

Fossilized chromosomes from woolly mammoth

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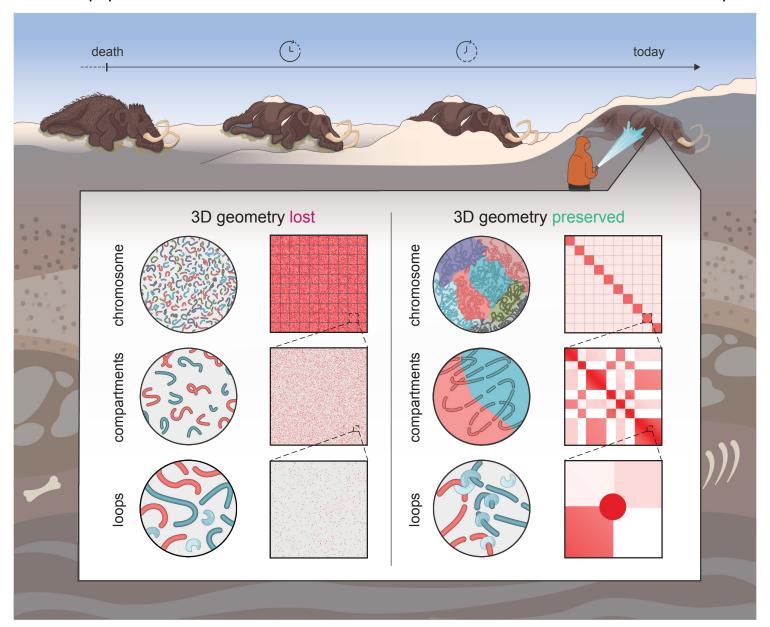


Juan Antonio Rodríguez (ex) Marti-Renom Lab



Cynthia Perez Estrada (ex) Aiden Lab

### What happens to the nucleus in 10s of thousands of years?



# A "whoolly" phenomenal sample



Photo credit: Chris Waddle

Dan Fisher
UMich, Museum of Paleontology

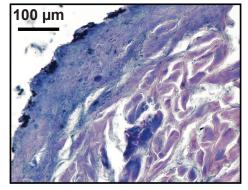
Valeri Plotnikov Sakha Academy of Sciences

- Found in permafrost in the summer of 2018
- Belaya Gora in Yakutia, Russia
- Date >45,000 years

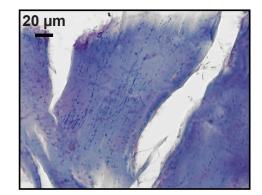












Limitations of (a)DNA-Seq

#### What is in the genome?

Need chrom-length de novo assemblies! aDNA-Seq relies on modern references



### What is expressed in individual tissues?

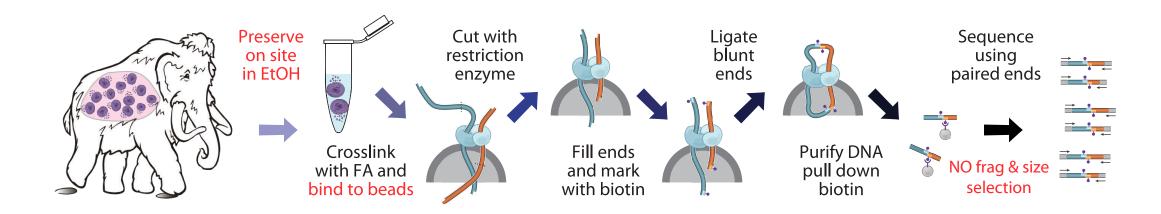
Need to probe transcriptional activity!

