"Baby talk" of genomic DNA. Fundamental role of repetitions.

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Prague, Brno 2013

Baby talk words, perfect repeats

(Russian, if not specified)

Mama	
Papa	
Baba	(grandma)
Pipi	
Caca	
Sisi	(breast)
Bobo	(pain)
Baibai	(good night)
Tiatia	(father)
Niania	(nanny)
Ham-ha	m (eat, Vietnamese)
Ai-ai-	ai (mishap)
Ne-ne-	ne (no, Czech)
Wong-w	ong (drink, Vietnamese)

Baby talk words, perfect repeats

```
Lala (doll, baby)
Kuku (from hiding)
Diadia (man)
Oi-oi-oi (mishap)
Ni-ni-ni (strictly no)
Niam-niam (eat)
Dai-dai-dai (give me)
```

Sound imitations, mostly babies

```
Av-av (dog)
Bi-bi (car)
Cococo (chicken)
Kva-kva (frog)
Tik-tak (clock)
Din'din' (ringbell)
Ga-qa-qa (geese)
Kria-kria (duck)
Tuk-tuk-tuk (knocking)
Kap-kap-kap (rain)
Chmok-chmok (kisses)
Top-top-top (walk)
Skirly-skirly (wooden leg)
```

Rooster (adults):

Ku ka re ku Ki ri ko ko (Czech, French) Cock-a-doodle-doo (English)

Mooring steamer to a pier

Sound imitations from "Adventures of Tom Sawyer" by Mark Twain:

He was boat and captain and engine-bells combined, so he had to imagine himself standing on his own hurricane-deck giving the orders and executing them: "Stop her, sir! Ting-a-ling-ling!" The headway ran almost out, and he drew up slowly toward the sidewalk.

"Ship up to back! Ting-a-ling-ling!" His arms straightened and stiffened down his sides. "Set her back on the stabboard! Ting-a-ling-ling! Chow! ch-chow-wow! Chow!" His right hand, mean-time, describing stately circles—for it was representing a forty-foot wheel.

"Let her go back on the labboard! Ting-a-ling-ling! Chow-ch-chow-chow!" The left hand began to describe circles.

"Stop the stabboard! Ting-a-ling-ling! Stop the labboard! Come ahead on the stabboard! Stop her! Let your outside turn over slow! Ting-a-ling-ling! Chow-ow-ow! Get out that head-line! *lively* now! Come—out with your spring-line—what're you about there! Take a turn round that stump with the bight of it! Stand by that stage, now—let her go! Done with the engines, sir! Ting-a-ling-ling! SH'T! S'H'T! SH'T!" (trying the gauge-cocks).

Adult forms, perfect repeats:

```
O-o (warning)
Bebe
Da-da (come in)
Ja-ja (yes, German)
Ku-ku (crazy)
Ga-qa (crazy, English)
Hahaha
Nununu (warning to babies)
Tuktuk (Cambodia, moto-rickshaw)
Tamtam (drum)
Tak-tak (all right)
Ks-ks-ks (calling cat)
Nuka-nuka (qo ahead)
Chachacha
Leat-leat (slowly, Hebrew)
Tipa-tipa (little bit, Hebrew)
Tilki-tilki (barely fit, Ukrainian)
Trochi-trochi (little bit, Ukrainian)
Rock-rock (Kenya, lullaby)
Langsam-langsam (slowly, Yiddish)
```

Adult forms, perfect repeats:

```
E-e (warning)
Ohoho (that much)
Mimimi (sweaty, cuty)
Bumbum (ignorant)
Lalala (empty talk)
Tsatsa (girl showing up)
Vot-vot (in a moment)
Idu-idu (coming)
Kto-kto? (who)
Gde-gde? (where)
Vas'-vas' (friends)
Tiny-tiny
Jele-jele (barely)
Kuda-kuda? (where)
Tolko-tolko (barely fit)
Chut'-chut' (little bit)
Hei-hei-hei (warning)
Chevo-chevo? (what)
Tsip-tsip-tsip (calling chicken)
Skolko-skolko? (how much)
Kak eto, kak eto? (why all of a sudden)
```

