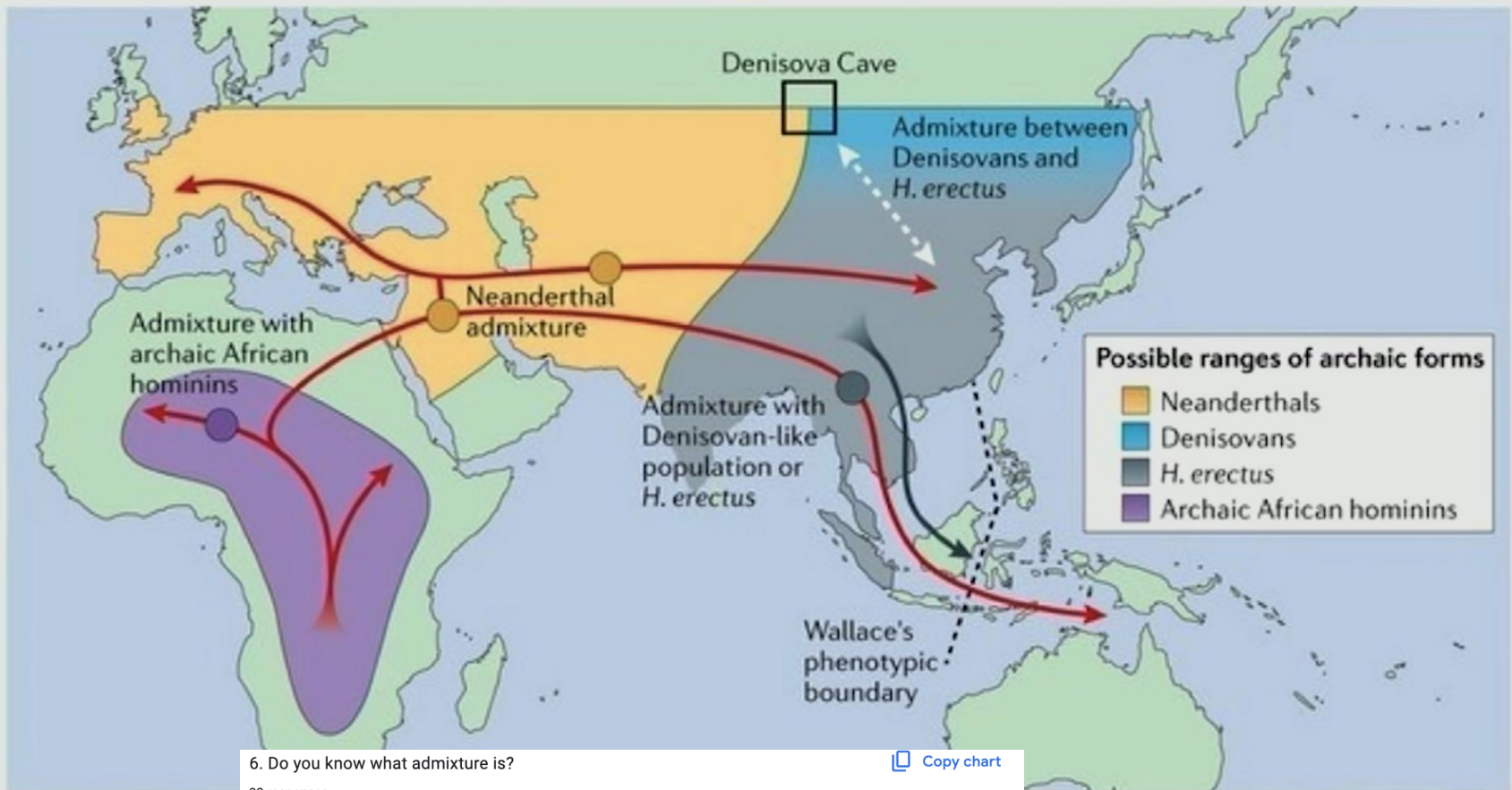


5.

How can there be so many differences between individuals of African descent and so few differences between individuals in the rest of the entire world of “Non-African decent”?



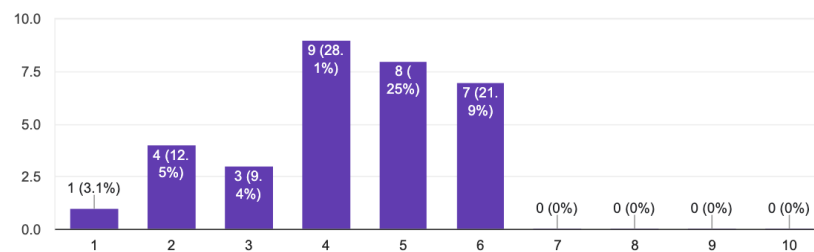
# What we need to know: Was there admixture with archaic populations in Africa?