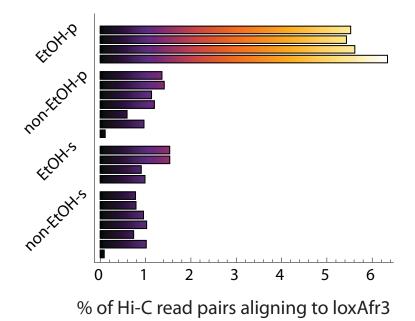


### How expression patterns arise?

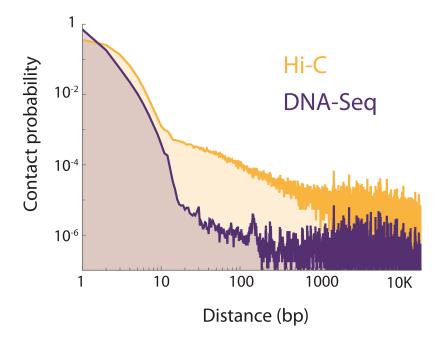


### Paleo-HiC improves endogenous long-range contact recovery



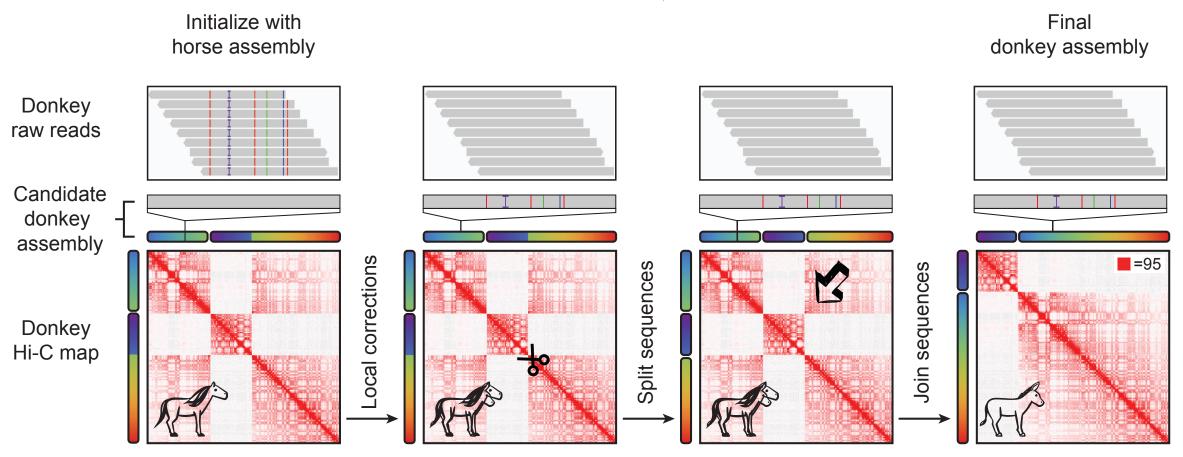


Total read count	4,444,894,354
Unique paired alignments (loxAfr3)	24,415,411
Unique paired (%)	0.55%
Long-range (20kb)	1,763,225
Long-range (%)	0.04%