Mutated, imperfect repeats, babies and adults:

```
Mamy (mother, English)
Baby
Bibika (car)
Mamaya (fruit, Brazil)
Papaya (similar fruit, Brazil)
O-la-la (surprize, French)
Coocook
To-to-je (Aliska, co to je, Czech)
Ta-ra-ram (mess)
Balalaika
Tarataika (type of a cart)
Yin'-yan' (Chinese)
Siusiukat' (imitate baby-talk)
Tsap-tsarap (catch, about cats)
Villi-nilli (against will, Latin)
Meli, Emelia (talking nonsense)
Olgoi-horhoi (Mongolian, ferrytale creature)
Volens-nolens (against will, Latin)
Naziuziukalsa (drunk)
Futy-nuty, lapti gnuty (mishap)
```

Mutated, imperfect repeats, babies and adults:

```
Nu-i-nu (surprized)
Kukushka (coocook)
Coca-cola
Tra-ta-ta (thunder)
Futy-nuty (mishap)
Tiap-liap (lousy work)
Trali-vali (menstruation)
Dura duroi (stupid, her)
Figli-migli (flirt)
Shito-kryto (everything is fine)
Tram-tararam (mess)
Durak durakom (stupid, he)
Boogie-woogie
Trach-tararach (thunder)
Postolku-poskolku (as soon as)
Baiu-baiushki-baiu (lullaby)
Tiutelka v tiutelku (just exactly fit)
```

Counting rhymes for seek and hide game

Ene bene rech Kenter menter zhech Ene bene raba Kenter menter zhaba

Eniki beniki Eli vareniki Eniki beniki klotz

Ine mine Minke tinke Fade rude Rolke tolke Wigel wagel weg (German) Martin Luther King, 1968:

"Yes, if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice. Say that I was a drum major for peace. I was a drum major for righteousness."

Criticized misquote:

"I was a drum major for justice, for piece, for righteousness." Human languages, quite likely, originated from simple repetitive words,

continued with their mutated forms,

and even today the languages operate with simple repeats, mutated forms, and longer tandem or dispersed repeats (refrains).

EXACTLY THE SAME CAN BE SAID ABOUT BIOLOGICAL SEQUENCES (nucleic acids and proteins)

All 15-mers of human genome (sorted)

1 2 3 4	1198780 1190667 366285 362623	TTTTTTTTTTTTTT AAAAAAAAAAAAAA TGTGTGTGTG	T _n A _n TG _n AC _n
5 6	348215 344421	GTGTGTGTGTGTGTG CACACACACACACAC	GT _n CA _n
7 8	223424 223011	GCTGGGATTACAGGC GCCTGTAATCCCAGC	Alu Alu
9 10 11-67	222894 222730	TATATATATATATAT ATATATATATATATA	TA _n AT _n Alu
68 69-72	169033	TTTTTTTTTTTTG	<i>T_n</i> Alu
73 74 75 76 77-82	167889 167361 150349 149748	СААААААААААААААА СТАААААТАСААААА СТТТТТТТТ	A _n Alu T _n A _n Alu

Three known pathologically expanding ("aggressive") classes of triplets
GCU (GCU, CUG, UGC, AGC, GCA, CAG) ,
GCC (GCC, CCG, CGC, GGC, GCG, CGG) and
GAA (AAG, AGA, GAA, CTT, TTC, TCT).

They cause neurodegenerative diseases and chromosome fragility

EVOLUTION OF THE TRIPLET CODE

UUY UAX

E. N. Trifonov, December 2007, Chart 101

Consensus temporal order of amino acids:

CUX

UCX

CGX AGY UGX AGR

Gly Ala Asp Val Ser Pro Glu Leu Thr Arg Ser TRM Arg Ile Gln Leu TRM Asn Lys His Phe Cys Met Tyr Trp Sec Pyl

