

Module 1

Understanding and Exploring Genome Assemblies

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Genome assembly generation

- The Genome Reference Consortium
- Generating Assemblies
- Working With Assemblies

Browsing genome assemblies

- Genome browsing
- The Ensembl gene set
- Guided examples
- [Make your own data visible: BED files]

Genome assembly generation

- The Genome Reference Consortium
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- Working With Assemblies

Genome Reference Consortium

genomereference.org



International consortium looking after human, mouse and zebrafish reference assemblies

- maintaining reference assemblies
- improving reference assemblies
- adding variation
- All issues documented on website

GRCz10 released August 2014

GRCz11 released May 2017

Within GRC:

- Handover from Sanger Institute to ZFIN after GRCz11
- Curation now only in reaction to user enquiries!

Generating zebrafish assemblies

- Restriction analysis (Fingerprint) and clone contig building (FPC map)
- Meiotic and RH maps
- Fill in WGS contigs
- Check and adjust with additional data (e.g. BioNano maps, Strandseq)

Individual components

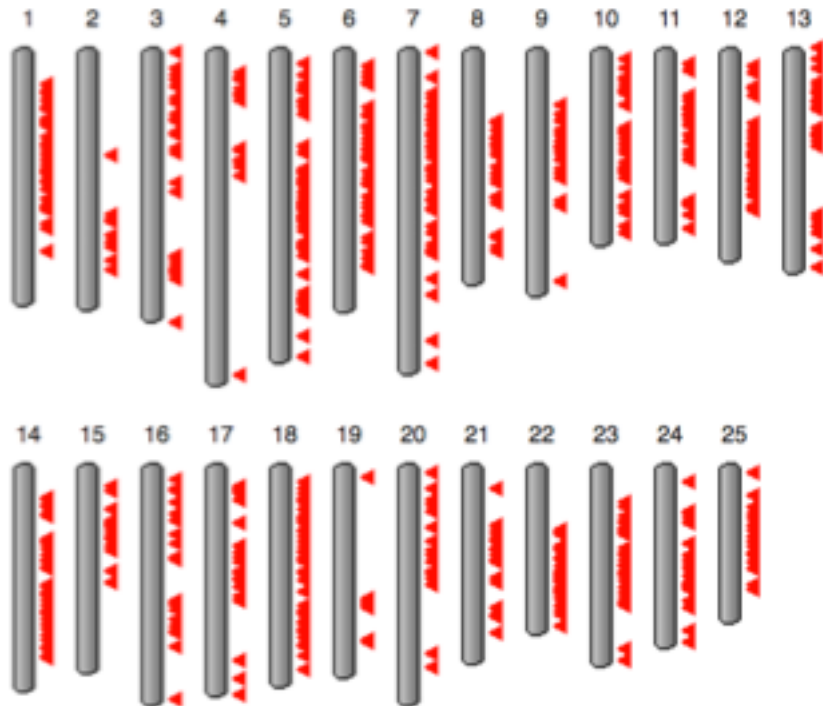


Scaffolds



chromosomes

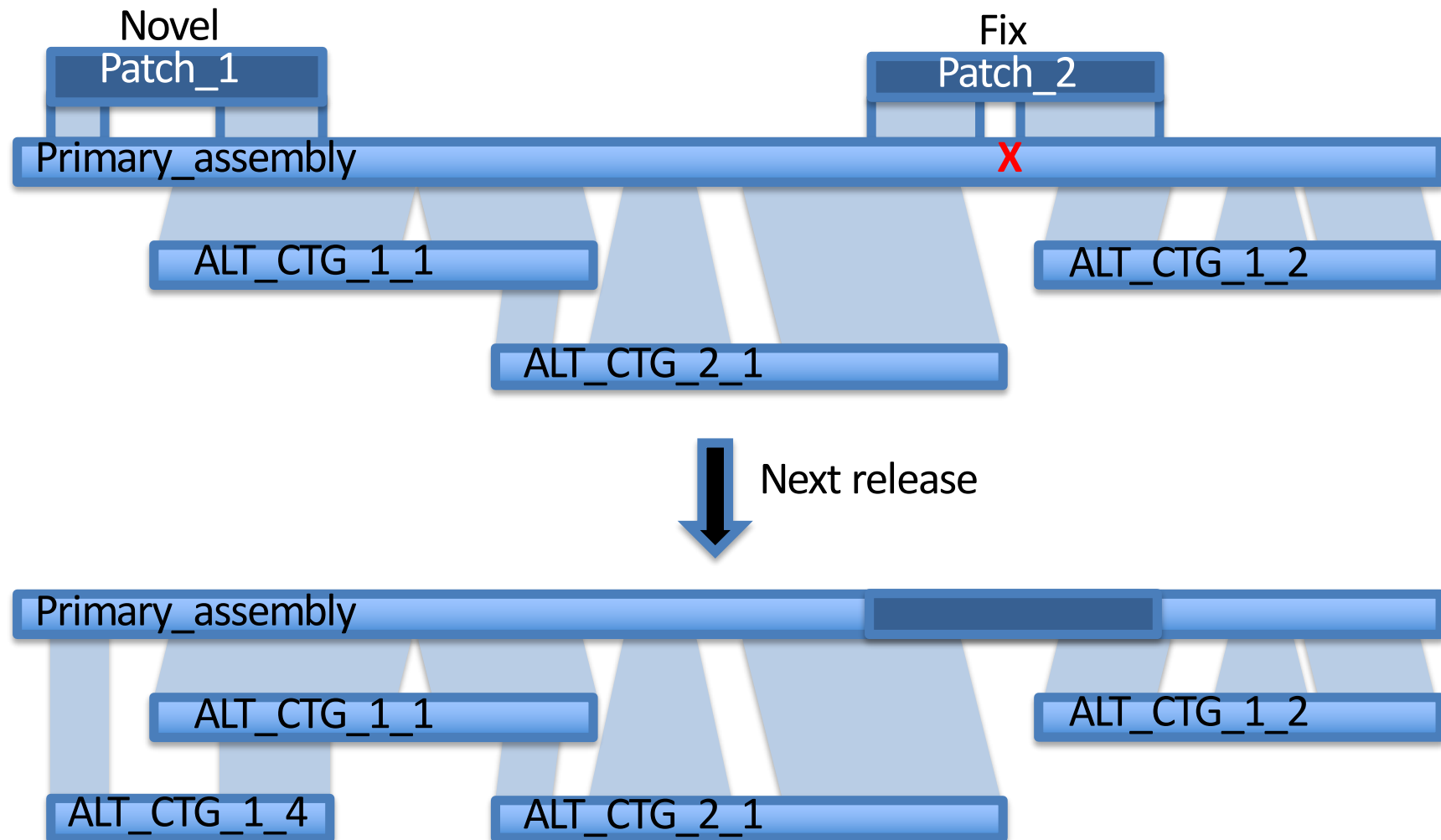
ALT_REF_LOCI



930 ALT_REF_LOCI for GRCz11

Generating Assemblies

...and another layer: Patches



Working With Assemblies

You might want to

- Find a clone that covers a feature
- Confirm that a region is correctly positioned
- Find out whether a gap could be closed
- Check whether a gene is really duplicated

Help is at hand

- zfish-help@sanger.ac.uk
- Ensembl
-  geval.sanger.ac.uk



geval.sanger.ac.uk

- genome evaluation browser
- Numerous assembly versions
- alignments of BAC/FOS ends, markers, optical maps, cDNAs, other genome assemblies, etc. to check consistency in the assembly
- reports GRC investigations
- offers 'punchlists' denoting issues with an assembly
- extensive documentation
- featured [GRCz11](#) from release date

