

## ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation: TRANSCRIPTOMIC PROFILING OF *LEISHMANIA* PARASITES AND HOST MACROPHAGES DURING AN INFECTION

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*Leishmania* parasites cause leishmaniasis, a group of diseases that range in manifestations from skin lesions to fatal visceral disease. The parasite's life cycle is divided between its insect vector and its mammalian host, where it resides primarily inside of macrophages. Once intracellular, *Leishmania* parasites must avoid being killed by the innate and adaptive immune responses. We performed transcriptomic profiling using RNA-seq to simultaneously identify global changes in gene expression in *Leishmania* parasites across multiple lifecycle stages and in infected macrophages from both murine and human hosts. Using a novel approach based on a dual statistical test to identify genes that were differentially expressed relative to both uninfected macrophages and macrophages that had ingested inert particles, we were able to filter out genes that were differentially regulated as part of a general phagocytic response and thereby select genes specific to *Leishmania* infection. The most substantial and dynamic *Leishmania*-specific differential expression responses were observed during early infection, while changes observed later were common to

phagocytosis more generally. An evaluation of RNA processing events within the parasite revealed precise UTR boundaries for a majority of genes and widespread alternative *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation. Collection of data from multiple biological replicates, the use of matched host control samples, careful statistical analysis of variation, and removal of batch effects enabled the detection of biological differences between samples and timepoints with high confidence and sensitivity. Pathway and gene ontology analyses provided insights into the higher level processes activated across parasite developmental stages and during intracellular infection to reveal signatures of *Leishmania* differentiation and infection.

TRANSCRIPTOMIC PROFILING OF *LEISHMANIA* PARASITES AND  
HOST MACROPHAGES DURING AN INFECTION

By

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate my degree to my husband, Sean, and our beautiful children, Luke and Juliet, who bring me immeasurable joy and continually remind me that the best path in life is not always the most direct.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my mentor, Najib El-Sayed, for allowing me the opportunity to join his lab and for constant support and guidance on all things, work-related and not. I was nervous about whether I would be able to fit back into the academic setting (especially in the new-to-me field of bioinformatics) or to achieve a satisfying work-life balance; I feel extremely lucky to have found an environment where I could learn from the ground up and I am appreciative-beyond-words for the flexibility you've allowed me to find ways to thrive at both work and home. I have learned so much from working with you and by virtue of the experiences afforded me as a member of your lab – for my own project and multiple exciting collaborations - and I am exceedingly grateful.

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## List of Abbreviations

A	adenine
AAH	aminohydrolase
AAT	aspartate aminotransferase
Akt	protein kinase B
ALD	aldolase
Amast	Amastigote
ATG8	autophagy-related protein 8
ATP	adenosine triphosphate
C	cytosine
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	calcium ion
CARD9	caspase recruitment domain-containing protein 9
CCL20	chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 20
CD14	cluster of differentiation 14
CDS	coding sequence
CMIP	c-Maf inducing protein
CR3	complement receptor 3
CSF1	colony stimulating factor 1
CSF2	colony stimulating factor 2
CSF3	colony stimulating factor 3
CXCL1	chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 1
CXCL2	chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 2
CXCL3	chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 3
CXCL5	chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 5
CYP51	lanosterol 14 alpha-demethylase
DE	differentially expressed/differential expression
DOT1	histone-lysine N-methyltransferase
EGFR	epidermal growth factor receptor
ENOL	enolase
ErbB	erythroblastic leukemia viral oncogene
EuPathDB	Eukaryotic Pathogen Database
FBS	fetal bovine serum
FC	fold change
FIGF	C-fos-induced growth factor
FoxO	forkhead box
FPPS	farnesylpyrophosphate synthase
G	guanine
GABA	gamma-aminobutyric acid
GABRE	gamma-aminobutyric acid receptor subunit epsilon
GAPDH	glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase
GO	gene ontology
GPI	glycosylphosphatidylinositol
GSS	genomic survey sequence
HASP	hydrophilic acylated surface protein
HIF-1	hypoxia-inducible factor 1

HMGR	HMG-CoA reductase
HMOX1	heme oxygenase 1
HPGL	host-pathogen genomics laboratory
hpi	hours post infection
hr	hour
HSP	heat shock protein
HTLV	human T-lymphotrophic virus
IL1B	interleukin 1 beta
IL1RAP	interleukin 1 receptor accessory protein
IL1RN	interleukin 1 receptor antagonist
IL6	interleukin 6
IL10	interleukin 10
IL11R	interleukin 11 receptor
IL18	interleukin 18
IL18R1	interleukin 18 receptor 1
Inf	infected
inflA	<i>Leishmania amazonensis</i> -infected
inflM	<i>Leishmania major</i> -infected
ino1	inositol-3-phosphate synthase
JAK	janus kinase
logFC	log(2) fold change
LPG	lipophosphoglycan
MAP	mitogen-activated protein
MAPK	mitogen-activated protein kinases
Metac	Metacyclic promastigote
mit1	<i>myo</i> -inositol
mpc	median pairwise correlation
NF-kappa B	nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells
NLRP	NOD-like receptor pyrin domain
NOD	nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain
NOS2	nitric oxide synthase, inducible
NS	not significant
NSDHL	sterol-4-alpha-carboxylate 3-dehydrogenase
nt	nucleotide
ORF	open reading frame
PI3K	phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase
polyA	polyadenine/polyadenylation
polyPy	polypyrimidine
P	primary
PAMP	pathogen-associated molecular pattern
PC	principal component
PCA	principal component analysis
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PNA	peanut agglutinin
Proc	Procyclic promastigote
PSG	promastigote secretory gel



PTGS2	prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2
RIG	retinoic acid-inducible gene
S	secondary
SCG	phosphoglycan beta 1,3 galactosyltransferase
SHERP	small hydrophilic endoplasmic reticulum protein
SL	spliced leader
SNARE	soluble NSF attachment protein receptor
SOCS3	suppressor of cytokine signaling 3
SOD2	superoxide dismutase 2
SRA	Short Read Archive
STAT	signal transducer and activator of transcription
SYT	synaptotagmin
T	thymine
TGF	transforming growth factor
TLR	toll-like receptor
TM-HMM	transmembrane hidden Markov model
TNF	tumor necrosis factor
TNFSF9	TNF superfamily member 9
U	uracil
Uninf	uninfected
UTR	untranslated region
VAMP	vesicle-associated membrane protein
VEGF	vascular endothelial growth factor
XRPT	xanthine phosphoribosyltransferase
Y2H	yeast-2-hybrid

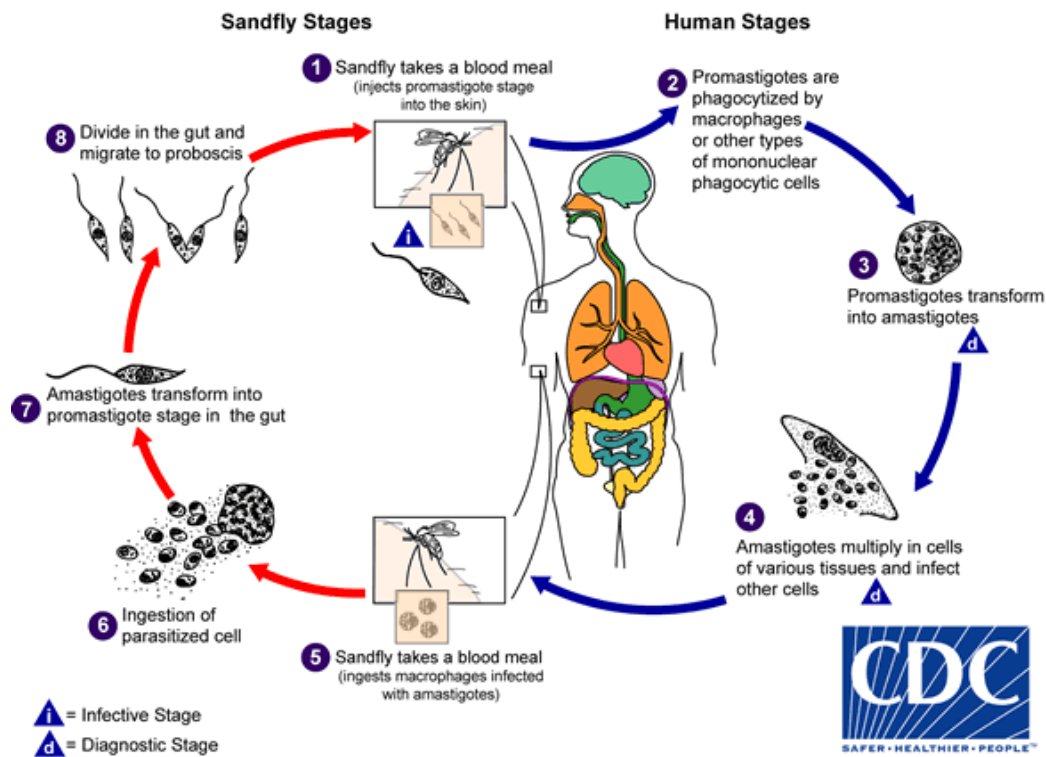
# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### *Leishmania* lifecycle

*Leishmania major* and related species are the causative agents of leishmaniasis, a group of diseases that vary in severity from self-healing skin lesions to disfiguring mucosal manifestations to fatal visceral disease. More than a million new cases are reported annually, mostly concentrated in the Middle East and Central and South America (Alvar, 2012). The *Leishmania* life cycle is divided between its insect vector, the phlebotomine sand fly, and its mammalian host, where it resides primarily inside of macrophages, although neutrophils, dendritic cells, and fibroblasts have also been implicated at various stages of infection (Bogdan, 2000; Laufs, 2002; Moll, 1995; Peters, 2008; Sarkar, 2013) (see Figure 1). The developmental stages of *Leishmania* parasites can be distinguished by cell size and shape, position of the nucleus, proliferation state, and the presence and length of an external flagellum. Upon being bitten by a sand fly, non-proliferating, flagellated metacyclic promastigotes are introduced into the bloodstream of the mammalian host and are quickly phagocytosed by host immune cells. They come to reside inside of macrophage lysosome-derived parasitophorous vacuoles where they undergo differentiation into the small, aflagellated amastigote stage. Amastigotes divide rapidly inside of the phagolysosomes of infected macrophages and are then released from the cells to infect other host macrophages. When an infected host is bitten by a sand fly,

amastigotes are transmitted into the abdominal midgut of the sand fly where they differentiate into proliferative procyclic promastigotes and then further into large, slender (nectomonad) promastigotes that are cell cycle-arrested. The nectomonad promastigotes migrate to the thoracic midgut of the sand fly where they change into proliferative (leptomonad) promastigotes, which secrete a promastigote secretory gel (PSG) that causes the sand fly to regurgitate them during its subsequent blood meal. The leptomonad promastigotes differentiate into the metacyclic promastigotes that are transmitted back to the mammalian host, thus perpetuating the cycle (Bates, 2007; Kramer, 2012).



**Figure 1: The lifecycle of *Leishmania* parasites.**

The lifecycle of *Leishmania* parasites is divided between its insect vector, the female phlebotomine sand fly (left) and its mammalian host (right), where it resides inside of macrophages [from <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/leishmaniasis/biology.html>].

When responding to changes in the environment as it moves through its lifecycle, such as upon leaving the sand fly vector and infecting host cells, the parasite must alter its gene expression to adapt to the new surroundings. In particular, the parasite must respond to changes in temperature, pH, and osmolarity and withstand assault from the host immune system. Many of the changes that the parasite undergoes are reflected in changes in its morphology (size, shape, position of organelles) and variations in cell surface components (Ambit, 2011; Beverley, 1998; Wheeler, 2011). Less is known about changes that take place at the transcriptional level.

### **Trypanosomatid gene expression**

Unlike most other eukaryotes, *Leishmania* and other trypanosomatids, including *Trypanosoma brucei* and *Trypanosoma cruzi*, do not regulate the expression levels of individual genes by the differential recruitment of RNA polymerase II influenced by cellular transcription factors. Rather, their genes are arranged as polycistronic clusters of tens to hundreds of functionally unrelated genes that are transcribed at roughly the same rate across the genome. The long, polycistronic pre-mRNAs are then split into component mature mRNAs through the processes of *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation (Sutton, 1986). While the genome sequence of *L. major* was completed in 2005 (Ivens, 2005), much remains unknown about gene boundaries, the mechanisms directing the expression levels of individual genes, or how *Leishmania* genes influence or are influenced by host gene expression during an infection.

## Previous studies of leishmaniasis

Studies using microarrays or SAGE tags have started to elucidate changes that occur within the parasite or within the host as infection occurs (Akopyants, 2004; Almeida, 2004; Buates, 2001; Chaussabel, 2003; Cohen-Freue, 2007; Depledge, 2009; Ettinger, 2008; Giraud, 2012; Gregory, 2008; Guerfali, 2008; Holzer, 2006; Lahav, 2011; Leifso, 2007; McNicoll, 2006; Novais, 2015; Osorio y Fortéa, 2009; Probst, 2012; Rabhi, 2012; Ramírez, 2012; Rochette, 2008; Rochette, 2009; Rodriguez, 2004; Saxena, 2003; Saxena, 2007), but have so far not sought to look at the transcriptomes of both simultaneously and over the course of an intracellular infection. While very informative, microarray-based approaches have several inherent limitations such as hybridization and cross-hybridization artifacts, the restriction on genes interrogated to probes included on the array (inhibiting the identification of previously unannotated genes), dye-based detection issues, the need for large amounts of input RNA, and the inability to detect 5' and 3' UTRs boundaries.

Previous studies have identified genes that are differentially regulated upon infection with various *Leishmania* species, sometimes with opposing results. Some of these differences may be attributable to the parasite species and host systems used, the severity of the resulting infection, and the timepoints/developmental stages examined. Additionally, studies of *Leishmania* amastigotes have often used axenic cultures (Holzer, 2006; Lahav, 2011; McNicoll, 2006; Rochette, 2009; Saxena, 2007) or lesion-derived amastigotes (Akopyants, 2004; Almeida, 2004; Holzer, 2006; Leifso, 2007; Maretti-Mira, 2012; Rochette, 2008).

The former have been shown to significantly differ from the intracellular biological state (Holzer, 2006; Rochette, 2009) while the latter contain a mixture of amastigotes at various timepoints post-infection, making it difficult to differentiate between changes that take place during early versus later intracellular infection. These limitations likely resulted in the identification of an incomplete list of genes that are up- or down-regulated in the parasite and host prior to and during an infection. RNA-seq, which enables a precise and sensitive measurement of mRNA transcript abundance, has begun to be applied to this problem (Rastrojo, 2013), and additional, comprehensive, well-replicated studies examining gene expression across multiple conditions and in multiple host systems are needed to more fully understand both the gene expression signatures of the parasite and host during an infection and how these change over time.

### **Study overview**

Transcriptomic profiling using RNA-seq was performed to interrogate gene structure and expression signatures within *Leishmania* developmental stages and to concurrently identify transcriptomic changes in the parasite's mammalian hosts. Specifically, we were able to precisely delineate the 5' and 3' UTR boundaries for a majority of *Leishmania* genes and to detect widespread alternative *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation. We were able to identify global changes in gene expression that occur as *Leishmania major* undergoes metacyclogenesis from the non-infective procyclic promastigote form to the infective metacyclic promastigote form, and to simultaneously identify global changes in host and parasite gene expression over the first 72 hours of a

synchronized intracellular infection of murine peritoneal macrophages or primary human macrophages by either *Leishmania major* or *Leishmania amazonensis*. Subsequent pathway and gene ontology analyses provided insights into the higher level processes activated as the parasite achieves infectivity and during an infection.

A paired-end mRNA sequencing approach was used to allow high confidence read mapping and transcript assembly. Careful study design which included the collection of data from multiple biological replicates, consistency between biological systems evaluated, the use of matched control samples, robust statistical analysis of replicates, and consideration of technical sources of variation (batch effects) enabled the detection of biological differences between samples and timepoints with high confidence and sensitivity. This work builds on and improves existing expression datasets and gene structure annotations and allows insights into how *Leishmania* is able to evade host defenses and cause modulations in the host transcriptome in order to survive in the mammalian intracellular environment. The datasets generated provide a substantially more detailed interpretation of *L. major* biology that will inform the field and potentially provide additional data for drug discovery and vaccine development efforts.

### **Dissertation overview and contributions**

This dissertation describes analyses done to identify RNA processing sites in *Leishmania major*, to characterize changes in gene expression throughout the *Leishmania* lifecycle, and to describe changes in gene expression in *Leishmania*-infected mammalian macrophages. Chapters 2-3 describe analyses of the

procyclic and metacyclic promastigote stages of *L. major* to identify and characterize RNA processing sites (Chapter 2) and to quantify differential expression (Chapter 3). Chapter 4 describes differential expression analyses for *L. major*-infected murine macrophages. Chapter 5 describes similar analyses in human macrophages and additionally describes *L. amazonensis* infection of macrophages and changes that occur when macrophages ingest latex beads. Chapter 6 describes proposed future directions for this research.

Cell samples for the promastigote analyses and murine infections (Chapters 2-4) were prepared by Rahul Suresh. For these samples, total RNA was isolated and cDNA libraries were prepared by Laura Dillon. For the human experiments (Chapter 5), all samples were generated by Cecilia Fernandes (cell culture, RNA isolation, and cDNA library preparation). The pipeline used to identify *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation sites (Chapter 2) was developed and implemented by Keith Hughitt. The scripts used to characterize alternative RNA processing were originally conceived and written by Yuan Li with additional adaptations by Laura Dillon for the specific purposes of the *Leishmania* analysis. The novel ORF dataset (Chapters 2-3), *Leishmania* GO mapping reference dataset (Chapters 3-5), and human-mouse/*L. major*-*L. amazonensis* orthology tables (Chapter 5) were provided by Trey Belew. Imaging and quantification of the metacyclic stage enrichment was done by Cecilia Fernandes (Chapter 3). The pipelines for sample diagnostics, batch effect detection, and differential expression analysis (Chapters 3-4) were developed in collaboration with Kwame Okrah and Hector Corrada Bravo, and were run by Laura Dillon. The dual



statistical test used to test for differential expression after accounting for the phagocytosis effect was developed by Hector Corrada Bravo and implemented by Laura Dillon. *GOseq* analyses (Chapters 3-5) and KEGG analyses (Chapters 4-5) were done by Laura Dillon. The results of the analyses, including the differentially expressed gene lists and GO and KEGG enrichments, were interpreted by Laura Dillon (Chapters 2-5), Cecilia Fernandes (Chapter 5), Najib El-Sayed (Chapters 2-5), and David Mosser (Chapters 3-5).

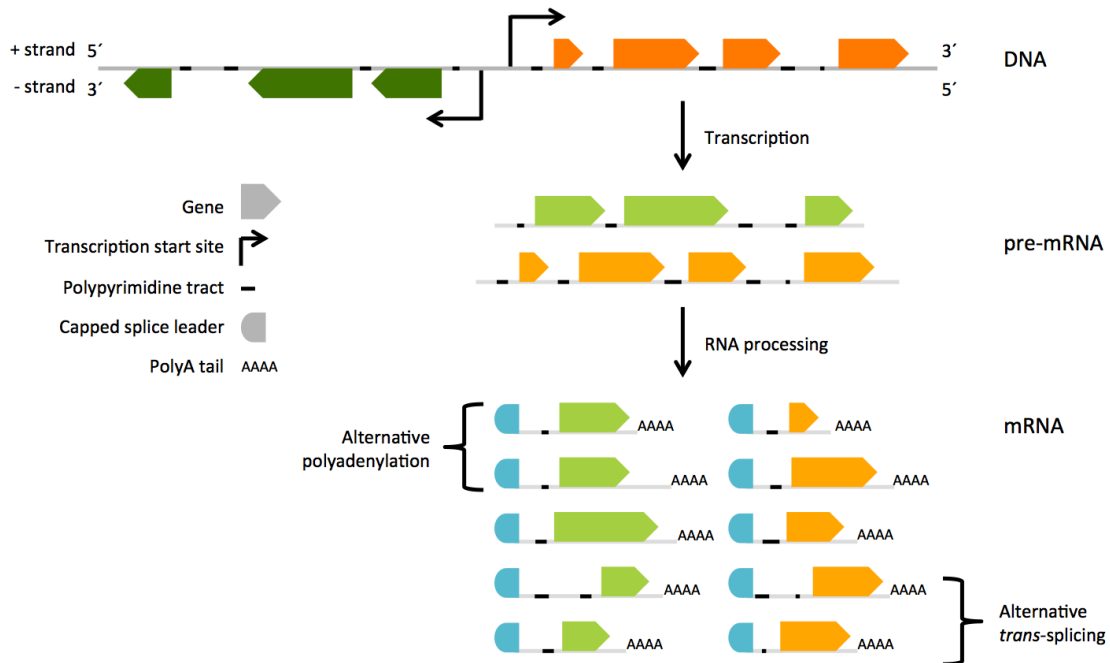
The analyses described in Chapters 2-3 were published in *Nucleic Acids Research* in July 2015 (Dillon et al. Transcriptomic profiling of gene expression and RNA processing during *Leishmania* major differentiation. 2015. PMID: 26150419). A manuscript describing the analyses in Chapter 4 is under revision at *BMC Genomics* (October 2015). A manuscript describing the analyses in Chapter 5 has been submitted (October 2015).

## Chapter 2

### RNA processing events during *Leishmania* differentiation

#### Introduction

The genomes of *Leishmania* and other kinetoplastid organisms – including *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* – are composed of polycistronic clusters of functionally-unrelated genes that are transcribed at roughly the same rate across the genome. Transcription initiation occurs at divergent 'strand switch regions' where polycistronic units originate in opposite directions on opposing DNA strands (El-Sayed, 2005; Ivens, 2005; Martinez-Calvillo, 2003; McDonagh, 2000; Myler, 1999). The *trans*-splicing of a capped 39-nucleotide (nt) spliced leader (SL) mini-exon sequence to the 5' end of each nuclear mRNA and the polyadenylation of the 3' end are used to separate each polycistronic pre-mRNA transcript into its component mature mRNAs (Sutton, 1986) (see Figure 2). *Trans*-splicing and polyadenylation events are coupled temporally and spatially such that the SL acceptor site of the downstream gene determines the location of the polyadenylation site of the upstream gene and both modification events occur simultaneously during post-transcriptional processing (LeBowitz, 1993; Matthews, 1994; Ullu, 1993). Spliced leader acceptor sites contain a consensus AG dinucleotide that is preceded by polypyrimidine-rich sequence and a G nucleotide excluded from the -3 position (Kolev, 2010; LeBowitz, 1993; Matthews, 1994). Polyadenylation sites do not appear to contain a specific signal sequence and have been reported to occur about 500-600 nucleotides upstream



**Figure 2: *Trans*-splicing and polyadenylation in Trypanosomatids**

*Leishmania* and related species utilize polycistronic transcription followed by the *trans*-splicing of a capped 39-nt spliced leader sequence to the 5' end of each component RNA coupled with polyadenylation of the 3' end of the upstream gene to separate pre-mRNAs into their component mature mRNAs. The illustration shows the transcription and subsequent RNA processing of two polycistronic units (green and orange) by the addition of the capped spliced leader (blue) and polyA tail (AAAA). A stretch of pyrimidine residues, known as the polypyrimidine tract (black) is involved in the regulation of RNA processing. The use of different nucleotide positions for the *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation events leads to alternative RNA processing.

of the coupled *trans*-splicing acceptor site (LeBowitz, 1993). *Trans*-splicing of a specific SL sequence is not itself unique to trypanosomatids, but has evolved in parallel in a range of diverse organisms including Euglenozoa and dinoflagellates, *C. elegans* and related nematodes, Platyhelminthes, and primitive chordates (Derelle, 2010). However, trypanosomatids are distinct in their reliance on *trans*-splicing to express all genes transcribed by RNA polymerase II and because they do so without the use of any sequence-specific transcription factors.

Since the transcription of *Leishmania* genes occurs fairly uniformly across the genome, steady-state mRNA levels for individual genes are largely dependent on gene copy number and the rate of mRNA degradation, with mRNA deadenylation preceding degradation for most mRNAs. Sequence motifs contained in the 3' UTRs greatly influence mRNA stability and the recruitment of the cellular degradation machinery (Brittingham, 2001; Charest, 1996; Fadda, 2014; Folgueira, 2005; Manful, 2011; Michaeli, 2011; Peacock, 2007; Rogers, 2011; Zilka, 2001; Coughlin, 2000; Quijada, 2000). Since kinetoplasts lack introns (with very few exceptions), they do not control gene expression by alternative *cis*-splicing (Ivens, 2005; Mair, 2000). Gene expression is thus predominantly controlled, not at the transcriptional level through the developmental regulation of RNA polymerase II activity, but by gene copy number, post-transcriptional mRNA processing, rates of mRNA degradation, and translational efficiency (see (Clayton, 2007) for review).

The genome of *Leishmania major*, which defined the boundaries of coding sequence for the large majority of *L. major* genes, was completed in 2005 (Ivens, 2005). While it has been an invaluable resource for researchers in the field, the lack of defined UTR boundaries has hampered the ability to look for sequence motifs contained in the UTRs that may be involved in directing the post-transcriptional regulation of individual mRNAs - including degradation, storage, and translation rate. Deep sequencing of *L. major* procyclic and metacyclic promastigote samples by RNA-seq presented an opportunity to comprehensively annotate transcript boundaries, thereby enhancing the structural annotation of *L.*

*major* genes and providing a substantial additional resource for the *Leishmania* research community. We exploited the signal sequences generated by *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation events to accurately map the 5' and 3' UTR boundaries of transcripts by comparing reads containing these signals to the reference genome sequence. The UTR boundaries identified were used to identify alternative RNA processing events within and between *L. major* developmental stages.

### **Identification of transcript boundaries**

Distinct transcript boundaries were determined for a large majority of previously annotated protein-coding genes and novel genes for which there was evidence of translation by ribosome profiling (Table 12). RNA was isolated from cultured *L. major* grown to log phase (procyclic form) or enriched for metacyclic forms using: 1) a Ficoll gradient or 2) negative selection using peanut agglutinin (PNA). PolyA enriched cDNA libraries were generated using the Illumina TruSeq protocol and 100-bp paired end sequences were generated. RNA-seq reads which did not map to the *L. major* genome due to RNA processing events were examined separately for evidence of spliced leader (SL) sequence and a polyA tail. Of the ~960 million reads from 13 *L. major* samples (5 procyclic promastigote samples and 8 metacyclic promastigote samples), ~3.9% contained evidence of *trans*-splicing and ~0.05% contained evidence of polyadenylation (Table 11). Once the SL and polyA sequences were removed, the remainders of the reads were mapped to the genome, allowing the identification of coordinates for at least

one *trans*-splicing site for 8,981 genes (94.2% of a total of 9,530 genes) and at least one polyadenylation site for 8,841 genes (92.8%).

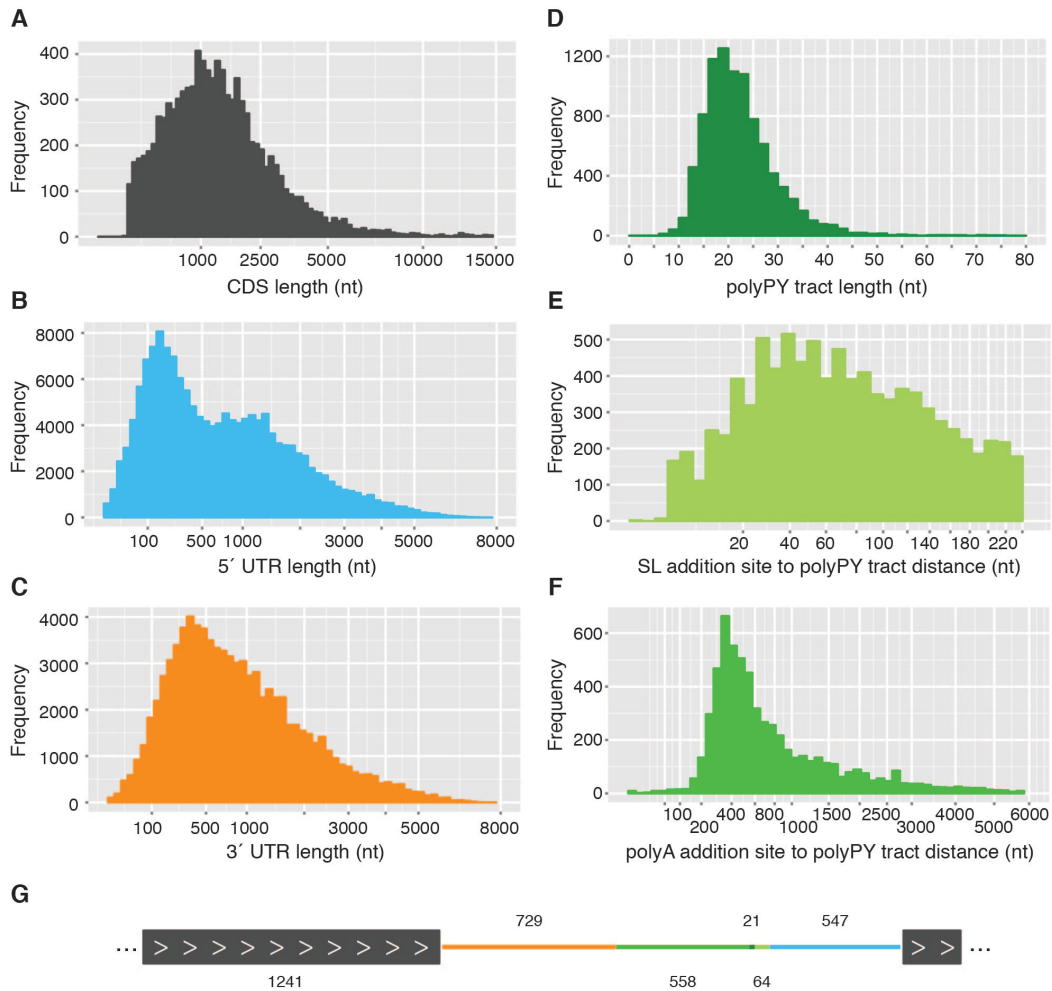
A sampling of the *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation sites identified here was compared to existing data in TriTrypDB (Peter Myler's group, Seattle Biomed) that were generated using an RNA-seq method that specifically enriched for SL-containing sequences (biological sample type unknown). Our *trans*-splicing site data were highly concordant with these previously reported data. This high degree of agreement is remarkable given the differences in sample type, culture, and preparation across different labs and may potentially indicate that the usage of *trans*-splicing sites in *Leishmania* is fairly consistent across various biological conditions. The observed variability is likely attributable to the differences in coverage, RNA-seq approach, and data analysis methodology. Our polyA site data did not generally match the existing data on TriTrypDB down to the specific nucleotide. This could be due to the extreme heterogeneity of these sites (previously reported for *T. brucei* (Kolev, 2010)), differences in the biological samples studied, or differences in the methods used to identify and assign sites.

### **Gene structure features**

We sought to determine the length distribution of the elements of each gene - 5' UTR, coding sequence (CDS), and 3' UTR - as well as the intergenic region, including the polypyrimidine (polyPy) tract, for previously annotated protein-coding genes and the novel ORFs. Start and stop coordinates for *L. major* genes were used to determine a median CDS length of 1,241 nt with a

range from 64 to 52,178 nt (Figure 3A). The boundaries of 5' UTRs were defined using the coordinates of the SL addition sites and start codon annotations and a similar analysis was done to determine the lengths of 3' UTRs using stop codon and polyadenylation site coordinates. The median length of all identified 5' UTRs (not including the 39 nt SL sequence) and 3' UTRs was 547 and 729 nt, respectively (Figure 3B and Figure 3C). When only the most-utilized (primary) *trans*-splicing or polyadenylation site for each gene was considered, these values were reduced to 233 and 517 nt, respectively (see alternative RNA processing section below). The distribution of both the 5' and 3' UTR lengths was similar in both stages (Figure 4) and there did not appear to be a correlation between CDS length and either UTR length or between corresponding UTR lengths.

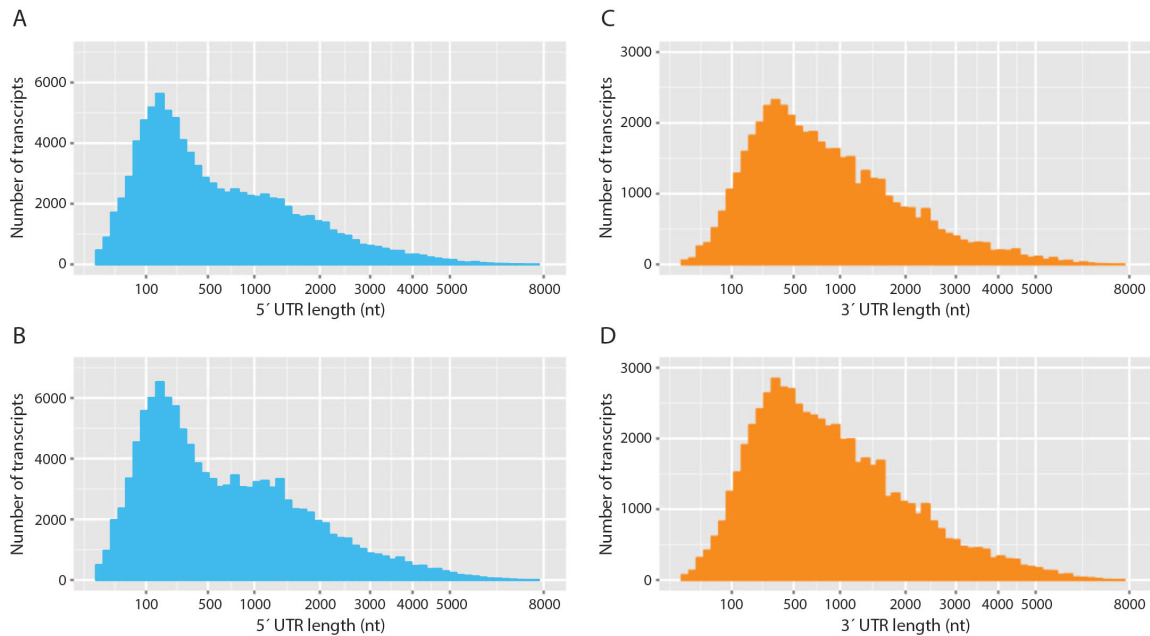
The length distribution analysis was extended to examine the polyPy tract, which is known to be involved in the regulation of RNA processing events in trypanosomatids (Günzl, 2010; Huang, 1991; Siegel, 2005). In this analysis, the polyPy tract was identified as the longest stretch of pyrimidine residues located upstream of each of the (primary) *trans*-splicing sites and interrupted by no more than one purine. PolyPy tracts ranged from 7 to 123 nt in length, with a median value of 21 nt (Figure 3D) and a clear usage preference for cytosine (54%) over thymine (42%) residues. This observation, which runs counter to what has been found in related species (Greif, 2013; Kolev, 2010) (Li Y, Caradonna KL, Belew AT, Corrada Bravo H, Burleigh BA, El-Sayed NM, in revision), is unsurprising given the higher GC content of *Leishmania* relative to the other trypanosomatids (El-Sayed, 2005). The median distance between each polyPy tract and its



**Figure 3: Length and position distribution of gene structure components.**

Data from procyclic and metacyclic promastigote samples were combined to describe the gene structure elements of *L. major*. (A) Distribution of CDS lengths. Start and stop coordinates for coding sequences for previously annotated protein-coding genes (TriTrypDB v. 6.0) and novel ORFs were used to compute CDS lengths. For genes with multiple isoforms, the first isoform listed in TriTrypDB was included in the analysis. (B) Distribution of 5' UTR lengths. The exact *trans*-splicing sites associated with each CDS were used to determine the coordinates and lengths of 5' UTRs. A total of 154,046 *trans*-splicing sites were identified, corresponding to 5' UTRs ranging from 0 to 7,252 nt in length. (C) Distribution of 3' UTR lengths. An analysis of polyadenylation sites associated with each CDS was performed to determine 3' UTR coordinates and lengths. A total of 84,331 polyadenylation sites were identified, corresponding to 3' UTRs ranging from 0 to 7,133 bases in length. (D) Distribution of polypyrimidine (polyPy) tract lengths. A window of 250 nt upstream of the each primary *trans*-splicing site (8,981 total) was scanned to identify its corresponding polyPy tract, defined as the longest stretch of pyrimidine residues interrupted by no more than one purine. (E) Distribution of distances between each primary *trans*-splicing site and its corresponding polypyrimidine (polyPy) tract. (F) Distribution of distances between each polyPy tract and the polyadenylation site of the upstream gene. A total of 6,174 instances of a neighboring polyadenylation site and polyPy tract were identified. (G) Diagram of a "typical" *L. major* genic region. The median lengths of the gene structure components of *L. major* were used to construct the structure of a "typical" gene region (2 genes and the intergenic region). The median values of each component are shown. Colors correspond to the features depicted in panels A-F.





**Figure 4: UTR length distribution by developmental stage.**

*Trans*-splicing sites were identified for each developmental stage and used to determine the coordinates and lengths of 5' UTRs for procyclic promastigotes (A) and metacyclic promastigotes (B). An analysis of polyadenylation sites in each developmental stage was performed to determine 3' UTR coordinates and lengths for procyclic promastigotes (C) and metacyclic promastigotes (D).

downstream SL addition site was 64 nt (Figure 3E) and the median distance between the polyPy tract and the upstream polyadenylation site (if both were detected; 6,174 instances) was 558 nt (Figure 3F). When considering only intergenic regions that were bound by both a detectable upstream polyadenylation site and a detectable downstream SL addition site (6,152 instances), a median intergenic distance of 556 nt was observed.

The median values of each gene structure element were used to determine a representative gene structure for *L. major* genes, with a median mRNA length of 2,517 nt, of which the 5' UTR, CDS, and 3' UTR account for 22%, 49%, and 29%, respectively (corresponding to a 5' UTR of 547 nt, a CDS of

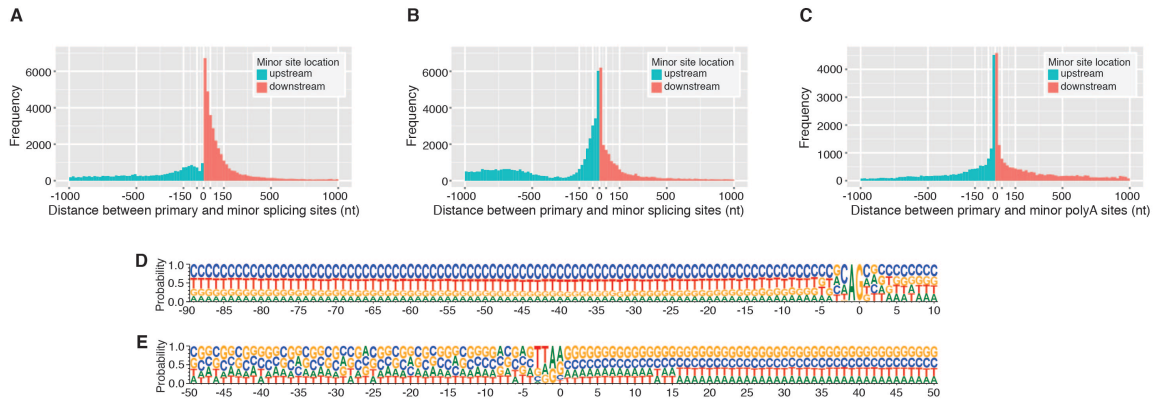
1,241 nt, and a 3' UTR of 729 nt) (Figure 3G). The median intergenic length was 643 nt. This observed gene structure indicates significantly longer 5' and 3' UTRs and longer intergenic distances than what has been reported in either *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* (Kolev, 2010; Siegel, 2010) (Li Y, Caradonna KL, Belew AT, Corrada Bravo H, Burleigh BA, El-Sayed NM, in revision), and is consistent with previous observations regarding the relative compactness of the species' genomes (El-Sayed, 2005).

### **Alternative RNA processing events**

The sequencing depth of our *L. major* transcriptomic profiling experiments allowed not only the identification of the SL-addition and polyadenylation sites at a single-base resolution, but also the quantification of alternative RNA processing events. Of the 8,981 genes with SL-addition sites detected, 8,777 (~98%) used more than one *trans*-splicing site in at least one developmental stage. We were able to detect alternative splicing in *L. major* with a greater sensitivity than has been previously reported (Rastrojo, 2013), presumably due to the deeper coverage of this dataset. Indeed, for genes with detectable *trans*-splicing events, alternative *trans*-splicing was pervasive with 88%, 56%, and 18% of genes using at least 5, 10, or 20 sites, respectively, in at least one developmental stage. This observation indicates that *L. major* exhibits a somewhat higher degree of alternative splicing than related species *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* where <90% of genes were identified as alternatively spliced (Kolev, 2010) (Li Y, Caradonna KL, Belew AT, Corrada Bravo H, Burleigh BA, El-Sayed NM, in revision). This observation persisted even after accounting for differences in sequencing depth.