# Hi-C assisted assembly

Dubchenko et al. Science. 2017 Apr 7;356(6333):92-95



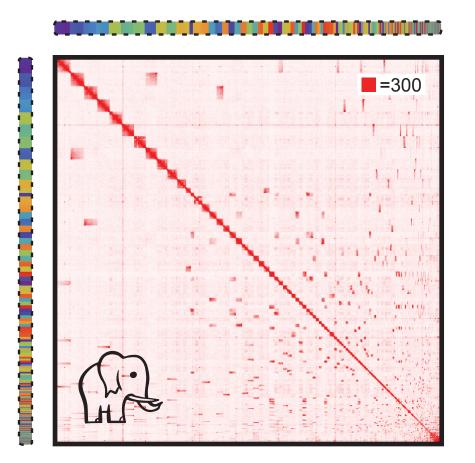
correct · split · orient · order

### This is a Hi-C from mammoth

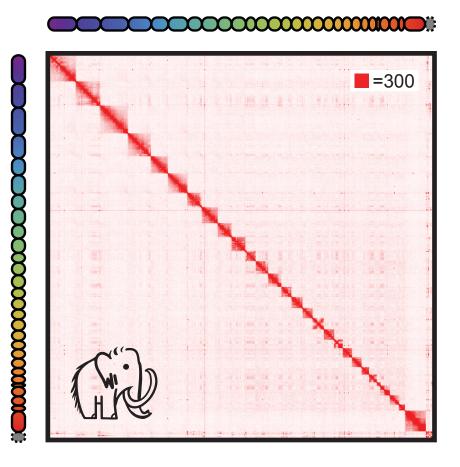
based on Loxafr3.0

PaleoHi-C vs Loxafr3.0, fragmentary African elephant assembly

PaleoHi-C vs MamPri\_Loxafr3.0\_assisted\_HiC, chromosome-length mammoth assembly



3D assisted assembly



Limitations of (a)DNA-Seq

Hallmarks of a successful Hi-C experiment

#### What is in the genome?

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- Chromosome territories

Facilitates de novo assembly of whole chromosomes

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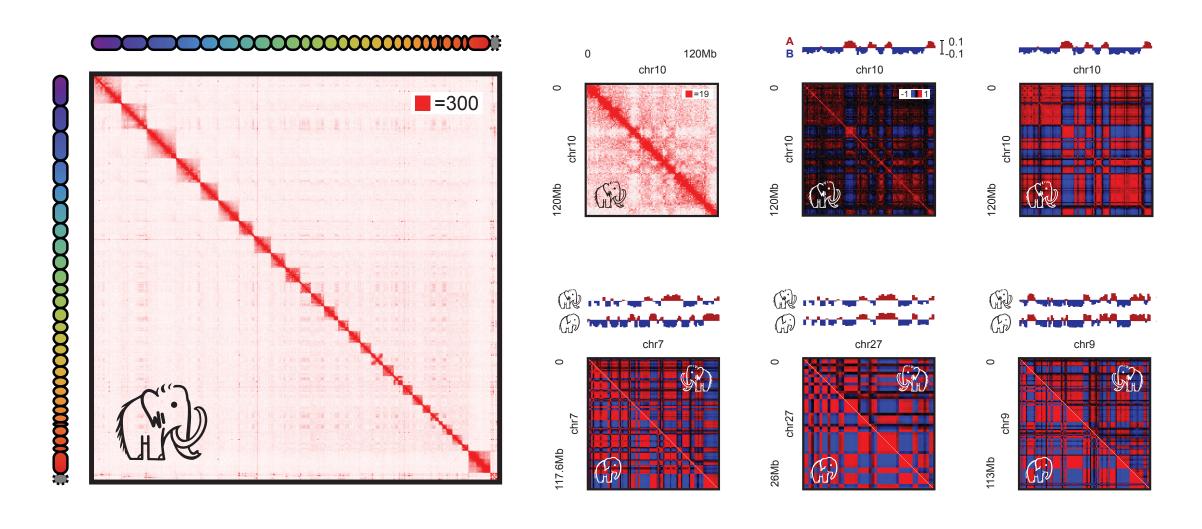
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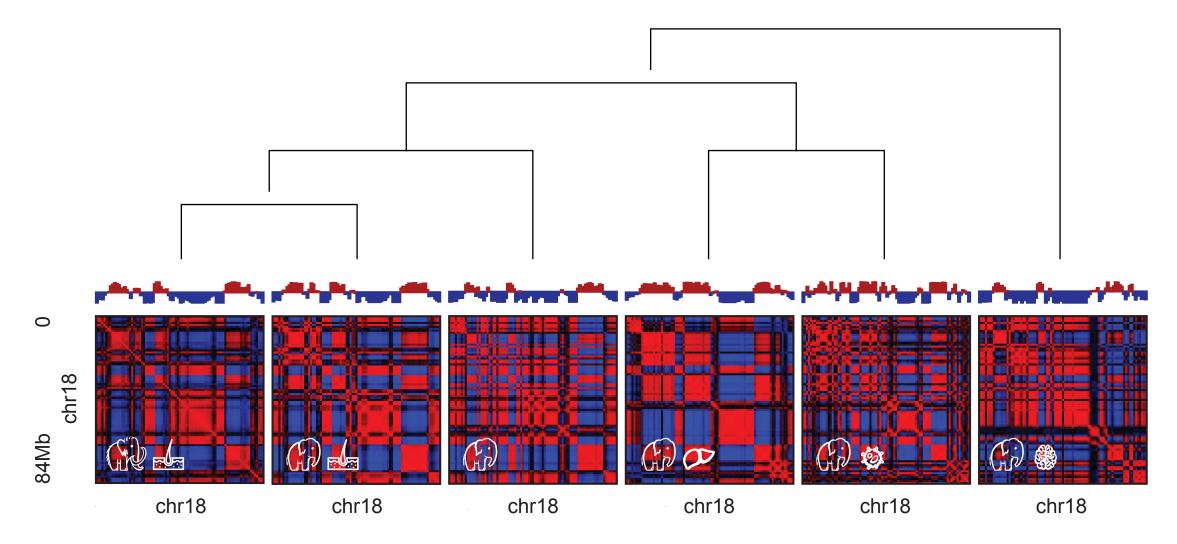
How expression patterns arise?



