The Other Codes on DNA: It's not all about codons!

Species	Genome size	% coding sequences
C. elegans	100 MB	14
D. melanogaster	175 MB	<10
Homo sapiens	2.9 GB	1.2
A. Thaliana	~145 MB	21

Shapiro and von Sternberg (2005)

- Small changes in the architecture of these regulatory regions can lead to dramatic phenotypic changes.
 - Very inspiring work by Sean Carroll and David Kingsley.
- Quantitative data demands quantitative models!

How much?



Setty et al. (20

When?



Elowitz *et al.* (





DNA Sequence Architecture

Regulation of eve2 in D. melanoge



DNA packaging in eukaryotes





NET RESULT: EACH DNA MOLECULE HAS BEEN PACKAGED INTO A MITOTIC CHROMOSOME THAT IS 10,000-FOLD SHORTER THAN ITS EXTENDED LENGTH

Figure 5-24 Essential Cell Biology, 2/e. (© 2004 Garland Science)



Electron Microscopy of Higher Order Structures



Figure 4–23. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

AFM Images of the Nucleosome



This image was obtained with purified chromatin fragments from chicken erythroid, using the cryo-AFM. It is seen that all the linker DNA is resolved directly, and the lateral dimensions of the nucleosome are similar to those determined by electron microscopy, and are only slightly greater than that from crystallography. The resolution her eis generally higher than that at room temperature. This was at low salt. The orientation of the nucleosomes appears to be random. With this purification (low salt), linker histones are supposed to be retained.

Atomic-Level Structure of the Nucleosome



Figure 4-25. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.



DNA Physical Architecture



Measurements of Equilibrium Accessibility

(Anderson and Widom)







Linear beam theory



Linear beam theory





Measuring the flexural rigidity

Tracking the equilibrium polymer



Show buckling movie by Dogterom

Winning of al

Evolution of Nucleomal Positioning Sequences



I owary and

The Role of DNA Sequence



(Cloutier and Widom)

Nucleosomes Care About Positioning

(Segal *et al*.)



Consequences of Nucleosome Positioning



а 0.9 0.8 0. inserved DNA binding sites RNAS RNAs t interg nal pro Coding r Cen b Functional TF site Non-functional TF site DNA region DNA region Intrinsic nucleosome Intrinsic nucleosome organization organization In vivo occupancy In vivo occupancy C Higher occupancy Lower occupancy at functional sites at functional sites + HAPC2 40 + HAPC Lower occupancy at functional sites (P<0.05) Higher occupancy at functional sites (P<0.05 REB1
UME6
FHL1 -0.05 0.05 0.1 0.15 0.2 0

Difference in nucleosome occupancy between

(Segal et al.)

DNA in a Tight Squeeze: DNA Bending is Ubiquitous



 Understanding tightly bent DNA goes beyond just transcriptional regulation!

The Chromosome as a Polymer Blob