The distribution of the distances between the primary and minor *trans*-splicing sites revealed that almost half (~48%) of the alternative splice sites are located within 200 bases of the primary site in either direction. Even so, a significant percentage (18%) of minor sites were observed more than 1000 bp from the primary site, with most of these (78%) occurring upstream of the primary site.

An examination of the *trans*-splicing sites revealed a propensity for usage of the canonical acceptor sequence (AG) at both the primary (~97%) and minor (~43%) splicing sites (Table 1), consistent with previous findings in *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* (Li Y, Caradonna KL, Belew AT, Corrada Bravo H, Burleigh BA, El-Sayed NM, in revision). A sequence composition analysis of the region upstream of the SL-addition site allowed the visualization of the tail end of the polypyrimidine tract through the *trans*-splicing acceptor site (Figure 5D). As reported previously (Rastrojo, 2013; Requena, 2003), a C nucleotide was preferred prior to the AG acceptor sequence. When considering minor sites that are located within 1 kb of the primary site, a majority (64.2%) of minor sites that use the canonical AG acceptor are located downstream of the primary site (Figure 5A). This observation supports a model (based on a study of mammalian introns) that proposes that the 3' splice site is located by a scanning process that recognizes the first AG downstream of the branch point in a sequence-specific context (Smith, 1989; Smith, 1993). When minor sites that do not use the canonical AG acceptor sequence were considered, this phenomenon was largely absent and the percentage of minor sites that are downstream of the primary site



**Figure 5: Characterization of alternative RNA processing.**

Alternative RNA processing events were detected in both promastigote developmental stages and pooled for this analysis. The distribution of distances between primary and minor *trans*-splicing sites is shown for minor splice sites that use (A) the canonical AG acceptor sequence or (B) an acceptor sequence other than AG. Panel (C) depicts the distribution of distances between primary and minor polyadenylation sites. Only minor sites within 1000 nt of the primary site are plotted. The full ranges for A, B, and C, are -7234 to 5973, -7178 to 5,876, and -6429 to 5993, respectively. About 18% (11,201 of 62,098), 29% (24,303 of 82,947), and 10% (7,301 of 75,487) of values fell outside of the plotted range for A, B, and C, respectively. (D) Sequence composition of the region spanning from 90 nt upstream to 10 nt downstream of each primary *trans*-splicing site. (E) Sequence composition of the region spanning from 50 nt upstream to 50 nt downstream of each primary polyadenylation site.

Acceptor Sequence	Primary	Minor
AG	96.80%	42.81%
TG	0.68%	11.27%
GG	0.56%	9.35%
CG	0.47%	7.79%
TT	0.37%	3.35%
GC	0.21%	3.41%
GT	0.14%	3.31%
TC	0.14%	2.16%
CA	0.11%	3.07%
AC	0.11%	2.35%
AT	0.11%	2.32%
GA	0.08%	2.11%
CT	0.07%	2.07%
CC	0.06%	1.89%
AA	0.04%	1.56%
TA	0.04%	1.19%

**Table 1: Dinucleotide acceptor site usage frequency.**

The percentage of primary and minor *trans*-splicing sites that use each dinucleotide acceptor sequence.

drops to 36.3% (Figure 5B). This observation was maintained when procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes were considered separately.

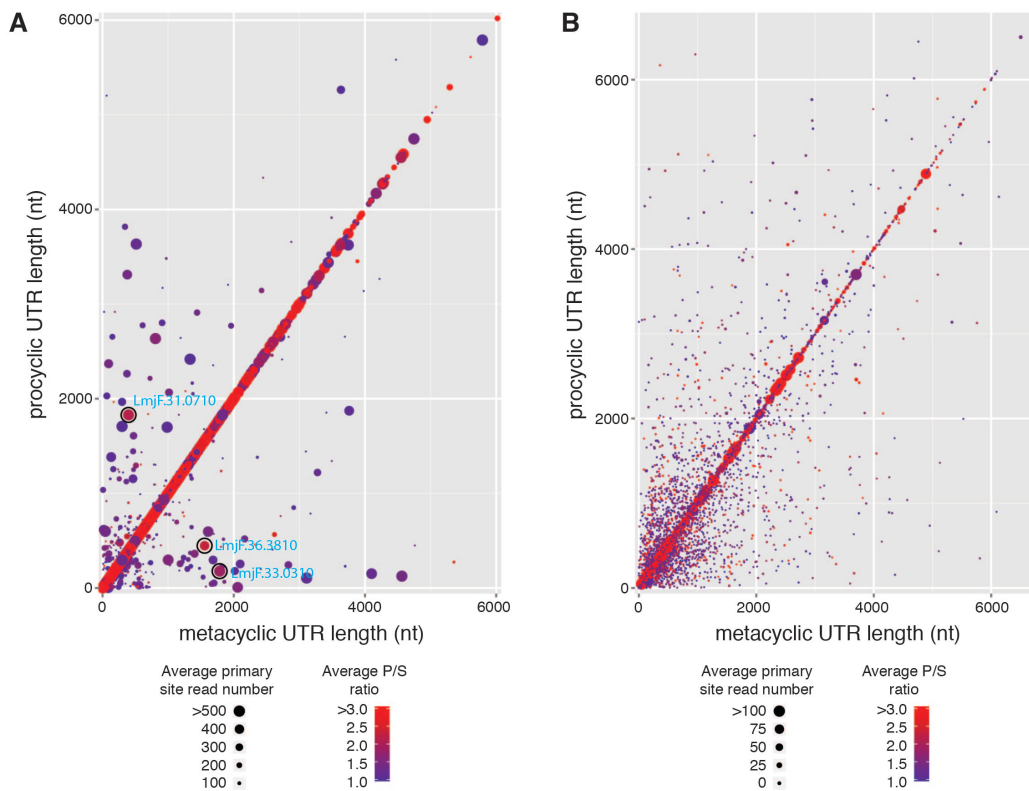
Alternative polyadenylation sites were detected for 8,391 (~95%) of the 8,841 genes for which polyadenylation events were observed with 61%, 21%, and 5% of genes using at least 5, 10, or 20 polyadenylation sites. As observed for *trans*-splicing events, this observation indicates a higher degree of alternative polyadenylation in *L. major* than what has been reported in either *T. cruzi* or *T. brucei* where 63% and 92% of genes had detectable alternative polyadenylation, respectively (Li Y, Caradonna KL, Belew AT, Corrada Bravo H, Burleigh BA, El-Sayed NM, in revision). A sequence composition analysis was done to visualize the region surrounding the polyA-addition site. Even though no consensus motif was observed upstream of the polyadenylation site, such as the AAUAAA required for polyadenylation in higher eukaryotes, we did note an (A/G)(A/G) motif preceded by 1-2 thymines abutting the polyA addition site for both primary and minor polyadenylation sites (Figure 5E). Similar to what was found for SL addition sites above, the analysis of the distribution of the distances between primary and alternative sites revealed that ~49% of the minor polyadenylation sites were located within a 200 nt window of the primary site (Figure 5C).

Alternative *trans*-splicing or polyadenylation are suspected to play a role in the regulation of gene expression in *L. major*, but instances of regulation through alternative RNA processing between developmental stages have not been systematically identified. We sought to identify the subset of genes that change the use of their primary *trans*-splicing or polyadenylation sites between the

procyclic and metacyclic stages and to investigate possible correlations between these changes and differential expression. We were specifically interested in genes that showed a strong preferential usage for the primary site over other sites within a given stage (dominance), as determined using the ratio of reads that map to the primary site to those that map to the secondary site (P/S). Of the 8,797 genes that had at least one *trans*-splicing site identified in both stages, 523 showed preferential usage of different primary *trans*-splicing sites between the stages. We plotted the lengths of the UTRs for each gene, as determined by the primary *trans*-splicing site in each stage (Figure 6A). Each gene was represented by a single point with the color indicating the average P/S ratio for the two stages (thereby providing a measure of a primary site's dominance) and the size indicating the average number of reads mapping to that gene's primary sites (thereby indicating expression level and an indirectly providing confidence in the data). Data points along the diagonal represent genes that did not exhibit a change in the primary *trans*-splicing site between the stages. Largely, genes that had high dominance did not exhibit a change in primary site location between the stages, but instead used the same primary site in both procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes. Genes that did change primary site tended to have only a slight preference for each stage-specific primary site. A few interesting genes did not follow this trend and showed both a change in primary site (location away from the diagonal), high dominance (red), and high confidence/expression (large). Examples of the alternative usage of *trans*-splicing sites for a subset of these

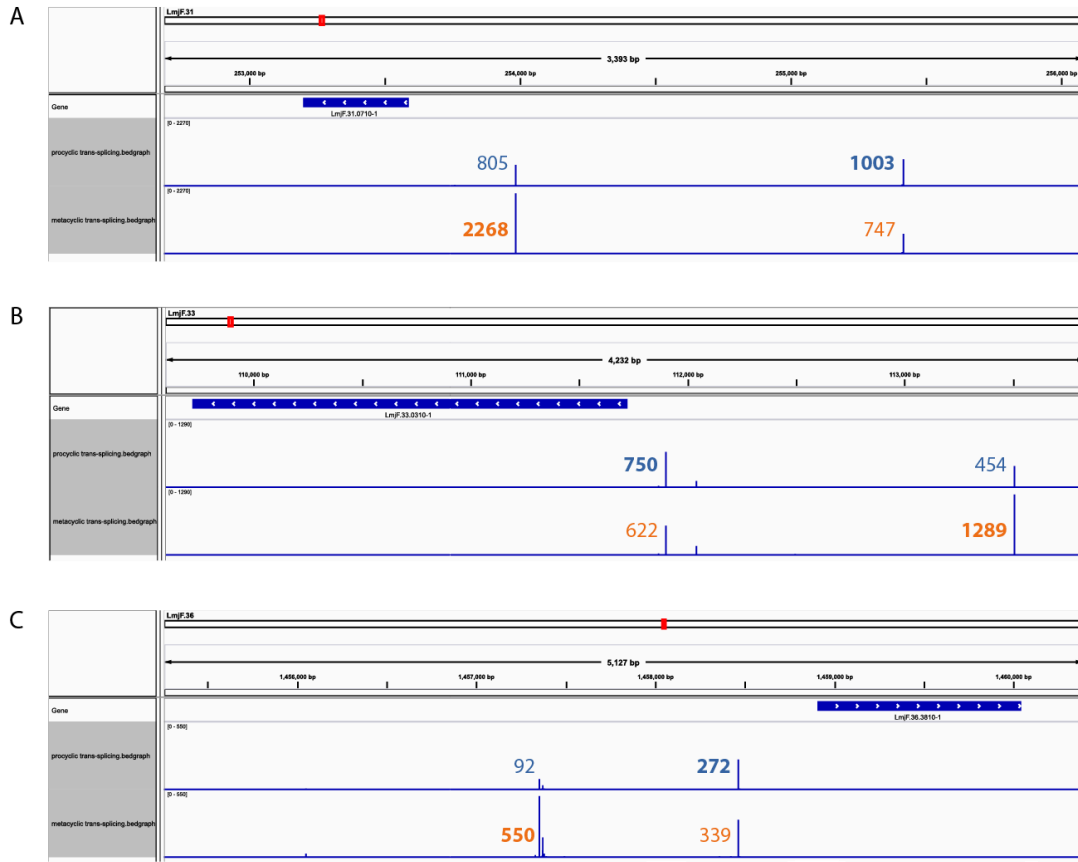
interesting genes - LmjF.31.0710, LmjF.33.0310, and LmjF.36.3810 - are depicted in Figure 7.

We compared the expression profiles (see Chapter 3) for genes that displayed a change in *trans*-splicing site preference versus those that did not. The proportion of differentially expressed genes in both sets was nearly identical (39.4% for genes that changed primary site and 37.0% for genes that did not),



**Figure 6: Preferential usage of primary site across developmental stages.**

(A) For each gene, the length of the 5' UTR determined by the primary trans-splicing site for the metacyclic stage was plotted against the length of the 5' UTR determined by the primary *trans*-splicing site for the procyclic stage. Each point represents a single gene. Points that do not fall along the diagonal represent a change in the primary site between the stages. The color of each point represents the dominance of the primary site (preference for usage of the primary site over other sites within a stage), as determined by the ratio of primary site read counts to secondary site read counts (P/S), averaged for both stages. The size of each point depicts average read count for the primary sites from both stages, thereby showing expression levels and providing a measure of confidence in the data. Three genes highlighted in Figure 7 are circled with the gene identifier labeled in blue. (B) A similar plot was done for 3' UTR length as determined by the primary polyadenylation site for each stage.



**Figure 7: Visualization of changes in primary *trans*-splicing sites across developmental stages.**

The Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) (Robinson, 2011) was used to visualize the number of reads that mapped to each *trans*-splicing site for three genes which showed a change in the preferred primary site between developmental stages and had a significant number of reads mapped to each primary site - LmjF.31.0710 (A), LmjF.33.0310 (B), and LmjF.36.3810 (C). The number of reads that mapped to each primary site (bold) and secondary site are shown for both procyclic promastigotes (blue text) and metacyclic promastigotes (orange text).

indicating that there was no association between changes in primary site used by individual genes and their expression levels ( $\chi^2 = 0.28$ ).

A similar analysis was done to assess alternative polyadenylation between procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes (Figure 6B). Strikingly, this analysis revealed that most of the genes that showed high dominance (red) and high confidence (large) of their primary polyA sites did not exhibit a change in primary site location between the stages. For the large number of genes that showed a



change in the primary polyA site between developmental stages (4,377 of 8,337), very few reads were mapped to the primary sites, resulting in low confidence in these data points. The low numbers of mapped polyA-containing reads was likely due to the extensive heterogeneity of polyadenylation sites or the relative low coverage of polyA-containing reads mapping at unique sites. Of the 4,377 genes that changed primary polyadenylation sites between stages, the portion that was differentially expressed (37.2%) was remarkably similar to the portion that was not (38.7%;  $\chi^2 = 0.15$ ). This lack of systematic association with differential expression also supports that conclusion that differences in expression levels in the samples examined by this study cannot be attributed to stage-regulated alternative RNA processing.

## **Conclusion**

Since *Leishmania* and related trypanosomatids employ polycistronic transcription across their entire genomes, post-transcriptional RNA processing is thought to be a likely mechanism for regulating the levels of individual mRNAs. We were able to exploit signal sequences added during the processing of polycistronic pre-mRNAs to identify *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation sites in *Leishmania major* with unprecedented depth and reliability. In addition, we were able to evaluate how transcript structure compares to related species, to examine *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation events within and between *L. major* developmental stages, and to assess the possible relationship between alternative RNA processing and gene regulation in the context of the same biological samples.

The RNA-seq datasets generated in this work enabled us to precisely delineate the 5' and 3' UTR boundaries of *L. major* transcripts, providing a substantial resource for the *Leishmania* research community. While we were able to detect widespread alternative *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation for the large majority of genes, the observed heterogeneity of RNA processing sites was not systematically associated with the differential expression of the genes that showed the alternative RNA processing. Thus, in this analysis, alternative processing of pre-mRNA did not appear to be a driving force for determining the expression levels of individual genes. Even so, insights into *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation in trypanosomatids may shed light on gene regulation in others species that rely on similar mechanisms of post-transcriptional control, even if only for a subset of genes. Additionally, the precise definition of UTR boundaries opens up opportunities for regulatory motif analyses and comparative analyses of UTR usage across *Leishmania* species.

## Chapter 3

### Transcriptomic profiling of *Leishmania* metacyclogenesis

#### Introduction

*Leishmania* parasites are taken up from the skin of an infected mammalian host upon blood feeding by a female phlebotomine sand fly. Within the sand fly midgut, these aflagellated amastigote-form parasites transform into flagellated procyclic promastigotes that replicate within the sand fly midgut. Further differentiation events occur and result in the generation of infective metacyclic promastigote parasites by the process of metacyclogenesis. These metacyclic promastigotes are able to infect a new mammalian host when deposited on the host's skin as the sand fly takes a subsequent blood meal (Bates, 2007).

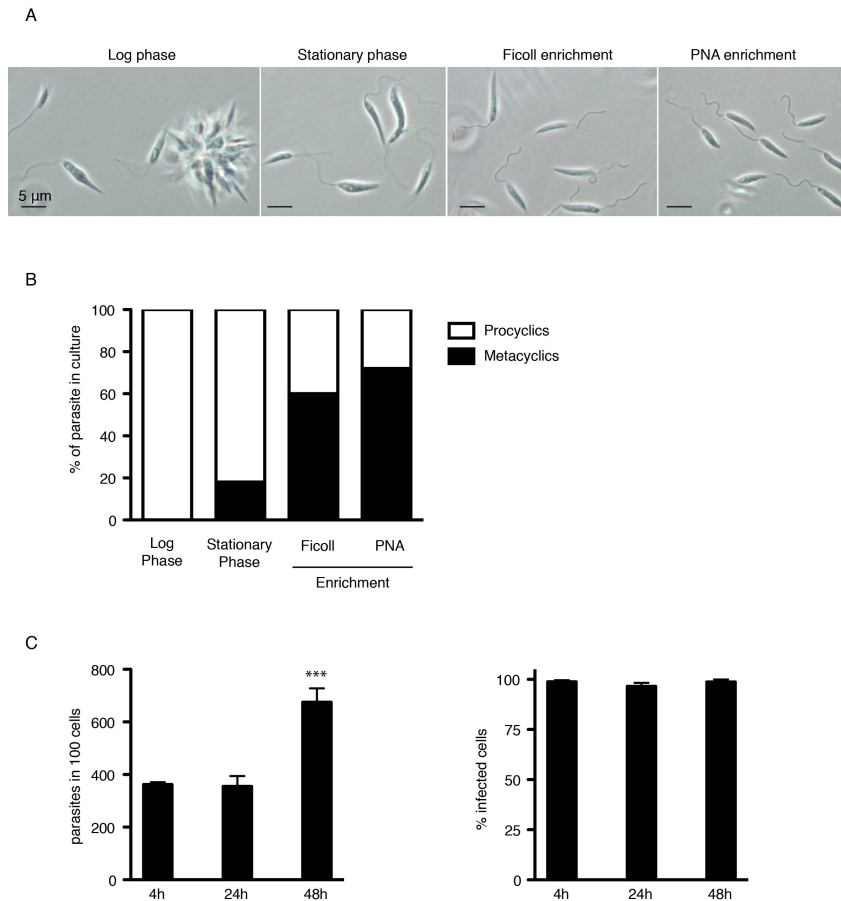
Transcriptomic profiling by RNA-seq was used to identify global changes in gene expression as *Leishmania major* undergoes metacyclogenesis from the proliferative, non-infective procyclic promastigote form to the non-dividing, infective metacyclic promastigote form, a developmental progression that is well mimicked *in vitro* using axenic cultivation methods (Sacks, 1984). A differential expression analysis of relative RNA abundance between the promastigote forms was carried out to identify a robust set of markers for each developmental stage and to reveal genes and processes involved in the transition between stages as the parasite becomes capable of infecting mammalian host cells. This analysis resulted in the generation of reliable and substantially deep lists of differentially

expressed genes that include RNAs of low abundance which may have fallen outside of the limits of detection in past studies. Hundreds of genes of unknown function were also implicated in the developmental transition from the procyclic to metacyclic promastigote developmental forms, providing possible evidence for their function by guilt-through-association inferences.

### **Experimental design**

RNA was isolated from cultured *L. major* grown to log phase (procyclic form) or enriched for metacyclic forms using: 1) a Ficoll gradient or 2) negative selection using peanut agglutinin (PNA). These two methods for metacyclic promastigote enrichment were used to test whether different methods for the procurement of metacyclic parasites could be responsible for different findings in previous studies (Akopyants, 2004; Depledge, 2009; Guerfali, 2008; Saxena, 2003). PolyA enriched cDNA libraries were generated using the Illumina TruSeq protocol and 100-bp paired end sequences were generated. A total of 6 procyclic promastigote biological replicates and 9 metacyclic promastigote biological replicates were collected (Table 11). Each procyclic replicate was matched to one or two metacyclic replicates from the same batch/expansion of cells. Phase contrast images, promastigote sample quantification, and an infectivity curve for the parasites in murine macrophages are provided in Figure 8.

A total of ~1.1 billion sequence reads were produced across the 15 samples, 91% of which mapped to the *L. major* reference genome (Table 11). For each sample, the number of reads mapping to existing gene annotations was



**Figure 8: Sample characterization.**

(A) Phase contrast images of log-phase procyclic promastigotes, stationary phase promastigotes prior to enrichment for metacyclics, promastigotes following negative selection by PNA, and Ficoll-purified promastigotes. The bar in each panel represents 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . (B) Relative percentages of procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes in culture prior to and after the application of enrichment methods, as determined by counting 15 fields. (C) Infections were established in peritoneal macrophages isolated from C57BL/6 mice using Ficoll-purified metacyclic promastigotes at an MOI of 5:1 in the presence of C5-deficient serum from DBA mice. Plots show the number of parasites observed per macrophage and the percentage of infected macrophages observed over the first 48 hours of the infection from one representative experiment. Asterisks indicate a significant difference in the number of parasites per 100 cells at 48 hours.

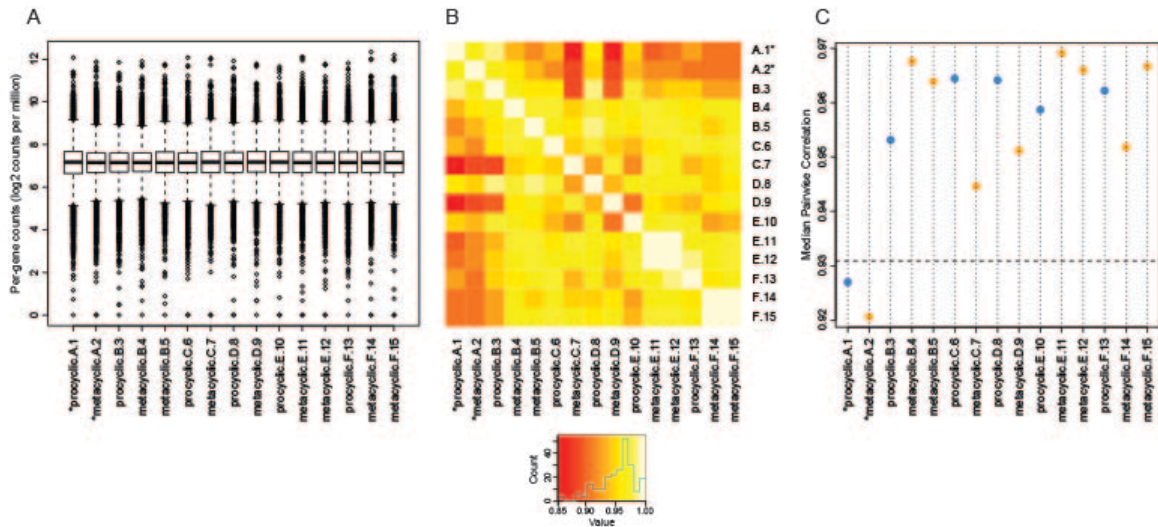
determined. The resulting count table was restricted to the 8,486 protein-coding genes in the TriTrypDB *L. major* annotation v. 6.0.

### Statistical evaluation of biological replicates and batch effects

We used multiple robust statistical methods to evaluate the global characteristics of samples and to identify outlier samples that should be removed

prior to differential expression and gene structure analysis (Figure 9). Box plots were used to compare the distribution of per-gene read counts within each sample. All 15 samples showed a similar distribution of these counts with median steady-state expression levels of  $\sim 7.2$  log<sub>2</sub> counts per million and very few genes (5-10 per sample) expressed at levels of  $< 4$  counts per million. This observation is consistent with a lack of gene regulation at the level of transcription and may indicate that very few protein-coding transcripts are completely degraded following polycistronic transcription. A heatmap of Pearson correlations was used to visualize the relationship between each pair of samples. While all samples showed a pairwise correlation ( $r$ ) of at least 0.85, samples prepared on one experimental date (batch A) were less correlated to samples from other batches, which largely showed  $r$  values of  $> 0.95$  when compared to one another. Median pairwise correlation was also computed to assess global correlation between samples and a standard outlier identification method was applied to establish a cut-off for the identification of outliers. Consistent with observations from the Pearson correlation heatmap analysis, this method identified the two samples from batch A as outliers. These 2 samples were excluded from further analyses.

The dataset used for differential expression analysis was further restricted to genes expressed at a level of at least 1 read per million in at least 5 of the 13 remaining samples. Of the 8,486 protein-coding genes analyzed, 8,475 met this threshold, consistent with observations described above that few genes were completely degraded after transcription. No statistical difference was found in protein coding gene expression between metacyclic promastigote samples



**Figure 9: Sample diagnostics to globally assess data similarities and identify outliers.**

RNA-seq was carried out using the Illumina platform on *L. major* procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes. Letters (A-F) in the sample name refer to experimental batch. Numbers are unique identifiers as shown in Table 11. Samples identified as outliers are indicated with an asterisk. (A) *Distribution of normalized gene counts by sample*. For each sample, counts were normalized for sequencing library size and a box plot was generated to compare the distribution of per-gene counts (log<sub>2</sub> counts per million with an offset of 1). The ends of the whiskers represent the lowest datum still within 1.5 interquartile range (IQR) of the lower quartile, and the highest datum still within 1.5 IQR of the upper quartile. Gene features with extremely high or low expression levels are shown as open circles above and below the whiskers, respectively. (B) *Heatmap of Pearson correlation between samples*. Raw count data were used to generate a heatmap to illustrate the Pearson correlation between samples. The color key and histogram for the frequency of correlation values (range of 0.85-1) is shown below the heatmap. (C) *Median pairwise correlation*. Raw count data were used to compute the median pairwise correlation between each sample and all other samples. The median pairwise correlation across all samples was used to establish a cutoff value to identify outlier samples (dotted line). Samples are colored according to stage (blue=procyclic, orange=metacyclic).

prepared using the Ficoll or PNA protocols. Consequently, all metacyclic promastigote samples were pooled together for the remainder of the analyses.

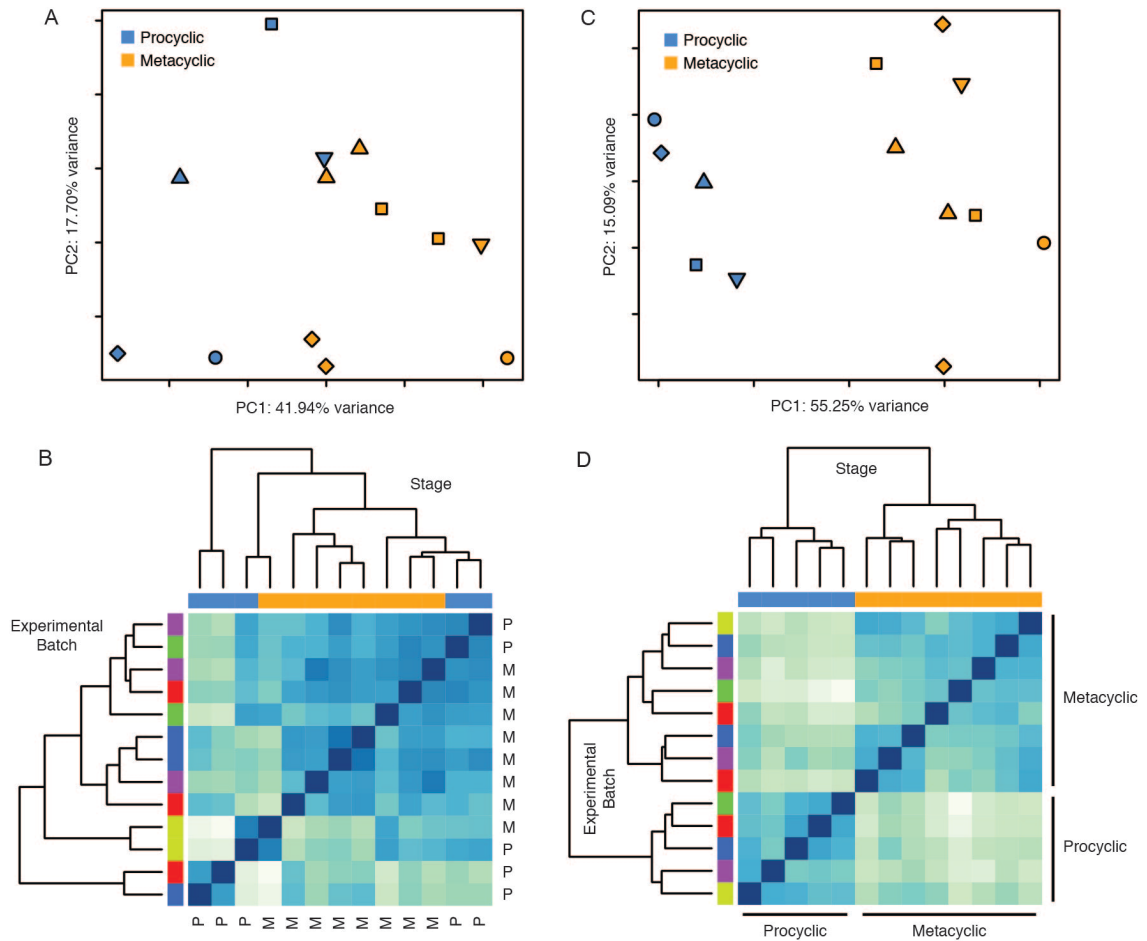
The large number of biological replicates used for the analysis necessitated the evaluation of the dataset for batch effects. A batch effect represents experimental variation caused by sub-groups of measurements that are independent of the underlying biology of the system being studied. They have been shown to introduce unwanted variability into biological studies and

confound the results, leading to erroneous conclusions. Previous analyses of high-throughput data, like those produced by RNA-seq, have indicated the need to assess and correct batch effects (Leek, 2010). In this study, we used experimental start date as a surrogate for batch when testing for differential expression between developmental stages of *L. major*.

Principal component analysis (PCA) and Euclidean distance heatmap analysis were used to visualize the relationship between samples both prior to and after accounting for batch effects (Figure 10). PCA reduces the dimensionality of a dataset while allowing variability to be represented to the greatest extent possible (Jolliffe, 2002). The PCA plots showed the first two principal components, which account for the greatest percent of variability in the data, on the X and Y axes, respectively, with each of the 13 samples represented as a single point. When batch was accounted for, a clear separation between procyclic promastigote and metacyclic promastigote samples was seen along the X axis of the PCA plot (Figure 10C). Separation between the stages was not as pronounced when batch was not considered (Figure 10A). Indeed, prior to accounting for batch effects, 25% of the variance represented by principal component (PC) 1 and 77% of the variance represented by PC2 were attributable to the batch of the samples.

Likewise, when Euclidean distance between samples was computed and used to create a heatmap color image and dendrogram depicting the closeness between samples, a clear separation between procyclic promastigote and metacyclic promastigote samples was observed after accounting for batch effects





**Figure 10: Global gene expression profiles of the procyclic and metacyclic promastigote forms of *Leishmania major*.**

RNA-seq was carried out on *L. major* procyclic (log phase) promastigotes and metacyclic promastigotes isolated after enrichment using Ficoll or PNA. A principal component analysis (PCA) plot (A,C) and heatmap of a hierarchical clustering analysis using the Euclidean distance metric (B,D) are shown prior to (A-B) and after (C-D) accounting for batch effects in the statistical model. Analyses were performed using all *L. major* annotated genes after filtering for low counts and quantile normalization (8,475 genes). In the PCA plot, each point represents an experimental sample with point color indicating *L. major* developmental stage (blue = procyclic promastigote, orange = metacyclic promastigote) and point shape indicating batch/experimental date. Colors along the top of the heatmap indicate the developmental stage (blue = procyclic promastigote, orange = metacyclic promastigote) and colors along the left side of the heatmap indicate the batch/experimental date.

(Figure 10D) but not before (Figure 10B). As a result of these analyses, batch effects were controlled for in the subsequent differential expression analysis by including experimental batch as a covariate in the statistical model used by

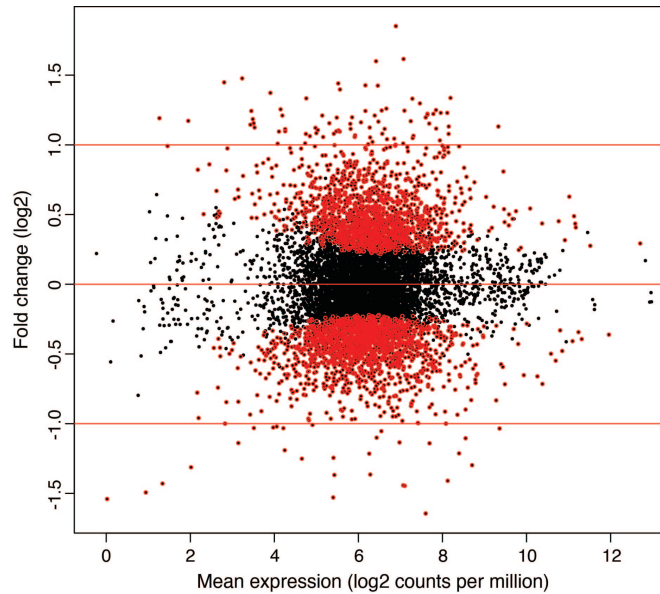
`limma`.

## Identification of genes differentially expressed between stages

Differential expression (DE) analysis identified 3,138 genes that were expressed at significantly different levels between procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes at an adjusted  $P$  value cutoff of  $<0.05$ . Fold change differences ranged from 3.1-fold downregulated to 3.6-fold upregulated in metacyclic promastigotes. These genes were visualized using an MA plot showing the relationship between mean expression and fold change for each gene (Figure 11). Almost 60% of the DE genes (1,829 of 3,138) are annotated as hypothetical proteins. The remaining gene products have been characterized to different extents, albeit not always in the context of their possible role(s) in metacyclogenesis.

We extended our DE analysis to a set of 1,044 novel open reading frames (ORFs) of at least 90 nt in length identified based on evidence of translation in *L. major* by ribosome profiling data (Table 12). The addition of these ORFs lead to an increase in the list of differentially expressed genes by ~12% (a total of 368, from 3,138 to 3,506) with fold changes ranging from 5.7-fold downregulated to 3.6-fold upregulated in the metacyclic stage. The top 25 down- and up-regulated genes are shown in Table 2. Of these, 8 are novel ORFs, including the most downregulated gene.

The list of DE genes was used as input into gene ontology (GO) analysis to identify cellular functions and processes that are enriched during *L. major* metacyclogenesis. Genes downregulated in metacyclic promastigotes were considered separately from upregulated genes. Forty GO categories were



**Figure 11: MA plot of differentially expressed genes in the *L. major* procyclic to metacyclic promastigote transition.**

Differential expression analysis of *L. major* procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes was done using `limma` after `voom` transformation, taking experimental batch into account as part of the `limma` statistical model. The MA plot shows the relationship between mean expression (log<sub>2</sub> counts per million with an offset of 0.5) and fold change. Each point represents one gene. Points colored in red represent 3115 genes expressed at significantly different levels between procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes at an adjusted *P* value of <0.05, with genes upregulated in the metacyclic stage relative to the procyclic stage exhibiting positive fold changes.

identified as being significantly enriched (*P* value cutoff of <0.05) for genes downregulated (33 categories) and upregulated (7 categories) in metacyclic promastigotes (Table 3).

### **Examination of gene lists and gene ontology-based enrichment analyses**

Many novel genes were identified among the most downregulated during metacyclogenesis, including multiple genes with unknown function. GO enrichment analysis of these genes reflected a clear reduction in a number of cellular processes including DNA replication and nucleosome assembly, translation-related activities (initiation and elongation), protein metabolism, and

<b>Metacyclic promastigotes, downregulated</b>		
<b>ID</b>	<b>Product Description</b>	<b>Fold Change</b>
LmjF.23_3931	novel ORF, LmjF.23, 477090-477218 (-)	5.65
LmjF.31.3070	iron/zinc transporter protein-like protein (LIT1)	3.14
LmjF.35.1310	histone H4	2.90
LmjF.36.0020	histone H4	2.74
LmjF.35.2160	adenine aminohydrolase (AAH)	2.72
LmjF.31.3180	histone H4	2.68
LmjF.33.1760	hypothetical protein, unknown function	2.66
LmjF.14.0470	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.65
LmjF.21.0740	ATPase subunit 9, putative	2.57
LmjF.35.2130	hypothetical protein, unknown function	2.56
LmjF.33.3240	h1 histone-like protein	2.56
LmjF.25.2450	histone H4	2.48
LmjF.32_7004	novel ORF, LmjF.32, 1161019-1161147 (-)	2.39
LmjF.36.5845	kinetoplast-associated protein, putative	2.37
LmjF.36.3080	lipoate protein ligase, putative	2.35
LmjF.35.4760	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.34
LmjF.02.0020	histone H4	2.34
LmjF.32.2940	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.33
LmjF.23.0200	endoribonuclease L-PSP (Pb5)	2.22
LmjF.35_8354	novel ORF, LmjF.35, 877847-877972 (+)	2.20
LmjF.25.1470	cyclin (CYCA)	2.20
LmjF.20.0030	histone-lysine N-methyltransferase, putative (DOT1)	2.20
LmjF.19_3054	novel ORF, LmjF.19, 382655-382816 (+)	2.16
LmjF.13_1846	novel ORF, LmjF.13, 171578-171685 (+)	2.16
LmjF.36.3910	S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase	2.16
<b>Metacyclic promastigotes, upregulated</b>		
<b>ID</b>	<b>Product Description</b>	<b>Fold Change</b>
LmjF.34.0070	ascorbate peroxidase (APX)	3.61
LmjF.19_3059	novel ORF, LmjF.19, 395719-395889 (+)	3.31
LmjF.02.0460	voltage-dependent anion-selective channel, putative	3.04
LmjF.17.0890	META domain containing protein (META1)	3.03
LmjF.23.0730	RNA-binding protein, putative	2.97
LmjF.12.0480	hypothetical protein, unknown function	2.95
LmjF.28.0980	P27 protein, putative (P27)	2.77
LmjF.23.0780	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.68
LmjF.29.1350	RNA binding protein, putative	2.68
LmjF.16.0500	hypothetical protein, unknown function	2.68
LmjF.22.0250	phosphoinositide phosphatase	2.63
LmjF.29.1360	RNA binding protein, putative	2.63
LmjF.36.2290	serine/threonine protein kinase	2.61
LmjF.34.1940	amastin-like surface protein, putative	2.54
LmjF.17_2659	novel ORF, LmjF.17, 423627-423884 (+)	2.53
LmjF.04.0350	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.52
LmjF.16.1050	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.52
LmjF.34.2500	protein phosphatase 2C-like protein	2.49
LmjF.35.5000	hypothetical protein, conserved	2.46
LmjF.04.1210	casein kinase I, putative	2.45
LmjF.34.1820	amastin-like surface protein, putative	2.44
LmjF.12.0460	hypothetical protein, unknown function	2.43
LmjF.09_1121	novel ORF, LmjF.09, 124955-125314 (+)	2.41
LmjF.34.1800	amastin-like surface protein, putative	2.40

**Table 2: Top differentially expressed genes in the *L. major* procyclic to metacyclic promastigote transition.**

A total of 3,506 previously annotated genes and novel ORFs were differentially expressed (DE) between procyclic and metacyclic promastigotes. The top 25 down- and up-regulated genes/novel ORFs are shown.

