humans and thought to be the target of positive selection⁵. Our criteria thus uniquely identify the expected allele.

At the *LCT* locus, we found similar degrees of filtration. Within the 2.4 Mb selective sweep, 24 polymorphisms fulfil the first two criteria (Table I, and Supplementary Fig. 4), with the polymorphism thought to confer adult persistence of lactase among them. However, this SNP was only identified as functional after extensive study of the *LCT* gene¹⁵. Thus *LCT* shows both the utility and the limits of the heuristics.

Given the encouraging results for *SLC24A5* and *LCT*, we performed a similar analysis on all 22 candidate regions (Table 1). Filtering the 9,166 SNPs associated with the long-haplotype signal, we found that 480 satisfied the first two criteria. We identified 41 out of the 480 SNPs (0.2% of all SNPs genotyped in the regions) as possibly functional on the basis of a newly compiled database of polymorphisms in known coding elements, evolutionarily conserved elements and regulatory elements (Methods; B.F., unpublished), together containing ~ 5.5% of all known SNPs.

Eight of the forty-one SNPs encode non-synonymous changes (Table 1 and Supplementary Table 9). Apart from the well-known case of *SLC24A5*, they are found in *EDAR*, *PCDH15*, *ADAT1*, *KARS*, *HERC1*, *SLC30A9* and *BLFZ1*. The remaining 33 potentially functional SNPs lie within conserved transcription factor motifs, introns, UTRs and other non-coding regions.

To identify additional candidates, we reversed the process by taking non-synonymous coding SNPs with highly differentiated high-frequency derived alleles; these SNPs comprise a tiny fraction of all SNPs and have a higher a priori probability of being targets of selection. Of the 15,816 non-synonymous SNPs in HapMap2, 281 (Supplementary Table 10) have both a high derived-allele frequency (frequency >50%) and clear differentiation between populations (F_{ST} is in the top 0.5 percentile). We examined these 281 SNPs to identify those embedded within long-range haplotypes¹⁶, and identified 26 putative cases of positive selection. These include the eight non-synonymous SNPs identified in the genome-wide analysis above.

Interestingly, analysis of the top regions and the non-synonymous SNPs together revealed three cases of two genes in the same pathway both having strong evidence of selection in a single population.

In the European sample, there is strong evidence for two genes already shown to be associated with skin pigment differences among humans. The first is *SLC24A5*, described above. We further examined the global distribution (Fig. 2) and the predicted effect on protein activity of the *SLC24A5* A111T polymorphism (Supplementary Fig. 5, 6). The second, *SLC45A2*, has an important role in pigmentation in zebrafish, mouse and horse⁴. An L374F substitution in *SLC45A2* is at 100% frequency in the European sample, but absent in the Asian and African samples. A recent association study has shown that the Phe-encoding allele is correlated with fair skin and non-black hair in Europeans⁴. Together, the data support *SLC45A2* as a target of positive selection in Europe^{10,17}.

In the African sample (Yoruba in Ibadan, Nigeria), there is evidence of selection for two genes with well-documented biological links to the Lassa fever virus. The strongest signal in the genome, on the basis of the LRH test, resides within a 400 kb region that lies entirely within the gene LARGE. The LARGE protein is a glycosylase that post-translationally modifies x-dystroglycan, the cellular receptor for Lassa fever virus (as well as other arenaviruses), and the modification has been shown to be critical for virus binding3. The virus name is derived from Lassa, Nigeria, where the disease is endemic, with 21% of the population showing signs of exposure18. We also noted that the DMD locus is on our larger candidate list of regions. with the signal of selection again in the Yoruba sample. DMD encodes a cytosolic adaptor protein that binds to 2-dystroglycan and is critical for its function. We hypothesize that Lassa fever created selective pressure at LARGE and DMD12. This hypothesis can be tested by correlating the geographical distribution of the selected haplotype with endemicity of the Lassa virus, studying infection of genotyped cells *in vitro*, and searching for an association between the selected haplotype and clinical outcomes in infected patients.

In the Asian samples, we found evidence of selection for nonsynonymous polymorphisms in two genes in the ectodysplasin (EDA) pathway, which is involved in development of hair, teeth and exocrine glands⁶. The genes are *EDAR* and *EDA2R*, which encode the key receptors for the ligands EDA A1 and EDA A2, respectively. Notably, the EDA signalling pathway has been shown to be under positive selection for loss of scales in multiple distinct populations of freshwater stickleback fish¹⁹. A mutation encoding a V370A substitution in *EDAR* is near fixation in Asia and absent in Europe and Africa (Fig. 1e–h). An R57K substitution in *EDA2R* has derived-allele frequencies of 100% in Asia, 70% in Europe and 0% in Africa.

The EDAR polymorphism is notable because it is highly differentiated between the Asian and other continental populations (the 3rd most differentiated among 15,816 non-synonymous SNPs), and also within Asian populations (in the top 1% of SNPs differentiated between the Japanese and Chinese HapMap samples). Genotyping of the EDAR polymorphism in the CEPH (Centre d'Etudie du Polymorphisme Humain) global diversity panel²⁰ shows that it is at high but varying frequency throughout Asia and the Americas (for example, 100% in Pima Indians and in parts of China, and 73% in Japan) (Fig. 2, and Supplementary Fig. 7). Studying populations like the Japanese, in which the allele is still segregating, may provide clues to its biological significance.

EDAR has a central role in generation of the primary hair follicle pattern, and mutations in EDAR cause hypohidrotic ectodermal

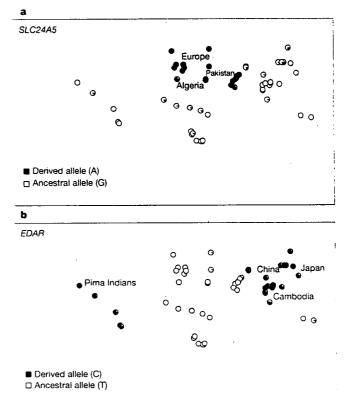


Figure 2 | Global distribution of SLC24A5 A111T and EDAR V370A. Worldwide allele-frequency distributions for candidate polymorphisms with the strongest evidence for selection²⁰. a. SLC24A5 A111T is common in Europe, Northern Africa and Pakistan, but rare or absent elsewhere. b, EDAR V370A is common in Asia and the Americas, but absent in Europe and Africa.

dysplasia (HED) in humans and mice, characterized by defects in the development of hair, teeth and exocrine glands⁶. The V370A polymorphism, proposed to be the target of selection, lies within EDAR's highly conserved death domain (Supplementary Fig. 8), the location of the majority of EDAR polymorphisms causing HED²¹. Our structural modelling predicts that the polymorphism lies within the binding site of the domain (Fig. 3).

Our analysis only scratches the surface of the recent selective history of the human genome. The results indicate that individual candidates may coalesce into pathways that reveal traits under selection, analogous to the alleles of multiple genes (for example, HBB, G6PD and DARC) that arose and spread in Africa and other tropical populations as a result of the partial protection they confer against malaria^{2,12}. Such endeavours will be enhanced by continuing development of analytical methods to localize signals in candidate regions, generation of expanded data sets, advances in comparative genomics to define coding and regulatory regions, and biological follow-up of promising candidates. True understanding of the role of adaptive evolution will require collaboration across multiple disciplines, including molecular and structural biology, medical and population genetics, and history and anthropology.

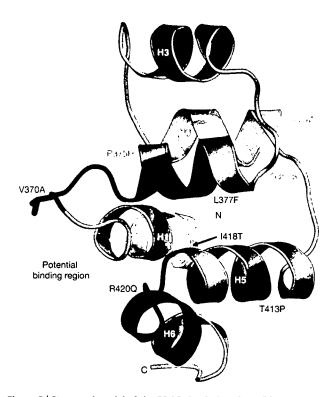


Figure 3 | Structural model of the EDAR death domain. Ribbon representation of a homology model of the EDAR death domain (DD), based on the alignment of the EDAR DD amino acid sequence (EDAR residues 356-431), with multiple known DD structures. The helices are labelled H1 to H6. Residues in blue (the H1-H2 and H5-H6 loops, residues 370-376 and 419-425, respectively) correspond to the homologous residues in Tube that interact with Pelle in the Tube-DD-Pelle-DD structure24. These EDAR-DD residues therefore form a potential region of interaction with a DD-containing EDAR-interacting protein, such as EDARADD. The V370A polymorphic residue (red) is located prominently within this potential binding region in the H1-H2 loop. Seven of the thirteen known mis-sense mutations in EDAR that lead to hypohidrotic ectodermal dysplasia (HED) in humans are located in the EDAR-DD: the only four mutations in EDAR that lead to the dominant transmission of HED (green) and three recessive mutations (yellow)21. Four of these mutations, R375H, L377F, R420Q and I418T are located in the vicinity of the predicted interaction interface.

METHODS SUMMARY

Genotyping data. Phase 2 of the International Haplotype Map (HapMap2) (www.hapmap.org) contains 3.1 million SNPs genotyped in 420 chromosomes in 3 continental populations (120 European (CEU), 120 African (YRI) and 180 Asian (JPT+CHB))¹. We further genotyped our top HapMap2 functional candidates in the HGDR-CEPH Human Genome Diversity Cell Line Panel²⁰.

LRH, iHS and XP-EHH tests. The Long-Range Haplotype (LRH), integrated Haplotype Score (iHS) and Cross Population EHH (XP-EHH) tests detect alleles that have risen to high frequency rapidly enough that long-range association with nearby polymorphisms—the long-range haplotype—has not been croded by recombination; haplotype length is measured by the EHH^{3,9}. The first two tests detect partial selective sweeps, whereas XP-EHH detects selected alleles that have risen to near fixation in one but not all populations. To evaluate the tests, we simulated genomic data for each HapMap population in a range of demographic scenarios—under neutral evolution and twenty scenarios of positive selection—developing the program Sweep (www.broad.mit.edu/mpg/sweep) for analysis. For our top candidates by the three tests, we tested for haplotype-specific recombination rates and copy-number polymorphisms, possible confounders.

