

# 1 Recessive deleterious variation has a limited impact on signals of adaptive 2 introgression in human populations

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## 15 16 17 Abstract

18  
19 Admixture with archaic hominins has altered the landscape of genomic variation in modern  
20 human populations. Several gene regions have been previously identified as candidates of  
21 adaptive introgression (AI) that facilitated human adaptation to specific environments. However,  
22 simulation-based studies have suggested that population genetics processes other than adaptive  
23 mutations, such as heterosis from recessive deleterious variants private to populations before  
24 admixture, can also lead to patterns in genomic data that resemble adaptive introgression. The  
25 extent to which the presence of deleterious variants affect the false-positive rate and the power of  
26 current methods to detect AI has not been fully assessed. Here, we used extensive simulations to  
27 show that recessive deleterious mutations can increase the false positive rates of tests for AI  
28 compared to models without deleterious variants. We further examined candidates of AI in  
29 modern humans identified from previous studies and show that, although deleterious variants  
30 may hinder the performance of AI detection in modern humans, most signals remained robust  
31 when deleterious variants are included in the null model. While deleterious variants may have a  
32 limited impact on detecting signals of adaptive introgression in humans, we found that at least  
33 two AI candidate genes, *HYAL2* and *HLA*, are particularly susceptible to high false positive rates  
34 due to the recessive deleterious mutations. By quantifying parameters that affect heterosis, we  
35 show that the high false positives are largely attributed to the high exon densities together with  
36 low recombination rates in the genomic regions, which can further be exaggerated by the  
37 population growth in recent human evolution. Although the combination of such parameters is  
38 rare in the human genome, caution is still warranted in other species with different genomic  
39 composition and demographic histories.

## 40 41 42 Introduction

43  
44 Gene flow between populations can rapidly increase the genetic variation in the recipient  
45 group by introducing new variants from a different population. If some of this genetic variation  
46 increases an organism's survival and reproduction, it can be considered adaptive. Adaptive

47 introgression has been found to facilitate adaptation to local environments in a wide range of  
48 taxa, from plants to animals<sup>1-4</sup>. In modern humans, introgression with archaic hominins,  
49 including Neanderthals<sup>5,6</sup> and Denisovans<sup>7,8</sup>, has changed the genomic diversity of and supplied  
50 adaptive alleles to most populations outside of Africa. Previous studies have identified at least 30  
51 candidate genomic regions in modern humans that were putatively adaptively introgressed<sup>9-19</sup> –  
52 among which one of the most well-known example is a Denisovan-like haplotype at the *EPAS1*  
53 gene that facilitated adaptation to high altitude in the Tibetan population<sup>20,21</sup>. As of today, the  
54 putative AI tracts in modern humans can be traced back to Neanderthals<sup>9,18,19,22</sup>, Denisovans<sup>13,20</sup>,  
55 unknown archaic groups<sup>23,24</sup>, or a mix of more than one population<sup>1,22</sup>.

56 The detection of adaptive introgression mostly relies on independently looking for  
57 signatures of introgression<sup>22,24-27</sup> and signatures of positive selection<sup>28-33</sup>. Additionally, a number  
58 of allele frequency-based summary statistics have been shown to be particularly powerful at  
59 directly inferring AI without needing to apply separate tests for introgression or selection at  
60 genomic regions. These statistics include: the number of uniquely shared alleles between donor  
61 and recipient population (U statistic), the quantile distribution of derived alleles in recipient (Q  
62 statistic), and sequence divergence ratio (RD)<sup>11</sup>. Racimo *et al.*<sup>11</sup> further demonstrated the  
63 robustness of these statistics to several factors that may confound the detection of AI, including  
64 incomplete lineage sorting and ancestral population structure.

65 While there is tremendous interest in identifying candidate regions for AI, most  
66 mutations that occur in genomes are likely either neutral or deleterious<sup>34</sup>. Deleterious mutations  
67 continue to accumulate in the distinct populations after they split from each other<sup>35</sup>. These  
68 deleterious mutations can also affect the genomic landscape in the recipient population after  
69 introgression. The genetic load (i.e. reduction in population fitness due to deleterious variants) of  
70 archaic hominins is usually higher than modern humans due to the former's small effective  
71 population size<sup>5</sup>. Thus, most introgressed archaic ancestry is ultimately purged from the modern  
72 human gene pool<sup>36,37</sup>. Conversely, a higher frequency of archaic variants and longer introgressed  
73 tracts are the typical signatures indicating adaptive introgression. However, recent studies  
74 suggest that other population genetics processes can also generate long introgressed tracts at high  
75 frequencies in a recipient population. For example, if many deleterious mutations are recessive,  
76 and are private to one population<sup>38-40</sup>, after introgression homozygous recessive alleles (from  
77 either donor or recipient) will most likely become heterozygotes. In this situation, new  
78 haplotypes get created in the admixed population where the negative fitness effects on such  
79 variants are now reduced or eliminated. As such, an initial heterosis effect occurs (Fig. 1), since  
80 admixed individuals have higher fitness compared to unadmixed individuals due to the masking  
81 of recessive deleterious variants. The neutral markers nearby the recessive deleterious variants  
82 would also increase in frequency<sup>41,42</sup>, leading to an overall increase of introgressed ancestry in  
83 the admixed population<sup>37</sup>, resembling what is expected from adaptive introgression<sup>1,11</sup>.

84 As an example of this, Harris and Nielsen<sup>37</sup> simulated modern human-Neanderthal  
85 admixture, and suggested that the heterosis effect from recessive deleterious variants can  
86 increase the Neanderthal ancestry in modern humans by up to 3%. Kim *et al.*<sup>43</sup> showed that low  
87 recombination rate, high exon densities, and small recipient population size can all amplify the  
88 effect of deleterious variants leading to an increase in introgressed ancestry. However, both  
89 Harris and Nielsen and Kim *et al.* illustrated the confounding effect of deleterious variants on  
90 adaptive introgression by directly tracking the introgressed ancestry from simulations. Although  
91 straightforward and convenient in simulation studies, introgressed ancestry is difficult to  
92 precisely measure with the empirical data. Thus, it remains unclear whether other summary

93 statistics aimed to detect adaptive introgression are affected by the presence of deleterious  
94 variants.

95 Our present work aims to systematically explore the behavior of the summary statistics  
96 for detecting adaptive introgression in the presence of deleterious, recessive variants in realistic  
97 human demographic models. By performing extensive simulations under different evolutionary  
98 parameters (demography, recombination rate, and genic structure), we show that accounting for  
99 recessive deleterious mutations in the null model leads to an increase in false positive rates in  
100 most statistics due to the heterosis effect, with some statistics being more robust than others.

101 By examining the currently known AI candidate regions in modern humans, we show that  
102 at least several candidate genes previously identified as being under AI (*HYAL2*<sup>14</sup> and *HLA* gene  
103 cluster<sup>15</sup>) may alternatively be false-positives due to the presence of deleterious variants.  
104 However, we also show that most of the human AI candidate genes cannot be explained by  
105 deleterious variants, suggesting they may be genuine targets of AI. We further show that in  
106 *HYAL2*<sup>14</sup> and *HLA*, a combination of high exon density and low recombination rate is the main  
107 factor contributing to the high false positive rates in the two genes. The evolutionary history of  
108 humans, especially the recent rapid population growth, slightly increases the false positive rate as  
109 well. Despite the overall limited impact from recessive deleterious variants on AI signals in  
110 human populations, deleterious mutations remain a confounding factor for reliable AI detection  
111 in other organisms with certain combination of evolutionary parameters such as high exon  
112 density and low recombination rate. As such, effects from deleterious variants are not negligible  
113 and should be included in the null models for identifying candidate regions of AI.

114

115

## 116 Results

117

### 118 *Simulations and measurements of adaptive introgression*

119 We used the program SLiM 3.2.0<sup>44</sup> to simulate different models of admixture. Each of  
120 the models consists of three populations: an ancestral population at equilibrium that splits into  
121 two sub-populations (pD for “donor population” and pO for “outgroup”), and one of the  
122 subpopulations subsequently splits again after a period of time (pO, and pR for “recipient  
123 population”). After the second split, a pulse of admixture occurred at 10% from pD uni-  
124 directionally into pR, lasting for one generation. Fig. 2 shows an illustration of the two  
125 demographic models used herein: 1) Model\_0 (Fig. 2a) represents a demography where the  
126 recipient population size is 10 times smaller than the donor population size throughout the  
127 simulation; and 2) Model\_h (Fig. 2b) represents an estimated demography for modern humans,  
128 with a single pulse of archaic admixture introduced to the non-African population<sup>5–7,45,46</sup>.

129 Kim *et al.*<sup>15</sup> reported that a long-term population contraction can greatly influence the  
130 dynamics of introgression, and that a prolonged bottleneck in the recipient population leads to a  
131 drastic increase of introgressed ancestry when the deleterious mutations are recessive. Thus, we  
132 use Model\_0 as a general model to examine the robustness of the summary statistics when the  
133 heterosis effect from recessive deleterious variants is maximized. In contrast, Model\_h serves as  
134 a comparison to evaluate the behavior of the summary statistics under a realistic demography for  
135 human populations.