<b>Metacyclic promastigotes, downregulated</b>		
<b>GO ID</b>	<b>GO term</b>	<b>P Value</b>
GO:0015986	ATP synthesis coupled proton transport	7.36E-11
GO:0005737	cytoplasm	5.33E-09
GO:0015991	ATP hydrolysis coupled proton transport	2.00E-08
GO:0046961	proton-transporting ATPase activity, rotational mechanism	2.79E-08
GO:0004812	aminoacyl-tRNA ligase activity	6.96E-08
GO:0006418	tRNA aminoacylation for protein translation	6.96E-08
GO:0046933	proton-transporting ATP synthase activity, rotational mechanism	7.26E-08
GO:0044267	cellular protein metabolic process	1.41E-07
GO:0003746	translation elongation factor activity	1.55E-07
GO:0005634	nucleus	3.38E-07
GO:0006260	DNA replication	1.25E-06
GO:0005525	GTP binding	1.42E-06
GO:0003677	DNA binding	1.94E-06
GO:0003924	GTPase activity	2.64E-06
GO:0043234	protein complex	1.64E-05
GO:0051258	protein polymerization	1.64E-05
GO:0003743	translation initiation factor activity	1.74E-05
GO:0045261	proton-transporting ATP synthase complex, catalytic core F(1)	5.23E-05
GO:0006457	protein folding	7.78E-05
GO:0051082	unfolded protein binding	8.59E-05
GO:0005874	microtubule	1.07E-04
GO:0004298	threonine-type endopeptidase activity	1.37E-04
GO:0005839	proteasome core complex	1.37E-04
GO:0051603	proteolysis involved in cellular protein catabolic process	1.37E-04
GO:0006334	nucleosome assembly	1.47E-04
GO:0006413	translational initiation	1.93E-04
GO:0046982	protein heterodimerization activity	2.60E-04
GO:0003887	DNA-directed DNA polymerase activity	3.45E-04
GO:0006414	translational elongation	6.65E-04
GO:0005198	structural molecule activity	9.43E-04
GO:0004175	endopeptidase activity	9.86E-04
GO:0016272	prefoldin complex	1.07E-03
GO:0050660	flavin adenine dinucleotide binding	1.09E-03
<b>Metacyclic promastigotes, upregulated</b>		
<b>GO ID</b>	<b>GO term</b>	<b>P Value</b>
GO:0004674	protein serine threonine kinase activity	4.61E-22
GO:0006468	protein phosphorylation	1.91E-21
GO:0004672	protein kinase activity	8.67E-20
GO:0004713	protein tyrosine kinase activity	1.28E-18
GO:0005524	ATP binding	3.82E-11
GO:0006950	response to stress	2.77E-10
GO:0016791	phosphatase activity	1.63E-04

**Table 3: Gene ontology (GO) categories enriched during the *L. major* procyclic to metacyclic promastigote transition.**

GOseq (Young, 2010) was used to perform gene ontology analysis using differentially expressed genes identified as the parasite undergoes metacyclogenesis. Using a *P* value cut off of <0.05, a total of 33 GO categories were enriched among genes that were downregulated in metacyclic promastigotes and a total of 7 GO categories were enriched among genes that were upregulated in metacyclic promastigotes.

energy metabolism (i.e., ATP synthesis) while enriched GO categories for genes upregulated in metacyclic promastigotes indicated an increase in cell signaling and stress response (Table 3).

A close examination of differentially expressed genes and genome ontology enrichments confirmed earlier findings and, more importantly, revealed new insights into the parasite's transformation at a critical stage of its life cycle. The top downregulated gene in metacyclic promastigotes, LIT1 (LmjF.31.3070) is an iron transporter previously reported to be upregulated by the parasite upon iron depletion (Huynh, 2006). Its downregulation in metacyclics is consistent with the low metabolic rate and low demand for ATP in this developmental stage of the parasite. Interestingly, its paralogous copy (LmjF.31.3060) was regulated to a lesser extent (downregulated only ~1.5-fold in metacyclics). Multiple histones (H2A, H2B, H4, and H1 histone-like protein) previously identified as downregulated during metacyclogenesis (Genske, 1991; Soto, 2004) were also identified as such in this analysis with H4 mRNA levels particularly depleted. The decrease in histone transcripts as the parasite enters the non-dividing stationary phase suggests a mode of regulation that is dependent on the cell cycle and is consistent with observations in higher eukaryotes that histone gene expression decreases in differentiated cells (Gerbaulet, 1992; Stein, 1996). Also consistent with previous findings, multiple  $\beta$ -tubulin family members were identified as downregulated ~1.4-fold as the parasite becomes infective (Coulson, 1996). The downregulation of  $\beta$ -tubulin as the parasite undergoes metacyclogenesis correlates with morphological changes of the parasite as it prepares to enter host

cells. Additionally, the steady-state RNA level for adenine aminohydrolase (AAH), a purine metabolism protein that converts adenine to hypoxanthine and lacks homologs in humans as well as *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* (Boitz, 2013), was found to be reduced in *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes in our study, as were cyclin A and DOT1, which are both involved in cell cycle progression (Hochegger, 2008; Kim, 2014).

The top upregulated gene, ascorbate peroxidase (APX), is protective against both endogenous and exogenous H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and appears to play a role in differentiation to the metacyclic form as well as in protecting the cell against oxidative stress-induced apoptosis (Pal, 2010). Other genes that were upregulated in metacyclic promastigotes include casein kinase 1, a serine/threonine protein kinase that exists in multiple isoforms and has been identified as playing a role in *Leishmania* infectivity (Allocco, 2006), and *meta1*, which encodes a protein that localizes in the region of the flagellar pocket of stationary phase promastigotes and is thought to play a role in virulence, potentially through altering secretory processes (Nourbakhsh, 1996; Puri, 2011). The *p27* gene, which encodes a mitochondrial membrane protein that is an important component of the cytochrome oxidase complex, was also more abundantly expressed in metacyclic promastigotes. This result is consistent with previous findings reporting its upregulation in both metacyclics and intracellular amastigotes and its role in promoting parasite survival and virulence in the host (Dey, 2010) and supports the hypothesis that metacyclic promastigotes are pre-adapted to survival within the mammalian host (Sacks, 1989). Finally, two known

differentiation markers of metacyclic promastigotes, SHERP and HASPB (Flinn, 1994; Knuepfer, 2001; Sádlová, 2010), were also identified in this analysis, with SHERP upregulated ~1.9-fold and HASPB upregulated ~2.3-fold in metacyclic promastigotes.

The results of the differential expression analysis were compared to the list of differentially expressed genes identified in an earlier study by Saxena *et al.* (Saxena, 2003) that used microarrays of PCR-amplified fragments from genomic survey sequence (GSS) clones. Only GSS clones whose 5' and 3' sequences could be mapped to the same gene in the *L. major* Friedlin genome sequence (31 in total) were considered in our comparison and 19 of the corresponding genes showed a similar differential expression trend, albeit to varying degrees and levels of significance. Given the disparate platforms, the level of agreement was reasonable.

## **Conclusion**

This work represents a comprehensive characterization of the global transcriptional changes that define the transition of the human pathogen *Leishmania major* from its non-infective to human-infective forms. Through the exploitation of massively parallel sequencing to detect subtle changes in steady-state levels of mRNA, the use multiple biological replicates to derive robust statistical analyses, and the careful consideration of batch effects that often confound and mask true biological signal, we observed changes in expression profiles between the procyclic promastigote and metacyclic promastigote forms of *L. major*. Indeed, since the individual fold changes observed were relatively



modest (3.1-fold downregulated to 3.6-fold upregulated in metacyclics), they may have been missed except for the sensitivity afforded by the RNA-seq technology and the statistical power provided by the use of 5 biological replicates. The extension of the differential expression analysis to novel ORFs identified from ribosome profiling data pointed to some genes that were not included in the initial annotation of *L. major* which may have functionally important roles in the differentiation of the parasite. These genes should be added to the list of candidates to be included in future analyses.

GO analysis using the lists of differentially expressed genes revealed how they are collectively involved in a number of cellular processes as the parasite transforms into its infective form. Specifically, as the parasites become infective, processes including cell signaling and stress responses increased while translation, replication, and metabolism decreased. The transcriptome profiles reported here set the stage for the construction of co-expression networks, which are useful for identifying driver mechanisms underlying co-regulation and for tentatively annotating unknown genes through guilt-by-association inferences.

## Chapter 4

### Transcriptomic profiling of *Leishmania*-infected murine macrophages

#### Introduction

In order to survive and replicate, intracellular pathogens must survive the innate and adaptive immune responses of the host. A number of human pathogens - including *Leishmania* sp., *Trypanosoma cruzi*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Toxoplasma gondii*, *Francisella tularensis*, *Legionella pneumophila*, and *Ehrlichia* - have evolved mechanisms not only to evade the host immune system, but to infect the very immune cells that are recruited to clear an infection. *Leishmania* is used here as a model of intracellular infection of immune cells to study transcriptomic changes that take place in both the host and the pathogen over the course of an infection.

*Leishmania* enter mammalian macrophages by receptor-mediated phagocytosis and are thought to do so in a quiescent manner, failing to produce a significant oxidative burst and to activate the innate immune system (Bennett, 2001; Laskay, 2003; Locksley, 1988; Zhang, 2010). It has previously been shown that a Th1 response by the host leads to parasite killing while a Th2 response leads to parasite growth (Etges, 1998; Reiner, 1995; Scharon-Kersten, 1995). *Leishmania* thus attempt to prevent their killing by altering cytokine expression (thereby influencing T cell responses), impeding antigen display by MHC class II molecules, and hindering nitric oxide production (reviewed in (Kaye, 2011;

Olivier, 2005; Sacks, 2002)). Less is known about the mechanisms used by the parasite to influence the host response and the global changes that take place at the transcriptomic level in both the parasite and host over the course of an infection.

Previous studies using microarrays or SAGE tags have started to elucidate changes that occur within *Leishmania* or within the mammalian host as infection occurs, but have been hindered by technical limitations that have prevented the interrogation of both systems simultaneously. In this study, we performed transcriptomic profiling of *L. major*-infected murine macrophage cells to identify genes that were differentially expressed by both the parasite and host cells as *Leishmania* entered and persisted within macrophages during the first 72 hours of an infection.

### **Infection dynamics and global transcription patterns**

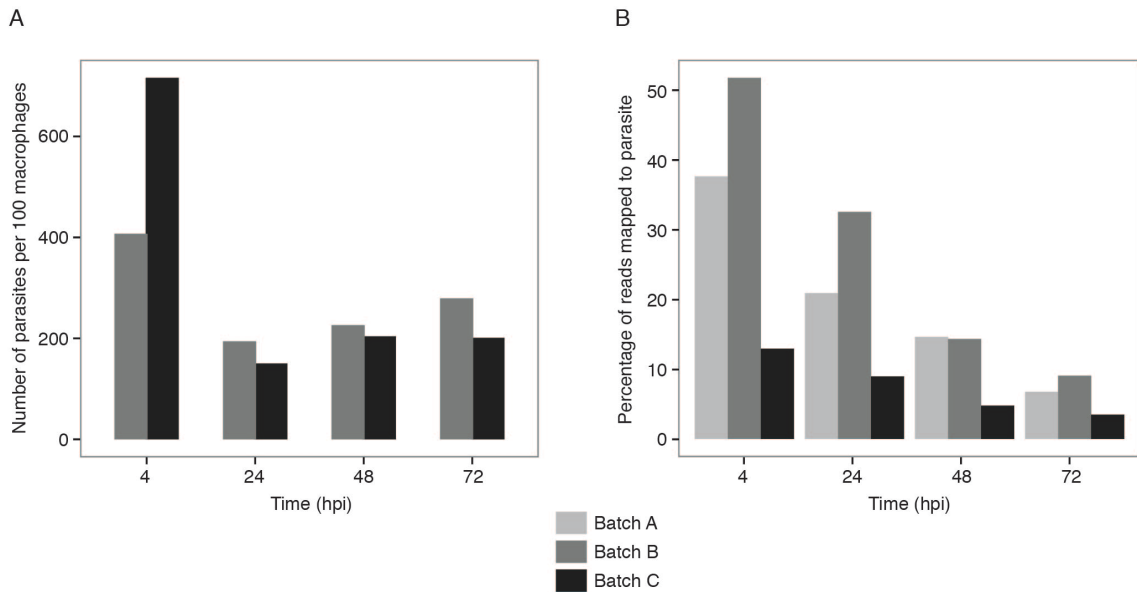
Transcriptomic profiling by RNA-seq was used to identify global changes in gene expression over the course of the first 72 hours of an infection of murine macrophages with *Leishmania major*. Peritoneal macrophages from C57BL/6 mice were infected with *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes and samples collected at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hours post-infection (hpi). The dynamics of the infection were monitored by counting the number of parasites per 100 macrophages (Figure 12). RNA sequencing was carried out for each sample and for matched uninfected controls, as well as for the *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes used for the infection. Over 2.4 billion sequence reads were collected across three

independent experiments (biological replicates) and labeled as batches A-C (Table 13).

Since there is little sequence conservation between mouse and *L. major*, we were able to unambiguously map reads from mouse and parasite RNAs from the mixed sample to their respective genomes. For uninfected samples, the percentage of reads mapping to the mouse genome ranged from 88.9% to 95.9%. Greater heterogeneity was observed for the percentage of reads mapping to *L. major* in the infected samples, providing clues about the transcriptional activity of both parasite and host (Figure 12). For each batch, the percentage of reads mapping to the parasite decreased over the course of the infection.

Interestingly, this decrease in the relative portion of parasite reads did not match the parasite load of the infected cells, which decreased sharply between 4 and 24 hours for each batch, but slowly rose again from 24 through 72 hours (Figure 12). Possible explanations for the mismatch between the increasing number of parasites and the decreasing percentage of parasite reads is that the individual parasites are less transcriptionally active as the infection progresses or that the mouse cells became more transcriptionally active over the course of the infection, thereby diluting the proportion of reads attributable to the parasite.

Samples from host and from parasite showed a similar distribution of per-gene read counts per sample, as visualized by box plots (Figure 13), but striking differences were observed when comparing the two organisms. The median steady-state expression level was elevated in *L. major* compared to mouse (6.0 vs. 3.6 log<sub>2</sub> counts per million) and *L. major* genes showed a much more narrow



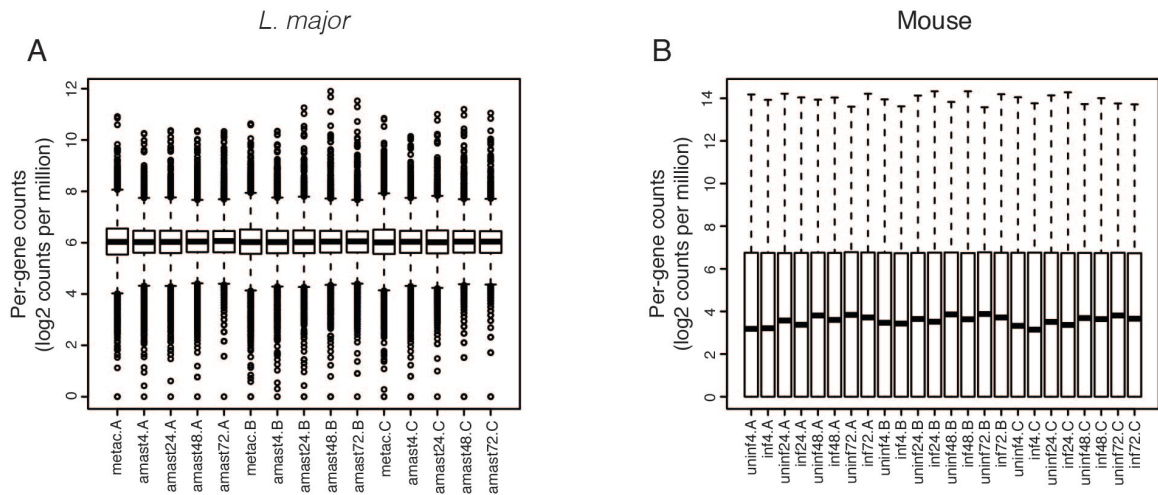
**Figure 12: Characterization of *L. major* intracellular growth and proportion of RNA from the parasite.**

Mouse macrophages infected with *L. major* were collected at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi and subjected to transcriptional profiling by RNA-seq. Bar plots are used to illustrate (A) the number of parasites observed per 100 host cells (available for 2 of 3 replicates) and (B) the percentage of trimmed RNA-seq reads that map to the *L. major* genome. Data from each experimental batch is shown using a different shade of gray.

distribution (interquartile ranges of 5.6 to 6.5 for *L. major* and 0 to 6.8 for mouse).

Additionally, when non- and lowly-expressed genes were removed from the datasets prior to differential expression analysis, this filter led to the removal of 10,548 genes from the mouse dataset, but only 7 genes from the parasite one.

The differences in the distribution of genes between mouse and *L. major* are consistent with differences in how each organism controls gene expression - mouse employs both transcriptional and post-transcriptional mechanisms to control the expression levels of individual genes, resulting in many genes that are not expressed and a wide dynamic range for those that are. This differs from *Leishmania*, which employs polycistronic transcription by RNA polymerase II at roughly the same rate across its genome (Ivens, 2005; Martinez-Calvillo, 2003).



**Figure 13: Global assessment of data distribution.**

For each sample, the counts of reads mapping to *L. major* (A) and mouse (B) were normalized for sequencing library size and a box plot was generated to compare the distribution of per-gene counts (log<sub>2</sub> counts per million with an offset of 1). The ends of the whiskers represent the lowest datum still within 1.5 interquartile range (IQR) of the lower quartile, and the highest datum still within 1.5 IQR of the upper quartile. Gene features with extremely high or low expression levels are shown as open circles above and below the whiskers, respectively. Samples are named according to sample type, timepoint, and experimental batch.

The resulting polycistronic mRNAs are split into their component mature mRNAs by coupled *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation events (LeBowitz, 1993; Matthews, 1994; Ullu, 1993). Parasite mRNAs levels are thus not determined by the amount of transcription, but by post-transcriptional processes such as RNA processing and degradation (reviewed in (Clayton, 2007)). The dearth of lowly expressed *L. major* genes may indicate that very few mRNAs are completely degraded following polycistronic transcription.

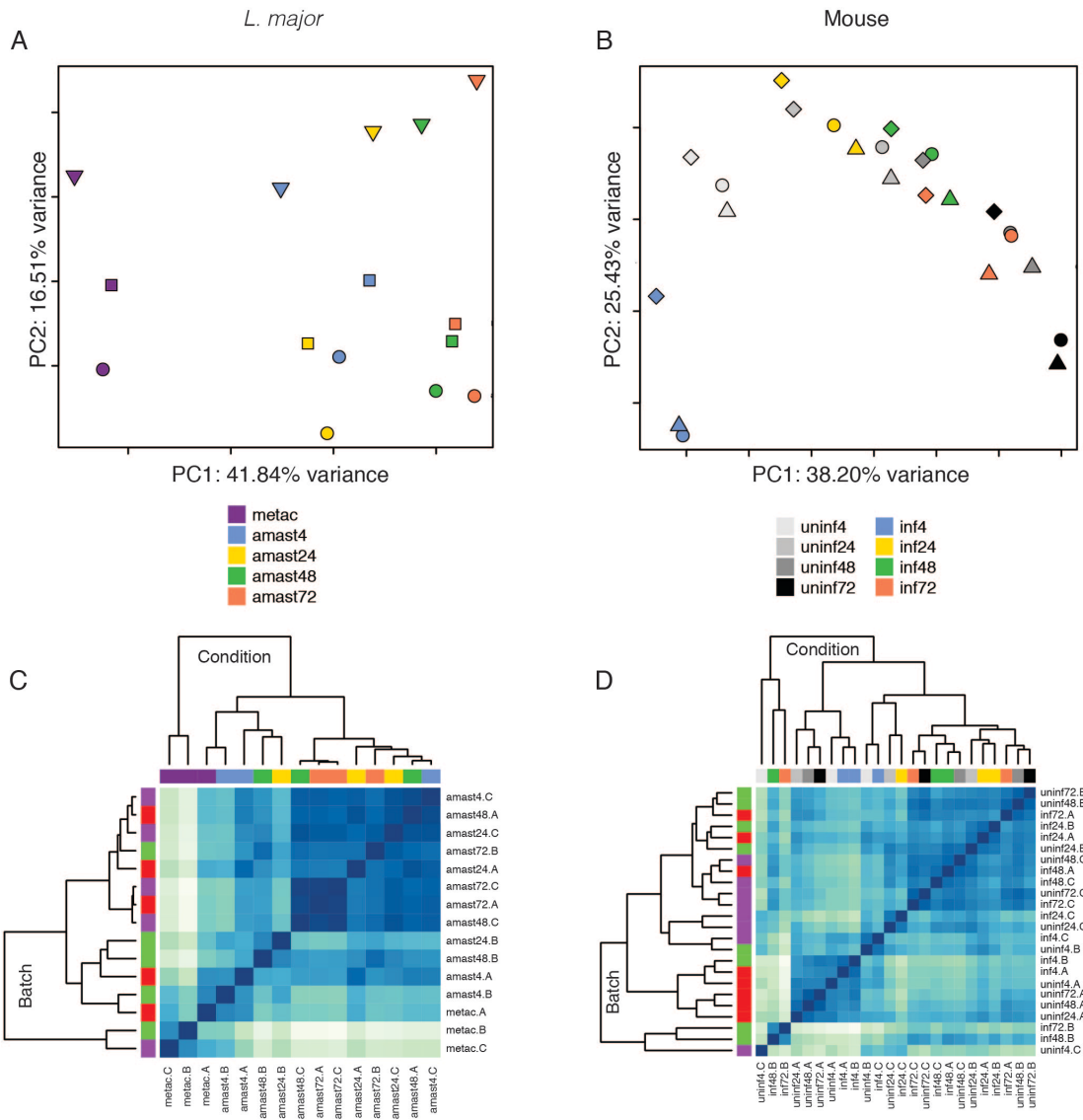
### Statistical assessment of biological replicates and batch effects

The use of multiple biological replicates necessitated the evaluation of the data to assess reproducibility and account for batch effects, i.e. experimental variation caused by sub-groups of measurements that are not related to the

underlying biology of the system being studied. Previous analyses of high-throughput data, like those produced by RNA-seq, have indicated the need to assess and correct batch effects in order to prevent misinterpretation of results (Dillon, 2015; Leek, 2010). In this study, experimental start date was used as a surrogate for batch when testing for differential expression.

We used principal component analysis (PCA) and Euclidean distance heatmap analysis to visualize the relationship between experimental datasets both prior to and after adjusting for batch effects (Figure 14 and Figure 15, respectively). The PCA plots revealed that samples from the same experimental condition (hpi and infection status) grouped together for the parasite and mouse macrophages demonstrating a high level of reproducibility between replicates. The dendrograms associated with the Euclidean distance heatmaps further illustrated this point, with like samples clustering most closely with one another. The grouping of samples by experimental condition was partially obscured when batch effects were not considered, illustrating the benefits of this approach. Batch effects were therefore controlled for in the subsequent differential expression analyses by including experimental batch in the statistical models used.

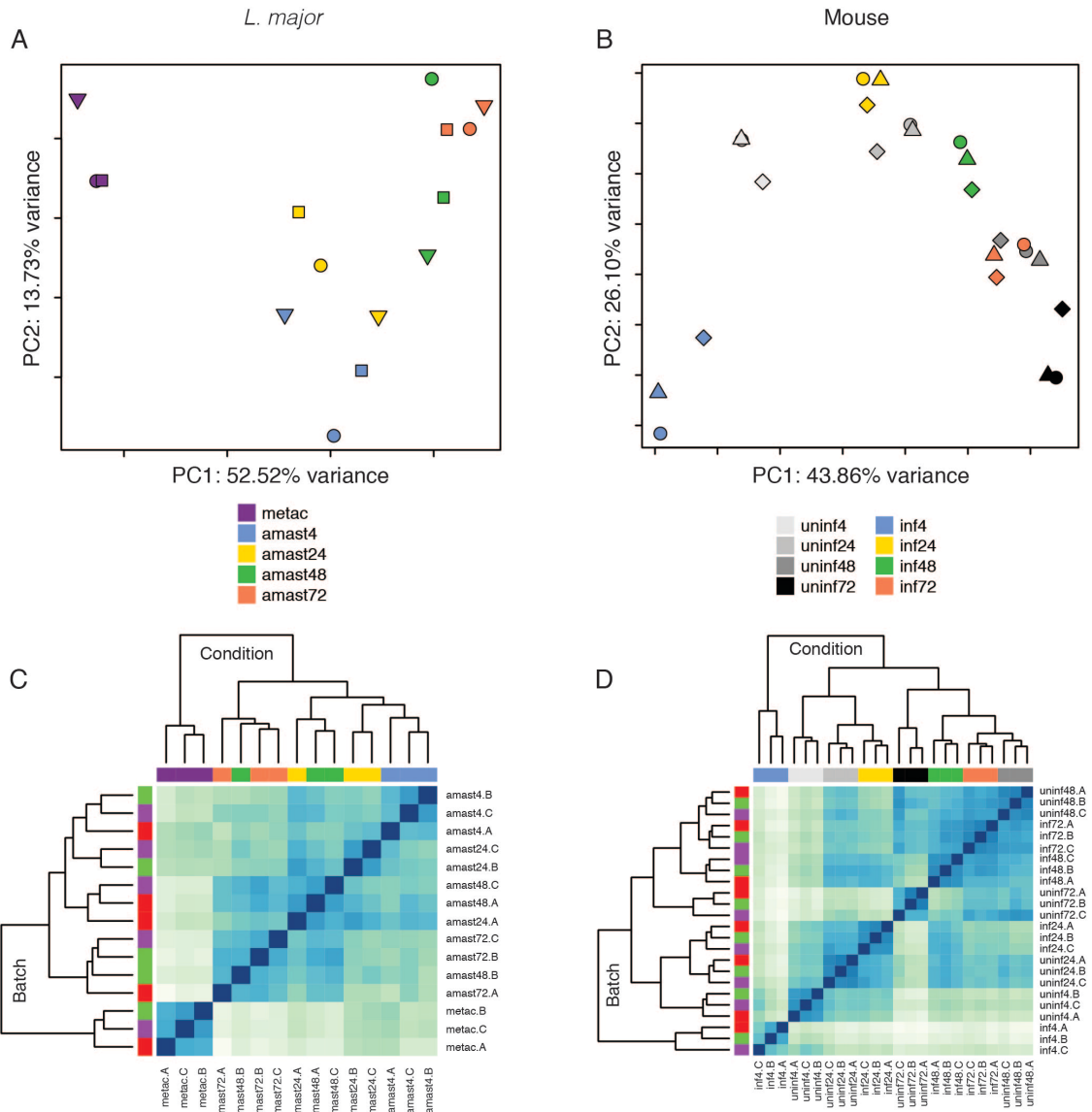
The PCA and clustering analysis also suggested interesting biological relationships between the samples. The global profile of *L. major* gene expression changed over the time course of the experiment, moving from left to right across principal component (PC) 1 (Figure 15A). The clear separation between promastigote and amastigote samples along PC1 highlights the differences between the two developmental stages. While a time progression can



**Figure 14: Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and hierarchical clustering analysis prior to accounting for batch effects.**

RNA-seq was carried out on mouse macrophages infected with *L. major* at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi as well as on the metacyclic promastigotes used for the infection. Principal component analysis (PCA) plots and heatmaps of hierarchical clustering analyses using Euclidean distance are shown for the *L. major* (A, C) and mouse (B, D) transcriptomes over the course of the experiment. The analyses were performed using all annotated protein-coding genes following filtering for low counts and quantile normalization prior to accounting for batch effects in the statistical model (8,479 genes for *L. major* and 12,552 genes for mouse). In the PCA plots, the first two principal components are shown on the X and Y axes, respectively, with the proportion of total variance attributable to that PC indicated. Each experimental sample is represented as a single point with color indicating sample type/timepoint and shape indicating experimental batch. Colors along the tops of the heatmaps indicate the sample type/timepoint and colors along the left sides of the heatmaps indicate the experimental batch. Samples are named according to sample type, timepoint, and experimental batch.





**Figure 15: Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and hierarchical clustering analysis after accounting for batch effects.**

RNA-seq was carried out on mouse macrophages infected with *L. major* at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi as well as on the metacyclic promastigotes used for the infection. Principal component analysis (PCA) plots and heatmaps of hierarchical clustering analyses using Euclidean distance are shown for the *L. major* (A, C) and mouse (B, D) transcriptomes over the course of the experiment. The analyses were performed using all annotated protein-coding genes following filtering for low counts and quantile normalization after accounting for batch effects in the statistical model (8,479 genes for *L. major* and 12,552 genes for mouse). In the PCA plots, the first two principal components are shown on the X and Y axes, respectively, with the proportion of total variance attributable to that PC indicated. Each experimental sample is represented as a single point with color indicating sample type/timepoint and shape indicating experimental batch. Colors along the tops of the heatmaps indicate the sample type/timepoint and colors along the left sides of the heatmaps indicate the experimental batch. Samples are named according to sample type, timepoint, and experimental batch.

be seen within the intracellular amastigote samples, some intermixing of samples from different timepoints was observed beyond 4 hpi (Figure 15C), suggesting an overlap in the gene expression profiles for these samples.

A time progression was also seen in the mouse macrophage data for both infected and uninfected samples (Figure 15B and Figure 15D). This observation underscored the necessity of collecting uninfected controls from each timepoint studied rather than relying on a control from a single timepoint. In addition, all infected macrophages from 24-72 hpi clustered more closely with the uninfected macrophages while the 4 hpi infected macrophages clustered apart. This is especially apparent in the heatmap dendrogram where the 4 hpi infected macrophages appear as a major outgroup.

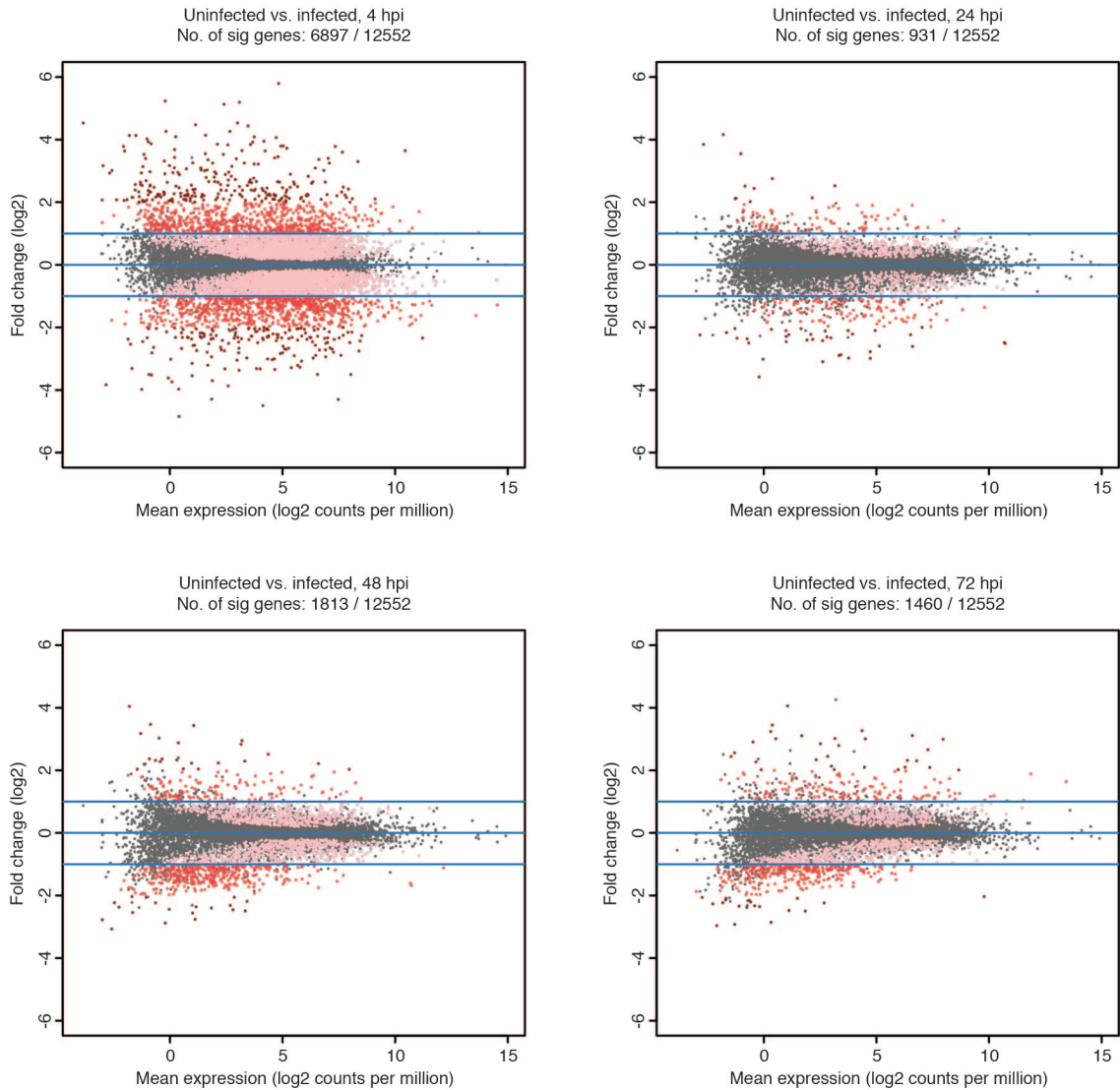
### **Differential expression and pathway enrichment analyses in murine macrophages**

While clustering analyses provided a high level overview of the behavior of the murine macrophage and parasite transcriptomes during the infection, further analyses were needed to evaluate changes in the expression levels of individual genes. A differential expression analysis was carried out to closely dissect the host murine macrophage response to infection by *Leishmania major* at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hours after infection. Pairwise analyses were conducted within and across individual timepoints with infected macrophages evaluated against matched uninfected macrophages for each timepoint.

The most substantial response to infection by the macrophage was observed at 4 hpi, with 6897 genes differentially expressed (DE) between

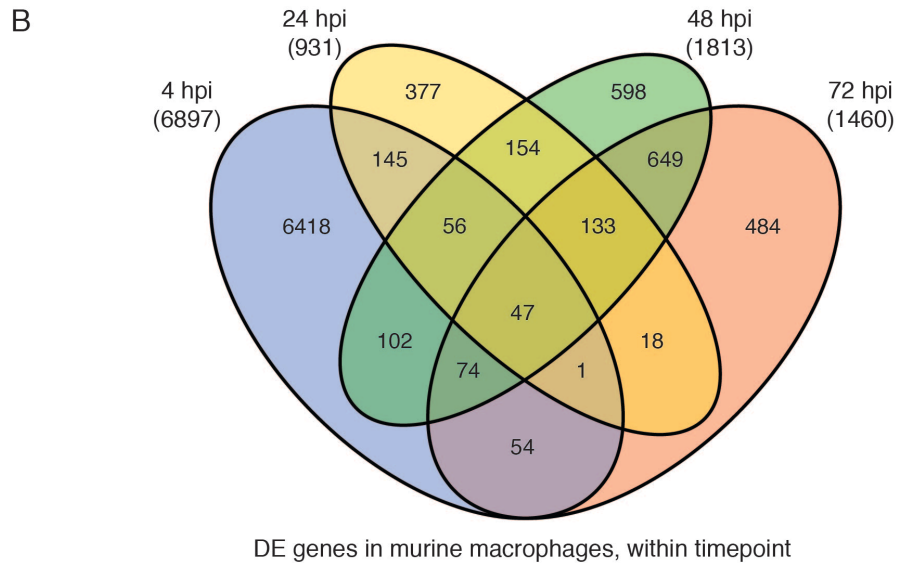
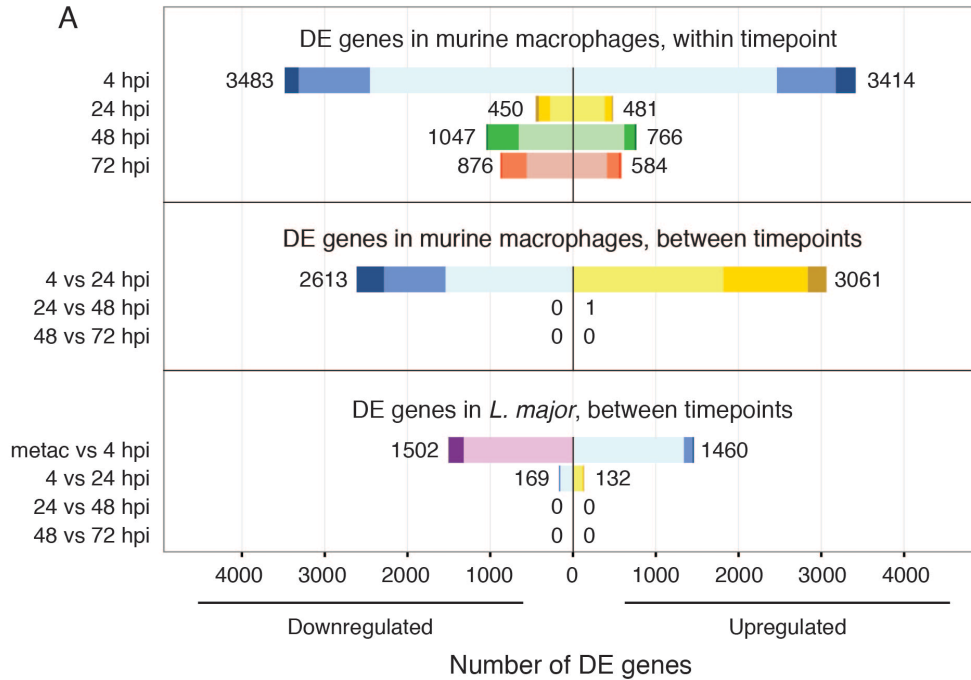
uninfected and infected cells with fold changes (FC) ranging from 29-fold downregulated to 56-fold upregulated. The response is reduced in later timepoints as reflected in smaller numbers of DE genes - 931, 1813, and 1460 genes at 24, 48, and 72 hpi, respectively - and in reduced fold changes with no downregulation beyond 12-fold or upregulation beyond 18-fold for these timepoints. The breakdown of up- and down-regulated genes for each timepoint comparison is illustrated in Figure 16 and Figure 17 (top).

A direct comparison of the overlap in DE genes at each timepoint revealed that the macrophage response to infection at 4 hpi was vastly different from the response at the later timepoints (Figure 17B and Figure 18). Of the 6897 DE genes at 4 hpi, 93% (6418 genes) were unique to 4 hpi. This is in contrast to 40% of genes at 24 hpi (377), 33% of genes at 48 hpi (598), and 33% of genes at 72 hpi (484) that were DE only at that specific timepoint. Indeed, only 47 genes were consistently up- or down-regulated at all 4 timepoints (38 genes upregulated at all timepoints and 9 genes downregulated at all timepoints). These genes do not appear to be functionally related, although the list does include the heavy metal transporters metallothionein 1 and 2. The latter has previously been associated with *Leishmania* resistance to treatment with antimonial drugs (Gómez, 2014). Interestingly, two genes associated with *Bcl2* (*Bnip3* and *Bcl2a1b*), an inhibitor of apoptosis, are also on this list, suggesting that infection by *L. major* may induce changes in host gene expression to prevent macrophages from undergoing cell death.