Localization. We calculated $F_{\rm ST}$ and derived-allele frequency for all SNPs within the top candidate regions. We developed a database for those regions to annotate all potentially functional DNA changes (B.F., unpublished), including non-synonymous variants, variants disrupting predicted functional motifs, variants within regions of conservation in mammals and variants previously associated with human phenotypic differences, as well as synonymous, intronic and untranslated region variants.

Structural model. We generated a homology model of the EDAR death domain (DD) from available DD structures using Modeller 9v1 (ref. 22). The distribution of conserved residues, built using ConSurf²³ with an EDAR sequence alignment from 22 species, shows a bias to the protein core in helices H1, H2 and H5, supporting our model.

Full Methods and any associated references are available in the online version of the paper at www.nature.com/nature.

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METHODS

Genotyping data. The chromosomes examined in HapMap 2 were phased by the consortium using PHASE²⁵.

The HGDR-CEPH Human Genome Diversity Cell Line Panel²⁰ consists of 1,051 individuals from 51 populations across the world. We obtained DNA for the panel from the Foundation Jean Dausset (CEPH) and genotyped our top functional candidates for selection in the panel.

LRH, iHS, and XP-EHH tests. The Long-Range Haplotype (LRH) and the integrated Haplotype Score (iHS) tests have been previously described^{8,6} and our methods are given in Supplementary Methods.

EHH between two SNPs, A and B, is defined as the probability that two randomly chosen chromosomes are homozygous at all SNPs between A and B, inclusiveⁿ; it is usually calculated using a sample of chromosomes from a single population. Explicitly, if the N chromosomes in a sample form G homozygous groups, with each group i having n_i elements, EHH is defined as

EHH =
$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{G} \binom{n_i}{2}}{\binom{N}{2}}$$

The XP-EHH test detects selective sweeps in which the selected allele has risen to high frequency or fixation in one population, but remains polymorphic in the human population as a whole; for this purpose it is more powerful than either iHS or LRH (Supplementary Fig. 2 and Supplementary Tables 3–6). XP-EHH uses cross-population comparison of haplotype lengths to control for local variation in recombination rates. Such cross-population comparison is complicated by the fact that haplotype lengths also depend on population history, such as bottlenecks and expansions²⁶. The XP-EHH test normalizes for genome-wide differences in haplotype length between populations.

We define the XP-EHH test with respect to two populations, A and B, a given core SNP and a given direction (centromere distal or proximal). EHH is calculated for all SNPs in population A between the core SNP and X, and the value integrated with respect to genetic distance, with the result defined as I_A . I_B is defined analogously for population B. The statistic $\ln(I_A/I_B)$ is then calculated; an unusually positive value suggests selection in population A, a negative value selection in B. For identifying outliers, the log-ratio is normalized to have zero mean and unit variance. Details are given in Supplementary Methods.

We developed a computer program, Sweep, to implement these tests (LRH, iHS and XP-EHH) for positive selection, (Supplementary Methods; www.broad. mit.edu/mpg/sweep). In identifying the 22 strongest candidate regions, we considered regions with signals in at least two of five tests (LRH, iHS and XP-EHH in the three pairwise comparisons among the three populations), as well as those that had the strongest signal for each individual test. With this threshold we found no events in 10 Gb of simulated neutrally evolving sequence. For the top candidates by the three tests, we have taken additional steps to rule out the effects of recombination rate variation and copy number polymorphisms (Supplementary Methods).

Simulations and power calculations. We simulated the evolution of 1 MB sections of 120 chromosomes from each of the three continental HapMap populations, using a previously validated demographic model²⁷, under neutrality and under twenty scenarios of positive selection. We studied the effects of demography by further simulating recent bottlenecks with a range of intensity. Details of simulations and power calculations are given in Supplementary Methods.

Functional annotation. We developed an annotation database for our candidate regions to identify all DNA changes with potential functional consequence (B.F., unpublished). We first examined candidates most likely to be functional, including non-synonymous mutations, variants that disrupt predicted functional motifs (transcription factor motifs in conserved regions up to 10-kb 5' of known

genes and miRNA binding-site motifs in conserved 3' untranslated regions of known genes), and variations reported to be associated with human phenotypic differences. For the last category, we identified variations associated with a clinical state (for example, malaria resistance) by a review of the published literature and those associated with changes to gene expression in lymphoblastoid cell lines from the HapMap individuals. The annotation included insertion/ deletion mutations of all sizes. We also examined candidates with lower probability of being functional, including synonymous, intronic and untranslated variations and those that occur within regions of conservation in mammalian species. These methods are described in greater detail in Supplementary Methods

Structural model of EDAR's death domain. We generated a homology model for EDAR's death domain (DD) using six solved DD structures: p75 NGFR-DD, RAIDD-DD, Pelle-DD, FADD-DD, Fas-DD and IRAK4-DD^{24,28-32}. We aligned the corresponding protein sequences using SALIGN33. We then added the amino acid sequence of EDAR's DD (residues 356-431) to this structural alignment using Modeller 9v1 (ref. 22). The resulting alignment was used as the input to Modeller 9v1 to build ten EDAR-DD structure models, and the best model was selected based on the Objective Function Score. Owing to the high DOPE scores in the H1-H2 loop we performed a loop refinement using Modeller9v1, significantly reducing the energy of this region. We further evaluated the model by examining the distribution of conserved residues using ConSurf23 with an alignment of EDAR-DD sequences from 22 species. We observed a bias of conserved residues to the protein core in H1, H2 and H5, which supports our EDAR-DD model. To identify potential binding regions of EDAR-DD, we used LSQMAN[™] to superimpose the model to the Tube-DD-Pelle-DD complex structure24. The H1-H2 and H5-H6 loops of the EDAR-DD correspond to Tube residues interacting with Pelle, and H2-H3 and H4-H5 loops to Pelle residues interacting with Tube. We focused our analysis on the residues corresponding to the interacting region in Tube because our EDAR-DD model is most similar to Tube. Figures were generated with PyMOL35.

Other analysis. Description of methods for calculating $F_{\rm ST}$, derived-allele frequency, alignment of the SLC24 amino acids, species alignments, conservation graphs, and estimation of the fraction of SNPs genotyped in HapMap2 and identified in dbSNP, are given in Supplementary Methods.

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ARTICLES

A second generation human haplotype map of over 3.1 million SNPs

The International HapMap Consortium*

We describe the Phase II HapMap, which characterizes over 3.1 million human single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) genotyped in 270 individuals from four geographically diverse populations and includes 25–35% of common SNP variation in the populations surveyed. The map is estimated to capture untyped common variation with an average maximum r^2 of between 0.9 and 0.96 depending on population. We demonstrate that the current generation of commercial genome-wide genotyping products captures common Phase II SNPs with an average maximum r^2 of up to 0.8 in African and up to 0.95 in non-African populations, and that potential gains in power in association studies can be obtained through imputation. These data also reveal novel aspects of the structure of linkage disequilibrium. We show that 10–30% of pairs of individuals within a population share at least one region of extended genetic identity arising from recent ancestry and that up to 1% of all common variants are untaggable, primarily because they lie within recombination hotspots. We show that recombination rates vary systematically around genes and between genes of different function. Finally, we demonstrate increased differentiation at non-synonymous, compared to synonymous, SNPs, resulting from systematic differences in the strength or efficacy of natural selection between populations.

Advances made possible by the Phase I haplotype map

The International HapMap Project was launched in 2002 with the aim of providing a public resource to accelerate medical genetic research. The objective was to genotype at least one common SNP every 5 kilobases (kb) across the euchromatic portion of the genome in 270 individuals from four geographically diverse populations^{1,2}: 30 mother–father–adult child trios from the Yoruba in Ibadan, Nigeria (abbreviated YRI); 30 trios of northern and western European ancestry living in Utah from the Centre d'Etude du Polymorphisme Humain (CEPH) collection (CEU); 45 unrelated Han Chinese individuals in Beijing, China (CHB); and 45 unrelated Japanese individuals in Tokyo, Japan (JPT). The YRI samples and the CEU samples each form an analysis panel; the CHB and JPT samples together form an analysis panel. Approximately 1.3 million SNPs were genotyped in Phase I of the project, and a description of this resource was published in 2005 (ref. 3).

The initial HapMap Project data had a central role in the development of methods for the design and analysis of genome-wide association studies. These advances, alongside the release of commercial platforms for performing economically viable genome-wide genotyping, have led to a new phase in human medical genetics. Already, large-scale studies have identified novel loci involved in multiple complex diseases4.5. In addition, the HapMap data have led to novel insights into the distribution and causes of recombination hotspots^{3,6}, the prevalence of structural variation^{7,8} and the identity of genes that have experienced recent adaptive evolution3.9. Because the HapMap cell lines are publicly available, many groups have been able to integrate their own experimental data with the genome-wide SNP data to gain new insight into copy-number variation¹⁰, the relationship between classical human leukocyte antigen (HLA) types and SNP variation¹¹, and heritable influences on gene expression^{12–14}. The ability to combine genome-wide data on such diverse aspects of genetic variation with molecular phenotypes collected in the same samples provides a powerful framework to study the connection of DNA sequence to function.

*Lists of participants and affiliations appear at the end of the paper.

In Phase II of the HapMap Project, a further 2.1 million SNPs were successfully genotyped on the same individuals. The resulting HapMap has an SNP density of approximately one per kilobase and is estimated to contain approximately 25–35% of all the 9–10 million common SNPs (minor allele frequency (MAF) \geq 0.05) in the assembled human genome (that is, excluding gaps in the reference sequence alignment; see Supplementary Text 1), although this number shows extensive local variation. This paper describes the Phase II resource, its implications for genome-wide association studies and additional insights into the fine-scale structure of linkage disequilibrium, recombination and natural selection.