1	0	GGC-	GCC																	Ι.							
2		1		GAC	-GUC															1.							
3	(GGA-	- -	-		-UCC														Ι.							
4	(GGG-	- -	-			-CCC													Ι.							
5		1		(gag) - - ·			AG-CI	JC .											Ι.							
6	(GGU-	- -	-					A0	cc.										Ι.							
7			GCG	-						CG	SC	•				•				Ι.							
8			GCU	-							A	GC				•				Ι.							
9			GCA									u	ıgc			•				Ι.		UGC					
10							CCG			CG	GG		1			•				Ι.		1					
11							CCU						2	AGG						Ι.							
12		•	•				CCA					u	ıgg		•	•			•	Ι.	•		•	•	UGG	•	
13						UCG-				CG	βA			1					•	Ι.							
14		•	•			UCU-							2	AGA	•	•			•	Ι.	•		•	•	•	•	
15		•	•			UCA-						U	IGA	•	•	•			•	Ι.	•		•	•	•	UGA	
16		•	•			•	•		A0	CG-CG	SU			•	•	•			•	Ι.	•		•	•	•	•	
17		•	•			•	•		A0	CU	A	GU		•	•	•			•	Ι.	•		•		•		•
18		•	•			•	•			CA			J -	•	•	•			•	Ι.	•	UGU	•	•	•	•	•
19		•	•	GAU										A	UC	•			•	Ι.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
20		•	•	•	GUG·										c	ас			•	CAC	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
21		·	•	•		•	•	Ct	JG								• •	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
22		·	•	•		•	•		.			•	•		ug-ca		• •	•	•	CAU	•	•	AUG	•	•	•	•
23		•	•	•		•												•	•	Ι.	UUC	•	•	•	•	•	•
24		•	•	•	GUA·												ua		•	Ι.		•	•	UAC	•	•	•
25		•	•	•		•	•	. CI	<i>JI</i> 1								UA		•	Ι.		•	•		•	•	UAG
26		•	•	•	GUU															Ι.		•	•		•	•	•
27		·	•	•	•	•	•	. Ct	JU										AAC	51.		•	•		٠	•	•
28		·	•	•	•	•	•	•	• •	• •		•	•	•		AA-U				1 •		•	•		٠	•	•
29		·	·	•	·	•	•	•	• •	•		•	·				ua	-		1.		•	·	UAU	·	•	•
30		·	•	•	•	•	•	•	• •	•		•	•	. A	UU				VU	1 •		·	·	•	·	•	•
31		·	•	•	•	•	•	•	• •	•		•	•	•	•		UA-UA			1.		·	•	•	·	•	•
32		·	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	. u	uu		AAP	4 1 .	UUU	·	·	·	·	·	•

CONSECUTIVE ASSIGNMENT OF 64 TRIPLETS

CODON CAPTURE

aa "age":

17 17 16 16 15 14 13 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

"... if variations useful to any organic being ever do occur, assuredly individuals thus characterized will have the best chance of being preserved in the struggle for life; and from the strong principle of inheritance, these will tend to produce offspring similarly characterized"

Charles Darwin, Origin of Species (1859)

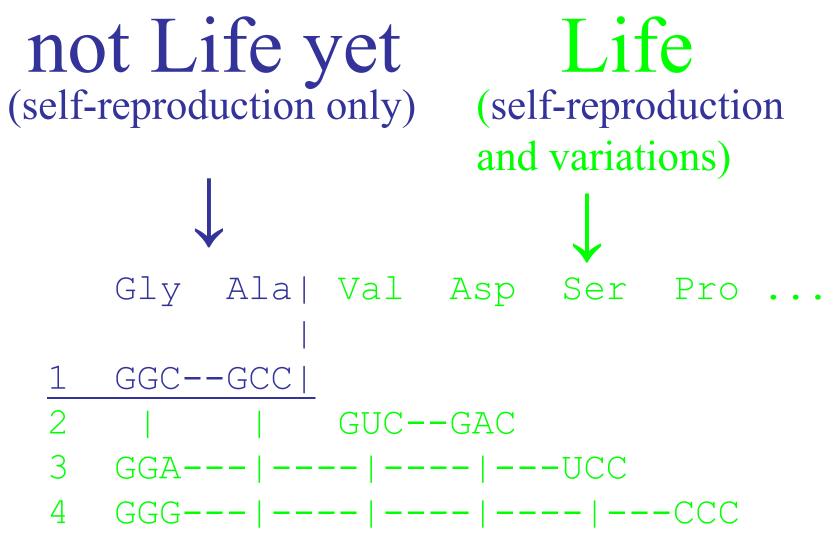
Rephrasing (ET):

Individuals with useful variations will self-reproduce

self-reproduction and variation

Any system capable of replication and mutation is alive (Oparin 1961).

self-reproduction and variation



Life is self-reproduction with variations

From vocabulary of 123 known definitions of life the following groups of meanings are revealed

LIFE living alive being biological other related words Sum	123 47 10 6 5 8 199
SYSTEM systems organization organism order organisms network organized other related words	43 22 14 14 6 5 5 40
Sum	155 25
	11
Organic	<u> </u>
organic materials	10
materials molecules	10 6
materials	10
materials molecules other related words	10 6 36
materials molecules other related words Sum	10 6 36 88
materials molecules other related words Sum CHEMICAL	10 6 36 88 17 15 14
materials molecules other related words Sum CHEMICAL process metabolism processes	10 6 36 88 17 15 14 8
materials molecules other related words Sum CHEMICAL process metabolism	10 6 36 88 17 15 14