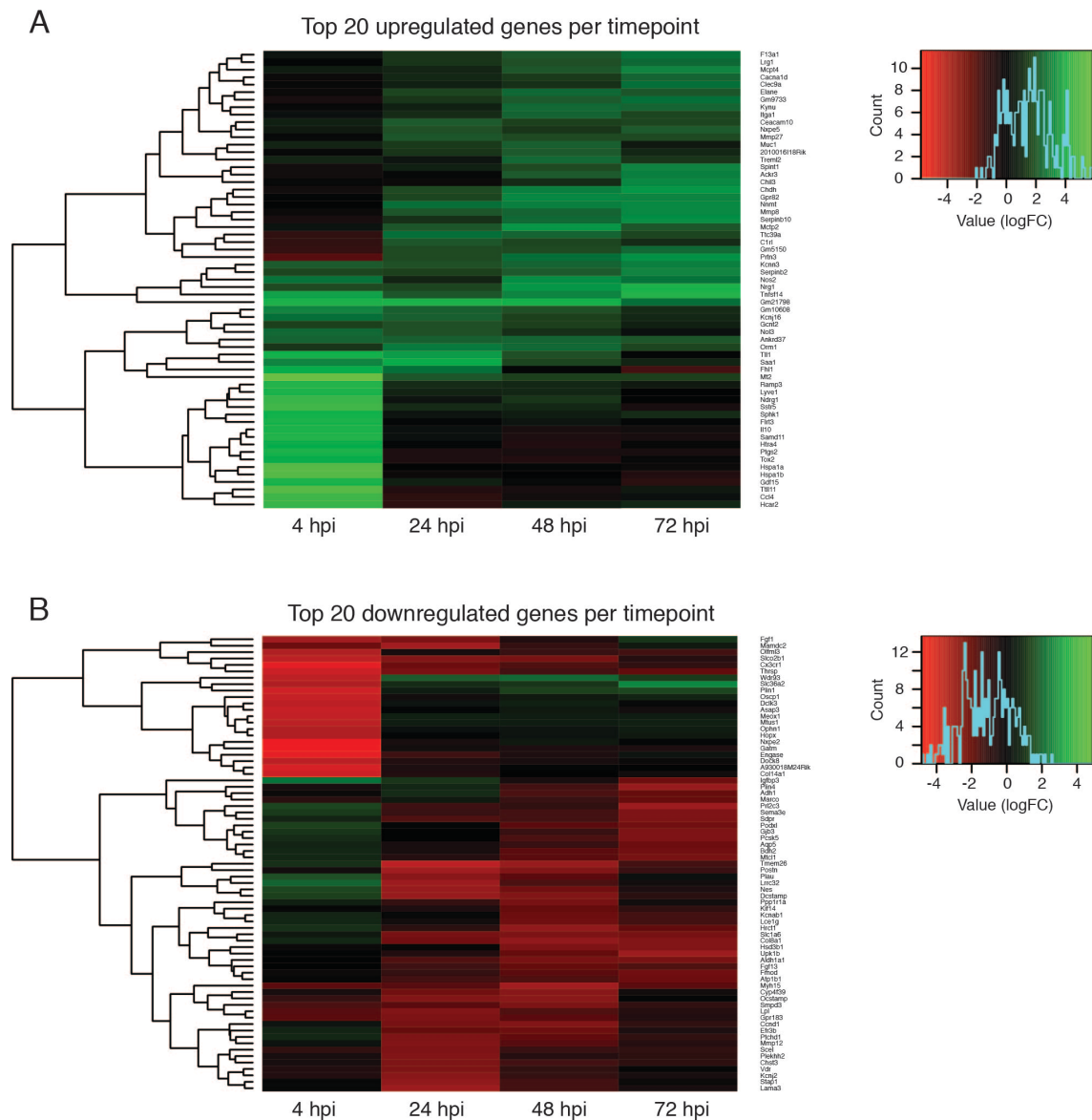
**Figure 16: MA plot of differentially expressed genes in murine macrophages upon infection by *L. major*.**

Differential expression analysis was done to compare infected mouse macrophages and uninfected controls at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi using `limma` after `voom` transformation, taking experimental batch into account as part of the `limma` statistical model. The MA plots show the relationship between mean expression (log2 counts per million with an offset of 0.5) and fold change (log2) for each timepoint. Each point represents one gene. Genes upregulated in infected samples relative to uninfected samples exhibit positive fold changes, while downregulated genes exhibit negative fold changes. Points colored in gray represent genes that were not significantly different between uninfected and infected macrophages ( $P$  value  $< 0.05$ ) while points colored in shades of red represent significant genes, with those showing a  $< 2$ -fold difference ( $\log_2 FC < 1$ ) colored in pink, between 2 to 4-fold difference colored in red, and  $> 4$ -fold difference colored in burgundy.



**Figure 17: Differentially expressed genes in *L. major* parasites and their murine macrophage host cells.**

Pairwise comparisons were done to determine differentially expressed (DE) genes from uninfected vs. infected mouse samples at each timepoint (A, top) and between timepoints (A, middle), and for *L. major* parasite samples between timepoints (A, bottom). Box length depicts the number of DE genes either downregulated (left) or upregulated (right) at an adjusted  $P$  value of  $< 0.05$  with the total number of down- and up-regulated genes shown. Color hue indicates sample type/timepoint as defined in Figure 14 and Figure 15 and color shade indicates the proportion of genes with  $> 4$ -fold differential expression (dark), between 2- and 4-fold differential expression (medium), or 2-fold differential expression (light). The DE gene lists for uninfected vs. infected mouse cells at each timepoint were compared and the overlap shown as a Venn diagram in (B).



**Figure 18: Expression patterns for the top up- and down-regulated genes in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages.**

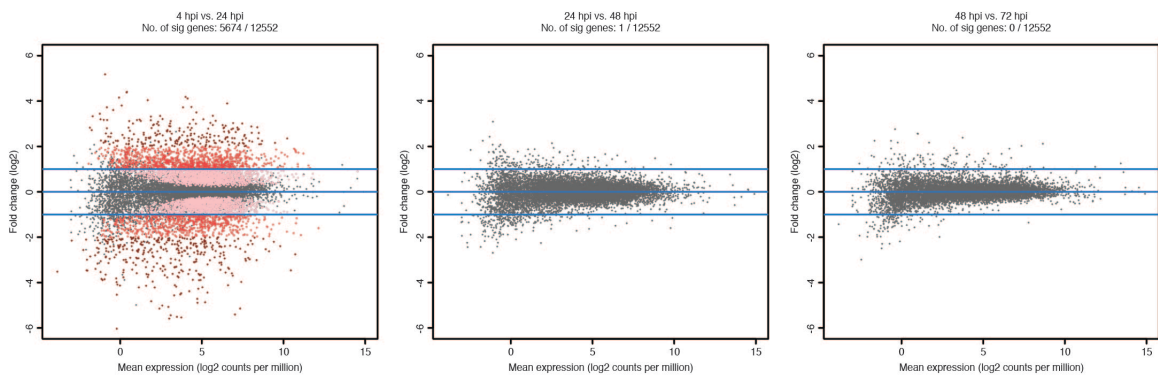
A heatmap is used to illustrate the pattern of changes in gene expression over time for the top differentially expressed genes in uninfected vs. *L. major*-infected murine macrophages. The top 20 significantly up-regulated (A) and down-regulated (B) genes at each timepoint ( $P$  value < 0.05) were selected for inclusion. A color key and histogram for the frequency of fold change values is shown with each panel.

In order to detect statistically significant differences in gene expression over time, we conducted differential expression analysis across timepoints.

Contrasts between successive timepoints revealed a large number of DE genes

during the 4 to 24 hpi transition (5674 DE genes), but almost no statistically significant genes between 24 and 48 hpi (1 gene) or between 48 and 72 hpi (0 genes) (Figure 17A middle and Figure 19). This suggests that the large initial response of the murine macrophages to *L. major* infection reached a plateau by 24 hpi, which persisted for the remainder of the time course as the infected cells mostly maintain their expression profile relative to matched uninfected cells.

The cellular processes most affected at each timepoint were characterized by KEGG pathway enrichment analysis using ConsensusPathDB (Kamburov, 2011). Genes that were DE >2-fold were used as input with upregulated and downregulated genes considered separately. The results of this analysis are reported in Table 4, Table 5, and Table 6.



**Figure 19: MA plot of differentially expressed genes in murine macrophages over time upon infection by *L. major*.**

Differential expression analysis was done to compare changes in *L. major*-infected mouse macrophages relative to uninfected controls over the time course of the experiment (4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi). Comparisons were done using `limma` after `voom` transformation, taking experimental batch into account as part of the `limma` statistical model. The MA plots show the relationship between mean expression (log2 counts per million with an offset of 0.5) and fold change (log2). Each point represents one gene. Genes upregulated in the second of the specified timepoints relative to the first are shown as exhibiting positive fold changes, while downregulated genes exhibit negative fold changes. Points colored in gray represent genes that were not significantly different between the tested conditions ( $P$  value < 0.05) while points colored in shades of red represent significant genes, with those showing a < 2-fold difference (logFC < 1) colored in pink, 2 to 4-fold difference colored in red, and > 4-fold difference colored in burgundy.

The enriched KEGG pathways were considered alongside the DE gene lists to gain insights into the cellular response to infection and how it differs between early and later infection. Early in the infection (4 hpi), many of the KEGG pathways that are most highly induced in infected macrophages are related to immune responses, specifically cytokine-cytokine receptor interactions and arginine and proline metabolism, glycolysis, and multiple signaling pathways including those for TNF, HIF-1, NF-kappa B, Jak-STAT, PI3K-Akt, and MAPK. A closer look at the DE genes in the immune response-related pathways reveals an interesting picture of the murine macrophage response to infection at 4 hpi. Infected macrophages produce a set of transcripts with paradoxical functions involved in both activating immune responses and promoting tissue regeneration and wound healing. Many of the DE genes associated with enriched pathways are anti-inflammatory in character or are involved in tissue growth and repair, including *Csf1*, *Csf3*, *Il10*, *Il11r*, *Il1rn*, *Socs3*, *Hmox1*, *Egfr*, *Vegf*, and fos-induced growth factor (*Figf*). The product of each of these genes has either been associated with reducing inflammation or promoting cell survival or differentiation. Therefore, macrophages infected with *L. major* appear to assume an immunoregulatory phenotype that resembles previously described macrophages treated with LPS and immune complex (Fleming, 2015). However, not all of the differentially induced genes in infected macrophages at 4 hpi were anti-inflammatory. There was also an upregulation of transcripts encoding well-described inflammatory cytokines and their receptors including *Il1*, *Il6*, *Tnf*, and *Nos2*, as well as *Il1rap* and *Il18r1*. The pro-inflammatory NOD-like receptor



Upregulated genes			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction	43	266	3.49E-12
TNF signaling pathway	24	111	3.05E-09
Transcriptional misregulation in cancer	24	180	5.72E-09
HIF-1 signaling pathway	20	113	4.57E-07
Hematopoietic cell lineage	16	87	5.84E-07
NF-kappa B signaling pathway	19	102	1.55E-06
Jak-STAT signaling pathway	22	155	2.24E-06
Legionellosis	13	59	1.05E-05
PI3K-Akt signaling pathway	37	353	6.29E-05
MAPK signaling pathway	28	257	2.57E-04
Salmonella infection	12	79	9.24E-04
Malaria	9	49	1.00E-03
NOD-like receptor signaling pathway	10	59	1.03E-03
Rheumatoid arthritis	12	84	1.60E-03
Glycolysis / Gluconeogenesis	9	65	2.19E-03
Mineral absorption	8	46	2.72E-03
ECM-receptor interaction	11	87	6.42E-03
Tuberculosis	18	177	6.45E-03
Gap junction	11	88	7.00E-03
Axon guidance	14	129	8.88E-03
Arginine and proline metabolism	8	56	9.30E-03
Prion diseases	6	35	9.77E-03
Downregulated genes			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Osteoclast differentiation	21	126	2.99E-06
Terpenoid backbone biosynthesis	7	21	7.30E-05
Staphylococcus aureus infection	11	52	7.61E-05
Steroid biosynthesis	6	17	1.71E-04
NOD-like receptor signaling pathway	10	59	2.51E-04
Peroxisome	12	81	1.18E-03
PPAR signaling pathway	12	81	1.18E-03
Chagas disease (American trypanosomiasis)	14	104	1.24E-03
Biosynthesis of unsaturated fatty acids	6	25	1.69E-03
Leishmaniasis	10	66	2.50E-03
ABC transporters	8	46	2.75E-03
Axon guidance	15	129	3.69E-03
Leukocyte transendothelial migration	14	121	5.16E-03
Fc gamma R-mediated phagocytosis	11	89	7.70E-03
Pancreatic cancer	9	67	9.02E-03

**Table 4: KEGG pathways enriched in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages at 4 hpi.**

KEGG pathway analysis using ConsensusPathDB (Kamburov, 2011) identified signaling and metabolic pathways that were over-represented in *L. major*-infected mouse macrophages at 4 hpi ( $P$  value < 0.01) relative to uninfected controls. Genes that were differentially expressed (DE) by more than 2-fold were used as input with up- and down-regulated genes considered separately. For each enriched KEGG pathway, the number of DE genes assigned to that pathway, the total number of genes in the pathway, and the  $P$  value for the enrichment are reported.

signaling pathway is enriched among both up-regulated and down-regulated genes at 4 hpi with some members of the pathway upregulated (*Tnf*, *Il6*, *Il1β*, *Cxcl2*) and others downregulated (NLRP-family members, *Pycard*, *Card9*, and *Il18*). It is unclear to what extent the observed expression patterns are being driven by the parasite as it is taken into the host cell, or are being promoted by the host as it attempts to limit infection or to protect itself from the negative effects of a robust immune response.

Pathway analysis also showed an upregulation of glycolysis/ gluconeogenesis at 4 hpi. Upregulated genes encode glycolytic enzymes, including hexokinases, enolase, phosphoglycerate kinase, glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, and lactate dehydrogenase A. An increase in anaerobic glycolysis has been associated with the stimulation of inflammatory responses in macrophages following toll-like receptor (TLR) ligation (Tannahill, 2013). Glycolytic pathways were also enriched among upregulated genes at 24 hpi, but this effect was not seen at 48 and 72 hpi. Thus, following phagocytosis of *L. major*, macrophages undergo transient metabolic alterations that result in an increase in glycolysis and the generation of ATP.

KEGG pathways downregulated at 4 hpi are mostly related to lipid metabolism and biogenesis and include osteoclast differentiation, terpenoid backbone biosynthesis, steroid biosynthesis, PPAR signaling, and biosynthesis of unsaturated fatty acids. Decreases in the receptors and signaling molecules involved in the process of phagocytosis itself (“Fc gamma R-mediated phagocytosis” KEGG pathway) were also observed at 4 hpi. Transcripts

encoding all four Fcγ receptors (*Fcgr1*, *Fcgr2b*, *Fcgr3*, and *Fcgr4*), complement component 1 q subcomponent polypeptides (*C1q* family), and the C5a receptors (*C5ar1* and *C5ar2*) were downregulated following *L. major* phagocytosis. It has been previously shown that phagocytosis of *Leishmania* and other pathogens via Fc gamma receptors leads to parasite killing while phagocytosis via pathways mediated by complement receptor 3 (CR3) leads to parasite survival (Babadjanova, 2015; Da Silva, 1989; Fadul, 1995; Mosser, 1987; Woelbing, 2006). The downregulation of Fc gamma receptors may be a mechanism by which the parasite induces changes in host cells to promote alternative entry mechanisms that will support its survival.

An examination of the enriched KEGG pathways at 24, 48, and 72 hpi reveals different enrichment patterns from those observed at 4 hpi (Table 5 and Table 6). There are a greater number of pathways downregulated than upregulated during each of these later timepoints, but we see no clear picture that otherwise emerges.

While a significant number of disease-specific KEGG pathways are enriched among up- and down-regulated genes reported at various timepoints in this study (i.e., leishmaniasis, Chagas disease, tuberculosis, malaria, legionellosis, amoebiasis, *Salmonella* infection, *Staphylococcus aureus* infection, Fanconi anemia, prion diseases, and cancer subtypes; see Table 4, Table 5, and Table 6), a linkage between these disease and our dataset may not be particularly meaningful. This is because the KEGG pathways for these individual diseases appear to be constructed using a combination of heterogeneous

Upregulated genes, 24 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Glycolysis / Gluconeogenesis	4	65	2.88E-06
Chemical carcinogenesis	6	95	2.62E-05
Metabolism of xenobiotics by cytochrome P450	6	96	2.78E-05
Drug metabolism - cytochrome P450	6	97	2.95E-05
Starch and sucrose metabolism	4	54	3.44E-04
Glutathione metabolism	4	55	3.70E-04
Staphylococcus aureus infection	3	52	4.11E-03
HIF-1 signaling pathway	2	113	5.33E-03
Natural killer cell mediated cytotoxicity	2	119	6.40E-03
Osteoclast differentiation	4	126	7.80E-03
Upregulated genes, 48 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Osteoclast differentiation	8	126	9.58E-07
Upregulated genes, 72 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Osteoclast differentiation	10	126	4.94E-08
Staphylococcus aureus infection	5	52	1.68E-04
Calcium signaling pathway	8	183	5.06E-04
Chemokine signaling pathway	8	199	8.78E-04
Hematopoietic cell lineage	5	87	1.81E-03
Nicotinate and nicotinamide metabolism	3	32	3.99E-03
Leishmaniasis	4	66	4.34E-03
Amoebiasis	5	120	7.19E-03
Salivary secretion	4	77	7.49E-03
Complement and coagulation cascades	4	77	7.49E-03
Tuberculosis	6	177	8.87E-03

**Table 5: KEGG pathways enriched among genes upregulated in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages at 24, 48, and 72 hpi.**

KEGG pathway analysis using ConsensusPathDB identified signaling and metabolic pathways that were over-represented among genes upregulated > 2-fold in *L. major*-infected mouse macrophages at 24, 48, and 72 hpi ( $P$  value < 0.01) relative to uninfected controls. For each enriched KEGG pathway, the number of differentially expressed (DE) genes belonging to that pathway, the total number of genes in the pathway, and the  $P$  value for the enrichment are reported.

observations from multiple studies of individual genes using data from different experiments, hosts, cell types, and timepoints, rather than using gene lists derived from a single or set of genome-wide studies, and as a result paint an incomplete picture of the global changes in gene expression. Therefore, while it is interesting to note small overlaps between the comprehensive DE profiles in

Downregulated genes, 24 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Transcriptional misregulation in cancer	10	180	2.10E-05
Pathways in cancer	13	326	4.09E-05
Focal adhesion	10	206	6.63E-05
Melanoma	6	73	1.21E-04
PI3K-Akt signaling pathway	12	353	3.64E-04
Proteoglycans in cancer	9	228	7.14E-04
Glycosaminoglycan biosynthesis - chondroitin sulfate/dermatan sulf	3	20	1.17E-03
Small cell lung cancer	5	86	2.20E-03
Thyroid cancer	3	29	3.51E-35
Wnt signaling pathway	6	143	4.18E-03
Colorectal cancer	4	64	4.74E-03
Hippo signaling pathway	6	156	6.36E-03
Amoebiasis	5	120	9.04E-03
Downregulated genes, 48 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Cell cycle	20	128	7.91E-14
Progesterone-mediated oocyte maturation	9	88	4.20E-06
p53 signaling pathway	8	69	2.25E-05
Oocyte meiosis	10	112	4.28E-05
ECM-receptor interaction	8	87	7.47E-04
Focal adhesion	13	206	7.82E-04
Pathways in cancer	17	326	1.13E-03
Hippo signaling pathway	10	156	2.78E-03
Small cell lung cancer	7	86	3.21E-03
Homologous recombination	4	28	3.37E-03
HTLV-I infection	13	279	4.30E-03
Amoebiasis	8	120	5.71E-03
Fanconi anemia pathway	5	52	6.12E-03
Downregulated genes, 72 hpi			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
ECM-receptor interaction	15	87	1.08E-10
Focal adhesion	20	206	3.31E-09
PI3K-Akt signaling pathway	21	353	5.47E-06
Pathways in cancer	20	326	5.86E-06
Protein digestion and absorption	10	88	7.90E-06
p53 signaling pathway	7	69	5.63E-05
Cell cycle	9	128	2.02E-04
Small cell lung cancer	8	86	2.69E-04
Amoebiasis	9	120	5.66E-04
Oocyte meiosis	8	112	1.57E-03
Progesterone-mediated oocyte maturation	6	88	1.65E-03
Hippo signaling pathway	9	156	3.53E-03
Tyrosine metabolism	4	43	9.68E-03

**Table 6: KEGG pathways enriched among genes downregulated in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages at 24, 48, and 72 hpi.**

KEGG pathway analysis using ConsensusPathDB identified signaling and metabolic pathways that were over-represented among genes downregulated > 2-fold in *L. major*-infected mouse macrophages at 24, 48, and 72 hpi ( $P$  value < 0.01) relative to uninfected controls. For each enriched KEGG pathway, the number of differentially expressed (DE) genes belonging to that pathway, the total number of genes in the pathway, and the  $P$  value for the enrichment are reported.

this study and genes included in these pathways, the differences in scope between the lists limit the usefulness of comparisons to disease KEGG pathways as currently defined.

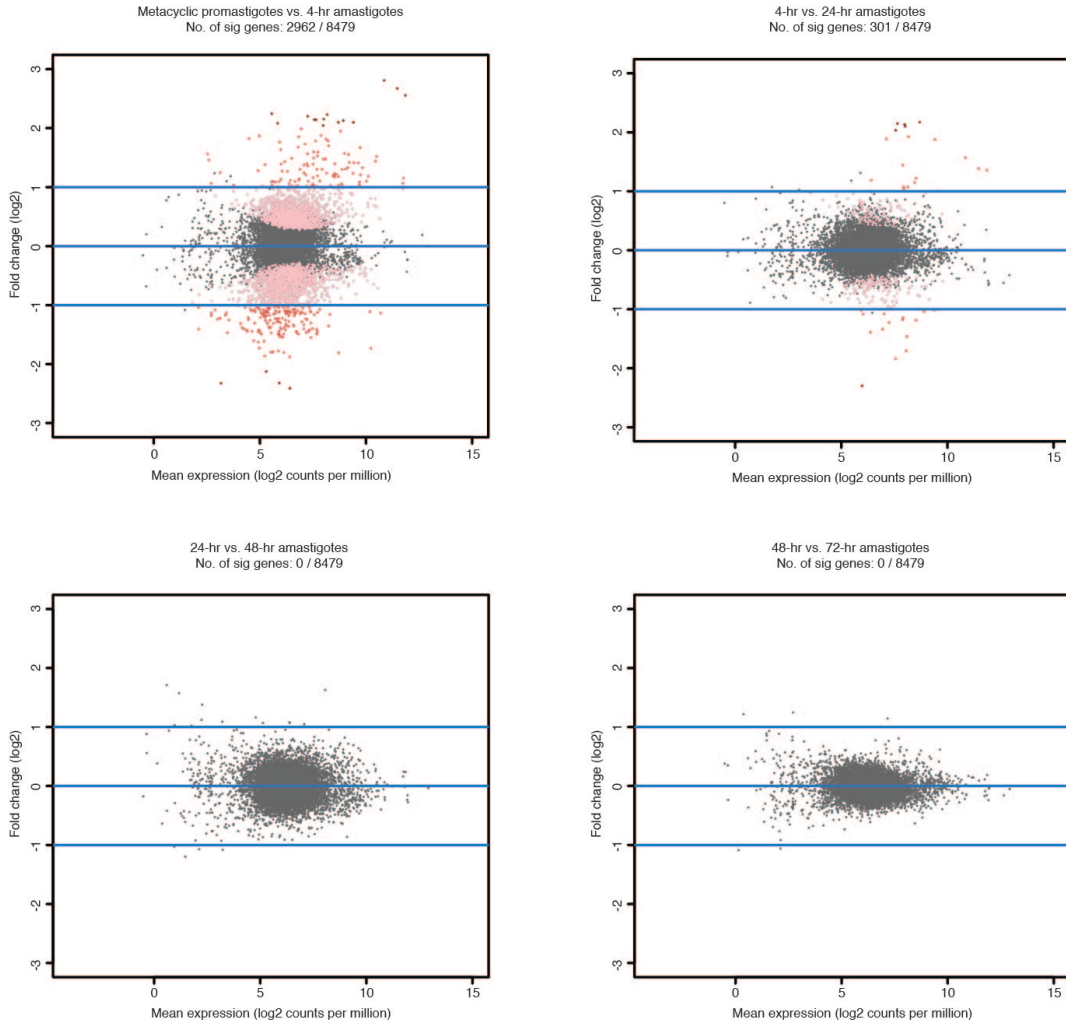
We compared the results of our differential expression analysis to previously published reports on the murine macrophage response to *Leishmania* infection. Since global transcriptome studies of *L. major* infection of macrophages isolated from C57BL/6 mice are not available, we compared our results to studies that used either the same mouse strain or the same *Leishmania* species. In a study detailing the infection of C57BL/6 peritoneal macrophages with *L. amazonensis* (Probst, 2012), 105 genes were identified as DE (FC > 1.5) between infected and uninfected macrophages at 18 hpi. This number compares to 3972 and 546 DE genes (FC > 1.5) at 4 and 24 hpi, respectively, in our dataset with an overlap of only 42 genes (of the 105) differentially expressed in the same direction at 4 or 24 hpi. Similarly, we compared the infection of Balb/c bone marrow-derived macrophages with *L. major* as reported in two recent studies. Of the 769 genes identified when comparing the transcriptomes of *L. major*-infected Balb/c macrophages to macrophages that had ingested latex beads (24 hpi timepoint), only 53 were in common with our 24 hpi timepoint (Gregory, 2008). However, 446 genes were in common with our 4 hpi timepoint, indicating that the time progression observed between the two systems may be somewhat offset. Of the 40 genes identified as DE by more than 1.5-fold during the 24 hr timecourse experiment reported by Rabhi *et al.* (Rabhi, 2012), 29 genes were also found to be differentially expressed in the same direction in our

dataset at either 4 or 24 hpi with the greatest number of genes found in common with our 4 hpi dataset (26 genes). The limited agreement between the previously reported DE genes and our dataset is likely a reflection of the differences in study design (e.g., combination of mouse strain and parasite species, macrophage source, parasite opsonization), batch effects between laboratories, technical platforms, and data analysis methods.

### **Differential expression and gene ontology enrichment analyses in *L. major***

While past studies have used microarrays and other methods to study changes in *Leishmania* gene expression between promastigotes and amastigotes (Akopyants, 2004; Almeida, 2004; Depledge, 2009; Holzer, 2006; Leifso, 2007; McNicoll, 2006; Quijada, 2005; Rochette, 2008; Saxena, 2007; Walker, 2006), this study provided a unique opportunity to additionally characterize gene expression patterns within amastigotes over the course of an intracellular infection. Differential expression analysis revealed a large number of genes (2962) to be DE between metacyclic promastigotes and 4-hr amastigotes at an adjusted *P* value cutoff of <0.05, reflecting the significant differentiation event that occurs as the parasite enters host cells. Significantly fewer changes in expression were observed in amastigotes across timepoints, with 301 DE genes found between 4- and 24-hr amastigotes and no DE genes between either 24- and 48-hr amastigotes or between 48- and 72-hr amastigotes (Figure 17 and Figure 20). This pattern of differential gene expression is consistent with observations of gene expression over time in the mouse macrophages and

suggests that the initial reprogramming that occurs upon infection had largely been stabilized by 24 hpi.



**Figure 20: MA plot of differentially expressed genes in *L. major* across developmental stages and intracellular timepoints.**

Differential expression analysis was done to compare in *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes and intracellular amastigote gene expression over time during a murine macrophage infection (4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi). Comparisons were done using `limma` after `voom` transformation, taking experimental batch into account as part of the `limma` statistical model. The MA plots show the relationship between mean expression (log2 counts per million with an offset of 0.5) and fold change (log2). Each point represents one gene. Genes upregulated in the second of the specified timepoints relative to the first are shown as exhibiting positive fold changes, while downregulated genes exhibit negative fold changes. Points colored in gray represent genes that were not significantly different between the tested conditions ( $P$  value  $< 0.05$ ) while points colored in shades of red represent significant genes, with those showing a  $< 2$ -fold difference (logFC  $< 1$ ) colored in pink, 2 to 4-fold difference colored in red, and  $> 4$ -fold difference colored in burgundy.



Gene ontology (GO) analysis was used to identify cellular functions and processes that characterize the entry and survival of *L. major* in the murine macrophage system. These results were considered alongside the lists of DE genes to draw insights into how the parasite adapts to its new environment. Efforts were made to compare the results of this study to previous work, though our ability to conduct meaningful systematic comparisons was constrained due to the use of different parasite systems (e.g., *Leishmania* species, source of amastigotes, developmental stages and timepoints collected), host systems (e.g., mice strains, cell lines), experimental platforms (e.g., microarrays, number of genes interrogated), and methods for assessing and reporting differential expression (fold change vs. statistical cut-offs; details of reported gene lists).

GO analysis of the up- and down-regulated genes identified during the metacyclic promastigote to 4-hr amastigote transition revealed a total of 20 enriched GO categories. Enriched GO terms for genes upregulated during this transition were primarily related to mitigating the effects of an oxidative response by the host immune system and the regulation of proteins (Table 7). Heat shock proteins, especially HSP83, multiple trypanothione peroxidase family members, and multiple cyclophilins were upregulated upon entry of metacyclic promastigotes into host cells and contributed strongly to the GO enrichment results for the upregulated genes. HSP83, the cytoplasmic form of HSP90, is known to stabilize transcription factors and kinases and is thus largely involved in the regulation of signaling networks involved in differentiation (Hombach, 2014; Requena, 2015), and trypanothione peroxidase is known to contribute to

GO ID	GO term	P value
<b>Metacyclics to 4-hr amastigotes, upregulated</b>		
GO:0006950	response to stress	5.50E-13
GO:0006486	protein glycosylation	9.95E-09
GO:0006457	protein folding	5.70E-06
GO:0051920	peroxiredoxin activity	2.72E-05
GO:0051082	unfolded protein binding	9.44E-05
GO:0016209	antioxidant activity	1.04E-04
GO:0004386	helicase activity	2.06E-04
<b>Metacyclics to 4-hr amastigotes, downregulated</b>		
GO:0004713	protein tyrosine kinase activity	6.68E-12
GO:0004674	protein serine/threonine kinase activity	2.15E-11
GO:0004672	protein kinase activity	3.40E-10
GO:0006468	protein phosphorylation	3.43E-10
GO:0005516	calmodulin binding	2.76E-08
GO:0009434	microtubule-based flagellum	1.93E-07
GO:0005840	ribosome	8.85E-07
GO:0006412	translation	1.42E-06
GO:0003735	structural constituent of ribosome	1.81E-06
GO:0006633	fatty acid biosynthetic process	2.72E-05
GO:0009190	cyclic nucleotide biosynthetic process	8.29E-05
GO:0016849	phosphorus-oxygen lyase activity	8.29E-05
GO:0007165	signal transduction	2.66E-04
<b>4-hr to 24-hr amastigotes, upregulated</b>		
GO:0005874	microtubule	3.25E-09
GO:0043234	protein complex	5.80E-09
GO:0051258	protein polymerization	5.80E-09
GO:0005198	structural molecule activity	3.32E-08
GO:0006184	GTP catabolic process	3.91E-07
GO:0007018	microtubule-based movement	9.88E-06
GO:0003924	GTPase activity	1.81E-05
<b>4-hr to 24-hr amastigotes, downregulated</b>		
GO:0055114	oxidation-reduction process	8.81E-08
GO:0006096	glycolytic process	1.24E-07
GO:0020015	glycosome	4.22E-07
GO:0004743	pyruvate kinase activity	1.50E-05
GO:0050661	NADP binding	2.36E-05
GO:0004365	GAPDH (NAD <sup>+</sup> ) (phosphorylating) activity	5.91E-05
GO:0006006	glucose metabolic process	1.45E-04

**Table 7: Gene ontology categories enriched across *L. major* stages/timepoints.**

GOseq (Young, 2010) was used to identify enriched GO categories for the transition between metacyclic promastigotes and 4-hr amastigotes and between 4-hr amastigotes and 24-hr amastigotes at a *P* value cutoff of < 0.05. For each transition, up- and down-regulated genes were considered separately.

*Leishmania* virulence and resistance to antimonial drugs (Iyer, 2008). Less is known about the role of cyclophilins in *Leishmania*, though these peptidyl-prolyl cis/trans isomerases have been shown to reactivate cellular proteins by promoting their disaggregation (Chakraborty, 2002). The upregulation of cyclophilin in *L. major* amastigotes has been previously observed (compared to procyclic promastigotes) (Leifso, 2007). Many types of surface antigens were highly upregulated, as was the zinc-metalloprotease GP63 (a known virulence factor that subverts macrophage signaling) (Olivier, 2012), and phosphoglycan beta 1,3 galactosyltransferase (SCG) family members, which are responsible for modifications to the *Leishmania* lipophosphoglycan (LPG) surface molecule side chains (Dobson, 2003) and have been previously observed to be upregulated in *Leishmania* amastigotes (Rochette, 2008). That there are significant changes taking place on the surface of the parasite is not surprising given the transformation that takes place as differentiation progresses from the promastigote to amastigote forms. Other genes upregulated during the metacyclic promastigote to 4-hr amastigote transition included *meta1*, which is thought to play a role in virulence and was previously found to be upregulated in infective metacyclic promastigotes relative to non-infective procyclic promastigotes (Dillon, 2015; Nourbakhsh, 1996; Puri, 2011), and inositol-3-phosphate synthase (*ino1*), which synthesizes *myo*-inositol, a precursor molecule for the backbone of the GPI anchors used by many *Leishmania* surface proteins, including multiple virulence factors (Ilg, 2002). Interestingly, the gene encoding the transporter for *myo*-inositol (*mit1*) (Drew, 1995) was among the most down-

regulated during the transition, perhaps indicating that the parasite favors synthesizing *de novo* rather than importing this important substrate once it enters mammalian cells.

GO terms that were enriched among downregulated genes during the metacyclic promastigote to 4-hr amastigote transition were related to translation, cell signaling, fatty acid biosynthesis, and flagellum structure (Table 7). A number of genes were responsible for driving the GO results, including ribosomal proteins, casein kinase, receptor-type adenylate cyclase, fatty acid elongase, sphingolipid delta desaturase, and paraflagellar rod protein. The downregulation of ribosomal proteins during the *Leishmania* promastigote to amastigote transition is consistent with previous reports (Almeida, 2004) and may reflect a reduction in translation taking place within the cell. Casein kinase is thought to play a role in *Leishmania* promastigote growth and parasite virulence via interactions with host proteins, though its exact function is unclear (Allocco, 2006; Dan-Goor, 2013). Likewise, adenylate cyclase is a suspected regulator of cAMP signaling during *Leishmania* differentiation (Biswas, 2011; Sanchez, 1995), but the exactly signaling pathways through which this is accomplished are unknown. Fatty acids have many potential roles within the cell related to membrane structure and composition, signaling, and energy. Fatty acid elongase family members are involved in fatty acid synthesis and may be involved in GPI anchoring (Ramakrishnan, 2013), while sphingolipid delta 4 desaturase is involved in the degradation of sphingolipids, a process that has been linked to enabling *Leishmania* to survive the acidic environment of the phagolysosome

once it is taken into host cells (Xu, 2011). Genes that influence microtubule length and dynamics were systematically downregulated, including those that encode paraflagellar rod proteins, calmodulin-related proteins (Ginger, 2013), multiple kinesins (Blaineau, 2007; Vicente, 2015), NIMA-related kinases (Cao, 2009), and mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinase kinases (Bengs, 2005; Erdmann, 2006; Wiese, 2003). These genes have been implicated in the regulation of flagellum length and mitotic spindle formation and may reflect changes in morphology and cell division that take place as the flagellated promastigote stage parasites transform into the aflagellated amastigotes. Consistent with previous microarray-based studies (Akopyants, 2004; Almeida, 2004), we also detected the downregulation of the known metacyclic markers SHERP and HASP as the parasite transformed from promastigotes to amastigotes.

Of the 14 GO categories enriched during the transition from 4-hr to 24-hr amastigotes, those related to microtubules and protein complexes were specific to upregulated genes with many copies of  $\beta$ -tubulin, the primary component of microtubules, almost exclusively driving the GO analysis results. The upregulation of  $\beta$ -tubulin in early amastigotes compared to metacyclic promastigotes is noteworthy considering its downregulation in metacyclic promastigotes compared to procyclic promastigotes (Coulson, 1996; Dillon, 2015). Besides  $\beta$ -tubulin, many other top upregulated genes encoded surface antigens, including the developmentally-regulated amastigote-enriched protein amastin (Akopyants, 2004; Holzer, 2006; Rochette, 2008; Wu, 2000). GO

categories related to glucose metabolism and oxidation-reduction processes were enriched among downregulated genes with many of the downregulated genes contributing to these categories belonging to the glycolysis pathway (GAPDH, pyruvate kinase, ENOL, triosephosphate isomerase, ALD, and glucose-6-phosphate isomerase) or related to cholesterol/sterol metabolism (NSDHL, HMGR, FPPS, CYP51) or purine metabolism (XRPT). This may indicate a change in the metabolic requirements or preferences of *Leishmania* once the parasites have survived their initial entry into the mammalian cell. Other highly downregulated genes included heat shock proteins, bipterin transporters, and *meta1* (Dillon, 2015; Nourbakhsh, 1996; Puri, 2011).

A very significant dataset resulting from this study includes the large proportion of the DE genes that have no known function and are annotated as hypothetical proteins. Those make up 58% (1724 of 2962) of the DE genes in the metacyclic to 4-hr amastigote transition and 49% (147 of 301) of the DE genes in the 4- to 24-hr amastigote transition. While hypothetical genes have largely been overlooked to date, they almost certainly constitute an integral part of the transcriptomic signature of the parasites as members of co-expressed gene networks which are involved in common functional pathways or regulated by shared regulatory mechanisms.

## **Conclusion**

In this study, we performed transcriptomic profiling to identify *L. major* and mouse genes that were differentially expressed as the parasite entered and persisted within murine macrophages. The generation of RNA-seq data followed

by the unambiguous mapping of reads from infected samples to the genomes of both the host and the parasite enabled us to identify genes that changed over the first 72 hours of an infection in the real-time context of a dynamic dual biological system, and to a much greater depth and sensitivity than has been previously reported. Collection of data from multiple biological replicates, the use of matched host control samples, careful statistical analysis of variation, and removal of batch effects provided us with a unique ability to detect biological differences between samples and timepoints with high confidence and sensitivity.

General patterns of transcription in both the mouse and the parasite revealed robust transcriptional responses early in infection but suggested a stabilization in the transcriptional response by around 24 hpi, with few genes showing statistically significant changes in expression levels after that point. At 4 hpi, host pathways related to pro- and anti-inflammatory immune signaling and interactions and metabolism were upregulated while pathways related to lipid metabolism and biogenesis were downregulated. The parasite showed upregulation of genes involved in antioxidant responses and the regulation of proteins and downregulation of genes related to translation, cell signaling, fatty acid biosynthesis, and flagellum structure. In addition to providing robust sets of markers for multiple developmental stages of *L. major* parasites and *Leishmania*-infected macrophages over several timepoints, this work contributes to a growing body of literature on the broader field of host-pathogen interactions.

## Chapter 5

### Transcriptomic profiling of *Leishmania*-infected human macrophages

#### Introduction

*Leishmania* infection causes a wide range of clinical outcomes, with some species causing cutaneous, mucocutaneous, or diffuse cutaneous leishmaniasis where symptoms remain localized to the skin or mucosal surfaces, and other *Leishmania* species causing visceral leishmaniasis after migration to internal organs such as the liver, spleen, and bone marrow. Propensity for rapid self-cure, dissemination, persistence, latency, and reactivation include factors related to the species of the parasite, and also to the host's acquired and innate immunities (Herwaldt, 1999; Murray, 2005). Despite the striking variability in pathogenicity and tissue tropism of different *Leishmania* species, their genomes are remarkably similar, displaying a high degree of conservation in gene content and synteny (Ivens, 2005; Peacock, 2007; Real, 2013; Rogers, 2011).

Macrophages had been widely regarded as primary host cells of *Leishmania* parasites, although recent studies have established that neutrophils (Laskay, 2003; Peters, 2008) and dendritic cells (Charmoy, 2010; León, 2007; Ng, 2008) can also be infected, acting therefore as potentially important players in the host-pathogen interplay. Nonetheless, it is within the mononuclear phagocytes - a hostile environment that is lethal to other microbes - that there is



the most documented evidence for the parasite's replication and long-term survival (Bogdan, 1996).

A limited number of studies have been performed to determine transcriptional changes that occur within macrophages harboring different pathogens including *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Mycobacterium avium*, *Yersinia enterocolitica*, *Escherichia coli*, *Legionella pneumophila* and *Leptospira interrogans* (Bent, 2015; Blumenthal, 2005; Kabara, 2010; Magee, 2012; Mavromatis, 2015; Nalpas, 2013; Price, 2014; Subbian, 2015; Xue, 2013). While an inflammatory response is reported in all cases, the availability of partial gene lists of differentially expressed genes hinders the comparison of global profiles and the identification of specific response(s) to these pathogens. These studies stand in contrast to a number of studies on *Leishmania*-infected macrophages which report that macrophages are impaired in their response to INF- $\gamma$  and attribute chronic infections to macrophage deactivation (Forget, 2001; Kwan, 1992; Nandan, 1995; Nandan, 1999; Olivier, 1992; Reiner, 1994). Overall results from recent transcriptome analyses of human or murine macrophages infected by different species of *Leishmania* and generated mostly using microarray platforms indicate that infected cells down-modulate the expression of many pro-inflammatory genes and up-regulate the expression of several genes implicated in anti-inflammatory responses (Chaussabel, 2003; Ettinger, 2008; Gregory, 2008; Osorio y Fortéa, 2009; Ovalle-Bracho, 2015; Rabhi, 2012; Ramírez, 2012; Rodriguez, 2004). Whether a general suppression of gene expression in infected human macrophages occurs

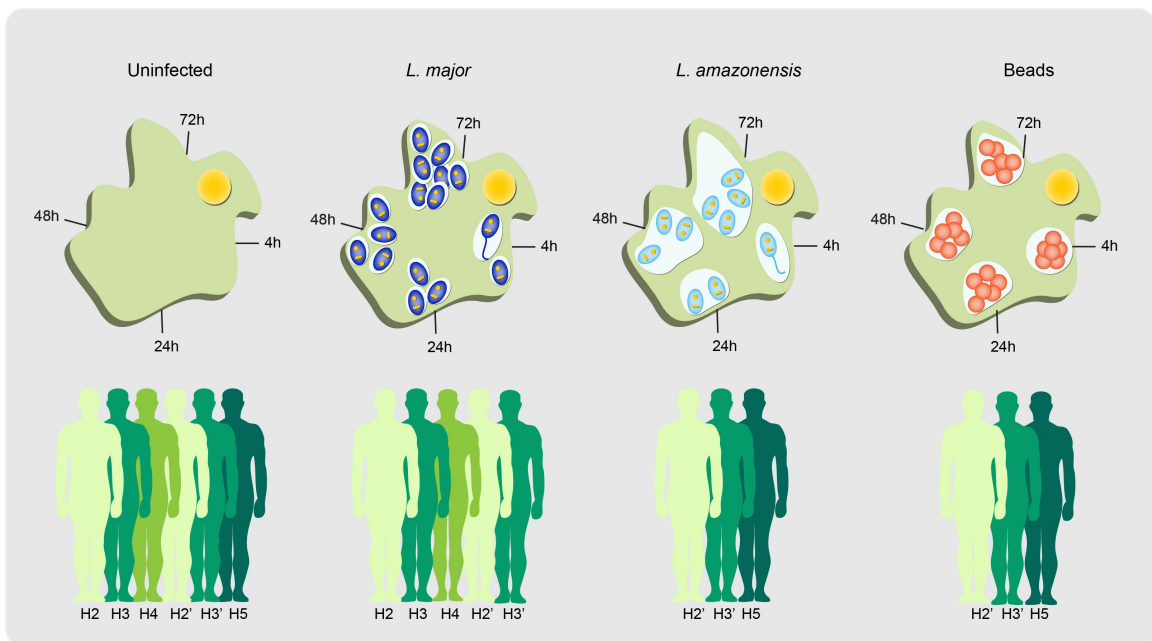
has yet to be elucidated and the current reports remain contradictory (Buates, 2001; Chaussabel, 2003; Ettinger, 2008; Gregory, 2008; Ramírez, 2012; Rodriguez, 2004). Since data collected to date represent a miscellany of experiments carried out using different macrophage types, host backgrounds, parasite species, and timepoints, and because the interpretations of most results have been focused on a limited set of markers, it is not possible to integrate these findings to describe the comprehensive state of *Leishmania*-infected macrophages.

