

# Chromosome Wide Prediction of Tissue Specific Enhancers Employing Computational and Statistical Approaches



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*By*

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# CERTIFICATE

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DEDICATED

To

*My parents and siblings!! ☺*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost sincere thanks to **Allah** for all the things He has both given and denied me for only He knows what's best for me. Gratefully, joyously, and relentlessly, I commend His splendour and generosity, my **Al-Basir**; beyond all beautiful dreams and hopes.

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*Amna Farooq*

## ABSTRACT

Eukaryotic genome is a regulatory jungle having various gene circuits or networks. Regulatory elements serve as switches in these gene circuits. Complete understanding of gene regulation can unravel the hidden mysteries of the genome. Seemingly junk or non coding portions of genome like gene deserts and interons can also hold crucial functional duty of gene regulation. Nevertheless, limited understanding of regulatory elements has hindered their identification always. However, various experimental and computational techniques have been developed to capture their presence indirectly if not directly.

Cis-Regulatory Modules function in a highly tissue specific fashion. This tissue specificity is bestowed to CRMs by combinatorial nature of action of transcription factors. Transcription factors behave in combinatorial mode to achieve spatiotemporal specificity. Cis-Regulatory Modules bear binding sites for these transcription factors in same combinatorial way and inherit the spatiotemporal specificity too. We exploited same property of Cis-Regulatory Modules for their prediction. For this purpose we curated a catalogue of transcription factors using strong literature and experimental evidence. Taking into consideration the evolutionary relevance of human forebrain, we attempted to define forebrain specific transcription factor code. Co occupancy of these forebrain specific transcription factors with was used to locate forebrain specific Cis-Regulatory Modules in non-coding, non repetitive segments of chromosome 7 including gene deserts.

We successfully predicted 1453 putative forebrain specific Cis-Regulatory Modules. On their comparison with experimentally verified enhancers from VISTA Enhancer browser, we found some of the enhancers overlapping with our putative CRMs. Developmental stage and conservation independence, low cost and time efficiency make our method of prediction a comparable substitute of already available computational and experimental techniques of Cis-Regulatory module detection.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BED	Browser Extensible Data
Bp	base pair
CRE	Cis Regulatory Element
CRMs	Cis Regulatory Modules
CNS	Central Nervous System
ENCODE	ENCyclopedia of DNA elements
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
PSSMs	Position Specific Scoring Matrix
PWM	Position Weight Matrix
TF	Transcription Factor
TFBS	Transcription Factor Binding Sites
TFBSMA	Transcription Factor Binding Site Mapping Algorithm
TSS	Transcription Start Site

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# Chapter 1

## INTRODUCTION

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Human brain is termed as most complex organ being evolved over last 600 million years ago. Having 3 distinct gross parts, brain can be divided into Forebrain (prosencephalon), Midbrain (mesencephalon) and hindbrain (rhombencephalon). Largest in size among these three is prosencephalon, the forebrain, which further divides into telencephalon (cerebrum) and diencephalon (thalamus, hypothalamus, metathalamus, epithalamus and subthalamus). Chief part among these is cerebrum which is divided into two hemispheres each having a covering of grey matter and cortex.

Human brain though shares general structural divisions (forebrain, mid brain, hind brain) with other mammals but has more developed cerebral cortex. Higher cognitive and behavioral abilities like thinking, intelligence, decision making are attributed to forebrain namely cortex. In other words, our conscious experience can be attributed to neocortex, a highly specialized part of cortex. Neocortex being associated with intelligence and flexible behavior varies in size among different species. Studies of large brained mammals show that neocortex is disproportionately enlarged in size as compared to other parts of brain (Barton & Harvey, 2000). Subdivision of neocortex into six layers with differing functional role allows serial processing of sensory information. This serial processing has allowed complex computations possible in brain, which is a distinguishing attribute of higher mammals. Undoubtedly, corticalization of human brain has overshadowed other parts of brain and has facilitated abilities and accomplishments unmatched by any other species (Kaas, 2013).

How did such a brain evolve? Comparative studies of present day vertebrate brain can possibly give answer. Considering the genetic underpinnings of complex function and abilities of brain, a different set of genes is active at each developmental stage of brain. In fact, there is no developmental process, patterning or fate determination event happening without a particular set of genes active for the purpose. For instance, LIM-homeodomain genes are famous for their role in brain development. A study (Bachy et al., 2002) demonstrates their role in evolution of forebrain by implying their combinatorial code and claims that diversity in function of these genes is due to modifications in coding and regulating sequences of these genes which in turn allow diversified forebrain connectivity. Thus, it can be inferred that gene regulation is a more important contributor to forebrain evolution and development as compared to protein coding genes themselves.

### 1.1 Gene Regulation

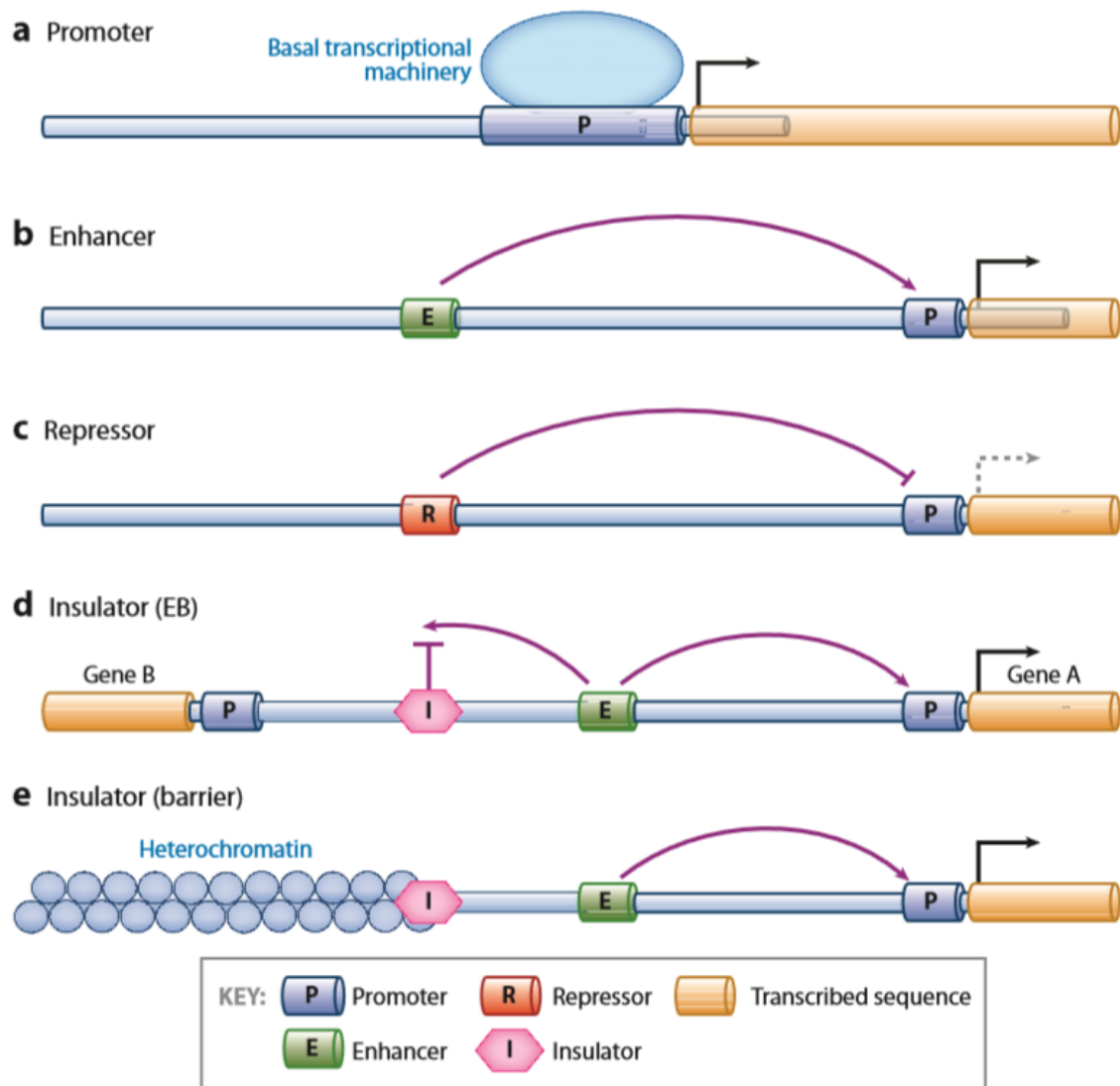
Coding genes are responsible for a particular proteome of a cell which in turn specifies identity of the cell. Since genetic content is shared among all cell types in an organism, these genes are dependent on certain regulatory elements for their expression. Moreover, for purpose of organizational maintenance, energy conservation, and generating phenotypic variance, it is imperative that genes are only expressed when they are needed. This fine control of expression is achieved by employing regulatory elements, which in association with their respective genes form gene regulatory networks or gene circuits. One gene can have multiple regulatory elements associated with it and one regulatory element can regulate multiple genes. Regulatory elements of genome often termed as Cis-Regulatory elements have certain binding sites on them. These binding sites have preferences for Trans-acting elements which when assemble on the Cis-Regulatory element, initiate and regulate transcription of the associated gene. Trans-acting elements are usually proteins that bind to DNA sequence synergistically and antagonistically usually in form of a group, thereby regulating transcriptional events (Hu & Gallo, 2010). A notable fact over here is that individual transcription factors are not tissue and gene specific, instead they synergistically control the gene expression, hence can be termed as a group of trans-acting elements that behave tissue specifically but in a combinatorial fashion.(Latchman, 1998)

### 1.2 Cis-Regulatory Elements

Cis-Regulatory Elements can be broadly classified into two main groups. Distantly acting and proximally acting. Proximally acting regulatory elements usually lie near the transcription start site and bear binding sites for assembly of transcriptional complex. They also define origin and orientation of transcription. This category comprises of promoters and promoter-proximal elements. Core promoter is located near the transcriptional start site, often 30 bp upstream. It includes TATA box and other similar binding sites which serve as assembly point for RNA polymerase. This core promoter often requires promoter-proximal elements for efficient initiation of transcription. Promoter-proximal elements are present within 100-200bp upstream transcription start site. They serve as binding sites for transcription factors which complete transcription initiation complex (figure 1.1 a).

Second class of Cis-acting elements is of distantly acting elements which are distance and orientation independent in their mode of action. This class comprises of enhancers, repressors and insulators(Maston et al., 2006). These elements can be found in non coding portion of

DNA, be it intergenic or intragenic. As name indicates, enhancers enhance expression of gene, where as repressor are meant to reduce Though poorly understood, It is hypothesized that enhancers when complexed with relevant transcription factors are recruited to target gene promoter via chromatin looping, which brings the enhancer and promoter in to indirect physical contact (Dekker et al., 2002).



**Figure 1.1|Cis-Regulatory Elements.** a) **Promoter**(blue) binding to basal transcription machinery, to mediate transcription of associated gene. b) **Enhancer** actively up regulating transcription of associated gene by recruiting to basal promoter. c) **Repressor** repressing the activity of associated gene by down regulating the expression. d) **Insulator (EB)** blocking the activation of gene B by enhancer E which is associated to gene A. Thus restricting an enhancer to its associated gene only to prevent any miscommunication. e) **Insulator (barrier)** preventing the extending chromatin condensation from intruding the regulatory element controlling the associated gene.

Insulators are intergenic elements which uphold transcriptional integrity of neighbouring genes by maintaining distinct regulatory domains. They can either act as enhancer blockers (EB) or can serve as barriers also. In enhancer blocker (EB) mode, insulator disrupts activity of enhancer in a position dependent manner when placed between enhancer and its respective gene (figure 1.1 d). While in barrier mode, it sets boundary between domains of active and repressive chromatin (figure 1.1 e).

### 1.3 Enhancer prediction

Among all the explained types of Cis-Regulatory elements, enhancers are most widely studied and searched yet less understood. Hence, it is hard to predict these elements on basis of primary sequence alone. Enhancers usually recruit a set of transcription factors, to acquire tissue specific regulatory control but transcription factor binding sites are far too short (6-12 bp) and degenerate to sensitively locate presence of enhancer using primary sequence information only. Therefore, current regulatory element predictions rely on indirect methods like comparative genomics and on studies of trans-factor binding and chromatin state.

#### 1.3.1 Experimental Approaches

Experimental techniques exploit TF binding property of enhancers and are mainly divided to *in vivo* and *in vitro* techniques. *In vivo* approaches uncover information of consensus binding sites of TFs, sequence specificity, and the molecular framework of sequence dictated interactions (Hardison & Taylor, 2012). Whereas, *in vitro* methods reveal the TF consensus binding sites data along with their binding energies, and the physical parameters crucial for these binding events (Geertz & Maerkl, 2010). Following table describes some of known *in vitro* and *in vivo* methods.

Table 1.1| List of available experimental approaches for enhancer prediction.

Type of methods	Name	Method	DNA sequence space	Reference
<i>In vitro</i> methods	SELEX, CASTing	Selection of target	>200,000 sites	(Tuerk & Gold, 1990; Wright et al., 1991)
	HT-SELEX, Bind-n-Seq	One of target couple to NGS	>200,000 sites	(Zhao et al., 2009; Zykovich et al., 2009)



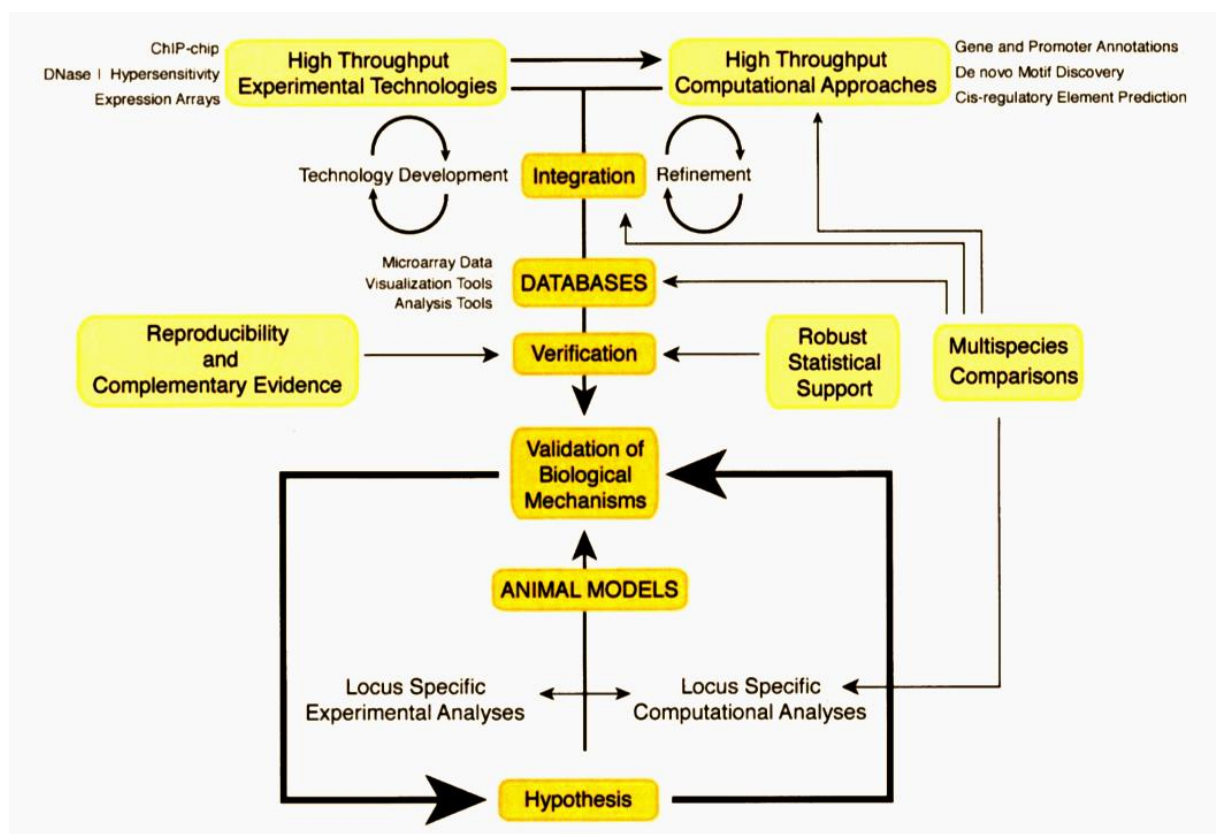
<b><i>In vivo</i> methods</b>	PBM, CSI	Protein-binding microarray	up to 1 million sites	(Mukherjee et al., 2004; Warren et al., 2006)
	DIP-chip	DNA immunoprecipitation	All genomic sites	(Liu et al., 2005)
	MTIOMI	Mechanical trapping	1000-100 sites	(Maerkl & Quake, 2007)
	EMSA	Gel shift	Around 10 sites	(Hellman & Fried, 2007)
	BIAcore	Surface plasma resonance	Up to 100 sites	(Fägerstam et al., 1992)
	ChIP-chip	ChIP coupled to micro array	All genomic sites	(Buck & Lieb, 2004)
	ChIP-Seq	ChIP coupled to NGS	All genomic sites	(Visel et al., 2009)
	Dam-ID	TF mediated DNA methylation profiling	All genomic sites	(van Steensel & Henikoff, 2000)
	PiCh	Reverse ChIP	One genomic sites	(Déjardin & Kingston, 2009)
	DNaseI-seq	DNaseI sensitivity profiling coupled to NGS	All genomic sites	(Hesselberth et al., 2009)

### 1.3.2 Computational Approaches

Many research groups have diverted their efforts towards computational approaches for identification of enhancers due to high cost and low resource efficiency of experimental procedures. These approaches generally rely on huge and complex data sets like gene expression profiles, positions of transcription factor binding sites, experimentally verified transcription factor target genes and sequence conservation. For instance, SCORE (Sites Clustering Over Random Expectation) incorporates improbable concentrations of transcription factor binding sites to detect cis-regulatory elements (Rebeiz et al., 2002). Another tool Toucan identifies cis-regulatory elements from set of co-regulated genes using TFBSs position weight matrixes and statistical over representation of TFBS (Aerts et al., 2003). Some de novo methods of prediction have employed various algorithms like Hidden

Markov Model, expectation maximization, probabilistic mixture modeling (NestedMica, (Down & Hubbard, 2005)) etc.