6. Do you know what admixture is?

[Copy chart](#)

32 responses



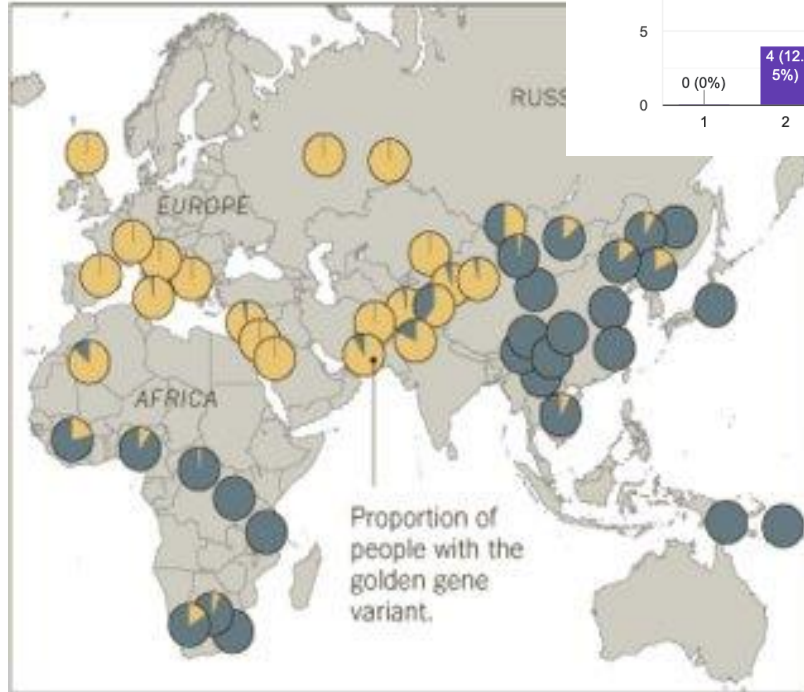
Nature Reviews | Genetics

6.

32 responses

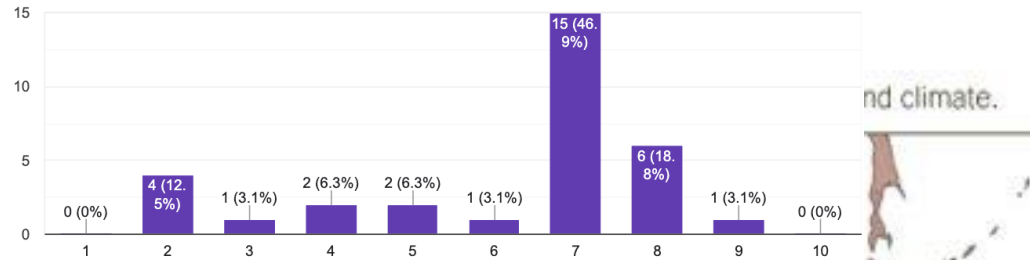
## Genetic Changes

Researchers have found increasing evidence

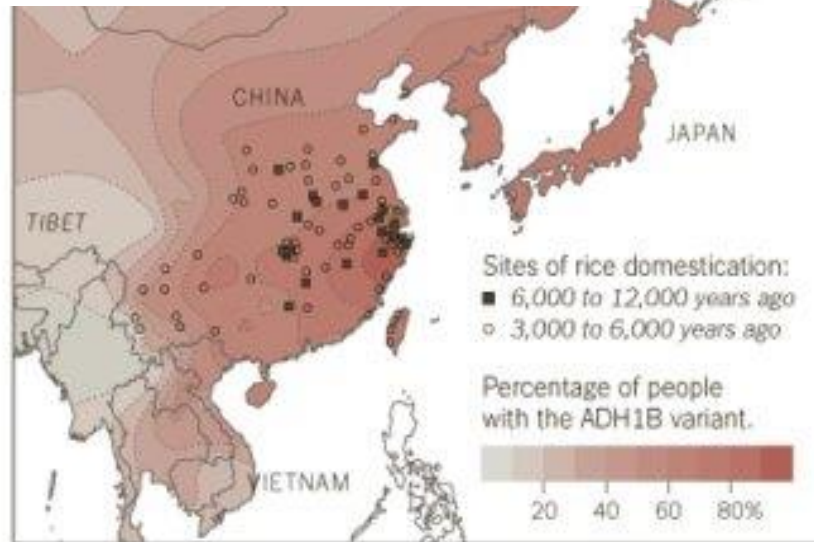


**SKIN COLOR** Europeans and Asians probably acquired lighter skin to better synthesize vitamin D. A variant known as the golden gene is found in more than 98 percent of Europeans but is rare in East Asia, where lighter skin is thought to derive from a different set of genes.

Sources: Molecular Biology and Evolution; BMC Evolutionary Biology



and climate.



**ALCOHOL** A variation in a gene called ADH1B protects against intoxication, making the skin flush when a person drinks. The variant became almost universal among southern Chinese after rice cultivation and fermentation began about 10,000 years ago.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

From the article you read/will read!

7.