136 We introduced mutations in the simulations that could have one of four different effects  
137 on fitness: 1) “Neutral”: all mutations being neutral ( $s=0$ ); 2) “Deleterious”: recessive deleterious  
138 mutations present in the populations, drawn from a gamma distribution of fitness effect (DFE)

139 with a shape parameter of 0.186 and average selection coefficient of -0.01315(see Kim *et al.*<sup>47</sup>),  
140 as well as a 2.31:1 ratio<sup>48</sup> of nonsynonymous to synonymous mutations; 3) “Mild-Pos”: the  
141 Deleterious model with an adaptive mutation with milder strength of positive selection ( $s=0.01$ )  
142 introduced in pD (donor population) after the initial pD-pO split; 4) “Strong-Pos”: the  
143 Deleterious model with an adaptive mutation with stronger strength of positive selection ( $s=0.1$ )  
144 introduced in pD after the initial split.

145 All simulated sequences have a length of 5MB, with a genic structure that includes exons,  
146 introns, and intergenic regions. Under each model described above, we simulated 1) a 5MB  
147 region with the genic structure of a window in the human genome<sup>49</sup> that has the highest density  
148 of exons (chr11:62.3-67.3MB; referred to as “*Chr11Max*”; Supp. Fig. 1; also see Methods); 2)  
149 5MB regions surrounding the previously identified adaptive introgression candidate regions in  
150 modern humans (Supp. Table 1), with the candidate region centered at approximately 2.5MB. To  
151 observe the effect of recombination rate ( $r$ ) on the heterosis effect, we simulated recombination  
152 rate using either: 1) the realistic recombination rate map for humans<sup>50</sup> inferred from linkage  
153 disequilibrium (LD) patterns<sup>51</sup> and the known rates from pedigree studies<sup>52,53</sup>; or 2) an uniform  
154 low recombination rate at  $1e-9$  per base pair per generation.

155 For each simulation replicate, we computed the summary statistics for detecting adaptive  
156 introgression for non-overlapping 50kb windows throughout the simulated segment using a  
157 customized Python script. A full list of the AI summary statistics used in our study can be found  
158 in Table 1. We also recorded the ancestry in the recipient population that originated from the  
159 donor population using the tree sequence file generated from SLiM, and reconstructed the  
160 information using *pyslim*<sup>54</sup> and *msprime*<sup>55</sup> modules in Python3, which was referred to as  
161 “introgressed ancestry” or  $pl^{43}$ . Throughout the text, we refer to pD as the donor population,  
162 representing an archaic hominin group; and pO as the outgroup, representing an African non-  
163 admixed population; and pR as recipient population, representing a non-African admixed  
164 population.

165

### 166 ***Recessive deleterious variants affect the summary statistics used to detect AI***

167 We first sought to understand how the presence of recessive deleterious variants affects  
168 the distribution of the AI summary statistics listed in Table 1. To maximize the heterosis effect,  
169 here we simulated the genic structure of the “*Chr11Max*” genomic region with a uniformly low  
170 recombination rate ( $r=1e-9$ ) under the Model\_0 demography.

171 Fig. 3 shows the distribution of one of the summary statistics, U80 in non-overlapping  
172 50kb windows. U80 captures the number of high-frequency introgressed-derived alleles in the  
173 recipient population. Under the scenario where all mutations are neutral, we expect the dynamics  
174 of introgressed-derived alleles to be influenced simply by gene flow and other subsequent neutral  
175 processes. With a small pulse of admixture, only a small fraction of the introgressed alleles is  
176 expected to drift to high frequencies, which is reflected by the low to zero U80 allele count in the  
177 distribution of U80 under the Neutral simulations (Fig. 3a). However, in the presence of  
178 recessive deleterious variants, the count of U80 alleles becomes elevated in all genomic  
179 windows. This pattern is illustrated by the substantially increased mean and variance in the  
180 distribution, in contrast to the Neutral comparison (Fig. 3a). In cases of adaptive introgression  
181 where a beneficial mutation is introduced in the donor population prior to admixture (Fig. 3c-d),  
182 a notable increase of the mean and variance of U80 is also observed. Therefore, the signatures of  
183 adaptive introgression and the heterosis effect due to deleterious mutations are similar, but AI  
184 leads to a more pronounced peak at the beneficial mutation. Additionally, an adaptive mutation

185 elevates the range of summary statistics in the flanking region, and the length of the region under  
186 its influence positively correlates with the strength of selection. However, when the elevation in  
187 U80 is due to recessive deleterious mutations, there is a slight but consistent upward shift across  
188 the entire region.

189 We next examined the distribution of other summary statistics under the four fitness  
190 scenarios (Supp. Fig. 2), and observed similar patterns as for U80. These findings indicate that  
191 consistent with what Kim *et al.* observed for introgressed ancestry, deleterious variations can  
192 generate similar patterns as adaptive introgression in the absence of beneficial alleles and local  
193 adaptation.

194 To better understand the spatial patterns of variation across the simulated region, we  
195 visualized the haplotypes<sup>56</sup> in a 100kb window in the middle of the segment containing the  
196 adaptive mutation when applicable (Fig. 4). The haplotype left by recessive deleterious  
197 mutations (Fig. 4a) and a legitimate adaptive mutation (Fig. 4b) differ in structure. Interestingly,  
198 both scenarios lead to higher haplotype homozygosity in the recipient population. However, in  
199 the AI scenario (Fig. 4b), the haplotypes from the donor and recipient populations are more alike  
200 to each other (i.e. the number of differences between the donor haplotype and the introgressed  
201 haplotype is smaller, shown in the right panels of Fig. 4) than under the Recessive Deleterious  
202 scenario.

203

#### 204 ***Deleterious mutations increase the false positive rate for AI detection***

205 To quantify the extent to which deleterious mutations can give false evidence of adaptive  
206 introgression, we used the neutral distribution of summary statistics in each 50kb window across  
207 the large 5Mb segment to define the critical values for a test of adaptive introgression. We define  
208 the critical value as the most extreme 5% quantile value grouping all windows from neutral  
209 simulations together.

210 For the recessive deleterious model, we obtain the proportion of simulations (200  
211 replicates) per window that exceeds the critical value under the neutral model, and define this  
212 proportion as the false positive rate (FPR), as no true adaptive mutations are present. Similarly,  
213 we define the true positive rate (TPR) for the mild- and strong-positive selection models as the  
214 per-window proportion of simulations exceeding the critical value, where the critical value is  
215 again defined from the neutral model. Fig. 5 shows the neutral critical value and the transformed  
216 true/false positive rates in U80 and Divergence Ratio (RD) statistics under the simulation setting  
217 described in the above section. The TPR/FPR distribution for other summary statistics can be  
218 found in Supp. Fig. 3. The neutral model simulations have FPRs around 5%, by definition. In  
219 contrast, the recessive deleterious simulations show elevated FPRs in most windows for both  
220 statistics (8.62-34.48% for RD; 3.45-22.41% for U80). The high FPRs are not negligible, as the  
221 identification of AI in empirical data relies on looking for outliers in summary statistics when the  
222 presence and location of the adaptive mutation is unknown. Deleterious variation is also more  
223 common in human genomes than adaptive variation<sup>34</sup>, which may further compound this effect.

224 To further understand how demographic history and recombination influence the  
225 FPR/TPR of the tests for AI, we simulated the “*Chr11Max*” 5MB segment (see Simulations  
226 section) using the human demographic model (Model\_h), and realistic estimates of  
227 recombination rate in this region (referred to as  $r=hg19$  in Table 2). We summarized the FPRs  
228 and TPRs of a subset of statistics (pI, RD, U80, Q95) under these scenarios in Table 2 (also see  
229 Supp. Fig. 4-6). We observed that simulations with low recombination rate with higher mean  
230 FPRs using these statistics. Moreover, the standard deviation of the statistics – which is an

231 informative signature of adaptive introgression – increases when the realistic recombination rates  
232 are applied (average recombination rate higher than  $1e-9$ ).

233 Altogether, recessive deleterious variants contribute to a higher false positive rate for AI  
234 detection in all summary statistics examined. Some statistics appear to be more vulnerable than  
235 others, with pI, RD, U stats and Q stats being most affected. Low recombination rates amplify  
236 the heterosis effect that mimics the AI signature, while the modern human demography  
237 (Model\_h) results in fewer false positives than Model\_0 in general which has a relatively long-  
238 term contraction in the recipient population.

239

#### 240 ***Summary statistics are powerful to detect AI but not at localizing the adaptive allele***

241 We next evaluated the power of these summary statistics at detecting true AI. The TPRs  
242 across the genomic region is not uniform (Supp. Fig. 3-5). On average, the TPRs are close to or  
243 higher than the FPRs in corresponding windows. In the focal windows containing the adaptive  
244 mutation, the TPRs are especially distinguishable from the neutral and deleterious models  
245 because the adaptive models show a distinct peak. This shows that the summary statistics have  
246 high statistical power at detecting a true AI signal, as they reject the null hypothesis more often  
247 in true positives (up to 100%; Table 2).

248 The mean TPR is parameter-dependent like the FPR, in that it increases with selection  
249 strength and it decreases with recombination rate. However, it should be noted that under very  
250 strong positive selection (Strong-Pos model), the TPRs are high across longer flanking regions,  
251 resulting in the focal window not standing out from the background because the region affected  
252 by positive selection is larger. In the weaker positive selection (Mild-Pos) model, the focal  
253 window stands out with respect to the background windows because the background windows  
254 reject the null less often. Therefore, localizing the adaptive allele within the entire segment  
255 becomes less accurate with increasing strength of selection on the truly adaptive allele (Fig. 5,  
256 Supp. Fig. 3-5).

