1
2
3
4
5
6 **Shapes and Genescapes: Mapping Multivariate Phenotype-Biological Process**
7 **Associations for Craniofacial Shape**
8
9
10 March 19, 2021
11

J. David Aponte[1], David C. Katz[1], Daniela M. Roth[2], Marta Vidal Garcia[1], Wei Liu[1],

Fernando Andrade[3], Charles C. Roseman[3], Stephen A. Murray[5], James Cheverud[3],

Daniel Graf[2,6], Ralph S. Marcucio[7], Benedikt Hallgrímsson[1*]

[1] Department of Cell Biology & Anatomy, Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute and

McCaig Bone and Joint Institute, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary

AB, Canada

[2] School of Dentistry, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB,
Canada
[3] Department of Biology, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

[4] Department of Animal Biology, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, Urbana, IL, USA

[5] The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, ME, USA

[6] Department of Medical Genetics, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta,
Edmonton, AB, Canada
[7] Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, School of Medicine, University of California San

Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

Words: 7697

Figures: 10

Abstract

Realistic mappings of genes to morphology are inherently multivariate on both sides of the equation. The importance of coordinated gene effects on morphological phenotypes is clear from the intertwining of gene actions in signaling pathways, gene regulatory networks, and developmental processes underlying the development of shape and size. Yet, current approaches tend to focus on identifying and localizing the effects of individual genes and rarely leverage the information content of high dimensional phenotypes. Here, we explicitly model the joint effects of biologically coherent collections of genes on a multivariate trait—craniofacial shape — in a sample of $n = 1,145$ mice from the Diversity Outbred (DO) experimental line. We use biological process gene ontology (GO) annotations to select skeletal and facial development gene sets and solve for the axis of shape variation that maximally covaries with gene set marker variation. We use our process-centered, multivariate genotype-phenotype (MGP) approach to determine the overall contributions to craniofacial variation of genes involved in relevant processes and how variation in different processes corresponds to multivariate axes of shape variation. Further, we compare the directions of effect in phenotype space of mutations to the primary axis of shape variation associated with broader pathways within which they are thought to function. Finally, we leverage the relationship between mutational and pathway-level effects to predict phenotypic effects beyond craniofacial shape in specific mutants. We also introduce an online application which provides users the means to customize their own process-centered craniofacial shape analyses in the DO. The process-centered approach is generally applicable to any continuously varying phenotype and thus has wide-reaching implications for complex-trait genetics.

Keywords: multivariate genotype-phenotype map, complex traits, mouse, craniofacial, diversity outbred

Introduction

Variation in human craniofacial shape is moderately to highly heritable (~30-70% (Cole et al., 2017; Tsagkrasoulis et al., 2017)), and resemblances among close relatives as well as twins underscore the strong relationship between shared genetics and shared phenotype(Johannsdottir et al., 2005; Nakata, 1985). Despite many studies in humans and in mice (Claes et al., 2018; Cole et al., 2016; Shaffer et al., 2016), however, we know very little about the genetic basis for variation in craniofacial shape. This is likely due to genetic complexity (Katz et al., 2019; Richtsmeier and Flaherty, 2013; Visscher, 2008; Wood et al., 2014; Wray et al., 2013). Like many aspects of morphological variation, craniofacial shape is extraordinarily polygenic. Genes with major mechanistic roles in facial development such as *Fgf8* often contribute little to standing phenotypic variation(Green et al., 2017) while genetic influences without obvious connections to craniofacial development emerge as significant contributors(Kenney-Hunt et al., 2008; Klingenberg and Leamy, 2001; Maga et al., 2015; Pallares et al., 2015, 2014). The effects of genetic variants on phenotype often depend on genetic background (Mackay and Moore, 2014; Percival et al., 2017) and many mutations have variably penetrant effects even when background is controlled (Hallgrimsson et al, 2009; Rendel, 1967). These issues likely arise because genetic influences act through multiple layers of interacting developmental processes to influence phenotypic traits, resulting in complex patterns of epistasis and variance heterogeneity(Hallgrimsson et al., 2018, 2014; Kawauchi et al., 2009; Wagner and Zhang, 2011). Solutions that go beyond studies of single gene effects are required to overcome these significant challenges in complex-trait genetics. Here, we implement an enhanced form of the more general candidate gene approach to evaluate the conjoint effects of multiple genes on a complex trait – craniofacial shape.

There are two basic approaches to mapping genetic effects on to phenotypic variation. A candidate gene approach measures genotypic values with known physiological and biochemical relationships to the phenotypes of interest (Cheverud and Routman, 1993). In contrast, a random marker or genome-wide approach seeks to associate any potential genetic variant with variation in the trait of interest. There are advantages and disadvantages to these two approaches. The candidate gene approach is blind to the unknown – phenotypic variation is often associated with

genes not expected to be important. On the other hand, a candidate gene approach allows direct

measurement of genotypic values and produces results that are interpretable in terms of trait

physiology or development. A genome-wide or random marker approach can produce

unexpected insight by revealing novel gene-phenotype associations. However, this comes at a

great cost in power (Visscher et al., 2017). For highly polygenic traits, this approach often

produces a "tip of the iceberg" effect in which studies reveal a small and often incoherent subset

of the genes that actually determine variation in the trait of interest (Broman and Sen, 2009, p.

123-124).

Several strategies have been developed that partially overcome these tradeoffs. One

solution is the use of polygenic risk scores. Polygenic risk scores assess the overall genetic

influence on a trait without regard to the genome-wide significance of individual SNP effects

(Dudbridge, 2013; Wray et al., 2007). Approaches such as meta-analyses of genome-wide

association studies (GWAS) or studies based on extreme phenotypes (Morozova et al., 2015)

have expanded gene lists for a variety of complex traits. However, lengthy lists of genes or

overall genomic risk for specific phenotypes do not necessarily constitute tractable genetic

explanations for phenotypic variation. When 1000s of genes are required to explain heritable

variation in stature, for instance, it is not clear what such lists tell you beyond the obvious fact

that stature is heritable and polygenic (Yang et al., 2010; Wood et al., 2014). This tension

between hypothesis-driven and hypothesis-free approaches and their attendant tradeoffs between

statistical power and interpretability is, arguably, a major issue within complex trait genetics. To

resolve this conceptual conflict, approaches are needed that integrate quantitative genetics with

biological insights regarding the cellular and developmental processes through which genes

influence phenotypic variation.

Existing approaches to complex trait genetics also tend to treat phenotypic traits as

singular and one-dimensional. Even for morphological variation, most studies reduce shape

variation to linear distances, principal components, regression scores or measures of size which

are then mapped as individual traits (Xiong *et al.* 2019; Shaffer et al, 2016; Cole et al, 2016).

This approach disregards the information content of multivariate phenotypic variation. While

univariate traits only vary along one dimension, high dimensional traits such as craniofacial

shape can vary in direction as well as magnitude within a multi-dimensional shape space. To
identify the distinctive axes of gene effects on a multivariate trait, one must model such multiple
multivariate relationships directly.

Building on Mitteroecker *et al.'s* (2016) multivariate genotype-phenotype (MGP) method,
we extend the candidate-gene framework to evaluate the combined contributions of genes to
variation in high-dimensional phenotypic traits such as craniofacial shape. Grouping genes by
ontological information such as membership in pathways or other relevant biological hypotheses,
our process-centered, multivariate approach brings traditional GWAS together with a simplified
model of the hierarchical genotype-phenotype (GP) map. GP maps describe the relationship
between genetic and phenotypic measurements(Lewontin, 1974). Understanding the genetic
determinants of craniofacial variation, as with most complex traits, represents a many-to-many
GP map problem (Fig 1). Both phenotypic and genotypic measurements have complex within-set
covariance structures. On the genetic side, the covariance structure is represented by
pathway/biochemical interactions, as well as chromosomal structure like linkage, chromatin, and
3D chromosomal organization. For shape-related phenotypes, the covariance matrix is structured
by the chosen set of landmarks and their resulting coordinates. The functional relationship from
genotype to phenotype is then described by a between-set covariance (Klingenberg and Leamy,
2001; Mitteroecker et al., 2016). To dissect these relationships, we use a regularized partial least
squares (PLS) (Lorenzo et al., 2019) approach to estimate a low-dimensional mapping from the
alleles in our sample to variation in adult mouse craniofacial shape. While PLS is well suited for
analysis of covariation between two sets of measurements, regularization is essential for
mitigating overfitting when there are many alleles simultaneously modelled. We focus on how
allelic variation in processes relevant to craniofacial development maps to craniofacial shape
variation. We ask the following five questions:

1) How much shape variation is communally accounted for by genes contributing to a
process, e.g., chondrocyte differentiation?
2) How similar are the effects of different processes on shape? For instance, do cell
proliferation genes affect face shape in a similar way to genes in the bone morphogenic
protein pathway?

3) What is the overarching structure of process effects? Do process effects align with major axes of variation such as allometry or other principal directions in morphospace?

4) How similar are mutant model effects and process effects? For example, do chondrocyte mutant effects align with the effects of natural variants in chondrocyte differentiation genes?

5) Can one use the similarity of a mutational effect to MGP process effects predict unobserved phenotypes associated with that mutation?

Together, these questions demonstrate the ability of the MGP approach to add meaningful understanding of the complex relationships between genotype and phenotype by quantifying higher level regularities between complex phenotypic and genomic data. We also demonstrate its potential as a resource for the study of mutational effects on complex traits such as craniofacial shape.

Results

Process Multivariate Genotype-Phenotype (MGP) Mapping

We demonstrate regularized-PLS MGP mapping with three examples. The first estimates the
primary axis of skull shape covariation with genes involved in chondrocyte differentiation (Fig
2). Differentiation of chondrocytes is one of several key developmental processes involved in
endochondral ossification. Endochondral bones form the majority of the cranial base through a
cartilage model of bone formation (Percival and Richtsmeier, 2013). There are 38 genes
annotated to chondrocyte differentiation in the Ensembl database (Yates et al., 2020). In the
figure, genetic effects are shown as zero-centered bars that span the range of estimated allele
effects across the 8 DO founders; individual founder allele effects—8 per marker—are color-
coded within those bars (Fig 2A). Among chondrocyte differentiation genes, *Nov*, *Mapk14*, and
Bmpr1b (*Alk6*) are most implicated in the major axis of pathway covariation with craniofacial
shape. The phenotypic effects at each landmark—magnified 4x— primarily relate to antero-
posterior positioning of the zygomatic arches and dorso-ventral jugal position (Fig 2B, 2C). The
chondrocyte differentiation GP map explains 2.15% of the total variance in craniofacial shape.
Compared to 1000 randomly generated marker sets of the same size (38), chondrocyte
differentiation explains substantially more variation in phenotype than random markers (Supp fig
1A).

     Figure 2B and 2C also compare the direction of the chondrocyte differentiation MGP axis
to the axis of shape variation of a relevant mutant phenotype. We chose homozygous *Bmpr1b*
mutants for this comparison for two reasons. The first is because Bmpr1b heterodimerization
with other bone morphogenic protein pathway receptors is essential for chondrocyte
differentiation and proliferation (Liu et al., 2005; Yoon et al., 2005). The second reason we chose
Bmpr1b mutant comparisons is because the marker selected for *Bmp1rb* in the genomic analysis
is contains one of the strongest allelic effects associated with the morphological effect. The
overall phenotypic directions of *Bmpr1b* mutant variation and chondrocyte differentiation
variation are moderately correlated at r = 0.312, but the direction at landmarks with large effects
in mutant and MGP are clearly coincident. Over the landmarks we measured, the chondrocyte

differentiation effect is less global than the *Bmpr1b* effect, likely due to the difference in severity

of the mutant phenotype.

The similarity of the chondrocyte differentiation effect with the *Bmpr1b* mutant and the

high loading *Bmpr1b* allele in the DO genome suggests that *Bmpr1b* mutants may produce

chondrocyte differentiation defects in the developing neurocranium. We quantified cell size and

distribution in the intersphenoid synchondroses (ISS) of several mutant and control *Bmpr1b*

mice. Homozygotes show overall larger cell sizes as well as a differing distribution of cell sizes

throughout the width of the ISS (Fig 3A-C; $\chi^2 = 21.23$, df $= 3$, p $< .0001$). The presence of larger

cell sizes in the homozygote *Bmpr1b* mutants suggests that the synchondroses possess more

hypertrophic chondrocytes. Additionally, *Bmpr1b* homozygous mutant mice show premature

fusion of the coronal suture (Fig 3D).