Here we carried out a study on human macrophages infected with one of two species of *Leishmania* that cause cutaneous leishmaniasis with potentially different clinical manifestations: *L. major* (cutaneous self-healing) and *L. amazonensis* (cutaneous self-healing/cutaneous diffuse). We utilized a well-defined time course to simultaneously and comprehensively interrogate the transcriptome profiles of both the host and the parasites over time. The concurrent collection of samples from macrophages fed latex beads allowed us to discern the pathogen-specific response from a more general response that can be attributed to large particle phagocytosis. By analyzing data from multiple biological replicates and employing careful statistical analyses to account for batch effects, we were able to generate robust datasets that represent the comprehensive signatures of *Leishmania* infection in a human host.

### **Study design**

In order to capture the global transcriptional response during the initiation and maintenance of intramacrophage infection by 2 distinct species of

*Leishmania*, the transcriptomes of the parasite and the infected human macrophage were simultaneously profiled using RNA-seq at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hours post-infection (hpi). CD14<sup>+</sup> monocytes were obtained from 4 donors and differentiated into macrophages after an 8-day incubation period in CSF-1 (Figure 21). In accordance with the recently proposed standards for macrophage-activation nomenclature (Murray, 2014), we consider these cells to be CSF-1 monocyte-derived macrophages and we refer to them simply as "macrophages" throughout the manuscript. These macrophages were neither polarized nor

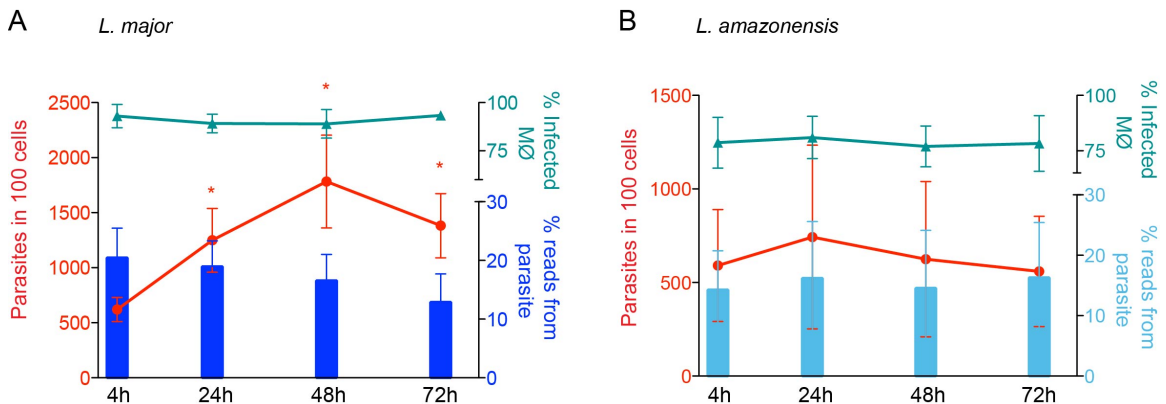


**Figure 21: Study design, donors, and timepoints.**

Monocyte-derived human macrophages were infected with the metacyclic promastigote form of *L. major* (dark blue) or *L. amazonensis* (light blue) parasites. Following phagocytosis, metacyclic promastigotes transform into the amastigote form (3-10 hpi) and reside in membrane bound compartments called phagosomes. As amastigotes divide starting at ~24 hpi, each phagosome matures into a membrane bound singular (*L. major*) or communal (*L. amazonensis*) vacuole inside the macrophage. Samples were collected from infected macrophages, macrophages that were allowed to phagocytose latex beads (red), and uninfected controls over 4 timepoints spanning from 4 to 72 hpi, as pictured. Total RNA was isolated from each sample and analyzed by RNA-seq. A total of 4 biological replicates were collected from 4 different human donors (H2-H5), and are represented in differing shades of green. A second collection from two of the donors was used as a technical replicate within the *L. major*/uninfected dataset (H2' and H3') and for a *L. amazonensis* and latex bead experiment that constituted a later addition to the study design. The experimental design is further detailed in Table 14.

activated with additional cytokine stimulation and were chosen precisely due to their potential for a broad range of responses.

Macrophages from each donor were infected with purified metacyclic promastigotes from *Leishmania major* or *Leishmania amazonensis* in the presence of human serum. In parallel, macrophages were allowed to phagocytose opsonized latex beads to evaluate the effect of inert particle phagocytosis on global gene expression (hereafter referred to as the “phagocytosis effect”). Uninfected macrophages were used as controls. The dynamics of the infection were monitored at each timepoint by determining the number of parasites per 100 macrophages and the percentage of infected cells (Figure 22 and Table 14). Both *Leishmania* species infected macrophages at similar percentages (~90% for *L. major*, ~80% for *L. amazonensis*; Figure 22).



**Figure 22: Dynamics and characterization of CSF1-induced human macrophage infection with *Leishmania*.**

CSF1-induced human macrophages were infected with either *L. major* (A) or *L. amazonensis* (B) for 4 h, washed and further incubated until 24 hpi, 48 hpi and 72 hpi. Samples collected at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi were subjected to transcriptional profiling by RNA-seq. The number of internalized parasites and percentage of infected cells were determined microscopically. Bars indicate the percentage of trimmed RNA-seq reads that map to the respective parasite reference genome. Red lines indicate the number of parasites per 100 macrophages and cyan lines indicate % of infected macrophages. The graphs incorporate data from all experiments +/- SD. A star (\*) represents a  $P$  value < 0.05 using a Student's t test to compare each timepoint to 4 hpi.

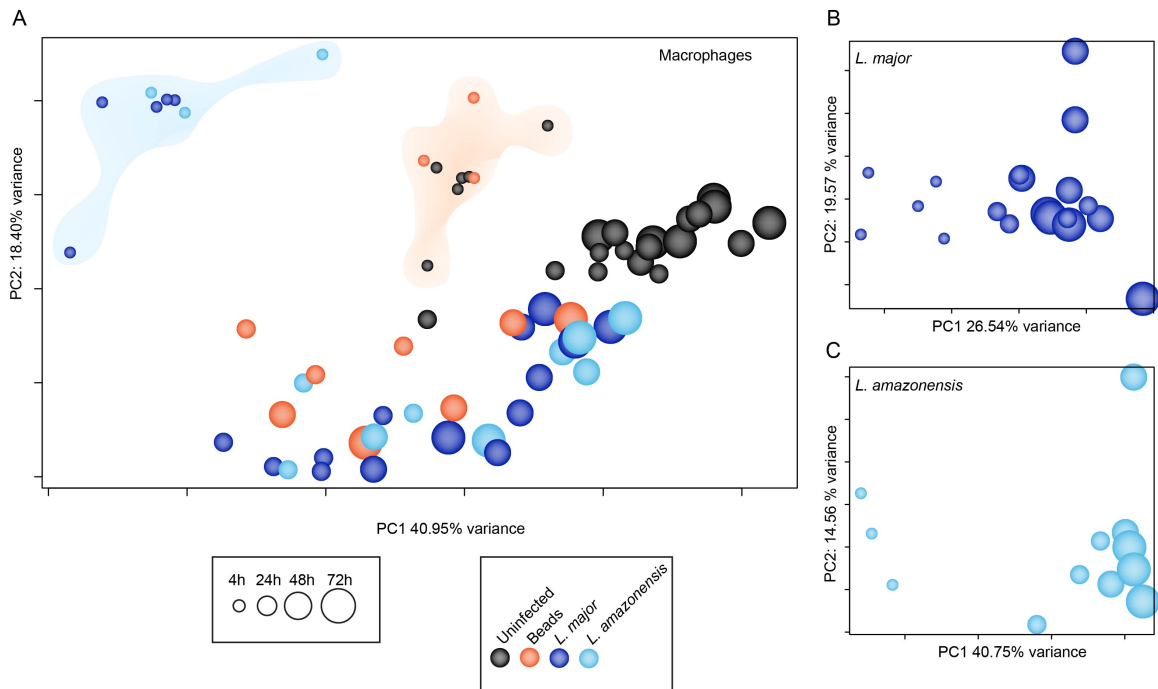
The overall parasite loads (parasite per infected cell) were slightly higher for *L. major*-infected macrophages (ranging from 6.3 to 18) than for *L. amazonensis*-infected cells (ranging from 6.1 to 8). The intracellular growth rate of each species was evaluated by determining the number of parasites per 100 cells. *L. major* showed a significant increase in growth between 4 hpi and the remaining timepoints and *L. amazonensis* growth remaining somewhat constant. It is not clear whether the different growth behavior of the two parasites can be attributed to an intrinsically different behavior in human cells or simply reflects a lower preference of *L. amazonensis* for the medium used to maintain the human macrophages.

### **Global transcriptome profiles of *Leishmania* and its human macrophage host cell**

The global transcriptome profiles of the parasites and host cells were characterized using RNA-seq. PolyA-enriched cDNA libraries were generated for each macrophage sample (uninfected, infected with *L. major* or *L. amazonensis*, or following ingestion of latex beads) at all timepoints as well as for the promastigotes from both species that were used for the infection. Paired-end sequence reads of 100 nucleotides were generated for a total of 74 samples, representing an average of 4 independent biological replicates for each condition and yielding a total of 6.3 billion high-quality reads (see Table 14 for details). Each sample from infected cells consisted of a pool of mixed RNAs from *Leishmania* and human macrophages. To resolve these, the RNA-seq reads generated from these samples were mapped against the corresponding

reference genomes. The fraction of reads mapping to the parasite or human reference genomes yielded an estimate of the proportion of RNA molecules from each source. While the proportion of *L. major* reads in parasite-infected macrophages did not vary significantly across timepoints, the number of intracellular parasites increased over the course of infection (Figure 22A). This may reflect an increase in global transcriptional activity in the human macrophages or a similar decrease in the parasites. The proportion of parasite-attributable reads also remained constant during *L. amazonensis* infection, consistent with the attenuated growth rate for the species.

To investigate general trends in the data, principal component analyses (PCA) were carried out after accounting for batch effects (Figure 23). A high degree of similarity between biological replicates was evident in the PCA plots for both *Leishmania* species and macrophages with similar samples clustering together by infection status/timepoint. We note that the spread of samples along the first principal component (PC1; X-axis) seems to reflect the global transcriptional changes in the cells over time (Figure 23A). Uninfected control macrophages showed notable variance, denoting a drift in the transcriptome as the cells were maintained in culture and thus validating the use of a matched control for each timepoint. Interestingly, cells that had ingested latex beads clustered tightly with uninfected cells at the 4 hour timepoint, revealing that macrophages are equipped with the cellular components necessary for phagocytosis and experience no marked perturbation in their steady-state transcriptome upon ingestion of particles. This contrasts with macrophages



**Figure 23: Global expression profile of human macrophages and *Leishmania* parasites during infection.**

A comprehensive principal component analysis (PCA) was conducted to evaluate the relationships between samples across timepoints and to visualize sample-sample distances for (A) human macrophages (uninfected controls, *Leishmania*-infected cells, and bead-containing cells) and (B-C) the intracellular forms of *Leishmania*. Each sphere represents an experimental sample with increasing size indicating the progression of timepoints from 4 to 72 hpi. Sphere color indicates sample type (dark blue for *L. major*-infected cells/parasites, light blue for *L. amazonensis*-infected cells/parasites, orange for bead-containing cells, and black for uninfected cells). In panel A, the clouds highlight the separation of the *Leishmania*-infected cluster (blue) from the uninfected/bead-containing cluster (orange). All analyses were performed after filtering out non- and lowly-expressed genes, quantile normalization, and including experimental batch as a covariate in the statistical model.

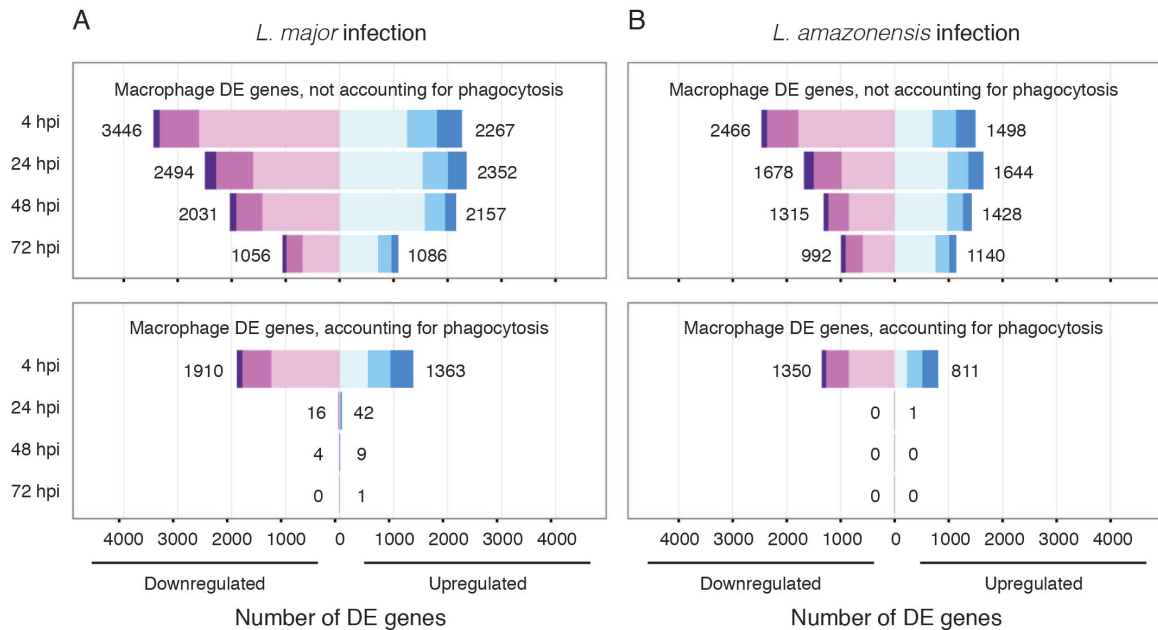
infected with either *L. major* or *L. amazonensis*, which clustered together and distinctly away from other samples, pointing to an apparently unique and *Leishmania*-specific human macrophage response early in the infection (4 hpi). As the infection progressed, the separation between *Leishmania*-infected and bead-containing macrophages became less prominent, and by 24 hpi, macrophages with persisting parasites resembled those harboring inert particles. In addition, both populations displayed a clear trending towards uninfected

macrophages in the later timepoints (48 and 72 hpi). The global transcriptional patterns for intracellular *Leishmania* parasites of both species were similar with 4 hpi samples partitioning away from those observed at later timepoints (Figure 23B-C). This is consistent with the pronounced and distinct host response to the parasite, which also displayed a clear separation between responses at early and later infection.

### **Discriminating between parasite- and phagocytosis-driven changes in human macrophages**

We examined the differential expression of individual human macrophage genes following *Leishmania* infection. In macrophages infected with *L. major*, the largest host response was observed at 4 hpi, with 5713 differentially expressed (DE) genes between uninfected and infected macrophages at an adjusted *P* value cutoff of <0.05. Later timepoints showed decreasing numbers of DE genes – 4846, 4188, 2142 genes at 24, 48 and 72 hpi, respectively (Figure 24A, top). A similar trend was observed in the *L. amazonensis* infection of the macrophages (Figure 24B, top) with smaller numbers of DE genes detected, which reflects a slightly reduced statistical power associated with fewer biological replicates. Most of the genes that were DE during *L. amazonensis* infection were also contained within the *L. major*-infected macrophage datasets (see comparative DE analysis below). It is also worthwhile noting that among the DE genes in macrophages infected with either parasite, the average proportion of up- and down-regulated genes was ~40%/60% at 4 hpi and ~50%/50% at the remaining timepoints. While this points to a slightly higher fraction of downregulated genes, we did not





**Figure 24: Differentially expressed genes in macrophages infected with *Leishmania* species.**

The numbers of differentially expressed (DE) genes in (A) *L. major*-infected macrophages and (B) *L. amazonensis*-infected macrophages relative to uninfected controls both before and after accounting for the phagocytosis effect (top panels and bottom panels, respectively) are depicted as horizontal bar plots for 4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi. Box width depicts the number of DE genes downregulated (left; purple) and upregulated (right; blue) at an adjusted  $P$  value of  $< 0.05$  with the total number of down- and up-regulated genes shown. Color shade indicates the proportion of genes with  $> 4$ -fold differential expression (dark), between 2- and 4-fold differential expression (medium), or 2-fold differential expression (light).

observe a general suppression of gene expression in murine macrophage as reported in earlier studies (Buates, 2001; Gregory, 2008). Rather, our results are consistent with studies that report similar number of genes up- and down-regulated upon *Leishmania* infection (Chaussabel, 2003; Ettinger, 2008; Ramírez, 2012; Rodriguez, 2004) and challenge the notion that phagocytosis of *Leishmania* by macrophages induces an overall state of dormancy after uptake.

In order to evaluate the extent of the phagocytosis effect, differential expression analysis was carried out to compare uninfected macrophages to bead-containing macrophages at each timepoint. This analysis revealed no DE

genes at 4 hpi, consistent with the apparent lack of transcriptional response at 4 hpi following phagocytosis of beads observed in Figure 23A. A well pronounced phagocytosis effect was observed at later timepoints with 3787, 6045, and 2659 DE genes at 24, 48, and 72 hpi, respectively. In a previous study of the response of murine bone marrow-derived macrophages to *L. major* and *L. donovani* as assessed using microarrays, Gregory *et al.* (2008) found that macrophages that had ingested beads were nearly identical to control macrophages at the one timepoint used in the study (24 hpi), and thus did not use the bead-containing samples to further account for the effects of phagocytosis. This finding more closely matches our results at 4 hpi and may indicate a time offset in the murine system relative to the human system. Additionally, the observed differences may be reflective of differences in macrophage type and incubation conditions prior to phagocytosis.

Subsequent analyses were aimed at distinguishing between changes that constitute a specific response to infection and those attributable to the macrophage response to phagocytosis. Series of pairwise analyses were conducted at each timepoint (4, 24, 48, and 72 hpi) for macrophages infected with either *L. major* or *L. amazonensis* evaluated against both matched uninfected macrophages and macrophages that had ingested latex beads. Using a novel approach based on a dual statistical test to identify genes that were differentially regulated not only in infected macrophages relative to uninfected cells, but also relative to macrophages that have ingested inert particles, we were able to filter out genes that are differentially regulated due to the phagocytosis

effect and thereby select genes that were specific to the response of the macrophage to *Leishmania* infection. This resulted in significantly reduced numbers of DE genes for each timepoint (Figure 24A-B, bottom panels). Remarkably, the parasite-specific response was most pronounced in macrophages at 4 hpi (3273 and 2161 DE genes in *L. major*- and *L. amazonensis*-infected macrophages, respectively) and greatly attenuated in later timepoints due to the fact that most of the response was attributable to phagocytosis.

### ***Leishmania*-induced remodeling of gene expression in human macrophages**

In examining the DE genes after accounting for the phagocytosis effect, we detected previously identified elements of the macrophage response to *Leishmania* at 4 hpi. Most recognizable was the upregulation of genes encoding inflammatory cytokines including interleukin 1B (IL1B), tumor necrosis factor (TNF), TNF superfamily members, and interleukin 6 (IL6), as well as a number of inflammatory mediators such as prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2 (PTGS2), granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor 2 (CSF2), and superoxide dismutase 2 (SOD2, *L. major* only). Some of these gene products have been previously implicated during infection by *Leishmania major* (Chaussabel, 2003) or other species of *Leishmania* in both human or murine macrophage systems (Ettinger, 2008; Ramírez, 2012; Rodriguez, 2004).

Among the top upregulated genes (up to 136-fold in *L. major* infection and 196-fold in *L. amazonensis* infection) at 4 hpi are multiple metallothionein 1

family members (G, M, H, E, and A). Metallothioneins are known to have an immunomodulatory role (Lynes, 1993) and to be induced by a wide range of conditions including exposure to reactive oxygen species (Ghoshal, 2001), and were recently shown to affect the host response to *Listeria* infection (Emeny, 2015). Although metallothioneins have previously been shown to be highly upregulated in macrophages infected with *Leishmania* (Chaussabel, 2003; Ettinger, 2008), their potential role in the establishment of infection is poorly understood.

*L. major* and *L. amazonensis* show different behavioral characteristics, most notably varying clinical outcomes and distinct organization of the intracellular amastigotes within the macrophage (one vacuole per parasite for *L. major* and communal vacuoles that house multiple parasites for *L. amazonensis*) (Kaye, 2011; Real, 2014). We explored whether the two species elicited significantly different responses by the macrophage across various timepoints of infection using a direct statistical comparison of the gene-level macrophage response to each parasite. This revealed that they did not trigger a significantly different response in the human macrophage with only 4 genes surfacing as differentially expressed at 4 hpi and none at any of the subsequent timepoints.

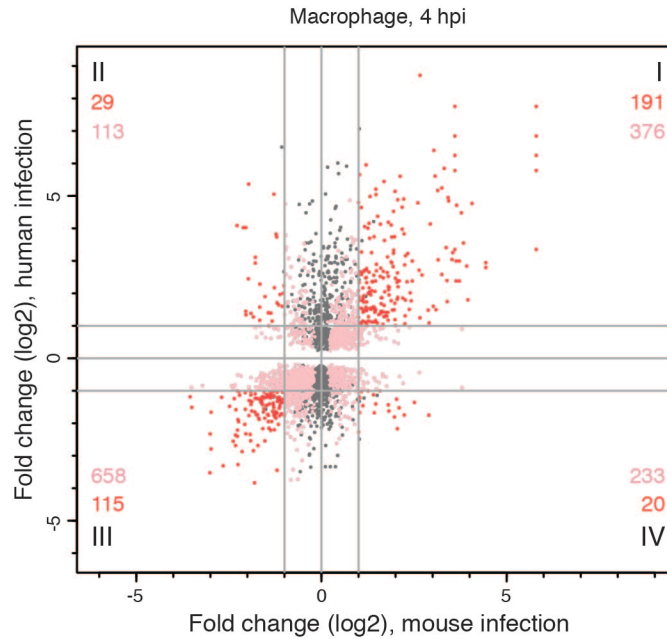
Two of the genes that are DE between *L. major*-infected and *L. amazonensis*-infected macrophages encode synaptotagmin family members (*SYT2* and *SYT8*). Synaptotagmins are membrane proteins that regulate vesicle docking and fusion in processes such as exocytosis (Arango Duque, 2013; Baram, 1999) and phagocytosis (Arango Duque, 2013; Czibener, 2006; Vinet,

2008). While some synaptotagmin family members (SYT5 and SYT11) have been implicated in *Leishmania* infection (Arango Duque, 2014; Vinet, 2009; Vinet, 2011), the involvement of SYT2 and SYT8 have not yet been investigated. Given the general role of synaptotagmins as regulators of membrane trafficking and fusion, it is possible that the higher levels of SYT2 and SYT8 observed during *L. major* infection compared to *L. amazonensis* infection may be linked to differences in the parasitophorous vacuole maintenance throughout the infection - *L. major* divide in membrane-bound compartments with each parasite division maintaining singular parasites in a vacuole; conversely, *L. amazonensis* may possibly require fewer fission events to maintain its communal vacuoles. Additionally, synaptotagmins are also known to play a role in SNARE activity regulation by mediating membrane fusion in a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent manner (Andrews, 2005; Südhof, 2009; Tucker, 2002). Since *Leishmania* have been shown to target SNARES (VAMP8 in particular) in order to modulate antigen cross-presentation (Matheoud, 2013), it is possible to speculate that transcriptional upregulation of synaptotagmins upon infection by *Leishmania* may be related to their role in the regulation of SNAREs. *CMIP*, which encodes c-Maf inducing protein, and *GABRE*, which encodes gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) A receptor epsilon, are also expressed at higher levels in *L. major*-infected macrophages than in *L. amazonensis*-infected macrophages, though the mechanisms by which these genes may differentially interact with or be influenced by each parasite species is unclear.

## **Towards defining the signature of mammalian macrophage infection by *Leishmania***

An important aim of this study was to characterize the human macrophage response to infection by *Leishmania* parasites with the fundamental goal of defining shared features regarding how intracellular pathogens modulate their host environments. We took an initial step towards uncovering a common signature in mammalian macrophages infected with *Leishmania* by integrating our findings with data we collected from the same timepoints in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages (see Chapter 4).

Since the differential expression dataset collected from murine macrophages did not account for the phagocytosis effect, we sought to restrict this analysis to orthologous genes that were DE in both human and murine macrophages as the result of infection and not phagocytosis. To do this, we identified the mouse orthologs of the human genes that constituted the *L. major*-specific response and then compared the expression profiles for these (human) genes to corresponding DE gene profiles generated for the murine macrophages. Of the 3273 genes that were DE in *L. major*-infected human macrophages at 4 hpi after accounting for the phagocytosis effect, we identified mouse orthologs for 3017. The relationship between genes in each host system was best visualized using a scatterplot showing the magnitude and direction of differential expression for each gene and its ortholog (Figure 25). Of the 1735 genes that were DE in both host systems, 1340 were differentially expressed in the same direction in both systems and thus constitute a unique signature of *L. major* infection of



**Figure 25: Response of human and murine macrophages to *L. major* infection at 4 hpi after accounting for the phagocytosis effect.**

The differential expression profile of *L. major*-infected human macrophages was compared to that of *L. major*-infected murine macrophages (Chapter 4). Orthology mapping to mouse was done for the 3,273 human genes identified as differentially expressed at 4 hpi after accounting for the phagocytosis effect, and the results compared to the murine expression dataset. A scatterplot showing the relationship between fold changes (log<sub>2</sub>) in mouse (X-axis) and human (Y-axis) is shown with each human-mouse gene pair represented by a single point. Some genes duplicates were introduced by the orthology mapping process. Points colored in gray represent genes in the human dataset with an ortholog that was not significantly DE in the murine dataset. Points colored in shades of red represent genes that were significantly DE in both datasets with those showing < 2-fold difference (logFC < 1) in either/both host system(s) colored in pink and those with > 2-fold difference (logFC > 1) in both host systems colored in red. The numbers of unique genes represented by the red and pink points are indicated for each quadrant.

mammalian macrophages. Those genes localize in quadrants I (567 genes upregulated in both systems) and III (773 genes downregulated in both systems) and contain the most highly differentially expressed genes.

In order to identify known cellular processes within this signature, we used a KEGG pathway enrichment analysis of genes commonly up- and down-regulated in both host systems (Table 8). Many of the KEGG pathways that were most enriched in the up-regulated set of genes are related to immune activation

Upregulated genes			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
TNF signaling pathway	24	109	2.07E-13
NF-kappa B signaling pathway	14	88	1.62E-06
NOD-like receptor signaling pathway	11	57	3.07E-06
Epstein-Barr virus infection	21	198	4.43E-06
Hematopoietic cell lineage	12	82	2.17E-05
Shigellosis	10	61	3.88E-05
Chagas disease (American trypanosomiasis)	13	103	4.98E-05
Proteoglycans in cancer	19	198	5.17E-05
Ribosome biogenesis in eukaryotes	11	81	9.64E-05
ErbB signaling pathway	11	85	1.50E-04
HIF-1 signaling pathway	12	104	2.30E-04
Toll-like receptor signaling pathway	12	105	2.52E-04
Osteoclast differentiation	13	121	2.61E-04
Legionellosis	8	54	4.75E-04
Cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction	19	248	9.33E-04
Pertussis	9	75	1.04E-03
VEGF signaling pathway	8	61	1.09E-03
PI3K-Akt signaling pathway	23	335	1.27E-03
Herpes simplex infection	15	179	1.30E-03
FoxO signaling pathway	12	127	1.41E-03
Mineral absorption	7	50	1.51E-03
Hepatitis C	12	129	1.61E-03
Influenza A	14	169	2.08E-03
Small cell lung cancer	9	84	2.32E-03
MAPK signaling pathway	18	249	2.41E-03
Rheumatoid arthritis	9	87	2.95E-03
Hepatitis B	12	143	3.82E-03
Jak-STAT signaling pathway	12	147	4.77E-03
Measles	11	130	5.17E-03
TGF-beta signaling pathway	8	79	5.66E-03
Pathways in cancer	23	381	6.36E-03
HTLV-I infection	17	254	6.79E-03
Central carbon metabolism in cancer	7	66	7.35E-03
Prion diseases	5	36	7.36E-03
Tight junction	11	137	7.62E-03
T cell receptor signaling pathway	9	101	7.91E-03
Fc epsilon RI signaling pathway	7	68	8.63E-03
Salmonella infection	8	85	8.74E-03
RIG-I-like receptor signaling pathway	7	69	9.33E-03
Downregulated genes			
KEGG pathway	Number DE genes	Pathway Size	P Value
Valine, leucine and isoleucine degradation	10	46	2.52E-05
Lysine degradation	9	51	3.46E-04
Progesterone-mediated oocyte maturation	12	89	5.19E-04
Other glycan degradation	5	18	8.77E-04
Osteoclast differentiation	14	121	8.88E-04
FoxO signaling pathway	14	127	1.43E-03
Lysosome	13	120	2.44E-03
Glycosphingolipid biosynthesis - globo series	4	14	2.65E-03
Fatty acid elongation	5	23	2.87E-03
Apoptosis	10	81	2.91E-03
Chronic myeloid leukemia	9	72	4.27E-03
Platelet activation	13	128	4.29E-03
Chagas disease (American trypanosomiasis)	11	103	5.70E-03
Fc gamma R-mediated phagocytosis	10	90	6.24E-03
Propanoate metabolism	5	28	6.99E-03
Glycosaminoglycan degradation	4	18	7.04E-03
Estrogen signaling pathway	10	95	9.07E-03

**Table 8: KEGG pathways enriched in genes common to human and murine macrophages infected with *L. major* at 4 hpi.**

KEGG pathway analysis was carried out to identify signaling and metabolic pathways over-represented in genes that constitute the mammalian response to *L. major* infection at 4 hpi. Genes that were commonly regulated in both systems were used as input. For each enriched KEGG pathway, the number of DE genes assigned to that pathway, the total number of genes in the pathway, and the *P* value for the enrichment are reported.



and signaling. Signaling pathways related to the recognition of pathogen-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs) (NOD-like receptor, RIG-I-like receptor, and TLR signaling) were implicated as were many other immune system signaling pathways (cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction, Fc epsilon RI, T cell receptor, Jak-STAT, MAPK, NF-kappa B, TNF, VEGF, HIF-1, ErbB, FoxO, PI3K-Akt, and TGF-beta signaling). Given the effects of many of these pathways on cell growth and metabolism, it is not surprising that many have been previously implicated in cancer and that a number of cancer-related pathways appear in the enriched KEGG pathway lists. KEGG pathways enriched among genes that were downregulated in both the human and murine systems are associated with energy metabolism (amino acid and glycan degradation), lysosome structure and processes, and apoptosis. Interestingly, the FoxO signaling pathway, which is involved in the regulation of cell growth, gluconeogenesis, and adipogenesis, was enriched among both up- and down-regulated genes, with 12 members of the pathway upregulated and 14 others downregulated.

It is important to note that there is a significant amount of redundancy within the gene candidates that drive the enrichment of known pathways. An analysis of the overlap between the DE genes contained in different pathways revealed that the KEGG enrichment results can be solely attributed to 142 up-regulated and 85 down-regulated genes. This is explained by the nature of KEGG pathways (and similar databases) which reflect finite classifications that largely represent areas of research emphasis. Genes driving the KEGG results among the 39 upregulated pathways include *TNF* (22 pathways), *PIK3CB* (22

pathways), *IL6* (21 pathways), *MAPK8* (20 pathways), *NFKBIA* (19 pathways), *MAPK11* (18 pathways), *IL1B* (17 pathways), *MAP2K1* (17 pathways), *MYC* (12 pathways), *IL1A* (10 pathways), *TRAF2* (10 pathways), *CDKN1A* (10 pathways), *NFKB1B* (8 pathways), *TICAM1* (8 pathways), and *VEGFA* (7 pathways) while those driving results among the 17 downregulated pathways include *AKT1* (9 pathways), *PIK3CG* (9 pathways), *PIK3R2* (9 pathways), *MAPK14* (5 pathways), *GNAI1* (4 pathways), *HADHA* (4 pathways), *HEXA* (4 pathways), *HEXB* (4 pathways), *PRKACA* (4 pathways), *PRKACB* (4 pathways), *TGFBR1* (4 pathways), and *TFGBR2* (4 pathways).

Disease-specific KEGG pathways appeared prominently in the enrichment analysis lists (including those for Chagas disease, Epstein-Barr virus infection, hepatitis, herpes simplex infection, HTLV-I infection, influenza, legionellosis, measles, pertussis, salmonella infection, and shigellosis). These enrichments were largely driven by redundant gene entries within those pathways as described above, and KEGG pathways for individual diseases appear to represent a comprehensive assemblage of observations from multiple studies of individual genes (rather than a consensus) from different experiments, hosts, cell types, and timepoints.

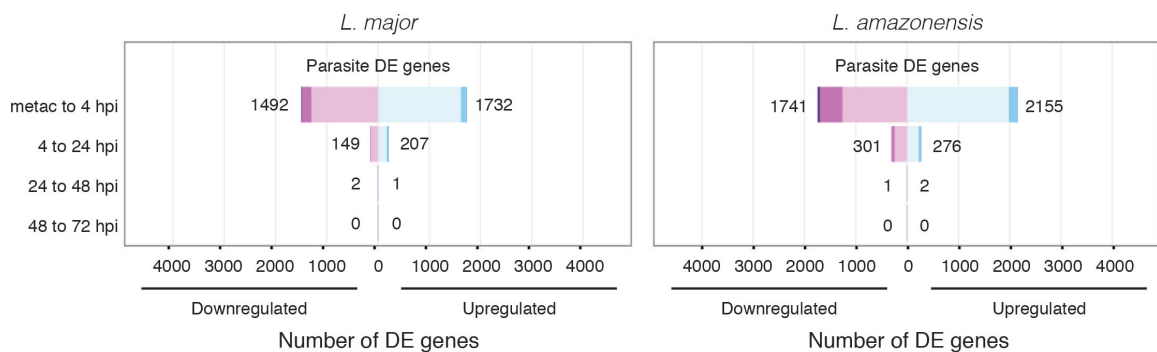
To further extend the interpretation of our *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* infection datasets, we attempted to identify some of the common elements in the human macrophage response to infection by comparing the datasets reported here to previous reports on the infection of human macrophages infected with *Leptospira interrogans* (Xue, 2013), *Legionella pneumophila* (Price, 2014), and

*Mycobacterium avium* (Blumenthal, 2005). Even though we were unable to conduct a comprehensive comparison since expression values were reported only for subsets of genes in the published datasets, we were able to make some useful observations. A number of cytokines, chemokines, and inflammatory mediators upregulated in the *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* infections were also upregulated in these other systems and therefore constitute a shared response to infection. Specifically, *IL6* and *TNF* were upregulated in infections by the other 3 pathogens, *IL1B* was also upregulated in *M. avium* and *L. interrogans* infections, *TNFSF9* was also upregulated in *M. avium* and *L. pneumophila* infections, *CCL20* and *CXCL3* were also upregulated in *L. pneumophila* and *L. interrogans* infections, *CXCL1* and *CXCL5* were also upregulated during *L. interrogans* infection, and *PTGS2* was also upregulated during *M. avium* infection. All of these genes except *CCL20* and *CXCL5* were also upregulated in the *L. major*-infected murine macrophage dataset described in Chapter 4. Most of these proteins are proinflammatory in nature (*IL6* has both pro- and anti-inflammatory properties) and play a role in the recruitment and stimulation of a range of immune cells. The involvement of this broad repertoire of gene products reflects the complex and at times opposing immune responses that occur as intracellular pathogens attempt to establish an infection and survive intracellularly.

### **Identification of differentially expressed genes in *Leishmania* parasites**

This study provided an opportunity to characterize not only the gene expression patterns of human macrophages as they responded to infection by

*Leishmania* parasites, but to simultaneously study changes in the parasites' gene expression programs as an intracellular infection was established and progressed. Differential expression analysis was carried out for parasite genes to determine how *Leishmania* species modify the expression of their individual genes during the transition from metacyclic promastigotes to intracellular amastigotes and over the course of an intracellular infection. The largest numbers of DE genes were observed as metacyclic promastigotes infected human macrophages with 3224 *L. major* genes and 3896 *L. amazonensis* genes implicated at an adjusted *P* value cutoff of <0.05 (Figure 26). Significantly fewer changes in expression were observed in intracellular parasites across time, with 356 DE genes and 577 DE genes in *L. major* and *L. amazonensis*, respectively, during the 4 hpi to 24 hpi transition. Only 3 DE genes were observed for each species during the 24 hpi to 48 hpi transition and no genes were DE during the

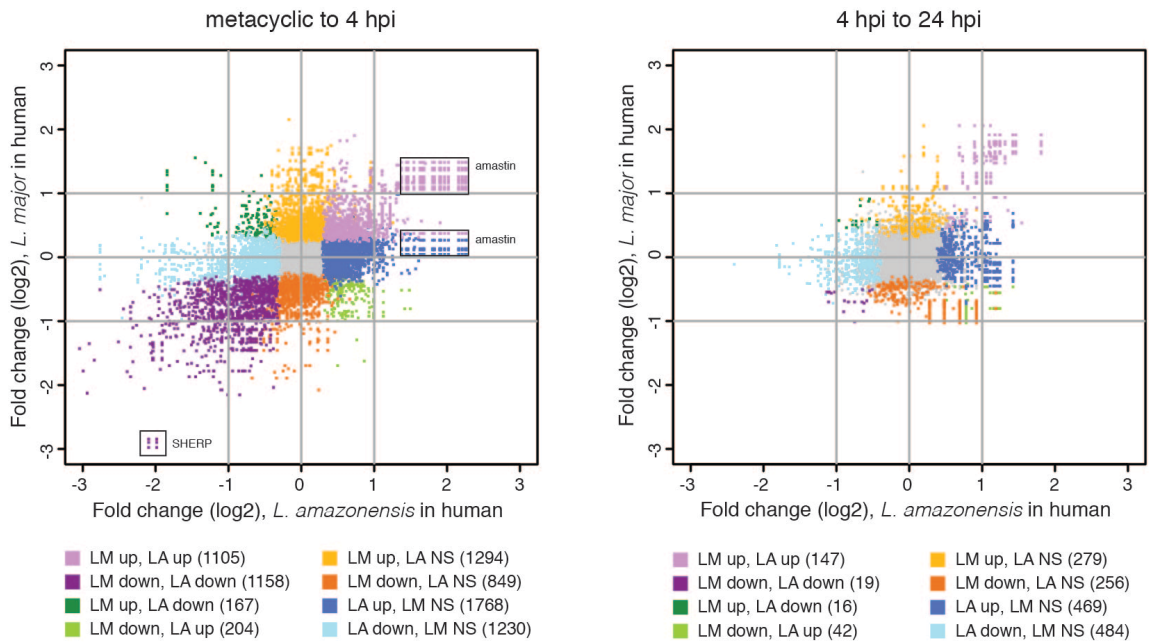


**Figure 26: Differentially expressed genes between *Leishmania* parasite developmental stages.**

The numbers of differentially expressed (DE) genes between *Leishmania* developmental stages/timepoints were determined. Box width depicts the number of DE genes downregulated (left; purple) and upregulated (right; blue) at an adjusted *P* value of < 0.05 with the total number of down- and up-regulated genes shown. Color shade indicates the proportion of genes with > 4-fold differential expression (dark), between 2- and 4-fold differential expression (medium), or 2-fold differential expression (light).