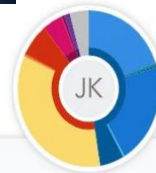
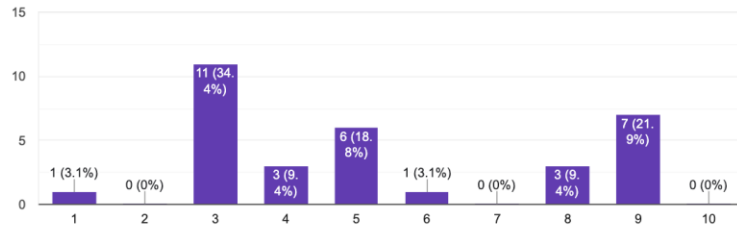
## Ancestry Composition

Your DNA tells the story of who you are and how you're connected to populations around the world. Trace your heritage through the centuries and uncover clues about where your ancestors lived and when.

8. From an add for ancestry testing.

32 responses

Copy chart



### Jamie King

<b>European</b>	<b>47.4%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iberian</li> <li>Ashkenazi Jewish</li> <li>Sardinian</li> <li>Broadly Southern European</li> <li>Broadly Northwestern European</li> <li>Broadly European</li> </ul>	19.7% 0.5% 0.2% 21.1% 0.3% 5.5%
<b>East Asian &amp; Native American</b>	<b>41.8%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Native American</li> <li>Manchurian &amp; Mongolian</li> <li>Southeast Asian</li> <li>Broadly East Asian</li> <li>Broadly East Asian &amp; Native American</li> </ul>	34.4% < 0.1% < 0.1% 0.5% 6.8%
<b>Sub-Saharan African</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West African</li> <li>East African</li> </ul>	4.5% < 0.1%



8.

<https://www.ispot.tv/ad/wkV/ancestrydna-kim>





## Evidence mounts for interbreeding bonanza in ancient human species

Nature tallies the trysts among Neanderthals, humans and other relatives.

Ewen Callaway

17 February 2016

[Rights & Permissions](#)

The discovery of yet another period of interbreeding between early humans and Neanderthals adds to the growing sense that sexual encounters among different ancient human species were commonplace throughout their history.

"As more early modern humans and archaic humans are found and sequenced, we're going to see many more instances of interbreeding," says Sergi Castellano, a population geneticist at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany. His team discovered the latest example, which they believe occurred around 100,000 years ago, by analysing traces of *Homo sapiens* DNA in a Neanderthal genome extracted from a toe bone found in a cave in Siberia.



Neanderthal  
outsized  
human b

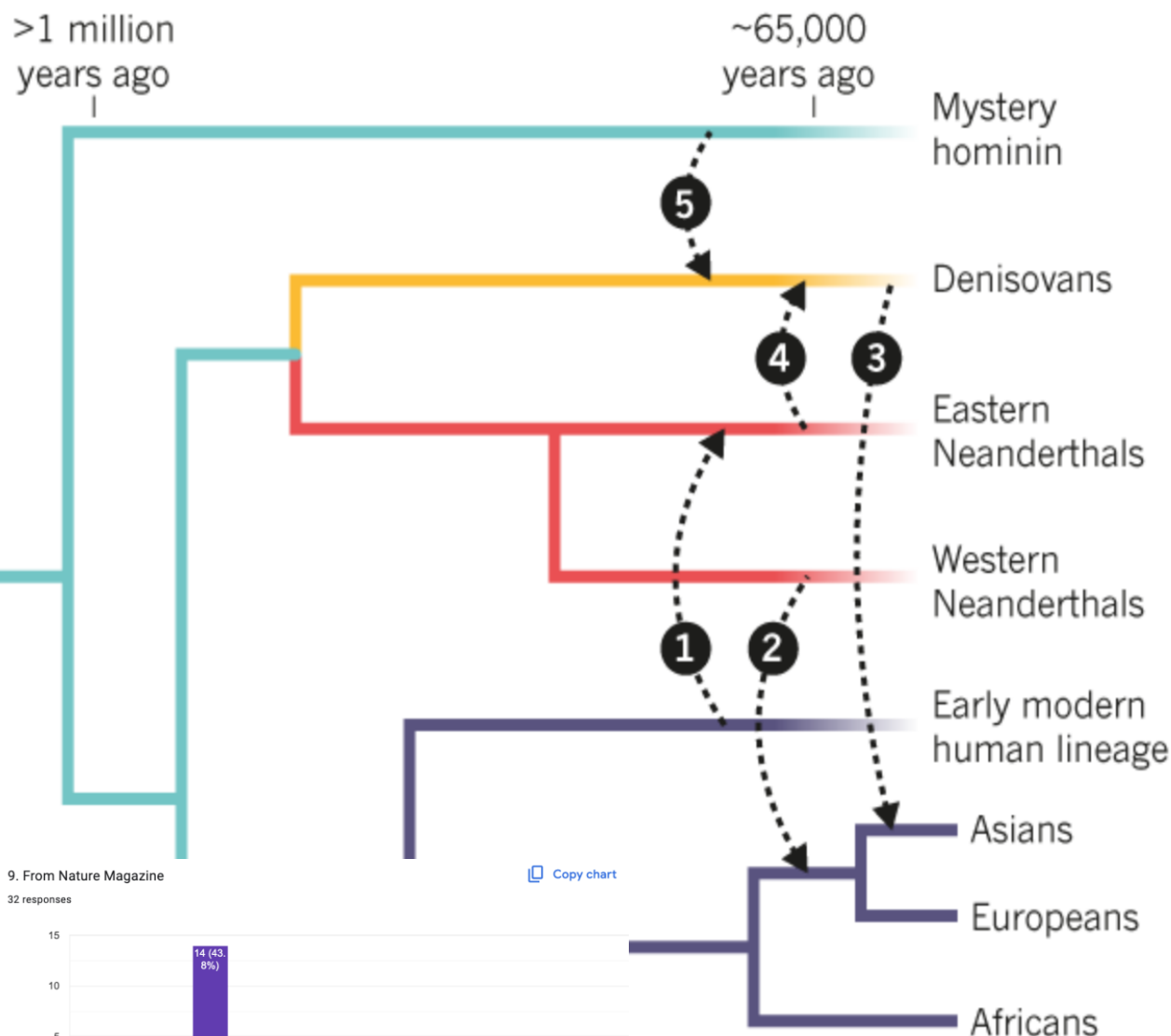
# 9. Inferring interbreeding or admixture from genome analysis