Module 1: Understanding and Exploring Genome Assemblies

geval.sanger.ac.uk

The screenshot displays the gEVAL website interface. At the top, the gEVAL logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Tools', 'Help & Documentation', 'Blog', and 'About us' are in the center. A search bar on the right contains the text 'Search gEVAL...'. Below the header, a search bar prompts the user to 'Choose an assembly' for a specific search. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- gEVAL: Genome Evaluation Browser**: A descriptive paragraph about the browser's capabilities and its role in improving genome assemblies.
- Commonly viewed genomes**: A grid of icons for Zebrafish (GRCz11), Mouse (GRCm38.p6), Human (GRC38p5), and Pig (Sscrofa11.1). A red arrow points to the Zebrafish icon.
- About the Project**: Information about the project's affiliation with the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute and the Genome Reference Consortium (GRC).
- How to Cite**: Citation information for the gEVAL browser, including authors and a PMID.
- Browse a Genome**: A grid of buttons for browsing various genome assemblies, including Human, Mouse, Zebrafish, Pig, Rat, Parasitic Helminth, Chicken, and Tasmanian Devil.
- gEVAL sister site: 18 mice strains (MGP)**: A link to a sister site for mouse genome assemblies.
- Are you interested in adding your assembly into the list above? Or like to incorporate your dataset into gEVAL?**: A call to action with a 'Contact us' button.

On the right side, there is a yellow sidebar with the heading 'New to gEVAL?'. It includes a 'New to gEVAL?' icon, a paragraph about a walkthrough and FAQ, and a list of links: 'Help & Documentation', 'Walkthrough', and 'FAQs'. Below this is a video player titled 'Introduction to gEVAL' by William Chow, with a 'Present' button and a link to the video.

At the bottom right, there is a 'Tweets' section by @geval_browser, featuring a tweet from Genome Reference (@GenomeRef) about improvements to the 5s rRNA region in GRCh38.p11, with a link to a blog post.

Browsing genome assemblies

- Genome browsing
- The Ensembl gene set
- Guided examples
- [Make your own data visible: BED files]

Genome Browsers

- NCBI Map Viewer <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mapview/>
- UCSC Genome Browser <http://genome.ucsc.edu/>
- Ensembl Genome Browser <http://www.ensembl.org/>

The screenshot shows the Ensembl genome browser homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Ensembl logo and links for BLAST/BLAT, VEP, Tools, BioMart, Downloads, Help & Docs, and Blog. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. Below the header, there are several sections: 'Tools' with links to 'All tools', 'BioMart >', 'BLAST/BLAT >', and 'Variant Effect Predictor >'; a 'Search' section with a search bar and a button; 'All genomes' with a dropdown menu and links to 'View full list of all Ensembl species' and 'Edit your favourites'; 'Favourite genomes' with icons and names for Human (GRCm38 p12), Mouse (GRCm38 p6), and Zebrafish (GRCz11); and a 'News' section titled 'Ensembl Release 92 (April 2018)' with a list of updates and a 'Go to Ensembl blog!' link. At the bottom, there are six icons representing different features: 'Compare genes across species', 'Find SNPs and other variants for my gene', 'Gene expression in different tissues', 'Retrieve gene sequence', 'Find a Data Display', and 'Use my own data in Ensembl'. The footer contains the Ensembl-EBI logo, a paragraph of text about Ensembl's mission and funding, and the Ensembl logo with the text 'Ensembl - The Genome Browser'.

**Caveat:
check the
assembly
version!**

Ensembl : What annotation is available?

- **Genes** protein coding genes
gene/transcript/peptide models (coding and non-coding)
- **Comparative data** orthologues and paralogues, gene trees
protein families
whole genome alignments
syntenic regions
- **Variation data** Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs), indels, phenotypes,
population frequencies, variant effect prediction (VEP), etc.
- **Regulatory data** e.g. regulatory elements from ENCODE
- **IDs** crossreferences to other databases
- **aligned data** cDNAs, RNAseq, peptides, micro array probes, BAC clones, etc.
- **Cytogenetic bands, markers, repeats** etc.
- **External resources** e.g. GRC trackhub, mapped next-gen reads