COMPLEXITY	13
information	8
complex	7
other related words	46
Sum	74
REPRODUCTION	10
reproduce	8
replication	7
self-reproduction	5
other related words	33
Sum	63
EVOLUTION	10
evolve	7
change	6
mutation	5
other related words	20
Sum	48
ENVIRONMENT	20
external	6
other related words	15
Sum	41
ENERGY	18
force	5
other related words	17
Sum	40
ABILITY	12
able	11
capable	11
capacity	5
other related words	1
Sum	40

Life (definiendum)

Definientia: System Matter Chemical Complexity Reproduction **Evolution** Environment Energy Ability

These appear to be both necessary and sufficient for the definition of life We, thus, come again to the same definition:

Life is self-reproduction with variations

Human Genome Composition

Protein-coding and RNA-coding	3%
Non-coding DNA	97%
of which	
Simple sequence repeats	3% (underestimate)
Transposable elements	45%

"repeat sequences account for at least 50% and, probably, much more"

From E. S. Lander *et al.* Initial sequencing and analysis of the human genome, Nature 409, 860-921, 2001

Aggressive amino acids encoded by expanding triplets

An	nino acid	Triplets
L	(leucine)	CTG CTT
Α	(alanine)	GCT GCA GCC GCG
G	(glycine)	GGC
Ρ	(proline)	CCG
S	(serine)	AGC TCT
Ε	(glutamate)	GAA
R	(arginine)	CGG CGC AGA
Q	(glutamine)	CAG
Κ	(lysine)	AAG
F	(phenylalanine)	UUC
С	(cysteine)	UGC

Majority of homopeptides are built from aggressive amino acids

	s Score (tripept.)		(Faux	
1. L3	4552	1446	70(5)	
2. A3	4046			
	2972			
4. P3 5. S3	2258			
5. 53 6. E3		5424 (4) 4334 (6)		
	1145			
	802			
9. КЗ	535	1920(9)	25	
 10 V3	414	 q <i>л</i>	9	
	273			
	269			
13. ТЗ	267	2492(8)	63(7)	
14. I3	109	34	3	
15. F3		175	1	
16. C3		38	0	
	79			
18. M3	34	19	0	
19. Y3	32	39	4	
20. W3	14	3	0	
	92 %	75%	89% (Z.	Koren, 2011)

Could it be that protein sequences, actually, are ALL originally made from the aggressive repetitions?

And we don't see all the original repeats just because they have extensively mutated.

If this view is correct, then we should see in mRNA sequences

1. Ideal repeats of some codons

2. The codons "sandwiched" between two identical codons should be their point mutation derivatives

3. Those codons which are more often in tandem repeats should be also of higher usage in non-repeats

We, thus, undertook analysis

of the largest non-reduntant database of mRNAs available, of total ~5 000 000 000 codons,

from eukaryotes, prokaryotes, viruses, organelles together

Z. Frenkel, E. Trifonov, JBSD, 30, 201-210 (2012)

22.5 min

Sorted occurrence of the triplet repeats for different groups ("aggressive" triplets)

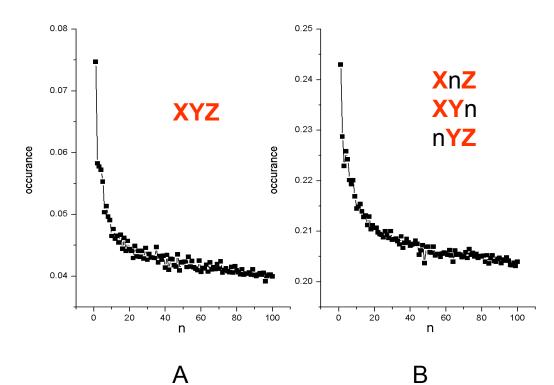
	group of codons	Occurrence
1	GCC, CCG, CGC, GGC, GCG, CGC	1 784302
2	GCA, CAG, AGC, UGC, GCU, CUG	1 436660
3	GAA, AAG, AGA, UUC, UCU, CUU	1 131214
4	AAU, AUA, <mark>uaa</mark> , AUU, UUA, UAU	932105 (1 118526)
5	AUC, UCA, CAU, GAU, AUG, uga	735397 (882476)
6	ACC, CCA, CAC, GGU, GUG, UGG	726443
7	AGG, GGA, GAG, CCU, CUC, UCC	706484
8	AAC, ACA, CAA, GUU, UUG, UGU	694387
9	ACG, CGA, GAC, CGU, GUC, UCG	533888
10	ACU, CUA, UAC, AGU, GUA, uag	152747 (183296)