257

#### 258 ***Deleterious mutations have a limited effect on candidates for adaptive introgression in 259 humans***

260 Next, we sought to systematically assess whether the changes in AI summary statistics  
261 caused by recessive deleterious variants could lead to false detection of AI candidate regions in  
262 humans. This is an important consideration because these regions were detected as unusual either  
263 in comparison to the rest of the genome or under demographic models that assumed all mutations  
264 were neutral. Thus, the null models did not include deleterious variation and it remains unclear  
265 whether deleterious variation could provide an alternate mechanism for the observed patterns.

266 We extracted 5MB sequences surrounding 26 previously identified AI regions<sup>9,11,13-  
267 18,20,22,57-59</sup> (Supp. Table 1) using the distribution of the recombination rates<sup>52</sup> and genic  
268 structures<sup>49</sup> in these regions. For each candidate region, we ran 200 simulation replicates under a  
269 more realistic human demography (Model\_h), using the recombination rates and exon  
270 distribution from these regions. We simulated a recipient population representing a non-African  
271 population (pR), an outgroup population (pO) representing Africans, and an archaic donor  
272 population (pD). In addition, we simulated under two models (the Neutral and Deleterious  
273 models) to compute the FPRs on summary statistics within each 50kb window in each of the  
274 5MB regions representing the AI candidate gene-regions.

275 To compute the false positive rate due to deleterious mutations, we use the neutral  
276 simulations to define the critical values for each test statistic. We use the simulations with

277 recessive deleterious mutations as the test datasets to examine the false positive distribution. As  
278 described previously, the FPR represents the proportion of simulations for a given statistic in a  
279 50kb window in a candidate gene that are as extreme or more extreme than the 5% neutral  
280 critical value.

281 Overall, we find that most statistics do not have extremely elevated false-positive rates  
282 across most of the gene-regions in the presence of deleterious mutations (Supp. Fig. 6). The D  
283 statistic, however, is a notable exception showing a higher FPR across all candidates. This is  
284 rather unsurprising because, although the D statistic is powerful at detecting genome-wide excess  
285 of shared derived alleles between groups (a metric indicating admixture), studies have shown its  
286 limitations and reduced reliability for inferring local ancestry using small genomic regions<sup>26</sup>  
287 (50kb windows). The fD statistic, on the other hand, is powerful at detecting introgression at  
288 localized loci, and does not show unusually high FPR for all candidate regions.

289 Notably, with the exception of two simulated regions (representing the regions of *HLA*  
290 and *HYLA2*, Fig. 6), we find that the FPR is well-controlled in the other 24 simulated AI  
291 candidate regions (Supp. Fig. 6). Here, we show the FPRs for the *EPASI* and the *BNC2*-like  
292 regions (Fig. 6) since these two regions have similar recombination rates, exon density and FPRs  
293 as the other AI regions considered here. Other than the D statistics discussed above, the rest of  
294 the summary statistics show an average of FPR around or less than 5%. In particular, the Q and  
295 U statistics appear to be the most robust against false positives from deleterious mutations. In  
296 contrast, *HLA-A*, *HLA-B*, and *HLA-C* genes (referred to as “*HLA*” in this work), and a segment  
297 on chromosome 3 that contains *HYAL2* gene show elevated FPRs on nearly all statistics.

298  
299 ***High exon density and low recombination rate leads to deleterious mutations mimicking AI in***  
300 ***humans***

301 To understand why the *HYAL2* and *HLA* genes exhibit higher false positive rates in the  
302 presence of recessive deleterious variants, we considered possible sources of false positives.  
303 Firstly, we wanted to know whether population growth in humans was a contributing factor.  
304 Secondly, since deleterious recessive mutations are much more likely to occur only in exons, we  
305 looked at the distribution of exon density in windows of 5MB across the genome to ask whether  
306 *HYAL2* and *HLA* are outliers with respect to this distribution. In addition, we computed the  
307 recombination rate for each 5MB window across the genome to determine whether these two  
308 genes were outliers with respect to recombination rate.

309 We first simulated the four genes in Fig. 6 under four different scenarios of population  
310 size changes (Supp. Fig. 7). We find that the extent of population growth does not play a  
311 determining role on the FPRs in AI detection since in our simulations. Specifically, the outlier  
312 regions such as *HYAL2* and *HLA*, continue to have higher FPRs across the different growth  
313 scenarios. Growth (eg. “*Growth 2*” and “*Growth 4*” in Supp. Fig. 7 where the population size at  
314 the end generation is more than 70-fold larger than the initial size) slightly intensifies the already  
315 high FPRs in these two genes (Supp. Fig. 8), which can be explained by an increase in the  
316 efficacy of selection when the effective population size is large<sup>60,61</sup>. The other two simulated  
317 regions (representing the *BNC2* and *EPASI* regions) do not exhibit increased FPRs in the  
318 presence of population growth.

319 We next explored how changes in recombination rate impact the FPRs for the summary  
320 statistics. By applying a uniformly low or high recombination rate to the simulations under  
321 Model\_h (Supp. Fig. 9), we observed that a high recombination rate can substantially reduce the  
322 FPRs to nominal levels (around 0.05) on all statistics in all genes. Conversely, a uniformly low

323 recombination rate does not necessarily increase the FPRs in most statistics when we simulate  
324 regions like *BNC2* and *EPASI*, except for the D statistics.

325 Finally, we computed the mean recombination rates at 5MB windows across the human  
326 genome (Hg19), and demonstrate that *HYAL2* and *HLA* regions are indeed outliers in terms of  
327 both exon density and low recombination rate (Fig. 7). We therefore conclude that the high  
328 susceptibility to false detection of AI in some genomic regions, is due to a combination of high  
329 exon density and low recombination rate. This also explains why the confounding effect of  
330 heterosis is limited for the majority of the human AI candidate gene regions simulated here  
331 (Supp. Fig. 10).

332

### 333 ***Null model with deleterious variation reduces the number of statistically significant AI*** 334 ***candidates***

335 Lastly, we asked whether a null model that accounts for the recessive deleterious variants  
336 can be more informative and reliable in AI detection than a traditional null model that assumes  
337 selective neutrality. To do this, we calculated the empirical values of the summary statistics from  
338 the AI candidate genes from the 1000 Genomes Project dataset<sup>62</sup> using one of the archaic humans  
339 (Altai Neanderthal<sup>5</sup> or Denisovan<sup>8</sup>) as the donor population, and the Yorubans (YRI) as the  
340 outgroup population. We computed their p-values using the statistical distributions from the  
341 simulations under two different (Neutral or Deleterious) null models. Given that our deleterious  
342 null model assumes all deleterious mutations are recessive ( $h=0$ ), it maximizes the impact of  
343 false positives due to deleterious mutations. Thus, if the candidate genes still stand out as being  
344 statistically significant in this extreme null model, the AI signal is robust to confounding from  
345 the heterosis effect.

346 We calculated the critical values for all summary statistics using the most extreme 5% tail  
347 values under the two null models, and computed the p-values of the empirical data points for the  
348 statistics. Among the four genes we use as examples (Supp. Fig. 11), the “outlier” genes (*HLA*  
349 region and *HYAL2*) on average have higher p-values under the deleterious null models than  
350 under the neutral null model. This trend is reflected by the points falling mostly above the  
351 diagonal in Supp. Fig. 11. Since higher p-value implies that we cannot reject the null model, this  
352 change in the p-values indicates that the deleterious null models are more conservative at AI  
353 inference. Note, that for the two “typical” AI genes, the p-values fall along the diagonal (Supp.  
354 Fig. 11), suggesting that a null model with and without deleterious mutations yield similar  
355 results.

356 We also examined the number of 50kb-windows that fell in the extreme 5% tail of the  
357 neutral distributions, as well as that number from the deleterious distributions. The difference  
358 between the two numbers equals the number of window hits that are significant in the neutral  
359 null models but failed to reach significance in the deleterious null models (Fig. 8, Supp. Fig. 12).  
360 The positive values, highlighted in the gray-shaded area in the corresponding figures and colored  
361 by population, imply the deleterious null model is more conservative for a given statistic. If an  
362 AI candidate region shows points above zero for most of the summary statistics, such candidate  
363 region is likely prone to false positives due to the heterosis effect, and the validity of adaptive  
364 introgression on this region requires further investigation.

365 Promisingly, we find that most of the candidate regions (24/26) show similar p-values on  
366 most, if not all, of the statistics regardless of whether a null model with deleterious mutations or  
367 neutral mutations is used. This observation further confirms the conclusion from the previous



368 section, that the distribution of recessive deleterious variants has a limited impact on the  
369 detection of adaptive introgression in modern humans.

370 As shown in our analysis, a combination of high exon density and low recombination rate  
371 contribute to the high FPRs in the *HLA* and *HYAL2* genes, with both showing a reduced  
372 signature of adaptive introgression under a deleterious null model. This suggests that these  
373 regions potentially may not be adaptively introgressed, in contrast to previous findings<sup>9,11,14,22</sup>.  
374 The *HLA* cluster on Chromosome 6 (*HLA-A*, *HLA-B*, *HLA-C*) is one of the most crucial immune-  
375 response genes, and is known for its high level of genetic variation and variability across  
376 populations<sup>15,63,64</sup>. Because of the complexity of population genetics processes (e.g. balancing  
377 selection) that act on *HLA*, further work is required to understand whether deleterious mutations  
378 or other types of selection can lead to the behavior of summaries of genetic variation at this  
379 region. For example, the high FPRs assume a null deleterious model which does not explain the  
380 high levels of heterozygosity (Supp. Fig. 13) at this locus, so the evolutionary processes acting  
381 for this region are more complex than the null model assumed. However, in general integrating  
382 recessive deleterious mutations into the modeling framework will improve the robustness of  
383 adaptive introgression signals.