Construction of the Phase II HapMap

Most of the additional genotype data for the Phase II HapMap were obtained using the Perlegen amplicon-based platform¹⁵. Briefly, this platform uses custom oligonucleotide arrays to type SNPs in DNA segmentally amplified via long-range polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Genotyping was attempted at 4,373,926 distinct SNPs, which corresponds, with exceptions (see Methods), to nearly all SNPs in dbSNP release 122 for which an assay could be designed. Additional submissions were included from the Affymetrix GeneChip Mapping Array 500K set, the Illumina HumanHap100 and HumanHap300 SNP assays, a set of ~11,000 non-synonymous SNPs genotyped by Affymetrix (ParAllele) and a set of ~4,500 SNPs within the extended major histocompatibility complex (MHC)11. Genotype submissions were subjected to the same quality control (QC) filters as described previously (see Methods) and mapped to NCBI build 35 (University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) hg17) of the human genome. The re-mapping of SNPs from Phase I of the project identified 21,177 SNPs that had an ambiguous position or some other feature indicative of low reliability; these are not included in the filtered Phase II data release. All genotype data are available from the HapMap Data Coordination Center (http://www.hapmap.org) and dbSNP (http:// www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP); analyses described in this paper refer to release 21a. Three data sets are available: 'redundant unfiltered'

ARTICLES NATURE Vol 449 18 October 2007

contains all genotype submissions, 'redundant filtered' contains all submissions that pass QC, and 'non-redundant filtered' contains a single QC+ submission for each SNP in each analysis panel.

The QC filters remove SNPs showing gross errors. However, it is also important to understand the magnitude and structure of more subtle genotyping errors among SNPs that pass QC. We therefore carried out a series of analyses to assess the influence of the long-range PCR amplicon structure on genotyping error, the concordance rates between genotype calls from different genotyping platforms and between those platforms and re-sequencing assays, as well as the rates of false monomorphism and mis-mapping of SNPs (see Supplementary Text 2, Supplementary Figs 1–3 and Supplementary Tables 1–4). We estimate that the average per genotype accuracy is at least 99.5%. However, there are higher rates of missing data and genotype discrepancies at non-reference alleles, with some clustering of errors resulting from the amplicon design and a few incorrectly mapped SNPs.

Table 1 shows the numbers of SNPs attempted and converted to QC+ SNPs in each analysis panel (Supplementary Table 5 shows a breakdown by each major submission). Haplotypes and missing data were estimated for each analysis panel separately using both trio information and statistical methods based on the coalescent model (see Methods). To enable cross-population comparisons, a consensus data set was created consisting of 3,107,620 SNPs that were QC+ in all analysis panels and polymorphic in at least one analysis panel. The equivalent figure from Phase I was 931,340 SNPs. Unless stated otherwise, all analyses have been carried out on the consensus data set. An additional set of haplotypes was created for those SNPs in the consensus where a putative ancestral state could be assigned by

comparison of the human alleles to the orthologous position in the chimpanzee and rhesus macaque genomes.

The variation in SNP density within the Phase II HapMap is shown in Fig. 1. On average there are 1.14 genotyped polymorphic SNPs per kilobase (average spacing is 875 base pairs (bp)) and 98.6% of the assembled genome is within 5 kb of the nearest polymorphic SNP. Still, there is heterogeneity in genotyped SNP density at both broad (Fig. 1a) and fine (Fig. 1b) scales. Furthermore, there are systematic changes in genotyped SNP density around genomic features including genes (Fig. 1c).

The Phase II HapMap differs from the Phase I HapMap not only in SNP spacing, but also in minor allele frequency distribution and patterns of linkage disequilibrium (Supplementary Fig. 4). Because the criteria for choosing additional SNPs did not include consideration of SNP spacing or preferential selection for high MAF, the SNPs added in Phase II are, on average, more clustered and have lower MAF than the Phase I SNPs. Because MAF predictably influences the distribution of linkage disequilibrium statistics, the average r^2 at a given physical distance is typically lower in Phase II than in Phase I; conversely, the |D'| statistic is typically higher (data not shown). One notable consequence is that the Phase II HapMap includes a better representation of rare variation than the Phase I HapMap.

The increased resolution provided by Phase II of the project is illustrated in Fig. 2. Broadly, an additional SNP added to a region shows one of three patterns. First, it may be very similar in distribution to SNPs present in Phase I. Second, it may provide detailed resolution of haplotype structure (for example, a group of chromosomes with identical local haplotypes in Phase I can be shown in Phase II to carry

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Table 1 | Summary of Phase II HapMap data (release 21)

hase	SNP categories		Analysis panel	
		YRI	CEU	CHB+JPT
	Assays submitted	1,304,199	1,344,616	1,306,125
	Passed QC	1,177,312 (90%)	1,217,902 (91%)	1,187,800 (91%)
	Did not pass QC	126,887 (10%)	126,714 (9%)	118,325 (9%)
	>20% missing	82,463 (65%)	95,684 (76%)	78,323 (66%)
	>1 duplicate inconsistent	6.049 (5%)	5,126 (4%)	9,242 (8%)
	>1 mendelian error	18,916 (15%)	11,310 (9%)	N/A
	< 0.001 Hardy-Weinberg P -value	10,265 (8%)	8,922 (7%)	13,722 (12%)
	Other failures	19,345 (15%)	13,858 (11%)	20,674 (17%)
	Assays submitted	5,044,989	5,044,996	5,043,775
	Passed QC	3,150,433 (62%)	3,204,709 (64%)	3,244,897 (64%)
	Did not pass QC	1,894,556 (38%)	1,840,287 (36%)	1,798,878 (36%)
	>20% missing	1,419,000 (75%)	1,398,166 (76%)	1,403,543 (78%)
	>1 duplicate inconsistent	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	6,617 (0%)
	>1 mendelian error	172,339 (9%)	127,923 (7%)	N/A
	< 0.001 Hardy-Weinberg P -value	96,231 (5%)	82,268 (4%)	108,880 (6%)
	Other failures	334,511 (18%)	337,906 (18%)	340,370 (19%)
verall	Assays submitted	6,349,188	6,389,612	6,349,900
	Passed QC	4,327,745 (68%)	4,422,611 (69%)	4,432,697 (70%)
	Did not pass QC	2,021,443 (32%)	1,967,001 (31%)	1,917,203 (30%)
	>20% missing	1,501,463 (74%)	1,493,850 (76%)	1,481,866 (77%)
	>1 duplicate inconsistent	6,049 (0%)	5,126 (0%)	15,859 (1%)
	>1 mendelian error	191,255 (9%)	139,233 (7%)	N/A
	< 0.001 Hardy-Weinberg P -value	106,496 (5%)	91,190 (5%)	122,602 (6%)
	Other failures	353,856 (18%)	351,764 (18%)	361,044 (19%)
	Non-redundant (unique) SNPs	3,796,934	3,868,157	3,890,416
	Monomorphic	861,299 (23%)	1,246,183 (32%)	1,410,152 (36%)
	Polymorphic	2,935,635 (77%)	2,621,974 (68%)	2,480,264 (64%)
	SNP categories		All analysis panels	
	Unique QC-passed SNPs		4,000,107	
	Passed in one analysis panel		88,140 (2%)	
	Passed in two analysis panels		268,534 (7%)	
	Passed in three analysis panels (QC+3)		3,643,433 (91%)	
	QC+3 and monomorphic across		535,813	
	three analysis panels		3,107,620	
	QC+3 and polymorphic in at least one analysis panel			
	QC+3 and polymorphic in all three analysis panels		2,006,352	
	QC+3 and MAF \geq 0.05 in at least		2,819,322	
	one of three analysis panels			

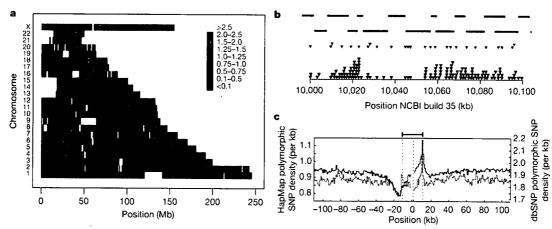


Figure 1 | SNP density in the Phase II HapMap. a, SNP density across the genome. Colours indicate the number of polymorphic SNPs per kb in the consensus data set. Gaps in the assembly are shown as white. b, Example of the fine-scale structure of SNP density for a 100-kb region on chromosome 17 showing Perlegen amplicons (black bars), polymorphic Phase I SNPs in the consensus data set (red triangles) and polymorphic Phase II SNPs in the consensus data set (blue triangles). Note the relatively even spacing of Phase

I SNPs. c, The distribution of polymorphic SNPs in the consensus Phase II HapMap data (blue line and left-hand axis) around coding regions. Also shown is the density of SNPs in dbSNP release 125 around genes (red line and right-hand axis). Values were calculated separately 5' from the coding start site (the left dotted line) and 3' from the coding end site (right dotted line) and were joined at the median midpoint position of the coding unit (central dotted line).

multiple related haplotypes). Third, the novel SNP (or group of added SNPs) may reveal previously missed recombinant haplotypes. The extent to which each type of event occurs varies among populations and chromosomal regions. The greatest gains in resolution, in terms of identifying new recombinant haplotypes and haplotype groupings, occur in YRI. Consequently, the Phase II HapMap provides increased resolution in the estimated fine-scale genetic map and improved power to detect and localize recombination hotspots (Fig. 2b).

The use of the Phase II HapMap in association studies

The increased SNP density of the Phase II HapMap has already been extensively exploited in genome-wide studies of disease association.

In this section, we quantify the gain in resolution and outline how the HapMap data can be used to improve the power of association studies.

Improved coverage of common variation. We previously predicted that the vast majority of common SNPs would be correlated to Phase II HapMap SNPs by extrapolation from the ten HapMap ENCODE regions³. Using the actual Phase II marker spacing and frequency distributions (Table 2), we repeated the simulations and estimate that Phase II HapMap marker sets capture the overwhelming majority of all common variants at high r^2 . For common variants (MAF \geq 0.05) the mean maximum r^2 of any SNP to a typed one is 0.90 in YRI, 0.96 in CEU and 0.95 in CHB+JPT. The impact of the

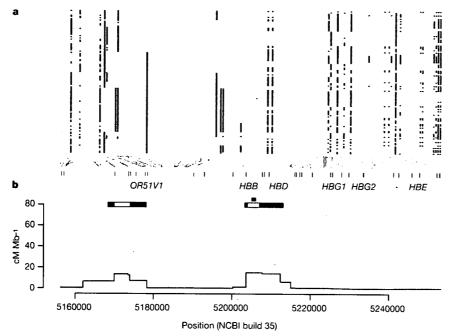


Figure 2 | Haplotype structure and recombination rate estimates from the Phase II HapMap. a, Haplotypes from YRI in a 100 kb region around the β -globin (HBB) gene. SNPs typed in Phase I are shown in dark blue. Additional SNPs in the Phase II HapMap are shown in light blue. Only SNPs for which the derived allele can be unambiguously identified by parsimony (by comparison with an outgroup sequence) are shown (89% of SNPs in the

region); the derived allele is shown in colour. **b**, Recombination rates (lines) and the location of hotspots (horizontal blue bars) estimated for the same region from the Phase I (dark blue) and Phase II HapMap (light blue) data. Also shown are the location of genes within the region (grey bars) and the location of the experimentally verified recombination hotspot^{57,58} at the 5' end of the *HBB* gene (black bar).