The second example quantifies cranial shape covariation with the 81 genes annotated to

"determination of left/right symmetry". The phenotype associated with left/right symmetry

alleles is predominately related to a larger neurocranium volume relative to the outgrowth of the

face (Fig 4B, 4C). We also visualized the asymmetry in the phenotypic response, which shows

subtle asymmetry, particularly in the position of the anterior zygomatic landmark (Fig 4D).

Left/right symmetry loci explain 2.2% of the total variance in craniofacial shape, which exceeds

the variance explained by 1000 randomly selected marker sets of the same size (Supp fig 1B).

There are several high loading alleles that contribute to the left/right symmetry phenotype. In

particular, an *Fgf10* allele inherited from the Castaneus founder background was among the most

important (Fig 4A). FGF10 is a key ligand in early development, directing proliferation as well

as differentiation for many craniofacial components, including the palate, teeth, and bones

(Hilliard et al., 2005; Prochazkova et al., 2018; Watson and Francavilla, 2018). We compared the

estimated left/right symmetry MGP effect with the direction of an *Fgf10* homozygous mutant

because of the relative importance of the allelic effect. The vector correlation between the *Fgf10*

mutant and the estimated left/right symmetry effect is 0.63.

The high-loading *Fgf10* allele for left/right symmetry along with the similar genomic and

mutant phenotypes suggests that *Fgf10* mutants could show directional asymmetry in the

cranium. To test this, we measured a sample of 8 *Fgf10* adult mutant crania for object symmetry

and detected significant directional asymmetry (Fig 4E; F = 4.91, df = 52, p < .0001).

The final example estimates the shape covariation attributed to the 73 genes annotated to

"palate development." Formation and fusion of the palatal shelves are crucial for proper orofacial

development and heavily influences overall facial shape (Greene and Pisano, 2010). Several

genes contribute strongly to the palate development MGP effect including *Ephb2, Gli3,* and

Lrp6. The estimated phenotype shows corresponding variation in palate length as well as strong

effects in the majority of the cranial base landmarks (Fig 5B, 5C). Palate development MGP loci

explain 2.4% of the total variance in cranial shape, which is greater than variance explained by

1000 randomly permuted marker sets of the same size (Supp fig 1C). We compared the palate

development phenotype to a heterozygous *Ankrd11,* neural-crest specific knockout mouse. The

Ankrd11 locus is associated with KBG syndrome in humans, which presents with generally

delayed bone mineralization as well craniofacial characteristics including palate abnormalities

(Low et al., 2016). While the vector correlation between the palate development MGP effect and

the *Ankrd11* mutant over the complete set of cranial landmarks is moderate at r = .284, the vector

correlation for palate landmarks is substantially higher at r = .536.

In each case above, we have shown how association of gene sets and phenotypic

variation can produce highly informative results that can guide future hypothesis testing. For a

given biological process, we identified genes that load strongly on the primary axis of MGP

covariation for which mutant samples were available to us, as well. Future investigations could

also use this information about genes with high loadings to generate new mutants for analysis.

For each example, we focus only on the first PLS axis, so other alleles for other genes may

contribute to novel phenotypic directions in lower PLS axes. In the next sections we will

examine how MGP phenotypes relate to each other, as well as the phenotypic directions of many

mutant mouse models.

Pairwise comparison of craniofacial development processes

We chose 15 processes integral to craniofacial development and compared the pairwise

similarity of effect on craniofacial shape using a heatmap based on clustering of the correlation

matrix (R core team, 2017). Processes with similar effects on craniofacial shape will be highly

correlated, while processes that affect distinct aspects of craniofacial variation will be

uncorrelated to each other. The clustering algorithm resulted in two main blocks of strongly

correlated effects (Fig 6A). The largest block of highly correlated phenotypic effects includes

neural crest cell migration, epithelial to mesenchymal transition, forebrain development, as well

as some of the most general developmental processes like cell proliferation, bone development,

apoptosis, A/P pattern specification, and FGFR signaling. In addition, there is a general BMP

block, with Bmp signaling, dorsoventral pattern formation, endochondral ossification, and

positive regulation of skeletal muscle tissue growth. Interestingly, phenotypic variation

associated with cranial suture morphogenesis, neural tube patterning, and intramembranous

ossification is largely uncorrelated with the other craniofacial developmental processes included

here.

To assess the stability of the clustering result, we estimated the vector correlation

between the cluster distances—also known as the cophenetic distance— and the original

correlation matrix. A high vector correlation suggests reliable clustering, whereas a low

correlation suggests a random clustering result. The correlation between the cophenetic distance

matrix and the correlation matrix is 0.648 (t = 8.64, df = 103, p = 7.6^{-14}), suggesting a moderate,

though significant structure in the similarity of effects amongst this set of MGP processes.

Comparison of processes to principal component directions

Almost a third of the 15 pairwise process comparisons showed a vector correlation > 0.5,

suggesting that many processes may feed into a limited set of directions in morphospace. To

assess the extent to which different processes affect the same aspects of facial shape we

randomly chose 1,000 process annotations, fit individual regularized PLS models to each set of

markers for a given annotation term, and then compared the direction of phenotypic effects for

each model to principal components 1-4 of the DO shape data (Fig 6B). Doing so with principal

components allows us to highlight similarities in directions of process effects. Process effects

range from completely uncorrelated to PC1 to highly correlated (0.0 - 0.8). However, the central

tendency of randomly selected process effects is one of moderate-to-high correlation with PC1.

Moderate correlations (0.55 - 0.6) with PC1 are more common than uncorrelated effects.

Supplemental table 1 contains the 10 most highly correlated processes with PC1 as well as the

corresponding correlations to PC 2-4. The most highly correlated process to PC1 is "zinc ion

binding", which is 0.86 correlated to the PC1 direction. The remaining 9 processes most highly

correlated to PC1 includes "sensory perception of sound", "Calcium ion transport", "Protein

homooligomerization", "Dendrite morphogenesis", "Neuropeptide signaling pathway", "Focal

adhesion", "Chromosome segregation", "Sarcomere organization", and "Integral component of

endoplasmic reticulum membrane".

Process correlations with PCs 2-4 are generally less strong. The maximum correlated

process with PCs 2-4 was "V(D)J recombination", "n-terminal protein myristoylation", and

"branching morphogenesis of an epithelial tube" with vector correlations of 0.72, 0.89, and 0.56,

respectively. Processes with high vector correlations for a given PC tend to be uncorrelated with

other PCs (Supp table 1), although some processes load moderately high across several PCs. For

example, "negative regulation of I-kappaB kinase/NF-kappaB signaling" shows vector

correlations between 0.25 - 0.54 for the first four PCs (Supp table 2).

Process effects in the mutant morphospace

To assess the extent to which craniofacial shape variation associated with developmental

processes aligns with variation from mutants of major effect, we projected 7 process effects onto

the first two principal components (PCs) of a dataset containing the DO sample, and samples

from 30 mutant genotypes (Fig 7A). Each black label represents the mean shape score of the

listed mutant genotype. The shaded ellipse with an orange border displays the 95% confidence

ellipse of PCs 1 and 2 of DO cranial shape variation. The DO mean shape is contrasted by the

mutant variation along PC1. The first PC describes vault size relative to the length of the face.

The phenotype shown along the x-axis of figure 7A depicts the maximum positive PC1 shape,

while the heatmap drawn on the crania represents the local deformations towards the minimum

PC1 shape. The positive direction of PC2 describes coordinated variation that includes a

relatively wider vault, narrower zygomatic, and shorter premaxilla (Fig 7A, y-axis margin).

Process effects—highlighted with orange vectors originating at the DO mean shape —

are necessarily of smaller magnitude than the total variation in the DO sample. Therefore, to

better compare the direction of process effects the vector magnitudes were magnified 4x. Several

process effects align in distinct directions of mutant effects, such as bmp signaling pathway and

endochondral ossification in the direction of *Shh*, *Nipbl*, and *Ift88* mutants. Neurotransmitter

transport and Wnt signaling pathway is similar in direction to *Mceph* and *B9d1* mutant effects.

Execution phase of apoptosis and intracellular transport both show similar effects to a cluster of

Bmp mutants.

Finally, we show the similarity of 30 process MGP effects to 30 mouse mutant models in

figure 7B. The heatmap shows the correlation in direction with yellow/green denoting higher

correlation and teal/blue denoting lower correlation. The bottom right of the heatmap

(highlighted by a white border) shows a block of mutants for which there are strong process

correlations. These are among the most extreme phenotypes along PC1 (Fig 5A) and include

mutants for *Nosip, Bmp2, Grm1, Bmp2; Bmp7* transheterozygote*, Bmp7, Ghrhr, Fgf10, and*

Papps2. The processes most strongly correlated to these mutants are histone methylation,

dendrite morphogenesis, chromosome segmentation, vasodilation, and fibroblast growth factor

binding.

There are a set of mutant phenotypes that have generally low correlations to the set of

processes chosen. These mutants include *Fgf3, Shh, Nipbl, Disp, Pten, Hhat, and Alk2; Alk3*

transheterozygote. Interestingly, this group of mutants vary more along PC2 than PC1 (Fig 7A).

Notably, regulation of intracellular protein transport and regulation of cell death are strongly

uncorrelated with the majority of mutant directions.

Real-time process GP mapping

Real-time process GP mapping

Finally, we provide an online tool to visualize process effects and make comparisons to mutant

effects in real time. This application is found at **genopheno.ucalgary.ca/MGP** and can be used

for analyses similar to those described in this paper. When the user selects gene ontology terms,

the program searches for genotype markers adjacent to each gene listed and uses the selected

markers to fit a regularized PLS model. The result is an estimate of the many-to-many

relationship between the selected markers and cranial shape variation. The visual outputs include

barplots depicting the relative allele effect sizes for each gene in the process and a 3D plot of the

corresponding axis of shape variation. Users can compare the effects of different processes and

also compare process effects to mutant effects from a provided database of 30 mutant genotypes.

To illustrate how to use this application, we have provided the graphical user interface

used to select the parameters (Fig 8). As an example, in the "Process text" entry field, supply a

starting term; we chose "brain." The GO database is then filtered, returning a user-selectable

subset of biological process ontology annotation terms in the "Process filter" field. We chose

"forebrain morphogenesis," which has 11 associated genes. We chose to magnify the process

phenotype vectors 4x and compare the effect to a heterozygous *Ift88* mutant. *Ift88* is a core

component of the primary cilia, which are responsible for promoting developmental signals

involved in many facets of facial development (Tian et al., 2017). Further, the plots that are

generated are interactive. For example, marker loadings can be highlighted and subset by genes

of interest (Plotly, 2015). There is further information about using this online tool in the "About

this app" tab.

Discussion and Conclusion

A key goal in genomics is to create tractable genetic explanations for phenotypic variation. In

this study, we used a regularized PLS approach to model the joint effects of genomic markers on

multivariate craniofacial shape. This innovative approach allows us to address the joint

contributions of multiple genes that share ontological characteristic such as pathway membership

on craniofacial shape as a multivariate trait. Specifically, we chose markers adjacent to genes

annotated under a developmental process of interest. We showed three process MGP analyses in

depth, each with distinct phenotypic effects. The chondrocyte differentiation MGP effect mainly

showed effects on the shape of the zygomatic and jugal bones with *Ccn3/Nov* as the most highly

loaded corresponding marker effect. The left/right symmetry MGP phenotype was primarily a

smaller cranial vault volume with a longer facial outgrowth, broadly similar to the primary axis

of shape change during mouse growth and development (Gonzalez et al., 2013). The most highly

loaded markers for the left/right symmetry effect were related to *Fgf10* and *Rpgrip1l.* We then

compared process MGP phenotypic effects to each other, to mutant phenotypes, and the first four

principal components of the diversity outbred sample. Each of these comparisons highlighted the

integrated structure of phenotypic variation in mouse craniofacial shape. We found that while

there are processes with distinct and localized effects, genetic effects generally converge on a

limited set of directions in phenotype space. Further, these process effects often correspond with

the directions of major mutations known to affect these same processes.