1. Tandem repeats of all 61 different codons are observed, strongest for aggressive groups, as expected

2. Middle codons abc in "sandwiches" GCUabcGCU (total 3 168 933) are most often first derivatives of GCU

CU 243706	GCU
G <mark>U</mark> 125946	G G U
A <mark>U</mark> 115500	GAU
AA 114278 the topmost in codon usage	GAA
U U 102550	G U U
C A 95493	GC A
C C 92153	GC C
UU 89648	AUU
UU 87861	UUU
AA 84194 next topmost in codon usage	AAA
UA 80660	UUA
GA 74934	GGA
	GGC
This also holds for most of other codons	

"Thick" sandwiches XYZabc₁abc₂…abc_nXYZ



Occurrence of the triplet XYZ (A) and its first derivatives (B) in the middle sequence $abc_1abc_2...abc_n$

2. The first derivatives between the identical codons in mRNA

keep memory of initial tandem repetition of the codons

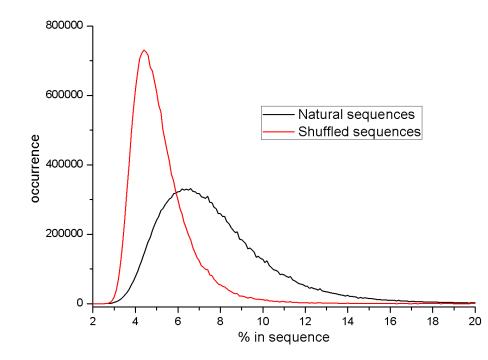
The sequences like

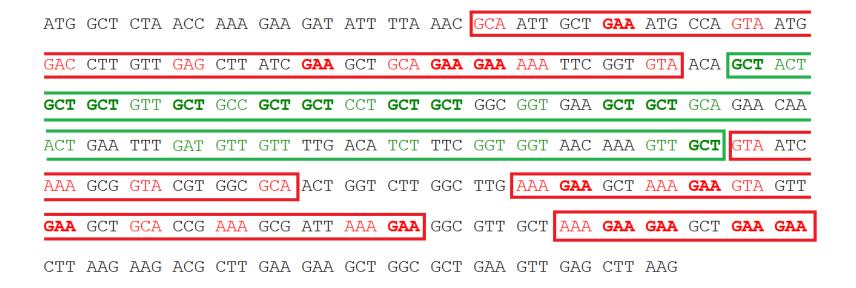
XYZ nnn nnn nnn NYZ nnn nnn nnn nnn nnn XYZ

are likely descendants of

XYZ XYZ XYZ XYZ XYZ XYZ XYZ XYZ...