<https://www.nature.com/news/evidence-mounds-for-interbreeding-bonanza-in-ancient-human-species-1.19394>

Fr

## A HISTORY OF INTERBREEDING

Early modern humans, Denisovans, and Neanderthals all interbred with each other on multiple occasions in the past 100,000 years.





Then found **AN INDIVIDUAL** that was a result of interbreeding.

# Mum's a Neanderthal, Dad's a Denisovan: First discovery of an ancient-human hybrid

10.

*Genetic analysis uncovers a direct descendant of two different groups of early humans.*

**A female who died around 90,000 years ago was half Neanderthal and half Denisovan, according to genome analysis of a bone discovered in a Siberian cave. This is the first time scientists have identified an ancient individual whose parents belonged to distinct human groups.** The findings were published on 22 August in *Nature*<sup>1</sup>.

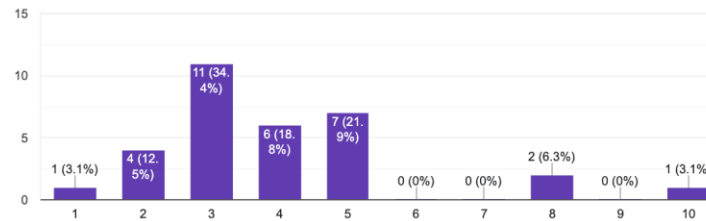
“To find a first-generation person of mixed ancestry from these groups is absolutely extraordinary,” says population geneticist Pontus Skoglund at the Francis Crick Institute in London. “It’s really great science coupled with a little bit of luck.”

10. A news report describing a new finding.

Copy chart

32 responses

The team, led by professor Svante Pääbo of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology, conducted the genome analysis on a single bone discovered in a cave in the Altai Mountains of Russia. This cave



of Russia. This cave was home to a group of extinct humans first identified on the basis of DNA sequences from the tip of a finger bone discovered<sup>2</sup> there in 2008. The Altai region, and the cave specifically, were also home to Neanderthals.