The Ensembl gene set

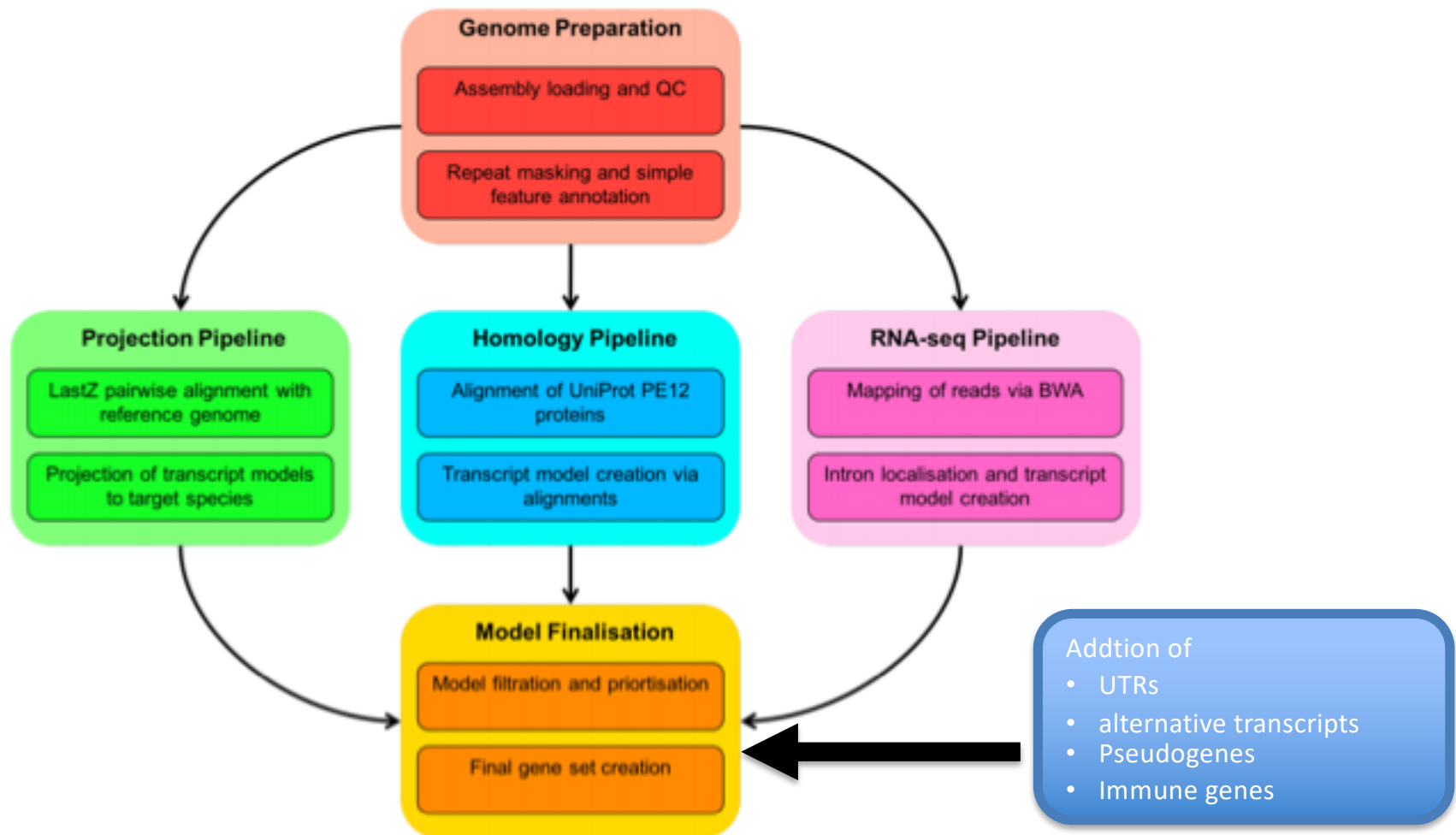
- Bimonthly releases, updated gene set ~ every 6 months
- New 'Genebuild' with every new assembly

The following archives are available for this page:

- [Ensembl 91: Dec 2017](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 90: Aug 2017](#) (GRCz10) - patched/updated gene set Jun 2017
- [Ensembl 89: May 2017](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 88: Mar 2017](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 87: Dec 2016](#) (GRCz10) - patched/updated gene set Nov 2016
- [Ensembl 86: Oct 2016](#) (GRCz10) - patched/updated gene set Jul 2016
- [Ensembl 85: Jul 2016](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 84: Mar 2016](#) (GRCz10) - patched/updated gene set Jan 2016
- [Ensembl 83: Dec 2015](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 82: Sep 2015](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 81: Jul 2015](#) (GRCz10)
- [Ensembl 80: May 2015](#) (GRCz10) - gene set updated May 2015
- [Ensembl 79: Mar 2015](#) (Zv9)
- [Ensembl 78: Dec 2014](#) (Zv9)
- [Ensembl 77: Oct 2014](#) (Zv9)
- [Ensembl 76: Aug 2014](#) (Zv9)
- [Ensembl 75: Feb 2014](#) (Zv9) - patched/updated gene set Feb 2014
- [Ensembl 74: Dec 2013](#) (Zv9) - patched/updated gene set Jul 2013
- [Ensembl 67: May 2012](#) (Zv9) - patched/updated gene set Mar 2012
- [Ensembl 54: May 2009](#) (Zv8) - gene set updated Apr 2009