Many recent studies have addressed the genetics of craniofacial shape in humans and

mice (reviewed in: Roosenboom et al., 2016; Weinberg et al., 2018). While these studies are

yielding a growing list of genes, suggesting that facial shape is highly polygenic, they have left

the vast majority of heritable variation unexplained. Existing studies have either used univariate

measures of facial shape such as linear measurements or univariate summaries of multivariate

shape (eg. Procrustes distances or PC scores). In addition, most genomic studies of craniofacial

shape quantify the effects of each genomic marker independently, with notable exceptions

focusing on epistatic effects (eg. Varón-González et al., 2019). Our approach shares common

features with some predecessor GP mapping strategies in which candidate genes/SNPs are

selected a priori because of common involvement in a pathway (or other mechanistic cluster)

(Claes et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2010, 2007). In particular, Wang and colleagues

selected SNPs based on proximity to genes of interest and effect size to jointly model the

pathway-level effects on Parkinson disease data. Their approach is similar to gene-set

enrichment analysis, weighing over-representation of statistical effects related to case-control

group membership. In contrast, our approach focuses on estimating a multivariate continuous set

of craniofacial responses. Importantly, our approach jointly identifies genotype-phenotype axes

that maximally covary. This differs significantly from approaches that determine phenotypes for

analysis *a priori* or based on a pre-determined method of data reduction such as PCA. Our

approach also differs from methods that associate single locus effects with a multivariate

phenotype (Claes et al., 2018).

A key finding of our application of the MGP method to craniofacial shape is that

multivariate phenotypic variation aligns nonrandomly to genetic markers associated with

pathways or developmental processes. For most process MGP maps, multiple markers for gene

sets with known developmental relationships covary in their relationship with craniofacial shapes

(Supp fig 2). These covarying effects represent joint genetic effects of multiple contributors to

phenotypic variance. While these patterns of multivariate genotype-phenotype covariation may

include genetic variants that do not actually affect the phenotype, many others will be

contributors that we lack statistical power to detect under a typical univariate approach (Pitchers

et al., 2019; Varón-González et al., 2019). Here, the overall pattern of genotype-phenotype

covariance is the level of genetic explanation for phenotypic variation. When such patterns

involve genes that are ontologically linked in meaningful ways, they provide a level of insight

into the developmental-genetics of phenotypic variation that is beyond reach for most genome-

wide association studies for complex traits.

Another valuable asset that arises from the MGP approach is the ability to generate

testable hypotheses or predictions from multivariate genotype-phenotype observations. The

chondrocyte differentiation analysis suggested differentiation defects in the *Bmpr1b* mutant.

Subsequent histological analysis of *Bmpr1b* mutants showed premature suture fusion as well as

atypical distribution of hypertrophic chondrocytes in the intersphenoid synchondrosis. Similarly,

the MGP analysis of left/right symmetry genes suggested that *Fgf10* alleles can contribute to

directional asymmetry. A follow up morphometric analysis of symmetry showed that *Fgf10*

mutants do display significant craniofacial asymmetry (Fig 4E). MGP can also be used to test

existing hypotheses about genotype-phenotype relationships. The relative importance of the

Ankrd11 locus in the palate development analysis and the similarity between the genomic and

mutant phenotype further validates the role of Ankrd11 in palate development. These examples

illustrate the additional insights that an MGP analysis of a mutational effect can provide. Given

that such comparisons can be run quickly, this creates a tool with tremendous potential for

hypothesis generation and initial screening for hypotheses about process-level effects.

In aggregate, our results show substantial covariance in the directions of phenotypic

effects among different developmental processes (Figure 6A). The largest of these captures

processes general to development such as cell proliferation or pattern specification. The second

captures processes more specific to craniofacial development such as cranial suture/ossification

and neural tube patterning. While processes are structured in their effects, our data suggest that

many processes likely "add up" to produce variation. Thus, of 1000 randomly selected processes,

25.7% had a PC1 correlation higher than 0.6, supporting not only a highly polygenic model of

facial variation, but one in which hundreds or even thousands of developmental processes that

contribute to craniofacial variation. Importantly, this result shows how many processes and

pathways converge to produce central axes of variation in craniofacial shape.

The explicit modeling of multivariate relationships between phenotypes and genotypes

also allows a focus on pleiotropy. Developmental studies in mice demonstrate widespread

craniofacial morphological effects from localized developmental perturbations (Martínez-

Abadías et al., 2012; Stelzer et al., 2007; Young et al., 2010) Perturbations to specific processes

in development generally produce effects on multiple aspects of phenotype due to knock-on

effects at later stages or to interactions at the level of tissues or anatomical structures

(Hallgrimsson et al, 2007). A change in cartilage growth in basicranial synchondroses produces a

global change in craniofacial form, for example (Parsons et al, 2015). Remarkably, enhancers

with highly specific temporospatial effects on gene expression also produce global rather than

localized changes in craniofacial shape (Attanasio et al., 2013). Given that pleiotropy is likely

ubiquitous (Hill and Zhang, 2012; Wagner et al, 2008), explicitly multivariate approaches to

understanding genotype-phenotype maps are clearly needed.

This convergence of genetic effects on axes of covariation is also reflected in our finding

that mutations to major developmental genes produce effects that tend to align with the

directions of effect associated with the corresponding broader pathways or ontological groups.

Our analysis focused on two specific processes— FGF signaling and chondrocyte differentiation.

There was a strong correlation between the *Fgf10* mutant and the FGF signaling pathway effect,

while the *Bmpr1b* mutant effect was moderately correlated to the chondrocyte differentiation

direction. For both process MGP maps, other mouse models in the same pathway showed

significant but weaker correlations in direction of effect. These results suggest that perturbations

that are developmentally similar tend to move the phenotype in the same direction in multivariate

space (Figure 7B). Even so, both mutational and higher-level pathway/process effects tend to

converge on a few directions of variation suggesting that multiple pathways and processes lead

to common developmental outcomes. This conclusion is further supported by our finding that the

genetic axes of covariance for individual processes/pathways can align with multiple directions

of mutational effect. For example, the process MGP phenotypes highlighted in the white

rectangle in figure 7B are all highly correlated with a set of BMP and growth hormone-related

mutants.

In some cases, mutants and MGP map directions do not correspond. There are several

ways this can occur. The first is that the DO population may simply lack alleles as deleterious as

found in mutant lines. A small effect allele in the DO may not align with the direction of a

mutant almost completely lacking expression of the target gene. Further, there are many

examples where a mutation may have different and sometimes even opposite effects depending

on genetic background (Mackay, 2014; Percival et al., 2017). Mutations of major effect may also

differ in direction from variants in related genes that have smaller phenotypic effects due to

underlying nonlinearities in development (Green et al., 2017). Investigating how variants in

genes that are functionally related vary in phenotypic effect is an important avenue of inquiry

that is revealed by analyses such as those we have performed here. Additionally, relationships

between process and mutant effects may stimulate hypotheses about previously unknown or

unvalidated interactions between loci or pathways.

A second potential reason that MGP effects may not correspond to major mutation effects

is the use of only one PLS axis for each process analysis. With only one axis, we select the

phenotypic direction with greatest covariance with genetic marker variation. If there are multiple

large marker effects that do not covary, the weaker marker effect will be masked in the analysis.

For instance, there may be a PLS axis for "chondrocyte differentiation" that corresponds more

strongly with the *Bmp2* mutant phenotype (Supp fig 3). This phenomenon may be particularly

prominent for pathways with substantially different mutant effects, like FGF (Fig 7A).

Finally, our analysis shares the limitation of all approaches based on gene annotation

data. Incomplete annotation may contribute to lead to faulty or incomplete groupings of genes

when defining pathway/process hypotheses. Gene annotation is a huge undertaking, and there is

substantial variation in the completeness of different process annotations. Many process

annotations are manually assigned using inference from the literature, while most are a

combination of automated efforts based on transcript similarity and human curation (Mudge and

Harrow, 2015). Related to this, we assign gene annotation data to genetic markers based on the

closest protein-coding region. While this is a reasonable proxy, there will be regulatory sites that

affect genes other than the one immediately adjacent and this is a potential source of uncertainty

in our analysis.

The MGP method represents a deliberate decision to trade higher level insight from

genotype-phenotype association data at the expense of statistical certainty about the significance

of individual gene effects. The current implementation of the method also does not allow for

quantification of individual epistatic effects. Epistasis occurs when the genotypic trait value for a

locus is altered by the genotype of a different locus. Such effects generate nonlinear genotype

phenotype maps, but when considered genome-wide, contribute mainly to additive variance

(Cheverud and Routman, 1995; Hill, 2017). The MGP method is additive in that it models only

the linear effects of genes. However, since it captures the covariances among genotypic effects,

much of this "additive" variation is likely epistatic in origin.

Complex traits present a massive challenge in genomics because so many are turning out

to be enormously polygenic. To generate tractable explanations of the genetic basis for such

traits, methods are needed that extract higher-level representation of genotype-phenotype

relationships than those that emerge from single-locus focused approaches. Here, we present an

hypothesis-driven framework for deriving such higher-level genetic explanations for phenotypic

variation. Our approach leverages the biological tendency for developmental processes to

produce covariation among aspects of a multivariate phenotypic trait (Hallgrimsson et al., 2009;

Wagner et al., 2007). The underlying assumption in this approach is that there are latent variables

within high-dimensional genotype-phenotype data that correspond to developmental architecture.

We believe that analyses aimed at defining and characterizing such latent variables represent a

level of genetic explanation for phenotypic variation that is complementary to genetic analyses

designed to establish the significance of single locus effects. Pursuing such questions will help

bridge the gap between emerging mechanistic accounts of morphogenesis and our growing

understanding of the genetics of morphological variation.

Methods

Mice

We use a sample ($n = 1{,}145$) of Diversity Outbred mice (DO; Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor,

ME) to map GP relationships for craniofacial shape (Churchill et al., 2012, 2004). The DO is a

multiparental outcross population derived from the eight founding lines of the Collaborative

Cross (CC). Each animal's genome is a unique mosaic of the genetic diversity found in the CC—

more than 45 million segregating SNPs (Consortium, 2012). Random outcrossing over many DO

generations maintains this diversity and, with recombination, increases mapping resolution.

Our DO sample was sourced from three separate laboratories and seven DO generations.

386 are from the Jackson Laboratory (JAX), 287 from the University of North Carolina (UNC),

and 472 come from the Scripps Research Institute. Supplemental figure 4 shows the distribution

of the sample by lab source and generation of breeding. Imaging of mice at the University of

Calgary was performed under IACUC protocol AC13-0268. Ankrd11 and Bmpr1b mutant mice

were bred at the University of Alberta by the Graf lab under Animal Use and Care Committee

protocol AUP1149, in accordance with guidelines of the Canadian Council of Animal Care.

Genotyping

Genotyping was performed by Neogen (Lincoln, NE). Ear clippings were used to extract DNA

for all samples. Mice from generations 9, 10, and 15 were genotyped using the MegaMUGA

genotyping array (77,808 markers); mice from generations 19, 21, 23, and 27 were genotyped

using the larger GigaMUGA array (143,259 markers) (Morgan et al., 2016). To pool the

genotype data from these two SNP arrays with differing numbers of markers, we imputed

markers between the two genotyping arrays using the "calc_genoprob" function in the qtl2

package (Broman et al., 2018). The function uses a hidden Markov model to estimate genotype

probabilities and missing genotype data (Gatti et al., 2014). After imputation, the merged genetic

dataset consists of 123,309 SNPs which vary among CC founders. Each animal's genetic record

is a 123,309*8 matrix of estimated diplotype contributions of each CC founder to each marker.

Scanning and landmarking

We used micro-computed tomography to acquire 3D scans of the full heads of the mice.

Scanning was done at the University of Calgary at .035 mm voxel resolution (Scanco vivaCT40).

One of us (WL) then acquired 54 3D landmarks (Fig 9) manually on each volume using Analyze

3D. A discussion of the error associated with manual landmarking can be found in Percival et al

(Percival et al., 2019).