Marine diet



Lactose tolerance



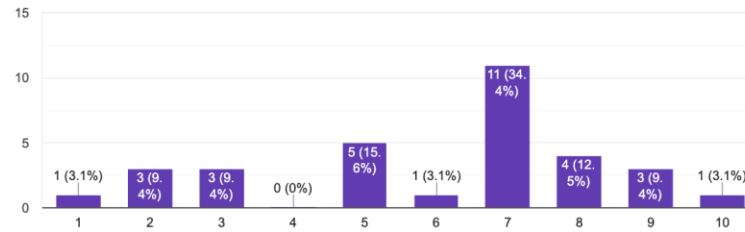
Malaria resistance



Cholera resistance

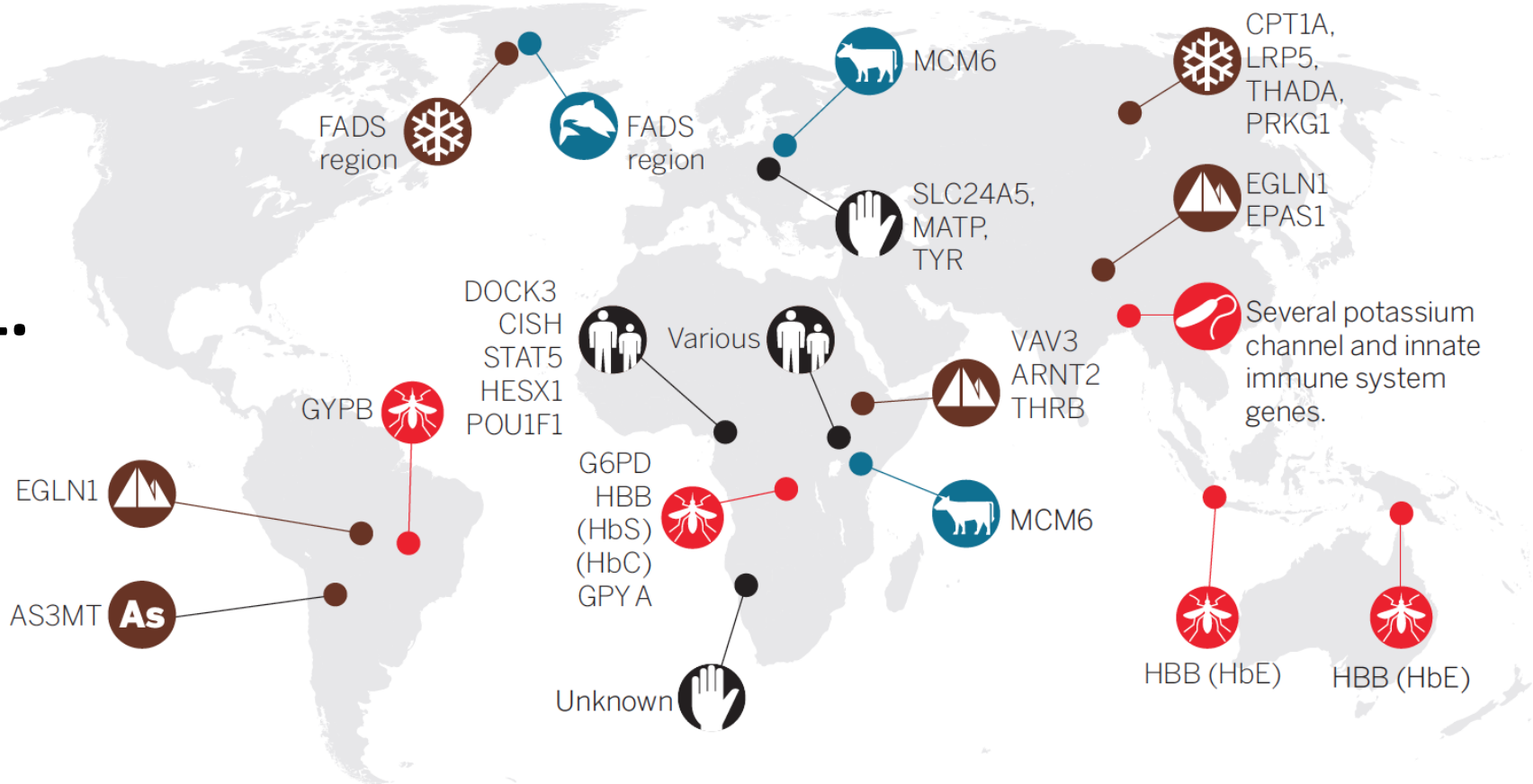
11. A diversity of local adaptations

32 responses



Short stature

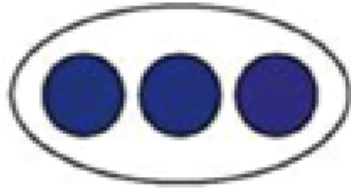
11.



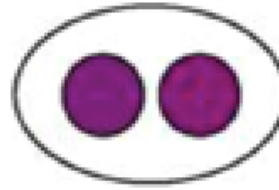
**Global distribution of locally adaptive traits.** Adaptation to diverse environments during human evolution has resulted in phenotypes that are at the extremes of the global distribution. Fumagalli *et al.* have integrated scans of natural selection and GWAS to identify genetic loci associated with adaptation to an Arctic environment.

More recent article than one you read/will read. This is from 2015.

# Researchers CHOSE to collect samples from people living in 3 locations and found the following (color indicates genetic similarity)