One of the famous computational methods is phylogenetic foot printing which exploits filtering power of evolutionary constraint. When coupled with other techniques, it has increased specificity of predictions in various studies (Gibbs et al., 2004). Some online tools like ConSite harness high quality transcription factor models and cross specie conservation for regulatory element prediction (Sandelin et al., 2004). Limitation of phylogenetic foot printing is its insensitivity to weakly conserved regulatory elements. However, inputs and outputs of computational and experimental studies are similar in current context. Keeping their individual pros and cons, both types of methods perform better if used interdependently. Figure 1.2 shows the interdependent role of computational and experimental approaches of cis-regulatory element prediction.



**Figure 1.2| Relationship between experimental and computational methods of CRMs prediction.** Central yellow box labeled as “Validation of Biological Mechanisms” describes the ultimate goal for researchers studying a biological pathway. Methods illustrated on top of image represent high-through put analysis used to predict TFBSs and to elucidate functional relevance of those elements. Methods illustrated from bottom of the image represent conventional “locus/ position specific” analysis that initiates from a narrowly defined hypothesis of biological function and involves animal model usage also (Elnitski et al., 2006).

## 1.4 Chromosome 7

Chromosome 7 has almost 159 Mbs large, representing above 5 percent of the total DNA of human cell. Annotation of sequenced genomes is an active area of current research. Chromosome 7 was annotated initially by The Center for Applied Genomics in Toronto (Scherer et al., 2003). Up till current annotation status, it contains approximately 1800 genes. Numerous of them hold clinical significance. Developmentally crucial genes like *GLI3*, *TWIST*, *SHH*, and *CDK6* also reside on chromosome 7. There are several chromosomal aberrations related to chromosome 7 which result into syndromes like Split-hand split-foot syndrome (7q21.3 deletion), Williams-Beuren syndrome and Shwachman-Diamond syndrome. Genes and related features summary of human chromosome 7 is described in table 1.2. Owing to disease relevance, moderate size and some previously performed studies, we opted chromosome 7 for our study as a test data.

Table 1.2| Human Chromosome 7 gene summary.

Categories of genes	No of genes	Gene length	Transcript length	Exon size	No. of exons per gene
<b>Known genes</b>	863	69877	2639	261	10.1
<b>Novel genes</b>	41	50103	1989	386	5.2
<b>Partial Genes</b>	70	42964	1850	339	5.5
<b>Predicted genes</b>	481	14573	1026	326	3.1
<b>Putative and non coding RNA genes</b>	213	17501	1638	629	2.6
<b>Total</b>	1668				

### 1.5 Gene Deserts

Genes are not distributed in genome randomly. Some regions have high gene density and some have low. Such considerable large regions which are completely gene deficient are termed as gene deserts. There is no precise definition of “considerable” intergenic distance; however 400-700 kbs is considered minimum intergenic distance in various studies. Some gene deserts, specifically those which show substantial evolutionary conservation do depict functional relevance and play part in gene regulation. Thus, gene deserts can serve as best search space for enhancer hunt. Taking into account their importance, many studies have been dedicated to regulatory element search in gene deserts. Enhancers have been identified in gene deserts surrounding *Iroquois* genes (de la Calle-Mustienes et al., 2005). Two highly conserved elements have been identified in a 1400kb large gene desert downstream the human *ISL1* gene (Uemura et al., 2005). In another study, 36 enhancers in gene deserts were identified and functionally confirmed in transgenic mice enhancer assay (Pennacchio et al., 2006).

Considering importance of gene deserts, we also included chromosome 7 known gene deserts in our search.

### 1.6 Aims of Study

Eukaryotic genomic landscape is more like a regulatory jungle. This spatiotemporally specific regulation of genes has blessed higher eukaryotes with phenotypic complexity. Key drivers of this regulation are cis-regulatory elements which bear binding sites for transcription factors. Transcription factors act in a highly combinatorial fashion to precisely control the time and space of gene expression. Consequently, cis-regulatory elements also bear transcription factor binding sites in same combinatorial manner. In the current study we aim to decipher vocabulary of tissue specific Cis-Regulatory Modules (CRMs) keeping forebrain development as model framework. After curating transcription factor code, CRMs would be identified in a chromosome wide manner. Human chromosome 7 will be chosen as a search space. Taking into account functional relevance of gene deserts, CRM search will be directed to gene deserts also.

Chapter 2  
MATERIAL AND  
METHODS

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

As per aims of study, we intend to predict forebrain specific enhancers on basis of transcription factor binding sites present on whole chromosome, thus initial step was to collect genomic sequences of selected human chromosome 7. Chromosome 7 was chosen on basis of its disease relevance, rich gene density and presence of numerous CNS related genes (Hillier et al., 2003).

### 2.1 Data collection

For enhancer prediction, two inputs were required as raw material according to our study scheme; Transcription factor binding sites and genomic sequences. Numerous online repositories are available which contain binding sites for nearly all transcription factors. These databases have experimental as well as predicted TFBS generated using computational and statistical techniques like Bayesian theorem, genetic algorithm, and Hidden Markov Model. Table 2.1 catalogues some online repositories which provide binding profiles of transcription factors.

**Table 2.1|Online repositories providing insight to Transcriptional data.**

<b>Database</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>TRANSFAC</b>	A comprehensive source of eukaryotic gene regulation data
<b>DBD</b>	A database of predicted transcription factors in completely sequenced genomes.
<b>JASPAR</b>	The high-quality transcription factor binding profile database
<b>THE TFD AT STANFORD</b>	A database of the DNA recognition sequences for eukaryotic and prokaryotic sequence-specific transcription factors
<b>PAZAR</b>	A Database of Transcription Factor and Regulatory Sequence Annotation
<b>TRED</b>	Transcriptional Regulatory Element Database
<b>TRSDB</b>	A Proteome Database of Transcription Factors
<b>TFCAT</b>	A curated catalogue of mouse and human transcription factors
<b>TFCONES</b>	Comparative Genomics of Transcription Factor-Encoding Genes
<b>ECRBASE</b>	The Database of Evolutionary Conserved Regions (ECRs), Promoters,

#### 2.1.1 Forebrain Specific Transcription Factor Catalogue

A set of transcription factors crucially expressed in forebrain was designed by extensive literature survey. Arduous statistical and computational analysis was done to downsize the set to six vital transcription factors essentially expressed in forebrain tissue.

### **2.1.2 Transcription Factor Binding Site Collection**

Transcription Factor Binding Sites for each transcription factor were collected from literature survey and overlapped with TRANSFAC results. TRANSFAC is a public data base which provides experimentally verified binding sites, Position Weight Matrixes of consensus binding sites and regulated genes of eukaryotic transcription factors (Matys et al., 2003).

### **2.1.3 Genomic Sequence Collection**

Keeping in view the goals of study, we collected experimentally validated forebrain enhancer data from VISTA Enhancer browser. VISTA Enhancer browser is a publically available database which provides experimentally validated human and mouse enhancers functionally tested in mice (Visel et al., 2007). It chooses candidate enhancers usually from the non-coding portion of genome, on basis of their deep conservation among vertebrates and epigenetic marks associated with enhancer activity. Selected non coding regions are then subjected to experimental validation in transgenic mice assay. Any element exhibiting reproducible expression in same tissue among more than three embryos is considered positive. High resolution images of transgenic embryos for each positive element are also provided. Such elements which fail to exhibit reproducible expression pattern in any three mice embryos out of the five tested are considered negative. For each enhancer following information is provided: Expression pattern with embryonic images, genomic coordinates in Hg19 or mm9, flanking genes, conservation pattern of region in mouse, primers used and DNA sequence. We collected 104 enhancers which exhibited expression pattern in forebrain which were used as training data set in our study.

Second part of sequences collection was retrieval of genomic sequence used as test data set in our study. For testing data set, we chose human chromosome 7. DNA sequence for human chromosome 7 was retrieved from UCSC Genome Browser under GRCh37/hg19 assembly. UCSC Genome Browser is one of the largest and widely used online repository which contains reference sequences and working draft assemblies of various genomes (Kent et al., 2002). Chromosome 7 DNA sequence was downloaded from UCSC by using UCSC DAS server. UCSC DAS server provides facilitates users by providing access to genome annotation data for all assemblies currently available in the Genome Browser. FASTA sequence of each chromosome is available in form of compressed .gz files. Since enhancers cannot be present in repeats, we obtained repeat masked sequence for chromosome7 from UCSC. Repeats from RepeatMasker and Tandem Repeats Finder are masked by character N.

Rest of non repeat sequence is represented in upper case letters. Since UCSC provides positive or sense strand sequence for download, sequence was translated to complementary sequence by a simple perl code to get a copy of negative strand.

### **2.2 Masking**

Enhancers are usually present in non-genic and non-repeat portion of genome. In other words, enhancers are often found in intergenic spaces (other than repeats), and intra-geneic spaces like interons. To reduce our search space and to be more targeted towards regions highly favorable for enhancer activity, we had to mask chromosome 7 further. Exonic portion of chromosome 7 had to be masked prior to enhancer search.

For exon masking, exonic coordinates for all genes present on chromosome 7 were obtained from Table Browser of UCSC Genome Browser for same assembly. Fields of table browser were adjusted likewise; group was set to Genes and Genes Predictions for track RefSeq genes. Output format was set to Browser Extensible Data (BED) and BED records were created pre exon plus zero bases at each end to include non coding exons also.

#### **2.2.1 BED Processing**

Genes are present on both strands of chromosome, so both strands were masked for their respective exons. For this purpose, columns other than strand ChrNo, Start, End and Strand information were removed from the BED file. Afterwards, coordinates of positive and negative strand were extracted to separate files.

Genomic sequence of chr7 positive strand was subjected to masking with bedtools masking module with respective BED file. Same procedure was repeated for negative strand. bedtools are a set of UNIX command line tools for various genomic analysis tasks. Bedtools apply set theory to genome and enable user to intersect, merge, count, sort, complement and subtract genomic coordinates. It accepts various file formats like BED, BAM, GFF, VCF and GTF.

### **2.3 TFBS Mapping on Test Data Set**

Forebrain specific TFBS catalogue prepared in previous steps was fed to Transcription Factor Binding Site Mapping Algorithm (TFBSMA) developed in our lab. TFBSMA works employing string searching paradigm. Since one transcription factor can have multiple binding sites and TFBS are degenerate, suitable data structure to hold this multi-dimensional data was hash. A hash for TFBS was created along the hash for nucleotide ambiguity as in



table 2.2. Choice of programming language was also done as perl, on the base of complexity of problem. Program took repeat and exon masked genomic sequence as an input (produced in previous sections), and provided all the occurrences of all the binding sites of transcription factors from FB specific catalogue as an output. Output was generated separately for positive and negative strands o chromosome 7.

Table 2.2|IUPAC Nucleotide ambiguity code (Kozl & Listy, 1978).

<b>Nucleotide code symbol</b>	<b>Mnemonic</b>	<b>Base</b>
<b>A</b>	Adenine	A
<b>T</b>	Thymidine	T
<b>G</b>	Guanine	G
<b>C</b>	Cytosine	C
<b>W</b>	Weak	A or T
<b>S</b>	Strong	C or G
<b>Y</b>	Pyrimidine	C or T
<b>R</b>	Purine	A or G
<b>K</b>	Keto	G or T
<b>M</b>	Amino	A or C
<b>B</b>	Not A	T or G or C
<b>D</b>	Not C	A or T or G
<b>H</b>	Not G	A or T or C
<b>V</b>	Not T and not U	A or G or C
<b>N</b>	any	A or T or G or C

## 2.4 Clustering

Clustering the output from TFBS code was one major step. Each cluster would be a stretch of DNA of specific length that would have multiple TFBS, thus entitling it as an enhancer. Any group of consecutive TFBS having spacer distance between each TFBS less than the defined threshold would become a cluster.

### 2.4.1 Cluster Size Optimization

Cluster size would define size of an enhancer. If a cluster has on average six TFBS with size between range of 1000-4000 bps, this makes an average spacer distance lying in range of 150-600 bps. Thus, for size optimization of clusters, clusters were generated at spacer

sequence of 150, 250, 400, 500 and 600 bps. Results were analyzed to further choose the optimal spacer sequence.

### 2.4.1.1 Spacer distance Optimization from Experimental Evidence

Apart from optimization by random cluster generation, proof from experimental data was also collected. For this purpose, sequences for functionally validated forebrain specific enhancers were retrieved from VISTA Enhancer browser (as training data set). Sequence for each enhancer was subjected to TFBS occurrence program as an input. Output received was then used to calculate distance between each neighboring TFBS. Average ( $\bar{D}$ ) of this distance was calculated as per the formula mentioned below and was used as optimal spacer sequence in further experimentation and analysis. Where  $\bar{D}$  stands for average spacer distance,  $e$  stands for enhancer,  $n$  for total number of enhancers,  $i$  for number of binding site of an enhancer,  $m$  total number of binding site within an enhancer and  $BS_{e_i}$  stands for a particular binding site of a particular enhancer. Figure 2.1 explains the formula pictorially.

$$\bar{D} = \frac{\sum_{e=1}^n [\sum_{i=1}^m [BS_{e_{i+1}} - BS_{e_i}]]}{n}$$

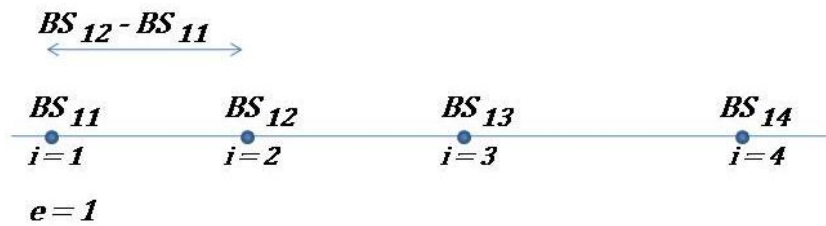


Figure 2.1|Spacer Distance Optimization:  $BS_{e_i}$  represents a transcription factor binding site on an enhancer  $e$  (which in this case is 1). For enhancer 1, four binding sites  $i = 1,2,3,4$  are shown. Distance between two binding sites within an enhancer is calculated by subtracting the genomic position of both binding sites i.e.  $BS_{12} - BS_{11}$ .

### **2.5 Filtration of Clustering Data**

Clusters obtained by using 250 bps as spacer sequence were stored in database, where further filtration was applied. As first filter applied was of uniqueness and number of TFBS. Only those instances were chosen where binding sites for 6 out of 6 transcription factors of forebrain specific catalogue were present. Resultant clusters were subjected to size calculation. Average length of enhancer usually varies between 500-4000 bps. A second step for filtration was carried out by applying size filter of 3000. Clusters exceeding the threshold of filter were discarded. Homotypic and heterotypic clusters were kept. All the filters were applied on data obtained for positive strand as well as negative strand.

### **2.6 Combining Results**

Clusters obtained from negative and positive strands of chromosome 7 were combined. Clusters overlapping between positive and negative strand were removed. Cluster Ids were replaced by CRM Ids to avoid redundancy in identifiers.

### **2.7 Validation from Vista Enhancers**

Vista Enhancers browser keeps experimental evidence for enhancers. In an effort attempted to validate our results from vista enhancer browser, we collected all enhancers residing on human chromosome 7, regardless of their expression tissue. Information about coordinates and expression tissue was extracted from data via regular expression and special variables. This information was converted into bed format by another code. Resultant bed coordinates of vista enhancers of chr7 were overlapped with our TFBS based CRMs.

### **2.8 Locating CRMs in Gene Deserts**

Gene deserts are long genomic stretches which are deficient of coding genes. In current study, information of gene deserts residing on human chromosome 7 was adapted from the project of The Center for Applied Genomics (Scherer, et al., 2003). For this study any region on chromosome 7 having no known, novel, or partial gene in more than 500kb was termed as gene desert. Percentage of repeat content and no. of CpG islands was also noted. Our predicted CRMs were then located within the defined gene deserts.

## **2.9 Data Representation**

Circular visualization was chosen for representing chromosome wide results. For this purpose Circos, a circular visualization tool was chosen. Circos is a software package for visualizing data in a circular layout allowing user to analyze relationships between different dimensional data (Krzywinski et al., 2009). By using circular ideograms it helps in visualizing relationships between genomic coordinates. It also allows incorporation of data in form of scatter, heat maps, line and histogram plots, tiles, connectors and text. It is command line based tools which works using multiple statistics, mathematics and graphics modules of perl.