48 hpi to 72 hpi transitions. This pattern of expression - large numbers of DE genes during the metacyclic to early amastigote transition and decreasing numbers of DE genes over time - suggests that the large gene expression reprogramming that occurs as extracellular promastigote parasites transform into intracellular amastigote parasites generally stabilizes by around 24 hpi. This mirrors the changes in host transcriptomes where large changes were observed during early infection and many fewer changes were observed at later timepoints once the phagocytosis effect was considered (see above and Figure 24A-B lower panels). The parallel expression patterns between parasite and host suggest that host-pathogen interactions are extensive upon *Leishmania* entering and establishing infection within the cells but are virtually nonexistent by around 24 hours after infection.

In an attempt to directly compare gene expression programs between the two *Leishmania* species as they transition from the metacyclic form into intracellular forms, we focused our analysis on a set of *L. major*/*L. amazonensis* (*L. mexicana*) orthologous gene clusters that were precomputed in EuPathDB and include ~98% of *L. major* genes. A graphical representation of the results is shown in Figure 27, where dots correspond to the differential expression levels for orthologous genes. The orthology mapping between the two species included several one-many relationships because of paralogous gene families and this is manifested in the scatterplot as rows and columns of perfectly aligned dots representing amastin and SHERP gene products, among few others. We



**Figure 27: Comparison of *Leishmania* transcriptomes between species.**

Orthology mapping was done to enable the comparison of expression profiles for *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* genes that were DE upon the infection of human macrophages. Scatterplots showing the relationship between parasite gene fold changes (log<sub>2</sub>) for *L. amazonensis* parasites (X-axis) and *L. major* parasites (Y-axis) are shown for the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular transition (left panel) and the 4 hpi to 24 hpi intracellular transition (right panel). Genes upregulated in the second stage/timepoint relative to the first exhibit positive fold changes, while downregulated genes exhibit negative fold changes. Genes highlighted in the text are noted. Points colored in gray represent genes that were not significantly DE in either system, points colored in shades of purple represent genes that were DE in the same direction in both systems, points colored in shades of green represent genes that were DE in different directions between the systems, and points colored in shades of orange and blue represent genes significant only in one system. The numbers of DE genes corresponding to each color are included in the legends. NS = not significant

observed a set of 1,558 unique gene pairs (737 upregulated and 811 downregulated) that were significantly differentially expressed in the same direction in both species during the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular transition and representing gene products that underlie a response common to both species as they adapt to the human macrophage environment (Figure 27, left panel). Two other subsets included transcripts that appeared significantly DE in one species but not in the other. Those included 3,947 unique transcripts in

total with only a small proportion (10%) that were differentially expressed greater than 2-fold in one species or the other. A closer inspection revealed that many of the genes that make up these subsets are member of multi-gene families that have members belonging to the common expression set (e.g. amastin, GP63, kinesin, flagellar attachment zone protein, AAT family members, dynein, cysteine peptidase B), and/or were DE in the other *Leishmania* species during the 4 hpi to 24 hpi transition, indicating a time offset in what can be considered a common response (e.g. cathepsin L-like protease, ATG8). A similar phenomenon was apparent during the 4 hpi to 24 hpi intracellular transition (Figure 27, right panel). While there were only 60 unique gene pairs that were commonly expressed in the same direction, most of the transcripts that appeared to be distinctly DE in one of the species were members of multigene families that were part of the common response or simply displayed a time-shifted expression pattern.

The general picture that emerged from the comparison of the two species of *Leishmania* is that the transcriptomes of their orthologous gene sets display minimal to non-existent differences within the human macrophage. This finding closely aligns with the lack of observed differences in the host response to infection by the two *Leishmania* species (described above). Of the genes that were not included in the above analysis because they lacked orthologs in the EuPathDB database, one gene emerged that is both highly differentially expressed and has supporting evidence of its species-specificity. This gene, the virulence factor A2, is present in *L. amazonensis* but exists only as a pseudogene in *L. major* (Zhang, 2003). It was among the most upregulated

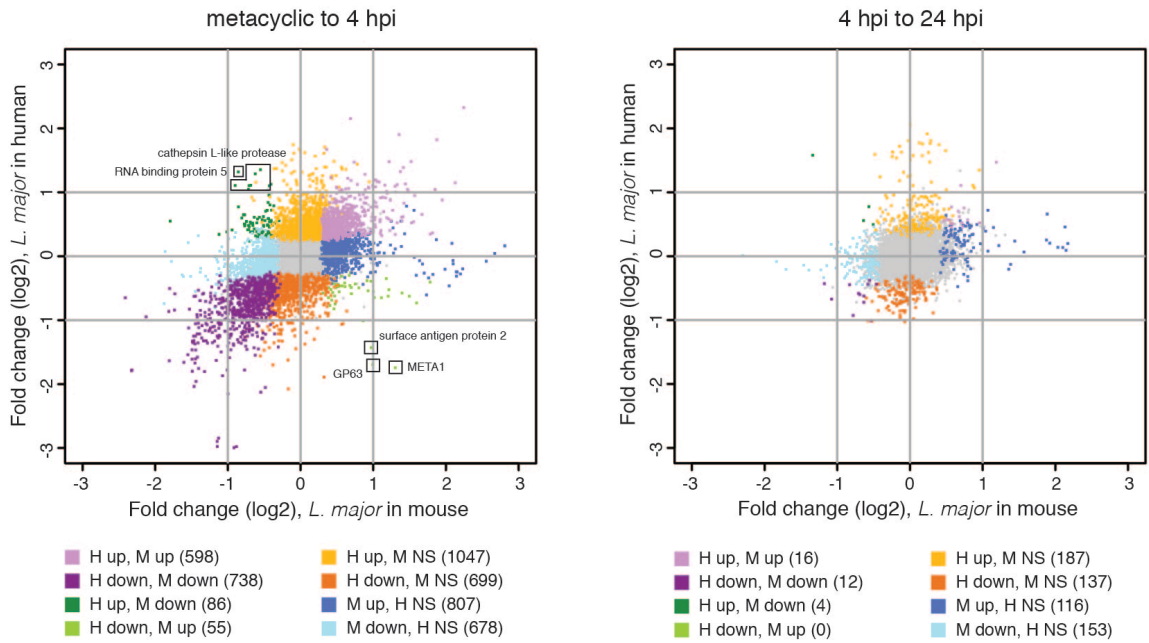
genes in *L. amazonensis* during the metacyclic to 4 hpi transition and was further upregulated through 24 hpi. A2 is required for visceral infection by *L. donovani* (Zhang, 2001) and has been implicated in the parasite's resistance to heat shock (McCall, 2012). While *L. amazonensis* generally causes cutaneous disease, it has also been associated with visceral infections (Almeida, 1996). The strong upregulation of the A2 gene during early infection detected here is consistent with that observation.

### **Towards defining the signatures of *Leishmania* differentiation and intracellular survival**

In order to characterize the overall signature of *L. major* differentiation from the metacyclic promastigote developmental stage to intracellular amastigotes and during intracellular infection, we compared the patterns of *L. major* gene expression identified in human (this study) to those observed for the same timepoints in *L. major*-infected murine macrophages (Chapter 4). In both host systems, large numbers of DE genes were detected in the parasite during the metacyclic to early amastigote transition and decreasing numbers of DE genes were seen between intracellular timepoints.

When individual genes were compared between the human and mouse analysis, a complex picture emerged (Figure 28). Among the 4,708 genes that are DE in *L. major* during the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular form transition in at least one of the hosts, 28% (1,336) represent a common parasite expression pattern in both human and mouse infections. A gene ontology (GO) enrichment analysis was done to glean insights into the functional overlaps in *L.*





**Figure 28: Comparison of the *L. major* transcriptome upon infecting human and murine macrophages.**

Scatterplots were used to show a comparison of *L. major* parasite expression patterns upon infecting human vs. murine macrophage (Chapter 4). The relationship between parasite gene fold changes (log2) in the mouse system (X-axis) and the human system (Y-axis) are shown for the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular transition (left panel) and the 4 hpi to 24 hpi intracellular transition (right panel) with each of the 8,479 genes that passed low-count filtering in both datasets represented by a single point. Genes upregulated in the second stage/timepoint relative to the first exhibit positive fold changes, while downregulated genes exhibit negative fold changes. Genes highlighted in the text are noted. Points colored in gray represent genes that were not significantly DE in either system, points colored in shades of purple represent genes that were DE in the same direction in both systems, points colored in shades of green represent genes that were DE in different directions between the systems, and points colored in shades of orange and blue represent genes significant only in one system. The numbers of DE genes corresponding to each color are included in the legends. NS = not significant

*major* genes that were differentially expressed as metacyclic promastigotes infect mammalian macrophages over the first 4 hours. Two enriched GO categories emerged - peroxidase activity and antioxidant activity - among the 598 *L. major* genes that were commonly upregulated during both human and mouse infections (Table 9). Tellingly, only 7 genes - peroxidase and 6 trypanothione peroxidase family members - drove these results. A greater number and range of GO categories were enriched among the 738 *L. major* genes downregulated in

both host systems. These 13 GO categories were largely related to signaling, microtubule dynamics, and fatty acid biosynthesis. Many of the genes driving the GO results for the genes consistently regulated in both systems have been previously implicated in *Leishmania* virulence (i.e. trypanothione peroxidase family members (Iyer, 2008), casein kinase (Dan-Goor, 2013), adenylate cyclase (Biswas, 2011)) or regulation of flagellar dynamics (i.e. calmodulin (Ginger, 2013), dynein heavy chain (Harder, 2010), kinesin (Blaineau, 2007; Vicente, 2015), paraflagellar rod protein (Lander, 2015), multiple mitogen-activated protein (MAP) and NIMA kinases (Bengs, 2005; Cao, 2009; Erdmann, 2006; Wiese, 2003)).

Patterns of parasite gene expression that were unique to the human and mouse hosts were also clearly detectable and likely reflect the biological

GO ID	GO term	P value
<b>Upregulated, human and mouse</b>		
GO:0051920	peroxiredoxin activity	3.93E-08
GO:0016209	antioxidant activity	1.51E-07
<b>Downregulated, human and mouse</b>		
GO:0005516	calmodulin binding	0.00E+00
GO:0004674	protein serine/threonine kinase activity	9.30E-14
GO:0004672	protein kinase activity	3.53E-13
GO:0006468	protein phosphorylation	8.03E-13
GO:0004713	protein tyrosine kinase activity	8.85E-13
GO:0009434	motile cilium	2.91E-11
GO:0009190	cyclic nucleotide biosynthetic process	1.45E-07
GO:0016849	phosphorus-oxygen lyase activity	1.45E-07
GO:0005524	ATP binding	2.35E-06
GO:0003777	microtubule motor activity	2.36E-06
GO:0035556	intracellular signal transduction	4.01E-06
GO:0006633	fatty acid biosynthetic process	3.51E-05
GO:0030286	dynein complex	8.08E-05

**Table 9: GO categories enriched among *L. major* genes in common to human and mouse infections.**

GOseq was used to identify GO categories enriched among *L. major* genes that were DE during the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular transition (P value < 0.05). Parasite genes that were expressed in the same direction during infection of both human and mouse host systems were evaluated with up- and down-regulated genes considered separately.

differences inherent to each system. A total of 1,887 *L. major* genes were uniquely regulated in human macrophages (1133 up, 754 down) and 1,626 respond specifically to the infection of murine macrophages (862 up, 764 down). Among the genes that stood out as the most divergent in their behavior in the two host systems were META1, GP63, and surface antigen protein 2, which were downregulated in human and upregulated in mouse, and RNA-binding protein 5 and cathepsin L-like proteases, which were upregulated in human and downregulated in mouse. Both GP63 and META1 are known to play a role in virulence. GP63 is a zinc-dependent metalloprotease found on the surface of the parasite that cleaves C3b to iC3b, thus helping the parasite avoid complement-mediated lysis and promoting parasite entry into the cell via complement receptors 1 and 3 (Brittingham, 1995; Mosser, 1985; Olivier, 2012). Entry via these receptors has been found to contribute to parasite survival (Da Silva, 1989; Mosser, 1987). Additionally, GP63 hydrolyzes host kinase substrates (Corradin, 1999; Olivier, 2012), and may thus alter the signaling processes of the host cell. META1 is known to localize to the flagellar pocket of the procyclic form of the parasite and has been implicated in secretory processes (Nourbakhsh, 1996; Puri, 2011) and cathepsin-L like proteins have been shown to be key modulators of the host immune response (Alexander, 1998; Mottram, 2004) and are regarded as possible molecular targets against leishmaniasis (de Sousa, 2015; Desai, 2006). The differential expression of these proteins upon infection of human and mouse macrophages may reflect differences in the intricacies of

host-parasite immune-response/adaptation and/or the complex signaling pathways triggered by the parasite in the context of each host system.

A GO analysis yielded some additional insights into different parasite behavior in the two hosts (Table 10). Several categories related to proton transport were enriched among genes that *Leishmania* upregulated in human system, but not in mouse, reflecting an upregulation of the expression of multiple vacuolar ATP synthase genes. This difference in the parasite response to the host system could be indicative of the relative acidity of the phagosomes in each. A number of categories related to ribosomes and translation were also enriched among genes that parasites upregulated in human but downregulated in mouse. The reason for this difference is unclear.

As highlighted earlier, the 4 to 24 hpi intracellular form transition of the parasite was characterized by considerably smaller numbers of genes that were DE and by lower changes of magnitude. Of the 625 *L. major* genes that were DE during that transition in at least one of the hosts, only 28 represent a common parasite expression pattern in both human and mouse infections while 328 and 273 genes were unique to the human and mouse systems, respectively. Despite the large number of differences, almost all are less than 2 fold DE and therefore represent small changes in the context of the host system.

Even though our interpretations of the analyses above have focused on previously characterized gene products, it is worth noting that significant proportions of the DE genes across parasite timepoints encode hypothetical/unspecified proteins - 60% and 67% of genes in the metacyclic to 4 hpi transition

<b>Upregulated, human only</b>		
GO:0000786	nucleosome	1.05E-11
GO:0006334	nucleosome assembly	1.06E-11
GO:0046982	protein heterodimerization activity	2.51E-11
GO:0006412	translation	4.72E-09
GO:0015986	ATP synthesis coupled proton transport	2.40E-08
GO:0003735	structural constituent of ribosome	3.02E-08
GO:0005840	ribosome	5.89E-08
GO:0015991	ATP hydrolysis coupled proton transport	1.28E-06
GO:0008234	cysteine-type peptidase activity	3.73E-06
GO:0046933	proton-transporting ATP synthase activity	7.18E-05
GO:0006886	intracellular protein transport	9.44E-05
GO:0030117	membrane coat	1.07E-04
GO:0015031	protein transport	3.08E-04
GO:0046034	ATP metabolic process	3.40E-04
GO:0033180	proton-transporting V-type ATPase	3.70E-04
GO:0016192	vesicle-mediated transport	4.46E-04
GO:0015078	hydrogen ion transmembrane transporter activity	5.29E-04
<b>Downregulated, human only</b>		
GO:0007018	microtubule-based movement	4.70E-05
GO:0006310	DNA recombination	6.58E-05
<b>Upregulated, mouse only</b>		
GO:0006950	response to stress	1.47E-12
GO:0006486	protein glycosylation	1.09E-05
GO:0008378	galactosyltransferase activity	3.21E-05
GO:0007155	cell adhesion	6.70E-05
GO:0008160	protein tyrosine phosphatase activator activity	1.15E-04
GO:0042025	host cell nucleus	1.15E-04
GO:0044081	modulation by symbiont of host NO-mediated signaling	1.15E-04
GO:0075130	modulation by symbiont of host protein kinase-mediated signaling	1.15E-04
GO:0006260	DNA replication	1.35E-04
GO:0051082	unfolded protein binding	2.00E-04
<b>Downregulated, mouse only</b>		
GO:0006412	translation	2.04E-18
GO:0005840	ribosome	2.06E-18
GO:0003735	structural constituent of ribosome	3.53E-18
GO:0005622	intracellular	3.15E-09
GO:0006184	GTP catabolic process	3.43E-05
GO:0005779	integral component of peroxisomal membrane	7.39E-05
GO:0016559	peroxisome fission	7.39E-05
GO:0008234	cysteine-type peptidase activity	1.37E-04

**Table 10: GO categories enriched among *L. major* genes unique to human and mouse infections.**

GOseq was used to identify GO categories enriched among *L. major* genes that were DE during the metacyclic promastigote to 4 hpi intracellular transition (P value < 0.05). Parasite genes that were specific to infection in the human system or specific to infection in the murine system were evaluated with up- and down-regulated genes considered separately.

and 39% and 55% of genes in the 4 hpi to 24 hpi transition for *L. major* and *L. amazonensis*, respectively. While significant numbers of *Leishmania* hypothetical

genes remain uncharacterized to date, they play an integral role in the parasite's strategy for survival and modulation of functional pathways within the host.

## **Conclusion**

RNA-sequencing was used to characterize the transcriptomes of primary human macrophages infected with either *Leishmania major* or *Leishmania amazonensis* and those fed latex beads over a 72-hour time course. This study differs from most previous efforts in its use of synchronized primary cells and controls designed to assess changes over time relative to both the uninfected state and the effects of large particle phagocytosis. The unambiguous mapping of reads from infected samples to both host and parasite genomes enabled the identification of differentially expressed genes within a dynamic dual biological system, and the collection of data from multiple biological replicates allowed careful statistical analysis of variation and the detection and removal of batch effects. These features provided us with a unique ability to detect biological differences between samples and timepoints with high confidence and sensitivity and to parse the potential causes of the observed changes.

While we found large numbers of differentially expressed genes between uninfected and *Leishmania*-infected cells at each timepoint, additional analyses considering expression changes in bead-containing cells revealed that almost all of the differences in gene expression from 24-72 hpi were part of a general response to phagocytosis, or, perhaps more accurately, "macrophage indigestion". Additionally, few differences existed between macrophages infected with *L. major* and those infected with *L. amazonensis*. Further comparison with

differential expression data generated in murine macrophages was used to define a signature of mammalian host infection by *L. major*. KEGG pathways enriched among upregulated genes in the signature were specific to immune activation and signaling while those enriched among downregulated genes were related to energy metabolism, lysosome structure and processes, and apoptosis.

Analysis of parasite data revealed a stabilization in the *Leishmania* response to the human intracellular environment for both *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* after 24 hpi and few meaningful differences were detected between the transcriptional programs activated by each species. Only about a third of *L. major* genes were similarly differentially expressed in both human and murine host systems, pointing to potentially meaningful differences, especially regarding previously identified virulence factors. These findings and the datasets generated by this work will be of great use to the *Leishmania* and macrophage biology communities as further attempts are made to understand the complex interplay between host and parasite during infection by *Leishmania* parasites. The comprehensive datasets generated in this study will also serve as a reference for future studies using different *Leishmania* strains (or even different pathogens altogether) to examine infections of macrophages isolated from multiple sources and in various states of activation, polarization, or rest. In conjunction with datasets that will be produced for other pathogens, a clearer picture of the signature of intracellular infection will emerge, providing additional insights into how pathogens are able to evade host defenses and modulate the biological functions of the cell in order to survive in the mammalian environment.

## Chapter 6

### Future Directions

In addition to deriving biological insights into *Leishmania* differentiation and infection, the work described here produced significant resources that will be of use to the *Leishmania* and broader host-pathogen research communities – specifically, UTR boundaries for a large majority of *L. major* genes, lists of genes that are differentially expressed across life cycle stages by *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* parasites, and differential expression datasets for murine and human macrophages upon *Leishmania* infection or the ingestion of inert particles. While a number of findings were described above regarding the general patterns of gene expression, higher-level pathways and processes implicated in infection, and the suspected roles of individual genes, additional research is needed to more fully mine and follow-up on the information contained in these datasets.

### Extend *L. major* RNA processing/gene regulation analysis

In this work, we determined UTR boundaries specific to the procyclic and metacyclic promastigote developmental stages for most *L. major* genes. The methods used should be extended to the amastigote stages/timepoints to identify and quantify UTR boundaries and their usage. We were unable to detect a correlation between differences in the steady-state mRNA levels (as assessed by RNA-seq) and differential usage of *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation sites (i.e. different UTR lengths) between the procyclic and metacyclic stages. This could



mean that differential engagement of sequence or structural motifs in UTRs by regulator proteins, rather than motif composition itself, is responsible for changes in steady-state mRNA levels between the stages. The UTRs for all stages should be systematically evaluated to identify motifs and to determine potential binding partners that may be responsible for the stage-specific differences in expression.

Additionally, while RNA-seq is a robust and high-throughput method for detecting cellular mRNAs, mRNA levels are not an ideal indicator of the biological changes taking place within *Leishmania* given the multiple levels of regulation that occur after transcription. For this reason, the RNA-seq data generated here would also be of great use when considered alongside ribosome profiling data that have been generated for the *L. major* procyclic promastigote stage (Belew *et al.*, in preparation). A direct comparison of these data types will reveal the relationship between steady-state levels of RNAs (as measured by RNA-seq) and the rate of translation (as measured by ribosome profiling) to provide additional clues for how the parasite regulates cellular protein levels.

### **Deepen analysis of gene expression from 0-24 hpi**

The most unexpected findings in this body of work were the lack of statistically significant changes in gene expression between subsequent timepoints after 24 hpi and that differences between uninfected and infected host cells after 24 hpi were attributable almost exclusively to phagocytosis. This adds a level of nuance to the existing hypothesis that *Leishmania* entry into macrophages is quiescent – parasite entry does in fact cause a large number of changes in host cells which have elements of both pro-inflammatory and anti-

inflammatory responses, but expression changes plateau by around a day after infection. Knowing this now, it would be interesting to collect data from additional timepoints during the first day (e.g. 2, 6, 8, 12, 16, and 20 hpi) to further tease apart the changes that occur in the very important early stages of infection. The collection of these additional timepoints would in turn open new methods for analyzing the data beyond the differential expression analyses done so far. Specifically, network analyses would be extremely useful for grouping together genes that have common expression patterns over time. This should be done separately for both parasite and host genes, with subsequent efforts to find correlations between parasite and host clusters. It is reasonable to hypothesize that some sets of parasite and host genes will show matching patterns of expression over time while other sets will show divergent expression patterns or reveal a delay in response. Network analyses also have the potential to point to the functional roles of hypothetical genes by grouping them with genes of known function and inferring guilt-by-association relationships. While network analyses can be attempted on the current dataset, the lack of dynamic changes in expression after 24 hpi limits our ability to group together genes that are likely undergoing co-regulation. An analysis of functional enrichments or motif usage in the UTRs of genes in each network cluster has the potential to be particularly informative.

### **Expand infection systems and conditions studied**

In this study, we looked at the infection of C57BL/6 murine peritoneal macrophages and CD14+ monocyte-derived human macrophages by *L. major*

and/or *L. amazonensis*. While we found that there were few significant changes in parasite genes between the *Leishmania* species, it would be useful to extend this analysis to include other species, especially those that cause visceral disease, to identify parasite factors that may contribute to the gross differences in disease presentation. The use of gently heat-killed *Leishmania* would be an interesting contrast to the latex beads time course and would show how the macrophage responds to the phagocytosis of a particle that it is able to fully digest and various other experiments done using inhibitors of various genes implicated during infection (e.g. synaptotagmin family members, complement receptors) would also be useful for honing in on the roles of each during infection. It would also be useful to look at *Leishmania* infection of the THP1 human monocytic leukemia cell line, which has been used in many studies of pathogens that infect macrophages, to identify similarities and differences related to the use of primary vs. transformed cells. Experiments using other phagocytes such as dendritic cells or neutrophils (human or murine) should also be done since there is evidence that neutrophils are the first cells to encounter and take up *Leishmania* upon inoculation into the host (Peters, 2008), even though they are not the ultimate host cell type for the parasite. Data from patient lesion samples would also be very interesting to compare against the cell culture-derived data to determine if any similarities can be detected between an infection of synchronized cells of a single type and a true infection that involves interactions between multiple cell types.

## **Detect parasite-host protein-protein interactions to derive biological mechanisms**

A number of genes were implicated in *Leishmania* differentiation and in the establishment and progression of an intracellular infection. While the bioinformatics approaches used here were extremely useful for the global identification of differentially expressed genes in both the parasite and its host cells, wet bench studies aimed at studying individual or small groups of genes are needed to follow-up on these observations. Direct interactions between *Leishmania* and mammalian proteins are responsible for communication between host and parasite as *Leishmania* are phagocytosed by macrophages and become contained inside parasitophorous vacuoles. Indeed, some genes in the DE lists suggest an interaction between *Leishmania* and host macrophages that affect the receptors by which *Leishmania* are taken into macrophages, with direct implications for their survival (e.g. *Leishmania* GP63 and host Fcγ receptors). In order for *Leishmania* proteins to interact with the host, the parasite must either secrete or display the peptides on their surfaces using glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI) anchors. The DE datasets should be analyzed to detect signal sequences that drive protein secretion or surface anchoring; additionally, transmembrane hidden Markov models (TM-HMM) can be used to predict trans-membrane proteins that may contain domains that are able to interact with host proteins. Genes identified by these analyses can be used as baits in yeast-2-hybrid (Y2H) experiments or pull down assays followed by mass spectrometry to identify host-pathogen protein-protein interactions. These

experiments can be used to identify proteins that interact with hypothetical genes, possibly providing evidence as to their function. Perturbations in the system – such as those introduced by altering experimental conditions (e.g. media components, use of serum for opsonization, etc.) or by removing genes/mRNAs using gene knock-outs or siRNA knock-downs - can then be used to test how mRNA or protein levels, protein-protein interactions, or the ability of *Leishmania* to infect cells change under various conditions. Findings from these studies can be used to develop models for the mechanisms of action of various genes that are necessary for infection. Genes involved in host-pathogen interactions may prove to be important for virulence of the pathogen and could potentially serve as candidates for vaccine or drug development.

### **Establish new host-pathogen interaction resources**

Interpretation of the host DE gene lists has been hindered by the lack of robust datasets against which to compare the results. Our attempts to perform KEGG pathway analyses to identify the higher-level pathways and processes associated with *Leishmania* infection of macrophages were of limited usefulness given differences in the studies used to build the KEGG reference datasets. Specifically, KEGG pathways have largely been defined based on combinations of multiple single or few-gene studies produced under various conditions, and because of this, they are of undetermined relevance and reliability. For example, a KEGG pathway exists for leishmaniasis, but an examination of the 23 studies used to create the KEGG resource reveals a lack of consistency in scope of each study that contributes gene(s) to the pathway. Rather than relying on resources

such as this, robust RNA-seq datasets like those produced here should serve as new "gold standard" pathway/process resources that can be compared to datasets produced under other conditions or for other experimental systems. Comparison to similar datasets produced for other pathogens that infect macrophages, including *Mycobacterium sp.*, *Toxoplasma gondii*, *Francisella tularensis*, *Leptospira interrogans*, and *Legionella pneumophila*, would be very useful for determining similarities and differences in how various pathogens are able to evade immune defenses to infect immune cells.

## Chapter 7

### Experimental Procedures

#### ***Leishmania* Culture**

##### Metacyclogenesis and mouse experiments

*Leishmania major* (clone V1, MHOM/IL/80/Friedlin) was isolated after passage through BALB/c mice. Promastigotes were grown in 50% M199 39% Schneider medium along with 10% FBS and 1% of Penicillin/streptomycin at 25°C. *L. major* promastigotes were not split for more than 5 passages to maintain virulence of the cultures. Enrichment for metacyclic promastigotes from stationary phase cultures was done by Ficoll density gradient centrifugation (Späth, 2001) and by negative selection with peanut agglutinin (PNA) (da Silva, 1987). Biological replicates each originated from a separate growth and were obtained on different days.

##### Human experiments

*Leishmania major* (clone VI, MHOM/IL/80/Friedlin) and *L. amazonensis* (IFLA/BR/67/PH8) promastigotes were cultivated at 26°C in medium 199 (Gibco, Invitrogen) supplemented with 5% penicillin/streptomycin, 0.1% hemin (25 mg/ml in 50% triethanolamine), 20% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (FBS), 10 mM adenine (pH 7.5), and 5 mM L-glutamine. Metacyclic forms of *L. major* were purified by agglutination of stationary-phase promastigote cultures using peanut agglutinin (Sigma) (Sacks and Melby, 2001) while enrichment for *L. amazonensis* metacyclic promastigotes was performed by Ficoll density gradient centrifugation.

## **Mouse infection**

Peritoneal macrophages were isolated from C57BL/6 mice (7 weeks, female) obtained from National Cancer Institute Charles River Laboratories by flushing the peritoneal cavity using 10 mL cold DPBS without calcium and magnesium. Cells were plated in 6 well plates in 2.5 mL DMEM/F12 media supplemented with 10% FBS, 1% penicillin/streptomycin, and 1% glutamine to a density of  $\sim 2.5 \times 10^6$  cells/well and incubated overnight. Two hours after washing, cells were infected with Ficoll-enriched *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes at a ratio of 5 parasites per macrophage along with 5% C5-deficient serum collected from DBA2 mice. Cells were lysed using the Trizol<sup>®</sup> reagent (Invitrogen, CA) at 4, 24, 48, and 72 hours following infection.

## **Human macrophages and infection**

Human macrophages were derived from purified monocytes and purchased fully differentiated from HemaCare (Van Nuys, CA). Briefly, CD14<sup>+</sup> monocytes were positively selected via immunomagnetic beads and were cultured in the presence of 1000 IU/mL human recombinant human macrophage colony-stimulating factor M-CSF for 10 days. The cells were then harvested and transferred into hypothermosol (BioLife Solution) and shipped in suspension. Upon arrival, approximately  $2.5 \times 10^6$  macrophages were plated per well in a 6-well plate using X-VIVO-15 medium (Lonza) and supplemented with 1000 IU/mL M-CSF (Miltenyi Biotech) and incubated for 24 hr at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Macrophages were infected using a ratio of 10 parasites per macrophage for *L. amazonensis* and 5 parasites per macrophage for *L. major* for 4 hr at 34°C. Infection was performed in X-VIVO-



15 medium supplemented with 4% human AB serum. Macrophages were allowed to ingest 4.35 micrometer polystyrene beads (Spherotech) at 1:10 ratio also in the presence of 4% human AB serum (beads were pre-incubated in AB serum for 30 min). The cells were washed 3 times with PBS and further incubated at 34°C until the 24, 48 and 72 hpi timepoints. Samples intended for counting were fixed for 5 min at room temperature with Bouin solution (71.4% saturated picric acid, 23.8% formaldehyde, and 4.8% acetic acid), stained with Giemsa, and sequentially dehydrated in acetone, followed by a graded series of acetone/xylol (9:1, 7:3, and 3:7) and, finally, xylol. The number of intracellular parasites was determined by counting the total macrophages and the total intracellular parasites per microscopic field using a Nikon E200 microscope with a 100X 1.3 N.A. oil immersion objective. Counts were performed in triplicate for each period of infection.

### **RNA isolation and cDNA library preparation**

For the metacyclogenesis and mouse experiments, total RNA was isolated using the Trizol® reagent (Invitrogen, CA), treated with DNase, and purified using the Qiagen RNeasy mini kit. For the human experiments, total RNA was isolated from macrophages and the metacyclic material used for the *L. major* and *L. amazonensis* infections using a NucleoSpin RNA kit (Machery-Nagel) according to manufacturer's protocol. RNA integrity was assessed using an Agilent 2100 bioanalyzer. PolyA-enriched cDNA libraries were generated using the Illumina TruSeq Sample Preparation kit (San Diego, CA) and checked for quality and quantity using the bioanalyzer and qPCR (KAPA Biosystems).

## **RNA-seq data generation, pre-processing, and quality trimming**

Paired end reads (100 bp) were obtained from the Illumina HiSeq 1500 platform. `Trimmomatic` (Bolger, 2014) was used to remove any remaining Illumina adapter sequences from reads and to trim bases off the start or the end of a read when the quality score fell below a threshold of 20. Sequence quality metrics were assessed using `FastQC` (<http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc/>).

## **Mapping cDNA fragments to the reference genome, abundance estimation, and data normalization**

`TopHat` (v 2.0.10) (Trapnell, 2009) was used to align reads to the applicable genome(s) with each genome alignment performed independently. Reads from uninfected, *L. major*-infected, *L. amazonensis*-infected, and bead-containing macrophage samples were aligned to the human genome (v. hg19/GRCh37) or mouse genome (v. mm10). Reads from *L. major*-infected or *L. amazonensis*-infected samples were additionally aligned to the *L. major* (v. 6.0) or *L. mexicana* (v. 8.1) genomes, respectively, as were reads from procyclic and metacyclic promastigote samples. The *L. mexicana* genome was used for alignment of *L. amazonensis*-containing samples since it is the most closely related well-annotated genome that was available. The human and mouse genomes were obtained from the UCSC genome browser (<http://genome.ucsc.edu>) and the parasite genomes were obtained from the TriTrypDB database ([www.tritrypdb.org](http://www.tritrypdb.org)) (Aslett, 2010). Two mismatches per read were allowed and reads were allowed to map only to a single locus. The abundance of reads

mapping to each gene feature in the TriTrypDB *L. major* annotation (v 6.0) was determined using HTSeq (Anders, 2014). Each resulting count table was restricted to protein-coding genes (8,486 genes for *L. major*, 8,336 genes for *L. amazonensis/L. mexicana*, 20,956 genes for human, and 23,100 genes for mouse). For the *L. major* metacyclogenesis analysis, a count table was also generated that included the above features along with a set of novel open reading frames (ORFs) of at least 90 nt in length. These novel ORFs were identified by manual annotation of translational evidence from a ribosome profiling study of *L. major* procyclic promastigote samples. Their coordinates are provided in Table 12.

### **Data quality assessment by statistical sample clustering and visualization**

Multiple approaches were used to evaluate replicates and to visualize sample-sample distances. Those included Pearson correlation, median pairwise correlation analysis, box plots, Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Euclidean distances-based hierarchical clustering. Samples that did not pass the following quality assessment procedure were excluded from downstream analyses. For each sample, the median pairwise correlation (mpc) to all other samples in the dataset was computed. A standard outlier identification method (Hoaglin, 1983) was applied to remove samples that have low correlation with the other samples. Samples were removed if their median mpc was less than  $Q1(\text{mpc}) - 1.5 \text{ IQR}(\text{mpc})$  where  $Q1(\text{mpc})$  and  $\text{IQR}(\text{mpc})$  represent the first quartile and inter-quartile range of the mpc across all samples, respectively.

## Differential expression analysis

Non-expressed and weakly expressed genes, defined as having less than 1 read per million in  $n$  of the samples, where  $n$  is the size of the smallest group of replicates, were removed prior to differential expression analysis (Anders, 2013).

A quantile normalization scheme was applied to all samples (Bolstad, 2003).

Following log<sub>2</sub> transformation of the data, `limma` (a Bioconductor package) was used to conduct differential expression analyses. `limma` utilizes a standard variance moderated across all genes using a Bayesian model and produces  $P$  values with greater degrees of freedom (Smyth, 2004). The `voom` module was used to transform the data based on observational level weights derived from the mean-variance relationship prior to statistical modeling (Law, 2014).

Experimental batch effects were adjusted for by including experimental batch as a covariate in the statistical model (Leek, 2010). Pairwise contrasts were done within `limma` to identify differentially expressed (DE) genes across timepoints in the parasites and within and across timepoints in mouse macrophages and in human macrophages both with and without accounting for the effect of phagocytosis. DE genes were defined as genes with a Benjamini-Hochberg multiple-testing adjusted  $P$  value of  $< 0.05$ . For comparisons of uninfected vs. infected samples without accounting for the effects of phagocytosis,  $P$  values from a contrast of infected minus uninfected were used as input into BH multiple testing adjustment. To determine differential expression while accounting for phagocytosis, infected samples were evaluated relative to both bead-containing macrophages and uninfected control cells. For each gene, the maximum  $P$  value

from these two contrasts was selected for input into BH multiple testing adjustment.

### **Ortholog mapping**

Orthology mapping was done between human and mouse gene identifiers and between *L. major* and *L. mexicana* gene identifiers. Human-mouse orthologs were defined using the bioMaRt package in R (Durinck, 2005). Orthology gene tables from TriTrypDB (v 8.1) (Aslett, 2010) were used to match orthologs between *L. major* and *L. mexicana*.

### **Gene ontology (GO) analysis**

Enriched GO categories were identified using the `GOseq` package in R (Young, 2010). `GOseq` was developed specifically to account for transcript length bias in GO analyses using RNA-seq data. For each comparison, upregulated and downregulated gene sets (no fold change cut-off) were input separately into `GOseq`. A *P* value cut-off of 0.05 was used.

### **KEGG pathway analysis**

KEGG pathway analysis using ConsensusPathDB-mouse or ConsensusPathDB-human was done to identify signaling and metabolic pathways that were over-represented in the mouse and human DE gene lists, respectively. For each KEGG pathway, a *P* value was calculated using a hypergeometric test and a cutoff of 0.01 was applied to identify enriched KEGG pathways. Genes that were DE more than 2-fold in *L. major*-infected cells relative to controls at each

timepoint were used as input with up- and down-regulated genes considered separately.

### ***Trans*-splicing site detection and 5' UTR analysis**

Sequences from each sample were mapped to the *L. major* genome (v. 6.0) using TopHat (v 2.0.10) (Trapnell, 2009). Only one mismatch per read was allowed and the paired reads were required to be mapped for an alignment to be reported. Reads that did not align to the genome were retained to form a pool of candidate spliced leader (SL)-containing reads. These reads were filtered to keep only those containing at least 4 bases of the end of the *L. major* SL sequence (AACTAACGCTATTATTGATACAGTTTCTGTACTATATTG) or its reverse complement. This target sequence (or its reverse complement) was trimmed from the reads and TopHat was used to align the remaining portions to the *L. major* genome. Two mismatches per read were allowed and reads were assigned only to a single locus of the gene model annotations provided to TopHat (containing previously annotated genes and novel ORFs). The alignment coordinates of the trimmed reads were used to retrieve the exact locations of the putative *trans*-splicing sites. The genomic sequence neighboring each putative site was compared against the portion of the read that was removed. Reads for which the trimmed portion (4-39 nt) did not differ by at least two bases from the corresponding genomic sequence were treated as false hits and discarded. Putative sites that were located within a previously annotated CDS (from TriTrypDB, version 6.0) (Aslett, 2010) or within a novel ORF (as defined above) or those with no such feature within 7500 nt downstream of the

site were excluded. *Trans*-splicing sites that remained were assigned to the nearest downstream feature. The length of the 5' UTR was defined as the distance between the *trans*-splicing site and the start of the CDS/ORF to which it was assigned. Splice acceptor sites were identified for each gene by extracting the dinucleotide sequence in the genome upstream of each detected *trans*-splicing site using a custom Python script. Sequence composition was plotted using `WebLogo` version 3.3 (Crooks, 2004). The *trans*-splicing site detection pipeline was written in Python and made use of the Ruffus pipeline software framework (Goodstadt, 2010) and Biopython library (Cock, 2009). Data visualization was done using `ggplot2` (Wickham, 2009).

### **Polypyrimidine tract characterization**

A custom Python script was used to scan a window of 250 nt upstream of each primary *trans*-splicing site to identify the corresponding polypyrimidine (polyPy) tract. A polyPy tract was defined as the longest stretch of sequence consisting of pyrimidines, allowing interruption by no more than a single purine.