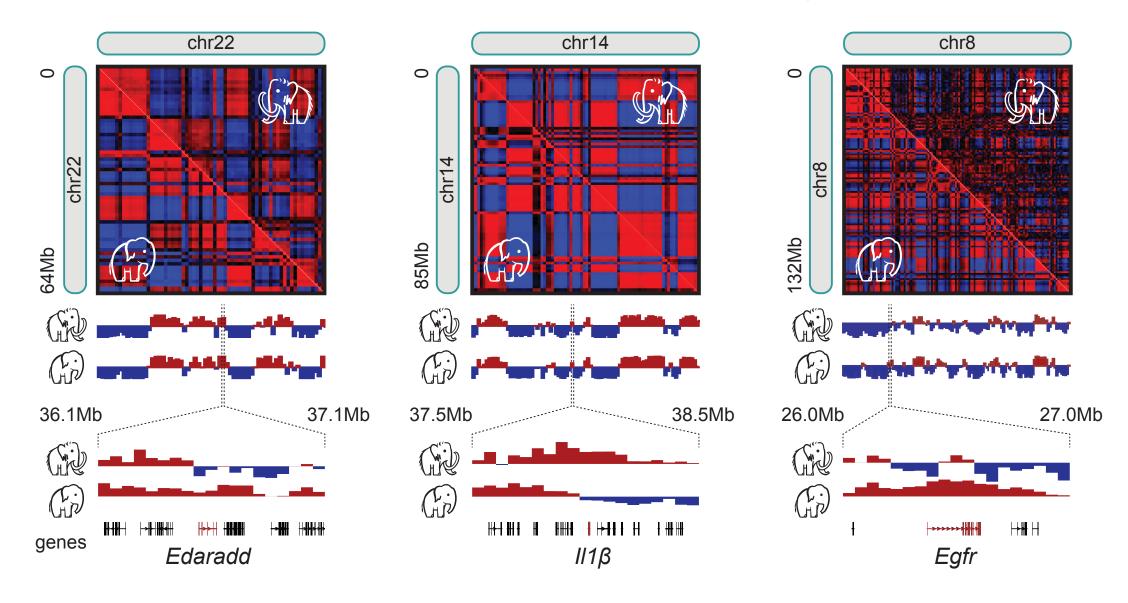
### Compartments preserved in a 47K years old sample



# Tissue specific compartmentalization



## 52 Mammoth Altered Regulation Sequences (MARS)



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Hallmarks of a successful Hi-C experiment