We converted our data into format described by Circos. Configuration files was prepared and linked to data files. Data was represented in two tracks in form of tiles.

Chapter 3  
RESULTS

### 3. RESULTS

In current study we formulated catalogue of transcription factors specifically active in forebrain. For this purpose we relied on functional data reported in multiple studies. After performing some statistical and computational analysis we finalized a catalogue of six transcription factors essentially active in forebrain (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1|Transcription factor catalogue forFB enhancer prediction

Sr.No	Transcription Factor	Known Expression Tissue	Source
1.	<i>NGN2</i>	Diencephalon	(Osório et al., 2010)
2.	<i>OTX1</i>	Future Pros-Encephalon	(Gray et al., 2004)
3.	<i>OTX2</i>	Future Pros-Encephalon	(Gray, et al., 2004)
4.	<i>GATA3</i>	Diencephalon	(Gray, et al., 2004)
5.	<i>FOXP2</i>	Diencephalon, Ventricular Layer	(Gray, et al., 2004)
6.	<i>HES5</i>	Diencephalon, Telencephalon	(Gray, et al., 2004)

#### 3.1 TFBS mapping output

Binding sites of these transcription factors collected from literature and verified from TRANSFAC were assembled in a hash to handle the dimensionality of data. After tackling the degeneracy of binding site, binding sites of selected transcription factors were coded to TFBSMA. Exon and repeat masked genomic sequence of human chromosome 7 was subjected to TFBS mapping. Table 3.2 summarizes number of binding sites found against each transcription factor from catalogue. There were total 190,397 TFBS found on positive strand of chromosome 7 and 174,142 on negative strand.

Table 3.2| Transcription factor binding sites found on chromosome 7.

<b>Transcription Factor</b>	<b>Occurrences on +ve strand</b>	<b>Occurrences on -ve strand</b>
<b>FOXP2</b>	41928	29680
<b>HES5</b>	57112	54067
<b>GATA3</b>	34491	41963
<b>NGN2</b>	24186	8900
<b>OTX1</b>	15432	18356
<b>OTX2</b>	17248	21176
<b>Total</b>	<b>190397</b>	<b>174142</b>

### 3.2 TFBS Clusters

Different enhancers have different TFBS present on them, depending upon the transcription factor cooperativity. Keeping in mind our FB specific TF catalogue, we assumed that a cluster has on average six TFBS with size between range of 1000-4000 bps, this makes an average spacer distance lying in range of 150-600 bps. In an attempt to optimize length of spacer sequence, we generated clusters at spacer sequence of 150, 250, 400, 500 and 600 bps for both strands of chromosome 7. Each cluster contained 1 or more redundant TFBS depicting homotypic clustering and up to 6 unique TFBS portraying heterotypic clustering. Table 3.3 shows the number of clusters generated for each strand against each spacer distance selected.

Table 3.3| Clusters generated at various spacer distances.

<b>Spacer Distance</b>	<b>Positive Strand</b>	<b>Negative Strand</b>
<b>150</b>	124,645	114,661
<b>250</b>	106,614	99,788
<b>400</b>	86,510	82,699
<b>500</b>	75,909	73,387
<b>600</b>	67,019	65,559

Other than the test data set, functional data set was also used for spacer sequence optimization. By calculating the average distance between each binding site present on 104 forebrain specific enhancers retrieved from VISTA Enhancer Browser, we got a spacer sequence of 250 bps. Thus, Clustering results obtained by setting spacer distance at 250bps were used for further analysis.

### 3.3 Filtration of Clusters

All such clusters having less than 5 out of six unique transcription factor binding sites were filtered out. Moreover, any clusters having size above 3000 bps were also filtered out. Figure 3.1 shows number of clusters predicted with maximum 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 unique TFBS for negative and positive strands of chromosome 7. Though large number of clusters were predicted with only one or two TFBS, but such results were discarded in coherence with the structure of eukaryotic Cis-regulatory modules. Clusters with 5 TFBSs were used in further studies.

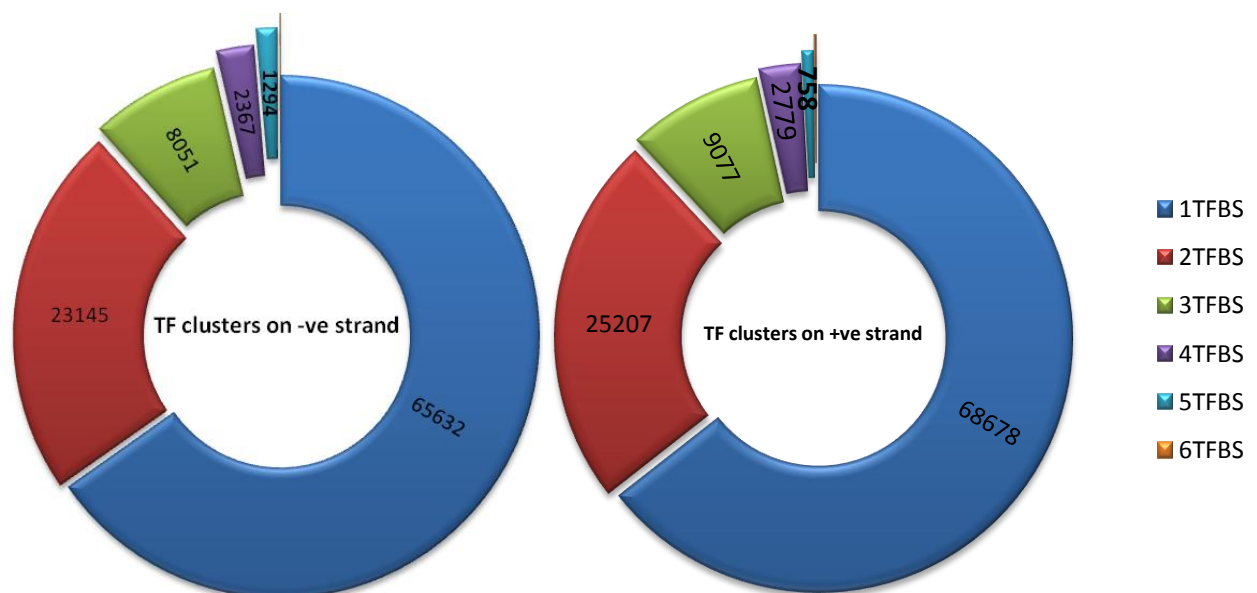


Figure 3.1| Pie charts of clusters on base of maximum unique TFBS.



### **3.4 Overlaps between Strands**

Data was generated and clustered in a way that there were no overlapping clusters within a strand. To ensure that there are no overlapping clusters between strands, such enhancers which had complete or even partially overlapping coordinates between positive and negative strands were deleted. There were total 13 overlaps found, and those enhancers were deleted from either positive or negative strand results after careful analysis based on length and number of binding sites predicted in each.

After careful removal of overlaps, elements from positive and negative strands were combined and assigned unique identifiers to remove any ambiguity based on cluster number. Table 3.4 and table 3.5 represent our filtered Cis-Regulatory Modules CRMs for chromosome 7 positive and negative strands respectively.

Table 3.4| Cis-Regulatory Modules (CRMs) predicted on positive strand of chromosome 7, keeping spacer sequence distance 250 bps with minimum 5 TFBS.

<b>CRM_id</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	<b>Size</b> <b>(bps)</b>	<b>CRM_id</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	<b>Size</b> <b>(bps)</b>
<b>crm1</b>	Chr7:555191-556038	847	<b>crm2</b>	Chr7:2069300-2069755	455
<b>crm3</b>	Chr7:2926066-2926562	496	<b>crm4</b>	Chr7:3364858-3365633	775
<b>crm5</b>	Chr7:3368219-3368857	638	<b>crm6</b>	Chr7:3730053-3730273	220
<b>crm7</b>	Chr7:3764507-3765130	623	<b>crm8</b>	Chr7:3771897-3772432	535
<b>crm9</b>	Chr7:4271453-4271583	130	<b>crm10</b>	Chr7:5099899-5100299	400
<b>crm11</b>	Chr7:5725180-5725449	269	<b>crm12</b>	Chr7:6316719-6317234	515
<b>crm13</b>	Chr7:6369020-6369182	162	<b>crm14</b>	Chr7:6473895-6474644	749
<b>crm15</b>	Chr7:7189023-7189258	235	<b>crm16</b>	Chr7:7654310-7655092	782
<b>crm17</b>	Chr7:8364472-8364692	220	<b>crm18</b>	Chr7:8420461-8421227	766
<b>crm19</b>	Chr7:8424700-8425262	562	<b>crm20</b>	Chr7:8516335-8517229	894
<b>crm21</b>	Chr7:8530711-8531459	748	<b>crm22</b>	Chr7:8557221-8557655	434
<b>crm23</b>	Chr7:8614202-8614998	796	<b>crm24</b>	Chr7:8677609-8678151	542
<b>crm25</b>	Chr7:8901651-8901896	245	<b>crm26</b>	Chr7:9265841-9266294	453
<b>crm27</b>	Chr7:9387815-9388196	381	<b>crm28</b>	Chr7:9389044-9389764	720
<b>crm29</b>	Chr7:9445281-9445731	450	<b>crm30</b>	Chr7:9450839-9451055	216
<b>crm31</b>	Chr7:9452947-9453475	528	<b>crm32</b>	Chr7:9535938-9536722	784
<b>crm33</b>	Chr7:9569681-9570324	643	<b>crm34</b>	Chr7:9592943-9593259	316
<b>crm35</b>	Chr7:9747677-9747940	263	<b>crm36</b>	Chr7:9871954-9872366	412
<b>crm37</b>	Chr7:9965422-9965862	440	<b>crm38</b>	Chr7:10308819-10309226	407
<b>crm39</b>	Chr7:10322218-10322752	534	<b>crm40</b>	Chr7:10364940-10365422	482
<b>crm41</b>	Chr7:10469207-10469867	660	<b>crm42</b>	Chr7:10520249-10520507	258
<b>crm43</b>	Chr7:10676242-10676553	311	<b>crm44</b>	Chr7:10685350-10685688	338

<b>crm45</b>	Chr7:10829738-10830280	542	<b>crm46</b>	Chr7:11286958-11287401	443
<b>crm47</b>	Chr7:11379135-11379845	710	<b>crm48</b>	Chr7:11491422-11492435	1013
<b>crm49</b>	Chr7:11653824-11654219	395	<b>crm50</b>	Chr7:11751991-11752902	911
<b>crm51</b>	Chr7:11757548-11758321	773	<b>crm52</b>	Chr7:11914015-11914842	827
<b>crm53</b>	Chr7:11968389-11968856	467	<b>crm54</b>	Chr7:12083831-12084431	600
<b>crm55</b>	Chr7:12159544-12159881	337	<b>crm56</b>	Chr7:12443320-12444124	804
<b>crm57</b>	Chr7:12861409-12861708	299	<b>crm58</b>	Chr7:12985554-12985822	268
<b>crm59</b>	Chr7:13046707-13047178	471	<b>crm60</b>	Chr7:13330969-13331530	561
<b>crm61</b>	Chr7:13370850-13371229	379	<b>crm62</b>	Chr7:13538557-13539607	1050
<b>crm63</b>	Chr7:13764452-13765166	714	<b>crm64</b>	Chr7:13890124-13891258	1134
<b>crm65</b>	Chr7:13903154-13903507	353	<b>crm66</b>	Chr7:14129602-14130263	661
<b>crm67</b>	Chr7:14210716-14211266	550	<b>crm68</b>	Chr7:14299573-14300190	617
<b>crm69</b>	Chr7:14580805-14581491	686	<b>crm70</b>	Chr7:14592210-14592703	493
<b>crm71</b>	Chr7:14664655-14665599	944	<b>crm72</b>	Chr7:14733432-14733862	430
<b>crm73</b>	Chr7:14767706-14767930	224	<b>crm74</b>	Chr7:14871939-14872217	278
<b>crm75</b>	Chr7:15169461-15170214	753	<b>crm76</b>	Chr7:15185431-15186006	575
<b>crm77</b>	Chr7:15215029-15215737	708	<b>crm78</b>	Chr7:15358085-15358176	91
<b>crm79</b>	Chr7:15539639-15540072	433	<b>crm80</b>	Chr7:15596207-15596765	558
<b>crm81</b>	Chr7:15705199-15706111	912	<b>crm82</b>	Chr7:15724413-15724925	512
<b>crm83</b>	Chr7:15804741-15805066	325	<b>crm84</b>	Chr7:16049466-16050131	665
<b>crm85</b>	Chr7:16090703-16091469	766	<b>crm86</b>	Chr7:16098972-16099515	543
<b>crm87</b>	Chr7:16111299-16111896	597	<b>crm88</b>	Chr7:16226772-16227074	302
<b>crm89</b>	Chr7:16564749-16565340	591	<b>crm90</b>	Chr7:16566812-16567240	428
<b>crm91</b>	Chr7:16724264-16725101	837	<b>crm92</b>	Chr7:16832070-16832467	397
<b>crm93</b>	Chr7:17073723-17074236	513	<b>crm94</b>	Chr7:17171270-17171456	186
<b>crm95</b>	Chr7:17336006-17336410	404	<b>crm96</b>	Chr7:17417620-17418061	441
<b>crm97</b>	Chr7:17501599-17502475	876	<b>crm98</b>	Chr7:17599170-17599525	355

<b>crm99</b>	Chr7:17667852-17668150	298	<b>crm100</b>	Chr7:17832762-17833297	535
<b>crm101</b>	Chr7:17833964-17834945	981	<b>crm102</b>	Chr7:17867082-17867246	164
<b>crm103</b>	Chr7:18281375-18282121	746	<b>crm104</b>	Chr7:18340932-18341495	563
<b>crm105</b>	Chr7:18384127-18385006	879	<b>crm106</b>	Chr7:18516959-18517601	642
<b>crm107</b>	Chr7:18591556-18592136	580	<b>crm108</b>	Chr7:18592516-18592699	183
<b>crm109</b>	Chr7:18729021-18729888	867	<b>crm110</b>	Chr7:18769020-18769558	538
<b>crm111</b>	Chr7:19042983-19043645	662	<b>crm112</b>	Chr7:19142133-19142640	507
<b>crm113</b>	Chr7:19178722-19179391	669	<b>crm114</b>	Chr7:19395325-19395604	279
<b>crm115</b>	Chr7:19412552-19412854	302	<b>crm116</b>	Chr7:19537515-19538158	643
<b>crm117</b>	Chr7:19607919-19608726	807	<b>crm118</b>	Chr7:19894266-19894604	338
<b>crm119</b>	Chr7:19978368-19978833	465	<b>crm120</b>	Chr7:19979980-19980376	396
<b>crm121</b>	Chr7:20121512-20122120	608	<b>crm122</b>	Chr7:20342295-20342799	504
<b>crm123</b>	Chr7:20477599-20478732	1133	<b>crm124</b>	Chr7:20512599-20513323	724
<b>crm125</b>	Chr7:20515124-20515635	511	<b>crm126</b>	Chr7:20524129-20524583	454
<b>crm127</b>	Chr7:20726552-20727097	545	<b>crm128</b>	Chr7:21002813-21003638	825
<b>crm129</b>	Chr7:21039629-21040151	522	<b>crm130</b>	Chr7:21086622-21087323	701
<b>crm131</b>	Chr7:21100226-21100836	610	<b>crm132</b>	Chr7:21112705-21113133	428
<b>crm133</b>	Chr7:21253669-21254488	819	<b>crm134</b>	Chr7:21299101-21299840	739
<b>crm135</b>	Chr7:21313627-21314098	471	<b>crm136</b>	Chr7:21357145-21357897	752
<b>crm137</b>	Chr7:21413082-21413493	411	<b>crm138</b>	Chr7:21528437-21528667	230
<b>crm139</b>	Chr7:21696281-21696751	470	<b>crm140</b>	Chr7:22089581-22090216	635
<b>crm141</b>	Chr7:22168847-22169442	595	<b>crm142</b>	Chr7:22174917-22175254	337
<b>crm143</b>	Chr7:22212198-22212590	392	<b>crm144</b>	Chr7:22243598-22244384	786
<b>crm145</b>	Chr7:22249208-22249677	469	<b>crm146</b>	Chr7:22288133-22288646	513
<b>crm147</b>	Chr7:22347941-22348452	511	<b>crm148</b>	Chr7:22403916-22404309	393
<b>crm149</b>	Chr7:22534264-22534637	373	<b>crm150</b>	Chr7:22639577-22640219	642
<b>crm151</b>	Chr7:22857246-22857774	528	<b>crm152</b>	Chr7:22891521-22891933	412