Location 1 with three subpopulations



Location 2 with two subpopulations

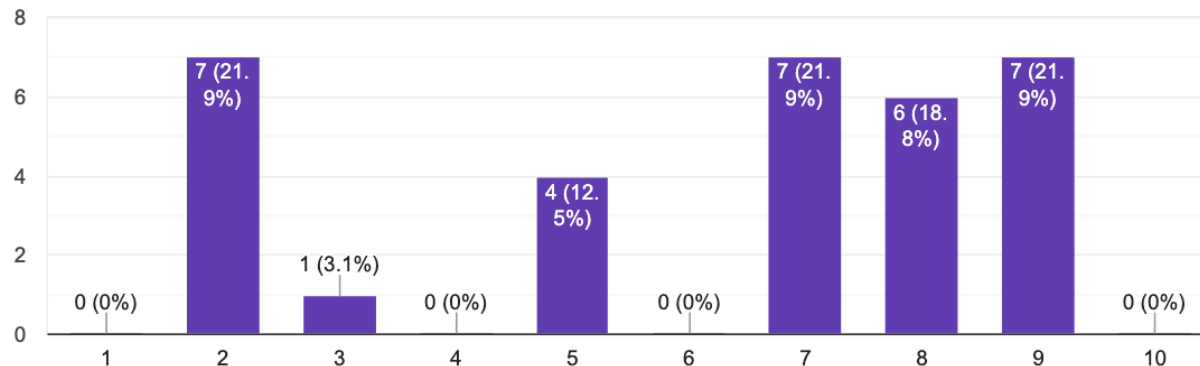


Location 3 with two subpopulations

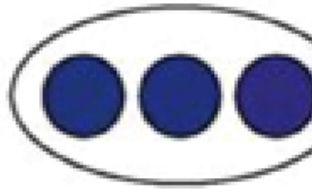
12.

32 responses

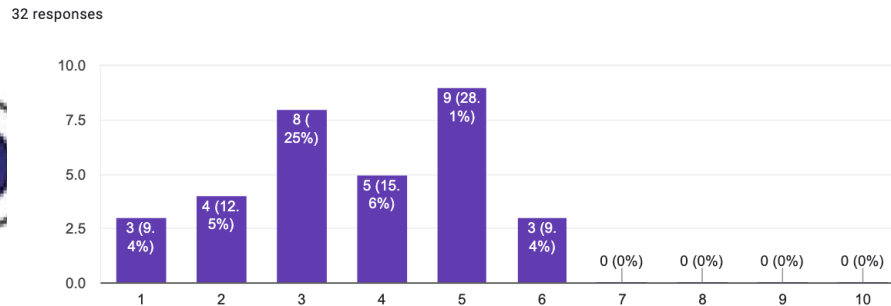
 Copy chart



12.



Location 1 with  
three  
subpopulations



Location 2 with  
two  
subpopulations



Location 3 with  
two  
subpopulations

13.

Now let's add more info to the previous slide.

When researchers sampled **every population** between these three populations they found this distribution....




(Maglo et al 2016)

*TRENDS in Genetics*

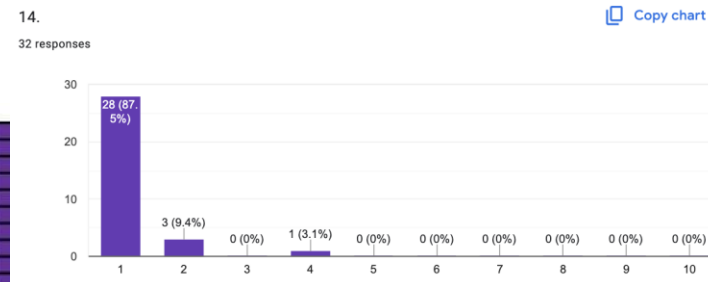
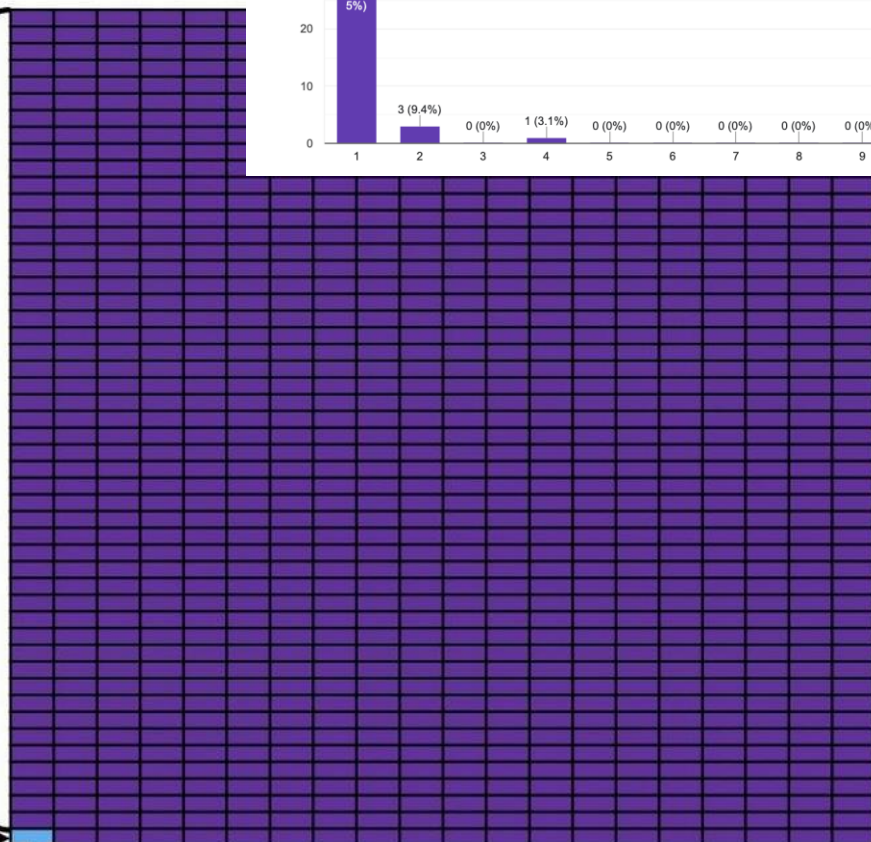
How does this additional info affect your perspective?