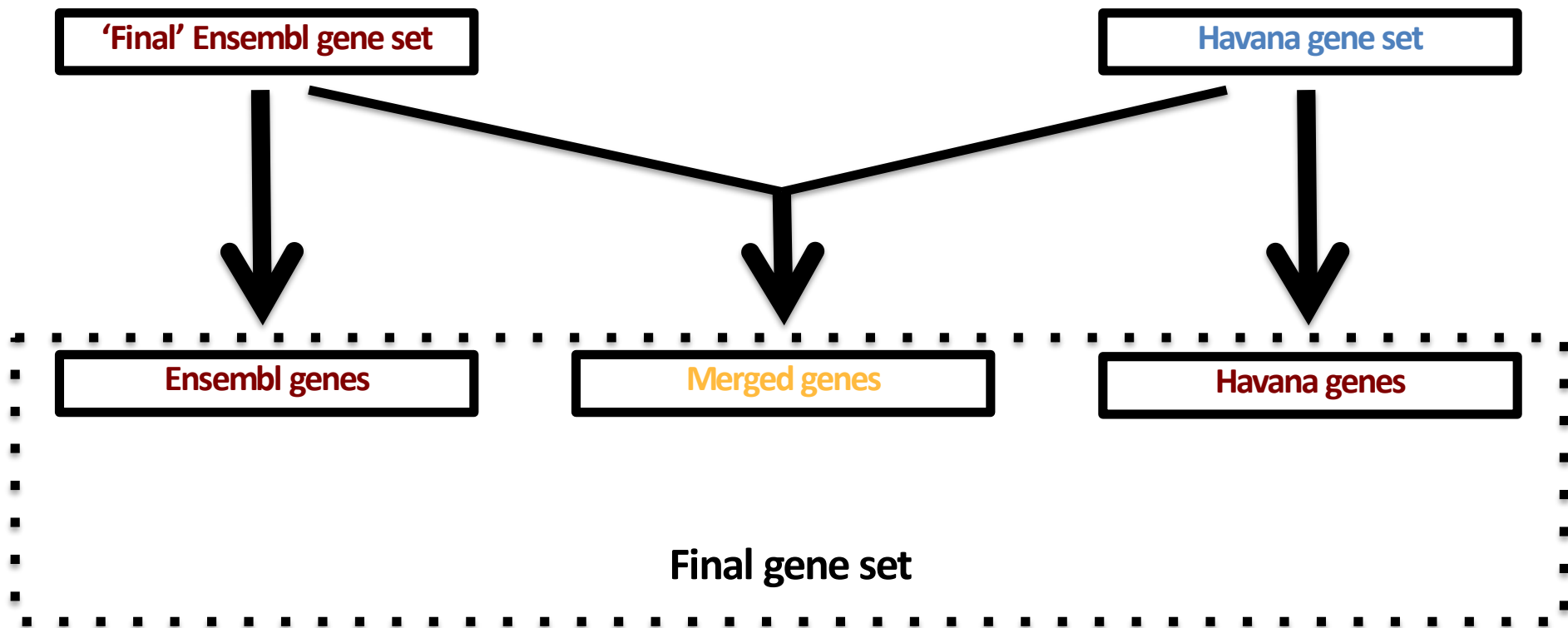
- **Genes are built on evidence, no gene is predicted on sequence alone!**