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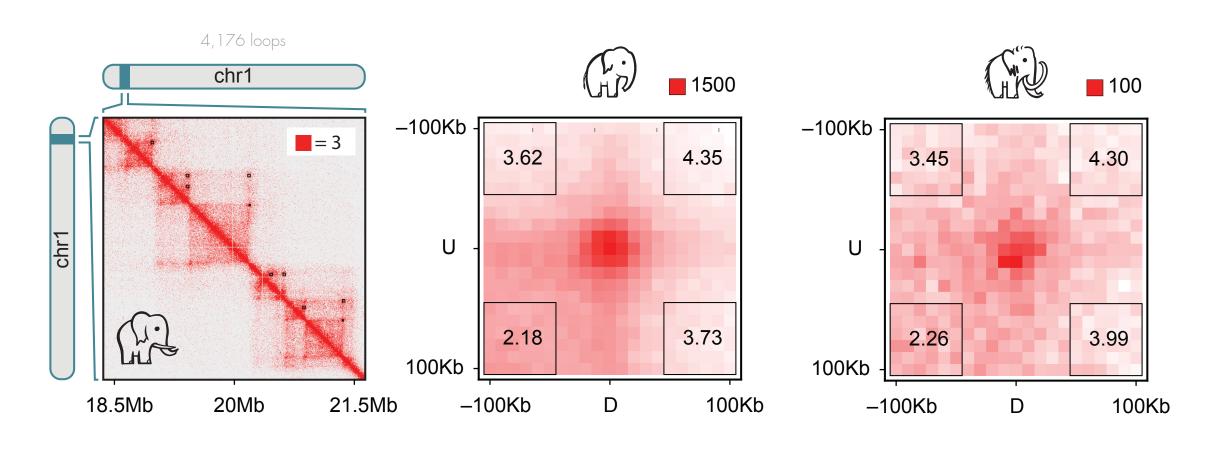
- Active and inactive chromatin compartments
Probes **Transcriptional activity** 

#### How expression patterns arise?

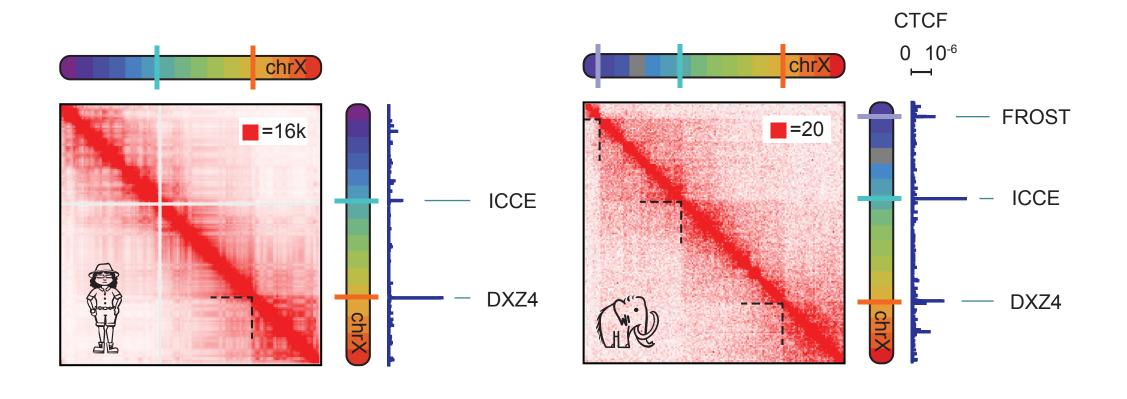


# Paleo-hic recovers loop signatures!

Rao, Huntley et al., Cell 2014



# Inactive chromosome X segregates



Limitations of (a)DNA-Seq

Hallmarks of a successful Hi-C experiment

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Probes **Transcriptional activity** 