Enrichment of mRNA sequences by one or another dominant codon

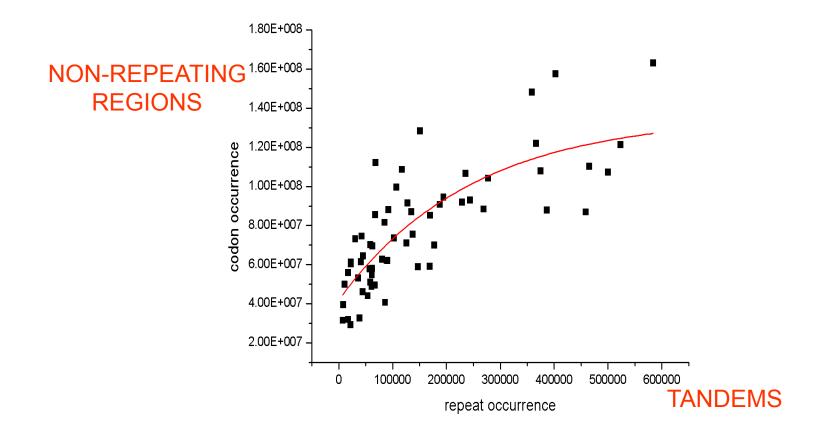




GAA and GCT "bricks" in mRNA of ribosomal protein L12 of *Ps. Atlantica*

Frequent triplets make clusters, remnants of original ideal repeats

3. The more frequently the codon appears in tandem the more frequent it is also in non-repeating regions of mRNA



Ala	GCC GCA GCU GCG	94 93	465 195 245 386	Arg	CGC CGU CGG CGA	70 46 41 33	177 45 86 39	Arg	AGA AGG	<mark>55</mark> 29	<mark>62</mark> 22	l st columns - codons (millions)
Asn	AAU AAC		523 170	Asp	GAU GAC	148 107		Cys	UGC UGU	31.9 31.5		-
Gln	CAA CAG		269 459	Glu	GAA GAG	163 122		Gly	<mark>GGC</mark> GGU GGA GGG	92 87	500 229 135 17	
His	CAU CAC	58 49	<mark>62</mark> 61	Ile	AUU AUC AUA	128 100 70		Leu	UUA UUG	91 73	127 30	
Leu	CUG CUU CUC CUA	108 75 70 40	375 43 59 8	Lys	AAA AAG	158 104		Met	AUG	109	117	
Phe	UUU UUC	112 82	68 85	Pro	CCA CCG CCU CCC	<mark>62</mark> 59 58 50	89 169 59 11	Ser	UCU UCA UCC UCG	63 62 50 44	81 90 67 54	
Ser	<mark>AGC</mark> AGU	59 53	147 36	Thr	ACC ACA ACU ACG		138 126 45 59	Trp	UGG	60	22	
Tyr	UAU UAC	<mark>86</mark> 61	68 41	Val	GUG GUU GUC GUA	88	187 92 103 23					In 17 of 21 codon repertoires the most frequent codon is also the most repetitive

This result came as a surprize, considering zelions of factors known to influence the codon usage

More frequent codons keep memory of tandem repetition of these codons in the past

The triplet expansion of codons is the major single factor shaping the codon usage According to the Theory of Early Molecular Evolution based on the Evolutionary Chart of Codons

the very first genes have been repeats

...GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC GGC ...

and complementary

...GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC...

encoding Gly_n and Ala_n, respectively

Thus, life started with the replication (and expansion) and subsequent mutations of tandemly repeating triplets GGC and GCC. (self-reproduction with variation)

Life continued then to spontaneously emerge within the primitive early genomes and further on, in form of replication and expansion and subsequent mutations of other tandem repeats as well (self-reproduction with variation)

Life never stopped emerging

"... if (and oh what a big if) we could conceive in some warm little pond with all sort of ammonia and phosphoric salts, - light, heat, electricity etc., present, that a protein compound was chemically formed, ready to undergo still more complex changes, at the present day such matter would be instantly devoured, or absorbed, which would not have been the case before living creatures were formed." (Darwin 1871)

With the new view on genome origin and evolution the emerging life is not consumed by the earlier life, but rather protected by the environment within the cell. The tandem repeats have been considered as a class of "selfish DNA" (Orgel and Crick, 1980; Doolittle and Sapienza, 1980).

They are, actually, more than just parasites tolerated by genome. They are even more than building material for the genome (Ohno, Junk DNA, 1972).

The tandem repeats represent constantly emerging life, and genomes are products of their everlasting domestication.

Genomes are built by the expansion and mutational domestication of the tandem repeats

Genomes ARE the repeats (some already unrecognizable)

Painful symbiosis of repeats with genomes

For genomes

accepted repeats are useful.

new repeats are dangerous.

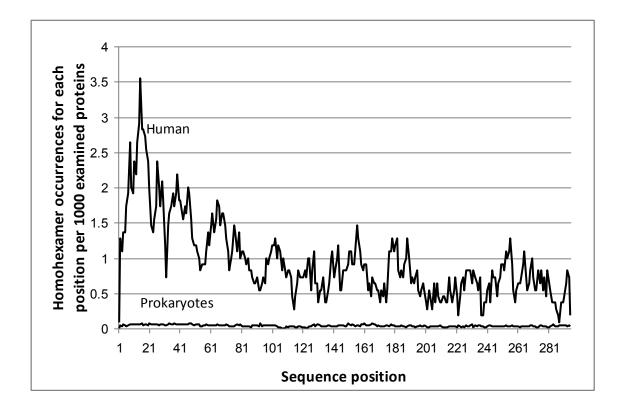
For repeats

genomes are natural habitats.

initiation is at high risk

PREDICTION:

GENOMES SHOULD BE EQUIPPED BY DEFENSE SYSTEMS AGAINST CONSTANTLY EMERGING REPEATS



The amino acid repeats in prokaryotes are far less frequent compared to eukaryotes.