Landmark registration

We symmetrized landmarks along the midline of the skull using Klingenberg et al.'s method for

object symmetry which configures landmark pairs into a common orientation with reflection and

subsequently removes variation associated with translation, scale, and rotation, using

Generalized Procrustes Analysis (Adams and Otárola-Castillo, 2013; Klingenberg et al., 2002;

Mardia, 2000; Schlager, 2017). To focus on shared, within-generation patterns in our

multigenerational DO sample, we regressed symmetric shape on DO generation, and used the

residual shapes with the grand mean added as the observations for analysis.

Genetic relatedness

Adjustment of phenotypes for the influence of genetic relatedness is a common approach in

genomic studies to prevent spurious associations. However, it is not necessary in all cases, such

as situations with low genetic relatedness and little variation in relatedness. We evaluated

whether accounting for genetic relatedness was important for our sample. To do so, we estimated

a kinship matrix based on DO genotype correlations (Cheng et al., 2013; Broman et al., 2019).

The kinship values in our sample have a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of .047 (Supp fig 5).

As a result of these findings, we performed all subsequent analyses on the within-generation

symmetric shape data, without an adjustment for relatedness.

Regularized PLS analysis

Multivariate genotype-phenotype methods for explicitly modeling multivariate phenotypes and

for overcoming the limitations of simple linear regression are increasingly common in mapping

studies. Claes et al. (Claes et al., 2018) used canonical correlation analysis to quantify individual

SNP effects for a multivariate measurement of facial shape. Each test returns a vector of the

linear combination of phenotypic effects that maximally correlates to the alleles at a given locus.

Mitteroecker et al. (Mitteroecker et al., 2016) developed a multivariate strategy around a singular

value decomposition (SVD) of GP covariation. Partial least squares (PLS) describes a family of

approaches that use SVD to decompose cross covariance matrices (Lee et al., 2011; Mitteroecker

and Gunz, 2009; Singh et al., 2016). PLS is increasingly used with large genetic datasets in order

to model how genomic effects extend to multiple traits (BJØRNSTAD et al., 2004; Mehmood et

al., 2011; Tyler et al., 2017). However, its implementation for MGP mapping is, thus far, much

more limited.

SVD decomposes the covariance matrix into three matrices:

$$Y = UDV'$$

Where $\mathbf{Y}$ is the mean-centered covariance matrix, $\mathbf{U}$ denotes the left singular vectors, a set of

vectors of unit length describing the relative weighting of each variable on each axis, and $\mathbf{D}$

denotes the variance along each axis. $\mathbf{V}$ denotes the set of right singular vectors. For a full

(square, symmetric) covariance matrix, $\mathbf{U}$ and $\mathbf{V}$ are identical, and the decomposition is

equivalent to PCA. For a non-symmetric matrix of covariances, i.e., one describing covariance

between two distinct blocks of traits, each successive column of **U** and **V** provide a pair of

singular vectors describing the best least squares approximation of covariance between the two

blocks, in order of greatest covariance explained to least.

PLS is most often used to find low-rank linear combinations that maximize covariance

between two sets of features. Here, we use a data-driven regularized PLS model implemented in

the mddsPLS package to find paired axes that maximize covariance between allelic and shape

variation (Lorenzo et al., 2019). The model uses a lasso penalty to minimize the coefficients

(loadings) towards zero to prevent overfitting (James et al., 2013). Overfitting can occur in when

many genotypic markers are included in the model, particularly when markers are colinear. The

genotype block is composed of the full set of DO founder probabilities for each selected marker.

Thus, an analysis of 20 markers would estimate 160 genotype coefficients. The phenotype block

consists of the full set of 54 3-dimensional landmarks (162 phenotype coefficients). In all

biological process analyses undertaken herein, we used a regularization parameter of 0.06 and

report only the first paired axes of the PLS model, i.e., the genotype and phenotype axes which

explain the most covariance.

Biological process gene sets

For process-specific MGP analyses, we used the mouse genome informatics database (Bult et al.,

2018) to identify genes annotated to a given process. Each annotation term has an associated GO

ID. For example, "chondrocyte differentiation" has GO ID GO:000206 (Fig 10, box 1). We

cross-reference the GO ID with the Ensemble genome database (GRCm38.p6) to find the name,

chromosome, and base pair start/end position for each gene (Fig 10, box 2) annotated to the

process. For genes with multiple splice variants, we select the full transcript start/end positions.

For each gene, we compare marker base pair positions and select the closest upstream and

downstream markers to the center of each gene. The 8-state genotype probability is then

calculated as the average founder allele probabilities between the two selected markers. (Fig 10,

box 3). After marker selection, we fit the regularized PLS model using the founder allele

probabilities (8 variables/marker) and full landmark data set (Fig 10, box 4).

We generate graphical displays of process results using the R packages ggplot2

(Wickham, 2016) and Morpho (Schlager, 2017). An example script to reproduce the analyses is

provided at **github.com/j0vid**.

Statistical results and comparisons

We estimate the magnitude and direction of MGP process effects using R^2 and vector

correlations, respectively. R^2 is calculated as the ratio of trace of the predicted model covariance

to the trace of the phenotypic covariance matrix. We contextualize the MGP process R^2 by

comparing it to the R^2 value of 1000 randomly drawn marker sets of the same size. For instance,

a process annotated with 40 genes would be compared to 1000 40-gene MGP analyses with

random markers selected in each iteration. Random marker selection for permutation is

constrained to follow similar patterns of linkage disequilibrium to the observed marker set of

interest. The null expectation in this scenario is that gene annotation does not provide better

information about coordinated marker effects than a randomly selected set of markers.

Vector correlations between process MGP effects are calculated by taking the Pearson

product-moment correlation of the two sets of process PLS1 phenotypic loadings. Vector

correlations between process effects and mutant effects are calculated by taking the correlation

between the process PLS1 phenotypic loadings and mutant MANOVA coefficients. The

MANOVA compares the mutant group phenotype with the DO sample specified as the reference

group.

Chondrocyte morphometrics

Chondrocyte morphometrics were performed using a novel technique developed by the Marcucio

laboratory. Images of the intersphenoid synchondrosis (ISS) were stained with H&E, SafO, or

picrosirius red were captured and imported into ImageJ (2-6 sections from at least 4

mice/genotype/synchondrosis). Landmarks were placed in a defined order (left, right, top,

bottom) of visible chondrocytes in the synchondrosis using the ImageJ's multi-tool. Data points

were then exported as XY coordinates and imported into Microsoft Excel for calculation of

major and minor axes relative to overall width of synchondrosis. Area of individual cells was

determined from height and width values based on assumption that each cell is roughly

ellipsoidal. An example of major and minor axis measurements and ellipsoidal area

measurements on a slide is provided in supplemental figure 6.

We compared differences in the distribution of cell sizes along normalized synchondroses

between *Bmpr1b* mutants and controls with a mixed effects model approach. We used ellipsoidal

area of cell size (in microns) as our dependent variable. For fixed effects, we modelled the

normalized synchondrosis position (1st and 2nd order), where a value of 0 represents the relative

midline of the synchondrosis and values of -1 and 1 represent the most distant cells in that

synchondrosis. We also modelled genotype as a fixed effect as well as a genotype by cell

position interaction (both 1st and 2nd order interactions). For each individual within each

genotype, we measured multiple histological sections. These repeated and nested measurements

of cell size in multiple sections for each individual were modelled as random effects. To test for

cell size differences between genotypes, we used a likelihood ratio test to compare the full model

to a reduced model with the fixed effect of genotype removed.

Visualization tools

We introduce an interactive web application that allows the user to select processes of interest

with a graphical user interface and see the resulting craniofacial effect at

genopheno.ucalgary.ca/MGP. The web apps were written using the shiny package in R (Chang

et al., 2018). The application dynamically filters the MGI GO database based on the initial user

input. Queries will only list GO terms with exact matches. For example, "chond" will return GO

terms that incorporate either "chondrocyte" and "mitochondria".

Multiple queries can be selected. An analysis of "chondrocyte differentiation" and

"chondrocyte hypertrophy" will select the joint gene set of both processes. Processes with

different names can be jointly queried with the pipe operator "|", which is interpreted as an OR

(union) operator. For example, to generate the list of GO terms associated with either apoptosis

or WNT, we used the "apoptosis|WNT" query and selected the processes "Wnt signaling

pathway" and "execution phase of apoptosis" to perform the analysis on the joint set of

associated genes (Supp fig 7).

Several other parameters can be specified by the user including the type of plot to be

generated for the genetic loadings, the amount of magnification applied to the phenotype effect

vectors, the regularization parameter, and the option to overlay a mutant phenotype for

comparison. The comparative database currently includes craniofacial shape contrast data (wild-

type vs. mutant) for 30 mutant genotypes. If a mutant comparison is selected, the full set of DO

specimens are registered with the mutants added (with size removed). We then provide the

vector correlation between the process effect and the mutant effect (see Fig 8). The database also

includes PC1 of the DO sample for comparison.

The app enables users to save results. A save request will generate and download an

HTML report of the analysis which includes several versions of the genetic effect plot and an

interactive 3D model of the estimated phenotypic effect. If a mutant comparison is selected, it

will also appear in the report.

The application tracks recent searches by the user for their reference. A heatmap of

process vector correlations of the PLS phenotype loadings is also available under the "recent

searches" tab. The user can select between a heatmap of the processes in their search history or a

random assortment of process correlations from past, anonymous user searches.

Acknowledgements:

Grants: NIH - 2R01DE019638 to RM, BH and JC, NSERC 238992-17, CIHR Foundation grant

159920 to BH, CFI grant #36262 to BH and NSERC RGPIN-2014-06311 to DG. JDA is

supported by an Eyes High fellowship, an Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute

scholarship and a MITACS graduate fellowship.

References

Attanasio C, Nord AS, Zhu Y, Blow MJ, Li Z, Liberton DK, Morrison H, Plajzer-Frick I, Holt A, Hosseini R, Phouanenavong S, Akiyama JA, Shoukry M, Afzal V, Rubin EM, FitzPatrick DR, Ren B, Hallgrímsson B, Pennacchio LA, Visel A. 2013. Fine Tuning of Craniofacial Morphology by Distant-Acting Enhancers. *Science* **342**:1241006. doi:10.1126/science.1241006

Brazil DP, Church RH, Surae S, Godson C, Martin F. 2015. BMP signalling: agony and antagony in the family. *Trends Cell Biol* **25**:249–264. doi:10.1016/j.tcb.2014.12.004

Broman K, Sen Ś. (2009). A Guide to QTL Mapping with R/qtl. Springer. ISBN 978-0-387-92125-9. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-92125-9

Broman K, Gatti D, Simecek P, Furlotte N, Prins P, Sen Ś, Yandell B, Churchill G. (2018). R/qtl2: Software for Mapping Quantitative Trait Loci with High-Dimensional Data and Multi-parent Populations Genetics 211(2), genetics.301595.2018. https://dx.doi.org/10.1534/genetics.118.301595

Chai Y. 2015. Craniofacial Development. *Current Topics in Dev Bio.* Academic Press. Volume 115. ISBN 9780124081413.