<b>crm153</b>	Chr7:23016974-23017310	336	<b>crm154</b>	Chr7:23098072-23098421	349
<b>crm155</b>	Chr7:23146548-23147143	595	<b>crm156</b>	Chr7:23338454-23338828	374
<b>crm157</b>	Chr7:23418769-23419023	254	<b>crm158</b>	Chr7:23469132-23469660	528
<b>crm159</b>	Chr7:23507633-23508458	825	<b>crm160</b>	Chr7:24193611-24193839	228
<b>crm161</b>	Chr7:24232543-24233146	603	<b>crm162</b>	Chr7:24784974-24785233	259
<b>crm163</b>	Chr7:24937381-24937748	367	<b>crm164</b>	Chr7:24960472-24960696	224
<b>crm165</b>	Chr7:25215314-25215712	398	<b>crm166</b>	Chr7:25264129-25264345	216
<b>crm167</b>	Chr7:25300401-25300912	511	<b>crm168</b>	Chr7:25382466-25383118	652
<b>crm169</b>	Chr7:25406556-25407122	566	<b>crm170</b>	Chr7:25601942-25603038	1096
<b>crm171</b>	Chr7:25772996-25773708	712	<b>crm172</b>	Chr7:25887504-25887770	266
<b>crm173</b>	Chr7:26073235-26073423	188	<b>crm174</b>	Chr7:26231647-26231889	242
<b>crm175</b>	Chr7:26232635-26233168	533	<b>crm176</b>	Chr7:26432137-26432567	430
<b>crm177</b>	Chr7:26695285-26695911	626	<b>crm178</b>	Chr7:26701998-26702615	617
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<b>crm181</b>	Chr7:28068589-28069467	878	<b>crm182</b>	Chr7:28140072-28140673	601
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<b>crm185</b>	Chr7:28367427-28367937	510	<b>crm186</b>	Chr7:28536064-28536700	636
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<b>crm189</b>	Chr7:28618558-28619313	755	<b>crm190</b>	Chr7:28647655-28648450	795
<b>crm191</b>	Chr7:28939422-28940124	702	<b>crm192</b>	Chr7:29110393-29111620	1227
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<b>crm195</b>	Chr7:29611456-29611777	321	<b>crm196</b>	Chr7:29875812-29876251	439
<b>crm197</b>	Chr7:29893579-29894155	576	<b>crm198</b>	Chr7:30062229-30062639	410
<b>crm199</b>	Chr7:30573627-30574199	572	<b>crm200</b>	Chr7:30817021-30817324	303
<b>crm201</b>	Chr7:31381520-31382224	704	<b>crm202</b>	Chr7:31641418-31642164	746
<b>crm203</b>	Chr7:31783929-31784735	806	<b>crm204</b>	Chr7:31920411-31920955	544
<b>crm205</b>	Chr7:31961822-31962231	409	<b>crm206</b>	Chr7:32062301-32063065	764

<b>crm207</b>	Chr7:32065412-32065948	536	<b>crm208</b>	Chr7:32075484-32075733	249
<b>crm209</b>	Chr7:32086911-32087131	220	<b>crm210</b>	Chr7:32527342-32527538	196
<b>crm211</b>	Chr7:32972211-32972413	202	<b>crm212</b>	Chr7:33597224-33597651	427
<b>crm213</b>	Chr7:33913038-33913662	624	<b>crm214</b>	Chr7:34068813-34069118	305
<b>crm215</b>	Chr7:34288922-34289436	514	<b>crm216</b>	Chr7:34626097-34626596	499
<b>crm217</b>	Chr7:34711885-34712447	562	<b>crm218</b>	Chr7:35052752-35053060	308
<b>crm219</b>	Chr7:35290675-35291064	389	<b>crm220</b>	Chr7:35325018-35325790	772
<b>crm221</b>	Chr7:35360367-35361017	650	<b>crm222</b>	Chr7:35426692-35427221	529
<b>crm223</b>	Chr7:35489891-35490504	613	<b>crm224</b>	Chr7:35709264-35709732	468
<b>crm225</b>	Chr7:35754766-35754937	171	<b>crm226</b>	Chr7:35807574-35808156	582
<b>crm227</b>	Chr7:36109558-36110281	723	<b>crm228</b>	Chr7:36375841-36376086	245
<b>crm229</b>	Chr7:36944497-36944930	433	<b>crm230</b>	Chr7:37052115-37052653	538
<b>crm231</b>	Chr7:37066496-37067204	708	<b>crm232</b>	Chr7:37151608-37152435	827
<b>crm233</b>	Chr7:37184943-37185319	376	<b>crm234</b>	Chr7:37214185-37214953	768
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<b>crm237</b>	Chr7:38107726-38108491	765	<b>crm238</b>	Chr7:38381449-38382641	1192
<b>crm239</b>	Chr7:38516513-38516958	445	<b>crm240</b>	Chr7:38881650-38882241	591
<b>crm241</b>	Chr7:39174050-39174272	222	<b>crm242</b>	Chr7:39191354-39192303	949
<b>crm243</b>	Chr7:39492723-39493593	870	<b>crm244</b>	Chr7:39581860-39582064	204
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<b>crm519</b>	Chr7:97483172-97483716	544	<b>crm520</b>	Chr7:97740035-97741024	989
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<b>crm535</b>	Chr7:103374417-103374913	496	<b>crm536</b>	Chr7:103535690-103535956	266
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<b>crm539</b>	Chr7:104215270-104215446	176	<b>crm540</b>	Chr7:104484721-104485153	432
<b>crm541</b>	Chr7:104515681-104516311	630	<b>crm542</b>	Chr7:104740259-104741060	801
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<b>crm549</b>	Chr7:106333768-106334371	603	<b>crm550</b>	Chr7:106526783-106527272	489
<b>crm551</b>	Chr7:106758166-106758731	565	<b>crm552</b>	Chr7:106955710-106956173	463
<b>crm553</b>	Chr7:107084039-107084886	847	<b>crm554</b>	Chr7:107121249-107121599	350
<b>crm555</b>	Chr7:107498036-107498426	390	<b>crm556</b>	Chr7:107573513-107574253	740
<b>crm557</b>	Chr7:107634824-107635177	353	<b>crm558</b>	Chr7:107940507-107940600	93
<b>crm559</b>	Chr7:108423569-108423854	285	<b>crm560</b>	Chr7:108985040-108985219	179
<b>crm561</b>	Chr7:109050306-109050556	250	<b>crm562</b>	Chr7:109275183-109275910	727
<b>crm563</b>	Chr7:109319508-109319865	357	<b>crm564</b>	Chr7:109323683-109324245	562
<b>crm565</b>	Chr7:109504170-109504573	403	<b>crm566</b>	Chr7:110059045-110059471	426
<b>crm567</b>	Chr7:110090977-110091313	336	<b>crm568</b>	Chr7:110279938-110280473	535
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<b>crm573</b>	Chr7:110867912-110868599	687	<b>crm574</b>	Chr7:111026317-111026754	437
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<b>crm577</b>	Chr7:111286361-111287046	685	<b>crm578</b>	Chr7:111424124-111424214	90
<b>crm579</b>	Chr7:111425889-111426729	840	<b>crm580</b>	Chr7:111508947-111509473	526
<b>crm581</b>	Chr7:111545263-111545808	545	<b>crm582</b>	Chr7:111711574-111711982	408
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<b>crm595</b>	Chr7:113089539-113089800	261	<b>crm596</b>	Chr7:113200965-113201340	375
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<b>crm601</b>	Chr7:113452652-113453895	1243	<b>crm602</b>	Chr7:113801259-113801818	559
<b>crm603</b>	Chr7:113856811-113857184	373	<b>crm604</b>	Chr7:114074506-114075009	503
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<b>crm607</b>	Chr7:114196119-114196689	570	<b>crm608</b>	Chr7:114210679-114211486	807
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<b>crm613</b>	Chr7:114862086-114862601	515	<b>crm614</b>	Chr7:114876560-114877296	736
<b>crm615</b>	Chr7:114946658-114947569	911	<b>crm616</b>	Chr7:114964062-114964693	631
<b>crm617</b>	Chr7:114982907-114983216	309	<b>crm618</b>	Chr7:115192539-115193118	579
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<b>crm625</b>	Chr7:115694861-115695569	708	<b>crm626</b>	Chr7:115893136-115893602	466
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<b>crm629</b>	Chr7:116116309-116116587	278	<b>crm630</b>	Chr7:116305226-116305640	414
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<b>crm657</b>	Chr7:119903938-119904093	155	<b>crm658</b>	Chr7:120008478-120009239	761
<b>crm659</b>	Chr7:120059200-120059631	431	<b>crm660</b>	Chr7:120073170-120073529	359
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<b>crm665</b>	Chr7:120884615-120885090	475	<b>crm666</b>	Chr7:121164597-121165387	790
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<b>crm723</b>	Chr7:131930880-131931292	412	<b>crm724</b>	Chr7:132682121-132682495	374
<b>crm725</b>	Chr7:132856403-132857619	1216	<b>crm726</b>	Chr7:132884525-132885219	694
<b>crm727</b>	Chr7:132901182-132901463	281	<b>crm728</b>	Chr7:133195481-133195841	360
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<b>crm759</b>	Chr7:136393796-136394476	680	<b>crm760</b>	Chr7:137075110-137075730	620
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<b>crm781</b>	Chr7:141925745-141926054	309	<b>crm782</b>	Chr7:141997606-141997970	364
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<b>crm785</b>	Chr7:142465654-142466302	648	<b>crm786</b>	Chr7:142968338-142968882	544
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<b>crm795</b>	Chr7:144194461-144194971	510	<b>crm796</b>	Chr7:144332462-144333162	700
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<b>crm799</b>	Chr7:144518461-144519606	1145	<b>crm800</b>	Chr7:144740528-144740961	433



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<b>crm807</b>	Chr7:145824725-145825174	449	<b>crm808</b>	Chr7:145874383-145875056	673
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<b>crm815</b>	Chr7:146540676-146541285	609	<b>crm816</b>	Chr7:146569712-146570150	438
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<b>crm823</b>	Chr7:147524355-147524620	265	<b>crm824</b>	Chr7:147869807-147870663	856
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<b>crm839</b>	Chr7:152004519-152004683	164	<b>crm840</b>	Chr7:152881363-152881800	437
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<b>crm847</b>	Chr7:153914067-153914499	432	<b>crm848</b>	Chr7:153919923-153920664	741
<b>crm849</b>	Chr7:154028699-154029111	412	<b>crm850</b>	Chr7:154088506-154088925	419
<b>crm851</b>	Chr7:154144444-154144645	201	<b>crm852</b>	Chr7:154750340-154750858	518
<b>crm853</b>	Chr7:154763401-154763758	357	<b>crm854</b>	Chr7:154860227-154860885	658

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<b>crm855</b>	Chr7:155814564-155814994	430	<b>crm856</b>	Chr7:155965163-155965501	338
<b>crm857</b>	Chr7:156101434-156101735	301	<b>crm858</b>	Chr7:156148749-156149288	539
<b>crm859</b>	Chr7:156360367-156360887	520	<b>crm860</b>	Chr7:156380650-156381403	753
<b>crm861</b>	Chr7:156481814-156482459	645	<b>crm862</b>	Chr7:156583792-156585020	1228
<b>crm863</b>	Chr7:156989882-156990420	538	<b>crm864</b>	Chr7:158084526-158085204	678
<b>crm865</b>	Chr7:158372151-158372921	770	<b>crm866</b>	Chr7:158479835-158480333	498
<b>crm867</b>	Chr7:158612497-158612788	291	<b>crm868</b>	Chr7:158879582-158880710	1128
<b>crm869</b>	Chr7:158891893-158892569	676	<b>crm870</b>	Chr7:159042494-159043250	756

**Table 3.5| Cis-Regulatory Modules (CRMs) predicted on negative strand of chromosome 7, keeping spacer distance 250 bps, with minimum 5 TFBS.**

<b>CRM_id</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	<b>Size (bps)</b>	<b>CRM_id</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	<b>Size (bps)</b>
<b>crm871</b>	Chr7:1083457-1083872	415	<b>crm872</b>	Chr7:1281723-1282007	284
<b>crm873</b>	Chr7:1632674-1633285	611	<b>crm874</b>	Chr7:3167739-3168080	341
<b>crm875</b>	Chr7:3367522-3367955	433	<b>crm876</b>	Chr7:3473562-3474064	502
<b>crm877</b>	Chr7:3684581-3684958	377	<b>crm878</b>	Chr7:3971758-3972148	390
<b>crm879</b>	Chr7:4166639-4167323	684	<b>crm880</b>	Chr7:6378245-6378746	501
<b>crm881</b>	Chr7:7704800-7705016	216	<b>crm882</b>	Chr7:7775527-7776172	645
<b>crm883</b>	Chr7:7917151-7917408	257	<b>crm884</b>	Chr7:7963144-7963780	636
<b>crm885</b>	Chr7:8003380-8004180	800	<b>crm886</b>	Chr7:8005030-8005413	383
<b>crm887</b>	Chr7:8090711-8091036	325	<b>crm888</b>	Chr7:8166078-8166582	504
<b>crm889</b>	Chr7:8189175-8189655	480	<b>crm890</b>	Chr7:8514808-8515448	640
<b>crm891</b>	Chr7:8629975-8630752	777	<b>crm892</b>	Chr7:8637151-8637811	660
<b>crm893</b>	Chr7:8640137-8640438	301	<b>crm894</b>	Chr7:8989397-8989839	442
<b>crm895</b>	Chr7:9174306-9174909	603	<b>crm896</b>	Chr7:9490657-9491047	390
<b>crm897</b>	Chr7:9515821-9516078	257	<b>crm898</b>	Chr7:9638909-9639408	499
<b>crm899</b>	Chr7:9784010-9784298	288	<b>crm900</b>	Chr7:9976755-9977064	309
<b>crm901</b>	Chr7:10020664-10021376	712	<b>crm902</b>	Chr7:10232886-10233682	796
<b>crm903</b>	Chr7:10446913-10447332	419	<b>crm904</b>	Chr7:10679085-10679694	609
<b>crm905</b>	Chr7:10927947-10928253	306	<b>crm906</b>	Chr7:11070233-11070890	657
<b>crm907</b>	Chr7:11127255-11127628	373	<b>crm908</b>	Chr7:11144732-11145366	634
<b>crm909</b>	Chr7:11182530-11182826	296	<b>crm910</b>	Chr7:11215753-11216423	670
<b>crm911</b>	Chr7:11256382-11256951	569	<b>crm912</b>	Chr7:11449762-11450087	325
<b>crm913</b>	Chr7:11492918-11493355	437	<b>crm914</b>	Chr7:11660575-11661150	575
<b>crm915</b>	Chr7:11790916-11791384	468	<b>crm916</b>	Chr7:11888259-11888786	527

<b>crm917</b>	Chr7:11889862-11890646	784	<b>crm918</b>	Chr7:12092230-12093125	895
<b>crm919</b>	Chr7:12266098-12266713	615	<b>crm920</b>	Chr7:12564785-12565472	687
<b>crm921</b>	Chr7:12657044-12657522	478	<b>crm922</b>	Chr7:12809232-12809576	344
<b>crm923</b>	Chr7:12840820-12841314	494	<b>crm924</b>	Chr7:12914315-12914452	137
<b>crm925</b>	Chr7:13026836-13027258	422	<b>crm926</b>	Chr7:13606842-13607156	314
<b>crm927</b>	Chr7:13729719-13730307	588	<b>crm928</b>	Chr7:13776343-13776915	572
<b>crm929</b>	Chr7:13797218-13797767	549	<b>crm930</b>	Chr7:13868413-13868911	498
<b>crm931</b>	Chr7:13920690-13920887	197	<b>crm932</b>	Chr7:14180418-14180673	255
<b>crm933</b>	Chr7:14203731-14204375	644	<b>crm934</b>	Chr7:14366412-14366666	254
<b>crm935</b>	Chr7:14369948-14370401	453	<b>crm936</b>	Chr7:14654162-14654891	729
<b>crm937</b>	Chr7:15062536-15063297	761	<b>crm938</b>	Chr7:15227347-15227599	252
<b>crm939</b>	Chr7:15236892-15237155	263	<b>crm940</b>	Chr7:15342889-15343495	606
<b>crm941</b>	Chr7:15433806-15434472	666	<b>crm942</b>	Chr7:15733478-15734139	661
<b>crm943</b>	Chr7:15805148-15805654	506	<b>crm944</b>	Chr7:15817435-15817885	450
<b>crm945</b>	Chr7:15917806-15919339	1533	<b>crm946</b>	Chr7:15948435-15949101	666
<b>crm947</b>	Chr7:16196993-16197372	379	<b>crm948</b>	Chr7:16247916-16248070	154
<b>crm949</b>	Chr7:16648869-16649226	357	<b>crm950</b>	Chr7:17226531-17227095	564
<b>crm951</b>	Chr7:17268668-17268922	254	<b>crm952</b>	Chr7:17757605-17758212	607
<b>crm953</b>	Chr7:17845205-17845500	295	<b>crm954</b>	Chr7:18264766-18265773	1007
<b>crm955</b>	Chr7:18511186-18511833	647	<b>crm956</b>	Chr7:18671653-18672297	644
<b>crm957</b>	Chr7:18915780-18916094	314	<b>crm958</b>	Chr7:19200319-19200825	506
<b>crm959</b>	Chr7:19344201-19344720	519	<b>crm960</b>	Chr7:19371907-19372500	593
<b>crm961</b>	Chr7:19624670-19625236	566	<b>crm962</b>	Chr7:19854183-19854967	784
<b>crm963</b>	Chr7:20168539-20169349	810	<b>crm964</b>	Chr7:20255088-20255885	797
<b>crm965</b>	Chr7:20423633-20424044	411	<b>crm966</b>	Chr7:20429408-20429908	500
<b>crm967</b>	Chr7:20901105-20901473	368	<b>crm968</b>	Chr7:21981964-21983345	1381
<b>crm969</b>	Chr7:23213228-23213867	639	<b>crm970</b>	Chr7:23516184-23516558	374