The Ensembl gene build

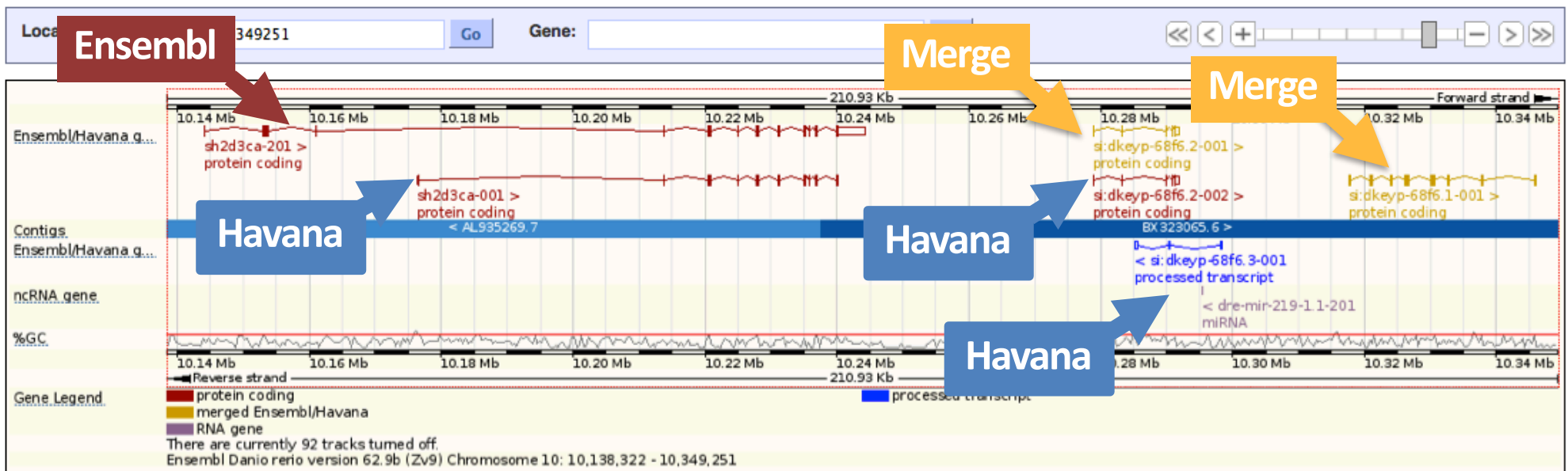
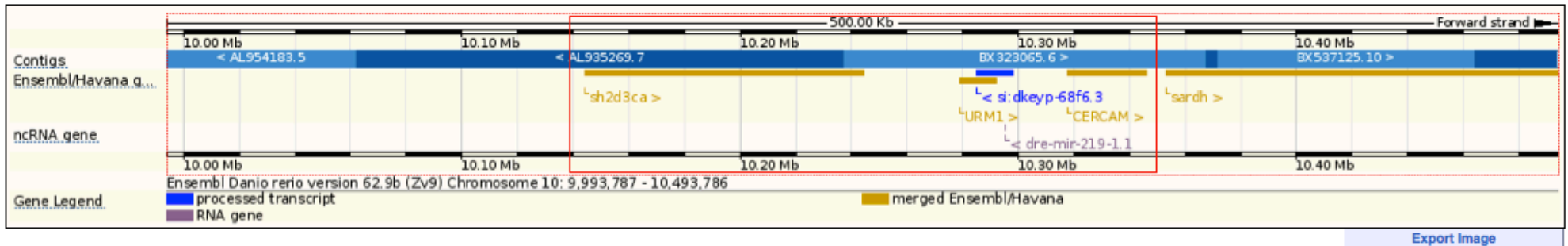