Chebib J, Guillaume F. 2017. What affects the predictability of evolutionary constraints using a G-matrix? The relative effects of modular pleiotropy and mutational correlation. *Evol Int J Org Evol* **71**:2298–2312. doi:10.1111/evo.13320

Cheverud JM, Routman EJ. 1996. EPISTASIS AS A SOURCE OF INCREASED ADDITIVE GENETIC VARIANCE AT POPULATION BOTTLENECKS. *Evolution* **50**:1042–1051. doi:10.1111/j.1558-5646.1996.tb02345.x

Churchill GA, Gatti DM, Munger SC, Svenson KL. 2012. The diversity outbred mouse population. *Mamm Genome* **23**:713–718. doi:10.1007/s00335-012-9414-2

Claes P, Liberton DK, Daniels K, Rosana KM, Quillen EE, Pearson LN, McEvoy B, Bauchet M, Zaidi AA, Yao W, Tang H, Barsh GS, Absher DM, Puts DA, Rocha J, Beleza S, Pereira RW, Baynam G, Suetens P, Vandermeulen D, Wagner JK, Boster JS, Shriver MD. 2014. Modeling 3D Facial Shape from DNA. *Plos Genet* **10**:e1004224. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1004224

Claes, P., Roosenboom, J., White, J. D., Swigut, T., Sero, D., Li, J., Lee, M. K., Zaidi, A., Mattern, B. C., Liebowitz, C., Pearson, L., González, T., Leslie, E. J., Carlson, J. C., Orlova, E., Suetens, P., Vandermeulen, D., Feingold, E., Marazita, M. L., Shaffer, J. R., Wysocka, J., Shriver, M. D., & Weinberg, S. M. (2018). Genome-wide mapping of global-to-local genetic effects on human facial shape. *Nature Genetics,* **50**(3), 414-423. doi:10.1038/s41588-018-0057-4

Cole, J. B., Manyama, M., Kimwaga, E., Mathayo, J., Larson, J. R., Liberton, D. K., Lukowiak, K., Ferrara, T. M., Riccardi, S. L., Li, M., Mio, W., Prochazkova, M., Williams, T., Li, H., Jones, K. L., Klein, O. D., Santorico, S. A., Hallgrimsson, B., & Spritz, R. A. (2016). Genomewide Association Study of African Children Identifies Association of SCHIP1 and PDE8A with Facial Size and Shape. *PLoS Genetics*, **12**(8), e1006174. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1006174

Cole JB, Manyama M, Larson JR, Liberton DK, Ferrara TM, Riccardi SL, Li M, Mio W, Klein OD, Santorico SA, Hallgrímsson B, Spritz RA. 2017. Human Facial Shape and Size Heritability and Genetic Correlations. *Genetics* **205**:967–978. doi:10.1534/genetics.116.193185

Collaborative Cross Consortium. 2012. The Genome Architecture of the Collaborative Cross Mouse Genetic Reference Population. *Genetics* **190**:389–401. doi:10.1534/genetics.111.132639

Dudbridge F. 2013. Power and Predictive Accuracy of Polygenic Risk Scores. *Plos Genet* **9**:e1003348. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1003348

FANTOM Consortium, Forrest ARR, Kawaji H, Rehli M, Baillie JK, Hoon MJL de, Haberle V, Lassmann T, Kulakovskiy IV, Lizio M, Itoh M, Andersson R, Mungall CJ, Meehan TF, Schmeier S, Bertin N, Jørgensen M, Dimont E, Arner E, Schmidl C, Schaefer U, Medvedeva YA, Plessy C, Vitezic M, Severin J, Semple CA, Ishizu Y, Young RS, Francescatto M, Alam I, Albanese D, Altschuler GM, Arakawa T, Archer JAC, Arner P, Babina M, Rennie S, Balwierz PJ, Beckhouse AG, Pradhan-Bhatt S, Blake JA, Blumenthal A, Bodega B, Bonetti A, Briggs J, Brombacher F, Burroughs AM, Califano A, Cannistraci CV, Carbajo D, Chen Y, Chierici M, Ciani Y, Clevers HC, Dalla E, Davis CA, Detmar M, Diehl AD, Dohi T, Drabløs F, Edge ASB, Edinger M, Ekwall K, Endoh M, Enomoto H, Fagiolini M, Fairbairn L, Fang H, Farach-Carson MC, Faulkner GJ, Favorov AV, Fisher ME, Frith MC, Fujita R, Fukuda S, Furlanello C, Furuno M, Furusawa J, Geijtenbeek TB, Gibson AP, Gingeras T, Goldowitz D, Gough J, Guhl S, Guler R, Gustincich S, Ha TJ, Hamaguchi M, Hara M, Harbers M, Harshbarger J, Hasegawa A, Hasegawa Y, Hashimoto T, Herlyn M, Hitchens KJ, Sui SJH, Hofmann OM, Hoof I, Hori F, Huminiecki L, Iida K, Ikawa T, Jankovic BR, Jia H, Joshi A, Jurman G, Kaczkowski B, Kai C, Kaida K, Kaiho A, Kajiyama K, Kanamori-Katayama M, Kasianov AS, Kasukawa T, Katayama S, Kato S, Kawaguchi S, Kawamoto H, Kawamura YI, Kawashima T, Kempfle JS, Kenna TJ, Kere J, Khachigian LM, Kitamura T, Klinken SP, Knox AJ, Kojima M, Kojima S, Kondo N, Koseki H, Koyasu S, Krampitz S, Kubosaki A, Kwon AT, Laros JFJ, Lee W, Lennartsson A, Li K, Lilje B, Lipovich L, Mackay-sim A, Manabe R, Mar JC, Marchand B, Mathelier A, Mejhert N, Meynert A, Mizuno Y, Morais DA de L, Morikawa H, Morimoto M, Moro K, Motakis E, Motohashi H, Mummery CL, Murata M, Nagao-Sato S, Nakachi Y, Nakahara F, Nakamura T, Nakamura Y, Nakazato K, Nimwegen E van, Ninomiya N, Nishiyori H, Noma S, Nozaki T, Ogishima S, Ohkura N, Ohmiya H, Ohno H, Ohshima M, Okada-Hatakeyama M, Okazaki Y, Orlando V, Ovchinnikov DA, Pain A, Passier R, Patrikakis M, Persson H, Piazza S, Prendergast JGD, Rackham OJL, Ramilowski JA, Rashid M, Ravasi T, Rizzu P, Roncador M, Roy S, Rye MB, Saijyo E, Sajantila A, Saka A, Sakaguchi S, Sakai M, Sato H, Satoh H, Savvi S, Saxena A,

Schneider C, Schultes EA, Schulze-Tanzil GG, Schwegmann A, Sengstag T, Sheng G,
Shimoji H, Shimoni Y, Shin JW, Simon C, Sugiyama D, Sugiyama T, Suzuki M, Suzuki N,
Swoboda RK, Hoen PAC 't, Tagami M, Takahashi N, Takai J, Tanaka H, Tatsukawa H,
Tatum Z, Thompson M, Toyoda H, Toyoda T, Valen E, Wetering M van de, Berg LM van
den, Verardo R, Vijayan D, Vorontsov IE, Wasserman WW, Watanabe S, Wells CA,
Winteringham LN, Wolvetang E, Wood EJ, Yamaguchi Y, Yamamoto M, Yoneda M,
Yonekura Y, Yoshida S, Zabierowski SE, Zhang PG, Zhao X, Zucchelli S, Summers KM,
Suzuki H, Daub CO, Kawai J, Heutink P, Hide W, Freeman TC, Lenhard B, Bajic VB, Taylor
MS, Makeev VJ, Sandelin A, Hume DA, Carninci P, Hayashizaki Y. 2014. A promoter-level
mammalian expression atlas. *Nature* **507**:462. doi:10.1038/nature13182

Finger JH, Smith CM, Hayamizu TF, McCright IJ, Xu J, Law M, Shaw DR, Baldarelli RM, Beal
JS, Blodgett O, Campbell JW, Corbani LE, Lewis JR, Forthofer KL, Frost PJ, Giannatto SC,
Hutchins LN, Miers DB, Motenko H, Stone KR, Eppig JT, Kadin JA, Richardson JE,
Ringwald M. 2017. The mouse Gene Expression Database (GXD): 2017 update. *Nucleic*
Acids Res **45**:D730–D736. doi:10.1093/nar/gkw1073

Francis-West P, Crespo-Enriquez I. 2016. Vertebrate Embryo: Craniofacial Development. *eLS*
1–15. doi:10.1002/9780470015902.a0026602

Gasch AP, Payseur BA, Pool JE. 2016. The Power of Natural Variation for Model Organism
Biology. *Trends Genet* **32**:147–154. doi:10.1016/j.tig.2015.12.003

Gatti DM, Svenson KL, Shabalin A, Wu L-Y, Valdar W, Simecek P, Goodwin N, Cheng R,
Pomp D, Palmer A, Chesler EJ, Broman KW, Churchill GA. 2014. Quantitative Trait Locus
Mapping Methods for Diversity Outbred Mice. *G3 Genes Genomes Genetics* **4**:1623–1633.
doi:10.1534/g3.114.013748

Gonzalez, PN, Kristensen, E, Morck, DW, Boyd, S, Hallgrímsson, B. 2013. Effects of growth
hormone on the ontogenetic allometry of craniofacial bones. *Evolution & Development* **15**:
133-145. doi:10.1111/ede.12025

Green RM, Fish JL, Young NM, Smith FJ, Roberts B, Dolan K, Choi I, Leach CL, Gordon P,
Cheverud JM, Roseman CC, Williams TJ, Marcucio RS, Hallgrímsson B. 2017.
Developmental nonlinearity drives phenotypic robustness. *Nat Commun* **8**:1970.
doi:10.1038/s41467-017-02037-7

Greene RM, Pisano MM. 2010. Palate morphogenesis: Current understanding and future
directions. *Birth Defects Res Part C Embryo Today Rev* **90**:133–154. doi:10.1002/bdrc.20180

Hallgrimsson, B, Lieberman, DE, Liu, W, Ford-Hutchinson, AF, Jirik, FR. 2007. Epigenetic
interactions and the structure of phenotypic variation in the cranium. *Evol Dev* **9**(1), 76-91.

Hallgrimsson B, Green RM, Katz DC, Fish JL, Bernier FP, Roseman CC, Young NM, Cheverud
JM, Marcucio RS. 2018. The developmental-genetics of canalization. *Semin Cell Dev Biol*.
doi:10.1016/j.semcdb.2018.05.019

Hallgrímsson B, Jamniczky H, Young NM, Rolian C, Parsons TE, Boughner JC, Marcucio RS.
2009. Deciphering the Palimpsest: Studying the Relationship Between Morphological
Integration and Phenotypic Covariation. *Evol Biol* **36**:355–376. doi:10.1007/s11692-009-
9076-5

Hallgrímsson B, Lieberman DE. 2008. Mouse models and the evolutionary developmental
biology of the skull. *Integr Comp Biol* **48**:373–384. doi:10.1093/icb/icn076

Hallgrimsson B, Mio W, Marcucio RS, Spritz R. 2014. Let's Face It—Complex Traits Are Just
Not That Simple. *Plos Genet* **10**:e1004724. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1004724

Hilliard SA, Yu L, Gu S, Zhang Z, Chen YP. 2005. Regional regulation of palatal growth and
patterning along the anterior–posterior axis in mice. *J Anat* **207**:655–667. doi:10.1111/j.1469-
7580.2005.00474.x

Houle D, Fierst J. 2012. Properties of spontaneous mutational variance and covariance for wing
size and shape in Drosophila melanogaster. *Evol Int J Org Evol* **67**:1116–30.
doi:10.1111/j.1558-5646.2012.01838.x

Houle D, Govindaraju DR, Omholt S. 2010. Phenomics: the next challenge. *Nat Rev Genet*
11:855. doi:10.1038/nrg2897

Jin Y-R, Han XH, Taketo MM, Yoon JK. 2012. Wnt9b-dependent FGF signaling is crucial for
outgrowth of the nasal and maxillary processes during upper jaw and lip development.
Development **139**:1821–1830. doi:10.1242/dev.075796

Johannsdottir B, Thorarinsson F, Thordarson A, Magnusson TE. 2005. Heritability of
craniofacial characteristics between parents and offspring estimated from lateral
cephalograms. *Am J Orthod Dentofac* **127**:200–207. doi:10.1016/j.ajodo.2004.07.033

Kanehisa M, Furumichi M, Tanabe M, Sato Y, Morishima K. 2017. KEGG: new perspectives on
genomes, pathways, diseases and drugs. *Nucleic Acids Res* **45**:D353–D361.
doi:10.1093/nar/gkw1092

Katz DC, Aponte JD, Liu W, Green RM, Mayeux JM, Pollard KM, Pomp D, Munger SC,
Murray SA, Roseman CC, Percival CJ, Cheverud J, Marcucio RS, Hallgrímsson B. 2019.
Facial shape and allometry quantitative trait locus intervals in the Diversity Outbred mouse
are enriched for known skeletal and facial development genes. *Biorxiv* 787291.
doi:10.1101/787291

Kawauchi S, Calof AL, Santos R, Lopez-Burks ME, Young CM, Hoang MP, Chua A, Lao T,
Lechner MS, Daniel JA, Nussenzweig A, Kitzes L, Yokomori K, Hallgrimsson B, Lander
AD. 2009. Multiple Organ System Defects and Transcriptional Dysregulation in the Nipbl+/−
Mouse, a Model of Cornelia de Lange Syndrome. *Plos Genet* **5**:e1000650.
doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1000650

Kenney-Hunt JP, Wang B, Norgard EA, Fawcett G, Falk D, Pletscher LS, Jarvis JP, Roseman C,
Wolf J, Cheverud JM. 2008. Pleiotropic Patterns of Quantitative Trait Loci for 70 Murine
Skeletal Traits. *Genetics* **178**:2275–2288. doi:10.1534/genetics.107.084434

Klingenberg CP, Leamy LJ. 2001. QUANTITATIVE GENETICS OF GEOMETRIC SHAPE IN
THE MOUSE MANDIBLE. *Evolution* **55**:2342–2352. doi:10.1554/0014-
3820(2001)055[2342:qgogsi]2.0.co;2

Lewontin R. 1974. The Genetic Basis of Evolutionary Change. New York, Columbia University
Press, 1974.