14.

**99.9% - DNA that makes us human:**  
Shared by everyone



**0.1% - DNA that makes humans different from each other:**  
Not shared by everyone

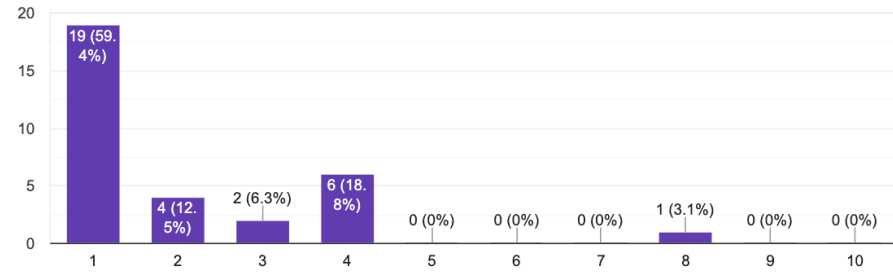
**99.9% - DNA that makes us human:**  
Shared by everyone



15. Now examine lets look more closely.

[Copy chart](#)

32 responses



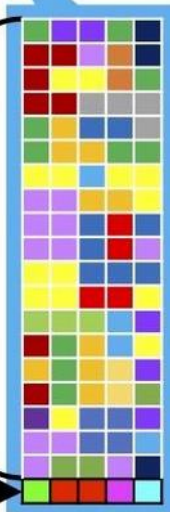
**0.1% - DNA that makes humans  
different from each other:**  
Not shared by everyone



**95.5% - DNA that differs between  
*same race* individuals**



**15. 4.5% - *Extra* DNA that differs between  
individuals of different races**





## Tishkoff et al 2009

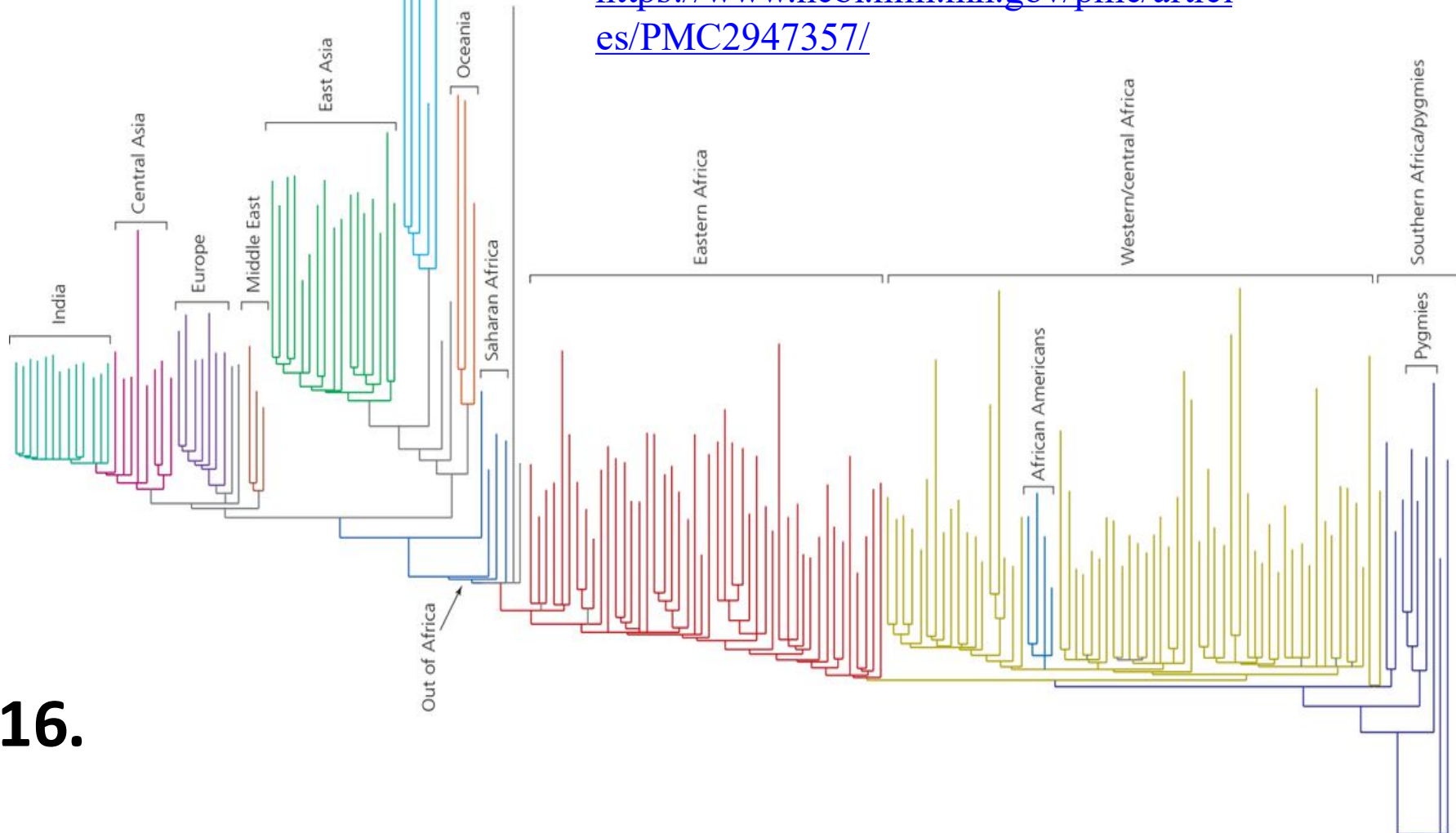
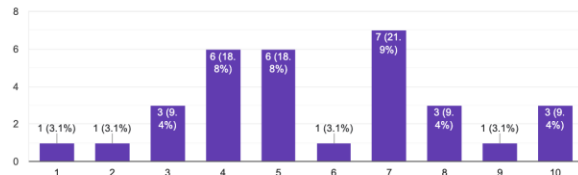
Studied 121 African populations, four African American populations, and 60 non-African populations for patterns of variation at 1327 nuclear microsatellite and insertion/deletion markers.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2947357/>