Defense in prokaryotes:

Brutal negative selection, death of individuals contracting the repeats

Defense in eukaryotes:

Expulsion of the repeats into introns and intergenic sequences? (Alternative splicing as an intermediate stage)

Possible defense devices:

Prevention of slippage. Nucleosomes. Excision of slippage loops. Methylation of repeats. Sequence-specific nucleases

.

The simplest life forms – simple tandem repeats –

represent a whole class of pathological agents,

not considered as such up to now.

Genomes evolve under constant attacks by various repeats.

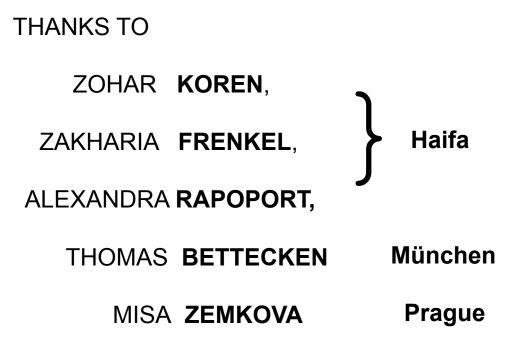
Apparently, most of the attacks are normally stopped by the defense system.

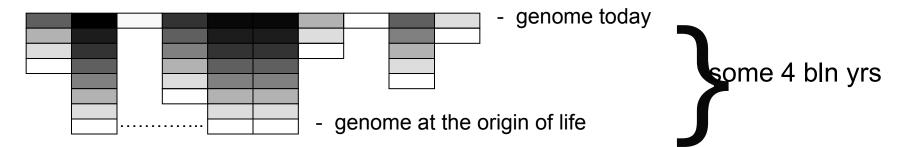
Some of the new expansions or insertions are accomodated by the genomes.

Some are neither stopped, nor accomodated, causing disaster.

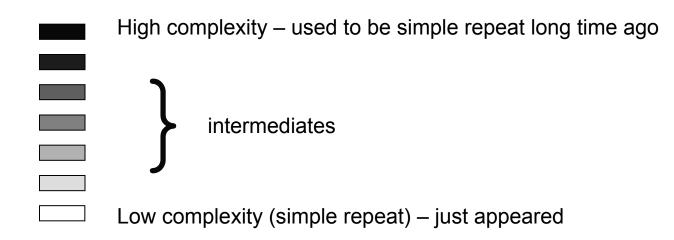
A DIFFERENT VIEW ON CANCER, EXPANSION DISEASES AND DISEASES WITH UNKNOWN CAUSATIVE AGENT:

The repeats in the diseases are not **Symptoms**. They are **CAUSE** of the diseases.





Genomes are all built from simple repeats. Just many of them already unrecognizable



GAA GAA CAA GAA GGA GAU GAA GAA UAC GAG GAA GAA AAA CAA GAA CAA GGA GGA AAU GAA GCA UAC GAG GAA GGA AAU CAG GUA CAG GGU GGA AAU GAA GCC UUC GGG GAA CGG ACU CAG AUA CCG GGU GGG AAU UAC GCC UUC UGG AAA CGG ACU CCG AUA CCG UGU GGG ACU UAC UCC UUC UGG AAC CGG ACU CCG AUC CCG UGU UGG ACU UCC UCC UUC UGG AGC CGG ACU

83	138448	TTTTTTTTTTTTGA T_n
84	137643	TCAAAAAAAAAAAA A_n
85	135070	TTTTTTTTTTTTGAG T_n
86	134465	TTTTTTTTTTTGAGA T_n
87	134262	CTCAAAAAAAAAAA A_n
88	133917	TCTCAAAAAAAAA A
		- Alu and variants of the above
185	85432	TTTATTTATTTATTT TTTA _n
186	85142	AAATAAATAAATAAA AAAT _n
293	70591	AGAGAGAGAGAGAGA AG _n
298	70411	TCTCTCTCTCTCTCT TC _n
945	33435	AATAATAATAATAAT AAT _n
999	31742	CTTCCTTCCTTCCTT TTCC _n

The list ends at line ~700 000 000

~300 000 000 15-mers do not appear at all (of total 1 073 741 824)