Liu F, Lijn F van der, Schurmann C, Zhu G, Chakravarty MM, Hysi PG, Wollstein A, Lao O,
Bruijne M de, Ikram MA, Lugt A van der, Rivadeneira F, Uiterlinden AG, Hofman A,
Niessen WJ, Homuth G, Zubicaray G de, McMahon KL, Thompson PM, Daboul A, Puls R,
Hegenscheid K, Bevan L, Pausova Z, Medland SE, Montgomery GW, Wright MJ, Wicking
C, Boehringer S, Spector TD, Paus T, Martin NG, Biffar R, Kayser M. 2012. A Genome-
Wide Association Study Identifies Five Loci Influencing Facial Morphology in Europeans.
Plos Genet **8**:e1002932. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1002932

Liu W, Sun X, Braut A, Mishina Y, Behringer RR, Mina M, Martin JF. 2005. Distinct functions
for Bmp signaling in lip and palate fusion in mice. *Development* **132**:1453–1461.
doi:10.1242/dev.01676

Lorenzo H, Saracco J, Thiébaut R. 2019. Supervised Learning for Multi-Block Incomplete Data.
arXiv preprint *arXiv*:1901.04380. http://arxiv.org/abs/1901.04380

Low K, Ashraf T, Canham N, Clayton-Smith J, Deshpande C, Donaldson A, Fisher R, Flinter F,
Foulds N, Fryer A, Gibson K, Hayes I, Hills A, Holder S, Irving M, Joss S, Kivuva E,
Lachlan K, Magee A, McConnell V, McEntagart M, Metcalfe K, Montgomery T, Newbury-
Ecob R, Stewart F, Turnpenny P, Vogt J, Fitzpatrick D, Williams M, Study D, Smithson S.
2016. Clinical and genetic aspects of KBG syndrome. *Am J Med Genet A* **170**:2835–2846.
doi:10.1002/ajmg.a.37842

Mackay, T. Epistasis and quantitative traits: using model organisms to study gene–gene
interactions.*Nat Rev Genet* **15,** 22–33 (2014). https://doi.org/10.1038/nrg3627

Mackay TF, Moore JH. 2014. Why epistasis is important for tackling complex human disease
genetics. *Genome Med* **6**:42. doi:10.1186/gm561

Maga AM, Navarro N, Cunningham ML, Cox TC. 2015. Quantitative trait loci affecting the 3D
skull shape and size in mouse and prioritization of candidate genes in-silico. *Front Physiol*
6:92. doi:10.3389/fphys.2015.00092

Martínez-Abadías N, Mitteroecker P, Parsons TE, Esparza M, Sjøvold T, Rolian C, Richtsmeier
JT, Hallgrímsson B. 2012. The Developmental Basis of Quantitative Craniofacial Variation in
Humans and Mice. *Evol Biol* **39**:554–567. doi:10.1007/s11692-012-9210-7

Mattick JS, Taft RJ, Faulkner GJ. 2010. A global view of genomic information – moving beyond
the gene and the master regulator. *Trends Genet* **26**:21–28. doi:10.1016/j.tig.2009.11.002

Mitteroecker P, Cheverud JM, Pavlicev M. 2016. Multivariate Analysis of Genotype–Phenotype
Association. *Genetics* **202**:1345–1363. doi:10.1534/genetics.115.181339

Morozova TV, Huang W, Pray VA, Whitham T, Anholt RRH, Mackay TFC. 2015.
Polymorphisms in early neurodevelopmental genes affect natural variation in alcohol
sensitivity in adult drosophila. *Bmc Genomics* **16**:865. doi:10.1186/s12864-015-2064-5

Mudge JM, Harrow J. 2015. Creating reference gene annotation for the mouse C57BL6/J
genome assembly. *Mamm Genome* **26**:366–378. doi:10.1007/s00335-015-9583-x

Nakata M. 1985. Twin Studies in Craniofacial Genetics: A Review. *Amg Acta Geneticae*
Medicae Et Gemellologiae Twin Res **34**:1–14. doi:10.1017/s0001566000004876

Ornitz DM, Marie PJ. 2015. Fibroblast growth factor signaling in skeletal development and
disease. *Gene Dev* **29**:1463–1486. doi:10.1101/gad.266551.115

Pallares LF, Carbonetto P, Gopalakrishnan S, Parker CC, Ackert-Bicknell CL, Palmer AA, Tautz
D. 2015. Mapping of Craniofacial Traits in Outbred Mice Identifies Major Developmental
Genes Involved in Shape Determination. *Plos Genet* **11**:e1005607.
doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1005607

Pallares LF, Harr B, Turner LM, Tautz D. 2014. Use of a natural hybrid zone for genomewide
association mapping of craniofacial traits in the house mouse. *Mol Ecol* **23**:5756–5770.
doi:10.1111/mec.12968

Parsons, T. E., Downey, C. M., Jirik, F. R., Hallgrimsson, B., & Jamniczky, H. A. (2015). Mind
the Gap: Genetic Manipulation of Basicranial Growth within Synchondroses Modulates
Calvarial and Facial Shape in Mice through Epigenetic Interactions. *PloS One, 10*(2),
e0118355. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0118355

Percival CJ, Marangoni P, Tapaltsyan V, Klein O, Hallgrímsson B. 2017. The Interaction of
Genetic Background and Mutational Effects in Regulation of Mouse Craniofacial Shape. *G3*
Genes Genomes Genetics **7**:1439–1450. doi:10.1534/g3.117.040659

Percival CJ, Richtsmeier JT. 2013. Angiogenesis and intramembranous osteogenesis. *Dev*
Dynam **242**:909–922. doi:10.1002/dvdy.23992

Pitchers W, Nye J, Márquez EJ, Kowalski A, Dworkin I, Houle D. 2019. A Multivariate
Genome-Wide Association Study of Wing Shape in Drosophila melanogaster. *Genetics*
211:genetics.301342.2018. doi:10.1534/genetics.118.301342

Plotly Technologies Inc. Collaborative data science. Montréal, QC, 2015. https://plot.ly.

Prochazkova M, Prochazka J, Marangoni P, Klein OD. 2018. Bones, Glands, Ears and More:
The Multiple Roles of FGF10 in Craniofacial Development. *Frontiers Genetics* **9**:542.
doi:10.3389/fgene.2018.00542

R Core Team (2017). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for
Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL https://www.R-project.org/.

Reed LK, Baer CF, Edison AS. 2017. Considerations when choosing a genetic model organism
for metabolomics studies. *Curr Opin Chem Biol* **36**:7–14. doi:10.1016/j.cbpa.2016.12.005

Rendel, J. M. (1967). *Canalization and gene control*. London: Logos Press.

Richman JM, Herbert M, Matovinovic E, Walin J. 1997. Effect of Fibroblast Growth Factors on
Outgrowth of Facial Mesenchyme. *Dev Biol* **189**:135–147. doi:10.1006/dbio.1997.8656

Richtsmeier JT, Flaherty K. 2013. Hand in glove: brain and skull in development and
dysmorphogenesis. *Acta Neuropathol* **125**:469–489. doi:10.1007/s00401-013-1104-y

Rie D de, Abugessaisa I, Alam T, Arner E, Arner P, Ashoor H, Åström G, Babina M, Bertin N,
Burroughs AM, Carlisle AJ, Daub CO, Detmar M, Deviatiiarov R, Fort A, Gebhard C,
Goldowitz D, Guhl S, Ha TJ, Harshbarger J, Hasegawa A, Hashimoto K, Herlyn M, Heutink
P, Hitchens KJ, Hon CC, Huang E, Ishizu Y, Kai C, Kasukawa T, Klinken P, Lassmann T,
Lecellier C-H, Lee W, Lizio M, Makeev V, Mathelier A, Medvedeva YA, Mejhert N,
Mungall CJ, Noma S, Ohshima M, Okada-Hatakeyama M, Persson H, Rizzu P, Roudnicky F,
Sætrom P, Sato H, Severin J, Shin JW, Swoboda RK, Tarui H, Toyoda H, Vitting-Seerup K,
Winteringham L, Yamaguchi Y, Yasuzawa K, Yoneda M, Yumoto N, Zabierowski S, Zhang
PG, Wells CA, Summers KM, Kawaji H, Sandelin A, Rehli M, Consortium TF, Hayashizaki
Y, Carninci P, Forrest ARR, Hoon MJL de. 2017. An integrated expression atlas of miRNAs
and their promoters in human and mouse. *Nat Biotechnol* **35**:nbt.3947. doi:10.1038/nbt.3947

Roosenboom J, Hens G, Mattern BC, Shriver MD, Claes P. 2016. Exploring the Underlying
Genetics of Craniofacial Morphology through Various Sources of Knowledge. *Biomed Res*
Int **2016**:1–9. doi:10.1155/2016/3054578

Rueden CT, Schindelin J, Hiner MC, DeZonia BE, Walter AE, Arena ET, Eliceiri KW. 2017.
ImageJ2: ImageJ for the next generation of scientific image data. *Bmc Bioinformatics* **18**:529.
doi:10.1186/s12859-017-1934-z

Shaffer, J. R., Orlova, E., Lee, M. K., Leslie, E. J., Raffensperger, Z. D., Heike, C. L.,
Cunningham, M. L., Hecht, J. T., Kau, C. H., Nidey, N. L., Moreno, L. M., Wehby, G. L.,
Murray, J. C., Laurie, C. A., Laurie, C. C., Cole, J., Ferrara, T., Santorico, S., Klein, O., Mio, W.,
Feingold, E., Hallgrimsson, B., Spritz, R. A., Marazita, M. L., & Weinberg, S. M. (2016).
Genome-Wide Association Study Reveals Multiple Loci Influencing Normal Human Facial
Morphology. *PLoS Genetics*, **12**(8), e1006149. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1006149

Schoenfelder S, Javierre B-M, Furlan-Magaril M, Wingett SW, Fraser P. 2018. Promoter
Capture Hi-C: High-resolution, Genome-wide Profiling of Promoter Interactions. *J Vis Exp*
Jove 57320. doi:10.3791/57320

Sprinzak E, Margalit H. 2001. Correlated sequence-signatures as markers of protein-protein
interaction1 1Edited by G. von Heijne. *J Mol Biol* **311**:681–692. doi:10.1006/jmbi.2001.4920

Stelzer C, Brimmer A, Hermanns P, Zabel B, Dietz UH. 2007. Expression profile of Papss2 (3′-
phosphoadenosine 5′-phosphosulfate synthase 2) during cartilage formation and skeletal
development in the mouse embryo. *Dev Dynam* **236**:1313–1318. doi:10.1002/dvdy.21137

Tian H, Feng J, Li J, Ho T-V, Yuan Y, Liu Y, Brindopke F, Figueiredo JC, Magee W, Sanchez-
Lara PA, Chai Y. 2017. Intraflagellar transport 88 (IFT88) is crucial for craniofacial
development in mice and is a candidate gene for human cleft lip and palate. *Hum Mol Genet*
ddx002. doi:10.1093/hmg/ddx002