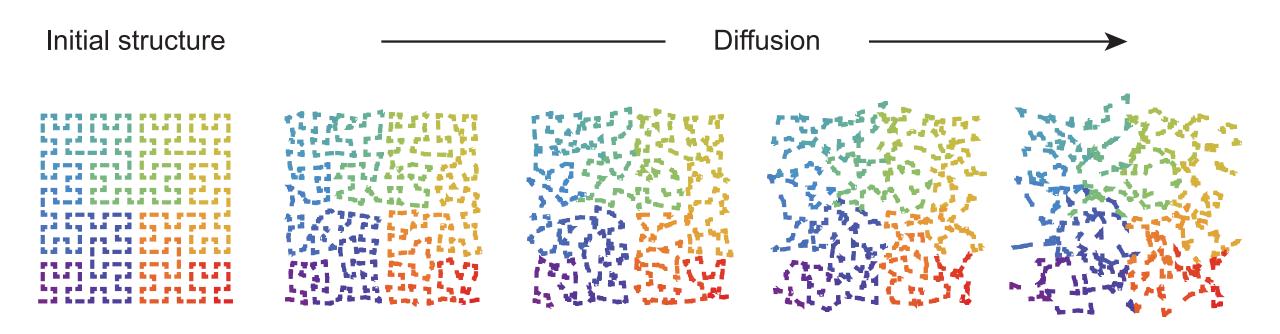
#### How expression patterns arise?



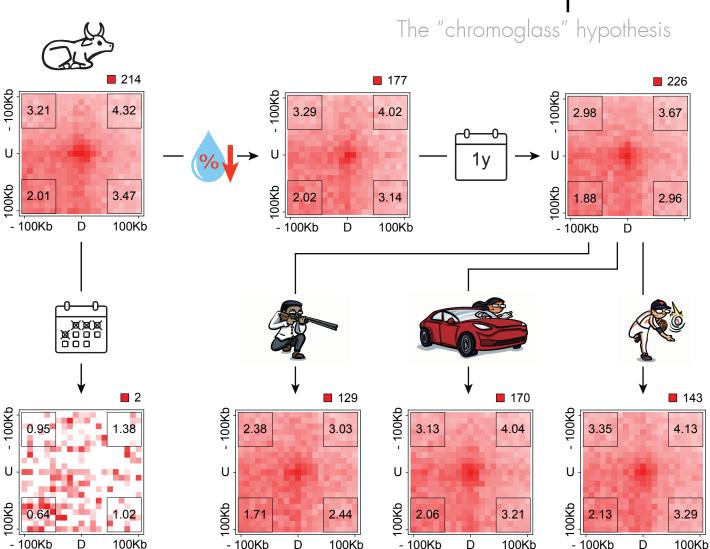
- Chromatin Loops
  Reveals regulation of individual genes
- Barr body of the inactive X Reflects **chromosome-scale dosage compensation**

# How is this possible?

The "chromoglass" hypothesis



# How is this possible?



#### THREE-DIMENSIONAL GENOME ARCHITECTURE PERSISTS IN A 52,000-YEAR-OLD WOOLLY MAMMOTH SKIN SAMPLE

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Cell 2024



### Take home messages:



Mammoth toot Photo credit: Love Dalén

- Hi-C was done in a 52,000-year-old well conserved sample.
- Chromosome fossils also enable to assemble the entire genome of extinct species.
- Chromosome fossils help to interpret how the genomes of those species were organized in space as well as its functional activity.
- Key mammoth genes associated with hair follicle development were active in mammoth compared to modern elephants.
- Specific loop interactions in the genome regulating gene expression were also visible and conserved in the mammoth sample.
- Chromoglass (a glass-like-state of the chromosomes) allowed the genome structure to be physically conserved over such long period of time.

https://tinyurl.com/MammothPaper

http://marciuslab.org
http://3DGenomes.org















Juan Antonio Rodríguez



Love Dalén



Jordan Rowley



Aurora Ruiz-Herrera



Kerstin Lidblad-Toh, Federica Di Palma et al.



The DNAZoo









Marcela Sandoval Velasco Tom Gilbert



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