16. This is from your textbook.

32 responses

Copy chart



16.

## Visualizing Human Genetic Diversity

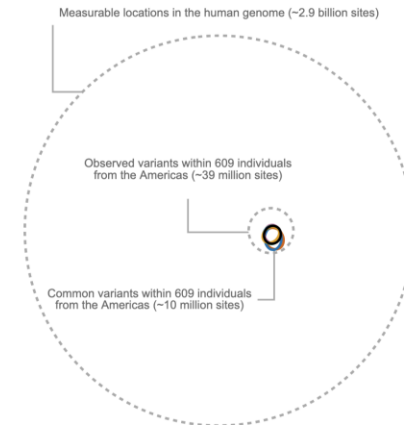
James Kitchens and Graham Coop

May 16, 2023

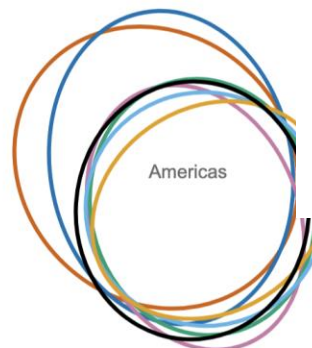
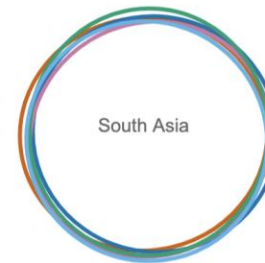
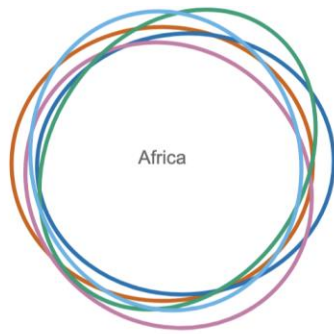
Genetics D3 Python R

<https://james-kitchens.com/blog/visualizing-human-genetic-diversity>

Overlap of only  
“COMMON Variants”  
(so doesn't include  
random people that  
might have a single  
nucleotide mutation)

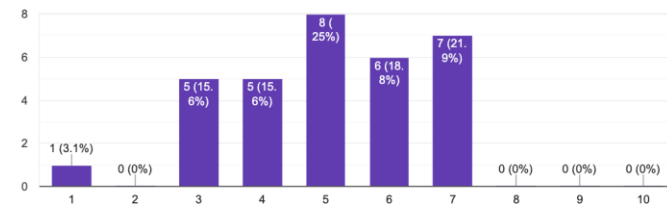


**Figure 5 - Common variants in perspective.** An Euler diagram of the common variants in samples located in the Americas relative to the scale of the human genome. As a small note, the positions and orientations of ellipses within the Euler diagram differ slightly from Figure 3. This is because the `eulerr` package gives varied results with each run due to random starting conditions within the algorithm.



32 responses

Copy chart



17.

**Figure 7 - Sharing of common variation within geographic regions.** Five interactive Euler diagrams of the 26 global samples using the broad geographic groupings from Biddanda et al. 2020.