Table 2 | Estimated coverage of the Phase II HapMap in the ten HapMap ENCODE regions

Panel	MAF bin	Phase	НарМар ³	Phase II HapMap						
				Pairwise linka	ge disequilibrium	Additional 2-SNP tests				
		r ² ≥ 0.8 (%)	Mean maximum r ²	r ² ≥ 0.8 (%)	Mean maximum r ²	$r^2 \ge 0.8 (\%)$	Mean maximum r ²			
YRI	≥0.05	45	0.67	82	0.90	87	0.93			
YRI	< 0.05			61	0.76	62	0.78			
	0.05-0.10			81	0.89	81	0.89			
	0.10-0.25			90	0.94	90	0.95			
	0.25-0.50			87	0.93	92	0.96			
CEU	≥0.05	74	0.85	93	0.96	95	0.97			
	< 0.05			70	0.7 9	7 2	0.81			
	0.05-0.10			87	0.92	88	0.93			
	0.10-0.25			94	0.96	95	0.97			
	0.25-0.50			95	0.97	97	0.98			
CHB+JPT	≥0.05	72	0.83	92	0.95	95	0.97			
	< 0.05			65	0.74	65	0.74			
	0.05-0.10			81	0.89	82	0.89			
	0.10-0.25			90	0.94	90	0.95			
	0.25-0.50			94	0.96	97	0.98			

2-SNP tests, linkage disequilibrium to haplotypes formed from two nearby SNPs.

Table 3 | Number of tag SNPs required to capture common (MAF \geq 0.05) Phase II SNPs

Threshold	YRI	CEU	CHB+JPT
$r^2 \ge 0.5$	627,458	290,969	277,831
$r^2 \ge 0.8$	1,093,422	552,853	520,111
$r^2 = 1.0$	1,616,739	1,024,665	1,078,959

increased density of the Phase II HapMap is most notable in YRI (in the Phase I HapMap the mean maximum r^2 was 0.67). Similar results are found if a threshold of $r^2 \ge 0.8$ is used to determine whether an SNP is captured (Table 2). As expected, very common SNPs with MAF > 0.25 are captured extremely well (mean maximum r^2 of 0.93 in YRI to 0.97 in CEU), whereas rarer SNPs with MAF < 0.05 are less well covered (mean maximum r^2 of 0.74 in CHB+JPT to 0.76 in YRI). The latter figure is probably an overestimate because it is based on lower frequency SNPs discovered via re-sequencing 48 HapMap individuals, and does not include a much larger number of very rare SNPs. We also assessed the increase in coverage provided by using two-SNP haplotypes as proxies for SNPs that are poorly captured by single SNPs16 (Table 2). These two-SNP haplotypes lead to a modest increase in mean maximum r² of 0.01 to 0.03 across all allele frequencies. However, in some regions, particularly where marker density is low, gains from multi-marker and imputation approaches in practical situations can be substantial (see below).

Currently, the Phase II HapMap provides the most complete available resource for selecting tag SNPs genome-wide. Using a simple pairwise tagging approach, we find that 1.09 million SNPs are required to capture all common Phase II SNPs with $r^2 \ge 0.8$ in YRI, with slightly more than 500,000 required in CEU and CHB+JPT (Table 3). These numbers are approximately twice those required to capture SNPs in the Phase I HapMap (which has one-third as many SNPs). The number of SNPs required to achieve perfect tagging ($r^2 = 1.0$) in each analysis panel is almost double that required to achieve the $r^2 \ge 0.8$ threshold. It becomes increasingly

expensive to improve the coverage afforded by tags from the Phase I and, now, the Phase II HapMap, because additional tag SNPs are unlikely to capture large groups of additional SNPs.

Phase II HapMap and genome-wide association studies. Although the efficient choice of tag SNPs is one use of the Phase II HapMap, for most disease studies the tag SNPs genotyped will be primarily determined by the choice of a commercial platform for the experiment^{17,18}. Using Phase II data, we estimated the coverage of several available products on which genome-wide association studies are already underway (Table 4). Similar to earlier estimates^{17,18}, these products typically perform well in CEU and CHB+JPT, and some also perform well in YRI. For example, arrays of approximately 500,000 SNPs capture 68–88% (depending on selection method) of all HapMap Phase II variation with $r^2 \ge 0.8$ in CEU. SNPs that are not included in the Phase II HapMap will be covered more poorly because most genotyping products were designed using HapMap data.

HapMap data have several additional roles in the analysis of disease-association studies using fixed marker sets. For example, the high-quality haplotype information within the Phase II HapMap can be used to aid the phasing of genotype data from new samples because additional haplotypes are likely to be locally very similar to at least one haplotype in the Phase II data. By a similar argument, missing genotypes can potentially be inferred through comparison to the Phase II haplotypes. Genotypes may be missing either because of genotyping failure or because the SNP was not assayed within the experiment. Therefore, the HapMap haplotypes provide a way of *in silico* genotyping Phase II SNPs that were not included in the experiment.

Although there is no clear consensus yet about the role of SNP imputation in the analysis of genome-wide association studies, high imputation accuracy can be achieved using model-based methods¹⁹⁻²³ and can lead to an increase in power²³⁻²⁴. To illustrate the possibilities, in the 500-kb HapMap ENCODE region on 8q24.11 (Supplementary Fig. 5) we evaluated imputation of Phase II SNPs from the Affymetrix GeneChip 500K array. To do this, we used a

Table 4 | Estimated coverage of commercially available fixed marker arrays

Platform*		/RI	C	CHB+JPT		
	r² ≥ 0.8 (%)	Mean maximum r ²	$r^2 \ge 0.8 \ (\%)$	Mean maximum r ²	$r^2 \ge 0.8 (\%)$	Mean maximum r ²
Affymetrix GeneChip 500K	46	0.66	68	0.81	67	0.80
Affymetrix SNP Array 6.0	66	0.80	82	0.90	81	0.89
Illumina HumanHap300	33	0.56	77	0.86	63	0.78
Illumina HumanHap550	55	0.73	88	0.92	83	0.89
Illumina HumanHap650Y	66	0.80	89	0.93	84	0.90
Perlegen 600K	47	0.68	92	0.94	84	0.90

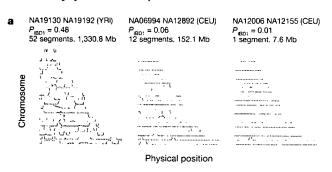
^{*} Assuming all SNPs on the product are informative and pass QC; in practice these numbers are overestimates.

leave-one-out procedure to assess the accuracy of genotype prediction in the YRI. For SNPs with MAF \geq 0.2, the average maximum r^2 to a typed SNP in the region is 0.59 compared to an average genotype prediction r^2 of 0.86. Furthermore, whereas 44% of such SNPs in the region have no single-marker proxy with $r^2 \geq$ 0.5, fewer than 6% of the SNPs have a genotype imputation accuracy of $r^2 <$ 0.5, establishing that accurate imputation can be achieved even in the population where linkage disequilibrium is the weakest.

New insights into linkage disequilibrium structure

The paradigm underlying association studies is that linkage disequilibrium can be used to capture associations between markers and nearby untyped SNPs. However, the Phase II HapMap has revealed several properties of linkage disequilibrium that illustrate the full complexity of empirical patterns of genetic variation. Two striking features are the long-range similarity among haplotypes, and SNPs that show almost no linkage disequilibrium with any other SNP.

The extent of recent common ancestry and segmental sharing. A simplified view of linkage disequilibrium is that genetic variation is organized in relatively short stretches of strong linkage disequilibrium (haplotype blocks), each containing only a few common haplotypes and separated by recombination hotspots across which little association remains²⁵. Although this view has heuristic value, if chromosomes share a recent common ancestor then similarity between chromosomes can extend over considerable genetic distance and span multiple recombination hotspots²⁶. The extent of such recent ancestry in the four populations surveyed here has not been characterized



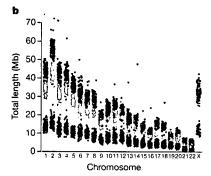


Figure 3 | The extent of recent co-ancestry among HapMap individuals.

a, Three pairs of individuals with varying levels of identity-by-descent (IBD) sharing illustrate the continuum between very close and very distant relatedness and its relation to segmental sharing. The three pairs are: high sharing (NA19130 and NA19192 from YRI; previously identified as second-degree relatives³), moderate sharing (NA06994 and NA12892 from CEU) and low sharing (NA12006 and NA12155 from CEU). Along each chromosome, the probability of sharing at least one chromosome IBD is plotted, based on the HMM method described in Supplementary Text 5. Red sections indicate regions called as segments: in general, the proportion of the genome in segments is similar to each pair's estimated global relatedness.

b, The extent of homozygosity on each chromosome for each individual in each analysis panel. Excludes segments <106 kb and chromosome X in males. Asterisk, NA12874, length = 107 Mb. YRI, green; CEU, orange; CHB, blue; JPT, magenta.

previously. Therefore we identified stretches of identity between pairs of chromosomes, both within and across individuals, reflecting autozygosity and identity-by-descent (IBD) (Fig. 3a). After first checking for stratification within each analysis panel (see Supplementary Text 3; none was found for YRI, CEU and JPT, and only small stratification was found for CHB), we calculated genome-wide probabilities of sharing 0, 1 or 2 chromosomes identical by descent for each pair of individuals (see Supplementary Text 4). In addition to identifying a few close relationships (as reported in HapMap Phase I3), we estimate that, on average, any two individuals from the same population share approximately 0.5% of their genome through recent IBD (Table 5). Using a hidden Markov model approach²⁷ (see Supplementary Text 5), we searched for such shared segments over 1-megabase (Mb) long and containing at least 50 SNPs, after first pruning the list of SNPs to remove local linkage disequilibrium. We find that 10-30% of pairs in each analysis panel share regions of extended identity resulting from sharing a common ancestor within 10-100 generations. These regions typically span hundreds of SNPs and can extend over tens of megabases (Table 5).