<b>crm971</b>	Chr7:24007227-24007405	178	<b>crm972</b>	Chr7:24255758-24256248	490
<b>crm973</b>	Chr7:24961226-24961558	332	<b>crm974</b>	Chr7:24964087-24964739	652
<b>crm975</b>	Chr7:24992994-24993233	239	<b>crm976</b>	Chr7:25023729-25023996	267
<b>crm977</b>	Chr7:26458691-26459370	679	<b>crm978</b>	Chr7:26508158-26508707	549
<b>crm979</b>	Chr7:26686275-26686668	393	<b>crm980</b>	Chr7:27029153-27030345	1192
<b>crm981</b>	Chr7:27555868-27556609	741	<b>crm982</b>	Chr7:27717163-27717439	276
<b>crm983</b>	Chr7:28208961-28209557	596	<b>crm984</b>	Chr7:28453441-28454331	890
<b>crm985</b>	Chr7:28508884-28509108	224	<b>crm986</b>	Chr7:28556026-28556570	544
<b>crm987</b>	Chr7:28811085-28811581	496	<b>crm988</b>	Chr7:29295448-29296328	880
<b>crm989</b>	Chr7:29956377-29956721	344	<b>crm990</b>	Chr7:30203655-30204339	684
<b>crm991</b>	Chr7:30353265-30353659	394	<b>crm992</b>	Chr7:31205715-31205962	247
<b>crm993</b>	Chr7:31452931-31453464	533	<b>crm994</b>	Chr7:31668449-31669112	663
<b>crm995</b>	Chr7:31685629-31685833	204	<b>crm996</b>	Chr7:31825778-31826398	620
<b>crm997</b>	Chr7:32061251-32061659	408	<b>crm998</b>	Chr7:33077546-33078513	967
<b>crm999</b>	Chr7:33737951-33738221	270	<b>crm1000</b>	Chr7:33857272-33857849	577
<b>crm1001</b>	Chr7:34163244-34163745	501	<b>crm1002</b>	Chr7:34944410-34945318	908
<b>crm1003</b>	Chr7:35120204-35120485	281	<b>crm1004</b>	Chr7:35284676-35285311	635
<b>crm1005</b>	Chr7:35346948-35347508	560	<b>crm1006</b>	Chr7:35683471-35683709	238
<b>crm1007</b>	Chr7:36942687-36943309	622	<b>crm1008</b>	Chr7:37020078-37020884	806
<b>crm1009</b>	Chr7:37095570-37096337	767	<b>crm1010</b>	Chr7:37336326-37336833	507
<b>crm1011</b>	Chr7:37348022-37348533	511	<b>crm1012</b>	Chr7:37684383-37684856	473
<b>crm1013</b>	Chr7:38010636-38011327	691	<b>crm1014</b>	Chr7:38290886-38291129	243
<b>crm1015</b>	Chr7:38374173-38374594	421	<b>crm1016</b>	Chr7:38384140-38384583	443
<b>crm1017</b>	Chr7:38419532-38419756	224	<b>crm1018</b>	Chr7:38461209-38461807	598
<b>crm1019</b>	Chr7:38660323-38660809	486	<b>crm1020</b>	Chr7:38740469-38740928	459
<b>crm1021</b>	Chr7:38814502-38815259	757	<b>crm1022</b>	Chr7:38864433-38864885	452
<b>crm1023</b>	Chr7:39097739-39098306	567	<b>crm1024</b>	Chr7:39151932-39152553	621

<b>crm1025</b>	Chr7:39164007-39164444	437	<b>crm1026</b>	Chr7:39243215-39243527	312
<b>crm1027</b>	Chr7:40238790-40239077	287	<b>crm1028</b>	Chr7:40537325-40538613	1288
<b>crm1029</b>	Chr7:40618748-40620011	1263	<b>crm1030</b>	Chr7:40622257-40622507	250
<b>crm1031</b>	Chr7:40684165-40684716	551	<b>crm1032</b>	Chr7:41745566-41745987	421
<b>crm1033</b>	Chr7:42019150-42019697	547	<b>crm1034</b>	Chr7:42332406-42333184	778
<b>crm1035</b>	Chr7:43031536-43031869	333	<b>crm1036</b>	Chr7:43573198-43574304	1106
<b>crm1037</b>	Chr7:44085247-44085945	698	<b>crm1038</b>	Chr7:44679719-44680494	775
<b>crm1039</b>	Chr7:46071765-46072256	491	<b>crm1040</b>	Chr7:46253660-46254015	355
<b>crm1041</b>	Chr7:46670485-46670733	248	<b>crm1042</b>	Chr7:47121681-47121993	312
<b>crm1043</b>	Chr7:47273512-47274323	811	<b>crm1044</b>	Chr7:48283700-48284148	448
<b>crm1045</b>	Chr7:48775228-48775739	511	<b>crm1046</b>	Chr7:49285244-49285967	723
<b>crm1047</b>	Chr7:49716743-49717126	383	<b>crm1048</b>	Chr7:49952058-49952277	219
<b>crm1049</b>	Chr7:51108947-51109173	226	<b>crm1050</b>	Chr7:51170828-51171063	235
<b>crm1051</b>	Chr7:51316779-51317036	257	<b>crm1052</b>	Chr7:51732495-51732937	442
<b>crm1053</b>	Chr7:51735041-51735708	667	<b>crm1054</b>	Chr7:51763952-51764364	412
<b>crm1055</b>	Chr7:51764668-51765012	344	<b>crm1056</b>	Chr7:51821156-51821554	398
<b>crm1057</b>	Chr7:51845675-51847049	1374	<b>crm1058</b>	Chr7:52137182-52137965	783
<b>crm1059</b>	Chr7:52232895-52233378	483	<b>crm1060</b>	Chr7:52356286-52356756	470
<b>crm1061</b>	Chr7:52488204-52488559	355	<b>crm1062</b>	Chr7:52532033-52532451	418
<b>crm1063</b>	Chr7:52558091-52559097	1006	<b>crm1064</b>	Chr7:52999104-52999933	829
<b>crm1065</b>	Chr7:53080810-53081574	764	<b>crm1066</b>	Chr7:53083790-53084392	602
<b>crm1067</b>	Chr7:53134072-53134755	683	<b>crm1068</b>	Chr7:53521119-53521626	507
<b>crm1069</b>	Chr7:53653578-53653954	376	<b>crm1070</b>	Chr7:53870989-53871650	661
<b>crm1071</b>	Chr7:54444089-54444595	506	<b>crm1072</b>	Chr7:55059082-55059631	549
<b>crm1073</b>	Chr7:56659226-56659683	457	<b>crm1074</b>	Chr7:56798108-56798623	515
<b>crm1075</b>	Chr7:57145570-57146048	478	<b>crm1076</b>	Chr7:57343362-57344184	822
<b>crm1077</b>	Chr7:57784711-57785175	464	<b>crm1078</b>	Chr7:61671885-61672169	284

<b>crm1079</b>	Chr7:62711861-62712339	478	<b>crm1080</b>	Chr7:62877678-62878021	343
<b>crm1081</b>	Chr7:63418567-63419099	532	<b>crm1082</b>	Chr7:63868044-63868831	787
<b>crm1083</b>	Chr7:63886344-63886850	506	<b>crm1084</b>	Chr7:63918648-63918768	120
<b>crm1085</b>	Chr7:63957157-63957342	185	<b>crm1086</b>	Chr7:64033742-64033944	202
<b>crm1087</b>	Chr7:64312342-64313067	725	<b>crm1088</b>	Chr7:65688908-65689053	145
<b>crm1089</b>	Chr7:66765936-66766217	281	<b>crm1090</b>	Chr7:66913126-66913426	300
<b>crm1091</b>	Chr7:67611940-67612471	531	<b>crm1092</b>	Chr7:68064807-68065220	413
<b>crm1093</b>	Chr7:68182483-68182975	492	<b>crm1094</b>	Chr7:68532841-68533149	308
<b>crm1095</b>	Chr7:69080662-69081352	690	<b>crm1096</b>	Chr7:69626022-69626543	521
<b>crm1097</b>	Chr7:69652186-69652358	172	<b>crm1098</b>	Chr7:69705646-69706171	525
<b>crm1099</b>	Chr7:69732990-69733191	201	<b>crm1100</b>	Chr7:70032105-70032284	179
<b>crm1101</b>	Chr7:70067607-70068250	643	<b>crm1102</b>	Chr7:70238216-70238557	341
<b>crm1103</b>	Chr7:70583068-70584021	953	<b>crm1104</b>	Chr7:70665523-70665817	294
<b>crm1105</b>	Chr7:70992268-70992591	323	<b>crm1106</b>	Chr7:72411675-72412161	486
<b>crm1107</b>	Chr7:72710044-72710530	486	<b>crm1108</b>	Chr7:72900961-72901329	368
<b>crm1109</b>	Chr7:74131752-74132172	420	<b>crm1110</b>	Chr7:75248941-75249271	330
<b>crm1111</b>	Chr7:76482521-76483358	837	<b>crm1112</b>	Chr7:76702178-76703057	879
<b>crm1113</b>	Chr7:76888845-76889213	368	<b>crm1114</b>	Chr7:77768369-77768861	492
<b>crm1115</b>	Chr7:78191366-78191759	393	<b>crm1116</b>	Chr7:78241251-78241634	383
<b>crm1117</b>	Chr7:78312575-78313281	706	<b>crm1118</b>	Chr7:78957774-78958208	434
<b>crm1119</b>	Chr7:79401205-79402112	907	<b>crm1120</b>	Chr7:79432359-79433149	790
<b>crm1121</b>	Chr7:79449236-79449564	328	<b>crm1122</b>	Chr7:79631373-79632734	1361
<b>crm1123</b>	Chr7:79671008-79671658	650	<b>crm1124</b>	Chr7:79727570-79727890	320
<b>crm1125</b>	Chr7:79817459-79817676	217	<b>crm1126</b>	Chr7:79818337-79818513	176
<b>crm1127</b>	Chr7:79835222-79835930	708	<b>crm1128</b>	Chr7:79837000-79837535	535
<b>crm1129</b>	Chr7:79964710-79965486	776	<b>crm1130</b>	Chr7:80113492-80114008	516
<b>crm1131</b>	Chr7:80144604-80145294	690	<b>crm1132</b>	Chr7:80262266-80262755	489

<b>crm1133</b>	Chr7:80265622-80266329	707	<b>crm1134</b>	Chr7:80355393-80355831	438
<b>crm1135</b>	Chr7:80498194-80499087	893	<b>crm1136</b>	Chr7:80570551-80571488	937
<b>crm1137</b>	Chr7:80655550-80656021	471	<b>crm1138</b>	Chr7:80659736-80660094	358
<b>crm1139</b>	Chr7:80951213-80951419	206	<b>crm1140</b>	Chr7:81024316-81024949	633
<b>crm1141</b>	Chr7:81132586-81133060	474	<b>crm1142</b>	Chr7:81612185-81612515	330
<b>crm1143</b>	Chr7:81796515-81797267	752	<b>crm1144</b>	Chr7:81854222-81854485	263
<b>crm1145</b>	Chr7:83165567-83165850	283	<b>crm1146</b>	Chr7:83335426-83335823	397
<b>crm1147</b>	Chr7:83351137-83351804	667	<b>crm1148</b>	Chr7:83445227-83445731	504
<b>crm1149</b>	Chr7:83490969-83491549	580	<b>crm1150</b>	Chr7:83690716-83691094	378
<b>crm1151</b>	Chr7:83707305-83707982	677	<b>crm1152</b>	Chr7:83879488-83880193	705
<b>crm1153</b>	Chr7:83912454-83913097	643	<b>crm1154</b>	Chr7:83936194-83936933	739
<b>crm1155</b>	Chr7:84086515-84087031	516	<b>crm1156</b>	Chr7:84108021-84108402	381
<b>crm1157</b>	Chr7:84111281-84111721	440	<b>crm1158</b>	Chr7:84126425-84127200	775
<b>crm1159</b>	Chr7:84443014-84443700	686	<b>crm1160</b>	Chr7:84488214-84488985	771
<b>crm1161</b>	Chr7:84525862-84526159	297	<b>crm1162</b>	Chr7:84737068-84737380	312
<b>crm1163</b>	Chr7:84862471-84862905	434	<b>crm1164</b>	Chr7:84908252-84908762	510
<b>crm1165</b>	Chr7:84919489-84920283	794	<b>crm1166</b>	Chr7:84982551-84982952	401
<b>crm1167</b>	Chr7:85158844-85159738	894	<b>crm1168</b>	Chr7:85221244-85221570	326
<b>crm1169</b>	Chr7:85329640-85330274	634	<b>crm1170</b>	Chr7:85643138-85643482	344
<b>crm1171</b>	Chr7:85755024-85755391	367	<b>crm1172</b>	Chr7:85809491-85809754	263
<b>crm1173</b>	Chr7:85933786-85934087	301	<b>crm1174</b>	Chr7:86047401-86048104	703
<b>crm1175</b>	Chr7:86642299-86642818	519	<b>crm1176</b>	Chr7:86750571-86751042	471
<b>crm1177</b>	Chr7:86803536-86804298	762	<b>crm1178</b>	Chr7:86998645-86999280	635
<b>crm1179</b>	Chr7:87231644-87231992	348	<b>crm1180</b>	Chr7:87586299-87586653	354
<b>crm1181</b>	Chr7:87593415-87593764	349	<b>crm1182</b>	Chr7:87666868-87667267	399
<b>crm1183</b>	Chr7:87946971-87947824	853	<b>crm1184</b>	Chr7:88203987-88204669	682
<b>crm1185</b>	Chr7:88326980-88327672	692	<b>crm1186</b>	Chr7:88376995-88377948	953



<b>crm1187</b>	Chr7:88477961-88478337	376	<b>crm1188</b>	Chr7:88490107-88490593	486
<b>crm1189</b>	Chr7:88710344-88710695	351	<b>crm1190</b>	Chr7:90366168-90366488	320
<b>crm1191</b>	Chr7:90419915-90420847	932	<b>crm1192</b>	Chr7:90529513-90530261	748
<b>crm1193</b>	Chr7:90779426-90780283	857	<b>crm1194</b>	Chr7:90829509-90830069	560
<b>crm1195</b>	Chr7:91575238-91575422	184	<b>crm1196</b>	Chr7:91685785-91686339	554
<b>crm1197</b>	Chr7:91694890-91695393	503	<b>crm1198</b>	Chr7:91860045-91860200	155
<b>crm1199</b>	Chr7:91923808-91924770	962	<b>crm1200</b>	Chr7:91945595-91945978	383
<b>crm1201</b>	Chr7:92018857-92019813	956	<b>crm1202</b>	Chr7:92381521-92382688	1167
<b>crm1203</b>	Chr7:92438379-92438889	510	<b>crm1204</b>	Chr7:93239041-93239237	196
<b>crm1205</b>	Chr7:93252589-93252968	379	<b>crm1206</b>	Chr7:93314431-93314761	330
<b>crm1207</b>	Chr7:93540310-93540727	417	<b>crm1208</b>	Chr7:93541676-93542206	530
<b>crm1209</b>	Chr7:93607749-93608292	543	<b>crm1210</b>	Chr7:94042139-94043648	1509
<b>crm1211</b>	Chr7:94657876-94658031	155	<b>crm1212</b>	Chr7:94658649-94659089	440
<b>crm1213</b>	Chr7:94906217-94906727	510	<b>crm1214</b>	Chr7:94908957-94909448	491
<b>crm1215</b>	Chr7:94913854-94914412	558	<b>crm1216</b>	Chr7:95002084-95002635	551
<b>crm1217</b>	Chr7:95207923-95208274	351	<b>crm1218</b>	Chr7:95258407-95258747	340
<b>crm1219</b>	Chr7:95437388-95437679	291	<b>crm1220</b>	Chr7:95605249-95605557	308
<b>crm1221</b>	Chr7:95824348-95825002	654	<b>crm1222</b>	Chr7:96179242-96179622	380
<b>crm1223</b>	Chr7:96563724-96564249	525	<b>crm1224</b>	Chr7:96583923-96584380	457
<b>crm1225</b>	Chr7:96631827-96632491	664	<b>crm1226</b>	Chr7:97230120-97230621	501
<b>crm1227</b>	Chr7:97429549-97429977	428	<b>crm1228</b>	Chr7:97488739-97489419	680
<b>crm1229</b>	Chr7:97809583-97809740	157	<b>crm1230</b>	Chr7:98508345-98509046	701
<b>crm1231</b>	Chr7:99348630-99349726	1096	<b>crm1232</b>	Chr7:102432660-102433169	509
<b>crm1233</b>	Chr7:102632073-102632673	600	<b>crm1234</b>	Chr7:102729719-102730266	547
<b>crm1235</b>	Chr7:102941519-102942109	590	<b>crm1236</b>	Chr7:103195583-103195927	344
<b>crm1237</b>	Chr7:103329267-103329987	720	<b>crm1238</b>	Chr7:103967316-103967735	419
<b>crm1239</b>	Chr7:104083918-104084268	350	<b>crm1240</b>	Chr7:104268447-104269340	893