384

385

## 386 Discussion

387

388 This work represents one of the first comprehensive efforts to consider the influence of  
389 negative selection in the detection of adaptive introgression. Specifically, we systematically  
390 examined whether deleterious recessive variants carried by populations prior to admixture can  
391 affect the robustness of signals in summary statistics that have been shown to be informative  
392 about adaptive introgression.

393 Our work demonstrates through extensive simulations that a heterosis effect caused by  
394 recessive deleterious variants private to source populations can resemble the signal of adaptive  
395 introgression, which leads to a higher number of false positives. We found that the presence of  
396 recessive deleterious mutations alone is sufficient to significantly increase the mean and variance  
397 of AI summary statistics in at least some genomic regions. These shifts in the distribution of  
398 statistics (Fig. 2) lead to a higher false positive rate for detection of adaptive introgression when  
399 we use the neutral model to define AI statistic critical values. Moreover, by examining  
400 population genomics data, we show that such effect from recessive deleterious variants are  
401 relevant for detecting AI in modern humans, and may explain a potentially spurious signal of AI  
402 in at least two AI candidate genes (*HLA* and *HYAL2*). However, the statistical signals in other  
403 candidate genes in modern humans remain strong even when accounting for recessive deleterious  
404 mutations, indicating that these candidates are unlikely to be false positives.

405 By testing individual evolutionary parameters in genes that show a higher magnitude of  
406 false positives than others, we attributed the stronger heterosis effect to two factors that need to  
407 present at the same time: high exon density, and low recombination rate (like in *HLA* and  
408 *HYAL2*). High exon density implies more deleterious mutations occur in a given genomic region.  
409 In most cases, the deleterious fitness effect from linked recessive variants can be disassociated  
410 from crossing over with other haplotypes within the same population. However, for certain  
411 regions where the recombination rate is unusually low, the deleterious variants will remain  
412 linked on a given haplotype. Admixture with a distantly related population will bring in  
413 haplotypes carrying non-deleterious alleles at these positions. Therefore, the introgressed

414 ancestry at these regions will increase in the recipient population despite carrying a different set  
415 of deleterious variants, leading to the elevation of FPRs in the adaptive introgression summary  
416 statistics. This process acts in a similar manner as balancing selection, except that no beneficial  
417 mutations are involved.

418 We also show that the demographic history of human populations, including a change in  
419 the recipient population size, does not play a major role in affecting the false-positive rate of  
420 tests for AI. However, the nearly-exponential population growth in the recent history of modern  
421 humans may have increased the FPR in genes that are already susceptible to false-positive results  
422 due to deleterious mutations. This is likely due to the fact that a large effective population size  
423 restricts the extent of genetic drift, leading to a more prominent effect of natural selection,  
424 including the complementation of deleterious alleles via the heterosis effect. Depending on the  
425 dynamics among different types of selection, a recovery of population size after a bottleneck in  
426 the recipient population can exaggerate the heterosis effect, as demonstrated in Kim et al<sup>43</sup>.

427 Though the signals in most human AI candidate genes are unaffected by deleterious  
428 variation, the impact of deleterious variants on AI detection in general should not be omitted, and  
429 a null model that considers the influence from recessive deleterious mutations is still necessary.  
430 This is mainly because of two reasons: 1) the combination of evolutionary parameters that leads  
431 to an elevation of false-positives may occur much more commonly in other study systems. 2)  
432 Even for modern humans, the demography used in simulations is an approximation of the  
433 modern Eurasian population history, which may not represent the true evolutionary history of all  
434 non-African populations. In situations where the archaic introgression occurred in multiple  
435 pulses (e.g., Denisovan introgression in Asia<sup>22,65</sup>), and when the ancestral modern human  
436 populations were small, the heterosis effect from deleterious variants could have a different  
437 impact than expected from a parsimonious demography.

438 Here, we considered only the extreme case where deleterious variants are completely  
439 recessive ( $h=0$ ). The reason for this is that we set out to determine whether deleterious variants  
440 are a concern for AI signals when this effect is maximized. Kim *et al.* already studied the effect  
441 from additive variants and observed little effect on introgressed ancestry, where the confounding  
442 effects from heterosis persisted when deleterious variants were complete or partial recessive (*hs*  
443 relationship<sup>35</sup>). In empirical genomic data, the distribution of dominance should be in between  
444 the two extremes. A current challenge is that the empirical values of dominance coefficients for  
445 deleterious mutations in humans remain unknown.

446 It is promising that the signature of AI in the vast majority of human AI candidate regions  
447 still persists even when the heterosis effect acts in its most extreme manner by assuming  $h=0$ .  
448 Other values of  $h$  would be unlikely to affect the conclusion that 24/26 candidates are robust to  
449 confounding by deleterious mutations. The *HLA* and *HYAL2* genes are outliers in terms of their  
450 exon density and recombination rate which accentuates the effect of heterosis, and further  
451 increases the probability of observing extreme summary statistics in a model with recessive  
452 deleterious mutations. In general, our present study shows that if deleterious mutations are  
453 completely recessive, they can account for most of the AI signatures in these two genes.  
454 However, if deleterious mutations are only partially recessive, then it is possible that, by  
455 themselves, deleterious mutations cannot account for these putative signals of adaptive  
456 introgression. In such a scenario, true AI would be required to explain the data. It is also worth  
457 mentioning that *HLA* gene exhibits complex patterns of genetic variation. We find that even a  
458 conservative deleterious recessive model cannot generate the levels of heterozygosity observed

459 for *HLA* (Supp. Fig. 13), and more work is warranted to determined what actual evolutionary  
460 processes are acting in this region.

461 Our study demonstrates from multiple angles that the presence of recessive deleterious  
462 variants in populations can sometimes generate similar statistical signals as adaptive  
463 introgression in the absence of any beneficial alleles. Although more conservative, it results in  
464 inferences that are more robust compared to a neutral null model. We should bear in mind that  
465 the overall robustness of the AI signals in modern humans may be attributed to many factors  
466 including the unique genic structure, and the difference in AI signature contributed by the  
467 distribution of recessive deleterious variants is still not negligible. We therefore strongly  
468 encourage future AI studies to use a null model that incorporates a realistic distribution of fitness  
469 effect for deleterious variants, recessive or partially recessive, to minimize false positives. This  
470 approach is particularly relevant for studying organisms that have more compact genomic  
471 structures, and/or different demographic histories that may accelerate the dynamics of the  
472 heterosis effect after introgression.

473

474

## 475 **Acknowledgement**

476

477 This work was supported by NIH grant R35GM119856 (to K.E.L) and E.H.S was  
478 supported by NIH grant 1R35GM128946-01 and NSF grant 7378-#1557151. The authors thank  
479 their colleagues from the Lohmueller Lab at UCLA and the Huerta-Sanchez Lab at Brown  
480 University for helpful discussions during the development of this study. We also thank Dr.  
481 Fernando Racimo at University of Copenhagen, Denmark for kindly sharing sample code for  
482 computing AI summary statistics.

483

484

## 485 **Methods**

486

### 487 Forward Simulations

488 We used the software SLiM (version 3.2.0)<sup>44</sup> throughout this work for the simulations.  
489 All mutations that became fixed in all population by the end of the simulations were disregarded  
490 from downstream calculation of summary statistics. We chose to use the default calculation of  
491 the fitness effect for recessive deleterious mutations ( $h=0$ ).

492 We considered three types of simulations, distinguished by the types of mutations they  
493 carry: 1) neutral simulations (“*Neutral*”): only neutral mutations are introduced ( $s=0$ ); 2)  
494 deleterious simulations (“*Deleterious*”): in addition to the neutral mutations, we introduced  
495 deleterious mutations that are recessive ( $h=0$ ), with a distribution of fitness effect drawn from a  
496 gamma distribution previously estimated (shape parameter = 0.186; mean selection coefficient =  
497  $-0.01314$ ). The deleterious mutations can only accumulate at exon regions, with a ratio of  
498 nonsynonymous to synonymous mutations at 2.31:1; 3) positive selection simulations: this type  
499 of simulation is subdivided into two types depending on the selection strength of the beneficial  
500 mutation introduced (“*Mild-pos*”,  $s=0.01$ ; “*Strong-pos*”,  $s=0.1$ ). This simulation type carries the  
501 same distribution of neutral and deleterious mutations as in group 2, while we also introduced a  
502 nonsynonymous beneficial mutation in an exon approximately in the middle of the 5MB segment  
503 in all haplotypes from the donor population after the initial split between the donor and outgroup  
504 populations. Therefore, after the single pulse of admixture from the donor to the recipient

505 populations, at least one haplotype from the recipient population should carry the beneficial  
506 mutation that arose from the donor population. Simulation replicates where the beneficial  
507 mutation was lost from the recipient population before the end of the simulation were discarded.  
508 We obtained 200 replicates for each unique combination of simulation type and genomic  
509 structure.