### **Polyadenylation site detection and 3' UTR analysis**

Identification of the polyadenylation sites was done using a process similar to the one used for *trans*-splicing site detection. The initial filtering step performed on unmapped reads identified reads containing at least 4 nt of thymine or at least 4 nt of adenine residues. This target sequence was trimmed from the reads and `TopHat` was used to align the remaining portions of the reads to the *L. major* genome. Two mismatches per read were allowed and reads were assigned only

to a single locus in the gene model annotations provided to TopHat (containing previously annotated genes and novel ORFs). The alignment coordinates of the trimmed reads were used to retrieve the exact locations of the putative polyadenylation sites. The sequence neighboring each putative site was compared against the portion of the read that was removed. Any reads for which the trimmed portion (4+ nt) did not differ by at least two bases from the corresponding genomic sequence were treated as false hits and discarded. Putative sites that were located within a previously annotated CDS (from TriTrypDB, version 6.0) or within a novel ORF (as defined above) or those with no such feature within 7500 nt upstream of the site were excluded. Polyadenylation sites that remained were assigned to the nearest downstream feature (CDS or novel ORF). The length of the 3' UTR was defined as the distance between the stop of the CDS/ORF and the polyadenylation site. Sequence composition was plotted using WebLogo version 3.3 (Crooks, 2004). The polyadenylation site detection pipeline was written in Python and made use of the Ruffus pipeline software framework (Goodstadt, 2010) and Biopython library (Cock, 2009). Data visualization was done using ggplot2 (Wickham, 2009).

### **Alternative RNA processing site analysis**

Counts of *trans*-splicing sites or polyadenylation sites were combined from biological replicates for each developmental stage (procyclic promastigotes and metacyclic promastigotes). The site with the largest number of reads mapped was defined as “primary” for each of the developmental stages. All other sites



were considered to be “minor” with the most utilized of the minor sites designated as the “secondary” site. The ratio of reads mapping to the primary site to those mapping to the secondary site (P/S) for a given gene was used to determine the dominance (preference) of the primary site for that gene.

### **Data access**

Sequence data are available at the NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA) under accession numbers SRR1460763-SRR1460775, SRR1460724-SRR1460747, SRR1460767, SRR1460772, SRR2136702, SRR2136703, SRR2136708, SRR2136720, SRR2136722, SRR2155070, SRR2155072- SRR2155075, SRR2155078, SRR2155082, SRR2155085, SRR2155101, SRR2155105, SRR2155143, SRR2155160-SRR2155166, SRR2156106-SRR2156110, SRR2156117, SRR2156270-SRR2156274, SRR2156854-SRR2156856, SRR2156858-SRR2156860, SRR2156862-SRR2156863, SRR2163237-SRR2163240, SRR2163242, SRR2163251, SRR2163256, SRR2163270, SRR2163272-SRR2163276, SRR2163278-SRR2163283, SRR2163285-SRR2163287, SRR2163289-SRR2163292, SRR2163399-SRR2163401, SRR2171252, SRR2171252-SRR2171253, and SRR2171255. All components of the data quality assessment statistical pipeline, named `cbcbSEQ`, were done in R and can be accessed on GitHub (<https://github.com/kokrah/cbcbSEQ/>). The code used for the *trans*-splicing and polyadenylation pipelines is freely available at [https://github.com/elsayed-lab/utr\\_analysis](https://github.com/elsayed-lab/utr_analysis). The code used to determine alternative RNA processing sites is available at [https://github.com/elsayed-lab/lmajor\\_alternate\\_acceptor\\_site\\_usage](https://github.com/elsayed-lab/lmajor_alternate_acceptor_site_usage).

## Appendices

### Appendix 1: Procyclic-metacyclic experimental design

ID for this Manuscript	Sample ID	SRA accession number	Promast stage (enrichment method)	Batch	Number of reads that pass Illumina filter
1	HPGL0075	n/a	procyclic	A	62,051,890
2	HPGL0076	n/a	metacyclic (Ficoll)	A	52,660,754
3	HPGL0096	SRR1460763	procyclic	B	103,466,044
4	HPGL0097	SRR1460764	metacyclic (PNA)	B	76,253,690
5	HPGL0098	SRR1460765	metacyclic (Ficoll)	B	93,319,752
6	HPGL0164	SRR1460766	procyclic	C	46,155,070
7	HPGL0165	SRR1460767	metacyclic (Ficoll)	C	45,492,872
8	HPGL0192	SRR1460768	procyclic	D	64,505,484
9	HPGL0193	SRR1460769	metacyclic (Ficoll)	D	70,178,176
10	HPGL0228	SRR1460770	procyclic	E	105,948,882
11	HPGL0229	SRR1460771	metacyclic (PNA)	E	77,161,294
12	HPGL0230	SRR1460772	metacyclic (Ficoll)	E	84,056,646
13	HPGL0324	SRR1460773	procyclic	F	69,215,652
14	HPGL0325	SRR1460774	metacyclic (PNA)	F	64,195,828
15	HPGL0326	SRR1460775	metacyclic (Ficoll)	F	60,167,474
Total					1,074,829,508

Number of reads mapped	% of reads mapped	Number of SL-containing reads	% of reads containing SL sequence	Number of polyA-containing reads	% of reads containing polyA sequence
55,352,314	89.20	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
47,712,265	90.60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
92,748,560	89.64	4,095,395	3.96	58,064	0.06
69,557,423	91.22	2,658,344	3.49	56,582	0.07
84,580,995	90.64	3,634,321	3.89	47,581	0.05
42,801,506	92.73	1,772,321	3.84	39,718	0.09
41,811,082	91.91	1,360,561	2.99	44,785	0.10
58,857,640	91.24	2,359,763	3.66	43,034	0.07
63,898,517	91.05	2,439,369	3.48	48,044	0.07
98,120,201	92.61	3,252,367	3.07	49,416	0.05
71,310,256	92.42	2,645,944	3.43	41,414	0.05
77,364,378	92.04	3,034,977	3.61	41,102	0.05
63,766,203	92.13	3,752,380	5.42	13,684	0.02
59,048,832	91.98	3,355,270	5.23	13,606	0.02
55,318,601	91.94	3,064,443	5.09	12,270	0.02
982,248,773	91.39	37,425,455	3.90	509,300	0.05

**Table 11: Procyclic-metacyclic experimental design.**

Samples are listed using an internal lab sample identifier (HPGL----), which is referenced in the record stored at the Short Read Archive (SRA; accession numbers provided), and an additional simple identifier (1-15) for clarity in the text and figures. Experimental batches (A-F) are defined based on the start date of the experiment with each batch originating from a separate growth of cells. The number of reads sequenced, number and percentage of reads mapping to the *L. major* genome (v. 6.0), number and percentage of reads containing evidence of the SL sequence, and number and percentage of reads containing evidence of polyadenylation are also included.

## Appendix 2: Coordinates of novel ORFs

**Table 12: Coordinates of Novel ORFs.**

Novel open reading frames of at least 90 nucleotides in length were identified by manual annotation of translational evidence from a ribosome profiling study of *L. major* procyclic promastigote samples.

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.01_108	LmjF.01	75300	75404	-
LmjF.01_20	LmjF.01	110681	111175	+
LmjF.01_22	LmjF.01	114253	114546	+
LmjF.01_28	LmjF.01	136265	136417	+
LmjF.01_30	LmjF.01	142049	142294	+
LmjF.01_34	LmjF.01	153746	153916	+
LmjF.01_49	LmjF.01	197108	197224	+
LmjF.01_50	LmjF.01	198315	198512	+
LmjF.01_51	LmjF.01	198636	198767	+
LmjF.01_54	LmjF.01	204871	205035	+
LmjF.01_55	LmjF.01	204888	206231	+
LmjF.01_67	LmjF.01	243194	243376	+
LmjF.01_68	LmjF.01	243850	244035	+
LmjF.02_121	LmjF.02	336090	336365	+
LmjF.02_126	LmjF.02	349704	349862	+
LmjF.02_128	LmjF.02	2868	3155	-
LmjF.02_129	LmjF.02	2741	2896	-
LmjF.02_134	LmjF.02	16013	16486	-
LmjF.02_139	LmjF.02	23757	23873	-
LmjF.02_150	LmjF.02	73330	73431	-
LmjF.02_167	LmjF.02	145981	146163	-
LmjF.02_169	LmjF.02	149125	149301	-
LmjF.02_174	LmjF.02	164117	164605	-
LmjF.03_220	LmjF.03	62613	62861	+
LmjF.03_230	LmjF.03	105885	106739	+
LmjF.03_242	LmjF.03	152208	152321	+
LmjF.03_244	LmjF.03	160619	161200	+
LmjF.03_252	LmjF.03	193514	193633	+
LmjF.03_260	LmjF.03	225647	225829	+
LmjF.03_278	LmjF.03	288492	288599	-
LmjF.03_294	LmjF.03	363847	364215	-
LmjF.04_338	LmjF.04	105572	105733	+
LmjF.04_351	LmjF.04	170438	170656	-
LmjF.04_353	LmjF.04	178490	178645	-
LmjF.04_360	LmjF.04	200556	200759	-
LmjF.04_368	LmjF.04	238083	238238	-
LmjF.04_381	LmjF.04	277315	277410	-
LmjF.04_400	LmjF.04	342310	342519	-
LmjF.04_410	LmjF.04	372683	372889	-
LmjF.04_421	LmjF.04	397166	397357	-
LmjF.04_440	LmjF.04	457136	457396	-
LmjF.05_448	LmjF.05	10403	10681	+
LmjF.05_449	LmjF.05	11224	11319	+
LmjF.05_454	LmjF.05	23011	23118	+
LmjF.05_470	LmjF.05	70497	70976	+
LmjF.05_472	LmjF.05	77111	77257	+
LmjF.05_473	LmjF.05	77335	77466	+
LmjF.05_475	LmjF.05	81864	82109	+
LmjF.05_480	LmjF.05	88660	88932	+
LmjF.05_492	LmjF.05	119661	120101	+
LmjF.05_497	LmjF.05	138843	138968	+
LmjF.05_504	LmjF.05	156787	157500	+
LmjF.05_529	LmjF.05	247455	247832	+
LmjF.05_532	LmjF.05	263317	263409	+
LmjF.05_538	LmjF.05	285271	285750	+
LmjF.05_541	LmjF.05	292735	293013	+
LmjF.05_547	LmjF.05	306211	306378	+
LmjF.05_561	LmjF.05	358860	359045	+
LmjF.05_574	LmjF.05	396433	396798	+
LmjF.05_577	LmjF.05	405918	406031	+
LmjF.05_579	LmjF.05	411432	411776	+
LmjF.05_583	LmjF.05	423145	423273	-
LmjF.05_584	LmjF.05	424249	424743	-
LmjF.05_592	LmjF.05	461866	461991	+
LmjF.06_598	LmjF.06	16520	16744	-
LmjF.06_615	LmjF.06	68976	69209	-
LmjF.06_624	LmjF.06	95339	96148	-
LmjF.06_636	LmjF.06	131768	131908	+
LmjF.06_648	LmjF.06	169713	169913	+
LmjF.06_653	LmjF.06	181024	181203	+
LmjF.06_665	LmjF.06	221059	221355	+
LmjF.06_677	LmjF.06	277711	277929	+
LmjF.06_683	LmjF.06	301522	301737	+
LmjF.06_686	LmjF.06	326137	326256	+
LmjF.06_730	LmjF.06	479254	479595	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.06_738	LmjF.06	497381	497902	+
LmjF.06_742	LmjF.06	506541	506759	-
LmjF.06_744	LmjF.06	510753	510905	+
LmjF.07_746	LmjF.07	2243	2380	-
LmjF.07_752	LmjF.07	20854	21009	+
LmjF.07_758	LmjF.07	38407	38625	+
LmjF.07_759	LmjF.07	38501	38767	+
LmjF.07_766	LmjF.07	64560	64787	-
LmjF.07_811	LmjF.07	243104	243364	+
LmjF.07_814	LmjF.07	252695	252793	+
LmjF.07_827	LmjF.07	306747	306842	+
LmjF.07_837	LmjF.07	340639	340980	+
LmjF.07_849	LmjF.07	386858	387064	+
LmjF.07_854	LmjF.07	429773	429907	+
LmjF.07_855	LmjF.07	430042	430587	+
LmjF.07_859	LmjF.07	453590	453724	+
LmjF.07_863	LmjF.07	474591	475604	+
LmjF.07_868	LmjF.07	506546	506662	+
LmjF.07_880	LmjF.07	543620	543928	+
LmjF.07_891	LmjF.07	566057	566206	+
LmjF.07_894	LmjF.07	573672	573800	+
LmjF.07_897	LmjF.07	587130	587240	+
LmjF.07_898	LmjF.07	587185	587358	+
LmjF.07_900	LmjF.07	593066	593353	+
LmjF.07_901	LmjF.07	593247	593480	+
LmjF.08_1008	LmjF.08	392394	392492	+
LmjF.08_1020	LmjF.08	436571	436855	-
LmjF.08_1033	LmjF.08	492798	493277	+
LmjF.08_1035	LmjF.08	495251	495427	+
LmjF.08_1040	LmjF.08	507408	507536	+
LmjF.08_1043	LmjF.08	516911	517069	+
LmjF.08_1048	LmjF.08	531238	531375	+
LmjF.08_1049	LmjF.08	531368	531469	+
LmjF.08_1050	LmjF.08	531402	531623	+
LmjF.08_1056	LmjF.08	541834	541941	+
LmjF.08_1057	LmjF.08	542811	544118	+
LmjF.08_1058	LmjF.08	544414	544515	+
LmjF.08_1062	LmjF.08	554975	555178	+
LmjF.08_921	LmjF.08	58067	58369	+
LmjF.08_922	LmjF.08	58676	58999	+
LmjF.08_923	LmjF.08	60807	61148	+
LmjF.08_940	LmjF.08	111881	112120	+
LmjF.08_948	LmjF.08	154201	154308	+
LmjF.08_950	LmjF.08	164345	164452	+
LmjF.08_965	LmjF.08	218722	218904	+
LmjF.08_973	LmjF.08	238798	238965	+
LmjF.08_976	LmjF.08	257665	257898	+
LmjF.08_978	LmjF.08	266223	266663	+
LmjF.08_981	LmjF.08	274422	274601	+
LmjF.08_984	LmjF.08	289943	290044	+
LmjF.08_986	LmjF.08	295799	295927	+
LmjF.08_988	LmjF.08	301711	301815	+
LmjF.08_997	LmjF.08	352965	353087	+
LmjF.09_1073	LmjF.09	6299	6484	+
LmjF.09_1082	LmjF.09	28224	28955	+
LmjF.09_1084	LmjF.09	40338	40820	+
LmjF.09_1085	LmjF.09	40951	41043	+
LmjF.09_1088	LmjF.09	53225	53326	+
LmjF.09_1090	LmjF.09	56433	56549	+
LmjF.09_1102	LmjF.09	78194	78409	+
LmjF.09_1103	LmjF.09	78409	78567	+
LmjF.09_1121	LmjF.09	124955	125314	+
LmjF.09_1132	LmjF.09	155957	156151	+
LmjF.09_1135	LmjF.09	167614	167709	+
LmjF.09_1142	LmjF.09	196413	196610	+
LmjF.09_1144	LmjF.09	199072	199257	+
LmjF.09_1150	LmjF.09	220336	220521	+
LmjF.09_1170	LmjF.09	280086	280292	-
LmjF.09_1177	LmjF.09	317221	317340	-
LmjF.09_1179	LmjF.09	321205	321407	-
LmjF.09_1183	LmjF.09	333011	333175	-
LmjF.09_1204	LmjF.09	385913	386071	-
LmjF.09_1207	LmjF.09	407194	407952	+
LmjF.09_1209	LmjF.09	416139	416408	+
LmjF.09_1210	LmjF.09	416332	416523	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.09_1250	LmjF.09	536191	536463	-
LmjF.09_1251	LmjF.09	536444	536662	-
LmjF.09_1255	LmjF.09	545381	545656	-
LmjF.10_1273	LmjF.10	15652	15753	-
LmjF.10_1286	LmjF.10	68002	68100	+
LmjF.10_1299	LmjF.10	110871	111002	+
LmjF.10_1307	LmjF.10	133359	133520	+
LmjF.10_1318	LmjF.10	182540	183127	+
LmjF.10_1324	LmjF.10	206493	206693	+
LmjF.10_1326	LmjF.10	211877	211990	+
LmjF.10_1331	LmjF.10	233035	233322	+
LmjF.10_1333	LmjF.10	241236	241328	+
LmjF.10_1352	LmjF.10	329808	329981	-
LmjF.10_1355	LmjF.10	339436	341496	-
LmjF.10_1358	LmjF.10	351210	351398	-
LmjF.10_1362	LmjF.10	365021	365356	-
LmjF.10_1363	LmjF.10	365970	366203	-
LmjF.10_1386	LmjF.10	448939	449037	-
LmjF.10_1400	LmjF.10	488996	489322	-
LmjF.10_1404	LmjF.10	499609	499710	-
LmjF.10_1407	LmjF.10	507063	507278	-
LmjF.10_1411	LmjF.10	513365	513508	-
LmjF.10_1412	LmjF.10	512495	512656	-
LmjF.10_1417	LmjF.10	526964	527110	-
LmjF.10_1420	LmjF.10	530183	530386	-
LmjF.10_1421	LmjF.10	530897	531301	-
LmjF.10_1433	LmjF.10	558882	559106	+
LmjF.11_1460	LmjF.11	58477	58683	+
LmjF.11_1461	LmjF.11	58757	58861	+
LmjF.11_1468	LmjF.11	76083	76637	+
LmjF.11_1477	LmjF.11	112451	112552	+
LmjF.11_1482	LmjF.11	126347	126649	+
LmjF.11_1495	LmjF.11	177970	178116	+
LmjF.11_1500	LmjF.11	192857	193102	+
LmjF.11_1501	LmjF.11	193293	193394	+
LmjF.11_1503	LmjF.11	202072	202290	+
LmjF.11_1505	LmjF.11	207549	207863	+
LmjF.11_1506	LmjF.11	210393	210596	+
LmjF.11_1509	LmjF.11	218361	218684	+
LmjF.11_1511	LmjF.11	232934	233074	+
LmjF.11_1532	LmjF.11	314026	314268	+
LmjF.11_1537	LmjF.11	327389	327706	+
LmjF.11_1538	LmjF.11	328201	328293	+
LmjF.11_1540	LmjF.11	335098	335211	+
LmjF.11_1547	LmjF.11	362870	364081	+
LmjF.11_1561	LmjF.11	412194	412361	+
LmjF.11_1565	LmjF.11	427564	427860	+
LmjF.11_1566	LmjF.11	427628	427981	+
LmjF.11_1567	LmjF.11	433530	433751	+
LmjF.11_1570	LmjF.11	447364	447957	+
LmjF.11_1574	LmjF.11	467632	467847	+
LmjF.11_1582	LmjF.11	486870	487418	+
LmjF.11_1605	LmjF.11	578324	578545	+
LmjF.12_1607	LmjF.12	1861	2577	+
LmjF.12_1608	LmjF.12	2084	2218	+
LmjF.12_1639	LmjF.12	90060	90188	+
LmjF.12_1644	LmjF.12	111234	111479	+
LmjF.12_1649	LmjF.12	137706	137825	+
LmjF.12_1655	LmjF.12	161139	161375	+
LmjF.12_1662	LmjF.12	183196	183294	-
LmjF.12_1667	LmjF.12	210150	210257	-
LmjF.12_1671	LmjF.12	235040	235255	-
LmjF.12_1672	LmjF.12	245380	245595	-
LmjF.12_1676	LmjF.12	292149	292439	+
LmjF.12_1681	LmjF.12	303405	303575	+
LmjF.12_1684	LmjF.12	319163	319357	+
LmjF.12_1702	LmjF.12	376698	378473	+
LmjF.12_1710	LmjF.12	406846	407169	+
LmjF.12_1711	LmjF.12	409010	409918	+
LmjF.12_1712	LmjF.12	409661	409918	+
LmjF.12_1730	LmjF.12	473486	473914	+
LmjF.12_1734	LmjF.12	486488	486895	+
LmjF.12_1742	LmjF.12	517518	517748	+
LmjF.12_1744	LmjF.12	524129	524536	+
LmjF.12_1755	LmjF.12	571648	571755	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.12_1770	LmjF.12	636127	636408	+
LmjF.12_1783	LmjF.12	672560	673522	+
LmjF.13_1792	LmjF.13	21697	21840	-
LmjF.13_1798	LmjF.13	34292	34732	-
LmjF.13_1799	LmjF.13	35607	35783	-
LmjF.13_1806	LmjF.13	56869	57240	-
LmjF.13_1810	LmjF.13	69781	70047	-
LmjF.13_1814	LmjF.13	78532	78732	-
LmjF.13_1834	LmjF.13	140813	141076	-
LmjF.13_1838	LmjF.13	152824	152946	+
LmjF.13_1839	LmjF.13	153353	153445	+
LmjF.13_1845	LmjF.13	171075	171257	+
LmjF.13_1846	LmjF.13	171578	171685	+
LmjF.13_1847	LmjF.13	171733	171867	+
LmjF.13_1848	LmjF.13	172427	172615	+
LmjF.13_1854	LmjF.13	184247	184690	+
LmjF.13_1860	LmjF.13	198656	199069	+
LmjF.13_1905	LmjF.13	359020	359310	-
LmjF.13_1912	LmjF.13	393022	393300	-
LmjF.13_1922	LmjF.13	413593	413898	-
LmjF.13_1926	LmjF.13	425323	425577	-
LmjF.13_1931	LmjF.13	434985	435446	-
LmjF.13_1932	LmjF.13	437047	437265	-
LmjF.13_1933	LmjF.13	437435	437569	-
LmjF.13_1935	LmjF.13	443405	443560	-
LmjF.13_1936	LmjF.13	443253	443345	-
LmjF.13_1937	LmjF.13	443060	443209	-
LmjF.13_1945	LmjF.13	469909	470046	-
LmjF.13_1953	LmjF.13	503627	503923	-
LmjF.13_1964	LmjF.13	551601	551711	+
LmjF.13_1966	LmjF.13	558691	558789	-
LmjF.13_1971	LmjF.13	572816	572983	-
LmjF.13_1974	LmjF.13	582146	582313	-
LmjF.13_1977	LmjF.13	591645	591824	-
LmjF.14_1991	LmjF.14	4457	4567	+
LmjF.14_1996	LmjF.14	16816	17031	+
LmjF.14_2035	LmjF.14	134974	135123	+
LmjF.14_2043	LmjF.14	169522	169749	-
LmjF.14_2045	LmjF.14	177135	177272	-
LmjF.14_2053	LmjF.14	203333	203581	-
LmjF.14_2054	LmjF.14	204098	204880	-
LmjF.14_2057	LmjF.14	216683	216853	-
LmjF.14_2062	LmjF.14	226190	226387	-
LmjF.14_2067	LmjF.14	239895	240128	-
LmjF.14_2072	LmjF.14	263428	263571	-
LmjF.14_2073	LmjF.14	262933	263070	+
LmjF.14_2078	LmjF.14	285571	285711	-
LmjF.14_2083	LmjF.14	297012	297191	-
LmjF.14_2091	LmjF.14	341241	341378	-
LmjF.14_2096	LmjF.14	363090	363314	-
LmjF.14_2103	LmjF.14	393681	393944	-
LmjF.14_2106	LmjF.14	404441	404647	-
LmjF.14_2113	LmjF.14	418425	418577	-
LmjF.14_2114	LmjF.14	419811	420311	-
LmjF.14_2122	LmjF.14	454237	454350	+
LmjF.14_2125	LmjF.14	476695	476913	+
LmjF.14_2126	LmjF.14	476695	476913	+
LmjF.14_2129	LmjF.14	492510	492827	+
LmjF.14_2154	LmjF.14	569202	569417	+
LmjF.14_2159	LmjF.14	580132	580305	+
LmjF.14_2161	LmjF.14	586647	586817	+
LmjF.14_2162	LmjF.14	587062	587340	+
LmjF.15_2179	LmjF.15	23840	24139	-
LmjF.15_2210	LmjF.15	122991	123191	+
LmjF.15_2248	LmjF.15	291511	291942	+
LmjF.15_2260	LmjF.15	343961	344272	-
LmjF.15_2262	LmjF.15	352004	353059	-
LmjF.15_2264	LmjF.15	362507	362671	-
LmjF.15_2269	LmjF.15	378222	378407	-
LmjF.15_2280	LmjF.15	419770	419931	-
LmjF.15_2283	LmjF.15	426044	426226	-
LmjF.15_2285	LmjF.15	429383	429544	-
LmjF.15_2298	LmjF.15	458033	458314	-
LmjF.15_2303	LmjF.15	463752	464204	-
LmjF.15_2319	LmjF.15	512813	513031	-

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.15_2325	LmjF.15	531727	531924	-
LmjF.15_2355	LmjF.15	608359	608547	-
LmjF.16_2373	LmjF.16	21974	22225	-
LmjF.16_2385	LmjF.16	71928	72065	-
LmjF.16_2390	LmjF.16	86236	86379	-
LmjF.16_2433	LmjF.16	231395	231847	-
LmjF.16_2445	LmjF.16	277015	277146	-
LmjF.16_2446	LmjF.16	277279	277476	-
LmjF.16_2474	LmjF.16	400452	400712	+
LmjF.16_2477	LmjF.16	413775	413999	+
LmjF.16_2481	LmjF.16	421938	422372	+
LmjF.16_2483	LmjF.16	429096	430079	+
LmjF.16_2493	LmjF.16	465231	465347	-
LmjF.16_2504	LmjF.16	520917	521219	-
LmjF.16_2531	LmjF.16	641441	641533	-
LmjF.16_2533	LmjF.16	647237	647569	-
LmjF.16_2534	LmjF.16	647237	647569	-
LmjF.16_2550	LmjF.16	711667	712083	+
LmjF.17_2552	LmjF.17	13059	13424	-
LmjF.17_2563	LmjF.17	30495	30647	-
LmjF.17_2585	LmjF.17	123229	123327	-
LmjF.17_2609	LmjF.17	239997	240203	-
LmjF.17_2616	LmjF.17	275946	276266	-
LmjF.17_2650	LmjF.17	409339	409566	-
LmjF.17_2655	LmjF.17	418442	418642	+
LmjF.17_2659	LmjF.17	423627	423884	+
LmjF.17_2664	LmjF.17	446335	446535	+
LmjF.17_2668	LmjF.17	459865	460029	+
LmjF.17_2671	LmjF.17	470319	470570	+
LmjF.17_2676	LmjF.17	503959	504141	+
LmjF.17_2682	LmjF.17	528322	528600	+
LmjF.17_2700	LmjF.17	594656	595075	+
LmjF.17_2714	LmjF.17	636615	636785	+
LmjF.17_2717	LmjF.17	639649	639774	+
LmjF.17_2725	LmjF.17	663858	664577	+
LmjF.18_2733	LmjF.18	5454	6002	-
LmjF.18_2747	LmjF.18	44260	44556	-
LmjF.18_2753	LmjF.18	96600	96743	-
LmjF.18_2761	LmjF.18	119694	119888	-
LmjF.18_2765	LmjF.18	132763	132924	-
LmjF.18_2781	LmjF.18	191537	191986	-
LmjF.18_2790	LmjF.18	215800	215988	-
LmjF.18_2798	LmjF.18	247137	248000	+
LmjF.18_2801	LmjF.18	254683	254943	+
LmjF.18_2802	LmjF.18	256220	256822	+
LmjF.18_2814	LmjF.18	300800	300898	+
LmjF.18_2846	LmjF.18	414571	414783	+
LmjF.18_2850	LmjF.18	425281	425604	+
LmjF.18_2865	LmjF.18	492933	493067	+
LmjF.18_2874	LmjF.18	520283	520417	+
LmjF.18_2885	LmjF.18	553402	553500	+
LmjF.18_2889	LmjF.18	572618	572896	+
LmjF.18_2892	LmjF.18	579167	579331	+
LmjF.18_2893	LmjF.18	582458	583801	+
LmjF.18_2894	LmjF.18	585697	586041	+
LmjF.18_2917	LmjF.18	691562	691738	+
LmjF.18_2930	LmjF.18	722127	722258	+
LmjF.19_2950	LmjF.19	32411	32698	-
LmjF.19_2951	LmjF.19	32214	32498	-
LmjF.19_2957	LmjF.19	54517	54966	-
LmjF.19_2965	LmjF.19	81284	81529	+
LmjF.19_2979	LmjF.19	158573	158887	+
LmjF.19_2997	LmjF.19	223005	223277	+
LmjF.19_2999	LmjF.19	230087	230230	+
LmjF.19_3000	LmjF.19	230277	230423	+
LmjF.19_3004	LmjF.19	263059	263406	+
LmjF.19_3014	LmjF.19	304932	305084	+
LmjF.19_3017	LmjF.19	315264	315431	+
LmjF.19_3018	LmjF.19	315530	315625	+
LmjF.19_3019	LmjF.19	316267	316482	+
LmjF.19_3024	LmjF.19	325082	325177	+
LmjF.19_3042	LmjF.19	360014	360202	+
LmjF.19_3047	LmjF.19	366770	366943	+
LmjF.19_3054	LmjF.19	382655	382816	+
LmjF.19_3059	LmjF.19	395719	395889	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.19_3062	LmjF.19	407105	407311	+
LmjF.19_3063	LmjF.19	406987	407484	+
LmjF.19_3075	LmjF.19	466828	466989	+
LmjF.19_3088	LmjF.19	529105	529260	+
LmjF.19_3098	LmjF.19	561020	561187	+
LmjF.19_3099	LmjF.19	561947	562501	+
LmjF.19_3101	LmjF.19	567210	567320	+
LmjF.19_3102	LmjF.19	567764	567964	+
LmjF.19_3105	LmjF.19	577105	577206	+
LmjF.19_3109	LmjF.19	589049	589171	+
LmjF.19_3114	LmjF.19	599803	600054	+
LmjF.19_3117	LmjF.19	607282	607374	+
LmjF.19_3130	LmjF.19	644230	644529	+
LmjF.19_3135	LmjF.19	650227	650418	+
LmjF.19_3146	LmjF.19	684352	684468	+
LmjF.19_3150	LmjF.19	696902	697354	+
LmjF.19_3151	LmjF.19	698510	698695	+
LmjF.19_3152	LmjF.19	698646	698771	+
LmjF.20_3165	LmjF.20	37994	38371	-
LmjF.20_3186	LmjF.20	111335	111922	+
LmjF.20_3189	LmjF.20	116568	116699	+
LmjF.20_3193	LmjF.20	127340	127699	+
LmjF.20_3200	LmjF.20	154486	155364	+
LmjF.20_3206	LmjF.20	175571	175684	+
LmjF.20_3210	LmjF.20	182013	182249	+
LmjF.20_3228	LmjF.20	240435	240653	+
LmjF.20_3233	LmjF.20	284034	284630	+
LmjF.20_3235	LmjF.20	300054	300371	+
LmjF.20_3236	LmjF.20	300545	300688	+
LmjF.20_3256	LmjF.20	389823	390137	+
LmjF.20_3266	LmjF.20	445786	445881	+
LmjF.20_3267	LmjF.20	445905	446066	+
LmjF.20_3280	LmjF.20	508514	508654	+
LmjF.20_3293	LmjF.20	558534	558629	+
LmjF.20_3312	LmjF.20	623030	623170	+
LmjF.20_3314	LmjF.20	629765	630016	+
LmjF.20_3320	LmjF.20	648946	649065	+
LmjF.20_3326	LmjF.20	661652	661864	-
LmjF.20_3327	LmjF.20	662064	662219	-
LmjF.20_3346	LmjF.20	718564	718707	-
LmjF.20_3347	LmjF.20	719427	719636	-
LmjF.21_3431	LmjF.21	222179	222307	-
LmjF.21_3432	LmjF.21	221650	222171	-
LmjF.21_3434	LmjF.21	223859	224041	-
LmjF.21_3468	LmjF.21	364852	364968	+
LmjF.21_3484	LmjF.21	418628	418804	+
LmjF.21_3520	LmjF.21	553382	553534	-
LmjF.21_3539	LmjF.21	622129	622299	-
LmjF.21_3544	LmjF.21	628508	628777	-
LmjF.21_3547	LmjF.21	637441	637713	-
LmjF.21_3555	LmjF.21	672358	672456	-
LmjF.21_3560	LmjF.21	683782	683997	-
LmjF.21_3564	LmjF.21	698741	699049	-
LmjF.21_3580	LmjF.21	731092	731466	-
LmjF.22_3599	LmjF.22	10032	10319	+
LmjF.22_3602	LmjF.22	13174	13467	-
LmjF.22_3607	LmjF.22	23382	23861	-
LmjF.22_3612	LmjF.22	49173	49421	-
LmjF.22_3618	LmjF.22	68399	68665	-
LmjF.22_3646	LmjF.22	179715	179810	-
LmjF.22_3659	LmjF.22	218830	219273	-
LmjF.22_3665	LmjF.22	229566	229856	-
LmjF.22_3674	LmjF.22	264753	265016	-
LmjF.22_3675	LmjF.22	268157	268258	-
LmjF.22_3688	LmjF.22	328838	328936	+
LmjF.22_3692	LmjF.22	341723	341878	+
LmjF.22_3693	LmjF.22	345016	345279	+
LmjF.22_3699	LmjF.22	362149	362286	+
LmjF.22_3703	LmjF.22	376335	376547	+
LmjF.22_3706	LmjF.22	384782	385144	+
LmjF.22_3710	LmjF.22	405487	405690	+
LmjF.22_3744	LmjF.22	538893	539480	-
LmjF.22_3750	LmjF.22	571290	571397	-
LmjF.22_3770	LmjF.22	628368	628460	+
LmjF.22_3773	LmjF.22	634724	635710	+



Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.22_3780	LmjF.22	672680	672796	+
LmjF.22_3785	LmjF.22	682270	682677	+
LmjF.22_3789	LmjF.22	695364	701963	+
LmjF.23_3803	LmjF.23	23243	23347	+
LmjF.23_3808	LmjF.23	43506	43664	+
LmjF.23_3819	LmjF.23	79049	79762	+
LmjF.23_3822	LmjF.23	83916	84179	+
LmjF.23_3839	LmjF.23	128812	129513	+
LmjF.23_3845	LmjF.23	151418	151558	+
LmjF.23_3853	LmjF.23	182985	183653	+
LmjF.23_3873	LmjF.23	245005	245238	-
LmjF.23_3874	LmjF.23	245299	245421	-
LmjF.23_3883	LmjF.23	277976	278086	-
LmjF.23_3886	LmjF.23	293212	294165	-
LmjF.23_3901	LmjF.23	379220	379594	-
LmjF.23_3903	LmjF.23	386824	387168	-
LmjF.23_3911	LmjF.23	411585	411758	-
LmjF.23_3914	LmjF.23	426935	427075	-
LmjF.23_3919	LmjF.23	439816	439923	-
LmjF.23_3921	LmjF.23	454869	455375	-
LmjF.23_3927	LmjF.23	467353	467508	-
LmjF.23_3931	LmjF.23	477090	477218	-
LmjF.23_3934	LmjF.23	488234	488377	-
LmjF.23_3942	LmjF.23	501014	501418	-
LmjF.23_3955	LmjF.23	545674	545787	-
LmjF.23_3968	LmjF.23	578165	578416	+
LmjF.23_3976	LmjF.23	602798	602926	+
LmjF.23_3979	LmjF.23	616169	616366	+
LmjF.23_3981	LmjF.23	619735	619998	+
LmjF.23_3982	LmjF.23	620215	620478	+
LmjF.23_3989	LmjF.23	658003	658212	+
LmjF.23_4010	LmjF.23	721765	721893	+
LmjF.23_4012	LmjF.23	726943	727392	+
LmjF.23_4023	LmjF.23	760711	760965	+
LmjF.24_4094	LmjF.24	250509	250787	+
LmjF.24_4099	LmjF.24	264282	264479	+
LmjF.24_4136	LmjF.24	390235	390909	+
LmjF.24_4137	LmjF.24	392389	393135	+
LmjF.24_4144	LmjF.24	418293	419021	+
LmjF.24_4157	LmjF.24	457136	457267	+
LmjF.24_4167	LmjF.24	485496	485963	+
LmjF.24_4169	LmjF.24	489797	489919	+
LmjF.24_4198	LmjF.24	613487	613783	+
LmjF.24_4212	LmjF.24	657382	657546	-
LmjF.24_4215	LmjF.24	666770	666940	-
LmjF.24_4261	LmjF.24	805848	805952	-
LmjF.24_4262	LmjF.24	806683	806787	-
LmjF.24_4263	LmjF.24	807597	807701	-
LmjF.25_4279	LmjF.25	11694	11933	-
LmjF.25_4285	LmjF.25	22606	22962	-
LmjF.25_4288	LmjF.25	29089	29349	-
LmjF.25_4291	LmjF.25	31550	31720	-
LmjF.25_4294	LmjF.25	37558	37713	-
LmjF.25_4323	LmjF.25	123710	123955	-
LmjF.25_4338	LmjF.25	197208	197540	-
LmjF.25_4345	LmjF.25	210385	210690	-
LmjF.25_4357	LmjF.25	260248	260394	-
LmjF.25_4359	LmjF.25	265010	265474	-
LmjF.25_4361	LmjF.25	267284	267835	-
LmjF.25_4377	LmjF.25	332131	332976	+
LmjF.25_4378	LmjF.25	334316	334741	+
LmjF.25_4396	LmjF.25	397670	397981	+
LmjF.25_4426	LmjF.25	527057	527290	-
LmjF.25_4431	LmjF.25	550595	550750	-
LmjF.25_4440	LmjF.25	576360	576482	-
LmjF.25_4441	LmjF.25	576781	577041	-
LmjF.25_4461	LmjF.25	659305	659397	-
LmjF.25_4463	LmjF.25	663816	664130	-
LmjF.25_4479	LmjF.25	707273	707398	-
LmjF.25_4491	LmjF.25	745007	745204	-
LmjF.25_4545	LmjF.25	880921	881397	+
LmjF.25_4550	LmjF.25	898007	898162	+
LmjF.25_4554	LmjF.25	903271	903393	+
LmjF.25_4556	LmjF.25	908439	908726	+
LmjF.25_4557	LmjF.25	908620	908853	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.26_4564	LmjF.26	15464	15982	-
LmjF.26_4570	LmjF.26	23329	23508	-
LmjF.26_4585	LmjF.26	58735	58977	-
LmjF.26_4609	LmjF.26	122940	123269	-
LmjF.26_4636	LmjF.26	211169	211762	-
LmjF.26_4641	LmjF.26	229533	229745	-
LmjF.26_4662	LmjF.26	297493	297588	-
LmjF.26_4707	LmjF.26	492712	492975	+
LmjF.26_4711	LmjF.26	522463	522699	+
LmjF.26_4716	LmjF.26	537949	538416	+
LmjF.26_4724	LmjF.26	573222	573857	+
LmjF.26_4738	LmjF.26	613651	613788	+
LmjF.26_4740	LmjF.26	616024	616269	+
LmjF.26_4744	LmjF.26	621941	622357	+
LmjF.26_4745	LmjF.26	622907	623011	+
LmjF.26_4763	LmjF.26	737645	737794	+
LmjF.26_4767	LmjF.26	747329	747568	+
LmjF.26_4772	LmjF.26	759582	759680	+
LmjF.26_4799	LmjF.26	894825	895196	+
LmjF.26_4838	LmjF.26	1028616	1028711	+
LmjF.26_4840	LmjF.26	1032257	1032469	+
LmjF.26_4845	LmjF.26	1047130	1047249	+
LmjF.26_4846	LmjF.26	1047250	1047738	+
LmjF.26_4852	LmjF.26	1061703	1061921	+
LmjF.27_4860	LmjF.27	2769	3149	-
LmjF.27_4876	LmjF.27	39042	39182	-
LmjF.27_4886	LmjF.27	56209	56532	-
LmjF.27_4915	LmjF.27	218674	218811	+
LmjF.27_4938	LmjF.27	297197	297304	+
LmjF.27_4947	LmjF.27	321960	322058	+
LmjF.27_4948	LmjF.27	324096	324389	+
LmjF.27_4960	LmjF.27	369406	369519	+
LmjF.27_4965	LmjF.27	393742	393858	-
LmjF.27_4968	LmjF.27	404639	405034	-
LmjF.27_4994	LmjF.27	499834	500124	-
LmjF.27_4995	LmjF.27	501001	501150	-
LmjF.27_5002	LmjF.27	522967	523143	-
LmjF.27_5018	LmjF.27	571090	571251	+
LmjF.27_5026	LmjF.27	592628	592861	+
LmjF.27_5042	LmjF.27	652580	652738	+
LmjF.27_5044	LmjF.27	655113	655301	+
LmjF.27_5045	LmjF.27	655443	655592	+
LmjF.27_5047	LmjF.27	657578	657772	+
LmjF.27_5058	LmjF.27	717537	717752	+
LmjF.27_5081	LmjF.27	836255	836371	-
LmjF.27_5088	LmjF.27	860992	861156	-
LmjF.27_5114	LmjF.27	946873	947031	-
LmjF.27_5115	LmjF.27	948319	948591	-
LmjF.27_5147	LmjF.27	1108703	1108978	+
LmjF.28_5161	LmjF.28	18568	18687	+
LmjF.28_5165	LmjF.28	33383	33502	+
LmjF.28_5171	LmjF.28	46533	46844	+
LmjF.28_5174	LmjF.28	53169	53297	+
LmjF.28_5175	LmjF.28	53468	53602	+
LmjF.28_5177	LmjF.28	59133	59453	+
LmjF.28_5210	LmjF.28	162314	162445	-
LmjF.28_5213	LmjF.28	177018	177170	-
LmjF.28_5219	LmjF.28	194878	195252	-
LmjF.28_5220	LmjF.28	195932	196156	-
LmjF.28_5232	LmjF.28	247385	247531	-
LmjF.28_5259	LmjF.28	325860	325955	+
LmjF.28_5269	LmjF.28	356788	357234	+
LmjF.28_5271	LmjF.28	362430	362870	+
LmjF.28_5307	LmjF.28	497691	498077	+
LmjF.28_5313	LmjF.28	512498	512701	+
LmjF.28_5320	LmjF.28	540861	541091	+
LmjF.28_5321	LmjF.28	541099	541215	+
LmjF.28_5322	LmjF.28	543194	543304	+
LmjF.28_5323	LmjF.28	543309	543431	+
LmjF.28_5332	LmjF.28	565396	565500	+
LmjF.28_5340	LmjF.28	593705	594034	+
LmjF.28_5344	LmjF.28	603920	604126	-
LmjF.28_5383	LmjF.28	783213	783755	-
LmjF.28_5384	LmjF.28	785857	786171	-
LmjF.28_5386	LmjF.28	796462	796617	-