GCTGGGATTACAGGC

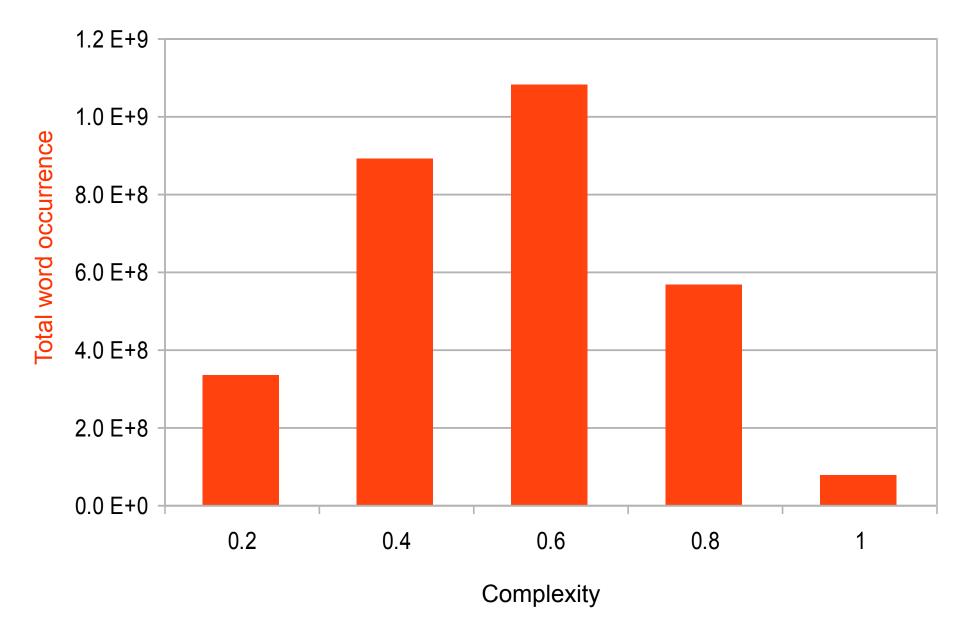
GCT	RYY
GGG	RRR
ATT	RYY
ACA	RYR
GGC	RRY

(Gct)_n (RYY)_n

In the vocabulary of human genome 15-mers the simple repeats (low complexity words) dominate.

The high complexity words (of no repeat structure) are expected to be rather avoided.

Occurrences of simple sequence 15-mers are anomalously high



GCTGGGATTACAGGC (Alu sequence) (complexity 0.68)

GCT GGG ATT ACA GGC

repeating RYY_5

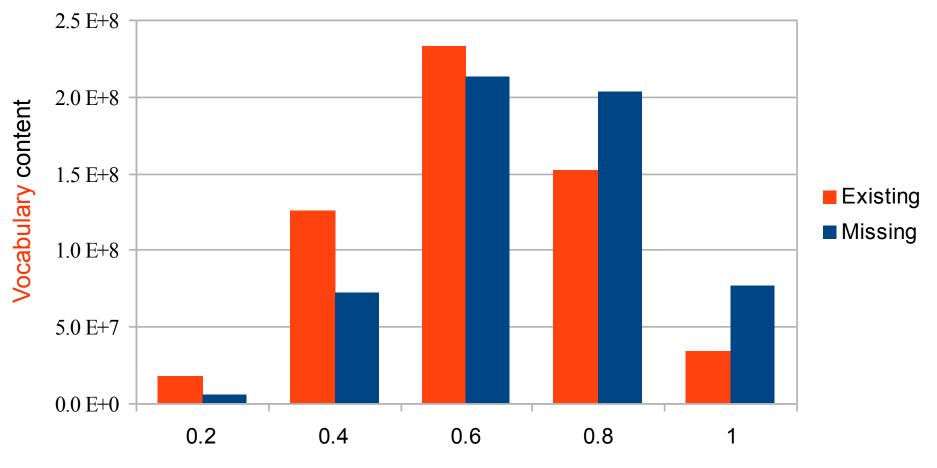
GCT₅ aggressive triplet

TWO STRANDS OF THE SAME REPEATING DUPLEX

ARE REPRESENTED IN MRNA SEQUENCE BY 6 DIFFERENT TRIPLETS

AGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGC

15-mers of human genome are on low sequence complexity side. High complexity words are rather avoided



Complexity

Genomes are simpler than we have thought

They are dominated by simple sequences

because they originate from simple sequences,

as non-stop local births of new life