Similarly, extended stretches of homozygosity are indicative of recent inbreeding within populations^{28,29}. Although short runs of homozygosity are commonplace, covering up to one-third of the genome and showing population differences reflective of ancient linkage disequilibrium patterns (Table 5 and Fig. 3b), very long homozygous runs exist that are clearly distinct from this process. Including two JPT individuals who have unusually high levels of homozygosity (NA18987 and NA18992) and one CEU individual (NA12874), we identified 79 homozygous regions over 3 Mb in 51 individuals, with many segments extending over 10 Mb (Supplementary Tables 7 and 8). Segments intersecting with suspected deletions were first removed from the analysis (Supplementary Text 6).

In studies of rare mendelian diseases, the extended haplotype sharing surrounding recent mutations, usually with a frequency of much less than 1%, has been exploited to great advantage through homozygosity mapping^{30,31} and haplotype sharing³² methods. In studies of common disease, extended haplotype sharing among patients potentially offers a route for identifying rare variants (MAF in the range of 1–5%) of high penetrance^{33,34}, which tend to be poorly captured through single-marker association with genome-wide arrays. To illustrate the idea, we identified SNPs where only two copies of the minor allele are present (referred to as '2-SNPs'), which have minor allele frequencies of 1–2%. We find that these are enriched approximately sevenfold (Table 5) among regions of IBD identified by the hidden Markov model approach. Notably, identification of IBD regions can be performed with the same genome-wide SNP data being

Table 5 | Relatedness, extended segmental sharing and homozygosity

Property	YRI	CEU	СНВ	JPT
Number of pairs included	1,767	1,708	990	861
Mean identity by state (IBS) (%)	81.9	83.7	85.0	85.1
Mean identity by descent (IBD) (%)	0.04	0.34	0.36	0.42
Number of pairs with >1% IBD (%)	8.8	20.4	21.1	29.7
Number of pairs with one or more	195	350	135	216
segment (%)	(11.0)	(20.5)	(13.6)	(25.1)
Total number of segments	250	427	146	273
Total distance spanned (Mb)	1,416	2,336	704	1,301
Mean segment length (Mb)	5.7	5.5	4.8	4.8
Maximum segment length (Mb)	51.7	56.2	15.0	25.3
Maximum segment length (Mb)	141.4	128.5	N/A	N/A
(including close relatives)			•	•
Total number of 2-SNPs	6,219	9,220	8,174	8.750
Number of 2-SNPs in segments	109	162	116	132
2-SNP fold increase	6.7	7.3	7.6	7.0
Number of homozygous segments (×10 ³)*	0.9	2.2	2.6	2.6
SNPs in homozygous segments (×10 ⁵)	1.6	4.2	5.3	5.4
Total length of homozygous segments (Mb)	160	410	510	520

²⁻SNP, SNPs where only two copies of the minor allele are present.

Homozygous segments > 106 kb.

collected in large-scale association studies, making haplotypesharing approaches an attractive and complementary analysis to standard SNP association tests, with the potential to identify rare variants associated with complex disease.

The distribution and causes of untaggable SNPs. Despite the SNP density of the Phase II HapMap, there are high-frequency SNPs for which no tag can be identified. Among high-frequency SNPs (MAF \geq 0.2), we marked as untaggable SNPs to which no other SNP within 100 kb has an r^2 value of at least 0.2. In Phase II, approximately 0.5–1.0% of all high-frequency SNPs are untaggable and the proportion in YRI is approximately twice as high as in the other panels. Similar proportions are observed across the ten HapMap ENCODE regions.

To identify factors influencing the location of untaggable SNPs we considered their distribution relative to segmental duplications, repeat sequence, CpG dinucleotide density, regions of low SNP density, unusual allele frequency distribution, linkage disequilibrium patterns and recombination hotspots. We find no evidence for an enrichment of untaggable SNPs in segmental duplications or repeat sequence, as would be expected from mis-mapping of SNPs (2% and 35% of common SNPs lie in segmental duplications and repeat sequence, respectively, compared to 1.8% and 29%, respectively, of untaggable SNPs). Untaggable SNPs are slightly enriched in CpG islands (0.37% of common SNPs are in CpG islands compared to 1.4% of untaggable SNPs) and have slightly reduced MAF (Fig. 4). Most notably, untaggable SNPs are strongly enriched in regions of low linkage disequilibrium, particularly in recombination hotspots. To test whether these untaggable SNPs are themselves responsible for the identification of recombination hotspots, we eliminated them from 100 randomly chosen recombination hotspots and reassessed the evidence for a local peak in recombination. In all cases we still find evidence for a considerable increase in local recombination rate.

Over 50% of all untaggable SNPs lie within 1 kb of the centre of a detected recombination hotspot and over 90% are within 5 kb. Because only 3-4% of all SNPs lie within 1 kb from the centre of a detected recombination hotspot (16% are within 5 kb), this constitutes a marked enrichment and implies that at least 10% of all SNPs

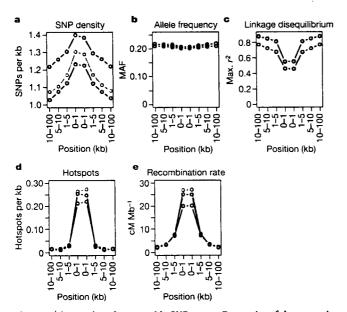


Figure 4 | Properties of untaggable SNPs. a-e, Properties of the genomic regions surrounding untaggable SNPs in terms of: a, the density of polymorphic SNPs within the consensus data set; b, mean minor allele frequency of polymorphic SNPs; c, maximum r^2 of SNPs to any others in the Phase II data; d, the density of estimated recombination hotspots (defined from hotspot centres); and e, the estimated mean recombination rate. YRI, green; CEU, orange; CHB+JPT, purple.

within 1 kb of hotspots are untaggable. The implication for association mapping is that when a region of interest contains a known hotspot it may be prudent to perform additional sequencing within the hotspot. Many of the variants identified in this manner will be untaggable SNPs that should be genotyped directly in association studies. From a biological perspective, the proximity of untaggable SNPs to the centre of hotspots suggests that they may lie within gene conversion tracts associated with the repair of double-strand breaks. Double-strand breaks are thought to resolve as crossover events only 5–25% of the time³⁵. Consequently, SNPs lying near the centre of a hotspot are liable to be included within gene conversion tracts and will experience much higher effective recombination rates than predicted from crossover rates alone.

The distribution of recombination

In the Phase II HapMap we identified 32,996 recombination hotspots^{3,6,36} (an increase of over 50% from Phase I) of which 68% localized to a region of ≤5 kb. The median map distance induced by a hotspot is 0.043 cM (or one crossover per 2,300 meioses) and the hottest identified, on chromosome 20, is 1.2 cM (one crossover per 80 meioses). Hotspots account for approximately 60% of recombination in the human genome and about 6% of sequence (Supplementary Fig. 6). We do not find marked differences among chromosomes in the concentration of recombination in hotspots, which implies that obligate differences in recombination among chromosomes of different size result from differences in hotspot density and intensity⁶.

The increased number of well-defined hotspots allows us to understand better the influence of genomic features on the distribution of recombination. Previous work identified specific DNA motifs that influence hotspot location6,37 as well as additional influences of local sequence context including the location of genes⁶ and base composition³⁸. The Phase II HapMap provides the resolution to separate these influences. Figure 5a shows the distribution of recombination, hotspot motifs and base composition around genes. Within the transcribed region of genes there is a marked decrease in the estimated recombination rate. However, 5' of the transcription start site is a peak in recombination rate with a corresponding local increase in the density of hotspot motifs. This region also shows a marked increase in G+C content, reflecting the presence of CpG islands in promoter regions. There is also an asymmetry in recombination rate across genes, with recombination rates 3' of transcribed regions being elevated (as are motif density and G+C content) compared to regions 5' of genes. Studies in yeast have previously suggested an association between promoter regions and recombination hotspots39. Our results suggest a significant, although weak, relationship between promoters and recombination in humans. Nevertheless, the vast majority of hotspots in the human genome are not in gene promoters. The association may reflect a general association between regions of accessible chromatin and crossover activity.

Systematic differences in recombination rate by gene class. Previous work has demonstrated differences in the magnitude of linkage disequilibrium, as measured at a megabase scale, among genes associated with different functions^{3,40}. Using the fine-scale genetic map estimated from the Phase II HapMap data we can quantify local increases in recombination rate associated with genes of different function using the Panther gene ontology annotation⁴¹. Average recombination rates vary more than sixfold among such gene classes (Fig. 5b), with defence and immunity genes showing the highest rates (1.9 cM Mb⁻¹) and chaperones showing the lowest rates (0.3 cM Mb⁻¹). Gene functions associated with cell surfaces and external functions tend to show higher recombination rates (immunity, cell adhesion, extracellular matrix, ion channels, signalling) whereas those with lower recombination rates are typically internal to cells (chaperones, ligase, isomerase, synthase). Controlling for systematic differences between gene classes in base composition and gene clustering, the differences between groups remain significant. We also find that the density of hotspot-associated DNA motifs varies systematically among gene classes and that variation in motif density explains over 50% of the variance in recombination rate among gene functions (Supplementary Fig. 7).

These results pose interesting evolutionary questions. Because recombination involves DNA damage through double-strand breaks, hotspots may be selected against in some highly conserved parts of the genome. In regions exposed to recurrent selection (for example, from changes in environment or pathogen pressure) it is plausible that recombination may be selected for. However, because the fine-scale structure of recombination seems to evolve rapidly^{42,43} it will be important to learn whether patterns of recombination rate heterogeneity among molecular functions are conserved between species.