510 We also scaled the simulation parameters by a scaling factor of  $c$  ( $c=5$ ) to increase  
511 computational efficiency. The population size thus was rescaled to  $N/c$ , all generation times to  
512  $t/c$ , selection coefficient to  $s*c$ , mutation rate to  $\mu*c$ , and the recombination rate also at  $r*c$   
513 (approximation from  $0.5(1-(1-2r)^c)$  for small  $r$  and small  $c$ ). Other evolutionary parameters  
514 remain the same before and after rescaling.

515

#### 516 Simulations with modern human genomic structure

517 Unless specified separately, all simulations in SLiM from this study use genic structure  
518 from modern human genome build GRCh37/hg19. We fix the simulation segment length at  
519 5MB, and used the exon ranges defined by the GENCODE v.14 annotations<sup>49</sup> and the sex-  
520 averaged recombination map by Kong *et al.*<sup>52</sup> averaged over a 10kb scale. The per base pair  
521 mutation rate was fixed at  $1.5*10^{-8}$ . For comparison purposes, we also applied a uniform  
522 recombination rates at  $1.0*10^{-8}$  and  $1.0*10^{-9}$  as specified in the main text.

523 For simulations mimicking specific adaptive introgression candidate genes, we identified  
524 the genomic coordinates using the original studies that identified the AI candidate genes (Supp.  
525 Table 1), and extracted their flanking regions upstream and downstream of the gene region to a  
526 total length of 5MB, with the gene region positioned in the center. We then used the  
527 recombination map and the distribution of genomic segments mentioned above in the  
528 simulations.

529

#### 530 Computing the exon density across the human genome

531 To tabulate exon density across the genome, we scanned the 22 autosomes of human  
532 genome using a sliding window of 5MB with step size of 1kb, and counted the number of exons  
533 per 5MB window. We defined “exon density” as the total number of exons/window. We  
534 extracted the coordinates of the window that has the highest exon density, and designated it as  
535 the “*Chr11max*” region (hg19 Chr11:62.3-67.3MB).

536

#### 537 Summary statistics for the detection of adaptive introgression

538 We directly tracked the introgression-derived ancestry ( $pI$ ) in the recipient population  
539 from SLiM program by tracking the tree sequences across the simulated segments. Therefore, the  
540 introgressed ancestry calculated from this study is the true proportion of ancestry. The amount of  
541  $pI$  was recovered from the tree sequence file generated from SLiM using a custom python script  
542 using *pyslim* module<sup>54</sup>.

543 For the other summary statistics that capture the signature of adaptive introgression (Table  
544 1), we used a custom Python script to extract the sampled haplotype matrices that are in ms  
545 format from the SLiM output (100 haplotype samples per population), and filled in the non-  
546 segregating ancestral alleles to match the size of the haplotype matrices from the donor,  
547 recipient, and outgroup populations respectively. We calculated the summary statistics at non-  
548 overlapping 50kb windows using the same python script pipeline for each simulation replicate.

549

#### 550 Summary statistics for non-African modern human populations

551 We calculated a variety of AI summary statistics using modern human genome variation  
552 data from the 1000 Genomes Project (Phase 3)<sup>62</sup>. To illustrate the signals of AI captured by the  
553 summary statistics from previous studies, we used all individuals from seven representative  
554 populations from Eurasia and the Americas as recipient populations (for archaic introgression).  
555 Specifically, we used Western Europeans (CEU), British (GBR), Finnish (FIN), Italians (TSI),  
556 Han Chinese (CHB), Indians (GIH), and Peruvians (PEL). We also used Yorubans (YRI) as  
557 unadmixed outgroup. For the donor population, we used the unphased, high-quality whole  
558 genome sequences from the Altai Neanderthal<sup>5</sup> and/or the Altai Denisovan<sup>8</sup>, depending on which  
559 archaic group was identified as the AI source (Column 4 in Supp. Table 1). We referred to the  
560 coordinates of AI candidate genes listed in Supp Table 1 to identify each 5MB region centered  
561 on the candidate gene, and extracted the corresponding genomic sequences from the modern  
562 populations and their respective donor populations. We additionally removed sites in the archaic  
563 genomes that have potential quality issues (quality score < 40 and/or mapping quality < 30). If a  
564 previously identified AI gene was found to be associated with more than one archaic groups, we  
565 used only the Altai Neanderthal sequence for these cases. As we did on the simulations, the  
566 summary statistics were calculated at non-overlapping 50kb windows in the empirical data.

567

#### 568 Haplotype structure comparison using Haplostrips

569 We used the software *Haplostrips*<sup>56</sup> to plot the haplotypes from the *Chr11Max* region  
570 from the simulations. The haplotype input matrix for the software was generated from SLiM by  
571 the end of one replicate of simulation, and was further truncated to include only the center 100kb  
572 region surrounding the exon where the beneficial mutation arises when applicable. We sampled  
573 100 chromosomes from the donor and recipient populations respectively, and 2 chromosomes  
574 from the outgroup population. The software output displayed each variant within the region as a  
575 column, and each row represents a haplotype (phased from the simulation). Each population was  
576 assigned a unique color corresponding to the haplotypes from the respective population. The  
577 haplotypes were hierarchical clustered by a decrease in similarity to the sampled haplotypes from  
578 the donor population. The panels on the right-hand side representing the distribution of  
579 haplotypes in terms of the genetic distance to the donor haplotypes.

580

581

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735 **Tables and Figures**

736

737 **Table 1: Summary statistics informative about AI examined in this study**

738

Statistic	Definition	Reference
pI	Ancestry in the recipient population introgressed from the donor population. This measurement is directly tracked in simulations using tree sequences.	Kim <i>et al.</i> 2018; Kelleher <i>et al.</i> 2016
RD	Average ratio of sequence divergence between an individual from the recipient and an individual from the donor population, and the divergence between an individual from the outgroup and an individual from the donor population	Racimo <i>et al.</i> 2017
D	Patterson's D statistic, which measures the excess allele sharing between the recipient and donor population than between the recipient and an outgroup population that is unadmixed.	Green <i>et al.</i> 2010
fD	A statistic that measures the excess allele sharing while controlling for local variation in the recipient population	Martin <i>et al.</i> 2015
U20/U50/U80	Number of uniquely shared alleles between the recipient and donor population that are of frequency < 1% in the outgroup, 100% in the donor, and more than 20/50/80% in the recipient population	Racimo <i>et al.</i> 2017
Q90/Q95	90/95% quantile of the distribution of derived allele frequencies in the recipient population, that are of frequency below 1% in the outgroup and 100% in the donor population.	Racimo <i>et al.</i> 2017
Heterozygosity	Expected heterozygosity in the recipient population measured by the mean of $2 * p * (1 - p)$ , with p being the frequency of any given allele in the recipient population	Crow <i>et al.</i> 1970

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756 **Table 2: Summary of the TPR/FPR under different models**

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<b>Simulation Scenario</b>	<b>Statistics</b>	<b>Mean of FPR in Deleterious Model</b>	<b>SD of FPR in Deleterious Model</b>	<b>Focal Window TPR in Mild-Pos Model</b>	<b>Focal Window TPR in Strong-Pos Model</b>
Model_0; <i>Chr11Max</i> ; $r=1e-9$	pI	0.354	0.047	0.900	1.000
	RD	0.204	0.048	0.521	0.569
	U80	0.117	0.038	0.375	0.431
	Q95	0.437	0.051	0.875	1.000
Model 0, <i>Chr11Max</i> ; $r=hg19$	pI	0.229	0.086	0.885	1.000
	RD	0.134	0.061	0.577	0.648
	U80	0.090	0.045	0.442	0.5
	Q95	0.121	0.034	0.637	0.752
Model_h; <i>Chr11Max</i> ; $r= hg19$	pI	0.087	0.108	0.967	1.000
	RD	0.098	0.117	1.000	0.654
	U80	0.022	0.049	0.667	0.500
	Q95	0.099	0.120	1.000	0.933

758 *For the deleterious model, we computed the false positive rates (FPRs) in 50kb non-overlapping*  
 759 *windows using the most-extreme 5% value from the neutral distribution as critical value, and*  
 760 *show the mean FPR in the third column. For the adaptive introgression models (Mild-Pos and*  
 761 *Strong Pos), we computed the true positive rates (TPRs) using the same neutral cutoff value in*  
 762 *all windows, and show the true positive rate in the window that contains the adaptive mutation*  
 763 *("Focal TPR"). Note that a properly calibrated null model should have a FPR of 0.05.*