The Ensembl gene build : Gene merge

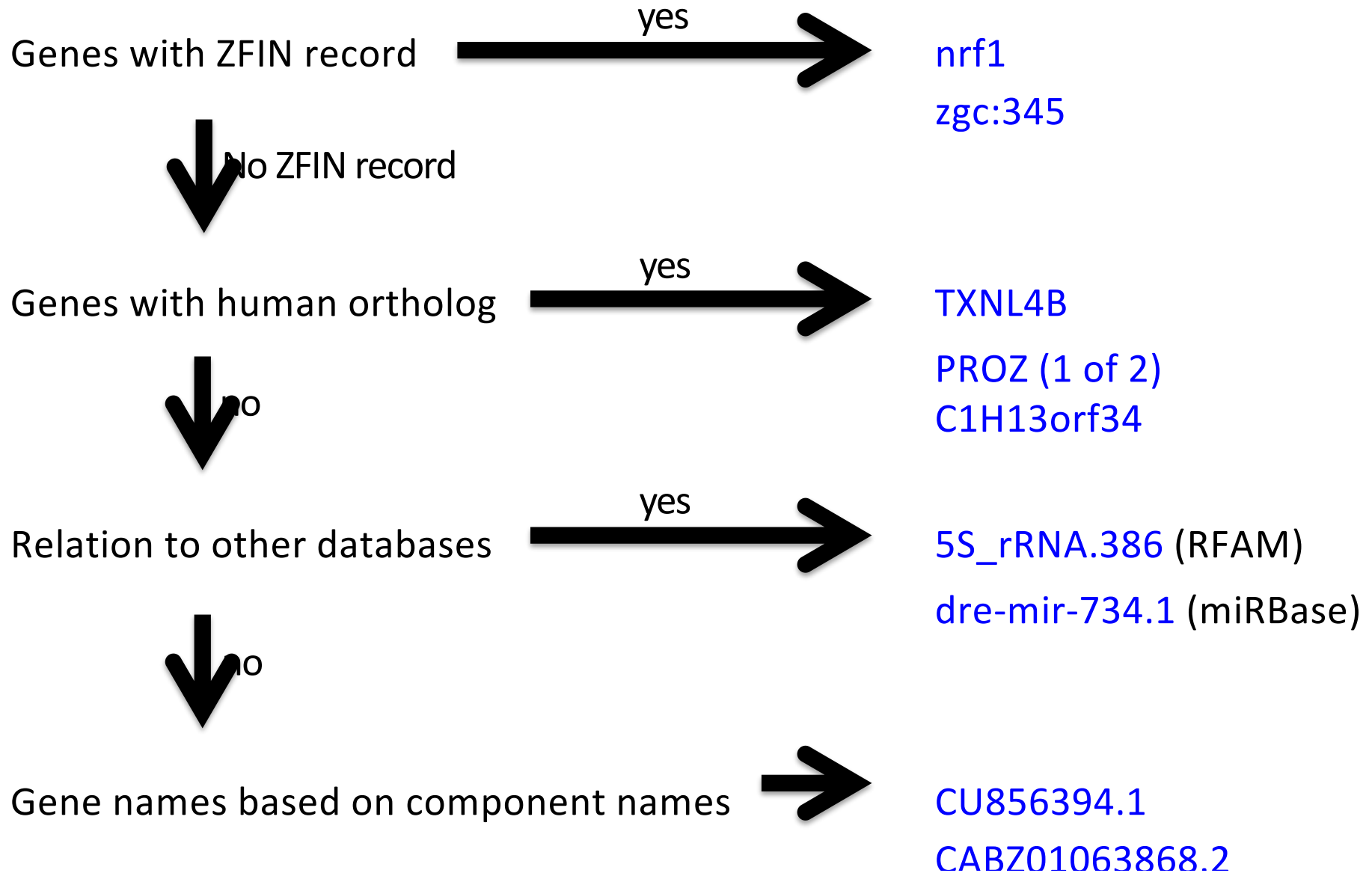
Getting the optimum gene set by combining automated and manual annotation



The Ensembl gene build : Gene merge



Ensembl gene names



Access to Genome Annotation

- Release web site <http://www.ensembl.org/>
- Archive <http://archive.ensembl.org>
- BioMart <http://www.ensembl.org/biomart/martview>
- Downloads <http://www.ensembl.org/info/data/ftp/index.html>
- Perl API <http://www.ensembl.org/info/docs/index.html>
- REST API

Help and Information

- Zebrafish specific help zfish-help@sanger.ac.uk / zfinadmin@zfin.org
- Zebrafish genome project at Sanger Institute
www.sanger.ac.uk/science/data/zebrafish-genome-project
- Zebrafish at the GRC genomereference.org
- Zebrafish genome assembly evaluation geval.sanger.ac.uk
- Ensembl helpdesk helpdesk@ensembl.org
- View animated tutorials
www.ensembl.org/info/website/tutorials/index.html
- Mailing lists: announce@ensembl.org
ensembl-dev@ensembl.org

Guided examples

- A stroll through Ensembl - abbreviated
- Introduction to BioMart - abbreviated
- Making your own data visible (in your own time)