<b>crm1241</b>	Chr7:105751199-105751901	702	<b>crm1242</b>	Chr7:106028493-106029161	668
<b>crm1243</b>	Chr7:106226019-106226393	374	<b>crm1244</b>	Chr7:106232735-106232969	234
<b>crm1245</b>	Chr7:107245874-107246409	535	<b>crm1246</b>	Chr7:107690999-107691291	292
<b>crm1247</b>	Chr7:107769007-107769412	405	<b>crm1248</b>	Chr7:108387295-108387724	429
<b>crm1249</b>	Chr7:108489267-108489692	425	<b>crm1250</b>	Chr7:108677560-108678080	520
<b>crm1251</b>	Chr7:108756686-108757289	603	<b>crm1252</b>	Chr7:109214802-109215776	974
<b>crm1253</b>	Chr7:109343905-109344813	908	<b>crm1254</b>	Chr7:109947468-109947909	441
<b>crm1255</b>	Chr7:110127874-110128264	390	<b>crm1256</b>	Chr7:110302604-110302926	322
<b>crm1257</b>	Chr7:110544941-110545403	462	<b>crm1258</b>	Chr7:110606572-110606966	394
<b>crm1259</b>	Chr7:110729030-110729363	333	<b>crm1260</b>	Chr7:110804296-110804705	409
<b>crm1261</b>	Chr7:111159442-111159871	429	<b>crm1262</b>	Chr7:111624532-111625202	670
<b>crm1263</b>	Chr7:111884729-111885005	276	<b>crm1264</b>	Chr7:111914596-111915155	559
<b>crm1265</b>	Chr7:111915933-111916428	495	<b>crm1266</b>	Chr7:111974244-111974957	713
<b>crm1267</b>	Chr7:112112484-112113356	872	<b>crm1268</b>	Chr7:112125644-112126422	778
<b>crm1269</b>	Chr7:112745922-112746442	520	<b>crm1270</b>	Chr7:113060547-113061098	551
<b>crm1271</b>	Chr7:113092994-113093330	336	<b>crm1272</b>	Chr7:113093843-113094089	246
<b>crm1273</b>	Chr7:113403862-113404432	570	<b>crm1274</b>	Chr7:113531343-113531484	141
<b>crm1275</b>	Chr7:113544703-113545529	826	<b>crm1276</b>	Chr7:113714673-113715229	556
<b>crm1277</b>	Chr7:113728662-113729247	585	<b>crm1278</b>	Chr7:113770475-113770704	229
<b>crm1279</b>	Chr7:114072563-114072863	300	<b>crm1280</b>	Chr7:114128564-114129117	553
<b>crm1281</b>	Chr7:114259457-114259678	221	<b>crm1282</b>	Chr7:114413911-114414504	593
<b>crm1283</b>	Chr7:114455167-114455594	427	<b>crm1284</b>	Chr7:114482917-114483411	494
<b>crm1285</b>	Chr7:114956736-114957061	325	<b>crm1286</b>	Chr7:115271386-115271913	527
<b>crm1287</b>	Chr7:115722590-115723133	543	<b>crm1288</b>	Chr7:115805243-115805903	660
<b>crm1289</b>	Chr7:115873013-115873434	421	<b>crm1290</b>	Chr7:116212527-116212849	322
<b>crm1291</b>	Chr7:116754238-116754692	454	<b>crm1292</b>	Chr7:116915747-116916152	405
<b>crm1293</b>	Chr7:117267072-117267346	274	<b>crm1294</b>	Chr7:117406011-117406488	477

<b>crm1295</b>	Chr7:117680666-117681123	457	<b>crm1296</b>	Chr7:117750680-117751150	470
<b>crm1297</b>	Chr7:118254110-118254651	541	<b>crm1298</b>	Chr7:118713677-118713996	319
<b>crm1299</b>	Chr7:118766839-118767159	320	<b>crm1300</b>	Chr7:118890177-118890899	722
<b>crm1301</b>	Chr7:118901646-118902498	852	<b>crm1302</b>	Chr7:118936103-118936451	348
<b>crm1303</b>	Chr7:119038758-119038959	201	<b>crm1304</b>	Chr7:119126748-119127423	675
<b>crm1305</b>	Chr7:119313684-119314168	484	<b>crm1306</b>	Chr7:119377924-119378569	645
<b>crm1307</b>	Chr7:119997459-119997627	168	<b>crm1308</b>	Chr7:120319318-120319529	211
<b>crm1309</b>	Chr7:120344959-120345382	423	<b>crm1310</b>	Chr7:120375959-120376376	417
<b>crm1311</b>	Chr7:120685828-120686432	604	<b>crm1312</b>	Chr7:120775966-120776349	383
<b>crm1313</b>	Chr7:120778838-120779283	445	<b>crm1314</b>	Chr7:120812158-120812580	422
<b>crm1315</b>	Chr7:120879415-120880106	691	<b>crm1316</b>	Chr7:120928310-120928823	513
<b>crm1317</b>	Chr7:120982903-120983591	688	<b>crm1318</b>	Chr7:121124428-121125177	749
<b>crm1319</b>	Chr7:121443823-121444483	660	<b>crm1320</b>	Chr7:122106158-122106587	429
<b>crm1321</b>	Chr7:122108059-122108503	444	<b>crm1322</b>	Chr7:122287147-122287687	540
<b>crm1323</b>	Chr7:122353090-122353823	733	<b>crm1324</b>	Chr7:122366428-122366907	479
<b>crm1325</b>	Chr7:122520899-122521107	208	<b>crm1326</b>	Chr7:122603013-122603412	399
<b>crm1327</b>	Chr7:122646493-122646827	334	<b>crm1328</b>	Chr7:122679377-122679685	308
<b>crm1329</b>	Chr7:123711185-123711843	658	<b>crm1330</b>	Chr7:123856912-123857165	253
<b>crm1331</b>	Chr7:123886068-123886483	415	<b>crm1332</b>	Chr7:124483336-124483963	627
<b>crm1333</b>	Chr7:124722146-124722875	729	<b>crm1334</b>	Chr7:125014095-125015496	1401
<b>crm1335</b>	Chr7:125050034-125050525	491	<b>crm1336</b>	Chr7:125435952-125436271	319
<b>crm1337</b>	Chr7:125536599-125537105	506	<b>crm1338</b>	Chr7:125588759-125589530	771
<b>crm1339</b>	Chr7:125913930-125914443	513	<b>crm1340</b>	Chr7:125926616-125926934	318
<b>crm1341</b>	Chr7:125952820-125953552	732	<b>crm1342</b>	Chr7:126003275-126003948	673
<b>crm1343</b>	Chr7:126099546-126099946	400	<b>crm1344</b>	Chr7:126297567-126297988	421
<b>crm1345</b>	Chr7:126655399-126656331	932	<b>crm1346</b>	Chr7:126739351-126739829	478
<b>crm1347</b>	Chr7:126927922-126928830	908	<b>crm1348</b>	Chr7:127156808-127157415	607

<b>crm1349</b>	Chr7:127504246-127504738	492	<b>crm1350</b>	Chr7:127527924-127528528	604
<b>crm1351</b>	Chr7:127622907-127623392	485	<b>crm1352</b>	Chr7:127663462-127663698	236
<b>crm1353</b>	Chr7:128172306-128173570	1264	<b>crm1354</b>	Chr7:128228164-128228475	311
<b>crm1355</b>	Chr7:130416460-130417106	646	<b>crm1356</b>	Chr7:130823543-130824158	615
<b>crm1357</b>	Chr7:130917264-130917800	536	<b>crm1358</b>	Chr7:131060381-131060762	381
<b>crm1359</b>	Chr7:131130823-131131281	458	<b>crm1360</b>	Chr7:131476916-131477465	549
<b>crm1361</b>	Chr7:132238449-132238976	527	<b>crm1362</b>	Chr7:132242379-132242502	123
<b>crm1363</b>	Chr7:132748809-132749452	643	<b>crm1364</b>	Chr7:132995966-132996413	447
<b>crm1365</b>	Chr7:133154513-133154911	398	<b>crm1366</b>	Chr7:133431796-133432239	443
<b>crm1367</b>	Chr7:133445782-133446123	341	<b>crm1368</b>	Chr7:133931497-133931909	412
<b>crm1369</b>	Chr7:134600060-134600292	232	<b>crm1370</b>	Chr7:134718448-134718990	542
<b>crm1371</b>	Chr7:134720701-134721105	404	<b>crm1372</b>	Chr7:134783743-134784082	339
<b>crm1373</b>	Chr7:135421388-135421742	354	<b>crm1374</b>	Chr7:136171493-136172448	955
<b>crm1375</b>	Chr7:136189829-136190100	271	<b>crm1376</b>	Chr7:136451601-136452007	406
<b>crm1377</b>	Chr7:136545769-136546085	316	<b>crm1378</b>	Chr7:136561736-136562275	539
<b>crm1379</b>	Chr7:136564522-136565251	729	<b>crm1380</b>	Chr7:136944316-136944631	315
<b>crm1381</b>	Chr7:137036825-137037286	461	<b>crm1382</b>	Chr7:137077847-137078892	1045
<b>crm1383</b>	Chr7:137277810-137278180	370	<b>crm1384</b>	Chr7:137391683-137391955	272
<b>crm1385</b>	Chr7:137399041-137399905	864	<b>crm1386</b>	Chr7:137628921-137629602	681
<b>crm1387</b>	Chr7:138140795-138140897	102	<b>crm1388</b>	Chr7:138279834-138280360	526
<b>crm1389</b>	Chr7:138574645-138574811	166	<b>crm1390</b>	Chr7:138765493-138765694	201
<b>crm1391</b>	Chr7:138979659-138980375	716	<b>crm1392</b>	Chr7:139026050-139026354	304
<b>crm1393</b>	Chr7:139095403-139095739	336	<b>crm1394</b>	Chr7:139341109-139341457	348
<b>crm1395</b>	Chr7:140024293-140024854	561	<b>crm1396</b>	Chr7:140714521-140715168	647
<b>crm1397</b>	Chr7:141019000-141019203	203	<b>crm1398</b>	Chr7:141328987-141329349	362
<b>crm1399</b>	Chr7:141477862-141478536	674	<b>crm1400</b>	Chr7:141618233-141618662	429
<b>crm1401</b>	Chr7:141731178-141731632	454	<b>crm1402</b>	Chr7:142541671-142542140	469

<b>crm1403</b>	Chr7:143748555-143749624	1069	<b>crm1404</b>	Chr7:143900028-143900338	310
<b>crm1405</b>	Chr7:144064900-144065142	242	<b>crm1406</b>	Chr7:144104292-144104940	648
<b>crm1407</b>	Chr7:144167729-144168465	736	<b>crm1408</b>	Chr7:144741490-144742018	528
<b>crm1409</b>	Chr7:144995043-144995634	591	<b>crm1410</b>	Chr7:145425562-145425989	427
<b>crm1411</b>	Chr7:145687985-145688279	294	<b>crm1412</b>	Chr7:145719263-145719961	698
<b>crm1413</b>	Chr7:146064528-146065307	779	<b>crm1414</b>	Chr7:146118112-146118644	532
<b>crm1415</b>	Chr7:146334924-146335552	628	<b>crm1416</b>	Chr7:146465726-146466123	397
<b>crm1417</b>	Chr7:146793942-146794379	437	<b>crm1418</b>	Chr7:146829008-146829990	982
<b>crm1419</b>	Chr7:146976750-146977256	506	<b>crm1420</b>	Chr7:147039586-147040101	515
<b>crm1421</b>	Chr7:147048620-147049068	448	<b>crm1422</b>	Chr7:147140918-147141446	528
<b>crm1423</b>	Chr7:147283966-147284268	302	<b>crm1424</b>	Chr7:147623179-147623664	485
<b>crm1425</b>	Chr7:147784122-147784504	382	<b>crm1426</b>	Chr7:147983420-147983854	434
<b>crm1427</b>	Chr7:148015709-148016419	710	<b>crm1428</b>	Chr7:148032684-148033421	737
<b>crm1429</b>	Chr7:148070821-148071053	232	<b>crm1430</b>	Chr7:148479265-148479354	89
<b>crm1431</b>	Chr7:148610335-148610614	279	<b>crm1432</b>	Chr7:149155493-149155797	304
<b>crm1433</b>	Chr7:149428609-149428757	148	<b>crm1434</b>	Chr7:149743046-149743413	367
<b>crm1435</b>	Chr7:149748705-149748941	236	<b>crm1436</b>	Chr7:149864478-149864944	466
<b>crm1437</b>	Chr7:149879753-149880358	605	<b>crm1438</b>	Chr7:150824769-150825179	410
<b>crm1439</b>	Chr7:151791045-151791693	648	<b>crm1440</b>	Chr7:151886048-151886741	693
<b>crm1441</b>	Chr7:152768942-152769600	658	<b>crm1442</b>	Chr7:153260598-153260782	184
<b>crm1443</b>	Chr7:153614336-153614702	366	<b>crm1444</b>	Chr7:154681209-154681592	383
<b>crm1445</b>	Chr7:154770663-154771207	544	<b>crm1446</b>	Chr7:155530920-155531434	514
<b>crm1447</b>	Chr7:155921304-155922207	903	<b>crm1448</b>	Chr7:156146412-156147083	671
<b>crm1449</b>	Chr7:156557440-156557737	297	<b>crm1450</b>	Chr7:157576725-157577254	529
<b>crm1451</b>	Chr7:157842625-157842957	332	<b>crm1452</b>	Chr7:158495137-158495506	369
<b>crm1453</b>	Chr7:158598045-158598592	547			

### 3.5 Chromosome 7 VISTA Enhancers

To compare and validate TFBS based CRM prediction, functionally tested enhancers present on chromosome 7 were acquired. There were total 133 enhancers present on human chromosome 7 having expressions in various tissues like forebrain, mid brain, eye, ear etc. Any enhancer can be positive if it shows reproducible expression in same tissue among more than three embryos, whereas a negative enhancer fails to exhibit reproducible expression pattern in any three mice embryos out of the five tested. Table 3.6 summarizes detailed information about VISTA enhancers on human chromosome 7. Each row describes element id, coordinates and expression pattern of enhancer as either negative or positive. For each positive enhancer, information of expression tissue is also provided in table. Since enhancers show spatiotemporally specific expression, so each enhancer can show activity in multiple tissues. For each positive enhancer, all expression tissues are mentioned along with the probability of expression  $p(E)$  seen according to formula mentioned below.

$$p(E) = \frac{\text{no of expressed embryos}}{\text{Total no of embryos tested}}$$

Tissue wise distribution of these experimentally verified enhancers is depicted in figure 3.2, depicting highest number of enhancers expressing in brain. Tissue category brain in this figure includes all enhancers reported in forebrain, midbrain and hindbrain.

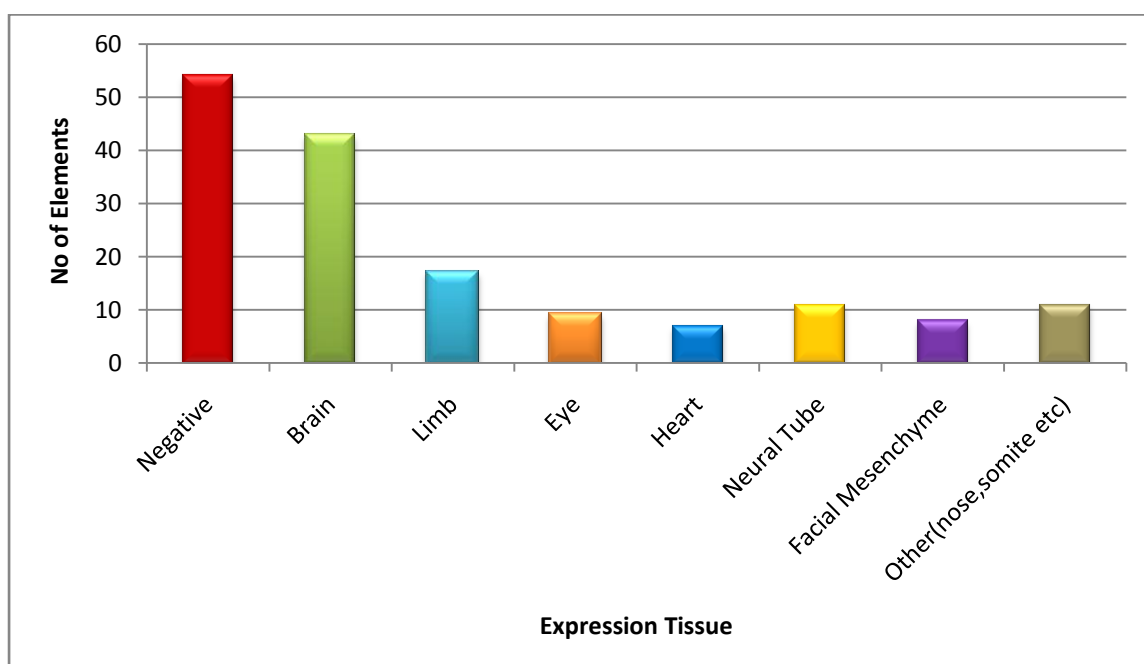


Figure 3.2|Tissue wise distribution of VISTA enhancers on human chromosome 7.

Since our concerned tissue in this study was forebrain, to assess sensitivity of our model (in later stages), we filtered out elements expressing exclusively in forebrain (figure 3.3). Elements expressing in forebrain as well as other tissues are represented as forebrain inclusive elements in figure 3.3. Remaining positive elements exhibiting expression in tissues other than forebrain are represented as others.