Tsagkrasoulis D, Hysi P, Spector T, Montana G. 2017. Heritability maps of human face
morphology through large-scale automated three-dimensional phenotyping. *Sci Rep-uk*
7:45885. doi:10.1038/srep45885

Uller T, Moczek AP, Watson RA, Brakefield PM, Laland KN. 2018. Developmental Bias and
Evolution: A Regulatory Network Perspective. *Genetics* **209**:949–966.
doi:10.1534/genetics.118.300995

Varón-González C, Pallares LF, Debat V, Navarro N. 2019. Mouse Skull Mean Shape and Shape
Robustness Rely on Different Genetic Architectures and Different Loci. *Frontiers Genetics*
10:64. doi:10.3389/fgene.2019.00064

Vidal M, Cusick ME, Barabási A-L. 2011. Interactome Networks and Human Disease. *Cell*
144:986–998. doi:10.1016/j.cell.2011.02.016

Visscher PM. 2008. Sizing up human height variation. *Nat Genet* **40**:ng0508-489.
doi:10.1038/ng0508-489

Visscher PM, Wray NR, Zhang Q, Sklar P, McCarthy MI, Brown MA, Yang J. (2017). 10 Years
of GWAS Discovery: Biology, Function, and Translation. *Am J Hum Genetics.* **101**:1:5-22.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajhg.2017.06.005

Wagner, G., Pavlicev, M., Cheverud, J. (2007). The road to modularity. *Nat Rev Genet* **8**(12),
nrg2267. https://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nrg2267

Wagner GP, Zhang J. 2011. The pleiotropic structure of the genotype–phenotype map: the
evolvability of complex organisms. *Nat Rev Genet* **12**:204. doi:10.1038/nrg2949

Wang K, Li M, Bucan M. 2007. Pathway-Based Approaches for Analysis of Genomewide
Association Studies. *Am J Hum Genetics* **81**:1278–1283. doi:10.1086/522374

Wang K, Li M, Hakonarson H. 2010. Analysing biological pathways in genome-wide association
studies. *Nat Rev Genet* **11**:843. doi:10.1038/nrg2884

Watson J, Francavilla C. 2018. Regulation of FGF10 Signaling in Development and Disease.
Frontiers Genetics **9**:500. doi:10.3389/fgene.2018.00500

Weinberg SM, Cornell R, Leslie EJ. 2018. Craniofacial genetics: Where have we been and where
are we going? *Plos Genet* **14**:e1007438. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1007438

Wood AR, Esko T, Yang J, Vedantam S, Pers TH, Gustafsson S, Chu AY, Estrada K, Luan J,
Kutalik Z, Amin N, Buchkovich ML, Croteau-Chonka DC, Day FR, Duan Y, Fall T,
Fehrmann R, Ferreira T, Jackson AU, Karjalainen J, Lo KS, Locke AE, Mägi R, Mihailov E,
Porcu E, Randall JC, Scherag A, Vinkhuyzen AAE, Westra H-J, Winkler TW, Workalemahu
T, Zhao JH, Absher D, Albrecht E, Anderson D, Baron J, Beekman M, Demirkan A, Ehret
GB, Feenstra B, Feitosa MF, Fischer K, Fraser RM, Goel A, Gong J, Justice AE, Kanoni S,
Kleber ME, Kristiansson K, Lim U, Lotay V, Lui JC, Mangino M, Leach IM, Medina-Gomez
C, Nalls MA, Nyholt DR, Palmer CD, Pasko D, Pechlivanis S, Prokopenko I, Ried JS, Ripke
S, Shungin D, Stancáková A, Strawbridge RJ, Sung YJ, Tanaka T, Teumer A, Trompet S,
Laan SW van der, Setten J van, Vliet-Ostaptchouk JVV, Wang Z, Yengo L, Zhang W, Afzal
U, Ärnlöv J, Arscott GM, Bandinelli S, Barrett A, Bellis C, Bennett AJ, Berne C, Blüher M,
Bolton JL, Böttcher Y, Boyd HA, Bruinenberg M, Buckley BM, Buyske S, Caspersen IH,
Chines PS, Clarke R, Claudi-Boehm S, Cooper M, Daw EW, Jong PAD, Deelen J, Delgado
G, Denny JC, Dhonukshe-Rutten R, Dimitriou M, Doney ASF, Dörr M, Eklund N, Eury E,
Folkersen L, Garcia ME, Geller F, Giedraitis V, Go AS, Grallert H, Grammer TB, Gräßler J,
Grönberg H, Groot LCPGM de, Groves CJ, Haessler J, Hall P, Haller T, Hallmans G,
Hannemann A, Hartman CA, Hassinen M, Hayward C, Heard-Costa NL, Helmer Q, Hemani
G, Henders AK, Hillege HL, Hlatky MA, Hoffmann W, Hoffmann P, Holmen O, Houwing-
Duistermaat JJ, Illig T, Isaacs A, James AL, Jeff J, Johansen B, Johansson Å, Jolley J,
Juliusdottir T, Junttila J, Kho AN, Kinnunen L, Klopp N, Kocher T, Kratzer W, Lichtner P,
Lind L, Lindström J, Lobbens S, Lorentzon M, Lu Y, Lyssenko V, Magnusson PKE, Mahajan
A, Maillard M, McArdle WL, McKenzie CA, McLachlan S, McLaren PJ, Menni C, Merger
S, Milani L, Moayyeri A, Monda KL, Morken MA, Müller G, Müller-Nurasyid M, Musk
AW, Narisu N, Nauck M, Nolte IM, Nöthen MM, Oozageer L, Pilz S, Rayner NW, Renstrom
F, Robertson NR, Rose LM, Roussel R, Sanna S, Scharnagl H, Scholtens S, Schumacher FR,
Schunkert H, Scott RA, Sehmi J, Seufferlein T, Shi J, Silventoinen K, Smit JH, Smith AV,
Smolonska J, Stanton AV, Stirrups K, Stott DJ, Stringham HM, Sundström J, Swertz MA,
Syvänen A-C, Tayo BO, Thorleifsson G, Tyrer JP, Dijk S van, Schoor NM van, Velde N van
der, Heemst D van, Oort FVA van, Vermeulen SH, Verweij N, Vonk JM, Waite LL,
Waldenberger M, Wennauer R, Wilkens LR, Willenborg C, Wilsgaard T, Wojczynski MK,
Wong A, Wright AF, Zhang Q, Arveiler D, Bakker SJL, Beilby J, Bergman RN, Bergmann S,
Biffar R, Blangero J, Boomsma DI, Bornstein SR, Bovet P, Brambilla P, Brown MJ,
Campbell H, Caulfield MJ, Chakravarti A, Collins R, Collins FS, Crawford DC, Cupples LA,
Danesh J, Faire U de, Ruijter HM den, Erbel R, Erdmann J, Eriksson JG, Farrall M,
Ferrannini E, Ferrières J, Ford I, Forouhi NG, Forrester T, Gansevoort RT, Gejman PV,
Gieger C, Golay A, Gottesman O, Gudnason V, Gyllensten U, Haas DW, Hall AS, Harris TB,
Hattersley AT, Heath AC, Hengstenberg C, Hicks AA, Hindorff LA, Hingorani AD, Hofman

A, Hovingh GK, Humphries SE, Hunt SC, Hypponen E, Jacobs KB, Jarvelin M-R, Jousilahti
P, Jula AM, Kaprio J, Kastelein JJP, Kayser M, Kee F, Keinanen-Kiukaanniemi SM,
Kiemeney LA, Kooner JS, Kooperberg C, Koskinen S, Kovacs P, Kraja AT, Kumari M,
Kuusisto J, Lakka TA, Langenberg C, Marchand LL, Lehtimäki T, Lupoli S, Madden PAF,
Männistö S, Manunta P, Marette A, Matise TC, McKnight B, Meitinger T, Moll FL,
Montgomery GW, Morris AD, Morris AP, Murray JC, Nelis M, Ohlsson C, Oldehinkel AJ,
Ong KK, Ouwehand WH, Pasterkamp G, Peters A, Pramstaller PP, Price JF, Qi L, Raitakari
OT, Rankinen T, Rao DC, Rice TK, Ritchie M, Rudan I, Salomaa V, Samani NJ, Saramies J,
Sarzynski MA, Schwarz PEH, Sebert S, Sever P, Shuldiner AR, Sinisalo J, Steinthorsdottir V,
Stolk RP, Tardif J-C, Tönjes A, Tremblay A, Tremoli E, Virtamo J, Vohl M-C, Consortium
TEMR and G (eMERGE), Consortium TMig, Consortium TP, Study TLC, Amouyel P,
Asselbergs FW, Assimes TL, Bochud M, Boehm BO, Boerwinkle E, Bottinger EP, Bouchard
C, Cauchi S, Chambers JC, Chanock SJ, Cooper RS, Bakker PIW de, Dedoussis G, Ferrucci
L, Franks PW, Froguel P, Groop LC, Haiman CA, Hamsten A, Hayes MG, Hui J, Hunter DJ,
Hveem K, Jukema JW, Kaplan RC, Kivimaki M, Kuh D, Laakso M, Liu Y, Martin NG, März
W, Melbye M, Moebus S, Munroe PB, Njølstad I, Oostra BA, Palmer CNA, Pedersen NL,
Perola M, Pérusse L, Peters U, Powell JE, Power C, Quertermous T, Rauramaa R, Reinmaa E,
Ridker PM, Rivadeneira F, Rotter JI, Saaristo TE, Saleheen D, Schlessinger D, Slagboom PE,
Snieder H, Spector TD, Strauch K, Stumvoll M, Tuomilehto J, Uusitupa M, Harst P van der,
Völzke H, Walker M, Wareham NJ, Watkins H, Wichmann H-E, Wilson JF, Zanen P,
Deloukas P, Heid IM, Lindgren CM, Mohlke KL, Speliotes EK, Thorsteinsdottir U, Barroso
I, Fox CS, North KE, Strachan DP, Beckmann JS, Berndt SI, Boehnke M, Borecki IB,
McCarthy MI, Metspalu A, Stefansson K, Uitterlinden AG, Duijn CM van, Franke L, Willer
CJ, Price AL, Lettre G, Loos RJF, Weedon MN, Ingelsson E, O'Connell JR, Abecasis GR,
Chasman DI, Goddard ME, Visscher PM, Hirschhorn JN, Frayling TM. 2014. Defining the
role of common variation in the genomic and biological architecture of adult human height.
Nat Genet **46**:ng.3097. doi:10.1038/ng.3097

Wray NR, Goddard ME, Visscher PM. 2007. Prediction of individual genetic risk to disease
from genome-wide association studies. *Genome Res* **17**:1520–1528. doi:10.1101/gr.6665407

Wray NR, Yang J, Hayes BJ, Price AL, Goddard ME, Visscher PM. 2013. Pitfalls of predicting
complex traits from SNPs. *Nat Rev Genet* **14**:nrg3457. doi:10.1038/nrg3457

Xiong, Z., Dankova, G., Howe, L. J., Lee, M. K., Hysi, P. G., de Jong, M. A., . . . Kayser, M.
(2019). Novel genetic loci affecting facial shape variation in humans. Elife, 8, e49898.
doi:10.7554/eLife.49898

Yang, J., Benyamin, B., McEvoy, B. P., Gordon, S., Henders, A. K., Nyholt, D. R., Madden, P.
A., Heath, A. C., Martin, N. G., Montgomery, G. W., Goddard, M. E., & Visscher, P. M.
(2010). Common SNPs explain a large proportion of the heritability for human height. *Nat
Genet,* **42**(7), 565-569. doi:ng.608

Andrew D Yates, Premanand Achuthan, Wasiu Akanni, James Allen, Jamie Allen, Jorge
Alvarez-Jarreta, M Ridwan Amode, Irina M Armean, Andrey G Azov, Ruth Bennett, Jyothish
Bhai, Konstantinos Billis, Sanjay Boddu, José Carlos Marugán, Carla Cummins, Claire