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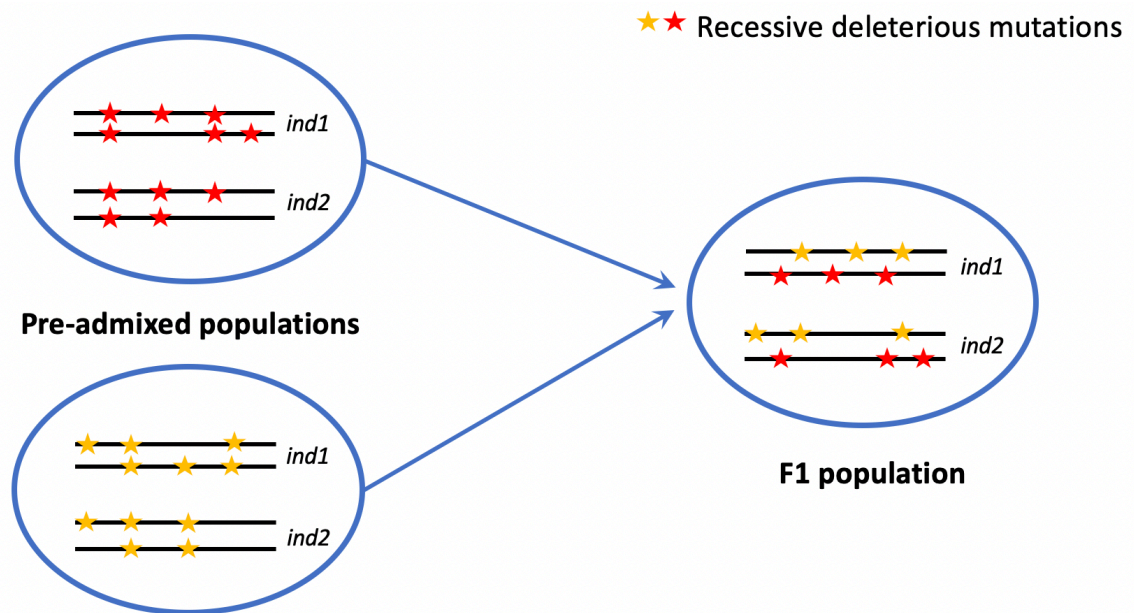
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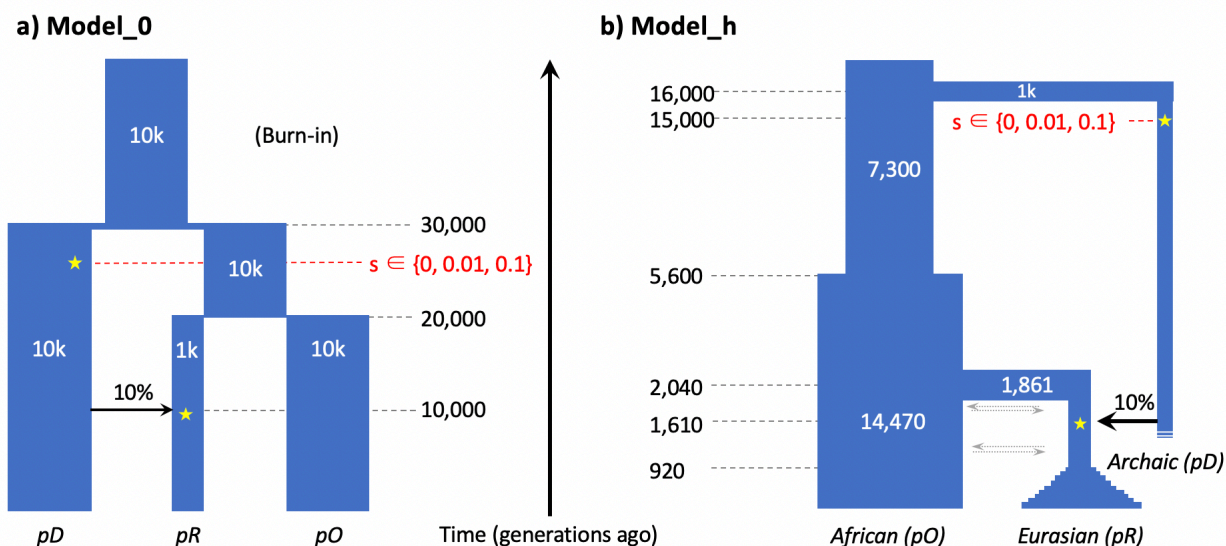
785 **Figure 1: Heterosis effect from an increase in heterozygosity due to admixture**  
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788 *A red or yellow star represents a mutation that is deleterious and recessive ( $h=0$ ). In this figure,*  
789 *each individual in the pre-admixed populations is homozygous for recessive deleterious variants*  
790 *at 2 distinct sites. In the F1 population, if the two populations admix in equally, all mutations*  
791 *that were private to the original populations and were previously homozygous are now*  
792 *heterozygous in the F1 population.*

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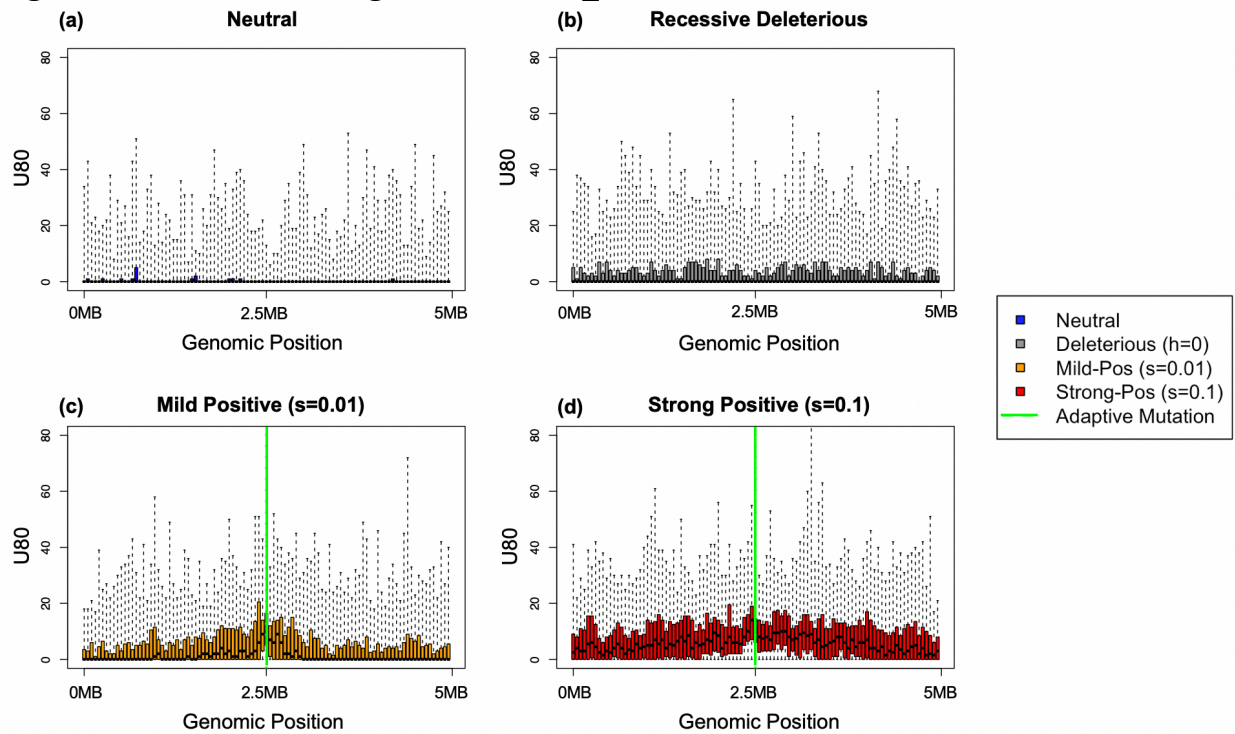
815 **Figure 2: Simulated demographic models**  
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 818 *Going forwards in time, after a burn-in period of  $10 \cdot N$  generations (100k generations for*  
 819 *Model\_0 and 73k for Model\_h), the ancestral population diverged into two subpopulations,  $pD$*   
 820 *and the ancestral population of  $pO$  and  $pR$ . The second population split results in  $pR$  and  $pO$ .*  
 821 *Some time after the split of  $pO$  and  $pR$ , a single pulse of admixture occurred such that 10% of the*  
 822 *ancestry of the recipient population ( $pR$ ) came from the donor population ( $pD$ ). In the presence*  
 823 *of positive selection, a mutation was introduced at a single site in an exon for all genomes in the*  
 824 *donor population (selection coefficient at 0.01 or 0.1). In the neutral and deleterious*  
 825 *simulations, the selection coefficient of this particular mutation is set to 0. Except for the Neutral*  
 826 *simulations, all other simulations contain deleterious mutations drawn from a gamma*  
 827 *distribution of selective effects with shape parameter of 0.186 and average selection coefficient*  
 828 *at -0.01315.*

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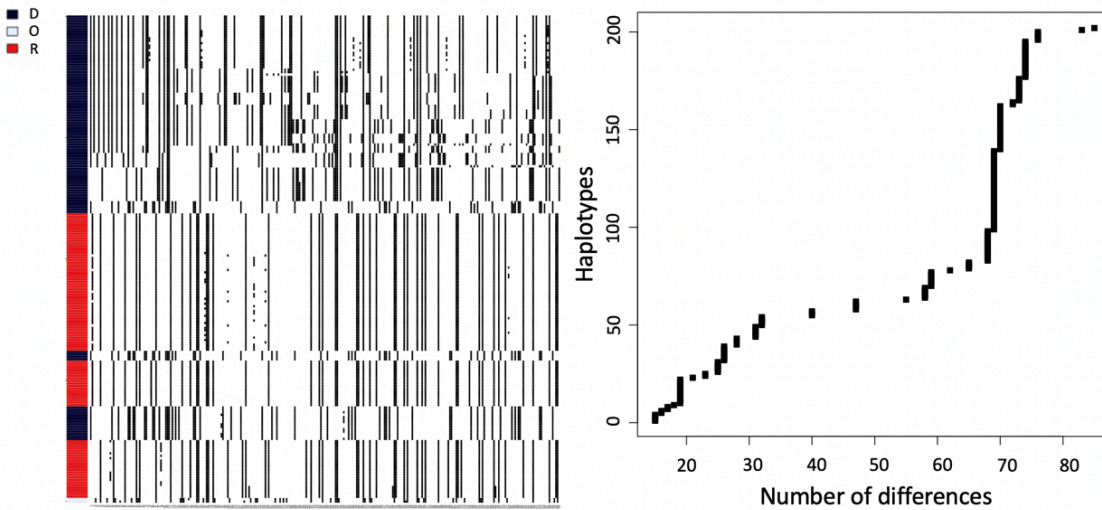
846 **Figure 3: U80 statistics range under Model\_0**