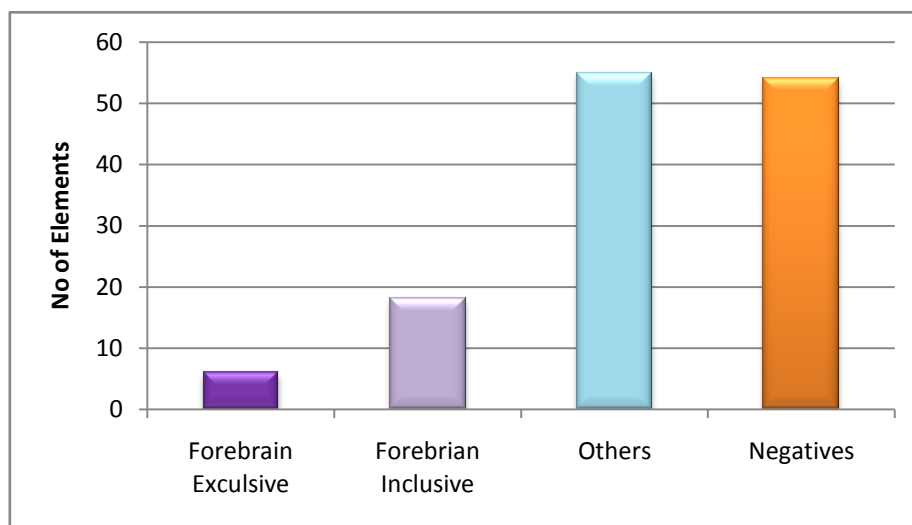


Figure 3.3|Forebrain wise distribution of VISTA enhancers.

Table 3.6 | VISTA elements residing on human chromosome 7.

Sr.No	VISTA Element ID	Coordinates	Expression	Expression Tissue
1	element 110	chr7:21003280-21004750	positive	forebrain[4/4]
2	element 111	chr7:42191728-42193638	positive	forebrain[4/4]
3	element 173	chr7:1267832-1269169	negative	
4	element 190	chr7:115313238-115315056	negative	
5	element 218	chr7:114056847-114058647	positive	forebrain[5/7]
6	element 219	chr7:114062615-114063919	negative	
7	element 220	chr7:114070779-114073266	negative	
8	element 221	chr7:114208952-114210310	negative	
9	element 222	chr7:114295109-114296373	positive	heart[3/6]
10	element 239	chr7:20829390-20830407	negative	
11	element 293	chr7:1265154-1266318	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[8/10] , forebrain[8/10] , branchial arch[3/10]
12	element 294	chr7:21811370-21812002	positive	neural tube[3/5]
13	element 296	chr7:26728697-26729802	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[4/5]
14	element 297	chr7:31401914-31403016	positive	melanocytes[4/5]
15	element 298	chr7:96633582-96634303	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[3/6]
16	element 299	chr7:115115427-115117325	negative	
17	element 300	chr7:115133829	negative	



		-115135428		
<b>18</b>	element 301	chr7:115582121- -115582622	negative	
<b>19</b>	element 461	chr7:35454800- 35456218	positive	eye[9/9]
<b>20</b>	element 463	chr7:35505184- 35506342	positive	heart[5/6]
<b>21</b>	element 464	chr7:35320121- 35321085	negative	
<b>22</b>	element 465	chr7:35590614- 35591629	negative	
<b>23</b>	element 466	chr7:35268514- 35269380	positive	facial mesenchyme[3/4]
<b>24</b>	element 467	chr7:35275271- 35276121	negative	
<b>25</b>	element 468	chr7:35331175- 35332120	negative	
<b>26</b>	element 469	chr7:35359004- 35359854	negative	
<b>27</b>	element 470	chr7:35236863- 35237925	negative	
<b>28</b>	element 471	chr7:35254518- 35255251	negative	
<b>29</b>	element 472	chr7:35458551- 35459522	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[5/6] , eye[6/6] , heart[6/6]
<b>30</b>	element 473	chr7:35342478- 35343110	negative	
<b>31</b>	element 474	chr7:35388314- 35389035	negative	
<b>32</b>	element 501	chr7:27249858- 27251057	negative	
<b>33</b>	element 550	chr7:13506207- 13507276	positive	forebrain[3/5] , branchial arch[3/5]
<b>34</b>	element 629	chr7:27288268- 27289491	positive	dorsal root ganglion[4/8]
<b>35</b>	element 635	chr7:50449432-	negative	

		50450191		
<b>36</b>	element 644	chr7:18885971-18887230	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[4/9] , forebrain[6/9] , limb[6/9]
<b>37</b>	element 658	chr7:69702231-69703615	positive	neural tube[9/15] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[11/15]
<b>38</b>	element 684	chr7:115113551-115114543	negative	
<b>39</b>	element 701	chr7:21084342-21085460	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[4/8]
<b>40</b>	element 720	chr7:113793545-113794562	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[5/7]
<b>41</b>	element 738	chr7:115295267-115296597	negative	
<b>42</b>	element 749	chr7:13450920-13451719	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[9/10] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[9/10]
<b>43</b>	element 769	chr7:26524662-26525636	positive	neural tube[5/7]
<b>44</b>	element 785	chr7:114381553-114382837	negative	
<b>45</b>	element 792	chr7:114395170-114396591	negative	
<b>46</b>	element 793	chr7:10684318-10685359	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[10/13]
<b>47</b>	element 799	chr7:9271308-9272358	positive	forebrain[12/13]
<b>48</b>	element 807	chr7:22091362-22092557	positive	forebrain[8/9]
<b>49</b>	element 816	chr7:14379627-14380740	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[9/10]
<b>50</b>	element 827	chr7:69881761-69882691	negative	
<b>51</b>	element 833	chr7:69980613-69981299	negative	
<b>52</b>	element 844	chr7:20832628-20833902	positive	forebrain[5/6] , facial mesenchyme[3/6]
<b>53</b>	element 846	chr7:69891243-	negative	

		69892028		
<b>54</b>	element 861	chr7:115262750 -115264769	negative	
<b>55</b>	element 877	chr7:50219464- 50220288	negative	
<b>56</b>	element 925	chr7:70103123- 70104331	positive	neural tube[8/15] , limb[8/15]
<b>57</b>	element 954	chr7:114287987 -114290557	negative	
<b>58</b>	element 956	chr7:114299711 -114302078	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[3/7] , forebrain[6/7]
<b>59</b>	element 961	chr7:50333048- 50334464	negative	
<b>60</b>	element 966	chr7:114326912 -114329772	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[6/11]
<b>61</b>	element 972	chr7:50357638- 50358644	negative	
<b>62</b>	element 999	chr7:114142132 -114143527	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[4/6] , facial mesenchyme[4/6]
<b>63</b>	element 1007	chr7:20997668- 20999102	positive	forebrain[3/3] , facial mesenchyme[3/3]
<b>64</b>	element 1019	chr7:20838843- 20840395	positive	forebrain[4/6]
<b>65</b>	element 1069	chr7:114052100 -114053403	negative	
<b>66</b>	element 1080	chr7:114261073 -114263089	positive	ear[3/5]
<b>67</b>	element 1132	chr7:42432266- 42433365	negative	
<b>68</b>	element 1148	chr7:21019551- 21021200	positive	limb[4/4]
<b>69</b>	element 1167	chr7:114055419 -114056748	negative	
<b>70</b>	element 1192	chr7:114463797 -114464462	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[5/5] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[3/5]
<b>71</b>	element 1213	chr7:42252831-	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[5/6] ,

		42254560		midbrain (mesencephalon)[5/6] , forebrain[3/6]
<b>72</b>	element 1215	chr7:114292900 -114293972	negative	
<b>73</b>	element 1223	chr7:21239775- 21240922	negative	
<b>74</b>	element 1226	chr7:21080801- 21082086	positive	neural tube[12/16] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[12/16] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[13/16] , forebrain[14/16] , eye[12/16] , cranial nerve[10/16]
<b>75</b>	element 1268	chr7:155547616 -155548788	positive	limb[4/6]
<b>76</b>	element 1308	chr7:127174386 -127177546	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[7/7] , forebrain[7/7]
<b>77</b>	element 1325	chr7:25791903- 25794282	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[5/5] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[5/5] , forebrain[5/5]
<b>78</b>	element 1336	chr7:34097962- 34100011	positive	neural tube[4/6] , forebrain[6/6]
<b>79</b>	element 1401	chr7:108014729 -108017176	negative	
<b>80</b>	element 1418	chr7:155264047 -155265809	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[4/5] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[4/5]
<b>81</b>	element 1425	chr7:69596979- 69598263	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[4/6]
<b>82</b>	element 1430	chr7:28114903- 28117771	positive	limb[11/12]
<b>83</b>	element 1465	chr7:25919000- 25922541	positive	somite[9/9] , limb[9/9]
<b>84</b>	element 1508	chr7:135456908 -135459236	negative	
<b>85</b>	element 1586	chr7:42185602- 42187508	positive	limb[3/3]
<b>86</b>	element 1600	chr7:25695037- 25697616	positive	forebrain[4/5] , limb[3/5] , branchial arch[4/5] , nose[4/5] , facial mesenchyme[4/5]

<b>87</b>	element 1604	chr7:28630662-28634883	positive	limb[10/10] , branchial arch[10/10] , nose[10/10] , genital tubercle[9/10] , facial mesenchyme[10/10]
<b>88</b>	element 1623	chr7:5671918-5676544	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[4/5] , branchial arch[5/5] , facial mesenchyme[5/5] , other[4/5]
<b>89</b>	element 1626	chr7:93975962-93978880	positive	branchial arch[6/6] , facial mesenchyme[6/6]
<b>90</b>	element 1627	chr7:90753895-90758080	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[20/20] , forebrain[11/20] , limb[13/20] , eye[18/20] , ear[18/20]
<b>91</b>	element 1631	chr7:90797871-90800712	positive	somite[10/13]
<b>92</b>	element 1633	chr7:90777214-90780836	positive	forebrain[8/8]
<b>93</b>	element 1642	chr7:95874847-95878101	positive	neural tube[7/8] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[7/8] , forebrain[8/8]
<b>94</b>	element 1659	chr7:35412725-35416349	positive	heart[9/9]
<b>95</b>	element 1660	chr7:69399070-69400682	positive	ear[5/8]
<b>96</b>	element 1677	chr7:25533607-25536880	positive	neural tube[6/6] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[6/6] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[3/6]
<b>97</b>	element 1703	chr7:27156051-27156664	negative	
<b>98</b>	element 1740	chr7:16043133-16045391	negative	
<b>99</b>	element 1753	chr7:158888320-158891362	positive	heart[14/18]
<b>100</b>	element 1798	chr7:115451531-115454796	positive	neural tube[6/9] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[6/9] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[6/9] , forebrain[9/9] , eye[6/9]
<b>101</b>	element 1809	chr7:121967528-121971078	positive	neural tube[5/9] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[7/9] , midbrain

(mesencephalon)[7/9] , forebrain[9/9]				
102	element 1831	chr7:95236622-95240458	positive	heart[10/15] , other[11/15]
103	element 1876	chr7:113558123-113559105	negative	
104	element 1878	chr7:19157694-19159713	negative	
105	element 1880	chr7:19146921-19150251	negative	
106	element 1908	chr7:150665549-150670065	negative	
107	element 1947	chr7:2651286-2654820	negative	
108	element 1988	chr7:120536767-120540791	negative	
109	element 2059	chr7:50564242-50565706	positive	heart[8/9]
110	element 2071	chr7:115993663-115997109	positive	other[6/9]
111	element 2077	chr7:135742628-135745716	positive	ear[5/9]
112	element 2079	chr7:42532168-42534364	negative	
113	element 2081	chr7:107587162-107588892	positive	dorsal root ganglion[4/9] , limb[5/9] , trigeminal V (ganglion, cranial)[6/9] , cranial nerve[5/9]
114	element 2082	chr7:139910588-139914247	positive	dorsal root ganglion[3/7] , trigeminal V (ganglion, cranial)[3/7]
115	element 2198	chr7:151439778-151443512	negative	
116	element 2200	chr7:151453949-151457105	positive	midbrain (mesencephalon)[8/12]
117	element 2249	chr7:99594233-99596427	negative	
118	element 2258	chr7:147972273-147975381	negative	

<b>119</b>	element 2306	chr7:18868716-18870405	positive	limb[4/4]
<b>120</b>	element 2307	chr7:18874272-18875369	positive	limb[2/2] , branchial arch[2/2]
<b>121</b>	element 2308	chr7:95705089-95705696	positive	limb[8/8] , genital tubercle[4/8]
<b>122</b>	element 2309	chr7:95726279-95727680	positive	limb[3/3]
<b>123</b>	element 2310	chr7:96221075-96221574	negative	
<b>124</b>	element 2311	chr7:96124918-96125415	positive	branchial arch[8/11]
<b>125</b>	element 2312	chr7:96075405-96075991	positive	branchial arch[3/3]
<b>126</b>	element 2313	chr7:95765880-95766473	positive	forebrain[2/2] , limb[2/2] , branchial arch[2/2] , ear[2/2]
<b>127</b>	element 2314	chr7:95696530-95697029	negative	
<b>128</b>	element 2315	chr7:69325868-69327684	positive	hindbrain (rhombencephalon)[4/13] , midbrain (mesencephalon)[12/13] , forebrain[5/13] , eye[11/13]
<b>129</b>	element 2316	chr7:69646374-69649029	positive	eye[3/5]
<b>130</b>	element 2317	chr7:69720457-69721867	positive	eye[6/6] , other[3/6]
<b>131</b>	element 2318	chr7:69731835-69734096	positive	Neural tube[4/4] , hindbrain (rhombencephalon) [4/4] , midbrain (mesencephalon) [4/4] , forebrain [4/4]
<b>132</b>	element 2387	chr7:130012949-130014460	negative	
<b>133</b>	element 2419	chr7:82039621-82041108	positive	somite[12/12] ,limb[11/12], branchial arch [9/12] , eye[10/12]

### 3.6 Results Validation

Comparison of our predicated CRMs with functionally tested VISTA Enhancers from chromosome 7 revealed 8 experimentally validated VISTA enhancers overlapping with CRMs. Out of total eight, 2 enhancers were forebrain exclusive while 2 were forebrain inclusive enhancers. Following table 3.7 provides more information about these results.

**Table 3.7| VISTA Enhancers overlapping with CRMs (CRMs bearing \* represent overlap with forebrain exclusive enhancer).**

No.	CRM Id	Coordinates	Vista Element Id	Expression Tissue
1	crm44	chr7:10685350-10685359	element 793	Midbrain
2	crm128*	chr7:21003280-21003638	element 110	Forebrain
3	crm365	chr7:69400538-69400682	element 1660	Ear
4	crm1099	chr7:69732990-69733191	element 2318	Forebrain(4/4 embryos), neural tube, midbrain, hindbrain
5	crm471	chr7:90755441-90756057	element 1627	Forebrain (11/20 embryos) midbrain, eye, ear
6	crm1193*	chr7:90779426-90780283	element 1633	Forebrain (8/8 embryos)
7	crm1279	chr7:114072563-114072863	element 220	Negative
8	crm715	chr7:130012949-130013286	element 2387	Negative

### 3.7 CRMs in Gene Deserts

Total of 20 gene deficient regions were identified on chromosome 7 which exceeded in size from 500kbps. Generally, these regions had high repeat content and low CpG density. Table 3.8 encompasses CRMs located in these gene deserts along with other characteristics of these regions.