Natural selection

The Phase I HapMap data have been used to identify genomic regions that show evidence for the influence of adaptive evolution^{3,9}, primarily through extended haplotype structure indicative of recent positive selection. Using two established approaches^{9,44}, we identified approximately 200 regions with evidence of recent positive selection from the Phase II HapMap (Supplementary Table 9). These regions include many established cases of selection, such as the genes *HBB* and *LCT*, the HLA region, and an inversion on chromosome 17. Many other regions have been previously identified in HapMap Phase I including *LARGE*, *SYT1* and *SULT1C2* (previously called *SULT1C1*). A detailed description of the findings from the Phase II HapMap is published elsewhere⁴⁵.

The Phase II HapMap also provides new insights into the forces acting on SNPs in coding regions. Effort was made to genotype as many known or putative non-synonymous SNPs as possible. Of the 56,789 non-synonymous SNPs identified in dbSNP release 125, attempts were made to genotype 36,777, which resulted in 17,427 that are QC+ in all three analysis panels and polymorphic. We selected only those SNPs for which ancestral allele information was available (approximately 90%). For comparison, we used patterns of variation at synonymous SNPs. As previously reported 46,47, non-synonymous SNPs show an increase in frequency of rare variants and

a slight decrease of common variants compared to synonymous SNPs, compatible with widespread purifying selection against non-synonymous mutations (Fig. 6a). In contrast, we find no excess of high-frequency derived non-synonymous mutations, as might be expected if positive selection were widespread.

Natural selection also influences the extent to which allele frequencies differ between populations, not only through local selective pressures that drive alleles to different frequencies 48,49, but also through local variation in the strength of purifying selection. We compared the distribution of population differentiation (as measured by F_{ST} , the proportion of total variation in allele frequency that is due to differences between populations) at non-synonymous SNPs and synonymous SNPs matched for allele frequency (Fig. 6b). We find a systematic bias for non-synonymous SNPs to show stronger differentiation than synonymous SNPs. Among SNPs showing high levels of differentiation there is a strong tendency for the derived allele to be at higher frequency in non-YRI populations. Among SNPs with $F_{ST} > 0.5$ between CEU and YRI, in 79% and 75% of non-synonymous and synonymous variants, respectively, the derived allele is more common in CEU. Although this difference between non-synonymous and synonymous SNPs is not significant, among the eight exonic SNPs with $F_{\rm ST} > 0.95$, all are non-synonymous. We see no such bias towards increased MAF in CEU at high-differentiation SNPs, indicating that SNP ascertainment is unlikely to explain the difference. Rather, this effect can largely be explained by more genetic drift in the non-African populations, as confirmed by simulations (data not shown). In addition, reduced selection against deleterious mutations and local adaptation within non-African populations will both act to increase the frequency of derived variants in non-African populations.

To assess the evidence for widespread local adaptation influencing non-synonymous mutations we considered the distribution of integrated extended haplotype homozygosity (iEHH) statistics^{9,44} (Fig. 6c). We find no evidence for systematic differences between non-synonymous and synonymous SNPs, suggesting that local adaptation does not explain their higher differentiation. Although hitch-hiking effects will tend to obscure differences between selected

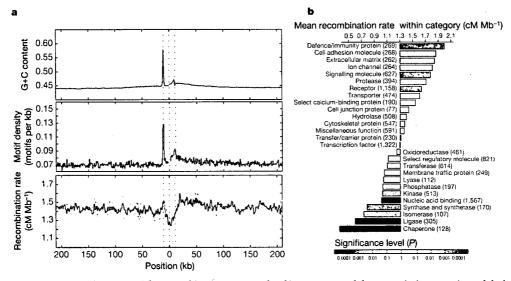


Figure 5 | Recombination rates around genes. a, The recombination rate, density of recombination-hotspot-associated motifs (all motifs with up to 1 bp different from the consensus CCTCCCTNNCCAC) and G+C content around genes. The blue line indicates the mean. For the recombination rate, grey lines indicate the quartiles of the distribution. Values were calculated separately 5' from the transcription start site (the first dotted line) and 3' from the transcription end site (third dotted line) and were joined at the median midpoint position of the transcription unit (central dotted line). Note the sharp drop in recombination rate within the transcription unit, the

local increase around the transcription start site and the broad decrease away from the 3' end of genes. These patterns only partly reflect the distribution of G+C content and the hotspot-associated motif, suggesting that additional factors influence recombination rates around genes. **b**, Recombination rates within genes of different molecular function⁶¹. The chart shows the increase or decrease for each category compared to the genome average. P values were estimated by permutation of category; numbers of genes are shown in parentheses.

and neutral SNPs, these results are consistent with a scenario in which the higher differentiation of non-synonymous SNPs is primarily driven by a reduction in the strength or efficacy of purifying selection in non-African populations.

Discussion and prospects

The International HapMap Project has been instrumental in making well-powered, large-scale, genome-wide association studies a reality. It is now clear that the HapMap can be a useful resource for the design and analysis of disease association studies in populations across the world⁵⁰⁻⁵³. Furthermore, the decreasing costs and increasing SNP density of standard genotyping panels mean that the focus of attention in disease association studies is shifting from candidate gene approaches towards genome-wide analyses. Alongside developments in technology, new statistical methodologies aimed at improving aspects of analysis, such as genotype calling^{21,54}, the identification of and correction for population stratification and relatedness^{55,56}, and imputation of untyped variants²¹⁻²³, are increasing the accuracy and reliability of genome-wide association studies.

Within this context, it is important to consider the future of the HapMap Project. Currently, additional samples from the populations used to develop the initial HapMap, as well as samples from seven additional populations (Luhya in Webuye, Kenya; Maasai in Kinyawa, Kenya; Tuscans in Italy; Gujarati Indian in Houston, Texas, USA; Denver (Colorado) metropolitan Chinese community; people of Mexican origin in Los Angeles, California, USA; and people with African ancestry in the southwestern United States; http://ccr.coriell.org/Sections/Collections/NHGRI/?SsId=11) will be sequenced and

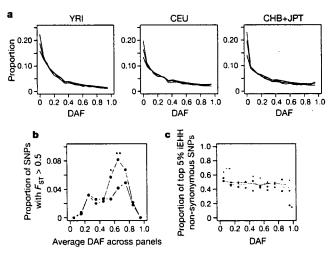


Figure 6 | Properties of non-synonymous and synonymous SNPs. a, The derived allele frequency (DAF) spectrum in each analysis panel for all SNPs (black), synonymous SNPs (green) and non-synonymous SNPs (red). Note the excess of rare variants for coding sequence SNPs but no excess of highfrequency derived variants. b, Enrichment of non-synonymous SNPs among genic SNPs showing high differentiation. For each of ten classes of derived allele frequency (averaged across analysis panels) the fraction of nonsynonymous (red) and synonymous (green) variants in that class that show $F_{ST} > 0.5$ is shown. Note the strong enrichment of non-synonymous SNPs among SNPs of moderate to high derived-allele frequency (asterisk, P < 0.05; double asterisk, P < 0.01). c, Lack of enrichment of nonsynonymous SNPs among those showing long-range haplotype structure. The integrated extended haplotype homozygosity (iEHH) statistic9 was calculated for non-synonymous and synonymous SNPs in each analysis panel (YRI, green; CEU, orange; CHB+JPT, purple). For each of ten derived allele frequency classes, the proportion of non-synonymous SNPs among those showing the 5% most extreme statistics (within the allele frequency class) is shown (points). Also shown is the proportion of non-synonymous SNPs among SNPs in the coding sequence for each frequency class (dotted lines). Differences between synonymous and non-synonymous SNPs are tested for using a contingency table test.

genotyped extensively to extend the HapMap, providing information on rarer variants and helping to enable genome-wide association studies in additional populations. There are also ongoing efforts by many groups to characterize additional forms of genetic variation, such as structural variation, and molecular phenotypes in the HapMap samples. Finally, in the future, whole-genome sequencing will provide a natural convergence of technologies to type both SNP and structural variation. Nevertheless, until that point, and even after, the HapMap Project data will provide an invaluable resource for understanding the structure of human genetic variation and its link to phenotype.

METHODS SUMMARY

Of approximately 6.9 million SNPs in dbSNP release 122 approximately 4.7 million were selected for genotyping by Perlegen. 2.5 million SNPs were excluded because no assay could be designed and a further 350,000 were excluded for other reasons (see Methods). Perlegen performed genotyping using custom high-density oligonucleotide arrays as previously described. Additional genotype submissions are described in the text. QC filters were applied as previously described. Where multiple submissions met the QC criteria the submission with the lowest missing data rate was chosen for inclusion in the non-redundant filtered data set. Haplotypes were estimated from genotype data as described previously. Ancestral states at SNPs were inferred by parsimony by comparison to orthologous bases in the chimpanzee (panTro2) and rhesus macaque (rheMac2) assemblies. Recombination rates and the location of recombination hotspots were estimated as described previously. Additional details can be found in the Methods section and the Supplementary Information. The data described in this paper are in release 21 of the International HapMap Project.

Full Methods and any associated references are available in the online version of the paper at www.nature.com/nature.

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858

NATURE|Vol 449|18 October 2007 ARTICLES

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METHODS

SNP selection and genotyping. All SNPs in dbSNP release 122 were considered for genotyping by Perlegen. Among these the following were excluded: SNPs for which no assay could be designed (primarily through location in repeat-rich regions; approximately 2.5 million); SNPs shown previously in samples from related populations¹⁵ to be most probably in perfect association ($r^2 = 1$) with a Phase I SNP (approximately 122,000); all but one of SNPs shown previously¹⁵ to be most probably in perfect association ($r^2 = 1$) with each other but not with a Phase I SNP (approximately 62,000); and SNPs shown previously¹⁵ to have MAF < 0.05 (approximately 119,000). In addition, a few SNPs were excluded for efficiency (for example, if an amplicon contained a single SNP). Approximately 30,000 SNPs that had been typed in Phase I were deliberately retyped in Phase II to allow detailed comparisons of data quality, and an additional 15,000 SNPs that showed discrepancies between multiple genotyping attempts in Phase I were re-typed in Phase II. A further 2,000 SNPs identified by the Mammalian Gene Collection were also typed.