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.28_5409	LmjF.28	855796	856122	+
LmjF.28_5414	LmjF.28	873612	873725	+
LmjF.28_5415	LmjF.28	873022	873261	+
LmjF.28_5416	LmjF.28	873880	874194	+
LmjF.28_5419	LmjF.28	879816	880046	+
LmjF.28_5439	LmjF.28	952514	952618	+
LmjF.28_5472	LmjF.28	1054881	1054997	-
LmjF.28_5487	LmjF.28	1110389	1110598	-
LmjF.28_5490	LmjF.28	1119601	1119867	-
LmjF.28_5500	LmjF.28	1154797	1155570	-
LmjF.29_5532	LmjF.29	102534	103037	-
LmjF.29_5533	LmjF.29	105309	105680	-
LmjF.29_5548	LmjF.29	153682	153918	-
LmjF.29_5578	LmjF.29	270939	271628	-
LmjF.29_5587	LmjF.29	303429	303548	-
LmjF.29_5596	LmjF.29	330789	331310	-
LmjF.29_5613	LmjF.29	392478	392603	+
LmjF.29_5632	LmjF.29	462844	462987	+
LmjF.29_5641	LmjF.29	501533	501685	+
LmjF.29_5644	LmjF.29	513955	514065	+
LmjF.29_5649	LmjF.29	531237	531524	+
LmjF.29_5658	LmjF.29	631449	631628	+
LmjF.29_5667	LmjF.29	676994	677137	-
LmjF.29_5684	LmjF.29	749984	750280	-
LmjF.29_5717	LmjF.29	859640	860014	-
LmjF.29_5734	LmjF.29	929491	929745	-
LmjF.29_5745	LmjF.29	982742	982837	-
LmjF.29_5749	LmjF.29	992244	992342	-
LmjF.29_5777	LmjF.29	1075281	1075373	+
LmjF.29_5779	LmjF.29	1079507	1079710	+
LmjF.29_5783	LmjF.29	1092543	1092830	+
LmjF.29_5796	LmjF.29	1128590	1128682	+
LmjF.29_5797	LmjF.29	1130176	1130364	+
LmjF.29_5809	LmjF.29	1169377	1169532	+
LmjF.29_5820	LmjF.29	1193346	1193567	+
LmjF.30_5826	LmjF.30	3511	3921	-
LmjF.30_5836	LmjF.30	27478	27846	-
LmjF.30_5839	LmjF.30	37984	38076	-
LmjF.30_5846	LmjF.30	52157	52399	-
LmjF.30_5851	LmjF.30	62613	63149	-
LmjF.30_5884	LmjF.30	165514	165639	-
LmjF.30_5896	LmjF.30	205310	205552	-
LmjF.30_5900	LmjF.30	213272	213886	-
LmjF.30_5909	LmjF.30	225965	226486	-
LmjF.30_5932	LmjF.30	286667	286825	+
LmjF.30_5956	LmjF.30	377085	377540	+
LmjF.30_5964	LmjF.30	403326	403592	+
LmjF.30_5978	LmjF.30	446104	446232	+
LmjF.30_5989	LmjF.30	488721	488906	+
LmjF.30_5993	LmjF.30	509584	509811	+
LmjF.30_5994	LmjF.30	516765	517199	+
LmjF.30_5997	LmjF.30	525189	525329	+
LmjF.30_6006	LmjF.30	545633	545809	+
LmjF.30_6007	LmjF.30	547754	547888	+
LmjF.30_6034	LmjF.30	617231	617452	+
LmjF.30_6043	LmjF.30	641964	642134	+
LmjF.30_6060	LmjF.30	722220	722372	+
LmjF.30_6063	LmjF.30	730009	730107	+
LmjF.30_6069	LmjF.30	749100	749285	+
LmjF.30_6078	LmjF.30	782363	783034	+
LmjF.30_6086	LmjF.30	805843	806043	-
LmjF.30_6091	LmjF.30	834520	834630	-
LmjF.30_6092	LmjF.30	836452	836859	-
LmjF.30_6109	LmjF.30	903633	903944	-
LmjF.30_6115	LmjF.30	928397	928498	-
LmjF.30_6135	LmjF.30	1009117	1009239	-
LmjF.30_6141	LmjF.30	1024307	1024717	-
LmjF.30_6147	LmjF.30	1033976	1034077	-
LmjF.30_6165	LmjF.30	1079227	1079370	-
LmjF.30_6176	LmjF.30	1107826	1108050	-
LmjF.30_6205	LmjF.30	1214568	1214672	-
LmjF.30_6227	LmjF.30	1288884	1289387	+
LmjF.30_6234	LmjF.30	1314082	1314360	+
LmjF.30_6238	LmjF.30	1320895	1321521	+
LmjF.30_6253	LmjF.30	1358433	1358588	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.30_6262	LmjF.30	1382044	1382136	+
LmjF.30_6264	LmjF.30	1389754	1389999	+
LmjF.31_6279	LmjF.31	28489	28740	-
LmjF.31_6291	LmjF.31	53651	53776	-
LmjF.31_6317	LmjF.31	149183	149401	-
LmjF.31_6346	LmjF.31	249183	249359	-
LmjF.31_6347	LmjF.31	250484	250606	-
LmjF.31_6353	LmjF.31	271888	272007	-
LmjF.31_6355	LmjF.31	278862	279320	-
LmjF.31_6365	LmjF.31	311657	311815	-
LmjF.31_6366	LmjF.31	314762	315199	-
LmjF.31_6372	LmjF.31	334569	334820	-
LmjF.31_6374	LmjF.31	345010	345921	-
LmjF.31_6377	LmjF.31	361432	362343	-
LmjF.31_6379	LmjF.31	371246	371485	-
LmjF.31_6381	LmjF.31	374768	374866	-
LmjF.31_6388	LmjF.31	404914	405030	-
LmjF.31_6400	LmjF.31	451625	451759	-
LmjF.31_6402	LmjF.31	458381	458515	-
LmjF.31_6403	LmjF.31	458988	459194	-
LmjF.31_6404	LmjF.31	459635	459901	-
LmjF.31_6417	LmjF.31	516172	516339	-
LmjF.31_6425	LmjF.31	584579	585256	-
LmjF.31_6445	LmjF.31	714872	714988	-
LmjF.31_6452	LmjF.31	763758	764342	-
LmjF.31_6460	LmjF.31	774843	775013	-
LmjF.31_6472	LmjF.31	815080	815307	-
LmjF.31_6476	LmjF.31	830485	830766	-
LmjF.31_6477	LmjF.31	835978	836469	-
LmjF.31_6485	LmjF.31	874807	874983	-
LmjF.31_6489	LmjF.31	888636	888839	-
LmjF.31_6490	LmjF.31	892030	892509	-
LmjF.31_6491	LmjF.31	893894	895051	-
LmjF.31_6493	LmjF.31	904472	904693	-
LmjF.31_6494	LmjF.31	907110	907610	-
LmjF.31_6497	LmjF.31	923555	923743	-
LmjF.31_6502	LmjF.31	938638	938892	-
LmjF.31_6504	LmjF.31	948638	948916	-
LmjF.31_6507	LmjF.31	958736	959134	-
LmjF.31_6510	LmjF.31	974171	974362	-
LmjF.31_6528	LmjF.31	1051831	1051950	-
LmjF.31_6534	LmjF.31	1094511	1094708	-
LmjF.31_6539	LmjF.31	1118926	1119126	-
LmjF.31_6551	LmjF.31	1157449	1157631	-
LmjF.31_6552	LmjF.31	1163514	1163666	-
LmjF.31_6583	LmjF.31	1273984	1274109	-
LmjF.31_6599	LmjF.31	1335460	1335960	-
LmjF.31_6600	LmjF.31	1337797	1337988	-
LmjF.31_6616	LmjF.31	1379543	1379767	-
LmjF.31_6625	LmjF.31	1417384	1417485	-
LmjF.31_6632	LmjF.31	1433266	1433730	-
LmjF.31_6637	LmjF.31	1443464	1443610	-
LmjF.32_6654	LmjF.32	12916	13044	-
LmjF.32_6655	LmjF.32	13154	13267	-
LmjF.32_6657	LmjF.32	15906	16313	-
LmjF.32_6663	LmjF.32	26330	26521	-
LmjF.32_6673	LmjF.32	54755	54928	-
LmjF.32_6681	LmjF.32	72864	72986	-
LmjF.32_6683	LmjF.32	73791	74030	-
LmjF.32_6719	LmjF.32	197223	197348	+
LmjF.32_6733	LmjF.32	228486	228734	+
LmjF.32_6748	LmjF.32	278523	278945	+
LmjF.32_6750	LmjF.32	288007	288222	+
LmjF.32_6753	LmjF.32	303230	303478	+
LmjF.32_6758	LmjF.32	324524	324718	+
LmjF.32_6766	LmjF.32	344566	344940	+
LmjF.32_6775	LmjF.32	393728	393958	+
LmjF.32_6803	LmjF.32	483095	483334	+
LmjF.32_6804	LmjF.32	483545	483709	+
LmjF.32_6807	LmjF.32	490734	490958	+
LmjF.32_6808	LmjF.32	492718	493101	+
LmjF.32_6811	LmjF.32	501111	501248	+
LmjF.32_6832	LmjF.32	577072	577215	-
LmjF.32_6834	LmjF.32	584438	584647	-
LmjF.32_6843	LmjF.32	609543	609641	-

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.32_6865	LmjF.32	680526	680663	-
LmjF.32_6874	LmjF.32	709162	709281	-
LmjF.32_6888	LmjF.32	752872	753144	-
LmjF.32_6899	LmjF.32	787074	787208	-
LmjF.32_6906	LmjF.32	804421	804522	-
LmjF.32_6916	LmjF.32	841775	842152	-
LmjF.32_6923	LmjF.32	861193	861348	-
LmjF.32_6945	LmjF.32	949586	949684	-
LmjF.32_6951	LmjF.32	960860	961027	-
LmjF.32_6952	LmjF.32	966516	966740	-
LmjF.32_6956	LmjF.32	979339	980139	-
LmjF.32_6972	LmjF.32	1045104	1045859	-
LmjF.32_6987	LmjF.32	1097752	1098168	-
LmjF.32_7004	LmjF.32	1161019	1161147	-
LmjF.32_7010	LmjF.32	1173277	1174002	+
LmjF.32_7012	LmjF.32	1174241	1174351	+
LmjF.32_7013	LmjF.32	1177162	1177695	+
LmjF.32_7014	LmjF.32	1178115	1178330	+
LmjF.32_7026	LmjF.32	1210135	1210245	+
LmjF.32_7039	LmjF.32	1259010	1259255	+
LmjF.32_7042	LmjF.32	1268617	1268823	+
LmjF.32_7050	LmjF.32	1314654	1315043	+
LmjF.32_7058	LmjF.32	1338987	1339202	+
LmjF.32_7068	LmjF.32	1387272	1387541	+
LmjF.32_7073	LmjF.32	1402015	1402239	+
LmjF.32_7106	LmjF.32	1500702	1501307	+
LmjF.32_7132	LmjF.32	1565617	1565901	+
LmjF.32_7133	LmjF.32	1566491	1566679	+
LmjF.32_7140	LmjF.32	1596351	1596704	+
LmjF.32_7142	LmjF.32	1600951	1601208	+
LmjF.33_7170	LmjF.33	70742	70879	-
LmjF.33_7174	LmjF.33	78560	78763	-
LmjF.33_7201	LmjF.33	181566	181943	-
LmjF.33_7204	LmjF.33	185730	185990	-
LmjF.33_7206	LmjF.33	190020	190157	-
LmjF.33_7207	LmjF.33	192236	192943	-
LmjF.33_7213	LmjF.33	209032	209127	-
LmjF.33_7221	LmjF.33	232640	232747	-
LmjF.33_7233	LmjF.33	264068	264253	-
LmjF.33_7234	LmjF.33	264012	264263	-
LmjF.33_7235	LmjF.33	264486	264653	-
LmjF.33_7240	LmjF.33	272910	273224	+
LmjF.33_7242	LmjF.33	272957	273493	+
LmjF.33_7259	LmjF.33	323981	324364	+
LmjF.33_7261	LmjF.33	333320	333424	+
LmjF.33_7294	LmjF.33	434166	434312	+
LmjF.33_7296	LmjF.33	442631	442849	+
LmjF.33_7301	LmjF.33	459297	459506	+
LmjF.33_7304	LmjF.33	481625	481759	+
LmjF.33_7305	LmjF.33	481785	481958	+
LmjF.33_7319	LmjF.33	525888	526103	+
LmjF.33_7335	LmjF.33	583100	583201	+
LmjF.33_7336	LmjF.33	588524	588910	+
LmjF.33_7343	LmjF.33	612828	613430	+
LmjF.33_7348	LmjF.33	627958	628332	+
LmjF.33_7353	LmjF.33	663733	663954	+
LmjF.33_7365	LmjF.33	742969	743112	+
LmjF.33_7370	LmjF.33	754185	754439	+
LmjF.33_7380	LmjF.33	782259	782600	+
LmjF.33_7383	LmjF.33	793708	793827	+
LmjF.33_7396	LmjF.33	832722	833105	+
LmjF.33_7407	LmjF.33	859658	860182	+
LmjF.33_7416	LmjF.33	892722	892973	+
LmjF.33_7420	LmjF.33	911331	911444	+
LmjF.33_7421	LmjF.33	916223	916531	+
LmjF.33_7429	LmjF.33	945613	945729	+
LmjF.33_7432	LmjF.33	954344	954562	+
LmjF.33_7440	LmjF.33	992287	992505	+
LmjF.33_7449	LmjF.33	1023674	1023904	+
LmjF.33_7450	LmjF.33	1023380	1023508	+
LmjF.33_7454	LmjF.33	1032371	1032637	+
LmjF.33_7459	LmjF.33	1057320	1057580	+
LmjF.33_7464	LmjF.33	1073630	1074520	+
LmjF.33_7470	LmjF.33	1094581	1094901	+
LmjF.33_7501	LmjF.33	1219899	1221326	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.33_7506	LmjF.33	1243800	1244342	+
LmjF.33_7515	LmjF.33	1289644	1290105	+
LmjF.33_7521	LmjF.33	1300512	1300856	+
LmjF.33_7522	LmjF.33	1302311	1302985	+
LmjF.33_7523	LmjF.33	1305980	1306234	+
LmjF.33_7524	LmjF.33	1310341	1310955	+
LmjF.33_7525	LmjF.33	1314985	1315320	+
LmjF.33_7526	LmjF.33	1316916	1317284	+
LmjF.33_7527	LmjF.33	1319105	1319386	+
LmjF.33_7528	LmjF.33	1320502	1321179	+
LmjF.33_7529	LmjF.33	1323981	1324133	+
LmjF.33_7530	LmjF.33	1324130	1324384	+
LmjF.33_7531	LmjF.33	1328456	1329109	+
LmjF.33_7532	LmjF.33	1331221	1331472	+
LmjF.33_7533	LmjF.33	1333103	1333468	+
LmjF.33_7536	LmjF.33	1367027	1367122	+
LmjF.33_7543	LmjF.33	1419498	1419839	+
LmjF.33_7547	LmjF.33	1441882	1441983	+
LmjF.33_7555	LmjF.33	1487380	1487475	+
LmjF.33_7559	LmjF.33	1525876	1526025	+
LmjF.33_7560	LmjF.33	1526031	1526255	+
LmjF.33_7563	LmjF.33	1534126	1534269	+
LmjF.33_7571	LmjF.33	1551991	1552173	+
LmjF.33_7574	LmjF.33	1559966	1560109	+
LmjF.33_7575	LmjF.33	1560224	1561138	+
LmjF.33_7576	LmjF.33	1561773	1561901	+
LmjF.33_7584	LmjF.33	1577475	1577702	+
LmjF.34_7585	LmjF.34	3520	3627	-
LmjF.34_7591	LmjF.34	17041	17751	+
LmjF.34_7614	LmjF.34	91749	91958	+
LmjF.34_7616	LmjF.34	96814	97035	+
LmjF.34_7633	LmjF.34	152654	152821	+
LmjF.34_7639	LmjF.34	191561	191719	+
LmjF.34_7641	LmjF.34	196668	197066	+
LmjF.34_7648	LmjF.34	235203	235400	+
LmjF.34_7655	LmjF.34	258547	258849	+
LmjF.34_7656	LmjF.34	261107	261568	+
LmjF.34_7663	LmjF.34	303090	303368	-
LmjF.34_7689	LmjF.34	392611	392811	+
LmjF.34_7694	LmjF.34	408337	408480	+
LmjF.34_7705	LmjF.34	456122	456214	+
LmjF.34_7711	LmjF.34	496793	497002	-
LmjF.34_7720	LmjF.34	524418	524957	-
LmjF.34_7728	LmjF.34	551098	551328	-
LmjF.34_7729	LmjF.34	551277	551570	-
LmjF.34_7730	LmjF.34	551611	552171	-
LmjF.34_7753	LmjF.34	652640	652774	-
LmjF.34_7760	LmjF.34	678223	678324	-
LmjF.34_7761	LmjF.34	678090	678245	-
LmjF.34_7765	LmjF.34	691013	691144	-
LmjF.34_7767	LmjF.34	692857	693042	-
LmjF.34_7769	LmjF.34	696893	697150	-
LmjF.34_7772	LmjF.34	701626	702021	-
LmjF.34_7813	LmjF.34	874419	875024	-
LmjF.34_7815	LmjF.34	877547	877708	-
LmjF.34_7824	LmjF.34	915966	916916	-
LmjF.34_7839	LmjF.34	980128	980298	-
LmjF.34_7866	LmjF.34	1086900	1087097	-
LmjF.34_7880	LmjF.34	1163684	1163992	+
LmjF.34_7894	LmjF.34	1229804	1230139	+
LmjF.34_7898	LmjF.34	1237690	1237929	+
LmjF.34_7905	LmjF.34	1269808	1270020	+
LmjF.34_7982	LmjF.34	1529138	1529254	+
LmjF.34_8004	LmjF.34	1594167	1594367	+
LmjF.34_8019	LmjF.34	1630662	1630766	+
LmjF.34_8034	LmjF.34	1671199	1671570	+
LmjF.34_8035	LmjF.34	1671199	1671570	+
LmjF.34_8039	LmjF.34	1689603	1689815	+
LmjF.34_8040	LmjF.34	1691974	1692117	+
LmjF.34_8067	LmjF.34	1780258	1780500	+
LmjF.35_8115	LmjF.35	7688	7810	-
LmjF.35_8121	LmjF.35	19701	20405	-
LmjF.35_8122	LmjF.35	20598	20849	-
LmjF.35_8145	LmjF.35	72768	73385	+
LmjF.35_8153	LmjF.35	92057	92233	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.35_8157	LmjF.35	102552	102995	+
LmjF.35_8159	LmjF.35	111077	112000	+
LmjF.35_8168	LmjF.35	139595	140566	+
LmjF.35_8173	LmjF.35	247758	248342	+
LmjF.35_8181	LmjF.35	287149	287658	+
LmjF.35_8185	LmjF.35	301592	301978	+
LmjF.35_8190	LmjF.35	331226	331471	+
LmjF.35_8199	LmjF.35	356546	356833	+
LmjF.35_8206	LmjF.35	372298	372579	+
LmjF.35_8209	LmjF.35	383704	383991	+
LmjF.35_8212	LmjF.35	392494	392664	+
LmjF.35_8242	LmjF.35	511163	511321	+
LmjF.35_8249	LmjF.35	542292	542462	+
LmjF.35_8255	LmjF.35	557578	558132	+
LmjF.35_8262	LmjF.35	571602	571766	+
LmjF.35_8269	LmjF.35	590186	590347	+
LmjF.35_8283	LmjF.35	652624	652800	-
LmjF.35_8285	LmjF.35	649781	650113	-
LmjF.35_8287	LmjF.35	659091	659258	-
LmjF.35_8296	LmjF.35	685830	685943	-
LmjF.35_8303	LmjF.35	711040	711234	-
LmjF.35_8323	LmjF.35	756958	757113	+
LmjF.35_8344	LmjF.35	833018	833284	+
LmjF.35_8354	LmjF.35	877847	877972	+
LmjF.35_8421	LmjF.35	1131910	1132059	-
LmjF.35_8422	LmjF.35	1131765	1131923	-
LmjF.35_8424	LmjF.35	1138950	1139450	-
LmjF.35_8427	LmjF.35	1152336	1152440	-
LmjF.35_8429	LmjF.35	1156802	1156984	-
LmjF.35_8441	LmjF.35	1196139	1196639	-
LmjF.35_8458	LmjF.35	1254516	1254848	-
LmjF.35_8459	LmjF.35	1256287	1256589	-
LmjF.35_8468	LmjF.35	1292593	1293399	-
LmjF.35_8469	LmjF.35	1293462	1293656	-
LmjF.35_8482	LmjF.35	1339793	1339984	-
LmjF.35_8483	LmjF.35	1339881	1339994	-
LmjF.35_8528	LmjF.35	1483673	1483768	-
LmjF.35_8534	LmjF.35	1507040	1507264	-
LmjF.35_8582	LmjF.35	1668024	1668197	+
LmjF.35_8639	LmjF.35	1883459	1883575	+
LmjF.35_8652	LmjF.35	1925329	1925985	+
LmjF.35_8655	LmjF.35	1936843	1937154	+
LmjF.35_8677	LmjF.35	2013532	2013726	+
LmjF.35_8683	LmjF.35	2026034	2026297	+
LmjF.35_8685	LmjF.35	2036303	2036485	+
LmjF.35_8686	LmjF.35	2036403	2036660	+
LmjF.35_8687	LmjF.35	2037086	2037343	+
LmjF.35_8697	LmjF.35	2052367	2052462	+
LmjF.35_8703	LmjF.35	2066649	2066936	+
LmjF.36_8706	LmjF.36	3057	3290	-
LmjF.36_8716	LmjF.36	27722	28474	-
LmjF.36_8739	LmjF.36	88109	88282	-
LmjF.36_8748	LmjF.36	109146	109421	-
LmjF.36_8750	LmjF.36	113226	113603	-
LmjF.36_8752	LmjF.36	116705	116977	-
LmjF.36_8780	LmjF.36	195130	195285	+
LmjF.36_8793	LmjF.36	278971	279117	+
LmjF.36_8810	LmjF.36	357841	358062	+
LmjF.36_8821	LmjF.36	408361	408513	+
LmjF.36_8839	LmjF.36	454548	454679	+
LmjF.36_8844	LmjF.36	465629	465847	+
LmjF.36_8847	LmjF.36	471444	471545	+
LmjF.36_8848	LmjF.36	473984	474910	+
LmjF.36_8858	LmjF.36	502251	502367	-
LmjF.36_8859	LmjF.36	502548	502817	-
LmjF.36_8873	LmjF.36	562958	563098	-
LmjF.36_8876	LmjF.36	570044	570160	-
LmjF.36_8891	LmjF.36	647433	647693	-
LmjF.36_8911	LmjF.36	726209	726394	-
LmjF.36_8925	LmjF.36	766358	766480	-
LmjF.36_8926	LmjF.36	768283	768750	-
LmjF.36_8933	LmjF.36	785300	785515	+
LmjF.36_8938	LmjF.36	801872	802165	+
LmjF.36_8940	LmjF.36	809192	809506	+
LmjF.36_8945	LmjF.36	825526	825642	+

Gene ID	Chromosome	Start coordinate	Stop coordinate	Strand
LmjF.36_8947	LmjF.36	832242	832715	+
LmjF.36_8953	LmjF.36	847825	848001	+
LmjF.36_8977	LmjF.36	938578	938694	+
LmjF.36_8980	LmjF.36	952996	953910	+
LmjF.36_8981	LmjF.36	954569	954913	+
LmjF.36_9003	LmjF.36	1038671	1038826	-
LmjF.36_9009	LmjF.36	1064136	1064288	-
LmjF.36_9011	LmjF.36	1084782	1084937	-
LmjF.36_9013	LmjF.36	1086056	1086373	-
LmjF.36_9025	LmjF.36	1129887	1130135	-
LmjF.36_9026	LmjF.36	1131248	1131577	-
LmjF.36_9032	LmjF.36	1153798	1154010	-
LmjF.36_9037	LmjF.36	1167774	1168001	-
LmjF.36_9043	LmjF.36	1187998	1188240	-
LmjF.36_9048	LmjF.36	1210882	1211073	-
LmjF.36_9050	LmjF.36	1213140	1213460	-
LmjF.36_9067	LmjF.36	1244192	1244782	-
LmjF.36_9069	LmjF.36	1247798	1248163	-
LmjF.36_9078	LmjF.36	1271328	1271660	-
LmjF.36_9090	LmjF.36	1308305	1308832	-
LmjF.36_9097	LmjF.36	1330640	1330972	-
LmjF.36_9098	LmjF.36	1330640	1330972	-
LmjF.36_9107	LmjF.36	1341383	1341532	-
LmjF.36_9117	LmjF.36	1364886	1365023	-
LmjF.36_9124	LmjF.36	1384817	1385164	-
LmjF.36_9150	LmjF.36	1443089	1443190	+
LmjF.36_9173	LmjF.36	1521065	1521169	+
LmjF.36_9174	LmjF.36	1521186	1521569	+
LmjF.36_9178	LmjF.36	1530894	1530986	+
LmjF.36_9196	LmjF.36	1590191	1590316	+
LmjF.36_9197	LmjF.36	1590725	1590820	+
LmjF.36_9198	LmjF.36	1590922	1591164	+
LmjF.36_9211	LmjF.36	1656043	1656531	+
LmjF.36_9215	LmjF.36	1673744	1673896	+
LmjF.36_9224	LmjF.36	1716495	1716641	+
LmjF.36_9240	LmjF.36	1767587	1767703	+
LmjF.36_9253	LmjF.36	1804405	1804536	+
LmjF.36_9255	LmjF.36	1807821	1808138	+
LmjF.36_9257	LmjF.36	1815545	1815769	+
LmjF.36_9261	LmjF.36	1826404	1826865	+
LmjF.36_9269	LmjF.36	1853699	1853824	+
LmjF.36_9289	LmjF.36	1921984	1922226	-
LmjF.36_9307	LmjF.36	1979234	1979332	-
LmjF.36_9308	LmjF.36	1980690	1980821	-
LmjF.36_9327	LmjF.36	2054519	2054746	-
LmjF.36_9330	LmjF.36	2060464	2060745	-
LmjF.36_9347	LmjF.36	2111532	2111687	-
LmjF.36_9372	LmjF.36	2193280	2193531	-
LmjF.36_9380	LmjF.36	2213553	2213696	-
LmjF.36_9400	LmjF.36	2289198	2289302	-
LmjF.36_9406	LmjF.36	2310785	2310970	-
LmjF.36_9415	LmjF.36	2342137	2342271	-
LmjF.36_9416	LmjF.36	2343096	2343245	-
LmjF.36_9418	LmjF.36	2347826	2347930	-
LmjF.36_9419	LmjF.36	2347649	2347804	-
LmjF.36_9422	LmjF.36	2355651	2356004	-
LmjF.36_9426	LmjF.36	2365418	2365945	-
LmjF.36_9436	LmjF.36	2396231	2396374	-
LmjF.36_9440	LmjF.36	2407793	2408038	-
LmjF.36_9447	LmjF.36	2440572	2440724	-
LmjF.36_9451	LmjF.36	2462399	2462629	-
LmjF.36_9453	LmjF.36	2465939	2466082	-
LmjF.36_9460	LmjF.36	2484516	2484968	-
LmjF.36_9487	LmjF.36	2567032	2567313	-
LmjF.36_9494	LmjF.36	2583135	2583392	-
LmjF.36_9498	LmjF.36	2595086	2595283	-
LmjF.36_9515	LmjF.36	2645478	2645816	-
LmjF.36_9520	LmjF.36	2657059	2657193	-
LmjF.36_9528	LmjF.36	2672836	2673333	-



## Appendix 3: Mouse infection experimental design

Sample ID	SRA accession	Infection status/timepoint	Batch	Number of reads that pass Illumina	Number of reads after trimming
HPGL0165	SRR1460767	metacyclic	A	45,492,872	44,325,986
HPGL0166	SRR1460724	uninfected, 4 hrs	A	40,524,394	39,910,722
HPGL0167	SRR1460725	infected, 4 hrs	A	90,990,046	88,980,750
HPGL0168	SRR1460726	uninfected, 24 hrs	A	48,172,914	47,278,686
HPGL0169	SRR1460727	infected, 24 hrs	A	100,702,572	98,641,188
HPGL0170	SRR1460728	uninfected, 48 hrs	A	47,092,436	46,134,592
HPGL0171	SRR1460729	infected, 48 hrs	A	104,431,682	102,285,498
HPGL0172	SRR1460730	uninfected, 72 hrs	A	42,210,532	41,341,096
HPGL0173	SRR1460731	infected, 72 hrs	A	72,318,516	70,901,794
HPGL0230	SRR1460772	metacyclic	B	84,056,646	82,084,958
HPGL0231	SRR1460732	uninfected, 4 hrs	B	96,215,864	94,854,552
HPGL0232	SRR1460733	infected, 4 hrs	B	92,160,718	90,299,686
HPGL0233	SRR1460734	uninfected, 24 hrs	B	82,830,256	81,677,132
HPGL0234	SRR1460735	infected, 24 hrs	B	103,092,448	101,118,460
HPGL0235	SRR1460736	uninfected, 48 hrs	B	81,211,534	80,061,410
HPGL0236	SRR1460737	infected, 48 hrs	B	111,687,434	109,753,574
HPGL0237	SRR1460738	uninfected, 72 hrs	B	92,915,856	91,606,470
HPGL0238	SRR1460739	infected, 72 hrs	B	138,070,730	135,814,536
HPGL0329	SRR2136702	metacyclic	C	64,860,308	63,200,662
HPGL0388	SRR1460740	uninfected, 4 hrs	C	126,914,156	122,765,288
HPGL0389	SRR1460741	infected, 4 hrs	C	109,064,742	105,845,790
HPGL0390	SRR1460742	uninfected, 24 hrs	C	100,298,240	97,739,428
HPGL0391	SRR1460743	infected, 24 hrs	C	120,601,610	116,947,098
HPGL0392	SRR1460744	uninfected, 48 hrs	C	116,767,874	113,646,410
HPGL0393	SRR1460745	infected, 48 hrs	C	106,096,990	102,294,678
HPGL0394	SRR1460746	uninfected, 72 hrs	C	106,521,540	101,703,022
HPGL0395	SRR1460747	infected, 72 hrs	C	122,268,922	110,361,056

Number of reads mapped - mouse	% of reads mapped - mouse	Number of reads mapped - <i>L. major</i>	% of reads mapped - <i>L. major</i>	% macrophages infected	# parasites per 100 macrophages
n/a	n/a	41,811,082	94.3	n/a	n/a
38,605,849	96.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
51,799,068	58.2	33,630,041	37.8	unknown	unknown
45,655,539	96.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
73,902,795	74.9	20,709,933	21.0	unknown	unknown
44,569,557	96.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
83,340,313	81.5	14,995,629	14.7	unknown	unknown
40,014,106	96.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
63,595,008	89.7	4,795,444	6.8	unknown	unknown
n/a	n/a	77,364,378	94.2	n/a	n/a
92,101,618	97.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
39,344,747	43.6	46,979,374	52.0	100.0	407
79,383,322	97.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
64,280,705	63.6	33,073,618	32.7	89.8	194
77,743,701	97.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
90,222,254	82.2	15,852,226	14.4	79.6	226
89,142,777	97.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
119,555,532	88.0	12,313,978	9.1	88.9	279
n/a	n/a	59,727,854	94.5	n/a	n/a
117,718,796	95.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
87,737,777	82.9	13,715,013	13.0	100.0	716
95,367,829	97.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
102,128,561	87.3	10,499,445	9.0	60.0	150
110,780,532	97.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
92,253,573	90.2	4,919,065	4.8	69.1	204
94,661,771	93.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
97,588,136	88.4	3,856,201	3.5	72.6	201

**Table 13: Mouse infection experimental design.**

Samples are listed using a sample identifier (HPGL----), which is referenced in the record stored at the SRA. Sample type is provided as metacyclic (contains only *L. major* metacyclic promastigote RNA), uninfected (contains only mouse RNA), or infected (contains both mouse and *L. major* RNA). Experimental batches (A, B, and C) are defined based on the start date of the experiment. The number of reads sequenced, number of reads that passed quality trimming, and number and percentage of trimmed reads that mapped to the mouse (mm10) and/or *L. major* genomes (v. 6.0) are provided, as are the percentage of infected macrophages and number of parasites observed per 100 macrophages for the 2 replicates for which these data were collected.

## Appendix 4: Human infection experimental design

**Table 14: Human infection experimental design.**

Samples are listed using an internal lab sample identifier (HPGL----), which is referenced in the record stored at the Short Read Archive (SRA; accession numbers specified). Sample type is provided as metacyclic (contains only *Leishmania* metacyclic promastigote RNA, “LM” for *L. major* or “LA” for *L. amazonensis*), uninfected (contains only human RNA), infected (contains both human RNA and *Leishmania* RNA), or beads (contains only human RNA). Experimental batches (A-F) are defined based on the start date of the experiment with each batch originating from a separate growth of cells. The patient identifier indicates the human donor who supplied the monocytes used for the experiment. The percentage of infected human macrophages and number of parasites observed per 100 macrophages are reported, as are the number of reads sequenced, number of reads that passed quality trimming, and number and percentage of trimmed reads that mapped to the human (hg19) and/or *Leishmania* (*L. major* v. 6.0 or *L. mexicana* v 8.1) genomes.

Sample ID	SRA accession	Infection status/timepoint	Batch: Patient	% macrophages infected	# parasites per 100 macrophages
HPGL0364	SRR2136703	LM metacyclic	A:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0365	SRR2155070	uninfected, 4 hrs	A:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0366	SRR2155072	LM-infected, 4 hrs	A:H2	100.0	524
HPGL0367	SRR2155073	uninfected, 24 hrs	A:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0368	SRR2155074	LM-infected, 24 hrs	A:H2	92.0	1220
HPGL0369	SRR2155075	uninfected, 48 hrs	A:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0370	SRR2155078	LM-infected, 48 hrs	A:H2	100.0	1778
HPGL0371	SRR2155082	uninfected, 72 hrs	A:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0372	SRR2155085	LM-infected, 72 hrs	A:H2	91.0	1896
HPGL0374	SRR2136708	LM metacyclic	B:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0375	SRR2155101	uninfected, 4 hrs	B:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0376	SRR2155105	LM-infected, 4 hrs	B:H3	100.0	842
HPGL0377	SRR2155143	uninfected, 24 hrs	B:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0378	SRR2155160	LM-infected, 24 hrs	B:H3	100.0	2011
HPGL0379	SRR2155161	uninfected, 48 hrs	B:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0380	SRR2155162	LM-infected, 48 hrs	B:H3	98.0	2471
HPGL0381	SRR2155163	uninfected, 72 hrs	B:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0382	SRR2155164	LM-infected, 72 hrs	B:H3	96.0	1753
HPGL0397	SRR2136720	LM metacyclic	C:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0398	SRR2155165	uninfected, 4 hrs	C:H4	n/a	n/a
HPGL0399	SRR2155166	LM-infected, 4 hrs	C:H4	96.0	752
HPGL0400	SRR2156106	uninfected, 24 hrs	C:H4	n/a	n/a
HPGL0401	SRR2156107	LM-infected, 24 hrs	C:H4	90.0	1245
HPGL0402	SRR2156108	uninfected, 48 hrs	C:H4	n/a	n/a
HPGL0403	SRR2156109	LM-infected, 48 hrs	C:H4	96.0	1996
HPGL0404	SRR2156110	uninfected, 72 hrs	C:H4	n/a	n/a
HPGL0405	SRR2156117	LM-infected, 72 hrs	C:H4	98.0	1471

Sample ID	SRA accession	Infection status/timepoint	Batch: Patient	% macrophages infected	# parasites per 100 macrophages
HPGL0435	SRR2171253	LA metacyclic	D:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0436	SRR2156270	uninfected, 4 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0437	SRR2156271	LA-infected, 4 hrs	D:H5	75.0	453
HPGL0438	SRR2156272	beads, 4 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0439	SRR2156273	uninfected, 24 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0440	SRR2156274	LA-infected, 24 hrs	D:H5	73.0	304
HPGL0441	SRR2156854	beads, 24 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0442	SRR2156855	uninfected, 48 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0443	SRR2156856	LA-infected, 48 hrs	D:H5	65.0	225
HPGL0444	SRR2156858	beads, 48 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0445	SRR2156859	uninfected, 72 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0446	SRR2156860	LA-infected, 72 hrs	D:H5	55.0	246
HPGL0452	SRR2156862	beads, 72 hrs	D:H5	n/a	n/a
HPGL0454	SRR2171254	LA metacyclic	E:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0456	SRR2171252	LM metacyclic	E:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0457	SRR2156863	uninfected, 4 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0458	SRR2163237	LA-infected, 4 hrs	E:H2	100.0	1164
HPGL0459	SRR2163238	LM-infected, 4 hrs	E:H2	96.0	752
HPGL0460	SRR2163239	beads, 4 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0461	SRR2163240	uninfected, 24 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0462	SRR2163242	LA-infected, 24 hrs	E:H2	100.0	1723
HPGL0463	SRR2163251	LM-infected, 24 hrs	E:H2	93.0	1527
HPGL0464	SRR2163256	beads, 24 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0465	SRR2163270	uninfected, 48 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0466	SRR2163272	LA-infected, 48 hrs	E:H2	95.0	1455
HPGL0467	SRR2163273	LM-infected, 48 hrs	E:H2	91.0	2485
HPGL0468	SRR2163274	beads, 48 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0469	SRR2163275	uninfected, 72 hrs	E:H2	n/a	n/a
HPGL0470	SRR2163276	LA-infected, 72 hrs	E:H2	98.0	1149
HPGL0492	SRR2171255	LA metacyclic	F:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0494	SRR2136722	LM metacyclic	F:n/a	n/a	n/a
HPGL0495	SRR2163278	uninfected, 4 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0496	SRR2163279	LA-infected, 4 hrs	F:H3	61.0	156
HPGL0497	SRR2163280	LM-infected, 4 hrs	F:H3	69.0	237
HPGL0498	SRR2163281	beads, 4 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0499	SRR2163282	uninfected, 24 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0500	SRR2163283	LA-infected, 24 hrs	F:H3	70.0	202
HPGL0501	SRR2163285	LM-infected, 24 hrs	F:H3	71.0	243
HPGL0502	SRR2163286	beads, 24 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0503	SRR2163287	uninfected, 48 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0504	SRR2163289	LA-infected, 48 hrs	F:H3	71.0	195
HPGL0505	SRR2163290	LM-infected, 48 hrs	F:H3	60.0	186
HPGL0506	SRR2163291	beads, 48 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0507	SRR2163292	uninfected, 72 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a
HPGL0508	SRR2163399	LA-infected, 72 hrs	F:H3	82.0	284
HPGL0509	SRR2163400	LM-infected, 72 hrs	F:H3	62.0	258
HPGL0510	SRR2163401	beads, 72 hrs	F:H3	n/a	n/a



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