Table 3.8|Gene Deserts on chromosome 7 and CRMs residing in gene deserts

Gene Desert	Location	Size (Bps)	No. of overlapping CRMs	Overlapping CRM Ids	Flanking Reference Genes		Genes and Models in Region	CpG Island	Repetitive Content	
									LINES	SINEs
1	7q11.22-q11.23	2,277,393	12	crm358, crm1090, crm1091, crm359, crm360, crm361, crm1092, crm1093, crm362, crm1094, crm363, crm364	FLJ13195/ STAG3L4	AUTS2	2 predicted	1	10.8%	25.8%
2	7q31.1	2,089,310	19	crm1248, crm559, crm1249, crm1250, crm1251, crm560, crm561, crm1252, crm562, crm563, crm564, crm1253, crm565, crm1254, crm566, crm567, crm1255, crm568, crm1256	THC12014 70/ DNAJB9	IMMP2L	3 predicted; 1 pseudogene	0	32.9%	5.2%
3	7p12.2-p12.1	1,718,821	30	crm315, crm316, crm1052, crm1053, crm1054, crm1055, crm1056, crm1057, crm317, crm1058, crm318, crm319, crm1059, crm1060, crm320, crm1061, crm321, crm1062, crm1063, crm322, crm323, crm324, crm325, crm326, crm327, crm328, crm1064, crm329, crm1065, crm1066	KIAA0633/ COBL	FLJ40449/ POM121L1 2	2 predicted; 1 putative; 1 pseudogene	4	26.0%	8.1%
4	7p22.1-p21.3	2,026,979	31	crm25, crm894, crm895, crm26, crm27, crm28, crm29, crm30, crm31, crm896, crm897, crm32, crm33, crm34, crm898, crm35, crm899, crm36, crm37, crm900, crm901, crm902, crm38, crm39, crm40, crm903, crm41, crm42, crm43, crm904, crm44	NXP1	IMAGE:36 05453/BC0 02644	2 predicted; 1 putative; 1 pseudogene	3	31.2%	5.3%

5	7q31.31- q31.32	2,030,939	23	crm645, crm646, crm647, crm1297, crm1298, crm648, crm1299, crm649, crm1300, crm650, crm1301, crm1302, crm651, crm1303, crm652, crm1304, crm653, crm654, crm1305, crm655, crm1306, crm656, crm657	ANKRD7	hCT181688 3/ KCND2	1 pseudogen e	2	32.2%	4.2%
6	7p21.3	1,200,299	19	crm922, crm923, crm57, crm924, crm58, crm925, crm59, crm60, crm61, crm62, crm926, crm927, crm63, crm928, crm929, crm930, crm64, crm65, crm931	ARL4	ETV1	1 pseudogen e	2	24.0%	8.7%
7	7q21.11- q21.13	1,601,976	20	crm438, crm1162, crm1163, crm1164, crm1165, crm1166, crm439, crm440, crm1167, crm1168, crm441, crm1169, crm1170, crm1171, crm1172, crm1173, crm442, crm1174, crm443, crm444	IMAGE:52 72175/ SEMA3D	GRM3	1 predicted	1	33.8%	4.9%
8	7p12.3- p12.2	1,445,770	12	crm300, crm301, crm1045, crm302, crm303, crm304, crm1046, crm305, crm306, crm1047, crm307, crm1048	MGC26484 /ABCA13	ZPBP	none	1	31.0%	6.0%
9	7q31.33- q31.2	1,508,616	17	crm688, crm689, crm1333, crm690, crm691, crm1334, crm1335, crm1336, crm1337, crm692, crm1338, crm693, crm694, crm1339, crm1340, crm1341, crm1342	THC10791 10/POT1	GRM8	1 predicted	0	28.7%	5.1%
10	7q36.1- q36.2	1,031,719	6	crm1441, crm840, crm841, crm842, crm1442, crm843	ARP3BET A/ACTR3B	DPP6	2 predicted	2	24.3%	8.4%

11	7p13-p12.3	1,353,882	12	crm1039, crm1040, crm284, crm285, crm1041, crm286, crm287, crm288, crm1042, crm289, crm290, crm1043	IGFBP3	PRO1866/ TNS3	2 predicted; 1 pseudogene	1	31.4%	5.8%
12	7q31.2-q31.31	915,233	13	crm612, crm613, crm614, crm615, crm1285, crm616, crm617, crm618, crm619, crm1286, crm620, crm621, crm622	IMAGE:42 76820/ MDFIC	TFEC	1 putative	0	19.9%	6.1%
13	7q21.2	817,344	5	crm460, crm461, crm462, crm463, crm464	FLJ32110/ ZNF804B	IMAGE:52 95327/ STEAP1	1 predicted ; 1 pseudogene	1	33.6%	5.2%
14	7q31.2	789,050	16	crm1269, crm591, crm592, crm593, crm594, crm1270, crm595, crm1271, crm1272, crm596, crm597, crm598, crm599, crm1273, crm600, crm601	GPR85	PPP1R3/ PPP1R3A	none	1	31.4%	5.1%
15	7q35	1,280,308	12	crm800, crm1408, crm801, crm802, crm1409, crm803, crm1410, crm804, crm1411, crm805, crm1412, crm806	TPK1	THC12035 97/ CNTNAP	3 pseudogenes	1	29.7%	6.3%
16	7p14.1-p13	679,845	6	crm1034 ,crm266 ,crm267 ,crm268 ,crm269 ,crm270	GLI3	MGC2821	1 predicted	0	31.1%	6.5%
17	7q21.11	681,251	10	crm394 ,crm395 ,crm1119 ,crm396 ,crm1120 ,crm397 ,crm1121 ,crm1122 ,crm1123 ,crm1124	AIP1/ MAGI2	GNAI1	1 predicted; 1 pseudogene	0	30.0%	6.3%
18	7p21.2-p21.1	550,042	8	crm958 ,crm959 ,crm960 ,crm114 ,crm115 ,crm116 ,crm117 ,crm961	FERD3L	LOC22183 0/ TWISTNB	1 predicted	0	35.4%	5.2%
19	7p14.1	550,042	3	crm259, crm260, crm261	BC033981	INHBA	none	0	16.6%	9.7%
20	7q21.3-q22.1	550,197	2	crm518, crm1226	DC11/ ACN9	TAC1	2 predicted	0	28.7%	12.2%
<b>Total</b>		25Mb	264			<b>Average</b>	0.8	4.2%	28.1%	7.5%
						<b>Standard Deviation</b>	0.8	2.3%	6.3%	4.7%

Plotting the size of gene deserts against their respective repeat content percentage and CRMs predicted shows interesting results evident in figure 3.4. No of CRMs represented as red line in figure seems directly proportional to size represented in blue bars. Whereas, a decrease in number of CRMs is seen with increase in repeat content percentage depicted inversely proportional relation between the two. Since repeat content is represented in percentage, so it seems almost linear as compared to decreasing size of gene deserts if seen left to right. Gene desert 1, 2, 4 and 5 being larger in size among other regions had most number of CRMs with moderate repeat content. Gene desert 20 being smallest in size and having highest LINE and SINE percentage had lowest number of CRM predictions.

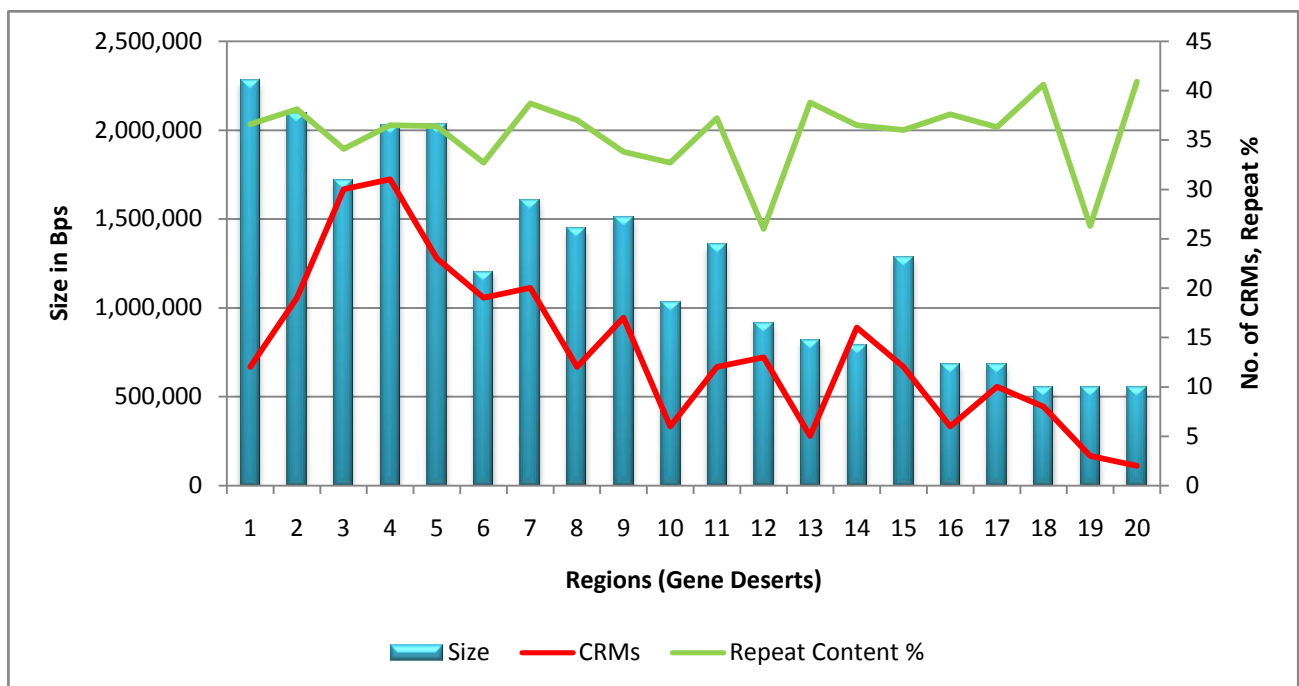


Figure 3.4| Comparative analysis of size, CRMs and repeat content of gene deserts.

### 3.8 Final representation

Circos, a data representation and analysis tool was used to summarize all the results of study in one circular diagram. Outer most orange circle in figure 3.5 represents ideogram of human chromosome 7. Inner purple blocks represent gene deserts and the red marks are predicted CRMs. Inner most circle is for validation from vista. All marks in this track represent forebrain specific vista enhancers of chromosome 7. Green marks represent CRM non overlapping and red represent CRM overlapping vista enhancers.

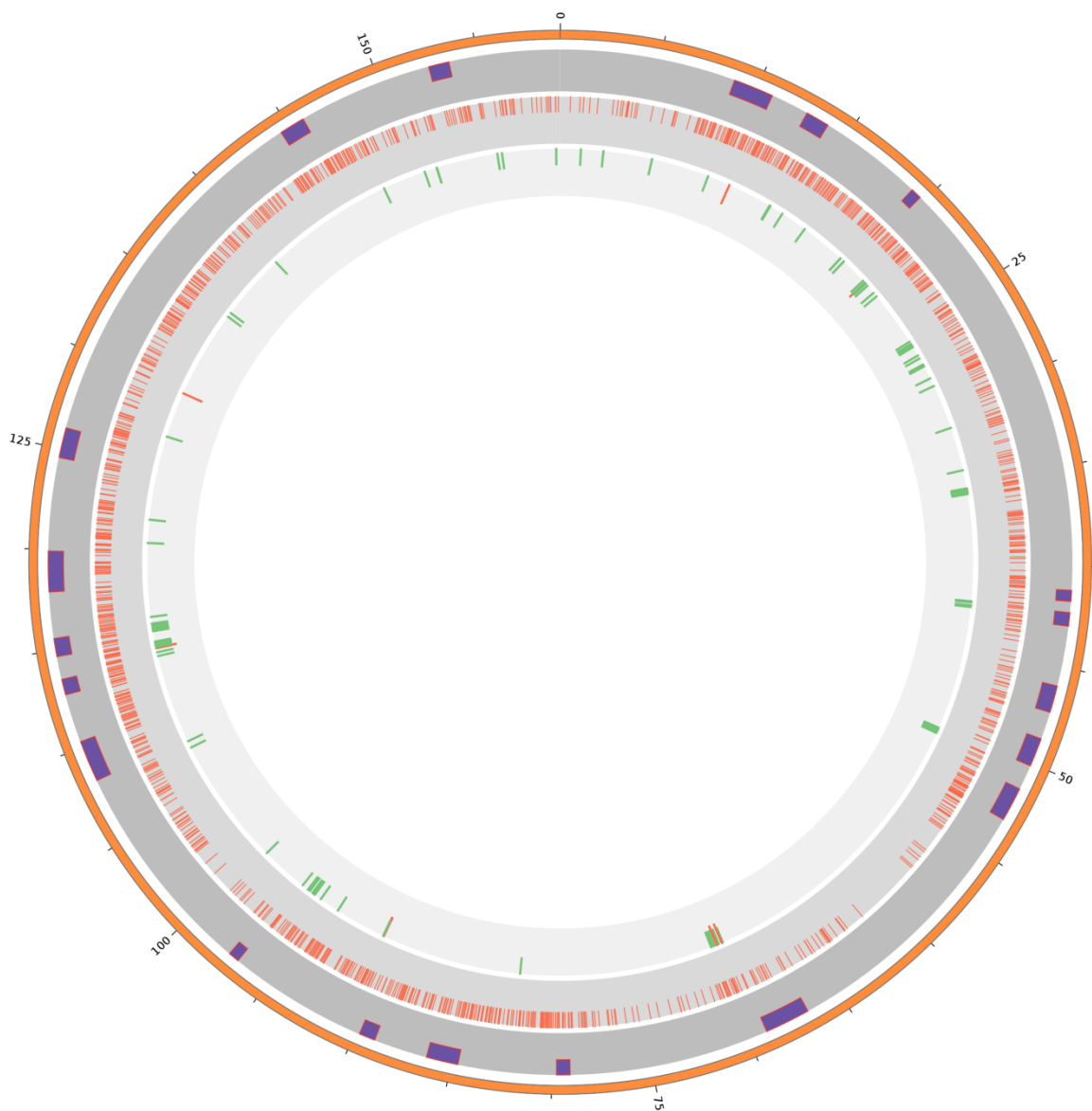


Figure 3.5|Chromosome 7 view with gene deserts (purple), CRMs (red) and vista enhancers (red).

Chapter 4  
DISCUSSION

## **4. DISCUSSION**

Since completion of human genome project and invention of next generation sequencing techniques, scientific community has been subjected to massive data explosion making annotation a key challenge. Scientific community has been able to annotate almost all the coding portion of genome, yet some questions are unanswered. Expanding the search space, attention of researchers shifted towards the long “junk” considered non-coding portion of the DNA. Seemingly simple stretch of As, Ts, Gs and Cs turn out to be a complex repertoire of genes, transposable elements and Cis-Regulatory Modules like promoters, enhancers, silencers and various other non coding elements. Individual identity of each cell is beholden to the regulatory elements which apparently reside in non-coding region of genome.

Among all regulatory elements, enhancers hold a prime responsibility of gene regulation. Owing their importance, many efforts have been invested in their identification, prediction and association with target genes. Lack of particular vocabulary, long range action, short and degenerated transcription factor binding sites are the properties of enhancers which make their recognition more difficult. However, some experimental and computational techniques are developed which predict enhancers with their own limitations and cost.

Comparative genomics is used in various studies to predict enhancers with a limited sensitivity (Grad et al., 2004; Pennacchio, et al., 2006). Since this technique is based on ultra conservation of elements, it generally misses out least conserved and organism specific enhancers. Recently, experimental techniques like ChIP-Seq have been developed to overcome the deficiencies of phylogenetic foot printing by providing conservation independent platform (Blow et al., 2010; Creighton et al., 2010; Visel, et al., 2009). It is capable of producing high throughput data elevating the amount of information received finally. However, it fails to cater spatio-temporal specific nature of enhancers properly. Moreover, its histological specificity and high cost adds to its limitations. These limitations prove computational techniques and pipelines as indispensable substitute.

Most eukaryotic enhancers have more than one transcription factor binding sites on them thus often named as Cis-Regulatory Modules. Combinatorial binding of transcription factors on enhancer grants it spatio-temporal specificity as well as leaves some important marks for its identification. We exploited same property of CRMs in our study for their identification. Limiting our scope to forebrain, we compiled a catalogue of transcription factors having high

expression probability in forebrain. This catalogue was generated and purified using strong functional, statistical and literature evidence. Average size of human forebrain enhancer varies between 500-4000bps and usually contains 5-8 unique transcription factor binding sites distributed unevenly on enhancer. Distance between TFBSs is important for proper binding of transcription factors. Considering the average size and number of binding sites, we computed average distance between TFBS using functionally validated forebrain enhancers from VISTA enhancer browser. 104 forebrain specific enhancers were involved to compute average spacer distance, which turned out to be 250 bps.

Human chromosome 7 was chosen as our search space. Cis-acting elements usually reside in non-coding and non-repetitive part of genome. To reduce the search space and back ground noise, we masked repeats and exons on chromosome 7 prior to our search. TFs rarely bind to enhancers as single unit thus transcriptional regulation of gene is directed by combinatorial programming of TFs that interact as clusters of localized domains (Spitz & Furlong, 2012). To identify such clusters of localized domains on chromosome 7, we combined each set of TFBSs into a cluster that had lower than average spacer distance between any two TFBSs. Initially a huge number of clusters similar to CRMs were predicted. To increase sensitivity of the method we needed to capture maximum number of binding sites within a CRM, for this purpose we filtered out any clusters having binding sites less than 5. As a result, we report a set of 1453 regions on chromosome 7, which have at least 5 unique binding sites for forebrain specific transcription factors and can serve as potential Cis-Regulatory Module. Genomic regions having binding preferences for multiple transcription factors are more likely to endure chromatin remodeling (Heintzman et al., 2009) and DNase hypersensitivity sites (Heintzman, et al., 2009) demonstrating functional relevance of the regions predicted in our study.

Conventional methods of enhancer identification involve use of epigenetic marks and phylogenetic foot printing as explained earlier. One such repository of functionally validated enhancers is VISTA Enhancer browser. Our predicted CRMs were compared with 133 functionally validated enhancers inhabiting chromosome 7 from VISTA enhancer browser. Out of 6 forebrain specific VISTA enhancers, we were able to catch 2, which depict significant sensitivity despite of difference in mode of prediction of both methods.

Gene deserts are long gene deficient regions. Being usually conserved, they can serve as best place for CRM or enhancer hunt.(Nobrega et al., 2003). Many studies have been dedicated to



enhancer search in gene deserts (de la Calle-Mustienes, et al., 2005; Sotelo et al., 2010). We collected 20 gene deserts on chromosome 7 from literature survey and mapped our CRMs in those regions. 6.3% of human chromosome 7 is gene desert. Out of 1453 CRMs, 264 lied unevenly in the 20 gene deserts resulting 22% of total CRMs in gene deserts. Since these gene deserts had varied percentage of repeat content, number of CRMs also varied. However, low number of CRMs was seen in gene deserts having high repeat content showing inversely proportional relation.

Conclusively, this study presents a computational platform supported by literature and experimental evidence, which can be used for locating potential CRMs. Employing Transcription factor binding site specificity and expression data systematically, transcriptional regulatory network of a specific tissue, can be analyzed in much less time and cost as compared to other techniques available today.

Chapter 5  
REFERENCES

## 5. REFERENCES

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