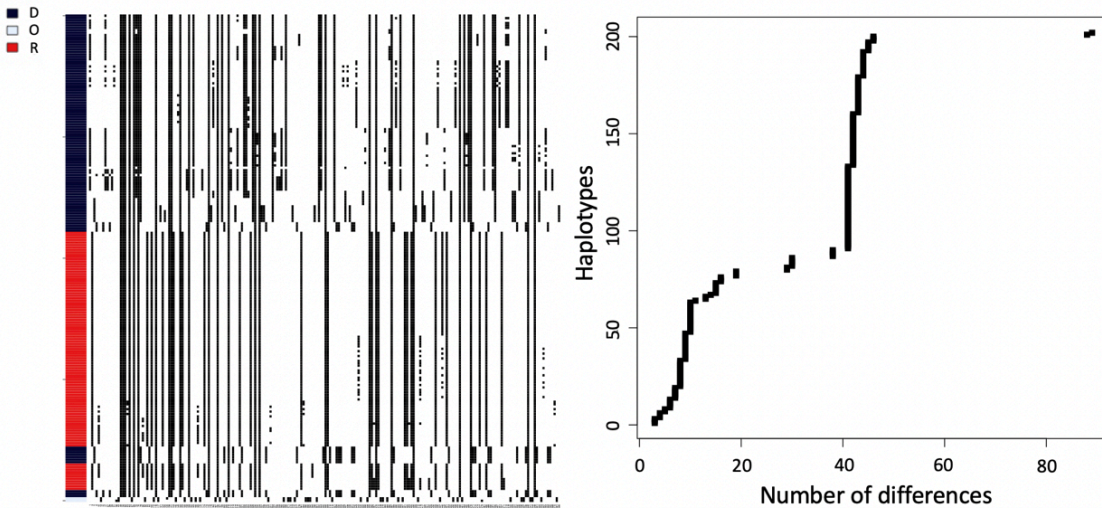
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848 *Panels a-d respectively show the distributions of U80 statistics in 50kb windows across the 5MB*  
849 *region in Chr11 when mutations are neutral (panel a), recessive and deleterious (panel b), mildly*  
850 *beneficial (panel c), and highly beneficial (panel d). Recombination was simulated at a uniform*  
851 *rate of  $1e-9$ . The adaptive mutations in the latter two models are introduced in a window in the*  
852 *middle of the region (2.5MB), indicated by the green solid line. Panel b, c and d also carry*  
853 *deleterious mutations drawn from a gamma DFE distribution. The plot shows the interquartile*  
854 *distributions of U80 in boxes, with whiskers extending to all data points.*

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873 **Figure 4: Haplotype patterns at 100kb window surrounding the adaptive allele**  
**a) Recessive Deleterious “false positive”**



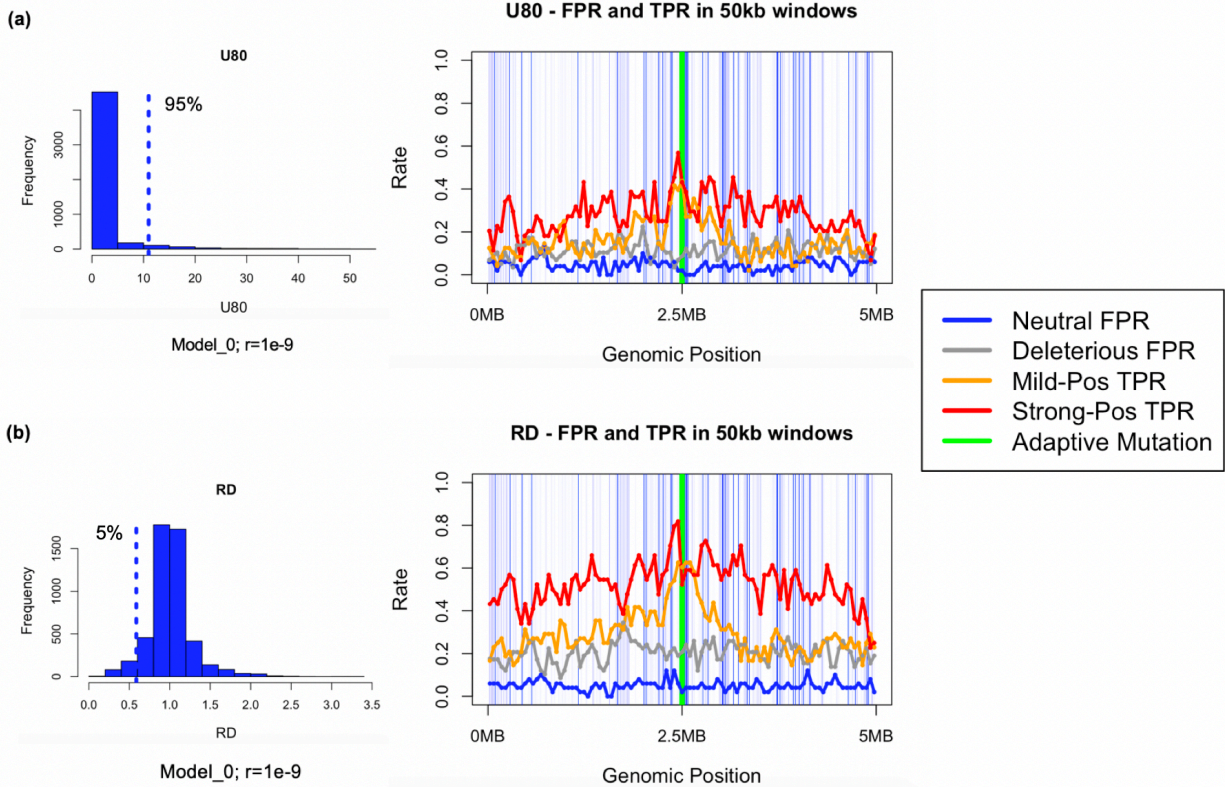
**b) True positive ( $s=0.01$ )**



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875 *For each type of simulation, we sampled 100 haplotypes (rows in the heatmap) in the middle*  
876 *100kb region of the Chr11Max segment each from the donor and recipient populations, and 2*  
877 *haplotypes from the outgroup population (Model\_0 simulations, with uniform recombination*  
878 *rate at  $1e-9$ ). We order the haplotypes the clusters by decreasing similarities to the donor*  
879 *population haplotypes (See Methods). The panels next to the heatmaps label the donors (pD, in*  
880 *black), recipients (pR, in red) and individuals from the outgroup population (pO, in blue). The*  
881 *right-hand side of panels a and b are the number of differences between the donor haplotypes*  
882 *and the individuals in the recipient population sorted by decreasing similarity.*

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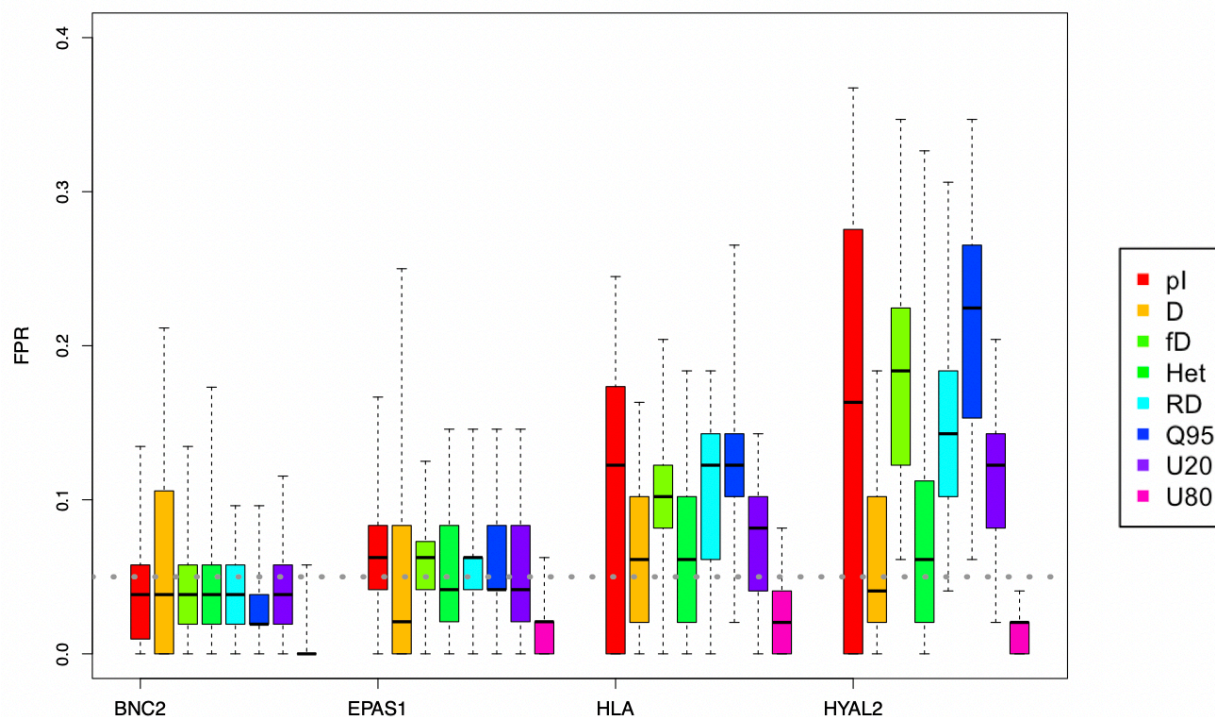
890 **Figure 5: Distributions and True/False Positive Rates of U80 and RD Statistics**