Perlegen performed genotyping using custom high-density oligonucleotide arrays as previously described¹⁵. Initially, a pilot phase was carried out on chromosome 2p to optimize experimental workflow and data handling. Details of amplicons used in the experiment and PCR primers can be found at http://genome.perlegen.com/pcr/ and also on the HapMap website. The arrays were tiled with sets of 25-bp probes for each SNP, with either 40 or 24 probes per SNP. These consisted of four sets of features, corresponding to forward and reverse strand tilings of sequences complementary to each of the two SNP alleles. Within a feature set, the position of the SNP within the oligonucleotide varied from position 11 to position 15. Mismatch probes were used to measure background, and by comparison with the perfect match probes, to detect the presence or absence of a specific PCR product. The 40-feature and 24-feature tilings both provided 10 perfect-match features for each SNP allele and differed only in the number of mismatch probes.

Genotypes were scored by clustering intensity measurements as previously described¹⁵. In addition, quality scores similar to Phred scores were computed for each genotype call, based on a combination of experimental metrics correlated to data quality. Assays with overall call rates less than 80% or with poor average quality scores were flagged as failed. About 38% of the tiled assays failed these basic criteria, and the remainder were processed using the more rigorous HapMap Project data quality control filters. For analysis of the whole genome, probes for 4,373,926 distinct SNPs were tiled onto 32 chip designs, with 32 SNPs tiled in replicate onto each chip design for quality control (QC). Perlegen did not type the samples by plates as had been done for the Phase I genotyping, instead typing large numbers of SNPs one sample at a time. Consequently, blank wells on each plate were not included as a component of QC for this genotyping. In the Phase I HapMap a single JPT sample had been excluded because of technical problems. Perlegen typed a replacement sample (from the original JPT collection) for all new SNPs. This sample was not specifically genotyped on the Phase I SNPs, although a substantial fraction of these was typed in Phase II.

Additional genotype submissions came from the Affymetrix GeneChip Human Mapping 500K array called with the BRLMM algorithm. In release 21a additional genotype submissions were incorporated from the MHC haplotype consortium¹¹, the Illumina HumanHap300 BeadChip, the Illumina Human-1 Genotyping BeadChip and the 10K non-synonymous SNP set from Affymetrix (ParAllele).

Details of primer design, DNA amplification, DNA labelling and hybridization and signal detection for the Perlegen platform can be found in Supplementary Text 7.

QC analyses. Genotype submissions were assessed for mendelian errors (where possible), missing data rates and Hardy–Weinberg proportions. QC filters were applied as previously described'; to achieve QC+ status a SNP had to have fewer than two mendelian errors, less than 20% missing data and P > 0.001 for Hardy–Weinberg analysis. The consensus data set consists only of SNPs for which QC+ submissions were available from all analysis panels. Where multiple submissions met the QC criteria the submission with the lowest missing data rate was chosen for inclusion in the non-redundant filtered data set. Comparison of the Phase II HapMap with the Affymetrix 500K genotypes has shown approximately 20 SNPs where the reported minor allele is discrepant (referred to as 'allele-flipping'). Over the entire data set, we expect that 500–2,000 SNPs have this problem and the vast majority will occur in SNPs from Phase I of the project. The Data Coordination Center (DCC) is working to resolve as many of these as possible. Analyses of data quality. See Supplementary Text 2.

Analyses of population stratification, relatedness and homozygosity. See Supplementary Texts 3–6.

Analysis of recombination rate and gene ontology. We used the Panther Database⁴¹ to obtain details of the gene molecular function and biological process. Genes are grouped into 28 top-level molecular function groups and 30 top-level biological process groups, with each gene allowed to exist in more than one group. We identified 14,979 non-overlapping autosomal genes from the Panther RefSeq Annotation for which we could obtain recombination rates. Of these, 9,735 had at least one assigned molecular function and 9,432 had at least one assigned biological process. Genes without a molecular function or biological process were removed from the corresponding analysis. To control for gene size, we estimated the mean recombination rate over a 20-kb region centred on the mid-point of each gene transcription region.

Genes were grouped based on molecular function and biological process. A mean recombination rate was calculated for each group. The significance of the result from each group was calculated via a permutation test involving 10⁵ random groupings of genes. No correction was made for multiple testing. To account for the effect of G+C content on recombination, we performed a linear regression between the G+C content and recombination rate of all genes in each sample. Using the estimated regression parameters, the proportion of recombination explained by G+C content was subtracted from each gene.

Identification of non-synonymous SNPs and tests for natural selection. Using annotations from dbSNP release 125 we identified 17,427 polymorphic non-synonymous SNPs in release 21 and 15,976 polymorphic synonymous SNPs. Of these, 15,583 non-synonymous and 14,324 synonymous SNPs were autosomal and could have ancestral allele status unambiguously assigned by parsimony through comparison to the chimpanzee and macaque genomes. We used the phased haplotypes for analysis in which missing data had been imputed. $F_{\rm ST}$ was calculated using the method of Weir and Cockerham⁵⁹.

To detect recent partial selective sweeps we used the long-range haplotype (LRH) test^{44,59} and the integrated haplotype score (iHS) test⁹. On simulated data⁴⁵, we found that the tests have similar power to detect recent selection but the iHS test has slightly lower power at low haplotype frequency and the LRH test has slightly lower power at high frequency. This can be seen in applications to HapMap Phase I data^{3,9}, where the iHS test misses the well-known cases of *HBB* and *CD36* and the LRH test misses the *SULT1C2* region. Although both tests are based on the concept of EHH⁴⁴, we observed that the false positives produced by the two tests tend not to overlap and thus that signals detected by both tests have a very low false-positive rate.

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A functional polymorphism in the 5' UTR of GDF5 is associated with susceptibility to osteoarthritis

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Osteoarthritis (MIM 165720), characterized by degeneration of articular cartilage, is the most common form of human arthritis and a major concern for aging societies worldwide¹⁻³. Epidemiological and genetic studies have shown that osteoarthritis is a polygenic disease^{1,4,5}. Here, we report that the gene encoding growth differentiation factor 5 (GDF5) is associated with osteoarthritis in Asian populations. A SNP in the 5' UTR of GDF5 (+104T/C; rs143383) showed significant association ($P = 1.8 \times 10^{-13}$) with hip osteoarthritis in two independent Japanese populations. This association was replicated for knee osteoarthritis in Japanese (P = 0.0021) and Han Chinese (P = 0.00028) populations. This SNP, located in the GDF5 core promoter, exerts allelic differences on transcriptional activity in chondrogenic cells, with the susceptibility allele showing reduced activity. Our findings implicate GDF5 as a susceptibility gene for osteoarthritis and suggest that decreased GDF5 expression is involved in the pathogenesis of osteoarthritis.

GDF5 (also known as cartilage-derived morphogenetic protein 1; CDMP1) is a member of the transforming growth factor- β (TGF- β) superfamily and is closely related to the subfamily of bone morphogenetic proteins (BMPs). *GDF*5, known to be involved in joint formation^{6,7}, is expressed in the regions of future joints during early development, and mutations in both mouse and human *GDF*5 cause abnormal joint development^{8,9}. The *in vivo* chondrogenic potential of GDF5 (refs. 10,11) is evidenced by thick and enlarged cartilage components of the appendicular skeleton in *GDF*5 transgenic mice¹². In humans, GDF5 is present in adult articular cartilage and

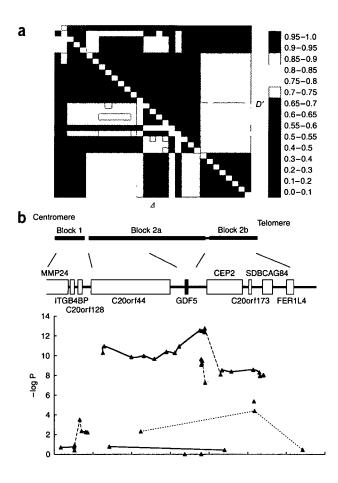
stimulates proteoglycan synthesis in articular cartilage explants¹⁰. Some patients with type C brachydactyly (MIM 113100), a disorder caused by *GDF5* mutations, present with involvement of the hip joint^{13,14}. Severe hip osteoarthritis early in life also is a feature of angel-shaped phalangoepiphyseal dysplasia (MIM 105835), another disorder in which *GDF5* appears to play a role. These findings suggest that GDF5 has a specific and important function in the etiology and pathogenesis of osteoarthritis, and hip osteoarthritis in particular.

We first examined the association between GDF5 and hip osteoarthritis. By sequencing genomic DNA from 24 individuals with hip osteoarthritis, we searched for sequence variations in GDF5 exons and their flanking regions. Through this search, we identified six SNPs and selected three common SNPs (those with minor allele frequency > 0.15 in the search) for further evaluation. Comparison of genotypic and allelic frequencies in 239 individuals with hip osteoarthritis and 256 controls showed significant association between each SNP and hip osteoarthritis (Supplementary Table 1 online). To confirm the association, we genotyped the SNPs using an independent case-control population comprising 761 individuals with hip osteoarthritis and 728 controls. Comparison of genotypic and allelic frequencies for each SNP again demonstrated highly significant association (Supplementary Table 2 online).

We examined *GDF5* for disease-causing sequence variations by resequencing the entire *GDF5* region, including 5' and 3' flanking sequences, in the 24 individuals with hip osteoarthritis. The transcriptional start site of *GDF5* is equivocal, and additional 5' exons have been reported in brain tissue¹⁵. Therefore, we first determined the extent of the transcribed region in chondrogenic cells using 5'- and 3'-RACE. No additional 5' exons were identified, but we found that

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the 5' UTR extended 59 bp upstream from the reference sequence (NM_000557.2). The 3' UTR was identical to that in the reference sequence. The resequencing of the *GDF5* region identified a total of 52 polymorphisms (**Supplementary Table 3** online).

To locate disease-associated sequence variation, we estimated linkage disequilibrium (LD) around GDF5 (a 350,930-bp sequence on the NT_028392.4 contig including the 5' 165 kb and 3' 181 kb of the transcribed region of GDF5) using genotyping data for case samples. The pairwise LD structure was constructed with 31 SNPs in and around GDF5 that were chosen based on minor allele frequencies

>0.10 (Fig. 1a). All SNPs conformed to Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. Pairwise LD measures confined the *GDF5* region within a haplotype block (block 2a) of about 130 kb.

