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John Inglis Executive Director and Publisher Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press

Tri-Institutional Collaboration Network Symposium on Public Access To Scholarly Research, April 16, 2014



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COLD SPRING HARBOR Perspectives in Biology VOLUME 6 + 15SUE 4 APRIL 2014



## Founded 2011



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## Breakpoint profiling of 64 cancer genomes reveals numerous complex rearrangements spawned by homology-independent mechanisms

Ankit Malhotra<sup>1</sup>, Michael Lindberg<sup>1</sup>, Gregory G. Faust<sup>1,2</sup>, Mitchell L. Leibowitz<sup>1</sup>, Royden A. Clark<sup>1</sup>, Ryan M. Layer<sup>1,2</sup>, Aaron R. Quinlan<sup>1,3,4,5</sup> and Ira M. Hall<sup>1,3,5</sup>

+ Author Affiliations

#### Abstract

Tumor genomes are generally thought to evolve through a gradual accumulation of mutations, but the observation that extraordinarily complex rearrangements can arise through single mutational events suggests that evolution may be accelerated by punctuated changes in genome architecture. To assess the prevalence and origins of complex genomic rearrangements (CGRs), we mapped 6179 somatic structural variation breakpoints in 64 cancer genomes from seven tumor types and screened for clusters of three or more interconnected breakpoints. We find that complex breakpoint clusters are extremely common: 154 clusters comprise 25% of all somatic breakpoints, and 75% of tumors exhibit at least one complex cluster. Based on copy number state profiling, 63% of breakpoint clusters are consistent with being CGRs that arose through a single

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Genome Res. May 2013; 23(5): 762–776. doi: 10.1101/gr.143677.112 PMCID: PMC3638133

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#### Abstract

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Tumor genomes are generally thought to evolve through a gradual accumulation of mutations, but the observation that extraordinarily complex rearrangements can arise through single mutational events suggests that evolution may be accelerated by punctuated changes in genome architecture. To assess the prevalence and origins of complex genomic rearrangements (CGRs), we mapped 6179 somatic structural variation breakpoints in 64 cancer genomes from seven tumor types and screened for clusters of three or more interconnected breakpoints. We find that complex breakpoint clusters are extremely common: 154 clusters comprise 25% of all somatic breakpoints, and 75% of tumors exhibit at least one complex cluster. Based on copy number state profiling, 63% of breakpoint clusters are consistent with being CGRs that arose through a single mutational event. CGRs have diverse architectures including focal breakpoint clusters, large-scale rearrangements joining clusters from one or more chromosomes, and staggeringly complex chromothripsis events. Notably, chromothripsis has a significantly higher

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Joseph Pickrell, David Reich doi: 10.1101/003517

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