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 892 *This figure shows the critical value (dotted line) used to compute the False/True Positive Rates*  
 893 *for two summaries of the data: U80 and RD (left hand side of panels a and b). The right-hand*  
 894 *side of panels a and b show the False Positive Rates (under the neutral and deleterious models)*  
 895 *and the True Positive Rates (under the models with positive selection) for each 50kb window in a*  
 896 *region of 5MB. For the simulations, red, orange, blue and black represent Strong-Pos, Mild-Pos,*  
 897 *Neutral, and Deleterious respectively. The light blue lines in the mid-panels illustrate the exons*  
 898 *where new mutations can arise, and the green solid line represents the window where the*  
 899 *adaptive mutation occurred. The simulations ran under Model\_0 using the genic structure of the*  
 900 *Chr11Max region, using a uniform low recombination rate of  $1e-9$ .*

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916 **Figure 6: False Positive Rates for summary statistics from human AI candidate regions**

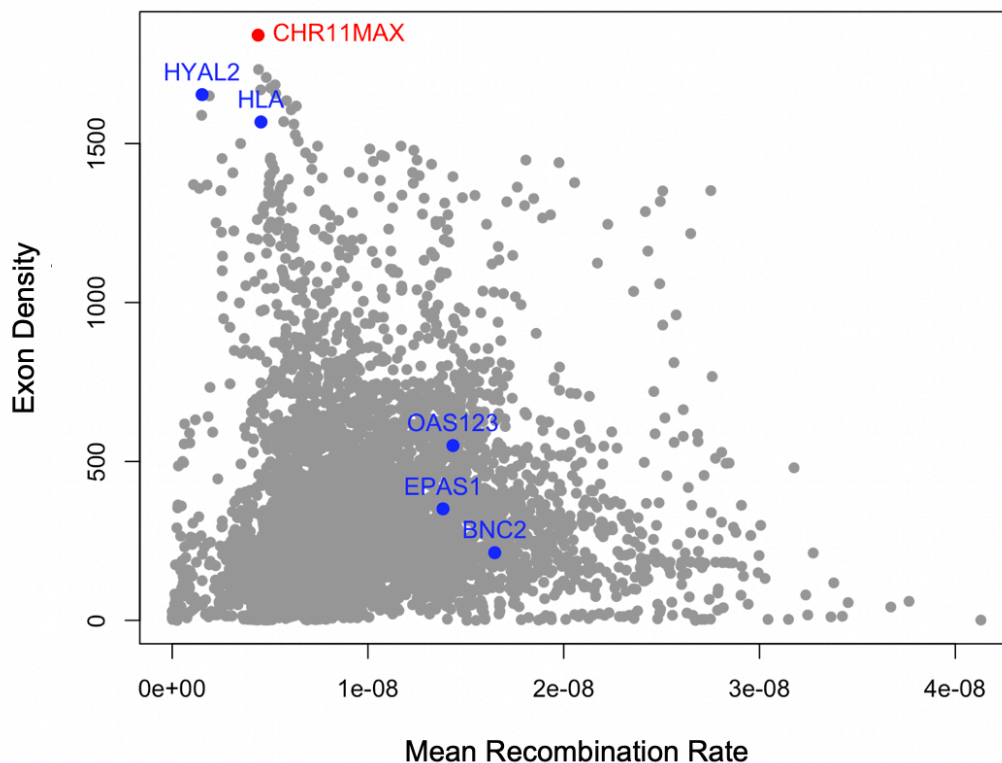


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918 *The summary statistics are obtained from simulations under Neutral and Deleterious mutation*  
919 *models using human demography, Model<sub>h</sub>. The recombination rates and exon density reflect*  
920 *the four regions in the human genome harboring BNC2, EPAS1, HLA and HYAL2. The FPR (y-*  
921 *axis) is computed assuming a neutral null model and represents the proportion of simulations*  
922 *replicates under the Deleterious model that are called significant for adaptive introgression. The*  
923 *HLA and HYL2-like regions result in the highest FPRs, while the EPAS1 and BNC2-like*  
924 *regions have similar FPRs as the other regions simulated.*

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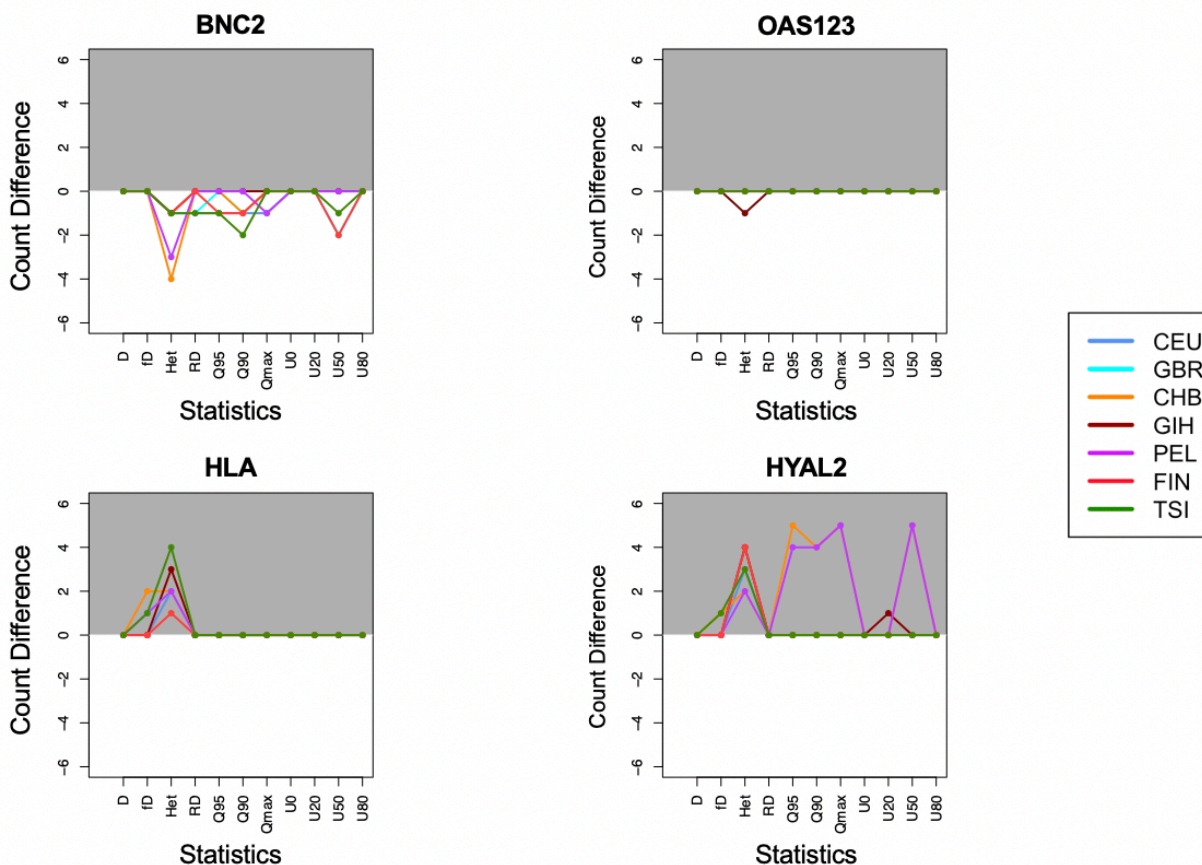
943 **Figure 7: Human whole-genome exon density and mean recombination rate**



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945 *This figure shows the relationship between the exon density and mean recombination rate in*  
946 *non-overlapping 5MB windows across the human genome (hg19). The blue points highlight the*  
947 *regions of AI candidate genes mentioned in the main text, including the outliers (HYAL2, HLA),*  
948 *and the typical ones (EPAS1, OAS cluster, BNC2). The red point represents the “Chr11max”*  
949 *region mentioned in earlier sections.*

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969 **Figure 8. Significant hits number change in candidate genes between different null models**



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 971 *We compared the difference in the number of significant hits (windows with  $p$ -value  $< 0.05$ )*  
 972 *predicted by neutral and deleterious null models. Each point represents that difference in*  
 973 *number (y-axis, Neutral significance number – Deleterious significance number) in its*  
 974 *corresponding statistics (x-axis). The genes with multiple points above y-axis value 0 are*  
 975 *highlighted in the gray-shaded area, indicating the deleterious null models predict fewer window*  
 976 *hits being significant for given statistics, which implies potential false positives from neutral null*  
 977 *models. The OAS gene cluster (“OAS123”) - is shown here instead of EPAS1 because the AI*  
 978 *signal in EPAS1 is not shown in any of the 1000 Genomes populations.*

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