Davidson, Kamalkumar Dodiya, Reham Fatima, Astrid Gall, Carlos Garcia Giron, Laurent
Gil, Tiago Grego, Leanne Haggerty, Erin Haskell, Thibaut Hourlier, Osagie G Izuogu, Sophie
H Janacek, Thomas Juettemann, Mike Kay, Ilias Lavidas, Tuan Le, Diana Lemos, Jose
Gonzalez Martinez, Thomas Maurel, Mark McDowall, Aoife McMahon, Shamika Mohanan,
Benjamin Moore, Michael Nuhn, Denye N Oheh, Anne Parker, Andrew Parton, Mateus
Patricio, Manoj Pandian Sakthivel, Ahamed Imran Abdul Salam, Bianca M Schmitt, Helen
Schuilenburg, Dan Sheppard, Mira Sycheva, Marek Szuba, Kieron Taylor, Anja Thormann,
Glen Threadgold, Alessandro Vullo, Brandon Walts, Andrea Winterbottom, Amonida
Zadissa, Marc Chakiachvili, Bethany Flint, Adam Frankish, Sarah E Hunt, Garth IIsley,
Myrto Kostadima, Nick Langridge, Jane E Loveland, Fergal J Martin, Joannella Morales,
Jonathan M Mudge, Matthieu Muffato, Emily Perry, Magali Ruffier, Stephen J Trevanion,
Fiona Cunningham, Kevin L Howe, Daniel R Zerbino, Paul Flicek, Ensembl (2020). *Nucleic
Acids Research*, **48**, D1, D682–D688, https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkz966

Yoon BS, Ovchinnikov DA, Yoshii I, Mishina Y, Behringer RR, Lyons KM. 2005. Bmpr1a and
Bmpr1b have overlapping functions and are essential for chondrogenesis in vivo. *P Natl Acad
Sci Usa* **102**:5062–5067. doi:10.1073/pnas.0500031102

Young NM, Chong HJ, Hu D, Hallgrímsson B, Marcucio RS. 2010. Quantitative analyses link
modulation of sonic hedgehog signaling to continuous variation in facial growth and shape.
Development **137**:3405–3409. doi:10.1242/dev.052340

Yue F, Cheng Y, Breschi A, Vierstra J, Wu W, Ryba T, Sandstrom R, Ma Z, Davis C, Pope BD,
Shen Y, Pervouchine DD, Djebali S, Thurman RE, Kaul R, Rynes E, Kirilusha A, Marinov
GK, Williams BA, Trout D, Amrhein H, Fisher-Aylor K, Antoshechkin I, DeSalvo G, See L-
H, Fastuca M, Drenkow J, Zaleski C, Dobin A, Prieto P, Lagarde J, Bussotti G, Tanzer A,
Denas O, Li K, Bender MA, Zhang M, Byron R, Groudine MT, McCleary D, Pham L, Ye Z,
Kuan S, Edsall L, Wu Y-C, Rasmussen MD, Bansal MS, Kellis M, Keller CA, Morrissey CS,
Mishra T, Jain D, Dogan N, Harris RS, Cayting P, Kawli T, Boyle AP, Euskirchen G,
Kundaje A, Lin S, Lin Y, Jansen C, Malladi VS, Cline MS, Erickson DT, Kirkup VM,
Learned K, Sloan CA, Rosenbloom KR, Sousa BL de, Beal K, Pignatelli M, Flicek P, Lian J,
Kahveci T, Lee D, Kent WJ, Santos MR, Herrero J, Notredame C, Johnson A, Vong S, Lee
K, Bates D, Neri F, Diegel M, Canfield T, Sabo PJ, Wilken MS, Reh TA, Giste E, Shafer A,
Kutyavin T, Haugen E, Dunn D, Reynolds AP, Neph S, Humbert R, Hansen RS, Bruijn MD,
Selleri L, Rudensky A, Josefowicz S, Samstein R, Eichler EE, Orkin SH, Levasseur D,
Papayannopoulou T, Chang K-H, Skoultchi A, Gosh S, Disteche C, Treuting P, Wang Y,
Weiss MJ, Blobel GA, Cao X, Zhong S, Wang T, Good PJ, Lowdon RF, Adams LB, Zhou X-
Q, Pazin MJ, Feingold EA, Wold B, Taylor J, Mortazavi A, Weissman SM,
Stamatoyannopoulos JA, Snyder MP, Guigo R, Gingeras TR, Gilbert DM, Hardison RC, Beer
MA, Ren B, Consortium TME. 2014. A comparative encyclopedia of DNA elements in the
mouse genome. *Nature* **515**:355. doi:10.1038/nature13992

Fig 1. Schematic of the many-to-many relationship between genetic and phenotypic variation. From left to right: Allelic variation (colored dots) at individual genes is organized into developmental processes. Processes differ in start/end and duration during development. Genes are reused for different processes at different times. Processes are substantially pleiotropic in their effects contributing to global variation as well as local variation.

Chondrocyte differentiation map -> Bmpr1b -/-
r = .312

Fig 2. Process MGP for chondrocyte differentiation. A) PLS1 genetic loadings are shown for each gene in the model. Individual founder allele effect sizes are colored within each bar. B-C) Estimated chondrocyte differentiation MGP phenotype is shown with black vectors multiplied 4x. A *Bmpr1b* (*Alk6*) homozygous mutant is shown with red vectors for comparison. The vector correlation between chondrocyte differentiation MGP and *Bmpr1b* is shown below the phenotypic effects.

A. Cell size distributions by region

B. Cell size against relative position along the synchrodrosis

C. Representative histological sections

Bmpr1b$^{-/-}$

Bmpr1b^{ctrl}

D. Suture morphology

Fig 3. Chondrocyte defects in *Bmpr1b* mutants. A-B) Quantification of cell size in the sections of the intersphenoid synchonrosis shows an increase in relative cell size as well as a change in the distribution of cell sizes throughout the width of the synchondrosis. C) Sections of intersphenoid synchondroses. D) Premature fusion of the coronal suture is visible in *Bmpr1b* homozygous mutants.

Fig 4. Process MGP for determination of left/right symmetry. A) PLS1 genetic loadings are shown for each gene in the model. Individual founder allele effect sizes are colored within each bar. B-C) Estimated left/right symmetry MGP phenotype is shown with black vectors multiplied 4x. An *Fgf10* homozygous mutant is shown with red vectors for comparison. The vector correlation between left/right symmetry MGP and the *Fgf10* mutant is shown below the phenotypic effects. D-E) Visualizations of asymmetry in the L/R MGP response and the *Fgf10* homozygous mutant. Asymmetry vectors are magnified 4x.

Palate development MGP -> Ankrd11
r = .284

Fig 5. Process MGP for palate development. A) PLS1 genetic loadings are shown for each gene in the model. Individual founder allele effect sizes are colored within each bar. B-C) Estimated palate development MGP phenotype is shown with black vectors multiplied 4x. An *Ankrd11* mutant is shown with red vectors for comparison. The vector correlation between palate development MGP and the *Ankrd11* mutant is shown below the phenotypic effects.

Fig 6. Pairwise MGP vector correlations and random process correlations to principal components. A) Pairwise correlations of phenotypic effects for 15 process MGP analyses. Scale on the right denotes color correspondences to vector correlation, where yellows are high correlations, greens are moderate, and blues are low. B) The densities of vector correlations between 1000 randomly chosen process MGP effects and PCs 1-4.

Fig 7. Comparisons of MGP and mouse mutant directions. A) Seven MGP phenotypes projected onto a PCA of the DO and a sample of 30 mutant mouse genotypes. Mutant means are labeled in black. The directions of MGP effects are shown with orange vectors from the DO mean to the associated process MGP. The range of DO variation on PCs 1 and 2 is shown with the shaded ellipse with an orange border. B) A heatmap of vector correlations between 30 mutant effects and 30 process MGP effects.

Fig 8. Example screenshot of web version of process analysis. Analyses include a barplot of the relative effect sizes of each selected marker and the associated phenotype shown with black vectors at each landmark. If a mutant comparison is selected, the vector correlation is provided and the mutant phenotype is shown with red vectors. Selecting "send me the results" generates an HTML report with an interactive 3D model.

Fig 9. 54 3D landmark configuration. A) Sagittal view of representative scan with landmarks shown as red spheres. B) Dorsal view of landmark configuration. C) Ventral view of landmark configuration.

Fig 10. Process MGP schematic. Once a process is selected, we cross-reference the known gene locations with the locations of the genotyped markers in the DO sample. The founder probabilities of the nearest upstream and downstream markers are averaged for each gene. The compiled founder probabilities and landmark coordinates are then used in a regularized PLS model to estimate latent axes of covariation.

Supplemental Material

Supplemental figure 1. Permutation of marker sets of fixed size. A) The permuted R^2 distribution of 1000 38-marker MGP analyses is shown in blue. The estimated R^2 of the chondrocyte differentiation MGP is shown as a black vertical line. B) The permuted R^2 distribution of 1000 81-marker MGP analyses is shown in blue. The estimated R^2 of the L/R symmetry MGP is shown as a black vertical line. C) The permuted R^2 distribution of 1000 73-marker MGP analyses is shown in blue. The estimated R^2 of the palate development MGP is shown as a black vertical line.

Supplemental figure 2. Genetic effect loadings for multiple process MGPs. Selected processes are listed above their respective plots. Marker loadings are not scaled to a common range.

A)

Chondrocyte differentiation map -> Bmp2 -/-
r = .028

Supplemental figure 3. Additional process-to-mutant comparisons. A) The estimated chondrocyte differentiation MGP phenotype magnified 4x (black) with *Bmp2* homozygous mutant (red).

Supplemental figure 4. Demographic plots for the DO sample. A) The distribution of the sample by generation and data source (lab). B) Distribution of sex by source (lab).

Supplemental figure 5. Histogram of kinship matrix values in the DO sample.

Supplemental figure 6. Chondrocyte morphometric example. Landmarks are placed in the top, bottom, left, and right sides of the cell to best capture the height and width of the cells (show here as crosses). The height and width measurements are then used to calculate the area of an ellipsoid as an approximation of cell size.

Supplemental figure 7. Combining queries in the MGP shiny app with the pipe operator. In order to filter the GO database with multiple terms, the pipe operator can be used as shown. Here, the user has selected processes associated with either the apoptosis or Wnt pathway process. The barplot shows the relative effect sizes for markers associated to both "Wnt signaling pathway" and "execution phase of apoptosis" GO terms.

Supplemental table 1. Top 10 MGP vector correlations with PC1. Corresponding PC2- 4 vector correlations are also provided.

PROCESS	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4
ZINC ION BINDING	0.859	0.013	0.072	0.206
SENSORY PERCEPTION OF SOUND	0.848	0.110	0.041	0.204
CALCIUM ION TRANSPORT	0.848	0.161	0.052	0.112
PROTEIN HOMOOLIGOMERIZATION	0.847	0.208	0.016	0.162
DENDRITE MORPHOGENESIS	0.847	0.068	0.100	0.077
NEUROPEPTIDE SIGNALING PATHWAY	0.846	0.215	0.029	0.132
FOCAL ADHESION	0.846	0.135	0.044	0.219
CHROMOSOME SEGREGATION	0.846	0.104	0.034	0.162
SARCOMERE ORGANIZATION	0.839	0.153	0.026	0.029
INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM MEMBRANE	0.838	0.167	0.035	0.027

Supplemental table 2. Processes with moderate vector correlations to PC 1-4.

PROCESS	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4
NEGATIVE REGULATION OF I-KAPPAB KINASE/NF-KAPPAB SIGNALING	0.541	0.256	0.492	0.259
LOCOMOTORY EXPLORATION BEHAVIOR	0.380	0.211	0.689	0.241
AU-RICH ELEMENT BINDING	0.570	0.330	0.403	0.208
TRANSCRIPTION REGULATORY REGION SEQUENCE-SPECIFIC DNA BINDING	0.701	0.093	0.444	0.263
DYNEIN COMPLEX	0.685	0.246	0.314	0.194
PRESYNAPTIC CYTOSOL	0.392	0.383	0.135	0.508
NEGATIVE REGULATION OF FAT CELL DIFFERENTIATION	0.391	0.245	0.730	0.030
CELL BODY	0.802	0.251	0.069	0.263
ADULT BEHAVIOR	0.746	0.392	0.035	0.210
PROTEASOMAL UBIQUITIN-INDEPENDENT PROTEIN CATABOLIC PROCESS	0.617	0.400	0.010	0.263