Our two independent studies showed significant associations for SNPs in the *GDF5* region (**Table 1**). We observed the most significant association ($\chi^2 = 54.2$, $P = 1.8 \times 10^{-13}$ in allelic frequency) for an SNP in the 5' UTR (rs143383; +104T/C), even after adjusting for the number of SNPs genotyped and the models tested (adjusted $P = 3.1 \times 10^{-11}$). Combining the results of the first and second screening, allelic frequencies for the susceptibility allele (+104T) were 83.6% (hip osteoarthritis) and 74.0% (control), respectively. The odds ratio of the susceptibility allele was 1.79 (95% confidence interval 1.53–2.09; **Table 2**). We assumed a multi-

Figure 1 LD blocks, genomic structures and allelic association around *GDF5*. (a) LD around *GDF5*. Pairwise LD indices of $\mathcal D$ and $\mathcal D$ are presented in the upper right and lower left of the rectangle, respectively. The color gradient indicates values of LD. (b) LD blocks (top) and locations of the genes (middle) around *GDF5*. The region around *GDF5* is divided into three LD blocks (1, 2a and 2b). *GDF5* is contained within block 2a. Bottom, case-control association of the SNPs in block 2a. SNP positions within the genome are shown with reference to the contig NT_028392.4. Significance levels for the association are indicated by the negative logarithm of the $\mathcal P$ value from χ^2 -tests for each SNP (triangle). SNPs with LD ($\mathcal D$) of $\mathcal D$ 0.99, $\mathcal D$ 0.8 and $\mathcal D$ 0.6 are connected with solid, dashed and dotted lines, respectively.

plicative model with a genotypic risk ratio of 1.71. Confounding effects such as age, body mass index and sex can affect observed associations for osteoarthritis. We examined both hip osteoarthritis and control populations and found no relationship between the genotype and these factors, indicating that the SNP rs143383 exerts an independent effect on osteoarthritis (Supplementary Tables 4 and 5 online). We also examined the effect of population stratification using a genomic control method¹⁶, but found it an unlikely explanation for the positive association observed in our study (Supplementary Table 6 online).

We found similarly strong associations for four other SNPs, which were strongly linked to one another, with pairwise LD measures (Δ) > 0.99. Next, we grouped SNPs into seven groups with respect to Δ and plotted them according to their genomic positions. Two SNP groups existing in GDF5 and 5'- and/or 3'- flanking regions and having low P values demonstrated a peak of association at GDF5, which declined with increased distance from the gene (Fig. 1b). This indicated the location of a susceptibility allele in or adjacent to GDF5. We then examined haplotypes based on the 20 SNPs in block 2a. Six haplotypes with frequencies greater than 0.01 represented more than 97% of both case and control populations. The haplotype association was much less significant than that of the +104T/C SNP alone (Supplementary Table 7 online). This result does not support the existence of an as-yet ungenotyped causal SNP. Haplotypes I, III and VI, which were overrepresented in hip osteoarthritis, carried the +104T allele.

Through analysis of 718 subjects with knee osteoarthritis and 861 independent control subjects, we also found an association of rs143383 (+104T/C) with knee osteoarthritis in the Japanese population. (P = 0.0021, odds ratio 1.30, 95% confidence interval 1.10–1.53

Table 1 Association of SNPs in $\it GDF5$ and surrounding regions with osteoarthritis (OA) of the hip joint^a

			Allelic fr	equency ^b	P value (χ ² -test)		
SNP	Position	Nucleotide change	Hip OA	Control	Genotype	Allele	
rs224335	4192943	5'-flanking	0.08	0.13	2.3 × 10 ⁻⁷	5.6 × 10 ⁻⁸	
rs143383	4192504	+104T/C	0.16	0.26	3.8×10^{-12}	1.8×10^{-13}	
rs143384	4192277	+331T/C	0.17	0.26	6.5×10^{-12}	4.1×10^{-13}	
rs224332	4189193	IVS1-91G/T	0.10	0.17	2.7×10^{-9}	3.3×10^{-10}	
rs224331	4188908	c.826T/G	0.17	0.26	7.3×10^{-12}	3.1×10^{-13}	
rs224330	4188717	c.1017G/A	0.10	0.17	4.5×10^{-9}	5.9×10^{-10}	
12164tg	4187893	nt.2160C/A	0.10	0.17	6.7×10^{-9}	8.3×10^{-10}	
2250ct	4187803	nt.2250T/C	0.10	0.17	1.8×10^{-9}	2.2×10^{-10}	
rs224329	4186100	3'-flanking	0.17	0.26	6.0×10^{-12}	2.8×10^{-13}	

^aThe first study and the replication study combined. ^bFrequency of the minor allele.

Table 2 Association of the rs143383 (+104T/C) polymorphism in GDF5 with osteoarthritis (OA) of the hip joint^a

			. G	enotype		Allele		
		П	TC	CC	Total	Т	С	
Hip OA:	Number	701	266	31	998	1668	328	
	Percentage	70.2	26.7	3.1		83.6	16.4	
Hip OA: Control:	Number	542	371 70		983	1455	511	
	Percentage	55.1	37.7	7.1		74.0	26.0	
	Model	χ²	χ^2 <i>P</i> value		Odds ratio	95% CI ^b		
	Genotype	52.6	3.8 ×	10-12				
	Allele	54.2	1.8 ×	10-13	1.79	1.53-2.09		
	TT versus others	3.6 ×	10-12	1.92	1.60-2.31			
	CC versus others	16.5	4.9 >	< 10 ⁻⁵	0.42	0.27-0.64		
	TT versus TC				1.80	1.49-2.1	.9	
	TC versus CC				1.62	1.03-2.5	64	

^{*}The first study and the replication study combined. bCI, confidence interval.

in allele frequency). Similarly, examination of a Han Chinese population consisting of 313 subjects with knee osteoarthritis and 485 control subjects showed significant association (P = 0.00028, odds ratio 1.54, 95% confidence interval 1.22–1.95; **Table 3**), further confirming the association of rs143383 with osteoarthritis.

Because +104T/C lies in a region that is likely to affect promoter activity, we hypothesized that this SNP yields allelic differences in GDF5 transcription. After confirming the promoter activity of this general region in chondrogenic cell lines, we mapped the activity more precisely using a deletion experiment. We found that the primary promoter activity resides within a 162-bp fragment spanning positions -34 to +128 (Fig. 2a). We next examined allelic differences in promoter activity within the region. The two dinucleotide repeats and three SNPs contained therein were in almost complete LD and comprised seven haplotypes. We observed significant allelic differences in promoter activity in the 1.5-kb promoter construct (Fig. 2b). Deletion of 5' and 3' segments from this construct confirmed that +104T/C accounts for this difference (Fig. 2b.c); the +104T allele. which is overrepresented in osteoarthritis, showed significantly lower promoter activity (Fig. 2c). We confirmed the +104T/C-generated difference in transcriptional activity in two additional cell lines (Supplementary Fig. 1 online). No potential trans elements were apparent in the sequences surrounding the SNP.

We have shown that a functional SNP in GDF5 is associated with hip and knee osteoarthritis and further demonstrated its effects on GDF5 expression. This SNP influences transcriptional activity in the core promoter of the GDF5 gene, with the allele overrepresented in

osteoarthritis showing reduced transcriptional activity. GDF5 is involved in articular cartilage development, regeneration and maintenance and is a specific marker for the synovial joints of appendicular skeletons^{8,17}. In both embryonic and adult tissues, GDF5 regulates chondrogenic cell growth and differentiation^{18,19}, and transgenic mouse studies suggest that GDF5 promotes differentiation of chondrocytes, causing hypertrophy, and enhances commitment of mesenchymal cells to the chondrocyte lineage¹². Further, GDF5 stimulates proteoglycan synthesis in articular cartilage explants¹⁰. It is present in both normal and osteoarthritic articular cartilage, and responsiveness to GDF5 is preserved in osteoarthritic chondrocytes²⁰. Finally, we have preliminary evidence that mice carrying a dominant negative mutation in Gdf5 show osteoarthritic phenotypes (H. Masuya et al., unpublished data).

Together with the association demonstrated in this study, each of these findings points to an important role for GDF5 in articular cartilage homeostasis and indicates that decreased GDF5 expression may lead to susceptibility for osteoarthritis. Therefore, increased GDF5 expression or enhancement of its downstream signal could help to prevent osteoarthritis. Our findings will open a new window for the study of osteoarthritis etiology and the development of more effective treatments.

METHODS

Subjects. For the case-control osteoarthritis association study, we recruited affected individuals and controls through several medical institutes in Japan and China as previously described^{21–25}. All affected individuals showed symptoms (pain, limp and limitation of the joint movement) and radiographic signs (narrowing of the joint space and formation of osteophytes) of osteoarthritis. Clinical parameters and diagnostic criteria for subjects are detailed in the Supplementary Note and in Supplementary Table 8 online. We obtained written informed consent from each subject as approved by the ethical committees of the SNP Research Center at RIKEN and participating clinical institutes. We extracted genomic DNA from peripheral blood leukocytes of affected individuals and controls using standard protocols.

Discovery of polymorphisms and genotyping. We screened for polymorphisms in the entire *GDF5* gene and approximately 6 kb of its 5' and 3' flanking regions using samples from 24 individuals with hip osteoarthritis. Polymorphisms were genotyped using the Invader assay²⁶ (Third Wave Technologies), the TaqMan assay²² (Applied Biosystems), DNA fragment analysis (Applied Biosystems) or direct sequencing (Applied Biosystems) of PCR products, according to the manufacturers' protocols. For DNA fragment analysis, we

Table 3 Association of rs143383 (+104T/C) with knee osteoarthritis in Japanese and Chinese populations

					Gen	otype							
			Knee	osteoarti	nritis				Control				•
Population	π	TC	СС	Sum	C allele frequency	π	TC	СС	Sum	C allele frequency	P value (allele model)	Odds ratio	95% Cl ^a
Japanese Chinese	444 197	243 97	31 19	718 313	0.212 0.216	473 244	330 193	58 48	861 485	0.259 0.298	0.0021 0.00028	1.30 1.54	1.10-1.53 1.22-1.95

^aCI, confidence interval.